

**Summary of the Minutes
of the 2nd Monitoring Committee (MC) Meeting
of the
Interreg V-A Hungary-Croatia Cooperation Programme 2014-2020**

Date: 5 February 2016

Place: Osijek, Croatia

The meeting was held, in line with the general suggestion of the Desk Officer of the EC to visit locations with Monitoring Committee which were developed from cross-border co-operation project sources, on the premises of the Lead Beneficiary of the project 'REG-PHOSYS' (AF ID HUHR/1101/2.1.3/0002), implemented in the framework of the Hungary-Croatia (IPA) CBC Programme 2007-2013. The meeting included a project visit by the Members of the MC to the Renewable Energy Sources Laboratory established within the frame of the project.

Agenda Point 1: Welcome by the Deputy County Prefect of Osječko-baranjska County

The meeting was opened by *Mr Adrián Savanyú*, representing the Hungarian Prime Minister's Office and the Managing Authority (MA) of the Programme, acting as the Chairman of the Monitoring Committee (MC). The participants of the meeting were also welcomed by *Mr Dragan Vulin*, Deputy County Prefect of the hosting county, Osječko-baranjska County, furthermore by *Mr Tomislav Tolušić*, Minister of Regional Development and EU Funds of Croatia and *Mr Zsolt Szokolai*, representing the European Commission. All the speakers expressed their confidence in the successful future of the cross-border Programme and wished for a fruitful meeting, resulting in the launch of the First Call for Proposals (CfP).

Agenda Point 2: Approval of the Agenda, technicalities (MC decision)

After establishing that the quorum for the meeting had been met, the Agenda was put to vote and was unanimously accepted.

MC decision: The Agenda of the meeting was accepted.

Agenda Point 3: Update by the JS about the follow-up of decisions taken at the 17th JMC meeting of the HU-HR CBC Programme 2007-2013

The Members of the MC were informed on the financial implementation of the projects awarded additional funding according to the decision of the 17th JMC meeting of the HU-HR CBC Programme 2007-2013. The eligible projects fulfilling the administrative requirements are undergoing the procedure of Subsidy Contract modification and are expected to receive the funding within the 2nd quarter of 2016.

Agenda Point 4: Modification of the Rules of Procedure due to the nomination of new observers **(MC decision)**

The Joint Secretariat (JS) presented the changes proposed to be included into the document since the last MC meeting, reflecting the newest propositions relating to the inclusion of additional Members into the MC.

MC Decision: The changes of the RoP were unanimously approved.

Agenda Point 5: Information about the interpretation of the European Commission of Article 48(2) of the Common Provisions Regulation regarding the publishing of the list of MC members

The representative of the EC informed the Members of the MC about the official interpretation of Article 48(2) of Regulation (EU) No. 1303/2013, pointing out that the provision, aiming at keeping the highest possible level of transparency and avoiding conflict of interest, requires that a list be published of MC Members, meaning both the member organisations and their representatives.

MC Decision: The names of all MC Members (organisation, name of representative in the MC) will be published and regularly updated on the Programme's official website, www.huhr-cbc.com.

Agenda Point 6: Presentation of the two potential Lead Beneficiary organisations for the 'PP Light Scheme' (see Priority 1 of the Programme), selection of the actual LB to lead the project partnership **(MC decision)**

The external SME expert working on the development of the 'PP Light Scheme' within Programme Priority Axis 1 presented the results of the survey of the two organisations nominated to assume the role of Lead Beneficiary of the Scheme. Both proposed organisations fulfil the basic standards to assume such a role, with each having strengths in specific area.

Both organisations had a chance to present their nominations, and following a Q&A round, the decision was put to vote. The vote being tied, the Members of the MC discussed the possible solutions to resolve the situation in order not to further postpone the implementation of the Scheme.

MC Decision: Since no decision could be reached within the MC, the beneficiary organisations of the PP Light Scheme will be invited by the MA to decide themselves about the best option for the LB organisation, giving them a two-week period to organise a meeting and to reach a joint decision.

Agenda Point 7: Approval of the Guidelines for Applicants and its Annexes of the 1st Call for Proposals of the Interreg V-A Hungary-Croatia Co-operation Programme **(MC decision)**

The latest changes in the documents of the 1st CfP, with the main focus on the Guidelines for Applicants and the Quality Assessment Grids, were presented to the MC, reflecting the comments and discussions of the previous MC meeting. The Members of the MC discussed the remaining open questions and reached an agreement on the final version of the documents.

They are to be consolidated according to the conclusions of the meeting and, following the last round of comments, after the finalisation of the documents, the 1st CfP would be ready to be launched. According to the RoP, the tentative date of the launch would be the last week of February 2016, with the submission period being at least 90 days long, resulting in a planned submission deadline of 31 May 2016.

Agenda Point 8: Approval of the Annual Communication Plan of the Interreg V-A Hungary-Croatia Co-operation Programme for the year 2016 **(MC decision)**

The Annual Communication Plan, elaborated in line with the previously adopted Programme Communication Strategy and presenting the communication and information activities planned during 2016, was presented to the MC. The main focus of the activities is to be on the promotion of the Call for Proposals and the related activities, including providing support to potential applicants via the organising of several communication events. The main annual communication event will be paired with the presentation of the implementation of the strategic project 'De-mine HU-HR II' and with the celebration of the 5th edition of European Co-operation Day.

The Programme will take special care to employ the available tools to engage and approach the disadvantaged communities and present the possibilities the Programme offers.

MC Decision: The Communication Plan for 2016 was approved.

Agenda Point 9: Any other business

Members of the MC were informed by the representatives of the Managing Authority and the National Authority about the steps being taken in order to ensure the financial liquidity of the Programme, pointing out that the modalities to ensure financial support for the beneficiaries implementing the project are being explored and will be featured in the Memorandum of Understanding between the two Member States, following the consultations between the relevant ministries.