Pursuant to Article 69 of the Law on Environment (“Official Gazette of the Republic of Macedonia” No. 53/05, 81/05, 24/07, 159/08, 83/09, 48/10, 124/10, 51/11, 123/12, 93/13, 187/13 and 42/14) and the Decree on public participation during the preparation of regulations and other acts, as well as plans and programs in the field of environment (“Official Gazette of the Republic of Macedonia” No. 147/08 and 45/11), the Ministry of Local Self-Government of the Republic of North Macedonia organizes:

**PUBLIC HEARING**

**on the Draft Environmental Assessment Report for projects within the INTERREG IPA Cross-Border cooperation Program between the Republic of Bulgaria and the Republic of North Macedonia 2021-2027 and Draft Territorial strategy for integrated measures**

 The affected public is informed, especially the public from the municipalities of

1. East planning region (municipalities of Shtip, Kochani, Vinica, Makedonska Kamenica, Berovo, Pehchevo, Delchevo, Probishtip, Chesinovo-Obleshevo, Zrnovci and Karbinci),
2. Northeast planning region (municipalities of Kratovo, Kriva Palanka, Kumanovo, Lipkovo, Rankovce and Staro Nagorichane) and
3. Southeast planning region (municipalities of Bogdanci, Bosilovo, Valandovo, Vasilevo, Gevgelija, Dojran, Konche, Novo Selo, Radovish and Strumica)

That within **the INTERREG – IPA cross-border cooperation between the Republic of Bulgaria and the Republic of North Macedonia 2021-2027, the draft INTERREG – IPA cross-border cooperation Program between the Republic of Bulgaria and the Republic of North Macedonia 2021-2027 and the draft Integrated territorial strategy have been prepared**, *co-financed within the Instrument for Pre-Accession Assistance between the Republic of Bulgaria and the Republic of North Macedonia, as well as* **the draft Environmental Assessment Report for projects within the INTERREG – IPA cross-border cooperation Program between the Republic of Bulgaria and the Republic of North Macedonia 2021-2027 and Draft Territorial strategy for integrated measures.**

The prepared Draft Environmental Assessment Report for projects within the INTERREG – IPA cross-border cooperation Program between the Republic of Bulgaria and the Republic of North Macedonia 2021-2027 and the Draft Territorial strategy for integrated measures and the Non-Technical Summary of the Environmental Assessment Report for Projects of the cross-border cooperation Program 2021-2027, co-financed by the Instrument for Pre-Accession assistance between the Republic of Bulgaria and the Republic of North Macedonia, and the Territorial strategy for integrated measures are available on the websites of the Ministry of Local Self-Government (<https://mls.gov.mk>) and the program (<http://www.ipa-cbc-007.eu>), and a hard copy is available at the ministry offices.

For the public needs, a printed form of the mentioned documents can be obtained for inspection at the premises of the Ministry of Local Self-Government of the Republic of North Macedonia in Skopje, at the address Blvd. “St. Cyril and Methodius” No. 54, every working day from 10am to 2pm.

The deadline for submitting opinions and views to the public, on the spot and in writing, no later than February 20, 2022, can be submitted:

1. In person – through the MLS registry office,
2. By post – to the address: Blvd. “St. Cyril and Methodius” No. 54,1000 Skopje and/or
3. Electronic – by e-mail: Consultations\_EAR22@hotmail.com

In accordance with the legal requirements, and in order to achieve greater transparency and public involvement, the Ministry of Local Self-Government of the Republic of North Macedonia, in the East, Northeast and Southeast planning region organizes public hearings on **the Draft Strategic Environmental Assessment Report in the municipalities: Kumanovo, Shtip and Strumica, in the following order:**

**Kumanovo –** 07.02.2022 (13:00 h) – for **the municipalities:** Kratovo, Kriva Palanka, Kumanovo, Lipkovo, Rankovce and Staro Nagorichane, in the premises of the “restaurant Gracija – Kumanovo”.

**Shtip –** 08.02.2022 (11:00 h) – for **the municipalities:** Shtip, Kocani, Vinica, Makedonska Kamenica, Berovo, Pehchevo, Delchevo, Probishtip, Chesinovo-Obleshevo, Zrnovci and Karbinci, in the premises of “Hotel Izgrev – Shtip”.

**Strumica –** 09.02.2022 (10:30 h) – for **the municiplaties:** Bogdanci, Bosilovo, Valandovo, Vasilevo, Gevgelija, Dojran, Konche, Novo Selo, Radovish and Strumica, in the premises of “Hotel Sirius – Strumica”.

Contact person:

Ljubomir Tanevski – 070/737-049

Milan Zaprovski – 070/737-056

With respect,

**Ministry of Local Self-Government**