



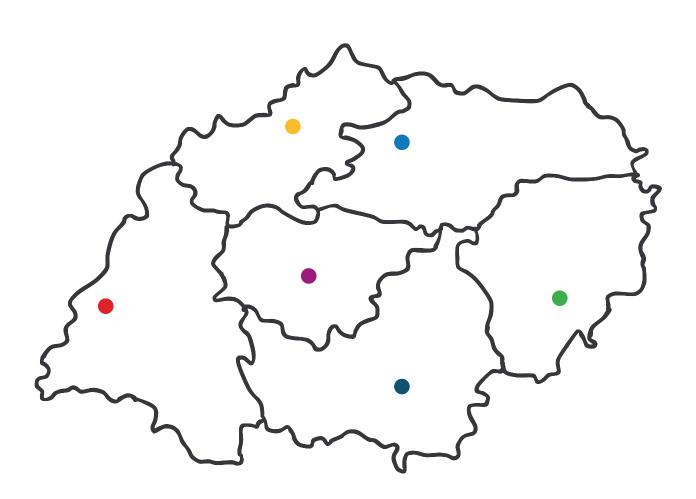




### 2025 October Issue

# North-West Region

The North-West Regional
Development Agency
as the Managing Authority for
the 2021-2027 North-West
Regional Programme



### The 2021-2027 North-West Regional Programme



The 2021–2027 North-West Regional Programme is a European funding instrument aimed at supporting the development of the North-West Development Region of Romania, which comprises the counties of Bihor, Bistriţa-Năsăud, Cluj, Maramureş, Satu Mare and Sălaj.

### BH BN CJ MM SJ SM

Its main objective is to foster **innovation** and **smart**, **sustainable** economic **growth** by reducing regional disparities and improving the standard of living through the **valorisation** of local **assets** and **diversity**.

# **€ 1.437.252.471,00**

The budget of the 2021-2027 North-West Regional Programme

# **Priorities**

A competitive region driven by innovation, digitalization, and dynamic businesses



A region with SMART urban and rural communities



P3 A region with environmentally friendly cities and villages



A region with sustainable multimodal urban mobility



P5 An accessible region



P6 An educated region



P7 An attractive region



P8 Technical Assistance



P9 STEP



# **Calls for Projects**

54

calls published

**€1.448.733.883,02** 

budget of the published project calls



of the budget of the 2021-2027 North-West Regional Programme

**€1.448.733.883,02** 

budget of the launched project calls

**54** 

calls launched

# **Submitted Projects**

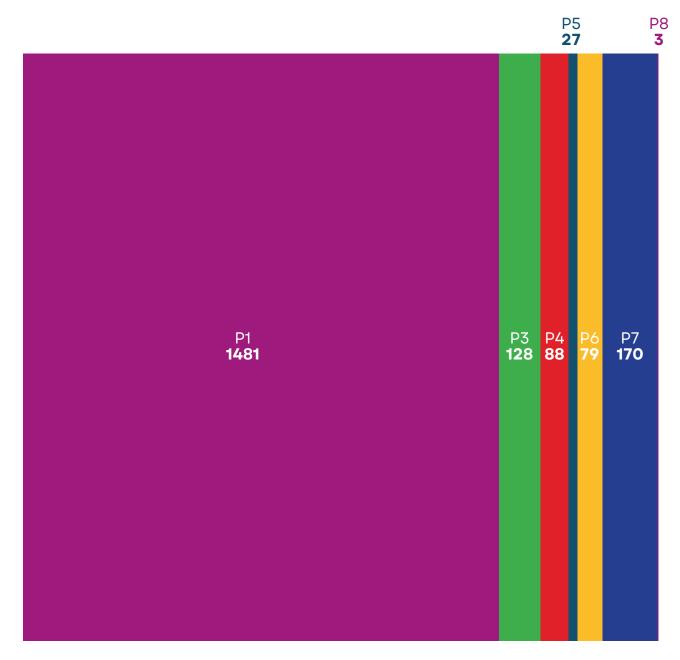
**1977** in total

**€** 4.533.150.551,19

Eligible budget of the submitted projects

315,40%

of the budget of the 2021-2027 North-West Regional Programme



of the budget of the 2021-2027 North-West Regional Programme

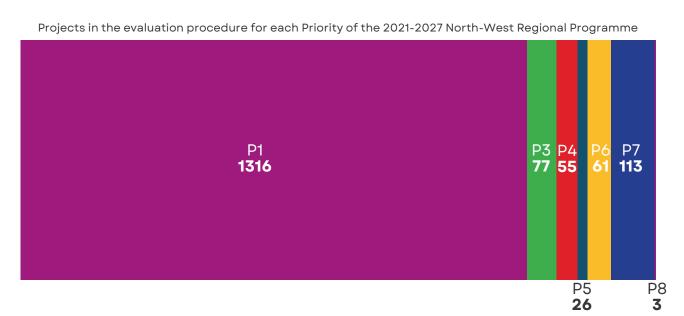
418,73%

€ 6.018.207.925,99
The total budget of submitted projects

### **Evaluation of Projects**

1652 in total





### **Projects in Contestation**

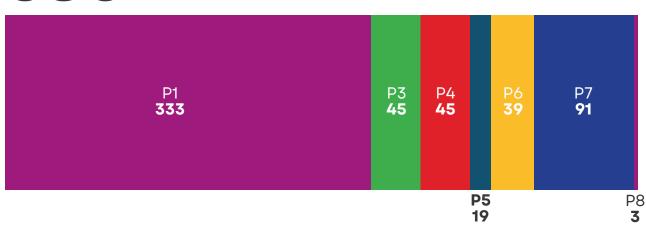
441 in total



**404** resolved pending **37** 

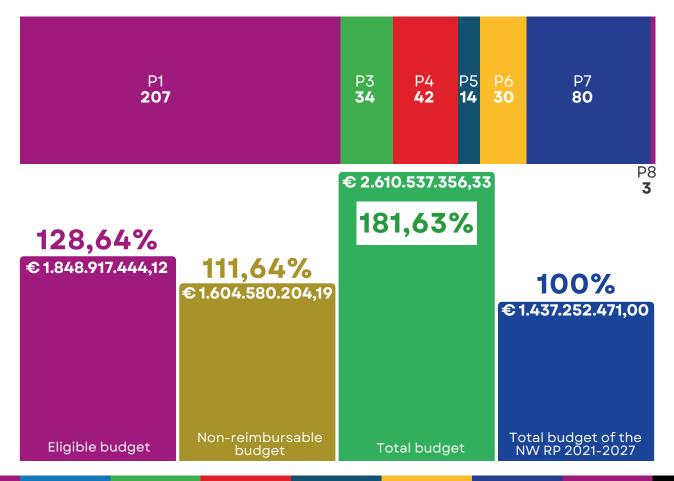
### **Projects in Contracting Procedure**

580 in total



### **Signed Contracts**

410 in total



# **Monitoring of Projects**

**277** monitoring visits in total





### Milestone indicator reports

686 milestone indicators in total

ongoing 29

118 239 achieved ahead of schedule	150 achieved with delay	150 not achieved
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### **Payments Made**

764 payments € 324.379.703,04

Total budget of payments made to the beneficiaries

22,56%

of the budget of the 2021-2027 North-West Regional Programme P1: **€ 32.723.361,05** 

P3: **€ 20.803.239,29** 

P4: **€ 73.689.251,36** 

P5: **€ 115.226.701,86** 

P6: **€ 25.709.209,34** 

P7: **€ 38.713.307,48** 

P8: € 17.514.632,67

#### **Payment Requests**

made to the European Commission

**6** payments

**€** 262.277.922,88

Total budget of expenditures declared to the EC (PR1, PR2, PR3, PR4, PR5, PR6)

18,24%

of the budget of the 2021-2027 North-West Regional Programme

P1: € 42.110.531,73, out of which € 24.087.012,24 are ERDF expenditures

P3: € 10.908.693,88, out of which € 9.272.389,78 are ERDF expenditures

P4: **€ 46.149.750,02**, out of which **€ 39.227.287,45** are **ERDF expenditures** 

P5: **€ 98.054.170,35**, out of which **€ 83.346.044,38** are **ERDF expenditures** 

P6: € 20.615.267,89, out of which € 10.307.633,95 are ERDF expenditures

P7: € 26.709.757,17, out of which € 22.703.293,48 are ERDF expenditures

#### **Payments**

made by the European Commission

**6** payments

€ 193.813.252,46

Total budget of payments received from the EC (PR1, PR2, PR3, PR4, PR5, PR6)

15,30%

of the ERDF allocation under the 2021-2027 North-West Regional Programme

P1: € 42.110.531,73, out of which € 24.087.012,24 are ERDF expenditures

P3: € 10.908.693,88, out of which € 9.272.389,78 are ERDF expenditures

P4: **€ 46.149.750,02**, out of which **€ 39.227.287,45** are **ERDF expenditures** 

P5: **€ 98.054.170,35**, out of which **€ 83.346.044,38** are **ERDF expenditures** 

P6: € 20.615.267,89, out of which € 10.307.633,95 are ERDF expenditures

P7: **€ 26.709.757,17**, out of which **€ 22.703.293,48** are **ERDF expenditures** 

1481
submitted projects
with a total eligible budget of
€ 1.246.358.541,05

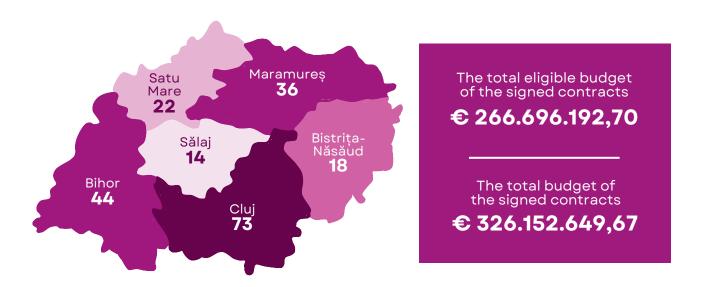
207 signed contracts

This priority marches for a more competitive and smarter Europe. It features Calls for Projects for SMEs, clusters, Smart Specialisation Parks and the private sector, in collaboration with public and academic counterparts.

Out of the **207** contracts secured through this priority, **17** pertain to the **Smart Specialisation Parks**, while the remaining **190** support the **private sector**.

Tender 121 - Digitalization of SMEs in the North-West Development Region - saw a high uptake with 477 submissions, highlighting the program's private sector appeal.





The North-West Regional Programme 2021-2027 is driving regional growth by supporting more than 200 SMEs across six counties, with almost €267 million in eligible funding already allocated and a total investment reaching €330 million. The contracts span sectors from manufacturing and robotics to medical innovation and green technology, reflecting the region's economic diversity and future focus. Projects funded range from new digital factories and automated production lines to hightech healthcare and sustainable materials, enabling local businesses to scale up, modernise, and create new jobs. With contract sizes from €125,000 to over €15 million, and new contracts being signed every week. These investments are strengthening the competitiveness of local businesses, accelerating technology adoption, and creating high-quality jobs, delivering direct benefits for communities and positioning the North-West region as a national and European leader in innovation-driven growth. This dynamic pipeline demonstrates the impact of EU funding in transforming regional economies, advancing the green and digital transitions, and building resilience for the future. As additional contracts are signed, the positive effects for the region's people, businesses, and economy will continue to grow.

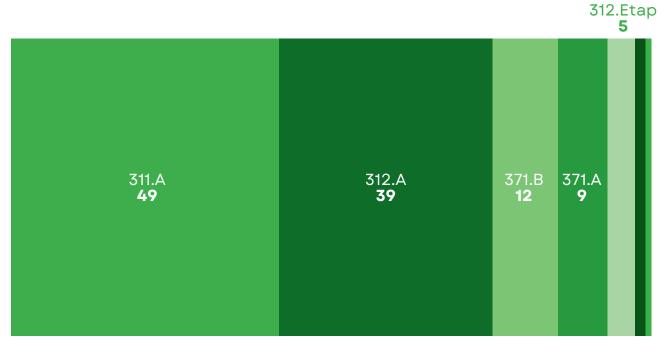


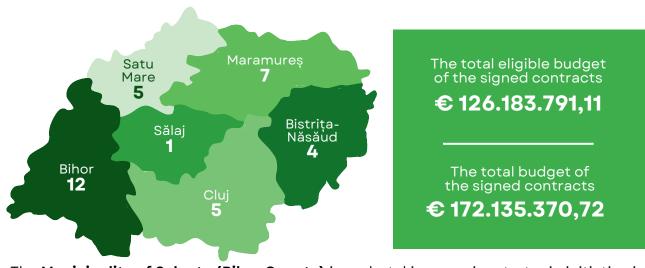


This priority marches for a greener Europe. It involves tenders targeting energy efficiency in housing, public buildings (including heritage sites), and renewable energy in rural areas. It also supports green cities and improved urban green infrastructure.

Out of the **25** signed contracts of this priority, **10** contracts are for **urban infrastructure** and **15** contracts for **energy efficiency in public buildings**.

The most active calls relate to increasing **energy efficiency** in the region as part of **investments in the housing sector** and **supporting energy efficiency in public buildings, including heritage buildings**.





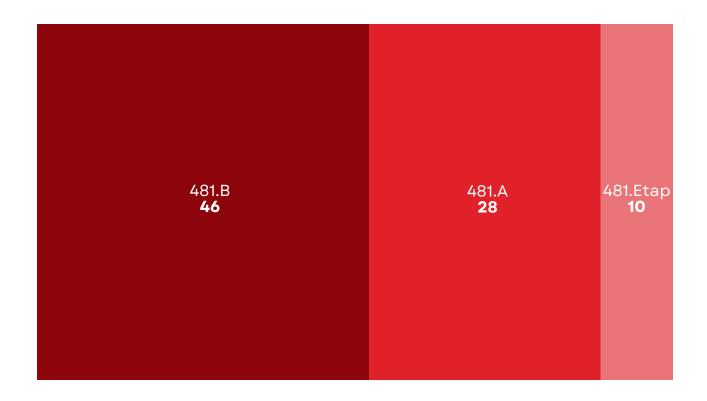
The Municipality of Salonta (Bihor County) is undertaking a major strategic initiative in ecological restoration and the enhancement of its urban environment through the development of a "Blue Corridor" along the Criser Valley. With a crucial project budget of over €5,2 million, this investment is financed through the North-West Regional Programme 2021-2027, promoting greener urban areas. The initiative will transform an unvalorized segment of the valley into a vibrant, accessible space, delivering multiple environmental, social, and health benefits to the local community. The project directly supports nature protection and biodiversity by covering over 26.500 square meters of new green spaces and preserving an additional 44.350 square meters for renaturation. The development includes the creation of a 3,7 km pedestrian route and related infrastructure, encouraging active, non-motorized mobility and connection with nature, alongside the establishment of four new wooden pedestrian bridges to connect segments of the trail across the valley. Furthermore, the initiative encompasses a dedicated vegetation management plan to eliminate invasive species and protect native flora. The investment significantly enhances green space access and quality for nearly 17.500 residents. All interventions are aligned with the principles of the New European Bauhaus, utilizing durable, natural materials like wood and stone, focusing on social inclusion and ecological resilience. Scheduled for completion by January 2028, the 'Blue Corridor' reinforces Salonta's commitment to creating healthier and climate-resilient communities.

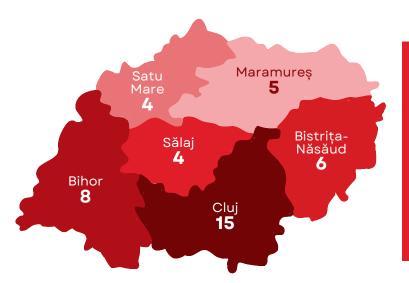


88
submitted projects
with a total eligible budget of
€ 1.134.529.127,84

40 signed contracts

This priority marches for a greener Europe. It encompasses tenders aimed at promoting the use of public transport and other environmentally friendly urban mobility solutions. Despite having only two active calls, this priority has garnered significant community interest, taking a significant step forward with the signing of 35 crucial contracts. These contracts pave the way for improved urban mobility infrastructure in the benefiting cities.





The total eligible budget of the signed contracts

**€** 404.153.776,70

The total budget of the signed contracts

€ 586.803.383.39

The Municipality of Satu Mare (Satu Mare County) is embarking on a transformative journey towards smarter and more sustainable urban living, investing in a cutting-edge Integrated Traffic Monitoring and Smart Mobility System. Backed by a strategic investment of over €22,2 million from the North-West Regional Programme 2021–2027, the project reflects a commitment to a cleaner and better-connected city.

This major development aims to dramatically improve the daily travel experience for residents, reducing congestion and cutting emissions across the urban area. The solution involves a comprehensive upgrade, including the establishment of an Integrated Command and Control Centre and a highly sophisticated Adaptive Traffic Management System that will actively manage 26 key intersections to keep traffic flowing efficiently.

Crucially, the project delivers modern infrastructure directly to the user: **100 new or modernized smart bus stations** will provide **real-time information**, enhanced safety through video monitoring, and **full accessibility features**, including acoustic alerts for visually impaired citizens. A **dedicated mobile application** will empower residents with **instant access** to transit schedules and journey planning. This **shift towards efficiency** is expected to substantially **reduce reliance on private vehicles**.

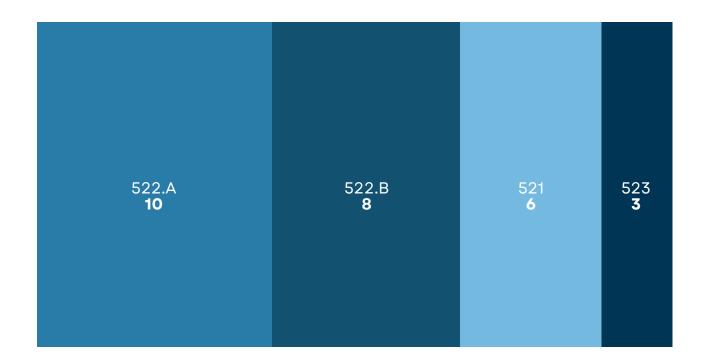
By ensuring faster, safer, and more reliable public and alternative transport, the project will directly benefit over 114,000 residents. Set for completion by November 2029, the project positions Satu Mare as a leading example of sustainable urban development aligned with European environmental goals.

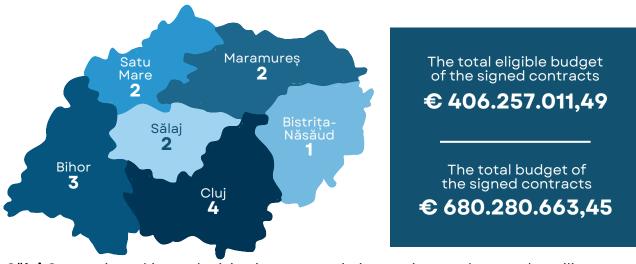




This priority is targeting both infrastructure and safety. Upgrades to secondary roads, including key TEN-T connections, are a focus. With 4 active tenders, the most significant interest has been seen in Call 522.A - Equipment to Increase Traffic Safety, with 8 projects submitted, followed by Call 521 - Construction / Rehabilitation of Secondary Road Links to the Road Network and TEN-T Nodes, with 6 submitted projects.

13 contracts, three for road safety infrastructure, four for road safety equipment and six for road infrastructure have been secured under this priority.





Sălaj County is making a decisive investment in increasing road network resilience and traffic safety through the acquisition of advanced, sustainable maintenance equipment. With a total budget of over €4,8 million, this strategic project is a key component of the county's plan to foster a more efficient, smart, and accessible transport network under the North-West Regional Programme 2021-2027. The project's main objective is to significantly reduce the risk of road accidents and decrease congestion on the county's secondary road network, focusing specifically on routes providing crucial connectivity to the European TEN-T corridor.

To achieve this, the initiative focuses on replacing and supplementing the County Council's aging fleet with 14 new, high-performance, and environmentally conscious multi-functional machines and equipment. This essential modernization includes a shift towards electric and bio-diesel utility vehicles, which offers substantial economic and ecological advantages, such as lower operational costs, reduced carbon emissions, and decreased noise pollution. The new equipment portfolio, which covers electric wheel excavators, compact electric street sweepers, electric marking machines, and versatile bio-diesel tools, will drastically improve the speed and effectiveness of road maintenance, winter clearance operations, and emergency response interventions across the county. Beyond its immediate impact on operational efficiency, this initiative is expected to significantly decrease overall travel times for daily commuters, residents accessing urban centres, and commercial transport. The improvements are reinforcing Sălaj County's commitment to providing a safe, reliable, and modern secondary road network that aligns with broader European connectivity goals. The project is scheduled for completion by the end of September 2029.

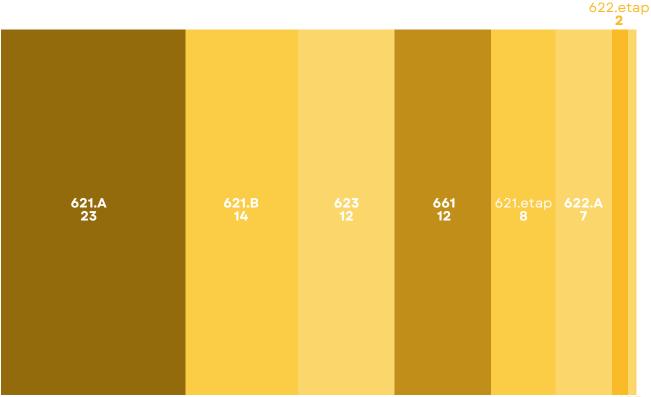


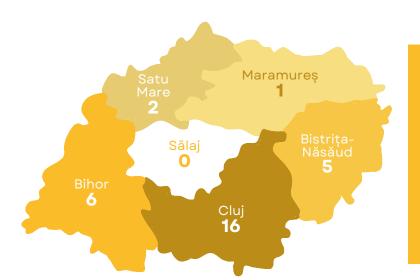
79
submitted projects
with a total eligible budget of
€ 232.593.264,66

30 signed contracts

This priority marches for a more social and inclusive Europe. It involves tenders aimed at enhancing educational infrastructure across various levels, from early childhood to university education, and at modernizing school facilities.

The academic community's interest in advancing their infrastructure for future development is well seen, as the most active project calls target developments in terms of educational infrastructure.





The total eligible budget of the signed contracts

€ 96.054.328,91

The total budget of the signed contracts

**€ 145.940.975,76** 

The community of Bistriţa Municipality (Bistriţa-Năsăud County) will gain access to modern, high-quality early childhood education, thanks to a project focused on building and equipping a new nursery. The investment, valued at over €1,5 million, is co-financed under the North-West Regional Programme 2021–2027, as part of the regional strategy to enhance educational infrastructure.

The intervention will deliver a **new, fully equipped facility of over 610 square meters**, providing essential early education services for **40 children aged 0-3 years**. The design prioritizes **sustainability and resilience**, integrating a rooftop **photovoltaic power plant**, underfloor heating, solar thermal panels, and robust insulation. The outdoor environment will be completely modernised, featuring new paved access, **extensive green spaces**, and a safe, modern playground.

The project directly benefits children, their families, and staff, ensuring optimal conditions for early psychological and social development. The upgraded infrastructure is designed to serve as a best-practice model for public investments across the North-West Region, actively contributing to the reduction of educational disparities within the European context. The facility ensures full and dignified accessibility for all citizens. Set for completion by 30<sup>th</sup> of June 2027, the project reflects the Municipality of Bistriţa's commitment to modernising its public infrastructure and advancing equal access to quality learning for all.

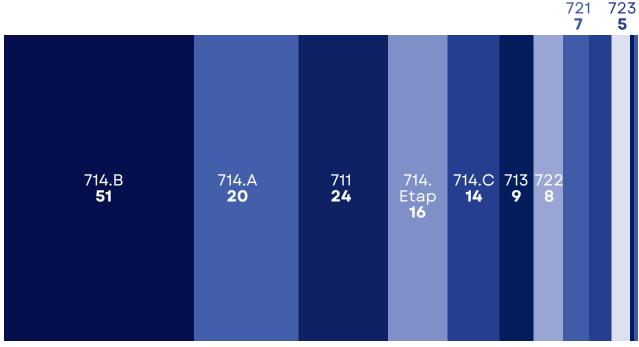


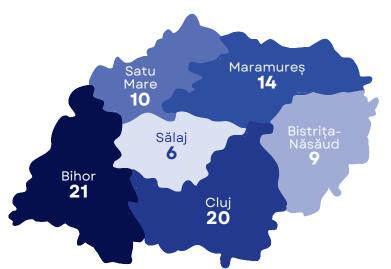
170
submitted projects
with a total eligible budget of
€ 975.950.323,32

80 signed contracts

This priority marches for a Europe that is close to its citizens. It involves tenders promoting integrated and inclusive development across social, economic, and environmental domains, as well as culture, natural heritage, sustainable tourism, and security in non-urban areas.

The call for projects **714.B** - Urban regeneration and the security of public spaces has **14** signed contracts, showcasing the increased interest of the public sector beautify the cities to match the beauty of the community that inhabits each place.





The total eligible budget of the signed contracts

€ 459.750.668,52

The total budget of the signed contracts

€ 609.402.638,65

Residents and tourists visiting Ocna Şugatag (Maramureş County) will soon benefit from a transformed, modernised, and attractive natural space, thanks to a project worth over €5,3 million, co-financed by the North-West Regional Programme 2021–2027. The project aims to develop and promote sustainable tourism in the area of Gavril Lake. The spectacular natural landscape of the lake, located at the foothills of the Ţibleṣ-Gutâi Mountains, will be reimagined to offer high-quality infrastructure and leisure facilities. This includes the creation of durable promenade routes and areas for recreation, alongside the installation of a zip line and a floating pontoon for fishing and relaxation. Green spaces will be revitalised, and the area will be equipped with modern playgrounds, sports fields, urban furniture, and new public lighting, all monitored by a video surveillance system to ensure safety for everyone.

The aim is to offer everyone, families, children, and seniors, a destination where they can walk, play, or exercise in a scenic outdoor environment. Beyond creating an integrated, attractive environment, the intervention is expected to significantly boost the local tourism sector. The improvements will benefit not only the local community and the commune's revenue but also visitors from across the region and country, providing a key reason to spend time in this upgraded natural area. The project is projected to increase the annual number of visitors by at least 20% in the first year after completion. Works are scheduled for completion by 30<sup>th</sup> of June 2028.



### **Completed projects**

A success story.

A significant urban infrastructure transformation has been successfully delivered in the heart of Cluj-Napoca, with the completion of the project "Restructuring, rehabilitation, interior modifications, and change of destination of Building C2 from hotel to educational spaces" for the Babeş-Bolyai University (UBB) Faculty of Law. The investment, financed through the North-West Regional Programme 2021–2027, has repurposed an emblematic building on General Traian Moşoiu Street, transforming over 1.700 square metres of built area into a modern academic environment.

With a total budget exceeding €6,6 million, the project has created a learning environment adapted to current requirements, significantly enhancing the quality of educational services offered by the Faculty of Law. The restructured facility now features new ampitheatres, seminar rooms, dedicated offices, and a conference hall (67 seats), all designed to support the educational process at the highest standards. This strategic refurbishment has achieved the goal of increasing and enhancing the academic space available.

The revitalized infrastructure directly benefits the university and the broader community, supporting the development of an inclusive, digitalized, and high-performing academic environment. The project has successfully increased the classroom capacity by 1.647 people and is expected to serve over 2.392 students and users annually. By strengthening its institutional performance, the investment contributes directly to improving access to quality education and the sustainable development of the university community and the city of Cluj-Napoca.

As of today, the **new educational hub** stands as a model for utilizing EU Cohesion Policy to **elevate higher education infrastructure**, reinforcing UBB's position as **a regional education leader** and its commitment to meeting the UN Sustainable Development Goals.





BH BN CJ MM SJ SM