

**Interreg**



Co-funded by  
the European Union

**IPA** Bulgaria - North Macedonia

# Partner Search Forum

Kochani, 11 July 2023



**Interreg**



Co-funded by  
the European Union

**IPA** Bulgaria - North Macedonia



# OPEN CALL FOR INVESTMENT PROJECT PROPOSALS

PRIORITY 1. GREENER BORDER REGION

NO 2021TC16IPCB006 – 2022 – 3

**Priority 1 “Greener border region”**

**Specific objective 1.1. “Enhancing protection and preservation of nature, biodiversity, and green infrastructure, including in urban areas, and reducing all forms of pollution”**



## Cooperation criteria

The following cooperation criteria shall be respected (at least three):

- **Joint development** (obligatory)
- **Joint implementation** (obligatory)
- **Joint financing** (additionally)
- **Joint staffing** (additionally)

### IMPORTANT

The project partners from the two participating countries have to cooperate mandatory in at least both **joint development** and **joint implementation** and, additionally, one of the other two cooperation criteria: **joint financing** or **joint staffing**

as required by **Regulation (EU) 2021/1059** of the European Parliament and of the Council of 24 June 2021.



Priority 1 "Greener border region"

Partner Search Forum  
Kochani, 11 July 2023

Interreg



Co-funded by  
the European Union

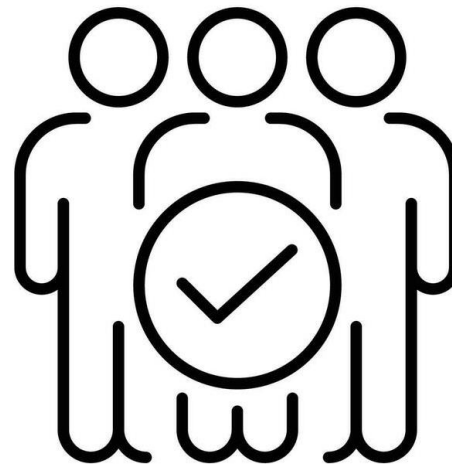
IPA Bulgaria - North Macedonia



## Eligibility of Applicants

Eligible Lead and project partners are **legally established**:

- **Public organizations (legal entities)** according to the national legislation of the state on whose territory they are located;
- **NGO/non-profit making organizations** with registration into sphere of ecology, environmental and biodiversity protection, education and other activities, relevant to the specific objective for enhancing protection and preservation of nature, biodiversity, and green infrastructure, including in urban areas, and reducing all forms of pollution, dated no later than **two years** before the launch of current call;
- **University or other academic/educational/training institution**
  - registered in the eligible Programme area;
  - directly responsible for the preparation and management of the action, not acting as an intermediary.



Priority 1 "Greener border region"

Partner Search Forum  
Kochani, 11 July 2023

Interreg



Co-funded by  
the European Union

IPA Bulgaria - North Macedonia



## Lead Partner Principle

The Lead partner should be appointed among the partners, who own/have acquired management rights of the property on which the investment activities will be implemented.

The **Lead partner** shall carry out the following **tasks**:

- lay down the arrangements with other partners in an agreement comprising provisions that, inter alia, guarantee the sound financial management of the respective funds allocated to the operation, including the arrangements for recovering amounts unduly paid;
- sign the contract for implementation of the operation with MA and further addenda to the contract (if any);
- assume responsibility for ensuring implementation of the entire operation;



Priority 1 "Greener border region"

Partner Search Forum  
Kochani, 11 July 2023

Interreg



Co-funded by  
the European Union

IPA Bulgaria - North Macedonia



## Lead Partner Principle

- transfer the relevant budget amounts to the partners participating in the operation according to the Project Partnership Agreement and verified costs;
- ensure that expenditures presented by all partners have been paid in implementing the operation and corresponds to the activities agreed between all the partners;
- collect and check the information from the project partners and submit reports on progress of the project to the JS;
- informing MA/JS about necessity of project modifications.

**IMPORTANT**

**A partner can never act as a contractor in the same project and vice versa!**

Interreg



Co-funded by  
the European Union

IPA Bulgaria - North Macedonia



Priority 1 "Greener border region"

Partner Search Forum  
Kochani, 11 July 2023



## Rules concerning partnership

### IMPORTANT

- Every project must include at least **one partner** from each side of the border region.
- The candidate can apply with only **ONE project proposal** as a Lead partner or as a Project partner. If a project partner participates in more than one project, all the projects in which it is directly involved in will be eliminated.
- One of the project partners have to designate by the partners themselves as the **Lead Partner**.
- The maximum number of partners in a project, shall not exceed **4** including the Lead Partner.





# Project Partnership Agreement

- All partners must sign a **Project Partnership Agreement** that stipulates their rights and duties. The Project Partnership Agreement should be enclosed to the application form. A Project Partnership Agreement template is annexed to the Guidelines (**Annex A1**);
- The **Project Partnership Agreement** should be signed by the legal representative of the respective partner institution.;
- All partners are **directly responsible** for the project implementation and cannot act as intermediaries, nor can they get in any form of contracting between each other.



Priority 1 "Greener border region"

Partner Search Forum  
Kochani, 11 July 2023

Interreg

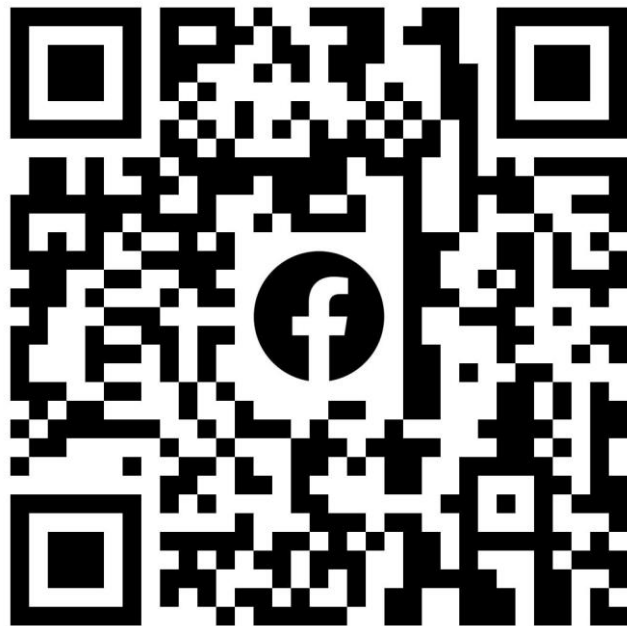


Co-funded by  
the European Union

IPA Bulgaria - North Macedonia



# Partner Search Forum Facebook Group



<https://www.facebook.com/groups/1311925866348037>

Interreg



Co-funded by  
the European Union

IPA Bulgaria - North Macedonia



Partner Search Forum  
Kochani, 11 July 2023

Priority 1 "Greener border region"



**Toni Jakimovski**

Communication Officer



# THANKS!

**Any questions?**

**You can find me at:**

**TJakimovski@mrrb.government.bg**

**+359 78 55 11 85**

