

Interreg - IPA CBC 
Greece - Albania

(Interreg VI-A) IPA CBC Greece Albania
6th PROGRAMMING COMMITTEE
ONLINE MEETING

30 March 2022

Brief Minutes & Decisions

The Programming Committee (hereinafter referred to as PC) of the (Interreg VI-A) IPA CBC Greece Albania Programme (hereinafter referred to as the "Programme") convened for its 6th Meeting on March 30th 2022, via teleconference, following an invitation by the Hellenic Managing Authority of European Territorial Cooperation Programmes (hereinafter MA of ETCP).

Ms Angeliki Bouziani, Head of the MA of ETCP, acknowledged the participants of the existence of the essential quorum and informed the participants of the chairing procedures.

Mr Rando Kote, representing the Albanian Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs (MEFA) informed the participants that from the Albanian side, the meeting will be co-chaired by Ms Xherina Haxhillari, Head of the Cross Border Cooperation (CBC) Unit of MEFA and also presented Ms Kjara Adhamj, newly appointed Director for Administration of EU Financial Assistance (the new structure in charge of IPA & CBC Programmes for Albania).

Ms Bouziani welcomed the new members and subsequently Ms Adhamj delegated the task of co-chairing to Ms Haxhillari, who informed the participants that her Unit would be monitoring the programming, along with the implementation of the Programme, from now on.

The floor was passed to co-chair Ms Mathilde Konstantopoulou, Advisor to the Special Secretary of ERDF & CF of the Ministry of Development & Investments, who represented Mr Georgios Zervos, Special Secretary for the ERDF & CF and subsequently conveyed his regards. Ms Konstantopoulou summarised the submission procedure until the present day and stated that the latest version of the Programming document is due to be finally submitted by 2nd April 2022. Ms Konstantopoulou added that the new Programme reflects the priorities of the European Commission of the respective Programming Period and is tool to propel prosperity form both sides of the border between the participant countries.

Ms Bouziani informed the participants of the fact that the session is being recorded. The agenda of the meeting was adopted without comments.

Ms Magali Lenoel, responsible officer of the European Commission outlined the approval procedure of the Programming document underlining the fact that the submission in April will assist on the timely approval of the Programme.

The floor was then passed to Mr Vassilis Charitantis, officer of Unit B2 of the MA, who presented an overview of the progress achieved on the Programme the last three months and the changes that have occurred at the latest version of the Programming document.

Following the presentation by Mr Charitantis, Ms Bouziani opened the floor for comments while citing the comment that was communicated to MA by the EC on 30 March 2022 regarding "Close coordination between the Managing Authority and the EU Delegation in Albania will be maintained in order to

maximise the effect of the assistance with other EU activities in the overlapping areas of support".

Mr Kote responded to the EC comment by asking clarifications on whether the EU Delegation will have a role in the implementation of the Programme. Ms Bouziani specified that the Programme is under a shared management structure, therefore the EU Delegation will have no authority on the management of the implementation of the new Programme and the reference has been made solely to assure complementarity.

Mr Charitantis specified that the mandate, that the PC will grant to the MA for the official submission of the Programme to the EC via the SFC, should contain the authorisation for minor wording and format adjustments.

Ms Katia Sagona, Head of Unit B2 of the Managing Authority (MA), informed the participants that the pre-agreement letter to be signed by the respective authorities of both participant countries (according to Article 16 paragraph 5 of 1059/2021 EC Regulation) is bound to be sent by 31 March and subsequently signed by 1 April prior to the submission of the Programme via SFC. Ms Sagona added that the Sustainable Environmental Assessment (SEA) of the new Programme has been shared with all involved parties and already published for public consultation.

Ms Bouziani concluded the meeting by thanking and congratulating all the participants from both participant countries for the fruitful and efficient cooperation so far.

Decisions - Conclusions:

- 1. The 9th version of the Programming document is approved.**
- 2. The amended version of the 'Methodological document – Indicators framework' (2nd draft_v5) is approved.**
- 3. The comments received by the EC and the respective responses, as stated in the document of 22/03/2022, are approved.**
- 4. The comment submitted by the EC on 30/03/2022 regarding the 'EU Delegation in Albania' is approved, as reflected in the 10th version of the Programming document.**
- 5. The 10th version of the Programming document shall be submitted via the SFC, by 02/04/2022.**

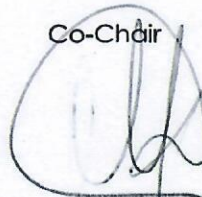
**The Co-Chairpersons
of the Programming Committee**

Chair



Ms Xherina Haxhillari
Head of the Cross Border
Cooperation (CBC) Unit
Albanian Ministry for Europe
and Foreign Affairs

Co-Chair



Ms Mathilde Konstantopoulou
Advisor to the Special Secretary
for ERDF & CF
Hellenic Ministry of Development &
Investments

Attachments:

1. Agenda of the 6th Programming Committee Meeting
2. List of participants