



MANAGING AUTHORITY OF THE EUROPEAN TERRITORIAL COOPERATION PROGRAMMES JOINT SECRETARIAT OF THE INTERREG V-A "GREECE – BULGARIA 2014-2020" COOPERATION PROGRAMME

Date: 10/06/2019 Ref. No. 301586/MA3713 ADA:

6th CALL FOR PROPOSALS: UNDER PRIORITY AXIS 1 – INVESTMENT PRIORITY 3a INTERREG V-A GREECE – BULGARIA 2014-2020 COOPERATION PROGRAMME CO-FINANCED BY THE EUROPEAN REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT FUND (ERDF)

A. Context

The Interreg V-A Cooperation Programme Greece – Bulgaria 2014-2020 is a cross-border cooperation Programme co-financed by the European Union under the European Regional Development Fund.

The total budget (ERDF and national contribution) for the Cross-border Cooperation Programme Greece-Bulgaria 2014-2020 is €130.262.833. The total financing consists of € 110.723.408 (85%) ERDF funding and 19.539.425 € (15%) national contribution.

The proposed project proposals in the framework of this Call will include the achievement of significant goals and must, at the same time, safeguard the maturity prerequisites of the proposed interventions, with the higher aim of covering the commitments for the N+3 rules for the first years of the Programme.

Before submitting any project proposal, applicants are invited to consult the Operational Programme approved by the European Commission on 09/09/2015, the respective EU regulations and annexes attached to this call. These documents are available on the Programme's website at http://www.greece-bulgaria.eu/ in the "Programming Period 2014-2020" section.

B. Priority Axes, Investment priorities, Synergies, Indicative activities

The present call for proposals is open for one (1) of the Programme's Priority Axis as follows:

Priority Axis	01: A Competitive and Innovative Cross-Border Area
Thematic Objective	03: Enhancing the competitiveness of small and medium- sized enterprises
Investment priority	3a: Promoting entrepreneurship, in particular by facilitating the economic exploitation of new ideas and fostering the creation of new firms, including through business incubators

C. Available Budget

The total budget available for the present call is **7.000.000,00** € (of which 5.950.000,00 € ERDF and $1.050.000,00 \in$ National co-Financing).

D. Project size

The minimum budget of a single project proposal is \in 250.000,00, while the maximum budget is \in 700.000,00.

E. Duration

Projects should be concluded in a period of **two years (2)** from the signing of the Subsidy Contract.

F. Eligibility of expenditure

The starting date for eligible expenditure is 1/1/2014. The closing date of the eligibility period of the expenditure should be the end date of the subsidy contract in force. Under no circumstances the final date of eligibility of expenditure can exceed the 31^{st} of **December 2023**.

Eligibility rules on activities and related expenditure are set out in the Project Application Guidelines and in the Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) No 481/2014 of 4 March 2014 supplementing Regulation (EU) No 1299/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council with regard to specific rules on eligibility of expenditure for cooperation Programmes.

G. Eligible Partnerships

Information about the eligibility of partnerships is provided in the Indirect Assistance Guidelines.

For the proposals, a **Lead Beneficiary** shall be designated, with the capacity to start the implementation of the project as quickly as possible, to exploit the immediate results of the intervention, and to concentrate all available managerial, financing and know-how resources and focus them on the project.

H. How to apply - deadline

In order to submit a project proposal, the Applicant must refer to the Applicant's Package and the Indirect Assistance Guidelines and to all relevant documents for this call for proposals.

The Project Proposal must be submitted to the Programme's Managing Authority/ Joint Secretariat (JS) in 2 Phases. All necessary details are given in the Indirect Assistance Guidelines.

To facilitate applicants' familiarity with the electronic environment of the MIS, a platform to be used during Phase 2 of the evaluation, a model for the application form is attached, although it is not demanded to fill it in and submit it in paper version. The beneficiaries are strongly advised to fill in the template of the Application Form prior to inserting the relevant data onto the respective fields in the MIS.

The deadlines for submitting a project proposals are:

• For Phase 1

The proposal **must be submitted no later than the 06/09/2019 by 15:00 hours** local time (Eastern European standard time) in a single, sealed envelope. **Proof of timely submission is only the reference number at the register of the Managing Authority, which will be handed to the deliverer. No proposal submitted afterwards will be accepted.**

<u>ATTENTION:</u> The envelope/package with the Phase 1 documents must bear the following indications in English:

6th CALL FOR PROJECT PROPOSALS

INTERREG V-A "GREECE – BULGARIA 2014-2020

Axis:01

Investment Priority: 3a

Project Acronym: ...(fill in accordingly)...

Lead Beneficiary / address: ...(fill in accordingly)...

Envelope shall not be opened before the evaluation session.

For Phase 2

The proposal **must be submitted no later than 60 calendar days after the date of the notification letter with which the Managing Authority invites the partnership to submit its project proposal. No proposal submitted afterwards will be accepted.**

I. State Aid

In cases where, during the proposal submission and/or evaluation, it derives from the compatibility check that there are indications of State Aid, then the clauses of the Regulations of 1407/2013 (De Minimis) or 651/20141 (GBER) are applied.

J. Additional information

To obtain additional information on the project application procedure and project development, please contact:

Ministry of Economy and Development Managing Authority of the European Territorial Cooperation Programmes Address: 65, Georgikis Scholis Avenue, Pilea 57001 Thessaloniki, Greece Tel.: +30 2310 469 600, Fax: +30 2310 469 602 E-mail: interreg@mou.gr Ministry of Regional Development and Public Works Bulgarian National Authority Address: 9, "Stefan Karadja" str. 1202 Sofia, Bulgaria Tel.: +359 2 9405 592, Fax: +359 2 987 07 37 E-mail: <u>MObretenov@mrrb.government.bg</u>; <u>NA-GR-BG@mrrb.government.bg</u>

Joint Secretariat INTERREG V-A "GREECE – BULGARIA 2014-2020" Address: Zeda Building , 2nd floor

Address: Zeda Building , 2nd floor 65, Georgikis Scholis Av., 57001 Pylaia, Thessaloniki Tel.: +30 2310 469 695, Fax : +30 2310 469 623 E-mail: jts_grbg@mou.gr

All relevant information and documents shall be available at the Operational Programme's website www.greece-bulgaria.eu which is a key communication tool between the programme management bodies (MA, JS) and the potential beneficiaries.

MINISTRY OF ECONOMY AND DEVELOPEMENT

EVGENIA FOTONIATA

SPECIAL SECRETARY of ERDF & CF FUNDED SECTORAL OPs

<u>Annexes:</u>

The Applicants' Package contains the following documents and templates:

- 1. Call for Proposals and Project Application Guidelines;
- 2. Short Project Application;
- 3. Partnership Declaration;
- 4. Project detailed description;
- 5. Declaration of not generating revenues;
- 6. Declaration of non-distribution of profits;
- 7. State Aid Declaration;
- 8. Justification of Budget and Guidelines;
- 9. Programme and Project Implementation Manual;
- 10. Management and Information System (MIS) Manual;
- 11. Instructions to obtain an MIS username and manage the MIS account.
- 12. Application Form template