

## First call for proposals

### Assessment grids related to the project proposal submitted in the framework of Priority Axis No 2, Specific Objective 2.3

#### No 222 - BIOMIMICRY –Promoting biomimicry-inspired habitat design solutions for biodiversity protection and restoration

#### Summary of the project proposal (as from section A.1 of the application form – copied and pasted)

Context: Recent extensive building infrastructure practice resulted in paving large soil surfaces with impervious materials, which caused uncontrolled flooding in many areas and valuable biodiversity rich areas lost their connections, migration paths, etc. Tourism risks are also common in the region due to significant changes in seasonal tourist concentration. As stated in the Territorial Analysis, climate change increases the frequency of extreme natural events which leads to a loss in biodiversity and causes economic damage.

Challenge: Already existing initiatives and strategies in the Adriatic Ionian region and beyond, mostly recognise green infrastructure needs and nature-based solutions as key components for generating green and blue paths in rural and urban areas that should increase biodiversity, ensure sustainable water collection and management, provide migration paths for animals and create socially acceptable areas and facilities to assure well-being. Nevertheless, this kind of approach often stays sketchy and there is a lack of mimicking natural processes (which are visible for example in Natura 2000 sites) to ensure balance between species, and raise awareness of the role that each organism has in green infrastructure execution.

Solution: Biomimicry, on the other hand, is a practice that learns from nature and the natural habitat and then emulates the regenerative solutions living organisms have to solve human design challenges. It proposes that by infusing biological strategies in design, we can transform sustainable innovation by at the same time embodying (re)connect and ethos elements. Therefore, BIOMIMICRY project envisions to fill these gaps between green infrastructure and emulation of functional strategies found in nature by bringing relevant knowledge, raising awareness among target groups, developing strategies and action plans and testing basic measures on sight through pilot activities to push forward biomimicry applicability in the Adriatic Ionian region and as such using it as a measure to prevent biodiversity loss.

Change: To undertake feasible measures and accomplish viable results, during the BIOMIMICRY project a strategic framework for the development of biomimicry-inspired habitat design solutions in rural and urban areas will be formed. Furthermore, the strategy will be utilised through site-specific biomimicry-inspired solutions for biodiversity protection and restoration in five pilot sites in Macerata, Čakovec, Rakičan, Žabljak and Campitelli, where each will be addressing their specific biodiversity protection and restoration measure, such as providing efficient green infrastructure for pollinating insects, creating temperature control and water collection system or developing

biomimetic solutions to ensure recirculation of water and avoid loss of wetland habitats. As a result, an interpretation of biomimicry-inspired habitat design solutions in biodiversity conservation will be developed in a form of online biomimicry tool and a foundation of 'biomimicry-inspired' verification award.

<b>Project initial total eligible budget (in EUR)</b>	<i>Out of which: INTERREG Funds</i>
EUR 1,700,436.25	EUR 1,445,370.81

**Partners involved:**

<b>Project partner No</b>	<b>Partner name</b>	<b>Abbreviation</b>	<b>Total INTERREG budget</b>	<b>Total budget</b>	<b>Country</b>
1	Research and Educational centre Mansion Rakičan	RIS	264,307.50	310,950.00	Slovenija (SI)
2	Croatian Green Building Council	CGBC	200,600.00	236,000.00	Hrvatska (HR)
3	Regional Development Agency for Central BiH	REZ	131,813.75	155,075.00	Bosnia and Herzegovina (BA)
4	Municipality of Macerata	MC	204,425.00	240,500.00	Italia (IT)
5	RARIS - Regional Development Agency of Eastern Serbia	RARIS	124,950.00	147,000.00	Serbia (RS)
6	Public Institution for the development of the Međimurje County REDEA	PI REDEA	158,704.56	186,711.25	Hrvatska (HR)
7	Abruzzo, Lazio and Molise National Park	PNALM	210,630.00	247,800.00	Italia (IT)
8	Municipality of Žabljak	OŽ	149,940.00	176,400.00	Crna Gora (ME)
			<b>1,445,370.81</b>	<b>1,700,436.25</b>	

**Overview of the overall final score:**

		<b>Attributed scores Assessor 1</b>	<b>Attributed scores Assessor 2</b>	<b>Attributed scores Average – Final score</b>
<b>Strategic criteria</b>	<b>Minimum score: 36/60</b>	<b>49/60</b>	<b>53/60</b>	<b>51/60</b>
<b>Operational criteria</b>	<b>Minimum score: 30/50</b>	<b>31/50</b>	<b>33/50</b>	<b>32/50</b>
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>80/110</b>	<b>86/110</b>	<b>83/110</b>

## Quality assessment grid Assessor 1

### Operational criteria

	<b>STRATEGIC ASSESSMENT</b>	
	<b>Relevance</b>	
1.a	<p>Is the need for the proposed project well justified, reasonable and well explained: does the proposal address a common territorial challenge of the Programme or a joint territorial asset?</p> <p>Is the project proposal relevant in relation to the targeted programme specific objective and the expected result?</p>	
	<p>+The need for project proposal is well justified, reasonable and well explained.</p> <p>+The proposal aims to develop measures for environmental management. It addresses the key challenges derived from extensive building infrastructure practice which resulted in paving large soil surfaces with impervious materials. This caused uncontrolled flooding in many areas and valuable biodiversity rich areas lost their connections, migration paths, etc. Tourism risks are also common in the region due to significant changes in seasonal tourist concentration. The focus of the project enhances not only green infrastructure integration into rural and urban landscapes but the integration of biomimicry principles while doing so.</p> <p>+ The project proposal is relevant for addressing common territorial challenge, and is well aligned with specific objective 2.3 Supporting environment preservation and protection in the Adriatic Ionian region and indicative action 2. Test solutions to protect and restore flora and fauna (with particular attention to algae/poseidonia oceanica, large carnivores, pollinating insects, migrators, fishes), also envisaging the use of blue and green infrastructure.</p>	4
1.b	<p>Does the project proposal clearly contribute to the relevant policy framework at different levels?</p> <p>Does the project clearly and consistently contribute to specified EUSAIR macro-regional strategy objectives and actions?</p> <p>Is the proposal of relevance to the territory of the programme: will the programme area benefit?</p> <p>Is the project relevant for the territorial needs in IPA participating countries to ensure the transfer of knowledge and build capacity in the implementation of EU policies and practices?</p>	

	<p>+The proposal clearly and directly contributes to EUSAIR pillar Environmental Quality by addressing the common challenges identified in the region, such as biodiversity loss, and the degradation of ecosystem services in the EU. The proposal aims to implement newer approach in development and urban planning (biomimicry-inspired design habitat) to support environmental protection and preservation and reduce biodiversity loss in the region.</p> <p>+The proposal is also in alignment with European Green Deal and its goal to protect the biodiversity and ecosystems. It will provide biomimicry-inspired solutions to protect and restore biodiversity in urban and rural areas (urban greening including green infrastructure, biomimetic nesting and roosting structures, habitat monitoring and management) and therefore create environments for pollinating insects, birds and other migrators, as well as provide data to monitor biodiversity and manage it accordingly.</p> <p>+The proposal is also relevant for initiative New European Bauhaus by creating solutions that are nature-inspired and bring scientists, engineers, designers, architects, citizens and institutions together to co-create a more sustainable future.</p> <p>+ The proposal is relevant for the programme area, which will benefit from the developed solutions and policy instruments for designing environments that contribute to biodiversity protection and restoration.</p> <p>+The proposal provides a clear benefit to IPA countries by creating ‘Biomimicry-inspired habitat design solution for biodiversity protection and restoration’ and policy instruments to be used by responsible public authorities in participating countries’ regions in order to promote biomimicry-inspired solutions in their urban and landscape planning.</p>	5
1.c	<p>How does the proposal contribute to the respect of horizontal principles?</p> <p>How does the project position itself with regard to the pre-defined environmental topics and the “do not significant harm” principle?</p>	
	<p>+ Project proposal substantially contributes to SDG 3 Good health and well-being, to SDG 11 sustainable cities and communities, and to SDG 15 Life on land.</p> <p>+ The proposal supports “Don No Significant Harm”, and to avoid unnecessary environmental burdens, the partnership meetings will be conducted as much as possible in a sustainable way (e.g. use of web-based applications).</p> <p>+ The proposal has positive effect on equal opportunities and non-discrimination, and encourages innovation and creativity in addressing environmental challenges, which can open up opportunities for diverse groups of individuals, including marginalized communities to contribute their unique perspectives. In that way, a more equitable representation of voices in environmental decision-making</p>	4

	<p>process is considered. The project aims to bring the region together without constraints of borders or nationality, which can only create a more open space for research, further collaboration and finding joint solutions to the same issue, shared in all Adriatic-Ionian region, that is of biodiversity loss.</p> <p>+The proposal respects and promotes equality between men and women. The principle of equal involvement of women and men will be followed in the planning and implementation of project activities throughout the project, as well as in employment, work and pay.</p>	
1.d	<p>Does the proposal build on existing practices:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Does the proposal demonstrate new solutions that go beyond the existing practice in the sector/programme area/participating countries?</li> <li>- Does the proposal adapt and implement already developed solutions?</li> <li>- Does the proposal introduce a completely approach?</li> </ul> <p>Is the proposal making use of synergies with other projects or initiatives?</p>	
	<p>+The proposal does not demonstrate new solutions that go beyond the existing practices.</p> <p>+ The proposal indicates 7 projects/initiatives whose solutions it will adapt and implement. The main ones are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• LIFE level which is a voluntary reporting framework to improve the sustainability of buildings. It favours a building principle that reduces emissions, ensures efficient and circular resource flows and support the health and wellbeing of those they are built to serve.</li> <li>• Project 'Innovations - inspired by nature' where 8 prototypes were developed in collaboration with their Biomimicry consortium as well as a new development principle and the already established German/Dutch biomimicry network. It will draw inspiration and knowledge on available data and use it to further develop the idea and translate it into Adriatic Ionian region.</li> </ul> <p>+The proposal will use available knowledge from previous 5 projects, and form a basis for project habitat assessment, mapping, typology, and strategy and action plan development, as well as for testing on pilot areas.</p> <p>+The proposal introduces transnational and knowledge-based approach, which ensures that identified challenges will be well addressed.</p>	5
	<b>Intervention logic</b>	
2.a	Is the proposal's intervention logic (i.e., project specific objectives, outputs and expected results) clearly defined and consistent?	

	<p>+The proposals intervention logic is clearly defined and consistent.</p> <p>+/-The proposal includes all output indicators relevant for the call – 83, 84, 87 and 116.</p> <p>+The outputs are clearly linked to expected results, and clearly contribute to specific objective 2.3.</p>	4
2.b	<p>Are project outputs and results that contribute to Programme indicators realistic:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Is it possible to achieve them with the given resources – i.e., time, partners, budget -?</li> <li>- Is it possible to reach them with the chosen approach?</li> <li>- Are they realistic based on the quantification provided)?</li> </ul>	
	<p>+The proposal has clearly defined output indicators 83, 84, 87 and 116.</p> <p>+The proposals outputs and results can be achieved within given timeframe – 30 months, with planned partnership composition, and with coherent management approach.</p> <p>+The proposal has well-chosen transnational knowledge-based approach to reach its outputs and results.</p> <p>-Regarding the budget, additional clarifications are needed for cost categories Staff costs, Equipment and External expertise and services.</p>	4
2.c	<p>Do the project main outputs clearly link to the programme output and results indicators? Do the project main outputs clearly link to programme specific objectives and the project specific objectives?</p>	
	<p>+ There are 7 outputs which are related to output indicators 83, 84, 87 and 116.</p> <p>+ The proposals outputs are linked to specific objective 2.3 and to project specific objective, which is to develop measures for environmental management and enhance green infrastructure integration into rural and urban landscapes on biomimicry principles.</p>	5
2.d	<p>Does the project proposal clearly conceptualise the ownership/durability, long lasting effects and transferability of outputs and results? Is financial, institutional, political sustainability ensured?</p>	
	<p>+/-Regrading ownership, proposal aims to ensure that the outputs reached are preserved in the practices of not only project partners but also the practices of involved stakeholders and target groups. The first step in ensuring the sustainability of the project is the consortium partners, their scope of work and regional relevance. It does not indicate any specific regarding ownership over the solutions, maintenance costs of the equipment etc.</p> <p>+The proposal indicates the use of outputs/deliverables for each work package, which are to have long-lasting effect and to ensure longevity and visibility of the project results.</p>	4

	<p>+Regrading transferability, outputs will be publicly available and intended for use of stakeholders interested in replicating the results. With national stakeholders and multi-sector and multi-perspective project partners shaping the project deliverables and outputs, the project will achieve and diverse level of expert input, which will enable its replication among other similar experts, sector actors and stakeholders outside the consortium. Engaging communication and dissemination campaign will be the key in the process of creating and maintaining engagement with the project activities, outputs and deliverables.</p> <p>+/-The proposal indicates that all project partners have necessary financial and institutional capacity to continue using the outputs and results of the project after its completion, which is not visible from the proposal.</p> <p>+/-Regarding political sustainability, the proposal will foster the development of networks within governance structures which would transfer its value beyond the lifetime of a project. The partner organizations will look to integrate primarily local, and secondary national policymakers and planners, through commitments and institutional support, in order to implement the provided solutions within the future regulatory framework.</p>	
<b>Partnership</b>		
3.a	<p>Is the partnership composition, including Associated Partners, relevant and strategic for the proposed project?</p> <p>Is it balanced with respect to the participating countries, the addressed sectors and levels?</p> <p>Is it consistent in size and composition with the proposed activities?</p>	
	<p>+The partnership comprises of 8 partners from 6 countries (3 ERDF and 3 IPA participating countries). There are also 3 associated partners in the partnership, which is well suited for the project proposal, and well balanced considering territorial coverage.</p> <p>+The proposal is also well balanced taking into account expertise of the project partners included – 1 national public authority (Abruzzo, Lazio and Molise National Park), 2 regional public authorities (Research and Educational centre Mansion Rakičan and Public Institution for the development of the Međimurje County REDEA), 2 local public authorities (Municipality of Macerata and Municipality of Žabljak), 1 sectoral agency (Regional Development Agency of Eastern Serbia), 1 business support organization (Regional Development Agency for Central BiH) and 1 NGO (Croatian Green Building Council).</p> <p>+Partnership composition is in line with proposed activities, and involvement of associated partners has positive effect on project’s sustainability, and should ensure the continuation of project proposal activities.</p>	4

3.b	<p>Does the lead partner have sufficient experience in the thematic field concerned and is it competent enough having the capacity to manage a complex transnational cooperation project under ETC?</p> <p>Do all project partners have competence and proven experience, as well as the necessary capacity to implement the project (financial, human resources, etc.)?</p>	
	<p>+ The LP has extensive thematic expertise, as well as previous managerial experience of EU funded projects.</p> <p>+/-All project partners have indicated previous experience in implementation of EU or other projects.</p> <p>+/-Overall, the proposed partnership is relevant for the projects theme, but not all project partners have necessary human capacity to implement the project activities e.g., project partners CGBC, RARIS and PNALM have nominated only 1 employee for project activities which is not in line with their roles defined in the project proposal.</p> <p>-Regarding financial capacity, no assessment can be made due to lack of information in the proposal.</p>	3
	<b>Cooperation character</b>	
4.a	<p>Does the partnership reflect the transnational cooperation approach?</p> <p>Does the transnational co-operation have a significant added value for the partners and the territories involved?</p>	
	<p>+ The proposal has balanced geographical partnership which is an enabling factor for transnational cooperation, and is necessary to implement the project activities and achieve planned outputs and results.</p> <p>+ The proposal has foreseen significant added value for all project partners which are to benefit from collaborative research and development initiatives facilitated by joining resources.</p> <p>+ Territories included in the project proposal will benefit from knowledge transfer and capacity building activities. Various local/regional/sectoral/national authorities, higher education and research organisations, SMEs, NGOs, business support organisations, Education/training centres and schools have been targeted, most of them by name, and for each targeted group benefits have been specified. The targeted groups will be invited to participate at the demonstration and awareness raising events at the specific sites where biomimicry-inspired solutions will be displayed.</p>	4
4.b	Do all partners play a defined role in the partnership, in line with the compulsory and optional ways of co-operation described?	

	Are tasks and roles for each project partner clearly defined? Is the distribution of tasks and responsibilities of project partners appropriate?	
	<p>+/-The proposal has defined work package leaders, and for each deliverable, project partners in charge and contributing project partners are indicated.</p> <p>-The proposal clearly indicates joint development during the coordination meetings when the key strengths of each partner were highlighted and the thematic focus of the proposal was narrowed down and project content finalized. Still, since the budget include Lump sum for preparation of costs only for project partners RIS and CGBC, it is quite evident that the project proposal was not developed by all partners.</p> <p>+The proposal clearly indicates joint implementation of analyses, action plan, strategy and concrete actions (tested biomimicry-inspired solutions in pilot areas, awareness raising programmes for target groups, common published materials - guidebook, development of new 'biomimicry- inspired' mark of excellence, etc.).</p> <p>+/-The proposal indicated joint action of project staff reflected in the proportional distribution of project activities. The implementation of the project is overseen by a joint project team composed of the partnership staff.</p> <p>-Project partners have jointly decided on distribution of tasks and responsibilities based on their expertise and previous experience, but clarifications are required regarding the budget and related staff costs.</p>	3

	<b>OPERATIONAL ASSESSMENT</b>	
	<b>Workplan</b>	
5.a	Is the overall approach suitable to obtain the planned outputs and results?	
	<p>+The proposals transnational knowledge-based approach is well presented and suitable to obtain project outputs and results within the timeframe of 36 months.</p> <p>-It is indicated that the proposals budget was divided among the project partners based on their contribution to project activities. Additional clarifications are required regarding job description of the staff indicated in the budget, since currently, relevant information for assessment is missing.</p>	4

	<p>+The link between the project objectives and the proposed activities is consistently and clearly presented in the workplan – WP1 cooperating organisations and joint strategy, WP2 action plan, pilot action and solution, WP3 action plan and solution.</p> <p>+There are total of 24 deliverables and 7 output that are clearly linked. The outputs are directly linked to expected results which show long-lasting cooperation after the end of project.</p>	
5.b	<p>Are the work plan and timing of activities, deliverables and outputs realistic, consistent and transparent? Are the proposed financial and human resources appropriate to implement the project?</p>	
	<p>+The workplan clearly outlines the role of each partner in the delivery of the outputs, since for each activity leader partner/responsible and contributing/participating partner/partners are indicated.</p> <p>+Three work packages are proposed and follow a consistent and clear logic linked to the project activities and deliverables.</p> <p>+The timing of the activities is consistent throughout the application form including the financial allocation per period.</p> <p>- Financial resources cannot be assessed due to lack of information in the proposal.</p> <p>-Human resources are to be clarified, since project partners CGBC, RARIS and PNALM have dedicated only 1 employee for project activities, which is not in line with their roles defined in the project proposal and represents the risk for the project implementation.</p>	3
5.c	<p>Will the target groups, the partners, and the stakeholders benefit from the co-operation?</p>	
	<p>+The proposal will have significant benefit from the cooperation and networking and from creating new knowledge as a result of this proposal.</p> <p>+The proposal outlines the target groups which will clearly benefit from the proposed activities, and these include various local/regional/sectoral/national authorities, higher education and research organisations, SMEs, NGOs, business support organisations, Education/training centres and schools have been targeted, most of them by name, and for each targeted group benefits have been specified. The targeted groups will be invited to participate at the demonstration and awareness raising events at the specific sites where biomimicry-inspired solutions will be displayed.</p> <p>+The proposal in activity 3.1 focuses on capacity building of local/regional/national authorities and relevant stakeholders through online biomimicry tool that will function as a practical guide on how to start the development process that uses biomimicry-inspired solutions for biodiversity protection and restoration and workshops are intended to explain and promote the practice in partners' countries</p>	4

	through interactive approach combined with theoretical base and case studies. This tool is also intended to raise awareness and to promote use of biomimicry.	
	<b>Management</b>	
6.a	<p>Does the management approach show good potential to secure a sound project management, coordination and risk mitigation?</p> <p>Is the proposed project management structure effective? Are the internal communication and management structures appropriate to ensure a smooth co-operation within the partnership?</p> <p>To which extent the need for engaging external expertise is justified (with specific reflection on partnership expertise)?</p>	
	<p>+The project proposal has a clear management structure. Lead Partner (RIS) is responsible for coordination of the project, and the Joint Project Team (JPT) is responsible for management of the project, which includes representatives of all the PPs. The Steering Committee, founded by the consortium will include one staff member per partner, will be responsible for decision-making and strategical approach of the project and shall meet at least every 6 months.</p> <p>+/-Communication will take place via web applications, e-mails, telephone, web meetings and teleworking (e.g. Google Drive).</p> <p>+/-LP will develop an internal project management manual, including the project structure and the modalities and frequency of internal communication, and quality is ensured through ongoing evaluation of the activities carried out.</p> <p>+The proposed management structure seems to be effective enough to ensure active participation of project partners in all activities.</p> <p>-No risk management plan is envisaged by the proposal, and no initial risks have been identified or any mitigating measures.</p> <p>+/-External expertise is sought by 5 partners out of 8, and is mostly well justified. Yet, some of the budget lines require further clarification.</p>	3
	<b>Communication</b>	
7.a	<p>Are communication activities planned in the work plan and are they relevant for achieving communication objectives? Are the communication activities and deliverables appropriate to reach the relevant target groups and stakeholders?</p> <p>Will the proposed communication activities lead to sufficient visibility of the project among relevant target groups and stakeholders?</p>	

	<p>+/-CGBC will be in charge of coordinating project communication, and will develop Communication Strategy in cooperation with other project partners. Along with CGBC, all PPs will participate in project communication activities. Each partner will have a person responsible for communication at the partner level that ensures all partners are involved in communication activities. They will compose communication team which will take care of proper branding of all project activities.</p> <p>+/-The main audience of the consortium will be defined target groups, and to ensure wider audience reach a website domain will be established. The website will perform as a learning tool developed under WP3 serving for capacity building among target groups and as a platform to showcase examples of good practice in biomimicry solutions, including the ones developed in all pilot sites.</p> <p>+/-Target groups will also be reached and engaged via online consultations and on-site workshops. Continuous outreach will be ensured via BIOMIMICRY's LinkedIn profile and all PP's contributions and cooperation on local, regional and national levels. The general public and other stakeholders will be informed and involved with different channels, including press releases and social media.</p> <p>+/-A short video for better visualization of pilot testing findings will be created to increase the awareness</p> <p>+Overall, proposed communication activities are appropriate to reach relevant target groups and stakeholders, and will lead to sufficient visibility of the project among relevant target groups and stakeholders.</p>	4
7.b	Are the capitalization activities foreseen in the workplan? If, yes, are these activities ensuring that the project outputs and results are effectively disseminated and used?	
	<p>-Capitalization activities are not foreseen in the project proposal.</p> <p>+/-From the description of activities can be concluded that certain activities lead to dissemination of project outputs and results.</p>	3
<b>Budget</b>		
8.a	<p>To which extent the presented budget is transparent and include sufficient details per partner and per cost category?</p> <p>Is the application of simplified cost options (SCOs) appropriate and in line with the programme rules?</p>	
	<p>+/-Project budget is quite transparent but should include more specific details as listed below.</p> <p>For cost category Staff costs:</p>	2

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Project partners CGBC, RARIS and PNALM have nominated only 1 person to work on the project activities. Clarification is required regarding ability of 1 person per project partner to implement all that is dedicated to those them by the proposal.</li> <li>• Price per month is quite high for CGBC and PNALM. Clarification is required.</li> <li>• Project partner MC has budgeted the cost per hour, which should be corrected into per month if the project partner has that type of salary reimbursement.</li> <li>• Column Comments should be fulfilled with job description of each employee, and in line with responsibilities indicated in the proposal – WPs, activities etc.</li> <li>• Except for project partners REZ and PI REDEA, all other project partners did not enter information on % of work per month per employee. Adjustment is required.</li> </ul> <p>+/-For cost category External expertise and services:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• LP has budgeted 15.000,00 EUR for D2.2.4: Park outside Rakičan Mansion. Additional clarification is required regarding this cost since same insertions is made in column Description and column Comments.</li> <li>• PP4 MC has budgeted WP3, D3.2.1. Additional clarification is required regarding this cost since it is not clear to what type of service this cost refers to.</li> </ul> <p>+/-For cost category Equipment:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• For costs with unit type ‘set’ clarification is required as to what is included in the set i.e., based on which estimations was the budget planed.</li> <li>• For cost of PI REDEA - A2.2: Conceptual design of pilot actions, adaptation to specific pilot sites and planning for the implementation o D2.2.3: Testing the biomimicry-inspired solutions in pilot sites – clarification is required as to what type of equipment will be procured i.e., based on which estimations was the budget planed.</li> </ul>	
8.b	To which extent resources planned by the project partners are adequate (in terms of quantity and quality) and reflects market prices?	
	<p>-For cost category Staff costs staff of 14 is envisaged for the total amount of 855.439,00 EUR which is quite high and overestimated.</p> <p>-Regarding cost category Equipment, additional clarifications and adjustments are required to be able to check and verify planned costs and their market value.</p> <p>+/-Regarding cost category External expertise and services, besides minor clarifications, all costs are adequate.</p> <p>-Overall, assessment of the planned resources and alignment with market price, cannot be performed due to lack of relevant information.</p>	2

8.c	<p>To which extent project budget is proportionate to the proposed work plan and project outputs? Is distribution of budget per period in line with workplan?</p>	
	<p>-Additional information is required in order to assess the proportionality of the proposed work plan and project outputs. +Distribution of budget per period is in line with the workplan.</p>	3
8.d	<p>Is the financial allocation per cost category in line with the programme rules? To which extent the budget allocated to staff and external expertise is in line with the project content and the costs are realistic? To which extent the budget allocated to pilot actions and equipment (if applicable) is realistic and in line with the project content?</p>	
	<p>+Financial allocation per cost category is in line with the programme rules:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• option G is used by project partners CGBC, RARIS and PNALM;</li> <li>• option B is used by project partners RIS, MC and PI REDEA,</li> <li>• option C is used by project partner REZ</li> <li>• option F is used by project partner OŽ</li> </ul> <p>+Lump sum for preparation costs in the total amount of 14.200,00 EUR, is also budgeted and is in line with the programme rules.</p> <p>- Budget for staff costs cannot be fully assessed since relevant information is missing, and clarification is required.</p> <p>+Budget for external expertise is quite transparent and is in line with the project content.</p> <p>-The budget for pilot actions and equipment cannot be assessed, since relevant information is missing, and clarification is required.</p>	3

## Quality assessment grid Assessor 2

### Operational criteria

	<b>STRATEGIC ASSESSMENT</b>	
	<b>Relevance</b>	
1.a	<p>Is the need for the proposed project well justified, reasonable and well explained: does the proposal address a common territorial challenge of the Programme or a joint territorial asset?</p> <p>Is the project proposal relevant in relation to the targeted programme specific objective and the expected result?</p>	
	<p>Project BIOMIMICRY focus on the enhancement not only of the green infrastructure integration into rural and urban landscapes but the integration of biomimicry principles while doing so. The project is keen to stress the importance of mimicking natural processes in anthropogenic landscapes to ensure adaptation to climate change, revitalization of landscapes, long-term stability and sustainable development.</p> <p>+ The project proposal is addressed to a common territorial challenge, is well explained and is satisfactory aligned with specific objective thematic focus (Biodiversity protection and preservation, including protected areas and areas under Habitat and Birds Directives, Green and blue infrastructures, and ecosystem services) , outputs and results.</p> <p>+ BIOMIMICRY will through common strategies, pilot actions, development of frameworks will develop a biomimicry-inspired habitat design in pilot sites.</p>	4
1.b	<p>Does the project proposal clearly contribute to the relevant policy framework at different levels?</p> <p>Does the project clearly and consistently contribute to specified EUSAIR macro-regional strategy objectives and actions?</p> <p>Is the proposal of relevance to the territory of the programme: will the programme area benefit?</p> <p>Is the project relevant for the territorial needs in IPA participating countries to ensure the transfer of knowledge and build capacity in the implementation of EU policies and practices?</p>	
	<p>+The project proposal is total coherent with the EU Strategy for the Adriatic and Ionian Region (EUSAIR) is a macro-regional strategy and the third thematic pillar concerning Environmental quality, Support the development of sustainable tourism and its ecosystems in one of Europe’s most popular destinations. The general objective of</p>	5

	<p>the EUSAIR is to promote economic and social prosperity and growth in the region by improving its attractiveness, competitiveness and connectivity. The partnership proposes activities that will connect all partners in joint action plan and a strategy that envision long-term transnational cooperation. By promoting an innovative approach in development and urban planning (biomimicry-inspired design habitat) and finding joint solutions to support environmental protection and preservation and reduce biodiversity loss in the region.</p> <p>+ The threat that pose climate change and environmental degradation are being addressed by the European Green Deal, which will ensure that EU will be the first climate neutral continent with no net emissions of greenhouse gases by 2050. Their focus is on providing fresh air, clean water, healthy soil and biodiversity, renovated, energy efficient buildings and cleaner energy and cutting-edge clean technological innovation. BIOMIMICRY is addressing those values especially in pilot actions, where innovative solutions will be developed and tested in various environments. The project will provide biomimicry-inspired solutions to protect and restore biodiversity in urban and rural areas (urban greening including green infrastructure, biomimetic nesting and roosting structures, habitat monitoring and management) and therefore create environments for pollinating insects, birds and other migrators, as well as provide data to monitor biodiversity and manage it accordingly.</p> <p>+ The project aims to the collaboration among IPA-ADRION Countries' All partners cover different regions in the Adriatic-Ionian area, which will contribute to wider data collection and analysis of habitats, as well as dissemination of project results among their network to reach different target groups. - No relevant information about contribution to national, regional policy frameworks</p> <p>+ Extend description and detailed list of Local public , regional authorities, sectoral agencies , SMEs, NGOs, Universities and Research Centres and general public and stakeholders will benefit by the implementation of the project</p>	
1.c	<p>How does the proposal contribute to the respect of horizontal principles?</p> <p>How does the project position itself with regard to the pre-defined environmental topics and the “do not significant harm” principle?</p>	
	<p>+ The project avoids all forms of discrimination and ensures equal opportunities for all stakeholders. It promotes the sustainable development of rural and urban regions and the accessibility of all the project's contents to the general public, at no financial cost to visitors. The project results and knowledge will be shared irrespective of age, gender, culture, religious beliefs, ethical affiliation, etc.</p> <p>+Submission by the LP of the declaration of environmental objectives – Consistency with project proposed activities.</p>	5
1.d	<p>Does the proposal build on existing practices:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Does the proposal demonstrate new solutions that go beyond the existing practice in the sector/programme area/participating countries?</li> </ul>	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Does the proposal adapt and implement already developed solutions?</li> <li>- Does the proposal introduce a completely approach?</li> </ul> <p>Is the proposal making use of synergies with other projects or initiatives?</p>	
	<p>+ The proposal is making use of synergies with past or current EU and other projects or initiatives and presents a detailed list of past and present projects. Project partners also participated in many of the mentioned initiatives, and they capitalize their previous experience. Analytical reference to past EU projects and Initiatives to which the proposed project will be based in order to use tools, methodologies, strategies, etc.</p> <p>+ Project BIOMIMICRY derives inspiration from various existing initiatives and projects conducted under various EU funding opportunities (Interreg, LIFE, HORIZON). Previous findings and tools usually included and still include various approaches to climate issues, biodiversity loss, and green infrastructure promotion. Various tests and research have been conducted, although there is a lack of biomimicry-inspired solutions for strategic spatial planning and landscape design frameworks overall..</p> <p>+The BIOMIMICRY project draws inspiration and capitalizes on the results from projects: Balance for Nature and People (BANAP), Assessing Changes to Regional Habitats (ARCH), Blue Green Infrastructure through Social Innovation (BEGIN), Restoring and managing ecological corridors in mountains as the green infrastructure in the Danube basin (ConnectGREEN), NATURVATION: Reconciling urbanization with nature.</p> <p>+ Overall, many projects which were focused on biodiversity issues, green infrastructure and nature-based solutions promotion created valuable tools, methods and guidelines for further initiatives. Therefore, project BIOMIMICRY will base its conduction on available knowledge, although it will put a huge emphasis on biomimicry principles integration to spatial planning and landscape design procedures along with providing connections between protected natural biotopes with anthropogenic areas.</p>	5
	<b>Intervention logic</b>	
2.a	Is the proposal's intervention logic (i.e., project specific objectives, outputs and expected results) clearly defined and consistent?	
	+Expected results and main outputs are adequately realistic and clearly described. There is consistency and effectiveness of the logical link between project activities/outputs/results and their contribution to the selected indicative action	4
2.b	Are project outputs and results that contribute to Programme indicators realistic: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Is it possible to achieve them with the given resources – i.e., time, partners, budget -?</li> </ul>	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Is it possible to reach them with the chosen approach?</li> <li>- Are they realistic based on the quantification provided)?</li> </ul>	
	<p>+ The Project proposal contributes to at least two programme output and result indicators.( CO83_2.3: Strategies and action plans jointly developed, RCR104_2.3: Solutions taken up or up-scaled by organisations, RCR79_2.3: Joint strategies and action plans taken up by organisations)</p> <p>+Project outputs and results are clearly described. They seem to be realistic and feasible to be implemented and achieved from technical and institutional capacities point of view (as each partner is dealing with actions in which has previous experience and know how) and within the proposed time plan.</p> <p>+ The project also appears realistic in the given timeline of 30 months and activities satisfactory distributed among months.</p> <p>+ Expected results are adequately realistic and clearly described.</p>	5
2.c	Do the project main outputs clearly link to the programme output and results indicators? Do the project main outputs clearly link to programme specific objectives and the project specific objectives?	
	<p>+ In Work plan there is evident connection between project specific objective, indicators that will be achieved when all activities in this work package are implemented and outputs delivered. WP1 Jointly developed strategy for biomimicry-inspired design implementation into planning and landscaping practice connected with Programme Output Indicator RCO83_2.3: Strategies and action plans jointly Developed . WP2 Action plans for the realization of concept designs for biomimicry-inspired solutions in five pilot sites Programme Output Indicator RCO83_2.3: Strategies and action plans jointly developed WP3 Guidelines on developing and implementing biomimicry-inspired habitat design in Adriatic-Ionian Region Programme Output Indicator RCO116_2.3: Jointly developed solutions</p> <p>+ Moreover, it is evident that there is consistency to the results of the specific objective “setting the frame for shared transnational and macro-regional actions by repositioning protection and preservation of nature in its central role.”</p> <p>+ Selection of mandatory output indicator “RCO 87 - Organisations cooperating across borders” and result indicator “RCR 84 - Organisations cooperating across borders after project completion”.</p>	5
2.d	Does the project proposal clearly conceptualise the ownership/durability, long lasting effects and transferability of outputs and results? Is financial, institutional, political sustainability ensured?	
	+ The proposal presents specific plan in order to have a long-lasting effect (outputs/results) in the Territory. The project’s ambition is to ensure that the outputs reached are preserved in the practices of not only project partners but also the practices of involved stakeholders and target groups. The first step	4

	<p>in ensuring the sustainability of the project is the consortium partners, their scope of work and regional relevance. As the project is being executed, the stakeholders and designated target groups will be integrated into the rollout of the activities in the work packages. In that way, the project will ensure a high level of recognizability and engagement towards the stakeholders not included in the project partners who will benefit from their participation in the project activities. In order for the project to reach the broad scope of stakeholders, meaning institutions, local governments, stakeholders, and organizations in territories beyond the ones covered by the partnership, significant effort will be invested in transferability actions realized through an effective communication campaign. Through the execution of the project, the partners will communicate the development, outputs, and knowledge attained through different communication channels such as websites, social media, events and creation of synergies with other organizations. In that way, the continuous efforts by the project partners will be shared with interested stakeholders outside the consortium countries.</p>	
	<b>Partnership</b>	
3.a	<p>Is the partnership composition, including Associated Partners, relevant and strategic for the proposed project?</p> <p>Is it balanced with respect to the participating countries, the addressed sectors and levels?</p> <p>Is it consistent in size and composition with the proposed activities?</p>	
	<p>+ There is balance between ERDF and IPA Partners. The partnership in BIOMIMICRY consists of 8 partners from 6 countries (ERDF – 2 from Italy, 1 from Slovenia, 2 from Croatia, IPA – 1 from Serbia, 1 from Montenegro, 1 from Bosnia and Herzegovina), as well as 3 associated partners (1 from Italy, 1 from Croatia, 1 from Montenegro). One national public authority (Abruzzo, Lazio and Molise National Park), 2 regional public authorities (Research and Educational centre Mansion Rakičan and Public Institution for the development of the Međimurje County REDEA), 2 local public authorities (Municipality of Macerata and Municipality of Žabljak), 1 sectoral agency (Regional Development Agency of Eastern Serbia), 1 business support organization (Regional Development Agency for Central BiH) and 1 NGO (Croatian Green Building Council). It seems appropriate to address the identified territorial challenges and the objectives specified.</p> <p>+ Relevant Associated Partners are included.</p> <p>+They have knowledge and capacities to address the identified goals.</p>	4
3.b	<p>Does the lead partner have sufficient experience in the thematic field concerned and is it competent enough having the capacity to manage a complex transnational cooperation project under ETC?</p>	

	Do all project partners have competence and proven experience, as well as the necessary capacity to implement the project (financial, human resources, etc.)?	
	<p>+ The LB RIS has been the lead partner in at least five cross-border or international projects. For this reason, the organization has the necessary know-how and experience to manage and coordinate a project of this kind.</p> <p>+The partnership as a whole and each PP (although in some case for different reasons) seem to have proven experience and competence in the thematic content of the project as well as to have the necessary financial, organizational, human resources to implement the project itself.</p>	4
	<b>Cooperation character</b>	
4.a	<p>Does the partnership reflect the transnational cooperation approach?</p> <p>Does the transnational co-operation have a significant added value for the partners and the territories involved?</p>	
	<p>+ Biodiversity is not confined to a single country or region as it spans across borders, encompassing various ecosystems and species. Transnational cooperation allows for the preservation and utilization of diverse ecosystems in different countries. By collaborating, countries can gain access to a broader range of natural environments and the associated flora and fauna which serve as inspiration for biomimetic design. This collective access expands the pool of potential solutions and enhances the overall effectiveness of the BIOMIMICRY project. Transnational cooperation provides opportunities for joint research and development initiatives. By pooling resources, expertise and funding, countries can undertake comprehensive studies, pilot projects and experimental initiatives that explore biomimicry-inspired solutions. Collaborative research facilitates a deeper understanding of complex ecological systems, urban dynamics and the application of nature-inspired design principles. It enables the BIOMIMICRY project to leverage diverse perspectives, interdisciplinary collaboration and collective innovation, leading to more robust and effective solutions.</p> <p>+The territories represented by the project partners are relevant in respect to the project topic.</p> <p>+There is analytical description of partners' benefit from project implementation.</p> <p>+ Target groups' involvement is very analytical, presuming how they will be benefited through project's implementation.</p>	4
4.b	<p>Do all partners play a defined role in the partnership, in line with the compulsory and optional ways of co-operation described?</p> <p>Are tasks and roles for each project partner clearly defined? Is the distribution of tasks and responsibilities of project partners appropriate?</p>	

	+ On the basis of project description and work-plan, all the involved PPs play a defined role in the partnership. Partners' roles have been assigned according to their competences and skills in the topics addressed by the project. All partners participate in all WPs, appointing a leader per WP.	4
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<b>OPERATIONAL ASSESSMENT</b>		
<b>Workplan</b>		
5.a	Is the overall approach suitable to obtain the planned outputs and results?	
	<p>Project's work plan is analytically presented, linking the project activities with the project outputs and results.</p> <p>+ Activities such as Habitat assessment and mapping, Overview of existing biomimicry practices in project partner countries and Adriatic Ionian region, Overview of existing biomimicry practices in project partner countries and Adriatic Ionian region, reporting will be carried out by each partner, allowing an accurate territorial analysis. Each partner will choose their pilot areas.</p> <p>+ The above-mentioned approach follows a logical sequence of actions an outputs, applying in all its way transnational character</p>	4
5.b	Are the work plan and timing of activities, deliverables and outputs realistic, consistent and transparent? Are the proposed financial and human resources appropriate to implement the project?	
	<p>+/- The work plan and timing (30 months) of activities follows a logic sequence and seem to be realistic in order to achieve the foreseen activities and outputs.</p> <p>+/- Financial and human resources seem appropriate</p>	4
5.c	Will the target groups, the partners, and the stakeholders benefit from the co-operation?	
	+ /- BIOMIMICRY will enhance biodiversity protection and restoration of rural and urban landscapes with the principles of mimicking functions from natural biotopes and nearby Natura 2000 sites in the Adriatic Ionian region. An enlargement process that will improve the environmental protection in the Western Balkans. The project will fill these gaps by bringing relevant knowledge, raising awareness among target groups, developing strategies, and action plans and testing basic measures on sight through pilot activities to push forward biomimicry applicability in the Adriatic Ionian region.	3
<b>Management</b>		
6.a	Does the management approach show good potential to secure a sound project management, coordination and risk mitigation?	

	<p>Is the proposed project management structure effective? Are the internal communication and management structures appropriate to ensure a smooth co-operation within the partnership?</p> <p>To which extent the need for engaging external expertise is justified (with specific reflection on partnership expertise)?</p>	
	<p>+ The Lead Partner (RIS) is responsible for coordination of the project, which will be foreseen in different interconnected levels. The Joint Project Team (JPT) is responsible for management of the project, which includes representatives of all the PPs and ensures that resources are used efficiently and that results are achieved within the given timeframes. Each PP assigns staff to work on the project as part of the project team, which ensures the timely and quality implementation of the activities in accordance with the project's action, timetable and financial plan. Each PP is responsible for the implementation of the planned pilot activities, as well as for the individual activities linked to the planned deliverables, timetable and financial plan, for the economic use of resources, for the documentation and preparation of the reports, and for the realisation of the achievements, the attainment of the indicators in a timely manner. The partners want to avoid unnecessary environmental burdens, therefore, the partnership meetings should be conducted as much as possible in a sustainable way (e.g. use of web-based applications). Three work package leaders will coordinate their work package with partners, involved in the activities of the WP to ensure implementation of the individual deliverables within work packages. Communication will take place via web applications, e-mails, telephone, web meetings and teleworking.</p> <p>- It is foreseen that the SC will meet in presence or remotely, at least every 6 months, to monitor the advancement of the project activities and the fulfillment of projects goals. The six months period seems long, it must be scheduled a remote meeting in a shorter time period.</p> <p>+ RIS will develop an internal project management manual, including the project structure (responsibilities of the project partners, division of responsibilities according to the partners' competences) and the modalities and frequency of internal communication, for the purpose of coordinating the project activities, ensuring their smooth running, and facilitating technical and administrative operational efficiency</p> <p>+There will be a project guide formulated for all project partners, that will contain all jointly developed project details, including activities, deliverables, partner meeting, communication requirements and contact details. For each 6-month reporting period, each project partner will prepare a financial-administrative project report for certification of expenditures that complies with the programme's reporting requirements.</p> <p>- A huge budget is foreseen for staff costs and management , an external expertise in order to support LP and partnership is not foreseen</p>	4

<b>Communication</b>		
7.a	<p>Are communication activities planned in the work plan and are they relevant for achieving communication objectives? Are the communication activities and deliverables appropriate to reach the relevant target groups and stakeholders?</p> <p>Will the proposed communication activities lead to sufficient visibility of the project among relevant target groups and stakeholders?</p>	
	<p>Project communication will be coordinated by CGBC who will develop Communication Strategy in cooperation with other project partners which will guide everyone in the consortium to effectively disseminate project results. The main audience of the consortium will be target groups defined in C.2.4. which will be informed directly from each partner on a local level. To ensure wider audience reach with the goal of raising awareness and tackling behavioral changes in the Adriatic Ionian region and beyond - a website domain will be established as a learning tool developed under WP3 serving for capacity building among target groups and as a platform to showcase examples of good practice in biomimicry solutions, including the ones developed in all pilot sites. Furthermore, CGBC will provide professional support to RIS in the organization of an on-site forum in Slovenia to ensure all organizational actions are met. Furthermore, target groups will be reached and engaged via online consultations and on-site workshops. Continuous outreach will be ensured via BIOMIMICRY's LinkedIn profile and all PP's contributions and cooperation on local, regional and national levels. The general public and other stakeholders will be informed and involved with different channels, including press releases and social media.</p> <p>-Visual identity and logo will be created including various promotional materials made of solely recyclable materials (banners, notebooks, pens, bags).</p> <p>+ The Project proposal correctly is planning communication activities in every WP in order to support the dissemination of expected outputs</p> <p>+ Communication objectives and its relative activities must be indicated in the thematic WPs</p>	4
7.b	<p>Are the capitalization activities foreseen in the workplan? If, yes, are these activities ensuring that the project outputs and results are effectively disseminated and used?</p>	
	<p>-No capitalization activities are foreseen in the project proposal, but Organization of macroregional events, Organisation of Awareness Campaigns and Joint thematic meetings to exchange on projects' content and outputs are scheduled.</p>	3
<b>Budget</b>		

8.a	To which extent the presented budget is transparent and include sufficient details per partner and per cost category? Is the application of simplified cost options (SCOs) appropriate and in line with the programme rules?	
	+The simplified cost options are in line with the programme rules. All percentages of flat rate are calculated by applying a percentage fixed accordingly. +/- The budget section, is satisfactory described. The proposal describe adequately how the financial resources will be used in terms of deliverables, WPs.	3
8.b	To which extent resources planned by the project partners are adequate (in terms of quantity and quality) and reflects market prices?	
	+/-Prices are very realistic and reasonable.in the majority of budget lines besides Staff costs. There is an adequate description of the activities, where a clear and measurable analysis of deliverables and outputs is taking place.	3
8.c	To which extent project budget is proportionate to the proposed work plan and project outputs? Is distribution of budget per period in line with workplan?	
	+Distribution of budget per period seems to be logical, as a satisfactory percentage of 14% allocated in the first period giving boost to project start , the main allocation concerns 2,3,4 period while the smaller amount is allocated to the closing phase. -The allocated budget to project management is huge (52%), also because of the (too) high budget for management attributed mainly to the LP.	3
8.d	Is the financial allocation per cost category in line with the programme rules? To which extent the budget allocated to staff and external expertise is in line with the project content and the costs are realistic? To which extent the budget allocated to pilot actions and equipment (if applicable) is realistic and in line with the project content?	
	- 52% of project budget concerns “staff” costs which is a little bit high amount because all of it is foreseen for project management -The allocated budget to communication and dissemination activities is low (1.8%) +The cost for pilot actions and equipment must be realistic sin sce it is very low	2

	<p>+/- There is no allocation for costs regarding management verification issues (FLC). These should be allocated ONLY to partners that use a decentralised FLC system (e.g. maybe Italian partners) and for those that don't use the 40% SCO option.</p>	
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### State Aid check

<b>The project proposal is State Aid relevant</b>	NO
<b>List of State Aid relevant activities and involved project partner</b>	

### Anti-fraud checks:

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### Double funding checks:

N/A
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**Is the selected operations directly affected by a reasoned opinion by the Commission in respect of an infringement within the scope of Article 258 TFEU?**

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### The project proposal is:

<b>Approved</b>	
<b>Approved under conditions</b>	X
<b>Rejected</b>	

### Conditions for improvement

Project proposal BIOMIMICRY aims to connect participating countries in research of habitats in Adriatic-Ionian region to find effective and innovative biomimicry solutions for designing environments (green infrastructure) that contribute to biodiversity protection and restoration. The solutions and policy instruments developed will encourage public authorities on local, regional and national level to use biomimicry-inspired principles in development processes and urban planning for betterment of life of general public.

Proposal is relevant for addressing common territorial challenge, and has set up a work plan and activities that are suitable to obtain the planned outputs and results.

Conditions for improvement are listed below:

- Regrading ownership, please provide specific information on ownership over the solutions and equipment, as well as solution upgrade (if applicable) and maintenance costs of the equipment.
- No capitalization activities are foreseen in the project proposal, but Organization of macroregional events, Organisation of Awareness Campaigns and Joint thematic meetings to exchange on projects' content and outputs are scheduled. The communication strategy and capitalization activities needs to be clarified .
- Project partners CGBC, RARIS and PNALM have nominated only 1 employee per partner, and it is questionable whether the planned human resources will be able to implement project activities in line with the roles defined in the project proposal. Clarification is required.
- Project budget requires more specific details:
  - For cost category Staff costs:
    - Project partners CGBC, RARIS and PNALM have nominated only 1 person to work on the project activities. Clarification is required regarding ability of 1 person per project partner to implement all that is dedicated to those them by the proposal.
    - Price per month is quite high for CGBC and PNALM. Clarification is required.
    - Project partner MC has budgeted the cost per hour, which should be corrected into per month if the project partner has that type of salary reimbursement.
    - Column Comments should be fulfilled with job description of each employee, and in line with responsibilities indicated in the proposal – WPs, activities etc.
    - Except for project partners REZ and PI REDEA, all other project partners did not enter information on % of work per month per employee. Adjustment is required.
    - 52% of project budget concerns “staff” costs which is a little bit high since all this amount is foreseen for project management
  - For cost category External expertise and services:
    - LP has budgeted 15.000,00 EUR for D2.2.4: Park outside Rakičan Mansion. Additional clarification is required regarding this cost since same insertions is made in column Description and column Comments.
    - PP4 MC has budgeted WP3, D3.2.1. Additional clarification is required regarding this cost since it is not clear to what type of service this cost refers to.
  - For cost category Equipment:
    - For costs with unit type ‘set’ clarification is required as to what is included in the set i.e., based on which estimations was the budget planed.
    - For cost of PI REDEA - A2.2: Conceptual design of pilot actions, adaptation to specific pilot sites and planning for the implementation o D2.2.3: Testing the biomimicry-inspired solutions in pilot sites – clarification is required as to what type of equipment will be procured i.e., based on which estimations was the budget planed
- The allocated budget to communication and dissemination activities is low (1.8%). It could be reestimated.
- Overall budget needs to be carefully observed and revised based on market prices and exclude non eligible costs (e.g. FLC services). These should be allocated only to partners that use a decentralized FLC system (e.g. maybe Italian partners) and for those that don't use the 40% SCO option.
- All other additional aspects requested by JS/MA/MC during contracting phase must be carefully observed.
- Additional anti-fraud checks are needed for LP