



HELLENIC REPUBLIC  
MINISTRY OF ECONOMY,  
DEVELOPMENT & TOURISM



REPUBLIC OF ALBANIA  
MINISTRY OF EUROPEAN  
INTEGRATION

## Information Note

The 1<sup>st</sup> Call for Strategic Project Proposals of the Interreg IPA II Cross-border Cooperation Programme “Greece –Albania 2014-2020” was launched on 12/02/2016. Applicants were invited to submit their Strategic Project Proposals targeting both Priority Axes of the Programme between 12/02/2016 and 16/05/2016. Proposal submitted by registered mail or private courier service were accepted up to 30/05/2016.

In the framework of this Call the total available budget was 11.000.000,00€ (Union Support and National Counterpart). The Call was open to both Priorities Axes, two of the four Thematic Priorities and two of the 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

Priority Axis 2 Boosting the local economy

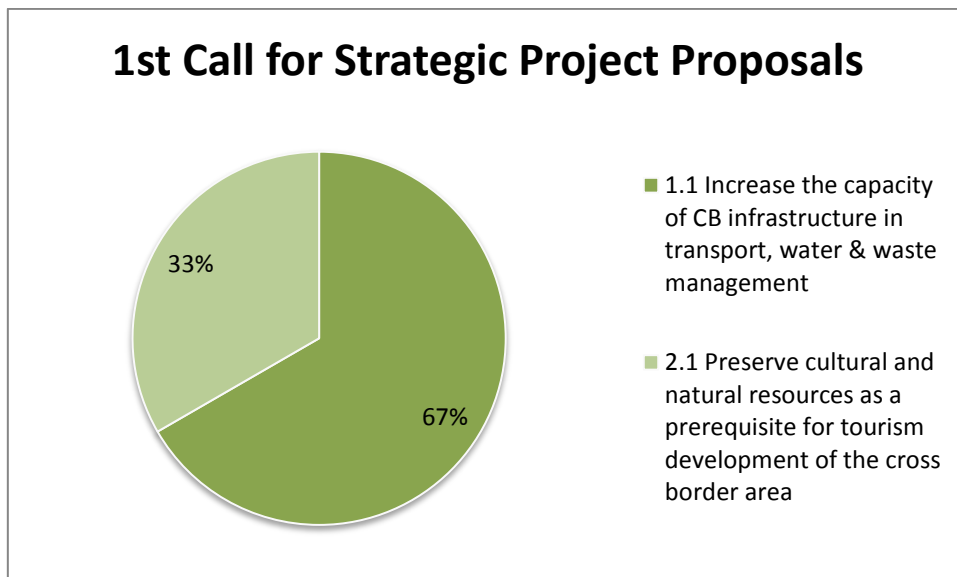
Thematic Priority (d) Encouraging tourism and cultural and natural heritage

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

Six 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 website, 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 15 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 six project proposals were submitted under both priority axes and two specific objectives. Specific objective 1.1 (Increase the capacity of CB infrastructure in transport, water & waste management) attracted the greatest interest, under which four project proposals were submitted. Two project proposals under Specific Objective 2.1 (Preserve cultural and natural resources as a prerequisite for tourism development of the cross border area) were also submitted.



**Chart 1:** Submitted project proposals per specific objective

Interreg IPA II Cross-border Cooperation programme “Greece – Albania 2014-2020”

It is reminded that the Interreg IPA II 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 1st Call for Strategic Projects proposals, for the project beneficiaries from Albania, the 15% of the national counterpart will be covered by the beneficiaries own contribution.