

# Interreg V-B Adriatic Ionian Cooperation Programme – ADRION

## Citizen's summary of the Annual Report 2015

On 20 October 2015, the Interreg V-B Adriatic Ionian Cooperation Programme - ADRION was approved by the European Commission. The programme involves **four ERDF countries** (Croatia, Greece, Italy and Slovenia) and **four**

**candidate and potential candidate countries** (Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Montenegro and Serbia).

The Programme has an overall budget of **MEUR 118** and is supported by ERDF and IPAII funds.

### ***ADRION Monitoring Committee***

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After the Cooperation Programme approval, the Programme authorities immediately started the setting up of the relevant decision making body, i.e.: the **Monitoring Committee**, composed by national and regional representatives directly appointed by the 8 countries involved.

The Monitoring Committee is in charge of the monitoring of the programme implementation and of its progresses made towards in achieving its objectives. Its decisions are taken by consensus.

Representatives of the Monitoring Committee met for the first time on 17-18 November 2015. It took relevant decisions with regard to the characteristics of the **first call for proposals** open to the Priority Axis:

- **No 1 – Innovative and smart region**
- **No 2 – Sustainable region and**
- **No 3 – Connected region.**

The Monitoring Committee also focused on **key topics**, like the coordinated use of ERDF and IPA II funds; shared eligibility rules, eligible and assessment criteria; financial simplification options to reduce the beneficiaries administrative burden (possible use of flat rate for staff costs; compulsory use of flat rate for indirect costs); and the electronic submission of the project proposals.

It also ensured that the call for proposals included **specific references** related to the horizontal principles and implementation of the sustainable development.

### ***EU Strategy for the Adriatic and Ionian Region – EUSAIR***

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The ADRION has devoted its **Priority Axis No 4** to the support of the EU Strategy for the Adriatic and Ionian Region – EUSAIR. The Priority Axis foresees the implementation of a **strategic project** aimed at enhancing the institutional capacity of public administrations and key stakeholders through in particular the technical

support to the EUSAIR Governing Board and Thematic Steering Groups.

An **ad hoc Working Group** - composed by representatives of all the Partner States involved in the programme - was appointed for the definition of the characteristics of the strategic

project; the Working Group met several times even before the approval of the Cooperation Programme in order to define the management and the content of the priority action.

Moreover, the **ADRION Managing Authority** took part to the meetings organised by the EUSAIR Governing Board on 20-23 January 2015 (Ancona, IT) and 5-7 October 2015 (Zagreb, HR) as well as to those organized by the EUSAIR Thematic Steering Groups:

➤ 10 November 2015- TSG 3 (Portorož - SI)

- 25-26 November 2015 – TSG 4 (Zagreb - HR) and
- 14-15 December 2015 – TSG 2(Rome – IT).

The **support to the EUSAIR** also materialized during the 1<sup>st</sup> Monitoring Committee meeting. It was decided that the submitted applications contributing to the implementation of the EUSAIR Action Plan should have benefited from an additional awarding score. Overview tables highlighting the alignment between EUSAIR and ADRION as well as *ad hoc* assessment criteria were provided in the Programme Manual.

## Communication activities

**ADRION** has created its own web site: [www.interregadrion.eu](http://www.interregadrion.eu); moreover, it is also present on Twitter: [@interregadrion.eu](https://twitter.com/interregadrion) and has its own LinkedIn page: [LinkedIn ADRION](#), specifically aimed at supporting potential applicants in identifying partners for cooperation.

On 9 and 10 December 2015, the **launch event** of the programme took place in Bologna (Italy): the event intended to present the programme and announce the first call for proposals to be officially launched in beginning of 2016.

It was also the occasion of **revamping** the interest in the macro regional strategy EUSAIR. Representatives of the ministries of the 8 Partner States involved, of the European Commission and of the Managing Authority and Joint Secretariat were involved in round tables and key note speeches. The event mobilized cca. 500 participants both via direct participation and streaming.



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