

## PART A – Project summary

### A.1 Project identification

Project title	Sustainable heritage management of WAterway REgions			51 / 300 characters
Project acronym	SWARE			5 / 22 characters
Name of the lead partner organisation in English	Association Regio Water			
Specific objective	4.1. Improving natural and cultural heritage policies			
Project duration	Phase 1	Duration	30 Months	
	Phase 2	Duration	24 Months	
	Total No. months		54	

### A.2 Project abstract

The waterway regions involved in SWARE all share unique natural and cultural heritage: protected areas with rich biodiversity and a bunch of enticing historic cities and buildings connected to water. These amenities make them more and more attractive for leisure activities resulting in an ever growing number of visitors (30-50% increase in the past 10 years) which causes tensions with heritage conservation aspects. All SWARE partners recognize that the socio-economic future of their regions is fundamentally depending on finding the synergies between preserving the cultural and natural values for the next generations and at the same time "opening their gates" with a controlled visitor management. By demonstrating the economic value that a „green“ leisure industry can bring to a region, it can build strong public and political support both for heritage protection and sustainable valorisation thereof. What SWARE strives for is achieving a better balance between protection and sustainable exploitation of the valuable natural and cultural resources through improving the development programmes and policies of the partner regions, based on the transfer of good practices of other participating regions. Partners share the common bottleneck of fragmented governance structures without proper cooperation forms, therefore SWARE will stimulate the establishment of new participatory governance schemes having a much better potential to implement efficient policies contributing to the sustainable regional development. As an overall result, decision-makers, public and private players, as well as inhabitants will gain a better knowledge and commitment towards protecting and sustainably "using" their environmental and cultural assets.

1,744 / 2,000 characters

### A.3 Project budget summary

Programme Funding			Partner Contributions			Total Budget	
	Amount	Funding Rate	Public Contribution	Private Contribution	Total Contribution		
ERDF	1,160,537.30	85.00 %	204,800.70	0.00	204,800.70	Total eligible to ERDF	1,365,338.00
Norway	0.00	0.00 %	0.00	0.00	0.00	Total Norway	0.00
INTERREG Europe	1,160,537.30	85.00 %	204,800.70	0.00	204,800.70	Total INTERREG Europe	1,365,338.00
						Other Funding	0.00
						Grand Total	1,365,338.00

### A.4 Overview of project partners

N°	Organisation	Country	Partner Budget		
1	Association Regio Water	NL	Programme Funding	Partner Contribution	Total
			382,494.90	67,499.10	449,994.00
2	TIPPERARY COUNTY COUNCIL	IE	Programme Funding	Partner Contribution	Total
			220,001.25	38,823.75	258,825.00
3	Metropolitan City of Milan	IT	Programme Funding	Partner Contribution	Total
			182,920.00	32,280.00	215,200.00
4	Pons Danubii European Grouping of Territorial Cooperation	SK	Programme Funding	Partner Contribution	Total
			130,672.20	23,059.80	153,732.00
5	Vidzeme Planning Region	LV	Programme Funding	Partner Contribution	Total
			137,283.50	24,226.50	161,510.00
6	Province of Zuid-Holland	NL	Programme Funding	Partner Contribution	Total
			107,165.45	18,911.55	126,077.00

## Partner 4

Partner role in the project	Partner		
Name of organisation in original language	Európske zoskupenie územnej spolupráce Pons Danubii (SK), Pons Danubii Korlátolt Felelősségű Európai területi Együtműködési Csoportosulás (HUN)		
			147 / 200 characters
Name of organisation in English	Pons Danubii European Grouping of Territorial Cooperation		
			57 / 200 characters
Department/unit/division (if applicable)	n.a.		
			4 / 200 characters
Legal status	Public body or body governed by public law	Type of partner	EGTC
Countries represented	Hungary (MAGYARORSZÁG) Slovakia (SLOVENSKO)		
Address	Námestie generála Klapku 1		
			27 / 200 characters
Town	Komárno	Postal code	945 01
	7 / 200 characters		6 / 200 characters
Country	Slovakia (SLOVENSKO)		
NUTS 1 level	SLOVENSKO		
NUTS 2 level	Západné Slovensko		
NUTS 3 level	Nitriansky kraj		
Legal representative	Zoltán Bara		
			11 / 200 characters
Contact person 1	Zoltán Bara		
			11 / 200 characters
Phone office	+421 35 381 13 27	Mobile (optional)	+421 905 828 898
	18 / 200 characters		16 / 200 characters
Email	director@ponsdanubii.eu	Website (optional)	http://www.ponsdanubii.eu/
	23 / 200 characters		26 / 200 characters
Contact person 2 (optional)	Zsófia Domány		
			13 / 200 characters
Phone (optional)	+36 30 278 0546	Email (optional)	domanyzsofi@gmail.com
	15 / 200 characters		21 / 200 characters
Partner financed through the Investment for Growth and Jobs programme (article 96 (3d) of Regulation (EU) No 1303/2013)	No		

## B.2.4 Policy instrument 4

### B.2.4.1 Definition and Context

#### Definition

Please name the policy instrument addressed. For Structural Funds programmes, please provide the exact name of the Operational or Cooperation Programme concerned.

Cooperation Programme Interreg V-A Slovakia-Hungary 2014-2020

Please describe the main features of this policy instrument (e.g. objective, characteristics, priority or measure concerned) and the reason(s) why it should be improved.

The overall objective of the Cooperation Programme is to contribute to the EU2020 strategy and to foster economic, social and territorial cohesion. Specifically, the CBC Programme focuses on Nature and Culture in its Priority Axis I., 1.1: Conserving, protecting, promoting and developing natural and cultural heritage. The HU-SK border divides many organically cohesive heritage assets, the utilisation and protection of which is only possible in a harmonised manner (e.g. Komárom-Komárno fortification system). Based on that, the re-integration of the region's natural and cultural environment has already started through earlier CBC Programmes. Nevertheless, further integration is fundamental in fostering sustainable development. The related actions are still very rare and there is a general agreement among the stakeholders that integrated, cross-border management systems of natural and cultural heritage assets would result in a much more efficient and sustainable system capable of fostering cross-border cooperation. Furthermore, it is also considered that the potential of the regions' cultural and natural heritage is still not sufficiently harnessed for contributing to socio-economic development.

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Is this an operational/cooperation programme financed by Structural Funds? (Only select YES if this policy instrument is one of the Investment for growth and jobs or European territorial cooperation programmes approved by the EC)

Yes

Is the body responsible for this policy instrument included in the partnership?

No

Please name the responsible body and provide a support letter from this body

Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development of the Slovak Republic  
Department of Cross Border Cooperation Programme

118 / 300 characters

How do you envisage the improvement of this policy instrument (e.g. through new projects supported, through improved governance, through structural change)?

Through new projects supported under Priority 1. of the SK-HU Cross-border Co-operation Programme. By formulating new ideas based on the lessons learnt from SWARE and through the in-depth involvement of regional stakeholders, the effects of the Co-operation Programme could be multiplied and become more sustainable. This could be achieved specifically by establishing joint, cross-border heritage management structures/organisations (of local and regional public and private actors) and elaborating joint, targeted strategies linked to the revitalisation and valorisation of concrete heritage assets. Furthermore, the involvement of inhabitants and visitors especially to actions aiming at sustaining the unique natural value of the area is also to be based on co-operative actions between the two sides of the border. This, in the long-run can result in a sustainable, but sufficiently harnessed cultural and natural heritage stock, contributing to the raise of integrated territorial investments and to the socio-economic development of the region, in line with the targets defined in the policy instrument.

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Proposed self-defined performance indicator (in relation to the policy instrument addressed)

Number of hectares of better conserved surface area of habitats due to enhanced heritage management structures

110 / 200 characters

#### Territorial context

What is the geographical coverage of this policy instrument?

cross-border

What is the state of play of the issue addressed by this policy instrument in the territory? Why is this particular issue of relevance to the territory and what needs to be improved in the territorial situation?

The Hungarian-Slovakian border area is one of the longest internal land-locked borders of the EU and the Pannonian/Carpathian basin. The region is extremely rich in rivers, spanning the Danube itself and covering numerous other tributaries like Tisa, Ipoly, Bodrog, Sajó or Hernád. One of the biggest freshwater reserves of Europe is also situated here including thermal springs. Inseparably from these natural values, plentiful cultural heritage assets (water mills, wooden bridges, castles on lakes) are situated here, some of them being on the World Heritage tentative list or belonging to natural parks, Natura 2000 sites or Ramsar Convention areas. Both inhabitants and visitors use and rely on these assets actively while having short vacations for leisure and recreation purposes. These activities and behaviour trends do cross the frontier obviously as the geomorphological features of the programming region are not ending at the border. Thus, the need to safeguard, maintain and exploit the cultural and natural value of heritage sites also arises in a cross-border manner and calls the regional actors for joint actions. Based on that recognition, the integration of these cultural landscapes has already started thanks e.g. to the cooperation of national parks or joint cultural events through earlier CBC programmes. However, integrated and joint management structures are still very rare, and the quality of heritage related services and the number of private actors in the field are low. Also, bottom-up engagement of stakeholders and community awareness (apart from a few good examples) are in their infancy.

1,623 / 2,000 characters

Is this issue linked to the national/regional innovation strategy for smart specialisation (RIS3)?

No

### B.2.4.2 Partner relevance for policy instrument 4

#### Partner Relevance 1

PP4 Pons Danubii European Grouping of Territorial Cooperation

What are the partner's competences and experiences in the issue addressed by this policy? In case the partner is involved in several applications / projects, please justify this multiple involvement.

The organisation gathers local municipalities in the cross-border area from both sides of the border and creates and implements joint territorial development strategies. The EGTC has considerable experience in heritage related cross-border cooperation initiatives and projects such as creating a QR-code map on the heritage of Komárno city, organizing "Danube Days" (Europe for Citizens) workshops or leading the 'Crossing Borders by Information' project.

455 / 1,000 characters

What is the capacity of the partner to influence the above policy instrument? (e.g. in case the partner is not the policy responsible organisation, what are its links with this organisation? How is the partner involved in the design and implementation of the policy instrument?)

Being an EGTC, Pons Danubii is fully entitled and capable to submit applications to the CBC programme, thus improving the instrument through the actual implementation of its defined aims. Furthermore, the EGTC was involved as a consultancy in the preparation phase of the Programme and will also participate in its mid-term evaluation.

335 / 1,000 characters

How will the partner contribute to the content of the cooperation and benefit from it?

It is foreseen that the partner will contribute with experiences in heritage conservation and restoration, as well as the management of related infrastructure. It will benefit through gaining knowledge in particular on the field of innovative technologies and integrated management models. Pons Danubii will be particularly responsible for the coordination of the Analysis phase of SWARE, supporting the whole partnership in better organising this initial phase of implementation.

480 / 500 characters

In case several partners address the policy instrument and none of them is the policy responsible organisation, all of these partners must provide a letter of support from the relevant body.

#### B.2.4.3 Stakeholder group relevant for policy instrument 4

Please provide the indicative list of stakeholders to be involved in the project

Being an EGTC, Pons Danubii gathers seven local municipalities (Komárom, Tata, Kislőr, Oroszlány, Komárno, Kolárovo, Hurbanovo) and coordinates their collaboration. As such, these cities will be naturally part of the group. Further foreseen members are: Komárom-Esztergom County, Nitra region, the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development of Slovakia (as MA), SK Ministry of Finance, Széchenyi Programme Office, Hungarian Prime Minister's Office, Central European Service for Cross-border Initiatives (CESCI), European Institute of Cross-Border Studies, Central-Transdanubian Regional Development Agency, Fort Monostor Non-profit Ltd., Regional Development Agency Komárno, Tourism Destination Management (TDM) Organisations, Széchenyi István University, Edutus High School, Selye János University, Tatabánya District Office of Construction and Heritage, Győr-Ménfőcsanak District Office of Environment and Nature Protection, Száz Völgy Conservation Association.

987 / 1,000 characters

Role of these stakeholders in relation to the above policy instrument? (e.g. in the decision making process)

Each stakeholder has a substantial role in planning and development of the natural and built environment and heritage assets and most of them are the main target groups of the policy instrument itself. Apart from the member municipalities of Pons-Danubii, Komárom-Esztergom and Nitra Counties cover territories of the CBC with rich heritage assets. The Slovakian Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development, being the Managing Authority of the SK-HU CBC Programme is one of the main stakeholders. The SK Ministry of Finance is the certifying and audit authority of the Programme, while Széchenyi Programme Office is the responsible secretariat. Although CESCI and the European Institute of Cross-border studies are transnational organisations, they will be consulted due to their solid experience in the field. Hungarian National Asset Management Inc. and Fort Monostor Non-profit Ltd. will provide expertise in asset and environmental management. TDM organisations are important for better harnessing the heritage values for socio-economic development that could be a positive side effect of SWARE. The Central-Transdanubian Regional Development Agency, the Regional Development Agency Komárno and the higher education institutions have vast experience in the field of cross-border cooperation, heritage management and related service provision. Heritage conservation organisations will provide technical and legal background for the implementation of actions towards the policy instrument.

1,493 / 1,500 characters

How will this group be involved in the project and in the interregional learning process?

The establishment and operation of the group will be fully in line with the project level methodology of SWARE, while will also be in harmony with the already existing structures and communication channels of cooperation in the region. In case relevant, Pons Danubii will interlink the regular SWARE stakeholder meetings with its general meetings (held 2 times/year for the representatives of its member towns) and/or with the thematic meetings organised for experts and local authorities in various topics 2-3 times a year. The intense and regular stakeholder meetings will create a solid ground for the plausibility of the Action Plan in which each stakeholder will have its role and task defined. Pons-Danubii will have special focus on the intense involvement of the Ministry of Agriculture throughout project implementation, being the MA of the policy instrument. As for the Interregional Exchange Sessions, Pons Danubii will lay emphasis on the participation of the MA and will select the other stakeholder members to participate at the meetings in a way to reach the most relevant representation value for the given topic tackled by the given Exchange Session.

1,168 / 1,500 characters