

Summaries of Approved Projects from the 3rd Deadline of the Open Call in the Frame of Cooperation Programme Interreg V-A Slovenia - Croatia

The projects were approved at the Monitoring Committee of the programme Interreg V-A Slovenia - Croatia. The ERDF Subsidy Contract has not been signed yet.

Summaries of the projects were prepared by the applicants in the context of submitted project applications.

Priority Axis 3 Healthy, safe and accessible border areas (specific objective 3.1. Building partnerships among public authorities and stakeholders for healthy, safe and accessible border areas)

Project acronym: EMERGENCY EUROREGION (797.713,73 EUR ERDF)

Lead Partner: Splošna bolnišnica Izola / Ospedale generale di Isola

Project Partners: Opća bolnica Pula, Zavod za hitnu medicinu Istarske županije, Zdravstveni dom Izola / Casa della sanita Isola

The cross-border area of the Istria County and the Coastal–Karst Region presents a challenge to the providers of emergency medical service (EMS) of delivering an efficient emergency medical service for all residents and visitors of the cross-border area. Cross-border cooperation among health institutions in the area of emergency medical service is practically non-existent. This results in unequal access of the population to emergency medical service and sub-optimal provision of emergency medical service. The potential for institutional cross-border cooperation in the area of emergency medical service is not fully utilized, so the main common goal of the project is to establish a sustainable network of key medical institutions in the area of emergency medical service in the cross-border region. The realization of the project objective is also expected to narrow the gap in the accessibility to optimum emergency medical service between the countryside and urban centres. The first main direct effect of the project is the EMS network in the cross-border area, which will include Izola General Hospital, Institute of Emergency Medicine of Istria County, Pula General Hospital, and Rescue Service of Slovenian Istria of the Izola health care centre, supported by several associated partners. The EMS network will facilitate the development and long-term implementation of the innovative common model for providing optimum emergency medical service to patients at risk in the cross-border area, including medically specific cases and mass accidents. As a result, a new, common protocol of cross-border transport of life-threatened patients will be developed. The project will meet the required pre-conditions for the implementation of DEMONSTRATION activities related to the protocol (heliport construction, purchase of ambulance). Finally, the new common cross-border protocol will be introduced into regular work processes of the EMS network.

The other direct effect of the project is represented by the personnel involved in the EMS network with improvements and simplified competences for providing emergency health care. The knowledge and skills of 325 employees in the EMS network, required for early actions when a patient is at serious risk, will be upgraded with certified classes. 50 employees in the network will be qualified to prepare a patient for helicopter transport. People in the cross-border area, who may suddenly fall ill and/or get seriously injured, will directly benefit from unified and improved capacity of workers within the EMS network.

Solving the cross-border issue will not only benefit the population in the cross-border region, but also health workers, since the project will enable them to manage emergency medical services in a professional, quality and simplified manner, with all project partners included.

Project acronym: CROSSCARE (894.418,99 EUR ERDF)

Lead Partner: Zavod za oskrbo na domu Ljubljana

Project Partners: Mestna občina Ljubljana, Center za pomoč na domu Maribor, Dom Zdravlja Čakovec, Ustanova za zdravstvenu njegu u kući Zagreb, Grad Zagreb

The common challenge of the program area is the trend of aging population. The needs to formally organize the area of the domiciliary care for the elderly are increasing partly because of the aging population and partly because of modified socially-cultural norms. The general goal of the project is to develop and establish a new cross-border cooperation structure to ensure an integrated approach to domiciliary care that includes services of medical and social care. This cross-border structure, complete with content, works based on the same methodology and is a novelty in both countries. Even though individual segments of the domiciliary care services are being performed in both countries, the field is normatively and systemically unordered. A formalized concept of integrated approach where the content is detailedly defined from both the social and medical aspect does not exist either. The project is highly innovative as its results will serve as the technical basis for the field being normatively organized. This is already planned to be done in the field of prolonged domiciliary care in Slovenia. The execution of quality preventive and rehabilitative therapy surpasses the current institutional curative approach and increases the quality of life of the elderly living at home. With the project, the execution of the integrated approach of domiciliary care is moved from the urban centers of Ljubljana, Podravska region, Zagreb and the Međimurje County. The project will be based on partnership and cooperation between institutions. It will be established on a foundation of permanent transfer of knowledge, practices, approaches and methods of work of all project partners. The newly established cross-border structure of cooperation will encompass 8 institutions, under which the competences and skills of at least 153 employees will rise. This way the quality and quantity of the performed services with a special emphasis on providing a complete service, which include both medical and social care, will rise.

Project acronym: 2SOKROG (488.705,06 EUR ERDF)

Lead Partner: Znanstveno-raziskovalno središče Bistra Ptuj

Project Partners: Razvojna agencija Savinjske regije d.o.o., Center ponovne uporabe d.o.o., SO.P., Javna ustanova za razvoj Varaždinske županije, Centar za socijalnu skrb Čakovec, Javna ustanova za regionalni razvoj Međimurske županije REDEA, Zavod Republike Slovenije za zaposlovanje

In the cross-border area, there is a great need to develop integrative social activation programs because of the same problems that occur on both sides of the border, i.e. long-term social vulnerability of vulnerable target groups due to unemployment, from health problems to poor information and social inclusion. 2SoKroG, as an innovative model of public services in the cross-border area, addresses the issue of a lack of effective social transfers systems that are on the rise on both sides of the border and are a serious problem regarding demographic indicators. By using an innovative model, an increase in the institutional capacity of public institutions for social and employment services will be achieved through social activation and the strengthening of mutual partnerships. In the cross-border area, the project can be performed as the first in practice proven social activation, which is crucial for the transformation of the work of Social Work Centres and Employment Services as key public institutions for changing the existing situation.

Outputs:

a) Strengthening partnerships between public social activation bodies in the cross-border area, b) Improving institutional capacity through the 2SoKroG model, c) Transforming the 2SoKroG model into practice and raising public service quality levels in the field of social activation, d) Improving knowledge and skills for staff in the field of social activation.

Target groups:

a) Centers for social work, b) Employment services, c) Educational institutions, e) Local and regional development organisations, f) Social enterprises, g) NGOs, h) Local population in peripheral border areas, i) Line ministries.

An innovative approach to use of social activation model in public authorities leads to rise of different functional competencies and skills, potential for a reintegration of vulnerable groups into the labor market, integration into the various social systems and, consequently, affects health improvement in the cross-border peripheral area, which reduces the use of social transfers and increases their effectiveness.

Project acronym: HITRO (686.939,03 EUR ERDF)

Lead Partner: Grad Duga Resa

Project Partners: Občina Črnomelj, Gasilska zveza Črnomelj, Vatrogasna zajednica Grada Duge Rese

Common challenges in the program area encountered by the project partners are security challenges in the event of natural and other disasters. The specific challenges of the Slovenian side of the partnership is an high vulnerability to earthquakes. The territory of the municipality of Črnomelj is located in an area where earthquakes can cause major damage (VIII. degree according to the European markoseismological scale EMS). The Croatian side of the partnership respectively the area of the town of Duga Resa is increasingly exposed to floods and is situated in an area with a high probability of flood occurrence. The key idea of the project "HITRO - Joint cross-border protection and rescue operation team" is to create a cross-border partnership that will establish, train and equip a joint cross-border protection and rescue team that will be ready to react in the event of an catastrophic event and mitigate the consequences of natural and other disasters. Another important component of the project is raising awareness and educating citizens about how to behave in such situations and promoting responsible environmental behavior. The main objective of the overall project is to create a new standard of quality of services in the field of security and an integral co-operation of participants in the area of civil protection that crosses state borders in urban and rural areas of the border area. The main outcome of the project will be the creation and adoption of normative strategic / operational documentation for the border area, which includes the establishment of standard operational procedures for cross-border intervention of the team and an trained and equipped cross-border protection and rescue team for the security challenges that are increasingly encountered in the program area. The project, in addition to the responsiveness of civil protection forces to catastrophic events puts an emphasis on strengthening the population's resistance to natural and other disasters through raising awareness and educating people on how to behave in such situations. This specific project objective is intended to be achieved through direct and indirect promotional activities in the form of an promotional campaigns and lectures to be carried out in schools, kindergartens, homes for the elderly and disabled and associations belonging to the category of vulnerable groups (young, elderly, disabled and other).

Project acronym: ENRAS (440.300,00 EUR ERDF)

Lead Partner: Institut "Jožef Stefan"

Project Partners: Institut za medicinska istraživanja i medicinu rada, Gasilska zveza Slovenije

The ENRAS (ENSuring RAdiation Safety) project will develop CB services in the area of safety (civil protection) in the event of a nuclear or radiological accident. The common challenge of the PA, being addressed in the project, is ensuring adequately coordinated and safe joint interventions in the event of such accidents. The overall goal is the strengthening of CBC between entities operating in the area of safety in order to ensure more effective rescue and intervention in the event of such accidents, and to improve their capabilities and knowledge and establish a first system for safe joint interventions in the CB region. The project's main direct effects are intervention units with improved skills and competences, and a CB intervention structure in the event of such accidents. The direct beneficiaries of activities will be the units that by law are responsible for rescue in the event of such accidents (fire-fighters, police, medical staff, etc.), while the entire population will benefit indirectly. The planned approach of the project is directed towards ensuring proper training of intervention teams and establishing CB links between them and the administrative bodies responsible for such accidents, to increase the level of safety of the entire CB population and that of the wider region, which is also an earthquake zone. The CB effect of such accidents dictates the need for CB cooperation. The coordination, joint preparedness and field-readiness of SI and HR rescue teams are matters of particular importance. The unified and coordinated functioning of intervention teams and common tools (uniform guidelines and protocols, and the development of skills and competences for increased safety) represent an innovative approach that will be useful over the long term for joint preparedness in such circumstances. The inclusion of associated partners will provide the project with strategic guidance leading to a sustainable CB intervention structure in the event of such accidents.