



**HELLENIC REPUBLIC
MINISTRY OF ECONOMY,
DEVELOPMENT & TOURISM**



**REPUBLIC OF ALBANIA
MINISTRY OF
EUROPEAN
INTEGRATION**

Information Note

The 2nd Call for Project Proposals of the Interreg IPA Cross-border Cooperation Programme “Greece –Albania 2014-2020” was pre-launched on 13/04/2016 and officially launched on 17/05/2016. Applicants were invited to submit their Project Proposals from 17/05/2016 until 14/10/2016.

In the framework of this Call the total available budget is 13.782.817,00€ (Union Support and National Counterpart). The Call was open to both Priorities Axes, all four Thematic Priorities and all six related Specific Objectives of the Programme, namely:

Priority Axis 1: Promotion of the environment, sustainable transport and public infrastructure

Thematic Priority (c) Promoting sustainable transport, information and communications networks & services and investing in cross-border water, waste & energy systems and facilities

Specific Objective 1.1 Increase the capacity of CB infrastructure in transport, water & waste management

Thematic Priority (b) Protecting the environment & promoting climate change adaptation & mitigation, risk prevention & management

Specific Objective 1.2 Increase the effectiveness of environmental protection & sustainable use of natural resources

Specific Objective 1.3 Increase energy-efficiency and the use of RES

Specific Objective 1.4 Improve the effectiveness of risk prevention and disaster management with a focus on forest fires

Priority Axis 2: Boosting the local economy

Thematic Priority (d) Encouraging tourism and cultural and natural heritage

Specific Objective 2.1 Preserve cultural and natural resources as a prerequisite for tourism development of the cross border area

Thematic Priority (g) Enhancing competitiveness, the business environment and the development of small and medium-sized enterprises, trade and investment through, inter alia, promotion and support to entrepreneurship, in particular small and medium-sized enterprises, and development of local cross-border markets and internationalization

Specific Objective 2.2 Improve cross-border capacity to support entrepreneurship, business survival and competitiveness

Five information sessions took place in both countries, in order for the potential beneficiaries to be activated, supported and updated. The dates and venues of the events were announced on the Managing Authority's and on the Programme's website as well as on the site of the Ministry European Integration of Albania.

Potential applicants posed their questions in writing to the Managing Authority/Joint Secretariat. A total of 95 questions were answered and these answers were published on the Programme's website. Additionally, a partner search facility was operating in the Programme's website. Potential beneficiaries could submit their project ideas in order to find potential partners or contact the beneficiaries responsible for project ideas already published, in order to participate in their project.

A total of two hundred (200) project proposals were submitted under both priority axes and six specific objectives.

Specific objective 2.1 attracted the greatest interest, under which seventy six (76) project proposals were submitted. Second in preference by potential beneficiaries was Specific Objective 2.2 under which forty six (46) project proposals were submitted.

Twenty eight (28) project proposals were also submitted under Specific Objective 1.1, seventeen (17) project proposals under Specific Objective 1.2, eleven (11) project proposals under Specific Objective 1.3 and another eleven (11) project proposals were submitted under Specific Objective 1.4.

One (1) project proposal was submitted under Priority Axis 2, but without indication of the Specific Objective while another ten (10) project proposals were submitted without indication of neither Priority Axis, nor Specific Objective.

Twenty four (24) project proposals were submitted after the deadline.



Chart 1: Submitted project proposals per specific objective

It is reminded that the Interreg IPA Cross-border Cooperation Programme “Greece –Albania 2014-2020” budget allocated for the period 2014-2020 is 42.312.029,00€. This amount consists of 35.965.222,00€ EU contribution and 6.346.807,00€ national contributions. The national counterpart rate for both Greece and Albania is 15%. For the 2nd Call for Projects proposals, for the project beneficiaries from Albania, the 15% of the national counterpart will be covered by the beneficiaries own contribution.