



5th Call:

«Grant scheme for supporting SMEs to grow and expand beyond local markets»

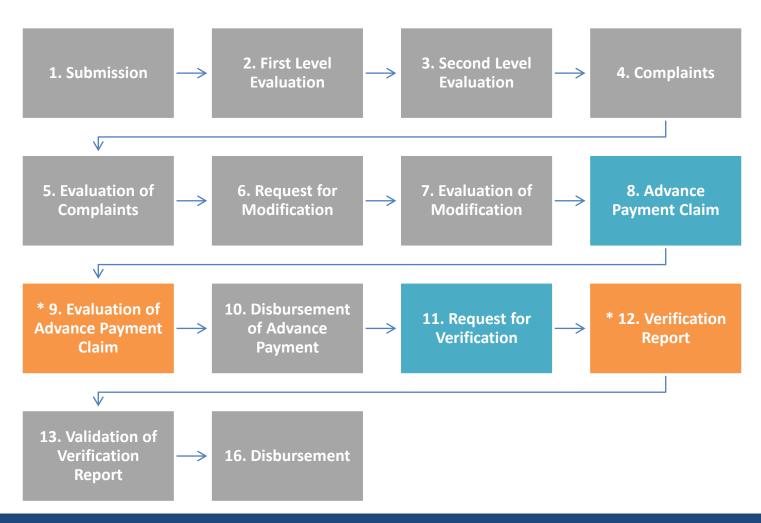
SAMIS presentation for First Level Controllers

September 2021



SAMIS: Modules or Actions

* In orange the activities to be carried out by the FLCs





Advance Payment

1

 Advance Payment Claim (by the LB/PB)

2

- Evaluation of Advance Payment Claim (by the First Level Controller)
- Read SAMIS MANUAL EVALUATION OF ADVANCE PAYMENT CLAIM

3

 Disbursement of Advance Payment (BG-Certifying Authority & GR-Regional Development Fund)



Advance Payment – Call info

- § 13.3.1 of the Direct Assistance Guidelines (check for latest version)
- up to 40% of the public assistance (grant) for each PB
- letter of guarantee for an equivalent amount or a promissory note (for BG enterprises) from a credit institution recognized for that purpose
 - No template provided by the JS/MA
 - Issued to: Greek Ministry of Development and Investments/Managing Authority of European Territorial Cooperation Programmes
 - > term of validity of an indefinite or a fixed expiration date (past the closing date for the investment's completion)*

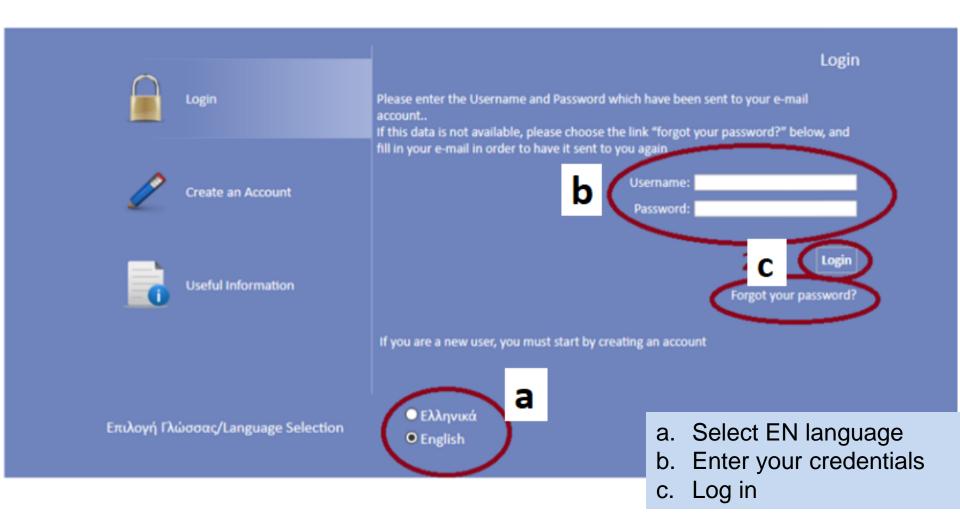


Advance Payment – Call Info

- Advance Payment Claim submitted <u>before</u> the 1st request for verification
- Advance payment is balanced out in the <u>interim payment</u> or the final payment of the project, if there is no interim payment.
- Submit on paper the required supporting documentation -Annex IX "REQUIRED DOCUMENTS FOR GRANT PAYMENTS" of the Call document
- The advance shall be covered by the costs paid by PB in connection with the project implementation; advance is justified by paid invoices or accounting documents of equivalent probative value within 3 years from the date of payment of the advance, and no later than 31 December, 2023.

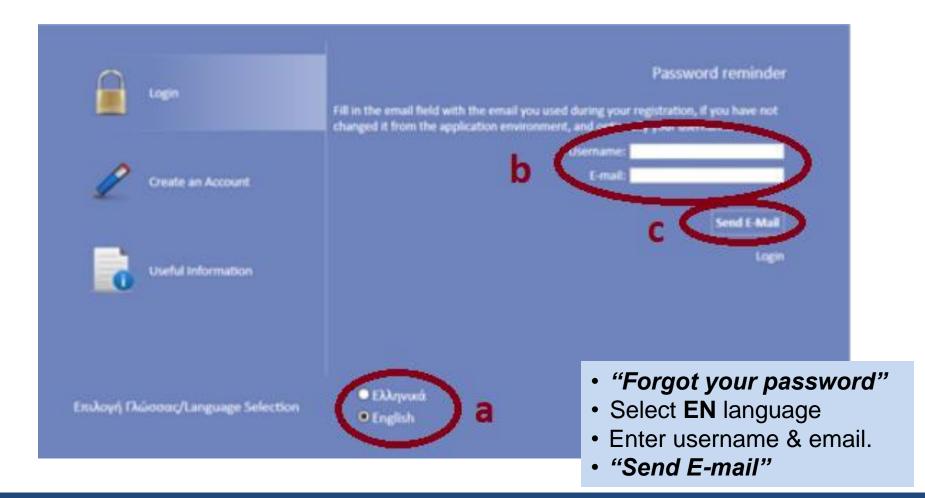


SAMIS: Login <u>link</u>

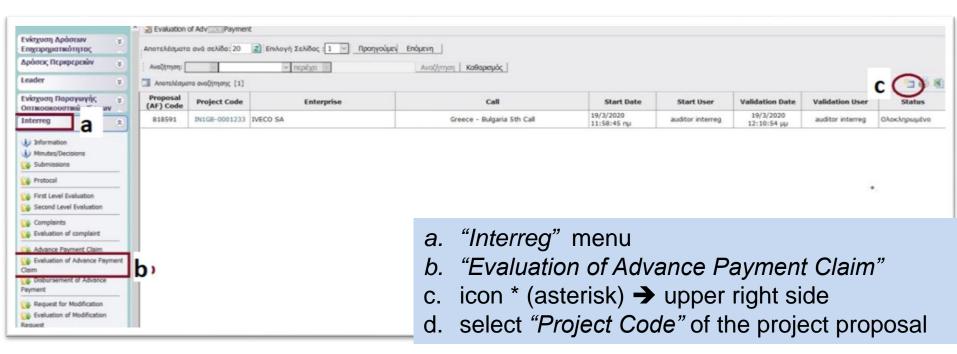




SAMIS: Forgot your password







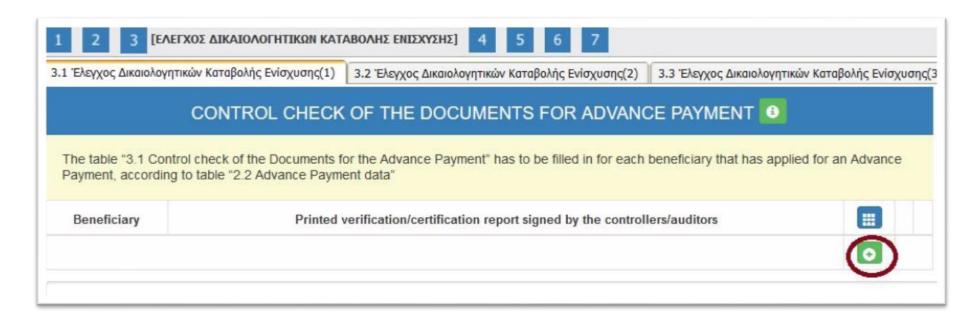




- Evaluation of an advance payment claim consists of seven (7) tabs/steps and each one has a number of subtabs.
- Tab No.1 informative
- Tab No.2
 - No.2.1 informative
 - No.2.2 & No.2.3 = main content of "advance payment claim", already filled in by the PB, <u>FLC has edit rights</u> if corrections, a justification must be provided.

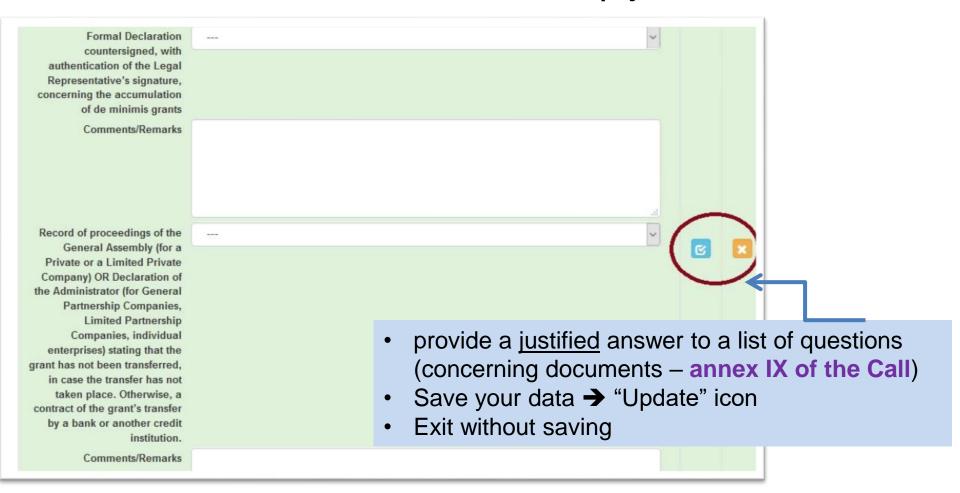


 Tab No.3 – only No.3.1 "Control check of the documents for advance payment" is applicable



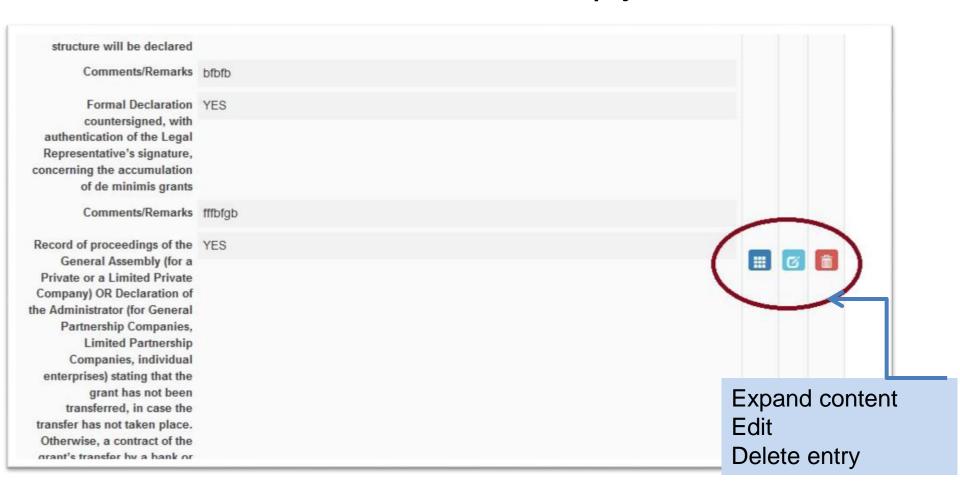


3.1 "Control check of the documents for advance payment"



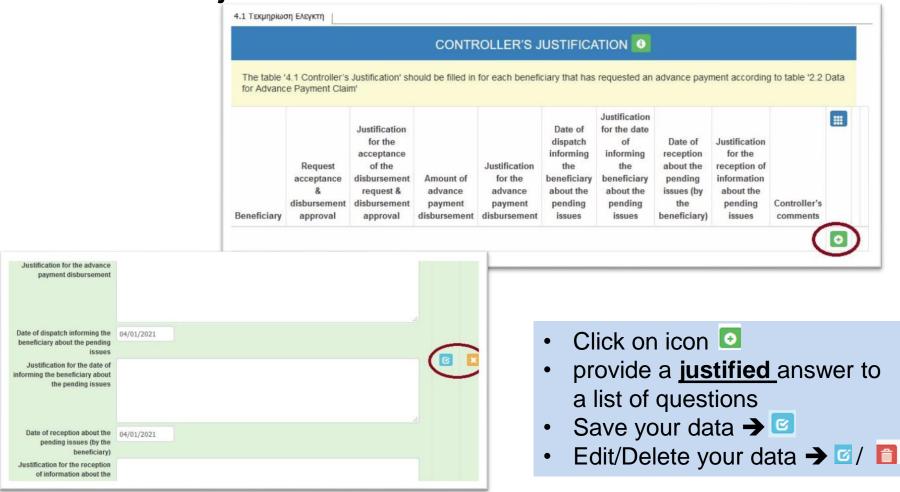


3.1 "Control check of the documents for advance payment"



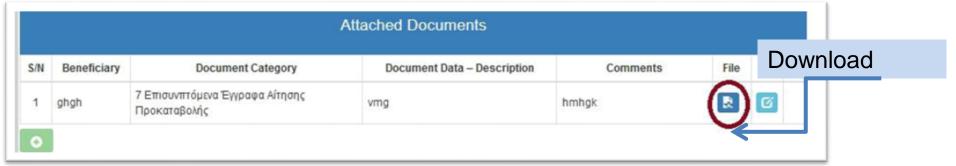


Tab 4.1 "Controller's justification"

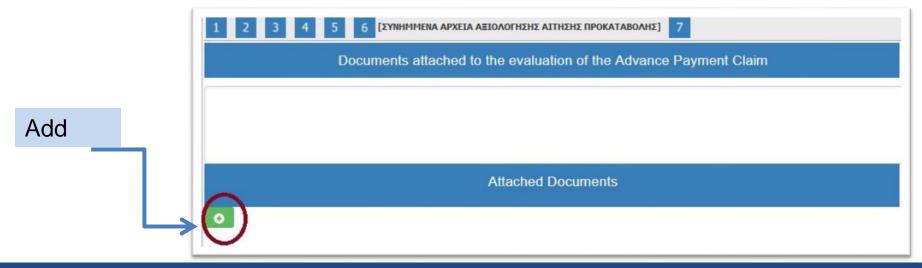




Tab No.5 - "Attached Documents" → PB's supporting documents for advance payment.

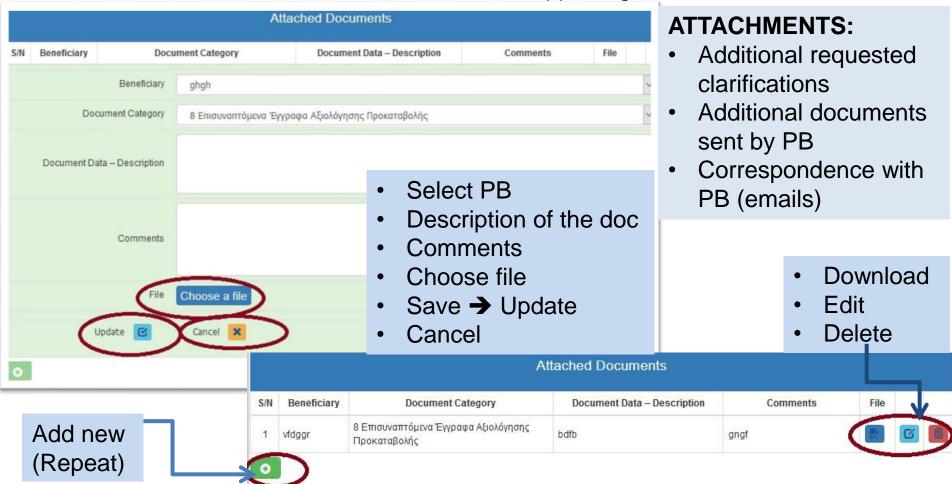


Tab No.6 - "Attached Documents" → FLC's supporting documents



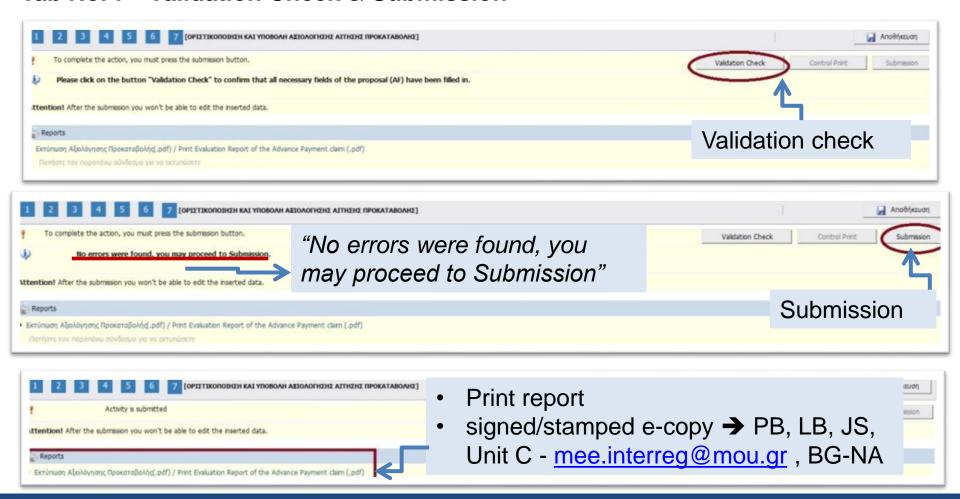


Tab No.6 - "Attached Documents" → **FLC's** supporting documents





Tab No. 7 - Validation Check & Submission





SAMIS: Advance Payment

- Requests for advance payment <u>cannot</u> be submitted later than the first request for verification.
- The FLC will receive by the PB a notification email with the report "Advance Payment Claim" generated by SAMIS attached (signed/stamped by the PB)
- The FLC has to enter in SAMIS and evaluate the PB's request.
- If additional clarifications are required, the FLC may request them from the PB by email. The correspondence as well as any additional documents sent by the PB, should be attached to SAMIS by the FLC (Tab No.6).
- An e-copy of the evaluation report generated by the system has to be sent signed/stamped to the PB, LB, JS; mee.interreg@mou.gr, Bulgarian NA for BG-PBs
- Read SAMIS MANUAL EVALUATION OF ADVANCE PAYMENT CLAIM



Module: Verification

1

 Request for Verification (by the PB)

7

- Verification Report (by the First Level Controller)
 - Objections (by the PB)
 - Evaluation of Objections (by the First Level Controller)
- Read SAMIS MANUAL VERIFICATION REPORT

3

Validation of the Verification (by the MA/JS)

6

Disbursement

 (by the Certifying Authority for BG-PBs & by the RDF for the GR-PBs)



Verification – Call info

- §13 of the <u>Direct Assistance Guidelines</u>
- § 13.3.2 Each PB may submit:
 - Min (1) request for verification/payment, at the closure of the project implementation to verify all his paid out expenditures, OR
 - Max (4) requests for verification/payment according to the following cases:

In case the PB requests for an advance payment:

- 1. advance payment ≤ 40% of PBs public assistance (grant)
- 2. interim verification ≥ 50% of PBs public assistance (grant)
- 3. interim verification ≥ 75% of PBs public assistance (grant)
- 4. last verification at the closure of the project.



Verification – Call info

In case the Project Beneficiary does not request for an advance payment

- interim verification ≥30% and ≤ 50% of PBs public assistance (grant)
- **2. interim** verification ≥ **50%** of PBs public assistance (grant)
- **3. interim** verification ≥ **75%** of PBs public assistance (grant)
- 4. last verification at the closure of the project.
- NOTE: the system does NOT perform control checks for these limits!!! The FLCs should check if the PB respects them.



Verification - Call info

After the first payment(Interim or final), the advance letter of guarantee is returned to the beneficiary.

Please note that

- For technical reasons in SAMIS all requests for verifications submitted by both project beneficiaries are considered "interim".
 The last request for verification submitted in SAMIS <u>at project</u> <u>level</u> is the final one.
- Each request for verification must be concluded in SAMIS, including reimbursement of the payment amount for the next one to start



Verification – Call info

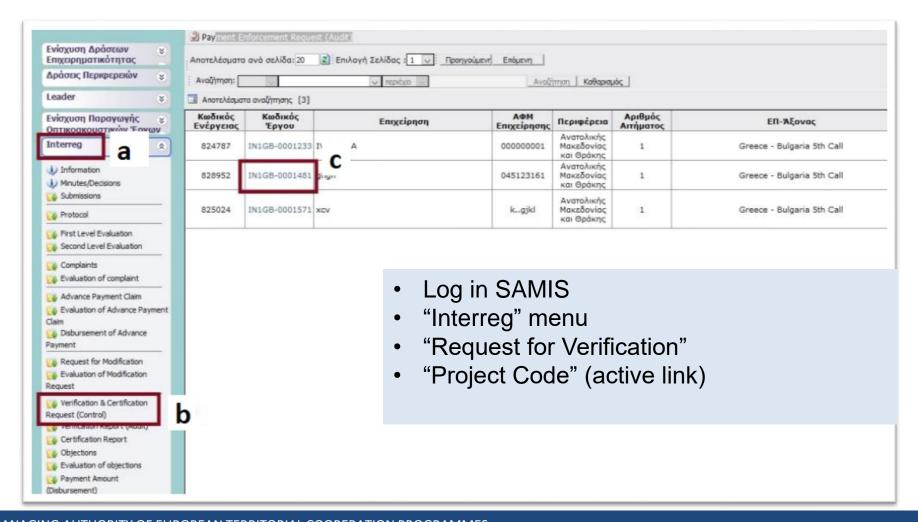
- All originals must be **stamped** with the following statement: «Cooperation Programme Greece-Bulgaria 2014-2020 / (project code and acronym of the project)».
- All project's supporting documentation must be kept for a period of <u>at least ten (10) years</u> after the last payment of the public grant has been received, and no less than the limitation period of the State's claim for repayment of sums unduly paid.
- Payment of the assistance is made in installments. Each installment corresponds to a specific percentage of the total approved grant.
- Supporting documents for the payment of a grant installment : Annex IX "REQUIRED DOCUMENTS FOR GRANT PAYMENTS"



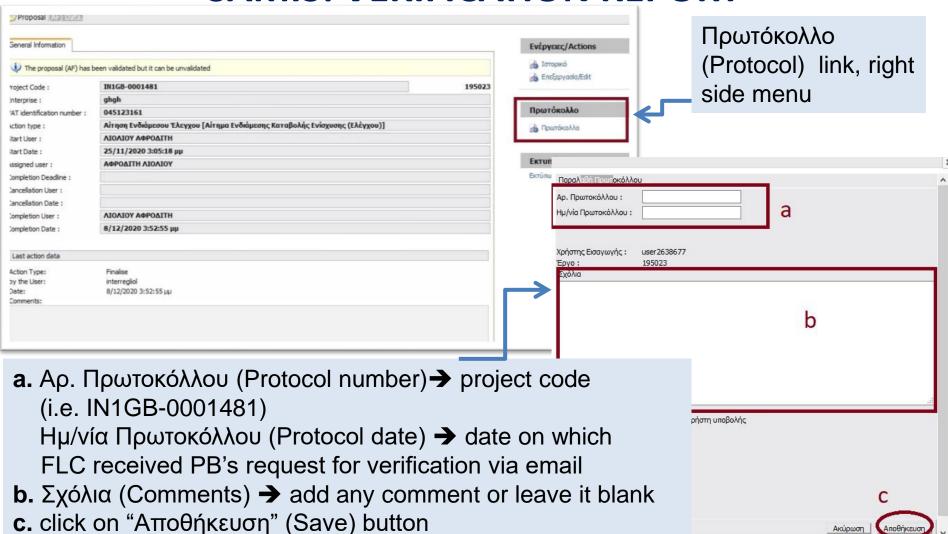
Verification – Call info

- The final payment is made to the aid recipient after (a) an on-site verification of the completion of the investment, and
 - (b) issuance of a Certificate of Completion of the investment.
- In cases where an **advance payment** has been made, in order not to exceed the aid intensity, grant payments and eligible expenses are valued (calculated) at the time the aid was granted (based on the official discount rate in force at the time the aid was granted). This calculation is made **before** the final installment -payment.

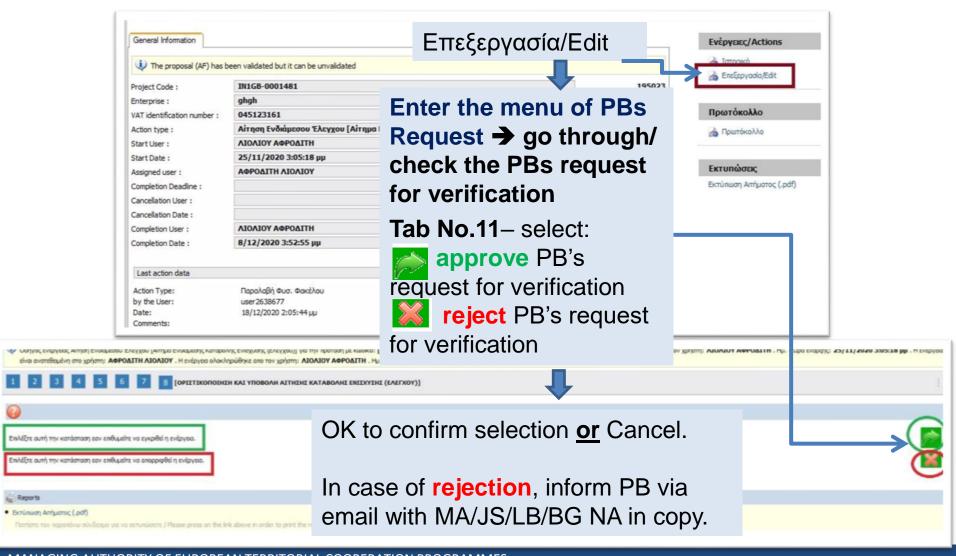




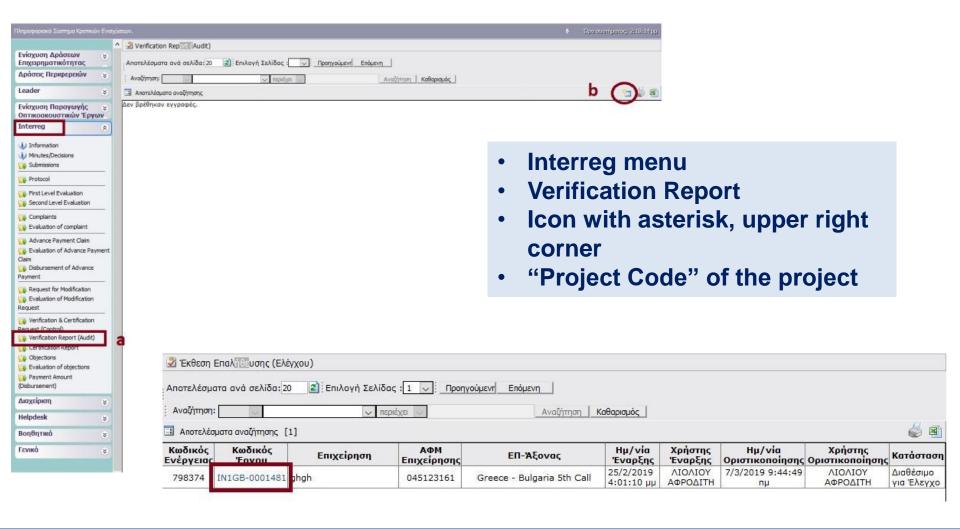














- Verification report menu consists of 13 tabs steps, each one has a number of subtabs
- Tabs 1-9 → the ones checked before approving PBs request, but with edit rights in case corrections are required
- Tab No.1 → 8 subtabs <u>without edit rights</u>, apart from 1.8 "Indicators" → modify/correct value of achieved indicator if required
- Tab No.2 not applicable.
- Tab No.3 → 3.1 "Investment's Implementation Modifications"
 & 3.2 "Investment's Implementation Physical Object",
 applicable & filled in by PB → FLC has edit rights for corrections,
 if needed (justification required)



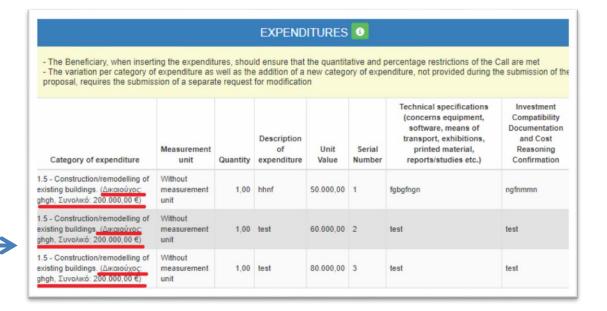
- Tab No.4 not applicable
- Tabs No.5 No.7 filled in by PB requesting for a verification (screens of verification request)
 - Tab 5 → Expenditures declared
 - Tab 6 → Invoices (linked to expenditures)
 - Tab 7 → Payments (linked to invoices)
- FLC has <u>edit rights</u> in these screens in case corrections are needed (<u>justification</u> mandatory)
- For more information on these screens → Request for verification MANUAL (for PBs)



ATTENTION:

The FLC should check/edit **ONLY** the data that concern the PB whose request is under examination.

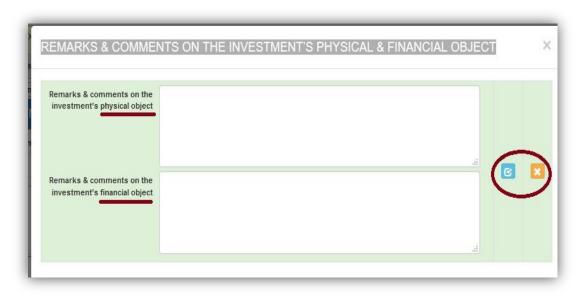
PBs name & the total amount of each expenditure are declared in the first column "Category of expenditure" of the table in tab 5.2.





Tabs No.8 consists of 3 subtabs:

- No.8.1 not applicable
- No.8.2 informative



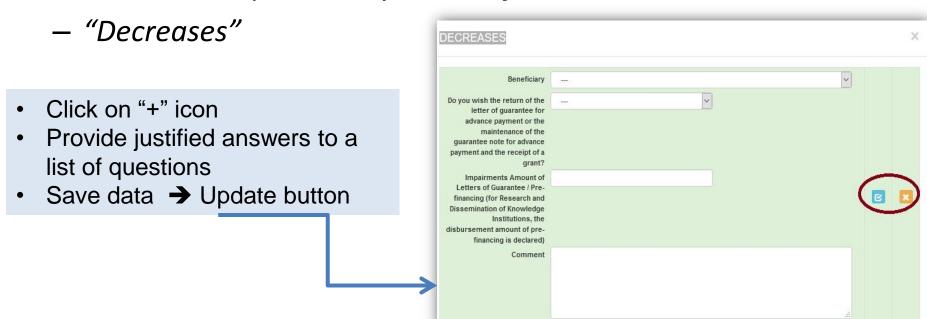
No.8.3 - "Remarks & comments on the investment's physical & financial object"

→ FLC has to add comments/remarks concerning the implementation of the project's physical & financial object, based on data declared by PB & FLCs judgment/verification



Tab No.9 consists of 4 subtabs

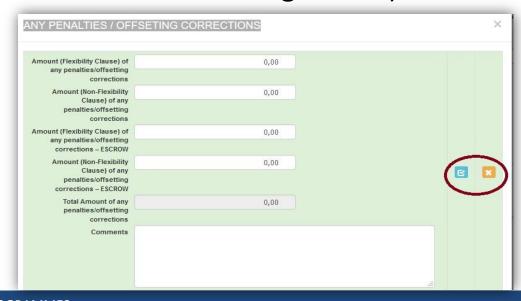
- No.9.1 → 2 tables filled in only in case the PB requesting for a verification has received an advance payment
 - "Guarantee/promissory notes information" informative





No.9.2 - "Any Penalties / Offseting Corrections" → to be filled in by the FLC, it concerns any financial corrections imposed that affect the final amount that the PB will receive (e.g. penalties according to the rules of the Call, corrections due to ineligible expenses that were found during the current verification or after the disbursement of previous payments that should be returned to the Programme)

- Click on "+" icon
- Insert amount of financial corrections (field: Amount (Flexibility Clause) of any penalties/offsetting corrections)
- Justify the correction performed (field: Comments)
- Save data → Update button





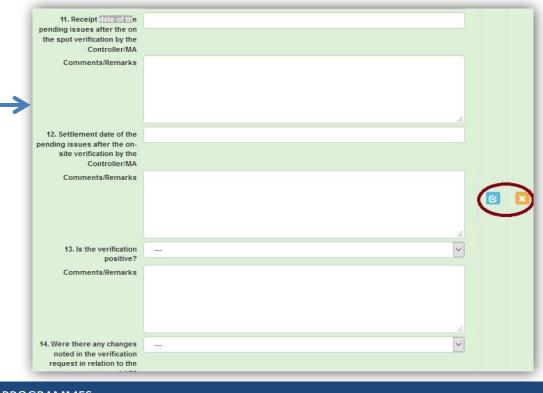
No.9.3 - "Aid / Grant Calculation" → informative

No.9.4 → not applicable

Tab No.10 - "Summary of interim verification" → main part of

the verification report

- Click on the "+" icon
- Provide a justified answer to a list of questions NOTE: If the verification is administrative → leave blank and do not activate questions concerning "on the spot" verification
- Save data → Update icon





Tab No.11 - "Attached documents" → supporting

documents submitted by the PB

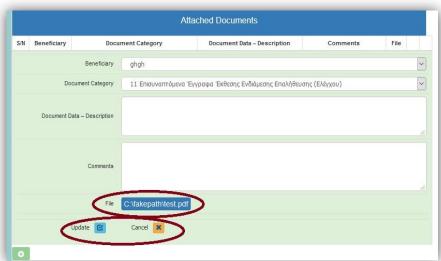


Tab No.12 - "Attached documents" → FLC's supporting

documents

ATTACHMENTS:

- Correspondence (emails) with PB requesting for clarifications
- additional documents /clarifications sent by the PB





Tab No.13 – Validation Check & Submission * ATTENTION







* ATTENTION:

1. Before submitting the verification report on SAMIS, the FLC must send via email the draft report generated by the system, signed, to: PB, LB, JS, mee.interreg@mou.gr and BG-NA (for BG BPs) informing the PB that s/he has the right to submit an objection to the result of the verification within the deadline defined by each PBs National Management & Control System (MCS).



- 2. PB has to submit his/hers **objection** along with all **supporting documents** justifying his/hers request, within the set deadline, via <u>email</u> to the controller. The supporting documents of the objection may be in the PBs national language.
- 3. The controller, after receiving the beneficiary's objection, has to evaluate it, perform any correction needed in SAMIS system, attach (in Tab 12) the correspondence with the PB and any additional document <u>BEFORE</u> submitting the final verification report.



4. After submission → to print/sign/ stamp the final submitted verification report, as it is generated by the system, and send it via email to: the PB, the LB (in case of a PB), the JS (Project Officer and JS Coordinator), Unit C of the MA (mee.interreg@mou.gr) and the Bulgarian NA (in case of Bulgarian PBs).



SAMIS: Request for Verification

- Requests for verification are submitted separately per PB in SAMIS and they cannot be submitted simultaneously by both PBs participating in the project. The action must be <u>completed</u> for one PB of the co-operative scheme before the second one submits his/hers request for verification and grant payment.
- When entering the costs, PBs should ensure that the quantitative and percentage restrictions of the Call are met.
- Budget increase/decrease per category of expenditures, as well as the addition of a new category of expenditure, not foreseen during the submission of the proposal, require the submission of a request for modification.

* Read SAMIS MANUAL -Verification Report



- In SAMIS, only one request for final verification can be submitted <u>at project level</u>, final request made for both PBs; all other – prior requests submitted in SAMIS should be declared as interim.
- PB that finishes his verifications first, enters his request as interim and attaches filled in/signed/stamped the word document "Final Request for Verification" - provided by the JS, along with all extra required documents for the closure of his verifications.



- Respectively, the FLC that will examine and verify this request (last request of the first PB that completes his payments in the project) will also have to fill in/ sign/stamp the word document "Final Verification Report" - provided by the JS - and attach it to SAMIS when submitting his last verification report (as interim).
- This verification report will have to also be uploaded in SAMIS by the FLC that will verify the LAST VERIFICATION at project level, in order for the project to be completed.



- final verification of the project → same procedure as for an interim with some additional tabs to be filled in:
- Tab No.3 → additional sub-tabs No.3.3 and No.3.4 → already filled in by the PB / FLC has edit rights in case corrections are needed (justification required)
- Tab No.10 → additional sub-tab No.10.2 "Final judgment on completion", to be filled in by the FLC → provide a justified answer to a list of questions concerning the project's completion
- NOTE: The FLC that performs the last verification of the project, has to attach in Tab No.12 the final report of the FLC that made the last verification for the other PB.



NOTE: The FLC that performs the last verification <u>of the project</u>, **BEFORE** submitting his report, has to attach in Tab No.12 the final report of the FLC that made the last verification for the other PB.





Thank you for your attention For further information, please contact:

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