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Memorandum of Understanding between Hungary and Croatia signed at the Kick-off Conference in Čakovec, Croatia, April the 1st 2009

The Memorandum of Understanding for the Hungary- Croatia IPA Cross-border Co-operation Programme 2007- 2013 has been signed in Čakovec by **Ms. Brigitta Mikulás**, Head of the Managing Authority for the Hungary-Croatia IPA Cross-border Co-operation Programme and by **Mr. Milivoj Mikulić**, State Secretary in the Ministry of Regional Development, Forestry and Water Management.

The Kick-off Conference hosted 350 guests and was opened by **Ms. Brigitta Mikulás**, Head of the Managing Authority, and by **Mr. János Benedek**, CEO, VÁTI Hungarian Public Nonprofit Company for Regional Development and Town Planning, host institution of the Joint Technical Secretariat of the Programme.

The guests were welcomed by **Mr. Milivoj Mikulić**, State Secretary in the Ministry of Regional Development, Forestry and Water Management, Republic of Croatia; **Mr. László Varju**, State Secretary, Ministry of National Development and Economy, Republic of Hungary, **Mr. José Palma Andrés**, Director, European Commission, DG Regional Policy, **Mr. Oskar Benedikt**, Councilor, Delegation of the European Commission to the Republic of Croatia, **Mr. Josip Pošavec**, county prefect of Međimurska County and **Mr. Branko Šalamon**, mayor of Čakovec.

The Conference was organized to promote Cross-border Co-operation between Hungary and Croatia and also to spread information to potential applicants about the First Call for Proposals of the Programme, **launched on the 26th of March 2009**. Within the framework of the present Call for Proposals 11.668.388 Euros of Community funding will be available.

The areas eligible on the Hungarian side are the counties of Zala, Somogy and Baranya. On the Croatian side, in addition to border counties – Međimurska, Koprivničko-križevačka, Virovitičko-podravska and Osječko-baranjska – four other counties participate in the present Programme as the *adjacent regions* and can use the maximum 20% of the amount of the Community funding available in the Programme (Varaždinska, Bjelovarsko-bilogorska, Požeško-slavonska and Vukovarsko-srijemska županija).

The eligible applicants are non-profit organizations, among others county and local governments, associations of local governments, foundations, associations, public non-profit companies, educational institutions, chambers. In the each project at least one organisation from Hungary and at least one organisation from Croatia have to be jointly represented from the eligible cross-border area.

The Call for proposals is opened for 90 days and the submission deadline for project proposals is **24th of June 2009, 17.00 hours**.

The documentation of the Call for Proposals, the procedure for submitting the applications and further information is available on the following web site:

www.hu-hr-ipa.com.

Hungary-Croatia IPA Cross-border Co-operation Programme



The Programme is co-financed by the
European Union