



ANNUAL WORK PROGRAMME FOR GRANTS

Joint Managing Authority for the Joint Operational Programme “Black Sea Basin 2007-2013”

1. Basic act and Financing source

- Regulation (EC) No.1638/2006 of the European Parliament and of the Council laying down general provisions establishing a European Neighbourhood and Partnership Instrument;
- Commission Regulation (EC) No.951/2007 laying down implementing rules for cross-border cooperation programmes financed under Regulation (EC) No.1638/2006 of the European Parliament and of the Council laying down general provisions establishing a European Neighbourhood and Partnership Instrument;
- Joint Operational Programme “Black Sea Basin 2007-2013” adopted with the Decision of the European Commission no. 7406/2008 of 27th of November 2008;
- Financed by ENPI / IPA funds (budget line no. 19 08 02 01 and 19 08 02 02).

2. Objectives of the programme, priorities and expected results

The overall objective of the programme is to achieve stronger regional partnerships and cooperation. By doing so, the programme is aimed at contributing to its key wider objective: “a stronger and more sustainable economic and social development of the regions of the Black Sea Basin”.

The programme will be developed on the basis of the following three priorities and related measures:

Priority 1: Supporting cross border partnerships for economic and social development based on combined resources

- 1.1 Strengthening accessibility and connectivity for new intra regional information, communication, transport and trade links
- 1.2 Creation of tourism networks in order to promote joint tourism development initiatives and traditional products
- 1.3 Creation of administrative capacity for the design and implementation of local and regional development policies

Priority 2: Sharing resources and competencies for environmental protection and conservation

- 2.1 Strengthening the joint knowledge and information base needed to address common challenges in the environmental protection of river and maritime systems
- 2.2 Promoting research and innovation in the field of conservation and environmental protection of protected natural areas
- 2.3 Promotion of cooperation initiatives aimed at innovation in technologies and management of Waste and Wastewater Management systems

Priority 3: Supporting cultural and educational initiatives for the establishment of a common cultural environment in the Basin

- 3.1 Promoting cultural networking and educational exchange in the Black Sea Basin communities

Each measure will be implemented through cross-border joint projects, the results of the activities financed within the programme referring among others to creation of networks for tourism promotion, environmental protection activities, seminars, trainings, conferences, workshops exchanging of good practices and knowledge in order to increase institutional capacity, promoting common initiatives of local development in the region etc. (further details can be found in the text of the Joint Operational Programme “Black Sea 2007-2013”).



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3. Eligibility conditions

Applicants must be located in the eligible regions as defined by the Strategy Paper for cross-border programmes and by the Joint Operational Programme "Black Sea Basin 2007-2013".

Different typologies of potential Applicants may participate in the programme: national, regional and local authorities, NGO's, representative associations and organizations, universities, research institutes, cultural institutes, public agencies etc.

The projects will be jointly submitted and implemented by partnerships that will always involve partners from one or several Member States (Bulgaria, Greece, Romania) and from one or several partner countries (Armenia, Georgia, R. Moldova, Ukraine). The participation of Turkish partners is only possible in tripartite projects involving at least one partner from a Member State and one partner from a partner country.

The organizations from **Russian Federation and Azerbaijan** can participate in the Programme only with their own funding, as „associate partners“, as Russian Federation and Azerbaijan did not sign the Financial Agreement with the European Commission by 31 of December 2009.

The recommended number of partners involved in each project partnership is between 3 and 10 partners.

Additional information will be made available once the Guidelines for Grant Applicants for the 2010 call for proposals are published.

4. Selection and award criteria

The evaluation will be carried out in accordance with the following documents:

- Regulation (EC) No.1638/2006 of the European Parliament and of the Council laying down general provisions establishing a European Neighbourhood and Partnership Instrument;
- Commission Regulation (EC) No.951/2007 laying down implementing rules for cross-border cooperation programmes financed under Regulation (EC) No 1638/2006 of the European Parliament and of the Council laying down general provisions establishing a European Neighbourhood and Partnership Instrument;
- Practical Guide to contract procedures for EC external actions (2008);
- Joint Operational Programme "Black Sea 2007-2013" adopted with the Decision of the European Commission no. 7406/2008 of 27th of November 2008;
- Guidelines for Grant Applicants approved by the Joint Monitoring Committee for this specific call.

5. Maximum rate of Community financing

The maximum EC co-financing rate is 90%.

6. Schedule of calls for proposals

Expected launch date for the Call for Proposals: September 2010.

The Call for Proposals will be published on the programme's website: www.blacksea-cbc.net.

7. Indicative amount of 2010 Call for Proposals

The global indicative ENPI funds made available under this Call for Proposals amount to 8.501.844 Euro. In addition, the indicative IPA contribution for Turkish partners amounts to 3.256.852 Euro. The indicative number of calls for proposals in year 2010 is 1 (one).