

JOINT MONITORING COMMITTEE

**under INTERREG-IPA CBC Bulgaria – Turkey Programme,
CCI No 2014TC16I5CB005**

Written procedure No. 45, initiated on 17 December 2020

1. Description: The Written Procedure in accordance with Article 7 of the Rules of Procedure of the JMC of the INTERREG-IPA CBC Bulgaria – Turkey Programme for approval of request for contract modification of project “Legends without borders” with reference number CB005.2.23.007, subsidy contract № RD-02-29-29/18.02.2020 and project “Regional tourist brand for sustainable tourism” with reference number CB005.2.23.070, subsidy contract RD-02-29-288/19.12.2019 was initiated by the Managing Authority – Ministry of Regional Development and Public Works, Bulgaria on 17 December 2020.

The official letter No. 99-00-2-386/17.12.2020 and the attachments: Request for modification of project with reference number CB005.2.23.007 and Request for modification of project with reference number CB005.2.23.070 were sent to the JMC members via e-mail and made available in the JMC section of the Management Information System.

The request for modification of project “Legends without borders” with reference number CB005.2.23.007, subsidy contract RD-02-29-29/18.02.2020 concerns extension of the project implementation period from 12 to 15 months. The request is based on the prepared analysis and is justified with the imposed restrictive measures applied both in Republic of Bulgaria and in Republic of Turkey since the middle of March 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic situation and the unavailability to implement the envisaged press - conference, promotional tours and information days concerning the following activities:

- Activity 3 “Network activity - round table – discussion on: Tourist potential of the Strandzha legends”;
- Activity 6 “Journalists' promotional tours. Press conference”;
- Activity 7 “Information days” in Bourgas and Edirne.

The complicated epidemiological situation on the territories of both countries, the above activities planned with presence of big groups of

people gathering at one place for a long time and the restrictions related to crossing the border Bulgaria-Turkey since March 2020, are pointed out as the main reasons for the observed risk for timely implementation of the above activities.

The request for modification of project "Regional tourist brand for sustainable tourism" with reference number CB005.2.23.070, subsidy contract RD-02-29-288/19.12.2019 also concerns extension of the project implementation period from 12 to 15 months. The request is based on the imposed measures related to COVID-19 in Bulgaria and Turkey due to which the implementation of one round table in Keshan for 40 people (part of activity 2) and information seminars with participation of 15 people of each seminar - 10 in Bulgaria and 10 in Turkey (activity 3) became impossible. It was also stated that the activities cannot be reorganized and conducted only by using online tools because they were related with the developed under the project regional tourist brand and since the sector of tourism was closed, implementing the activities as online events would limit the opportunities for participation of the target groups.

The JMC members were given 3 (three) working days to send their approval or comments on the modification requests.

Approval of the request for modification was received from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Republic of Bulgaria and is reflected in Attachment 4: "Table of the comments received from the JMC Members".

2. Decisions:

1. JMC approves the extension of project implementation period of the project "Legends without borders" with reference number CB005.2.23.007, subsidy contract RD-02-29-29/18.02.2020 with 3 (months) months – from 12 (twelve) months to 15 (fifteen) months;
2. JMC approves the extension of implementation period of project "Regional tourist brand for sustainable tourism" with reference number CB005.2.23.070, subsidy contract RD-02-29-288/19.12.2019 with 3 (three) months - from 12 (twelve) to 15 (fifteen) months.

The hereby decisions enter into force on the 23 December 2020, the date following the deadline for submission of comments / objections / additional proposals from the JMC members.

3. Attachments:

1. Attachment 1: Letter No. 99-00-2-386/17.12.2020 from the Deputy Minister of Regional Development and Public Works - Co-chairperson of the JMC for written procedure for approval of request for contract modification of projects CB005.2.23.007 and CB005.2.23.070;

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2. Attachment 2: Request for modification of project CB005.2.23.007;
3. Attachment 3: Request for modification of project CB005.2.23.070;
4. Attachment 4: "Table of the comments received by JMC members".

Signatures:

for BULGARIA:



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Ms. Denitsa NIKOLOVA

*Deputy Minister of
Regional Development and Public Works,
Co-chairperson of the JMC*

for TURKEY:



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Mr. Bülent Özcan

*Director-General to the Directorate General
of the Financial Cooperation and Project
Implementation, Directorate for European
Union Affairs,
Head of National Authority,
Co-Chairperson of the JMC*