| **No.** | **Question as received** | **Translation (if the case)** | **Reply** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Eligibility of actions** | | | |
| **EAC.1** | We have a municipal road directly connecting a municipality which is eligible applicant under the program with core TEN-T infrastructure, but we are concerned that the municipality in question is not included in the list of secondary and tertiary nodes indicated in the map from the Guidelines for applicants. In that case, is that road eligible under PA1? For example, if the relevant road section directly connects the municipality in question (which is outside the list of nodes) with the national road I-3 / I-5 Pleven- Rousse thus connecting the two secondary nodes - Pleven and Rouse, then is that road eligible for funding? |  | The question is very specific and concerns mainly eligibility of actions. Be aware that only the assessment working group and the Monitoring Committee of the Programme will be in position to decide on particular action and JS cannot give a prior opinion. Thus equal treatment of applicants will be respected. You are advised to read questions and answers published on the Programme site for the 1st call for proposals, and in particular “Eligibility of actions” part. Thus, according to the Applicant guide provisions: only roads proving cross border impact and connecting secondary or tertiary nodes to TEN-T infrastructure (core or comprehensive) will be financed under Priority Axis 1. So, in order to be considered eligible, respective road must observe this requirement of the applicant guide. Also please be aware that the map included in the Applicant’s Guide is Infrastructure map, including indicative secondary and tertiary nodes (indicative map). |
| **EAC.2** | An organisation from outside the programme area with competences extending to the eligible area (by legal documents) that in the same time has the legal possibility to open a branch with legal personality in the programme area is eligible in case it decides not to open a branch in the programme area? Is there any budgetary restriction for this organisation? |  | According to the Applicant’s Guide, in case the applicant is a public authority whose area of competence, established by legal acts, extends to the eligible area it can apply directly (no branch opening is necessary) and with no partner budgetary restriction. The budgetary restriction of no more than 20% of the project activities to be situated outside the eligible area (in case it is necessary for the project and in the benefit of programme area) is still mandatory. |
| **EAC.3** | Equipment of an organization from outside the eligible area with competences extending to the programme area is to be counted in the 20% limitation of project activities outside the eligible area? We will implement activities in the benefit of the programme area with the equipment we will purchase. |  | It depends on the location of the equipment. In case the equipment is located (installed and used) outside the eligible area, than its value from the project will be counted for the 20% limitation of the project activities outside the eligible area. |
| **EAC.4** | It is mandatory to have a contribution also to result indicators that are achieved by now at programme level? |  | Yes, any application has to contribute to one programme result indicator for the priority axis chosen (plus at least one programme output indicator for the priority axis as listed in section I.5 of the Applicant’s Guide). This is an eligibility condition according to the Applicant Guide Annex B – Evaluation Grid for the Expression of interest, criterion E10. |
| **EAC.5** | If we are a secondary node on the TEN-T network, is it eligible to finance roads from inside of the city? |  | Only the assessment working group and the Monitoring Committee of the Programme will be in position to decide on particular actions and a prior opinion cannot be given. According to the Applicant Guide provisions only roads proving cross border impact and connecting secondary or tertiary nodes to TEN-T infrastructure (core or comprehensive) will be financed under Priority Axis 1. So, in order to be considered eligible, respective road must observe this requirement of the applicant guide. |
| **Expression of Interets** | | | |
| **EoI.1** | Are there going to be clarifications also during the assessment of the Expressions of Interest? |  | Theoretically yes, the assessment working group has the possibility to send clarification letters also during the assessment of the expressions of interest. Please consult also the Assessors’ Guide applicable for the third call for proposals that was published on www.interregrobg.eu and will be used by the assessment working group. |
| **e-MS** | | | |
| **eMS.1** | One organization has to submit applications in e-MS from one single account or more accounts can be used? What is your recommendation? |  | It is up to each organization to choose its internal policy regarding users for applying in e-MS under Interreg V-A Romania-Bulgaria. From technical point of view, the e-MS has no restrictions in this respect, but the following aspects should be considered when you decide how you proceed internally:  - e-MS credentials (user and password) have to be used by the persons authorised in your organisation to use the respective account.  - For an application created in e-MS, one user has the possibility to assign other users (provided they are already registered in the system) for reading or for editing the respective application. When allowing more users for editing an application, please make sure that they are not working in the same time in the same section of the application - errors in saving data may occur and information can be lost!  - an e-MS user can submit only applications created by the respective user account (one account/organisation - all applications can be submitted from the same account; more accounts for an organisation - each user submits its own applications on behalf of the organisation)  - an user can monitor its own applications and the ones for which it was granted read/edit rights in the creation phase. Only the user who created the application in the system can grant the read/edit rights to another user/s. |
| **eMS.2** | What can we do in case the user creating and submitting the Expression of Interest leaves the organisation before Step 2 and doesn't provide the password to its colleagues? Can we change users for Step 2? |  | In case you no longer have the password of an user, please write to the Joint Secretariat to contact the system administrator for reseting the password for the respective account. It is not recommended for the user of the Lead applicant to be changed for Step 2, but, in duly justified cases, the system administrators can operate this change, following a request to JS from your part. |
| **eMS.3** | I registered in e-MS with an email address that I don’t use that frequently and now I want to change it. |  | Changing an email address for an user is not an option of the system for current use. However, in duly justified cases, the email address that you declared for the user when registering can be changed only by system administrators, following a request to JS from your part. |
| **Annexes** | | | |
| **A.1** | Do we have to present a traffic study for the road and if yes, on which phase of the application process? |  | In what concerns the submission of traffic study, please be aware that traffic study do not represents part from the Annex(es) 2 to the Application Form - Feasibility studies / equivalent technical documents, and it is not required by the Programme. |
| **A.2** | Am o intrebare legata de actualizarea devizului general pentru un proiect de infrastructura drumuri axa 1 Interreg VA RO-BG - pentru modificarea cotei de TVA la 19 %  se utilizeaza un anumit curs de schimb leu euro sau se utilizeaza cursul din  data actualizarii devizului general ? | I have a question regarding the updating of the general specification (deviz general) for an infrastructure project, roads, PA 1 of Interreg VA RoBg Programme – to modify the VAT rate to 19%, shall we use a specific exchange rate leu/euro or shall we use the exchange rate from the date of the updating the general specification (deviz general)? | Following your request for clarification namely to specify the exchange rate to be used in case of modification of the general estimate for an investment we would like to inform you that the Programme doesn’t impose any specific exchange rate to be used in case the technical and economic indicators are changed with implications on the minimum or maximum values of these indicators.  Therefore, you should observe the provisions of the national applicable legislation imposing the obligation to update and re-approve the technical and economic indicators in the case of changes affecting the respective indicators (if the case might be for such modifications). |
| **Applicant’s Guide** | | | |
| **AG.1** | Our question is regarding project proposals of applicants who currently have 4 projects in implementation. The Applicant's Guide part of the 3rd call for proposals states that one beneficiary cannot simultaneously have more than four projects in implementation; in case 5 projects are selected, the fifth one shall be put on a reserve list (and could be contracted after the finalization of at least one of the other projects, provided the Programme has the financial allocation available).  We are beneficiary under the Programme with 4 projects currently in implementation, which will be completed on 2 February 2018. Does this automatically puts any approved project proposal of our organization in the Reserve List or the MA will take into account the planned date for completion of the projects currently in implementation and that this date is likely to be prior to the contracting process under the 3rd call. |  | According to the provisions of the Applicant's Guide part for the 3rd call for proposals: "the Managing Authority has the right to decide not to sign a financing contract in case a Beneficiary already has in implementation 4 projects. After the finalization of one project the decision may be reconsidered, provided the financial allocation is available." |