

# FINAL IMPLEMENTATION REPORT

## INTERREG IIIA/PHARE CBC Programme Austria – Hungary

PROGRAMMING PERIOD 2000 – 2006

Reporting period: 01/01/2000 – 31/12/2008

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Programming period:	2000 – 2006
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This report covers also the annual implementation report for the year 2008 (see chapter 6).

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## 1. OPERATIONAL FRAMEWORK

This document contains the Final Implementation Report for the INTERREG IIIA Programme Austria – Hungary covering the period January 1<sup>st</sup> 2000 to December 31<sup>st</sup> 2008. The programme was approved for the first time by the European Commission on September 27<sup>th</sup> 2001 and amended five times during the implementation period: July 26<sup>th</sup> 2002; October 19<sup>th</sup> 2004, December 22<sup>nd</sup> 2005 and April 2<sup>nd</sup> 2007. In the course of the above-mentioned amendments of the programme document and due to financial shifts on measure level the Programme Complement (PC) was changed and sent to the European Commission (EC) for information. The final version of the PC was acknowledged by the EC on January 12<sup>th</sup> 2009. Costs arising on Austrian territory were eligible for ERDF-cofinancing beginning with July 17<sup>th</sup> 2000, on Hungarian territory with January 1<sup>st</sup> 2004 and ended for all beneficiaries on December 31<sup>st</sup> 2008. Costs arising within priority 6 “Special Support for Border Regions” were eligible for ERDF-cofinancing on Austrian side beginning between January 1<sup>st</sup> 2002 and December 31<sup>st</sup> 2004.

At the date of closure the total budget of the programme according to the last approved financial plan amounts to 76.895.510 Euro (financial plan). The financial support from the European Fund for Regional Development amounts to max. 41.463.428 Euro, whereby 25.697.082 Euro is national public co-funding and 9.735.000 Euro stem from the private sector.

The programme was managed by the Austrian Federal Chancellery (Bundeskanzleramt der Republik Österreich) in close cooperation with the National Authority in Hungary with the support of the Joint Technical Secretariat (JTS). On project level the responsibility for the operative management stayed at the Intermediate Bodies. The programme was steered by a Monitoring and Steering Committee composed of representatives from Hungary and Austria.

The programme aimed to support a joint strategy for economic and social development. The key objective was the development of an economically as well as socio-culturally integrated border region.

Chapter 6 of this document reports on the activities of the programme in 2008.

### 1.1 Changes in the general conditions in the Period 2000-2008 with relevance for the implementation of the assistance

In general it can be noticed that the objectives, priorities and measures of the programme were always relevant and coherent with the challenges and potentials in the programme area.

The most relevant change was without any doubt the accession of Hungary to the European Union on May 1<sup>st</sup> 2004 (details see chapter 1.1.2.).



### 1.1.1. The main socio-economic trends

The main socio-economic trends are described in this chapter briefly. More detailed information can be found in the Operational Programme “Objective 3 Cross-Border Co-operation Austria – Hungary 2007-2013” which was approved by the EC in December 2007.

#### Demography

The entire border region is characterised by a clear tendency towards an aging population. Nowadays the share of the age group of the under 15-year-old is far below 20% in all regions. At the same time, the share of the age group of the over-60-year-old is above 20% in all regions with the exception of Győr-Moson-Sopron. Thus Western Hungary contrasts positively to the Austrian side of the border that shows a clear tendency towards an ageing population.

Table 1

#### Population trends 1991 – 2005 and age structure 2005

NUTS III region	Population trend 1991-2001 (%)	Population trend 2002-2005 (%)	Share of under 15-year-old, 2005 (%)	Share of over 60-year-old, 2005 (%)
Nordburgenland	6.3	1.4	14.9	26.8
Mittelburgenland	-1.0	-0.6	14.0	29.7
Südburgenland	-1.3	-0.5	14.0	28.2
Wiener Umland Südteil	7.7	3.2	16.0	25.3
Niederösterreich Süd	3.9	1.3	16.1	26.4
Wien	0.7	4.1	14.7	25.5
<i>Total Austrian Border Region</i>	<i>1.8</i>	<i>2.9</i>	<i>15.1</i>	<i>25.7</i>
Győr-Moson-Sopron	1.6	1.1	15.0	20.5
Vas	-2.5	-1.3	14.9	21.3
Zala	-1.9	-1.3	14.2	22.0
<i>Total Hungarian Border Region</i>	<i>-0.6</i>	<i>-0.3</i>	<i>14.8</i>	<i>21.2</i>
Total At-HU Border Region	1.2	2.05	15.0	22.2

Source: Statistics Austria (2006), KSH (2005)

#### Economic structure and development

The specific geographic position of the Austro-Hungarian border regions – in the middle of Europe - has resulted in a faster economic growth of this region (with the exception of Vienna) than the European average over the last 10 years.



Table 2

**The average annual GDP growth by regions, 1995-2001 (%)**

Regions	Annual average % change
Burgenland	3.1
Lower Austria	2.9
Vienna	1.7
West Transdanubia	4.3
EU 15	2.5
EU 25	2.6

Source: Eurostat (2004)

Table 3

**GDP at current market prices and Purchasing Power Parities per capita (1997, 2003)**

NUTS III region	MECU (until 31.12.1998) MEURO (from 1.1.1999)		PPP per capita In % of EU average	
	1997	2003	1997	2003
Nordburgenland	2,353.6	3,130.6	92.5	95.6
Mittelburgenland	503.2	702.4	70.2	81.0
Südburgenland	1,279.2	1,584.8	67.7	70.4
Wiener Umland Südteil	7,285.7	9,228.5	135.4	134.3
Niederösterreich Süd	4,349.8	5,014.3	94.5	87.5
Wien	51,158.9	62,874.9	178.7	170.9
<i>Total Austrian Border Region</i>	<i>70,692.2</i>	<i>86,674.1</i>	<i>..</i>	<i>..</i>
Győr-Moson-Sopron	1,861.9	3,845.7	54.9	71.5
Vas	1,233.5	2,055.4	57.3	62.9
Zala	1,088.8	2,016.5	45.8	55.4
<i>Total Hungarian Border Region</i>	<i>4,184.2</i>	<i>5,981.6</i>	<i>..</i>	<i>..</i>
Total At-HU Border Region	74,876.4	92,655.7	..	..
EU 15	7,415,684.3	9,503,520.8	110.3	109.1
EU 25	7,710,192.1	9,953,329.3	100.0	100.0

Source: Eurostat

The transitional period resulted in a significant difference of the Hungarian from the Austrian side of the border as well as from the old EU member states. The share of agriculture has reached the European average (around 4%) in a few years. At the same time, foreign direct investment flow led to a still higher share of manufacturing by 10% than the EU average.



## Labour market

Table 4

**Labour market trends**

Regions	Number of employees		Change of employees	Employment rate
	1998	2001	(%)	
Nordburgenland	43,181	48,216	111.7	..
Mittelburgenland	8,078	11,109	137.5	..
Südburgenland	19,737	31,331	158.7	..
<i>Total Burgenland</i>	<i>70,996</i>	<i>90,656</i>	<i>127.7</i>	<i>67.9</i>
Wiener Umland Südteil	113,431	138,460	122.1	..
Niederösterreich Süd	66,973	91,480	136.6	..
<i>Total Niederösterreich</i>	<i>..</i>	<i>594,969</i>	<i>..</i>	<i>70.0</i>
Wien	767,598	837,173	109.1	67.0
<i>Total Austrian Border Region</i>	<i>1,108,974</i>	<i>1,455,479</i>	<i>131.2</i>	<i>..</i>
Győr-Moson-Sopron	110,463	132,545	120.0	53.7
Vas	75,928	83,600	110.1	56.2
Zala	73,365	85,488	116.5	55.1
<i>Total Hungarian Border Region</i>	<i>259,756</i>	<i>301,633</i>	<i>116.1</i>	<i>54.5</i>
Total At-HU Border Region	1,368,730	1,757,112	128.4	..
EU 15 (2002)	..	..	..	64.2
EU 25 (2002)	..	..	..	62.8

\* Hungary: 2004

Source: CIP (2004), Eurostat (2004), KSH (2005), Statistics Austria (2006)

A significant difference between the Austrian and the Hungarian side of the border region regarding the employment rate can be observed. All eligible Austrian regions are above the European average by 3% to 6%. At the same time, all Hungarian eligible counties are below the European average by 8% to 11%. As one of the main reason for this wide gap the low rate of part time job facilities in Hungary can be mentioned.

## Unemployment

Depending on the development of the economy, the trends in border region's unemployment are still widely divergent (see Table 5). As a general feature all major unemployment indicators of the region show a better picture than the European average. At the beginning of the new decade only Vienna is closed to this average (7.8%). The rest of the region present half of this figure related to the total, the female and the young professionals unemployment rate. The long term unemployment rate is also far below the EU average.



Table 5

**Unemployment rate (total 2004 and of different target groups 2002)**

NUTS III Regions	Total 2004	Total 2002	Long term	Female	Young
	Unemployment rate 2002 (%)				
Nordburgenland	4.8	..	..	..	..
Mittelburgenland	..	..	..	..	..
Südburgenland	6.8	..	..	..	..
<i>Total Burgenland</i>	..	<b>4.2</b>	<b>21.2</b>	<b>4.8</b>	<b>7.1</b>
Wiener Umland Südteil	4.5	..	..	..	..
Niederösterreich Süd	5.0	..	..	..	..
<i>Total Niederösterreich</i>	..	<b>3.5</b>	<b>27.3</b>	<b>3.7</b>	<b>5.7</b>
Wien	8.9	7.2	37.1	6.0	11.1
<i>Total Austrian Border Region</i>	..	..	..	..	..
Győr-Moson-Sopron	3.8	3.9	..	..	..
Vas	5.8	4.8	..	..	..
Zala	4.7	3.6	..	..	..
<i>Total Hungarian Border Region</i>	..	<b>4.1</b>	<b>38.6</b>	<b>4.2</b>	<b>8.8</b>
EU 15	8.2	7.8	40.2	8.8	15.2
EU 25	9.2	9.0	44.3	10.0	18.1

Source: Eurostat (2004), CIP (2004), KSH (2005)

## 1.1.2. Changes in national, regional and sectoral policies

Accession of Hungary to the European Union on May 1<sup>st</sup> 2004

The most relevant change was without any doubt the accession of Hungary to the European Union on 1<sup>st</sup> May 2004 and thus the revision of the Interreg IIIA/Phare CBC programme on the former external EU border into a full Interreg IIIA programme at the current internal EU border.

Already in October 2002 the Federal Chancellery took initiative as Managing Authority to launch the process of Managing Transition for the four external border programmes with Austrias participation. A series of seminars and workshops was organised in Vienna during the years 2002 and 2003 (see also chapter 5.1. of the Annual Implementation Reports 2002 and 2003). Furthermore a bilateral Task Force (TF) was established by the Joint Monitoring Committee at the beginning of 2003 giving its members the mandate to prepare the revision of the programme documents.

The Joint Programming Document (JPD) for the Interreg IIIA/Phare CBC Programme was reviewed with a participatory approach and active involvement of all stakeholders. It turned out that the objectives, the priorities and measures were still relevant and should be kept for the rest of the implementation period. With regard to the management structures the MA, PA were



confirmed; the National Development Agency<sup>1</sup> (NDA) became “National Authority” for Hungary and the VÁTI Intermediate Body. The parties agreed relations in a separate document – the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) – in order to support an efficient and effective management and implementation of the programme. At the same time the recommendations of the mid-term evaluation were discussed and included into the documents as well. The Community Initiative Programme (CIP) was approved by the European Commission in its decision (C) 4156 of 19<sup>th</sup> October 2004 increasing the available ERDF amount to EUR 41.515.313,00.

While the differences between Phare and Interreg had been a handicap to the co-ordinated implementation of the Interreg and Phare CBC programmes, the new phase (beginning with 2004) set a solid foundation to achieve real cross-border impact. The programme partners agreed that the implementation of genuine cross-border projects should be one of the key objectives to be achieved in the Interreg IIIA programme Austria-Hungary 2004-2006.

Programme relevant documents, e.g Programme Complement, Rules of Procedures for MC/SC were adapted accordingly. The main documents CIP, PC, application form could be downloaded from the common website [www.at-hu.net](http://www.at-hu.net). The MoU and the Rules of Procedure as well as annual reports could either be downloaded from the internal backoffice area (for programme members only) or are available on request at the Managing Authority<sup>2</sup>.

#### Additional priority “Special Support for Border regions”

Before the programme was changed due to Hungary’s accession to the EU an additional priority “Special Support for Border regions” was introduced to the programme in 2002. Based on the Community action plan for border regions (communication by the EC on the request of the European Council December 2000) additional funds were allocated to all border regions of the “old” Member States in order to meet the challenges of the forthcoming enlargement.

The financial allocation of the programme was increased by a total amount of 1,972.000 EUR (986.000 EUR ERDF and 986.000 EUR national co-funding). The funds for this additional priority had been allocated entirely for the year 2002.

#### 1.1.3. Changes in the Interreg policy frame reference

In March 1998 the European Union formally launched the process that made the enlargement possible.

On 9th October 2002, the European Commission recommended that the negotiations on accession to the European Union have to be concluded by the end of 2002 with 10 countries including Hungary. The negotiations with these 10 best-prepared candidates were concluded on

<sup>1</sup> Formerly Hungarian Office for Territorial and Regional Development (HOTRD)

<sup>2</sup> Until the end of 2008 the documents were available at the JTS. Due to the end of eligibility the JTS was closed on 31.12.2008.



the basis of their progress in implementing the *acquis communautaire* up to 2002, and on their commitment to continue doing so until their accession.

After the conclusion of accession negotiations, and the approval of the European Parliament, the Treaty of Accession with these 10 first candidates was signed by the member states and the applicant countries in Athens on April 16th 2003; then the ratification process started in all the countries concerned.

In Hungary a referendum on accession was held on 12 April 2003 resulting in 83.76% votes for accession.

This legal framework built the basis for the Managing Transition process that was launched by the programme partners Hungary and Austria in order to amend the former Interreg IIIA/Phare CBC programme on the external EU border into a full Interreg IIIA programme at the internal EU border.

## 1.2. Implication of changes for the mutual consistency of assistance

During the programme period the changes described above had no implications for the mutual consistency of the assistance.



## 2. IMPLEMENTATION OF PRIORITIES AND MEASURES

### 2.1 Achievements in relation to specific objectives and targets

It can be noticed that the Programme has achieved its objectives and targets which is shown in this chapter.

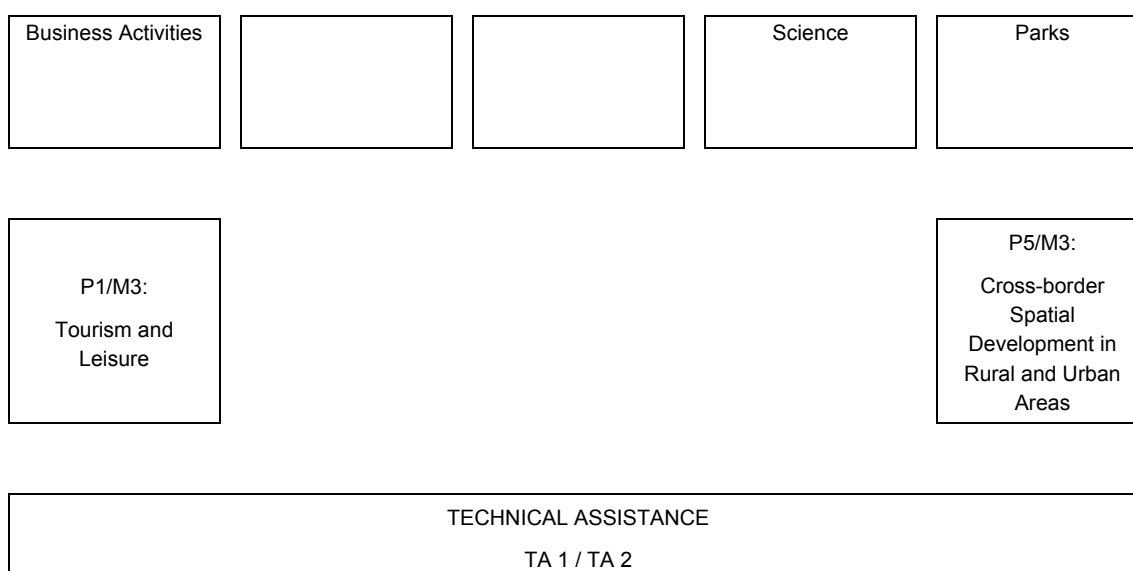
The projects, which were financed by this programme, were proposed by a variety of beneficiaries; amongst others: public administration and public bodies, research groups and other research bodies like universities, associations, trade unions and smaller acitivity groups. Beneficiaries and project partners came from different state level: bodies and institutions of the national level (e.g. universities, ministries) as well as bodies of the regional/state level (Länder/Komitate) participated. Also the municipal level participated actively. The projects addressed different target groups (decision makers, SMEs, teachers and students etc.). Finally it can be noticed that a broad variety of outputs were produced, e.g. development of (management) tools, smaller investments, studies, training seminars etc. The aim to activate a broad set of interested project partners and to involve key players to work jointly in projects on common challenges was achived.

It can be noticed that projects were implemented in all priorities and measures.

The Programme consisted of 7 priority axes comprises a total number of 15 measures (including TA)

Cross-border Economic Co-operation	Accessibility	Cross-border Organisational Structures and Networks	Human Resources	Sustainable Spatial and Environmental Development
P1/M1: Development and Support of Business Sites and Business Service Infrastructure in Border Areas	P2/M1: Improvement of Cross- border Transport and Telecommunication Infrastructure	P3/M1 Support of Cross- border Organisational Structures and Development of Networks	P4/M1 Development of Regional Labour Markets within the Context of EU Enlargement	P5/M1 Resource Management, Technical Infrastructure and Renewable Energy Supply
P1/M2: Cross-border Co-operation of Enterprises (SMEs) and Counselling and Support for Cross-border	P2/M2: Transport Organisation, Planning and Logistics	P3/M2: Micro-projects including People-to-People Actions and Small Pilots	P4/M2: Development of Co-operation and Infrastructure in the Fields of Education, Training and	P5/M2: Measures for Nature and Environmental Protection including National and Nature





In total 293 projects were supported. 78,7 Mio Euro have been verified as ERDF-cofinanced project costs; thereof 38,5 Mio Euro ERDF (= 92,9% of planned ERDF). The public national cofunding amounts to 34,5 Mio Euro (=134,41% of plan); private co-financing amounts to 5,7 Mio. Euro (=58,3% of plan).

Detailed information see Annex 1 Implementation – Number of projects and Expenditure per priority and measure level

According to Article 10 of the INTERREG Guidelines (20% flexibility clause) the NUTS III region Niederösterreich-Süd was considered to belong to the border area. Table 6 shows the funds committed and paid out by the end of 2009.

Table 6

**Art. 10 regions**

Art. 10 region	Total expenditure	In % of CIP
Niederösterreich Süd	579,848.00	
<b>Total</b>	<b>579,848.00</b>	0.74%

## 2.2 Quantification of the related indicators on the level of output, results and impacts

Indicators relevant for this Interreg Programme were distinguished on four different levels:

- ▶ Programme (1)- and Priority (2)-level (in the CIP),
- ▶ Measure (3) - and Project (4)-level (both contained in the Programme Complement)

These indicators were used for the joint programme monitoring procedure as well as for the joint project selection process.



The impact indicators were developed starting from the project level. This approach best permits to accommodate the great variety of expected effects. Subsequently, the question arose of how this wide range of individual impacts at the level of measures, priorities and programmes could be aggregated. In a next step content summaries based on the project indicators were formulated at the measures and priorities levels. Therefore the (partly quantified) programme objectives for the thus created “aggregated” indicators were defined at the priorities and the overall programme levels.

Measure-specific objectives were laid down in the programme complement. In addition to the aggregated impact indicators, the output indicators were given at the programme or priorities level, which allowed for improved structuring of the supported projects.

The types of indicators on the different levels can be summarised as follows:

Table 7

**Indicators on the different levels**

Level	Output	Result	Impact
Programme	X		aggregated
Priorities	X		aggregated
Measures		x	x
Project		x	x

A basic set of output indicators, used in the monitoring procedure, contained the following information (descriptive):

- ▶ total number of direct beneficiaries, broken down by main target groups [e.g. enterprises, citizens, institutions],
- ▶ number of projects
- ▶ financial monitoring (exploitation of means, financial steps of implementation)
- ▶ an aggregate qualitative project-indicator, based on the classification of cross-border-cooperation-intensity on the one hand and of expected cross-border-impacts on the other, thus forming a typology of 4 categories of projects - AA, AB, BA and BB-projects – which was also used on project level in project selection process.

The set of quality and impact indicators focused on two dimensions:

**(a) Intensity of Cross-border Co-operation in project development and implementation**

In developing and implementing Interreg projects several distinct steps or phases can be distinguished:

- a. preparation until application
- b. planning the implementation
- c. implementation / construction



- d. financing
- e. use / operation after completion of the project

Each of these steps can be performed in a cross-border co-operative way or independently. The assessment focused on the cross-border quality of the steps in project development, which had to be demonstrated in the project application

**(b) Expected impacts on cross-border regional development – functional integration as crucial quality**

Projects contributing to functional (regional) integration are characterized by

- a. a project design focused on generating developmental impulses for the Interreg region as a whole, oriented towards a (mid-range) perspective of an economically and socially integrated space across borders;
- b. the combination of resources, partners or target groups from both sides of the border.

In order to be funded through the Interreg III A programme, projects had at least to meet minimum standards in both of the above outlined dimensions. An overview over the quality of the financed projects was reached through a qualitative typology, which combined both dimensions, i.e. (a) the quality of co-operation in project development and implementation and (b) the expected impacts and thus forms an aggregate quality indicator:

Table 8

**Quality of cooperation in projects**

Expected cross-border integration impacts:	Quality of cooperation in project development and implementation	
	Better: A	Minimum: B
Better: A	AA	AB
Minimum: B	AB	BB

In total, four different types of projects could be distinguished: AA, AB, BA, BB. AA would label top projects, AB and BA would be intermediate ranks, whereas BB marked projects which fulfill the minimum requirements only.

### 2.2.1 Indicators for objectives on programme level

Referring to the indicators for objectives on programme and priority levels the following progress could be stated:



Table 9

**Indicators for objectives on programme level**

Indicator on programme level	Planned figure according to CIP	Figure
Percentage of so-called AA-projects	25 to 30% of projects approved	262 projects (89%)
Size of projects	5% large projects (total of public financial contribution above EUR 300,000)	54 projects (12%)*
	30 to 40%-share of (very) small projects (total of public financial contribution below EUR 50,000) thereof 151 projects out of Kleinprojektfonds/micro-project funds	239 projects (53%)*

\* Basis 444 projects = 293 "normal" + 151 "micro-funds" projects

## Project size

The higher number of large projects (total of public financial contribution above 300.000 Euro) can be explained by a number of so-called "umbrella projects" that comprised different modules. On the contrary the indicator of (very) small projects contains projects supported by the so-called "micro-project funds".

## Cooperation indicator

As can be seen from table 9 a high percentage of projects funded fulfil the criteria of being marked as an "AA" project (at least two out of five stages of cooperation and at least two impact indicators fulfilled).

In the on-going evaluation exercise the validity of these indicators in selected projects had been addressed in case studies. This revealed that most of these indicators indicated in the application were really accomplished in practice.

The five co-operation indicators were analysed in more detail during the up-date of the mid-term evaluation. It had been obvious that joint implementation and especially joint financing were the least frequent.

Following the recommendations of the mid-term evaluation the use of this cooperation indicator had been made more transparent by using joint standards for classifying and selecting projects introducing common terms for "joint", "mirror" and "other projects".

- *Joint projects:* the project is developed jointly and foresees joint implementation of activities by participating project partners in large parts at the same time. The project partners shall nominate a functional lead partner responsible for the coordination of project activities. The project application is pre-assessed jointly and joint recommendation for ERDF funding is given by Intermediate Bodies. If the project is approved by Steering Committee, two separate subsidy contracts are concluded with the final beneficiaries in Austria and Hungary.



- ▶ *Mirror projects:* the projects are developed in co-operation, planning complementary activities to be implemented on both sides of the border but must not necessarily take place at the same time. Different project applications are submitted by project owners to the respective Intermediate Body in Austria and Hungary. Mirror projects can be approved to already existing projects.
- ▶ *Other projects:* projects must show clear cross border impact, though they are financed only from one side with an ERDF subsidy contract.

Table 10 outlines all projects that fulfil the above-mentioned criteria for joint or mirror project:

Table 10

**Joint (J) and mirror (M) projects**

Joint/ Mirror Number	Project AT No. CMS	Title	Project HU No. CMS	Title	Approved in JSC (Date)
2_J_002	2EABA_0003	Biogas in der Grenzregion Biogáz a határmenti régióban	2EADA_0003	Biogázberendezés Téten Biogasanlage in Tét	2005/09/15
2_J_003	2DBBA_0007	Medauston Interreg	2DBDA_0023	Medauston Interreg	2005/12/05
2_J_004	2TACA_0003	Externe unterstützende Tätigkeit FLC AT-HU		Az osztrák-magyar FLC külső támogatása	2006/06/26
2_J_005	2TBDA_0003	SUP Ziel 3 AT-HU		SKV AT-HU cél 3	2006/06/26
2_J_006	2TBDA_0004	Ex-ante Evaluierung Ziel 3 AT- HU		Az AT-HU cél 3 ex-ante értékelése	2006/06/26
2_J_007	2CABA_0008	Lead Partner Prinzip 2007 – 13	2-HU-134 2CBDA_0051	Felkészítés a vezető partner elv alkalmazására	2006/09/20
2_M_001	2TADA_0001 2TADA_0002	Monitoring und Zahlstelle AT-HU TH 1 GTS + externe Aufträge (ohne PR)	2TAEA_0001	AT-HU TH 1 Irányítás, végrehajtás, moni- toring és ellenőrzés – HU	2004/11/18
2_M_002	2TBDA_0001 2TBDA_0002	AT-HU TH 2 Öffentlichkeitsarbeit d. Verwaltungsbehörde Evaluierung des Programms	2TBEA_0001	AT-HU TH 2 Egyéb TA tevékenységek – HU	2004/11/18
2_M_003	2ECCA_0002	UniRegio	2DBDA_0003	UniRegio	2005/04/28
2_M_004	2CAAA_0002	Euregio-Koordination 2002- 2006	2CADA_0002	Határon átnyúló hálózati együttműködés megerősítése	2005/04/28
2_M_005	2DBBA_0006	Ungarisch und Slowakisch in der Praxis (USP) Magyar és szlovák nyelv a gyakorlatban (USP)	2DBDA_0014	Osztrák és magyar diák gyakorlatok egymás nyelvén Sprachübungen für Schüler in Österreich und Ungarn in der jeweiligen Fremdsprache	2005/09/15
2_M_007	2EBAA_0006	Länderübergreifende Umweltbildung	2EBDA_0002	Természetvédelmi látogatóközpont fejlesztése Entwicklung eines Naturschutz- Besucherzentrums	2005/09/15
2_M_008	2AACA_0002	EcoBusinessPartnership Vienna-Győr	2AADA_0005	EcoBusinessPartnership Bécs- Győr	2005/12/05
2_M_010	2DBBA_0003	LEE Bruck/Leitha	2DBDA_0012	Megújuló energia képzési információs szolgáltatás Schulungsinformationen in Sachen erneuerbare Energien	2006/09/20



### Contribution to horizontal priorities - equal opportunities and sustainability

The mid-term evaluation put special attention to the environmental field: including also the methodological development of programme-relevant assessment/indicator systems and the harmonisation and concretisation of objectives of relevance for the implementation of environmental/sustainability requirements. As the programme only allowed small scale infrastructure projects no significant impact on environmental indicators (e.g. on the reduction of CO<sub>2</sub> equivalents etc.) were expected. The assessment of environmental relevance of projects had been achieved by a descriptive approach.

Each project was assessed according to following categories by IBs with subsequent discussion of the applied category in the JSC:

- ▶ neutral in terms of equal opportunities / environmental sustainability,
- ▶ positive impact on equal opportunities / environmental sustainability,
- ▶ the focus of the project content is on equal opportunities/environmental sustainability

The tables below provide an overview on the share of projects in individual categories on measure level:



Table 11

**Impact of projects on environment**

	neutral	positive impact	focus of project content
P 1 Cross-border Economic Co-operation	52	5	3
M 1.1 Development and Support of Business Sites and Business Service Infrastructure in Border Areas	7	3	2
M 1.2 Cross-border Cooperation of Enterprises (SMEs) and Counselling and Support for Crossborder Business Activities	16	0	0
M 1.3 Tourism and Leisure	29	2	1
P 2 Accessibility	7	8	4
M 2.1 Improvement of Crossborder Transport and Telecommunication Infrastructure	3	1	0
M 2.2 Transport Organisation, Planning and Logistics	4	7	4
P 3 Cross-border Organisational Structures and Networks	74	8	11
M 3.1 Support of Crossborder Organisational Structures and Development of Networks	26	2	2
M 3.2 Micro-projects including People-to-People Actions and Small Pilots	48	6	9
P 4 Human Resources	37	2	1
M 4.1 Development of Regional Labour Markets within the Context of EU Enlargement	9	0	0
M 4.2 Development of Co-operation and Infrastructure in the Fields of Education, Training and Science	28	2	1
P 5 Sustainable Spatial and Environmental Development	25	11	21
M 5.1 Resource Management, Technical Infrastructure and Renewable Energy Supply	2	7	13
M 5.2 Measures for Nature and Environmental Protection including National and Nature Parks	14	3	6
M 5.3 Cross-border Spatial Development in Rural and Urban Areas	9	1	2
P 6 Special Support for Border Regions	2	3	0
M 6.1 Special Support for Border Regions	2	3	0
P 7 Technical Assistance	18	1	0
M 7.1 Technical assistance in general	11	0	0
M 7.2 Technical assistance, further measures	7	1	0
	215	38	40



Table 12

**Impact of projects on equal opportunities**

	neutral	positive impact	focus of project content
P 1 Cross-border Economic Co-operation	58	2	0
M 1.1 Development and Support of Business Sites and Business Service Infrastructure in Border Areas	12	0	0
M 1.2 Cross-border Cooperation of Enterprises (SMEs) and Counselling and Support for Crossborder Business Activities	14	2	0
M 1.3 Tourism and Leisure	32	0	0
P 2 Accessibility	15	4	0
M 2.1 Improvement of Crossborder Transport and Telecommunication Infrastructure	4	0	0
M 2.2 Transport Organisation, Planning and Logistics	11	4	0
P 3 Cross-border Organisational Structures and Networks	90	2	1
M 3.1 Support of Crossborder Organisational Structures and Development of Networks	28	1	1
M 3.2 Micro-projects including People-to-People Actions and Small Pilots	62	1	0
P 4 Human Resources	37	1	2
M 4.1 Development of Regional Labour Markets within the Context of EU Enlargement	8	1	0
M 4.2 Development of Co-operation and Infrastructure in the Fields of Education, Training and Science	29	0	2
P 5 Sustainable Spatial and Environmental Development	54	3	0
M 5.1 Resource Management, Technical Infrastructure and Renewable Energy Supply	20	2	0
M 5.2 Measures for Nature and Environmental Protection including National and Nature Parks	23	0	0
M 5.3 Cross-border Spatial Development in Rural and Urban Areas	11	1	0
P 6 Special Support for Border Regions	5	0	0
M 6.1 Special Support for Border Regions	5	0	0
P 7 Technical Assistance	19	0	0
M 7.1 Technical assistance in general	11	0	0
M 7.2 Technical assistance, further measures	8	0	0
	278	12	3

Overall 38 projects with positive impact and 40 projects with a focus on sustainable environmental development were financed by the programme. 12 projects had a positive impact on equal opportunities, whereas 2 projects focus in project content on equal opportunities. The other projects are neutral in terms of horizontal priorities.



## 2.2.2 Indicators on priority level

Table 13 indicates if projects match with indicators for objectives on priority level. Following the recommendations of the mid-term evaluation a revised indicator system was included into the CIP. This revised system has been used since the end of 2004.

Table 13

### Indicators for objectives on priority level

Indicator on priority level	Number of projects or results obtained by 31/12/2009	In %
<b>P1: Economic co-operation:</b>		
share of SMEs affected by projects of total of SMEs in the project area:		
5 to 10%-share of SMEs affected by projects of total of SMEs in the project area		
share of SMEs of participating enterprises: >90%		
Number of projects: 40-50	60	
Share of impact:		
60% leading to market integration and/or integration of products		59%
20% leading to transfer of knowledge and/or technologies		20%
20% partner search and creation of networks		21%
<b>P 2: Accessibility and Infrastructure:</b>		
Number of projects: 5-8	19	
Thereof: 4-6 projects (studies) for strategic support	2	
1-2 investments projects	17	
Share of impact:		
40% links to international transport routes, improved CBC transportation links		48%
60% improving CB-mobility, accessibility and intelligent traffic solutions and integrated use of information technology and communication infrastructure		52%
<b>P 3: Organisational structures and networks:</b>		
Number of projects: 25-30	93	
Thereof: 6-8 supported Euregios/CB-development organisations, (GEO)/regional managements	9	
180 projects supported within Micro Project Funds	151	
Share of impact:		
50% development of implementation structures for CBC cooperation		66%
30% generating and expanding networks		26%
20% pilot projects and testing of new forms of collaboration		8%
<b>P 4: Human resources:</b>		
Number of projects: 30-40	40	
40 to 60 participating institutions in the fields of labour market and training	221	
Share of impact:		
25% projects preparing the integration of labour markets		20%
75% projects providing qualifications/knowledge with specific relevance to the neighbouring region		80%
<b>P 5: Sustainable development:</b>		
Number of projects: 45-50	57	
Share of impact:		
33% development of the region and the environmental conditions		38%
33% applying environmentally friendly technologies or representing technical infrastructure projects		29%
33% improving natural resources and environmental conditions including national and nature parks		33%



The indicator “*share of SMEs affected by projects of total of SMEs in the project area*” could not be provided because of the missing base line indicator in that respect. SMEs were not addressed in the programme as final beneficiaries. The activities on project level implemented in order to integrate SMEs as target groups in cross-border actions showed a broad variety: seminars, web sites, common marketing and tourism development. It would be meaningless to aggregate the figures on priority level. Therefore it was renounced to produce this aggregated indicator.

### 2.2.3 Indicators on measure level

Referring to the indicators on measure level listed in the Programme Complement the following tables give an overview on the outputs achieved.

Please see Annex 2 for best practice examples on project level.

#### P1/M1: Development and Support of Business Sites and Business Service Infrastructure in Border Areas

2 project providing physical support for SME (plant and equipment etc.)  
**3** projects providing financial support to introduce environmental technologies or to develop eco-products  
 5 projects providing business advisory services  
 0 projects providing support for information networks, operational expenditure, technology oriented business databases, software, presentations, cooperation meetings, participation in fares etc.  
 1 project providing support for building up or furnishing regional impulse centres  
 0 projects providing new financial engineering (venture and seed capital funds, etc.) for SME;  
 0 new business launched  
 0 projects providing services in the support of the social economy (providing care for pendants, health and safety, cultural activities;  
 0 vocational training and training projects  
 0 trainees  
 0 projects providing support for RTDI infrastructure;  
**1** projects creating networks or services for knowledge transfer

#### P1/M2: Cross-border Cooperation of Enterprises (SMEs) and Counselling and Support for Crossborder Business Activities

0 project providing physical support for SME ( plant and equipment etc.)  
 0 projects providing financial support to introduce environmental technologies or to develop eco-products  
 7 projects providing business advisory services  
 5 projects providing support for information networks, operational software, technology oriented business databases, software, presentations, cooperation meetings, participation in fares etc.  
 0 Number of projects providing support for building up or furnishing regional impulse centres  
 0 projects providing new financial engineering ( venture and seed capital funds, etc.) for SME;



**Number of new business launched**

0 projects providing services in the support of the social economy (providing care for pendants, health and safety, cultural activities;

0 projects providing support for RTDI infrastructure;

0 projects creating networks or services for knowledge transfer

**3** vocational training and training projects (rural development, forestry, SMEs)

**478** trainees

1 projects providing services for promoting the adoption and the development of rural areas

**P1/M3: Tourism and Leisure**

9 projects providing support for tourism facilities, attractions, tourism business

4,2 km of biking/hiking/horseback riding path constructed

19 projects providing support for crossborder products and services for sporting, cultural and leisure activities

0 vocational training and training projects (tourism)

0 trainees

4 projects providing support for rural tourism

**P2/M1: Improvement of crossborder transport and telecom infrastructure**

4 projects providing support for the improvement of rail, road, airport, urban transport, ports, multimodal transport intelligent transport systems;

0 projects providing support for the improvement of Information and Communication technology

0 projects providing IT services and applications for citizens (health, administration, education)

0 vocational training and training projects ( information society)

0 projects providing IT services and applications for SMEs

**P2/M2: Transport organisation, planning and logistics**

15 research and planning project providing support for the improvement of rail, road, airport, urban transport, ports, multimodal transport intelligent transport systems;

0 research and planning project providing support for the improvement of Information and Communication technology

0 projects providing IT services and applications for citizens (health, administration, education)

0 vocational training and training projects ( information society)

0 projects providing IT services and applications for SMEs



P3/M1: Support of Crossborder Organisational Structures and Development of Networks

13 projects providing support for information networks, SME cooperation networks, development concepts, stimulation and promotional services etc.

17 projects providing support for regional development plans, concepts and studies, regional management EuRegios etc.

P3/M2: Micro-projects including People-to-People Actions and Small Pilots

151 Micro projects and 49 Micro Project funds incl. People to people actions and small pilots

P4/M1: Development of Regional Labour Markets within the Context of EU Enlargement

9 projects supporting studies, information systems etc. dealing with labour market policy or social integration

0 cooperation projects, networks of SMEs or public administration dealing with labour market policy or social integration

0 vocational training or training projects

0 trainees

0 projects providing IT services and applications for citizens (health, administration, education)

0 centres for disabled people supported

0 kindergartens supported

P4/M2: Development of cooperation and infrastructure in the fields of education, training and science

30 vocational training or training projects (information society)

9,401 trainees

1 projects providing IT services and applications for citizens (health, administration, education)

P5/M1: Resource Management, Technical Infrastructure and Renewable Energy Supply

5 project dealing with air pollution, noise reduction, improvements of urban and industrial waste disposal or recycling facilities, drinking water (collection, storage, treatment distribution) or the improvement in sewerage and purification

1 projects providing financial support to introduce environmental technologies or to develop eco-products

3 projects providing business advisory services

4 projects dealing with land improvement, agricultural water resources management, preservation of the environment (land, forestry and landscape conservation, animal welfare, recovery after damage by and prevention of natural disasters)

0 research and planning projects supported (dealing with biodiversity, protection measures, securing



natural and cultural landscape, water resources management etc.)

0 project dealing with restoring forestry production potential damaged by natural disasters or fire and introducing appropriate prevention instruments

0 km<sup>2</sup> (ha) reafforested

0 projects dealing with afforestation of non-agricultural land

0 km<sup>2</sup> (ha) reafforested

0 project dealing with improving/maintaining the ecological stability of protective forests

0 km<sup>2</sup> (ha) reafforested

9 projects supporting the use of renewable sources of energy, the improvement of energy efficiency, cogeneration and energy control as well as planning and know-how transfer projects

0 reduction of CO<sub>2</sub> equivalents t/a

0 KW of new capacity created

0 investment projects in plants and equipment or in environmental friendly technologies, clean and economical energy technologies

0 production of solar energy MJ/a

P5/M2: Measures for Nature and Environmental Protection incl. National and Nature Parks

17 project dealing with land improvement, agricultural water resources, management, preservation of the environment (land, forestry and landscape conservation, animal welfare, recovery after damage by and prevention of natural disasters)

0 projects dealing with restoring forestry production potential damaged by natural disasters or fire and introducing appropriate prevention instruments

0 km<sup>2</sup>(ha) reafforested

0 projects dealing with afforestation of non-agricultural land

0 km<sup>2</sup> (ha) reafforested

0 project dealing with improving/maintaining the ecological stability of protective forests

0 km<sup>2</sup> (ha) reafforested

6 projects dealing with prevention, upgrading and rehabilitation of natural areas, national and nature parks

P5/M3: Cross-border Spatial Development in Rural and Urban Areas

7 research and planning projects dealing with upgrading and rehabilitation of industrial sites, rehabilitation of urban areas, biodiversity etc. or preservation of cultural heritage

1 projects dealing with renovation and development of villages or protection and conservation of the rural heritage

**3** projects providing support for information networks, SME cooperation networks, development concepts, stimulation and promotional services etc.

1 projects providing support for regional development plans, concepts and studies, regional management, EuRegios etc.



## P6: Special Support for Border Regions

This priority has been closed by the end of 2004. For more details see chapter 3.2 of the Annual Implementation Report 2004.

- a) 0 providing physical support for SME ( plant and equipment etc.) [number of jobs created]  
 0 projects providing financial support to introduce environmental technologies or to develop eco-products  
 0 projects providing business advisory services  
 0 project providing support for information networks, operational expenditure, technology oriented business databases, software, presentations, cooperation meetings, participation in fares etc.  
 0 projects creating networks or services for knowledge transfer  
 0 vocational training and training projects (SMEs); number of trainees
- b) 3 providing support for the improvement of rail, road, airport, urban transport, ports, multimodal transport intelligent transport systems;  
 0 km of biking/hiking/horseback riding path constructed
- c) 2 vocational education and training projects (number of participants **600**).  
 0 supporting intercultural networks and exchange programmes.

## 2.3 Some remarks on the use of indicators

All indicators were collected in the Central Monitoring System. Information was provided at the application stage and was updated with the closure of the relevant project.

Based on the recommendation of the mid-term evaluation a proposal for improving the INTERREG indicator system was prepared and discussed within the Evaluation Steering Group. The proposal mainly oriented on defining joint standards and modifications of data input. It built the basis for the bilateral discussions on the joint monitoring system (see also chapter 2.2.1. and chapter 4.5. in this report).

Nevertheless some weaknesses remained and were stated in order to initiate a learning process for the new programme period.

- ▶ Quality indicator (share of AA projects): this aggregate indicator incorporated too many impact dimensions and the co-operation phases were not weighted. Joint standards for assessment were not elaborated enough and subsequent checks during implementation were not foreseen. High rating could be obtained rather easily, thus usefulness for project selection was sometimes doubtful.
- ▶ Aggregated impact indicators: due to potential multiple impacts of projects, it was not possible to produce absolute figures (number of projects) as foreseen originally in the CIP, but only relative shares by aggregating impact indicators at measure level. This relatively complicated calculation could only be done by the JTS and had therefore not a very high level of transparency.



### 3. FINANCIAL IMPLEMENTATION

This chapter gives an overview on the financial aspects of the INTERREG programme. Information is provided about allocations and commitments as decided by the MC and SC, payments made by the PA and payments received from the European Commission.

Chapter 3.1. provides an overview of the programme's financial allocations and commitments as well as the progress made at Priority and Measure level. It informs about the n+2 situation. The chapter also informs about the use of Euro.

Chapter 3.2. gives a detailed overview of all claims of the Paying Authority and Payments made by the EC since the beginning of the Programme until the end of the Programme. It informs on the use of interests and on the use of Technical Assistance.

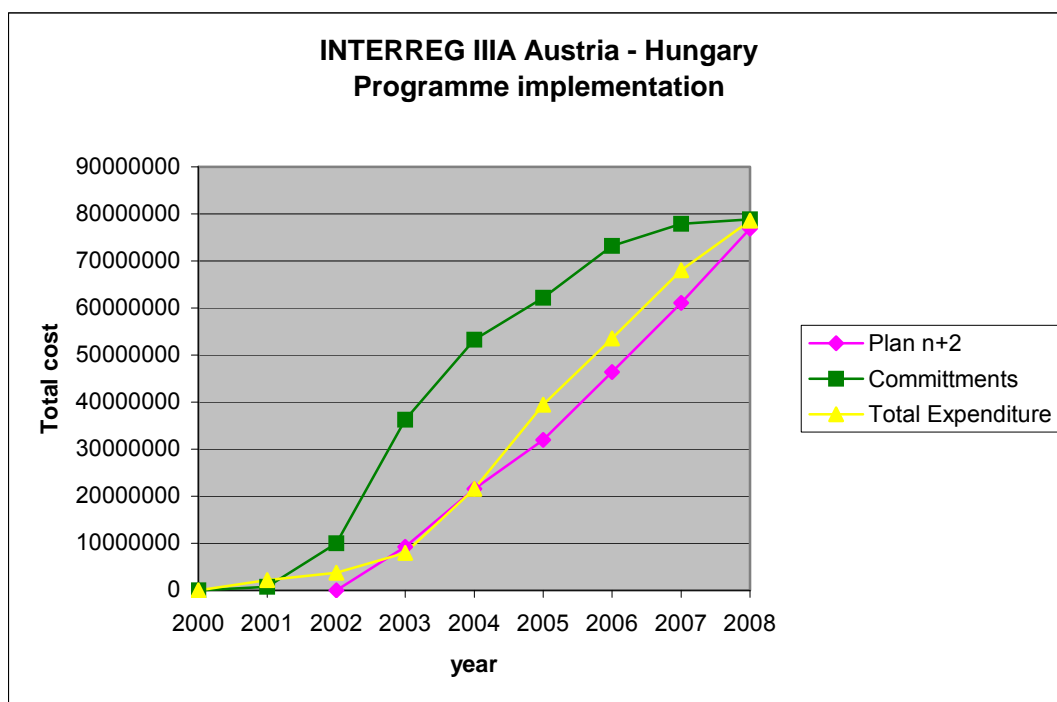
Chapter 3.3. reports on activities which were implemented in the framework of PHARE CBC.

#### 3.1. General information on the financial implementation

The total budget for the Programme is 76,89 Mio. Euro, 41,46 Mio Euro of which is ERDF (according to Commission Decision C(2007)1603 of April 2<sup>nd</sup> 2007).

The graph below provides an overview on the financial plan of expenditure (according to n+2 targets), to commitments and to the actual expenditure.

Figure 1  
Financial implementation



The implementation of the programme started with the approval of the Operational Programme in September 2001. In the same year the EC submitted the advance payment of 7% of the ERDF budget.

In 2003 already 47% of the total programme budget at that time had been committed to projects (budget was increased in 2004 due to the accession of Hungary to the EU). The expenditure started slowly but increased steadily and missed at the end of the year 2004 the n+2 target (yearly tranche 2002). An ERDF amount of 51.885,37 Euro was lost. After the accession of Hungary to the EU the commitments increased again and reached already at the end of the year 2006 almost 95% of the budget.

End of 2008 102,9% of the available funds were committed (97,9% of the ERDF). After verification of the costs declared by beneficiaries expenditure of 78,73 Mio Euro (=102,4% of plan) could be verified; thereof 38,51 Mio. Euro ERDF (=92,8 % of plan).

It can be noticed that for the rest of the implementation period the n+2 target could be implemented successfully.

### 3.1.1. Development of the financial tables

**Based on Commission decision C(2001) 2108 of 27th September 2001, the programme started** with the approved ERDF contribution amounted to EUR 30,823.000.

Prior to the accession of Hungary to the European Union Community contribution (ERDF) was only available for Austria. For the year 2000 no funds had been allocated.

**The programme financial tables have been**

► **revised by a Commission decision C(2002) 1703 of 26th July 2002**

The additional priority "Special Support for Border regions" (P6) was introduced to the programme on the basis of a decision of the European Commission from 26<sup>th</sup> of July 2002.

As a consequence the financial allocation of the programme was increased by a total amount of 1.972.000 EUR (986.000 EUR ERDF and 986.000 EUR national co-financing). The funds for this additional priority were allocated entirely for the year 2002.

The approved ERDF contribution for the programme amounted to EUR 31.809.000 EUR.

► **revised by a Commission decision C(2004) 4156 of 19th October 2004**

The main change in 2004 was the accession of Hungary to the European Union on 1<sup>st</sup> May 2004 and thus the revision of the Interreg IIIA/Phare CBC programme on the former external EU border into a full Interreg IIIA programme at the current internal EU border.

Consequently, the approved Joint Programming Document (JPD) for the Interreg IIIA/Phare CBC Programme had to be reviewed in the light of enlargement. At the same time the results of



the mid-term evaluation were included. The Community Initiative Programme (CIP) was approved by the European Commission in its decision (C) 4156 on 19<sup>th</sup> October 2004. The financial allocation was increased by a total amount of 13.381.280,00 Euro (thereof 9.706.313,00 ERDF). The “fresh” resources have been distributed evenly among priorities.

The approved ERDF contribution for the programme amounted to 41.515.313,00 Euro.

► **revised by a Commission decision C(2005) 5921 of 22nd December 2005**

The priority “Special Support for Border regions” which had only been valid for the Austrian side of the border region was closed by 31<sup>st</sup> December 2004. For this priority the Commission reduced the payment request by the advance payment and this led to an automatic decommitment. The amount of 51.885,37 EUR was reduced within priority “Technical Assistance”.

On the basis of the project applications and due to the focus of the programme some limited financial shifts on priority level were necessary.

The programme partners submitted a revised financial table approved by the Monitoring Committee which had been approved by the Commission on 5 December 2005 by a Commission decision K (2005) 4972.

The approved ERDF contribution for the programme amounted to 41.463.428 Euro.

► **revised by a Commission decision C(2007) 1603 of 2nd April 2007**

Based on requests of intermediate bodies on Hungarian and Austrian side the Monitoring Committee approved by 11 December 2006 the shifts in the financial tables: Funds in priority 3 “Cross-border organisational structures” had been increased by EUR 564.352 (ERDF) by reducing funds in priority 1 “Cross-border economic co-operation”, 2 “Accessibility” and 5 “Sustainable spatial and environmental development”. This shifting of funds was necessary in order to assure the complete use of funds.

The shifts were approved by the Commission by April 2<sup>nd</sup> 2007; the new financial tables of the Programme Complement were accepted by 5.6.2007

► **Shifts within the financial table on PC level - amendment 2008**

The Monitoring Committee decided in a written procedure closed at 10 October 2008 the final amendments of the financial table in the Programme Complement and submitted the new document to the EC for validation. These minor financial shifts were necessary in order to assure the complete use of funds. The coherence with the PC has been stated in a letter of EC January 12<sup>th</sup> 2009.

Table 14 shows the programme financial allocations (per Priority and Measure) as applied during the programme period and following abovementioned revisions approved by the MC and accepted by the EC in January 2009.



Table 14

## Financial allocation according to the revised Programme Complement

Source								
Priorities/Measures	Total Costs	Total Public Expenditure	ERDF1)	National Total	National Public	National Private	Priority share of total	Priority share of ERDF
	a=c+d	b= c+e	c	d = e+f	e	f		
<b>1. Cross-border Economic Co-operation</b>	<b>18.017.345,00</b>	<b>13.596.095,00</b>	<b>9.513.423,00</b>	<b>8.503.922,00</b>	<b>4.082.672,00</b>	<b>4.421.250,00</b>	<b>23,43%</b>	<b>22,94%</b>
1.1. Development and Support of Business Sites and Business Service Infrastructure in Border Areas	5.967.093,00	4.333.943,00	3.045.735,00	2.921.358,00	1.288.208,00	1.633.150,00	7,76%	7,35%
1.2. Cross-border Co-operation of Enterprises (SMEs) and Counselling and Support for Crossborder Business Activities	3.891.191,00	3.264.091,00	2.033.082,00	1.858.109,00	1.231.009,00	627.100,00	5,06%	4,90%
1.3. Tourism and Leisure	8.159.061,00	5.998.061,00	4.434.606,00	3.724.455,00	1.563.455,00	2.161.000,00	10,61%	10,70%
<b>2. Accessibility</b>	<b>18.615.995,00</b>	<b>15.950.995,00</b>	<b>9.963.297,00</b>	<b>8.652.698,00</b>	<b>5.987.698,00</b>	<b>2.665.000,00</b>	<b>24,21%</b>	<b>24,03%</b>
2.1. Improvement of Cross-border Transport and Telecommunication Infrastructure	10.537.495,00	8.891.745,00	5.924.047,00	4.613.448,00	2.967.698,00	1.645.750,00	13,70%	14,29%
2.2. Transport Organisation, Planning and Logistics	8.078.500,00	7.059.250,00	4.039.250,00	4.039.250,00	3.020.000,00	1.019.250,00	10,51%	9,74%
<b>3. Cross-border Organisational Structures and Networks</b>	<b>8.623.004,00</b>	<b>8.007.348,00</b>	<b>4.895.028,00</b>	<b>3.727.976,00</b>	<b>3.112.320,00</b>	<b>615.656,00</b>	<b>11,21%</b>	<b>11,81%</b>
3.1. Support of Crossborder Organisational Structures and Development of Networks	5.415.990,00	5.029.334,00	2.838.526,00	2.577.464,00	2.190.808,00	386.656,00	7,04%	6,85%
3.2. Micro-projects including People-to-People Actions and Small Pilots	3.207.014,00	2.978.014,00	2.056.502,00	1.150.512,00	921.512,00	229.000,00	4,17%	4,96%
<b>4. Human Resources</b>	<b>11.112.260,00</b>	<b>10.844.260,00</b>	<b>5.955.592,00</b>	<b>5.156.668,00</b>	<b>4.888.668,00</b>	<b>268.000,00</b>	<b>14,45%</b>	<b>14,36%</b>
4.1. Development of Regional Labour Markets within the Context of EU Enlargement	3.672.248,00	3.614.248,00	1.873.040,00	1.799.208,00	1.741.208,00	58.000,00	4,78%	4,52%
4.2. Development of Co-operation and Infrastructure in the Fields of Education, Training and Science	7.440.012,00	7.230.012,00	4.082.552,00	3.357.460,00	3.147.460,00	210.000,00	9,68%	9,85%
<b>5. Sustainable Spatial and Environmental Development</b>	<b>14.973.982,00</b>	<b>13.208.888,00</b>	<b>8.208.953,00</b>	<b>6.765.029,00</b>	<b>4.999.935,00</b>	<b>1.765.094,00</b>	<b>19,47%</b>	<b>19,80%</b>
5.1. Resource Management, Technical Infrastructure and Renewable Energy Supply	7.422.225,00	6.910.075,00	4.295.270,00	3.126.955,00	2.614.805,00	512.150,00	9,65%	10,36%
5.2. Measures for Nature and Environmental Protection including National and Nature Parks	5.128.974,00	3.969.974,00	2.675.881,00	2.453.093,00	1.294.093,00	1.159.000,00	6,67%	6,45%
5.3. Cross-border Spatial Development in Rural and Urban Areas	2.422.783,00	2.328.839,00	1.237.802,00	1.184.981,00	1.091.037,00	93.944,00	3,15%	2,99%
<b>6. Special Support for Border Regions</b>	<b>1.972.000,00</b>	<b>1.972.000,00</b>	<b>986.000,00</b>	<b>986.000,00</b>	<b>986.000,00</b>	<b>0,00</b>	<b>2,56%</b>	<b>2,38%</b>
6.1. Special Support for Border Regions	1.972.000,00	1.972.000,00	986.000,00	986.000,00	986.000,00	0,00	2,56%	2,38%
<b>Technical Assistance</b>	<b>3.580.924,00</b>	<b>3.580.924,00</b>	<b>1.941.135,00</b>	<b>1.639.789,00</b>	<b>1.639.789,00</b>	<b>0,00</b>	<b>4,66%</b>	<b>4,68%</b>
Technical Assistance I	2.948.155,00	2.948.155,00	1.594.616,00	1.353.539,00	1.353.539,00	0,00	3,83%	3,85%
Technical Assistance II	632.769,00	632.769,00	346.519,00	286.250,00	286.250,00	0,00	0,82%	0,84%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>76.895.510,00</b>	<b>67.160.510,00</b>	<b>41.463.428,00</b>	<b>35.432.082,00</b>	<b>25.697.082,00</b>	<b>9.735.000,00</b>	<b>100,00%</b>	<b>100,00%</b>

1) The EU-contribution was calculated on the basis of total cost.



The following graphs show the share of total planned budget by measure at the time of approval of the CIP in the year 2004 and at the time of the last change in year 2008. It can be stated that the changes in the distribution have not been substantial.

Figure 2

Share of budget by measure – approval of CIP 2004 (total cost)

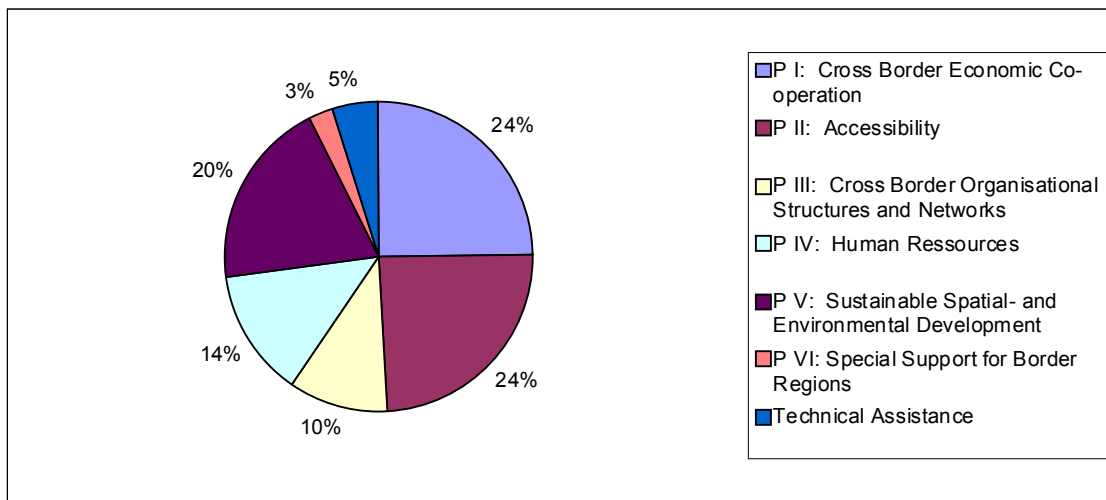
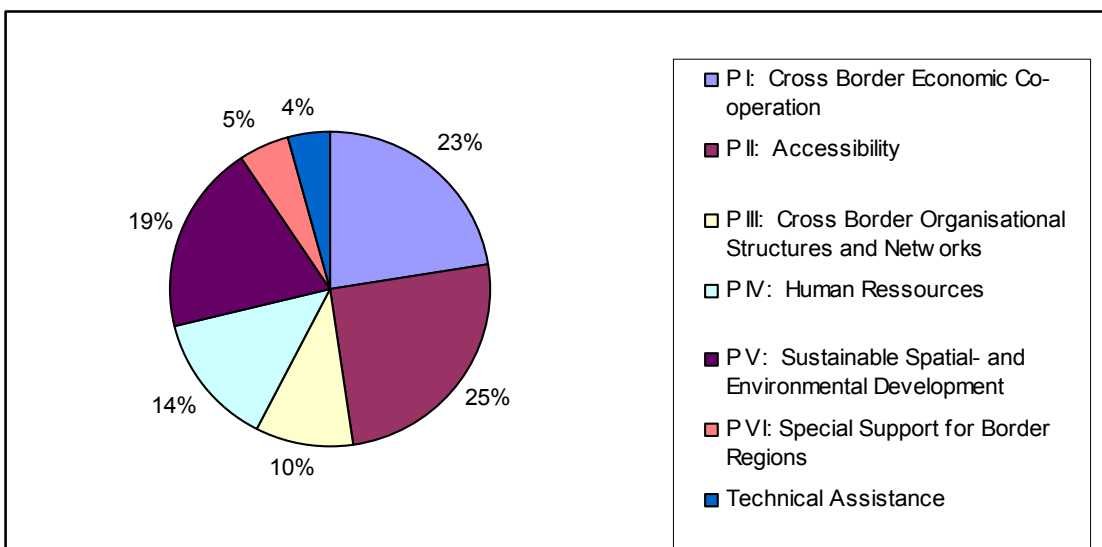


Figure 3

Share of budget by measure – programme closure 2008 (total cost)



### 3.1.2. Use of the EURO

Payments to Hungarian project owners had been executed in HUF by the Intermediate Body in Hungary (financial department of VÄTI). For the purpose of establishing a statement of expenditure by the sub-PA the amounts of expenditure incurred in HUF have been converted in



EUR using the exchange rate as defined in Article 2 of Commission Regulation (EC) No. 643/2000.

### 3.2. Payments Received and Certified Expenditure

During the programme implementation period the Paying Authority submitted 19 interim payment requests to the European Commission. The following table provides an overview on the respective dates and amounts.

Table 15:

#### Reimbursement by the European Commission

Payment requests to the EC	Date of submission to the EC	Amount of requested ERDF	Date of receipt	Amount of payment
7% in advance payment			16.11.2001	2.157.610,00
7% in advance payment		for measure 6.1. amount Euro 69.020,- date of transmission: 2002-11-26		
		measure 6.1. was finished in 2004, therefore the advance payment is handled as a reimbursement		
1.	18.12.2002	356.180,19	26.02.2003	356.180,19
2.	28.04.2003	1.097.026,19	10.06.2003	1.097.026,19
3.	18.11.2003	1.025.156,09	04.12.2003	1.025.156,09
4.	09.08.2004	1.745.349,06	14.09.2004	1.604.041,36
5.	13.10.2004	1.833.877,07	27.12.2004	1.684.563,43
6.	23.12.2004	2.849.537,37	18.03.2005	2.521.244,34
7.	04.04.2005	1.849.681,21	06.05.2005	1.571.594,88
8.	23.05.2005	1.812.342,50	15.07.2005	1.539.293,23
9.	05.08.2005	1.393.841,92	01.09.2005	1.267.173,23
10.	23.09.2005	1.245.402,04	21.10.2005	1.118.733,35
11.	15.12.2005	1.286.466,00	13.01.2006	1.214.171,88
12.	10.02.2006	1.209.227,45	02.03.2006	1.150.297,85
13.	31.10.2006	749.624,71	21.12.2006	749.624,71
14.	27.12.2006	6.479.329,43	26.01.2007	6.452.942,53
15.	10.08.2007	1.084.637,99	21.09.2007	1.051.115,32
16.	27.12.2007	6.123.292,68	11.04.2008	6.091.940,35
17.	30.05.2007	2.260.650,72	17.07.2008	2.243.985,12
18.	29.08.2008	2.127.637,67	08.10.2008	2.029.426,62
19.	12.12.2008	2.649.741,59	30.01.2009	2.464.135,93
Final Payment Application		0,00		
		<b>total</b>		<b>39.390.256,60</b>
since 2 applications for payment were made in a row - without any reimbursement in between - the requested amount for the 6th application for payment originally was EUR 4.534.100,80				
advance payment for measure 6.1. deducted, effectively received EUR 2.452.224,34				



Annex 1 shows the amounts actually paid out by the Paying Authority per Priority and Measure

In Annex 3 the total expenditure is broken down by field of intervention at measure level

### 3.2.1. Information on the use of interests

During the implementation of the programme, the Paying Authority earned interests in the amount of € 6.235,01 which was available for the programme.

The interests are used to cover parts of the national co-funding of the operative Paying Authority (project in TA 2).

### 3.2.2. Report on the use of the Technical Assistance (TA)

During the reporting period TA-1 was used for core management tasks supporting both the Managing and the National Authority by the Technical Secretariat and supporting PA/sub PA by the ERP-Fonds acting as operative PA and Central Monitoring Body. Furthermore the funds were used for decentralised management tasks: the IBs of Hungary, Lower Austria, Vienna and Burgenland used TA-1 budget to finance monitoring tasks and project implementation as well as cross-border activities (e.g. organisations of meetings).

Under TA-2 publicity and information activities were supported (for details on public relation work see chapter 4.4). Furthermore external expertise for drafting of the Operational Programme as well as for the ex-ante evaluation and the Strategic Environmental Assessment for the next SF-period 2007-2013 was paid under TA-2.

Contracts concluded by Managing Authority – core management

In the framework of TA the MA has concluded the following contracts:

- ▶ One to the ERP-Fonds concerning the set-up and implementation of the ERDF Monitoring and the fulfilling of tasks of a single ERDF Paying Authority (release of payments, financial management, forecasts, n+2 reporting). This contract was extended to amend the Central Monitoring System (CMS) to the needs of a fully cross-border programme (set up English surface and reports, include Hungarian data, implementation of functions for the exchange of currencies and the automatic data transfer).
- ▶ One to ÖIR-Managementdienste GmbH (since 2008 metis GmbH) covering the tasks of a Technical Secretariat. The contract was also slightly extended in 2004 in order to offer the Hungarian colleague of the TS a fully equipped working place at the premises in Vienna. The Hungarian TS member was directly contracted by VÁTI.
- ▶ One to ÖAR-Regionalberatung GmbH to carry out the mid-term evaluation (including the update of the mid-term-evaluation) and on-going evaluation.



- ▶ One to ÖAR-Regionalberatung GmbH to carry out the ex-ante evaluation for the Operational Programme
- ▶ One to Stadtland – Technisches Büro für Raumplanung und Raumordnung to carry out the Strategic Environmental Assessment for the Operational Programme “Objective 3 Cross Border Co-operation Austria-Hungary 2007-2013”.

In 2005 the National Authority of Hungary concluded two framework contracts for TA 1 and TA 2. Out of these framework contracts the National Authority of Hungary contracted external experts to support the drafting of the Operational programme “European Territorial Cooperation Austria-Hungary 2007-2013” .

Additionally, the Intermediate Bodies contracted external experts for implementing tasks on regional level under TA 1 and TA 2.

The full list of projects financed under TA is provided in Annex 4.

#### 3.2.3. Unfinished or non-operational projects at the time of closure

At the time of programme closure all projects are finished and are operational.

#### 3.2.4. Project suspended due to legal or administrative proceedings

There is no project suspended due to legal or administrative proceedings.

#### 3.2.5. Measures funded by EAGGF

No measures have been funded by EAGGF Guarantee Section

#### 3.2.6. Measures funded by FIG

No measures have been funded by FIG



### 3.3 Report on Activities in the framework of the PHARE CBC Programme Austria - Hungary

#### Allocation of Phare funds according to JPD financial table (in EUR 1,000)

Priority		Total cost planned 2000-2003	PHARE CBC planned 2000-2003	national planned 2000-2003	Total Cost actual 2000-2003	Total PHARE CBC actual 2000-2003	national actual 2000-2003
P 1	Cross-Border Business Cooperation	9,330	7,000	2,330	7,500	5,500	2,000
P1/M1	Sopron Innovation Center (2001)				3,500	2,500	1,000
P1/M3	CBC Tourism Infrastructure Networks (2003)				4,000	3,000	1,000
P 2	Accessibility	9,320	6,200	3,120	15,689	9,729	5,960
P2/M1	2nd phase of the Győr-Pér Airfield rehabilitation (2000)				3,511	1,229	2,282
P2/M1	Bucsu-Szombathely bypass road (2001)				4,178	2,500	1,678
P2/M1	CBC Transport Infrastructure Networks (2003)				8,000	6,000	2,000
P 3	Support of Cross-Border Organisational Structures and Development of Networks	6,110	5,550	560	7,513	6,142	1,371
P3/M1	Integrated regional information system (2000)					-	-
SPF 2000					3,724	3,352	372
SPF 2001					1,033	930	103
SPF 2002					1,378	930	448
SPF 2003					1,378	930	448
P 4	Human resources	6,660	5,000	1,660	4,000	3,000	1,000
P4/M1	Integrated regional information system (2000)					-	-
P4/M1	Development of co-operation in the area of vocational education, qualification and science (2002)				4,000	3,000	1,000
P 5	Resource management, technical infrastructure and renewable energy supply	8,530	5,800	2,730	22,923	13,800	9,123
P5/M1	Nagykanizsa-Regional Waste Depot				1,865	1,500	365
P5/M1	Biomass Heating Plants in Szombathely and Kőrmend				3,870	2,300	1,570
P5/M1	Waste-Water Canalisation of Zalavölgye-Natúrpark, Őriszentpéter-Nagyrákos				2,666	2,000	666
P5/M1	Cross Border Waste-Water Canalisation Szentgotthárd-Csörötnék				6,522	2,000	4,522
P5/M1	CBC Environmental Infrastructure Networks Grant Scheme (2002)				8,000	6,000	2,000
<i>Small Project Fund</i>		<i>3,300</i>	<i>3,000</i>	<i>300</i>	8,057	6,604	1,453
P3/M2	Small Project Fund (2000)				4,004	3,604	400
P3/M2	Small Project Fund (2001)				1,111	1000	111
P3/M2	Small Project Fund (2002)				1,471	1000	471
P3/M2	Small Project Fund (2003)				1,471	1000	471
Technical Assistance		500	450	50	545	462	82
					545	462	82
<b>Total</b>		<b>40,450</b>	<b>30,000</b>	<b>10,450</b>	<b>56,236</b>	<b>38,000</b>	<b>18,236</b>



**Phare CBC Programmes AT-HU, implementation status as of 31/12/2006**

## 3.3.1. Phare CBC Programmes Hungary-Austria, 2001 implementation status

HU0108-01: Bucsú bypass road leading from the border to the cross-road of road n.89

- ▶ Completed by November 2004.

HU0108-02: Cross Border Waste-Water Canalisation (Csörötnek)

- ▶ Completed by 31 October 2005.

HU0108-03: Small Project Fund

- ▶ Completed by November 2004.

HU0108-04: Waste-Water Canalisation of Zalavölgye-Natúrpark, Öriszentpéter-Nagyrákos

- ▶ Completed by November 2004.

HU0108-05: Establishment of the Sopron Innovation Centre

- ▶ Completed by November 2004.

## 3.3.2. Phare CBC Programmes Hungary-Austria, 2002 implementation status

2002/000-317-01 CBC Environmental Infrastructure Networks

- ▶ Completed by November 2005.

2002/000-317-02 Development of co-operation in the area of vocational education, qualification and science

- ▶ Completed by November 2005.

2002/000-317-03 Small Project Fund

- ▶ Completed by November 2005.

## 3.3.3. Phare CBC Programmes Hungary-Austria, 2003 implementation status

2003/004-575-01 CBC Transport Infrastructure Networks

- ▶ The Call for Proposals was published on 30 April 2004, info days were held in the region in order to provide additional information to potential applicants. The deadline for applications was extended from 6 September 2004 to 27 September 2004. Opening session was held on 28 September 2004, evaluation sessions: 4, 11 October and 8 November 2004. The Evaluation Report was approved on 12 January 2005. The contracts were signed in April 2005. Implementation was smoothly ongoing in 2006 and projects completed by November 2006.



#### 2003/004-575-02 CBC Tourism Development Networks

- ▶ The Call for Proposals was published on 30 April 2004 with a deadline for applications by 13 September 2004. The deadline was later on extended until 4 October 2004. Opening session was held on 5 October 2004, evaluation sessions: 11 October, 4 and 30 November 2004. The Evaluation Report was approved on 4 February 2005. The contracts were signed in April 2005. Implementation was smoothly ongoing in 2006 and projects completed by November 2006.

#### 2003/004-575-03 Small Project Fund

- ▶ The Call for Proposals was launched on 11 January 2005. Deadline for applications was originally 17 March 2005, but has been extended until 14 April 2005. Contracts were signed in autumn 2005. Implementation was smoothly ongoing in 2006 and projects completed by November 2006.

#### 3.3.4. Publicity activities for PHARE CBC

At the beginning of 2006, closing conferences were held for the 2002 grant schemes (2002/000-317-01 CBC Environmental Infrastructure Networks and 2002/000-317-02 Development of co-operation in the area of vocational education, qualification and science), where project results were summarised and experiences shared. At the same time brochures presenting the two programmes were published and disseminated.

In autumn 2006 a closing conference was held for the 2003 Small Project Fund, with the participation of beneficiaries, who had short presentations on the implementation and results of their projects. A brochure describing each of the projects in detail was also published and disseminated.

Closing conferences for the two 2003 grant schemes (CBC Transport Infrastructure Networks and CBC Tourism Networks) were held in 2007.



## 4. ADMINISTRATION AND MANAGEMENT

### 4.1 Steps taken to ensure the quality and effectiveness of implementation

In this chapter the steps taken by the Programme Managing bodies to ensure effectiveness in delivery and to raise the impact of the programme activities on the programmes clientel are described.

It reports the major problems encountered, the main activities conducted by the MA, the Programme Secretariat, the IBs and the MC.

In general the management and steering of the Programme was a shared responsibility of:

- ▶ the Managing Authority (MA) and National Authority on Hungarian side (NA)
- ▶ the Paying Authority (PA) and Sub-PA,
- ▶ the Monitoring Committee (MC) and Steering Committee (SC)
- ▶ the Intermediate Bodies (IBs) and the
- ▶ Joint Technical Secretariat (JTS)

These bodies have worked together to steer and manage the programme and were therefore responsible for the quality and effectiveness of implementation.

#### 4.1.1 Report on the activities of the Managing Authority and National Authority

The Managing Authority (MA) within the meaning of Art. 9 lit. n and Art. 34 of Council Regulation No. 1260/1999 was given to the Austrian Federal Chancellery, Division IV/4 (Bundeskanzleramt der Republik Österreich, Abteilung IV/4). In order to fulfil the responsibilities of the Member State in Hungary according to Art. 38 of Council regulation No. 1260/1999 and Art. 2 of Commission Regulation No. 438/2001 the MA was assisted by the National Authority in Hungary, the Hungarian Office for Territorial and Regional Development (name changed to National Office for Regional Development at the beginning of 2005). As of July 1, 2006 all responsibilities, tasks and assets of the INTERREG Unit of the National Office for Regional Development were taken over by the legal successor - National Development Agency (NDA). NDA – taking overall responsibility of the programme – outsourced the activities on project level to VÁTI (VÁTI Hungarian Nonprofit Ltd for Regional Development and Town Planning) to act as Intermediate Body on behalf of the NDA.

The location of the MA in Austria has proved to be efficient as the whole programme benefited of the experience and skills developed in the Austrian public administration sector. The Federal Chancellery was in the period 2000-2006 Managing Authority for three other cross-border-programmes. Synergy effects could be used but also the effect of mutual learning was a benefit. Overall a tendency to operate according to a non-hierarchical approach (state government and regions) emerged which fitted appropriately with the programmes' management structure.



With regard to the steps taken to ensure the quality and effectiveness of implementation the MA was in charge of setting up, running and adaption of the monitoring system (together with the PA). The MA took initiative to amend Programme Documents (CIP, CP), it submitted the annual implementation reports to the EC. Furthermore the MA organised the evaluation (mid-term, update and ongoing evaluation) and sent the reports in time to the EC. It had been in charge for the communication regarding Art 5 and the day to day coordination between all programme bodies (including Financial Control Group).

Regular meetings were usually held every two weeks between the Managing Authority and JTS to discuss ongoing issues.

In addition to this the MA initiated workshops, some of them in cooperation with INTERACT, for the programme's stakeholders such as workshops on strategic project development, cross-border project development or financial control.

#### 4.1.2. Paying Authority (PA)

The Federal Chancellery, Dept. IV/4, was designated, pursuant to Art. 9, item o) of Council Regulation (EC) No 1260/99, to handle the financial aspects of the Programme INTERREG IIIA Austria-Hungary and to perform the tasks defined in Art. 32 of Council Regulation (EC) No. 1260/99 and was entitled to outsource these tasks to an external institution.

In order to fulfil the responsibilities of the Member States in Hungary according to Art. 32 of Council Regulation (EC) No. 1260/1999 the PA was assisted by VÁTI Hungarian Nonprofit Ltd for Regional Development and Town Planning – as Sub-Paying Authority (Sub-PA) designated by the Hungarian Government Decree no 359/2004(XII.26).

The PA performed all tasks defined in Art. 32 of Council Regulation (EC) No. 1260/99, in particular making payments to final beneficiaries and to the Sub-PA, submitting applications for payment and recording incoming and outgoing amounts. In this respect, the PA cooperated closely with the IBs and the Sub-PA. A separate account for the Programme was established with the PA. All Structural Funds resources were received at this account. Interest income, if any, was exclusively allocated to this account. Appropriate organisational measures were set to ensure efficient financial management so that the arising needs for financing could be covered by the advance payments of Structural Funds resources and a forfeiture of Structural Funds financing was prevented.

The PA submitted the forecasts of applications for payment for the current year and the forecast for the following year according to Art. 32/7 Council Regulation (EC) No 1260/1999 to the Commission.

Recommendations of the Financial Control according to Art. 10 of Commission Regulation No. 438/2001 were discussed with the relevant programme partners and were implemented with the respective body – e.g. during a revision of a project ERDF payments were suspended.



#### 4.1.3. Report on the activities of the Joint Monitoring Committee

In accordance with the rules of procedure of the INTERREG IIIA Austria - Hungary Monitoring Committee for the Implementation of the INTERREG IIIA Programme Austria – Hungary 2000-2006 a Joint Monitoring Committee (JMC) was established for the implementation of the Community Initiative Programme INTERREG IIIA Austria – Hungary 2000-2006. In line with point 39 of the INTERREG guidelines, the JMC for the CIP as described in point 28 has formed a single committee, which performed the tasks as described in Article 35 (3) Council Regulation 1260/99.

The main steps taken by the JMC to ensure the quality and effectiveness of the programme :

- ▶ proposal and decision on revisions of the JPD/CIP and the Programme Complement (PC), including changes of financial tables of the CIP and PC.
- ▶ examination and approval of project selection / approval procedures as well as selection and priority criteria and project categories
- ▶ revision of project results as an integrated part of the programming process.
- ▶ discussion of the main findings and recommendations of the mid-term and on-going evaluation;

Table 16

#### Meetings of the JMC and the JSC by date and locality from 2001 until 2008

Programme year	JMC	Total JMC	JSC	Total JSC	Total JMC & JSC
2001	18th of September in Eisenstadt / Austria	1	19th of September in Eisenstadt / Austria, 12th of December in Vienna	2	3
2002	19th of March in Sopron / Hungary, 28th of October in St. Egyden am Steinfeld / Austria	2	17th of April in Sopron / Hungary, 19th of June in Illmitz / Austria, 29th of October in St. Egyden am Steinfeld / Austria	3	5
2003	2nd of October in Vienna	1	29th of January in Sopron / Hungary, 3rd of July in Mörbisch / Austria 11th of November in Szombathely / Hungary	3	4
2004	28th of January in Neusiedl / Austria, 29th of June in Vienna	2	2nd of June in Vienna, 18th of November in Győr / Hungary	2	4
2005	23rd of June in Kőszeg / Hungary	1	28th of April in Oberpullendorf / Austria, 14th and 15th of September in Vienna, 5th of December in Katzelsdorf / Austria	3	4



2006	8th of March in Reichenau/Rax	1	8th of March in Reichenau/Rax, 26th of June in Keszthely / Hungary, 20th and 21st of September in Vienna, 7th of December in Pannonhalma / Hungary	4	5
2007	-	-	10th of April in Großpetersdorf / Austria	1	1
2008	-	-	-	-	-
Total		8		18	26

The topics discussed in these meetings are described in the respective annual implementation report.

Furthermore some of the decisions have been taken in written procedures.

#### 4.1.4. Report on the activities of the Joint Steering Committee

In accordance with the rules of procedure a single INTERREG IIIA Austria – Hungary Joint Steering Committee (JSC) was set up as a body responsible for the joint selection of all INTERREG IIIA projects and the co-ordinated monitoring of the projects' implementation within the scope of the Programme. With the following tasks the JSC ensured the quality and effectiveness of the programme (tasks in compliance with points 29 and 38 of the INTERREG guidelines and with Chapter 9 of the CIP):

- ▶ discussion and approval of projects applying the project selection criteria and the scoring system as defined in the Programme Complement and as approved by the JMC;
- ▶ regular reports on projects approved with conditions and on necessary amendments;
- ▶ strategic project development: a workshop was organised to discuss helpers and hinderers in (strategic) project development;
- ▶ on-going evaluation: discussion of results and recommendations.

According to Chapter 9 of the JPD and pursuant to Art. 42 and Annex II Art. 8 of the INTERREG-Guidelines and Art. 5 par. 2 of the Commission Regulation Nr. 2780/98 a Joint Steering Committee for Small Project Fund (under PHARE) and Kleinprojekte, people-to-people projects and pilot projects (under ERDF) was established as a sub-committee of the JSC. Submitted projects of the Phare CBC SPF 2002 and 2003 were discussed by the sub-committee of the JSC in compliance with the tasks described in Annex 1 of the rules of procedure of the INTERREG IIIA AUSTRIA – Hungary Steering Committee. The sub-committee of the JSC regularly reported on its activities to the JSC.

#### 4.1.5. Intermediate Bodies (IBs)

In the meaning of Art. 2 of Commission Regulation 438/2001 the Intermediate Bodies were responsible for the operative management of the programme at the project level. In this respect



the IBs contributed to the quality and effectiveness of the programme in particular with the following tasks:

- ▶ advising potential applicants for funding with regard to the programme objectives and the terms and conditions attached to INTERREG assistance;
- ▶ IBs registered all project applications into the Central Monitoring System (CMS)
- ▶ pre-assessment of project applications according to the criteria defined in PC
- ▶ concluding subsidy contracts relating to ERDF funds on the basis of the decisions by the JSC;
- ▶ auditing the project financial statements and reports that must have been submitted by the final beneficiaries of the assistance as well as confirming the correctness of the financial statements in terms of content and compliance with accounting regulations
- ▶ Reporting to the Central Monitoring System
- ▶ public relations work on a regional level.

More information on the responsibilities of the IBs due to Art. 4 controls (FLC) is described in chapter 4.2.

#### 4.1.6. Joint Technical Secretariat (JTS)

The JTS was contracted and supervised by the Managing Authority. From 2004 the Hungarian part of the the JTS was contracted and supervised by the National Authority of Hungary. The purpose of the Secretariat was to act as facilitator, organiser and 'mentor' for the programme.

The JTS and its responsibility for day-to-day management of the programme was outsourced by the MA to ÖIR-Managementdienste GmbH, since 2008 metis GmbH. Since 2004 the JTS Team in Vienna was completed by a JTS member in Sopron to support the Hungarian programme bodies and beneficiaries locally.

In accordance with the tasks described in the CIP and the Internal Manual for the Technical Secretariat INTERREG IIIA the JTS covered the following tasks:

- ▶ secretariat to the Joint Monitoring and Joint Steering Committees: preparation of the meetings in close co-operation with the programme management bodies (MA/NA, PA/Sub-PA) and IBs, preparation of decision making process in JSC, generation of project sheets as a basis for the decisions in the JSC, compilation of data on request (e.g. check of indicators); drafting the Annual Implementation Reports; management of translation services (many documents were provided in both languages);
- ▶ organisation of bilateral task-forces, workshops and other events: e.g. information meeting for the priority "human resources" in 2002, numerous meetings of bilateral Task Forces within Managing Transition process, cross-programme seminars on specific questions (more information see below), workshops and task forces in preparation of the new programme 2007-2013



- ▶ support of the MA/NA in drafting the revised programme documents (CIP, Programme Complement, and Art. V communication) and support in implementing the communication activities: folders, brochures, etc. (for more details see chapter 4.4.)
- ▶ operating and up-dating of the web-site: [www.at-hu.net](http://www.at-hu.net)
- ▶ supporting efficient project management: drafting common standards and principles of cooperation (e.g. standardised formats like application form),
- ▶ supporting external experts, e.g. mid-term /on-going and ex-post Evaluators;
- ▶ organisational support to the Financial Control Group
- ▶ internal project management: quality control, communication and coordination: e.g. co-ordination and co-operation with partners in the VÁTI and NDA in Budapest and Sopron who were in charge of programming for Phare CBC 2002 and 2003 and implemented the JSPF 2001;

A main part of the TS-workload was covered by preparing and accompanying the Managing Transition process: in 2003 five Task Force meetings and one workshop were held with the Hungarian programme partners, two cross-programme seminars were organised.

In order to find a common understanding of tasks and division of labour of the enlarged JTS and to discuss the inclusion of new team members into the JTS the MA invited programme stakeholders (NA and TS) to a working meeting that was held in Vienna on 24th March 2004.

The cooperation between the Austrian and the Hungarian JTS team members were gradually improved over the years. From accession onwards the cooperation was tightened and the Hungarian member was fully integrated into the JTS-team. In the course of the Programme many meetings of the JTS XL were held in Vienna, among others the following items were on the agenda: common standards, principles of communication and cooperation, programme PR activities, organisation of work flows and project life cycle, possible role of JTS in future period 2007-2013 (lessons learned); project documentation on programme web-site.

With the support of the INTERACT programme (IP Managing Transition) several cross-programme seminars were organised, eg seminar on Lead-Partner in 2005, seminar on indicators in 2006, programme on closure exercise in 2007 and finally the event “CBC so-far” in 2008 (some more information see chapter 4.4.).

Due to the fact that the eligibility of the programme ended on 31.12.2008 the JTS had been closed by the end of 2008.

## 4.2 Programme Information and Control System

### 4.2.1. Description of the Accounting and Information Systems

On behalf of the MA a Central Monitoring System for the collection of data according to Art. 34, para 1, lit. a of Council Regulation No. 1260/99 was established at the – ERP Fund acting as operative PA. Ungargasse 37, A-1030 Wien. These functions were outsourced by the Federal



Chancellery acting as PA in the framework of a contract for services and were performed by ERP-Fonds (gathering of data) and the TS (processing and evaluation of data).

The technical framework as well as the structure and content of reporting to the Central Monitoring System (CMS) was agreed by the programme partners on the basis of given EU standards. The MA and the IBs reported all data necessary to the CMS and confirmed the correctness of data. The data sent to the CMS was considered as official data. All data within the CMS were available via read access to the MA/NA, PA, JTS, IBs as well as to FCG members. Reports (e.g. on the commitment and payment situation) were sent to the MC and SC members.

Regular reports for the n+2 status were programmed by the ERP-F and could thus be used by programme partners for continuous monitoring.

#### 4.2.2. Controls according to Art. 4 of Com. Reg. No. 438/2001

In compliance with Art. 4 of Commission Regulation No. 438/2001 (First Level Control – FLC) the IBs were responsible for all projects co-financed by ERDF funds under the INTERREG III A Programme Austria-Hungary. They secured compliance with the terms and conditions for assistance under the programme as well as the correctness of financial statements settled with regard to expenses eligible for assistance and assistance funds to be granted was continuously ensured both in factual and accounting terms and, if necessary, audited on site.

With regard to the FLC the IBs were responsible for (other tasks of IB see chapter 4.1.4.):

- ▶ advising potential applicants for funding with regard to the programme objectives and the terms and conditions attached to INTERREG assistance;
- ▶ concluding subsidy contracts relating to ERDF funds on the basis of the decisions by the JSC;
- ▶ auditing the project financial statements and reports that must have been submitted by the final beneficiaries of the assistance as well as confirming the correctness of the financial statements in terms of content and compliance with accounting regulations
- ▶ prompting the disbursement of ERDF funds by the PA to the final beneficiaries as well as
- ▶ demanding the repayment of ERDF funds if applicable.
- ▶ Reporting to the Central Monitoring System

In this context care was taken to ensure the proper separation (and if applicable, also the organisational and functional separation) of the personnel conducting financial control from the project consulting activities and, in particular, from the project development in order to avoid conflicts of interests and to reduce the risk of irregularities.

After examining a project's (interim) implementation progress report and the financial statements, the IBs in Austria handed over to the PA the result of the control and a Certification of Expenditure (relating to all items mentioned in Article 9 Para. 2 lit. b of Commission Regulation (EC) No. 438/2001 (as amended)) and a Payment Claim. On this basis the PA



paid the ERDF funds to the account of the (Austrian) beneficiary. The project information provided in the (interim or final) financial statements as well as the payment executed by the PA was reported to the CMS.

On the Hungarian side the FLC control of the final beneficiaries' payment claims, progress reports and final reports was executed by VÁTI. The approved payment claim was forwarded to the paying unit that carried out further checks and realized payments to the Hungarian Final Beneficiaries. The payments were reported in the Hungarian monitoring system and transferred via data transfer to JTS (HU part) which reported it into the CMS. Based on the reimbursed subsidies the Sub-Paying Authority set out Sub-Application for payments including the sub-statement of expenditure and request for payment.

On the basis of the reported data and a sub-Application for Payment and sub-Statement of Expenditure - which was sent in parallel to the data transfer - the PA reimbursed the ERDF to the Sub-PA.

#### Changes in Hungary in 2007

From 1<sup>st</sup> January 2007 onward the tasks of the National Authority at the National Development Agency (NDA), were carried out by the Department of International Cooperation Programmes. Furthermore significant changes had taken place in 2007 at the sub-Paying Authority and the Intermediate Body of Hungary (VÁTI Non-Profit Company): from January 1<sup>st</sup> 2007, the functions that were performed by units outside the Interreg Directorate (i.e. financial management, program level finances, quality-control, handling of irregularities) became the tasks of organisational units inside the INTERREG Directorate; as a consequence the performance of work relating to the implementation of the programme has become more efficient and concentrated.

#### 4.2.3. Controls according to Art. 10 and winding up

A Financial Control Group (FCG) was set up for the implementation of the Financial Control according to chapter IV and Winding Up of the Community Initiative Programme "INTERREG IIIA Austria – Hungary" according to chapter V of Regulation (EC) 438/2001. The rules of procedure were adopted by a decision of the delegations of both participating states in May 2005 (first meeting of FCG). The FCG met at least once every year in order to discuss important findings and the drafts of the common annual reports (according to Art. 13 of Com.Reg. 438/2001) before sending to the Commission.

The FCG consisted of a limited number of representatives from national authorities of the two Member States of the INTERREG IIIA Austria – Hungary programme. These national authorities were responsible according to their national regulatory requirements for

- a. Financial Control according to Chapter IV of reg. 438/2001 and those for
- b. issuing final declarations according to Chapter V of reg. 438/2001.



The audits required pursuant to Chapter IV of Regulation (EC) 438/2001 were conducted on the Austrian and the Hungarian side according to the annual audit plan of the respective year. Reports on the single audits were made and executive summaries were sent to the European Commission.

In Austria some weaknesses were detected and reported. The necessary follow-ups and improvements within the Monitoring/Management and Control System which had been ascertained in previous years were carried out by the responsible Intermediate Bodies in close cooperation with the Managing Authority and Paying Authority.

On the Hungarian side, the auditing process showed that the management and control systems were set according to the requirements of respective EC Regulations and in compliance with recommendations of the European Commission.

Details to the weaknesses and the problems detected are described in chapter 4.3.

#### 4.2.4. Audit by the European Court of Auditors

In 2007 the programme was subject to an audit by the European Court of Auditors (examination of control systems in order to assess the statement of assurance). At the same time, an accompanying audit was conducted by the Austrian Court of Audit. The audits started already in November 2006 and were finalised by on the spot checks of 10 projects in January 2007. Due to the fact that the declaration of expenditure of March 2006 which was the basis for the sample checks for the European Court of Auditors only included expenditure declared by beneficiaries in Austria, the audit covered only Austrian bodies.

The Austrian Court of Auditors published its report in September 2007 including rather positive feedback on the implementation documentation and control by the IB of Burgenland and some critical remarks and findings about the implementation and control by the IB of Vienna.

The European Court of auditors published its findings with the annual report concerning the financial year 2006 (there chapter 6).

Main findings of the European Court of auditors (summarized for all audited programmes/ 177 interim reimbursements):

- compliance errors: errors in contracting and failures to meet publicity requirements
- multiple errors: usually a combination of an eligibility and accuracy error
- thus eligibility error were the most frequent single error

Most relevant eligibility errors:

- application of incorrect grant rates (the split between Community co-financing and the national matched funding)
- inclusion of costs which are not reimbursable (such as recoverable VAT) and
- lack of tendering



- main weaknesses in the functioning of MA were the insufficient on-the-spot checks of the reality of expenditure and the failure to identify that cost statements were not supported by appropriate evidence
- main weaknesses in the functioning of PA was the failure to identify that the MA had not carried out adequate day to day checks.

For the INTERREG IIIA Programme Austria-Hungary the Court assessed the functioning of

- the MA / PA unsatisfactory
- the Audit Body and Winding-up Body satisfactory

The European Court of Auditors examined the system at the time the MA and PA already set some steps to assure the effectiveness of the system (the control system in Vienna was already in revision) – more details see chapter 4.3.

**Lessons learned** and implemented by the programme bodies:

- ▶ Controls by the MA/PA must be enforced
- ▶ Proper documentation of Art. 4 control is absolutely necessary
- ▶ Cross-border relevance of projects must be better documented
- ▶ Intensify the controls at revenue generating infrastructure and proper documentation is necessary (most critical finding)
- ▶ proper documentation of work-time (most common finding).

#### 4.3. Summary of significant problems

Weakness within the FLC system at IB Vienna

During the audits required pursuant to Chapter IV of Regulation (EC) 438/2001 which were conducted on the Austrian side according to the annual audit plan of 2004 weaknesses at one of the IB (IB Vienna) was detected.

Since the implementation of follow-up measures was lagging behind at this IB (in 2004 the Art. 10 body reported that the Article 4 control activities were documented insufficiently), the Managing Authority and Paying Authority temporarily blocked all ERDF payments within the responsibility of this body in 2006. The concerned IB Vienna committed itself to send all Article 4 reports to the MA/PA. Only on the basis of the approbation of the MA/PA that an adequate audit trail and documentation of the Article 4 controls was reported, the unblocking was done – on project level. With this temporarily stoppage of payments the financial implementation of the programme was lagging behind. By the end of 2006 the majority of projects were unblocked. The checks performed by the Managing Authority and Paying Authority were finalised by December 2007 and ensuing all projects were unblocked. During this validation process



irregularities were detected and three projects were cancelled from the programme. The ERDF money was reimbursed to the programme immediately.

In 2008 the Art. 10 body repeated its audit and had no further comments to the control system of the respective IB Vienna.

As described in chapter 4.2.3. the European Court of Auditors examined the system in 2006/2007 and detected the same findings.

Set up of FLC systems took more time and efforts than expected

It should be noticed that the set up of FLC systems took more time and efforts than expected.

It took considerable time and efforts until the FLC systems in Austria and Hungary were installed properly: it was difficult to foresee systems that met both the national requirements of the single MS and the respective EU-regulations without clear provisions or guidance provided by the EC.

Especially at the end of each year the FLC bodies as well as the PA were confronted with some lack of capacities: due to the fact that a number of projects submitted the progress and financial reports later in a year than expected (due to fulfilment of conditions or unforeseen events the implementation was lagging sometimes behind the plan), the FLC bodies had to check many reports especially at the end of the years.

Based on the analysis several actions were taken in order to avoid any de-commitment, especially:

- ▶ the programme bodies IBs, MA and JTS intensified assistance and guidance for approved projects (monitoring of project implementation, seminars on technical aspects of project implementation);
- ▶ possibility of extraordinary reporting of expenditure was offered to the projects, i.e. to report costs additionally to the agreed reporting deadlines;
- ▶ awareness-raising was done in the sense of making the project participants aware of the importance to report costs according to the approved budget plans and projects were closely monitored on that aspect by IBs;
- ▶ intensified efforts were made to establish a well-functioning FLC system.

Although considerable efforts were made by the programme bodies to avoid the de-commitment of funds the “n+2” rule led to a loss of ERDF-funds in 2004 (yearly tranche of 2002) amounting to 51.885,37 Euro (more information see chapter 3.1.).



#### 4.4 Information and publicity activities undertaken (TA 2)

A variety of information and publicity activities were undertaken during the reporting period. Print media, websites and information events were successfully provided to target groups as well as the interested public.

Based on the communication plan in the Programme Complement the following activities were carried out:

##### 4.4.1 Activities of the MA/NA/TS



Common brochure (2004): the programme partners agreed already in October 2003 to produce a bilingual brochure at the occasion of Hungary's accession to the EC highlighting the successful cooperation under Interreg and Phare CBC so far. The brochure was published in May 2004. 12.000 pieces were printed and distributed among programme partners and the wider public (only 300 pieces are still available at the MA). The brochure could be downloaded from the programme website [www.at-hu.net](http://www.at-hu.net).



Folder (2001, 2002) and folder for pupils (2007): The JTS elaborated the concept and layout of a folder informing of the start of all four external border programmes (AT-CZ, AT-SK, AT-HU and AT-SI). 10.000 pieces of this folder were printed in November 2001 and were distributed to all responsible institutions at regional and federal state level. A second edition of the programme folder was produced in 2002 (3.500 pieces). 9.100 pieces of a bilingual INTERREG folder

targeted to pupils aged 14 to 19 years old and teachers were printed in April 2007. The folders were distributed to all communities, schools, beneficiaries and other partners in the programme area before the summer break 2007. An electronic version can be downloaded from the programme webpage [www.at-hu.net](http://www.at-hu.net).



Project documentation and documentation of project results: based on the information on approved projects in the CMS the JTS started in 2003 to set up a project documentation comprising all relevant information which was used for different purposes (project description on the programme website, requests from institutions or organisations surveying INTERREG Programmes, information for politicians, etc.). Project owners were asked to provide additional information (such as reports, studies, photos, websites etc.). The results were published on the programme website under projects/“Success Stories” (overview of projects by priorities and measures) and were regularly up-dated until the end of 2008. Around 85 projects were described. For each project additionally a documentary archive (\*.zip) was created so that project results could be downloaded.



Programme website [www.at-hu.net](http://www.at-hu.net): the website was on-line since February 2002 in German, Hungarian and English. Continuous up-date of the website was done by the JTS (until the end of December 2008) where monthly web reports are available. Apart from the continuous up-date the JTS adapted the common website due to the accession of Hungary in two ways: the graphic user interface and the Backoffice were adapted and made more user friendly and the content was revised according to the revision of the programme documents. These modifications in Hungarian, English and German language were carried out in close cooperation with the Hungarian partners. A common introductory page to both the INTERREG IIIA programme 2000-2006 as well as to the Objective 3 Territorial Cooperation Programme 2007-2013 was installed<sup>3</sup>.

The Backoffice area under [www.at-hu/Service/intern](http://www.at-hu/Service/intern): from December 2002 until November 2009 the JTS offered all MC + SC Committee members an information repository which could be accessed through the programme website. Basically, it consists of a personal calendar and a file manager which contains all necessary internal programme information such as invitations to meetings and documents in a download section. A detailed user manual was elaborated and disseminated to all potential users. The Backoffice area was widely used by programme partners and was regularly up-dated.

Information events: The JTS organized seven seminars with overall 593 participants – some of these seminars were organised in close cooperation with INTERACT. In detail the JTS held a seminar on indicators and selection criteria with 80 participants, a seminar on labour market and qualification with 140 participants, a seminar on the Lead Partner Principle with 57 participants, a seminar on programme management in the framework of Managing Transition INTERREG IIIA with 84 participants, a seminar on financial control and project cycle management in the framework of Managing Transition INTERREG IIIA with 93 participants, a seminar on closing

<sup>3</sup> Due to the fact that the eligibility for the programme ended in December 2008, the MA extended the contract with the provider for one year. This means that at the end of 2009 the web-site will be closed. The main content was stored on DVD at the MA. The MA for the new programme ETC Austria-Hungary took over some parts of the content – therefore the information of the web-site was still online in March 2010.



the Interreg IIIA programmes 2000-2006 with 70 participants and the seminar “CBC so far” on the use of project experience from INTERREG IIIA Programmes with 69 participants.

In the framework of INTERACT, the JTS attended six seminars on INTERREG IIIA programme management, Communication plan and tools for cross-border programmes, the situation between EU enlargement and the new programme periods, territorial cooperation project management, as well as territorial cooperation programmes 2007-2013. The JTS also participated in an INTERACT conference on European territorial cooperation programmes 2007-2013 in Budapest and in the conferences “From cross-border cooperation to the integrated border regions” and “common cross-border thinking and acting” in Sopron. Furthermore in the framework of INTERACT the JTS participated in a study on monitoring systems in EU25. The JTS organized an information day for the representatives of social partners and NGOs in the JMCs. It has organized two workshops for potential applicants in all three Hungarian counties where presentations were given about the INTERREG programme, the requirements for applications, and an open space for questions was provided. Moreover, the JTS organized in total four presentations and discussions with delegations from other countries, e.g. Latvia and Finland. Within the framework of INTERACT, a staff exchange to five INTERREG IIIA programmes for learning about the implementation of the Lead Partner Principle was also organised.

#### 4.4.2 Activities of the Intermediate Bodies

The IB of Burgenland has given information to project applicants via e-mail and in direct individual consultation. Information to the public was provided via press releases, press conferences as well as a variety of presentations. The IB has also provided up-dated information on its website: [www.burgenland.at/eu-service.htm](http://www.burgenland.at/eu-service.htm); since 2007, there exists a new website: [www.rmb.at](http://www.rmb.at). Two brochures and two folders including one folder for pupils were published and can be downloaded from the website.

The IB Vienna held an information day, two information seminars, and two workshops on the Kleinprojektfond (Small Project Fund) for potential applicants. A third workshop was held for project owner of already approved projects. Information was provided on the website: [www.magwien.gv.at/meu](http://www.magwien.gv.at/meu) since 2002. Since 2007, the IB used a new website: <http://www.wien.gv.at/wirtschaft/eu-strategie/>. The signing ceremony of the key umbrella project BAER - Building a European Region was attended by politicians from seven cities and seven regions; the subsequent kick-off conference took place in Kittsee and was accompanied by press-releases.

The IB Lower Austria has provided information on INTERREG IIIA via internet: [www.noel.gv.at/service/ru/ru2/strukturinterreg](http://www.noel.gv.at/service/ru/ru2/strukturinterreg). Since 2007 the website has a new address <http://www.noel.gv.at/Politik-Verwaltung/Europa/EU-Regionalpolitik.html>. A guide for submission of projects was elaborated and published (printed version and the information was available on the web-site). A variety of description of projects, reports on seminars related to Interreg and articles were published in journals, for example in the journal “Raum&Ordnung”. Two newsletters were published each year from 2002 until 2007. Information events were also



organized including five events in the framework of a "road show" to present the programme "Objective European Territorial Cooperation 2007-2013" in the five main regions of Lower Austria. A DVD on the successful implementation of the programme was produced and distributed among the interested public. Furthermore, a Video "Regionen im Aufwind" (Regions starting up: glimpses of the European Regional Policy in Lower Austria) was produced including special editions for the different regions of Lower Austria. The IB also published two DVDs with final presentation and a brochure compiling success stories (including a DVD).

The Hungarian IB held a series of workshops for potential project owners in the programme regions. A call for proposal was published in three regional and one national newspapers; the application package for Hungarian applicants of the measure 3.2. of the Austria-Hungary Interreg IIIA Community Initiative Programme was published on the programme website, together with the exact venue and timing of information workshops. A list of approved projects was published at: <http://www.vati.hu/>. The JTS and the information point provided continuous consultation for (potential) applicants on phone, e-mail, and in personal consultations. Furthermore they participated as well as speakers on events organized by third parties. Communication and publicity guidelines for the Hungarian beneficiaries of the Austria-Hungary Interreg IIIA Community Initiative Programme as well as guidelines for financial implementation for the Hungarian beneficiaries of the Austria-Hungary Interreg IIIA programme was published under downloadable documents of the [www.at-hu.net](http://www.at-hu.net) website. The guideline for financial implementation was updated and the new version of the document was published under downloadable documents of the [www.at-hu.net](http://www.at-hu.net) website. A progress template report for the Hungarian beneficiaries of the Austria-Hungary Interreg IIIA programme was published and updated on [www.at-hu.net](http://www.at-hu.net) website. The follow-up report template for the Hungarian beneficiaries of the Austria-Hungary Interreg IIIA programme was also published on [www.at-hu.net](http://www.at-hu.net) website.

#### 4.5 Evaluation on the programme

According to the regulations the INTERREG IIIA Programme Austria-Hungary has been subdued to three evaluation exercises, all implemented by experts independent from the programme partners:

- ▶ Ex-ante Evaluation (EaE);
- ▶ mid-term Evaluation (MTE);
- ▶ up-date of the mid-term Evaluation (update)

In addition to these evaluations the evaluators of MTE were asked and contracted to support the programme bodies with some more detailed analysis within the so called "on-going" evaluation.



#### 4.5.1 The main evaluations on the programme

##### Ex-ante evaluation

The ex-ante evaluation was conducted in close cooperation with the programming process and covered internal activities by the working group that elaborated the programme as well as external activities carried out by consultants not involved in the programming process. The EaE was carried out by ÖAR-Regionalberatung.

As a result of this close interlinking of programming and ex-ante evaluation, comments and recommendations by the evaluators were discussed in Bilateral Workshops and with the external experts involved, and its outcome was incorporated in the programming work in an on-going manner. Thus every new version of the Joint Programming Document (JPD) already contained the results of the foregone evaluation loop. Altogether the ex-ante evaluation provided a valuable learning cycle for all partners involved, and led to notable improvements of the overall quality and coherence of the JPD.

##### Mid-term evaluation

Due to the involvement of Austria in four Interreg IIIA programmes on the external borders of the EU one single firm - ÖAR-Regionalberatung GmbH was contracted by the MA in 2003 to prepare according to the regulation the mid-term evaluation and the up-date of the mid-term evaluation but it was also asked to carry out an on-going evaluation for the Interreg IIIA programmes Austria with the Czech Republic, Slovakia, Hungary and Slovenia. Especially the on-going evaluation made use of synergy effects by covering cross-programme aspects.

A cross-programme Steering Group Evaluation was set up consisting of the main programme partners of all five countries concerned (MA, PA, JTS, intermediate bodies, programme partners from the Czech and Slovak Republic, Hungary, Slovenia and Austria).

The Group met twice in 2003:

- ▶ a kick-off meeting was held on 30th June to present the mid-term evaluation team and the proposed methodology and to agree on a work plan for the mid-term evaluation.
- ▶ A second meeting was held on 25<sup>th</sup> November to discuss the main findings<sup>4</sup> and recommendations of the mid-term evaluation.

The mid-term evaluation report was sent to the Commission on 22<sup>nd</sup> December 2003. The Commission confirmed in its letter dated 20.2.2004 the completeness of the report.

##### Main results of MTE<sup>5</sup>

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<sup>4</sup> See Annex 7 for a summary of the mid-term evaluation

<sup>5</sup> Detailed information on the recommendation and the implementation is given in the up-date MTE report (there chapter 3)



<i>Recommendation of evaluators</i>	<i>Implementation</i>
More transparency within project selection	The project selection process was discussed and harmonised in the following way: In the pre-evaluation phase the compliance with formal criteria was checked. The Intermediate Bodies (IBs) examined the applications according to administrative criteria and eligibility criteria. The IBs evaluate the project also according to (a) core selection criteria, which is based on a standardised survey of the cross-border quality in the projects' development, and implementation and (b) a survey and typology of the projects expected impacts on functionally integrated regional development. After completing the examination a summary assessment of these criteria was drawn up and reported by the respective IB to the Central Monitoring System (CMS). All projects with complete application form were reported in the CMS with status level 1 (first entry in CMS – obligatory) with defined minimum requirements.
Shorten procedures for approval and contracting and project implementation	The programme bodies intensified the regular contact with beneficiaries. Furthermore seminars and workshop were held to inform beneficiaries about necessary steps and requirements during implementation (e.g. reporting; FLC standards). Further to workshops individual consultation was offered by the IBs.
Ensure transparency and wide publicity	Information on selected projects and on projects results were communicated via different media (detailed information see chapter 4.4.)
Improvements within the indicator system	The use of the cooperation indicator was discussed and made more transparent by using joint standards for classifying and selecting projects; common terms for "joint", "mirror" and "other projects" were defined and included in the Programme Complement – Chapter 3 (definition of the common terms see chapter 2.2. in this report)
Integrate social partners in the operation of the programme committees	Actually social partners from AT were members of the JMC (representatives of the Chambers of Commerce as well as representatives of the labour market service and the Chamber of Labour). The JTS offered these representatives (regular) information but in the end it had to be noticed that the representatives could not participate regularly in all the meetings.



## Up-date of the Mid-term evaluation

According to Working Paper 9 of the European Commission the up-date of MTE addressed the following issues:

- ▶ review of implementation of recommendations of MTE
- ▶ analysis of outputs and results
- ▶ analysis of impacts and likely achievement of objectives
- ▶ conclusions on efficiency, effectiveness and impact

It should be noticed that at the time the up-date MTE report was drafted most programme funds were already allocated to approved projects. Regarding project development and selection there was therefore little room for manoeuvre left.

When the five co-operation indicators were analysed in more detail it was identified that joint financing was still the least frequent indicator, even though it increased substantially since the mid-term evaluation. The percentage of projects with joint implementation increased, however the percentages of the other three indicators (joint application, joint planning, joint use) range from about 69% to about 82%.

It turned out that still a high percentage of projects fulfilled the criteria of being marked as “AA” project (at least two out of five stages of cooperation and at least two impact indicators fulfilled) – see table 9 – chapter 2. in this report.

With regard to the recommendation to analyse weaknesses of information flows and to agree on early cross-border exchanges of project information it can be reported that the IBs fostered bilateral informal exchanges. In these meetings they exchanged their views on the quality of project applications and they informed about project implementation.

With regard to the recommendation to use irritations in programme implementation as a joint learning opportunity the partners discussed differences and identified advantages and disadvantages (to remain/to be changed) for the next period.

The contact with project holders was intensified and they were assisted in case of interrupted partnerships and in identifying suitable replacements.

The up-date of the mid-term evaluation report Interreg IIIA Austria – Hungary was finalised in due time and sent to the Commission on 22<sup>nd</sup> December 2005. The EC confirmed the completeness in its letter of February 17<sup>th</sup> 2006<sup>6</sup>.

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<sup>6</sup> The conclusions on efficiency, effectiveness and impact as well as the recommendations of the up-date MTE report see Annex 8.



### On-going evaluation

In the framework of the on-going evaluation a research on the intensity and quality of cross-border cooperation on project level were conducted in the first half of 2004. Interviews with Austrian and Hungarian project partners were performed. The findings and conclusions were presented and discussed in bilateral meetings.

In the on-going evaluation the validity of the cooperation indicators in selected projects was been addressed in case studies. This revealed that most of these indicators indicated in the application are really accomplished in practice.

The evaluators concluded the on-going evaluation by organising so called “learning platforms”: one took place in Vienna and addressed the Austrian programme stakeholders; a second addressed the Hungarian programme stakeholders. Finally on February 8<sup>th</sup> 2006 in Sopron all partners discussed the results and draw a common picture. The workshops aimed at

- ▶ a structured reflection of programme authorities at the end of the evaluation process, at the interface of current and new programmes.
- ▶ the clarification of concerns/interests of programme partners and discussion of recommendations contained in the Up-dates of Mid-Term Evaluations.
- ▶ the identification of main experiences, which should be taken into account in the preparation of the new programmes and discussion of new requirements which are contained in the Commission proposals for the new Programme Territorial Co-operation (cross-border strand).



## 5. STATEMENT BY THE MANAGING AUTHORITY: MEASURES TAKEN TO ENSURE COHERENCE BETWEEN COMMUNITY POLICIES AND OVERALL COORDINATION

It can be stated that the Managing Authority took the necessary measures pursuant to Art. 37(2)e) of Council Regulation (EC) No. 1260/1999 to ensure coherence with the community policies pursuant to Art. 12 of Council Regulation (EC) No.1260/1999 and to ensure coordination with the overall Structural funds policy of the Commission pursuant to Art. 19(2) para 2 of Council Regulation (EC) No.1260/1999.

In the course of pre-assessing project applications the responsible authorities verified whether the project had applied for additional subsidies or whether such grants had already been given. Thereby it was secured that projects did not get double-financing and thus did not receive support from other funds (such as the EAGGF).

The MA took where applicable and within the scope of the Memorandum of Understanding appropriate measures within the framework of the assistance to ensure conformity with community policies (e.g. minimum requirements for subsidy contracts, rules for procedures for MC and SC).

According to the programme and the programme complement a project should not be funded if the EU policies, including the rules on competition, on the award of public contracts, on environmental protection and improvement and on the elimination of inequalities and the promotion of equality between men and women, were not respected.

Concerns of environmental protection, the promotion of equality between men and women, compatibility with the common rural policy, in particular with Art. 37, par. 2 of Council Regulation (EC) No. 1260/1999 and the contribution to the realisation of the European Employment Strategy were obeyed insofar as institutions/bodies/persons representing these concerns were represented in the programme committees. Project proposals were discussed by these committees during selection.

In the project application among others the contribution of the project to a sustainable development and to equal opportunities had to be indicated.

During the project evaluation process the above-mentioned aspects were carefully checked to ensure that projects not coherent or in contrast with the relevant regulations on EU and national level were not selected.

In the ERDF contracts beneficiaries obliged themselves to comply with the European Union's and national legislation, especially structural funds regulation, competition and public procurement law.

At the occasion of seminars bilateral contacts IBs, JTS and MA informed the project participants about legal provisions and programme rules that shall be observed by them.



During the project implementation phases the compliance of a project with relevant national and EU-regulations was checked by the first level control bodies (control according to Art. 4). In the course of the second level control (controls according to Art. 10) this aspect and the work performed by the first level control bodies were checked as well.

The Managing Authority monitored the developments in EU competition and procurement law and also used the Interact-platform for an exchange of experiences and best practises with regard to these issues with other programmes and the EC. In this way, it was ensured that appropriate information was provided to the responsible programme bodies and actors in the member states as well as the project participant.

The areas defined by the nature protection instrument Natura 2000 were respected by the programme administration and therefore, no negative effects are expected of the programme measures.

### 5.1. Coordination within Austria and within Hungary

In Hungary, the National Authority took every appropriate step in order to ensure the coordination of all of the community structural supports which were distributed to Hungarian beneficiaries. With regard to coherence with other Programmes, the National Authority participates in the Monitoring Committees of other Community Initiatives in Hungary such as Equal and assures coordination with the Agriculture and Rural Development OP that contains a Leader+ type measure. The National Authority had also direct access for the Hungarian Joint Monitoring and Information System (EMIR) of all the relevant OP's of the CSF. Thus the overall information about the possible project list of the different instruments was concentrated in "one hand".

As an Austrian internal discussion forum the Austrian Conference on Regional Planning (ÖROK) had installed a specific working group for authorities participating in the management of EU programmes. The working group met regularly to discuss topics and requests of interest from a cross-programme perspective for the stakeholders of EU-programmes in the Austrian administration. It developed its role as an important information network, coordination framework and decision-making body. In the working group all Managing Authorities of programmes for Objective regions and Community Initiative Programmes plus the co-funding ministries at national level were represented.



## 6. REPORTS ON THE ACTIVITIES 2008

The following chapter describes the activities carried out in the year 2008.

The activities primarily focused on the following areas of work which are:

- ▶ on project level
  - sound finalization of projects including the reporting into the monitoring system
- ▶ on programme level:
  - financial implementation (including payments to final beneficiaries, preparation of closure exercise)
  - information and publicity activities
  - support of new programme ETC Austria -Hungary 2007-2013 – knowledge transfer

### 6.1. Changes in the general conditions with importance for the implementation of the assistance

No significant changes in the general conditions with importance for the implementation of the assistance can be reported. Thus the objectives, priorities and measures of the programme are still relevant and coherent with the challenges and potentials in the programme area.

Detailed information on the general trends of the last years is provided in the socio-economic analysis of the operational programme ETC Austria-Hungary 2007-2013 (which was approved in December 2007 by the European Commission). A summary of the trends is provided in chapter 1.2. of this document.

### 6.2. Progress at Priority and measure level

General implementation went smoothly and according to plan in 2008.

In the year 2008 7 new projects were approved by the Joint Steering Committee (JSC) furthermore for 13 already approved projects an increase of the ERDF co-financing was approved.

Already at the end of 2007 it became clear that in some measures not all projects would use the originally planned (and therefore committed) budgets but less whereas in other measures more money could be spent. In order to make full use of the remaining funds another shift of financial allocation on Programme Complement level was initiated and approved by the Joint Monitoring Committee (JMC) in October 2008. The revised financial tables and the revised Programme Complement (PC) were sent to the Commission on 27.10.2008. The EC confirmed the revised PC in a letter dated 12.1.2009.



Detailed information on achieved Indicators on programme, priority level and measure level as well as information on the use of Technical Assistance is provided in chapter 3 of this document.

### 6.3. Financial Engineering

Annex 5 provides a detailed overview of the financial implementation of the intervention on priority and measure level for the year 2008. Cumulated figures for the programme period 2000-2008 are provided in Annex 3. It can be noticed that in every single measure and hence in every priority expenditure (exception measure 6.1. which was closed at the end of 2004 )was effected in 2008.

#### 6.3.1 Forecasts and payments received in 2008

Table 17 a)-c) compares the annual forecast of application for payment for 2008, 2009 and for 2008 and 2009 with payments received from the EU in 2008, 2009 and for these years as well as the cumulated payments 2001-2008/2009. The forecast was submitted on April 30<sup>th</sup> 2008. Due to delayed payments in 2008 an updated forecast was sent on October 15<sup>th</sup> 2008 with regard to payments for 2009.

Table 17 a

#### Forecast for and Payments received in 2008 (in Euro)

Forecast (ERDF) 2008	Payments received in 2008/2009	Date	Advance Payments received 2001	Payments received 2001-2008*	Total ERDF allocation
10.530.000	6.091.940,35	11.04.2008	2.157.610,00	36.926.120,67	41.463.428,00
	2.243.985,12	17.07.2008			
	2.029.426,62	08.10.2008			
	<i>total</i>				
	10.365.352,09				

\* including advanced payment received 2001

Table 17 b

#### Forecast for and Payments received in 2009 (in Euro)

Forecast (ERDF) 2009	Payments received in 2008/2009	Date	Advance Payments received 2001	Payments received 2001-2009*	Total ERDF allocation
2.300.000	2.464.135,93	30.01.2009	2.157.610,00	39.390.256,60	41.463.428,00
	<i>total</i>				
	2.464.135,93				

\* including advanced payment received 2001



Table 17 c

**Forecast for and Payments received in 2008 + 2009 (in Euro)**

Forecast (ERDF) 2008/2009	Payments received in 2008/2009	Date	Advance Payments received 2001	Payments received 2001-2009	Total ERDF allocation
12.830.000	6.091.940,35	11.04.2008	2.157.610,00	39.390.256,60	41.463.428,00
	2.243.985,12	17.07.2008			
	2.029.426,62	08.10.2008			
	2.464.135,93	30.01.2009			
	<i>total</i>				
	12.829.488,02				

\* including advanced payment received 2001

#### 6.4. Steps taken by the Managing Authority and the Monitoring Committee to ensure the quality and effectiveness of implementation.

For detailed information on steps taken by the MA (in close cooperation with the NA) and the MC to ensure the quality and effectiveness of implementation of the programme please see chapter 4 of this report.

As already mentioned in chapter 6.2. the MA initiated and the MC approved a financial shift within the financial table on Programme Complement (PC) level in order to maximise the full use of the remaining funds. The revised financial tables and the revised Programme Complement were sent to the Commission on October 27<sup>th</sup> 2008. The EC confirmed the revised PC in a letter dated January 12<sup>th</sup> 2009.

##### 6.4.1. Report on the activities of the JMC and JSC

No JMC or JSC meeting took place in 2008. Written procedures concerning amendments and/or changes of financial tables were launched on:

- ▶ March 10<sup>th</sup> 2008
- ▶ May 16<sup>th</sup> 2008
- ▶ June 4<sup>th</sup> 2008
- ▶ July 25<sup>th</sup> 2008
- ▶ September 12<sup>th</sup> 2008

The written procedures were launched for the approval of seven new projects, for the approval of the increase of the ERDF co-financing for twelve already approved projects and another already approved TA project, for the approval of the Annual Implementation Report 2007 and for the approval of the changes in the financial table of the PC.



Knowledge transfer between “old” and “new” programme:

The Federal Chancellery in its function as Managing Authority for four INTERREG IIIA programmes took initiative to organise a cross-programme seminar on the exchange of experience made in CBC projects in the programme period 2000-06 and to discuss how future programme partners can best build on this knowledge base.

The seminar “CBC SO FAR” took place on October 16<sup>th</sup> 2008 in Eisenstadt. All programme partners of the INTERREG IIIA and Objective 3 programmes of Austria with its neighbouring countries the Czech Republic, the Slovak Republic, Hungary and Slovenia were invited.

Hans Niessl, Governor of Burgenland, and Commissioner Danuta Hübner provided statements.

Table 18

**Programme of the seminar „CBC SO FAR – lessons learned from the programme period“**

<b>Morning</b>	<b>Introduction</b>	<i>Alexandra Deimel</i>	<i>Federal Chancellery</i>	Setting the frame for the seminar
	<b>Speeches</b>	<i>Moray Gilland</i>	<i>European Commission - Unit E1</i>	What does the Commission expect from good programmes?
		<i>Katrin Stockhammer</i>	<i>INTERACT Point Vienna</i>	Activities of INTERACT for the initiation of good projects
		<i>Csaba Horváth</i>	<i>VATI/former Hungarian JTS</i>	Project Rap – The experience in Hungary
		<i>Irene Brickner</i>	<i>Der Standard (Press/Austrian Newspaper)</i>	What does the press need to sell good projects?
<b>Afternoon</b>	<b>CBC world café - discussion of good projects in five thematic fields:</b> - Environment - Accessibility - Labour market & qualification - Governance & structures - Tourism & marketing	<i>What was and will be the main focus of CBC projects?</i>	<i>Which were the most spectacular and which the most sustainable results of CBC projects in the thematic field of your table?</i>	<i>What is important for good CBC projects?</i>
		Environment	Tourism & marketing	Tourism & marketing
		Accessibility	Governance & structures	Governance & structures
		Labour market & qualification	Environment	Accessibility
			Labour market & qualification	
	<b>Political Statements</b>	<i>Hans Niessl</i>	<i>Governor of Burgenland</i>	
		<i>Danuta Hübner</i>	<i>Commissioner</i>	



As a result “food for thought” was provided to all programme partners of the old and the new programmes (see also Annex 6).

## 6.5. Actions taken by the Financial Control

The audits required pursuant to Chapter IV of Regulation (EC) 438/2001 were conducted on the Austrian side according to the annual audit plan of 2008. Reports on single audits were made and executive summaries have been sent to the European Commission.

After having met the Hungarian counterparts (the Financial Control Group meeting took place on May 29<sup>th</sup> 2008 in Vienna) the summarising annual report 2008 pursuant to Art. 13 of Regulation (EC) 438/2001 was submitted by June 2009 to the European Commission under no. BKA-403.621/0009-IV/3/2009.

## 6.6. Summary of problems encountered in managing the assistance.

No problems occurred during the reporting period.

For more details on problems which occurred during the whole implementation period see chapter 4.3. of this report.

## 6.7. Use of Technical Assistance

Within priority 7 “Technical Assistance” no new project was approved in 2008. Within the projects of the MA/NA and the IBs activities were implemented and most of the activities were finalised in December 2008 as the eligibility ended at 31.12.2008 (e.g. JTS was closed in December 2008). Some management tasks (e.g. Central Monitoring System, costs of operative PA) will be financed by national means until the final payment of ERDF is received from the European Commission .

Detailed information on the use of the TA within the programme is provided in chapter 3.2. of this report.

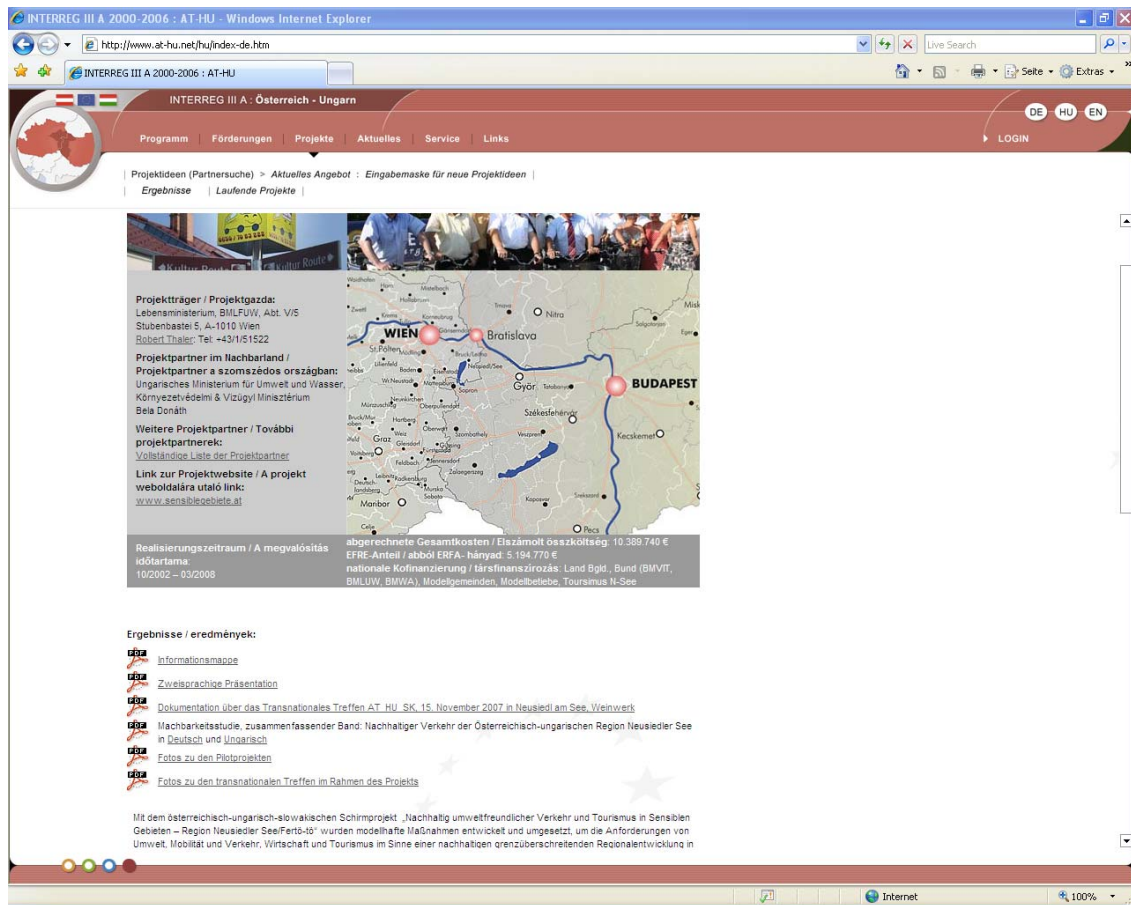
## 6.8. Information and publicity activities undertaken

### 6.8.1 Project Documentation on Website

Concerning the description of key projects the JTS started already in 2007 with a “project documentation” collecting and compiling results and outputs of (nearly) finalised projects. For each single project additional information (such as reports, studies, photos, websites etc.) was collected in a documentary archive. For that purpose the JTS asked the project owners for relevant information and comprised the information for the programme’s website [www.at-hu.net](http://www.at-hu.net)



under the heading “projects/results”. Below you find a screenshot of one of the projects. For more information have a look at the programmes website <http://www.at-hu.net>.



Detailed information on publicity activities which were implemented by the MA, NA and Intermediate Bodies is provided in chapter 4.4 of this report.

## 6.9. Measures taken to ensure coherence between community policies and overall coordination

See chapter 5.



## ANNEXES

- Annex 1**    **Implementation Number of projects and expenditure per priority and measure level**
- Annex 2**    **Best practice examples on project level.**
- Annex 3**    **Total expenditure broken down by field of intervention at measure level**
- Annex 4**    **List of project implemented in priority Technical Assistance**
- Annex 5**    **Financial implementation in 2008: Total expenditure broken down by field of intervention at measure level in 2008**
- Annex 6**    **Results of the Seminar 2008 CBC SO FAR -“food for thought”**
- Annex 7**    **Summary of results of mid-term-evaluation**
- Annex 8**    **Recommendation of up-date of mid-term-evaluation**



## Annex 1

## Implementation: total number of Projects - expenditure on Priority and Measure

Source Priorities/Measures	Number of projects	Total Costs	Total / plan	Total Public	total public / plan	ERDF	ERDF / plan	National total	National total / plan	National public	national public / plan	Private	private / plan	Priority share of total	Priority share of ERDF
	a	b = d + e		c = d + f		d		e = f + g		f		g			
<b>1. Cross-border Economic Co-operation</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>17.817.204,08</b>	<b>98,89%</b>	<b>14.554.722,27</b>	<b>107,05%</b>	<b>8.818.228,58</b>	<b>92,69%</b>	<b>8.998.975,50</b>	<b>105,82%</b>	<b>5.736.493,69</b>	<b>140,51%</b>	<b>3.262.481,81</b>	<b>73,79%</b>	<b>22,63%</b>	<b>22,90%</b>
1.1. Development and Support of Business Sites and Business Service Infrastructure in Border Areas	12	5.461.369,57	91,52%	4.341.096,13	100,17%	2.321.917,00	76,24%	3.139.452,57	107,47%	2.019.179,13	156,74%	1.120.273,44	68,60%	6,94%	6,03%
1.2. Counselling and Support for Crossborder Business Activities	16	3.672.644,23	94,38%	3.446.397,51	105,59%	1.944.841,01	95,66%	1.727.803,22	92,99%	1.501.556,50	121,96%	226.246,72	36,08%	4,67%	5,05%
1.3. Tourism and Leisure	32	8.683.190,28	106,42%	6.767.228,63	112,82%	4.551.470,57	102,64%	4.131.719,71	110,93%	2.215.758,06	141,72%	1.915.961,65	88,66%	11,03%	11,82%
<b>2. Accessibility</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>19.823.123,49</b>	<b>106,48%</b>	<b>19.777.994,76</b>	<b>123,99%</b>	<b>9.443.968,18</b>	<b>94,79%</b>	<b>10.379.155,31</b>	<b>119,95%</b>	<b>10.334.026,58</b>	<b>172,59%</b>	<b>45.128,73</b>	<b>1,69%</b>	<b>25,18%</b>	<b>24,52%</b>
2.1. Improvement of Cross-border Transport and Telecommunication Infrastructure	4	11.584.747,10	109,94%	11.584.747,10	130,29%	5.605.940,29	94,63%	5.978.806,81	129,60%	5.978.806,81	201,46%	0,00		14,72%	14,56%
2.2. Transport Organisation, Planning and Logistics	15	8.238.376,39	101,98%	8.193.247,66	116,06%	3.838.027,89	95,02%	4.400.348,50	108,94%	4.355.219,77	144,21%	45.128,73	4,43%	10,46%	9,97%
<b>3. Cross-border Organisational Structures and Networks</b>	<b>93</b>	<b>7.703.463,06</b>	<b>89,34%</b>	<b>7.203.242,05</b>	<b>89,96%</b>	<b>4.139.357,06</b>	<b>84,56%</b>	<b>3.564.106,00</b>	<b>95,60%</b>	<b>3.063.884,99</b>	<b>98,44%</b>	<b>500.221,01</b>	<b>81,25%</b>	<b>9,79%</b>	<b>10,75%</b>
3.1. Support of Crossborder Organisational Structures and Development of Networks	30	4.944.192,50	91,29%	4.746.147,93	94,37%	2.445.898,20	86,17%	2.498.294,30	96,93%	2.300.249,73	105,00%	198.044,57	51,22%	6,28%	6,35%
3.2. Small Pilots	63	2.759.270,56	86,04%	2.457.094,12	82,51%	1.693.458,86	82,35%	1.065.811,70	92,64%	763.635,26	82,87%	302.176,44	131,95%	3,50%	4,40%
<b>4. Human Ressources</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>10.745.328,28</b>	<b>96,70%</b>	<b>10.530.864,10</b>	<b>97,11%</b>	<b>5.333.508,62</b>	<b>89,55%</b>	<b>5.411.819,66</b>	<b>104,95%</b>	<b>5.197.355,48</b>	<b>106,31%</b>	<b>214.464,18</b>	<b>80,02%</b>	<b>13,65%</b>	<b>13,85%</b>
4.1. Development of Regional Labour Marktes within the Context of EU Enlargement	9	3.741.679,44	101,89%	3.680.722,99	101,84%	1.810.512,30	96,66%	1.931.167,14	107,33%	1.870.210,69	107,41%	60.956,45	105,10%	4,75%	4,70%
4.2. Development of Co-operation and Infrastructure in the Fields of Education, Training and Science	31	7.003.648,84	94,13%	6.850.141,11	94,75%	3.522.996,32	86,29%	3.480.652,52	103,67%	3.327.144,79	105,71%	153.507,73	73,10%	8,90%	9,15%
<b>5. Sustainable Spatial and Environmental Development</b>	<b>57</b>	<b>15.276.760,28</b>	<b>102,02%</b>	<b>13.625.804,50</b>	<b>103,16%</b>	<b>8.036.648,51</b>	<b>97,90%</b>	<b>7.240.111,77</b>	<b>107,02%</b>	<b>5.589.155,99</b>	<b>111,78%</b>	<b>1.650.955,78</b>	<b>93,53%</b>	<b>19,41%</b>	<b>20,87%</b>
5.1. Resource Management, Technical Infrastructure and Renewable Energy Supply	22	7.805.639,88	105,17%	7.263.293,87	105,11%	4.203.362,02	97,86%	3.602.277,86	115,20%	3.059.931,85	117,02%	542.346,01	105,90%	9,92%	10,91%
5.2. Measures for Nature and Environmental Protection including National and Nature Parks	23	5.209.910,71	101,58%	4.179.773,86	105,28%	2.712.103,20	101,35%	2.497.807,51	101,82%	1.467.670,66	113,41%	1.030.136,85	88,88%	6,62%	7,04%
5.3. Cross-border Spatial Development in Rural and Urban	12	2.261.209,69	93,33%	2.182.736,77	93,73%	1.121.183,29	90,58%	1.140.026,40	96,21%	1.061.553,48	97,30%	78.472,92	83,53%	2,87%	2,91%
<b>6. Special Support for Border Regions</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>4.026.090,84</b>	<b>204,16%</b>	<b>4.026.090,84</b>	<b>204,16%</b>	<b>962.191,83</b>	<b>97,59%</b>	<b>3.063.899,01</b>	<b>310,74%</b>	<b>3.063.899,01</b>	<b>310,74%</b>	<b>0,00</b>		<b>5,11%</b>	<b>2,50%</b>
6.1. Special Support for Border Regions	5	4.026.090,84	204,16%	4.026.090,84	204,16%	962.191,83	97,59%	3.063.899,01	310,74%	3.063.899,01	310,74%	0,00		5,11%	2,50%
<b>Technical Assistance</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>3.332.814,18</b>	<b>93,07%</b>	<b>3.332.814,18</b>	<b>93,07%</b>	<b>1.779.254,82</b>	<b>91,66%</b>	<b>1.553.559,36</b>	<b>94,74%</b>	<b>1.553.559,36</b>	<b>94,74%</b>	<b>0,00</b>		<b>4,23%</b>	<b>4,62%</b>
Technical Assistance I	11	2.872.853,06	97,45%	2.872.853,06	97,45%	1.529.679,14	95,93%	1.343.173,92	99,23%	1.343.173,92	99,23%	0,00		3,65%	3,97%
Technical Assistance II	8	459.961,12	72,69%	459.961,12	72,69%	249.575,68	72,02%	210.385,44	73,50%	210.385,44	73,50%	0,00		0,58%	0,65%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>293</b>	<b>78.724.784,21</b>	<b>102,38%</b>	<b>73.051.532,70</b>	<b>108,77%</b>	<b>38.513.157,60</b>	<b>92,88%</b>	<b>40.211.626,61</b>	<b>113,49%</b>	<b>34.538.375,10</b>	<b>134,41%</b>	<b>5.673.251,51</b>	<b>58,28%</b>	<b>100,00%</b>	<b>100,00%</b>



## Annex 2: Best practice examples on project level

### Measure 1.1.

#### ÖkoBusinessPartnership Bécs-Győr



**Projektgazda / Projektträger:**  
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**Projektpartner a szomszédos országban /  
Projektpartner im Nachbarland:**  
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Ebendorferstraße 4, A-1082 Wien, Johannes  
Dictus: [dic@m22.maqwien.gv.at](mailto:dic@m22.maqwien.gv.at)

**További projektpartnernek / Weitere  
Projektpartner:**  
Széchenyi István Egyetem

**A projekt weboldalára utaló link / Link zur  
Projektwebsite:**  
[www.obpgyor.hu](http://www.obpgyor.hu)




**A megvalósítás időtartama /  
Realisierungszeitraum:**  
01/2006 – 06/2007

**Elszámolt összköltség /abgerechnete Gesamtkosten:** 30.780,48 €  
**abból ERFA- hányad / EFRE-Anteil:** 23.083,99 €  
**Társfinanszírozás / nationale Kofinanzierung:** Nemzeti Fejlesztési  
 Ügynökség

Az ÖkoBusinessPlan Bécs-Győr 2002-2005 projekt továbbvitele című projekt célja az ÖkoBusinessPlan Bécs-Győr projekt sikerei és eredményei alapján a Győr Város igazgatási és kistérségi területén felmerülő környezetvédelmi problémák feltárásában és megoldásában való közreműködés. Ezek a környezetvédelmi jog, zajvédelem, természetvédelem, környezetvédelem és település-fejlesztés, levegőtisztaság és hulladékgazdálkodás területe.

A feladatok ellátása érdekében és projekt kiterjesztéseként az ÖkoStratégiaiFórum számára egy koordinációs hely kiépítése történt Győrben. (ÖkoBusinessPlan Iroda).

A projekt lényeges eleme az elkészített szükségletelemzés és hatástanulmány, melynek eleme a térség gazdasági és környezeti céljainak rögzítése valamint a célcsoportok analízise. Elkezdődött az újabb partnerek integrációja a projektbe és a hálózat bővítése.

Elindultak az üzemi tanácsadások, melyeket az irodában alkalmazott két egyetemi hallgató, egyetemi oktatók felügyelete alatt végzett.

A tanácsadók képzése után 4 partner komplett helyszíni felmérése megtörtént. Eredményeik teljes mértékben lefedik a kis- és közepes vállalkozások, szervezetek problémáit. Minden partnernél szinte visszatérő elemek voltak a szelektív hulladékgyűjtés, víztakarékosság és az elektromos energiafelhasználás csökkentésének igénye. A felmérések eredményeit az internetes adatbázisba feltöltöttük. Ez alapján állítottuk össze a képzési anyagot a kis- és középvállalkozások számára.

A Széchenyi István Egyetemtől további 8 hallgató csatlakozott, akiknek a kiképzése megtörtént.

Az önkormányzat az ÖkoBusinessPlan Irodát megbízta, hogy végezzen két kiválasztott szakirodájában belső auditot, melyet az EMAS rendszer bevezetésére használnak fel, így valósult meg a vállalt pilotprojekt.

A független tanácsadói kör meghirdetése az interneten a weblapunkon történt meg, melyre a projekt lezárásáig 6 fő jelentkezett.



A projekt sikerét mutatja, hogy a Kereskedelmi és Iparkamara Környezetvédelmi szakbizottságának ülésén felkérték az irodavezetőt, hogy ismertesse a projekt eddigi eredményeit, valamint távolabbi stratégiai elképzeléseit. Az ÖkoBusinessPlan Club elindítására a kezdeti lépéseket megtettük, az előadó felkérése megtörtént. Fenntarthatóság:

Az önkormányzat az ÖkoBusinessPlan Irodát PPP konstrukcióban üzemelteti a jövőben. Tervezzük az önkormányzat fenntartásába tartozó intézmények, iskolák felmérését az ÖkoBusinessPlan-ban kidolgozott környezetvédelmi auditok alapján, és ezután kidolgozni beavatkozási javaslatokat, melyek hozzájárulhatnak az önkormányzati fenntartású intézmények költségcsökkentéséhez, ezáltal az önkormányzati terhek is csökkenni fognak.

Továbbá PPP konstrukció lehetővé teszi, hogy az iroda bevételt eredményező tevékenységet is végezzen külső megbízások alapján, úgymint pályázatírás, pályázatmenedzsment, oktatás-képzés, környezetvédelmi auditálás. A 2007. őszén induló Környezetenergia Operatív Program számos lehetőséget tartogat mind az önkormányzat, mind pedig az ÖkoBusinessPlan hálózatába tartozó vállalatok, vállalkozások, intézmények, kistérségek számára, melyek pontosan illeszkednek az ÖkoBusinessPlan célkitűzéseikhez.

A programunkhoz csatlakozott tanácsadók végzik az oktatásokat, az felügyelik auditok szakmai lebonyolítását, valamint a témájukba illeszkedő pályázati lehetőségek esetén a javaslatot tesznek a pályázati téma kifejtésének szakmai megvalósításához.



## Measure 1.2.

### Együtt: Partnerland Ungarn / Magyarország partnerország

	
<p><b>Projekträger / Projektgazda:</b> ecoplus.Niederösterreichs Wirtschaftsagentur GmbH, Lugeck 1, 1010 Wien, Mag. Simone Hagenauer: <a href="mailto:s.hagenauer@ecoplus.at">s.hagenauer@ecoplus.at</a></p>	
<p><b>Projektpartner im Nachbarland / Projektpartner a szomszédos országban:</b> Regionale Entwicklungsagentur Westungarn, András Vissi: <a href="mailto:andras.vissi@westpa.hu">andras.vissi@westpa.hu</a></p>	
<p><b>Weitere Projektpartner / További projektpartnerek:</b> Regionaler Entwicklungsverband Industrieviertel, WK NÖ, ITD HU Investitions- und Handelsförderungs Gemeinnützige Gesellschaft, WK des Komitats Vas</p>	
<p><b>Link zur Projektwebsite / A projekt weboldalára utaló link:</b> keine vorhanden</p>	
<p><b>Realisierungszeitraum / A megvalósítás időtartama:</b> 01/2003 – 07/2006</p>	<p><b>abgerechnete Gesamtkosten / Elszámolt összköltség:</b> 228.046,67 € <b>EFRE-Anteil / abból ERFA- hányad:</b> 114.023,33 € <b>regionale Kofinanzierung / társfinanszírozás:</b> Land NÖ, WK NÖ, Bund, Eigenmittel des Projektträgers</p>

### Ergebnisse / eredmények:

Gemeinsam - auf ungarisch "együtt" - die Wirtschaftsbeziehungen zwischen Niederösterreich und Westungarn zu intensivieren, war das erklärte Projektziel. Mikro-, Klein- und Mittelbetriebe in beiden Regionen wurden mit branchenspezifischen Informationen, Exkursionen, Workshops und face-to-face-Kooperationstreffen unterstützt, sich ein Bild vom Nachbarmarkt zu machen, Chancen und Risiken besser einschätzen zu können und geeignete Partner vor Ort zu finden.

Zu Beginn des Projekts stand für die Unternehmen das Kennenlernen der wirtschaftlichen (und interkulturellen) Rahmenbedingungen im Vordergrund, daher wurden gezielt Exkursionen und Betriebsbesichtigungen organisiert. Mit der EU-Erweiterung 2004 und der zunehmenden "Normalisierung" des Arbeitens im gemeinsamen Wirtschaftsraums wurde auch der Bedarf der Unternehmen fokussierter. Daher standen Veranstaltungen zu Themen wie Finanzierung & Förderung von Umwelttechnikprojekten in Ungarn, Technologietransfer oder zu Spezialthemen im Kunststoffsektor im Mittelpunkt der Projektaktivitäten.

Auf den jeweiligen Bedarf konnte im Projekt relativ flexibel reagiert werden. Neue Branchen-Schwerpunkte und Maßnahmen wurden mit den ProjektpartnerInnen zweimal im Jahr diskutiert und festgelegt. Um die Wirtschaftsentwicklungsexpertise im Projekt abzurufen, wurden von Anfang an zusätzliche strategische Partner wie z.B. KMU-Vertretungen, Innovationszentren, Wirtschaftsparks, Cluster eingebunden und ein umfassendes Netzwerk aufgebaut.



### Measure 1.3.

#### Bildein - Das Dorf ohne Grenzen / A határok nélküli falu

	
<p><b>Projektträger / Projektgazda:</b> Kulturverein Grenzgänger, Florianigasse 1, A-7521 Bildein, Bgm. Walter Temmel: <a href="mailto:kvqg@bildein.bglld.gv.at">kvqg@bildein.bglld.gv.at</a></p> <p><b>Projektpartner im Nachbarland / Projektpartner a szomszédos országban:</b> Gemeinde Szentpéterfa, H-9799 Szentpéterfa, Alkotmány u. 99, Bgm. József Hirschl</p> <p><b>Weitere Projektpartner / További projektpartnerek:</b> Vas Magyei Múzeumok Igazgatósága</p> <p><b>Link zur Projektwebsite / A projekt weboldalára utaló link:</b> <a href="http://www.geschichtenhaus.at">www.geschichtenhaus.at</a>, <a href="http://www.bildein.at">www.bildein.at</a></p>	 <p><b>Realisierungszeitraum / A megvalósítás időtartama:</b> 07/2000 – 06/2007</p> <p><b>abgerechnete Gesamtkosten / Elszámolt összköltség:</b> 498.665,77 € <b>EFRE-Anteil / abból ERFA- hányad:</b> 249.332,88 € <b>regionale Kofinanzierung / társfinanszírozás:</b> Land Burgenland, Eigenmittel</p>

#### Ergebnisse / eredmények:

Der von der Gemeinde gegründete Kulturverein Grenzgänger verfolgt verstärkt die Förderung und Verbesserung grenzüberschreitender, kultureller, touristischer und kommunikativer Aktivitäten mit den angrenzenden ungarischen Nachbarn und der Region.

Im Zuge verschiedener Gespräche mit BildeinerInnen sind auch die Wurzeln für das **burgenländische geschichte(n)haus** und die **Mediathek** entstanden. Durch die Schaffung dieses Museums (die alte Milchsammelstelle und das Rüsthaus) und der dazugehörigen Mediathek (das alte Pfarrheim) sollen die Kontakte zu den Nachbarn weiter intensiviert und den Besuchern das Leben mit der Grenze näher gebracht werden. Unter Mitwirkung der Geschichtenhausgruppe wurden und werden laufend Ausstellungsstücke bzw. Geschichten gesammelt. Unter professioneller Leitung des Künstlers Andreas Lehner und des Architekten DI Dietmar Gasser werden diese gesammelten Ideen umgesetzt. Im Moment betreuen 8 „Geschichte(n)haus-Damen“ (ältere Frauen aus Bildein) das Museum.

Die guten Besucherzahlen (3200 Besucher in 2007) zeigen, dass die österreichische/ungarische „Grenz“-Geschichte nach wie vor interessiert bzw. interessant im geschichte(n)haus aufbereitet und gestaltet ist.

Daneben gibt es die vielfältig verwendbare Mediathek, die durch ihre gute technische Ausstattung, aber auch die angenehme Atmosphäre die Nutzung dieses Hauses für Seminare, Kurse, Videovorführungen, Schulungen und vielem mehr möglich macht.

Die Bekanntmachung und Bewerbung des burgenländisches geschichte(n)hauses und der Mediathek erfolgten mittels Folder (zweisprachig in ungarisch und deutsch), div. Medien, Wegbeschriftungen und einer Homepage.

Die Schaffung dieser Infrastruktur hat ein zusätzliches qualitatives Angebot für kulturelle und touristische Entwicklungen für die Gemeinde Bildein und seine Nachbardsdörfer geschaffen. Die grenzüberschreitende Zusammenarbeit und die Aufarbeitung der Geschichte an der Grenze hat eine fundierte Basis für die weitere Gestaltung der Zukunft im Grenzgebiet geschaffen.

## Measure 2.1.

### Körmend-Güssing mikrorégió közlekedéshálózatának fejlesztése / Die Entwicklung des Verkehrsnetzes in Körmend – Güssing Mikro-Region



**Projektgazda / Projektträger:**  
Körmend és Kistérsége Önkormányzati Területfejlesztési Társulás, 9900 Körmend, Szabadság tér 7., [Páli János](#)

**Projektpartner a szomszédos országban / Projektpartner im Nachbarland:**  
Stadtgemeinde Güssing, [LAbg. Peter Vadasz](#)

**További projekt partnerek / Weitere Projektpartner:**  
Gemeinde Moschendorf, Körmend Város Önkormányzata, Magyarnádalja Község Önkormányzata, Pinkamindszent Község Önkormányzata, Vasalja Község Önkormányzata, Vas Megyei Állami Közútkezelő Társaság

**A projekt weboldalára utaló link / Link zur Projektwebsite:** —




**A megvalósítás időtartama / Realisierungszeitraum:**  
05/2005 - 11/2006

**Elszámolt összköltség /abgerechnete Gesamtkosten:** 1.899.526,27 €  
**aból ERFA- hányad / EFRE-Anteil:** 1.272.208,83 €  
**Társfinanszírozás / nationale Kofinanzierung:** Hungarian Office for Territorial and Regional Development (NA), Projektgazda önéreje

#### Eredmények / Ergebnisse:

A projekt átfogó célja a Körmend-Güssing mikrorégió belső kohéziójának erősítése, a települések, vállalkozások és civil szervezetek közötti kapcsolatok intenzívebbé tétele.

Specifikus célként a projekt megvalósításával egy olyan útvonal fejlesztése, felújítása valósult meg, melyen 16 éve nem zajlott felújítási munka. A projekt keretében elvégzésre került burkolat-megerősítési munkák nagymértékben hozzájárultak ahhoz, hogy a határhoz vezető út jobb, biztonságosabb közlekedési kapcsolat kialakítását biztosítsa.

2004. szeptember 16-án Körmenden került aláírásra az a stratégiai partnerségi együttműködési megállapodás, melyet Güssing városa és Körmend városa kötött. A megállapodás célja a két település és vonzáskörzete stratégiai együttműködésnek intézményi

A projekt megvalósításának legfontosabb része a burkolat-megerősítési munkák elvégzése a Körmend-Pinkamindszent-országhatár közötti 8.081 m hosszú útszakaszon. Tekintettel arra, hogy az útvonal négy települést is érint, már a tervezés során szakaszokra bontották a teljes útszakaszt, a tervek ezekre az szakaszokra készültek el és a technikai specifikáció is ezen szakaszokra lebontva tartalmazta az elvégzendő munkák meghatározását és a költségbecslést. A szakaszolás az alábbi módon történt meg:



Szakasz	érintett település	szakasz hossza (m)
8708 sz. összekötő út 0+000 – 1+100 km szelvények között	külterület (Körmend – Magyarnádalja)	1100
8708 sz. összekötő út 1+100 – 2+200 km szelvények között	Magyarnádalja	1100
8708 sz. összekötő út 2+200 – 4+250 km szelvények között	Vasalja	2050
8708 sz. összekötő út 4+250 – 5+750 km szelvények között	külterület (Vasalja - Pinkamindszent)	1500
8708 sz. összekötő út 5+750 – 7+090 km szelvények között	Pinkamindszent	1340
87113 sz. bekötő út 0+000 – 0+991 km szelvények között	Pinkamindszent (- országhatár)	991
<b>Összesen</b>		<b>8081</b>

A projekt legjelentősebb és legfontosabb célcsoportja az útvonal által érintett települések lakossága: Körmend esetében 12.157 fő, Magyarnádalja esetében 180 fő, Vasalja esetében 358 fő és Pinkamindszent esetében 197 fő. További jelentős célcsoport azon vállalkozások, akik vagy már a térségben működnek vagy esetlegesen az elérhetőség javulásával most szándékoznak a térségbe települni.



## Measure 2.2.

### Nachhaltig umweltfreundlicher Verkehr und Tourismus in Sensiblen Gebieten – Region Neusiedler See - Fertő-tó / „Fenntartható környezetbarát közlekedés és turizmus az érzékeny területeken - a Neusiedler See - Fertő-tó példáján



**Projektträger / Projektgazda:**  
Lebensministerium, BMLFUW, Abt. V/5  
Stubenbastei 5, A-1010 Wien  
Robert Thaler: Tel: +43/1/51522

**Projektpartner im Nachbarland /**  
**Projektpartner a szomszédos országban:**  
Ungarisches Ministerium für Umwelt und  
Wasser, Környezetvédelmi és Vízügyi  
Minisztérium  
Bela Donáth

**Weitere Projektpartner / További**  
**projektpartnernek:**  
Vollständige Liste der Projektpartner

**Link zur Projektwebsite / A projekt**  
**weboldalára utaló link:**  
[www.sensiblegebiete.at](http://www.sensiblegebiete.at)




**Realisierungszeitraum / A megvalósítás időtartama:**  
10/2002 – 03/2008

**abgerechnete Gesamtkosten / Elszámolt összköltség:** ca. 7 Mio €  
**EFRE-Anteil / abból ERFA- hányad:** ca 3 Mio. €  
**ationale Kofinanzierung / társfinanszírozás:** Land Bgld., Bund (BMVIT, BMLUW, BMWA), Modellgemeinden, Modellbetriebe, Tourismus N-See

#### Eredmények / Ergebnisse:

Mit dem österreichisch-ungarisch-slowakischen Schirmpjekt „Nachhaltig umweltfreundlicher Verkehr und Tourismus in Sensiblen Gebieten – Region Neusiedler See/Fertő-tó“ wurden modellhafte Maßnahmen entwickelt und umgesetzt, um die Anforderungen von Umwelt, Mobilität und Verkehr, Wirtschaft und Tourismus im Sinne einer nachhaltigen grenzüberschreitenden Regionalentwicklung in Einklang zu bringen. Die Region Neusiedler See /Fertő tó wurde als Modellregion ausgewählt, da sie als ökologisch besonders sensible Weltkulturerbe-Region auch einen sensiblen und angepassten Umgang mit Verkehr und Infrastruktur verlangt. Die Umsetzung grenzüberschreitender Pilotprojekte im Rahmen dieses Schirmpjektes erfolgte auf Basis einer gemeinsamen Absichtserklärung der Umweltminister Ungarns und Österreichs aus dem Jahre 2001.

In 5 Arbeitsmodulen wurden zahlreiche Pilotprojekte umgesetzt:

- **Modul 1 Innovativer, nachhaltiger Öffentlicher Verkehr in Städten und Gemeinden**  
Umsetzungen:  
Gmoabusse in Purbach, Breitenbrunn und Mörbisch  
Stadtbus/AST-System ne'mo in Neusiedl am See  
nachaktiv – Attraktivierung des Öffentlichen Verkehrs in den Abendstunden
- **Modul 2 Regionaler Öffentlicher Verkehr (make.IT) & Mobilitätszentrale**  
Umsetzungen:  
Mobilitätszentrale Burgenland  
make.IT
- **Modul 3 Ökomobilität und Ökotourismus**  
Umsetzungen:



- Neusiedler See Bus Linie Seewinkel (31. 3.–28. 10. 2007)  
 AST St. Andrä-Ilmlitz (mit Radanhänger)  
 ÖBB Erlebniszug Neusiedler See (31. 3.–28. 10. 2007)  
 Anruftaxi Shuttleverkehr: Podersdorf-Frauenkirchen-Mönchhof-Halbturm  
 Abendverkehr Seewinkel: Anrufsammeltaxi Neusiedl – Apetlon – Neusiedl – Parndorf  
 Bahnverbindung Neusiedl am See – Bratislava  
 Martinibusse  
 Der 50er
- **Modul 4 Nachhaltiger Wirtschaftsverkehr und regionale Entwicklung**  
 Umsetzungen:  
 Betriebliches Mobilitätsmanagement  
[Innovatives Fahrgast Informationssystem, Domplatz Eisenstadt](#)  
[Ortskerne stärken Purbach](#)  
 P.I.E.R. Neusiedl am See
  - **Modul 5 Maßgeschneiderte Infrastrukturen und neue Fahrzeugtechnologien**  
 Umsetzungen:  
 Verbesserungen der Bahninfrastruktur  
[Solarboot im Nationalpark](#)  
[Verkehr im Umweltverbund](#)

Die meisten Pilotprojekte sind in der Priorität 2, Maßname 2 umgesetzt. Das Modul Ökomobilität und Ökotourismus wurde in P1M3 realisiert, das Pilotprojekt Solarboot im Nationalpark in P5M2.

Die Projektsteuerung erfolgte durch einen Steuerungsausschuss und einen Umsetzungsbeirat, der als Diskussionsforum für alle Partner fungierte.

Am 15. November 2007 fand ein transnationales Informationstreffen in Neusiedl am See, Weinwerk statt. Die zahlreich erschienenen TeilnehmerInnen aus Ungarn, der Slowakei und Österreich beteiligten sich rege am Erfahrungsaustausch zu den umgesetzten Projekten und konnten weitere Kontakte für die künftige Zusammenarbeit in der gemeinsamen Region knüpfen.

In der viersprachigen und sehr informativen [Projekthomepage](#) finden Sie weitere Informationen zu den Aktivitäten und Veranstaltungen des Projekts.

Im nächsten Schritt gilt es die Pilotprojekte in der Region zu festigen und Angebote des öffentlichen Verkehrs grenzüberschreitend zu vernetzen.



### Measure 3.1.

#### Határtalan kistérségi szolgáltató központ létrehozása / Gründung von grenzlosen Dienstleistungszentrum für die Kleinregion




**Projektgazda / Projektträger:**  
Lövő Község Önkormányzata  
9461 Lövő, Fő u. 181.  
[Balics János](#)

**Projektpartner a szomszédos országban / Projektpartner im Nachbarland:**  
Burgenländische Forschungsgesellschaft,  
Domplatz 21, A-7000 Eisenstadt, Ausztria,  
[Alfred Lang](#), ügyvezető igazgató

**További projekt partnerek / Weitere Projektpartner:**  
Alpokalja Kistérség, Győr-Moson-Sopron Megyei Munkaügyi Központ, Regionális Szociális Forrásközpont Kht., Verein VAMOS

**A projekt weboldalára utaló link / Link zur Projektwebsite:**  
[www.lovo.hu](http://www.lovo.hu)

**A megvalósítás időtartama / Realisierungszeitraum:**  
10/2005 - 09/2006

**Elszámolt összköltség / abgerechnete Gesamtkosten:** 291.791,40 €  
**abból ERFA- hányad / EFRE-Anteil:** 142.511,85 €  
**Társfinanszírozás / nationale Kofinanzierung:** Hungarian Office for Territorial and Regional Development (NA), Projektgazda önéreje

#### Eredmények / Ergebnisse:

A határon átnyúló projektek kidolgozását és végrehajtását támogató eszközök, struktúrák és kapacitások fejlesztése, a határon átnyúló integrációt erősítő és a gazdasági, társadalmi és kulturális kapcsolatokat erősítő hálózatok és együttműködések fejlesztése.

Lövő község területén lévő művelődési ház átalakításával kistérségi szolgáltató központ létrehozása a határon átnyúló együttműködések erősítése érdekében. Elsősorban a szociális szféra, a foglalkoztatás területén működő magyar és osztrák szervezetek, valamint önkormányzatok közti hálózatépítés, valamint közös projektek fejlesztése és végrehajtása az Alpokalja Kistérséget és az oberpullendorfi járást érintő határon átnyúló foglalkoztatási paktum kezdeményezésre alapozva.

A projekt eredményeképpen összesen 1195,88 m<sup>2</sup> területű szolgáltató központot hoztak létre, valamint 5 db irodát alakítottak ki.

Az előzőekben Petőfi Művelődési Otthonként funkcionált épület átalakítását célozta meg a beruházás. A központban helyet kaptak a térség szociális szervezetei, a Paktum felállt szervei, a kistérségi iroda, a munkaügyi kirendeltség, valamint kialakításra került egy rendezvény és konferenciaterem, valamint egy kondicionáló terem, amely gyógytorna lehetőségét is biztosítja.

A projekt időtartama alatt 4 partnerségi találkozót szerveztek, összesen 80 fő részvételével, illetve a projekt zárásakor a zárókonferencia 60 fő részvételével zajlott.

2-2 db 1 napos ausztriai és magyarországi intézményi látogatás valósult meg, amelyen 80 fő vesz részt.

2 db tematikus hálózat (szociális és foglalkoztatási) került kialakításra és az együttműködést szabályozó alapidokumentumok (együttműködési megállapodások, munkaterv, projekttervek) is kidolgozásra kerültek. A tematikus hálózatokban 10 szervezet vett részt. A tematikus hálózatok kialakítása során együttműködési projektet fejlesztettek ki. A projekt eredményeiről kétnyelvű (magyar és német) 20 oldalas kiadvány készült el, 500 példányban. A projekt ideje alatt, a projekt és az Interreg népszerűsítése érdekében 2 db fizetett sajtóhirdetés jelent meg.

A projekt a releváns regionális, kistérségi és ágazati stratégiákkal és koncepciókkal összhangban és azok figyelembevételével valósult meg.



## Measure 3.1.

### healthregio



**Projekträger / Projektgazda:**  
Gesundheitsmanagement OG, Straußengasse 14, A-1050 Wien, Martin Wieland:  
[office@gesundheitsmanagement.at](mailto:office@gesundheitsmanagement.at)

**Projektpartner im Nachbarland / Projektpartner a szomszédos országban:**  
Nyugat-Magyarországi Egyetem - University of West Hungary, Dr. Fekete Mátyás:  
[feketem@axelero.hu](mailto:feketem@axelero.hu)

**Weitere Projektpartner / További projektpartnerek:**  
ÁNTSZ - Állami Népegészségügyi és Tisztiorvosi Szolgálat

**Link zur Projektwebsite / A projekt weboldalára utaló link:**  
[www.healthregio.net](http://www.healthregio.net)



**Realisierungszeitraum / A megvalósítás időtartama:**  
07/2004 – 12/2006

**abgerechnete Gesamtkosten / Elszámolt összköltség:** 122.231,40 €  
**EFRE-Anteil / abból ERFA- hányad:** 41.666 €  
**nationale Kofinanzierung / társfinanszírozás:** Land Wien, Land NÖ

#### Ergebnisse / eredmények:

Das Anliegen von healthregio war die Optimierung der Versorgungsstruktur im Gesundheitssektor und damit langfristig die Entwicklung eines Qualitätsstandorts für Gesundheitsdienstleistungen in Zentraleuropa. healthregio hat eine fundierte Datengrundlage, Konzepte und Strategien erarbeitet, die eine Optimierung des Gesundheitsdienstleistungssektors in der Grenzregion Österreich-Tschechien-Slowakei-Ungarn ermöglichen.

Dazu versammelte healthregio erstmals ein multidisziplinäres Team von führenden ExpertInnen sowie politischen und wirtschaftlichen Entscheidungsträgern aus ganz Zentraleuropa, die zwei Jahre lang Strategien und Konzepte zur nachhaltigen Entwicklung des Gesundheitssektors in der Grenzregion erarbeiteten.

Themen waren u.a. die grenzüberschreitende Nutzung von Infrastruktur, besserer Zugang zu Gesundheitsdienstleistungen und grenzüberschreitender Know-how-Transfer. Die Ergebnisse wurden im healthregio-Report veröffentlicht. Ein erstes großes, zweitägiges Symposium zum Thema grenzüberschreitende Gesundheitsversorgung fand im Februar 2006 im Wiener Rathaus statt. In Kooperation mit verschiedenen Universitäten aus der Region wurden umfassende Forschungsprojekte durchgeführt.

2008 startet eine Vielzahl von Nachfolgeprojekten:

- healthcross: Grenzüberschreitende Gesundheitsversorgung Niederösterreich – Südböhmen
- healthsupport: Qualifizierung im Bereich Mobile Pflege
- healthskill: Europaweite Angleichung der Pflegeausbildungen

### Measure 3.2.

#### Gothard fizikus műhely-Crossborder oktató hálózat / Gothard Physikerwerkstatt-Crossborder Schulungscluster

	
<p><b>Projektgazda / Projektträger:</b>          ELTE Gothard Asztrofizikai Observatórium,          HU-9700 Szombathely, Szent Imre Herceg út          112., Dr. Jankovics István:  <a href="mailto:ijankovi@gothard.hu">ijankovi@gothard.hu</a></p> <p><b>Projektpartner a szomszédos országban /          Projektpartner im Nachbarland:</b>          Fachhochschulstudiengänge Burgenland          GmbH., A-7423 Pinkafeld, Steinamanger Str.          21., Dr. Arne Ragossnig: <a href="mailto:arne.ragossnig@fh-burgenland.at">arne.ragossnig@fh-burgenland.at</a></p> <p><b>A projekt weboldalára utaló link / Link zur          Projektwebsite:</b>  <a href="http://www.gothard.hu">www.gothard.hu</a></p>	
<p><b>A megvalósítás időtartama /          Realisierungszeitraum:</b>          08/2006 – 06/2007</p>	<p><b>Elszámolt összköltség /abgerechnete Gesamtkosten:</b> 39.736,91 €          abból ERFA- hányad / EFRE-Anteil: 29.802,65 €  <b>Társfinanszírozás / nationale Kofinanzierung:</b> Nemzeti Fejlesztési          Ügynökség</p>

#### Eredmények / Ergebnisse:

- Projekt indító szeminárium 2006.10.26-27. Előadások anyaga
- Német és magyar nyelvű módszertanulmány és képzési terv
- Műszaki leírás
- A real-time networking oktatási stúdióinak hardware és software infrastruktúrája
- Költségvetés. Az oktatási stúdiók komplex költségvetése
- A nemzetközi konferencia 2007 május 31-június 2 teljes hang és képanyaga
- Konferencia kiadvány (a konferencián elhangzott előadások szövege)
- Gothard monográfia „Gothard Jenő a mérnök-tudós”

Tananyagfejlesztés, módszertan és tanterv koncepciók kidolgozása.

A magas szintű interaktív, online hálózati oktatás csomópontjainak, a hálózatba kapcsolódó stúdiók egységes hardver & szoftver infrastruktúrájának elvi kialakítása, műszaki terveinek elkészítése.

Kiviteli tervek - a szombathelyi stúdió megvalósításának szakaszolása - a stúdió kialakításának első fázisa. (Az infrastruktúra teljes kiépítése a 2007-2013-as nagy „lead-partner” projekt feladata.)

A tervezett kiadványok nyomdai előkészítése.

Gothard konferencia előkészítése és megrendezése (2007. május31-június 2).

A 2007-2013-as tervidőszakra benyújtandó „lead-partner” nagyprojekt pályázati anyagának előkészítése.

„Gothard Jenő a mérnök –tudós” c monográfia kötet és melléklete kiadása.

Konferencia kiadvány kiadása.

A Gothard konferencia videofelvételének szerkesztése.



## Measure 4.1.

### Interregionaler Gewerkschaftsrat Burgenland – Westungarn / Régióközi Szakszervezeti Tanács (IGR) Burgenland – Nyugat Magyarország

 <p>Interregionaler Gewerkschaftsrat Burgenland - Westungarn</p>	
<p><b>Projektträger / Projektgazda:</b> ÖGB Burgenland Wiener Strasse 7, A-7000 Eisenstadt <a href="#">Eszter Toth</a></p> <p><b>Projektpartner im Nachbarland / Projektpartner a szomszédos országban:</b> MSZOSZ Nyugat-Dunántúli Regionális Képviselő, Szombathely, <a href="#">Horváth Csaba</a></p> <p><b>Link zur Projektwebsite / A projekt weboldalára utaló link:</b> <a href="http://www.igr.at">www.igr.at</a> (Ursprüngliche Version der Projektwebseite ist nicht mehr vorhanden, diese Webseite wurde seit 1. Jänner 2008 an ein neues Ziel-3-Folgeprojekt mit dem Titel "IGR - Zukunft im Grenzraum" angepasst.)</p>	
<p><b>Realisierungszeitraum / A megvalósítás időtartama:</b> 07/2002 – 12/2007</p> <p><b>abgerechnete Gesamtkosten / Elszámolt összköltség:</b> 1.834.883,26 € <b>EFRE-Anteil / abból ERFA- hányad:</b> 917.441,63 € <b>nationale Kofinanzierung / társfinanszírozás:</b> BMWA, Land Burgenland</p>	

#### Ergebnisse / Eredmények:

Die Motivation für dieses Projekt bestand darin, sowohl Ungarn als auch Österreich auf den EU-Beitritt Ungarns im Mai 2004 vorzubereiten. In diesem Sinne entstand eine rege Kooperation und Koordination zwischen den ungarischen und österreichischen Gewerkschaften, um einen möglichst sanften und konstruktiven Erweiterungs- und wechselseitigen Integrationsprozess anzustreben. Die Tätigkeit des IGR Burgenland – Westungarn war jedoch mit dem EU-Beitritt Ungarns am 1. Mai 2004 nicht abgeschlossen, da insbesondere die Grenzregion Burgenland und Westungarn mit grundlegenden, durch die EU-Osterweiterung entstandenen Modifikationen (z.B. Arbeitsmarkt) konfrontiert ist.

Die wichtigsten Ziele waren dabei die sozial- und arbeitsrechtlich korrekte Gestaltung von grenzüberschreitenden Arbeitsverhältnissen, Angleichung der Kollektivverträge und der Arbeitsbedingungen, Harmonisierung des Arbeitsrechts und der Sozialversicherungssysteme, Sicherung des sozialen Mindeststandards von ArbeitnehmerInnen, grenzüberschreitende Bildungsmaßnahmen, Aufbau und permanente Weiterentwicklung der Kooperations- und Koordinationsnetzwerke und Abbau von „Barrieren“ in den Köpfen der Menschen.

Durch den IGR Burgenland – Westungarn wurde ein Beitrag zur ordnungsgemäßen Gestaltung der Lohn- und Arbeitsbedingungen von ungarischen ArbeitnehmerInnen geleistet. Durch die Beratungstätigkeit unterstützt der IGR im Burgenland beschäftigte ungarische ArbeitnehmerInnen bei der Durchsetzung ihrer Rechte und Pflichten. Das Projekt trägt damit zur Eindämmung des Lohndumpings und Verdrängungswettbewerbs bei.



## Measure 4.2.

### Pannonisches Feuerwehrkompetenzzentrum / Pannon tűzoltó-kompetenciaközpont



**Projektträger / Projektgazda:**  
Landesfeuerwehrkommando Burgenland  
Leithabergstraße 41, A-7000 Eisenstadt, Ing.  
Manfred Seidl: [seidl@lfv-bglld.at](mailto:seidl@lfv-bglld.at)

**Projektpartner im Nachbarland /  
Projektpartner a szomszédos országban:**  
Landesfeuerwehrverband Győr-Moson-Sopron  
Munkacsy u. 4, HU- 9021 Győr Ferenc Balogh,  
Tel.: +36 96 315 557

**Weitere Projektpartner / További  
projektpartnernek:**  
Landesfeuerwehrverband Vas  
Landesfeuerwehrverband Zala  
Landesfeuerwehrverband Slowenien

**Link zur Projektwebsite / A projekt  
weboldalára utaló link:**  
[www.lfv-bglld.at](http://www.lfv-bglld.at)

**Realisierungszeitraum / A megvalósítás  
időtartama:**  
04/2002 - 04/2003

**abgerechnete Gesamtkosten / Elszámolt összköltség:** 1.272.227,26 €  
**EFRE-Anteil / abból ERFA- hányad:** 435.944,00 €  
**nationale Kofinanzierung / társfinanszírozás:** Land Burgenland, Eigenmittel  
des Projektträgers

#### Ergebnisse / eredmények:

Mit den ungarischen Komitaten Győr-Moson-Sopron, Vas und Zala gibt es internationale Katastrophenhilfeabkommen. Die bisherigen Einsatzerfahrungen in den Grenzgebieten haben wiederholt gezeigt, dass zwischen den Feuerwehreinsatzkräften Ungarns und des Burgenlandes Koordinationsschwierigkeiten aufgrund der unterschiedlichen Ausrüstungskonzepte, der verschiedenen Alarm- und Einsatzpläne sowie der unterschiedlichen Einsatztaktik und Ausbildungsstände der Einsatzkräfte auftreten.

Ziel des Projektes war der Abbau angeführter Koordinationsschwierigkeiten sowie die Angleichung an EU-Standards in Ausbildungs- und Ausrüstungsfragen zu fördern und auch der Vorbereitung des Beitritts Ungarns zu EU auf dem Gebiet des Feuerwehrwesens zu dienen.

Mit den Projektpartnern werden laufend gemeinsame Feuerwehreinsatzübungen und Weiterbildungen durchgeführt. Im Pannonischen Feuerwehrkompetenzzentrum treffen sich die Projektpartner, um die Ergebnisse dieser Einsatzübungen und geplante weitere Verbesserungen der Zusammenarbeit zu diskutieren. Auch Übereinkommen über die grenzüberschreitende Zusammenarbeit im Hinblick auf die Einsatztätigkeiten werden ausgearbeitet.



## Measure 4.2.

### MedAustron – határon átnyúló kutatási együttműködések és területfejlesztés a MedAustron program keretében / MedAustron - Grenzüberschreitende Forschungskooperation und Standortentwicklung




**Projektgazda / Projektträger:**  
Innováció Határok Nélkül Közhasznú Egyesület, H-9400 Sopron, Verő József út 1.,  
Csizmar Péter: [csizmar.peter@empirica.hu](mailto:csizmar.peter@empirica.hu)

**Projektpartner a szomszédos országban / Projektpartner im Nachbarland:**  
Fotec – Forschungs- und Technologietransfer GmbH., Dr. Thomas Schreiner:  
[schreiner@fotec.at](mailto:schreiner@fotec.at)

**További projekt partnerek / Weitere Projektpartner:**  
Nyugat-Magyarországi Egyetem, Fizika Intézet,  
Regionaler Entwicklungsverband  
Industrieviertel

**A projekt weboldalára utaló link / Link zur Projektwebsite:**  
[www.ihn.hu](http://www.ihn.hu)

**A megvalósítás időtartama / Realisierungszeitraum:**  
01/2006-12/2007



**Elszámolt összköltség /abgerechnete Gesamtkosten:** 94.602,25 €  
**abból ERFA- hányad / EFRE-Anteil:** 70.951,40 €  
**Társfinanszírozás / nationale Kofinanzierung:** Nemzeti Fejlesztési  
 Ügynökség

#### Eredmények / Ergebnisse:

2006. januárjában azzal a céllal kezdtük el a „MedAustron-Interreg IIIA” projektet, hogy létrehozzunk egy magyarországi kapcsolódási pontot, együttműködési platformot a közeljövőben megépülő MedAustron rákkutató ill. terápiás centrumhoz kapcsolódva. Ezért minél szélesebb körben igyekeztünk megszólítani azokat a döntéshozókat, szakembereket, érintett intézeteket, klinikákat, akik hatékony részeseivé válhatnak ennek az Európában is egyedülálló vállalkozásnak. Legfontosabb feladatunk az volt, hogy azonosítsuk azokat a területeket, amelyek mentén elmélyíthetjük az együttműködést a magyar és osztrák szakemberek között, és hogy a régió tudásháttérének bevonásával és szakmai támogatásával hozzájárulhasson a centrum megvalósításához.

A MedAustron program egy ion- és protonterápiás rákkutató centrum megvalósítását tűzte ki célul. A proton- és ionsugárterápia alkalmazása során a tumorok kezeléséhez az eddig megszokott fotonnyalábok helyett proton- és ionsugarakat használnak, amelyeket egy részecskegyorsító berendezés segítségével hoznak létre. A bécsi helyi MedAustron rákterápiás centrum a teljes üzembe helyezést követően évente 1200 beteg fogadására lesz képes. A kb. 160 millió eurós beruházás – ami jelenleg Ausztria legnagyobb ilyen jellegű beruházásának számít – 400 magasan kvalifikált munkaerőt igénylő munkahelyet hoz létre. A világon egyedülálló technikát felvonultató MedAustron intézet részecskegyorsító berendezése a daganatok sugárkezelése mellett az anyag- és mérés technológia, ill. az űrkutatás területén is alkalmazható. Éppen ezért az orvostudományi felhasználás ill. orvosi és klinikai kutatások mellett más tudományágak is profitálhatnak a kutatóközpont létrehozásából, mint pl. a sugárbiológia, orvosi sugárfizika, orvosi preklinikai kutatások, műszertechnika és fizika.



## Measure 5.1.

### BIOENERGIA? – TERMÉSZETESEN! / BIOENERGIE? – NATÜRLICH!



**Projektgazda / Projektträger:**  
Szentgotthárd Város Önkormányzata, H-9970  
Szentgotthárd, Széll K. tér 11., Takáts József:  
[polgahiv@szentgotthard.axelero.net](mailto:polgahiv@szentgotthard.axelero.net)

**Projektpartner a szomszédos országban /  
Projektpartner im Nachbarland:**  
BEGAS Kraftwerk GmbH., A-7561  
Heiligenkreuz im Lafnitztal, Industriegelände 7,  
Franz Schwenninger:  
[franz.schwenninger@begas.at](mailto:franz.schwenninger@begas.at)

**A projekt weboldalára utaló link / Link zur  
Projektwebsite:** nincs



**A megvalósítás időtartama /  
Realisierungszeitraum:**  
02/2006 – 10/2006

**Elszámolt összköltség /abgerechnete Gesamtkosten:** 11.868,53 €  
**abból ERFA- hányad / EFRE-Anteil:** 8.901,40 €  
**Társfinanszírozás / nationale Kofinanzierung:** Nemzeti Fejlesztési  
 Ügynökség

#### Eredmények / Ergebnisse:

A megvalósíthatósági tanulmány az Ausztriában keletkező hőenergia magyarországi felhasználhatósági lehetőségeinek feltárása érdekében készült. A tanulmány megvizsgálta a hőerőművi oldal jellemzőit, a hőfogyasztók igényeit, a lehetséges műszaki megoldásokat és azok beruházási költségeit. Kiterjedt a finanszírozás, a létesítmények tulajdoni viszonyai, az üzemeltetés és a hőellátás biztonsága biztosításának kérdéseire. Összehasonlításokat végzett a jelenlegi adatok és a lehetséges megtakarítások ár és költségprognózisai között, a tanulmány összefoglalásaként pedig értékelést és javaslatokat fogalmazott meg a korábban tárgyalt témakörökre vonatkozóan. Szentgotthárd Város vezetése, Képviselő-testülete a kapott információk birtokában hozhatja meg a későbbi megvalósítás, hőenergia átvétel szükséges döntéseit.

Az ausztriai projektpartnerrel, a BEGAS Kraftwerk GmbH-val való együttműködés minősége a pályázatban leírt és tervezett módon valósult meg, a projekt időbeli ütemezését követve. A határon átnyúló együttműködés kiterjedt a támogatási kérelem közös előkészítésére: személyes megbeszéléseket és találkozókat követően, előszerződés és szándéknyilatkozat aláírására; illetve a közös megvalósításra: melynek során az eredményes közbeszerzési eljárás nyerteseként kihirdetett Ökohydro Kft, a megvalósíthatósági tanulmány készítője konzultációs megbeszéléseket kezdeményezett az osztrák projektpartner és a megrendelő, koordinációs feladatokat is ellátó, Szentgotthárd Város Önkormányzatával.

Az elkészült anyag megfelel az Önkormányzat által megfogalmazott céloknak. Az Ausztriában tervezett energiapark problémakörében megfogalmazott következtetések és javaslatok hasznosultak.



## Measure 5.2.

### Fertő-tó Látogató- Oktatási-, Képzési Központ (FLOKK) / Besucher-, Schulungs- und Weiterbildungszentrum Neusiedler-See






**Projektgazda / Projektträger:**  
 Fertő-Hanság Nemzeti Park Igazgatóság  
 (Fertő-Hanság National Park Directorate)  
 Rév-Kócsagvár, 9435 Sarród  
[Fersch Attila](#)

**Projektpartner a szomszédos országban /  
 Projektpartner im Nachbarland:**  
 Nationalpark Neusiedler See-Seewinkel  
 Apetloner Hof, 7143 Apetlon  
[Alois Lang](#)

**A projekt weboldalára utaló link / Link zur  
 Projektwebsite:**  
[www.ferto-hansag.hu](http://www.ferto-hansag.hu)  
[fhnp.nemzetipark.gov.hu](http://fhnp.nemzetipark.gov.hu)

**A megvalósítás időtartama /  
 Realisierungszeitraum:**  
 12/2005 - 03/2007

**Elszámolt összköltség /abgerechnete Gesamtkosten:** 195138,06 €  
 abból ERFA- hányad / EFRE-Anteil: 139.306,81 €  
**Társfinanszírozás / nationale Kofinanzierung:** Hungarian Office for Territorial  
 and Regional Development (NA), Projektgazda önéreje

#### Eredmények / Ergebnisse:

A projekt közvetlen célja a közös osztrák-magyar nemzeti park magyar oldalán a Fertő-Hanság Nemzeti Park Igazgatóság látogatóközpontjának létrehozása volt, egyrészt a 2005 nyarán átadott szerkezetkész épületét eszközfejlesztése, másrészt a képzési program kidolgozása által.

A fertőújlaki (egykor Mekszikópuszta) volt határoltanya épületéből kialakított, szerkezetkész látogatóközpont épület megfelelő felszereltségéhez, sikeres, családbarát és esélyegyenlőséget biztosító működéséhez szükséges eszközök beszerzése képezte a projekt egyik hangsúlyos elemét. Ennek keretében a recepció, nagy előadó, két szeminárium terem, WC-k, lépcsőházak, büfé berendezéséhez szükséges bútorok, technikai eszközök beszerzésére került sor. A más területekre is kiterjedő nemzeti parki feladatok ellátása érdekében további irodai, és kiszolgáló kapacitás létrehozása valósult meg, szintén a megfelelő bútorzat, irodatechnika, a teljes központ működését és a munkatársak munkavégzését szolgáló számítástechnikai háttér kialakításával.

Elkészített diorámák szolgálják a térség értékeinek látványos szakmai bemutatását.

A projekt speciális szakmai jellege miatt a nemzeti parki terepi eszközállomány (zsebtávcsövek, spektívek, fényképezőgépek) jelentősen bővült. Külön látványosságot, egyidejűleg a természet nyugalmanak biztosítását szolgálják a terepen kiépített kamerák, és az ezek képét bemutató televíziók. Hasonlóan a vizuális nevelés eszközei a DVD-videó lejátszók is.

A két, vagy több napos erdei iskolai programok, illetve szakmai képzések, továbbképzések, tanfolyamok résztvevői számára szálláslehetőségek kerültek kialakításra az épület emeletén (11 szobában összesen 42 ágyas kapacitás, melegítő konyha és étkező).

A projekt második pillérjét képezte a képzési és oktatási programok kidolgozása, amely diákcsoportok térségbe csalogtatásának érdekében, melyek a fiatalok természet közeli nevelkedését szolgálják, természetesen ezzel a Nemzeti Park látogatottsága is növelhető. A programok kidolgozásában elsősorban a pályázó szakértő munkatársai (természetvédelmi, erdészeti, idegenforgalmi, stb. szakértők) valamint osztrák szakemberek közreműködtek.

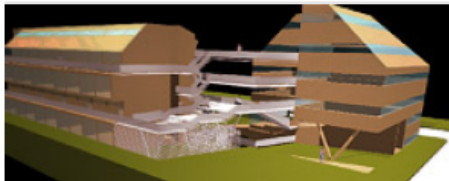
Fontos szegmens továbbá a központ területén levő, leromlott állapotú épületek felújítása különböző oktatási, demonstrációs és ezeket kiszolgáló funkciók ellátására, mint például halászati bemutató hely vagy terepi gyakorlati hely diákok, látogatók számára.

A projekt igazán sajátos jellege abban rejlik, hogy a kétoldalú Nemzeti Park keretében valósult meg, mindkét ország megnövekedett igényeinek kielégítésére.



### Measure 5.3.

**Sozialer Wohnbau - Know How - Transfer NÖ - Ungarn / Szociális lakásépítés - Know-how - transzfer Alsó-Ausztria - Magyarország**



**Projektträger / Projektgazda:**  
Austrian Environmental Expert Group (AEEG),  
Forschungsinstitut für Energie- und  
Umweltplanung, Wirtschafts- und  
Marktanalysen GmbH, Gymnasiumstraße 42,  
A-1180 Wien  
[Richard Schönstein](#)

**Projektpartner im Nachbarland /  
Projektpartner a szomszédos országban:**  
LOSZ Lakásszövetkezetek Országos  
Szövetsége, Zentralverband der ungarischen  
Wohnungsgenossenschaften, Budapest  
[Farkas Tamas](#)

**Weitere Projektpartner / További  
projektpartnerek:**  
[Weitere Projektpartner](#)

**Link zur Projektwebsite / A projekt  
weboldalára utaló link:**  
keine vorhanden



**Realisierungszeitraum / A megvalósítás  
időtartama:**  
12/2002 – 12/2004

**abgerechnete Gesamtkosten / Elszámolt összköltség:** 174.723,18 €  
**EFRE-Anteil / abból ERFA- hányad:** 85.000,00 €  
**ationale Kofinanzierung / társfinanszírozás:** Land NÖ, Eigenmittel des  
Projektträgers

### Ergebnisse / Eredmények:

Das Projekt befasste sich mit der Möglichkeit, genossenschaftlichen Wohnbau durch Know How – Transfer in Ungarn zu etablieren. Ziel war, Erfahrungen und Wissen aus dem genossenschaftlichen und dem sozialen Wohnungssektor Österreichs nach Ungarn zu transferieren sowie interessierte österreichische Kreise über die Situation in Ungarn zu informieren, um den dort zu dieser Zeit brach liegenden sozialen Mietwohnungsbau zu neuem Leben zu erwecken. Dahinter stand der Gedanke, die Idee des Genossenschaftswesens, wie sie in Österreich ausgeprägt ist, Ungarn vorzustellen, Elemente österreichischen Genossenschaftswesens in die Legislative der ungarischen Gesetzgebung zu transferieren und womöglich österreichische und ungarische Genossenschaften zusammenzuführen, um gemeinsam sozialen Mietwohnungsbau in Ungarn zu betreiben.

Im Rahmen des Projektes fanden ein intensiver Informationsaustausch, zahlreiche Gespräche, gegenseitige Besuche, Diskussionen und Fachseminare statt. Experten zeigten Möglichkeiten auf und dem Ungarischen Bautenministerium wurden Vorschläge ausgearbeitet und übergeben. Ein Musterprojekt wurde für die Stadt Győr entworfen und zur Realisierung übergeben. Drei österreichische Genossenschaften versuchten in Ungarn tätig zu werden. Später wurden 10 Häuser errichtet.



## Annex 3

## Total expenditure broken down by fields of intervention at measure level

(according to closure guidelines Annex 1, 5c)

data set 1.1.2000 - 31.12.2008 cumulative

in EURO

	1	2	3=2/1	4	5	6
Priority / Measure	Total allocation 1)	total eligible actually paid and certified expenditure 2)	% of eligible cost3)	other	field of intervention	field of intervention (in % ) 4)
<b>I. Programme: Priorities (P) / Measures (M)</b>						
<b>P1: Cross-border Economic Co-operation</b>	<b>18.017.345</b>	<b>17.817.204</b>	<b>98,89</b>			
M 1.1: Development and Support of Business Sites and Business Service Infrastructure in Border Areas	5.007.093	5.461.370	91,52			
					161	1,78
					162	1,79
					163	0,95
					164	0,60
					165	0,00
					166	0,00
					167	0,00
					182	0,00
					183	1,81
M 1.2: Cross-border Cooperation of Enterprises (SMEs) and Counselling and Support for Crossborder Business Activities	3.891.191	3.672.644	94,38			
					113	0,00
					128	0,00
					1305	0,38
					1307	0,00
					161	0,00
					162	0,00
					163	1,91
					164	1,78
					165	0,00
					166	0,00
					167	0,59
					182	0,00
					184	0,00
M 1.3: Tourism and Leisure	8.159.061	8.683.190	106,42			
					1310	0,47
					171	3,96
					172	0,57
					173	6,04
					174	0,00
<b>P 2: Accessibility</b>	<b>18.615.995</b>	<b>19.823.123</b>	<b>106,48</b>			
M 2.1: Improvement of Crossborder Transport and Telecommunication Infrastructure	10.537.495	11.584.747	109,94			
					311	11,64
					3121	0,00
					3122	3,08
					3123	0,00
					313	0,00
					314	0,00
					315	0,00
					316	0,00
					317	0,00
					318	0,00
					319	0,00
					322	0,00
					323	0,00
					324	0,00
M 2.2: Transport Organisation, Planning and Logistics	8.078.500	8.238.376	101,98			
					311	0,00
					3121	0,00
					3122	0,00
					3123	0,00
					313	0,00
					314	0,00



					315	0,00
					316	0,00
					317	0,85
					318	2,51
					319	7,31
					322	0,00
					323	0,00
					324	0,00
<b>P 3: Cross-border Organisational Structures and Networks</b>	<b>8.623.004</b>	<b>7.703.463</b>	<b>89,34</b>			
M 3.1: Support of Crossborder Organisational Structures and Development of Networks	5.415.990	4.944.193	91,29			
					164	6,28
M 3.2: Micro-projects including People-to-People Actions and Small Pilots	3.207.014	2.759.271	86,04			
					164	3,50
<b>P 4: Human Resources</b>	<b>11.112.260</b>	<b>10.745.328</b>	<b>96,70</b>			
M 4.1: Development of Regional Labour Markets within the Context of EU Enlargement	3.672.248	3.741.679	101,89			
					21	4,75
					22	0,00
					24	0,00
					36	0,00
M 4.2: Development of Co-operation and Infrastructure in the Fields of Education, Training and Science	7.440.012	7.003.649	94,13			
					181	2,21
					23	5,81
					24	0,85
					323	0,04
					324	0,19
<b>P 5: Sustainable Spatial and Environmental Development</b>	<b>14.973.982</b>	<b>15.276.760</b>	<b>102,02</b>			
M 5.1: Resource Management, Technical Infrastructure and Renewable Energy Supply	7.422.225	7.805.640	105,17			
					125	0,00
					126	0,00
					127	0,00
					1301	0,00
					1308	0,18
					1312	1,88
					1313	0,00
					151	0,00
					152	0,00
					162	1,89
					163	1,29
					332	1,92
					333	0,48
					341	0,00
					342	0,00
					343	0,07
					344	0,03
					345	2,38
					353	0,00
M 5.2: Measures for Nature and Environmental Protection including National and Nature Parks	5.128.974	5.209.911	101,58			
					125	0,00
					126	0,00
					127	0,00
					1301	0,00
					1308	0,00
					1312	3,73
					1313	0,00
					353	2,89
M 5.3: Cross-border Spatial Development in Rural and Urban Areas	2.422.783	2.261.210	93,33			
					1306	0,37
					164	0,82
					351	0,00
					352	1,45
					353	0,06
					354	0,17
<b>P 6: Special Support for Border Regions</b>	<b>1.972.000</b>	<b>4.026.091</b>	<b>204,16</b>			
M 6.1: Special Support for Border Regions	1.972.000	4.026.091	204,16			
					162	0,00
					163	0,00



					164	0,00
					165	0,00
					167	0,00
					171	0,00
					173	0,00
					22	0,00
					23	0,25
					311	4,32
					3121	0,00
					3122	0,00
					313	0,00
					314	0,00
					315	0,55
					316	0,00
					317	0,00
					318	0,00
					319	0,00
<b>P 7: Technical Assistance</b>	<b>3.580.924</b>	<b>3.332.814</b>	<b>93,07</b>			
M 7.1: Technical Assistance I - TA in general	2.948.155	2.872.853	97,45			
					411	3,65
M 7.2: Technical Assistance II - TA other measures	632.769	459.961	72,69			
					412	0,14
					413	0,05
					414	0,00
					415	0,40
<b>Total INTERREG III A</b>	<b>76.895.510</b>	<b>78.724.784</b>	<b>102,38</b>			<b>100,00</b>

1) plan (total per measure) according to PC

2) eligible certified EFRE/ESF/EAGFL co-financed projectcost (= actually paid expenditure)

3) relation of actually paid expenditure and plan figures according to PC

4) data refer to the total actually paid, eligible and certified expenditure



## Annex 4 List of projects implemented in Priority Technical Assistance

## CMS Report: Implementation Progress - Individual Projects (for a Certain Measure)

## M 7.1: Technical assistance in general

figures in EURO

project code:	project owner: project title:	status	approved ERDF- cofinanced project costs:	approved project financings: public funds totals	ERDF	national	verified ERDF- cofinanced project costs:	expenditure: public funds totals	ERDF	national
2TAAA_0001	Regionalmanagement Burgenland GmbH TH Österreich-Ungarn (2000/2001)	4	78.522,70	78.522,70	39.261,35	39.261,35	78.522,70	78.522,70	39.261,35	39.261,35
2TAAA_0002	Regionalmanagement Burgenland GmbH Technische Hilfe TH1 Bgld-HU	4	651.763,96	651.763,96	325.881,98	325.881,98	651.763,96	651.763,96	325.881,98	325.881,98
2TAAA_0003	Regionalmanagement Burgenland GmbH Technische Hilfe TH 1 Bgld.-HU 2007-2008	4	179.989,55	179.989,55	89.994,77	89.994,78	179.989,55	179.989,55	89.994,77	89.994,78
2TABA_0001	Amt der NÖ Landesregierung, Abteilung Technische Hilfe 1 - HU	4	2.937,88	2.937,88	1.468,94	1.468,94	2.937,88	2.937,88	1.468,94	1.468,94
2TABA_0002	Amt der NÖ Landesregierung, Abteilung Technische Hilfe 1 NÖ-HU 2004-2008	4	33.895,62	33.895,62	16.947,81	16.947,81	33.895,62	33.895,62	16.947,81	16.947,81
2TACA_0001	Stadt Wien - MA 27- EU-Strategie und Aktivitäten für Ausschuss-Sitzungen	4	9.698,23	9.698,23	4.849,11	4.849,12	9.698,23	9.698,23	4.849,11	4.849,12
2TACA_0002	Stadt Wien - MA 27- EU-Strategie und Unterstützende Tätigkeit 1st level control (HU )	4	54.397,70	54.397,70	27.198,85	27.198,85	54.397,70	54.397,70	27.198,85	27.198,85
2TACA_0003	Stadt Wien - MA 27 - EU Strategie und Externe unterstützende Tätigkeit FLC AT-HU	4	30.776,10	30.776,10	15.388,05	15.388,05	30.776,10	30.776,10	15.388,05	15.388,05
2TADA_0001	Bundeskanzleramt, Abt. IV/4 EFRE-Zahlstelle und Monitoring	4	184.663,59	184.663,59	92.331,79	92.331,80	184.663,59	184.663,59	92.331,79	92.331,80
2TADA_0002	Bundeskanzleramt, Abt. IV/4 Gemeinsames Technisches Sekretariat	4	1.109.486,70	1.109.486,70	554.743,33	554.743,37	1.109.486,70	1.109.486,70	554.743,33	554.743,37
2TAEA_0001	VÄTI Nonprofit Kft. TA1	4	536.721,03	536.721,03	361.613,16	175.107,87	536.721,03	536.721,03	361.613,16	175.107,87
totals M 7.1: Technical assistance in general			2.872.853,06	2.872.853,06	1.529.679,14	1.343.173,92	2.872.853,06	2.872.853,06	1.529.679,14	1.343.173,92



## CMS Report: Implementation Progress - Individual Projects (for a Certain Measure)

### M 7.2: Technical assistance, further measures

figures in EURO

project code:	project owner: project title:	status	approved ERDF- cofinanced project costs:	approved project financings: public funds totals	ERDF	national	verified ERDF- cofinanced project costs:	expenditure: public funds totals	ERDF	national
2TBAA_0001	Regionalmanagement Burgenland GmbH Technische Hilfe TH-2 Bgld-HU	4	88.373,80	88.373,80	44.186,90	44.186,90	88.373,80	88.373,80	44.186,90	44.186,90
2TBBA_0001	Amt der NÖ Landesregierung, Abteilung Öffentlichkeitsarbeit - HU	4	28.483,11	28.483,11	14.241,55	14.241,56	28.483,11	28.483,11	14.241,55	14.241,56
2TBBA_0002	Amt der NÖ Landesregierung, Abteilung Technische Hilfe 2 NÖ Ö-HU 2004-2008	4	26.737,39	26.737,39	13.368,69	13.368,70	26.737,39	26.737,39	13.368,69	13.368,70
2TBDA_0001	Bundeskanzleramt, Abt. IV/4 Öffentlichkeitsarbeit der Verwaltungsbehörde	4	95.130,81	95.130,81	47.565,38	47.565,43	95.130,81	95.130,81	47.565,38	47.565,43
2TBDA_0002	Bundeskanzleramt, Abt. IV/4 Evaluierung des Programms	4	83.765,92	83.765,92	41.882,95	41.882,97	83.765,92	83.765,92	41.882,95	41.882,97
2TBDA_0003	Bundeskanzleramt, Abt. IV/4 SUP Ziel 3 AT-HU	4	35.868,00	35.868,00	17.934,00	17.934,00	35.868,00	35.868,00	17.934,00	17.934,00
2TBDA_0004	Bundeskanzleramt, Abt. IV/4 Ex-ante Evaluierung Ziel 3 AT-HU	4	23.220,00	23.220,00	11.610,00	11.610,00	23.220,00	23.220,00	11.610,00	11.610,00
2TBEA_0001	VÄTI Nonprofit Kft. TA2	4	78.382,09	78.382,09	58.786,21	19.595,88	78.382,09	78.382,09	58.786,21	19.595,88
<b>totals M 7.2: Technical assistance, further measures</b>			<b>459.961,12</b>	<b>459.961,12</b>	<b>249.575,68</b>	<b>210.385,44</b>	<b>459.961,12</b>	<b>459.961,12</b>	<b>249.575,68</b>	<b>210.385,44</b>



## Annex 5

Total expenditure broken down by fields of intervention at measure level  
data set: 1.1.2008-31.12.2008

in EURO

	1	2	3=2/1	4	5	6
Priority / Measure	Total allocation 1)	total eligible actually paid and certified expenditure 2)	% of eligible cost3)	other	field of intervention	field of intervention (in % )4)
<b>I. Programme: Priorities (P) / Measures (M)</b>						
<b>P1: Cross-border Economic Co-operation</b>	<b>18.017.345</b>	<b>2.701.699</b>	<b>14,99</b>			
M 1.1: Development and Support of Business Sites and Business Service Infrastructure in Border Areas	5.967.093	189.702	3,18			
					161	0,00
					162	0,97
					163	29,88
					164	0,00
					165	0,00
					166	0,00
					167	0,00
					182	0,00
					183	0,00
M 1.2: Cross-border Cooperation of Enterprises (SMEs) and Counselling and Support for Crossborder Business Activities	3.891.191	761.495	19,57			
					113	0,00
					128	0,00
					1305	0,00
					1307	0,00
					161	0,00
					162	0,00
					163	15,45
					164	53,25
					165	0,00
					166	0,00
					167	85,44
					182	0,00
					184	0,00
M 1.3: Tourism and Leisure	8.159.081	1.750.502	21,45			
					1310	0,00
					171	8,55
					172	11,31
					173	136,61
					174	0,00
<b>P 2: Accessibility</b>	<b>18.615.995</b>	<b>4.843.534</b>	<b>26,02</b>			
M 2.1: Improvement of Crossborder Transport and Telecommunication Infrastructure	10.537.495	2.043.103	19,39			
					311	0,00
					3121	0,00
					3122	0,00
					3123	0,00
					313	0,00
					314	0,00
					315	0,00
					316	0,00
					317	0,00
					318	0,00
					319	0,00
					322	0,00
					323	0,00
					324	0,00



M 2.2: Transport Organisation, Planning and Logistics	8.078.500	2.800.431	34,67			
					311	0,00
					3121	0,00
					3122	0,00
					3123	0,00
					313	0,00
					314	0,00
					315	0,00
					316	0,00
					317	208,74
					318	0,00
					319	644,48
					322	0,00
					323	0,00
					324	0,00
<b>P 3: Cross-border Organisational Structures and Networks</b>	<b>8.623.004</b>	<b>2.989.723</b>	<b>34,67</b>			
M 3.1: Support of Crossborder Organisational Structures and Development of Networks	5.415.990	1.611.087	29,75			
					164	29,75
M 3.2: Micro-projects including People-to-People Actions and Small Pilots	3.207.014	1.378.636	42,99			
					164	42,99
<b>P 4: Human Resources</b>	<b>11.112.260</b>	<b>1.452.857</b>	<b>13,07</b>			
M 4.1: Development of Regional Labour Markets within the Context of EU Enlargement	3.672.248	166.189	4,53			
					21	12,93
					22	0,00
					24	0,00
					36	0,00
M 4.2: Development of Co-operation and Infrastructure in the Fields of Education, Training and Science	7.440.012	1.286.668	17,29			
					181	42,79
					23	30,60
					24	4,28
					323	0,00
					324	7,91
<b>P 5: Sustainable Spatial and Environmental Development</b>	<b>14.973.982</b>	<b>1.116.432</b>	<b>7,46</b>			
M 5.1: Resource Management, Technical Infrastructure and Renewable Energy Supply	7.422.225	627.987	8,46			
					125	0,00
					126	0,00
					127	0,00
					1301	0,00
					1308	0,00
					1312	0,00
					1313	0,00
					151	0,00
					152	0,00
					162	0,00
					163	1,25
					332	42,88
					333	3,90
					341	0,00
					342	0,00
					343	6,92
					344	14,55
					345	39,08
					353	0,00
M 5.2: Measures for Nature and Environmental Protection including National and Nature Parks	5.128.974	298.976	5,79			
					125	0,00
					126	0,00
					127	0,00
					1301	0,00
					1308	0,00
					1312	0,00
					1313	0,00
					353	0,50

M 5.3: Cross-border Spatial Development in Rural and Urban Areas	2.422.783	191.470	7,90			
					1308	0,00
					164	0,00
					351	0,00
					352	30,40
					353	0,00
					354	0,00
<b>P 6: Special Support for Border Regions</b>	<b>1.972.000</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0,00</b>			
M 6.1: Special Support for Border Regions	1.972.000	0	0,00			
					162	0,00
					163	0,00
					164	0,00
					165	0,00
					167	0,00
					171	0,00
					173	0,00
					22	0,00
					23	0,00
					311	0,00
					3121	0,00
					3122	0,00
					313	0,00
					314	0,00
					315	0,00
					316	0,00
					317	0,00
					318	0,00
					319	0,00
<b>P 7: Technical Assistance</b>	<b>3.580.924</b>	<b>751.347</b>	<b>20,98</b>			
M 7.1: Technical Assistance I - TA in general	2.948.155	706.583	23,97			
					411	23,97
M 7.2: Technical Assistance II - TA other measures	632.769	44.764	7,07			
					412	0,00
					413	0,00
					414	0,00
					415	14,15
<b>Total INTERREG III A</b>	<b>76.895.510</b>	<b>13.855.592</b>	<b>18,02</b>			

1) plan (total per measure) according to PC

2) eligible certified EFRE/ESF/EAGFL co-financed project cost (= actually paid expenditure)

3) relation of actually paid expenditure and plan figures according to PC

4) data refer to the indicative figures of the respective field of intervention per measure according to PC



## Annex 6 Results of the Seminar 2008 CBC SO FAR – “food for thought”

CBC SO FAR

Food for Thoughts

### Food for Thoughts | CBC SO FAR - 16 October 2008

The main purpose of this seminar was to exchange experience made in CBC projects in the programme period 2000-06 and to discuss how future programme partners can best build on this knowledge base. The following guidelines and inputs as results of the seminar should help implementing good programmes and projects.

## 1. POLITICAL STATEMENTS

In their inputs the political level highlighted the following items:

Hans Niessl, Governor of Burgenland

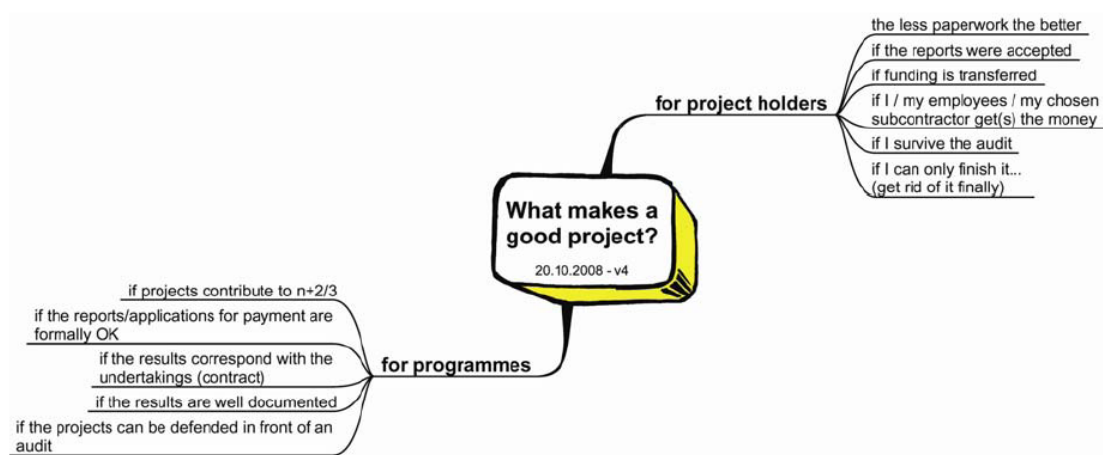
- Cross-border cooperation has long tradition in Burgenland. Cooperation takes place with Slovakia, Hungary and Slovenia. It is the basis for regional development in Burgenland
- Topics of particular importance are renewable energies (keyword: climate change), transport, nature parks and institutional co-operations for instance between trade unions, fire brigades, schools and kindergardens.
- The lead partner principle will enhance the quality of cross-border cooperation. However, it will also be a challenge in future.

Danuta Hübner, Commissioner for Regional Policy

- The implementation of the principle of free movement of goods, knowledge and people can be a challenge. Cross-border cooperation is faced with gaps and bottlenecks which have to be overcome.
- To overcome these difficulties project partners need good transport link across borders, a high commitment to CBC and enthusiasm for their projects.
- The role of CBC in EU integration is getting more important. There is a need to find new partners in strong partnerships and to facilitate cooperation under different administrative conditions, for instance in European Grouping for Territorial Cooperation.

## 2. WHAT MAKES A GOOD PROJECT?

A variety of approaches to define a good project is possible depending on the concerned player:



→ Keep in mind that the point of view is different for project holders and programmes!

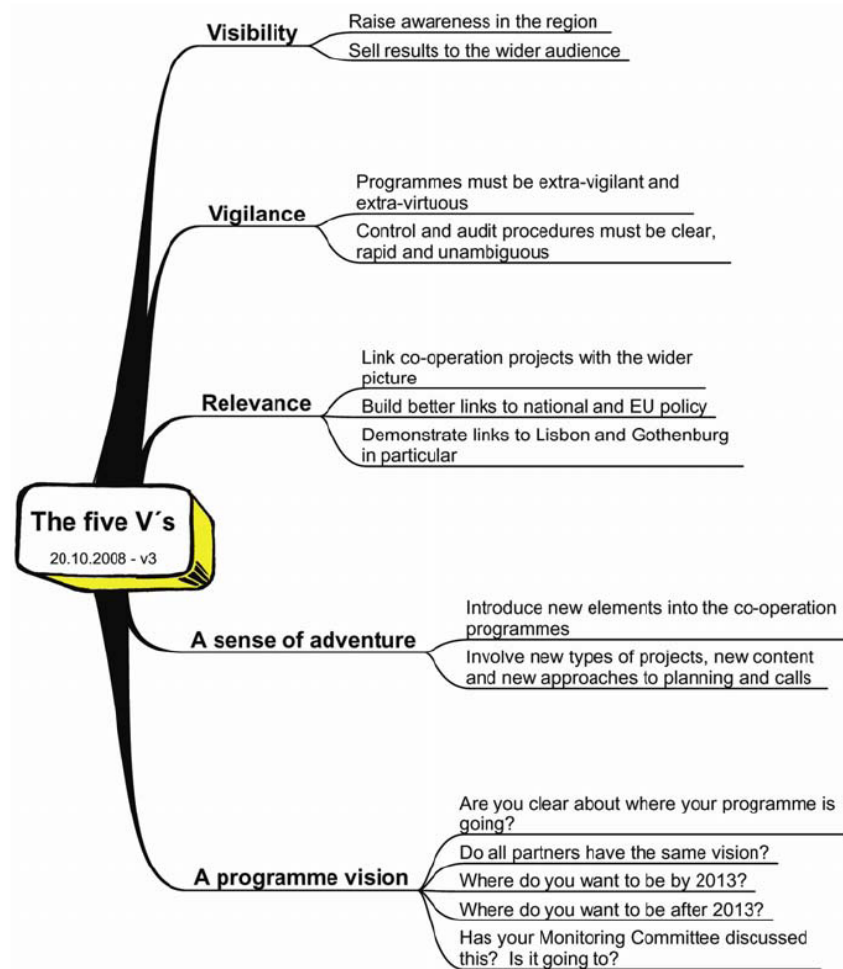
Good projects are usually determined by some or most of the following characteristics:

- Long history of co-operation
- Physical cross border contact (e.g. national and nature parks, joint sewage treatment, etc.)
- Joint/parallel implementation
- Professional support by experienced consultants
- High level of enthusiasm
- Reflection of the needs of all partners involved
- Strong wish for implementing CBC projects at all levels (people, administrative and political level)

### 3. WHAT NEEDS TO BE DONE TO IMPLEMENT GOOD PROJECTS?

- Draft and implement real CBC projects based on the Lead Partner Principle with high sustainability and an innovative character
- Know and respect what others expect of the programme/projects (project holders/programme bodies/two sides of the border/European Commission)
- Clarify misunderstandings, eliminate bad practices and learn from the more experienced ones
- Make joint efforts for efficient implementation e.g. get national authorities involved to CBC-projects and bring together the real stakeholders
- Obey rules, but find a good balance between formalities and flexibility
- Think strategically and focus on the content, not only on financial matters
- Demonstrating effectiveness on a European level is to the direct benefit of all cooperation programmes and actors. This process involves the establishment and maintenance of a common Knowledge Base, which is presently one of the most important steps towards the initiation and running of good future projects. So keep the database established by INTERACT up to date (<http://www.interact-eu.net>)!
- Projects should improve their presentation skills and provide results. A given format with clear requirements by the programme could help projects to provide information.
- Enthusiasm is important for good programme and project work, but sometimes political enthusiasm and support are lacking.
- Be realistic and do not set too many objectives
- Have visions for the institutional level (not focusing on single persons)
- A balanced partnership is needed with strong willingness, clearly defined objectives and targets and good financing.
- Consult collected information and experiences provided by INTERACT (<http://www.interact-eu.net>) e.g. concerning the application package, programme management etc.
- For the decision making:
  - More consultation beforehand for mutual understanding
  - Forget „my project” - „your project” approach
  - Projects with high strategic relevance
  - Transparent project selection, high level documentation
- Keep in mind the five V's!





## 4. HOW TO SELL GOOD PROJECTS?

It is crucial to make the results of CBC projects visible. The press is therefore an important player for spreading the results. Building up cross-border media structures could help to sell more success stories.

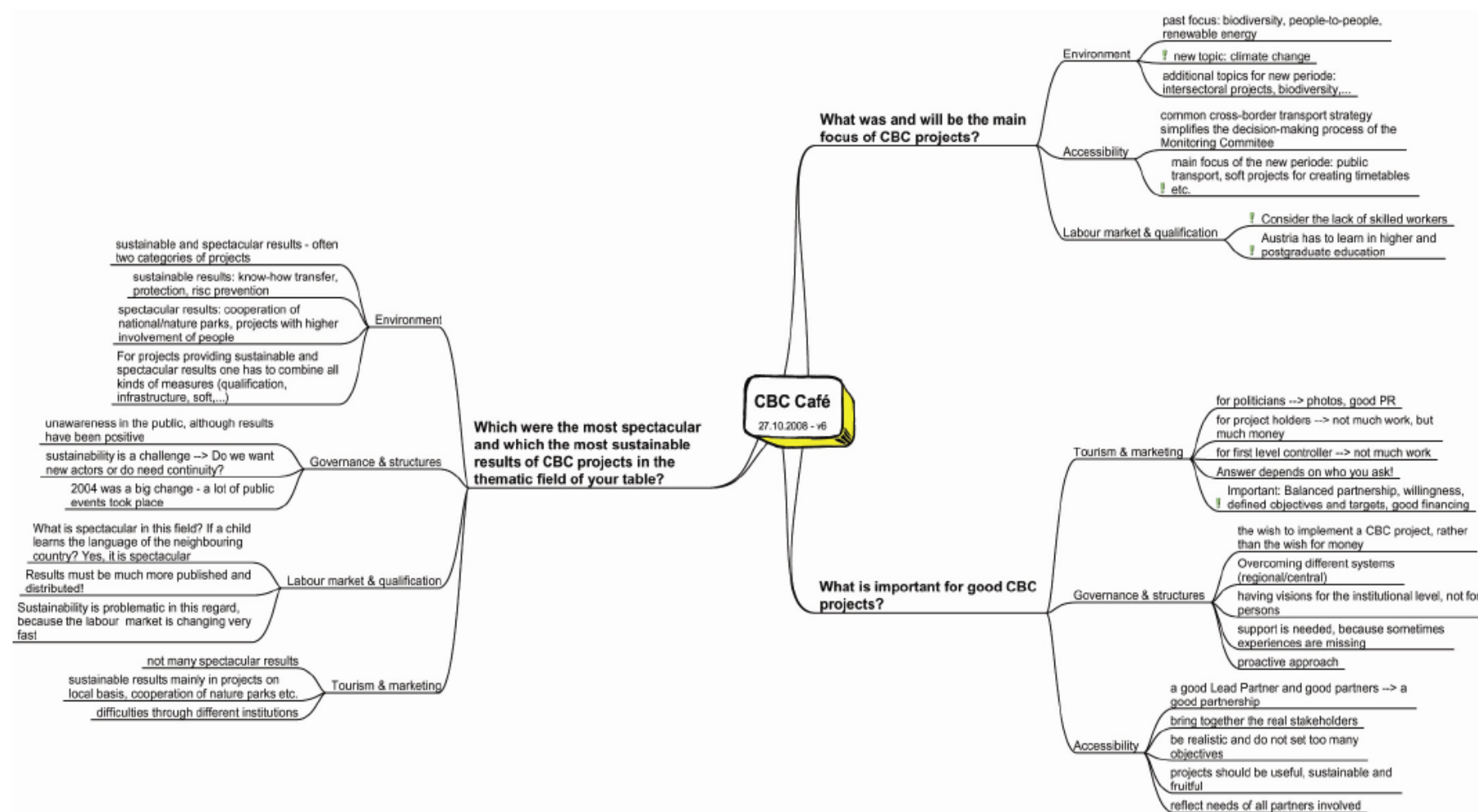
### What should you do?

- Systematic communication with specialised journalists
- Mention loud and again that a project was funded by the EU because financial information is not very interesting for journalists
- Many story-proposals lead to a few stories → try again and be insistent
- Long-term cooperation with journalists from local newspapers, radio and broadcasting stations
- Cross-border matters are often matters of local interest - contact local media
- Providing information within a realistic timescale and be aware that your partners should be available, too, for giving information within the next days
- Make sure that the journalist and his informant have a common language - English
- Give direct information to the journalist, without delegations especially to people with a higher rank

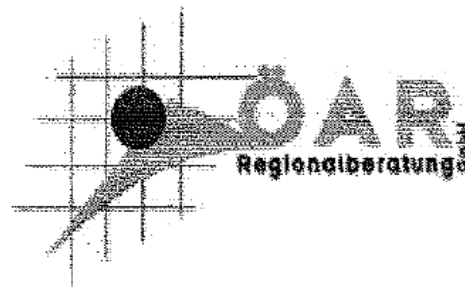
### What makes a good story?

- The man-bites-dog-formula:  
When a dog bites a man, it is not news - but if a man bites a dog, that is news. The unusual, uncommon information makes the difference.
- Answer the six important journalistic questions: Who? What? Where? How? Why? What is the source of the information?

## 5. MAIN RESULTS FROM THE CBC CAFÉ



**Annex 7 Summary of the mid-term-evaluation**



# **Mid Term Evaluation**

## **Community Initiative INTERREG III A „Austria – Hungary“**

### **Final Report**

S.Bauer-Wolf  
(ÖAR-Regionalberatung)

M. Monori  
(BUTE Regional Research Centre)

Vienna, Budapest  
19.12.2003



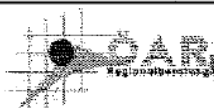
## 1 Summary and recommendations

The evaluators have drawn the following main conclusions in relation to the issues contained in Working Paper 8a of the EC (Mid-term evaluation of INTERREG III). Where appropriate, recommendations have been put forth by the evaluators in relation to these conclusions or specific weaknesses identified in the mid-term evaluation. This summary is also available in a German version.

### 1.1 Appropriateness of Programme Strategy

#### Conclusions:

- ξ Recent developments in the programme context only revealed minor differences in relation to the initial situation upon which the programme is based. The up-date of context indicators shows that only marginal changes have taken place in the socio-economic situation. Thus modifications of the original SWOT analysis are not required, but some improvements of previous weaknesses can be noted.
- ξ The experience gained so far in implementation (see chapters 7 and 8) did not show shortcomings which would require a change at the level of objectives. And the recommendations of the ex-ante evaluation were either already incorporated in the final versions of the programme documents or they have been taken into account during implementation.
- ξ In the light of these findings the assessment of the ex-ante evaluation (high degree of internal and external coherence of programme objectives) can be maintained. And the decision of the programme authorities to maintain the programme's objectives and structure (priorities, measures) is considered to be still valid and the Draft CIP is in line with the findings of the mid-term evaluation.
- ξ For the same reasons as quoted above, the strategy as defined in the JPD remains valid and has rightly been maintained in the Draft CIP.
- ξ Joint implementation structures have lead to a significant increase in the cross-border quality of projects (see chapter 7). Nevertheless the differences in procedures between INTERREG and PHARE CBC have hindered cross-border implementation and the high rate of approved project costs in some INTERREG measures (notably M2.1, M5.1. and M5.2) may hinder common implementation in the upcoming transition period 2004-2006.
- ξ With M1.1. and M1.2. so far a quite low volume of projects could be started in the field of economic co-operation, which is considered to be a substantial part of the programme's strategy. The programme authorities are well aware of this issue and are starting attempts to intensify project generations (see chapter 7).



**Recommendations:**

Improve cross-border aspect in implementation during the remaining programming period within the new INTERREG framework, namely by

- assessing the potential for corresponding activities to already approved projects
- assessing the links between projects, programme objectives and strategies
- identifying objectives which are not yet (adequately) covered by projects, and
- intensifying joint project development in those areas.

This detailed analysis at the level of projects should be carried out during the forthcoming on-going evaluation.

**1.2 Implementation to date****Conclusions:**

- ξ The indicator system used for the INTERREG part of the programme is still valid, besides most of indicators are part of the Austrian Central Monitoring System (ERDF) and this data structure has to be maintained throughout the programme period. But the analysis of the indicator system has revealed some shortcomings in relation to data input and standardisation, which merit to be improved (a detailed proposal is included in chapter 10).
- ξ The Austrian Central Monitoring System (ERDF) is a very refined and sophisticated system which is used for almost all ERDF cofinanced programmes in Austria. Data collection is very timely and reliable, thus the Central Monitoring System allows an accurate overview on programme implementation, which is very much appreciated by the programme partners (MA, OAAs, JTS). Data input is done at Länder level and regular checks on plausibility of data are carried out by the Central Monitoring Authority (ERP Fonds).
- ξ Major differences exist between INTERREG and PHARE monitoring and the indicators used for this purpose. Central monitoring of PHARE CBC is done via periodic reports and in relation to input only (e.g. funds contracted, funds used), other indicators are foreseen for monitoring at project level. Thus the current indicator system cannot provide an accurate and timely picture of programme implementation on both sides of the border (apart from financial implementation). This situation will change from 2004 when implementation of INTERREG starts on Hungarian side. Programme authorities have already in principle agreed on technical details for joint usage of the existing INTERREG monitoring system. Nevertheless parallel monitoring procedures for INTERREG and PHARE CBC might lead to a heavy administrative burden – and potential complications - over the next years.
- ξ The INTERREG part of the programme shows a relatively high level of approvals by JSC (70%) and a comparatively low level of commitments (35%) and disbursements (8%). Due to the consideration of the advance payment and considerable efforts in the past months, the n+2 rule has already almost been accomplished. A substantial time

lag between approval and commitment is not only hindering n+2 fulfillment but is also a obstacle for project holders.

- ξ The share of large projects (project costs more than €300.000,-) is considerably higher than planned (21% compared to 5% planned). If micro projects are included into calculation of size distribution small projects have a share exceeding 60%, so both project size indicators can be considered fulfilled and surpassed, respectively. The indicators on size distribution have only limited relevance, however they show that INTERREG has obtained a satisfactory outreach compared to the planned level of funds distribution among a larger number of beneficiaries and project holders.
- ξ The programme has also overfulfilled the programme indicator on project quality with an excellent performance in relation to the quality aim (74% AA projects), however these initial assessments remain to be checked during implementation.
- ξ Majority of priority level indicators is based on numbers of specific project types to be achieved. Considering the number of projects approved and funds still available most of these target figures will not be achievable (see Annex I for details). However, purpose, assumptions and methodology for setting targets on priority level are questionable and difficult to trace. Targets have been set by estimates based on previous programme experience, concerns about the reliability of the resulting targets have been stated already at programming. In hindsight the high levels of priority level targets can be considered unrealistic, the targets indicate that from experience of previous programmes average project size has been underestimated, at least if micro projects are not taken into account. Surpassing of the indicator target on large projects stated above corresponds to this finding.
- ξ Concerning the geographic distribution, the majority of INTERREG projects have been implemented in Burgenland and its subregions (60%), followed by projects in Lower Austria (15%) and Vienna (12%), the other projects in the whole border area and beyond.
- ξ Joint structures (JMC, JSC and JTS) have been installed swiftly and function well. The JMC involves a broad range of partners, but some improvements are needed to ensure effective participation of all partners (i.e. social partners). The JSC has approved 110 projects to date, many of them with specific conditions. The JSC intends to act increasingly as a platform for on-going project development and to follow-up on approved (key) projects.
- ξ The MA is assuming its tasks in a very pro-active and dedicated manner, which is highly appreciated by all of the other operators. The same holds true for the National Authority in Hungary. Jointly, both authorities have succeeded in establishing a good climate of collaboration and achieving a rather intense level of co-operation (especially when considering the difficult implementing context imposed by the differences of INTERREG and PHARE (see chapter 3.1). And they have collaborated well to lead the "managing transition" process, which has been carried out very efficiently by the appointed Task Force.
- ξ A new and effective division of labour has been installed between Federal and Länder level for the implementation of INTERREG programmes. Implementation has been concentrated at Länder level, whereby OAAs are carrying out project level implementation and act as one-stop shops for project holders (which is highly appreciated by them).
- ξ The JTS was installed right at the start of programme implementation and carried out the activities as foreseen in the JPD. It notably assures effective support of the MA and the joint committees, the assessment of applications in collaboration with the OAAs.



Moreover, it carried out most of the work for the revision of programme documents in the framework of the “managing transition” process. The co-operation between the Hungarian and the Austrian based part of the JTS has been described as very effective in the evaluation interviews.

- ξ Programme management is largely satisfactory, also from the point of view of project holders. However, contracting procedures are considered too long in Austria (especially for project of OAA Burgenland and for projects involving co-funding from two ministerial departments).
- ξ Major efforts have been undertaken by the programme partners with regard to information and publicity at national, Länder and regional level. The joint website and material produced by MA and OAAs have made information on programme and projects available to a wider public. Nevertheless, there is interest from project holders in more exchanges at project level.
- ξ There are quite different approaches employed in identifying (annual priorities vs. continuous project development) and selecting projects (calls with selection based on expert assessments vs. continuous project development in partnership with OAAs) applied in Austria and in Hungary. To facilitate an increasing number of mirror projects increased information flow and transparency of project pre-selection will be needed.
- ξ The Lead partner principle has not been applicable under the past framework conditions and will continue to be difficult, at least in the short term (many practical problems concerning e.g. eligible costs, control procedures, sharing of costs, responsibility and risks). However programme partners stress their dedication to continuously increase the share of “truly” joint projects and the lead partner principle is seen as an instrument in this direction (but not an end in itself!).
- ξ Annual reports have been produced by the national financial control authority for the years 2000, 2001 and 2002. Financial Control was initiated in the beginning of 2003 by verifying the effectiveness of the management and control system in place. This control has notably concluded that the control systems foreseen in the JPD are in place and functioning, requirements of 1<sup>st</sup> level control are met and audit trails can be verified - but scope for further improvement has been identified. Sample checks on project level have recently been initiated at Länder level and will likely be concluded early next year.

**Recommendations:**

In co-operation with the JTS, the evaluation team has prepared a proposal for improvements of data input and interpretation on INTERREG indicators (see chapter 10.3 below).

Measure M1.1 and M1.2. of the INTERREG programme show commitment figure significantly below average. Due to the importance of economic cooperation within the programme strategy it is recommended to prefer stimulation of project development in these measures rather than changing the financial plan in favour of measures with higher commitment figures.

Indicative funds of measures M2.1, M5.1. and M5.2. have already been fully allocated by JSC project approvals on INTERREG side. It is recommended to analyze potential of complementary mirror projects on Hungarian side to already approved ones especially for these measures.

Case studies and in-depth analysis at project level should be carried out in the framework of the on-going evaluation, in order to validate their performance with regard to specific indicators (e.g. quality of co-operation, horizontal priorities, outputs and results). Priority should be given to umbrella projects or key projects. This analysis could also be used to identify deficiencies and the scope for integrating additional "mirror" projects.

Present imbalances in support for project holders should be corrected, e.g. by assuring the provision of support through RDAs (and their funding from INTERREG).

Practical solutions must be sought for the present differences in project identification and selection. As the approaches currently used are rooted in profound differences of administrative cultures and experience, fundamental changes are unlikely to be achieved in the short run. Short-term solutions include defining joint selection criteria, precautions to prevent declining of mirror projects in regional pre-selection and improved information flow and co-ordination in formal and informal ways between OAAs, JTS and VATI.

Programme partners should take steps to ensure transparency and wide publicity, e.g. by actively spreading information on approved projects, supporting exchanges and cooperation among projects or ensuring timely publicity on tenders.

Programme partners should explore possibilities to shorten procedures, this could be done on basis of a comparative assessment of applied procedures in the ongoing evaluation. They also should investigate ways to integrate social partners in the operation of the joint programme committees.

The programme should enable project applicants to go for the lead partner principle, but the framework of already approved projects and the conditions of programme management have to be taken into account. During the remaining programme period other options

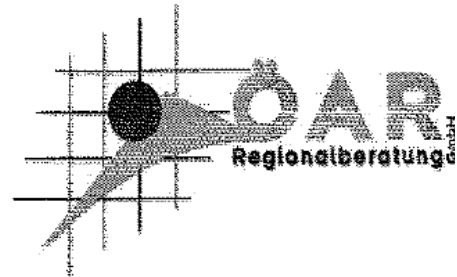


to achieve the aim of more “true” joint projects should be favoured. This notably includes an increase in cross-border project development, elaboration of mirror projects, joint presentation of applications to the JSC, the standardised application of joint criteria and standards for project assessment and joint monitoring of project implementation.

Conditions for project management and requirements for project holders should be harmonised as much as possible. Information material should be produced which provides orientation for project holders on eligible costs and other aspects which are crucial for financial control or the submission of invoices (wherever feasible this should also be done both in Austria and Hungary).

A detailed proposal for the implementation of these recommendations has been prepared and discussed with the Task Force “Managing Transition”.



**Annex 8 Recommendation of the up-date of mid-term evaluation****Up-date of  
Mid Term Evaluation****Community Initiative Programme  
INTERREG III A  
„Austria – Hungary“****Final Report**

S. Bauer-Wolf  
(ÖAR-Regionalberatung)

Vienna  
21.11.2005

***Impulse für  
dynamische Entwicklung***



## 7 Conclusions on efficiency, effectiveness and impact

The INTERREG part of the programme shows a substantial level of commitments (74,2%) and a comparatively low – but unproblematic – level of disbursements (36,2%). The n+2 rule has been accomplished (except for an unsettled question in 2004) all years including 2005.

The programme continues to have an excellent performance in relation to the quality aim (74% AA projects). The case studies and other exercises in ongoing evaluation have shown that the indicators can be considered in a majority of cases reliable (see chapter 6.2). However, in several cases cooperation indicators do not fit actual intensity of cross-border cooperation and impact indicators give a much room for interpretation. Besides, the criterion for achieving an AA rating is not very significant as it can apparently be reached quite easily.

The case studies which have been carried out in the framework of the on-going evaluation revealed that the quality of co-operation is largely satisfactory. Projects have to a large extent achieved their objectives – or are likely to achieve them until the end of the programme period. And in many cases sustainable impacts can be demonstrated through follow-up activities or the joint use of project outputs.

The targets defined at programme level concerning the size and quality of projects have been met until now. And the (revised) targets for priority – level indicators have been largely met.

INTERREG has obtained – even without consideration of the Micro Project Funds – a satisfactory outreach and funds are distributed among a large number of beneficiaries and project holders. The share of larger projects is much higher than foreseen in the CIP. Concerning the geographic distribution, most projects affect the area of Burgenland and its subregions Nord- and Südburgenland. Projects affecting primarily the Hungarian side are not shown in the statistics since no project of a Hungarian project holder has been committed yet.

Small project funds are an important tool to initiate co-operation or to prepare larger projects, but the administrative burden – imposed by financial control – is excessive. A number of Micro Project Funds has not met these requirements and has been suspended by financial control.

The programming structures mostly continue to function well, however they are not used yet to the new level of joint programme implementation as it is possible and necessary since Hungary's EU membership (see chapter 6.3). Efforts are needed to improve information flow between the IBs and to ensure joint support for joint and mirror projects in project development. The current situation is not in line with the intention of programme partners (expressed in the MTE) to increase the share of joint projects as an important step towards a more widespread application of the lead partner principle.

Otherwise programme management is largely satisfactory, but contracting procedures have not been significantly reduced and can thus still be considered too long in Austria.

## 8 Recommendations

### 8.1 Recommendations for remaining years of the programme

At the time of current MTE up-date report the most programme funds have been already allocated to approved or currently planned projects. Regarding project development and selection there is therefore little room for manoeuvre left. However the evaluation team considers following recommendations to be realistically and achievable in the remaining programme periode.

#### a) Improve the chances for mirror and joint projects in project development and assessment

As stated in the MTE the programme partners have stressed their dedication to continuously increase the share of "truly" joint projects. Current practice of project support and pre-assessment (on neither side!) do not reflect this dedication. Following measures shall be taken to improve the situation:

- Give priority to projects which are elaborated as mirror projects to existing INTERREG and PHARE CBC projects or as joint projects (as long as expected project – and not application – quality is at least comparable to other applications)
- Analyse present weaknesses of information flows, notably cross-border and agree on early cross-border exchanges of project information (e.g. informal exchanges between IBs, entry into monitoring system already in idea phase).
- Make explicit use of existing quality indicators (impact/cooperation) when discussing project quality. Case studies in ongoing evaluation have shown that these indicators are rather soft but well applicable for assessment.
- Ensure cross-border information flow in pre-assessment phase by strengthening **mutual** involvement of partners in pre-assessments (i.e. invite preliminary comments by IBs, make use of IB meetings to screen project applications!)<sup>13</sup>
- Raise awareness at both project applicants and programme partners to clearly earmark mirror and joint projects as such in the application form (by ticking the respective box plus describing the substance of mirror and joint project implementation)
- Require information by JTS/IB in partner country on foreseen project partners (experience, credibility and capacity) and ensure that information in applications is systematically counter-checked by JTS / IBs in partner countries (especially on joint planning, application and financing)

#### b) Use irritations in programme implementation as a joint learning opportunity

The JSC meeting in September 2005 has been challenging to all partners and showed restrictions of joint programme implementation under the given programme history, structures and conditions. As has been stated in the MTE, the approaches currently used are rooted in profound differences of administrative cultures and experience, and are to some extent also a legacy of the past (differences between INTERREG and PHARE CBC mechanisms). Under such conditions solutions are unlikely to be achieved in the short run and are most effective if they are jointly agreed by partners and based on mutual understanding - despite different interests, constraints or values. The JSC meeting might be perceived as a faulty rehearsal and therefore a chance for improvement on the basis of sound programme performance and joint achievements. Potential irritations should be utilized in a **common learning process** facing the next programme period! Ongoing evaluation will support this process by offering a "learning platform" meeting for the programme actors in November 2005.

<sup>13</sup> The definition of "Joint Projects" in the Programme Complement includes joint pre-assessment and joint recommendation for ERDF funding by the respective IBs.

**c) Ensure joint monitoring of project implementation**

Results of ongoing evaluation (see chapter 6.2) have shown that project implementation in a majority of cases fits submitted project applications in terms of impact and cooperation indicators. However there is room for improvement by use of following measures:

- ↳ Aim for early cross-border exchanges of project information (e.g. informal exchanges between IBs, entry of projects into monitoring system already in idea phase). Pro-actively signal problems or doubts on cross-border co-operation to the IB on the other side, requesting checks and/or assistance if appropriate
- ↳ Raise awareness of project holders to maintain regular contact with partners and assist them in case of interrupted partnerships and in identifying suitable replacements
- ↳ When project partners are changed during project implementation up-date information on project partnerships and their contact details in the Central Monitoring System.
- ↳ Follow up on project implementation including quality of cross-border co-operation
- ↳ Introduce standardised project reports at least for newly committed projects and especially for joint projects! At least project reports of joint and mirror projects should be translated and provided at least to the concerned IBs.
- ↳ Carry out additional case studies (as add-on to ongoing evaluation, see chapter 6.2.3) focussing on a) projects submitted to the Hungarian IB and or by Hungarian project holders, b) mirror and joint projects submitted after May 2004.

## 8.2 Recommendations for future programming

The programming process for the next period has not (formally) started, so many conditions are not clarified yet. Following recommendations therefore can not cover all aspects of the future programme but highlight experiences of the recent programme in the light of known new programme conditions.

### a) Maintain / improve attractiveness of INTERREG funding

Projects funded in INTERREG IIIA focussed (not only, but prevailing) on "soft" measures to establish better cross-border cooperation and make better use of potential synergies for the benefit of the respective border regions. Compared to PHARE CBC and other programmes focussing prevailing on "hard" (large infrastructure investment) measures it shall not "only" enable this measures by additional funds but shall in first place motivate and activate institutions in the border regions to start and intensify cross-border activities. Conditions will be more difficult for project holders in the upcoming period (see Lead Partner Principle), therefore efforts are necessary to reduce barriers and restrictions whenever feasible to keep up the activating character of INTERREG:

- ↪ Assure transparent implementation processes and minimal (however standardized) formal requirements for project applicants (e.g. application forms, contracting, reporting, financial control)
- ↪ Apply the principle of proportionality (less financial control requirements for smaller projects, reduce administrative burden by allowing bulk support )
- ↪ Introduce cross-border SPF with bilateral assessment procedure, possibly implemented only at regional level.

### b) Prepare for sound implementation of Lead Partner Principle

The Lead Partner Principle will be a new condition in the upcoming programming period. It will be challenging for project holders (as lead partners) who should be supported by information and training as well by transparent and smooth programme implementation:

- ↪ Organise joint training for project owners (e.g. on partnership development, project management)
- ↪ Prepare joint application forms (bilingual) for the new programme period, which also include partnership agreements
- ↪ Elaborate common guidelines for applicants by screening and / or merging existing guidelines and defining common eligibility rules for future INTERREG projects
- ↪ Prepare templates for joint contracting
- ↪ Clarify details for administering the LPP (contracting authority, legal basis, responsibilities and procedures for first level control, language issues)
- ↪ Clarify data entry to Monitoring System (level of detail, inclusion of partner projects)
- ↪ Minimize time lags in programme implementation (especially in contracting process)

These measures could also reduce potential negative consequences of the Lead Partner Principle. However additional measures might be needed to secure sufficient programme outreach (enable also smaller projects, private lead partners etc).

**c) Assure efficient programme management**

The programme management has proven effective, successful elements should therefore be maintained. However in the light of new possibilities (genuine joint programme implementation from the very beginning) some improvements are necessary:

- ↪ Collaborative decentralised management structures have proven to be effective, however cross-border information flow (especially between IBs) are to be improved.
- ↪ Support for project applicants in the phase of project development was feasible and useful for project (and thus programme) quality. Thus same level of support to project applicants on both sides of the border shall be assured.
- ↪ Joint, efficient project assessment procedures shall be organised. With both the Lead Partner Principle and the general dedication of programme partners to increase the share of comprehensively joint projects the need for structured joint assessment will clearly increase. Different practices of Hungarian and Austrian side shall be combined to an joint approach enabling both transparent (independent) assessment of expected project impacts and cooperation quality as well as the possibility to improve project applications' quality in an ongoing project development process (instead of "pure" tenders).
- ↪ In the current programme some tri- or even quattro-lateral projects have been submitted and implemented. To facilitate such projects in the upcoming period adjacent cross-border programmes have to be harmonised (eligible actions, target groups) and coordination between the concerned programmes has to be assured.

**d) Differentiate mechanisms for project generation**

There are different practices and cultures in project generation in Austria (and also within Austria) and Hungary which both have there advantages and disadvantages. The evaluation team recommends to make us of both sides' experiences in combined mechanism for project generation:

- ↪ On one hand proactive "top - down" project development by the programme partners shall be implemented in jointly agreed strategic areas. Key actors from both sides have to be involved in this process.
- ↪ On the other hand calls for project ideas with subsequent screening and regrouping of ideas shall be carried out in selected areas.
- ↪ A third mechanism recommended are cross-border SPF with calls for proposals (not necessarily applying the Lead Partner Principle)

**e) Monitoring and reporting**

Based on the experience of the current programme following recommendations are provided by the evaluation team:

- ↪ The Common Monitoring System (CMS) has been widely appreciated and proven useful. It is recommended to base a future joint system on the existing data base and procedures.
- ↪ Improvements of the CMS shall be implemented in project monitoring. For this purpose joint standards of project reporting shall be applied and regularly exchanged across the border. With up-date of monitoring data based on these reports project monitoring can be enabled within the CMS.

