



**INTERREG IPA CBC PROGRAMME
"GREECE – THE FORMER YUGOSLAV REPUBLIC OF MACEDONIA 2014-
2020"**

1st Joint Steering Committee Meeting

Strumica, 30 March 2017

Brief Minutes & Decisions



The Joint Steering Committee (hereinafter referred to as JSC) of the INTERREG IPA Cross-Border Cooperation Programme "Greece-The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia 2014-2020" convened for its 1st Meeting on March 30th, 2017 in Strumica, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, following an invitation by the Managing Authority of European Territorial Cooperation Programmes (hereinafter MA of ETCP), in agreement with the co-chairs in order to discuss the following **Agenda**:

- Approval of the agenda
- Rules of procedures of JSC
- Evaluation Results
- Discussion – Decisions

The meeting was attended by all 6 members with voting right (3 from each country), and the quorum was confirmed by the chair, in line with the list of participants attached. In addition, the meeting was attended by the desk officer of the EC, Mr. Csaba Hende and representatives from the MA and JS of the programme.

After the welcome speech made by the chair and host, Mr Arsim Fidani, Ministry of Local Self Government, the floor passed to the co-chair Ms. Angeliki Bouziani from the Ministry of Economy and Development, acting as substitute for the special secretary Ms Evgenia Fotoniata. Both co-chairs referred to the fruitful cooperation between both sides so far and expressed their certainty that the projects about to be financed will contribute to the development of the eligible area. A brief greeting to the members of JSC was given by the EC desk officer.

Thereafter, all members agreed to proceed according to the agenda and discussed the proposed items one by one.

All member of the JSC before the meeting signed the Declaration of Confidentiality Impartiality and non conflict of Interest statement.

Managing Authority presented the Rules of Procedure of the JSC. Mr Samaras Head of unit B1 informed the JSC members that the JMC will be informed regarding the approval of the RoP of the JSC and the its decisions.



Joint Secretariat presented the evaluation work that was made by the staff of the JS and the Joint evaluation team. The presentation included data concerning the evaluation, the ranking of the projects by priority axis and score, the conditions for funding that must be fulfilled during the pre contracting meetings, an overview of the accepted proposals (score higher than 65%) and finally the formulation of 2 funding scenarios.

- 1st scenario includes the project proposals that can be financed considering the limits of the 1st call budget. Under this scenario 17 proposals can be approved for financing (9 project proposals under Axis 1 and 8 under Axis 2).
- 2nd scenario is formulated according the accepted quality of the projects. Proposals with score higher than 65% are proposed for financing. 2nd scenario proposes the financing of 40 project proposals (18 from Axis 1 and 22 From Axis 2)

The chair mr Arsim Fidani requested details concerning the budget allocated in the programme per Specific Objective and the budget of the proposed for funding projects. The JS provided the requested information stating the budget per SO is indicative and that in SO 1.2 and SO 2.3 the proposed budget is much higher than the indicative one, while in the rest SO`s the proposed budget is lower.

Mrs Zafirovska asked whether it will be possible to launch a second call if the 2nd scenario for funding is approved. Mr Samaras replied that the MA plans to launch a 2nd call for proposals in the last quarter of 2017 which will be open to all SO except SO1.2 and SO 2.3 and with an estimated total budget of 10 to 15mil Euros .

The chair Mr. Arsim Fidani asked what are the advantages of each scenario. The JS replied that the 2nd scenario is more favorable as it includes high quality project proposals that can be immediately be contracted. Mr. Samaras explained that since in this period the programme is facing a series of novelties in both countries, including share management and common rules, its preferable to immediately start the programme with a strong mix of projects in order to have time to remedy possible project failures or delays.

Mr Efremov representative of the Municipality of Kavadarci noticed that beneficiaries from Vardar Region do not participate in many project proposals in comparison to those from the rest regions of the IPA country. He noticed also that the other regions are in the eligible area of other CBC programmes while Vardar region participates only in this IPA CBC programme. He asked this



element to be taken in consideration and suggested to remedy the situation in the 2nd call in order to achieve equal territorial participation of all regions. Mr. Samaras replied that the evaluation criteria do not include such elements. Nevertheless the MA/JS will analyze the outcomes of the 1st call and will consider measures to provide technical support to beneficiaries from the Vardar region.

Mr. Befas representative of the Region of Central Macedonia, explained that they wish to propose to the JMC the 2nd scenario.

Mr. Pitselis representative of the Region of Western Macedonia also expressed that they wish to propose the 2nd scenario, as it includes many high quality project proposals.

After the discussions, the Joint Steering Committee:

DECIDED UNANIMOUSLY:

- 1: the Approval of the Agenda
- 2: the Approval of the Rules of procedure of the JSC
- 3.: The Approval of the evaluation as conducted by the Joint Secretariat and the Joint Evaluation Team
4. the Approval of the ranking hierarchy as it was presented by the JS
5. To propose to the Joint Monitoring Committee the approval of the 2nd scenario which includes in detail:
Funding, under conditions, of the following project proposals:

Under Axis 1, eighteen projects (18) with the following Acronyms and reference numbers:

1. CONNECT ref.no 2095, 2. Cross4all ref.no 1816, 3. IpA Shield II ref.no 2491, 4. HealthNET ref.no 1817, 5. TERRA VINO ref.no 1986, 6. In4Child ref.no 2056, 7. COMETECH ref.no 1901, 8. EMPLOYOUTH ref.no 1943, 9. EX-INFO ref.no 2032, 10. QuadHelix/ Quality Health ref.no 2089, 11. I-TOUR ref.no 1754, 12. CINECULTURE ref.no 1981, 13. Heart Safe Cities ref.no 1963, 14. IBiSEait ref.no 1966, 15. ToCulter ref.no 1872, 16. WE CARE ref.no 2098, and two were placed in the reserve list : 17. HOLY WATER ref.no 1975, 18. Icba ref.no 2038.

Under Axis 2, twenty two (22) projects with the following Acronyms and reference numbers :



1. Plan D.oiran ref. no 2003, 2. HELP ref.no 1898, 3. BENEFITref.no 1884, 4. LESS-WASTE-II ref.no 1940, 5. WE CROSS BORDERS ref.no 1956, 6. COMBINE2PROTECT ref.no 1945, 7. SYMBIOSIS ref.no 2498, 8. TRAP ref.no 1800, 9. AQUA-M II ref.no 1961, 10.J-CROSS ref.no 1828 ,11. wa- mbrella ref.no 1728, 12. PAPESHE ref.no 1749, 13. 3EM ref.no 1947, 14. CONSE-PP ref.no1951, 15. STRAS ref.no 1886, 16. ZEFFIROS ref.no 1896, 17. SmartWaterSave ref.no1889, 18. ENPOL-EE ref.no 2464, 19. aGROWchain ref.no 1902, 20. BIOREAL ref.no 1927, 21. SUMBIO ref.no 2644 and one was approved in the reserve list 22. Green Inter-e-Mobility ref.no 1874.

THE CO – CHAIRING PERSONS OF THE STEERING COMMITTEE

	NAME	SURNAME	ORGANIZATION	SIGNATURE
Co-Chairperson	Arsim	Fidani	Ministry of Local Self Government	
Co-Chairperson	Angeliki	Bouziani	Ministry of Economy and Development	

Annexes:

1. List of Participants of Joint Steering Committee Members from the Greek and the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia side