



CARPATHIAN FOUNDATION-HUNGARY

The Carpathian Foundation-Hungary is an independent, non-profit, civic organization improving the quality of life of the communities living in the Carpathian region, preserving and utilizing the social, economic, ethnic, cultural and environmental values of the region.

As a unique cross-border organization the Foundation provides financial and professional assistance to NGOs, local-self-governments and communities for implementing their local development initiatives primarily in the Hungarian part of the Carpathian region (Borsod-Abaúj-Zemplén, Hajdú-Bihar, Heves, Jász-Nagykun-Szolnok and Szabolcs-Szatmár-Bereg Counties) and all over Hungary.

The Carpathian Foundation-Hungary encourages co-operation among NGOs, governmental and profit-oriented organizations in the following main areas:

- Rural community development;
- Human resource development;
- Preservation of cultural and environmental values;
- Development of social integration.

Our goal is to strengthen social consciousness and regional identity by highlighting inherent values of the region.

The Carpathian Foundation-Hungary is the member of the Carpathian Foundation Network (consisting of foundations from Hungary, Poland, Romania, Slovakia and Ukraine) that contributes to the development of the Carpathian region by providing grants and professional assistance to NGOs and local-self-governments operating in the bordering area of Hungary, Poland, Romania, Slovakia and Ukraine.

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THANKS TO OUR MAIN DONORS AND PARTNERS:

Autonómia Foundation, Charles Stewart Mott Foundation, Foundation for Development of Democratic Rights; EEA and Norwegian Financial Mechanism Office; Életfa Environmental Society; Labour Service of Heves County; Local Self Government of Heves County; Human resources Development Operational Program; Hungarian Telekom Otd. INNTEK Non-profit Ltd.; ITD Hungary Non-profit Corp.; Carpathian Foundation International; Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Hungary; University of Miskolc; National Civic Fund; Open Society Institute; National Employment Foundation (OFA); Hungarian Environmental Partnership Foundation; Robey Family Foundation; RomNet Media Foundation; Social Renewal Operational Program; Gender Studies and Equal Opportunities Center, University of Miskolc.

*Carpathian BRIDGE
– Best Rural Initiatives
as a Gateway
to Europe*

*Supporting the Best
Local Development
Initiatives*

SERVING THE REGION
FOR 15 YEARS



www.karpatokalapitvany.hu

THE GOAL OF THE PROGRAMME

One of the objectives of the Carpathian Foundation-Hungary is to support local civil organizations and municipalities in North-Eastern Hungary (in Borsod-Abaúj-Zemplén, Hajdú-Bihar, Heves, Jász-Nagykun-Szolnok, Nógrád, Szabolcs-Szatmár-Bereg Counties) to implement their innovative ideas on improving the sustainable development and living conditions of the communities in the region.

For this objective we launched a supportive development & co-operative programme for civil organizations and local-self-governments which aims to

- improve their skills and capacities to design and manage development projects
- empower and help them in their efforts to have better access to development funds and opportunities
- assist them to become more efficient organizations and act as development catalyzators in their communities.

THE THREE OBJECTIVES OF THE BRIDGE PROGRAMME:

- **we provide technical assistance**

Free professional and technical assistance to the participating organizations to facilitate them to draw up their development ideas into concrete projects and prepare their project proposals for absorbing European Union and bigger development funds

- **we provide own contribution support**

We provide 100% of the financial own contribution required from the partner organization; in terms of the whole project this can be up to 75% of the whole required own contribution

- **we provide quality assurance services to the winning projects**

As a partner organization we help to put winning projects into practice in order to ensure the quality of the required work (mainly administrative support).

HISTORY OF THE PROGRAMME

We launched the Carpathian BRIDGE Programme in 2005 with the support of the Charles Stewart Mott Foundation.

In 2006 in co-operation with the Open Society Institute we started a sub-project called Roma BRIDGE Programme involving 14 Roma organizations.

In 2007 we revised the Programme in order to enable the participating organizations, to have access to the funds of the New Hungary Development Plan 2007-2013 and other bigger EU or any kind of development funds in partnership with us.

ACHIEVEMENTS

Up to 2009 from among more than 100 requests we funded 23 initiatives of 29 organizations that in total amounts to 46,909 USD.

Among others the BRIDGE Programme is proud of creating jobs in the Cserhát area (the most underdeveloped area of Hungary); establishing a community centre for the Roma of Debrecen; focusing public attention on the economic and touristic potential of the River Tisza by organizing touristic and eco-events inviting people from the whole region.

In 2006 the first initiative we funded, the 'Szanticska Traditions & Employment Programme' was awarded the 'Equal Opportunities Prize' of the National Development Office.



THE ORGANIZATIONS WE FUNDED FROM 2005 TO 2009:

- Szanticska Creative Union
- North-Eastern Hungary Regional Human Resources Development & Training Centre
- Szabolcs-Szatmár-Bereg County Rural Tourism County Association
- SOSNA Civil Association (Slovakia)
- Civil Initiatives in the Republic of Slovakia (Slovakia)
- Municipality of Heves County
- Red Cross Hungary Heves County Office
- Kaptárkö Eco Club
- Microregion Medves (Slovakia)
- Medvesalja Microregion Association
- Életfa Eco Club
- Inntek Non-profit Ltd.
- Foundation for Nyírbátor
- Eastern Hungary Organic Solutions Association

ROMA BRIDGE PROGRAMME

- Habeas Corpus Eurocentre Association
- National Association of Roma Community Developers
- 'AMARO TRAJO' Our Life for the Roma Culture Foundation
- Fort the protection of Roma Women Public Association
- EU-Roma National Association
- For the Recreation of Béke-settlement Association
- Jászság Roma Civil Rights Organization
- Roma Flame Association
- Bagamér Roma Association
- Körösszakál Roma Democratic Association
- Roma of Hajdú-Bihar County Association
- Lungo Drom Roma Civil Protection Association Püspökladány
- Lungo Drom Roma Civil Protection Association Sáp
- Lungo Drom Roma Civil Protection Association Berettyóújfalu



DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES

For a more efficient co-operation with our partners, we constantly search for new opportunities to join civil or state development projects in the region. We are providing project development assistance to organizations in the frame of the Most Underdeveloped Microregions Programme of the National Development Agency..