

### MINISTRY OF DEVELOPMENT AND INVESTMENTS

# SPECIAL SECRETARIAT FOR EUROPEAN REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT FUND AND COHESION FUND PROGRAMMES

## MANAGING AUTHORITY OF "INTERREG 2021-2027"

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Subject: Establishment of a Special Registry of Assessors for the evaluation of the content of project proposals submitted for funding within the framework of the INTERREG Cooperation Programmes of the Programming Period 2021-2027, for which the Managing Authority "INTERREG 2021-2027" is responsible.

## THE MINISTER, DEPUTY MINISTER OF DEVELOPMENT AND INVESTMENTS AND THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF FINANCE

Having taken into consideration:

- 1. Article 90 of the Code of Legislation for the Government and governmental bodies, which was ratified by the first article of the Presidential Decree 63/2005 "Codification of legislation for the Government and government bodies" (Government Gazette 98/A/22.4.2005), which was kept in force by par. 22 of article 119 of Law 4622/2019 (A'133).
- 2. Law 4914/2022 "Management, control and implementation of development interventions for the Programming Period 2021-2027, establishment of a Public Company "National Register of Young Enterprises S.A." and other provisions" (A' 61) and in particular articles 11 par. 9 and 63 par. 29 thereof.
- 3. Presidential Decree 5/2022 "Organization of the Ministry of Development and Investments" (A' 15).
- 4. Presidential Decree 142/2017 "Organization of the Ministry of Finance" (A 181).
- 5. Presidential Decree 81/2019 "Establishment, merger, renaming and abolition of Ministries and determination of their responsibilities Transfer of services and responsibilities between Ministries" (A' 119).
- 6. Presidential Decree 83/2019 "Appointment of Deputy Prime Minister, Ministers and Deputy Ministers" (A' 121).
- 7. Presidential Decree 62/2020 (A' 155) "Appointment of Deputy Ministers".

- 8. Presidential Decree 63/2020 "Establishment of General and Special Secretariats, transfer of responsibilities between General Secretariats" (A' 156).
- 9. No. Y70/2020 (B'4805) Decision of the Prime Minister "Assignment of responsibilities to the Deputy Minister of Finance, Theodoros Skylakakis".
- 10. No. 51875/7.5.2021 (B'1867) Joint Decision of the Prime Minister and the Minister of Development and Investments "Assignment of responsibilities to the Deputy Minister of Development and Investments, Ioannis Tsakiris".
- 11. Regulation (EU) 2021/1060 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 24 June 2021 laying down common provisions on the European Regional Development Fund, the European Social Fund Plus, the Cohesion Fund, the Just Transition Fund and the European Maritime, Fisheries and Aquaculture Fund and financial rules for those and for the Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund, the Internal Security Fund and the Instrument for Financial Support for Border Management and Visa Policy.
- 12. Regulation (EU) 2021/1059 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 24 June 2021 on specific provisions for the European territorial cooperation goal (Interreg) supported by the European Regional Development Fund and external financing instruments.
- 13. Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) No 240/2014 of 7 January 2014 on the European code of conduct on partnership in the framework of the European Structural and Investment Funds.
- 14. Regulation (EU) 2021/1529 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 15 September 2021 establishing the Instrument for Pre-Accession assistance (IPA III).
- 15. The European Territorial Cooperation Programmes (INTERREG) of the Programming Period 2021-2027 and specifically the following Cross Border Cooperation Programmes for which the Ministry of Development and Investment has the management responsibility: i) Greece-Italy 2021-2027, ii) Greece-Cuprys 2021-2027, iii) Greece-Bulgaria 2021-2027, iv) Greece-Albania 2021-2027 και v) Greece-North Macedonia 2021-2027.
- 16. No.: C(2022) 6578/08.09.2022 Executive Decision of the European Commission for the approval of the Cooperation Programme «(Interreg VI-A) Greece- Italy» for support from the European Regional Development Fund, in the framework of the European Territorial Cooperation Objective.
- 17. No.: C(2022) 6577/08.09.2022 Executive Decision of the European Commission for the approval of the Cooperation Programme Interreg VI-A "Greece- Cyprus" for support from the European Regional Development Fund, in the framework of the European Territorial Cooperation Objective.
- 18. No.: C C(2022) final 6635/13.9.2022 Decision of the European Commission for the approval of the Cooperation Programme Interreg VI-A "Greece-Bulgaria" 2021–2027 (CCI 2021TC16RFCB021) for support from the European Regional Development Fund, in the framework of the "European Territorial Cooperation" Objective.
- 19. No.: C(2022) 8883/29.11.2022 Decision of the European Commission, for the approval of the Cooperation Programme Interreg IPA III CBC «Greece- Albania» 2021–2027 (CCI 2021TC16IPCB010), for support from the European Regional Development Fund and the Instrument for Pre Accession assistance in the framework of the "European Territorial Cooperation" objective.
- 20. No.: C(2022) 8646/23.11.2022 Decision of the European Commission, for the approval of the Cooperation Programme Interreg IPA III CBC «Greece- North Macedonia» 2021–2027 (CCI 2021TC16IPCB009), for support from the European Regional Development Fund and the Instrument for Pre Accession assistance in the framework of the "European Territorial Cooperation" objective.
- 21. No. 3411/16-01-2023 (Government Gazette B' 183/18-01-2023) Ministerial Decision "Scope, competences and internal structure of the Managing Authority "Interreg 2021-2027" of article 9 and paragraph 8 of article 65 of law 4914/2022 and of the Joint Secretariats of the Interreg Programs of article 11 of the same law and repeal of: a) No. 109283/EYTHY 1012/23.10.2015 (B' 2362) Decision of the Deputy Minister of Economy, Development and Tourism and b) No. 300539/YD/1605/14.4.2016 (B' 1453) Joint Decision of the Ministers of Interior and Administrative Reconstruction and Economy, Development and Tourism", as amended and in force.
- 22. The need for the effective operation of the Managing Authority INTERREG 2021-2027, when carrying out the evaluations of the operations, which are submitted within the framework of the INTERREG Cooperation Programmes, whose management responsibility lies with the Managing Authority INTERREG 2021-2027.

- 23. No. 37923/24.4.2023 Proposal of the Head of the General Directorate of Financial Services of the Ministry of Development and Investments.
- 24. The fact that the provisions herein cause an expense, the amount of which depends on the number of proposals that will be submitted for evaluation, which is estimated at an amount of 600,000 euros and is broken down into 200,000 euros for 2023 and 400,000 for 2024, at the expense of the co-financed part of the Public Investment Programme, which will be covered by the Technical Assistance of the five INTERREG programmes 2021-2027.

#### **Article 1: Establishment of the Assessors Registry**

- A specialized Assessors Registry is established for the evaluation of project proposals (applications for funding) submitted under the INTERREG Programs of the 2021-2027 Programming Period, for which the Managing Authority "INTERREG 2021-2027" (hereinafter referred to as the INTERREG 2021-2027 or Managing Authority) is responsible for.
- 2. The Registry is compiled and kept at the offices of the Managing Authority "INTERREG 2021-2027", under the responsibility of Unit A.
- 3. The Registry remains valid throughout the 2021-2027 Programming Period and specifically applies to Cross-Border Cooperation Programs, for which the Managing Authority "INTERREG 2021-2027" has the responsibility for, under the supervision and coordination of the Special Secretariat for European Regional Development Fund and Cohesion Fund Programmes. Specifically, the Managing Authority of "Interreg 2021-2027" manages the following Programmes: i) Greece-Italy 2021-2027, ii) Greece-Cyprus 2021-2027, iii) Greece-Bulgaria 2021-2027, iv) Greece-Albania 2021-2027, and v) Greece-North Macedonia 2021-2027.
- 4. The Register will be activated for each Cooperation Programme separately, following the approval of the methodology for the selection of operations by the Monitoring Committee of each Programme.

#### **Article 2: Tasks of the Assessors**

- The task of the assessors is to assess project proposals for funding submitted within the framework of the relevant calls of the abovementioned programs under point 3 of Article 1, and specifically to carry out Stage B2 of the evaluation process. This includes the evaluation and scoring of proposals that have been considered eligible in previous stages according to the approved methodology and criteria.
- 2. The evaluation of the proposals is conducted based on the methodology for project selection in the INTERREG 2021-2027 programmes, approved by the Monitoring Committee of each Cooperation Programme, along with the approved criteria, approved Programme Documents, the applicable EU and National Regulatory Framework, and the approved Management and Control System (MCS) of the Programmes.
- 3. The Managing Authority "INTERREG 2021-2027" determines the categories of assessors required for each expertise and experience, depending on the nature, subject matter, and needs of the proposal under evaluation for funding. Assessors are appointed within each category (expertise and experience). Each proposal is assigned to two assessors.

#### **Article 3: Requirements for Registering**

- 1) Only natural persons have the right to apply in the Register.
- 2) The required qualifications for registering are determined as follows:

- a) Accredited University or Technical Educational Institute Degree (bachelor's degree, following the respective EU legislation), in the fields of Science, Economics, or Technology.
- b) At least 7 years of working experience in the public or private sector in the evaluation and/or management of projects and programs co-financed by the European Union, preferably in European Territorial Cooperation Programs, and especially in the Specific Objectives of each Programme.
- c) Computer literacy such as word processing, spreadsheet, database, presentation software (Word, Excel, Access, PowerPoint), email, internet applications, etc.
- d) Excellent knowledge of the Greek language or one of the other official languages of the countries participating in the Programs mentioned in point 3 of Article 1 of this document.
- e) Advanced knowledge of the English language (C1 level).

#### **Article 4: Procedure for Registering**

- Detailed terms and specific requirements regarding the procedure for submitting applications, examination of applications, inclusion in the Register, selection of assessors, as well as any other matter related to the establishment and operation of the Register, shall be included in the open call(s) for expression of interest to be issued by the Special Secretary for ERDF & Cohesion Fund Programs.
- 2. The examination of applications is carried out by a permanent three-member committee for the management of the Register, which will be appointed by a relevant decision of the Head of the Managing Authority "INTERREG 2021-2027" and will report its decisions of approved assessors to the Special Secretary for ERDF & Cohesion Fund Programs.
- 3. Inclusion in the Register is certified by a certificate issued by the Head of the Managing Authority "INTERREG 2021-2027" and communicated (electronically and/or by letter) to each interested party. The inclusion of an assessor in the Register does not create an employment relationship with the Public Sector.
- 4. The Register may include assessors who are selected and appointed by the National Authorities of the participating countries in the Programmes referred to in paragraph 3. of art. 1 herein. In such cases, the selection procedures of paragraph 1 do not apply, and the specific assessors will be included in the Register by a decision of the Special Secretary for ERDF & Cohesion Fund Programs, upon the recommendation of the aforementioned committee for the management of the Register.

#### **Article 5: Obligations of Assessors - Members of the Register**

- Assessors are obliged, at the time of assuming the evaluation duty for each proposal, to submit a Declaration of Non - Conflict of Interest stating that they do not have any conflict of interest and that, in the event of a conflict interest during the performance of their duties, they will make a selfexclusion declaration.
- 2. Unit A of the Managing Authority of "INTERREG 2021-2027" is responsible for training assessors on any relevant matter regarding the evaluation of the proposals, and for this purpose, the MA organizes training seminars in which the participation of assessors is mandatory.

#### **Article 6: Supervision of the Register**

- 1. The supervision of the Register is carried out in accordance with the existing provisions on the protection of personal data.
- 2. After its establishment, the Register is reviewed and updated throughout its validity period by adding new members and removing old ones.

#### **Article 7: Assessors Remuneration**

- 1. The remuneration of each assessor member of the Register, for the evaluation of each project proposal, is set at the amount of €300 excluding VAT and including all other deductions.
- 2. The remuneration of the assessor of the Register is not subject to the provisions of Law 4354/2015 (Official Gazette 176), specifically Article 21 thereof.
- 3. The above-mentioned remuneration shall not exceed the amount of three thousand euros (€3,000) per assessor per year.
- 4. The expenses arising from the payment of the assessors of the Register will be covered by the Technical Assistance Budget of the INTERREG 2021-2027 Programmes.

#### **Article 8: Final Provisions**

- 1. The validity of this document begins from its publication in the Official Government Gazette.
- 2. The decision is to be published in the Official Government Gazette.

MINISTER OF DEVELOPMENT AND DEPUTY
INVESTMENTS

**DEPUTY MINISTER OF FINANCE** 

SPYRIDON- ADONIS GEORGIADIS

THEODOROS SKYLAKAKIS

THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF DEVELOPMENT AND INVESTMENTS

**IOANNIS TSAKIRIS**