MONITORING COMMITTEE

meeting under

Interreg VI-A IPA Bulgaria – North Macedonia Programme 2021-2027 CCI 2021TC16IPCB006

held on 27th of May 2025

1. Description:

The Monitoring Committee meeting under Interreg VI-A IPA Bulgaria – North Macedonia Programme 2021-2027, CCI 2021TC16IPCB006 was held on 27th of May 2025 in Sandanski, Bulgaria. The following documents/topics were presented and discussed on the meeting:

- Application package and Screening Rules under Priority 3 "Integrated Development of the Cross-Border Region" Specific objective 1: "Increase the competitiveness of the local economy and improve the business environment";
- Evaluation Report under the Restricted Call for Governance Project Proposal with reference number 2021TC16IPCB006—2024—4 under Priority 3 "Integrated development of the cross-border region", Overview of the evaluation process and results. Discussion and endorsement of the Evaluation Report;
- 3 Proposal for over-contracting of the Interreg VI-A IPA Bulgaria -North Macedonia Programme;
- 4 Progress of the Interreg VI-A IPA Bulgaria North Macedonia Programme
 - Overview of the contracted projects under Priority 3 "Integrated Development of the Cross-Border Region" Specific objective 2 "Fostering the integrated and inclusive social, economic and environmental local development, culture, natural heritage, sustainable tourism and security, in areas other than urban areas"
 - Progress in the implementation of the contracted projects under Priority 1 "Greener Border region" and strategic project under Priority 2 "More connected border region", including progress of the Environmental Impact Assessment;
- 5 Presentation of the 2024 Technical Assistance Activity Reports for the Managing Authority and the National Authority of the Interreg VI-A IPA Bulgaria - North Macedonia Programme.

2. Decisions:

The following decisions were taken by the Monitoring Committee:

Decision 1:

The Monitoring Committee approved the Application package under Priority 3 "Integrated Development of the Cross-Border Region" Specific objective 1: "Increase the competitiveness of the local economy and improve the business environment" and Screening Rules for the open call for project proposals, including the accepted comments from the Public Consultations and the comments provided by the Monitoring Committee members.

Decision 2:

The Monitoring Committee approved the Evaluation Report under the Restricted Call for Governance Project Proposal with reference number 2021TC16IPCB006 –2024–4 under Priority 3 "Integrated development of the cross-border region" (including annexes);

Decision 3:

The Monitoring Committee approved the Proposal for over-contracting of the Interreg VI-A IPA Bulgaria - North Macedonia Programme of up to 15% of the financial resources under the Programme without Technical assistance (13% of the total Programme budget) and gives mandate to the Managing Authority to sign subsidy contracts with the project proposals from the reserve list under Priority 1 and Priority 3 of the Programme according to the approved ranking order, taking into account the financial implementation of the Programme and the overcontracting of up to 15% of the financial resources under the Programme without Technical assistance (13% of the total Programme budget).

The hereby Decisions enter into force on 27th of May 2025 - the date of the 5th Monitoring Committee meeting.

- 3. Attachments: 1. Application package under Priority 3 "Integrated Development of the Cross-Border Region" Specific objective 1: "Increase the competitiveness of the local economy and improve the business environment" including Screening Rules;
 - Evaluation Report under the Restricted Call for Governance Project Proposal with reference number 2021TC16IPCB006 –2024–4 under Priority 3 "Integrated development of the cross-border region" (including annexes)
 - Proposal for over-contracting of the Interreg VI-A IPA Bulgaria North Macedonia Programme;
 - 4. Minutes of the 5th Monitoring Committee meeting;

for Republic of Bulgaria:

Mrs. YURA YORDANOVA-VITANOVA

Deputy Minister of Regional Development and Public Works Co-chairperson of MC for Republic of North Macedonia:

Mr. STEFAN VANGELSKI

Ministry of Local-Self Government

Co-chairperson of MC