

România - Ungaria

Call Type: Call for operations of strategic importance (OSI)	
Acronym & Project code	RENEW – ROHU00617
Project title	Renewable Energy Works Well
Priority	P1 - Cooperation for a green and more resilient cross-border area between Romania and Hungary
Objective Specific	RS02.2 - Promoting renewable energy in accordance with Renewable Energy Directive (EU) 2018/2001, including the sustainability criteria set out therein
Implementation period	36 months (23 December 2024 – 22 December 2027)
Objective	The main objective of the project is to promote and contribute to a green, resilient, and more cohesive transition in the Romanian-Hungarian cross-border area through the promotion and utilization of renewable energy sources. The project focuses on harnessing the potential of geothermal water and the gas produced from geothermal water, as well as solar energy for heating. This transition fosters economic growth, energy independence, and encourages further collaboration initiatives.
Partnership	Lead Partner: Hajdú-Bihar County Council (Hungary)
	Project Partners: PP2 HU: Municipality of Berettyóújfalu, PP3 HU: Municipality of Hajdúdorog PP4 HU: Municipality of Kaba PP5 HU: Municipality of Létavértes PP6 HU: Hajdú-Bihar County Development Agency PP7 RO: UAT Bihor County - Bihor County Council
Total budget	EUR 9.010.615,03 of which ERDF EUR 7.208.492,00
Summary	The cross-border region of Hajdú-Bihar County and Bihor County faces several common challenges affecting environmental, economic, and social aspects. A key issue is the dependence on gas heating, which contributes to harmful emissions and climate change. Given the decline in domestic natural gas production, the region will soon be fully reliant on imports, raising concerns about security, quality, and price. The partnership will install geothermal systems at the premises of six partners on both sides of the border (WP1). Through this large-scale investment, the partnership aims to address institutional and financial obstacles to cross-border cooperation in renewable energy and contribute to the output indicator RCO116 and result indicator RCR104.

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	<p>The main activities of the project are as follows:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Infrastructure modernization at Hajdú-Bihar County Council: Works to enhance the energy performance of buildings and reduce environmental impact, including thermal insulation, replacement of windows and doors, installation of heat pumps, underfloor heating, etc. Additionally, LP1 will acquire two plug-in hybrid cars and install two electric charging stations (at Piac u 71 and Piac u 54). 2. Infrastructure modernization in Berettyóújfalu: Utilization of thermal water at temperatures of 32-36°C from thermal pools, using water-to-water heat pumps to heat five municipal buildings. 3. Infrastructure modernization in Hajdúdorog: Use of existing thermal water to heat seven public institutions, aiming to increase energy efficiency and reduce costs for these institutions. 4. Infrastructure modernization in Kaba: Use of existing thermal water to heat seven public institutions. 5. Infrastructure modernization in Létavértes: Extension of the existing geothermal heating network to connect six additional buildings to the system. 6. Works for an efficient and sustainable heating system at the Multifunctional Cultural Center: Installation of an efficient and durable heating system using state-of-the-art technological solutions, energy management flows based on the partners' expertise in the energy sector, and renewable energy sources, including the effective management and use of geothermal energy. 7. Creation of a Romanian-Hungarian cross-border renewable energy action plan: PP7 CJBH will coordinate the development of the joint energy action plan and will hire external expertise to collect data and solutions related to energy. 8. Soft activities: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - PP2, PP3, PP4, PP5 will purchase and plant at least 100 trees/bushes at the intervention sites. - PP6 and PP7 will organize three joint summer thematic camps (one camp per year). - Thematic participation in events held at five locations: Berettyóújfalu, Hajdúdorog, Kaba, Létavértes, Oradea. - Six joint study visits to Tiszalök (hydroelectric power station), Berettyóújfalu (solar energy park), and Kulcs (wind power station) for students from the cross-border area. - Two joint good practice visits organized in Oradea, Berettyóújfalu, and Kaba. - Awareness activities for primary school children organized in four localities. - A program where school children share their knowledge with kindergarten children about an ecological lifestyle, consisting of 12 events.
<p>Main results</p>	<p>The main results of the project include:</p>

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	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Strengthening infrastructure and utilizing renewable energy sources, particularly geothermal energy, for the LP partners, PP2, PP3, PP4, PP5, and PP7, through the installation of heat pumps (for LP, PP2, and PP7) and heat exchangers (for PP3, PP4, and PP5). The number of buildings involved in the project: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - LP: 1 building, plus an electric vehicle charging station at another location. - PP2: 5 buildings. - PP3: 7 buildings. - PP4: 7 buildings. - PP5: 6 buildings. - PP7: 1 building. 2. Development of a Cross-Border Renewable Energy Action Plan, which will support the transition to sustainable energy in the region, focusing on harnessing the potential of geothermal water and solar energy for heating. 3. Engagement of various stakeholders, residents, educational institutions, and local and regional authorities through the organization of 3 good practice exchange visits, 3 summer camps, and 20 Energy Café events. These activities will take place in the Bihor and Hajdú-Bihar regions and will be organized collaboratively by PP6 and PP7. By the end of the implementation period, it is expected that at least 884 participants will take part in these activities, and through extended collaboration measures, approximately 1,000,000 residents of the region will be informed about the benefits of renewable energy solutions. 4. Good Practice Guideline developed by the partners for joint solutions for utilizing renewable energy sources in the cross-border area for public buildings. The guideline will describe the installation solutions for heat pumps and heat exchangers, based on information collected from all partners. 5. Exchange of best practices will be facilitated among stakeholders and decision-makers, as well as European networks, during international project meetings organized at LP to share lessons learned: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - EXPRESS (Interreg Europe project): August 2025 - WEEEWaste (Interreg Europe project): February 2025 6. The project's trilingual website and leaflets will contribute to promoting multilingualism. All project events will be free and open to the public, without any discrimination.
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