



REGIONAL ACTION PLAN

Development Organization, Hungary

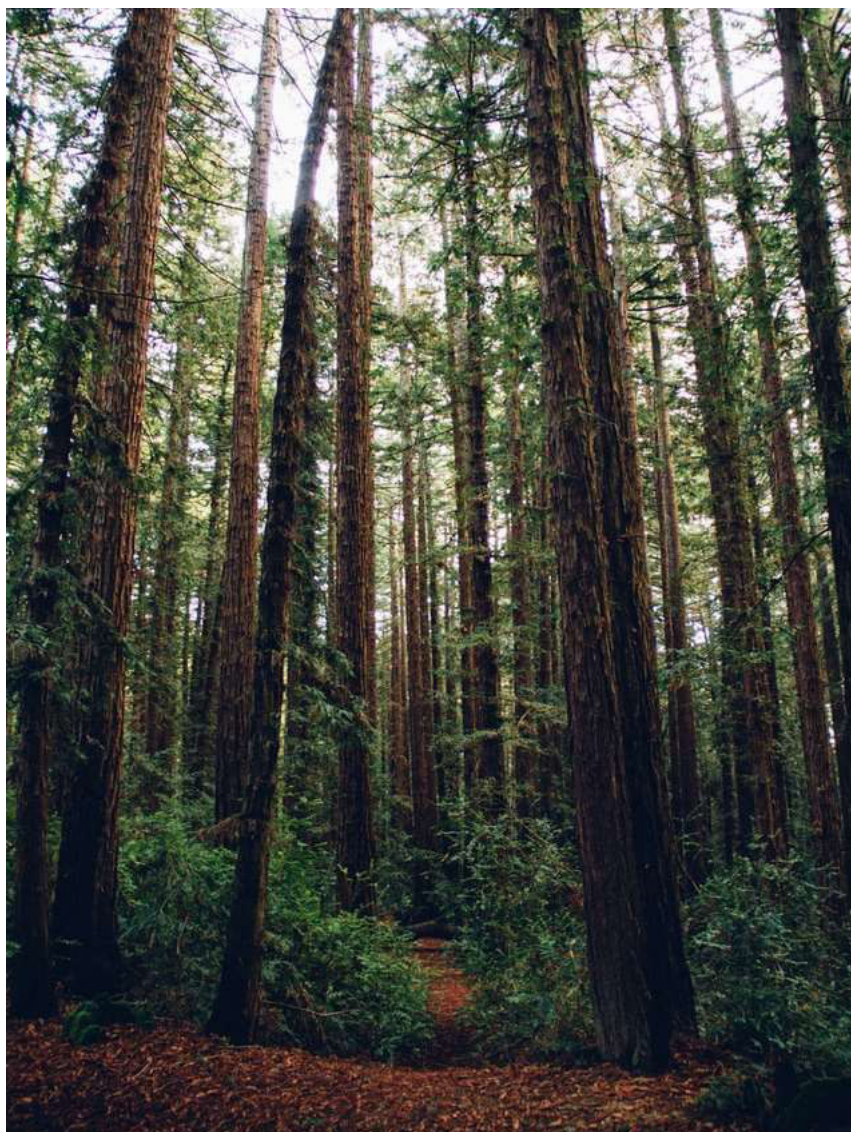


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Part I – General information

Project *OptiWaMag*

Partner organisation: *Development Organization*

Other partner organisations involved (if relevant): _____

Country: *Hungary*

NUTS2 region: _____

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Part II – Policy context

The Action Plan aims to impact:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Investment for Growth and Jobs programme
	<input type="checkbox"/>	European Territorial Cooperation programme
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Other regional development policy instrument

Name of the policy instrument addressed:

Livable communities - TOP_Plusz-1.2.1-21

Original language: *„Élhető települések” című, TOP_Plusz-1.2.1-21 kódszámú felhívás*

1.1. Policy instrument

The objective of the OptiWaMag project is to “improve Structural Funds’ policies and implementation related to waste management and enhance regional and interregional ecosystems. OptiWaMag recognises that effective, policy shaping outcomes require enhanced cooperation between involved stakeholders. The policy project will thus incorporate interregional collaboration, involving a wide range of expert stakeholders, which comprises exchange of good practices, mutual learning, peer assessment, knowledge transfer, targeted coaching, and collective, co-designed policy development. It will deliver its results through interlinked project activities and outputs during 3 sequential steps: 1) Identification and Analysis; 2) Interregional Mutual Learning; 3) Knowledge Transfer and Action Planning. Steps 1 and 3 also include assessments of policy enhancement and learning performance. Wide dissemination of good practices and lessons are the backbone of OptiWaMag. The primary outputs include: - The project self, peer and expert assessment tools and findings focused on regions’ strengths, weaknesses, policy priorities and policy enhancements - A Framework Strategy for developing evidence based and co-designed policies, programmes, and implementation methods and for identifying the best method to improve policy instruments; - 6 Regional Action Plans (enhanced by the Framework Strategy, pre and interim self-assessments and Advisory Board case study) to enhance the implementation of regional policy instruments across Europe.”(OptiWaMag Application Form)

OptiWaMag promises to improve management structures (governance) of Hungarian ERDF Fund. These improvements will be complemented at strategical level as the Territorial and Settlement Development Operational Programme (TOP) aims to stimulate the nationwide economies in Hungary, funded by Regional Development Fund.

Its most important relevant priorities are the sustainable urban development and community development. TOP 2.1 has the objective of focusing on ‘Creating Green City’ within the Territorial and Settlement Development Operational Programme with activities to enhance the green infrastructure in the urban spaces (parks, playgrounds etc.) preventing the waste generation and increasing the awareness of waste management. The program (TOP_Plusz-1.2.1-21) needs to be fine-tuned in order to increase regional synergy and national cooperation. The aim is to increase the focus on the waste management-related solutions for the urban spaces with the increase of green solutions. The aim of the guidance is to increase the focus on the recycling on the waste management for the urban spaces with the increase of green solutions: for example how to install and use the recycling bins in parks, and how to communicate about it.

1.2 Background situation in the waste management sector

In Hungary the waste management sector faces a number of challenges. Changes in consumer habits generate huge amounts of industrial and household waste. Today's trends, which involve a higher use of critical raw materials, such as in the manufacture of batteries and solar cells, make it urgent to extract valuable raw materials from waste. The waste sector as a whole, taking into consideration all levels of the waste hierarchy (prevention, reuse, recycling, energy recovery, landfilling), is a significant branch of the national economy, both in terms of employment and income-generating capacity. In addition, the sector can be considered a major intermediary in industrial value chains as it contributes to the generation of secondary raw materials that can be sold to industries and thus help to achieve a circular economy through the collection, treatment and processing of waste.

1.3. Main findings and conclusions of the OptiWaMag research work

In the framework of the OptiWaMag project a survey was launched in the beginning of 2020 and distributed to the majority of the Hungarian waste management experts, including representatives of the Ministry, municipalities, largest waste management operators, NGOs and others. The respondents provided full answers to all survey questions.

The results of the survey – strengths and weakness - have been discussed on the stakeholders meeting.

The strengths regarding the current system are the followings:

- **Good infrastructure**
- We can **collect the waste separately** in the street, the neighbors are teaching each other on the waste selection
- My location has many **opportunities for self-development**
- Very **few selective trash bins**
- poor performance, **lack of transparency**, daily problems
- It could be **more environmentally** friendly
- The nationalization of public service providers has severely **reduced the efficiency and the motivation of the sector**. Changing, updating legislation and facilitating the transition to a circular economy has been a long-standing concern of state administration. Green Public Procurement is another missing piece of the puzzle.
- In my local (Szolnok) , **there is outdated manual picking station**, not **enough work force**, no waste management system waste collection and handling, no treatment , all goes to landfill, insufficient collection times
- I think there is room for improvement in terms of selective waste collection from households and from public spaces (parks, bus stations etc)
- Several **procedures are missing**, **collection improvement** is needed

The weakness of the current system - what to change – are the followings:

- Choosing battle, previous experience, **agility**
- **Financing Provision** of development resources Regional development concept
- Deposit fee, product fee needs to **support and finance** (100% of it) the **environmental protection**, green public procurement
- **Rewarding system** for selective waste collection, **educational campaign** to public, changing policies for biggest waste producers (eg. Food industry)
- Accepting EU principles. Free market. Financial frame set.
- **Awareness programs, rewarding program,**
- Education
- Number of **types of solid separate wastes** that is collected from households, waste to energy ratio of total waste, bio waste tonnage collected.
- **Biological waste collection** should be **separated**. **Payment of empty of collection bind should be defined based on weight**, not flat price. **More motivation** towards selective collection
- **More selective waste bin, more information** about its important

For a detailed analysis of the survey result (strengths and weaknesses) from the self-assessment, the Hungarian partner developed:

- Two spider diagrams: one presenting the needs (interpreted as the priority interventions) and the other one presenting the strengths of the regions integrating the Interreg OptiWaMag project;
- The SWOT analysis, based on the results of survey, as well as analysis of policy documents and literature.

The OptiWaMag research results and the stakeholders' survey allows to draw conclusions about the waste management system of Hungary as a whole, as well as waste management operation in individual municipalities. Research results helped to reveal, which are the main strengths and weaknesses, as well as priorities of the waste management system.

The list of the identified problems and possible solutions of the waste management system has been reviewed and was served as a good basis for further discussion about improvements of the waste management system in Hungary, as well as have use for policy makers.

Separate collection, recycling and re-use of the waste play an important role for ensuring availability and sufficiency are one of the basically obstacles for the circular economy of resources, which is a priority of the European Union for the nearest future. To this end, a number of crucial long-term choices now need to be made for improving the waste management and recycling. The results of the OptiWaMag project will be a great addition and a source for new ideas for introducing new solutions and taking over good practices from partner countries to promote the development of an efficient national and municipal waste management systems in Hungary.

1.4. Exchange of experience and good practices

The self-assessment research has been the main activity during Phase 1 and thus discussed at several of the OptiWaMag interregional meetings. The results have been presented in reports and meeting with stakeholders. From the exchange of experience with the other partners that took place on 4th December, 2020, it has been identified that the Hungary can learn the most from Greece. Hungary's challenges related to waste management in parks and the adoption of circular economy principles have some significant similarities and similar challenges are being faced.

Regarding the good practices, the Development Organization has found that practices relating to waste reduction through reuse activities are the most inspiring for its region, such as the good practice from Greece we have learned about the National Waste Management Plan and Regional Waste Management Plan of Thessaly to 2030, which both have a lot of similar priorities and problems to tackle as in Hungary. Also from Greece: PADYTH SA – Development of Separate collection (current & new)). The good practice on solid waste management in Thessaly could be very useful for learning. Relevant good practices from Italy: “Smart Ecoisle” and “Home composting”. Good practices of Portugal: “Lixo Sustentavel” on waste sorting and home composting. And Swedish good practices on food waste collection from households through separate bag (recycled) collection and reuse of products through collection at recycling centers. Development Organization also found some good practice outside the Optiwamag project: in Slovenia, within the Interreg Europe – the project name: PERFECT: Šmartinski Park, Northern green wedge of Ljubljana and from USA: Planning for Success: Ten Tips for Designing Public Space Recycling Programs

For deeper insight on policy learning and knowledge transfer of existing waste management approaches in each partner region, an Interregional OptiWaMag project partners' extra meeting – Seminar on Good Practice took place on May 27, 2021. This GP seminar was attended by GP holders which presented their GPs and answered participants' questions. This also provided opportunities to get an additional information and learn details about GPs of other project partners.

Part III – Details of the actions envisaged

2.1. ACTION

Guidance for Designing Public Space Recycling Programs needs to be included into the relevant OP, and the policy change will be monitored. **As the policy change has already been happened and reported in phase 1, so the results of the policy change will be monitored, and the territorial impact will be measured.**

The background

Development Organization and Ministry of Finance agreed to expose a best practice in the field of waste collecting management in urban spaces, parks. The guidance agreed to be included into the upcoming Territorial and Settlement Development Operational Programme (TOP) as a relevant priority for the sustainable urban development and community development.

The aim of the guidance - composed in the framework of Optiwamag - is to increase the focus on the recycling on the waste management for the urban spaces with the increase of green solutions: for example how to install and use the recycling bins in parks, and how to communicate about it.

The policy change was achieved working closely together with stakeholders and, especially, the Ministry of Finance that is responsible for developing and implementing the Territorial and Settlement Development Operational Programme. The Development Organization as OptiWaMag team member organized several stakeholder meetings with the Ministry of Finance having an excellent opportunity to reach out to respective professionals and experts. The aim was to increase the focus on the waste management-related solutions for the urban spaces with the increase of green solutions.

During discussions with the Hungarian stakeholders and according to the self-assessment results one of the top weaknesses/challenges of the waste management system was to develop the waste collection system in public places and parks. During the discussions the Development Organization and the Ministry of Finance agreed that a well-structured guidance will be useful for municipalities in case of future park developments.

1. Action

TOP_Plusz-1.2.1-21 has been published in December 2021 with the name of Livable Communities. The OP is for local municipalities in Hungary. The eligible projects within this

OP are: development of water management, green and blue infrastructure for the development of settlements, economic and community development of municipally-owned buildings, bicycle infrastructure, cultural, sports and other public space development, traffic safety, traffic calming, public transport related development, landfill reclamation and brownfield site remediation. The budget of the OP is 700 million EUR.

Fejlesztési Egyesület achieved, that the OP is containing the guidance for “planning the waste collection system of public places and parks” As a result of the achievement, all the applicants in this OP will take the guidance - composed in the frame of OptiWaMag - into account when they are renovating or planning a new public place or park.

The guidance contains 10 points of recommendation that helps get people to use bins correctly in parks:

Recommendations		
1. Recycling Must Be Simple and Convenient	4. Use Restrictive Lids	7. Be Consistent
2. Align with The Waste Stream	5. Use Clear, Simple Labels and Signage	8. Keep Bins Clean and Well Maintained
3. Place Recycling and Trash Bins Together	6. Choose the Right Bin	9. Ensure Communication Strategy
		10. Be Prepared to Improve

The guidance is under the topic of “2.3. What technical and professional requirements must the project meet?” The OP contains the guidance for “planning the waste collection system of public places and parks” with the link to Optiwamag’s library (on the Interreg Europe website)

6. Javasoljuk az alábbi jó gyakorlatok, szakmai iránymutatások, ajánlások figyelembe vételét:

- Hazai jó gyakorlatok: LIFE-MICACC PROJEKT¹⁰
<https://vizmegtartomegoldasok.bm.hu/storage/dokumentumok/Adaptacios%20utmutato.pdf>
- VGT2: https://www.vizugy.hu/vizstrategia/documents/10B9EE2E-D889-4C94-815D-5CB2D53C846A/8_2_melleklet_Hidromorfologiai_es_Termeszetvedelmi_Jo_gyakorlatok.zip
- NWRM: Natural Water Retention Measures: - természetes vízvisszatartó megoldások:
<http://nwrn.eu/>
- Zöldinfrastruktúra: <https://www.hugbc.hu/hirek/zoldinfrastruktura-fuzetek-budapest-fovaros-onkormanyzata-megbizasabol/3936>
- Közös kincsünk a víz – szemléletformáló anyag:
https://mtvsz.hu/uploads/files/394x210_VIZ_gongvolt_szorolap_vegleges.pdf
- Nyilvános helyek, parkok hulladékgyűjtési rendszerének tervezéséhez:
https://www.interregeurope.eu/fileadmin/user_upload/tx_tevprojects/library/file_1614632638.pdf

The link:

https://www.interregeurope.eu/fileadmin/user_upload/tx_tevprojects/library/file_1614632638.pdf

Action - The results of the policy change will be monitored, and the territorial impact will be measured

Actions:

- Monitor the reshaped policy (TOP_Plusz-1.2.1-21), monitor and assess all the publicly available reviews
- Review the publicly accessible project proposals for the OP
 - Assess the territorial impact of the included guideline (planning the waste collection system of public places and parks)
 - Collect all information about the applications
 - Visit the application website
 - Search for announcements in the municipalities
 - Review the media, collect the relevant publication, announcements
 - Reach out the Ministry of Finance for follow up
 - Assess the projects
 - Collect and assess all the relevant projects
 - Read through the project proposals, sum the relevant information up
 - Check if the projects contains park recreation, park development activities
 - Assess the project proposals with relevant activities, how they used the guideline
 - Compose and compare the projects with relevant park development

- Monitor the park development proposals, focusing on the waste collection system

2. Players involved

The project was elaborated within the collaboration of Ministry of Finance and Development Organization. The Ministry of Finance is the central fiscal ministry of the Hungarian government and responsible for the relevant Operational Programme. Development Organization is focusing on improving separate waste management in urban spaces within the frame of Optiwamag.

- Development Organization
 - DO will monitor the OP and assess the territorial impact from the published project proposals

3. Timeframe

The deadline for submitting aid applications:

- 1st call: from 01.12.2021 until 14.01.2022
- 2nd call: from 23.05.2022 to 01.07.2022

Eligible entities:

- Local (municipal) government
- Municipalities (local or regional authorities)

Eligible activities:

- Development of municipal blue infrastructure (water management interventions)
- Development of green infrastructure in urban areas
- Community, cultural, sports infrastructure, ICT and smart municipal development
- Sustainable transport development
- Waste management, remediation

The maximum time allowed for the physical completion of a project is 42 months from its start.

Date	Activity
August 2022 – October 2022	Monitor the publicly available reviews <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the deadline for the 1st call is 14.01.2022

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The deadline for the 2nd call is 01.07.2022 <p>The activity starts after both call closes, in order to find all relevant publicly available data</p>
November 2022 – May 2023	<p>Assess the territorial impact</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assess the project proposals with relevant activities, how they used the guideline Compose and compare the projects with relevant park development queue up the projects based on territorial location Compare the areas with each other
June 2023 – July 2023	<p>Final reporting of the project</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Update the review and the assessment Compose the final report of the action plan

4. Costs

A total cost of 12000 EUR will be needed, in order to monitor the implementation of the TOP programme, assess the territorial impact from the published project proposals

Activity	Costs
<p>Monitor the publicly available reviews</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the deadline for the 1st call is 14.01.2022 The deadline for the 2nd call is 01.07.2022 <p>The activity starts after both call closes, in order to find all relevant publicly available data</p>	4000 EUR
<p>Assess the territorial impact</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assess the project proposals with relevant activities, how they used the guideline Compose and compare the projects with relevant park development queue up the projects based on territorial location 	5000 EUR

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Compare the areas with each other 	
Final reporting of the project <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Update the review and the assessment • Compose the final report of the action plan 	3000 EUR

Date: 2022. 7. 1.

Signature: 



Stamp of the organisation (if available): _____