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No.	Question as received	Translation (if the case)	Reply
<b>I. Eligibility of applicants</b>			
I.1	Fundatia noastra are sediul social in Bucuresti, dar proiectul pe care doreste sa-l promoveze se refera la incluziunea sociala si are arie de aplicabilitate nationala! Intrebare: in cazul in care identificam un ONG partener dintr-una din regiunile eligibile din Bulgaria, putem aplica la acest program?	Our NGO is situated in Bucharest, but the project is related to social inclusion and has national applicability. The question is: in case we identify an NGO from one of the eligible regions in Bulgaria, can we apply?	<p>In case you have exclusive competences (proven by legal documents) in the eligible area you may apply.</p> <p>In case you do not have exclusive competences you still may apply, but the in a ceiling of 20% (from the project budget) for the partner(s) outside the eligible area.</p> <p>Irrespective of the above mentioned, the activities that take part outside the eligible area cannot exceed 20% from the budget (also at project level)</p>



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<p><b>I.2</b></p>	<p>Rugămintea este să ne precizati dacă sucursala unui Institut Național (institutie de drept public cu sediul central în București), sucursala deschisă în zona transfrontaliera RO-BG, organizata ca entitate legala fara personalitate juridica, corespunde definitiei din Ghidul Aplicantului la prezentul apel de proiecte din cadrul Programului Interreg V-A Romania-Bulgaria (pag. 22 din 58), respectiv „local/regional branch offices with legal statute (legal entity)”.</p>	<p>Please clarify if the branch of a legal institute (Public body with headquarters in Bucharest), the branch is opened in the eligible area and it is organized as a branch without legal personality is eligible according to the provisions of the Applicant’s Guide (page 22 out of 58): „local/regional branch offices with legal statute (legal entity)”.</p>	<p>No, a branch without legal personality is not eligible, the branch should have legal personality in order for it to be eligible. However, there are other options in your case, according to the provisions of the Guide.</p>
<p><b>I.3</b></p>	<p>Daca Fundatia noastra identifica un partener roman dintr-una din regiunile eligibile romanesti, si de asemenea un partener bulgar dintr-una din regiunile eligibile bulgaresti, poate participa la acest program?</p>	<p>If our NGO (<i>same NGO as above</i>) identifies a Romanian partner in one of the Romanian eligible regions, and also a Bulgarian partner in one of the Bulgarian eligible regions, can we apply?</p>	<p>You may select up to 5 partners, either Romanian or Bulgarian.</p>



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<p>I.4</p>	<p>Vă rugăm să ne precizați dacă Institutele de Cercetare- Dezvoltare și instituțiile de învățământ din afara ariei de acoperire a Programului sunt eligibile, din punct de vedere al locației, să aplice pe programul nou lansat.</p>	<p>Please clarify if the Institutes for Research and Development and educational institutions from outside the coverage area of the Program are eligible, in terms of location, to apply for the newly launched program.</p>	<p>If the institutions have exclusive competence (as evidenced by legal documents) within the eligible area, can apply under the Interreg V-A Romania-Bulgaria Programme;          If the institutions do not have exclusive competence, can apply under Interreg V-A Romania-Bulgaria Programme but within a ceiling of 20% (of the project budget) for partner / partners outside the program area;          Nevertheless, activities that take place outside the program area may not exceed 20% of the budget (also at project level).</p>
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<p><b>1.5</b></p>		<p>In concrete - could you please, clarify the meaning of “branch offices with legal statute (legal entity)”? As a Bulgarian entity, with headquarter in Sofia, if it registers a local branch in one of the Bulgarian eligible regions, the branch will have a legal statute, but will not have new VAT number of own identity, because it will be part of the structure of the main organization. In this case is it the local branch an eligible organization according to the programs guidelines and can it be considered as beneficiary with the same status as the entities registered in the eligible areas?</p>	<p>Regarding the meaning of “branch office with legal statute (legal entity)” from the Applicant’s Guide for the first call for proposals in the context of Interreg V-A Romania-Bulgaria Programme, we inform you that according to the Applicant’s Guide provisions, the local branch in one of the Bulgarian eligible regions should have legal personality in order to be eligible. It is not a problem if the VAT number will be a unique number for the whole organization according to the legislation in force.</p>
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<p><b>I.6</b></p>	<p>In cazul in care un institut de cercetare are un punct de lucru cu personalitate juridica in zona transfrontaliera RO-BG este obligatoriu ca personalul cuprins in proiect sa lucreze efectiv in punctul de lucru respectiv? Daca aplicantul nu este situat in aria eligibila poate participa la proiect ca Lead-Partner, chiar in limita a celor 20% din valoarea proiectului?</p>	<p>If a research institution has a branch with legal personality in RO-BG border area is it necessarily for the project staff to work actually in this branch? If the applicant is not located in the eligible area can it participate in the project as Lead Partner, even within the limits of the 20% of the project value?</p>	<p>Please be informed that the expenditures related to staff shall be reimbursed as flat rate, therefore, the Programme bodies shall not check the any of the documents for reimbursing the expenditures. You have the entire responsibility regarding those expenditures and you should observe the national legislation. It is expected that applicants use their own staff in implementing the project. There is no restriction regarding the quality of the applicant (Lead beneficiary or beneficiary) as regards the participation in the project. Nevertheless, all the provisions mentioned in the Applicant's Guide need to be respected, especially those related to the restrictions of the budget and the location of activities.</p>
<p><b>I.7</b></p>		<p>Is it eligible for an organization to apply simultaneously: - along two priority axis with one/two different projects; - along one priority axis with two different projects.</p>	<p>Yes, an organization can apply simultaneously on one/two priority axis with one/two different projects. Please be aware that according to the Applicant Guide one beneficiary cannot simultaneously have more than four projects in implementation.</p>



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I.8		<p>The nongovernmental organizations (foundations) in Bulgaria could be registered for public benefit or for private benefit. Are both types of the Bulgarian NGOs eligible according to the requirements of the Romania Bulgaria Cross Border Cooperation Programme's - Call for proposals no.1?</p>	<p>According to the Applicant's Guide, the applicants must be:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Romanian or Bulgarian non-profit making bodies/organizations, legally established according to the national legislation of the state on whose territory they are located;</li> <li>- Be non-governmental organizations (associations or foundations).</li> </ul> <p>Also, in accordance with the Bulgarian legislation both types of Bulgarian NGOs /registered for public benefit or for private benefit under the Juridical Persons with Non-Profit Purposes Act/ fulfill the conditions mentioned in the Applicant's Pack.</p>
I.9		<p>One of the requirements of the program is the previous EU financing experience of the beneficiary to be described in the Application form? Will the previous experience of the applicant as a subcontractor in EU funded projects be consider eligible or the applicant organization must had been a beneficiary (Lead partner or partner) of previous EU funded project/projects?</p>	<p>Please be informed that the applicants are requested to mention in the Application Form their experience in implementing EU funded projects as beneficiary (either as Lead Partner of Partner). Nevertheless, this is not an eligibility criteria.</p>



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<p>I.10</p>		<p>Which administrative structures by Romania are eligible under the program? According to their territorial division are the communes and towns included in the relevant municipalities? This is important for us with regard to the question who can be eligible beneficiary under the program. Can you specify which communes and towns in the respective municipalities/ administrative regions of Constanta, Mehedinti, Dolj, Olt, Teleorman, Giurgiu and Calarasi can be beneficiaries of the program?</p>	<p>According to the provisions of the Applicant's Guide, the applicants must fulfill a set of criteria in order to be eligible. Among the potential eligible beneficiaries of the Programme, the Applicant's Guide mentions local/regional/national authorities. Therefore, all towns and communes are among the potential eligible applicants, provided they respect all the provisions of the Applicant's Guide regarding eligibility.</p>
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I.11		<p>About the reconstruction and rehabilitation of second and third class roads, by the Bulgarian law, The Programme beneficiary should be RIA (Road Infrastructure Agency) separately or the relevant municipality could implement the reconstruction and rehabilitation in partnership with RIA?</p>	<p>The Guide states that the applicant should be the owner of the land/or building or the applicant has received the land and/or building is in concession or holds any other right under the real property law. Therefore, the applicant should have the legal right to construct/modernize the road for which it requests financing under the Programme. This does not exclude, on the other hand, the participation of other institutions in the project as applicants provided their participation is justified in terms of activities proposed and is in line with the provisions of the Applicant's Guide.</p>
I.12		<p>In how many projects can one organization be a leading partner?</p>	<p>According to the Applicant Guide one beneficiary cannot simultaneously have more than four projects in implementation. However, there is no restriction concerning the number of projects submitted by a beneficiary (involved either as a Lead Beneficiary or partner in a project).</p>





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<p>I.13</p>		<p>In connection with the search and establishment of collaborative partnerships for project application, could you please tell me where to obtain information on potential partners from Bulgaria and Romania? Also, does the program include organized peer forums in which eligible beneficiaries from both countries can be met and contacts established? Is the time and place clear and when will be announced the carrying out of the information campaign in Vidin, Vratsa and Montana?</p>	<p>Starting with the 15th of April 2015 and up until the 11th of May 2015 the Programme bodies organize a caravan in each district and county from the eligible area. These events can also be used for creating partnerships.</p>
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I.14	<p>Попада ли в обхвата на Приоритетна ос 1 път RSE 2107 от км 0+000 до км 9+100?</p> <p>Участъкът от път RSE 2107 от км 3+800 до км 9+100, може ли да се счита за осигуряващ достъп до културни, исторически и природни забележителности, при условие, че стига до държавен път, а от там започва път RSE 1108, който непосредствено води до Ивановски скални църкви?</p>	<p>Is the part of the road RSE 2107 from km 0+000 to km 9+100 eligible under the 1 priority axis?</p> <p>Can we consider part of the road RSE 2107 from km 3+800 to km 9+100 as providing access to the cultural, historical or natural heritage providing that the part of the road leads to the state road from where another road RSE 1108 starts, leading directly to the rock church of Ivanovo (a historical and cultural heritage area)?</p>	<p>Your questions are very specific and concern mainly eligibility of actions. You must be aware that only the assessment working group and the Monitoring Committee of the Programme will be in position to decide on particular action and JS cannot give a prior opinion. Thus equal treatment of applicants will be respected. You are advised to read questions and answers published on the Programme site, and in particular “Eligibility of actions” part.</p> <p>Thus, according to the applicant guide provisions:</p> <p>The applicant guide states, that roads proving cross border impact and connecting secondary or tertiary nodes to TEN-T infrastructure (core or comprehensive) will be financed under Priority Axis 1.</p> <p>So, in order to be considered eligible, the part of the road RSE 2107 from km 0+000 to km 9+100 must observe this requirement of the applicant guide.</p>
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			<p>The applicant guide states that Modernizing/constructing roads to natural and cultural heritage interest points that will be part of a cross-border tourism product shall be considered eligible for funding under Priority Axis 2.</p> <p>Thus, in order to be eligible under this priority axis, the modernization/construction of the road should be related to a better access to a natural or cultural heritage interest point that must be part of an integrated cross-border tourism product. Also, the applicant must clearly demonstrate that this modernization/construction of the road has a direct contribution in achievement of these IP objectives.</p> <p>Also, please be aware that the modernization/construction of the road cannot be itself the objective of an operation under PA 2, but a part of a project whose objective is related to the improvement of the sustainable use of natural heritage and resources and cultural heritage.</p>
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<b>I.15</b>	<p>В насоките за кандидатстване една от допустимите дейности по Приоритетна ос 2 „Зелен регион“, Специфична цел 2.1 Подобряване на устойчивото използване на ресурсите и природното и културно наследство е: 6. Реконструкция на културна инфраструктура:, възстановяване и популяризиране на културни паметници въз основата (основани) на релевантни трансгранични стратегии/концепции.</p> <p>В този смисъл, допустимо ли е за финансиране реконструкция на читалища, младежки домове по Програмата, като обекти от културната инфраструктура или е допустимо само възстановяване и популяризиране на културни паметници (културна инфраструктура)?</p>	<p>In the Applicant`s guide under Priority Axis 2 - A green region, Specific Objective 2.1 To improve the sustainable use of natural heritage and resources and cultural heritage one of the indicative operations is: 6. Reconstructing cultural infrastructure:, recovery and promotion of cultural monuments based on relevant cross-border strategies/concept.</p> <p>Is reconstruction of cultural clubs/community centers, youth centers (as objects of the cultural infrastructure) eligible for financing under the Programme or only recovery and promotion of cultural monuments (cultural infrastructure) are eligible activities? (We are not sure about the punctuation: 6. Reconstructing cultural infrastructure:, recovery and promotion of cultural monuments based on relevant cross-border strategies/concept).</p>	<p>Please be advised that the list of operations mentioned in the Applicant`s Guide is indicative. Therefore, as long as the activities serve the objective of the Priority Axis and the indicators, the project proposal does not need to match exactly the indicative actions. Unfortunately, the JS cannot provide an opinion regarding the eligibility of an applicant or actions, as this will be decided by the evaluators and further on by the Monitoring Committee.</p> <p>It is advised that the recovery and/or promotion of cultural monuments is planned in the context of a cross border strategy in order to ensure a sustainable development of the cross border area.</p>
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<p>(Пунктуацията - натрупването на две точки и запетая - възпрепятстват правилното разбиране на допустимите дейности: 6 Реконструкция на културна инфраструктура:, възстановяване и популяризиране на културни паметници въз основа (основани) на релевантни трансгранични стратегии/концепции)</p> <p>Какво точно означава „да бъдат основани на релевантни трансгранични стратегии/концепции“? Това отнася ли се при реконструкция на читалища и младежки домове? (ако тази дейност е допустима за финансиране по Програмата)</p>	<p>What does “based on relevant cross-border strategies/concept” mean? Is this concerns the reconstruction of: cultural clubs/community centers, youth centers (if eligible activity for financing under the Programme)?</p>	
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I.16		<p>According to the Programme on pg. 37, for the PA 1 “A well connected region”, the Local Municipality is not mentioned as a beneficiary, but in the Applicant Guide on pg 26, as a indicative examples of potential applicants for <b>ALL</b> Priority axes the Local Councils/Municipalities are mentioned as a beneficiaries. Can you tell us if the Local Municipalities are eligible to apply under PA 1?</p>	<p>According to the provisions of the Applicant’s Guide, the applicants must fulfill a series of conditions, among which: be non-governmental organizations (associations or foundations), public sector operators, bodies governed by public law, local/regional/national authorities. The Guide also lists indicative examples of potential applicants, among which local councils/municipalities. Therefore, local municipalities are eligible, provided all the conditions mentioned in the Applicant’s Guide are fulfilled.</p>
I.17		<p>Can we consider the Community centers-library/cultural clubs and Youth Centers as cultural infrastructure?</p>	<p>Please be informed that regarding the eligibility of an action, in the interest of equal treatment of applicants, the JS cannot give a prior opinion on this, the assessment working group and the Monitoring Committee of the Programme being entitle to decide on this.</p>



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<p><b>I.18</b></p>	<p>Asociatia noastra are sediul social in Judetul Ilfov si am dori sa stim daca este admis ca in zona eligibila sa avem punct de lucru dar fara personalitate juridica? Sau trebuie sa efectuam filiala pentru a putea aplica la acest proiect?</p>	<p>Our Association has the main office in Ilfov, Romania, and we would like to know if we can apply for this project if our association will have only secondary office without legal personality? Or we must open a branch in the eligible area in order to submit a project?</p>	<p>Legal personality for the branch in the legal area is necessary to apply without budgetary limitation. If you do not have a branch with legal personality and you cannot legally open a local/regional branch office with legal personality in the eligible area, you still may apply, but in a ceiling of 20% at project level, subject to observing all the other rules of the call (particularly proving benefit to the eligible area by your participation in the project).</p>
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<p>I.19</p>	<p>Va rugam sa ne precizati daca un ONG care inregistreaza deficit in bilantul anual 2014 este eligibil pentru a aplica pe Interreg V-A Ro-Bg.</p>	<p>Please let us know if an NGO with deficit in the balance sheet for 2014 can be an eligible applicant for Interreg V-A Romania-Bulgaria.</p>	<p>Referring to the Eligibility of Applicants, Applicant’s Guide listed a set of requirements related to the applicants:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- legal status,</li> <li>- geographical location,</li> <li>- professional and financial background.</li> </ul> <p>As regards the professional and financial background, please note that The applicants shall have stable and sufficient professional and financial resources in order to manage and financially implement the project (page 24th from Applicant’s Guide). The deficit in the balance sheet for 2014 is not mentioned explicitly as non-eligibility criteria.</p> <p>Still, a declaration of commitment should be issued by the legal representative (A.5 from Applicant’s Guide), and all the elements mentioned in the content should be checked and acknowledged as real and accurate (including availability of funds for proper project implementation).</p>
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<p>I.20</p>		<p>The Institute of Fish Resources-Varna (IFR), Bulgaria is unique governmental institution with unique competencies and tasks for the territory of Bulgaria. The headquarters if the IFR is in Varna but the scope of research and activities covers the whole Bulgarian area of the Black Sea including the coastal zone of the Dobrich region which is eligible region for the INTERREG program.</p> <p>In relation to the above please clarify if the IFR is an eligible applicant for participation in the call for proposals if the scope of activities mandated in the articles of the Institute cover the coastal area of Dobrich region.</p> <p>In case the IFR is eligible applicant please confirm that if the scope of activities will be in Dobrich region costal area the application can be financed with 85% by the Program.</p>	<p>According to the provisions of the Applicant’s Guide, applicants have to fulfill one of the following conditions as regards the location:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Have their headquarters in the eligible cross border region or;</li> <li>- Are organizations whose headquarters are not situated in the eligible area, but are located in Romania or Bulgaria and have local/regional branch offices with legal statute (legal entity) established in the eligible area or;</li> <li>- Are Romanian or Bulgarian national public authorities whose area of competence, established by legal acts, extends to the eligible area of the programme.</li> </ul> <p>There is also the possibility for applicants located in Romania and Bulgaria, but whose headquarters are not situated in the eligible area and cannot legally open a local/regional branch office with legal personality in the eligible area to participate in projects provided that their budget is limited to 20% of the project’s total budget.</p>
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			<p>As long as one of these conditions are met, applicants are eligible. Unfortunately, we may not provide an opinion regarding the eligibility of an applicant as this is the task of the evaluators, the final decisions belonging to the Monitoring Committee. As regards the co-financing rates please be informed that these apply to all eligible beneficiaries, irrespective of their location, namely: 85% ERDF, 13% national co-financing and 2% own contribution.</p>
<p><b>I.21</b></p>		<p>According to the information provided by the constitutive documents of the National Institute for Research and Development in Tourism (quote from the documents is provided), do you consider that our institution has exclusive competence in the eligible area?</p>	<p>According to the provisions of the Applicant's Guide, an applicant is eligible if:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Have their headquarters in the eligible cross border region or;</li> <li>2. Are organizations whose headquarters are not situated in the eligible area, but are located in Romania or Bulgaria and have</li> </ol>



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			<p>local/regional branch offices with legal statute (legal entity) established in the eligible area or;</p> <p>3. Are Romanian or Bulgarian national public authorities whose area of competence, established by legal acts, extends to the eligible area of the programme.</p> <p>4. There is also the possibility for applicants located in Romania and Bulgaria, but whose headquarters are not situated in the eligible area and cannot legally open a local/regional branch office with legal personality in the eligible area to participate in projects provided that their budget is limited to 20% of the project's total budget.</p> <p>5. As long as one of these conditions are met, applicants are eligible. The documents provided by you shall be assessed by the evaluators and the final decisions shall be taken by the Monitoring Committee.</p>
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<p>I.22</p>	<p>Asociatia de Dezvoltare Intercomunitara „ILUMINAT PUBLIC EFICIENT judetul Giurgiu” intentioneaza sa depuna un proiect de monitorizare video care se inscrie pe Axa prioritara 1-O regiune bine conectata. Asociatia are ca asociati 47 de unitati administrativ teritoriale din judetul Giurgiu, specificate in actul constitutiv. Asociatia actioneaza in domeniul furnizarii de servicii publice pe raza de competenta a unitatilor administrativ-teritoriale membre. Pentru a asigura o componenta puternica transfrontaliera este nevoie ca ADI sa amplaseze un sistem video inclusiv in orasul Giurgiu, care nu este membru ADI, dar care si-a dat acceptul pentru acest tip de investitie. Avand in vedere ca in structura ADI se regaseste ca membru Consiliul Judetean Giurgiu ale carui competente se extind la nivelul intregului judet, se poate considera eligibila aceasta investitie in orasul Giurgiu, prin prisma atributiilor pe care le indeplineste Cosiliului Judetean la nivelul judetului?</p>	<p>The Intercommunity Development Association “Efficient Public Lighting - Giurgiu County” intends to submit a project for video monitoring, under PA 1 - A well connected region. The Association is composed of 47 territorial administrative units from Giurgiu County, as mentioned in the constitutive document. The Association provides public services within the area of its constitutive territorial administrative units.</p> <p>In order to ensure a strong cross-border component it is necessary that the Association install a video system also in Giurgiu town, which is not a member of the Association, but which accepted an investment of this type. Taking into account that the County Council of Giurgiu is a member of the Association, with responsibilities all over Giurgiu County, could this investment be considered eligible?</p>	<p>From the data you mentioned to us both the beneficiaries and the activities are from/taking place in the eligible area of the Programme, therefore, observe the location criteria from the Guide on activities and applicants (presuming the association is a structure with legal personality-a NGO). Considering that you mentioned that the project proposal represents an investment, you shall first of all clarify whether or not this investment includes construction works. If so, please consider that, according with the Applicant’s Guide, there are two requirements that shall be followed:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. the applicant is the owner of the land/or building,</li> <li>2. the applicant has received the land and/or building is in concession or holds any other right under the real property law.</li> </ol> <p>If the investment doesn’t include any construction, no such conditions shall be following, but still you should demonstrate that the partner is the body/institution entitled to take action in the field/fields addressed by the project and has received all legal agreements for the investment.</p>
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<p><b>I.23</b></p>	<p>Centrul Cultural Ion Vinea Giurgiu, intentioneaza sa depuna un proiect in cadrul INTERREG V A. Centrul cultural are personalitate juridica si este institutie subordonata Primariei Giurgiu.</p> <p>In cazul in care Primaria depune 4 proiecte in cadrul programului, se considera acest proiect al Centrului Cultural a fi al 5-lea? Intrebarea vine in contextul in care orice entitatea are voie sa aiba in implementare doar 4 proiecte.</p> <p>Daca o asociatie este nou infiintata, ea beneficiaza de experienta(implementarii proiectelor) membrilor sai fondatori, entitati juridice?</p>	<p>Ion Vinea Giurgiu Cultural Center, intends to submit a project under INTERREG V A. The Cultural Centre has legal personality and is an institution subordinated to Giurgiu Municipality.</p> <p>If the Municipality submits 4 projects under the program, the Cultural Center's project is considered to be the 5th? The question comes in the context that any entity is allowed to have only 4 projects in implementation.If an association is newly established, does it benefit from the experience (project implementation) of its founding members, legal entities?</p>	<p>The condition mentioned in the Applicant's Guide relates to the applicant as a legal entity. So, in your case, considering that the Cultural Center has legal personality and shall be the applicant within the Programme, the project will not be counted as submitted by the Municipality of Giurgiu.</p> <p>The experience conditions mentioned in the Applicant's Guide refer to the experience of the applicant, as legal entity submitting the project.</p>
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<p><b>I.24</b></p>	<p>Va rog sa-mi spuneti daca <b>APA SERVICE S.A. GIURGIU</b> este eligibil pentru a participa la <b>Programul Interreg V-A Romania-Bulgaria</b>.</p> <p>Operatorul regional <b>APA SERVICE S.A. GIURGIU</b> este inregistrat in Registrul Comerțului sub nr J52/493/17.07.2007, furnizeaza apa potabila la parametrii de calitate prevazuti de lege , conform monitorizarii de audit si control in judetul Giurgiu cu activitatea principala: prestari de servicii si se aliniaza la;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Legea 31/1990 -legea privind desfasurarea activitatii societatilor comerciale</li> <li>• Legea 51/2006- legea serviciilor comunitare de utilități publice</li> <li>• Legea 241/2006 -legea serviciului de alimentare cu apa si canalizare</li> <li>• Ordinul 88/2007 -privind aprobarea regulamentului-cadru al serviciului de alimentare cu apa si canalizare</li> <li>• Ordinul 90/2007 -privind aprobarea contractului cadru de furnizare/prestare a serviciului de alimentare cu apa si canalizare</li> </ul>	<p>Please let me know if <b>WATER SERVICE S.A. GIURGIU</b> is eligible to participate in Interreg Programme Romania-Bulgaria V-A.</p> <p><b>WATER SERVICE regional operator S.A. GIURGIU</b> is registered in the Trade Register under no J52 / 493 / 17.07.2007, provides drinking water in Giurgiu County at quality parameters stipulated by law, according to the activity of audit and control monitoring. Its main activity is providing services and it aligns with the following legal documents:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Law 31/1990 -Law regarding the activity of commercial companies</li> <li>• Law 51/2006 law regarding the public utilities services</li> <li>• Law 241/2006 -Law regarding the service of water supply and sewerage</li> <li>• Order 88/2007 approving a framework regulation of private-service water supply and sewerage</li> <li>• Order 90/2007 approving the framework contract for the supply / provision of water supply and sewerage</li> </ul>	<p>In order to be eligible, applicants have to fulfill all the eligibility conditions mentioned in the Applicant's Guide. Among them, applicants have to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Be Romanian or Bulgarian non-profit making bodies/organizations, legally established according to the national legislation of the state on whose territory they are located;</li> <li>• Be non-governmental organizations (associations or foundations), public sector operators, bodies governed by public law, local/regional/national authorities</li> </ul> <p>A "body governed by public law" means any body:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) established for the specific purpose of meeting needs in the general interest, not having an industrial or commercial character;</li> <li>(b) having legal personality; and</li> <li>(c) financed, for the most part, by the state, regional or local authorities, or other bodies governed by public law; or subject to management supervision by those bodies; or having an administrative, managerial or supervisory board, more than half of whose members are appointed by the state, regional or local authorities, or by other bodies governed by public law.</li> </ul> <p>Also, please be advised that the Programme does not finance activities which are subject to state aid.</p>
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<p>I.25</p>	<p>В Областна администрация Видин постъпи следното запитване, относно Програма Интеррег V-А Румъния - България 2014-2020 година:</p> <p>„Гимназия с преподаване на чужди езици „Йордан Радичков“ - гр. Видин допустим бенефициент ли е по Приоритетна ос 2 „Зелен регион“ на Програма Интеррег V-А Румъния - България 2014-2020 година?</p> <p>Гимназията е със статут на общинско училище с държавно-делегиран бюджет, т.е. средствата за училището постъпват в община Видин като целеви средства, след което финансовия ресурс се насочва към училището.“</p> <p>Преpraщам Ви запитването по компетентност и се надяваме на Вашия своевременен отговор.</p> <p>Предварително Ви благодаря.</p>	<p>Vidin District Administration received the following inquiry:</p> <p>Is Secondary school for foreign languages “Yordan Radichkov” - Vidin an eligible beneficiary under PA “Green Region” of Romania - Bulgaria 2014 - 2020 Programme? The school is municipal school with state delegated budget.</p>	<p>In order to be eligible, applicants have to fulfill all the eligibility conditions mentioned in the Applicant’s Guide. Among them, applicants have to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Be Romanian or Bulgarian non-profit making bodies/organizations, legally established according to the national legislation of the state on whose territory they are located;</li> <li>• Be non-governmental organizations (associations or foundations), public sector operators, bodies governed by public law, local/regional/national authorities</li> </ul> <p>A "body governed by public law" means any body:</p> <p>(a) established for the specific purpose of meeting needs in the general interest, not having an industrial or commercial character;</p> <p>(b) having legal personality; and</p> <p>(c) financed, for the most part, by the state, regional or local authorities, or other bodies governed by public law; or subject to management supervision by those bodies; or having an administrative, managerial or supervisory board, more than half of whose members are appointed by the state, regional or local authorities, or by other bodies governed by public law.</p> <p>Unfortunately, we may not provide an opinion regarding the eligibility of an applicant, as this is the task of the evaluators, the final decision belonging to the Monitoring Committee.</p>
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<p>I.26</p>	<p>Допустимо ли е партньорство между водеща организация със седалище гр. Русе, единият партньор е от Румъния, а другия партньор от гр. Разград?</p>	<p>Is a partnership between a lead organization from Ruse, a partner from Romania and another partner from Razgrad eligible?</p>	<p>According to the provisions of the Applicant's Guide, applicants must have at least one partner on the other side of the border and have to fulfill one of the following conditions as regards the location:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Have their headquarters in the eligible cross border region or;</li> <li>- Are organizations whose headquarters are not situated in the eligible area, but are located in Romania or Bulgaria and have local/regional branch offices with legal statute (legal entity) established in the eligible area or;</li> <li>- Are Romanian or Bulgarian national public authorities whose area of competence, established by legal acts, extends to the eligible area of the programme.</li> </ul> <p>There is also the possibility for applicants located in Romania and Bulgaria, but whose headquarters are not situated in the eligible area and cannot legally open a local/regional branch office with legal personality in the eligible area to participate in projects provided that their budget is limited to 20% of the project's total budget. As long as one of these conditions are met, applicants are eligible. Unfortunately, we may not provide an opinion regarding the eligibility of an applicant as this is the task of the evaluators, the final decisions belonging to the Monitoring Committee.</p>
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<p>I.27</p>	<p><i>Disclaimer: the reply to these questions is not equivalent within the programme, taking into consideration the following:</i></p>	<p>Spiru Haret University from Romania, private law legal person, was contacted by a University from Bulgaria in order to take part in a project under the Interreg V-A Romania-Bulgaria Programme 2014-2020, Priority Axis 2. In order to approve our participation, please asses our eligibility within the programme, taking into consideration the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Spiru Haret University Bucharest was established as a private law legal person through Law no. 443 from 5th of July 2002 as a higher education institution;</li> <li>- Spiru Harte University has under its subordination accredited faculties and at the present moment within the structure of Spiru Haret University according to GD 580/2014, two faculties are foreseen in Craiova</li> </ul> <p>The objective of the project we intend to submit is “Shrines and pilgrimage. Stimulating cultural and religious tourism in both sides of the Danube” - Specific Objective 2.1.</p> <p>Taking into consideration that Craiova Municipality is located within the eligible area, we would like to know if our institution is eligible under the programme, considering that we dispose of the necessary resources, including academics in order to ensure a smooth implementation of a project financed within Interreg V-A Romania-Bulgaria 2014-2020.</p>	<p>According to the provisions of the Applicant’s Guide, the potential beneficiaries have to fulfill a series of eligibility conditions in order to receive financing under the Programme. One of them is connected to the legal status of the applicant. The Applicant’s Guide stipulates that the beneficiaries have to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Be Romanian or Bulgarian non-profit making bodies/organizations, legally established according to the national legislation of the state on whose territory they are located;</li> <li>- Be non-governmental organizations (associations or foundations), public sector operators, bodies governed by public law, local/regional/national authorities</li> </ul> <p>As regards the location criteria, beneficiaries have to fulfill one of the following conditions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- have their headquarters in the eligible cross border region or;</li> <li>- are organizations whose headquarters are not situated in the eligible area, but are located in Romania or Bulgaria and have local/regional branch offices with legal statute (legal entity) established in the eligible area.</li> <li>- are Romanian or Bulgarian national public authorities whose area of competence, established by legal acts, extends to the eligible area of the programme.</li> </ul> <p>In case none of the above mentioned location conditions are fulfilled, the applicants, located in Romania and Bulgaria may participate in projects provided that their budget is limited to 20% of the project’s total budget.</p> <p>Please be advised that the Applicant’s Guide lists as indicative eligible beneficiaries educational institutions (schools, universities etc.).</p>
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<p><b>I.28</b></p>	<p>La contributia proprie de 2% trebuie sa contribuie fiecare partener de proiect? Daca, da aceasta trebuie sa fie proportionala cu finantarea alocata fiecarui partener sau nu are importanta?</p>	<p>Regarding the 2% own contribution should each partner contribute to the project? If so, must it be proportional to the funding allocated to each partner or it is not important?</p>	<p>According to the provisions of the Applicant's Guide, each beneficiary's budget shall be financed as follows: 85% shall be financed from ERDF, 13% from the national state budget and 2% represents each beneficiary's own contribution. Therefore, the own contribution represents the share of the total eligible expenditure that will be supported by the beneficiaries of the project, and it is proportional to each beneficiary's budget. However, it is possible for one beneficiary to have 0 budget.</p>
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<p><b>I.29</b></p>	<p>Във връзка с текст на страница 21 и страница 48 от насоките за кандидатстване по Interreg V-A Romania-Bulgaria Programme (ревизирана версия от 20.05.2015), бих искал да задам следния въпрос: Допустимо ли е даден бенефициент, да речем партньор - българска община, да кандидатства с проект по приоритетна ос 1, 2 или 3 за извършване на дейности по обект, част от който е публична държавна собственост.</p> <p>Като примери мога да дам речните корита в община, където част от коритото е публична държавна собственост, а за да бъдат извършени ефективно да речем дейности по приоритетна ос 3 се налага да се навлезе в тази част на обекта. В такъв случай, ако бенефициентът получи писмено разрешение от оторизиран държавен орган, какъвто би могъл да бъде Областен управител, допустимо ли би било подобно проектно предложение. (Извършване на дейности от общината в терен общинска собственост, с частична дейност в държавна собственост при наличие на писмено съгласие и разрешение от оторизиран орган.). И ако е допустимо, но се изисква специфична форма на даденото съгласие, то да ни дадете указания.</p>	<p><i>issues related to eligibility and scoring.</i></p> <p>In regards to the text on page 21 and 48 of the Applicants’s Guide of Interreg V-A Romania-Bulgaria Programme (version 20.05.2015) I would like to ask the following:</p> <p>Is it eligible a beneficiary, for example a Bulgarian municipality, to apply for financing with a project under PA 1, 2 and 3 for the execution of activities of an object which is public state property. Examples: river basins in a municipality, where part of the river basin is public state property and in order to be effectively executed activities under PA 3 this part of the river basin is concerned. In this case, if a written permission from the authorized state body is obtained (for example from the District Governor), is such a project proposal eligible. If it is eligible please give us instructions if a specific form for the agreement is required.</p>	<p>According the provisions of the Applicants’s Guide if the applicant has received the land and/or building is in concession or holds any other right under the real property law the following documents are required:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- for public authorities -the legal act (e.g. government decision, law, government ordinance, decision of local counties, contracts etc) proving the concession or the real property right; it must be proved that the duration of the concession or the real property right of the land is in line with the provisions of article 71, paragraph 1 from Regulation 1303/2013 and that the owner has given its written agreement saying that the applicant may perform the investment.</li> </ul>
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<p>I.30</p>		<p>We are writing regarding the juridical eligibility of our Association. As an applicant under the Programme the Association has a branch, registered in Vidin. From the Guidelines it is clear that in order to be eligible the applicant should have legal personality. Since the branch of the Association will be the beneficiary under the project, will it be an eligible applicant? In the Q&amp;A you tell that separate VAT registration makes the branch eligible. As our NGO, registered in public benefit, has separate BULSTAT number of the branch (with a separate card) do we have legal personality?</p>	<p>According to the Applicant's Guidelines in order to be eligible the branch should have legal personality, i.e. to be legal entity established according to the national legislation. If the main organization is a legal entity registered according to the national rules and its branch is registered as a separate legal entity with a separate BULSTAT number it may be eligible. However, please have in mind that regarding the specific eligibility of applicants, in the interest of equal treatment, we cannot give a prior opinion on this, the assessment working group and the Monitoring Committee of the Programme being entitled to take the final decision.</p>
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<p>I.31</p>	<p>В Насоките за кандидатстване е посочено, че допустими кандидати са и организации, чиито седалища не са разположени в допустимия регион, но имат местни/регионални клонове с правен статут (юридическо лице), установени в допустимия регион. В тази връзка, моля да потвърдите дали в този случай кандидат следва да е самата организация - ("НПО-майка"), а не нейният клон самостоятелно. В случай че това е така, то при кандидатстване ще е достатъчно ли кандидатът (НПО-майка) единствено да представи и документ за регистрация на клон на допустимата територия (съдебно решение за регистрация на клона)?</p>	<p>In the Applicant's Guide it is indicated that eligible applicants can be organizations whose headquarters are not situated in the eligible area, but are located in Romania or Bulgaria and have local/regional branch offices with legal statute (legal entity) established in the eligible area. In this regard, please confirm that in such cases the applicant should be the main organization itself and not the branch independently. In case it is so, than will it be enough the applicant (the main organization) only to provide a document proving the registration of the branch in the eligible area (legal decision for registration of the branch)?</p>	<p>Eligible applicants can be either the main organizations or the branches with legal personality provided that all other requirements are met.</p> <p>The applicants, located in Romania and Bulgaria, but whose headquarters are not situated in the eligible area and cannot legally open a local/regional branch office with legal personality in the eligible area may participate in projects provided that their budget is limited to 20% of the project's total budget.</p>
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<p><b>I.32</b></p>	<p>В Насоките за кандидатстване е посочено, че допустими кандидати са и "оператори на публичния сектор". Моля да разясните какво точно следва да се разбира под "оператори на публичния сектор"? Тъй като е налице препратка към Директива 2004/18, по-конкретно моля за разяснение дали: публичноправните организации, по смисъла на ЗОП (въвеждащ Директива 2004/18), така както са дефинирани в ЗОП (в т.ч. дружества, регистрирани по Търговския закон), биха били допустими кандидати, ако отговарят на посоченото в дефиницията, както следва: "Публичноправна организация" е юридическо лице, което независимо от неговия търговски или производствен характер е създадено с цел задоволяване на обществени интереси и за което е изпълнено някое от следните условия: а) (изм. - ДВ, бр. 93 от 2011 г., в сила от 26.02.2012 г.) финансирано е повече от 50 на сто от държавния бюджет, от бюджетите на държавното обществено осигуряване или на Националната</p>	<p>In the Applicant's Guide it is indicated that eligible applicants are public sector operators. Please clarify the meaning of "public sector operators"? As there is a reference to Directive 2004/18/EC, please clarify more specifically whether?</p> <p>Public organizations as provided by the Public Procurement Act (transposing Directive 2004/18), as defined in the Public Procurement Act (incl. companies, registered by the Commerce act) would be eligible applicants if they conform to the definition, as follows: "Public legal organisation" is a legal person, which is independent from its trade or production nature and is established with the purpose of satisfaction of public interests and for which at least one of the following conditions is met:</p> <p>a) (amend.- SG 93/11, in force from 26.02.2012) the financing is more than 50 per cent of the state budget, by the budgets of the state public insurance or the National Health Insurance Fund, by the municipal budgets or by a contracting authority under art. 7, item 1 or 3;</p>	<p>In the Applicant's guide it is clearly stated that "The definition of a body governed by public law is the following according to Article 1 of Directive 2004/18/EC (Directive 2004/18/EC is repealed, the new one is Directive 2014/24/EC): A "body governed by public law" means any body: (a) established for the specific purpose of meeting needs in the general interest, not having an industrial or commercial character; (b) having legal personality; and (c) financed, for the most part, by the state, regional or local authorities, or other bodies governed by public law; or subject to management supervision by those bodies; or having an administrative, managerial or supervisory board, more than half of whose members are appointed by the state, regional or local authorities, or by other bodies governed by public law." Applicants should apply the definition from the Directive.</p>
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<p>дравноосигурителна каса, от общинските бюджети или от възложители по чл. 7, т. 1 или 3;</p> <p>б) повече от половината от членовете на неговия управителен или контролен орган се определят от възложители по чл. 7, т. 1 или 3;</p> <p>в) обект е на управленски контрол от страна на възложители по чл. 7, т. 1 или 3; управленски контрол е налице, когато едно лице може по какъвто и да е начин да упражнява доминиращо влияние върху дейността на друго лице.?</p> <p>публичните предприятия, по смисъла на ЗОП (въвеждащ Директива 2004/18), така както са дефинирани в ЗОП (в т.ч. дружества, регистрирани по Търговския закон), биха били допустими кандидати, ако отговарят на посоченото в дефиницията, както следва: "Публично предприятие" е търговец по смисъла на Търговския закон или съгласно законодателството на държава членка, върху която възложители по чл. 7, т. 1, 3 или 4 могат да упражняват пряко или косвено доминиращо влияние. "Доминиращо влияние" е налице, когато</p>	<p>b) more than half of the members of its managing or control body are determined by the contracting authority under art. 7, item 1 or 3;</p> <p>c) it is subject to managerial control on behalf of a contracting authority under art. 7, item 1 or 3; managerial control is present in case a person can exercise in one or another way dominating impact over the activity of another person?</p> <p>Public organizations as provided by the Public Procurement Act (transposing Directive 2004/18), as defined in the Public Procurement Act (incl. companies, registered by the Commerce act) would be eligible applicants if they conform to the definition, as follows: "Public enterprise" is an entrepreneur in the meaning of the Commerce Act or according to the legislation of a Member state, over whom a contracting authority under art. 7, item 1, 3 or 4, may exercise direct or indirect dominating impact. "Domingating impact" is present where a contracting authority under art. 7, item 1 or public organizations:</p>	<p>Please be informed that regarding the specific eligibility of applicants, in the interest of equal treatment of applicants, we cannot give a prior opinion on this, the assessment working group and the Monitoring Committee of the Programme being entitled to take the final decision.</p>
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	<p>възложители по чл. 7, т. 1 или публичноправни организации:          а) притежават над 50 на сто от капитала на предприятието, или б) притежават блокираща квота в капитала на предприятието, или в) могат да назначат повече от половината от членовете на управителните или контролните органи на предприятието? 1.2.3. Допустими ли биха били кандидати - търговски дружества, изцяло с частен капитал, ако същите по силата на специални права, делегирани им от държавата, извършват някоя от публичните дейности, съгласно Директивата - напр. експлоатация на летища и пристанища? Във връзка с изричното посочване в изискуемите документи на документ, доказващ наличието на концесия като една от възможностите, следва ли да се приеме, че концесионер на обект като посочените напр. летища и пристанища, който е изцяло частна организация, би бил допустим бенефициент? 1.2.4. При наличие на публични органи (напр. изпълнителни или държавни</p>	<p>а) possess over 50 percent of the capital of the enterprise, or b) possess blocking quota in the capital of the enterprise, or c) may appoint more than half of the members of the management or control bodies of the enterprise.</p> <p>Would it be eligible applicants - trade companies with entirely private capital if they in accordance with special rights fulfill some public actions delegated by the state as per the Directive - exploitation of airports or ports? With regard to the specification in the part of the required documents of such proving the concession as one of the possibilities, could we assume that a concessioner of an airport or a port, who is an entirely private organization, can be an eligible applicant?</p> <p>In cases of public authorities (for example executive or state agencies), created with a legal act and having regional branches (for example RIEW, Regional road administrations, etc.) who should be an applicant under the procedure? Is it eligible the respective regional/territorial unit to be a separate candidate in the procedure?</p>	
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	<p>агенции), създадени с нормативен акт, които имат регионални подразделения (напр. РИОСВ, Регионални пътни управления и др.), кой би следвало да е кандидат по процедурата? Допустимо ли е съответното регионално подразделение/териториално звено да е самостоятелен кандидат в процедурата?</p>		
I.33		<p>If a financial correction of 25% was applied on a project implemented on PHARE CBC Ro-Bg, according to GEO 66/2011, does it represent a breach likely to affect the applicant's eligibility, specifying in this regard the provision in the declaration of eligibility: "neither the body/institution I represent, nor its legal representatives have been declared to be in serious breach of contract for failure to comply with their contractual obligations in connection with a procurement procedure or other grant award procedure financed by the Community or national budget"?</p>	<p>A financial correction according to GEO 66/2011, does not affect the eligibility of an applicant.</p>



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<p>I.34</p>		<p>A financial correction of 25% applied on a project PHARE CBC Ro-Bg, according to OUG 66/2011, could represent a breach which may affect the applicant's eligibility? Specifying in this regard the provision from the eligibility declaration: “neither the body/institution I represent, nor its legal representatives have been declared to be in serious breach of contract for failure to comply with their contractual obligations in connection with a procurement procedure or other grant award procedure financed by the Community or national budget”.</p>	<p>A financial correction applied according to OUG 66/2011 does not affect the applicant's eligibility.</p>
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<p>I.35</p>		<p>Upon the Bulgarian national legislation (art.8 and art.17 of the Commercial law), the branch of a legal entity is subject of independent registration and public announcement in the Commercial Register with personal individualization, company name, and registered office, scope of activities, management and its own jurisdiction included. A local branch office situated in the eligible area is registered upon District Court decision and has its private identification number in BULSTAT Register. In this sense, are the competent Court decision for the foundation of the NGO's branch and the Certificate from the Register BULSTAT, sufficient proof for the legal statute required upon the Applicant's Guide on the eligibility of the applicant?</p>	<p>Yes, the listed by you: Court decision and Certificate from the Register BULSTAT are the documents that are sufficient proof for the legal status.</p>
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<p>I.36</p>	<p><i>Disclaimer: the reply to these questions is not equivalent with the questions and the Monitoring Committee decides on issues related to eligibility and scoring.</i></p>	<p>I'm writing you on behalf of Bulgarian municipality and I have two questions: - is private university eligible partner under the project conditions according to Annex G, § 5 Eligible Expenditures, 3) As an exception from the provisions of paragraph 1, preparation costs are eligible if they were incurred between 1st of January, 2014 and the submission of the Application Form and paid at the latest within 2 months following the deadline for the submission of the of the Application Form. According to the Applicant`s Guide the expenditures for preparation cost could be paid to external contractors not later than the date of first reimbursement claim (this is already answered in the last edition of the List with questions and answers under line III.25 ). My question in this regard is - as long as it is not clear that the project will be approved in two months period after submission and the preparation cost according to Annex G are eligible only in this situation will the preparation costs be eligible if they are paid to the external contractor after the project approval which occurs more than two months after the deadline for submission?</p>	<p>According to the provisions of the Applicant's Guide, the applicants must fulfill a number of conditions in order to be eligible, among others:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Be Romanian or Bulgarian non-profit making bodies/organizations, legally established according to the national legislation of the state on whose territory they are located;</li><li>○ Be non-governmental organizations (associations or foundations), public sector operators, bodies governed by public law, local/regional/national authorities</li></ul> <p>The Guide also includes a list of indicative eligible applicants, such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ County Councils/ District Administrations;</li><li>○ Local Councils/Municipalities;</li><li>○ Associations of local public authorities;</li><li>○ Chambers of Commerce/ SMEs associations;</li><li>○ Educational institutions (schools, universities etc.);</li><li>○ Ministries and their local/regional departments/bodies;</li><li>○ Non-profit research institutes;</li><li>○ Other NGO's acting in the fields financed by the programme</li><li>○ EGTCs.</li></ul> <p>Unfortunately, we may not provide an opinion as to the eligibility of an applicant, as this will be the task of the assessors, the final decision belonging to the Monitoring Committee.</p> <p>As regards your second question, according to the provisions of the Applicant's Guide, preparation costs are eligible if they are incurred between 1.01.2014 and the submission of the Application Form, as provided in the Applicant's Guide. Annex G, template of the subsidy contract, to which you are referring is a draft document (as specified in the Applicant's Guide). The final version will be available during pre-contracting period. As already answered, the only condition regarding the time of the payment of the preparation costs is that they have to be requested for reimbursement in the first reimbursement claim, therefore, paid before the submission of the first reimbursement claim.</p>
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<p><b>I.37</b></p>		<p>In the applicant guide, the eligible applicants can be public authorities and NGOs (associations and foundations), and we wanted to know if the Chambers of Commerce are eligible under the NGOs category.</p>	<p>According to the Applicant Guide (page 24) the indicative examples of potential applicants for all Priority axes are:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. County Councils/ District Administrations;</li> <li>2. Local Councils/Municipalities;</li> <li>3. Associations of local public authorities;</li> <li>4. <i>Chambers of Commerce/ SMEs associations;</i></li> <li>5. Educational institutions (schools, universities etc.);</li> <li>6. Ministries and their local/regional departments/bodies;</li> <li>7. Non-profit research institutes;</li> <li>8. Other NGO's acting in the fields financed by the programme</li> <li>9. EGTCs.</li> </ol> <p>Therefore, at the point 4 it is mentioned <i>the Chambers of Commerce/ SMEs associations.</i></p>
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<p>I. 38</p>		<p>If the candidate or partner is secondary administrator of budget credits is it necessary to present written permission or letter of support from respective primary administrator to apply for a grant with "hard project" under the CBC Romania-Bulgaria programme?</p>	<p>According to the provisions of the Applicant's Guide, the applicants must state their financial and administrative capacity to manage their share of the project, namely: have the capacity to ensure their own contribution and the financing for non-eligible expenditures of the project. They must also have the capacity to ensure the temporary availability of funds until they are reimbursed by the programme. The own contribution represents the share of the total eligible expenditure that will be supported by the beneficiaries of the project. To this end, applicants are requested to submit a Declaration of Commitment. According to the Declaration of Commitment, the applicants shall:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- provide their own contribution to the eligible expenditure and ensure the temporary availability of funds necessary to run the project before and between the reimbursements from the programme;</li> </ul>
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			<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- cover all non-eligible expenditures corresponding to their activities incurred during project implementation;</li><li>- ensure that the representatives in the project management team are available throughout the entire project implementation period;</li><li>- ensure the availability of all other resources planned to be used for implementing the project, as they were described within the Application Form. Please be advised that the applicants also have the obligation of respecting their national legislation in force and that additional documents may be requested during pre-contracting stage, should your project be selected for funding.</li></ul>
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<p><b>I.39</b></p>	<p>Avem rugamintea de a ne comunica cine este solicitantul in cazul in care o comuna din Romania doreste sa fie partener in proiect :</p> <p>In 1.3 Applicant information , Organization name in native language and abbreviation</p> <p>1 Primaria 2 Consiliul local 3 Comuna 4 UAT</p>	<p>Could you please tell us who should be the applicant in case a commune from Romania wishes to be partner in a project: 1.3 Applicant information , Organization name in native language and abbreviation</p> <p>1. Town Hall 2. Local Council 3. Commune 4. ATU (administrative-territorial unit)</p>	<p>The organizations mentioned in the Applicant’s guide are only mentioned as indicative eligible applicants, therefore the applicant can be each of the institutions mentioned by you, if they observe the eligible conditions established by the Applicant’s Guide and observe all other obligations foreseen by the national legislation in order to prove its legal personality.</p> <p>Please note that from a legal point of view, the financing contracts are to be signed with the ATU (administrative-territorial unit).</p>
<p><b><u>II. Eligibility of expenditure</u></b></p>			
<p><b>II.1</b></p>		<p>The Guide states: preparation costs are eligible if they are incurred between 1.01.2014 and the submission of the Application Form. What does “incurred” mean?</p>	<p>Expenditure is incurred when the activity that has generated the expenditure has been completed or the services foreseen in a contract have been provided. By contrast, expenditure has been paid when the corresponding amount has been debited from the accounts of the beneficiary and transferred to the accounts of the contractor.</p>





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<p><b>II.2</b></p>	<p>Conform Ghidului Aplicantilor, in cadrul actiunilor indicative aferente AP 1 O regiune bine conectata, operatiunea nr 5 prevede finantarea proiectelor de imbunatatire a conectarii nodurilor secundare si tertiare la infrastructura TEN-T inclusiv prin construirea si modernizarea („modernization”) infrastructurii rutiere. De asemenea, in documentul D. Lista cheltuielilor eligibile- proiecte, se prevede eligibilitatea cheltuielilor cu construirea sau “modernizarea”(upgrading) drumurilor sau sectiunilor de drumuri. Va rugam sa ne clarificati intelesul termenului de modernizare in contextul programului INTERREG VA A 2014-2020.</p>	<p>According to the Applicant's Guide, in the indicative actions relating PA 1 A region well connected, operation No. 5 foresees funding of projects for improvement of connections of secondary and tertiary nodes to TEN-T infrastructure including construction and modernization of road infrastructure. Also, the document D. List of eligible expenditures for projects foresees the eligibility of expenditure with the construction or "modernization" (upgrading) of roads or sections of roads. Please clarify the meaning of the term modernization in the context of INTERREG VA 2014-2020.</p>	<p>Please pay attention to the fact, that as compared to the previous Programme, the Interreg V-A Romania-Bulgaria Programme shall not finance the simple rehabilitation of roads. The projects need to prove added value for the road/section of the road for which it intends to request financing.</p>
<p><b>II.3</b></p>		<p>If more than 50 % of the project budget will be used for the purchase of software, the project is seen as „soft project“ or „hard project“?</p>	<p>According to the Applicant Guide, if more than 50% of the project budget will be used for the purchase of software, it could be considered as a hard project.</p>



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<p><b>II.4</b></p>	<p>In cazul in care unul dintre parteneri nu dispune de suficient personal care sa acopere functiile prevazute în proiect, va rugam sa ne confirmati ca este eligibila cheltuiala pentru angajarea de personal dupa aprobarea cererii de finantare si care este forma de angajare acceptata (contract de munca, conventie civila).</p>	<p>If one partner does not have enough staff to cover the functions provided in the project, please confirm that the expenditure for staffing hiring after approval of the application is eligible and indicate the accepted form of employment (labor contract, civil convention).</p>	<p>Staff expenditures are eligible. According to the provisions of the Applicant's Guide and of the Evaluation Grids, the applicants must have the necessary capacity to implement the project and the allocated human and material resources should be necessary and in line with the proposed activities. As regards the reimbursement of staff costs, please be informed that these will be reimbursed based on flat rates, therefore the Programme bodies shall not request or check any of the documents for reimbursing the expenditures. Nevertheless, the beneficiaries have the obligation of respecting all relevant national legislation.</p>
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<p><b>II.5</b></p>	<p>In lista cheltuielilor eligibile este prevazuta si cheltuiala pentru inchirierea unui spatiu pentru birou, mentenanta, curatenie, reparatii. In cazul in care dorim sa inchiriam un birou si avem nevoie de o femeie de serviciu, aceasta poate fi remunerata lunar sub forma de salariu in baza unui contract, sau trebuie sa facem o achizitie de servicii in acest sens, pentru ca cheltuiala sa fie eligibila?</p>	<p>The list of eligible expenses mentions expenses for renting an office space, maintenance, cleaning and repair. In case we intend to rent an office and we need a cleaning lady, may she be remunerated in the form of monthly salary on the basis of a contract, or should we make an acquisition of services in this regard, for the expense to be eligible ?</p>	<p>According to the provisions of the List of eligible expenditure, annex to the Applicant's Guide, beneficiaries may claim expenditures for cleaning under expenditure category Office and administrative expenditure. According to the Applicant's Guide, these expenditures shall be reimbursed based on flat rates, therefore the Programme bodies shall not request or check any of the documents for reimbursing the expenditures. Nevertheless, the beneficiaries have the obligation of respecting all relevant national legislation.</p>
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<p><b>II.6</b></p>	<p>Pregatim o aplicatie si va rog sa ne explicati cum se verifica costurile salariale in timpul implementarii proiectului.</p>	<p>We are preparing an application and please clarify the procedure to control during the project implementation the expenditures with the staff.</p>	<p>The Programme decided to use simplified costs on staff costs (flat rate). Staff costs shall be reimbursed as a flat rate of maximum 15% of direct costs for soft projects. For hard projects the flat rate shall not exceed 5% of direct costs. Direct costs that form the basis for calculation of staff costs must be incurred and paid by the beneficiary as real costs, and shall include the following expenditure categories:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Travel and accommodation;</li> <li>b) External expertise and services;</li> <li>c) Equipment expenditure;</li> <li>d) Infrastructure and works.</li> </ul> <p>For details please consult both Annex D-List of Eligible Expenditures and Annex E-Simplified costs.</p>
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			<p>Management verifications (including controllers) and audits will not check supporting documents for real costs under a category of expenditure calculated by a flat-rate, but only supporting documents for costs included in the calculation basis for the application of the flat-rate. Still the national legislation into force must be respected. If an irregularity suspicion is issued, supporting documents may be requested and financial corrections applied, if the case.</p> <p>During project implementation only costs included in Travel and accommodation; External expertise and services; Equipment and Project preparation will be subject to control of the supporting financial documents!</p>
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<p><b>II.7</b></p>	<p>Проектът предвижда закупуване на оборудване, което не е включено в приложение С. Ceilings for expenditures, от Насоките за кандидатстване. В съответствие с какви стойности и изисквания следва да се бюджетира стойността му? Задължително ли е изготвянето на оценка на стойността му от независим оценител или трябва да се вземе оферта от потенциален доставчик? Допустимо ли е представяне само на 1 оферта?</p>	<p>The project provides purchase of equipment, which is not included in Annex C. Ceilings for expenditures of the Guidelines for Applicants. In the case, what should be the budgeted value? Is it necessary to be provided an independent value evaluation or should we take an offer from a potential supplier? Is it acceptable to provide only 1 offer?</p>	<p>In case the items you describe in this section are not included in Annex C - Ceilings for expenditure to the Applicant's Guide, projects must submit evidence about the market price of that particular item: either 3 offers from operators (preferably print screen for that particular item from well-known suppliers from the market or an independent evaluation of the cost of that particular item (and English translation, if issued in other language than English). The budgeted price (in case of 3 offers justifications) must not exceed the median value of the 3 offers (calculated at Inforeuro exchange rate from March 2015).</p>
<p><b>II.8</b></p>	<p>Допустим разход ли са авторските права за музикални произведения, които ще се използват при дейности за реализиране на проектната идея?</p>	<p>Is it eligible expenditure the copyright of music, which will be used for activities for the realization of the project idea?</p>	<p>Intellectual property rights are eligible expenditures.</p>



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<p><b>II.9</b></p>	<p>В Приложение С.Ceilings for expenditures, от Насоките за кандидатстване с код 66171000-9 "Консултантски услуги при кандидатстване за безвъзмездна финансова помощ, изготвяне на документация" е поставен лимит от 1200 евро за консултация/проект. Тук включени ли са консултации по изготвяне на формуляра за кандидатстване или това са допълнителни консултации?</p>	<p>In the Annex C. Ceilings for expenditures of the Guidelines for Applicants code 66171000-9 "Consultancy in applying for grants, preparation of documentation" is placed a limit of € 1,200 for consulting / project. Is the application preparation included in the price?</p>	<p>Yes. It relates to all consultancy costs made by the applicants in order to prepare the application form for submission. The specified ceiling of 1,200 euro is referring to each of the project partners.</p>
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<p><b>II.10</b></p>	<p>„...Пътни и квартирни разходи, свързани с провеждане на срещи между бенефициентите по проекти, външна експертиза и услуги, предпроектни проучвания или еквивалентна техническа документация, Анализ „разходи-ползи”, проучвания и разходи за документация, необходима за получаване на необходимите разрешителни и документацията, свързана с градското планиране , оценки на въздействието, проучвания на местоположението на инвестициите / оценки, включително и дейности по тяхната техническа проверка....”</p> <p>Като същите „...не следва да са повече от 10 % от преките разходи по проекта...”</p> <p>В тази връзка, какъв е допустимия размер (в процентно съотношение и като стойност в евро) на разходите предвидени за подготовка на:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>□ Апликационна форма;</li> <li>□ бюджет на проекта;</li> <li>□ анализ „разходи - ползи”;</li> <li>□ комплектоване на пълния пакет от документи.</li> </ul>	<p>What are the eligible costs provided for the preparation of project - in percentage and value in euros for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>□ Application form</li> <li>□ Project budget;</li> <li>□ Analysis "cost - benefit";</li> <li>□ Compiling the application package.</li> </ul>	<p>Preparation costs include: travel and accommodation costs related to meetings between project beneficiaries, external expertise and services, feasibility study or equivalent technical document, Cost Benefit Analysis, studies and costs for documentation necessary to obtain the necessary endorsements and authorizations, documentation concerning the urban planning plan, impact assessments, location studies/appraisals, including their technical verification and shall be reimbursed as real costs (support documents will be necessary).</p> <p>Preparation costs are eligible in a 10% limit applied to the direct costs (Travel and accommodation, External expertise and services, Equipment, Infrastructure and works)</p> <p>There are no concrete percentages of costs for Application form, Project budget; Analysis "cost - benefit"; Compiling the application package.</p> <p>The only requirement is that the preparation costs are not more than 10% applying to direct cost.</p>
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<p>II.11</p>	<p>Също така, какъв е допустимия размер (в процентно съотношение и като стойност в евро) на разходите за „Правни консултации”, на етап подготовка на проектното предложение? Така например заложените в ред 476 от „Annex C. Ceilings for expenditures” - „Правни услуги”, считат ли се за разходи от етапа на подготовка на проектното предложение и в какво конкретно се изразяват?</p>	<p>What is the threshold (in percentage and value in euros) of spending on "Legal advice" on the stage of preparation of the project proposal?  For example, are the "Legal Services" in line 476 of "Annex C. Ceilings for expenditures“ considered to be an expenditure on the stage of preparation of the project proposal and in particular what is the legal services include?</p>	<p>There is no threshold in percentage of spending on “Legal advice”. The only requirement is that the preparation costs are not more than 10% applying to the direct cost. Expenditures for “Legal Services” in line 476 of "Annex C. Ceilings for expenditures” are related to legal software and not for the project preparation costs.</p>
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<p>II.12</p>	<p>По отношение на „Annex C. Ceilings for expenditures”, бихте ли конкретизирали какво включва заложеното във:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>□ Ред 434 „Финансови консултантски услуги” и съответно ред 435 „Консултантски услуги при кандидатстване за безвъзмездна финансова помощ, изготвяне на документация на необходимата”.</li> </ul> <p>Същите еднакви ли са с визираните от нас по-горе в т. 1 или касаят единствено и само Финансови консултации, свързани с подготовката на проектното предложение?</p> <p>При кандидат от два партньора (един от българска и друг от румънска страна) - Заложеният максимално допустим размер - 1200 евро/финансиран проект е крайна стойност за всеки един от партньорите по отделно или формира обща цена и за двата партньора?</p>	<p>In relation to „Annex C. Ceilings for expenditures” could you specify what does include the Line 434 „Financial consultancy services” and Line 435 „Consultancy services when applying for subsidy (grant), preparation of the necessary documentation”?</p> <p>Are these lines the same as the lines mentioned in p.1 or do they refer only to Financial consultancy concerning the project preparation.</p> <p>When the partnership consists of two partners (one Bulgarian and one Romanian) - is the specified ceiling of 1200 euro/financed project a final value for each of the partners or is it a total price for both partners?</p>	<p>Line 434 „Financial consultancy services” is the headline of the expenditure category and consists only of Line 435 „Consultancy services when applying for subsidy (grant), preparation of the necessary documentation” so these expenditures concern Financial consultancy services when applying for subsidy (grant) as well as the preparation of the relevant documentation.</p> <p>The line does not comprise all the expenditures that may incur in the process of the project preparation but all consultancy costs made by the applicants in order to prepare the application form for submission.</p> <p>The specified ceiling of 1,200 euro is referring to each of the project partners.</p>
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<b>II.13</b>	<p>Заложените в ред 527 от „Annex C. Ceilings for expenditures” - „Консултантски услуги в областта на обществените поръчки”, считат ли се за разходи от етапа на подготовка на проектното предложение и в какво конкретно се изразяват?</p>	<p>„Annex C. Ceilings for expenditures” - line 527 - “Consultancy services in Public Procurement Procedures” are these expenditures referred to the preparation phase and what are they?</p>	<p>It refers to contracting external expertise for preparation/development of the Public Procurement Procedures envisaged by the project. If it is related to preparation of the application form for submission could be project preparation expenditure, otherwise should be project implementation costs.</p>
<b>II.14</b>	<p>Има ли разходи свързани с подготовката на проектното предложение, които не са включени в „Annex C. Ceilings for expenditures”? Ако Вашият отговор е „ДА”, бихте ли конкретизирали, кои са те и какъв е допустимия им размер (в процентно съотношение и като стойност в евро) на разходите предвидени за подготовка на проектното предложение?</p>	<p>Are there any expenditures concerning preparation of the project proposal that are not included in Annex C. Ceilings for expenditures”? If “yes”, could you specify them and their part (percentage and value in euro) in preparation cost?</p>	<p>If you have expenditures which are not included in Annex C. Ceilings for expenditures you have to justify the prices. Their percentage and value in euro is not specified.</p>



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<p><b>II.15</b></p>		<p>What the limit of the preparation costs for: 1. Application form 2. Financial analysis?</p>	<p>Preparation costs are eligible in a 10% limit applied to the direct costs (Travel and accommodation, External expertise and services, Equipment, Infrastructure and works)          There are no concrete percentages of costs for Application form, Project budget; Analysis "cost - benefit";          Compiling the application package.          The only requirement is that the preparation costs are not more than 10% applying to direct cost.</p>
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<p><b>II.16</b></p>	<p>Este eligibila achiziționarea unui autocar în condițiile în care acesta servește îndeplinirii activităților din proiect? Menționăm ca prin proiect se urmărește, pe de o parte, punerea în valoare a patrimoniului cultural din muzeele din Drobeta Turnu Severin și Vidin, iar pe de altă parte înființarea unor acțiuni culturale comune (expoziții, vizite tematice etc). De asemenea cele 2 muzee se afla in orașe dunărene, tranzitate de vapoare de croazieră cu numeroși turiști străini dornici să viziteze expozițiile oferite și, atât pe malul românesc, cât și pe cel bulgar persistă problema transportului pasagerilor în condiții decente de la vapoare la muzee și retur.</p>	<p>Is it eligible the procurement of a bus if it is justified by the project activities? We would like to mention that the project, on one hand, will promote the cultural heritage form the Vidin and Drobeta Turnu Severin museums, and on the other hand will develop joint cultural activities (exhibitions, thematic visits etc.). Both museums are located in Danubian municipalities, passed over cruise ships with lots of tourists enthusiastic for exhibitions. On the Romanian and Bulgarian sides, the transport of the passengers from the ships to the museums and way back is still a matter.</p>	<p>According to the list of eligible expenditures for Interreg V-A Romania-Bulgaria Programme applicable to Priority axis 1-5, the vehicles are eligible. Please pay attention to the specific objectives and indicative actions of the second priority axis considered for the project.</p>
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<p>II.17</p>		<p>May the travel budget line include expenses for participation in international tourism fairs across the EU to promote common tourism products and services? Is the participation in international tourism fairs across the EU an eligible activity?</p> <p>May the travel budget line cover the expenses of visitors (especially representatives of tour operators) from areas and countries outside the cross-border region so that they can tour sites in the cross-border area?</p>	<p>According to the provisions of the Applicant's Guide, the activities have to be implemented in the Programme eligible area. However, in case a project has to be implemented partially outside the eligible area, it has to prove that it is in for the benefit of the programme area. The total costs incurred outside of the eligible area (related to any activity or any category of expenditure) shall be limited to 20% of the ERDF total eligible project budget, irrespective of the location of the partner. Please be advised that the application form has a distinctive section regarding the activities that are to be implemented outside the Programme area, which applicants are requested to fill in. As regards your question regarding budgetary lines, please be advised that Annex D of the Applicant's Guide lists the eligible expenditures under the Programme. Travel and accommodation costs mentioned at Article 10 of the above mentioned</p>
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			<p>Annex refers only to the staff of the applicant, whilst travel and accommodation costs of external experts and service providers must be included under external expertise and services costs (Article 11 - Annex D). Costs related to participation in events (e.g. registration fees) are included as eligible expenditures under External expertise and services costs.</p> <p>We would also like to draw your attention to the measures included in the Applicant's Guide in order to avoid any state aid activities, which are not financeable under the current call for proposals.</p>
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<p><b>II.18</b></p>	<p>В таблицата с разходните стандарти е посочена цена за видео проектор за прожекция на закрито. В една от нашите дейности се нуждаем от прожекционен апарат за открито пространство, който е много по-мощен и значително по-скъп, същото се отнася и за нуждата ни от преносим компютър по-мощен и по-скъп. При добра обосновка някой от разходите заложен в бюджета могат ли да надхвърлят тези посочени в таблицата? В противен случай някои от дейностите просто трябва да отпаднат. А ако проекта иска да привлече и да бъде интересен за младите, то в някой случаи е невъзможно без включване на нови съвременни технологии. Благодаря.</p>	<p>A price for a video projector for indoor using is indicated in the table “Ceilings for expenditures”. We need for one of our activities of a projector for outdoor using, which is more powerful and significantly more expensive. We need also more powerful and more expensive computer (laptop). Is it eligible the expenditures set in the “Ceilings for expenditures” to be exceeded giving good justification for this? Otherwise the activities could not be implemented. If the project aims to be attractive to young people, it is impossible the new technologies not to be included.</p>	<p>If more expensive article is needed for the implementation of activities, 3 offers or an independent evaluation of the cost has to be provided. The applicant should prove the absolute necessity of purchasing of an equipment with enhanced/superior parameters and to demonstrate how it will contribute to the implementation of project activities and achievement of programme indicators. The proposal will be analyzed and will be subject to acceptance / rejection from the evaluators</p>
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II.19

Avand in vedere expertiza interna limitata, avem nevoie sa colaboram cu firme de consultanta si de aceea dorim sa ne clarificam cateva detalii privind eligibilitatea unor cheltuieli, precum si nivelul acestora, dupa cum urmeaza:

1. Cheltuielile ocazionate de:


Dezvoltarea conceptului de proiect plecand de la nevoia identificata de noi

- Organizarea de intalniri cu partenerii bulgari si asigurarea materialelor suport, in limba romana, bulgara si engleza astfel incat si conducerea institutiei noastre si a partenerului bulgar sa fie in permanenta informata
- Analizarea criteriilor impuse de Ghid pentru fiecare partener inclusiv a celor referitoare la standardele de cost
- Cercetare si colectare date in vederea sustinerii/argumentarii aplicatiei
- Spijinirea noastra in formularea adreselor catre institutii terte in vederea obtinerii documentelor necesare

Sunt eligibile ca si expertiza externa in dezvoltarea proiectului, necesara, pentru care, se poate estima o valoare pe baza a 3 oferte avand in vedere ca nu este prevazut un standard pentru un astfel de cost?

1. Cand ati stabilit limita de 1200 de euro pentru fiecare partener in "Consultancy in applying for grants, preparation of documentation" v-ati referit la toate cele de mai sus? Sau doar la scrierea efectiva a aplicatiei in cazul in care noi am pune toate informatiile la dispozitie?

Considering the limited expertise of the municipality, we will have to collaborate with consultants; therefore, please clarify the aspects referring to the eligibility of the expenditure and the threshold, as it follows:

- 
- Development of the project concept starting from the identified need;
  - Organizing meetings with the Bulgarian partners and providing supporting documents, in Romanian and Bulgarian and English languages for the project partners to be permanently updated;
  - Analyzing the criteria from the Applicant's Guide for each partners, including ceilings for expenditure;
  - Collecting data for justify the project;
  - Supporting our municipality to draft letters for the other institutions to collect the necessary documents.

Are they eligible for external expertise for project development, which for a value can be established based on 3 offers, due to the fact that a standard cost is not provided?

When the 1200 Eur limit was established for each partner at "Consultancy in applying for grants, preparation of documentation" have you taken in consideration all the above mentioned? Or only the development of the application if the municipality will provide all the necessary information?

Please find below clarifications to your request:

- Development of the project concept starting from the identified need - if refers to project concept and describing the activities for the application form, than, the 1200 Eur value includes this service;
- Organizing meetings with the Bulgarian partners and providing supporting documents, in Romanian and Bulgarian and English languages for the project partners to be permanently updated - the 1200 Eur value does not include these expenditures. These expenditures could be eligible as project preparation costs, either as travel and accommodation costs or services related to organization of events or meetings;
- Analyzing the criteria from the Applicant's Guide for each partners, including ceilings for expenditure - if it is about informing the beneficiary regarding the conditions, criteria, thresholds, than, the 1200 Eur value includes this service. If it refers to the meetings with potential beneficiaries to analyze the guide, then, the 1200 Eur value does not include these expenditures. These expenditures could be eligible as project preparation costs, either as travel and accommodation costs or services related to organization of events or meetings;
- Collecting data for justify the project - additional details are necessary for an unequivocal answer. Basically, 1200 Eur value does not include these expenditures;
- Supporting our municipality to draft letters for the other institutions to collect the necessary documents - the 1200 Eur value does not include these expenditures. According to Applicant Guide section II.2. Eligibility Criteria "In case the service which is going to be purchased is not following the list of ceilings, the proposal to exceed the ceiling will be analyzed, provided a proper and clear justification is provided, as well as the related supporting documents (including 3 offers or an independent evaluation of the cost).

Disclaimer: the 2019 call for proposals is not equivalent with a support in selection. Only evaluation propose and the Monitoring Committee of the Bulgarian and Romanian Interreg project are related to eligibility and scoring.



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<b>II.20</b>		<p>We would like to ask the following question regarding the call for proposals.</p> <p>In which section of the budget the audit expenditures should be included?</p>	<p>Please be informed that the audit expenditures should be included at External Expertise and services budgetary line. Please note that at Programme level we no longer require as mandatory audit of projects. If you consider it necessary for your project, you will have to argument it in the application form, just as any other service.</p>
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<p>II.21</p>	<p>1. На страница 41 от Насоките, в жълто поле, е записано:  <b>Partnerships having at least 2 beneficiaries with previous average weighted financial execution rates (also taking into consideration the value of their budgets) of less than 50% for projects financed under Romania-Bulgaria CBC Programme 2007-2013 will not be accepted for financing!</b>          В презентацията на сайта, същият текст е преведен:          □ Ако поне двама бенефициенти по-рано са участвали в проекти, финансирани от Програмата България-Румъния 2007-2013 и усреднената стойност на тяхното финансово участие, вземайки предвид стойността на техните бюджети, е била под 50%, тогава текущият проект няма да бъде допустим (ново!).          Тъй като има известна разлика в превода и разбирането на посоченото ограничение, както и абсолютна неяснота какво означава то, моля да дадете разяснение и пример.</p>	<p>1. As there is some difference in the translation and in the understanding of the above mentioned restriction as well as absolute unclarity about the meaning, please provide us with an explanation and an example.</p> <p>2. According to the Applicant Guide one of the eligible activities in PA 3 is:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reconstructing cultural infrastructure: recovery and promotion of cultural monuments based on relevant cross-border strategies/concepts</li> </ul> <p>Does it mean that “reconstructing cultural infrastructure” includes cultural halls, community centers, theatres, opera, museums, which are not classified as cultural monuments by the Ministry of Culture?</p> <p>What does it mean “relevant cross-border strategies/concepts” and do we need to point / attach the mentioned documents?</p>	<p>1. The official version is English version “Partnership with at least 2 beneficiaries of Romania-Bulgaria Cross Border Cooperation Programme 2007-2013 previous average weighted financial execution rates (also taking into consideration the value of their budgets) of less than 50 % for projects financed under Romania- Bulgaria CBC Programme 2007-2013 will not be accepted for financing!”. Please consider this version. Related to the method for calculation of budgetary execution of the partners, please find bellow an example for the methodology:</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="1459 841 2026 1015"> <thead> <tr> <th>Beneficiary (X)</th> <th>Budgets</th> <th>Total reimbursement claims</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>First project</td> <td>A</td> <td>Z</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Second project</td> <td>B</td> <td>Y</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>The budgetary execution was calculated as: <math>(Z+Y)/(A+B)</math> that represented the total of reimbursement claims submitted/total budgets of the respective partner.</p> <p>2. According to the Applicant Guide the reconstruction of cultural infrastructure: recovery and promotion of cultural monuments based on relevant cross-border strategies/concepts it is an indicative activity. Anyhow, the project should contribute to the achievement of indicators for PA 2 - A green region.</p>	Beneficiary (X)	Budgets	Total reimbursement claims	First project	A	Z	Second project	B	Y
Beneficiary (X)	Budgets	Total reimbursement claims										
First project	A	Z										
Second project	B	Y										

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<p>2. Третата от изброените допустими дейности на Приоритетна ос 2 Един зелен регион гласи:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Реконструкция на културната инфраструктура, възстановяване и популяризиране на културните паметници основани на релевантни трансгранични стратегии/концепции;</li> </ul> <p>2.1 Да разбираме ли, че под „реконструкция на културна инфраструктура” са допустими обекти, които не са класифицирани като „паметници на културата” със съответния документ от МК , а са например културен дом, читалище, театър, опера, музей и т.н</p> <p>2.2 Какво се има предвид под „основани на релевантни трансгранични стратегии / концепции” . Трябва ли съответните документи да бъдат цитирани / прилагани.</p> <p>3. Допустимо ли е чисто ново строителство на културна инфраструктура, например многофункционална зала за културни изяви, музей, културен дом и т.н</p>	<p>3. Is it eligible brand new construction of cultural infrastructure, for example multifunctional hall for cultural performance, museums, cultural hall, etc.</p> <p>4. Concerning Annex A 18 Project Environmental Impact Report:</p> <p>Please clarify who issues and signs the Annex 18;</p> <p>According Bulgarian legislation an Environmental Impact Assessment is required. Does the enclosing of Annex 18 means that there is no need of EIA at the application stage?</p>	<p>3. Please be informed that regarding the eligibility of actions, in the interest of equal treatment of applicants, the JS cannot give a prior opinion on this, the assessment working group and the Monitoring Committee of the Programme being entitle to decide on this.</p> <p>4. Following the Corrigendum the Annex A 18 Project Environmental was accordingly numbered as: Annex A 12 - Environmental Impact Report. This annex has to be prepared and signed by the applicant. At the stage of application Annex 11 has to be presented - the decision of the competent environment authority has to be issued (according Environmental Protection Act and Ordinance for the Conditions and the Order for Implementing Environmental Impact Assessment) stating that the project either :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>observes the legal provisions of environment protection or</li> <li>completed the first stage of EIA procedure - screening.</li> </ul> <p>The Environmental Impact Assessment (if needed) is not mandatory at application stage but has to be presented at pre-contractual phase (Annex 14).</p>
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<b>II.22</b>	<p>Avand in vedere ca o problema comuna in localitatile rurale cu iesire la Marea Neagra, de o parte si de alta a granitei, este camparea necontrolata pe plaji sau spatii verzi, cu efecte nedorite majore asupra mediului, mentionam ca una dintre masurile pe care le propunem in proiectul nostru este de a amenaja parcuri de campare in localitatile partenere, care sa asigure: parcare, iluminat, cabine dus, grupuri sanitare, platforma de colectare selectiva a deseurilor, alveole mobilate cu mobilier din lemn (banci, mese servire a mesei)</p> <p>In conditiile in care in zona pusa la dispozitia proiectului de catre partenerul din Bulgaria, acesta fiind administratie publica locala, nu exista retea de canalizare, am dori sa realizam prin proiect o scurta prelungire a retelei de canalizare actuala, pana la locatia spatiului de campare, astfel incat sa fie posibile amenajari dusuri si grupuri sanitare.</p> <p>In acest context, va adresam rugamintea de ne preciza daca aceasta extindere a unei scurte portiuni a retelei de canalizare este eligibila.</p>	<p>Since a common problem in rural localities bordering the Black Sea, on both sides of the border is uncontrolled camping on beaches or green spaces, having major undesirable effects on the environment, we would like to mention that one of the measures we propose within our project is to arrange camping parks in the partner localities that would provide: parking, lighting, shower cabins, toilets, selective waste collection platform, wafers furnished with wooden furniture (benches, tables catering)</p> <p>Given that in the area made available by the project partner from Bulgaria, which is the local public administration, no sewerage network exists, we would like to realize through the project a short extension of the existing sewerage network up to the space camp location, so arrangements for showers and toilets are possible.</p> <p>In this context, we kindly ask you to specify whether this extension of short portions of sewerage network is eligible.</p>	<p>According to the provisions of the List of eligible expenditures, Annex D to the Applicant's Guide, costs related to the sewerage network are mentioned as eligible under budgetary chapter Infrastructure and Works (Article 13 - Infrastructure and works). Unfortunately, we may not provide an answer regarding the eligibility of your project activity as this has to analyzed in the context of the entire project.</p> <p>Also, we would like to mention that if the location of the actions implementation fall under NATURA 2000, all infrastructure actions have to be preliminary assessed/approved by the Ministry of Environment and Waters (MOEW) in Bulgaria, respecting the existing procedures. Furthermore, the evaluation of the project is the task of the evaluators, the final decision belonging to the Monitoring Committee.</p>
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<p>4. Като част от приложенията за кандидатстване е приложен Annex A 18 Project Environmental Impact Report</p> <p>4.1 Моля да разясните кой следва да изготви и подпише гореописания документ?</p> <p>4.2 Тъй като според българското законодателство всеки инвестиционен проект изисква ОВОС (Оценка на въздействието върху околната среда), прилагането на Annex A 18 Project Environmental Impact Report означава ли, че за нуждите на кандидатстване по Програмата не е необходим ОВОС</p>		
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<p><b>II.23</b></p>		<p>Please provide us clarification on the following questions regarding budgeting in the development of soft projects under the INTERREG V-A Romania - Bulgaria Programme:</p> <p>(1) If it is sufficient to provide just a simplified budget as included in the application form, do we need to provide offers and other relevant documents justifying the rates that were not included in the table "C. Ceiling of expenditure" with the application form (or they will be requested during FLC)?</p> <p>(2) Do we need to budget an audit service for every partner in an application?</p>	<p>1. You have to fill in the budget form foreseen within section 3.1 of the Application Form. Please pay attention to the fact that there are different budget format for soft / hard projects. Also, please observe that each equipment / service / works shall be appropriately described within section 2.3 of the Application Form. Also, according to the Guide, in case an item is not on the list, 3 offers or an independent evaluation of the cost will be provided;</p> <p>2. There is no such request/obligation set at Programme level.</p>
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<b>II.24</b>	<p>Suntem un institut national din Bucuresti, deci din afara zonei eligibile, motiv pentru care putem accesa doar 20% din valoarea intregului proiect.</p> <p>In acest context, desi toate activitatile au ca scop implementarea in zona eligibila, cum trebuie interpretata mentiunea "the total indicative budget of the activities that will be carried out outside the programme eligible are limited to maximum 20% at project level, irrespective of the location of the beneficiary (of the ERDF total eligible project budget)". De ex., costurile de personal, echipamentele de achizitionat, cheltuielile administrative se considera a fi efectuate in afara ariei de eligibilitate, tinand cont de sediul institutului?</p>	<p>We are a national institute located in Bucharest, so outside the eligible area, which is why we can only access 20% of the entire project budget.</p> <p>In this context, although all activities are aimed to be implemented in the eligible area, how should we interpret the following "the total indicative budget of the activities that will be carried out outside the eligible program are limited to a maximum of 20% at project level, irrespective of the location of the beneficiary (of the ERDF total eligible project budget)". For example, staffs costs, equipment purchased, administrative expenditure are deemed to be made outside the scope of eligibility, considering the headquarters of the institute?</p>	<p>First of all, we mention that the 20% ceiling applies only if you do not have competences in the eligible area (according to the Applicant's Guide, in this case you are eligible, with no budgetary restrictions). Regarding your question, according to the template of the Application Form, each beneficiary has to list the activities which are to be carried out outside the eligible area and indicate the total budget of these activities. An activity's location is judged based on the place where it is implemented. So, activities implemented outside the eligible area should respect the 20% threshold mentioned in the Applicant's Guide. In your example, staff costs and administrative expenditures are to be considered costs incurred outside the eligible area, taking into consideration the location of the beneficiary. As regards the equipment, it depends on the location of the activity for which it is going to be used.</p>
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<p><b>II.25</b></p>		<p>Will costs for project elaboration during months May and June 2015 be considered eligible? Projects need to be submitted in English - in this line will the translation cost be considered eligible also? External expertise for proper filling of the project application form could be considered eligible cost or no?</p>	<p>2. According to the provisions of the Applicant's Guide, preparation costs are eligible if they are incurred between 1.01.2014 and the submission of the Application Form, as provided in the Applicant's Guide. Therefore, depending on the time you submit the Application Form, costs incurred in May and June are eligible provided they respect all the conditions stipulated in the Applicant's Guide. Applicant's Guide mentions that preparation costs shall include travel and accommodation costs related to meetings between project beneficiaries, external expertise and services, feasibility study or equivalent technical document, Cost Benefit Analysis, studies and costs for documentation necessary to obtain the necessary endorsements and authorizations, documentation concerning the urban planning plan, impact assessments, location studies/appraisals, including their technical verification and shall be reimbursed as real costs (support documents will be necessary). Costs related to translation and consultancy for project preparation are eligible as preparation costs under external expertise and services costs. For additional information regarding eligibility of expenditure please refer to Annex D of the Applicants' Guide - List of eligible expenditure.</p>
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<p><b>II.26</b></p>		<p>Durring our intended project, we are planning to use our boats for scanning the sea buttom and dive different wrecks in the Black Sea. Please clarify the place of fuel aquisition in the budgetary lines:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Travel and accommodation</li> <li>2. External expertise and services</li> <li>3. Equipment</li> <li>4. Project preparation costs (max. 10% of calculation basis)</li> <li>5. Staff costs - flat rate of 10.35%* of calculation basis</li> <li>6. Office and administrative costs - flat rate of 5% of calculation basis</li> </ol>	<p>The cost of the fuel should be included in budgetary line Travel and accommodation.</p>
<p><b>II.27</b></p>	<p>Expertii din cadrul proiectului, de exemplu un expert cultural care va fi angajat cu contract de munca, vor fi inclusi in staff sau in cadrul liniei bugetare de servicii?</p>	<p>The experts within the project, for example a cultural expert which will be hired with labor contract, will be included within budgetary line staff or services?</p>	<p>As you presented the situation, in case of labor contract, the expenditure related to this expert should be included within budgetary chapter "Staff costs". Also, please note that the table of the budget will automatically calculate the Staff costs based on the direct costs.</p>



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<p>II. 28</p>		<p>Regarding the Budget form part of the Application form Section 3, we have difficulties adding new rows in order to fill in all expenditures related to project activities. In the imported excel table buttons like "Insert", "Delete" are not functioning, which makes it not possible to adjust the table with a specific project proposal's relevant budget information. In the Application Pack there's no separate Annex excel file "Budget" or "Budget Justification"</p> <p>Is it admissible to prepare the budget in excel table following all the requisites of the budget table imported into the AF or that will be a grounds for disqualification?</p> <p>It would be best if you publish officially the Budget table into excel format and if necessary applicants may import it into the AF after completing it into the excel file.</p>	<p>Please be informed that the budget for this programming period has changed, all formulas of the budget attached to the Application form are blocked in order to avoid certain mistakes. Also, there is no need to add new rows to the budget, the budget is global, you may keep a detailed budget if you wish but it is not requested by the Programme. Also, please pay a special attention in describing in the section 2.3 Project Activities ("Description of the main equipment and services purchased" or "Description of the work") the necessary items/services/works for your project. Basically the budget includes only totals for the budgetary chapters. However, in case you find it useful to see the formulas behind the attached budget, please note that the table with the formulas unlocked is available on the Programme website (<a href="http://cbcromaniabulgaria.eu/user/file/Budget_from_AF.xlsx">http://cbcromaniabulgaria.eu/user/file/Budget_from_AF.xlsx</a>), separately from the Guide, but this is just for information purposes, it cannot be used in the application form and is not part of the Applicants Pack.</p>
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<p><b>II.29</b></p>		<p>Where should we plan funds for paid media coverage of our news and what is the fee per coverage?</p>	<p>The costs for media services can be included within budgetary chapter „External expertise and services”, but please pay a special attention in describing in the section 2.3 Project Activities (“Description of the main equipment and services purchased” or “Description of the work”) the necessary items/services/works for your project. Basically the budget includes only totals for the budgetary chapters. In this regard, you do not need to detail the expenditures within the budget. Also, please be informed that you must follow the Ceilings for expenditure (Annex C to the Applicant’s Guide, the prices are calculated without VAT) when completing the budget of the project in the Application Form.</p>
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<p><b>II.30</b></p>		<p>Consultancy services for overall project management - Is it possible to use consultancy for the management of our project? Or do you mean other types of projects under this budget item?</p>	<p>Externalized Project management was designed to cover the fields where the partner does not have internal expertise or competency to ensure the proper development of activities with the own staff. The range of activities can differ from one project to another and should be enclosed in the contract between the partner and the supplier (e.g: drafting progress reports or payment claims - either FLC requests or Reimbursement claims, general management of the project, reporting to legal representative of the partner and proposing solutions, etc.).</p>
<p><b>II.31</b></p>		<p>Can members of the Board and project team members act as experts in the implementation of project activities and can we sign civil contracts with them?</p>	<p>If the respective team members are hired within your institution, with labor contract, than you can include their salary expenditures under budgetary chapter „Staff costs”, so there is no need to sign civil contracts with them.</p>

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<b>II.32</b>	<p>Este posibil parteneriatul dintre un UAT si un ONG cu atributii in domeniul vizat de proiect, pe partea romana si o administratie publica din Bulgaria? ONG-ul nu ar avea contributie financiara, dar ar pune la dispozitie know-how si personalul de specialitate pentru recrutarea si instruirea membrilor orchestrei (tineri) si in organizarea concertelor. In acest caz, personalul pus la dispozitie de ONG poate fi platit prin proiect?</p>	<p>Is it possible a partnership between a Municipality and a NGO having responsibilities in the field addressed by the project, on the Romanian and a Bulgarian public administration? The NGO will not have financial contribution, but would provide the know-how and specialized personnel for recruiting and training of orchestra members (young people) and will be involved in organizing concerts. In this case, can the staff of the NGO be paid by the project?</p>	<p>The decision regarding the partnership belongs to you. In order to be eligible the applicants have to fulfill all the eligibility conditions mentioned in the Applicant's Guide. Among others, the applicants must be entitled to take action in the field/fields addressed by the project. Furthermore, the partnership has to be relevant for the activities that are going to be implemented by the project. Unfortunately, we may not provide a clear answer regarding the eligibility of an applicant/partnership as this will be the task of the evaluators, the final decision belonging to the Monitoring Committee. It is possible to have partners which are not financially involved in the project. Nevertheless, you should pay attention to the four cooperation criteria: joint development, joint implementation, joint staffing and joint financing. The projects must have direct CBC impact, which shall be understood in terms of respecting at least joint development and joint implementation and, additionally, one of the two: joint financing or joint staffing. In case the NGO will not have a budget, it is not possible for the other partners to pay from their project's budget the expenditures connected to the activities performed by the NGO. Article 11 of Annex D - List of eligible expenditures, states that expenditure on external expertise and service costs have to be provided by a public or private law body or a natural person other than the beneficiaries of the operation.</p>
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<b>II.33</b>	Cheltuielile cu achizitia de instrumente specifice functionarii unei orchestre simfonice sunt eligibile?	Are eligible the expenditures for the acquisition of specific instruments for the functioning of a symphony orchestra?	According to the provisions of Annex D- List of eligible expenditures, specific equipment needed for the implementation of the project is eligible.
<b>II.34</b>	Acordarea de burse pentru elevi poate fi cheltuiala eligibila?	Are scholarships for students eligible expenditure?	According to the provisions of Annex D - List of eligible expenditures, scholarships are not listed as eligible expenditures.
<b>II.35</b>	Exista posibilitatea ca bicicletele (inscriptionate cu Natura2000) sa constituie obiecte propice pentru diseminare, in vederea constientizarii publicului (in cazul acesta vizam viitoarele generatii - copiii din zona)?	Is there a possibility that bicycles (marked with Natura 2000) be considered as dissemination objects, in view of public awareness (in case we address future generations - children in the area)?	According to the provisions of the Applicant's Guide, Annex D - List of eligible expenditures, the costs of gifts are not eligible expenditure, except those not exceeding EUR 50 per gift where related to promotion, communication, publicity or information. Therefore, materials related to promotion, communication, publicity or information should not exceed 50 EUR/item.

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<p><b>II.36</b></p>		<p>In order to prepare the documentation for financing, we would like to clarify if, for a building that will be rehabilitated under the project, could we declare that a part of this building will be rent for public food services and include the rent as revenue from the project?</p>	<p>According to the provisions of the Applicant's Guide and of the European Regulation, a revenue-generating project means:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• any project involving an investment in infrastructure the use of which is subject to charges borne directly by users or</li> <li>• any project involving:             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o the sale or rent of land or buildings or</li> <li>o any other provision of services against payment.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>Therefore, the revenue means cash in-flows directly paid by users for the goods or services provided by the project. The goods or services that are going to be paid have to be directly linked to the activities and objectives of the project. For example, a project intends to rehabilitate a building which hosts a museum. In case tickets are going to be paid for visiting the museum, then the project is considered to be a revenue generating one and all the applicable provisions need to be taken into consideration. The applicant cannot use the rehabilitated building for other purposes than the ones foreseen in the project, whether the usage is subject to payment or not.</p>
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<p><b>II.37</b></p>	<p>Pentru a depune o cerere de finantare in cadrul Programului Interrerg Romania-Bulgaria, va rugam sa ne raspundeti la urmatoarele intrebari:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- este eligibila cheltuiala cu achizitionarea bonurilor de consum de combustibil pentru membrii echipei de implementare care se deplaseaza in vederea implementarii activitatilor proiectului?</li> <li>- daca prin proiect se prevede achizitionarea de costume populare, justificate corespunzator, in care linie bugetara se incadreaza?</li> </ul>	<p>Please, give us some answers to the following questions, in order to submit an application for funding under Interreg V-a Romania-Bulgaria Programme:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Is the expenditure related to the purchase of fuel receipts eligible for the implementation team members moving to implement project activities?</li> <li>- If the project foresees the purchase of traditional costumes, properly justified, which is the budget line which it may be included in?</li> </ul>	<p>Regarding your first question please be informed that these types of expenditures are eligible if they are for the project implementation team. As regards to your second question, the costs regarding the purchase of traditional costumes may be included within budgetary chapter <i>Equipment</i>.</p>
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<p><b>II.38</b></p>		<p>Q1: We have a question regarding the following issue: the offers and the print-screens for the services and equipment which are not included in Annex C ceiling of expenditures, they must be prepared also for the external expertise services?</p> <p>For example:          We want to have in our project a marketing expert in tourism. This is not included in Annex C. We have to submit 3 independent offers?          Or we want a Logistic Assistant (external expertise - subcontracted) we have to attach 3 offers?          Annex C is available only for equipment, consultancy and also for the external expertise?</p> <p>Q2:          In Section 2.3 from the Application Form when I am asked to describe only "MAIN equipment and services" must understand that only basic equipment must be listed and justified.          For example: we want as promotional materials key rings, agenda and other materials. We have to mention in the table one by one or all together?</p>	<p>1. In case the items that you describe (either equipment or service) are not included in Annex C - Ceilings for expenditure to the Applicant's Guide or do not observe those ceilings, projects must submit evidence about the market price of that particular item: either 3 offers from operators (preferably print screen for that particular item from well-known suppliers from the market or an independent evaluation of the cost of that particular item (and English translation, if issued in other language than English). The budgeted price (in case of 3 offers justifications) must not exceed the median value of the 3 offers (calculated at Inforeuro exchange rate from March 2015).          Yes, Annex C includes both equipment and services.</p> <p>2. In the Section 2.3 from the Application Form must be presented the relevant equipment's, in order to justify the budget and correlation with the project activities.</p>
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<b>II.39</b>	<p>asociatia din care fac parte doreste sa depuna un proiect la termenul limita de la 30 iunie si avem o intrebare legata de posibilitatea de a colabora cu cineva folosindu-ne de conventia civila. Este posibil asa ceva? Astfel de costuri sunt eligibile?</p>	<p>The associations I represent wishes to submit a project for the deadline of 30th of June and we have a question regarding the possibility collaborate with someone using the civil convention. Is that possible? Such costs are eligible?</p>	<p>According to the provisions of the Applicant's Guide, staff costs shall be reimbursed as a flat rate of maximum 15% of direct costs for soft projects. For hard projects the flat rate shall not exceed 5% of direct costs. Direct costs shall include the following expenditure categories:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Travel and accommodation;</li> <li>b) External expertise and services;</li> <li>c) Equipment expenditure;</li> <li>d) Infrastructure and works.</li> </ul> <p>In case of categories of costs for which flat rate applies, the beneficiaries are entitled to be reimbursed costs in due proportion with the direct eligible costs included in the calculation basis for applying the flat rate. That means that each beneficiary shall be reimbursed staff costs proportionally to the direct costs it has incurred, paid and declared eligible by the programme. The Programme management bodies shall not verify the supporting documents for expenditures for which flat rate applies. Nevertheless, the beneficiaries have the obligation of respecting the national legislation in force. For more information please refer to Annex E Simplified costs of the Applicant's Guide.</p>
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<p><b>II.40</b></p>		<p>Is renovation of a building under a concession contract eligible activity? If yes, is it enough to provide the concession contract as a proof for the right of property?</p> <p>In order to ensure sustainability, will the purchase cost of this building once the project starts be considered an eligible expenditure?</p>	<p>Please be informed that regarding the eligibility of an action/activity, in the interest of equal treatment of applicants, the JS cannot give a prior opinion on this, the assessment working group and the Monitoring Committee of the Programme being entitle to decide on this. According to the provisions of the Applicant's Guide, in case of investment projects, the applicants must prove they hold a right under the real property law over the land and/or building. The Applicant's Guide distinguishes between two cases: the applicant is the owner of the land/or building or the applicant has received the land and/or building is in concession or holds any other right under the real property law, listing also the documents that need to be submitted for each case. Please be informed that detailed information regarding the list of eligible expenditure is included in Annex D - List of eligible expenditure. This document lists as eligible expenditure the purchase of building and costs related to extending, modernizing and rehabilitation of the buildings, object of the basic investment.</p>
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<p><b>II.41</b></p>		<p>Regarding the eligibility of the expenditures and activities to be financed under the first call we would like to ask the following questions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. As Annex 8 the applicant should provide "Documents certifying the right of property/ concession/ administration/ rent/ loan on the land and/or building" - Does this mean that the costs for renovation of a building, which is rented under a long-term contract, are eligible?</li> <li>2. Regarding the description of the equipment within the application form do we need to enumerate every single piece of equipment in the tables in application form - chairs, tables, etc. or we can group them e.g. furniture, while still providing detailed lists as an annex with the three offers provided?</li> </ol>	<p>Please find below the answers to your questions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Costs for renovation for the building could be eligible; For more information regarding the eligibility of an expenditure please refer to Annex D - List of eligible expenditures.</li> <li>2. The equipment should be described in the application form. However, regarding the eligibility of an action/expenditure, the assessment working group and the Monitoring Committee of the Programme are entitle to decide on this.</li> </ol>
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<p><b>II.42</b></p>		<p>Please, give clarification about the terminology "independent evaluation". Are there any lists of independent evaluation. What does this "independent evaluation" consist of?</p>	<p>First of all, please be informed that there is no "official" definition of what independent evaluation means. According to the understanding of the managing bodies of the programme, independent evaluation is that evaluation done by a third party which don't have any relation with any of the project`s partners, having expertise in the respective field and no interest in the award of the contract in concern that could affect the objectivity of the evaluation. Also, there is no predefined list of independent evaluators. The output of such independent evaluation shall be a document (report) which justify and details in the same time, the proposed amount.</p>
<p><b>II.43</b></p>		<p>Regarding the successful implementation of our project idea, we envisage the purchase of a building. There are no costs for buildings in the Ceilings of expenditures list, for example per square metre. What documents do we have to submit with the application form as proof of the price?</p>	<p>Please be informed that the Applicant Guide does not foresee ceilings of expenditure for purchasing a building. Therefore, you should provide supporting documents regarding the building that is intended to be purchased, including the estimation of price (eg. independent expertise, pre-agreement contract for selling -buying the building, etc.).</p>

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<p><b>II.44</b></p>	<p>Intrebarea priveste costurile salariale pentru membrii echipei de implementare a fiecarui partener: este posibil ca aceste salarii (in plus/ alaturi de suma de 5% prevazuta in Ghid) sa fie prevazute in buget la o alta categorie? daca da, la care categorie?</p>	<p>The question concerns the staff costs for the implementation team members of each partner: it is possible that these salaries (additional to the amount of 5% provided in the guide) to be included in the budget in another category? if so, which category?</p>	<p>According to the provisions of the Applicant's Guide (Annex D - List of eligible expenditure), staff costs shall be reimbursed as a flat rate of maximum 5% of direct costs. Direct costs that form the basis for calculation of staff costs must be incurred and paid by the beneficiary as real costs. The direct costs shall include the following expenditure categories:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Travel and accommodation;</li> <li>b) External expertise and services;</li> <li>c) Equipment expenditure;</li> <li>d) Infrastructure and works.</li> </ul> <p>Therefore, staff costs for project management team shall be included only in the Staff costs budget category, and shall be reimbursed based on a flat rate of maximum 5% of direct costs.</p>
<p><b>III. Eligibility of actions</b></p>			



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<p>III.1</p>		<p>In the Applicant's guide, page 29 you have inserted Figure 1 "Infrastructure map, including indicative secondary and tertiary nodes (indicative map)". I have read the definitions in the same guide for the secondary and tertiary nodes and as I understand more cities/towns than the illustrated in the Figure 1 could be applied for tertiary nodes. My question is: Do only the listed cities in the Figure 1 meet the criteria to secondary/tertiary nodes? Could we apply with cities which are not in the Figure 1 but meet the requirements of the definitions for secondary/tertiary nodes.</p>	<p>Yes, if the requirements of the definitions for secondary/tertiary nodes are satisfied as the information on the map is not considered exhaustive but indicative. All Bulgarian municipal centers are considered at least "tertiary nodes". In case you consider there are additional cities/towns that do fulfill the criteria, you may apply. The evaluation team, however, will have to clarify with your help in providing the relevant documents, whether a town/city is a secondary/tertiary node.</p>
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<p>III.2</p>	<p>În cazul în care se depune un proiect care vizează modernizarea unui tronson de drum județean care este conectat la rețeaua TEN-T, deci nu a întregului drum județean, cum se consideră îndeplinită cerința de conectivitate la această rețea? Tronșonul respectiv trebuie să fie conectat la rețeaua TEN-T sau se consideră că face parte din drumul județean care este conectat la rețeaua TEN-T, fiind astfel îndeplinită cerința?</p>	<p>If a project is submitted and aims to upgrade a county road section which is connected to the TEN-T, so not the whole county road, how will the connectivity requirement in this network be considered fulfilled? The road section in question that must be connected to the TEN-T or is considered part of the county road which is connected to the TEN-T network, thus fulfilling the requirement?</p>	<p>Improving a county road section may be considered eligible under the Interreg V-A Romania-Bulgaria Programme if the respective county road makes the connection from a secondary or tertiary node to the TEN-T network. In this context it should be noted that regardless of the investment, the project should represent a necessity for the border region the cross-border impact should be ensured.</p>
<p>III.3</p>	<p>Vă rugăm să ne sprijiniți cu prezentarea unei definiții mai detaliate a termenilor "noduri secundare și terțiare";</p>	<p>Please support us by submitting detailed definitions of the terms "secondary and tertiary nodes";</p>	<p><i>Secondary nodes</i> are the branching or crossing points of the core and comprehensive networks, provided they represent cities (at least of regional importance) and/or multimodal connections;</p> <p><i>Tertiary nodes</i> are urban areas (regional towns, towns, cities) providing jobs and public and private services (e.g. schools, health or social care, employment services, banks) beyond their administrative boundaries, and/or places of multimodal nodes</p>

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<b>III.4</b>	<p>Luând în considerare faptul că trotuarele deserveșc la creșterea siguranței transportului rutier, facilitând deplasarea pietonilor într-un cadru ferit de posibile accidente și contribuind astfel la asigurarea unui management al traficului performant, vă rugăm să ne transmiteți dacă, în cazul lucrărilor de reabilitare/ modernizare drumuri, sunt eligibile și lucrările de construire/ reabilitare a trotuarelor</p>	<p>Taking into account that the sidewalks serve to increase the safety of road transport, facilitating the movement of pedestrians in a setting away from possible accidents and help ensure an efficient traffic management, please inform us whether, within the rehabilitation /upgrade of roads are eligible the expenditures related to the construction/ rehabilitation of sidewalks.</p>	<p><i>!!!! Considering the recent clarifications received from the Commission sidewalks may be eligible when modernizing/building a road if they are, in terms of construction, part of the road which is the object of the investment contributing to the programme purpose.</i></p>
<b>III.5</b>		<p>In the Applicant's guide, page 28 you have written "In case a entire new road is constructed, the budget could go up to 10,000,000 Euro." My question is: If one of the beneficiary apply with new road but another one apply for financing with rehabilitation of Road what will be the maximum allowed amount for the Project?</p>	<p>The maximum allowed amount for such a Project is 10,000,000 Euro.</p>



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<p><b>III.6</b></p>		<p>Is the construction of road infrastructure focused on cyclists, pedestrians and specialized transport realized on the territory of a protected area eligible for priority axis 1 and in harmony for the territory of Bulgaria and Romania?</p>	<p>Please pay attention to the specific objectives and indicative actions of each priority axis as your project will have to correspond to the specific objective of the priority axis under which you wish to be financed. PA 2 deals with natural and cultural heritage. Your project proposal will have to respect all the relevant national and European provisions during preparation and implementation.</p>
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<p>III.7</p>		<p>We are a research institute from Romania cooperating for a long period with our partners from Bulgaria. We intend to submit a project for the new programme for financing exchanges of experience in fields you finance under the first call for proposals. Is this eligible?</p>	<p>Please be informed that regarding the eligibility of an action, in the interest of equal treatment of applicants, we cannot give a prior opinion on this, the assessment working group and the Monitoring Committee of the Programme being entitle to decide on this.</p> <p>Furthermore, while designing your application, please take into consideration that, according to the programming document for INTERREG V-A Romania-Bulgaria, page 125: “Projects focusing on pure research (with no applicative output), including just exchanges of experience or not indicating the concrete and sustainable follow-up of “soft” activities (studies, surveys, etc.) will not be supported by the Programme.”</p> <p>Also, please pay attention to all other requirements stated in the Applicant’s Guide, as they are mandatory and will be taken into consideration for assessing the project you submit.</p>
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III.8	<p>В Насоките за кандидатстване като индикативна операция към Приоритетна ос 3, Специфична цел 3.1 е посочена "3. Създаване на хармонизирани интегрирани инструменти за предотвратяване и намаляване на риска (включително откриване, ранно предупреждение и тревога, картографиране и оценка на риска) - създаване на съвместни структури за спешни, непредвидени ситуации (включително високо специализирани звена за реагиране / модулите за гражданска защита), и развитие на дребна трансгранична инфраструктура на регионално равнище в областта на готовността за извънредни ситуации (например транспортни аварии, бедствия и т.н.), включително в случаите на метеорологични рискове (като бури, екстремни температурни събития, горски пожари, суша, наводнения ) и геофизични рискове (като свлачища, земетресения).(стр. 31, 32) Моля, уточнете дали интервенции върху вече съществуващи (регистрирани) свлачища ще са допустими по настоящата покана за проекто-предложения. Ако да, то какъв вид дейности ще бъдат третираны като допустими?</p>	<p>In Applicant's Guide as Indicative operation within Priority Axis 3, Specific Objective 3.1 is mentioned "3. Setting up of harmonised integrated tools for risk prevention and mitigation (including detection, early warning and alert systems, risk mapping and assessment) - creation of joint structures for urgent, unexpected situations (including highly specialized response units/civil protection modules), and development of small-scale regional level cross-border infrastructure in the field of emergency preparedness (e.g. transport accidents, disasters, etc.), including in cases of weather-related risks (such as storms, extreme temperature events, forest fires, droughts, floods) and geophysical risks (such as landslides, earthquakes)." (page 31, 32). Please clarify if interventions on already existing (registered) landslides will be eligible under this Call of proposals. If yes, then what kind of activities will be treated as eligible?</p>	<p>Please be informed that the activities listed in the Applicant's Guide are indicative, so as long as they serve the objective of the PA and the indicators, the project proposal does not need to match exactly the indicative actions. However, regarding the eligibility of an action, in the interest of equal treatment of applicants, the JS cannot give a prior opinion on this, the assessment working group and the Monitoring Committee of the Programme being entitled to decide on this.</p>
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<p>III.9</p>		<p>The roads, which could be reconstructed and rehabilitated, should connect second and third class road junctions with the main TEN-T network. Is it eligible to connect only the roads between the road junctions?</p>	<p>Please be advised that as compared to the previous Programme, the Interreg V-A Romania-Bulgaria Programme shall not finance the simple rehabilitation of roads, projects shall have to prove an added value in terms of modernization, upgrading of roads. According to the Applicant's Guide, only roads proving cross border impact and connecting secondary or tertiary nodes to TEN-T infrastructure (core or comprehensive) will be financed. You will find in the Applicant's Guide an indicative map with examples of roads which fulfill these criteria. The Applicant's Guide also explains the definition of secondary and tertiary nodes, so other roads may be eligible for financing as long as they respect the provisions of the Applicant's Guide. Please note that the classification does not necessarily correspond to the one set at national level. Furthermore, please note that the construction/modernization of roads is also eligible under Priority Axis 2, provided the project is in line with the specific objective of the priority axis.</p>
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<p>III.10</p>	<p>In vederea depunerii unei propuneri de proiect care vizeaza obiectivul: Specific Objective 2.1 To improve the sustainable use of natural heritage and resources and cultural heritage si are ca indicator de performanta: Number of common strategies, policies or management plans for valorising (including raising awareness) the cultural and natural heritage through its restoration and promotion for sustainable economic uses dorim sa ne concentram atentia asupra utilizarii sustenabile a unei resurse naturale: apele geotermale. Este oportuna realizarea unui astfel de proiect, sau aceast obiectiv se refera strict la ariile naturale protejate?</p>	<p>We intend to submit a project proposal connected to the Specific Objective 2.1 To improve the sustainable use of natural heritage and resources and cultural heritage; indicator Number of common strategies, policies or management plans for valorising (including raising awareness) the cultural and natural heritage through its restoration and promotion for sustainable economic uses. We want to focus the attention to the sustainable use of a natural resource- geothermal waters. Is this kind of project opportune or is this objective strictly related to the natural protected areas?</p>	<p>Please be informed that regarding the eligibility of an action, in the interest of equal treatment of applicants, we cannot give a prior opinion on this, the assessment working group and the Monitoring Committee of the Programme being entitled to decide on this. Furthermore, referring to the areas connected by the Specific Objective 2.1 To improve the sustainable use of natural heritage and resources and cultural heritage, please have in mind the provisions of the official Programme document (available on the homepage of the website <a href="http://cbcromaniabulgaria.eu/">http://cbcromaniabulgaria.eu/</a>): « All the cross-border area is targeted and is eligible for the actions supported under this specific objective. A special attention will be, nevertheless, given to areas of high natural or cultural value and to natural areas/cultural sites that face significant threats/pressures and/or usage conflicts. »</p>
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<p>III.11</p>	<p>Допустимо ли е за български бенефициенти и партньори да кандидатстват по Програмата за извършване на инфраструктурни дейности само с Преинвестиционно проучване, а проектирането да се предвиди като дейност по проекта след одобрение? Задължително условие за допустимост ли е изготвянето на идеен и/или технически проекти, одобрени и получили разрешение за строеж преди кандидатстване?</p>	<p>Is it eligible for Bulgarian beneficiaries to apply for investment projects with only feasibility study (pre-investment study, not including a design)? Is it obligatory an approved preliminary design or technical design and permission for construction to be obtained before the application?</p>	<p>It is not eligible for Bulgarian beneficiaries to apply with an investment projects presenting feasibility study only. <b>For Bulgarian beneficiaries it should be annexed: preliminary design (including estimation of bill of quantities and values) for new investments or technical design for upgrading/reconstruction. The design has to be approved according the Bulgarian legislation. The permission for construction is not required at the application stage.</b></p> <p><u>Answer provided before the Corrigendum</u></p>
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<p><b>III.12</b></p>		<p>Are the archaeological excavations and conservation eligible as activities and expense under Priority 2 of the programme? If "yes", how they should be treated - as "works" or as "research"?</p> <p>Can a "soft" project include activities budgeted as "works" if they are only a small part of the budget and are necessary only for a very small-scale improvement of a cultural/historic site?</p> <p>Are the archaeological excavations and conservation considered an investment project?</p>	<p>Please be advised that the list of operations mentioned in the Applicant's Guide is indicative. Therefore, as long as the activities serve the objective of the Priority Axis and the indicators, the project proposal does not need to match exactly the indicative actions. Unfortunately, the JS cannot provide an opinion regarding the eligibility of an applicant or actions, as this will be decided by the evaluators and further on by the Monitoring Committee. According to the provisions of the Applicants' Guide an investment project is defined as "A project whose results involve the achievement of an objective by investing capital, which means that their main component is to carry out a work, without excluding the procurement of services (as consultancy or technical assistance) or goods (procurement of necessary equipments for the respective objective) related to the respective objective".</p>
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			<p>On the other hand, a soft project is defined as a “Project that does not have an infrastructure component or which does not grant more than half of its total eligible budget to purchase of equipments”. Therefore, projects that involve a work component should be considered as an investment project. There is no restriction or limitation on what works imply, so archaeological excavations could be treated as such. Please be advised that the list of eligible expenditures is annexed to the Applicant’s Guide, and foresees as eligible expenditure, among others costs related to reconstruction/recovery of cultural infrastructure.</p>
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<p>III.13</p>		<p>Considering definition of the tertiary node, (Tertiary nodes are urban areas (regional towns, towns, cities) providing jobs and public and private services (e.g. schools, health or social care, employment services, banks) beyond their administrative boundaries, and/or places of multimodal nodes ) and taking into consideration that Gorna Oryahovitsa, according to the map on pg. 29 is tertiary node, could you specify either:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Improving connectivity between Gorna Oryahovitsa town (as a municipal center) and Ten-T infrastructure</li> </ul> <p>or</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- improving connectivity between settlements (which are part of Gorna Oryahovitsa municipality) with Ten-T infrastructure</li> </ul> <p>is eligible according to the Programme provisions?</p>	<p>Please be advised that the map included in the Applicant’s Guide has an indicative character. Furthermore, please note that only roads proving cross border impact and connecting secondary or tertiary nodes to TEN-T infrastructure (core or comprehensive) will be financed. However, regarding the eligibility of an action, in the interest of equal treatment of applicants, the JS cannot give a prior opinion on this, the assessment working group and the Monitoring Committee of the Programme being entitle to decide on this.</p>
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		<p>Road II - 53, presented on the map provided by you as a connection to Ten-T network, moving through town is changing to street. In this particular case, is the Local Municipality eligible to apply for reconstruction and rehabilitation (i.e. reconstruction and rehabilitation of the street on that part of the road?</p> <p>According to the map attached in the Applicant Guide on pg. 29, Gorna Oryahovitsa airport is presented as comprehensive TEN-T (airports infrastructure), on the other hand according to the List of the 4 EU Core and Comprehensive maps, available on <a href="http://ec.europa.eu/transport/infrastructure/tentec/tentec-portal/site/en/maps.html">http://ec.europa.eu/transport/infrastructure /tentec/tentec-portal/site/en/maps.html</a> , Gorna Oryahovitsa RRT (Rail Road Terminal) is a part of the Core TEN-T infrastructure. Regarding the Action eligibility is improving connectivity (reconstruction of streets, improving/building bicycle roads, improving local public transport infrastructure) between Gorna Oryahovitsa town as a tertiary node with above mentioned TEN_T infrastructure eligible under the PA 1 “A well connected region” of the Interreg V-A Romania-Bulgaria?</p>	
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<p><b>III.14</b></p>		<p>According to the Applicant's Guide the definition of Tertiary nodes is: Tertiary nodes are urban areas (regional towns, towns, cities) providing jobs and public and private services (e.g. schools, health or social care, employment services, banks) beyond their administrative boundaries, and/or places of multimodal nodes. Is a village may be consider as a tertiary node, having in mind that all other criteria are fulfilled?</p>	<p>All Bulgarian municipal centers are considered at least "tertiary nodes". In case you consider there are additional cities/towns that do fulfill the criteria, you may apply. The evaluation team, however, will have to clarify with your help in providing the relevant documents, whether a town/city (not a village) is a secondary/tertiary node.</p>
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<p>III.15</p>	<p>Va rugam sa ne precizati daca un proiect care vizeaza promovarea traditiilor si schimburile interculturale ale anumitor grupuri etnice din RO si BG este eligibil pentru finantare in cadrul Obiectivului Specific 2.1 - Imbunatatirea utilizarii sustenabile a patrimoniului natural si cultural si a resurselor avand in vedere ca un astfel de proiect care ar avea ca actiune indicativa "Conservarea, promovarea si dezvoltarea patrimoniului cultural intangibil, in special prin intermediul unor evenimente culturale cu o dimensiune transfrontaliera" nu are corespondenta in indicatorii de realizare estimati care se refera strict la numarul de vizite la situri de patrimoniu, numar de produse /servicii turistice si numar de strategii comune, politici si planuri de management pentru valorificarea patrimoniului cultural si natural ?</p>	<p>Please inform us if a project aimed at promoting intercultural exchanges of certain traditions and ethnic groups in RO and BG is eligible for funding under the Specific Objective 2.1 Improving sustainable use of natural and cultural heritage and resources given that such a project that would have as indicative action "Preservation, promotion and development of intangible cultural heritage, particularly through cultural events with a cross-border dimension" does not match the estimated output indicators that refer only to the number of visits to heritage sites, number of products / services tourist and number of common strategies, policies and management plans for cultural and natural heritage?</p>	<p>According to the provisions of the Applicant's Guide projects should contribute to the achievement of the programme's both output and result indicators (at least one output and one result indicator).</p> <p>The output indicators for the specific objective that indicative action contributes to are:          Increase in expected number of visits to supported sites of cultural and natural heritage and attraction (COI) -10 000          Number of integrated tourism products/services created - 100          Number of common strategies, policies or management plans for valorising (including raising awareness) the cultural and natural heritage through its restoration and promotion for sustainable economic uses - 50          The result indicator is: Number of tourists overnights in the CBC region - Increase from a baseline of 6.668.515 to a target of 7.200.000          You may find additional information regarding indicators and the methodology for measuring them in the Programme, available on the programme's website <a href="http://www.cbromanialbulgaria.eu">www.cbromanialbulgaria.eu</a>, and Annex J to the Applicant's Guide.</p>
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<p><b>III.16</b></p>	<p>Възможно ли е, да се кандидатства (по ПО 1) с проект, който предвижда следните действия:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. рехабилитация/модернизация на пътен участък (етап 1 - изпълнение на "хард" проект);</li> <li>2. разработване на предпроектно проучване (етап 2 за друг участък от същия път - "софт" проект).</li> </ol> <p>По този начин, проектът ще включва и комбинира - рехабилитация на пътна инфраструктура за 1 етап и разработка на проектната документация за 2 етап.</p>	<p>Is it possible, to apply (under PA 1) with a project that envisages the following actions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. rehabilitation / modernization of road section (Stage 1 - realization of hard project);</li> <li>2. Develop a feasibility study (Stage 2 for another section of the same road - soft project).?</li> </ol> <p>So the project will include and combine both - realization of road infrastructure for 1 stage and development of project documentation for 2 stages.</p>	<p>Thank you for your interest on Interreg V-A Romania-Bulgaria Programme. A project may implement in the same time soft and hard activities, provided that you observe all the conditions from the Applicant's Pack. Please note that the assessment working group will assess your project according to the information provided.</p>
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<p><b>III.17</b></p>	<p>Este eligibila organizarea unui festival care are ca tema pastrarea spiritului original al unei localitati turistice, si lupta impotriva invadarii acesteia de catre proiecte comerciale? (in ghid singura axa in care am putea incadra aceasta activitate ar fi Axa 2 A green region?) ? Mentionez ca exista un partener bulgar care doreste sa fie partener.</p> <p>Promovarea unui stil de viata sanatos avand ca grup tinta copii (actiunea se va desfasura in judetele eligibile ale programului, scoli centre pentru copii etc), este eligibila si daca da in ce conditii si sub ce axa?</p>	<p>Is the organization of a festival with the theme keeping the original spirit of a tourist village/town and fighting against the commercial projects invasion eligible? (according to the applicant guide, is this activity included within PA 2 A green region?) . I mention that a Bulgarian partner wants to be involved in the project.</p> <p>Is the promotion of the healthy life style having as target group the children (the activity shall be implemented in the eligible counties of the Programme, schools, etc.) eligible? And if yes, under what conditions and what priority axis?</p>	<p>Please be informed that regarding the eligibility of an action, in the interest of equal treatment of applicants, we cannot give a prior opinion on this, the assessment working group and the Monitoring Committee of the Programme being entitle to decide on this. In order to be eligible, a project must observe the provisions of the Applicant guide and to contribute to the achievement of the objectives set at PA level and the related indicators. Also, we recommend you to read the questions and answers published on the Programme site, and in particular “Eligibility of actions” part.</p>
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<b>III.18</b>	<p>Asociatia de Dezvoltare Intercomunitara „ILUMINAT PUBLIC EFICIENT judetul Giurgiu” intentioneaza sa depuna un proiect de monitorizare video care se inscrie pe Axa prioritara 1-0 regiune bine conectata. Asociatia are ca asociati 47 de unitati administrativ teritoriale din judetul Giurgiu, specificate in actul constitutiv. Asociatia actioneaza in domeniul furnizarii de servicii publice pe raza de competenta a unitatilor administrativ-teritoriale membre.</p> <p>Pentru a asigura o componenta puternica transfrontaliera este nevoie ca ADI sa amplaseze un sistem video inclusiv in orasul Giurgiu, care nu este membru ADI, dar care si-a dat acceptul pentru acest tip de investitie. Avand in vedere ca in structura ADI se regaseste ca membru Consiliul Judetean Giurgiu ale carui competente se extind la nivelul intregului judet, se poate considera eligibila aceasta investitie in orasul Giurgiu, prin prisma atributiilor pe care le indeplineste Cosiliului Judetean la nivelul judetului?</p>	<p>The Intercommunity Development Association “Efficient Public Lighting - Giurgiu County” intends to submit a project for video monitoring, under PA 1 - A well connected region. The Association is composed of 47 territorial administrative units from Giurgiu County, as mentioned in the constitutive document. The Association provides public services within the area of its constitutive territorial administrative units.</p> <p>In order to ensure a strong cross-border component it is necessary that the Association install a video system also in Giurgiu town, which is not a member of the Association, but which accepted an investment of this type. Taking into account that the County Council of Giurgiu is a member of the Association, with responsibilities all over Giurgiu County, could this investment be considered eligible?</p>	<p>From the data you mentioned to us both the beneficiaries and the activities are from/taking place in the eligible area of the Programme, therefore, observe the location criteria from the Guide on activities and applicants (presuming the association is a structure with legal personality-a NGO).</p> <p>Considering that you mentioned that the project proposal represents an investment, you shall first of all clarify whether or not this investment includes construction works. If so, please consider that, according with the Applicant’s Guide, there are two requirements that shall be followed:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. the applicant is the owner of the land/or building,</li> <li>2. the applicant has received the land and/or building is in concession or holds any other right under the real property law.</li> </ol> <p>If the investment doesn’t include any construction, no such conditions shall be follow, but still you should demonstrate that the partner is the body/institution entitled to take action in the field/fields addressed by the project and has received all legal agreements for the investment</p>
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<p><b>III.19</b></p>	<p>Възможно ли е по програмата за Трансгранично сътрудничество Румъния- България да бъде финансиран проект за изграждане на пречиствателна станция в община с население 3000 души? Предварително благодаря!</p>	<p>Is it possible to be financed a project under the CBC programme Romania-Bulgaria for the construction of a water waste management station in a municipality with overall population of 3000 persons.</p>	<p>Please be informed that regarding the eligibility of an action, in the interest of equal treatment of applicants, the JS cannot give a prior opinion, the assessment working group and the Monitoring Committee of the Programme being entitled to decide on this.</p> <p>Regarding the population there is no restriction on the number of the population provided all other provisions of the Programme and the announced call are respected.</p>
<p><b>III.20</b></p>	<p>Във връзка с отворена покана за кандидатстване по ТГС (България-Румъния), искам да задам следния въпрос: Допустими ли са мерки за реконструкция/ремонт/обновяване на хижи (собственост на туристически дружества)?</p>	<p>In relation to the 1<sup>st</sup> call for proposals, I would like to address the following question: Are the actions for reconstructions/repair works of rest-house (owned by tourist associations) eligible?</p>	<p>Please be informed that regarding the eligibility of an action, in the interest of equal treatment of applicants, we cannot give a prior opinion on this, the assessment working group and the Monitoring Committee of Programme being entitled to decide on this. According to the Applicant guide the actions must contribute to the achievement of the objectives set at PA level and the related indicators.</p>

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<p>III. 21</p>	<p>Se doreste depunerea unui proiect ce vizeaza reabilitarea unui monument istoric, dar in ghid nu este specificat foarte clar daca este eligibila o astfel de investitie. In opinia mea, s-ar incadra in cadrul proiectelor de tip hard si as asocia-o cu „Reconstruirea infrastructurii culturale, recuperare și promovare a monumentelor culturale bazate pe strategii / concepte transfrontaliere relevanta”, dar as dori si o parere din partea dumneavoastra.</p>	<p>We intended to submit a project concerning the rehabilitation of a historic monument, but according to the guide is not very clear whether such an investment is eligible. In my opinion, this would fall within the hard projects category and I would associate it with "Rebuilding cultural infrastructure, rehabilitation and promotion of cultural monuments based strategies / concepts relevant border", but I would like to have your opinion.</p>	<p>Please be advised that the list of operations included in the Applicant's Guide is indicative, therefore, as long as the project meets the specific objective of the project and contributes to the achievement of Programme's indicators, it is eligible. According to the provisions of the Applicant's Guide, a hard project is a project that has an infrastructure component or which grants more than half of its total eligible budget for the purchase of equipment. Unfortunately, we may not provide an opinion regarding the eligibility of an operation as this is the task of the evaluators and the Monitoring Committee.</p>
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<b>III. 22</b>	<p>In cadrul proiectului pe care vrem sa il depunem apare si o conservare primara a unui zid dintr-un sit istoric ( circa 50 ml), ca exemplu de bune practici reciproce.</p> <p>Avem acceptul muzeului de care apartine cetatea. Activitatea presupune o prestare din partea unei societati care trebuie sa se incadreze in suma aproximativa de 25.000 euro pentru 50 ml de conservare primara. Intrebarea noastra se refera daca pentru acest lucru ne trebuie si un studiu de fezabilitate sau acceptul muzeului este suficient, devizul final de lucrari urmind sa stea la baza decontarilor concrete.</p>	<p>Within this project we want to submit, there is a primary conservation of a wall from a historical site (about 50 ml.), as an example of mutual best practice. We have the permission of the museum that owns the stronghold. The activity requires a supply from a company that must fit in the approximate amount of 25,000 euros for 50 ml primary conservation. Our question is the following one: Do we also need a feasibility study for it or is the museum permission enough, given that the final estimate of works is going to be at the basis of the actual expense account?</p>	<p>If the activity of primary conservation of the respective wall from the historical site enters within the Register of Construction Works and requires building permit under law 50/1991 updated, the following is needed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Feasibility Study - for new constructions;</li> <li>• Documentation Advisory Intervention Works - for the repair, rehabilitation / modernization of existing constructions according to GD 28/2008</li> </ul> <p>Also, we recommend that all necessary documents/permits are submitted, according to the Applicant's Guide.</p>
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<b>III.23</b>	<p>Daca proiectul are parteneri doua orase eligibile din ambele tari, evenimentele culturale ce se vor desfasura se pot organiza si in alte orase din aria eligibila sau din afara ariei?</p>	<p>If the project has partners from two eligible cities from both countries, can the held cultural events be organized in other cities in the eligible area or outside the area?</p>	<p>According to the provisions of the Applicant's Guide, the activities have to be implemented in the Programme eligible area. However, in case a project has to be implemented partially outside the eligible area, it has to prove that it is in for the benefit of the programme area. The total costs incurred outside of the eligible area (related to any activity or any category of expenditure) shall be limited to 20% of the ERDF total eligible project budget, irrespective of the location of the partner.</p>
<b>III.24</b>	<p>In cazul in care se vizeaza amenajarea unor trasee turistice in siturile Natura 2000 (eventual si pentru cicloturism daca zona permite) si a unor platforme de observare, proiectul se incadreaza ca fiind unul soft?</p>	<p>If the project aims to develop tourist routes in the Natura 2000 sites (possibly for cycling if it is allowable) and observation platforms, is the project considered to be a soft one?</p>	<p>The Applicant's Guide defines soft projects as projects that do not have an infrastructure component or which do not grant more than half of its total eligible budget to purchase of equipment, otherwise projects are considered to be hard projects. Therefore, in case you foresee infrastructure investments or you intend to allocate more than half of the project's budget to the purchase of equipment, your project will not be classified as a soft project.</p>



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<p>III.25</p>		<p>Is it eligible for Bulgarian beneficiaries and partners to sign services contract/s for payment under condition, i.e, if an external consultant is hired to prepare documents, such as feasibility study, technical projects and/or cost-benefit analysis, shall the payment be considered eligible if it is paid only after the approval of the project proposal?</p>	<p>Please be informed that regarding the eligibility of an action, in the interest of equal treatment of applicants, the JS cannot give a prior opinion on this, the assessment working group and the Monitoring Committee being entitle to decide on this. However, drafting and signing of service contract for external consultancy is the responsibility of the beneficiary.</p> <p>Also, please be informed that expenditures related to project preparation can be paid before submitting the application form or even after (no later than submitting the first reimbursement claim since preparation expenditures should be included in that reimbursement claim).</p>
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<b>III.26</b>	<p>1. Ако румънския партньор включи инвестиционни дейности, а българския партньор не - смята ли се проекта за инвестиционен?</p> <p>2. Възможно ли е румънския партньор да извършва инвестиционни дейности, а българския партньор да закупи оборудване? В този случай стойността на оборудването трябва ли да е повече от 50% .</p> <p>3. Изискването за определяне на един проект като "твърд" пише, че трябва или да се извършат инвестиции или да се закупи оборудване на стойност над 50% от бюджета. Става дума за общия бюджет или за бюджета на всеки партньор?</p>	<p>1. Is the project considered as investment "hard" project if the Romanian partner includes investment activities and the Bulgarian partner - not?</p> <p>2. Is it possible Romanian partner to have investment activities and the Bulgarian partner - to purchase equipment?</p> <p>3. In the definition for "hard" project is written that investment activities should be implemented or equipment should be purchased over 50% of the budget. Is it the total budget or partner budget?</p>	<p>For questions no. 1, 2 and 3: It is clearly stated in the Applicant's Guide that "Project that has an infrastructure component or which grants more than half of its total eligible budget for the purchase of equipment" is defined as "hard" project.</p>
<b><u>IV. Annexes</u></b>			



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IV.1		Some of the annexes to the Applicant's guide (Schedule of reimbursement claims and Budget of the Project) are not attached. Do you will upload later on or the beneficiary will filled up in format different than *.xls (Excel file)?	The budget is now available within the application form, not as a separate annex. Schedule of reimbursement is no longer requested when submitting the application form (a schedule for first level control requests will be requested in the pre-contractual phase).
IV.2	Deoarece in anexa A7 conform fisierului (Anex A.12 - conform formularului) se mentioneaza ca acest formular se completeaza doar pentru proiectele de investitii, va rugam sa ne specificati care sunt criteriile pentru clasificarea unui proiect ca fiind de investitii sau nu (exemplu: un proiect care prevede achizitionarea de echipamente IT, mobilier si vehicule, dar nu prevede constructii sau amenajari cladiri sau spatii, este considerat proiect de investitii)?	According to Annex A7 of the Applicant's Guide, this document should be filled only for investment projects, therefore, please specify which are the criteria for classifying a project as investment project (for example a project which foresees the purchase of IT equipment, furniture and vehicles, but does not foresee constructions or arrangements of buildings or spaces, is it considered to be an investment project?)	According to the Applicant's Guide provisions, an investment project is a project whose results involve the achievement of an objective by investing capital, which means that their main component is to carry out a work, without excluding the procurement of services (as consultancy or technical assistance) or goods (procurement of necessary equipment for the respective objective) related to the respective objective.





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<p><b>IV.3</b></p>		<p>We, as a Municipality, kindly ask you to clarify the following aspect regarding the proof of the public ownership of the land and / or buildings, subject of investment, as the land and / or buildings can be in the public or private propriety of the Cernavoda Municipality and the Applicant guide does not make a distinction between these two types of property, mentioning the legal act stating the public property on the land and/or building.</p>	<p>The Municipality must submit the legal act/document stating the property of the land and/or the building that is subject of the investment project, regardless if the land and/or the building are included in the public or the private property of the Municipality. Of course, you have to observe the rest of the conditions, and prove how, even if the building/land is in private property it still contributes to the cross border area development and to the Programme's objectives and indicators.</p>
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<p><b>IV.4</b></p>		<p>According to the Guidelines for application for the Program, for the investment projects is required the submission of Cost-Benefit Analysis: Please specify if the program does not generate revenue, should it be presented a Cost-Benefit Analysis as part of the program? If Cost-Benefit Analysis should be present - should it be common for the whole project or to be submitted for each partner for his part of the investment?</p>	<p>According to the provisions of the Applicant's Guide, the Cost Benefit Analysis is mandatory for all applications including infrastructure as it is an evaluation instrument regarding the advantages of the investments from the point of view of all interested target groups, on the basis of the monetary values for all positive and negative consequences of the investment. Therefore, the applicants should submit Cost Benefit Analysis for investment projects, irrespective if the projects generate or not revenues. Cost Benefit Analysis shall be submitted by each partner for his part of the investment.</p>
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<p>IV.5</p>	<p>Exista un format agreat de Program pentru întocmirea Studiului de Fezabilitate sau se respectă legislația română în vigoare (HG 28/2008)?</p>	<p>Is there any template for the Feasibility study provided by the Programme, or the national legislation in this regard should be observed (Government Decision 28/2008)?</p>	<p>Referring to the Feasibility study, the Applicant's Guide does not provide a template. Therefore, according to the indication from 47th page of the Applicant's Guide: The elaboration and approval of the feasibility studies or equivalent technical documents must observe the national provisions in this matter (see Annex K Relevant national and EU legislation). The Annex K listed also the Government Decision No. 28/2008 regarding the approval of the framework content of the economic-economic documentation concerning public investments, and of the structure and methodology for elaborating the general estimate for investment objectives and intervention operations.</p>
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<p><b>IV.6</b></p>	<p>Anexa 7 la cererea de finantare se referă la Analiza cost - beneficiu, dar conform HG 28/2008, orice SF trebuie să conțină aceasta analiză. Intrebarea este dacăse pot prelua din Studiul de Fezabilitate informațiile și completa în anexa 7?</p>	<p>Annex 7 of the Application form concerns the Cost- Benefit Analysis. According to the Government Decision 28/2008 each Feasibility study should have this analysis. The question is if the information from the Feasibility study can be used in Annex 7?</p>	<p>This annex is mandatory for all applications including infrastructure as it is an evaluation instrument regarding the advantages of the investments from the point of view of all interested target groups, on the basis of the monetary values for all positive and negative consequences of the investment and it should be accordingly filled in with the data. Yes, information from Feasibility study may be included in Annex 7 Cost - Benefit Analysis.</p>
<p><b>IV.7</b></p>	<p>Допустимо ли е за български бенефициенти и партньори да кандидатстват по Програмата за извършване на инфраструктурни дейности, само с подготвени технически проекти за извършване на СМР за нов инвестиционен обект? Какви са необходимите документи, които задължително следва да се приложат към апликационната форма?</p>	<p>Is it eligible for Bulgarian beneficiaries and partners to apply only with already elaborated technical projects for construction works of a new investment object/building/? What kind of documents have to be enclosed?</p>	<p><b>The technical design (preliminary design) need to be approved according Bulgarian legislation (Spatial Planning Act, Ordinance No 4 for the scope and the contents of the investment projects, etc.) and it need to be annexed to the Application form. Other documents that should be annexed are indicated in the Applicant's Guide.</b></p> <p><b><u>Answer provided before the Corrigendum</u></b></p>



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<p>IV.8</p>		<p>On p.47 of the Applicant's guide it is written: The Feasibility Study or equivalent technical documents should not have been elaborated or updated more than one year before the deadline for the submission of the project proposal (the document must bear the date of elaboration/revision). However, this/these document/-s should be submitted as annex to the application form and should be accompanied by the legal agreements and approvals.</p> <p>Can you please clarify if this elaboration/update date is also valid for all the architectural drawings (with all the necessary technical drawings for Architecture, Design, Electrical Installations, Water Supply and Sanitation, HVAC, Thermal Efficiency, Park Arrangement and Amenities, Landscaping etc.) or only for permits/technical documents issued by authorities?</p>	<p>1. Please note that the applicant's guide makes general references to the feasibility study or equivalent technical documents, without specifying only the permits/technical documents issued by authorities or excluding the architectural drawings when requesting these documents to be elaborated / updated with no more than one year before the deadline for submission of the project proposal. Therefore, entire Feasibility Study or equivalent technical documents should not have been elaborated or updated with more than one year before the deadline for the submission of the project proposal. (For Bulgarian beneficiaries: Preliminary design (including estimation of bill of quantities and values) or technical design approved according Bulgarian legislation (Spatial Planning Act, Ordinance No 4 for the scope and the contents of the investment projects, etc.).</p>
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IV.9		Do all technical drawings have to be translated in English as well?	The English translation (if issued in other language than English) for the Feasibility studies / equivalent technical documents will be annexed to the Application Form.
IV.10		Can you confirm that the Urban planning permit is required only for the Romanian beneficiaries? Annex 10 to the Application Form - Urban planning permit (mandatory for applications including infrastructure related activities) and English translation (if issued in other language than English) will annexed to the Application Form. Only Romanian beneficiaries have to submit the Urban planning permit.	Yes, according to the information from 47th page of the Applicant's Guide for the first call for proposals, only Romanian beneficiaries have to submit the Urban planning permit.



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<p>IV.11</p>		<p>Is it possible to publish a list of the required documents to be submitted as annexes in English and Bulgarian/Romanian? The reason being that the technical documents, permits, etc. our country-specific and the terms might be subject to interpretation. Such a list would guarantee no misinterpretation, hence rejected proposals because of unclear guiding rules.</p>	<p>Please note that these information are provided by the Applicant's Guide for the first call for proposals, clearly indicating, for each Annex if the English translation is requires: Annex 1 to the Application Form - Declaration of submission of the Application Form is a template available only in English language; Annexes 2 to the Application Form - Legal documents of the applicants should be submitted together with the English translation; Annex(es) 3 to the Application Form - Mandates of delegation from the legal representatives of beneficiaries (in case the application form and annexed declarations are not signed by the legal representatives of the Lead beneficiary / beneficiaries) should be submitted together with the English translation; Annexes 4 to the Application Form - Declarations of Eligibility is a template available only in English language; Annexes 5 to the Application Form - Declarations</p>
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			<p>of Commitment is a template available only in English language; Annexes 6 to the Application Form - Partnership declarations is a template available only in English language; Annex 7 to the Application Form - Cost-Benefit Analysis should be submitted together with the English translation; Annex(es) 8 to the Application Form - Documents certifying the right of property/ concession/ administration/ rent/ loan on the land and/or building should be submitted together with the English translation; Annex(es) 9 to the Application Form - Feasibility studies / equivalent technical documents should be submitted together with the English translation; Annex 10 to the Application Form - Urban planning permit (only for the Romanian beneficiaries) should be submitted together with the English translation; Annex 11 to the Application Form - Environmental agreement should be submitted together with the English translation; Annex 12 to the Application Form -</p>
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			Environmental Impact Survey) should be submitted together with the English translation; Annex 13 to the Application Form - Traffic study should be submitted together with the English translation; Annex 14 to the Application Form - Environmental Impact Study should be submitted together with the English translation.
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<p><b>IV.12</b></p>	<p>1. Ако един твърд проект е с над 50% от стойността на бюджета за оборудване, но без заложен инфраструктурни дейности, предвижда ремонт/ включващ боядисване на стая, циклене на паркет, поставяне на оранжерия/, трябва ли партньорът да представи технически дизайн /Анекс 9/? Ако за извършване на определени работи не се изисква разрешение за строителство, достатъчно ли е предпроектното проучване ?</p> <p>2. Ако проектът е твърд, но не включва инфраструктурни дейности, а само ремонтни работи/ необходимо ли е да бъде представен Анализ цена-приход /Анекс 7/?</p>	<p>1. If a hard project with investment for equipment for over 50 % of the total budget of the project, but without infrastructure, include repair (works)/ painting of a room, sanding parquet, placement of a conservatory(greenery) / , is it necessary the partner to submit technical design? In case a building permit is not necessary for such works, is the Feasibility study/Annex 9/ enough?</p> <p>2. In case the project is hard but doesn't include infrastructure, only <b>(repair works)</b>, is it necessary the partner to submit Cost-benefit analysis /Annex 7/?</p>	<p>1. If project does not include infrastructure activities, annex 9 is not required. The required documents for investment projects including infrastructure activities for Bulgarian beneficiaries are preliminary design (including estimation of Bill of quantities and values) or technical design. The permission for construction is not required at the stage of application.</p> <p>2. Annex 7 is required for all investment projects. According to applicant guide “Investment project - A project whose results involve the achievement of an objective by investing capital, which means that their main component is to carry out a work, without excluding the procurement of services (as consultancy or technical assistance) or goods (procurement of necessary equipment for the respective objective) related to the respective objective”. Moreover, on the section ii.2 Annexes to the Application Form it is specified “This annex is mandatory for all applications including infrastructure as it is an evaluation instrument regarding the advantages of the investments from the point of view of all interested target groups, on the basis of the monetary values for all positive and negative consequences of the investment.</p>
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<p>IV.13</p>	<p><i>Disclaimer: the reply to these questions is not equivalent with a guarantee for selection. Only evaluators propose and the Monitoring Committee decides on issues related to eligibility and scoring.</i></p>	<p>1. According to Result indicators for Axis 2 - A green region the project should increase tourist overnights at the target region. Regarding Annex J, the data will be collected by the statistics provided by National Statistic Institutes of both countries. How will be measured the contribution of each project under the program to the overall tourist nights.</p> <p>2. Should Cost Benefit Analysis (Annex 12) be submitted if a hard project with over 50 % costs for equipment has no infrastructure activities.</p> <p>3. According to Annex G - § 5 Eligible Expenditures, 3) - As an exception from the provisions of paragraph 1, preparation costs are eligible if they were incurred between 1st of January, 2014 and the submission of the Application Form and paid at the latest within 2 months following the deadline for the submission of the of the Application Form as provided in the rules of the respective call for proposals - Will this be applicable</p> <p>4. Is it required CV or job description for the project team members? If not - how to prove the professional skills and capacity of the project team.</p> <p>5. How will be evaluated the financial capacity of the Applicant, considering that no related documents are requested at the Application Stage.</p>	<p>1. The beneficiary shall set a target and explain how the project contributes to it. Example: A joint fair is to be organized. 300 participants are expected, thus an estimation of 50 tourist overnights is envisaged. At Programme level, the reporting (to the European Commission) shall be based on the statistic data, just as the initial baseline was set.</p> <p>2. Annex 7 to the Application Form - Cost-Benefit Analysis is mandatory for all applications including infrastructure as it is an evaluation instrument regarding the advantages of the investments from the point of view of all interested target groups, on the basis of the monetary values for all positive and negative consequences of the investment. In the annex 7 CBA -it is mentioned “This annex will be filled in only for investment projects, regardless their estimated total value.” The applicant guide defines Investment project - A project whose results involve the achievement of an objective by investing capital, which means that their main component is to carry out a work, without excluding the procurement of services (as consultancy or technical assistance) or goods (procurement of necessary equipment’s for the respective objective) related to the respective objective.</p>
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			<p>3. According to the List of eligible expenditures for Interreg V-A Romania-Bulgaria Programme applicable to Priority axis 1-5, article 1 (letter e). “Preparation costs are eligible if they were incurred between 1.01.2014 and the submission of the Application Form”. Related to payment deadline for preparation costs “at the latest within 2 months following the deadline for the submission of the of the Application Form” specified in annex G, as it was mentioned in the applicant guide “The contracts annexed to this Guide are only indicative; the final version of all contracts will be presented to the beneficiaries of the selected projects in the pre-contractual phase”. At the moment the subsidy contract template is being agreed between managing structures of the Programme and will be posted as soon as an agreement is reached on Programme website.</p>
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			<p>4. CVs or job descriptions are not requested to be submitted together with the application form. The format of the Application Form requests, for each activity, to describe the resources each beneficiary is planning to use for implementing this project activity. Therefore, within relevant activities it should be described also the human resources that will work for the project implementation and information about their experience can be filled in. At the same time, the beneficiary signs a declaration that all provided information within the application form are true and accurate.</p> <p>5. By signing the Annex A.5 Declaration of Commitment, the legal representative of the beneficiary declares that the body/institution he represents will provide its own contribution to the project expenditures and will ensure the temporary availability of funds necessary to implement the project before and between the reimbursements from the Programme. The evaluation team checks the existence of this annex.</p>
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<p>IV.14</p>		<p>Is it possible to publish a list of the required documents to be submitted as annexes in English and Bulgarian/Romanian? The reason being that the technical documents, permits, etc. are country-specific and the terms might be subject to interpretation. Such a list would guarantee no misinterpretation, hence rejected proposals because of unclear guiding rules.</p> <p>The Guide clearly states which documents have to be submitted with an English translation. What I had in mind is to publish, if possible, a list of the documents with their names in English and their relevant names in Romanian and Bulgarian. The various permits/orders/studies/surveys which are requested as annexes are country-specific as documents. For example, what Bulgarian document is equivalent to Preliminary design? There are a few documents mentioned (p.19 application form) Environmental agreement, Environmental Impact Report and Environmental Impact Study - what are their Bulgarian equivalents, how are they named according to Bulgarian legislation?</p>	<p>Annex 9 : The required documents for Bulgarian beneficiaries are preliminary design (including estimation of bill of quantities and values) or technical design - идеен проект (включително прогнозна количествено - стойностна сметка) или технически проект (одобрени съгласно българското законодателство)</p> <p>Annex 11: According Bulgarian legislation (according Environmental Protection Act and Ordinance for the Conditions and the Order for Implementing Environmental Impact Assessment) - the decision of the competent environmental authority has to be issued stating that the project either :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- observes the legal provisions of environment protection (писмо от компетентния орган по околна среда, че не се изисква процедура по реда на гл. VI от Закона за опазване на околната среда) or</li> <li>- completed the first stage of EIA procedure - screening (това е решението на компетентната институция за необходимост от извършване на ОВОС).</li> </ul>
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			<p>Annex 12: has to be prepared and signed by the applicant according the provide template.</p> <p>Annex 14: The Environmental Impact Assessment (if needed) is not mandatory at application stage but has to be presented at pre-contractual phase - Оценка на съответствието върху околната среда (ОВОС).</p>
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IV.15		<p>With regards to Q14: “Did the project beneficiary’s implemented projects financed from EU funds before?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 3 points in case this partnership previously implemented at least another EU project</li> <li>- 2 points in case all project beneficiaries have previously implemented at least another EU project</li> <li>- 1 point in case at least one of the partners implemented at least one project financed by EU funds before</li> </ul> <p>0 points otherwise”</p> <p>What is meant by “<u>this partnership</u>”? Do you mean that 3 points can be achieved only if <u>exactly the same</u> partners in the present partnership (all of them!) have implemented together another EU project?</p> <p>What points will be given to a partnership of three partners, where the two of them have been part of a previous CBC project partnership and the third partner is also experienced in EU projects but is new to the partnership?</p>	<p>As regards your question concerning Q14 from the evaluation grid, you are right, projects will receive the maximum score, i.e. 3, in case the exact same partners have previously implemented at least an EU funded project. In the example presented by you (where two of the partners have been part of a previous CBC project partnership and the third partner is also experienced in EU projects but is new to the partnership) 2 points will be given, as the conditions mentioned for the maximum points are not fulfilled.</p> <p>Question Q17 of the Evaluation Grid refers to beneficiaries who have implemented financing contracts in the context of ROBG CBC Programme 2007-2013, whose financial execution will be assessed during the evaluation. In case all partners included in the partnership, who have implemented contracts within the ROBG CBC Programme 2007-2013, have at least 70% financial execution, then the maximum score will be granted, irrespective of the inclusion of other partners who have not implemented contracts under ROBG CBC Programme 2007-2013.</p> <p>Please be advised that in case you submit a project, your proposal will be evaluated by a group of assessors and the final decision shall belong to the Monitoring Committee.</p>
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		<p><b>With regards to Q17:</b> “All beneficiaries (including the Lead Beneficiary) with financing contracts implemented in the context of ROBG CBC Programme 2007-2013 (if the case) had a good financial execution rate for each such contract</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 4 points in case <u>all</u> beneficiaries involved in the partnership have implemented contracts (financed via the ROBG Programme) where they had at least 70% financial execution (considering their own budget)</li> <li>- 0 points otherwise”</li> </ul> <p>What points shall a project received in case two out of all three partners have implemented projects in the context of ROBG CBC Programme 2007-2013 with average financial execution above 70%?</p>	
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<p><b>IV.16</b></p>	<p>La capitolul documente legale ale aplicantului, nu se mentioneaza nimic in legatura cu documentele financiare ale acestuia (bilant, balanta). In trecut acestea erau obligatorii sa fie atasate aplicatie. Mai este cazul si pentru acest apel de proiecte, se mai ataseaza sau nu?</p>	<p>Regarding legal documents of the applicant, there is no mention about its financial documents (balance sheet). In the past they were mandatory to be attached to the application. It is also the case for this call for proposals, should they be attached or not?</p>	<p>According to the provisions of the Applicant's Guide, no financial documents are required to be submitted together with the Application Form. In the spirit of simplification these documents are not requested during submission of the Application Form. Nevertheless, they may be requested during the precontracting visits, in case the project is selected for financing.</p>
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<p>IV.17</p>	<p>Anexa “Analiza cost-beneficiu” este necesara doar pentru proiecte de investitii sau toate tipurile de proiect? Daca doar pentru cele de investitii, cand se considera proiectul ca fiind unul de investitii?</p> <p>Pentru proiectele de tip soft este sau nu este cazul sa atasam “Analiza cost beneficiu” la dosarul de aplicatie?</p>	<p>The "cost-benefit analysis" Annex is required only for investment projects or for all types of projects? If only for investment projects when a project is considered to be investment project?</p> <p>For soft projects is it necessary to attach the "cost benefit analysis" Annex to the application?</p>	<p>According to the provisions of the Applicant’s Guide, this annex is mandatory for all applications including infrastructure as it is an evaluation instrument regarding the advantages of the investments from the point of view of all interested target groups, on the basis of the monetary values for all positive and negative consequences of the investment. An investment project is a project whose results involve the achievement of an objective by investing capital, which means that their main component is to carry out a work, without excluding the procurement of services (as consultancy or technical assistance) or goods (procurement of necessary equipment for the respective objective) related to the respective objective. Therefore, it is not mandatory to attach the Cost Benefit Analysis for soft projects. Please refer to the Applicant’s Guide for the definition of soft project.</p>
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<p><b>IV.18</b></p>	<p>Documentele legale (de inregistrare) ale organizatiei solicitante - care sunt acestea exact? Acestea se ataseaza in copie simpla sau copie legalizata? Se depun pentru fiecare partener de proiect?</p>	<p>Legal documents (registration) of the applicant organization - which are they exactly? Do we have to attach a copy or certified copy? Do they have to be submitted for each project partner?</p>	<p>According to the provisions of the Applicant's Guide no legalization of documents or official translations are necessary. All legal documents of all beneficiaries and their English translation (if issued in other language than English) must be copied and attached to the Application Form. Legal documents of the applicants: documents proving the establishing of the project partner entities (law, decree, government decision, statute, registration act, article of association etc.) - if the legal document is a law, government decision or any similar very large document, please attach to the Application Form only the relevant sections of the document.</p>
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<p><b>IV.19</b></p>	<p>Anexa 4. "Declaration of Eligibility" si Anexa 5. "Declarations of Commitment" se depun pentru fiecare partener de proiect sau doar pentru Beneficiarul Principal?</p>	<p>Annex 4. "Declaration of Eligibility" and Annex 5. "Declarations of Commitment" shall be submitted for each project partner or just for the Lead Beneficiary?</p>	<p>The annexes, in the format provided in the Applicant's Guide, will be filled in by each beneficiary, duly signed and stamped by the legal representative of the Lead Beneficiary and beneficiaries or by an empowered person (a letter of empowerment and English translation, if issued in other language than English will be attached to the Application Form in this case) and will be annexed to the Application Form.</p>
<p><b>IV.20</b></p>	<p>Q4. Is the project capitalizing the results of another EU-funded project? Intrebare: Ce se intelege mai exact prin "capitalizing"? Puteti sa ne dati exemple?</p>	<p>Q4. Is the project Capitalizing the results of another EU-Funded project? Question: What is meant exactly by "Capitalizing"? Could you give us examples?</p>	<p>In order to ensure an efficient use of funds, projects are encouraged to capitalize the results of other EU-funded projects, i.e. integrating the results of other EU funded projects into the proposed project in order to ensure a long term and concrete impact of the project activities and results. EG. A feasibility study financed is capitalized in the construction of a road.</p>

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<b>IV.21</b>	<p>Q6. To what extent is the project contributing to the accomplishment of at least one of the outputs of the programme priority axis/specific objective?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 8 points in case considerable contribution to more than one indicator exists</li> <li>- 6 points in case considerable contribution to one indicator exists</li> <li>- 4 points in case there is there is a proportionate contribution (considering also the budget) exists.</li> </ul> <p>Intrebare: Ce se intelege mai exact prin contributie considerabila? Ce se intelege prin contributie proportionata?</p>	<p>Q6. To what extents is the project Contributing to the accomplishment of at least one of the outputs of the program priority axis / specific objective?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 8 points in case considerable contribution to more than one indicator exists</li> <li>- 6 points in case considerable contribution to one indicator exists</li> <li>- 4 points in case there is there is a proportionate contribution (considering also the budget) exists.</li> </ul> <p>Question: What exactly is meant by significant contribution? What is meant by proportional contribution?</p>	<p>Proportionate or considerable contribution is calculated based on the value of the financial allocation for the PA and the quantum of the output. Eg: The programme aims to build 100 km of road. The budget for the PA that deals with transport is 100 million EUR (the numbers are indicative). Therefore, we can conclude that a project which proposes to build 10 km of road with 10 mil euro would signify a proportionate contribution. Building 50 km of road with only 8 million euro would contribute significantly. Building 10 km of road with 20 mil euro would get 0 points, since the project contributes to the indicators, but it is not a proportionate contribution.</p>
<b>IV.22</b>	<p>Q8. PA 2 and 3 - Are green solutions used instead of grey solutions? Intrebare: Ce se intelege mai exact prin solutii verzi? Puteti sa ne dati exemple?</p>	<p>Q8. PA 2 and 3 - Has Used solutions instead of grey green solutions? Question: What exactly is meant by green solutions? Could you give us examples?</p>	<p>Green solutions refer to measures that are environmentally friendly and which try to solve the problems identified in the eligible area. The Applicant's Guide mentions as examples for green infrastructure: urban tree canopy, corridors connecting habitats</p>



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<p><b>IV.23</b></p>	<p>Q10. Is the project generating a clear and tangible cross-border impact?          - 6 points in case a common challenge is widely addressed in the programme area by the project and it is proven that the cross-border approach is the best way of tackling it          Intrebare: Ce se intelege mai exact prin "widely addressed"?</p>	<p>Q10. Is the project generating a clear and tangible cross-border impact?          - 6 points in case a common challenge is widely addressed in the programme area by the project and it is proven that the cross-border approach is the best way of tackling it          Question: What exactly is meant by "widely addressed"?</p>	<p>In case from a single project a wider area (e.g. more than one county and one district) of the Programme is addressed, we envisaged the possibility for the evaluators to grant extra points.</p>
<p><b>IV.24</b></p>	<p>Q11. Is the project proposing specific measures to contribute to the promotion of equal opportunities and non-discrimination?          Intrebare: Ce se intelege mai exact prin masuri specifice de promovare a oportunitatilor egale si nediscriminarii? Puteti sa ne dati exemple?</p>	<p>Q11. Is the project proposing specific measures to contribute to the promotion of equal opportunities and non-discrimination?          Question: What exactly is meant by specific measures to promote equal opportunities and non-discrimination? Could you give us examples?</p>	<p>According to the provisions of the Applicant's Guide, all projects have to respect the legal provisions regarding the promotion of equal opportunities and non-discrimination. Equal Opportunities as the term suggests is about ensuring that everyone regardless of race, gender, sexuality, age, disability etc. is offered equal opportunities to achieve the same end. It is about understanding and removing barriers that may prevent individuals from receiving an equal opportunity Projects implementing positive specific measures to clearly promote horizontal themes will be extra scored during assessment.</p>



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<p><b>IV.25</b></p>		<p>Are Bulgarian beneficiaries required to annex a Feasibility study in addition to the technical design (for upgrading/reconstruction) when applying for financing under the Interreg V-A Romania-Bulgaria Programme?</p>	<p>According to the Applicant's guide, when submitting an application form regarding infrastructure, the Bulgarian beneficiaries should annexed a preliminary design (including estimation of bill of quantities and values) or a technical design. Therefore, no feasibility studies are required for Bulgarian applicants when submitting the application.</p>
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<p>IV.26</p>	<p>как НПО доказва способността си за 2% собствен принос?</p>	<p>How an NGO can demonstrate the financial capacity (2% own contribution)?</p>	<p>According to the Applicant Guide, the applicant shall annex to the Application form the Declaration of Commitment (Annex A.5) regarding the coverage of expenditures related to the project. According to this declaration, the applicants shall: provide their own contribution to the eligible expenditure and ensure the temporary availability of funds necessary to run the project before and between the reimbursements from the programme; cover all non-eligible expenditures corresponding to their activities incurred during project implementation; ensure that the representatives in the project management team are available throughout the entire project implementation period and ensure the availability of all other resources planned to be used for implementing the project, as they were described within the Application Form.</p>
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<p><b>IV.27</b></p>	<p>В актуализираната версия на Насоките за кандидатстване 5/26/2015, стр. 48, в раздел Annex(es) 9 to the Application Form Feasibility studies / equivalent technical documents е направена следната промяна: Изречението от версия 5/19/2015 (стр. 47): For Bulgarian beneficiaries it should be annexed: preliminary design (including estimation of bill of quantities and values) for new investments or technical design for upgrading/ reconstruction. е заменено с версия 5/26/2015 (стр. 48) For Bulgarian beneficiaries it should be annexed: preliminary design (including estimation of bill of quantities and values) or technical design 1.1 Това означава ли, че за българските партньори изискването за кандидатстване с технически проект, в случай на реконструкция на съществуващ обект на интервенция, е отпаднало и е допустимо за същия да се кандидатства или с идеен проект и количествено-стойностна сметка, или с технически проект - според готовността на кандидата?</p>	<p>In the revised version of the Applicant's Guide 5/26/2015, page 48 in Annex(es) 9 to the Application Form - Feasibility studies / equivalent technical documents the following change is made: Sentence from version 5/19/2015 (page 47): For Bulgarian beneficiaries it should be annexed: preliminary design (including estimation of bill of quantities and values) for new investments or technical design for upgrading/reconstruction. Is replaced with: version 5/26/2015 (page 48) For Bulgarian beneficiaries it should be annexed: preliminary design (including estimation of bill of quantities and values) or technical design 1.1 Does this mean that for the Bulgarian beneficiaries is eligible a preliminary design (including preliminary bill of quantities) or technical design to be annexed in case of reconstruction depending on the readiness of the applicant.</p>	<p>Yes, the applicant can annex to the Application Form a preliminary design (including preliminary bill of quantities) or technical design in any cases depending on the readiness of the applicant.</p>
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<b>IV.28</b>	<p>Pentru proiectele soft, se poate sterge din sectiunea 2.3. Activitatile proiectului partea ce tine de lucrari, fara a se considera ca modificam forma aplicatie?</p>	<p>For soft projects, can the part which refers to the works from section 2.3 be deleted, without being considered that we modify the form of the application?</p>	<p>Section 2.3 of the Application Form is mentioning as regard the works: “Description of the work (if the case)”, therefore it is to be provided only in case the respective project has a work to describe. Not including the section in an application form for a project that has no work is not considered modification of the application.</p>
<b>IV.29</b>	<p>In cazul in care studiul de fezabilitate face referire la un alt obiect de investitie finantat din fonduri publice, altul decat infrastructura de transport, 1% reprezinta procentul din <b>valoarea investitiei?</b> sau tot <b>din valoarea C+M</b> cum se aplica la infrastructura de transport?</p> <p>Mentionez faptul ca obiectul de investitie la care se face referire este un muzeu.</p>	<p>If the feasibility study referred to another investment object financed from public funds other than the transport infrastructure, 1% is the percentage of the investment? or all of the C + M as applied to the transport infrastructure?</p> <p>I mention the fact that the object of investment referred to a museum.</p>	<p>The Annex C from the Applicant Guide is providing details only for percentage concerning the value of the Feasibility Study for road transport infrastructure which involve construction and assembly.</p>



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IV.30	<p>Какви документи са нужни за доказване на задължителния процент (2%) собствен принос на съфинансиране от страна на бенефициентите? Достатъчно ли е да се представи писмо за намерение от МС за включване на средствата в бюджетите за 2016 и 2017 г.?</p>	<p>What documents the partner has to submit, providing that the required own partner's contribution of 2% is ensured? Is it enough to present a letter of intent by the Council of Ministers, providing that the funds are budgeted for the years 2016 and 2017?</p>	<p>The project applicant has to submit only Declaration of Commitment.</p>
IV.31	<p>Необходимо ли е изготвяне и представяне на Анализ приходи и разходи за проект по Ос 3 Безопасен регион, имайки предвид че мерките за безопасност на генерират приходи?</p>	<p>Do we need to submit the Cost - benefit analysis in case the project doesn't generate revenues, specifically for the PA 3?</p>	<p>As it was stated in the Applicant Guide Cost-benefit analysis is required only for investment projects. Please refer to the definition of "investment project</p>



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<p>IV.32</p>		<p>I kindly ask you to help us to fill in annexes:  name, PROETC code ???  Interreg V-A Romania-Bulgaria Programme, approved by the European Commission by Decision no....???.....; index /???/ and title of the project approved by the Monitoring Committee of the “Interreg V-A Romania-Bulgaria Programme” - on ...???..... [date] in ....???.....  [place].</p>	<p>Please have in mind that Annex I to the Applicant's Guide - Partnership Agreement on which you requested clarification is to be filled in only in pre-contractual phase, in case a project is approved for financing by the Monitoring Committee (as it is also mentioned in the Applicant's Guide, section III - Pre-Contractual Conditions). The template was provided within the Applicant's Guide for information purposes.</p> <p>As regards the annexes to the Application Form (A.1-A.14):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- PROETC code (in all AF annexes) - will be filled in after project submission. You don't fill in anything at this time now.</li> <li>- Name (in all AF annexes) - is to be filled in with the "Project full name" or "Complete name of the legal representative of the Lead Beneficiary", as it is required by the specific section of the annex.</li> </ul> <p>We strongly recommend to all beneficiaries to check again before finalizing the application section II.3.ii - How to fill in the Application Form and its Annexes from the Applicant's Guide, as it describes in detail what is to be filled-in for the submission of an Application Form.</p>
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IV.33		In the Applicant's Guide on page 50 - it was written : Annex 12 to the Application Form-Environmental Impact Survey and in the Applicant's Pack this Annex 12 is named Project Environmental Impact Report	Please be informed that the correct name is "Project Environmental Impact Report", as it is written in the Annex 12.
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IV.34

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1. What price should we foresee in our project proposals in cases when the fixed price cap is lower than price in the table attached to the offer?  
For example. Services for personalization of CD/DVD (including packaging). The ceiling price in the table is 0.4 euro per item. In the offer, even with the lowest prices (for 500 pieces), for a standard DVD with a colour cover the cost of the service is as follows: 0.31 euro for recording + 0.36 euro for full colour print on the CD + 0.25 euro for DVD i.e. the price is 0.92 euro without packaging (not included at all in the offer).

2. How shall we proceed in cases when the limit price is far below the market price, especially in case of small print runs?  
For example: A) 100 leaflets A4 with fixed price of 0.25 euro per piece or total 25 euro - price, which does not cover the consumables, necessary for making these leaflets.  
B) For plastic pens with double sided full colour print the fixed price is 0.35 euro per item, but the lowest market price for full double sided digital (or multicolour pad) print for pens is over 0.35 euro per item i.e. the price does not include the value of the pen. This applies even more for biodegradable pens which are more expensive than the ordinary plastic ones. In the table their price is 0.2 euro per item, including the double sided full colour print.

3. In the table with ceilings there is no price for delivery of materials foreseen. Do we have the right to add the price of delivery?

The Annex C. Ceilings for expenditures is representing the maximum limit up to which a product/service/work can be funded by the Programme. If some products/services/works are at higher prices than indicated in Annex C the difference will be covered by the beneficiary unless duly justification provided and supporting documents. Also, please take into consideration the following provisions of the Applicant's Guide:  
"In case equipment is not on the list or beneficiary fully justifies enhanced/superior technical specifications for an item, 3 offers or an independent evaluation of the cost will be provided. The applicant should prove the absolute necessity of purchasing of equipment with enhanced/superior parameters and to demonstrate how it will contribute to the implementation of project activities and achievement of programme indicators. In case the service which is going to be purchased is not following the list of ceilings, the proposal to exceed the ceiling will be analyzed, provided a proper and clear justification is provided, as well as the related supporting documents (including 3 offers or an independent evaluation of the cost). The proposal will be analyzed and will be subject to acceptance / rejection from the evaluators."



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<p>IV.35</p>		<p>How should we understand the concept of graphic design and graphic layout of promotional materials? In the ceilings table they are under separate positions and separate prices. In practice sometimes these two concepts are considered identical, and in another case are two independent consecutive operations that form the whole process of preprint.</p> <p>Can we assume that for materials for which is not explicitly written “including graphic design” refers to printing services only and does not include the preparation of files for printing?</p>	<p>The services indicated by you are not identical; probably some companies are offering both services (graphic design and graphic layout) as a whole while others have distinct positions within their offers. In any of the cases, it is important what services will be provided and accordingly, the ceilings for all the provided services will be applied.</p>
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IV.36		<p>The price for video product is set to 200 euro per minute for shooting at least three places. Video products for cross border projects include filming of dozens of sites, scattered across great distance from one another in different regions and countries, which far exceeds the usual filming on a small number of objects in one location. How shall we include in the price the large number of shooting days and the distance travelled by the filming crews? Do we have the right to add to the fixed price the value of activities which are not included in the table such as writing a script/text, translation of text in subtitles programme, etc?</p>	<p>First of all, it would be useful for you to make an estimation regarding the total costs of such film. If duly justifications will be provided, AWG could consider a higher price than the one within Annex C. Ceilings for expenditures if your justification will be satisfactory.</p>
IV.37		<p>In the table for the roll up banner 80x200 cm the fix price mentioned is 50 euro per item. Please clarify what is included in that - print or print + roll up stand + installation?</p>	<p>Answer for Q 6: The price includes all plus the cover, but we do not consider that there is need for installation for such a roll-up.</p>



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<p><b>IV.38</b></p>	<p>Care sunt valorile pentru bugetarea evenimentelor pe care dorim sa le desfasuram la hotel pentru o perioada mai mare de 2 zile/1 noapte .</p>	<p>1. Which are the values for budgeting the events we want to carry out to the hotel, for a period longer than 2 days/1 night?</p>	<p>The rate stated at code CPV 55120000-7 will be applied according to the period/services included in the organization of events. For example, if an event is organized for a 3 days/2 nights period and the services included for the organization of events are those described at CPV 55120000-7 Code, the rate/tariff applied for the setting of budget will be 65 euros/participant * 2. If the event includes just accomodation in Romania, the rate will be 60 euros/night (line 410).</p>
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<b>IV.39</b>	<p>Cum se bugeteaza un eveniment care nu se desfasoara la hotel , ce tarif de cazare aplicam ( tinand cont ca la linia 410 avem 60 euro/noapte iar la 413 avem 40 euro/noapte) si daca pentru mese si inchiriere sala se aplica aceleasi tarife ca la liniile 414,415,416,417.</p>	<p>How is budgeted an event that does not take place at the hotel, what accomodation rate should we apply ( considering that we have 60 euro/night at 410 line and 40 euro/night at 413 line) and are the same rates as for 414, 415, 416, 417 lines applied for meals and halls rent?</p>	<p>If the event held includes only accommodation services in Romania, rate from line 410 (hotel accommodation services in Romania - 60 euros / night) will be applied. Rates/Tariffs stipulated at lines 414 415 416 417 lines will be applied only if the events include services precisely as described in 55120000-7 CPV code.</p> <p>For other events (which include various types of services), rates mentioned at 79952000-2 CPV Code (559 line) are applied, considering also the services for organizing the event.</p> <p>E.g.1 - If organizing the event includes room rental services (incl.sound effects) + lunch, the rate used to set up the budget will be 30 euros / participant / day (564 line)</p> <p>E.g.2 - If organizing the event includes room rental services + Bulgarian interpreting services, the rate used to establish the budget will be 150 euros / day (room rental) + 35 euros / hour x numbers of interpreting hours (539 line)</p>
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			<p>E.g.3 - If organizing the event includes minibus rental services in the country with driver + room rental services (incl.sound effects), coffee break, photos, logistics, secretariat + Bulgarian interpreting services, the final tariff/rate will be calculated according to each service rate, namely: 0.6 eur / km (426 line) + 30 eur / participant (562 line) + 35 eur / hour x numbers of interpreting hours (539 line)</p> <p>Eg 4 - If organizing the event includes accommodation services in Romania + Bulgarian interpreting services, the final rate used to establish the budget will be 60 eur / night (410 line) + 35 eur / hour x numbers of interpretation hours (539 line).</p>
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<p>IV.40</p>	<p>Aceleasi intrebari le avem si pentru deplasarea si cazarea echipei de proiect la evenimente.</p>	<p>We have the the same questions regarding travel and accommodation within the events of project team.</p>	<p>In case the costs are included within "Travel and accommodation cost" budgetary chapter (Article 10 from list of eligible expenditure), the ceiling from line 410 (hotel accommodation services in Romania - 60 euros/night) will be respected for accomodation services in Romania. In terms of daily allowances and travel, the ceilings of national legislation are respected (article 10, section 5 from list of eligible expenditure).</p>
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<b>IV.41</b>	<p>In cazul achizitionarii unui microbuz 16+1 locuri , unde se introduc in buget cheltuielile aferente conducatorului auto ; dintre acestea care sunt eligibile si limitele acestor cheltuieli ( salariu,cazare,masa)</p>	<p>When purchasing a 16 + 1 seats minibus, where are the expenditure related to the bus driver introduced in the budget, which ones are eligible and which are the limits of these expenditure (salaries, accommodation, meal)?</p>	<p>As a general rule, salaries for project implementation team are reimbursed to the budgetary chapter "Staff costs", on the basis of flat-rate for direct costs (article 8 from list of eligible expenditures). As respects the accommodation services in Romania, ceiling from 410 line (hotel accommodation services in Romania - 60 euros / night) will be respected. Food costs are included in daily allowances. Costs for accommodation and food services are included in the budgetary chapter "Travel and accommodation costs". All of the abovementioned is valid in case the driver is part of the project staff. Otherwise, these costs are not eligible.</p>
<b>IV.42</b>	<p>Cum este calculat tariful de 65 euro/persoana pentru servicii de organizare a evenimentelor la hotel.</p>	<p>How is the 65 euro/ person rate for organization services of the events within the hotel calculated?</p>	<p>The rate was calculated based on the type of services required to organize an event at the hotel. These ones were particularized to CPV 55120000-7 Code.</p>



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<p><b>IV.43</b></p>	<p>Daca un eveniment dureaza 2 zile de unde se plateste chiria salii pentru a doua zi , avand in vedere ca la calculul liniei 412 este prevazuta doar o zi de inchiriere sala.</p>	<p>If an event lasts two days, where may the hall rent for the next day be paid from, given that the line 412 calculation stipulates just a day for renting the hall?</p>	<p>To what concerns CPV 55120000-7 Code, the rate was set up/determined, considering only the services included and detailed at the aforementioned CPV Code. Information regarding only the rate/day for hall renting is found at 79952000-2 CPV Code. Therefore, in this situation, the final rate for organizing the event will be 65 euros/participant (line 412) + 150 euros (line 576), the costs being included in the budgetary chapter “External expertise and services costs”.</p>
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<p>IV.44</p>		<p>According to the Applicant's Guide Annex 13 Traffic Study is mandatory for applications including transport infrastructure related activities. If a project is within Priority Axis 2 A green Region, Specific objective 2.1. To improve the sustainable use of natural heritage and resources and cultural heritage and includes activity for modernization/reconstruction of road to natural and cultural heritage interest points that will be part of a cross-border tourism product, is it mandatory to fill and submit Annex 13 to the Application Form - Traffic study? Are there any specific requirements related to the author of the Traffic Study?</p>	<p>Considering that your project activities include modernization/reconstruction of road to natural and cultural heritage interest points that will be part of a cross-border tourism product, it is a project that includes investment in infrastructure, therefore according to the Applicant's Guide it is mandatory to fill and submit Annex 13 to the Application Form - Traffic study. Also, in the Applicant Guide there is no specification related to the author of the Traffic Study.</p>
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<b>IV.45</b>	<p>In etapa de elaborare a bugetului proiectului, am constatat ca, in mod automat, dupa introducerea sumelor estimate pentru liniile bugetare aferente de exemplu investitei, achizitiei de echipamente sau serviciilor, se calculeaza automat un anumit procent pentru alte linii bugetare.</p> <p>In cazul in care Aplicantul nu doreste sa aloce suma generata de aplicatie pe una dintre linii - de exemplu Staff cost (ea reprezentand plafonul maxim), se poate interveni asupra aplicatiei, avand in vedere formulele preexistente si daca da, cum?</p>	<p>In the preparatory phase of the project budget, we notice that, automatically, after entering the estimated amounts for the budgetary lines such investment, purchase of equipment or services, it automatically calculates a percentage for the other budgetary lines.</p> <p>If the applicant does not want to allocate the amount generated by the application on one of the lines - example: staff cost (it represents the maximum ceiling) can interfere on the application, considering the existing formulas and if so, how?</p>	<p>If the beneficiary does not want to budget resources for the salary costs, may use the budget format from the Application Form with the formulas unlocked, which is available for the beneficiaries at the following link: <a href="http://www.cbcrromaniabulgaria.eu/index.php?page = programming_period_2014_2020">http://www.cbcrromaniabulgaria.eu/index.php?page = programming_period_2014_2020</a>. In this format, you can eliminate the formula from the budgetary line Staff for the respective partner and enter the desired value (0 in this case).</p> <p><b>This answer is no longer available. Please find below the new answer for this question</b></p> <p>Using the flat rate option was a decision at Programme level, and it is now a rule for the first call that applies automatically. In this case, beneficiaries must use only the budget enclosed in the application form and the locked formulas are not to be changed.</p>
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IV.46	<p>1. In Applicant's Guide, p. 48 is written that the project will be rejected without Annexes 7, 8 and 9. In the table (Evaluation grid), p. 2 is written that if Annexes 7, 8 and 9 are missing in the initial package, the project will be rejected. Please clarify this condition:</p> <p>A) If some of the annexes described above is missing in the initial package of documents, it will be additionally requested from the candidate and if not presented in the indicated deadline, the project will not be further assessed.</p> <p>B) If some of the annexes described above is missing in the initial package of documents, the project will be directly rejected without requesting the documents.</p> <p>2. In Applicant's Guide, p. 48 is written that Annex 9 (Feasibility studies / equivalent technical documents) should be accompanied by the legal agreements and approvals and English translation. In case that 1. B) is valid, could please clarify the following:</p>	<p>1. For investment projects, if any of the annexes 7, 8 and 9 is missing in the initial package of documents, the project will be directly rejected, without requesting the documents.</p> <p>2. 2.1 B) The translation (the document) will be additionally requested from the candidate and if not presented within the indicated deadline, the project will not be further assessed.</p> <p>2.2 A) The project will be directly rejected.</p> <p>According to the provisions of the Applicant Guide, Evaluation Grid, A8 "annexes partially filled in will be considered as missing". In this case, a Feasibility Study or equivalent technical documents that should be accompanied by the legal agreements and approvals is considered only partially filled-in in case legal agreements and approvals are missing. A9 considered missing leads to direct rejection of an investment project.</p> <p>Please note that, according to the Applicant Guide, the clarifications provided in the evaluation phase cannot bring new elements that would alter the initial content of the application form. The projects will be rejected in case applicants provide false information, misleading the evaluators.</p>
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		<p>2.1 Annex 9 is presented without the translation in English:  A) The project will be directly rejected;  B) The translation will be additionally requested from the candidate and if not presented within the indicated deadline, the project will not be further assessed.</p> <p>2.2. Annex 9 is presented without some of the legal agreements and approvals:  A) The project will be directly rejected;  B) The document (suppose that the word is document not translation) will be additionally requested from the candidate and if not presented within the indicated deadline, the project will not be further assessed.</p> <p>3 Should the graphic part - drawings also be translated in English or the translation of the Explanatory notes and the Bill of quantities is enough.</p>	<p>All documents shall be translated into English, including the drawings.</p>
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<p>IV.47</p>	<p>Institutul nostru vrea sa depuna un proiect hard pe programul CBC Romania Bulgaria si avem urmatoarea intrebare.</p> <p>Documentatiile tehnico-economice - studii de fezabilitate, proiecte tehnice - aferente investitiilor care se vor face prin proiect se depun odata cu Cererea de finantare sau se pot face si ulterior, ca activitati in cadrul proiectului.</p> <p>In cazul in care dorim amenajarea a doua obiective, este posibila depunerea unui singur studiu de fezabilitate, iar cel de al doilea sa fie realizat ca activitate in cadrul proiectului?</p> <p>Realizarea proiectelor tehnice necesare acestor investitii pot fi, de asemenea, considerate activitati in cadrul proiectului?</p> <p>Va rugam sa ne lamuriti aceste aspecte, deoarece nu avem timpul necesar realizarii a doua documentatii tehnice, pentru doua obiective turistice, pana la data depunerii acestor proiecte.</p>	<p>Our institute wants to submit a project hard on CBC Romania-Bulgaria Programme and we have the next question. Technical and economic documentation - feasibility studies, technical projects - related to investments that will be made through the project shall be submitted with the application or can be made subsequently as project activities.</p> <p>In case you wish to improve two objectives it is possible to submit a single feasibility study and the second to be realized as activity in the project?</p> <p>The achieving the necessary technical projects for this kind of investments may also be considered the project activities?</p>	<p>According to the Applicant's Guide, for the investment's projects the feasibility study or equivalent technical documents (for Romanian beneficiaries) should be submitted as annex to the application form. Also, please be informed that the feasibility study or equivalent technical documents should not have been elaborated or updated more than one year before the deadline for the submission of the project proposal (the document must bear the date of elaboration/revision). A project may implement in the same time soft and hard activities, provided that you observe all the conditions from the Applicant's Pack. Therefore, the development of a feasibility study may represent an action in the project that you intent to submit.</p> <p>Please note that the assessment working group will assess your project according to the information provided.</p>
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<p><b>IV. 48</b></p>		<p>Please clarify the necessity of elaborating the cost benefit analysis for a project that only include purchase of equipment.</p>	<p>The provisions of the Applicant Guide clearly state that „Investment projects will be rejected without further analysis in case the Cost-Benefit Analysis (Annex A.7) is not included in the initial package of the Application Form“. This annex is an evaluation instrument regarding the advantages of the investments from the point of view of all interested target groups, on the basis of the monetary values for all positive and negative consequences of the investment. Also, please take into consideration the definition of Investment projects from the Applicant’s Guide: “A project whose results involve the achievement of an objective by investing capital, which means that their main component is to carry out a work, without excluding the procurement of services (as consultancy or technical assistance) or goods (procurement of necessary equipment for the respective objective) related to the respective objective.” In this regards, the cost-Benefit Analysis is not necessary for projects which foresee only purchase of equipment without the work component.</p>
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<p>IV.49</p>	<p>Revenim cu o solicitare de clarificari ce se refera la actualizarea studiilor de fezabilitate ce vor fi anexate cererilor de finantare pentru programul Interreg V A Ro- Bg. In urma cu putin timp intrebam ce reprezinta actualizarea unui studiu de fezabilitate, si anume, din punct de vedere economic acest lucru ar insemna numai actualizarea cursului euro/ leu la data prezenta si modificarea devizului general precum si a devizelor pe obiect ale studiului de fezabilitate. Insa, am fost intrebati de proiectant daca actualizarea curpinde si modificarea tuturor partilor desenate, respectiv a cartusului in care este precizata data de realizare a studiului de fezabilitate. De asemenea, avand in vedere ca suntem in cursul acestui proces de actualizare a studiilor de fezabilitate si de traducere in limba engleza a tuturor documentelor anexa la aplicatie, va rugam insistent sa ne precizati daca este necesara si traducerea tuturor planselor/ partilor desenate sau este suficienta numai traducerea partii scrise a studiului de fezabilitate.</p>	<p>We come back with a request for clarification which refers to updating the feasibility studies that will be attached to the applications for funding under the Interreg VA Ro Bg Programme. Not long ago we were asking about what does the updating of the feasibility study represent, namely, from the economic point of view will this represent only the actualization of the course for euro/leu at the present date and the modification of the general estimate as well as the object estimates of the feasibility study? Although, we were asked by the designer if this actualization contains also the modifications of the drawings, respectively of the cartridge which stipulates the elaboration date of the feasibility study. Also, taken into consideration that we are in the process of updating the studies and elaborating the translations in English of all documents, we ask you to tell us whether it is necessary to translate all the plans/ drawings or will the translation of the written part of the feasibility study be sufficient.</p>	<p>Updating the feasibility study/DALI shall certify that the conditions foreseen initially (as mentioned by GD/HG no. 28/2008) are not changed or, if changed it should specify the new existing conditions/situation (including studies, or other documents that the designer appreciates as necessary). If there are no such modifications, updating shall refer only to updating the technical documentation (including the cartridge). The decisions to keep the same initial provisions of the feasibility study / technical project or to change them belongs to the designer depending of the functional, technical and economical solutions and also depending on the technical-economical indicators of the investment that is about to be realized. Regarding the translation of the feasibility study, please be informed that all sheets of the study must be translated as well as all the documents annexed to the Application form.</p>
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<p>IV.50</p>	<p>La depunerea unui proiect hard, de catre un beneficiar roman, este necesar sa fie atasate toate avizele cerute prin certificatul de urbanism sau numai acordul de mediu?</p>	<p>When submitting a hard project, by a Romanian beneficiary, is it necessary to attach all the permits requested by the urban planning certificate, or only the environmental permit?</p>	<p>The Applicant’s Guide requests mandatory submission by the Romanian partners of urban planning permit for applications including infrastructure related activities, without mentioning the mandatory submission of all endorsements/permits/certificates specified within the urban planning permit. Nevertheless, feasibility study or DALI (according with the legislation) must be submitted for infrastructure projects, which cannot be drafted by the designer without having the urban planning permit and all the endorsements/permits/certificates mentioned within this document (like for example the on -site framing within the general urban plan approved and endorsed according with the legislation).</p> <p>Therefore our recommendation is to submit, as supporting documents all the endorsements/permits/certificates mentioned within the urban planning permit as they are necessary for drafting feasibility study or DALI (according with the legislation).</p>
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IV.51	При разработването на инфраструктурен проект по ос 2.1. участва партньор само с меки мерки. Необходимо ли е и той да прави Анализ разходи-ползи.	When elaborating an infrastructure project within PA 2.1, some partners will develop only “soft” measures. Is it necessary for them to submit the Cost-Benefit Analysis?	If your partners’ role in the project does not represent an investment (as it is defined in the Applicant’s Guide), then it is not necessary for them to submit a Cost Benefit Analysis. The Annex 7 is mandatory for the applicants which carry out investment activities.
IV.52	Va rugam sa ne comunicati daca pentru proiectele care vor fi depuse in cadrul Programului Interreg V-A Romania - Bulgaria, anexa I Partnership Agreement Template trebuie completata si depusa odata cu cererea de finantare, sau dupa aprobarea acesteia.	Please let us know whether for projects that will be submitted under Interreg V-A Romania - Bulgaria Programme, the annex I - Partnership Agreement Template - must be filled in and submitted together with the application form or after its approval.	The Partnership Agreement is attached within the Applicant’s pack only for informative purpose, it is a draft, the document shall be submitted in the contracting period, before the signing of the subsidy contract.

**V. Cooperation criteria**





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<p>V.1</p>	<p>Ghidul prevede existența unui manager de proiect comun, a unui manager financiar comun, etc. Deoarece achizițiile, operațiunile financiare sunt specifice fiecărei țări și respectă reglementările legale din România, respectiv Bulgaria, este o misiune foarte dificilă pentru un responsabil comun de achiziții sau responsabil comun financiar, care ar trebui să acționeze pentru ambii parteneri. Vă rugăm să ne confirmați că noțiunea de joint staffing nu exclude posibilitatea existenței unui coordonator de proiect, a unui expert financiar sau a unui expert achiziții numiți de fiecare partener (în speta partenerul român, respectiv de partenerul bulgar).</p>	<p>The Applicant's Guide provides for a joint project manager, a joint financial manager etc. Because the procurement activities and the financial operations are specific to each country and comply with legal regulations in Romania or Bulgaria, it is a very difficult task for a joint public procurement responsible or a joint financial responsible to act for both partners. Please confirm that the concept of joint staffing does not exclude the possibility of designating a project coordinator, a financial expert or a public procurement expert by each partner (in this case the Romanian partner, respectively the Bulgarian partner).</p>	<p>According to the provisions of the Applicant's Guide, joint staffing means that the project should not duplicate functions on either side of the border. Therefore, regardless of where the person is located, there should be one joint project manager, one joint financial manager etc., (of course more staff may be required for larger projects). This staff will be responsible for project activities on both sides of the border. Nevertheless, the projects need to prove that they respect at least the following two cooperation criteria: joint development and joint implementation and, additionally, one of the two: joint financing and joint staffing in order for it to be eligible (provision from the European Regulations). Fulfilling all 4 criteria grants you extra points in the evaluation</p>
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**VI. Application form**



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<p><b>VI.1</b></p>	<p>Referitor la formularul de buget, va rugam sa ne precizati daca exista si un formular mai detaliat al bugetului, exceptand ceea ce exista deja in cererea de finantare.</p>	<p>Regarding the budget form, please indicate if there is a more detailed budget form, except what already exists in the application.</p>	<p>The applicants have the obligation of filling in the budget form as presented in the Application Form. Nevertheless, when preparing your application it is indicated that you keep a more detailed budget. This is only for your internal use only, and shall not be submitted together with the Application Form. Also, make sure the description of activities fully reflects the amounts you have budgeted (explain why you need those funds-request not applicable for flat rates).</p>
<p><b>VI.2</b></p>	<p>Какви доказателства ще се изискват от общините-бенефициенти, че разполагат със средства за реализиране на проектните дейности?</p>	<p>In case the beneficiary is a municipality what evidence is required for proving of the necessary for the project implementation funds?</p>	<p>Annexes 5 to the Application Form - Declarations of Commitment</p>



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<p><b>VI.3</b></p>		<p>1. Application form 2.3 Project Activities, description of equipment and services purchased - maximum 1000 char. - is this a limit for description of each equipment/service or total for all activity's equipment and services purchased.</p> <p>2. In case daily allowances and travel costs are not services, where should be those costs described in Application form 2.3 Project Activities ?</p>	<p>1. As it is explained within the second column ("Name of the equipment/service") of the table "Description of the main equipment and services purchased (if the case)" in section 2.3 - "Project activities", the limit of 1000 characters is available for each equipment listed, repeating per partners, if the same equipment is purchased by more than one partner.</p> <p>2. Within the section 2.3 - Project activities shall be described including the necessary resources. Depending on what activity the travel and accommodation of the staff is needed for, the related costs should be described (e.g. : project management, organization of particular events, etc.)</p>
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<p><b>VI.4</b></p>		<p>In connection with preparation of project proposal within the Interreg V-A Romania-Bulgaria Programme we would like to request clarification about the information that has to be filled in section PROETC code in all declarations - annexes to the Application form.</p>	<p>Regarding your question please be informed that no information has to be filled in in the PROETC code by the beneficiaries. Each project shall be assigned a code later on when the system becomes functional, and this information shall be communicated to all beneficiaries, when available. When submitting the Application Form together with its annexes, the PROETC code section shall remain unfilled.</p>
<p><b>VI.5</b></p>	<p>In Formularul de aplicatie, pagina 18. la Anexe se mentioneaza "The following documents will be uploaded in the system (scanned versions of the documents)". Avand in vedere ca proiectele se depun printat si electronic pe CD, ce se intelege aici prin incarcarea anexelor in sistem?</p>	<p>In the Application Form, page 18 at the Annex section, it is mentioned that "The following documents will be uploaded in the system (scanned versions of the documents)". Since the projects are to be submitted in printed version and on CD, what is meant here by uploading annexes in the system?</p>	<p>This is a material error of the Application Form. Beneficiaries have to submit the Application Form and all relevant annexes as provided in the Applicant's Guide.</p>



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<p><b>VI.6</b></p>		<p>“Please describe the resources each beneficiary is planning to use for implementing this project activity” - Does this description include financial resources as well, which are part of the project budget? What about people, materials, etc. which will be cover by the budget? Or here you mean only resources, which are not mentioned in “Description of the main equipment and services purchased”?</p>	<p>You have to give a short and clear description of the resources (staff, material) each beneficiary uses for implementing the activity. You should present the activity, why it is necessary for the project. It is not necessary to mention the financial resources but you have to make sure the explanations are correlated to the amounts budgeted in Section 3.1 Budget (e.g. if 100.000 euro are budgeted at Project preparation but only one meeting was organized, this will be considerate unjustified, make sure the activities presented reflect the budget).</p>
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VI.7		<p>Services:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- In case of one service which covered several activities (e.g. translation/interpretation) do we need to mention it every time (in every activity where it appear)? If the answer is “yes”, it is obligatory to use the same Crt. no. or not?</li> <li>- “The need for external experts and services needs to be duly justified” - what you mean in case of experts: to explain their obligations in context of the activity or to justify that the partner has not such expert in own staff? Do we need to make one more description here, if we already described the role of the expert in “Description of the activity”?</li> </ul>	<p>The applicant should explain once, in the first/most relevant activity why the horizontal service is necessary and at the other actions simply make a reference to the description above.</p> <p>The applicant should explain why it is necessary to contract external experts and services, in order to prove that there is no overlapping between beneficiary's own resources and the ones which are going to be externalized.</p>
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<p><b>VI.8</b></p>		<p>We have problem to combine our project activities with the obligatory “Information and publicity”: we plan to have separated activities called “Project promotion”, “Development of web-site”, “Dissemination”, “Elaboration of a Collection”, which are from one side necessary in the context of the project methodology, but from other - in a conflict with this obligatory activity, because parts of all of them can be also included in it. For example we want to make a project promotion in the beginning to attract participation and we plan to use leaflets, but they can be included in “Information and publicity” as well, the same with development of web-site, etc... What to do?</p>	<p>There is no requirement as how to combine these information and publicity activities. They have to be included in the project, either way you find it appropriate.</p>
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<p><b>VI.9</b></p>		<p>According to the Applicant's Guide and taking into consideration the cooperation criteria, particularly the joint financing and the match-funding, is there any regulation how much can partner's budget exceed the budget of the other partner (for example - is it eligible if one of the project partners have a budget for reconstructing an infrastructure approx. 500 000 EUR and the other partner's budget for reconstructing and upgrading an infrastructure is approx. 1 200 000 EUR?</p>	<p>There is no specific regulation regarding the proportion of budgets between partners. Nevertheless, they need to be balanced and proportional with the division of activities between partners.</p>
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<p>VI.10</p>	<p><i>Disclaimer: the reply to these questions is not equivalent with a guarantee for selection. Only evaluators propose and the Monitoring Committee decides on issues related to eligibility and scoring.</i></p> <p>Моля дайте повече информация за случаите на признаване и непризнаване на ДДС по правилата на програмата, като ни отговорите и на следния въпрос:          Бенефициенти по проекта могат да бъдат и асоциации и сдружения с нестопанска цел, които не са регистрирани по ДДС.          При реализирането на „твърди“ проекти някои от дейностите (проектиране, строителство, закупуване на машини и пр.) могат да се възложат на юридически лица, които са регистрирани по ДДС.          Моля да уточните дали се признава като разход (в рамките на общия бюджет на проекта) при финансово отчитане от Бенефициента начислено ДДС за извършена дейност от подизпълнител, нает за изпълнение на някои от дейностите по проект (проектиране, строителство, закупуване на машини и пр.).</p>	<p>Please provide us with more information about the eligibility or ineligibility of the VAT according Programme rules. Nonprofit organizations who are not VAT registered could be beneficiaries of the Programme. Some of the activities in “hard projects” as design, works, purchase of equipment could be assigned to legal bodies which are VAT registered. Please clarify is the VAT for an activity performed by such a subcontractor eligible expenditure?</p>	<p>In accordance with Regulation (EU) 1303/2013 Article 69 (3), VAT is not eligible except in the case of VAT non-recoverable under national VAT legislation. In practice, if a partner can recover VAT (from the national budget), all expenditure reported to the Programme has to be reported without VAT.          According to point 13.1 of the Guidelines of the Ministry of Finance of the Republic of Bulgaria № NF-5/07.28.2014, for the treatment of VAT as an eligible expenditure in the implementation of projects under the operational programs financed by the ERDF, ESF, the EU Cohesion Fund, the EMFF for the financial framework 2014-2020:          “The beneficiary determines VAT as non-recoverable (eligible for financing under the operational programs) when it is not a VAT registered.          and          IV. Specific terms          Point 15. A beneficiary who is not VAT registered, included in the Request for payment to the Managing Authority (MA) non-recoverable VAT for supplies and services as eligible expenditure. The beneficiary submits a declaration to the MA that will not use their right to tax credit in accordance with art. 74 or art. 76 of the Value added tax act for available assets and received services, funded under the Operational Program, before the date of registration for VAT.”</p>
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<p><b>VI.11</b></p>	<p>Относно изискванията към кандидатите за наличие на "подходящи и достатъчни източници на финансиране":2.1. Доказването обхваща единствено посочване на евентуални източници, от които кандидатът ще може да се възползва, в случай че проектът му бъде одобрен или е необходимо да бъде доказано наличието на определени приходи за даден период от време преди подаване на проектното предложение?</p>	<p>Regarding the requirement of having "stable and sufficient financing sources": Does the proving comprises only the indication of possible sources which will be used by the applicant in case the project is approved or is it necessary to prove the availability of certain revenues for a certain period of time before the submission of the Application form? In case it is necessary to prove the availability of the sources how should it be interpreted the requirement to be stable and which are the stable ones.</p>	<p>No indication of the resources or proving of the availability is necessary. Only a Declaration of Commitment has to be provided.</p>
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<p>VI. 12</p>		<p>In section 2.3 Project Activities, there are two kinds of tables for filling in the description of the activities. The provided exemplary text in the first one is: 'A1, Project Preparation, Please describe the resources each beneficiary used for this project activity' . This statement leads to the conclusion that the table is specifically provided for the project preparation only and the second kind of table should be used to describe the rest of the activities. However, the numbering in this second one starts again from A1, which leaves room for different interpretations on how to correctly order the project activity descriptions. Furthermore, in case of a soft project, some of the table rows are not necessary and it remains unclear, whether the latter can be deleted to enhance the writing process. Would you please explain the situation?</p>	<p>please note that the numbering of activities is continuous and will range between A1, A2, ... An, out of which A1 is mandatory the Project Preparation. Example: for a project with 3 activities, A1 is Project preparation, A2 is assigned to the second activity, A3 is assigned to the third activity. The second table from section 2.3. is indeed the template to be filled-in for all project activities, other than Project Preparation. From this second table, the templates for the description of the main equipment and services purchased or the template for the description of the work are mandatory only in case the respective activity implies purchase/works.</p>
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<p>VI.13</p>		<p>I have a question about section 4. of the Application Form - Exit / continuation strategy          "Applicants should describe what impact their project results may have five years after the project has ended. The kind of follow-up actions that are planned (i.e., exit/continuation strategy) and what are the chances for them to be achieved should be also stated here. In general, it is expected that the results of a project would outlive the lifetime of the project itself. Based on the results of this projects, the applicants should estimate what other projects or activities can be developed in the benefit of the communities in the cross-border area."          Does this mean that after the project is over the beneficiaries will have to finance for them selves the same activities and will there be any reports about the follow-up actions after the project is over?</p>	<p>Each project should demonstrate its sustainability once it is over. This does not necessarily mean that the project activities should be re-performed once the project is over, but rather that the results of the project are being used also after its finalization. For example, if a site is being developed during the project implementation, it should be functional and updated with information also after the completion of the project. It is strongly encouraged that beneficiaries use the results they have obtained in the project, in order to develop other projects, financed from other sources.</p>
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VI.14	Va rugam a avea amabilitatea de a ne informa ce insemna numar de caractere in scrierea proiectului (de exemplu: max 750 caractere), toate caracterele inclusiv spatiul dintre cuvinte sau doar caracterele care formeze un cuvint/ numar?	We would like to know what does the number of characters for writing the project (for example mx. 750 characters) mean? Should it be interpreted as all characters including the space between the words of just the characters forming the word/number?	Applicant's Guide section II.3.ii How to fill in the Application Form and its Annexes, the maximum number of characters includes also the spaces. Regarding your second question, EU funded projects refer to any projects having as financing source EU funds, irrespective of the way the source was granted: directly by the EU or by the Member States via shared management.
VI.15		I would like to address to you one question related to the submission of the documents for the soft projects (deadline 30 June). Can you please confirm me that we can send the documents via post and the date on the post mark is the one that will be taken in consideration and reference? I mean, if we send the application on 30th June and it is getting in Calarasi in the next days, will that be a problem?	Please be informed that when sending the application by post the date of the post will be taken into account, so in this regard it will not be a problem in the case you described.



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<b>VI. 16</b>		<p>When filling the AF for the first call of CBC RO-BG I need to clarify the following: the applicant has a previously funded projects not from EU, but from other international sources - Norway (EEA Grants), USA foundations etc - should we list them also under the "Other EU funded projects" in the AF?</p>	<p>Please be informed that "Other EU funded projects" within section 1.3 from the Application form, refers only to the previously EU financed projects, other sources of financing are not relevant for this Programme.</p>
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<b>VI. 17</b>		<p>We are preparing a hard project on Axis 2.1. We intend to include in the budget external project management consultancy according to the limit mentioned in Annex C. When we drafted the budget in the Application Form we discovered that regardless the value of the external project management consultancy, the application is calculating also staff costs. The problem in our case is that the value of the external consultancy is bigger than the staff cost (still according to Annex C) and the application calculates a negative value that is deducted from the total project. Our questions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-from which budgetary line this negative value is deducted?</li> <li>-how can we mention no costs for staff in case we want to use external consultancy that is mentioned in Annex C and D?</li> </ul>	<p>The budget template should be respected accordingly and negative values cannot be accepted. The construction of the budget for this call considered a flat rate limit of 5% from direct costs for staff cost. Also, in order not to double the costs for project management (either with staff or external project management) a formula was constructed in order to deduct the cost of externalized project management from the 5% staff cost. In your situation, you cannot allocate funds for externalized project management that derives in negative values for staff cost. So, the externalized project management should be reduced accordingly.</p>
<b><u>VII. Information and publicity</u></b>			



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VII.1		Regarding the publicity and visibility requirements of the programme, what particular actions should be implemented during the preparatory meetings? How the actual implementation of the above mentioned actions is to be proved by the beneficiary?	The Programme Visual Identity Manual is planned to be approved on the June Monitoring Committee, by that date, the provisions of the Regulations can be applied. In order to prove the preparatory actions you will have to submit the related documents, eg. Lists of participants, receipts, paying orders, public procurement documentation (if the case) aso.
VII.2	Pentru axa nr.1 Cresterea constientizarii in ceea ce priveste importanta dezvoltarii si imbunatatirii sistemelor de transport ecologice in zona transfrontaliera. Intrebarea este: Putem sa implicam studentii de la Universitatea Maritima si sa facem o sesiune de comunicare privitor la sisteme de transport ecologic si campanii de informare in toata zona transrontaliera?	Regarding PA 1 - Raising awareness regarding the importance of developing and improving environment-friendly transport systems in the cross-border area. The question is: Can we involve students from the Maritime University and to make a communication session regarding ecological transport systems and information campaigns across the border?	Please be informed that regarding the eligibility of an action, in the interest of equal treatment of applicants, we cannot give a prior opinion on this, the assessment working group and the Monitoring Committee of the Programme being entitle to decide on this. However, the students from the Maritime University students can be involved in the project as long as the information is presented in the section 2. Project description from the Application Form.





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VII.3		<p>We are preparing public procurement documentation for a company to elaborate the technical design documentation for our project application. Do we have to use Visual Identity symbols in the procurement documentation and do we have to ask the hired company to use VIM symbols in the technical design documentation? If yes and considering that there are no templates for such documents, what symbols should we use and how?</p>	<p>Regarding your question please be informed that it is not mandatory to use any visual identity elements in the public procurement documentation.</p>
<b>VIII. Applicant's Guide</b>			
VIII.1		<p>Is it planned to be translated the Applicant's Guide in Bulgarian language?</p>	<p>Please be informed that the official language of the Programme is English, according to the decision of the two Member States. The applicants shall have the obligation of submitting the application form in English. Therefore, we do not intend to translate the Applicant's Guide into Bulgarian language.</p>



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<b>VIII.2</b>		<p>As regards of the publishing the Applicant's Guide for the first call for proposals within the Interreg V-A Romania - Bulgaria programme, I have the following question:</p> <p>Is it eligible one single organization to apply with two or more project proposals as Lead beneficiary under the same priority axis and in the frame of one specific objective?</p>	<p>Referring to your request, yes, you may apply as Lead Beneficiary in 2 or more projects. The only limitation is set afterwards, you will not be able to have more than 4 projects, simultaneously, in implementation.</p>
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<p>VIII.3</p>		<p>It is possible for a procurement procedure for delivery/construction/engineering for the implementation of project, financed through the CBC Programme, to be started before signing of the grant contract (i.e. after a notification letter is received by the beneficiary stating that the project have been approved for funding?</p> <p>It is possible a procedure for selection of contractor for public procurement procedure to be conducted before the signing of the grant contract itself, given that it will be mentioned precisely that the payment of the contract will be made when there is a signed financing contract between the beneficiary and the MA?</p>	<p>Taking into consideration that the Applicant Guide envisages that the implementation expenditures are eligible from the first day after approval of the project by the Monitoring Committee, it is possible to launch and carry out public procurement procedures according to the national legislation.</p>
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VIII.4		<p>My questions concern the planning, measurement and reporting of indicators of projects under priority Axis 3: A safe region:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Output Indicators - how to calculate the indicator in case for example of risk management preparation of experts or volunteers from the local community? Which is indicator - the number of trained experts/volunteers or the community's population, which (potentially, if case of disaster) they will serve? How beneficiary will prove the performance of indicator documentary in the second case - with signatures of potentially affected people?</li> <li>- Programme result indicators - how to measure quality of the joint risk management? There is a methodology (annex J), but it does not apply to the project level. The problem will appear when we will report the project, when, as we know, the achievement of the key indicators become very important. Tell us how documentary to prove reached level 3- "satisfactory" for example?</li> </ul> <p>I am asking for concrete answers, because the failure of indicators leads to financial sanctions. The ambiguity on this issue can make the project implementation very risky.</p>	<p>For Priority Axis 3 the output indicators are:</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="1444 435 2041 945"> <tr> <td>Population benefiting from actions of risk management</td> <td>NA</td> <td>2 500 000</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Population benefiting from flood protection measures</td> <td>NA</td> <td>1 250 000</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Population benefiting from forest fire protection measures</td> <td>NA</td> <td>1 250 000</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Number of joint partnerships in the field of joint early warning and emergency response</td> <td>10</td> <td>50</td> </tr> </table> <p>You have to select the one that your project addresses to (at least one). No other project indicators are required. When drafting your project you have to analyze the impact your trainings will have, which is the area you are addressing to and, of course the population. The result indicator for Priority Axis 3 is a qualitative one. For qualitative indicators you simply have to explain how your project will contribute to its achievement. Regarding your questions on implementation, please note that a Project Implementation Manual is going to be published in due time (before the projects start implementation). However, as a general remark, the beneficiaries will not have to prove reaching the target, this is a Programme task; you will simply have to prove that you have contributed to reaching the target (or, in case of qualitative indicators, explain how your project contributed to the target).</p>	Population benefiting from actions of risk management	NA	2 500 000	Population benefiting from flood protection measures	NA	1 250 000	Population benefiting from forest fire protection measures	NA	1 250 000	Number of joint partnerships in the field of joint early warning and emergency response	10	50
	Population benefiting from actions of risk management	NA	2 500 000												
Population benefiting from flood protection measures	NA	1 250 000													
Population benefiting from forest fire protection measures	NA	1 250 000													
Number of joint partnerships in the field of joint early warning and emergency response	10	50													



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<p><b>VIII.5</b></p>	<p>As dori sa stiu daca axa 2 (2.1. si 2.2.) este deschisa? Pentru ca pe site este mentionat ca este deschisa, dar in ghid apare scris ca doar 1.2 si 3.1. sunt deschise cu depunere pe 30 iunie pt proiecte soft si 30 septembrie pt hard.</p>	<p>I would like to know if axis 2 (2.1. And 2.2.) Is open? Because on the site is mentioned that it is open, but in the applicant guide appears that only 1.2 and 3.1. are open for submission on 30 of June for soft project and 30 of September for software projects hard.</p>	<p>According to the Applicant's Guide, section I General Information (page 8) "Please bear in mind that this call for proposals only concerns Priority Axis 1,2 and 3. Future calls will be launched for the rest of the Priority Axis (4 and 5)". Therefore, the Priority Axis 2 - A green region is launched in the present call for proposals with deadlines for submitting the applications (30th of June 2015 for soft projects, 30th of September 2015 for hard projects).</p>
<p><b>VIII.6</b></p>	<p>La indicatorul de output "Increase in expected number of visits to Support sites of cultural and natural heritage and attraction" - la ce se refera mai exact? Aici se intelege cresterea numarului estimat de vizite efectuate de turisti pe durata implementarii proiectului sau si dupa finalizarea acestuia?</p>	<p>What does the output indicator "Expected Increase in number of visits to supported cultural and natural heritage sites of attraction and " mean exactly? This means increasing the number of visits of tourists expected during project implementation or after its completion?</p>	<p>According to the provisions of the Applicant's Guide, each project must contribute to achieving the programme indicators (both output and result indicators). Therefore, your project through its activities has to contribute to at least one output and result indicator of the Programme. The achievement of indicators shall be monitored during implementation and after its completion.</p>



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<p><b>VIII.7</b></p>	<p>La indicatorul de rezultat “Number of tourists overnights in the CBC region” - numarul se calculeaza pentru noptile de cazare ale turistilor in zona de interventie prin intermediul serviciilor turistice create prin proiect pe durata de implementare a proiectului? Ce mijloc de verificare se poate utiliza in cazul acestui indicator?</p>	<p>In case of the result indicator “Number of Tourists overnights in the CBC region ” the number is to be computed taking into consideration the number of accommodation nights for tourists in the intervention area through the touristic services created by the project during the project implementation? What means of verification may be used for this indicator?</p>	<p>Based on the activities developed within the project, the applicants have to estimate the project’s contribution to the result indicator set at Programme level. The achievement of this indicator shall be analyzed at Programme level. For further information, please refer to J-Programme methodology for measuring result indicators.</p>
<p><b>VIII.8</b></p>		<p>How many projects one applicant can submit? Can one municipality submit project as lead partner under priority 2 Green region and under priority 3 Safe region?</p>	<p>There is no restriction as regards the number of projects, a beneficiary may submit, either in the quality of beneficiary or Lead Beneficiary. Nevertheless, according to the provisions of the Applicant’s Guide, the Managing Authority has the right to decide not to sign a financing contract in case a Beneficiary already has in implementation 4 projects. After the finalization of one project the decision may be reconsidered, provided the financial allocation is available.</p>



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<p><b>VIII.9</b></p>		<p>It is mentioned that reimbursement claims when expenditures of both partners under the common project exceed 5 000 euro can be submitted? Does it mean that if subsidy contract is signed in December 2015 and expenditures according the schedule of activities exceed 5 000 euro in February 2016 immediately can ask first level control verification?</p>	<p>According to the provisions of the Applicant's Guide, reimbursement claims may be submitted any given time during project implementation (the latest being at 5 months after the project is finalized), the only condition being related to the value of the reimbursement claim, which has to be not lower than 5.000 EUR. The reimbursement claim may concern only the expenditures of just one partner (as long as it is at least 5.000 EUR), the condition does not apply cumulative for all partners. You may ask first level control request as soon as the contract is signed and you fulfill the condition regarding the value of reimbursement claim. Please be advised that detailed rules will be included in the Project Implementation Manual, which will be published on the Programme's website.</p>
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<b>VIII. 10</b>		What is the percentage of the advance payments under the project?	The Programme management bodies have not taken a final decision regarding the advance payments; the legal framework for granting the advances is under approval process. As mentioned in the Applicant's Guide an advance may be granted in an amount ranging between 60%-80% of the national co-financing. The national co-financing for Bulgarian partners will be transferred at two installments - 80 % advance payment and up to 20 % final payment depending on the total funds absorbed under the project.
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<p>VIII. 11</p>		<p>Is it possible the project manager to be a person external for the lead partner (municipality)? Also it is possible an independent expert to be involved for the PR, communication and dissemination activities under the project, i.e. person who is not employee of the municipality?</p>	<p>In case the beneficiary does not have the necessary internal resources to implement the project, the project management may be externalized. Nevertheless, special attention needs to be paid in order to avoid any duplication of functions between the beneficiary's internal staff involved in the project and the contracted experts. According to Annex E to the Applicant's Guide - Simplified cost options, for projects externalizing parts or hole of the project management (including external expertise related to the organization of the public procurements for the project, services related to the financial and technical reporting for the project), the estimated value of the externalized parts of the project management will be mentioned within the application form and the flat rate will be diminished proportionally:</p> <p>Staff flat rate = [Maximum flat rate for staff for the respective type of project * calculation basis - amounts for project management] * 100/calculation basis</p>
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<p>VIII. 12</p>		<p>Regarding so called simplified cost options (SCOs) is there any requirement related to local legislative provisions - for instance: the monthly salary and respectively the daily wages of the accountant of the municipality are fixed. How to pay for additional activities within the project under the programme: accountant will spend few hours each month for the activities under the project which could be supplementary paid. In order to use the SCOs is it required to stick to the hour wages per hour payable within the current monthly salary or it is allowed the wages to be different?</p>	<p>According to the provisions of the Applicant's Guide, Annex E, staff costs will be reimbursed on a flat rate basis. This means that beneficiaries will not be obliged to report or prove categories of costs calculated on the basis of a flat rate, but only the eligible costs included in the calculation basis for the application of the flat rate. Management verifications (including controllers) and audits will not check supporting documents for real costs under a category of expenditure calculated by a flat-rate, but only supporting documents for costs included in the calculation basis for the application of the flat-rate. Therefore, it is the decision of the beneficiary which salary is paid to its own staff. The Programme will not verify any supporting document.</p>
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<b>VIII. 13</b>	<p>Същевременно на страница 43 от актуализираната версия на Насоките, в подточка Investment documentation гореописаното изречение не е актуализирано и е както следва: версия 5/26/2015 (стр. 43)</p> <p>For Bulgarian beneficiaries it should be annexed: preliminary design (including estimation of bill of quantities and values) for new investments or technical design for upgrading/reconstruction.</p> <p>Моля да дадете разяснения!</p>	<p>On page 43 of the revised version of the Applicant's Guide 5/26/2015 in Investment documentation the abovementioned statement is not updated: version 5/26/2015 (page 43)</p> <p>For Bulgarian beneficiaries it should be annexed: preliminary design (including estimation of bill of quantities and values) for new investments or technical design for upgrading/reconstruction. Please clarify!</p>	<p>The statement on page 43 is not changed by mistake.</p>
<b>VIII. 14</b>	<p>В случай че проектът предвижда услуга, свързана с постигането на целите на проекта, но чиято стойност не посочена в Анекс С, то тя счита ли се за допустима и необходимо ли е и за нея да се представят 3 оферти или оценка от независим оценител?</p>	<p>In case the project envisages a service necessary for the achievement of project's indicators, which is not indicated in Annex C, is it eligible and is it necessary 3 offers or an independent evaluation of the cost of the service to be presented.</p>	<p>Yes, 3 offers or an independent evaluation of the cost of the service need to be presented. The budgeted price (in case of 3 offers justifications) must not exceed the median value of the 3 offers (calculated at Inforeuro exchange rate from March 2015).</p>



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<p><b>VIII. 15</b></p>	<p>1. Ale cui cv-uri se pun in Formularul de candidatura, va rog frumos! -Fiind ONG si propunandu-ne sa desfasuram cursuri de formare de scurta durata, referitoare la teme majore din proiect, am putea sa acreditam un curs prin Programul transfrontalier? De exemplu, referitor la nondiscriminare?</p>	<p>Whose CVs are to be attached to the application form? We are an NGO and we intend to organize short term training courses related to the major themes of the project. Could we accredit a course through the cross-border program? For example, regarding nondiscrimination?</p>	<p>Please be informed that the Applicant's Guide does not require applicants to submit CVs of the project's management team, together with the application form. As regards the accreditation of a training course, you may obtain it observing the national legislation in force. The Programme as such does not accredit training courses.</p>
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VIII.  
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The Applicant's Guide states on p.22, the following:  
The applicants for the projects financed under priority Axis 2: A green region, must also observe the following rules:

- If the applicant is another entity than the administrator of the protected area which the project refers to and the administrator is not a partner in the project the applicant must have the written approval of the administrator of the respective protected area;
- In case a protected area is not administered by a certain entity and the responsible environment authority is not a partner in the project the applicant must have the written approval of the responsible environmental authority or the responsible environment authority is a partner in the project.

Is this written approval a separate letter/document, issued by the administrator of the protected area/ the responsible environmental authority, or this refers to Annex 11, described on p.48:  
Annex 11 to the Application Form - Environmental agreement (mandatory for applications including infrastructure related activities) and English translation (if issued in other language than English) will annexed to the Application Form.

The applicants must present an official statement/act from the competent environment authority stating that the investment project either:

- observes the legal provisions of environment protection or
- completed the first phase of the EIA procedure - screening

Yes, it is a separate document (written approval), issued by the administrator of the respective protected area/ the responsible environmental authority.

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<p><b>VIII. 17</b></p>		<p>We are working on a project for development of a training camp on the territory of an eligible Bulgarian municipality. However, the designated plot is a rural area, out of regulation, according to the applicable legislation. We have started a procedure for amending the statute of the land, but the procedure will not be completed before the submission deadline, Sept, 30<sup>th</sup>.</p> <p>Also, according to the Territory Regulation Act in Bulgaria, we cannot develop a preliminary design for the land without regulation. We could develop a Feasibility Study with some preliminary designs. Based on this, the Chief Architect of the municipality cannot approve a preliminary design for the training camp, but only Feasibility study.</p> <p>We have the following questions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Can we submit a Feasibility study with designs, instead of a Preliminary design as defined by the Bulgarian law?</li> <li>2. Can we submit a project for a land that is not in regulation, but the process has been initiated and will be completed after the submission?</li> <li>3. Can we submit designs (drawings) without the official approval of the Chief Architect of the municipality, only stamped by the relevant architects, who have developed them?</li> </ol>	<p>Please find bellow the answers to your questions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. It is not eligible for Bulgarian beneficiaries to apply with an investment projects presenting feasibility study only. For Bulgarian beneficiaries it should be submitted at least a preliminary design (including estimation of quantities and values) or technical design,. The design has to be approved according the Bulgarian legislation, which includes the endorsement of the Chief Architect as well.</li> <li>2. Taking into consideration that the finalization of the procedure for the amendment of the statute of the land is a prerequisite for developing the preliminary design, application prior to the finalization of the procedure and developing the preliminary design ( approved according to the National legislation) is not possible.</li> <li>3. No the Applicants have to submit at least preliminary design, approved according the Bulgarian legislation, which includes the endorsement of the Chief Architect as well.</li> </ol>
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Regarding preparation of an investment project under Romania - Bulgaria Open Call for proposals, we have the following questions:

1. In the Guidelines for Application, page 41, it is written that if your project offers a green solution, this will give you extra points in evaluation.

1. Please, give a definition of "green solution"
2. Please, give an example for green solution in the soft activities

Green solutions are those actions defined based on the principle that protecting and enhancing nature and natural processes, and the many benefits society gets from nature, are consciously integrated into the planning and development of the project. Green solutions include (but are not limited to) using ecosystem-based and nature-based approaches or (to the extent possible) implementation of green infrastructure. INTERREG V-A Romania-Bulgaria encourages the use of green solutions in the implementation of the projects, giving priority to such projects over those proposing only "concrete-based"/"grey solutions", by awarding extra points during the evaluation process.

For more details regarding your question, including examples, please consult the Thematic Guidance and materials issued by the European Commission on the matter, among which:

- [http://ec.europa.eu/regional\\_policy/en/information/legislation/guidance/](http://ec.europa.eu/regional_policy/en/information/legislation/guidance/), with focus on the EC Thematic Guidance for Biodiversity, Green Infrastructure, Ecosystem Services and NATURA 2000 ([http://ec.europa.eu/regional\\_policy/sources/docgener/informat/2014/guidance\\_fiche\\_biodiversity\\_n2000.pdf](http://ec.europa.eu/regional_policy/sources/docgener/informat/2014/guidance_fiche_biodiversity_n2000.pdf)) and EC Thematic Guidance for Climate Change Adaption, Risk Prevention and Management [http://ec.europa.eu/regional\\_policy/sources/docgener/informat/2014/guidance\\_fiche\\_climat\\_change.pdf](http://ec.europa.eu/regional_policy/sources/docgener/informat/2014/guidance_fiche_climat_change.pdf)
- Communication of the EC on Green Infrastructure [http://eur-lex.europa.eu/resource.html?uri=cellar:d41348f2-01d5-4abe-b817-4c73e6f1b2df.0014.03/DOC\\_1&format=PDF](http://eur-lex.europa.eu/resource.html?uri=cellar:d41348f2-01d5-4abe-b817-4c73e6f1b2df.0014.03/DOC_1&format=PDF)

but also:

- Green public procurement website (European Commission): useful links, publications and reliable sources [http://ec.europa.eu/environment/gpp/faq\\_en.htm#general1](http://ec.europa.eu/environment/gpp/faq_en.htm#general1)
- Handbook on green public procurement (European Commission) <http://ec.europa.eu/environment/gpp/pdf/handbook.pdf>

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<p><b>VIII. 19</b></p>		<p>1. Is the project considered as investment “hard” project if the Romanian partner includes investment activities and the Bulgarian partner - not?</p> <p>2. Is it possible Romanian partner to have investment activities and the Bulgarian partner - to purchase equipment?</p> <p>3. In the definition for “hard” project is written that investment activities should be implemented or equipment should be purchased over 50% of the budget. Is it the total budget or partner budget?</p>	<p>For questions no. 1, 2 and 3: It is clearly stated in the Applicant’s Guide that “Project that has an <b>infrastructure component</b> or which grants more than half of its <b>total eligible budget</b> for the purchase of equipment” is defined as “hard” project.</p>
<p><b>VIII. 20</b></p>	<p>In vederea estimarii duratei activitatilor preconizate, va rugam sa ne spuneti daca in timpul implementarii se pot achizitiona "la pachet" serviciile de proiectare (PT) si lucrarile de constructie (FIDIC galben)?</p>	<p>In order to estimate the duration of the activities planned, please tell us whether during the implementation we can purchase both design services (Technical Project) and construction works (yellow FIDIC), at the same time?</p>	<p>Please be informed that in order to apply under this call for proposals, our Programme does not foresee any rules regarding the procurement of the technical design / work execution, other than that of observing the national public procurement legislation. In this case, according to Romanian public procurement procedure legislation the liability for choosing a public procurement procedure belongs to the contracting authority.</p>



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<p><b>VIII.</b> <b>21</b></p>	<p>1. Pentru proiectele in care partenerul roman are in vedere o lucrare de investitii este necesar ca la exprimarea in euro a sumelor in lei cuprinse in devizul general si devizele pe obiecte sa se foloseasca tot cursul inforeuro din martie 2015? Deci, pentru a exista o gandire coerenta la nivelul intregului buget, se va folosi acest curs?</p> <p>2. Pentru echipamentele aferente unei constructii, deci cuprinse ca si costuri in devizul general la sectiunea Cheltuieli pentru investitia de baza este necesar sa fie puse la dispozitie tot 3 oferte?</p>	<p>1. For projects in which the Romanian partner is considering an investment work is it necessary to use the same inforeuro rate exchange from March 2015, for converting in Euro the amounts in Ron, comprised in general estimate and in object estimates,? So, for there to be a coherent thought/understanding in the entire budget, will this rate be used?</p> <p>2. For the equipment related to a construction, that is to say comprised as costs in general estimate, to section Expenditure for basic investment, are required 3 offers to be made available?</p>	<p>The Applicant's Guide foresees the obligation to use inforeuro exchange rate from March 2015 for the equipment not listed within Annex C Ceiling for expenditures for which 3 offers from well know suppliers are submitted. Still, for the investment projects having feasibility study, the feasibility study offers substantiation for the investment costs, both in general estimate , and explanation part which is made by an engineer / specialist in the field that can be assimilated to the independent evaluation of the price, specified in the Applicant's Guide as an alternative method of costs justification.</p> <p>Therefore, having in mind that the Applicant's Guide foresees the possibility to use an independent evaluation of price as alternative method of cost justification, but doesn't foresee an exchange rate to be used for the independent evaluation, than is not mandatory to use the inforeuro exchange rate from March 2015 for the equipment within the general estimate.</p>
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<b>VIII. 22</b>		<p>The Guide states that the applicant has to submit technical documents including a bill of quantities. If the submitted bill of quantities includes also equipment, appliances, furniture, etc. /i.e. a turn-key construction/, foreseen as one tender procedure in project implementation, do we still have to submit three offers for the equipment?</p>	<p>For the investment projects having feasibility study/equivalent technical documents, these documents offer substantiation for the investment costs, both in bill of quantities and explanation part which is made by an engineer / specialist in the field that can be assimilated to the independent evaluation of the price, specified in the Applicant's Guide as an alternative method of costs justification.</p>
<b>VIII. 23</b>		<p>The Guide states a 3 per cent ceiling for the supervision of construction works. Does this amount include all the types of supervision required by national legislation /on behalf of the state, the architect and the investor/ altogether?</p>	<p>According with Annex D - List of eligible expenditure, art. 13, alin. 1, lit. a, para (IV) the percentage of 3% refers to expenditures with the supervision of the works by the construction inspectors. These expenditures relates to those mentioned within the Spatial Planning Act, art. 166. (amend. - SG. 65 of 2003) (1) The consultant on the basis of a written contract with the contracting authority: 1 82 of 2012, effective 11.26.2012) can perform feasibility studies, preparation of the design process and coordination of the construction process until the construction object is put into operation, including control of quantities, quality and conformity of the executed construction works and used materials with the works contracts, as well as other activities - subject of contracts.</p>

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<b>VIII. 24</b>		<p>The Guide states that the applicant has to submit technical documents including a bill of quantities. If the submitted bill of quantities includes also equipment, appliances, furniture, etc. /i.e. a turn-key construction/, foreseen as one tender procedure in project implementation, do we still have to submit three offers for the equipment?</p>	<p>Please be informed that for the investment projects having feasibility study/equivalent technical documents, these documents offer substantiation for the investment costs, both in bill of quantities and explanation part which is made by an engineer / specialist in the field that can be assimilated to the independent evaluation of the price, specified in the Applicant's Guide as an alternative method of costs justification.</p>
<b>VIII. 25</b>	<p>Intentionam sa depunem o aplicatie pe Axa prioritara 1- O regiune bine conectata, Obiectivul specific 1.1. Una dintre strazi are o trecere la nivel de cale ferata - iar 20 m stanga - dreapta din axul caii ferate se afla in administrarea CFR si pt. care s-a obtinut avizul CFR. Avizul CFR obtinut poate fi considerat ca un accord al proprietarului pentru efectuarea investitiei?</p>	<p>We intend to submit an application form under Priority Axis1 - A well connected region, Specific Objective 1.1. One of the streets has a railway level crossing and 20 metres to the left and right from the railway axis are managed by the CFR (Romanian National Railway Company), from whom we have an approval for. May the obtained approval of CFR be considered as an owner's agreement for the execution of the investment/ into making the investment?</p>	<p>Please be informed that you must analyze if all the legal conditions of the issued document are met and comply with the provisions of the Applicant's Guide, which stipulates that the owner has to give its written agreement saying that the applicant may perform the investment.</p>

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<p><b>VIII. 26</b></p>		<p>Please, kindly clarify whether the revised Applicant's Guide, in effects, permits the provision of a preliminary design (including priced bill of quantities) for upgrading/reconstruction.</p> <p>Would a valid technical design, duly approved by the competent authorities in 2013, represent an eligible technical document under the provisions of the Applicant's Guide?</p> <p>Would an update of the bill of quantities and values of the 2013 design performed in 2015 satisfy the eligibility requirements as to the date of the technical design?</p>	<p>According to the provisions of the revised Applicant's Guide, which is in force, Bulgarian beneficiaries shall submit preliminary design (including estimation of bill of quantities and values) or technical design, irrespective of the types of works they intend to perform (new investments or upgrading/reconstruction).</p> <p>According to the provisions of the Applicant's Guide, the Feasibility Study or equivalent technical documents should not have been elaborated or updated more than one year before the deadline for the submission of the project proposal (the document must bear the date of elaboration/revision). Updating the fesability study or equivalent technical documents shall certify that the conditions foreseen initially are not changed or, if changed it should specify the new existing conditions/situation (includig studies, or other documents that the designer appreciates as necessary). If there are no such modifications, updating shall refer only to upating the technical documentation (including the cartridge). The decisions to keep the same initial provisions of the fesability study / equivalent techical documents or to change them belongs to the designer depending on the functional, technical and economic solutions and also depending on the technical-economic indicators of the investment that is about to be realized.</p>
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**IX. Project sustainability**

IX.1	<p>In cazul in care in cadrul unui proiect INTERREG V-A Ro-Bg vom investi in echipamente pentru infiintarea si dotarea unor laboratoare de hazarde naturale in cateva scoli pilot, se poate ca aceste echipamente sa ramana dupa terminarea proiectului in cadrul scolilor respective pentru continuarea activitatilor carora le-au fost destinate?</p>	<p>If a project in the Ro-Bg INTERREG VA will invest in equipment for setting up and equipping of natural hazards laboratories in several pilot schools, these equipment may remain after completion of the project in the respective schools to continue the activities for which they were intended?</p>	<p>In compliance with the European Regulations, the beneficiaries are not allowed during the implementation period including 5 years after the final payment, to wholly or partly sell or transfer in any form the right of property of the goods purchased from the financing. Furthermore, the applicants have to be responsible for the preparation and management of the action together with their partners, not acting as an intermediary.</p>
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