

PROJECT IDEA APPLICATION FORM

in the frame of the UNDP/GEF project

Integrating multiple benefits of wetlands and floodplains into improved trans-boundary management for the Tisza River Basin

I General information

Project title	Integrated land development (ILD) program to improve land use and water management efficiency
Project summary	The lessons learned from UNDP GEF Tisza Biodiversity project highlighted the need for integrated land management – landscape planning, utilization programming, land consolidation, property exchange. To support high level policy objectives (flood reduction Carbon sequestration, river basins management) and harmonize it with local stockholder's goals requires new approaches.
Project area	The scope of actions are from farm level through landscape level to region, including cross border cooperation.
Requested grant	85 000USD
Available co-financing Source: Amount:	5000 USD - FARLAND project case study webpage with good practices, FACTS project pilot program fund (under evaluation by Interreg)
Project duration	18 months
Relevance with other application in the transboundary region Project title: Name of applicant:	<u>YES</u> / NO FACTS Interreg IV project – Partners from Tisza region:: Ministry for Agriculture and Rural Development, Hungary, Ukraine Institute of Hydraulic engineering and land reclamation.

II Applicant information

Name of applicant	Szövetség az Élő Tiszáért (Alliance for the Living Tisza – ALT)
Type of organization	Association – NGO
Brief description of organization mission	The main mission of ALT is to help to improve the conditions for introducing floodplain revitalization along the Tisza river. It has been established in the frame of the UNDP GEF Tisza biodiversity project, and in the last 1,5 years had a very important role in market development for local products and in lobby activities.
Recent activities relevant to the project	Eco-product direct market development. Micro grant operation and cooperation with local farmers, municipalities. Reviewing the VTT (Hungarian flood reduction program) activities, commenting RBMPs..
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Project partners	
Name:	MTA TAKI (RISSAC)
Type of organization:	Academic research institute
Brief description of activities:	Soil protection, research for VTT, climate change, landscape development, land management
Role in the project:	Support the local activities, training and land assessment

III Project information

- a) Describe the problem(s) this project intends to address. What would happen without UNDP/GEF support?

Since the privatization in the beginning of the 1990s the Tisza river region suffers from over-fragmentation of parcels and unclear ownership (see Farland report, 2007; ICDR Tisza Analysis, 2007). The problem occurs mostly at low developed, high risk areas, at former floodplains. The new flood risk, revitalization projects had large delays due to unsolved ownership problems, lack of land management procedures.

Due to political instability land and land related issues are highly influenced by politics, so management related action programs and project have to struggle with these problem at each location, with cause huge delays, even financial losses. That's why external help, assistance help actors to be independent, efficient and oriented by sustainable use of local resources.

- b) Outline the project objective, activities and outputs.

The project objectives are three folded:

(A) capacity development for local actors in ILD

To train local landscape managers, farm advisors ('falugazdász') about the implementation procedure and effective tools on integrated land management (including measures for land development and LC) to be able to contribute to low risk, high nature value landscapes, with higher potential on water retention.

Expected outputs: training materials available for all countries in the Tisza basin local, regional experts; min 30 educated local 'land mediators' to support bottom up land development processes, based on the applications from all Tisza region

(B) Pilot program to adapt the ILD tools

in regions under polder or any water retention processes the tools collected in the training material is going to be elaborated and local adaptation capacity of the tools tested. As a results of the application of the pilot projects the landscape utilization will be more suitable for implementation of planned or ongoing projects (not full LC will take place but the fertilization of the processes). The important element of the process is the training of trainers system, which results local, trusted people to be in front of these processes, understanding local culture and needs.

(C) Tisza basin dissemination on lessons learned

To support integrated land development program at Tisza former (and present) floodplains – which are the most suitable for future water retention and the most vulnerable – the territorial based communication of the potential areas and the potential land utilization options, ILD measures need to be communicated. Based on the Odera project (WWF Poland) maps on vulnerable ecosystems, potential flood risk areas and easy land development measures can be communicated in a map series (preferably 1:10.000 scale). In our project in the Upper Tisza the maps will be prepared both for UA, SK and HU parts.

c) Describe how the sustainability of project results will be ensured.

There are several factors which help for sustainability of the process:

- Training activities develop local capacities, long term thinking
- Involvement of local citizens will keep the knowledge locally, and will improve the cooperation among different stakeholders – farmers, water, agricultural agencies.
- Successful projects can increase the political and institutional acceptance of ILD, so further on can be part of national substituted processes.
- SZÖVET will act further in the region as knowledge and mediation center, supporting land development processes.

d) Describe the potential for replication elsewhere.

The replication activities are described above:

- Training of trainers
- Tool kits on the web
- Involvement of local actors at different micro regions

e) Summarize activities, programs and projects being undertaken by other organizations that could influence your project, and how your project could collaborate with them.

VTT – the project could help the environmental considered implementation at a sustainable manner. Cooperation with national and regional actors in the process is required.

Cross border cooperation – with Ukraine, where the Flood program has been approved, the Bereg area in UA several polders planned (with the support of FETIKÖVIZIG Upper Tisza Environmental and Water Directorate of Hungary).

f) List the project partners that have been already approached and agreed on the cooperation. Describe their role in the project.

Partner	Role
Emisszio Accosciation, Bereg Team	Take part in trainings, to initiate local projects in the Bereg landscape
Nagykörű Landscape Rehabilitation Association	Take part in trainings, to initiate local projects in Nagykörű municipalities

g) List potential donors and in-kind contributors to project activities.

The municipalities, civic organization and farmers involved are contributing with their time, capacities.

The MTA TAKI will incorporate the maps, results available at the institute in the relevant areas.

h) Estimate timeline and budget summary.

Project Phases

The project timeline will be as follows:

- Preparation and finalization of training material -1-4 month / 25000 USD
- Training of trainers.....5 month / 15000 USD
- Selection of pilot areas, setting up local team..... 6-8 month / 2000 USD
- Executing local ILC work.....9-15 month / 34000 USD
- Utilization Maps for regional Dissemination16-18 month / 9000 USD