

CROSS-BORDER NETWORK OF CULTURE IASI-SOROCA

This project represents the continuation of the implementation of the project Preservation and Promotion of Cultural and Historical Heritage in the Iași and Soroca Cross-Border Area implemented in the same partnership and which had as its primary purpose the repair of two churches: Saints Theodore in Iași and the Church of Saint Great Martyr Demetrius in the Bujorăuca neighborhood, Soroca municipality.

The project aims to continue the renovation of these two churches and strengthen the role of culture and sustainable tourism in economic development, social inclusion and social innovation through various activities that will take place in Iași and Soroca.

Project priority and specific objective. Program priority - Cross-border social development. Specific objective - Strengthening the role of culture and sustainable tourism in economic growth, social inclusion, and social innovation.

The project: "CROSS-BORDER NETWORK OF CULTURE IASI-SOROCA" is funded by the European Union under the Interreg NEXT Romania-Republic of Moldova 2021-2027 program.

The project applicant is the PARISH OF "SAINT THEODORE" from Iași, Romania

Project partners:

- Religious Community Parish with the Patron Saint "Saint Great Martyr Demetrius" within the Orthodox Church of Moldova, Soroca, Republic of Moldova
- Public Association "Soarta" - Republic of Moldova
- SOLIDARITY and HOPE Foundation from Iași

The total project budget is EUR 1,666,414.55, of which the EU grant is EUR 1,499,773.09, and the amount of EUR 166,641.46 represents the own contribution of the project partners.

Project results:

1. Cross-border cooperating organizations after project implementation. The four partners involved in the project implementation, from both countries, will cooperate for at least one year after the project's completion. The partners will sign a cooperation agreement to maintain cross-border cooperation, promote online cultural identity, and organize cultural events.
2. Joint strategies and action plans adopted by the organizations. The four project partners will collaborate on project implementation and, following project completion, will develop a joint strategy for continuous improvement and strategic innovation in the field of cultural and religious tourism.
3. Visitors to cultural and tourist sites are supported. The estimated number of annual visitors to the supported cultural and tourist sites is 1500 in the first year after the

completion of the intervention. The heritage sites include the “Saint Theodore” Church in Iași and the “Saint Great Martyr Dimitrie” Church of the Moldovan Orthodox Church in Soroca. The number of visitors to the cross-border area is expected to increase thanks to an online promotion campaign, events, and activities aimed at promoting the two restored and preserved cultural heritage sites (the two churches in Iași city and Soroca city), as well as all promotional activities of the project.