

Interreg - IPA CBC Greece - Albania



1st Call for Strategic Project Proposals

Joint Secretariat / Managing Authority of
Interreg IPA CBC Programme "Greece - Albania
2014 - 2020 "

www.greece-albania.eu

www.interreg.gr

The Programme is co-funded
by the European Union
and by National Funds
of Greece & Albania



What is a strategic project?

A Strategic Project aims to:

“achieve a significant and long lasting change and improvement on the whole or large part of the eligible Programme area”.

Basic Features:

- ▶ Connected with the national and regional policy framework, with the EU policies, as well as with the essential standards identified in the Cooperation Programme
- ▶ It is thematically focused, and tackles issues that cannot be sufficiently dealt with, by individual regions or by ordinary cross-border projects
- ▶ Engages a significant proportion of the Programme's budget
- ▶ Provides clear added value and create territorial economic dynamics
- ▶ Strong involvement of national authorities / stakeholders

Basic Features of the Strategic Projects

A project is strategic, the following three dimensions should be required:

1. Policy / Programme dimension

Be Coherent with the Programme strategy and with European, national and regional policies

2. Geographical dimension

- Have real impact on the cooperation area
- Bring tangible and visible results
- Be sustainable

3. Action dimension

- Built strong partnerships
- Capitalise on experiences
- Be innovative
- Be “holistic”/ interdisciplinary
- Communicate

1st Call for Strategic Projects Proposals

This Call for proposals is subject to :

- the signing of the Multiannual Financing Agreement between the European Commission, Managing Authority and Albania (for **Albanian beneficiaries**)
- the signing of the Ministerial Decision on Management and Control System (for **Greek beneficiaries**).

General Framework of the 1st Call for Strategic Projects Proposals.

1. Priority Axes, Thematic priorities, Specific objectives
2. Indicative type of actions, Results
3. Eligible programme area
4. Budget
5. Project size
6. Duration
7. Eligible Partnerships
8. Eligibility of expenditure
9. Lead Partner Principal
10. Applicants Package
11. Deadline

1. Priority Axes, Thematic priorities, specific objectives

The 1st Call for Strategic Project Proposals of IPA II Cross-Border Cooperation Programme “Greece – Albania 2014 – 2020” is open to:

both Priority Axes

two of the four Thematic Priorities

two of the six related Specific Objectives

1. Priority Axes, Thematic priorities, specific objectives

Priority Axis	Thematic Priority	Specific Objective
1. Promotion of the environment, sustainable transport and public infrastructure	(c) Promoting sustainable transport, information and communications networks & services and investing in cross-border water, waste & energy systems and facilities	1.1 Increase the capacity of CB infrastructure in transport, water & waste management
2. Boosting the local economy	(d) Encouraging tourism and cultural and natural heritage	2.1 Preserve cultural and natural resources as a prerequisite for tourism development of the cross border area

2.Expected results and indicative type of actions per Specific Objective

Specific Objective (S. O.)

1.1 Increase the capacity of cross border infrastructure in transport, water & waste management



Expected results

- Increased share of water resources used sustainably.
- Increased capacity for wastewater treatment.
- Increased share of solid waste managed sustainably.
- Improved maturity of cross-border accessibility interventions



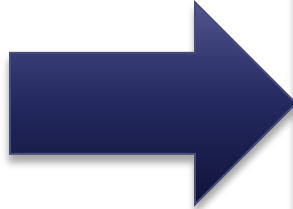
Indicative type of actions

- Planning, construction, rehabilitation of water management supply, infrastructure and drinking water quality monitoring systems;
- Planning, construction and rehabilitation of border crossings; planning, construction and rehabilitation of road network;
- Planning, construction and rehabilitation of maritime port infrastructure, replacement/improvement of port superstructure and construction of multi-modal facilities (e.g. shelters for fishing vessels);
- Planning, construction and rehabilitation of small wastewater management infrastructure and surface water quality monitoring systems;
- Planning, construction and supply activities for sustainable solid waste management infrastructure, including integrated waste management infrastructure, recycling and composting, in accordance with approved Regional Waste Management Plans (as in force for each participating country).

2.Expected results and indicative type of actions per Specific Objective

Specific Objective (S. O.)

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



Expected results

- Contribute to growth in the tourist business sector
- Improved capacity to sustainably use natural and cultural resources in the cross-border area.
- Preserved/protected/promoted cultural and natural assets.



Indicative type of actions

- Rehabilitation/protection/promotion of cultural assets of cross-border significance including monuments (such as UNESCO sites), museums and other cultural facilities but mobile assets as well (e.g. art, special collections, etc.); rehabilitation/protection/adaptation/promotion for eco-tourism and tourism-for-all usage of natural assets of cross-border significance;
- Rehabilitation of buildings of special architectural and cultural characteristics;
- Construction / Rehabilitation of infrastructures for the promotion of local products or/and cultural products (e.g. exhibition centers, local auction places, upgrading and consolidation interventions of local, biological markets, musical and theatre scenes);
- Construction / Rehabilitation of camps, environmental and agro touristic parks.

3. Eligible programme area

Country	Regional Unit/Region
Greece	Regional Unit of Grevena
	Regional Unit of Kastoria
	Regional Unit of Florina
	Regional Unit of Arta
	Regional Unit of Thesprotia
	Regional Unit of Ioannina
	Regional Unit of Preveza
	Regional Unit of Zakynthos
	Regional Unit of Kerkira
	Regional Unit of Kefallinia
	Regional Unit of Lefkada
Albania	Region of Berat
	Region of Gjirokaster
	Region of Korçë
	Region of Vlorë



4. Budget of 1st Call For Strategic Proposals

The **total available budget** for the call is **11.000.000€**
(including Union Support and National Counterpart)

and is **indicatively allocated** per Priority Axis/Specific Objective, as follows:

4. Budget of 1st Call For Strategic Proposals

PRIORITY AXIS:			
P.A. No	SPECIFIC OBJECTIVE	INDICATIVE BUDGET ALLOCATION (€)	
		EUROPEAN UNION CONTRIBUTION	TOTAL BUDGET
1	Increase the capacity of CB infrastructure in transport, water & waste management	5.950.000,00	7.000.000,00
2	Preserve cultural and natural resources as a prerequisite for tourism development of the cross border area	3.400.000,00	4.000.000,00
TOTAL BUDGET		9.350.000,00	11.000.000,00

5. Project size

Restrictions upon submission of the project proposal

Projects must have a:

For S.O. 1.1 *Increase the capacity of CB infrastructure in transport, water & waste management*

- minimum budget of 1.200.000,00€ and
- maximum budget of 4.000.000,00€

For S.O. 2.1 *Preserve cultural and natural resources as a prerequisite for tourism development of the cross border area*

- minimum budget of 1.000.000,00€ and
- maximum budget of 2.500.000,00€
- Budget per **project beneficiary** cannot be lower than 100.000,00 €

6. Duration

Projects should be concluded within a maximum period of thirty six (36) months.

7. Eligible Partnerships

- The 1st call for Strategic Proposals is only addressed to: **national, regional or local public authorities; bodies governed by public law, private organisations**
- Bodies governed by public law and private organisations must be operational for at least **24 months** before the launching of the call for proposals. If a body governed by public law or a private organization is participating through a branch located at the Programme area, the **branch** must be operational for **at least 24 months** before the launching of the call for proposals.
- The **Lead Beneficiary (LB)** should be Ministries, Central Level Bodies governed by public law (only for beneficiaries from Albania), Decentralised Administrations, or Regional Authorities
- Project proposals must include at least **one** beneficiary from the Programme area of each country participating in the Programme
- **All** beneficiaries should be entitled to implement the project activities
- **All** projects shall be developed and managed according to the Lead Partner Principle
- Each applicant can participate as LB in **no more than one project proposal per specific objective**
- The total number of beneficiaries must **not exceed eight (8)** including the LB, and should **not be less than four (4)**.
- Beneficiaries shall cooperate in the development and implementation of operations. In addition, they shall cooperate in either the staffing or the financing of the operations or both.

7. Eligible Partnerships

Attention!

Each applicant can participate as Lead beneficiary in no more than one project proposal per specific objective. If an applicant does not conform to the previous rule, as explicitly stated above, **all of its project proposals will be rejected.**

8. Eligibility of expenditures

Durability of expenditures:

Start date of eligibility of expenditures for Greek Beneficiaries is the 1st of January 2014.

Start date of eligibility of expenditures for Albanian Beneficiaries is the 22nd of September 2014, and payments can only be made after the signature of the Financing Agreement.

The final date of eligibility of expenditures under no circumstances may exceed the 31st of December 2023.

9. Lead Beneficiary Principal

For each partnership, a lead beneficiary shall be appointed by the beneficiaries among themselves. The lead beneficiary :

Management

- ▶ Is the contact point representing the partnership for any communication with the JS/MA or any other of the Programme Structures
- ▶ Is responsible for the overall coordination, management and implementation of the project vis-à-vis the Joint Secretariat/Managing Authority.
- ▶ LP signs the Subsidy Contract
- ▶ Prepares and submits progress reports
- ▶ Prepares and submits requests for project modifications

Financial Monitoring

- ▶ Ensures that the expenditure presented by the partners participating in the project has been incurred for the purpose of implementing the project.
- ▶ LB receives from the CA the amount of IPA Contribution of the beneficiaries of Albania and further transfer it to the PBs from Albania within one month of its receipt.
- ▶ LB must have a dedicated **interest-free bank account** for the purpose of the project
- ▶ LB must verify that the expenditure presented by other beneficiaries participating in the project has been verified by a controller

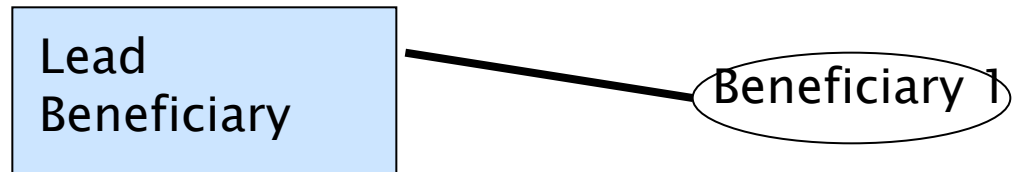
Structure of Partnerships

Examples

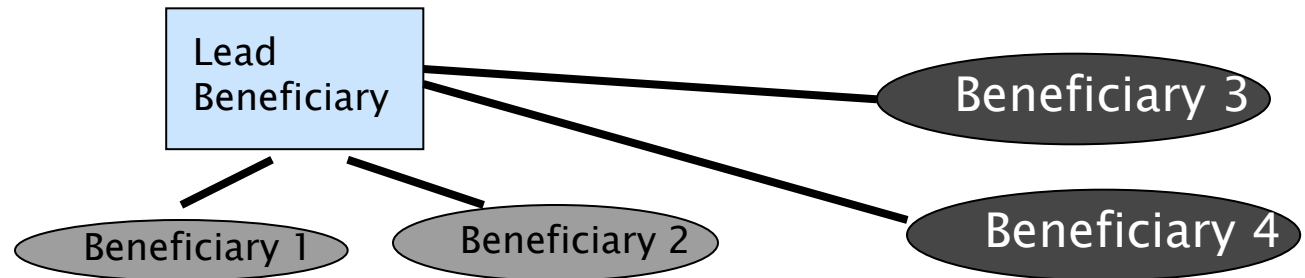
Country 1

Country 2

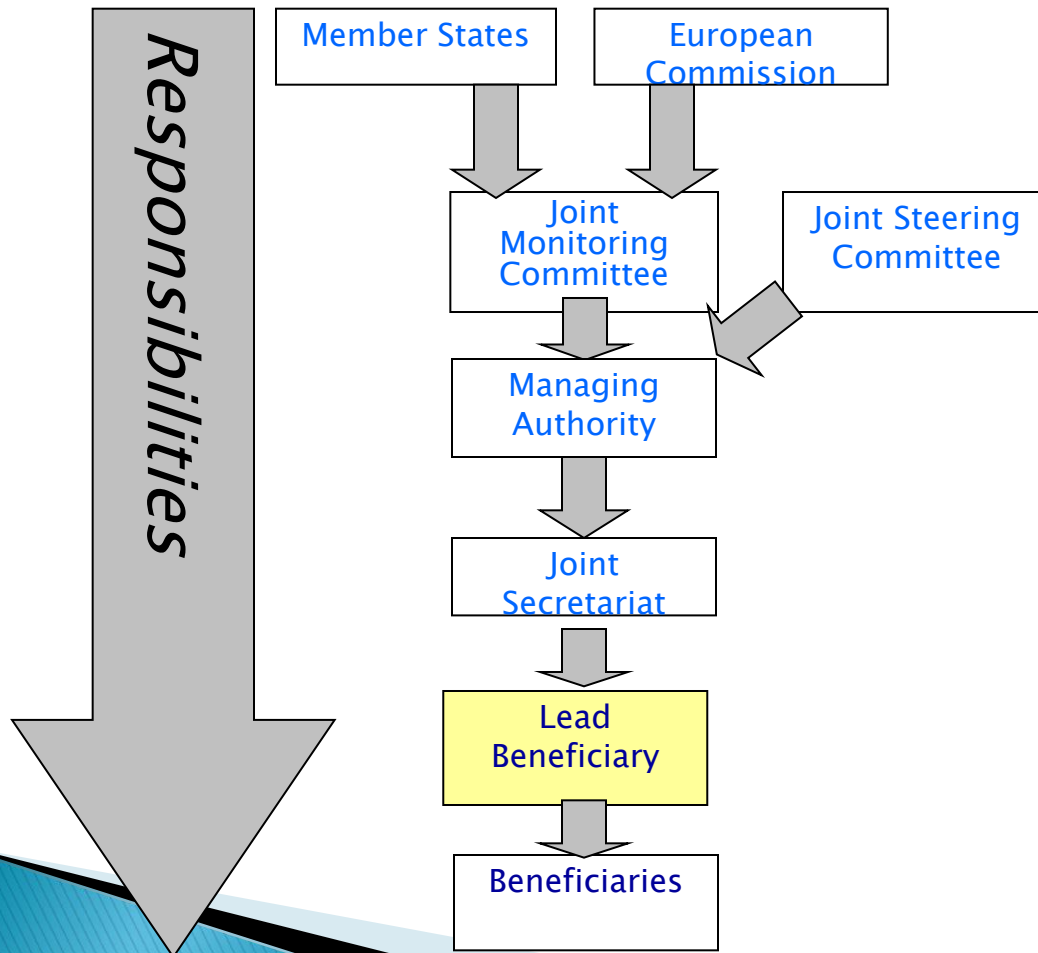
With
Two beneficiaries



With more
beneficiaries



Chain of Responsibilities



10. The Applicant's package

A Project Proposal consists of:

- ▶ Application Form (AF),
- ▶ Concept Note,
- ▶ Partnership Declaration,
- ▶ Co-financing Statement – Non double financing,
- ▶ Declaration of not generating revenues,
- ▶ Declaration of non distribution of profits,
- ▶ Specification of Budget Cost (SoBC),
- ▶ Maturity Sheet,
- ▶ Decision for submitting the project proposal,
- ▶ Official documents according to the nature of the beneficiary,
- ▶ Accompanying documents for infrastructure,
- ▶ Legal Entity Form

11. Deadline

Deadline for proposal: 16th of May 2016, 16:00 Greek local time, at the premises of the JS.

- ▶ If the proposal is submitted by registered mail or private courier service, **only the stamp indicating the postal date** proves that the Project Proposal has been submitted within the above deadline.
- ▶ In this case, the proposal **must arrive no later than 30/05/2016 in a single sealed envelope / package. No proposal received after this date will not be considered as eligible.**
- ▶ A dated certificate of receipt with the register number of the JS will be handed to the deliverer, as proof of timely submission.

Submission:

by post or by private courier service or hand-delivery in the following address:

**Joint Secretariat/Managing Authority of the
Interreg IPA II Cross-border Cooperation Programme “Greece – Albania 2014–2020”
Balkan Centre, Building D, Elevator 2, 3rd floor
10th Km Thessaloniki – Themi Road
570 01, Thessaloniki, Greece**

General Information

Frequently asked Questions:

Potential applicants may pose questions **in written** to the Joint Secretariat/Managing Authority, no later than eleven (11) days before the deadline for the submission of proposals.

Answers will be published on **programme web site**.

Info days for the call:

Arta, Gjirokaster, Berat, Kastoria & Lefkada

For more information:

- ▶ www.interreg.gr
- ▶ www.greece-albania.eu
- ▶ www.integrimi.gov.al

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Thank you for your attention!

**Joint Secretariat/Managing Authority of the
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