



# *AIR 2020 Citizen's Summary*

Environment



Tourism



Competitiveness



[www.ipa-cbc-007.eu](http://www.ipa-cbc-007.eu)



## ABOUT THE SUMMARY

The Citizen's Summary aims to describe in a concise and illustrative way the main achievements of the Interreg-IPA CBC Republic of Bulgaria-The Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia Programme 2014-2020 (the Programme) in the year 2020. The complete Annual implementation report for 2020 is now available at the Programme website: [www.ipa-cbc-007.eu](http://www.ipa-cbc-007.eu)

### Content:

- Brief Programme description;
- Key milestones in year 2020;
- Second Call for proposals - implementation;
- Main events in 2020/European Cooperation Day 2020;
- New Programme period 2021-2027
- Publicity.

## THE PROGRAMME

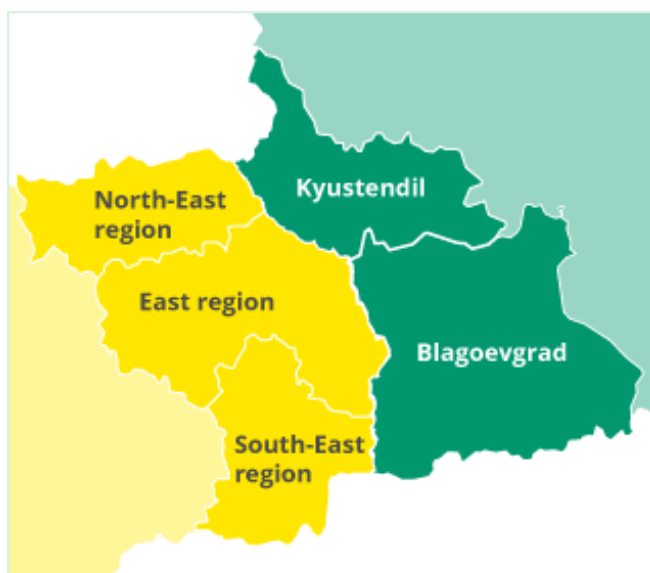
The **overall objective of the Programme** is to intensify cross-border cooperation between both partner countries in order to jointly address common challenges and exploit untapped potentials of the border regions.

### Programme Budget

The total Programme budget is **EUR 19 461 690**.

The Programme is co-funded by the European Union, from the Instrument for Pre-Accession Assistance II (IPA II).

### Programme area



### Priority Axes and specific objectives



#### Priority Axis 1: Environment

- Environmental protection and sustainable use of the common natural resources of the CBC area;
- Prevention and mitigation of consequences of natural and man-caused disasters of cross-border dimension and impact.



#### Priority Axis 2: Tourism

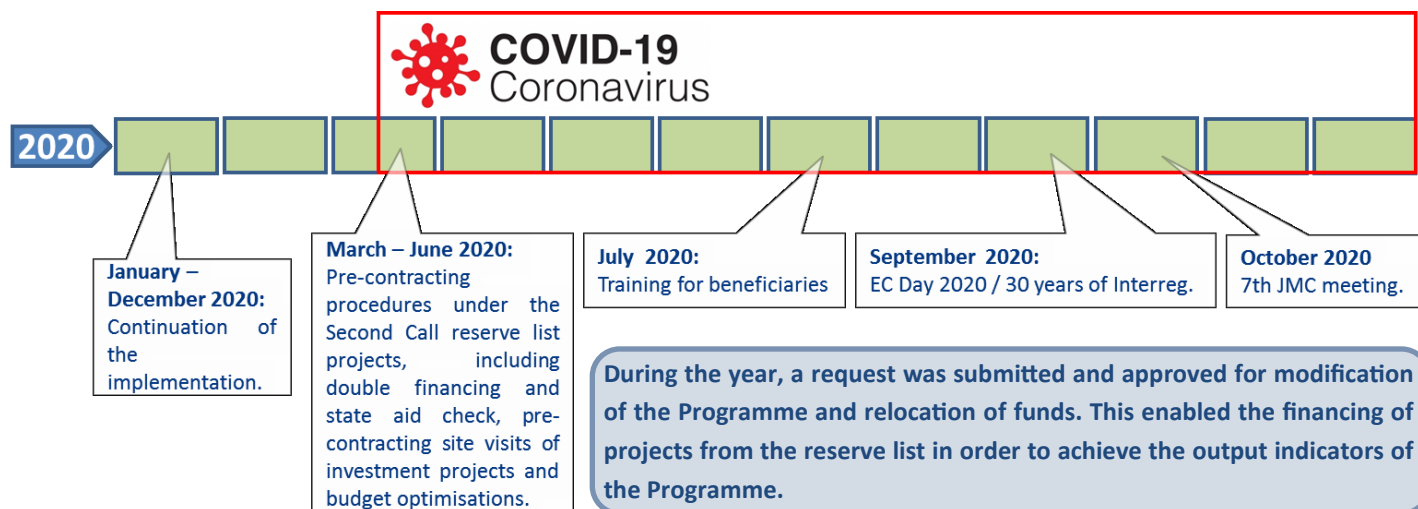
- Enhancing the tourism potential of the region through cooperation initiatives in better preservation and sustainable utilization of natural and cultural heritage;
- Raising the competitiveness of the CBC region's tourist offer;
- Promoting cooperation among regional actors in the area of sustainable tourism.



#### Priority Axis 3: Competitiveness

- Improving the competitiveness of regional businesses.

## KEY MILESTONES IN YEAR 2020

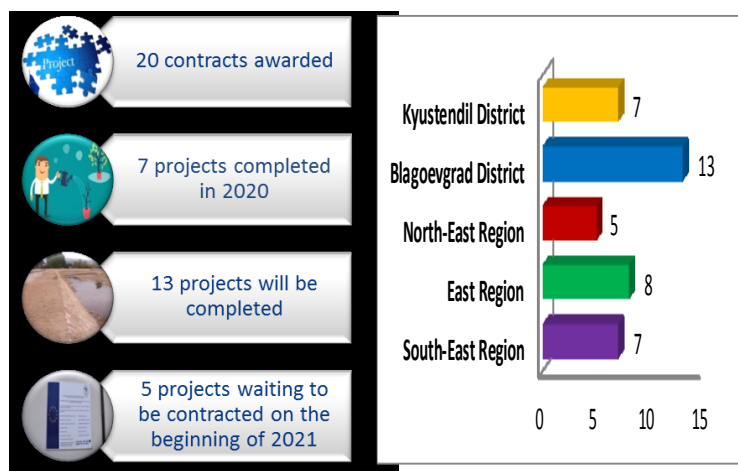


## SECOND CALL FOR PROPOSALS - IMPLEMENTATION

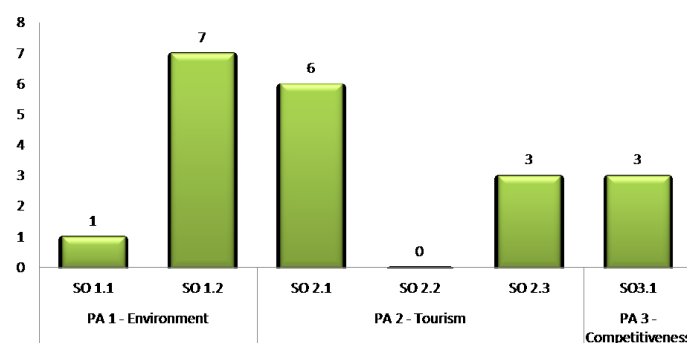
### Basics facts about the Second Call for project proposals

In total **20 project** proposals were contracted on total amount of 4 724 181,94 EUR , out of which: 17 subsidy contracts were concluded in 2019, 3 more contracts from reserve list were signed in 2020. On the beginning of 2021, from the reserve list, 5 subsidy contracts with projects will be signed. The list of all projects approved for financing is uploaded on the Programme's website in section Funded projects.

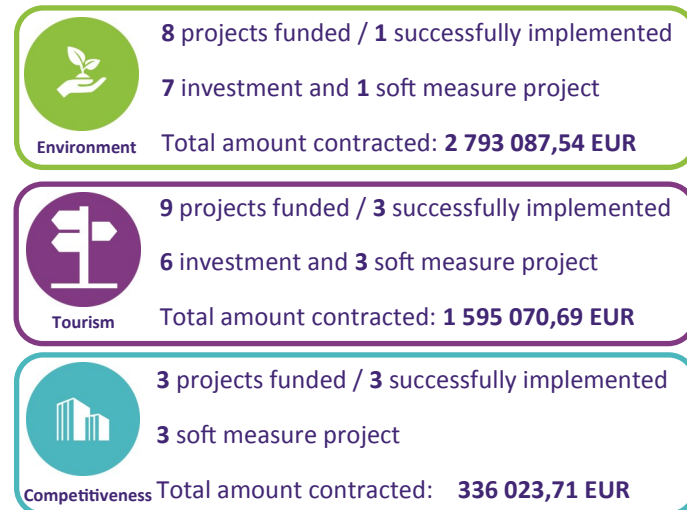
### Distribution of project by regions



### Distribution of project in 2020



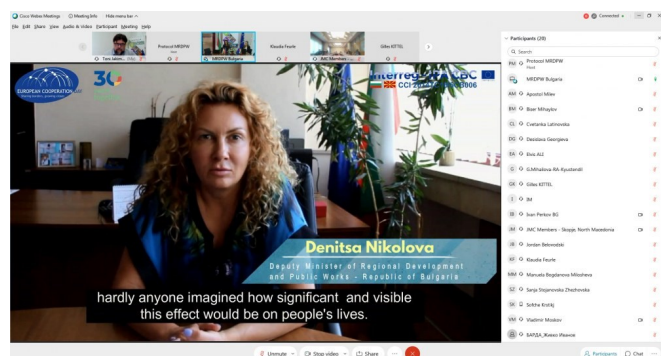
- The progress of implementation for the projects was promoted through social media, as well as on numerous websites a focused on all aspects for the implementation of projects.
- MIS and the Beneficiary Portal** had led to improved communication between the beneficiaries and all Programme authorities.



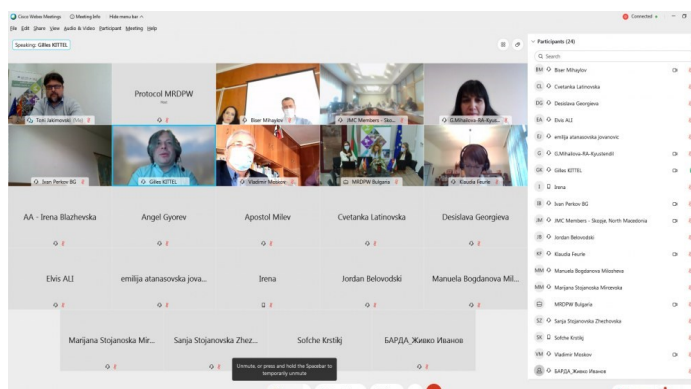


## EVENTS ORGANISED IN 2020

The 7<sup>th</sup> Joint Monitoring Committee meeting was held on 16<sup>th</sup> of October 2020 for the first time through an online conference platform. The members of the committee and the guests were introduced to the modifications in the Programme, the revised documents related to the technical assistance, the progress of the implementation for the period 2014-2020, as well as the progress in the programming of the next programming period 2021-2027.

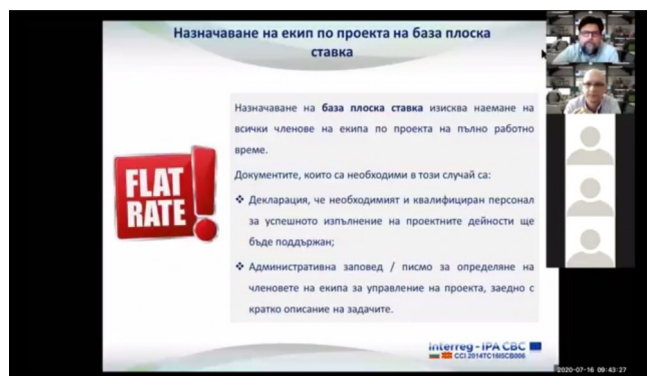


At the end of the session, the movie with a presentation of our Programme realized and broadcast during the celebration of EC Day and 30 years of Interreg was shown.



## Online training for the Bulgarian management team members

Online training for the Bulgarian management team members of projects funded under the Second call for project proposals - reserve list was held on the 16<sup>th</sup> of July 2020 under platform Zoom. In the presence of members of the Bulgarian project management team, representatives of the Joint Secretariat and the Managing Authority elaborated the tech-



nical and financial project implementation, monitoring, contracting procedures, verification of expenditure by controllers, communication and visibility, electronic system for exchange of documents and information, irregularities and other relevant issues.

During the training the project management team members had the opportunity to ask questions regarding the project implementation.

## EUROPEAN COOPERATION DAY 2020

In the spirit of tradition, on 21<sup>st</sup> of September 2020 our Programme celebrated the European Cooperation Day and in 2020 we additionally celebrated the 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Interreg.



Due to the situation with COVID 19, for the first time we had an online event, which was broadcast live on our fan page on Facebook. The online event was greeted by our guests: Mrs. Lena Pench, Director in the European Commission's DG Regional and Urban Policy Department, HE Mr. Dimitar Tzantchev, Permanent Representative of Republic of Bulgaria to the European Union, Mrs. Denitsa Nikolaova, Deputy Minister of Regional Development and Public Works, Mr. Mihajilo Dašić, Assistant Minister of European Integration, Republic of Serbia and Mr. Faruk Kaymakcı, Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs, Republic of Turkey,

Our Programme together with Interreg - IPA CBC Programme Bulgaria - Serbia and Interreg - IPA CBC Programme Bulgaria - Turkey presented activities and achievements, as well as several successfully implemented projects.

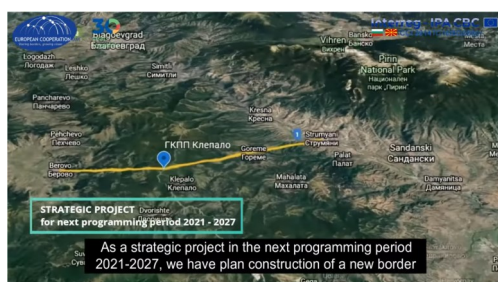


You can watch the whole event on the following link: <https://youtu.be/9NcvPo3Pr9E>

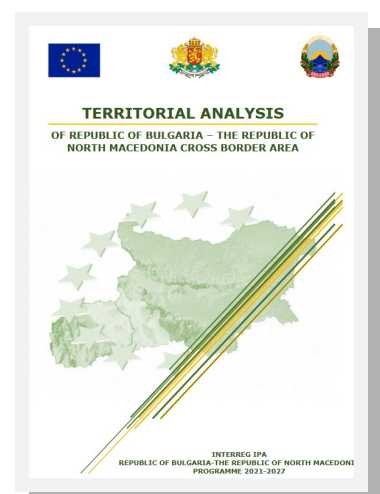


## NEW PROGRAMME PERIOD 2021—2027

The Joint Working Group of INTERREG-IPA Cross-border Cooperation Programme between Republic of Bulgaria and Republic of North Macedonia 2021-2027 on 13<sup>th</sup> of July 2020 adopted the Territorial analysis for Republic of Bulgaria and Republic of North Macedonia Cross-border Area including SWOT analysis and conclusions. On 27<sup>th</sup> of October 2020, the Joint Working Group adopted the Programme's Intervention logic by a Written procedure.



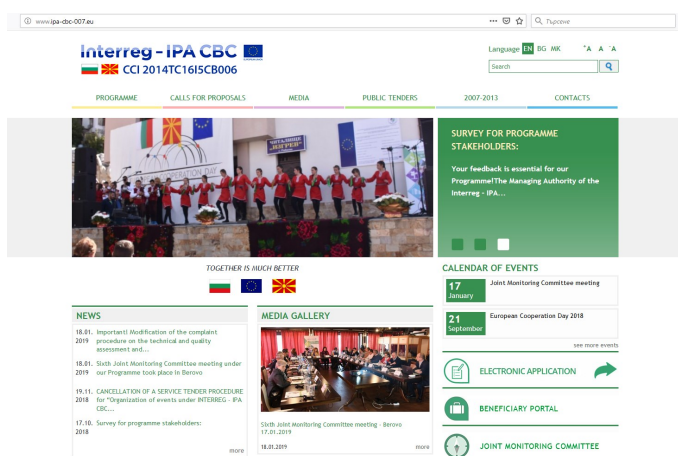
In the framework of the preparations for the new programming period 2021-2027, the discussion on the selection of the program overall objective continued. Formal and informal consultations related to the selection of the strategic project Establishment of new Border cross check point "Klepalo" between Republic of Bulgaria and Republic of North Macedonia also continued.





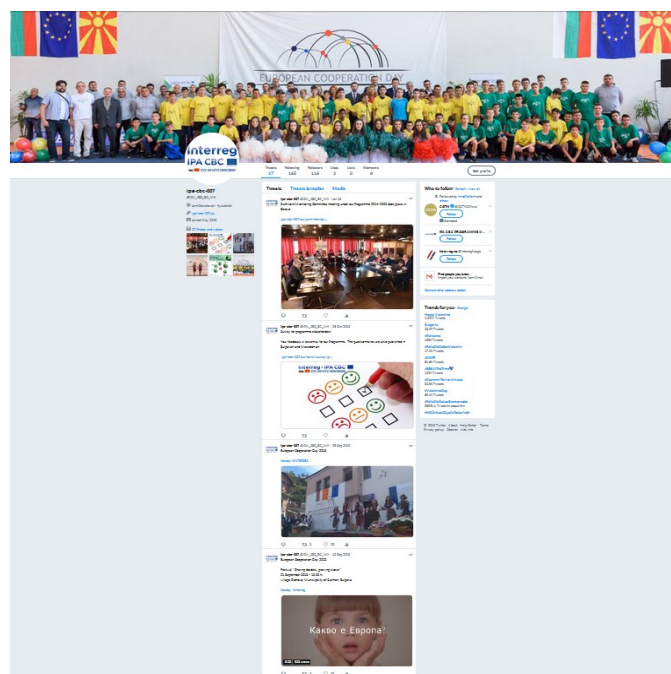
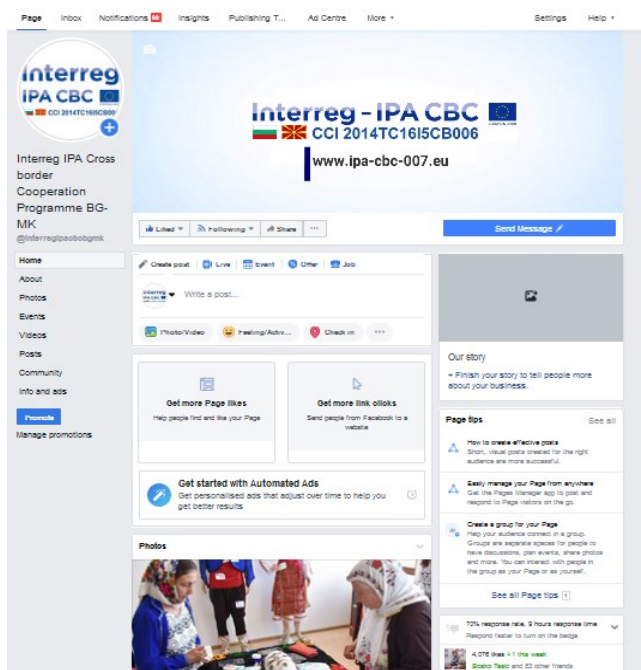
## PROGRAMME WEBSITE AND SOCIAL MEDIA PAGES

During 2020 the official website of the Programme [www.ipa-cbc-007.eu](http://www.ipa-cbc-007.eu) (accessible to people with disabilities as well) was one of the main publicity tools to promote the Programme and to disseminate the relevant information in a user-friendly interface, which allows the necessary information to be found more easily. During the 2020 the Programme website was visited 43 956 times by 27 454 visitors.



## FACEBOOK & TWITTER

Programme related information has been published on the Facebook and Twitter Programme profiles. By the end of 2020 Facebook reached more than 4100 members. The Facebook and Twitter pages provide links to the Programme official website and websites of the project beneficiaries, as well as photos from events, implemented projects and the cross-border region as whole.



## YOUTUBE CHANNEL

Programme video materials has been published of the Programme YouTube channel.



## PROGRAMME MEDIA CAMPAIGN AND MEDIA COVERAGE

Two media campaigns were organized: campaign for Training seminar for Programme beneficiaries under Second Call for project proposals and campaign for European Cooperation Day 2020 / 30 years INTERREG.

Over 90 different publications related to Programme activities were spreaded among general public through electronic and printed media of both countries (web portals, local, regional and national newspapers, TV and radio stations).

Press releases were distributed to national, regional and local media before and after the Programme events and initiatives. During the European Cooperation Day 2020 few articles in both languages (video clip of EC Day 2020 and 30 years of Interreg ) were uploaded on the webpage, Facebook, twitter page and YouTube channel having as target groups the local population in the cross-border region.

### 24 часа.bg

НОВИНИ | МНЕНИЯ | СПОРТ | РЕГИОНАЛНИ | СПРАВОЧНИК | ОЖИВЛЕНИЕ

България | Бизнес | Образование | Наука и технологии | Модерен оптимизъм | Отличниците на България

#### Широка подкрепа за нов граничен пункт „Клепало“ между Струмани и Берово

16.10.2020 18:05; 24 часа онлайн 3628;

Снимка МРРБ

Проекти на организации от Невестино, Дупница и Благоевград и партньорите им от Щип и Берово, Република Северна Македония, ще бъдат подкрепени с близо 800 000 евро от Програмата за трансгранично сътрудничество „България – Северна Македония“ 2014-2020 г. след прехвърляне на свободен ресурс към Приоритетните оси „Туризм“ и „Околна среда“. Средствата ще бъдат достъпни след успешно приключване на процедурата по изменение на програмата с одобрението на Европейската комисия. Това стана ясно по време на онлайн заседание на Съвместния комитет за наблюдение на трансграничната програма, съобщиха от регионалното министерство.

БНР Новини | Слушай БНР | Програми на БНР | Radio Bulgaria (languages) | Бинар | Музикална къща | Детското.БНР

Емисия новини от 13.00 часа

България | Светът | Бизнес | Спорт | Мнения | Култура | Наука и тех.

#### Реставрират шествековния Кадин мост над Струма

публикувано на 10.09.20 в 15:29

Снимка: www.bg.wikipedia.org

### МИА

ПОЧТЕНА | МАК | СВЕТ | БИЗНЕС | КУЛТУРА | ХРОНИКА | СПОРТ | ФОТО | ВИДЕО | ТИКЕР | КОНТАКТ | ИЗБОРИ

Делчевски МД | Општински МД

#### Во Берово продължава реализацията на проекти преку програмата за прекугранична соработка со Бугарија

Во општина Берово продължава реализацията на проекти преку Програмата за прекугранична соработка со Република Бугарија. Како општина лидер во реализацията на прекуграничните проекти, беровскиот градоначалник Звонко Пекевски информираше дека во моментот финансира реконструкцијата на беровскиот кей на река Брегалница.

#### Штипското Инфективно отделение ќе се реконструира напролет

08-Јан-2020 13:06 во Македонија

Утрински Весник

#### Bulgaria and North Macedonia with joint environmental and tourism projects

More than BGN 17 million will be reallocated under the Cross-border Cooperation Programme INTERREG - IPA between the Republic of Bulgaria and the Republic of North Macedonia.

#### Възраждат ученическите лагери на Попови ливади над Гоце Делчев

Община Гоце Делчев, под велото ръководство на кмета 7-и мандат Владимир Москов, иницира проект за възвръщане на ученическите лагери в пиринския курорт Попови ливади над град Гоце Делчев.

Проектът се нарича „Нашият общ път към съвместното бъдеще“. Финансирани е от Програма за трансгранично сътрудничество INTERREG - IPA CBC България – Северна Македония и фокусира му е върху развитието и насърчването на трансграничното сътрудничество в областта на културата, фестивали и творчески възможности за обмен между публичните институции и други заинтересовани страни в туристическия сектор, чрез организиране на събития по проекта, трансфер на знания и опит, организиране на тематични ученически посещения, разработване на различни ICT приложения и разработване на 3D видео.

#### КЕ СЕ ЗАБРЗА ЛИ ОТВОРАЪТЕТО НА ГРАНИЧНИОТ ПРЕМИН „КЛЕПАЛО“?



**TOGETHER IS MUCH BETTER**



**Interreg - IPA CBC**   
  **CCI 2014TC16I5CB006**

[www.ipa-cbc-007.eu](http://www.ipa-cbc-007.eu)

[www.mrrb.government.bg](http://www.mrrb.government.bg)

[www.mls.gov.mk](http://www.mls.gov.mk)