Европейско териториално сътрудничество

ИПП Програми за транс-гранично сътрудничество (външни граници)

Cross-Border Cooperation
Programme Co-Funded by the
Instrument for Pre-Accession
Assistance CCI Number
2007CB16IPO007

Call for Proposals Nº 2007CB16IPO007 - 2009 - 1



Financial Resources

❖ Total amount of funding, allocated for this Call for Proposals (allocation for 2007-2008) - allocation

Priority Axis	EU Funding, EUR	National Financing, EUR	Total Funding, EUR
Priority Axis 1	1 560 846	257 444	1 836 290
Priority Axis 2	1 951 058	344 305	2 295 362
Total	3 511 904	619 749	4 131 652

State budget contributions from both states



Projects must have direct impact on the cross-border region and at the same time satisfy at least one of the following conditions:

- Joint Development the project must be developed jointly by the [partners from both sides of the border;
- ❖ <u>Joint Implementation</u> activities should be implemented and coordinated between the partners from both sides of the border;
- ❖ <u>Joint Staffing</u> the staff will be responsible for the implementation of the project activities on both sides of the border;
- ❖ <u>Joint Financing</u> there will be single budget for the project that has to be divided among the partners, in accordance with the implemented activities.

Projects meeting more than one of the above conditions be stimulated in the assessment process!

Number of Proposals from One Applicant

In line with the current Call for Proposals, one institution/ organization can apply only for one project proposal as a Lead Partner;

If a given institution/ organization applies with more than one project proposal in the capacity of Lead Partner, all project proposals will be eliminated during the administrative check;

The institution/ organization has the right to participate in other projects but only as a <u>project partner</u>.



In order to correspond to the requirements for funding of the programme, each project must meet three types of criteria:

Eligibility of applicants;

Eligibility of activities;

❖ Eligibility of **expenditures**.



- All participating partners must meet each of the following criteria:
 - To be legal entities;
 - To be located in the eligible cross-border region;
 - To be non-profit organizations;
 - ❖ To be directly responsible for the preparation and management of the project with their partners and not act as intermediaries;
 - ❖ To not be affected by potential conflict of interests with the joint structures of the Programme (Managing authority, Naitonal Partner Authority, Certifying Authority, Audit Authority, Joint Monitoring Committee, and Joint Technical Secretariat). Provided that during the process of implementation, a conflict of interests occurs, the beneficiary must inform the Managing Authority immediately.
- ❖ Political parties/ organizations and for profit organizations are not eligible for participation neither as Lead Partners, nor as partners!



- Each project must have <u>at least one partner from each country from the border region</u>. Projects which do not fulfil this requirement will not be funded;
- ❖ All partners are directly responsible for the implementation of the project and <u>can not act as intermediaries</u>;
- ❖ Lead Partner Concept: a Lead Partener (LP) is appointed among the partners before the submission of the project proposal. The Lead Partner is responsible for the development and submission of the project proposal and signs the grant contract with the Managing Authority;



- The Lead Partner must be registered in the eligible border region for <u>at</u> least 12 months before the deadline for submission of project proposals for the current call for proposals.
- ❖ If the Lead Partner is a local/ regional structure, which is not a legal person and cannot be registered as one, <u>its central organization – registered as a</u> <u>legal entity must be lead partner</u>.



All project partners must sign <u>a draft partnership agreement with the Lead</u> <u>Partner</u> defining their rights and obligations.

❖ The Lead Partner, on behalf of all partners must sign a "<u>Declaration of</u> <u>Eligibility</u>", stating that all project partners, including the Lead Partner are not a subject to circumstances, leading to their disqualification.

❖ The maximum number of partners within a project is 10, including the Lead Partner!



- All partners have to prove their financial and administrative capacities for managing the project by:
- ensuring temporary availability of funds from own/third sources <u>until they are</u> reimbursed by the programme;
- covering all <u>non-eligible expenditure and additional expenditures</u>, either declared in the application form or identified as such by the programme authorities during the evaluation and implementation of projects.
- be experienced and able to demonstrate their capacity to <u>manage their</u> <u>share of activities of the project</u> for which the grant is requested (see AF, part 1);



- The current Call for Proposals funds two types of projects:
- Non-investment ("soft") aiming at developing studies, workshops, seminars and exchanges of experience; in addition feasibility studies or other types of technical documentation shall be financed under this call for proposals
- Investment, including "soft" measures.
- No "two-phase" (two-component), (project design component/phase and works/construction component/phase) projects are to be funded!
- ❖ In case of investment projects including "soft measures", expenditures for investment support activities must form at least 70 % of total eligible costs.



Location: Project activities must be implemented in the **eligible region** of both participating countries:

For



- •District of Blagoevgrad: 14 municipalities Bansko, Belica, Blagoevgrad, Gotce Delchev, Garmen, Kresna, Petrich, Razlog, Sandanski, Satovcha, Simitli, Strumiani, Hadjidimovo, Yakoruda;
- •District of Kyustendil: 9 municipalities Bobovdol, Boboshevo, Dupnitza, Kocherinovo, Kyustendil, Nevestino, Rila, Sapareva Banya, Trekliano.

For

- •North-East region: 6 municipalities Kratovo, Kriva Palanka, Rankovce, Kumanovo, Lipkovo and Staro Nagoricane;
- •South-East region: 10 municipalities Valandovo, Gevgelija, Bogdanci, Dojran, Radovis, Konce, Strumica, Bosilovo, Vasilevo and Novo Selo;
- •East region: 11 municipalities Berovo, Pehcevo, Vinica, Kocani, Cesinovo Oblesevo, Zrnovci, Probistip, Stip, Karbinci, Delcevo and Makedonska Kamenica.

Period of Implementation and Budget Limitations

Priority Axis	Field of Intervention	Type of Measure	Grant Amount (EUR)	Duration of the Project (months)
Priority Axis 1 Economic Development and Social Cohesion	1.1 Economic Development	Soft	10 000 – 100 000	6 - 12
		Investment + Soft	100 000 – 300 000	6 - 24
	1.2 Social Cohesion	Soft	10 000 – 100 000	6 - 12
		Investment + Soft	100 000 – 300 000	6 - 24
	1.3 Project Preparation	Soft	10 000 – 50 000	6 - 12
Priority Axis 2 Improvement the Quality of Life	2.1 Utilization of Eco Resources	Soft	10 000 – 100 000	6 - 12
		Investment + Soft	100 000 – 300 000	6 - 24
	2.2 Utilization of	Soft	10 000 – 100 000	6 - 12
	Cultural Resources	Investment + Soft	100 000 – 300 000	6 - 24

[❖] In case of investment projects, including soft measures (Axis 1 and 2), the duration of the investment component should not exceed 18 months.

1.1. Economic Development Soft Measures

- Training, best practices transfer, scientific exchange;
- Initiatives developing common labour market;
- Joint actions supporting cross-border business activities;
- Counselling and advice in business start up;
- Creating cooperation structures;
- Information services for entrepreneurs;
- Cross-border awareness raising activities on acquits compliance for SMEs
- Preparation of joint research studies for market opportunities.

1.1. Economic Development Investment Measures

- Creating information exchange centers;
- Modernization of adjoining infrastructure;
- Creating/restoring communication networks;
- Monitoring of construction works;
- Purchase of IT equipment.

1.1. Economic Development Potential Applicants

- Municipalities;
- Chambers of trade and commerce,
- Economic associations, industry or agriculture, professional and branch associations,
- Economic development agencies, business centres, business associations, business incubators, trade unions,
- Professional education and qualification organizations, vocational schools, training centres, universities, schools, colleges,
- NGOs,
- Regional structures of central administration, institutions of labour market administration;
- Associations of the above.



- Creating joint information systems;
- Creating joint social and public services;
- Activities for management of human resources and equal opportunities of the vulnerable groups;
- Cooperation between education, qualification institutions and labour market;
- Cross-border training initiatives;
- Information networks for e-services.



- Development of social infrastructure, including educational, health care, child care, etc.;
- Supply of specialized equipment;
- Construction and reconstruction works.



- Municipalities;
- Chambers of trade and commerce, economic associations, industry or agriculture, professional and branch associations,
- Economic development agencies, business centres, business associations, business incubators, trade unions,
- Professional education and qualification organizations, vocational schools, training centres, universities, schools, colleges,
- NGOs,
- Regional structures of central administration, regional/local structures of labour market administration;
- Associations of the above.



- Economic technical feasibility studies;
- Cost-benefit analyses;
- Financial cash-flow plans;
- Marketing research;
- Environmental Impact Assessments (EIA);
- Architectural and engineering designs;
- Technical studies;
- Preparation of tendering (public procurement) documents and bills of quantities, etc.



- Local or regional authorities;
- Regional structures of central administration;
- Research institutes, schools, training centres and vocational schools;
- Chambers of commerce;
- Institutions of labour market administration; professional education and qualification organizations; universities;
- ❖ NGOs;
- Associations of the above organization.

2.1. Utilization of Eco Resources Soft Measures

- Creating networks of cooperation among existing environmental institutions;
- Development of joint management plans for nature protected areas;
- Joint plans and solutions for protection of bio-diversity;
- Joint plans, educational and training programmes for pollution prevention
- ❖ Tools and techniques for common cross-border tourism;
- Joint research of energy efficiency;
- Reduction of negative effects of economic activities on the environment
- ❖ Joint cross-border information campaigns, etc.

2.1. Utilization of Eco Resources Investment Measures

- Small-scale infrastructure construction addressing natural sites;
- Restoration and conversation of important areas, species and habitats;
- Development of sustainable organic agriculture;
- Specialized equipment and technologies related to environmental protection;
- Activities for permanent protection on the negative effect of flood phenomena;
- Reinforcement of river cross-sections for the purposes of water monitoring.

2.1. Utilization of Eco Resources Potential Applicants

- Municipalities;
- NGOs;
- Regional structures of central administration;
- Administration of Nature parks;
- Associations of the above.

2.2. Utilization of Cultural Resources Soft Measures

- Cooperation between cultural institutions and organizations;
- New common cross-border products and services;
- Development of cultural tourism;
- Information networks for promotion of common cultural heritage;
- Exchange of best and know-how in the sphere of preservation of cultural heritage;
- Management models for cultural sites;
- Integrated rural tourism products, etc.
- Activities related to marketing and advertising of the rural sites.

2.2. Utilization of Cultural Resources Investment Measures

- Small-scale infrastructure for cultural sites;
- Rehabilitation of a modern tourism infrastructure;
- Creation of better infrastructure for tourist visits, including for disabled
- Creation of marks;
- * Reconstruction of buildings of 'nature based' interpretation;
- Improvement of road infrastructure for access to sights and objects for rural tourism
- Construction of cycling trails, etc.

2.1. Utilization of Cultural Resources Potential Applicants

- Municipalities;
- NGOs;
- Regional structures of central administration;
- Administration of Nature parks;
- Associations of the above.



- Investment activities must be carried out on public municipal or public state property;
- All envisaged <u>investment activities</u> have to be supported with detailed works design (where applicable according to the relevant legislation);
- Two-phase projects are not eligible;
- ❖ All the investment proposals should have positive environmental impact assessment (EIA), if for such kind of activities an EIA is required by the national legislation.



To be eligible for financial support under the call for proposals, costs must:

- be necessary for the implementation of the activity and to comply with principals for sound financial management;
- have been stipulated in the project budget;
- have actually been incurred by the beneficiaries or their partners during the implementing period for the activities defined in the application form
- be recorded in the partners' accounts and tax documents;
- be verified by a controller and certified as eligible;
- be in line with the provisions of the subsidy contract, national and European legislation;



- Expenditures must be made according to the:
 - ✓ Commission Regulation (EC) No 718/2007 of 12 June 2007 [OJ L 170 from 29.06.2007] implementing Council Regulation (EC) No 1085/2006 establishing an instrument for pre-accession assistance (IPA);
 - ✓ Practical Guide to Contract procedures for External actions (PRAG);
 - ✓ Specific rules approved by the Joint Monitoring Committee.

❖ To be eligible for financial support under the present call for proposals, costs have not been subject to financing from any other public funds.



List of eligible expenditures

- ❖ BUDGET LINE 1: Administrative costs maximum 25 % of total project costs
- ❖ BUDGET LINE 2: Travel, daily allowance and accommodation
- **BUDGET LINE 3:** Meetings, conferences, events
- **❖ BUDGET LINE 4:** Information and publicity
- ❖ BUDGET LINE 5: External expertise and audit
- ❖ BUDGET LINE 6: Investments min 70% of total project costs
- ❖ BUDGET LINE 7: Others maximum 15 % of total project costs



NOTE!

- The Managing Authority reserves the right to propose to the Joint Monitoring Committee reduction of the project costs if they are deemed excessive!
- ❖ A "partner" involved in the project implementation as "lead partner" or "project partner" is excluded from any forms of sub-contracting to other partners within the project.

Eligible Expenditures, According to Regulation 718/2007 regarding IPA Implementation

NOTE! Eligible Expenditures

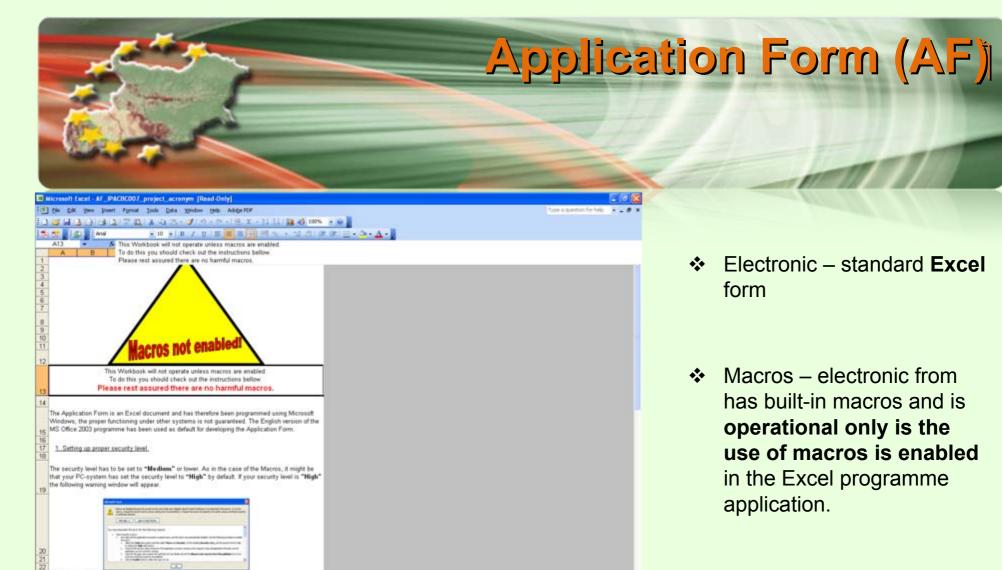
- ❖ Value added tax is may also be eligible expenditure, if the following requirements are fulfilled:
 - If it is not recoverable by any means;
 - If it is established to have been borne by the Lead Partner;
 - If it has been clearly indicated in the project proposal
- Costs for transnational financial transactions;
- ❖ Bank expenses for opening and management of accounts;
- Fees for legal consults, notary fees, accounting, audit, etc.;
- Expenses for bank or financial guarantees;
- Actually made overhead expenses.

Eligible Expenditures, According to Regulation 718/2007 regarding IPA Implementation

NOTE! Non-eligible Expenditures

- ❖ Taxes, including Value Added Tax;
- Customs and import duties, or any other charges;
- Purchase, rent or leasing of land and existing buildings;
- Fines, financial penalties and expenses of litigation;
- Operating costs;
- Second hand equipment;
- Bank charged, costs of guarantees and similar charger;
- Conversion costs, charges and exchange losses Currency exchange costs and losses.

In-kind contribution is not eligible expenditure!

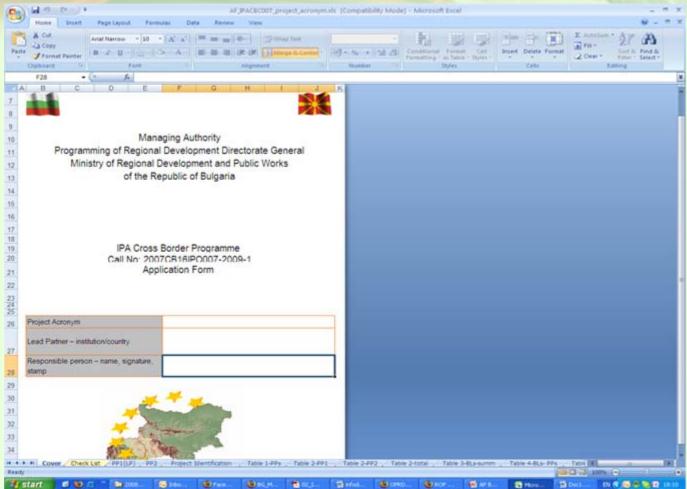


H + + H Sheet1

23 You can change the security level by selecting

B B B C B C B Deplementation







The Application Form consists of the following main parts:

- Application Form Cover;
- ❖ Automated Check-list for correct completion of AF it is automatically filled-in when all parts and sections of AP have been peoperly completed;
- Project Partners Information Forms (Part 1);
- Project Identity Form (Part 2);
- ❖ Table Budget Forms (Part 3) automatic transfer of information! No lines can be added!
- Partnership and co-financing statement.

Some cells have can contain limited number of symbols!

Application From (AF) Annexes

Annexes A

- ❖ A1 Project summary completed in English, Macedonian and Bulgarian;
- ❖ A2 CVs of the project management team
- **❖** A3 Partnership Agreement
- ❖ A4 Declaration of eligibility of all partners, signed by the Lead Partner;
- **❖** A5 Sworn Statement
- **❖** A6 Declaration of Commitment

Application From (AF) Annexes

Annexes B

- ❖ B1 Documentary and other evidence (in original or certified copy) on the most recent legal status of all partners, issued not later than 6 months prior the date of application (notary certified);
- ❖ B2 Copy of the partners' accounts Annual Balance Sheet and Profit and Loss Accounts for 2007 and 2008;
- **B3 Copies of the partners' national registration code and VAT registration** (notary certified);
- ❖ **B4 Copies of the partners' certificate** issued by the relevant body **for lack of obligations** (taxes and social security duties) issued not later than 6 months prior the date of application or plan for rescheduling of the debts if existing by the respective authority (National Revenue Agency);
- ❖ B5 Decision of Local Council/ Board of Directors or any similar body regarding the project development and implementation, if applicable copy and English translation;
- ❖ B6 Legalized mandates of delegation from the legal representatives of partners (in case the application form and annexed declarations are not signed by the legal representatives of the Lead Partner/partners) original and English translation.



Annexes B - INVESTMENT SUPPORT ACTIVITIES ONLY

- **❖ B7.1 Ownership act or certificate for public ownership of the tangible assets**, which will be subject of works activities (notary certified copy);
- ❖ B7.1 Agreement with the owner, clearly stating that the assets are given for free right of use for the purpose of the project at least for 5 years after end of the project (notary certified copy);
- ❖ B7.2 In case of investment activities requiring <u>passing</u> through private territories the consent of the owners must be obtained and presented in a due legal form and copy of the ownership act (notary certified copy)
- ❖ B7.3 In case of investment activities within territories with special status relevant documentation required by the respective national applicable law (notary certified copy);
- **❖ B7.4 Copy of** letter issued by the relevant body clearly stated that **Environmental Impact Assessment** is not necessary, according to national legislation (notary certified copy);
- B7.5 Approved Detailed works design (if applicable according to the relevant legislation);
- **❖** B7.6 Latest photographs of the site;
- ❖ Any other documents concerning the project may be provided as Annexes.



Annexes B

C. Subsidy contract (indicative)

IMPORTANT!

- ❖ All copies should be certified <u>"True copy"</u> by the legal representative of the respective partner or of the Lead partner.
- ❖ Where such documents are not in English, a <u>translation into</u> <u>English</u> of the relevant parts of these documents, proving the partners' eligibility, must be attached and will prevail for the purpose of analysing the application.



Step 1: OPENING SESSION AND ADMINISTRATIVE CHECK

- Deadline for submission If the deadline has not been respected the proposal will automatically be rejected;
- Administrative Compliance Check –if any of the requested information is missing or is incorrect, the proposal may be rejected on that sole basis;

NOTE!

- * Additional clarification concerning administrative compliance of the project proposals could be requested;
- ❖ Additional information/ clarification would not be requested if it could not serve for improving the situation!
- Only proposals that satisfy all the criteria mentioned in the administrative compliance checklist will be evaluated on eligibility stage.



Step 2: ELIGIBILITY CHECK

- * At least one partner from each side of the cross border region is involved;
- ❖ Lead partner is registered in the eligible border region at least 12 months before the deadline for submission of project proposals under current Call for Proposals;
- All partners are eligible organizations (public bodies/ public equivalents/ non-profit organizations);
- ❖ The implementation period is in the limits of project duration indicated in the Applicant's Guide.



STEP 2: ELIGIBILITY CHECK

- ❖ At least one of the following conditions is covered: Joint development, Joint implementation, Joint staffing, Joint financing;
- ❖ The value of the financial support requested is in line with the limits, indicated in the Applicant's Guide;
- The co-financing rates for EU and national funds are within the limits indicated in the Applicant's Guide;
- ❖ All partners should have the capacity to ensure temporary availability of funds until reimbursement of claims is made from the Programme (signed Annex 6 - Declaration of Commitment).

IMPORTANT!

Only proposals that satisfy all the criteria mentioned in the eligibility compliance checklist will be evaluated on technical and quality evaluation stage.

Evaluation and Selection of Applications

STEP 3: TECHNICAL AND QUALITY EVALUATION PART

- Management Capacity;
- Consistency;
- Methodology (for implementation);
- Budget;

- Max 20 points;
- Max 30 points;
- Max 35 points;
- Max 15 points;

- Rejected with less than 10 points;
- Rejected with less than 20 points;

NOTE!

- If a criterion is not applicable for a definite type of project an average score is given
- Only projects with score of 65 and above will be proposed for financing



- Applications (application form and annexes) shall be submitted in one original and 1 copy, bound in A4 format.
- ❖ The electronic format of the Application Form (Parts I, II and III) must contain exactly the same proposal as the paper version enclosed (the number of the version on the back of the pages must be identical).
- ❖ A full electronic version of the Application Form and its annexes must be also enclosed on a CD or DVD.

IMPORTANT!

- ❖ Each application form should be bound (together with its annexes) in the way that pages could not be taken away from a whole set.
- The cover page of the Application Form should be visible, where <Project Title>, <Name of the Lead Partner>, <Signature and Stamp of Lead Partner> should be written by the applicant.



- Application documents are available online at:
 - www.ipa-cbc-007.eu
 - www.bgregio.eu
 - www.mls.gov.mk
 - www.eufunds.bg
- For further questions (up to 21 calendar days before the deadline for submission of the proposal)
 - ❖ Fax.: 00359 78 55 11 85
 - e-mail: jtsipakyustendil@gmail.com
- Questions, together with their answers, will be published on the website of the Programme:
 www.ipa-cbc-007.eu



Applications must be received in a sealed envelope by registered mail, private courier service or by hand-delivery:

JTS Kyustendil



Branch JTS (Antenna)



Republic of Bulgaria

•

2400 Municipality of Strumica

Kyustendil 2500,

NN Blogoi Mucheto Str.

44 Demokracia Str. entr. C

(city park) 2 floor

IMPORTANT! The outer envelope of the Application documents must bear:

- **❖ Call for Proposal №**: 2007CB16IPO007 2009 1;
- ❖ Full name and Address of the Applicant



Deadline for Receipt of Application Forms

December 14, 2009 – 4 p.m.

Training for Potential Applicants

Training Sessions for Potential Applicants

- ❖ November 2-4, 2009 г. Blagoevgrad
- ❖ November 18–20 2009 г. Kyustendil

Information and Registration for the Training Sessions

http://ipa-cbc-007.eu





Questions and Answers