



Interreg - IPA CBC
Bulgaria - Serbia



**CITIZEN'S
SUMMARY 2018**



The current document aims to describe in brief the main achievements of the Interreg-IPA Cross-border Cooperation Programme Bulgaria-Serbia in 2018.

Programme goal

To stimulate the balanced and sustainable development of the Bulgaria-Serbia border region integrated in the European space - achieved through smart economic growth, environmental change adaptation and learning culture enhancement. The Programme is co-funded by the European Union, from the Instrument for Pre-Accession Assistance II (IPA II) fund.



34 102 256



PA 1. Sustainable Tourism

Encouraging **tourism** and cultural and natural heritage



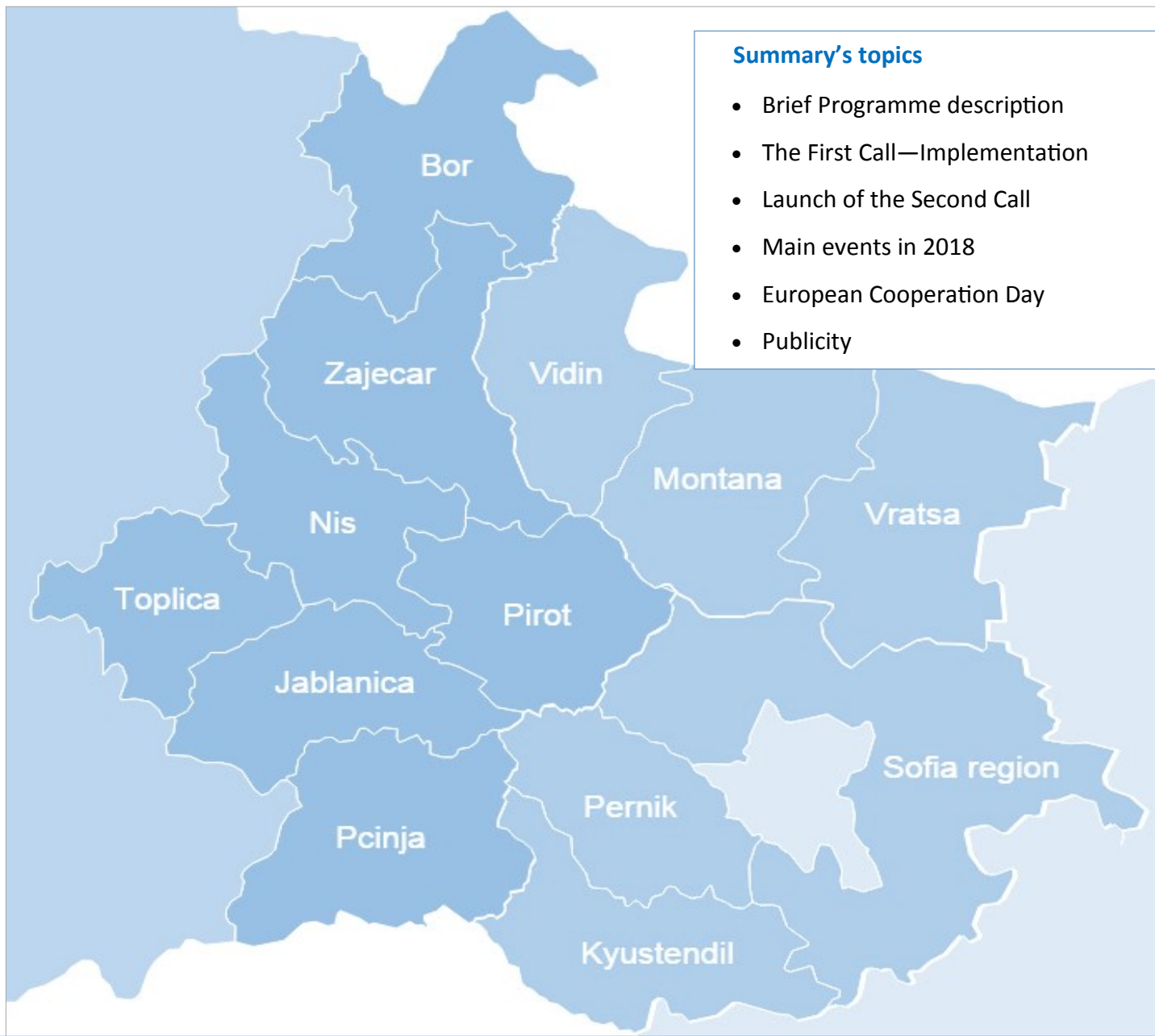
PA 2. Youth

Investing in **youth**, education and skills



PA 3: Environment

Protecting the **environment** and promoting climate change adaptation and mitigation, risk prevention and management



Summary's topics

- Brief Programme description
- The First Call—Implementation
- Launch of the Second Call
- Main events in 2018
- European Cooperation Day
- Publicity

FIRST CALL FOR PROPOSALS - IMPLEMENTATION

Scope

An analysis prepared on 2017 for the expected level of achievement, gives assurance that all stages in development included in the performance framework for 2018 will be met through the implementation of the First Call projects. (7 out of 23 Output Indicators under all Priorities Axes will be fully achieved as a result of the implementation of the projects under the First Call, while for 9 Output Indicators the level of achievement shall be below 50%.)

Promotional activities

The progress of implementation for the projects was promoted through social media, Programme website, as well as on numerous websites.

MIS and the Beneficiary Portal are the communication between the beneficiaries and all Programme authorities.



Available budget:
18 499 165



39 | **Financed projects**

Soft **8** | **31** Investment

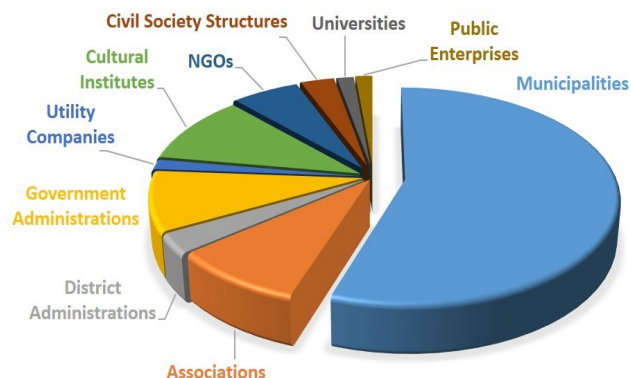
completed **34** | **5** active



Partners

46 | **Bulgarian (23 LPs)**

44 | **Serbian (16 LPs)**



PA1. Sustainable Tourism

15 projects
7 435 620 €



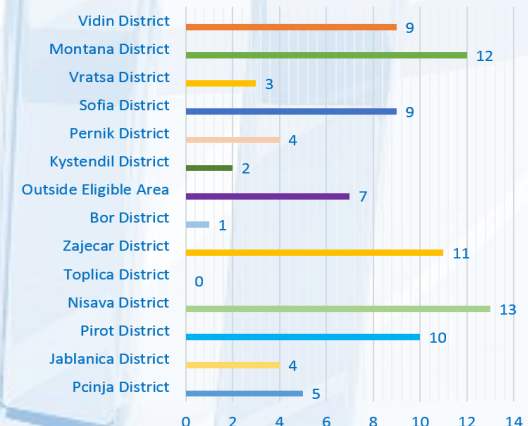
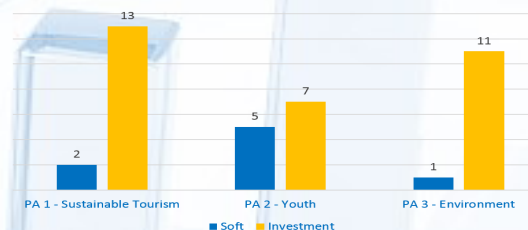
PA 2. Youth

12 projects
4 559 854 €



PA 3. Environment

12 projects
6 503 691 €



LAUNCH OF THE SECOND CALL FOR PROPOSALS

Scope

The Call was open to project proposals under all 7 specific objectives under the 3 priority axes.

Promotional activities

The Call was promoted in the national newspapers in both countries, as well as on numerous websites, through social media, and at 11 public events known as "Info days" and the very popular "Partner Search Forum".

The Administrative Compliance and Eligibility Check of all submitted project proposals was performed during the period 05.06—27.07.2018. In total 171 project proposals were found compliant.

The Technical and Quality Check was performed during the period 17.09-07.11.2018. 140 project proposals received at least 65 points on the quality assessment.

The contracts are expected to be signed until the end of May 2019. The list of all projects approved for financing is uploaded on the Programme's website.



22 January 2018

23 April 2018



235 Submitted project proposal

41 Approved for funding

Soft 25 | 16 Investment



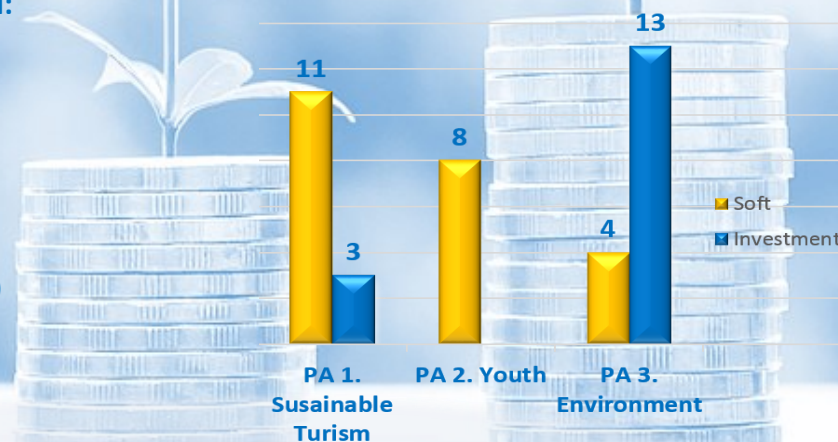
Total amount of the call:
12 712 316



Partners

49 Bulgarian (25 LPs)

44 Serbian (16 LPs)



PA1. Sustainable Tourism

15 projects

3 497 611 €

Total amount proposed for financing



PA 2. Youth

9 projects

1 328 962 €

Total amount proposed for financing



PA 3. Environment

17 projects

7 885 742 €

Total amount proposed for financing

EVENTS ORGANISED IN 2018

Joint Monitoring Committee meetings

During the **5th JMC meeting** was presented the progress in the implementation of the programme in the actual period 2014-2020, as well as the progress in the activities for closure of the period 2007-2013.

The JMC members reviewed and approved the Application package for the Second Call for Proposals, including Guidelines for Applicants and criteria for selection of operations and Assessment rules for the Second Call for Proposals.



Campaign for information and support of applicants

Six informational days under the Second call was held in the period 06—15 February 2018 on the territory of Bulgaria: in **Sofia, Kyustendil, Pernik, Vidin, Montana, Vratsa**, and five info days in the period of 23 February—01 March 2018 in **Nis, Zajecar, Blace, Vranje, Donji Milanovac**, Serbia.

The following topics presented were general overview of the Second Call, partnership and cooperation, preparation of project proposal, application and electronic submission.



The **6th JMC meeting** During the meeting was presented the progress in the implementation of the Programme, as well as the assessment results under the 2nd Call for proposals. The list of projects proposed for financing under the Second Call for project proposals was approved.

More than **130 participants** from various organizations and institutions from the cross-border region (representatives of regional and local administration, branch organizations, educational, cultural and health institutions, nature parks, NGOs and other) participated in the **Partner Search Forum** held on the **15.03.2018** in Bozhurishte, Bulgaria.



EUROPEAN COOPERATION DAY



The European Cooperation Day (known as "EC Day") celebrated this year its 7th edition under the slogan of the present edition reads, "Painting our future together".

A vibrant celebration of the European Cooperation Day took place on the square in front of the House of Culture in the town of Knjazevac, on 21 September.



This year, at the main city square of Knjazevac, the event gathered artists, musicians, singers, painters, schoolchildren and citizens from the cross-border region, as well as partners from 10 successful projects from the region, implemented in the scope of the Programme.

Talented pupils from the region painted 8 paintings, illustrating the overall theme of the values of the EU, in parallel with kids' facial painting of around 50 children, done by artists.





PUBLICITY

www.ipacbc-bgrs.eu

visits



Beneficiary
Portal

8994 times

2791 visitors

1963 new visitors

3015 reached likes

179 reached likes

electronic submission of project
proposal under the Second Call

Press releases were distributed to national, regional and local media before and after the programme events and initiatives.

During the European Cooperation Day 2018, one audio advertisement spot was broadcasted on regional radio stations aiming to inform the large audience in cross-border region on the celebration campaign.



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