

EU Funds Week

'Rural Development and EU Funds'











Gabor Erdi

Hungary Balaton Uplands

TWO DIFFERENT ROLES:

Small business owner applicant / beneficiary within a LAG in Hungary

Subcontractor, project manager of the LAG

Zsolt Markus

Hungary MTA SZTAKI

TWO DIFFERENT ROLES:

Head of eLearning Department

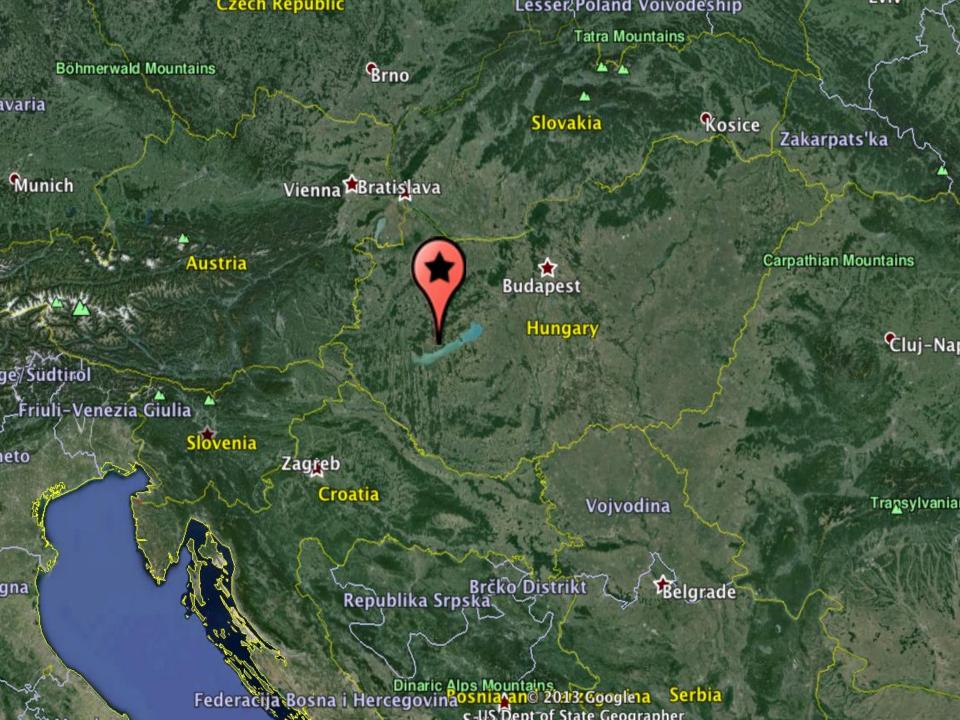
Project manager of the mobile development

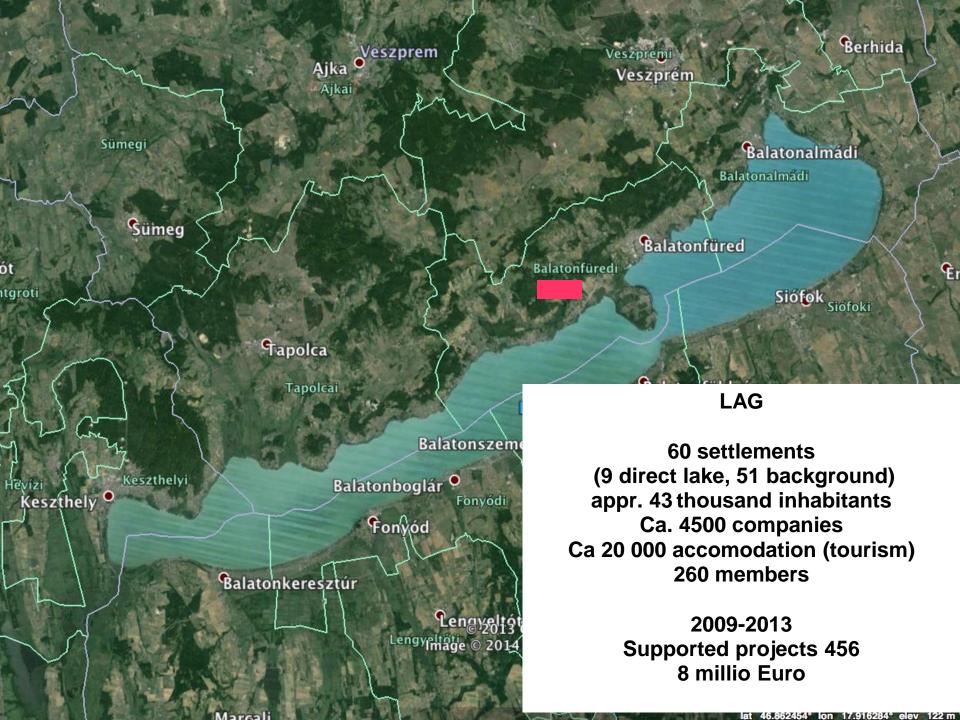














TOPICS

GPS based applications to promote tourism in the Balaton Uplands

The role of the LAG's Working Organization in the successful application









GPS based applications to promote tourism in the Balaton Uplands





GPS based applications to promote tourism in the Balaton Uplands



How the story started:

Successful guest house in a beautiful village, in the heart of Balaton Uplands National Park - but very seasonal

For further development of our business the major goal is to prolong the season

We had lots of local knowledge about points of interest but had a hard time to share it with our guests and to show them that Balaton region offers many things in all seasons, not only in Summer









GPS based applications to promote tourism in the Balaton Uplands



Submitted an application to our LAG to purchase 8 GPS devices

Created GPS tracks with points of interest around our village and installed it on the GPS devices (see next slide)

GPS device with installed tracks and points of interest became a basic service for our guests, or download to own smart phone

To prolong the season created additional GPS based programs, events, competitions

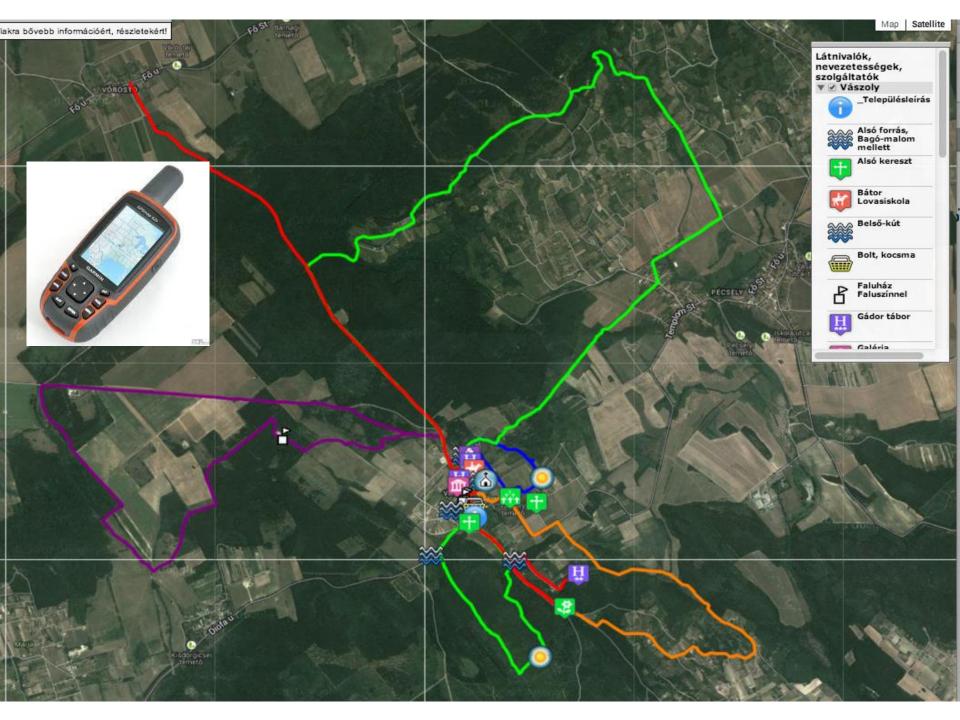
E.g. mounted orienteering, bicycle orienteering, GPS games for schools (treasure hunting), etc.





















SUMMARY - GPS based applications to promote tourism in the Balaton Uplands



Our GPS programs became very popular – mounted orienteering is now a national championship within National Association

Strong growth in out of season periods

It still takes effort to convert people to outdoor GPS users – outdoor GPS is not yet as popular as car GPS, mobile phone – there is plenty of place for further improvements in this area (both promotions and improvements on the technical, software side)









GPS – LAG became interested



Our LAG has 60 villages in it's territory

Our village, where we are running our guest house is one of them

LAG decided to implement the idea in all the 60 villages

On average 3 tracks per village (180 tracks, thousands of POIs with descriptions, photos – fantastic value, documentation)

Web based solution for the 60 villages was implemented in 2013

Mobile application is under way, will be completed in 2014



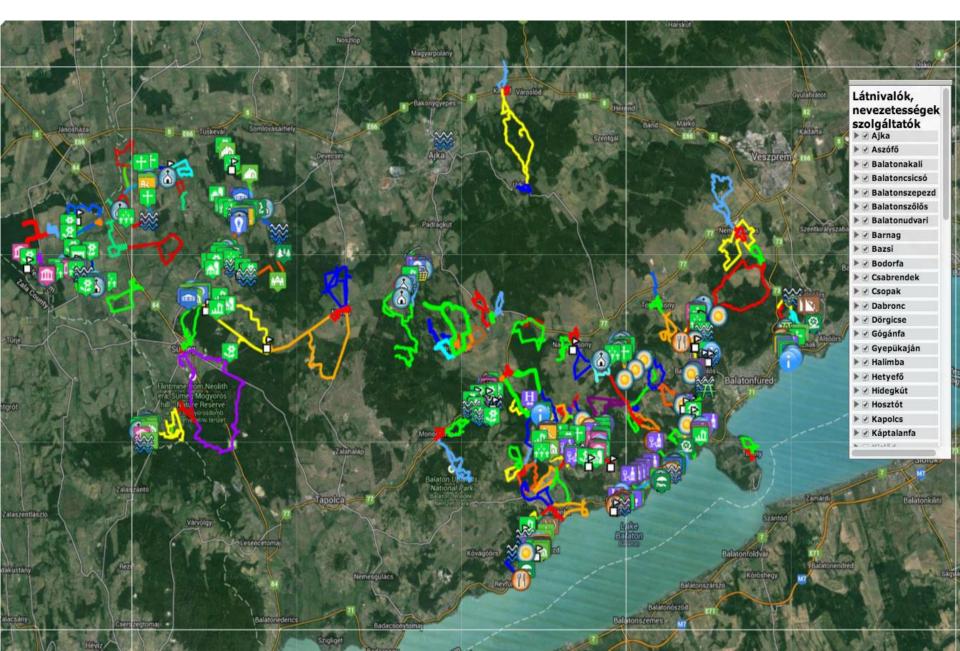






GPS - LAG became interested





















LAG Role in Successful Supplication - Balaton Uplands

Today

60 settlements
(9 direct on lake, 51 background)
about 43 thousand inhabitatns
Ca. 4500 companies
Ca 20 000 accomodation

Association members 128

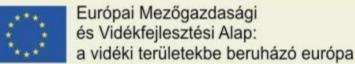
+ 127 organisation in cooperation network

2009-2013
Supported projects 456,
Support Ca 8 millio Euro









Objectives of the Local Rural Development Strategy

Enterprise development

- Supporting the creation of micro enterprises and strengthenning the operation of existing ones
- Encouragement of tourism activities

Landscape and environmental development

- Village renewal and development
- Conserving and upgrading rural heritage
- Encourage the utilisation of renewable energies













Results

Éltető Balaton-felvidékért Egyesület

- Ca 150 renovated buildings
- Ca 500 equipment procured
- Ca 250 community events
- Ca 8 mill. Euro public money
- · Ca 3 mill. Euro own contribution
- Ca 250 marketing actions (local, regional, national, international appearance)
- Ca 900 economic cooperation







The role of the LAG's Working Organization in the successful application



- From the business owner point of view -

Very clear, well communicated central strategy, goals setting for the region

Helping applicants to understand what is realistic, what makes sense (both amount and field)

Good, open relationship with consulting firms

Very patient but amazingly successful community building – great relationship among members

Highly motivated and surprisingly honest leadership and employees











Thank you for your attention!







