

# Interreg - IPA CBC



Croatia - Bosnia and Herzegovina - Montenegro

## Interreg IPA Cross-border Cooperation Programme Croatia – Bosnia and Herzegovina – Montenegro 2014-2020

Information session





## Cooperation Programme

- **Shared management** → overall responsibility = European Commission + Member State (Managing Authority on behalf of Member State)
- Participating countries coordination: Ministry of Regional Development and EU Funds of the Republic of Croatia, Directorate for European Integration of the Council of Ministers of Bosnia and Herzegovina and Ministry of Foreign Affairs and European Integration of Montenegro



## Shared management vs. 2007-2013 management

### 2014-2020

- Single Managing Authority
- Joint programme bodies (MA, CA, AA, JMC, JS)
- National bodies (NA, CB, GoA)
- Single programme area
- Single pot of money
- 1 project = 1 Subsidy Contract
- Reimbursement of costs based on the reports
- 10% pre-financing
- Co-financing rate applied for all costs (invoices)
- Electronic Monitoring System (eMS)

### 2007-2013

- 2 Contracting Authorities
- Joint programme bodies (JMC, JS)
- National authorities (OS, CA)
- Eligible + adjacent area
- Each country = separate allocation
- 1 project = 2 grant contracts
- Approval of costs based on the reports
- 85% pre-financing
- Co-financing through *staff costs* eligible
- Hard copy submission of documents



## **Programming Cooperation Programme**

- Overall coordination of the programming process: Managing Authority
- Negotiations between Croatia and EU COM started in 2012
- Technical Assistance project for programming – from May 2013 to July 2014
- Task Force (national + regional level representatives) nominated in July 2013
- IPA CBC programme Croatia – Bosnia and Herzegovina-Montenegro 2014-2020 confirmed as trilateral programme by EU COM in October 2013

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Cooperation area  
87.450 km<sup>2</sup>

Population  
5.587.836

Total IPA II/ERDF  
€ 57.000.000



## **Programming Cooperation Programme**

- 8 Task Force meetings/workshops conducted in period February 2014 – May 2015
- Two rounds of public consultations – Gospić and Tivat in May 2014, Sarajevo in August 2014
- Online consultations for draft programme documents: SWOT, logical framework & draft Cooperation Programme (August - September 2014)
- Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) consultations conducted in all three Participating Countries (August 2014 - March 2015)



## **Programming Cooperation Programme**

- Final version of the Cooperation Programme approved by the Task Force in May 2015
- Strategic Environmental Assessment procedure concluded on 20 July 2015
- Managing Authority submitted CP on 29 July 2015
- European Commission approved the Programme by Commission Implementing Decision (C(2015)8447) on 24 November 2015



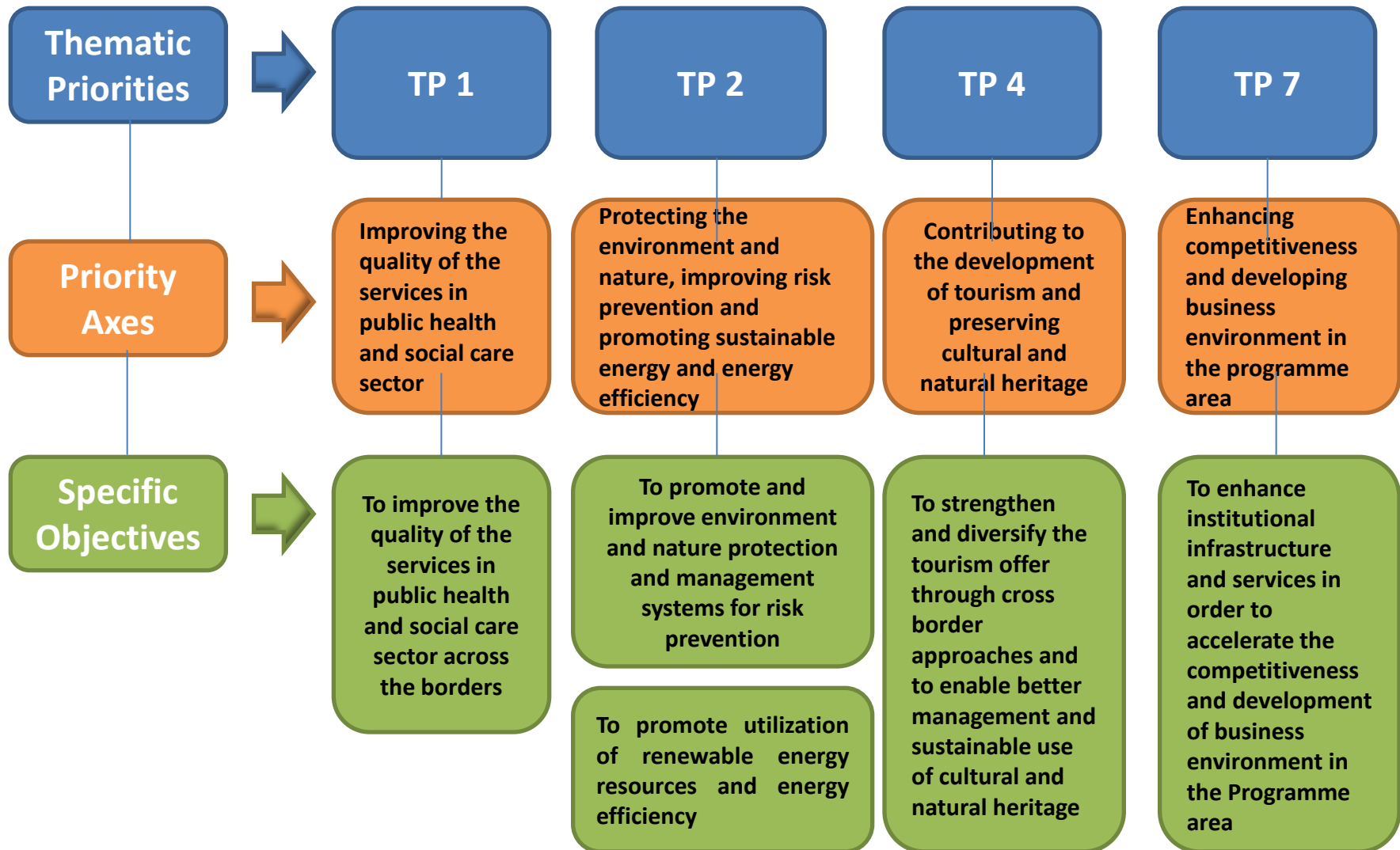
## IPA II Commission Implementing Regulation (231/2014):

1. **Employment, labour mobility, social inclusion, health and social care**
2. **Environment, biodiversity, risk prevention, sustainable energy and energy efficiency**
3. Sustainable transport and public infrastructure
4. **Tourism, cultural and natural heritage**
5. Youth and education
6. Local and regional governance, planning and administrative capacity building
7. **Competitiveness and business environment development**
8. Research, technological development, innovation and ICT



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**Specific Objective 1.1. To improve the quality of the services in public health and social care sector across the borders**

**Result indicator**

The level of accessibility of the services within public health care sector



**Output indicators**

- Number of jointly developed and/or implemented tools and services/ that enable better quality of health and/or social care services
- Number of participants in joint education and training schemes on health and/or social care
- Population covered with improved health and/or social care services

## Priority axis 1 – Types of Actions

- Providing support to public health and social care institutions in improving accessibility and effectiveness (e.g. small infrastructure and equipment), including related pilot projects.
- Developing and implementing joint lifelong learning, education and training programmes addressing skills and capacity strengthening needs in the area of health and social care.
- Developing and implementing joint activities on enhancing the quality of health care and social care services (e.g. joint health services delivery, promoting healthy lifestyles and active and healthy aging, disease prevention implementation plan, etc.)
- Implementing ICT solutions in order to improve public health and social care services.
- Developing schemes and using ICT tools for establishing networking structures for the purpose of common disaster response across the borders.



## Priority axis 1 – Types of Actions

- Joint strengthening of health care and social care for vulnerable groups with focus on children, elderly, disabled, people receiving social care and long-term unemployed older women.
- Awareness rising activities aiming at promotion of different types of services available for vulnerable groups.
- Networking of organisations (e.g. health care and social care institutions, family centres, education institutions, etc.) in order to create joint activities for enhancing accessibility to health and social services.
- Implementing exchange of experience concerning the identification, transfer and dissemination of good practices and innovative approaches as well support to the sustainability and implementation of the Cross-border Healthcare Directive (2011/24) and European Reference Networks, especially in relation to the aims of territorial cohesion, including territorial aspects and harmonious development of Union territory



**Specific Objective 2.1. To promote and improve environment and nature protection and management systems for risk prevention**

Result indicator

Disaster response capability  
in the Programme area



Output indicators

- Surface area of habitats supported in order to attain a better conservation status
- Area covered by improved emergency preparedness and risk prevention systems
- Population benefiting from flood protection measures



## Priority axis 2 (SO 2.1) – Types of Actions

- Developing and implementing joint management initiatives in the area of environment and nature protection (e.g. monitoring and exchange of data, biodiversity and geo-diversity maps, management plans for nature protected areas of cross-border interest, marine protected areas, maritime spatial planning and integrated coastal management for cross-border areas, etc.)
- Implementing joint actions in the area of monitoring and managing environmental protection addressing locally specific cross-border priorities and/or contributing to implementation of higher-level regional initiatives such as Sava River Basin Management Plan and the EU Strategy for the Adriatic and Ionian Region.
- Implementing joint initiatives for designation and preservation of cross-border habitats (including large carnivore habitats) and ecosystems with high biodiversity value, including protection and restoration of coastal wetland areas and karst fields relevant for the Adriatic Flyway.
- Implementing cross-border measures and tools for reducing or mitigating environmental problems and risks, including small-scale infrastructure and equipment.



## Priority axis 2 (SO 2.1) – Types of Actions

- Implementing awareness raising activities, information campaigns and education and training concerning environmental and nature protection.
- Improving emergency preparedness and risk prevention systems that addresses existing as well as expected cross-border hazards (fires, floods, draughts, hazardous pollution events, including trans boundary air and water pollution and other natural disasters) through, for example: mapping of water pollution hazards in the flood zones, adopting comprehensive multi-hazard framework to risk management and communication, harmonizing information about risks using internationally accepted definitions and guidelines, addressing priority gaps and needs for exchanging available data, developing and/or implementing plans that specify standard operating procedures on local level (who, what, when, how and with whom) based on higher level initiatives for disaster management.
- Implementing joint interventions in case of accidents and natural disasters and establishment of strong cooperation between the emergency centres, including small-scale infrastructure and equipment.



**Specific Objective 2.2. To promote utilization of renewable energy resources and energy efficiency**

Result indicator

Energy consumption in public buildings in the Programme area



Output indicator

Additional capacity of renewable energy production





## Priority axis 2 (SO 2.2) – Types of Actions

- Developing and implementing joint pilot and demonstration projects on innovative technologies and solutions in the field of energy efficiency and renewable energy resources.
- Joint investing in public infrastructure on sustainable energy and energy efficiency.
- Joint incentives in order to improve planning and regulatory framework in the area of renewable energy resources and energy efficiency (e.g. analyses, comparisons, recommendation, local/regional action plans, etc.).
- Implementing transfer of knowledge (awareness rising), dissemination of experience, exchange of good practice and capacity building on the utilization of renewable energy resources and energy efficiency.
- Elaboration of joint studies and documentation on (the utilization of) renewable energy resources and energy efficiency.



### **Specific Objective 3.1. To strengthen and diversify the tourism offer through cross border approaches and to enable better management and sustainable use of cultural and natural heritage**

#### **Result indicator**

Increase in arrivals of non-residents staying in hotels and similar establishments



#### Output indicators

- Number of joint tourism offers/products developed and/or implemented and promoted
- Number of tourism providers with (international) certifications and standards
- Number of tourism supporting facilities and/or tourism infrastructure developed and/or improved
- Number of sustainable management plans for cultural and natural heritage sites developed and/or implemented
- Number of participants trained in quality assurance, standardisation on cultural and natural heritage and destination management
- Number of cultural and natural assets developed and/or improved



## Priority axis 3 – Types of Actions

- Developing, promoting and branding of joint tourism niches, services and products including the development and diversification of joint tourism activities and sustainable tourism offer, inter alia, by including other relevant sectors (e.g. agriculture, organic food supply, handicrafts and other local products, culture, sustainable transport, etc.) in order to develop projects in ecotourism, hunting, rural, mountain, excursion, cultural, adventure, religious, nautical, conference, health, wellness and spa tourism.
- Developing complementary services in tourist offer.
- Promoting and introducing (international) certifications and standards, in order to improve the quality of tourism providers and their services.
- Supporting development and improvement of destination management capacity building in tourism sector (e.g. by developing destination management skills and focusing on enhancing quality (e.g. standardisation) and integration of offers, tourist destination development, management, marketing and promotion)



## Priority axis 3 – Types of Actions

- Implementing cross-border networking of institutions and dissemination of good practices and innovative approaches in tourism sector, including support to establishment and development of clusters.
- Developing the cross-border tourism offer including the development of innovative products and services and using ICT and other technologies (e.g. GPS routes, booking systems).
- Developing and improving small-scale cross-border tourism infrastructure such as: walking paths, cycling routes, hiking, riding trails, signposting, visitor centres, etc.
- Implementing joint incentives of integrating culture, nature and leisure activities into sustainable tourism offer in the programme area taking care of preservation of nature and cultural protected areas (e.g. marine and coastal environment, historical and cultural sites, etc).



## Priority axis 3 – Types of Actions

- Valuating, preserving, restoring and reviving (e.g. animation of site) cultural, historical and natural heritage assets (e.g. UNESCO and other historical and cultural sites and landscapes), including enabling or improving access to them, but at the same time preserving marine and coastal environment.
- Enabling joint cultural cooperation initiatives including creation of joint cultural events such as cultural festivals, cultural exchanges, joint theatre performances or joint/traveling exhibitions.
- Developing and implementing training programs in quality assurance systems and different types of standardisation (e.g. ISO certification, etc.) on cultural and natural heritage.
- Implementing investments in certification including training, equipment supply but also small scale infrastructure on cultural and natural heritage.



**Specific Objective 4.1. To enhance institutional infrastructure and services in order to accelerate the competitiveness and development of business environment in the Programme area**

**Result indicator**

Range of cluster activities enhancing innovation, new technologies and ICT solutions



**Output indicator**

- Number of cross-border business clusters and/or networks developed and/or implemented
- Number of business support institutions supported
- Number of laboratories and/or competence centers jointly used by the entrepreneurs developed or improved
- Number of enterprises and business support institutions cooperating with research institutions



## Priority axis 4 – Types of Actions

- Supporting business support institutions and establishment of and support to existing and new business related sectorial networks and organisations in order to enhance standardisation, product protection, marketing and development of cross-border markets.
- Developing and supporting existing business clusters and/or networks of SMEs in applying ICT, innovation and new technologies in order to develop and promote common products for local cross-border and international markets.
- Implementing actions aiming at networking, dissemination of good practices and innovative approaches and cooperation between business support institutions, clusters and SMEs at national, regional and local level in the programme area.



## Priority axis 4 – Types of Actions

- Supporting business support institutions in improving the capacity of entrepreneurs including micro entrepreneurs such as family farms/households regarding marketing, branding, market research, e-business, competitiveness and education and training in entrepreneurship skills.
- Increasing cooperation between research institutions, clusters, businesses, public sector & development organisations to stimulate innovation and entrepreneurship to improve business innovativeness and technology based on smart specialization approach.
- Supporting actions related to development of innovative products and services (e.g. patents, industrial design, trademark and innovation etc.).
- Promoting and introducing (international) certifications and standards of existing and new products and services.





## Priority axis 4 – Types of Actions

- Implementing joint research and development activities involving the research and educational centres in the programme area in order to increase competitiveness.
- Implementing cross-border development, adaptation and exchange of best practices in application of ICT, new technologies, processes, products or services to be directly used by the enterprises between the clusters or groups of business, R&D and education institutions.
- Establishing and supporting development agencies, technological and competence centres, laboratories and local ICT infrastructure for common use by the enterprises in the programme area in order to upgrade the existing and develop new products, services, processes or prototypes.



## Programme Budget

Priority axis	Union support	National counterpart	Total funding
Priority Axis 1	EUR 8,573,297	EUR 1,512,935	EUR 10,086,232
Priority Axis 2	EUR 14,288,830	EUR 2,521,559	EUR 16,810,389
Priority Axis 3	EUR 17,146,595	EUR 3,025,870	EUR 20,172,465
Priority Axis 4	EUR 11,431,063	EUR 2,017,247	EUR 13,448,310
Priority Axis 5	EUR 5,715,531	EUR 1,008,625	EUR 6,724,156
<b>Total</b>	<b>EUR 57,155,316</b>	<b>EUR 10,086,236</b>	<b>EUR 67,241,552</b>



## Programme Management Bodies

### Joint programme structure

- Managing Authority
- Joint Secretariat
- Certifying Authority
- Audit Authority
- Joint Monitoring Committee

### National programme structure

- National Authority
- Control body
- Group of Auditors



## Managing Authority

- Directorate for Managing Cooperation Programmes and Regional Development within the Agency for Regional Development of the Republic of Croatia – Head of MA
- Service for Managing Cooperation programmes – Head of Service (head of MA deputy)
- Programme Manager HR-RS - specialist
- Programme Manager HR-BA-ME - specialist
- Legal Officer - coordinator
- IT Manager - coordinator
- Communication Manager - coordinator



## Joint Secretariat

- JS headquarters in Zagreb, branch JS office in Bosnia and Herzegovina (Mostar and Banja Luka) and Montenegro (Herceg Novi)

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- The Joint Secretariat staff:
- Head of JS
- Project manager – specialist (3 positions, Zagreb, branch office in Mostar and branch office in Herceg Novi)
- Financial manager – specialist (1 position Zagreb)
- Project manager – coordinator (1 position Zagreb)
- Financial manager – coordinator (2 positions, Zagreb and Banja Luka)



## **Certifying Authority**

- Directorate for Finances and IT within the Ministry of Regional Development and EU Funds - 6 employees

Tasks distributed according to:

- control and verifications of the documentation submitted by JS/MA,
- payments and monitoring financial flows,
- reporting



## **Audit Authority**

- Agency for the Audit of European Union Programmes Implementation System (ARPA) - 5 employees.
- Sector for Audit of Structural Instruments
- AA is assisted by Group of Auditors (GoA) - set up within three months of CP approval and chaired by AA
- representatives from responsible bodies of each of the participating country.
- Audit body in Bosnia and Herzegovina: Ministry of Finance and Treasury of Bosnia and Herzegovina.
- Audit body in Montenegro: Audit Authority of Montenegro.

## **National Authorities and Control Bodies**

- Croatia: Ministry of Regional Development and EU Funds of the Republic of Croatia (Service for International Territorial Cooperation)
- Bosnia and Herzegovina<sup>32</sup>: Directorate for European Integration of the Council of Ministers of Bosnia and Herzegovina
- Montenegro: Ministry of Foreign Affairs and European Integration of Montenegro
- Control body in Croatia: Directorate for Financial Management and Accounting within ARD
- Control body in BiH: Ministry of Finance and Treasury
- Control body in Montenegro: Ministry of Finance





## Joint Monitoring Committee

- responsible for the review of overall effectiveness, quality and coherence of the implementation of all actions towards meeting the Programme objectives
- JMC members represent the participating countries on policy and administrative level thus ensuring a transparent approach in monitoring the Programme implementation
- set up on 24 February 2016 at 1st Joint Monitoring Committee meeting



## What have we done so far?

- 1<sup>st</sup> JMC meeting conducted
- Programme Communication Strategy prepared and adopted
- Programme rules on eligibility prepared and adopted
- Programme website:

<http://www.interreg-hr-ba-me2014-2020.eu/>

- Programme promotional materials
- 1st Call for Proposals launched on 9 March 2016
- Launching conference held in Split on 10 March 2016
- 1<sup>st</sup> information session held in Banja Luka on 22 March 2016
- Remaining information sessions to be held in Podgorica, Mostar, Zadar, Slavonski Brod, Tuzla and Herceg Novi



## Interreg joint branding

- harmonised Interreg branding initiative for ETC/CBC programmes in the programming period 2014-2020
- **Project branding will have to be aligned with Programme branding**
- More info: Programme Communication Strategy
- **Interreg branding brings direct benefits to projects in terms of visibility:**
  - increased recognisability within the general public
  - help in attracting relevant stakeholders
  - help in achieving project objectives in a more cost-efficient, effective and visible way.



## Where are we now?

### First Call for Proposals

- Launching of the 1st CfP: 10 March 2016 – 10 June 2016
- Assessment of project proposals: till end 2016
- Project selection and contracting: 1st quarter of 2017

### Compliance assessment

- Finalization of Description of Management and Control System (DMCS)
- AA performs compliance assessment – pre-condition for the designation procedure
- MS designates MA, CA and AA and notifies EU COM on designation

### Employment of JS staff

- Employment of staff in JS – on-going (April and May 2016)



[www.interreg-hr-ba-me2014-2020.eu](http://www.interreg-hr-ba-me2014-2020.eu)

## **Managing Authority**

Interreg IPA CBC programme Croatia – Bosnia and Herzegovina - Montenegro 2014-2020

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