

**Annex 6****Bulgaria – Turkey IPA Cross-border Cooperation Programme 2014 – 2020****List of implemented changes – comments Ex-ante evaluation July 2014**

ID	Comment Ex-ante evaluation OP 2.0	Implemented change
1	It would be useful to include a summary of the most relevant of lessons learned in the past programming period in Par. 1.1.1 “Description of the cooperation programme’s strategy for contributing to the selected thematic priorities (...)” to give evidence to programme’s solid background enabling to capitalize good practices and overcome bottlenecks detected during 2007-2013 programme implementation.	<b>Accepted.</b>  Ex-ante comments have been taken into consideration. The relevant texts developed and implemented in the Final Draft OP (Version 3.0 – July 31 <sup>st</sup> 2014)
2	Given the high participation of stakeholders to programming events, it is recommended to foster continuity of the participatory pathway in the forthcoming phases to enable Programme authorities to design strategy, expected results and possible actions truly adhering to cross-border territorial needs and challenges. To this end, it would be appropriate to organise additional meetings of the Regional Consultative Forum to share the final Draft of the OP with stakeholders before submitting it to the EC for approval. It would be also essential to organize an additional event, once the OP is approved, to share the final OP, giving evidence to how stakeholders’ proposals have been acknowledged by the Programme.	<b>Accepted.</b>  Ex-ante comments have been taken into consideration. The relevant texts developed and implemented in the OP (Version 2.0 – July 2014).  After the approval of the OP, the Programme will be broadly promoted through public events in the cross-border area.
3	During the 2014-2020 programming period, managing authorities should foster the active participation of stakeholders throughout programme implementation though both on-line instruments and periodic events aiming at sharing progresses gradually made. To this end, it would be useful the provision of an on-line platform able to guarantee a direct dialogue between MA and beneficiaries on specific issues as well as to share information, documents and experiences among partners/beneficiaries. At the same time, periodic meetings will allow to share all kinds of information about the programme life-cycle and to jointly overcome possible difficulties.	<b>Accepted.</b>  Ex-ante comments have been taken into consideration. The relevant texts developed and implemented in the OP (par. 5.7) (Version 2.0 – July 2014)
4	To give evidence to the Bulgaria-Turkey IPA CBC Programme consistency with EU, national and regional frameworks, it is recommended to give more evidence to programme external coherence in Chapter 1 “Strategy for the for the cooperation programme’s contribution to the	<b>Accepted.</b>  Ex-ante comments have been taken into consideration. The relevant texts developed and implemented in the OP (Version 2.0 – July 2014)



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	selected Thematic Priorities and the relevant Partnership Agreement and Country Strategy Paper(s)” of the Draft Operational Programme. To this end, it would be useful to include both a paragraph on the Programme’s contribution to the EU Strategy for a smart, sustainable and inclusive growth as well as one on direct linkages with objectives of the Partnership Agreement for Bulgaria and Country Strategy Paper concerning Turkey.	
5	In order to select the most appropriate actions for achieving Programme’s objectives, it would be useful to better outline the cause-effect relation between specific objectives, expected results and actions. To this end, both investments and soft measures may be further grouped into typologies of actions (for instance, awareness raising campaigns, events, small-scale interventions, etc.) so as to make interventions more tailored on proposed strategy.	<p><b>Accepted.</b></p> <p>Ex-ante comments have been taken into consideration. The relevant texts developed and implemented in the Final Draft OP (Version 3.0 – July 31<sup>st</sup> 2014)</p> <p>Selected indicative actions are tailored on proposed strategy and grouped into categories of interventions.</p>
6	Need to revise the vague definition of some actions	<p><b>Accepted.</b></p> <p>Ex-ante comments have been taken into consideration. The relevant texts developed and implemented in the Final Draft OP (Version 3.0 – July 31<sup>st</sup> 2014)</p>
7	Further clarifications are needed about the contribution of possible actions to the achievement of Specific Objectives.	<p><b>Accepted.</b></p> <p>Ex-ante comments have been taken into consideration. The relevant texts developed and implemented in the Final Draft OP (Version 3.0 – July 31<sup>st</sup> 2014)</p> <p>Further clarifications will be provided in Guidelines for applicants during programme implementation. Unclear actions were specified and related text corrected in the OP.</p>
8	It is advisable to introduce indicators able to monitor how horizontal principles will be fulfilled. To this end, information about the respect of horizontal principles may derive from projects’ progress reports and Programme’s Annual Implementation Reports.	<p><b>Accepted</b></p> <p>The cross-cutting issues will be monitored during programme implementation stage through progress and Programme’s Annual Implementation Reports.</p>
9	As far as equality between men and women is concerned, where possible, indicators may be broken down by gender (i.e. OI 2.2-4 n° of people involved in training and capacity building	<p><b>Accepted</b></p> <p>The equality between men and women as a cross-cutting issue will be monitored during programme implementation stage</p>



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	activities in the field of sustainable tourism – out of which n° of women-).	through progress and Programme's Annual Implementation Reports.
10	Proposed Output Indicators (OIs) seem to be suitable for monitoring the progresses of proposed actions. Nonetheless, some definitions need additional clarifications.	<b>Accepted.</b> Ex-ante comments have been taken into consideration. The relevant texts developed and implemented in the OP (version 2.0 – July 2014)
11	The analysis of Programme specific RIs showed that the definitions of some result indicators are generic and similar to those of OIs.	<b>Accepted.</b> Ex-ante comments have been taken into consideration. The relevant texts developed and implemented in the OP (version 2.0 – July 2014)
12	Following the analysis of result and output indicators according to S.M.A.R.T. criteria, the Ex-ante evaluator suggests: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To revise or delete RI-1.2-1, since it measures the related expected result only indirectly and may be considered more as an output indicator;</li> <li>To consider the possibility of reformulating output indicators related to Specific Objective 1.2 or rely on just OI-1.2-3.</li> </ul>	<b>Accepted.</b> Ex-ante comments have been taken into consideration. The relevant texts developed and implemented in the Final Draft OP (Version 3.0 – July 31 <sup>st</sup> 2014)
13	Given the qualitative approach adopted to monitor result indicators, it would be worth to identify a punctual percentage measuring the expected increase (for instance, 10%, 20%, etc.) to be identified taking into consideration baseline values, the expected number of projects to be supported and the financial allocation.	<b>Accepted.</b> Ex-ante comments have been taken into consideration. The relevant texts developed and implemented in the Final Draft OP (Version 3.0 – July 31 <sup>st</sup> 2014)
14	The indicative list of members of the JMC shall identify more precisely which are the institutions and organizations which will take part in the work of the body.	<b>Accepted.</b> Ex-ante comments have been taken into consideration. The relevant texts developed and implemented in the Final Draft OP (Version 3.0 – July 31 <sup>st</sup> 2014)
15	The Programme may use the possibility of involving bodies in the work of the JMC with advisory role, since they can provide valuable input for the programme coordination.	<b>Accepted.</b> Ex-ante comments have been taken into consideration. The relevant texts developed and implemented in the Final Draft OP (Version 3.0 – July 31 <sup>st</sup> 2014)
16	The functions of the Joint Secretariat should be better described and made consistent with the description of the procedures under point 5.4.	<b>Accepted.</b> Ex-ante comments have been taken into



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	Please also consider the possibility of including the description of the JS tasks under the next point.	consideration. The relevant texts developed and implemented in the Final Draft OP (Version 3.0 – July 31 <sup>st</sup> 2014)
17	The role of the antennae in Edirne (Turkey) should be described in more details	<b>Accepted.</b>  Ex-ante comments have been taken into consideration. The relevant texts developed and implemented in the Final Draft OP (Version 3.0 – July 31 <sup>st</sup> 2014)
18	The description of the first level control system in Turkey should be more detailed	<b>Accepted</b> Ex-ante comments have been taken into consideration. The relevant texts developed and implemented in the Final Draft OP (Version 3.0 – July 31 <sup>st</sup> 2014)
19	The first statement under “Selection of operations” section (page 77) shall be revised according to Art. 39 of Implementing Regulation 447/2014.	<b>Accepted.</b>  Ex-ante comments have been taken into consideration. The relevant texts developed and implemented in the Final Draft OP (Version 3.0 – July 31 <sup>st</sup> 2014)
20	Priority axis were given the same financial weighting, but further clarifications are needed about SOs financial allocation	<b>Accepted.</b>  Ex-ante comments have been taken into consideration. The relevant texts developed and implemented in the Final Draft OP (Version 3.0 – July 31 <sup>st</sup> 2014)
21	To give evidence to the Bulgaria-Turkey IPA CBC Programme consistency with the EU framework, it would be useful to include both a paragraph on the Programme’s contribution to the EU Strategy for a smart, sustainable and inclusive growth as well as one on direct linkages with objectives of the Partnership Agreement for Bulgaria and Country Strategy Paper concerning Turkey.	<b>Accepted.</b>  Ex-ante comments have been taken into consideration. The relevant texts developed and implemented in the OP (version 2.0 – July 2014)

