



DECISION no. ⁹...
of 24th of April 2018

Regarding the complaints lodged against the Monitoring Committee Decision no. 72 of 22nd of March 2018, approving the List of approved and rejected projects submitted under the third call for proposals for the Interreg V-A Romania-Bulgaria Programme - deadline 23rd of October 2017

Having regard to the following:

- Monitoring Committee Decision no. 51 of 2nd of August 2017 approving the Complaint Panel for the Eols and full applications submitted under the 3rd call for proposals, priority axes 1-3, Interreg V-A Romania-Bulgaria Programme, step 1 and 2,
- The Complaint Procedure of Interreg V-A Romania-Bulgaria,

the Complaint Panel of Interreg V-A Romania-Bulgaria Programme has adopted this:

DECISION

Article 1. The present document rejects the complaint lodged by Tourist association "Trapezitsa-1902", lead beneficiary of the application no. ROBG 472 - *"Green Hubs for joint and responsible transformation of natural and cultural resources into sustainable tourist and recreational areas at the cross-border region"* and registered by CBC ROC with the number 6389/02.04.2018 appealing the rejection of the project proposal on the Admissibility and Eligibility verification.

Article 2. The reason for rejection of the complaint is:

- In section "Partner budget" within the Application Form, a wrong percentage was used on behalf of the Lead Beneficiary (3.75%, instead of 5% as foreseen by the provisions of the Applicant's Guide related to the simplified costs for hard projects). A request for clarification was sent, informing the Lead Beneficiary that *"the Application Form will be reverted (opened for modification) on the 28th of November between 10:00 AM and 12:00 noon time, in order to apply the correct percentage according to the Applicant's Guide....Please be aware that the modifications can be made exclusively during 10:00 AM and 12:00 (noon). The modifications made in eMS outside these hours shall not be taken into consideration"*. The modifications were submitted by the Lead Beneficiary at 9:55 AM, on the 28th of November, outside of the allocated time window set in the clarification letter. Based on the above mentioned the assessors did not take into consideration the operated modification and the project was rejected for non-compliance with Eligibility criterion E12.

Article 3. The decision of the Complaint Panel is final, binding to all parties and not subject of any further complaint proceedings within the Programme.

Signed by

Members of the Complaint Panel

Signature

Member 1 - Managing Authority representative, Ministry of Regional Development and Public Administration, Romania

Signature

Member 2 - National Authority representative, Ministry of Regional Administration and Public Works, Bulgaria

Signature

Member 3 - External expert (from the Evaluation Unit), Ministry of Regional Development and Public Administration, Romania

