

MEASURES FOR MONITORING AND CONTROL OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

Conditions and recommendations for the provisions of measures for monitoring and control of the environmental impact in project proposals as set out in the Opinion on Environmental Assessment (EA) No. 13-6/2022 of the Minister of Environment and Water for the INTERREG VI-A IPA Bulgaria – Serbia 2021-2027 Programme and the Integrated Territorial Strategy (ITS)

(Excerpt from the document related to the periods of preparation of project proposals, their approval, before the implementation of the projects, and before the commencement of construction activities)

I. Measures and conditions to prevent, mitigate and compensate as fully as possible for the adverse effects of the implementation of the Programme for the period 2021-2027, co-financed under the Instrument for Pre-Accession Assistance between the Republic of Bulgaria and the Republic of Serbia and the ITS

The following measures and conditions shall be fulfilled in the implementation of the Programme and/or the ITS:

General measures:

1. Plans, programs, projects and investment proposals under the Programme for the period 2021 - 2027, co-financed under the Instrument for pre-accession assistance between the Republic of Bulgaria and the Republic of Serbia and ITS, shall be approved only after the competent environmental authorities have issued a decision in accordance with Chapter Six of the Environmental Protection Act and/or Article 31 of the Biological Diversity Act and in compliance with the conditions of the measures in the respective act.
2. Investment proposals resulting from measures and activities under the Programme and the ITS shall comply with the spatial plans in force in the territory concerned, as well as national, regional and local strategic, planning and regulatory documents, other available planned projects with similar and/or overlapping activities, in order to achieve the necessary synchronisation in the implementation of the project procedures by the institutions and bodies involved.

Climate Change Adaptation

3. When implementing relevant activities related to the construction and development of sites, facilities and infrastructure, to take into account measures from current strategic documents on adaptation to climate change and provide measures to ensure the sustainability of projects and the reduction of greenhouse gases.

Ambient air

Priority approval for the implementation of production activities/technological upgrades complying with best available techniques in order to comply with international commitments under the Göteborg Protocol to the Convention on Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution and the Reduction of Air Pollutants.

Water, water protection zones and flood risk

4. Investment proposals, plans, programs, and projects should be implemented in accordance with existing river basin management plans, flood risk management plans, the Water Act, and its secondary legislation, as well as in line with the available updates of RBMP and FRMP for the period 2021-2027
5. Projects should envisage measures for preventing the deterioration of the surface water and WPAs condition, in accordance with the requirements of Art. 116 of the Law on Water of the Republic of Bulgaria as well as the Water Law of the Republic of Serbia.
6. Taking measures and technological decisions to prevent the accidental contamination of surface water.

Soils

7. The design of the new sites should include the necessary activities and measures for conservation of soil resources and reclamation in order to prevent the occurrence of erosion processes and maximum restoration of disturbed lands.
8. During the implementation of the construction activities, measures shall be taken to protect the soil resources, preliminary removal of the humus soil and its proper utilization for reclamation purposes.

Plants, wildlife, protected areas and protected territories, landscape

9. Tourism development projects to be implemented in accordance with the recreational load and absorption capacity standards of the environment, and in compliance with the status of the territory.
10. As part of the project proposals for tourism development under Specific Objective 2 of ITS it is required to ensure the implementation of information campaigns to promote biodiversity in the region and raise awareness about its value and benefits for ecosystems and the lives of the local population.
11. The promotion of tourism products and sites under Measure 2.3 of the ITS should take into account the regimes of protected areas and protected territories in the region. Within their scope, the relevant prohibitions and recommendations reflected in the order issued for the area concerned should be applied and observed.

Cultural and historical heritage

11. Investment proposals, plans and programs to be implemented after a positive opinion of the competent authorities for the protection of cultural heritage, in accordance with the regimes for the protection of sites and the applicable regulations. In the presence of construction activities in areas with registered cultural properties, the respective to be carried out under the control of competent persons (determined or eligible under the relevant national legislation).

Hazardous chemicals and risk of major accidents

12. In the event that the construction of new or changes to an existing plant and/or facility with low or high risk potential is envisaged, as well as in the planning of new works, including the construction of transport roads, residential areas, public works in the

vicinity of existing plants and/or facilities with low or high risk potential, where deployment or new works may be a source of or increase the dangers or consequences of a major accident occurring in those plants/facilities, it is necessary to:

- 12.1. Ensure safe distances of the enterprise and/or facility to residential areas, public places and areas, recreational areas and, where possible, large transport roads.
- 12.2. Maintain safe distances of establishments and/or facilities with low or high risk potential or other appropriate measures to areas of particular conservation sensitivity or interest and cultural and historical heritage sites in the vicinity of establishments, where appropriate, in order to protect them.
- 12.3. Taking additional technical measures to mitigate risks to human health and the environment in the case of existing establishments and/or facilities with low and high risk potential.

Population, human health, health and hygiene aspects of the environment

13. When planning and implementing investment proposals, their location should be consistent with the current spatial planning decisions and provisions for the development of settlements, and should not allow the implementation to lead to negative impact on residential areas, recreational and sports areas, recreational and resort zones and other sites subject to health protection.

Measure for monitoring and control	Indicators	Period/Body responsible for carrying out
For measures and activities of an investment nature, take into account the relevant climate change adaptation objectives, guidelines and measures to ensure their sustainability.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Envisaged Measures for sustainability in the project proposal; ○ Instances of disruption to objects, facilities, or infrastructure from extreme events - a result of climate change"; 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Upon approval of the project proposals/ Managing authority, National authority ○ After putting into operation/ Beneficiaries
Prevention of deterioration of the status of water bodies in the implementation of project proposals of an investment nature in the vicinity of such sites or related to the use/impact of water bodies	Surface and/or groundwater monitoring data, if prescribed by the competent authorities for the specific project proposal	During construction and operation in accordance with the frequency defined in the own monitoring plan/ Beneficiaries
Eligibility of the project proposals with investment character to the current RBMPs and FRMPs .	Existence of an opinion from the competent authorities	Prior to the start of the project implementation/ Beneficiaries
Prevention of contamination of water bodies in emergency situations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Envisaged preventative measures ; ○ Number of emergency situations - actions taken 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ During the preparation of the project proposal/ Beneficiaries ○ Periodically/beneficiaries

Compliance with adopted management regimes for protected areas, including limiting the likelihood of negative impacts on protected areas and conservation priorities therein	Approved investment projects on the territory of protected areas occupied (decares); Method of adjustment of the control modes.	Periodically/beneficiaries
Prevention of disturbance/damage/destruction of valuable plant species as well as animal species and their habitats	EIA/EA/CA procedures conducted (where applicable) Implementation of measures from EIA/EA/CA final deeds (when foreseen for biodiversity)	Periodically/beneficiaries
Prevention of damage/disruption/destruction to cultural values – archaeological objects during the construction of facilities and infrastructure.	Existence of a coherent opinion by a competent authority. Existence of a competent, authorised person at the time of construction	Before commencing construction activities/beneficiaries. During construction works/ Beneficiary
Increasing the degree of climate neutrality of the local economy.	Number of objects for which climate has been achieved neutrality	After entering the exploitation/ Managing authority, beneficiaries
Promoting the transition to a circular and resource-efficient economy and an information system for reliable waste data	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Number of objects with an implemented measure for efficient resource utilization or reuse of waste or wastewater; ○ Cubic meters of reused waste, cubic meters of reused wastewater. 	After entering the exploitation/ Managing authority, beneficiaries