Elektronikusan aláírta:
Füredi Kornél Béla
2025-11-27 09:31:13 +0100
Szigni

Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025



EUROPEAN CLIMATE, INFRASTRUCTURE AND ENVIRONMENT EXECUTIVE AGENCY (CINEA)

CINEA.D – Natural resources, climate, sustainable blue economy and clean energy
**D.2 – LIFE Environment (Nature & Circular Economy)**

# GRANT AGREEMENT

## Project 101202727 — LIFE24-NAT-HU-CitellusLIFE

## PREAMBLE

This **Agreement** ('the Agreement') is **between** the following parties:

**on the one part,**

the **European Climate, Infrastructure and Environment Executive Agency (CINEA)** ('EU executive agency' or 'granting authority'), under the powers delegated by the European Commission ('European Commission'),

**and**

**on the other part,**

1. 'the coordinator':

**HERMAN OTTO INTEZET NON PROFIT KORLATOLT FELELOSSEGU TARSASAG (HOI)**, PIC 912871366, established in PARK UTCA 2, BUDAPEST 1223, Hungary,

and the following other beneficiaries, if they sign their 'accession form' (see Annex 3 and Article 40):

2. **Alapitvany a Budapesti Allatkertert (ZOO)**, PIC 881044793, established in Állatkerti körút 6-12, Budapest 1146, Hungary,

3. **Budakeszi Vadaspark Kozhasznu Nonprofit Kft. (BVP)**, PIC 884780748, established in 0210/12 HRSZ, Budakeszi 2092, Hungary,

4. **BUKKI EMLOSTANI KUTATOCSOPORT EGYESULET (BEKE)**, PIC 884810333, established in MAKLARI UT 77 A, EGER 3300, Hungary,

5. **BUKKI NEMZETI PARK IGAZGATOSAG (BNPD)**, PIC 889739194, established in SANC UTCA 6., EGER 3304, Hungary,

6. **HORTOBAGYI NEMZETI PARK IGAZGATOSAG (HNPD)**, PIC 950161464, established in SUMEN U. 2, DEBRECEN 4024, Hungary,

7. **HUN-REN OKOLOGIAI KUTATOKOZPONT (CER)**, PIC 954674292, established in KAROLINA UT 29, BUDAPEST 1113, Hungary,

8. **ASOCIATIA GRUPUL MILVUS (MILVUS)**, PIC 917235105, established in STRADA 1 DECEMBRIE 1918 NR 121, TG MURES 540445, Romania,

Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025


Unless otherwise specified, references to 'beneficiary' or 'beneficiaries' include the coordinator and affiliated entities (if any).

If only one beneficiary signs the grant agreement ('mono-beneficiary grant'), all provisions referring to the 'coordinator' or the 'beneficiaries' will be considered — mutatis mutandis — as referring to the beneficiary.

The parties referred to above have agreed to enter into the Agreement.

By signing the Agreement and the accession forms, the beneficiaries accept the grant and agree to implement the action under their own responsibility and in accordance with the Agreement, with all the obligations and terms and conditions it sets out.

The Agreement is composed of:

Preamble

Terms and Conditions (including Data Sheet)

Annex 1 Description of the action[1]

Annex 2 Estimated budget for the action

Annex 2a Additional information on unit costs and contributions (if applicable)

Annex 3 Accession forms (if applicable)[2]

Annex 3a Declaration on joint and several liability of affiliated entities (if applicable)[3]

Annex 4 Model for the financial statements

Annex 5 Specific rules (if applicable)

[1] Template published on Portal Reference Documents.
[2] Template published on Portal Reference Documents.
[3] Template published on Portal Reference Documents.

Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025



# TERMS AND CONDITIONS

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

**GRANT AGREEMENT** ..... **1**

**PREAMBLE** ..... **1**

**TERMS AND CONDITIONS** ..... **3**

**DATASHEET** ..... **8**

**CHAPTER 1 GENERAL** ..... **13**

ARTICLE 1 — SUBJECT OF THE AGREEMENT ..... 13

ARTICLE 2 — DEFINITIONS ..... 13

**CHAPTER 2 ACTION** ..... **14**

ARTICLE 3 — ACTION ..... 14

ARTICLE 4 — DURATION AND STARTING DATE ..... 14

**CHAPTER 3 GRANT** ..... **14**

ARTICLE 5 — GRANT ..... 14

5.1 Form of grant ..... 15

5.2 Maximum grant amount ..... 15

5.3 Funding rate ..... 15

5.4 Estimated budget, budget categories and forms of funding ..... 15

5.5 Budget flexibility ..... 15

ARTICLE 6 — ELIGIBLE AND INELIGIBLE COSTS AND CONTRIBUTIONS ..... 16

6.1 General eligibility conditions ..... 16

6.2 Specific eligibility conditions for each budget category ..... 17

6.3 Ineligible costs and contributions ..... 22

6.4 Consequences of non-compliance ..... 23

**CHAPTER 4 GRANT IMPLEMENTATION** ..... **23**

**SECTION 1 CONSORTIUM: BENEFICIARIES, AFFILIATED ENTITIES AND OTHER PARTICIPANTS** ..... **23**

ARTICLE 7 — BENEFICIARIES ..... 23

ARTICLE 8 — AFFILIATED ENTITIES ..... 25

ARTICLE 9 — OTHER PARTICIPANTS INVOLVED IN THE ACTION ..... 26

9.1 Associated partners ..... 26

9.2 Third parties giving in-kind contributions to the action ..... 26

9.3 Subcontractors ..... 26

9.4 Recipients of financial support to third parties....27
ARTICLE 10 — PARTICIPANTS WITH SPECIAL STATUS....27
10.1 Non-EU participants....27
10.2 Participants which are international organisations....27
10.3 Pillar-assessed participants....28
**SECTION 2 RULES FOR CARRYING OUT THE ACTION....30**
ARTICLE 11 — PROPER IMPLEMENTATION OF THE ACTION....30
11.1 Obligation to properly implement the action....30
11.2 Consequences of non-compliance....30
ARTICLE 12 — CONFLICT OF INTERESTS....30
12.1 Conflict of interests....30
12.2 Consequences of non-compliance....30
ARTICLE 13 — CONFIDENTIALITY AND SECURITY....30
13.1 Sensitive information....30
13.2 Classified information....31
13.3 Consequences of non-compliance....31
ARTICLE 14 — ETHICS AND VALUES....32
14.1 Ethics....32
14.2 Values....32
14.3 Consequences of non-compliance....32
ARTICLE 15 — DATA PROTECTION....32
15.1 Data processing by the granting authority....32
15.2 Data processing by the beneficiaries....32
15.3 Consequences of non-compliance....33
ARTICLE 16 — INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS (IPR) — BACKGROUND AND RESULTS — ACCESS RIGHTS AND RIGHTS OF USE....33
16.1 Background and access rights to background....33
16.2 Ownership of results....33
16.3 Rights of use of the granting authority on materials, documents and information received for policy, information, communication, dissemination and publicity purposes....34
16.4 Specific rules on IPR, results and background....35
16.5 Consequences of non-compliance....35
ARTICLE 17 — COMMUNICATION, DISSEMINATION AND VISIBILITY....35
17.1 Communication — Dissemination — Promoting the action....35
17.2 Visibility — European flag and funding statement....35
17.3 Quality of information — Disclaimer....36

17.4 Specific communication, dissemination and visibility rules....36
17.5 Consequences of non-compliance....36
ARTICLE 18 — SPECIFIC RULES FOR CARRYING OUT THE ACTION....36
18.1 Specific rules for carrying out the action....36
18.2 Consequences of non-compliance....36
**SECTION 3 GRANT ADMINISTRATION....37**
ARTICLE 19 — GENERAL INFORMATION OBLIGATIONS....37
19.1 Information requests....37
19.2 Participant Register data updates....37
19.3 Information about events and circumstances which impact the action....37
19.4 Consequences of non-compliance....37
ARTICLE 20 — RECORD-KEEPING....38
20.1 Keeping records and supporting documents....38
20.2 Consequences of non-compliance....39
ARTICLE 21 — REPORTING....39
21.1 Continuous reporting....39
21.2 Periodic reporting: Technical reports and financial statements....39
21.3 Currency for financial statements and conversion into euros....40
21.4 Reporting language....40
21.5 Consequences of non-compliance....40
ARTICLE 22 — PAYMENTS AND RECOVERIES — CALCULATION OF AMOUNTS DUE....41
22.1 Payments and payment arrangements....41
22.2 Recoveries....41
22.3 Amounts due....41
22.4 Enforced recovery....46
22.5 Consequences of non-compliance....47
ARTICLE 23 — GUARANTEES....47
23.1 Prefinancing guarantee....47
23.2 Consequences of non-compliance....48
ARTICLE 24 — CERTIFICATES....48
24.1 Operational verification report (OVR)....48
24.2 Certificate on the financial statements (CFS)....48
24.3 Certificate on the compliance of usual cost accounting practices (CoMUC)....49
24.4 Systems and process audit (SPA)....49
24.5 Consequences of non-compliance....49

ARTICLE 25 — CHECKS, REVIEWS, AUDITS AND INVESTIGATIONS — EXTENSION OF FINDINGS ..... 49

25.1 Granting authority checks, reviews and audits ..... 49

25.2 European Commission checks, reviews and audits in grants of other granting authorities ..... 51

25.3 Access to records for assessing simplified forms of funding ..... 51

25.4 OLAF, EPPO and ECA audits and investigations ..... 51

25.5 Consequences of checks, reviews, audits and investigations — Extension of results of reviews, audits or investigations ..... 51

25.6 Consequences of non-compliance ..... 53

ARTICLE 26 — IMPACT EVALUATIONS ..... 53

26.1 Impact evaluation ..... 53

26.2 Consequences of non-compliance ..... 53

**CHAPTER 5 CONSEQUENCES OF NON-COMPLIANCE ..... 53**

**SECTION 1 REJECTIONS AND GRANT REDUCTION ..... 53**

ARTICLE 27 — REJECTION OF COSTS AND CONTRIBUTIONS ..... 53

27.1 Conditions ..... 53

27.2 Procedure ..... 53

27.3 Effects ..... 54

ARTICLE 28 — GRANT REDUCTION ..... 54

28.1 Conditions ..... 54

28.2 Procedure ..... 54

28.3 Effects ..... 54

**SECTION 2 SUSPENSION AND TERMINATION ..... 55**

ARTICLE 29 — PAYMENT DEADLINE SUSPENSION ..... 55

29.1 Conditions ..... 55

29.2 Procedure ..... 55

ARTICLE 30 — PAYMENT SUSPENSION ..... 55

30.1 Conditions ..... 55

30.2 Procedure ..... 56

ARTICLE 31 — GRANT AGREEMENT SUSPENSION ..... 56

31.1 Consortium-requested GA suspension ..... 56

31.2 EU-initiated GA suspension ..... 57

ARTICLE 32 — GRANT AGREEMENT OR BENEFICIARY TERMINATION ..... 58

32.1 Consortium-requested GA termination ..... 58

32.2 Consortium-requested beneficiary termination ..... 59

32.3 EU-initiated GA or beneficiary termination ..... 60

**SECTION 3 OTHER CONSEQUENCES: DAMAGES AND ADMINISTRATIVE SANCTIONS..... 63**

ARTICLE 33 — DAMAGES.....63

33.1 Liability of the granting authority.....64

33.2 Liability of the beneficiaries..... 64

ARTICLE 34 — ADMINISTRATIVE SANCTIONS AND OTHER MEASURES..... 64

**SECTION 4 FORCE MAJEURE..... 64**

ARTICLE 35 — FORCE MAJEURE.....64

**CHAPTER 6 FINAL PROVISIONS.....65**

ARTICLE 36 — COMMUNICATION BETWEEN THE PARTIES.....65

36.1 Forms and means of communication — Electronic management..... 65

36.2 Date of communication..... 65

36.3 Addresses for communication.....65

ARTICLE 37 — INTERPRETATION OF THE AGREEMENT.....66

ARTICLE 38 — CALCULATION OF PERIODS AND DEADLINES.....66

ARTICLE 39 — AMENDMENTS..... 66

39.1 Conditions..... 66

39.2 Procedure..... 66

ARTICLE 40 — ACCESSION AND ADDITION OF NEW BENEFICIARIES..... 67

40.1 Accession of the beneficiaries mentioned in the Preamble..... 67

40.2 Addition of new beneficiaries.....67

ARTICLE 41 — TRANSFER OF THE AGREEMENT..... 67

ARTICLE 42 — ASSIGNMENTS OF CLAIMS FOR PAYMENT AGAINST THE GRANTING AUTHORITY.....68

ARTICLE 43 — APPLICABLE LAW AND SETTLEMENT OF DISPUTES..... 68

43.1 Applicable law.....68

43.2 Dispute settlement..... 68

ARTICLE 44 — ENTRY INTO FORCE.....68

Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025


# DATA SHEET

## 1. General data

Project summary:

| Project summary |
|---|
| The European Ground Squirrel (Spermophilus citellus) is a keystone, ecological engineer species of dry grassland ecosystems. Its importance in maintaining functions and ecosystem services provided by Pannonian grasslands is evident. Suitable habitats for the European Ground Squirrel (EGS) are threatened by human interventions, lack of appropriate land management, and natural processes. For these reasons, they have been shrinking rapidly in size since 1950's and, although at slower rates in recent decades, EGS habitats have become more and more isolated. Due to strong socio-economic pressures, this process cannot be reversed in the short-term by conservation measures. To slow it down and halt this trend at a viable level for the species is a realistic goal but difficult to achieve. Previous conservation successes on EGS protection cannot be properly interpreted without the comprehensive coordination of different projects and disconnected individually-initiated interventions. Continuing these activities remains extremely important, but the overall coordination of successful local activities as a network of conservation actions carried out so far is more crucial to achieve our goal. Global survival of the EGS lies in this coordination activity in 'stretching' of an ‘EGS Conservation Safety Net’. This means that – except in a minority of cases, where natural connectivity can and should be secured by maintaining or creating ecological corridors – natural migration between local populations must be replaced by strongly synchronised artificial interventions. These will be reached by a range of other well-coordinated conservation measures (e.g. colony-level registration system, local communication activities), different development activities (e.g. captive breeding centres, 'Citellus Gardens') and field interventions for the benefit of the species (e.g. habitat creation and expansion, improvement of habitat quality). These measures can ensure the survival of viable population of the species in the long term. |

Keywords:

- endangered species conservation, grassland community, habitat reconstruction, breeding, reintroduction, exchange of knowledge, ecological corridors

Project number: 101202727

Project name: Ensuring the survival of a viable European Ground Squirrel population in the Pannonian region.

Project acronym: LIFE24-NAT-HU-CitellusLIFE

Call: LIFE-2024-SAP-NAT

Topic: LIFE-2024-SAP-NAT-NATURE

Type of action: LIFE Project Grants

Granting authority: European Climate, Infrastructure and Environment Executive Agency

Grant managed through EU Funding & Tenders Portal: Yes (eGrants)

Project starting date: first day of the month following the entry into force date

Project end date: starting date + months of duration

Project duration: 87 months

Consortium agreement: Yes

## 2. Participants

**List of participants:**

| N° | Role | Short name | Legal name | Ctry | PIC | Total eligible costs (BEN and AE) | Max grant amount |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | COO | HOI | HERMAN OTTO INTEZET NON PROFIT KORLATOLT FELELOSSEGU TARSASAG | HU | 912871366 | 2 215 272.98 | 1 661 454.73 |
| 2 | BEN | ZOO | Alapitvany a Budapesti Allatkertert | HU | 881044793 | 1 188 513.20 | 891 384.90 |

| N° | Role | Short name | Legal name | Ctry | PIC | Total eligible costs (BEN and AE) | Max grant amount |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 3 | BEN | BVP | Budakeszi Vadaspark Kozhasznu Nonprofit Kft. | HU | 884780748 | 1 725 165.28 | 1 293 873.96 |
| 4 | BEN | BEKE | BUKKI EMLOSTANI KUTATOCSOPORT EGYESULET | HU | 884810333 | 266 760.63 | 200 070.47 |
| 5 | BEN | BNPD | BUKKI NEMZETI PARK IGAZGATOSAG | HU | 889739194 | 1 233 576.10 | 925 182.07 |
| 6 | BEN | HNPD | HORTOBAGYI NEMZETI PARK IGAZGATOSAG | HU | 950161464 | 1 343 111.82 | 1 007 333.86 |
| 7 | BEN | CER | HUN-REN OKOLOGIAI KUTATOKOZPONT | HU | 954674292 | 1 278 186.42 | 958 639.81 |
| 8 | BEN | MILVUS | ASOCIATIA GRUPUL MILVUS | RO | 917235105 | 540 838.73 | 405 629.05 |
| 9 | AP | FHNPD | FERTO-HANSAG NEMZETI PARK IGAZGATOSAG | HU | 889727263 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 10 | AP | KNPD | KISKUNSAGI NEMZETI PARK IGAZGATOSAG | HU | 941261423 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 11 | AP | DE | DEBRECENI EGYETEM | HU | 999881239 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| **Total** | | | | | | 9 791 425.16 | 7 343 568.85 |

**Coordinator:**

– HERMAN OTTO INTEZET NON PROFIT KORLATOLT FELELOSSEGU TARSASAG (HOI)

## 3. Grant

**Maximum grant amount, total estimated eligible costs and contributions and funding rate:**

| Total eligible costs (BEN and AE) | Funding rate (%) | Maximum grant amount (Annex 2) | Maximum grant amount (award decision) |
|---|---|---|---|
| 9 791 425.16 | 75 | 7 343 568.85 | 7 343 568.85 |

**Grant form:** Budget-based

**Grant mode:** Action grant

**Budget categories/activity types:**

- A. Personnel costs
  - A.1 Employees, A.2 Natural persons under direct contract, A.3 Seconded persons
  - A.4 SME owners and natural person beneficiaries
  - A.5 Volunteers
- B. Subcontracting costs
- C. Purchase costs
  - C.1 Travel and subsistence
  - C.2 Equipment
  - C.3 Other goods, works and services
- D. Other cost categories
  - D.1 Financial support to third parties
  - D.2 Land purchase
- E. Indirect costs

**Cost eligibility options:**

- Standard supplementary payments
- Limitation for subcontracting

Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025


- Travel and subsistence:
  - Travel: Actual costs
  - Accommodation: Actual costs
  - Subsistence: Actual costs

- Equipment: full costs and depreciation for listed equipment

- Costs for providing financial support to third parties (actual cost; max amount for each recipient: EUR 20 000.00)

- Indirect cost flat-rate: 7% of the eligible direct costs (categories A-D, except volunteers costs and exempted specific cost categories, if any)

- VAT: Yes

- Other ineligible costs

**Budget flexibility:** Yes (no flexibility cap)

## 4. Reporting, payments and recoveries

### 4.1 Continuous reporting (art 21)

**Deliverables:** see Funding & Tenders Portal Continuous Reporting tool

### 4.2 Periodic reporting and payments

**Reporting and payment schedule** (art 21, 22):

| Reporting | | | | | Payments | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Reporting periods | | | Type | Deadline | Type | Deadline (time to pay) |
| RP No | Month from | Month to | | | | |
| | | | | | Initial prefinancing | 30 days from entry into force/ financial guarantee (if required) – whichever is the latest |
| 1 | 1 | 36 | Additional prefinancing report | 60 days after end of reporting period | Additional prefinancing | 60 days from receiving additional prefinancing report/ financial guarantee (if required) – whichever is the latest |
| 2 | 37 | 87 | Periodic report | 60 days after end of reporting period | Final payment | 90 days from receiving periodic report |

**Prefinancing payments and guarantees:**

| Prefinancing payment | | Prefinancing guarantee | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Type | Amount | Guarantee amount | Division per participant | |
| Prefinancing 1 (initial) | 2 203 070.66 | n/a | 1 - HOI | n/a |
| | | | 2 - ZOO | n/a |
| | | | 3 - BVP | n/a |
| | | | 4 - BEKE | n/a |

Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025


| Prefinancing payment | | Prefinancing guarantee | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Type** | **Amount** | **Guarantee amount** | **Division per participant** | |
| | | | 5 - BNPD | n/a |
| | | | 6 - HNPD | n/a |
| | | | 7 - CER | n/a |
| | | | 8 - MILVUS | n/a |
| Prefinancing 2 (additional) | 3 671 784.43 | n/a | 1 - HOI | n/a |
| | | | 2 - ZOO | n/a |
| | | | 3 - BVP | n/a |
| | | | 4 - BEKE | n/a |
| | | | 5 - BNPD | n/a |
| | | | 6 - HNPD | n/a |
| | | | 7 - CER | n/a |
| | | | 8 - MILVUS | n/a |

**Reporting and payment modalities** (art 21, 22):

Mutual Insurance Mechanism (MIM): No

Restrictions on distribution of initial prefinancing: The prefinancing may be distributed only if the minimum number of beneficiaries set out in the call condititions (if any) have acceded to the Agreement and only to beneficiaries that have acceded.

Interim payment ceiling (if any): 90% of the maximum grant amount

No-profit rule: No

Late payment interest: ECB + 3.5%

Bank account for payments:

HU51100048851000801600346333 HUSTHUHBXXX

Conversion into euros: Double conversion

Reporting language: Language of the Agreement

**4.3 Certificates** (art 24):

Certificates on the financial statements (CFS):

Conditions:

Schedule: interim/final payment, if threshold is reached

Standard threshold (beneficiary-level):

- financial statement: requested EU contribution to costs ≥ EUR 500 000.00

**4.4 Recoveries** (art 22)

**First-line liability for recoveries:**

Beneficiary termination: Beneficiary concerned

Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025


Final payment: Coordinator

After final payment: Beneficiary concerned

**Joint and several liability for enforced recoveries (in case of non-payment):**

Limited joint and several liability of other beneficiaries — up to the maximum grant amount of the beneficiary

Joint and several liability of affiliated entities — n/a

## 5. Consequences of non-compliance, applicable law & dispute settlement forum

**Applicable law** (art 43):

Standard applicable law regime: EU law + law of Belgium

**Dispute settlement forum** (art 43):

Standard dispute settlement forum:

EU beneficiaries: EU General Court + EU Court of Justice (on appeal)

Non-EU beneficiaries: Courts of Brussels, Belgium (unless an international agreement provides for the enforceability of EU court judgements)

## 6. Other

**Specific rules (Annex 5):** Yes

**Standard time-limits after project end:**

Confidentiality (for X years after final payment): 5

Record-keeping (for X years after final payment): 5 (or 3 for grants of not more than EUR 60 000)

Reviews (up to X years after final payment): 5 (or 3 for grants of not more than EUR 60 000)

Audits (up to X years after final payment): 5 (or 3 for grants of not more than EUR 60 000)

Extension of findings from other grants to this grant (no later than X years after final payment): 5 (or 3 for grants of not more than EUR 60 000)

Impact evaluation (up to X years after final payment): 5 (or 3 for grants of not more than EUR 60 000)

Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025


# CHAPTER 1 GENERAL

## ARTICLE 1 — SUBJECT OF THE AGREEMENT

This Agreement sets out the rights and obligations and terms and conditions applicable to the grant awarded for the implementation of the action set out in Chapter 2.

## ARTICLE 2 — DEFINITIONS

For the purpose of this Agreement, the following definitions apply:

Actions — The project which is being funded in the context of this Agreement.

Grant — The grant awarded in the context of this Agreement.

EU grants — Grants awarded by EU institutions, bodies, offices or agencies (including EU executive agencies, EU regulatory agencies, EDA, joint undertakings, etc.).

Participants — Entities participating in the action as beneficiaries, affiliated entities, associated partners, third parties giving in-kind contributions, subcontractors or recipients of financial support to third parties.

Beneficiaries (BEN) — The signatories of this Agreement (either directly or through an accession form).

Affiliated entities (AE) — Entities affiliated to a beneficiary within the meaning of Article 190 of EU Financial Regulation 2024/2509[4] which participate in the action with similar rights and obligations as the beneficiaries (obligation to implement action tasks and right to charge costs and claim contributions).

Associated partners (AP) — Entities which participate in the action, but without the right to charge costs or claim contributions.

Purchases — Contracts for goods, works or services needed to carry out the action (e.g. equipment, consumables and supplies) but which are not part of the action tasks (see Annex 1).

Subcontracting — Contracts for goods, works or services that are part of the action tasks (see Annex 1).

In-kind contributions — In-kind contributions within the meaning of Article 2(38) of EU Financial Regulation 2024/2509, i.e. non-financial resources made available free of charge by third parties.

[4] For the definition, see Article 190 Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2024/2509 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 23 September 2024 on the financial rules applicable to the general budget of the Union (recast) ('EU Financial Regulation') (OJ L, 2024/2509, 26.9.2024): "**affiliated entities** [are]:
(a) entities that form a sole beneficiary [(i.e. where an entity is formed of several entities that satisfy the criteria for being awarded a grant, including where the entity is specifically established for the purpose of implementing an action to be financed by a grant)];
(b) entities that satisfy the eligibility criteria and that do not fall within one of the situations referred to in Article 138(1) and 143(1) and that have a link with the beneficiary, in particular a legal or capital link, which is neither limited to the action nor established for the sole purpose of its implementation".

Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025


Fraud — Fraud within the meaning of Article 3 of EU Directive 2017/1371[5] and Article 1 of the Convention on the protection of the European Communities' financial interests, drawn up by the Council Act of 26 July 1995[6], as well as any other wrongful or criminal deception intended to result in financial or personal gain.

Irregularities — Any type of breach (regulatory or contractual) which could impact the EU financial interests, including irregularities within the meaning of Article 1(2) of EU Regulation 2988/95[7].

Grave professional misconduct — Any type of unacceptable or improper behaviour in exercising one's profession, especially by employees, including grave professional misconduct within the meaning of Article 138(1)(c) of EU Financial Regulation 2024/2509[8].

Applicable EU, international and national law — Any legal acts or other (binding or non-binding) rules and guidance in the area concerned.

Portal — EU Funding & Tenders Portal; electronic portal and exchange system managed by the European Commission and used by itself and other EU institutions, bodies, offices or agencies for the management of their funding programmes (grants, procurements, prizes, etc.).

## CHAPTER 2 ACTION

### ARTICLE 3 — ACTION

The grant is awarded for the action **101202727** — **LIFE24-NAT-HU-CitellusLIFE** ('action'), as described in Annex 1.

### ARTICLE 4 — DURATION AND STARTING DATE

The duration and the starting date of the action are set out in the Data Sheet (see Point 1).

## CHAPTER 3 GRANT

### ARTICLE 5 — GRANT

[5] Directive (EU) 2017/1371 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 5 July 2017 on the fight against fraud to the Union's financial interests by means of criminal law (OJ L 198, 28.7.2017, p. 29).

[6] OJ C 316, 27.11.1995, p. 48.

[7] Council Regulation (EC, Euratom) No 2988/95 of 18 December 1995 on the protection of the European Communities financial interests (OJ L 312, 23.12.1995, p. 1).

[8] 'Professional misconduct' includes, in particular, the following: violation of ethical standards of the profession; wrongful conduct with impact on professional credibility; breach of generally accepted professional ethical standards; false declarations/misrepresentation of information; participation in a cartel or other agreement distorting competition; violation of IPR; attempting to influence decision-making processes by taking advantage, through misrepresentation, of a conflict of interests, or to obtain confidential information from public authorities to gain an advantage; incitement to discrimination, hatred or violence or similar activities contrary to the EU values where negatively affecting or risking to affect the performance of a legal commitment.

Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025


### 5.1 Form of grant

The grant is an action grant[9] which takes the form of a budget-based mixed actual cost grant (i.e. a grant based on actual costs incurred, but which may also include other forms of funding, such as unit costs or contributions, flat-rate costs or contributions, lump sum costs or contributions or financing not linked to costs).

### 5.2 Maximum grant amount

The maximum grant amount is set out in the Data Sheet (see Point 3) and in the estimated budget (Annex 2).

### 5.3 Funding rate

The funding rate for costs is 75% of the action's eligible costs.

Contributions are not subject to any funding rate.

### 5.4 Estimated budget, budget categories and forms of funding

The estimated budget for the action is set out in Annex 2.

It contains the estimated eligible costs and contributions for the action, broken down by participant and budget category.

Annex 2 also shows the types of costs and contributions (forms of funding)[10] to be used for each budget category.

If unit costs or contributions are used, the details on the calculation will be explained in Annex 2a.

### 5.5 Budget flexibility

The budget breakdown may be adjusted — without an amendment (see Article 39) — by transfers (between participants and budget categories), as long as this does not imply any substantive or important change to the description of the action in Annex 1.

However:

- changes to the budget category for volunteers (if used) always require an amendment
- changes to budget categories with lump sums costs or contributions (if used; including financing not linked to costs) always require an amendment
- changes to budget categories with higher funding rates or budget ceilings (if used) always require an amendment
- addition of amounts for subcontracts not provided for in Annex 1 either require an amendment or simplified approval in accordance with Article 6.2

[9] For the definition, see Article 183(2)(a) EU Financial Regulation 2024/2509: '**action grant**' means an EU grant to finance "an action intended to help achieve a Union policy objective".
[10] See Article 125 EU Financial Regulation 2024/2509.

- other changes require an amendment or simplified approval, if specifically provided for in Article 6.2

- flexibility caps: not applicable.

## ARTICLE 6 — ELIGIBLE AND INELIGIBLE COSTS AND CONTRIBUTIONS

In order to be eligible, costs and contributions must meet the **eligibility** conditions set out in this Article.

### 6.1 General eligibility conditions

The **general eligibility conditions** are the following:

(a) for actual costs:

(i) they must be actually incurred by the beneficiary

(ii) they must be incurred in the period set out in Article 4 (with the exception of costs relating to the submission of the final periodic report, which may be incurred afterwards; see Article 21)

(iii) they must be declared under one of the budget categories set out in Article 6.2 and Annex 2

(iv) they must be incurred in connection with the action as described in Annex 1 and necessary for its implementation

(v) they must be identifiable and verifiable, in particular recorded in the beneficiary's accounts in accordance with the accounting standards applicable in the country where the beneficiary is established and with the beneficiary's usual cost accounting practices

(vi) they must comply with the applicable national law on taxes, labour and social security and

(vii) they must be reasonable, justified and must comply with the principle of sound financial management, in particular regarding economy and efficiency

(b) for unit costs or contributions (if any):

(i) they must be declared under one of the budget categories set out in Article 6.2 and Annex 2

(ii) the units must:

- be actually used or produced by the beneficiary in the period set out in Article 4 (with the exception of units relating to the submission of the final periodic report, which may be used or produced afterwards; see Article 21)

- be necessary for the implementation of the action and

(iii) the number of units must be identifiable and verifiable, in particular supported by records and documentation (see Article 20)

Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025


(c) for flat-rate costs or contributions (if any):

(i) they must be declared under one of the budget categories set out in Article 6.2 and Annex 2

(ii) the costs or contributions to which the flat-rate is applied must:

- be eligible
- relate to the period set out in Article 4 (with the exception of costs or contributions relating to the submission of the final periodic report, which may be incurred afterwards; see Article 21)

(d) for lump sum costs or contributions (if any):

(i) they must be declared under one of the budget categories set out in Article 6.2 and Annex 2

(ii) the work must be properly implemented by the beneficiary in accordance with Annex 1

(iii) the deliverables/outputs must be achieved in the period set out in Article 4 (with the exception of deliverables/outputs relating to the submission of the final periodic report, which may be achieved afterwards; see Article 21)

(e) for unit, flat-rate or lump sum costs or contributions according to usual cost accounting practices (if any):

(i) they must fulfil the general eligibility conditions for the type of cost concerned

(ii) the cost accounting practices must be applied in a consistent manner, based on objective criteria, regardless of the source of funding

(f) for financing not linked to costs (if any): the results must be achieved or the conditions must be fulfilled as described in Annex 1.

In addition, for direct cost categories (e.g. personnel, travel & subsistence, subcontracting and other direct costs) only costs that are directly linked to the action implementation and can therefore be attributed to it directly are eligible. They must not include any indirect costs (i.e. costs that are only indirectly linked to the action, e.g. via cost drivers).

### 6.2 Specific eligibility conditions for each budget category

For each budget category, the **specific eligibility conditions** are as follows:

**Direct costs**

#### A. Personnel costs

**A.1 Costs for employees (or equivalent)** are eligible as personnel costs, if they fulfil the general eligibility conditions and are related to personnel working for the beneficiary under an employment contract (or equivalent appointing act) and assigned to the action.

They must be limited to salaries, social security contributions, taxes and other costs linked to the

Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025


remuneration, if they arise from national law or the employment contract (or equivalent appointing act) and be calculated on the basis of the costs actually incurred, in accordance with the following method:

{daily rate for the person

multiplied by

number of day-equivalents worked on the action (rounded up or down to the nearest half-day)}.

The daily rate must be calculated as:

{annual personnel costs for the person

divided by

215}.

The number of day-equivalents declared for a person must be identifiable and verifiable (see Article 20).

The total number of day-equivalents declared in EU grants, for a person for a year, cannot be higher than 215.

The personnel costs may also include supplementary payments for personnel assigned to the action (including payments on the basis of supplementary contracts regardless of their nature), if:

- it is part of the beneficiary's usual remuneration practices and is paid in a consistent manner whenever the same kind of work or expertise is required

- the criteria used to calculate the supplementary payments are objective and generally applied by the beneficiary, regardless of the source of funding used.

**A.2** and **A.3 Costs for natural persons working under a direct contract** other than an employment contract and costs for **seconded persons by a third party against payment** are also eligible as personnel costs, if they are assigned to the action, fulfil the general eligibility conditions and:

(a) work under conditions similar to those of an employee (in particular regarding the way the work is organised, the tasks that are performed and the premises where they are performed) and

(b) the result of the work belongs to the beneficiary (unless agreed otherwise).

They must be calculated on the basis of a rate which corresponds to the costs actually incurred for the direct contract or secondment and must not be significantly different from those for personnel performing similar tasks under an employment contract with the beneficiary.

**A.4** The work of **SME owners** for the action (i.e. owners of beneficiaries that are small and medium-sized enterprises[11] not receiving a salary) or **natural person beneficiaries** (i.e. beneficiaries that are

[11] For the definition, see Commission Recommendation 2003/361/EC: micro, small or medium-sized enterprise (SME) are enterprises

- engaged in an economic activity, irrespective of their legal form (including, in particular, self- employed persons and family businesses engaged in craft or other activities, and partnerships or associations regularly engaged in an economic activity) and

Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025


natural persons not receiving a salary) may be declared as personnel costs, if they fulfil the general eligibility conditions and are calculated as unit costs in accordance with the method set out in Annex 2a.

**A.5** The work of **volunteers** for the action (i.e. persons who freely work for an organisation, on a non-compulsory basis and without being paid) may be declared as personnel costs, if and as declared eligible in the call conditions, if they fulfil the general eligibility conditions and are calculated as unit costs in accordance with the method set out in Annex 2a.

They:

- may not exceed the maximum amount for volunteers for the action (which corresponds to 50% of the total (ineligible and eligible) project costs and contributions estimated in the proposal)
- may not exceed the maximum amount for volunteers for each beneficiary set out in Annex 2
- may not make the maximum EU contribution to costs higher than the total eligible costs without volunteers.

If also indirect costs for volunteers are declared eligible in the call conditions, the amount of indirect costs may be added to the volunteers costs category in Annex 2, at the flat-rate set out in Point E.

### B. Subcontracting costs

**Subcontracting costs** for the action (including related duties, taxes and charges, such as non-deductible or non-refundable value added tax (VAT)) are eligible, if they are calculated on the basis of the costs actually incurred, fulfil the general eligibility conditions and are awarded using the beneficiary's usual purchasing practices — provided these ensure subcontracts with best value for money (or if appropriate the lowest price) and that there is no conflict of interests (see Article 12).

Beneficiaries that are 'contracting authorities/entities' within the meaning of the EU Directives on public procurement must also comply with the applicable national law on public procurement.

Subcontracting may cover only a limited part of the action.

The tasks to be subcontracted and the estimated cost for each subcontract must be set out in Annex 1 and the total estimated costs of subcontracting per beneficiary must be set out in Annex 2 (or may be approved ex post in the periodic report, if the use of subcontracting does not entail changes to the Agreement which would call into question the decision awarding the grant or breach the principle of equal treatment of applicants; 'simplified approval procedure').

### C. Purchase costs

**Purchase costs** for the action (including related duties, taxes and charges, such as non-deductible or non-refundable value added tax (VAT)) are eligible if they fulfil the general eligibility conditions and are bought using the beneficiary's usual purchasing practices — provided these ensure purchases with

- employing fewer than 250 persons (expressed in 'annual working units' as defined in Article 5 of the Recommendation) and which have an annual turnover not exceeding EUR 50 million, and/or an annual balance sheet total not exceeding EUR 43 million.

Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025


best value for money (or if appropriate the lowest price) and that there is no conflict of interests (see Article 12).

Beneficiaries that are 'contracting authorities/entities' within the meaning of the EU Directives on public procurement must also comply with the applicable national law on public procurement.

### C.1 Travel and subsistence

Purchases for **travel, accommodation** and **subsistence** must be calculated as follows:

- travel: on the basis of the costs actually incurred and in line with the beneficiary's usual practices on travel
- accommodation: on the basis of the costs actually incurred and in line with the beneficiary's usual practices on travel
- subsistence: on the basis of the costs actually incurred and in line with the beneficiary's usual practices on travel .

### C.2 Equipment

Purchases of **equipment, infrastructure or other assets** specifically for the action (or developed as part of the action tasks) may be declared as full capitalised costs if they fulfil the eligibility conditions applicable to their respective cost categories.

'Capitalised costs' means:

- costs incurred in the purchase or for the development of the equipment, infrastructure or other assets and,
- which are recorded under a fixed asset account of the beneficiary in compliance with international accounting standards and the beneficiary's usual cost accounting practices.

If such equipment, infrastructure or other assets are rented or leased, full costs for **renting or leasing** are eligible, if they do not exceed the depreciation costs of similar equipment, infrastructure or assets and do not include any financing fees.

### C.3 Other goods, works and services

Purchases of **other goods, works and services** must be calculated on the basis of the costs actually incurred.

Such goods, works and services include, for instance, consumables and supplies, promotion, dissemination, protection of results, translations, publications, certificates and financial guarantees, if required under the Agreement.

## D. Other cost categories

### D.1 Financial support to third parties

**Costs for providing financial support to third parties** (in the form of **grants, prizes** or similar forms of support; if any) are eligible, if and as declared eligible in the call conditions, if they fulfil the

general eligibility conditions, are calculated on the basis of the costs actually incurred and the support is implemented in accordance with the conditions set out in Annex 1.

These conditions must ensure objective and transparent selection procedures and include at least the following:

(a) for grants (or similar):

(i) the maximum amount of financial support for each third party ('recipient'); this amount may not exceed the amount set out in the Data Sheet (see Point 3) or otherwise agreed with the granting authority

(ii) the criteria for calculating the exact amount of the financial support

(iii) the different types of activity that qualify for financial support, on the basis of a closed list

(iv) the persons or categories of persons that will be supported and

(v) the criteria and procedures for giving financial support

(b) for prizes (or similar):

(i) the eligibility and award criteria

(ii) the amount of the prize and

(iii) the payment arrangements.

**D.2 Land purchase**

Costs for land purchase from private entities (or long-term lease of land or one-off compensations for land use rights) are eligible, if and as declared eligible in the call conditions, if they fulfil the general eligibility conditions, are calculated on the basis of the costs actually incurred and:

(a) the purchase will contribute to improving, maintaining and restoring the integrity of the Natura 2000 network set up pursuant to Article 3 of Directive 92/43/EEC, including through improving connectivity by the creation of corridors, stepping stones, or other elements of green infrastructure

(b) land purchase is the only or most cost-effective way of achieving the desired conservation outcome

(c) the land purchased is reserved in the long term for uses consistent with the specific objectives of the LIFE Programme

(d) the Member State concerned ensures, by way of transfer or otherwise, the long-term assignment of such land to nature conservation purposes and the beneficiary documents this by ensuring that:

(i) the entry into the land register includes a condition that the land will be assigned definitively to nature conservation

(ii) or, if there is no land register or such a condition is not possible under national law, that

Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025


such a condition is either included in the land sale contract or guaranteed by equivalent means

(e) for land purchases by private entity beneficiaries: the beneficiaries ensure the long-term conservation by ensuring that:

(i) the entry into the land register includes a condition that, in case of their dissolution or incapacity to manage the land according to nature conservation requirements, the property will be transferred to an entity primarily active in the field of nature protection

(ii) or, if there is no land register or such a condition is not possible under national law, that such a condition is either included in the land sale contract or guaranteed by equivalent means

(f) for purchases of partial rights: the entry into the land register duly reflects the long-term nature conservation objectives and the requirements set out in this Article

(g) for land purchased to be exchanged at a later date for another parcel on which the action will be undertaken: the exchange is carried out before the end of the action and the land exchanged complies with the requirements set out in this Article

(h) for long-term leases: the lease is of at least 20 years and includes provisions and commitments that ensure the achievement of its objectives in terms of habitat and species protection.

This cost will not be taken into account for the indirect cost flat-rate.

**Indirect costs**

**E. Indirect costs**

**Indirect costs** will be reimbursed at the flat-rate of 7% of the eligible direct costs (categories A-D, except volunteers costs and exempted specific cost categories, if any).

**Contributions**

Not applicable

### 6.3 Ineligible costs and contributions

The following costs or contributions are **ineligible**:

(a) costs or contributions that do not comply with the conditions set out above (Article 6.1 and 6.2), in particular:

(i) costs related to return on capital and dividends paid by a beneficiary

(ii) debt and debt service charges

(iii) provisions for future losses or debts

(iv) interest owed

(v) currency exchange losses

Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025


(vi) bank costs charged by the beneficiary's bank for transfers from the granting authority

(vii) excessive or reckless expenditure

(viii) deductible or refundable VAT (including VAT paid by public bodies acting as public authority)

(ix) costs incurred or contributions for activities implemented during grant agreement suspension (see Article 31)

(x) in-kind contributions by third parties

(b) costs or contributions declared under other EU grants (or grants awarded by an EU Member State, non-EU country or other body implementing the EU budget), except for the following cases:

(i) Synergy actions: not applicable

(ii) if the action grant is combined with an operating grant[12] running during the same period and the beneficiary can demonstrate that the operating grant does not cover any (direct or indirect) costs of the action grant

(c) costs or contributions for staff of a national (or regional/local) administration, for activities that are part of the administration's normal activities (i.e. not undertaken only because of the grant)

(d) costs or contributions (especially travel and subsistence) for staff or representatives of EU institutions, bodies or agencies

(e) other :

(i) country restrictions for eligible costs: not applicable

(ii) costs or contributions declared specifically ineligible in the call conditions.

### 6.4 Consequences of non-compliance

If a beneficiary declares costs or contributions that are ineligible, they will be rejected (see Article 27).

This may also lead to other measures described in Chapter 5.

## CHAPTER 4 GRANT IMPLEMENTATION

## SECTION 1 CONSORTIUM: BENEFICIARIES, AFFILIATED ENTITIES AND OTHER PARTICIPANTS

## ARTICLE 7 — BENEFICIARIES

[12] For the definition, see Article 183(2)(b) EU Financial Regulation 2024/2509: '**operating grant**' means an EU grant to finance "the functioning of a body which has an objective forming part of and supporting an EU policy".

Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025


The beneficiaries, as signatories of the Agreement, are fully responsible towards the granting authority for implementing it and for complying with all its obligations.

They must implement the Agreement to their best abilities, in good faith and in accordance with all the obligations and terms and conditions it sets out.

They must have the appropriate resources to implement the action and implement the action under their own responsibility and in accordance with Article 11. If they rely on affiliated entities or other participants (see Articles 8 and 9), they retain sole responsibility towards the granting authority and the other beneficiaries.

They are jointly responsible for the *technical* implementation of the action. If one of the beneficiaries fails to implement their part of the action, the other beneficiaries must ensure that this part is implemented by someone else (without being entitled to an increase of the maximum grant amount and subject to an amendment; see Article 39). The *financial* responsibility of each beneficiary in case of recoveries is governed by Article 22.

The beneficiaries (and their action) must remain eligible under the EU programme funding the grant for the entire duration of the action. Costs and contributions will be eligible only as long as the beneficiary and the action are eligible.

The **internal roles and responsibilities** of the beneficiaries are divided as follows:

(a) Each beneficiary must:

(i) keep information stored in the Portal Participant Register up to date (see Article 19)

(ii) inform the granting authority (and the other beneficiaries) immediately of any events or circumstances likely to affect significantly or delay the implementation of the action (see Article 19)

(iii) submit to the coordinator in good time:

- the prefinancing guarantees (if required; see Article 23)
- the financial statements and certificates on the financial statements (CFS) (if required; see Articles 21 and 24.2 and Data Sheet, Point 4.3)
- the contribution to the deliverables and technical reports (see Article 21)
- any other documents or information required by the granting authority under the Agreement

(iv) submit via the Portal data and information related to the participation of their affiliated entities.

(b) The coordinator must:

(i) monitor that the action is implemented properly (see Article 11)

(ii) act as the intermediary for all communications between the consortium and the granting authority, unless the Agreement or granting authority specifies otherwise, and in particular:

Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025


- submit the prefinancing guarantees to the granting authority (if any)
- request and review any documents or information required and verify their quality and completeness before passing them on to the granting authority
- submit the deliverables and reports to the granting authority
- inform the granting authority about the payments made to the other beneficiaries (report on the distribution of payments; if required, see Articles 22 and 32)

(iii) distribute the payments received from the granting authority to the other beneficiaries without unjustified delay (see Article 22).

The coordinator may not delegate or subcontract the above-mentioned tasks to any other beneficiary or third party (including affiliated entities).

However, coordinators which are public bodies may delegate the tasks set out in Point (b)(ii) last indent and (iii) above to entities with 'authorisation to administer' which they have created or which are controlled by or affiliated to them. In this case, the coordinator retains sole responsibility for the payments and for compliance with the obligations under the Agreement.

Moreover, coordinators which are 'sole beneficiaries'[13] (or similar, such as European research infrastructure consortia (ERICs)) may delegate the tasks set out in Point (b)(i) to (iii) above to one of their members. The coordinator retains sole responsibility for compliance with the obligations under the Agreement.

The beneficiaries must have **internal arrangements** regarding their operation and co-ordination, to ensure that the action is implemented properly.

If required by the granting authority (see Data Sheet, Point 1), these arrangements must be set out in a written **consortium agreement** between the beneficiaries, covering for instance:

- the internal organisation of the consortium
- the management of access to the Portal
- different distribution keys for the payments and financial responsibilities in case of recoveries (if any)
- additional rules on rights and obligations related to background and results (see Article 16)
- settlement of internal disputes
- liability, indemnification and confidentiality arrangements between the beneficiaries.

The internal arrangements must not contain any provision contrary to this Agreement.

## ARTICLE 8 — AFFILIATED ENTITIES

[13] For the definition, see Article 190(2) EU Financial Regulation 2024/2509: "Where several entities satisfy the criteria for being awarded a grant and together form one entity, that entity may be treated as the **sole beneficiary**, including where it is specifically established for the purpose of implementing the action financed by the grant."

Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025


Not applicable

## ARTICLE 9 — OTHER PARTICIPANTS INVOLVED IN THE ACTION

### 9.1 Associated partners

The following entities which cooperate with a beneficiary will participate in the action as 'associated partners':

- **FERTO-HANSAG NEMZETI PARK IGAZGATOSAG (FHNPD)**, PIC 889727263
- **KISKUNSAGI NEMZETI PARK IGAZGATOSAG (KNPD)**, PIC 941261423
- **DEBRECENI EGYETEM (DE)**, PIC 999881239

Associated partners must implement the action tasks attributed to them in Annex 1 in accordance with Article 11. They may not charge costs or contributions to the action and the costs for their tasks are not eligible.

The tasks must be set out in Annex 1.

The beneficiaries must ensure that their contractual obligations under Articles 11 (proper implementation), 12 (conflict of interests), 13 (confidentiality and security), 14 (ethics), 17.2 (visibility), 18 (specific rules for carrying out action), 19 (information) and 20 (record-keeping) also apply to the associated partners.

The beneficiaries must ensure that the bodies mentioned in Article 25 (e.g. granting authority, OLAF, Court of Auditors (ECA), etc.) can exercise their rights also towards the associated partners.

### 9.2 Third parties giving in-kind contributions to the action

Other third parties may give in-kind contributions to the action (i.e. personnel, equipment, other goods, works and services, etc. which are free-of-charge), if necessary for the implementation.

Third parties giving in-kind contributions do not implement any action tasks. They may not charge costs or contributions to the action and the costs for the in-kind contributions are not eligible.

The third parties and their in-kind contributions should be set out in Annex 1.

### 9.3 Subcontractors

Subcontractors may participate in the action, if necessary for the implementation.

Subcontractors must implement their action tasks in accordance with Article 11. The costs for the subcontracted tasks (invoiced price from the subcontractor) are eligible and may be charged by the beneficiaries, under the conditions set out in Article 6. The costs will be included in Annex 2 as part of the beneficiaries' costs.

The beneficiaries must ensure that their contractual obligations under Articles 11 (proper implementation), 12 (conflict of interest), 13 (confidentiality and security), 14 (ethics), 17.2 (visibility), 18 (specific rules for carrying out action), 19 (information) and 20 (record-keeping) also apply to the subcontractors.

The beneficiaries must ensure that the bodies mentioned in Article 25 (e.g. granting authority, OLAF, Court of Auditors (ECA), etc.) can exercise their rights also towards the subcontractors.

### 9.4 Recipients of financial support to third parties

If the action includes providing financial support to third parties (e.g. grants, prizes or similar forms of support), the beneficiaries must ensure that their contractual obligations under Articles 12 (conflict of interest), 13 (confidentiality and security), 14 (ethics), 17.2 (visibility), 18 (specific rules for carrying out action), 19 (information) and 20 (record-keeping)also apply to the third parties receiving the support (recipients).

The beneficiaries must also ensure that the bodies mentioned in Article 25 (e.g. granting authority, OLAF, Court of Auditors (ECA), etc.) can exercise their rights also towards the recipients.

## ARTICLE 10 — PARTICIPANTS WITH SPECIAL STATUS

### 10.1 Non-EU participants

Participants which are established in a non-EU country (if any) undertake to comply with their obligations under the Agreement and:

- to respect general principles (including fundamental rights, values and ethical principles, environmental and labour standards, rules on classified information, intellectual property rights, visibility of funding and protection of personal data)
- for the submission of certificates under Article 24: to use qualified external auditors which are independent and comply with comparable standards as those set out in EU Directive 2006/43/EC[14]
- for the controls under Article 25: to allow for checks, reviews, audits and investigations (including on-the-spot checks, visits and inspections) by the bodies mentioned in that Article (e.g. granting authority, OLAF, Court of Auditors (ECA), etc.).

Special rules on dispute settlement apply (see Data Sheet, Point 5).

### 10.2 Participants which are international organisations

Participants which are international organisations (IOs; if any) undertake to comply with their obligations under the Agreement and:

- to respect general principles (including fundamental rights, values and ethical principles, environmental and labour standards, rules on classified information, intellectual property rights, visibility of funding and protection of personal data)
- for the submission of certificates under Article 24: to use either independent public officers or

[14] Directive 2006/43/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 17 May 2006 on statutory audits of annual accounts and consolidated accounts (OJ L 157, 9.6.2006, p. 87).

external auditors which comply with comparable standards as those set out in EU Directive 2006/43/EC[15]

- for the controls under Article 25: to allow for the checks, reviews, audits and investigations by the bodies mentioned in that Article, taking into account the specific agreements concluded by them and the EU (if any).

For such participants, nothing in the Agreement will be interpreted as a waiver of their privileges or immunities, as accorded by their constituent documents or international law.

Special rules on applicable law and dispute settlement apply (see Article 43 and Data Sheet, Point 5).

### 10.3 Pillar-assessed participants

Pillar-assessed participants (if any) may rely on their own systems, rules and procedures, in so far as they have been positively assessed and do not call into question the decision awarding the grant or breach the principle of equal treatment of applicants or beneficiaries.

'Pillar-assessment' means a review by the European Commission on the systems, rules and procedures which participants use for managing EU grants (in particular internal control system, accounting system, external audits, financing of third parties, rules on recovery and exclusion, information on recipients and protection of personal data; see Article 157 EU Financial Regulation 2024/2509).

Participants with a positive pillar assessment may rely on their own systems, rules and procedures, in particular for:

- record-keeping (Article 20): may be done in accordance with internal standards, rules and procedures

- currency conversion for financial statements (Article 21): may be done in accordance with usual accounting practices

- guarantees (Article 23): for public law bodies, prefinancing guarantees are not needed

- certificates (Article 24):

    - certificates on the financial statements (CFS): may be provided by their regular internal or external auditors and in accordance with their internal financial regulations and procedures

    - certificates on usual accounting practices (CoMUC): are not needed if those practices are covered by an ex-ante assessment

and use the following specific rules, for:

- recoveries (Article 22): in case of financial support to third parties, there will be no recovery if the participant has done everything possible to retrieve the undue amounts from the third party receiving the support (including legal proceedings) and non-recovery is not due to an error or negligence on its part

[15] Directive 2006/43/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 17 May 2006 on statutory audits of annual accounts and consolidated accounts (OJ L 157, 9.6.2006, p. 87).

- checks, reviews, audits and investigations by the EU (Article 25): will be conducted taking into account the rules and procedures specifically agreed between them and the framework agreement (if any)

- impact evaluation (Article 26): will be conducted in accordance with the participant's internal rules and procedures and the framework agreement (if any)

- grant agreement termination (Article 32): the final grant amount and final payment will be calculated taking into account also costs relating to contracts due for execution only after termination takes effect, if the contract was entered into before the pre-information letter was received and could not reasonably be terminated on legal grounds

- liability for damages (Article 33.2): the granting authority must be compensated for damage it sustains as a result of the implementation of the action or because the action was not implemented in full compliance with the Agreement only if the damage is due to an infringement of the participant's internal rules and procedures or due to a violation of third parties' rights by the participant or one of its employees or individual for whom the employees are responsible.

Participants whose pillar assessment covers procurement and granting procedures may also do purchases, subcontracting and financial support to third parties (Article 6.2) in accordance with their internal rules and procedures for purchases, subcontracting and financial support.

Participants whose pillar assessment covers data protection rules may rely on their internal standards, rules and procedures for data protection (Article 15).

The participants may however not rely on provisions which would breach the principle of equal treatment of applicants or beneficiaries or call into question the decision awarding the grant, such as in particular:

- eligibility (Article 6)

- consortium roles and set-up (Articles 7-9)

- security and ethics (Articles 13, 14)

- IPR (including background and results, access rights and rights of use), communication, dissemination and visibility (Articles 16 and 17)

- information obligation (Article 19)

- payment, reporting and amendments (Articles 21, 22 and 39)

- rejections, reductions, suspensions and terminations (Articles 27, 28, 29-32)

If the pillar assessment was subject to remedial measures, reliance on the internal systems, rules and procedures is subject to compliance with those remedial measures.

Participants must inform the coordinator without delay of any changes to the systems, rules and procedures that were part of the pillar assessment. The coordinator must immediately inform the granting authority.

Pillar-assessed participants that have also concluded a framework agreement with the EU, may

moreover — under the same conditions as those above (i.e. not call into question the decision awarding the grant or breach the principle of equal treatment of applicants or beneficiaries) — rely on the provisions set out in that framework agreement.

## SECTION 2 RULES FOR CARRYING OUT THE ACTION

## ARTICLE 11 — PROPER IMPLEMENTATION OF THE ACTION

### 11.1 Obligation to properly implement the action

The beneficiaries must implement the action as described in Annex 1 and in compliance with the provisions of the Agreement, the call conditions and all legal obligations under applicable EU, international and national law.

### 11.2 Consequences of non-compliance

If a beneficiary breaches any of its obligations under this Article, the grant may be reduced (see Article 28).

Such breaches may also lead to other measures described in Chapter 5.

## ARTICLE 12 — CONFLICT OF INTERESTS

### 12.1 Conflict of interests

The beneficiaries must take all measures to prevent any situation where the impartial and objective implementation of the Agreement could be compromised for reasons involving family, emotional life, political or national affinity, economic interest or any other direct or indirect interest (‘conflict of interests’).

They must formally notify the granting authority without delay of any situation constituting or likely to lead to a conflict of interests and immediately take all the necessary steps to rectify this situation.

The granting authority may verify that the measures taken are appropriate and may require additional measures to be taken by a specified deadline.

### 12.2 Consequences of non-compliance

If a beneficiary breaches any of its obligations under this Article, the grant may be reduced (see Article 28) and the grant or the beneficiary may be terminated (see Article 32).

Such breaches may also lead to other measures described in Chapter 5.

## ARTICLE 13 — CONFIDENTIALITY AND SECURITY

### 13.1 Sensitive information

The parties must keep confidential any data, documents or other material (in any form) that is identified as sensitive in writing (‘sensitive information’) — during the implementation of the action and for at least until the time-limit set out in the Data Sheet (see Point 6).

Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025


If a beneficiary requests, the granting authority may agree to keep such information confidential for a longer period.

Unless otherwise agreed between the parties, they may use sensitive information only to implement the Agreement.

The beneficiaries may disclose sensitive information to their personnel or other participants involved in the action only if they:

(a) need to know it in order to implement the Agreement and

(b) are bound by an obligation of confidentiality.

The granting authority may disclose sensitive information to its staff and to other EU institutions and bodies.

It may moreover disclose sensitive information to third parties, if:

(a) this is necessary to implement the Agreement or safeguard the EU financial interests and

(b) the recipients of the information are bound by an obligation of confidentiality.

The confidentiality obligations no longer apply if:

(a) the disclosing party agrees to release the other party

(b) the information becomes publicly available, without breaching any confidentiality obligation

(c) the disclosure of the sensitive information is required by EU, international or national law.

Specific confidentiality rules (if any) are set out in Annex 5.

### 13.2 Classified information

The parties must handle classified information in accordance with the applicable EU, international or national law on classified information (in particular, Decision 2015/444[16] and its implementing rules).

Deliverables which contain classified information must be submitted according to special procedures agreed with the granting authority.

Action tasks involving classified information may be subcontracted only after explicit approval (in writing) from the granting authority.

Classified information may not be disclosed to any third party (including participants involved in the action implementation) without prior explicit written approval from the granting authority.

Specific security rules (if any) are set out in Annex 5.

### 13.3 Consequences of non-compliance

[16] Commission Decision 2015/444/EC, Euratom of 13 March 2015 on the security rules for protecting EU classified information (OJ L 72, 17.3.2015, p. 53).

Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025


If a beneficiary breaches any of its obligations under this Article, the grant may be reduced (see Article 28).

Such breaches may also lead to other measures described in Chapter 5.

## ARTICLE 14 — ETHICS AND VALUES

### 14.1 Ethics

The action must be carried out in line with the highest ethical standards and the applicable EU, international and national law on ethical principles.

Specific ethics rules (if any) are set out in Annex 5.

### 14.2 Values

The beneficiaries must commit to and ensure the respect of basic EU values (such as respect for human dignity, freedom, democracy, equality, the rule of law and human rights, including the rights of minorities).

Specific rules on values (if any) are set out in Annex 5.

### 14.3 Consequences of non-compliance

If a beneficiary breaches any of its obligations under this Article, the grant may be reduced (see Article 28).

Such breaches may also lead to other measures described in Chapter 5.

## ARTICLE 15 — DATA PROTECTION

### 15.1 Data processing by the granting authority

Any personal data under the Agreement will be processed under the responsibility of the data controller of the granting authority in accordance with and for the purposes set out in the Portal Privacy Statement.

For grants where the granting authority is the European Commission, an EU regulatory or executive agency, joint undertaking or other EU body, the processing will be subject to Regulation 2018/1725[17].

### 15.2 Data processing by the beneficiaries

The beneficiaries must process personal data under the Agreement in compliance with the applicable EU, international and national law on data protection (in particular, Regulation 2016/679[18]).

[17] Regulation (EU) 2018/1725 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 23 October 2018 on the protection of natural persons with regard to the processing of personal data by the Union institutions, bodies, offices and agencies and on the free movement of such data, and repealing Regulation (EC) No 45/2001 and Decision No 1247/2002/EC (OJ L 295, 21.11.2018, p. 39).

[18] Regulation (EU) 2016/679 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 27 April 2016 on the protection of natural persons with regard to the processing of personal data and on the free movement of such data, and repealing Directive 95/46/EC (‘GDPR’) (OJ L 119, 4.5.2016, p. 1).

Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025


They must ensure that personal data is:

- processed lawfully, fairly and in a transparent manner in relation to the data subjects
- collected for specified, explicit and legitimate purposes and not further processed in a manner that is incompatible with those purposes
- adequate, relevant and limited to what is necessary in relation to the purposes for which they are processed
- accurate and, where necessary, kept up to date
- kept in a form which permits identification of data subjects for no longer than is necessary for the purposes for which the data is processed and
- processed in a manner that ensures appropriate security of the data.

The beneficiaries may grant their personnel access to personal data only if it is strictly necessary for implementing, managing and monitoring the Agreement. The beneficiaries must ensure that the personnel is under a confidentiality obligation.

The beneficiaries must inform the persons whose data are transferred to the granting authority and provide them with the Portal Privacy Statement.

### 15.3 Consequences of non-compliance

If a beneficiary breaches any of its obligations under this Article, the grant may be reduced (see Article 28).

Such breaches may also lead to other measures described in Chapter 5.

## ARTICLE 16 — INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS (IPR) — BACKGROUND AND RESULTS —ACCESS RIGHTS AND RIGHTS OF USE

### 16.1 Background and access rights to background

The beneficiaries must give each other and the other participants access to the background identified as needed for implementing the action, subject to any specific rules in Annex 5.

‘Background’ means any data, know-how or information — whatever its form or nature (tangible or intangible), including any rights such as intellectual property rights — that is:

(a) held by the beneficiaries before they acceded to the Agreement and

(b) needed to implement the action or exploit the results.

If background is subject to rights of a third party, the beneficiary concerned must ensure that it is able to comply with its obligations under the Agreement.

### 16.2 Ownership of results

The granting authority does not obtain ownership of the results produced under the action.

Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025


'Results' means any tangible or intangible effect of the action, such as data, know-how or information, whatever its form or nature, whether or not it can be protected, as well as any rights attached to it, including intellectual property rights.

### 16.3 Rights of use of the granting authority on materials, documents and information received for policy, information, communication, dissemination and publicity purposes

The granting authority has the right to use non-sensitive information relating to the action and materials and documents received from the beneficiaries (notably summaries for publication, deliverables, as well as any other material, such as pictures or audio-visual material, in paper or electronic form) for policy, information, communication, dissemination and publicity purposes — during the action or afterwards.

The right to use the beneficiaries' materials, documents and information is granted in the form of a royalty-free, non-exclusive and irrevocable licence, which includes the following rights:

(a) **use for its own purposes** (in particular, making them available to persons working for the granting authority or any other EU service (including institutions, bodies, offices, agencies, etc.) or EU Member State institution or body; copying or reproducing them in whole or in part, in unlimited numbers; and communication through press information services)

(b) **distribution to the public** (in particular, publication as hard copies and in electronic or digital format, publication on the internet, as a downloadable or non-downloadable file, broadcasting by any channel, public display or presentation, communicating through press information services, or inclusion in widely accessible databases or indexes)

(c) **editing or redrafting** (including shortening, summarising, inserting other elements (e.g. meta-data, legends, other graphic, visual, audio or text elements), extracting parts (e.g. audio or video files), dividing into parts, use in a compilation)

(d) **translation**

(e) **storage** in paper, electronic or other form

(f) **archiving**, in line with applicable document-management rules

(g) the right to authorise **third parties** to act on its behalf or sub-license to third parties the modes of use set out in Points (b), (c), (d) and (f), if needed for the information, communication and publicity activity of the granting authority

(h) **processing**, analysing, aggregating the materials, documents and information received and **producing derivative works**.

The rights of use are granted for the whole duration of the industrial or intellectual property rights concerned.

If materials or documents are subject to moral rights or third party rights (including intellectual property rights or rights of natural persons on their image and voice), the beneficiaries must ensure that they comply with their obligations under this Agreement (in particular, by obtaining the necessary licences and authorisations from the rights holders concerned).

Where applicable, the granting authority will insert the following information:

"© – [year] – [name of the copyright owner]. All rights reserved. Licensed to the [name of granting authority] under conditions."

### 16.4 Specific rules on IPR, results and background

Specific rules regarding intellectual property rights, results and background (if any) are set out in Annex 5.

### 16.5 Consequences of non-compliance

If a beneficiary breaches any of its obligations under this Article, the grant may be reduced (see Article 28).

Such a breach may also lead to other measures described in Chapter 5.

## ARTICLE 17 — COMMUNICATION, DISSEMINATION AND VISIBILITY

### 17.1 Communication — Dissemination — Promoting the action

Unless otherwise agreed with the granting authority, the beneficiaries must promote the action and its results by providing targeted information to multiple audiences (including the media and the public), in accordance with Annex 1 and in a strategic, coherent and effective manner.

Before engaging in a communication or dissemination activity expected to have a major media impact, the beneficiaries must inform the granting authority.

### 17.2 Visibility — European flag and funding statement

Unless otherwise agreed with the granting authority, communication activities of the beneficiaries related to the action (including media relations, conferences, seminars, information material, such as brochures, leaflets, posters, presentations, etc., in electronic form, via traditional or social media, etc.), dissemination activities and any infrastructure, equipment, vehicles, supplies or major result funded by the grant must acknowledge EU support and display the European flag (emblem) and funding statement (translated into local languages, where appropriate):








Funded by the European Union



Co-funded by the European Union

The emblem must remain distinct and separate and cannot be modified by adding other visual marks, brands or text.

Apart from the emblem, no other visual identity or logo may be used to highlight the EU support.

When displayed in association with other logos (e.g. of beneficiaries or sponsors), the emblem must be displayed at least as prominently and visibly as the other logos.

For the purposes of their obligations under this Article, the beneficiaries may use the emblem without first obtaining approval from the granting authority. This does not, however, give them the right to exclusive use. Moreover, they may not appropriate the emblem or any similar trademark or logo, either by registration or by any other means.

### 17.3 Quality of information — Disclaimer

Any communication or dissemination activity related to the action must use factually accurate information.

Moreover, it must indicate the following disclaimer (translated into local languages where appropriate):

> "Funded by the European Union. Views and opinions expressed are however those of the author(s) only and do not necessarily reflect those of the European Union or [name of the granting authority]. Neither the European Union nor the granting authority can be held responsible for them."

### 17.4 Specific communication, dissemination and visibility rules

Specific communication, dissemination and visibility rules (if any) are set out in Annex 5.

### 17.5 Consequences of non-compliance

If a beneficiary breaches any of its obligations under this Article, the grant may be reduced (see Article 28).

Such breaches may also lead to other measures described in Chapter 5.

## ARTICLE 18 — SPECIFIC RULES FOR CARRYING OUT THE ACTION

### 18.1 Specific rules for carrying out the action

Specific rules for implementing the action (if any) are set out in Annex 5.

### 18.2 Consequences of non-compliance

If a beneficiary breaches any of its obligations under this Article, the grant may be reduced (see Article 28).

Such a breach may also lead to other measures described in Chapter 5.

## SECTION 3 GRANT ADMINISTRATION

## ARTICLE 19 — GENERAL INFORMATION OBLIGATIONS

### 19.1 Information requests

The beneficiaries must provide — during the action or afterwards and in accordance with Article 7 — any information requested in order to verify eligibility of the costs or contributions declared, proper implementation of the action and compliance with the other obligations under the Agreement.

The information provided must be accurate, precise and complete and in the format requested, including electronic format.

### 19.2 Participant Register data updates

The beneficiaries must keep — at all times, during the action or afterwards — their information stored in the Portal Participant Register up to date, in particular, their name, address, legal representatives, legal form and organisation type.

### 19.3 Information about events and circumstances which impact the action

The beneficiaries must immediately inform the granting authority (and the other beneficiaries) of any of the following:

(a) **events** which are likely to affect or delay the implementation of the action or affect the EU's financial interests, in particular:

(i) changes in their legal, financial, technical, organisational or ownership situation (including changes linked to one of the exclusion grounds listed in the declaration of honour signed before grant signature)

(ii) linked action information: not applicable

(b) **circumstances** affecting:

(i) the decision to award the grant or

(ii) compliance with requirements under the Agreement.

### 19.4 Consequences of non-compliance

If a beneficiary breaches any of its obligations under this Article, the grant may be reduced (see Article 28).

Such breaches may also lead to other measures described in Chapter 5.

Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025


## ARTICLE 20 — RECORD-KEEPING

### 20.1 Keeping records and supporting documents

The beneficiaries must — at least until the time-limit set out in the Data Sheet (see Point 6) — keep records and other supporting documents to prove the proper implementation of the action in line with the accepted standards in the respective field (if any).

In addition, the beneficiaries must — for the same period — keep the following to justify the amounts declared:

(a) for actual costs: adequate records and supporting documents to prove the costs declared (such as contracts, subcontracts, invoices and accounting records); in addition, the beneficiaries' usual accounting and internal control procedures must enable direct reconciliation between the amounts declared, the amounts recorded in their accounts and the amounts stated in the supporting documents

(b) for flat-rate costs and contributions (if any): adequate records and supporting documents to prove the eligibility of the costs or contributions to which the flat-rate is applied

(c) for the following simplified costs and contributions: the beneficiaries do not need to keep specific records on the actual costs incurred, but must keep:

(i) for unit costs and contributions (if any): adequate records and supporting documents to prove the number of units declared

(ii) for lump sum costs and contributions (if any): adequate records and supporting documents to prove proper implementation of the work as described in Annex 1

(iii) for financing not linked to costs (if any): adequate records and supporting documents to prove the achievement of the results or the fulfilment of the conditions as described in Annex 1

(d) for unit, flat-rate and lump sum costs and contributions according to usual cost accounting practices (if any): the beneficiaries must keep any adequate records and supporting documents to prove that their cost accounting practices have been applied in a consistent manner, based on objective criteria, regardless of the source of funding, and that they comply with the eligibility conditions set out in Articles 6.1 and 6.2.

Moreover, the following is needed for specific budget categories:

(e) for personnel costs: time worked for the beneficiary under the action must be supported by declarations signed monthly by the person and their supervisor, unless another reliable time-record system is in place; the granting authority may accept alternative evidence supporting the time worked for the action declared, if it considers that it offers an adequate level of assurance

(f) additional record-keeping rules: not applicable

The records and supporting documents must be made available upon request (see Article 19) or in the context of checks, reviews, audits or investigations (see Article 25).

Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025


If there are on-going checks, reviews, audits, investigations, litigation or other pursuits of claims under the Agreement (including the extension of findings; see Article 25), the beneficiaries must keep these records and other supporting documentation until the end of these procedures.

The beneficiaries must keep the original documents. Digital and digitalised documents are considered originals if they are authorised by the applicable national law. The granting authority may accept non-original documents if they offer a comparable level of assurance.

### 20.2 Consequences of non-compliance

If a beneficiary breaches any of its obligations under this Article, costs or contributions insufficiently substantiated will be ineligible (see Article 6) and will be rejected (see Article 27), and the grant may be reduced (see Article 28).

Such breaches may also lead to other measures described in Chapter 5.

## ARTICLE 21 — REPORTING

### 21.1 Continuous reporting

The beneficiaries must report on the progress of the action (e.g. **deliverables, milestones, outputs/ outcomes, critical risks, indicators,** etc; if any), in the Portal Continuous Reporting tool and in accordance with the timing and conditions it sets out (as agreed with the granting authority).

Standardised deliverables (e.g. progress reports not linked to payments, reports on cumulative expenditure, special reports, etc; if any) must be submitted using the templates published on the Portal.

### 21.2 Periodic reporting: Technical reports and financial statements

In addition, the beneficiaries must provide reports to request payments, in accordance with the schedule and modalities set out in the Data Sheet (see Point 4.2):

- for additional prefinancings (if any): an **additional prefinancing report**
- for interim payments (if any) and the final payment: a **periodic report**.

The prefinancing and periodic reports include a technical and financial part.

The technical part includes an overview of the action implementation. It must be prepared using the template available in the Portal Periodic Reporting tool.

The financial part of the additional prefinancing report includes a statement on the use of the previous prefinancing payment.

The financial part of the periodic report includes:

- the financial statements (individual and consolidated; for all beneficiaries/affiliated entities)
- the explanation on the use of resources (or detailed cost reporting table, if required)
- the certificates on the financial statements (CFS) (if required; see Article 24.2 and Data Sheet, Point 4.3).

Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025


The **financial statements** must detail the eligible costs and contributions for each budget category and, for the final payment, also the revenues for the action (see Articles 6 and 22).

All eligible costs and contributions incurred should be declared, even if they exceed the amounts indicated in the estimated budget (see Annex 2). Amounts that are not declared in the individual financial statements will not be taken into account by the granting authority.

By signing the financial statements (directly in the Portal Periodic Reporting tool), the beneficiaries confirm that:

- the information provided is complete, reliable and true
- the costs and contributions declared are eligible (see Article 6)
- the costs and contributions can be substantiated by adequate records and supporting documents (see Article 20) that will be produced upon request (see Article 19) or in the context of checks, reviews, audits and investigations (see Article 25)
- for the final periodic report: all the revenues have been declared (if required; see Article 22).

Beneficiaries will have to submit also the financial statements of their affiliated entities (if any). In case of recoveries (see Article 22), beneficiaries will be held responsible also for the financial statements of their affiliated entities.

### 21.3 Currency for financial statements and conversion into euros

The financial statements must be drafted in euro.

Beneficiaries with general accounts established in a currency other than the euro must convert the costs recorded in their accounts into euro, at the average of the daily exchange rates published in the C series of the *Official Journal of the European Union* (ECB website), calculated over the corresponding reporting period.

If no daily euro exchange rate is published in the *Official Journal* for the currency in question, they must be converted at the average of the monthly accounting exchange rates published on the European Commission website (InforEuro), calculated over the corresponding reporting period.

Beneficiaries with general accounts in euro must convert costs incurred in another currency into euro according to their usual accounting practices.

### 21.4 Reporting language

The reporting must be in the language of the Agreement, unless otherwise agreed with the granting authority (see Data Sheet, Point 4.2).

### 21.5 Consequences of non-compliance

If a report submitted does not comply with this Article, the granting authority may suspend the payment deadline (see Article 29) and apply other measures described in Chapter 5.

If the coordinator breaches its reporting obligations, the granting authority may terminate the grant or the coordinator's participation (see Article 32) or apply other measures described in Chapter 5.

Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025


# ARTICLE 22 — PAYMENTS AND RECOVERIES — CALCULATION OF AMOUNTS DUE

## 22.1 Payments and payment arrangements

Payments will be made in accordance with the schedule and modalities set out in the Data Sheet (see Point 4.2).

They will be made in euro to the bank account indicated by the coordinator (see Data Sheet, Point 4.2) and must be distributed without unjustified delay (restrictions may apply to distribution of the initial prefinancing payment; see Data Sheet, Point 4.2).

Payments to this bank account will discharge the granting authority from its payment obligation.

The cost of payment transfers will be borne as follows:

- the granting authority bears the cost of transfers charged by its bank
- the beneficiary bears the cost of transfers charged by its bank
- the party causing a repetition of a transfer bears all costs of the repeated transfer.

Payments by the granting authority will be considered to have been carried out on the date when they are debited to its account.

## 22.2 Recoveries

Recoveries will be made, if — at beneficiary termination, final payment or afterwards — it turns out that the granting authority has paid too much and needs to recover the amounts undue.

The general liability regime for recoveries (first-line liability) is as follows: At final payment, the coordinator will be fully liable for recoveries, even if it has not been the final recipient of the undue amounts. At beneficiary termination or after final payment, recoveries will be made directly against the beneficiaries concerned.

Beneficiaries will be fully liable for repaying the debts of their affiliated entities.

In case of enforced recoveries (see Article 22.4):

- the beneficiaries will be jointly and severally liable for repaying debts of another beneficiary under the Agreement (including late-payment interest), if required by the granting authority (see Data Sheet, Point 4.4)
- affiliated entities will be held liable for repaying debts of their beneficiaries under the Agreement (including late-payment interest), if required by the granting authority (see Data Sheet, Point 4.4).

## 22.3 Amounts due

### 22.3.1 Prefinancing payments

The aim of the prefinancing is to provide the beneficiaries with a float.

Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025


It remains the property of the EU until the final payment.

For **initial prefinancings** (if any), the amount due, schedule and modalities are set out in the Data Sheet (see Point 4.2).

For **additional prefinancings** (if any), the amount due, schedule and modalities are also set out in the Data Sheet (see Point 4.2). However, if the statement on the use of the previous prefinancing payment shows that less than 70% was used, the amount set out in the Data Sheet will be reduced by the difference between the 70% threshold and the amount used.

Prefinancing payments (or parts of them) may be offset (without the beneficiaries' consent) against amounts owed by a beneficiary to the granting authority — up to the amount due to that beneficiary.

For grants where the granting authority is the European Commission or an EU executive agency, offsetting may also be done against amounts owed to other Commission services or executive agencies.

Payments will not be made if the payment deadline or payments are suspended (see Articles 29 and 30).

### 22.3.2 Amount due at beneficiary termination — Recovery

In case of beneficiary termination, the granting authority will determine the provisional amount due for the beneficiary concerned. Payments (if any) will be made with the next interim or final payment.

The **amount due** will be calculated in the following step:

Step 1 — Calculation of the total accepted EU contribution

Step 1 — Calculation of the total accepted EU contribution

The granting authority will first calculate the 'accepted EU contribution' for the beneficiary for all reporting periods, by calculating the 'maximum EU contribution to costs' (applying the funding rate to the accepted costs of the beneficiary), taking into account requests for a lower contribution to costs and CFS threshold cappings (if any; see Article 24.5) and adding the contributions (accepted unit, flat-rate or lump sum contributions and financing not linked to costs, if any).

After that, the granting authority will take into account grant reductions (if any). The resulting amount is the 'total accepted EU contribution' for the beneficiary.

The **balance** is then calculated by deducting the payments received (if any; see report on the distribution of payments in Article 32), from the total accepted EU contribution:

{total accepted EU contribution for the beneficiary

minus

{prefinancing and interim payments received (if any)}}.

If the balance is **positive**, the amount will be included in the next interim or final payment to the consortium.

If the balance is **negative**, it will be **recovered** in accordance with the following procedure:

Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025


The granting authority will send a **pre-information letter** to the beneficiary concerned:

- formally notifying the intention to recover, the amount due, the amount to be recovered and the reasons why and

- requesting observations within 30 days of receiving notification.

If no observations are submitted (or the granting authority decides to pursue recovery despite the observations it has received), it will confirm the amount to be recovered and ask this amount to be paid to the coordinator (**confirmation letter**).

The amounts will later on also be taken into account for the next interim or final payment.

### 22.3.3 Interim payments

Interim payments reimburse the eligible costs and contributions claimed for the implementation of the action during the reporting periods (if any).

Interim payments (if any) will be made in accordance with the schedule and modalities set out the Data Sheet (see Point 4.2).

Payment is subject to the approval of the periodic report. Its approval does not imply recognition of compliance, authenticity, completeness or correctness of its content.

The **interim payment** will be calculated by the granting authority in the following steps:

Step 1 — Calculation of the total accepted EU contribution

Step 2 — Limit to the interim payment ceiling

Step 1 — Calculation of the total accepted EU contribution

The granting authority will calculate the ‘accepted EU contribution’ for the action for the reporting period, by first calculating the ‘maximum EU contribution to costs’ (applying the funding rate to the accepted costs of each beneficiary), taking into account requests for a lower contribution to costs and CFS threshold cappings (if any; see Article 24.5) and adding the contributions (accepted unit, flat-rate or lump sum contributions and financing not linked to costs, if any).

After that, the granting authority will take into account grant reductions from beneficiary termination (if any). The resulting amount is the ‘total accepted EU contribution’.

Step 2 — Limit to the interim payment ceiling

The resulting amount is then capped to ensure that the total amount of prefinancing and interim payments (if any) does not exceed the interim payment ceiling set out in the Data Sheet (see Point 4.2).

Interim payments (or parts of them) may be offset (without the beneficiaries’ consent) against amounts owed by a beneficiary to the granting authority — up to the amount due to that beneficiary.

For grants where the granting authority is the European Commission or an EU executive agency, offsetting may also be done against amounts owed to other Commission services or executive agencies.

Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025


Payments will not be made if the payment deadline or payments are suspended (see Articles 29 and 30).

### 22.3.4 Final payment — Final grant amount — Revenues and Profit — Recovery

The final payment (payment of the balance) reimburses the remaining part of the eligible costs and contributions claimed for the implementation of the action (if any).

The final payment will be made in accordance with the schedule and modalities set out in the Data Sheet (see Point 4.2).

Payment is subject to the approval of the final periodic report. Its approval does not imply recognition of compliance, authenticity, completeness or correctness of its content.

The **final grant amount for the action** will be calculated in the following steps:

Step 1 — Calculation of the total accepted EU contribution

Step 2 — Limit to the maximum grant amount

Step 3 — Reduction due to the no-profit rule

Step 1 — Calculation of the total accepted EU contribution

The granting authority will first calculate the 'accepted EU contribution' for the action for all reporting periods, by calculating the 'maximum EU contribution to costs' (applying the funding rate to the total accepted costs of each beneficiary), taking into account requests for a lower contribution to costs, CFS threshold cappings (if any; see Article 24.5) and adding the contributions (accepted unit, flat-rate or lump sum contributions and financing not linked to costs, if any).

After that, the granting authority will take into account grant reductions (if any). The resulting amount is the 'total accepted EU contribution'.

Step 2 — Limit to the maximum grant amount

If the resulting amount is higher than the maximum grant amount set out in Article 5.2, it will be limited to the latter.

Step 3 — Reduction due to the no-profit rule

If the no-profit rule is provided for in the Data Sheet (see Point 4.2), the grant must not produce a profit (i.e. surplus of the amount obtained following Step 2 plus the action's revenues, over the eligible costs and contributions approved by the granting authority).

'Revenue' is all income generated by the action, during its duration (see Article 4), for beneficiaries that are profit legal entities.

If there is a profit, it will be deducted in proportion to the final rate of reimbursement of the eligible costs approved by the granting authority (as compared to the amount calculated following Steps 1 and 2 minus the contributions).

The **balance** (final payment) is then calculated by deducting the total amount of prefinancing and interim payments already made (if any), from the final grant amount:

{final grant amount

minus

{prefinancing and interim payments made (if any)}}.

If the balance is **positive**, it will be **paid** to the coordinator.

The final payment (or part of it) may be offset (without the beneficiaries' consent) against amounts owed by a beneficiary to the granting authority — up to the amount due to that beneficiary.

For grants where the granting authority is the European Commission or an EU executive agency, offsetting may also be done against amounts owed to other Commission services or executive agencies.

Payments will not be made if the payment deadline or payments are suspended (see Articles 29 and 30).

If the balance is **negative**, it will be **recovered** in accordance with the following procedure:

The granting authority will send a **pre-information letter** to the coordinator:

- formally notifying the intention to recover, the final grant amount, the amount to be recovered and the reasons why
- requesting observations within 30 days of receiving notification.

If no observations are submitted (or the granting authority decides to pursue recovery despite the observations it has received), it will confirm the amount to be recovered (**confirmation letter**), together with a **debit note** with the terms and date for payment.

If payment is not made by the date specified in the debit note, the granting authority will **enforce recovery** in accordance with Article 22.4.

### 22.3.5 Audit implementation after final payment — Revised final grant amount — Recovery

If — after the final payment (in particular, after checks, reviews, audits or investigations; see Article 25) — the granting authority rejects costs or contributions (see Article 27) or reduces the grant (see Article 28), it will calculate the **revised final grant amount** for the beneficiary concerned.

The **beneficiary revised final grant amount** will be calculated in the following step:

Step 1 — Calculation of the revised total accepted EU contribution

Step 1 — Calculation of the revised total accepted EU contribution

The granting authority will first calculate the 'revised accepted EU contribution' for the beneficiary, by calculating the 'revised accepted costs' and 'revised accepted contributions'.

After that, it will take into account grant reductions (if any). The resulting 'revised total accepted EU contribution' is the beneficiary revised final grant amount.

If the revised final grant amount is lower than the beneficiary's final grant amount (i.e. its share in the final grant amount for the action), it will be **recovered** in accordance with the following procedure:

Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025


The **beneficiary final grant amount** (i.e. share in the final grant amount for the action) is calculated as follows:

{{total accepted EU contribution for the beneficiary

divided by

total accepted EU contribution for the action}

multiplied by

final grant amount for the action}.

The granting authority will send a **pre-information letter** to the beneficiary concerned:

- formally notifying the intention to recover, the amount to be recovered and the reasons why and
- requesting observations within 30 days of receiving notification.

If no observations are submitted (or the granting authority decides to pursue recovery despite the observations it has received), it will confirm the amount to be recovered (**confirmation letter**), together with a **debit note** with the terms and the date for payment.

Recoveries against affiliated entities (if any) will be handled through their beneficiaries.

If payment is not made by the date specified in the debit note, the granting authority will **enforce recovery** in accordance with Article 22.4.

### 22.4 Enforced recovery

If payment is not made by the date specified in the debit note, the amount due will be recovered:

(a) by offsetting the amount — without the coordinator or beneficiary's consent — against any amounts owed to the coordinator or beneficiary by the granting authority.

In exceptional circumstances, to safeguard the EU financial interests, the amount may be offset before the payment date specified in the debit note.

For grants where the granting authority is the European Commission or an EU executive agency, debts may also be offset against amounts owed by other Commission services or executive agencies.

(b) by drawing on the financial guarantee(s) (if any)

(c) by holding other beneficiaries jointly and severally liable (if any; see Data Sheet, Point 4.4)

(d) by holding affiliated entities jointly and severally liable (if any, see Data Sheet, Point 4.4)

(e) by taking legal action (see Article 43) or, provided that the granting authority is the European Commission or an EU executive agency, by adopting an enforceable decision under Article 299 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the EU (TFEU) and Article 100(2) of EU Financial Regulation 2024/2509.

The amount to be recovered will be increased by **late-payment interest** at the rate set out in

Article 22.5, from the day following the payment date in the debit note, up to and including the date the full payment is received.

Partial payments will be first credited against expenses, charges and late-payment interest and then against the principal.

Bank charges incurred in the recovery process will be borne by the beneficiary, unless Directive 2015/2366[19] applies.

For grants where the granting authority is an EU executive agency, enforced recovery by offsetting or enforceable decision will be done by the services of the European Commission (see also Article 43).

### 22.5 Consequences of non-compliance

**22.5.1** If the granting authority does not pay within the payment deadlines (see above), the beneficiaries are entitled to **late-payment interest** at the rate applied by the European Central Bank (ECB) for its main refinancing operations in euros ('reference rate'), plus the rate specified in the Data Sheet (Point 4.2). The reference rate is the rate in force on the first day of the month in which the payment deadline expires, as published in the C series of the *Official Journal of the European Union*.

If the late-payment interest is lower than or equal to EUR 200, it will be paid to the coordinator only on request submitted within two months of receiving the late payment.

Late-payment interest is not due if all beneficiaries are EU Member States (including regional and local government authorities or other public bodies acting on behalf of a Member State for the purpose of this Agreement).

If payments or the payment deadline are suspended (see Articles 29 and 30), payment will not be considered as late.

Late-payment interest covers the period running from the day following the due date for payment (see above), up to and including the date of payment.

Late-payment interest is not considered for the purposes of calculating the final grant amount.

**22.5.2** If the coordinator breaches any of its obligations under this Article, the grant may be reduced (see Article 28) and the grant or the coordinator may be terminated (see Article 32).

Such breaches may also lead to other measures described in Chapter 5.

## ARTICLE 23 — GUARANTEES

### 23.1 Prefinancing guarantee

If required by the granting authority (see Data Sheet, Point 4.2), the beneficiaries must provide (one or more) prefinancing guarantee(s) in accordance with the timing and the amounts set out in the Data Sheet.

[19] Directive (EU) 2015/2366 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 25 November 2015 on payment services in the internal market, amending Directives 2002/65/EC, 2009/110/EC and 2013/36/EU and Regulation (EU) No 1093/2010, and repealing Directive 2007/64/EC (OJ L 337, 23.12.2015, p. 35).

Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025


The coordinator must submit them to the granting authority in due time before the prefinancing they are linked to.

The guarantees must be drawn up using the template published on the Portal and fulfil the following conditions:

(a) be provided by a bank or approved financial institution established in the EU or — if requested by the coordinator and accepted by the granting authority — by a third party or a bank or financial institution established outside the EU offering equivalent security

(b) the guarantor stands as first-call guarantor and does not require the granting authority to first have recourse against the principal debtor (i.e. the beneficiary concerned) and

(c) remain explicitly in force until the final payment and, if the final payment takes the form of a recovery, until five months after the debit note is notified to a beneficiary.

They will be released within the following month.

### 23.2 Consequences of non-compliance

If the beneficiaries breach their obligation to provide the prefinancing guarantee, the prefinancing will not be paid.

Such breaches may also lead to other measures described in Chapter 5.

## ARTICLE 24 — CERTIFICATES

### 24.1 Operational verification report (OVR)

Not applicable

### 24.2 Certificate on the financial statements (CFS)

If required by the granting authority (see Data Sheet, Point 4.3), the beneficiaries must provide certificates on their financial statements (CFS), in accordance with the schedule, threshold and conditions set out in the Data Sheet.

The coordinator must submit them as part of the periodic report (see Article 21).

The certificates must be drawn up using the template published on the Portal, cover the costs declared on the basis of actual costs and costs according to usual cost accounting practices (if any), and fulfil the following conditions:

(a) be provided by a qualified approved external auditor which is independent and complies with Directive 2006/43/EC[20] (or for public bodies: by a competent independent public officer)

(b) the verification must be carried out according to the highest professional standards to ensure that the financial statements comply with the provisions under the Agreement and that the costs declared are eligible.

[20] Directive 2006/43/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 17 May 2006 on statutory audits of annual accounts and consolidated accounts (OJ L 157, 9.6.2006, p. 87).

Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025


The certificates will not affect the granting authority's right to carry out its own checks, reviews or audits, nor preclude the European Court of Auditors (ECA), the European Public Prosecutor's Office (EPPO) or the European Anti-Fraud Office (OLAF) from using their prerogatives for audits and investigations under the Agreement (see Article 25).

If the costs (or a part of them) were already audited by the granting authority, these costs do not need to be covered by the certificate and will not be counted for calculating the threshold (if any).

### 24.3 Certificate on the compliance of usual cost accounting practices (CoMUC)

Not applicable

### 24.4 Systems and process audit (SPA)

Not applicable

### 24.5 Consequences of non-compliance

If a beneficiary does not submit a certificate on the financial statements (CFS) or the certificate is rejected, the accepted EU contribution to costs will be capped to reflect the CFS threshold.

If a beneficiary breaches any of its other obligations under this Article, the granting authority may apply the measures described in Chapter 5.

## ARTICLE 25 — CHECKS, REVIEWS, AUDITS AND INVESTIGATIONS — EXTENSION OF FINDINGS

### 25.1 Granting authority checks, reviews and audits

#### 25.1.1 Internal checks

The granting authority may — during the action or afterwards — check the proper implementation of the action and compliance with the obligations under the Agreement, including assessing costs and contributions, deliverables and reports.

#### 25.1.2 Project reviews

The granting authority may carry out reviews on the proper implementation of the action and compliance with the obligations under the Agreement (general project reviews or specific issues reviews).

Such project reviews may be started during the implementation of the action and until the time-limit set out in the Data Sheet (see Point 6). They will be formally notified to the coordinator or beneficiary concerned and will be considered to start on the date of the notification.

If needed, the granting authority may be assisted by independent, outside experts. If it uses outside experts, the coordinator or beneficiary concerned will be informed and have the right to object on grounds of commercial confidentiality or conflict of interest.

The coordinator or beneficiary concerned must cooperate diligently and provide — within the deadline requested — any information and data in addition to deliverables and reports already submitted (including information on the use of resources). The granting authority may request beneficiaries

Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025


to provide such information to it directly. Sensitive information and documents will be treated in accordance with Article 13.

The coordinator or beneficiary concerned may be requested to participate in meetings, including with the outside experts.

For **on-the-spot visits**, the beneficiary concerned must allow access to sites and premises (including to the outside experts) and must ensure that information requested is readily available.

Information provided must be accurate, precise and complete and in the format requested, including electronic format.

On the basis of the review findings, a **project review report** will be drawn up.

The granting authority will formally notify the project review report to the coordinator or beneficiary concerned, which has 30 days from receiving notification to make observations.

Project reviews (including project review reports) will be in the language of the Agreement, unless otherwise agreed with the granting authority (see Data Sheet, Point 4.2).

### 25.1.3 Audits

The granting authority may carry out audits on the proper implementation of the action and compliance with the obligations under the Agreement.

Such audits may be started during the implementation of the action and until the time-limit set out in the Data Sheet (see Point 6). They will be formally notified to the beneficiary concerned and will be considered to start on the date of the notification.

The granting authority may use its own audit service, delegate audits to a centralised service or use external audit firms. If it uses an external firm, the beneficiary concerned will be informed and have the right to object on grounds of commercial confidentiality or conflict of interest.

The beneficiary concerned must cooperate diligently and provide — within the deadline requested — any information (including complete accounts, individual salary statements or other personal data) to verify compliance with the Agreement. Sensitive information and documents will be treated in accordance with Article 13.

For **on-the-spot** visits, the beneficiary concerned must allow access to sites and premises (including for the external audit firm) and must ensure that information requested is readily available.

Information provided must be accurate, precise and complete and in the format requested, including electronic format.

On the basis of the audit findings, a **draft audit report** will be drawn up.

The auditors will formally notify the draft audit report to the beneficiary concerned, which has 30 days from receiving notification to make observations (contradictory audit procedure).

The **final audit report** will take into account observations by the beneficiary concerned and will be formally notified to them.

Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025


Audits (including audit reports) will be in the language of the Agreement, unless otherwise agreed with the granting authority (see Data Sheet, Point 4.2).

### 25.2 European Commission checks, reviews and audits in grants of other granting authorities

Where the granting authority is not the European Commission, the latter has the same rights of checks, reviews and audits as the granting authority.

### 25.3 Access to records for assessing simplified forms of funding

The beneficiaries must give the European Commission access to their statutory records for the periodic assessment of simplified forms of funding which are used in EU programmes.

### 25.4 OLAF, EPPO and ECA audits and investigations

The following bodies may also carry out checks, reviews, audits and investigations — during the action or afterwards:

- the European Anti-Fraud Office (OLAF) under Regulations No 883/2013[21] and No 2185/96[22]
- the European Public Prosecutor's Office (EPPO) under Regulation 2017/1939
- the European Court of Auditors (ECA) under Article 287 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the EU (TFEU) and Article 263 of EU Financial Regulation 2024/2509.

If requested by these bodies, the beneficiary concerned must provide full, accurate and complete information in the format requested (including complete accounts, individual salary statements or other personal data, including in electronic format) and allow access to sites and premises for on-the-spot visits or inspections — as provided for under these Regulations.

To this end, the beneficiary concerned must keep all relevant information relating to the action, at least until the time-limit set out in the Data Sheet (Point 6) and, in any case, until any ongoing checks, reviews, audits, investigations, litigation or other pursuits of claims have been concluded.

### 25.5 Consequences of checks, reviews, audits and investigations — Extension of results of reviews, audits or investigations

#### 25.5.1 Consequences of checks, reviews, audits and investigations in this grant

Findings in checks, reviews, audits or investigations carried out in the context of this grant may lead to rejections (see Article 27), grant reduction (see Article 28) or other measures described in Chapter 5.

Rejections or grant reductions after the final payment will lead to a revised final grant amount (see Article 22).

[21] Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 883/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 September 2013 concerning investigations conducted by the European Anti-Fraud Office (OLAF) and repealing Regulation (EC) No 1073/1999 of the European Parliament and of the Council and Council Regulation (Euratom) No 1074/1999 (OJ L 248, 18/09/2013, p. 1).

[22] Council Regulation (Euratom, EC) No 2185/96 of 11 November 1996 concerning on-the-spot checks and inspections carried out by the Commission in order to protect the European Communities' financial interests against fraud and other irregularities (OJ L 292, 15/11/1996, p. 2).

Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025


Findings in checks, reviews, audits or investigations during the action implementation may lead to a request for amendment (see Article 39), to change the description of the action set out in Annex 1.

Checks, reviews, audits or investigations that find systemic or recurrent errors, irregularities, fraud or breach of obligations in any EU grant may also lead to consequences in other EU grants awarded under similar conditions (‘extension to other grants’).

Moreover, findings arising from an OLAF or EPPO investigation may lead to criminal prosecution under national law.

### 25.5.2 Extension from other grants

Results of checks, reviews, audits or investigations in other grants may be extended to this grant, if:

(a) the beneficiary concerned is found, in other EU grants awarded under similar conditions, to have committed systemic or recurrent errors, irregularities, fraud or breach of obligations that have a material impact on this grant and

(b) those findings are formally notified to the beneficiary concerned — together with the list of grants affected by the findings — within the time-limit for audits set out in the Data Sheet (see Point 6).

The granting authority will formally notify the beneficiary concerned of the intention to extend the findings and the list of grants affected.

If the extension concerns **rejections of costs or contributions**: the notification will include:

(a) an invitation to submit observations on the list of grants affected by the findings

(b) the request to submit revised financial statements for all grants affected

(c) the correction rate for extrapolation, established on the basis of the systemic or recurrent errors, to calculate the amounts to be rejected, if the beneficiary concerned:

(i) considers that the submission of revised financial statements is not possible or practicable or

(ii) does not submit revised financial statements.

If the extension concerns **grant reductions**: the notification will include:

(a) an invitation to submit observations on the list of grants affected by the findings and

(b) the **correction rate for extrapolation**, established on the basis of the systemic or recurrent errors and the principle of proportionality.

The beneficiary concerned has **60 days** from receiving notification to submit observations, revised financial statements or to propose a duly substantiated **alternative correction method/rate**.

On the basis of this, the granting authority will analyse the impact and decide on the implementation (i.e. start rejection or grant reduction procedures, either on the basis of the revised financial statements or the announced/alternative method/rate or a mix of those; see Articles 27 and 28).

Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025


### 25.6 Consequences of non-compliance

If a beneficiary breaches any of its obligations under this Article, costs or contributions insufficiently substantiated will be ineligible (see Article 6) and will be rejected (see Article 27), and the grant may be reduced (see Article 28).

Such breaches may also lead to other measures described in Chapter 5.

## ARTICLE 26 — IMPACT EVALUATIONS

### 26.1 Impact evaluation

The granting authority may carry out impact evaluations of the action, measured against the objectives and indicators of the EU programme funding the grant.

Such evaluations may be started during implementation of the action and until the time-limit set out in the Data Sheet (see Point 6). They will be formally notified to the coordinator or beneficiaries and will be considered to start on the date of the notification.

If needed, the granting authority may be assisted by independent outside experts.

The coordinator or beneficiaries must provide any information relevant to evaluate the impact of the action, including information in electronic format.

### 26.2 Consequences of non-compliance

If a beneficiary breaches any of its obligations under this Article, the granting authority may apply the measures described in Chapter 5.

# CHAPTER 5 CONSEQUENCES OF NON-COMPLIANCE

## SECTION 1 REJECTIONS AND GRANT REDUCTION

## ARTICLE 27 — REJECTION OF COSTS AND CONTRIBUTIONS

### 27.1 Conditions

The granting authority will — at beneficiary termination, interim payment, final payment or afterwards — reject any costs or contributions which are ineligible (see Article 6), in particular following checks, reviews, audits or investigations (see Article 25).

The rejection may also be based on the extension of findings from other grants to this grant (see Article 25).

Ineligible costs or contributions will be rejected.

### 27.2 Procedure

If the rejection does not lead to a recovery, the granting authority will formally notify the coordinator or beneficiary concerned of the rejection, the amounts and the reasons why. The coordinator or

beneficiary concerned may — within 30 days of receiving notification — submit observations if it disagrees with the rejection (payment review procedure).

If the rejection leads to a recovery, the granting authority will follow the contradictory procedure with pre-information letter set out in Article 22.

### 27.3 Effects

If the granting authority rejects costs or contributions, it will deduct them from the costs or contributions declared and then calculate the amount due (and, if needed, make a recovery; see Article 22).

## ARTICLE 28 — GRANT REDUCTION

### 28.1 Conditions

The granting authority may — at beneficiary termination, final payment or afterwards — reduce the grant for a beneficiary, if:

(a) the beneficiary (or a person having powers of representation, decision-making or control, or person essential for the award/implementation of the grant) has committed:

  (i) substantial errors, irregularities or fraud or

  (ii) serious breach of obligations under this Agreement or during its award (including improper implementation of the action, non-compliance with the call conditions, submission of false information, failure to provide required information, breach of ethics or security rules (if applicable), failure to cooperate with checks, reviews, audits and investigations, etc.), or

(b) the beneficiary (or a person having powers of representation, decision-making or control, or person essential for the award/implementation of the grant) has committed — in other EU grants awarded to it under similar conditions — systemic or recurrent errors, irregularities, fraud or serious breach of obligations that have a material impact on this grant (see Article 25).

The amount of the reduction will be calculated for each beneficiary concerned and proportionate to the seriousness and the duration of the errors, irregularities or fraud or breach of obligations, by applying an individual reduction rate to their accepted EU contribution.

### 28.2 Procedure

If the grant reduction does not lead to a recovery, the granting authority will formally notify the coordinator or beneficiary concerned of the reduction, the amount to be reduced and the reasons why. The coordinator or beneficiary concerned may — within 30 days of receiving notification — submit observations if it disagrees with the reduction (payment review procedure).

If the grant reduction leads to a recovery, the granting authority will follow the contradictory procedure with pre-information letter set out in Article 22.

### 28.3 Effects

Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025


If the granting authority reduces the grant, it will deduct the reduction and then calculate the amount due (and, if needed, make a recovery; see Article 22).

## SECTION 2 SUSPENSION AND TERMINATION

### ARTICLE 29 — PAYMENT DEADLINE SUSPENSION

#### 29.1 Conditions

The granting authority may — at any moment — suspend the payment deadline if a payment cannot be processed because:

(a) the required report (see Article 21) has not been submitted or is not complete or additional information is needed

(b) there are doubts about the amount to be paid (e.g. ongoing audit extension procedure, queries about eligibility, need for a grant reduction, etc.) and additional checks, reviews, audits or investigations are necessary, or

(c) there are other issues affecting the EU financial interests.

#### 29.2 Procedure

The granting authority will formally notify the coordinator of the suspension and the reasons why.

The suspension will **take effect** the day the notification is sent.

If the conditions for suspending the payment deadline are no longer met, the suspension will be **lifted** — and the remaining time to pay (see Data Sheet, Point 4.2) will resume.

If the suspension exceeds two months, the coordinator may request the granting authority to confirm if the suspension will continue.

If the payment deadline has been suspended due to the non-compliance of the report and the revised report is not submitted (or was submitted but is also rejected), the granting authority may also terminate the grant or the participation of the coordinator (see Article 32).

### ARTICLE 30 — PAYMENT SUSPENSION

#### 30.1 Conditions

The granting authority may — at any moment — suspend payments, in whole or in part for one or more beneficiaries, if:

(a) a beneficiary (or a person having powers of representation, decision-making or control, or person essential for the award/implementation of the grant) has committed or is suspected of having committed:

(i) substantial errors, irregularities or fraud or

(ii) serious breach of obligations under this Agreement or during its award (including

improper implementation of the action, non-compliance with the call conditions, submission of false information, failure to provide required information, breach of ethics or security rules (if applicable), failure to cooperate with checks, reviews, audits and investigations, etc.), or

(b) a beneficiary (or a person having powers of representation, decision-making or control, or person essential for the award/implementation of the grant) has committed — in other EU grants awarded to it under similar conditions — systemic or recurrent errors, irregularities, fraud or serious breach of obligations that have a material impact on this grant.

If payments are suspended for one or more beneficiaries, the granting authority will make partial payment(s) for the part(s) not suspended. If suspension concerns the final payment, the payment (or recovery) of the remaining amount after suspension is lifted will be considered to be the payment that closes the action.

### 30.2 Procedure

Before suspending payments, the granting authority will send a **pre-information letter** to the beneficiary concerned:

- formally notifying the intention to suspend payments and the reasons why and
- requesting observations within 30 days of receiving notification.

If the granting authority does not receive observations or decides to pursue the procedure despite the observations it has received, it will confirm the suspension (**confirmation letter**). Otherwise, it will formally notify that the procedure is discontinued.

At the end of the suspension procedure, the granting authority will also inform the coordinator.

The suspension will **take effect** the day after the confirmation notification is sent.

If the conditions for resuming payments are met, the suspension will be **lifted**. The granting authority will formally notify the beneficiary concerned (and the coordinator) and set the suspension end date.

During the suspension, no prefinancing will be paid to the beneficiaries concerned. For interim payments, the periodic reports for all reporting periods except the last one (see Article 21) must not contain any financial statements from the beneficiary concerned (or its affiliated entities). The coordinator must include them in the next periodic report after the suspension is lifted or — if suspension is not lifted before the end of the action — in the last periodic report.

## ARTICLE 31 — GRANT AGREEMENT SUSPENSION

### 31.1 Consortium-requested GA suspension

#### 31.1.1 Conditions and procedure

The beneficiaries may request the suspension of the grant or any part of it, if exceptional circumstances — in particular *force majeure* (see Article 35) — make implementation impossible or excessively difficult.

The coordinator must submit a request for **amendment** (see Article 39), with:

- the reasons why
- the date the suspension takes effect; this date may be before the date of the submission of the amendment request and
- the expected date of resumption.

The suspension will **take effect** on the day specified in the amendment.

Once circumstances allow for implementation to resume, the coordinator must immediately request another **amendment** of the Agreement to set the suspension end date, the resumption date (one day after suspension end date), extend the duration and make other changes necessary to adapt the action to the new situation (see Article 39) — unless the grant has been terminated (see Article 32). The suspension will be **lifted** with effect from the suspension end date set out in the amendment. This date may be before the date of the submission of the amendment request.

During the suspension, no prefinancing will be paid. Costs incurred or contributions for activities implemented during grant suspension are not eligible (see Article 6.3).

### 31.2 EU-initiated GA suspension

#### 31.2.1 Conditions

The granting authority may suspend the grant or any part of it, if:

(a) a beneficiary (or a person having powers of representation, decision-making or control, or person essential for the award/implementation of the grant) has committed or is suspected of having committed:

  (i) substantial errors, irregularities or fraud or

  (ii) serious breach of obligations under this Agreement or during its award (including improper implementation of the action, non-compliance with the call conditions, submission of false information, failure to provide required information, breach of ethics or security rules (if applicable), failure to cooperate with checks, reviews, audits and investigations, etc.), or

(b) a beneficiary (or a person having powers of representation, decision-making or control, or person essential for the award/implementation of the grant) has committed — in other EU grants awarded to it under similar conditions — systemic or recurrent errors, irregularities, fraud or serious breach of obligations that have a material impact on this grant

(c) other:

  (i) linked action issues: not applicable

  (ii) additional GA suspension grounds: not applicable.

#### 31.2.2 Procedure

Before suspending the grant, the granting authority will send a **pre-information letter** to the coordinator:

Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025


- formally notifying the intention to suspend the grant and the reasons why and
- requesting observations within 30 days of receiving notification.

If the granting authority does not receive observations or decides to pursue the procedure despite the observations it has received, it will confirm the suspension (**confirmation letter**). Otherwise, it will formally notify that the procedure is discontinued.

The suspension will **take effect** the day after the confirmation notification is sent (or on a later date specified in the notification).

Once the conditions for resuming implementation of the action are met, the granting authority will formally notify the coordinator a **lifting of suspension letter**, in which it will set the suspension end date and invite the coordinator to request an amendment of the Agreement to set the resumption date (one day after suspension end date), extend the duration and make other changes necessary to adapt the action to the new situation (see Article 39) — unless the grant has been terminated (see Article 32). The suspension will be **lifted** with effect from the suspension end date set out in the lifting of suspension letter. This date may be before the date on which the letter is sent.

During the suspension, no prefinancing will be paid. Costs incurred or contributions for activities implemented during suspension are not eligible (see Article 6.3).

The beneficiaries may not claim damages due to suspension by the granting authority (see Article 33).

Grant suspension does not affect the granting authority's right to terminate the grant or a beneficiary (see Article 32) or reduce the grant (see Article 28).

## ARTICLE 32 — GRANT AGREEMENT OR BENEFICIARY TERMINATION

### 32.1 Consortium-requested GA termination

#### 32.1.1 Conditions and procedure

The beneficiaries may request the termination of the grant.

The coordinator must submit a request for **amendment** (see Article 39), with:

- the reasons why
- the date the consortium ends work on the action ('end of work date') and
- the date the termination takes effect ('termination date'); this date must be after the date of the submission of the amendment request.

The termination will **take effect** on the termination date specified in the amendment.

If no reasons are given or if the granting authority considers the reasons do not justify termination, it may consider the grant terminated improperly.

#### 32.1.2 Effects

The coordinator must — within 60 days from when termination takes effect — submit a **periodic report** (for the open reporting period until termination).

Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025


The granting authority will calculate the final grant amount and final payment on the basis of the report submitted and taking into account the costs incurred and contributions for activities implemented before the end of work date (see Article 22). Costs relating to contracts due for execution only after the end of work are not eligible.

If the granting authority does not receive the report within the deadline, only costs and contributions which are included in an approved periodic report will be taken into account (no costs/contributions if no periodic report was ever approved).

Improper termination may lead to a grant reduction (see Article 28).

After termination, the beneficiaries' obligations (in particular Articles 13 (confidentiality and security), 16 (IPR), 17 (communication, dissemination and visibility), 21 (reporting), 25 (checks, reviews, audits and investigations), 26 (impact evaluation), 27 (rejections), 28 (grant reduction) and 42 (assignment of claims)) continue to apply.

### 32.2 Consortium-requested beneficiary termination

#### 32.2.1 Conditions and procedure

The coordinator may request the termination of the participation of one or more beneficiaries, on request of the beneficiary concerned or on behalf of the other beneficiaries.

The coordinator must submit a request for **amendment** (see Article 39), with:

- the reasons why
- the opinion of the beneficiary concerned (or proof that this opinion has been requested in writing)
- the date the beneficiary ends work on the action ('end of work date')
- the date the termination takes effect ('termination date'); this date must be after the date of the submission of the amendment request.

If the termination concerns the coordinator and is done without its agreement, the amendment request must be submitted by another beneficiary (acting on behalf of the consortium).

The termination will **take effect** on the termination date specified in the amendment.

If no information is given or if the granting authority considers that the reasons do not justify termination, it may consider the beneficiary to have been terminated improperly.

#### 32.2.2 Effects

The coordinator must — within 60 days from when termination takes effect — submit:

(i) a **report on the distribution of payments** to the beneficiary concerned

(ii) a **termination report** from the beneficiary concerned, for the open reporting period until termination, containing an overview of the progress of the work, the financial statement, the explanation on the use of resources, and, if applicable, the certificate on the financial statement (CFS; see Articles 21 and 24.2 and Data Sheet, Point 4.3)

(iii) a second **request for amendment** (see Article 39) with other amendments needed (e.g. reallocation of the tasks and the estimated budget of the terminated beneficiary; addition of a new beneficiary to replace the terminated beneficiary; change of coordinator, etc.).

The granting authority will calculate the amount due to the beneficiary on the basis of the report submitted and taking into account the costs incurred and contributions for activities implemented before the end of work date (see Article 22). Costs relating to contracts due for execution only after the end of work are not eligible.

The information in the termination report must also be included in the periodic report for the next reporting period (see Article 21).

If the granting authority does not receive the termination report within the deadline, only costs and contributions which are included in an approved periodic report will be taken into account (no costs/ contributions if no periodic report was ever approved).

If the granting authority does not receive the report on the distribution of payments within the deadline, it will consider that:

- the coordinator did not distribute any payment to the beneficiary concerned and that
- the beneficiary concerned must not repay any amount to the coordinator.

If the second request for amendment is accepted by the granting authority, the Agreement is **amended** to introduce the necessary changes (see Article 39).

If the second request for amendment is rejected by the granting authority (because it calls into question the decision awarding the grant or breaches the principle of equal treatment of applicants), the grant may be terminated (see Article 32).

Improper termination may lead to a reduction of the grant (see Article 31) or grant termination (see Article 32).

After termination, the concerned beneficiary's obligations (in particular Articles 13 (confidentiality and security), 16 (IPR), 17 (communication, dissemination and visibility), 21 (reporting), 25 (checks, reviews, audits and investigations), 26 (impact evaluation), 27 (rejections), 28 (grant reduction) and 42 (assignment of claims)) continue to apply.

### 32.3 EU-initiated GA or beneficiary termination

#### 32.3.1 Conditions

The granting authority may terminate the grant or the participation of one or more beneficiaries, if:

(a) one or more beneficiaries do not accede to the Agreement (see Article 40)

(b) a change to the action or the legal, financial, technical, organisational or ownership situation of a beneficiary is likely to substantially affect the implementation of the action or calls into question the decision to award the grant (including changes linked to one of the exclusion grounds listed in the declaration of honour)

(c) following termination of one or more beneficiaries, the necessary changes to the Agreement

(and their impact on the action) would call into question the decision awarding the grant or breach the principle of equal treatment of applicants

(d) implementation of the action has become impossible or the changes necessary for its continuation would call into question the decision awarding the grant or breach the principle of equal treatment of applicants

(e) a beneficiary (or person with unlimited liability for its debts) is subject to bankruptcy proceedings or similar (including insolvency, winding-up, administration by a liquidator or court, arrangement with creditors, suspension of business activities, etc.)

(f) a beneficiary (or person with unlimited liability for its debts) is in breach of social security or tax obligations

(g) a beneficiary (or person having powers of representation, decision-making or control, or person essential for the award/implementation of the grant) has been found guilty of grave professional misconduct

(h) a beneficiary (or person having powers of representation, decision-making or control, or person essential for the award/implementation of the grant) has committed fraud, corruption, or is involved in a criminal organisation, money laundering, terrorism-related crimes (including terrorism financing), child labour or human trafficking

(i) a beneficiary (or person having powers of representation, decision-making or control, or person essential for the award/implementation of the grant) was created under a different jurisdiction with the intent to circumvent fiscal, social or other legal obligations in the country of origin (or created another entity with this purpose)

(j) a beneficiary (or person having powers of representation, decision-making or control, or person essential for the award/implementation of the grant) has committed:

  (i) substantial errors, irregularities or fraud or

  (ii) serious breach of obligations under this Agreement or during its award (including improper implementation of the action, non-compliance with the call conditions, submission of false information, failure to provide required information, breach of ethics or security rules (if applicable), failure to cooperate with checks, reviews, audits and investigations, etc.)

(k) a beneficiary (or person having powers of representation, decision-making or control, or person essential for the award/implementation of the grant) has committed — in other EU grants awarded to it under similar conditions — systemic or recurrent errors, irregularities, fraud or serious breach of obligations that have a material impact on this grant (extension of findings from other grants to this grant; see Article 25)

(l) despite a specific request by the granting authority, a beneficiary does not request — through the coordinator — an amendment to the Agreement to end the participation of one of its affiliated entities or associated partners that is in one of the situations under points (d), (f), (e), (g), (h), (i) or (j) and to reallocate its tasks, or

(m) other:

Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025


(i) linked action issues: not applicable

(ii) additional GA termination grounds: not applicable.

### 32.3.2 Procedure

Before terminating the grant or participation of one or more beneficiaries, the granting authority will send **a pre-information letter** to the coordinator or beneficiary concerned:

- formally notifying the intention to terminate and the reasons why and
- requesting observations within 30 days of receiving notification.

If the granting authority does not receive observations or decides to pursue the procedure despite the observations it has received, it will confirm the termination and the date it will take effect (**confirmation letter**). Otherwise, it will formally notify that the procedure is discontinued.

For beneficiary terminations, the granting authority will — at the end of the procedure — also inform the coordinator.

The termination will **take effect** the day after the confirmation notification is sent (or on a later date specified in the notification; 'termination date').

### 32.3.3 Effects

(a) for **GA termination**:

The coordinator must — within 60 days from when termination takes effect — submit a **periodic report** (for the last open reporting period until termination).

The granting authority will calculate the final grant amount and final payment on the basis of the report submitted and taking into account the costs incurred and contributions for activities implemented before termination takes effect (see Article 22). Costs relating to contracts due for execution only after termination are not eligible.

If the grant is terminated for breach of the obligation to submit reports, the coordinator may not submit any report after termination.

If the granting authority does not receive the report within the deadline, only costs and contributions which are included in an approved periodic report will be taken into account (no costs/contributions if no periodic report was ever approved).

Termination does not affect the granting authority's right to reduce the grant (see Article 28) or to impose administrative sanctions (see Article 34).

The beneficiaries may not claim damages due to termination by the granting authority (see Article 33).

After termination, the beneficiaries' obligations (in particular Articles 13 (confidentiality and security), 16 (IPR), 17 (communication, dissemination and visibility), 21 (reporting), 25 (checks, reviews, audits and investigations), 26 (impact evaluation), 27 (rejections), 28 (grant reduction) and 42 (assignment of claims)) continue to apply.

(b) for **beneficiary termination**:

The coordinator must — within 60 days from when termination takes effect — submit:

(i) a **report on the distribution of payments** to the beneficiary concerned

(ii) a **termination report** from the beneficiary concerned, for the open reporting period until termination, containing an overview of the progress of the work, the financial statement, the explanation on the use of resources, and, if applicable, the certificate on the financial statement (CFS; see Articles 21 and 24.2 and Data Sheet, Point 4.3)

(iii) a **request for amendment** (see Article 39) with any amendments needed (e.g. reallocation of the tasks and the estimated budget of the terminated beneficiary; addition of a new beneficiary to replace the terminated beneficiary; change of coordinator, etc.).

The granting authority will calculate the amount due to the beneficiary on the basis of the report submitted and taking into account the costs incurred and contributions for activities implemented before termination takes effect (see Article 22). Costs relating to contracts due for execution only after termination are not eligible.

The information in the termination report must also be included in the periodic report for the next reporting period (see Article 21).

If the granting authority does not receive the termination report within the deadline, only costs and contributions included in an approved periodic report will be taken into account (no costs/ contributions if no periodic report was ever approved).

If the granting authority does not receive the report on the distribution of payments within the deadline, it will consider that:

- the coordinator did not distribute any payment to the beneficiary concerned and that
- the beneficiary concerned must not repay any amount to the coordinator.

If the request for amendment is accepted by the granting authority, the Agreement is **amended** to introduce the necessary changes (see Article 39).

If the request for amendment is rejected by the granting authority (because it calls into question the decision awarding the grant or breaches the principle of equal treatment of applicants), the grant may be terminated (see Article 32).

After termination, the concerned beneficiary's obligations (in particular Articles 13 (confidentiality and security), 16 (IPR), 17 (communication, dissemination and visibility), 21 (reporting), 25 (checks, reviews, audits and investigations), 26 (impact evaluation), 27 (rejections), 28 (grant reduction) and 42 (assignment of claims)) continue to apply.

## SECTION 3 OTHER CONSEQUENCES: DAMAGES AND ADMINISTRATIVE SANCTIONS

### ARTICLE 33 — DAMAGES

Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025


### 33.1 Liability of the granting authority

The granting authority cannot be held liable for any damage caused to the beneficiaries or to third parties as a consequence of the implementation of the Agreement, including for gross negligence.

The granting authority cannot be held liable for any damage caused by any of the beneficiaries or other participants involved in the action, as a consequence of the implementation of the Agreement.

### 33.2 Liability of the beneficiaries

The beneficiaries must compensate the granting authority for any damage it sustains as a result of the implementation of the action or because the action was not implemented in full compliance with the Agreement, provided that it was caused by gross negligence or wilful act.

The liability does not extend to indirect or consequential losses or similar damage (such as loss of profit, loss of revenue or loss of contracts), provided such damage was not caused by wilful act or by a breach of confidentiality.

## ARTICLE 34 — ADMINISTRATIVE SANCTIONS AND OTHER MEASURES

Nothing in this Agreement may be construed as preventing the adoption of administrative sanctions (i.e. exclusion from EU award procedures and/or financial penalties) or other public law measures, in addition or as an alternative to the contractual measures provided under this Agreement (see, for instance, Articles 137 to 148 EU Financial Regulation 2024/2509 and Articles 4 and 7 of Regulation 2988/95[23]).

# SECTION 4 FORCE MAJEURE

## ARTICLE 35 — FORCE MAJEURE

A party prevented by force majeure from fulfilling its obligations under the Agreement cannot be considered in breach of them.

‘Force majeure’ means any situation or event that:

- prevents either party from fulfilling their obligations under the Agreement
- was unforeseeable, exceptional situation and beyond the parties’ control
- was not due to error or negligence on their part (or on the part of other participants involved in the action) and
- proves to be inevitable in spite of exercising all due diligence.

Any situation constituting force majeure must be formally notified to the other party without delay, stating the nature, likely duration and foreseeable effects.

[23] Council Regulation (EC, Euratom) No 2988/95 of 18 December 1995 on the protection of the European Communities financial interests (OJ L 312, 23.12.1995, p. 1).

Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025


The parties must immediately take all the necessary steps to limit any damage due to force majeure and do their best to resume implementation of the action as soon as possible.

## CHAPTER 6 FINAL PROVISIONS

### ARTICLE 36 — COMMUNICATION BETWEEN THE PARTIES

#### 36.1 Forms and means of communication — Electronic management

EU grants are managed fully electronically through the EU Funding & Tenders Portal ('Portal').

All communications must be made electronically through the Portal, in accordance with the Portal Terms and Conditions and using the forms and templates provided there (except if explicitly instructed otherwise by the granting authority).

Communications must be made in writing and clearly identify the grant agreement (project number and acronym).

Communications must be made by persons authorised according to the Portal Terms and Conditions. For naming the authorised persons, each beneficiary must have designated — before the signature of this Agreement — a 'legal entity appointed representative (LEAR)'. The role and tasks of the LEAR are stipulated in their appointment letter (see Portal Terms and Conditions).

If the electronic exchange system is temporarily unavailable, instructions will be given on the Portal.

#### 36.2 Date of communication

The sending date for communications made through the Portal will be the date and time of sending, as indicated by the time logs.

The receiving date for communications made through the Portal will be the date and time the communication is accessed, as indicated by the time logs. Formal notifications that have not been accessed within 10 days after sending, will be considered to have been accessed (see Portal Terms and Conditions).

If a communication is exceptionally made on paper (by e-mail or postal service), general principles apply (i.e. date of sending/receipt). Formal notifications by registered post with proof of delivery will be considered to have been received either on the delivery date registered by the postal service or the deadline for collection at the post office.

If the electronic exchange system is temporarily unavailable, the sending party cannot be considered in breach of its obligation to send a communication within a specified deadline.

#### 36.3 Addresses for communication

The Portal can be accessed via the Europa website.

The address for paper communications to the granting authority (if exceptionally allowed) is the official mailing address indicated on its website.

For beneficiaries, it is the legal address specified in the Portal Participant Register.

Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025


## ARTICLE 37 — INTERPRETATION OF THE AGREEMENT

The provisions in the Data Sheet take precedence over the rest of the Terms and Conditions of the Agreement.

Annex 5 takes precedence over the Terms and Conditions; the Terms and Conditions take precedence over the Annexes other than Annex 5.

Annex 2 takes precedence over Annex 1.

## ARTICLE 38 — CALCULATION OF PERIODS AND DEADLINES

In accordance with Regulation No 1182/71[24], periods expressed in days, months or years are calculated from the moment the triggering event occurs.

The day during which that event occurs is not considered as falling within the period.

'Days' means calendar days, not working days.

## ARTICLE 39 — AMENDMENTS

### 39.1 Conditions

The Agreement may be amended, unless the amendment entails changes to the Agreement which would call into question the decision awarding the grant or breach the principle of equal treatment of applicants.

Amendments may be requested by any of the parties.

### 39.2 Procedure

The party requesting an amendment must submit a request for amendment signed directly in the Portal Amendment tool.

The coordinator submits and receives requests for amendment on behalf of the beneficiaries (see Annex 3). If a change of coordinator is requested without its agreement, the submission must be done by another beneficiary (acting on behalf of the other beneficiaries).

The request for amendment must include:

- the reasons why
- the appropriate supporting documents and
- for a change of coordinator without its agreement: the opinion of the coordinator (or proof that this opinion has been requested in writing).

The granting authority may request additional information.

[24] Regulation (EEC, Euratom) No 1182/71 of the Council of 3 June 1971 determining the rules applicable to periods, dates and time-limits (OJ L 124, 8/6/1971, p. 1).

If the party receiving the request agrees, it must sign the amendment in the tool within 45 days of receiving notification (or any additional information the granting authority has requested). If it does not agree, it must formally notify its disagreement within the same deadline. The deadline may be extended, if necessary for the assessment of the request. If no notification is received within the deadline, the request is considered to have been rejected.

An amendment **enters into force** on the day of the signature of the receiving party.

An amendment **takes effect** on the date of entry into force or other date specified in the amendment.

## ARTICLE 40 — ACCESSION AND ADDITION OF NEW BENEFICIARIES

### 40.1 Accession of the beneficiaries mentioned in the Preamble

The beneficiaries which are not coordinator must accede to the grant by signing the accession form (see Annex 3) directly in the Portal Grant Preparation tool, within 30 days after the entry into force of the Agreement (see Article 44).

They will assume the rights and obligations under the Agreement with effect from the date of its entry into force (see Article 44).

If a beneficiary does not accede to the grant within the above deadline, the coordinator must — within 30 days — request an amendment (see Article 39) to terminate the beneficiary and make any changes necessary to ensure proper implementation of the action. This does not affect the granting authority's right to terminate the grant (see Article 32).

### 40.2 Addition of new beneficiaries

In justified cases, the beneficiaries may request the addition of a new beneficiary.

For this purpose, the coordinator must submit a request for amendment in accordance with Article 39. It must include an accession form (see Annex 3) signed by the new beneficiary directly in the Portal Amendment tool.

New beneficiaries will assume the rights and obligations under the Agreement with effect from the date of their accession specified in the accession form (see Annex 3).

Additions are also possible in mono-beneficiary grants.

## ARTICLE 41 — TRANSFER OF THE AGREEMENT

In justified cases, the beneficiary of a mono-beneficiary grant may request the transfer of the grant to a new beneficiary, provided that this would not call into question the decision awarding the grant or breach the principle of equal treatment of applicants.

The beneficiary must submit a request for **amendment** (see Article 39), with

- the reasons why
- the accession form (see Annex 3) signed by the new beneficiary directly in the Portal Amendment tool and

- additional supporting documents (if required by the granting authority).

The new beneficiary will assume the rights and obligations under the Agreement with effect from the date of accession specified in the accession form (see Annex 3).

## ARTICLE 42 — ASSIGNMENTS OF CLAIMS FOR PAYMENT AGAINST THE GRANTING AUTHORITY

The beneficiaries may not assign any of their claims for payment against the granting authority to any third party, except if expressly approved in writing by the granting authority on the basis of a reasoned, written request by the coordinator (on behalf of the beneficiary concerned).

If the granting authority has not accepted the assignment or if the terms of it are not observed, the assignment will have no effect on it.

In no circumstances will an assignment release the beneficiaries from their obligations towards the granting authority.

## ARTICLE 43 — APPLICABLE LAW AND SETTLEMENT OF DISPUTES

### 43.1 Applicable law

The Agreement is governed by the applicable EU law, supplemented if necessary by the law of Belgium.

Special rules may apply for beneficiaries which are international organisations (if any; see Data Sheet, Point 5).

### 43.2 Dispute settlement

If a dispute concerns the interpretation, application or validity of the Agreement, the parties must bring action before the EU General Court — or, on appeal, the EU Court of Justice — under Article 272 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the EU (TFEU).

For non-EU beneficiaries (if any), such disputes must be brought before the courts of Brussels, Belgium — unless an international agreement provides for the enforceability of EU court judgements.

For beneficiaries with arbitration as special dispute settlement forum (if any; see Data Sheet, Point 5), the dispute will — in the absence of an amicable settlement — be settled in accordance with the Rules for Arbitration published on the Portal.

If a dispute concerns administrative sanctions, offsetting or an enforceable decision under Article 299 TFEU (see Articles 22 and 34), the beneficiaries must bring action before the General Court — or, on appeal, the Court of Justice — under Article 263 TFEU.

For grants where the granting authority is an EU executive agency (see Preamble), actions against offsetting and enforceable decisions must be brought against the European Commission (not against the granting authority; see also Article 22).

## ARTICLE 44 — ENTRY INTO FORCE

The Agreement will enter into force on the day of signature by the granting authority or the coordinator, depending on which is later.

SIGNATURES

For the coordinator

Olivér Váczi with ECAS id n00ay8zw signed in the Participant Portal on 11/11/2025 at 11:03:53 (transaction id SigId-3511-NCF1q4SlqbAToXzfZLdEkiEvT8gVDGziuxHrBjGZ62ZWDCxfQLO6RBb5PZdzqJvzxsHpiNxW36iFOVATgg5Svku-R2zIpfT8xjMqyzN2nKnTc3-ozwpYLzRFzNuBkxaGwyIbmQluxzzOm0we5lUHgzS2asTSoImnP6BzdKpH0Io7VCNsbtwcCXx4tN1r9zRvCkFufI9). Timestamp by third party at 2025.11.11 11:08:46 CET

For the granting authority

Signed by Anne BURRILL with ECAS id burrian as an authorised representative on 11-11-2025 11:17:55 (transaction id SigId-3736-KjR7LbkPtv3Kf9zt1IuCuZ77PgViTaNMGcAKFuErsUpRu4VvZtr5WM2qrMkVeh5use90F45pbGvCOEHREDBgRK-R2zIpfT8xjMqyzN2nKnTc3-rxzQW2m8tj63D9fIe84DrHO6BGbDvTZWxomdyGAhspmRRLU8cq1Z7wLFmsD7At66CYQwlY7yAEyPiafRzjqFzg0)
2025.11.11 11:18:02 CET

Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025

**ANNEX 1**

# Programme for the Environment and Climate Action (LIFE)

# Description of the action (DoA)

**Part A**

**Part B**

Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025

# DESCRIPTION OF THE ACTION (PART A)

## COVER PAGE

*Part A of the Description of the Action (DoA) must be completed directly on the Portal Grant Preparation screens.*

| **PROJECT**<br>*Grant Preparation (General Information screen) — Enter the info.* | |
|---|---|
| **Project number:** | 101202727 |
| **Project name:** | Ensuring the survival of a viable European Ground Squirrel population in the Pannonian region. |
| **Project acronym:** | LIFE24-NAT-HU-CitellusLIFE |
| **Call:** | LIFE-2024-SAP-NAT |
| **Topic:** | LIFE-2024-SAP-NAT-NATURE |
| **Type of action:** | LIFE-PJG |
| **Service:** | CINEA/D/02 |
| **Project starting date:** | first day of the month following the entry into force date |
| **Project duration:** | 87 months |

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

Project summary ..... 3
List of participants ..... 3
List of work packages ..... 4
Staff effort ..... 45
List of deliverables ..... 46
List of milestones (outputs/outcomes) ..... 77
List of critical risks ..... 78

Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025

# PROJECT SUMMARY

**Project summary**

*Grant Preparation (General Information screen) — Provide an overall description of your project (including context and overall objectives, planned activities and main achievements, and expected results and impacts (on target groups, change procedures, capacities, innovation etc)). This summary should give readers a clear idea of what your project is about.*

*Use the project summary from your proposal.*

The European Ground Squirrel (Spermophilus citellus) is a keystone, ecological engineer species of dry grassland ecosystems. Its importance in maintaining functions and ecosystem services provided by Pannonian grasslands is evident. Suitable habitats for the European Ground Squirrel (EGS) are threatened by human interventions, lack of appropriate land management, and natural processes. For these reasons, they have been shrinking rapidly in size since 1950's and, although at slower rates in recent decades, EGS habitats have become more and more isolated. Due to strong socio-economic pressures, this process cannot be reversed in the short-term by conservation measures. To slow it down and halt this trend at a viable level for the species is a realistic goal but difficult to achieve. Previous conservation successes on EGS protection cannot be properly interpreted without the comprehensive coordination of different projects and disconnected individually-initiated interventions. Continuing these activities remains extremely important, but the overall coordination of successful local activities as a network of conservation actions carried out so far is more crucial to achieve our goal. Global survival of the EGS lies in this coordination activity in 'stretching' of an ‘EGS Conservation Safety Net’. This means that – except in a minority of cases, where natural connectivity can and should be secured by maintaining or creating ecological corridors – natural migration between local populations must be replaced by strongly synchronised artificial interventions. These will be reached by a range of other well-coordinated conservation measures (e.g. colony-level registration system, local communication activities), different development activities (e.g. captive breeding centres, 'Citellus Gardens') and field interventions for the benefit of the species (e.g. habitat creation and expansion, improvement of habitat quality). These measures can ensure the survival of viable population of the species in the long term.

# LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

**PARTICIPANTS**

*Grant Preparation (Beneficiaries screen) — Enter the info.*

| Number | Role | Short name | Legal name | Country | PIC |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | COO | HOI | HERMAN OTTO INTEZET NON PROFIT KORLATOLT FELELOSSEGU TARSASAG | HU | 912871366 |
| 2 | BEN | ZOO | Alapitvany a Budapesti Allatkertert | HU | 881044793 |
| 3 | BEN | BVP | Budakeszi Vadaspark Kozhasznu Nonprofit Kft. | HU | 884780748 |
| 4 | BEN | BEKE | BUKKI EMLOSTANI KUTATOCSOPORT EGYESULET | HU | 884810333 |
| 5 | BEN | BNPD | BUKKI NEMZETI PARK IGAZGATOSAG | HU | 889739194 |
| 6 | BEN | HNPD | HORTOBAGYI NEMZETI PARK IGAZGATOSAG | HU | 950161464 |
| 7 | BEN | CER | HUN-REN OKOLOGIAI KUTATOKOZPONT | HU | 954674292 |
| 8 | BEN | MILVUS | ASOCIATIA GRUPUL MILVUS | RO | 917235105 |
| 9 | AP | FHNPD | FERTO-HANSAG NEMZETI PARK IGAZGATOSAG | HU | 889727263 |
| 10 | AP | KNPD | KISKUNSAGI NEMZETI PARK IGAZGATOSAG | HU | 941261423 |
| 11 | AP | DE | DEBRECENI EGYETEM | HU | 999881239 |

Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025

# LIST OF WORK PACKAGES

**Work packages**

*Grant Preparation (Work Packages screen) — Enter the info.*

| Work Package No | Work Package name | Lead Beneficiary | Effort (Person-Months) | Start Month | End Month | Deliverables |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| WP1 | Project management and coordination | 1 - HOI | 194.00 | 1 | 87 | D1.1 – Kick-off meeting<br>D1.2 – Digital Project Handbook<br>D1.3 – Annual Evaluation meetings<br>D1.4 – 1st Progress Report (PR1)<br>D1.5 – 2nd Progress Report (PR2)<br>D1.6 – Kick-off Steering Committee meeting<br>D1.7 – First report on cumulative expenditure<br>D1.8 – Second report on cumulative expenditure<br>D1.9 – Third report on cumulative expenditure<br>D1.10 – Fourth report on cumulative expenditure<br>D1.11 – Fifth report on cumulative expenditure<br>D1.12 – Sixth report on cumulative expenditure<br>D1.13 – Seventh report on cumulative expenditure<br>D1.14 – Steering Committee meetings |
| WP2 | Baseline surveys and analysis | 1 - HOI | 170.00 | 1 | 25 | D2.1 – Distribution and conservation status of EGS in Project sites<br>D2.2 – ‘Colony Logsheets’ database<br>D2.3 – Standard Protocol of Suitability Characterization |

Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025

**Work packages**

*Grant Preparation (Work Packages screen) — Enter the info.*

| Work Package No | Work Package name | Lead Beneficiary | Effort (Person-Months) | Start Month | End Month | Deliverables |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | | | | D2.4 – EGS habitat suitability database<br>D2.5 – Depopulated EGS habitats |
| WP3 | Ex-Situ conservation of EGS | 3 - BVP | 347.00 | 3 | 87 | D3.1 – Documentation of ex-situ breeding facilities at BVP<br>D3.2 – Documentation of ex-situ breeding facilities at HNPD |
| WP4 | In Situ Indirect Conservation of EGS | 6 - HNPD | 131.00 | 1 | 87 | D4.1 – Control of predators<br>D4.2 – Conversion of habitats from arable land to grassland<br>D4.3 – Removal of native shrubs<br>D4.4 – Annual reports on IAS management |
| WP5 | Species conservation direct interventions | 1 - HOI | 263.00 | 1 | 84 | D5.1 – Pannonian EGS threat map<br>D5.2 – Suitable target areas for reintroduction/translocation<br>D5.3 – Available, vital source populations<br>D5.4 – Annual Reintroduction Plan<br>D5.5 – Database of relocations/ reintroductions in Hungary<br>D5.6 – EGS state report to the Romanian authority<br>D5.7 – EGS state report to the Hungarian authority<br>D5.8 – Updated Standard Data Forms of HUBN20069, HUFH20003, HUHN20010 sites |
| WP6 | Monitoring and Evaluation | 1 - HOI | 211.00 | 5 | 87 | D6.1 – Telemetry monitoring database<br>D6.2 – Reproduction success monitoring protocol |

Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025

**Work packages**

*Grant Preparation (Work Packages screen) — Enter the info.*

| Work Package No | Work Package name | Lead Beneficiary | Effort (Person-Months) | Start Month | End Month | Deliverables |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | | | | D6.3 – Midterm reproduction success database<br>D6.4 – Updated trend analysis<br>D6.5 – Habitat reconstruction interventions database<br>D6.6 – Report on stakeholders' awareness status changes throughout the Project<br>D6.7 – Extract of the Project data from the LIFE KPI webtool1<br>D6.8 – Extract of the Project data from the LIFE KPI webtool2 |
| WP7 | Communication and Dissemination | 2 - ZOO | 352.00 | 1 | 87 | D7.1 – Project logo and visual identity guideline<br>D7.2 – Project webpages on beneficiaries' websites<br>D7.3 – Social media profiles of the Project<br>D7.4 – Information boards<br>D7.5 – EGS observation platform at 'Citellus garden' next to Batúz-tanya<br>D7.6 – Project leaflet<br>D7.7 – Project roll-up<br>D7.8 – Booklet for general public, about the EGS<br>D7.9 – Education booklet for school children<br>D7.10 – Thematic book<br>D7.11 – Interactive playsets on EGS<br>D7.12 – Promotional materials<br>D7.13 – Project film and extracts |

Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025

**Work packages**

*Grant Preparation (Work Packages screen) — Enter the info.*

| Work Package No | Work Package name | Lead Beneficiary | Effort (Person-Months) | Start Month | End Month | Deliverables |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | | | | D7.14 – Thematic video about the breeding program at BVP<br>D7.15 – Educational cartoon for children<br>D7.16 – Site visits for the general public<br>D7.17 – Representation on public events<br>D7.18 – Standard monitoring protocol for volunteers with a smartphone application<br>D7.19 – EGS data collection campaigns for volunteers<br>D7.20 – Improvement of EGS demonstration enclosure in Budapest ZOO<br>D7.21 – Tourism marketing and attraction for the EGS<br>D7.22 – Layman’s report<br>D7.23 – Press conferences<br>D7.24 – Field trips to project sites for media representatives<br>D7.25 – Press releases<br>D7.26 – Media-observer Annual Report<br>D7.27 – Field trainings on UAV methodology<br>D7.28 – Field workshops at different project sites<br>D7.29 – Bulletin of the EGS<br>D7.30 – Scientific papers on EGS<br>D7.31 – Participation on conferences<br>D7.32 – European Ground Squirrel Meeting in Hungary<br>D7.33 – Final Project conference |

Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025

**Work packages**

*Grant Preparation (Work Packages screen) — Enter the info.*

| Work Package No | Work Package name | Lead Beneficiary | Effort (Person-Months) | Start Month | End Month | Deliverables |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| WP8 | Sustainability, replication and exploitation of project results | 7 - CER | 79.00 | 3 | 87 | D8.1 – EGS Climate Change Action Plan for the Pannonian region<br>D8.2 – Action plan for decision makers regarding the survival of ground squirrels in the Pannonian region<br>D8.3 – Protected value harmonisation action plan<br>D8.4 – Technical recommendations for the development of EGS-friendly grassland management practices<br>D8.5 – Advisory Service about ground squirrels<br>D8.6 – 'EGSNet' system strategy<br>D8.7 – 'International EGS Technical Committee'<br>D8.8 – Updated Hungarian EGS Species Action Plan<br>D8.9 – Urban site-specific action plans<br>D8.10 – Awareness raising events at urban EGS sites<br>D8.11 – After-LIFE conservation plan |

Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025

## Work package WP1 – Project management and coordination

| Work Package Number | WP1 | Lead Beneficiary | 1 - HOI |
|---|---|---|---|
| Work Package Name | Project management and coordination | | |
| Start Month | 1 | End Month | 87 |

**Objectives**

Project start-up with Kick-off meeting (D1.1), Training (MS1) and digital Project Handbook (D1.2) for project participants. (T.1.1)
Implement coordination and monitoring of the progress. (T.1.2) (D1.3-D1.5)
Operate financial management. (T.1.3) (D1.4-D1.5, D1.7-D.13)
Set up and operate Steering Committee of the project partnership. (T.1.4) (MS2, D1.6, D1.14)
Coordinate cross-cutting activities and exchange of knowledge, coordinate the distribution of new equipment. (T.1.5) (MS3)

**Description**

WP1 is responsible for the coordination of all WPs from the project management point of view. It can be divided to the following tasks:
T.1.1 Project start-up period (incl. training of project participants) (COO; all BEN):
The project start-up period is the 1st 6-month-period of the project when the set-up of the project team (hiring new personnel where necessary) and the signing of Partnership Agreements will happen.
At the beginning of the start-up period a Kick-off meeting (D1.1) will be held by the COO (1-HOI) for the beneficiaries to agree on and schedule of the initial tasks before the project management is set up.
In this period a beneficiary-specific digital Project Handbook (D1.2) will be prepared by the project management for each beneficiary as a guide book for successful project implementation. This handbook will contain all important information necessary for the implementation of the project.
Training for project participants will be organised (MS1), in order to learn about project schedule, working practices, use of instruments, methods of data management and storage, information flow, administration, financial administration and reporting. The Project Handbook will be introduced in detail. The training will be organised by the COO (1-HOI).
T.1.2 Coordination and monitoring of the progress (COO, all BEN):
The project management will focus on the following aspects:
a) day-to-day project management
b) monitoring of the project implementation (incl. annual evaluation & planning meetings).
- Annual Evaluation meetings (D1.3) will be organised at the beginning of every year to review the results of the past year and to plan the activities for the upcoming year. Every Partner Coordinator (PCo) will be presented to introduce their implemented and planned activities. The meetings will be hosted by the BNPD (1 meeting), the BVP (1 meeting) and the COO(1-HOI) (4 meetings) (D1.3).
c) Monitoring of the outputs/deliverables (timely delivery and appropriate quality/content).
d) Preparation of reports (AR1 D1.4), AR2 (D1.5)).
e) Data management coordination and application of data management regulation.
GDPR and national rules will be applied for personal data management.
All biological data collected in the frame of the project will be managed by Creative Commons Attribution-NonCommercial-ShareAlike 4.0 International (CC BY-NC-SA 4.0). This licence allows reusers to distribute, remix, adapt, and build upon the material in any medium or format for noncommercial purposes only, and only so long as attribution is given to the creator. In the case of remix, adapt, or build upon the material, one must licence the modified material under identical terms.
The project aims to ensure that the collected data is stored in a database that is accessible to anyone and that it is easily accessible to the public at the right level of access, in addition to the partners.
T.1.3 Financial management (COO, all BEN):
The financial management of the project will be implemented by the Technical Project Manager (TPM) and the Financial Manager (FM).
Each Beneficiary will implement the financial administration themselves through the involvement of their Partner Administrators (PA) and will send the financial documentation to the FM with the regularity requested by the project management. Central control of public procurement procedures of the project is also implemented.
The FM will assist the PAs in their administration tasks/questions, will check the financial documentation &

Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025

administration of the project expenditures, and the financial reports of the Beneficiaries. The TPM will control and supervise the financial progress of the project, while the FM will control the accounting of the project expenditures, will supervise their financial reports (in D1.7-D1.13), will prepare the overall financial report of the project and will assist the PAs in case of questions.
T.1.4 Steering Committee of the project partnership (COO, all BEN):
A Steering Committee (SC) will be formed by the beneficiaries' representatives after the Grant Agreement is signed and the project management has been set up (MS2). Each beneficiary will be represented in the Committee by the director or by his/her representative. The Committee will be chaired by the director of the Coordinator. The SC will meet once a year, every year (D1.6, D1.14).
During the Project Start-up Steering Committee Meeting (SCM), the Terms of Reference (ToR) of the SC will be approved, in order to define the purpose and structure of the Committee. Furthermore the schedule of the initial actions will be presented. The 2nd SCM will check whether the initial actions have been completed satisfactorily and that the financial arrangements have been effective. The subsequent years' SCMs will focus on Technical Activities completed and planned over the preceding and forthcoming 12 months and it will focus on financial expenditure for the preceding and forthcoming 12 months. The regular and scheduled SC Meetings will enable all beneficiaries' management to be fully informed on the progress to date, in order to make suitable directing decisions, to instruct the Technical Project Manager (TPM) and keep their respective Partner staff informed. This action is necessary to enable efficient project management and will therefore indirectly address all threats.
T.1.5 Cross-cutting activities (COO, all BEN)
All tasks that are belonging to more than one WP:
T.1.5.1. Purchase of equipment
Equipment that will be used for several WPs (MS3):
- field cars for project staff to perform field work;
- laptops for coordinators;
- other equipment - see budgets.
T.1.5.1. Exchange of knowledge within the partnership
Exchange of knowledge is one of the most important results of the project for the participating partners in order to spread the best practices and experiences that can significantly improve the conservation efforts of the partnership regarding the future, long-term effects (see also T.7.3.2).
Besides knowledge exchange, the partners will be involved in expertise exchange by participating in joint activities with other beneficiaries during the implementation of reintroduction, satellite tagging, genetic sampling, etc.
The following Tasks will be supported by the knowledge exchange trips within the partnership:
T.2.2 Baseline survey of ground squirrel populations and set up EGS 'Colony Logsheet' system
T.5.1 Establishment of new ground squirrel populations (e.g. genetic study, parasitological study, animal health investigations/control)
T.3.2 Establishment and maintenance of ex-situ breeding
T.5.2 EGS reintroductions
T.6.1 Monitoring of the populations subject to project actions (repatriation & habitat reconstructions)
T.6.2 Monitoring of the habitat reconstructions
T.7.3 Trainings & field workshops for project team members
T.8.6 Set up 'EGS Conservation Safety Net'
T.8.8 Performing complex awareness campaign to manage human-ground squirrel conflicts in suburban habitats

## Work package WP2 – Baseline surveys and analysis

| **Work Package Number** | WP2 | **Lead Beneficiary** | 1 - HOI |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Work Package Name** | Baseline surveys and analysis | | |
| **Start Month** | 1 | **End Month** | 25 |

| **Objectives** |
|---|
| General nature conservation permits obtained for Hungarian and Romanian actions in WP2 and WP5 on strictly protected EGS (T.2.1, MS4, MS5).<br>Up-to-date detailed distribution map and conservation status report of EGS colonies will be prepared. (D2.1) (T.2.2.1)<br>EGS 'Colony Logsheet' system will be developed (D2.2, MS6) (T.2.2.1)<br>An updated trend analysis will also be conducted (T.2.2.1.) |

Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025

EGS ‘Colony Logsheets’ will be filled out by current data (T.2.2.1, T.2.2.2).
A Standard Protocol of Suitability Characterization (D2.3) will be worked out and evaluation of habitat suitability of the targeted areas will be implemented. (D2.4) (T.2.2.2.)
A GIS database of ‘potential’ habitats will be set up — sites with recorded recent disappearance of a colony — that could be used in emergency resettlements/relocations. (D2.5) (T.2.3)

**Description**

T.2.1 Preparatory tasks: authorization process (HOI, MILVUS, CER, BNPD, FHNPD, HNPD, KNPD, UD, BVP, BEKE)
Background: Given that EGS is a strictly protected species, all sampling procedures and relocation activities in WP2 and WP5 should be permitted by the relevant nature conservation authority both in Hungary and Romania.
Description: An overall permit will be requested for all the sampling and reintroduction activities in Hungary and separately in Romania throughout the Project period, indicating the planned surveys, relocation activities with target areas and listing the possible source populations, based on the results and findings of the RAPTORSPREYLIFE (LIFE/13/NAT/HU/00183) project and the results of the baseline surveys of the actual Project (T.2.2.1, T.2.2.2, T.3). A general permit will also be requested for all the activities about genetic and health status analyses, requiring the use of invasive methods in Hungary throughout the Project time.
Expected results: The Hungarian permit requests will be submitted by HOI and CER, the coordinators of the reintroduction and sampling activities (MS4). Romanian permit requests will be submitted by MILVUS (MS5).

T.2.2 Baseline survey of European Ground Squirrel (EGS) populations (HOI, BNPD, FHNPD, HNPD, KNPD, BEKE, UD, MILVUS, CER)
Background: Country level monitoring is continuously running in Hungary by the standard method of Hungarian Biodiversity Monitoring System (HBMS) EGS Programme using representative permanent study sites (see. the details in annexed HBMS EGS monitoring protocol in other annexes). This monitoring activity gives us an overall trend of the species at a country wide level, which proves the vulnerability of the species in general. Nevertheless, the results of the HBMS EGS Programme are insufficient for measuring colony level population changes and mapping local situations and risks. In Romania, there is no regular national monitoring for EGS. Additionally, the conservation status or vulnerability of EGS can change dramatically, even from year to year. Depending on climate variables, food availability, predator pressure and inappropriate habitat management or directly, as a result of extreme weather events or endogenous factors, colony sizes can fluctuate drastically. It is, therefore, crucial that the actual conservation status of all targeted colonies is updated locally (D2.1) and stored at ‘Colony Logsheets’ before planned interventions start.
The baseline survey will serve as a basis for evaluating the Project's progress as it provides a reference point to measure the degree and quality of changes achieved by the implementation of project activities. The surveys of this task will also be used as the first (base) surveys for T.6.1.1, T.6.1.2 and T.6.2.2.
On the other hand, the baseline survey will provide basic information for T.3.2, T.3.3, T.4.3 and T.5.1.1 through allowing the understanding of the exact situation and proper planning of the activities within the tasks related to direct and indirect interventions.
Description: Global survival of the EGS lies in the coordination of conservation activity as ‘stretching’ of an ‘EGS Conservation Safety Net’ (‘EGSNet’). The practical basis of the EGSNet is to set up and to keep up to date a colony level log sheet system (‘Colony Logsheets’). This will be implemented for the purpose of providing a detailed up-to-date view on the status of the target species within the range covered by the Project, and serving colony level information about targeted EGS populations, at the starting point. The findings of the surveys will be used for decision making on exact timing and help the selection of sites for concrete field actions. Subsequently, through monitoring activities, this task will also provide information regarding the impacts of the Project.
The following surveys regarding EGS will be implemented:
T.2.2.1 Set up an EGS ‘Colony Logsheet’ system and surveys of the number and status of colonies:
Background: For all of the planned activities, it is important to have an overall view on the EGS population status within the Project area, i.e. in the working areas of the partner national park directorates in Hungary (BNPD, FHNDP, HNPD, KNDP) and West Romania (MILVUS). More detailed information on Project sites (of source and translocated/reintroduced colonies, colonies affected by habitat reconstructions) are needed for the planned Project activities. All important information of EGS colonies which can be useful for conservation actions planned in the Project are collected and stored in ‘Colony Logsheets’.
Description: This task will provide relevant and up-to-date information on active colonies in all occupied areas. Supplemented by the regular activity of HBMS EGS Programme, approximately 150 known sites in Hungary and additional 40 sites in Romania will be surveyed using the standard HBMS protocol (see: Annex EGS monitoring protocol, in Hungarian) developed to estimate the relative size of the colonies. The surveys will also include identification of unoccupied areas, as it can provide an important input for T.2.3. In preparatory phases of the task activities, a list of areas to be visited will be compiled based on the results of RAPTORSPREYLIFE (LIFE13/NAT/HU/00183), literature data

Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025

and knowledge of the experts of national park directorates. Every known EGS colony will have a 'Colony Logsheet' with available data on colony size, density, health status, threats, habitat types, quality, suitable area size, management, ownership, history etc. and will be filled out and updated throughout the action (D2.2).
Detailed surveys of affected sites will be carried out using remote sensing developed by Gedeon et al. (2022). This novel method presents a specific non-invasive way to estimate the relative abundance and colonised area using non-destructive, pixel-based imagery combined with a random forest classification scheme. The semi-automated method identifies and counts burrow entrances on images recorded remotely by simple UAVs. The method's accuracy and reliability are above 90%, providing a quick and less laborious way for estimating colony size (relative abundance) and colonised area.
Using this method, we will survey (and later monitor in T.6.1.2) the relative abundance of source (and later monitoring in T.6.1.2 of reintroduced) colonies, as well as colonies that will be affected by habitat reconstructions once in the first two years of the Project, shortly after hibernation ends (in early Spring). Image recording by UAVs will be done with the active participation of HOI, BEKE, MILVUS and national park directorates, and image processing and final abundance estimation will be carried out by researchers involved by HOI. This method gives a practical and simple tool to national park directorates/PA managers to survey EGS colonies more effectively.
If the environmental conditions (e.g. grass height) are not suitable for the UAV-based method application, the survey will be completed using direct visual burrow entrance counting at given sites.
Expected results: 150 EGS colonies in Hungary and 40 in Romania will be surveyed by simple HBMS protocol. Up-to-date distribution map and local conservation status assessment of at least 30 EGS colonies within the Project area in Hungary will be prepared for the partner national park directorates (D2.1). Similar document will be prepared in Romania (D2.1) for 15 colonies. EGS 'Colony Logsheet' system will be developed (D2.2, MS6). and it will be filled up by detailed baseline data, containing the data on relative abundance of EGS colonies in Project sites. An updated trend analysis will also be implemented. All identified EGS colonies in Natura 2000 sites will be registered in Standard Data Form (SDF) by the Ministry of Agriculture (MA) (see annexed Letter of support from the MA).
T.2.2.2 Survey of habitats
Description: This task will reveal the content of the habitat part of EGS 'Colony Logsheets' by characterisation of grasslands as EGShabitats (habitat type, vegetation composition especially foodplants, ownership, land use history, actual land use (management), size of potentially suitable area, coexisting animal species occurrence, predator pressure, geographic attributes, quality and quantity of human disturbance, level of isolation), through the implementation of a habitat suitability analysis based on the questionnaire/criteria system developed through the activities of RAPTORSPREYLIFE (LIFE13/NAT/HU/00183). The findings of this task will additionally be extended by the results of T.5.1.2 through a field data collection (e.g. for food selection analysed from faecal samples, vegetation composition analysis, investigation of toxic chemical elements that may cause decreased fitness by gamma X-ray fluorescence and spectroscopy etc.) at areas targeted by Project actions (actual and potential habitats, starting with the sites where there is a need to decide if those are suitable or not for any interventions/translocations) (30 sites in the first 2 years of the Project in Hungary, and 15 sites in Romania).
Expected results: A Standard Protocol of Suitability Characterization (D2.3) will be worked out and evaluation of habitat suitability of targeted areas will be implemented (D2.4) using data of EGS 'Colony Logsheets' (D2.2) too.
T.2.3. Building a GIS database of potentially suitable sites and areas which are currently free of EGS (HOI, BEKE, BNPD, FHNPD, HNPD, KNDP, CER, UD, MILVUS)
Background: Disappearance of an EGS population for any reasons, does not definitely mean that its habitat patch has become permanently unusable for them. Because of the fact that EGS populations are strongly isolated across the species' range, these habitat patches usually cannot be recolonised by natural recolonisations (through migration). For safety reasons, it is crucial to know the causes of disappearance of a colony because without the elimination of the causes the habitat may remain unsuitable to be a target area for EGS reintroduction. On the other hand, if causes of disappearance are eliminated from a former EGS habitat it will most probably become a suitable target area for a reintroduction action. A database of suitable target areas for EGS reintroduction makes the planning phase more effective and fast and increases the probability of success. Such a list would prove especially important in the case of, e.g. construction work that demands urgent translocation of individuals to other sites. The list of recently depopulated ground squirrel habitats will also facilitate and establish T.8.1 action that examines the impact of the current climate change on the species. 'Colony Logsheet' system will be kept up to date throughout the Project term (T.5.1.2)
Description: A data collection will be implemented in order to compile the most complete list possible of the Hungarian and West Romanian ground squirrel habitats that have been depopulated in recent decades based on the results of T.2.2.1, T.2.2.2. and all other available databases (e.g. publications, research reports/communication of other researchers, data from the Hungarian Biodiversity Monitoring System, biotic databases of national park directorates etc.).
The gained data will be processed and summarised in a GIS database (D2.5)
Expected results: Data (naturally with the data on active EGS populations) filled in EGS 'Colony Logsheet' system (D2.2) and a GIS database of the recently depopulated EGS habitats. (D2.5)

Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025

## Work package WP3 – Ex-Situ conservation of EGS

| Work Package Number | WP3 | Lead Beneficiary | 3 - BVP |
|---|---|---|---|
| Work Package Name | Ex-Situ conservation of EGS | | |
| Start Month | 3 | End Month | 87 |

**Objectives**

Nature conservation permits will be obtained for ex-situ breeding activities for breeding stocks and 'Citellus Gardens' at BVP, HNPD, and BNPD (T.3.1.1) (MS7).
Three separate ex-situ breeding facilities, gene banks and breeding stocks will be established, for the three different genetic lines of EGS, in order to preserve genetic diversity and serve individuals for reintroductions (T.3.1, T.3.2) (D3.1, D3.2) (MS8, MS9, MS10).
Semi-natural 'Citellus Gardens' 0.5 ha at BVP (BVP), 5 ha at Batúz-tanya/Szentistván and 2 ha at Tard project sites (both BNPD) will be established both for ex-situ breeding and education purposes (T.3.3) (MS11).
40-50 EGS individuals/year/genetic line from the 3rd Project year are produced (in T.3.2 and T.3.3) and released on carefully selected sites (based on the results of T.5.1.3). It means that during the Project period all together at least 300 captive bred individuals are released to the wild (in T.5.2.2) (MS14).

**Description**

Establishing a captive breeding programme for ground squirrels and a gene bank from captive and natural colonies using the experiences and methodology developed through the RAPTORSPREYLIFE (LIFE13/NAT/HU/00183) project (see the implemented activities of this project with a focus on the EGS in Chapter 1.1).
T.3.1. Establishment of ex-situ facilities for breeding and gene banking activities targeting EGS (HNPD, BVP)
Background: Earlier experience has shown that it is becoming increasingly difficult to find suitable source populations for translocation actions to establish new populations, such as they are almost impossible to establish naturally due to very high and frequent isolation. Therefore, to create and ensure the establishment and operation of a breeding centre of each of the three genetic lineages previously found in RAPTOSPREYLIFE, using the technology developed in that project would be crucial. The capacity of the experimental breeding station of the Transdanubian genetic lineage set up in the previous project proved insufficient to sustain the long-term translocation needs of this EGS lineage. The maintenance period of the RAPTOSPREYLIFE project has expired, so that it is necessary to re-establish the Transdanubian breeding station in the present Project, in addition to the other two lineages. The breeding laboratory equipment purchased under RAPTORPREYLIFE will be received and used in the development of the new breeding centres.
T.3.1.1 Preparatory tasks: authorization process (BVP, HNPD)
Background: Given that EGS is a strictly protected species, breeding activities in WP3 should be permitted by the relevant nature conservation authority by BVP, HNPD and BNPD.
Description: Permits will be requested for ex-situ breeding activities at BVP, HNPD and BNPD.
Expected results: Nature conservation permits will be obtained for ex-situ breeding activities for breeding stocks and 'Citellus Gardens' at BVP and HNPD (MS7).

T.3.1.2 Establishment of ex-situ facilities at BVP
Description: The ex-situ conservation and captive breeding of the Transdanubian and Danube-Tisza interfluve regions' population genetic groups will be carried out in new breeding facilities in the BVP. Because of veterinary safety reasons, and free place, expertise and adequate institute profile are also available here, two separated breeding facilities for gene banks for Transdanubian and Danube-Tisza interfluve EGS lineage will be set up. The breeding facilities can serve the EGS individuals to the enclosure in T.3.3.1. The captive breeding facilities will be set up in climatized containers that can be set up independently to different temperatures, such as 25 °C for summer and 5 °C for winter hibernation. Serving containers will also be set up where food, wood chips for the EGS and equipment can be stored, and where - close to the breeding centres - the staff has the opportunity to clean, to go to the dressing rooms to change clothes etc. As there are no available buildings there to provide these facilities, a total of eight 6 x 3 m containers are required. The containers will be placed on a levelled concrete base. BVP will install the containers next to each other with their longitudinal sides touching (this improves the insulation). Air conditioning will be provided in a wind-free manner so that the drought won't have a direct effect on the animals. The system will be operated with outdoor air, which also ensures air exchange (heat exchange). The lighting will be provided with programmable time switching and two-row lamps with sunlight colour temperature. Electric power will be supplied partly by solar panels.
The two breeding centres are separated from each other and are handled by different staff to avoid the risk of disease transmission and total mortality in the case of infection. This requires sufficient animal keepers to be included in the

Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025

Project. The outdoor enclosure (‘Citellus Garden’ in T.3.3.1) will be used for breeding animals that are habituated to humans due to breeding activity and are not suitable for repatriation. Breeding animals are replaced every third year to avoid inbreeding.
The facility will also function as an international reference EGS breeding centre. It means that free demonstrations will be provided for inquiring experts from zoos, national park directorates or scientific institutes from all over the World.
All specific authorisation permits will be obtained for land usage by BVP.
The procedure will be launched in 2025 and is expected to take 14 months.
Expected result: Breeding and gene bank facilities established at BVP (D3.1, MS9).
T.3.1.3 Establishment of ex-situ facilities at HNPD
Description: Ex-situ conservation and captive breeding of the Trans-Tisza genetic group of EGS will be implemented at the HNPD in order to preserve genetic diversity and retain reproductive fitness for later reintroduction of the descendants. For this purpose, a breeding station will be established at the HNPD. It will have similar characteristics to the ex-situ facilities at BVP. Beside other necessary parts (e.g. washroom, dressing room) the breeding station will contain a hibernation chamber that can be cooled to 5°C and another room that can be climatized to 25°C. Natural light will be provided. Air conditioning will be provided in a wind-free manner so that the draught won’t have a direct effect on the animals. The system will be operated with outdoor air, which also ensures air exchange (heat exchange). If necessary, a refrigerated container belonging to the breeding centre will be purchased. We plan to ensure the energy supply with the help of solar panels. The establishment and installation of the breeding centre are expected to take no longer than 18 months, thus breeding of ground squirrels will be underway by the 3rd year of the Project. Due to the space and capacity limitations of the station it is not possible to set a background breeding facility, either. After tidying up the area (ground planning, making a mobile concrete foundation) and developing the electricity and water network, the property will be suitable for placing the containers. A former livestock facility is also available in the area, where it will be possible to place other necessary equipment.
The constructed facility can serve in the future as a place for maintaining the gene bank of the Trans-Tisza population genetic lineage of ground squirrels.
The facility will also be suitable for the education of nature conservation experts (MSc in nature conservation) of the UD to gain first-hand insights into the cutting edge conservation work carried out to save ground squirrels, which represent a significant natural value of the region. The species-protecting activities carried out in the ex-situ facilities of HNPD will be integrated into UD’s education.
All specific authorisation and permits will be obtained for land usage by HNPD.
Expected result: Breeding and gene bank facilities will be established by the middle of 2026 in the HNPD (D3.2, MS8)
T.3.2 Establishment and maintenance of ex-situ breeding (and gene bank) centres - In laboratory (HNPD, BVP, ZOO)
Background: One of the most important results of the genetic survey carried out in RAPTORSPREYLIFE (LIFE13/NAT/HU/00183) was that three detectably different population genetic groups appeared in Hungarian EGS populations. The three genetic lines were geographically separated by the two largest rivers of Hungary: Danube and Tisza. In order to enhance future possibilities of breeding and reintroducing animals if further decrease of wild populations occurs, it’s crucial to establish a genetically representative breeding colony of ground squirrels, based on the evidence-based EGS captive breeding methodology that has been worked out in RAPTORSPREYLIFE (LIFE13/NAT/HU/00183), strengthening the importance of ex-situ breeding of EGS. It would be most desirable in the long-term to maintain three separated captive breeding stocks in the country.
Beside the in-situ breed and wild captured EGSs, the ex-situ breeding programme will produce captive-born stress-tolerant viable individuals for establishing new, or to strengthen endangered EGS colonies.
Description: Based on the results of the genetic survey, the stock bred in captivity will be composed of individuals from the wild. The breeding programme should run with at least 20 pairs of EGSs per one facility of the three genetic groups (all together 60 pairs).
The method used during the breeding programme consists of the following steps. ‘1. selection of tame individuals from trapped and kept individuals in the preceding autumn period to establish the breeding stock, 2. helping them overwinter so that they emerge from torpor in optimal body conditions, 3. assistance in the mating period in order to obtain viable litters, 4. monitoring their development while providing them with appropriate food plants that exist in their future habitat, and 5. release to the wild while helping with the initial acclimatisation (pre-drilling of burrow system, temporary fencing, guarding).
Founder animals have to be kept in climatic chambers in low temperature during winter to assist the animals maintaining good body conditions during torpor phase. After raising the room temperature from 5 to 15 °C, the cages of these animals should be interconnected in late March for mating. Females have to be kept alone in cages from the following week. Close monitoring should follow the development of delivered litters for obtaining valuable knowledge about individual success or realise if immediate assistance is needed. Regular handling of captive born animals also helps in habituating them to human presence. This is important as taming resulted previously in stress-tolerant individuals with potentially enhanced breeding capacity. Such tame animals will be used for a more successful breeding programme ensuring future release of substantial numbers of individuals to the wild. Those animals chosen for release should be further assisted by

Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025

feeding them with plants obtained from the release site. The animals born in captivity need to be released following the usual reintroduction protocol to carefully selected appropriate areas in August to be able to readily occupy the prepared artificial burrows and start to feed on local plants.
Veterinary management of the captive breeding stock will also be applied. The protocol envisions, among other things, an evaluation of the health status of rescued animals (either for translocation or for further captive holding) and medical checks of individuals prior to release from captive bred source populations.
T.3.2.1 Establishment and maintenance of ex-situ breeding centres at BVP
Description: Given that EGS is a strictly protected species, prior to placing individuals in the breeding facilities, the activity should be permitted by the relevant nature conservation authority (Department of Environmental Protection and Nature Conservation of the Government Office for Pest County in Hungary).
The authorization process will be launched by BVP, after the facilities have been established. The permit will be requested for ex-situ breeding activities. First captive bred ground squirrels will be born in the Spring of 2027.
These captive stocks will form the base of the gene banks of the Transdanubian and the Danube-Tisza interfluve genetic lines.
Animals of known origin and genetic background will be captured based on the results of the RAPTORSPREYLIFE (LIFE13/NAT/HU/00183) project and using the genetic screening of local populations using the genomic approach (T5.1.3). EGS will be subjected to stringent veterinary examination and rigorous quarantine before they are moved in or out from the breeding facility. The two breeding centres will be under physical separation for animal sanitary safety reasons. All individuals will be individually marked with microchips implanted under the skin. For avoiding the increase of inbreeding coefficient, individuals will be paired by minimising kinship.
Breeding stock will be established using young animals habituated to humans to eliminate stress due to captivity and to ensure breeding. Individuals will be kept alone in special two-story cages. Animals will be bred after hibernation in the climatic chamber at BVP based on the knowledge acquired during the RAPTORSPREYLIFE (LIFE13/NAT/HU/00183) project.
Expected results: The ex-situ breeding of the genetic groups of the Transdanube and the Danube-Tisza interfluve regions will be established and started at BVP. First captive bred EGSs will be born in the Spring of 2027 (MS10).
T.3.2.2 Establishment and maintenance of ex-situ breeding at HNPD
Description: For the needed permissions (see T.3.2.1 description) the authorization process will be launched by HNPD, requested for ex-situ breeding activities.
The genetic group of the Trans-Tisza region (Eastern Pannonian Plains) will be bred in captivity with at least 20 pairs of EGS at HNPD, in a new facility, i. e. in the breeding centre established according to T.3.1.3. This captive stock will form the base of the gene bank of the Trans-Tisza genetic line.
Animals of known origin and genetic background will be captured based on the results of the RAPTORSPREYLIFE (LIFE13/NAT/HU/00183) project and using the genetic screening of local populations using the genomic approach (T.5.1.2). Ground squirrels will be subjected to stringent veterinary examination and rigorous quarantine before they are moved in or out from the breeding facility. All individuals will be individually marked with microchips implanted under the skin. For avoiding the increase of inbreeding coefficient, individuals will be paired by minimising kinship.
Breeding stock will be established using young animals habituated to humans to eliminate stress due to captivity and to ensure breeding. Individuals will be kept alone in special two-story cages. Animals will be bred after hibernation in the climatic chamber at HNPD based on the knowledge acquired during the RAPTORSPREYLIFE (LIFE13/NAT/HU/00183) project.
In due time, the offspring of the tame animals will be reared in the field enclosures of the HNPD. There will be minimised human contact to avoid dependency on humans. We are planning to build a camera system in the enclosures to observe, check and monitor the animals without interference. Natural food and near-natural conditions will be provided in the enclosures for enabling the animals to habituate to natural circumstances before the release. This may further improve the survival of released EGS.
The breeding stock of the Trans-Tisza region will be established with 20 pairs and first captive bred ground squirrels will be born in the Spring of 2027.
Expected results: Breeding stock of the Trans-Tisza region started and first captive-bred ground squirrels will be born in the Spring of 2027 in the HNPD. (MS10)
We aim to produce (together with the activity in T.3.3) and release on carefully selected sites (based on the results of T.2.3 and T.5.1) 40-50 individuals/year/genetic line from the 3rd year. It means that during the Project period all together at least 300 captive bred individuals will be released to the wild (in T.5.2.2).
T.3.3 Extending ex-situ breeding - In open enclosures (BVP, BNPD, ZOO)
Background: Under semi-natural conditions, EGS populations can produce and females wean more offspring than in captive breeding facilities or natural conditions. In ex-situ breeding, EGS populations are protected from many adverse/negative environmental influences (predators, lack of food, disturbance, etc.) and are under veterinary control. Due to the limited area of a viable population, offspring cannot disperse naturally and must be reintroduced to suitable areas

Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025

through annual translocation campaigns. If reproductive success is low for whatever reason, translocation is postponed to the following year.
T.3.3.1 ‘Citellus Garden’ at BVP
Description: A selected pasture in BVP of 5 000 m2 that will be created for the EGSs will be grazed by traditional cattle (or members of Caprinae), which will provide the EGSs with a suitable grassland habitat. The area will be fenced and located at relatively high elevation, so that the high water levels caused by extreme rainfall will not pose a threat to the EGSs established here. This colony will function as an ex-situ breeding site (‘Citellus Garden’) from which the reproduced juveniles can be reintroduced into suitable EGS habitats.
The creation of the ‘Citellus Garden’ would also serve educational purposes (T.7.1.8). We plan to create a wooden building combined with a viewing platform, which will allow the high number of visitors of the BVP to observe the habits and lifestyle of the EGS.
The adjacent building will be used for thematic meetings (T.7.1.7) and for research and conferences on EGSs (T.7.4). The building is planned to be completed in 2027.
Expected results: Semi-natural ‘Citellus Garden’ will be established (MS11). After those colonies have been fully populated, they will be suitable to serve as a source population in establishing additional new populations of EGS. The caught young individuals (offspring of settlers) can be translocated in the future to new suitable sites (after-LIFE T.8.9 and long-term sustainability).
T.3.3.2 ‘Citellus Gardens’ at BNPD
Description: BNDP plans to introduce, breed and keep outdoor free-ranging EGS under the control and professional supervision of the Directorate at Batúz-tanya/Szentistván project site, at 5 ha grassland area in the Borsodi-Mezőség Landscape Protection Area and Natura 2000 site (HUBN20034). The area is the grasslands adjacent to the Batúz-tanya, the own property of the NPD.
An area of 5 hectares of higher ground/elevation area, enclosed by fence and a net of electric fences, would be developed next to the Batúz Farm Nature Management Centre. (Planned location: northern part of the pasture land in Szentistván, plot numbrt 0242/1c). Individuals from the colonies north of the road connecting Gelej with Mezőcsát would be placed/ relocated here and, if the current number of individuals in other colonies allows, from other populations found in the Borsodi-Mezőség. The site would be repatriated by individuals of populations found in the Borsodi-Mezőség. This would be done by translocating initially 50-100 individuals and then, if necessary, by stocking additional individuals. The aim is to create a predator-protected colony, surrounded by a fence and a perimeter fence, where they can breed and disperse in relative safety. From here, the population could colonise tens, or in time, hundreds of hectares. The area inside the fence would be mown with a small tractor and grazed by a flock of 20 sheep.
We are also planning to build a 2 hectares ‘Citellus Garden’ in Hosszújáró (fixed metal mesh fence with wooden posts) on the forest steppe near Tard (SCI HUBN20009, SAC HUBN10005). BNPI currently has a 2.25 ha fenced orchard in Hosszújáró, which we would like to expand by 2 ha and relocate the EGS from Száraztó to this orchard in the coming years. The BNPI is involved in the genetic conservation of local landscape fruit varieties in the area, with fruit trees scattered in a wide network. EGSs would be reintroduced in the newly fenced area. The grassland in the area would be kept in an ideal condition for EGSs by grazing (sheep) and mowing.
Over successive years, the EGS colonies established in the ‘Citellus Garden’ will initially stabilise in the Garden area, occupying the suitable grassland areas. The strengthened EGS colony will then have the opportunity to spread over the surrounding 200 hectares of habitat and colonise more distant grassland.
The creation of two ‘Citellus Gardens’ would also serve educational purposes. At the ‘Citellus Gardens’ near the Batúz-tanya, we plan to create a wooden building combined with a viewing platform (in T.7.1.3), which will allow groups of children and visitors to observe the habits and lifestyle of the EGS.
Expected results: Semi-natural ‘Citellus Gardens’, 5 ha at Batúz-tanya / Szentistván project site and 2 ha at Hosszújáró project site (both sites belong to BNPD) will be established (MS11). After those colonies have been fully populated, they will be suitable to serve as a source population in establishing additional new populations of ground squirrels. The caught young individuals (offspring of settlers) can be translocated in the future to new suitable sites (after-LIFE T.8.9 and long-term sustainability).

## Work package WP4 – In Situ Indirect Conservation of EGS

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Work Package Number** | WP4 | **Lead Beneficiary** | 6 - HNPD |
| **Work Package Name** | In Situ Indirect Conservation of EGS | | |
| **Start Month** | 1 | **End Month** | 87 |

Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025

| Objectives |
|---|
| • Land purchase, as a preparatory task, is inevitably important to carry out the aims of the Project in sites that are not yet in the property management of the NPDs. Otherwise, the tasks can't be appropriately implemented and maintained in the future. As a result of this action, land purchase is accomplished by HNPD in one Project site (altogether 8.34 ha) (T.4.1.1) (MS12).<br>• Development of water sources is carried out in the Project, as these are needed to achieve the favourable grazing regime (7 000 hectares of new grazable area suitable as habitat for EGS) and to connect new grazed areas suitable for EGS with ecological corridors.<br>In the frame of this preparatory task:<br>in the BNPD operational area 40 traditional dug wells are renovated and put into operation, in keeping with the landscape and tradition;<br>In the HNPD operational area one well is constructed (T.4.1.2) (MS13).<br>• By controlling predators on 285.58 km2 the survival and strength of EGS colonies are significantly increased:<br>at 3 project sites of BNPD (197 km2);<br>at 4 project sites of HNPD (88.58 km2) (T.4.2) (D4.1).<br>• Arable lands in 8.34 ha of one site of HNPD are converted into grasslands suitable for EGS. As a result, habitat sizes increase and fragmentation is terminated (T.4.3.1) (D4.2).<br>• We remove native shrub species from 225.5 hectares, within or next to EGS habitats, resulting in a formation of ecological corridors and an increase in suitable habitats:<br>222.5 hectares in 9 sites in HNPD;<br>3 hectares in 2 sites in BNPD (T.4.3.2) (D4.3).<br>• Due to the elimination of invasive alien plants on 40.5 hectares, the state of the EGS habitats is improved, the size of the area, which can be actually used by the EGS, is enlarged and the eradication prevents the IAS (Invasive Alien Species) from further spread. As a result, also the ecological corridors will function more effectively:<br>in one site of BNPD;<br>0.5 hectares in one site of FHNPD;<br>39 hectares in 6 sites of HNPD (T.4.3.2) (D4.4).<br>• Thanks to habitat reconstructions listed above ecological corridors are forming within the Project, so at least 10 formerly isolated EGS colonies will be connected (T.4.1.2, T.4.3). |

| Description |
|---|
| T.4.1 Preparatory tasks<br>T.4.1.1 Land purchase (HNPD)<br>Background: EGS habitats are facing several human induced threats. Large areas became abandoned due to societal changes, thus shrubby vegetation started to grow, invasive species are spreading, degrading the grasslands. Due to the lack of nature-based water management and the climate change the groundwater level is decreasing. Soil erosion and fire events are increasing due to frequent droughts. In certain areas, planned industrialisation can also be a problem. Thus, complex nature conservation management is required to sustain EGS populations which can only be achieved in the areas to be acquired only under the management of the NPDs.<br>The favourable management for EGS habitats in the areas to be acquired can be carried out and secured, in the long-term, only if these are in the property management of the NPDs. In other words, land purchase is a prerequisite for the appropriate habitat reconstruction actions (conversion of arable lands into grasslands, IAS management, extensive grazing management, nature conservation grassland management), as well as EGS introductions.<br>Habitat reconstruction measures and the introduction of new EGS populations can ideally be implemented if the sites are managed by NPDs, furthermore, the results have to be guaranteed in the long run, which also requires the property management of the NPDs.<br>The land parcels to be purchased by the NPD have outstanding importance in maintaining the newly introduced EGS population.<br>The land register for the properties intended for purchase already includes the registration entry 'protected area' as a conservation clause. This registration entry (clause) can be found in the land register of the property concerned, which is included as an annex to the Proposal (Page 300) as '2. bejegyző határozat: 63850/2/2022.06.22 Védett terület' which in English means: '2. registration decision: 63850/2/2022.06.22 – Protected area'.<br>Description: HNPD is experienced with all the necessary procedures of land purchase, administrative issues and follow-up restoration/conservation management. This includes the identification of suitable areas and individual land owners, preparation of offers, contacting, approaching and negotiations with land owners, preparation and signing of contracts. Next steps can include elaboration of geometrical plans, land swap, announcement to municipality, ending of former land use contracts and relations, preparation of the real-estate tax declaration, change of the land use category to implement |

Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025

specific conservation measures. HNPD has also numerous experiences with restoration and management measures on its own land and acquiring relevant permissions and agreements in order to this. Many successful actions of the directorate are publicly well known. It has a good reputation in local communities and between mayors or previously contacted land owners, which makes its land purchases even more effective and trustworthy. The affected site is the ‘Löszletörés’ project site. 8.34 ha arable land, plot number Létavértes 0697/48, 0697/49 and 0697/50 in Bihari-sík Landscape Protection Area (IUCN management category V.) are planned to be purchased.
The contiguous arable lands to be purchased are situated on the border of the protected area and Natura 2000 site. They belong to the nationally protected area, but are not included in Natura 2000. Following the takeover, grassland reconstruction is planned on them to develop a suitable habitat for a new EGS colony introduction.
In the region there are only a few options to find suitable grasslands between the agricultural areas. The selling intention of the owners is also scarce. These properties are adjacent to the protected area, so this contiguous land is an ideal place to re-grass and settle a new EGS population here that is why we selected these properties for purchase.
Documentation on the appraised value of the properties is attached in the annex.
Deadline for this action: 28.02.2026.
The land price was determined with the help of an appraiser (documentation is annexed in Other annexes).
HNPD contacted the property owners and obtained the declaration of intent for the sale.
Expected results: As a result of this task, 8.34 ha of land will be purchased (MS12).
Purchase of these lands in ‘Löszletörés’ project site means an extra 8.34 ha opportunity to expand the NPD’s property management area size. After that, by alfalfa sowing and dispersing loess grassland seed mix on the land, we will start grassland reconstruction (in T.4.3.1) to create a new habitat suitable for EGS introduction planned in 2028.
T.4.1.2 Establishment of grazing infrastructure in EGS habitats (BNPD, HNPD)
Background: In order to increase the extent of grassland areas favourable to EGS and to create ecological corridors linking them, it is necessary to increase the areas that can be used for grazing by cattle and sheep.
Description: The extent to which a farmer can drive his flock or herd of cattle is a major determinant of the area under open-air grazing, and hence, of grazing. If there is a suitable watering point on the land, there is no need to drive the animals back to the farm or the livestock holding to water, but they can graze for longer and over a larger area. One of the most common obstacles to grazing is the lack of the watering infrastructure, which doesn’t allow cattle or sheep to be herded farther away from the available water sources. In the absence of drinking wells, grazing animals had to move back many times a day to the livestock farm, because there is often no access to water for the permanent grazing and rest in the given site. Construction and reconstruction, including cleaning of the drinking wells would enlarge the accessible grazing area for the animal farms. Thus, the extent of the areas favourable for the EGS will increase. This opportunity is available in the operational areas of BNPD and HNPD. The extension of the grazing areas would not only affect the space available for grazing, but also mitigates the trampling damage, thus restrains the further weeding and helps with the control of IAS. This should also cause positive effects on surface water and groundwater quality because of avoiding farm animals to drink from natural water bodies causing water pollution and decreasing of grazing stock density around the few original drinking possibilities, which can also mitigate the surface water and groundwater load.
BNPD operational area:
To address this problem, we are planning to completely renovate and equip the watering wells with troughs, which have traditionally been located in the area, but have been neglected for decades, and in many cases, are blocked. Some wells will be equipped with a solar-powered pump, which will allow the water intake to be adjusted to pump a minimum amount of water into the trough during times of drought, so that other protected and natural species living in the area can have access to drinking water even when grazing animals are not present. Not all the wells would be equipped with solar panels (only 10), but a certain amount of solar panels and batteries would be procured to be moved between the grazing areas. Watering wells with troughs would be everywhere. A total of 40 wells are planned to be renovated and put into operation in the HUBN20034 'Borsodi-Mezőség' Natura 2000 site (22), HUBN20069 ‘Kesznyéteni Sajó-öböl’ Natura 2000 site (15), the HUBN20009 ‘Tard környéki erdőssztyepp’ (steppe woodland near Tard) Natura 2000 site (2) and HUBN10003 ‘Bükk hegység és peremterületei’ (Bükk mountains and their peripheral areas, 1 well). With the rotation in the operation of the wells the re-clogging of the wells can be easier avoided. (Annex map)
Deadline for the reconstruction of the drinking wells: 31.12.2028.
HNPD operational area, ‘Löszletörés’ (Loess Bank) site: We would like to support the implementation of grazing as land management with a well-drilling in plot number Létavértes 0697/58 in the property management of HNPD, which is located in HUHN20010 Natura 2000 area and protected area of national importance. The new drinking well enables us to establish a new pasture for cattle here, providing the favourable habitat management for the EGS. (Annex map). This will be equipped with a solar-powered pump, too, in order to ensure access to drinking water for other protected and natural species.
Deadline for this action: well-drilling: 31.12.2027.
Expected results:
In BNPD operational area: A total of 40 wells are renovated and put into operation to contribute to the successful grazing of the EGS habitats (MS13).

Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025

In HNPD operational area: In ‘Löszletörés’ site in HUHN20010 ‘Pocsaji-kapu’ Natura 2000 site one well is drilled and a new pasture suitable for EGS is successfully established (MS13).
As a result of these actions, grasslands suitable for grazing and forming EGS habitat will be increased with 7 000 ha in total.
Proper management of grasslands that have been separated before be naturally linked, thus allowing isolated EGS colonies to be connected, too.
T.4.2 Control predators around the habitats of EGS (BNPD, HNPD)
Background: EGS plays a very important role in the community of their habitats as a prey animal and active player in the grassland ecosystem. However, the largely increased populations of some predator and game species negatively affects EGS colonies, especially the newly translocated populations. Mitigating and preventing this factor is one of the priorities in the management of several EGS habitats of the proposal. The reduction of predator populations can only be achieved with the participants eligible for hunting, through hunting concessions and using hunting equipment. Predator control is carried out partly by authorised nature conservation rangers and partly by contracted hunting companies. Contracted hunting societies will make a survey of the huntable predatory mammals’ burrows and wild boars’ daily locations by specialised dogs. Then they carry out number restrictions, while official hunters and rangers of the NPDs use traditional live-trapping methods for this purpose. Another method for keeping the game out is to settle game fences. (See letters of intent of some concerned hunters in annexed Letters of support.)
Description:
In the BNPD operation area:
Figure WP4/1. Population change of predatory animal species based on shot data in the area of the relevant wildlife management units in BNPD
Reduction of the occurrence of non-protected predator species is planned at the HUBN20034 ‘Borsodi-Mezőség’ Natura 2000 site, the HUBN20069 ‘Kesznyéteni Sajó-öböl’ Natura 2000 site and the HUBN20009 ‘Tard környéki erdőssztyepp’ Natura 2000 site, covering a total area of 197 km2 (reintroduction sites in T.5.2). The reduction aims at the common crow (Corvus cornix), the nonindigenous raccoon dog (Nyctereutes procyonoides), the fox (Vulpes vulpes), the badger (Meles meles) and the golden jackal (Canis aureus), as well as the wild boar (Sus scrofa) (see bag dynamics of game species at figures above). Because of the absence of natural top predator species or their low numbers, herds of the huntable game species are so numerous that they endanger the survival of the EGS colonies. Wild boar also threatens the overwintering EGS populations. Thus, human assisted intervention is necessary both for the regulation of the predator and game populations. In order to slow down their recolonization for long-term suitability reasons, we prevent and control the entry of unwanted predators into the whole area. Control will be carried out by licensed hunters using Larsen traps, live traps and firearms. Live traps will be used to ensure that any protected species, such as protected small carnivores (wildcat, steppe polecat, stoat, least weasel, etc.), rook, raven and birds of prey that may be taken are not harmed and are released. All methods used in the project for predator control will fully comply with EU animal welfare regulations and will meet international humane trapping standards, avoiding harm to other species than the targeted ones.
In all three areas affected by the BNPD, the current hunting rights holder will continue to operate after the end of the project, as the permits are valid until the end of the hunting season, i.e. until 28 February 2037.
Borsodi-Mezőség Landscape Protection Area:
The code number of the hunting area operating in the area is 05-653300-205. The hunting rights holder registered by the authority is the Bükk National Park Directorate. The hunting plan period lasts until February 28, 2037. The hunting area has been classified as having a special purpose for nature conservation. The professional hunters who manage hunting activities are employed by the BNPD and carry out their work in accordance with the professional guidelines of the head of the Southern Borsod Landscape Unit (SBLU).
Kesznyéteni Landscape Protection Area:
The code number of the hunting area operating in the area is 05-657000. The hunting rights holder registered by the authority is the Bükki National Park Directorate. The hunting season lasts until February 28, 2037. The professional hunters who manage hunting activities are employed by the BNPD and carry out their work in accordance with the professional guidelines of the head of the SBLU.
Eastern Bükk Landscape Unit:
The code number of the hunting area operating in the area is 05-652800. The hunting rights holder registered by the authority is the Tardi II Rákóczi Ferenc Hunting Association. The hunting plan period lasts until February 28, 2037. The good relationship and professional cooperation that has existed for several years between the hunting rights holder and the Bükki National Park Directorate ensures that nature conservation interests are upheld.
In the HNPD operation area:
Figure WP4/2. Population change of predatory animal species based on shot data in the area of the relevant wildlife management units in HNPD
In the HNPD operational area, it is planned to reduce the number of predators around the EGS reintroduction sites, over an area of 88.58 km2 (in T.5.2). In ‘Pentezug’ (HUHN20002 ‘Hortobágy’ Natura 2000 site) rangers can solve this problem with live traps and firearms. This site belongs to the 108. Hajdúsági Löszhát-Hortobágy Wildlife Management

Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025

landscape unit. While in the other sites - ‘Löszletörés’ (HUHN20010 ‘Pocsaji-kapu’); ‘Martinkai legelő HUHN20024’, ‘Kék-Kálló-völgye HUHN20016’ - we would make collaboration contracts with the local hunting companies. These sites belong to the 107. Hajdúság Erdőspuszták Wildlife Management landscape unit. The predator species threatening the EGS colonies in the intervention areas are the red fox (Vulpes vulpes), the badger (Meles meles) and the hooded crow (Corvus cornix). The control of these species would be carried out by the local hunting company using sharp firearms and live traps.

The HNPD plans to maintain predator populations in habitats affected by relocation. The affected areas: HUHN20010, HUHN20003, HUHN20016, HUHN20064, HUHN21164, HUHN20161. Game management activities are carried out by professional hunters from hunting associations in all relevant habitats. Valid game management plans include the need for cooperation between the HNPD and hunting associations. Once the presence of predators has been reduced and stabilized at a low level during the project period, maintaining this level requires significantly less energy and human resources. The good relationship and professional cooperation that has existed for several years between the hunting rights holder and the Hortobágy National Park Directorate ensures that nature conservation interests are upheld.

Expected results: By controlling predators and game species, we significantly increase the survival and strength of EGS colonies in the affected habitats. In habitats intended for reintroduction, predators are controlled, thus significantly increasing the survival and reproduction of the introduced EGS colony in the following years. This process is ensured by the installation of electric fence systems or other game fences, so that predators that prey on EGS can be kept permanently away from the established EGS colonies (including in ‘Citellus Gardens’). Lower predator pressure can significantly increase the strength of individual EGS colonies and (given the right environmental conditions), their expansion. In addition, by reducing the wild boar population, overwintering EGS can successfully overwinter in greater numbers as grass patches and overwintering corridors are maintained by reducing the extent of grassland damage. Any predator control activities will fully comply with EU animal welfare regulations, avoiding practices such as trapping methods that do not meet international humane trapping standards.

T.4.2. Project actions will result in appropriate control of predator and game species at 7 project sites (285.58 km2), which are subject to EGS reintroductions in T.5.2, detailed as follows (D4.1):

BNPD: HUBN20034 ‘Borsodi-Mezőség’ Natura 2000 site (140 km2), HUBN20069 ‘Kesznyéteni Sajó-öböl’ Natura 2000 site (47 km2) and HUBN20009 ‘Tard környéki erdőssztyepp’ Natura 2000 site (10 km2) - predators are controlled by the BNPD and hunting companies.

HNPD: ‘Pentezug’ (HUHN20002 ‘Hortobágy’ Natura 2000 site) - 28.3 km2, ‘Löszletörés’ (HUHN20010 ‘Pocsaji-kapu’) - 28.3 km2, ‘Martinkai legelő’ (HUHN20024) - 3.68 km2, ‘Kék-Kálló-völgye’ HUHN20016) - 28.3 km2sites - predators are controlled by rangers or local hunting companies.

T.4.3 Habitat reconstructions

T.4.3.1 Conversion of habitats from arable land to grassland (HNPD)

Background: In addition to unsuitable habitat, arable land use means a direct threat for the new EGS population, as the burrows could be demolished and individuals could be destroyed by machinery ploughing. As the land parcels currently used as arable lands are wedged between the grassland areas, these can be easily colonised by the EGS, creating an unsafe situation for them. Indirectly, the presence of arable lands is unfavourable, as these decrease the size of the potential EGS habitats.

Description: The sites of the planned regrassing activities are in ‘Löszletörés’ project site in Bihari-sík Landscape Protection Area (HNPD). The land will be purchased in the frame of T.4.1.1 and will be targeted by grassland restoration (8.34 ha). The regrassed area serves also as a buffer zone between the loess grasslands and the other arable lands. Our aim is to recreate a suitable grassland for a new EGS colony introduction on the present contiguous land. That, in connection with the protected and Natura 2000 site, will form an adequately sized potential EGS habitat in the property management of HNPD.

The steps of regrassing are the following: earthworks, disc ploughing, ploughing, seedbed preparation, sowing alfalfa (in spring or autumn, according to the weather conditions). Special loess grassland seed mix is also sown with the alfalfa seeds.

Following the sowing, extensive alfalfa is mown in the next 3 years to facilitate grassing processes and to remove alfalfa biomass, as well as to keep the vegetation low, thus favourable for EGS. During the Project, alfalfa is thinning and grassing starts, however, continuous grassland develops expectedly only in the After-LIFE period. In the former arable land the alfalfa field will become richer in gramineous species also thanks to the loess grassland seed mix, which makes the process faster. This grassland will develop and get similar to the surrounding grasslands. It has a beneficial effect on the EGS population as a suitable food source and extended habitat. After that, it will be managed with grazing by cattle with additional mowing as needed, together with the other adjacent parts of the habitats in this area.

Own property management (land purchase) is a prerequisite for this action.

Duration of the action: 01.09.2032.

Expected results: 8.34 ha arable land transformed into grasslands (D4.2).

In HNPD operational area, in Löszletörés project site 8.34 ha is regrassed and becomes suitable for the establishment

Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025

of a new EGS population. As the EGS favours, at first the area is mown and after the regrassing process is finished, it will be grazed.
T.4.3.2 Restoration/improvement of degraded habitats (HNPD, BNPD, FHNPD)
This sub-task contains habitat restoration activities aiming the elimination of adverse effects/processes in EGS habitats through nature conservation interventions, such as:
a) Removal of native shrubs
b) Removal of IAS.
a) Removal of native shrubs
Background: Intensive spread of native shrub species – mainly blackthorn (Prunus spinosa) and hawthorn species (Crataegus spp.) – on grasslands cause serious problems for the nature conservation in numerous EGS habitats. The encroachment of the shrubs threatens several grasslands, thus endangers the subsistence of suitable EGS habitats. Patches of shrubs can also isolate EGS sub-populations from each other.
Description:
In HNPD operational area:
Most EGS habitats face the problem of the spread of native shrub species. This endangers grasslands, also the survival of appropriate habitats (as shrub patches decrease connection opportunities among the population fragments and isolate them). In HNPD there are 9 sites concerned with this sub-action.
In certain sites shrub cutting was implemented by HNPD before, however as there was no special machinery to remove also the roots, the shrub regrew and the task has to be repeated. As machinery equipped with special adapters is needed (what HNPD doesn't possess), we would like to use external assistance to complete this task. Without these treatments the currently suitable EGS habitats will undergo drastic changes and turn into shrub- and woodland within a short period, and the ratio of grasslands in the region will drastically decrease.
1. 'Liget-legelő' (Parkland pasture) project site (plot number Hajdúhadház 08/1) in HUHN21164 'Hajdúhadház, Liget-legelő' Natura 2000 site. It is a military area with a remarkable size EGS colony. The area is in the property management of the Ministry of Defence of Hungary and used by the Hungarian Defence Forces. Currently the site is managed by periodical sheep-grazing depending on the military activities, however, this management alone is not enough to stop the spread of hawthorns and blackthorn. These shrubs occupy significant areas from Pannonic sand grasslands and isolate the EGS sub-populations from each other. We would like to implement shrub elimination in cca. 100 ha on this site. During the Project period on the days which are not affected by military activity we launch the eradication of the larger shrub patches to open the habitat. Shrub removement together with roots will be a contracted task. The green waste will be transported off the site. These treatments are carried out each year as it is done in a restricted and vast area. (Annex map) The consent of the asset manager of the area is attached.
2. 'Hajdúbagosi legelő' (Hajdúbagos pasture) project site, 308.08 ha (plot numbers Hajdúbagos 018/4a; 021/2a,g,d; 021/3a; 021/4a) in HUHN20017 'Hajdúbagosi legelő' Natura 2000 site, in Hajdúbagos Blind Mole Rat Reserve. The site is in the property management of HNPD. Currently the area is grazed by cattle and sheep and shows moderate shrubbing. Shrub species (hawthorn, blackthorn) cause a major problem in habitat preservation. Our aim is to remove the shrubs together with their roots, with the use of external assistance. We would like to implement shrub elimination in cca. 5 ha on this site. (Annex map)
3. 'Martinkai-legelő' (Martinka pasture) project site, 368.25 ha in HUHN20024 'Martinkai-legelő' Natura 2000 site, also a part of Hajdúság Landscape Protection Area, plot numbers Hajdúsámson 0385/a,c; 0387/b,j,d,a,k,l; 0389/a; 0391/j,h,g,f, d, b, c,a; 0410; 0413/a. The site is in the property management of HNPD. Sand grasslands are threatened here by the intensive spread of shrubs despite cattle grazing. The spread of blackthorn and hawthorn species reduces the suitable habitat size of the EGS. Our aim is to stop the expansion of the sparse patches of blackthorn and hawthorn, and completely remove them. The work will be carried out by an external contractor. We would like to implement shrub elimination in cca. 25 ha. (Annex map)
4. 'Bátorligeti Nagy-legelő' (Great pasture of Bátorliget) project site, 450.72 ha in HUHN20036 'Bátorligeti Nagy-legelő' Natura 2000 site, in Bátorliget Pasture Nature Protection Area, plot numbers Bátorliget 0296/11. The site is in the property management of HNPD. We aim to reduce the quantity of shrubs (hawthorn) invading the area, also removing the roots. We would like to implement shrub elimination in cca. 50 ha. (Annex map)
5. 'Hortobágy' (Hortobágy) site (plot numbers Hortobágy 02821/1c, p,l, n; 02827/c) is in the property management of HNPD. In a 25 ha grazed part of HUHN20002 'Hortobágy' Natura 2000 site, shrub (hawthorn) is planned to be removed (with eliminating also the roots) in order to enlarge the EGS habitat. Management will take place in numerous smaller patches. We would like to implement shrub elimination in cca. 10 ha. (Annex map)
6. 'Hortobágy Kis-szeg' (Little Nook) site: plot numbers Balmazújváros 02015/9, 02014/3, 02015/10, 02014/2, 02015/7, 02015/8c, 02022, 02004, 02015/8a in HUHN20002 'Hortobágy Natura 2000 site. Here numerous loess ridges can be found, even along Hortobágy River and its border area. These are the most affected by shrubbing and the shrub species invade the grasslands. Management will take place in numerous smaller patches. We would like to implement shrub elimination in cca. 10 ha. (Annex map)
7. Hortobágy 'Tiszacsege' site: plot numbers Tiszacsege 0417/22,/24; 0432/3,/6 in HUHN20002 'Hortobágy' Natura

Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025

2000 site. Shrub (hawthorn) is planned to be removed (with eliminating also the roots) in order to enlarge the EGS habitat. Management will take place in numerous smaller patches. We would like to implement shrub elimination in cca. 10 ha. (Annex map)
8. 'Penészlek' project site: The whole area belongs to HUHN21165 'Penészleki gyepek (Penészlek grasslands)' Natura 2000 site where EGS is a priority species, plot number: Penészlek 0389/11 "a". This land is in the property management of HNPD, currently leased out, 7.5 ha is cattle-grazed and shrub (Crataegus sp.) elimination is necessary with removing also the roots. (Annex map)
9. Löszletörés' project site: The whole area belongs to HUHN20010 Natura 2000 site ('Pocsaji-kapu'), plot number Létavértes 0697/58. This land is in the property management of HNPD, and shrubs (Crataegus sp., Prunus sp.) elimination is necessary with removing also the roots. Management will take place in numerous smaller patches. We would like to implement shrub elimination in cca. 5 ha. (Annex map)
Duration of these actions in the HNPD operational area: 01.12.2032.
In BNPD operational area:
In HUBN20009 'Tard környéki erdőssztyepp' (steppe woodland near Tard) Natura 2000 site and in HUBN10003 'Bükk hegység és peremterületei' Natura 2000 site, inhabited by large EGS population, grasslands are bordered by shrublands (formed by native species like Prunus spinosa, Crataegus sp., etc.), which have 2 and 1 hectare-sized extent in the two sites. Shrubs are blocking the further expansion and form natural corridor to a smaller, northern EGS colony, thus necessary connection will be created by shrub elimination. This task is carried out through stalk crushing, and grazing the areas afterwards would help to increase the number of individuals and the size of suitable habitat. Long-term management (grazing) is provided by the sheep of the local farmer. (Annex map)
Duration of the action: 31.12.2026. - stalk crushing
01.09.2032. - grazing
Expected results: Elimination of shrub species at 11 Project sites from 225.5 ha in total (D4.3). Detailed by the NPDs:
HNPD: In 9 sites ('Liget-legelő' in HUHN21164; 'Hajdúbagosi legelő' in HUHN20017; 'Martinkai-legelő' in HUHN20024; 'Bátorligeti Nagy-legelő' in HUHN20036; 'Hortobágy - Kis-Szeg' in HUHN20002; 'Hortobágy - Balmazújváros' in HUHN20002; 'Hortobágy - Tiszacsege' in HUHN20002; 'Penészlek' in HUHN21165; 'Löszletörés' in HUHN20010) shrub species are eliminated in 222.5 ha in total by 01.12.2032.
BNPD: In HUBN20009 'Tard környéki erdőssztyepp' Natura 2000 site 2 ha and in HUBN10003 'Bükk hegység és peremterületei' Natura 2000 site 1 ha shrubland is eliminated.
After the eradication of the shrubs, the grassland management favourable for EGS is provided by the NPDs.
b) Removal of IAS
Background: Intensive spread of both the woody and herbaceous IAS seriously threaten the present and future EGS habitats and decrease their sizes. Patches of IAS stands can also isolate EGS sub-populations from each other. The aggressive IAS can ruin the favourable natural state of a habitat rather quickly. In many cases, these species can be managed successfully only with chemical treatment and numerous post-treatments. However, mechanical elimination methods are also used. The main arboreal species harming the EGS habitats are tree of heaven (Ailanthus altissima), black locust (Robinia pseudoacacia), Russian olive (Eleagnus angustifolia), desert indigo (Amorpha fruticosa) and from the herbaceous species the common milkweed (Asclepias syriaca) and common goldenrod (Solidago gigantea) are the most common. There are numerous other IAS to be removed concerning the different sites.
Description:
In HNPD operational area:
In the Project sites of HNPD, the most important IAS species are the black locust (Robinia pseudoacacia) and the Russian olive (Elaeagnus angustifolia). Black locust is treated by trunk injection and Russian olive is by stump treatment with chemicals after cutting. HNPD aims to manage the following sites:
1. 'Hajdúbagosi legelő' (Hajdúbagos pasture) project site, 308.08 ha in HUHN20017 'Hajdúbagosi legelő' Natura 2000 site, in Hajdúbagos Blind Mole Rat Reserve, (plot numbers Hajdúbagos 018/4a; 021/2a, g, d; 021/3a; 021/4a). The area is in the property management of HNPD. Currently the area is grazed by cattle and sheep and shows moderate IAS infestation. Black locust trees cause the main problem in habitat preservation. Our aim is to repress the woody vegetation from the grasslands, outside the artificial plantations using trunk injection. We would like to manage IAS in cca. 5 ha, in smaller patches. (Annex map)
2. 'Bátorligeti Nagy-legelő' (Great pasture of Bátorliget) project site, 450.72 ha in HUHN20036 'Bátorligeti Nagy-legelő' Natura 2000 site (Bátorliget Pasture Nature Protection Area, plot numbers Bátorliget 0296/11, 0296/7). The area is in the property management of HNPD. The pasture is surrounded by black locust trees instead of the sand oak woods that used to characterise the landscape until the beginning of the 20th century. This IAS is spontaneously spreading towards the grasslands, however, this tendency should be stopped because it decreases the suitable habitat size of EGS. We would like to manage IAS in cca. 10 ha, in smaller patches. (Annex map)
3. 'Derecske-konyári gyepek' (Derecske-Konyár grasslands) project site, 4.5 ha in HUHN20009 'Derecske-konyári gyepek' Natura 2000 site (plot numbers Derecske 0379/21, 0403/6c), it is in the property management of HNPD. Plot number Derecske 0379/21 has scattered Russian olive trees covering approximately 0.5 hectare. In Derecske 0403/6c

there are almost homogenous stands of Russian olive, covering 3 ha. To fulfil this task we plan to hire an entrepreneur. (Annex map)
4. ‘Hortobágy - Kis-Szeg’ (Hortobágy Little Hook) site: plot numbers Balmazújváros 02015/9, 02014/3, 02015/10, 02014/2, 02015/7, 02015/8c, 02022, 02004, 02015/8a, 02053/a; 02072/1. Here numerous loess ridges can be found, even along Hortobágy River. This area is the most affected by the spread of IAS, as these species invade the grasslands. Habitat management is needed in an overall large area but in many smaller patches. We would like to manage IAS in cca. 10 ha. (Annex map)
5. ‘Penészleki-gyepek’ project site in HUHN21165 Natura 2000 site, plot number: Penészlek 0389/11a. Currently the area shows moderate IAS infestation. Black locust trees cause the main problem in habitat preservation. Our aim is to repress the woody vegetation from the grasslands, outside the artificial plantations using trunk injection. We would like to manage IAS in cca. 0.5 ha. (Annex map)
6. ‘Sámsoni úti Bellegelő’ project site in HUHN20161 Natura 2000 site, plot numbers: Debrecen 02340/2, 02343. Black locust trees and Indigo-bush cause the main problem in habitat preservation. Our aim is to repress the woody vegetation from the grasslands, outside the artificial plantations using trunk injection. We would like to manage IAS in cca. 10 ha. (Annex map)
Deadline: 01.09.2032.
HNPD continuously attempts to control IAS on its own land. Once these areas have been cleaned up, their maintenance can be carried out much more economically.
In BNPD operational area: In HUBN20009 ‘Tard környéki erdőssztyepp’ (steppe woodland near Tard) Natura 2000 site, the eradication of desert indigo (Amorpha fruticosa) with stalk crushing will be carried out in 1 ha area. It will target the main hotspots and, if done regularly over several years, will allow the natural grass communities to re-establish and thus increase the habitat of the EGS population. This activity will also be continued until sufficient results are achieved. Regarding IAS, BNPD intend to maintain the treated locations after appropriate management of the invasive vegetation, by grazing and mowing that is most suitable for the ground squirrel. (Annex map)
Deadline: 31.12.2026 - 2032. (continuously).
In FHNPD operational area:
The ‘Páneurópai Piknik Emlékhely, Piusz major gyep’ (Pan-European Picnic Memorial, Piusz Major grassland) is a nationally protected natural area, which is 72.7 ha. One property of this area (plot number Fertőrákos 057/10), which is currently in the NPD’s property management, once had an EGS population. This property is moderately contaminated with invasive alien herbaceous plants (Solidago gigantea, Asclepias syriaca), but the Robinia pseudoacacia is also spreading. We would like to manage IAS in cca. 0.5 ha at the edge of the area. The goal is to perform localised chemical control (injection) and mechanical removal of Robinia species, as well as localised chemical control of Asclepias syriaca.
The management of the individual IAS species:
Asclepias syriaca: Chemical control; Aboveground plant parts may be destroyed by herbicides including Amitrole-T and glyphosate will kill top growth and result in restricted regrowth during the following season. Glyphosate seems to be most effective overall and may reduce A. syriaca occurrence in fields (NAPPO, 2003). Chemical treatment is done in a targeted manner, affecting only the given plant. Herbicides will always be used legally, following the instructions on the product label.
Robinia pseudoacacia/Ailanthus altissima: The most effective method is to apply the herbicide to the plant's transport tissues as quickly as possible so that it reaches the roots. This can be done by applying oil-based bark dressing, cutting or drilling holes in the trees and pouring the herbicide into the holes, or by tree injection. Chemical treatment is done in a targeted manner, affecting only the given plant. Herbicides will always be used legally, following the instructions on the product label.
Amorpha fruticosa: Eradication of desert indigo will be carried out with stalk crushing (flail mowing). It will target the main hotspots and, if done regularly over several years, will allow the natural grass communities to re-establish. This activity will also be continued until sufficient results are achieved. In addition, grazing is also an important help in controlling the spread of the species.
Eleagnus angustifolia: Mechanical and chemical treatments can be applied. For the removal of older individuals, the most common mechanical methods are cutting or uprooting with heavy machinery. However, resprouting is likely to occur, which may necessitate follow-up treatment with herbicide. Russian olive is treated basically by stump treatment with chemicals after cutting. The cut surface is immediately treated with concentrated, glyphosate-based herbicide, and for larger trunks, additional chemical injection is required. Chemical treatments must be carried out during the vegetation period, when the plant's physiological activity, including sap flow, is at its peak. Removal of the cut plant material is also necessary. Herbicides will always be used legally, following the instructions on the product label. Grazing also helps to control the spread of Russian olive.
Solidago gigantea: To control the spread of the species, mowing is primarily used, while in stands mixed with shrubs, stalk crushing (flail mowing) is applied. Mowing is carried out regularly twice a year in strongly infected areas. The first treatment takes place between flowering and seed ripening, and the second treatment is conducted outside the vegetation period. Removal of the cut plant material is also necessary. Stalk crushing (flail mowing) is performed twice a year, at

Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025

the same times as mowing, for a period of 2–3 years. If the species is present only in small patches, mowing once a year is sufficient. For a one-time habitat management intervention, the recommended timing is after flowering but before seed maturation, typically in September.
Main source of information: http://www.invaziosfajok.hu/hu/utmutatok, NAPPO 2003. Pest facts sheet – Asclepias syriaca L. North American Plant Protection Organization (NAPPO)
In order to avoid potential risks to non-target species, the NPDs will enter into such an IAS management contract that incorporates the following restrictions:
• When using chemicals, the minimum concentration specified in the technical description must be used and the provisions of the pesticide license must be observed in all cases.
• The chemical must not come into contact with neighboring areas or enter living water (e.g., canals, watercourses). To this end, an untreated safety buffer zone at least 10 meters wide must be established in the affected areas.
• Chemicals must be applied in dry, windless weather, under supervision, and in a localized manner.
• Chemical treatment of invasive plants should be carried out using drilling - injection, spot spraying, brushing on cutted surface methods.
• During injection and lubrication, prevent the chemical from flowing away and reaching the soil surface.
• Spot spraying can be used in areas where there are no stricktly protected or protected plant species in the immediate vicinity of the chemical treatment.
• Herbicides and other preparations must be mixed in a suitably safe area of the site, and only their solutions may be transported to the areas of use.
• The preparations to be used may only be stored temporarily in the work area during use, using a spill tray.
• Woody remains resulting from chemical treatment must be removed from the grassland. It is prohibited to set fire to the resulting plant parts or to burn waste on site or in open areas.
• The chemical user with whom the competent directorates conclude a contract for the IAS management task is obliged to collect and remove any waste, rubbish, or other contamination that may arise during the activity.
The IAS control measures must not harm species of Community interest (as listed in the Habitats and Birds Directives) or species classified as Endangered in the EU Red Lists. Accordingly, any IAS control methods will fully comply with EU regulations. We can say in general that all EU rules will be taken into account on the methods to be used for applying chemicals in the control of different plant species (e.g. glyphosate or derivatives), taking into account the potential risks to non-target species. We have been noted that prior to each IAS control campaign involving the use of chemicals, we will provide CINEA with detailed information on the application method, including measures to avoid impacts on non-target species. The implementation of such campaigns will be done by CINEA's prior approval. Any IAS control methods will fully comply with EU animal welfare regulations, avoiding practices such as trapping methods that do not meet international humane trapping standards.
The majority of the aforementioned properties located within Natura 2000 sites are managed by the national park directorates (NPDs) and are used under lease agreements. These agreements outline the conditions for the long-term use of the land. In areas not managed by the NPDs, we request a declaration of cooperation or consent from the owners. The owners undertake to confirm in writing their intention to cooperate with the NPDs in relation to the areas affected by the ground squirrel population. They will organize their farming practices in the long term in such a way that the conditions achieved during the project (e.g. mowing, grazing, shrub removal and suppression of invasive species) are maintained and preserved in the areas affected by the interventions and ensure the survival of the existing ground squirrel population and the possibility of the colony expanding its territory. Farmers have indicated that, circumstances permitting, they plan to continue their current farming practices in the long term.

The 30-year maintenance clause will be incorporated into the agreements with private landowners, and commitments for a 30-year period will also be incorporated into agreements concerning state-owned lands.

Expected results: Elimination of IAS in 8 Project sites from cca. 40.5 ha in total. Annual reports on IAS management, including for each country and site: the species targeted, the method applied per species, and the number of individuals removed per species and site will be submitted for CINEA. (D4.4).
In HNDP operational area: 39 ha of 6 sites will be cleaned from invasive alien plants by 01.09.2032.
In BNPD operational area: 1 ha in 1 site is cleared from arboreal and herbaceous IAS and the conservation state of the EGS habitats are improved by 31.12.2026.
In FHNPD operational area: 0.5 ha will be cleaned from invasive alien plants by 01.09.2032.
Annual reports will be prepared and submitted on the implemented IAS management activities, including, for each project site, the species targeted, the method applied per species, and the number of individuals removed per species and site (D.4.4).

Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025

## Work package WP5 – Species conservation direct interventions

| Work Package Number | WP5 | Lead Beneficiary | 1 - HOI |
|---|---|---|---|
| Work Package Name | Species conservation direct interventions | | |
| Start Month | 1 | End Month | 84 |

**Objectives**

A GIS protocol-based threat map with various environmental attributes to assess the actual threats to EGS colonies in Hungary and West Romania will be developed (T.5.1.1, D5.1).
Up to date yearly designation of the donor colonies and target sites for reintroduction. Due to the fact that the selection of donor populations (wild or captive bred) should always be done taking into consideration the differences among years, depending on up-to-date population status, field management activities, climatic factors, etc., therefore this should always be reconsidered every year. List of target sites for reintroduction (D5.2) and list of donor populations (D5.3) will be prepared annually and will be annexed to the Annual EGS Reintroduction Plan (T.5.1.2).
Yearly synchronisation of reintroduction activities. An Annual Reintroduction Plan (D5.4) will be prepared every year, which will include the actual plan of the reintroductions implemented within the Project in a certain year (T.5.1.3).
Yearly synchronisation of reintroduction activity for national level. There is a consulting group of the Nature Protection Deputy State Secretariat of the MA, the Experts Group for Blind Mole-rat and European Ground Squirrel Protection, which nationally coordinates the EGS reintroduction activities in Hungary. Therefore, Project activities will also be inserted into the annual national timetable of EGS reintroductions (T.5.1.3).
To successfully implement EGS reintroductions from strong donor populations. During the Project period, 7-12 new ground squirrel populations will be established from stable source populations involving at least 350-550 individuals that will be reintroduced, but this number can even be more if any established population needs to be strengthened (T.5.2.1, MS14).
To successfully implement EGS reintroductions from captive bred individuals. At least 300 captive bred individuals will be reintroduced during the Project period to 4-8 sites. (T.5.2.2, MS14)
To monitor the success of reintroduction activities, a detailed database of implemented translocations/reintroductions will be set up in Hungary and Romania (age, sex, reproductive success of individuals per site, etc.) (D5.5).
Reports to the Romanian (D5.6) and Hungarian (D5.7) competent authorities will be submitted on the main project results/findings to update the SDF of the concerned N2000 sites.
Standard Data Forms of those project sites that do not yet list EGS and where ground squirrel populations will be established in the project, will be updated until the end of the project. (D5.8)

**Description**

T.5.1.1. Threat map of EGS populations (HOI, MILVUS, BEKE, CER, UD)
Background: Evidence based planning and site selection for translocations, later management and conservation of EGS colonies are required to identify the major environmental threats and risks of extinctions of colonies in Hungary. In this point of view, the situation in Romania has not been explored, yet. Probably the isolation of EGS colonies in Romania is lower than in Hungary, but the direction of the process is the same. It is important to be prepared for its progress. In all cases, these threats and risks should be quantified and mapped in a standardised (reproducible, measurable, generalised) way. So, nature conservation organisations and national parks in particular can use those threat maps to identify and categorise EGS habitats (either already colonised areas or potential release sites) all around the species distribution range for future management plans, too. Such an asset will also help prioritise measures in the Project areas to mitigate the magnitude of local threats. This knowledge gives evidence based input for the ‘EGSNet’ (T.2.2).
Description: We plan to develop and implement a GIS-based protocol with various environmental attributes (soil-, climatic-, topographic-, geographic-, ecological-, anthropogenic factors) to assess the actual threats to EGS colonies all in Hungary and Romania. The final outcome of this task will be a composite threat index for each unit of scale (grid cell size), stored in ‘Colony Logsheets’ (T.2.2.1) (D2.2). This index will be mapped for Hungary (country scale) and the western part of Romania. The threat index will offer insight into the relationship between the change of abundance and threats at the spatial scale of colonies. Moreover, the threat map will enable identification and visualisation of low, medium and high ‘threat areas’ for EGS. That piece of information will help the prioritisation so updating designation of target sites of actual and future translocation actions (T.5.1.3).
Expected results: Linked to ‘Colony Logsheets’, a GIS protocol-based threat map with various environmental attributes (soil-, climatic-, topographic-, geographic-, ecological-, anthropogenic factors) to assess the actual threats to EGS colonies in Hungary and West Romania will be developed (D5.1). Databases of different surveys (T.2.2., T.2.3., T.5.1.2.,

Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025

T.5.1.3., T. 8.1.) will serve as a knowledge centre about (features and functions of) the EGS and its actual and potential distribution, habitat requirements, proper management techniques, and other conservation measures etc. This threat map will serve upload for EGS 'Colony Logsheets' (T.2.2.1). The developed method will also be shared (T.7.3, T.7.4) with other regions all around the EGS distribution area (upscaling).

T.5.1.2. Updating designation and approval of target sites and of sites serving as donor populations for reintroduction activities

Background: The mainly isolated EGS habitat patches are different in the suitability point of view. The level of their suitability for being EGS habitats are also changing from year to year. Even in the case of highly suitable habitats, the results and experiences of the RAPTORSPREYLIFE project (LIFE13/NAT/HU000183) and local surveys carried out since the closure of that project, clearly showed that European ground squirrels cannot be arbitrarily translocated within the Pannonian Basin. For example, the region's ground squirrel populations have a specific population genetic structure with separate genetic groups, the maintenance of which is an important conservation genetic goal. Health status of EGS populations in general should also be used as a proxy for survival probability. Abnormal values of parameters characterising genetic, pathogenic, epidemiological, parasitological or toxicological status can cause colony or population collapse, hence failed reintroduction too. Therefore, all actions related to conserving old or establishing new colonies or populations must be preceded by thorough planning and foundational scanning and analyses. In spite of important results of RAPTORSPREYLIFE (LIFE13/NAT/HU/00183) project, which give a general insight into genetic status in the core area of the Pannonian EGS populations, we have no information about the genetics of several newly involved and marginal (potential donor) colonies either in Hungary or in Romania. We have no up-to-date information about colony health status of the EGS populations as well.

Description: Based on the results of T.5.1.1. (D2.4) regarding targeted Project sites an updated list will be provided for target sites deemed suitable to serve as an appropriate habitat for EGS, therefore showcasing their potential in serving as possible target areas for reintroduction/translocation activities. List of target areas for reintroduction/translocation will be reviewed annually and will be annexed to the Annual EGS Reintroduction Plan. Additionally, this task will define and implement a series of health status determination, which will be performed within donor colonies to the establishment of new ground squirrel colonies or populations. The main goal of this task is to make us able to select the most appropriate donor populations, based on their genetic background, health status and population size. The genetic analysis will implement modern RAD-seq methods supported by whole genome analysis enabling the comparison of results (RAPTORSPREYLIFE (LIFE13/NAT/HU/00183)) as well as novel genomic approaches which require lower sample size than earlier methods. The study framework is planned to cover around 50 populations, with approximately 3-8 noninvasive faecal samples per population. With the one health approach in mind, examinations performed within the framework of the health analysis will allow for a comprehensive map of various infectious agents (all bacteria, viral particles, parasites and fungi), based on their genetic presence in the excrement of the animals (metabarcoding). Traditional haematological and habitat toxicological investigations (300 samples for virological studies and 40 samples for habitats toxic chemical elements studies) are also planned to complement metagenomic investigations with the aim to explore the prevalence of these infectious agents on potential donor populations. For animal welfare reasons, every effort will be made to sample as few individuals as possible, so a number of animals will be sampled for multiple reasons considering blood collections and toxicological investigations /hair or other tissue samples. Some of the analyses that will be performed require the use of invasive methods, therefore, permits needed for working with individuals of strictly protected/endangered species will be obtained by the relevant Consortium members (T.2.1). Finally, this task will prepare a list of donor colonies (D5.3) — those that are able to serve as sources of individuals for reintroduction purposes. The list will also be reviewed annually, so that it will take into account specific yearly changes in colony numbers, (lack of) management activities, weather/climate factors, etc.

Expected results: Up-to-dated habitat suitability of targeted areas (T.2.2.2., D2.4), a prioritise list of target areas for reintroduction/translocation (D5.2), 'Colony Logsheets' (T.2.2.1) with an actual list of donor colonies (D5.3) will be prepared and reviewed annually and annexed to the Annual EGS Reintroduction Plan prepared in T.5.1.4 (D5.4).

T.5.1.3. Designation of reintroduction

Description: It is crucially important to harmonise the simultanously running relocation actions in Hungary, because otherwise those can weaken or even destroy each other's success. There is a consulting group of the Nature Protection Deputy State Secretariat of the Ministry of Agriculture in Hungary, the Experts Group for Blind Mole-rat and European Ground Squirrel Protection, which nationally coordinates the EGS reintroduction activities. Project activities will therefore be inserted into the annual national timetable of EGS reintroductions, too.

Expected results: Based on the above, two materials (D5.2 and D5.3) and a feasibility analyses, an Annual Reintroduction Plan (D5.4) will be prepared each year in Hungary. The document will include the actual plan of the reintroductions implemented within the Project during a certain year and will be accepted by the Experts Group for Blind Mole-rat and European Ground Squirrel Protection of the Ministry of Agriculture.

T.5.2. EGS reintroductions (HOI, BNPD, FHNPD, HNPD, KNPD, UD, BEKE, ZOO, MILVUS)

Background: The survival of European ground squirrels is threatened by many factors, some of which are difficult to control, despite the efforts of nature conservation managers. New colonies established in potentially (ecologically)

Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025

suitable, properly managed and protected areas are recognized as a potential key method ensuring the long-term survival of the species in a region. For example, as a result of translocation and habitat management activities performed within the LIFE SYSEL project (LIFE19 NAT/SK/001069), the number of European ground squirrel individuals in Slovakia is estimated to have increased from 20 000 in 2020 to about 36 000 in 2022.
Description: The reintroduction activities will be implemented in each particular case in line with Annual Reintroduction Plan (D5.4), the detailed, Modified Reintroduction Protocol developed in the RAPTORSPREYLIFE (LIFE/13/NAT/HU/00183), the IUCN 'Guidelines for Reintroductions and Other Conservation Translocations' and conditional criteria of LIFE Call for proposals (LIFE-2024-SAP-NAT).
This simplified protocol contains general instructions and rules for performing reintroduction and rescue activities (e.g. applicable area of genetic lineages, number of individuals, procedure of reintroduction - rules for capture and release). In the light of this protocol we will take into account the 3 different genetic lineages of EGS, which were determined on the basis of the results of population genetic survey of the Hungarian EGS populations implemented during the RAPTORSPREYLIFE (LIFE/13/NAT/HU/00183) (2016). These genetic lineages are considered to be the basic units of conservation of the species, therefore the reintroductions should take into account these geographic differences.
Two types of reintroduction activities will be implemented considering the source of the allocation activities: 1.) relocation from stable source populations and 2.) reintroduction of captive bred individuals (as a result of ex-situ breeding activities of WP3) to natural habitats.
In every case the reintroduction activities target the establishment of new colonies in species-appropriate habitats, which long-term suitability has been proven.
Regarding the reintroductions within natural range, the Project will comply with the following:
1. Considering that the nature conservation value of one EGS individual in Hungary is stated 250.000 HUF (c.a. 650 €) (13/2001. (V. 9.) Order of the Ministry for Environment), the action is expected to bring much higher benefits than the expenses turned on the actions. This will be checked through a cost/benefit analysis, concluded in the last year of the Project when the results of the reintroduction actions have been monitored and assessed (estimating the size of the new colonies).
Capitalising on the knowledge and former experiences of the Project's team members, the team members of the RAPTORSPREYLIFE project and external experts involved, it is foreseen that there is a high probability of success of the reintroduction activities. To make sure that reintroductions are successful, a thorough risk and feasibility analysis will be carried out prior to the detailed planning of the actions (included in the Annual Reintroduction Plan) (meets Call document p.17 point (i)).
2. As there are no EGS colonies near the selected target sites, there is no possibility of introducing new pathogens with the new individuals into an existing colony. Since the reintroductions will be done from a relatively short distance and the donor populations' health will be checked before, the risk that they transmit new pathogens to the destination area, are also minimised. We will carry out non-invasive sample collection for genetic screening, veterinary assessment, individual marking of animals to be released, and radio telemetry to follow post-release losses more accurately. Facilities for storing the captured and individually boxed animals until release will also enable veterinarian examinations shortly after the capture. Rapid physical examinations will be conducted on all individuals by experienced handlers who are aware of the risks of handling and trained to minimise them and handle known problems. Faecal samples will be collected for veterinary analysis; and RFID chips will be inserted for permanent identification. Serum samples from a limited number (120) of individuals are to be collected to determine the infections possibly present in the population. This not only helps the ongoing translocation but may also reduce health risks to staff members and provide information to increase the success of future translocation actions (meets Call document p.17 point (ii)).
3. As there are no EGS colonies nearby to the selected sites, so these are geographically isolated sites, therefore there is no alternative for the reintroduction. These areas could never be repopulated naturally (meets Call document p.17 point (iii)).
4. Due to the reduced number of grazing livestocks EGS disappeared from these areas in the last decades. Today the target areas are, or after purchasing them (T.4.1), will become the properties of national park directorates or a partnership agreement will be signed with the owners, so this way fall under their management, where the proper maintenance and management already eliminated or will eliminate the causes of local extinction of the species during the Project.
On the other hand, in every case the areas targeted by reintroduction will be subject to evaluation of habitat suitability prior to these actions (T.2.2, T.5.1) (meets Call document p.17 point (iv)).
5. As the Hungarian EGS population is estimated as in the order of 100 000 individuals, while the entire reintroduction activities involve no more than 650 individuals, its negative effect is negligible at the whole population level. In spite of this, as founders of numerous new colonies, this relatively low number of relocated individuals will result in a high rate of population increase due to reproductive capability.
In general, to minimise the negative effects on local donor colonies, maximum 10% of animals will be captured from any localities in Natura 2000 sites and maximum 20% from airports where they may be considered as risk factors in terms of aviation safety. Captures in small colonies will be restricted to the late summer period, after most adults entered hibernation, in order to catch recruits only and thus minimise the adverse effects on the donor population. Actual status

Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025

of selected donor population will always be surveyed before any translocation action starts in order to avoid removals of too many individuals (T.5.1.2) (meets Call document p.17 point (v)).
6. The target areas lay within the natural range of EGS and the biotic conditions are similar to the areas where EGS populations can be found, furthermore the selected target areas fall under the management of the NPDs within the partnership, therefore the appropriate management of these areas can be guaranteed, and therefore the local acceptance will be evidently favourable, too.
According to our investigations, the preliminary selected target areas' habitat and climate currently meet the conditions necessary for the survival of a viable population of the species, but due to the possibility of meanwhile changes, the actual habitat and climate conditions will be analysed again during the evaluation of habitat suitability in T.5.1.2, while the future conditions, taking into consideration the possible effects of climate change on habitat suitability, will be evaluated during T.8.1, prior to the reintroduction (meets Call document p.17 point (vi)).
7. For implementing the reintroduction activities on strictly protected EGS, an authorization from the relevant authority will need to be requested (T.5.1.1). In the frame of this process the agreement of the land owners and the land users (land managers) must be submitted, whether it concerns donor or target areas (meets Call document p.17 point (vii)).
8. It is preferred that reintroductions be implemented either from nearby source populations, which have no risks due to negative attitude of the local population towards the planned reintroduction (local population is familiar with EGS colonies), or at sites where successful communication action had been performed before reintroduction has been started (meets Call document p.17 point (viii)).
9. EGS will only be reintroduced in areas where they previously occurred (meets Call document p.17 point (ix)).
10. The planned tasks, include a preparatory phase (T.5.1), a reintroduction or introduction/translocation phase (T.5.2) and a follow-up phase (T.5.2, T.6.1), as well as an exit strategy, in case the reintroduction or introduction/translocation does not proceed according to plan (T.5.2) (meets Call document p.18 point (x)).
11. Sustainability of the reintroductions will be guaranteed by the appropriate land management practices (established and secured by T.4.1, T.4.3) and control of predators (T.4.2) such as by (T.5.2, T.8.6) (meets Call document p.18 point (xi)).
12. All introduction/translocation actions are planned to existing Natura 2000 sites or protected areas (meets Call document p.18 for introduction/translocation actions to outside existing Natura 2000 sites).
T.5.2.1 Relocation from stable source populations
Expected results: During the Project period at least 7 but even 12 new EGS colonies will be established from stable source populations with at least 350 but even 550 individuals translocated to new locations (MS14). These numbers can be higher if any established colony needs to be strengthened.
A preliminary plan for relocations is given in TABLE 1. Based on our earlier experiences, the donor populations and target areas actually suitable for reintroductions are presented. Before we use them, we will re-analyse them as described in T5.1.2, and harmonise them as described in T5.1.3. Any donor populations or target areas turned to be unsuitable will be replaced by a new, suitable one.
T.5.2.2 Reintroduction of captive bred individuals to natural habitats
Description: As a result of ex-situ breeding activities of WP3, from 2028 significant numbers of EGS are expected to be available for reintroduction. The animals born in captivity need to be released following the usual reintroduction protocol to carefully selected suitable areas in August, so they can occupy the prepared artificial burrows without any problems and begin feeding on local plants. Based on the experiences of the RAPTORSPREY LIFE (LIFE/13/NAT/HU/00183) the survival rate of captive born and released animals turned out to be as high as or even higher than in the case of captured and released animals (T.5.2.1).
Expected results: at least 300 individuals will be reintroduced during the Project period to at least 4 or even 8 sites (new colonies) (MS14).
The preliminary plan for reintroductions is given in TABLE 1. Based on our earlier experiences, the potential target areas suitable for the release of the captive bred EGSs are presented. Before we use them, we will first re-analyse them as described in T.5.1.2, and harmonise them as described in T5.1.3. Any target area turned to be unsuitable, will be replaced by a new, suitable one. A detailed database of implemented translocations/reintroductions will be set up in Hungary and Romania (age, sex, reproductive success of individuals per site, etc.) (D5.5).

T.5.3 Updating Standard Data Forms (SDF) of Natura 2000 project sites
Description: Among project sites, EGS is currently not listed or designated as a species on the HUBN20069, HUFH20003 and HUHN20010 sites of Community Importance (SCI) in Hungary, while in Romanian project sites' SDF already contains EGS in it). Updating of the SDF forms is carried out in Hungary by the competent authority (Ministry of Agriculture) annually based on the information provided by national park directorates. After successful reintroduction actions at the aforementioned Natura 2000 sites, we will request the competent authority for updating the Standard Data forms of these sites. All other relevant changes detected by the project on EGS population changes in Natura 2000 sites will be reported to NPDs to provide this information to the competent authority to update the SDF on affected sites. All

Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025

changes about the EGS in Romanian Natura 2000 sites will be reported to competent authority at least 6 months before the end of the project period (D5.6).
Expected results: As a result, reports to the Romanian (D5.6) and Hungarian (D5.7) competent authorities will be submitted about the main project results/findings in order to update the SDF of the concerned N2000 sites; EGS will be listed as a species of Community Importance (SCI) on the HUBN20069, HUFH20003 and HUHN20010 Natura 2000 sites (D5.8).

No/NPD/Potential target area/Natura 2000 site name and code/Potential donor population/Planned year
1/BNPD/Kesznyéten, Nagy-legelő /Kesznyéten, Big Pasture/‘Kesznyéten’ SPA (HUBN10005)/Liszt Ferenc International Airport, Tiszalúc-Sarkad-tanya, Tard-Száraztó, Gelej-Mezőcsát boundary population /2026, 2027
2/BNPD/Tiszadobi Gulyalegelő /
Tiszadob Cattle Pasture/‘Kesznyéteni Sajó-öböl’ /Kesznyéten Sajó Bay (HUBN20069)//2028, 2030
3/BNPD/Tard, Hosszújáró, ‘Citellus Garden’/Tard Longwalk, ‘Citellus Garden’ for enclosure breeding (T.3.3)/‘Tard környéki Erdős sztyepp’ /Tard Regional Forest Steppe (HUBN20009)//2027, 2028
4/BNPD/Tard, Ürge-bérc / Tard Ground Squirrel Cliff/‘Tard környéki Erdős sztyepp’ /Tard Regional Forest Steppe (HUBN20009)//2029,2030
5/BNPD/Batúz-tanya melletti ‘Citellus Garden’ ‘Citellus Garden’ next to the Batúz farm for enclosure breeding (T.3.3)/‘Borsodi-Mezőség’ (HUBN20034)//2027, 2029
6/HNPD/Pentezug/‘Hortobágy’ (HUHN20002)/Pocsaji csordalegelő, HNPD captive breeding or Hajdúhadház /2029
7/HNPD/Pocsaji-kapu (Löszletörés) Pocsaj Gate (Loess Break)/‘Pocsaji-kapu’ (HUHN20010)//2030
8/HNPD/Kék-Kálló-völgye (Valley of the Blue Kálló Brook)/‘Kék-Kálló-völgye’ (HUHN20016)//2026
9/HNPD/Rohodi-legelő/Rohodi-legelő (HUHN20064)/Baktalórántháza or Nyírmada/2028
10/HNPD/Sámsoni út/Sámsoni úti Bellegelő (HUHN20161)/Hajdúhadház/2027
11/HNPD/Martinka/Martinkai-legelő (HUHN20024)/Hajdúhadház/2027
12/FHNPD/‘Piusz majori gyep’ Fertőrákos 057/10/Fertő Hanság National Park protected area beside of the Fertőmelléki dombsor (HUFH20003)/BVP captive breeding centre/2028
13/MILVUS/Sânmartin/ROSCI0387 Salonta/Oradea Airport, Batăr/2027, 2029, 2030
14/MILVUS/Zădăreni/ROSAC0231 Nădab - Socodor - Vărșad/Arad/2027, 2029
15/MILVUS/Orțișoara/ROSAC0108 Lunca Mureșului Inferior/Arad, Felnac/2026, 2028, 2029
16/MILVUS/Sânmartin/ROSCI0115 (Mlaștina Satchinez)/Gelu, Jimbolia/2027, 2029, 2030

TABLE 1: Preliminary plan for relocation/reintroduction of EGS in Hungary.
All new EGS colonies in Natura 2000 sites will be registered in Standard Data Form (SDF) by the Ministry of Agriculture (MA) (see annexed Letter of support from the MA).

## Work package WP6 – Monitoring and Evaluation

| **Work Package Number** | WP6 | **Lead Beneficiary** | 1 - HOI |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Work Package Name** | Monitoring and Evaluation | | |
| **Start Month** | 5 | **End Month** | 87 |

| **Objectives** |
|---|
| The monitoring of the nature conservation status of the EGS colonies within the entire Project will be carried out and the changes of abundance will be analysed and will be referred to the countrywide processes. (T.6.1, D6.4)<br>Success (short- and long-term) of EGS translocations will be monitored by estimating the development of new colonies non-destructively after translocations (T.6.1.2, T.6.1.3, T.6.1.4, D6.1, D6.3). Success of translocations will be improved by analysing data on movements (above- and underground, burrow and area usage) of EGSs using radio telemetry. (T.6.1.3, D6.1)<br>Effects of conservation interventions of the Project on EGS habitats (T.6.2.1) and populations (T.6.2.2) will be monitored with innovative, non-destructive methods. (D6.5)<br>Impact of the stakeholders’ awareness campaign of the Project (WP7) will be surveyed and reported. (T.6.3) ((D6.6) (MS15)<br>KPI indicators of the Project will be surveyed/estimated and data will be uploaded into the LIFE KPI webtool. (T.6.4, D6.7, D6.8) |

Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025

| Description |
| --- |
| T.6.1 Monitoring of the populations subject to Project actions (repatriation & habitat reconstructions) (HOI, UD, CER, BEKE, FHNDP, HNPD, BNPD, ZOO, MILVUS)<br>Background: Main goal of the Project is to ensure the viability of the Pannonian EGS population. All project actions have to support this aim in a short or longer term. The direct effects of each intervention should be immediately measured to determine the level of success. The indirect effects of project activities on the whole EGS population can be monitored to estimate the achievement of Project objectives. Therefore, all wild, translocated or reintroduced populations should be monitored regularly in a standardised way to 1) foresee any disadvantageous processes at the population level and 2) to evaluate the effectiveness of animal reintroductions (translocations) or habitat management activities. In other words, to determine the best practices and improve the conservation status of EGS it is necessary to monitor the success of different conservation actions.<br>The success of reintroduction actions change on a case-by-case basis. The same protocol applied in seemingly similar environmental circumstances can result in a high level of colonisation in some occasions but not in others. Unfortunately, background processes remain hidden in many cases, but it would be very useful to get to know them to be able to improve the translocation methodology and increase its long-term success.<br>Vitality of a colony is influenced not only by the number of individuals and the size of the habitat patch colonised, but also by the ability and success of reproduction. Depending on its opportunities, a vital colony will reproduce and expand from year to year.<br>Description: For relative density monitoring, we will map the entrances of active burrows of EGSs as they can serve as proxies for the presence, abundance and density of animals in a colony. Moreover, the distribution of those entrances can give information on the shape and size of the colonised area and the spatial and temporal dynamics of abundance or density of either source or new colonies.<br>In addition, telemetry will also be used to add data on the translocated animals' behaviour related to their movements (dispersal) and use of either artificial or natural burrows. The results from telemetry monitoring are planned to follow population processes including the rate of colonisation of a new habitat after a reintroduction action. One type of telemetry systems consists of tags, transmitters and a central receiver tower equipped with a special software, which processes and visualises the signals from the towers. The transmitter itself is cylinder-shaped and cca. 1 cm long and wide, with the weight of 3-4 grams, and can be attached to the animals, using collars. The range of the transmitter is several kilometres, the frequency of the signals can be programmed and with a built in battery, the transmitter should be functional for over a year. The system is able to track 32 animals at the same time. The other telemetry type is more flexible, using mobile antennas and receivers and is especially useful for a shorter time window after a translocation action. It will be used to follow the EGSs movements before or just after the translocation for a few weeks.<br>T.6.1.1 Monitoring by Hungarian Biodiversity Monitoring System (HBMS) protocol<br>Monitoring by HBMS protocol (see in Annex) will be implemented by repeating baseline survey in the last year described in T.2.2.1. Official HBMS implemented in permanent sample sites by the Ministry for Agriculture (MA) is designed to detect long-term trends of density at a country scale. Yearly repeated citizen science estimation method (see WP7 communication) can substitute the specialist based method and relieve the burden of state nature conservation professionals. In addition, it will reach out to citizens and by that it will integrate people into on-the-ground nature conservation. Country wide results of the monitoring by UAV-based (drone; see below), repeated survey of T.2.2.1, official HBMS data allowed by the MA and validated citizen science based dataset will be able to show the mid- or long-term changes in the overall status of EGSs in Hungary and Romania in the core of west side of EGS's distribution area (https://www.iucnredlist.org/species/20472/91282380).<br>T.6.1.2 Monitoring by UAV (drone)-based method<br>Recently, Gedeon and his colleagues (2022) have developed a specific non-invasive method for estimating the abundance and colonised area of animals using non-destructive pixel-based imagery combined with a random forest classification scheme. The semi-automated method identifies and counts burrow entrances on images recorded remotely by UAVs. The method's accuracy and reliability are above 90%, proving a quick and less laborious way of estimating population size (abundance) and colonised area.<br>Based on this method we plan to monitor the abundance of both donor and reintroduced colonies during the Project at least once a year, after hibernation. Image recording by UAVs will be done with the active participation of HOI, BEKE and national park directorates, and then image processing and final abundance estimation will be carried out by the specialists of HOI. The methodology will be learned by NPs and other Hungarian and Romanian partners (T.7.3.2) and this will give a practical and simple tool into the hands of conservationists to monitor and manage EGS colonies more effectively.<br>Information on the abundance and colonised area is a prerequisite for an adequate, long-term management of EGS and the data collected in this task will provide the basis for 'EGSNet' (see T.2.2). National park wildlife managers and rangers will augment this monitoring, for instance, by regularly observing the activity (survival) of translocated animals or source populations. |

Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025

If the environmental conditions (e.g. grass height) are unsuitable for the UAV-based method and mowing or grazing the grass is unavailable at the site, the methodology will be switched to direct visual burrow entrance counting at the given site.

T.6.1.3 Monitoring by radio telemetry

An automated telemetry method was worked out and tested in RAPTORSPREYLIFE earlier. The system based on this method will be working with fixed towers for receivers so it will be able to collect long-term behavioural and ecological data from a translocated EGS population planned in a safe site of Pentezug (HNPD) and later in a reference site of a strong, vital population (Czakó-tó site - HUHN20121) or other nearby population (‘Derecske-konyári gyepek’ - HUHN20009), if the originally planned population is found not to be strong enough.

The more flexible telemetry method will be used during two translocations a year, with 5-10 individuals, for a shorter time window (2-4 weeks). They will be equipped by small radio transmitters and released in the same way as other individuals. With the help of mobile receivers and antennas, the movement and the exact place of night time rest burrows can be manually localised. It can also be used to follow EGSs movements and natural behaviour in source populations as a control.

Expected results: Monitoring by HBMS is expected to give data on the change of density of all (cca. 150+40) colonies (plus 40 colonies from Romania) involved in baseline surveys (T.2.2.1). As highlighted earlier, it will fit to the country scale monitoring and help in studying density trends of colonies. This information will help to form an updated conservation status of the species on a country scale.

Data from UAV-based monitoring will follow the spatio-temporal changes of the occupied area in the colonies subjected to management within the Project (in WP4 and WP5). It will also give an accurate estimation on the actual population sizes (abundance) so that specific conservation actions can be taken accordingly. The monitoring of the spatio-temporal dynamics of the colonies within the entire Project will be implemented and the relationships between various management strategies (i.e. reintroduction, habitat reconstruction, grazing) and the change of abundance will be studied and integrated in T.5.1.2, D5.2, D5.3.

Telemetry monitoring will give a more detailed insight into the behaviour (i.e. dispersal, resting, survival) and activity of translocated individuals and control populations. Home ranges, burrow usage, aggregation behaviour will be uncovered, which will help increase the success of the following translocations by identifying the individual responses of animals (according to gender, age-group) on the translocation. That information stored in a geodatabase (D6.1) may uncover new, still unknown factors that can significantly affect translocations’ success. Annual translocation plan will be planned by the light of these results, too (D5.3)

T.6.1.4 Monitoring of reproduction success of reintroduced populations (HOI, ZOO, MILVUS)

Background: Midterm success (0-3 years after reintroduction) of EGS reintroduction actions can be trustworthily indicated by the estimation of reproduction ratio in the newly established colonies. In early autumn, when adults have started to hibernate, only the youngsters of the given year can be observed on the surface as, by intensive feeding, they still build their body fat necessary for later hibernation. So, this period of the year is exceedingly appropriate for estimating the number of them and their ratio to the full colony size (actual abundance) estimated in April.

Description: An innovative monitoring protocol will be worked out and tested in 10 existing colonies in the first year of the Project and it will be used for further monitoring in the following years. After consecutive years of translocations, monitoring of reproduction will be carried out in translocated colonies, and in the source populations as well, since this is a key factor in their recovery after taking the animals for translocations. In this activity, from the second year of the Project, youngster monitoring will be carried out in 10 colonies per year.

Expected results: A tested reproduction success monitoring protocol (D6.2) will be worked out and published. Midterm reproduction success of the new translocations will be assessed and stored in a database (D6.3) to support decisions if additional translocation actions are needed or not. This will help establish viable populations in the sites of the translocations (WP5).

T.6.1.5 Trend analysis (BEKE; HOI, UD, MILVUS)

Description: After repeating the T.2.2.1 baseline survey in the last year of the Project, an updated trend analysis (D6.4) will be prepared to reveal the trend of Hungarian and Romanian EGS populations in the Project timeframe to reveal the impact of the Project.

Expected results: An updated trend analysis will be prepared (D6.4).

T.6.2 Monitoring of the habitat reconstructions (monitoring the development of the reconstructed habitats) (HNPD, BNDP – on their own sites)

Background: Success of implemented habitat reconstruction (implemented in T.4.3.) measures can be measured by following the changes of the habitat caused by the interventions and by the monitoring of EGS colonies. The final aim of habitat reconstruction is the acceptance of the reconstructed habitat by the EGS, proved by confirming the colonisation of the reconstructed habitats.

All relevant information will be used for updating ‘Colony Logsheets’ (set up in T.2.2.1, D2.2).

T.6.2.1. Monitoring the effects of habitat reconstruction on the habitat

Description: Before and after the interventions the same survey will be performed and evaluated. By means of image

Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025

analysis the size of areas covered by shrubs, invasive alien plants or grass will be estimated from aerial photographs. In other words, we will estimate the effectiveness of interventions as habitat reconstructions by studying images taken by UAVs and identifying subjects of interest (invasive alien plants, grass, shrubs). We will be able to compare images taken before and after the reconstruction actions to track its effectiveness quantitatively (size of area).
Expected results: Results of the effects of the interventions on reconstructed habitats will be measured quantitatively (area of successful reintroduction) and stored in a database (D6.5).
T.6.2.2. Monitoring the effects of habitat reconstructions on the EGS population
Description: In the same place and time as T.6.2.1. monitoring actions, method of T.6.1.2 monitoring action will be carried out on EGS populations of the reconstructed habitats.
Shrubs and if necessary invasive alien plants will be cleared from habitats or natural grass will be installed in the Project during autumn and winter, while the EGSs are in hibernation. In the following spring, right after the emergence from hibernation, using the UAV-based monitoring scheme, we will assess the base—control—status of the colony. By the end of the active season (early autumn) a repeated UAV-based monitoring will show the spatial extension of the colony as a result of shrub clearance or grass installation.
Expected results: Acceptance of the reconstructed habitats by EGS is a primary objective. Increase in abundance or spatial occurrence will be estimated as a response to habitat reconstructions. Any reconstruction can be supplemented by additional actions (combined actions or e.g. controlling of predators) if interventions are deficient. Monitoring data will be stored in the same database as the results of T.6.2.1 (D6.5).
T.6.3 Monitoring the effect of the Project on public opinion (results of the communication actions) (HOI, BVP; all BEN)
Background: Lack of public awareness is a fundamental problem for the conservation of EGS. One of the main reasons for this is that the general public is not aware of the importance of EGS from the point of view of grassland ecosystems and services provided by them to humans (e.g. ecosystem engineer species, keystone species, good candidate for a flagship species; important food resource of the flagship birds like F. cherrug). On the other hand and despite its strict protection in the EU, the species is still sometimes considered as a pest, though its entire population is in decline, according to the IUCN (‘endangered’) and national monitoring data.
A public education and awareness programme has to be organised to solve this problem and to change the attitude of people towards EGS and to raise awareness regarding its importance. In order to develop a suitable public education and awareness programme, and to measure the success of it, it is critical to assess the baseline attitude and knowledge level, as well as to identify real or perceived conflicts about EGS. Based on these findings, an efficient education and public awareness programme can be implemented.
Description: The impact of communication actions of the Project (WP7) will be evaluated through implementing a questionnaire-based survey. A baseline of the awareness status will be assessed and the impact of the Project on public awareness will be assessed by comparing the results of the questionnaire-based survey after the Project campaign and the baseline survey.
For the evaluation of the socio-economic impact, a questionnaire will be developed to evaluate the baseline status. The same questionnaire will be used for monitoring the impact of the Project at the end of the Project.
The baseline survey will be carried out during the 1st year of the Project, in 2026, by completing the questionnaire among four representative groups, who will be surveyed regarding their acceptance and general knowledge on EGS, their importance in open grassland habitats and ecosystems and their role as prey animals for birds of prey. At least 50 hunters, 50 farmers, 400 school children, and 200 zoo- and national park visitors will be queried.
A total of 100 short oral interviews will also be carried out with locals in each Project area.
The monitoring survey will be implemented during the last year of the Project, in 2032 by using the same methods (same number of questionnaires and interviews) among the same type of target audience (group of stakeholders) with approx. same sample number.
The first report will be prepared from the baseline survey and also from the monitoring survey. The second report will summarise the results of the
assessments focusing on the comparison between the surveys and the impact of the Project on public opinion.
Additionally, a specific socio-economic impact analysis will be carried out in the BVP involving 1 000 visitors in the beginning and at the end of the Project period. In the period between surveys, we will measure the impact of our information and awareness-raising activities on visitors' awareness and knowledge of the EGS. Expected results: Report on the result of monitoring of stakeholders’ status prepared (D.6.6) Survey on impact on stakeholders’ awareness completed (MS15).
T.6.4 Monitoring of KPI indicators (HOI, all BEN)
Reporting of (estimated and actually achieved) key-performance indicators mandatory and specific (KPIs) based on estimations or field surveys in the LIFE project, KPI webtool will be used and filled in before the end of 9th months from the signature of the grant. It will be running until the end of the Project. (D6.7, D6.8) (see more details in Chapter 2.1)

Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025

## Work package WP7 – Communication and Dissemination

| Work Package Number | WP7 | Lead Beneficiary | 2 - ZOO |
|---|---|---|---|
| Work Package Name | Communication and Dissemination | | |
| Start Month | 1 | End Month | 87 |

**Objectives**

To create a uniform visual appearance of the Project, the project logo and one digital manual, the Visual identity guidelines will be prepared (T.7.1.1, D7.1).
To support the online communication of the Project via multichannel outreach, dedicated project webpages within the beneficiaries' websites will be created and operated (T.7.1.2, MS16, D7.2). For the 'main' webpage (within ZOO's website) at least 100 000 visitors are expected throughout the project period (and at least 80 articles published).
As social media appearances, Facebook and Instagram profiles will be created for the project, with at least 400 posts published during the project period (T.7.1.2, D7.3).
To inform the public, 18 information boards with general information about the Project and 23 site-specific information boards about the nature conservation interventions will be produced and installed (T.7.1.3, D7.4). Furthermore, an EGS observation platform will be set up at the 'Citellus Garden' next to Batúz-tanya (T.7.1.3, D7.5).
To introduce the project's aims and activities to the general public a leaflet will be prepared and distributed in printed and online versions (T.7.1.4, D7.6). Furthermore, a project roll-up will be produced and used by each Beneficiary at public events, workshops, conferences, etc. (T.7.1.4, D7.7).
To introduce the Project's target species, the EGS, to the general public (among them young age groups), information materials, such as digital booklet, education booklet and a comprehensive book will be prepared and distributed (T.7.1.5, D7.8, D7.9, D7.10).
To support awareness raising and education activities about the target species, various promotional materials, as well as interactive playsets will be prepared and used (T.7.1.5, D7.11, D7.12).
To increase the visibility of the overall project and transfer knowledge to the public about the nature conservation of EGS, one 25-minute documentary film and 2-3 one-minute videos will be produced (T.7.1.6, D7.13, D7.14). To increase the awareness and the popularity of the species among children one animation film (cartoon) will also be prepared (T.7.1.6, D7.15). Videos will be distributed online, used during educational programmes and public events.
To raise awareness of the general public and local stakeholders and form their attitude efficiently, several activities will be carried out (T.7.1.7), such as project's site visits for civil groups (D7.16), representation of Beneficiaries at numerous public events and at kindergartens/schools as well. (D7.17)
To support the professional EGS monitoring in Hungary by the involvement of volunteers in the programme (T.7.1.8), a standard monitoring protocol will be developed (D7.18) that will be used in the data collection campaigns organised yearly for volunteers (D7.19).
To enhance direct human-EGS 'encounters' and increase its experience, the EGS demonstration enclosure in the Budapest ZOO will be improved (T.7.1.8, D7.20).
To develop a tourism marketing and attraction for the EGS with the help of tourism organisations that can be involved as partners in the promotion and publicity, and in situ presentation of a few selected populations in non-disturbed habitats and under controlled conditions. At least in 5 demonstration sites, the populations will be presented during their active period, as an element of a complex tourism programme package. (T.7.1.8, D7.21).
To summarise the status of the species, the objectives, activities and achievements of the Project for the public, the Layman's report will be produced in English, Romanian and Hungarian in paper and electronic format (T.7.1.9, D7.22).
To reach wider public and gain their support for nature conservation of the EGS, extensive media communication program will be carried out including activities such as the organisation of 2 press conferences (D7.23) and field demonstration trips (8 trips) for media representatives (D7.24), and the publication of (at least 12) press releases (D7.25).
To evaluate the efficiency of media communication activities, Media-observer Annual Report will be prepared every year (D7.26).
To strengthen the exchange of knowledge and cooperation among project team members and other experts, field trainings (2-5 occasions) (T.7.3.2, D7.27) and workshops (7 events in total) (D7.28) will be organised throughout the project implementation.
To present and disseminate the project results among the scientific and nature conservationist community both on national and international level, at least 3 peer-reviewed scientific papers will be published (T.7.4.1, D7.30) and the project members will participate at least in 5 conferences throughout the project time (T.7.4.2, D7.31).
To bring together scientists and conservationists from all over Europe working in different fields of EGS, and provide opportunity to exchange their professional experience and latest knowledge, one events will be organised: namely the

Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025

EGS Meeting in Hungary (T.7.4.2, D7.32). Also, a Bulletin of the EGS will be compiled in 2 issues per year (14 issues during the project) (T.7.3.2, D7.29), that will publish news of EGS, its projects and summaries of scientific articles. Final project conference will be held at the end of the project to present the new results, conservation management experiences and practices to scientists and nature conservationists from all over the project countries (T.7.4.2, D7.33).

**Description**

The production of the materials and implementation of actions (e.g. organisation of events) will be coordinated and realised by the WP Coordinator, all other partners will contribute to the content and distribution of materials and assist in the organisation of events, trips, etc.

T.7.1 Dissemination planning and development of the Dissemination Pack (ZOO; all Ben)

Background: The EGS, as a wild animal, is a scarcely known species in the general public. It has been deemed an agricultural pest for a long time and its individuals were frequently killed in rural areas. Its endangered status and drastically declining populations are especially striking when one is faced with these facts. At the same time, knowledge and acceptance of this species and its role in grassland habitat functioning could largely contribute to its long-term survival. This is especially true for the several colonies that are situated in suburban areas where local people pose a direct threat to the animals (see more details in T.8.8). The general public's opinion can reach decision-makers and put some pressure on them. The increase of general knowledge and acceptance of EGS and to demonstrate the Project itself, an extensive and multiple dissemination and awareness raising work package is planned, including all the sub-tasks in T.7.1. Various online and offline dissemination methods will be used to reach the wider public, including all age groups. Particular emphasis will be put on the environmental education and awareness raising among children and visitors (in T.7.1.5, T.7.1.6, T.7.1.7, T.7.1.8) to sustain the gained results (e.g. higher acceptance and positive attitude) for the longer term. Emphasis will also be put on the citizen science approach, namely, to involve citizens on a voluntary base in the EGS monitoring program, on the one hand to assist their engagement in nature conservation and on the other hand to help experts, who are short of capacity, in data collection (T.7.1.8). Members of the stakeholder groups (e.g. scientists, nature conservationists, farmers) will also be reached by several of the planned activities (e.g. in T.7.1.5, T.7.1.6).

Communication and dissemination activities regarding the project (target species, threats, project aims and results/ achievements) to the general public and stakeholders will cover the following.

T.7.1.1 Establishment of the visual identity of the project (ZOO; all Ben)

Description: The project logo and the Visual identity guidelines, containing the rules of the visual appearance of the Project will be prepared by the WP Coordinator with the involvement of other beneficiaries. All beneficiaries will implement their communication activities upon the guidance of the guidelines. The guidelines will also contain the rules for indicating the EU funding of the project. Any printed or electronic materials, infrastructures and events will indicate the EU funding of the actions.

Expected result: A uniform image is created for the Project, based on the project logo and a digital manual, the Visual identity guidelines (D7.1).

T.7.1.2. Online communication: webpages and social media (ZOO; all Ben)

Description: This task contains the online communication of the project, supported via multichannel outreach involving social media and project webpages:

a) the preparation and operation of dedicated project webpages on the beneficiaries' websites

The WP Coordinator (ZOO) will design, set up and maintain the primary (main) webpage for the project within the ZOO's website in Hungarian, Romanian and English. The webpage will include sections for the project overview, aims and objectives, general information on the target species, descriptions and locations of activities, news section with upcoming events, PDF versions of project publications and reports. The communication manager will work with the professional teams of project partners to design the structure, content and visual appearance. The communication manager will build upon the joint experience of the partnership and knowledge to maximise benefits resulting from development and use of such a site. A minimum of 100,000 visitors are expected to visit thiswebpage throughout the project period.

Besides the WP Coordinator, all other beneficiaries will develop a dedicated page to the project on their own institutional websites. These webpages will include general information about the project (e.g financing, duration, aims, partners), its activities and will also indicate the link to the primary webpage of the Project within ZOO's website. These pages will also reveal news of the progress in implementation related to the considered partner.

b) social media coverage

Facebook and Instagram profiles will be created for the project, all news and additional posts will be shared on the two platforms to ensure a wider reach.

In addition, every partner will share the posts on their own Facebook/Instagram pages.

Expected results: Wide range of the general public will be reached with information about the Project via the online communication platforms developed in this sub-task: dedicated project webpages within the beneficiaries' websites will be prepared (MS16, D7.2) and regularly updated. The primary webpage on ZOO's website will release at least 80 articles, and a minimum of 100 000 visitors are expected throughout the project period. Social media profiles (Facebook and

Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025

Instagram) will be created (D7.3) and operated with at least 400 posts published about the project within the project period and reaching 5 000 followers until the end of it.
T.7.1.3 Installation of information boards (ZOO; all Ben)
Description: Information boards, as offline communication tools, will be produced and installed aiming to inform the public about the Project, its objectives, activities and about the target species as well. These will be placed at strategic places which are frequented by visitors (e.g. the headquarters/visitor centres of beneficiaries, Zoo, Budakeszi Wildlife Park) or at specific project sites (at points where the maximum visibility can be achieved).
1. Boards will be produced in A3 format with general information about the project, such as objectives and target species, partners and co-financiers; 18 boards will be produced and installed at the headquarter or visitor centres of the COO and All BEN.
2. Specific, introduction boards will be installed (70x100 cm) in the project (intervention) sites (e.g. ex-situ breeding facilities, reconstruction and reintroduction sites of WP3, WP4, WP5 and WP8) to introduce the different nature conservation interventions for the interested visitors. 21 boards will be produced and installed. A series of EGS information panels (2 pieces of 3-sided boards) on the EGS will be constructed at Batúz-tanya (Batúz farm) project site in parallel with the 'Citellus Garden' (BNPD, in T.3.3). The information boards will include: species description; EGS in Europe and in Hungary; species behaviour; typical habitats; threats, predators; information on reproduction and the rearing of offspring; interactive EGS puzzle. The fact sheets will contain short texts, photos and drawings that children can easily understand. QR codes at the bottom of the boards will point to more detailed pages with scientific text and short videos.
3. By creating a 'Citellus Garden' next to the Batúz farm (BNPD, in T.3.3), a professional presentation of the EGS will also be created to the general public and study groups. To this end, an EGS observation platform will be set up at a height of 4 m. The platform, which can accommodate 20 people, will allow the EGSs to be observed without disturbance, using telescopes and binoculars.
Printed material of information boards will be designed and produced by the Task Coordinator with the assistance of the partnership, regarding the content, layout, etc. The preparation of field frames and the installation will be the task of each Beneficiary.
Expected results: General public will be reached by information boards: general information boards of the project will be produced and installed at the headquarter/visitor centres of the Beneficiaries (18 boards), while specific, outdoor boards will be produced and installed at project sites where project actions (conservation interventions, 'Citellus Garden') are implemented (23 boards) (D7.4). An EGS observation platform parallel with information boards (D7.5) will be constructed at 'Citellus Garden' next to Batúz-tanya project site created in T.3.3.
T.7.1.4 Production and distribution of information materials about the project (aims & activities) (ZOO; all Ben)
Description: A leaflet to introduce the Project for the general public will be prepared in the form of a 3-folded A4 page in 12 000 printed copies (10 000 Hungarian, 1000 Romanian, 1 000 English) and freely accessible online versions. This leaflet will include information both about EGS (description, threats) and the Project (aims, activities). The printed version will be distributed during the public meetings/events (in T.7.1.7, T.7.2.1, T.7.5) and at the frequently populated visitor centres of the Beneficiaries, especially at the very popular Budapest Zoo and Botanical Garden (Zoo) and the Budakeszi Wildlife Park (BVP), which together attract more than 1.5 million visitors per year, respectively.
A roll-up will be designed about the Project and produced for all Beneficiaries (18 copies in Hungarian, 1 Romanian and 3 in English). The roll-ups will be used by Beneficiaries at scientific workshops, conferences and public events as well (in T.7.1.7, T.7.2, T.7.4, T.7.5).
Information materials will be prepared by the Task Coordinator involving all Beneficiaries regarding the content, layout, etc. All materials will be produced centrally by the Task Coordinator and then distributed among Beneficiaries.
Expected results: A leaflet to introduce the project to the general public will be prepared in 12 000 printed copies and digital versions in Hungarian, Romanian and English and will be distributed at public meetings/events, visitor centres of the Beneficiaries (D7.6); A roll-up will be designed about the project and produced for each Beneficiaries (18 copies in Hungarian, 1 Romanian and 3 in English) to be used at scientific workshops, conferences and public events (D7.7).
T.7.1.5. Production and distribution of information and promotional materials about the target species (ZOO; all Ben)
Description: Information and promotional materials are useful tools for raising awareness and disseminating information about the EGS. All these materials will carry the project and LIFE logo and possibly other information about the species. The following materials will be produced:
1. Information materials:
A digital booklet (16 pages, Hungarian, Romanian, English) will be prepared, targeting the general public, about the EGS, its habitat requirements and threatening factors. It will explain the effects of intensive habitat management problems and possible solutions. The brochure will also introduce the goals and activities of the Project and its public benefits.
An education booklet (Hungarian, 24 pages in A5 size, printed in 10 000 copies) will be produced for school children, introducing the ground squirrel, explaining the importance of the protection of endangered species, the problem of invasive species and explaining ex-situ and in-situ conservation methods.

Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025

A comprehensive book on target species will be prepared and published as a thematic volume of the popular Zoo book series in Hungarian (132 pages, in 19 x 21 cm size, printed in 1 000 copies).
The content of the booklets and the book will be provided by HOI's staff, graphical works, editing, printing and distributing them among partners will be tasks of ZOO.
2. Various interactive playsets about EGS will be created, especially for children, but for all ages, which will be used at public events/site visits for the purpose of environmental education and raising awareness about the species and its conservation. The creation of playsets is the task of each partner on their own (HOI, BNPD, BEKE, BVP).
3. Promotional materials will be produced and distributed both for (1) environmental education purposes and for (2) raising awareness of general public on public events about the target species:
- branded notepads with pen (A5, 2 000 pcs.) - for conferences, workshops and forums
- project's T-shirt as staff uniform (200 pcs.)
- fridge magnets with logo (10 000 pcs)
- eco- friendly pens with logo (10 000 pcs.)
- gym bags with logo (2 000 pcs.)
- small plush EGSs (1 000 pcs.)

Expected results: Various information and promotional materials (digital booklet - D7.8; education booklet - D7.9; book - D7.10; interactive playsets about EGS - D7.11; promotional materials - D7.12) will be produced and used to support awareness raising campaigns, education and volunteer programs.
T.7.1.6. Preparation of a project film and cartoon for kids (ZOO; all BEN)
Description:
A 25-minute film will be prepared internally by the Coordinator with the assistance of all other partners, as a documentary of the project, and used to increase the popularity of the protection of the target species. The video will be created in Hungarian, with Romanian and English subtitles. It will be freely available to download via the project webpages. This video will be presented during the public meetings/events and in the visitor centres of the Beneficiaries as well.
2-3 one-minute extracts of the video will be prepared and uploaded to social media platforms.
A 3-minute thematic video about the breeding program of EGS will also be prepared (BVP).
Furthermore, a 3-minute educational cartoon will be prepared for children, also distributed online, used during educational programmes and public events.
Expected results: The produced and both online and offline distributed project film and short videos (D7.13, D.14) will increase the visibility of the overall project and the knowledge about the nature conservation of EGS, in an experiential way. The cartoon (D.15) will increase the awareness and the popularity of the species among children.
T.7.1.7. Awareness raising campaigns (ZOO; all BEN)
Description: Among the project's awareness raising activities, high emphasis will be put on such programmes and events that mean direct, personal interaction with the general public or other stakeholders, which is regarded highly effective in raising awareness and forming their attitude. The following activities are planned:
a) Site visits for the general public: Partner national park directorates will organise site visits for civil groups year to year, 10 trips in total (BNPD: 6; HNPD: 4), as a series of programs aimed at environmental education, with a focus on the EGS. b) Representation at public events: the participation of Beneficiaries at least in 5 public events (e.g. Earth Day, Day of Birds and Trees, World Wildlife Day) annually (35 events in total) in both partner countries, information materials will be distributed.
c) EGS awareness sessions for children (BVP): Complete series of interactive awareness raising presentations for three to ten years old children in their own kindergartens/schools will be compiled and presented in 46 sessions.
Expected results: Higher awareness and knowledge about the importance and conservation issues of EGS will be achieved among the general public and local stakeholders by the implementation of the activities: site visits for the general public (10 trips in total - D7.16); participation of Beneficiaries in numerous public events and sessions presented in kindergartens/schools (35 events & 46 sessions - D7.17).
T.7.1.8. Execution of volunteer programmes and education, partnership with the tourism organisations (HOI, BVP, ZOO)
a. National volunteer monitoring programme (citizen science) of EGS
Description: We will develop and introduce a standard monitoring protocol for non-expert volunteers supported by a smartphone application (D7.18) to guide volunteers through all the data collection process without field expert control (citizen science approach). The development of the monitoring protocol and the use of novel data collection methods will add to the EGS-community building during the project and the engagement of the public in the after-LIFE period, beyond the project area, all in a cost-effective, environment-friendly manner. Starting in the 7th month of the project, we will organise a data collection campaign for volunteers in April each year (7 data collection campaigns during the project), involving at least 50 volunteers per year (at least 350 volunteers in total) in non-personal-guided data collection (D7.19). Since several surveyors work independently in a given area, designated with the involvement of the national park directorates concerned, the data obtained can be validated to ensure data security. The results and their evaluation are sent directly back to the surveyors and published on public media channels. To keep volunteers motivated, we evaluate

Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025

their activities annually and reward the most enthusiastic ones with small prizes. Rewards and personal encounters can yearly take place at smaller events, either organised on their own or as a complement to one of our annual events.

b. Enhancing the visitor's experience of EGS enclosure to increase acceptance of the species

Description: With approximately 1 million visitors per year, the Budapest Zoo and Botanical Garden has been presenting the EGSs for the public for several years. By enhancing the visitor's experience of the enclosure of EGSs, efforts to increase the knowledge and acceptance of the species would create a lasting impression on many more visitors. Bringing the animals close up, even at periods when the species is inactive, would attract more visitors to the EGS enclosure. These positive effects will be achieved by improving the conditions of the presentation (accessibility, visibility by creating a visitor observation platform) and by making invisible details (in parts of the underground burrow system, runways far from visitors) visible to naked eyes (installation of a camera system, electrotechnical improvements, IT and system monitoring improvements, storage, processing, playback and interactive display of camera images) and by the upgrading of the animal welfare and safety of the enclosure, which will be necessary due to the modifications of the original status of the persist enclosure prepared in RAPTORSPREY LIFE project.

c. Promoting EGSs as tourist attractions

Description: One of our goals is to develop a 'tourism marketing and attraction' for the EGS with the help of tourism organisations that can be involved as partners in the promotion and publicity, and in situ presentation of a few selected populations in disturbance tolerant habitats under controlled conditions. At least in 5 sites demonstration sites, where tourism organisations can also be involved, the populations will be presented during their active period as an element of a bigger tourism programme package, so they can get more attention and publicity. Combined with other attractions, the organisations of the affected regions can benefit from the increased popularity (sustainability). Via in situ, direct experiences with the animals, associated with the different kinds of information (information boards, leaflets, oral communication of the local tourism organisations and stakeholders, education activities by the NPDs) they get, visitors (e.g. families on holidays) will be more educated and sensitive to the issues of nature conservation of EGS. The affected local tourism organisations and stakeholders will get knowledge provided by the specialist of the consortium members of the project. In return, the tourism organisations can support the development of the 'tourism marketing and attraction' for the EGS. The demonstration sites will be selected by the NPD's who can find the best non-disturbed habitats where appropriately controlled conditions can be provided from the viewpoint of nature conservation of EGS, ecotourism and environmental education.

Expected results: A standard monitoring protocol will be developed for non-expert volunteers supported by a smartphone application (D7.18). The data collection campaigns organised for volunteers (7 data collection campaigns, at least 350 volunteers in total - D7.19), as direct involvement of volunteers in field work of nature conservation, will highly promote the engagement of participants in conservation of EGS and their habitats. These data collection campaigns will continue beyond the project as well.

The EGS demonstration enclosure (D7.20) will turn into one of the most preferred attractions of the Budapest Zoo, therefore, a higher proportion of the numerous ZOO visitors will spend more time at the enclosure. This direct encounter with wild animals can result in unforgettable experience and greater acceptance for all age groups, too.

In at least 5 sites, the tourism organisations offer a complex tourism programme package that includes the opportunity to visit natural or semi-natural habitats where visitors can observe EGS populations by themselves and in controlled conditions. Additionally, information about EGS and its nature conservation is available in various form (e.g. interactive information boards) for them (D7.21).

T.7.1.9. Layman's report (ZOO; all BEN)

200 copies and a digital version of the Layman's report (8-12 pages) will be prepared on the status of the species, the objectives, activities and achievements of the project. It will be presented in English and Hungarian, Romanian and in paper and electronic format. The report will be distributed in meetings and will be available in PDF format on the project webpages (D7.22).

Expected results: Layman's report will summarise the Project, in English, Hungarian, Romanian and in paper (200 pcs.) and electronic format (D7.22).

T.7.2 Media communication (ZOO; all BEN)

Background: Due to the lack of knowledge and awareness on EGS (as described in T.7.1), a communication campaign for media outlets is essential to reach a wider range of the public and gain their support. Therefore, an extensive and centrally coordinated media communication programme will be carried out, coordinated by the ZOO, with the assistance of all Beneficiaries. Actions will target national, regional and local media and thematic press related to nature, environment and tourism. Activities to inform them about the target species, aims, activities and achievements of the Project are as follows:

Two press conferences (D7.23) will be organised linked to the project's Kick-off meeting (in T.1.1), and the Final conference (in T.7.4.2), as being a cross-cutting activity being part of the project launch and closing events.

T.7.2.1 Field trips to project sites for media representatives

At certain points (e.g. the ex-situ genebank has been established) the media will be informed and journalists will be invited to field trips to the concerned sites to introduce the aims, activities and results of the project.

Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025

At least 8 field demonstration trips (1 BVP - opening of the Citellus garden and the breeding facility; 2 BNPD - Batúz-tanya; 1 HNPD - Pentezug; 4 HOI) will be organised for the press representatives with the coordination of ZOO (D7.24).
T.7.2.2 Media work: Press releases, interviews, social media
A press release will be launched related to both of the press (project's Kick-off and Final) conferences.
Parallel with press conferences and demonstration trips, press releases will be circulated to local and national newspapers, to promote awareness of the project. Press releases will be drafted for major project achievements and ongoing progress (at least 10 press releases: webpage updates, meetings scheduled, etc.) (D7.25).
Media-observer Annual Report will be prepared every year upon the media appearances related to the project (D7.26).
Expected result: National (Hungarian and Romanian), regional, local and thematic media outlets will be informed comprehensively about the target species, aims, activities and achievements of the Project by the press conferences (2 events, D7.23), field trips to project sites for media representatives (D7.24) and regular press releases (D7.25) realised during the project.
T.7.3. Networking with other LIFE and/or non-LIFE projects and exchange of professional experience and materials between countries and partners (HOI; all BEN)
Background: Networking on national and international level, both within and beyond the project partnership, is indispensable to exchange the professional experience, latest knowledge and disseminate the project results and develop a network of experts and stakeholders.
Networking trips/meetings will be organised and will cover the whole partnership.
T.7.3.1. Networking with other LIFE projects (see attached letters of support)
Networking contacts will be established with the following ongoing LIFE projects:
● LIFE-IP GRASSLAND-HU (LIFE17 IPE/HU/000018)
● LIFE21-NAT-HU-LIFE SakerRoads (101074704)
● LIFE SYSEL (LIFE19 NAT/SK/001069) Exchange of experience in Slovakia, Czech Republic and Poland
● LIFE Danube free sky LIFE19 NAT/SK/001023
● LIFE IP HungAIRy (LIFE17 IPE/HU/000017)
● 'Safeguarding the core population of Saker falcon in Romania' (PRO SAKER LIFE)
● Innovative management of Pannonic salt steppes and loess grasslands to benefit plants, insects and birds (LIFEforBUGS&BIRDS), LIFE20NAT/HU/001404
It is especially important to cooperate with the LIFE projects that include activities directly or indirectly related to the EGS (in other region of its distribution area: LIFE SYSEL; as an important prey of Saker falcon: LIFE21-NAT-HU-LIFE SakerRoads, PRO SAKER LIFE; as a member of the Pannonian grassland ecosystems: GRASSLAND-HU) to exchange knowledge, build upon each other's achievements and to mutually support the implementation of nature conservation activities (see annexed letters of support).
Emphasis will be also put on the knowledge exchange with environmental related projects (such as LIFE IP HungAIRy) in order to maximise the co-benefits in environmental protection arisen from our nature conservation focused activities (e.g. climate change, CO2 fixation).
T.7.3.2. Networking with other non-LIFE projects/institutions and exchanges knowledge between partners
a. The Hungarian team (HOI, all BEN) will provide an in-situ training and demonstration of the UAV methodology (see details in T.2.2.1 and T.6.1.2) for partner and non-partner field experts (especially for NPDs). The trainings will be held in the 2nd project year, on 2-5 occasions as necessary (D7.27).
b. Field workshops for project team members will be organised (CER, all BEN) to share results and experiences related to the project. These workshops will be held once a year, each at different project sites (7 events in total) (D7.28).
c. A Bulletin of the EGS will be compiled (CER). It will appear in 2 issues per year (14 issues during the project) (D7.29) and will publish news of EGS, its projects and summaries of scientific articles. It will be freely available from the project's webpages and circulated among researchers and nature conservationists working with EGS to enhance exchange of knowledge and effective cooperation on a European level.
d. Within Hungary and Romania networking is also planned with several state institutions and civil organisations from different fields, to enhance knowledge exchange, dissemination of project results and to promote the involvement of other stakeholders in the Project. Such institutions/organisation are as follows: non-partner national park directorates, Group of Experts of Blind Mole Rat and European Ground Squirrel Protection, Hungarian Chamber of Agriculture, Hungarian Natural History Museum, Budapest Zoo and Botanical Garden, Birdlife Hungary, Szalakóta Association, Nature Conservation Association of Vadonleső Society, Transylvanian Carpathian Association, eLTER (see attached letters of support). We aim to network with project staff and local agricultural producers and engage in a dialogue aiming to bridge some of the gaps between agricultural production and biodiversity conservation, focusing on local ground squirrel colonies.
Expected results: Some activities (field trainings, 2-5 occasions - D7.27; workshops, 7 events in total - D7.28) will focus especially on project team members that will strengthen the exchange of experience and cooperation among the partners. Other networking activities that target non-partner projects/institutions (in T.7.3.1, T.7.3.2) will result in an enhanced knowledge exchange, dissemination of project results and strengthening of cooperation in the conservation of EGS, on a

Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025

broader, national and international level. These networking activities will also contribute to the long-term sustainability and replicability of the results and achievement of the project.
T.7.4 Dissemination of scientific results/publications of the project's scientific results (HOI, UD, CER, BEKE, MILVUS)
Background: Dissemination of project results among the scientific and nature conservation community could be achieved by scientific publications, participation in and organisation of workshops, conferences. In the frame of the project the following activities are planned.
T.7.4.1 Publications of the results (HOI, UD, CER, BEKE, BVP)
At least 3 scientific papers throughout the project time will be published in national and international scientific journals (D7.30).
T.7.4.2 Participation in and organisation of conferences (HOI, all BEN)
The activities and results of the project will be presented at professional/scientific conferences (D7.31).
The participation in the following conferences are foreseen:
1. EGS Meetings with a scientific issue/achievement of the project in 2025 in Karlovy Vary
2. European Congress of Conservation Biology in 2026 (location still unknown)
3. ECM (European Congress of Mammalogy) in 2027
4. Hungarian Conservation Biology Congress in 2026 and 2028
5. Annual Meeting of the Hungarian Mammalogists, every year
The organisation of the following conferences is foreseen:
1. EGS Meeting in Hungary (planned in 2029), organised by HOI
The aim of the scientific meeting is to bring together scientists and conservationists from all over Europe working in different fields of EGS biology and conservation. The event will provide an opportunity to present new scientific findings and conservation management experiences and practices related to this rodent species. Invited researchers will also present and discuss their research results and future perspectives. The meeting will also provide an opportunity for friendly meetings and fruitful discussions. The organisers strongly encourage an integrative approach, guaranteed by the wide range of topics covered (e.g. biogeography, ecology, behaviour, in situ and ex situ reproduction, physiology, genetics and conservation) (D7.32).
2. Final conference of the project will be organised by HOI at the end of its duration, to present the new results, conservation management experiences and practices related to the Project (D7.33). The scientists and nature conservationists from all over the project countries will be invited to this event to disseminate our findings among scientists or conservationists working in other fields of nature conservation as well.
Expected results: Scientists and conservationists will be familiarised with the results of the project on EGS conservation and innovative methods, techniques, protocols developed and used, by scientific publications (at least 3 scientific papers published in national and international scientific journals - D7.30), participation in several scientific conferences (at least 5 national and international conferences - D7.31) and organisation of 2 scientific events (D7.32, D7.33). These activities will also promote that the results and methods can be used and replicated in future.

## Work package WP8 – Sustainability, replication and exploitation of project results

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Work Package Number** | WP8 | **Lead Beneficiary** | 7 - CER |
| **Work Package Name** | Sustainability, replication and exploitation of project results | | |
| **Start Month** | 3 | **End Month** | 87 |

| **Objectives** |
|---|
| Development (and report) of an Action Plan regarding the management of EGS under the effects of climate change in the Pannonian region. (T.8.1) (D8.1)<br>Aspects of the EGS conservation are integrated into the planning processes of different sectors by the help of an action plan (D8.2) developed and shared digitally in the Project for decision makers. (T.8.2) (MS17)<br>Conflicts of interest between endangered animal and plant species in the same habitat will be resolved by the help of an action plan (D8.3) developed for decision makers and spread in the Project. (T.8.3) (D8.3)<br>Making stakeholders financially interested in the protection of EGS by a baseline study for the Ministry of Agriculture with technical recommendations (D8.4) for the development of EGS-friendly grassland management practices in Hungary. (T.8.4)<br>The advisory service about ground squirrels established under the Grassland Conservation Management Advisory Service in Hungary (D8.5) will lead to greater awareness and better communication of all stakeholders and regardless of the protected status of sites, it will make EGS sites control more effective. (T.8.5) |

Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025

In order to ensure that the good practices developed during the Project would also be accepted internationally, an 'International EGS Technical Committee' (D8.6) will be established early in the implementation process with specialist members from the whole distribution area of the EGS. (T.8.6)(D8.7)
Based on the results and findings of the Project, the revision and updating of Hungarian EGS Species Action Plan (D8.8) will be carried out. (T.8.7)
In order to ensure sustainability of suburban EGS colonies by managing human-EGS conflicts, complex interactive campaigns needed with site-specific action plans (D8.9) and awareness raising campaigns. (D8.10) (T.8.8)
For after LIFE suitability, an After-LIFE Conservation Plan (D8.11) will be delivered. (T.8.9)

**Description**

Sustainability and Replication Strategy was prepared (see Annex) and will be updated throughout the Project period to canalise these activities of the CitellusLIFE Project.
T.8.1 Development of an Action Plan regarding the management of EGS under the effects of climate change in the Pannonian region (CER, UD, BEKE, HOI, MILVUS)
Background: The negative effects of climate change on endangered species have already become evident in many cases. However, in the case of EGS, we have no reliable information how the changing climate and the increasingly frequent extreme weather events affect the long-term survival of the species (or even the population of the Pannonian region). In the case of EGS, climate change has physiological, behavioural and habitat suitability aspects with a high probability. Furthermore, the influence of these factors on survival can significantly vary seasonally. This knowledge is indispensable for the implementation of habitat management measures (e.g. in WP4), the identification of endangered populations, and the selection of locations for the establishment of new populations (e.g. in WP5). Even after initial translocations, these factors are likely to influence the nature and period of resettlement of individuals, determining the success of colonisation and the long-term sustainability. The knowledge gained in this task will be integrated into the EGS 'Colony Logsheets' developed in task T.2.2.1 (D2.2).
T.8.1.1 Analysing the physiological effects of climate change on EGS (direct measurements on individuals)
Description: By determining the physiological climatic tolerance of ground squirrels, it is possible to predict how they will react to different predicted scenarios of climate change in the future. In other words, results of these analyses will help us predict areas suitable for the survival of the species in the Pannonian region. This knowledge will be utilised for the nature conservation planning, prioritisation and practical nature conservation work.
The stress-tolerant EGS individuals of the captive breeding stock of the HNPD ex-situ conservation facilities (T.3.2.2) will be involved in the physiological measurements. Determining the basal metabolic rate at different ambient temperatures will help to understand how ground squirrels respond to different temperature regimes, mimicking temperature extremes and fluctuations i.e. a changing climate. The findings of this task will help us predict under which changes ground squirrels are able to survive in their recent habitats and how their current distribution area is expected to transform in the event of the realisation of different scenarios of climate change. This knowledge is crucial in planning and implementation of conservation interventions (e.g. in T.5.1 or WP4, WP5) and will be used for developing EGS Climate Change Action Plan for the Pannonian region (D8.1).
Expected results: Physiological effects of climate change on EGS (primarily tolerance to temperature extremes) will serve as a supplement to the EGS friendly management action plan D8.2 (in T.8.2). It also serves as input to implement population protection nature conservation interventions (e.g. in WP4, WP5).
T.8.1.2 Analysing the effects of extreme weather events on the population trend of EGS
Description: Collection of population trend data from previous years (e.g. in T.2.2.1, and from HBMS in T.6.1.1) and comparison with meteorological data to clarify whether extreme weather events had a demonstrable effect on the population trend of EGS.
This task will supply information for the predicted effects of climate change on population trends. The results will be incorporated as a risk into the EGS friendly management action plan D8.2 (T.8.2) and taken into account when planning nature conservation interventions (e.g. WP5). Furthermore, this task will contribute to target area selection for translocation actions (T.5.1.3) and offer valuable insight into the construction of the threat map (T.5.1.1).
Expected results: Result can be used for developing EGS Climate Change Action Plan for the Pannonian region (D8.1), for target area selection for translocation actions (T.5.1.3) and the construction of the threat map (T.5.1.1).
T.8.1.3 Assessment of the effect of climate change on the EGS's habitats suitability
Description: This task will identify environmental parameters of recently depopulated ground squirrel habitats, which can be linked to the effects of climate change. Through the identification of the environmental parameters that can be traced back to the effects of climate change and led to the depopulation of EGS habitats, the vulnerability of the existing ground squirrel populations can be assessed. These all provide important help when planning actions aimed at establishing new EGS populations during the selection of target sites (T.5.1.3) and in other projects. The data will also provide important information when taking steps to manage EGS habitats and preserve colonies.
Expected results: Summary of the results of the assessment of the effects of climate change on the EGS's habitats

Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025

suitability will be prepared. Based on the results of T.8.1.2, T.8.1.3 and T.8.1.4, an analysis on the vulnerability of EGS regarding the effects of different climate change scenarios will be carried out and incorporated into the EGS Climate Change Action Plan for the Pannonian region (D8.1).

T.8.2 Development of an action plan for decision makers regarding the survival of ground squirrels in the Pannonian region (based on the analysis of the risk posed by insufficient conservation measures) (HOI, CER, UD, BEKE, ZOO, MILVUS)

Background: We already have much information about the affecting factors on EGS populations from the results of earlier scientific studies, RAPTORSPREYLIFE experiences and traditional knowledge. In the light of the results and experiences of WP2, WP3, WP4 and WP5 this information will be compiled and completed. Knowledge-based decisions in the field of agriculture, regional development, water management or even in nature conservation are crucial for the survival of EGS in all of its distribution areas.

Description: Based on the results and experiences of WP2, WP3, WP4 and WP5, complemented by earlier scientific results and literature data, a multidisciplinary analysis will be carried out to determine the risks posed by insufficient measures for the survival of EGS in the Pannonian region (MS17). The results of the analysis will be summarised into an action plan developed for decision makers (D8.2) reviewing the management practices in different sectors, describing the ones to avoid vs. the preferred ones.

By mapping the ground squirrel colonies and compiling the acquired data into the EGS ‘Colony Logsheet’ system (T.2.2.1) (D2.2), as well as identifying and listing the threatening factors posing a threat to the mapped colonies (T.2.2.2), we will be able to realistically assess the danger that the disappearance of these populations represents in terms of the survival of ground squirrels in the region. The action plan will be spread for the Ministry of Agriculture, IUCN, IPBES via forums, white paper, online and personal communication tools.

Expected results: An action plan for decision makers will be developed and spread in digital form (D8.2, MS17).

In the action plan, we will make recommendations for the effective preservation of these particularly endangered local populations. In this way, we enable the decision makers to use the latest results and facts contained in the action plan during future measures. Thus, the aspects of the EGS conservation are integrated into the planning processes of the various fields and the interests of the EGS are also able to manifest during the implementation measures.

T.8.3 Preparation of guidelines for developing consistent measures for ground squirrels with the conservation requirements of other protected species (animals and plants) (CER, UD, HOI, BEKE, MILVUS)

Background: EGSs share their habitat with many other natural treasures of outstanding value at the community or national/international level. At the same time, nature conservation interventions carried out for the sake of certain species may not be beneficial for the survival of others (e.g. for EGS). Due to lack of communication and cooperation between species experts, other researchers, e.g. botanists and protected area managers, grazing and mowing regimes of EGS sites are often inconsistent and hard to set out.

Therefore, it is necessary to coordinate the protection efforts and to formulate the criteria and rules that ensure that interventions that are not advantageous for the survival of the EGS cannot take place in the EGS habitats.

Description: This task will be implemented by developing a database, listing other outstanding species in the habitats of EGSs. The conservation plans and protection activities of these species will be reviewed in order to identify what habitat management interventions are required for their survival. This task will offer a way for these interventions to be harmonised while, at the same time, putting forward compromising solutions, in order to support dry grassland ecosystems to survive in the specific areas.

Expected results: Based on the outcome of this task an action plan (D8.3) with general and area-specific recommendations will be prepared for the implementation of interventions that promote the preservation of all species of conservation importance will be developed for decision makers and spread in digital form. Conflicts of interest between endangered animal and plant species in the same habitat can be resolved by the guidance of this action plan.

T.8.4 Feasibility study for the development of an agricultural support scheme for EGSs (BNPD, HOI, HNPD, CER, UD)

Background: The different agricultural support schemes encourage farmers to change the way they farm, especially regarding the timing and intensity of the different activities (mowing, grazing). In many cases, these agricultural support schemes are not in line with ensuring the quality and structure of grasslands suitable for EGS. For these reasons, ensuring an appropriate management system for grasslands occupied and used by EGS is a priority.

Description: Based on the experiences gained from the Project, we will prepare a technical recommendation to the Ministry of Agriculture in Hungary for the development of EGS-friendly grassland management practices for compensatory payments and standards for Natura 2000 agricultural areas. This will go into detail on how to graze cattle, sheep, goats, donkeys and horses, how to avoid overgrazing, how to use nature-friendly options for nutrient replenishment, how to time and space mowing in the areas, and how to store fiber fodder after mowing. Particular attention will be paid to preventing the establishment or spread of invasive and alien plant species, and to the possibilities of mechanical control or the application of specific pesticides to reduce their populations.

Expected results: The handover of a baseline study with technical recommendations for the development of EGS-friendly grassland management practices (technical report document D8.4) for the Ministry of Agriculture (see annexed letter of support) and consultation on the possibility of inclusion in compensation payments and standards for Natura 2000

Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025

agricultural areas which would provide farmers with financial incentives to implement nature-friendly management on their land. Making stakeholders financially interested in the protection of EGS would be one of the most effective ways to spread good habitat management.

T.8.5 Development of an advisory service about EGSs for conservation bodies, the general public, farmers, airport- and water managers using communications channels of the Grassland Conservation Management Advisory Service in Hungary (BEKE, CER, UD, HOI, NPDs, ZOO)

Background: The Grassland Conservation Management Advisory Service (GCMAS) has been established under the GRASSLAND-HU IP LIFE project in Hungary. It is basically responsible for reconciling the demands of agriculture with the conservation of biodiversity and providing farming practices that support conservation-friendly grassland management. It operates at national level as a network, and offers its services free of charge. The GCMAS, contrary to what its name suggests, is not a single entity, not an official institution, but rather a group of professionals who advise farmers and other land users on how to plan, finance and manage agricultural activities in a way that is better suited to the land. Under the frame of GCMAS an advisory service will be developed (D8.5) at the beginning of the actual Project with the help of the beneficiaries' staff and volunteers to provide advice for farmers, hunters and other stakeholders working within the Project area about EGS-friendly management issues. This task will also further develop the successful work of the similar advisory service of the previous RAPTORSPREYLIFE (LIFE13/NAT/HU/00183) project, largely building on its experiences.

Although the ground squirrel has been (strictly) protected in Hungary for a long time, in many cases decisions are not made in the interest of this species at all, and in fact, interventions that are unfavourable for the species are often carried out in its habitats. Through the above described activities, the advisory service will work towards overcoming this undesirable situation.

Description: Using the working communication channels of the GCMAS, the name and contact address of the local EGS advisors will be displayed on the different information materials (leaflets, posters etc.). GCMAS advisors will be trained for the specialties of EGS-friendly management issues and they, together with the specialists of the CitellusLIFE consortium, will meet regularly with local farmers on the field and at forums, too. They will also contact the local farm advisors. They will introduce EGSs to the stakeholders and explain their habits, preference of land use, conservation importance and how they can benefit from them. They will also introduce the accessible agri-environment schemes (T.8.4).

One of the important tasks of the advisory service is to connect colleagues with experience and knowledge related to ground squirrels within the nature conservation profession, for the sake of more effective knowledge transfer and professional cooperation. In addition, to introduce them to the case managers of all concerned NPD's dealing with EGS cases and issues, in order to ensure that the most effective solutions (already proven elsewhere) are applied in cases involving the target species for the effective protection of the EGS.

Expected results: Improved awareness and better communication of all stakeholders, and more efficient control of EGS sites, regardless of their protection status by developed advisory service (D8.5).

T.8.6 Work out the 'EGS Conservation Safety Net' ('EGSNet') system for EGS populations ensuring suitable management of the species (HOI, all BEN)

Background: The key to the global survival of the EGS lies in a coordination activity – figuratively speaking – in 'stretching' of an 'EGS Conservation Safety Net' ('EGSNet'). This means that, except the relatively few cases where natural connectivity can and should be secured by maintaining or creating ecological corridors, natural migration between local populations must be replaced by artificial interventions. These will be achieved by a range of other conservation measures, different development activities and field interventions for the benefit of the species. All these activities should be carried out in a coordinated manner across the entire EGS population.

T.8.6.1 Set up the 'EGSNet' system and develop its coordinated strategy and start the implementation process

Description: Development of the 'EGSNet' system for EGS populations, based on the 'Colony Logsheets' set up in T.2.2.1, elaboration of a coordinated strategy to ensure survival of the EGS and start the implementation process. Throughout the workout of the strategy, special knowledge of the 'International EGS Technical Committee' set up in T.8.6.2 will be involved.

Expected results: A consensus strategy will be elaborated about the implemention and working of 'EGSNet' all across EGS distribution area, demonstratively in the Pannonian region (D8.6).

T.8.6.2 Set up the 'International EGS Technical Committee'

Description: In order to ensure that the good practices developed during the Project are also known and accepted in the areas outside the Pannonian region, an 'International EGS Technical Committee' will be established early in the implementation process, with the participation of professional representatives from all EU and non-EU countries concerned. As we intend to involve the established Committee in the early stages of the professional development of the 'EGSNet', the two-way transfer of knowledge will ensure the acceptance of the system and thus the broad international application of the results. In addition, this activity will become a long-term sustainable tool for the conservation of the EGS world population.

Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025

Expected results: The ‘International EGS Technical Committee’ is founded with international specialist members and self-accepted operating rules (D8.7).

T.8.7 Updating Hungarian EGS Species Action Plan (HOI, BEKE, UD, CER, BNPD, HNPD)

Background: As a task of the running GRASSLAND-HU IP LIFE project, an EGS Species Action Plan (SAP) is under preparation. The plan will be expectedly accepted by the Hungarian Ministry of Agriculture in the end of 2024 or in the beginning of 2025. Authors of the EGS SAP are the specialists of the consortium of the actual CitellusLIFE Project too. The action plan will contain all of the up-to-date knowledge about EGS in the present and its findings are also built into the planning of CitellusLIFE Project tasks. The regular review period of the EGS Species Action Plan is five years, so it will be actual in 2030 or 2031.

Description: Based on the results and findings of the whole CitellusLIFE Project, the revision and updating of Hungarian EGS Species Action Plan will be implemented in the last years of the Project by the coordination of HOI.

Expected results: An updated EGS Species Action Plan will be prepared and offered for acceptance for the Ministry of Agriculture, Hungary (D8.8)

T.8.8 Ensure sustainability of suburban EGS colonies by manage human-ground squirrel conflicts with complex interactive campaigns (HOI; UD, HNPD, KNPD, MILVUS, BVP, CER)

Background: It is not rare that EGS colonies exist inside or neighbouring a village, a city or even Budapest metropolis. There are many special threats and pressures posed to these colonies because of close and intense human presence. One of the most serious examples of a potential conflict situation is the shortening of feeding periods in colonies caused by the presence of humans or other household animals, perceived as predators by the ground squirrels. Local recreational activities, biking, horse riding, gliding, dog walking or even cats coming out from the houses or mixes of these activities can be specific to some of the colonies. The COVID-19 pandemic only further strengthened the problem, as many people compensated for the shock caused by the end of community life by spending time in nature, which put enormous pressure on natural habitats in or near cities (this situation still exists).

Description: The first step to make human-EGS interactions more favourable is proper communication with the local community. So, a sufficient (size-dependent) number of information boards will be installed aiming to inform the local public about the EGS population, the needs of EGS and the proper EGS-friendly human behaviour in the area (27 infoboard at 5 sites). The passive communication will be completed through yearly (just before the active season start) events near the affected EGS areas (at least 20 events in total, D8.10). These will be organised with the involvement of the local ranger service, NGOs and other relevant organisations (e.g. local municipalities, airfield operators, tourist agencies) carrying out an all-day awareness raising campaign with games for children, competitions, coupled with the spread of information materials and promotional/dissemination materials. On the other hand, in a local working group with the participation of local NPD, rangers, NGOs, municipalities and researchers a site-specific action plan will be designed and implemented to help to ease the pressure posed onto the EGS colonies, thus securing a long-term viability. Urban site-specific action plans (D8.9) will be composed for every site, involving all of the concerned actors (NPD, municipality, local NGOs, local people, hunters, sport clubs, land users etc. by necessity). The action plan will contain the specific communication features, timing, assign duties to actors, possibly prompting measures to be taken or restrictions, should the situation prove to be grave.

Preliminary selected suburban sites, their specific issues and mitigating measures are:

1. Hármashatárhegy Airport (HOI): 6 information board (with the same information); part of protected site Budai Landscape Protection Area; partial and temporal dog walking restriction, yearly one field event in springtime to raise awareness through the Project.
2. Mátyásföld Airport (HOI): (not a protected area); 4 information boards (with the same information); yearly one field event in springtime to raise awareness through the Project.
3. Nagykőrös Marketplace (HOI): (not a protected area); 1 information board; awareness raising.
4. Nagykálló-Harangod (HNPD): 2 information boards; awareness raising.
5. Jászapáti (HNPD): 1 information board; awareness raising.

One additional site (for a newly explored suburban EGS population (2 information boards).

Expected results: Urban site-specific action plans will be prepared (D8.9) and implemented for each site. Furthermore, awareness raising events will be organised, yearly (20 events, 1,000 visitors in total), at each selected urban site (D8.10). Selected EGS colonies will be strengthened and the local community will be informed about the up-to-date status of it. Awareness raising campaigns will help the local people to understand their personal responsibility in the maintenance of the local EGS colony and will create an EGS-friendly attitude for them. Methods and protocols will be worked out for knowledge transfer and upscaling. Through all this, long-term survival of the selected suburban colonies will be ensured.

T.8.9 After - LIFE conservation plan (HOI, all BEN)

Background: In the After-LIFE conservation plan, we will select the Project actions that we are able to continue for another five years (or beyond) to ensure their sustainability. Examples of such Project actions that can be continued include monitoring, breeding, habitat management, continued grazing, eradication of invasive plants and shrubs, awareness raising campaigns, education and volunteer programmes of EGS.

Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025

Description: After-LIFE conservation plan will be prepared.
The Plan will describe how the sustainability of the Project results will be achieved and, where possible, will indicate the procedure of how the Project actions will be continued after the closing of the Project. The plan will include a description on how the longer-term management of the Project sites will be assured.
An After-LIFE Conservation Plan (D8.11) will be delivered as a separate document, together with the Final Report.
Expected results: An After-LIFE Conservation Plan (D8.11) will be delivered.

Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025

# STAFF EFFORT

**Staff effort per participant**

*Grant Preparation (Work packages - Effort screen) — Enter the info.*

| Participant | WP1 | WP2 | WP3 | WP4 | WP5 | WP6 | WP7 | WP8 | Total Person-Months |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 - HOI | 81.00 | 72.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 73.00 | 53.00 | 62.00 | 30.00 | 377.00 |
| 2 - ZOO | 8.00 | | 46.00 | | 42.00 | 7.00 | 194.00 | 2.00 | 299.00 |
| 3 - BVP | 6.00 | | 285.00 | | | | 23.00 | | 314.00 |
| 4 - BEKE | 3.00 | 27.00 | | | 18.00 | 19.00 | 8.00 | 7.00 | 82.00 |
| 5 - BNPD | 6.00 | 8.00 | 6.00 | 110.00 | 24.00 | 17.00 | 10.00 | 1.00 | 182.00 |
| 6 - HNPD | 24.00 | 3.00 | 7.00 | 18.00 | 11.00 | 24.00 | 10.00 | 2.00 | 99.00 |
| 7 - CER | 17.00 | 42.00 | | | 64.00 | 69.00 | 18.00 | 20.00 | 230.00 |
| 8 - MILVUS | 49.00 | 18.00 | | | 31.00 | 22.00 | 27.00 | 17.00 | 164.00 |
| **Total Person-Months** | 194.00 | 170.00 | 347.00 | 131.00 | 263.00 | 211.00 | 352.00 | 79.00 | 1747.00 |

Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025

# LIST OF DELIVERABLES

**Deliverables**

*Grant Preparation (Deliverables screen) — Enter the info.*

*The labels used mean:*

*Public — fully open (⚠ automatically posted online)*
*Sensitive — limited under the conditions of the Grant Agreement*
*EU classified —RESTREINT-UE/EU-RESTRICTED, CONFIDENTIEL-UE/EU-CONFIDENTIAL, SECRET-UE/EU-SECRET under Decision 2015/444*

| Deliverable No | Deliverable Name | Work Package No | Lead Beneficiary | Type | Dissemination Level | Due Date (month) |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| D1.1 | Kick-off meeting | WP1 | 1 - HOI | R — Document, report | PU - Public | 3 |
| D1.2 | Digital Project Handbook | WP1 | 1 - HOI | R — Document, report | PU - Public | 3 |
| D1.3 | Annual Evaluation meetings | WP1 | 1 - HOI | R — Document, report | PU - Public | 84 |
| D1.4 | 1st Progress Report (PR1) | WP1 | 1 - HOI | R — Document, report | PU - Public | 27 |
| D1.5 | 2nd Progress Report (PR2) | WP1 | 1 - HOI | R — Document, report | PU - Public | 63 |
| D1.6 | Kick-off Steering Committee meeting | WP1 | 1 - HOI | R — Document, report | PU - Public | 5 |
| D1.7 | First report on cumulative expenditure | WP1 | 1 - HOI | R — Document, report | PU - Public | 3 |
| D1.8 | Second report on cumulative expenditure | WP1 | 1 - HOI | R — Document, report | PU - Public | 15 |
| D1.9 | Third report on cumulative expenditure | WP1 | 1 - HOI | R — Document, report | PU - Public | 27 |
| D1.10 | Fourth report on cumulative expenditure | WP1 | 1 - HOI | R — Document, report | PU - Public | 39 |
| D1.11 | Fifth report on cumulative expenditure | WP1 | 1 - HOI | R — Document, report | PU - Public | 51 |
| D1.12 | Sixth report on cumulative expenditure | WP1 | 1 - HOI | R — Document, report | PU - Public | 63 |
| D1.13 | Seventh report on cumulative expenditure | WP1 | 1 - HOI | R — Document, report | PU - Public | 75 |
| D1.14 | Steering Committee meetings | WP1 | 1 - HOI | R — Document, report | PU - Public | 84 |

Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025

**Deliverables**

*Grant Preparation (Deliverables screen) — Enter the info.*

*The labels used mean:*

*Public — fully open (⚠ automatically posted online)*
*Sensitive — limited under the conditions of the Grant Agreement*
*EU classified —RESTREINT-UE/EU-RESTRICTED, CONFIDENTIEL-UE/EU-CONFIDENTIAL, SECRET-UE/EU-SECRET under Decision 2015/444*

| Deliverable No | Deliverable Name | Work Package No | Lead Beneficiary | Type | Dissemination Level | Due Date (month) |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| D2.1 | Distribution and conservation status of EGS in Project sites | WP2 | 1 - HOI | DATA — data sets, microdata, etc | PU - Public | 14 |
| D2.2 | 'Colony Logsheets' database | WP2 | 1 - HOI | DATA — data sets, microdata, etc | PU - Public | 14 |
| D2.3 | Standard Protocol of Suitability Characterization | WP2 | 1 - HOI | DEM — Demonstrator, pilot, prototype | PU - Public | 25 |
| D2.4 | EGS habitat suitability database | WP2 | 1 - HOI | DATA — data sets, microdata, etc | PU - Public | 25 |
| D2.5 | Depopulated EGS habitats | WP2 | 7 - CER | DATA — data sets, microdata, etc | PU - Public | 25 |
| D3.1 | Documentation of ex-situ breeding facilities at BVP | WP3 | 3 - BVP | R — Document, report | PU - Public | 20 |
| D3.2 | Documentation of ex-situ breeding facilities at HNPD | WP3 | 6 - HNPD | R — Document, report | PU - Public | 18 |
| D4.1 | Control of predators | WP4 | 5 - BNPD | R — Document, report | PU - Public | 87 |
| D4.2 | Conversion of habitats from arable land to grassland | WP4 | 6 - HNPD | R — Document, report | PU - Public | 84 |
| D4.3 | Removal of native shrubs | WP4 | 6 - HNPD | R — Document, report | PU - Public | 87 |
| D4.4 | Annual reports on IAS management | WP4 | 6 - HNPD | R — Document, report | PU - Public | 87 |

Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025

**Deliverables**

*Grant Preparation (Deliverables screen) — Enter the info.*

*The labels used mean:*

*Public — fully open (⚠ automatically posted online)*
*Sensitive — limited under the conditions of the Grant Agreement*
*EU classified —RESTREINT-UE/EU-RESTRICTED, CONFIDENTIEL-UE/EU-CONFIDENTIAL, SECRET-UE/EU-SECRET under Decision 2015/444*

| Deliverable No | Deliverable Name | Work Package No | Lead Beneficiary | Type | Dissemination Level | Due Date (month) |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| D5.1 | Pannonian EGS threat map | WP5 | 1 - HOI | DATA — data sets, microdata, etc | PU - Public | 45 |
| D5.2 | Suitable target areas for reintroduction/ translocation | WP5 | 1 - HOI | R — Document, report | PU - Public | 78 |
| D5.3 | Available, vital source populations | WP5 | 1 - HOI | R — Document, report | PU - Public | 78 |
| D5.4 | Annual Reintroduction Plan | WP5 | 1 - HOI | R — Document, report | PU - Public | 78 |
| D5.5 | Database of relocations/reintroductions in Hungary | WP5 | 1 - HOI | DATA — data sets, microdata, etc | PU - Public | 84 |
| D5.6 | EGS state report to the Romanian authority | WP5 | 8 - MILVUS | R — Document, report | PU - Public | 81 |
| D5.7 | EGS state report to the Hungarian authority | WP5 | 1 - HOI | R — Document, report | PU - Public | 81 |
| D5.8 | Updated Standard Data Forms of HUBN20069, HUFH20003, HUHN20010 sites | WP5 | 1 - HOI | R — Document, report | PU - Public | 84 |
| D6.1 | Telemetry monitoring database | WP6 | 1 - HOI | DATA — data sets, microdata, etc | PU - Public | 87 |
| D6.2 | Reproduction success monitoring protocol | WP6 | 1 - HOI | R — Document, report | PU - Public | 27 |
| D6.3 | Midterm reproduction success database | WP6 | 1 - HOI | DATA — data sets, microdata, etc | PU - Public | 64 |
| D6.4 | Updated trend analysis | WP6 | 4 - BEKE | R — Document, report | PU - Public | 64 |

Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025

**Deliverables**

*Grant Preparation (Deliverables screen) — Enter the info.*

*The labels used mean:*

*Public — fully open (⚠ automatically posted online)*
*Sensitive — limited under the conditions of the Grant Agreement*
*EU classified —RESTREINT-UE/EU-RESTRICTED, CONFIDENTIEL-UE/EU-CONFIDENTIAL, SECRET-UE/EU-SECRET under Decision 2015/444*

| Deliverable No | Deliverable Name | Work Package No | Lead Beneficiary | Type | Dissemination Level | Due Date (month) |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| D6.5 | Habitat reconstruction interventions database | WP6 | 1 - HOI | DATA — data sets, microdata, etc | PU - Public | 64 |
| D6.6 | Report on stakeholders' awareness status changes throughout the Project | WP6 | 1 - HOI | R — Document, report | PU - Public | 84 |
| D6.7 | Extract of the Project data from the LIFE KPI webtool1 | WP6 | 1 - HOI | R — Document, report | SEN - Sensitive | 9 |
| D6.8 | Extract of the Project data from the LIFE KPI webtool2 | WP6 | 1 - HOI | R — Document, report | SEN - Sensitive | 86 |
| D7.1 | Project logo and visual identity guideline | WP7 | 2 - ZOO | R — Document, report | PU - Public | 5 |
| D7.2 | Project webpages on beneficiaries' websites | WP7 | 2 - ZOO | DEC —Websites, patent filings, videos, etc | PU - Public | 5 |
| D7.3 | Social media profiles of the Project | WP7 | 2 - ZOO | DEC —Websites, patent filings, videos, etc | PU - Public | 5 |
| D7.4 | Information boards | WP7 | 2 - ZOO | DEM — Demonstrator, pilot, prototype | PU - Public | 44 |
| D7.5 | EGS observation platform at 'Citellus garden' next to Batúz-tanya | WP7 | 5 - BNPD | DEM — Demonstrator, pilot, prototype | PU - Public | 36 |
| D7.6 | Project leaflet | WP7 | 2 - ZOO | R — Document, report | PU - Public | 15 |
| D7.7 | Project roll-up | WP7 | 2 - ZOO | DEM — Demonstrator, pilot, prototype | PU - Public | 8 |

Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025

**Deliverables**

*Grant Preparation (Deliverables screen) — Enter the info.*

*The labels used mean:*

*Public — fully open (⚠ automatically posted online)*
*Sensitive — limited under the conditions of the Grant Agreement*
*EU classified —RESTREINT-UE/EU-RESTRICTED, CONFIDENTIEL-UE/EU-CONFIDENTIAL, SECRET-UE/EU-SECRET under Decision 2015/444*

| Deliverable No | Deliverable Name | Work Package No | Lead Beneficiary | Type | Dissemination Level | Due Date (month) |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| D7.8 | Booklet for general public, about the EGS | WP7 | 2 - ZOO | R — Document, report | PU - Public | 15 |
| D7.9 | Education booklet for school children | WP7 | 2 - ZOO | R — Document, report | PU - Public | 15 |
| D7.10 | Thematic book | WP7 | 2 - ZOO | R — Document, report | PU - Public | 48 |
| D7.11 | Interactive playsets on EGS | WP7 | 2 - ZOO | DEM — Demonstrator, pilot, prototype | PU - Public | 44 |
| D7.12 | Promotional materials | WP7 | 2 - ZOO | DEM — Demonstrator, pilot, prototype | PU - Public | 44 |
| D7.13 | Project film and extracts | WP7 | 2 - ZOO | DEC —Websites, patent filings, videos, etc | PU - Public | 82 |
| D7.14 | Thematic video about the breeding program at BVP | WP7 | 3 - BVP | DEC —Websites, patent filings, videos, etc | PU - Public | 80 |
| D7.15 | Educational cartoon for children | WP7 | 2 - ZOO | DEC —Websites, patent filings, videos, etc | PU - Public | 44 |
| D7.16 | Site visits for the general public | WP7 | 2 - ZOO | DEM — Demonstrator, pilot, prototype | PU - Public | 82 |
| D7.17 | Representation on public events | WP7 | 2 - ZOO | DEM — Demonstrator, pilot, prototype | PU - Public | 87 |
| D7.18 | Standard monitoring protocol for volunteers with a smartphone application | WP7 | 1 - HOI | R — Document, report | PU - Public | 8 |

Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025

**Deliverables**

*Grant Preparation (Deliverables screen) — Enter the info.*

*The labels used mean:*

*Public — fully open (automatically posted online)*
*Sensitive — limited under the conditions of the Grant Agreement*
*EU classified —RESTREINT-UE/EU-RESTRICTED, CONFIDENTIEL-UE/EU-CONFIDENTIAL, SECRET-UE/EU-SECRET under Decision 2015/444*

| Deliverable No | Deliverable Name | Work Package No | Lead Beneficiary | Type | Dissemination Level | Due Date (month) |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| D7.19 | EGS data collection campaigns for volunteers | WP7 | 1 - HOI | DEM — Demonstrator, pilot, prototype | PU - Public | 85 |
| D7.20 | Improvement of EGS demonstration enclosure in Budapest ZOO | WP7 | 2 - ZOO | DEM — Demonstrator, pilot, prototype | PU - Public | 65 |
| D7.21 | Tourism marketing and attraction for the EGS | WP7 | 1 - HOI | DEM — Demonstrator, pilot, prototype | PU - Public | 78 |
| D7.22 | Layman's report | WP7 | 2 - ZOO | R — Document, report | PU - Public | 86 |
| D7.23 | Press conferences | WP7 | 2 - ZOO | DEM — Demonstrator, pilot, prototype | PU - Public | 87 |
| D7.24 | Field trips to project sites for media representatives | WP7 | 2 - ZOO | DEM — Demonstrator, pilot, prototype | PU - Public | 86 |
| D7.25 | Press releases | WP7 | 2 - ZOO | R — Document, report | PU - Public | 87 |
| D7.26 | Media-observer Annual Report | WP7 | 2 - ZOO | R — Document, report | PU - Public | 86 |
| D7.27 | Field trainings on UAV methodology | WP7 | 1 - HOI | DEM — Demonstrator, pilot, prototype | PU - Public | 27 |
| D7.28 | Field workshops at different project sites | WP7 | 7 - CER | DEM — Demonstrator, pilot, prototype | PU - Public | 86 |
| D7.29 | Bulletin of the EGS | WP7 | 7 - CER | R — Document, report | PU - Public | 86 |
| D7.30 | Scientific papers on EGS | WP7 | 1 - HOI | R — Document, report | PU - Public | 86 |

Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025

**Deliverables**

*Grant Preparation (Deliverables screen) — Enter the info.*

*The labels used mean:*

*Public — fully open (⚠ automatically posted online)*
*Sensitive — limited under the conditions of the Grant Agreement*
*EU classified —RESTREINT-UE/EU-RESTRICTED, CONFIDENTIEL-UE/EU-CONFIDENTIAL, SECRET-UE/EU-SECRET under Decision 2015/444*

| Deliverable No | Deliverable Name | Work Package No | Lead Beneficiary | Type | Dissemination Level | Due Date (month) |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| D7.31 | Participation on conferences | WP7 | 1 - HOI | DEM — Demonstrator, pilot, prototype | PU - Public | 86 |
| D7.32 | European Ground Squirrel Meeting in Hungary | WP7 | 1 - HOI | DEM — Demonstrator, pilot, prototype | PU - Public | 86 |
| D7.33 | Final Project conference | WP7 | 1 - HOI | DEM — Demonstrator, pilot, prototype | PU - Public | 87 |
| D8.1 | EGS Climate Change Action Plan for the Pannonian region | WP8 | 7 - CER | R — Document, report | PU - Public | 33 |
| D8.2 | Action plan for decision makers regarding the survival of ground squirrels in the Pannonian region | WP8 | 1 - HOI | R — Document, report | PU - Public | 82 |
| D8.3 | Protected value harmonisation action plan | WP8 | 7 - CER | R — Document, report | PU - Public | 45 |
| D8.4 | Technical recommendations for the development of EGS-friendly grassland management practices | WP8 | 5 - BNPD | R — Document, report | PU - Public | 82 |
| D8.5 | Advisory Service about ground squirrels | WP8 | 4 - BEKE | R — Document, report | PU - Public | 15 |
| D8.6 | ‘EGSNet’ system strategy | WP8 | 1 - HOI | R — Document, report | PU - Public | 24 |
| D8.7 | ‘International EGS Technical Committee’ | WP8 | 1 - HOI | R — Document, report | PU - Public | 12 |
| D8.8 | Updated Hungarian EGS Species Action Plan | WP8 | 1 - HOI | R — Document, report | PU - Public | 84 |

Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025

**Deliverables**

*Grant Preparation (Deliverables screen) — Enter the info.*

*The labels used mean:*

*Public — fully open (automatically posted online)*
*Sensitive — limited under the conditions of the Grant Agreement*
*EU classified —RESTREINT-UE/EU-RESTRICTED, CONFIDENTIEL-UE/EU-CONFIDENTIAL, SECRET-UE/EU-SECRET under Decision 2015/444*

| Deliverable No | Deliverable Name | Work Package No | Lead Beneficiary | Type | Dissemination Level | Due Date (month) |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| D8.9 | Urban site-specific action plans | WP8 | 1 - HOI | R — Document, report | PU - Public | 27 |
| D8.10 | Awareness raising events at urban EGS sites | WP8 | 1 - HOI | DEM — Demonstrator, pilot, prototype | PU - Public | 86 |
| D8.11 | After-LIFE conservation plan | WP8 | 1 - HOI | R — Document, report | PU - Public | 84 |

Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025

## Deliverable D1.1 – Kick-off meeting

| Deliverable Number | D1.1 | Lead Beneficiary | 1 - HOI |
|---|---|---|---|
| Deliverable Name | Kick-off meeting | | |
| Type | R — Document, report | Dissemination Level | PU - Public |
| Due Date (month) | 3 | Work Package No | WP1 |

| Description |
|---|
| Kick-off meeting will be held by the COO for the beneficiaries at the beginning of the project.<br>Registration lists, minutes, EN |

## Deliverable D1.2 – Digital Project Handbook

| Deliverable Number | D1.2 | Lead Beneficiary | 1 - HOI |
|---|---|---|---|
| Deliverable Name | Digital Project Handbook | | |
| Type | R — Document, report | Dissemination Level | PU - Public |
| Due Date (month) | 3 | Work Package No | WP1 |

| Description |
|---|
| Beneficiary-specific digital Project Handbook will be prepared by the project management.<br>Pdf format of the handbook, HU |

## Deliverable D1.3 – Annual Evaluation meetings

| Deliverable Number | D1.3 | Lead Beneficiary | 1 - HOI |
|---|---|---|---|
| Deliverable Name | Annual Evaluation meetings | | |
| Type | R — Document, report | Dissemination Level | PU - Public |
| Due Date (month) | 84 | Work Package No | WP1 |

| Description |
|---|
| Annual Evaluation meetings will be organised: BNPD, BVP and HOI will host the meetings.<br>Registration lists, minutes, EN |

## Deliverable D1.4 – 1st Progress Report (PR1)

| Deliverable Number | D1.4 | Lead Beneficiary | 1 - HOI |
|---|---|---|---|
| Deliverable Name | 1st Progress Report (PR1) | | |
| Type | R — Document, report | Dissemination Level | PU - Public |
| Due Date (month) | 27 | Work Package No | WP1 |

| Description |
|---|
| 1st Progress Report will be prepared and submitted in time, EN |

Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025

## Deliverable D1.5 – 2nd Progress Report (PR2)

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Deliverable Number** | D1.5 | **Lead Beneficiary** | 1 - HOI |
| **Deliverable Name** | 2nd Progress Report (PR2) | | |
| **Type** | R — Document, report | **Dissemination Level** | PU - Public |
| **Due Date (month)** | 63 | **Work Package No** | WP1 |

| **Description** |
|---|
| 2nd Progress Report will be prepared and submitted in time, EN |

## Deliverable D1.6 – Kick-off Steering Committee meeting

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Deliverable Number** | D1.6 | **Lead Beneficiary** | 1 - HOI |
| **Deliverable Name** | Kick-off Steering Committee meeting | | |
| **Type** | R — Document, report | **Dissemination Level** | PU - Public |
| **Due Date (month)** | 5 | **Work Package No** | WP1 |

| **Description** |
|---|
| Kick-off Steering Committee meeting will be held by the COO.<br>Registration lists, minutes, EN |

## Deliverable D1.7 – First report on cumulative expenditure

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Deliverable Number** | D1.7 | **Lead Beneficiary** | 1 - HOI |
| **Deliverable Name** | First report on cumulative expenditure | | |
| **Type** | R — Document, report | **Dissemination Level** | PU - Public |
| **Due Date (month)** | 3 | **Work Package No** | WP1 |

| **Description** |
|---|
| 1st report on cumulative expenditures of 2025 submitted in time, EN |

## Deliverable D1.8 – Second report on cumulative expenditure

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Deliverable Number** | D1.8 | **Lead Beneficiary** | 1 - HOI |
| **Deliverable Name** | Second report on cumulative expenditure | | |
| **Type** | R — Document, report | **Dissemination Level** | PU - Public |
| **Due Date (month)** | 15 | **Work Package No** | WP1 |

| **Description** |
|---|
| 2nd report on cumulative expenditures submitted in time, EN |

Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025

## Deliverable D1.9 – Third report on cumulative expenditure

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Deliverable Number** | D1.9 | **Lead Beneficiary** | 1 - HOI |
| **Deliverable Name** | Third report on cumulative expenditure | | |
| **Type** | R — Document, report | **Dissemination Level** | PU - Public |
| **Due Date (month)** | 27 | **Work Package No** | WP1 |

| **Description** |
|---|
| 3rd report on cumulative expenditures submitted in time, EN |

## Deliverable D1.10 – Fourth report on cumulative expenditure

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Deliverable Number** | D1.10 | **Lead Beneficiary** | 1 - HOI |
| **Deliverable Name** | Fourth report on cumulative expenditure | | |
| **Type** | R — Document, report | **Dissemination Level** | PU - Public |
| **Due Date (month)** | 39 | **Work Package No** | WP1 |

| **Description** |
|---|
| 4th report on cumulative expenditures submitted in time, EN |

## Deliverable D1.11 – Fifth report on cumulative expenditure

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Deliverable Number** | D1.11 | **Lead Beneficiary** | 1 - HOI |
| **Deliverable Name** | Fifth report on cumulative expenditure | | |
| **Type** | R — Document, report | **Dissemination Level** | PU - Public |
| **Due Date (month)** | 51 | **Work Package No** | WP1 |

| **Description** |
|---|
| 5th report on cumulative expenditures submitted in time, EN |

## Deliverable D1.12 – Sixth report on cumulative expenditure

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Deliverable Number** | D1.12 | **Lead Beneficiary** | 1 - HOI |
| **Deliverable Name** | Sixth report on cumulative expenditure | | |
| **Type** | R — Document, report | **Dissemination Level** | PU - Public |
| **Due Date (month)** | 63 | **Work Package No** | WP1 |

| **Description** |
|---|
| 6th report on cumulative expenditures submitted in time, EN |

Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025

## Deliverable D1.13 – Seventh report on cumulative expenditure

| Deliverable Number | D1.13 | Lead Beneficiary | 1 - HOI |
|---|---|---|---|
| Deliverable Name | Seventh report on cumulative expenditure | | |
| Type | R — Document, report | Dissemination Level | PU - Public |
| Due Date (month) | 75 | Work Package No | WP1 |

| Description |
|---|
| 7th report on cumulative expenditures submitted in time, EN |

## Deliverable D1.14 – Steering Committee meetings

| Deliverable Number | D1.14 | Lead Beneficiary | 1 - HOI |
|---|---|---|---|
| Deliverable Name | Steering Committee meetings | | |
| Type | R — Document, report | Dissemination Level | PU - Public |
| Due Date (month) | 84 | Work Package No | WP1 |

| Description |
|---|
| Annual Steering Committee meetings will be organised together with Evaluation meetings: BNPD, BVP and HOI will host the meetings.<br>Registration lists, minutes, EN |

## Deliverable D2.1 – Distribution and conservation status of EGS in Project sites

| Deliverable Number | D2.1 | Lead Beneficiary | 1 - HOI |
|---|---|---|---|
| Deliverable Name | Distribution and conservation status of EGS in Project sites | | |
| Type | DATA — data sets, microdata, etc | Dissemination Level | PU - Public |
| Due Date (month) | 14 | Work Package No | WP2 |

| Description |
|---|
| Up-to-date distribution map and conservation status assessment data of EGS for Hungary and West Romania, HU, RO, EN |

## Deliverable D2.2 – ‘Colony Logsheets’ database

| Deliverable Number | D2.2 | Lead Beneficiary | 1 - HOI |
|---|---|---|---|
| Deliverable Name | ‘Colony Logsheets’ database | | |
| Type | DATA — data sets, microdata, etc | Dissemination Level | PU - Public |
| Due Date (month) | 14 | Work Package No | WP2 |

| Description |
|---|

Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025

| |
|---|
| Up-to-date distribution map and conservation status assessment data of EGS for Hungary and West Romania, HU, RO, EN |

## Deliverable D2.3 – Standard Protocol of Suitability Characterization

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Deliverable Number** | D2.3 | **Lead Beneficiary** | 1 - HOI |
| **Deliverable Name** | Standard Protocol of Suitability Characterization | | |
| **Type** | DEM — Demonstrator, pilot, prototype | **Dissemination Level** | PU - Public |
| **Due Date (month)** | 25 | **Work Package No** | WP2 |

| **Description** |
|---|
| Methodological description of Standard Protocol of Suitability Characterization, HU, RO, EN |

## Deliverable D2.4 – EGS habitat suitability database

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Deliverable Number** | D2.4 | **Lead Beneficiary** | 1 - HOI |
| **Deliverable Name** | EGS habitat suitability database | | |
| **Type** | DATA — data sets, microdata, etc | **Dissemination Level** | PU - Public |
| **Due Date (month)** | 25 | **Work Package No** | WP2 |

| **Description** |
|---|
| EGS habitat suitability database containing at least 40 sites, HU, RO |

## Deliverable D2.5 – Depopulated EGS habitats

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Deliverable Number** | D2.5 | **Lead Beneficiary** | 7 - CER |
| **Deliverable Name** | Depopulated EGS habitats | | |
| **Type** | DATA — data sets, microdata, etc | **Dissemination Level** | PU - Public |
| **Due Date (month)** | 25 | **Work Package No** | WP2 |

| **Description** |
|---|
| GIS database of the habitats of former EGS population where the population recently disappeared, HU, RO |

## Deliverable D3.1 – Documentation of ex-situ breeding facilities at BVP

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Deliverable Number** | D3.1 | **Lead Beneficiary** | 3 - BVP |
| **Deliverable Name** | Documentation of ex-situ breeding facilities at BVP | | |
| **Type** | R — Document, report | **Dissemination Level** | PU - Public |
| **Due Date (month)** | 20 | **Work Package No** | WP3 |

Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025

| Description |
|---|
| Certificate of completion, HU |

## Deliverable D3.2 – Documentation of ex-situ breeding facilities at HNPD

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Deliverable Number** | D3.2 | **Lead Beneficiary** | 6 - HNPD |
| **Deliverable Name** | Documentation of ex-situ breeding facilities at HNPD | | |
| **Type** | R — Document, report | **Dissemination Level** | PU - Public |
| **Due Date (month)** | 18 | **Work Package No** | WP3 |

| Description |
|---|
| Certificate of completion, HU |

## Deliverable D4.1 – Control of predators

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Deliverable Number** | D4.1 | **Lead Beneficiary** | 5 - BNPD |
| **Deliverable Name** | Control of predators | | |
| **Type** | R — Document, report | **Dissemination Level** | PU - Public |
| **Due Date (month)** | 87 | **Work Package No** | WP4 |

| Description |
|---|
| Appropriate control of predator and game species realised at 7 Project sites. Hunting reports and activity diaries, HU |

## Deliverable D4.2 – Conversion of habitats from arable land to grassland

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Deliverable Number** | D4.2 | **Lead Beneficiary** | 6 - HNPD |
| **Deliverable Name** | Conversion of habitats from arable land to grassland | | |
| **Type** | R — Document, report | **Dissemination Level** | PU - Public |
| **Due Date (month)** | 84 | **Work Package No** | WP4 |

| Description |
|---|
| 8.34 ha arable land transformed into grasslands at one site. Minutes, photo documentations, HU |

## Deliverable D4.3 – Removal of native shrubs

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Deliverable Number** | D4.3 | **Lead Beneficiary** | 6 - HNPD |
| **Deliverable Name** | Removal of native shrubs | | |
| **Type** | R — Document, report | **Dissemination Level** | PU - Public |
| **Due Date (month)** | 87 | **Work Package No** | WP4 |

| Description |
|---|

Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025

| |
|---|
| Elimination of shrub species at 11 Project sites on 225.5 ha in total.<br>Minutes, photo documentations HU |

## Deliverable D4.4 – Annual reports on IAS management

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Deliverable Number** | D4.4 | **Lead Beneficiary** | 6 - HNPD |
| **Deliverable Name** | Annual reports on IAS management | | |
| **Type** | R — Document, report | **Dissemination Level** | PU - Public |
| **Due Date (month)** | 87 | **Work Package No** | WP4 |

| **Description** |
|---|
| Annual reports will be submitted on IAS management, including, for each project site, the species targeted, the method applied per species, and the number of individuals removed per species and site. Reports with photo documentations, EN |

## Deliverable D5.1 – Pannonian EGS threat map

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Deliverable Number** | D5.1 | **Lead Beneficiary** | 1 - HOI |
| **Deliverable Name** | Pannonian EGS threat map | | |
| **Type** | DATA — data sets, microdata, etc | **Dissemination Level** | PU - Public |
| **Due Date (month)** | 45 | **Work Package No** | WP5 |

| **Description** |
|---|
| Composite threat index mapped for Hungary (country scale) and west part of Romania, HU, RO, EN |

## Deliverable D5.2 – Suitable target areas for reintroduction/translocation

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Deliverable Number** | D5.2 | **Lead Beneficiary** | 1 - HOI |
| **Deliverable Name** | Suitable target areas for reintroduction/translocation | | |
| **Type** | R — Document, report | **Dissemination Level** | PU - Public |
| **Due Date (month)** | 78 | **Work Package No** | WP5 |

| **Description** |
|---|
| Annual lists of target areas for reintroduction, HU, RO |

## Deliverable D5.3 – Available, vital source populations

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Deliverable Number** | D5.3 | **Lead Beneficiary** | 1 - HOI |
| **Deliverable Name** | Available, vital source populations | | |
| **Type** | R — Document, report | **Dissemination Level** | PU - Public |
| **Due Date (month)** | 78 | **Work Package No** | WP5 |

Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025

| Description |
|---|
| Annual lists of source populations for reintroduction, HU, RO |

## Deliverable D5.4 – Annual Reintroduction Plan

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Deliverable Number** | D5.4 | **Lead Beneficiary** | 1 - HOI |
| **Deliverable Name** | Annual Reintroduction Plan | | |
| **Type** | R — Document, report | **Dissemination Level** | PU - Public |
| **Due Date (month)** | 78 | **Work Package No** | WP5 |

| Description |
|---|
| Annual Reintroduction Plans, including the actual plan of the reintroductions implemented within the Project in a certain year, HU, RO |

## Deliverable D5.5 – Database of relocations/reintroductions in Hungary

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Deliverable Number** | D5.5 | **Lead Beneficiary** | 1 - HOI |
| **Deliverable Name** | Database of relocations/reintroductions in Hungary | | |
| **Type** | DATA — data sets, microdata, etc | **Dissemination Level** | PU - Public |
| **Due Date (month)** | 84 | **Work Package No** | WP5 |

| Description |
|---|
| Detailed database of implemented translocations/reintroduction in Hungary (age, sex, reproductive success of individuals per sites etc.), HU |

## Deliverable D5.6 – EGS state report to the Romanian authority

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Deliverable Number** | D5.6 | **Lead Beneficiary** | 8 - MILVUS |
| **Deliverable Name** | EGS state report to the Romanian authority | | |
| **Type** | R — Document, report | **Dissemination Level** | PU - Public |
| **Due Date (month)** | 81 | **Work Package No** | WP5 |

| Description |
|---|
| A submitted report to the Romanian competent authority about the main project results/findings in order to update the SDF of the concerned N2000 sites, RO |

## Deliverable D5.7 – EGS state report to the Hungarian authority

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Deliverable Number** | D5.7 | **Lead Beneficiary** | 1 - HOI |
| **Deliverable Name** | EGS state report to the Hungarian authority | | |
| **Type** | R — Document, report | **Dissemination Level** | PU - Public |

Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025

| Due Date (month) | 81 | Work Package No | WP5 |
|---|---|---|---|

| Description |
|---|
| A submitted report to the Hungarian competent authority about the main project results/findings in order to update the SDF of the concerned N2000 sites, HU |

## Deliverable D5.8 – Updated Standard Data Forms of HUBN20069, HUFH20003, HUHN20010 sites

| Deliverable Number | D5.8 | Lead Beneficiary | 1 - HOI |
|---|---|---|---|
| Deliverable Name | Updated Standard Data Forms of HUBN20069, HUFH20003, HUHN20010 sites | | |
| Type | R — Document, report | Dissemination Level | PU - Public |
| Due Date (month) | 84 | Work Package No | WP5 |

| Description |
|---|
| Documents of updated Standard Data Forms of HUBN20069, HUFH20003, HUHN20010 project sites, EN |

## Deliverable D6.1 – Telemetry monitoring database

| Deliverable Number | D6.1 | Lead Beneficiary | 1 - HOI |
|---|---|---|---|
| Deliverable Name | Telemetry monitoring database | | |
| Type | DATA — data sets, microdata, etc | Dissemination Level | PU - Public |
| Due Date (month) | 87 | Work Package No | WP6 |

| Description |
|---|
| Telemetry data stored in a geodatabase, HU, RO |

## Deliverable D6.2 – Reproduction success monitoring protocol

| Deliverable Number | D6.2 | Lead Beneficiary | 1 - HOI |
|---|---|---|---|
| Deliverable Name | Reproduction success monitoring protocol | | |
| Type | R — Document, report | Dissemination Level | PU - Public |
| Due Date (month) | 27 | Work Package No | WP6 |

| Description |
|---|
| Tested reproduction success monitoring protocol, methodological description, HU, EN |

## Deliverable D6.3 – Midterm reproduction success database

| Deliverable Number | D6.3 | Lead Beneficiary | 1 - HOI |
|---|---|---|---|
| Deliverable Name | Midterm reproduction success database | | |

Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Type** | DATA — data sets, microdata, etc | **Dissemination Level** | PU - Public |
| **Due Date (month)** | 64 | **Work Package No** | WP6 |

| **Description** |
|---|
| Midterm reproduction success database of the new translocations, HU, RO, EN |

## Deliverable D6.4 – Updated trend analysis

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Deliverable Number** | D6.4 | **Lead Beneficiary** | 4 - BEKE |
| **Deliverable Name** | Updated trend analysis | | |
| **Type** | R — Document, report | **Dissemination Level** | PU - Public |
| **Due Date (month)** | 64 | **Work Package No** | WP6 |

| **Description** |
|---|
| Updated trend analysis based on the repetition of T.2.2.1 baseline survey, HU, RO |

## Deliverable D6.5 – Habitat reconstruction interventions database

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Deliverable Number** | D6.5 | **Lead Beneficiary** | 1 - HOI |
| **Deliverable Name** | Habitat reconstruction interventions database | | |
| **Type** | DATA — data sets, microdata, etc | **Dissemination Level** | PU - Public |
| **Due Date (month)** | 64 | **Work Package No** | WP6 |

| **Description** |
|---|
| Interventions and mid-term success database on reconstructed habitats, HU |

## Deliverable D6.6 – Report on stakeholders' awareness status changes throughout the Project

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Deliverable Number** | D6.6 | **Lead Beneficiary** | 1 - HOI |
| **Deliverable Name** | Report on stakeholders' awareness status changes throughout the Project | | |
| **Type** | R — Document, report | **Dissemination Level** | PU - Public |
| **Due Date (month)** | 84 | **Work Package No** | WP6 |

| **Description** |
|---|
| Report (second) on the result of impact on stakeholders awareness prepared, HU, EN |

## Deliverable D6.7 – Extract of the Project data from the LIFE KPI webtool1

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Deliverable Number** | D6.7 | **Lead Beneficiary** | 1 - HOI |
| **Deliverable Name** | Extract of the Project data from the LIFE KPI webtool1 | | |

Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025

| Type | R — Document, report | Dissemination Level | SEN - Sensitive |
|---|---|---|---|
| Due Date (month) | 9 | Work Package No | WP6 |

| Description |
|---|
| Report of (estimated and actually achieved) key-performance indicators (KPIs) in the LIFE Project, KPI web tool will be developed within the first 9 months from the signature of the grant. It will be running until the end of the Project., EN |

## Deliverable D6.8 – Extract of the Project data from the LIFE KPI webtool2

| Deliverable Number | D6.8 | Lead Beneficiary | 1 - HOI |
|---|---|---|---|
| Deliverable Name | Extract of the Project data from the LIFE KPI webtool2 | | |
| Type | R — Document, report | Dissemination Level | SEN - Sensitive |
| Due Date (month) | 86 | Work Package No | WP6 |

| Description |
|---|
| Report of (estimated and actually achieved) key-performance indicators (KPIs) in the LIFE Project, KPI web tool will be used and filled in before 9th months from the signature of the grant. It will be running until the end of the Project, EN |

## Deliverable D7.1 – Project logo and visual identity guideline

| Deliverable Number | D7.1 | Lead Beneficiary | 2 - ZOO |
|---|---|---|---|
| Deliverable Name | Project logo and visual identity guideline | | |
| Type | R — Document, report | Dissemination Level | PU - Public |
| Due Date (month) | 5 | Work Package No | WP7 |

| Description |
|---|
| Project logo and a digital manual of the Project visual identity, electronic format, 20-25 pages, HU, RO |

## Deliverable D7.2 – Project webpages on beneficiaries' websites

| Deliverable Number | D7.2 | Lead Beneficiary | 2 - ZOO |
|---|---|---|---|
| Deliverable Name | Project webpages on beneficiaries' websites | | |
| Type | DEC —Websites, patent filings, videos, etc | Dissemination Level | PU - Public |
| Due Date (month) | 5 | Work Package No | WP7 |

| Description |
|---|
| Webpages within Beneficiaries' own institutional websites dedicated to the Project, 8 webpages in total, HU, ZOO's webpage: HU, RO, EN |

Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025

## Deliverable D7.3 – Social media profiles of the Project

| Deliverable Number | D7.3 | Lead Beneficiary | 2 - ZOO |
|---|---|---|---|
| Deliverable Name | Social media profiles of the Project | | |
| Type | DEC —Websites, patent filings, videos, etc | Dissemination Level | PU - Public |
| Due Date (month) | 5 | Work Package No | WP7 |

| Description |
|---|
| Facebook and Instagram profiles of the Project are created and operated, HU, RO |

## Deliverable D7.4 – Information boards

| Deliverable Number | D7.4 | Lead Beneficiary | 2 - ZOO |
|---|---|---|---|
| Deliverable Name | Information boards | | |
| Type | DEM — Demonstrator, pilot, prototype | Dissemination Level | PU - Public |
| Due Date (month) | 44 | Work Package No | WP7 |

| Description |
|---|
| 18 general information boards about the project in A3 format at the headquarter or visitor centres of the COO and BEN, in HU or RO language. Photo documentation<br>23 outdoor information boards about specific conservation actions at project sites, HU, RO. Photo documentation |

## Deliverable D7.5 – EGS observation platform at ‘Citellus garden’ next to Batúz-tanya

| Deliverable Number | D7.5 | Lead Beneficiary | 5 - BNPD |
|---|---|---|---|
| Deliverable Name | EGS observation platform at ‘Citellus garden’ next to Batúz-tanya | | |
| Type | DEM — Demonstrator, pilot, prototype | Dissemination Level | PU - Public |
| Due Date (month) | 36 | Work Package No | WP7 |

| Description |
|---|
| Design plan of EGS observation platform at ‘Citellus Garden’ next to Batúz-tanya |

## Deliverable D7.6 – Project leaflet

| Deliverable Number | D7.6 | Lead Beneficiary | 2 - ZOO |
|---|---|---|---|
| Deliverable Name | Project leaflet | | |
| Type | R — Document, report | Dissemination Level | PU - Public |
| Due Date (month) | 15 | Work Package No | WP7 |

| Description |
|---|

Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025

| |
|---|
| A leaflet to introduce the Project to the general public will be prepared in the form of a 3-folded A4 page in 12 000 printed copies (10 000 HU, 1 000 RO, 1 000 EN and in digital versions for online use. |

## Deliverable D7.7 – Project roll-up

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Deliverable Number** | D7.7 | **Lead Beneficiary** | 2 - ZOO |
| **Deliverable Name** | Project roll-up | | |
| **Type** | DEM — Demonstrator, pilot, prototype | **Dissemination Level** | PU - Public |
| **Due Date (month)** | 8 | **Work Package No** | WP7 |

| **Description** |
|---|
| Digital design of the project roll-up in HU, RO, EN |

## Deliverable D7.8 – Booklet for general public, about the EGS

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Deliverable Number** | D7.8 | **Lead Beneficiary** | 2 - ZOO |
| **Deliverable Name** | Booklet for general public, about the EGS | | |
| **Type** | R — Document, report | **Dissemination Level** | PU - Public |
| **Due Date (month)** | 15 | **Work Package No** | WP7 |

| **Description** |
|---|
| Digital booklet (12-16 pages, Hungarian, Romanian and English) will be prepared, targeting the general public, about EGS. |

## Deliverable D7.9 – Education booklet for school children

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Deliverable Number** | D7.9 | **Lead Beneficiary** | 2 - ZOO |
| **Deliverable Name** | Education booklet for school children | | |
| **Type** | R — Document, report | **Dissemination Level** | PU - Public |
| **Due Date (month)** | 15 | **Work Package No** | WP7 |

| **Description** |
|---|
| Education booklet for school children about EGS will be prepared and printed in 24 pages, A5 size, 15 000 copies, HU. |

## Deliverable D7.10 – Thematic book

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Deliverable Number** | D7.10 | **Lead Beneficiary** | 2 - ZOO |
| **Deliverable Name** | Thematic book | | |
| **Type** | R — Document, report | **Dissemination Level** | PU - Public |
| **Due Date (month)** | 48 | **Work Package No** | WP7 |

Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025

| Description |
|---|
| Book on target species will be prepared and published as a thematic volume of the Zoo book series, (132 pages, in 19 x 21 cm size, printed in 1 000 copies), HU. |

## Deliverable D7.11 – Interactive playsets on EGS

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Deliverable Number** | D7.11 | **Lead Beneficiary** | 2 - ZOO |
| **Deliverable Name** | Interactive playsets on EGS | | |
| **Type** | DEM — Demonstrator, pilot, prototype | **Dissemination Level** | PU - Public |
| **Due Date (month)** | 44 | **Work Package No** | WP7 |

| Description |
|---|
| Photos of interactive playsets about the EGS |

## Deliverable D7.12 – Promotional materials

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Deliverable Number** | D7.12 | **Lead Beneficiary** | 2 - ZOO |
| **Deliverable Name** | Promotional materials | | |
| **Type** | DEM — Demonstrator, pilot, prototype | **Dissemination Level** | PU - Public |
| **Due Date (month)** | 44 | **Work Package No** | WP7 |

| Description |
|---|
| Samples of promotional materials (notepads with pen, project's T-shirt; fridge magnets with logo; eco-friendly pens with logo; gym bags with logo; small plush EGSs |

## Deliverable D7.13 – Project film and extracts

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Deliverable Number** | D7.13 | **Lead Beneficiary** | 2 - ZOO |
| **Deliverable Name** | Project film and extracts | | |
| **Type** | DEC —Websites, patent filings, videos, etc | **Dissemination Level** | PU - Public |
| **Due Date (month)** | 82 | **Work Package No** | WP7 |

| Description |
|---|
| A 25-minute film will be prepared, as a documentary of the Project, HU, with RO and EN subtitles.<br>At least 2 one-minute extracts of the film will be prepared. |

## Deliverable D7.14 – Thematic video about the breeding program at BVP

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Deliverable Number** | D7.14 | **Lead Beneficiary** | 3 - BVP |
| **Deliverable Name** | Thematic video about the breeding program at BVP | | |

Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025

| Type | DEC —Websites, patent filings, videos, etc | Dissemination Level | PU - Public |
|---|---|---|---|
| Due Date (month) | 80 | Work Package No | WP7 |

| Description |
|---|
| A 3-minute thematic video will be prepared about the breeding programme of EGS at BVP, HU. |

## Deliverable D7.15 – Educational cartoon for children

| Deliverable Number | D7.15 | Lead Beneficiary | 2 - ZOO |
|---|---|---|---|
| Deliverable Name | Educational cartoon for children | | |
| Type | DEC —Websites, patent filings, videos, etc | Dissemination Level | PU - Public |
| Due Date (month) | 44 | Work Package No | WP7 |

| Description |
|---|
| A 3-minute educational cartoon will be prepared for children, HU. |

## Deliverable D7.16 – Site visits for the general public

| Deliverable Number | D7.16 | Lead Beneficiary | 2 - ZOO |
|---|---|---|---|
| Deliverable Name | Site visits for the general public | | |
| Type | DEM — Demonstrator, pilot, prototype | Dissemination Level | PU - Public |
| Due Date (month) | 82 | Work Package No | WP7 |

| Description |
|---|
| Site visits will be organised for the general public, 23 trips in total (BNPD: 6; HNPD: 4; BVP: 5). Half-day trips, signed presence lists. |

## Deliverable D7.17 – Representation on public events

| Deliverable Number | D7.17 | Lead Beneficiary | 2 - ZOO |
|---|---|---|---|
| Deliverable Name | Representation on public events | | |
| Type | DEM — Demonstrator, pilot, prototype | Dissemination Level | PU - Public |
| Due Date (month) | 87 | Work Package No | WP7 |

| Description |
|---|
| Participation of Beneficiaries to represent the Project at least in 5 public events annually (45 events in total). Reports of the events. |

Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025

## Deliverable D7.18 – Standard monitoring protocol for volunteers with a smartphone application

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Deliverable Number** | D7.18 | **Lead Beneficiary** | 1 - HOI |
| **Deliverable Name** | Standard monitoring protocol for volunteers with a smartphone application | | |
| **Type** | R — Document, report | **Dissemination Level** | PU - Public |
| **Due Date (month)** | 8 | **Work Package No** | WP7 |

| **Description** |
|---|
| A standard monitoring protocol for non-expert volunteers, supported by a smartphone application. Description, EN |

## Deliverable D7.19 – EGS data collection campaigns for volunteers

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Deliverable Number** | D7.19 | **Lead Beneficiary** | 1 - HOI |
| **Deliverable Name** | EGS data collection campaigns for volunteers | | |
| **Type** | DEM — Demonstrator, pilot, prototype | **Dissemination Level** | PU - Public |
| **Due Date (month)** | 85 | **Work Package No** | WP7 |

| **Description** |
|---|
| Data collection campaigns organised for volunteers in April each year during the Project (7 data collection campaigns), involving at least 50 volunteers per year in non-personal-guided data collection (at least 350 volunteers in total). Reports of the data collection campaigns. |

## Deliverable D7.20 – Improvement of EGS demonstration enclosure in Budapest ZOO

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Deliverable Number** | D7.20 | **Lead Beneficiary** | 2 - ZOO |
| **Deliverable Name** | Improvement of EGS demonstration enclosure in Budapest ZOO | | |
| **Type** | DEM — Demonstrator, pilot, prototype | **Dissemination Level** | PU - Public |
| **Due Date (month)** | 65 | **Work Package No** | WP7 |

| **Description** |
|---|
| Technical improvement of the EGS demonstration enclosure in Budapest Zoo. Work plan, photo documentation, HU |

## Deliverable D7.21 – Tourism marketing and attraction for the EGS

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Deliverable Number** | D7.21 | **Lead Beneficiary** | 1 - HOI |
| **Deliverable Name** | Tourism marketing and attraction for the EGS | | |
| **Type** | DEM — Demonstrator, pilot, prototype | **Dissemination Level** | PU - Public |
| **Due Date (month)** | 78 | **Work Package No** | WP7 |

Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025

| Description |
|---|
| At least in five sites, the tourism organisations offer a complex tourism programme package that includes the opportunity to visit natural or semi-natural habitats where visitors can observe EGS populations by themselves and in controlled conditions. Digital format of the complex tourism programmes, HU |

## Deliverable D7.22 – Layman's report

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Deliverable Number** | D7.22 | **Lead Beneficiary** | 2 - ZOO |
| **Deliverable Name** | Layman's report | | |
| **Type** | R — Document, report | **Dissemination Level** | PU - Public |
| **Due Date (month)** | 86 | **Work Package No** | WP7 |

| Description |
|---|
| Digital version of the Layman's report (8-12 pages) in EN, HU, RO. |

## Deliverable D7.23 – Press conferences

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Deliverable Number** | D7.23 | **Lead Beneficiary** | 2 - ZOO |
| **Deliverable Name** | Press conferences | | |
| **Type** | DEM — Demonstrator, pilot, prototype | **Dissemination Level** | PU - Public |
| **Due Date (month)** | 87 | **Work Package No** | WP7 |

| Description |
|---|
| Two press conferences linked to the Project's Kick-off meeting and Final conference. Invitations, signed presence lists, HU |

## Deliverable D7.24 – Field trips to project sites for media representatives

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Deliverable Number** | D7.24 | **Lead Beneficiary** | 2 - ZOO |
| **Deliverable Name** | Field trips to project sites for media representatives | | |
| **Type** | DEM — Demonstrator, pilot, prototype | **Dissemination Level** | PU - Public |
| **Due Date (month)** | 86 | **Work Package No** | WP7 |

| Description |
|---|
| At least 8 field demonstration trips (BVP: 1; BNPD: 2; HNPD:1 HOI: 4) for the press representatives. Half-day trips, invitations, signed presence lists, HU |

## Deliverable D7.25 – Press releases

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Deliverable Number** | D7.25 | **Lead Beneficiary** | 2 - ZOO |
| **Deliverable Name** | Press releases | | |

Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Type** | R — Document, report | **Dissemination Level** | PU - Public |
| **Due Date (month)** | 87 | **Work Package No** | WP7 |

| **Description** |
|---|
| At least 12 press releases published during the project. Electronic format. HU, RO |

## Deliverable D7.26 – Media-observer Annual Report

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Deliverable Number** | D7.26 | **Lead Beneficiary** | 2 - ZOO |
| **Deliverable Name** | Media-observer Annual Report | | |
| **Type** | R — Document, report | **Dissemination Level** | PU - Public |
| **Due Date (month)** | 86 | **Work Package No** | WP7 |

| **Description** |
|---|
| Media-observer Annual Reports (7 reports in total) upon the media appearances related to the project. Electronic format, HU |

## Deliverable D7.27 – Field trainings on UAV methodology

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Deliverable Number** | D7.27 | **Lead Beneficiary** | 1 - HOI |
| **Deliverable Name** | Field trainings on UAV methodology | | |
| **Type** | DEM — Demonstrator, pilot, prototype | **Dissemination Level** | PU - Public |
| **Due Date (month)** | 27 | **Work Package No** | WP7 |

| **Description** |
|---|
| Field training on UAV methodology (2-5 occasions). One-day programs for partner and non-partner field experts. Signed presence lists, HU |

## Deliverable D7.28 – Field workshops at different project sites

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Deliverable Number** | D7.28 | **Lead Beneficiary** | 7 - CER |
| **Deliverable Name** | Field workshops at different project sites | | |
| **Type** | DEM — Demonstrator, pilot, prototype | **Dissemination Level** | PU - Public |
| **Due Date (month)** | 86 | **Work Package No** | WP7 |

| **Description** |
|---|
| Field workshops organised yearly at different project sites (7 workshops in total). Two-day programs for project team members. Signed presence lists, HU |

Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025

## Deliverable D7.29 – Bulletin of the EGS

| Deliverable Number | D7.29 | Lead Beneficiary | 7 - CER |
|---|---|---|---|
| Deliverable Name | Bulletin of the EGS | | |
| Type | R — Document, report | Dissemination Level | PU - Public |
| Due Date (month) | 86 | Work Package No | WP7 |

| Description |
|---|
| Bulletin for researchers and nature conservationists published in 2 issues per year (14 issues during the project). Electronic format, EN |

## Deliverable D7.30 – Scientific papers on EGS

| Deliverable Number | D7.30 | Lead Beneficiary | 1 - HOI |
|---|---|---|---|
| Deliverable Name | Scientific papers on EGS | | |
| Type | R — Document, report | Dissemination Level | PU - Public |
| Due Date (month) | 86 | Work Package No | WP7 |

| Description |
|---|
| At least 3 scientific papers throughout the project time will be published in national and international scientific journals. Digital format, in HU, RO, EN |

## Deliverable D7.31 – Participation on conferences

| Deliverable Number | D7.31 | Lead Beneficiary | 1 - HOI |
|---|---|---|---|
| Deliverable Name | Participation on conferences | | |
| Type | DEM — Demonstrator, pilot, prototype | Dissemination Level | PU - Public |
| Due Date (month) | 86 | Work Package No | WP7 |

| Description |
|---|
| Participation in national or international scientific conferences (at least 5 events). Agendas, conference abstracts and/or presentations, HU, RO, EN |

## Deliverable D7.32 – European Ground Squirrel Meeting in Hungary

| Deliverable Number | D7.32 | Lead Beneficiary | 1 - HOI |
|---|---|---|---|
| Deliverable Name | European Ground Squirrel Meeting in Hungary | | |
| Type | DEM — Demonstrator, pilot, prototype | Dissemination Level | PU - Public |
| Due Date (month) | 86 | Work Package No | WP7 |

| Description |
|---|

Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025

| |
|---|
| Organisation of European scientific conference on EGS. Four-day event for researchers and nature conservationists, at least 100 participants. Agenda, signed presence list, abstract book in electronic format, feedback questionnaire, EN |

## Deliverable D7.33 – Final Project conference

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Deliverable Number** | D7.33 | **Lead Beneficiary** | 1 - HOI |
| **Deliverable Name** | Final Project conference | | |
| **Type** | DEM — Demonstrator, pilot, prototype | **Dissemination Level** | PU - Public |
| **Due Date (month)** | 87 | **Work Package No** | WP7 |

| **Description** |
|---|
| Final conference of the project. One-day event, at least 100-120 participants. Agenda, signed presence list, EN |

## Deliverable D8.1 – EGS Climate Change Action Plan for the Pannonian region

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Deliverable Number** | D8.1 | **Lead Beneficiary** | 7 - CER |
| **Deliverable Name** | EGS Climate Change Action Plan for the Pannonian region | | |
| **Type** | R — Document, report | **Dissemination Level** | PU - Public |
| **Due Date (month)** | 33 | **Work Package No** | WP8 |

| **Description** |
|---|
| Document of the Action Plan regarding the management of EGS under the effects of climate change in the Pannonian region, HU, EN |

## Deliverable D8.2 – Action plan for decision makers regarding the survival of ground squirrels in the Pannonian region

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Deliverable Number** | D8.2 | **Lead Beneficiary** | 1 - HOI |
| **Deliverable Name** | Action plan for decision makers regarding the survival of ground squirrels in the Pannonian region | | |
| **Type** | R — Document, report | **Dissemination Level** | PU - Public |
| **Due Date (month)** | 82 | **Work Package No** | WP8 |

| **Description** |
|---|
| Document of the action plan for decision makers reviewing the management practices in different sectors, describing the ones to avoid vs. the preferred ones, HU |

## Deliverable D8.3 – Protected value harmonisation action plan

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Deliverable Number** | D8.3 | **Lead Beneficiary** | 7 - CER |
| **Deliverable Name** | Protected value harmonisation action plan | | |
| **Type** | R — Document, report | **Dissemination Level** | PU - Public |

Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025

| Due Date (month) | 45 | Work Package No | WP8 |
|---|---|---|---|

| Description |
|---|
| Document of the action plan with general and area-specific recommendations for the implementation of interventions that promote the preservation of all species of conservation importance will be developed for decision makers, HU |

## Deliverable D8.4 – Technical recommendations for the development of EGS-friendly grassland management practices

| Deliverable Number | D8.4 | Lead Beneficiary | 5 - BNPD |
|---|---|---|---|
| Deliverable Name | Technical recommendations for the development of EGS-friendly grassland management practices | | |
| Type | R — Document, report | Dissemination Level | PU - Public |
| Due Date (month) | 82 | Work Package No | WP8 |

| Description |
|---|
| Technical report document with recommendations for the development of EGS-friendly grassland management practices, HU |

## Deliverable D8.5 – Advisory Service about ground squirrels

| Deliverable Number | D8.5 | Lead Beneficiary | 4 - BEKE |
|---|---|---|---|
| Deliverable Name | Advisory Service about ground squirrels | | |
| Type | R — Document, report | Dissemination Level | PU - Public |
| Due Date (month) | 15 | Work Package No | WP8 |

| Description |
|---|
| Developed advisory service under GCMAS about EGSs for conservation bodies, the general public, farmers, airport and water managers. Minutes, lists of participants, HU |

## Deliverable D8.6 – ‘EGSNet’ system strategy

| Deliverable Number | D8.6 | Lead Beneficiary | 1 - HOI |
|---|---|---|---|
| Deliverable Name | ‘EGSNet’ system strategy | | |
| Type | R — Document, report | Dissemination Level | PU - Public |
| Due Date (month) | 24 | Work Package No | WP8 |

| Description |
|---|
| Prepared strategy for develop and implement ‘EGSNet’ in the distribution area of EGS, EN |

## Deliverable D8.7 – ‘International EGS Technical Committee’

| Deliverable Number | D8.7 | Lead Beneficiary | 1 - HOI |
|---|---|---|---|

Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025

| Deliverable Name | 'International EGS Technical Committee' | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Type | R — Document, report | Dissemination Level | PU - Public |
| Due Date (month) | 12 | Work Package No | WP8 |

| Description |
|---|
| 'International EGS Technical Committee' is founded to facilitate the operation of 'EGSNet' throughout the EGS distribution area. Minutes, operating roles, lists of participants, EN |

## Deliverable D8.8 – Updated Hungarian EGS Species Action Plan

| Deliverable Number | D8.8 | Lead Beneficiary | 1 - HOI |
|---|---|---|---|
| Deliverable Name | Updated Hungarian EGS Species Action Plan | | |
| Type | R — Document, report | Dissemination Level | PU - Public |
| Due Date (month) | 84 | Work Package No | WP8 |

| Description |
|---|
| Hungarian EGS Species Action Plan is revised and updated by the results and findings of the whole project. Document of the action plan, HU, EN |

## Deliverable D8.9 – Urban site-specific action plans

| Deliverable Number | D8.9 | Lead Beneficiary | 1 - HOI |
|---|---|---|---|
| Deliverable Name | Urban site-specific action plans | | |
| Type | R — Document, report | Dissemination Level | PU - Public |
| Due Date (month) | 27 | Work Package No | WP8 |

| Description |
|---|
| Urban site-specific action plans prepared for 6 sites, in electronic format., HU |

## Deliverable D8.10 – Awareness raising events at urban EGS sites

| Deliverable Number | D8.10 | Lead Beneficiary | 1 - HOI |
|---|---|---|---|
| Deliverable Name | Awareness raising events at urban EGS sites | | |
| Type | DEM — Demonstrator, pilot, prototype | Dissemination Level | PU - Public |
| Due Date (month) | 86 | Work Package No | WP8 |

| Description |
|---|
| Yearly awareness raising events organised at urban EGS sites (at least 20 events in total). One-day events for local stakeholders, reports of the events. |

Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025

## Deliverable D8.11 – After-LIFE conservation plan

| **Deliverable Number** | D8.11 | **Lead Beneficiary** | 1 - HOI |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Deliverable Name** | After-LIFE conservation plan | | |
| **Type** | R — Document, report | **Dissemination Level** | PU - Public |
| **Due Date (month)** | 84 | **Work Package No** | WP8 |

| **Description** |
|---|
| After-LIFE conservation plan. EN |

Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025

# LIST OF MILESTONES

**Milestones**

*Grant Preparation (Milestones screen) — Enter the info.*

| Milestone No | Milestone Name | Work Package No | Lead Beneficiary | Means of Verification | Due Date (month) |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | Training for project participants held | WP1 | 1 - HOI | Signed attendance register after the training. | 3 |
| 2 | Steering Committee Set-up | WP1 | 1 - HOI | Signed attendance register after the SC Meeting. | 3 |
| 3 | Equipment purchased | WP1 | 1 - HOI | Invoices of equipment | 44 |
| 4 | Nature conservation permits obtained in Hungary | WP2 | 1 - HOI | Permits | 12 |
| 5 | Nature conservation permits obtained in Romania | WP2 | 8 - MILVUS | Permits | 15 |
| 6 | ‘Colony Logsheet’ system is set up | WP2 | 1 - HOI | GIS database system on the server of COO. | 24 |
| 7 | Permits for ex-situ breeding obtained | WP3 | 3 - BVP | Permits | 22 |
| 8 | Ex-situ breeding facilities at HNPD constructed | WP3 | 6 - HNPD | Photo documentation | 18 |
| 9 | Ex-situ breeding facilities at BVP constructed | WP3 | 3 - BVP | Photo documentation | 20 |
| 10 | Ex-situ breeding stocks started | WP3 | 3 - BVP | Photo documentation, minutes, HU | 22 |
| 11 | ‘Citellus Gardens’ established | WP3 | 3 - BVP | Photo documentation, HU | 35 |
| 12 | Lands purchase realised | WP4 | 6 - HNPD | Sale contracts. | 27 |
| 13 | All wells will be operated | WP4 | 5 - BNPD | Photo documentations, HU | 39 |
| 14 | All feasible EGS translocations/ reintroductions realised | WP5 | 1 - HOI | Reports on succession of new viable colonies founded by reintroduction/translocation, based on monitoring results. | 61 |
| 15 | Survey on impact on stakeholders’ awareness completed | WP6 | 1 - HOI | Filled questionnaires and recorded interviews | 84 |

Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025

**Milestones**

*Grant Preparation (Milestones screen) — Enter the info.*

| Milestone No | Milestone Name | Work Package No | Lead Beneficiary | Means of Verification | Due Date (month) |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | | (at least 700-700 questionnaires & 100-100 interviews from baseline and monitoring survey) | |
| 16 | Project webpages start within the Beneficiaries' websites | WP7 | 2 - ZOO | Public project webpages | 5 |
| 17 | Action plan regarding the survival of ground squirrels in the Pannonian region is spread to relevant decision | WP8 | 7 - CER | Published Action Plan on relevant platforms and forums. | 82 |

# LIST OF CRITICAL RISKS

**Critical risks & risk management strategy**

*Grant Preparation (Critical Risks screen) — Enter the info.*

| Risk number | Description | Work Package No(s) | Proposed Mitigation Measures |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | Unstable prices and unpredictable price increase - due to COVID and wartime situation (i.e. the loss of production caused by lockdowns, fuel availability etc.) economies became hectic and prices became unpredictable in the close and remote future, therefore the prices of salaries, fuel, services, equipment, consumables, etc. (i.e. everything). Low impact Medium likelihood | WP2, WP7, WP3, WP6, WP4, WP1, WP8, WP5 | For the planning of the figures of the budget, an estimation of prices was made upon indicative quotations asked from service providers asking them to indicate also the rate of increase of services/equipment subject of the quoting.<br>On the other hand, it is foreseen that the inflation of the HUF, which has also shown unprecedented rate lately, will somehow compensate for the unforeseen rate of price increase. |
| 2 | Stakeholders not interested High impact Low likelihood | WP7, WP8 | Communication and awareness raising actions helps to involve stakeholders to the processes |

Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025

**Critical risks & risk management strategy**

*Grant Preparation (Critical Risks screen) — Enter the info.*

| Risk number | Description | Work Package No(s) | Proposed Mitigation Measures |
|---|---|---|---|
| 3 | Management is not capable to realise the Project properly High impact Low likelihood | WP1 | An experienced Project manager and financial manager will be employed/contracted who has experience in managing LIFE projects. |
| 4 | Time schedule of the Project is not met due to circumstances beyond our control - If actions build on each other not all would be completed in time (e.g. weather conditions does not allow field surveys or reintroductions activities), that can cause considerable delay in Project implementation. Low impact Medium likelihood | WP2, WP3, WP6, WP4, WP8, WP5 | The time schedule of activities that build on each other are planned with enough flexibility to allow some delay in their implementation. |
| 5 | Natural processes may undermine some Project results (e.g. IAS mitigation and predators' control) – Re-invasion of IAS and relocation of controlled predators may happen without proper maintenance Medium impact Low likelihood | WP4 | After effortful interventions of the Project, national park directorates with proper management in their own property can prevent re-invasion or predators' relocation with low investment. |
| 6 | Objectives of the Project are not achieved - Biodiversity related projects may get into a situation, when they do not meet the objectives (e.g. established colony does not survive) even if all the activities were carried out according to plan. As natural systems are extremely complex, direction of changes as responses to some intervention cannot always be predicted. Low impact Medium likelihood | WP2, WP7, WP3, WP6, WP4, WP1, WP8, WP5 | Proper indicators will be selected to monitor changes. All Project activities would be carefully monitored from the start of the Project. The monitoring would be as much focused as the actions monitored. Changes will be monitored on a scientific basis. 'EGS Conservation Safety Net' will be set. |
| 7 | Obtaining permits may take extra time - Since EGS is a strictly protected species, for some of the activities (e.g. ex-situ breeding, reintroductions, sampling) it is necessary to obtain permits from the relevant nature conservation authorities. Without | WP2, WP3, WP5 | Project activities requiring such permits are not complex issues with difficult procedures and they have already gone through the legal process in several other projects. They are not without example and authorities will not refuse the requests based on previous cases. As for timing, it is important to launch the procedure in time, then authorities will have appropriate time for evaluation and completing the authorisation procedure. |

Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025

**Critical risks & risk management strategy**

*Grant Preparation (Critical Risks screen) — Enter the info.*

| Risk number | Description | Work Package No(s) | Proposed Mitigation Measures |
|---|---|---|---|
| | them, Project activities cannot be carried out legally. High impact Low likelihood | | |
| 8 | State Beneficiary organisations in Hungary go through substantial transformation or end without successor - Some Project elements won't be implemented and activities based on them would fail. Medium impact Low likelihood | WP2, WP7, WP3, WP6, WP4, WP1, WP8, WP5 | Although there were major changes in governmental natural conservation organisations in Hungary, these changes were divisions or merges of companies. Successors-predecessors were always named. It is a constitutional law that nature protection goals cannot be harmed. MILVUS in Romania has lower dependence of governmental structure. |

Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025



# Programme for the Environment and Climate Action (LIFE)

# Description of the action (DoA)

**Part B**

Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025



# TABLE OF CONTENTS

**PROJECT SUMMARY** ..... **1**
**1. RELEVANCE** ..... **1**
1.1 Background and general project objectives ..... 1
1.2 Specific project objectives ..... 9
1.3 Compliance with LIFE programme objectives and call topic ..... 10
1.4 Concept and methodology ..... 11
1.5 Upscaling results of other EU funded projects ..... 15
1.6 Complementarity with other actions ..... 16
1.7 Synergies and co-benefits with other LIFE sub-programmes ..... 16
1.8 Synergies and co-benefits with other EU policy areas ..... 19
**2. IMPACT** ..... **20**
2.1 Ambition of the impacts ..... 20
2.2 Credibility of the impacts ..... 31
2.3 Sustainability of project results ..... 32
2.4 Exploitation of project results ..... 34
2.5 Catalytic potential: Replication and upscaling ..... 35
**3. IMPLEMENTATION** ..... **35**
3.1 Work plan ..... 35
*Timetable* ..... *37*
3.2 Stakeholder engagement ..... 41
3.3 Impact monitoring and reporting ..... 42
3.4 Communication, dissemination and visibility ..... 43
**4. RESOURCES** ..... **47**
4.1 Consortium set-up ..... 47
4.2 Project management ..... 48
4.3 Green management ..... 49
4.4 Budget ..... 50
**5. OTHER** ..... **50**
5.1 Ethics ..... 50
5.2 Security ..... 50
**6. DECLARATIONS** ..... **51**
**ANNEXES** ..... **52**

#@APP-FORM-LIFESAPOAG@#
#@PRJ-SUM-PS@# [This document is tagged. Do not delete the tags; they are needed for the processing.]

# PROJECT SUMMARY

| **Project summary** |
| --- |
| See Abstract (Application Form Part A). |

#§PRJ-SUM-PS§# #@REL-EVA-RE@# #@PRJ-OBJ-PO@#

# 1. RELEVANCE

## 1.1 Background and general project objectives

| **Background and general project objectives** |
| --- |

Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025



*Explain the problem and the needs to be addressed in the project. Describe the background, starting point / quantified baseline of the project.*

*Please explain in which location and/or sector the main activities of the project will take place and justify that choice.*

*For Nature and Biodiversity:*

*Provide a clear and quantified description of the conservation issue and threats targeted, as well as relevant background information and quantified figures defining the baseline to justify the proposed Interventions by*

*At stage 1 (concept note) when relevant, describe the main species/habitats directly targeted by the project: scientific name; refer to the Annex(es) of the EU Birds or Habitats Directive where they are listed; population size within each project area; conservation status; habitat name and Natura 2000 code; % of the cover within each project area; conservation status.*

*At stage 2 (full proposals), when relevant, provide a brief description of the areas where conservation actions will be implemented and main species and / or main habitats directly targeted by the project, and submit the following annexes:*

- *maps*
- *description of sites*
- *description of species and habitats*

*Describe the previous conservation efforts in the project area or for the habitats/species targeted.*

*For Circular Economy and Quality of Life (n/a to Environmental governance topics):*

*Describe the previous technical preparatory work and results of previous research and development activities, showing the status of technical development achieved for the proposed solution, including the technical readiness level (TRL) where relevant and proving its technical feasibility.*

*Explain the scale at which such results have been obtained and if prototypes have been already developed and tested. Their scale/dimension and relevant results and conclusions have to be clearly presented. Illustrate available best practices in the relevant sector (state of the art) and clearly and concisely explain the environmental, technical and economical improved performances/ advantages introduced by the proposed solution in case this is claimed to be innovative/ demonstrative.*

**Prior knowledge**

• European Ground Squirrel (EGS)

• *Spermophilus citellus*, Linnaeus, 1766;

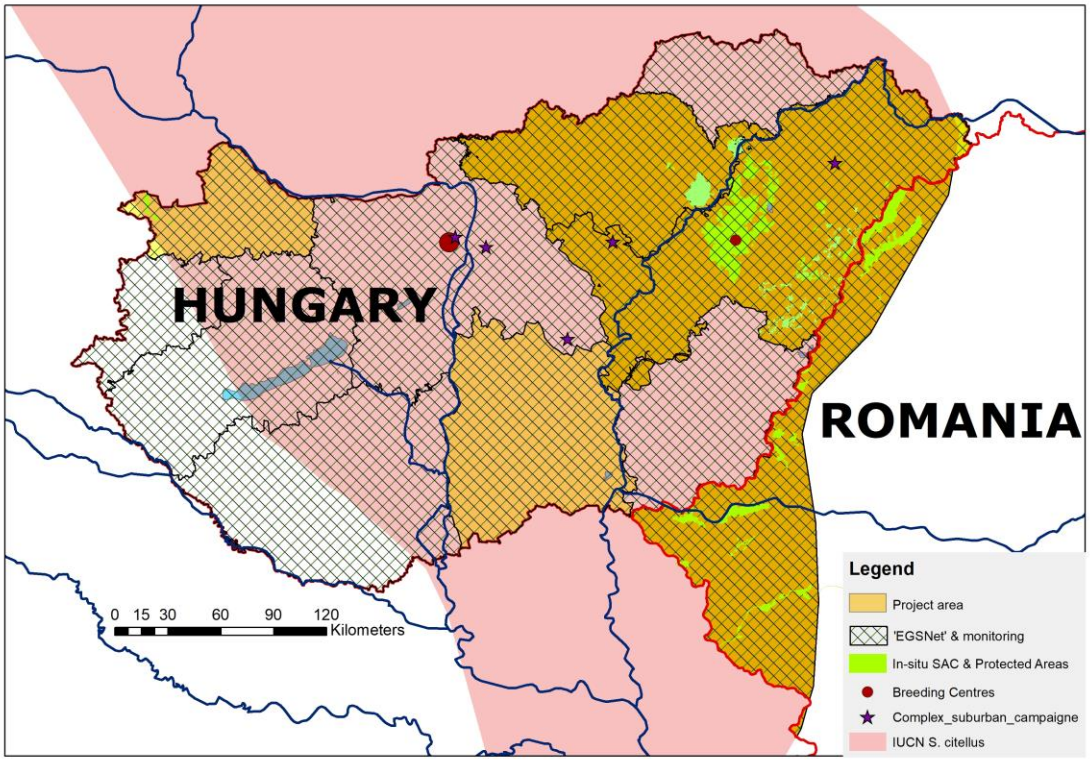
• HD Annexes: II., IV.; IUCN: endangered, decreasing;

• HU nationally: fluctuating 70 000 - 140 000 individuals (2018) decreasing; in project areas: about 50% of HU population; RO Pannonian part: 100 000 – 150 000 individuals, heavily decreasing; in project areas: 60-70% of West RO population.

• Conservation status within project areas: decreasing, similar to the national or European conservation status of the species.

The European ground squirrel (EGS, see the explanation of abbreviations in the attached list of abbreviations in 'Other annexes'), *S. citellus* is a medium-sized, hibernating European sciurid favouring short-grass natural meadows and recently more and more linked to semi-natural, managed grasslands (airfields, golf courses, recreational areas, vineyards). It is a key and engineer species of the steppic ecosystem and endemic to Central and South-eastern Europe. EGS changes the soil's physical, chemical characteristics significantly, and creates suitable microhabitats with its burrows for other vertebrate and invertebrate species (e.g. *Bufo bufo, Vipera ursinii rakosiensis,Onthophagus vitulus, Aphodius citellorum*) EGS is also an important prey for several endangered top predators, such as the Imperial eagle *(Aquila heliaca)*, the Saker falcon *(Falco cherrug)* (listed in Annex I of the Birds Directive), the Steppe polecat *(Mustela eversmanii)*, and the Marbled polecat *(Vormela peregusna)*, contributing considerably to their nesting success or litter survival compared to other preys (e.g. pigeons).

The geographical range of the EGS consists of two distinct parts divided by the Carpathian Mountains. The western (Pannonian) part extends from Southern Poland through the Czech Republic and Eastern Austria through Slovakia and Hungary into the Pannonian part of Romania, Serbia and Croatia. The eastern part of the range includes the Trans-Carpathian region of Ukraine, Romania, part of Moldova, Bulgaria, the south-eastern part of Macedonia, the north-eastern part of Greece, and the European part of Turkey.




*MAP1. CitellusLIFE project area and the IUCN distribution map of EGS.*

There have been several separate research results on the EGS so far. The studies and analyses spread from basic research on its ecology (Gedeon et al. 2010, Katona et al. 2002), physiology (Németh et al. 2009), ethology (Váczi et al. 2006), genetic diversity (Gedeon et al. 2017, Hulova & Sedlacek 2008), climatic requirements (Demirtaş 2020), distribution (Rammou et al. 2023, Zidarova & Popov 2022), habitat requirements (Szórádi et al. 2020), food composition (Győri-Koósz & Faragó 2017), to applied conservation research on monitoring activity (Gedeon et al, 2022, Váczi 2019), practical conservation interventions as translocations (Gedeon et al. 2011, 2012) or details of habitat management features (Kis et al. 1998). In addition to the mosaics of individual research, a lot of practical experience has been accumulated in the form of best practices developed by national park directorates, NGOs and other conservation organisations and practitioners. These best practices apply to habitat management, the most effective solutions for site protection, a list of key and active species-related interventions, for instance capture, transport and release during translocations.

Several local communication campaigns have been carried out in recent years and decades to protect EGS. In 2015 a year-long campaign was carried out under the Mammals of the Year initiative, thanks to the WildWatcher (Vadonleső) Programme which chose the EGS as the winner of this year. Last but not least, there were EU founded conservation projects whose main objective was to implement different conservation activities, but which also led to interventions that benefited some EGS colonies and significantly increased our practical knowledge of EGS. Among these, we should highlight the results of the project ‘Securing prey sources for endangered *Falco cherrug* and *Aquila heliaca* population in the Carpathian Basin’ (RAPTORSPREYLIFE, LIFE13 NAT/HU/000183), which was closed a few years ago. Based on the results of this project we can build our planned EGS conservation activities at several points, as well as the supporting activities of the ongoing project titled ‘Long-term conservation of Pannonian grasslands and related habitats through the implementation of Prioritized Action Framework (PAF) strategic measures' (GRASSLAND-HU LIFE Integrated Project, LIFE17 IPE/HU/000018). This project will result in the development of a species action plan for the Hungarian EGS population in the end of 2024 or the beginning of 2025. Summary of relevant actions of these related projects are summarized in the following table.

| Conservation | Activity achieved in | Activity of | Activity planned in |
|---|---|---|---|

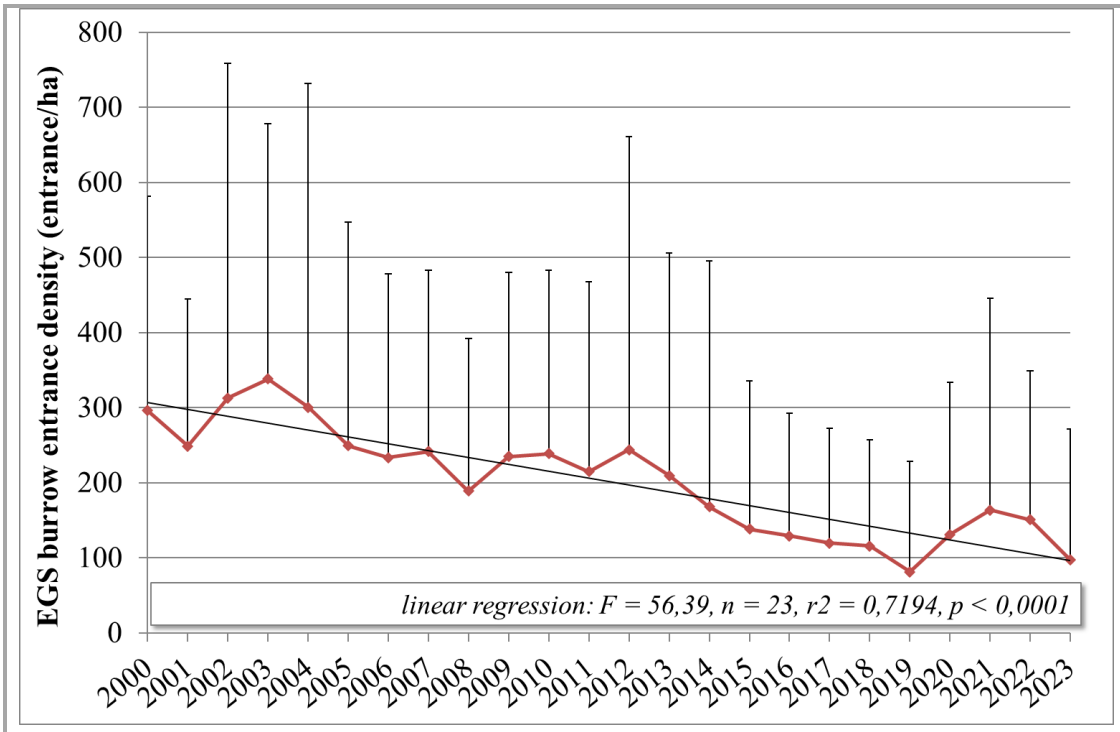
| activity | RAPTORSPREY LIFE | GRASSLAND IP | CitellusLIFE |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Baseline survey of population status of EGS** | Conservation status measured in 2018 | - | Conservation status planned to measure in 2026 and 2032 |
| **Genetic status of EGS** | About one fifth of Hungarian population was sampled and analysed by phylogenetic methods and find that rivers Danube and Tisza can be a moderate corridor for the dispersion of the species. Population genetic analysis using microsatellites. | - | Modern RAD-seq methods supported by whole genome analysis are planned, sampled in every affected and additional marginal positioned populations of EGS in Hungary and West Romania. Translocation decisions support will be enabled by genetic point of view and all newly involved populations will be able to fit in the generated genetic map in the future. The results will also provide a genetic health map for conservation planning. |
| **National EGS Conservation Plan** | Background data collection | Endorsed EGS Conservation Plan in 2024 | EGS Conservation Plan revision in 2030 |
| **EU Species Action Plan** | - | Revision of EGS EU SAP | Implementation of revised EGS EU SAP in the Pannon region |
| **Health status of EGS populations on individual level** | - | Sampling for virological studies. | Comprehensive health assessments to strengthen the safety of translocations and other interventions. |
| **EGS translocations** | 18 translocation actions | | Long-term successful EGS translocations, 7-12 from natural sources and 4-8 from bred sources. |
| **Indoor breeding of EGS** | Worked out methodology with small capacity of breeding | - | Long-term indoor breeding programme will be launched in parallel on the three genetic linages of Hungary. |
| **Enclosure reproduction** | - | - | ‘Citellus Gardens' will be established and operated in three sites in Hungary |
| **Habitat reconstructions** | Land purchase and habitat management in 135 ha. | EGS habitats were not involved in the reconstruction efforts. | Land purchase (8.34 ha), arable lands are converted into grasslands (8.34 ha), remove native shrub species (225.5 ha), elimination of invasive alien plants (40.5 ha), dug wells renovation or construction (41), which results 7000 hectares of new grazable area suitable as habitat for EGS |
| **Habitat suitability mapping** | Reintroduction sites were assessed for flooding and inland water risks. | General grassland habitat quality characterisation | Work out Standard Protocol of EGS Habitat Suitability Characterization and evaluation of habitat suitability |
| **Advisory Service** | Advisory Service operated during the | Set up and operate | Advisory Service about ground squirrels established |

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| | project period on the targeted habitats of EGS. | Grassland Conservation Management Advisory Service (GCMAS) | and operate in GCMAS |

Although there is an active communication between the executors of each conservation measure, every actor develops their own preferred solutions, without knowing why one solution works better than another. Only the translocations of EGS individuals and their monitoring activity can be regarded as centrally coordinated activities. Under the supervision of the Deputy State Secretariat for Nature Conservation of the Ministry of Agriculture, each year translocations are carried out according to an annual reintroduction plan discussed and agreed by the experts, which helps to coordinate activities, for example to prevent over-use of source populations. Standardised monitoring of EGS at permanent sampling sites has taken place in the country since 2000 as part of the Hungarian Biodiversity Monitoring System (HBMS) (Váczi et al. 2015).

**Current status of the EGS population in the Pannonian region**

Despite all conservation efforts in regional and local level, national monitoring activities (see fig. 1) and international experience show that **the EGS population in the region (as well as the global population) is declining,** as indicated by the decreasing number of colonies, that has shrinking size in many cases, and the decline in numbers of individuals. The number of colonies where expansion or an increase in numbers is locally observed, is proportionally very small and insufficient to ensure the long-term survival of the species. A worrying phenomenon is the increasing isolation of the populations, which makes spontaneous mixing and expansion increasingly impossible. In western Romania, an estimated 40-50% of ground squirrel colonies are situated outside any type of protected areas, making them the most vulnerable to threats chiefly caused by agricultural intensification, infrastructural development and urbanization. These populations are primarily located near settlements, where the listed threats are most prevalent. Most of these areas are located in regions where public attitudes must first be shaped through communication and awareness-raising campaigns in order for a potential initiative to designate the area as protected to gain support and become feasible in the future. Nevertheless, this process may take many years or even decades. Some of these populations are viable, counting thousands of individuals, and can therefore be used as source populations for relocations or reintroductions, without the extraction of donor individuals affecting the population. Based on scientific results and practical experience mentioned above, a number of threats have been proven and others are likely to have effect. Neither human activity, nor the spread of urbanisation, nor the current processes of climate change can realistically be halted and in particular reversed, in short or medium term. For this reason, we can only build on possible spatial planning and adaptation solutions. A project titled ‘Conservation of the European Ground Squirrel *(Spermophilus citellus)* at the northwestern border of its range’ (LIFE SYSEL, LIFE19 NAT/SK/001069) is currently under implementation to conserve the northern EGS populations in the Pannonian region, but **there is no comprehensive and coordinated action for the species conservation in the Pannonian region,** which can be identified as the core distribution area of the western, strongest wing of the distribution of EGS.




**The conservation importance and central ecological role of the EGS**

The EGS is a small to medium-sized, day active, winter hibernator rodent of the currently human managed short grass steppe habitat (see description of species in dedicated annex: 'Description of species and habitats'). From ecological point of view, the species is considered as a keystone species and as an ecological engineer, based on its ability to favourably modify soil conditions, its influence on the composition and structure of vegetation and living communities, its ability to create habitats for other species and its role as an important food source for several valuable terrestrial and aerial predators. It is an excellent indicator species of the short grass steppe ecosystem, thanks to its sensitivity for environmental changes and suitability for easily implemented monitoring. Its role as an umbrella species in nature conservation awareness raising is enhanced by its kind appearance, and presence in fiction literature and tales. Furthermore, it is an emblematic short grass steppe ('pusztai') animal that is also easy to present. Its central role from many points of view listed above, makes it a perfect model for both public and higher education, especially in teaching of zoology, ecology, ethology and nature conservation.

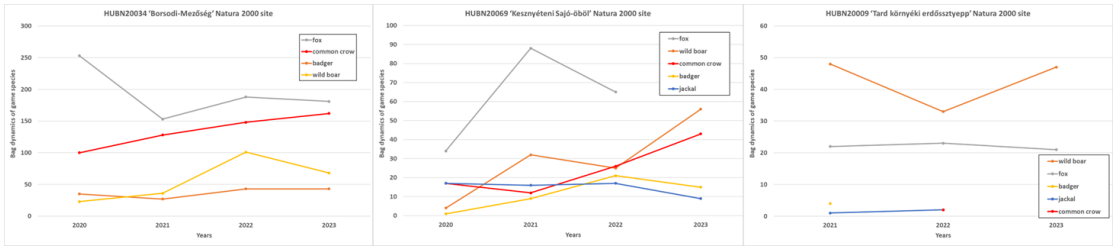



*Figure WP4/1. Population change of predatory animal species based on shot data in the area of the relevant wildlife management units in BNPD*

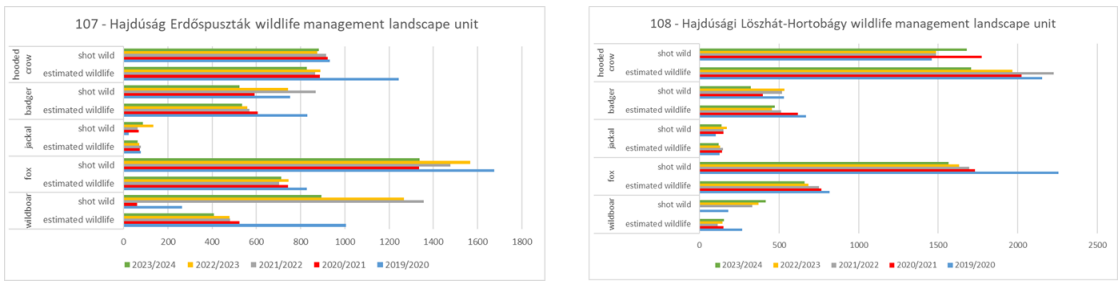



*Figure WP4/2. Population change of predatory animal species based on shot data in the area of the*

*relevant wildlife management units in HNPD*

**Reasons of the insufficiency of current conservation efforts for EGS in the Pannonian region**

Serious conservation interventions that had significant success at local scale and in isolated way were implemented but have never been aimed at facilitation the survival of the entire Pannonian EGS population. Due to the lack of coordinated, conceptually linked, mutually reinforcing chain of activities, they had **not sufficiently beneficial effect on the entire Pannonian EGS population.** For example, one of the most successful series of such interventions, under the RAPTORSPREYLIFE scheme, was aimed at securing the long-term food source of endangered birds of prey and focused on - among other prey species - the maintenance of several EGS colonies as important prey species. However, the selection of colonies and sites of translocations, the designation of habitat reconstructions and the design of conservation interventions in general did not have the survival of the entire EGS population of the region as an ultimate goal, as the project focused primarily on the conservation of birds of prey. While the loss of ground squirrel habitats as a consequence of land conversion and infrastructural development is still a serious overarching issue in western Romania, local conservation actions have their legitimacy, when targeting the maintenance or strengthening of populations inside protected areas, with potentially important benefits on the survival of the species on the local or regional level. Despite the considerable agricultural intensification negatively affecting grasslands outside Natura 2000 areas, protection of ground squirrel habitats within protected sites is guaranteed by authorities. At the same time, relocations can often have the additional benefit of saving individuals from source populations exposed to habitat destruction. Any illegal activities will be reported to authorities during the monitoring of the grasslands. Summarising the above, through our project actions, we are shifting the main area of occurrence of the Romanian populations to protected areas, where the conditions for the long-term survival of the colonies are ensured. According to our experiences, the EGS population is not subjected to a single major threat and problem that causes the overall decline, but there are seemingly a number of mutually reinforcing effects. Only concurrent elimination or at least reduction of them can lead to a positive outcome and ensure the survival of the entire Pannonian population. It means a coordinated task and further challenges, which need to be fully thought over and achieved.

**A plan for the long-term survival of the EGS population in the Pannonian region**

The general objective of the project is to ensure the survival of the three distinct genetic lineages identified in the Pannonian EGS population with the help of the ‘stretching’ of an ‘EGS Conservation Safety Net’ (‘EGSNet’) created by coordinating local efforts, which is **the most important guarantee for the survival of the worldwide EGS population by maintaining a viable population in this region.** Except the relatively few cases, where natural connectivity can and should be secured by maintaining or creating ecological corridors, natural migration between local populations must be replaced by artificial interventions. These will be achieved by a range of other conservation measures (e.g. elaboration of a colony-level registration system with ‘Colony Logsheets’, local communication activities), different development activities (e.g. establishment of indoor breeding centres and ‘Citellus Gardens’) and field interventions for the benefit of the species (e.g. habitat creation and their expansion, maintenance and improvement of habitat quality). All these activities should be carried out in a coordinated manner across the entire EGS population. Without this, the grassland ecosystems, of which the EGS is a key component, will face radical transformation, decay, degradation and a significant increase in their vulnerability, as this small mammal is a favoured prey for many rare and valuable predators and means a habitat creator for many protected vertebrate and invertebrate species. In one word it is an ecosystem engineer of temperate grassland ecosystems. Consequently, its conservation also helps to maintain or improve the status of valuable plant species and communities.

Several criteria have been considered in the selection of sites for direct conservation activities of the Project. Four of the ten national park directorates in Hungary were selected as partners (or associated partners) in the Project. Some of them have already played an active role in many projects dealing with EGS conservation and have therefore gained a lot of experience in this field, but there are also some directorates that have not yet received any significant funding to improve the status of their EGS colonies. It should be added that in Hungary the entire geographical area of the country (both protected and unprotected areas) is divided between ten national park directorates, so that in any point of the country one of the national

park directorates is the nature conservation management body. This means that in approximately 40% of the country's territory, the project partners are responsible for the management of the protected areas, with all their powers and prerogatives. We have also received the professional support of the national park directorates (five from six) that are not among the project partners. It means that they will take into account the methods, standards, sampling protocols, best practices and any useful experience developed during the project process. (There is no active EGS colony in the operational area of Körös-Maros National Park Directorate.) In case of applicability, they will apply them in order to implement the appropriate conservation of the EGS colonies in their own territory (see letters of support in the annex 'Letters of support'). In Romania, MILVUS Group Association is the actor who can implement and transmit best practice information about EGS management in their country. These knowledge transfers will ensure that the results of our application will be considered in the selection of appropriate management for all Hungarian and West Romanian EGS populations.

Fortunately, the number of EGS colonies in the core of the Pannonian region is still high enough and it is not possible but even not necessary to intervene directly in all of them during the period of the Project. Therefore, those colonies will be selected for these activities that are stable and large (as donor colonies for reintroductions), or in need of reinforcement due to other avoidable threats in addition to isolation effects, or in suitable situations for the establishment of ecological corridors. Further colonies will be selected that are in situations that can be significantly improved by habitat reconstruction, or in need of support for land management, or under pressure from overpopulation of predator and game species (current predator pressures are demonstrated in the description of WP4 T.4.2). Colonies most disturbed by recreational activities near settlements will also be selected. These are the areas where interventions have the most beneficial effects for the Pannonian EGS population as a whole. The selection also included a list of safety (reserve) areas that could be used in place of pre-selected but currently unsuitable areas, based on the results of monitoring implemented immediately prior to the interventions. The interventions in the finally selected areas are also examples of good practice that can be transferred to other colonies in similar situations. The choice of the location of the breeding centres was made considering the geographical position of each genetic lineage, the availability of appropriate infrastructure, the reliability of the provision of care and veterinary supervision. During the selection the main aspect was to ensure the long-term sustainability of the project. The closer the location of the centres is situated according to these aspects, the better it was regarded as suitable. (Maps and detailed descriptions of the areas are attached in the annexes 'Maps' and 'Description of sites'.)

**Main objective of the Project**

To ensure the survival of the three distinct genetic lineages identified in the Pannonian EGS population with the help of the 'stretching' of an 'EGSNet' created by coordinating local (and regional, national or even international) efforts, which is the most important guarantee for the survival of the worldwide EGS population by maintaining a viable population in this region. (See logical framework matrix in annex 'Other annexes'.)

Demirtaş, S.: Estimation of the Climate Preference Between Two Lineages of Euro-pean Ground Squirrel Using Maximum Entropy Modeling. Journal of Advanced Research in Natural and Applied Sciences 6 (2): 328-341. doi.org/10.28979/jarnas.844850

Gedeon, Cs., Váczi, O., Koósz, B. & Altbäcker, V. 2011: Morning release into artificial burrows with retention caps facilitates success of European ground squirrel (Spermophilus citellus) translocations. - European Journal of Wildlife Research, 57: 1101-1105.

Gedeon, C. I., Boross, G., Németh, A. & Altbäcker, V. 2012: Release Site Manipulation to Favour European Ground Squirrel *Spermophilus citellus* Translocations: Translocation and Habitat Manipulation. Wildl. Biol., 18: 97–104.

Gedeon, C. I., Hoffmann, I., E., Váczi, O, Knauer, F., Ben Slimen, H., Stefanovic, M., Lehoczky, É., Laborczi, A. & Suchentrunk, F. 2017: The Role of Landscape History in Determining Allelic Richness of European Ground Squirrels *(Spermophilus Citellus)* in Central Europe. Hystrix, 28: 240–246.

Győri-Koósz, B. & Faragó, S. 2017: Az Ürge (Spermophilus Citellus) Tápláléknövényei, Mint Potenciális Elterjedési Tényezők, Ökológiai Értékelésük Alapján. Magy. Apróvad

Közlemények, 13: 161–175.

Hulova, S., & Sedlacek, F. 2008: Population genetic structure of the European ground squirrel in the Czech Republic. Conserv Genet, 9: 615-625.

Katona, K., Váczi, O. & Altbäcker, V. 2002: Topographic distribution and daily activity of the European ground squirrel population in Bugacpuszta, Hungary. Acta Theriolgica, 47 :45–54.

Kis, J., Váczi, O., Katona, K. & Altbäcker, V. 1998: A növényzet magasságának hatása a cinegési ürgék élőhelyválasztására. [The effect of vegetation height to habitat selection of ground squirrels in Cinegés. In Hungarian with English abstract]. Termvéd Közl, 7:117–123.

Németh, I., Nyitrai, V., & Altbäcker, V. 2009. Ambient temperature and annual timing affect torpor bouts and euthermic phases of European ground squirrels *(Spermophilus citellus)*. Canadian Journal of Zoology, 87: 204–210.

Rammou, D. L., Karaiskou, N., Minoudi, S., Kazilas C., Moulistanos, A., Gkagkavouzis, Ćirović, D., Nikolić, T., Ćosić, N., Youlatos, D. & Triantafyllidis, A. 2023: Phylogeography of the European ground squirrel, Spermophilus citellus (Rodentia: Sciuridae), in the Balkans. Biological Journal of the Linnean Society, 2023, XX: 1–15.

Szórádi, Zs., Csete, S. & Altbäcker, V. 2020: Ürgék gyakoriságát befolyásoló élőhelyi tényezők vizsgálata. Természetvédelmi Közlemények 26: 93–108. DOI: 10.20332/tvk-jnatconserv.2020.26.93

Fülöp, T. & Sike, T. 2011: Notes about the European Ground Squirrel *(Spermophilus citellus)* living on the sandy grasslands from Foieni. Satu Mare – Studii şi Comunicări Seria Ştiinţele Naturii XII(2011): 139-144.

Váczi, O. 2019: Az ürge hosszútávú, országos monitorozása. (pp. 13-42). In Váczi, O., Varga, I. & Bakó, B. (Ed.). A Nemzeti Biodiverzitás-monitorozó Rendszer Eredményei II. – Gerinces Állatok. (p. 200). Körös-Maros Nemzeti Park Igazgatóság, Szarvas.

Váczi, O., Koósz, B. & Altbäcker, V. 2006: Modified ambient temperature perception affects daily activity patterns in the European ground squirrel *(Spermophilus citellus)*. J Mammal, 87: 54–59.

Váczi, O., Altbäcker, V. & Takács, G. 2015: Ürgemonitorozás. – Nemzeti Biodiverzitás-monitorozó Rendszer központi protokoll. Agrárminisztérium, Budapest, pp. 9. https://termeszetvedelem.hu/_user/browser/File/NBmR/eml%C5%91s%C3%B6k/TIR_NBMR_%C3%9Crge_20150417.pdf

Zidarova, S. A. & Popov, V. V. 2020: Long term (1985–2018) changes of the habitat suitability of european souslik assessed by maxent modelling based on landsat satellite imagery – a case study from a mountain landscape of Central Bulgaria. Acta Zoologica Academiae Scientiarum Hungaricae 68(3), pp. 277–292. DOI: 10.17109/AZH.68.3.27

## 1.2 Specific project objectives

**Specific project objectives**

*Describe the specific objectives of your project (clear, measureable, realistic and achievable within the duration of the project).*

**Project specific objectives:**

• Development and start of the implementation (on the basis of a coordinated strategy) of an ‘EGS Conservation Safety Net’ (‘EGSNet’) system for EGS populations, that will largely rely on the constructed ‘Colony Logsheets' system and the ‘International EGS Technical Committee’ to ensure survival of the EGS.

• Based on the results of the RAPTORSPREYLIFE genetic and breeding studies, the takeover and capacity improvement of experimental breeding centre (Transdanubian) and the establishment of two new ex-situ EGS breeding centres in Hungary (Danube-Tisza interfluve and Transtisza) in order to preserve genetic diversity and serve individuals for reintroductions. Implementation of several reintroductions/translocations into suitable locations to strengthen

existing colonies and form new ones.

• Establishment and development of in situ but controlled (semi-wild) EGS colonies (‘Citellus Gardens’), protected from adverse external influences, and regular translocations from these breeding populations – which are unable to spread due to limited area and isolation – to suitable habitats.

• Identification of the remaining metapopulation structures, transfer of the experiences gained from them as ‘good practices’ to other suitable areas for the establishment of ecological linkages and for the planning and implementation of treatments and habitat maintenance interventions.

• Habitat restoration interventions (scrub cutting, IAS elimination, creation of grazing infrastructure, formation of ecological corridors, control of predators, etc.) for habitat reconstruction in order to maintain the EGS in its ‘original’ habitats, to increase its population numbers and, where possible, to link them by ecological corridors. Further planned activities are the enhancement of the positive effects on other high value members of the habitat community (vascular plants, invertebrate species, amphibian and reptile species, predator and ground-nesting bird species, etc.) and the elimination of any negative effects, and the formulation of prioritisation principles. Once the planned restorations are completed, favourable habitat status can be maintained by the concerned national park directorate with low investment.

• A comprehensive assessment of the health status of colonies, using a multidisciplinary, generalisable and repeatable methodology. The assessment will include exploration and localizations of the threatening factors, mapping hazards, detailed elaboration of the methods for the most favourable management of the EGS sites, beside prevention and remove of threats, mitigation of negative effects and presentation of those listed in a demonstration project.

• Communication and dissemination campaigns to increase the local, national and international public acceptance and knowledge of the EGS, e.g. by short movies, educational games, book and brief publications, leaflets, scientific publications and awareness-raising events etc.

• Development of a ‘tourism marketing and attraction’ for the EGS with the help of tourism organisations that can be involved as partners in the promotion and publicity, and in situ presentation of a few selected populations in non-disturbed habitats and under controlled conditions.

• Scientific knowledge-based interventions, their subsequent monitoring, methodological development and documentation. During the activities related to animal healthcare with special attention to pathogens that can spread from animals to humans and the possibilities of prevention.

## 1.3 Compliance with LIFE programme objectives and call topic

**Compliance with LIFE Programme objectives**

*Explain how the project contributes to the specific objectives of the LIFE Programme and the sub-programme targeted by the call (Nature and Biodiversity, Circular Economy and Quality of Life, Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation or Clean Energy Transition).*

The project contributes to the specific objective of the topic Nature & Biodiversity:

- to develop, demonstrate, promote and stimulate scale up of innovative techniques (see Chapter 2.1), methods (see Chapter 1.4) and approaches (including nature-based solutions and ecosystem approach) for reaching the objectives of the EU legislation and policy on nature and biodiversity, and to contribute to the knowledge base (WP2) and to the application of best practices (WP5), including through the support of the Natura 2000 network (WP4);
- to support the development, implementation, monitoring and enforcement of EU legislation and policy on nature and biodiversity (see Chapter 1.8), including by improving governance at all levels, in particular through enhancing capacities of public and private actors and the

involvement of civil society, different stakeholders (see Chapter 3.3), also taking into due consideration the possible contributions provided by citizen science (T.7.1.8);

- to catalyse the large-scale deployment of successful solutions/approaches for implementing EU legislation and policy on nature and biodiversity, by replicating results, integrating related objectives into other policies and into public and private sectors (WP7, WP8).

**Compliance with the call topic**

*Indicate the call topic to which your proposal relates, and explain how the proposed project addresses the scope of the topic description in the Call document.*

The project relates to the call topic 'Nature and Biodiversity' thought the intervention area:

- **Intervention area: 'Space for Nature'**

Improving the condition of EGS through area-based conservation and restoration of its habitat. This includes restoring and improving habitats of EGS, both within and outside existing protected areas. This will improve the biodiversity focus and contribute to the development of existing protected areas and ecological corridors. The Project is testing and demonstrating new site management approaches and acting on pressures e.g. on climate change.

- **Intervention area: 'Safeguarding our Species'**

The project aims at improving the condition of EGS (or, in the case of invasive alien species, reducing their impact) through relevant activities other than area-based conservation or restoration measures fall within the scope of the intervention area 'Safeguarding our species'. Considering the broad range of threats that may act on this species in addition to the degradation of their habitats, this project applies to a wide range of relevant measures, spanning from hard infrastructural works to raise awareness of stakeholders.

#§PRJ-OBJ-PO§# #@CON-MET-CM@#

## 1.4 Concept and methodology

**Concept and methodology**

*Describe the overall intervention logic of the project, including the main idea and assumptions (i.e. how are the proposed activities and steps of your project expected to lead to the intended changes in terms of outcomes and impacts).*

*Explain the methodology, i.e. the main tools, techniques, methods and procedures you will use to implement the technical part of your project. Justify why the proposed methodology is the most suitable for achieving the project's objectives.*

*For Clean Energy Transition:*

*Describe the market barriers, the needs and constraints of market actors, and how your concept will address them concretely.*

*For Circular Economy and Quality of Life (n/a to Environmental governance topics):*

*Describe the technical details of the proposed solution (process, material, product etc.) using a flowchart and including, where possible, the general mass and energy balance. Explain how you plan to establish your supply chain.*

*Specify the scale (e.g. production capacity) and output of the project (e.g. quantity produced/sold during the project). The chosen technical scale should be one that allows the evaluation of the technical and economic viability of the proposed solution. In case of close-to-market conditions the target should be industrial/commercial scale already during the project.*

**Overall intervention logic**

Nowadays, it has become obvious that the support of previous and current conservation efforts, primarily due to the continuous reduction of habitats, will not stop the decline of European Ground Squirrel populations (EGS), only mitigate the decline. There is a need for a more comprehensive, complex action plan as – figuratively speaking – in 'stretching' of an **'EGS Conservation Safety Net'** ('EGSNet'), which means that, except the relatively few cases, where natural connectivity can and should be secured by maintaining or creating ecological corridors, natural migration between local populations must be replaced by artificial interventions. These will be achieved by a range of other conservation measures, different

development activities and field interventions for the benefit of the species. All these activities should be carried out in a coordinated manner across the entire EGS population, and it is crucial to involve biomedical, ecological, sociological approaches simultaneously, and the participation of various partners representing scientists, nature conservationists, land owners, NGOs, farmers and any stakeholders influenced by EGS.

**Conservation target: EGS populations**

In addition to the species' IUCN 'Endangered' status (Hegyeli 2020), presence in the annexes (II, IV) of the Habitat Directive, the species has a disproportionately strong influence on ecosystem functions and services provided by grasslands (including the soil ecosystem). This **special ecological status underlines the need for the species' accentuated conservation.** It means that their extinction can result in severe destabilisation of grasslands and can lead to further species losses under- and aboveground as well or even may undermine human well-being. For instance, they are important for maintaining good soil structure through burrowing and corresponding aeration and increased water infiltration. They also contribute to soil fertility, controlling invasive species, providing living space and refuge to a number of animals and food to countless predators and scavengers (e.g. Peregrine falcon, eagles, common buzzard, red kite, European and steppe polecats).

**Main ideas, assumptions, approach**

The **CitellusLIFE project** would concentrate on the EGS, as an endangered, keystone and indicator species of the Pannonia steppes or grasslands. The project consortium includes various partners from Hungary (Herman Ottó Institute Nonprofit Ltd., Bükk National Park Directorate (NPD), Hortobágy NPD, Fertő-Hanság NPD, Kiskunság NPD, Budakeszi Wildlife Park, Bükk Mammalogical Research Society, Foundation for Budapest Zoo, University of Debrecen, Centre for Ecological Research) and Romania (MILVUS Group Association) with appropriate and complementary expertise. The project aims at coordinating, effectively and efficiently holding together those partners for the successful conservation of the species in the core of the west part of its range (Hegyeli 2020; Mateju et al. 2012). This concerted approach using the same methods and protocols by all partners and compared to earlier, smaller scale projects in Hungary (RAPTORSPREYLIFE) or Slovakia (LIFE SYSEL including also Czech Republic and Poland), would **focus specifically on EGS on larger and core areas of its western distribution range covering hundreds of colonies**. It gives a good methodological example for other countries in the future, and by that would improve its conservation in the long-term and at an even larger geographical scale. The overall aim and result will be to halt and reverse its decline, increase its habitat, and improve population health on a much larger area of the western range of the species. It will complement the former efforts of the RAPTORSPREYLIFE or GRASSLAND-HU LIFE Integrated Project (i.e. implement and later update the Hungarian EGS species action plan developed by GRASSLAND LIFE IP or train Network of Grassland Conservation Advisors to special habitat management required for EGS to sharing through advising activity of GCAs) (see also the table of Chapter 1.1).

The project would encompass **transnational, harmonised, standardised** and **accurate** (repeatable and measurable) **approaches to identify the drivers of colony declines and collapses, to monitor the health of wildlife populations** (Stephen 2022), and in the light of the actual status of population health, it would identify management actions to mitigate the reasons of the declines by actions, such as enlarging the area of occupation, connecting habitats (e.g. mowing, grazing, land purchases) and colonies by habitat corridors, or improving habitat quality by adequate grassland management (T.4.3). These combined with animal translocations and reintroductions (WP5) will improve the conservation status and chances of survival of colonies and the species as a whole in the Pannonian ecoregion.

The project's **transnational aspect** including different EGS habitats within the species distribution area is an important asset. Besides, the various campaign elements, education and outreach efforts reaching out to a larger number of people can help increase understanding and appreciation for EGS and their role in the ecosystem and engage the public in the conservation of the species. Actions within the project will also try to deal with threats or problems that may appear sporadically in certain colonies, such as reducing poaching via increased guarding by the state ranger service and sensitised citizens, reducing habitat pollution when toxic elements are found in habitats, controlling the spread of infections via screening colonies with non-destructive methods, and addressing the threat of climate

Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025



change by strengthening the health and resilience of populations.

**Methods to be used in the project**

**Gene bank and ex-situ breeding programme for different genetic lineages (WP3):** The EGS stock bred in captivity will be composed of individuals from the wild based on the results of the genetic survey. The breeding programme should run with at least 20 female and 5 male founder individuals of EGSs per one facility of the three genetic groups (all together 75 individuals).

The method consists of selecting tame individuals in the preceding autumn period to establish the breeding stock, help them overwinter to emerge from torpor in optimal body conditions, assist them in the mating period to obtain viable litters, monitor their development while providing them with appropriate food plants present on their future habitat, and release them to the wild assisting with the initial acclimatisation.

Founder animals have to be kept in climatic chambers in low temperature during winter to assist the animals maintaining good body conditions during torpor phase. After raising the room temperature from 5 to 15 °C the cages of these animals should be interconnected in late March for mating. Females have to be kept alone in cages from the following week. Close monitoring should follow the development of delivered litters for obtaining valuable knowledge on how animals raise their litters in captivity. Those animals chosen for release should be further assisted by feeding them with plants obtained from the release site. The animals born in captivity need to be released following the usual reintroduction protocol to carefully selected appropriate areas in August to be able to readily occupy the prepared artificial burrows and start to feed on local plants. Veterinary management of the captive breeding stock will also be applied.

**UAV-based, non-destructive, automated estimation of abundance, density and occupied area (WP6, T.6.1.2)**: We will map the entrances of active burrows of EGSs as they can serve as proxies for the presence, abundance and density of animals in a colony. Moreover, the distribution of those entrances can give information on the shape and size of the colonised area and the spatial and temporal dynamics of abundance or density of either source or new colonies.

Recently, Gedeon and his colleagues (2022) have developed a specific non-invasive method for estimating the abundance and colonised area of animals using non-destructive pixel-based imagery combined with a random forest classification scheme. The semi-automated method identifies and counts burrow entrances on images recorded remotely by UAVs. The method's accuracy and reliability are above 90%, proving a quick and less laborious way of estimating population size (abundance) and colonised area.

**Habitat reconstructions (WP4, T.6.2.1, T.6.2.2):** Shrubs and IAS plants will be cleared from habitats or natural grass will be installed in the project during autumn and winter, while the EGSs are in hibernation. In the following spring, right after the emergence from hibernation, using the UAV-based monitoring scheme, we will assess the base—control—status of the colony. By the end of the active season (early autumn) a repeated UAV-based monitoring will show the spatial extension of the colony as a result of shrub clearance or grass installation.

**Visual observation of reproductive success (T.6.1.4):** Success of EGS reintroduction actions can be trustworthily indicated by the estimation of reproduction ratio in the newly established colonies. In early autumn, when adults have started to hibernate, only the youngster of the year can be visible on the surface as, by intensive feeding, they still build their body fat necessary for later hibernation. So, this period of the year is exceedingly appropriate for estimating the number of them and related to the full colony size (actual abundance) estimated in April.

**Burrow counting (HBMS, WP2, WP6, T.6.1.1)**: The sites will be surveyed using the standard HBMS protocol (see: attached 'Other annexes' EGS monitoring protocol, in Hungarian) developed to estimate the relative size of the colonies. The surveys will include registering unoccupied areas as well. Monitoring by HBMS protocol will be implemented as described in T.6.1.1. HBMS is designed to detect long-term trends of density at a country wide resolution.

**Telemetry (WP6, T.6.1.3):** Telemetry will be used to control on the translocated animals' behaviour related to their movements (dispersal) and use of either artificial or natural

burrows. The results from telemetry monitoring are planned to follow population processes including the rate of colonisation of a new habitat after a reintroduction action. One type of telemetry systems consists of tags, transmitters and receiver towers equipped with a special software, which processes and visualises the signals from the towers. The transmitters can be attached to the animals using collars. The system is able to track at least 32 animals at the same time. The other telemetry type is more flexible, using mobile antennas and receivers and is especially useful for a shorter time window after a translocation action. It will be used to follow the EGSs movements before or just after the translocation for a few weeks.

**GIS based threat map to categorise areas as potential release sites for EGS translocations (WP2, T.5.1.1):** We plan to develop and implement a GIS-based protocol with various environmental attributes (soil-, climatic-, topographic-, geographic-, ecological-, anthropogenic factors) to assess the actual threats to EGS colonies in Hungary and Romania. The final outcome of this task will be a composite threat index for each unit of scale (grid cell size). This index will be mapped for Hungary (country scale) and west part of Romania. The threat index will offer insight into the relationship between the change of abundance and threats at the spatial scale of colonies. That piece of information will help national parks within and beyond the Project to formulate specific actions that aim to decrease threats at the colony scale and identify specific measures to increase the success of animal translocations in addition to genetic and animal health considerations.

**Screening colony health and infections by microbial assessment techniques and metagenomics (T.5.1.2):** With the one health approach in mind, examinations performed within the framework of the colony health survey will allow for a comprehensive analysis of various infectious agents (all bacteria, viral particles, parasites and fungi), based on their genetic presence in the excrement of the animals (metabarcoding). The collected and extracted genetic ‘non-EGS’ material will be analysed using different novel methods and interpretation will be done to differentiate between the species of the normal gut biome and all other infectious agents. Traditional haematological and habitat toxicological investigations are also planned to complement metagenomic investigations with the aim to explore the prevalence of these infectious agents on a broader scale, within the metapopulations, and define correlations between these pathogens and toxins, and to evaluate the general health of the species in certain regions. Screening for toxic chemical elements that may cause decreased fitness will be recognised by gamma X-ray fluorescence and spectroscopy. Sampling of the various populations and habitats and taking sufficient numbers of samples to establish trends is crucial in order to gain a full understanding of the health status of the species, not only in the sampled populations but in the whole Pannon region and subregions of different genetic lineages.

**Genetic surveys of populations (T.5.1.2):** Survey of genetic diversity of neutral and adaptive loci of the genome will give invaluable insight into landscape permeability and connectivity of habitat fragments and provide information on the genetic structure of the West Romanian populations in relation to the genetic lineages in Hungary. The results will be used in the design and implementation of the EGS breeding programme. Furthermore, results of a genetic survey will uncover populations of conservation importance (new lineages or colonies with high adaptive variation) and inform site-specific measures to be undertaken. Genetic diversity of colonies will be estimated by modern technique of RAD-seq, based on whole genome sequences.

**Screening habitats within field conditions for toxic chemical elements (T.5.1.2):** Screening for toxic chemical elements that may cause decreased fitness will be recognised by gamma X-ray fluorescence and spectroscopy in selected project sites. The results will serve important data for habitat suitability (T.2.2.2) and threat map (T.5.1.1).

Matějů, Jan & Říčanová, Štěpánka & Polakova, Simona & Ambros, Michal & Kala, Borys & Matějů, Kristýna & Kratochvil, Lukas. (2012). Method of releasing and number of animals are determinants for the success of European ground squirrel (*Spermophilus citellus*) reintroductions. European Journal of Wildlife Research. 58. 473-482. 10.1007/s10344-011-0597-8.

Stephen, C. (2022). Wildlife Population Health. Springer, Cham. https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-030-90510-1_13

Ilse E. Hoffmann et al. Population Dynamics of European Ground Squirrels *(Spermophilus citellus)* in a Suburban Area, Journal of Mammalogy, Volume 84, Issue 2, 30 May 2003,

Pages 615–626, https://doi.org/10.1644/1545-1542(2003)084<0615:PDOEGS>2.0.CO;2

Kachamakova M, Koshev Y, Rammou D-L, Spasov S (2022) Rise and fall: Results of a multidisciplinary study and 5-year long monitoring of conservation translocation of the European ground squirrel. Biodiversity Data Journal 10: e83321. https://doi.org/10.3897/BDJ.10.e83321

Hegyeli, Z. 2020. Spermophilus citellus. The IUCN Red List of Threatened Species 2020: e.T20472A91282380. https://dx.doi.org/10.2305/IUCN.UK.2020-2.RLTS.T20472A91282380.en. Accessed on 30 June 2023.

Gedeon CI, Árvai M, Szatmári G, Brevik EC, Takáts T, Kovács ZA, Mészáros J. Identification and Counting of European Souslik Burrows from UAV Images by Pixel-Based Image Analysis and Random Forest Classification: A Simple, Semi-Automated, yet Accurate Method for Estimating Population Size. *Remote Sensing*. 2022; 14(9):2025. https://doi.org/10.3390/rs14092025

#§CON-MET-CM§# #@COM-PLE-CP@#

## 1.5 Upscaling results of other EU funded projects

**Upscaling results of other EU funded projects**

*Explain if and how the proposal builds on or up-scales results of other EU funded projects.*

Beside scientific results of other sources, the current Project will basically apply the good practices, results, and lessons collected in previous LIFE projects like the ‘Conservation of *Falco cherrug* in the Carpathian basin’ - *Falco cherrug*-Hu/SK LIFE06 NAT/H/000096, ‘Conservation of *Falco cherrug* in Northeast Bulgaria, Hungary, Romania and Slovakia’ - *Falco cherrug* B-H-R-S LIFE09 NAT/HU/000384, ‘Securing prey sources for endangered *Falco cherrug* and *Aquila heliaca* population in the Carpathian basin’ - RAPTORSPREYLIFE - LIFE13 NAT/HU/000183, ‘Long-term conservation of Pannonian grasslands and related habitats through the implementation of PAF strategic measures’ - GRASSLANDLIFE IP-LIFE17 IPE/HU/000018.

The RAPTORSPREYLIFE project laid foundations in the field of European Ground Squirrels (EGS) protection in the Pannonian plains, the expansion and wider practical application of which is vital for maintaining the EGS population in the region. The foundational genetic analysis - made in that project - helped to understand the population genetic structure of the EGS population of the area, which completely changed EGS related conservation planning, the set-up of goals and the priorities. The continuation and implementation of the approach formed in this way is one of the defining pillars of our planned project (see also the table of Chapter 1.1). We would like to apply the philosophy developed in the previous project (which works out ‘best practice’ methods based on a comprehensive analysis of the EGS colonies in the region and promotes their spread and practical use) in our planned project, as well. Furthermore, we even would like to expand it (e.g. takeover of experimental breeding centre (Transdanubian) and the establishment and development of two additional ex-situ EGS breeding centres in Hungary (Danube-Tisza Interfluve and Transtisza). This is served by the series of foundational analyses, which aim to establish the basis for more effective EGS relocations than used before and the expansion of the results of EGS captive breeding achieved in the previous project. However, we are not only carrying forward the philosophy of the previous project in our planned one, but also the practical application of the specifically elaborated ‘best practice’ methods (e.g. EGS relocation according to a coordinated, uniform protocol; EGS-friendly habitat management; cooperation with stakeholders and farmers and operation of an advisory board) on a wider scale than before are also very important parts of our present project.

Our planned project also closely cooperates with the GRASSLANDLIFEIP project and monitors its results regarding EGS. We will adopt these results during our planned project, and we will try to put them into practice and develop the widely applicable versions of the practical EGS protection in order to introduce them into the conservation practice in the Pannonian region (see also the table of Chapter 1.1).

The present proposal thus focuses on those results particularly that can be used in habitat reconstructions, animal reintroductions, captive breeding, culling of potential predators, and collection and processing of genetic samples. One of the main results to be considered is to

Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025



take into account the three main genetic lineages as evolutionary significant unit (ESU) and conservation management units (CU) (see a summary of related actions of these projects at the table of Chapter 1.1 Background and general project objectives).

## 1.6 Complementarity with other actions

**Complementarity with other actions**

*Explain how the project is complementary to other regional, national or international initiatives/activities/projects. How will it integrate the results from these other actions?*

Complementarity with other actions in different geographical levels is the follows:

**Regional level:** project activities are integrally complemented in the nature conservation management work of the competent national park directorates (WP4) and complemented in the education and awareness raising activity of Budapest Zoo (see annexed 'Letters of support') and Budakeszi Wildlife Park (WP7).

**National level:** national report compilation by Article 17. of Habitat Directive (HD, 92/43/EEC) in Hungary and Romania (T.2.2); review programme of Hungarian Biodiversity Monitoring System, EGS Sampling protocol (T.6.1.1); knowledge transfer and special activity sharing with GRASSLAND IP, SakerRoads and HungAIRy IP LIFE projects with Hungarian main beneficiaries (see attached annexes 'Letters of support').

**EU level:** supporting the EU Biodiversity Strategy targets by developing protected areas, ecological corridors and generally increase biodiversity level in the project area, helping with the achievement of nature conservation objectives by maintaining and increasing the populations of species of HD and Birds Directive (BD, 2009/147/EC) (WP4); supporting the implementation of the Regulation (EU) No 1143/2014 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 22 October 2014 on the prevention and management of the introduction and spread of invasive alien species by IAS eradication activity (T.4.3.2).

**International level:** knowledge transfer and information sharing with international projects of LIFE SYSEL (LIFE19 NAT/SK/001069), proposed SakerRoad LIFE programmes (see annexed 'Letters of support'), activity of nature conservation NGO (Nature Conservation Association of Vadonleső Society) (see annexed 'Letters of support').

The proposal focuses on different colonies and regions in Hungary, Romania and abroad compared to previous projects (see above) consequently its actions cover a larger geographic area representing a significant part of the species distribution.

The objectives and expected results of the project fully complement the 'Conservation of the European Ground Squirrel *(Spermophilus citellus)* at the north-western border of its range' - LIFE SYSEL (LIFE19 NAT/SK/001069) and prey conservation actions of 'Safeguarding the core population of Saker falcon in Romania' (PRO SAKER LIFE) (coordinated by one of the partner of the CitellusLIFE: MILVUS) projects, which aim to maintain the populations of this highly endangered small mammal in other regions (in the north-western edge and eastern margin of the north-western wing distribution area of EGS, see Map 1. of WP2).

## 1.7 Synergies and co-benefits with other LIFE sub-programmes

**Synergies and co-benefits with other LIFE sub-programme**

*Describe synergies with other LIFE sub-programmes (Nature and Biodiversity, Circular Economy and Quality of Life, Climate Change or Clean Energy Transition). Describe spillover effects (co-benefits) in addition to those targeted by the project. If possible, quantify the contribution.*

*Identify the activities/tasks that address these policy objectives of other LIFE sub-programmes.*

The implementation of proposed CitellusLIFE will bring a lot of positive consequences in terms of climate change adaptation, sustainable and climate-resilient agriculture, renewable energy and clean resources-based land-use and decarbonisation. Thanks to the activities involved in the project, there are very close connections to the objectives of other LIFE sub-programmes, including Circular economy and quality of life, Climate Change Mitigation and

Adaptation, Clean Energy Transition, too.

The most important direct interventions, which serve the goals of the above mentioned sub-programmes and that of the current project at the same time, are the reintroduction of EGSs as soil-dwelling and land-forming animals, the arable land-grassland conversion, the IAS eradication, the clearing of native shrubs on grasslands, the reconstruction/construction and cleaning of drinking wells.

We should highlight that most of these activities mean not only habitat quality improvement or reconstruction measures (T.4.3 Habitat reconstructions) but are closely related to the objectives of the Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation sub-programme, due to the increasing of climate resilience and energy-efficiency, and the decarbonisation and emission-reduction effects, and the mitigation and the adaptation. In addition to resulting in project deliverables, especially the change in land use and land cover, i.e. the arable land-grassland conversion contributes significantly to climate change mitigation and adaptation (T.4.3.1 Conversion of habitats from arable land).

Thanks to the land cover transformations, the project will result in more grasslands meaning habitat suitable for EGS. Unlike arable lands, natural grasslands do not require summer irrigation, thus the annual amount of water consumption is much lower in case of them. In addition to the lower economical water demand, the plants of grassland generally transpirate less water compared to the typical crops. Its significance cannot be overemphasised, since the areas of the land cover and land use conversions belong to the serious drought-prone region in Hungary, where aridification and desertification are severe environmental risks. However, they have already shown their disastrous consequences, for example the lack of irrigation water in the summertime, ecological disaster due to vanishing of natural surface water, and decline of efficiency of agriculture. The conversion of arable lands to grasslands supports and means also in itself a sustainable management of water in this drought-prone area, since there is no more need for construction of irrigation channels, and it makes the water retention rather possible than it could be on arable lands. These changes in landscape have forced adequate land-use planning and adaptive solutions. Preparedness for extreme weather events, which are present and predicted, is improving due to these land cover transformations meaning more adaptive land cover to the natural conditions.

The project mitigates climate change by creating and maintaining extensive grasslands that store and sequester high amounts of carbon and emit less greenhouse gases ($N_2O$) compared to arable lands. This kind of grassland management favourable for EGS, as nature-based solution, will be communicated and the management data will be incorporated in the National Greenhouse Gas Inventory Report. Thus, besides the above-mentioned effects of interventions, the project fulfils in more ways the aims of the Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation sub-programme.

Improving the quality of the environment is one of the most important results of the project, which supports the objectives of the Circular economy and quality of life sub-programme. As dry grassland habitats suitable for European ground squirrels are in the focus of the conservation activities of this project proposal, which can play an important role in air quality improvement efforts, it has mutually useful potential for cooperation with the environmental goals of the ongoing LIFE17 IPE/HU/000017, HungAIRy LIFE IP project, called ‘Improving air quality at eight Hungarian regions through the implementation of air quality plan measures’. Main target of CitellusLIFE is species conservation, but some of the planned activities (grassland conversion from arable lands, eradication of invasive plants, emission free transportation, some topics of awareness raising campaigns) also have positive impact on air quality (T.4.3). It means a strong synergy between the ongoing LIFE project and this proposal. Quantity of particulate matter (PM) and allergenic pollen are lower, $CO_2$-sequestration of reconstructed grassland habitats are proven to be higher than degraded, invasive alien plant infected habitats (fallow lands and newly abandoned arable lands) and active arable lands. In addition to the better $CO_2$-sequestration, and lower quantity of PM, reconstructed grassy habitats have a better GHG budget than the much worse arable lands with significant net GHG emissions. Further improvement of air quality can be reached by eradicating invasive alien plants that reduce the allergenic pollen content of the air.

The project will also improve the quality of soils, thanks to the creation of diverse grass habitat in the place of eliminated arable lands. The soil structure improving effect of the burrow systems prepared and maintained in the soil by the EGS, means an easier movement

for the precipitation and organic matter in the soil and helps other useful species to settle. According to this, reintroduced ground dwelling EGS (T.5.2) will help to improve soil biodiversity status and also improve to reduce soil compaction. The soil water balance and the soil humidity status will be also more favourable due to the interventions, as the activity of the ground dwelling animals will compensate the negative effects of agriculture through improving the soil compaction. The water use and the transpiration of the crops is much larger than of the plants of the grasslands, and the evaporation is bigger on the arable lands because of the often occurring uncovered soil surfaces, thus the conversion to grassland results in better soil humidity. The effects of the soil structure change will therefore provide positive impacts on soil biodiversity, soil compaction, soil organic matter stock, and protection against soil erosion (deflation) and desertification. Moreover, the erosion reduction capacity of agricultural crops is much lower than that of natural grasslands, because of the more open soil surface. The better conditions of grasslands help to prevent the contamination of surface waters from sediments.

Cleaning and reconstruction of the drinking wells (T.4.1.2) will also cause positive effects on surface and ground water quality. The explanation is that the farm animals avoid drinking from natural water bodies and the grazing stock density will decrease around the few original drinking possibilities. Area of the affected surface water body was estimated according to the situation and extension of water bodies that are available currently for the animal stock grazing around the reconstruction area of drinking wells. Thus, the risk of contamination of natural surface waters will decrease.

Conversion of habitats from arable land (T.4.3.1) to extensive grasslands results in significantly less consumption of fuel (because of less need for soil work), pesticide, and fertiliser. All of that means less air, water and soil pollution, energy saving and more healthy food.

Although the grazing animal stock will grow, thanks to the larger pasture areas and the allocation and higher number of the reconstructed/constructed drinking wells, which support the deconcentration of the grazing animals, the spatial distribution of natural organic matter will be more beneficial. Thus, soil and water pollution will be more avoidable. In addition to the better distribution, the manure means less environmental risk on grasslands compared to the artificial fertilisers on arable lands.

Recycling activities involved in the proposed project (WP1) will also contribute to the achievement of waste management goals of the Circular economy and quality of life sub-programme. The packaging and communal waste will be collected selectively to facilitate recycling. For internal administration recycled paper will be used. Drinking water dispensers will be provided for the employees in order to avoid the use of plastic bottled water.

It leads toward the Clean Energy Transition that we will use solar panels for the breeding facilities, watering wells, electric fences and automated radio telemetry stations etc. We will choose the highest possible proportion of solar energy. During the establishment of breeding houses, we will strive towards decreasing the environmental risks (T.3.1). We will follow the principle of precaution and consider the viewpoints of energy efficiency and climate mitigation during the whole planning processes, (site selection, the choice of needs, technical configuration etc.) construction and operation. For example, motion sensor lighting will be installed at social areas (e.g. toilets, kitchen). The night lighting of the project sites (where applicable) will be reduced to the necessary minimum by the use of motion sensor lighting where possible. Led lighting bulbs will be used, lights will be switched off after office/working hours. The settings of the project laptops and desktops will be set in order to comply with energy management (saving) policy. Electric devices (e.g. computers, fans, machinery, etc.) will be switched off after the end of the working time.

Green Public Procurement procedures will also be applied contributing to environmental and green economy targets. Printing will be reduced as much as possible. Documentation will be kept in digital format as much as possible; only the absolutely necessary documents will be printed and kept in hard copy. This digitalisation is one of the supported interventions of the Clean Energy Transition sub-programme, too. Number of copies of printed information materials has been set low, and increased use of digital versions will be applied: the digital version of every material will be uploaded and will be available for downloading at the ‘main’ project webpage. Double sided printing and photocopy will be used; black & white setting will be used as a default setting for printing & photocopying (coloured will be used only when

necessary).

Encouraging online internal meetings (e.g. video conferencing, online calls) for the project team, personal meeting only to a limited extent; one internal meeting is foreseen annually, the Annual Evaluation and Planning meeting. Attending meetings personally when it is necessary for achieving the success of the project, e.g. forums, workshops, B2B consultations with prospective partners. Others will be replaced with video conferencing (e.g. negotiations with suppliers) when possible. Meeting documentation will be kept digital as much as possible – e.g. such as agendas, presentations, notes/minutes will be prepared only in digital format, only the attendance sheets will be printed.

In order to reduce travel costs of commuting, telecommuting/smart working will be supported in case of the project team. In case of the plant workers, local labour will be hired to reduce travel costs. Carpooling for team members will be organised when attending a meeting or event. When possible, appointing meeting locations so that is the most convenient from the point of all participants.

## 1.8 Synergies and co-benefits with other EU policy areas

**Synergies and co-benefits with other EU policy areas**

*Describe the synergies and positive spillover effects (co-benefits) with other EU policy areas (for example agriculture, health, civil protection, jobs and growth, etc.). If possible, quantify the contribution.*

*Identify the activities/tasks that address these other EU policy objectives.*

Several actions within the proposed project (i.e. habitat reconstruction) are strongly linked to various EU policy areas, such as ***Agriculture, Development and Cooperation, Education and training, Employment and social affairs, Energy, Health, and Research and innovation***.

Some actions aim to impact on the future agri-environmental financial mechanism of the ***Common Agricultural Policy*** that affects partly also the ***EU Rural Development Policy***. For example, a feasibility study (T.8.4) will be elaborated for the development of an agricultural support scheme for ground squirrels (see the support letter of the Ministry of Agriculture as competent authority and Hungarian Chamber of Agriculture as independent agricultural actor of the topic in the annexed 'Letters of support'). Furthermore, an advisory service (T.8.5) under Grassland Conservation Management Advisory Service (GCMAS) about ground squirrels will be set up for conservation bodies, the general public, farmers, airport- and water managers (see support letter of GRASSLAND IP LIFE as the operator of GCMAS in annexed 'Letters of Support').

The ***Education and Training Policies*** are basically supported by the project communication and dissemination actions, especially by the awareness raising campaign, education and volunteer programmes, in-situ trainings and field workshops, and by organisation of and participation in workshops/conferences. The kids and younger generation will be involved, as well, as it is seen in the row of tasks (T.7.1).

Although no direct scientific research activity will be carried out in the project, the scientific base and the proposed innovation strongly underpin the project from the viewpoint of science and research. We can find among the main objectives the need of understanding the reasons for the conflicts between human activities and EGS, and the causes of decrease of EGS population. In order to fulfil the scientific expectations, baseline survey (T.2.2), data collection for designation (T.5.1.2), action plan development (T.5.1.3) threat map creation (T.5.1.1) and monitoring (T.6.1, T.6.2., T.6.3., T.6.4) are planned that mean links to ***Research and innovation*** policies. Networking with other LIFE and/or non-LIFE projects and exchange of professional experience and materials between countries and partners (T.7.3) and communication of scientific results/publications of the projects scientific results (T.7.4) help to spread the innovation and scientific thought.

Through new job creations which are included in the proposed project, we will generate a close and very favourable link to ***Employment and social affairs***. 3 people will be hopefully working in the breeding centres (T.3.2) and one person in the so-called 'Citellus Gardens' (T.3.3). They will be employed during and after the project in ***fair working conditions. Equal***

***treatment in employment*** is another important way, how Beneficiaries contribute to the implementation of EU policies.

As air pollution is a high risk factor for the health in Hungary and Romania the state of the air quality is decisive from this point of view, and every step toward improving it, means a support of ***EU Health policies***. The habitat quality improvement and reconstruction activities (T.4.3.1 Conversion of habitats from arable land, T.4.3.2 Restoration/improvement of degraded habitats) that result in decreasing PM and allergenic material in the air, significantly contribute to health care and, at the same time, to the achievement of the objectives of this proposed project.

As detailed in Chapter 1.7 section above, by the ***Clean Energy Transition***, there will be solutions for using renewable energy, which is an important part of the sustainable ***Energy policy*** in the EU.

***Development and cooperation*** will be implemented through networking with other LIFE and/or non-LIFE projects and exchange of professional experience and materials between countries and partners (T.7.3.).

#§COM-PLE-CP§# #§REL-EVA-RE§# #@IMP-ACT-IA@#

# 2. IMPACT

## 2.1 Ambition of the impacts

**Ambition of the impacts**

*Identify and quantify the effects of the project (during the implementation and up to 5 years after its end).*

*Be specific and provide only information about impacts that are a result of your project. The impact of other projects should not be taken into account.*

*Wherever possible, use quantified indicators and targets.*

**Note:** *In addition to the description above, for stage 2 (full proposals) include quantified indicators in Part C of the application forms (both horizontal KPIs for the LIFE programme as well as any specific KPIs relevant to the proposal). Ensure correspondence between Part B and Part C.*

The overall objective of the project is to ensure the long-term survival of the Pannonian EGS population.

For direct effect of the project activities on the number of individuals of the current Hungarian EGS population as a basis, it can be estimated that an overall 20-25% increase of the population will be achieved until the end of the Project. After the Project period, an additional 1-5% increase in the number of individuals can be expected per year. This will result in the sustainability and continuation of the direct effect of the project. In Romania, this direct impact is lower because the main aims are the introduction and preparation of translocations and the preparation of the of future breeding activities. The nature conservation situation in relation to EGS there is not yet mature enough to support a high volume of translocation actions and to set up breeding facilities.

All project activities and therefore all expected results and impacts are subordinated to the main goal and contribute to its realisation:

As results of **baseline surveys and analysis (WP2):**

- **Comprehensive, up-to-date knowledge base about the status of EGS population** in the core area of Pannonian region is available, based on the results of baseline surveys (distribution map, detailed database containing number, location, size and relative abundance of colonies, updated trend, potentially suitable sites). An updated trend analysis will also be conducted.
- **EGS ‘Colony Logsheet’ system** is developed and filled in with current data. This is the core elements of the ‘EGS Conservation Safety Net’ (‘EGSNet’) system and will be used for each coloniy in the region.
- **A Standard Protocol of Suitability Characterization** is worked out and evaluation of habitat suitability of the targeted areas will be implemented.

As results of **ex-situ conservation interventions (WP3):**

- **Gene bank and breeding centres are established for each of the three genetic lines of EGS** previously found in RAPTOSPREYLIFE, using the technology developed there. It is expected that the operation of these breeding stocks will largely contribute to the establishment of new EGS colonies, providing 40-50 young individuals per year for reintroduction activities, from 2027 onwards, during and beyond the maintenance period of the project.
- **Three additional, semi-natural reproduction areas ('Citellus Gardens') are established** covering a total of 7.5 ha areas to ensure the safe survival and reproduction of EGSs in open-air conditions. It is expected that during the project period these colonies will be strengthened and will naturally occupy the adjacent suitable areas. On the other hand, after fully populated, each of these in-situ breeding centres will provide 20-100 youngsters per year for translocations during the after-LIFE period and beyond. This will provide further possibilities to establish and strengthen new populations.

As a result of **in-situ indirect conservation interventions (WP4):**

- **A total of 8.34 ha land at one site is purchased** by the competent national park directorate. The purchased arable land is transformed into grassland to increase the size of habitats suitable for EGS and to ensure its long-term maintenance and appropriate management for EGS.
- The **grazing infrastructure is established** by the restoration or construction and operation of 40 currently inoperable watering wells and a new well at 5 project sites, increasing the area of grasslands suitable for grazing, and thus increasing the size of EGS habitats by **7 000 ha.**
- The **control of locally overpopulated** (see current status in WP4 T.4.3) **predator and game species** is achieved at **285.58 km$^2$ in 7 project sites**, which significantly increases the survival and strength of EGS colonies in the affected habitats.
- **Elimination of native shrubs at 11 project sites on 225.5 ha, removal of IAS at 8 sites on 40.5 ha** further improves the conservation status of actual/potential EGS habitats.
- **By forming ecological corridors** by grazing and grassland restoration for grazing within the project, the extent of grazed grassland suitable for EGS is increased, and at least **10 formerly isolated EGS colonies are connected**.

As a result of **direct conservation interventions (WP5):**

- **GIS-based threat map, based on a composite threat index,** with various environmental attributes (soil-, climatic-, topographic-, geographic-, ecological-, anthropogenic factors) is available to indicate the actual threats to EGS colonies in Hungary and Western Romania. The threat index offers insight into the relationship between the change of abundance and threats at the spatial scale of colonies. That piece of information will help national park directorates within and beyond the project to formulate specific actions that aim to decrease threats at the colony scale and identify specific measures to increase the success of animal translocations in addition to genetic and animal health considerations.
- **Knowledge about the population genetic and the reference values of health status of EGS populations in the Pannonian Region** is extended by the results of population genetic surveys that covered the EGS colonies that had been omitted from RAPTORSPREYLIFE, Romania (35 colonies) and some colonies in Hungary (15 colonies). Colony health screening will provide reference data representative of a healthy EGS population. This includes a whole genome map, serological and complete blood count parameters, which, combined with population dynamics, provides information for translocations and helps to identify any population health concerns that may arise, and to identify what interventions can be used to help the affected colony. Translocations will be planned and yearly revised based on this information and other results of implemented surveys.
- **By extensive reintroduction activities** – either by relocations from stable source populations (involving 350-550 individuals) or reintroductions of captive bred individuals (at least 300 captive bred individuals, as a result of ex-situ breeding activities of WP3) to natural habitats - **11-20 new EGS colonies are established**, depending on the actual status of the source populations. These self-sustaining colonies will continue to exist after

the end of the project, under appropriate management, thus contributing to the survival of the EGS population in the Pannonian region. The project will result in an **increase of 20-25% of the current population size** in the Hungarian EGS population.

As a result of **monitoring and evaluation (WP6):**

- **Automated total burrow entrance counting method based on innovative UAV imagery is** improved within the project. This novel method presents a specific non-invasive way to estimate the relative abundance and colonised area using non-destructive, pixel-based imagery combined with a random forest classification scheme. The semi-automated method identifies and counts burrow entrances on images recorded remotely by UAVs. The method's accuracy and reliability are above 90%, providing a quick and less laborious way for estimating colony size (relative abundance) and colonised area.
- **Automated radio-telemetry tracking** resulted in short- and long-term behavioural and ecological data from natural and newly translocated EGS population. That information will help to increase the success of the following translocations and will also support the selection of suitable target areas and management methods by improving our understanding of the habitat selection of the EGS.
- A **new sampling protocol for field estimation of reproductive success** is developed, which allows the measurement of this important population health trait for 10-10 colonies per year, as well as the success of translocation actions. Results will help to improve the method of successful translocations and will also help selecting suitable target areas.

As a result of **Communication and Dissemination (WP7):**

- **The understanding and acceptance of EGS and its role in the ecosystem and engagement of the wide public in the conservation of the species** is increased by the implementation of extensive and multiple dissemination and communication activities, including various direct/indirect, online/offline methods targeting the general public itself or other actions the media outlets. Activities have resulted in at least 2,200 persons directly involved in events organised in the frame of the project (e.g. site events, field trips, forums), while a total of **12,000 persons** are directly reached in communication/dissemination event (both partners' and non-partners' events) (see details in Chapter 3.5).
- By the use of **citizen science approach, at least 350 volunteers will be involved in EGS monitoring programme** during yearly data collection campaigns that will add useful and reliable data to those collected by experts. Moreover, their engagement in nature conservation of EGS will be enhanced. For data collection, a **standard monitoring protocol** supported by a smartphone application is developed for non-expert volunteers within the project.
- Wide **exchange of knowledge and dissemination of project's results** is achieved in scientific and nature conservational community, and among other relevant stakeholders by broad networking activities, publications of project results (at least 3 peer-reviewed scientific publications), the organisation of scientific conference (with 100-120 participants), participations with presentations at least in 5 conferences. For networking, among others, at least 7 ongoing/submitted LIFE Biodiversity and Nature projects is involved.

As a result of **sustainability, replication and exploitation of project results (WP8):**

- **Action Plan regarding the management of EGS under the effects of climate change in the Pannonian region** is developed, indicating the effects of climate change in physiological, behavioural and habitat suitability aspects. This knowledge is indispensable for sustainability, the implementation of habitat management measures, the identification of endangered populations, and the selection of locations for the establishment of new populations.
- The **integration of aspects of the EGS conservation into the planning processes of the various fields** - agriculture, regional development, water management - is supported by the **action plan** developed for decision makers based on the results of the project, earlier scientific results, literature data and shared in the project.
- Conflicts of interest between endangered animal and plant species sharing EGS habitats are resolved by the help of an **action plan with general and area-specific**

**recommendations for the implementation of interventions that promote the protection of all species of conservation importance** developed for decision makers and spread in the project to support knowledge-based decisions.

- The handover is realised of an **analysis with technical recommendations for the development of EGS-friendly grassland management practices** for the Ministry of Agriculture and consultation on the possibility of inclusion in compensation payments and standards for Natura 2000 agricultural areas, which would provide farmers financial incentives to implement nature-friendly management on their land (see Ministry for Agricultures' letter of support in annexed 'Letters of support').
- **Advisory Service about EGS** set up and operate under the frame of Grassland Conservation Management Advisory Service in Hungary to provide advice for conservation bodies, the general public, farmers, airport- and water managers resulting in higher awareness and better communication with all stakeholders, and more effective management of EGS habitats (see support letter of GRASSLAND IP LIFE as the operator of GCMAS in annexed 'Letters of Support').
- **'EGS Conservation Safety Net' ('EGSNet') system** is established for the coordinated conservation of the species. A consensus strategy about the implementation and working of 'EGSNet' all across EGS distribution area, demonstratively in the Pannonian region, is presented by the help of an established 'International EGS Technical Committee' with international specialist members and self-accepted operating rules.
- **Status of at least 6 suburban EGS colonies is improved** by the realisation of complex awareness raising campaigns – including the preparation and the implementation of urban site-specific action plans for each colony – involving the local community and other relevant stakeholders.

Horizontal KPIs for all LIFE applicants marked in Part C are described below.

- INNOVATIONS. Developing new EGS survey and monitoring methods (UAV-based, mobile applications, guided citizen science approach), measuring and characterising colony health, and the long-term breeding technology of the species are innovative deliverables. These methods will be promoted in in-situ training, scientific publications and conferences and transferred to national park directorates and NGOs in Hungary, Austria, Slovakia, Czech Republic, Poland and Romania.
- GOVERNANCE. EGS monitoring based on citizen science approach is involving citizens to a governmental task (T.6.1.1, T.7.1.8). Performing complex awareness-raising campaigns in order to manage human-ground squirrel conflicts in suburban habitats are going to be realised by the involvement of all local stakeholders (national park directorates, local government, NGOs, civil societies, farmers etc.) (T.8.8). The Action plan for decision-makers regarding the survival of ground squirrels in the Pannonian region (T.8.2), preparation of a guidelines in order to develop such measures for ground squirrels that are consistent with the conservation requirements of other protected species (animals, plants) (T8.3) and recommendations on the development of an agricultural support scheme for ground squirrels (T.8.4) are all helps to governance to be more effective and successful in species protection of the strictly protected EGS. All new (reintroduced) or identified EGS colonies in Natura 2000 sites will be registered in Standard Data Form (SDF) by the Ministry of Agriculture (MA) (see annexed Letter of support from the MA).
- PLANS & STRATEGIES. Hungarian EGS Species Action Plan will be updated by the results of the project. Recommendations on the development of an agricultural support scheme for ground squirrels (T.8.4) will be used when updating the Hungarian Agricultural Support Shame. The Action Plan regarding the management of EGS under the effects of climate change in the Pannonian region (D.15) will provide important information when taking steps to manage EGS habitats and preserve colonies.
- CATALYTIC EFFECT - SPATIAL. Innovative techniques of EGS monitoring (T.6.1.2), developed best practices on habitat and colony maintenance, and breeding practices will be transferred to other (non-partner) Hungarian national park directorates, institutions running or applying for LIFE proposals in the conservation of north (LIFESYSEL) and of south-east (PRO SAKER LIFE) populations of EGS (see letters of support in the annex) (T.7.3). Scientific publications in peer-reviewed journals, presentations in self-organised

and other scientific conferences will allow to transfer scientific knowledge to a wider international platform (T.7.4).

- CATALYTIC EFFECT - THEMATIC. Collected knowledge will be transferred and used by projects dealing with different strictly protected species (e.g. in conservation of birds of prey in SakerRoads LIFE) and other more general topics as conservation of grassland (GRASSLAND LIFE IP) (see letters of support in annex). Developed innovative colony health measuring system (T.5.1) can be adapted to fairly different living organisms.
- CATALYTIC EFFECT - SOCIETAL. CitellusLIFE will contribute to the development of new or existing national legislation, policies, regulations, incentives and voluntary commitments through the update of national Species Action Plan of EGS, give inputs to the legislation of species protection in Hungary, provides basis for the extension of protected areas and update the standard protocol of Hungarian Biodiversity Monitoring System EGS monitoring (see Letters of support). It will achieve a gradual change in more effective compliance with the European Union environmental and climate legislation. Providing up-to-date distribution and trend data for report on EGS for Article 17 of the Habitat Directive the enforcement of the concerning policies is also significantly helped (see letters of support of Ministry of Agriculture). The project also contributes to achieving the objectives of the EU Biodiversity Strategy for 2030 by expanding protected areas. It will achieve a progressive change in public awareness and support of environmental and climate matters by using EGS as a flagship species. Awareness-raising programmes aimed at a wider range of the human population implemented in multi-channel communication/dissemination activities will turn the acceptance of this species formerly regarded as a pest to a special natural value. The message will also be transferred that its short grass steppe habitat, (which will be increased by the project), also gives ecosystem services improving air quality, groundwater management, climate tolerance and natural recreations. As an example of a large-scale approach, replacing mowing with grazing, which has a more spatially diverse impact, enhances pollination and thereby expands agricultural opportunities. Introducing under-grazed areas into grazing reduces the accumulation of dry grass and its litter layer lowering the risk of wildfires. The reconstruction of traditional landscapes (including renovated wells with sweeps) and farming methods boosts ecotourism appeal, while predator control provides benefits to local communities, such as reduced agricultural damage and less disturbance from wild boar rooting, among others. Besides the key stakeholders (WP7), there are many secondary stakeholder groups who may not be directly involved in nature conservation but are engaged through a broader partnership. These include farmers, hunting companies, airport operators, local municipalities, economic or societal interest protection organizations, commercial or service enterprises, social associations, local citizens and site visitors, tourist organizations, non-conservationist NGOs, and others. This indicates that the overall social impact of the project extends beyond the regional level and, through partner organizations, achieves an international scale.
- RIO MARKERS FOR CLIMATE, BIODIVERSITY AND AIR QUALITY. Habitat reconstructions (WP4) and direct EGS species conservation (WP5) result in considerable biodiversity improvement. Reconstructed short grass steppe habitats with high level of biodiversity are more favourable from the viewpoint of climate change compared to the arable lands (8.34 ha), degraded and IAS shrub (266 ha) or even forest habitats in the Pannonian climate zone, thanks to the better $CO_2$-sequestration. In addition to the better $CO_2$-sequestration, reconstructed grassy habitats have a better GHG budget than the much worse arable lands with significant net GHG emissions. Further improvement in air quality can be achieved by eradicating invasive alien plants that increase the allergenic pollen content of the air and by re-grassing that prevent wind-driven dust emissions of PM at higher concentrations. Introducing under-grazed areas into grazing reduces the accumulation of dry grass and its litter layer lowering the risk of wildfires resulting in lower harmful diffuse pollutant emission.
- In total, forty-two (42) Natura 2000 sites are affected by the project activities (see details in WP4).

Relevant specific KPIs reported in Part C

- AIR QUALITY. In connection with the project actions, the reduction of air pollutants is due to the arable land – grassland conversion and the eradication of IAS plant species. With the land transformation the quantity of particulate matter (PM) will be lower, with the removal of

stands of *Solidago gigantea* (Giant goldenrod), the level of allergenic pollen will be lower. $CO_2$-sequestration of reconstructed grassland habitats are proven to be higher than degraded, invasive alien plant infected habitats (fallow lands and newly abandoned arable lands) and arable lands. Thanks to the project interventions, the inhabitants of the following settlements will not suffer more from the air pollution. Considering the short dispersion range (approximately 1-2 km), the allergenic impact of *Solidago gigantea,* pollen pollution would only temporarily affect those visiting the Pan-European Picnic Memorial Site. Over several years, the number of affected individuals could reach up to 20 000-30 000 people.

The conversion form arable land to grassland leads to a significant decrease in emission of the quantity of particulate matter (PM), since the bedrock of the soil of the affected land consists of loess. The particulates with greater concentration of this sediment can spread quite far (more ten kilometres) by the wind. In the close environmental impact area (within 5 km) Pocsaj village is considered to be affected with its 2501 inhabitants.

Summarised the number of people, at least 22 500 people will be positively affected, especially considering the not precisely estimable effect of wildfire risk reduction.

- BIODIVERSITY (INVASIVE ALIEN SPECIES). Potential EGS habitats will be cleared from invasive alien (IAS) plants (T.4.3.2) on 40.5 hectare, which is 0.405 km2. At the end of the project there won't be stands of invasive alien plant species in this area: Project-End Value is 0 (zero). Five years after the end of the project, this value will still be 0 (zero), as land management practices (grazing, mowing) will prevent the return of invasive alien plant species.

  Intensive spread of both the woody and herbaceous IAS seriously threatens the present and future EGS habitats and decreases their sizes. Patches of IAS stands can also isolate EGS sub-populations from each other. The aggressive IAS plant species can ruin the favourable natural state of a habitat rather quickly. In many cases, these species can be managed successfully only with chemical treatment and numerous post-treatments. However, mechanical elimination methods are also used. The main woody plants harming the EGS habitats are Tree of heaven (*Ailanthus altissima*), Black locust (*Robinia pseudoacacia*), Russian olive (*Eleagnus angustifolia*), Desert indigo (*Amorpha fruticosa*) and from the herbaceous species the Common milkweed (*Asclepias syriaca*) and the Common goldenrod (*Solidago gigantea*) are the most widespread.

  3 NPD operational areas are affected with this IAS elimination action. FHNPD and BNPD with 1 and 0.5 hectare in one-one area. In HNPD operational area 6 sites are infested in such a way that the stands block the ecological corridors for EGS or occupy its habitats. Total area of the IAS patches here is 39 hectares. The elimination of IAS will not only result in better conditions for EGS, but will also enhance the naturalness of the vegetation, allowing more valuable plant species to colonise the habitats.

- BIODIVERSITY (HABITATS). Short grass steppe habitats will be reconstructed from arable lands (8.3428 ha), and from degraded habitats covered by native shrubs and trees (225.5 ha) or infested with invasive alien plant species (40.5 ha). Firstly, affected areas (2.74 $km^2$) were calculated by the size of transformed arable land (T.4.3.1), plus the estimated area of shrub-covered grasslands which will be cleared, plus the IAS infested grasslands which will be managed in order to make them suitable for EGS (T.4.3.2). Without these planned activities, an even larger area would be at risk of encroachment by shrubs, which represents an undesirable successional process, and the further spread of invasive species. As a result of clearing the shrubs that form ecological barriers, **more ecological corridors** can become functional, which supports the spread of native species and thereby promotes the increase of habitat naturalness.

  Quality of habitats will also improve in more sites by improving grazing infrastructure. Thanks to the expansion of the grazable pasture area (additional 7000 hectares), the extent of those areas also increases where **mowing can be replaced by the more desirable grazing**, or in the absence of grazing animals, under-grazed and degraded grasslands had developed. In a given year, the actually grazable area highly depends on the current weather conditions, leading to a year-to-year variability, but can reach 7000 hectares, in addition to the areas grazed so far.

  Currently, within the 7000 hectares, ca. 60% is cultivated as hay meadows (4200 ha), where introduction of grazing is especially beneficial and important from a general

ecological point of view. These areas can be grazed, thereby achieving a **more favourable natural condition of the vegetation** and creating a **more suitable habitat for ground squirrels**, and also for other threatened species. According to estimates, ca. 40% of the newly used grasslands are pastures (2800 ha) cultivated with different grazing pressure, but ca. half of them are under-grazed (1400 ha) depending on the weather conditions. Considering the advantageous effects of grazing instead of mowing and elimination of under-grazing, the project gives an opportunity to improve the natural conditions (**structural-functional status development**) of habitats up to 4200+1400 hectares (Project-End Value is 5600 ha = 56 $km^2$). The extent of wild boar rooting is not well known, but frequent disturbance of the vegetation allows weeds and invasive alien species (IAS) to easily establish their stands. Controlling wild boars reduces this negative impact and increases the extent of better-quality habitats.

In the impact areas affected by the restoration (T.4.3.1) and introduction of grazing (T.4.1.2), long-term outcomes could include the creation and status development of *Pannonic salt steppes and salt marshes* (Natura 2000 habitat code 1530), *Pannonic loess steppic grasslands* (Natura 2000 habitat code 6250) and *Pannonic sand steppes* (Natura 2000 habitat code 6260), which are types of habitats that would otherwise be endangered without the planned interventions. These are not only the most three important habitats for EGS regarding their extents, but also **form Natura 2000 habitat types of Community Interest** as established by the Habitat Directive (92/43/EEC), in addition with priority, due to their nature conservation significance. *Sub-Pannonic steppic grassland* (Natura 2000 habitat code 6240) is also an affected priority habitat type, with smaller extent. All mentioned habitat types are endangered and decreasing in extent, hence the project actions help quite effectively in achievement of Natura 2000 and other EU environmental objectives. With the further land management the favourable condition of habitats is sustainable, hence 3/5 years beyond Project-End Value is also 56 km2.

- BIODIVERSITY (NUMBER OF SPECIES). The positive impact on species with declining population sizes cannot be practically estimated due to the diversity of interactions between species and their environment. Since the project does not aim to improve the populations of these species, any such improvement will be incidental. Therefore, it is not our goal to precisely identify the number of such species. For this reason, we will only count (and document) those species during the project whose populations are **directly affected** by the interventions, and for most of them, we anticipate a positive impact. These species, most often show **the same habitat preferences** as the EGS. There are several species, as well, whose populations can **benefit indirectly** from the ripple effects of project actions.

  Main target of the project is to halt and reverse the loss of populations of European ground squirrel (*Spermophilus citellus*) in the Pannonian biogeographical region. (From now on, species of Community interest, which are especially important for nature conservation, will be indicated in ***bold font***.) As a result of the project, the increased population of ground squirrels provides a larger potential food source for several bird of prey species, which positively affects their population sizes. Notably, the Saker (***Falco cherrug***) and the Imperial eagle (***Aquila heliaca***) are mentioned as bird species of Community Interest. The formation of stable breeding pairs is expected within or near the intervention areas of the project sites.

  The appearance or the strengthening their populations of the following species can be evaluated as a direct effect of EGS population growth. Using the burrows of EGS, for example, the Vitulus dung beetle (*Onthophagus vitulus*), Darkling beetle (***Probaticus subrugosus***), and the European green toad (*Bufotes viridis*) can be mentioned. Wingless, geophile, soil-dwelling arthropods, such as *Blaps* and *Pedinus* species (*Blaps lethifera, Blaps halophila, Pedinus femoralis*), also benefit from the physical presence of burrow-systems and the microclimatic conditions they provide. These include species from the Tenebrionidae family (*Gnaptor spinimanus, Oodescelis melas*), beetles, as well as terrestrial isopods and millipedes. The accumulated debris and nesting material from EGS decompose to create a specialized food source for some arthropod species. Additionally, the expanding EGS populations is advantageous for coprophagous species (e.g., *Onthophagus* species), too.

  Well renovations and constructions are especially important parts of the project including the establishment of grazing infrastructure (T.4.1.2), which will lead to a significant increase in grazable pasture area (7000 hectares in total). Through the expansion of grazed lands,

other species associated with this land use (grazing well-adapted to natural conditions) due to their breeding and feeding, may also appear or see an increase in their population sizes, in addition to EGS. These are, for example, Cricket (*Gryllus campestris*), Buff-tailed bumblebee (*Bombus terrestris*), darkling beetle (***Probaticus subrugosus***), European earth-borer beetle (***Bolbelasmus unicornis***), Sand lizard (*Lacerta agilis*), Common quail (***Coturnix coturnix***), Eurasian skylark (***Alauda arvensis***), Northern lapwing (***Vanellus vanellus***), and Common vole (*Microtus arvalis*).

Through the food web, the population growth of the above mentioned species will have a positive effect on different flagship bird species (e. g. Red-footed falcon (***Falco vespertinus***), Great bustard (***Otis tarda***) and predator mammal species (e.g. Steppe polecat – ***Mustela eversmanii***, Weasel – *Mustela nivalis*), in addition to the bird of prey species mentioned above.

Besides the introduction of grazing, in an indirect way, some species, like Roller (***Coracias garullus***), Little owl (***Athene noctua***), Common starling (***Sturnus vulgaris***), etc. also can benefit from the renovations, because they use the wells as nesting places.

The introduction and expansion of grazing will positively impact the Hungarian iris (***Iris aphylla subsp. hungarica***) and the pasqueflower species (***Pulsatilla patens, Pulsatilla pratensis subsp. hungarica, Pulsatilla grandis***) that can be found in the sandy grasslands sites. This is because under-grazing and the resulting changes in grassland structure (e.g. thick grass litter accumulation) and shrub encroachment can limit the populations of these key plant species of Community Interest, as well as the germination and reproduction of the pasqueflowers. Regulating the oversized wild boar population will also be beneficial for the iris species population, as wild boars can consume the rhizomes of the irises and cause habitat degradation due to their rooting behaviour.

Lots of key species are negatively affected by the increased presence of game species, such as wild boar and predator mammals. Foxes, badgers, jackals and more recently raccoon dogs pose a threat to older and hibernating EGS individuals, while the Hooded crow (*Corvus cornix*) and Magpie (*Pica pica*) can prey on young individuals and wild boar also dig up grassland habitats. The intervention will involve trapping and shooting, in order to decrease the abundance of these species, reducing the likelihood of damage of protected species, e.g. the Hungarian birch mouse (***Sicista trizona***), Hungarian blind mole rat (***Nannospalax hungaricus***). Ground-nesting bird species, namely Long-eared owl (***Asio flammeus***), Montagu's harrier (***Circus pygargus***), Marsh harrier (***Circus aeruginosus***), Great bustard (***Otis tarda***), Greylag goose (***Anser anser***), Eurasian curlew (***Numenius arquata***), Tawny pipit (***Anthus campestris***), etc. will also significantly benefit from **predator-controlling actions** (see T.4.2).

The elimination of native shrubs and IAS plant species (T.4.3.2) will be very favourable for several species, because up-growing and intensively extending shrubs and trees (IAS plant species, *Prunus spinosa, Crataegus sp.*) cause serious problem to them by covering, transforming and occupying their habitats. The removal of Black locust trees (*Robinia pseudoacacia*) and the shrub species will positively impact the Hungarian ground beetle (***Carabus hungaricus***), the Balkan wall lizard (*Podarcis taurica*), the Sand lizard (*Lacerta agilis*), the Hungarian iris (***Iris aphylla subsp. hungarica***), the Sand knapweed (*Centaurea arenaria*), the Sand onosma (*Onosma arenaria*), the Green-winged orchid (*Anacamptis morio*), the Sand Everlasting (*Helichrysum arenarium*), the endemic *Cladonia magyarica*, and the pasqueflower species (***Pulsatilla patens, Pulsatilla pratensis subsp. hungarica, Pulsatilla grandis***), as the direct habitat-altering effects of the trees and shrubs will be eliminated and new, suitable habitats will be created in their place. Moreover, the elimination of the nesting trees (Russian olive - *Elaeagnus angustifolia*) of predator birds like Magpie (*Pica pica*), Hooded crow (*Corvus cornix*) decreases disturbance of the project target species also favourable to other species mentioned before. The habitats created by the removal of other invasive herbaceous and woody plants serve as potential habitats for Cone-head grasshopper (*Acrida ungarica*), Horned dung beetle (*Copris lunaris*) and other ground beetle species (*Carabus granulatus, Carabus coriaceus*, etc.) whose population is expected to increase.

The arable land-grassland conversion (T.4.3.1) will help in the expansion not only for the EGS, but for the Hungarian blind mole rat (***Nannospalax hungaricus***) as well, because it can spread to the new grassland from the neighbouring area.

Considering the nature conservation point of view (species of Community Interest, nationally protected and/or valuable species) and the species directly affected – either sharing the same habitat preferences as the EGS or being predators of the main target species – we concluded that by the end of the project, **13 species** will especially benefit from the project actions.

These are ***Aquila heliaca****, Blaps lethifera, Blaps halophila, Bufotes viridis,* ***Falco cherrug****, Gnaptor spinimanus,* ***Mustela eversmanii****, Mustela nivalis, Onthophagus vitulus, Pedinus femoralis,* ***Probaticus subrugosus****, Oodescelis melas*, and ***Spermophilus citellus***. Most of them are protected or of Community Interest. In addition to them, 36 names of other valuable species occurred in our overview. In fact hundreds of species could have been mentioned, which may be affected by the favourable alteration of habitat conditions.

Due to the slower impact of habitat reconstruction, as the grassland needs to mature before it can support new species, we accounted Hungarian blind mole rat (***Nannospalax hungaricus***) expected to appear in the post-project period (additional 1 species).

During our surveys of the different animal taxa, the presence or absence of these **14 species** is also expected to be investigated and recorded.

- CLIMATE AREA VULNERABILITY REDUCTION. Arable farming on the Great Hungarian Plain has become particularly risky and inefficient due to prolonged, extremely dry spring and summer seasons. Recent research and data confirm that the region, including the project site (‘Löszletörés’) involved in the arable land-to-grassland conversion, is undergoing significant climate change. This shift is leading to more frequent, severe and prolonged droughts. The arable lands on the Great Hungarian Plain, which are highly susceptible to drought, are part of one of Hungary’s most climate-vulnerable areas.

  Grasslands, in contrast, are far less impacted by droughts. They do not require irrigation, and the fluctuations in biomass due to climate change pose a smaller financial risk and management burden to the new land manager, NPD. The converted land area, due to the project action T.4.3.1, reducing the portion of land particularly vulnerable to climate change, covers 0.0834 km².

- EMPLOYMENT. There will be two employees for breeding stations (T.3.2) who will deal with the maintaining of the facilities planned for the reproduction of European ground squirrels. Two additional workers will be employed in demonstrating sites (‘Citellus Gardens’) (T.3.3). Two of them will have part-time (0.5 FTE) job. Therefore 3 FTE (1+1+0.5+0.5) expected to the end of the project.

- SOIL QUALITY. Due to the habitat restorations and reconstructions, which result in grassland cover (8.34 ha) instead of arable land cover (T.4.3.1) and a great piece of land (266 ha) cleared of IAS and native species (T.4.3.2), the soil quality will improve in the affected areas. Establishment of grazing infrastructure (T.4.1.2) will also lead to soil quality improvement, as explained later. New colonies of reintroduced ground-dwelling EGS (T.5.2) will also significantly affects the status of the soil, evidently. All the advantageous effects of the actions mentioned above will take place on at least 2.74 km$^2$. They are the followings:
  - higher soil biodiversity
  - lower desertification
  - lower soil erosion
  - lower diffuse contamination
  - more soil organic matter
  - lower soil compaction

  The soil structure improving effect of the **burrow systems** prepared and maintained in the soil by the EGS, means an easier movement for the precipitation and organic matter in the soil and helps other useful species to settle. According to this, reintroduced ground-dwelling EGS (T.5.2) will help to **improve soil biodiversity** status and also improve to reduce soil compaction on 110 hectares (11 colonies, each of them will be located in an area of 10 hectares). Lots of edaphic species can be mentioned, but we name only some of them which are related to EGS burrows: the Vitulus dung beetle (*Onthophagus vitulus*), Darkling beetle (*Probaticus subrugosus*), and the European green toad (*Bufotes viridis*).

  **Lower soil compaction** is a consequence of lower tramping of grazing livestock, which is a result of the establishment of the grazing infrastructure that expands the spatial

possibilities of grazing with an area of 7000 ha. In a given year, the actually grazable area highly depends on the current weather conditions, leading to a year-to-year variability. As a result, the size of the overgrazed pastures within the affected pastures cannot be precisely estimated, where under-grazing is also a common ecological issue. It can be even more than 1000 hectares. The actually over-compacted soil surface, which is smaller area than the overgrazed area regarded from a biotical point of view, as compaction depends on the mechanical composition of the topsoil, too. Considering this, physical pressure on the soil will be reduced over several hundred hectares.

The water use and the transpiration of the crops is much larger than of the plants of the grasslands, and the evaporation is bigger on the arable lands because of the often occurring uncovered soil surfaces, thus the conversion to grassland results in **better soil humidity** on 8.3428 ha. The soil water balance and the soil humidity status will be also more favourable due to the other interventions, as the activity of the ground-dwelling animals will compensate the negative effects of agriculture through improving the soil compaction. The effects of the soil structure change will therefore provide positive feed-back impacts on soil biodiversity, soil compaction, **soil organic matter stock**, and protection against soil erosion (wind erosion, i.e. deflation) and desertification. Moreover, the **erosion reduction capacity** of agricultural crops is much lower than that of natural grasslands, because of the more open soil surface, which is prone to wind and water erosion. Hence, grasslands mean **lower desertification and less soil erosion** on the converted area of 8.3428 ha.

The better conditions of grasslands also help to prevent the contamination of surface waters from sediments. In addition to it, due to the lower use of chemicals, the extensive grazing on the surface of new grassland (T.4.3.1) causes **less contamination**, compared to the regionally typical intensive arable farming resulting in significantly less consumption of fuel (because of less need for soil work), pesticide, and fertiliser. All of that means less air, water and soil pollution, energy saving and more healthy food.

The removal of the native and the IAS shrubs (trees) (T.4.3.2) will also increase the soil humidity (soil moisture), because they consume more than the herbaceous plants (225.5 + 40.5 ha = 266 ha = 2.66 $km^2$). Following the removal, the area that has been cleared will be turning into grasslands with more natural soil characteristics. Some affected IAS plant species (*Ailanthus altissima, Robinia pseudoacacia, Solidago gigantea*) has an allelopathic effects, thus their eradication results in higher level of **soil organic matter**, especially taking into account the new colonising species of grasslands that are expected to emerge. Grasses (*Poaceae*), for example, store the majority (more than 60%) of their organic matter underground. Their root systems, rhizomes, and other subterranean organs accumulate significant amounts of organic material. This is important because grasses often regenerate quickly after damage to their above-ground parts (e.g., due to grazing or mowing), as most of their nutrients and energy are stored in the roots. Increased soil humidity and soil organic matter due to the removal of IAS and woody plants mean **lower desertification** at the same time. With the disappearance of IAS species, the **soil biodiversity** will also turn into more favourable direction from the point of view of ecology, as IAS plant species can affect negatively the composition and activity of microorganisms in the soil. This is because the environment created by the invasive species can alter the microbial diversity and functioning of the soil, which can impact soil health and fertility.

Regarding the different values mentioned above, due to the overlap of various environmental impact areas of different project actions, some of them cannot be aggregated. As they are not overlapping, the impact area of arable land-grassland conversion and the total impact area of IAS and woody plant removal can be summarised: 8.34 hectares + 266 hectares, i.e. 2.74 $km^2$.

- WATER EFFICIENCY. Unlike arable lands, natural grasslands do not require summer irrigation. Moreover, the water retention capacity of agricultural crops is much lower than that of natural grasslands. The amount of water efficiency is very difficult to estimate and it depends on the crops grown on the arable land and the intensity of irrigation. An average retention of 54 000 $m^3$/ha/year (daily 6 mm water irrigation for 3 months of the year) was calculated, with 8.34 ha of arable land (T.4.3.1) that will be converted to grassland.
- WATER QUALITY. Cleaning and reconstruction of the drinking wells (T.4.1.2) will cause positive effects on surface and ground water quality. The explanation is that the farm

animals avoid drinking from natural water bodies and the grazing stock density will decrease around the few original drinking possibilities. Area of the affected surface water body was estimated according to the situation and extension of water bodies that are available currently for the animal stock grazing around the reconstruction area of drinking wells.

Other specific KPIs reported in Part C

- NUMBER OF REGISTERED COLONIES IN EGS "COLONY LOGSHEET' SYSTEM. All important information that can be obtained about EGS colonies which can be useful for conservation actions planned in the Project and beyond are collected and stored in 'Colony Logsheets'. The database of EGS 'Colony Logsheet' system will be up-to-date, and will serve valid information about the necessary actions about the specific colonies.
- OVERALL POPULATION GROWTH IN PANNONIAN REGION OF ROMANIA AND HUNGARY. The overall objective of the project is to ensure the long-term survival of the Pannonian EGS population. The recent distribution in the two countries is 85-15% in favor of Hungary. For direct effect of the project activities on the number of individuals of the current population in Pannon region, as a basis, it can be estimated that an overall 17.75% increase of the population (HU: min. 20%, RO: ca. 5%) will be achieved until the end of the Project. After the Project period, an additional 1-5% increase in the number of individuals can be expected per year. By the fifth year beyond project-end, a minimum 25% increase is expected compared to the recent population size. (The values below were derived by averaging and rounding based on our accurate calculations.)
- ESTABLISHING NEW EGS COLONIES BY RELOCATIONS OF EGS INDIVIDUALS. During the project period, at least seven new EGS colonies will be established using stable source populations, with a minimum of 350 individuals translocated to sites that are currently unpopulated but may have been formerly suitable. This refers to new colonies, on new locations established through the capture and relocation of individuals from nature.
- ESTABLISHING NEW EGS COLONIES BY REINTRODUCING (RELEASE) OF INDIVIDUALS.FROM CAPTIVE BREEDING. By release of captive bred individuals to natural habitats - which are carefully selected suitable areas - minimum 4 new EGS colonies will be established. As a result of ex-situ breeding activities, from 2028 significant numbers of EGS (at least 300 captive bred individuals) are expected to be available for reintroduction to sites that are currently unpopulated but may have been formerly suitable.
- PREDATOR-CONTROLLED AREA FOR BENEFITS OF EGS. By controlling predators and game species in some of the project sites, we significantly increase the survival and strength of EGS colonies in the affected habitats. Project actions will result in appropriate control of predator and game species at 7 project sites (285.58 $km^2$), which are subject to EGS reintroductions, detailed as follows. BNPD: HUBN20034 'Borsodi-Mezőség' Natura 2000 site (140 $km^2$), HUBN20069 'Kesznyéteni Sajó-öböl' Natura 2000 site (47 $km^2$) and HUBN20009 'Tard környéki erdőssztyepp' Natura 2000 site (10 $km^2$) - predators are controlled by the BNPD and hunting companies. HNPD: 'Pentezug' (HUHN20002 'Hortobágy' Natura 2000 site) - 28.3 $km^2$, 'Löszletörés' (HUHN20010 'Pocsaji-kapu') - 28.3 $km^2$, 'Martinkai legelő' (HUHN20024) - 3.68 $km^2$, 'Kék-Kálló-völgye' HUHN20016) - 28.3 $km^2$ sites - predators are controlled by rangers or local hunting companies.
- EVENTS FOR OPEN PUBLIC. Higher awareness and knowledge about the importance and conservation issues of EGS will be achieved by organisation of site visits for civil groups at Project's intervention sites (10 trips in total); and by representing the Project in numerous public events (35 events in total).
- SESSIONS FOR CHILDREN. A complete series of interactive awareness raising presentations for three to ten years old children in their own kindergartens/schools will be compiled and presented in 46 sessions.
- VOLUNTEERS' INVOLVEMENT IN EGS MONITORING. Starting in the 7th month of the project, we will organise a data collection campaign for volunteers in April each year (7 data collection campaigns during the project), involving minimum 50 volunteers per year (minimum 350 volunteers in total) in non-personal-guided data collection.
- DEMONSTRATION TRIPS FOR MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES. At certain points (e.g. the

ex-situ gene bank has been established) the media will be informed and journalists will be invited to field trips to the concerned sites to introduce the aims, activities and results of the project. At least 8 field demonstration trips (1 BVP - opening of the Citellus garden and the breeding facility; 2 BNPD - Batúz-tanya (Batúz farm); 1 HNPD - Pentezug; 4 HOI) will be organised for the press representatives with the coordination of ZOO.

- COMPLEX INTERACTIVE CAMPAIGNS FOR SUBURBAN EGS COLONIES. Status of at least 6 suburban EGS colonies is improved by the realisation of complex awareness raising campaigns – including the preparation and the implementation of urban site-specific action plans for each colony – involving the local community and other relevant stakeholders.

## 2.2 Credibility of the impacts

**Credibility of the impacts**

*Show the steps of your calculations and base yourself on the activities mentioned in your work plan.*

*Justify and substantiate the baselines, benchmarks and assumptions you used, making reference to relevant publications, studies or statistics.*

*Try to use the same methodologies for calculating impacts (avoid using different methodologies for each partner, region or country).*

For a newly established colony of at least 25 founder pairs, taking litter size (0-7) into account, and assuming that on average only 1 female (considering establishment mortality, reproductive success, offspring survival rate) will breed the following year, we will start with a colony of 50 individuals (+ at least the same number of males). In the second year this will grow to 100 (x2), in the third year to 200 (x2), then 400 in the fourth year (x2), and 800 in the fifth year (x2), resulting in total of 1600 EGS individuals. This is enough on average to completely populate a colony site of 10 ha. Assuming a minimum of 11 successful translocations over the project duration, in addition to native population a 5-year medium-term impact would be an increase of 17 600 new EGS individuals considering only the translocations., Since these founder individuals originate either from the juveniles of indoor breeding centres or from outdoor ‘Citellus Gardens’, or from capturing juveniles of overpopulated natural populations, the initial animal stand does not need to be excluded from the calculation.. This population size already exceeds 10-15% of the estimated Hungarian population! In addition to this, the population- increasing effects of habitat management interventions, habitat status development measures and the result of increased connectivity must be added. The impacts of these activities are very difficult to estimate, but we can calculate that the same magnitude of increase can be expected from these interventions.

Thus, even during the period of the project, we will be able to obtain the 20-25% increase in the number of individuals in the native population compared to the current situation!

The annual reproduction of the breeding sites and ‘Citellus Gardens’ established in the project will continue to contribute to the increase in the number of EGS at least in the Hungarian population even after the project has ended. This effect will be achieved through the operation of ‘EGSNet’, where required by stabilising colonies in trouble (at least one in every two years) or by releasing founders to establish new colonies (at least one in every 3 years). We estimate that this alone will result in an additional of 1-5% per year, permanent long-term population increase, which will result in the maintenance and continuation of the results of the project. All new (reintroduced) or identified EGS colonies in Natura 2000 sites will be registered in Standard Data Form (SDF) by the Ministry of Agriculture (MA) (see annexed Letter of support from the MA).

The impact of different actions of the project on the number of colonies and abundance will be based on different estimation methods developed earlier (e.g. HBMS, visual survey) or more recently (UAV-based method) that are able to give a quantitative estimation on the number of animals either youngsters or adults in a colony. Those estimation methods (detailed below) will be used in parallel with each other to guarantee the standardized calculation of different indicators of the abundance or number of colonies either in the baseline surveys or monitoring actions, in all partners, along the 7 years of the entire project.

One of the methods is the burrow counting method in the Hungarian Biodiversity Monitoring System of EGS (HBMS) (WP6 T6.1.1; Váczi et al. 2019), which has been in use in Hungary since 2000. It has proved to be a useful method to detect density variations within colonies.

This method's usage in many colonies could show the relative changes of density between years within a colony. 20-years data in Hungary suggest that there (1) is a declining population trend (Váczi et al. 2019), and (2) are sudden extinctions and the (3) population dynamics are asynchronized (Unpubl. data, manuscript in preparation).

Visual surveys (WP6 T.6.1.4) carried out in reintroduced populations can best provide information on reproductive success in a given year. This survey estimates the reproduction ratio (number of youngsters related to the full colony size, actual abundance) in the newly established colonies by visually observing and counting of youngsters of a year in early autumn. Adults at that time have already started hibernation.

The third and relatively recently developed UAV-based method will allow to estimate the actual, numerical relative abundance of animals in a colony (a ratio of one individual per burrow system and certain number of burrow entrances is assumed), density pattern, and size and shape of the colonised area (WP6 T.6.1.2; Gedeon et al. 2022). Its importance in monitoring is highlighted by the uneven spatial distribution and density within a habitable area due to both extrinsic (e.g. vegetation, food, soil, terrain) and intrinsic factors (e.g. social structure, life history traits, habitat choice) factors and its ability to count burrow entrances over the entire colonised area contrary to relative density estimation by the HBMS method (density per hectare). Besides, it is upmost important that those three methods (HBMS, UAV-based and visual surveys) are all non-destructive methods that can hardly harm animals at all.

All three methods used before (baseline surveys) and after different actions, such as habitat reconstructions, captive breeding, will be able to quantitatively reflect the effect of various actions on the abundance or number of colonies in the Pannonian region. All three methods are cost effective by using equipment purchased by the project, so the monitoring introduced within the project can be easily continued with the same intensity after the LIFE Project period.

HBMS EGS Programme are running for long-term by the MS costs in Hungary, hence a project-independent country wide monitoring will be sustained.

The extent of the intervention areas will be measured using remotely sensed (open source space imagery and our own UAV-derived aerial photographs) mapping and field GPS surveys.

References

Gedeon, Cs. I., Árvai, M., Szatmári, G., Brevik, E. C., Takáts, T., Kovács, Z. A., Mészáros, J. 2022. Identification and Counting of European Souslik Burrows from UAV Images by Pixel-Based Image Analysis and Random Forest Classification: A Simple, Semi-Automated, yet Accurate Method for Estimating Population Size. Remote Sensing. 2022; 14(9): 2025. https://doi.org/10.3390/rs14092025

Váczi, O., Varga, I. & Bakó, B. (eds.) 2019. A Nemzeti Biodiverzitás-monitorozó Rendszer Eredményei II. – Gerinces Állatok [Results of the National Biodiversity Monitoring System II. – Vertebrates]. – Körös-Maros Nemzeti Park Igazgatóság, Szarvas.

Stephen, C. 2022. Wildlife Population Health. Springer, Cham. https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-030-90510-1_13

#@SUS-CON-SC@#

## 2.3 Sustainability of project results

**Sustainability of project results**

*Describe your strategy to sustain the project's results after the EU funding ends. Consider the following aspects:*

- *How will the project impact be ensured and sustained? Which tasks will you carry out during the project to ensure that?*
- *Which parts of the project should be continued or maintained? How will this be achieved and which resources will be necessary?*

The central, integrated activity, which is the backbone of the project is the development and operation of the ‘EGS Conservation Safety Net’ (‘EGSNet’) which can flexibly react to stochastic environmental effect on the Pannonian EGS population. ‘EGSNet’ will be operated by HOI, keeping the database of EGS ‘Colony Logsheet’ system up-to-date, serving valid information about the necessary actions about the specific colonies. Long-term operation of the system is ensured also after the project period by state financing, up-to-date data from the specific colonies will be collected from the running national monitoring systems, experts of national park directorates and volunteers. MILVUS is fully committed to sustaining monitoring and restocking efforts in Romania over the long term. Among its many volunteer programs, the organization has proven experience in organizing and implementing monitoring and relocation actions (building on the knowledge acquired in projects LIFE09 NAT/HU/000384 and LIFE13 NAT/HU/000183). The costs relate to the purchase and maintenance of the necessary equipment and materials, most of which will be purchased within the framework of CitellusLIFE and will continue to be usable after the end of the project. Amortisation and consumables (bait, trap repairs, etc.) and fuel costs are factors that we have to take into account and which we will be able to cover through our own financing and with the help of smaller grants.

Basic functions of project partners are in the field of nature conservation. Most of the partners (HOI, BNPD, BVP, CER, FHNPD, HNPD, KNPD, UD) are directly or mediately financed by the state so the operation of these organisations is reliable in a long timeframe. Proper management of restored habitats and care of enhanced EGS populations will be maintained by the responsible NPD. Most of the properties concerned are also managed directly by the NPDs and are used under lease agreements. These agreements outline the conditions for the long-term use (for at least 30 years) of the land. In areas not managed by the NPDs, we request a declaration of cooperation or consent from the owners. The owners undertake to confirm in writing their intention to cooperate with the NPDs in relation to the areas affected by the ground squirrel population. Based on these 30-year maintenance clause will be incorporated into the agreements with private landowners. They will organize their farming practices in the long term in such a way that the conditions achieved during the project (e.g. mowing, grazing, shrub removal and suppression of invasive alien species) are maintained and preserved in the areas affected by the interventions and ensure the survival of the existing ground squirrel population and the possibility of the colony expanding its territory. Farmers have indicated that, circumstances permitting, they plan to continue their current farming practices in the long term. Once the presence of predators has been reduced by the project activity and stabilized at a low level during the project period, maintaining this level requires significantly less energy and human resources. The own hunting rights or the good relationship and professional cooperation that has existed for several years between the hunting rights holder and the NPDs ensure that nature conservation interests are upheld. This situation will ensure that maintaining predators at a favourably low level will be sustained for a period of at least 30 years. The land to be purchased is already a part of the Bihari-sík Landscape Protection Area, a nature conservation area of national importance, whose national nature conservation regulation is more strict than that of EU level regulation. The current legal regulations ensure the preservation of the area, as any activity that changes the character of the area requires official national permission. The land register for the properties we wish to purchase includes the entry "protected area." After the land is purchased, it will be placed under the management of the HNPD and leased out under an agreement that regulates the conditions for its use. The three established, low upkeeping (e.g. solar cells operated) breeding stocks (at BVP and HNPD) are going to keep producing EGS individuals for further reintroduction actions. Established facilities and purchased high quality equipment (field cars, UAVs, laptops, field equipment etc.) will be suitable for continuous monitoring and awareness raising activities. Results and experiences will be shared at an expert and a public level, too. Best practices in protocols, methods, maintenance practices and awareness raising techniques will be disseminated to non-partner NPDs and other interested organizations (see annexed ‘Letters of support’). Decision makers will be advised for their further activities.

The project has a sustainability strategy (see annexed in ‘Other annexes’). According to that strategy the establishment of breeding centres in the long-term ensures not only the survival of the Pannonian population genetic groups of the species, but also the individuals needed for future resettlement as a ‘source population’. The new populations established through resettlement of individuals are able to ensure the presence and thus the survival of the

species, in a self-sustaining way in the longer term. These new populations reduce the vulnerability of the species and, if properly designed, ensure the survival of the species, in a sustainable and cost-effective way. Large-scale habitat arrangement and habitat management interventions will be carried out, which will create suitable EGS habitats. Later maintenance of these, thanks to the appropriate design, will hardly require new treatments in the future. The introduction and dissemination of innovative technologies (like UAV-based and citizen science-based EGS monitoring, habitat- and climate sensitivity assessments), makes the monitoring of EGS populations and conservation decision making much more cost-effective, sustainable and successful. Ensuring the protection of habitats enables the preservation of EGS more effectively. Materials prepared for decision-makers enable more effective conservation planning and more successful and cost-effective conservation of EGS in the Pannonian region. By making our results widely accessible, we provide the opportunity to preserve EGS in other regions of Europe more effectively and to use the 'best practices' we have developed and tested. The long-term impacts of habitat conservation interventions on biodiversity status, air- and soil quality, surface- and groundwater quality will give value not only in terms of nature conservation but also of environmental protection.

#§SUS-CON-SC§#

## 2.4 Exploitation of project results

**Exploitation of project results**

*Do you foresee other ways of exploiting the project's results (e.g. utilisation in further research, in developing / creating / marketing a product or process, in creating / providing a service, in standardisation activities etc.)? Who are the targeted users?*

*For close-to-market projects: Describe the reference market: actual and potential market size, features of prospective customers and of their demand, competitors, market and regulatory barriers, etc. Explain the economic feasibility of the proposed solution comparing cost, price or other economic investment variables (e.g. payback period, net present value, etc.).*

***Note:** Don't forget to include the activities in the mandatory Work Package for Sustainability, replication, and exploitation of project results.*

Our methods or system will be offered to freely apply to other species or repeate for the EGS populations regularly in the northern and south-eastern ranges of the distribution area of the species. The results will give base for the operation of international 'EGS Conservation Safety Net' ('EGSNet') by the project-founded 'International EGS Technical Committee' in parallel to the best practice operated on the EGS of the Pannonian region. This serves a good and followable example on how to identify the reasons of population declines, then apply adequate actions to mitigate the effect of those factors, and eventually involve the public in favour of those actions. As part of the 'EGSNet', the threat map would give a country scale map on specific risks for EGS colonies including the risk of flooding. That piece of information can help the water management authority to interact in certain habitats where the conservation of EGS is a priority and water drainage channels are available. Advisory service about EGSs for conservation bodies, the general public, farmers, airport and water managers under the Grassland Conservation Management Advisory Service in Hungary will serve valuable information about EGS friend management for stakeholders not involved in the project, too. Renewed Hungarian EGS Species Action Plan will ensure the best maintenance of the species based on the current knowledge about the conservation of EGS.

Other areas where the results can be exploited:

- A feasibility study (recommendations) will be prepared for the Ministry of Agriculture (MA) (see annexed Letter of support from the MA) for the development of an agricultural support scheme for EGS;
- The action plan with general and area-specific recommendations for the implementation of interventions that promote the preservation of all protected values will support the decision makers;
- Best practice for grassland management suitable for EGS can be used by non-partner national park directorates and farmers in Hungary and Romania;
- Establishment of herd watering wells that can maintain grazing and resulting short grass in large areas will have a positive effect on local agricultural businesses.

Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025



## 2.5 Catalytic potential: Replication and upscaling

**Catalytic potential: Replication and upscaling**

*Describe the potential for the results to be replicated in the same or other sectors or places. Which factors might favour or limit the replication?*

*Describe the potential for the results to be up-scaled by public/private actors or through mobilising larger investments or financial resources. What is the coverage and size of the market? Who are the potential users of the results?*

*Describe the strategy and tasks to multiply the impact of the project (during implementation or afterwards). How will its main actions and results be replicated elsewhere?*

***Note:** Don't forget to include the activities in the mandatory Work Package for Sustainability, replication, and exploitation of project results.*

In terms of upscaling, the concerted approach of the project proposal, using the same methods and protocols by all partners and compared to earlier, smaller scale projects in Hungary (RAPTORSPREYLIFE) or Slovakia (LIFE SYSEL including also Czech Republic and Poland), would focus specifically on EGS on larger and core areas of its western distribution range covering hundreds of colonies. It gives a good methodological example and information gained to be upscaled and built on for other countries for other parts of the distribution area of EGS in the future, and by that would improve its conservation in the long-term and at an even larger geographical scale.

Main results of the project's activities that are expected to be upscaled by future projects even on smaller scale: International 'EGS Conservation Safety Net' ('EGSNet') by the project founded 'International EGS Technical Committee' in parallel to the best practice operated on the EGS of the Pannonian region (T.8.6); Population genetic survey report including a more comprehensive genetic structure of the western populations, genetic diversity of colonies (T.5.1.2); Health status report of EGS populations (T.5.1.2); Action Plan regarding the management of EGS under the effects of climate change in the Pannonian region (T.8.1); GIS-based threat map to assess the actual threats to EGS colonies in the Pannonian region (T.5.1.1); Urban site-specific action plans to manage human-ground squirrel conflicts (T.8.8); Action plan for decision makers based on the results of the project, earlier scientific results and literature data (T.8.2); Action plan with general and area-specific recommendations for the implementation of interventions that promote the protection of all species of conservation importance for decision makers (T.8.3); Baseline study with technical recommendations for the development of EGS-friendly grassland management practices (T.8.4); Advisory Service about EGS to provide advice for stakeholders (T.8.5).

Besides, the innovative methods and protocols developed or improved in the frame of the project – such as the UAV-based monitoring method (T.6.1.2), standard protocol of suitability characterization (T.5.1.2), reproduction success monitoring protocol (T.6.1.4), GIS-based protocol to assess the actual threats to EGS colonies (T.5.1.1), standard monitoring protocol for non-expert volunteers for EGS (T.7.1.8) – would be replicated in the case of EGS in other regions or used for other burrowing mammal species as common hamster, mole rat species or even related ground squirrel species.

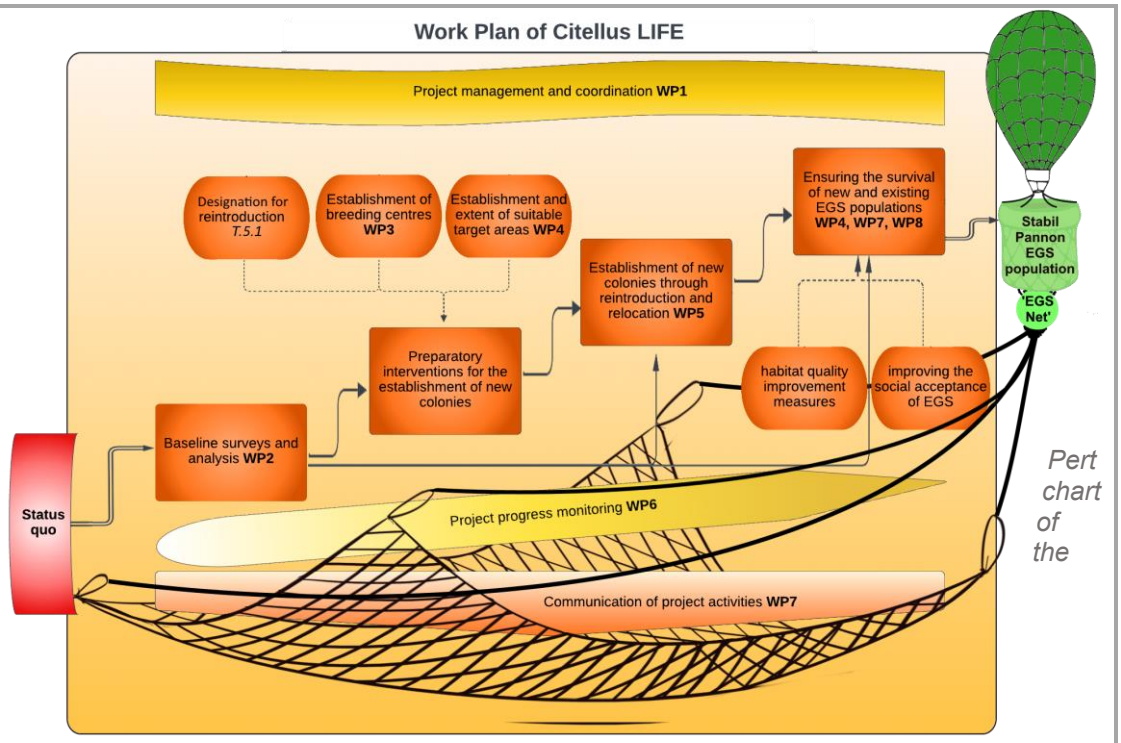
#§IMP-ACT-IA§# #@QUA-LIT-QL@# #@WRK-PLA-WP@#

# 3. IMPLEMENTATION

## 3.1 Work plan

**Work plan**

*Provide a brief description of the overall structure of the work plan (list of work packages or graphical presentation (Pert chart or similar)).*




*Pert chart of the*

*CitellusLIFE project structure and processes*

1) Status quo (long-term survival of the EGS population of the Pannonian region is not assured)
2) Baseline surveys and analysis **WP2** of EGS (T.2.2.1) and its current (T.2.2.2) and potential (T.2.3) habitat for developing and operating EGS 'Colony Logsheet' system (T.2.2.1) which will be the basis of 'EGS Conservation Safety Net' ('EGS Net') operating during the project period and beyond (T.8.6)
3) Preparatory interventions for the establishment of new colonies
   a. Establishment of breeding centres to ensure the survival of the three known genetic lineages **WP3** (establishment and operation of indoor ex-situ breeding - gene bank centres T.3.1, T.3.2, establishment and operation of ex-situ enclosures ('Citellus Gardens') for EGS reproduction T.3.3)
   b. Establishment and extent of suitable target areas **WP4** (land purchase T.4.1.1, establishment of grazing infrastructure T.4.1.2, conversion of EGS habitats from arable land T.4.3.1, restoration of degraded habitats T.4.3.2)
   c. Designation of currently suitable donor EGSs and target sites (T.5.1.3) for translocations (T.5.2)
4) Establishment of new colonies through reintroduction and relocation **WP5** (from breeding centres T.5.2.2, from stable source populations T.5.2.1)
5) Ensuring the survival of new and existing EGS populations **WP4, WP7, WP8**
   a. Operate 'EGS Net' in the Pannonian region and beyond (T.8.6)
   b. habitat quality improvement measures (set up predator control system T.4.2, improving degraded habitats T.4.3.2, forming ecological corridors WP4, improving the conservation status of suburban EGS habitats T.8.8,
   c. improving the social acceptance of EGS (stakeholder engagement T.7.1.7, T.7.1.8, T.7.2, T.8.4, T.8.5, replication, knowledge transfer and dissemination of best practices T.7.3, T.7.4, results and experiences exploitation to policy T.8.1, T.8.2, T.8.3, T.8.6.2)

Horizontal activities:

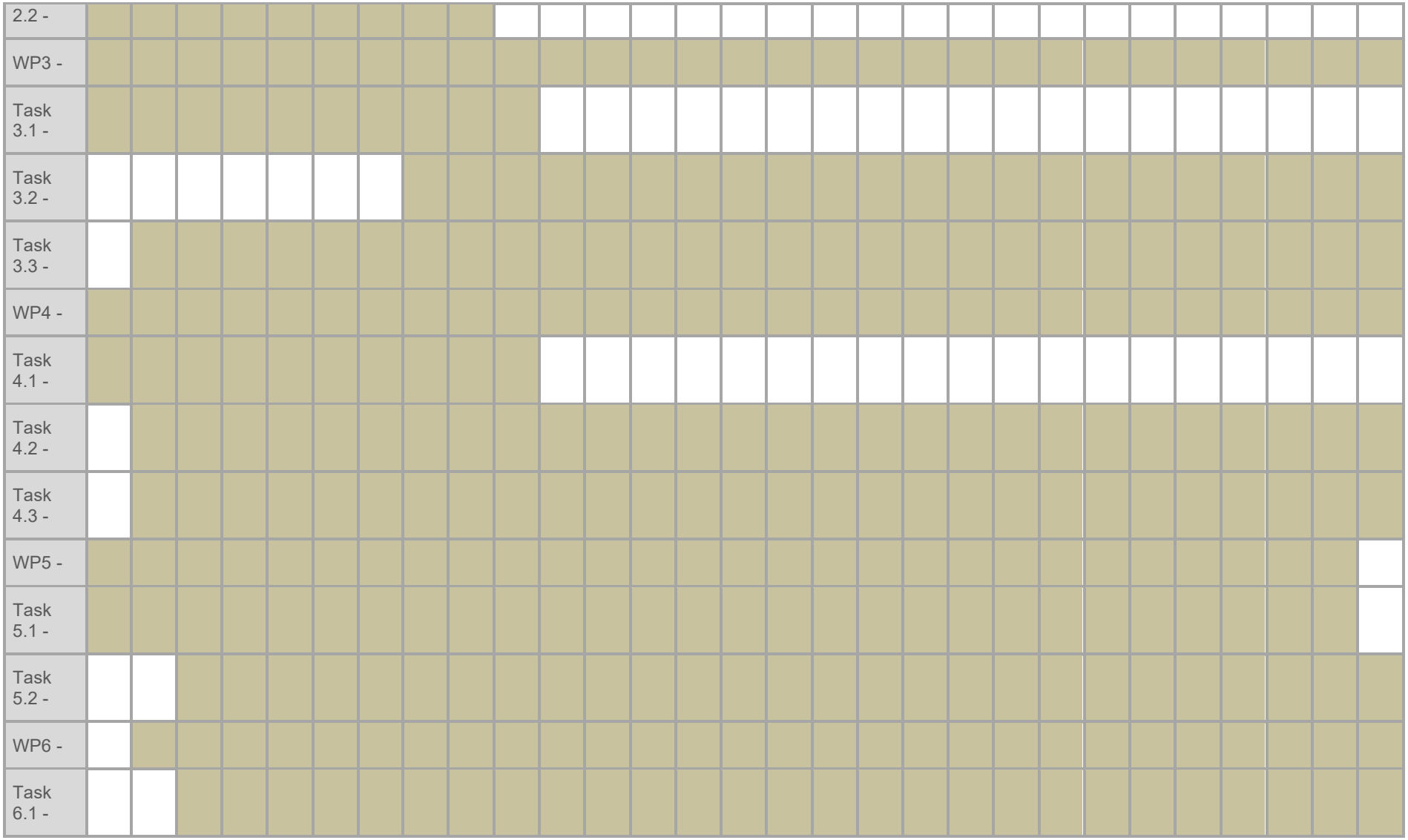
1. Project management and coordination **WP1**
2. Project progress monitoring **WP6**
3. Communication of project activities **WP7**

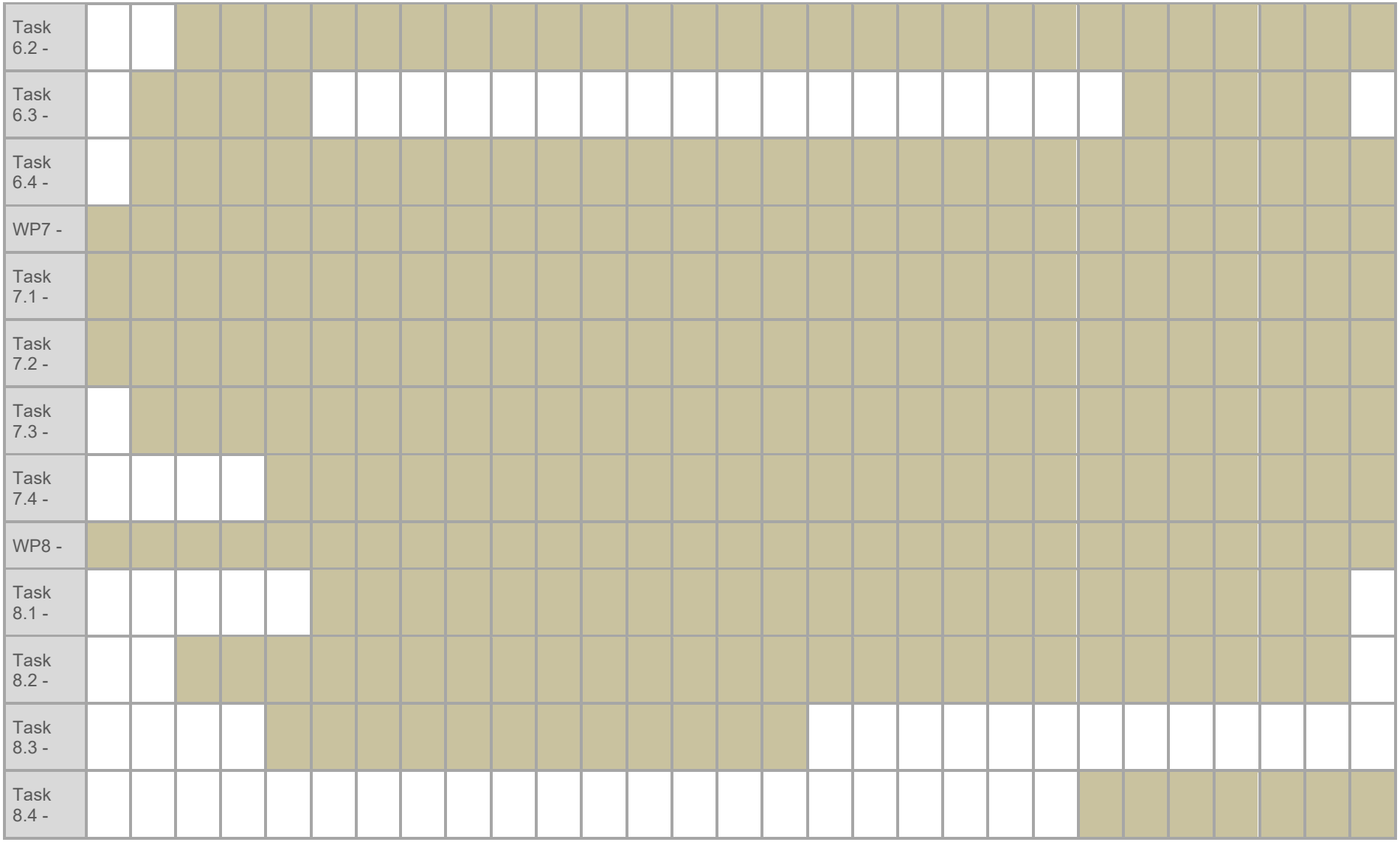
*Timetable*

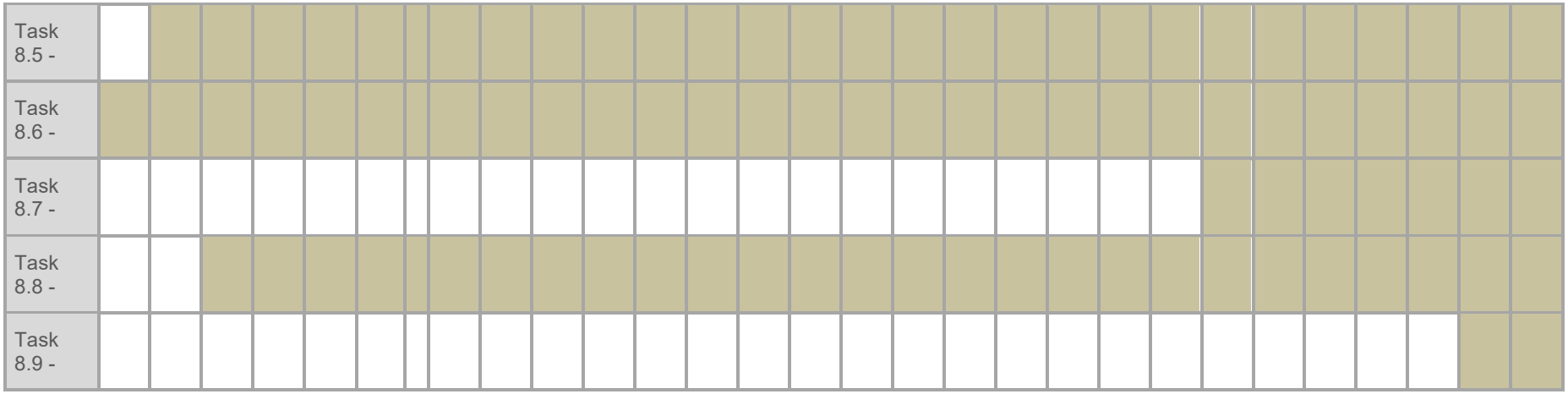
**Timetable (projects of more than 2 years)**

*Fill in cells in beige to show the duration of activities. Repeat lines/columns as necessary.* ***Note:*** *Use the project months/years instead of calendar months/years. Month 1 always marks the start of the project. In the timeline you should indicate the timing of each activity per WP. You may add additional columns if your project is longer than 6 years.*

| ACTIVITY | 2025 | 2026 | | | | 2027 | | | | 2028 | | | | 2029 | | | | 2030 | | | | 2031 | | | | 2032 | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | M 1 | M4 | M 7 | M 10 | M 13 | M 16 | M 19 | M 22 | M 25 | M 28 | M 31 | M 34 | M 37 | M 40 | M 43 | M 46 | M 49 | M 52 | M 55 | M 58 | M 61 | M 64 | M 67 | M 70 | M 73 | M 76 | M 79 | M 82 | M 85 |
| WP1 - … | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Task 1.1 - | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Task 1.2 - | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Task 1.3 - | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Task 1.4 - | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Task 1.5 - | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| WP2 - | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Task 2.1 - | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Task | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |


2.2 -
WP3 -
Task 3.1 -
Task 3.2 -
Task 3.3 -
WP4 -
Task 4.1 -
Task 4.2 -
Task 4.3 -
WP5 -
Task 5.1 -
Task 5.2 -
WP6 -
Task 6.1 -


Task 6.2 -
Task 6.3 -
Task 6.4 -
WP7 -
Task 7.1 -
Task 7.2 -
Task 7.3 -
Task 7.4 -
WP8 -
Task 8.1 -
Task 8.2 -
Task 8.3 -
Task 8.4 -




#§WRK-PLA-WP§#

Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025



## 3.2 Stakeholder engagement

**Stakeholders engagement**

*Identify any key stakeholders outside the consortium that are required to ensure the success of the project. How will you mobilise them to contribute to your project activities or participate in these?*

*Annex Letters of support to demonstrate the type and level of commitment already secured (if any).(n/a for concept note)*

*For Nature and Biodiversity: If your project (or a part of it) depends on support of the competent authority or stakeholders, provide letters of support to show their commitment to the project (needed for full proposal, n/a for concept note)*

There are several stakeholder groups that have a role in the successive implementation of the Project and in the long-term sustainability of its results, thus in the survival of the EGS population in the Pannonian region. The Project partnership and the Project activities were formed in a way that all these stakeholder groups will be involved directly to reach our goals. Each Project partner has direct contact to certain stakeholder groups, ensuring their involvement, and each stakeholder group will be involved in certain Project activities. The stakeholder groups identified, the Project activities that target them, and the results expected with their involvement in the conservation of EGS and its habitats are as follows:

**Governmental bodies** (primarily nature conservation, agriculture and rural development): Targeted by activities such as Hungarian distribution and trend data collection for the actual report provided by Article 17. of the EU Habitat Directive; updating the monitoring protocol of the Hungarian Biodiversity Monitoring System, EGS Programme (HBMS EGS Programme operation's responsibility of the HOI); development of action plan of EGS for decision-makers in Hungary, regarding the survival of ground squirrels in the Pannonian region (T.8.2); preparation of action plan with general and area-specific recommendations to promote the preservation of EGS and all other species of conservation importance (T.8.3); feasibility study for the development of an agricultural support scheme for EGS (T.8.4). Expected results: The results and recommendations for the long-term maintenance of the population of EGS will be spread among governmental bodies to support scientifically based decision-making and legislation in terms of EGS and its short grassed steppe habitats. Support of the Ministry of Agriculture (responsible for nature conservation is Hungary) and the Experts Group of Blind Mole-rat and European Ground Squirrel Protection (consulting group of the Nature Protection Deputy State Secretariat of the Ministry) are indicated by their declarations of support attached in annex 'Letters of support'. Data gathered in the Project can also support the decisions of nature conservation authorities in authorisation procedures concerning EGS.

**Nature conservationists** (non-partner national park directorates responsible for the management of protected and Natura 2000 areas)**:** Targeted by activities: networking with projects/institutions outside the Project partnership (T.7.3.1, T.7.3.2); publications of the Project's results (T.7.4.1); participation in and organisation of conferences (T.7.4.2); advisory service about EGS (T.8.5). Based on the transferred knowledge, appropriate management of actual EGS habitats, further restoration/improvement activities of degraded EGS habitats, establishment of new colonies, and further transfer of knowledge to professionals or locals are expected beyond the Project. (See annexed letters of support from non-partner national park directorates in annex 'Letters of support'.)

**Other land-users of EGS habitats** (e.g. farmers, hunters): Targeted by activities: advisory service about ground squirrels (T.8.5). A better communication with land-users, their improved knowledge on EGS and the use of EGS-friendly farming are expected. (See letter of intent of some concerned hunters in predator control and support letter of farmers in annexed Letters of support.)

**Scientific and educational institutes:** Targeted by activities: networking with other projects/institutions outside the Project partnership (T.7.3.1, T.7.3.2); publications of the Project's results (T.7.4.1); participation in and organisation of conferences (T.7.4.2); Wide knowledge transfer of the Project results among researchers and nature conservations, further use of Project results, method, protocols, are expected, on national and international level. (See annexed letters of support from other LIFE projects.)

**Civil organisations (NGOs) with nature conservation focus:** Targeted by activities:

networking with other projects/institutions outside the Project partnership (T.7.3.2); awareness raising campaigns (T.7.1.7, T.8.8). It is expected that through the involvement of these organisations and with their assistance in dissemination, a wider range of the public can be reached. (See annexed letters of support from NGOs.)

**Local citizens near EGS colonies:** Targeted by volunteer programmes (T.7.1.8); local site visits, forums (T.7.1.7); campaigns to manage human-ground squirrel conflicts (T.8.8); advisory service about ground squirrels (T.8.5). An increased awareness and a responsible, EGS-friendly attitude and behaviour are expected to be formed, which result in the increasing number of EGS individuals in local colonies and also a wider involvement in citizen science monitoring programmes.

**Other local stakeholders** (e.g. local municipalities, airfield operators, tourist agencies): Targeted especially by campaigns to manage human-ground squirrel conflicts (T.8.8): will be invited to local awareness raising events organised at selected suburban EGS colonies and the site-specific action plans will be discussed with them. It is expected that the increased knowledge and responsibility of the maintenance of the local EGS colonies will support the implementation of the action plans (including possible restrictions on land-users) and will increase the number of EGS individuals in local colonies. One of our goals is to develop a 'tourism marketing and attraction' for the EGS with the help of tourism organisations that can be involved as partners in the promotion and publicity, and in situ presentation of a few selected populations in disturbance tolerant habitats under controlled conditions. In these demonstration sites method and background materials will be offered to travel agencies and tour operators for self-use in other regions (T.7.1.8).

The impact of Project activities on the main stakeholder groups near the end of the Project will be evaluated through implementing questionnaire-based surveys and interviews and by comparing its results with that of the baseline surveys (in T.6.3).

Overall, by the broad involvement and mobilisation of the above-described stakeholder groups in the Project, their much more wider knowledge base, strengthened cooperation and support in conservation efforts and enhanced efficiency in implementation of interventions for EGS are aimed to be achieved in the long-term, within and beyond the Pannonian region.

#@PRJ-MGT-PM@#

## 3.3 Impact monitoring and reporting

**Impact monitoring, evaluation and reporting strategy**

*Describe your overall approach to monitor and evaluate the impact indicators during your project. Ensure that you include specific tasks to monitor, evaluate and report impacts in the work plan (section 2 of this template).*

Impact monitoring and evaluation of the Project are detailed in WP6. Summary of these activities are the following.

Most important indicators measuring the achievement of the main objectives of the Project are **the success of EGS population strengthening**. Yearly or in the beginning even more often surveys for monitoring will be carried out in the abundance, distribution area, health status, age structure of the EGS colonies targeted in the Project by different, sometimes innovative methods, detailed in Chapter 1.4. Effects on Pannonian region level of the Project for EGS status will also be monitored by more general methodology (with standard protocol).

**Success of tasks implemented in the Project will be directly monitored.** Captive born EGS individuals will be counted and registered, purchased sites size will be registered, area of regrassed arable land and area cleared from IAS plants and native shrubs will be measured by remote sensing, number of controlled predators and games will be counted.

**Communication, education and awareness raising effects of the Project will be measured directly** by registering the number of visitors in the events, number of visitors in the online surfaces and social media surfaces, number of spread information materials, number of scientific and popular online and offline publications, number of involved volunteers, and number of meetings to different groups of stakeholders. **Project communication effects on human knowledge and attitude** about EGS will be monitored through implementing questionnaire-based surveys and interviews among the main

stakeholder groups in the beginning and the end of the Project.

Reporting activities to different target groups are detailed in WP7.

A continuously expanding database will be launched that will contain a collection of all the impacts of the Project (exact number of any news, newspaper articles, internet appearances, social media appearances, scientific publications, events, etc.). The reached number of impacts (results either knowledge or material) will be compared to our previous plans and if necessary, measures will be taken to reach our plans. This approach will enable us to improve the overall performance of the Project in a timely manner. Since it is a 7-year Project, the continuous feedback will be important to avoid delays of the expected results.

Progress is constantly included in regular Project reports and summarised annually in the Project's annual media monitoring report.

Specifically, in WP6, Monitoring and Evaluation, data will be collected on the following indicators aiming at monitoring the progress of the Project and continuously evaluate and measure its performance:

- Data on the abundance of the colonies subjected to management within the Project will be collected with non-destructive methods. This will include both the number of new colonies and size of all colonies in the Project (T.6.1.2).
- The monitoring of the spatio-temporal dynamics of the colonies within the entire Project will be carried out and the relationships between various management strategies (i.e. reintroduction, habitat reconstruction, grazing) and the change of abundance will be studied. This will help to see whether colonies stop shrinking and eventually increase its size (T.6.1.2).
- Success (short and long-term) of EGS translocations will be monitored by estimating the abundance of colonies non-destructively after translocations. Success of translocations will be improved by comparing data on movements (above-, and underground, burrow and area usage) of translocated and control group individuals using radio telemetry. This activity will be continued after the Project to be able to see long-term success of translocations or reintroductions (T.6.1.3).
- Baseline survey on stakeholders' awareness status will be conducted and report on the result of baseline survey of stakeholders' status will be prepared (T.6.3). It will enable us to follow how public and stakeholder awareness will increase as a result of the Project.
- Survey on the impact of stakeholders' awareness campaign will be completed and then report about its impact on stakeholders' awareness will be prepared (T.6.3) (Impact of the stakeholders awareness campaign will be surveyed and reported on)
- Project data will be uploaded into the LIFE KPI webtool (T.6.4)

#§PRJ-MGT-PM§# #@COM-DIS-VIS-CDV@#

## 3.4 Communication, dissemination and visibility

**Communication, dissemination and visibility of funding**

*Define your target audience(s). Describe the planned communication and dissemination activities to promote the action and its results and maximise the impact (to whom, which format, how many copies, etc.). Clarify how you intent to reach each target audience, and explain the choice of the dissemination channels. Describe the methods and indicators (quantitative and qualitative) to monitor and evaluate the outreach and coverage of the communication and dissemination activities and results.*

*Describe how the visibility of EU funding will be ensured.*

During the Project a separate Work Package (WP7) will be dedicated for communication and dissemination activities that will cover the following activities and target groups. The WP Coordinator (ZOO) has 30-years' experience in communication, dissemination and educational activities, and several of the Beneficiaries have also routine in these tasks, which will ensure the successive implementation of the WP.

In the case of conservation of the EGS, one of the target groups of communication and dissemination activities is the general public. On the one hand, their opinion can reach

decision-makers and put some pressure on them. On the other hand, they can have a direct positive effect on the colonies of EGS that are situated in frequently visited areas, by performing an EGS-friendly behaviour. However, little is known among the public about the EGS itself or its endangered status. For this reason, an extensive and multiple dissemination and awareness raising campaign is planned during the Project to raise awareness of the wide public and form their attitude towards the target species. These activities will be coordinated centrally, by the ZOO and HOI, with the assistance of all other Beneficiaries. In order to reach all the different social classes and age groups, activities will be carried out across multiple channels, covering offline and online, direct and indirect methods and tools. Outreach and direct involvement of citizens will be ensured by the extensive expertise and experience of Beneficiaries BNPD, BVP, FHNPD, HNPD, HOI, KNPD, MILVUS and ZOO in tasks of communication, dissemination and awareness raising, and their direct contacts to them.

Particular emphasis will be put on the environmental education and awareness raising among the most sensitive young generations (from kindergartens) to sustain the gained results (e.g. higher acceptance and positive attitude) for the longer term. Emphasis will also be put on the citizen science approach, namely, to involve citizens on a voluntary base in the EGS monitoring programme, since this kind of direct involvement in field work of nature conservation, will highly promote their engagement in conservation of EGS and their habitats.

The planned communication and dissemination activities that target the general public:

- **Establishment of the visual identity of the Project:** Preparation of the Project logo and the Visual identity guidelines, containing the rules of the visual appearance of the Project. (T.7.1.1)
- **Online communication of the Project:** Preparation and operation ofthe dedicated Project webpages withinthe beneficiaries' websites (8 pages), as well as the creation of social media profiles. (T.7.1.2)
- **Installation of information boards:** General information boards will be produced aiming to inform the public about the Project, its objectives and activities (18 pieces in A3 format). These will be placed at strategic places which are frequented by visitors; Specific, introduction boards (23 pieces in 70x100 cm format) will be installed at the Project's intervention sites to introduce the different nature conservation interventions for the interested visitors (T.7.1.3)
- **Production and distribution of information materials about the Project:** A leaflet to introduce the Project to the general public will be prepared in 12 000 printed copies and digital versions in Hungarian, Romanian and English and will be distributed at public meetings/events, visitor centres of the Beneficiaries; A roll-up will be designed about the Project and produced for each Beneficiaries (18 copies in Hungarian, 1 in Romanian, and 3 in English) to be used at scientific workshops, conferences and public events (T.7.1.4 ).
- **Production and distribution of information and promotional materials about the target species:** Various information and promotional materials will be produced and used to support awareness raising campaigns, educational and volunteer programmes, workshops, conferences. The following materials will be produced: digital booklet - 12-16 pages, Hungarian, Romanian English; education booklet - 24 pages, Hungarian, in A5 size, printed in 10 000 copies; thematic book - 132 pages, in 19x21 cm size, printed in 1 000 copies; interactive playsets; branded notepads with pen – in A5 format, 2 000 pcs; Project's T-shirt - 200 pcs; fridge magnets -10 000 pcs; eco-friendly pens – 10 000 pcs; gym bags – 2 000 pcs; small plush EGSs - 1 000 pcs. (T.7.1.5.)
- **Preparation of a Project film and cartoon for kids:** a 25-minute film, as a documentary of the Project, and short videos will be prepared to enhance the visibility of the overall Project and the knowledge about the nature conservation of EGS, in an experiential way. Three-minute educational cartoon will be prepared to increase the awareness and the popularity of the species among children. These will be distributed

online, or used during public events, educational programmes, etc. (T.7.1.6)

- **Awareness raising campaign:** Higher awareness and knowledge about the importance and conservation issues of EGS will be achieved by organisation of site visits for civil groups at Project's intervention sites (10 trips in total); and by representing the Project in numerous public events (35 events in total). (T.7.1.7.)
- **Education and volunteer programmes:** For the direct involvement of volunteers in field work of EGS monitoring, a standard monitoring protocol will be developed for non-expert volunteers supported by a smartphone application. Data collection campaigns will be organised for volunteers using this protocol via the application (7 data collection campaigns, at least 350 volunteers in total). The EGS demonstration enclosure of the Budapest Zoo and Botanical Garden will be improved to enhance the visitor's experience. In 5 sites, the tourism organisations will offer a complex tourism programme package that includes the opportunity to visit natural or semi-natural habitats where visitors can observe EGS populations by themselves and in controlled conditions. (T.7.1.8)
- **Layman's report:** To summarise the status of the species, the objectives, activities and achievements of the Project for the public, the Layman's report will be produced in English, Hungarian and Romanian in paper (200 pcs.) and electronic format. (T.7.1.9.)

To reach wider public, an extensive and centrally coordinated (by ZOO) media communication campaign will be carried out targeting all kind of media representatives (printed and online press, TV, radio), covering the following activities:

- **Media work:** Two press conferences will be organised linked to the Project's Kick-off meeting and Final conference, and regular press releases (at least 12) will be circulated to local and national media outlets. (T.7.2.2)
- **Field trips to Project sites for media representatives:** At certain points the media will be informed, and journalists will be invited to field trips (at least 8 field demonstration trips) to the concerned sites to introduce the aims, activities and results of the Project. (T.7.2.1)

Networking on national and international level, both within and beyond the Project partnership, is indispensable to reveal synergies, upscale each other's results and create cooperation to maximize co-benefits. Outreach of relevant institutions and Project members will be ensured by the Beneficiaries that have participated in several national/international nature-related projects, thus having good relations with them. Networking activities will cover the followings:

- **Networking with other ongoing and submitted LIFE projects, networking with other non-LIFE projects/institutions:** Networking activities that target non-partner projects/institutions will result in an enhanced knowledge exchange and strengthening of cooperation in the conservation of EGS. These activities will also contribute to replicability of the results and achievement of the Project. (T.7.3.1, T.7.3.2)
- **In-situ trainings** (2-5 occasions) and **field workshops** (7 events) organised will allow the exchange of practical experience and the training of novel methods and techniques (T.7.3.2).
- A **Bulletin of the EGS** will be compiled in 2 issues per year (14 issues during the Project), which will publish news of EGS, its Projects and summaries of scientific articles. It will be freely available from the Project's webpages and circulated among researchers and nature conservationists working with EGS. (T.7.3.2)

Dissemination of Project results and achievements among the scientific and nature conservational community is essential to transfer the theoretical and practical knowledge and experience resulted from the Project. Outreach will be ensured primarily by the partner scientific institutions (BEKE, CER, UD, HOI, MILVUS) and national park directorates (BNPD,

FHNPD, HNPD, KNPD) through the following activities:

- **Publications of the Project results:** At least 3 scientific papers throughout the Project time will be published in national and international scientific journals. (T.7.4.1)
- **Participation in conferences:** The activities and results of the Project will be presented at least at 5 professional/scientific conferences. (T.7.4.2)
- **Organisation of workshops/conferences:** The European Ground Squirrel Meeting in Hungary will be organised to bring together scientists and conservationists from all over Europe working in different fields of EGS; Final conference of the Project will be organised at the end of its duration, to present all results, conservation management experiences and practices related to the Project. (T.7.4.2)
- **Set up an 'International EGS Technical Committee':** with international specialist members and self-accepted operating rules. It will be ensured that developing of 'EGS Conservation Safety Net' for the Pannonian region will be suitable for international point of view and will be accepted in the areas outside the Pannonian region, too. In addition, this activity will become a long-term sustainable tool for the conservation of the EGS world population (T.8.6)

To manage human-ground squirrel conflicts in suburban habitats of EGS and strengthen these colonies we will target the local public and other stakeholders, with the help of relevant national park directorate:

- **Complex campaign with awareness raising will be performed:** Site-specific action plans will be prepared and implemented for 6 selected suburban EGS habitats, and awareness raising events will be organised for the locals yearly at each of these sites (20 events). (T.8.8)

To evaluate the efficiency of communication and dissemination activities, the following indicators will be used. These will be monitored throughout the Project, which will allow the fine-tuning of the planned activities. The expected minimum values of indicators reached at the end of the Project are also indicated below.

- Number of Project-related media appearances: 700
- Own media contents (press release, webpage/social media posts): 480
- Visitors number of the Project webpage: 100 000
- Followers number of the Project's social media platforms: 5 000
- Number of different information materials (printed/electronic, press/audio-visual) produced: 11
- Number of participants (general public, stakeholders, all age-groups) in the awareness raising events organised in the frame of the Project (e.g. site events, field trips, forums): 2 200
- Number of volunteers involved in citizen science programme: 350
- Number of media representatives involved in media events (press conferences, field trips): 120
- Overall number of participants/visitors directly reached in communication/dissemination events (on partners' and non-partners' events in total): 12 000
- Number of scientific publications and presentations: 3
- Number of participants in the organised scientific conferences: 250

The impact of communication and dissemination activities on public opinion will be evaluated through implementing questionnaire-based surveys and interviews near the end of the Project's duration and by comparing its results with that of the baseline surveys (T.6.3).

**High visibility of EU funding of the Project** will be ensured by multichannel presentations of the EU funding, according to its visual identity rules, throughout the Project period. These rules will be added to the Visual identity guidelines of the Project (T.7.1.1), and all beneficiaries will implement their activities following its guidance.

- Information boards about the Project including the indication of EU funding and the EU LIFE Nature logo will be installed at the headquarters or visitor centres of the Beneficiaries (T.7.1.3).
- Infrastructures constructed/improved in the Project (e.g. ex-situ breeding facilities - T.3.1; 'Citellus Gardens' - T.3.3) will indicate that the action received funding from the Union and will display the EU LIFE Nature logo.
- Online communication platforms (dedicated Project webpages, social media - T.7.1.2) developed for the Project will indicate that the action received funding from the Union and will display the EU LIFE Nature logo.
- Any printed or electronic information, communication and scientific materials (such as leaflets, roll-ups, booklets, books, information board, Project videos, publications, conference presentations, press releases, social media posts, public Project reports, Layman's report etc. - T.7.1.3, T.7.1.4, T.7.1.5, T.7.1.6, T.7.1.9, T.7.2.2, T.7.3.2, T.7.4, etc.) will indicate that the action received funding from the Union and will display the EU LIFE Nature logo.
- Any awareness raising or scientific events (e.g. forums, site visits, public events, scientific workshops, conferences, etc. - T.7.1.7, T.7.1.8, T.7.2, T.7.3.2, T.7.4, T.8.8, etc.) will indicate that the action received funding from the Union and will display the EU and LIFE Nature logo (e.g. by using Project roll-ups, Projected on screen).
- Any smaller promotional materials (such as gym bags, fridge magnets, eco- friendly pens, etc. - T.7.1.5) will indicate the LIFE nature logo.

#§COM-DIS-VIS-CDV§# #@CON-SOR-CS@#

# 4. RESOURCES

## 4.1 Consortium set-up

**Consortium cooperation and division of roles (if applicable)**

*Describe the consortium composition. How will all the partners together bring the necessary expertise?*

*In what way does each of the participants contribute to the project? Show that each has a valid role and adequate resources to fulfil that role.*

*For stage 2 (full proposal), fill out the Participant information (annex) with more details on the participants and their project teams (key staff).*

The consortium consists of 11 partners:

Main beneficiary, the **Herman Otto Institute Nonprofit Ltd. (HOI)** responsible for the overall Project management and coordination and also has expertise on ecology and behaviour of EGS, monitoring activity and citizen science approach. Leading: WP1, WP2, WP5, WP6 Participating: WP3, WP7, WP8

Partner organizations:

- **Bükk National Park Directorate (BNPD)** is responsible for the activities in the sites belonging to their operation area and also has expertise on practical nature conservation in EGS protection. Participating: WP1, WP2, WP3, WP4, WP5, WP6, WP7, WP8
- **Hortobágy National Park Directorate HNPD)** is responsible for the activities in the sites belonging to their operation area, and also has expertise on grassland reconstruction and management. Leading: WP4; Participating: WP1, WP2, WP5, WP6, WP7, WP8
- **Foundation for Budapest Zoo (ZOO)** has huge experience on nature conservation awareness raising, organizing and realizing communication campaigns and also supports the veterinary work of the Budapest Zoo and Botanical Garden. Leading: WP7; Participating: WP1, WP2, WP5, WP6, WP8
- **Budakeszi Wildlife Park (BVP)** has expertise on animal keeping and breeding and also on presentation for open public. Leading: WP3; Participating: WP1, WP5, WP6, WP7, WP8

- **Ecological Research Centre, Eötvös Loránd Research Network (CER)** has a thorough knowledge of estimation methods of animals and also on grassland restoration theories and techniques. Leading: WP8; Participating: WP1, WP2, WP6, WP7
- **Bükk Mammalogical Society (BEKE)** has practical experiences on EGS translocation and on data collection about population trend of EGS. Participating: WP1, WP2, WP5, WP6, WP7, WP8
- **MILVUS Group Society (MILVUS)** has expertise and practical experiences of EGS population in Romania. Monitoring, data collections and communication. Participating: WP1, WP2, WP5, WP6, WP7, WP8

Associated partner organization:

- **Fertő-Hanság National Park Directorate (FHNPD)** has been the main beneficiary of the RAPTORSPREY LIFE programme which has been collected many useful experiences on EGS conservation. Participating: WP1, WP2, WP5, WP6, WP7, WP8
- **Kiskunság National Park Directorate (KNPD)** is responsible for the sites belonging to their operation area and also has expertise on practical nature conservation in EGS protection remained in metapopulation structure. Participating: WP1, WP2, WP5, WP6, WP7, WP8
- **University of Debrecen (UD)** has theoretical and practical expertise on the ecology and behaviour of ground dwelling mammals. Participating: WP1, WP2, WP5, WP6, WP7, WP8

*Partner Information Forms annexed.*

#§CON-SOR-CS§# #@PRJ-MGT-PM@#

## 4.2 Project management

**Project management, quality assurance and monitoring of progress**

*Describe the management structures and decision-making mechanisms within the consortium. Explain how decisions will be taken and how regular and effective communication will be ensured.*

*Describe the measures and methods planned to ensure good quality, monitoring, planning and control of project implementation.*

**Project management structure:**

The project management will consist of a Technical Project Manager (TPM), responsible for overseeing the entire Project, responsible for the day-to-day management of the Project and for the coordination among the beneficiaries, and of a Financial Manager (FM), responsible for the financial management & administration of the Project. In order to secure the successful implementation an experienced external supervisor will be hired to help the team of TPM, FM with specific management issues. Furthermore, the WP Coordinators (WPCs) will be responsible for the coordination of their WPs, with the supervision of the TPM. Together they (TPM, FM, FA & WPCs) will form the Management Team (MT).

A Partner Coordinator (PCo) will be appointed at each Beneficiary (BEN) to fulfil the coordination and implementation tasks related to the Project, and a Project Administrator to implement the financial administration.

**Responsibilities and decision-making mechanisms:**

The TPM will be responsible for coordinating the implementation in order to assure the technically proper implementation of the Project, while the external supervisor will keep control of the timely execution of the Project and will supervise that the Project complies with all the requirements of the LIFE programme. The TPM will coordinate with the WPCs on the basis of a day-to-day contact and will harmonise the implementation of the Project activities and will be responsible for the reporting of progress and results of the Project. The overall technical coordination of the Project will be the full responsibility of the TPM with the assistance of the external supervisor and will be implemented with the assistance of the WPCs. The external supervisor will assist the TPM to ensure the timely and appropriate implementation of the project activities and deliverables, outputs. The WPCs will be responsible for the scientific content of the project activities and deliverables, outputs and will

be responsible for the scientific representation of the Project.

A Steering Committee (SC) will be formed by the beneficiaries' directors after the Grant Agreement is signed and the project management has been set up. Each beneficiary will be represented in the Committee by the directors or by a representative. The Committee will be chaired by the director of the Coordinating Beneficiary.

The SC will meet once a year at the Steering Committee Meeting (SCM) each year for the duration of the Project to review and supervise the project implementation. In case of need the SC can be called together for an extraordinary meeting to take decisions in sensitive issues or situations.

SCMs will focus on Technical Activities completed and planned over the preceding and forthcoming 12-month periods with attention to financial expenditures. The regular and scheduled SC Meetings will enable the management of all beneficiaries to be fully informed on the progress, in order to be able to make appropriate directing decisions. Establishing a SC is an efficient way of managing the Project and to alleviate the potential project risks by establishing the oversight of the Project.

**Monitoring, planning and control of Project implementation** will be realized on a multi-level approach, by preparing workplans and schedules and by meetings to control and monitor if the implementation is in line with the prepared plans.

Annual Work Plans will be prepared at the beginning of each year of the Project, which will help the MT to monitor if the implementation is in line with the schedules and to keep the delivery of Deliverables and implementation of Milestones in a timely manner. It will contain all the deadlines of the Milestones & Deliverables and the schedules required for the implementation of tasks that lead to the timely delivery of them.

As for the meetings, several meetings will ensure the appropriate monitoring of the progress:

1.) Annual Evaluation Meetings, once a year at the beginning of every year, where the MT will participate in person, to review the results of the past year, share experiences and to plan the activities for the upcoming year. Every PCo will be present to introduce their implemented and planned activities.

2.) monthly Management Team Meetings (MTM), held online, to review the plans and actual difficulties related to the upcoming month in order to keep the PM informed on a regular basis. Decisions affecting the project implementation will be taken on the MTM. During the MTMs the actual and upcoming Milestones & Deliverables will be reviewed to monitor the appropriate and timely project implementation.

**Regular and effective communication** will be ensured by the organization of monthly MTM meetings the MT will also communicate in mails and will be in touch on a daily basis (through online calls, email, telephone). To ensure the appropriate daily communication, also a mailing list (group) will be set up for the Project team.

## 4.3 Green management

**Green management**

*Describe the measures proposed to reduce the environmental impact of your project, for example through the use of green procurement, environmental management systems, etc.*

**Printing will be reduced as much as possible:** Documentation will be kept in digital format as much as possible (**more than 85%** of the internal documentation will be digital); only the absolutely necessary documents will be printed and kept in hard copy.

Number of copies of printed information materials has been set low, and increased use of digital versions will be applied: the digital version of **every** material will be uploaded and will be freely available for downloading at the 'main' Project webpage.

**Only** double sided printing and photocopy will be used; black&white setting will be used as a default setting for printing&photocopying (coloured will be used only when necessary).

**Meetings:** Encouraging online internal meetings (e.g. video conferencing, online calls) for the

Project team **(more than 85%** of the meetings will be online), personal meeting only to limited extent; one internal meeting is foreseen annually, the Annual Evaluation and Planning (WP1) meeting.

Attending meetings personally when it is necessary for achieving the success of the Project, e.g. forums, workshops, B2B consultations with prospective partners. Others will be replaced with video conferencing (e.g. negotiations with suppliers) when possible.

Meeting documentation will be kept digital as much as possible (**more than 95%** of the meeting documentation will be digital) – e.g. such as agendas, presentations, notes/minutes will be prepared only in digital format, only the attendance sheets will be printed.

**Travels:** In order to reduce travel costs of commuting, telecommuting/smart working will be supported in case of the Project team. In case of the plant workers, local labour will be hired to reduce travel costs. Carpooling (**3.4 people/car** as an average) for team members will be organised when attending a meeting or event. When possible, appointing meeting locations so that is the most convenient from the point of all participants.

**Recycle: All** packaging and communal waste will be collected selectively to facilitate recycling. For internal administration recycled paper will be used **in 98%**. Drinking water dispensers will be provided for the employees in order to avoid the use of plastic bottled water.

**Energy use:** In the case of the planning and construction of the energy-intensive equipment (breeding houses, electric fences, drinking wells, automated radio telemetry stations, showrooms, etc.), we will choose the highest possible proportion of solar energy (**25% to 100%**).

Outdoor&indoor lighting: Motion sensor lighting will be installed at social areas (e.g. toilets, kitchen). The night lighting of the Project sites (where applicable) will be reduced to the necessary minimum by the use of motion sensor lighting where possible. Led lighting bulbs will be used; lights will be switched off after office/working hours.

Electric devices: The settings of the Project laptops and desktops will be set in order to comply with energy management (saving) policy. Electric devices (e.g. computers, fans, machinery, etc.) will be switched off after the end of the working time.

#§PRJ-MGT-PM§# #@FIN-MGT-FM@#

### 4.4 Budget

| **Estimated budget — Resources** |
|---|
| See detailed budget table/calculator (annex 1 to Part B). |

#§FIN-MGT-FM§# #@RSK-MGT-RM@#

## 5. OTHER

### 5.1 Ethics

| **Ethics** |
|---|
| Not applicable |

#§ETH-ICS-EI§# #@SEC-URI-SU@#

### 5.2 Security

| **Security** |
|---|

| |
|---|
| Not applicable |

#§SEC-URI-SU§# #@DEC-LAR-DL@#

## 6. DECLARATIONS

| **Higher funding rate** | **YES/NO** |
|---|---|
| Do you fulfil the conditions set out in the Call document for a higher funding rate (75% or 67%)?<br>If YES, explain and provide details. | **YES** |
| The only target species of the Project, the European Ground Squirrel *(Spermophilus citellus)* has endangered status with decreasing population trend in IUCN Red List of Threatened Species. | |

| **Double funding** | |
|---|---|
| **Information concerning other EU grants for this project**<br>⚠ *Please note that there is a strict prohibition of double funding from the EU budget (except under EU Synergies actions).* | **YES/NO** |
| We confirm that to our best knowledge neither the project as a whole nor any parts of it have benefitted from any other EU grant *(including EU funding managed by authorities in EU Member States or other funding bodies, e.g. EU Regional Funds, EU Agricultural Funds, etc.)*. If NO, explain and provide details. | **YES** |
| We confirm that to our best knowledge neither the project as a whole nor any parts of it are (nor will be) submitted for any other EU grant *(including EU funding managed by authorities in EU Member States or other funding bodies, e.g. EU Regional Funds, EU Agricultural Funds, etc.)*. If NO, explain and provide details. | **YES** |

| **Financial support to third parties (if applicable)** |
|---|
| *If in your project the maximum amount per third party will be more than the threshold amount set in the Call document, justify and explain why the higher amount is necessary in order to fulfil your project's objectives.* |
| n/a |

| **Seal of Excellence (if applicable)** | |
|---|---|
| *If provided in the Call document, proposals that pass the evaluation but are below the budget threshold (i.e. pass the minimum thresholds but are not ranked high enough to receive funding) will be awarded a Seal of Excellence.*<br>*In this context we may be asked to share information about your proposal with other EU or national funding bodies.* | |
| Do you agree that your proposal (including proposal data and documentation) is shared with other EU and national funding bodies to find funding under other schemes? | **YES** |

#§DEC-LAR-DL§#

Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025



# ANNEXES

## LIST OF ANNEXES

Standard
Participant information (11 sheets)
Letters of support (18 letters)
Maps of the sites (46 maps)
Description of sites (33 descriptions)
Description of species (1 description)
Special
Other annexes (List of abbreviations; Logical Framework Matrix of CitellusLIFE Project; Strategy for Sustainability and Replication of the CitellusLIFE Project; Protocol of Hungarian Biodiversity Monitoring System, EGS Programme – in Hungarian; Land registry pages for 4 sites, willingness to sell plots for 3 plots, 3 land price valuations)

# PARTICIPANTS INFORMATION

HERMAN OTTÓ INSTITUTE NONPROFIT LTD. (HOI) ..... 54
BUDAKESZI WILDLIFE PARK (BVP) ..... 57
BÜKK MAMMALOGICAL SOCIETY (BEKE) ..... 59
BÜKK NATIONAL PARK DIRECTORATE (BNPD) ..... 60
CENTRE FOR ECOLOGICAL RESEARCH (CER) ..... 62
MILVUS GROUP ASSOCIATION (MILVUS) ..... 63
ZOO FOUNDATION (ZOO) ..... 65
HORTOBÁGY NATIONAL PARK DIRECTORATE (HNPD) ..... 67
UNIVERSITY OF DEBRECEN (UD) ..... 69
FERTŐ-HANSAG NATIONAL PARK DIRECTORATE (FHNPD) ..... 70
KISKUNSÁG NATIONAL PARK DIRECTORATE (KNPD) ..... 71

## PARTICIPANT INFORMATION

| PROJECT | |
|---|---|
| **Project name and acronym:** | Ensuring the survival of a viable European Ground Squirrel population in the Pannonian region — CitellusLIFE |

| **Participant 1** *(use same partner numbering as on Submission System screens).* | |
|---|---|
| **Legal name (short name):** | **HERMAN OTTÓ INSTITUTE NONPROFIT LTD. (HOI)** |

**Description of participant**

*Provide a short description of the participant, with an explanation on how it matches its main role and tasks in the proposal.*

The main profile of the Herman Ottó Institute Nonprofit Ltd. (HOI) owned by the Ministry of Agriculture (MA), responsible for nature conservation also in Hungary, is nature conservation (biodiversity monitoring coordination, species protection, cooperation on nature conservation strategies, Natura 2000 conservation, communication and awareness raising) and agri-environmental trainings. In terms of nature conservation there is an ongoing LIFE IP project with the main coordination of HOI: LIFE17-IP GRASSLAND-HU. There are also several successfully finished projects with the participation of HOI, such as Interreg Europe Programme: TRIS; Interreg Central-Europe Programme: PROLINE-CE, Interreg Danube Programme: CAMARO-D, LIFE Programme: Clim'Foot

HOI is working together with MA in the national coordination of Hungarian Biodiversity Monitoring System (HBMS) as specially HOI has the coordination of the European Ground Squirrel's Monitoring Programme. The main coordination of the fifteen years old WildWatcher programme can also be found here since 2019 January (currently the WildWatcher Programme is under the supervision of three organisations: HOI, MA, with the help of Hungarian Natural History Museum). The WildWatcher Programme was launched in 2009 with a twofold purpose: gathering nature conservation data through the controlled survey of carefully selected animal and plant species, furthermore dissemination of knowledge and awareness raising through the involvement of wide strata of society in nature conservation practices. HOI's experts, as members of the founders' group of the Programme, are working in it as, operators and species experts of the programme and have a long-time practice in awareness raising, volunteer data management and coordination of citizen science projects on biodiversity studies, as well as education work and presentations in connection with nature conservation.

Considering all above HOI is able to fully support the present project with professional content as well as administrative capacity for project coordination.

**Key staff**

*Provide a short description of the profile of the persons who will be primarily responsible for carrying out the proposed activities.*

**Olivér VÁCZI, male, *S. citellus* expert, PhD**

Biologist, senior expert in the field of ecology and ethology. Prepared his diploma work and PhD thesis both on the ecology and conservation of European ground squirrels (EGS). The national coordinator of the Hungarian Biodiversity Monitoring System, EGS Programme. One of the founders of WildWatcher (Vadonleső) citizen science programme, species expert and validator of EGS in it. Published scientific papers and lectures, educational materials, public awareness articles, media releases and organizing many awareness raising campaign. Participated and organized numerous successful EGS reintroduction actions.

After a few years of working in academic sphere he has been working in the background institute of the ministry responsible of nature conservation, since 2003. In spite of continuous reorganization of the structure of the institutional background, he continuously working on the same topics of biodiversity monitoring and other nature conservation tasks (in the many times reorganized and renamed ministry responsible for nature conservation or in reforming background institutes of it). Currently, he is a leading conservation expert (with the same tasks than before) in Herman Ottó Institute Nonprofit Ltd., since 2019.

Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025



**András Attila TAKÁCS, male, UAV, GIS expert, PhD**

MSC on Biology, Chemistry, University level technical engineer postgraduate diploma (MSC) on Nature conservation, PhD on Environmental Sciences. H. associate professor on Geoinformatics with 15 years University Education practice on GIS applications and Land Management (head of the University course “GIS applications” - West Hungarian University), and 15 years assistant professor at the University of Veterinary Medicine Budapest, Dept. of Ecology.

Expert on Data @ Digitalisation, UAV, Nature Conservation monitoring and 2000 HD reporting (ArcGIS) - plant ecology, GIS analysis and International Relations to the EU Institutions dealing with biodiversity conservation, GIS and Spatial Data Infrastructure (DG ENV, EEA, JRC, EUSTAT, UNEP. 2002- Head of Advisory Council on Conservation Informatics (team of 25 people) (government sector). National expert on Nature conservation and landscape protection expert (license number: SZ-064/2010); Data processing service, surveying, cartography/habitat mapping.

UAV expert, member of the Hungarian Drone Coalition, 2014- deputy secretary general of the Hungarian Association for Geoinformation (HUNAGI) https://www.hunagi.hu/hu/about/staff ((civil/academic/government sector) in the interest of supporting the Spatial Knowledge and its use in the society and the establishment of Spatial Data Infrastructure, promote and support the Spatial Data Managers.

Project manager ( 2015-2020 KEHOP – MAES-HU; 2013-2016 eENVplus (http://www.eenvplus.eu/) (BE, CZ, EL, FR, HU, IS, IT, PT, SI, SK); 2002-2014 Nature Conservation Information System; 2008-2011 Nature SDI project (It, Esp, Pt, Gr, Fr, Lt, At, Be, Uk, Fr, De, Nl, Se, Cy, Cz, Sk, Pl, Bg, Hu); 2008-2010 NESIS (It, N, Cr, Hu, Sk, At, Est, Cy, Be, Is, Mt, Fr, Se, Lt, ); 1998-2002 Liparis project (Cz, Slo, Pl, Est, Hu); 1997-1999 Velence project (Be, Lu, Fr, Hu)

Good communication skills gained through 29 years of professional experience as project manager and networking.

Strategic thinking (elaboration of the Strategy of Conservation Informatics, Conservation Data Strategy of the Ministry of Rural Development, technical author of the National Conservation Master Plan IV.); decisiveness; experience on project management on national and international level (working language mostly English, during the Liparis project the field communication: Russian); team leader (5-25 people), develops it’s staff; persuasive power in verbal communication; interpersonal, organizational and motivational skills, fair and open working relationships; accurate and rapid information transfer; assertive problem solving technique; stress tolerance; confidence, optimism, humour.

**Rihárd DÓKA, male, habitat survey coordinator, PhD**

Geographer, expert in the field of applied landscape ecology. Fields of interests are mainly the anthropogenic influence on natural landscapes and the abiotic basis of habitats and its importance for biodiversity. Subjects of his diploma work and PhD thesis are connected to these fields. Published several scientific papers and public awareness rising articles and presented lots of scientific lectures.

Besides the theoretical knowledge, according to his work experience (more than 14 years at Kiskunsági National Park Directorate, one year at Ministry of Agriculture, which are responsible for nature conservation in Hungary), he is a professional nature conservationists in practice. Currently, he is a nature conservation expert in Herman Ottó Institute Nonprofit Ltd., since 2021. His tasks are professional elaboration of local biodiversity strategies, management of biotic databases, and participation in awareness raising actions.

**Anna FARKAS, female, head of unit, zoologist, communication expert, PhD**

Biologist, expert on ecology and zoology. Fields of interests is basically aquatic invertebrates, especially members of the macrozoobenthos. She prepared her PhD thesis on this field, too. She has long experiences in theoretical, practical nature conservation and policy making. She organizes, coordinates and participates numerous awareness raising campaigns. Her strength is the communication to wide range of target groups: from small children through specialist experts to politics. She is the head of the Department of Nature Conservation and Ecology of HOI.

**Projects or Activities**

*List of up to 5 relevant previous projects or activities, connected to the subject of this proposal.*

- National coordination of *HBMS EGS Monitoring Programme*

- Operation of WildWatcher Programme
- Co-work as a partner with Ministry of Agriculture, Department of Nature Conservation on the implementation of *"Integrated development of databases, methodologies and information systems for streamlined monitoring of the status of Hungarian biodiversity"* project (KEHOP PLUS 3.2.).
- Preparation of Pécs Town Biodiversity Strategy
- Coordinating of the project of "Long term conservation of Pannonian grasslands and related habitats through the implementation of Prioritized Action Framework (PAF) strategic measures" (LIFE17-IP GRASSLAND-HU)

**affiliated Entities / Associated Partners**

*Does the participant envisage that part of its work is performed by affiliated entities or associated partners? If yes, please describe the entity / partner, their link to the participant, and describe and justify the tasks foreseen to be performed by them.*

-

Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025



# PARTICIPANT INFORMATION

| PROJECT | |
|---|---|
| **Project name and acronym:** | Ensuring the survival of a viable European Ground Squirrel population in the Pannonian region — CitellusLIFE |

| PARTICIPANT 1 *(use same partner numbering as on Submission System screens).* | |
|---|---|
| **Legal name (short name):** | ***BUDAKESZI WILDLIFE PARK* (BVP)** |

## DESCRIPTION OF PARTICIPANT

*Provide a short description of the participant, with an explanation on how it matches its main role and tasks in the proposal.*

On the present site of the Wildlife Park the restoration of the old woodlands had been finished by the 1960s, and oaky-mixed forest could evolve. The implementation and development plans were created by 1976, which aimed to create a walkable park that can present domestic species of small and big games in their natural surroundings. A 6,2km long footpath, 7 rainproof huts, 6 resting places and 13 fireplaces were created.

The Budakeszi Wildlife Park, comprising 20 hectares opened its gates to the public on 29th April, 1972. The Park – founded by the legal predecessor of the Pilis Park Forestry Ltd. – is committed to present animals – native to Europe or introduced to the Carpathian basin- in their natural habitat. Visitors can see big games and smaller games – including red deer, fallow deer, roe deer, mouflons, wild boars, foxes, ferrets, beech martens, badgers, raccoon and raccoon dogs, northern white-breasted hedgehogs, red squirrels – walk freely in the Big Game Reserve surrounding the Wildlife Park.

Since 2010, the Wildlife Park has undergone a fundamental change. As a modern facility which maintains a high standard in service and facilities, the park has evolved to a family recreation centre that caters for visitors' various needs with a variety of attractive events.

The additional interactive nature trails, thematic playground, animal information signs, education room, tree-planting activities, the distribution of nest-boxes throughout the site all aimed at promoting environmental education. New programmes were introduced, such as feeding shows, animal school, "Animals in action" shows, thematic tours, family day, volunteer's day, celebration of memorable days, escape games, summer camp for children, forest school. In harmony with the park's equal opportunities policies there are accessible toilets, a 'mother-baby corner' and all-terrain strollers are available for visitors with young children. In May 2015, a new thematic playground called 'Oak nut Hideaway 'opened its gates to young visitors, where children can learn about the forests climbing on the stylized oak nut climbing frames or the using the saw beetle swing.

In 2021, Budakeszi Wildlife Park expanded its awareness-raising and educational activities with a species conservation programme. In order to protect the strictly protected wild cat, a cooperation agreement was concluded with the Danube-Ipoly National Park Directorate, the Pilis Park Forest and in 2024 with the Herman Ottó Institute Nonprofit Ltd. As part of the programme, the park's staff will care for and repatriate orphaned wild cat cubs, carry out habitat surveys, camera trapping in the Pilis and Buda Hills, and genetically test the samples collected.

Seeing the success of the project, the company is now looking to expand its conservation programme and to further develop its experience in the conservation of the European Ground Squirrel.

## KEY STAFF

*Provide a short description of the profile of the persons who will be primarily responsible for carrying out the proposed activities.*

**- Péter Szabó, Mr., Director, forest engineer**

Professional coordinator

**- Katalin Bodnár Head of Marketing and Social Relations**

Project manager

Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025



**- Dr. Vilmos Altbäcker, Mr., ethologist**

Professional supervision (ground squirrel breeding)

**- Dr. Endre Soós, Mr., veterinarian**

Veterinary supervision

**- Virág Burányi, Ms., animal trainer**

Research associate breeding

**- Mária Wágner, Mrs., forest engineer**

Administrative associate

## PROJECTS OR ACTIVITIES

*List of up to 5 relevant previous projects or activities, connected to the subject of this proposal.*

Two projects with the Ministry of Agriculture: Small predator monitoring program in the Pilisi Park Forest area (2021, 2022); Cooperation with ELTE, in which the brain function of wild boars is investigated; Cooperation with DINPI and PPZRT on the topic of wild cat species conservation; Cooperation with MATE, wild cat conservation, education, research, publication.

## AFFILIATED ENTITIES / ASSOCIATED PARTNERS

*Does the participant envisage that part of its work is performed by affiliated entities or associated partners? If yes, please describe the entity / partner, their link to the participant, and describe and justify the tasks foreseen to be performed by them.*

Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025



## PARTICIPANT INFORMATION

| PROJECT | |
|---|---|
| **Project name and acronym:** | Ensuring the survival of a viable European Ground Squirrel population in the Pannonian region — Citellus Life |
| **Participant 1** *(use same partner numbering as on Submission System screens).* | |
| **Legal name (short name):** | **BÜKK MAMMALOGICAL SOCIETY (BEKE)** |

### Description of participant

*Provide a short description of the participant, with an explanation on how it matches its main role and tasks in the proposal.*

BEKE has been actively involved in mammal research and conservation for over two decades. Their conservation efforts focus on three main areas: rodent species (such as the European ground squirrel, European hamster, and Hungarian birch mouse), bat species, and large carnivores along with their prey. Notably, BEKE has played a significant role in projects like Citellus LIFE, where they participated in several ground squirrel translocations, particularly under the RAPTORSPREY LIFE (LIFE09 NAT/HU/000384) project. They also contributed valuable datasets for trend analysis and mapping of the historical and current ranges of the European ground squirrel and hamster in Hungary. Additionally, BEKE supported site managers in preparing site-specific management plans, such as for project site HUBN20034.

In collaboration with research centers, BEKE has been involved in long-term studies on rodent (and bat) virology and microbiomes. Their public awareness initiatives include participating in World Wildlife Days in partnership with Budapest Zoo, hosting "badger lessons" with WWF, and arranging annual Bat Night events. Since 2001, BEKE has also conducted numerous lectures and educational activities, ranging from nurseries to universities and scientific conferences.

### Key staff

*Provide a short description of the profile of the persons who will be primarily responsible for carrying out the proposed activities.*

Tamás CSERKÉSZ, male, project coordinator or field expert, PhD

Csaba KISS, male, project assistant, MSc

Dávid Czabán, male, field expert or project coordinator, PhD

Péter Estók, male, virology, PhD

### Projects or Activities

*List of up to 5 relevant previous projects or activities, connected to the subject of this proposal.*

1) RAPTORSPREY LIFE (LIFE09 NAT/HU/000384)
2) Kemenesi, G., Tóth, G.E., Mayora-Neto, M. et al. Isolation of infectious Lloviu virus from Schreiber's bats in Hungary. Nature Commun 13, 1706 (2022).: Host conservation through their parasites: molecular surveillance of vector-borne microorganisms in bats using ectoparasitic bat flies. Tamara Szentiványi, Wanda Markotter, Muriel Dietrich, Laura Clément, Laurie Ançay, Loïc Brun, Eléonore Genzoni, Teresa Kearney, Ernest Seamark, Peter Estók, Philippe Christe and Olivier Glaizot Parasite, 27 (2020) 72
3) Cserkész T; L., Nagy; A.I., Csathó ; A., Németh ; T., Szitta ; O., Váczi ; Cs., Gedeon ; Cs., Kiss: Persistent decline of the European Ground Squirrel *(Spermophilus citellus)*, an iconic steppe rodent in the heart of its distribution. In: Attila, Németh; Gábor, Csorba; Botond, Bakó; Olivér, Váczi VII. European Ground Squirrel Meeting & Subterranean Rodents Workshop : Book of abstracts. Budapest, Magyarország : Magyar Természettudományi Múzeum (2018) 80 p. pp. 44-44..
4) Szatmári Lajos, Laczkó Levente, Cserkész Tamás, Sramkó Gábor Conservation genetics of Pannonian populations of European ground squirrel, *Spermophilus citellus* L. (Rodentia: Sciuridae). KVORTSOVIA 6 : 2 pp. 36-37. , 2 p. (2020)

### affiliated Entities / Associated Partners

*Does the participant envisage that part of its work is performed by affiliated entities or associated partners? If yes, please describe*

| *the entity / partner, their link to the participant, and describe and justify the tasks foreseen to be performed by them.* |
|---|
| - |

## PARTICIPANT INFORMATION

| **PROJECT** | |
|---|---|
| **Project name and acronym:** | Ensuring the survival of a viable European Ground Squirrel population in the Pannonian region<br>Citellus Life |

| **Participant 1** *(use same partner numbering as on Submission System screens).* | |
|---|---|
| **Legal name (short name):** | **BÜKK NATIONAL PARK DIRECTORATE (BNPD)** |

**Description of participant**

*Provide a short description of the participant, with an explanation on how it matches its main role and tasks in the proposal.*

The Bükk National Park Directorate operational area covers 3 counties, the counties of Heves, Nógrád and Borsod-Ababúj-Zemplén. Within these three departments, the Directorate is responsible for the protection of Bükk National Park, 9 landscape protection areas and 14 nature conservation areas.

BNPD is responsible:

- to identify which natural values and areas deserve strict protection out of geological, hydrological, botanical, zoological, scenic, cultural, historical or any other public interest;

- to determine the dangers threatening protected natural values or areas;

- to prevent or avert any damage to protected natural values and areas, and to reduce or to eliminate damage already occurred;

- to conserve protected natural values and areas for the present and future generations, and, if necessary, to restore them or ensure their maintenance.

Public awareness-raising, education, introduction of natural values and eco-tourism are also important duties of BNPD. It also organises and manages research programmes such as surveying, recording and monitoring endangered species. The BNPD has a trained professional staff and an extensive infrastructure, including visitor centres, to carry out these duties. It has good results in conservation of birds of prey and has been involved in several LIFE projects as coordinator or partner.

**Key staff**

*Provide a short description of the profile of the persons who will be primarily responsible for carrying out the proposed activities.*

**Flóra Hák, female, (partner coordinator of the project)** She is an applied environmental scientist and a chartered conservation engineer. She completed her University internships at the Budapest Zoo and Botanical Garden and BNPI in the field of large carnivore (wolf, lynx) research. In her BSc thesis she also studied the food spectrum of the highly protected Imperial Eagle. From 2016 to 2022 she worked for the Birdlife Hungary as a species conservationist and secretary of the Bükk Local Group. During her work she gained complex experience not only in the field of birdlife, foraging animals and habitats, but also in the field of communication and teamwork between the project partners. Her employment at the Bükk National Park Directorate started in 2022 in the Conservation Department. From June 2023, she also took over the management of small mammals (Common hamster, Hungarian birch mouse, European ground squirrel). She will be responsible to communicate the activities for the public.

**Péter Balázsi, male, (partner coordinator of the project, ranger)** He graduated as an environmental ecologist at the University of Debrecen. Afterwards he became secretary of the Birdlife Hungary Bükk Local Group and a field assistant of BNPI. Then he worked at the Pro Vértes Nature Conservation Foundation for 5 years, where he was the main organizer of the National Day of Birds and Trees competition and the Home in the Vértes competition, besides he participated in various nature conservation programmes (bird protection, environmental education, but also moth protection). He started his work in 2019 at the Bükk National Park Directorate as a nature conservation ranger at the Dél-borsodi Landscape unit. In addition to his daily work he participates in various bird conservation programmes and surveys in the landscape. He is also responsible for office and field work on small mammal conservation (Hungarian

birch mouse, European ground squirrel and Common hamster), as well as Natura 2000 issues and invasive species. He will coordinate the conservation management and introduction of EGS populations on the Borsodi-Mezőség site and he will be responsible to communicate the project activities for the professionals.

**Zoltán Lakatos, male, (professional hunters)** During the project, he will be responsible for the hunting of predators, perform all the management, coordination and documentation activities on the Borsodi-Mezőség and Borsodi-sík sites.

**János Kiss, male, (professional hunters)** During the project, he will be responsible for the hunting of predators on the Borsodi-Mezőség and Borsodi-sík sites.

**Nándor Seres, male, (ranger and professional hunter)** He will carry out predator control and coordinate conservation management on the Borsodi-Mezőség and Borsodi-sík sites.

**Szeverin Nagy, male, (professional hunters)** During the project, he will be responsible for the hunting of predators and carry out predator control on Kesznyéten, Sajó-öböl site.

**Gábor Soós, male, (ranger)** During the project, he will coordinate the conservation management and introduction of EGS populations on Kesznyéten, Sajó-öböl site.

**András Kleszó, male, (ranger)** During the project, he will coordinate the conservation management and introduction of EGS populations on Tard project sites.

**Zsanett Laufer, female, (project assistant)** She will be responsible for the financial administration of the project.

### Projects or Activities

*List of up to 5 relevant previous projects or activities, connected to the subject of this proposal.*

**LIFE17 IPE/HU/000018 LIFE IP GRASSLAND-HU** Long term conservation of Pannonian grasslands and related habitats through the implementation of PAF strategic measures

**LIFE13 NAT/HU/000081** Conservation of the European Roller (*Coracias garrulus*) in the Carpathian Basin

**LIFE11 NAT/HU/000926** Conservation of Falco vespertinus in the Carpathian Basin

**LIFE16 NAT/IT/000245** Conservation management tools for increasing structural and compositional biodiversity in Natura2000 oak forests

**LIFE11 NAT/HU 101074704** Recovering the Saker Falcon population of the North-Hungarian Plain

**LIFE21 NAT/HU/LIFE SakerRoads** Recovering the Saker Falcon population of the North-Hungarian Plain

### affiliated Entities / Associated Partners

*Does the participant envisage that part of its work is performed by affiliated entities or associated partners? If yes, please describe the entity / partner, their link to the participant, and describe and justify the tasks foreseen to be performed by them.*

-

Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025



# PARTICIPANT INFORMATION

| PROJECT | |
|---|---|
| **Project name and acronym:** | Ensuring the survival of a viable European Ground Squirrel population in the Pannonian region — CitellusLIFE |

| PARTICIPANT 1 *(use same partner numbering as on Submission System screens).* | |
|---|---|
| **Legal name (short name):** | **CENTRE FOR ECOLOGICAL RESEARCH (CER)** |

## DESCRIPTION OF PARTICIPANT

*Provide a short description of the participant, with an explanation on how it matches its main role and tasks in the proposal.*

Ökológiai Kutatóközpont (Center for Ecological Research, CER) is the largest public, partly government-funded research institution engaged in basic and applied environmental research in Hungary. CER was founded in 2011 with the integration of Balaton Limnological Institute (BLI) in Tihany (founded in 1927), the Institute of Botany and Ecology (IEB) in Vácrátót (1952) and Danube Research Institute in Budapest (1953), and it was recently augmented with the Institute of Evolution (2019). BLI has become an independent institution in 2019 and currently CER has 210 researchers in three institutes. Major research topics include the structure, composition, function, services and long-term dynamics of aquatic and terrestrial ecosystems and communities, vegetation and habitat mapping, and biodiversity conservation, management, monitoring and restoration.

CER has coordinated/led numerous nature conservation projects both at the national and the local level on assignment from the ministry or national park directorates. CER has a long tradition and broad experience in managing international and EU-funded projects in applied ecology and conservation as it was involved in more than 20 projects in FP5, FP6, FP7 and Horizon 2020 programmes. In LIFE, IEB was an associated beneficiary in the HUSEEDBANK project (LIFE08NAT/H/000288) and is currently an associated beneficiary in the Life4OakForests project (LIFE16NAT/IT/000245, http://www.life4oakforests.eu). Also, CER is coordinating beneficiary in the LIFEforBUGSandBIRDS project (LIFE20NAT/HU/001404, https://lifeforbugsandbirds.hu) running between 2021 and 2027.

## KEY STAFF

*Provide a short description of the profile of the persons who will be primarily responsible for carrying out the proposed activities.*

**Szabolcs LENGYEL, male, Scientific Advisor, PhD, DSc**

SL has designed and managed the Egyek-Pusztakócs LIFE-Nature project, the largest active (seed-sowing) grassland restoration programme to date in Europe (EPU(HNP) LIFE, LIFE04NAT/HU/000119). That project was awarded the “Best LIFE-Nature Project” title in 2010 (https://ec.europa.eu/easme/sites/easme-site/files/documents/bestnat10.pdf). He is also the project manager of the LIFEforBUGS&BIRDS project, thus possesses all the necessary experience and expertise for the successful implementation of the project tasks.

## PROJECTS OR ACTIVITIES

*List of up to 5 relevant previous projects or activities, connected to the subject of this proposal.*

LIFE04NAT/HU/000119; “Grassland restoration and marsh protection in Egyek-Pusztakócs”; 2004-2008; Hortobágy National Park Directorate as CB, with UD as AB, with Szabolcs Lengyel as Project Manager

LIFE05NAT/FIN/000105; “Conservation of Lesser White-fronted Goose on the European migration route”, 2005-2009; Hortobágy National Park Directorate as AB, with Szabolcs Lengyel as Project Coordinator

## AFFILIATED ENTITIES / ASSOCIATED PARTNERS

*Does the participant envisage that part of its work is performed by affiliated entities or associated partners? If yes, please describe the entity / partner, their link to the participant, and describe and justify the tasks foreseen to be performed by them.*

Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025



-

## PARTICIPANT INFORMATION

| PROJECT | |
|---|---|
| **Project name and acronym:** | Ensuring the survival of a viable European Ground Squirrel population in the Pannonian region — Citellus LIFE |
| **PARTICIPANT 1** *(use same partner numbering as on Submission System screens).* | |
| **Legal name (short name):** | **MILVUS GROUP ASSOCIATION (MILVUS)** |

### DESCRIPTION OF PARTICIPANT

*Provide a short description of the participant, with an explanation on how it matches its main role and tasks in the proposal.*

Milvus Group Association is a non-governmental, non-profit organisation, dedicated to bird and nature protection, acting in the fields of conservation, education, research and consultancy in order to make Romania a better place for birds, wildlife and people.

Milvus was established in 1991 and worked initially as a branch of the Romanian Ornithological Society (BirdLife Romania). Initiating and co-ordinating national and international projects and broadening its area of work, it became an independent organisation in 2001. Our programs are scientifically based, co-ordinated by specialised personnel (many of our members are biologists, PhD students, students at biology and ecology faculties), with the involvement of volunteers. We manage several programs dedicated to the research and conservation of birds, of which some are implemented in the western part of Romania (Conservation of the Red-footed Falcon, Conservation of the Saker Falcon, etc.).

Our services are:

- connection to the grid, i.e. the connection of the electricity distribution customers
- distribution of electricity to customers connected to the grid, depending on certain characteristics (e.g., power and voltage);
- measurement, which relates to the installation and maintenance of meters, the monitoring and reporting of electrical measurements

We take care to provide quality services for our customers (households, business customers, developers, producers). How do we do that? Through the integrated management system, we have adopted internally, which helps us reach high performance and certify it – we hold certifications of the quality management, environment management, occupational health and safety and energy management.

### KEY STAFF

*Provide a short description of the profile of the persons who will be primarily responsible for carrying out the proposed activities.*

**Zsolt HEGYELI, Mr, Biology,**

Expertise in project management, ecology, species conservation, scientific communication, field survey

**Tihamér FÜLÖP, Mr, Biology,**

Expertise in mammalian biology, ecology, species conservation, GIS, field survey

### PROJECTS OR ACTIVITIES

*List of up to 5 relevant previous projects or activities, connected to the subject of this proposal.*

We were heavily involved in the designation of the Natura 2000 sites in Romania. With the help of our specialists in mammals, amphibians, reptiles, etc. we contributed to the list of pSCIs, but our main contribution was in the list of Special Protected Areas. The list of proposed SPAs for the whole Romania was developed in partnership with the Romanian Ornithological Society, by sharing the work approx. 50-50%. We were involved in 5 LIFE(+) Nature projects so far.

## AFFILIATED ENTITIES / ASSOCIATED PARTNERS

*Does the participant envisage that part of its work is performed by affiliated entities or associated partners? If yes, please describe the entity / partner, their link to the participant, and describe and justify the tasks foreseen to be performed by them.*

-

# PARTICIPANT INFORMATION

| **PROJECT** | |
|---|---|
| **Project name and acronym:** | Ensuring the survival of a viable European Ground Squirrel population in the Pannonian region — CitellusLIFE |

| **Participant 1** *(use same partner numbering as on Submission System screens).* | |
|---|---|
| **Legal name (short name):** | **ZOO FOUNDATION (ZOO)** |

**Description of participant**

*Provide a short description of the participant, with an explanation on how it matches its main role and tasks in the proposal.*

The Zoo Foundation was established in 1992. It carries out its work in accordance with the provisions of the Articles of Association, which state: "primarily aims to support the operation of the Budapest Zoo and Botanical Garden, which is engaged in education, training, awareness raising, nature conservation, animal protection, environmental protection, scientific activities and research".

Over the more than thirty years of its existence, the Foundation has gradually expanded from its initial focus on the welfare of the zoo's animals to support educational, nature conservation and scientific research activities.

We have extensive experiences in developing public relations, including the organisation and implementation of educational programmes at various levels. As a charitable foundation, a significant part of our income arise from donations, but we also combine our most popular fundraising programme, the adoption of zoo animals, with education. Our two annual events, which attract thousands of visitors, in addition to the presentation of the zoo animals, we hold lectures and workshops in topics ranging from the presentation of efforts to save endangered species to the practical demonstrations of initiatives aimed at creating waste-free households. We have also organised a nationwide educational contest on similar topics for upper primary schools in 2021.

Our Foundation has close co-operation with the communication department of the Budapest Zoo and Botanical Garden to ensure that the information reach the widest possible audience, with content and in a form appropriate to the different target groups. In addition to our own social media platforms, our communication activities also reach the printed and online press, television and radio channels. We have extensive press relations and have experience in producing, editing and publishing contents for various levels of educational material.

In several cases, we have also supported the veterinary work of the Budapest Zoo and Botanical Garden, mainly in the purchase of necessary medical instruments and equipments. In addition, an outstanding result of our joint work has been the participation in the EAZA (European Association of Zoos and Aquariums) breeding programme of the Northern bald ibis (Geronticus eremita), which has already allowed the reintroduction of the individuals hatched in the Budapest Zoo to their natural habitat in Spain.

We have been collaborating with the Hungarian Museum of Natural History for two years to study the reproductive biology of the Hungarian native grasshopper mouse (Sicista trizona), and to develop a husbandry and breeding programme. The Hungarian Museum of Natural History commissioned the work under the LIFE IP GRASSLAND-HU (LIFE17 IPE/HU/000018) project to us, which we are successfully continuing.

Our Foundation joined the breeding programme of the hyacinth macaw (Anodorhynchus hyacinthinus) with the Budapest Zoo and Botanical Garden a year ago. These large macaws, which are also listed on the IUCN Red List, have been successfully bred in the Budapest Zoo in recent years, but the parrot breeding building and the aviaries are outdated and need to be expanded and modernised. In order to join the breeding programme coordinated by EAZA and taking into account the international experiences, our Foundation renovated the parrot breeding building and aviaries in Budapest ZOO.

Based on our extensive activities outlined above and our experience to date, we consider the Zoo Foundation to be well prepared and capable of carrying out the communication tasks of the project and coordinating the veterinary activities.

**Key staff**

*Provide a short description of the profile of the persons who will be primarily responsible for carrying out the proposed activities.*

**Éva Montskó, female**

She is the chairman of the Board of Trustees of the Zoo Foundation. She graduated in biology and chemistry at Eötvös Loránd University and worked as a science journalist publishing in daily, weekly and monthly newspapers and editing science columns. Previously, she worked at the Cultural Editorial Office of the Hungarian Television, where

she was editor-in-chief of several cultural and educational programmes. The most recent of these was the magazine Delta. She has been awarded several journalism prizes, the most prestigious is the award of Hungarian Academy of Sciences.

Her biological and communication skills led her to be asked by the Hungarian Government in 2000 to act as spokesperson and press officer of the Government Commissioner's Office set up to deal with the cyanide pollution of the Tisza and Szamos rivers with Romania origin. She has been working in this position until the termination of the Office of the Government Commissioner.

She has been the Chairman of the Board of Trustees of the Zoo Foundation for ten years and has been appointed for a further three years in 2023 by the Zoo Director, acting on behalf of the Founder.

**Melinda László, female**

She is the photographer and graphic designer of the Zoo Foundation, and often works for the Budapest Zoo and Botanical Garden.

She composes her animal photos with exceptional sensitivity, her graphic works combine goal-oriented formulation and good taste. Her creative and imaginative vision is combined with precise workmanship. She is familiar with and uses the necessary photographic and graphic software, but her images and graphics are mainly characterised by naturalistic depictions of nature.

Linda László also manages the Zoo Foundation's social media platforms. In addition to her great visual ideas, her writing skills are excellent and she has the technical skills to do the job.

**Nóra Fontos, female**

She is a customer service representative who performs a wide range of tasks. Her main task is to organise our fundraising programme and to liaise with interested parties. She has extensive knowledge about the life of the zoo, the animals that live there and the work of our wildlife rescue service. She is a committed animal lover and owner of several rescued animals. Her excellent organisational skills and creativity are put to good use in the programmes and events organised by the Foundation. She is a kind and helpful person who can always be counted on to help in emergency situations.

**Luca Natália Kiss, female**

She is a customer service representative, who performs a wide range of tasks. Her main task is to organise our fundraising programme and to liaise with interested parties. In addition, she also performs event organizer duties. She is a reliable, thorough, careful colleague, who can be entrusted with tasks that exceeds the scope of her direct job. She is motivated in looking after possible solutions and usually finds the optimal way to solve the given problem. She has an analytical personality, and she also has experience as a production manager from her previous job.

**Erzsébet Adamcsek, female**

She mainly performs administrative and accounting preparation tasks, but also assists in fundraising, customer service and event organisation tasks as needed. She does a reliable and thorough job, and can be relied upon in all areas.

## Projects or Activities

*List of up to 5 relevant previous projects or activities, connected to the subject of this proposal.*

- cooperation with the Hungarian Natural History Museum in the LIFE IP GRASSLAND-HU (LIFE17 IPE/HU/000018) project
- cooperation with the Budapest Zoo and Botanical Garden in the breeding programme of Northern bald ibis (Geronticus eremita) under the coordination of EAZA
- cooperation with the Budapest Zoo and Botanical Garden in the breeding program of hyacinth macaws (Anodorhynchus hyacinthinus)
- organization and implementation of a nationwide nature conservation contest in the Budapest Zoo and Botanical Garden
- "Breakfast with the gorillas": design and implementation of a used mobile phone collection campaign to protect the habitat of gorillas, chimpanzees and bonobos, to reduce mining and to promote recycling

## affiliated Entities / Associated Partners

*Does the participant envisage that part of its work is performed by affiliated entities or associated partners? If yes, please describe the entity / partner, their link to the participant, and describe and justify the tasks foreseen to be performed by them.*

# PARTICIPANT INFORMATION

| PROJECT | |
|---|---|
| **Project name and acronym:** | Ensuring the survival of a viable European Ground Squirrel population in the Pannonian region - CitellusLIFE |

| PARTICIPANT 1 *(use same partner numbering as on Submission System screens).* | |
|---|---|
| **Legal name (short name):** | **HORTOBÁGY NATIONAL PARK DIRECTORATE (HNPD)** |

## DESCRIPTION OF PARTICIPANT

*Provide a short description of the participant, with an explanation on how it matches its main role and tasks in the proposal.*

Besides being the nature conservation manager of more than 1.800.000 hectares at the north-eastern part of Hungary, Hortobágy National Park Directorate (English abbreviation: HNPD) is a trustee of the state on more than 100.000 ha. As a trustee the Directorate supervises all activities and operations connected to nature conservation values including agricultural activities (e.g.: grazing, mowing, reed harvesting), fishery, hunting, and also administrative regulation and making agreement with stakeholders, etc. The nature conservation professional staff of the Directorate deals with habitat restoration and management during their everyday work, and also numerous projects have been conducted by the Directorate or the Directorate has been involved as associated beneficiary, which aimed restoration and long term management of habitats or species, for example:

- Complex habitat rehabilitation project of the Egyek-Pusztakócs Marsh System LIFE-Nature
- Rehabilitation of a permanent marsh system in Zám-puszta
- Restoration of Pannonic steppes, marshes of Hortobágy National Park. LIFE-Nature
- Grassland restoration and marsh protection in Egyek-Pusztakócs. LIFE-Nature
- Complex habitat rehabilitation of the Central Bereg Plain. LIFE-Nature
- Rehabilitation of an airborne-artillery practice filed in Hortobágy. EPIOP project
- Safeguarding the Lesser White-fronted Goose Fennoscandian population in key wintering and staging sites within the European flyway – LIFE-Nature

## KEY STAFF

*Provide a short description of the profile of the persons who will be primarily responsible for carrying out the proposed activities.*

**[Orsolya] [Moldován], [F], [project coordinator], [nature conservation engineer]**

7 years work experience at HNPD, participating in preparation and implementation of national and international nature conservation projects.

**[Ibolya] [Lajter], [F], [project administrator], [biologist]**

7 years work experience at HNPD, participating in preparation and implementation of national and international nature conservation projects.

**Additional staff:**

5 rangers competent in project sites

## PROJECTS OR ACTIVITIES

*List of up to 5 relevant previous projects or activities, connected to the subject of this proposal.*

- LIFE04NAT/HU/00119 - Grassland restoration and marsh protection in Egyek-Pusztakócs
- LIFE10NAT/HU/000019 - Conservation of imperial eagles by managing human-eagle conflicts in

Hungary

- LIFE15 NAT/HU/000902 - Conservation of the eastern imperial eagle by decreasing human-caused mortality in the Pannonian Region
- 101074704-LIFE21-NAT-HU-LIFE SakerRoads - Recovering the Saker Falcon population of the North-Hungarian Plain
- LIFE IP GRASSLAND-HU, LIFE17 IPE/HU/000018 - Long term conservation of Pannonian grasslands and related habitats through the implementation of PAF strategic measures

**AFFILIATED ENTITIES / ASSOCIATED PARTNERS**

*Does the participant envisage that part of its work is performed by affiliated entities or associated partners? If yes, please describe the entity / partner, their link to the participant, and describe and justify the tasks foreseen to be performed by them.*

-

Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025



## PARTICIPANT INFORMATION

| PROJECT | |
|---|---|
| **Project name and acronym:** | **Ensuring the survival of a viable European Ground Squirrel population in the Pannonian region**<br>**CitellusLIFE** |

| **Participant 1** *(use same partner numbering as on Submission System screens).* | |
|---|---|
| **Legal name (short name):** | **UNIVERSITY OF DEBRECEN (UD)** |

**Description of participant**

*Provide a short description of the participant, with an explanation on how it matches its main role and tasks in the proposal.*

The **University of Debrecen** is the country's oldest continuously operating higher education institution and one of Hungary's leading research universities, which has 14 faculties and 24 doctoral schools. Nowadays, the University of Debrecen is dominant and outstanding institution of Hungarian higher education. It is at the forefront not only of national and international education, but also of research, innovation and development. The university has a long tradition of nature conservation research and education, in which two of the university's faculties are involved. Since the 1990s, the members of the Department of Nature Conservation, Zoology and Game Management have been continuously conducting conservation researches in order to support the practical work of nature conservation bodies. Studying and protecting the wildlife of dry grassland ecosystems (of which the ground squirrel is a defining member) is of central importance in these activities. The university researchers also have a particularly close professional cooperation with the Bükk and Hortobágy National Park Directorates.

**Key staff**

*Provide a short description of the profile of the persons who will be primarily responsible for carrying out the proposed activities.*

**[Attila] [Dr. Németh], [m], [research fellow], [PhD in Zoology]**

Almost 20 years of experience in research and conservation of threatened vertebrate species related to open dry grassland ecosystems. Also 10 years of expereince in work related to LIFE projects:

- Conservation of Hungarian meadow viper (Vipera ursinii rakosiensis) in the Carpathian-basin - LIFE07 NAT/H/000322

- RAPTORSPREYLIFE - LIFE13 NAT/HU/000183

- GRASSLANDLIFE IP- LIFE17 IPE/HU/000018

Member of the „European Ground Squirrel-protection Consulting Committee" of the Ministry of Agriculture and secretary of the Mammal-protection Working-group of the BirdLife Hungary - Hungarian Ornithological and Nature Conservation Society.

**Projects or Activities**

*List of up to 5 relevant previous projects or activities, connected to the subject of this proposal.*

- Conservation of Hungarian meadow viper (Vipera ursinii rakosiensis) in the Carpathian-basin - LIFE07 NAT/H/000322

- RAPTORSPREYLIFE - LIFE13 NAT/HU/000183

- GRASSLANDLIFE IP- LIFE17 IPE/HU/000018

**affiliated Entities / Associated Partners**

*Does the participant envisage that part of its work is performed by affiliated entities or associated partners? If yes, please describe the entity / partner, their link to the participant, and describe and justify the tasks foreseen to be performed by them.*

-

## PARTICIPANT INFORMATION

| PROJECT | |
|---|---|
| **Project name and acronym:** | **Ensuring the survival of a viable European Ground Squirrel population in the Pannonian region** — CitellusLIFE |
| **Participant 1** *(use same partner numbering as on Submission System screens).* | |
| **Legal name (short name):** | **FERTŐ-HANSAG NATIONAL PARK DIRECTORATE (FHNPD)** |

### Description of participant

*Provide a short description of the participant, with an explanation on how it matches its main role and tasks in the proposal.*

The Fertő-Hanság National Park Directorate (FHNPD) was established in 1990. The FHNPD is responsible for 46,000 ha protected areas including 4,000 ha owned by the state and managed by the national park directorate and the Lake Fertő, the westernmost continental steppe lake, what was declared a World Natural and Cultural Heritage Site in 2002. Lake Fertő and the swamps of Hanság have a rich fauna: beside the Great bustard (Otis tarda), S. citellus and raptors populate the Moson-plain. The main tasks of FHNPD is the conservation of protected natural values by site management and species conservation, research and nature conservation education. It has a highly educated, experienced and committed staff, as well as the necessary equipment, livestock and Education Centre. The FHNPD has identified 81,000 ha Natura 2000 sites in the region.

### Key staff

*Provide a short description of the profile of the persons who will be primarily responsible for carrying out the proposed activities.*

Miklós Váczi, male, head of department

He graduated as a game manager at the University of Sopron, where he later also obtained a teaching degree. He has been working in the national park as a ranger since 2001, as a head of department since 2002 and as a professional hunter since 2004. Currently, he is also responsible for the direction of conservation management of the protected grasslands around Lake Fertő as the most important occurrence sites of the European ground squirrel population in Western Hungary.

His main area of expertise is the research and protection of birds of prey and, closely related to this, the study of their food animals (such as ground squirrels and hamsters), and the coordination of the protection and management of their habitats throughout the whole area of the Directorate. In this context, he has published numerous papers in national and international journals, conference proceedings, etc. He has been involved in the monitoring and management of the ground squirrel according to the HBMS protocol from the very beginning, as well as in conservation projects such as SakerLIFE or raptorspreyLIFE. He is a member of the ”Group of Experts of Blind Mole Rat and European Ground Squirrel Protection” of the Ministry of Agriculture.

### Projects or Activities

*List of up to 5 relevant previous projects or activities, connected to the subject of this proposal.*

**LIFE06 NAT/H/000096** Conservation of Saker Falcon (Falco cherrug) in the Carpatian basin

**LIFE09 NAT/H/000384** Coservation of Saker Falcon (Falco cherrug) in NE Bulgaria, Hungary, Romania and Slovakia

**LIFE13NATHU000183** Securing prey sources for endangered Falco cherrug and Aquila heliaca population in the Carpathian basin

**LIFE17 IPE/HU/000018 LIFE IP GRASSLAND-HU** Long term conservation of Pannonian grasslands and related habitats through the implementation of PAF strategic measures

**LIFE20 NAT/SK/001077** Long-term conservation of Great Bustard (Otis tarda) and Red-footed Falcon (Falco vespertinus) in border region of Hungary and Slovakia

### affiliated Entities / Associated Partners

*Does the participant envisage that part of its work is performed by affiliated entities or associated partners? If yes, please describe*

-

## PARTICIPANT INFORMATION

| PROJECT | |
|---|---|
| **Project name and acronym:** | **Ensuring the survival of a viable European Ground Squirrel population in the Pannonian region**<br>Citellus Life |

| **Participant 1** *(use same partner numbering as on Submission System screens).* | |
|---|---|
| **Legal name (short name):** | **KISKUNSÁG NATIONAL PARK DIRECTORATE (KNPD)** |

**Description of participant**

*Provide a short description of the participant, with an explanation on how it matches its main role and tasks in the proposal.*

The Kiskunság National Park was established in 1975 as the second national park of the country. It is located between the Danube and the Tisza rivers. The areas of the Kiskunság – including the national park – were created as a result of eventful geological processes and are pretty varied. The basically flat terrain consists of varied parts: mainly grassy areas, sandy and sodic grass, marshes, marshlands, and pastures on flood plains. In the central area between the Danube and the Tisza there are extended patches of sand mounds, next to the rivers there are flood plain forests, oxbow lakes, varied flood plain pastures, further way from the rivers there are sodic lakes, sodic grass areas with sodic grass, and marshes. The about 52000 hectare Kiskunság National Park consists of nine separate areas. In the area of the Danube-Tisza Interfluve – in addition to the nine national parks – there are three natural parks (in Pusztaszer, Mártély and around the Körös-ér), 18 nature protection areas, and about 130 thousand hectares of Natura 2000 land. The institution named after the park – the Directorate of the Kiskunság National Park (KNPD) – is a state administrative agency operating under the supervision of the minister, an independent legal entity, and a central budgetary institution managed independently. The duties of the national park directorate – as prescribed by the law – to manage and control environment and nature protection; present, preserve and maintain protected areas, Natura 2000 sites and natural values; collaborate in protection of the natural flora and fauna that have not been declared as a protected area; prepare declarations for protected areas (management plans); take care of nature and wildlife; organize and control the directorate's nature conservation activities; organize researches; provide property managing tasks with regards to the conserved natural areas and natural values belonging to the state treasury; maintain and operate touristic institutes displaying nature conservation and education; collaborate research and educational activities in the field of nature conservation and the operation of nature protection guard service.

**Key staff**

*Provide a short description of the profile of the persons who will be primarily responsible for carrying out the proposed activities.*

Zoltán Vajda, male (partner coordinator of the project) He is a field biologist. He graduated from the University of Szeged in 1987 as an ecologist. Since 1992, he, has been working at the Kiskunság National Park Directorate, first as a field biologist and then as the head of the Nature Conservation Department. From 2013 to 2017, he was the head of the Department of Project Management. His main responsibility was the coordination of a national and the international projects for the national park. He, has extensive experience in preparing and managing projects. He, has more than 30 years of field experience with habitats and endangered flora and fauna of the Danube-Tisza interfluve area.

**Projects or Activities**

*List of up to 5 relevant previous projects or activities, connected to the subject of this proposal.*

**LIFE18 NAT/HU/000799** Viability improvement of Hungarian meadow viper populations and habitats in the Pannonian region

**LIFE17 IPE/HU/000018 LIFE IP GRASSLAND-HU** Long term conservation of Pannonian grasslands and

related habitats through the implementation of PAF strategic measures

**LIFE15 NAT/AT/000834** Cross-border protection of the Great Bustard in Central Europe

**LIFE13 NAT/HU/000183** Securing prey sources for endangered Falco cherrug and Aquila heliaca population in the Carpathian basin

**INTERREG IPA HUSRB/1602/12/0065** *Conservation of key animal species of Pannonian Steppes in a border region between Hungary and Serbia*

**affiliated Entities / Associated Partners**

*Does the participant envisage that part of its work is performed by affiliated entities or associated partners? If yes, please describe the entity / partner, their link to the participant, and describe and justify the tasks foreseen to be performed by them.*

Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025

## LETTERS OF SUPPORT FROM:

1. Hungarian Ministry of Agriculture..... 2

2. Hungarian Ministry of Defence..... 3

3. Hungarian Chamber of Agriculture ..... 8

4. Aggtelek National Park Directorate ..... 9

5. Balaton-felvidéki National Park Directorate ..... 10

6. Duna-Dráva National Park Directorate ..... 11

7. Duna Ipoly National Park Directorate ..... 12

8. Őrség National Park Directorate ..... 13

9. LIFE SYSEL Project ..... 14

10. SakerRoads LIFE Proposal ..... 15

11. Group of Experts of Blind Mole Rat and European Ground Squirrel Protection in Hungary ..... 16

12. Nature Conservation Association of Vadonleső Society ..... 17

13. LIFE IP GRASSLANH-HU Project ..... 18

14. HungAIRy LIFE IP Project ..... 19

15. Budapest Zoo and Botanical Garden ..... 20

16. Tiergarten Schönbrunn ..... 21

17. Hunters for predator control ..... 22

18. Land leaseholders ..... 24

Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025

# LETTER OF SUPPORT

Name and legal status:

Ministry of Agriculture, State Secretary for Nature Conservation

Full address:

H-1055 Kossuth L. tér 11. Budapest, Hungary

Tel: + 36 1 896-3149 Fax: -

Email: lifenature@am.gov.hu

Contact person (name and function):

Eva Sashalmi LIFE national contact point

Please specify whether, why and how you will support this project:

The project titled "*Ensuring the survival of a viable European Ground Squirrel population in the Pannonian region*" is partly based on the results of RAPTORSPREY LIFE applications previously successfully implemented by Hungary. The main objective of the recent project is to ensure the survival of the three distinct genetic lineages identified in the Pannonian region. This is key to maintaining the population in the Pannonian region, which is the stronghold of the world's European ground squirrel population. The actions include ex-situ breeding, reintroduction and habitat restoration by among others removing shrubs and establishing grazing infrastructure. The added value of the project will be the development and operation of a conservation safety net system, which will synchronise the conservation activity on European Ground Squirrels by setting up a colony logsheet administration system in the Pannonian region.

The Ministry of Agriculture (hereafter: Ministry) supports the objectives of the project proposal aiming at a strictly protected species, as it is in line with the aims of Hungarian state nature conservation and with the Natura 2000 Prioritised Action Framework for Hungary. The project will also contribute to the implementation of the Nature Restoration Regulation.

The results and experience of the project can be used by the Ministry during the revision of the ground squirrel monitoring protocol of the Hungarian Biodiversity Monitoring System and also for the compilation of the national reports according to Article 17 of the Habitats Directive. By the end of the project, Standard Data Forms will be modified according to the population data of the species.

Translocations and reintroductions will be supervised by the Ministry, as the Deputy State Secretary for Nature Conservation of the Ministry approves every year the annual reintroduction plan, after discussing it with the Experts Group for Blind mole-rat and European Ground Squirrel Protection.

The Ministry will inform all national park directorates (background institutions of the Ministry for nature conservation management) about the results of the project, so that the conservation actions related to the European Ground Squirrel can be implemented in a nationally harmonized way.

The CAP policy recommendations of the project can be taken into consideration during the further development of agri-environment schemes, mainly regarding High Nature Value farmlands. In case of those European Ground Squirrel habitats, which are state-owned and are in property management of national park directorates, the land management is supervised by the Ministry, so application of the new recommendations can be even more straightforward in these sites.

At Budapest 12..09.2024

Agrárminisztérium Államtitkár * 4. *

Signature of the Competent Authority: .....

Name and status of signatory: dr. András Rácz state secretary

Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025

**HONVÉDELMI MINISZTÉRIUM**
**VÉDELEMGAZDASÁGI HIVATAL**
Nyt. szám: 4341-2/2024
Hiv. szám: HNPI-08246-2/2024

. sz. példány

**Medgyesi Gergely Árpád**
Hortobágyi Nemzeti Park Igazgatóság
igazgató

**Debrecen**

Tárgy: CitellusLIFE pályázattal érintett Hajdúhadház 08/1 hrsz-ú ingatlan igénybevétele, vagyonkezelői hozzájárulás

**Tisztelt Igazgató Úr!**

Hivatkozott számú megkeresésében, tárgyi témával érintett projekt megvalósulásához előzetes hozzájáruló nyilatkozat kiadását kezdeményezte. Kérelmében előadta, hogy a Hortobágyi Nemzeti Park Igazgatóság (továbbiakban: HNPI) konzorciumi tagként a Herman Ottó Nonprofit Kft. konzorciumvezetésével a LIFE-2024-SAP-NAT — Nature & Biodiversity - Standard Action Projects (SAP) program keretében „Életképes ürgeállomány fennmaradásának biztosítása a Pannon régióban” („Ensure viable European Ground Squirrel populations in Pannonian region”) munkacímmel természetvédelmi célú pályázatot kíván benyújtani.

Érintett ingatlan: Hajdúhadház: 08/1 hrsz.

Ezen ingatlan részét képezi a Vay Ádám laktanya Hsz. lőtér-technikai tár. és Kik. Tábor területét, mely a **Magyar Állam** tulajdonában, a **Honvédelmi Minisztérium** (továbbiakban: HM) vagyonkezelésében, az **MH Bocskai István 11. Páncélozott Hajdúdandár** utaltságában, a **KASZÓ Erdőgazdaság Zrt.** szakkezelésében lévő, NATURA 2000 védettség alá tartozó ingatlan.

A pályázatba betervezett, a Hajdúhadház 08/1 hrsz-ú területet érintően megvalósítandó tevékenységek sikeres megvalósítása érdekében vagyonkezelői hozzájárulás kiadását kezdeményezte.

A pályázat fő célja a Pannon régió ürgeállományában azonosított három elkülöníthető genetikai vonal fennmaradásának biztosítása a lokális erőfeszítések összehangolásával kialakított „természetvédelmi biztonsági háló” „kifeszítése” segítségével, amely a régió életképes állományának fenntartásán keresztül az ürge világállományának is legfontosabb záloga. A pályázat egyik fő célja élőhelyrekonstrukciós beavatkozásokkal (cserjeirtás, legelési infrastruktúra megteremtése, csordakutak felújítása, ragadozók kontrollált gyérítése, stb.) az ürgék számára megfelelő élőhelyteremtés, állományai számának növelésével, illetve azok lehetőség szerint ökológiai folyosókkal történő összekötése.

A pályázat pozitív elbírálása esetén a HNPI a pályázat keretében az alábbi tevékenységek megvalósítását tervezi:

- Élőhelykezelési munkák, aktív beavatkozások:
  - cserjeirtás (galagonya, kökény);
  - invazív fafajok (akác, feketefenyő) irtása
- ürgeállomány áttelepítése új állományok létrehozása céljából (a területen lévő forráspopulációból történő befogás)

A 7 év alatt a kezelések szakaszosan, több lépcsőben fognak zajlani, a lövészetek és a környezeti feltételek figyelembe vételével. Egyes fajok esetében az élőhelykezelés előtt vegyszeres kezelés alkalmazása is szükséges lehet, ezt követően a letermelt faanyag pedig elszállításra fog kerülni. A tevékenységet külső vállalkozó bevonásával tervezik elvégeztetni a lőtér szabályzatának figyelembe vételével, folyamatos kapcsolattartás mellett, előre egyeztetve az érintett katonai szervezetekkel. A kezelt, cserjementesített területrészek fenntartására a legeltetés a megfelelő módszer, ezért felveszik a kapcsolatot a területen legeltetést folytató bérlővel is.

A projekt tervezett megvalósítási időszaka: 2025-2032., majd a projekt befejezésétől számított 5 éves fenntartási időszak kezdődik, amely várhatóan 2037. december 31-ig tart.

A vagyonkezelői hozzájárulást a pályázati kiírás értelmében a megvalósítási **projekt befejezésétől számított 5 éves időtartamra 2037. december 31-ig kérik megadni.**

Érintett ingatlan aktív használatban lévő terület, ezért megkértük a**z érintett szervezetek állásfoglalásait, melyeket jelen vagyonkezelői hozzájárulásba bedolgoztuk.**

Összegezve a leírtakat az általános közigazgatási rendtartásról szóló, 2016. évi CL. törvény 10. § (1) bekezdésében foglaltakra, a Honvédelmi Minisztérium vagyonkezelő képviselőjeként, a nemzeti vagyonról szóló 2011. évi CXCVI. törvény 11. § (8) bekezdése szerinti vagyonkezelői jogokat gyakorolva, Magyarország honvédelmi miniszterének 2024. június 28-án kelt, 1267-25/2024. nyt. számú megbízólevelében foglaltak alapján a *LIFE-2024-SAP-NAT — Nature & Biodiversity - Standard Action Projects (SAP) program keretében „Életképes ürgeállomány fennmaradásának biztosítása a Pannon régióban” („Ensure viable European Ground Squirrel populations in Pannonian region”) munkacímmel természetvédelmi célú pályázat keretében* érintett, **Hajdúhadház 08/1 hrsz-ú ingatlanon a projekt keretében tervezett tevékenység végrehajtásához** az alábbi feltételek teljesülése esetén

**hozzájárulásom adom.**

- A fent felsorolt munkafolyamatok a gyakorlótér, lőtér elfoglaltságával összhangban, **előre egyeztetett időpontban, lőtérelfoglaltsági szempontokat figyelembe véve kerülhetnek kivitelezésre!**

- A **hatósági engedélyek beszerzéséért,** a **kivitelezési munkálatok elvégzéséért,** a honvédelmi tárcát és szervezeteit semmiféle anyagi vagy más jellegű – így különösen esetleges káreseményből származó – felelősség nem terheli, a mindabból származó kötelezettségekért a tervezett munkálatok megrendelője és/vagy kivitelezője áll helyt.

- A beruházó a kivitelezés során köteles betartani, továbbá a kivitelezővel betartatni a hatályos építésügyi, munka és balesetvédelmi, környezetvédelmi és egyéb jogszabályi előírásokat, továbbá az engedélyköteles munkálatokat kizárólag a külön jogszabályokban előírt hatósági engedélyek birtokában végeztetheti el. A szükséges és előírt hatósági és egyéb engedélyek hiányából adódó mindennemű felelősség,

különösen az ezzel kapcsolatban kiszabott bírság és okozott kár teljes mértékben a beruházót terheli.

- A kivitelezés során, a fenti előírások betartatásának, illetve betartásának elmulasztása okán bekövetkezett baleset, személyi sérülés miatt a Honvédelmi Minisztérium, illetve a Magyar Honvédség polgári jogi, vagy büntetőjogi felelősséget nem vállal.

- A környezet védelmének általános szabályairól szóló 1995. LIII. tv. rendelkezéseinek betartása a kivitelezés során keletkező hulladékkal kapcsolatos – a hulladékról szóló 2012. évi CLXXXV. törvényben, valamint a kapcsolódó végrehajtási jogszabályokban (225/2015. (VIII. 7.) és 309/2014. (XII. 11.) Kormányrendeletekben) előírt – kötelezettségeknek maradéktalanul eleget kell tenni. A veszélyes és nem veszélyes hulladékok jegyzékét és EWC számát a 72/2013. (VIII. 27.) VM rendelet tartalmazza, továbbá az építési és bontási hulladékok csoportosítása a 45/2004. (VII. 26.) BM-kvVM rendelet 1. sz. melléklete szabályozza.

- A beruházást megelőzően - amennyiben szükséges - az erdőről, az erdő védelméről és az erdőgazdálkodásról szóló 2009. évi XXXVII. törvény szerinti **erdőterület igénybevételi eljárást le kell folytatni**. Az eljárással kapcsolatos **csereerdősítési kötelezettségekkel** járó, eljárási és mindennemű egyéb költségeket az erdőterület igénybe vevőjének, jelen esetben a beruházónak kell vállalnia.

- Erdőterület igénybe vétele, vagy az erdőállomány bármilyen jellegű károsodása esetén a KASZÓ Zrt. teljes mértékű kártalanítása szükséges, amelyet a Részvénytársasággal előzetesen külön megállapodásban kell rögzíteni.

- Érintett helyrajzi számú ingatlan / Hajdúhadház 08/1 hrsz. / európai közösségi jelentőségű természetvédelmi rendeltetésű terület, azaz a Natura 2000 ökológiai hálózat része, melyre a 275/2004. (X. 8.) Korm. rendelet (továbbiakban: Korm. rend.) előírásai az irányadóak. A területen tilos engedély nélkül olyan tevékenységet folytatni, illetve olyan beruházást végezni, amely a terület természetvédelmi céljainak a megvalósítását akadályozza. A Korm. rend. 9. §. előírásai meghatározzák azon tevékenységek körét, melyek NATURA 2000 területeken kizárólagosan a természetvédelmi hatóságként eljáró, a területileg illetékes környezetvédelmi, természetvédelmi és vízügyi felügyelőség (továbbiakban: felügyelőség) engedélyéhez kötöttek. Ezen tevékenységek fennállása esetén engedély kérelemmel kell fordulni a felügyelőséghez. A területen megvalósuló tevékenységekkel kapcsolatos mindennemű felelősség, beleértve az esetlegesen okozott környezeti, természeti kárt, teljes körűen a kérelmezőt terheli.

- A tervezett munkálatok helyét és idejét, időtartamát és egyéb feltételeit azok megkezdése előtt 5 munkanappal az **MH Bocskai István 11. Páncélozott Hajdúdandár** illetékesével (dandárparancsnok: Legoza Bálint Csaba ezredes, cím: 4027, Debrecen, Füredi u. 59-63. tel.: 06/52-505-220, email: mh.11.pcttdd@mil.hu), külön is egyeztetni kell.

Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025

Jelen hozzájárulásom nem katonai szakhatósági nyilatkozat és nem mentesít a tervezett tevékenységgel kapcsolatos egyéb jogszabályokban előírt hatósági engedélyek megszerzésének kötelezettsége alól.

*Értesítem továbbá, hogy a* ***HM Hatósági Főosztály*** *(vezető tisztségviselő: Dr. Bánfi Réka kormánytisztviselő, főosztályvezető 1555 Budapest. Pf. 70.)* ***építési, erdészeti és egyéb hatósági eljárásaiban szakhatóságként, míg a HM ingatlanok telekalakítási eljárásaiban eljáró hatóságként vesz részt.***

Hozzájárulásom 2037. december 31-ig érvényes.

Budapest, „időbélyeg szerint”

Tisztelettel:

**Cseppentő József ezredes**
infrastrukturális és beszerzési
főigazgató-helyettes

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Készült: | 6 példányban | |
| Egy példány: | 5 lap | |
| Ügyintéző (tel): | Szabó-Majlik Éva ha. főelőadó (06/1-358-6100/56-228) | |
| Kapják: | 1. sz. pld. | Irattár |
| | 2. sz. pld. | Címzett |
| | 3. sz. pld. | HM VGH BKI |
| | 4. sz. pld. | HVK LCSF |
| | 5. sz. pld. | KASZÓ Zrt. |
| | 6. sz. pld. | MH BI pctt. dd. |

Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025

**HONVÉDELMI MINISZTÉRIUM**
**VÉDELEMGAZDASÁGI HIVATAL**

# E-ALÁÍRÓÍV

Aláírta: Cseppentő József
Időpont: 2024.08.26 13:10:40 CEST

Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025

# DECLARATION OF SUPPORT

## for the proposal of CitellusLIFE project

The main mission of the Hungarian Chamber of Agriculture (NAK) is to strengthen the Hungarian agricultural and food sector, to promote their interests, to support the competitiveness of Hungarian food products, to provide expert advice and to provide farmers with fast, accurate and reliable information.

On behalf of the Hungarian Chamber of Agriculture, I hereby express our willingness to support the *Ensuring the survival of a viable European Ground Squirrel population in the Pannonian region* LIFE Nature project (CitellusLIFE*)* submitted by Herman Ottó Institute Nonprofit Ltd.

Hungarian Chamber of Agriculture – depending on the available capacities - is willing to contribute to the project with the following activities:

- Overviewing and assessing the proposals related to land use prescriptions aiming the conservation of European Ground Squirrel
- Consulting on the possibilities of developing conservation related proposals to Common Agricultural Policy
- Mainstreaming stakeholders' opinion into conservation related proposals
- Identifying the appropriate dissemination method to stakeholder groups (farmers)

I herewith declare that the Hungarian Chamber of Agriculture as an organisation independent of the Hungarian Agri-Environment Schemes, will undertake to consult on the package of proposals to be integrated into the European Ground Squirrels protection support scheme proposed by the CitellusLIFE programme, and to develop a proposal to improve the operational capacity of the stakeholders' side.

Budapest, 16. September, 2024.




director of

Hungarian Chamber of Agriculture

Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025

# DECLARATION OF SUPPORT

## CitellusLIFE project

On behalf of Aggtelek National Park Directorate as the nature conservation management body of the operational area of the Aggtelek National Park and the adjacent areas I hereby express our organization's support to the *Ensure viable European Ground Squirrel populations in Pannonian region* LIFE Nature project (CitellusLIFE*)* submitted by Herman Ottó Institute Nonprofit Ltd.

I herewith declare that the Aggtelek National Park Directorate:

- shall support and contribute to the information exchange and knowledge transfer of the results, best practices and experiences of the CitellusLIFE project;
- shall apply the project results on best practices of habitat reconstructions and (re)introductions of new European Ground Squirrel colonies during such activities implemented on the operational area of our national park directorate;
- shall use the individuals bred in the ex-situ breeding facilities established in the CitellusLIFE project for the (re)introduction activities;
- shall apply project results on long-term management and monitoring of the European Ground Squirrel within our official territory;
- shall apply the innovative techniques and protocols developed in the CitellusLIFE project in the management and monitoring of the European Ground Squirrel or other small mammal species with similar ecological characteristics;
- based on the results of the project, we will propose to the competent authority to update the SDF of the Natura 2000 sites managed by our directorate from an EGS point of view;
- shall actively participate in the professional events, workshops and conferences organized in the frame of CitellusLIFE project;
- shall take part in the awareness rising events and communication campaigns implemented in the frame of CitellusLIFE project

in order to improve the conservation status of the European Ground Squirrel populations in the Pannonian region.

Jósvafő, 16 August, 2024.



Balázs Veress

director

Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025

# DECLARATION OF SUPPORT

## CitellusLIFE project

On behalf of **Balaton-felvidéki National Park Directorate** as the nature conservation management body of the operational area of the Balaton-felvidéki National Park and the adjacent areas I hereby express our organization's support to the *Ensure viable European Ground Squirrel populations in Pannonian region* LIFE Nature project (CitellusLIFE*)* submitted by Herman Ottó Institute Nonprofit Ltd.

I herewith declare that the Balaton-felvidéki National Park Directorate:

- shall support and contribute to the information exchange and knowledge transfer of the results, best practices and experiences of the CitellusLIFE project;
- shall apply the project results on best practices of habitat reconstructions and (re)introductions of new European Ground Squirrel colonies during such activities implemented on the operational area of our national park directorate;
- shall use the individuals bred in the ex-situ breeding facilities established in the CitellusLIFE project for the (re)introduction activities;
- shall apply project results on long-term management and monitoring of the European Ground Squirrel within our official territory;
- shall apply the innovative techniques and protocols developed in the CitellusLIFE project in the management and monitoring of the European Ground Squirrel or other small mammal species with similar ecological characteristics;
- based on the results of the project, we will propose to the competent authority to update the SDF of the Natura 2000 sites managed by our directorate from an EGS point of view;
- shall actively participate in the professional events, workshops and conferences organized in the frame of CitellusLIFE project;
- shall take part in the awareness rising events and communication campaigns implemented in the frame of CitellusLIFE project

in order to improve the conservation status of the European Ground Squirrel populations in the Pannonian region.

Csopak, 30 August, 2024.

Balaton-felvidéki Nemzeti Park Igazgatóság
Csopak
1.

Bende Zsolt h.

director of Balaton-felvidéki National Park Directorate

Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025

# DECLARATION OF SUPPORT

## CitellusLIFE project

On behalf of Danube-Drava National Park Directorate as the nature conservation management body of the operational area of the Danube-Drava National Park and the adjacent areas I hereby express our organization's support to the *Ensure viable European Ground Squirrel populations in Pannonian region* LIFE Nature project (CitellusLIFE) submitted by Herman Ottó Institute Nonprofit Ltd.

I herewith declare that the Danube-Drava National Park Directorate:

- shall support and contribute to the information exchange and knowledge transfer of the results, best practices and experiences of the CitellusLIFE project;
- shall apply the project results on best practices of habitat reconstructions and (re)introductions of new European Ground Squirrel colonies during such activities implemented on the operational area of our national park directorate;
- shall use the individuals bred in the ex-situ breeding facilities established in the CitellusLIFE project for the (re)introduction activities;
- shall apply project results on long-term management and monitoring of the European Ground Squirrel within our official territory;
- shall apply the innovative techniques and protocols developed in the CitellusLIFE project in the management and monitoring of the European Ground Squirrel or other small mammal species with similar ecological characteristics;
- based on the results of the project, we will propose to the competent authority to update the SDF of the Natura 2000 sites managed by our directorate from an EGS point of view;
- shall actively participate in the professional events, workshops and conferences organized in the frame of CitellusLIFE project;
- shall take part in the awareness rising events and communication campaigns implemented in the frame of CitellusLIFE project

in order to improve the conservation status of the European Ground Squirrel populations in the Pannonian region.

Pécs, 28 August, 2024.

Duna-Dráva Nemzeti Park Igazgatóság 1. Pécs

Závoczky Szabolcs

director of

Danube-Drava National Park Directorate

Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025

# DECLARATION OF SUPPORT

## CitellusLIFE project

On behalf of Duna-Ipoly National Park Directorate as the nature conservation management body of the operational area of the Duna-Ipoly National Park and the adjacent areas I hereby express our organization's support to the *Ensuring the survival of a viable European Ground Squirrel population in the Pannonian region* LIFE Nature project (CitellusLIFE*)* submitted by Herman Ottó Institute Nonprofit Ltd.

I herewith declare that the Duna-Ipoly National Park Directorate:

- shall support and contribute to the information exchange and knowledge transfer of the results, best practices and experiences of the CitellusLIFE project;
- shall uses the project results on best practices of habitat reconstructions and (re)introductions of new European Ground Squirrel colonies during such activities implemented on the operational area of our national park directorate;
- shall use the individuals bred in the ex-situ breeding facilities established in the CitellusLIFE project for the (re)introduction activities;
- shall apply project results on long-term management and monitoring of the European Ground Squirrel within our official territory;
- shall uses the innovative techniques and protocols developed in the CitellusLIFE project in the management and monitoring of the European Ground Squirrel or other small mammal species with similar ecological characteristics;
- based on the results of the project, we will propose to the competent authority to update the SDF of the Natura 2000 sites managed by our directorate from an EGS point of view;
- shall actively participate in the professional events, workshops and conferences organized in the frame of CitellusLIFE project;
- shall take part in the awareness rising events and communication campaigns implemented in the frame of CitellusLIFE project

in order to improve the conservation status of the European Ground Squirrel populations in the Pannonian region.

Budapest, 05. September, 2024.

.....

Selmeczi-Kovács Ádám

director of Duna-Ipoly National Park Directorate

DUNA-IPOLY NEMZETI PARK IGAZGATOSAG Budapest

Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025

# DECLARATION OF SUPPORT

## CitellusLIFE project

On behalf of Őrség National Park Directorate as the nature conservation management body of its operational area, hereby express our organization's support to the *Ensure viable European Ground Squirrel populations in Pannonian region* LIFE Nature project (CitellusLIFE*)* submitted by Herman Ottó Institute Nonprofit Ltd.

I herewith declare that the Őrség National Park Directorate:

- shall support and contribute to the information exchange and knowledge transfer of the results, best practices and experiences of the CitellusLIFE project;
- shall apply the project results on best practices of habitat reconstructions and (re)introductions of new European Ground Squirrel colonies during such activities implemented on the operational area of our national park directorate;
- shall use the individuals bred in the ex-situ breeding facilities established in the CitellusLIFE project for the (re)introduction activities;
- shall apply project results on long-term management and monitoring of the European Ground Squirrel within our official territory;
- shall apply the innovative techniques and protocols developed in the CitellusLIFE project in the management and monitoring of the European Ground Squirrel or other small mammal species with similar ecological characteristics;
- based on the results of the project, we will propose to the competent authority to update the SDF of the Natura 2000 sites managed by our directorate from an EGS point of view;
- shall actively participate in the professional events, workshops and conferences organized in the frame of CitellusLIFE project;
- shall take part in the awareness rising events and communication campaigns implemented in the frame of CitellusLIFE project

in order to improve the conservation status of the European Ground Squirrel populations in the Pannonian region.

Őriszentpéter, 16. September, 2024.

Őrségi Nemzeti Park 3. Őriszentpéter

dr. Csaba Németh

director of Őrség National Park

Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025

# DECLARATION OF SUPPORT

Name and legal status: BROZ - conservation association, NGO
Address: Na Riviére 7/A, 841 04 Bratislava, Slovakia
Contact: Dr. Katarína Tuhárska, project manager, +421 915 767 762, tuharska@broz.sk

BROZ is pleased to give its support to the project CitellusLIFE “Ensuring the survival of a viable European Ground Squirrel population in the Pannonian region”.

We are currently running the project LIFE19 NAT/SK/001069 Conservation of the European Ground Squirrel (Spermophilus citellus) at the northwestern border of its range. As the Ground Squirrel is endangered throughout the Europe, we welcome the initiative to halt the decline of its population in Hungary and Serbia.

We have worked in the past on different projects with several organizations preparing the project CitellusLIFE successfully. We have discussed proposed restoration activities with the team and think that those will benefit the species in the given project localities.

We are interested in further cooperation, networking, sharing the information and know-how on conservation measures between our project LIFE SYSEL and proposed project to further benefit the species within the Europe.



Signature and date: In Bratislava 9.9.2024

Name and status of signatory: Dr. Miriam Miláčková, executive director of BROZ

Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025

„For a bird-friendly Hungary!"
Magyar Madártani és Természetvédelmi Egyesület/BirdLife Hungary
1121 Költő u. 21. Budapest-Hungary • Phone: 1 275 6247 • Fax: 1 275 6267 • E-mail: mme@mme.hu
Homepage: www.mme.hu • Tax Registration No.: 19001243-2-43 • Bank Account No.: 11712004-20011215

# DECLARATION OF SUPPORT

## CitellusLIFE project

On behalf of BirdLife Hungary (www.mme.hu) as the coordinator of "Recovering the Saker Falcon population of the North-Hungarian Plain" (LIFE21-NAT-HU-LIFE SakerRoads, 101074704), I hereby express our organization's support to the Ensuring the survival of a viable European Ground Squirrel population in the Pannonian region LIFE Nature project (CitellusLIFE) submitted by Herman Ottó Institute Nonprofit Ltd. Throughout decades of conservation work of raptor bird species we considered that European ground squirrel is a key element of its ecosystem in many point of view partly as an important prey species of many endangered predator species. We totally agree that urgent conservation interventions are needed to ensure of the populations of this drastically decreasing rodent species in the Pannonian region. The planned actions of CitellusLIFE offers the hope of saving the species for long time in the region.

I herewith declare that BirdLife Hungary:

- shall cooperate in the establishment of new European squirrel colonies and the expansion of existing ones by assisting in the selection of suitable habitats and colonies;
- shall support and contribute to the information exchange and knowledge transfer of the results, best practices and experiences of the CitellusLIFE project among national and international partner organisations;
- shall actively participate in the events, workshops and conferences (e.g. European Ground Squirrel Meeting in Hungary) organised in the frame of CitellusLIFE project;
- shall promote and take part in the awareness rising events and communication campaigns implemented in the frame of CitellusLIFE project

in order to improve the conservation status of European Ground Squirrel populations in the Pannonian region and to increase the acceptance of the species.

Budapest, 24 August, 2024.

Magyar Madártani és Természetvédelmi Egyesület Titkársága, Budapest 1.

Dr. Gergő Halmos
director
MME BirdLife Hungary

Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025

**Declaration Of Support**

CitellusLIFE project

On behalf of the *Experts Group for Blind mole-rat, and European Ground Squirrel Protection of the Ministry of Agriculture*, I hereby express our support to the LIFE Nature project proposal "Ensuring the survival of a viable European Ground Squirrel population in the Pannonian region" (LIFE24-NAT-HU-CitellusLIFE, SEP-211054002). The expert group's role is to scientifically support the decisions of the Deputy State Secretary of Nature Conservation, and also supervising the reintroductions and other active conservation measures targeting the focal groups.

To improve the conservation status of the endangered European ground squirrel (*Spermophilus citellus*) (EGS) especially in the Hungarian part of the Pannonian region and to increase the public acceptance of the species, I herewith declare that the Experts Group:

- will provide expert assistance on all technical issues concerning EGS in the CitellusLIFE project,

- will take into account the reintroduction plans of the CitellusLIFE in the annual reintroduction plans and conservation actions,

- will follow up the establishment of the new colonies and the expansion of the existing ones as parts of the CitellusLIFE actions,

- will accept the appropriately based recommendations from the CitellusLIFE and will use them when refine the reintroduction protocol,

- will consider the results of the CitellusLIFE to develop our opinions.

Budapest, 12 September 2024

Gabor Csorba PhD

Head of Group of Experts

BMR and EGS Protection in Hungary

Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025

Vadonlesők Közössége TE

**DECLARATION OF SUPPORT**

CitellusLIFE project

On behalf of *"Vadonlesők Közössége Természetvédelmi Egyesület" [Nature Conservation Association of Vadonleső Society] (VKTE)*, I hereby express our support to the LIFE Nature project proposal "*Ensuring the survival of a viable European Ground Squirrel population in the Pannonian region"* (LIFE24-NAT-HU-CitellusLIFE, SEP-211054002). As VKTE is a nature conservation NGO dealing with awareness raising, running programs on plants (e.g. operating 'Wild Flower of the Year'), animals (e.g. realising blind mole rat translocation programs), citizen science approach data collection activities (e.g. in cooperation with Vadonleső – WildWatcher Program), nature trail building activity etc. has a general knowledge on nature conservation issues in Hungary. We clearly experience that many plant and animal species are in direct danger of population loss. One of the endangered animal species is European ground squirrel *(Spermophilus citellus)*, which species in desperate need of urgent conservation intervention to ensure its existence in the Pannonian Region. Therefore, in order to improve the conservation status of the EGS, I herewith declare that VKTE:

- shall support and contribute to the information exchange and knowledge transfer of the results, best practices and experiences of the CitellusLIFE project among society and volunteers of the VKTE;
- shall cooperate in the establishment of new *S. citellus* colonies and the expansion of existing ones by technical experiences on other species;
- shall actively participate in the events, workshops and conferences organised in the frame of CitellusLIFE project;
- shall implement the best practice developing in CitellusLIFE project on EGS Conservation Safety Net System in the case of other mammalian species as blind mole rats;
- shall promote and take part in the awareness rising and communication campaigns implemented in the frame of CitellusLIFE project.

Pomáz, 4th of September, 2024.

Imola Bagolyné Geng
Head of VKTE

Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025

# DECLARATION OF SUPPORT

## CitellusLIFE project

On behalf of *"Long term conservation of Pannonian grasslands and related habitats through the implementation of Prioritized Action Framework (PAF) strategic measures"* (LIFE17 IPE/HU/000018, LIFE IP GRASSLAND-HU) running LIFE IP project, I hereby express our strategic support to the LIFE Nature project proposal *"Ensuring the survival of a viable European Ground Squirrel population in the Pannonian region"* (LIFE24-NAT-HU-CitellusLIFE, SEP-211054002). Throughout the implementation of LIFE IP GRASSLAND project, we realized that many species connected to grassland ecosystems are critically endangered. One of these endangered species is a keystone species of short grass steppe, the European ground squirrel *(Spermophilus citellus)*. As we compile the Species Action Plan of the strictly protected species in Hungary during the project, we unambiguously agree that urgent conservation interventions are needed to ensure the maintenance of the populations of this drastically decreasing rodent species in the Pannonian region. The LIFE IP GRASSLAND-HU and the planned CitellusLIFE project shall effectively cooperate with each other, and conservation interventions in CitellusLIFE can give the chance for the species for long time survival.

In order to improve the conservation status of the species in the Pannonian region and to increase the acceptance of the species, I herewith declare that LIFE IP GRASSLAND project:

- will gives all the help needed for the implementation of Species Action Plan compiled in LIFE IP GRASSLAND;
- shall support and contribute to the information exchange and knowledge transfer of the results, best practices and experiences of the CitellusLIFE project among partner organisations;
- our Grassland Conservation Management Advisory Service (GCMAS) shell welcome professional trainings provided by the staff of CitellusLIFE about best management practices on habitats of the species. We offer the communication channels of the GCMAS for the effective operation of the CitellusLIFE advisory service about European ground squirrels for conservation bodies, the general public, farmers, airport- and water managers;
- shall cooperate in the establishment of new *S. citellus* colonies and the expansion of existing ones by assisting in the selection of suitable habitats and colonies;
- shall actively participate in the events, workshops and conferences organised in the frame of CitellusLIFE project;
- shall promote and take part in the awareness rising events and communication campaigns implemented in the frame of CitellusLIFE project.

Budapest, 3. September, 2024.

Project manager of LIFE IP GRASSLAND

Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025

HUNGAIRY

ELN-422-1/2024

# DECLARATION OF SUPPORT

## CitellusLIFE project

On behalf of "*Improving air quality at eight Hungarian regions through the implementation of air quality plan measures*" (LIFE17 IPE/HU/000017, HungAIRy LIFE IP) ongoing LIFE IP project, I hereby express our cooperation and support to the *Ensure viable European Ground Squirrel populations in Pannonian region* LIFE Nature project proposal (LIFE24-NAT-HU-CitellusLIFE, SEP-211054002). As dry grassland habitats suitable for European Ground Squirrels are in the focus of the conservation activities of CitellusLIFE proposal, which can play an important role in air quality improvement efforts, it has mutually useful potential for cooperation to achieve our environmental goals. Main target of CitellusLIFE project is species conservation, but some of the planned activities (such as grassland recultivation from arable lands, eradication of invasive plants, emission free transportation, some topics of awareness raising campaigns) also have positive impact on air quality.

In order to support and enhance the CitellusLIFE project in terms of air quality conservation, I herewith declare that HungAIRy LIFE IP project:

- shall offer the potential for the joint development of awareness raising materials about key role of grassland habitats in $CO_2$ fixation and in combating climate change, improving air quality;
- shall actively cooperate in dissemination of information materials mentioned above;
- shall participate in the events, workshops and conferences organised in the frame of CitellusLIFE project;
- shall support and contribute to the information exchange and knowledge transfer of the results, best practices, and experiences of the CitellusLIFE project among partner organisations.

Budapest, 28. August, 2024.

**Gábor Gyula Szanka**

*CEO of HungaroMet Hungarian Meteorological Service*

Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684283 - 10/14/2025

352/2024

BUDAPEST ZOO

# DECLARATION OF SUPPORT

for the proposal of CitellusLIFE project

On behalf of Budapest Zoo and Botanical Garden, as a centre of numerous endangered species breeding program, involved in several conservation projects, having great experience in education and awareness rising programs with the highest (1 million people/year) visitor number among the zoos in Hungary, I hereby express our organization's support to the *Ensure the survival of a viable European Ground Squirrel population in the Pannonian region* LIFE Nature project (CitellusLIFE*)* submitted by Herman Ottó Institute Nonprofit Ltd.

I herewith declare that Budapest Zoo and Botanical Garden

- will give technical assistance of breeding experiences and practices to the planned *Spermophilus citellus* breeding program of CitellusLIFE project,
- will support and contribute to the information exchange and knowledge transfer of the results, best practices and experiences of the CitellusLIFE project (e.g. among other European zoos),
- will actively participate in and also give place to the events, workshops and conferences (e.g. European Ground Squirrel Meeting in Hungary) organised in the frame of CitellusLIFE project,
- will promote and take part in the awareness rising actions and communication campaigns implemented in the frame of CitellusLIFE project, and will be ready to integrate conservation issues on *S. citellus* into the its Zoopedagogy program

in order to improve the conservation status of *S. citellus* populations in the Pannonian region and to increase the acceptance of the species.

Budapest, 29. August, 2024.

FŐVÁROSI ÁLLAT- ÉS NÖVÉNYKERT 1866

Endre Sós, DVM, PhD, DipECZM (ZHM)

Head Veterinarian, Acting General Director

Budapest Zoo & Botanical Garden

Fővárosi Állat- és Növénykert | Budapest Zoo & Botanical Garden
H-1146 Budapest, Állatkerti krt. 6-12. | ✉1371 Budapest 5., PF. 469. | ✆Hungary +36-1/273-4987 | titkarsag@zoobudapest.com | www.zoobudapest.com

Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025

Schönbrunner Tiergarten GmbH Zoo Vienna

TIERGARTEN SCHÖNBRUNN
www.zoovienna.at

Maxingstraße 13 b
A-1130 Wien, Austria
Tel. +43-1-877 92 94-0
Fax +43-1-877 96 41
office@zoovienna.at
www.zoovienna.at

To whom it way concern

Vienna, Sept. 5, 2024

**DECLARATION OF SUPPORT**
for the proposal of CitellusLIFE project

On behalf of the Schönbrunner Tiergarten GmbH, keeping numerous endangered species, being involved in several conservation projects (e.g. LIFE20 NAT/AT/000049) and having great experience in education and awareness raising programs with more than 2 million visitors per year, I hereby express our organization's support to the *Ensure the survival of a viable European Ground Squirrel population in the Pannonian region* LIFE Nature project (CitellusLIFE*)* submitted by Herman Ottó Institute Nonprofit Ltd., Hungary.

I herewith declare that Schönbrunner Tiergarten GmbH

- will share its own breeding experiences and practices to the planned *Spermophilus citellus* breeding program of CitellusLIFE project,
- and will implement new breeding technological results and experiences of the CitellusLIFE project on the breeding activity of related species if appropriate,
- will support and contribute to the information exchange and knowledge transfer of the results, best practices and experiences of the CitellusLIFE project (e.g. among other European zoos),
- will help with the promotion of the awareness raising actions and communication campaigns implemented in the frame of CitellusLIFE project

in order to improve the conservation status of *S. citellus* populations in the Pannonian region and to increase the acceptance of the species.

With best regards,
Dr. Stephan Hering-Hagenbeck
CEO Schönbrunner Tiergarten GmbH

Schönbrunner Tiergarten
Gesellschaft m.b.H.
Maxingstraße 13b
A-1130 WIEN

Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025

# SZÁNDÉKNYILATKOZAT

Alulírott ZSOMBOK ANDRÁS (név), mint a II. Rákóczi Ferenc VT., Tard (vadásztársaság neve) képviselője nyilatkozom, hogy az „Ensuring the survival of a viable European Ground Squirrel population in the Pannonian region - Életképes ürgeállomány fennmaradásának biztosítása a Pannon régióban" (röviden CitellusLIFE) című LIFE pályázat elnyerését követően biztosítjuk a Tard környéki erdőssztyepp (HUBN20009) és Bükk-hegység és peremterületei (HUBN10003) Natura 2000 területeken a meglévő és betelepítésre kerülő ürgepopulációk védelme érdekében a veszélyeztető nagyragadozók gyérítését a Bükki Nemzeti Park Igazgatóság által egyeztetett mennyiségben. A teljesített kilövésekről vadászati napló és fotódokumentáció kerül majd megküldésre. A vadásztársaság a nagyragadozó kontrollt a projekt teljes időtartama alatt biztosítja (2026-2032.).

Tard, 2024. 09. hó 16. nap

vadásztársaság képviselője

*Előttünk, mint tanúk előtt:*

1. Név: Kleszó András József
Lakcím: 3416 TARD, Ady E. u 6/A
Szem. ig. szám: 473037 AH
Aláírás:

2. Név: Kleszó András
Lakcím: 3416 Tard, Ady E. u 6/a.
Szem. ig. szám: 865275 EE
Aláírás:

Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025

# SZÁNDÉKNYILATKOZAT

Alulírott Juhász József. (név), mint a Tiszamenti Gazdák. (vadásztársaság neve) képviselője nyilatkozom, hogy az „Ensuring the survival of a viable European Ground Squirrel population in the Pannonian region - Életképes ürgeállomány fennmaradásának biztosítása a Pannon régióban" (röviden CitellusLIFE) című LIFE pályázat elnyerését követően biztosítjuk a Borsodi-Mezőség Natura 2000 területen (HUBN20034) a meglévő és betelepítésre kerülő ürgepopulációk védelme érdekében a veszélyeztető nagyragadozók gyérítését a Bükki Nemzeti Park Igazgatóság által egyeztetett mennyiségben. A teljesített kilövésekről vadászati napló és fotódokumentáció kerül majd megküldésre. A vadásztársaság a nagyragadozó kontrollt a projekt teljes időtartama alatt biztosítja (2026-2032.).

Négyes, 2024. 09.hó 16. nap

Tiszamenti Gazdák
Vadásztársaság
3463 Négyes, Táncsics u. 1.
Asz.: 18271883-1-05
Bsz.: 55100131-12008098

.....
vadásztársaság képviselője

*Előttünk, mint tanúk előtt:*

1. Név: Mezei János

Lakcím: 3462 Borsodivánka Ifjúság u. 13

Szem. ig. szám: 337243 PE

Aláírás: .....

2. Név: Olasz János

Lakcím: 3462 Borsodivánka Kossuth u. 12

Szem. ig. szám: 531071 CE

Aláírás: .....

Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025

# Bérlői hozzájárulás

Alulírott, Hajnalné Sára Orsolya, 3421 Mezőnyárád, Toldi u. 24. szám alatti lakos (születési helye, ideje: Miskolc, 1975.03.28., anyja neve: Csanalosi Irén, személyi igazolvány száma: 248660SE ) hozzájárulásomat adom ahhoz, hogy az általam bérelt, de a Magyar Állam tulajdonában és a Bükki Nemzeti Park Igazgatóság vagyonkezelésében lévő Tard 0217/1 és Tard 0220/3a hrsz-ú ingatlanon a Bükki Nemzeti Park Igazgatóság a „Ensuring the survival of a viable European Ground Squirrel population in the Pannonian region - Életképes ürgeállomány fennmaradásának biztosítása a Pannon régióban" című (röviden CitellusLIFE), LIFE Pályázat elnyerése esetén – az általam bérelt ingatlanok meghatározott területrészein – az alábbiakban részletezett munkákat végezzen.

A tervezett munkák a következőket foglalják magukba:

- A területen élő, kiemelt természetvédelmi értékű élőhelyek és fajok fennmaradását veszélyeztető cserjék és cserje méretű egyéb fásszárúak kézi eszközökkel történő kivágása.
- A kivágott cserjék lehordása a kezelt területrészekről a bérlővel egyeztetett helyszínekre.
- Az Igazgatóság a területen csak kézi technológiát alkalmaz, erőgéppel a területet nem veszi igénybe.
- Ürgék telepítése a területre előreláthatólag 2027 és 2028 években.

A pályázat elnyerését követően a megvalósítás és a fenntartás időszakában lehetővé teszem a területre való szabad bejutást, a tervek szerinti természetvédelmi célú munkálatok elvégzését. Amennyiben a fenti feladatok hatósági engedély vagy hozzájárulás kötelesek, akkor közreműködöm az engedélyek vagy hozzájárulások beszerzésében.

Jelen hozzájárulásom kiadásáért ellenszolgáltatásra, díjfizetésre, vagy más ellentételezésre nem tartok igényt.

Amennyiben a pályázat pozitív elbírálásra kerül, abban az esetben az ingatlanon végzett munkálatok pontos helyszíneit, térléptékét, kivitelezési ütemét a Felek egy külön megállapodásban rögzítik.

A hozzájárulás kizárólag a meghatározott természetvédelmi kezelési munkák elvégzését hivatott szolgálni.

Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025

A bérlői hozzájárulásomat fenntartom a projekt végéig (2032.12.31.) és az azt követő 5 éves fenntartási időszakban, azaz 2037. december hó 31. napig.

Hozzájárulok ahhoz, hogy a jelen nyilatkozatomat (beleértve az abban szereplő személyes adataimat) a Bükki Nemzeti Park Igazgatóság az általa benyújtott pályázat mellékleteként felhasználja.

Tard, 2024. 09. hó 16. nap

Hajnalné Sára Orsolya
bérlő

*Előttünk, mint tanúk előtt:*

1. Név: Kleró András József
Lakcím: 3416 TARD, Ady E. u. 6/A
Szem. ig. szám: 173037 AH
Aláírás:

2. Név: Klesó András
Lakcím: 3416 Tard, Ady E. u. 6/a.
Szem. ig. szám: 865275 EE
Aláírás:

Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025

# Bérlői hozzájárulás

Alulírott, Szabó Attila, 3416 Tard, Kossuth u. 37. szám alatti lakos (születési helye, ideje: Miskolc, 1978.04.24., anyja neve: Pintér Magdolna, személyi igazolvány száma: AE 779352 ) hozzájárulásomat adom ahhoz, hogy az általam bérelt, de a Magyar Állam tulajdonában és a Bükki Nemzeti Park Igazgatóság vagyonkezelésében lévő Tard 0202/4 hrsz-ú ingatlanon a Bükki Nemzeti Park Igazgatóság a „Ensuring the survival of a viable European Ground Squirrel population in the Pannonian region - Életképes ürgeállomány fennmaradásának biztosítása a Pannon régióban" című (röviden CitellusLIFE), LIFE Pályázat elnyerése esetén – az általam bérelt ingatlan meghatározott területrészein – az alábbiakban részletezett munkákat végezzen.

A tervezett munkák a következőket foglalják magukba:

- CitellusGarden kialakítása: a területen a meglévő gyümölcsös 2 hektárral történő kibővítése
- Ürgék telepítése céljából.

A pályázat elnyerését követően a megvalósítás és a fenntartás időszakában lehetővé teszem a területre való szabad bejutást, a tervek szerinti természetvédelmi célú munkálatok elvégzését. Amennyiben a fenti feladatok hatósági engedély vagy hozzájárulás kötelesek, akkor közreműködöm az engedélyek vagy hozzájárulások beszerzésében.

Jelen hozzájárulásom kiadásáért ellenszolgáltatásra, díjfizetésre, vagy más ellentételezésre nem tartok igényt.

Amennyiben a pályázat pozitív elbírálásra kerül, abban az esetben az ingatlanon végzett munkálatok pontos helyszíneit, térléptékét, kivitelezési ütemét a Felek egy külön megállapodásban rögzítik.

A hozzájárulás kizárólag a meghatározott természetvédelmi kezelési munkák elvégzését hivatott szolgálni.

Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025

A bérlői hozzájárulásomat fenntartom a projekt végéig (2032.12.31.) és az azt követő 5 éves fenntartási időszakban, azaz 2037. december hó 31. napig.

Hozzájárulok ahhoz, hogy a jelen nyilatkozatomat (beleértve az abban szereplő személyes adataimat) a Bükki Nemzeti Park Igazgatóság az általa benyújtott pályázat mellékleteként felhasználja.

Tard, 2024. 09. hó 16. nap

bérlő

*Előttünk, mint tanúk előtt:*

1. Név: Kleszó András József
Lakcím: 3416 TARD Ady E u 6/A
Szem. ig. szám: 473037 AH
Aláírás:

2. Név: Kleszó András
Lakcím: 3416 Tard, Ady E. u 6/a
Szem. ig. szám: 865275 EG
Aláírás:

Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025



# LIST OF MAPS

TOTAL PROJECT AREA ..... 2
BÁTORLIGET1 ..... 3
BÁTORLIGET2 ..... 4
SÁMSONI ÚTI BELLEGELŐ1 ..... 5
SÁMSONI ÚTI BELLEGELŐ2 ..... 6
DERECSKE1 ..... 7
DERECSKE2 ..... 8
HAJDÚBAGOS1 ..... 9
HAJDÚBAGOS2 ..... 10
HORTOBÁGY1 ..... 11
HORTOBÁGY2 ..... 12
KÉK-KÁLLÓ-VÖLGYE1 ..... 13
KÉK-KÁLLÓ-VÖLGYE2 ..... 14
KIS-SZEG1 ..... 15
KIS-SZEG2 ..... 16
LIGET-LEGELŐ1 ..... 17
LIGET-LEGELŐ2 ..... 18
LÖSZLETÖRÉS2 ..... 20
LÖSZLETÖRÉS3 ..... 21
LÖSZLETÖRÉS4 ..... 22
MARTINKA1 ..... 23
MARTINKA2 ..... 24
PENÉSZLEK1 ..... 25
PENÉSZLEK2 ..... 26
PENTEZUG1 ..... 27
PENTEZUG2 ..... 28
TISZACSEGE1 ..... 29
TISZACSEGE2 ..... 30
BORSODI-MEZŐSÉG (SCI) ..... 31
BATÚZ FARM CITELLUS GARDEN, BORSODI-MEZŐSÉG (SCI) ..... 32
KESZNYÉTENI SAJÓ-ÖBÖL PROJECT AREA ..... 33
KESZNYÉTENI SAJÓ-ÖBÖL PROJECT AREA – BIG PASZTURE ..... 34
TARD KÖRNYÉKI ERDŐSSZTYEPP SCI, BÜKK-HEGYSÉG ÉS PEREMTERÜLETEI SPA - LONGWALK, CITELLUS GARDEN AND GROUND SQUIRREL CLIFF ..... 35
TARD KÖRNYÉKI ERDŐSSZTYEPP SCI ..... 36
“PIUSZ MAJORI GYEP”, FERTŐRÁKOS 057/10 ..... 37
ROSCI0115 MLAŞTINA SATCHINEZ ..... 38
ROSCI0387 SALONTA ..... 39
ROSCI0287 COMLOŞU MARE ..... 40
ROSAC0231 NĂDAB - SOCODOR - VĂRŞAD ..... 41
ROSAC0231 NĂDOB – SOCODOR - VĂRŞAD ..... 42
ROSAC0108 LUNCA MUREȘULUI INFERIOR ..... 43
ROSAC0108 LUNCA MUREȘULUI INFERIOR ..... 44
ROSAC0231 ..... 45
SITES IN BUHOR COUTY ..... 46
SITES IN SATU MARE COUNTY ..... 47
SITES IN TIMIŞ COUNTY ..... 48

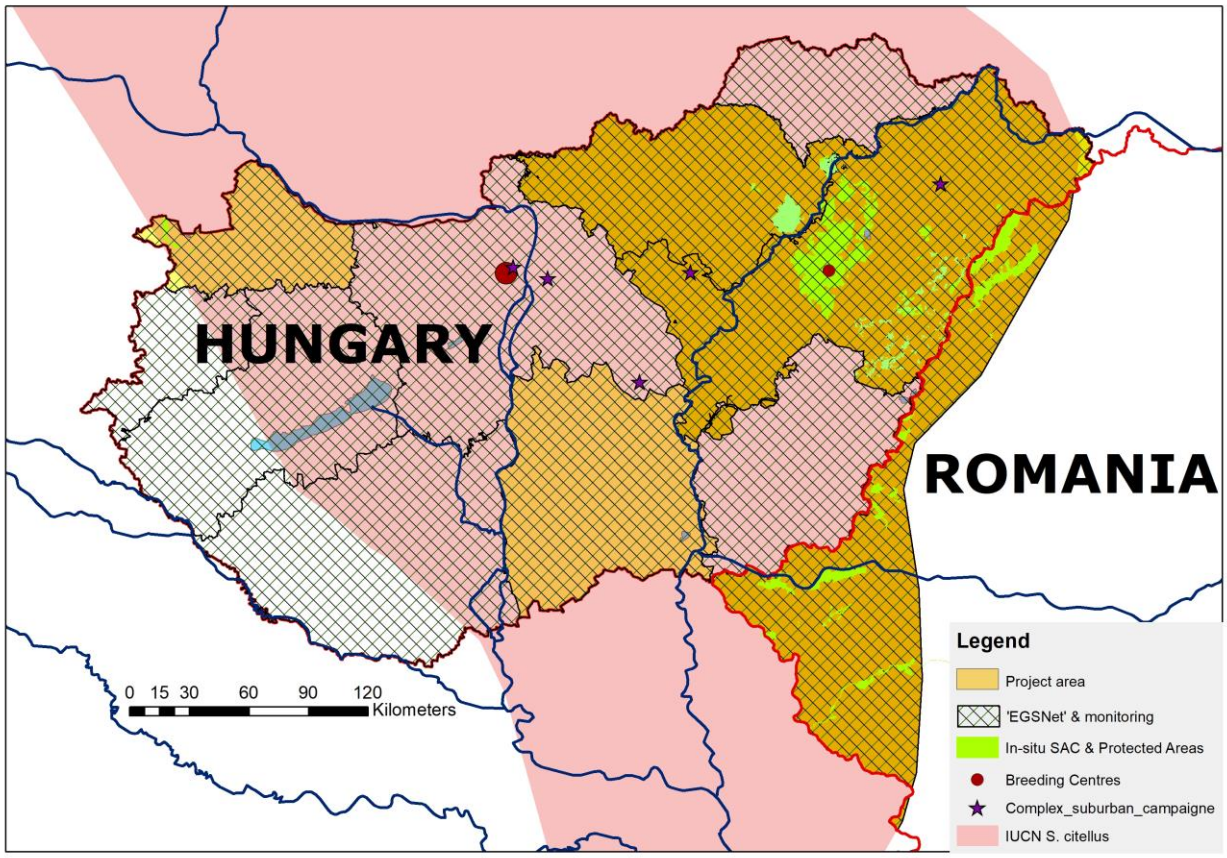
# MAPS

## MAP OF THE GENERAL LOCATION

*Provide a map of the general location of the project area(s). Locate the project area(s) within the country and, if necessary, within the region(s) concerned. If your project does not target a defined area, indicate, as clearly as possible, where the project is implemented (city, area, region, etc.).*

*Maps can be provided in an A4 or A3 format.*

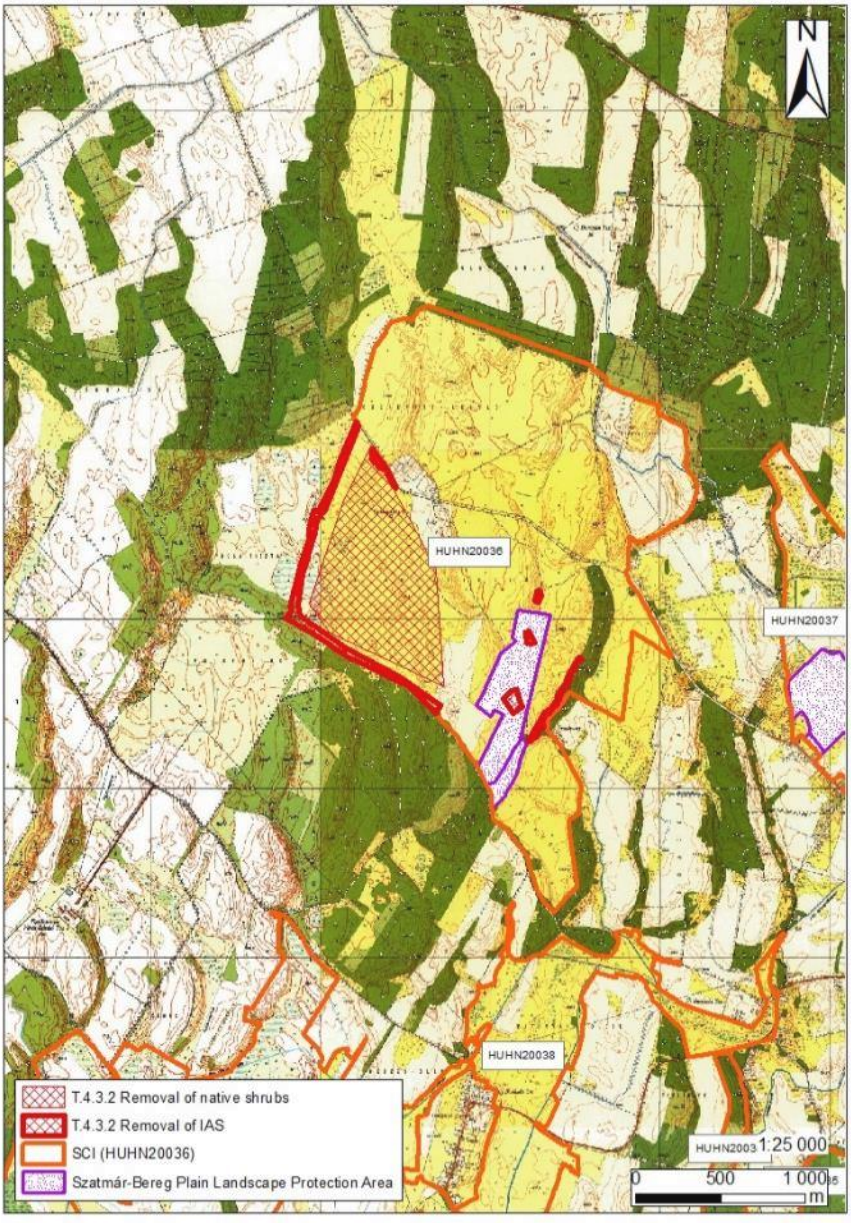
| | |
|---|---|
| **Project name and acronym:** | Ensure the survival of a viable European Ground Squirrel population in the Pannonian region – CitellusLIFE |
| **Country(ies)/region(s):** | Hungary, Romania |
| **Map name:** | Total Project area |



Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025



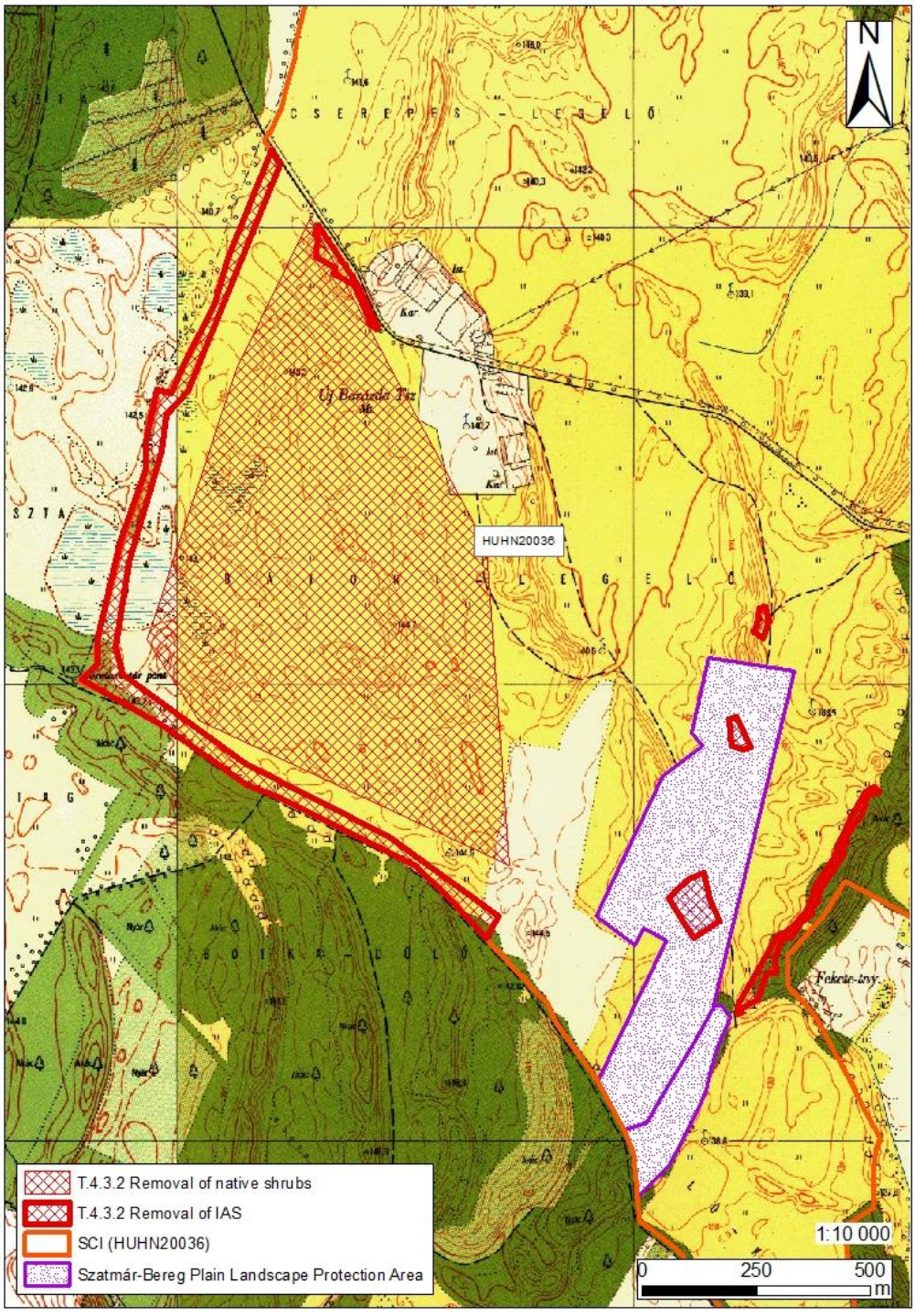
| MAP OF THE PROJECT SITE | |
|---|---|
| **Project name and acronym:** | Ensure the survival of a viable European Ground Squirrel population in the Pannonian region – CitellusLIFE |
| **Country(ies)/region(s):** | Hungary |
| **Map name:** | Bátorliget1 |



Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025



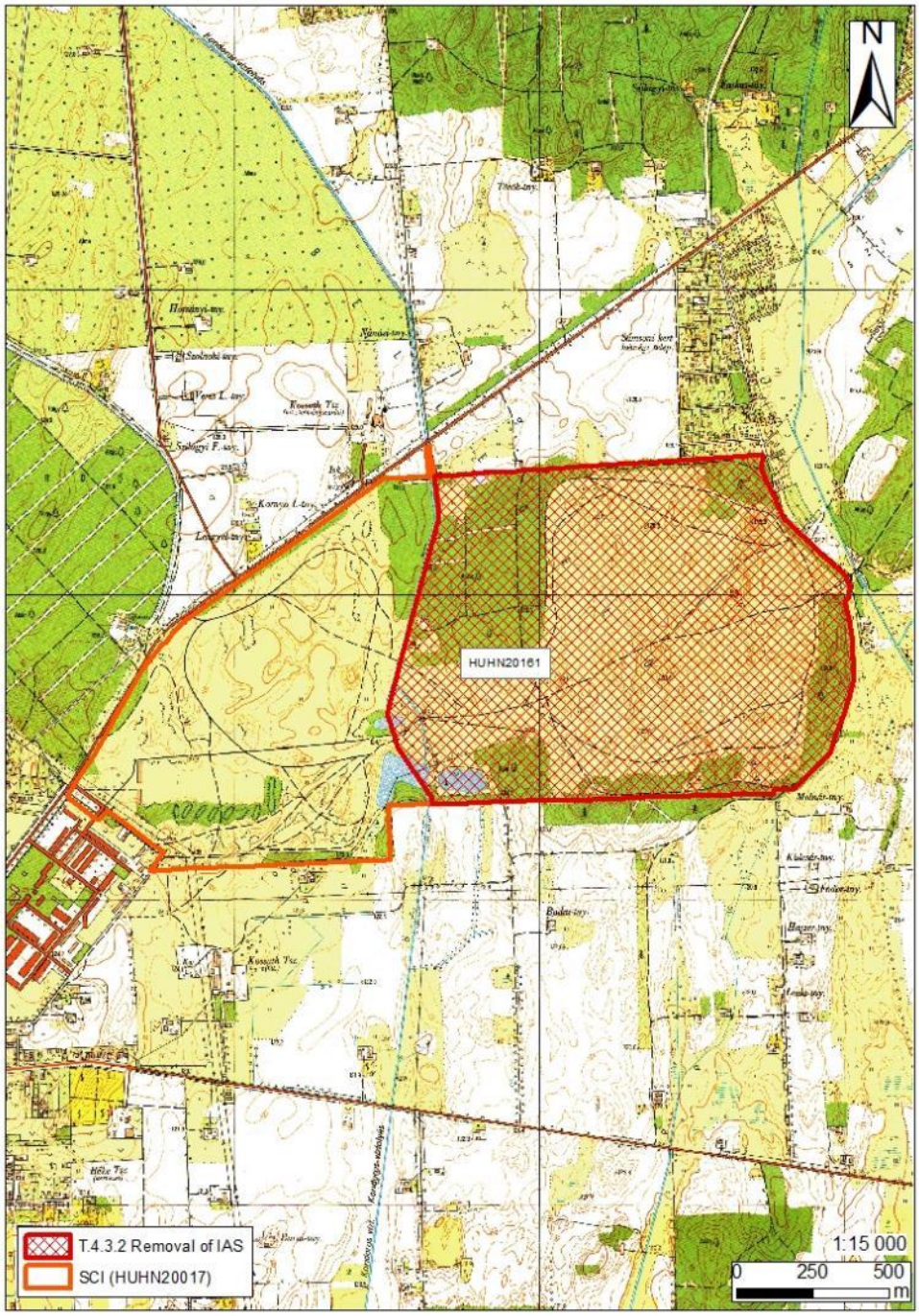
| MAP OF THE PROJECT SITE | |
|---|---|
| **Project name and acronym:** | Ensure the survival of a viable European Ground Squirrel population in the Pannonian region – CitellusLIFE |
| **Country** | Hungary |
| **Map name:** | Bátorliget2 |



Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025



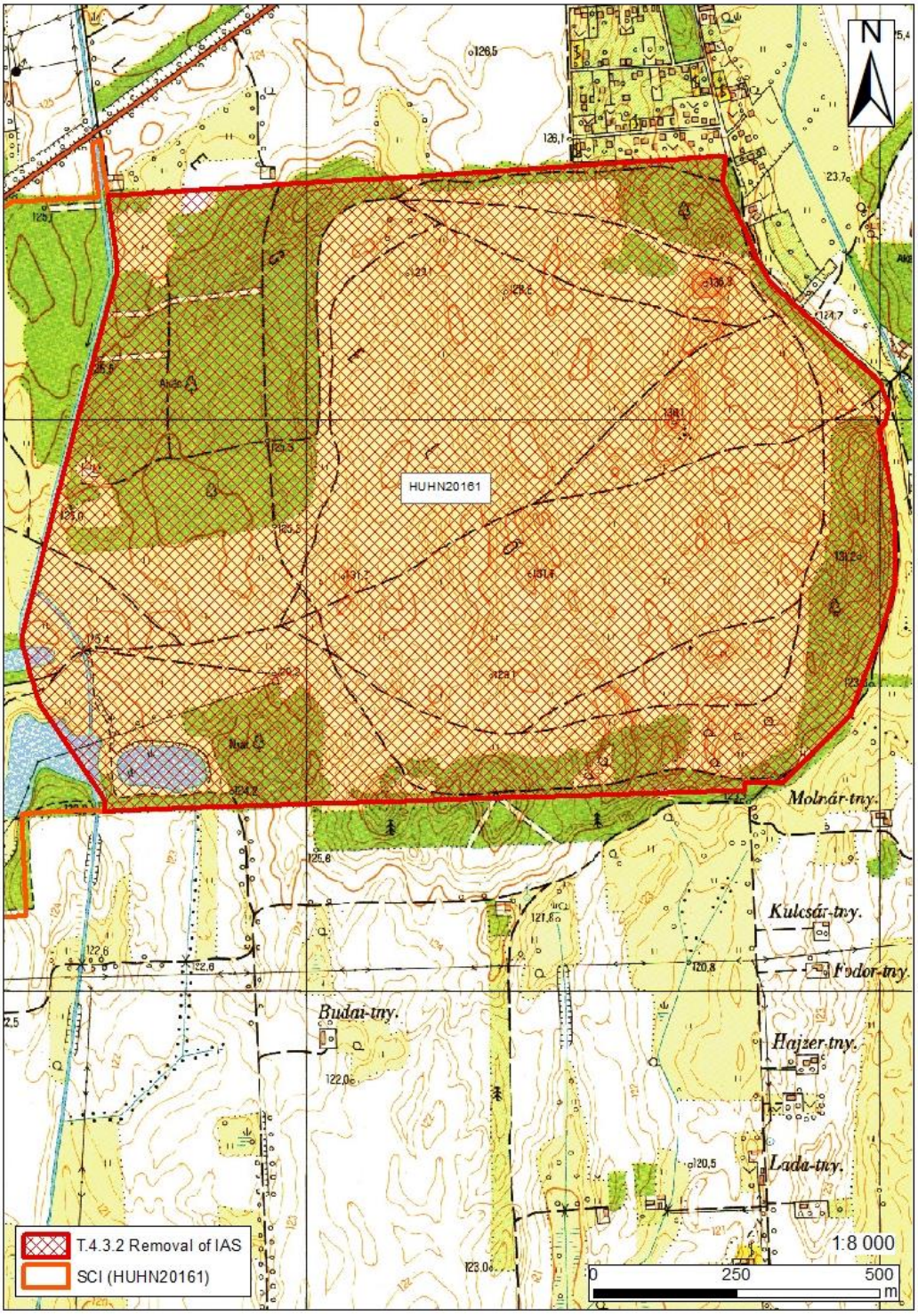
| MAP OF THE PROJECT SITE | |
|---|---|
| **Project name and acronym:** | Ensure the survival of a viable European Ground Squirrel population in the Pannonian region – CitellusLIFE |
| **Country(ies)/region(s):** | Hungary |
| **Map name:** | Sámsoni úti bellegelő1 |



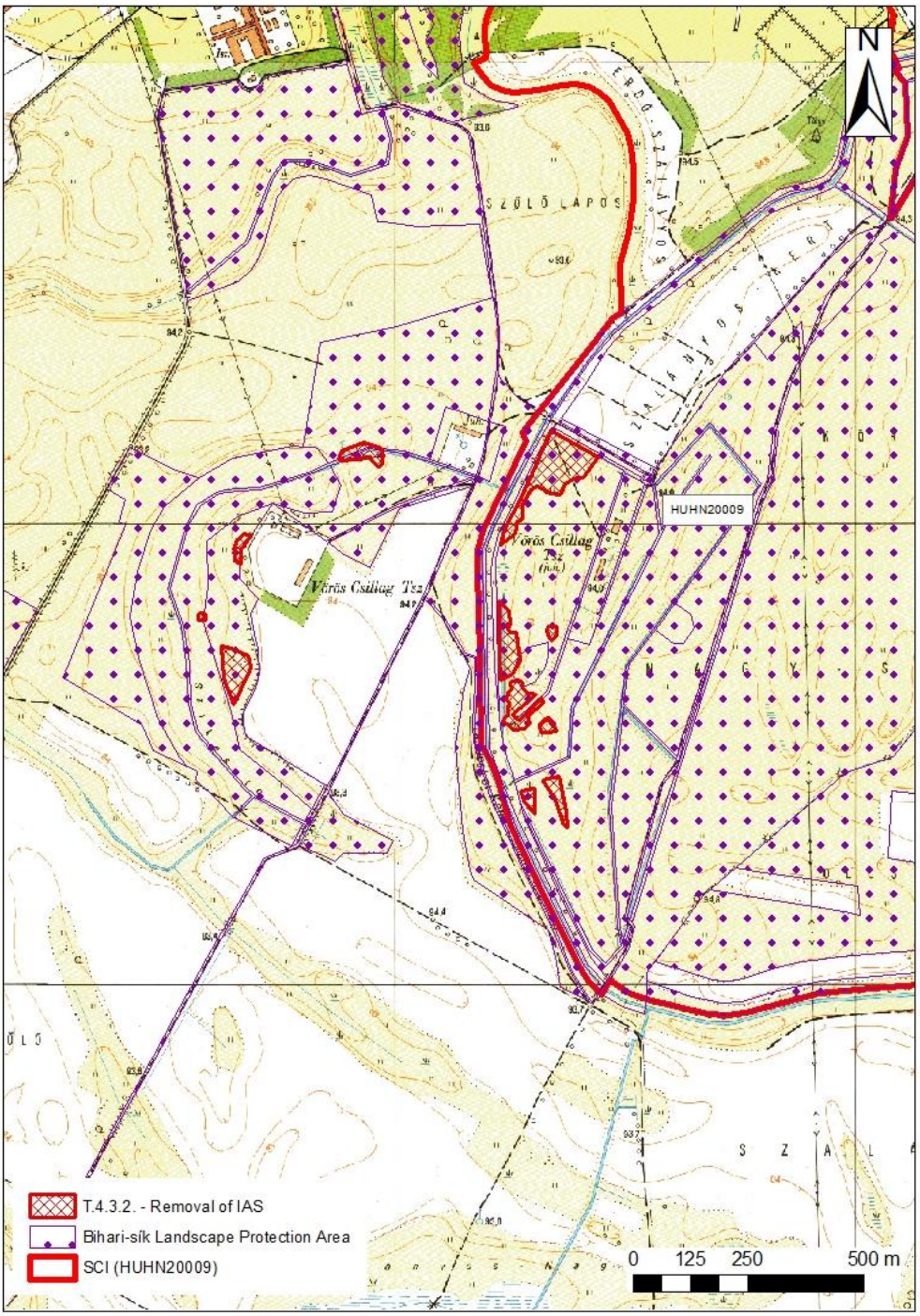
Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025



| MAP OF THE PROJECT SITE | |
|---|---|
| **Project name and acronym:** | Ensure the survival of a viable European Ground Squirrel population in the Pannonian region – CitellusLIFE |
| **Country** | Hungary |
| **Map name:** | Sámsoni úti bellegelő2 |



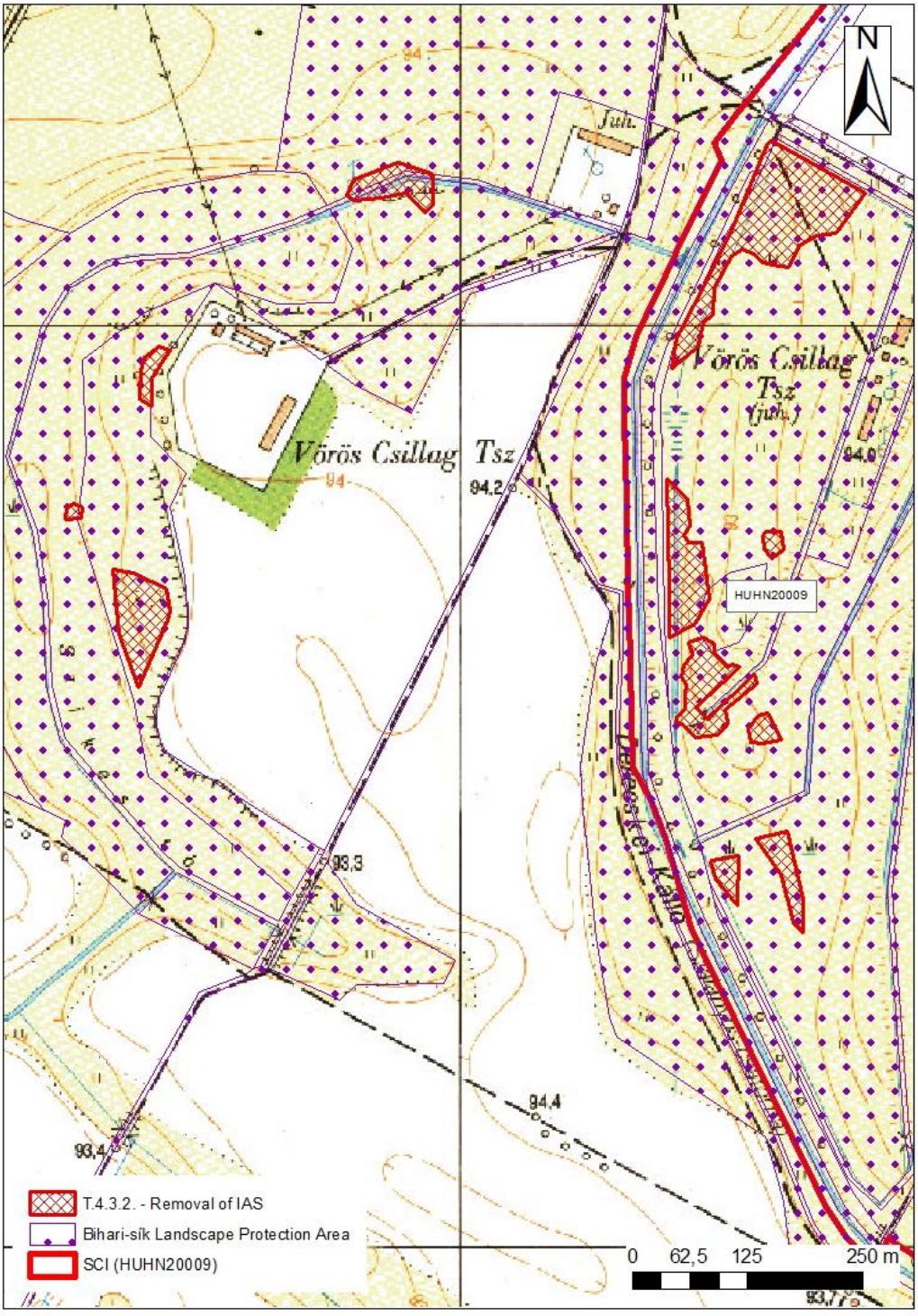
| MAP OF THE PROJECT SITE | |
|---|---|
| **Project name and acronym:** | Ensure the survival of a viable European Ground Squirrel population in the Pannonian region – CitellusLIFE |
| **Country(ies)/region(s):** | Hungary |
| **Map name:** | Derecske1 |



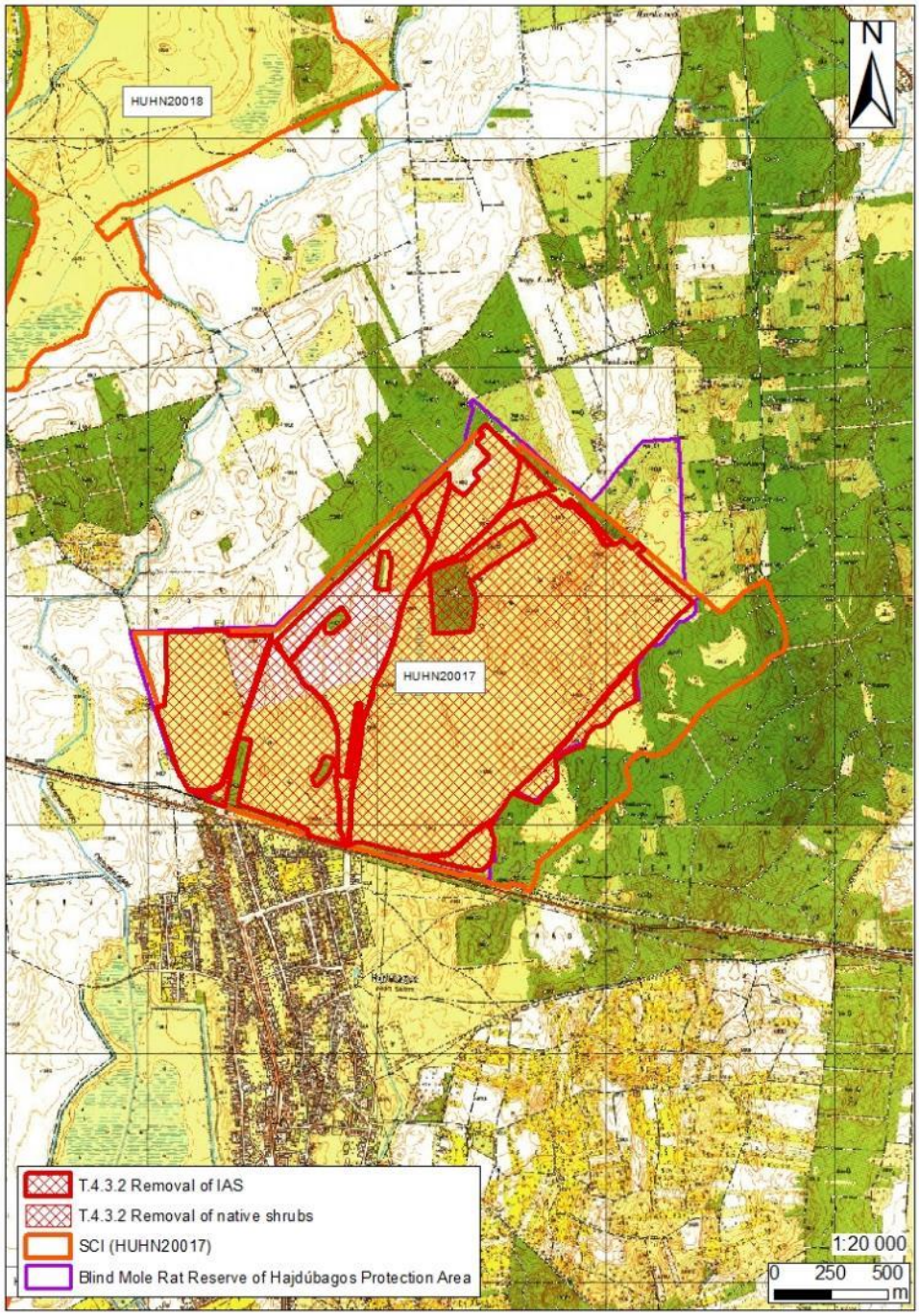
Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025



| MAP OF THE PROJECT SITE | |
|---|---|
| **Project name and acronym:** | Ensure the survival of a viable European Ground Squirrel population in the Pannonian region – CitellusLIFE |
| **Country** | Hungary |
| **Map name:** | Derecske2 |



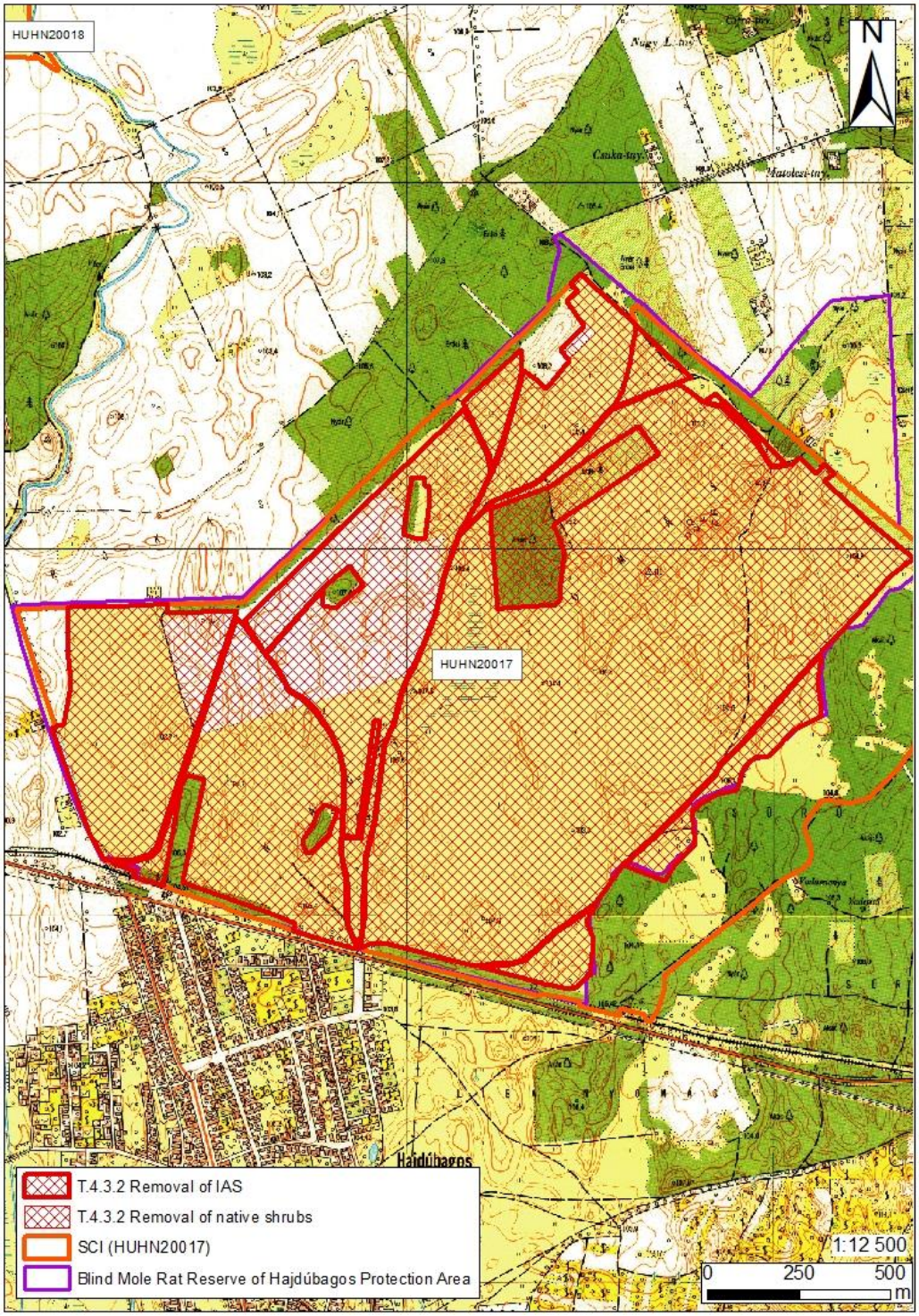
| MAP OF THE PROJECT SITE | |
|---|---|
| **Project name and acronym:** | Ensure the survival of a viable European Ground Squirrel population in the Pannonian region – CitellusLIFE |
| **Country(ies)/region(s):** | Hungary |
| **Map name:** | Hajdúbagos1 |



Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025



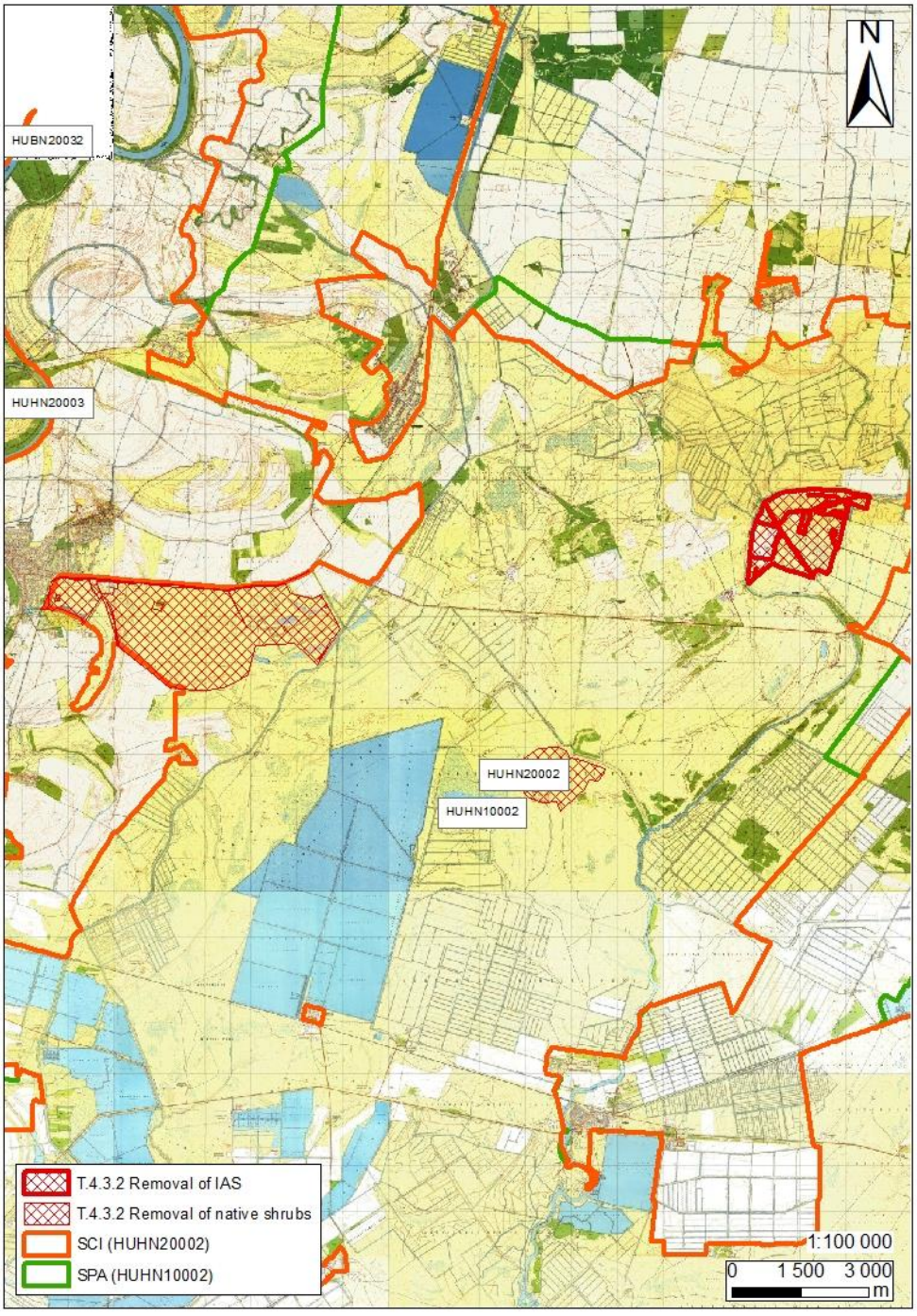
| MAP OF THE PROJECT SITE | |
|---|---|
| **Project name and acronym:** | Ensure the survival of a viable European Ground Squirrel population in the Pannonian region – CitellusLIFE |
| **Country** | Hungary |
| **Map name:** | Hajdúbagos2 |



Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025



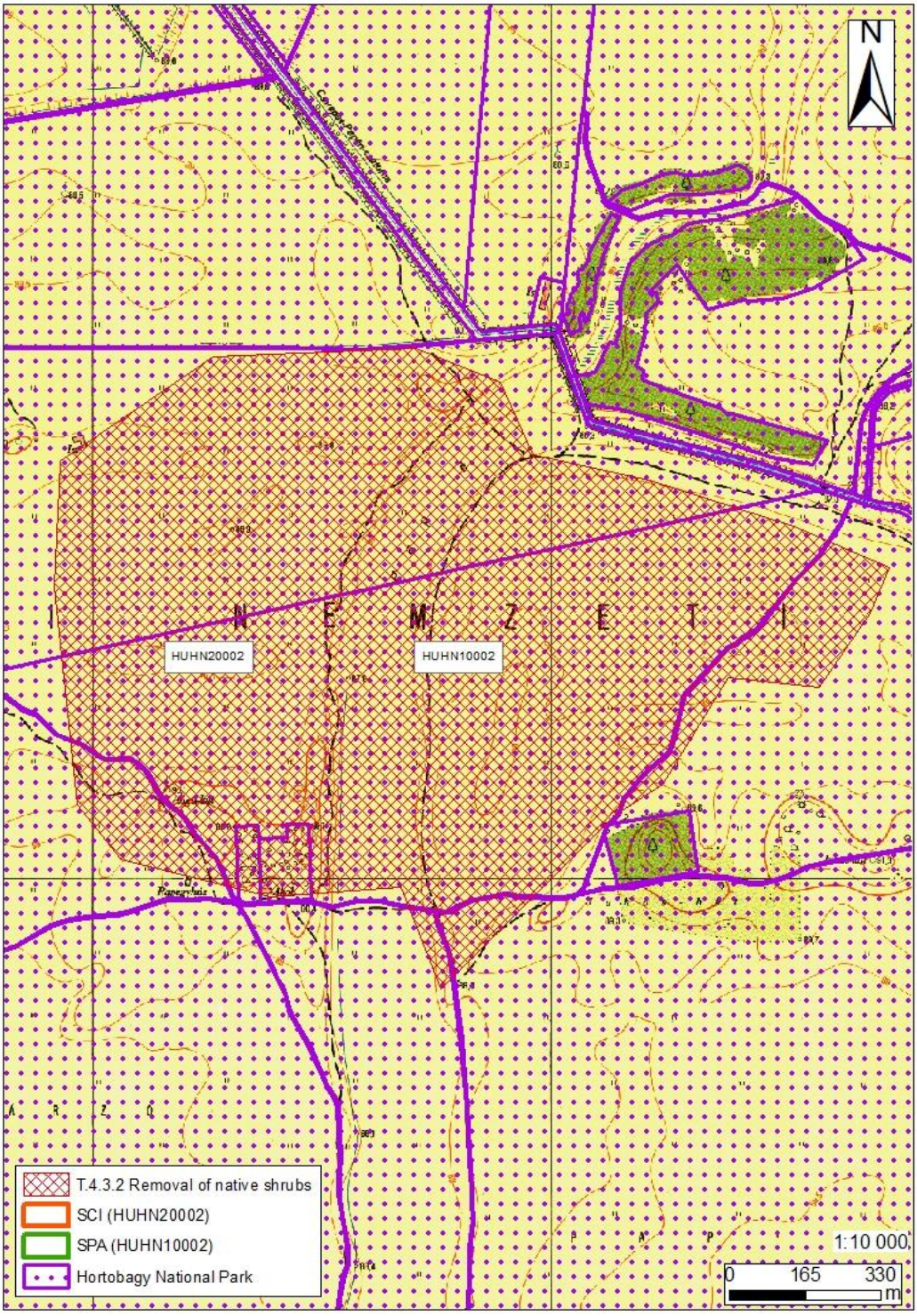
| MAP OF THE PROJECT SITE | |
|---|---|
| **Project name and acronym:** | Ensure the survival of a viable European Ground Squirrel population in the Pannonian region – CitellusLIFE |
| **Country(ies)/region(s):** | Hungary |
| **Map name:** | Hortobágy1 |



Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025



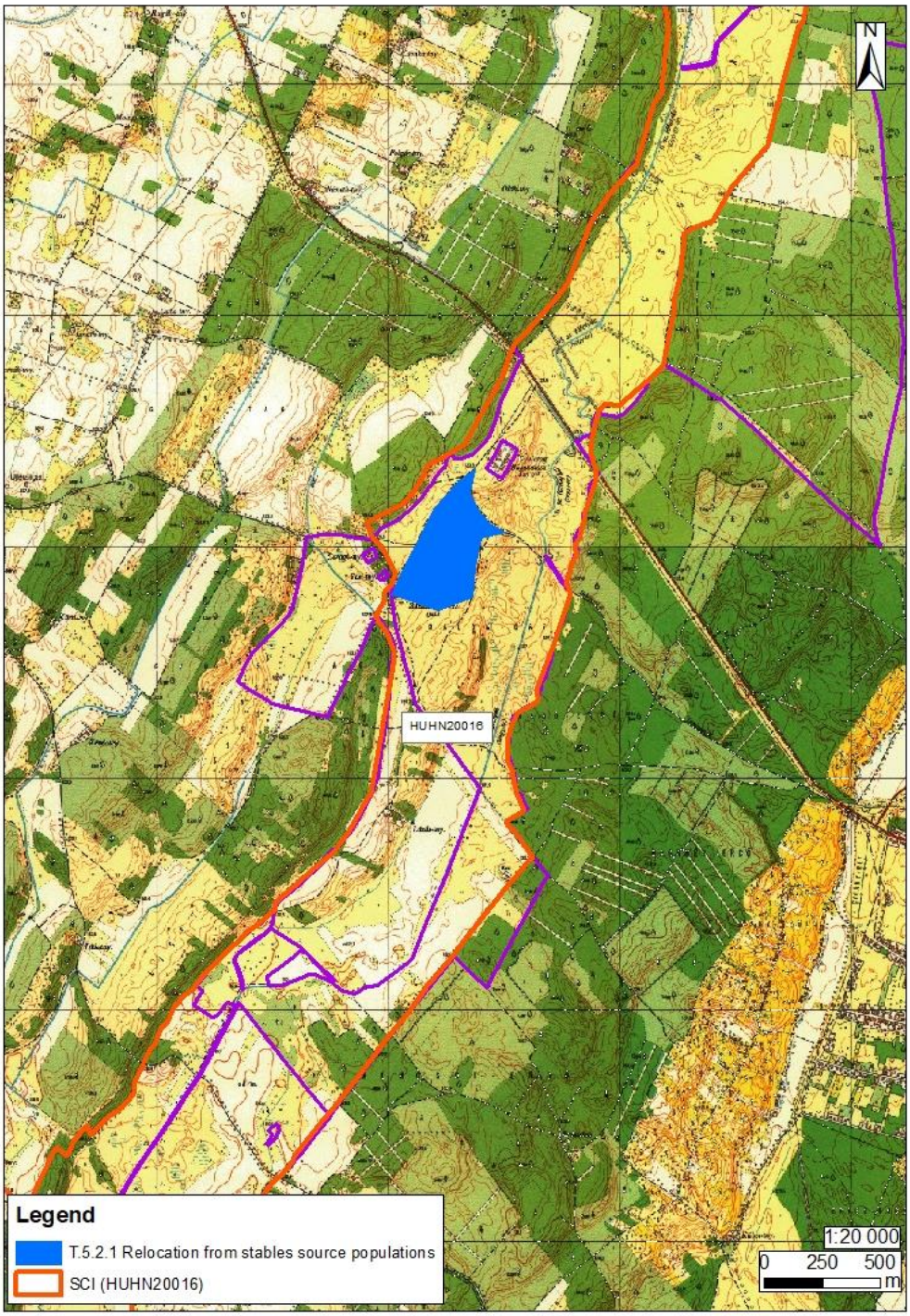
| MAP OF THE PROJECT SITE | |
|---|---|
| **Project name and acronym:** | Ensure the survival of a viable European Ground Squirrel population in the Pannonian region – CitellusLIFE |
| **Country** | Hungary |
| **Map name:** | Hortobágy2 |



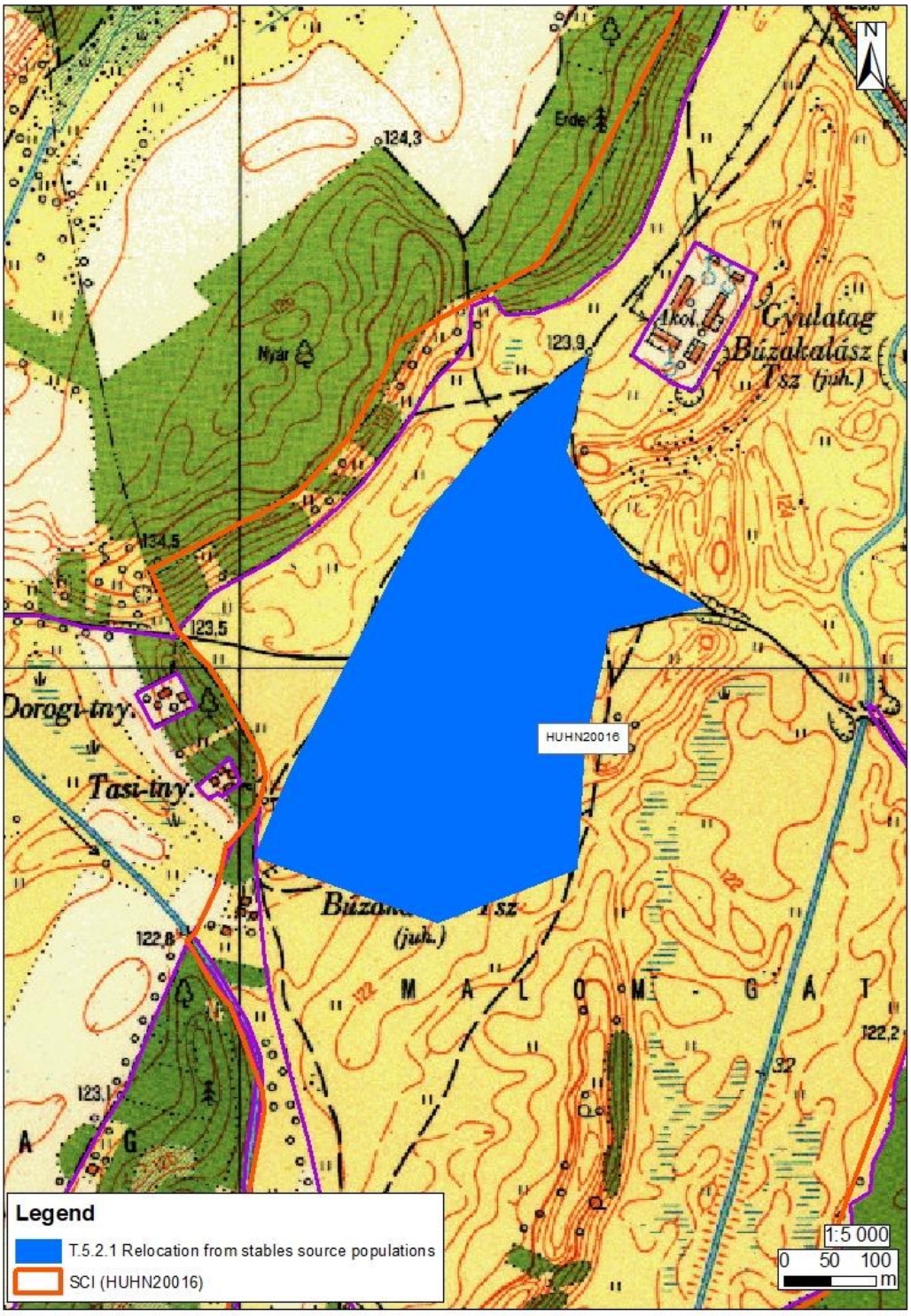
Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025



| MAP OF THE PROJECT SITE | |
|---|---|
| **Project name and acronym:** | Ensure the survival of a viable European Ground Squirrel population in the Pannonian region – CitellusLIFE |
| **Country(ies)/region(s):** | Hungary |
| **Map name:** | Kék-Kálló-völgye1 |



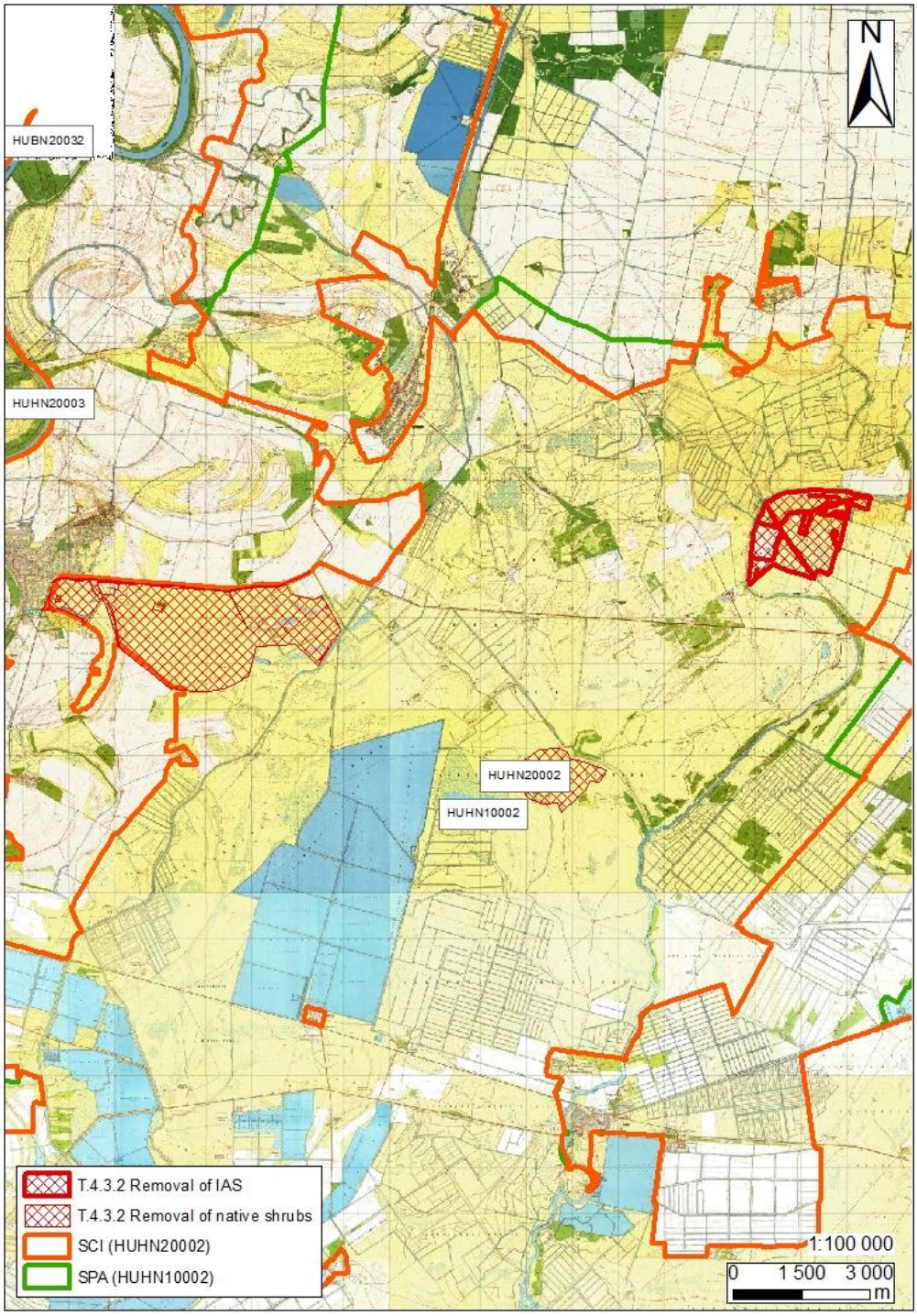
| MAP OF THE PROJECT SITE | |
|---|---|
| **Project name and acronym:** | Ensure the survival of a viable European Ground Squirrel population in the Pannonian region – CitellusLIFE |
| **Country** | Hungary |
| **Map name:** | Kék-Kálló-völgye2 |



Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025



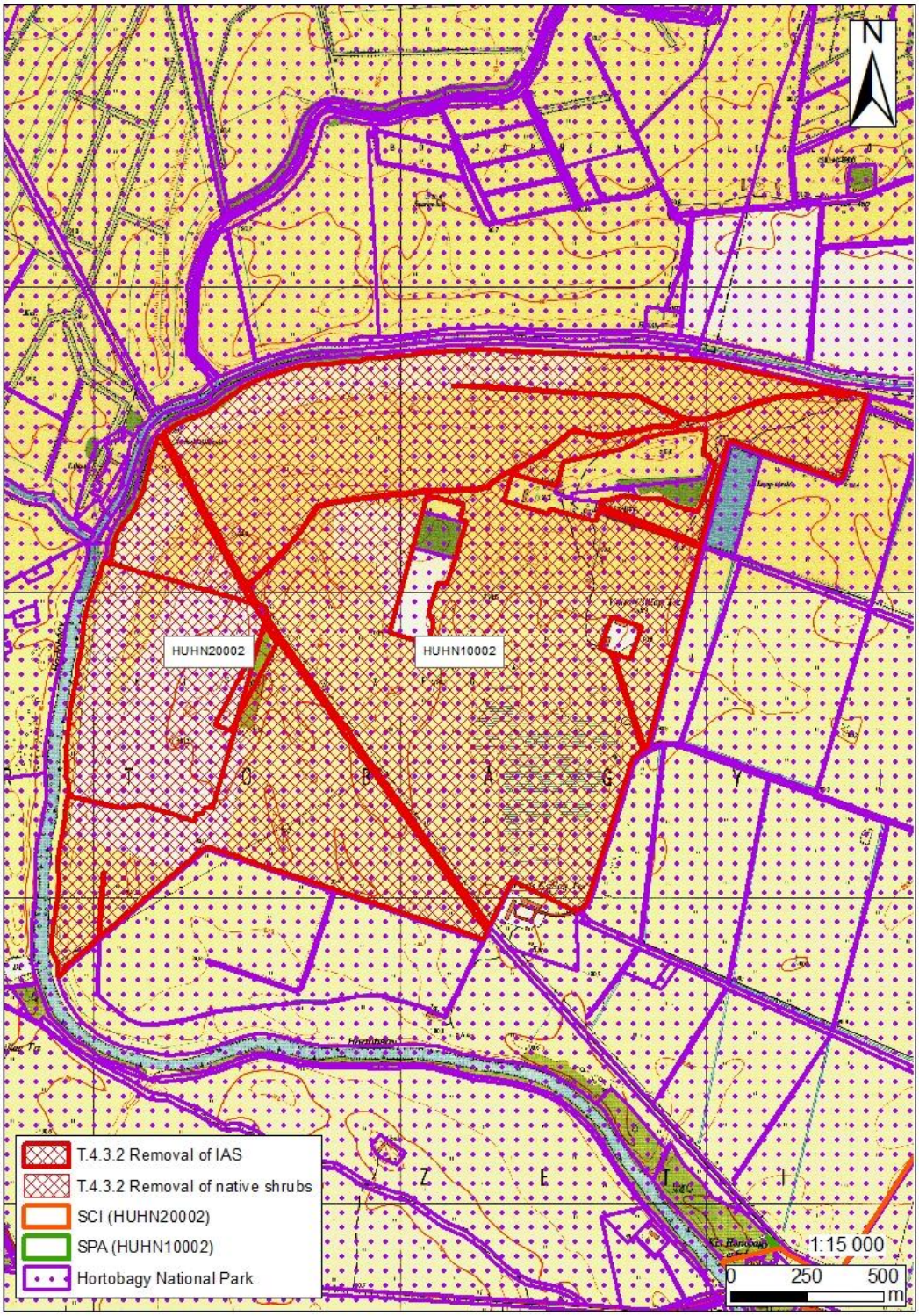
| MAP OF THE PROJECT SITE | |
|---|---|
| **Project name and acronym:** | Ensure the survival of a viable European Ground Squirrel population in the Pannonian region – CitellusLIFE |
| **Country(ies)/region(s):** | Hungary |
| **Map name:** | Kis-Szeg1 |



Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025



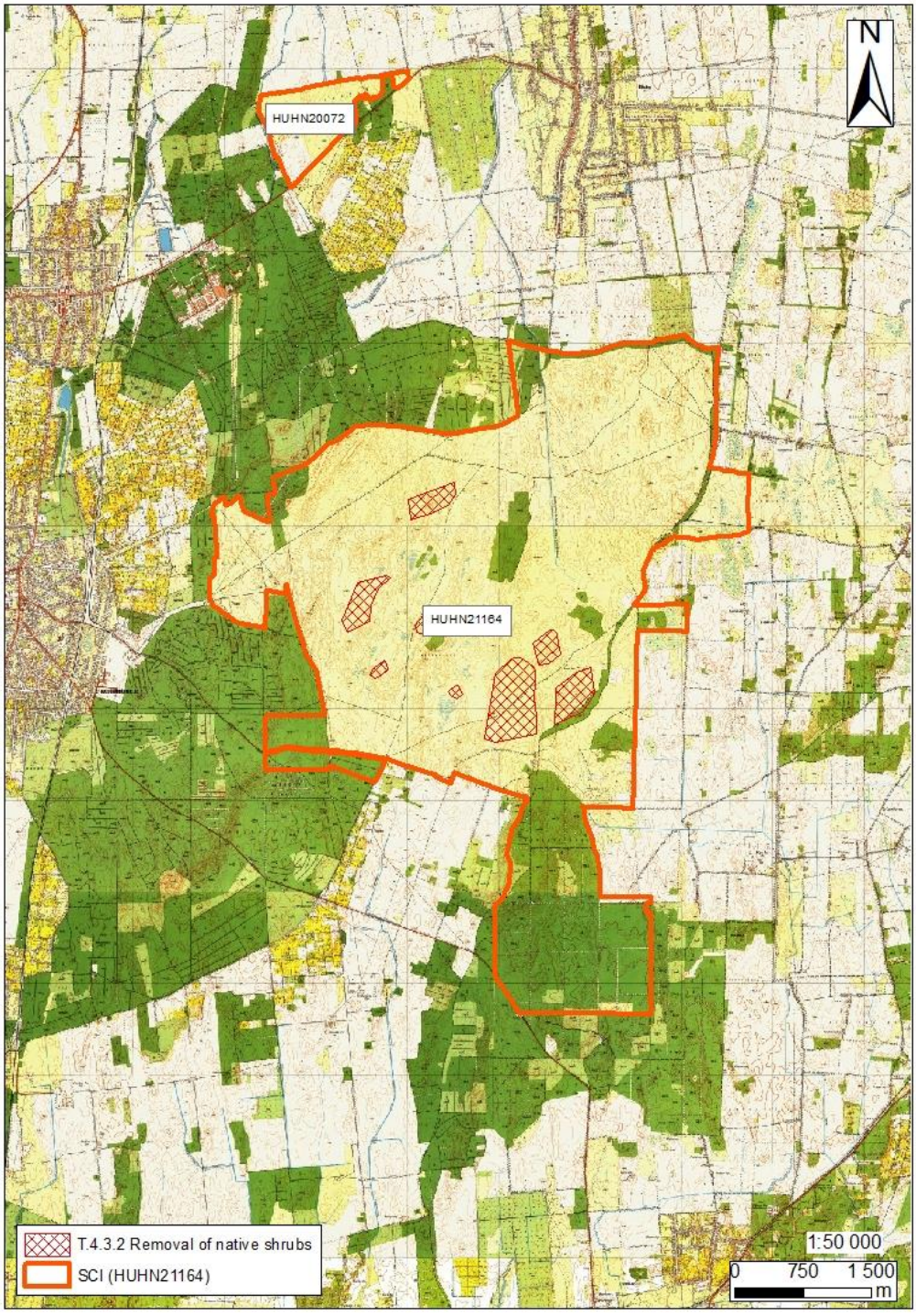
| MAP OF THE PROJECT SITE | |
|---|---|
| **Project name and acronym:** | Ensure the survival of a viable European Ground Squirrel population in the Pannonian region – CitellusLIFE |
| **Country** | Hungary |
| **Map name:** | Kis-Szeg2 |



Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025



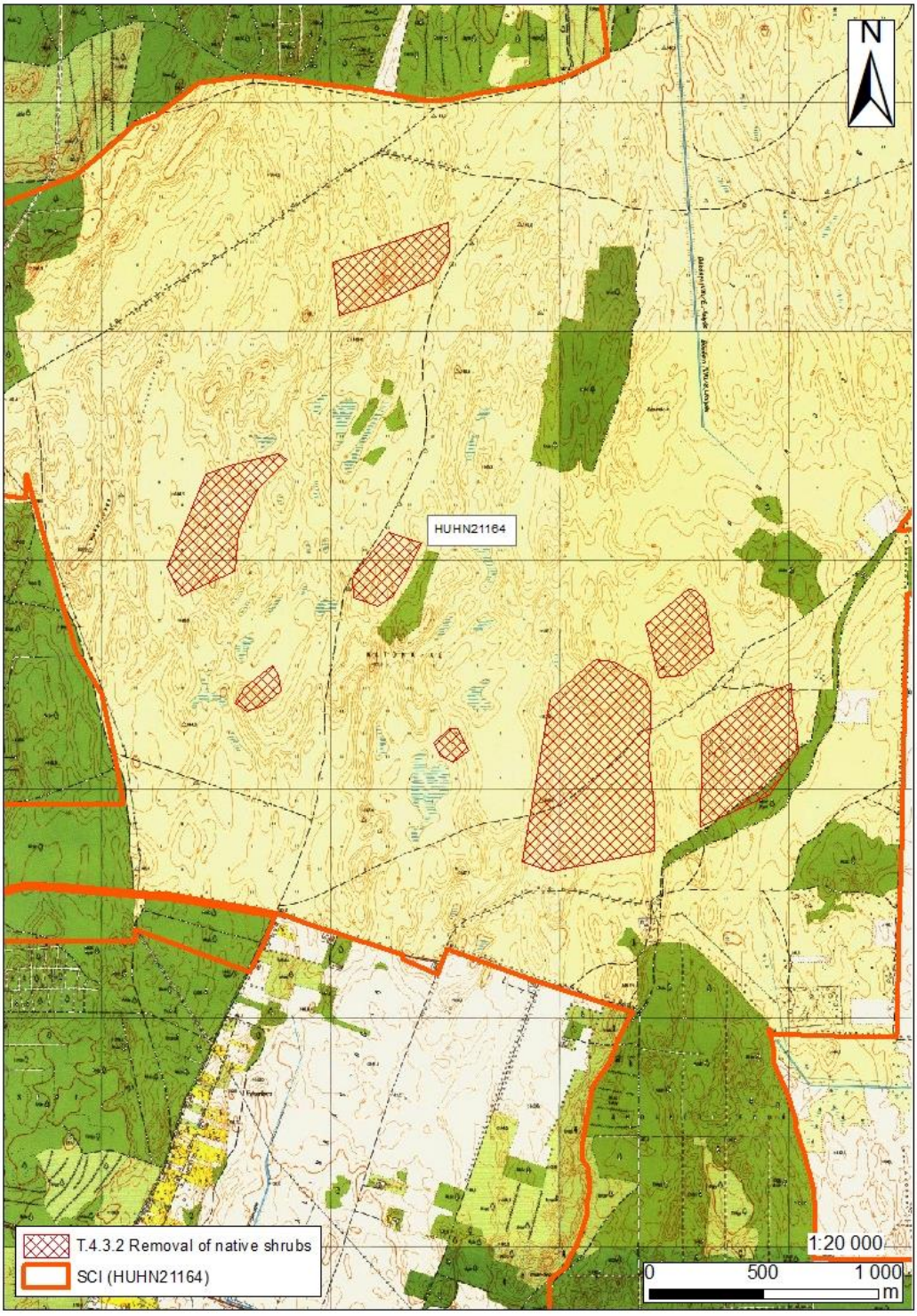
| MAP OF THE PROJECT SITE | |
|---|---|
| **Project name and acronym:** | Ensure the survival of a viable European Ground Squirrel population in the Pannonian region – CitellusLIFE |
| **Country(ies)/region(s):** | Hungary |
| **Map name:** | Liget-legelő1 |



Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025



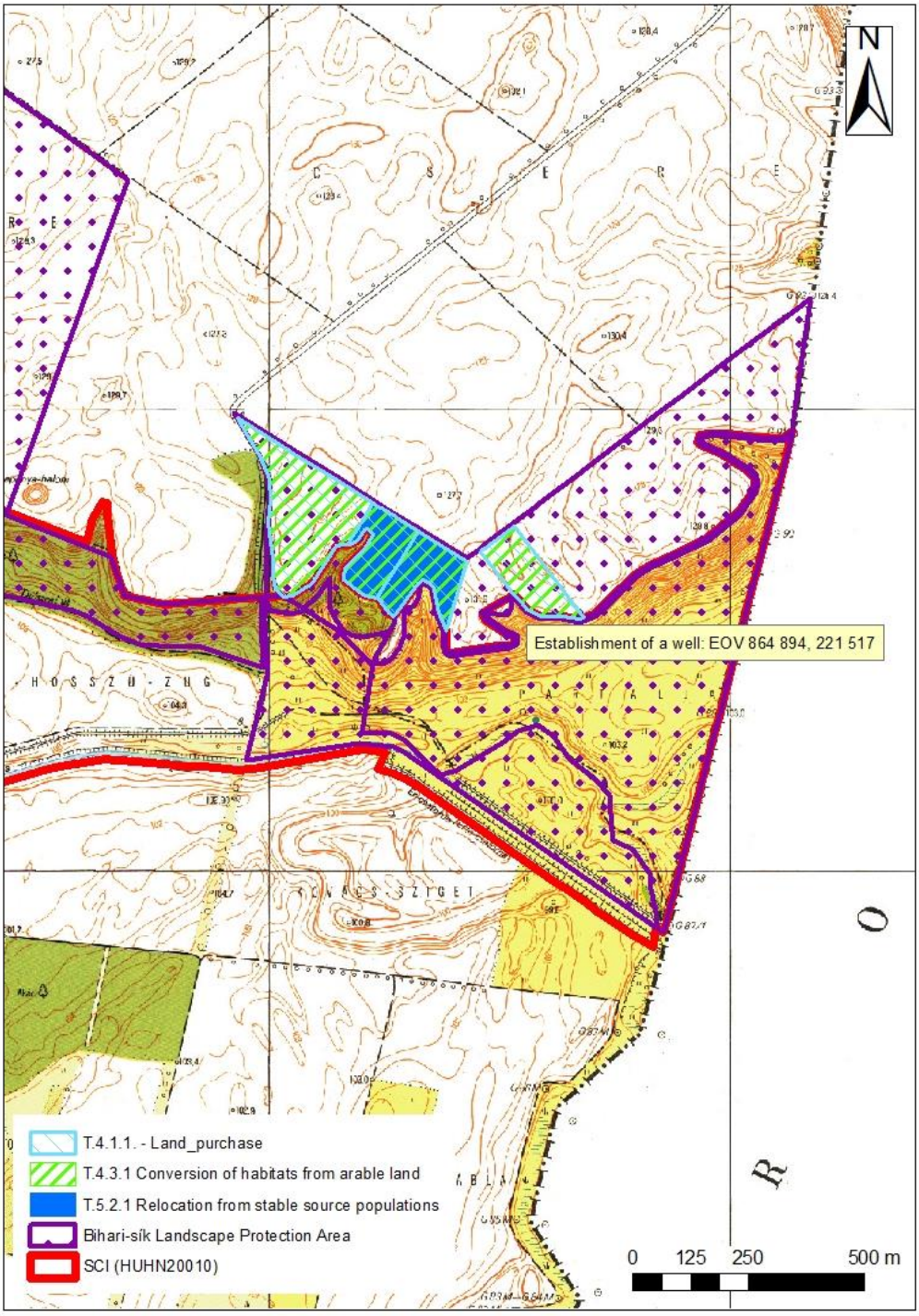
| MAP OF THE PROJECT SITE | |
|---|---|
| **Project name and acronym:** | Ensure the survival of a viable European Ground Squirrel population in the Pannonian region – CitellusLIFE |
| **Country** | Hungary |
| **Map name:** | Liget-legelő2 |



Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025



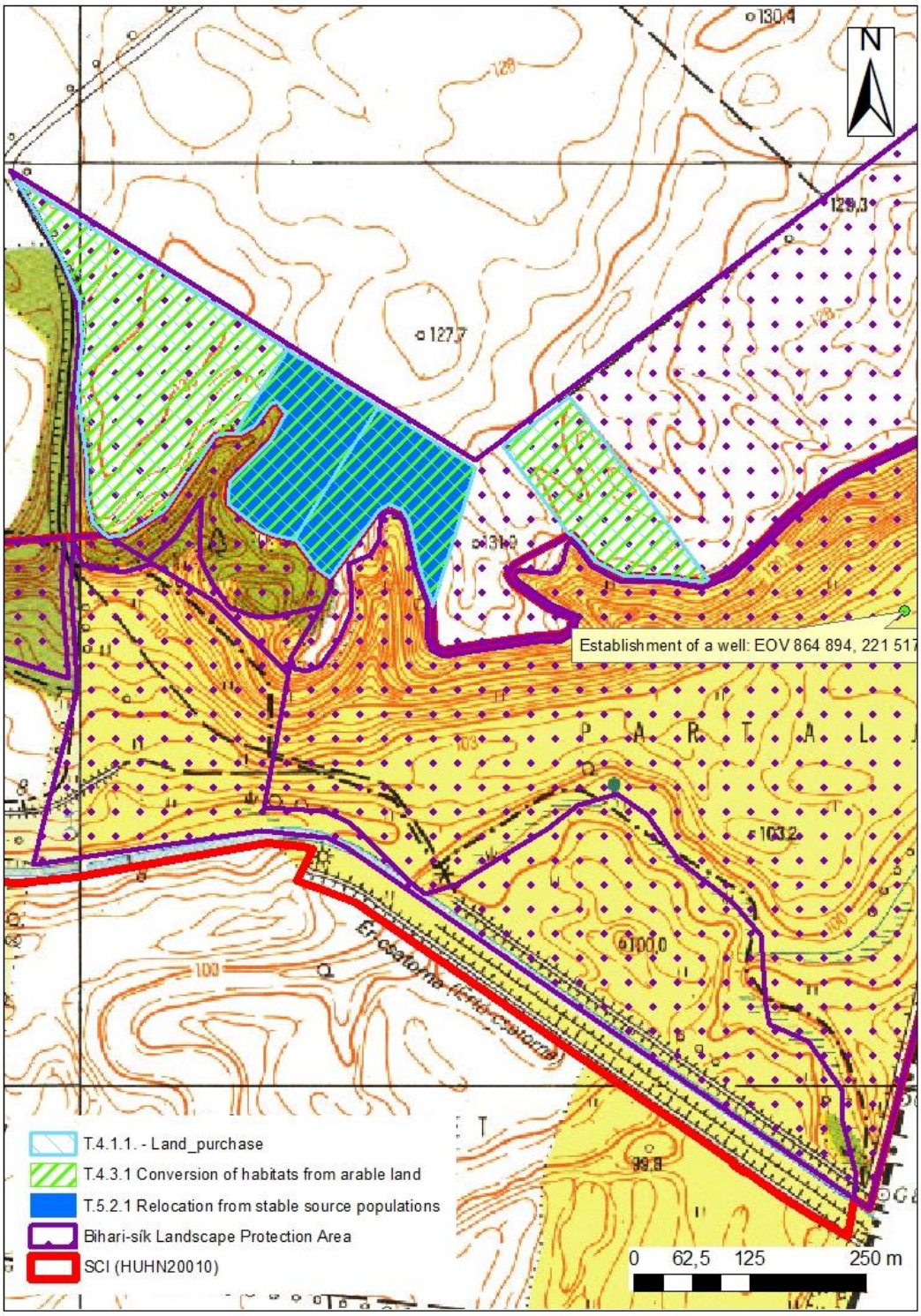
| MAP OF THE PROJECT SITE | |
|---|---|
| **Project name and acronym:** | Ensure the survival of a viable European Ground Squirrel population in the Pannonian region – CitellusLIFE |
| **Country(ies)/region(s):** | Hungary |
| **Map name:** | Löszletörés1 |



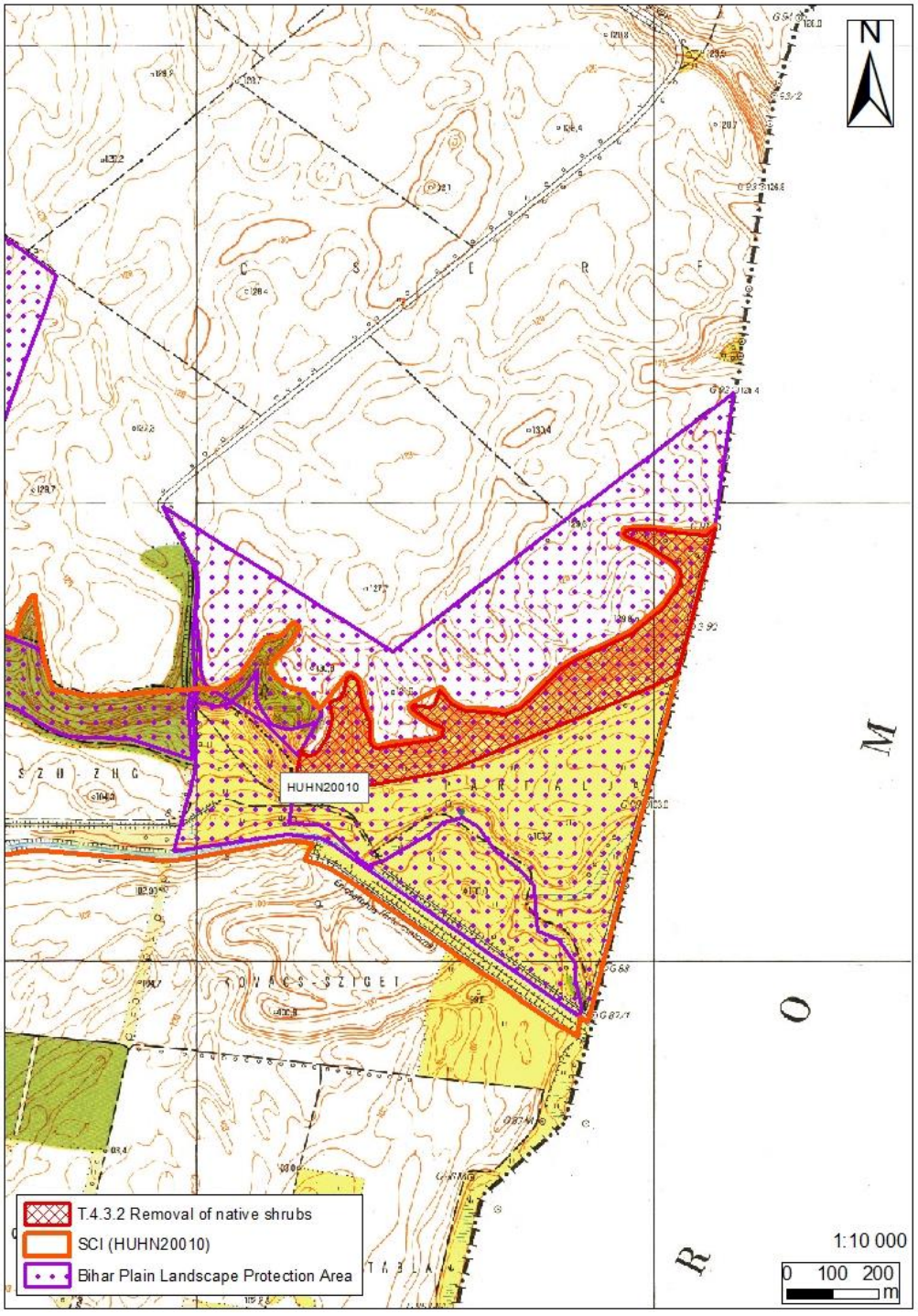
Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025



| MAP OF THE PROJECT SITE | |
|---|---|
| **Project name and acronym:** | Ensure the survival of a viable European Ground Squirrel population in the Pannonian region – CitellusLIFE |
| **Country** | Hungary |
| **Map name:** | Löszletörés2 |



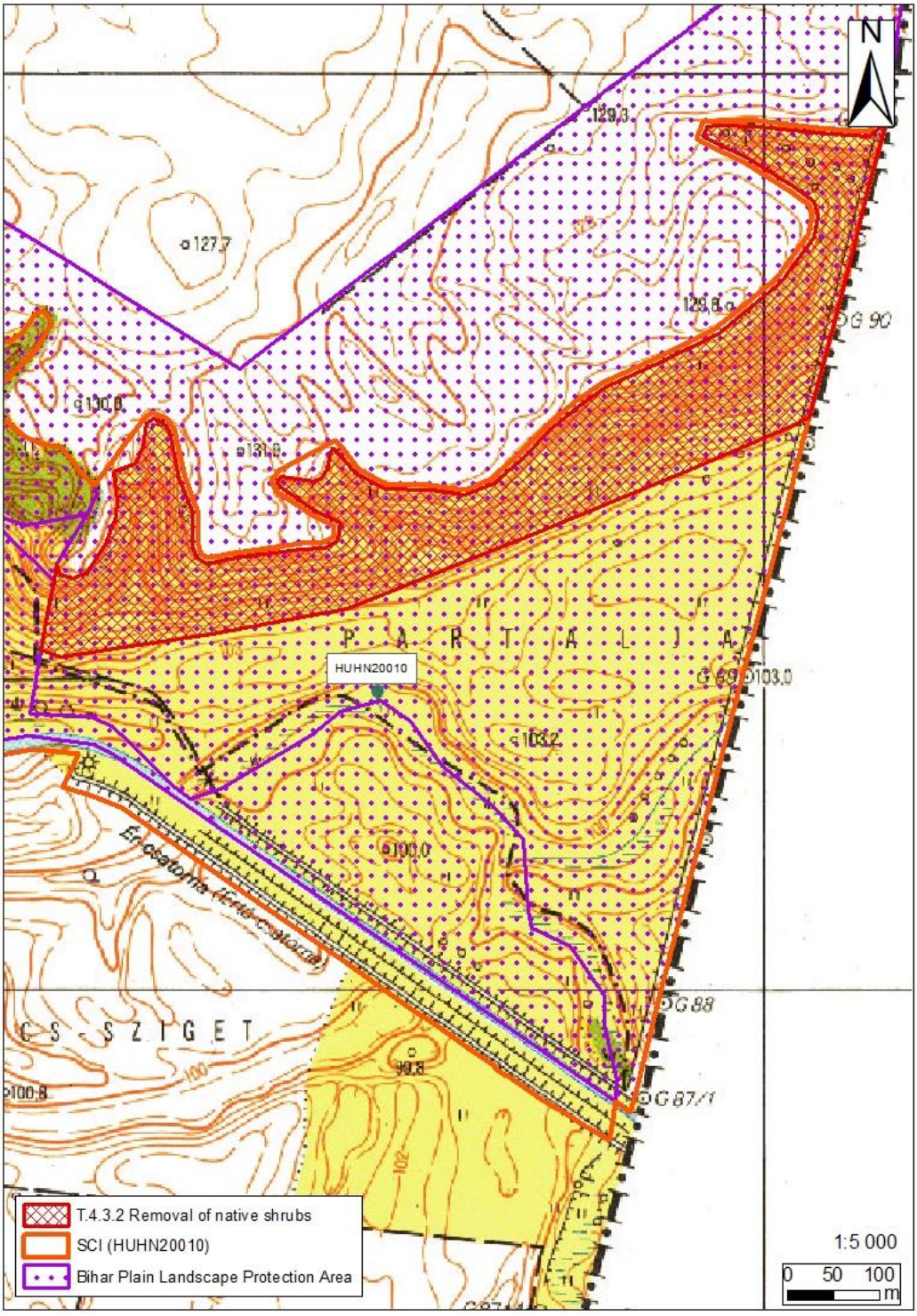
| MAP OF THE PROJECT SITE | |
|---|---|
| **Project name and acronym:** | Ensure the survival of a viable European Ground Squirrel population in the Pannonian region – CitellusLIFE |
| **Country(ies)/region(s):** | Hungary |
| **Map name:** | Löszletörés3 |



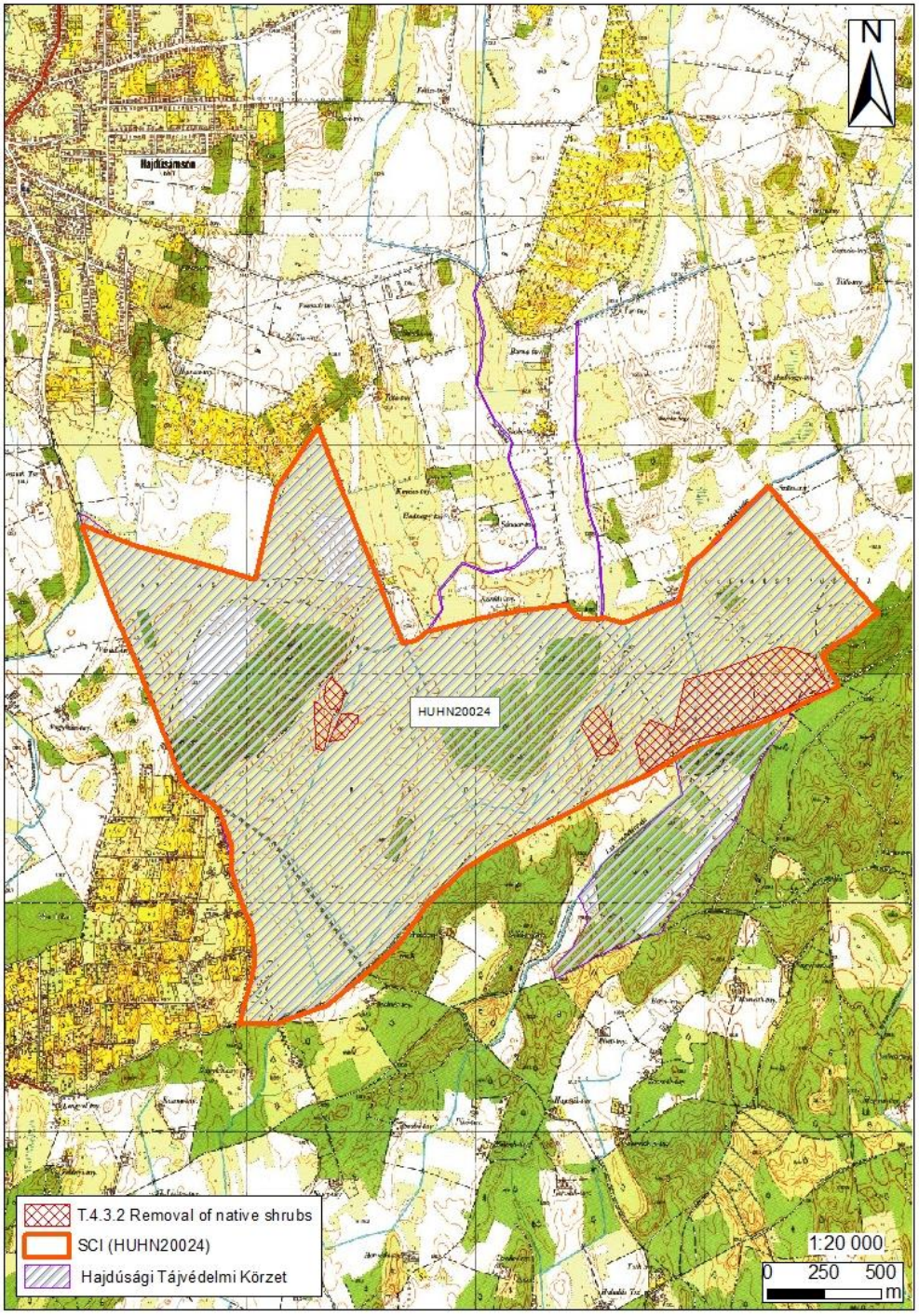
Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025



| MAP OF THE PROJECT SITE | |
|---|---|
| **Project name and acronym:** | Ensure the survival of a viable European Ground Squirrel population in the Pannonian region – CitellusLIFE |
| **Country** | Hungary |
| **Map name:** | Löszletörés4 |



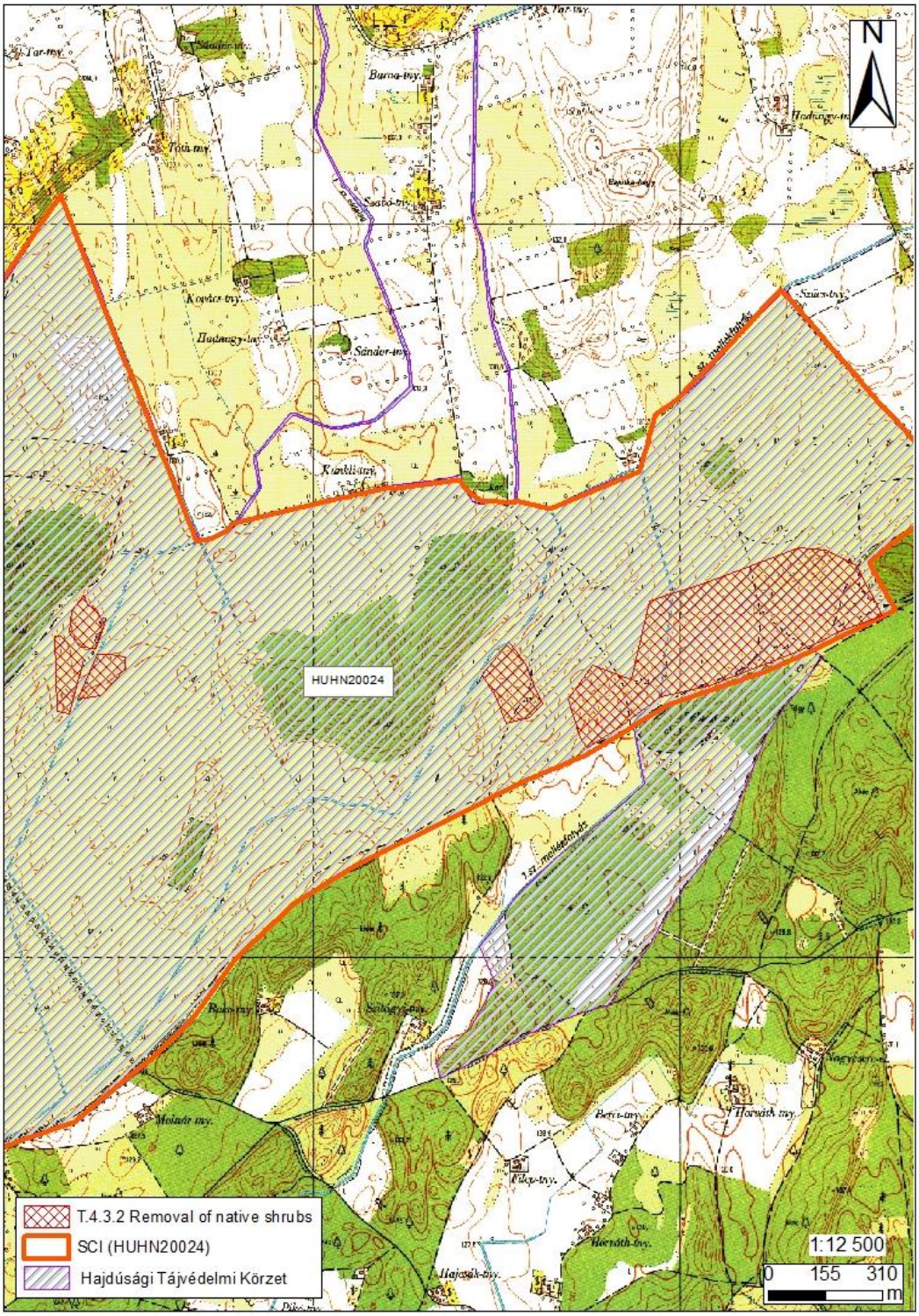
| MAP OF THE PROJECT SITE | |
|---|---|
| **Project name and acronym:** | Ensure the survival of a viable European Ground Squirrel population in the Pannonian region – CitellusLIFE |
| **Country(ies)/region(s):** | Hungary |
| **Map name:** | Martinka1 |



Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025



| MAP OF THE PROJECT SITE | |
|---|---|
| **Project name and acronym:** | Ensure the survival of a viable European Ground Squirrel population in the Pannonian region – CitellusLIFE |
| **Country** | Hungary |
| **Map name:** | Martinka2 |



| MAP OF THE PROJECT SITE | |
|---|---|
| **Project name and acronym:** | Ensure the survival of a viable European Ground Squirrel population in the Pannonian region – CitellusLIFE |
| **Country(ies)/region(s):** | Hungary |
| **Map name:** | Penészlek1 |



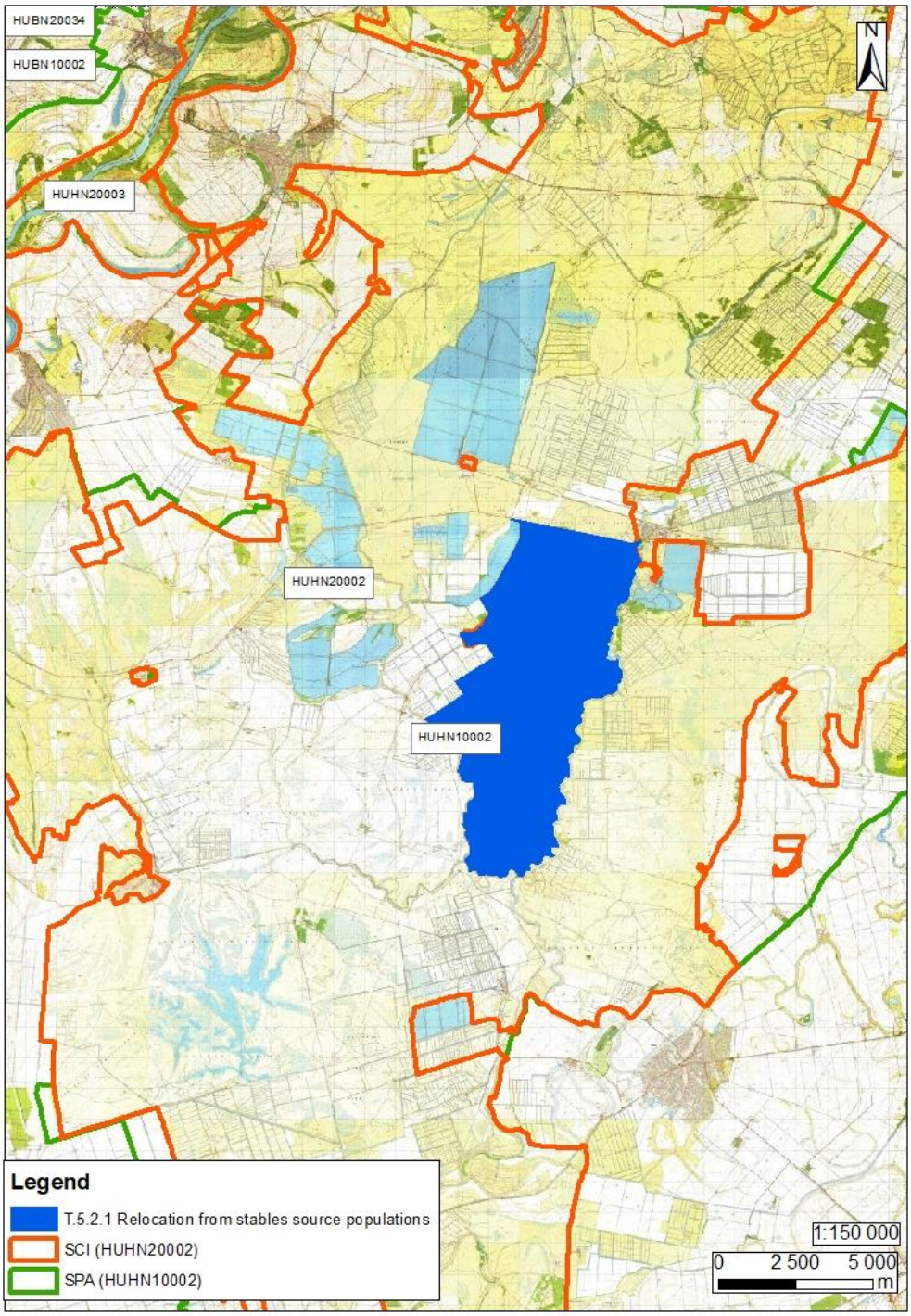
Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025



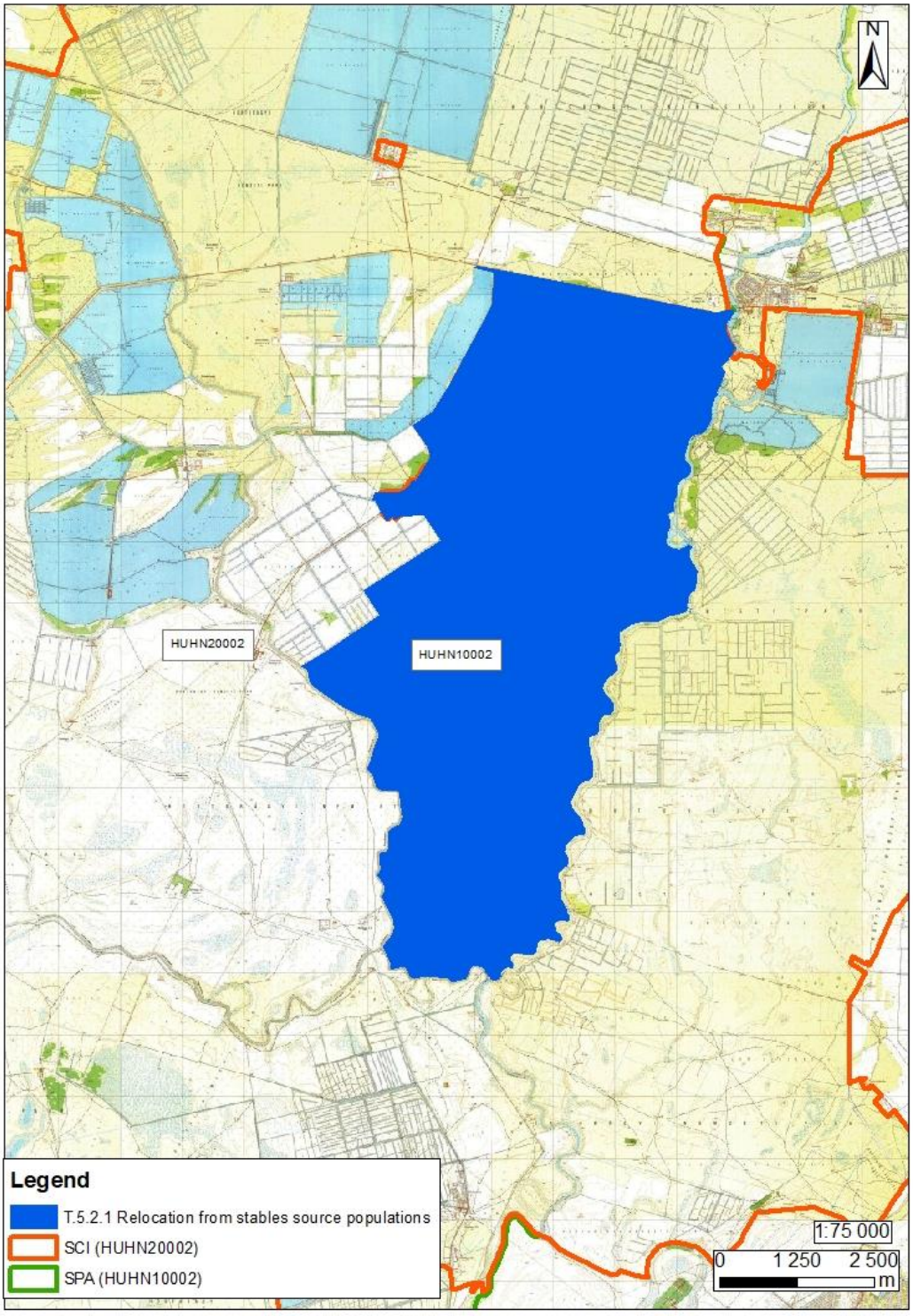
| MAP OF THE PROJECT SITE | |
|---|---|
| **Project name and acronym:** | Ensure the survival of a viable European Ground Squirrel population in the Pannonian region – CitellusLIFE |
| **Country** | Hungary |
| **Map name:** | Penészlek2 |



| MAP OF THE PROJECT SITE | |
|---|---|
| **Project name and acronym:** | Ensure the survival of a viable European Ground Squirrel population in the Pannonian region – CitellusLIFE |
| **Country(ies)/region(s):** | Hungary |
| **Map name:** | Pentezug1 |



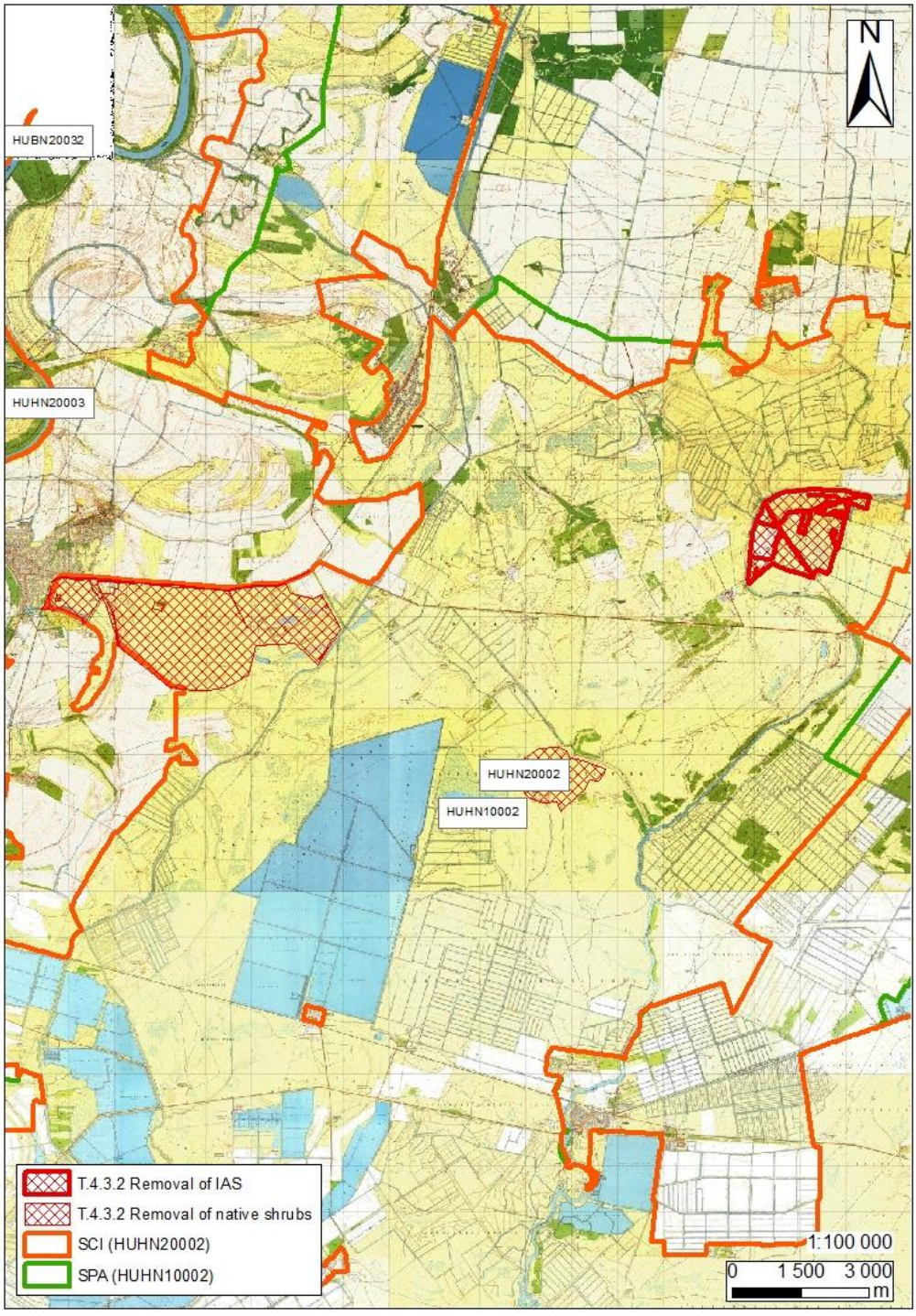
| MAP OF THE PROJECT SITE | |
|---|---|
| **Project name and acronym:** | Ensure the survival of a viable European Ground Squirrel population in the Pannonian region – CitellusLIFE |
| **Country** | Hungary |
| **Map name:** | Pentezug2 |



Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025



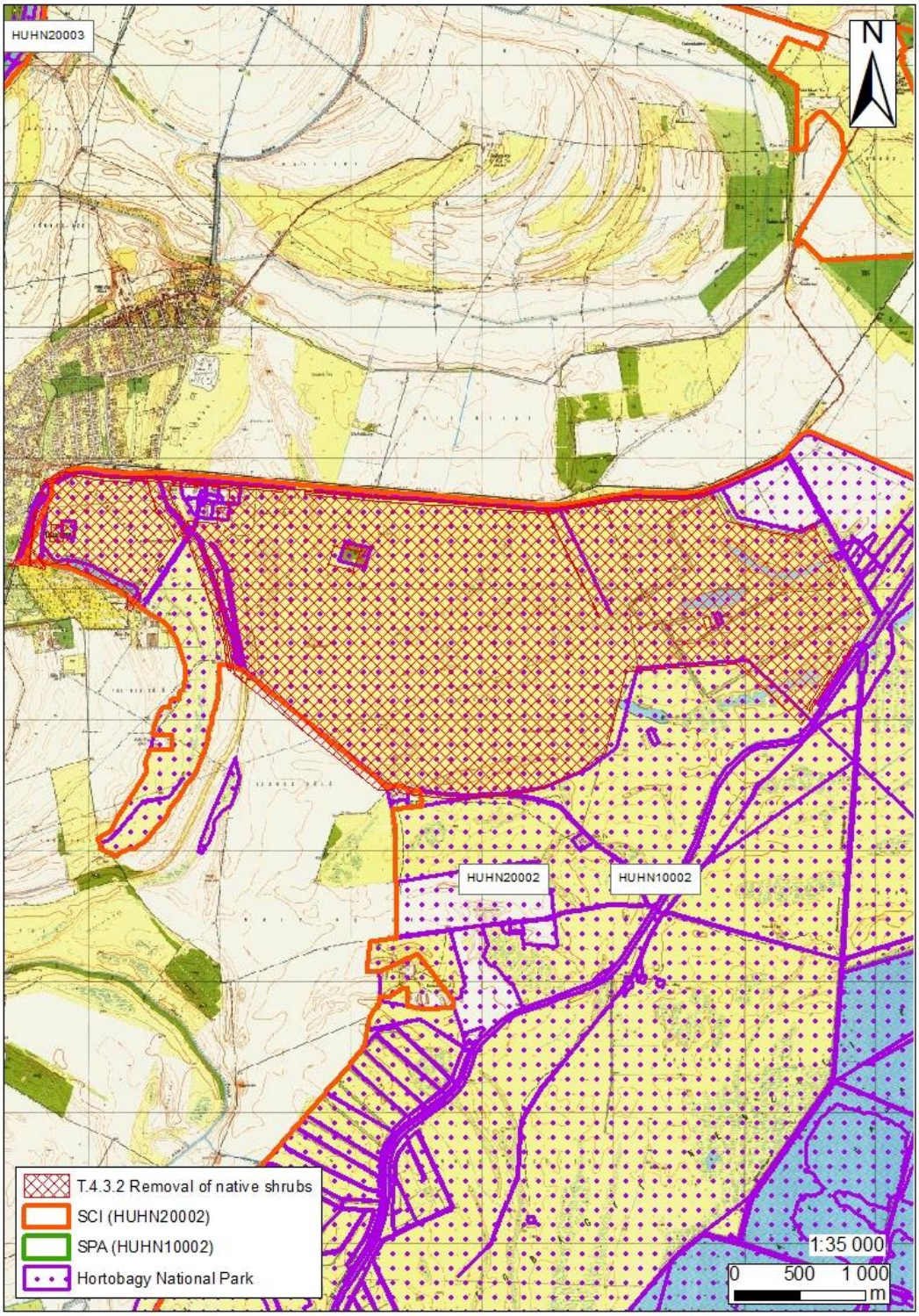
| MAP OF THE PROJECT SITE | |
|---|---|
| **Project name and acronym:** | Ensure the survival of a viable European Ground Squirrel population in the Pannonian region – CitellusLIFE |
| **Country(ies)/region(s):** | Hungary |
| **Map name:** | Tiszacsege1 |



Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025



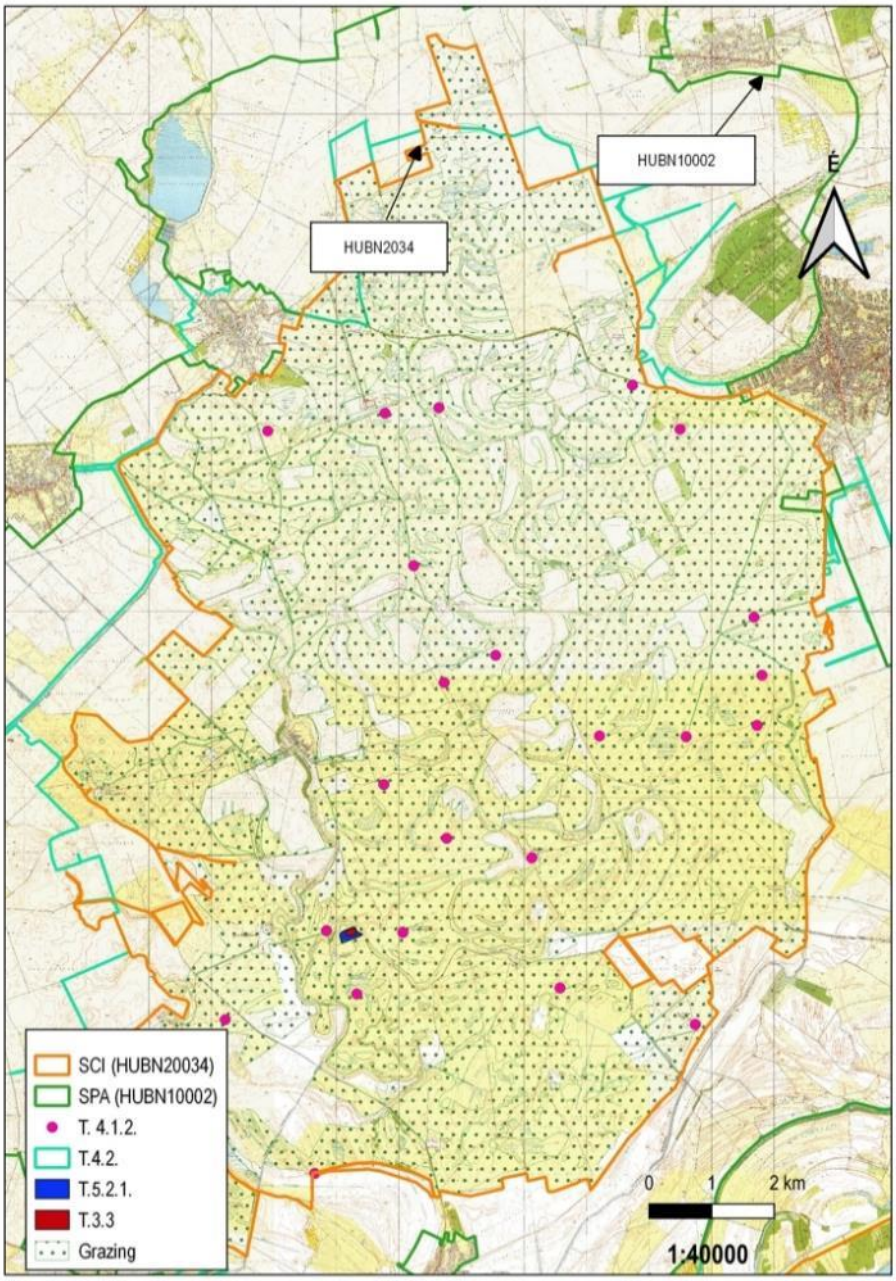
| MAP OF THE PROJECT SITE | |
|---|---|
| **Project name and acronym:** | Ensure the survival of a viable European Ground Squirrel population in the Pannonian region – CitellusLIFE |
| **Country** | Hungary |
| **Map name:** | Tiszacsege2 |



Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025



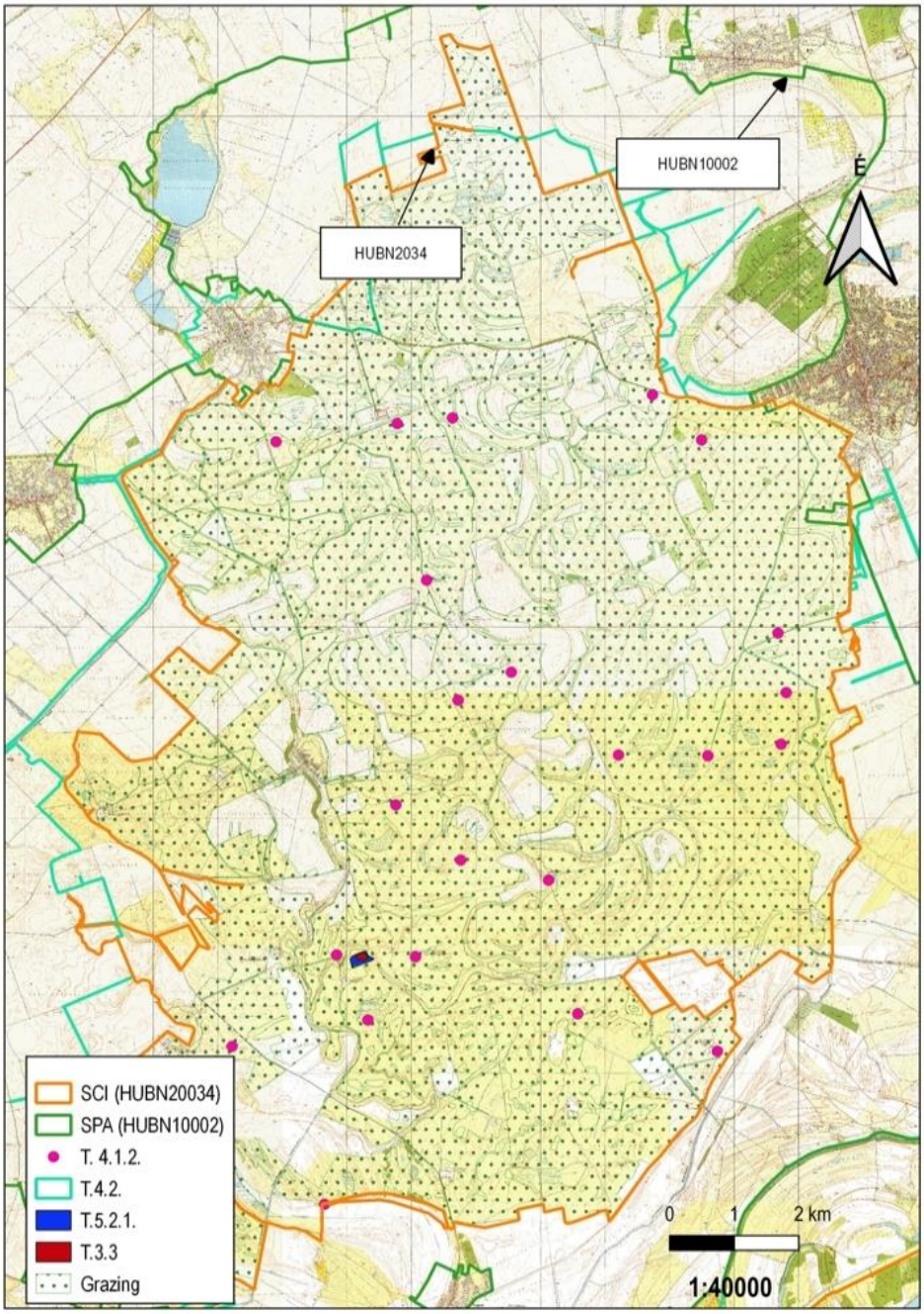
| MAP OF THE PROJECT SITE | |
|---|---|
| **Project name and acronym:** | Ensure the survival of a viable European Ground Squirrel population in the Pannonian region – CitellusLIFE |
| **Country** | Hungary |
| **Map name:** | Borsodi-Mezőség (SCI) |



Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025



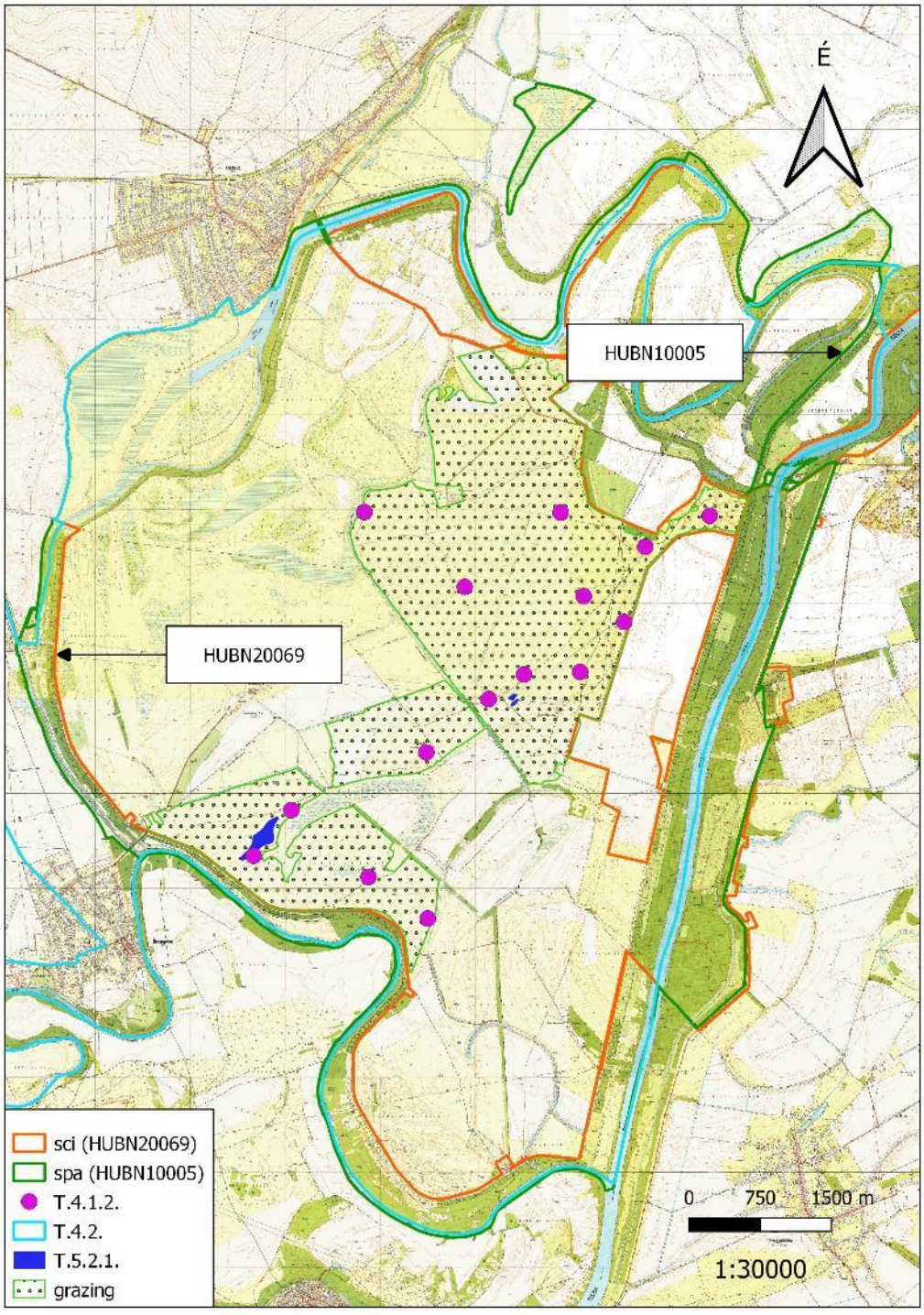
| MAP OF THE PROJECT SITE | |
|---|---|
| **Project name and acronym:** | Ensure the survival of a viable European Ground Squirrel population in the Pannonian region – CitellusLIFE |
| **Country** | Hungary |
| **Map name:** | Batúz farm Citellus Garden, Borsodi-Mezőség (SCI) |



Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025



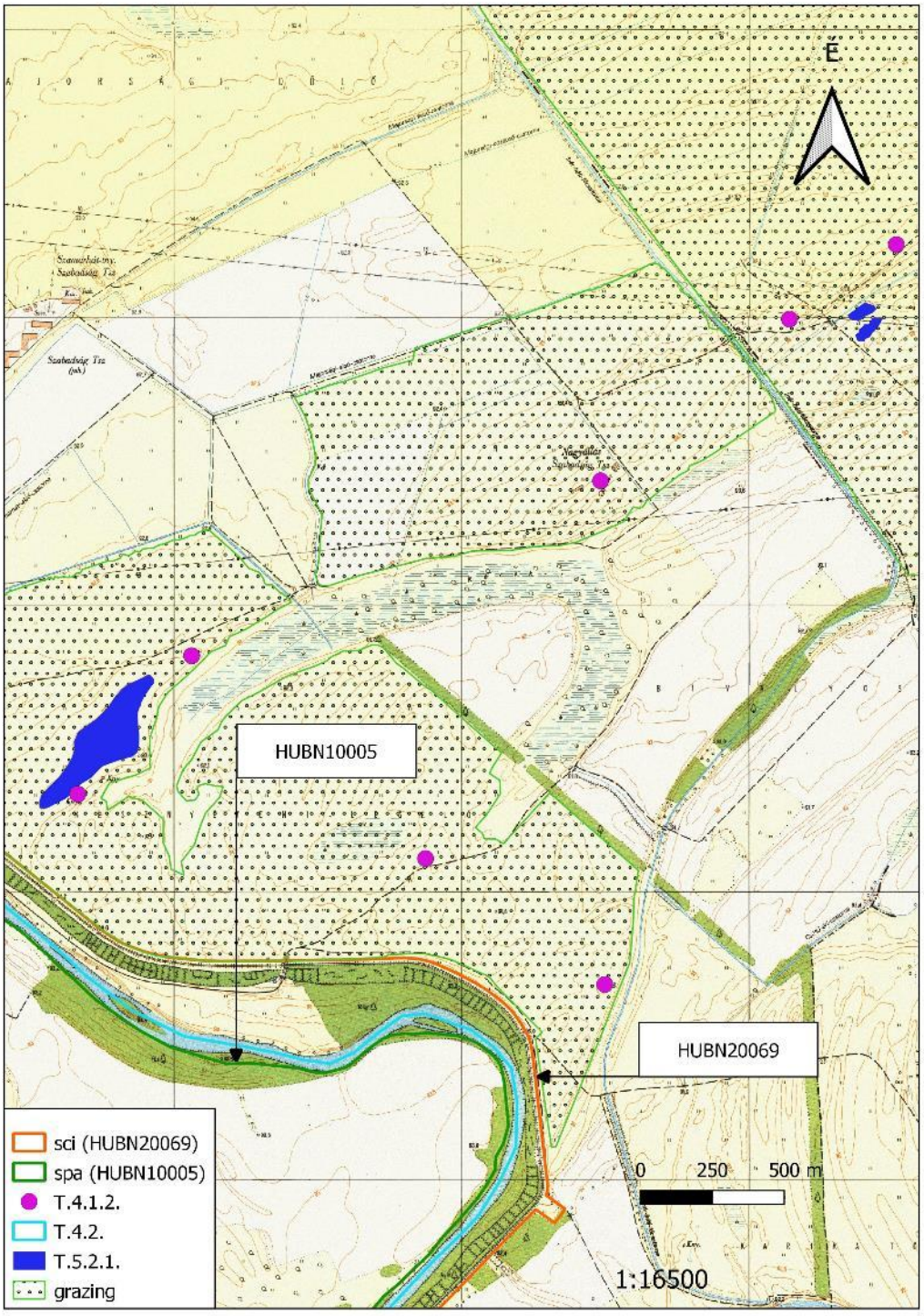
| MAP OF THE PROJECT SITE | |
|---|---|
| **Project name and acronym:** | Ensure the survival of a viable European Ground Squirrel population in the Pannonian region – CitellusLIFE |
| **Country** | Hungary |
| **Map name:** | Kesznyéteni Sajó-öböl Project Area |



Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025



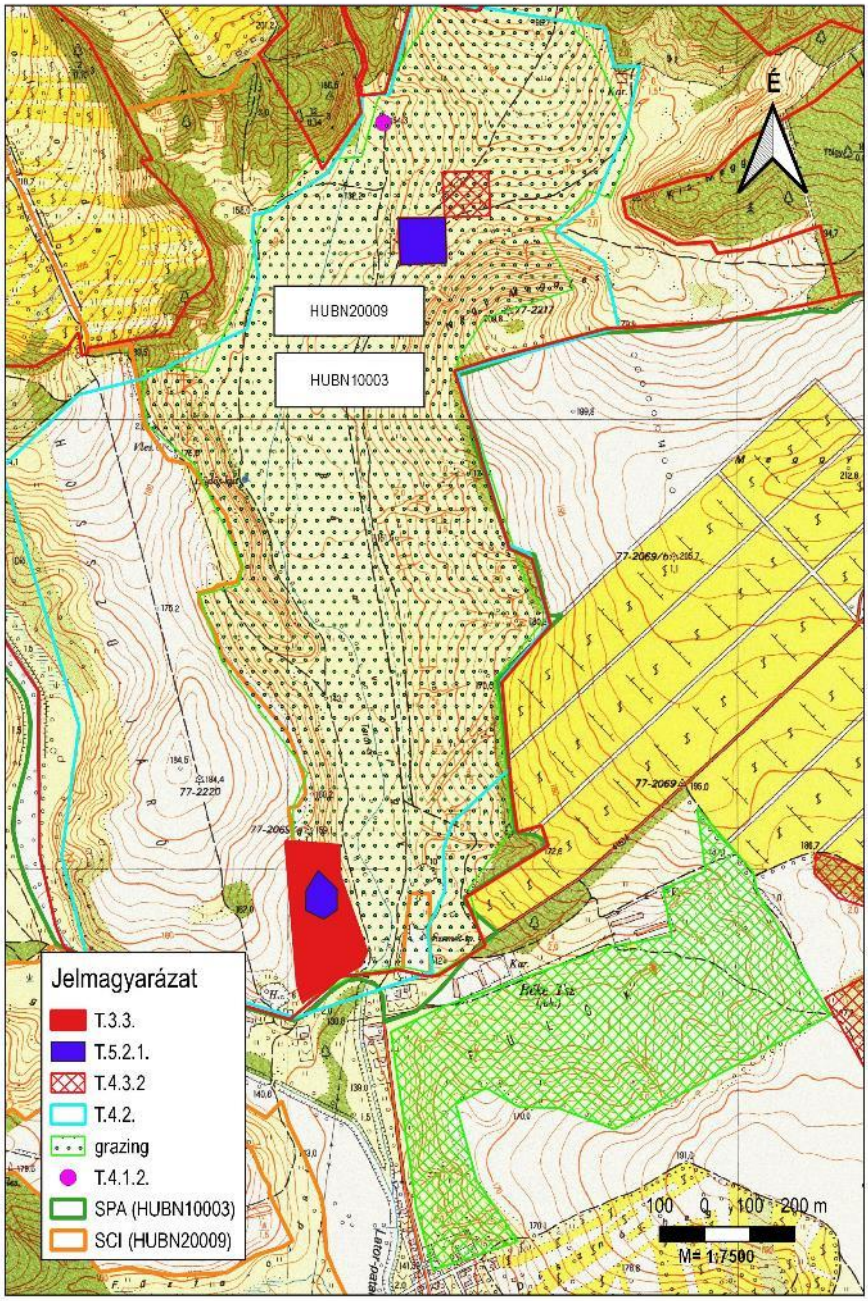
| MAP OF THE PROJECT SITE | |
|---|---|
| **Project name and acronym:** | Ensure the survival of a viable European Ground Squirrel population in the Pannonian region – CitellusLIFE |
| **Country** | Hungary |
| **Map name:** | Kesznyéteni Sajó-öböl Project Area – Big Paszture |



Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025



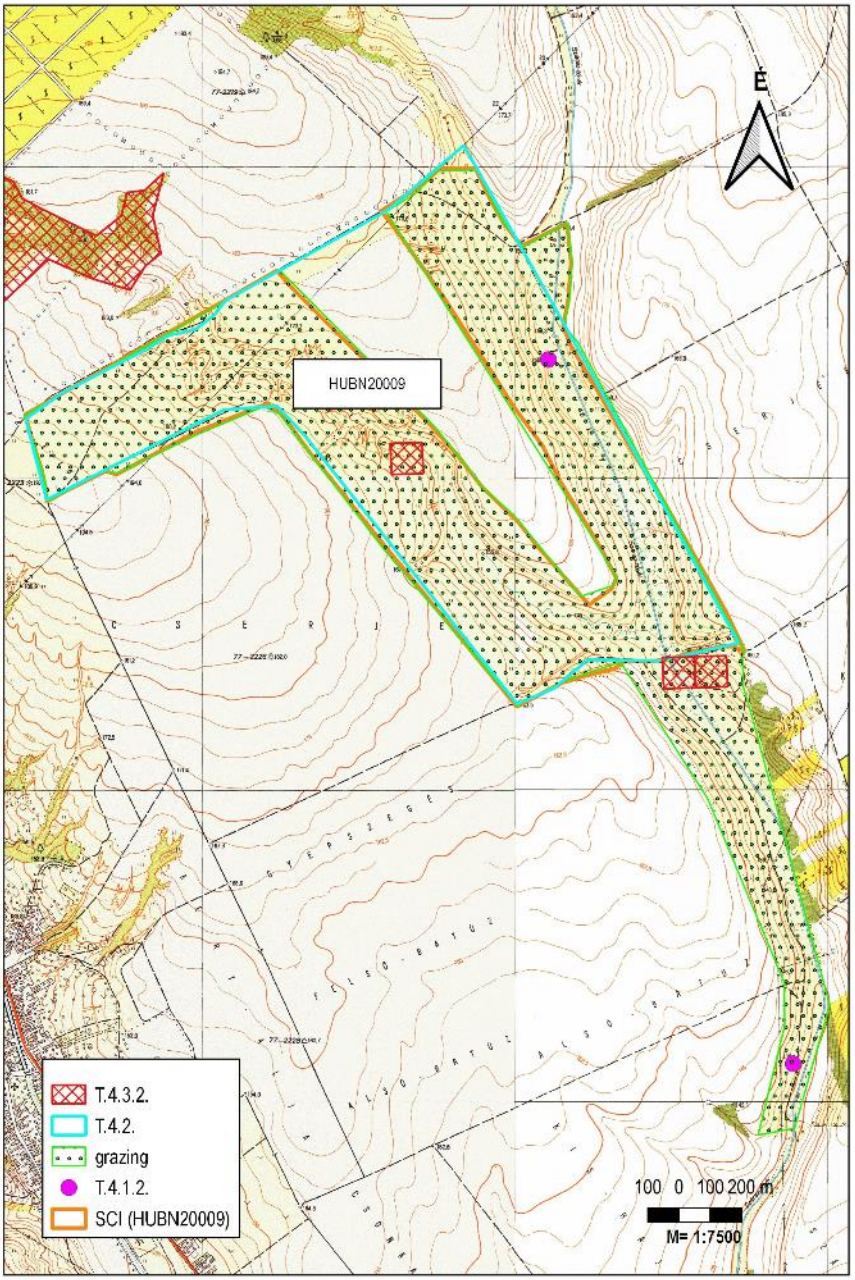
| MAP OF THE PROJECT SITE | |
|---|---|
| **Project name and acronym:** | Ensure the survival of a viable European Ground Squirrel population in the Pannonian region – CitellusLIFE |
| **Country** | Hungary |
| **Map name:** | Tard környéki erdőssztyepp SCI, Bükk-hegység és peremterületei SPA - Longwalk, Citellus Garden and Ground Squirrel Cliff |



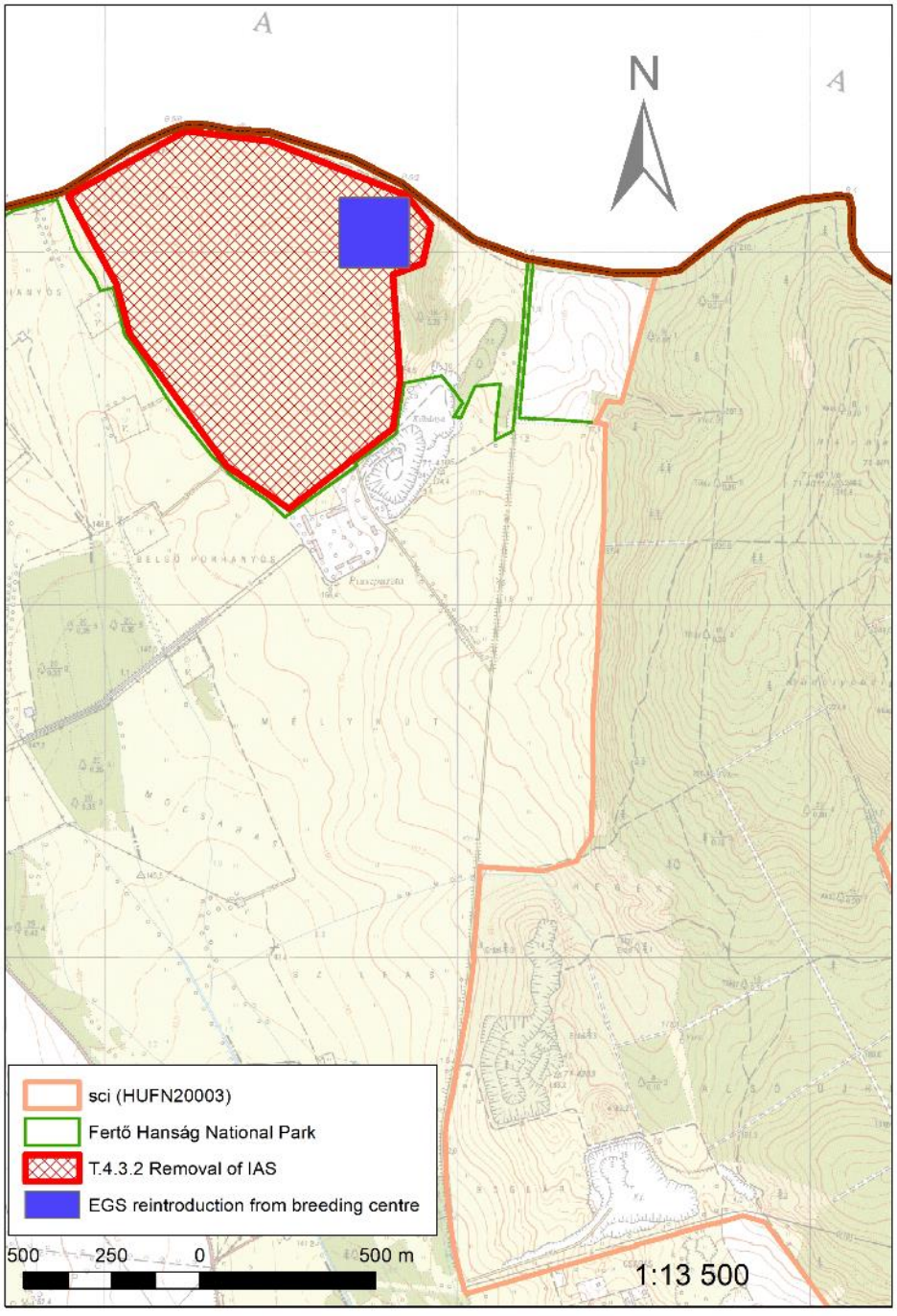
Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025



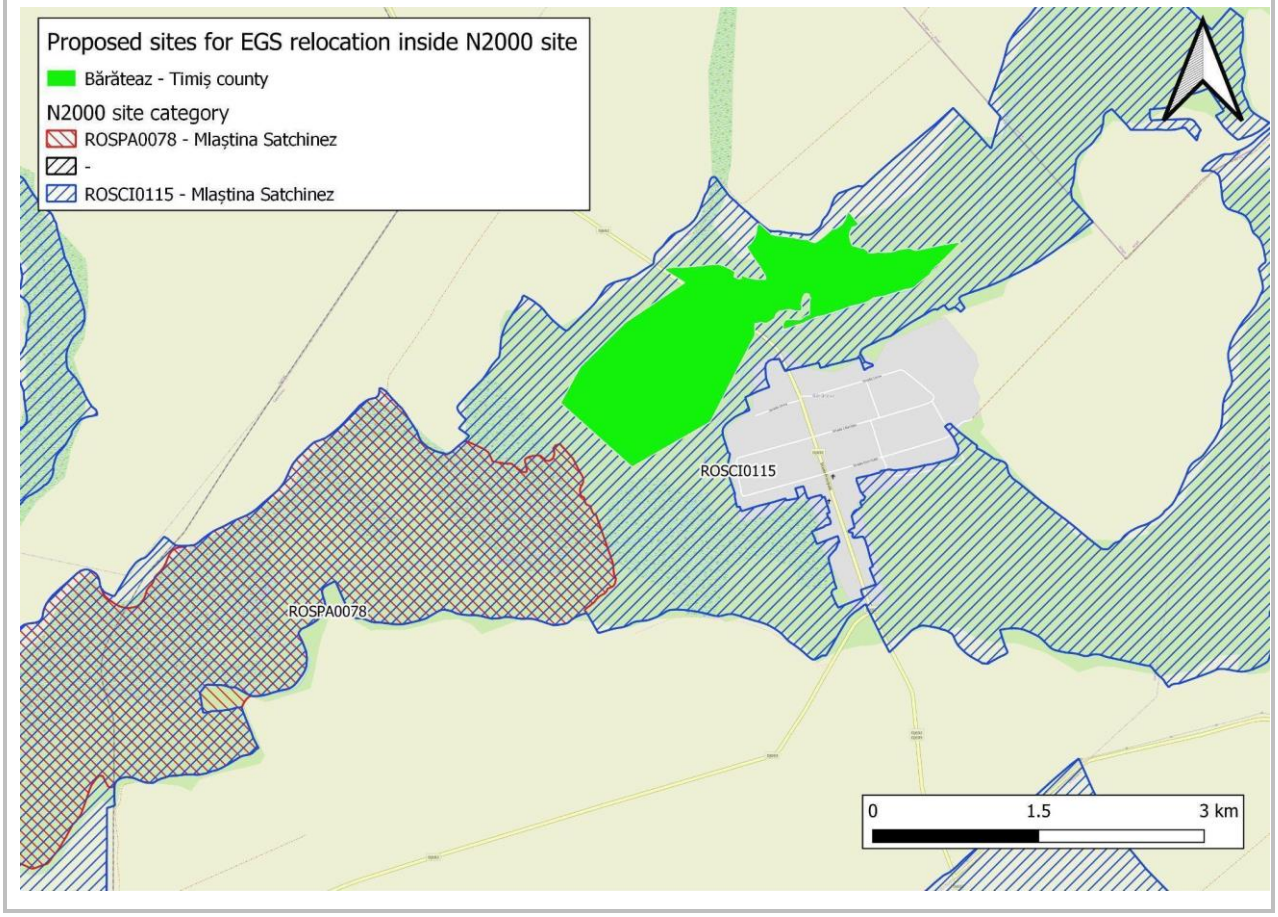
| MAP OF THE PROJECT SITE | |
|---|---|
| **Project name and acronym:** | Ensure the survival of a viable European Ground Squirrel population in the Pannonian region – CitellusLIFE |
| **Country** | Hungary |
| **Map name:** | Tard környéki erdőssztyepp SCI<br><br>Bükk-hegység és peremterületei SPA |



| MAP OF THE PROJECT SITE | |
|---|---|
| **Project name and acronym:** | Ensure the survival of a viable European Ground Squirrel population in the Pannonian region – CitellusLIFE |
| **Country(ies)/region(s):** | Hungary |
| **Map name:** | “Piusz majori gyep”, Fertőrákos 057/10 |



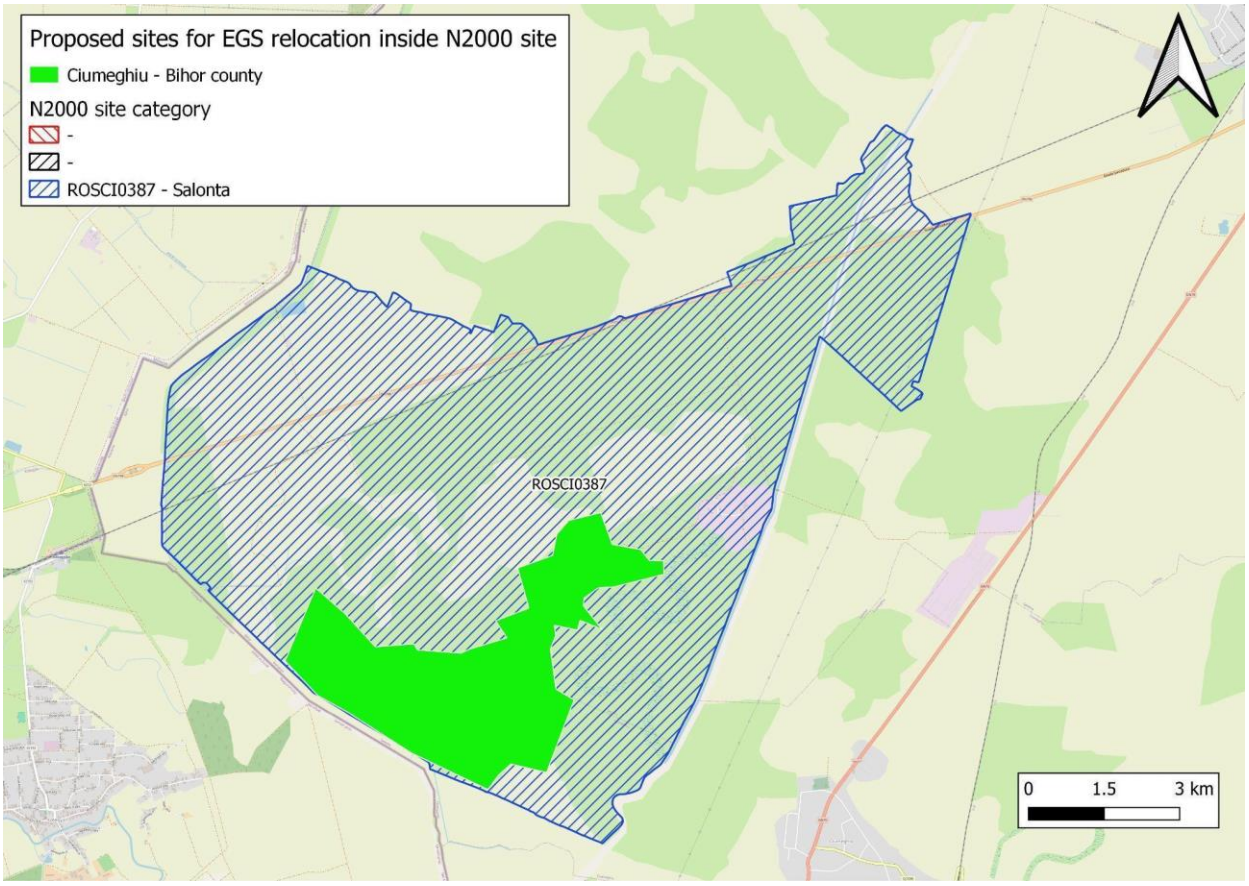
| MAP OF THE PROJECT SITE | |
|---|---|
| **Project name and acronym:** | Ensure the survival of a viable European Ground Squirrel population in the Pannonian region – CitellusLIFE |
| **Country(ies)/region(s):** | Romania |
| **Map name:** | ROSCI0115 Mlaştina Satchinez |



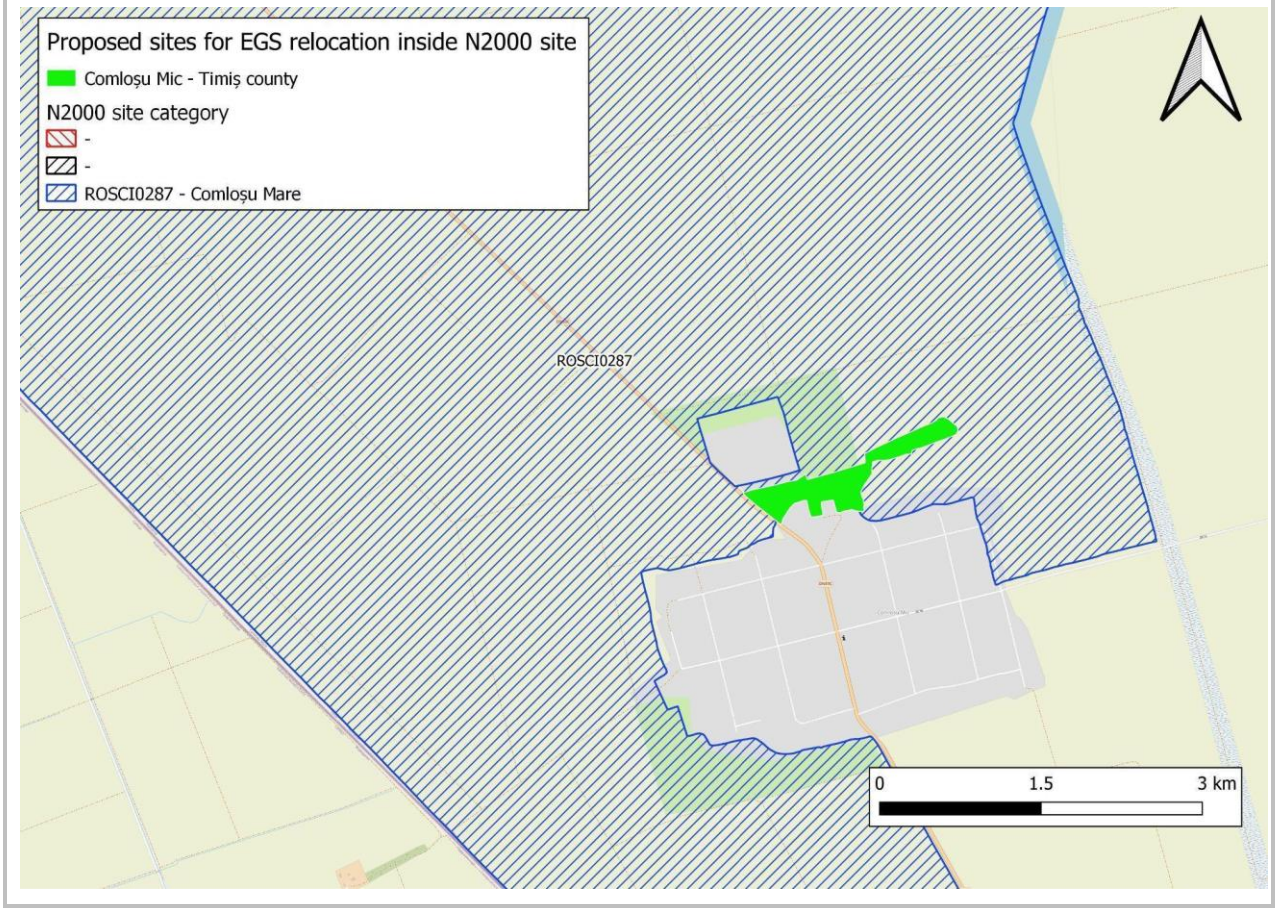
Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025



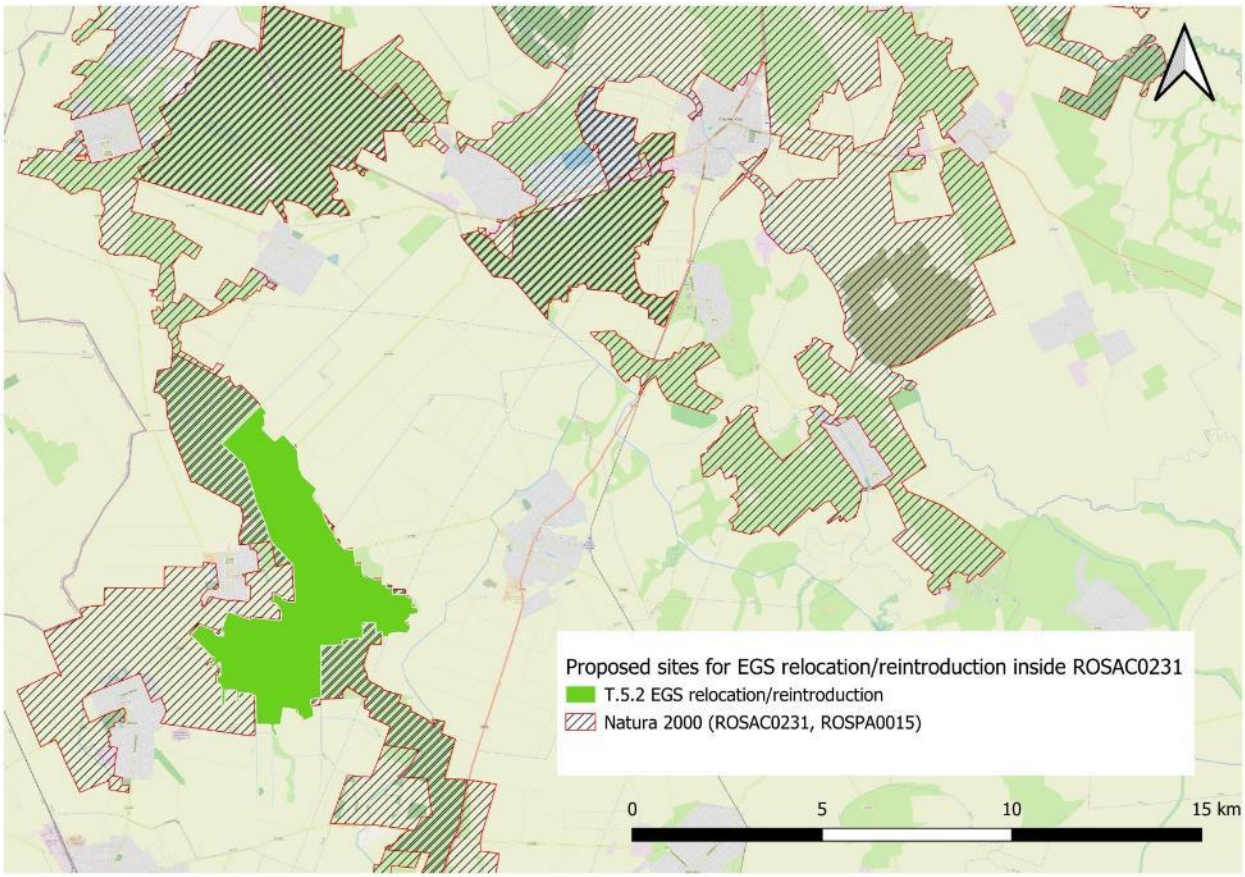
| MAP OF THE PROJECT SITE | |
|---|---|
| **Project name and acronym:** | Ensure the survival of a viable European Ground Squirrel population in the Pannonian region – CitellusLIFE |
| **Country(ies)/region(s):** | Romania |
| **Map name:** | ROSCI0387 Salonta |



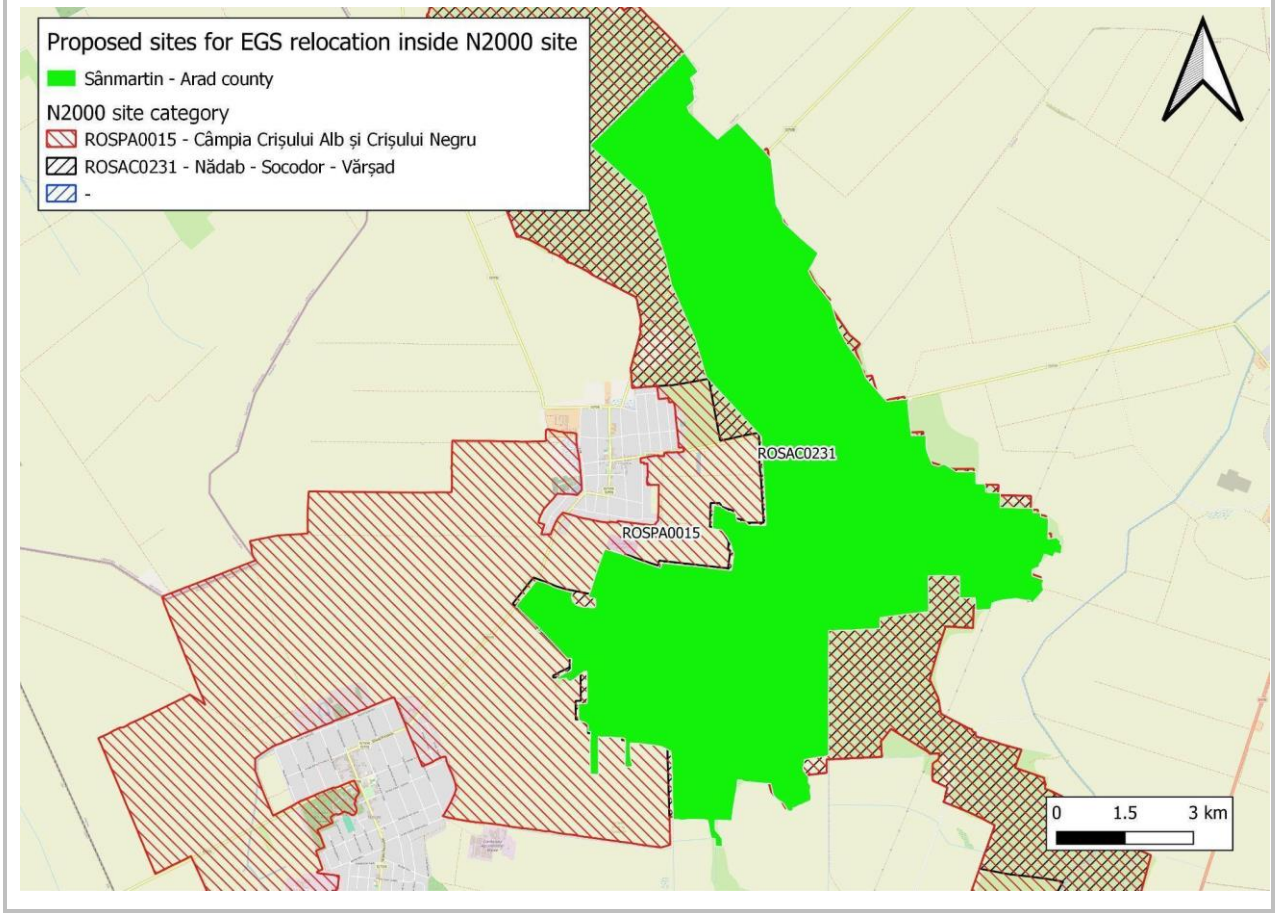
| MAP OF THE PROJECT SITE | |
|---|---|
| **Project name and acronym:** | Ensure the survival of a viable European Ground Squirrel population in the Pannonian region – CitellusLIFE |
| **Country(ies)/region(s):** | Romania |
| **Map name:** | ROSCI0287 Comloşu Mare |



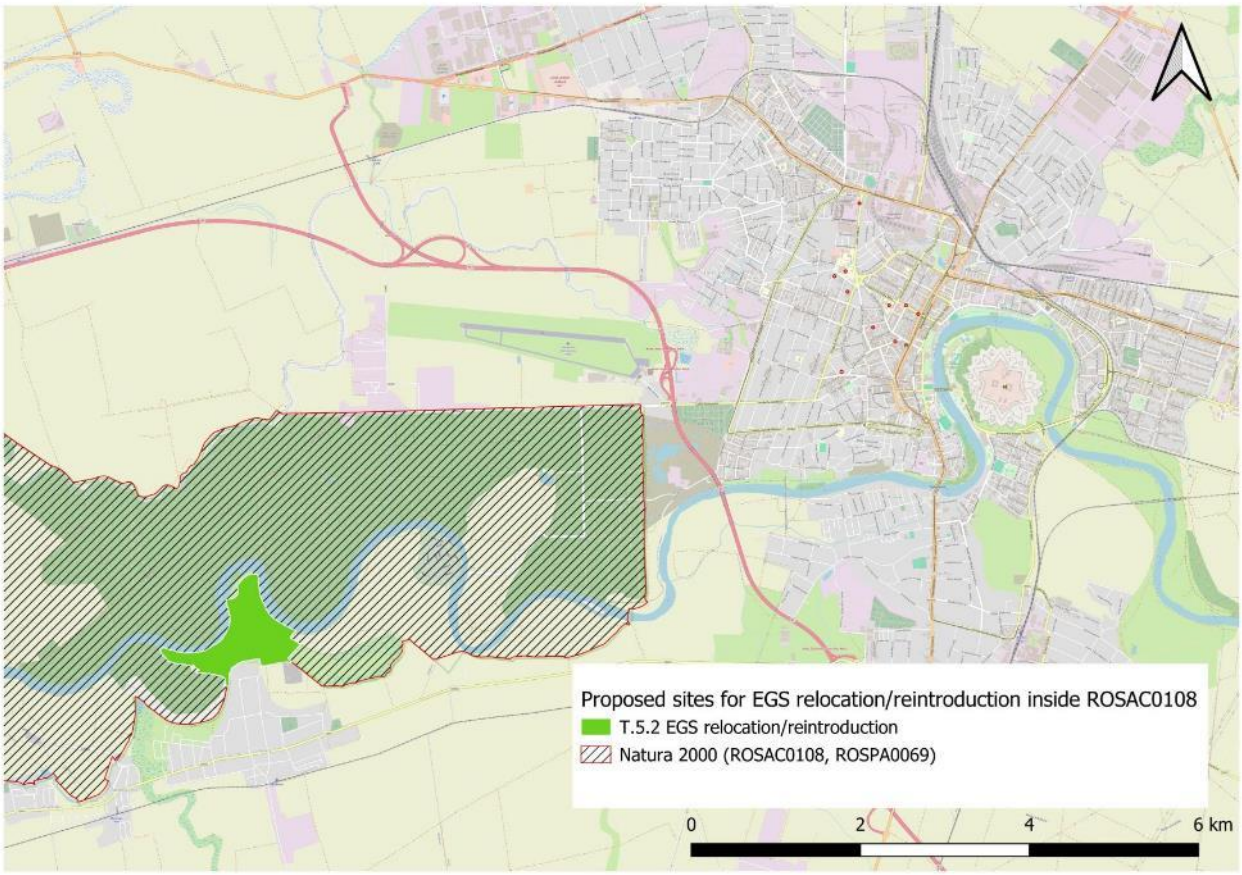
| MAP OF THE PROJECT SITE | |
|---|---|
| **Project name and acronym:** | Ensure the survival of a viable European Ground Squirrel population in the Pannonian region – CitellusLIFE |
| **Country(ies)/region(s):** | Romania |
| **Map name:** | ROSAC0231 Nădab - Socodor - Vărșad |



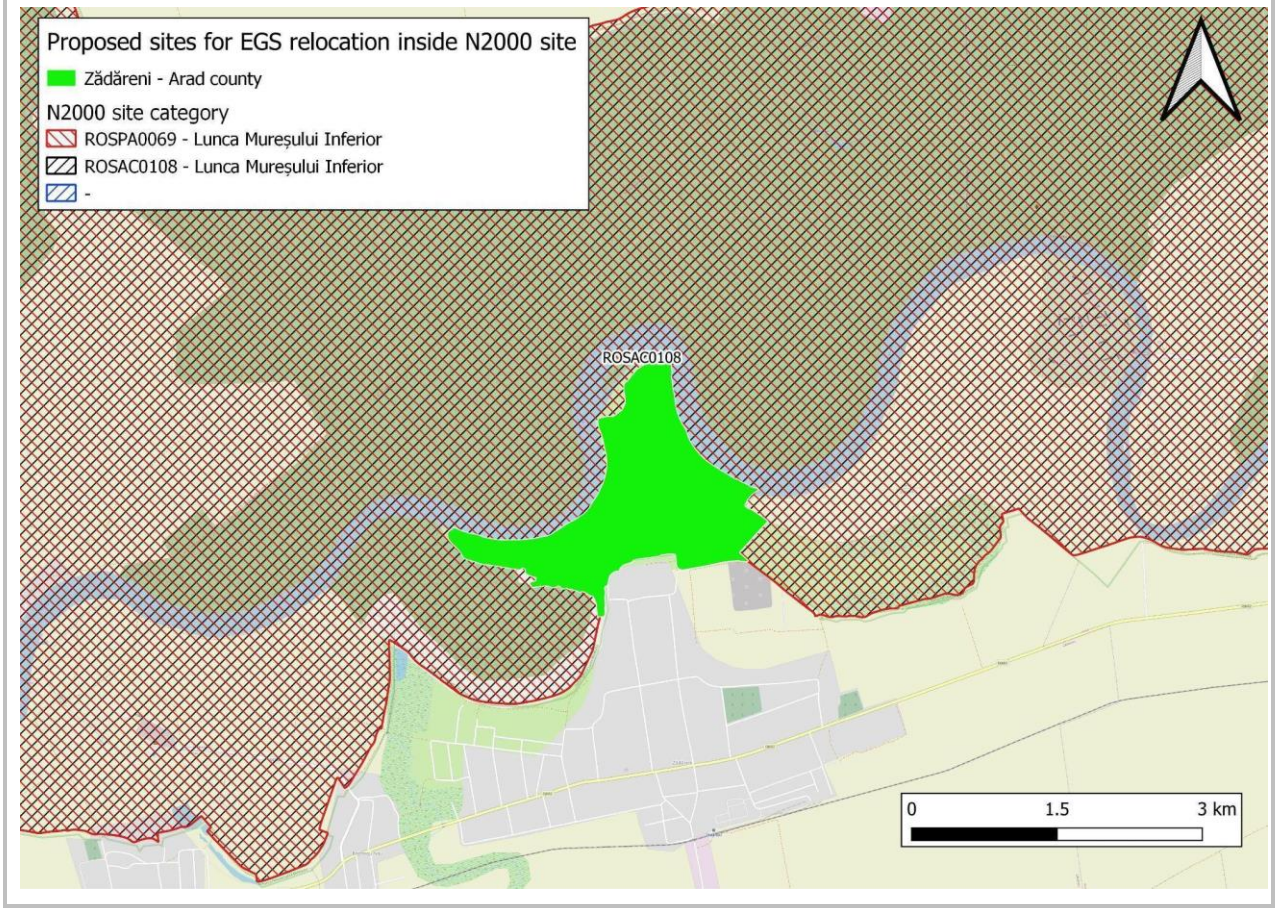
| MAP OF THE PROJECT SITE | |
|---|---|
| **Project name and acronym:** | Ensure the survival of a viable European Ground Squirrel population in the Pannonian region – CitellusLIFE |
| **Country(ies)/region(s):** | Romania |
| **Map name:** | ROSAC0231 Nădob – Socodor - Vărşad |



| MAP OF THE PROJECT SITE | |
|---|---|
| **Project name and acronym:** | Ensure the survival of a viable European Ground Squirrel population in the Pannonian region – CitellusLIFE |
| **Country(ies)/region(s):** | Romania |
| **Map name:** | ROSAC0108 Lunca Mureșului Inferior |



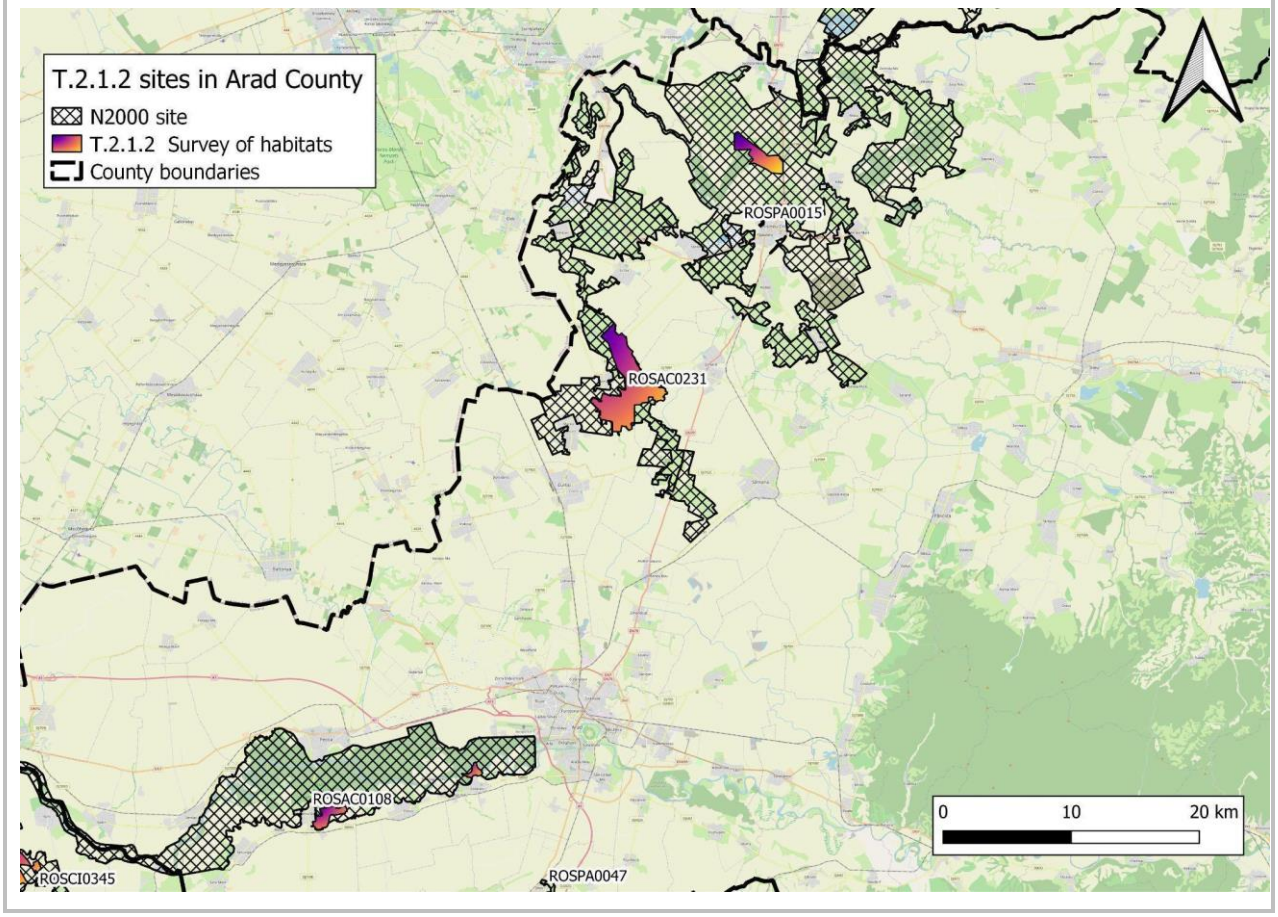
| MAP OF THE PROJECT SITE | |
|---|---|
| **Project name and acronym:** | Ensure the survival of a viable European Ground Squirrel population in the Pannonian region – CitellusLIFE |
| **Country(ies)/region(s):** | Romania |
| **Map name:** | ROSAC0108 Lunca Mureșului Inferior |



Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025



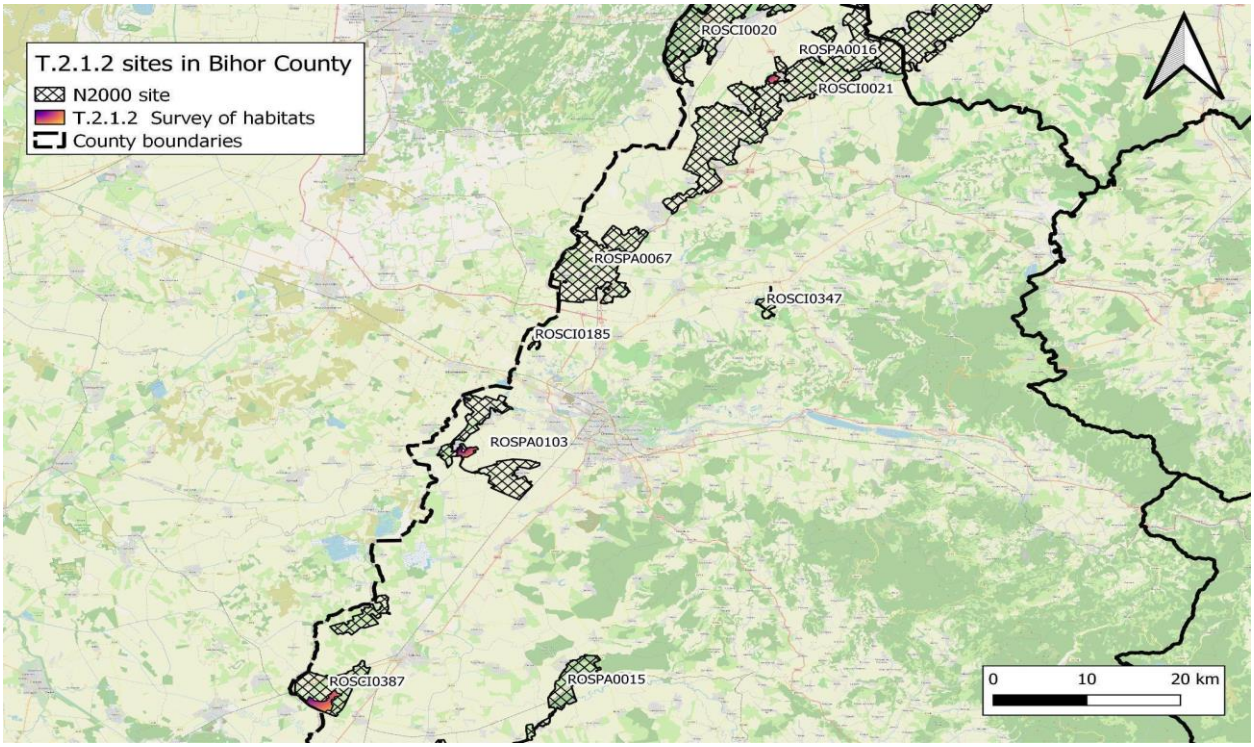
| MAP OF THE PROJECT SITE | |
|---|---|
| **Project name and acronym:** | Ensure the survival of a viable European Ground Squirrel population in the Pannonian region – CitellusLIFE |
| **Country(ies)/region(s):** | Romania |
| **Map name:** | ROSAC0231 |



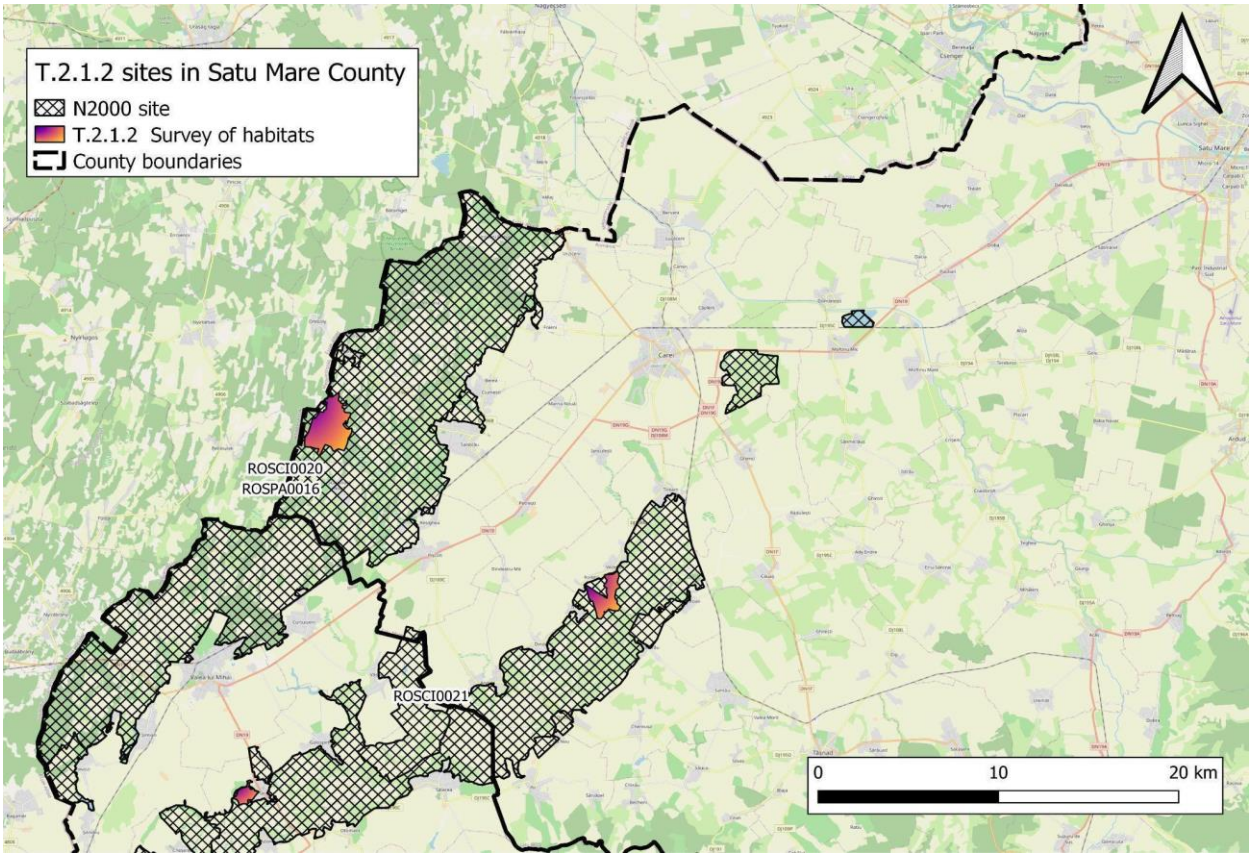
Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025



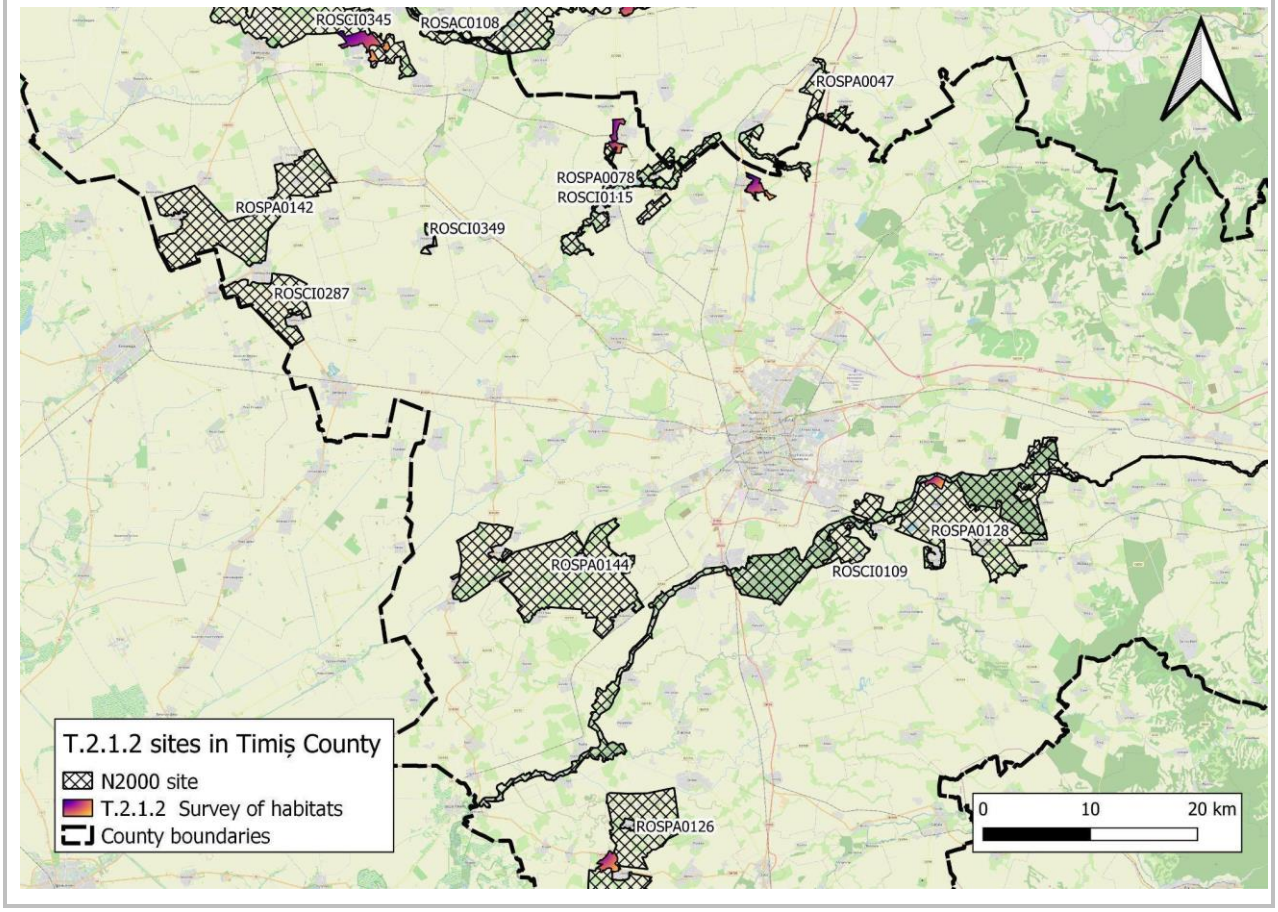
| MAP OF THE PROJECT SITE | |
|---|---|
| **Project name and acronym:** | Ensure the survival of a viable European Ground Squirrel population in the Pannonian region – CitellusLIFE |
| **Country(ies)/region(s):** | Romania |
| **Map name:** | Sites in Buhor Couty |



| MAP OF THE PROJECT SITE | |
|---|---|
| **Project name and acronym:** | Ensure the survival of a viable European Ground Squirrel population in the Pannonian region – CitellusLIFE |
| **Country(ies)/region(s):** | Romania |
| **Map name:** | Sites in Satu Mare County |



| MAP OF THE PROJECT SITE | |
|---|---|
| **Project name and acronym:** | Ensure the survival of a viable European Ground Squirrel population in the Pannonian region – CitellusLIFE |
| **Country(ies)/region(s):** | Romania |
| **Map name:** | Sites in Timiş County |



Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025



# List of Sites

BORSODI-MEZŐSÉG (SCI) ..... 2
KESZNYÉTENI SAJÓ-ÖBÖL (SCI) ..... 4
TARD KÖRNYÉKI ERDŐSSZTYEPP SCI, BÜKK-HEGYSÉG ÉS PEREMTERÜLETEI SPA ..... 6
BÁTORLIGET ..... 8
DERECSKE ..... 9
HAJDÚBAGOS ..... 10
KÉK-KÁLLÓ-VÖLGYE ..... 11
KIS-SZEG /LITTLE CORNER ..... 12
LIGET-LEGELŐ ..... 13
LÖSZLETÖRÉS ..... 14
MARTINKA ..... 15
PENÉSZLEK ..... 16
PENTEZUG ..... 17
ROHOD /ROHOD PASTURE ..... 18
SÁMSONI ÚTI BELLEGELŐ /INNER PASTURE OF SÁMSONI ROAD ..... 19
HORTOBÁGY-TISZACSEGE ..... 20
„PIUSZ MAJORI GYEP", FERTŐRÁKOS 057/10 ..... 21
CÂMPIA CRIȘULUI ALB ȘI CRIȘULUI NEGRU ..... 22
CÂMPIA NIRULUI – VALEA IERULUI ..... 23
COMLOȘU MARE ..... 24
LIVEZILE – DOLAȚ ..... 25
LUNCA BARCĂULUI ..... 26
LUNCA MUREȘULUI INFERIOR ..... 27
LUNCA TIMIȘULUI ..... 28
MLAȘTINA SATCHINEZ ..... 29
PĂDURICEA DE LA SANTĂU ..... 30
PAJIȘTEA CENAD ..... 31
PAJIȘTEA FEGERNIC ..... 32
PAJIȘTEA PESAC ..... 33
SALONTA ..... 34
TEREMIA MARE – TOMNATIC ..... 35
UIVAR – DINIAȘ ..... 36
VALEA ALCEULUI ..... 37

Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025



# DESCRIPTION OF SITES

| DESCRIPTION OF SITES | | |
|---|---|---|
| **Project name and acronym:** | | Ensuring the survival of a viable European Ground Squirrel population in the Pannonian region – CitellusLIFE |
| **Name of the project area:**<br>*The name must be used consistently on all maps and Part B* | | Borsodi-Mezőség (SCI) |
| **Surface area (ha)**:<br>*Indicate the total surface of the project area in hectares, rounded to two decimals* | | 14 849.84 ha (SCI)<br>36 239.85 ha (SPA) |
| **EU protection status (if applicable)** | **SCI** | HUBN20034 |
| | **SAC** | |
| | **SPA** | HUBN10002 – Borsodi-sík |
| **Other protection status according to national or regional legislation (if applicable):** | | *Nationally protected area - Borsodi-Mezőség Landscape Protection Area, Ramsar site, part of the Ecological Network* |

**Main land uses and ownership status of the project area**

*Indicate what are, at the project application date, the main uses made of the project site (e.g. farming, tourism, urban, nature conservation, etc.). Indicate the approximate percentages (in %) of the various uses, ensuring that the total reaches 100%. Indicate also the ownership status / types of the area at the project application date (e.g. private, state, etc.) and the approximate percentages (in %) of the different ownership status / types, ensuring that the total reaches 100%.*

The entire project area, except for the predator capture, which extends beyond the project area, falls within the Borsodi-Mezőség SCI, which is located within the Borsodi-Mezőség Landscape Protection Area. The additional area due to predator capture is within the Borsodi-sík SPA. As most of the area is protected, the main focus is on agricultural production for nature conservation purposes (mainly grassland and ploughland, with a small proportion of forestry). Tourism is a small and marginal part of the area, with virtually no settlements or industry in the project area.

In the Borsodi-Mezőség SCI, 72.7% is pasture (10795.24 ha), 15.7% is arable (2331.9 ha), 5.3% is set-aside (787 ha - marsh, road, farmstead), 5% is meadow (742.9 ha), 1.2% is forest (178 ha), the remaining 0.1% (14.8 ha) is reed, orchard and wooded area. The area affected by predator hunting (Borsodi-sík SPA) has a higher proportion of arable land (about 30%), but the proportion of other areas is similar to the SCI.

The area of the Borsodi-Mezőség SCI, 89.2% is state-owned, 4% is privately owned, 2.2% is owned by a company, 1.9% is owned by a foundation, while the remaining 2.7% is owned by municipalities, cooperatives, or is in an unorganised or unknown management status. Almost all of the additional areas in SPAs, which are also special purpose hunting areas of the Bükk National Park Directorate, are privately owned.

**Importance of the project area for biodiversity and/or for the conservation of the species /habitat types targeted at regional, national and EU level (give quantitative information if possible)**

*Justify why you have selected this particular area for your project. Explain why your choice is the most appropriate to reach the project's objectives.*

The project area is located in the Borsodi-sík landscape unit, which has the second largest single-headed protected grassland area in Hungary, and also forms a Natura 2000 Special Protection Area for Birds, a Natura 2000 Site of Community Importance and a Ramsar Site. The area is predominantly a marsh-fringed wasteland with a combined area of more than 8800 ha of the Natura 2000 candidate habitats 1530 Pannonian salt steppes and marshes and 6250 Pannonian lowland loess steppes. The area is mainly characterised by grassland management, with the typical (and prescribed) practice of herding and mechanical mowing. The designated habitat types already mentioned (1530, 6250) the other candidate habitat type is Oligo-mesotrophic standing water with Littorelletea uniflorae and/or Isoeto-Nanojuncetea vegetation. The project area also includes large patches of reed, sedge and marsh vegetation (over 900 ha), non-boggy tallgrass meadows (700 ha), marsh meadows (365 ha), uncharacteristic grassland and dry to semi-arid grassland (over 1100 ha) and woody vegetation (250 ha). There is also a significant proportion of arable land in the Borsodi-Mezőség SCI (2000-2100 ha), as well as roads, farms and open water habitats The project area

also includes large areas of reed, reedbed and marsh vegetation (more than 900 ha), non-marshy tallgrass meadows (700 ha), marsh meadows (365 ha), featureless grassland and dry and semi-arid grassland (more than 1100 ha), and woody vegetation (250 ha). The Natura 2000 candidate plant species of the site is the small-nested aspen (Cirsium brachycephalum), other important or characteristic species include the Gentiana pneumonanthe, Inula germanica, Iris spuria, Kochia prostrata, Ranunculus polyphyllus, Peucedanum officinale, Phlomis tuberosa, Artemisia santonicum, Scorzonera cana, Lepidium ruderale, Lepidium perfoliatum, Limonium gmelini, Achillea collina, Achillea setacea, Festuca pseudovina, Myosurus minimus, Plantago tenuifolia), Plantago maritima, Bolboschoenus maritimus, Agrostis stolonifera, Aster tripolium, Aster sedifolius, Lythrum virgatum, Puccinellia limosa, Puccinellia limosa, Carex melanostachya, Ranunculus pedatus, Thlaspi jankae, Clematis integrifolia, Festuca rupicola, Poa angustifolia, Carex praecox, Ajuga genevensis, Fragaria viridis, Galium verum, and Stellaria graminea, Cynodon dactylon, Salvia austriaca, Salvia pratensis, Salvia nemorosa and Ononis spinosa. The SCI candidate species include the EGS (Spermophilus citellus), the Southern birch mouse (Sicista subtilis trizona) - now a separate species of Hungarian birch mouse (Sicista trizona), the Greater moue-eared bat (Myotis myotis), the Steppe polecat (Mustela eversmannii), the European pond turtle (Emys orbicularis), the Fire-bellied Toad (Bombina bombina), the Danube Crested Newt (Triturus dobrogicus), the Steppe carpenter moth (Catopta thrips) and the Fisher's Estuarine Moth (Gortyna borelii lunata). In addition to the nominated species, other typical species of the area include the Anthaxia hungarica, the Isophya costata, the Zerynthia poyxena and the field hamster (Cricetus cricetus), while the indicator bird species of the Borsodi - Sík SPA in the same habitat as the worm in the project area include the Imperial eagle (Aquila heliaca), the Short-toed Eagle (Circaetus gallicus), the Montagu's, the Western Marsh and the Hen harrier (Circus pygargus, C. cyaneus, C. aeruginosus), the Saker falcon (Falco cherrug), the Red-footed falcon (Falco vespertinus), the Short-eared owl (Asio flmmeus), the Common crane (Grus grus), the Great Bustard (Otis tarda), the Grey-lag goose (Anser anser), the Greater white-fronted goose (Anser albifrons), the Lesser white-fronted goose (Anser erythropus), the Red-breasted goose (Branta ruficollis), the Eurasian curlew and Whimbrel (Numenius arquata, N. paeopus), the Eurasian golden plover (Pluvialis apricaria), the Roller (Coracias garrulus), the Tawny pipit (Anthus campestris) and the Lesser grey-shrike (Lanius minor). In the northern part of the area (Gelej-Mezőcsát area) there is still a significant population of EGS, but in the central and southern parts of the area the EGS disappeared in the 1990s when the area was subject to a decline in agricultural cultivation. The EGS are well adapted to the conditions of the grassland wasteland, occupying the higher ground on the ridges in wet years, while in drier periods they occupy the deeper, marshier areas and there is a chance of a major expansion. Landscape conditions, grassland-based farming, ongoing interventions and those planned under LIFE will help not only to conserve the current EGS population, but also to improve it, reintroduce it to its former range and promote natural recolonisation.

The planned intervention in the Life project consists of 3 main parts: well rehabilitation, Citellus Garden and predation control.

By clearing out some of the old wells in the area, we will help to extend grazing livestock to a much larger area than at present, which will encourage the establishment of EGS. Currently, one of the problems of pastoral livestock production in the area is that with the destruction of the wells, pastoralists are unable to water their grazing animals in the wilderness, so when watering they have to return to working wells, which are usually located on livestock farms. This allows them to graze the area to a much lesser extent than possible. Cleaning out the wells, deepening some of them, repairing and replacing the well cavities, and installing pumps and solar systems to operate the wells would greatly help to increase the amount of grazing land, and thus the spread of European ground squirrels. The wells will also be equipped with well pads to protect the traditional landscape, and drinking troughs will be installed alongside the wells.

An area of 5 hectares of higher ground, fenced with a fence and a net of electric fences, would be created in the higher area next to the Batúz Farm Nature Management Centre. This area will be called Citellus Garden. This is planned for the northern part of the pasture land in Szentistván 0242/1c. It would be planted here with individuals from the population north of the road connecting Gelej with Mezőcsát (from the line between Gelej 0128/5a and Gelej 093/12b eastwards to Mezőcsát 0173/10c, Mezőcsát 0171 and Mezőcsát 0191/3a) and, if the number of individuals in other populations allows, from other populations found in the Borsodi-sík. This would be done by translocating initially 100-150 individuals and then, if necessary, by stocking additional individuals. The aim is to create a population protected from predators, surrounded by a fence and a perimeter fence, where they can breed and disperse in relative safety. From here, the population could colonise tens or even hundreds of hectares. The area within the fence would initially be mown with a small tractor, but the long-term plan is to purchase sheep flocks and graze them. Next to the Citellus Garden, a small activity and viewing area is planned, with an information board where hikers and school groups can observe the animals, get information about the project, and if required, we can provide specialist guides and observation equipment.

The third main area of intervention of the project is predator control. A significant part of the Borsodi-Mezőség SCI and SPA is part of the 05-653300 Special Use Hunting Area, where the Bükk National Park Directorate is the hunting authority and where predator hunting (and deer hunting) is predominant. The population of roe deer and several other Natura 2000 candidate species (e.g. Hungarian Birch Mouse, ground-nesting bird species) is negatively affected by the presence of game species such as wild boar and predator mammals. Foxes, badgers, jackals and more recently raccoon dogs pose a threat to older individuals and hibernating individuals, while the Eurasian crow and magpie can prey on young individuals and wild boar also dig up grassland habitats. The intervention will involve trapping and shooting to decrease the abundance of these species, using equipment purchased during the project and external contracted hunting services. As there is a continuous influx of wild boar into the above SCI area from surrounding areas, we will extend this into SPA areas outside the SCI, reducing the likelihood of damage from wildlife species.

Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025



# DESCRIPTION OF SITES

| DESCRIPTION OF SITES | | |
|---|---|---|
| **Project name and acronym:** | | Ensuring the survival of a viable European Ground Squirrel population in the Pannonian region – CitellusLIFE |
| **Name of the project area:**<br>***The name must be used consistently on all maps and Part B*** | | Kesznyéteni Sajó-öböl (SCI) |
| **Surface area (ha)**:<br>*Indicate the total surface of the project area in hectares, rounded to two decimals* | | 4729.32 ha (SCI)<br>6352.96 ha (SPA) |
| **EU protection status (if applicable)** | **SCI** | HUBN20069 |
| | **SAC** | |
| | **SPA** | HUBN10005 - Kesznyéten |
| **Other protection status according to national or regional legislation (if applicable):** | | Kesznyéten Landscape Protection Area |

**Main land uses and ownership status of the project area**

*Indicate what are, at the project application date, the main uses made of the project site (e.g. farming, tourism, urban, nature conservation, etc.). Indicate the approximate percentages (in %) of the various uses, ensuring that the total reaches 100%. Indicate also the ownership status / types of the area at the project application date (e.g. private, state, etc.) and the approximate percentages (in %) of the different ownership status / types, ensuring that the total reaches 100%.*

Based on the cadastral records, the dominant land use forms are the grasslands. The area of the meadows and pastures together is 59.2% of the total. The reach of the arable lands is 11.8%. The reach of the forests is 10.4%, mostly protective- and production forests. The reeds covers 2.6% of the area and a tiny part covered with orchard (0.3%). There are 15.7% area out of land use.

Mixed proprietorial structure reveals in the area. The dominant land owner is the Hungarian state (2/3 part of the project area). The Bükk National Park Directorate is the major trustee with 2573.9 ha (54.4%). Other state organisations play significant role as trustees in the project area too as the Northern-Hungarian Water Directorate of Water Management and the East of the Tisza Directorate of Water Management. The directorates of water management not just treat the rivers, flood protection facilities and channels, but significant forests too, reach 50-50 ha. Significant amount of forests (115 ha) treated by the Nyírerdő Ltd. as state forestry through the control of the Nyíregyháza Directorate of Forestry. There is one public road leads across the project area, the No. 3612 road between Tiszalúc-Tiszadob, treated by the Hungarian Public Roads Ltd. and some lower roads are belong to the local governments. Tiszatáj Non-profit Public Foundation is a significant organisation manage grasslands, forests and arable lands. The 1/3 part of the project area is private properties owned by private persons and agricultural companies.

Among the actions related to the project area, the rehabilitation of the wells and the relocation of EGSs will be carried out on 100% state-owned land trusted by the BNPD. The most significant part of the hunting area (Kesznyéten Landscape Protection Area is a special purpose hunting area) owned by the Bükk National Park Directorate (40%), the other parts owned by the local farmers in different measures.

**Importance of the project area for biodiversity and/or for the conservation of the species /habitat types targeted at regional, national and EU level (give quantitative information if possible)**

*Justify why you have selected this particular area for your project. Explain why your choice is the most appropriate to reach the project's objectives.*

In context of the CitellusLIFE the most important habitats are the pannonic salt steppes and salt marshes (1530), the pannonic loess steppic grasslands (6250) for the ground squirrel (*Spermophilus citellus*), mostly the pastured ones, where the low grass and the fresh grass is constantly provided for these underground mammals. The main land use form is pasturing, and once a year the users make a cleaning-mowing. The grazed herds are a Hungarian grey cattle- and a Hungarian Simmental cattle herd. These habitats reaches the biggest area (2793.9 ha) of the project area and as the part of the Kesznyéten Landscape Protection area, they are protected areas.

The main reasons we chose for project area this area is the habitat and the soil conditions. The pannonic salt steppes and salt marshes (1530) lies on a secondarily formed meadow sodic soil with a columnar structure, which contains

significant sand- beside the clay fraction. On the other hand, the pannonic loess steppic grasslands (6250) lies on resedimented-loess on the higher grounds. The two type of habitat makes the ground-squirrels easier to dig their burrows. The microrelief of the meadows can make the burrow making possible for the EGS, because on the bars the holes remain dry in an occasion of rainier weather. Another important reason is that, in the project area until appx. 1990 the ground squirrel could be found, but with the changeover and the end of the sovkhoz system the land uses stopped, transformed and the habitats degraded, which was no longer suitable for the animals. So the graze management, the habitat-soil capabilities and because it is an originally fine habitat for the little mammals, make the project area ideal for the translocation. The project area is proved itself already as ground squirrel habitat, because appx. 200 individuals have been already translocated in 2019 from Sarkad-farm, Tiszalúc, which was a successful action and nowadays a stabil ground squirrel population remained on the loess grounds. The project area is part of the Kesznyéten Landscape Protection area, so it is protected by the national law.

The wells situated on grazed lands, but because of the condition of some of them makes impossible to grow the grazed areas, so the ground squirrel habitats. By the renovation of the wells the herds could drive further from the stall, so the grazed, constantly short grassed areas can be grow, and the ground squirrels can occupy new habitats and their population can increase.

The extension of the grazed lands can make possible to grow the Annex II and the other important species number, too which connected to the grazed lands as breeding or feeding areas and the increase of the EGS population, can increase the population of the birds of prey, for example.

On the other hand in an indirect way some species like, rollers, little owls, starling, etc. can benefit from the renovations, because they use the wells as nesting places.

As a key species the EGS protection is a possibility to protect the Annex II and the other important species too, because the treatments of the project can protect other important species threatened by predators and can develop habitats are necessary for the other species too. As the ground squirrel is a prey animal, its protection is important from the aspect of the raptors protection, too.

The preferred habitats of EGS are very important for the species below that are connected to the grassland as breeding or feeding areas.

Species referred to in Article 4 of Directive 2009/147/EC and listed in Annex II of Directive 92/43/EEC and site evaluation for them: *Bombina bombina, Cirsium brachycephaum*, *Gortyna borelii lunata, Lycaena dispar, Spermophilus citellus, Thlaspi jankae*

Other important species of flora and fauna: *Anacamptis laxiflora ssp. elegans, Anacamptis morio, Aster sedifolius, Dactylorhiza incarnata*, *Dianthus collinus*, *Gentiana pneumonanthe*, *Iris spuria*, *Ophioglossum vulgatum*, *Peucedanum officinale*, *Senecio paludosus*, *Pseudolysimachion longifolium*, *Maculinea alcon*, *Calosoma auropunctatum*, *Carabus scabriusculus*, *Carabus granulatus*, *Carabus cancellatus*, *Carabus clathratus*, *Lycosa singoriensis*, *Bufo spp*., *Hyla arborea*, *Pelobates fuscus*, *Rana* spp. (exc. *temporaria*), *Coronella austriaca*, *Lacerta agilis*, *Alauda arvensis*, *Buteo lagopus*, *Aquila heliaca*, *Aquila pomarina*, *Ciconia ciconia*, *Ciconia nigra*, *Crex crex*, *Coracias garrulus*, *Circus aeruginosus*, *Circus cyanus*, *Circus pygargus*, *Circaetus gallicus*, *Emberiza calandra*, *Haliaeetus albicilla*, *Falco tinnunculus*, *Falco vespertinus*, *Limosa limosa*, *Merpos apiaster*, *Motacilla flava*, *Numenius arquata*, *Philomachus pugnax*, *Pluvialis apricaria*, *Saxicola rubetra*, *Saxicola torquata*, *Tringa totanus*, *Upupa epops*, *Vanellus vanellus*, *Cricetus cricetus*, *Mustela nivalis*, *Mustela ermine*

Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025



# DESCRIPTION OF SITES

| DESCRIPTION OF SITES | | |
|---|---|---|
| **Project name and acronym:** | | Ensuring the survival of a viable European Ground Squirrel population in the Pannonian region – CitellusLIFE |
| **Name of the project area:**<br>***The name must be used consistently on all maps and Part B*** | | Tard környéki erdőssztyepp SCI, Bükk-hegység és peremterületei SPA |
| **Surface area (ha)**:<br>*Indicate the total surface of the project area in hectares, rounded to two decimals* | | 461.84 ha (SCI)<br>66 207.67 ha (SPA) |
| **EU protection status (if applicable)** | **SCI** | HUBN20009 |
| | **SAC** | |
| | **SPA** | HUBN10003 |
| **Other protection status according to national or regional legislation (if applicable):** | | Tardi-legelő Nature Conservation Area |

**Main land uses and ownership status of the project area**

*Indicate what are, at the project application date, the main uses made of the project site (e.g. farming, tourism, urban, nature conservation, etc.). Indicate the approximate percentages (in %) of the various uses, ensuring that the total reaches 100%. Indicate also the ownership status / types of the area at the project application date (e.g. private, state, etc.) and the approximate percentages (in %) of the different ownership status / types, ensuring that the total reaches 100%.*

According to the land registry system, grassland (pasture, almost 71% in total) dominates the land use forms of the project area. There is also a significant proportion of forest (21.46%), while arable land is small (0.87%). The enclosed land covers 5.04% of the area while 1.68% of the area is out of land use.

More than half of the project area is state-owned (59%), under the management of the Egererdő Ltd. and the Bükk National Park Directorate. About 40% of the area is privately owned, and less than 1% of the area is owned by the Municipality of Tard.

The site includes only grassland and forest-steppe woodland, the project, by definition, only includes open grassland, the so-called "open grassland" *Száraztó* and *Bála-völgy*. Both are home to EGS, with a distance of about 3 km between the two stands. The *Száraztó* population is stable and spatially significant (between 500 and 1000 ind.), while the *Bála-völgy* (Tardi-legelő Nature Conservation Area) is on the verge of total extinction, with less than 10 individuals in 2022. The *Száraztó* area is owned by farmers, while the *Bála-völgy is* managed by BNPI, which leases its area and enforces conservation through the terms of the lease agreements. Both areas are grazed by grazing livestock, sheep on the *Száraztó* and cattle and sheep on the *Bála-völgy*, with some areas being used for mowing (to provide fibre fodder). The *Hosszújáró* relocation area also includes part of the land which is managed (not leased) by BNPI.

**Importance of the project area for biodiversity and/or for the conservation of the species /habitat types targeted at regional, national and EU level (give quantitative information if possible)**

*Justify why you have selected this particular area for your project. Explain why your choice is the most appropriate to reach the project's objectives.*

The site is home to the following Natura 2000 grassland habitat types: subpannonian steppe (*6240), lowland and hilly grassland (6510) (*Alopecurus pratensis*, *Sanguisorba officinalis*, *Echium russicum*, *Thlaspi jankae*, *Isophya costata*).

The main planned activity is internal (translocation), with 60 individuals per year planned to be translocated from the Száraztó to the Bála-völgy, in 2 relocation sites (Ürge-bérc and Hosszújáró). The first, where the remnants of the EGS colony on the verge of collapse live, and the second site will be the so-called "Hosszújáró" grassland. At the first site, a temporary electric fence (1 ha) will be erected to protect the introduced animals, while at the second site a 2 ha Citellus Garden (fixed metal mesh fence with wooden fence) will be constructed. This would both protect the EGS colony from furry predators and "force" the livestock in the garden to graze intensively, which is beneficial for the EGS. The experience of recent years in Száraztó with pasture gardens (fenced areas grazed by sheep) has been positive, with an intensive increase in the number of EGS and a significant increase in the area used by them compared to the period before their establishment.

Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025



A total of three wells in the two sub-areas (Száraztó and Bála-völgy) will be fully restored, as they are essential for grazing and livestock production. The two large wells in the *drying area* need complete reconstruction as the above-ground part is completely gone and the stone-lined well below needs cleaning and repair. The well in Bála-völgy is in good condition, but the watering troughs need to be renovated, their number increased and the area around the wells tidied up.

In cooperation with the local hunting association, at least 10 furry predators (foxes, badgers, stray domestic cats) will be removed each year in both sub-areas as part of the predator control.

The EGS colony in the **Száraztó project area** would serve as a donor population for resettlement. The colony has been growing dynamically in recent years, and the catch of 60 individuals per year does not threaten the long-term survival of the colony. The owner of the area (farmer) is open to cooperation and supports the implementation of the project elements in his area.

The first resettlement site in the Bála-völgy is the so-called **Ürge-bérc Project Area**. There are still a few EGS living here, but the colony is on the verge of collapse (the population started to decline in 2010, a year of extreme rainfall). The 1 ha area of the relocation site is planned to be temporarily protected with electric fence.

The **Hosszújáró Project Area** was colonised by EGS from the Ürge-bérc in the mid-2010s through natural migration. Due to low numbers, this sub-population disappeared within a few years. We are planning to relocate them to a 2 ha Citellus Garden, where we will make the area ideal for EGS through appropriate management.

In the immediate vicinity of the Bükk Mountains, in the Bükkkalja region, the grasslands around Tard are home to one of the last remaining significant populations of EGS. It is a completely natural population living on pastures, which has been studied and monitored by the conservation apparatus for decades. The colony in Száraztó has been significantly strengthened by favourable changes and is an excellent donor population. The designated relocation sites are protected and Natura 2000 grasslands managed by BNPI, where the Directorate has the opportunity to apply targeted site management methods ideal for EGS during and after translocations. Both planting sites have been designated on grasslands where EGS are currently present or have been present in the recent past, so the environmental conditions (soil, vegetation) are certainly suitable for the target species.

Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025



# DESCRIPTION OF SITES

| DESCRIPTION OF SITES | | |
|---|---|---|
| **Project name and acronym:** | | Ensuring a viable European Ground Squirrel population in the Pannonian region – CitellusLIFE |
| **Name of the project area:**<br>**The name must be used consistently on all maps and Part B** | | Bátorliget |
| **Surface area (ha)**:<br>*Indicate the total surface of the project area in hectares, rounded to two decimals* | | 450.72 ha |
| **EU protection status (if applicable)** | **SCI** | Bátorligeti Nagy-legelő (HUHN20036) Great pasture of Bátorliget |
| | **SAC** | |
| | **SPA** | |
| **Other protection status according to national or regional legislation (if applicable):** | | *Bátorligeti-legelő Természetvédelmi Terület/ Bátorliget Pasture Protection Area* |

**Main land uses and ownership status of the project area**

*Indicate what are, at the project application date, the main uses made of the project site (e.g. farming, tourism, urban, nature conservation, etc.). Indicate the approximate percentages (in %) of the various uses, ensuring that the total reaches 100%. Indicate also the ownership status / types of the area at the project application date (e.g. private, state, etc.) and the approximate percentages (in %) of the different ownership status / types, ensuring that the total reaches 100%.*

Project intervention area belongs to the Hungarian state in 100 %, asset managed by the Hortobágy National Park Directorate with cattle-grazing land use.

The most valuable and best conditioned habitat corner of the Bátorliget Pasture (23 ha) was dessignated as Protection Area in 1986. Altogether three pasqueflower species and their hibrids occur in this habitat and all of them are under protection of law. Pasture is lined by Black locust trees (*Robinia pseudo-acacia*) instead of the sand oak woods that used to characterised the landscape till the beginning of the 20th century. The invasive trees spontaneous spreading toward the grasslands should to be stopped.

Protected/Strictly protected plants of the site: *Iris aphylla subsp. hungarica, Pulsatilla patens, Pulsatilla flavescens, Pulsatilla grandis, Adonis vernalis, Dianthus arenarius, Pseudolysimachion incanum*

Protected/Strictly protected animals of the site: *Carabus hungaricus, Podarcis taurica, Spermophilus citellus*

**Importance of the project area for biodiversity and/or for the conservation of the species /habitat types targeted at regional, national and EU level (give quantitative information if possible)**

*Justify why you have selected this particular area for your project. Explain why your choice is the most appropriate to reach the project's objectives.*

Conservation of the appropriate status of the grassland habitat is essential action to preserve the numerous protected and strictly protected species. It is indispensable to cut back the spreading woody vegetation. Project area is in the asset management of the National Park Directorate thus there is a real opportunity to validate nature conservation aims by ensuring continuous grazing after clearing invasive shrubs and trees and provide a place to a coherent wide-ranged habitat for ground squirrels and other associated valuable species.

Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025



# DESCRIPTION OF SITES

| DESCRIPTION OF SITES | | |
|---|---|---|
| **Project name and acronym:** | | Ensuring a viable European Ground Squirrel population in the Pannonian region – CitellusLIFE |
| **Name of the project area:**<br>**The name must be used consistently on all maps and Part B** | | Derecske |
| **Surface area (ha)**:<br>*Indicate the total surface of the project area in hectares, rounded to two decimals* | | 3787.90 ha |
| **EU protection status (if applicable)** | **SCI** | Derecske-konyári gyepek (HUHN20009) /Derecske-Konyári grasslands |
| | **SAC** | |
| | **SPA** | |
| **Other protection status according to national or regional legislation (if applicable):** | | *Bihar Plain Landscape Protection Area* |

**Main land uses and ownership status of the project area**

*Indicate what are, at the project application date, the main uses made of the project site (e.g. farming, tourism, urban, nature conservation, etc.). Indicate the approximate percentages (in %) of the various uses, ensuring that the total reaches 100%. Indicate also the ownership status / types of the area at the project application date (e.g. private, state, etc.) and the approximate percentages (in %) of the different ownership status / types, ensuring that the total reaches 100%.*

This cattle-grazed area belongs to the Hungarian state in 100 %, asset manager is the Hortobágy National Park directorate. Target area is characterised by saline soiled (bald and bench) formations and vegetation, Pannonic saline grassland with shallow ephemeral saline moors and lower humid saline grassland patches. On the higher backs where the ground squirrels live in particular the upgrowing and invasive Oleaster (*Eleagnus angustifolia*) shrubs cause problem damaging grasslands.

Protected/Strictly protected plants of the site: *Cirsium brachycephalum*

Protected/Strictly protected animals of the site: *Lycaena dispar, Gortyna borelii, Spermophilus citellus*

**Importance of the project area for biodiversity and/or for the conservation of the species /habitat types targeted at regional, national and EU level (give quantitative information if possible)**

*Justify why you have selected this particular area for your project. Explain why your choice is the most appropriate to reach the project's objectives.*

Reduce of woody species results not only the expansion of grassy habitat of the strictly protected species but also gives an opportunity to connect ground squirrel colonies thus remarkably support the genetic variation and long-term survival of the ground squirrel population. Moreover, the elimination of the nesting trees (oleasters) of predator birds like Magpie (*Pica pica*), Hooded crow (*Corvus cornix*) decreases disturbance of the project target species also favourable to other species protected or with community importance.

Project activity area would play an important role in connection of the neighbouring ground squirrel population fragments beside increase the extent of their habitat.

Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025



# DESCRIPTION OF SITES

| DESCRIPTION OF SITES | | |
|---|---|---|
| **Project name and acronym:** | | Ensuring the survival of a viable European Ground Squirrel population in the Pannonian region – CitellusLIFE |
| **Name of the project area:**<br>**The name must be used consistently on all maps and Part B** | | Hajdúbagos |
| **Surface area (ha)**:<br>*Indicate the total surface of the project area in hectares, rounded to two decimals* | | 308.08 ha |
| **EU protection status (if applicable)** | **SCI** | Hajdúbagosi-legelő (HUHN20017) /Hajdúbagos pasture |
| | **SAC** | |
| | **SPA** | |
| **Other protection status according to national or regional legislation (if applicable):** | | *Hajdúbagosi földikutya-rezervátum Természetvédelmi Terület / Blind Mole Rat Reserve of Hajdúbagos Protection Area* |

**Main land uses and ownership status of the project area**

*Indicate what are, at the project application date, the main uses made of the project site (e.g. farming, tourism, urban, nature conservation, etc.). Indicate the approximate percentages (in %) of the various uses, ensuring that the total reaches 100%. Indicate also the ownership status / types of the area at the project application date (e.g. private, state, etc.) and the approximate percentages (in %) of the different ownership status / types, ensuring that the total reaches 100%.*

The protected area designation year is 1976 and belongs to the Hungarian state in 100 %, asset manager is the Hortobágy National Park Directorate. Main purpose was the preservation of the strictly protected western blind mole rat's (*Nannospalax leucodon)* colony and habitat. Vegetation is mostly grassland beside there is an endemic Pedunculate oak (*Quercus robur*) forest with some alien tree species (*Pinus sylvestris, Quercus rubra, Robinia pseudo-acacia, Populus x euramericana*) covering 33.7 hectares. Landscape of the protected area is characterised by extensively cattle-grazed sand grasslands representing a high ecological value in vegetation composition as one of the few remained pasture of extensive livestock farming in sandy Nyírség Region. Blind Mole Rat Reserve of Hajdúbagos is highlighted conservation area protecting the most typical fragment of the landscape of Nyírség associated with its special habitat and wildlife including characteristic and protected plant and animal species.

Protected/Strictly protected plants: *Pulsatilla flavescens, Iris arenaria, Onosma arenaria, Lychnis coronaria*

Protected/Strictly protected animals: *Nannospalax leucodon, Spermophilus citellus, Carabus hungaricus, Copris lunaris*

**Importance of the project area for biodiversity and/or for the conservation of the species /habitat types targeted at regional, national and EU level (give quantitative information if possible)**

*Justify why you have selected this particular area for your project. Explain why your choice is the most appropriate to reach the project's objectives.*

Selection of the area was reasoned by the National Park Directorate asset management and having wide-range coherent area with valuable flora and fauna where nature conservation aims can be validated. For the ground squirrel colony of the site, it is important to keep the grassland in good condition, restrict the invasive plants and rather plan the further extension of that.

Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025



# DESCRIPTION OF SITES

| DESCRIPTION OF SITES | | |
|---|---|---|
| **Project name and acronym:** | | Ensuring the survival of a viable European Ground Squirrel population in the Pannonian region – CitellusLIFE |
| **Name of the project area:**<br>***The name must be used consistently on all maps and Part B*** | | Kék-Kálló-völgye |
| **Surface area (ha)**:<br>*Indicate the total surface of the project area in hectares, rounded to two decimals* | | 1504.03 ha |
| **EU protection status (if applicable)** | **SCI** | Kék-Kálló-völgye (HUHN20016) /Valley of the Blue-Kálló stream |
| | **SAC** | |
| | **SPA** | |
| **Other protection status according to national or regional legislation (if applicable):** | | *Hajdúsági Tájvédelmi Körzet /Hajdúság Landscape Protection Area* |

**Main land uses and ownership status of the project area**

*Indicate what are, at the project application date, the main uses made of the project site (e.g. farming, tourism, urban, nature conservation, etc.). Indicate the approximate percentages (in %) of the various uses, ensuring that the total reaches 100%. Indicate also the ownership status / types of the area at the project application date (e.g. private, state, etc.) and the approximate percentages (in %) of the different ownership status / types, ensuring that the total reaches 100%.*

Hajdúság Landscape Protection Area includes Valley of the Blue-Kálló stream area is situated NW from Bagamér village, area size is approximately 700 hectares. Introduction activity affected area is owned by the Hungarian State in 100%, asset manager is the Hortobágy National Park Directorate. Open for the visitors, cattle grazed and characterised by short grass. Barren steep-sided sand dunes ensure habitat for numerous protected plants. Strictly protected and endemic species of the Carpathian Basin is *Pulsatilla flavescens*, protected species: *Iris arenaria*, *Onosma arenaria*. At the project scene namely Malom-gát (Mill dam) of Bagamér lives a smaller population of the Transylvanian blind mole rat *(Nannospalax transsylvanicus*) as a result of a conservation action that associated with steppe habitats as well.

Further protected/strictly protected animals: *Carabus hungaricus, Spermophilus citellus*

**Importance of the project area for biodiversity and/or for the conservation of the species /habitat types targeted at regional, national and EU level (give quantitative information if possible)**

*Justify why you have selected this particular area for your project. Explain why your choice is the most appropriate to reach the project's objectives.*

About the intervention area we have data of former occurrence of the ground squirrel, but this colony disappeared few years before. Present status and management (grazing) of the site makes it appropriate for introducing animals again, its wide-range extent ensure enough life space and opportunity for expansion after successful settlement. Reintroduction of the European ground squirrel support to create a steppe and sandy grassland wildlife association beside applying the most beneficial habitat management. Based on the success of the former blind mole rat translocation we have confidence to establish a new ground squirrel colony.

Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025



# DESCRIPTION OF SITES

| DESCRIPTION OF SITES | | |
|---|---|---|
| **Project name and acronym:** | | Ensuring the survival of a viable European Ground Squirrel population in the Pannonian region – CitellusLIFE |
| **Name of the project area:**<br>**The name must be used consistently on all maps and Part B** | | Kis-Szeg /Little Corner |
| **Surface area (ha)**:<br>*Indicate the total surface of the project area in hectares, rounded to two decimals* | | 20.00 ha |
| **EU protection status (if applicable)** | **SCI** | Hortobágy (HUHN20002) |
| | **SAC** | |
| | **SPA** | Hortobágy (HUHN10002) |
| **Other protection status according to national or regional legislation (if applicable):** | | *Hortobágy National Park* |

**Main land uses and ownership status of the project area**

*Indicate what are, at the project application date, the main uses made of the project site (e.g. farming, tourism, urban, nature conservation, etc.). Indicate the approximate percentages (in %) of the various uses, ensuring that the total reaches 100%. Indicate also the ownership status / types of the area at the project application date (e.g. private, state, etc.) and the approximate percentages (in %) of the different ownership status / types, ensuring that the total reaches 100%.*

Landowner of the site is the Hungarian State in 100 %, asset manager is the Hortobágy National Park Directorate. It is a pasture grazed by cattle and sheep and moved too.. The suitable habitat for the ground squirrel is located in Kis-Szeg within an 800-meter-long, north-south loess zone. Within this, a significant population of the species is in the part south of the gas pipeline. Grazing on the back is not very strong, but the lawn is mostly mowed annually. The area of the loess range inhabited by ground squirrels is about 30 hectares.

**Importance of the project area for biodiversity and/or for the conservation of the species /habitat types targeted at regional, national and EU level (give quantitative information if possible)**

*Justify why you have selected this particular area for your project. Explain why your choice is the most appropriate to reach the project's objectives.*

Due to the small amount of non-pastoral grazing in the area, shrub growth is strong from the direction of the Hortobágy River. Since the groundhog habitat is under the management of the HNPI, its extent can be restored and maintained by preventing shrub cover and re-sprouting with moderate grazing, and by managing the grassland vegetation with grazing or possibly annual mowing. When choosing the area, its large, continuous extent and good accessibility were also important arguments. With appropriate habitat management (extermination of invasive species and shrubs, optimal increase of grazing), we can create a diverse, mosaic habitat, which provides the ground squirrel population with an adequate quality and size of living space.

Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025



# DESCRIPTION OF SITES

| DESCRIPTION OF SITES | | |
|---|---|---|
| **Project name and acronym:** | | Ensuring the survival of a viable European Ground Squirrel population in the Pannonian region – CitellusLIFE |
| **Name of the project area:**<br>**The name must be used consistently on all maps and Part B** | | Liget-legelő |
| **Surface area (ha)**:<br>*Indicate the total surface of the project area in hectares, rounded to two decimals* | | 2206.81 ha |
| **EU protection status (if applicable)** | **SCI** | Liget-legelő (HUHN21164) /*Parkland-pasture* |
| | **SAC** | |
| | **SPA** | |
| **Other protection status according to national or regional legislation (if applicable):** | | |

**Main land uses and ownership status of the project area**

*Indicate what are, at the project application date, the main uses made of the project site (e.g. farming, tourism, urban, nature conservation, etc.). Indicate the approximate percentages (in %) of the various uses, ensuring that the total reaches 100%. Indicate also the ownership status / types of the area at the project application date (e.g. private, state, etc.) and the approximate percentages (in %) of the different ownership status / types, ensuring that the total reaches 100%.*

A presenly used military area (shooting range of Hajdúhadház) which completely belongs to the Hungarian state (Military of Hungary), labelled as not cultivated in land register. Vegetation cover is wide-range sand grassland where sheep are grazing depending the military activities. So the intensification of site management is varied, thus upgrowing and intensively extending shrubs (*Prunus spinosa, Crataegus sp.)* cause serious problem.

Protected/strictly protected plants of the area*: Pulsatilla flavescens, Iris aphylla subsp. hungarica, Anacamptis morio, Helichrysum arenarium*

Protected/strictly protected animals of the area: *Carabus hungaricus, Nannospalax leucodon, Spermophilus citellus,*

**Importance of the project area for biodiversity and/or for the conservation of the species /habitat types targeted at regional, national and EU level (give quantitative information if possible)**

*Justify why you have selected this particular area for your project. Explain why your choice is the most appropriate to reach the project's objectives.*

In this site a remarkable ground squirrel colony exists that animals living space is narrowed significantly by the intensively spreading woody species. It makes difficult or impossible for the families to contact each other. Sustainability of the area is ensured by its military status although the irregular grazing intensity favourable for woody expansion threatening the grassland habitat. In our opinion the National Park collaborating to Military can reduce and control shrubs thus gain and preserve an unique wide-range sand grassland as habitat of ground squirrels and several valuable species.

Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025



# DESCRIPTION OF SITES

| DESCRIPTION OF SITES | | |
|---|---|---|
| **Project name and acronym:** | | Ensuring the survival of a viable European Ground Squirrel population in the Pannonian regio – CitellusLIFE |
| **Name of the project area:**<br>***The name must be used consistently on all maps and Part B*** | | Löszletörés |
| **Surface area (ha)**:<br>*Indicate the total surface of the project area in hectares, rounded to two decimals* | | 284.24 ha |
| **EU protection status (if applicable)** | **SCI** | Pocsaji-kapu (HUHN20010) /Pocsaj gate |
| | **SAC** | |
| | **SPA** | |
| **Other protection status according to national or regional legislation (if applicable):** | | *Bihar Plain Landscape Protection Area* |

**Main land uses and ownership status of the project area**

*Indicate what are, at the project application date, the main uses made of the project site (e.g. farming, tourism, urban, nature conservation, etc.). Indicate the approximate percentages (in %) of the various uses, ensuring that the total reaches 100%. Indicate also the ownership status / types of the area at the project application date (e.g. private, state, etc.) and the approximate percentages (in %) of the different ownership status / types, ensuring that the total reaches 100%.*

The land to be purchased is private in 100% and cultivated as ploughland. However it is situated next to a Natura 2000 and protected site covered by loess steppe vegetation having especially valuable habitat and wildlife. Asset manager of the site is the Hortobágy National Park Directorate that presently manages it by stem-crushing and hay-mowing beside creating the conditions of cattle grazing is planned. On the purchased land the first step would be sowing alfalfa then turned it to grassland gradually beside weed control. Following habitat reconstruction a new ground squirrel colony can be introduced there.

Protected plants in the neighbouring Natura 2000 site: *Adonis vernalis, Chamaecytisus rochelii*

Protected/Strictly protected animals in the neighbouring Natura 2000 site: *Nannospalax leucodon*

**Importance of the project area for biodiversity and/or for the conservation of the species /habitat types targeted at regional, national and EU level (give quantitative information if possible)**

*Justify why you have selected this particular area for your project. Explain why your choice is the most appropriate to reach the project's objectives.*

Connected to the land to be purchased there is a natural loess steppe with high diversity of plants including the foodplants of ground squirrels. In addition, from this kind of dryer grassland habitat that constitute also the natural habitat of the European ground squirrels there's hardly any remained in the region, therefore we would like to help its preservation by creating a colony as well. Translocation action (means drilling holes as burrows for animals and temporary fence) would take place not on the valuable grassland but beside on the alfalfa ploughland from where the animals can naturally extend their territory while alfalfa field transforming to grassland as quantity of alfalfa reduces paralel. In the same area the endemic and strictly protected mole rat (*Nannospalax leucodon*) is also occurs thanks to an earlier succesful reintroduction project.

Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025



# DESCRIPTION OF SITES

| DESCRIPTION OF SITES | | |
|---|---|---|
| **Project name and acronym:** | | Ensuring the survival of a viable European Ground Squirrel population in the Pannonian region – CitellusLIFE |
| **Name of the project area:**<br>**The name must be used consistently on all maps and Part B** | | Martinka |
| **Surface area (ha)**:<br>*Indicate the total surface of the project area in hectares, rounded to two decimals* | | 368.25 ha |
| **EU protection status (if applicable)** | **SCI** | Martinkai-legelő (HUHN20024) /Martinka pasture/ |
| | **SAC** | |
| | **SPA** | |
| **Other protection status according to national or regional legislation (if applicable):** | | *Hajdúsági Tájvédelmi Körzet / Hajdúság Protected Landscape Area /* |

**Main land uses and ownership status of the project area**

*Indicate what are, at the project application date, the main uses made of the project site (e.g. farming, tourism, urban, nature conservation, etc.). Indicate the approximate percentages (in %) of the various uses, ensuring that the total reaches 100%. Indicate also the ownership status / types of the area at the project application date (e.g. private, state, etc.) and the approximate percentages (in %) of the different ownership status / types, ensuring that the total reaches 100%.*

Landowner of the site is the Hungarian State in 100%, asset manager is the Hortobágy National Park Directorate. It is a pasture grazed by cattle and sheep open for the visitors. Prior to designated protected site it was used as a military exercise area. Landscape description: sand dunes changing with lower and moist patches. Along some sandback there are Black locust (*Robinia pseudo-acacia*) wood while on the others have acidophilous sand grassland with open tussock lawn and closed sand pasture vegetation pattern. Total area is 368.25 ha, that sporadically contains smaller or larger schrubbery (*Prunus spinose and Crataegus sp.)* patches.

Protected/Strictly protected plant species: *Pulsatilla flavescens, Anacamptis morio, Cladonia magyarica*

Protected/Strictly protected animal species: *Carabus hungaricus, Podarcis taurica, Spermophilus citellus, Merops apiaster*

**Importance of the project area for biodiversity and/or for the conservation of the species /habitat types targeted at regional, national and EU level (give quantitative information if possible)**

*Justify why you have selected this particular area for your project. Explain why your choice is the most appropriate to reach the project's objectives.*

Despite having grazing management the shrubs occupy more area that constrict remarkably the size of appropriate habitat for ground squirrels. In this case the National Park as asset manager has the opportunity to make a ground squirrel friendly landuse for implementation of nature conservation objectives. Serious argument in favour to choose this area was the large, coherent area with good accessibility and own asset management. Based on scientific and practical knowledge an adequate habitat maintenance can create and sustain a diverse habitat mosaic that ensure a viable territory to the ground squirrel colony living here.

Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025



# DESCRIPTION OF SITES

| DESCRIPTION OF SITES | | |
|---|---|---|
| **Project name and acronym:** | | Ensuring the survival of a viable European Ground Squirrel population in the Pannonian region – CitellusLIFE |
| **Name of the project area:**<br>**The name must be used consistently on all maps and Part B** | | Penészlek |
| **Surface area (ha)**:<br>*Indicate the total surface of the project area in hectares, rounded to two decimals* | | 30.02 ha |
| **EU protection status (if applicable)** | **SCI** | Penészleki-gyepek / Grasslands of Penészlek (HUHN21165) |
| | **SAC** | |
| | **SPA** | |
| **Other protection status according to national or regional legislation (if applicable):** | | |

**Main land uses and ownership status of the project area**

*Indicate what are, at the project application date, the main uses made of the project site (e.g. farming, tourism, urban, nature conservation, etc.). Indicate the approximate percentages (in %) of the various uses, ensuring that the total reaches 100%. Indicate also the ownership status / types of the area at the project application date (e.g. private, state, etc.) and the approximate percentages (in %) of the different ownership status / types, ensuring that the total reaches 100%.*

This land is 100% privately owned, in pasture land use form so the owner manages it by grazing. Vegetation is sandy grassland with the only known ground squirrel colony inside Penészlek settlement borders. Site is connected to another grazing pasture asset managed by the Hortobágy National Park Directorate.

Protected/Strictly protected animals: *Spermophilus citellus*, *Podarcis taurica*

**Importance of the project area for biodiversity and/or for the conservation of the species /habitat types targeted at regional, national and EU level (give quantitative information if possible)**

*Justify why you have selected this particular area for your project. Explain why your choice is the most appropriate to reach the project's objectives.*

Wide area covered by appropriate conditioned sandy grassland vegetation presently, managed by grazing in natural connection with a National Park managed pasture.

Purchase of the private land then leasing it under National Park control would be a great opportunity to extend the conservational managed area preserving extra 30 hectares valuable grassland. So for the ground squirrels to increase suitable habitat by reduce schrubs and ensure long-term grazing. In the target land the upgrowing shrubs cause problem that would be cutted back and controlled in conservation terms, especially for ground squirrels need after National Park land takeover.

Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025



# DESCRIPTION OF SITES

| DESCRIPTION OF SITES | | |
|---|---|---|
| **Project name and acronym:** | | Ensuring the survival of a viable European Ground Squirrel population in the Pannonian region – CitellusLIFE |
| **Name of the project area:**<br>***The name must be used consistently on all maps and Part B*** | | Pentezug |
| **Surface area (ha)**:<br>*Indicate the total surface of the project area in hectares, rounded to two decimals* | | 3000 ha |
| **EU protection status (if applicable)** | **SCI** | Hortobágy (HUHN20002) |
| | **SAC** | |
| | **SPA** | Hortobágy (HUHN10002) |
| **Other protection status according to national or regional legislation (if applicable):** | | *Hortobágy National Park* |

**Main land uses and ownership status of the project area**

*Indicate what are, at the project application date, the main uses made of the project site (e.g. farming, tourism, urban, nature conservation, etc.). Indicate the approximate percentages (in %) of the various uses, ensuring that the total reaches 100%. Indicate also the ownership status / types of the area at the project application date (e.g. private, state, etc.) and the approximate percentages (in %) of the different ownership status / types, ensuring that the total reaches 100%.*

Pentezug is a nature conservational purposed area in 100%, owner is the Hungarian State, asset management handed by Hortobágy National Park Directorate. In the core area of the Park lies the Wild Horse Reserve of Pentezug where Przewalski horses (up to 300 individuals) and reconstructed aurochs (*Bos primigenius*) graze in semi-wild conditions. This site belongs to the A-zone means the highest protection level, separated from tourism, where any kind of agricultural activity is forbidden that can threaten the sensitive fauna and flora. Since 2017 it has extended to 3000 hectares and managed by the grazing animals. Reserve is bordered by electric fence to keep wild horses and aurochs inside however other wildlife members as wild boar, hare, red fox and roe deer are able to cross it.

Introduction of the European Ground Squirrel is planned to do on a topographically higher area with suitable vegetation within the fenced reserve, following on-site inspections.

**Importance of the project area for biodiversity and/or for the conservation of the species /habitat types targeted at regional, national and EU level (give quantitative information if possible)**

*Justify why you have selected this particular area for your project. Explain why your choice is the most appropriate to reach the project's objectives.*

The Reserve is restricted from human disturbance, site management imitate natural grazing dynamics. Isolation here gives an opportunity to survey the translocated ground squirrels in undisturbed natural conditions. Behaviour of the animals is only affected by the grazing livestock thus we can record unique observations and experiences. Technical equipment of monitoring can be safely installed on the field.

Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025



# DESCRIPTION OF SITES

| DESCRIPTION OF SITES | | |
|---|---|---|
| **Project name and acronym:** | | Ensuring the survival of a viable European Ground Squirrel population in the Pannonian region – CitellusLIFE |
| **Name of the project area:**<br>**The name must be used consistently on all maps and Part B** | | Rohod /Rohod Pasture |
| **Surface area (ha)**:<br>*Indicate the total surface of the project area in hectares, rounded to two decimals* | | 52.73 ha |
| **EU protection status (if applicable)** | **SCI** | Rohodi-legelő /Rohodi Pasture (HUHN20064) |
| | **SAC** | |
| | **SPA** | |
| **Other protection status according to national or regional legislation (if applicable):** | | |

**Main land uses and ownership status of the project area**

*Indicate what are, at the project application date, the main uses made of the project site (e.g. farming, tourism, urban, nature conservation, etc.). Indicate the approximate percentages (in %) of the various uses, ensuring that the total reaches 100%. Indicate also the ownership status / types of the area at the project application date (e.g. private, state, etc.) and the approximate percentages (in %) of the different ownership status / types, ensuring that the total reaches 100%.*

The Rohodi pasture is located in the North-Eastern Nyírség, it is a dry sandy grassland found on parabola mounds bearing the former image of the small landscape. The property is currently 100% privately owned, is cultivated as pasture, is used with mowing, but there are also cattle livestock in the area. On 81% of the site there is sandy grassland vegetation (6260* - Pannon sandy grasslands) and it is also the habitat of the highly protected Hungarian hornbill (Carabus hungaricus).

**Importance of the project area for biodiversity and/or for the conservation of the species /habitat types targeted at regional, national and EU level (give quantitative information if possible)**

*Justify why you have selected this particular area for your project. Explain why your choice is the most appropriate to reach the project's objectives.*

The ground squirrel has previous occurrence data from the project area, and populations can still be found in the neighboring settlements of Rohod, Baktalórántháza and Nyírmada. Based on the regional distribution area of the species and the utilization of the Rohodi pasture, the pasture is a suitable habitat for the ground squirrel. Thanks to regular mowing, undergrowth does not cause problems in the structure of the lawn, and the height of the vegetation on the hilltops is suitable for ground squirrels.

By reintroducing the ground squirrel, it would be possible to restore the community of organisms traditionally characteristic of sandy desert grasslands.

Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025



# DESCRIPTION OF SITES

| DESCRIPTION OF SITES | | |
|---|---|---|
| **Project name and acronym:** | | Ensuring the survival of a viable European Ground Squirrel population in the Pannonian region – CitellusLIFE |
| **Name of the project area:**<br>**The name must be used consistently on all maps and Part B** | | Sámsoni úti bellegelő /Inner pasture of Sámsoni Road |
| **Surface area (ha)**:<br>*Indicate the total surface of the project area in hectares, rounded to two decimals* | | 241.07 ha |
| **EU protection status (if applicable)** | **SCI** | Sámsoni úti bellegelő (Inner pasture of Sámsoni Road) (HUHN20161) |
| | **SAC** | |
| | **SPA** | |
| **Other protection status according to national or regional legislation (if applicable):** | | |

**Main land uses and ownership status of the project area**

*Indicate what are, at the project application date, the main uses made of the project site (e.g. farming, tourism, urban, nature conservation, etc.). Indicate the approximate percentages (in %) of the various uses, ensuring that the total reaches 100%. Indicate also the ownership status / types of the area at the project application date (e.g. private, state, etc.) and the approximate percentages (in %) of the different ownership status / types, ensuring that the total reaches 100%.*

The total area of the area is 241.07 ha, 100% owned by the Hungarian State, the National Land Management Center. It is used as pasture for cattle and can be visited freely. It can generally be said about the picture of the landscape that sand dunes alternate with deeper, wetter areas. There are also forest sections with acacia trees, noble summer trees, and oak trees planned for use on the properties. The invasive species from the acacia forest parts significantly endangers the extent of the adjacent grassland.Protected/Strictly protected plant species: *Pulsatilla flavescens, Anacamptis morio, Centaurea arenaria, Cladonia magyarica, Onosma arenaria*

Protected/Strictly protected animal species: *Podarcis taurica, Spermophilus citellus, Merops apiaster, Acrida ungarica*

**Importance of the project area for biodiversity and/or for the conservation of the species /habitat types targeted at regional, national and EU level (give quantitative information if possible)**

*Justify why you have selected this particular area for your project. Explain why your choice is the most appropriate to reach the project's objectives.*

In spite of the grazing, a significant increase in invasions (*Robinia, Amorpha ssp.*) can be observed in the area, which reduces the extent of habitat suitable for ground squirrels. A strong argument for choosing the area was its large, continuous extent and good accessibility. With the right habitat management, we can create a diverse, mosaic habitat, which can provide a living space suitable for the population of ground squirrels to be resettled.

Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025



# DESCRIPTION OF SITES

| DESCRIPTION OF SITES | | |
|---|---|---|
| **Project name and acronym:** | | Ensuring the survival of a viable European Ground Squirrel population in the Pannonian region – CitellusLIFE |
| **Name of the project area:**<br>**The name must be used consistently on all maps and Part B** | | Hortobágy-Tiszacsege |
| **Surface area (ha)**:<br>*Indicate the total surface of the project area in hectares, rounded to two decimals* | | 10.00 ha |
| **EU protection status (if applicable)** | **SCI** | Hortobágy (HUHN20002) |
| | **SAC** | |
| | **SPA** | Hortobágy (HUHN10002) |
| **Other protection status according to national or regional legislation (if applicable):** | | *Hortobágy National Park* |

**Main land uses and ownership status of the project area**

*Indicate what are, at the project application date, the main uses made of the project site (e.g. farming, tourism, urban, nature conservation, etc.). Indicate the approximate percentages (in %) of the various uses, ensuring that the total reaches 100%. Indicate also the ownership status / types of the area at the project application date (e.g. private, state, etc.) and the approximate percentages (in %) of the different ownership status / types, ensuring that the total reaches 100%.*

The area is 100% state-owned and managed by HNPI; the usufructuary utilizes it by mowing and grazing. The area is large, and the shrubbery occurs in several smaller patches, cutting off or reducing the habitat considered suitable for ground squirrels.

**Importance of the project area for biodiversity and/or for the conservation of the species /habitat types targeted at regional, national and EU level (give quantitative information if possible)**

*Justify why you have selected this particular area for your project. Explain why your choice is the most appropriate to reach the project's objectives.*

In the area, there is a lot of undergrowth due to insufficiently intensive grazing (brambles, hawthorns). The extent of the ground squirrel habitat in the property management of the HNPI could be significantly increased by suppressing the patches of shrubs that are spreading over it, and by preventing further spread, which could ensure the maintenance of a habitat suitable for ground squirrel in the long term with adequate grazing intensity. When choosing the area, its large, continuous extent and good accessibility were also important arguments. With appropriate habitat management (extermination of invasive species and shrubs, optimal increase of grazing), we can create a diverse, mosaic habitat, which provides the ground squirrel population with an adequate quality and size of living space.

Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025



# DESCRIPTION OF SITES

| DESCRIPTION OF SITES | | |
|---|---|---|
| **Project name and acronym:** | | Ensuring the survival of a viable European Ground Squirrel population in the Pannonian region – CitellusLIFE |
| **Name of the project area:**<br>***The name must be used consistently on all maps and Part B*** | | „Piusz majori gyep", Fertőrákos 057/10 |
| **Surface area (ha)**:<br>*Indicate the total surface of the project area in hectares, rounded to two decimals* | | 72.70 ha |
| **EU protection status (if applicable)** | **SCI** | beside HUFH20003 Fertőmelléki-dombsor |
| | **SAC** | |
| | **SPA** | |
| **Other protection status according to national or regional legislation (if applicable):** | | National Park nationally protected |

**Main land uses and ownership status of the project area**

*Indicate what are, at the project application date, the main uses made of the project site (e.g. farming, tourism, urban, nature conservation, etc.). Indicate the approximate percentages (in %) of the various uses, ensuring that the total reaches 100%. Indicate also the ownership status / types of the area at the project application date (e.g. private, state, etc.) and the approximate percentages (in %) of the different ownership status / types, ensuring that the total reaches 100%.*

The project area is state-owned, under the management of the Fertő-Hanság National Park Directorate.

Until the 1990s it was a sheep pasture, with the presence of EGS, and later it was partly ploughed and partly used as game land. It is now a moderately invaded area by invasive herbaceous plants (common goldenrod and common milkweed), which have spread due to regular prowling by wild boar. The *Robinia pseudoacacia* is also spreading.

**Importance of the project area for biodiversity and/or for the conservation of the species /habitat types targeted at regional, national and EU level (give quantitative information if possible)**

*Justify why you have selected this particular area for your project. Explain why your choice is the most appropriate to reach the project's objectives.*

The 'Páneurópai Piknik Emlékhely, Piusz major gyep' (Pan-European Picnic Memorial, Piusz Major grassland) is a nationally protected natural area, which is 72.7 ha. One property of this area (plot number Fertőrákos 057/10), which is currently in the NPD's property management, once had an EGS population. This property is moderately contaminated with invasive alien herbaceous plants (*Solidago gigantea, Asclepias syriaca*), but the *Robinia pseudoacacia* is also spreading.

To turn this area back for a suitable habitat for EGS and a well-managed Brometalia erecti (6210) habitat, IAS control is needed. The intervention is to perform localised chemical control (injection) and mechanical removal of Robinia species, as well as localised chemical control of *Asclepias syriaca*.

The reconstruction will take a few (2-5) years after is finished or partly finished EGS reintroduction will be implanted to the suitable habitat plot with indoor bred young EGSs. In this action it will be provided for the new colony to spread into the other part of the nationally protected grassland areas and also to the neighbouring grasslands of the HUFH20003 Fertőmelléki-dombsor Natura 2000 site.

The site has a touristic destination, too. There is the Pan-European Picnic memorial site which give a good possibility for awareness-raising activities for the EGS conservation.

Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025



# DESCRIPTION OF SITES

| DESCRIPTION OF SITES | | |
|---|---|---|
| **Project name and acronym:** | | Ensuring the survival of a viable European Ground Squirrel population in the Pannonian region – CitellusLIFE |
| **Name of the project area:**<br>**The name must be used consistently on all maps and Part B** | | Câmpia Crișului Alb și Crișului Negru |
| **Surface area (ha)**:<br>*Indicate the total surface of the project area in hectares, rounded to two decimals* | | 39 499.00 ha |
| **EU protection status (if applicable)** | **SCI** | Nădab - Socodor – Vărșad (ROSCI0231) |
| | **SAC** | |
| | **SPA** | Câmpia Crișului Alb și Crișului Negru (ROSPA0015) |
| **Other protection status according to national or regional legislation (if applicable):** | | Some small parts of the area (Socodor Forest, Reservation of saline soils from Socodor, Macea Dendrological Garden and Lunca Forest) are locally protected nature reserves. |

**Main land uses and ownership status of the project area**

*Indicate what are, at the project application date, the main uses made of the project site (e.g. farming, tourism, urban, nature conservation, etc.). Indicate the approximate percentages (in %) of the various uses, ensuring that the total reaches 100%. Indicate also the ownership status / types of the area at the project application date (e.g. private, state, etc.) and the approximate percentages (in %) of the different ownership status / types, ensuring that the total reaches 100%.*

The following habitat types and land use are found in the area: water surface - 970ha, wetlands and swamps – 2 230 ha, forests – 3 561ha, grasslands – 21 069.40 ha, arable lands – 9 560ha, orchards – 259 ha, constructed areas – 215 ha. The ownership status is mixed, fields used by local owners for agriculture and livestock, private small scale fishery, state managed forestry authority and intensively used agriculture parcels belonging to companies.

**Importance of the project area for biodiversity and/or for the conservation of the species /habitat types targeted at regional, national and EU level (give quantitative information if possible)**

*Justify why you have selected this particular area for your project. Explain why your choice is the most appropriate to reach the project's objectives.*

This large site holds a lot of important habitats for a large number of breeding water and land bird species, with significant populations on EU level. These are the Eastern Imperial Eagle, Saker Falcon, Ferruginous Duck, European Roller, Syrian Woodpecker, Black-winged Stint, Lesser Grey Shrike, Red-backed Shrike, Black-crowned Night-Heron, and Barred Warbler. It is also important stop-over site for species as Crane (several hundred individuals), Whimbrel (> 6 000 ind.), Black-tailed Godwit (> 2 000 ind.), Ruff (>5000 ind.), Eurasian Golden Plover (>5 000 ind.), and more than 20 000 migrating waterbirds. The area is also an important geese wintering site, serving annually roosting and feeding place for more than 30 000 Great White-fronted Goose and 2-5 globally threatened Lesser White-fronted Goose. Here we have the most important Red-footed falcon autumn roosting sites from the Western part of Romania (<1 300 ind.). Thea area holds several important breeding Red-footed falcon colonies. In winter the area is important for a high number of Hen Harriers and Rough-legged Buzzards. Also an important site for the European Ground Squirrel, holding several colonies of varying sizes.

Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025



# DESCRIPTION OF SITES

| DESCRIPTION OF SITES | | |
|---|---|---|
| **Project name and acronym:** | | Ensuring the survival of a viable European Ground Squirrel population in the Pannonian region – CitellusLIFE |
| **Name of the project area:**<br>**The name must be used consistently on all maps and Part B** | | Câmpia Nirului – Valea Ierului |
| **Surface area (ha)**:<br>*Indicate the total surface of the project area in hectares, rounded to two decimals* | | 38.56 ha |
| **EU protection status (if applicable)** | **SCI** | Câmpia Careiului (ROSCI0020), Câmpia Ierului (ROSCI0021) |
| | **SAC** | |
| | **SPA** | Câmpia Nirului – Valea Ierului (ROSPA0016 ) |
| **Other protection status according to national or regional legislation (if applicable):** | | Some small parts of the area (Urziceni Forest, Vermeș Marsh, Foeni sand dunes) are locally protected nature reserves. |

**Main land uses and ownership status of the project area**

*Indicate what are, at the project application date, the main uses made of the project site (e.g. farming, tourism, urban, nature conservation, etc.). Indicate the approximate percentages (in %) of the various uses, ensuring that the total reaches 100%. Indicate also the ownership status / types of the area at the project application date (e.g. private, state, etc.) and the approximate percentages (in %) of the different ownership status / types, ensuring that the total reaches 100%.*

The site contains six distinct areas, from which 2 are large and 4 smaller. The land use can be characterized by small and medium size parcels being belonging to local farmers and small local companies. The agricultural fields occupying 45%, the vineyards and orchards 4%, the pastures 22%, the forests 21% and the marshes 8% of the area.

**Importance of the project area for biodiversity and/or for the conservation of the species /habitat types targeted at regional, national and EU level (give quantitative information if possible)**

*Justify why you have selected this particular area for your project. Explain why your choice is the most appropriate to reach the project's objectives.*

The site represents the last remains of the large wetland from this part of Romania. The Nir River's Plain – Ier River's Valley SPA's continental sandy area stretch along the northwest border of Romania and it holds one third of the total sandy area of the country. Nirului Plain's relief is characterized by sand dunes alternating with lowland patches and marshes. The main rivers are the Berea, Valea Neagră, Horea, Ganaș and Mouca. Three bird species of global conservation interest can be found as breeding species here, including Roller, Saker and the Red-footed Falcon. Thea area is also important for different waterbird and raptor species, where also the Eastern Imperial Eagle becomes a regular visitor. The area is one of the most important sites for the European Ground Squirrel in western Romania, sheltering around 50 colonies of this species.

Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025



# DESCRIPTION OF SITES

| DESCRIPTION OF SITES | | |
|---|---|---|
| **Project name and acronym:** | | Ensuring the survival of a viable European Ground Squirrel population in the Pannonian region – CitellusLIFE |
| **Name of the project area:**<br>**The name must be used consistently on all maps and Part B** | | Comloșu Mare |
| **Surface area (ha)**:<br>*Indicate the total surface of the project area in hectares, rounded to two decimals* | | 2 662.00 ha |
| **EU protection status (if applicable)** | **SCI** | Comloșu Mare (ROSCI0287) |
| | **SAC** | |
| | **SPA** | |
| **Other protection status according to national or regional legislation (if applicable):** | | |

**Main land uses and ownership status of the project area**

*Indicate what are, at the project application date, the main uses made of the project site (e.g. farming, tourism, urban, nature conservation, etc.). Indicate the approximate percentages (in %) of the various uses, ensuring that the total reaches 100%. Indicate also the ownership status / types of the area at the project application date (e.g. private, state, etc.) and the approximate percentages (in %) of the different ownership status / types, ensuring that the total reaches 100%.*

The land use shows a clear dominance of arable land (93%), with pastures taking up only 3.7% of the area. The ownership of agricultural land is mostly private.

**Importance of the project area for biodiversity and/or for the conservation of the species /habitat types targeted at regional, national and EU level (give quantitative information if possible)**

*Justify why you have selected this particular area for your project. Explain why your choice is the most appropriate to reach the project's objectives.*

Grasslands of the site harbor 3 relatively small European ground squirrel colonies. Steppe polecat and common hamster are two other protected mammals found in this site, mostly in small-scale arable land.

Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025



# DESCRIPTION OF SITES

| DESCRIPTION OF SITES | | |
|---|---|---|
| **Project name and acronym:** | | Ensuring the survival of a viable European Ground Squirrel population in the Pannonian region – CitellusLIFE |
| **Name of the project area:**<br>**The name must be used consistently on all maps and Part B** | | Livezile – Dolați |
| **Surface area (ha)**:<br>*Indicate the total surface of the project area in hectares, rounded to two decimals* | | 6 553.80 ha |
| **EU protection status (if applicable)** | **SCI** | |
| | **SAC** | |
| | **SPA** | Livezile – Dolați (ROSPA0126) |
| **Other protection status according to national or regional legislation (if applicable):** | | |

**Main land uses and ownership status of the project area**

*Indicate what are, at the project application date, the main uses made of the project site (e.g. farming, tourism, urban, nature conservation, etc.). Indicate the approximate percentages (in %) of the various uses, ensuring that the total reaches 100%. Indicate also the ownership status / types of the area at the project application date (e.g. private, state, etc.) and the approximate percentages (in %) of the different ownership status / types, ensuring that the total reaches 100%.*

More than 78% of the area is covered by arable land, with a significant percentage (17.4) of pastures, the rest being water bodies and built-in areas.

**Importance of the project area for biodiversity and/or for the conservation of the species /habitat types targeted at regional, national and EU level (give quantitative information if possible)**

*Justify why you have selected this particular area for your project. Explain why your choice is the most appropriate to reach the project's objectives.*

The site is very important for its Red-footed Falcon colonies, as well as other protected bird species. Some of the southernmost European Ground Squirrel colonies of the Pannonian region are found within this protected area, which makes it also very important for the conservation of this protected rodent.

Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025



# DESCRIPTION OF SITES

| DESCRIPTION OF SITES | | |
|---|---|---|
| **Project name and acronym:** | | Ensuring the survival of a viable European Ground Squirrel population in the Pannonian region – CitellusLIFE |
| **Name of the project area:**<br>**The name must be used consistently on all maps and Part B** | | Lunca Barcăului |
| **Surface area (ha)**:<br>*Indicate the total surface of the project area in hectares, rounded to two decimals* | | 5 286.00 ha |
| **EU protection status (if applicable)** | **SCI** | |
| | **SAC** | |
| | **SPA** | Lunca Barcăului (ROSPA0067) |
| **Other protection status according to national or regional legislation (if applicable):** | | |

**Main land uses and ownership status of the project area**

*Indicate what are, at the project application date, the main uses made of the project site (e.g. farming, tourism, urban, nature conservation, etc.). Indicate the approximate percentages (in %) of the various uses, ensuring that the total reaches 100%. Indicate also the ownership status / types of the area at the project application date (e.g. private, state, etc.) and the approximate percentages (in %) of the different ownership status / types, ensuring that the total reaches 100%.*

Because of the small size of the area, the land and habitat diversity is not high, consisting of: agricultural land 68%, pastures 21%, marshes 7% and artificial, urban areas 4%. All the lands are used for small scale agriculture and livestock grazing.

**Importance of the project area for biodiversity and/or for the conservation of the species /habitat types targeted at regional, national and EU level (give quantitative information if possible)**

*Justify why you have selected this particular area for your project. Explain why your choice is the most appropriate to reach the project's objectives.*

It is a relatively small protected area along the Barcău River characterized by extensively used agricultural lands, pastures, small meadows and marshes. Beside the survived Roller population, the area has an important population of Red-footed Falcon and Lesser Gray Shrike. Among the raptors, Saker Falcon and White-tailed Eagle often occur in the area. Also an important site for the European Ground Squirrel, with 8 known colonies.

Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025



# DESCRIPTION OF SITES

| DESCRIPTION OF SITES | | |
|---|---|---|
| **Project name and acronym:** | | Ensuring the survival of a viable European Ground Squirrel population in the Pannonian region – CitellusLIFE |
| **Name of the project area:**<br>**The name must be used consistently on all maps and Part B** | | Lunca Mureșului Inferior |
| **Surface area (ha)**:<br>*Indicate the total surface of the project area in hectares, rounded to two decimals* | | 17 428.00 ha |
| **EU protection status (if applicable)** | **SCI** | Lunca Mureșului Inferior (ROSCI0108) |
| | **SAC** | |
| | **SPA** | Lunca Mureșului Inferior (ROSPA0069) |
| **Other protection status according to national or regional legislation (if applicable):** | | The SPA/SAC overlaps with Mureș Floodplain Natural Park and 3 nature reserves: the Cenad Forest, the Cenad Big Isle and Igriș Isle. |

**Main land uses and ownership status of the project area**

*Indicate what are, at the project application date, the main uses made of the project site (e.g. farming, tourism, urban, nature conservation, etc.). Indicate the approximate percentages (in %) of the various uses, ensuring that the total reaches 100%. Indicate also the ownership status / types of the area at the project application date (e.g. private, state, etc.) and the approximate percentages (in %) of the different ownership status / types, ensuring that the total reaches 100%.*

The land use can be characterized by forests (44%) and open areas which are used mainly as extensive agricultural fields (32%) and pastures (10%). The marshes covers 4%, the rivers and lakes 8%, while the orchards and vineyards 2% of the surface of the SPA. The ownership of agricultural land is private, belonging those from nearby communities. The forest is administrated by the National Forestry Authority.

**Importance of the project area for biodiversity and/or for the conservation of the species /habitat types targeted at regional, national and EU level (give quantitative information if possible)**

*Justify why you have selected this particular area for your project. Explain why your choice is the most appropriate to reach the project's objectives.*

The Lunca Mureșului Inferior (Lower Mures Floodplain) is situated in western Romania, along the border of Arad and Timiș counties incorporates the Mures River's course with the afferent floodplain, the riparian forest and different open habitats. The average altitude of the area is about 100 m a.s.l. The floodplain area is rich in oxbows, backwaters and suffusion plains which are regularly overflow. The forest is characterized by high diversity of tree species (oak, ash, elm, willow and poplar species). The area offer a very high diversity for many mammal and bird species. As breeding raptor species we can mention the Lesser Spotted Eagle, White-tailed Eagle, Red-footed Falcon and Marsh Harrier. The forest hold a large number of breeding songbird species too, like Icterine Warbler, Pied Flycatcher and heron colonies. The nearby open areas are breeding place for several Saker pairs, Long-legged Buzzards and Greater Short-toed Larks. In migration is an important temporary site for large flocks of Black Storks, Curlews but also several waterbirds. It is the most core area and gathering place for immature Eastern Imperial Eagles and in winter for high number of Hen Harriers and Rough-legged Buzzards. It is one of the most important breeding place for Roller is Western Romania. A hugely important site for the European Ground Squirrel, with over 10 viable colonies.

Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025



# DESCRIPTION OF SITES

| DESCRIPTION OF SITES | | |
|---|---|---|
| **Project name and acronym:** | | Ensuring the survival of a viable European Ground Squirrel population in the Pannonian region – CitellusLIFE |
| **Name of the project area:**<br>**The name must be used consistently on all maps and Part B** | | Lunca Timișului |
| **Surface area (ha)**:<br>*Indicate the total surface of the project area in hectares, rounded to two decimals* | | 9 846.00 ha |
| **EU protection status (if applicable)** | **SCI** | Lunca Timișului (ROSCI0109) |
| | **SAC** | |
| | **SPA** | Lunca Timișului (ROSPA0128) |
| **Other protection status according to national or regional legislation (if applicable):** | | |

**Main land uses and ownership status of the project area**

*Indicate what are, at the project application date, the main uses made of the project site (e.g. farming, tourism, urban, nature conservation, etc.). Indicate the approximate percentages (in %) of the various uses, ensuring that the total reaches 100%. Indicate also the ownership status / types of the area at the project application date (e.g. private, state, etc.) and the approximate percentages (in %) of the different ownership status / types, ensuring that the total reaches 100%.*

Main land uses and ownership status of the project area: agricultural land 62%, used in extensive way, forest 24%, pastures 9% and water course 5 %. The lands are in private property and are used by local farmers. The forests are administrated by the National Forestry Authority.

**Importance of the project area for biodiversity and/or for the conservation of the species /habitat types targeted at regional, national and EU level (give quantitative information if possible)**

*Justify why you have selected this particular area for your project. Explain why your choice is the most appropriate to reach the project's objectives.*

The site is situated 15 km West from Timișoara, including one settlement, the village Dragșina. The protected area is composed of different habitat types such as the big floodplain forest along the Timiș River, the main water course of the region and the surrounding agricultural fields and pastures with mosaic aspect. The area holds the biggest riparian forest of the region. The floodplain can be characterized by mixed forest with big wet meadows and pastures nearby. The forests offers breeding habitat for several raptor species, Black Storks, songbirds and place for heron colonies. The open areas are suitable for a good population of Rollers, Lesser Grey Shrike and Tawny Pipit. It is also a relevant migration site for several waterbird species. Around 10 European Ground Squirrel colonies are found in the grasslands along the river, some of which are only partially included în the protected area.

Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025



# DESCRIPTION OF SITES

| DESCRIPTION OF SITES | | |
|---|---|---|
| **Project name and acronym:** | | Ensuring the survival of a viable European Ground Squirrel population in the Pannonian region – CitellusLIFE |
| **Name of the project area:**<br>**The name must be used consistently on all maps and Part B** | | Mlaștina Satchinez |
| **Surface area (ha)**:<br>*Indicate the total surface of the project area in hectares, rounded to two decimals* | | 1 199.00 ha |
| **EU protection status (if applicable)** | **SCI** | Mlaștina Satchinez (ROSCI0115) |
| | **SAC** | |
| | **SPA** | Mlaștina Satchinez (ROSPA0078) |
| **Other protection status according to national or regional legislation (if applicable):** | | |

**Main land uses and ownership status of the project area**

*Indicate what are, at the project application date, the main uses made of the project site (e.g. farming, tourism, urban, nature conservation, etc.). Indicate the approximate percentages (in %) of the various uses, ensuring that the total reaches 100%. Indicate also the ownership status / types of the area at the project application date (e.g. private, state, etc.) and the approximate percentages (in %) of the different ownership status / types, ensuring that the total reaches 100%.*

Pastures have an important share in this area (45%), as do swamps with 31%. Arable land comprises 24%. Lands are partly state-owned, however most arable land in privately owned.

**Importance of the project area for biodiversity and/or for the conservation of the species /habitat types targeted at regional, national and EU level (give quantitative information if possible)**

*Justify why you have selected this particular area for your project. Explain why your choice is the most appropriate to reach the project's objectives.*

The area is found 25 km north-west to Timișoara. Three geomorphologically distinct plain areas meet here. Satchinez marshes have a temporarily flooded character. While wetlands are an important habitat for waterbirds and otters, the secondary grasslands harbor important populations of the European ground squirrel. Saker Falcon and Imperial Eagle are also regularly encountered here.

Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025



# DESCRIPTION OF SITES

| DESCRIPTION OF SITES | | |
|---|---|---|
| **Project name and acronym:** | | Ensuring the survival of a viable European Ground Squirrel population in the Pannonian region – CitellusLIFE |
| **Name of the project area:**<br>**The name must be used consistently on all maps and Part B** | | Păduricea de la Santău |
| **Surface area (ha)**:<br>*Indicate the total surface of the project area in hectares, rounded to two decimals* | | 87.10 ha |
| **EU protection status (if applicable)** | **SCI** | Păduricea de la Santău (ROSCI0185) |
| | **SAC** | |
| | **SPA** | |
| **Other protection status according to national or regional legislation (if applicable):** | | |

**Main land uses and ownership status of the project area**

*Indicate what are, at the project application date, the main uses made of the project site (e.g. farming, tourism, urban, nature conservation, etc.). Indicate the approximate percentages (in %) of the various uses, ensuring that the total reaches 100%. Indicate also the ownership status / types of the area at the project application date (e.g. private, state, etc.) and the approximate percentages (in %) of the different ownership status / types, ensuring that the total reaches 100%.*

Marshes make up a significant percentage of the area (60.5%), with pastures comprising 30%, the rest being arable land. Ownership is both communal and private.

**Importance of the project area for biodiversity and/or for the conservation of the species /habitat types targeted at regional, national and EU level (give quantitative information if possible)**

*Justify why you have selected this particular area for your project. Explain why your choice is the most appropriate to reach the project's objectives.*

A small protected area targeting marshland habitats and species, however it also includes part of a European Ground Squirrel colony, just by the Hungarian-Romanian border.

Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025



# DESCRIPTION OF SITES

| DESCRIPTION OF SITES | | |
|---|---|---|
| **Project name and acronym:** | | Ensuring the survival of a viable European Ground Squirrel population in the Pannonian region – CitellusLIFE |
| **Name of the project area:**<br>**The name must be used consistently on all maps and Part B** | | Pajiștea Cenad |
| **Surface area (ha)**:<br>*Indicate the total surface of the project area in hectares, rounded to two decimals* | | 5 965.00 ha |
| **EU protection status (if applicable)** | **SCI** | Pajiștea Cenad (ROSCI0345) |
| | **SAC** | |
| | **SPA** | |
| **Other protection status according to national or regional legislation (if applicable):** | | |

**Main land uses and ownership status of the project area**

*Indicate what are, at the project application date, the main uses made of the project site (e.g. farming, tourism, urban, nature conservation, etc.). Indicate the approximate percentages (in %) of the various uses, ensuring that the total reaches 100%. Indicate also the ownership status / types of the area at the project application date (e.g. private, state, etc.) and the approximate percentages (in %) of the different ownership status / types, ensuring that the total reaches 100%.*

The land use can be characterized by the dominance of both extensive and intensive agricultural fields (65%) and pastures (32%). Orchards and vineyards cover less than 2% of the surface. The ownership of agricultural land is private.

**Importance of the project area for biodiversity and/or for the conservation of the species /habitat types targeted at regional, national and EU level (give quantitative information if possible)**

*Justify why you have selected this particular area for your project. Explain why your choice is the most appropriate to reach the project's objectives.*

Considerable extensions of halophytic areas are found in the site, with valuable portions of Pannonian steppe grasslands on loess soil. This latter grassland type also harbors still viable European ground squirrel populations, with at least 6 colonies within the protected area, however isolated and threatened colonies are known to exist also outside the SCI limits, near Sânnicolau Mare, Cenad and Igriș localities. Steppe polecat has also been recorded here, and one of its main prey species, common hamster also occurs in the area. During the past decade an important saker falcon population has formed near the site limits and the broader region, due to active conservation measures undertaken.

Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025



# DESCRIPTION OF SITES

| DESCRIPTION OF SITES | | |
|---|---|---|
| **Project name and acronym:** | | Ensuring the survival of a viable European Ground Squirrel population in the Pannonian region – CitellusLIFE |
| **Name of the project area:**<br>**The name must be used consistently on all maps and Part B** | | Pajiștea Fegernic |
| **Surface area (ha)**:<br>*Indicate the total surface of the project area in hectares, rounded to two decimals* | | 299.60 ha |
| **EU protection status (if applicable)** | **SCI** | Pajiștea Fegernic (ROSCI0347) |
| | **SAC** | |
| | **SPA** | |
| **Other protection status according to national or regional legislation (if applicable):** | | |

**Main land uses and ownership status of the project area**

*Indicate what are, at the project application date, the main uses made of the project site (e.g. farming, tourism, urban, nature conservation, etc.). Indicate the approximate percentages (in %) of the various uses, ensuring that the total reaches 100%. Indicate also the ownership status / types of the area at the project application date (e.g. private, state, etc.) and the approximate percentages (in %) of the different ownership status / types, ensuring that the total reaches 100%.*

Most of the area is pastureland (78%), with arable land at 21%. and orchards at 0.6%. Ownership is both communal and private.

**Importance of the project area for biodiversity and/or for the conservation of the species /habitat types targeted at regional, national and EU level (give quantitative information if possible)**

*Justify why you have selected this particular area for your project. Explain why your choice is the most appropriate to reach the project's objectives.*

A relatively small protected area designated for the conservation of loess steppic grasslands and European Ground Squirrel, with the grassland harbouring a mid-sized colony of this species..

Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025



# DESCRIPTION OF SITES

| DESCRIPTION OF SITES | | |
|---|---|---|
| **Project name and acronym:** | | Ensuring the survival of a viable European Ground Squirrel population in the Pannonian region – CitellusLIFE |
| **Name of the project area:**<br>**The name must be used consistently on all maps and Part B** | | Pajiștea Pesac |
| **Surface area (ha)**:<br>*Indicate the total surface of the project area in hectares, rounded to two decimals* | | 140.00 ha |
| **EU protection status (if applicable)** | **SCI** | Pajiștea Pesac (ROSCI0349) |
| | **SAC** | |
| | **SPA** | |
| **Other protection status according to national or regional legislation (if applicable):** | | |

**Main land uses and ownership status of the project area**

*Indicate what are, at the project application date, the main uses made of the project site (e.g. farming, tourism, urban, nature conservation, etc.). Indicate the approximate percentages (in %) of the various uses, ensuring that the total reaches 100%. Indicate also the ownership status / types of the area at the project application date (e.g. private, state, etc.) and the approximate percentages (in %) of the different ownership status / types, ensuring that the total reaches 100%.*

Almost all of the area is practically covered by pastures, with 69% of them nominally pasture, and about 29% still being labelled as arable land, despite being used as pastureland.

**Importance of the project area for biodiversity and/or for the conservation of the species /habitat types targeted at regional, national and EU level (give quantitative information if possible)**

*Justify why you have selected this particular area for your project. Explain why your choice is the most appropriate to reach the project's objectives.*

Grasslands of the site harbor one of the European ground squirrel colonies with the highest density of individuals, and the protected area was exclusively designated for the conservation of this ground squirrel colony.

Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025



# DESCRIPTION OF SITES

| DESCRIPTION OF SITES | | |
|---|---|---|
| **Project name and acronym:** | | Ensuring the survival of a viable European Ground Squirrel population in the Pannonian region – CitellusLIFE |
| **Name of the project area:**<br>**The name must be used consistently on all maps and Part B** | | Salonta |
| **Surface area (ha)**:<br>*Indicate the total surface of the project area in hectares, rounded to two decimals* | | 3 792.30 ha |
| **EU protection status (if applicable)** | **SCI** | Salonta (ROSCI0387) |
| | **SAC** | |
| | **SPA** | |
| **Other protection status according to national or regional legislation (if applicable):** | | |

**Main land uses and ownership status of the project area**

*Indicate what are, at the project application date, the main uses made of the project site (e.g. farming, tourism, urban, nature conservation, etc.). Indicate the approximate percentages (in %) of the various uses, ensuring that the total reaches 100%. Indicate also the ownership status / types of the area at the project application date (e.g. private, state, etc.) and the approximate percentages (in %) of the different ownership status / types, ensuring that the total reaches 100%.*

Having an important percentage of pastures (72%), with 23% arable land and 3% wetland. Both communal and private ownership is present.

**Importance of the project area for biodiversity and/or for the conservation of the species /habitat types targeted at regional, national and EU level (give quantitative information if possible)**

*Justify why you have selected this particular area for your project. Explain why your choice is the most appropriate to reach the project's objectives.*

A valuable protected area with still a very important percentage a grasslands (partly salt steppes), and at least one European Ground Squirrel colony thriving within the area.

Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025



# DESCRIPTION OF SITES

| DESCRIPTION OF SITES | | |
|---|---|---|
| **Project name and acronym:** | | Ensuring the survival of a viable European Ground Squirrel population in the Pannonian region – CitellusLIFE |
| **Name of the project area:**<br>**The name must be used consistently on all maps and Part B** | | Teremia Mare – Tomnatic |
| **Surface area (ha)**:<br>*Indicate the total surface of the project area in hectares, rounded to two decimals* | | 6 613.70 ha |
| **EU protection status (if applicable)** | **SCI** | |
| | **SAC** | |
| | **SPA** | Teremia Mare – Tomnatic (ROSPA0142) |
| **Other protection status according to national or regional legislation (if applicable):** | | |

**Main land uses and ownership status of the project area**

*Indicate what are, at the project application date, the main uses made of the project site (e.g. farming, tourism, urban, nature conservation, etc.). Indicate the approximate percentages (in %) of the various uses, ensuring that the total reaches 100%. Indicate also the ownership status / types of the area at the project application date (e.g. private, state, etc.) and the approximate percentages (in %) of the different ownership status / types, ensuring that the total reaches 100%.*

Most (92%) of the area is covered by arable land, with 3.4% pastures 1.3% marshland and 0.8% forests.

**Importance of the project area for biodiversity and/or for the conservation of the species /habitat types targeted at regional, national and EU level (give quantitative information if possible)**

*Justify why you have selected this particular area for your project. Explain why your choice is the most appropriate to reach the project's objectives.*

The site is very important for its Red-footed Falcon colonies, as well as other protected bird species. Also an important site for the European Ground Squirrel, holding at least 7 relatively small colonies of the species.

Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025



# DESCRIPTION OF SITES

| DESCRIPTION OF SITES | | |
|---|---|---|
| **Project name and acronym:** | | Ensuring the survival of a viable European Ground Squirrel population in the Pannonian region – CitellusLIFE |
| **Name of the project area:**<br>**The name must be used consistently on all maps and Part B** | | Uivar – Diniaș |
| **Surface area (ha)**:<br>*Indicate the total surface of the project area in hectares, rounded to two decimals* | | 10 012.00 ha |
| **EU protection status (if applicable)** | **SCI** | |
| | **SAC** | |
| | **SPA** | Uivar – Diniaș (ROSPA0144) |
| **Other protection status according to national or regional legislation (if applicable):** | | |

**Main land uses and ownership status of the project area**

*Indicate what are, at the project application date, the main uses made of the project site (e.g. farming, tourism, urban, nature conservation, etc.). Indicate the approximate percentages (in %) of the various uses, ensuring that the total reaches 100%. Indicate also the ownership status / types of the area at the project application date (e.g. private, state, etc.) and the approximate percentages (in %) of the different ownership status / types, ensuring that the total reaches 100%.*

Some 67% of the area is covered by arable land, with a significant percentage (28) of pastures 1.5% marshland, the rest being covered by water bodies and built-in areas.

**Importance of the project area for biodiversity and/or for the conservation of the species /habitat types targeted at regional, national and EU level (give quantitative information if possible)**

*Justify why you have selected this particular area for your project. Explain why your choice is the most appropriate to reach the project's objectives.*

The site is very important for its Red-footed Falcon colonies, as well as other protected bird species. A few European Ground Squirrel colonies are found within the protected area and close to its limits.

Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025



# DESCRIPTION OF SITES

| DESCRIPTION OF SITES | | |
|---|---|---|
| **Project name and acronym:** | | Ensuring the survival of a viable European Ground Squirrel population in the Pannonian region – CitellusLIFE |
| **Name of the project area:**<br>**The name must be used consistently on all maps and Part B** | | Valea Alceului |
| **Surface area (ha)**:<br>*Indicate the total surface of the project area in hectares, rounded to two decimals* | | 3 534.00 ha |
| **EU protection status (if applicable)** | **SCI** | |
| | **SAC** | |
| | **SPA** | Valea Alceului (ROSPA0103) |
| **Other protection status according to national or regional legislation (if applicable):** | | |

**Main land uses and ownership status of the project area**

*Indicate what are, at the project application date, the main uses made of the project site (e.g. farming, tourism, urban, nature conservation, etc.). Indicate the approximate percentages (in %) of the various uses, ensuring that the total reaches 100%. Indicate also the ownership status / types of the area at the project application date (e.g. private, state, etc.) and the approximate percentages (in %) of the different ownership status / types, ensuring that the total reaches 100%.*

As in most parts of the lowland in Western Romania, the area holds a significant percentage (73%) of agricultural lands. There are also pastures (10%), marshes (13%), watercourses and lakes (4%). Near the village Livada de Bihor several small locust plantations and poplar tree lines are found, which are important roost sites for several bird species. The agriculture parcels are small, extensively worked by local farmers and landowners.

**Importance of the project area for biodiversity and/or for the conservation of the species /habitat types targeted at regional, national and EU level (give quantitative information if possible)**

*Justify why you have selected this particular area for your project. Explain why your choice is the most appropriate to reach the project's objectives.*

It is a relatively small protected area along the Barcău River, characterized by extensively used agricultural lands, pastures, small meadows and marshes. Beside the survived Roller population, the area has an important population of Red-footed Falcon and Lesser Gray Shrike. Among the raptors, Saker Falcon and White-tailed Eagle often occur in the area. Also an important site for the European Ground Squirrel, holding 6 colonies of the species.

Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025

# DESCRIPTION OF SPECIES AND HABITATS

| DESCRIPTION OF SPECIES AND HABITATS | |
|---|---|
| **Project name and acronym:** | Ensuring the survival of a viable European Ground Squirrel population in the Pannonian region — CitellusLIFE |

**Species**

- *Spermophilus citellus,* Linnaeus, 1766*;*
- HD Annexes: II., IV.; IUCN: endangered, decreasing;
- HU nationally: fluctuating 70 000 - 140 000 individuals (2018) decreasing; in project areas: about 50% of HU population; RO Pannonian part: 100 000 – 150 000 individuals, heavily decreasing; in project areas: 60-70% of western RO population.
- Conservation status within project areas: decreasing, similar to the national or European conservation status of the species.

The European Ground Squirrel (EGS), *S. citellus* is a medium-sized, hibernating European sciurid favouring short-grass natural meadows and recently more and more linked to semi-natural, managed grasslands (airfields, golf courses, recreational areas, orchards, vineyards). It is a key and engineer species of the steppic ecosystem and endemic to Central and South-eastern Europe. EGS changes the soil's physical, chemical characteristics significantly, and creates suitable microhabitats with its burrows for other vertebrate and invertebrate species (e.g. *Bufo viridis, Vipera ursinii rakosiensis, Onthophagus vitulus, Aphodius citellorum*) EGS is also an important prey for several endangered top predators, such as the Imperial eagle *(Aquila heliaca),* the Saker falcon *(Falco cherrug)* (listed in Annex I of the Birds Directive), the Steppe polecat *(Mustela eversmanii),* and the Marbled polecat *(Vormela peregusna)*, contributing considerably to their nesting success or litter survival compared to other preys (e.g. pigeons).

The geographical range of the EGS consists of two distinct parts divided by the Carpathian Mountains. The border between the two phylogenetic lineages is in the territory of Bulgaria. The western (Pannonian) part extends from Southern Poland through the Czech Republic and Eastern Austria through Slovakia and Hungary into the Pannonian part of Romania, Serbia and Croatia. The eastern part of the range includes the Trans-Carpathian region of Ukraine, Romania, part of Moldova, Bulgaria, the south-eastern part of Macedonia, the north-eastern part of Greece, and the European part of Turkey.

In Hungary, at the centre of the western part of EGS distribution, three significantly separated genetic groups were revealed. Based on this result, conservation interventions of the species became more problematic: mixing among the three groups should be avoided.

EGS populations in all three genetic groups have shrunk and became fragmented due to land use change resulting in severe habitat loss during the last decades. This decrease and the ecological importance of the species resulted in a change of its conservation status. It became protected (and even strictly protected in Hungary and Romania) in all states across its range and regarded as an Endangered species with decreasing population trend in the IUCN Red List.

EGS is still widespread in the western lowlands of Romania, due to the higher number and larger surface of pastures as opposed to most of Hungary, Serbia and other countries within the range of the central-European population. Most ground squirrel habitats are maintained as sheep pastures, although cattle grazing is also common locally. Currently some 280 separate colonies are known in the four counties of this region (Satu Mare, Bihor, Arad and Timiș), however several colonies have been lost during the past 15 years due to land conversion. Conversion of grasslands into arable land or in-built areas is still a regular practice in western Romanian lowlands, hence many ground squirrel colonies are facing either a surface reduction of their habitat or complete destruction, often within protected areas. Official statistics show that Romania has lost 460,000 ha of grassland since its EU accession in 2007, and the surface of ground squirrel habitats in western Romania had shrunk by 20% in the 2007–2017 period due to land conversion. Genetic differences between populations are poorly known, as are detailed ecological requirements of the species in different grassland habitats. Since this rodent is generally neglected by authorities, and because its grassland habitats are the most sought-after areas for residential parks, green energy investments and other infrastructure development, there is a great need for a comprehensive, science-based conservation strategy to underpin the conservation of ground squirrels in this region.

The threatened status of the species is mostly due to habitat loss and fragmentation connected to global and land use changes. As EGS is an obligate hibernator, changing winter climate could be as unfavourable as summer extremes.

The EGS is a diurnal animal whose lifestyle is still well known to people as part of our folklore. This can also be used for conservation actions and associated public awareness activities.

In Hungary and Romania, the mostly very fragmented population of EGS is strictly protected. Despite all of the former conservation efforts (e g. EU Species Action Plan for EGS, national conservation actions, RAPTORSPREYLIFE project etc.) the EGS population is still decreasing, and is continuously disappearing from more and more areas.

Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025

TABLE OF CONTENTS

LIST OF ABREVIATIONS USED IN THE PROPOSAL ……..……..2

LOGICAL FRAMEWORK MATRIX OF CITELLUSLIFE .....3

STRATEGY FOR SUSTAINABILITY AND REPLICATION OF THE CITELLUSLIFE PROJECT .....7

PROTOCOL OF HUNGARIAN BIODIVERSITY MONITORING SYSTEM EUROPEAN GROUND SQUIRREL PROGRAMME.....8

LAND REGISTRY PAGES…….……...…….14

WILLINGNESS TO SELL PLOTS…...……..…….22

LAND PRICE VALUATIONS……...…….…….25

## LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS USED IN THE PROPOSAL

| | |
|---|---|
| AE = | Affiliated Entities |
| AP = | Associated Partner |
| AR = | Annual Report |
| BEKE = | Bükk Mammalogical Society (in Hungarian: Bükki Emlőskutató Egyesület) |
| BEN = | Beneficiary/Beneficiaries |
| BNPD = | Bükk National Park Directorate |
| BVP = | Budakeszi Wildlife Park |
| CER = | Centre for Ecological Research |
| COO = | Coordinator |
| EGS = | European ground squirrel |
| EGSNet = | EGS Conservation Safety Net |
| EGS SAP = | European ground squirrel Species Action Plan |
| EN = | English (language) |
| FM = | Financial Manager |
| FHNPD = | Fertő-Hanság Nemzeti Park Directorate |
| FR = | Financial Report |
| GCMAS = | Grassland Conservation Management Advisory Service |
| IAS = | Invasive Alien Species |
| IR = | Interim Report |
| IUCN = | International Union for Conservation of Nature |
| HBMS = | Hungarian Biodiversity Monitoring System |
| HOI = | Herman Ottó Institute Nonprofit Ltd. |
| HU = | Hungarian (language) |
| HNPD = | Hortobágy National Park Directorate |
| KNPD = | Kiskunság National Park Directorate |
| MILVUS = | Milvus Group Bird and Nature Protection of Association |
| MA = | Ministry of Agriculture (of Hungary) |
| MtR = | Mid-Term Report |
| NPDs = | national park directorates (of Hungary) |
| PA = | Partner Administrators |
| PM = | Project Manager |
| PR = | Progress Report |
| RO = | Romanian (language) |
| SC = | Steering Committee |
| SCM = | Steering Committee Meeting |
| MS = | Milestone (of the Project) |
| UAV = | Unmanned Aerial Vehicles (UAVs), commonly known as drones |
| UD = | University of Debrecen |
| WP = | Work Package (of the Proposal) |
| ToR = | Terms of Reference |
| ZOO = | Zoo Foundation (Budapest Zoo and Botanical Garden) |

**Logical framework matrix of CitellusLIFE**

| Problems / Threats | Logic of the project | Precondition | Objectively verifiable indicators | Means of verification |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Problem:**<br>There is a further worrying decline in the European Ground Squirrels' (EGS) population and habitats. | **Project goal**:<br>By establishing the long-term survival of a strong, viable, genetically stable ground squirrel population in suitable habitats of the Pannonian region, the species can be prevented from disappearing. | • Species conservation plan level management is available<br>• After the project, management of the habitats, regular estimation of the number of individuals, operation of the gene bank, breeding and demonstration farm is continuous.<br>• Employees and equipment are constantly available. | • Increase in the number of EGS occurrences (number of EGS colonies)/habitats, especially in Natura 2000 sites.<br>• The number and size of the colonies belonging to each genetic lineage<br>• Spatial extent of EGS habitats and the number of individuals<br>• The number of corridors /linked colonies<br>• Number of visitors to exhibition venues | Monitoring data<br><br>HBMS (National Biomonitoring System) and capture/mark/recapture data, as well as telemetry, also UAV-based automated estimation of the number of individuals and the area of occurrence, monitoring with remote sensing determining the size of the area<br>Visitor counting |
| **Effect:**<br>Considered a keystone species and ecosystem engineer, the long-term survival of EGS populations is still uncertain, there is still a real danger that the ground squirrel population of the Pannonian region may collapse, which will significantly damage the associated ecosystem functions and ecosystem services. | **Project purpose:**<br>The "stretching" of an 'EGS Conservation Safety Net' ('EGSNet') created by coordinating local efforts, which is the most important guarantee for the survival of the worldwide EGS population by maintaining a viable population in the Pannonian region. | • A series of extreme weather does not interfere with the work.<br>• Stakeholders (authority, land manager, owner) are collaborating | • Number of EGS habitats and individuals<br>• Extent of habitat of newly established and restored colonies<br>• Number of linked colonies<br>• Number of EGS bred, kept in and resettled from gene banks/breeding centres<br>• Increasing public awareness through social media (stat)<br>• Number of people reached personally with communication campaigns<br>• Number of colonies (newly) created | Monitoring data and comparison with the previous RAPTORSPREYLIFE and the current GRASSLAND-HU LIFE projects.<br>Comparison of new methods (telemetry, UAV, citizen science-based monitoring) with previous ones, detailed introduction into practice, pedigree management<br>Social media visitor statistics |

| Problems | Results | Assumptions & Risks | Objectively verifiable indicators | Means of verification |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Threat 1:** Decrease in habitat extent and habitat suitability | Extents of suitable EGS habitats are increasing.<br><br>Improving and creating the necessary number of suitable quality habitats to ensure the survival of the EGS population. | ● Have sufficient means and capacity for habitat management<br>● There is sufficient source population to reintroduction /replenishment<br>● Favourable legal and economic environment | ● feasibility study<br>● colony extent, annual change<br>● number of habitats, extent and improvement in quality/condition | mapping, monitoring, management plans habitat qualification |
| **Threat 2:** Isolation of habitat fragments /roadkills | Opening corridors among population fragments | ● There are colonies close to each other and an area suitable for connection<br>● Property conditions<br>● Geographical location<br>● Suitable potential corridor | ● number of connected areas/colonies<br>● number of animals roadkilled<br>● number of signs warning of the risk of roadkill of ground squirrels | monitoring<br>mapping of habitats |
| **Threat 3:** Illnesses/health problems | We will know more about important diseases (pathogens) at population level, and thus the large-scale mortality can be reduced. | ● Finding suitable ground squirrel populations (sick/healthy)<br>● Taking a sufficient number of samples<br>● Appropriate laboratory, existence of appropriate laboratorial skill and conditions | ● the number of animals and colonies examined,<br>● result of laboratory tests<br>● the number of pathogens detected | veterinarian, parasitologist, genetics laboratory |
| **Threat 4:** Disappearance of genetic lineages | Conservation of the genetic structures and lineages, enhance the stability of the EGS | ● There are still enough individuals of the previously found genetic lineages | ● number of colonies and individuals belonging to certain genetic lineages | ● Data from the previous RAPTORSPREYLIFE<br>● baseline surveys<br>● monitoring |

| Problems | Results | Assumptions & Risks | Objectively verifiable indicators | Means of verification |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | genetic lines by increases of its individual number. | ● Gene bank reproduction and preservation of genetic lineages | ● number of individuals breeded in the genbank centres | ● gene bank register |
| **Threat 5:** Human activity, predators, wild boar | Reduced predation and other biotic disturbances. | ● Cooperating farmers, game managers and local population, municipalities | ● the number and extent of human and other disturbances (proportion of burrows dug)<br>● extent of the habitats damaged by wild boar<br>● extent of the exempted area<br>● the number of (unprotected) predators caught | official records<br>wildlife/game management plans, hunting statistics<br>extent of habitats damaged by wild boar<br>citizen involvment |
| **Threat 6:** Lack of information/knowledge | Available adequate and eligible information for conservation works | ● Sufficient sample size,<br>● appropriate sample handling and storing<br>● RAPTORSPREY and GRASSLAND-HU LIFE results,<br>● species action plan are available | ● number of examined animals<br>● results of laboratory tests<br>● monitoring results<br>● results of field experiments | laboratory<br>monitoring<br>baseline survey<br>transmitter, camera<br>Internet-based statistics installation |
| **Threat 7:** Lack of social support | Society and farmers can understand and accept the importance of the conservation effort, the familiarity and acceptance of the ground squirrel is increasing | ● Opened and tend to cooperate | ● number of cooperating farmers, persons authorized to hunt, number of residents<br>● number of visitors to EGS presentations and lectures<br>● number of posted information boards<br>● no. of information booklets<br>● no. of ground squirrel awareness monitoring on social media<br>● number of voluntary data collectors | project report<br>interviews<br>online and on-site questionnaire survey<br>operation of voluntary data collection system |

| Problems | Results | Assumptions & Risks | Objectively verifiable indicators | Means of verification |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | ● number of people reached through communication activities<br>● public media visitor number | |
| **Threat 8:** coordination | Good coordination of the project and nature conservation actions in general | ● Good project management<br>● Interactivity with the active Experts Group of Blind Mole-rat and EGS Protection<br>● and Farmers Advisory Service | ● project implementation according to plan<br>● number of meetings<br>● number of professional consultations<br>● data-analysis-result based decision (efficiency) | project reports |
| **Threat 9:** Ecological succession and spread of IAS, lack of proper treatment | Habitat reconstruction in the affected areas, Restoration of the suitable habitat management conditions | ● Grazing livestock<br>● Machinery | ● Extent of restored area<br>● Number of (drinking) wells restored<br>● Size of adequately grazed area | remote sensing |

Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025



# STRATEGY

## for sustainability and replication of the CitellusLIFE project

The practical interventions planned in the CitellusLIFE project have been designed to be sustainable in the long term with the lowest possible maintenance efforts. For these reasons:

- ✓ Operated 'EGS Conservation Safety Net' ('EGSNet') can flexibly react to stochastic environmental effect on the Pannonian EGS population for long after the project ended. 'EGSNet' will be operated by state owned HOI, keeping the database of EGS 'Colony Logsheet' system up-to-date as it will be built into its base-tasks, serving valid information about the necessary actions about the specific colonies.
- ✓ By establishing breeding centres for genetic lineages, we will create in- and outdoor breeding centres that are guaranteed by the state owned (BVP, HNPI) operators to be sustainable in the long term at a proportionally low cost (e.g. partly solar panel powered), providing vital individuals for the translocation and colony strengthening programmes in the future (among three partners, an additional 5 NPD declared in their letters of support that they will accept juveniles for their EGS translocation actions after the project period, too).
- ✓ We will plan and carry out translocations only by methods and from sources that would not threaten the vitality of the original EGS colonies, that are maintained in the most cautious way for the individuals involved in the translocation, and that will ensure the survival of the established population with guaranteed minimum site management by the managers, and that constitute a viable, self-sustainable colonies.
- ✓ We plan and carry out habitat restoration interventions such as re-grass of agricultural land, reduction of native shrubs, eradication of invasive plant species, reduction of predators and game species, which result in sustainable suitable EGS habitats in the long term with relatively low energy input management guaranteed by the site managers NPDs.
- ✓ Reconstructed wells will be maintenance by its operated NPDs for long after project end with relatively low investment because of continuous usage and solar power driver.
- ✓ The continuation of grazing management will be ensured by the state owned NPDs.
- ✓ Innovative methods and techniques such as UAV-based EGS burrow entrance counting, citizen science-based EGS monitoring, breeding technology, colony health, habitat assessment tools and climate sensitivity factors will make the project results sustainable, valuable, and useful to other users in a long term.
- ✓ The integration of EGS conservation aspects into national and EU nature conservation policy through the incorporation of standard monitoring methods, EGS-related extension proposals for the agricultural support system, an action plan for decision-makers regarding the survival of EGSs in the Pannonian region, preparation of a guidelines for developing consistent measures for ground squirrels with the conservation requirements of other protected species (animals, plants), will facilitate the processes of long-term EGS conservation at the decision-maker level.
- ✓ The results obtained will be open for both the scientific and the social community, allowing the results to be replicated in other locations and for other species and habitats.
- ✓ The long-term impacts of habitat conservation interventions on biodiversity status, air quality, soil quality, surface and groundwater quality will make our results sustainable not only from a nature conservation but also from an environmental perspectives.

Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025



**Természetvédelmi Információs Rendszer**

**Központi protokoll**

Verzió: 2015. április 16.

# Ürgemonitorozás

**Készítette (2005.09.26.):**
**Váczi Olivér**
**Altbäcker Vilmos**

**TIR átdolgozás:**
**Váczi Olivér**
**Takács Gábor**

Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025

# A monitorozás célja

A fokozottan védett ürge *(Spermophilus citellus)* állapotának nyomon követése, a nemzetközi adatszolgáltatási kötelezettség kielégítése (élőhelyvédelmi irányelv, egyezmények, OECD). (A faj ökológiai jelentőségét, illetve a monitorozás eredményeinek felhasználhatóságát ld. 1. mellékletben.)

# A monitorozandó taxonok „monitorozhatósága”

A rövidfüvű puszták optimálisan monitorozható faja az ürge, mivel elegendően nagy, de nem tömeges állománya áll rendelkezésünkre, szűktűrésű (növényzetmagasság, és -összetétel, talaj fizikai-kémiai tulajdonságai, talajvízszint, stb.) mérete és nappali aktivitása miatt távolról is jól megfigyelhető, a talajba ásott lyukak alapján jelenléte és relatív sűrűsége megbecsülhető valamint jól csapdázható.

# Vizsgált taxonok

Ürge *(Spermophilus citellus)*

# Mintavételi eljárás ismertetése

# Mintavételi módszer

Az ELTE Etológia Tanszékén célunk olyan ürgeszám becslési eljárás kidolgozása volt, mely alkalmas akár kis sűrűségű ürgepopulációk egyedszámának gyors, speciális szakértelmet nem igénylő egyedszám becslésére, egymástól független helyszíneken azonos időben, egységes formában. A módszer eredményességének kritikus eleme a definíciók szó szerinti értelmezése és az utasítások pontos betartása. (A szükséges adatlapot ld. a 2. mellékletben.)

## Ürgelyuk számolási módszer

**Ürgelyuk:** Olyan 4cm átmérőt (kétujjnyi) elérő fölbe vájt, természetes, körkörös átmérőjű lyuk, melynek tengelye a földfelszínre közel merőleges (nagyobb szöget zár be vele, mint 40°) és nem ágazik el közvetlenül a földfelszín alatt. Ezzel szemben a **pocoklyuk:** 4cm-nél kisebb lyukátmérőjű, szinte vízszintes (30°-nál kisebb szöget bezáró) járattal indul és 0.5-1 $m^2$-en belül további pocoklyukakhoz csapahálózattal kapcsolódik.

**Leírás:** A lyukak számolását összesen 1 250 m hosszú útvonal két oldalán 1-1 m-es sávban végezzük. Az út hosszát elegendő a lépések számolásával lemérni. A terület középpontja körül kijelölt állandó 5 db, egymástól 50 m-re eső 250 m hosszú párhuzamos egyenesek mentén végezzük a számolást. A séta során az 5 db **250 m-es szakaszon 50 méterenként** felírjuk a talált és definíciónak megfelelő összes **ürgelyukak számát**. Mivel az állandó mintavételi utak nem követhetik az ürgék területen belüli esetleges elmozdulását, átrendeződését, szükséges lehet egy másik, hasonló mintavételi hely kijelölése, melyet minden évben a legsűrűbbnek látszó területrész körül veszünk fel. (Ez lehet azonos is az állandó négyzettel.) Ezen, az évenként változó helyen is elhelyezhető mintavételi helyen az állandó helyhez hasonlóan, **5 db, egymástól 50 m-re eső 250 m** hosszú párhuzamos egyenesek mentén **50 méterenként** felírjuk a talált és definíciónak megfelelő összes **ürgelyukak számát**. A módszert előzetesen teszteltük (ld. 1. melléklet).

Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025

## Ürgelelőhely kiterjedésének vizsgálata





Minden mintavételi helyen az ürgék által benépesített térrészt **ötévente GPS segítségével körbejárjuk** a bejárási út rögzítésével és térinformatikai fedvény mentésével, elküldésével. A benépesített terület szélét a szélső ürgelyukak jelölik ki. **Évente** a benépesített terület **befoglaló ellipszis rövid és hosszú átmérőjét** adjuk meg méterben, lépésszámolással.

# Mintavételi gyakoriság

Az ürge szaporodási ritmusának (egyetlen alom évente) ismeretében a mintavételi gyakoriságot **évi egy felvételezés**ben határoztuk meg. A viszonylag nagyszámú mintaterületet évente egyszer, **azonos időben**, szinkronban, kampányszerű munkával kell felmérni, ezért szükséges és a módszer egyszerűsége miatt lehetséges a felvételezők körének kiszélesítése. Amennyiben egy területen öt éven át minden felvételezés, valamint a terepi tapasztalatok azt támasztják alá, hogy a területről eltűntek (kipusztultak) az ürgék, a mintavételi gyakoriságot öt évre kell csökkenteni, amikor is a fenti módszerrel kell a becslést elvégezni annak ellenőrzésére, hogy nem jelentek-e meg újra az ürgék a területen.

# Mintavételi időszak

Az éves felmérés időpontja a **Föld Napjá**hoz kötve (április 22.) annak a **hetén** zajlik, amit úgy állapítottunk meg, hogy az adott éviben született ürgék még ne zavarják a becslést. (Egymástól távolabbi területeken az adott évi fiatalok megjelenése nem egyszerre történik, így a későbbi időpontban már előfordulhat, hogy bizonyos területeken már előjöttek, máshol még nem jelentek meg a fiatalok, ami zavarná az összehasonlíthatóságot.)

## Mintavételi helyek

A mintavételek előre kijelölt, állandó helyeken zajlanak. A kijelölt területek számban és eloszlásban országos szintű reprezentativitást biztosítanak a programnak (Váczi, 2001). A mintavételek kötelezően az alábbi területen zajlanak (a kötelezően felmérendő területeken felül plusz területek felvételére is van lehetőség):

| Azonosító | Név | NPI |
|---|---|---|
| | **Ötévente ellenőrizendő, ürgementes területek** | |
| R7 | Gödöllő | DINP |
| R11 | Jakabszállás | KNP |
| R13 | Kiskunfélegyháza | KNP |
| R26 | Sármellék | BFNP |
| E2 | Garancsi-tó környéke | DINP |
| E3 | Újlengyel, Demeter-tanya legelő | DINP |
| E6 | Dejtár | DINP |
| E19 | Szakmári halastavak | KNP |
| E32 | Sárréti Tk. Bagódomb | DINP |
| E9 | Hajdúszoboszló, Gargóc | HNP |
| R24 | Csákvár | DINPI |

| Azonosító | Név | NPI | Azonosító | Név | NPI |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | **Repülőterek** | | | **Egyéb területek** | |
| R1 | Békéscsaba | KMNP | E1 | Körösladány, Kis-rét Vermes | KMNP |
| R2 | Budakeszi-Farkashegy | DINP | E4 | Dunakeszi Lóversenypálya | DINP |
| R3 | Budaörs | DINP | E5 | Sárkeresztúr | DINP |
| R4 | Dunakeszi | DINP | E7 | Tóalmási legelő | DINP |
| E5 | Dunaújváros | DINP | E10 | Bp. Vöröskővár | DINP |
| R6 | Esztergom | DINP | E11 | Bugac Öttömösi legelő | KNP |
| R34 | Mátyásföld | DINP | E12 | Németkér Hardi legelő | DDNP |
| R9 | Hajdúszoboszló | HNP | E13 | Bugac Pásztormúzeum | KNP |
| R10 | Hármashatárhegy | DINP | E14 | Tiszakeszi | BNP |
| R12 | Kecskéd | DINP | E15 | Paksi ürge-mező | DDNP |
| R14 | Miskolc | BNP | E16 | Vajszló, Feketevíz töltés | DDNP |
| R15 | Őcsény | DDNP | E17 | Kenyeri | ÖNP |
| R16 | Pécs-Pogány | DDNP | E18 | Balatonendréd | BFNP |
| R17 | Pér | FHNP | E20 | Kállósemjén, Honcsokos | HNP |
| R18 | Siófok-Kiliti | BFNP | E21 | Pilis Monori erdő | DINP |
| R19 | Szeged | KNP | E22 | Kaposújlak | DDNP |
| R20 | Szentes | KMNP | E23 | Szentkirályszabadjától K-re | BFNP |
| R21 | Szolnok-Szandaszölös | KNP | E24 | Csákberényi legelő, Csákberénytől DK-re | DINP |
| R22 | Szombathely | FHNP | E25 | Guszev teleptől D-re (Nyíregyháza lőtér) | HNP |
| R23 | Szentkirályszabadja | BFNP | E26 | Látrány | BFNP |
| R25 | Nyíregyháza | HNP | E27 | Sárándtól nyugatra, Városréti legelő | HNP |
| R35 | Kápolnapuszta | BFNP | E28 | Ürgedomb | FHNP |
| R27 | Debrecen | HNP | E29 | Öcsi legelő | BFNP |
| R28 | Fertőszentmiklós | FHNP | E31 | Harkakötöny-Tázlár, Szabó-sík | KNP |
| R29 | Balatonfüred - Tótvázsony | BFNP | E33 | Nagykálló, Harangod | HNP |
| R31 | Kecskemét | KNP | E34 | Lófej-völgy | ANP |
| R32 | Székesfehérvár Börgönd | DINP | E35 | Solti ürgés gyep | KNP |
| R33 | Maklár | BNP | E36 | Szabadszállási ürgés gyep | KNP |
| R35 | Ferihegy emlékpark | DINP | E37 | Kunszentmiklós, Ordasi hodály (II.) | KNP |
| | | | E38 | Mélykútpuszta | DINP |
| | | | E39 | Monorierdő | DINP |
| | | | E40 | Pusztavacs | DINP |
| | | | E41 | Vértesboglár felső | DINP |
| | | | E42 | Dévaványa, Kősziget | KMNP |
| | | | E43 | Debrecen, Józsai-legelő | HNP |
| | | | E44 | Nagyvenyim, Mélykút-puszta (Rab major legelő) | DINP |
| | | | E45 | Pusztavacs | DINP |

## Vizsgált változók

Az alapadatokat a kapott lyukszámok (az öt-öt sávban, 50 m-ként talált lyukak száma) jelentik az egyes mintaterületeken.
A becslés során a következő járulékos információk kerülnek rögzítésre:

- a **növényzet átlagos magassága** (5 cm-es pontossággal, szemre),
- a **terület mérete (befoglaló ellipszis rövid és hosszú átméről, lépésszámolással, méterben)**,
- tengerszint feletti **átlagmagasság**a (m),
- a **fizikai talaj típus** (amennyi információ rendelkezésre áll a mellékelt adatlap kategóriáit felhasználva),
- a durva kategóriákba sorolt **ürgeszám** (kategóriákat ld. a mellékelt adatlapon),
- a **talajvíz** durva kategóriákba sorolt **magassága** (kategóriákat ld. a mellékelt adatlapon),
- **ragadozómadarak jelenléte**,
- amennyiben meg tudja ítélni a **ragadozómadarak** kategóriákba sorolt **mérete**,
- 5 ha-nál kisebb,
- illetve nagyobb legközelebbi **erdőfolt távolsága** (méterben),
- legközelebbi **mező távolsága**, melyen **ürgék élnek** (méterben)**,**
- legközelebbi **lakott terület távolsága** (méterben),
- egyéb **megjegyzések** a munkával kapcsolatban.

# Származtatott adatok

Származtatott adat a területen található **átlagos lyuksűrűség**, mindkét mintavételi négyzetre kiszámolva:
, ahol

$$l = 4 \cdot \sum_{i=1}^{25} u_i$$

*l* a hektáronkénti lyuksűrűség (lyuk/ha), *i* a becslő út 50 m-es szakaszának sorszáma, $u_i$ az *i*. becslő útszakaszon talált lyukak száma (db).

A területen található **lyuksűrűség szórása**, mindkét mintavételi négyzetre kiszámolva:
, ahol

$$s = \sqrt{\frac{\sum_{i=1}^{25} u_i^{\,2} - \left(\sum_{i=1}^{25} u_i\right)^2}{24}}$$

*s* a szórás, *i* a becslő 50m-es útszakasz sorszáma, $u_i$ az *i*. becslő úton számolt lyukszám (db).

A referencia vizsgálat adatainak felhasználásával kiszámoljuk az egyes mintavételi négyzetekben az **ürgedenzitás**t:
, ahol

$$d = h \cdot \frac{l}{c}$$

*d* az ürgedenzitás, *h* a növényzetmagassági korrekciós faktor, *c* a lyukszám/egyedszám arány az adott időszakban, *l* a lyuksűrűség (lyuk/ha). Amennyiben a növényzetmagasság nem extrém magas, jó közelítéssel *h = 1*. Standard áprilisi számoláskor, pontosabb, terület specifikus becslés hiányában közelítésképpen *c = 6* értékkel becsülhetünk.

# Értékelés

Az értékelés elkészítését az országos összesítést készítő szakmai koordinátor végzi.
Az ürgesűrűségnek a járulékos adatként beérkező környezeti változókkal való kapcsolatát Spearman-rangkorrelációs teszttel vizsgáljuk. A sűrűség-változás időbeli elemzését a különböző élőhelykategóriák (reptér, nem reptér) tekintetében ANOVÁ-val hassonlítjuk össze, adathiány miatt szükség szerint 3-5 éves periódusokat összevonva.

# Ráfordítás becslés

| | |
|---|---|
| összes mintavételi hely (mvhely) | 100 db |
| vizsgálandó mvhely / év | 100 db |
| mintavételi egységek száma / hely | 25 db |
| ember / nap munka mvhelyenként | 1 |
| ember / nap / év mintavételezés | 100 |

Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025

| | |
|---|---|
| ember / nap / év adatbevitel | 10 |

# Előzmények, változtatás

A módszerek tesztelése egy mintaterületen megtörtént, az ürge monitorozása új országos programként került a NBmR-be 2000-ben. 2010-ben TIR-hez kellett igazítani a rögzítés pontos leírásával. 2015-ben kibővült a második mintavételi négyzet lehetőségével, a 200 m helyett 250 m hosszú becslő úthosszal, az 50 m-enkénti lyukszám rögzítéssel és az ürgék által benépesített terület egy és ötévenkénti becslési módszereinek bevezetésével.

# Felhasznált irodalom

Báldi, A, Csorba, G. & Korsós, Z. (1995): Magyarország szárazföldi gerinceseinek természetvédelmi szempontú értékelési rendszere. Magyar Természetudományi Múzeum, Budapest. pp. 59.
Kis, J., Váczi, O., Katona, K. & Altbäcker Vilmos (1998): A növényzetmagasság hatása a cinegési ürgék élőhelyválasztására. Természetvédelmi Közlemények, 7: 117-123.
Laundre, J. W. (1993): Effects of small mammal burrows on water infiltration in a cool desert environment. Oecologia (Heidelberg), 94(1): 43-48.
Szitta, T. (1996): Ürgetelepítés. Madártávlat. III (3): 5-7.
Váczi, O., Altbäcker, V. (1999): Füves repülőterek ürgeállományának felmérése, Természetvédelmi Közlemények, 8: 205-214.
Váczi, O., Katona, K., Altbäcker, V. (1996): A bugacpusztai ürgepopulció tér- és időbeli mintázata. Vadbiológia, 5: 141-148.
Váczi, O. (2001): NBmR Ürge-programjához kapcsolódó országos elterjedés-térképezés. Éves jelentés, KvVM, TVH számára.

Elektronikusan aláírta:
Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025
Lechner Nonprofit Kft. - Földhivatal
Szignó

Hajdú-Bihar Vármegyei Kormányhivatal
Debrecen 4024, Kossuth u. 12-14.



**E-hiteles tulajdoni lap - Szemle másolat**

Megrendelés szám:30005/137395/2024

2024.08.12

**HAJDÚHADHÁZ** Szektor : 16

**Külterület** **08/1 helyrajzi szám**

**I. RÉSZ**

1. Az ingatlan adatai:
   alrészlet adatok

| mûvelési ág/kivett megnevezés/ | min.o | terület ha m2 | kat.t.jöv. k.fill. | alosztály adatok ter. ha m2 | kat.jöv k.fill |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| . Kivett Állami terület I. | 0 | 1595.0040 | 0.00 | | |

2. bejegyzõ határozat: 80691/2/2018.11.27
   Natura 2000 terület

**II. RÉSZ**

1. tulajdoni hányad: 1/1
   bejegyzõ határozat, érkezési idõ: 9882/1961.10.23
   jogcím: földrendezés
   jogállás: tulajdonos
   név: MAGYAR ÁLLAM
   cím: -
   /Állami Földek I./.

4. hányad: 1/1
   bejegyzõ határozat, érkezési idõ: 76032/2/2023.10.09
   jogcím: jogszabály alapján
   jogállás: tulajdonosi jogokat gyakorló szervezet
   név: MAGYAR NEMZETI VAGYONKEZELÕ ZRT
   cím: 1133 BUDAPEST Pozsonyi út 56
   törzsszám: 14077340
   A Vtv. 3. § (1) bekezdése alapján a rábízott állami vagyon felett az államot megilletõ tulajdonosi jogok és kötelezettségek összességét tulajdonosi joggyakorlóként - ha törvény vagy miniszteri rendelet eltérõen nem rendelkezik - az MNV Zrt. gyakorolja.

5. hányad: 1/1
   bejegyzõ határozat, érkezési idõ: 76032/2/2023.10.09
   jogcím: jogszabály alapján
   jogállás: vagyonkezelõ
   név: HONVÉDELMI MINISZTÉRIUM
   cím: 1055 BUDAPEST Balaton utca 7-11.
   törzsszám: 15700005

**III. RÉSZ**

1. bejegyzõ határozat, érkezési idõ: 19590/1977.10.28
   Földmérési jelek elhelyezését biztosító használati jog .
   jogosult:
   név: HAJDÚ-BIHAR MEGYEI FÖLDHIVATAL törzsszám: 15324920
   cím : 4024 DEBRECEN Kossuth utca 12-14

**Folytatás a következõ lapon**

Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025



**E-hiteles tulajdoni lap - Szemle másolat**

Megrendelés szám:30005/137395/2024

2024.08.12

**HAJDÚHADHÁZ** Szektor : 16

**Külterület** **08/1 helyrajzi szám**

**Folytatás az elõzõ lapról**

**III. R É S Z**

4. bejegyzõ határozat, érkezési idõ: 58805-2/2009.07.08
   Vezetékjog
   8062 m2 területre, 22 kV-os szabadvezeték hálózat építése céljából.
   jogosult:
     név: OPUS TITÁSZ ÁRAMHÁLÓZATI ZRT. törzsszám: 10750036
     cím : 4024 DEBRECEN Kossuth Lajos utca 41

5. bejegyzõ határozat, érkezési idõ: 73166/2009.11.20
   Vezetékjog
   65394 m2 nagyságú területre, az LE-4326(5391)/09. sz. határozat alapján.
   jogosult:
     név: OPUS TITÁSZ ÁRAMHÁLÓZATI ZRT. törzsszám: 10750036
     cím : 4024 DEBRECEN Kossuth Lajos utca 41

6. bejegyzõ határozat, érkezési idõ: 39336/2010/2009.11.26
   Vezetékjog
   357 m2 nagyságú területre, az LE-3858(5370)/09. sz. határozat alapján.
   jogosult:
     név: OPUS TITÁSZ ÁRAMHÁLÓZATI ZRT. törzsszám: 10750036
     cím : 4024 DEBRECEN Kossuth Lajos utca 41

7. bejegyzõ határozat, érkezési idõ: 47073/2012/2011.06.30
   Bányaszolgalmi jog
   22270 m2 nagyságú területre.
   jogosult:
     név: FGSZ FÖLDGÁZSZÁLLÍTÓ ZRT. törzsszám: 12543331
     cím : 8600 SIÓFOK Tanácsház utca 5

8. bejegyzõ határozat, érkezési idõ: 44308/6/2014.02.18
   eredeti határozat: 78605/1999.09.08
   Bányaszolgalmi jog
   A szolgalmi jog 3 ha 9691 m2-re vonatkozik.
   jogosult:
     név: FGSZ FÖLDGÁZSZÁLLÍTÓ ZRT. törzsszám: 12543331
     cím : 8600 SIÓFOK Tanácsház utca 5

9. bejegyzõ határozat, érkezési idõ: 46633/2/2019.03.29
   Bányaszolgalmi jog
   51722 m2 nagyságú területre Országhatár-Mezõtúr DN800 földgázszállító vezeték és a tartozékát
   képezõ bányaüzemi hírközlõ kábel a 2931/2015 számon záradékolt munkarész alapján.
   jogosult:
     név: FGSZ FÖLDGÁZSZÁLLÍTÓ ZRT. törzsszám: 12543331
     cím : 8600 SIÓFOK Tanácsház utca 5

**Folytatás a következõ lapon**

Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025



**E-hiteles tulajdoni lap - Szemle másolat**

Megrendelés szám:30005/137395/2024

2024.08.12

**HAJDÚHADHÁZ** Szektor : 16

**Külterület** **08/1 helyrajzi szám**

**Folytatás az elõzõ lapról**

Az E-hiteles tulajdoni lap másolat tartalma a kiadást megelõzõ napig megegyezik az ingatlan-nyilvántartásban szereplõ adatokkal. A szemle másolat a fennálló bejegyzéseket, a teljes másolat valamennyi bejegyzést tartalmazza. Ez az elektronikus dokumentum kinyomtatva nem minõsül hiteles bizonyító erejû dokumentumnak. Ez a tulajdoni lap költségvetési szerv részére került kiadásra.

**TULAJDONI LAP VÉGE**

Elektronikusan aláírta:
Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025
Lechner Nonprofit Kft. - Földhivatal
Szigó

Hajdú-Bihar Vármegyei Kormányhivatal
Debrecen 4024, Kossuth u. 12-14.



**E-hiteles tulajdoni lap - Teljes másolat**

Megrendelés szám:30005/137155/2024

2024.08.12

**LÉTAVÉRTES** Szektor : 61

**Külterület** **0697/48 helyrajzi szám**

"címképzés alatt"

Széljegy: 74576/2024 2024.08.06
Tulajdonjog bejegyzése iránti kérelem, Major Imre sz.név: Major Imre a.név: Sós Eszter
cím: 4281 LÉTAVÉRTES Batthyány utca 43.

**I. RÉSZ**

1. Az ingatlan adatai:
alrészlet adatok — terület — kat.t.jöv. — alosztály adatok

| művelési ág/kivett megnevezés/ | min.o | ha m2 | k.fill. | ter. ha m2 | kat.jöv k.fill |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| . szántó | | 4.7178 | 84.07 | | |
| | 2 | | | 9486 | 23.05 |
| | 3 | | | 2.0077 | 36.54 |
| | 4 | | | 1.7615 | 24.48 |

2. bejegyzõ határozat: 63850/2/2022.06.22
Védett terület

**II. RÉSZ**

1. tulajdoni hányad: 1/1 törlõ határozat: 41978/3/2023.02.14
bejegyzõ határozat, érkezési idõ: 63850/2/2022.06.22
törlõ határozat: 41978/3/2023.02.14
eredeti határozat: 83878/1999.10.11
jogcím: részarány kiadás tulajdoni hányad: 0/1 83878/1999.10.11
jogcím: öröklés tulajdoni hányad: 0/1 31289/2008/2007.12.11
jogcím: tulajdonközösség megszüntetése tulajdoni hányad: 1/1
jogállás: tulajdonos
név : Kardos Dénesné
sz.név: Guba Irén
szül. : 1934
a.név : Mikó Julianna
cím : 4030 DEBRECEN Bujdosó utca 35/B.

2. tulajdoni hányad: 2/8 törlõ határozat: 54648/3/2024.04.15
bejegyzõ határozat, érkezési idõ: 41978/3/2023.02.14
törlõ határozat: 54648/3/2024.04.15
eredeti határozat: 63850/2/2022.06.22
jogcím: részarány kiadás tulajdoni hányad: 0/1 83878/1999.10.11
jogcím: öröklés tulajdoni hányad: 0/1 31289/2008/2007.12.11
jogcím: tulajdonközösség megszüntetése tulajdoni hányad: 1/1 63850/2/2022.06.22
jogállás: tulajdonos
név : Kardos Dénesné
sz.név: Guba Irén
szül. : 1934
a.név : Mikó Julianna
cím : 4030 DEBRECEN Bujdosó utca 35/B.

**Folytatás a következõ lapon**

Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025



**E-hiteles tulajdoni lap - Teljes másolat**

Megrendelés szám:30005/137155/2024

2024.08.12

**LÉTAVÉRTES** Szektor : 61

**Külterület** **0697/48 helyrajzi szám**

**Folytatás az elõzõ lapról**

**II. R É S Z**

3. tulajdoni hányad: 3/8
   bejegyzõ határozat, érkezési idõ: 41978/3/2023.02.14
   jogcím: végrendeleti öröklés
   jogállás: tulajdonos
   név : Katona Zoltánné
   sz.név: Ludman Erzsébet Erika
   szül. : 1973
   a.név : Cserven Erzsébet
   cím : 4002 DEBRECEN Fóliás utca 9.

4. tulajdoni hányad: 3/8
   bejegyzõ határozat, érkezési idõ: 41978/3/2023.02.14
   jogcím: végrendeleti öröklés
   jogállás: tulajdonos
   név : Czentye Mihályné
   sz.név: Gombos Ilona
   szül. : 1955
   a.név : Fehér Ilona
   cím : 4030 DEBRECEN Bodza utca 3.

5. tulajdoni hányad: 1/8
   bejegyzõ határozat, érkezési idõ: 54648/3/2024.04.15
   jogcím: végrendeleti öröklés
   jogállás: tulajdonos
   név : Katona Zoltánné
   sz.név: Ludman Erzsébet Erika
   szül. : 1973
   a.név : Cserven Erzsébet
   cím : 4002 DEBRECEN Fóliás utca 9.

6. tulajdoni hányad: 1/8
   bejegyzõ határozat, érkezési idõ: 54648/3/2024.04.15
   jogcím: végrendeleti öröklés
   jogállás: tulajdonos
   név : Czentye Mihályné
   sz.név: Gombos Ilona
   szül. : 1955
   a.név : Fehér Ilona
   cím : 4030 DEBRECEN Bodza utca 3.

**III. R É S Z**

1. bejegyzõ határozat, érkezési idõ: 63850/2/2022.06.22

   Önálló szöveges bejegyzés kialakult a 0697/47 helyrajzi számú ingatlan megosztását követõen a 602716/2022. számú záradékolt munkarész alapján. A megosztás 374/2014. (XII. 31.) Korm. rendelet alapján történt.

**Folytatás a következõ lapon**

Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025



**E-hiteles tulajdoni lap - Teljes másolat**

Megrendelés szám:30005/137155/2024

2024.08.12

**LÉTAVÉRTES** Szektor : 61

**Külterület** **0697/48 helyrajzi szám**

**Folytatás az elõzõ lapról**

**III. R É S Z**

2. bejegyzõ határozat, érkezési idõ: 58113/2/2024.05.06
Föld tulajdonjogának átruházására irányuló szerzõdés benyújtása
Vevõ: Major Imre (sz.: 1954, a.n.: Sós Eszter) 1/1 hányadra (572.392/3/2024).
utalás: II /3-6.
jogosult:
név: HAJDÚ-BIHAR VÁRMEGYEI KORMÁNYHIVATAL törzsszám: 15789312
cím : 4024 DEBRECEN Piac utca 54

Az E-hiteles tulajdoni lap másolat tartalma a kiadást megelõzõ napig megegyezik az ingatlan-nyilvántartásban szereplõ adatokkal. A szemle másolat a fennálló bejegyzéseket, a teljes másolat valamennyi bejegyzést tartalmazza. Ez az elektronikus dokumentum kinyomtatva nem minõsül hiteles bizonyító erejû dokumentumnak. Ez a tulajdoni lap költségvetési szerv részére került kiadásra.

**TULAJDONI LAP VÉGE**

Elektronikusan aláírta:
Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025
Lechner Nonprofit Kft. - Földhivatal
Szigó

Hajdú-Bihar Vármegyei Kormányhivatal
Debrecen 4024, Kossuth u. 12-14.



**E-hiteles tulajdoni lap - Teljes másolat**

Megrendelés szám:30005/137160/2024

2024.08.12

**LÉTAVÉRTES** Szektor : 61

**Külterület** **0697/49 helyrajzi szám**

"címképzés alatt"

**I. RÉSZ**

1. Az ingatlan adatai:
   alrészlet adatok

| mûvelési ág/kivett megnevezés/ | min.o | terület ha m2 | kat.t.jöv. k.fill. | alosztály adatok ter. ha m2 | kat.jöv k.fill |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| . szántó | | 1.7351 | 29.77 | | |
| | 2 | | | 2627 | 6.38 |
| | 3 | | | 6808 | 12.39 |
| | 4 | | | 7916 | 11.00 |

2. bejegyzõ határozat: 63850/2/2022.06.22
   Védett terület

**II. RÉSZ**

1. tulajdoni hányad: 1/1
   bejegyzõ határozat, érkezési idõ: 63850/2/2022.06.22
   eredeti határozat: 44963/2/2014.02.20
   jogcím: szerzõdéses öröklés tulajdoni hányad: 0/1 44963/2/2014.02.20
   jogcím: tulajdonközösség megszüntetése tulajdoni hányad: 1/1
   jogállás: tulajdonos
   név : Kárándi József
   sz.név: Kárándi József
   szül. : 1960
   a.név : Holló Julianna
   cím : 4281 LÉTAVÉRTES Teleki utca 23.

**III. RÉSZ**

1. bejegyzõ határozat, érkezési idõ: 63850/2/2022.06.22

   Önálló szöveges bejegyzés kialakult a 0697/47 helyrajzi számú ingatlan megosztását követõen a 602716/2022. számú záradékolt munkarész alapján. A megosztás 374/2014. (XII. 31.) Korm. rendelet alapján történt.

Az E-hiteles tulajdoni lap másolat tartalma a kiadást megelõzõ napig megegyezik az ingatlan-nyilvántartásban szereplõ adatokkal. A szemle másolat a fennálló bejegyzéseket, a teljes másolat valamennyi bejegyzést tartalmazza. Ez az elektronikus dokumentum kinyomtatva nem minõsül hiteles bizonyító erejû dokumentumnak. Ez a tulajdoni lap költségvetési szerv részére került kiadásra.

**TULAJDONI LAP VÉGE**

Elektronikusan aláírta:
Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025
Lechner Nonprofit Kft. - Földhivatal

Hajdú-Bihar Vármegyei Kormányhivatal
Debrecen 4024, Kossuth u. 12-14.



**E-hiteles tulajdoni lap - Teljes másolat**

Megrendelés szám:30005/137165/2024

2024.08.12

**LÉTAVÉRTES** Szektor : 61

**Külterület** **0697/50 helyrajzi szám**

"címképzés alatt"

**I. RÉSZ**

1. Az ingatlan adatai:
   alrészlet adatok

| mûvelési ág/kivett megnevezés/ | min.o | terület ha m2 | kat.t.jöv. k.fill. | alosztály adatok ter. ha m2 | kat.jöv k.fill |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| . szántó | | 1.8900 | 29.80 | | |
| | 2 | | | 470 | 1.14 |
| | 3 | | | 7070 | 12.87 |
| | 4 | | | 1.1360 | 15.79 |

2. bejegyzõ határozat: 63850/2/2022.06.22
   Védett terület

**II. RÉSZ**

1. tulajdoni hányad: 1/1
   bejegyzõ határozat, érkezési idõ: 63850/2/2022.06.22
   eredeti határozat: 44963/2/2014.02.20
   jogcím: szerzõdéses öröklés tulajdoni hányad: 0/1 44963/2/2014.02.20
   jogcím: tulajdonközösség megszüntetése tulajdoni hányad: 1/1
   jogállás: tulajdonos
   név : Kárándi Józsefné
   sz.név: Szabó Mária
   szül. : 1970
   a.név : Tarján Anna
   cím : 4281 LÉTAVÉRTES Teleki utca 23.

**III. RÉSZ**

1. bejegyzõ határozat, érkezési idõ: 63850/2/2022.06.22

   Önálló szöveges bejegyzés kialakult a 0697/47 helyrajzi számú ingatlan megosztását követõen a 602716/2022. számú záradékolt munkarész alapján. A megosztás 374/2014. (XII. 31.) Korm. rendelet alapján történt.

Az E-hiteles tulajdoni lap másolat tartalma a kiadást megelõzõ napig megegyezik az ingatlan-nyilvántartásban szereplõ adatokkal. A szemle másolat a fennálló bejegyzéseket, a teljes másolat valamennyi bejegyzést tartalmazza. Ez az elektronikus dokumentum kinyomtatva nem minõsül hiteles bizonyító erejû dokumentumnak. Ez a tulajdoni lap költségvetési szerv részére került kiadásra.

**TULAJDONI LAP VÉGE**

Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025

**FÖLDRÉSZLET ELADÁSI SZÁNDÉKÁNAK JELZÉSE A MAGYAR ÁLLAM JAVÁRA ELLENÉRTÉK FEJÉBEN**
**(magánszemély)**

| | |
|---|---|
| Alulírott, eladási szándékot jelző személy (teljes név): | MAJOR IMRE |
| Születési név: | MAJOR IMRE |
| Születési hely és idő: | MAGYALÓTA 1954.11.04. |
| Anyja neve: | SÓS ESZTER |
| Lakcímet igazoló hatósági igazolványon szereplő állandó lakóhely: | 4281 LÉTAVÉRTES BAJTHYÁNY u.43. |
| Levelezési címe: | |
| Telefonszám: | 06 709302111 |
| E-mail cím: | majorimre62@gmail.com |

0697/48

nyilatkozom, hogy a(z) **Létavértes** ..... **hrsz.-ú ingatlanok** engem illető hányadát a Magyar Állam tulajdonába és a Hortobágyi Nemzeti Park Igazgatóság vagyonkezelésébe vétele érdekében ellenérték fejében

értékesíteni kívánom / nem kívánom értékesíteni

*(a megfelelőt kérem aláhúzni, bekarikázni)*

Eladási szándékom kinyilvánítása mellett fenntartom a jogot, hogy a Magyar Állam képviseletében eljáró Hortobágyi Nemzeti Park Igazgatóság értékbecslésen alapuló ajánlat elfogadásáról és az ingatlanok eladásáról csak az ajánlat megkapásakor döntök.

Hozzájárulok, hogy – figyelemmel az információs önrendelkezési jogról és az információszabadságról szóló 2011. évi CXII. törvény rendelkezéseire -, a Hortobágyi Nemzeti Park Igazgatóság a jelen nyilatkozatban szereplő személyes adataimat az eladási szándékommal és a későbbi esetleges adásvétel lebonyolításával kapcsolatban a szükséges mértékben kezelje.

Amennyiben eladási szándékom kinyilvánítása során meghatalmazott képviselő útján járok el, úgy csatolom a képviseleti jogot megalapozó, írásba foglalt meghatalmazást.

Kelt: LÉTAVÉRTES, 2024. év 09. hó 11. nap

Major Imre

eladási szándékot kinyilvánító aláírása

Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025

**FÖLDRÉSZLET ELADÁSI SZÁNDÉKÁNAK JELZÉSE A MAGYAR ÁLLAM JAVÁRA ELLENÉRTÉK FEJÉBEN**
**(magánszemély)**

| | |
|---|---|
| Alulírott, eladási szándékot jelző személy (teljes név): | Kárándi József |
| Születési név: | Kárándi József |
| Születési hely és idő: | Debrecen, 1960.11.28. |
| Anyja neve: | Kelló Juliánna |
| Lakcímet igazoló hatósági igazolványon szereplő állandó lakóhely: | 4281 Létavértes, Telek u. 23 |
| Levelezési címe: | uo |
| Telefonszám: | 06301247605 |
| E-mail cím: | - |

nyilatkozom, hogy a(z) **Létavértes** 0697/48. **hrsz.-ú ingatlanok** engem illető hányadát a Magyar Állam tulajdonába és a Hortobágyi Nemzeti Park Igazgatóság vagyonkezelésébe vétele érdekében ellenérték fejében

értékesíteni kívánom / nem kívánom értékesíteni

*(a megfelelőt kérem aláhúzni, bekarikázni)*

Eladási szándékom kinyilvánítása mellett fenntartom a jogot, hogy a Magyar Állam képviseletében eljáró Hortobágyi Nemzeti Park Igazgatóság értékbecslésen alapuló ajánlat elfogadásáról és az ingatlanok eladásáról csak az ajánlat megkapásakor döntök.

Hozzájárulok, hogy – figyelemmel az információs önrendelkezési jogról és az információszabadságról szóló 2011. évi CXII. törvény rendelkezéseire -, a Hortobágyi Nemzeti Park Igazgatóság a jelen nyilatkozatban szereplő személyes adataimat az eladási szándékommal és a későbbi esetleges adásvétel lebonyolításával kapcsolatban a szükséges mértékben kezelje.

Amennyiben eladási szándékom kinyilvánítása során meghatalmazott képviselő útján járok el, úgy csatolom a képviseleti jogot megalapozó, írásba foglalt meghatalmazást.

Kelt: Létavértes, 2014 év 09 hó 09 nap

.....

eladási szándékot kinyilvánító aláírása

Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025

**FÖLDRÉSZLET ELADÁSI SZÁNDÉKÁNAK JELZÉSE A MAGYAR ÁLLAM JAVÁRA ELLENÉRTÉK FEJÉBEN**
**(magánszemély)**

| | |
|---|---|
| Alulírott, eladási szándékot jelző személy (teljes név): | Kairándi Józsefné |
| Születési név: | Szabó Mária |
| Születési hely és idő: | Debrecen, 1970.07.25. |
| Anyja neve: | Tarjáni Anna |
| Lakcímet igazoló hatósági igazolványon szereplő állandó lakóhely: | 4281 Létavértes, Tekhi u. 23. |
| Levelezési címe: | ua |
| Telefonszám: | 06302684601 |
| E-mail cím: | |

0697/
nyilatkozom, hogy a(z) **Létavértes** 50 **hrsz.-ú ingatlanok** engem illető hányadát a Magyar Állam tulajdonába és a Hortobágyi Nemzeti Park Igazgatóság vagyonkezelésébe vétele érdekében ellenérték fejében

értékesíteni kívánom / nem kívánom értékesíteni

*(a megfelelőt kérem aláhúzni, bekarikázni)*

Eladási szándékom kinyilvánítása mellett fenntartom a jogot, hogy a Magyar Állam képviseletében eljáró Hortobágyi Nemzeti Park Igazgatóság értékbecslésen alapuló ajánlat elfogadásáról és az ingatlanok eladásáról csak az ajánlat megkapásakor döntök.

Hozzájárulok, hogy – figyelemmel az információs önrendelkezési jogról és az információszabadságról szóló 2011. évi CXII. törvény rendelkezéseire -, a Hortobágyi Nemzeti Park Igazgatóság a jelen nyilatkozatban szereplő személyes adataimat az eladási szándékommal és a későbbi esetleges adásvétel lebonyolításával kapcsolatban a szükséges mértékben kezelje.

Amennyiben eladási szándékom kinyilvánítása során meghatalmazott képviselő útján járok el, úgy csatolom a képviseleti jogot megalapozó, írásba foglalt meghatalmazást.

Kelt: Létavértes, 2014. év 09. hó 09. nap

.....

eladási szándékot kinyilvánító aláírása

Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025


TÉZPALOTA KFT

Ügyazonosító-jel: **T2024/ 48**

# ÉRTÉKELÉSI SZAKVÉLEMÉNY

4281 Létavértes, külterület hrsz: 0697/48 hrsz alatti szántó művelési ágú ingatlanról



**Értékbecslés fordulónapja:** **2024. augusztus 26.**

**Cím: 4030 Debrecen, Kiss Áron u. 53.**

Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025

# TÖRZSLAP

összefoglaló adatlap a vizsgált ingatlanról

| | |
|---|---|
| Ügyazonosító-jele: | **T2024/** 54 |
| Ügyfél neve: | **Hortobágyi Nemzeti Park Igazgatóság (HNPI)** |

## MEGBÍZÁS TÁRGYA

| | |
|---|---|
| **Az értékelt ingatlan rendeltetése (tul. lap szerint):** | szántó |
| **Az értékelt ingatlan jelenlegi hasznosítása:** | szántó |

## INGATLAN CÍME ÉS AZONOSÍTÁSA

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| **Irányítószám, település, utca, házszám:** | Létavértes külterület | |
| **Együtt értékelt ingatlanok száma:** | 1 | db |
| **HRSZ (ok):** | 0697/48 | |

## INGATLAN BEMUTATÁSA

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| **Az ingatlan fekvése:** | külterület | |
| **Telek(rész) / termőföld nagysága:** | **47 178** | m2 |
| **Termőföld alrészletek száma:** | **3** | db |
| **Telepítmények száma:** | **0** | db |
| **Erdőrészletek száma:** | **0** | db |

## Értékelés célja

| | |
|---|---|
| **Értékelés célja** | **vételi ajánlatot megalapozó gazdasági döntéshez** |

## A termőföld összes aranykorona értéke:

**84,07**

## ÉRTÉKELÉS

| **Ingatlan forgalmi értéke /Ft/**<br>(igény-, per- és tehermentes állapotban) | |
|---|---|
| **Összesen** | **25 490 000 Ft** |

## Egyéb megállapítások a helyszíni szemle során

**Az értékelés a 2024.08.12.-én kelt tulajdoni lap alapján készült. Tulajdonos: Katona Zoltánné 4/8-ad tulajdoni hányadban és Czentye Mihályné 4/8-ad tulajdoni hányadban.**
**Az ingatlan "Védett terület" bejegyzést tartalmaz, továbbá Major Imre tulajdonjogának bejegyzésével kapcsolatban mind széljegyet, mind a tulajdoni lap III. részén terhelést.**

jogi megjegyzés

**Az értékelt ingatlan Létavértes külterületén, alapvetően mezőgazdasági jellegű területen található. Az ingatlan a településtől kb. 11,3 km-re D-re, átlagosan megközelíthető helyen található, jól hasznosítható szántó terület.**

általános megjegyzés

Értékelés dátuma: **2024.08.26**

Értékelést készítette:

**Kerschner Zsolt**

Ingatlanvagyon -értékelői névjegyzék szám: 14/2010
EUFIM értékelői minősítés 2004/102

Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025


**Ügyazonosító jel:** T2024/ **48**

**Ügyfél neve:** **Hortobágyi Nemzeti Park Igazgatóság (HNPI)**

# ÉRTÉKELÉSI SZAKVÉLEMÉNY

## TERMŐFÖLD INGATLAN ADATLAPJA

**(Hitelnyújtáshoz)**

| | Ingatlan címe | Kitöltés időpontja | Aláírás |
|---|---|---|---|
| Helyszíni szemle | 4281 Létavértes, külterület hrsz: 0697/48 hrsz | 2024.08.26 | |
| Ellenőrzés | | | |
| Időközi felülvizsgálat | | | |
| 1. | | | |
| 2. | | | |
| 3. | | | |
| 4. | | | |
| 5. | | | |
| 6. | | | |
| 7. | | | |
| Soron kívüli újraértékelés | | | |
| 1. | | | |
| 2. | | | |
| 3. | | | |
| 4. | | | |
| 5. | | | |
| 6. | | | |
| 7. | | | |

Értékelést készítette: **Kerschner Zsolt**

Ellenőrizte:

Jóváhagyta:

*Mellékletek:*
tulajdoni lap
hivatalos helyszínrajz
műszaki dokumentáció
jogerős épitési engedély
szerződések
fényképek
összehasonlító adatok
használati megosztási szerződés
egyéb: térképmásolat

Dátum: **2024.08.26**

# 1. AZONOSÍTÓ LAP

## *Alapadatok*

**az ingatlan**

| | |
|---|---|
| **címe:** | **Létavértes külterület** |
| **megnevezése (táblaszáma):** | |
| **helyrajziszám(ok):** | **0697/48** |

| | |
|---|---|
| ¤ telekkönyvi nyilvántartás helye: | **Hajdú-Bihar Vármegyei Kormányhivatal** |
| ¤ közigazgatásilag mely önkormányzathoz tartozik: | **Létavértes** |
| ¤ fekvése: | **külterület** |
| ¤ az ingatlan típusa (az ingatlan-nyilvántartási kategóriák szerint): | **szántó** |
| ¤ övezeti besorolása: | **Msz-1, részben régészeti lelőhely** |

¤ területe és aranykorona értéke:

| | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | **0697/48** | **szántó** | **2** | **9 486,00** | **m²** | **23,05** | **AK** |
| | | **szántó** | **3** | **20 077,00** | **m²** | **36,54** | **AK** |
| | | **szántó** | **4** | **17 615,00** | **m²** | **24,48** | **AK** |
| | **Összesen:** | | | **47 178,00** | **m²** | **84,07** | **AK** |
| | ***Mindösszesen:*** | | | ***47 178,00*** | ***m²*** | ***84,07*** | ***AK*** |

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| ¤ művelési ága(i): | **szántó** | | |
| ¤ nyilvántartott összes aranykorona érték összesen: | **0697/48** | **84,07** | **AK** |

¤ bejegyzett tulajdonos(ok):

**Az ingatlan tulajdonosa Katona Zoltánné 4/8-ad tulajdoni hányadban és Czentye Mihályné 4/8-ad tulajdoni hányadban.**

| | |
|---|---|
| ¤ tulajdon megszerzésének jogcíme: | **mindkét tulajdonos esetén öröklés.** |
| ¤ forgalomképességet befolyásoló bejegyzések (terhek, jogok, tények): | |
| ~ per és tehermentes: | **igen** |
| ~ per alatt áll: | **nem** |
| ~ bejegyzett jelzálogjog: | **nincs** |
| ~ bejegyzett haszonélvezet: | **nincs** |
| ~ szolgalmi jogok: | **nincs** |
| ~ egyéb bejegyzett jogok, tények: | **Az ingatlanra vonatkozó tulajdoni lap kelte: 2024.08.12. Az ingatlan "Védett terület" bejegyzést tartalmaz. Széljegyként Major Imre tulajdonjog bejgyzés iránti kérelmét tartalmazza, továbbá terhelésként Major Imre a föld tulajdonjogának átruházására irányuló szerződés benyújtása bejegyzését.** |
| ~ külföldi, illetve cselekvőképességében korlátozott társtulajdonos: | **nincs** |
| ~ forgalomképességet bármilyen okból korlátozó széljegyzet: | **nincs** |
| ~ egyéb korlátozó tényező (pl. többéves haszonbérleti szerződés): | **nincs** |
| ¤ terület művelője: | **tulajdonos** |
| ¤ haszonbérletbe kiadott művelés esetén a bérlőre vonatkozó információk: | |
| ~ bérleti szerződés időtartama, lejárata: | **n.a.** |
| ~ bérleti díj, illetve járadék megfizetésének módja: | **n.a.** **kg búza/Ak/év**<br>**n.a.** **Ft/Ak/év** |

| *Az ingatlan paraméterei* | *0697/48* |
|---|---|

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| ¤ alapterülete: | **47 178** | **m2** | **4,7178** | **ha** |

| | |
|---|---|
| ¤ alakja, formája: | **szabálytalan sokszög alakú** |
| ¤ fekvése, elhelyezkedése: | **Pocsaj fel vezető műúttól K-re nyíló kb. 1,6 km jól járható földúton.** |
| ¤ birtokhatárok leírása: | **É. földút, K: erdő, szántó, D, Ny: erdő, a területtől É-ra jelölt földút a valóságban nem található, művelésbe vont** |
| ¤ domborzati és lejtésviszonyok: | **részben sík, részben magasabb fekvésű, pár méteres szintkülönbséggel** |
| ¤ csapadékviszonyok, vízjárás, vízborítottság, vízrendezés: | **átlagos csapadékviszonyok, átlagos vízgazdálkodású talaj, vízborítottság nem jellemző** |
| ¤ talajtani jellemzők: | |
| talajtípus: | **réti öntés talaj** |
| szerkezet: | **nagymorzsás/rögös szerkezet** |
| kötöttség: | **közepesen kötött** |
| vízgazdálkodás: | **átlagos vízgazdálkodású, jó vízáteresztő- és közepes víztartó képességű talaj** |
| tápanyag-gazdálkodás: | **jó tápanyag-gazdálkodású, jó tápanyagszolgáltató képességű talaj** |
| ¤ a környező földingatlanok jellemző hasznosítása: | **szántó** |
| ¤ különleges agrokémiai beavatkozás (pl.: meszezés ) jellege, ideje: | - |
| ¤ a terület beépítettsége, nyitottsága: | **kerítetlen** |
| ¤ lakott településtől számított legkisebb távolság: | **Pocsaj kb. 6,8 km-re, Létavértes kb. 11,3 km-re** |
| ¤ frekventált nagyvárostól, kiemelt üdülő, vagy idegenforgalmi központtól mért távolság: | **Debrecen kb. 36,9 km-re, Nyíregyháza kb. 86,9 km, Békéscsaba kb. 126 km** |
| ¤ megközelíthetősége: | **jó minőségű földúton** |
| ¤ infrastruktúra: | **nincs** |
| ¤ az ingatlanon lévő - önálló helyrajzi számmal nem rendelkező - szolgáló épület(ek), építmény(ek), műtárgy(ak) – felsorolása: | **nincs** |
| ¤ művelést gátló tereptárgyak: | **nincs** |
| ¤ az ingatlanon jelenleg található telepítmény(ek): | **nincs** |
| ¤ művelési ág a jelenlegi hasznosítás szerint: | **szántó** |
| ¤ művelési ág megelőző hasznosítás szerint: | **szántó** |
| ¤ legcélszerűbb hasznosítás a becslő véleménye szerint: | **szántó** |

üzemszerű művelést

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| ¤ fajlagos ( és átlagos ) földérték jelenleg: | **1. sz. tálázat szerint** | **AK/ha** |
| ¤ ültetvény és nem feltétlen erdő esetén a módosított AK/ha érték: | | **AK/ha** |

| | |
|---|---|
| ¤ föld minőségi osztály: | **szántó** |
| ¤ egyéb, az ingatlan értékét jelentősen befolyásoló körülmény: | **Az értékelt ingatlan szántó művelési ágú, jól megközelíthető.** |

# *2.* ÉRTÉKELŐ LAP

## 1. PIACI ÖSSZEHASONLITÓ ADATOK ELEMZÉSÉN ALAPULÓ ÉRTÉKELÉS

Piaci érték (Fé) = terület (A) * módosított alapérték

**A piaci összehasonlító adatok elemzésén alapuló értékelés már megtörtént, konkrét és ismert adásvételi tranzakciók (ezek hiányában ajánlati) árainak a vizsgált esetre való kiterjesztésével, összehasonlításával történik.**

**A piaci összehasonlító adatokon alapuló módszer fő lépései:**

1. **Az alaphalmaz kiválasztása.**
2. **Összehasonlításra alkalmas ingatlanok kiválasztása, adatainak elemzése.**
3. **Fajlagos alapérték meghatározása.**
4. **Értékmódosító tényezők elemzése (nagyság, állapot, elhelyezkedés stb.)**
5. **A fajlagos alapérték módosítása, fajlagos érték számítása.**
6. **Végső érték számítása a fajlagos érték és az ingatlan mérete szorzataként.**

**Összehasonlító adatok**

| **Adat / szempont** | **vizsgált ing.** | 1 | | 2 | | 3 | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| cím | **Létavértes külterület** | Létavértes | | Létavértes | | Létavértes | |
| Szöveges jellemzés | átlagosan megközelíthető, jól hasznosítható szántó | szántó | | szántó | | szántó | |
| **összes terület [HA]** | **4,7178** | **3,1831** | | **1,2395** | | **1,2400** | |
| INFO forrás | - | saját forrás | | saját forrás | | saját forrás | |
| Árak **/Ft/** | - | 17 188 740 | | 6 700 000 | | 6 700 000 | |
| INFO kelte | - | 2023.07.01 | | 2023.01.01 | | 2023.01.01 | |
| Fajlagos érték **[Ft/HA]** | - | **5 400 000** | | **5 405 405** | | **5 403 226** | |
| eladási / kínálat ár | | 0% | eladási adat | 0% | eladási adat | 0% | eladási adat |
| Fajlagos érték [Ft/HA] | | 5 400 000 | [Ft/HA] | 5 405 405 | [Ft/HA] | 5 403 226 | [Ft/HA] |
| Értékmódosító tényezők, a vizsgálthoz +- %-osan meghatározva | | | | | | | |
| **szempontok** | | **%** | **indoklás** | **%** | **indoklás** | **%** | **indoklás** |
| méret, alak, forma | - | | | | | | |
| fekvés, elhelyezkedés | - | | | | | | |
| művelési ág | - | | | | | | |
| infrastruktúra, öntözési lehetőség | - | | | | | | |
| környezet, megközelíthető ség | - | | | | | | |
| alternatív hasznosíthatós ág | - | | | | | | |
| **összesen** | - | 0% | | 0% | | 0% | |
| korrekciós tényező | - | 1,00 | | 1,00 | | 1,00 | |
| Módosított Fajlagos érték [Ft/HA] | | 5 400 000 | | 5 405 405 | | 5 403 226 | |
| Mód. Fajlagos alapérték átlaga **[Ft/HA]** | | **5 402 877** | | | | | |

Módosító tényezőknél a 30 %-ot meghaladó mértéket külön indokolni kell

| hrsz | terület HA | érték Ft | kerekített érték |
|---|---|---|---|
| | 10 000 | | |
| 0697/48 | 4,7178 | 25 489 693 | **25 490 000** |
| | Összesen: | | **25 490 000** |

## 2. HOZAMSZÁMÍTÁSON ALAPULÓ ÉRTÉKELÉS SZÁMÍTÁSAI:

A hozamszámításon alapuló értékelés az ingatlan jövőbeni hasznainak és az ezek megszerzése érdekében felmerülő kiadások különbségéből (tiszta jövedelmek) vezetik le az értéket. Az érték megállapítása azon az elven alapszik, hogy bármely eszközértéke annyi, mint a belőle származó tiszta jövedelmek jelenértéke.

***mezőgazdasági ingatlan értéke (Fé ) = termőföld-érték (Fté) + telepítményérték (Té)***

**Művelési ág:** **szántó**

***1.***

*Az adott megye, adott földminőséghez (AK) tartozó potenciális hozadékának – járadék jellegű jövedelem*

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| ***(Pj)*** | **Hajdú-Bihar Megye** | **30,9** | **étkezési búza kg/AK** |

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| *Leolvasása az alapfüggvényekből* | ***30,9*** | *x 1. sz. táblázat =* | *1. sz. táblázat* ***Pj*** *oszlopa* | *(kg búza/ha)* |

***2.*** **Hajdú-Bihar Megye** **30** **étkezési búza kg/AK**

*A környezetben kialakult földbérleti díj megállapítása:*

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| ***(B)*** | ***30*** | *x 1. sz. táblázat =* | *1. sz. táblázat* ***B*** *oszlopa* | *(kg búza/ha)* |

***3.***

*A potenciális földhozadék és a bérleti díj átlagaként a földtőkehozadék* ***(FH)*** *kiszámítása:*

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| ***FH = ( Pj + B) / 2 =*** | ***1. sz. táblázat*** | *1. sz. táblázat* ***FH*** *oszlopa* | *(kg búza/ha)* |

***4.***

*A földtőkeérték meghatározása*

***(FTÉ)***

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| ***FVM szerinti étkezési búza ár (AKI PÁIR által publikált búza MATIF):*** | ***86,03*** | ***Ft/kg*** | *(86.028,00 Ft/t)* |
| ***Tőkésítési kamatláb (i):*** | ***4,50%*** | | |

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| ***FTÉ = FH x FVM szerinti étk. Búzaár / i =*** | ***1. sz. táblázat*** | ***(Ft/ha)*** |

*ahol az* ***i*** *a Jelzálogbank által időszakosan meghatározott tőkésítési kamatláb értéke.*

### *1. számú táblázat*

| Sorsz. | Hrsz | Terület (ha) | AK érték | Fajlagos AK érték (AK/ha) | Járadék jellegű jöv. **Pj** (kg búza/ha) | Földbérleti díj **B** (kg búza/ha) | Földtőke hozadéka **FH=(Pj+B)/2** (kg búza/ha) | Földtőke érték **FTÉ = FH * búza ár/i** (Ft/ha) |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1. | 0697/48 | 4,7178 | 84,07 | 17,82 | 551 | 535 | 543 | 1 037 328 |
| | Összesen: | 4,7178 | 84,07 | | | | | |

*A föld tőkeértékének korrekciója* *0697/48*

| ***Korrekciók megnevezése*** | **Indokolt %-os eltérés az alapértéktől (+/-)** | |
|---|---|---|
| | **határértékek** | |
| - területi mérete: nagyüzemi művelésre alkalmas | -10-től + 10 %-ig | **0%** |
| - alak, forma: | | **0%** |
| - fekvés, elhelyezkedés: | -80-tól + 150 %-ig | **40%** |
| - domborzat és lejtésviszony: | -30-tól 0 %-ig | **0%** |
| - vízjárás rendezettsége: | -20-tól + 20 %-ig | **0%** |
| - infrastruktúra, meglévő közművek: | 0-tól + 30 %-ig | **0%** |
| - megvalósítható közművek: | 0-tól + 15 %-ig | **0%** |
| - üzemszerű művelést szolgáló építmények: | 0-tól + 15 %-ig | **0%** |
| - művelést gátló tereptárgyak: | -15-től 0 %-ig | **0%** |
| - útviszonyok: | -20-tól + 20 %-ig | **0%** |
| - kerítettség: | 0-tól + 15 %-ig | **0%** |
| - átlagtól eltérő fagy-, jég-, vadkár valószínűsége: | -25-tól 0 %-ig | **0%** |
| - esztétikai benyomás: | -10-tól + 10 %-ig | **0%** |
| - tápanyag gazdálkodás: rendszeres tápanyagutánpótlás | -10-tól + 10 %-ig | **0%** |
| - értéknövelő, tartós, beruházás jellegű agrotechnikai beavatkozások: | 0-tól + 20 %-ig | **0%** |
| - természeti védettség: | -20-tól 0 %-ig | **0%** |
| - környezeti szennyezettség: | -10-tól 0 %-ig | **0%** |
| - gazdasági környezet: | -20-tól + 20 %-ig | **0%** |
| - egyéb: | -20-tól + 20 %-ig | **0%** |
| ***Összesen(S k +/..... %)*** | | ***40%*** |

*A korrekciók összegének felhasználásával a termőföldterület korrigált értéke* ***(Fté)*** *Ft-ban:*

| ***Fté = FTÉ x (1+S k +/..... %)*** *Ft.=* | | | ***Fté*** | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| ***0697/48*** ***hrsz*** ***1 037 328*** | ***x (1+ Össz. korrekció)*** | **=** | ***1 452 259*** | **Ft/ha** |

***Indoklás az alkalmazott korrekciós értékekhez (akkor kell kitölteni, ha ∑ k értéke –30 alatt, vagy +30 felett van):***

| |
|---|
| ***Az értékelt ingatlan szántó művelési ágú, átlagosan megközelíthető helyen található.*** |

*A teljes földterület tőkeértéke = $F_{té}$ x terület (ha):*

| | | ***Fté*** | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| ***0697/48*** | ***hrsz*** | ***1 452 259*** | ***x a föld területével*** | **=** | ***6 851 469*** | **Ft** |
| ***Összesen:*** | | | | | ***6 851 469*** | ***Ft*** |

Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025


## 4. AZ INGATLAN VÉGSŐ FORGALMI ÉRTÉKÉNEK MEGHATÁROZÁSA

A végső forgalmi érték meghatározásának alapjául kiválasztott értékelési metódus, a súlyozott értékek és a kiválasztás indokai:

Az ingatlan végső forgalmi értékének meghatározásánál csak a piaci összehasonlító módszert vettük alapul, mert a fajlagos AK érték alapján számított hozamérték nem minden esetben tükrözi az ingatlan valós értékét.

| | |
|---|---|
| ***PIACI ALAPÚ FORGALMI ÉRTÉK ÖSSZESEN (Fé):*** | 25 490 000 Ft |
| ***HOZAMSZÁMÍTÁSON ALAPULÓ FORGALMI ÉRTÉK ÖSSZESEN (Fé):*** | 6 851 469 Ft |
| ***Az ingatlan forgalmi értéke (Fé):*** | **25 490 000 Ft** |

**KOCKÁZATELEMZÉS:**

***Az értékelt ingatlan Létavértes külterületén, alapvetően mezőgazdasági jellegű területen található. Az ingatlan a településtől kb. 11,3 km-re D-re, átlagosan megközelíthető helyen található, jól hasznosítható szántó terület.***

| *Ingatlantípusonkénti értékelem:* | | termőföld | telepítmény, erdő, | ingatlan együtt |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Fé (Ft) | | **25 490 000** | | |
| Az ingatlan értékesítése a javasolt forgalmi értéken | 0 - 90 nap | | | |
| | 90 - 180 nap | | | |
| | 180 - 365 nap | | | |
| | 1 év - 3 év | **X** | | |
| | 3 éven túl | | | |

Dátum: 2024.aug.26

Kerschner Zsolt

Értékelő:

Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025

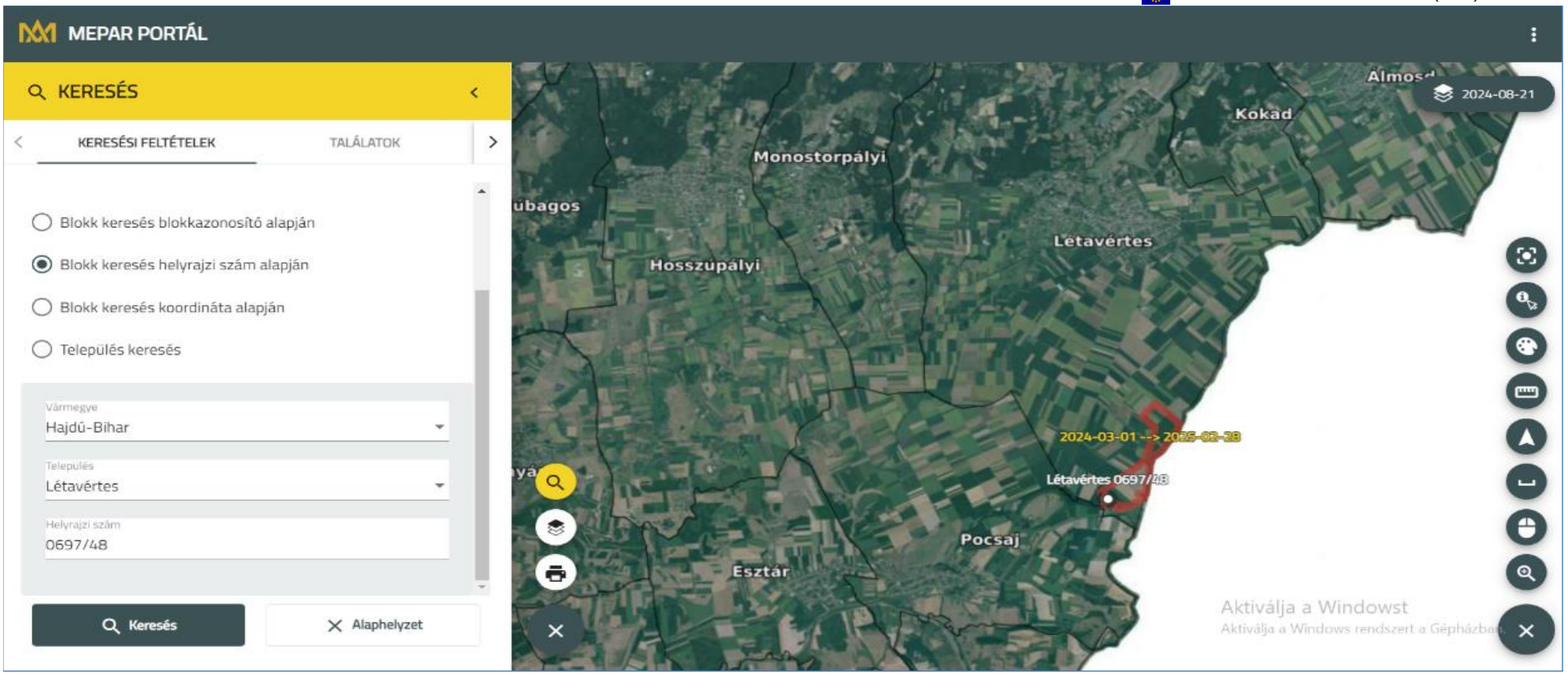
# MELLÉKLETEK

tulajdoni lap

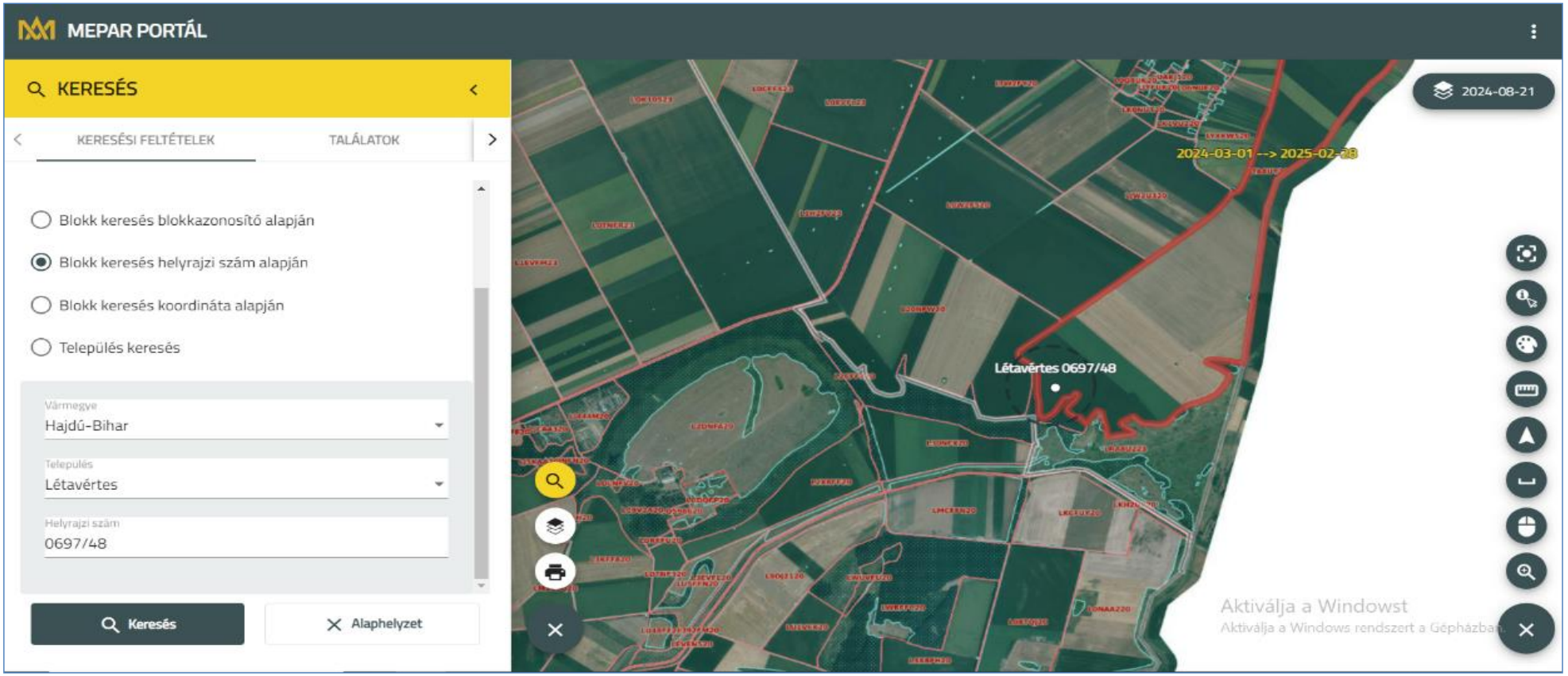
hivatalos helyszínrajz

műholdas kép

fotók


MEPAR PORTÁL
KERESÉS
KERESÉSI FELTÉTELEK
TALÁLATOK
Blokk keresés blokkazonosító alapján
Blokk keresés helyrajzi szám alapján
Blokk keresés koordináta alapján
Település keresés
Vármegye
Hajdú-Bihar
Település
Létavértes
Helyrajzi szám
0697/48
Keresés
Alaphelyzet
Monostorpályi
Kokad
Hosszúpályi
Létavértes
Pocsaj
Esztár
2024-08-21
2024-03-01 --> 2025-02-28
Létavértes 0697/48
Aktiválja a Windowst

Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025



Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025

# FOTÓK

















Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025



# Tanúsítvány

**1** Az értékbecslési jelentést a legjobb tudásunk szerint, a szakemberektől elvárható szakszerűséggel és gondossággal, az általános és szakmai etikai normák betartásával készítettük el.

**2** Kijelentjük, hogy értékelési eljárás során esetlegesen tudomásunkra jutott bizalmas szakmai és üzleti adatokat üzleti titokként kezeljük, megbízó hozzájárulása nélkül nem hozzuk nyilvánosságra.

**3** A ténybeli megállapítások, melyeket e szakvélemény tartalmaz, legjobb tudomásunk szerint igazak és helytállóak.

**4** A szakvéleményben foglalt elemzéseket, véleményalkotásokat és következtetéseket csak a szakvéleményben megfogalmazott előfeltételek határolják be, és azok a személyes, részrehajlástól mentes szakértői elemzés véleményei és következtetései.

**5** Az értékbecslést független értékelőként végeztük el, a megbízóval a jelen megbízási szerződésen kívül semmilyen közvetlen vagy közvetett partneri vagy üzlettársi kapcsolatban nem állunk, és nem álltunk.

**6** Értékbecslői díjazásunk nincsen összefüggésben az általunk megállapított értékkel, nem függ semmilyen intézkedéstől vagy eseménytől, mely a szakvéleményben foglalt elemzések, vélemények, és következtetések megjelenítése vagy felhasználása eredményeként jöhet létre.

**7** Jelen értékbecslés a vonatkozó hazai jogszabály az 54/1997. (VIII. 1.) FM Rendelet alapján, az EVS 2016. (Európai Értékelési Szabványok) ajánlásainak figyelembe vételével készült.

Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025

# Az értékbecslési jelentés összeállításakor figyelembe vett feltételezések

1 Nem vállalunk felelősséget olyan, a későbbiekben az ingatlanban, az ingatlan környezetében esetlegesen bekövetkező változásokért, amelyek befolyásolhatják az itt megadott értékeket.

2 Az ingatlan tulajdoni viszonyaival kapcsolatos adatokat a tulajdoni lap alapján rögzítettük, azokat megbízhatónak tekintettük, de az egyéb, a megrendelőtől, hitelfelvevőtől kapott információk, adatok (így: területi adatok, műszaki állapot, talajmechanikai, épületfizikai, környezetvédelmi, bérleti bevételi és egyéb paraméterek) valódiságáért felelősséget nem vállalunk.

3 Feltételeztük, hogy a tulajdonjog forgalomképes és nem terheli semmilyen jelzálog, vagy egyéb kötelezettség azokon kívül, amelyeket konkrétan megemlítettünk jelentésünkben.

4 A jelentés – külön erre vonatkozó megbízás hiányában – nem vizsgálja a veszélyes, egészségre ártalmas, egyéb környezetkárosító anyagok jelenlétét, illetőleg az ingatlan környezetében esetlegesen folytatott ilyen jellegű tevékenységek hatását.

5 Az értékbecslési jelentésben jellemzett műszaki állapotot a helyszíni szemlén látottak, a szemlét biztosító személy szóbeli tájékoztatása és a részünkre átadott adatszolgáltatás alapján mutattuk be. Nem végeztünk talajmechanikai, épületfizikai, környezetvédelmi és egyéb hasonló vizsgálatokat.

6 Az értékbecslés mellékleteként becsatolt dokumentumok csak a bemutatás célját szolgálják, és segítenek megjeleníteni a jelentésben tárgyalt kérdéseket.

7 Ezen értékbecslési jelentés előzetes írásbeli engedélyünk nélkül sem egyben, sem részeiben nem publikálható, a megadottól eltérő célra nem használható.

8 A jelentés magyar nyelven, 1 példányban írásban és 1 pld. elektronikusan rögzített formátumban készült, melyből egy elektronikus példány a megrendelő részére átadásra került, egy elektronikus és egy írott példány pedig a készítő adattárában található.

9 Nem vállalunk felelősséget a tekintetben, hogy az értékelt ingatlan mennyiben felel meg a tűzvédelmi-, épületbiztonsági-, földrengés- és egyéb használati előírásoknak. Szintén nem vállalunk felelősséget az előzőekhez kapcsolódó esetleges hiányosságok tekintetében, melyek a helyszíni szemle alkalmával nem voltak láthatóak.

10 Feltételeztük, hogy az értékelt ingatlan hasznosítása annak határain belül történik és nem áll fenn birtokháborítás, vagy egyéb jogsértés.
Az értékelés során az értékelt ingatlannal kapcsolatban felelős tulajdonosi magatartást és hozzáértő ingatlankezelést feltételeztünk.

11 A megrendelő kérésére értékelésünk az ingatlan esetleges megvásárlásával kapcsolatos vételi ajánlat kialakításához szükséges érték meghatározására vonatkozik. Nem vizsgáltuk az eladói hajlandóságot, annak függvényében az adásvételi ár és a megállapított érték eltérhetnek.
Az értékelés kizárólag az abban megjelölt célra használható fel.

12 Az értékbecslő kijelenti, hogy az értékelt ingatlannal kapcsolatban, illetve az érintett felekkel kapcsolatban sem az elmúlt 2 évben, sem jelenleg érdekeltsége nincs, illetve a megállapított értékek egy esetleges jövőbeni érdekeltségtől függetlenek. Az értékbecslő kijelenti továbbá, hogy díjazása független a megállapított értékektől.

Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025

Hajdú-Bihar Vármegyei Kormányhivatal
Debrecen 4024, Kossuth u. 12-14.



**E-hiteles tulajdoni lap - Teljes másolat**

Megrendelés szám:30005/137155/2024

2024.08.12

**LÉTAVÉRTES** Szektor : 61

**Külterület** **0697/48 helyrajzi szám**

"címképzés alatt"

Széljegy: 74576/2024 2024.08.06
Tulajdonjog bejegyzése iránti kérelem, Major Imre sz.név: Major Imre a.név: Sós Eszter
cím: 4281 LÉTAVÉRTES Batthyány utca 43.

**I. RÉSZ**

1. Az ingatlan adatai:
alrészlet adatok

| művelési ág/kivett megnevezés/ | min.o | terület ha m2 | kat.t.jöv. k.fill. | alosztály adatok ter. ha m2 | kat.jöv k.fill |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| . szántó | | 4.7178 | 84.07 | | |
| | 2 | | | 9486 | 23.05 |
| | 3 | | | 2.0077 | 36.54 |
| | 4 | | | 1.7615 | 24.48 |

2. bejegyzõ határozat: 63850/2/2022.06.22
Védett terület

**II. RÉSZ**

1. tulajdoni hányad: 1/1 törlõ határozat: 41978/3/2023.02.14
bejegyzõ határozat, érkezési idõ: 63850/2/2022.06.22
törlõ határozat: 41978/3/2023.02.14
eredeti határozat: 83878/1999.10.11
jogcím: részarány kiadás tulajdoni hányad: 0/1 83878/1999.10.11
jogcím: öröklés tulajdoni hányad: 0/1 31289/2008/2007.12.11
jogcím: tulajdonközösség megszüntetése tulajdoni hányad: 1/1
jogállás: tulajdonos
név : Kardos Dénesné
sz.név: Guba Irén
szül. : 1934
a.név : Mikó Julianna
cím : 4030 DEBRECEN Bujdosó utca 35/B.

2. tulajdoni hányad: 2/8 törlõ határozat: 54648/3/2024.04.15
bejegyzõ határozat, érkezési idõ: 41978/3/2023.02.14
törlõ határozat: 54648/3/2024.04.15
eredeti határozat: 63850/2/2022.06.22
jogcím: részarány kiadás tulajdoni hányad: 0/1 83878/1999.10.11
jogcím: öröklés tulajdoni hányad: 0/1 31289/2008/2007.12.11
jogcím: tulajdonközösség megszüntetése tulajdoni hányad: 1/1 63850/2/2022.06.22
jogállás: tulajdonos
név : Kardos Dénesné
sz.név: Guba Irén
szül. : 1934
a.név : Mikó Julianna
cím : 4030 DEBRECEN Bujdosó utca 35/B.

**Folytatás a következõ lapon**

Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025



**E-hiteles tulajdoni lap - Teljes másolat**

Megrendelés szám:30005/137155/2024

2024.08.12

**LÉTAVÉRTES** Szektor : 61

**Külterület** **0697/48 helyrajzi szám**

**Folytatás az elõzõ lapról**

**II. R É S Z**

3. tulajdoni hányad: 3/8
   bejegyzõ határozat, érkezési idõ: 41978/3/2023.02.14
   jogcím: végrendeleti öröklés
   jogállás: tulajdonos
   név : Katona Zoltánné
   sz.név: Ludman Erzsébet Erika
   szül. : 1973
   a.név : Cserven Erzsébet
   cím : 4002 DEBRECEN Fóliás utca 9.

4. tulajdoni hányad: 3/8
   bejegyzõ határozat, érkezési idõ: 41978/3/2023.02.14
   jogcím: végrendeleti öröklés
   jogállás: tulajdonos
   név : Czentye Mihályné
   sz.név: Gombos Ilona
   szül. : 1955
   a.név : Fehér Ilona
   cím : 4030 DEBRECEN Bodza utca 3.

5. tulajdoni hányad: 1/8
   bejegyzõ határozat, érkezési idõ: 54648/3/2024.04.15
   jogcím: végrendeleti öröklés
   jogállás: tulajdonos
   név : Katona Zoltánné
   sz.név: Ludman Erzsébet Erika
   szül. : 1973
   a.név : Cserven Erzsébet
   cím : 4002 DEBRECEN Fóliás utca 9.

6. tulajdoni hányad: 1/8
   bejegyzõ határozat, érkezési idõ: 54648/3/2024.04.15
   jogcím: végrendeleti öröklés
   jogállás: tulajdonos
   név : Czentye Mihályné
   sz.név: Gombos Ilona
   szül. : 1955
   a.név : Fehér Ilona
   cím : 4030 DEBRECEN Bodza utca 3.

**III. R É S Z**

1. bejegyzõ határozat, érkezési idõ: 63850/2/2022.06.22

   Önálló szöveges bejegyzés kialakult a 0697/47 helyrajzi számú ingatlan megosztását követõen a 602716/2022. számú záradékolt munkarész alapján. A megosztás 374/2014. (XII. 31.) Korm. rendelet alapján történt.

**Folytatás a következõ lapon**

Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025



**E-hiteles tulajdoni lap - Teljes másolat**

Megrendelés szám:30005/137155/2024

2024.08.12

**LÉTAVÉRTES** Szektor : 61

**Külterület** **0697/48 helyrajzi szám**

**Folytatás az elõzõ lapról**

**III. R É S Z**

2. bejegyzõ határozat, érkezési idõ: 58113/2/2024.05.06
Föld tulajdonjogának átruházására irányuló szerzõdés benyújtása
Vevõ: Major Imre (sz.: 1954, a.n.: Sós Eszter) 1/1 hányadra (572.392/3/2024).
utalás: II /3-6.
jogosult:
név: HAJDÚ-BIHAR VÁRMEGYEI KORMÁNYHIVATAL törzsszám: 15789312
cím : 4024 DEBRECEN Piac utca 54

Az E-hiteles tulajdoni lap másolat tartalma a kiadást megelõzõ napig megegyezik az ingatlan-nyilvántartásban szereplõ adatokkal. A szemle másolat a fennálló bejegyzéseket, a teljes másolat valamennyi bejegyzést tartalmazza. Ez az elektronikus dokumentum kinyomtatva nem minõsül hiteles bizonyító erejû dokumentumnak. Ez a tulajdoni lap költségvetési szerv részére került kiadásra.

**TULAJDONI LAP VÉGE**

Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025

Hajdú-Bihar Vármegyei Kormányhivatal
Debrecen 4024, Kossuth u. 12-14.

# Hiteles térképmásolat - Teljes másolat

2024.08.26 13:21:19

Helyrajzi szám: LÉTAVÉRTES külterület 697/48

Megrendelés szám: 7/3077/2024

Méretarány: 1 : 4000

Térrajzszám: 88101980002024



A térképmásolat a kiadást megelõzõ napig megegyezik az ingatlan-nyilvántartási térképi adatbázis tartalmával. A térképmásolat méretek levételére nem használható!

kiállította

Nagy Zsuzsanna

Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025


Ügyazonosító-jel: **T2024/ 55**

# ÉRTÉKELÉSI SZAKVÉLEMÉNY

4281 Létavértes, külterület hrsz: 0697/49 hrsz alatti szántó művelési ágú ingatlanról



**Értékbecslés fordulónapja:** **2024. augusztus 26.**

**Cím: 4030 Debrecen, Kiss Áron u. 53.**

Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025

# TÖRZSLAP

összefoglaló adatlap a vizsgált ingatlanról

| | |
|---|---|
| Ügyazonosító-jele: | **T2024/** 55 |
| Ügyfél neve: | **Hortobágyi Nemzeti Park Igazgatóság (HNPI)** |

## MEGBÍZÁS TÁRGYA

| | |
|---|---|
| **Az értékelt ingatlan rendeltetése (tul. lap szerint):** | szántó |
| **Az értékelt ingatlan jelenlegi hasznosítása:** | szántó |

## INGATLAN CÍME ÉS AZONOSÍTÁSA

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| **Irányítószám, település, utca, házszám:** | Létavértes külterület | |
| **Együtt értékelt ingatlanok száma:** | 1 | db |
| **HRSZ (ok):** | 0697/49 | |

## INGATLAN BEMUTATÁSA

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| **Az ingatlan fekvése:** | külterület | |
| **Telek(rész) / termőföld nagysága:** | **17 351** | m2 |
| **Termőföld alrészletek száma:** | **3** | db |
| **Telepítmények száma:** | **0** | db |
| **Erdőrészletek száma:** | **0** | db |

## Értékelés célja

| | |
|---|---|
| **Értékelés célja** | **vételi ajánlatot megalapozó gazdasági döntéshez** |

## A termőföld összes aranykorona értéke:

**29,77**

## ÉRTÉKELÉS

| **Ingatlan forgalmi értéke /Ft/** (igény-, per- és tehermentes állapotban) | |
|---|---|
| **Összesen** | **9 375 000 Ft** |

## Egyéb megállapítások a helyszíni szemle során

**Az értékelés a 2024.08.12.-én kelt tulajdoni lap alapján készült. Tulajdonos: Kárándi József 1/1-ed tulajdoni hányadban.**
**Az ingatlan "Védett terület" bejegyzést tartalmaz, széljegyet, terhelést nem tartalmaz.**

jogi megjegyzés

**Az értékelt ingatlan Létavértes külterületén, alapvetően mezőgazdasági jellegű területen található. Az ingatlan a településtől kb. 11,5 km-re D-re, átlagosan megközelíthető helyen található, jól hasznosítható szántó terület.**

általános megjegyzés

Értékelés dátuma: **2024.08.26**

Értékelést készítette:

**Kerschner Zsolt**

Ingatlanvagyon -értékelői névjegyzék szám: 14/2010
EUFIM értékelői minősítés 2004/102

Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025


**Ügyazonosító jel:** T2024/ 55

**Ügyfél neve:** **Hortobágyi Nemzeti Park Igazgatóság (HNPI)**

# ÉRTÉKELÉSI SZAKVÉLEMÉNY

## TERMŐFÖLD INGATLAN ADATLAPJA

**(Hitelnyújtáshoz)**

| | Ingatlan címe | Kitöltés időpontja | Aláírás |
|---|---|---|---|
| Helyszíni szemle | 4281 Létavértes, külterület hrsz: 0697/49 hrsz | 2024.08.26 | |
| Ellenőrzés | | | |
| Időközi felülvizsgálat | | | |
| 1. | | | |
| 2. | | | |
| 3. | | | |
| 4. | | | |
| 5. | | | |
| 6. | | | |
| 7. | | | |
| Soron kívüli újraértékelés | | | |
| 1. | | | |
| 2. | | | |
| 3. | | | |
| 4. | | | |
| 5. | | | |
| 6. | | | |
| 7. | | | |

Értékelést készítette: **Kerschner Zsolt**

Ellenőrizte:

Jóváhagyta:

*Mellékletek:*
tulajdoni lap
hivatalos helyszínrajz
műszaki dokumentáció
jogerős épitési engedély
szerződések
fényképek
összehasonlító adatok
használati megosztási szerződés
egyéb: térképmásolat

Dátum: **2024.08.26**

# 1. AZONOSÍTÓ LAP

## *Alapadatok*

**az ingatlan**

| | |
|---|---|
| **címe:** | **Létavértes külterület** |
| **megnevezése (táblaszáma):** | |
| **helyrajziszám(ok):** | **0697/49** |

| | |
|---|---|
| ¤ telekkönyvi nyilvántartás helye: | **Hajdú-Bihar Vármegyei Kormányhivatal** |
| ¤ közigazgatásilag mely önkormányzathoz tartozik: | **Létavértes** |
| ¤ fekvése: | **külterület** |
| ¤ az ingatlan típusa (az ingatlan-nyilvántartási kategóriák szerint): | **szántó** |
| ¤ övezeti besorolása: | **Msz-1, részben régészeti lelőhely** |

¤ területe és aranykorona értéke:

| | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | **0697/49** | **szántó** | **2** | **2 627,00** | **m²** | **6,38** | **AK** |
| | | **szántó** | **3** | **6 808,00** | **m²** | **12,39** | **AK** |
| | | **szántó** | **4** | **7 916,00** | **m²** | **11,00** | **AK** |
| | **Összesen:** | | | **17 351,00** | **m²** | **29,77** | **AK** |
| | ***Mindösszesen:*** | | | ***17 351,00*** | ***m²*** | ***29,77*** | ***AK*** |

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| ¤ művelési ága(i): | **szántó** | | |
| ¤ nyilvántartott összes aranykorona érték összesen: | **0697/49** | **29,77** | **AK** |

¤ bejegyzett tulajdonos(ok):

**Az ingatlan tulajdonosa Kárándi József 1/1-ed tulajdoni hányadban.**

| | |
|---|---|
| ¤ tulajdon megszerzésének jogcíme: | **tulajdonközösség megszüntetése** |
| ¤ forgalomképességet befolyásoló bejegyzések (terhek, jogok, tények): | |
| ~ per és tehermentes: | **igen** |
| ~ per alatt áll: | **nem** |
| ~ bejegyzett jelzálogjog: | **nincs** |
| ~ bejegyzett haszonélvezet: | **nincs** |
| ~ szolgalmi jogok: | **nincs** |
| ~ egyéb bejegyzett jogok, tények: | **Az ingatlanra vonatkozó tulajdoni lap kelte: 2024.08.12. Az ingatlan "Védett terület" bejegyzést tartalmaz. Az ingatlan sem széljegyet, sem terhelést nem tartalmaz.** |
| ~ külföldi, illetve cselekvőképességében korlátozott társtulajdonos: | **nincs** |
| ~ forgalomképességet bármilyen okból korlátozó széljegyzet: | **nincs** |
| ~ egyéb korlátozó tényező (pl. többéves haszonbérleti szerződés): | **nincs** |
| ¤ terület művelője: | **tulajdonos** |
| ¤ haszonbérletbe kiadott művelés esetén a bérlőre vonatkozó információk: | |
| ~ bérleti szerződés időtartama, lejárata: | **n.a.** |
| ~ bérleti díj, illetve járadék megfizetésének módja: | **n.a.** **kg búza/Ak/év**<br>**n.a.** **Ft/Ak/év** |

| *Az ingatlan paraméterei* | *0697/49* | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| ¤ alapterülete: | **17 351** | **m2** | **1,7351** | **ha** |
| ¤ alakja, formája: | **szabálytalan sokszög alakú** | | | |
| ¤ fekvése, elhelyezkedése: | **Pocsaj fel vezető műúttól K-re nyíló kb. 1,7 km jól járható földúton.** | | | |
| ¤ birtokhatárok leírása: | **É. földút, K, Ny:, szántó, D: erdő, a területtől É-ra jelölt földút a valóságban nem található, művelésbe vont** | | | |
| ¤ domborzati és lejtésviszonyok: | **részben sík, részben magasabb fekvésű, pár méteres szintkülönbséggel** | | | |
| ¤ csapadékviszonyok, vízjárás, vízborítottság, vízrendezés: | **átlagos csapadékviszonyok, átlagos vízgazdálkodású talaj, vízborítottság nem jellemző** | | | |
| ¤ talajtani jellemzők: | | | | |
| talajtípus: | **réti öntés talaj** | | | |
| szerkezet: | **nagymorzsás/rögös szerkezet** | | | |
| kötöttség: | **közepesen kötött** | | | |
| vízgazdálkodás: | **átlagos vízgazdálkodású, jó vízáteresztő- és közepes víztartó képességű talaj** | | | |
| tápanyag-gazdálkodás: | **jó tápanyag-gazdálkodású, jó tápanyagszolgáltató képességű talaj** | | | |
| ¤ a környező földingatlanok jellemző hasznosítása: | **szántó** | | | |
| ¤ különleges agrokémiai beavatkozás (pl.: meszezés ) jellege, ideje: | - | | | |
| ¤ a terület beépítettsége, nyitottsága: | **kerítetlen** | | | |
| ¤ lakott településtől számított legkisebb távolság: | **Pocsaj kb. 6,9 km-re, Létavértes kb. 11,5 km-re** | | | |
| ¤ frekventált nagyvárostól, kiemelt üdülő, vagy idegenforgalmi központtól mért távolság: | **Debrecen kb. 38,2 km-re, Nyíregyháza kb. 85,7 km, Békéscsaba kb. 125 km** | | | |
| ¤ megközelíthetősége: | **jó minőségű földúton, a területtől É-ra található földút a valóságban nem található, művelésbe vont** | | | |
| ¤ infrastruktúra: | **nincs** | | | |
| ¤ az ingatlanon lévő - önálló helyrajzi számmal nem rendelkező - szolgáló épület(ek), építmény(ek), műtárgy(ak) – felsorolása: | **nincs** | | | |
| ¤ művelést gátló tereptárgyak: | **nincs** | | | |
| ¤ az ingatlanon jelenleg található telepítmény(ek): | **nincs** | | | |
| ¤ művelési ág a jelenlegi hasznosítás szerint: | **szántó** | | | |
| ¤ művelési ág megelőző hasznosítás szerint: | **szántó** | | | |
| ¤ legcélszerűbb hasznosítás a becslő véleménye szerint: | **szántó** | | | |
| ¤ fajlagos ( és átlagos ) földérték jelenleg: | **1. sz. tálázat szerint** | | | **AK/ha** |
| ¤ ültetvény és nem feltétlen erdő esetén a módosított AK/ha érték: | | | | **AK/ha** |
| ¤ föld minőségi osztály: | **szántó** | | | |
| ¤ egyéb, az ingatlan értékét jelentősen befolyásoló körülmény: | **Az értékelt ingatlan szántó művelési ágú, jól megközelíthető.** | | | |

# *2.* ÉRTÉKELŐ LAP

## 1. PIACI ÖSSZEHASONLITÓ ADATOK ELEMZÉSÉN ALAPULÓ ÉRTÉKELÉS

Piaci érték (Fé) = terület (A) * módosított alapérték

**A piaci összehasonlító adatok elemzésén alapuló értékelés már megtörtént, konkrét és ismert adásvételi tranzakciók (ezek hiányában ajánlati) árainak a vizsgált esetre való kiterjesztésével, összehasonlításával történik.**

**A piaci összehasonlító adatokon alapuló módszer fő lépései:**

1. **Az alaphalmaz kiválasztása.**
2. **Összehasonlításra alkalmas ingatlanok kiválasztása, adatainak elemzése.**
3. **Fajlagos alapérték meghatározása.**
4. **Értékmódosító tényezők elemzése (nagyság, állapot, elhelyezkedés stb.)**
5. **A fajlagos alapérték módosítása, fajlagos érték számítása.**
6. **Végső érték számítása a fajlagos érték és az ingatlan mérete szorzataként.**

**Összehasonlító adatok**

| **Adat / szempont** | **vizsgált ing.** | 1 | | 2 | | 3 | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| cím | **Létavértes külterület** | Létavértes | | Létavértes | | Létavértes | |
| Szöveges jellemzés | átlagosan megközelíthető, jól hasznosítható szántó | szántó | | szántó | | szántó | |
| **összes terület [HA]** | **1,7351** | **3,1831** | | **1,2395** | | **1,2400** | |
| INFO forrás | - | saját forrás | | saját forrás | | saját forrás | |
| Árak **/Ft/** | - | 17 188 740 | | 6 700 000 | | 6 700 000 | |
| INFO kelte | - | 2023.07.01 | | 2023.01.01 | | 2023.01.01 | |
| Fajlagos érték **[Ft/HA]** | - | **5 400 000** | | **5 405 405** | | **5 403 226** | |
| eladási / kínálat ár | | 0% | eladási adat | 0% | eladási adat | 0% | eladási adat |
| Fajlagos érték [Ft/HA] | | 5 400 000 | [Ft/HA] | 5 405 405 | [Ft/HA] | 5 403 226 | [Ft/HA] |
| Értékmódosító tényezők, a vizsgálthoz +- %-osan meghatározva | | | | | | | |
| **szempontok** | | **%** | **indoklás** | **%** | **indoklás** | **%** | **indoklás** |
| méret, alak, forma | - | | | | | | |
| fekvés, elhelyezkedés | - | | | | | | |
| művelési ág | - | | | | | | |
| infrastruktúra, öntözési lehetőség | - | | | | | | |
| környezet, megközelíthető ség | - | | | | | | |
| alternatív hasznosíthatós ág | - | | | | | | |
| **összesen** | - | 0% | | 0% | | 0% | |
| korrekciós tényező | - | 1,00 | | 1,00 | | 1,00 | |
| Módosított Fajlagos érték [Ft/HA] | | 5 400 000 | | 5 405 405 | | 5 403 226 | |
| Mód. Fajlagos alapérték átlaga **[Ft/HA]** | | **5 402 877** | | | | | |

Módosító tényezőknél a 30 %-ot meghaladó mértéket külön indokolni kell

| hrsz | terület HA | érték Ft | kerekített érték |
|---|---|---|---|
| | 10 000 | | |
| 0697/49 | 1,7351 | 9 374 532 | **9 375 000** |
| | Összesen: | | **9 375 000** |

## 2. HOZAMSZÁMÍTÁSON ALAPULÓ ÉRTÉKELÉS SZÁMÍTÁSAI:

A hozamszámításon alapuló értékelés az ingatlan jövőbeni hasznainak és az ezek megszerzése érdekében felmerülő kiadások különbségéből (tiszta jövedelmek) vezetik le az értéket. Az érték megállapítása azon az elven alapszik, hogy bármely eszközértéke annyi, mint a belőle származó tiszta jövedelmek jelenértéke.

***mezőgazdasági ingatlan értéke (Fé ) = termőföld-érték (Fté) + telepítményérték (Té)***

**Művelési ág:** **szántó**

***1.***

*Az adott megye, adott földminőséghez (AK) tartozó potenciális hozadékának – járadék jellegű jövedelem*

| ***(Pj)*** | **Hajdú-Bihar Megye** | **30,9** | **étkezési búza kg/AK** |
|---|---|---|---|

| *Leolvasása az alapfüggvényekből* | ***30,9*** | *x 1. sz. táblázat =* | *1. sz. táblázat* ***Pj*** *oszlopa* | *(kg búza/ha)* |
|---|---|---|---|---|

***2.*** **Hajdú-Bihar Megye** **30** **étkezési búza kg/AK**

*A környezetben kialakult földbérleti díj megállapítása:*

| ***(B)*** | ***30*** | *x 1. sz. táblázat =* | *1. sz. táblázat* ***B*** *oszlopa* | *(kg búza/ha)* |
|---|---|---|---|---|

***3.***

*A potenciális földhozadék és a bérleti díj átlagaként a földtőkehozadék* ***(FH)*** *kiszámítása:*

| ***FH = ( Pj + B) / 2 =*** | ***1. sz. táblázat*** | *1. sz. táblázat* ***FH*** *oszlopa* | *(kg búza/ha)* |
|---|---|---|---|

***4.***

*A földtőkeérték meghatározása*

***(FTÉ)***

| ***FVM szerinti étkezési búza ár (AKI PÁIR által publikált búza MATIF):*** | ***86,03*** | ***Ft/kg*** | *(86.028,00 Ft/t)* |
|---|---|---|---|
| ***Tőkésítési kamatláb (i):*** | ***4,50%*** | | |

| ***FTÉ = FH x FVM szerinti étk. Búzaár / i =*** | ***1. sz. táblázat*** | ***(Ft/ha)*** |
|---|---|---|

*ahol az* ***i*** *a Jelzálogbank által időszakosan meghatározott tőkésítési kamatláb értéke.*

### *1. számú táblázat*

| Sorsz. | Hrsz | Terület (ha) | AK érték | Fajlagos AK érték (AK/ha) | Járadék jellegű jöv. **Pj** (kg búza/ha) | Földbérleti díj **B** (kg búza/ha) | Földtőke hozadéka **FH=(Pj+B)/2** (kg búza/ha) | Földtőke érték **FTÉ = FH * búza ár/i** (Ft/ha) |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1. | 0697/49 | 1,7351 | 29,77 | 17,16 | 530 | 515 | 522 | 998 778 |
| | Összesen: | 1,7351 | 29,77 | | | | | |

Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025


*A föld tőkeértékének korrekciója* *0697/49*

| ***Korrekciók megnevezése*** | **Indokolt %-os eltérés az alapértéktől (+/-)** | |
|---|---|---|
| | **határértékek** | |
| - területi mérete: nagyüzemi művelésre alkalmas | -10-től + 10 %-ig | **0%** |
| - alak, forma: | | **0%** |
| - fekvés, elhelyezkedés: | -80-tól + 150 %-ig | **40%** |
| - domborzat és lejtésviszony: | -30-tól 0 %-ig | **0%** |
| - vízjárás rendezettsége: | -20-tól + 20 %-ig | **0%** |
| - infrastruktúra, meglévő közművek: | 0-tól + 30 %-ig | **0%** |
| - megvalósítható közművek: | 0-tól + 15 %-ig | **0%** |
| - üzemszerű művelést szolgáló építmények: | 0-tól + 15 %-ig | **0%** |
| - művelést gátló tereptárgyak: | -15-től 0 %-ig | **0%** |
| - útviszonyok: | -20-tól + 20 %-ig | **0%** |
| - kerítettség: | 0-tól + 15 %-ig | **0%** |
| - átlagtól eltérő fagy-, jég-, vadkár valószínűsége: | -25-tól 0 %-ig | **0%** |
| - esztétikai benyomás: | -10-tól + 10 %-ig | **0%** |
| - tápanyag gazdálkodás: rendszeres tápanyagutánpótlás | -10-tól + 10 %-ig | **0%** |
| - értéknövelő, tartós, beruházás jellegű agrotechnikai beavatkozások: | 0-tól + 20 %-ig | **0%** |
| - természeti védettség: | -20-tól 0 %-ig | **0%** |
| - környezeti szennyezettség: | -10-tól 0 %-ig | **0%** |
| - gazdasági környezet: | -20-tól + 20 %-ig | **0%** |
| - egyéb: | -20-tól + 20 %-ig | **0%** |
| ***Összesen(S k +/..... %)*** | | ***40%*** |

*A korrekciók összegének felhasználásával a termőföldterület korrigált értéke* ***(Fté)*** *Ft-ban:*

| ***Fté = FTÉ x (1+S k +/-..... %)*** *Ft.=* | | | ***Fté*** | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| ***0697/49*** ***hrsz*** ***998 778*** | ***x (1+ Össz. korrekció)*** | **=** | ***1 398 289*** | **Ft/ha** |

***Indoklás az alkalmazott korrekciós értékekhez (akkor kell kitölteni, ha ∑ k értéke –30 alatt, vagy +30 felett van):***

| |
|---|
| ***Az értékelt ingatlan szántó művelési ágú, átlagosan megközelíthető helyen található.*** |

*A teljes földterület tőkeértéke = $F_{té}$ x terület (ha):*

| | | ***Fté*** | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| ***0697/49*** | ***hrsz*** | ***1 398 289*** | ***x a föld területével*** | **=** | ***2 426 171*** | **Ft** |
| ***Összesen:*** | | | | | ***2 426 171*** | ***Ft*** |

Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025


## 4. AZ INGATLAN VÉGSŐ FORGALMI ÉRTÉKÉNEK MEGHATÁROZÁSA

A végső forgalmi érték meghatározásának alapjául kiválasztott értékelési metódus, a súlyozott értékek és a kiválasztás indokai:

Az ingatlan végső forgalmi értékének meghatározásánál csak a piaci összehasonlító módszert vettük alapul, mert a fajlagos AK érték alapján számított hozamérték nem minden esetben tükrözi az ingatlan valós értékét.

| | |
|---|---|
| ***PIACI ALAPÚ FORGALMI ÉRTÉK ÖSSZESEN (Fé):*** | 9 375 000 Ft |
| ***HOZAMSZÁMÍTÁSON ALAPULÓ FORGALMI ÉRTÉK ÖSSZESEN (Fé):*** | 2 426 171 Ft |
| ***Az ingatlan forgalmi értéke (Fé):*** | **9 375 000 Ft** |

**KOCKÁZATELEMZÉS:**

***Az értékelt ingatlan Létavértes külterületén, alapvetően mezőgazdasági jellegű területen található. Az ingatlan a településtől kb. 11,5 km-re D-re, átlagosan megközelíthető helyen található, jól hasznosítható szántó terület.***

| *Ingatlantípusonkénti értékelem:* | | termőföld | telepítmény, erdő, | ingatlan együtt |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Fé (Ft) | | **9 375 000** | | |
| Az ingatlan értékesítése a javasolt forgalmi értéken | 0 - 90 nap | | | |
| | 90 - 180 nap | | | |
| | 180 - 365 nap | | | |
| | 1 év - 3 év | **X** | | |
| | 3 éven túl | | | |

Dátum: 2024.aug.26

Kerschner Zsolt

Értékelő:

Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025

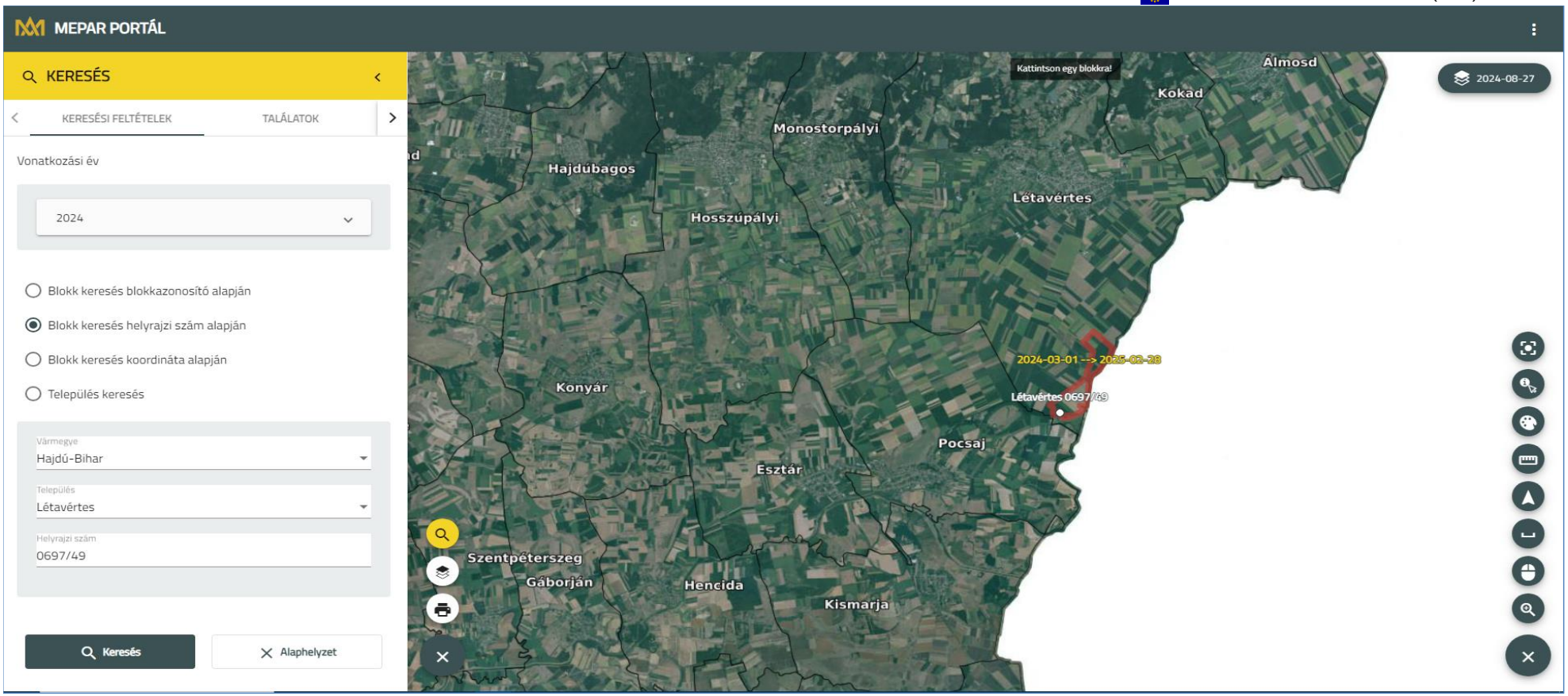
# MELLÉKLETEK

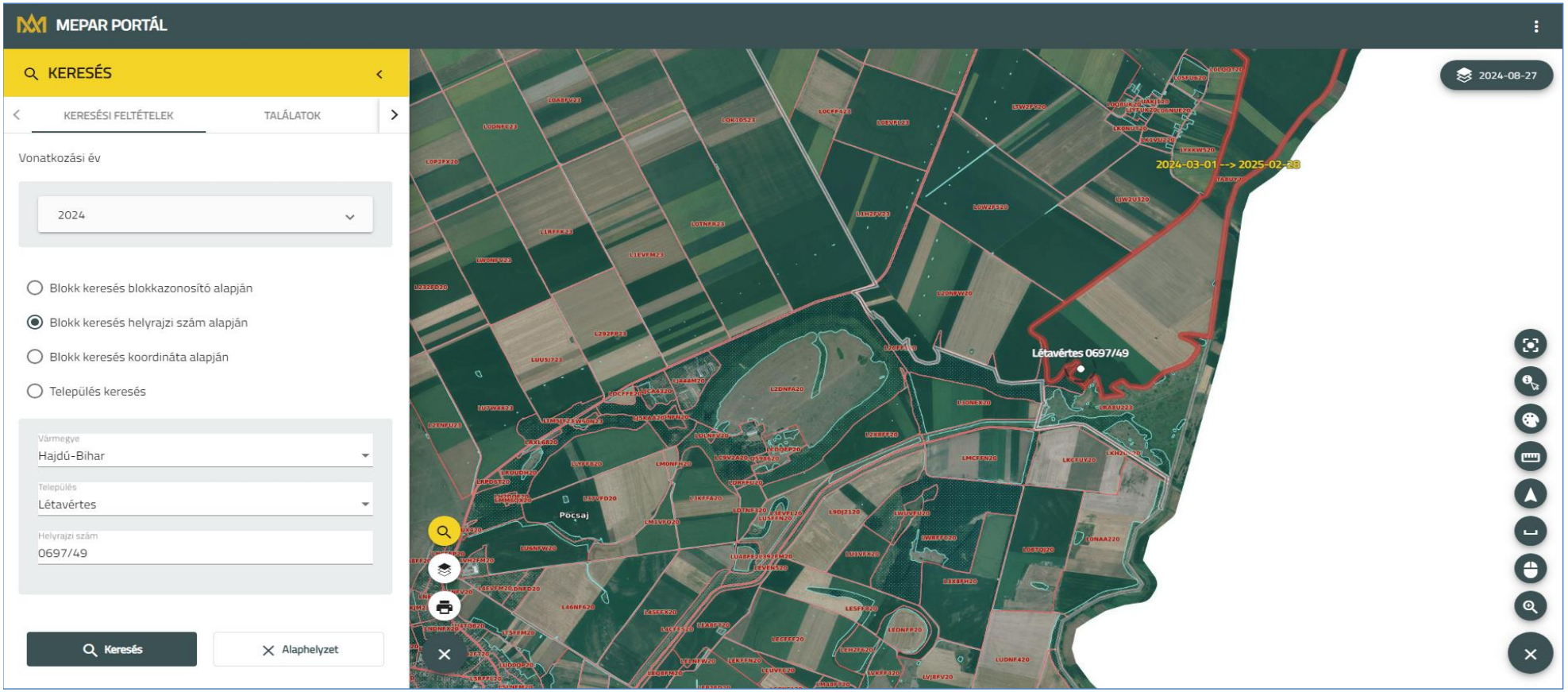
tulajdoni lap

hivatalos helyszínrajz

műholdas kép

fotók


MEPAR PORTÁL
KERESÉS
KERESÉSI FELTÉTELEK
TALÁLATOK
Vonatkozási év
2024
Blokk keresés blokkazonosító alapján
Blokk keresés helyrajzi szám alapján
Blokk keresés koordináta alapján
Település keresés
Vármegye
Hajdú-Bihar
Település
Létavértes
Helyrajzi szám
0697/49
Keresés
Alaphelyzet
Kattintson egy blokkra!
2024-08-27
Almosd
Kokad
Monostorpályi
Hajdúbagos
Hosszúpályi
Létavértes
2024-03-01 --> 2025-02-28
Konyár
Létavértes 0697/49
Pocsaj
Esztár
Szentpéterszeg
Gáborján
Hencida
Kismarja


MEPAR PORTÁL
KERESÉS
KERESÉSI FELTÉTELEK
TALÁLATOK
Vonatkozási év
2024
Blokk keresés blokkazonosító alapján
Blokk keresés helyrajzi szám alapján
Blokk keresés koordináta alapján
Település keresés
Vármegye
Hajdú-Bihar
Település
Létavértes
Helyrajzi szám
0697/49
Keresés
Alaphelyzet
2024-08-27
2024-03-01 --> 2025-02-28
Létavértes 0697/49
Pocsaj

Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025

# FOTÓK

















Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025



# Tanúsítvány

**1** Az értékbecslési jelentést a legjobb tudásunk szerint, a szakemberektől elvárható szakszerűséggel és gondossággal, az általános és szakmai etikai normák betartásával készítettük el.

**2** Kijelentjük, hogy értékelési eljárás során esetlegesen tudomásunkra jutott bizalmas szakmai és üzleti adatokat üzleti titokként kezeljük, megbízó hozzájárulása nélkül nem hozzuk nyilvánosságra.

**3** A ténybeli megállapítások, melyeket e szakvélemény tartalmaz, legjobb tudomásunk szerint igazak és helytállóak.

**4** A szakvéleményben foglalt elemzéseket, véleményalkotásokat és következtetéseket csak a szakvéleményben megfogalmazott előfeltételek határolják be, és azok a személyes, részrehajlástól mentes szakértői elemzés véleményei és következtetései.

**5** Az értékbecslést független értékelőként végeztük el, a megbízóval a jelen megbízási szerződésen kívül semmilyen közvetlen vagy közvetett partneri vagy üzlettársi kapcsolatban nem állunk, és nem álltunk.

**6** Értékbecslői díjazásunk nincsen összefüggésben az általunk megállapított értékkel, nem függ semmilyen intézkedéstől vagy eseménytől, mely a szakvéleményben foglalt elemzések, vélemények, és következtetések megjelenítése vagy felhasználása eredményeként jöhet létre.

**7** Jelen értékbecslés a vonatkozó hazai jogszabály az 54/1997. (VIII. 1.) FM Rendelet alapján, az EVS 2016. (Európai Értékelési Szabványok) ajánlásainak figyelembe vételével készült.

Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025

# Az értékbecslési jelentés összeállításakor figyelembe vett feltételezések

1 Nem vállalunk felelősséget olyan, a későbbiekben az ingatlanban, az ingatlan környezetében esetlegesen bekövetkező változásokért, amelyek befolyásolhatják az itt megadott értékeket.

2 Az ingatlan tulajdoni viszonyaival kapcsolatos adatokat a tulajdoni lap alapján rögzítettük, azokat megbízhatónak tekintettük, de az egyéb, a megrendelőtől, hitelfelvevőtől kapott információk, adatok (így: területi adatok, műszaki állapot, talajmechanikai, épületfizikai, környezetvédelmi, bérleti bevételi és egyéb paraméterek) valódiságáért felelősséget nem vállalunk.

3 Feltételeztük, hogy a tulajdonjog forgalomképes és nem terheli semmilyen jelzálog, vagy egyéb kötelezettség azokon kívül, amelyeket konkrétan megemlítettünk jelentésünkben.

4 A jelentés – külön erre vonatkozó megbízás hiányában – nem vizsgálja a veszélyes, egészségre ártalmas, egyéb környezetkárosító anyagok jelenlétét, illetőleg az ingatlan környezetében esetlegesen folytatott ilyen jellegű tevékenységek hatását.

5 Az értékbecslési jelentésben jellemzett műszaki állapotot a helyszíni szemlén látottak, a szemlét biztosító személy szóbeli tájékoztatása és a részünkre átadott adatszolgáltatás alapján mutattuk be. Nem végeztünk talajmechanikai, épületfizikai, környezetvédelmi és egyéb hasonló vizsgálatokat.

6 Az értékbecslés mellékleteként becsatolt dokumentumok csak a bemutatás célját szolgálják, és segítenek megjeleníteni a jelentésben tárgyalt kérdéseket.

7 Ezen értékbecslési jelentés előzetes írásbeli engedélyünk nélkül sem egyben, sem részeiben nem publikálható, a megadottól eltérő célra nem használható.

8 A jelentés magyar nyelven, 1 példányban írásban és 1 pld. elektronikusan rögzített formátumban készült, melyből egy elektronikus példány a megrendelő részére átadásra került, egy elektronikus és egy írott példány pedig a készítő adattárában található.

9 Nem vállalunk felelősséget a tekintetben, hogy az értékelt ingatlan mennyiben felel meg a tűzvédelmi-, épületbiztonsági-, földrengés- és egyéb használati előírásoknak. Szintén nem vállalunk felelősséget az előzőekhez kapcsolódó esetleges hiányosságok tekintetében, melyek a helyszíni szemle alkalmával nem voltak láthatóak.

10 Feltételeztük, hogy az értékelt ingatlan hasznosítása annak határain belül történik és nem áll fenn birtokháborítás, vagy egyéb jogsértés.
Az értékelés során az értékelt ingatlannal kapcsolatban felelős tulajdonosi magatartást és hozzáértő ingatlankezelést feltételeztünk.

11 A megrendelő kérésére értékelésünk az ingatlan esetleges megvásárlásával kapcsolatos vételi ajánlat kialakításához szükséges érték meghatározására vonatkozik. Nem vizsgáltuk az eladói hajlandóságot, annak függvényében az adásvételi ár és a megállapított érték eltérhetnek.
Az értékelés kizárólag az abban megjelölt célra használható fel.

12 Az értékbecslő kijelenti, hogy az értékelt ingatlannal kapcsolatban, illetve az érintett felekkel kapcsolatban sem az elmúlt 2 évben, sem jelenleg érdekeltsége nincs, illetve a megállapított értékek egy esetleges jövőbeni érdekeltségtől függetlenek. Az értékbecslő kijelenti továbbá, hogy díjazása független a megállapított értékektől.

Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025

Hajdú-Bihar Vármegyei Kormányhivatal
Debrecen 4024, Kossuth u. 12-14.



**E-hiteles tulajdoni lap - Teljes másolat**

Megrendelés szám:30005/137160/2024

2024.08.12

**LÉTAVÉRTES** Szektor : 61

**Külterület** **0697/49 helyrajzi szám**

"címképzés alatt"

**I. RÉSZ**

1. Az ingatlan adatai:

| alrészlet adatok / mûvelési ág/kivett megnevezés/ | min.o | terület ha m2 | kat.t.jöv. k.fill. | alosztály adatok ter. ha m2 | kat.jöv k.fill |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| . szántó | | 1.7351 | 29.77 | | |
| | 2 | | | 2627 | 6.38 |
| | 3 | | | 6808 | 12.39 |
| | 4 | | | 7916 | 11.00 |

2. bejegyzõ határozat: 63850/2/2022.06.22
   Védett terület

**II. RÉSZ**

1. tulajdoni hányad: 1/1
   bejegyzõ határozat, érkezési idõ: 63850/2/2022.06.22
   eredeti határozat: 44963/2/2014.02.20
   jogcím: szerzõdéses öröklés tulajdoni hányad: 0/1 44963/2/2014.02.20
   jogcím: tulajdonközösség megszüntetése tulajdoni hányad: 1/1
   jogállás: tulajdonos
   név : Kárándi József
   sz.név: Kárándi József
   szül. : 1960
   a.név : Holló Julianna
   cím : 4281 LÉTAVÉRTES Teleki utca 23.

**III. RÉSZ**

1. bejegyzõ határozat, érkezési idõ: 63850/2/2022.06.22

   Önálló szöveges bejegyzés kialakult a 0697/47 helyrajzi számú ingatlan megosztását követõen a 602716/2022. számú záradékolt munkarész alapján. A megosztás 374/2014. (XII. 31.) Korm. rendelet alapján történt.

Az E-hiteles tulajdoni lap másolat tartalma a kiadást megelõzõ napig megegyezik az ingatlan-nyilvántartásban szereplõ adatokkal. A szemle másolat a fennálló bejegyzéseket, a teljes másolat valamennyi bejegyzést tartalmazza. Ez az elektronikus dokumentum kinyomtatva nem minõsül hiteles bizonyító erejû dokumentumnak. Ez a tulajdoni lap költségvetési szerv részére került kiadásra.

**TULAJDONI LAP VÉGE**

Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025

Hajdú-Bihar Vármegyei Kormányhivatal
Debrecen 4024, Kossuth u. 12-14.

# Hiteles térképmásolat - Teljes másolat

2024.08.26 13:21:53

Helyrajzi szám: LÉTA VÉRTES külterület 697/49

Megrendelés szám: 7/3078/2024

Méretarány: 1 : 2000

Térrajzszám: 88102010002024




A térképmásolat a kiadást megelõzõ napig megegyezik az ingatlan-nyilvántartási térképi adatbázis tartalmával. A térképmásolat méretek levételére nem használható!

kiállította

Nagy Zsuzsanna

Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025

TÉZPALOTA KFT

Ügyazonosító-jel: **T2024/ 56**

# ÉRTÉKELÉSI SZAKVÉLEMÉNY

4281 Létavértes, külterület hrsz: 0697/50 hrsz alatti szántó művelési ágú ingatlanról



**Értékbecslés fordulónapja:** **2024. augusztus 26.**

**Cím: 4030 Debrecen, Kiss Áron u. 53.**

Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025

# TÖRZSLAP

összefoglaló adatlap a vizsgált ingatlanról

| | |
|---|---|
| Ügyazonosító-jele: | **T2024/** 56 |
| Ügyfél neve: | **Hortobágyi Nemzeti Park Igazgatóság (HNPI)** |

## MEGBÍZÁS TÁRGYA

| | |
|---|---|
| **Az értékelt ingatlan rendeltetése (tul. lap szerint):** | szántó |
| **Az értékelt ingatlan jelenlegi hasznosítása:** | szántó |

## INGATLAN CÍME ÉS AZONOSÍTÁSA

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| **Irányítószám, település, utca, házszám:** | Létavértes külterület | |
| **Együtt értékelt ingatlanok száma:** | 1 | db |
| **HRSZ (ok):** | 0697/50 | |

## INGATLAN BEMUTATÁSA

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| **Az ingatlan fekvése:** | külterület | |
| **Telek(rész) / termőföld nagysága:** | **18 900** | m2 |
| **Termőföld alrészletek száma:** | **3** | db |
| **Telepítmények száma:** | **0** | db |
| **Erdőrészletek száma:** | **0** | db |

## Értékelés célja

| | |
|---|---|
| **Értékelés célja** | **vételi ajánlatot megalapozó gazdasági döntéshez** |

## A termőföld összes aranykorona értéke:

**29,80**

## ÉRTÉKELÉS

| **Ingatlan forgalmi értéke /Ft/** (igény-, per- és tehermentes állapotban) | |
|---|---|
| **Összesen** | **10 211 000 Ft** |

## Egyéb megállapítások a helyszíni szemle során

**Az értékelés a 2024.08.12.-én kelt tulajdoni lap alapján készült. Tulajdonos: Kárándi Józsefné 1/1-ed tulajdoni hányadban.**
**Az ingatlan "Védett terület" bejegyzést tartalmaz, széljegyet, terhelést nem tartalmaz.**

jogi megjegyzés

**Az értékelt ingatlan Létavértes külterületén, alapvetően mezőgazdasági jellegű területen található. Az ingatlan a településtől kb. 11,6 km-re D-re, átlagosan megközelíthető helyen található, jól hasznosítható szántó terület.**

általános megjegyzés

Értékelés dátuma: **2024.08.26**

Értékelést készítette:

**Kerschner Zsolt**

Ingatlanvagyon -értékelői névjegyzék szám: 14/2010
EUFIM értékelői minősítés 2004/102

Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025


**Ügyazonosító jel:** T2024/ **56**

**Ügyfél neve:** **Hortobágyi Nemzeti Park Igazgatóság (HNPI)**

# ÉRTÉKELÉSI SZAKVÉLEMÉNY

## TERMŐFÖLD INGATLAN ADATLAPJA

**(Hitelnyújtáshoz)**

| | Ingatlan címe | Kitöltés időpontja | Aláírás |
|---|---|---|---|
| Helyszíni szemle | 4281 Létavértes, külterület hrsz: 0697/50 hrsz | 2024.08.26 | |
| Ellenőrzés | | | |
| Időközi felülvizsgálat | | | |
| 1. | | | |
| 2. | | | |
| 3. | | | |
| 4. | | | |
| 5. | | | |
| 6. | | | |
| 7. | | | |
| Soron kívüli újraértékelés | | | |
| 1. | | | |
| 2. | | | |
| 3. | | | |
| 4. | | | |
| 5. | | | |
| 6. | | | |
| 7. | | | |

Értékelést készítette: **Kerschner Zsolt**

Ellenőrizte:

Jóváhagyta:

*Mellékletek:*
tulajdoni lap
hivatalos helyszínrajz
műszaki dokumentáció
jogerős építési engedély
szerződések
fényképek
összehasonlító adatok
használati megosztási szerződés
egyéb: térképmásolat

Dátum: **2024.08.26**

Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025


# 1. AZONOSÍTÓ LAP

## *Alapadatok*

**az ingatlan**

| | |
|---|---|
| **címe:** | **Létavértes külterület** |
| **megnevezése (táblaszáma):** | |
| **helyrajziszám(ok):** | **0697/50** |

| | |
|---|---|
| ¤ telekkönyvi nyilvántartás helye: | **Hajdú-Bihar Vármegyei Kormányhivatal** |
| ¤ közigazgatásilag mely önkormányzathoz tartozik: | **Létavértes** |
| ¤ fekvése: | **külterület** |
| ¤ az ingatlan típusa (az ingatlan-nyilvántartási kategóriák szerint): | **szántó** |
| ¤ övezeti besorolása: | **Msz-1, részben régészeti lelőhely** |

¤ területe és aranykorona értéke:

| | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | **0697/50** | **szántó** | **2** | **470,00** | **m²** | **1,14** | **AK** |
| | | **szántó** | **3** | **7 070,00** | **m²** | **12,87** | **AK** |
| | | **szántó** | **4** | **11 360,00** | **m²** | **15,79** | **AK** |
| | **Összesen:** | | | **18 900,00** | **m²** | **29,80** | **AK** |
| | ***Mindösszesen:*** | | | ***18 900,00*** | ***m²*** | ***29,80*** | ***AK*** |

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| ¤ művelési ága(i): | **szántó** | | |
| ¤ nyilvántartott összes aranykorona érték összesen: | **0697/50** | **29,80** | **AK** |

¤ bejegyzett tulajdonos(ok):

**Az ingatlan tulajdonosa Kárándi Józsefné 1/1-ed tulajdoni hányadban.**

| | |
|---|---|
| ¤ tulajdon megszerzésének jogcíme: | **tulajdonközösség megszüntetése** |
| ¤ forgalomképességet befolyásoló bejegyzések (terhek, jogok, tények): | |
| ~ per és tehermentes: | **igen** |
| ~ per alatt áll: | **nem** |
| ~ bejegyzett jelzálogjog: | **nincs** |
| ~ bejegyzett haszonélvezet: | **nincs** |
| ~ szolgalmi jogok: | **nincs** |
| ~ egyéb bejegyzett jogok, tények: | **Az ingatlanra vonatkozó tulajdoni lap kelte: 2024.08.12. Az ingatlan "Védett terület" bejegyzést tartalmaz. Az ingatlan sem széljegyet, sem terhelést nem tartalmaz.** |
| ~ külföldi, illetve cselekvőképességében korlátozott társtulajdonos: | **nincs** |
| ~ forgalomképességet bármilyen okból korlátozó széljegyzet: | **nincs** |
| ~ egyéb korlátozó tényező (pl. többéves haszonbérleti szerződés): | **nincs** |
| ¤ terület művelője: | **tulajdonos** |
| ¤ haszonbérletbe kiadott művelés esetén a bérlőre vonatkozó információk: | |
| ~ bérleti szerződés időtartama, lejárata: | **n.a.** |
| ~ bérleti díj, illetve járadék megfizetésének módja: | **n.a.** **kg búza/Ak/év**<br>**n.a.** **Ft/Ak/év** |

Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025


| *Az ingatlan paraméterei* | *0697/50* | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| ¤ alapterülete: | **18 900** | **m2** | **1,8900** | **ha** |
| ¤ alakja, formája: | **szabálytalan sokszög alakú** | | | |
| ¤ fekvése, elhelyezkedése: | **Pocsaj fel vezető műúttól K-re nyíló kb. 1,8 km jól járható földúton.** | | | |
| ¤ birtokhatárok leírása: | **É: földút, K, Ny:, szántó, D: rét. A területtől É-ra jelölt földút a valóságban nem található, művelésbe vont** | | | |
| ¤ domborzati és lejtésviszonyok: | **részben sík, részben magasabb fekvésű, pár méteres szintkülönbséggel** | | | |
| ¤ csapadékviszonyok, vízjárás, vízborítottság, vízrendezés: | **átlagos csapadékviszonyok, átlagos vízgazdálkodású talaj, vízborítottság nem jellemző** | | | |
| ¤ talajtani jellemzők: | | | | |
| talajtípus: | **réti öntés talaj** | | | |
| szerkezet: | **nagymorzsás/rögös szerkezet** | | | |
| kötöttség: | **közepesen kötött** | | | |
| vízgazdálkodás: | **átlagos vízgazdálkodású, jó vízáteresztő- és közepes víztartó képességű talaj** | | | |
| tápanyag-gazdálkodás: | **jó tápanyag-gazdálkodású, jó tápanyagszolgáltató képességű talaj** | | | |
| ¤ a környező földingatlanok jellemző hasznosítása: | **szántó** | | | |
| ¤ különleges agrokémiai beavatkozás (pl.: meszezés ) jellege, ideje: | - | | | |
| ¤ a terület beépítettsége, nyitottsága: | **kerítetlen** | | | |
| ¤ lakott településtől számított legkisebb távolság: | **Pocsaj kb. 6,9 km-re, Létavértes kb. 11,6 km-re** | | | |
| ¤ frekventált nagyvárostól, kiemelt üdülő, vagy idegenforgalmi központtól mért távolság: | **Debrecen kb. 38,2 km-re, Nyíregyháza kb. 85,7 km, Békéscsaba kb. 125 km** | | | |
| ¤ megközelíthetősége: | **jó minőségű földúton, a területtől É-ra található földút a valóságban nem található, művelésbe vont** | | | |
| ¤ infrastruktúra: | **nincs** | | | |
| ¤ az ingatlanon lévő - önálló helyrajzi számmal nem rendelkező - szolgáló épület(ek), építmény(ek), műtárgy(ak) – felsorolása: | **nincs** | | | |
| ¤ művelést gátló tereptárgyak: | **nincs** | | | |
| ¤ az ingatlanon jelenleg található telepítmény(ek): | **nincs** | | | |
| ¤ művelési ág a jelenlegi hasznosítás szerint: | **szántó** | | | |
| ¤ művelési ág megelőző hasznosítás szerint: | **szántó** | | | |
| ¤ legcélszerűbb hasznosítás a becslő véleménye szerint: | **szántó** | | | |
| ¤ fajlagos ( és átlagos ) földérték jelenleg: | **1. sz. tálázat szerint** | | | **AK/ha** |
| ¤ ültetvény és nem feltétlen erdő esetén a módosított AK/ha érték: | | | | **AK/ha** |
| ¤ föld minőségi osztály: | **szántó** | | | |
| ¤ egyéb, az ingatlan értékét jelentősen befolyásoló körülmény: | **Az értékelt ingatlan szántó művelési ágú, jól megközelíthető.** | | | |

# *2.* ÉRTÉKELŐ LAP

## 1. PIACI ÖSSZEHASONLITÓ ADATOK ELEMZÉSÉN ALAPULÓ ÉRTÉKELÉS

Piaci érték (Fé) = terület (A) * módosított alapérték

**A piaci összehasonlító adatok elemzésén alapuló értékelés már megtörtént, konkrét és ismert adásvételi tranzakciók (ezek hiányában ajánlati) árainak a vizsgált esetre való kiterjesztésével, összehasonlításával történik.**

**A piaci összehasonlító adatokon alapuló módszer fő lépései:**

1. **Az alaphalmaz kiválasztása.**
2. **Összehasonlításra alkalmas ingatlanok kiválasztása, adatainak elemzése.**
3. **Fajlagos alapérték meghatározása.**
4. **Értékmódosító tényezők elemzése (nagyság, állapot, elhelyezkedés stb.)**
5. **A fajlagos alapérték módosítása, fajlagos érték számítása.**
6. **Végső érték számítása a fajlagos érték és az ingatlan mérete szorzataként.**

**Összehasonlító adatok**

| **Adat / szempont** | **vizsgált ing.** | 1 | | 2 | | 3 | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| cím | **Létavértes külterület** | Létavértes | | Létavértes | | Létavértes | |
| Szöveges jellemzés | átlagosan megközelíthető, jól hasznosítható szántó | szántó | | szántó | | szántó | |
| **összes terület [HA]** | **1,8900** | **3,1831** | | **1,2395** | | **1,2400** | |
| INFO forrás | - | saját forrás | | saját forrás | | saját forrás | |
| Árak **/Ft/** | - | 17 188 740 | | 6 700 000 | | 6 700 000 | |
| INFO kelte | - | 2023.07.01 | | 2023.01.01 | | 2023.01.01 | |
| Fajlagos érték **[Ft/HA]** | - | **5 400 000** | | **5 405 405** | | **5 403 226** | |
| eladási / kínálat ár | | 0% | eladási adat | 0% | eladási adat | 0% | eladási adat |
| Fajlagos érték [Ft/HA] | | 5 400 000 | [Ft/HA] | 5 405 405 | [Ft/HA] | 5 403 226 | [Ft/HA] |
| Értékmódosító tényezők, a vizsgálthoz +- %-osan meghatározva | | | | | | | |
| **szempontok** | | **%** | **indoklás** | **%** | **indoklás** | **%** | **indoklás** |
| méret, alak, forma | - | | | | | | |
| fekvés, elhelyezkedés | - | | | | | | |
| művelési ág | - | | | | | | |
| infrastruktúra, öntözési lehetőség | - | | | | | | |
| környezet, megközelíthető ség | - | | | | | | |
| alternatív hasznosíthatós ág | - | | | | | | |
| **összesen** | - | 0% | | 0% | | 0% | |
| korrekciós tényező | - | 1,00 | | 1,00 | | 1,00 | |
| Módosított Fajlagos érték [Ft/HA] | | 5 400 000 | | 5 405 405 | | 5 403 226 | |
| Mód. Fajlagos alapérték átlaga **[Ft/HA]** | | **5 402 877** | | | | | |

Módosító tényezőknél a 30 %-ot meghaladó mértéket külön indokolni kell

| hrsz | terület HA | érték Ft | kerekített érték |
|---|---|---|---|
| | 10 000 | | |
| 0697/50 | 1,8900 | 10 211 438 | **10 211 000** |
| | Összesen: | | **10 211 000** |

## 2. HOZAMSZÁMÍTÁSON ALAPULÓ ÉRTÉKELÉS SZÁMÍTÁSAI:

A hozamszámításon alapuló értékelés az ingatlan jövőbeni hasznainak és az ezek megszerzése érdekében felmerülő kiadások különbségéből (tiszta jövedelmek) vezetik le az értéket. Az érték megállapítása azon az elven alapszik, hogy bármely eszközértéke annyi, mint a belőle származó tiszta jövedelmek jelenértéke.

***mezőgazdasági ingatlan értéke (Fé ) = termőföld-érték (Fté) + telepítményérték (Té)***

**Művelési ág:** **szántó**

***1.***

*Az adott megye, adott földminőséghez (AK) tartozó potenciális hozadékának – járadék jellegű jövedelem*

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| ***(Pj)*** | **Hajdú-Bihar Megye** | **30,9** | **étkezési búza kg/AK** |

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| *Leolvasása az alapfüggvényekből* | ***30,9*** | *x 1. sz. táblázat =* | *1. sz. táblázat* ***Pj*** *oszlopa* | *(kg búza/ha)* |

***2.*** **Hajdú-Bihar Megye** **30** **étkezési búza kg/AK**

*A környezetben kialakult földbérleti díj megállapítása:*

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| ***(B)*** | ***30*** | *x 1. sz. táblázat =* | *1. sz. táblázat* ***B*** *oszlopa* | *(kg búza/ha)* |

***3.***

*A potenciális földhozadék és a bérleti díj átlagaként a földtőkehozadék* ***(FH)*** *kiszámítása:*

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| ***FH = ( Pj + B) / 2 =*** | ***1. sz. táblázat*** | *1. sz. táblázat* ***FH*** *oszlopa* | *(kg búza/ha)* |

***4.***

*A földtőkeérték meghatározása*

***(FTÉ)***

***FVM szerinti étkezési búza ár (AKI PÁIR által publikált búza MATIF):*** ***86,03*** ***Ft/kg*** *(86.028,00 Ft/t)*

***Tőkésítési kamatláb (i):*** ***4,50%***

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| ***FTÉ = FH x FVM szerinti étk. Búzaár / i =*** | ***1. sz. táblázat*** | ***(Ft/ha)*** |

*ahol az* ***i*** *a Jelzálogbank által időszakosan meghatározott tőkésítési kamatláb értéke.*

### *1. számú táblázat*

| Sorsz. | Hrsz | Terület (ha) | AK érték | Fajlagos AK érték (AK/ha) | Járadék jellegű jöv. **Pj** (kg búza/ha) | Földbérleti díj **B** (kg búza/ha) | Földtőke hozadéka **FH=(Pj+B)/2** (kg búza/ha) | Földtőke érték **FTÉ = FH * búza ár/i** (Ft/ha) |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1. | 0697/50 | 1,8900 | 29,80 | 15,77 | 487 | 473 | 480 | 917 844 |
| | Összesen: | 1,8900 | 29,80 | | | | | |

Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025


*A föld tőkeértékének korrekciója* *0697/50*

| ***Korrekciók megnevezése*** | **Indokolt %-os eltérés az alapértéktől (+/-)** | |
|---|---|---|
| | **határértékek** | |
| - területi mérete: nagyüzemi művelésre alkalmas | -10-től + 10 %-ig | **0%** |
| - alak, forma: | | **0%** |
| - fekvés, elhelyezkedés: | -80-tól + 150 %-ig | **40%** |
| - domborzat és lejtésviszony: | -30-tól 0 %-ig | **0%** |
| - vízjárás rendezettsége: | -20-tól + 20 %-ig | **0%** |
| - infrastruktúra, meglévő közművek: | 0-tól + 30 %-ig | **0%** |
| - megvalósítható közművek: | 0-tól + 15 %-ig | **0%** |
| - üzemszerű művelést szolgáló építmények: | 0-tól + 15 %-ig | **0%** |
| - művelést gátló tereptárgyak: | -15-től 0 %-ig | **0%** |
| - útviszonyok: | -20-tól + 20 %-ig | **0%** |
| - kerítettség: | 0-tól + 15 %-ig | **0%** |
| - átlagtól eltérő fagy-, jég-, vadkár valószínűsége: | -25-tól 0 %-ig | **0%** |
| - esztétikai benyomás: | -10-tól + 10 %-ig | **0%** |
| - tápanyag gazdálkodás: rendszeres tápanyagutánpótlás | -10-tól + 10 %-ig | **0%** |
| - értéknövelő, tartós, beruházás jellegű agrotechnikai beavatkozások: | 0-tól + 20 %-ig | **0%** |
| - természeti védettség: | -20-tól 0 %-ig | **0%** |
| - környezeti szennyezettség: | -10-tól 0 %-ig | **0%** |
| - gazdasági környezet: | -20-tól + 20 %-ig | **0%** |
| - egyéb: | -20-tól + 20 %-ig | **0%** |
| ***Összesen(S k +/..... %)*** | | ***40%*** |

*A korrekciók összegének felhasználásával a termőföldterület korrigált értéke* ***(Fté)*** *Ft-ban:*

| ***Fté = FTÉ x (1+S k +/-..... %)*** *Ft.=* | | | ***Fté*** | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| ***0697/50*** ***hrsz*** ***917 844*** | ***x (1+ Össz. korrekció)*** | **=** | ***1 284 982*** | **Ft/ha** |

***Indoklás az alkalmazott korrekciós értékekhez (akkor kell kitölteni, ha ∑ k értéke –30 alatt, vagy +30 felett van):***

| |
|---|
| ***Az értékelt ingatlan szántó művelési ágú, átlagosan megközelíthető helyen található.*** |

*A teljes földterület tőkeértéke = $F_{té}$ x terület (ha):*

| | | ***Fté*** | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| ***0697/50*** | ***hrsz*** | ***1 284 982*** | ***x a föld területével*** | **=** | ***2 428 616*** | **Ft** |
| ***Összesen:*** | | | | | ***2 428 616*** | ***Ft*** |

## 4. AZ INGATLAN VÉGSŐ FORGALMI ÉRTÉKÉNEK MEGHATÁROZÁSA

A végső forgalmi érték meghatározásának alapjául kiválasztott értékelési metódus, a súlyozott értékek és a kiválasztás indokai:

Az ingatlan végső forgalmi értékének meghatározásánál csak a piaci összehasonlító módszert vettük alapul, mert a fajlagos AK érték alapján számított hozamérték nem minden esetben tükrözi az ingatlan valós értékét.

| | |
|---|---|
| ***PIACI ALAPÚ FORGALMI ÉRTÉK ÖSSZESEN (Fé):*** | 10 211 000 Ft |
| ***HOZAMSZÁMÍTÁSON ALAPULÓ FORGALMI ÉRTÉK ÖSSZESEN (Fé):*** | 2 428 616 Ft |
| ***Az ingatlan forgalmi értéke (Fé):*** | **10 211 000 Ft** |

**KOCKÁZATELEMZÉS:**

***Az értékelt ingatlan Létavértes külterületén, alapvetően mezőgazdasági jellegű területen található. Az ingatlan a településtől kb. 11,6 km-re D-re, átlagosan megközelíthető helyen található, jól hasznosítható szántó terület.***

| *Ingatlantípusonkénti értékelem:* | | termőföld | telepítmény, erdő, | ingatlan együtt |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Fé (Ft) | | **10 211 000** | | |
| Az ingatlan értékesítése a javasolt forgalmi értéken | 0 - 90 nap | | | |
| | 90 - 180 nap | | | |
| | 180 - 365 nap | | | |
| | 1 év - 3 év | **X** | | |
| | 3 éven túl | | | |

Dátum: 2024.aug.26

Kerschner Zsolt

Értékelő:

Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025

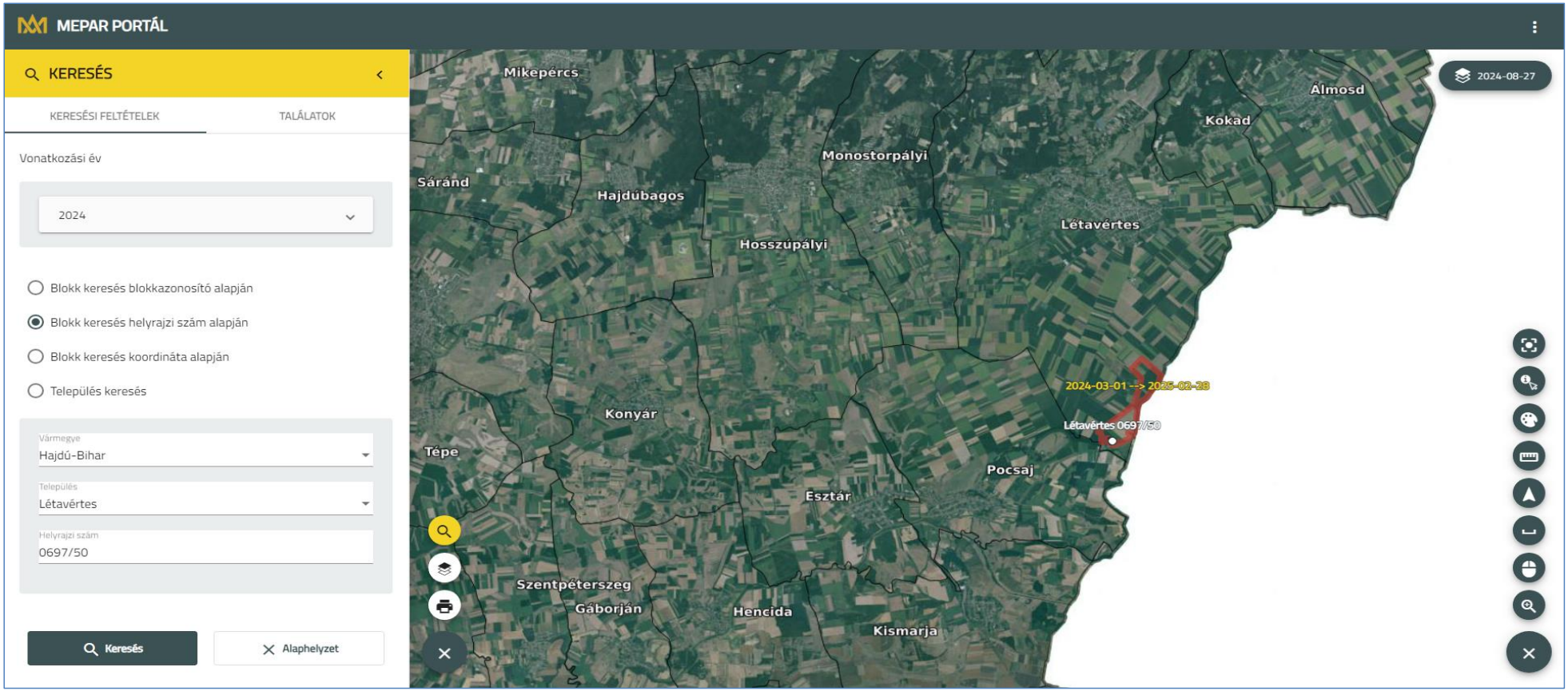
# MELLÉKLETEK

tulajdoni lap

hivatalos helyszínrajz

műholdas kép

fotók


MEPAR PORTÁL
KERESÉS
KERESÉSI FELTÉTELEK
TALÁLATOK
Vonatkozási év
2024
Blokk keresés blokkazonosító alapján
Blokk keresés helyrajzi szám alapján
Blokk keresés koordináta alapján
Település keresés
Vármegye
Hajdú-Bihar
Település
Létavértes
Helyrajzi szám
0697/50
Keresés
Alaphelyzet
2024-08-27
Mikepércs
Almosd
Kokad
Monostorpályi
Sáránd
Hajdúbagos
Létavértes
Hosszúpályi
2024-03-01 --> 2025-02-28
Konyár
Létavértes 0697/50
Tépe
Pocsaj
Esztár
Szentpéterszeg
Gáborján
Hencida
Kismarja

Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025



Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025

# FOTÓK

















Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025



# Tanúsítvány

**1** Az értékbecslési jelentést a legjobb tudásunk szerint, a szakemberektől elvárható szakszerűséggel és gondossággal, az általános és szakmai etikai normák betartásával készítettük el.

**2** Kijelentjük, hogy értékelési eljárás során esetlegesen tudomásunkra jutott bizalmas szakmai és üzleti adatokat üzleti titokként kezeljük, megbízó hozzájárulása nélkül nem hozzuk nyilvánosságra.

**3** A ténybeli megállapítások, melyeket e szakvélemény tartalmaz, legjobb tudomásunk szerint igazak és helytállóak.

**4** A szakvéleményben foglalt elemzéseket, véleményalkotásokat és következtetéseket csak a szakvéleményben megfogalmazott előfeltételek határolják be, és azok a személyes, részrehajlástól mentes szakértői elemzés véleményei és következtetései.

**5** Az értékbecslést független értékelőként végeztük el, a megbízóval a jelen megbízási szerződésen kívül semmilyen közvetlen vagy közvetett partneri vagy üzlettársi kapcsolatban nem állunk, és nem álltunk.

**6** Értékbecslői díjazásunk nincsen összefüggésben az általunk megállapított értékkel, nem függ semmilyen intézkedéstől vagy eseménytől, mely a szakvéleményben foglalt elemzések, vélemények, és következtetések megjelenítése vagy felhasználása eredményeként jöhet létre.

**7** Jelen értékbecslés a vonatkozó hazai jogszabály az 54/1997. (VIII. 1.) FM Rendelet alapján, az EVS 2016. (Európai Értékelési Szabványok) ajánlásainak figyelembe vételével készült.

Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025

# Az értékbecslési jelentés összeállításakor figyelembe vett feltételezések

1 Nem vállalunk felelősséget olyan, a későbbiekben az ingatlanban, az ingatlan környezetében esetlegesen bekövetkező változásokért, amelyek befolyásolhatják az itt megadott értékeket.

2 Az ingatlan tulajdoni viszonyaival kapcsolatos adatokat a tulajdoni lap alapján rögzítettük, azokat megbízhatónak tekintettük, de az egyéb, a megrendelőtől, hitelfelvevőtől kapott információk, adatok (így: területi adatok, műszaki állapot, talajmechanikai, épületfizikai, környezetvédelmi, bérleti bevételi és egyéb paraméterek) valódiságáért felelősséget nem vállalunk.

3 Feltételeztük, hogy a tulajdonjog forgalomképes és nem terheli semmilyen jelzálog, vagy egyéb kötelezettség azokon kívül, amelyeket konkrétan megemlítettünk jelentésünkben.

4 A jelentés – külön erre vonatkozó megbízás hiányában – nem vizsgálja a veszélyes, egészségre ártalmas, egyéb környezetkárosító anyagok jelenlétét, illetőleg az ingatlan környezetében esetlegesen folytatott ilyen jellegű tevékenységek hatását.

5 Az értékbecslési jelentésben jellemzett műszaki állapotot a helyszíni szemlén látottak, a szemlét biztosító személy szóbeli tájékoztatása és a részünkre átadott adatszolgáltatás alapján mutattuk be. Nem végeztünk talajmechanikai, épületfizikai, környezetvédelmi és egyéb hasonló vizsgálatokat.

6 Az értékbecslés mellékleteként becsatolt dokumentumok csak a bemutatás célját szolgálják, és segítenek megjeleníteni a jelentésben tárgyalt kérdéseket.

7 Ezen értékbecslési jelentés előzetes írásbeli engedélyünk nélkül sem egyben, sem részeiben nem publikálható, a megadottól eltérő célra nem használható.

8 A jelentés magyar nyelven, 1 példányban írásban és 1 pld. elektronikusan rögzített formátumban készült, melyből egy elektronikus példány a megrendelő részére átadásra került, egy elektronikus és egy írott példány pedig a készítő adattárában található.

9 Nem vállalunk felelősséget a tekintetben, hogy az értékelt ingatlan mennyiben felel meg a tűzvédelmi-, épületbiztonsági-, földrengés- és egyéb használati előírásoknak. Szintén nem vállalunk felelősséget az előzőekhez kapcsolódó esetleges hiányosságok tekintetében, melyek a helyszíni szemle alkalmával nem voltak láthatóak.

10 Feltételeztük, hogy az értékelt ingatlan hasznosítása annak határain belül történik és nem áll fenn birtokháborítás, vagy egyéb jogsértés.
Az értékelés során az értékelt ingatlannal kapcsolatban felelős tulajdonosi magatartást és hozzáértő ingatlankezelést feltételeztünk.

11 A megrendelő kérésére értékelésünk az ingatlan esetleges megvásárlásával kapcsolatos vételi ajánlat kialakításához szükséges érték meghatározására vonatkozik. Nem vizsgáltuk az eladói hajlandóságot, annak függvényében az adásvételi ár és a megállapított érték eltérhetnek.
Az értékelés kizárólag az abban megjelölt célra használható fel.

12 Az értékbecslő kijelenti, hogy az értékelt ingatlannal kapcsolatban, illetve az érintett felekkel kapcsolatban sem az elmúlt 2 évben, sem jelenleg érdekeltsége nincs, illetve a megállapított értékek egy esetleges jövőbeni érdekeltségtől függetlenek. Az értékbecslő kijelenti továbbá, hogy díjazása független a megállapított értékektől.

Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025

Hajdú-Bihar Vármegyei Kormányhivatal
Debrecen 4024, Kossuth u. 12-14.



**E-hiteles tulajdoni lap - Teljes másolat**

Megrendelés szám:30005/137165/2024

2024.08.12

**LÉTAVÉRTES** Szektor : 61

**Külterület** **0697/50 helyrajzi szám**

"címképzés alatt"

**I. RÉSZ**

1. Az ingatlan adatai:
   alrészlet adatok

| mûvelési ág/kivett megnevezés/ | min.o | terület ha m2 | kat.t.jöv. k.fill. | alosztály adatok ter. ha m2 | kat.jöv k.fill |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| . szántó | | 1.8900 | 29.80 | | |
| | 2 | | | 470 | 1.14 |
| | 3 | | | 7070 | 12.87 |
| | 4 | | | 1.1360 | 15.79 |

2. bejegyzõ határozat: 63850/2/2022.06.22
   Védett terület

**II. RÉSZ**

1. tulajdoni hányad: 1/1
   bejegyzõ határozat, érkezési idõ: 63850/2/2022.06.22
   eredeti határozat: 44963/2/2014.02.20
   jogcím: szerzõdéses öröklés tulajdoni hányad: 0/1 44963/2/2014.02.20
   jogcím: tulajdonközösség megszüntetése tulajdoni hányad: 1/1
   jogállás: tulajdonos
   név : Kárándi Józsefné
   sz.név: Szabó Mária
   szül. : 1970
   a.név : Tarján Anna
   cím : 4281 LÉTAVÉRTES Teleki utca 23.

**III. RÉSZ**

1. bejegyzõ határozat, érkezési idõ: 63850/2/2022.06.22

   Önálló szöveges bejegyzés kialakult a 0697/47 helyrajzi számú ingatlan megosztását követõen a 602716/2022. számú záradékolt munkarész alapján. A megosztás 374/2014. (XII. 31.) Korm. rendelet alapján történt.

Az E-hiteles tulajdoni lap másolat tartalma a kiadást megelõzõ napig megegyezik az ingatlan-nyilvántartásban szereplõ adatokkal. A szemle másolat a fennálló bejegyzéseket, a teljes másolat valamennyi bejegyzést tartalmazza. Ez az elektronikus dokumentum kinyomtatva nem minõsül hiteles bizonyító erejû dokumentumnak. Ez a tulajdoni lap költségvetési szerv részére került kiadásra.

**TULAJDONI LAP VÉGE**

Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025

Hajdú-Bihar Vármegyei Kormányhivatal
Debrecen 4024, Kossuth u. 12-14.

# Hiteles térképmásolat - Teljes másolat

2024.08.26 13:22:21

Helyrajzi szám: LÉTAVÉRTES külterület 697/50

Megrendelés szám: 7/3079/2024

Méretarány: 1 : 2000

Térrajzszám: 88102030002024




A térképmásolat a kiadást megelõzõ napig megegyezik az ingatlan-nyilvántartási térképi adatbázis tartalmával. A térképmásolat méretek levételére nem használható!

kiállította

Nagy Zsuzsanna

Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025

| HISTORY OF CHANGES | | |
|---|---|---|
| VERSION | PUBLICATION DATE | CHANGE |
| 1.0 | 15.04.2021 | Initial version (new MFF). |
| 2.0 | 23.09.2025 | • Additional key project-level indicators (10) have been added<br>• In section 1.1 more information has been provided on the effectiveness of small-scale restocking or reintroduction efforts in Romania<br>• Two new deliverables have been added in WP5, namely reports to the Romanian and Hungarian Natura 2000 authority comprising the main project results and findings<br>• Reference with the call document (pp 16–18) has been inserted point by point to the explanation on how the translocation/restocking conditions are or will be met according to the requirements<br>• Section 2.3 has been completed with more details about the long-term permanence of the project results (e.g. 30 years long landowner agreements, in the cases of the predators' control and IAS management)<br>• More details have been provided in WP4 on how the IAS, in particular A. syriaca and A. altissima will be managed<br>• In section 2.3, additional information has been provided on how the monitoring and restocking/reintroduction activities will be sustained in the long term in Romania<br>• Declaration of following EU animal welfare, IAS maintenance and applying chemicals regulation has been added<br>• An additional paragraph has been included with details on IAS management and the corresponding deliverables (annual reports) under WP4<br>• The target ROSPA0047 area has been replaced by ROSCI0115 (Mlaștina Satchinez) site.<br>• Maps, site descriptions and reference to the targeted Natura 2000 sites for Romania have been revised<br>• New subtask (with related deliverables) has been inserted in WP5 - T.5.3 Updating Standard Data Forms (SDF) of Natura 2000 project sites<br>• WP5 T.5.3 has been supplemented with the concerned Romanian N2000 sites<br>• The map of the total project area in Hungary and Romania has been added<br>• In WP3 deliverables D3.1 and D3.2 have been reclassified as milestones<br>• Two new deliverables have been inserted to WP3 about constructed breeding facilities<br>• Three milestones have been added related to obtaining the necessary permits for implementation of project activities<br>• Deliverables D1.4, D1.6 and D1.8 have been deleted<br>• The confidentiality level of deliverables D.6.7 and D.6.8 (Extracts from the LIFE KPI webtool at month 9 and at the end of the project) have been changed from PU (Public) to SEN (Sensitive)<br>• Information have been added to the text about conservation clause is included in the land register for the land purchased within WP4<br>• Under Work Package 1, 7 deliverables (starting with the first report in December 2025, and then every December until project end) have been included in view of uploading the yearly reports on cumulative expenditure<br>• Additional information regarding the subcontracting costs have been added |

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| | | • The title of work package 7 (on dissemination, networking and awareness) has been revised<br>• The project timetable at Task 5.2.2 has been modified<br>• Acronyms of beneficiaries have been revised to be consistent<br>• HOI's personnel costs and human resources expenditure have been reduced<br>• A significant reduction in personnel allocation has been made, and the monthly wage has been increased which finally not resulted any changes in total personnel costs<br>• Some costs have been relocated from equipment to the cost of the Certificate on Financial Statement (CFS)<br>• Details about the cost calculation of 'Citellus Garden' at BVP have been provided and cost have been relocated to the breeding centres<br>• Bisons have been replaced by traditional cattle (or members of Caprinae) as grazing animal which will maintain the EGS habitat of 'Citellus Garden' at BVP<br>• Ex-situ breeding facilities have been detailed, and cost breakdown has also been indicated and detailed<br>• The text has been revised to reflect that separate webpages within the beneficiaries' websites will be used, rather than a standalone project website<br>• The ID country for all participants in the Personnel costs table have been updated<br>• The wording "small gifts" with "promotional/dissemination materials" has been replaced for clarification<br>• Volunteer costs have been relocated from other goods and services to the purchase of the electric fence and its accessories for BNPD but left unchanged at personal costs<br>• Costs of Organisation of field trips for media representatives (10 trips, 30 persons/trip, catering 3 900 €); and WP1: (T1.5): Car rental (not enough trips for a full car buying) for travel and transport of equipment (for 346 days, 40 €/day = 13 840 €, cca. 80 000 km) have been relocated from other goods and services to travel and subsistence category.<br>• The purchase of sheep by BNPD, has been transferred to other goods and services category<br>• Costs of establishment of ex-situ facilities at HNPD, renovation of wells at BNPD and HNPD have been relocated from subcontracting category<br>• Breakdown of costs for WP 7: Tourism related activities (i.e. T 7.1.7, T 7.1.8) has been provided and detailed in the budget and the text<br>• The total costs of WP2: (T.2.1): External assistance for the survey of taxons we do not have specialists in the group (104 000 €), and WP6: (T6.1) external assistance of special expert for field trainings, introductory surveys and analyses of EGS by special UAV method for all partners (150 000 €) have been broken down in the detailed budget table and additional explanations have been provided<br>• 3.2 Work Packages has been removed from the text<br>• 4.5 Risk management has been deleted |
| 3.0 | 06.11.2025 | Final version<br>• Budget was corrected in the case of BNPD and HNPD: relocating costs from Other goods and services to Equipment (incl. infrastructure) categories |

Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025

# Detailed Budget Table

## CitellusLIFE

***Important:***
*Before completing this document, please check in the Call document which cost categories are eligible for your proposal as this may be different depending on the call/topic. No budget should be indicated in cells related to cost categories that are not eligible.*
*You may add rows but no additional tabs. This may result in your proposal being considered inadmissible.*
*Please ensure that the file can be printed on a format of 1 page wide (number of pages depending on the number of participants).*
*Please make sure that the figures in this table are consistent with the total budget provided in part A section 3 of the application.*
*In case of inconsistencies, part A will prevail.*

## Staff effort allocation

*Fill in the effort per work package and Beneficiary/Affiliated Entity.*
*Please indicate the number of person-months over the whole duration of the planned work.*
*Adapt the columns to the number of work packages in your proposal.*
*Identify the work-package leader for each work package by showing the relevant person-month figure in bold.*

| Participant Number/Short Name | WP1 | WP2 | WP3 | WP4 | WP5 | WP6 | WP7 | WP8 | Total |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1/HOI | **81** | **72** | 3 | 3 | **73** | **53** | 62 | 30 | **377** |
| 2/ZOO | 8 | 0 | 46 | 0 | 42 | 7 | **194** | 2 | **299** |
| 3/BVP | 6 | 0 | **285** | 0 | 0 | 0 | 23 | 0 | **314** |
| 4/BEKE | 3 | 27 | 0 | 0 | 18 | 19 | 8 | 7 | **82** |
| 5/BNPD | 6 | 8 | 6 | 110 | 24 | 17 | 10 | 1 | **182** |
| 6/HNPD | 24 | 3 | 7 | **18** | 11 | 24 | 10 | 2 | **99** |
| 7/CER | 17 | 42 | 0 | 0 | 64 | 69 | 18 | **20** | **230** |
| 8/MILVUS | 49 | 18 | 0 | 0 | 31 | 22 | 27 | 17 | **164** |
| **Total person-months** | **194** | **170** | **347** | **131** | **263** | **211** | **352** | **79** | **1747** |

## Personnel costs

*Present your estimated "Personnel costs" split into 3 categories as per the table below. If you do not have any personnel costs falling under "A.4 SME owners and natural person beneficiaries" or "A.5 Volunteers", all personnel costs should be budgeted under "A1. Employees (or equivalent); A2. Natural persons under direct contract and A3. Seconded Persons".*

*For A.4 SME owners and natural person beneficiaries: please note that as per Annex 2a of the LIFE General Model Grant Agreement (MGA), a unit cost is applied to this cost category. The units are the days spent working on the action (rounded up to the nearest half-day) and the amount per unit (daily rate) is calculated according to the following formula:*
*{EUR 5 080 / 18 days = EUR 282,22 per day} multiplied by {country-specific correction coefficient of the country where the beneficiary is established}*
*Note that the country specific correction coefficient to use is the one applied for the Marie Sklodoska-Curie Actions (MSCA). Yearly rates are published in the Horizon Europe Work Programme – Marie Sklodowksa-Curie Actions under the funding and tender portal Reference Documents (work programme and call documents section), available at https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/how-to-participate/reference-documents;programCode=HORIZON.*

| Participant Number/Short Name | Country | Number of person months (staff effort per beneficiary) | Average monthly salary rate | A1. Employees (or equivalent); A2. Natural persons under direct contract and A3. Seconded Persons (costs) | A.4 SME owners and natural person (sole trader) beneficiaries (Unit costs in €) | Subtotal personnel costs without volunteers (A1+A2+A3+A4) - must be the same as in part A section 3 | A.5 Volunteers (Unit costs) must be the same as in part A section 3 | Total Personnel costs |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1/HOI | HU | 377 | 2 498 € | 936 000 € | | **936 000 €** | 5 922 € | **941 922 €** |
| 2/ZOO | HU | 299 | 2 386 € | 713 555 € | | **713 555 €** | | **713 555 €** |
| 3/BVP | HU | 314 | 2 339 € | 734 367 € | | **734 367 €** | | **734 367 €** |
| 4/BEKE | HU | 82 | 1 963 € | 161 000 € | | **161 000 €** | | **161 000 €** |
| 5/BNPD | HU | 182 | 1 567 € | 283 235 € | | **283 235 €** | 1 974 € | **285 209 €** |
| 6/HNPD | HU | 99 | 1 834 € | 181 591 € | | **181 591 €** | | **181 591 €** |
| 7/CER | HU | 230 | 2 386 € | 524 000 € | | **524 000 €** | 24 675 € | **548 675 €** |
| 8/MILVUS | RO | 164 | 2 429 € | 366 760 € | | **366 760 €** | 31 584 € | **398 344 €** |
| **Total** | | **1 747** | | **3 900 508 €** | **0 €** | **3 900 508 €** | **64 155 €** | **3 964 663 €** |

## Subcontracting

*Give details on subcontracted action tasks (if any) and explain the reasons why (as opposed to direct implementation by the participants).*
*Subcontracting — Subcontracting means the implementation of action tasks, i.e. specific tasks which are part of the action and are described in Annex 1 of the Grant Agreement.*
*Note: Subcontracting concerns the outsourcing of a part of the action to a party outside the Consortium. It is not simply about purchasing goods or services. We normally expect the participants to have sufficient operational capacity to implement the project activities themselves. Sub-contracting should therefore be exceptional.*
*Include only subcontracts that comply with the rules (i.e. best value for money and no conflict of interest; coordinator tasks can normally not be subcontracted).*

| **Participant Number/Short Name** | **Subcontract Description** | **Cost (€)** | **WP** | **Justification** **(Why is subcontracting necessary?)** |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 6/HNPD | Habitat reconstructions (T.4.3): reconstruction of grassland on 8.34 ha area | 34 672 € | WP4 | The NPD does not have the capacities to do all the reconstruction works itself, therefore the part of grassland reconstruction is planned to be subcontracted. The habitat reconstruction, elimination of shrubs requires specialised skills, eqiupments, machinery, which can only be carried out by a suitably qualified professional. In case of the reconstruction of 8.34 ha grassland the HNPD calculated with appr. 4,157 €/ha unit price. |
| 6/HNPD | Habitat reconstructions (T.4.3) elimination of invasive species: Shrub removal, eradication of invasive trees (Robinia, A.fruticosa): 2 times (except 2 areas) in 2 consecutive years, at 12 locations, in a total area of 261.5 ha | 629 740 € | WP4 | Elimination of IAS requires specialised machinery and permit for the use of chemicals, with the NPD does not have. Therefore, these actions can only be carried out by a suitably qualified professional. Elimination of invasive species: Shrub removal, eradication of invasive trees (Robinia, A.fruticosa): 2 times (except 2 areas) in 2 consecutive years, at 12 locations, in a total area of 261.5 ha. In case of the habitat reconstruction works of 261.5 ha area the HNPD calculated with appr. 2,408 €/ha unit price. The total area can be found at 12 different locations, in case of 10 areas the habitat reconstruction works have to be implemented at two consecutive years (2 times), and in case of 2 areas it must be done over 7 years. |
| | **Total estimated costs** | **664 412 €** | | |
| If subcontracting for the entire project goes beyond 30% of the total eligible costs, give specific reasons. | - | | | |

## Other direct costs

*Please complete the table below for each participant. If required add further tables at the end of this work sheet (one per participant).*
*Please ensure that sufficient details are provided in part B. For major cost items add lines below, in order to provide a detailed breakdown within one cost category.*
*For major items listed in the justification column, indicate the work package to which they belong.*
*For equipment and infrastructure, please explain if the cost represents the full cost or the depreciation.*

| 1/HOI | Cost (€) | Justification |
|---|---|---|
| Travel & subsistence | 27 974 € | WP1: Total 72 200 km*0.37€/km forday-to-day p. management and monitoring of the p. implementation & participation in project meetings, trainings, knowledge sharing: (T1.1): 222 € (600 km, preparation of Kick-off meeting, Training); (T1.2): 19 126 € (participation at 6 AEMs: 800 km, 6 trips & supply & accomodation for 5 persons for 2 events 700 € ; 7 000 km x 7 = 49 000 km for day-to-day p. management trips 18 130 € ); (T1.3): 7 770 € (3 000 km x 7 = 21 000 km for day-to-day financial management); (T1.4): 856 € (participation at 6 SCMs, 800 km, 6 trips, supply & accomodation for 4 persons for 2 events 560 € ) |
| | 14 114 € | WP2: Total 26 200 km*0.37€/km, cca. 36-38 trips, suppy & accomodation for 2 persons (if needed) for baseline surveys:<br>(T2.1): 13 670 € (25 000 km, 30 2 days/trips, 2 persons, supply & accomodation 4420 €);<br>(T2.2): 444 € (1 200 km, 6-8 trips, 1 day/trip, 2 persons) |
| | 444 € | WP3 (T3.3): Trips for Citellus Gardens (assistance in EGS introductions): 444 € (1 200 km*0.37€/km, 4-5 1 day trips, 3-4 persons) |
| | 444 € | WP4 (T4.3): Assistance in habitat reconstruction activities: 444 € (1 200 km*0.37€/km, 4-5 1 day trips, 3-4 persons) |
| | 17 357 € | WP5: Total 46 910 km*0.37€/km, 75-80 1 day trips, 3-4 persons for reintroductions:<br>(T5.1): 1 310 € (3 540 km, 8-10 trips, 1 day trips, 3-4 persons);<br>(T5.2): 16 047 € (43 370 km, 65-70 1 day/trips, 3-4 persons) |

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| | 31 240 € | WP6: Total 68 684 km*0.37€/km, 68-73 trips, 2 or 1 day(s)/trips, 2 persons for monitoring surveys:<br>T6.1: 27 760 € (59 290 km, 40 trips, 2 persons, 2 day/trips, supply & accomodation 5 820 €);<br>T6.2: 3 080 € (8 316 km, 20-25 trips, 1 day/trips, 2 persons);<br>T6.3: 400 € (1078 km, 6-8 1 day/trips, 2 persons) |
| | 18 498 € | WP7: Total 8 479 km*0.37€/km for communication & dissemination activities:<br>(T7.1): 598 € (1617 km, 10 1 day/trips, 2-3 persons) for organisation & implementation of volunteer's programmes;<br>(T7.2): 598 € (1 617 km, 10 1 day/trips, 2-3 persons) for participation at media events;<br>(T7.3): 6 945 € (2 550 km, 10-12 2 day/trips 4-5 persons, supply & accomodation) for participation at field trainings & workshops;<br>(T7.4): 10 357 € (2 695 km, 5 nat. & 3 internat. conferences, 3 persons, registration fee & supply & accomodation 9 360) for participation at conferences |
| | 9 373 € | WP8: (T8.8) : 25 333 km*0.37€/km for suburban EGS colonies conservation campaignes (meeting & organisation of events & transport of acessories) 40-45 trips, 1 day trips, 4-5 persons |
| Equipment (incl. infrastructure) | 44 700 € | WP1: Purchase of cross-cutting equipments that will be used for several WPs: simple 4 WD field car (32 100 €), for more than 35 000 km driving per year and for the transportation of equipment a simple project field car is important, UAV equipment (3 900 €), projector (4 000 €); 2 pieces of laptop (4 000 €), 3 pieces of mobile for field use (700 €) |
| | 15 500 € | WP2: (T2.1) Meteorological stations for measuring environmental variables in habitat surveys (15 500 €) |
| | 30 620 € | WP5: (T5.2) drill for artificial burrow making (4 200 €), RFID chip reader suitable for marker reading of EGS (1 920 €), tent for guarding EGS (1 500 € ), equipments for transportation of samples (23 000 €) |
| | 59 750 € | WP6: (T6.1) Field observation equipments: 1 piece of binoculars (4 000 €); 1 piece of GPSMap66sr (1 000 €), camera for documentation (13 000 €) 4 pieces of action cameras (2 100 €), 4 pieces of field radio (650 €), telemetry equipment (39 000 €) |
| | 61 520 € | WP1: Project events organization & catering<br>(T1.1): 14 520 €: Organisation & catering (+ representation fee) of Kick-off meeting (30 persons, 2800 €) and 2-day Training for project team members (50 persons, 9 200 €); preparation of project handbook (2 520 €);<br>(T1.2): 45 000 €: Organisation & catering (+ representation fee) of 4 Annual Evaluation Meetings (50 persons/event, 36 000 €); (T1.4): 9 000 € Organisation & catering (+ representation fee) of 4 SCMs (25 persons/event); Certificate on Financial Statement (CFS) (2 000 €) |
| | 135 000 € | WP1: (T1.3): contract with an external supervisor (135 000 €); |
| | 36 180 € | WP1: consultancy fees:<br>(T1.2) external assistance in reporting (10 000 €);<br>(T1.5) public procurement consultancy and fees (26 180 €) |

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Other goods, works and services | 109 200 € | WP2: (T.2.2): External assistance for the survey of taxons we do not have specialists in the group (104 000 €) as vegetation surveys (26 800 €), arthropod surveys (27 500 €), other vertebrate surveys (10 100 €), food consumption analysis by faeces microhistology (37 500 €) in 20 sample sites; surveys of traditional ecological knowledge abut EGS and its habitat management (5 200 €) |
| | 28 500 € | WP2: (T.2.4) background & development of database, support |
| | 18 940 € | WP5: (T5.1) permit costs (1 300 €); (T5.2) 1 7640 € EGS live traps (6 240, 31.2 €/pc.); equipments for artificial burrow drilling, fencing against fast dispersion of translocated EGSs, other equipments (2 040 €); for marking individuals RFID microchips (9 360 €, 3.5 €/pc.) |
| | 56 110 € | WP6: (T.6.1) 56 110 € (examination fee for UAV operators, potential preparation of UAV, obligatory ensurance for UAV, marking pole (6 240 €), making UAV aerial photography using the developed protocol in the project (49 870 €) |
| | 150 000 € | WP6: (T6.1) external assistance of special expert for field trainings, introductory surveys and analysises of EGS by special UAV method for all partners (150 000 €) as 10 EGS drone surveys in 10 sample areas, one on each sample area, for method validation, and scale the methodology up to the Pannonian region level (50 940 €); data analysis, methodology development, determination of applicability criteria (35 560 €); four on-site methodological (10 160 €) and data analytical trainings (data processing and interpretation) (20 320 €) in 4 NPDs, one-one for each NP, one day on-site and one day indoor trainings; designing monitoring methodology for the development of the threat map (of T.5.1) (20 320); dissemination, publication, information sharing with non-partner NPIs (12 700 €); |
| | 43 980 € | WP6: (T6.1) external assistance for monitoring EGS reproduction success after reintroduction (43 980 €); |
| | 48 000 € | WP6: (T6.3) 48 000 € external assistance in the surveys for the estimation of stakeholders awareness (25 200 € baseline survey & 22 800 € monitoring survey); |
| | 33 160 € | WP7: Communication & dissemination costs<br>(T7.1): 32 960 € developing and support of cell phone application (5 740 €), promotional/dissemination materials for most active volunteers & representation fee (2 180 €), volunteers' events costs (5 events*60 volunteers,12 290 €); socal media advertisements (2 000 €); interactive play sets (3 500 €); interactive wooden boards (5 250 € , 7 pcs. 750 €/pc.) and other equipment (1 000 €/) for 'turist attraction sites');<br>(T7.4): 1 200 € publication fee for 2 scientific papers |
| | 80 680 € | WP7: Networking (T.7.3) organizing conferences & workshops: workshops for knowledge exchange (3 event, 25-30 persons/event, room rental & catering 4 700 € ); 4-day international EGS conference (120 persons, catering & representation fee 38 600 €, room renalt 6 230 €, accomodation support 9 000 €, bus rental for field trip 3 900 €, other costs 13 000 € = 71 730 €); Project Final conference (1-day conference,100 persons, catering & representation fee 5 200 €) |

Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| | 57 530 € | WP8: (T8.8) 47 530 € complex campaigns for conservation of suburban EGS colonies: equipments (2 340 €), promotional materials (6 000 €), outdoor event costs (20 events, 23 210 €), installation of boards (12 480 €), 3 pieces of tents for outdoor events (3 500 €); (T8.9) 10 000 € extternal assistance in preparation of After Life plan |
| Financial support to third parties | - | |
| Land purchase | - | |
| **Total** | **1 128 814 €** | |

| **2/ZOO** | **Cost (€)** | **Justification** |
|---|---|---|
| Travel & subsistence | 5 405 € | WP1: 4 500 km*0.37€/km in total for participaton at project meetings in 7 yrs (Kick-off meeting, Trainingg, 6 AEMs & 6 SCMs) for 2-4 people, subsistance & accomodation if needed (3 740 €): T1.1: 1 175 € for Kick-off meeting & Training (1 500 km, supply & accomodation for 4 persons 620 € ); T1.2: 2 115 € for 6 AEMs (1 500 km, supply & accomodation for 2 persons 1 560 €); T1.4: 2 115 € for 6 SCMs (1 500 km, supply & accomodation for 2 persons 1 560 €) |
| | 3 700 € | WP3:10 000 km*0.37€/km, cca. 20 trips (1-2 persons) for the contribution to the establishment & operation of ex-situ breeding centres at HNPD (T3.2) |
| | 40 145 € | WP5: 108 500 km*0.37€/km in total for in situ conservation activities: 105 000 km, cca. 40 trips/yr, total 280 trips, 1-2 persons for health status surveys, 38 850 € (T5.1); 3 500 km, cca.10 trips, 1-2 persons for reintroduction activities, 1 295 € (T5.2) |
| | 1 850 € | WP6: 5 000 km*0.37€/km, cca. 15 trips, 1-2 persons, contribution in monitoring of repatriation activities (T6.1) |
| | 12 775 € | WP7: 12 700 km*0.37€/km in total for dissemination & communication activities: 3 000 km, cca. 10 trips, 2-3 persons, trips for production & distribution of dissemination materials, 1 100 € (T7.1); 5 000 km, cca. 18-20 trips for events for media representatives, 3-4 persons, 1 850 € (T7.2); Organisation of field trips for media representatives (10 trips, 30 persons/trip, catering 3 900 €) (T7.2); 3 200 km, 4 trips for networking & exhange of experience, 2 persons, supply (320 €) & accomodation (420 €), 1 925 € (T7.3); 1 500 km, 1 trip, participation at international conference, 2 persons, supply & accomodation (5 days, 4 000 €) (T7.4) |
| | 370 € | WP8: 1 000 km*0.37€/km, 5 trips for participation in campaignes fot suburban EGS colonies, 2 persons (T8.8) |
| | 32 000 € | WP1: Purchase of 1 simple 4WD car (32 000 €) with more than 20 000 km of driving per year, to transport veterinary equipment quickly and safely, a project car is crucial. The project car will also be used for other project activities (participaton at meetings, dissemination & communication trips) (T5.1) |

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Equipment (incl. infrastructure) | 26 160 € | WP5: Purchase of equipments for field surveys: 3 pcs. tablet (1 040 €), 2 pcs. laptop (2 030 €), vet accessories (5 200 €), camera for field surveys (4 680 €) anaesthetic equipment (8 500 €), traps (260 €), microscope (3 800 €), veterinary mobile cooler (650 €) |
| | 11 760 € | WP7: Equipments for the improvement of EGS enclosure: trail cam (230 €), endoscope camera (2 085 €), monitor (495 €), SD card (320 €), tubes&fittings (1 040 €),1 pc. laptop (1 320 €), camera for photography (6 270 €) |
| Other goods, works and services | 58 420 € | WP1: External services for project finalcial assistance and administration # 87 months (T1.3); Certificate on Financial Statement (CFS) (3 000 €) |
| | 7 800 € | WP5: Veterinary medicines (T5.1) |
| | 196 820 € | WP7: T7.1:<br>*Establishment of the visual identity of the project, 3 960 € (T71.1): design of Project logo (1 650 €), compilation of Visual identity guidelines (1 650 €) and Communication strategy (660 €);<br>*Online communication: subpage and social media 41 700 € (T7.1.2.): development (2 800 €) and maintenance (11 900 €) of project subpage, subpage & social media works (27 000 €);<br>*Design & production of information boards (T7.1.3) (43 pcs., 1 145 €);<br>*Production of information & promotional materials 2 590 € (T7.1.4): rollups (22 pcs., 1 690 €), leaflet (12 000 pcs., 900 €);<br>*Production of information&promotional materials about target sp. 74 180 € (T7.1.5): education booklet (10 000 pcs., 26 480 €), peer-review, desing & production of EGS book (1 000 pcs., 6 200 €), design & production of promotional materials & representation fees (notepad, T-shirt, fridge magnet, eco-pen, gym bag, plush EGS, interactive playsets 41 500 €);<br>*Design & production of Layman's riport (T7.1.9) (200 pcs., 560 €);<br>*Preparation of a project film and cartoon 45 400 € (T7.1.6): production of project film (36 300 €) and animation film (9 100 €);<br>*Awareness raising campaign, 27 285 € (T7.1.7): Service works for the improvement of EGS enclosure: electronic development (1 980 €), IT development (1 980 €), IT system management, processing of camera photos (11 090 €), creation of observation platform (1 040 €), security improvements of the enclosure (5 195 €); advertising rates of dissemation events/ volunteer programmes (6 000 €); |
| Financial support to third parties | - | |
| Land purchase | - | |
| **Total** | **397 205 €** | |

| 3/BVP | Cost (€) | Justification |
|---|---|---|
| Travel & subsistence | 4 145 € | WP1: Participation at project meetings in 7yrs (Kick-off meeting, Training, 6 AEM & 6 SCMs ), travel (total 8 500 km*0.37€/km) and accomodation for 2-4 persons (total 1 000 €) (T1.1: 200 € (540 km, 2 trips for 2 persons); T1.2: 1500 € (1 500 km, 6 trips, 2 persons, 945 € for accomodation); T1.4: 2 445 € (1 500 km, 6 trips, 4 persons, 1 890 € for accomodation)) |
| | 1 665 € | WP3: Trips necessary for the establishment & operation of ex-situ breeding centres: total 4 500 km*0.37€/km, 60 trips for 7 yrs, 75 km /trip, 2 persons (T3.1, T3.2, T3.3: 555 € each (3 x 1 500 km, 3 x 20 trips, 2 persons) |
| | 5 045 € | WP7: (T7.3): Study trips abroad 3 750 € (2 trips, 2x3 days, travel (2 000 km*0.37€/km), supply & accomodation for 4 persons (3 010 €); meetings with partners/other institutions for exchange of experience 1 295 € (3-4 trips, 2 days/trip, 1 500 km*0.37€/km) and supply & accomodation for 3 persons (740 €) |
| | 3 848 € | WP1: Purchase of 2 pieces of laptop (2 598 €), 2 pieces of mobile phone (1 250 €) for project manager and project assistant (T1.1, T1.2, T1.3) |
| | 11 611 € | WP3: Purchase of equipments for project documentation: 2 pieces of mobile phone (1 250 €), 1 piece of photo camera (3 166 €); equipments for the observation of EGS in Citellus Garden: 3 pieces of trail camera (3 299 €), 1-1 piece of telescope & binoculars (3 896 €) (T3.1, T3.2, T3.3); |

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Equipment (incl. infrastructure) | 312 000 € | WP3: Construction of the two sperate ex-situ breeding facilities ( 2x4 pieces climatized containers for breeding & storing & staff station, 6 x 3 m each, installed with water, air conditioner, light, electric power & solar panels, with the necessary equipments (e.g. fridge, sink, shelving system, store cages, IT equipments) as Site preparation earthworks: site preparation, earthworks, foundation, installation of sewage tank, electricity, water installation 34 500 € each - 2 pieces - total: (69 000 €); Insulated air-conditioned container station: 4 parts (each with 6x3 m floor area, built from insulated container, 2 parts for ground squirrel breeding unit, 1 part feed preparation, 1 part dressing room and storage) super-tempered container procurement, delivery, installation, connection 69 000 € each - 2 pieces - total: (138 000 €); Container cladding: landscape-integrated exterior cladding of container station, roof construction - 11 500 € each - 2 pieces - total: (23 000 €); Interior equipment: Interior furnishing of one container unit: 20 meters of 5-shelf aluminium racks, 60 standard double-deck rodent cages for ground squirrels, 20 pcs 50 mm connecting U-profile pipe, 4 pcs 60 x 120 cm stainless steel tables, 2 sinks, 2 pcs 120 x 200 cm changing room lockers, 4 pcs 60 x 200 cm storage locker, 1 pcs 120 l refrigerator for veterinary medicines, vaccines, sample storage, 1 pcs 120 l deep freezer for genetic and tissue sample storage, 2 precision digital scales, 10 digital data storage temperature and humidity meters, 2 LED desk lamps - 25 000 € each - 2 pieces - total: (50 000 €); IT equipment: System components: 32 pcs IP 8 Mp PoE security cameras, 2 pcs NVR-16-4K, 8 pcs 5A power supplies, 8 pcs power side connectors, 32 pcs camera side connectors, 64 pcs network connectors, 8 pcs network connectors for switches, 320 m UTP Cat5 cable, 6 pcs switch 8, control computer 3 000 € each - 2 pieces - total: (6 000 €); Solar panel system installation: Contents of one unit: 9.9 kWp hybrid solar panel system (22 pcs 450W monocrystalline solar panels, 1 pc 10kW asymmetric hybrid inverter, 10kWh battery, stainless steel and aluminium solar panel mounts, necessary solar cables and connectors, system installation - 13 000 € each - 2 pieces - total: (26 000 €) (T3.1); |
| | 255 000 € | WP3: Construction of Citellus Garden (5000 m2 fenced area with shed, storing room, feed kitchen for EGS, social room for staff & information unit for visitors) as Site preparation: On a 5000 m² area (4000 m² EGS habitat maintained by grazing traditional cattle (or members of Caprinae), 420 m² isolation area, separation system for ground squirrels, 80 m² multifunctional information area): brush clearing, earthworks, installation of sewage tank, electricity and water (30 000 €) Concrete foundation: Foundations for buildings and fence: 400 m fence, 420 m² isolation area, separation system for ground squirrels, 80 m² multifunctional information area (60 000 €) Buildings: 4000 m² EGS habitat maintained by grazing traditional cattle (or members of Caprinae), installation of an electric fence system combined with a pen, which prevents EGSs and grazing traditional cattle (or members of Caprinae) from escaping, while also protecting against the intrusion of external predators and other animals. (24 000 €) 420 m² isolation area, separation system, feeding area for ground squirrels (24 000 €) 80 m² multifunctional information area with artificial ground squirrel tunnel system, information boards presenting the Pannonian grassland ecosystem, ground squirrel feeding and photo observation openings (92 000 €) Fence: Approximately 400 m fence construction (25 000 €) (T3.3) |
| | 2 598 € | WP1: Certificate on Financial Statement (CFS) |

Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Other goods, works and services | 62 364 € | WP3: Preparatory works & services for the establishment of the two ex-situ breeding facilities and Citellus Garden: planning (45 974 €), public procurement consultant and procedural fee (6 494 €), technical supervisor (9 896 €) (T3.1); |
| | 31 168 € | WP3: Purchase of feed and bredding material for EGS (T3.2) |
| | 84 000 € | WP3: veterinary care & treatment (for 42 months, 2000 € /month, 84 000 € (T3.2) |
| | 90 480 € | WP3: External assistance of EGS expert to control conditions & breeding succes of EGS (6 yrs, 15 080 €/yrs) |
| | 5 000 € | WP6: Questionary survey of socio-economic impact of awareness rising activities among visitors of BVP (2 times, at least 1000 visitors/ survey) (T6.3) |
| | 9 013 € | WP7: Production & installation of project information boards (8 pieces, 2 000 €); Preparation of thematic video (3-minute, 1 039 €); Thematic guided tours for children (46 events, at least 600 school-aged children) (5 974 €) (T7.1) |
| Financial support to third parties | | |
| Land purchase | | |
| **Total** | **877 937 €** | |

| **4/BEKE** | **Cost (€)** | **Justification** |
|---|---|---|
| Travel & subsistence | 3 108 € | WP1: Total 8 400 km*0.37€/km, participation at project meetings in 7yrs (Kick-off, Training, 6AEMs & 7SCMs) travel for 1-2 persons; T1.1: 296 € (800 km, 2 trips, 1-2 persons); T1.2: 814 € (2 200 km, 6 trips, 1-2 persons); T1.3: 407 € (1 100 km, 3-4 trips, 1-2 persons); T1.4: 814 € (2 200 km, 6 trips, 1-2 person); T1.5: 777 € knowlegde-exchange meetings within the partnership (2 100 km, 7 trips, 1-2 persons) |
| | 4 218 € | WP2: Total 11 400 km*0.37€/km,cca. 30 trips, 1-2 persons; (T2.1: 3 145 € ( 2 persons, 20 trips, 8 500 km); T2.2: 1 073 € (10 trips for 1 person, 2 900 km )) |
| | 13 209 € | WP5: Total 25 700km*0.37€/km; (T5.1: 4 218 € (11 400 km, 30 trips, 1-2 persons); T5.2: 8 991 € ( 24 300 km, 25 trips for 3 persons + supply & accomodation for reintroduction activities)) |
| | 4 255 € | WP6: 11 500 km*0.37€/km, 40 trips, 1 person (T6.1) |

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| | 3 589 € | WP7: Total 9 700 km*0.37€/km, 21 trips, 1 -2 persons, participating in dissemination/media events, meetings, attending conferences and networking: T7.1: 1 073 € (2 900 km, 10 trips for 1 person); T7.2: 333 € (900 km, 3 trips for 2 persons); T7.3: 1 850 € (5 000 km, 5 trips for 2 persons); T7.5 : 333 € (900 km, 3 trips for 2 persons) |
| | 7 104 € | WP8: Total 19 200 km*0.37€/km, cca. 54 trips, 1 -2 persons: T8.1: 4 250 € (11 500 km, 40 trips for 1-2 persons); T8.2: 333 € (900 km, 3 trips for 1 person); T8.3: 333 € (900 km, trips for 1 person); T8.5: 1 850€ (5 000 km, 5 trips for 1 person); T8.7: 333 € (900 km, 3 trips for 1 person) |
| Equipment (incl. Infrastructure) | 1 000 € | WP1: 1 piece of notebook (T1.5) |
| | 4 900 € | WP2: 1 piece of field GIS datacollector (500 €); and 1 pc of Canon camera with lens (4 400 €) (T2.1) |
| | 10 550 € | WP5: 55L Compressor Portable Small Refrigerator + Portable Power Station 296Wh 300W Backup Lithium Battery for the appropriate temporary (on-the-spot) storing of samples (550 €) (T5.1); consumables for reintroduction: 100 pcs. traps, 50 meters mobile fences; 1 set electric fence, 1 pc. earth auger (drilling machine); 1 tent and camping equipments (10 000 €) (T5.2) |
| | 6 960 € | WP6: 20 pcs. trail cameras (w. batteries & SD cards) (330 €/pc*20 = 6 600 €); 1pc. 6TB HDD 360 €) (T6.1) |
| | 20 145 € | WP8: Small scale PIT Tag monitoring system with 16 antennas (18 057 €); 18 pcs.TMS-4 microclimate logger: 106 €/pc*18 = 1 998 € + TMS adapter reader: 90 € (T8.1) |
| Other goods, works and services | 9 271 € | WP5: involvement of external help (experts, assistants) for ground squirrel translocation + guarding reintroduced EGS-colonies (T5.2) |
| Financial support to third parties | | |
| Land purchase | | |
| **Total** | **88 309 €** | |

| **5/BNPD** | **Cost (€)** | **Justification** |
|---|---|---|
| | 6 683 € | WP1: 7 500 km*0.37€/km in total for travelling to project meetings in 7yrs, for 3 people (415 € for Training, Kick-off meeting in T1.1; 468 € for 6 Evaluation meetings (accomodation) in T.1.2 ; 1 800 € for participation on 6 SCMs (accommodation and travelling; 3 people on each SCM, 3 600 km in T1.4); Exchange of experience in Romania and Hungary (accommodation, travelling, catering for 4 people for 4 trips),(4 000 €) (T1.5) |
| | 7 400 € | WP2: Total 30 000 km*0.37€/km:<br>10 000 km (at least 15 trips, 4-3 people/each trip; at least 15 days), 3 700 € to participate in T.2.1;<br>10 000 km (at least 15 trips, 4-3 people/each trip; at least 15 days), 3 700 € in T. 2.2 |
| | 6 216 € | WP3: 16 800 km*0.37€/km (10 trips/yr* 7yrs /site, total 70*2 trips, 2-2 persons; 70-70 days) travel to Batuz and Tard sites checking the preparation of the Citellus Garden fence and then regular checks on the outside breeding site (T3.3) |

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Travel & subsistence | 28 860 € | WP4: Total: 78 000 km*0.37€/km:<br>6 000 km (24 trips, 3 persons; 24 days), an average of 70-100 km/trip is required for well rehabilitation monitoring (2 200 €) (T4.1);<br>65 000 km for hunters catching predators hunting days (3+3 hunters for at least 100 trips/year; 70-100km/trip*7yrs) and cheking the contractors (at least 4 days/years for a ranger*7yrs) (24 050 €) (T4.2);<br>7 000 km for checking the contractor of the a) eliminate shrubs (in 2026) and b) Amorpha fruticosa (6yrs - from 2026 till the end of the project) (a) 4 trips/elimination, b) 4 trips/yr*6yrs) (2 590 €) (T4.3) |
| | 24 513 € | WP5: Total 56 250 km*0.37€/km:<br>10 500 km for annual survey of source populations (3 locations x 500 km x 7 years) (7 585 €) (T.5.1);<br>45 750 km during reintroduction ( 3*per reintroduction* 500 km = 1 5000 km); inspection, guarding (5 times* reintroduction * 300 km = 1 5000 km); mowing (9 days * 5 yrs*350 km = 1 5750 km) (16 928 €) (T5.2) |
| | 3 330 € | WP6: Total 9000 km*0.37€/km:<br>6 000 km for monitoring populations (10 locations* 2 trips/yr* 300 km) (2 220 €) (T.6.1.);<br>3 000 km for monitoring habitat management (1 110 €) (T.6.2. - in 2 project sites in Tard, 2-3 times/year for 7 years) |
| | 11 542 € | WP7: 8 815 € - Total 15 400 km*0.37€/km:<br>4 500 km - Guided field visits for the general public on open days at Citellus Garden (1 665 €) (T7.1, 3 trips/each occasion, 3-3 times in Tard and Batuz);<br>900 km (4 trips) for preparing & implemeting field trips for media representatives (333 €) (T7.2);<br>10 000 km - participation on different conferences (9 544 €) (T7.4, on 5 conferences - accommodation for 3-4 nights/each - 45 nights, meals for 3-4 days/each - 45 occasion, registration fees and travelling, for 3 people - 15 registration fees) |
| Equipment (incl. infrastructure) | 64 052 € | WP1: Purchase of 1 field car that will be used for all WPs (44 500 €) (T1.5), purchase of equipment that will be used for all WPs - 1 projector, 3 laptops, 1 portable projector screen, 4 tablets in size A5, 2 photo cameras with lens (19 552 €) (T1.5) |
| | 4 935 € | WP2: Drone (2 338 €) and camera for macro photography (2 597 €) (T2.1) |
| | 48 070 € | WP3: Purchase of a tractor (18 200 €) (T3.3); External services for developing the Citellus Garden in the Batuz (Construction of 100 x 500 m a double-row fence (18 810 €) with 4 m wide gate (800 €), appr. 5 ha) and Tard project sites (Construction of 100 x 200 m a double-row fence (9 460 €) with 4 m wide gate (800 €), appr. 2 ha) (T3.3) |
| | 136 248 € | WP4: purchase and installation of new beam structures (branch beams and whip beams; 650 € each) and troughs (780 € each) for 40 wells. For 10 of the renovated wells, pumps (1,140 € each), solar panels and the equipment necessary for their installation (955 € each) will be purchased and installed (T.4.1.); purchase of hunting equipments for hunters (T4.2): 2 thermal imaging cameras (10 390 €), 2 spotting scopes (9 351 €), 8 live traps of different sizes (about 110 pieces, 10 types, 30 221 €), 5 game cameras (1 688 €), 4 spotting scopes (4 675 €), 20 traps (1 039 €), camouflage nets (3 pieces) and electric game call (2 pieces) (in total 734 €) |

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| | 3 844 € | WP5: Necessary equipments to maintain the area after relocation of EGS (motor mower, 2 286 €) and a cross-country bicycle for Tard site (with difficult access, 1 558 €) |
| | 22 987 € | WP6: Purchase of equipment that are necessary to monitor the newly reintroduct EGS (telescope and spherical tripod) (T6.1) |
| | 51 948 € | WP7: Construction of a covered place beside the Citellus Garden in Batuz (T7.1). The lower, covered part of the wooden, one-storey facility, with a viewing platform, will offer activities for children, while the upper floor will provide a view of the European ground squirrels in the Citellus Garden |
| Other goods, works and services | 12 913 € | WP1 Hosting 1 Annual Evaluation Meeting and 1 SCM for project representatives. (T1.2 & T1.4); Public procurement consultancy and fees. (T1.5); Certificate on Financial Statement (CFS) (4 675 €) |
| | 3 100 € | WP3: Purchase of 20 sheep for habitat maintennace (3 100 €) (T3.3) |
| | 390 861 € | WP4 Renovation of 40 wells (well ring wells); obtaining a cleaning permit (preparation of a water retention plan required for the water rights licensing procedure), cleaning by an external contractor and ensuring their accessibility (labor costs, access, power supply, infrastructure development 6,360 €), new beam structures'- labor costs (1,311 € each) will be covered (for 10 wells); planning the renovation of wells (T4.1) 25 974 €, hiring public procurement expert (T4.1) 38 961 €, wildlife management training for hunting (T.4.1.) 4 420 €, external services for specialised form of hunting, scooping (with dogs) and for hunting on project sites for 7 yrs 36 364 €, consumables for hunters artificial birds of different sizes (32 pieces), (in total 489 €) (T.4.2), elimination of shrubs and invasion plant A. fruticosa will be carry out by subcontractor for 7 yrs (T.4.3) 17 143 € |
| | 16 416 € | WP5: Protective clothing to maintain the area (520 €) and protect the EGS (electric fence, traps and additional devices) (15 896 €) (T5.2) |
| | 19 377 € | WP7: Cost of catering and bus rental for the organisation of open days and annual events (T7.1, for 40-50 people) 3 273 €, Construction and installation of 4 information panels, 3-sided, triangular interactive panels and interactive games (T7.1) 16 104 € |
| | 4 500 € | WP8: External assistance for development of the feasibility study (T8.4) |
| Financial support to third parties | - | |
| Land purchase | - | |
| **Total** | **867 795 €** | |

| **6/HNPD** | **Cost (€)** | **Justification** |
|---|---|---|

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Travel & subsistence | 4 259 € | WP1: Participation on project meetings in 7 yrs (Kick-off meeting, Training, 6 AEMs & 7 SCMs), 4 persons, travel (8 000 km*0.37€/km) & accommodation if needed (1 299 €); (T1,1, T1.2, T1.4) |
| | 1 887 € | WP2:Trips for baseline surveys & drone training (5 100*0.37€/km, 44 trips, 1 day/trip) (T2.1) |
| | 1 110 € | WP3: Trips for establishment of ex-situ breeding facilities (3 000 km*0.37 €/km, 30 trips, 100 km/trip) (T3.1) |
| | 6 179 € | WP4: Trips for direct conservation actions (total 16 700 km*0.37 €/km, 232 trips, 1 day/trips); preparatory tasks (T4.1) 278 € (5 trips, 750 km); control of predators (T4.2) 1 110 €, (30 trips, 3 000 km); control of habitat recostruction (T4.3) 4 792 € (197 trips, 12 950 km) |
| | 8 362 € | WP5: Trips for reintroduction activities (total 22 600 km*0.37 €/km, 187 trips, 1 day/trips); preparation of reintroduction (T5.1) 1 702 €, (4 600 km, 43 trips); reintroduction (T5.2) 6 660 €, (18 000 km, 144 trips) |
| | 28 638 € | WP6: Monitoring of populations (T6.1) 14 319 € ( 38 700 km*0.37 €/km, 258 trips, 150 km/trips); monitoring of sites (T6.2) 14 319 € ( 38 700 km 0.37 €/km, 258 trips, 150 km/trips) |
| | 3 543 € | WP7: Participation at media event (T7.2) 37 € (100 km*0.37 €/km, 1 trip); participation at networking events (T7.3) 370 € (1 100 km*0.37€/km, 2 trips,1 day/trips);<br>participation at 3 conferences (project Final Conference, International EGS Conference, Conference on nature conservation (T7.4) 3 136 € (total 6 days, 3-4 persons, 3000 km*0.37€/km and 39 nights accommodation 2 025 €) |
| | 185 € | WP8: Implementation of awareness campaigns (T8.8) 185 € (500 km*0.37€/km, 6 trips, 1 day/trips) |
| Equipment (incl. infrastructure) | 27 273 € | WP1: Cross-cutting equipments that will be used for several WPs: 6 pieces of binocular (8 571 €), 2 set of telescope (telescope, ocular, bag) and tripod (8 312€), 2 pieces of drone with accessories (7 273 €), 2 pieces of laptop with bag (3 117 €) |
| | 135 779 € | WP3: In case of the ex-situ breeding facilities the cost of insulated air-conditioned container stations consists the following items: 3 parts (each with 6x3 m floor area, built from insulated container, 2 parts for ground squirrel breeding unit, 1 part feed preparation and storage) super-tempered container procurement, delivery, installation, connection: approximately (60 000 €); Interior equipment: Interior furnishing of three container: shelf aluminium racks, rodent cages for ground squirrels, stainless steel tables, sinks, storage lockers, refrigerator for veterinary medicines, vaccines, sample storage, deep freezer for genetic and tissue sample storage, digital scales, digital data storage temperature and humidity meters, lamps, etc.: approximately (45 000 €); Landscape-integrated exterior cladding of container station: approximately (6 500 €)<br>IT equipments: approximately (3 500 €); Construction of concrete foundations for EGS breeding containers, unloading of containers from a transport vehicle (7 792 €), construction of a solar panels (12 987 €) |
| | 27 272 € | WP4: 2 hot-dip galvanized 3 m drinking troughs (1 298 €) (T4.1); Drilling of well equipped with a solar-powered pump (sum of 25 974 €) as: construction works of well drilling (approximately 12,987 €) and the solar-powered pump (approximately 12,987 €) (T4.1.2). |
| | 1 883 € | Certificate on Financial Statement (CFS) (1883 €) |

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Other goods, works and services | 21 195 € | WP3: Landscaping (2 597 €), development the electrical network related to EGS breeding containers (5 195 €); public procurement consultant and procedural fee (3 013 €) (T3.1); purchase of feed and bedding material for EGS (10 390 €) (T3.2) |
| | 18 050 € | WP4: Fee of notary, lawyer and geometra for land purchase (5 714 €), planing and authorization of well drilling (2 727 €) (T4.1); public procurement consultant and procedural fee of elimination of invasive species: shrub removal, eradication of invasive trees (9 609 €) (T4.3) |
| | 5 766 € | WP7: Installation of 6 pieces 70*100 cm introduction boards (preparation and placement of a wooden stand of information boards (3 896 €) (T7.1); 3 conference registration fee for 3 persons (1 870 €) (T7.4) |
| | 8 442 € | WP8: installation of 3 pieces 70*100 cm information boards for conserving suburban EGS colonies (preparation and placement of a wooden stand of information boards) (1 948 €); interactive play tools for demostration events (6 494 €)(T8.8) |
| Financial support to third parties | - € | |
| Land purchase | 117 078 € | WP4: purchase of Létavértes sites (cca. 8.3428 ha) |
| **Total** | **416 901 €** | |

| **7/CER** | **Cost (€)** | **Justification** |
|---|---|---|
| Travel & subsistence | 4 190 € | WP1: Total 8 500 km*0.37€/km, for travelling to project meetings in 7yrs (travel & accomodation for 3-4 persons) (370 € for Training, Kick-off meeting, (cca. 1 000 km, 4 persons) in T1.1; 1 433 € for participation at 6 AEM (travell & accomodation) in T.1.2 ; 2 387 € for participation on 7 SCMs (cca. 3 500 km, travell & accomodation in ( T1.4) |
| | 13 340 € | WP2: Total 15 000 km*0.37€/km, cca. 50 trips + supply & accomodation, 3 persons (T2.1: 5 000 km + supply & accomodation (3 800 €); T2.2: 10 000 km + supply & accomodation (9 540 €)) |
| | 31 550 € | WP5: 35 000 km*0.37€/km, cca. 250 trips + supply & accomodation for sampling trips in Hungary and Romania (T.5.1) |
| | 12 772 € | WP6: 16 000km*0.37€/km, travell to monitoring sites + supply & accomodation (cca. 65 trip, 2 persons, 55 nights) (T6.1) |

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| | 30 404 € | WP7: Total 11 000 km*0.37€/km, for travelling to media events, meetings, attending conferences and networking: 2 000 km (4 trips, 2 persons), 740 € (T7.2); 6 000 km study trips to networking partners (cca. 15 trips, 2 persons), 13 224 € (T7.3); participation in conferences (EGS conference, Final project conference and other 3 conferences), 5 000 km (5 trips, 3 persons), 16 440 € (T7.4) |
| | 30 970 € | WP8: Total 49 000 km*0.37€/km, cca. 320 study trips/data collactions/ travel for consultations/site events, 3-4 persons (T8.1: 9 540 €, 10 000 km + supply & accomodation; T8.2: 7 980 €, 10 000 km + supply & accomodation; T8.3: 7 980 €, 10 000 km + supply & accomodation; T8.5: 3 620 €, 4 000 km + supply & accomodation; T8.7: 1 480 €, 4 000 km + supply & accomodation; T8.8: 370 €, 1 000 km + supply & accomodation) |
| Equipment (incl. infrastructure) | 49 626 € | WP1: Purchase of a small and simple 4WD car (32 000 €) that will be used for all WPs for traveling and carring equipments cc. 20 000 km/year (transporting bigger equipments CER preowned car will be used, T.1.5); purchase of equipment that will be used for all WPs (T1.5): 3 notebooks (7 730 €), fieldbook (Durabook -tablet R11L) (2 290 €), spective (1 718 €), 2 projectors (2 888 €); Certificate on Financial Statement (CFS) (3000 €) |
| | 203 745 € | WP6: Acquisition of a manual telemetry system (39 000 €, with 50 transmitters) (T6.1), construction of automatic telemetry systems (unit -149 000 €) (T6.1), installation of wildlife cameras (14 313 €) (T6.1), meteorological station (1 432 €) (T6.1) |
| | 44 563 € | WP8: FLIR Thermography Camera (1 193 €), temperature data logger + software pack (3 040 €), FoxBox Respirometry System + Field Metabolic System (40 330 €) (T8.1) |
| Other goods, works and services | 1 432 € | WP1: Scientific literature (books) |
| | 153 994 € | WP5: Small mammal traps (200 pcs, 2 909 €) genetic studies (microsatellite and genomic ) (47 543 €), health status study - metagenomic analysis (47 543 €), health status study - virological analysis (24 999 €), health status - general animal health inspection (31 000 €) (T.5.1) |
| | 10 820 € | WP7: Use of graphic assistance for the editing of a professional newsletter (bulletin) (2 820 €), organization of field workshops for networking partners, 7 events, 1/year (catering, room hire, filed visits) (8 000 €) (T7.3) |
| | 60 100 € | WP8: Combined costs of physiological and habitat surveys (T8.1) |
| Financial support to third parties | - | |
| Land purchase | - | |
| **Total** | **647 506 €** | |

| **8/MILVUS** | **Cost (€)** | **Justification** |
|---|---|---|

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Travel & subsistence | 29 554 € | WP1: Participation at project meetings & trainings: total 18 trips, travel (19 900 km *0.37€/km), accomodation & daily rate (daily rate: 35 €/person/day) for 1-2 persons; T1.1: 1 448 € participation at Kick-off meeting & Trainings (4 trips, 2 400 km, 4 days/trip, 2 persons, 560 € daily rate); T1.2: 6 085 € participation at 6 AEMs (6 trips, 7 200 km, 3 days/trip, 2 persons, 2 160 € accomodation, 1 260 € daily rate); T1.3: 4 818 € participation at 6 SCMs (6 trips, 8 400 km, 3 days/trip, 1 person, 1 080 € accomodation, 630 € daily rate); 3 363 € trips to exchange experiences within the partnership (2 trips, 1 900 km, 7 days/trip, 2 persons, 1 680 € accomodation, 980 € daily rate) ; T1.5: Car rental (not enough trips for a full car bying) for travel and transport of equipment (for 346 days, 40 €/day = 13 840 €, cca. 80 000 km) |
| | 7 462 € | WP2: (T2.1) Trips for baseline surveys, 7 600 km*0.37€/km (2 812), accomodations 3 people 6 trips, 2 people 5 trips (3 900 €), 65 day*11.54 € daily rate (750 €) |
| | 10 809 € | WP5: Trips for sampling for reintroductions planning: total 5 900 km *0.37€/km, accomodation & daily rate (11.54 € /day/person); T5.1: 4 046 € (4 200 km, 1 800 € accomodations for 2 people, 12 trips , 60* 11.54 € daily rate = 692 €); T5.2: 6 763 € (1 700 km, 1 200 € accomodations for 5 people 15 trips, 60 day*11.54 € daily rate = 692 € ) |
| | 42 352 € | WP6: (T6.1): Travel for monitoring: 85 600 km*0.37€/km (31 672), accomodations for 2 peaple 98 trips and for 6 people 45 trips (7 380), 286 day*11.54 EUR daily rate (3 300) |
| | 5 563 € | WP7: T7.1: Travel for dissemination meetings and events 4 629 € (7 560 km*0.37€/km, 1 740 € accomodations for 2 people 6 trips and 40 people 2 trips, 8 day*11.54 € daily rate = 92 €); T7.4: Travel for conferences 9 34€ (2, events, 4-day & 1-day, 1 200 km*0.37€/km, 14 day*35 € daily rate = 490 €) |
| Equipment (incl. Infrastructure) | 7 089 € | WP1: (T1.5): Purchase of drone for surveys (1 000 €), 3 pieces of laptop for fieldwork (2 955 €), one pieces of spective with stative for field surveys (3 134 €) |
| Other goods, works and services | 2 350 € | WP1: consumables of field work (2 350 €) |
| | 2 000 € | WP5: (T5.2): Microchips for marking reintroduced EGS (600 pcs.) |
| | 2 000 € | WP7: (T7.1): Catering & venue rantal for 40 volunteers in two volunteer meetings for 2 days |
| Financial support to third parties | - | |
| Land purchase | - | |
| **Total** | **109 179 €** | |

| Proposal ID | Call for Proposal | Topic | Type of Action |
|---|---|---|---|
| SEP-211054002 | LIFE-2024-SAP-NAT | LIFE-2024-SAP-NAT-NATURE | LIFE-PJG |

# LIFE Programme – Application Forms (Part C – KPI)

## Horizontal KPIs for all LIFE applicants (Mandatory to report on all the KPIs of this section).

### Innovation

Is your project proposal developing, demonstrating and promoting innovative techniques and approaches?

- (●) Yes
- ( ) No

### Governance

Is your project proposal improving governance through enhancing capacities of public and private actors and the involvement of civil society?

- (●) Yes
- ( ) No

### Plans & strategies

Is you project proposal implementing key plans or strategies?

- (●) Yes
- ( ) No

### Catalytic effect - Financial

Will your project trigger additional investments?

- ( ) Yes
- (●) No

### Catalytic effect - Spatial

Will the results of your project be replicated beyond its intended geographical scope?

- (●) Yes
- ( ) No

### Catalytic effect - Thematic

Will the results of your project be replicated (transferred) beyond its intended thematic scope?

- (●) Yes
- ( ) No

### Catalytic effect - Societal

Will your project :

a) Contribute to the development of new or existing national legislation, policies, regulations, incentives and voluntary commitments?

b) Achieve a step-change in more effective compliance with and enforcement of Union environmental and climate legislation and/or in policy implementation?

c) Achieve a step-change in awareness and support of environmental and climate matters?

d) Establish a new macroregional or national model of cooperation (networking)?

- (●) Yes
- ( ) No

### Rio markers for climate, biodiversity and air quality

Please indicate if your proposal:

• Has climate change/ biodiversity/ air quality as their primary objective

• Has climate change/ biodiversity/ air quality as their secondary objective and provide substantial contributions to these objectives

• Does not contribute significantly to climate change/ biodiversity/ air quality

**Climate change**

Secondary Objective

**Biodiversity**

Primary Objective

**Air quality**

Secondary Objective

### LIFE Programme - Context selection

**Please select the EU Member State(s) or/and Associated Countries (if any) or/and potential Associated Countries (if any) that best describe the geographical context of your project proposal, i.e. the area(s) of work or/and area(s) of impact.**

**Please select the type of country you wish to add**

◉ EU Member States
○ Associated Countries
○ To Be Associated Countries

Hungary(HU)

**Please select the EU Member State(s) or/and Associated Countries (if any) or/and potential Associated Countries (if any) that best describe the geographical context of your project proposal, i.e. the area(s) of work or/and area(s) of impact.**

**Please select the type of country you wish to add**

◉ EU Member States
○ Associated Countries
○ To Be Associated Countries

Romania(RO)

**If relevant, please select the Natura 2000 sites that your project will be addressing.**

| EU Country | Typology |
|---|---|
| Hungary | SCI: Sites of Community Importance |

**Natura 2000 sites**

HUBN20034: Borsodi-Mezőség

**If relevant, please select the Natura 2000 sites that your project will be addressing.**

| EU Country | Typology |
|---|---|
| Hungary | SCI: Sites of Community Importance |

**Natura 2000 sites**

HUBN20069: Kesznyéteni Sajó-öböl

**If relevant, please select the Natura 2000 sites that your project will be addressing.**

| EU Country | Typology |
|---|---|
| Hungary | SCI: Sites of Community Importance |

**Natura 2000 sites**

HUBN20009: Tard környéki erdőssztyepp

**If relevant, please select the Natura 2000 sites that your project will be addressing.**

| EU Country | Typology |
|---|---|
| Hungary | SCI: Sites of Community Importance |

**Natura 2000 sites**

HUHN20036: Bátorligeti Nagy-legelő

**If relevant, please select the Natura 2000 sites that your project will be addressing.**

| EU Country | Typology |
|---|---|
| Hungary | SCI: Sites of Community Importance |

**Natura 2000 sites**

HUHN20009: Derecske - konyári gyepek

**If relevant, please select the Natura 2000 sites that your project will be addressing.**

| EU Country | Typology |
|---|---|
| Hungary | SCI: Sites of Community Importance |

**Natura 2000 sites**

HUHN20017: Hajdúbagosi-legelő

**If relevant, please select the Natura 2000 sites that your project will be addressing.**

| EU Country | Typology |
|---|---|
| Hungary | SCI: Sites of Community Importance |

**Natura 2000 sites**

HUHN20016: Kék-Kálló-völgye

**If relevant, please select the Natura 2000 sites that your project will be addressing.**

| EU Country | Typology |
|---|---|
| Hungary | SCI: Sites of Community Importance |

**Natura 2000 sites**

HUHN20002: Hortobágy

**If relevant, please select the Natura 2000 sites that your project will be addressing.**

| EU Country | Typology |
|---|---|
| Hungary | SCI: Sites of Community Importance |

**Natura 2000 sites**

HUHN21164: Liget-legelő

**If relevant, please select the Natura 2000 sites that your project will be addressing.**

| EU Country | Typology |
|---|---|
| Hungary | SCI: Sites of Community Importance |

**Natura 2000 sites**

HUHN20010: Pocsaji-kapu

**If relevant, please select the Natura 2000 sites that your project will be addressing.**

| EU Country | Typology |
|---|---|
| Hungary | SCI: Sites of Community Importance |

**Natura 2000 sites**

HUHN20024: Martinkai-legelő

**If relevant, please select the Natura 2000 sites that your project will be addressing.**

| EU Country | Typology |
|---|---|
| Hungary | SCI: Sites of Community Importance |

**Natura 2000 sites**

HUHN21165: Penészleki gyepek

**If relevant, please select the Natura 2000 sites that your project will be addressing.**

| EU Country | Typology |
|---|---|
| Hungary | SCI: Sites of Community Importance |

**Natura 2000 sites**

HUHN20064: Rohodi-legelő

**If relevant, please select the Natura 2000 sites that your project will be addressing.**

| EU Country | Typology |
|---|---|
| Hungary | SCI: Sites of Community Importance |

**Natura 2000 sites**

HUHN20161: Sámsoni úti Bellegelő

**If relevant, please select the Natura 2000 sites that your project will be addressing.**

| EU Country | Typology |
|---|---|
| Hungary | SCI: Sites of Community Importance |

**Natura 2000 sites**

HUFH20003: Fertőmelléki dombsor

**If relevant, please select the Natura 2000 sites that your project will be addressing.**

| EU Country | Typology |
|---|---|
| Romania | SCI: Sites of Community Importance |

**Natura 2000 sites**

ROSCI0231: Nădab - Socodor - Vărșad

**If relevant, please select the Natura 2000 sites that your project will be addressing.**

| EU Country | Typology |
|---|---|
| Romania | SCI: Sites of Community Importance |

**Natura 2000 sites**

ROSCI0020: Câmpia Careiului

**If relevant, please select the Natura 2000 sites that your project will be addressing.**

| EU Country | Typology |
|---|---|
| Romania | SCI: Sites of Community Importance |

**Natura 2000 sites**

ROSCI0021: Câmpia Ierului

**If relevant, please select the Natura 2000 sites that your project will be addressing.**

| EU Country | Typology |
|---|---|
| Romania | SCI: Sites of Community Importance |

**Natura 2000 sites**

ROSCI0287: Comloșu Mare

**If relevant, please select the Natura 2000 sites that your project will be addressing.**

| EU Country | Typology |
|---|---|
| Romania | SCI: Sites of Community Importance |

**Natura 2000 sites**

ROSCI0108: Lunca Mureșului Inferior

**If relevant, please select the Natura 2000 sites that your project will be addressing.**

| EU Country | Typology |
|---|---|
| Romania | SCI: Sites of Community Importance |

**Natura 2000 sites**

ROSCI0109: Lunca Timișului

**If relevant, please select the Natura 2000 sites that your project will be addressing.**

| EU Country | Typology |
|---|---|
| Romania | SCI: Sites of Community Importance |

**Natura 2000 sites**

ROSCI0185: Păduricea de la Santău

**If relevant, please select the Natura 2000 sites that your project will be addressing.**

| EU Country | Typology |
|---|---|
| Romania | SCI: Sites of Community Importance |

**Natura 2000 sites**

ROSCI0345: Pajiștea Cenad

**If relevant, please select the Natura 2000 sites that your project will be addressing.**

| EU Country | Typology |
|---|---|

| | |
|---|---|
| Romania | SCI: Sites of Community Importance |

**Natura 2000 sites**

ROSCI0347: Pajiștea Fegernic

**If relevant, please select the Natura 2000 sites that your project will be addressing.**

| EU Country | Typology |
|---|---|
| Romania | SCI: Sites of Community Importance |

**Natura 2000 sites**

ROSCI0387: Salonta

**If relevant, please select the Natura 2000 sites that your project will be addressing.**

| EU Country | Typology |
|---|---|
| Romania | SCI: Sites of Community Importance |

**Natura 2000 sites**

ROSCI0349: Pajiștea Pesac

**If relevant, please select the Natura 2000 sites that your project will be addressing.**

| EU Country | Typology |
|---|---|
| Romania | SCI: Sites of Community Importance |

**Natura 2000 sites**

ROSCI0115: Mlaștina Satchinez

## LIFE Programme - Annex II - Section 2 - Specific KPIs - (Please report on KPIs you consider relevant).

**Please select the relevant indicators for your project. For each selected indicator please provide any required values and comments. Please note that if you deselect an indicator, all values entered will be lost.**

- ☑ Air quality
- ☑ Biodiversity (number of Species)
- ☐ Chemicals (humans)
- ☑ Employment
- ☐ GHG sequestration
- ☑ Other project specific KPIs
- ☑ Soil quality
- ☑ Water quality
- ☑ Biodiversity (Invasive Alien Species)
- ☐ C2M projects
- ☑ Climate area vulnerability reduction
- ☐ Energy savings
- ☐ Investments and Financing
- ☐ Renewable energy
- ☐ Waste management
- ☑ Biodiversity (habitats)
- ☐ Chemicals (environment)
- ☐ Climate vulnerability (humans)
- ☐ GHG emissions
- ☐ Noise
- ☐ Resource efficiency
- ☑ Water efficiency

### Water efficiency

**Reduction in new water supplied, due to appropriate water saving measures (e.g. through increasing water reuse and/or avoiding water losses) in m3 / year.**

**In the start-value please provide the baseline of the problem at the start of the project (e.g. amount of water supplied/used). In the end-value please provide the estimated amount of water supplied/used at project-end. The end-value is expected to be lower than the start-value, demonstrating a reduction of water supplied due to the project actions. Please also provide the estimated amount of water supplied/used, 3/5 years after the project-end to demonstrate if further reduction would be achieved. Please also provide relevant comments.**

| Project-Start Value (Baseline) | Project-End Value | 3/5 years beyond Project-End Value | Unit |
|---|---|---|---|
| 450360 | 0 | 0 | m3/year |

**Please provide stand-alone information to further clarify your input and briefly explain any assumptions/calculations. Please also ensure alignment with the main proposal text.**

Unlike agricultural land, natural grasslands do not need summer irrigation. Moreover, the water retention capacity of agricultural crops is much lower than that of natural grasslands. The amount of water efficiency is very difficult to estimate and depends on the crops grown on the agricultural land and the intensity of irrigation. An average retention of 54 000 m3/ha/year (daily 6 mm water irrigation for 3 months of the year) was calculated, with 8.34 ha of agricultural land being regrassed.

### Water quality

**Reduction in area or length of surface water bodies and groundwater bodies whose ecological status is affected (in the context of the Water Framework Directive).**

**In the start-value please provide the baseline of the problem at the start of the project (e.g. area or length of surface water bodies and groundwater bodies whose ecological status is affected by the pressure you aim to address). In the end-value please provide your estimated value of area/lenght affected at project-end. The end-value is expected to be lower than the start-value, demonstrating a reduction of the area or length of water bodies affected, due to the project actions. Please also provide the estimated area/length affected, 3/5 years after the project end to demonstrate if further reduction would be achieved. Please note that length units should be used for rivers. Please also provide relevant comments.**

| Project-Start Value (Baseline) | Project-End Value | 3/5 years beyond Project-End Value | Unit |
|---|---|---|---|
| 0.5 | 0 | 0 | km2 |

**Comments (Please provide stand-alone information to further clarify your input and briefly explain any assumptions/calculations. Please also ensure alignment with the main proposal text.)**

Cleaning and reconstruction of the drinking wells would cause positive effects on surface and ground water quality because of avoiding farm animals to drink from natural water bodies and decreasing of grazing stock density around the few original drinking possibilities. Area of effected surface body was estimated from the current situation of available water bodies for the grazing stock around the drinking wells reconstruction area.

**Soil Quality**

**Reduction of land area with soil quality issues in km2**

**In the start-value please provide the baseline of the problem at the start of the project (e.g. the land area with soil quality issues that you aim to address). In the end-value please provide the estimated land area still affected at project-end. The end-value is expected to be lower than the start-value, demonstrating a reduction of the land area with soil quality issues, due to the project actions. Please also provide the estimated area for the 3/5 years after the project end to demonstrate if further reduction would be achieved. Please indicate also the type of pressure on the soil of the area, using the drop-down list. Please also provide relevant comments.**

**Please select type of pressure on the soil of the area addressed**

- ☐ Desertification
- ☐ Diffuse contamination
- ☐ Local contamination
- ☐ Soil biodiversity
- ☐ Soil compaction
- ☐ Soil erosion
- ☐ Soil organic matter
- ☐ Soil salination
- ☐ Soil sealing
- ☑ Other or multiple types

| Project-Start Value (Baseline) | Project-End Value | 3/5 years beyond Project-End Value | Unit |
|---|---|---|---|
| 2.7434 | 0 | 0 | km2 |

**Please provide stand-alone information to further clarify your input and briefly explain any assumptions/calculations. Please also ensure alignment with the main proposal text.**

Due to the habitat restorations and reconstructions (8.34 ha), which result in grassland cover instead of arable land cover (T.4.3.1) and a great piece of land cleared of IAS and native species (T.4.3.2) (2.66 km2), the soil quality will improve in the affected areas. New colonies of reintroduced ground-dwelling EGS (T.5.2) (110 ha) will also significantly affects the status of the soil, evidently. Regarding the different values mentioned above, due to the overlap of various environmental impact areas of different project actions, some of them cannot be aggregated. As they are not overlapping, the impact area of arable land-grassland conversion and the total impact area of IAS and woody plant removal can be summarised: 8.34 hectares + 266 hectares, i.e. 2.7434 km2.

**Air quality**

**Number of people living in areas with improving air quality**

**The start-value is pre-set to 0. In the end-value please provide your estimated number of residents living in areas with improved air quality due to your project, at project-end. The end-value is expected to be higher than the start-value, demonstrating an increase in the number of residents living in areas with improved air quality, due to the project actions. Please also provide the estimated number, 3/5 years after the project-end, to demonstrate if further number of people will be positively affected. Please also provide relevant comments.**

| Project-Start Value (Baseline) | Project-End Value | 3/5 years beyond Project-End Value | Unit |
|---|---|---|---|
| 0 | 1 | 2 | Number of people |

**Please provide stand-alone information to further clarify your input and briefly explain any assumptions/calculations. Please also ensure alignment with the main proposal text.**

With the land transformation (T4.3.1) the quantity of particulate matter (PM) will be lower, with the removal of stands of Solidago gigantea giant goldenrod) (T4.3.2), the level of allergenic pollen will be lower. Considering the short dispersion range (approximately 1-2 km), the allergenic impact of Solidago gigantea (pollen pollution would only temporarily affect those visiting the Pan-European Picnic Memorial Site. Over several years, the number of affected individuals could reach up to 20 000-30 000 people. The conversion form arable land to grassland leads to a significant decrease in emission of the quantity of particulate matter (PM), since the bedrock of the soil of the affected land consists of loess. The particulates of this sediment can spread quite far (more ten kilometres) by the wind with greater concentration. In the close environmental impact area (within 5 km) Pocsaj is considered to be affected with its 2501 inhabitants. We summarised the number of people: 22 500.

**Biodiversity (habitats)**

**Area of habitats where loss of biodiversity is being halted and reversed**

**The start-value is pre-set to 0. In the end-value please provide an estimate of the area of habitats where loss of biodiversity is being halted and reversed due to your project, at project-end. The end-value is expected to be higher than the start-value, demonstrating an increase in the area positively affected, due to the project actions. Please also provide the estimated number, 3/5 years after the project-end, to demonstrate if further area of habitats will be positively affected. Please also provide relevant comments (e.g. 3 most relevant habitats addressed , their areas, etc)..**

| Project-Start Value (Baseline) | Project-End Value | 3/5 years beyond Project-End Value | Unit |
|---|---|---|---|
| 0 | 56 | 56 | km2 |

**Please provide stand-alone information to further clarify your input and briefly explain any assumptions/calculations. Please also ensure alignment with the main proposal text.**

Thanks to the expansion of the grazable pasture area (T.4.1.2) (additional 7000 ha), the extent of those areas also increases where mowing can be replaced by the more desirable grazing, or in the absence of grazing animals, under-grazed and degraded grasslands had developed. Currently, within the 7000 ha, 60% is cultivated as hay meadows (4200 ha), where introduction of grazing is especially beneficial from a general ecological point of view. These areas can be grazed, thereby achieving a more favourable natural condition of the vegetation and creating a more suitable habitat for EGSs. According to estimates, 40% of the newly used grasslands are pastures cultivated with different grazing pressure, but half of them are under-grazed (1400 ha) depending on the weather conditions. Considering the advantageous effects of grazing instead of mowing and elimination of under-grazing, the project gives an opportunity to improve the natural conditions of habitats up to 4200+1400 ha (56 km2).

**Biodiversity (number of Species)**

**Number of species whose population loss is being halted and reversed**

**The start-value is pre-set to 0. In the end-value please provide an estimate of the number of species whose population loss is being halted and reversed due to your project, at project-end. The end-value is expected to be higher than the start-value, demonstrating an increase in the number of species positively affected, due to the project actions. Please also provide the estimated number, 3/5 years after the project-end, to demonstrate if further species will be positively affected. Please also provide relevant comments (e.g. 3 most relevant species addressed , their populations, ranges/areas, etc).**

| Project-Start Value (Baseline) | Project-End Value | 3/5 years beyond Project-End Value | Unit |
|---|---|---|---|
| 0 | 13 | 14 | Number of species |

**Please provide stand-alone information to further clarify your input and briefly explain any assumptions/calculations. Please also ensure alignment with the main proposal text.**

Considering the nature conservation point of view and the species directly affected, we concluded that by the end of the project, 13 species will especially benefit from the actions. Aquila heliaca, Blaps lethifera, B. halophila, Bufotes viridis, Falco cherrug, Gnaptor spinimanus, Mustela eversmanii, M. nivalis, Onthophagus vitulus, Pedinus femoralis, Probaticus subrugosus, Oodescelis melas and the EGS. Most of them are protected or of Community Interest. In addition to them, 36 other valuable species occurred in our overview. Hundreds of species could have been mentioned, which may be affected by the favourable alteration of habitat conditions. Due to the slower impact of habitat reconstruction, as the grassland needs to mature before it can support new species, we accounted Nannospalax hungaricus expected to appear in the post-project period. During our surveys of the different animal taxa, the presence or absence of these 14 species is also expected to be investigated and recorded.

**Biodiversity (Invasive Alien Species)**

**Reduction in area occupied by invasive alien species .**

**In the start-value please provide the baseline at the start of the project (e.g. the area of the invasive alien species targetted by your project). In the end-value please provide the new estimated area of the invasive alien species due to the project, at project-end. The end-value is expected to be lower than the start-value, demonstrating an reduction in the area of the invasive alien species, due to the project actions. Please also provide the estimated area of the invasive alien species for the 3/5 years after the project end to demonstrate if further reduction would be achieved. Please also provide relevant comments (e.g. 3 most relevant IAS addressed , their populations, etc).**

| Project-Start Value (Baseline) | Project-End Value | 3/5 years beyond Project-End Value | Unit |
|---|---|---|---|
| 0.405 | 0 | | km2 |

0

**Please provide stand-alone information to further clarify your input and briefly explain any assumptions/calculations. Please also ensure alignment with the main proposal text.**

Potential EGS habitats will be cleared from invasive alien (IAS) plants (T.4.3.2) on 40.5 hectare, which is 0.405 km2. At the end of the project there won't be stands of invasive alien plant species in this area: Project-End Value is 0 (zero). Five years after the end of the project, this value will still be 0 (zero), because through land management (grazing, mowing), we will prevent the return of invasive alien plant species. The main woody plants harming the EGS habitats are Tree of heaven (Ailanthus altissima), Black locust (Robinia pseudoacacia), Russian olive (Eleagnus angustifolia), Desert indigo (Amorpha fruticosa) and from the herbaceous species the Common milkweed (Asclepias syriaca) and the Common goldenrod (Solidago gigantea) are the most widespread.

**Employment**

**Number of jobs created in FTE**

**The start-value is pre-set to 0. In the end-value please provide your estimated number of new jobs created due to your project, at project-end. The end-value is expected to be higher than the start-value, demonstrating an increase in the number of jobs created, due to the project actions. Please also provide the estimated number, 3/5 years after the project-end, to demonstrate if further jobs would be created. Please also provide relevant comments.**

| Project-Start Value (Baseline) | Project-End Value | 3/5 years beyond Project-End Value | Unit |
|---|---|---|---|
| 0 | 3 | 3 | FTE |

**Please provide stand-alone information to further clarify your input and briefly explain any assumptions/calculations. Please also ensure alignment with the main proposal text.**

There will be two employees for breeding stations (T.3.2) who will deal with the maintaining of the facilities planned for the reproduction of European ground squirrels. Two additional workers will be employed in demonstrating sites ('Citellus Gardens') (T.3.3). Two of them will have part-time (0.5 FTE) job. Therefore 3 FTE (1+1+0.5+0.5) expected to the end of the project.

**Other project specific KPIs**

**Please enter your project's specific KPI title and provide clarifications in the comment box.**

**Please specify any other KPIs you wish to present that you consider relevant and not included in the existing KPI list.**

| Project-Start Value (Baseline) | Project-End Value | 3/5 years beyond Project-End Value | Unit |
|---|---|---|---|
| 0 | 150 | 180 | number of registered colony |

**Please provide stand-alone information to further clarify your input and briefly explain any assumptions/calculations. Please also ensure alignment with the main proposal text.**

Number of registered colonies in EGS 'Colony Logsheet' system
All important information that can be obtained about EGS colonies which can be useful for conservation actions planned in the Project and beyond are collected and stored in 'Colony Logsheets'. The database of EGS 'Colony Logsheet' system will be up-to-date, and will serve valid information about the necessary actions about the specific colonies.

**Other project specific KPIs**

**Please enter your project's specific KPI title and provide clarifications in the comment box.**

**Please specify any other KPIs you wish to present that you consider relevant and not included in the existing KPI list.**

| Project-Start Value (Baseline) | Project-End Value | 3/5 years beyond Project-End Value | Unit |
|---|---|---|---|
| 100 | 118 | 125 | % |

**Please provide stand-alone information to further clarify your input and briefly explain any assumptions/calculations. Please also ensure alignment with the main proposal text.**

Overall population growth in Pannonian region of Romania and Hungary
The overall objective of the project is to ensure the long-term survival of the Pannonian EGS population. The recent distribution in the two countries is 85-15% in favor of Hungary. For direct effect of the project activities on the number of individuals of the current population in Pannon region, as a basis, it can be estimated that an overall 17.75% increase of the population (HU: min. 20%, RO: ca. 5%) will be achieved until the end of the Project. After the Project period, an additional 1-5% increase in the number of individuals can be expected per year. By the fifth year beyond project-end, a minimum 25% increase is expected compared to the recent population size. (The values below were derived by averaging and rounding based on our accurate calculations.)

**Other project specific KPIs**

**Please enter your project's specific KPI title and provide clarifications in the comment box.**

**Please specify any other KPIs you wish to present that you consider relevant and not included in the existing KPI list.**

| Project-Start Value (Baseline) | Project-End Value | 3/5 years beyond Project-End Value | Unit |
|---|---|---|---|
| 0 | 7 | 7 | number of new colonies |

**Please provide stand-alone information to further clarify your input and briefly explain any assumptions/calculations. Please also ensure alignment with the main proposal text.**

Establishing new EGS colonies by relocations of EGS individuals
During the project period, at least seven new EGS colonies will be established using stable source populations, with a minimum of 350 individuals translocated to sites that are currently unpopulated but may have been formerly suitable. This refers to new colonies, on new locations established through the capture and relocation of individuals from nature.

**Other project specific KPIs**

**Please enter your project's specific KPI title and provide clarifications in the comment box.**

**Please specify any other KPIs you wish to present that you consider relevant and not included in the existing KPI list.**

| Project-Start Value (Baseline) | Project-End Value | 3/5 years beyond Project-End Value | Unit |
|---|---|---|---|
| 0 | 4 | 8 | number of new colonies |

**Please provide stand-alone information to further clarify your input and briefly explain any assumptions/calculations. Please also ensure alignment with the main proposal text.**

Establishing new EGS colonies by reintroducing (release) of individuals from captive breeding
By release of captive bred individuals to natural habitats - which are carefully selected suitable areas - minimum 4 new EGS colonies will be established. As a result of ex-situ breeding activities, from 2028 significant numbers of EGS (at least 300 captive bred individuals) are expected to be available for reintroduction to sites that are currently unpopulated but may have been formerly suitable.

**Other project specific KPIs**

**Please enter your project's specific KPI title and provide clarifications in the comment box.**

**Please specify any other KPIs you wish to present that you consider relevant and not included in the existing KPI list.**

| Project-Start Value (Baseline) | Project-End Value | 3/5 years beyond Project-End Value | Unit |
|---|---|---|---|
| 0 | 258.85 | 258.85 | km2 |

**Please provide stand-alone information to further clarify your input and briefly explain any assumptions/calculations. Please also ensure alignment with the main proposal text.**

Predator-controlled area for the benefits of EGS
By controlling predators and game species in some of the project sites, we significantly increase the survival and strength of EGS colonies in the affected habitats. Project actions will result in appropriate control of predator and game species at 7 project sites (285.58 km2), which are subject to EGS reintroductions, detailed as follows. BNPD: HUBN20034 ‘Borsodi-Mezőség’ Natura 2000 site (140 km2), HUBN20069 ‘Kesznyéteni Sajó-öböl’ Natura 2000 site (47 km2) and HUBN20009 ‘Tard környéki erdőssztyepp’ Natura 2000 site (10 km2) - predators are controlled by the BNPD and hunting companies. HNPD: ‘Pentezug’ (HUHN20002 ‘Hortobágy’ Natura 2000 site) - 28.3 km2, ‘Löszletörés’ (HUHN20010 ‘Pocsaji-kapu’) - 28.3 km2, ‘Martinkai legelő’ (HUHN20024) - 3.68 km2, ‘Kék-Kálló-völgye’ HUHN20016) - 28.3 km2 sites - predators are controlled by rangers or local hunting companies.

**Other project specific KPIs**

**Please enter your project's specific KPI title and provide clarifications in the comment box.**

**Please specify any other KPIs you wish to present that you consider relevant and not included in the existing KPI list.**

| Project-Start Value (Baseline) | Project-End Value | 3/5 years beyond Project-End Value | Unit |
|---|---|---|---|
| 0 | 45 | 45 | number of events |

**Please provide stand-alone information to further clarify your input and briefly explain any assumptions/calculations. Please also ensure alignment with the main proposal text.**

Events for open public
Higher awareness and knowledge about the importance and conservation issues of EGS will be achieved by organisation of site visits for civil groups at Project’s intervention sites (10 trips in total); and by representing the Project in numerous public events (35 events in total).

**Other project specific KPIs**

**Please enter your project's specific KPI title and provide clarifications in the comment box.**

**Please specify any other KPIs you wish to present that you consider relevant and not included in the existing KPI list.**

| Project-Start Value (Baseline) | Project-End Value | 3/5 years beyond Project-End Value | Unit |
|---|---|---|---|
| 0 | 46 | 46 | number of sessions |

**Please provide stand-alone information to further clarify your input and briefly explain any assumptions/calculations. Please also ensure alignment with the main proposal text.**

Sessions for children
A complete series of interactive awareness raising presentations for three to ten years old children in their own kindergartens/schools will be compiled and presented in 46 sessions.

**Other project specific KPIs**

**Please enter your project's specific KPI title and provide clarifications in the comment box.**

**Please specify any other KPIs you wish to present that you consider relevant and not included in the existing KPI list.**

| Project-Start Value (Baseline) | Project-End Value | 3/5 years beyond Project-End Value | Unit |
|---|---|---|---|
| 0 | 350 | 500 | number of volunteers |

**Please provide stand-alone information to further clarify your input and briefly explain any assumptions/calculations. Please also ensure alignment with the main proposal text.**

Volunteers involvement in EGS monitoring
Starting in the 7th month of the project, we will organise a data collection campaign for volunteers in April each year (7 data collection campaigns during the project), involving minimum 50 volunteers per year (minimum 350 volunteers in total) in non-personal-guided data collection.

**Other project specific KPIs**

**Please enter your project's specific KPI title and provide clarifications in the comment box.**

**Please specify any other KPIs you wish to present that you consider relevant and not included in the existing KPI list.**

| Project-Start Value (Baseline) | Project-End Value | 3/5 years beyond Project-End Value | Unit |
|---|---|---|---|
| 0 | 8 | 8 | number of trips |

**Please provide stand-alone information to further clarify your input and briefly explain any assumptions/calculations. Please also ensure alignment with the main proposal text.**

Demonstration trips for media representatives
At certain points (e.g. the ex-situ gene bank has been established) the media will be informed and journalists will be invited to field trips to the concerned sites to introduce the aims, activities and results of the project. At least 8 field demonstration trips (1 BVP - opening of the Citellus garden and the breeding facility; 2 BNPD - Batúz-tanya; 1 HNPD - Pentezug; 4 HOI) will be organised for the press representatives with the coordination of ZOO.

**Other project specific KPIs**

**Please enter your project's specific KPI title and provide clarifications in the comment box.**

**Please specify any other KPIs you wish to present that you consider relevant and not included in the existing KPI list.**

| Project-Start Value (Baseline) | Project-End Value | 3/5 years beyond Project-End Value | Unit |
|---|---|---|---|
| 0 | 6 | 6 | number of sites |

**Please provide stand-alone information to further clarify your input and briefly explain any assumptions/calculations. Please also ensure alignment with the main proposal text.**

Complex interactive campaigns for suburban EGS colonies
Status of at least 6 suburban EGS colonies is improved by the realisation of complex awareness raising campaigns – including the preparation and the implementation of urban site-specific action plans for each colony – involving the local community and other relevant stakeholders.

**Climate area vulnerability reduction**

**Reduction of the area particularly vulnerable to climate change**

**In the start-value please provide the baseline at the start of the project (e.g. the area particularly vulnerable to Climate Change that is targetted by your project). In the end-value please provide the new estimated area particularly vulnerable to Climate Change, at project-end. The end-value is expected to be lower than the start-value, demonstrating a reduction in the area particularly vulnerable to Climate Change, due to the project actions. Please also provide the estimated area particularly vulnerable to Climate Change for the 3/5 years after the project end to demonstrate if further reduction would be achieved. Please also provide relevant comments.**

| Project-Start Value (Baseline) | Project-End Value | 3/5 years beyond Project-End Value | Unit |
|---|---|---|---|
| 0.0834 | 0 | | km2 |

0

**Comments (Please provide stand-alone information to further clarify your input and briefly explain any assumptions/calculations. Please also ensure alignment with the main proposal text.)**

Arable farming on the Great Hungarian Plain has become particularly risky and inefficient due to prolonged, extremely dry spring and summer seasons. Recent research and data confirm that the region, including the project site (‘Löszletörés’) involved in the arable land-to-grassland conversion, is undergoing significant climate change. This shift is leading to more frequent, severe and prolonged droughts. The arable lands on the Great Hungarian Plain, which are highly susceptible to drought, are part of one of Hungary’s most climate-vulnerable areas. Grasslands, in contrast, are far less impacted by droughts. They do not require irrigation, and the fluctuations in biomass due to climate change pose a smaller financial risk and management burden to the new land manager, NPD. The converted land area, due to the project action T.4.3.1, reducing the portion of land particularly vulnerable to climate change, covers 0.0834 km².

**ANNEX 2**

# ESTIMATED BUDGET FOR THE ACTION

| | Estimated eligible[1] costs (per budget category) | | | | | | | | | | | Estimated EU contribution[2] | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Direct costs | | | | | | | | | Indirect costs | Total costs | EU contribution to eligible costs | | | Maximum grant amount[6] |
| | A. Personnel costs | | | B. Subcontracting costs | C. Purchase costs | | | D. Other cost categories | | E. Indirect costs[3] | | Funding rate %[4] | Maximum EU contribution[5] | Requested EU contribution | |
| | A.1 Employees (or equivalent)<br><br>A.2 Natural persons under direct contract<br><br>A.3 Seconded persons | A.4 SME owners and natural person beneficiaries | A.5 Volunteers | B. Subcontracting | C.1 Travel and subsistence | C.2 Equipment | C.3 Other goods, works and services | D.1 Financial support to third parties | D.2 Land purchase | E. Indirect costs | | | | | |
| **Forms of funding** | Actual costs | Unit costs[7] | Unit costs[7] | Actual costs | Actual costs | Actual costs | Actual costs | Actual costs | Actual costs | Flat-rate costs[8] | | | | | |
| | a1 | a3 | a4 | b | c1 | c2 | c3 | d1a | d2 | e = flat-rate * (a1 + a3 + b + c1 + c2 + c3 + d1a) | f = a + b + c + d + e | U | g = f * U% | h | m |
| **1 - HOI** | 936 000.00 | 0.00 | 5 922.00 | 0.00 | 119 444.00 | 150 570.00 | 858 800.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 144 536.98 | 2 215 272.98 | 75 | 1 661 454.74 | 1 661 454.73 | 1 661 454.73 |
| **2 - ZOO** | 713 555.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 64 245.00 | 69 920.00 | 263 040.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 77 753.20 | 1 188 513.20 | 75 | 891 384.90 | 891 384.90 | 891 384.90 |
| **3 - BVP** | 734 367.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 10 855.00 | 582 459.00 | 284 623.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 112 861.28 | 1 725 165.28 | 75 | 1 293 873.96 | 1 293 873.96 | 1 293 873.96 |
| **4 - BEKE** | 161 000.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 35 483.00 | 43 555.00 | 9 271.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 17 451.63 | 266 760.63 | 75 | 200 070.47 | 200 070.47 | 200 070.47 |
| **5 - BNPD** | 283 235.00 | 0.00 | 1 974.00 | 0.00 | 88 544.00 | 332 084.00 | 447 167.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 80 572.10 | 1 233 576.10 | 75 | 925 182.08 | 925 182.07 | 925 182.07 |
| **6 - HNPD** | 181 591.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 664 412.00 | 54 163.00 | 190 324.00 | 55 336.00 | 0.00 | 117 078.00 | 80 207.82 | 1 343 111.82 | 75 | 1 007 333.87 | 1 007 333.86 | 1 007 333.86 |
| **7 - CER** | 524 000.00 | 0.00 | 24 675.00 | 0.00 | 123 226.00 | 297 934.00 | 226 346.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 82 005.42 | 1 278 186.42 | 75 | 958 639.82 | 958 639.81 | 958 639.81 |
| **8 - MILVUS** | 366 760.00 | 0.00 | 31 584.00 | 0.00 | 95 740.00 | 7 089.00 | 6 350.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 33 315.73 | 540 838.73 | 75 | 405 629.05 | 405 629.05 | 405 629.05 |
| **9 - FHNPD** | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| **10 - KNPD** | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| **11 - DE** | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| **Σ consortium** | 3 900 508.00 | 0.00 | 64 155.00 | 664 412.00 | 591 700.00 | 1 673 935.00 | 2 150 933.00 | 0.00 | 117 078.00 | 628 704.16 | 9 791 425.16 | | 7 343 568.89 | 7 343 568.85 | 7 343 568.85 |

[1] See Article 6 for the eligibility conditions. All amounts must be expressed in EUR (see Article 21 for the conversion rules).
[2] The consortium remains free to decide on a different internal distribution of the EU funding (via the consortium agreement; see Article 7).
[3] Indirect costs already covered by an operating grant (received under any EU funding programme) are ineligible (see Article 6.3). Therefore, a beneficiary/affiliated entity that receives an operating grant during the action duration cannot declare indirect costs for the year(s)/reporting period(s) covered by the operating grant, unless they can demonstrate that the operating grant does not cover any costs of the action. This requires specific accounting tools. Please immediately contact us via the EU Funding & Tenders Portal for details.
[4] See Data Sheet for the funding rate(s).
[5] This is the theoretical amount of the EU contribution to costs, if the reimbursement rate is applied to all the budgeted costs. This theoretical amount is then capped by the 'maximum grant amount'.
[6] The 'maximum grant amount' is the maximum grant amount decided by the EU. It normally corresponds to the requested grant, but may be lower.
[7] See Annex 2a 'Additional information on the estimated budget' for the details (units, cost per unit).
[8] See Data Sheet for the flat-rate.

Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025

**ANNEX 2a**

# ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ON UNIT COSTS AND CONTRIBUTIONS

## SME owners/natural person beneficiaries without salary

*See Additional information on unit costs and contributions (Annex 2a and 2b)*

## Volunteers

*See Additional information on unit costs and contributions (Annex 2a and 2b)*

Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025

**ANNEX 3**

# ACCESSION FORM FOR BENEFICIARIES

**Alapitvany a Budapesti Allatkertert (ZOO)**, PIC 881044793, established in Állatkerti körút 6-12, Budapest 1146, Hungary,

**hereby agrees**

**to become beneficiary**

**in Agreement No 101202727 — LIFE24-NAT-HU-CitellusLIFE** ('the Agreement')

**between** HERMAN OTTO INTEZET NON PROFIT KORLATOLT FELELOSSEGU TARSASAG (HOI) **and** the **European Climate, Infrastructure and Environment Executive Agency (CINEA)** ('EU executive agency' or 'granting authority'), under the powers delegated by the European Commission ('European Commission'),

**and mandates**

**the coordinator** to submit and sign in its name and on its behalf any **amendments** to the Agreement, in accordance with Article 39.

By signing this accession form, the beneficiary accepts the grant and agrees to implement it in accordance with the Agreement, with all the obligations and terms and conditions it sets out.

SIGNATURE

For the beneficiary

Éva Montskó with ECAS id n00dkzb7 signed in the Participant Portal on 11/11/2025 at 11:49:17 (transaction id SigId-4277-CnrDtDDSgHdJnlQl2XoZbzJEuvLHBTYc2JWkBYMyPSGsW0Qr0RV1Odo0tjngznJihul9k6P17tCkDTzk5ElsF1W-R2zIpfT8xjMqyzN2nKnTc3-yUpH2vIazXr3k2IeOrEf06j2B1QC9AE9duhkIh0tzcAzkhVblo1yg3V5U6H75p6zmEA2ku392yOFk4u1vtF3oXu). Timestamp by third party at 2025.11.11 11:49:30 CET

Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025

**ANNEX 3**

# ACCESSION FORM FOR BENEFICIARIES

**Budakeszi Vadaspark Kozhasznu Nonprofit Kft. (BVP)**, PIC 884780748, established in 0210/12 HRSZ, Budakeszi 2092, Hungary,

**hereby agrees**

**to become beneficiary**

**in Agreement No 101202727 — LIFE24-NAT-HU-CitellusLIFE** ('the Agreement')

**between** HERMAN OTTO INTEZET NON PROFIT KORLATOLT FELELOSSEGU TARSASAG (HOI) **and** the **European Climate, Infrastructure and Environment Executive Agency (CINEA)** ('EU executive agency' or 'granting authority'), under the powers delegated by the European Commission ('European Commission'),

**and mandates**

**the coordinator** to submit and sign in its name and on its behalf any **amendments** to the Agreement, in accordance with Article 39.

By signing this accession form, the beneficiary accepts the grant and agrees to implement it in accordance with the Agreement, with all the obligations and terms and conditions it sets out.

SIGNATURE

For the beneficiary

Katalin Bodnar with ECAS id n00jgc4x signed in the Participant Portal on 12/11/2025 at 10:04:23 (transaction id SigId-12107-ovqzaiNOKGmnU1XdzjIVhIjRMper4PT0HyrJrjBKQnfSSmMFMIKe7zMBH4rm02xqvJ72m27GsIUiztOwjIzVEG0-R2zIpfT8xjMqyzN2nKnTc3-6lU5giZFF6pxRIZPEjj6r11HfzzbLHbRWDvt8vfwRYKRrRyuJO9Nva1H1NCgEbsxk02yq1ef5iUWyzQ8GhLp9ym). Timestamp by third party at 2025.11.12 10:04:30 CET

Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025

**ANNEX 3**

## ACCESSION FORM FOR BENEFICIARIES

**BUKKI EMLOSTANI KUTATOCSOPORT EGYESULET (BEKE)**, PIC 884810333, established in MAKLARI UT 77 A, EGER 3300, Hungary,

**hereby agrees**

**to become beneficiary**

**in Agreement No 101202727 — LIFE24-NAT-HU-CitellusLIFE** ('the Agreement')

**between** HERMAN OTTO INTEZET NON PROFIT KORLATOLT FELELOSSEGU TARSASAG (HOI) **and** the **European Climate, Infrastructure and Environment Executive Agency (CINEA)** ('EU executive agency' or 'granting authority'), under the powers delegated by the European Commission ('European Commission'),

**and mandates**

**the coordinator** to submit and sign in its name and on its behalf any **amendments** to the Agreement, in accordance with Article 39.

By signing this accession form, the beneficiary accepts the grant and agrees to implement it in accordance with the Agreement, with all the obligations and terms and conditions it sets out.

SIGNATURE

For the beneficiary

Peter ESTOK with ECAS id nestokpe signed in the Participant Portal on 13/11/2025 at 11:05:46 (transaction id SigId-23174-eLWBx17jF W16PvBS8Miq7PdgjN4HVlzvvqLW7xZQYzvKTzq14gHf4JOcBHErdDE XF39eDlTZWnhIxtvQcGgTNjG-R2zIpfT8xjMqyzN2nKnTc3-Qrw4yoiY LGVQ1KbyjmFwuayTV507rK8D5IEnAp8Dm3Pu24rQVi2VmfIy0DAN DE9aRBsJmvTHAYQa5ZJIaTaXKm). Timestamp by third party at 2025.11.13 11:05:52 CET

Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025

**ANNEX 3**

# ACCESSION FORM FOR BENEFICIARIES

**BUKKI NEMZETI PARK IGAZGATOSAG (BNPD)**, PIC 889739194, established in SANC UTCA 6., EGER 3304, Hungary,

**hereby agrees**

**to become beneficiary**

**in Agreement No 101202727 — LIFE24-NAT-HU-CitellusLIFE** ('the Agreement')

**between** HERMAN OTTO INTEZET NON PROFIT KORLATOLT FELELOSSEGU TARSASAG (HOI) **and** the **European Climate, Infrastructure and Environment Executive Agency (CINEA)** ('EU executive agency' or 'granting authority'), under the powers delegated by the European Commission ('European Commission'),

**and mandates**

**the coordinator** to submit and sign in its name and on its behalf any **amendments** to the Agreement, in accordance with Article 39.

By signing this accession form, the beneficiary accepts the grant and agrees to implement it in accordance with the Agreement, with all the obligations and terms and conditions it sets out.

SIGNATURE

For the beneficiary

Kálmánné Rónai with ECAS id n00adb4p signed in the Participant Portal on 26/11/2025 at 13:20:26 (transaction id SigId-6391-Ljy1qeRxFEbAUBQKsFb9NnwDEk1FTlgQzUTNBl811q1vX8GXhGbPx2QSdVIqGDoatRljHS3OUGp3APl9WEjyWC-m5stpJzr6TdyFlIN0W94Da-xa7QxjI3qg9lXkK2SeuizYneXjkYZPKTKzxLcLGgabNETy2noRzhvjFF2Bv4a4PzpHVcmODKcZscaKYSHMmpsbK). Timestamp by third party at 2025.11.26 13:20:33 CET

Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025

**ANNEX 3**

# ACCESSION FORM FOR BENEFICIARIES

**HORTOBAGYI NEMZETI PARK IGAZGATOSAG (HNPD)**, PIC 950161464, established in SUMEN U. 2, DEBRECEN 4024, Hungary,

**hereby agrees**

**to become beneficiary**

**in Agreement No 101202727 — LIFE24-NAT-HU-CitellusLIFE** ('the Agreement')

**between** HERMAN OTTO INTEZET NON PROFIT KORLATOLT FELELOSSEGU TARSASAG (HOI) **and** the **European Climate, Infrastructure and Environment Executive Agency (CINEA)** ('EU executive agency' or 'granting authority'), under the powers delegated by the European Commission ('European Commission'),

**and mandates**

**the coordinator** to submit and sign in its name and on its behalf any **amendments** to the Agreement, in accordance with Article 39.

By signing this accession form, the beneficiary accepts the grant and agrees to implement it in accordance with the Agreement, with all the obligations and terms and conditions it sets out.

SIGNATURE

For the beneficiary

Gergely Árpád Medgyesi with ECAS id n002ii7m signed in the Participant Portal on 17/11/2025 at 14:41:26 (transaction id SigId-17127-wuizuC5kd3GxtrDUiuznIH1ufsw6A1k70rXe2r2WTHbVAzoQqXR fzZqdKqVh2zaEfkWgSAPTlIJiSzzjzs2xBszKm-m5stpJzr6TdBtUKZXusAF0-3Msmq1pm2jGWVR942zq8wjPSl4XHREccP 65bT8SOkCfgqGmj4HfXZKnaCIuR0RzJAmb4u3OilLT6zkszJQzzpA9G). Timestamp by third party at 2025.11.17 14:41:35 CET

Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025

**ANNEX 3**

# ACCESSION FORM FOR BENEFICIARIES

**HUN-REN OKOLOGIAI KUTATOKOZPONT (CER)**, PIC 954674292, established in KAROLINA UT 29, BUDAPEST 1113, Hungary,

**hereby agrees**

**to become beneficiary**

**in Agreement No 101202727 — LIFE24-NAT-HU-CitellusLIFE** ('the Agreement')

**between** HERMAN OTTO INTEZET NON PROFIT KORLATOLT FELELOSSEGU TARSASAG (HOI) **and** the **European Climate, Infrastructure and Environment Executive Agency (CINEA)** ('EU executive agency' or 'granting authority'), under the powers delegated by the European Commission ('European Commission'),

**and mandates**

**the coordinator** to submit and sign in its name and on its behalf any **amendments** to the Agreement, in accordance with Article 39.

By signing this accession form, the beneficiary accepts the grant and agrees to implement it in accordance with the Agreement, with all the obligations and terms and conditions it sets out.

SIGNATURE

For the beneficiary

Laszlo Zsolt GARAMSZEGI with ECAS id n0094oyb signed in the Participant Portal on 14/11/2025 at 09:11:37 (transaction id SigId-2230-tRPTeNArzh6OHxC48Z4DOGSr38l6UtP5jeNrziCxSk463QNDfme0XLZxACShporpMMBO2ASRrVuuioRpiuH9cM-m5stpJzr6TdBtUKZXusAF0-kylN5odvPgARgyPHm8mP7A0GI6wSszWmaLP0nOglmp7tQfQzG9oU43lCWzbylWWgDiCZF9JZxi26vnGwrYSoR4W). Timestamp by third party at 2025.11.14 09:11:44 CET

Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025

**ANNEX 3**

## ACCESSION FORM FOR BENEFICIARIES

**ASOCIATIA GRUPUL MILVUS (MILVUS)**, PIC 917235105, established in STRADA 1 DECEMBRIE 1918 NR 121, TG MURES 540445, Romania,

**hereby agrees**

**to become beneficiary**

**in Agreement No 101202727 — LIFE24-NAT-HU-CitellusLIFE** ('the Agreement')

**between** HERMAN OTTO INTEZET NON PROFIT KORLATOLT FELELOSSEGU TARSASAG (HOI) **and** the **European Climate, Infrastructure and Environment Executive Agency (CINEA)** ('EU executive agency' or 'granting authority'), under the powers delegated by the European Commission ('European Commission'),

**and mandates**

**the coordinator** to submit and sign in its name and on its behalf any **amendments** to the Agreement, in accordance with Article 39.

By signing this accession form, the beneficiary accepts the grant and agrees to implement it in accordance with the Agreement, with all the obligations and terms and conditions it sets out.

SIGNATURE

For the beneficiary

Tamás Papp with ECAS id n002kjth signed in the Participant Portal on 17/11/2025 at 09:56:46 (transaction id SigId-12636-B5sC39LGjgjS6aRK08vUrzn0C7aZZ7w0k6cvzMpxzNgudrTnX97i0s2yeb8zh2yWat8CPaEgpLb96JzdT9jQn4i-m5stpJzr6TdBtUKZXusAF0-nRzwDVs832R8ancSjLozpWSeIBozaX6TjyPH4q0YcYoBtN2dKK4W4Zsuk1Hq0tIagV1oRxMALUB73ZMq5md53GG). Timestamp by third party at 2025.11.17 09:56:52 CET

Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025



**FINANCIAL STATEMENT FOR [PARTICIPANT NAME] FOR REPORTING PERIOD [NUMBER]**

| | Eligible[1] costs (per budget category) | | | | | | | | | | | EU contribution[2] | | | | Revenues |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Direct costs | | | | | | | | | Indirect costs | Total costs | EU contribution to eligible costs | | | Total requested EU contribution | Income generated by the action |
| | A. Personnel costs | | | B. Subcontracting costs | C. Purchase costs | | | D. Other cost categories | | E. Indirect costs[2] | | Funding rate %[3] | Maximum EU contribution[4] | Requested EU contribution | | |
| | A.1 Employees (or equivalent)<br>A.2 Natural persons under direct contract<br>A.3 Seconded persons | A.4 SME owners and natural person beneficiaries | A.5 Volunteers | B. Subcontracting | C.1 Travel and subsistence | C.2 Equipment | C.3 Other goods, works and services | D.X Financial support to third parties | D.2 Land purchase | E. Indirect costs | | | | | | |
| **Forms of funding** | Actual costs | Unit costs[5] | Unit costs[5] | Actual costs | Actual costs | Actual costs | Actual costs | Actual costs | Actual costs | Flat-rate costs[6] | | | | | | |
| | a1 | a3 | a4 | b | c1 | c2 | c3 | d1a | d2 | e = flat-rate * (a1 + a3 + b + c1 + c2 + c3 + d1a) | f = a+b+c+d+e | U | g = f*U% | h | m | n |
| **XX – [short name beneficiary/affiliated entity]** | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

**The beneficiary/affiliated entity hereby confirms that:**

The information provided is complete, reliable and true.

The costs and contributions declared are eligible (see Article 6).

The costs and contributions can be substantiated by adequate records and supporting documentation that will be produced upon request or in the context of checks, reviews, audits and investigations (see Articles 19, 20 and 25).

For the last reporting period: that all the revenues have been declared (see Article 22).

ⓘ Please declare all eligible costs and contributions, even if they exceed the amounts indicated in the estimated budget (see Annex 2). Only amounts that were declared in your individual financial statements can be taken into account lateron, in order to replace costs/contributions that are found to be ineligible.

[1] See Article 6 for the eligibility conditions. All amounts must be expressed in EUR (see Article 21 for the conversion rules).

[2] If you have also received an EU operating grant during this reporting period, you cannot claim indirect costs - unless you can demonstrate that the operating grant does not cover any costs of the action. This requires specific accounting tools. Please contact us immediately via the Funding & Tenders Portal for details.

[3] See Data Sheet for the reimbursement rate(s).

[4] This is the *theoretical* amount of EU contribution to costs that the system calculates automatically (by multiplying the reimbursement rates by the costs declared). The amount you request (in the column 'requested EU contribution') may be less.

[5] See Annex 2a 'Additional information on the estimated budget' for the details (units, cost per unit).

[6] See Data Sheet for the flat-rate.

Associated with document Ref. Ares(2025)9684233 - 10/11/2025

**ANNEX 5**

# SPECIFIC RULES

## INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS (IPR) — BACKGROUND AND RESULTS — ACCESS RIGHTS AND RIGHTS OF USE (— ARTICLE 16)

### Rights of use of the granting authority on results for information, communication, dissemination and publicity purposes

The granting authority also has the right to exploit non-sensitive results of the action for information, communication, dissemination and publicity purposes, using any of the following modes:

- **use for its own purposes** (in particular, making them available to persons working for the granting authority or any other EU service (including institutions, bodies, offices, agencies, etc.) or EU Member State institution or body; copying or reproducing them in whole or in part, in unlimited numbers; and communication through press information services)

- **distribution to the public** in hard copies, in electronic or digital format, on the internet including social networks, as a downloadable or non-downloadable file

- **editing** or **redrafting** (including shortening, summarising, changing, correcting, cutting, inserting elements (e.g. meta-data, legends or other graphic, visual, audio or text elements extracting parts (e.g. audio or video files), dividing into parts or use in a compilation

- **translation** (including inserting subtitles/dubbing) in all official languages of EU

- **storage** in paper, electronic or other form

- **archiving** in line with applicable document-management rules

- the right to authorise **third parties** to act on its behalf or sub-license to third parties, including if there is licensed background, any of the rights or modes of exploitation set out in this provision

- **processing**, analysing, aggregating the results and **producing derivative works**

- **disseminating** the results in widely accessible databases or indexes (such as through ‘open access’ or ‘open data’ portals or similar repositories, whether free of charge or not.

The beneficiaries must ensure these rights of use for the whole duration they are protected by industrial or intellectual property rights.

If results are subject to moral rights or third party rights (including intellectual property rights or rights of natural persons on their image and voice), the beneficiaries must ensure that they

comply with their obligations under this Agreement (in particular, by obtaining the necessary licences and authorisations from the rights holders concerned).

## COMMUNICATION, DISSEMINATION AND VISIBILITY (— ARTICLE 17)

### Communication and dissemination plan

The beneficiaries must provide a detailed communication and dissemination plan, setting out the objectives, key messaging, target audiences, communication channels, social media plan, planned budget and relevant indicators for monitoring and evaluation.

### Additional communication and dissemination activities

The beneficiaries must engage in the following additional communication and dissemination activities:

- **present the project** (including project summary, coordinator contact details, list of participants, European flag and funding statement and special logo and project results) on the beneficiaries' **websites** or **social media accounts**

- for actions involving equipment, infrastructure or works, display as soon as the work on the action starts a **printed or electronic sign** of appropriate size, with European flag and funding statement and special logo

- upload the public **project results** to the LIFE Project Results platform, available through the Funding & Tenders Portal .

### Special logos

Communication activities and infrastructure, equipment or major results funded by the grant must moreover display the following logo:

- the LIFE Programme logo




and

- for projects in Natura 2000 sites or contributing to the integrity of Natura 2020 network: the Natura 2000 logo



## SPECIFIC RULES FOR CARRYING OUT THE ACTION (— ARTICLE 18)

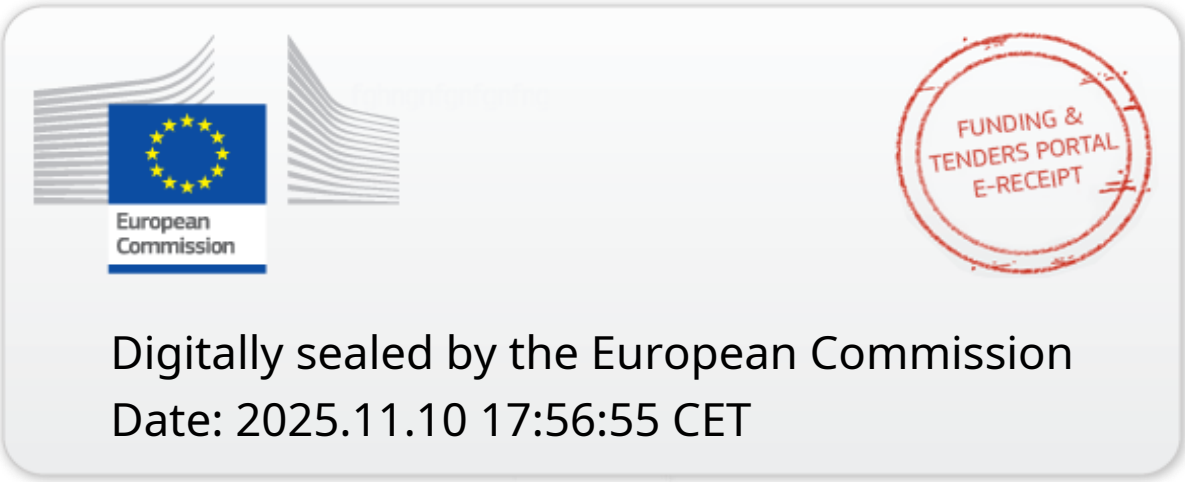
### Durability

Unless exempted by the granting authority, beneficiaries of Standard Action Projects, Strategic Nature Projects and Strategic Integrated Projects must commit to continue to use and maintain after the end of the action equipment bought and eligible at full costs, for activities pursuing the action's objectives. Such equipment must be used for these purposes — for at least five years after the end of the action (see Data Sheet, Point 1) or until the end of its economic lifespan (i.e. until it has been fully depreciated) — whichever is earlier.

### Specific rules for blending operations

When implementing blending operations, the beneficiaries acknowledge and accept that:

- the grant depends on the approved financing from the Implementing Partner and/or public or private investors for the project
- they must inform the granting authority both about the approval for financing and the financial close — within 15 days
- the payment deadline for the first prefinancing is automatically suspended until the granting authority is informed about the approval for financing
- both actions will be managed and monitored in parallel and in close coordination with the Implementing Partner, in particular:
    - all information, data and documents (including the due diligence by the Implementing Partner and the signed agreement) may be exchanged and may be relied on for the management of the other action (if needed)
    - issues in one action may impact the other (e.g. suspension or termination in one action may lead to suspension also of the other action; termination of the grant will normally suspend and exit from further financing and vice versa, etc.)
- the granting authority may disclose confidential information also to the Implementing Partner.




This electronic receipt is a digitally signed version of the document submitted by your organisation. Both the content of the document and a set of metadata have been digitally sealed.

This digital signature mechanism, using a public-private key pair mechanism, uniquely binds this eReceipt to the modules of the Funding & Tenders Portal of the European Commission, to the transaction for which it was generated and ensures its full integrity. Therefore a complete digitally signed trail of the transaction is available both for your organisation and for the issuer of the eReceipt.

Any attempt to modify the content will lead to a break of the integrity of the electronic signature, which can be verified at any time by clicking on the eReceipt validation symbol.

More info about eReceipts can be found in the FAQ page of the Funding & Tenders Portal.

(https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/support/faq)