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Common borders. Common Solutions.

Black Sea CROSS BORDER COOPERATION

Smart and Blue – new opportunities
for the blue economy of the Black Sea

Cross-border cooperation in the Black Sea Basin

24th of March, 2015
Sofia, Bulgaria

From ENPI CBC 2007-2013 to ENI CBC 2014-2020 - Black Sea Basin Programme -

- Participating countries had a great interest in BSB Programme 2007-2013:
  - high number of projects submitted under the 2 calls for proposals (368) and 62 contracts concluded;
  - increase by the EC of the initial Programme's budget with additional 11 million Euro, recognizing the importance of the Programme as an instrument for facilitating cross-border cooperation.
- Strong relevance of the programme and its current priorities for all participating countries
- Excellent cooperation among partner countries leading to stable partnerships; however, extensive partnerships proved difficult to manage
- This common multilateral experience should be actively benefited from by moving forward to the future BSB Programme 2014-2020

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Eligible area 2014-2020

Romania: South-East;
Bulgaria: Severoiztochen, Yugoiztochen;
Grecia: Kentriki Makedonia, Anatoliki Makedonia Thraki;
Turcia: Istanbul, Tekirdağ, Kocaeli, Zonguldak, Kastamonu, Samsun, Trabzon;
Rusia: Rostov Oblast, Krasnodar Krai and Adygea republic;
Ucraina*: Odesa, Mykolaiv, Kherson, Zaporosh'ye and Donetsk Oblasts, Crimea Republic, Sevastopol;
Rep. Moldova, Georgia, Armenia, Azerbaidjan: the whole country.

*The general EU restrictions on cooperation in regions that are illegally occupied by Russia are also applicable to CBC. Therefore, the regions of Sevastopol and the Crimea Republic are not currently eligible.

Buget 2014-2020

- ENPI Buget : 39 mil. Euro
- IPA Buget : 10 mil. Euro
- **Total EU contribution (ENPI+IPA): 49 mil. Euro**
  plus national co-financing (10%)

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Strategy 2014-2020

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Improve the welfare of the people in the Black Sea Basin regions through sustainable growth and joint environmental protection

BSB wider objective

Promote business and entrepreneurship within the Black Sea Basin

BSB thematic objective A

Jointly promote business and entrepreneurship in the tourism and cultural sectors

Priority 1

Increase cross-border trade opportunities and modernisation in the agricultural and connected sectors

Priority 2

Promote coordination of environmental protection and joint reduction of marine litter within the BSB

BSB thematic objective B

Improve joint environmental monitoring

Priority 3

Promote common awareness-raising and joint actions to reduce river and marine litter

Priority 4

Indicative activities 2014-2020

Priority 1.1 – Jointly promote business and entrepreneurship in the tourism and cultural sectors

- ✓ Promote the development and joint marketing of cross-border tourism products and transnational thematic itineraries
- ✓ Promote diversification and integration of coastal and inland tourism
- ✓ Promote historical heritage preservation through sustainable tourism development
- ✓ Encourage synergies, networking and internet connectivity among tourism stakeholders and tour operators within the Black Sea Basin
- ✓ Promote electronic marketing tools and cross-border logistics information for tourism
- ✓ Jointly promote cultural products and events
- ✓ Jointly enhance the openness of the Black Sea Region to international and non-European tourism
- ✓ Exchange best practices on the development of environmentally-friendly tourism strategies
- ✓ Improve tourism services and promote the upgrade of skills

Indicative activities 2014-2020

Priority 1.2 – Strengthen cross-border trade opportunities and modernisation of the agricultural and connected sectors

- ✓ Promote international trade links, sectoral networks & partnerships within BSB
- ✓ Strengthen internet connectivity, cross-border business information systems, market & logistics information with greater use of ICT
- ✓ Exchange best practices in modern and innovative marketing & develop joint marketing strategies
- ✓ ***Support innovation****, research and cooperation, including for development of logistics, in the agricultural industry, jointly developing and implementing best practices in producing quality agricultural products*
- ✓ Exchange experience and introduce innovative technologies for sectoral development (e.g. organic products, ***aquaculture***), including small-scale investments in pilot projects
- ✓ Joint actions to support productive use of migrant remittances in agriculture/***aquaculture***/food industry modernisation

Types of potential beneficiaries 2014-2020

- Partners implementing projects will primarily represent **regional and sub-national administrative levels**, as well as **civil society** organisations **based within the eligible programme area**.
- Eligibility of project partners is based on ENI regulation, but **priority will be given to:**
  - local and regional authorities;
  - ***civil society***;
  - ***chambers of commerce***;
  - academic and educational community.
- Eligible potential beneficiaries **shall be detailed in the Guidelines for Applicants** prepared for each call for proposals.

Indicative timetable

- Public consultation on draft JOP is launched on www.blacksea-cbc.net - comments to be received until 3rd of April 2015;
- Finalization of the JOP – S1 2015;
- Submission of JOP to EC – S1 2015;
- Negotiations and approval by EC - max. 6 months since JOP submission;
- Signature of Financing Agreements between EC & Partner Countries - max. 1 year from JOP adoption;
- **1st call for proposals – Q2 2016;**
- 2nd call for proposals - Q2 2018.

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Thank you for your attention!

Laura BOBARNAC,
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www.blacksea-cbc.net