

**INSTRUCTION No. 13/ 23.04.2020**

**FOR BENEFICIARIES**

**of the Interreg V-A Romania-Bulgaria Programme regarding the notifications submitted by the projects selected under Priority Axis 3 and 5, dealing with risks and health related issues, in order to make acquisitions related to the fight against COVID-19**

Having in mind the provisions of art. 7 Rights and duties of the parties, section Managing Authority of the subsidy contract, art. 7 Rights and duties of the parties, section Managing Authority of the co-financing contract, art. 6 Rights and duties of the parties, section Managing Authority of the monitoring agreement, paragraphs related to the right of the Managing Authority to modify the provisions of the contract unilaterally through instructions issued by the Head of the Managing Authority

Acknowledging the current situation generated by COVID-19, respectively the pandemic declared by the World Health Organization,

Taking into consideration the provision of Decree no. 195 of the Romania's President in response to the growing number of COVID-19 cases across the country, issued on 16.03.2020, declaring state of emergency on the territory of Romania starting with 16 March 2020, including the subsequent completions and modifications,

Considering the state of emergency declared on the territory of Bulgaria,

The necessity to timely address the negative consequences of the current crisis caused by the pandemic of coronavirus disease (COVID-19),

The Monitoring Committee written consultation procedure regarding the MC approval of the mechanism for using the potential economies by the projects under implementation within Interreg V-A Romania-Bulgaria Programme, dealing with risks and health related issues, for making acquisitions related to the fight against COVID-19,

The alarming levels of spread and severity, as well as the large number of announcement of positive COVID-19-test results in the eligible area of the Romania-Bulgaria Programme,

In order to support the Romanian and the Bulgarian authorities and respectively the population from the eligible area of the Program fight the pandemic, throughout the entire period of Covid-19 pandemic,

the Managing Authority issues the following:

**INSTRUCTION FOR BENEFICIARIES**

**Article 1** For the projects under implementation, selected under Priority Axis 3 and 5, dealing with risks or health related issues, the requests for the modification of the Application Form, in order to

use their potential economies for making acquisitions related to the fight against COVID-19, are included in the category of modifications whose object meets the notification requirements.

In this respect, the request to modify the Application Form in order to use the potential savings in the fight against COVID-19 does not fall under one of the cases for which an addendum to the subsidy contracts needs to be signed, as described in the Project Implementation Manual, respectively verifies the notification condition and falls under cases regulated in the Project Implementation Manual for which a notification to the subsidy contracts needs to be provided.

The deadlines for submitting a request for modification, as mentioned in the Project Implementation Manual are not mandatory for this specific notifications submitted in order to use the potential economies for making acquisitions related to the fight against COVID-19.

Also, in order to observe the coordination mechanism and to avoid any risks of double financing, the proposed modifications requested by the beneficiaries in order to use the potential savings in the fight against this epidemic, must be accompanied by a declaration in which the beneficiaries declare that the proposed activities/acquisitions are not subject of double financing. The declaration should be submitted only by the partner/partners requesting the use of the savings and not by all the partners.

In addition, the Bulgarian beneficiaries should coordinate in advance and present written support for the proposed activities by the responsible national institutions - the Ministry of Health, the Ministry of Finance and the Council of Ministers administration (Central Coordination Unit).

Therefore, the notifications above mentioned are verified under the same verification rules as the other types of notifications, with the amendment that, during the state of emergency, the notification requesting the use of potential economies for making acquisitions related to the fight against COVID-19, will be analyzed as a priority and the verification and approval deadlines will be minimized.

**Iulia HERTZOG**  
**Head of the Managing Authority for**  
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