



# AIR 2018 Citizen's Summary

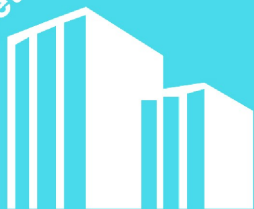
Environment



Tourism



Competitiveness



[www.ipa-cbc-007.eu](http://www.ipa-cbc-007.eu)



## ABOUT THE SUMMARY

The Citizen's Summary aims to describe in a concise and illustrative way the main achievements of the Interreg- IPA CBC Bulgaria-the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia Programme (the Programme) in the year 2018. The complete Annual implementation report for 2018 is now available at the Programme website: [www.ipa-cbc-007.eu](http://www.ipa-cbc-007.eu)

### Content:

- Brief Programme description;
- Key milestones in year 2018;
- First Call for proposals - implementation;
- Second Call for proposals - launching;
- Main events in 2018/European Cooperation Day 2018;
- Publicity.

## THE PROGRAMME

The **overall objective of the Programme** is to intensify cross-border cooperation between both partnering countries in order to jointly address common challenges and exploit untapped potentials of the border regions.

### Priority Axes and specific objectives



#### Priority Axis 1: Environment

- Environmental protection and sustainable use of the common natural resources of the CBC area;
- Prevention and mitigation of consequences of natural and man-caused disasters of cross-border dimension and impact.



#### Priority Axis 2: Tourism

- Enhancing the tourism potential of the region through cooperation initiatives in better preservation and sustainable utilization of natural and cultural heritage;
- Raising the competitiveness of the CBC region's tourist offer;
- Promoting cooperation among regional actors in the area of sustainable tourism.



#### Priority Axis 3: Competitiveness

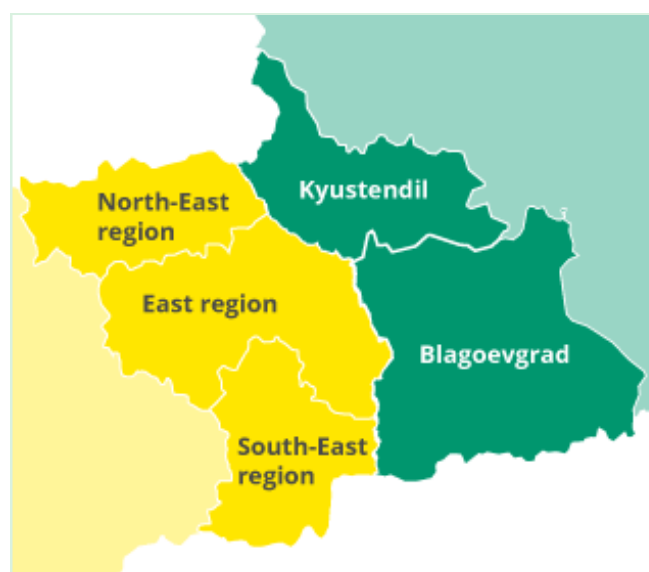
- Improving the competitiveness of regional businesses.

### Programme Budget

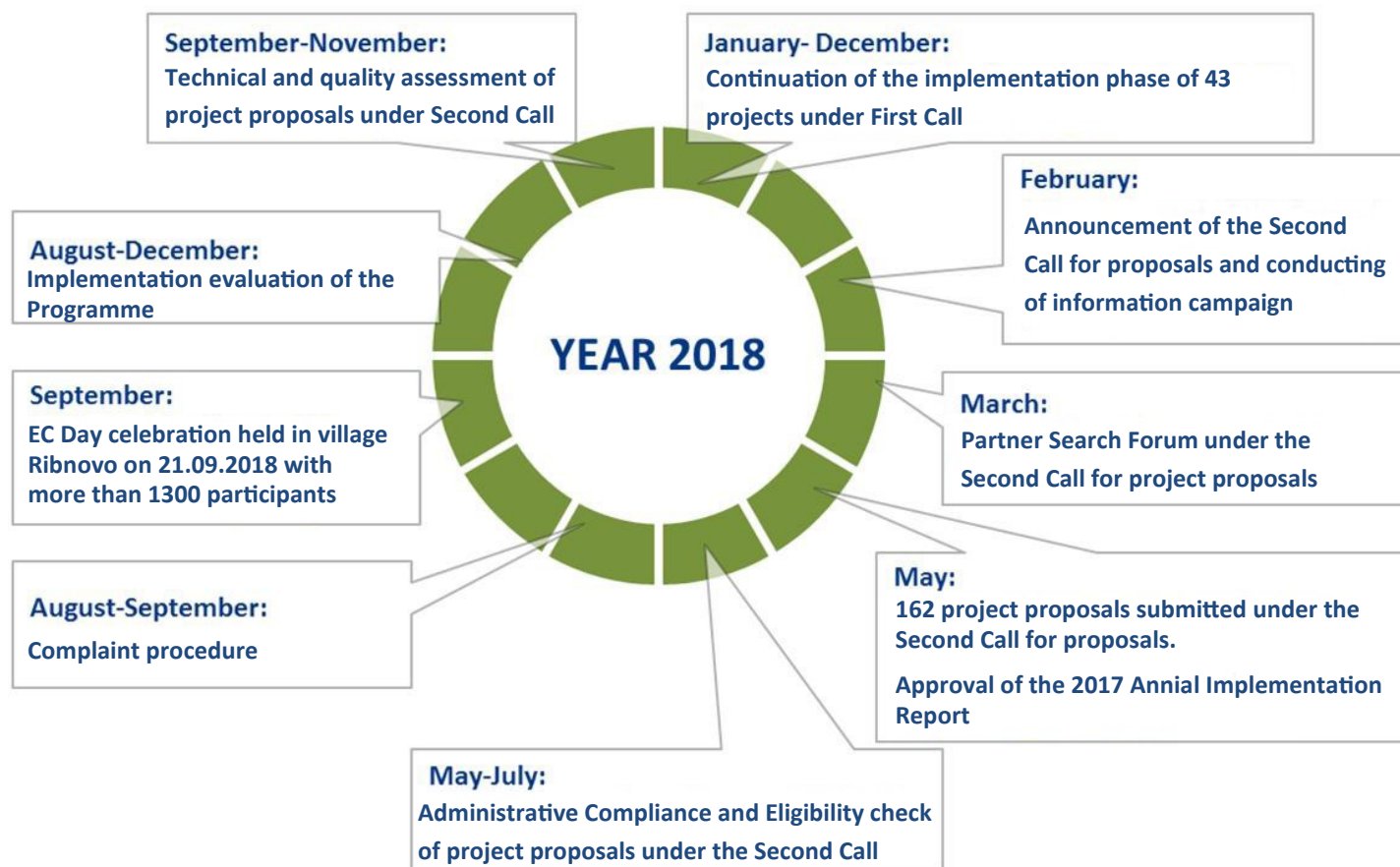
The total Programme budget is **EUR 19 461 690**.

The Programme is co-funded by the European Union, from the Instrument for Pre-Accession Assistance II (IPA II).

### Programme area



## KEY MILESTONES IN YEAR 2018



## FIRST CALL FOR PROPOSALS - IMPLEMENTATION

### Basics facts about the First Call for project proposals

In total 48 project proposals were contracted on total amount of Euro 10 335 473 , out of which: 45 subsidy contracts were concluded in 2016 and 3 more contracts were signed in 2017. The list of all projects approved for financing is uploaded on the Programme's website.

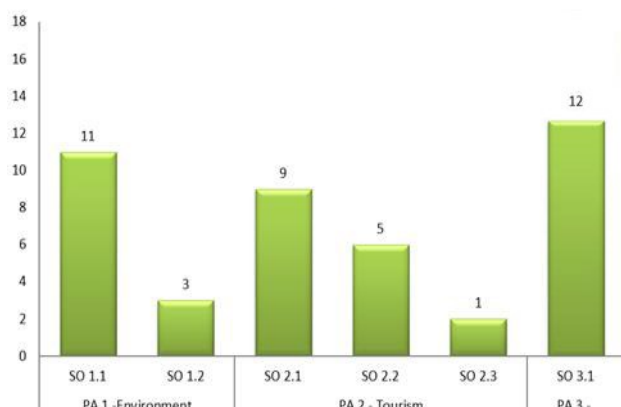
Priority Axis	Number of funded proposals	Contracted amount (€)	Payments (€)	Certified amount (€)
PA 1 – Environment	14	3 864 831	2 970 266	2 222 566
PA 2 – Tourism	17	4 707 628	3 107 934	1 730 374
PA 3 – Competitiveness	17	1 763 014	1 618 300	1 400 060
<b>Total</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>10 335 473</b>	<b>7 696 500</b>	<b>5 353 000</b>



## FIRST CALL FOR PROPOSALS - IMPLEMENTATION

- **41 projects were successfully Implemented** at the end of 2018.

Implemented project in 2018



- On the basis of the performed analysis more than half of the planned Programme outputs are achieved by the projects under the First Call.
- The progress of implementation for the projects was promoted through social media, as well as on numerous websites and trainings for beneficiaries focused on all aspects for the implementation of projects.
- **MIS and the Beneficiary Portal** had led to improved communication between the beneficiaries and all Programme authorities.



48 contracts awarded

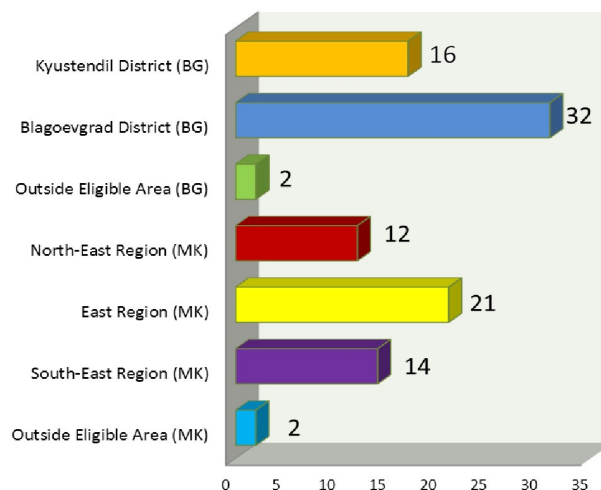


41 projects completed in 2018



2 projects in implementation

Distribution of project by regions



- 51 partners from Bulgaria and 49 from Macedonia
- 27 Lead partners from Macedonian side and 21 from Bulgarian side
- Mostly associations and NGOs, municipalities, cultural institutes, government administrations
- From 2 districts in Bulgaria and 3 planning regions in Macedonia



14 projects funded / 14 successfully implemented

9 investment and 5 soft measure project

Total amount contracted: **3 864 831 EUR**



17 projects funded/ 15 successfully implemented

9 investment and 8 soft measure project

Total amount contracted: **4 707 628 EUR**



17 projects funded / 17 successfully implemented

17 soft measure project

Total amount contracted: **1 763 013 EUR**

## SECOND CALL FOR PROPOSALS

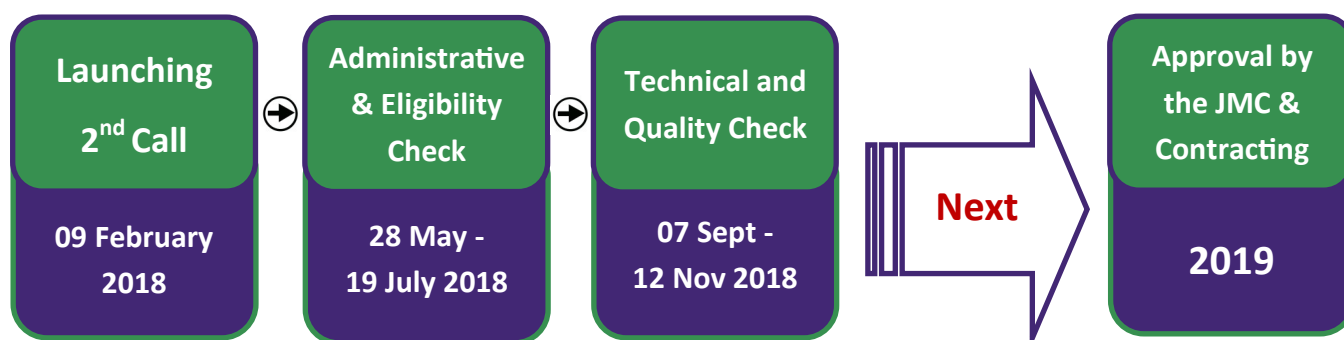
### Basic facts about the Second Call for project proposals:

- **Duration of the Call** - 3 months - launched on **09 February 2018** with deadline on **11 May 2018**;
- **Budget of the Call** - The total amount allocated to the Second Call for proposals is **6 917 631 EUR** ;
- **Scope of the Call** - The Call was open to project proposals under all 6 specific objectives under the 3 priority axes;
- **Promotion of the Call** - The Call was promoted in the national and regional newspapers in both countries, as well as on numerous websites, through social media, and at 5 public events known as “Info days” and “Partner Search Forum”;
- **Submitted project proposals** - **162** application forms were received within the deadline entirely online through the Electronic Application System.

### Assessment of project proposals:

- **28 May - 19 July 2018 - Administrative Compliance and Eligibility Check** of all submitted project proposals. In total **121** project proposals were found compliant, while **41** were rejected.
- **Technical and Quality Check - 07 September – 12 November 2018**

### Timetable of activities:



## EVENTS ORGANISED IN 2018

On 30 January 2018, in Kyustendil, the **Fifth Joint Monitoring Committee meeting** under the Programme was held. JMC members reviewed and approved Application package for the Second Call for Proposals, including Guidelines for Applicants with criteria for selection of operations and Assessment rules for the Second Call for Proposals.



During the meeting, the progress in the implementation of the Programme was presented, as well as the progress in the activities for closure of IPA Cross-border Programme 2007-2013. The Joint Monitoring Committee decided that the Second Call for Proposals to be published on 9 February 2018 with total budget of EUR 6 917 631.

For the first time the projects will be submitted only electronically.

## Information campaign with information days and Partner Search Forum under 2<sup>nd</sup> Call

Information campaign with information days and Partner Search Forum for potential candidates under Second Call for project proposals of the Interreg-IPA Cross-Border Cooperation Program Bulgaria-the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia were included two info days in Bulgaria, three info days in the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and the Partner Search Forum in Delchevo. Events were organized in local languages and the goal was to help the potential candidates to prepare quality project proposals and to find partners from other country.

More than 500 participants, including representatives of regional administrations, municipalities, NGOs, cultural and educational institutions, attended the Information days and Partner Search Forum.



### Information days :

- 14 February 2018 in Kyustendil (kick-off event);
- 15 February 2018 in Blagoevgrad;
- 20 February 2018 in Strumica (kick-off event);
- 21 February 2018 in Shtip;
- 22 February 2018 in Kumanovo.

### Partner Search Forum:

- 14 March 2018 in Delchevo



## EUROPEAN COOPERATION DAY 2018

On the 21<sup>st</sup> September 2018 our Programme celebrated the European Cooperation Day with Folklore Festival "Sharing borders, growing closer" in village Ribnovo, Municipality of Garmen.

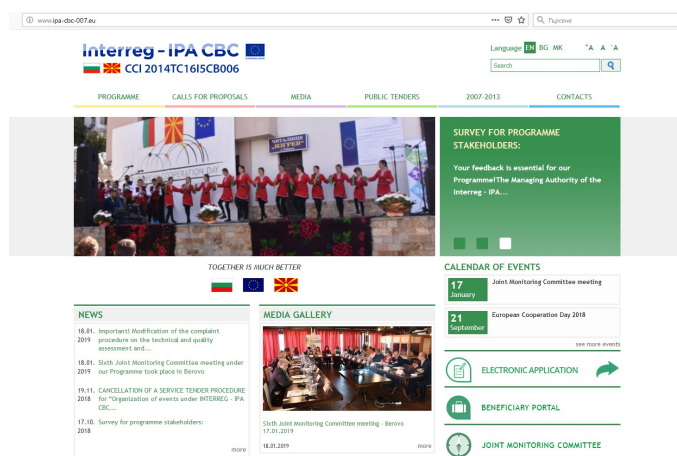
The idea for this year's celebration was to present the folklore and cultural heritage of both countries through music, dance and specific customs and traditions. Within the framework of the festival was opened the renovated Community Center "Izgreb" in the village Ribnovo under the project CB006.1.21.001 - "Development of tourism in the Bosilovo - Garmen cross-border area by preserving the local cultural traditions" and the exhibition of musical instruments and folk costumes.





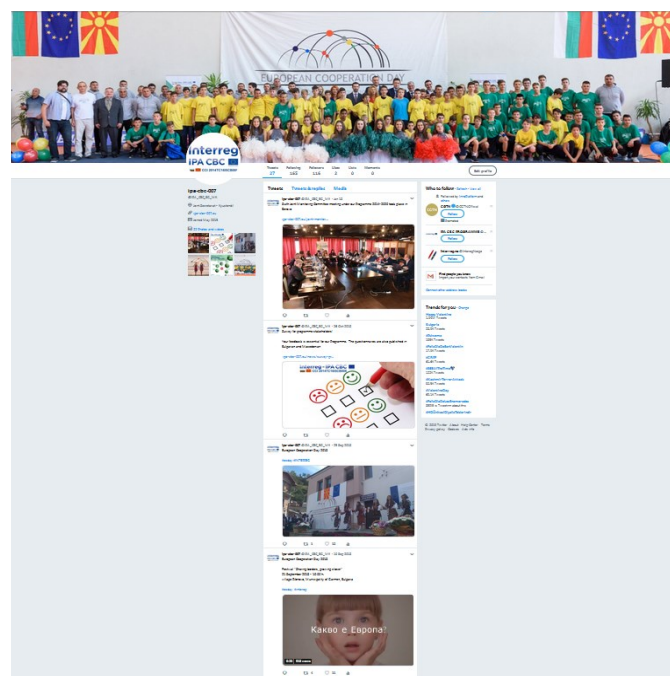
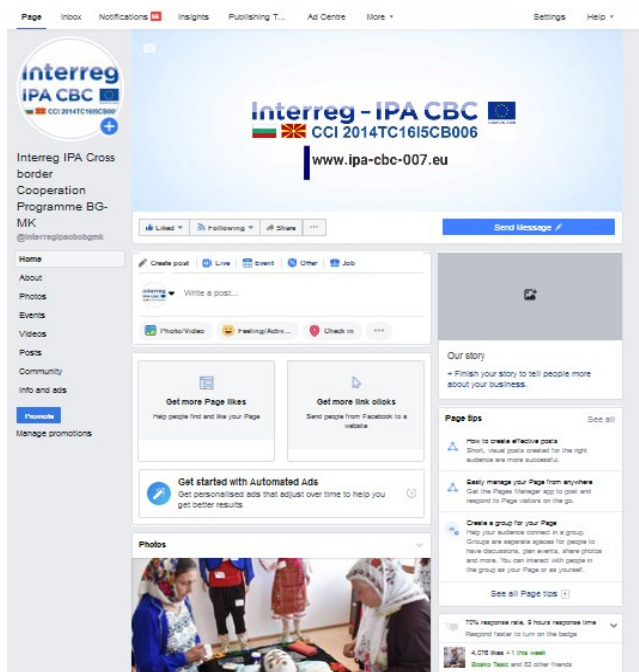
## PROGRAMME WEBSITE AND SOCIAL MEDIA PAGES

During 2018 the official website of the Programme [www.ipa-cbc-007.eu](http://www.ipa-cbc-007.eu) (accessible to people with disabilities as well) was one of the main publicity tools to promote the Programme and to disseminate the relevant information in a user-friendly interface, which allows the necessary information to be found more easily. During the 2018 the Programme website was visited **58 043 times** by 31 551 visitors or **65,25%** more than 2017.



## FACEBOOK & TWITTER

Programme related information has been published on the Facebook and Twitter Programme profiles. By the end of 2018 Facebook reached more than 4000 members. The Facebook and Twitter pages provide links to the Programme official website and websites of the project beneficiaries, as well as photos from events, implemented projects and the cross-border region as whole.



## YOUTUBE CHANEL

Programme video materials has been published of the Programme YouTube channel.





## PROGRAMME MEDIA CAMPAIGN AND MEDIA COVERAGE

Two media campaigns were organized: Information campaign with information days and Partner Search Forum for potential beneficiaries under Second Call for project proposals and campaign for European Cooperation Day 2018.

Over 90 different publications related to Programme activities were spreaded among general public through electronic and printed media of both countries (web portals, local, regional and national newspapers, TV and radio stations).

Press releases were distributed to national, regional and local media before and after the Programme events and initiatives. During the European Cooperation Day 2018 eight boost articles in both languages (video clip of EC Day 2018 and photo event) were uploaded on the Facebook page, having as target groups the local population in the cross-border region.


DAIKIK Последни Региони Търсене

24 часа.bg София макс 5° мин -3°

**БЛАГОВЕГРАД**


### Министри на България и Македония откриха обновената сграда на Областната управа

15 октомври 2018 14:38 Автор: Дарик Благоевград



### Министър Аврамова откри обновената сграда на областната администрация в Благоевград (Снимки)

15.10.2018 13:11; Антоанета Маскръчка 636;



Министърът на регионалното развитие и благоустройството Петя Аврамова и областният управител Бисер Михайлов откриха обновената сграда на Областната администрация – Благоевград. За тържеството пристигна и министърът на местното самоуправление на Република Македония Сухейл Фазлиу.

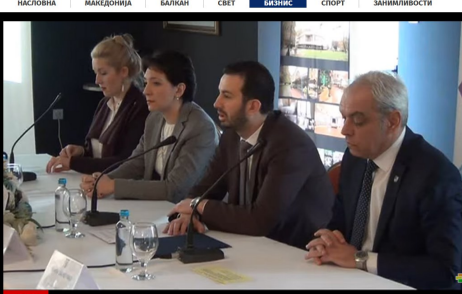
Сградата е реновирана по проект "Зелени сгради за общо зелено бъдеще", който бе финансира по програмата ИНТЕРРЕГ – ИПП България – Македония 2014-2020. При изпълнението му Областна администрация - Благоевград си партнира с Центъра за развитие на Източен район за планиране, Република Македония. По проекта са изпълнени енергийно-ефективни мерки в сградата на областната управа, както и по тази на община Кочани, Република Македония.

al on.mk

ПОЧЕТНА МАКЕДОНИЈА ЕКОНОМИЈА РЕГИОН СВЕТ МАГАЗИН

sitel

НАСЛОВНА МАКЕДОНИЈА БАЛКАН СВЕТ БИЗНЕС СПОРТ ЗАНИМАТЕЛНОСТИ



Бизнес 20. February 2018 - 2041

Со седум милиони евра пограничните региони ќе ги подобруваат туризмот и локалните бизниси

Македонија


### Во Куманово инфо ден за програмата за меѓугранична соработка Македонија-Бугарија

БТВ НОВИНИТЕ БЪЛГАРИЯ

### Откриха реставрирана църква от XII в. в град Рила

В храма могат да се видят реставрирани ценни стенописи от Средновековието


btvnovinite.bg Публикувано в 13:21 ч. 24.09.2018 г. - Обновено в 20:25 ч. 24.09.2018 г.



РЕСТАВИРАНА ЦЪРКВА ОТ XII ВЕК  
Открити реставрирани средновековни храм

бечер

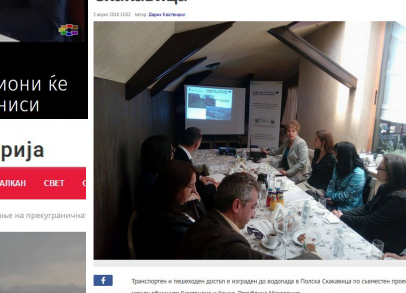
Home > МАКЕДОНИЈА > Во Делчево форум за интензивирање на прекуграничната соработка со Бугарија



МАКЕДОНИЈА  
Во Делчево форум за интензивирање на прекуграничната соработка со Бугарија

TRANSPORTEN I PEŠEHODEN DOŠTËP E IZGRAĐEN DO VODOPAĐA V POLSKA SKAČAVICA

Transporten i пешеходен doštëp e izgrađen do vodoпада в Полска Скавица по савместен проект меѓу општините Костиница и Копане, Република Македонија.



**TOGETHER IS MUCH BETTER**



**Interreg - IPA CBC**   
  **CCI 2014TC16I5CB006**

[www.ipa-cbc-007.eu](http://www.ipa-cbc-007.eu)

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