



# Palic Zoo – EU Funding Experience

(Workshop - EAZA Annual Conference,  
Lodz, Poland, Sept. 2025)

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## PALIĆ ZOO, Serbia

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- Founded on May 31st 1950.
- Area: 20 ha
- 13 ha visitors space, largest zoo in Serbia by territory, 160k visitors annually
- About 1000 animals, 150 species
- Botanical garden - 500 species
- 2004. Shelter for endangered and confiscated species





Palić Zoo has actively used EU funding mechanisms to improve infrastructure, education, and nature conservation.

Main partners:

- Zoo Szeged (Hungary) and the City of Szeged
- Zoo Osijek (Croatia)

Projects since 2004 include: aviary for eagles and vultures, education and congress centers, bird rehabilitation facilities, classrooms, and cross-border exchanges of children and staff.





# ZOO PALIĆ

## Goals

Improve living conditions for animals (aviary, rescue center).

Develop educational infrastructure (classrooms, conference center).

Foster cross-border cooperation between Serbia and Hungary, Serbia and Croatia.

Engage local communities and schoolchildren in conservation.





## Key Activities & Results

**INTERREG 2004 – Large Aviary: €90,000 – first high aviary in Serbia for eagles & Griffon and Egyptian vultures.**





**ZOO PALIĆ**

## 2007. Education & Congress Center (Interreg): €105,000





# ZOO PALIĆ



**Classroom & students Exchange  
(IPA "Two Zoos"): €139,000  
– over 6,500 children participated,  
staff exchanges with Szeged Zoo**





## 2011. Bird Rescue Facility (IPA): €118,000 – flight cage for rehabilitation

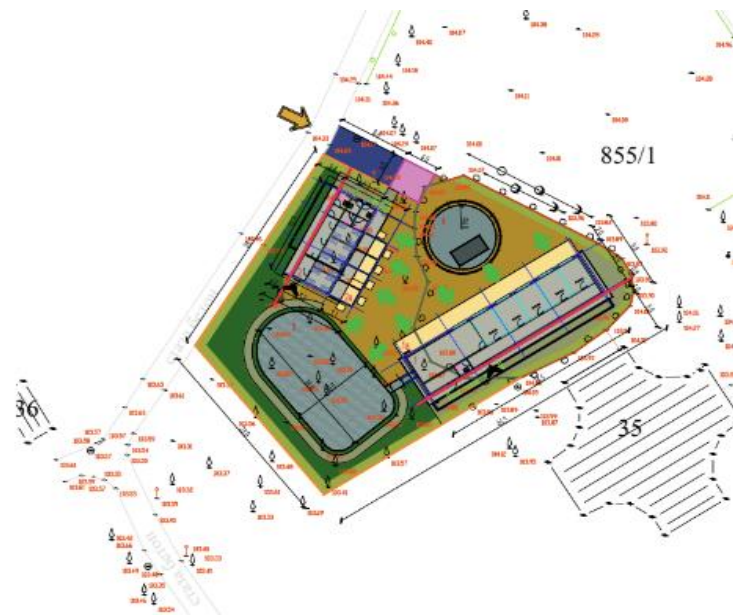




# 2024 -2026 crossborder cooperation

## ZOO OSIJEK, Croatia – our first Interreg about tourism topics total 1,5 m eur

### Majestic Zoo's







## Funding Mechanisms Used

Interreg – cross-border cooperation (Serbia–Hungary, Serbia–Croatia).

IPA Cross-border Cooperation – nature conservation, education, and community engagement.

## Application Process – Lessons Learned

Partners: identified through established cooperation with Zoo Szeged and Zoo Osijek

Preparation: required formal documentation, clear goals, and alignment with EU priorities.

Success factors: community involvement and visible cross-border impact.







## What We Would Do Differently

Involve local governments and schools earlier in project design.

Allocate more time and staff for administration and reporting.

Plan sustainability measures beyond project funding.

## Practical Tips for Other Zoos

1. Choose the right fund for your goal – infrastructure (IPA), research (Horizon), species protection (LIFE).
2. Find a reliable EU partner – ideally a long-term collaborator.
3. Prepare administrative capacity – reporting and audits are demanding.





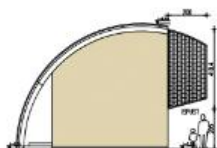
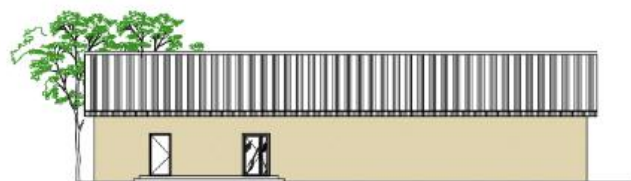
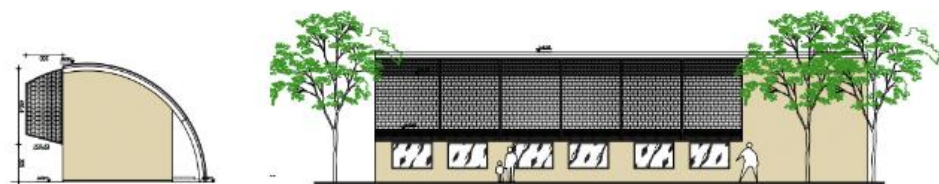
## Additional Insights

Funding source selection: IPA/Interreg suited our size and regional focus.

Co-financing: covered partly by local authorities and own resources.

Main challenges: tight deadlines, complex procedures, need for constant outsourcing

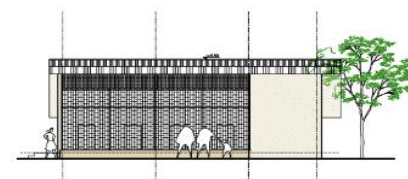
Impact measurement: number of participants, new facilities, improved cooperation



## OBJEKT 1

Ustanova ZDOLŠKI VVO  
Krtka 4 Pošt.

Ime:  
Branislav KUZMANOVIĆ, dipl.  
Diplomirani projektant projekata u  
Norbert MOJNAK G., dipl.  
Diplomirani projektant inženjerski  
Novos RADI, dipl. ing. građ.  
Posjednik saradnik:



## OBJEKTAT 2

Ime i prezime:  
**USTANOVA ZOOLOŠKI VR**  
**Krška 4 Pulič**

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Ime i prezime:  
**Branišlav KUJZMANOVIĆ, d**

Odgovorni projektant projekta:  
**Norbert MOLNAR G., dipl**

Odgovorni projektant izvođenja:  
**Nevien NAD, dipl. ing. gra**

Projektant izvođenja:





Thank you for your attention 😊

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