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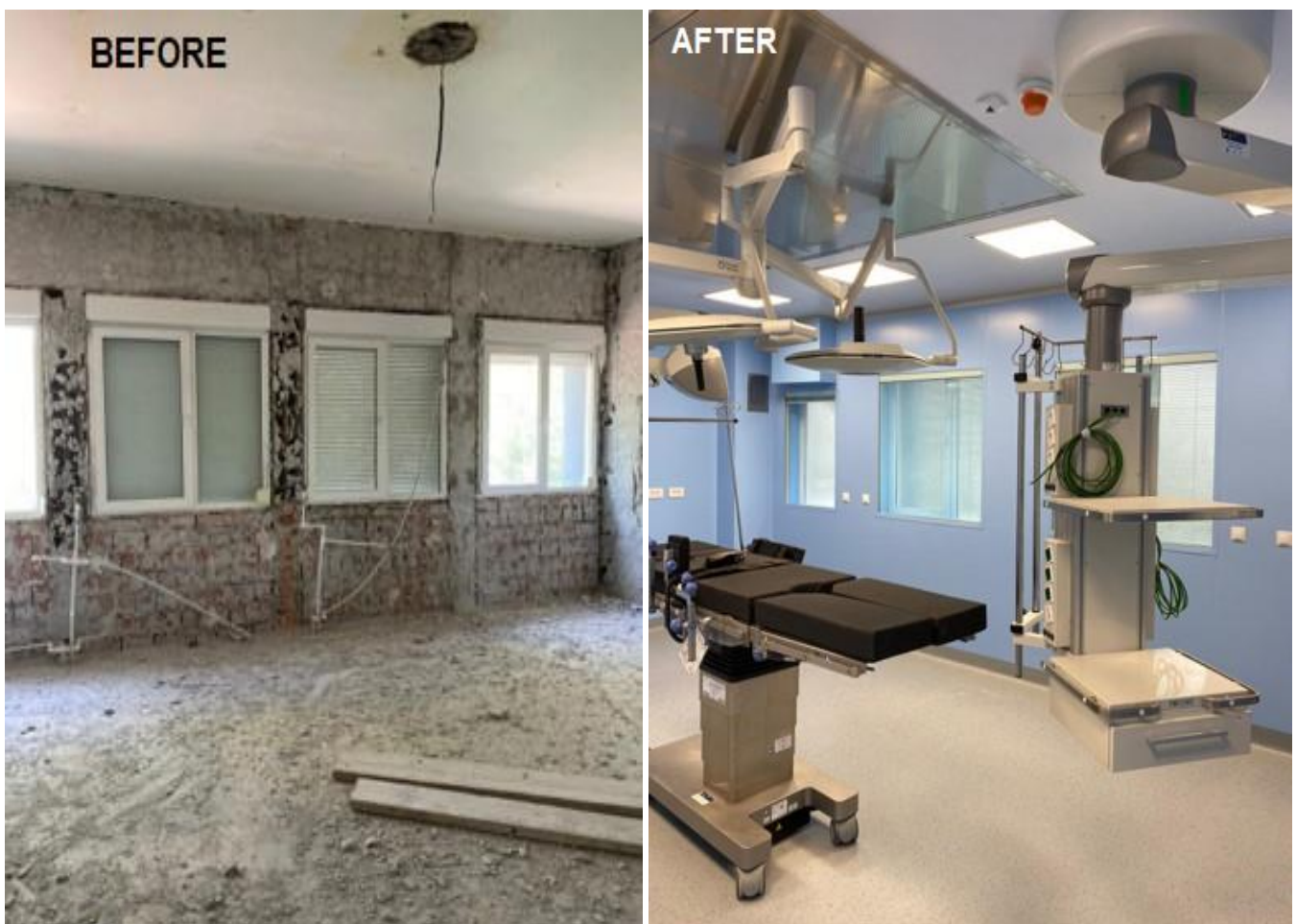
HEALTH- A successful endeavour

The Large Infrastructure Project "HEALTH- Cross Border Health Infrastructure" aimed to bring positive changes to the healthcare domain in the Lower Danube Euroregion. This cooperation initiative spanned across Tulcea county and Izmail District, having allocated 3.8mil. EUR from the Joint Operational Programme Romania – Ukraine 2014- 2020 and an additional 472,896 EUR co-financing.

The driving force behind this project was a cohesive partnership that included Tulcea County Administrative Territorial Unit, Macin City Council, Danube Regional Hospital of Odesa Regional Council, Executive Committee of Izmail City Council, and the Association of Cross-Border Cooperation "Lower Danube Euroregion" Galati. Together, they aimed to fortify the health infrastructure in the region and promote collaborative efforts in healthcare.

The project aimed to increase the accessibility of quality health services for the population of the Lower Danube Euroregion and to enhance existing health infrastructure in Izmail district and Tulcea counties through rehabilitation and endowment of existing medical service infrastructure units. Additionally, the project sought to strengthen the Euro regional partnership in healthcare by developing a joint health strategy, implementing a capacity-building program for health stakeholders, and raising awareness about the importance of permanent health monitoring.

As the project was implemented, significant strides were made, resulting in the improvement of four medical service infrastructure units. The Tulcea Emergency County Hospital, Macin City Hospital, Danube Basin Hospital on water transport, and the Izmail City Hospital were all upgraded to meet the evolving healthcare needs of the region.



One of the project's standout achievements was the implementation of operational cross-border telemedicine, providing a crucial lifeline for remote healthcare consultations and services. This innovation not only improved accessibility but also laid the groundwork for future advancements in healthcare delivery.

A common health strategy and operational plan were adopted, showcasing the success of collaborative efforts in shaping a unified approach to healthcare in the Euroregion. These outcomes were not just abstract goals but tangible improvements that directly impacted the lives of 360,000 people who gained access to enhanced health services.

The target groups and final beneficiaries were diverse, including specialists from various medical and administrative entities in both Romania and Ukraine. 120 specialists from Tulcea Emergency County Hospital, Macin City Hospital, Danube Basin Hospital on water transport, and the Izmail City Hospital, public administration, and medical clinics participated in the training sessions, along with an additional 10 specialists from the "Lower Danube" Euroregion Specialty Commission on health and social activity.



Looking back, the project's impact extended beyond the people who live in the implementation area, tourists becoming long-term beneficiaries of the project's results.

The cooperation spirit that fueled this important project served as a testimonial to the potential for positive change when diverse stakeholders united for a common goal.

The seeds sown by this initiative continue to bear fruit, fostering a healthier and more interconnected Euroregion.



SAGA- Uniting Romania and Ukraine against cross-border crime

The Large Infrastructure Project "SAGA: Regional Cooperation for Prevention and Fighting of Cross-border Crime between Romania and Ukraine" is now finalized and leaves behind a legacy of strengthened ties, modernized facilities, and a more secure cross-border region.

Led by the General Inspectorate of Romanian Police, SAGA brought together a consortium of partners that included the General Inspectorate of Romanian Border Police, the Main Department of the National Police in Ivano-Frankivsk Region, Botoșani, Suceava, Maramures and Satu Mare Counties Police Inspectorates, and Territorial Inspectorate of Border Police Sighetu Marmăției, to address the challenges posed by organized crime that transcended borders.

The ambitious objectives of SAGA project were met - to strengthen police cooperation through operational information exchange and enhance the operational and technical capacity of police structures on both sides of the Romania-Ukraine border.

With a grant of 3.2mil. EUR allocated by the Joint Operational Programme Romania – Ukraine 2014-2020 and additional 2 mil. EUR co-financing, SAGA set out to create a united front against cross-border crime, focusing on prevention and combating organized criminal activities.

During the project's implementation, more than 760 participants were engaged in joint capacity-building activities, including exchanges of experience, study visits, and comprehensive training sessions. Their dedication and commitment ensured that the benefits of SAGA would resonate long after its conclusion.



With SAGA project, 78 facilities of police and police border in the eligible area were successfully modernized, thus contributing to a more robust and responsive law enforcement infrastructure along the Romania-Ukraine border.

A functioning cross-border cooperation IT platform was established as a crucial tool that significantly enhanced communication and information exchange between the police services of Romania and Ukraine.



Looking forward, the final beneficiaries of the project, more than 6,000 Romanian and Ukrainian police officers and border police officers from Maramureș, Satu Mare, Botoșani, Suceava counties, and Ivano-Frankivsk region will continue to benefit from the lasting impact of SAGA, fostering a safer and more secure cross-border region for years to come.



In the end, SAGA stands as a prove of the power of regional cooperation in the fight against cross-border crime, breaking down barriers and increasing the trust of the citizens in the cross-border regions in the law enforcement.

**Deadline extension**

for the calls for proposals under
Interreg NEXT Romania-Ukraine

Check the Corrigendum no.2!

www.ro-ua.net

Important Update: Deadline Extension for Interreg NEXT Romania-Ukraine Programme Applications!

Great news for all potential applicants! The Managing Authority of the Interreg NEXT Romania-Ukraine Programme has recently released Corrigendum no.2 to the Guidelines for both regular and small-scale project applicants. Stay informed by visiting the programme's dedicated website at <https://ro-ua.net/en/funding/calls-for-proposals>.

What's the update? The essential update is the extension of the application deadline, for both project calls, but also the changes in the way Annex C's financial data is analysed.

Now, you have until **January 31, 2024**, to shape and submit your project proposals either small scale or regular. This extension is a great

opportunity to further refine your ideas, form solid partnerships, obtain all necessary documents and develop innovative project proposals.

To facilitate the application process, the Joint Electronic Monitoring System (JEMS) is accessible [here](#), providing a user-friendly platform to navigate and submit your proposals. Access to JEMS can be made also directly via the address indicated on the programme website. For the submission, the applicants must follow the specific instructions provided in the Annex H – Guideline on filling the Application Form.

It is important that all interested applicants consult the Guidelines for Grant Applicants and Corrigendum No.2 to ensure they meet all

requirements and properly prepare their applications before submitting them.

The Interreg NEXT Romania-Ukraine programme offers valuable funding opportunities for cross-border projects and it is therefore essential to comply with all information and instructions provided by the Managing Authority.

Our thanks go to the entire Romania-Ukraine crossborder community for your ongoing

commitment and dedication to build meaningful partnerships and advancing crossborder cooperation between the 2 states. Together, we can achieve more remarkable results. Don't miss out on this chance to be a catalyst for positive change in your community!

Additional €14 million for Interreg NEXT Romania-Ukraine Programme

The European Commission has officially approved the amended Interreg NEXT Romania-Ukraine Programme. This milestone decision, reached in December 2023, signals a strategic support to the ongoing cooperation initiatives between Romania and Ukraine.

The amended programme brings an increase of 14 million Euro to the budget. This financial supplement will lead to an increase in the number of projects and more comprehensive support for cross-border cooperation.

Introducing "Better Cooperation Governance": An important addition to the program is the introduction of a new specific objective— "Better cooperation governance."

This new specific objective underlines our commitment to strengthening the governance mechanisms that supports effective cooperation in both countries.

The updated document, encompassing the new budget allocation and scope of the activities, is now available [here](#)

The amended programme reaffirms the commitment of both Romania and Ukraine to adapt and grow in response to the evolving needs of our communities.



Engage in the process:

Interreg NEXT Romania-Ukraine Programme Call for Public Consultation

The year 2023 ends with an online public consultation aimed at collecting stakeholders' views on the guidelines for grant applicants of the future call.

The Managing Authority for the Interreg NEXT Romania-Ukraine Programme is hosting public consultations on the Guidelines for Applicants for a future call on regular projects. The projects will be funded under the Priority 1.1, **Promoting climate change adaptation and disaster risk prevention and resilience, taking into account eco-system based approaches.**

All citizens, organizations and stakeholders interested in contributing to the application documentation of the future call on Interreg NEXT Romania-Ukraine are welcome to get involved.

Share your comments, ideas, and suggestions to help shape the new projects and ensure they respond to the community's needs.

To participate, send in your insights to info.roua@mdlpa.gov.ro by **January 15, 2024.**

Let's work together to make a lasting impact on our community !





Empowering Youth in Cohesion Policy: Call for young people to join the Youth4Cooperation Group!

We're thrilled to share the latest strides in supporting youth involvement in cohesion policy, especially in cross-border cooperation, spearheaded by DG Regional and Urban Policy.

Youth4Cooperation Group: As part of the commitment, the [Youth4Cooperation](#) Group has been actively running, since its establishment in 2022 during the European Year of Youth. This group is dedicated to enhancing the engagement of young individuals in all Interreg programs and EU macro-regional strategies. It serves as a vital platform for young Europeans interested in cohesion and cooperation, allowing them to actively contribute to the dialogue and decision-making processes.

Upcoming Meeting - January 12, 2024: Mark your calendars for the next plenary meeting of the Youth4Cooperation Group on Friday, January 12, 2024, from 12:00 to 13:00.

This session will focus on initiatives related to youth entrepreneurship, featuring esteemed guests from the Directorate-General for Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion and the Joint Research Centre of the European Commission. It's a unique opportunity for young individuals to engage directly with Commission representatives, fostering synergies with territorial cooperation and exploring collaborative initiatives.

We encourage all young Europeans passionate about cohesion and cooperation to join Youth4Cooperation [LinkedIn group](#).

Let's continue to empower our youth and create a more inclusive and dynamic future together !

Managing Authority holiday message

Dear partners,

As the year comes to a close, the time has come to reap the fruits of our labour!

We are now ending a significant stage, 2014–2020 projects, and we open a new chapter, Interreg NEXT!

We express our gratitude for your collaboration and we wish the best of luck to those preparing new projects!

We are fully committed towards all our partners, beneficiaries and programme structures in Romania and Ukraine!
Peaceful holidays to everybody!

Managing Authority Team



European Neighbourhood Instrument (ENI) and co-financed by the participating countries in the Programme. The Programme is dedicated to the border areas between Romania and Ukraine and will contribute to the overall objective of the European Neighbourhood Instrument: progress towards an area of prosperity and good neighbourliness for the benefit of Member States and non-EU members through cross-border cooperation actions.

www.ro-ua.net/en/



Programme funded by the
EUROPEAN UNION



Romania-Ukraine
ENI-CROSS BORDER COOPERATION

The European Union is made up of 27 Member States who have decided to gradually link together their knowhow, resources and destinies. Together, during a period of enlargement of 50 years, they have built a zone of stability, democracy and sustainable development whilst maintaining cultural diversity, tolerance and individual freedoms. The European Union is committed to sharing its achievements and its values with countries and peoples beyond its borders.