

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



Citizen's Summary of the 2014-2015 Greece-Albania Annual Implementation Report

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Albania 2014–2020”

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What is the Interreg IPA Cross-border Cooperation Programme “Greece–Albania 2014–2020” about?

The overall strategy of Interreg IPA II cross-border cooperation Programme “Greece-Albania 2014-2020” is to find the balance between sustainable regional development and enhancement of cross-border cooperation among local population & regional institutions, in accordance with EU & national policies, in order to address common challenges through joint interventions. The eligible cross- border area covers an area of 28,526 km² (17,445 km² for Greece cross- border area and 11,081 km² for Albania cross- border area) with a total population of 1,339,804 inhabitants (729,687 inhabitants for Greece cross- border area and 610,117 inhabitants for Albania cross- border area) (census data of 2011). The area combines a wide variety of geomorphological features: high mountains, rolling hills, valleys and small plains, a long coastal line and a significant number of islands (small and large), rivers, lakes and lagoons.



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The Programme budget allocated for the period 2014-2020 is 42.312.029€. This amount consists of 35.965.222€ Union support and 6.346.807€ national counterpart. The national co-financing rate for both Greece and Albania is 15%.

The Programme is implemented under shared management on the basis of Regulation (EU) No 231/2014 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 March 2014 establishing an Instrument for Pre-accession Assistance (IPA II) and the Commission implementing Regulation (EU) No 447/2014.

Taking into consideration the territorial analysis and the main needs and challenges in the Programme area, two Programme priority axes have been chosen by the Joint Programming Committee:

1. Promotion of the environment, sustainable transport and public infrastructure and
2. Boosting the local economy

Under Priority axis 1, two thematic priorities have been chosen:

- (b) Promoting sustainable transport, information and communications networks & services and investing in cross-border water, waste & energy systems and facilities
- (c) Protecting the environment & promoting climate change adaptation & mitigation, risk prevention & management

Under Priority axis 2, two thematic priorities have been chosen:

- (g) Encouraging tourism and cultural and natural heritage
- (d) 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

What activities were carried out in 2014-2015?

The final Programme was approved by the European Commission on 30-7-2015 by Decision C (2015) 5482.

The Joint Monitoring Committee convened its 1st meeting on 10/11/2015 and approved the rules, procedures and documents that are necessary for the implementation of the programme. Two Calls (one for Strategic and one for ordinary) project proposals were also presented and discussed.

Do you need further information?

For further information about the Interreg IPA Cross-border Cooperation Programme "Greece–Albania 2014–2020" please visit our websites:

<http://www.greece-albania.eu/> and <http://www.interreg.gr>