

CITIZEN'S SUMMARY
of the Annual Implementation Report for 2016 regarding the
Romania-Bulgaria Interreg V-A Programme

In 2016, the Programme started implementing projects which will contribute to the development in the Romania-Bulgaria border area.

26 projects stated implementation (32,761,075.14 euro) started implementation.

A total of 99 projects was selected in 2016 (132,761,075.14 euro). That sums up almost 60% of the available financial allocation getting ready to start working for reaching the Programme targets. The selected projects created the premises for reaching most of the Programme indicators and for the rest a targeted call for proposals for the remaining indicators was planned for 2017 (estimated data from selected projects):

- Total length of reconstructed or upgraded road -66%.
- No. of joint mechanisms -26.6%
- Total length of improved or created inland waterway -40%
- Number of studies, strategies and action plans to improve safety of the navigation on the Danube and the Black Sea supported -20%.
- No. of integrated tourism products/services created -more than 100%
- Increase in the number of visits to supports sites of cultural and natural heritage and attractions -more than 100%
- No. of common strategies, policies, or management plans for valorizing (including raising awareness) the cultural and natural heritage through its restauration and promotion for sustainable economic uses -76%
- Surface area of habits supports to attain a better conservation status - more than 100%
- Population benefiting from flood protection measures - more than 100%
- Population benefiting from forest fire protection measures - 43.2%
- Population benefiting from actions of risk management - more than 100%
- Number of joint partnerships in the field of joint early warning and emergency response - 18%.
- Number of participants in joint local employment initiative and joint training - more than 100%
- Number of participants in joint education and training schemes to support youth employment, educational opportunities and higher and vocational education across borders -almost 100%.
- No. of initiative (training, education schemes, websites, agreements, networks, job-fairs etc.) that activate workforce mobility in the cross border area - is already covered by the selected projects - more than 100%
- No. of initiative (agreements, networks, regulations, studies, policies, strategies, information exchange tools etc.) to enhance cooperation capacity - is already covered by the selected projects - more than 100%

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- No of participants in joint educational and training schemes to support youth employment, educational opportunities and higher and vocational education across borders - more than 100%
- Population that have access to joint employment initiatives - more than 100%
- Number of supported cross border mechanisms (agreements, networks, regulations, studies, policies, strategies, information exchange tools) to enhance cooperation capacity - more than 100%
- Level of co-ordination of the public institutions in the eligible area will increase from a degree of 3 to a degree of 4 (on a scale from 1 to 5).

We've also submitted an application for payment to the European Commission (the first) of 1,165,533.13 euro, because we obtained the designation of the Programme structures on the 5th of December 2016.

Who will benefit?

The population within the eligible area of the programme, all counties and districts are covered by actions within the selected operations that have identified a wide range of important needs that shall be solved with the help of the financial support provided by the Programme. The selected operations will create facilities for:

- Population that will have access to joint employment initiatives;
- Employees of the public institutions that will have their cooperation capacity and the efficiency increased and the population served by these institutions;
- Population that shall benefit from actions of risk management;
- Tourists coming within the eligible area and stakeholders groups that will benefit from actions meant to facilitate the access to cultural and historical tourist objectives;
- Population and stakeholders groups in the cross-border area who would benefit from the improved connections to national and TEN-T transport networks: from different population groups (local commuters, business and leisure tourists, business owners, etc.)

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