





# Interreg - IPA CBC

Citizen's **2017** 



## ABOUT THE SUMMARY

#### The Summary is focused on the following topics

- Brief Programme description
- Implementation of the projects under the First Call for proposals
- Main events in 2017/European Cooperation Day
- Publicity

The current document aims to describe in a concise and illustrative way the main achievements of the Interreg-IPA Cross-border Cooperation Programme Bulgaria-Serbia in 2017. The complete Annual implementation report for 2017 is now available at the Programme website: www.ipacbc-bgrs.eu.

## THE PROGRAMME

#### **Programme goal**

To stimulate the balanced and sustainable development of the Bulgaria-Serbia border region integrated in the European space - achieved through smart economic growth, environmental change adaptation and learning culture enhancement.

## **Programme Budget**

The total Programme budget is **34 102 256 euro**.

The Programme is co-funded by the European Union, from the Instrument for Pre-Accession Assistance II (IPA II) fund.

## **Priority Axes**

## **Priority Axis 1: Sustainable Tourism**



Encouraging **tourism** and cultural and natural heritage **Priority Axis 2: Youths** 



Investing in youths, education and skills

#### **Priority Axis 3: Environment**



Protecting the **environment** and promoting climate change adaptation and mitigation, risk prevention and management





## IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PROJECTS UNDER THE 1st CALL

Priority Axis	Number of funded proposals	Contracted amount (€)
PA 1 - Sustainable Tourism	15	7 435 621
PA 2 - Youths	12	4 559 854
PA 3 - Environment	12	6 503 691
Total	39	18 499 166

- Scope an analysis prepared in 2017 for the expected level of achievement of Programme's output indicators gives assurance that most of the milestones and targets included in the performance framework for 2018 will be met through the implementation of the First Call projects.
- Promotional and training activities the progress of implementation for the projects was promoted through the Programme website, social media platforms, as well as on numerous informative websites. Two trainings on Beneficiary portal for the project management team members were organized in 2017.
- MIS and the Beneficiary Portal in 2017 both were fully operational ensuring electronic data exchange between the Programme and the beneficiaries for the purposes of project monitoring, evaluation, financial management, verification and audit

## Basic facts about the 1st Call for project proposals:

- Total number of financed projects after successful completion of the pre-contracting procedures with the selected projects until the end of the year 2017 the concluded subsidy contracts numbers **39**.
- Successfully Implemented projects at the end of 2017 1 project from PA 1, titled "Promotion of the tourist attractions through interactive exhibition of cultural historical heritage of the cross-border region" and 1 project from PA 2— "Virtual Enterprises".
- Available budget with the financed additional projects, placed highest on the reserves lists of the respective Priority Axis, the total contracted amount under the 1st Call for proposals is EUR 18 499 166.

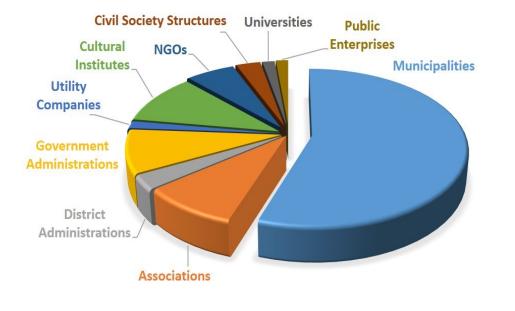


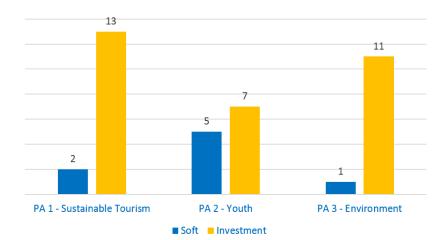


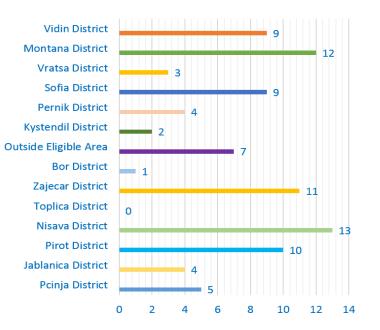
## FIRST CALL FOR PROPOSALS - actual information

#### Basic facts after financing the additional projects financed

- The majority of the projects are investment proposals.
- The Lead partners (LPs) of the contracted projects are distributed as follows: 23 LPs from Bulgaria and 16 LPs from Serbia.
- The most presented partnership organisations are the municipalities, followed by cultural institutes, government administrations and associations.









## **EVENTS ORGANISED IN 2017**

**The 4th Joint Monitoring Committee meeting** was held on 23 May 2017, in Nis, Serbia.

The JMC members were informed of the progress of implementation of the Interreg-IPA CBC Programme Bulgaria - Serbia 2014-2020 and the state of play under the Closure process of programming period 2007-2013.

The participants had the chance to discuss the concept, key elements and timeline for the Second Call for proposals.

The JMC members reviewed and approved the following documents during the meeting:

- The 2016 Annual Implementation Report
- The Citizen's summary for 2016





#### Two trainings for beneficiaries on Beneficiary Portal

Two trainings on Beneficiary portal, for the management team members of projects funded under the First call of Interreg-IPA Cross-border cooperation Programme Bulgaria – Serbia, were held in Serbia, in Nis, on January 17th and 18th 2017, and were attended by 62 participants. Lecturer for the training was a representative of the Managing Authority.

The trainings covered several topics related to insertion of data in the Beneficiary portal, like procurement, tender announcement and contract information; list of contractors, individual data; invoices and invoice items; invoice reports and request for payments; project progress report.



## EUROPEAN COOPERATION DAY



In 2017 the Programme continued its 5-year tradition to mark the European Cooperation Day .

A "Cross-border Crafts Fair" under the motto "To go far, go together" was held on 30.09.2017 in Pernik, Bulgaria.



Artisans from the cross-border region, presented handmade embroidery, knitting, woodcarving, stained glass, leather and clay, decorations, knives of Damascus steel and many others. The guests of the event were able to take part in the main attraction of the fest – demonstrations of showing how its artefacts are created.



## PROGRAMME WEBSITE AND SOCIAL MEDIA PAGES

www.ipacbc-bgrs.eu

In 2017 high number of website visits was registered - 10 268 times by 2345 visitors, 1576 out of which were new visitors.

In order to reach wider audience and ensure transparency of the Programme, both social media pages: Facebook and Twitter (already created in January 2015) have been continuously maintained and updated. The use of social media for promotion of the Programme has proven to be a very efficient and cost-effective. The Programme Facebook page reached 2950 likes in 2017.

MIS and the Beneficiary Portal - led to improved communication between the beneficiaries and all Programme authorities

#### The home page of the Programme website

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## The section "Call for proposals" at the website

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home > calls for proposals > 1	first call > Implementation stage				
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#### Programme page on Facebook



#### www.facebook.com/bgrsipacbceu



виртуален 3D музей, който ще бъде представен на 20 април тази година

## PROGRAMME MEDIA CAMPAIGN AND MEDIA COVERAGE

Press releases were distributed to national, regional and local media before and after the programme events and initiatives.

During the European Cooperation Day 2017, one audio advertisement spot was broadcasted on regional radio stations aiming to inform the large audience in cross-border region on the celebration campaign.

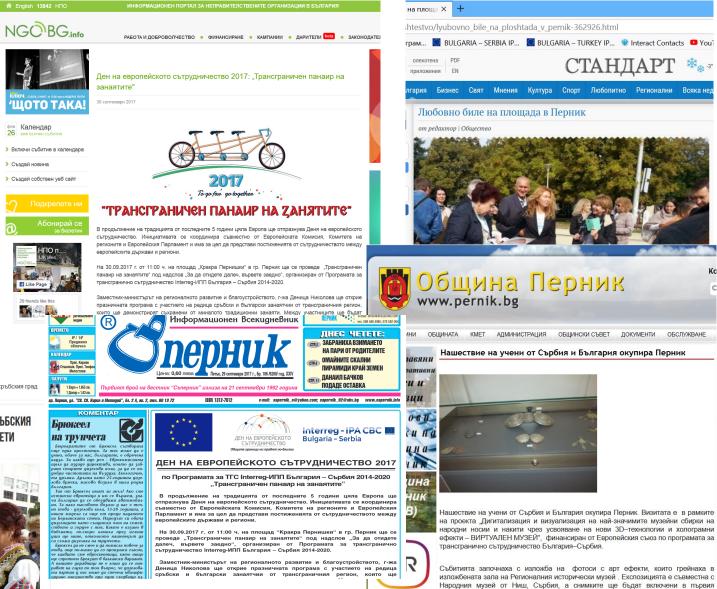


Начало / Култура и образование / 25 майстори от Перник, Радомир, Драгоман, София и сръбския град ниш показаха уникални ръчно изработени предмети

#### 25 МАЙСТОРИ ОТ ПЕРНИК, РАДОМИР, ДРАГОМАН, СОФИЯ И СРЪБСКИЯ Град ниш показаха уникални ръчно изработени предмети

О 30 септември 2017 г. Култура и образование 😞 Оставете коментар









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