



Republic of Bulgaria
Ministry of Regional Development
Directorate General „Territorial Cooperation Management”

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN

18 February 2014

Subject: Invitation to the first round of regional consultations for preparation of Bulgaria - the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia IPA cross-border programme 2014 – 2020

DEAR MADAM / SIR,

The preparation of Bulgaria - the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia IPA cross-border programme 2014 - 2020 has entered on its essential stage, where the views of stakeholders related to the specific cross-border needs and perspectives will contribute to the thematic concentration of the new programme.

A situation and SWOT analyses of the programme area have been elaborated by the programming experts from the Project Planning and Management Consortium under the service contract for programme preparation, EuropeAid/133413/D/SER/Multi - Lot 2.

The results of the analyses and the proposed thematic priorities for the future cross-border programme will be presented at five regional consultative forums that will take place in Strumica, Stip, Kumanovo, Kyustendil and Blagoevgrad in the period between 26 February and 07 March 2014.

In this regard, I would like to kindly invite representatives of regional and local authorities, territorial units of national administration, civil society organisations, universities, schools, community centres, economic and social partners and other that might be interested to take part in the regional consultations.

Stakeholders' involvement in the first round of regional consultative forums is essential for the programming process and thus will enable the new programme to adequately respond to the real territorial needs and expectations of the regions.

Thank you in advance for your participation!

Yours sincerely,

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