

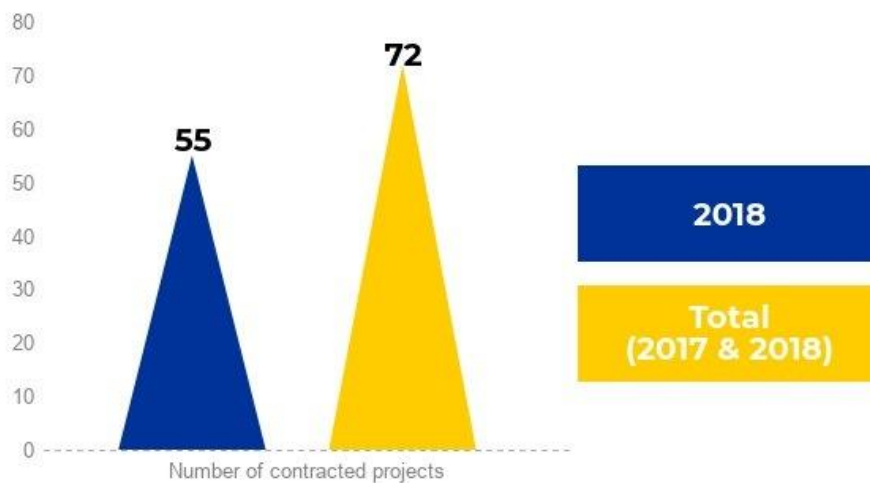
Citizens' Summary of the Annual Implementation Report (AIR) 2018

The Annual Implementation Report (AIR) of the Interreg-IPA Cross-border Cooperation Programme Hungary-Serbia for 2018 provides detailed insight into the Programme's operation between 1 January and 31 December 2018. The Citizens' Summary is a brief overview of this report.

The Programme bodies – the Managing Authority/MA (Hungarian Ministry of Foreign Affairs), the Serbian National Authority/NA (Serbian Ministry of EU Integration), the Joint Secretariat of the Programme/JS, the Joint Secretariat Antenna/JS Antenna, the First Level Control/FLC in Hungary and in Serbia, and the European Commission representative – the Desk Officer in charge of the Programme, contributed to a steady progress of the Programme implementation in 2018.

The key Programme's milestones reached in 2018 were the contracting of the remaining 55 projects out of 72 projects selected within the First (Strategic) Call and Second Call for Proposals, as well as the start of their implementation.

Contracted projects in 2018



In 2018, 30 projects' reports on the progress of their implementation were approved in the value of 1,361,839.60 EUR (1,152,801.50 EUR of IPA contribution). The EU contribution per each of the four Priorities of the Programme (Priority Axes - PA):

PA 1 - Improving cross-border water management and risk prevention systems: 492,439.57 EUR

PA 2 - Reducing traffic bottlenecks in the cross-border transport network: 357,816.65 EUR

PA 3 - Encouraging cooperation in tourism and cultural heritage preservation: 313,738.84 EUR

PA 4 - Enhancing SMEs' economic competitiveness through innovation-driven development: 42,478.97 EUR.

Spent EU (IPA) Contribution in 2018 per Priority



As a way of supporting the project implementation, several project-oriented events were organized within the Programme:

- **1 Beneficiary Seminar in Hungary**, organized by FLC Hungary in Szeged, on 6 February 2018. One such seminar FLC Hungary organized in late 2017;
- **1 Beneficiary Seminars in Serbia**, organized by FLC Serbia and the JS Antenna in Subotica, on 20 March, which gathered 87 attendees;
- **1 Lead Beneficiary Seminar in Hungary**, organized by JS in Szeged, on 12 June 2018, which gathered 78 attendees;
- **1 Lead Beneficiary Seminar in Serbia**, organized by JS and the JS Antenna in Subotica, on 21 March 2018, which gathered 72 attendees.



The Seminar for the Lead Beneficiaries from Hungary, held on 12 June 2018 in Szeged, Hungary





While the implementation of the projects of strategic importance for the Hungary-Serbia border region (the First Call for Proposals) was in full swing, the majority of the projects selected within the Second Call began their implementation.

In addition to the scheduled project activities, some projects went a step further and made their contribution to the EU-level initiatives of the European Commission. One such initiative was the online publication "[Connecting Cultures, Connected Citizens](#)", launched as a part of the celebration of the European Year of Cultural Heritage – 2018. The projects: [CommonHeritage](#), [Youth-Together](#), [LIVES](#), and [NEWTRAD](#), which nurture the cultural heritage of the border region, were featured in this publication. Some of these projects participated, alongside JS representatives, at a conference which Interact programme organized to mark the closing of the European Year of Cultural Heritage – on 5 December 2018 in Vienna, Austria.



Members of the projects CommonHeritage and Youth-Together and representatives of JS at the event marking the closure of the European Year of Cultural Heritage on 5 December 2018, in Vienna, Austria



The Programme celebrated the European Cooperation Day (EC Day), an annual event honouring the achievements of the territorial cooperation throughout Europe, with events throughout Europe on 21 September and the surrounding weeks. In 2018, the Programme partnered with seven projects – **ActiveGirls**, **CB-Basket**, **CommonHeritage**, **FOLKcoolTOUR**, **OPTI-BIKE**, **THEATRO**, **WateratRisk** with the goal to showcase to the citizens of the border region the cross-border cooperation in action. 15 public project events from the domain of culture, sports, entertainment and science, gathered approximately 5,000 attendees. The initiative received media attention and the events were featured in 18 media reports, including five TV reports.



Project events celebrating the European Cooperation Day 2018



The Programme participated in the Cross-border Cooperation Conference, which the Ministry of European Integration of the Republic of Serbia – NA of the Programme organized on 14 November 2018 in Belgrade.

Mr Viktor Tunić, Head of the JS, presented the up-to-date results and achievements of the Programme, as well as the planned future steps in the implementation of the Programme.

Additionally, during the Conference, the best projects in the field of cultural heritage preservation were awarded. The project [CommonHeritage](#) received an award for its contribution to the cultural heritage preservation.

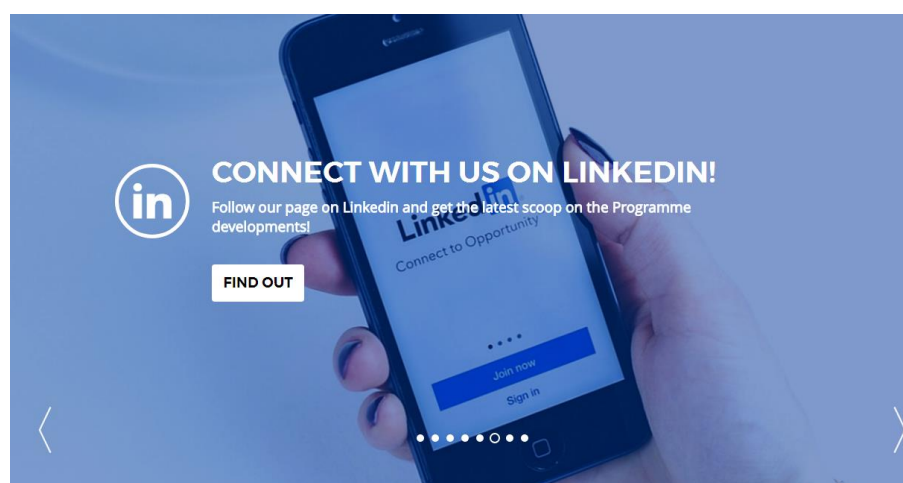
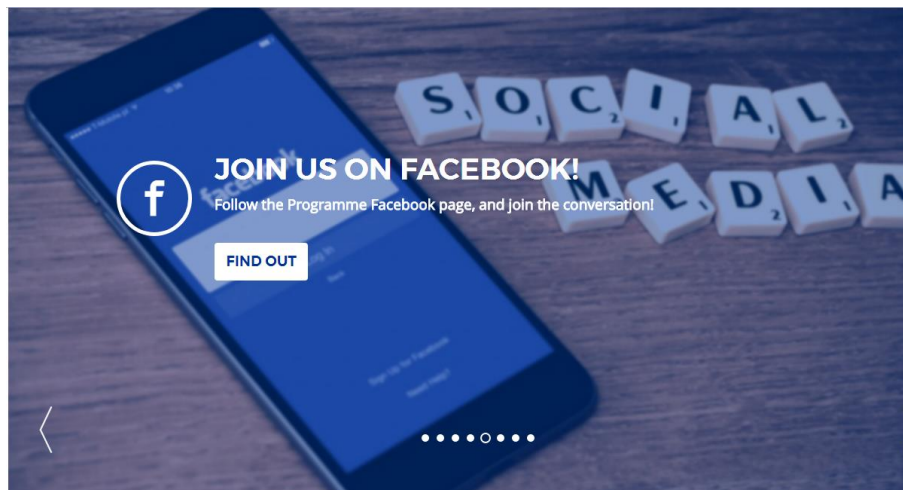


*Programme's participation at the Cross-border Conference on
14 November 2018 in Belgrade, Serbia*

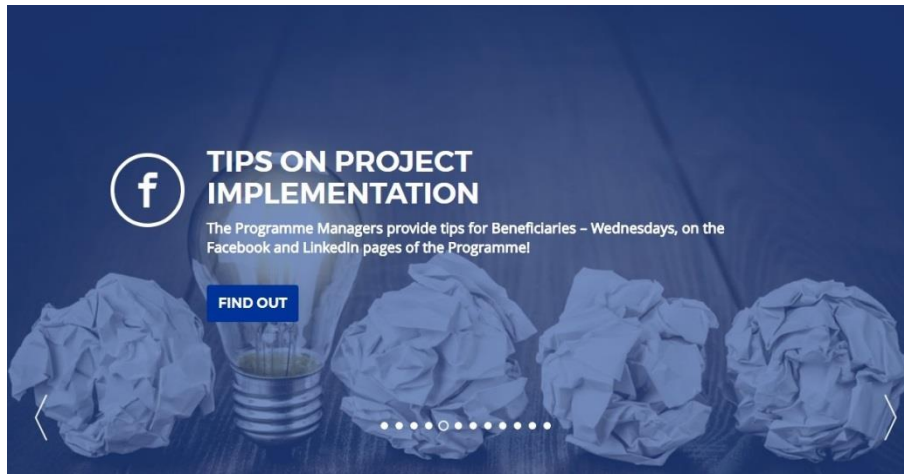


The Programme's website www.interreg-ipa-husrb.com remained the main communication hub of the Programme towards the general public, the interested potential applicants, the Beneficiaries and other Programme's stakeholders. It features information related to the Calls for Proposals, results of the Calls, selected projects, the [summaries of the contracted projects](#) and the Programme-related and EU-level news. Additionally, the website contains the photo and video content and [the infographics about Programme](#) and [the infographics about project implementation](#) that depict complex processes and information in a visual way that is easy to understand.

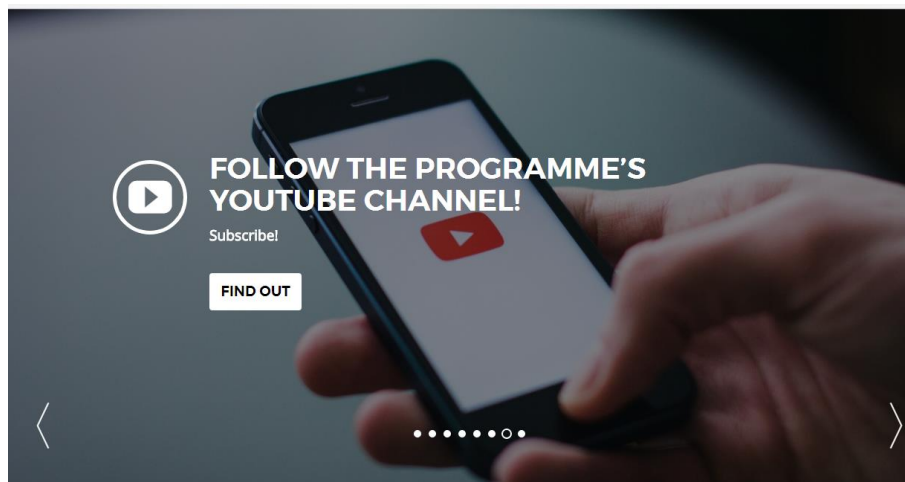
The [Programme's Facebook page](#) and [Programme's page on LinkedIn](#) featured all Programme- and project-related news and announcements, tips for the Applicants and Beneficiaries, the regional and the European-level news relevant to the Programme.



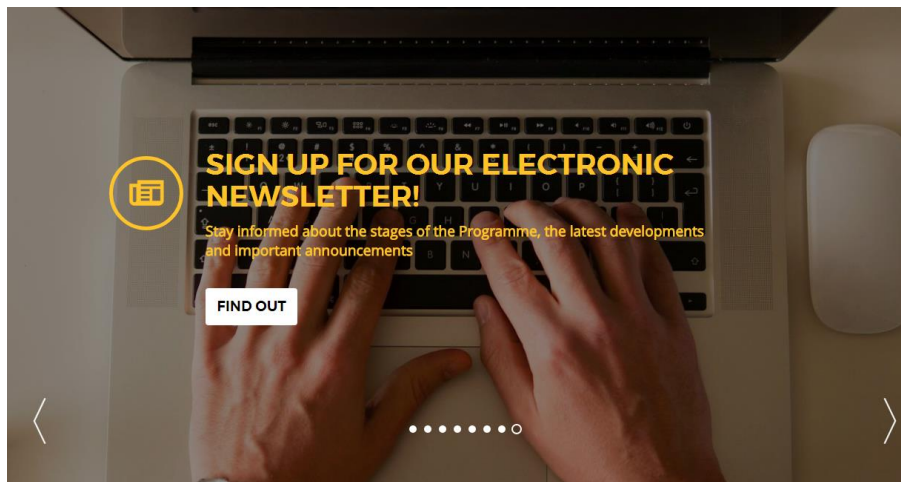
The Programme's pages on Facebook and LinkedIn feature the series *Programme Managers' Tips*, launched in 2016. In 2017, the series included posts related to the application phase the Second Call, as well as the contracting period of the Strategic calls and their implementation phase. The series continued in the first half of 2018, providing [project implementation tips](#).



The [Programme's YouTube channel](#) continued to be a video content-sharing platform in 2018, as well. In addition to the Programme-related content, it also featured the videos related to the project launches events and achieved results.



Four quarterly [Programme's Newsletter](#) issues were distributed in 2018, featuring the highlights about the Programme implementation, the latest developments and other important announcements.



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