**AGENDA**

**for a Joint forum**

***Topic*: Opportunities for starting and developing business**

**through EU funding. Opportunities for financing public interest projects managed by local administrations and NGOs**

***Place: Bulgaria, Belene, Hotel „Prestige“***

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|  | 20th of October 2019 (Sunday) |
| 17:30 – 18:00 | Arrival and accommodation of participants at the hotel |
| **19:00 – 20:00** | **Dinner** |
|  | 21st of October 2019 (Monday) |
| **08:00 – 09:30** | **Breakfast** |
| 09:30 – 10:00 | Registration of the participants |
| 10:00 – 10:10 | Presentation of the project - goals, activities, expected results. |
| 10:10 – 11:00 | European Programs 2014-2020 for Business Project Financing |
| **11:00 – 11:15** | **Coffee - break** |
| 11:15 – 12:30 | * Basic guidelines for starting a business and preparing a project - practical tips. * Good practices for starting and developing a business (presentation of projects funded under European programs). |
| **12:30 – 14:00** | **Lunch** |
| 14:00 – 15:00 | Discussion on the following topics:   * How to find, hire and train company staff to prepare and manage a project related to the activity? * How to make training practical for business needs? * How to conduct internships and practices for the young people? |
| **15:00 – 15:15** | **Coffee - break** |
| 15:15 – 16:30 | Free discussion on the following topics:   * How to reduce the administrative restriction of Romanian companies in the cross-border region of Bulgaria and of Bulgarian companies in the cross-border region of Romania; * Opportunities and initiatives for joint business of Bulgarian and Romanian companies; * Opportunities and initiatives for employing Romanian citizens in Bulgarian companies and Bulgarian citizens in Romanian companies. |
| 19:00 – 20:00 | Dinner |
|  | 22nd of October 2019 (Tuesday) |
| **08:00 – 09:30** | **Breakfast** |
| 09:30 – 10:00 | Registration of the participants |
| 10:00 – 10:10 | Presentation of the project - goals, activities, expected results. |
| 10:10 – 11:00 | European Programs 2014-2020 for Business Project Financing |
| **11:00 – 11:15** | **Coffee - break** |
| 11:15 – 12:30 | European programs 2014-2020 for business projects financing   * Danube Transnational Cooperation Program; * Cross-border Cooperation Program INTERREG V-A Romania - Bulgaria |
| 12:30 – 14:00 | **Lunch** |
| 14:00 – 15:00 | Free discussion on the following topics:   * How to improve the public services of local administrations to meet the needs of business expectations? |
| **15:00 – 15:15** | **Coffee - break** |
| 15:15 – 16:30 | Free discussion on the following topics:   * How to reduce the administrative restriction of Romanian companies in the cross-border region of Bulgaria and of Bulgarian companies in the cross-border region of Romania? |
| 16:30 | Departure of participants |