![Interreg – IPA CBC Hungary - Serbia logo]

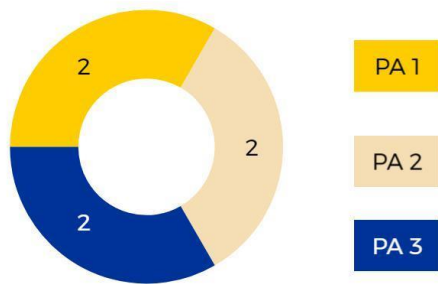## Citizens' Summary of the Annual Implementation Report (AIR) 2017

The Annual Implementation Report (AIR) of the Interreg-IPA Cross-border Cooperation Programme Hungary-Serbia Programme for 2017 provides an overview of the activities implemented within the Programme between 1 January and 31 December 2017.

The key Programme's milestones reached in 2017 were the selection of the projects of the First Call for Proposals, also known as the Strategic Call, and the Second Call for Proposals, as well as the start of the implementation of the strategic projects and several projects of the Second Call.
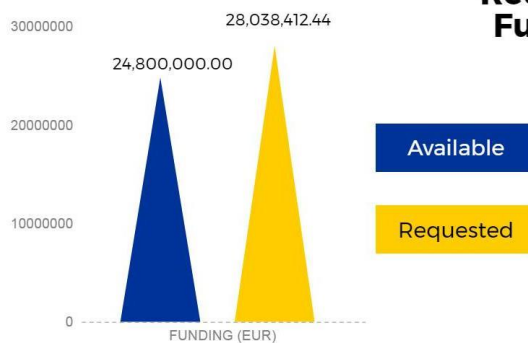
All Programme Bodies relevant for the launch and operation of the Calls for Proposals, communication and support with the Applicants/Potential Beneficiaries and the Beneficiaries, as well as the External Assessors performed their roles as expected, and contributed to the successfully reached the mentioned milestones of the Programme.

The First Call for Proposals – Strategic Call, targeting activities of strategic importance for the two partnering countries – Hungary and Serbia, was opened to Applicants on 29 March 2016, with a submission deadline 30 September 2016. Within the Strategic Call, the first three Priorities of the Programme were open to Applicants: **PA 1**: Improving cross-border water management and risk prevention systems; **PA 2**: Reducing traffic bottlenecks in the cross-border transport network; and **PA 3**: Encouraging cooperation in tourism and cultural heritage preservation.
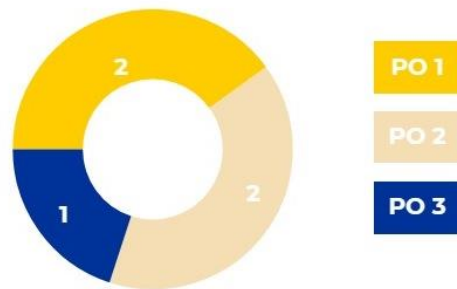

Applications per Priority Axis

- PA 1: 2
- PA 2: 2
- PA 3: 2

Available vs. Requested Funding

FUNDING (EUR)
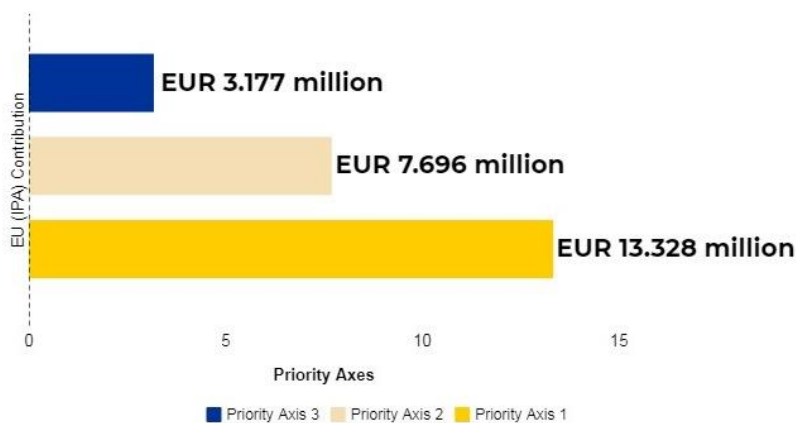
- Available: 24,800,000.00
- Requested: 28,038,412.44

Out of six received Applications, five projects were slected for financing at the Second JMC meeting, held in January 2017. The total value of the five strategic projects is 24,201,308.00 EUR of the EU Contribution. All five projects were contracted and started implementation in the second half of 2017.

Strategic Call
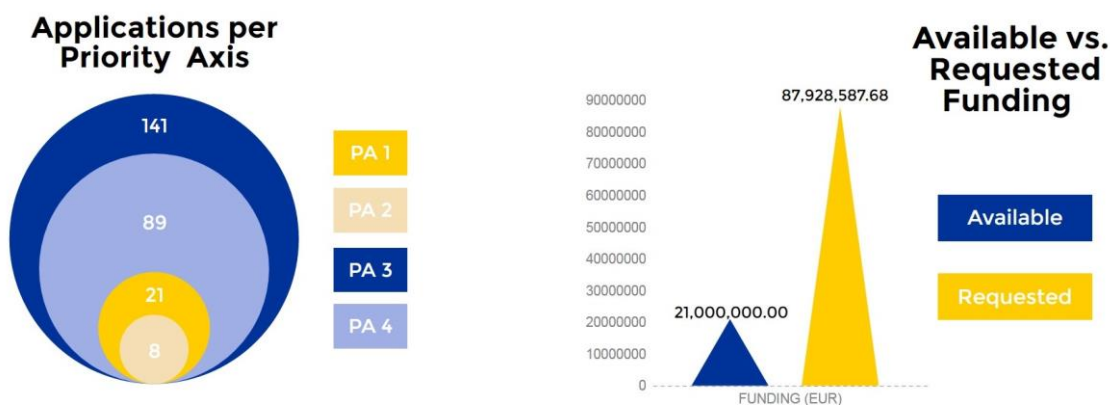**Number of selected projects per Priority Axis**

Strategic Call
EU (IPA) Contribution per Priority

The **Second Call for Proposals** was launched on 3 October 2016, with a submission deadline 31 January 2017, and it was intended for a broad range of Actions. The Second Call involved the application process via electronic monitoring system IMIS 2014-2020.
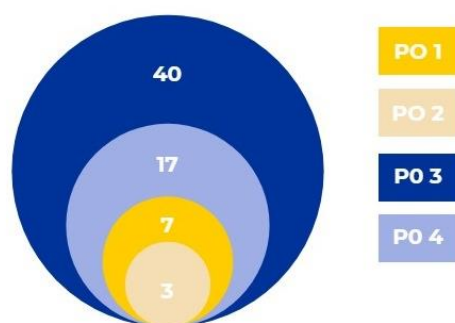
Within the Second Call, all four Priorities of the Programme were open to Applicants: **PA 1**: Improving cross-border water management and risk prevention systems; **PA 2**: Reducing traffic bottlenecks in the cross-border transport network; **PA 3**: Encouraging cooperation in tourism and cultural heritage preservation; and **PA 4**: Enhancing SMEs' economic competitiveness through innovation-driven development.

Applications per Priority Axis

- PA 1
- PA 2
- PA 3
- PA 4

141
89
21
8

Available vs. Requested Funding

87,928,587.68

90000000
80000000
70000000
60000000
50000000
40000000
30000000
20000000
10000000
0

21,000,000.00

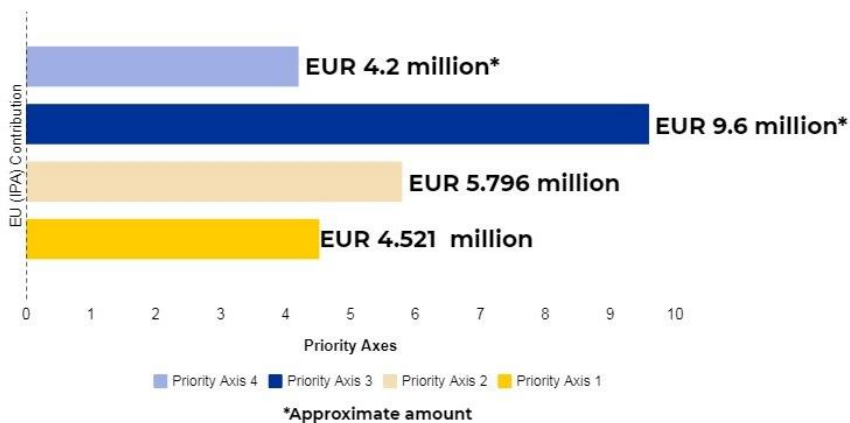Available
Requested

FUNDING (EUR)

Out of 259 submitted Applications within the Second Call, the total of 67 projects were selected for financing at two JMC meetings – seven projects within the PA 1 and three projects within the PA 2 were selected for financing at the Third JMC meeting, held in May 2017. Later on, at the Fourth JMC meeting, held in November 2017, 40 projects within the PA 3 and 17 projects within the PA 4 were selected for financing.

The exact value of the EU Contribution of the 67 projects selected within the Second call will be determined upon completed contracting of the projects in 2018.

**Second Call
Number of selected projects per Priority Axis**

- PO 1
- PO 2
- PO 3
- PO 4

40
17
7
3

**Second Call
EU (IPA) Contribution per Priority**

EUR 4.2 million*

EUR 9.6 million*

EUR 5.796 million

EUR 4.521 million

Priority Axes

■ Priority Axis 4 ■ Priority Axis 3 ■ Priority Axis 2 ■ Priority Axis 1

*Approximate amount

The five strategic projects and several projects within the PA 1 and PA 2 of the Second Call began their implementation in the second half of 2017. Below you may find photos from the Opening Conferences of the projects **BABECA**, and **URBAN-PREX**.

Ognjen Bjelić, Provincial Secretary for Regional Development, Interregional Cooperation and Local Self-Government

Slavko Vrndžić, Director, PWMC "Vode Vojvodine"

Dr Stevan Savić holding the presentation. In first row are representatives of the Joint Secretariat of the Programme and the representatives of the Provincial Secretariat for Regional Development

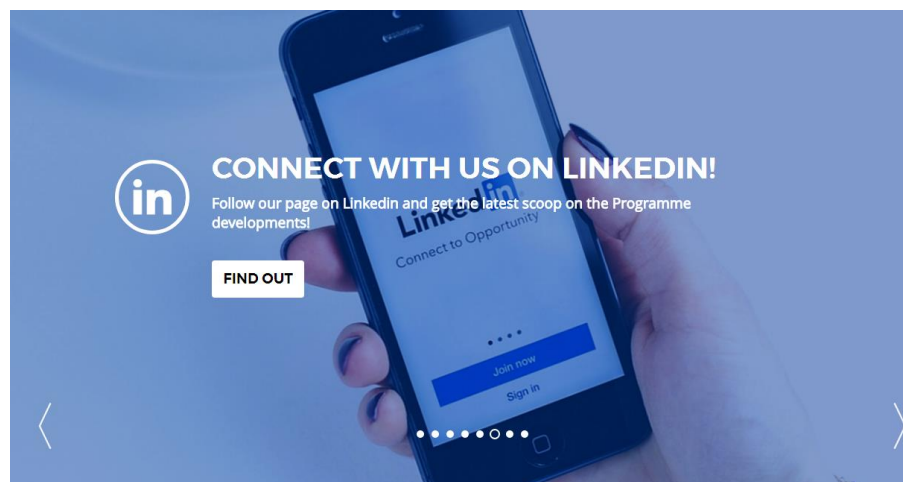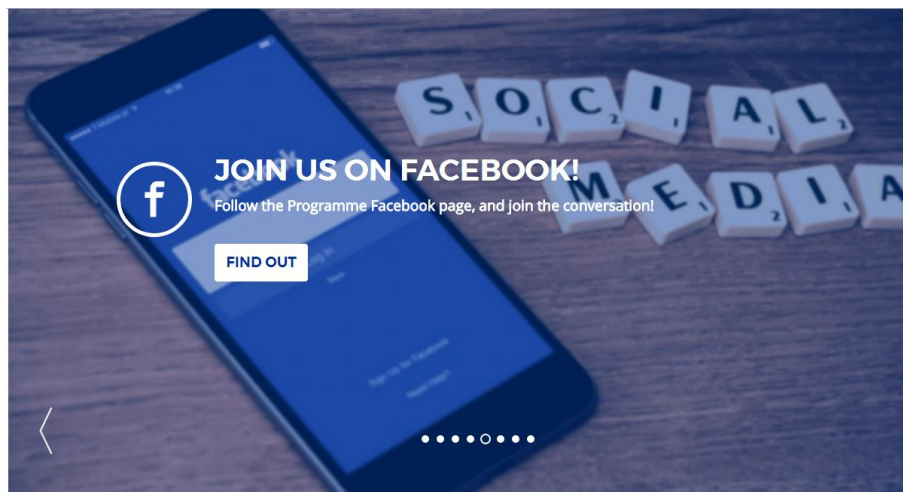Dr Tamás Gál from the University of Szeged holding the presentation

The Programme celebrated the European Cooperation Day (EC Day), an annual event honouring the achievements of the territorial cooperation with events throughout Europe on 21 September and the surrounding days, with an online Photo Contest and the Photo Exhibition in Szeged, Hungary. Through this initiative, the Programme connected with the local community and made it the focal part of the celebration. Click **here** for more information about this initiative! Check out **the winning photos** and the Photo Exhibition opening **photos** and a **video clip**!
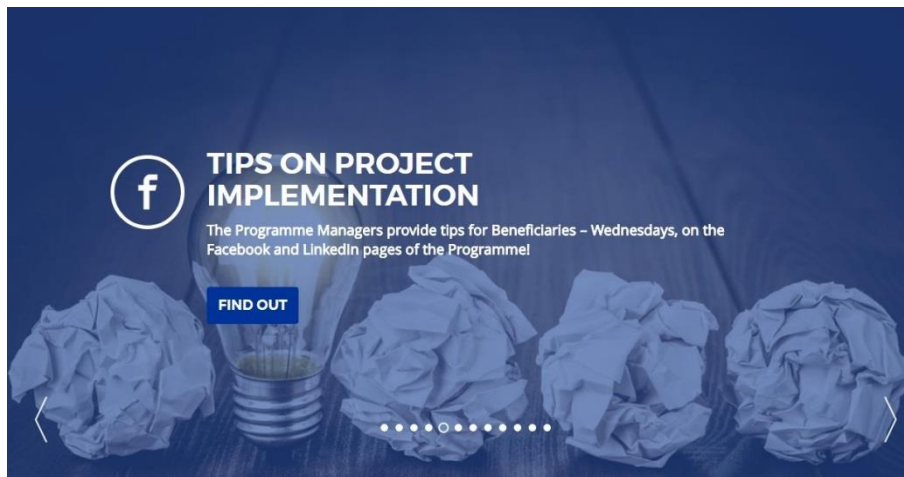
All Programme-related information, including but not limiting to the Calls for Proposals, results of the Calls, selected projects, the **summaries of the contracted projects** and the Programme news, were regularly published on the Programme's website: **www.interreg-ipa-husrb.com**.
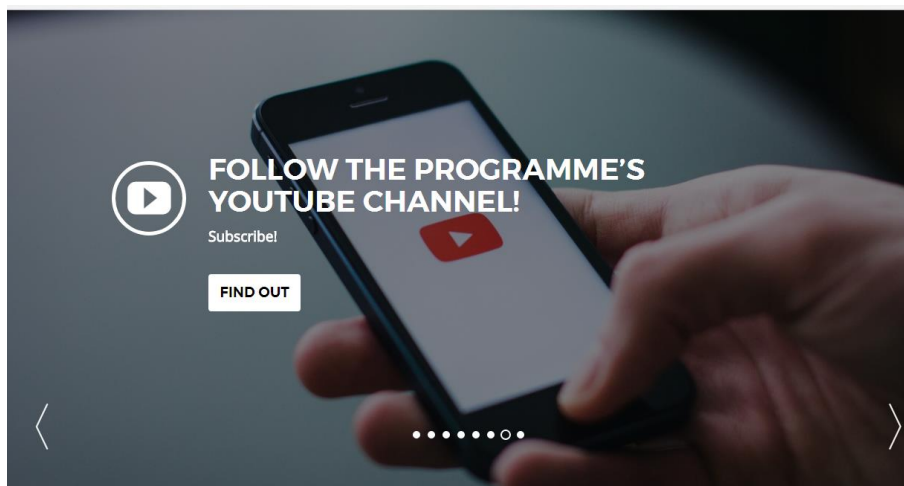
The **Programme's Facebook page** and **Programme's page on LinkedIn** featured all Programme- and project-related news and announcements, tips for the Applicants and Beneficiaries, the regional and the European-level news relevant to the Programme.
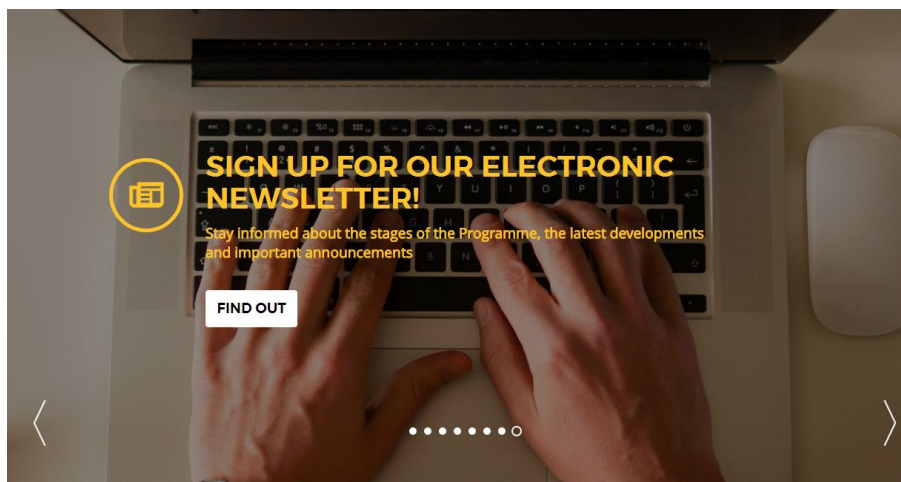
The Programme's pages on Facebook and LinkedIn feature the series *Programme Managers' Tips*, launched in 2016. In 2017, the series included posts related to the application phase the Second Call, as well as the contracting period of the Strategic calls and their implementation phase. The series continued to provide added value to Applicants and the Beneficiaries advising them on ways to efficiently handle application- and project-related matters.

The **Programme's YouTube channel** continued to be a video content-sharing platform in 2017, as well. In addition to the Programme-related content, it also featured the videos related to the project launches.

Four quarterly **Programme's Newsletter** issues were distributed in 2017, featuring the highlights about the stages of the Programme, the latest developments and other important announcements.

Good neighbours
creating
common future

The Programme is co-financed by the
European Union