



Healing Waters, Shared Future

Health Resources Across the Border

Hidden Health Resources

For generations, communities in Zakarpattia, Satu Mare, and Suceava have known about the healing properties of thermal and mineral waters. These natural resources have supported rehabilitation, recovery, and wellness for countless people living in the Romania–Ukraine border region.

Yet, despite their value, information about these resources remained fragmented and difficult to access. Patients, healthcare professionals, rehabilitation centres, and local authorities often worked separately, without a shared platform to connect services, expertise, and opportunities



Missing link

Although both countries faced similar healthcare challenges and possessed comparable natural healing resources, there was no unified system to help people fully benefit from them.

Access to reliable information - and cooperation across borders - became the missing link.

To respond to this challenge, partners from Romania and Ukraine joined forces to promote the healing potential of thermal and mineral waters and improve access to health-related information and services across the border region.



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Three organisations combining their expertise ...



International Association of Regional Development Institutions (IARDI), Uzhhorod, Ukraine



regional development coordination and project management

Satu Mare County Administrative Territorial Unit, Romania



public administration and regional cooperation expertise

Ștefan cel Mare University of Suceava, Romania



research, education, and healthcare innovation capacity

... and the project

Life-Giving Water - Way Towards Long-Term Access to Health (ROUA00343)

Together, the partners are building a long-term partnership focused on health, knowledge exchange, and sustainable cross-border cooperation.

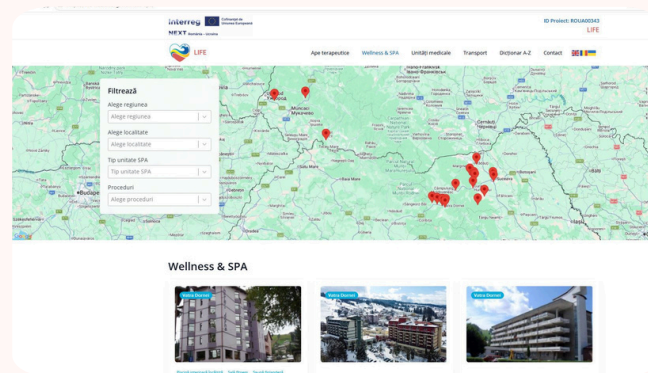
“Thermal and mineral waters have unique healing properties. Our goal is to make this natural wealth accessible to people and to improve quality of life in the border regions.”

Nataliya Nosa-Pylypenko, Executive Director of IARDI and Project Manager

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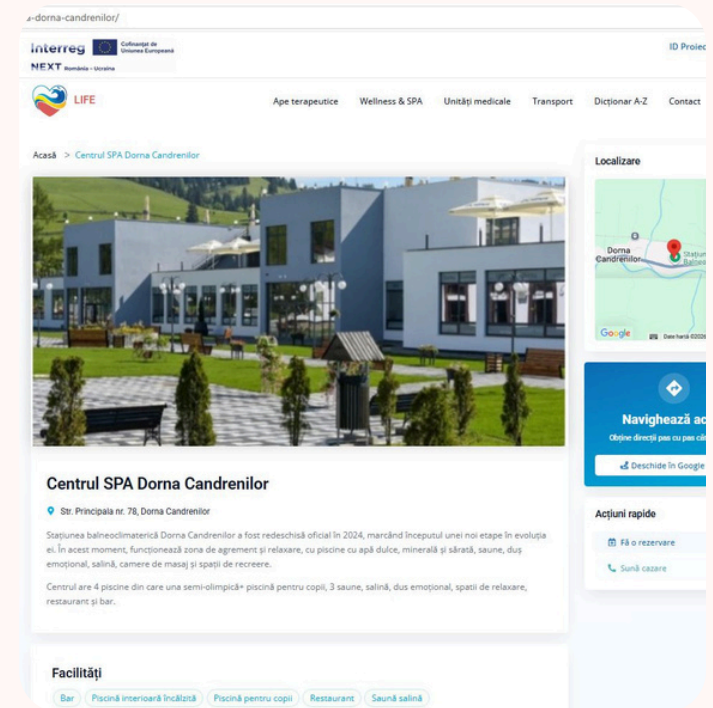


- **Creating multilingual digital platforms** – LIFE and HEALTH – to provide information in Ukrainian, Romanian, and English about thermal and mineral water resources, healthcare institutions, rehabilitation services, treatment opportunities across the border region.
- **Developing a joint database** and practical tools to improve access to reliable healthcare and wellness information.
- **Organising study visits and exchanges** between institutions, researchers, healthcare providers, and local authorities to strengthen cooperation and share expertise.
- **Publishing a booklet-catalogue** and preparing a Joint Action Plan to support long-term collaboration beyond the project lifetime.
- **Connecting people, institutions, and communities** around the shared goal of improving quality of life through the region's natural healing resources.



What changes with the project ...

- In communities, **citizens gain easier access to trusted information about rehabilitation services** and the therapeutic potential of thermal and mineral waters.
- Inside institutions, **healthcare providers, universities, and local authorities strengthen cooperation** and exchange knowledge more effectively.
- Across the border, Romanian and Ukrainian partners **create sustainable mechanisms for cooperation** in health promotion, wellness tourism, and rehabilitation services.
- The **LIFE and HEALTH digital platforms** will continue serving as open tools for public information and cooperation after the project ends.



... and the lessons learned

Natural resources can become stronger drivers of health when information is shared openly and accessibly. Cross-border cooperation creates better opportunities for communities facing similar healthcare challenges.

Digital tools and knowledge exchange help connect people with services that improve well-being and quality of life. Partnerships between universities, public authorities, and regional organisations strengthen long-term regional resilience.

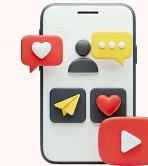
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Project partners believe that the cooperation established through LIFE will continue far beyond the implementation period.

“LIFE is more than a project. It is a platform for exchanging knowledge, practices, and humanity.” - Professor Radu Dumitru Pentiu, Ștefan cel Mare University of Suceava

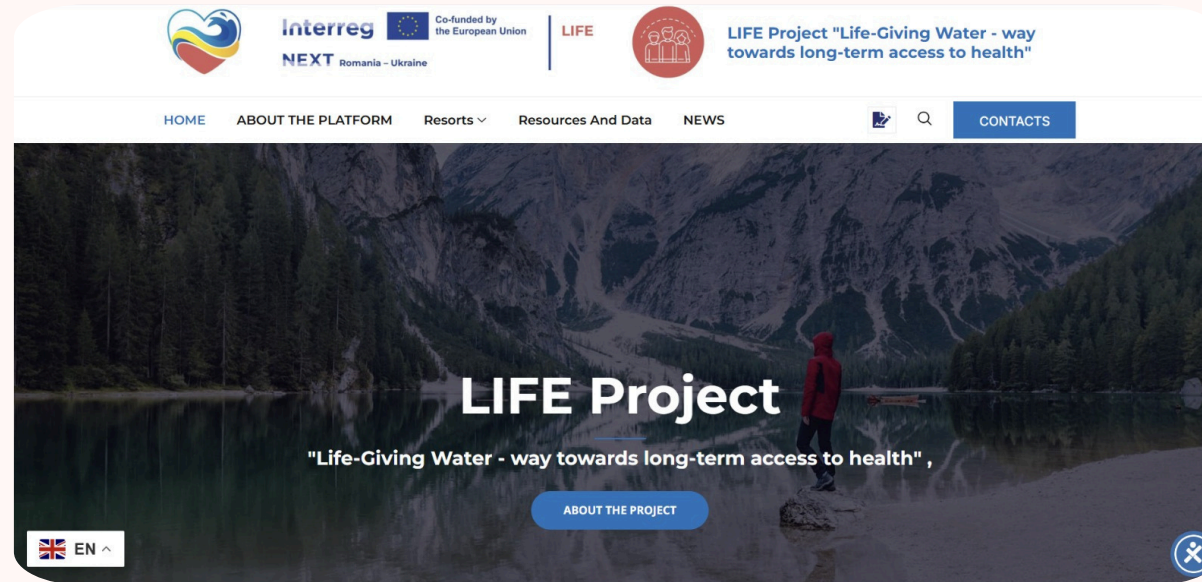


Scan and watch ...

Project Info

- Implementation period: 18 months
- Start / End: April-25 to October-26
- Budget: 386,922.84 EUR (348,230.55 EUR grant)
- Contact: Mrs. Nataliya Nosa-Pylypenko – Project Manager, associationiardi@gmail.com

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Healing resources do not stop at borders.

The project's legacy will be stronger partnerships, better-informed communities, and wider recognition of the life-giving waters that unite both sides of the border.

By connecting knowledge, institutions, and communities, Romania and Ukraine are transforming shared **natural resources into shared opportunities for health, recovery, and cooperation.**

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