

Questions and Answers

under

Guide for application with concept notes (Call 1) under the Territorial Strategy of the INTERREG VI-A IPA Bulgaria North Macedonia Programme 2021-2027, Specific objective 1.2 “Development of an attractive, all-season tourism product by means of smart solutions that ensure universal access and participation”

No	Question	Answer
1	<p>In relation with the 1st call for concept notes of project proposals under the Specific objective 1.2 “Development of an attractive, all-season tourism product by means of smart solutions that ensure universal access and participation ”the Territorial Strategy of the INTERREG Bulgaria-North Macedonia Programme 2021-2027, the South-West University "Neofit Rilski" (public body) intends to submit a concept note of project proposal. In the framework of the project the South-West University intends to renovate a site for which the university holds a deed for private state-owned property.</p> <p>Is the university an eligible applicant in this case or do we need to take measures to change the ownership from private state to public state ownership?</p>	<p>According to the <i>Guide for application with concept notes</i>, point 4.6. <i>Scope of project activities</i>, the planned investment activities in the form of building of new or rehabilitating existing infrastructure, should be carried out exclusively on state-owned or municipal property (including the listed exceptions). There are no restrictions on the type of state property - private or public (according to Bulgarian legislation).</p>
2.	<p>How we can organize cooperation and partnership on the cross-border program. We aimed for the leading organization to be a cultural institution from Kyustendil and partners from North Macedonia.</p> <p>With a good distribution of activities, according to the expertise of the partners from the Bulgarian side, we want to include 2 NGOs dealing with cultural heritage (both are registered in Sofia), as well as Sofia University "St. Kliment Ohridski". In what way would you advise us to use the expertise of colleagues and institutions, so that the partnership is expert, but also meets the requirements of the program?</p> <p>We are still specifying the partner from North Macedonia. As far as I understand, it doesn't matter the city or district as long as it is within the specified territorial scope of the North-East, East, and South-East regions.</p>	<p>According to the <i>Guide for application with concept notes</i>, point 4.5 <i>Project partnership</i> (section <i>Eligible lead and project partners</i>), all project partners, including lead partner, must be registered and operate in the Programme area at least 3 years prior to the application. Territorial focus of the Call is the entire cross-border region of the INTERREG VI-A IPA Bulgaria North Macedonia Programme 2021-2027 (Districts of Blagoevgrad and Kyustendil in Bulgaria, and North-East, East and South-East regions in North Macedonia).</p> <p>The cultural institution from Kyustendil, which meet the eligibility criteria, can acts as a Lead partner or project partner. NGOs registered and operate in Sofia are not eligible candidates under the current call.</p> <p>Please taking into account that expenditures, necessary for hiring qualified experts, who are not part of the project team or partner organizations, must be budgeted</p>

		<p>in BC 4 External expertise and services costs. Please have in mind that a project partner and its employees can never act as a contractor in the same project. Note that a “partner” involved in the project implementation as “Lead Partner” or “project partner” is excluded from any forms of contracting to other partners within the same project.</p>
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