



"Regions, Cities, Neighbourhoods - strong Partners"

RegGov

Regional Governance of Sustainable Integrated
Development of Deprived Urban Areas

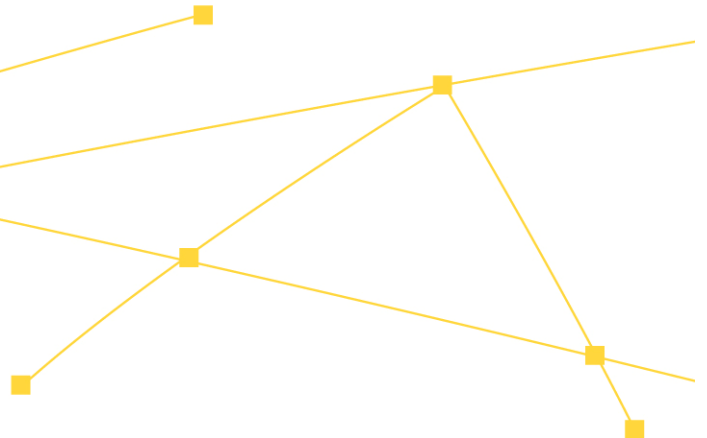
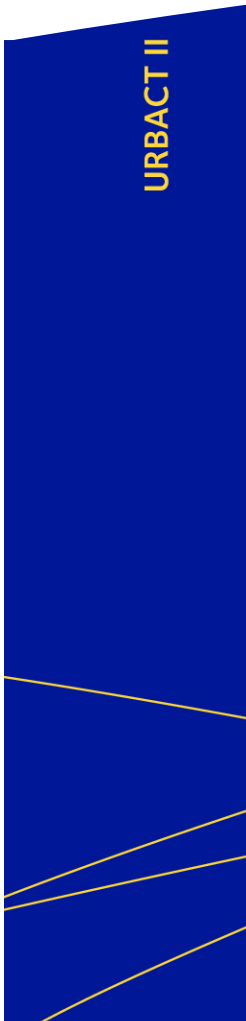
Local Action Plan

English abstract



City of Satu Mare, Romania

April 2011



European Union
European Regional Development Fund



Connecting cities
Building successes





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I. Description of the RegGov target area

The old city centre of Satu Mare is situated around the central park of the city, and is an area of mixed utilization, with residential areas comprising the majority of houses. Situated in this area are a significant part of the representative institutions, including churches, the North Theatre, the Philharmonic Hall, banks, shops, restaurants, clubs and cafés, but also green spaces and public areas.

The northwest part of the city, representing a continuation of the old city centre, comprises Solidaritatii and 14 Mai areas, the first one of them being mainly a residential area of blocks. The second area, 14 Mai, has a smaller density of residential buildings. One of the industrial areas of the Satu Mare Municipality is also located here, with a brownfield site half out of use. As such, we are talking about an area of mixed utilization, comprised of industrial areas, residential neighbourhoods and abandoned fields.

In total the target area is home to around 13,000 citizens.

II. Problems & challenges

One negative aspect of the old city centre is the lack of parking space; the heavy traffic increases pollution and leads to a constant flux of traffic. The old city centre also comprises the majority of buildings that are part of the local heritage. Many of these buildings are in need of repairs on roofs and in internal installations, as well as of structural renovation and renewal of facades. In spite of all these problems, the majority of the buildings are private property, and the local authorities cannot start a project to rehabilitate them. Another problem in this area is the aging of the population, the old city centre having the highest percentage of elderly. The northern part of the city, on the other side, includes the biggest reserve of unexploited greenfields in the city: approximately 6 ha of the terrain of the former lakes have been transformed into a huge open field. At the same time, this is an area characterized by a low level of development, with a high percentage of

Roma people and poor people living there, although there are some streets with newly constructed houses.

The difficult conditions from the selected area are characterized by a series of problems, starting with the lack of roads and road networks, deficits in primary urban infrastructure (sewerage network) and the existence of abandoned fields and of insufficiently utilized industrial areas. Other weak points are the low levels of technological innovation in the production sector, the environmental sector and in social services.

III. Potentials

The city of Satu Mare has a relevant potential for development, which is linked to diverse infrastructural, environmental, social, cultural and geographical factors. The socio-economic analyses reveal a city with an economy in stagnation, with a decrease in population and without particular points of excellence in the production sector; it is a situation which characterizes many of the cities in Romania.

Satu Mare has to use its potential:

- an important cultural heritage and a historical centre comprising many valuable buildings;
- a geopolitically strategic position;
- a diversity (especially with regard to human capital) of knowledge and culture;
- presence of resources (thermal water) and their location in an area which is ideal for thermal and cultural tourism;
- location in a region which has a good record of attracting foreign investments, an important number of universities and centre for production of knowledge and information, as well as specialized and diversified industrial centres.

Combining the opportunity related to the geographic position of the city with the ones linked to the natural and cultural heritage could create the opportunity for re-launching the city of Satu Mare. The Local Action Plan, due in part to the limited financial possibilities, cannot be expected to tackle all of these issues, but it can



create the conditions in order for citizens to have not only better access to services and knowledge, but also the possibility of intercommunity and intracommunity meetings which could improve their cultural and intellectual capital as well as their entrepreneurship capital.

The weak points are relativised by the strong points of the area: availability of natural resources, industrial companies that were established long ago in the area, a vibrant social structure and a valuable work force that represents a strong attraction for external investments and an important resource for the development of the local entrepreneurship.

IV. Expected impact and effects on the image

The Local Action Plan tries to bring about the implementation of some projects that respond to the emergency logic, and as such has as a main aim of not only investing in urban infrastructure, but also developing an economic structure that leads to the employment for the workforce and could re-launch productivity and direct the attention towards social aspects.

The Local Action Plan will have two main effects on the image of the target area and the city of Satu Mare:

1. Regional appeal for the population by developing the urban infrastructure
2. Regional economic appeal by developing a technological centre for innovation and business.

V. LSG: composition, important stakeholders, etc.

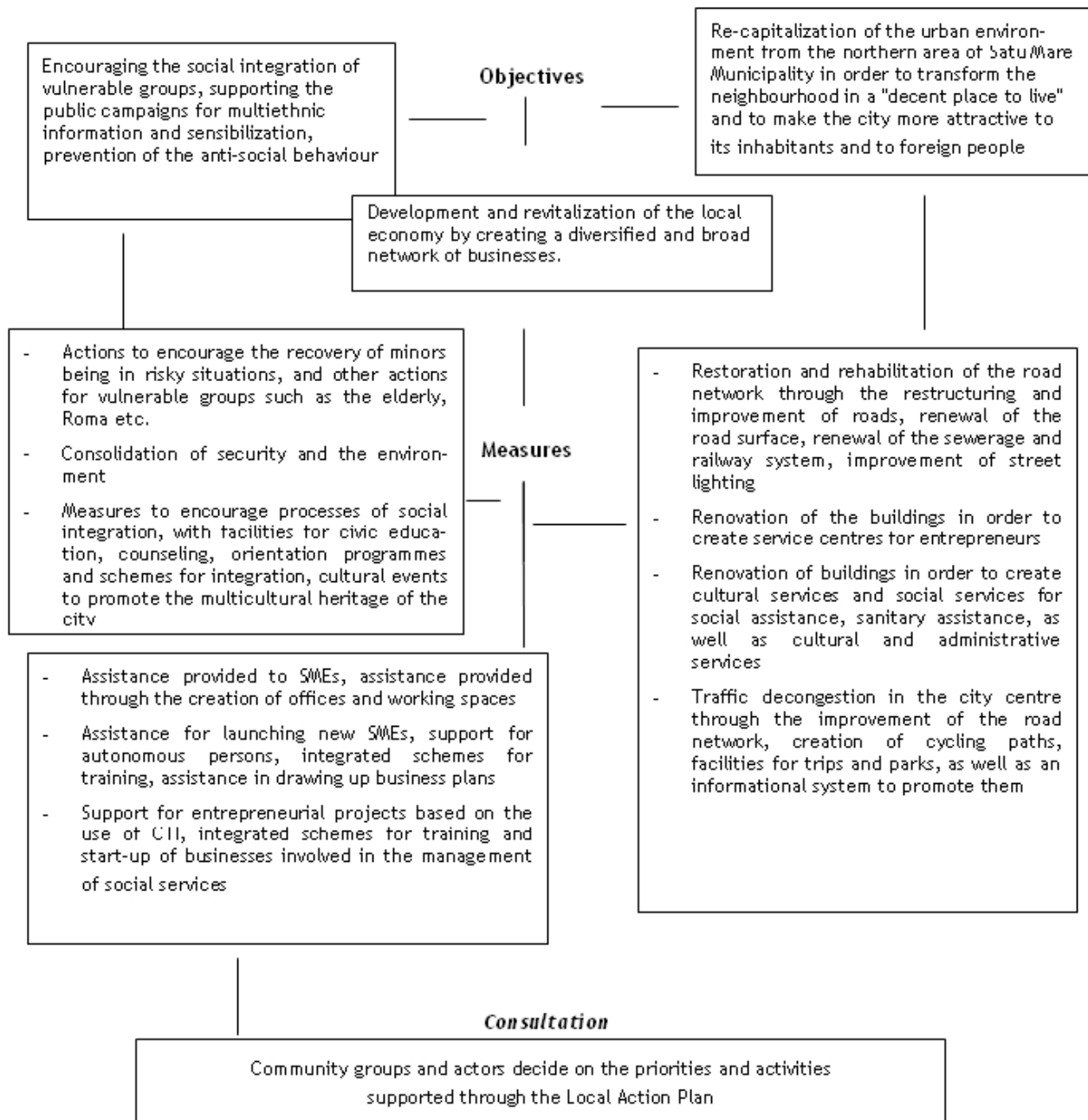
The Local Support Group constituted at the level of the city of Satu Mare has the following institutions as members:

- Satu Mare City Hall
- Satu Mare Local Council
- Regional Development Agency, Satu Mare Office
- Satu Mare Agency for the Protection of the Environment
- Satu Mare Social Welfare Department
- Architecture companies
- Administrators of blocks
- Satu Mare Unemployment Agency
- Chamber of Commerce, Industry and Agriculture.

VI. Action fields of the LAP: brief report and strategic aims

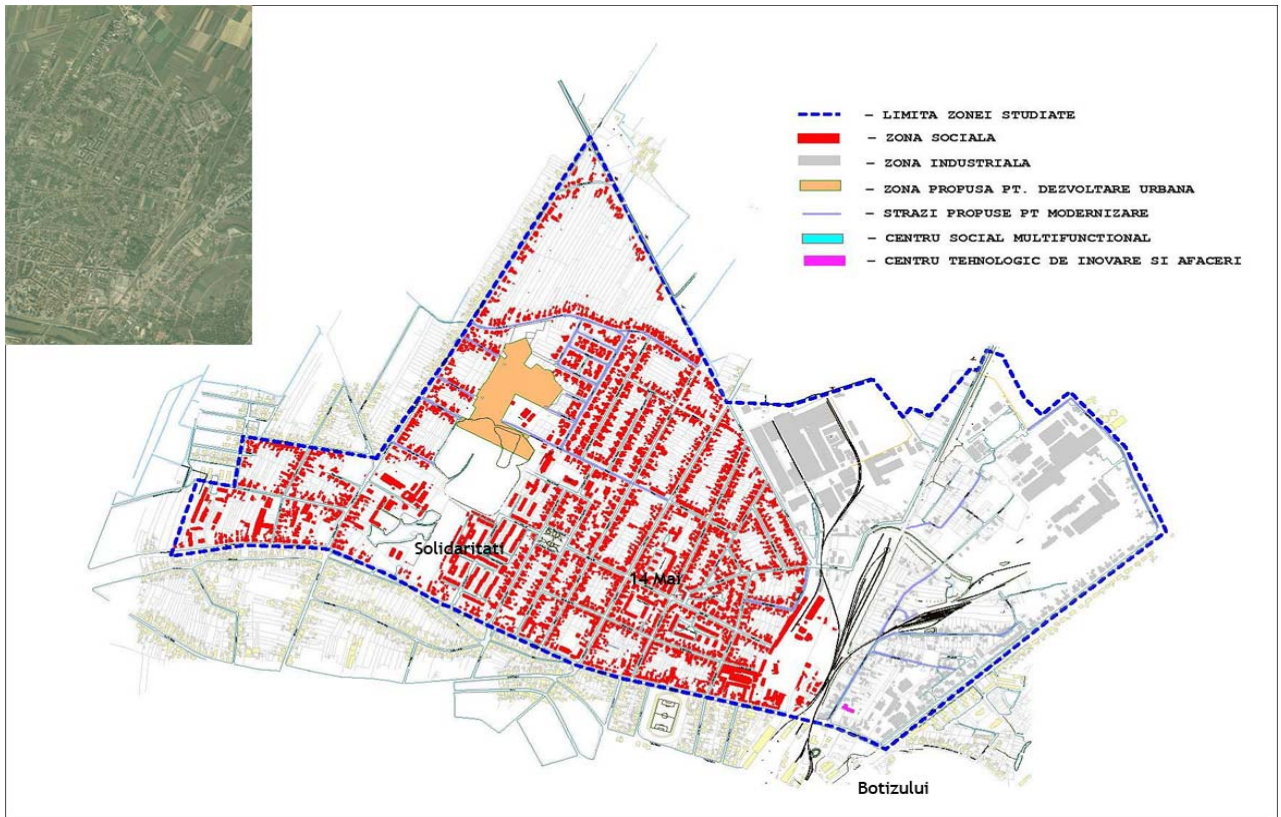
The general strategic objectives (urban rehabilitation, sustainable economic development and improving the quality of life) sustain each other and will create synergies among each other, multiplying the positive effects which could be attained if these would be implemented individually.

DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY OF THE CITY OF SATU MARE



VII. Planned projects and their objectives

Number	Title of the project	Objectives
1.	Satu Mare Social Multifunctional Centre of the Public Service for Social Assistance (SPAS)	Endowment of the area of the Mircești alley from Satu Mare Municipality and the bordering areas with public services of social assistance and local counselling by establishing a Multifunctional Centre SPAS for social assistance and counselling for children, the elderly, as well as people in adverse social situations
2.	Satu Mare Technology, Innovation and Business Centre	Creation of a structure for the support of the local business environment by establishing a Technology, Innovation and Business Centre in Satu Mare Municipality
3.	Rehabilitation of the historical and cultural heritage from the Satu Mare Municipality – Nord Theatre	Rehabilitation and cultural and architectural conservation of the Nord Theatre
4.	Enhancing the quality of life and ensuring conditions at European standards through the sustainable regeneration of the residential area Solidaritatii in Satu Mare Municipality - Solidreg	Rehabilitation and development of the urban infrastructure between the passage above the railway and the industrial platform in order to access the north road belt
5.	Improving the quality of the environment and of the urban services in the peripheral area I. L. Caragiale in Satu Mare Municipality – housing areas and industrial platforms – through the rehabilitation and development of the urban infrastructure	Enhancing the quality of life and creation of new jobs through the rehabilitation of the urban infrastructure and improvement of urban services, with impact on the general development of the Satu Mare Municipality and of the surrounding area
6.	Traffic decongestion measures from the central area of the Satu Mare Municipality through the rehabilitation and development of the urban infrastructure between the passage above the railway, the industrial platform in order to access the north road belt	Enhancing the quality of life and creation of new jobs through the rehabilitation of the urban infrastructure and improvement of urban services, with impact on the general development of the Satu Mare Municipality and of the surrounding area
7.	Video surveillance system for the safety of public spaces in Satu Mare Municipality.	Creation of a Centre for Command and Control for the Community Police



Intervention area of the Satu Mare LAP

VIII. Monitoring (on the selection of the target area) & evaluation (on the implementation of the LAP)

The monitoring of the implementation of the local action plan will be realized by adhering to the following main phases:

1. Analyses and management of risks associated with the period of the implementation of the plan;
2. Realization of coherent and correct audit trails which, through implementation, will achieve the objectives proposed by the local action plan in an optimal manner;
3. Weekly meetings to analyze progress and problems;
4. Monthly reports to the Surveillance Committee.

The monitoring activity will be based on the following documents:

- Gantt diagrams proposed in the individual projects
- Audit trails
- List of indicators to be achieved through the Local Action Plan.

IX. LAP timetable

Project	Year of commencement	Year of completion
1	2011	2012
2	2012	2013
3	2012	2013
4	2011	2012
5	2011	2012
6	2011	2012
7	2012	2012

X. LAP financing

Project	Project title	Project budget			Total (euros)
		Non-refundable value (euros)	Own contribution to the eligible costs (euros)	Non-eligible costs (euros)	
(1)	(2)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10) = (7) + (8) + (9)
1	Satu Mare Social Multifunctional Centre of the Public Service for Social Assistance (SPAS	658,824	13,445	127,731	800,000
2	Satu Mare Technology, Innovation and Business Centre	447,575	447,575	170,079	1,065,229
3	Rehabilitation of the historical and cultural heritage of the Satu Mare Municipality – Nord Theatre	2,109,737	43,056	409,031	2,561,824
4	Enhancing the quality of life and ensuring conditions at European standards through the sustainable regeneration of the residential area Solidaritatii in Satu Mare Municipality - Solidreg	1,995,741	40,729	502,217 606,778	3,145,465
5	Improving the quality of the environment and of the urban services in the peripheral area I. L. Caragiale in Satu Mare Municipality – housing areas and industrial platforms – through the rehabilitation and development of the urban infrastructure	3,363,403	68,641	1,089,716	5,380,894
6	Traffic decongestion measures from the central area of the Satu Mare Municipality through the rehabilitation and development of the urban infrastructure between the passage above the railway, the industrial platform in order to access the north road belt	2,569,458	52,438	538,558	3,373,071
7	Video surveillance system for the safety of public spaces in Satu Mare Municipality.	893,158	18,228	173,164	1,084,550



XI. Impact of the transnational exchange for the LAP production

The transnational exchange within the RegGov network had a positive impact on the development of the LAP and a clear added value. Three aspects are relevant in this sense. The involvement in the RegGov network offered us the opportunity of creating a Local Support Group which gathers under the same umbrella stakeholders having an important word to say in the development and further in the imple-

mentation of the Local Action Plan. Secondly, as city with rather poor experience in urban regeneration, transnational networking enabled us to acquire the necessary knowledge in this field and allowed us to learn from the experience of other European cities. Furthermore, as member of a transnational network dealing with the urban regeneration of deprived areas we received feedback from the partners on the development and implementation of the Local Action Plan, something that we would call free and very valuable consultancy.



Imprint

Regional Governance of Sustainable Integrated Neighbourhood Development – RegGov
RegGov is a Fast Track Thematic Network in the URBACT II Programme.

Further information is available under: urbact.eu/reg_gov

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English abstract

RegGov partner city:

City of Satu Mare, Romania

RegGov target area:

Solidaritatiei area, 14 Mai area, and old city centre

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URBACT is a European exchange and learning programme promoting sustainable urban development.

It enables cities to work together to develop solutions to major urban challenges, reaffirming the key role they play in facing increasingly complex societal changes. URBACT helps cities to develop pragmatic solutions that are new and sustainable, and that integrate economic, social and environmental dimensions. It enables cities to share good practices and lessons learned with all professionals involved in urban policy throughout Europe. URBACT is 300 cities, 29 countries, and 5,000 active participants. URBACT is part-financed by the European Union (European Regional Development Fund).

Integrated approaches to the development of deprived urban neighbourhoods have proved to be successful in many old EU member states over the last decades. Crucial factors for success are efficient co-operation and a high level of trust between cities and their managing authorities. The challenge is how to develop, implement and fund such policies at a broad European level. The REGGOV Network focused on making practical experiences accessible and supporting partners to develop and implement new integrated strategies for sustainable neighbourhood and urban development.

www.urbact.eu/reg_gov