

WORK PROGRAMME FOR GRANTS
of the Agency for Regional Development of the Republic of Croatia and the
Delegation of the European Union to the Republic of Serbia
for IPA Cross-Border Programme Croatia-Serbia 2007-2013

1. Basic act and/or Financing source

Council Regulation (EC) No 1085/2006 of 17 July 2006 establishing an Instrument for Pre-Accession Assistance (IPA)

Commission Regulation (EU) No 80/2010 of 28 January 2010 amending Regulation (EC) No 718/2007 implementing Council Regulation (EC) No 1085/2006 establishing an instrument for pre-accession assistance (IPA)

Commission Regulation (EC) No 718/2007 of 12 June 2007 on implementing Council Regulation (EC) No 1085/2006 establishing an Instrument for Pre-Accession Assistance (IPA)

IPA Cross-Border Programme Croatia-Serbia 2007-2013

Multi-annual Indicative Planning Document 2011-2013 for the IPA Cross-border cooperation component (COM(2011)2727 of 26 April 2011), Croatia and Serbia

2. Objectives of the programme, priorities for IPA funding 2012 and 2013 and expected results

IPA 2012 and 2013 Cross-Border Programme Croatia - Serbia

The overall objective of the programme is to stimulate cross-border cooperation in order to diversify and improve the regional economy in a socially and environmentally sustainable way, whilst at the same time improving good neighbourly relations across the border.

Priority 1: Sustainable Socio-Economic Development

The overall objective is to promote the sustainable development of the cross-border region through effective use of the region's economic potential, in synergy with friendly and appropriate use of natural resources ensuring the preservation of regional biodiversity.

The specific objectives are:

- 1) to promote business cooperation, increase cross-border trade, develop labour market mobility, cross-border RDI and joint economic planning,
- 2) to stimulate tourism development based on the cross-border regional identity and the natural and cultural assets of the cross-border region,

3) to protect and safeguard the natural assets of the cross border region by taking joint actions and by increasing public awareness,

4) to promote good neighbourly relations across the border between local communities.

These objectives will be achieved through the implementation of actions under the following set of measures:

Measure 1.1. Economic development

This measure will stimulate regular interaction between businesses located across the cross-border region via: business-to-business networks; development of SME support 3 services and joint access to these; joint marketing & promotion on domestic & EU markets; enhancement of innovativeness by cooperation of SMEs with educational and R&D organisations; exchange of knowhow; selected investments in business infrastructure. It will diversify economic development by the supporting the development & improvement of tourism products & services; integration of cultural heritage & environment into tourism products; and the joint marketing of these products. It will allow for increasing the knowledge of people working in tourism and culture & agriculture and the use of ICT tools for developing and marketing products and training people.

Measure 1.2. Environmental protection

This measure will support awareness raising activities on environmental issues and joint actions to ensure that sites of high environmental and landscape value are managed so that they can sustain the pressures of tourism development without losing their value. In addition, the measure will support the development of more effective systems and approaches to emergency preparedness in relation to flood prevention and control; cross-border pollution, food safety and health issues. The measure will also support the development of joint waste management and minimisation strategies. A selected number of actions will be supported which result in the clean-up and restoration of polluted /damaged sites.

Measure 1.3. People-to-people

This measure will encourage contacts, communication and cooperation between local communities and local community organisations /agencies within the cross-border region, particularly in support of women and marginalised groups (unemployed youth and disabled), local democracy and the development of civil society.

3. Eligibility conditions

All actions must be implemented in the Programme Area. This includes Osijek-Baranja County and Vukovar- Srijem County in Croatia and Srem district, South Bačka district, West Bačka district, and North Bačka district in Serbia. The adjacent areas in Croatia are Požega-Slavonia County and Brod-Posavina County and Mačvanski district in Serbia.

Each proposal must have 2 applicants acting in partnership: one applying for IPA funds allocated for Serbia and one applying for IPA funds allocated for Croatia.

Applicants shall be non-profit legal persons established by public or private law for the purposes of public interest or specific purpose of meeting needs of general interest, belonging, inter alia, to one of the following groups:

Measure 1.1 Economic Development.: Regional /local public authorities; Chambers of commerce, crafts, agriculture, industry; Clusters registered as non-profit legal entities; Public /non-profit organisations (funds, institutions, agencies) established by the state or a regional/local self-government such as: research and development institutions, research institutes, education and training institutions, health care institutions, local and regional development agencies, tourist associations, etc.; Non-governmental organisations such as associations and foundations; Private institutes established by private law entities for meeting needs of general interest as long as they operate on non-profit basis; Agricultural associations and cooperatives.

Measure 1.2 Environmental Protection: Regional /local public authorities; Public /non-profit organisations including universities, colleges, secondary and elementary schools; Research institutes; Non-Government organisations dealing with environmental and nature protection; Public companies in charge of communal infrastructure and waste management; Agencies in charge of environmental and nature protection; Agencies dealing with emergency planning; Regional and local development agencies.

Measure 1.3 People to People: Local organisations, associations and foundations; Inter-communal cooperation organisations; Professional organisations; Organisations responsible for providing social and health services; Trade Unions; Public /non-profit organisations including institutes, universities, colleges, secondary and elementary schools; Cultural organisations including museums, libraries, and theatres; Local government bodies; NGOs; Regional and local development agencies.

4. Selection and award criteria

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

- Part One, Title VI of the Financial Regulation and Part One, Title VI of its Implementing Rules
- Practical Guide to contract procedures for EU external actions where applicable
- IPA Cross-Border Programme Croatia – Serbia 2007-2013
- Guidelines for Grant Applicants, Call for Proposals 2012 and 2013

5. Maximum rate of European Union financing

The maximum rate of Community co-financing is 85% of eligible expenditure.

6. Indicative time-schedule of calls for proposals

The Call for Proposals will most likely be launched in the 1st quarter of 2014.

7. Indicative amount of calls for proposals

Croatia 1.800,000 EUR; Serbia 1.800,000 EUR