



## Cooperation Programme Interreg “Greece-Bulgaria 2021-2027” 3rd Programming Committee meeting (09.03.2022) & 1st written procedure (closed on 28.03.2022)

The **Programming Committee (PC)** of the **Cooperation Programme (CP) Interreg “Greece-Bulgaria 2021-2027”** had its 3rd meeting on Wednesday, the 9<sup>th</sup> of March 2022, via teleconference. The meeting was attended by the majority of the PC’s designated members.

According to the agenda of the meeting, the following topics were presented and discussed.

### **Capitalisation in 2021-2027**

The MA (Unit B1) presented the concept and the definition of capitalization, stated the need to capitalize on existing knowledge and results in the new Programming period and presented briefly the aims, the objectives, the methodology and the main capitalization actions envisaged in the new Programme’s capitalization plan, which will be approved by the Monitoring Committee of the new Programme 2021-2027.

### **Draft Programme presentation**

The Managing Authority (Head of Unit B1) presented the new Programme with total Budget 83.953.681, 25€ (Public Funds) and co-financing rate 80% - ERDF and 20% - National Funds. The new Programme consists of 3 Priority Axes whereas the eligible area remains the same. Each Priority Axis with its Policy & Specific Objectives, and type of Calls with indicative Budgets was analysed. Moreover, details about the Strategic Environmental Assessment were mentioned and the next steps to be followed after the approval of the Programme’s final draft were presented.

### **Discussion on the new Programme**

The Greek Ministry pointed out the need of sustainable use of resources in the primary sector, proposing the addition of a Call under the Specific Objective “Enhancing protection and preservation of nature, biodiversity and green infrastructure, including in urban areas, and reducing all forms of pollution”, which will focus on sustainable management practices towards a greener approach in the primary sector. According to the Greek NA this approach is a common need for the eligible area for both countries which also enhances the capitalisation that the Commission supports and encourages.



## Greece – Bulgaria

The Bulgarian NA and other members of the PC expressed their doubts about this addition to the Programme Document and requested from the MA a detailed and clear justification through a written procedure, prior to the approval of the draft Programme Document. Following the discussions, the Programming Committee didn't come to a decision for the draft Programme Document and the launch of a written procedure was decided in order to fully present and justify the proposed addition.

### **1st Written Procedure of the Programming Committee**

The written procedure was launched on 15.3.2022 by the MA, with more details on the proposed addition to the Programme Document. The comments received by the PC members were discussed between the two National Authorities who, in cooperation, revised the Programme document accordingly. The written procedure closed on 28.3.2022 with the approval of the draft Programme Document by the Programming Committee, who also authorized the MA/JS/NA to proceed in all necessary actions (including among others any technical adjustments in the Programme Document) for its timely submission to the European Commission via SFC.