

2nd of August 2021

DANOVA Call for Ideas (Pre-announcement)

Dear innovators, practitioners, conceptual thinkers, entrepreneurs, creative individuals from all backgrounds, start-ups, research organizations and businesses working on innovative and accessible transportation solutions, the DANOVA project team is happy to announce the upcoming **Call for Ideas**.

Interreg project “*DANOVA: Innovative transportation services for blind and partially sighted passengers in the Danube Region*” is a transnational cooperation project co-funded by ERDF, IPA, and ENI (European Union funds). DANOVA aims to improve the accessibility of airports, seaports and train/bus stations by developing a set of new services and competencies that will allow visually impaired passengers to have full access to all transportation information and services. Therefore, the partnership is asking YOU to bring additional knowledge on solutions that can make transportation facilities more accessible to blind and partially sighted persons.

With this call, you have the opportunity to present your idea to international stake- and shareholders in the field of transportation and to organizations representing blind and partially sighted people. The winner gets to present the idea at the final project conference in Vienna, and be a part of the official project publication summarizing the selected ideas! Furthermore, you could benefit from establishing contacts with the stake- and shareholders, and getting feedback about your idea.

The Call for innovative ideas for accessibility of transportation facilities for blind and partially sighted people will be open for submission from the **1st of September to the 15th of October 2021**. Q&A period will be held until 11th of October 2021, 1st review in mid-November 2021, and the decision and announcement of the winner on the 1st of December 2021.

We accept idea proposals in two different categories:

- 1 **Modifications of the built environment:** conversion or adaptation of a specific environment in a way to make it more accessible to blind and partially sighted; they include changes or additions, like technical equipment that is installed to a built structure;
- 2 **Assistive technology:** items designed specifically to help people with vision impairment with transportation and mobility infrastructure.

Criteria for selection and evaluation

The proposals must address the issue of safe and independent mobility for blind and partially sighted passengers. Proposals will be evaluated by an international interdisciplinary jury consisting of representatives of the partner organizations, and invited experts. The subject of the evaluation will be the quality of the idea and its direct reference to the transnational concept of a fully accessible airport/seaport/railway, tram, and bus stations to blind and partially sighted passengers.

The specific evaluation criteria are:

- direct link to transportation
- existence of infrastructure for the idea to be based upon
- entry-level of skills needed for the usage of the solution
- added value in comparison to existing solutions
- time for implementation
- budget and operational expenses

The final decision on the outcomes of the Call for Ideas will be publicly announced in **December 2021** on the website of the Interreg Danube Transnational program. Please direct any related questions to the partner in your country via email by the 11th of October 2021. The partner list and contact information is in the table below the call. Shortlisted ideas will have the chance to be presented at the final conference in Vienna with travel and accommodation expenses covered by the project.

Stay tuned for more information about the Open Innovation Call by following the DANOVA project on the official web and social media platforms:

Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/Interreg-DANOVA-100215245178279/>

DTP Web <http://www.interreg-danube.eu/approved-projects/danova>

Instagram <https://www.instagram.com/interregdanova/>

We are looking forward to your participation!

DANOVA project team

DANOVA Project Partners and contact information

	Project Partner Details	Acronym	Project contact person	e-mail
Croatia	Dubrovnik Airport	LP-ZLD	Hrvoje Spremić	hrvoje.spremic@airport-dubrovnik.hr
Moldova	Technical University of Moldova	ENI-MD PP2-TUM	Ilie Bricicaru	ilie.bricicaru@dmcc.utm.md
Hungary	Budapest Airport	ERDF PP3-BUD	Sarolta Katona	sarolta.katona@bud.hu
Hungary	Centre for Budapest Transport	ERDF PP4-BKK	Zsolia Lontai	Zsolia.Lontai@bkk.hu
Slovenia	University of Maribor	ERDF PP5-UM	Katja Hanžič	katja.hanzic@um.si
Bulgaria	Bulgarian Association for Transfer of Technology and Innovation	ERDF PP6-BATTI	Kostadin Savov	k.v.savov@gmail.com
Croatia	Croatian Blind Union	ERDF PP7-HSS	Mladena Funtek	mladena.funtek@savez-slijepih.hr
Austria	Austrian Federation of the Blind and Partially Sighted	ERDF PP8-BSVO	Stefanie Steinbauer	international@blindenverband.at
Croatia	Dubrovnik Port Authority	ERDF PP9-LUD	Kristina Laptalo	dpa.kristina@portdubrovnik.hr
Slovenia	Municipality of Maribor	ERDF PP10-MOM	Tadej Kurent	tadej.kurent@maribor.si
Slovakia	Žilina Airport	ERDF PP11-ILZ	Ronald Wilczek	opu@airport.sk
Montenegro	JSC Airports of Montenegro	IPA PP1-ACG	Nina Planinič	nina.planinic@apm.co.me
Montenegro	Port of Kotor	IPA PP2-POK	Maja Danilovic	majadanilovicko@gmail.com
Bosnia and Herzegovina	Sarajevo International Airport	IPA PP3-MAS	Berin Riđanović	bridjanovic@sarajevo-airport.ba
Slovakia	Slovak Blind and Partially Sighted Union			mamojka@unss.sk
Slovenia	Fraport Slovenija, d.o.o.			robert.rauch@fraport-slovenija.si
Moldova	Civil Aviation Authority of the Republic of Moldova			vladimir.gorea@caa.gov.md
Czech Republic	DEX Innovation Centre			vojtech.jira@dex-ic.com