



Program cezhraničnej spolupráce  
Maďarská republika-Slovenská republika  
2007-2013

**Budujeme partnerstvá**



**Európska únia**  
Európsky fond regionálneho rozvoja

# Programming Structural funds

## Civil Society Perspective

### Partnership for Sustainability

Strengthening of local economies, environmental protection and social inclusion in 2014-2020 programming

**Budapest, 28th of October 2013**



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# Programming process Partnership Agreement

- Delayed because of political reasons (elections)
- Lack of open planning public involvement – lack of surveys and analyses, closed doors planning
- Official process of PA elaboration impossibly short (less than 6 months until the official deadline)



# Partnership and public participation

- **Establishing contact to ministries**
- **Coordinating the NGO sector**
- **Involving Plenipotentiary for Civil Society**
  - Government Council for NGOs nominates representatives in PA and OP working groups
  - Capacity is created – Working group of the Council “Programming Structural funds” - coordination of NGOs, information distribution
  - Mandate of NGO sector opens doors to bilateral negotiations



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# Key focus areas of NGOs

- Environment and climate agenda – low carbon economy, adaptation, biodiversity, resource efficiency, sustainable development
- Civil society development and public participation – participative EU funds implementation
- Social agenda – social services, poverty and social exclusion, marginalized communities
- NGO support – access of NGOs to EU funds, administrative and financing barriers,



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# Environment and climate agenda

- Formally well settled in Partnership Agreement
- OPs related to the agenda:
  - OPQoE: LCE, adaptation, environmental protection, biodiversity, efficient and sustainable resource use
  - OPll: transport investments
  - OPRI: innovation, SME support
  - IROP: urban environment, transport, adaptation
  - RDP: LEADER, sustainable agriculture, local economy

# Sustainable development

- Horizontal principle:
  - bottom-line, minimum legislative requirements
  - Transposition of statements into OPs yet to be seen
  - A complex strategy for SD of regions is lacking
- OPs with no direct relation to environment show low connections to SD elements
- IROP not grasping the potential to focus on sustainable local economy development



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# Climate

- Climate taken into account well on a formal level – need to transform statements into OP setup
- Climate is not taken into account within SEA properly – lack of courage to focus on climate
- Indicators will be a key – direct evaluation of OPs and projects – focus on mitigation (EC provides a methodology – CO2MPARE)
- Adaptation – grey measures dominate with strong focus on active control of resources. Sole focus on floods with no other effects targeted



# Low-carbon Economy

- A national strategy for transformation towards LCE is missing
- Partnership Agreement:
  - OPQoE implements TO4 with focus on energy. Allocation is not sufficient for ambitious solutions in energy sector. Systematic measures are being left out (Smart grids)
  - Weak consideration of climate aspect in the strategy of OP II.
  - Innovation – eco-innovation and low carbon technologies not taken into account



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# Environment and biodiversity

- Water management: more focus should be placed on water regime stabilisation and ability of ecosystems to auto-regulate water flows
- Waste management: prevention introduced – need to define measures and activities carefully.
- Biodiversity – need to horizontally introduce biodiversity considerations into all relevant OPs



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# Key challenges

- Integration of environment into OP strategies
- Adaptation – domination of grey over green
- Narrowly defined support of RES
- Strategic development – need to setup rules for local energy action plans
- Setup of financial instruments and financing conditions



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# Civil society development and public participation

- CLLD and LEADER: no willingness to decentralize implementation and decision-making despite strong demand
  - Push for CLLD to get into IROP
  - Push for CLLD to remain in OP EPG
- OP EPG introduces well setup support of civil society – need to finish programming with focus on administration and financing:
  - Financial instruments enabling access of special stakeholders to funding: community initiatives, NGOs, households – Global grants, special funds and assistance services
  - Technical assistance for capacity building and consultancy
  - Enabling pre-financing of projects



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# Thank you!

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