PARTNER IDENTIFICATION FORM

936107231
Asociația de Dezvoltare Intercomunitară Harghita
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ADI Harghita
Miercurea-Ciuc, Strada Libertății nr. 5., Harghita, Romania
Romania
Centru
530140
Miercurea Ciuc
http://adiharghita.ro/
szabokaroly@hargitamegye.ro
0040 757 546 901

Profile

Type of organization	Non-governmental association
Is the partner organization a public body?	no
Is the partner organization a non-profit?	yes
Is your organisation: a public body at regional/national level; an association of regions; a European Grouping of Territorial cooperation; or a profit-making body active in Corporate Social Responsibility?	Our organization is a non-profit association of municipalities.

Accreditation

Has the organization received any type of accreditation before submitting this application?

Accreditation type	Accreditation reference
Not yet	

Background and experience

Please briefly present the partner organization. (e.g. its type, size, scope of work, areas of specific expertise, specific social context and, if relevant, the quality system used)

The name of our Association is **Asociația de Dezvoltare Intercomunitară Harghita**, short name is ADI Harghita. ADI Harghita was founded at the initiative of Harghita County Council, on 17 December 2009. Our members are municipalities from Harghita county- Transylvania, Romania (37 members).

The objective of Asociația de Dezvoltare Intercomunitară Harghita is the establishment and development of long term cooperation with the municipalities of Harghita county, implementation of projects at national and international level which contribute to the development and promotion of the county tourism and as well to the conservation of the protected areas, therefore Asociația de Dezvoltare Intercomunitară Harghita undertakes its activities in the field of tourism, culture and environmental protection.

Our main activities are:

- Development and promotion of tourism: increasing the capacity of accessing funds regarding the development and promotion of the tourism; developing the institutional framework in the tourism sector; organizing fairs, events and tourism exhibitions in on sustainable tourism activities in protected natural areas; preparation of publications, websites, magazines; participation in thematic projects (ex. Via Mariae) and promotion of cultural-religious tourism etc.
- Conservation of protected areas: creating studies in the field of protected areas; administration and protection of protected areas; developing programs on sustainable tourism activities in natural areas.

We organize events by ourselves or together with other partners from county in the field of tourism and culture, publish brochures about values of the county and we create programme guides for tourists.

What are the activities and experience of the organization in the areas relevant for this application?

We cooperate with several institutions and organizations in the field of youth and we organize workshops, events for young people regarding the tourism and culture. We have many years of experience related to event organization.

ADI Harghita gives particular attention to pupils and students from tourism education. The Association supports them with mentoring and we create opportunities for them to participate on exhibitions, workshops and exchange of experience in Romania and abroad.

ADI Harghita can contribute to all stages of the project:

- preparation, realization, dissemination and exploitation of projects' results
- selection and full preparation of the participants at local and regional level
- social research activity, in order to analyze strengths and weaknesses of the current situation in the local context
- organization of training workshops and activities to improve the level of personal and social empowerment of young people

Our association aims to develop projects related to entrepreneurial spirit of young people in tourism industry, culture and environmental protection, so the good practices of the project will be included in our future projects.

What are the skills and expertise of key staff/persons involved in this application?

Asociația de Dezvoltare Intercomunitară Harghita has 37 members and a team of 9 members of different educational background and curriculum. In our organization we have 1 executive director, 2 project managers, 1 project officer, 1 marketing specialist, 1 tourism consultant, 1 tourism agent, 1 accountant and 1 lawyer. Thanks to its experience and the expertise of its staff ADI Harghita has become a point of reference on the territory for tourism, culture and environmental protection in Harghita county. We work with many volunteers at our events that have different experience.

Karoly Szabo (project manager): executive director of the Harghita Community Development Association. University degree in Sociology. He has considerable experience in project management, strategic planning, business strategy and public procurement. He has experience in the field of communication and organization building, as well as in strengthening early NGO-s. He is the vice-president of the Transylvanian Carpathian Association (http://www.eke.ma/) and founder of the Ciuc Region Transylvanian Carpathian Association (nearly 200 members from 2010). He was the executive director of Ciuc Region Association of Entrepreneurs (http://csve.ro/) between 2011 and 2015 and also executive director of the IT Plus Cluster (http://csve.ro/) between 2013 and 2015. He is the member of the presidency of

Harghita Business Center - start-up and entrepreneurial center of Odorheiu-Secuiesc (http://hbcenter.ro/en/). Karoly Szabo is often invited to local schools and university to speak about topics for students (career, entrepreneurship, start-up culture etc.).

Zelma Bajko (project officer): three years experience in project management and event organization. University degree in Economics and further specialization (M.A) in Management and Leadership. She was assistant manager at Ciuc Region Association of Entrepreneurs (http://csve.ro/) between 2015 and 2016 and executive director between 2016 and 2018. At Ciuc Region Association of Entrepreneurs she worked in the SKILLS+ Soft skills development programme for micro-companies in ICT Sector project (Erasmus+ KA2 Strategic Partnerships for vocational education and training - https://skillsplusproject.eu/).

Legal representative	
Title	Mr
Gender	Male
First name	Karoly
Family name	Szabo
Department	Management
Position	Executive director
E-mail	szabokaroly@hargitamegye.ro
Telephone 1	0040 757 546 901

Contact person		
Title	Mr	
Gender	Male	
First name	Karoly	
Family name	Szabo	
Department	Management	
Position	Executive director	
E-mail	szabokaroly@hargitamegye.ro	
Telephone 1	0040 757 546 901	