



9th Regional CBC Consultative Forum

12 May 2023,

Hotel Izgrev, Struga,

North Macedonia

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Ministry of Local Self Government

Republic of North Macedonia

The IPA III CBC programme(-s) in relation to EU-IPA beneficiaries common policy: The Economic Investment Plan & Green Agenda

➤ 2021-2027 IPA – IPA CBC

Programme MK - AL (MoLSG - MK and State Agency for Strategic Programming and AID Coordination (ASPAC) - AL

Programme KS – MK

Programme RS – MK (2016-2020)

➤ Shared management

INTERREG programme BG - MK

INTERREG programme GR –MK

INTERREG Balkan - Mediterranean programme

The IPA III CBC programme(-s) in relation to EU-IPA beneficiaries common policy: The Economic Investment Plan & Green Agenda

Overall Objective

An environmentally friendly cross-border region with a sustainable tourism sector for the women and men living in it.

Thematic priorities:

- **TC 2: Greener and Improved resource efficiency.**
- **TP2: Environment protection, climate change adaptation and mitigation, risk prevention and management**
- **TC 4: Improved business environment and competitiveness.**
 - **TP5: Tourism and cultural and natural heritage;**
- **TC 5: Improved capacity of local and regional authorities to tackle local challenges.**
 - **TP7: Governance, planning and administrative capacity building of local and regional authorities;**

NB: For this programming period, a TP has been introduced, to be mainstreamed across the selected TPs of the Programme (2 and 5) and Technical Assistance,

TP 0: Technical Assistance.

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TP2: Environment protection, climate change adaptation and mitigation, risk prevention and management

- **SO1: Enhanced capacities of public services dealing with disaster response.**
- **SO2: Improved environmental protection of the cross-border region**

TP5: Tourism and cultural and natural heritage;

- **SO1: To strengthen sustainable natural and cultural heritage tourism in the programme area.**
- **SO2: Strengthening cultural cooperation, protection and enhancement of cultural and natural heritage.**

TP7: Governance, planning and administrative capacity building of local and regional authorities;

SO1: To strengthen local and regional governance by enhancing the institutional capacity of public authorities and to promote efficient public administration, with an aim to solve legal and other obstacles in border regions.

TP0: Technical Assistance (TA)

- **To support the work of the national operating structures (OSs) and of the joint monitoring committee (JMC) in ensuring the efficient set-up, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of the CBC programme, with an optimal use of resources, as well as to raise awareness of the programme amongst national, regional and local communities and, in general, the population in the eligible programme area.**

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• PRIORITIES	Union contribution	Beneficiary/ ies co-financing	Total funding	Rate per thematic priority
	(a)	(b)	(c) = (a)+(b)	(d) = (a)/(c)
Thematic Priority 1 — Environment protection, climate change adaptation and mitigation, risk prevention-and management (TP2)	5.355.000,00	945.000,00	6.300.000,00	45%
Thematic 2 – Tourism and cultural and natural heritage (TP5)	5.355. 000,00	945.000,00	6.300.000,00	45%
Thematic Priority 3 – Governance, planning and administrative capacity building of local and regional authorities (TP7)				
Technical Assistance (TP0)	1. 190. 000,00		1. 190. 000,00	10%
GRAND TOTAL	11.900.000,00	1.890.000,00	(e) 13.790.000,00	



Implementation of IPA CBC Programme MK-AL 2021-2027 : Contribution to the Economic Investment Plan

Economic and Investment Plan for the Western Balkans identifies 10 investment flagships which aims to spur the long-term recovery of the region, a green and digital transition, foster economic regional cooperation and boost economic growth and support reforms required to move forward on the EU path.

- Decision making procedures, and the performance-based and reform-oriented approach of the IPA III might contribute to the Final decisions on indicative project and funding proposals set out in this plan.
- **Successful regional economic integration that will help pave the way to a deeper economic integration with the EU single market**
- EU expectations from the region to remove barriers to trade within the region: currently the Western Balkans suffer too much from economic fragmentation
- **To Building high quality of public administration with strong capacity in order to identify, priorities, develop and manage future oriented infrastructure and their strategic investment projects**
- Strengthening capacity of the partners / stakeholders regarding the EU public procurement rules and enhanced transparency and oversight in particular for the sound financial management of major public investments
- **Establishing cooperation among the partners in the region as well as with the EU is essential to address specific security challenges, such as countering terrorism and extremism, money laundering, illicit trafficking of weapons, human trafficking and migrant smuggling .**

FLAGSHIP 4 – RENEWABLE ENERGY

- Hydro Power Plant rehabilitation in Albania **and** wind park and solar power plant investments in North Macedonia

FLAGSHIP 7 – Waste and wastewater management :

- Integrated regional waste management systems in Albania, Montenegro, North Macedonia and Serbia, going hand-in-hand with the closure of non-compliant landfills, will be established. Similar investments elsewhere in the region should also be supported in the future, including better management of waste in cross-border areas.



Implementation of the IPA CBC Programme MK-AL 2021-2027 : Contribution to the Green Agenda

- **The Programme will ensure coherence with the Green Agenda for the Western Balkans according to its Guidelines for Implementation of the Green Agenda for the Western Balkans.**
- **Out of the five pillars of the Green Agenda, three of them have a special relevance for possible CBC operations, namely:**
 - **(1) climate action, including decarbonisation, energy and mobility,**
 - **(3) biodiversity, aiming to protect and restore the natural wealth of the region, and**
 - **(5) sustainable food systems and rural areas.**

CBC Programme initiatives that will match the purposes of the Green Agenda:

- **Measures envisaged in the programme to increase the capacity of regional and local authorities to tackle local challenges will encompass the field of environmental governance;**
- **Initiatives dealing with preparation and implementation of long-term climate adaptation strategies to increase resilience, notably through climate proofing of investments;**
- **Assist in adapting to the consequences of climate change, which may result in water scarcity and extreme climate events, such as floods;**
- **Initiatives combating land degradation and restoring degraded land for sustainable food production, improving sustainable forest management, soil organic carbon management, ecosystem conservation and land restoration, reducing biodiversity loss (deforestation and degradation);**
- **Initiatives concerned with alignment of the agri-food and primary production sectors with EU standards for food safety, plant and animal health and welfare;**
- **Initiatives dealing with the increase of dramatic forest fires in the CBC region and pest and disease outbreaks require better risk prevention in sustainable forest management and land use;**



Implementation of the IPA CBC programme MK-AL 2021-2027 : Contribution to the Economic Investment Plan & Green Agenda

What could be the main challenges

- **Current capacity of regional and local authorities to tackle local challenges in the field of environmental governance;**
- **Food processing establishments into conformity with EU standards while the demand for food in the region is increasing – both in terms of quantity and quality;**
- **Building close inter-institutional relations and private sector networks between each other to develop good governance in the forest sector and reduce the risk of illegal timber exports to the EU;**
- **Reforms of the education systems and the provision of capacity building to guarantee that people are equipped and prepared for the labour market and society of tomorrow;**
- **Ability to predict and manage environmental disasters;**
- **An effective coordination and a strong ownership combined with the good will of the national authorities of the IPA III beneficiaries to friendly dispel and solve any dispute and/or misunderstanding affecting the smooth implementation of the programme. Governmental changes should have no impact in this respect;**
- **Create the necessary working conditions to ensure the continuity and professional development of staff within all management structures of the programme;**
- **To ensure Western Balkan partners that fraud, corruption, money laundering, and misappropriation are addressed, with effective, dissuasive and proportionate criminal sanctions;**
- **Overlapping between INTERREG Programmes and bilateral CBC programme;**



Thank you!!!