



Hungary-Slovakia
Cross-border Co-operation
Programme 2007-2013

Building partnership



European Union
European regional Development Fund

Network for sustainability

Partnership Agreement from civil view



**Friends of
the Earth**
CEPA

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Preparation process of Partnership Agreement (PA)

- **delayed because of political reasons** (pre-election vacuum, elections, change in key posts and offices)
- **lack of open planning and public involvement from the start** (planning behind closed doors, no real public involvement into the initial phase – analysis, surveys, public discussions)
- **official process of elaboration of PA impossibly short** (less than half a year until the first Commission deadline).
Alibi: no European legislation available, no final budget



Partnership and public participation

Friends of the Earth-CEPA establishing contacts:

- Ministries did not see into the sector and could not identify reliable partners for dialogue
- Regular advocacy targeted at key ministries creates working relationship
- European Commission accepted CEPA as a partner for dialogue – ministries perceive this and are more willing to talk
- CEPA introduced programming agenda to **Plenipotentiary for Civil Society** and built his capacities in the initial stage of the process – creation of a very valuable ally and strong player pushing NGO demands



Partnership and public participation

NGO sector coming together

- Government council for NGOs nominates official representatives of the sector – nominations are accepted and representation on programming is secured
- A capacity is created – Working group “programming structural funds” is created with mandate to prepare positions and inputs for the whole sector.
- Official partnership – ad-hoc sessions and commenting of ready versions of PA and OPs no real involvement into programming through participative working methods such as focus groups, surveys, consultations, etc.

Partnership and public participation

- NGO sector mandate opens doors for bilateral negotiations – positive results in Ministry of Environment, Ministry of Interior Affairs, Ministry of Economy, Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development

European Commission demanding evidence on public participation

- concrete feedback to all proposed inputs has to be delivered. This creates positive pressure and creates hooks to catch on during dialogue and reporting to the Commission

Positive priorities, measures

Partnership Agreement:

- Community Led Local Development
- Global Grants
- Green public procurement



OP Quality Environment

Introduced positive measures:

- separate activity on anti-flood measures focusing on landscape and ecosystems
- separate activity on waste prevention
- activity on treating with organic waste
- activity on removing watercourse barriers
- low emission zones and modernization of local/household heat production sites – reducing air pollution in urbanized areas
- environmental education
- support for local and regional sustainable energy plans
- polluter pays principle in respect to mining waste depositories



OP Quality Environment

- decentralized energy production
- NGOs, cooperatives, foundations, flat owners communities, municipal associations are eligible for EE and RES measures
- priority support for complex projects based on low-carbon strategies and action plans for sustainable energy
- change in activity regarding „use“ of protected sites to include compliance with protection goals for individual territories

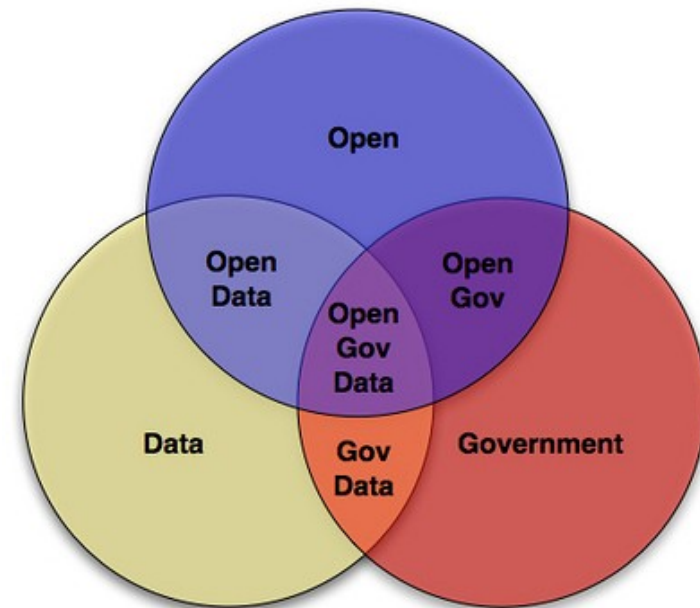
Removed negative measures:

- waste-to-energy from mixed municipal waste



OP Efficient Public Governance

- **systematic and complex support of NGOs** – capacities, operation, cooperation with public sector. After modification of EU legislation on CP policy (inclusion of partners into thematic objective II “enhancing institutional capacity and an efficient public administration”) there is a possibility to create a separate measure for NGOs
- CLLD priority axis – direct programming



Remaining problems to be solved

Environment:

- CLLD priority axis – direct programming
- Big business support
- Anti-flood measures
- Big biomass support
- Indicators and project selection issues

Processes:

- Evaluation and selection criteria for Local Action Groups
- Coordination of CLLD and LEADER
- Monitoring and involvement in implementation – technical assistance to partners
- Public consultations on calls for proposals



Thank you for your attention!

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