

PROGRAMMING PERIOD 2007-2013

ADMINISTRATIVE IMPLEMENTATION PROCEDURE OF TRANSNATIONAL COOPERATION (TNC) UNDER LEADER AXIS

SECTION A: **COUNTRY SPECIFIC DETAILS**

1. Name of the programme:

New Hungary Rural Development Programme (NHRDP)

2. Number of Local Action Groups (LAGs):

95

3. Axes covered by LAGs:

Principally axis 3 and 4. Partly axis 1 and 2.

4. Axes and measures covered by TNC projects:

Measure code 421 - TNC projects can cover every axis of the New Hungary Rural Development Programme.

5. Total RDP budget for all the four axes (including EU+ public+ private expenditure):

EUR 8,213,072,087

Total budget for Leader Axis:

EUR 417,338,049

Of which:

a. EU Funding: EUR 209,321,387

b. Public funding: EUR 63,855,582

c. Private funding: EUR 144,161,080

SECTION B: PROGRAMMING AND IMPLEMENTATION OF TRANSNATIONAL COOPERATION PROJECTS

1. FINANCIAL ASPECTS

Budget for TNC projects (Total public funding: EU + public)	The total budget allocated for measure 421 amounts to EUR 27,317,698.
Responsibility for the management of the Budget (MAs or LAGs)	From 2012 the TNC budget is managed centrally by the Ministry of Rural Development.
Special budget for the preparatory technical support of TNC projects	<p>In the frame of Technical Assistance the Hungarian National Rural Network allocate budget for general, horizontal preparation and the exploration of the possible interterritorial and international cooperations without any linkage to any specific co-operation project financed under 421 measure.</p> <p>The amount is in the order of EUR 6,000. A guideline related to the use of budget specifically allocated to technical preparation of inter- territorial and international projects is prepared by the Hungarian National Rural Network.</p>

2. PROGRAMMING ASPECTS

Local Development Strategies and TNC	Local Action Groups may integrate possible fields of cooperation and cooperation actions into the LEADER Strategy
Way of selecting cooperation projects	<p>From 2012 an ongoing application period will take place. The application is to be submitted in paper form by post to the competent regional office of ARDA.</p> <p>The condition for the submission of the grant application to the ARDA is the presence of the certification given by the MA. The certification is issued by the MA if the feasibility study meets the requirement.</p> <p>If the grant application is submitted to the ARDA without the certification given by the MA, the application is rejected.</p> <p>The ARDA is making the formal verification of the application and send the request for missing documents.</p>
Main topics of TNC proposed for the 2007-2013 programming period	The evaluation of projects has not been completed yet, but it appears that the majority of TNC projects concerns visits and events.
Cooperation with third countries	There is no restriction regarding the countries with which LAGs may cooperate.
Maximum/minimum number of TNC projects per LAG	No indication concerning the maximum number of TNC projects per LAG has been established.

3. COMMON PROVISIONS FOR TNC PROJECT APPROVAL

Eligibility criteria for cooperation projects	<p>The NHRDP specifically mentions four criteria:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Territorial eligibility; • Organisational eligibility; • Development actions should be jointly implemented by the two (or more) partnering regions, and the related outcomes are to be shared by the target groups of both (all the) regions, • Jointly implemented activities should invariably target the accomplishment of the objectives of axes 1, 2 and 3.
Information about procedures of approval and implementation of TNC projects	Presently the Paying Agency issues the project approval.
Selection criteria for cooperation projects	<p>Selection criteria for cooperation projects:</p> <p>The selection of the cooperation projects is based on the following factors:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The number of local communities and people involved in the cooperation project, • The expected outcome of the cooperation, • The sustainability of the cooperation
Eligible activities of measure 421 Cooperation	<p>Within the framework of the measure, only the following activities can be supported:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • investment type project, • jointly prepared and implemented activities, • jointly operated organisations, • preparation and organization of joint publications, training and educational events-including seminars, conferences • institutional exchange, twin city arrangements through exchange of program managers and staff.
Typical examples of eligible costs for TNC projects	From 2012 there is no eligible costs list for TNC projects. Only a negative costs list is attached to the TNC regulation.
Specific documents concerning the cooperation partners required from LAGs	Project applications have to include a Cooperation agreement. Hungarian LAGs refer to the form provided in Guide for the implementation of the measure cooperation under the Leader axis of Rural Development Programmes 2007-2013 (rd12/10/2006 rev3).
The approval process of TNC applications	At present, TNC projects are approved by the Paying Agency. Before the final approval of the PA, the Managing Authority issue the certificate related to the feasibility study.

List of abbreviations:

EU:	European Union
LAG:	Local Action Group
LDS:	Local Development Strategy
MA:	Managing Authority
MS:	Member State
PA:	Paying Agency
TNC:	Transnational Cooperation
RDP:	Rural Development Programme