Annex II

ANNUAL IMPLEMENTATION REPORT 2014-2015 of the INTERREG - IPA CBC Romania - Republic of Serbia Programme

CITIZENS SUMMARY

May 2016

1. OVERVIEW OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PROGRAMME

The programme has been drafted based on **lessons learned** and **past experiences** from the previous programming periods with an effort to **capitalize the results** of projects financed under different frameworks. Also the identification of the most relevant fields and **focusing the intervention** was the result of the appraisal of relation between **challenges and needs** and objectives for **smart**, **sustainable and integrative growth**.

The Programme was officially submitted to the European Commission on **26 September 2014** and re-submitted as revised version following the comments received from the EC services on 31 March 2015. The Programme was officially approved on **6 August 2015** under the **Commission Decision no. 5667**.

The programme was officially launched on the **15 September 2015** together with the launching event of first call for proposals. With this occasion a Conference was organized in the eligible area, in order to better promote the funding opportunities under the Programme.

As the documents needed for the start of programme implementation were already drafted before the programme adoption, the **first JMC meeting** was held on **13-14 August 2015** during which the following documents have been approved: the *Rules of Procedure* of the JMC, the Technical Assistance Multi-Annual Strategy, the Communication Strategy, the Description of management and control systems, the Applicant Guidelines for the first call for proposals, including for the strategic projects, the procedure for evaluation, selection and contracting of projects.

Based on the Applicant Guidelines approved by the JMC, the first call for proposals within the Programme was launched on the **15 September 2015** and the information campaign took place until December 2015. The deadline for submission of projects was 1.02.2016 respectively 15.03.2016 for strategic projects.

Before and after the launch of the call for proposals **4 Partner Search Forums** have been organized. These events gathered a number of **397 potential beneficiaries**.

- 26 August 2015 in Vrsac, Serbia dedicated for the identification of partners interested in participating in project within **Priority Axis 1**. This event was attended by 146 potential beneficiaries;
- 28 August 2015 in Drobeta Turnu Severin, Romania dedicated for the identification of partners interested in participating in project within Priority Axis
 2. This event was attended by 81 potential beneficiaries;
- **7 September 2015** in Smederevo, Serbia, dedicated for the identification of partners interested in participating in project within **Priority Axis 3**. This event was attended by **42 potential beneficiaries**;
- **11 September 2015** in Reșița, România dedicated for the identification of partners interested in participating in project within **Priority Axis 4**. This event was attended by **128 potential beneficiaries**;

The Partner Search Forums were followed by **13 info-days** dedicated to the potential beneficiaries. These events gathered a number of **735 potential beneficiaries**.

- The info-day held on **06 October 2015** in Drobeta Turnu Severin, Romania was attended by **77 potential beneficiaries**;
- The info-day held on **08 October 2015** in Negotin, Serbia was attended by **48** potential beneficiaries;
- The info-day held on **13 October 2015** in Reșița, Romania was attended by **57** potential beneficiaries;
- The info-day held on **15 October 2015** in Zrenjanin, Serbia was attended by **66** potential beneficiaries;
- The info-day held on **20 October 2015** in Timișoara, Romania was attended by **87** potential beneficiaries;
- The info-day held on **22 October 2015** in Pancevo, Serbia was attended by **61** potential beneficiaries;
- The info-day held on **3 November 2015** in Resita, Romania was attended by **52** potential beneficiaries;
- The info-day held on **5 November 2015** in Smederevo, Serbia was attended by **41** potential beneficiaries;
- The info-day held on **10 November 2015** in Timisoara, Romania was attended by **86 potential beneficiaries**;
- The info-day held on **12 November 2015** in Kikinda, Serbia was attended by **64** potential beneficiaries;
- The info-day held on **17 November 2015** in Drobeta Turnu-Severin was attended by **55 potential beneficiaries**;
- The info-day held on **19 November 2015** in Veliko Gradiste, Serbia was attended by **41 potential beneficiaries**;

The questions and answers from these events have been posted on the programme website.

All these events were organized and held by the Joint Secretariat, Managing Authority and Serbian National Authority.

- The info-day held on **22 December 2015** in Zrenjanin, Serbia was attended by **30** potential beneficiaries;
- The info-day held on **24 December 2015** in Golubac, Serbia was attended by **35** potential beneficiaries;

The questions and answers from these events have been posted on the programme website: <u>www.romania-serbia.net</u>.

These events were held by the Joint Secretariat Antenna and Serbian National Authority.

Technical Assistance Priority Axis implementation

An implementation agreement was signed on 22 May 2015, between the Ministry of Regional Development and Public Administration and the Regional Office for Cross Border

Cooperation Timisoara, hosting the Joint Secretariat (JTS) and the first level control unit (FLCU) for Romanian partners.

One global financing decision for the MA and one financing contract with the ROCBC TM related to technical assistance activities were signed in December 2015.

2. IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PRIORITY AXES

ID	Priority axis	Key information on the implementation of the priority axis with reference to key developments,					
		significant problems and steps taken to address these problems ¹					
	Priority Axis 1 (TP a) Employment promotion and services for an inclusive growth	 On the 15 September 2015 the first call for proposals was launched covering 6,391,029 Euro from the total allocation of this Priority Axis On the 15 September 2015 the first call for proposals for strategic projects was launched with 					
	Priority Axis 2 (TP b): Environmental protection and risk management	 no separate allocation for the priority axis. On the 15 September 2015 the first call for proposals was launched covering 7,431,442 Euro from the total allocation of this Priority Axis On the 15 September 2015 the first call for proposals for strategic projects was launched with no separate allocation for the priority axis. 					
	Priority Axis 3 (TP c): Sustainable mobility and accessibility	 On the 15 September 2015 the first call for proposals was launched covering 7,431,442 Euro from the total allocation of this Priority Axis On the 15 September 2015 the first call for proposals for strategic projects was launched with no separate allocation for the priority axis. 					
	Priority Axis 4 (TP d) Attractiveness for sustainable tourism	 On the 15 September 2015 the first call for proposals was launched covering 6,613,993 Euro from the total allocation of this Priority Axis On the 15 September 2015 the first call for proposals for strategic projects was launched with no separate allocation for the priority axis. 					
	Priority Axis 5: technical assistance.	 Technical Assistance Strategy was approved by JMC; Global Financing Decision for AM covering 2015-2018 was approved; Financing contract with ROCBC TM was signed. 					

¹ Boxes will be filled as the selection and implementation of projects for each priority axis starting with 2017

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3. Financing plan

	support	Union support (a)	National counterpart Indicative bro			Total funding	Co- financing rate	For information	
Priority axis	(Total eligible cost)	(a)	(b) = (c) + (d))	the national counterpart		(e) = (a) + (b)	(f) = (a)/(e) (2)		
				National Public funding (c)	National private funding (d) (1)			Contributi ons from third countries	EIB contribu tions
Priority axis 1 -									
Employment promotion									
and services for an inclusive growth	18,188,970	15,460,624	2,728,346	2,364,566	363,780	18,188,970	85.00%		
Priority axis 2 -	10,100,770	13,100,021	2,720,510	2,301,300	505,700	10,100,770	03.00/0		
Environmental									
protection and risk	21,150,000	17,977,500	2 172 500	2,749,500	423,000	21,150,000	85.00%		
management Priority axis 3 -	21,150,000	17,977,500	3,172,500	2,749,500	423,000	21,150,000	65.00%		
Sustainable mobility									
and accessibility	21,150,000	17,977,500	3,172,500	2,749,500	423,000	21,150,000	85.00%		
Priority axis 4 - Attractiveness for									
sustainable tourism	18,823,530	16,000,000	2,823,530	2,447,058	376,472	18,823,530	85.00%		
Priority axis 5	8,812,499	7,490,624	1,321,875	1,321,875	0	8,812,499	85.00%		
Total	88,124,999	74,906,248	13,218,751	11,632,499	1,586,252	88,124,999	85.00%		