

Interreg IPA Cross-border Cooperation Programme Croatia – Serbia 2014-2020

Annex 13: Responsibilities of the participating countries

Participating countries (national authorities) are responsible for the management and control of the programme in particular through:

- Fulfilling the management, control and audit obligations and assume the resulting responsibilities laid down in the rules on shared management set out in the Regulations. In accordance with the principle of shared management, participating countries shall be responsible for the management and control of programme;
- Ensuring that their management and control systems are set up in accordance with Articles 72, 73 and 74 and 127 of the CPR and in accordance with Articles 21, 23 and 25 of the ETC Regulation and that the systems function effectively and that the necessary follow-up is implemented;
- Submitting, in due time, a description of the control system set up according to the form provided by the MA within three months from the approval of the Interreg IPA Cross-border cooperation programme 2014-2020. The participating country shall without delay inform the MA of any changes of the control system set up;
- Supporting the MA in preparing the necessary documentation related to the management and control system on participating country level for the designation procedure in accordance with Article 124(1) of the CPR and in line with Annex XIII 3.A of the CPR. This so as to ensure timely submission of the first interim payment and to ensure an unqualified opinion of the independent audit body;
- Ensuring that the recommendations resulting from the quality checks on the control systems are taken into account and leading to improvements of the respective systems;
- Ensuring via the responsible bodies that all supporting documents required for an adequate audit trail are recorded/stored in accordance with Article 140 of the CPR and made available for verifications;
- Ensuring effective arrangements for the examination of complaints where and when applicable. participating countries shall inform the Commission of the results of examinations upon the Commission's request;
- Preventing, detecting and correcting irregularities and recovering amounts unduly paid, together with any interest on late payments and notifying these irregularities to the Commission;
- Keeping the Commission informed of the progress of related administrative and legal proceedings;
- Designating the Managing Authority and Audit Authority in accordance with Article 123 CPR;
- Designating, in line with Article 23 (4) of the ETC Regulation, the body or person responsible for carrying out verifications covered by Articles 125(4)(a), 125(4)(b), 125(5) and 125(6) of the CPR in relation to beneficiaries on their respective territory;
- Setting up a Joint Monitoring Committee by nominating the participating country representatives and informing the MA without delay if the responsibility for representation of the country changes;
- Nominating the members of the Group of Auditors and informing the MA without delay if the responsibility for representation of the country changes.

- Ensuring the compliance of the expenditures with the national and Community legislation and programme level procedures;
- Ensuring availability of the amounts from the national co-financing for the Technical Assistance Priority Axis

The Participating Country of the Managing Authority is to:

- Exchange information with the Commission by using an electronic data exchange system established in compliance with the terms and conditions laid down by the Commission;
- Ensure that by no later than 31 December 2015, all exchanges of information between beneficiaries and Managing Authority, Audit Authority can be carried out solely by means of electronic data exchange systems.