

JOINT MONITORING COMMITTEE

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

Written procedure No. 47, initiated on 23 February 2021

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 changes of the project implementation period of the project "Public awareness initiatives for sustainable use of parks and forests" with reference number CB005.2.23.030, subsidy contract No RD-02-29-41/05.03.2020 and project "Save the Nature to Save the Future" with reference number CB005.2.12.112, subsidy contract No RD-02-29-252/04.10.2019 was initiated by the Managing Authority — Ministry of Regional Development and Public Works, Bulgaria on 23 February 2021.

The official letter No. 99-00-2-147/23.02.2021 and the attachments: Request for contract modification of project with reference number CB005.2.23.030 and Request for contract modification of project with reference number CB005.2.12.112 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 "Public awareness initiatives for sustainable use of parks and forests" with reference number CB005.2.23.030, subsidy contract RD-02-29-41/05.03.2020 concerns extension of the project implementation period with 3 months - from 12 to 15 months. The request is based on the prepared analysis related to the COVID-19 pandemic situation 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 and the unavailability to implement trainings and international travels concerning the following activities:

- Activity 4 "Establishment of professional network for development of sustainable tourism" 2 workshops are envisaged to be organized one in Yambol and one in Pehlivankoy;
- Activity 5 "Organization of parks and forests cleaning events" cleaning events of parks and forests are envisaged to be organized.

The complicated epidemiological situation on the territories of both countries, envisaged events with 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 contract modification of project "Save the Nature to Save the Future" with reference number CB005.2.12.112, subsidy contract RD-02-29-252/04.10.2019 concerns extension of the implementation period with 6 months - from 18 to 24 months. The request is based on the cancellation of the local open tender procedure for "Supply of Recycle Machine" by LP. Due to the requested revision of the technical specifications of the machine, additional time is needed for relaunching the local open tender procedure, for its finalization and for its delivery. The beneficiary also declares that due to the pandemic situation, he has experienced some difficulties in fulfilling training activities under the project, as well.

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

No comments were received from the JMC Members from both sides within the set deadline and therefore according to the Rules of procedure of the JMC the requested extension of project implementation period of the project "Public awareness initiatives for sustainable use of parks and forests" and of project "Save the Nature to Save the Future" is deemed approved.

2. Decisions:

- 1. JMC approves the extension of project implementation period of the project "Public awareness initiatives for sustainable use of parks and forests" with reference number CB005.2.23.030, subsidy contract RD-02-29-41/05.03.2020 with 3 (three) months - from 12 (twelve) months to 15 (fifteen) months;
- 2. JMC approves the extension of implementation period of project "Save the Nature to Save the Future" with reference number CB005.2.12.112, subsidy contract RD-02-29-252/04.10.2019 with 6 (six) months - from 18 (eighteen) to 24 (twenty four) months.

The hereby decisions enter into force on the 1 March 2021, the date following the deadline for submission of comments / objections / additional proposals from the JMC members.

3. Attachments:

1. Attachment 1: Letter No. 99-00-2-147 23.02.2021 from the Deputy Minister of Regional Development and Public Works - Co-chairperson of

the JMC for written procedure for approval of changes of the project implementation period CB005.2.23.030 and CB005.2.12.112;

- 2. Attachment 2: Request for modification of project CB005.2.23.030;
- 3. Attachment 3: Request for modification of project CB005.2.12.112;
- 4. Attachment 4: "Table of the comments received by JMC members".

Signatures:

for BULGARIA:

Ms. Denitsa NIKOLOVA

Deputy Minister of Regional Development and Public Works, Co-chairperson of the JMC for TURKEY:

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