

## 2nd Call for proposal 1st Step

### 1. Project identification

1.1 Project title  
(max 200 characters)

Food chain Environmental Risk Reduction for You

1.2 Project acronym  
(max 20 characters)

FERRY

1.3 Priority Axis

Priority Axis 2: Protection and Improvement of the Environment

AoI 2.2: Improve prevention of environmental risks

### 2. Number of participants in the project (included ASP)

#### EU Member States

	N.
AUSTRIA	1
BULGARIA	0
GREECE	0
HUNGARY	3
ITALY	0
ROMANIA	2
SLOVAKIA	1
SLOVENIA	0

#### Non EU Member States

	N.
ALBANIA	0
BOSNIA and HERZEGOVINA	0
CROATIA	0
FORMER YUGOSLAV REPUBLIC OF MACEDONIA	0
REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA	0
MONTENEGRO	0
SERBIA	2
UKRAINE	0

Total number of project's participants

9

### 3. Project Applicant

3.1 Official name of the Institution

(In original language) Borsod-Abaúj-Zemplén Megyei Mezőgazdasági Szakigazgatási Hivatal (MGSZH)

3.2 Official name of the Institution

(In English) Borsod-Abaúj-Zemplén County Central Agricultural Office (CAO)

3.3 Type of Institution

Regional public authority

Legal status (select):

Public  Governed by public law  Governed by private law

3.4 Full address and contact references

Street and Number: Dóczy József út 6.

Post code: 3525

City: Miskolc

Country: HUNGARY

Location according NUTS II: Észak-Magyarország

Telephone No: 00 36 46/515-700

Fax No: 00 36 46/515-701

E-mail: [mgszh-borsod@tki.gov.hu](mailto:mgszh-borsod@tki.gov.hu)

Web Site: [www.mgszh.gov.hu](http://www.mgszh.gov.hu)

3.5 Legal representative

Title: Mr.

Family Name: Orosz

First Name: István

Position: Director-General

Telephone No: 00 36 46/515-700

Fax No:

E-mail:

3.6 Contact person

Title: Mr.

Family Name: Búza

First Name: László

Position: Director - Chief Veterinarian

Telephone No: 00 36 46 500-660

Fax No: 00 36 46 342-023

E-mail: [bural@oai.hu](mailto:bural@oai.hu)

#### 4. Project duration

from year 20 10 month 09  
to year 20 13 month 08

Number of months of duration 36

Project implementation has not started prior to the submission of this Expression of Interest

#### 5. Project description

##### 5.1 Short project description (max 1000 characters)

Please, provide a summary of the project's background, objectives and main activities

This project aims to create models for the comparative analysis of the environmental impacts of food chains for various foodstuffs to assess, identify, manage and prevent environmental and technological risks affecting soil, air and water by a comprehensive risk analysis of various agricultural technologies. Proposed by a transnational partnership representing all stakeholders interested in sustainable food chains, it includes the compilation of a detailed and comprehensive Geographical Information System (GIS), to map environmental and technological risks to geospatial data. Other outputs include business guidelines, as well as policy and legal recommendations to enable sustainable food chains. Networking and exchange of expertise activities will be organized around project milestones to present and discuss project outputs with stakeholders and to utilize synergies with other projects and networks.

##### 5.2 Main problem(s) or challenge(s) to be addressed (max 2000 characters)

Please describe why there is a need for your project in the SEE Programme area, considered the specific features of the territories represented. What are the territorial problems and challenges your proposal tackles?

Sustainable development requires that further generations will continue to have access to resources that are difficult to renew or non-renewable, and is an important horizontal policy of the European Union. Consideration of contamination-free soil, air and water as resources of sustainable development, however, is still not strong enough in South-Eastern Europe's agricultural sector, even though various contaminations of soil, air and water are abundant in this region primarily due to the legacy of pre-1989 quantity-oriented agricultural production built on the heavy use of chemical fertilizers as well as wars and bombings in some cases. This sector could become one of the main driving forces in the SEE region for enabling sustainable development, if the environmental and technological risks of food chains for various foodstuffs could be objectively identified, assessed and consequently managed and reduced.

The inadequacy of reliable and comprehensive environmental monitoring systems has been pointed out – among others – in Special Report No 3/2005 of the European Court of Auditors in the context of the verification of funding schemes for agriculture and rural development. Since then, there have been a number of (partially successful) attempts by national governments to create such systems to monitor the environment for diverse environmental impacts. However, such environmental risks and impacts transcend national borders, and therefore it is only sensible to construct such systems on the transnational level.

There are at this point no comprehensive and reliable methods available in the South-East European region to identify, assess and hence manage environmental and technological risks on the transnational level, even though it is clear that such risks have a transnational and even global impact.

##### 5.3 Main objectives of the project (max 2500 characters)

Please, explain the main objectives of the project in relation to the mentioned problem(s) and/or challenge(s).

Emphasize the specific relation with the SEE Programme objectives, the selected priority and area of intervention. Don't forget to explain the contribution of the project to growth, job creation and sustainable development as well as consistency with the EU horizontal policies on environmental sustainability and equal opportunities and non discrimination

The general goal of this project is

- To create models for the comparative analysis of the environmental impacts of food chains for various foodstuffs to assess, identify, manage and prevent environmental and technological risks affecting soil, air and water by a comprehensive risk analysis of various agricultural technologies.

In contrast to previous and existing initiatives, this proposed project will examine environmental and technological risks

- along the entire food chain, including agriculture, food manufacturing, transport, retail and distribution, and households and food services
- on a transnational level
- encompassing a broad range of stakeholders including public authorities, businesses, academia and civil society.

Specific and measurable project objectives include:

- 1) Perform transnational environmental and technological risk assessment, identification and analysis
- 2) Produce a complete and detailed transnational geospatial survey of partner countries displaying assessed and identified environmental and technological risks of various agricultural technologies along the food chain
- 3) Produce business guidelines for companies and food business operators interested in sustainable food chains
- 4) Produce policy and legal recommendations for the joint transnational mitigation of environmental and technological risks resulting from agricultural production and affecting soil, air and water along the food chain

Subsequently, successful implementation of this project will result in a significant contribution to the rehabilitation of soil, air and water resources by:

- 1) Identification and analysis of the environmental impacts of food chains for different foodstuffs with a view to assess, identify, manage and prevent environmental and technological risks
- 2) A comprehensive geospatial survey of partner countries displaying assessed and identified environmental and technological risks of various agricultural technologies along the food chain
- 3) Freely and immediately accessible business guidelines to support sustainable food chains
- 4) Publication of policy and legal recommendations for the joint transnational mitigation of environmental and technological risks resulting from agricultural production and affecting soil, air and water along the food chain

Partner countries include Austria, Hungary, Romania, Serbia, and Slovakia.

##### 5.4 Overview of the main activities (max 1000 characters)

Please, describe the activities to be carried out and the role of partners

Thematic WP's include:

- WP3: Environmental and Technological Risk Assessment, Identification and Analysis (underpinning activities)
- WP4: Geospatial Environmental and Technological Risk Survey (central importance)
- WP5: Guidelines for Businesses: Environmental and Technological Risks Along the Food Chain (based on WP3 and 4)
- WP6: Policy and Legal Recommendations: Environmental and Technological Risks Along the Food Chain (based on WP3 and 4)
- WP7: Networking and Exchange of Expertise

The largest WP in terms of human and financial resources required is WP4, concentrating on the production of a Geospatial Information System (GIS) to cover at least 2 selected pilot areas, in 1 km resolution, in at least 15 parameters (to be defined in WP3). Pilot areas include cross-border geographical areas representative of all 5 partner countries. This WP also includes the survey of existing data, its compilation into compatible formats, and the acquisition of missing data through new measurements.

5.5 Workplan

	Title	Resp PP	Short Description	Start date (mm/yyyy)	End date (mm/yyyy)	Duration in months	Quantified outputs	Quantified results	Key tasks of each involved partner	Budget
WP0	Preparation activities									€ 15 000,00
WP1	Transnational project and financial management									€ 80 000,00
WP2	Communication activities									€ 40 000,00
WP3	Environmental and Technological Risk Assessment, Identification and Analysis	Veterinary Speciality Institute "Subotica"	Identification and analysis of the environmental impacts of food chains for different foodstuffs with a view to assess, identify, manage and prevent environmental and technological risks.	09/2010	08/2011	12	• 100-page report in English + German, Hungarian, Romanian, Serbian, and Slovak translations	Comprehensive identification and analysis of environmental and technological risks in partner countries	All partners involved with sub-analysis pertaining to own countries; further sub-analysis obtained through Foodlawment's international membership to cover the entire SEE region. As this activity is more research-oriented, it will be coordinated by the research institute Veterinary Speciality Institute "Subotica".	€ 160 000,00
WP4	Geospatial Environmental and Technological Risk Survey	CAO (LP)	Survey of existing data; compilation of existing data into compatible structures and acquisition of new necessary data; compilation of a Geospatial Information System (GIS) to map environmental and technological risks to geographic coordinates.	03/2011	02/2013	24	• Geospatial database fully covering at least 2 selected pilot areas of 5 partner countries, in 1 km resolution, in min. 15 parameters; containing min. 1 Terabyte of data • Database outputs: layered maps and raw data of geographical units	Freely and publicly accessible comprehensive geospatial database of environmental and technological risks in selected pilot areas	CAO based on WP3; GIS implementation subcontracted by CAO; all partners involved with supplying data for the country of their nationality. As a public authority, CAO has solid prior experience in the design of similar systems.	€ 1 100 000,00
WP5	Guidelines for Businesses: Environmental and Technological Risks Along the Food Chain	AGES	Drafting and promotion of guidelines for companies and food business operators interested in sustainable food chains for managing and preventing environmental and technological risks along the entire food chain	01/2012	06/2012	6	• Detailed business guidelines (100 pages) • Short thematic excerpts of guidelines in brochure format • in English + German, Hungarian, Romanian, Serbian, and Slovak translations	Adoption of best practices for environmental and technological risk prevention among business increased by 20%	As AGES has extensive experience in the drafting of business guidelines, it will coordinate this activity. Cooperating partners will be expected to contribute with suggestions, advice and other input.	€ 160 000,00
WP6	Policy and Legal Recommendations: Environmental and Technological Risks Along the Food Chain	AGES	Drafting and promotion of policy and legal recommendations for the joint transnational mitigation of environmental and technological risks along the and affecting soil, air and water along the entire food chain.	07/2012	12/2012	6	• Policy recommendations addressed to the EU and national governments • Recommendations for legal implementation • Exact text of proposed legal regulations • in English + German, Hungarian, Romanian, Serbian, and Slovak translations	Improved policies and legal regulations for the prevention of environmental and technological risks	EU-level policy and legal recommendations to be compiled by AGES, a key Austrian government agency. Policy and legal recommendations addressed to partner country national governments will be elaborated by the respective national partners. AGES will assume the task of overall coordination and ensuring internal coherence.	€ 400 000,00
WP7	Networking and Exchange of Expertise	Foodlawment	Involves the representatives of all target groups and experts; gathers input for analysis activities; presents and discusses project outputs including reports, guidelines, recommendations and the GIS; utilizes synergies with other projects.	09/2010	08/2013	36	• Seminars in all partner country capitals • 3 conferences (launch, mid-term review, and final) • Networking activities.	• More than 50% of the most crucial stakeholders and expertise involved • Inputs gathered • Project outputs presented and discussed in all partner country capitals • Potential synergies managed and utilized.	As a European network of stakeholders in sustainable food chains, Foodlawment has solid experience and a large multiplication potential in networking and exchange of expertise activities. It will coordinate all activities in this WP with the active involvement of all project partners.	€ 0,00
WP8										€ 2 115 000,00

5.6 Involvement of target groups and stakeholders

(max 2000 characters)

Please, explain how and by whom the outputs and results listed in 5.5 will be used and how they will influence the decision making process

There are at this point no comprehensive and reliable methods available in the South-East European region to identify, assess and hence manage environmental and technological risks on the transnational level, even though it is clear that such risks have a transnational and even global impact. Several attempts have been made at national level to create such systems – at the most, partially successfully. The inadequacy of such instruments is a major barrier not only for the verification of the effects of the EU's significant spending on agriculture and rural development, but also for the effective cooperation of all stakeholders interested in sustainable food chains.

Project outputs taking the form of written documents (risk analysis, business guidelines, policy and legal recommendations) as well as the financially largest project output (the Geospatial Environmental and Technological Risk Survey)

will be key instruments for the further use of all stakeholders interested in sustainable food chains, including national governments, the European Union, public authorities, agricultural producers, food manufacturers, transport, retail and distribution, other businesses, households, food services, academia, and civil society.

All project outputs, including the Geospatial Environmental and Technological Risk Survey, will be made available to all stakeholders on the project website free of charge.

The project foresees the drafting of business guidelines and policy and legal recommendations. Drafting, however, is augmented by the equally important task of promoting these guidelines and recommendations in order to encourage their effective implementation. Promotion activities will target decision-makers in businesses as well as at the national and European levels.

5.7 Transnational approach

(max 1000 characters)

Please, explain why transnational cooperation is essential to achieve the project's aim and address the issue

Even though environmental risks appear at the local level, they clearly transcend national borders; therefore, addressing this issue at national or local levels is impossible and a transnational approach is required to identify and disseminate best practices.

Governments have made numerous attempts to address this issue, but such an approach is doomed to failure if it does not involve all stakeholders in sustainable food chains, particularly businesses and civil society. An important element of our transnational approach is to involve not only more than one nation; but also to involve a broad variety of actors representing all stakeholders along the food chain.

The implementation of this proposed project will be particularly beneficial in South-East Europe, a European region facing unique environmental challenges principally due to the legacy of pre-1989 quantity-oriented agricultural production concentrating on the heavy use of chemical fertilizers.

5.8 Capitalisation of results

(max 1000 characters)

Please, explain the capitalisation of results of specific elements of previous projects, programmes, initiatives. If your proposal does not foresee any capitalisation of results, please explain its innovative character in comparison with the past

"STRIM – Remotely Accessed Decision Support System for Transnational Environmental Risk Management" was a project financed under INTERREG III B CADSES, which in turn capitalized on the results of a previous project (ISOTEIA) under the same program, and ended in 2008. Although its focus was considerably different, it has laid much of the groundwork necessary for this proposed project, including the development of demo GIS applications for training purposes. This proposed project plans to fully build on and capitalize the results of both STRIM and ISOTEIA, and to involve its project partners in WP7.

"ACCReTe – Agriculture and Climate Changes: how to Reduce human Effects and Threats" mainly concentrated on awareness-raising activities on the link between agriculture and climate change, and ended in 2007. Awareness-raising materials and other resources produced in the framework of ACCReTe will be utilized in this proposed project's WP2, and its project partners will be involved in WP7.

5.9 Synergies with other relevant projects, programmes and policies and with relevant EU/national related networks

(max 1000 characters)

Please, describe planned synergies with other EU funded projects, programmes, policies and initiatives, but also with the relevant topic-related networks at national and EU level

The broader goal of environmental risk assessment is a priority mentioned under several international, European and national strategic documents. Consequently, this proposed project will find synergies with numerous similar but discreet initiatives or projects. This is to be ensured with WP7 "Networking and exchange of expertise".

In particular, European funding schemes for agriculture customarily make funding dependent on the verification of results with specific data reflecting changes in the environment. The European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development specifically foresees the improvement of environmental monitoring systems to enable such verifications.

FP7 specifically mentions "environmental impacts on and of food/feed chains" as future orientation for research. While this proposed project is not principally research-oriented, it will have substantial synergies with research projects financed under FP7, particularly by utilizing their outputs.

**5.10 Plans for sustainability and transferability of project**

results

(max 1000 characters)

*Please, explain - if any - the links of your project to the future, included visibility plans, links to planned investments, foreseen leverage effect*

Political sustainability is ensured by an ever-increasing public interest in environmental impacts along the entire food chain as well as the quality and safety of foodstuffs and food products. It will be further reinforced via the effective implementation of the policy and legal recommendations resulting from this project.

Institutional sustainability is guaranteed by the participation of public authorities from several states with a stable institutional basis as well as the broad range of actors involved.

With this proposed project having a pilot nature, successful project implementation will result in a solid basis to extend the geographical coverage of the GIS to include much larger territories (SEE, or EU-27, or any other area depending on definition). Financial sustainability can be ensured with possible funding for the geographical extension of the GIS from business, national as well as EU funding sources, particularly the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development.

## 6. Budget

6.1 Estimated total budget

2 115 000,00 €

ERDF contribution

1 585 250,00 €

IPA Contribution	
Albania	0,00 €
Bosnia and Herzegovina	0,00 €
Croatia	0,00 €
former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	0,00 €
Montenegro	0,00 €
Serbia	212 500,00 €

## 7. Partnership

### 7.1 List of financing Project Partners

sort	official name and location	phone n.	email address	Country	Type	Status	Budget
1	LA				Regional public authority	Public	550 000,00 €
2	ERDF PP	Right For Safety And Quality Food Fund, Dolné Saliby	+421 31 7853160 plevavet@nextra.sk	SLOVAKIA	Non-governmental or non profit organisation	Governed by private law	200 000,00 €
3	ERDF PP	Biocontrol Hungary, Budapest	+36 1 336-1122 info@biokontroll.hu	HUNGARY	Non-governmental or non profit organisation	Governed by private law	100 000,00 €
4	IPA PP	Veterinary Specialized Institute "Subotica", Subotica	+381 (0)24 horvath61@gmail.com 547767	SERBIA	University, higher education institution, research centre, scientific institution, college	Public	200 000,00 €
5	ERDF PP	Animal Health and Food Safety Authority, Covasna County Department, Sf.Gheorghe	+40-267-351.712 office-covasna@ansvsa.ro	ROMANIA	Regional public authority	Public	260 000,00 €
6	ERDF PP	European Food Chain Parliament (Foodlawment), Budapest	+36-1 456-30-12 foodlawment@foodlawment.com	HUNGARY	Non-governmental or non profit organisation	Governed by private law	150 000,00 €
7	ERDF PP	Austrian Agency for Health and Food Safety (AGES), Vienna	+43 50555 34853 cooperation@ages.at	AUSTRIA	National public authority	Governed by public law	500 000,00 €
8	ERDF PP	Organic Farmers Association of Romania Bioterra, Luna de Sus	+402640266606 bioterra@internet.ro	ROMANIA	Non-governmental or non profit organisation	Governed by private law	105 000,00 €
9	IPA PP	TERRA'S, Subotica	+38124554-600 terras@terras.org.rs	SERBIA	Non-governmental or non profit organisation	Governed by private law	50 000,00 €
10							0,00 €
11							0,00 €
12							0,00 €
13							0,00 €
14							0,00 €
15							0,00 €
16							0,00 €
17							0,00 €
18							0,00 €
19							0,00 €
20							0,00 €
21							0,00 €
22							0,00 €
23							0,00 €
24							0,00 €
25							0,00 €

2 115 000,00 €

### 7.2 List of ASP (Associated Strategic Partners)

sort	official name and location	phone n.	email address	Country	Type	Status
1						
2						
3						
4						
5						
6						
7						
8						
9						
10						

The potential beneficiaries will cooperate in at least two of the following ways (tick the boxes)

- Joint development of the project's idea
- Joint Implementation of the activities
- Joint staffing
- Joint financing

### 7.3 Relevance of the partnership (max 3000 characters)

Please, explain how the composition of the partnership guarantees more effectiveness in achieving the objectives of the project. The description shall explain why these partnership, for the geographical area covered and for the competences represented at different level, is the optimal one for the implementation of this project

Our partnership gathers representatives of all stakeholders interested in sustainable food chains, including public authorities, research, and civil society. Businesses are represented through Foodlawment. The 5 partner countries represent a continuous territory, and occupy a central area in the SEE region while representing different stages of EU integration, varied environmental circumstances in several aspects, and various stages of development in dealing with environmental risks. Therefore, this composition enables the reduction of regional differences.

The Central Agricultural Office of Hungary was established in 2007 with the centralization several previously separate public authorities in the fields of agriculture, food safety, quality control and animal health. It has solid prior experience with similar projects as well as the design of GIS systems in this field.

The RSQF Fund of Slovakia is active in campaigning for environment-conscious food production and consumption

and the certification of agricultural producers.

Biocontrol Hungary is the country's leading controller of organic food products with a number of research programs and periodic publications. It has valuable experience in the extension of regular controlling mechanisms to also measure the environmental and technological impacts of agricultural production.

The Veterinary Specialized Institute Subotica is one of the oldest institutions of this type in Serbia and a regional leader in the research and development of biological products. VZS is the first veterinarian institution in Serbia which has introduced the EU's HACCP standard.

The Animal Health and Food Safety Authority is the Romanian Government's agency for securing safe and sustainable food chains. The Covasna County Department has distinct legal personality and solid prior experience in similar transnational cooperation projects.

Foodlawment is a European network bringing together a broad range of stakeholders interested in sustainable food chains.

AGES is an Austrian governmental agency, which includes 18 federal institutes with various areas of expertise including food inspection, bacteriology and serology, veterinary medicine, and agriculture, processing approx. 900,000 samples and 7.2 million tests annually. AGES makes available the body of knowledge for the whole food chain cycle and has solid experience in drafting policy recommendations and business guidelines in its field.

Bioterra of Romania was established in 1997 with 26 founder members. At present, the Association has over 3,780 members, including farmers, teachers and researchers. Bioterra Association is an IFOAM and Avalon Network member.

Association for Organic Food TERRA'S was established in 1990 in Subotica as an independent non-profit organization and is a pioneer in spreading ideas and initiatives in organic agriculture. TERRA'S aims to establish environmentally balanced and economically sustainable business systems in food production.

8. Self-assessment of the project idea

**8.1 Justification for the project's approval**  
(max 1000 characters)  
*Why should your project be approved?*

This project addresses a pressing transnational issue: the inadequacy of existing monitoring systems to assess environmental and technical risks on a transnational level, the only level where it is sensible to do that. While it is unique in comparison to previous initiatives in that it will examine such risks along the entire food chain (including agriculture, food manufacturing, transport, retail and distribution, and households and food services), it is capable of capitalizing on the results of earlier projects addressing similar issues in slightly different ways. It is focused on the SEE region, taking into account the unique environmental challenges faced here. It will also produce sustainable results with the possibility of extension and follow-up which offer solutions to a broad range of stakeholders in sustainable food chains free of charge, including governments, the European Union, businesses, civil society, and more.

TO BE FILLED IN BY THE JTS

Date of submission

00/01/2009

Time of submission

0:00:00

Reference number