

## INTERREG V-B ADRIATIC IONIAN COOPERATION PROGRAMME – ADRION CITIZEN’S SUMMARY OF THE ANNUAL REPORT 2017

On 20 October 2015, the Interreg V-B Adriatic Ionian Cooperation Programme - ADRION was approved by the European Commission. The programme involves four ERDF countries (Croatia, Greece, Italy and Slovenia) and four candidate and potential candidate countries (Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Montenegro and Serbia). The Programme has an overall budget of MEUR 118 and is supported by ERDF and IPAII funds.

### ADRION 1<sup>ST</sup> CALL FOR PROPOSALS

ADRION approved for funding its first 35 projects under the first call for proposals. Overall, the EU funding that will contribute to their implementation amounts to MEUR 36,8. One project – No 626 Wool declared its unavailability in proceeding with the negotiation process and decided to withdraw.

**Under priority axis 1 – Innovative and Smart Region** – 14 projects were funded for an overall amount of MEUR 14,3 EU co-financing.

Projects cover different topics related to blue growth, regional innovation systems in tourism and agro-food, clean environmental technologies and innovative products and processes and the development of social enterprises in the field of environmental protection and tourism. Overall, they involve ca 120 partners.

PRIORITY AXIS 1



**14**  
**PROJECTS**  
**MEUR**  
**14.3**



PRIORITY AXIS 2

**10**  
**PROJECTS**  
**MEUR**  
**11.1**

**In the framework of priority axis 2 – Sustainable Region** – 10 projects were funded. Out of them 6 can be framed under the specific object 2.1 and address the implementation of policies aiming at diversifying touristic product, the valorisation of cultural, traditional and environmental heritage, the creation of an Adriatic-Ionian brand; the improvement of water efficiency in ADRION coastal

PRIORITY AXIS 3



**10**  
**PROJECTS**  
**MEUR**  
**11.4**



PRIORITY AXIS 4

**EUSAIR**  
**Strategic Project**  
**MEUR**  
**9.7**

areas and the reduction of the negative impact of tourism activities on natural heritage. Under specific object 2.2 the four funded projects deal with the harmonization of protocols and guidelines for the monitoring of contaminants in the marine environment, the

creation of a common platform dealing with the Coastal Zone Management and Maritime Spatial Planning, the improvement of the early warning system and sea storms forecasting and the safeguard of ecosystems by establishing a transnational network among protected areas. The overall EU contribution amounts to MEUR 11.1. Overall partners involved are 84.

**Under priority axis 3 – Connected region** - out of the received 41 project proposals (30 considered eligible), 10 projects were finally approved with an overall allocation of EU funds EUR 11.414.087,07, out of which ERDF EUR 9.735.966,30 and IPA II EUR 1.678.120,77, involving 90 partners (out of which 5 private bodies). Projects tackle: the promotion of intermodal transport, the improvement of motorways of the sea through the reduction of the administrative bottlenecks of the freight transport on the TEN -T corridor, the creation of a framework to support the implementation of technical systems for the distribution and supply of LNG (Liquefied Natural Gas) in port areas, the promotion of common standards for electric transport system; the improvement of passengers mobility by boosting the intermodal connections between ports and airports and the rail transport connections. The projects mobilize ca 90 partners and shall receive MEUR 11.4 EU contribution

The majority of the funded projects finalized their negotiation process within the year and they are ready for starting their implementation.

Finally, as far as priority axis 4 is concerned - *Supporting the governance of the EUSAIR* - the EUSAIR strategic project finalized the negotiation process and all the contractual requirements are in place. The project has an overall EU budget of MEUR 9,7.

Through the EUSAIR Facility Point the 2<sup>nd</sup> EUSAIR Forum was organised and took place in Ioannina (Greece) on 11-12 May 2017.