





HELLENIC REPUBLIC
Ministry of Interior
Sector Macedonia and Thrace

INTERREG



Thematic Workshop



Promoting Co-operation and
Networking between public and
business sector with research and
innovation centres in the Balkans

Our Common Goal

make the best planning and use of
the European Territorial cooperation
Programmes in the new
programming period 2021–27.



For the sustainable economic development of healthy entrepreneurship both in Greece and in the rest of the Balkans

key prerequisite

Promote the necessary actions for the introduction and successful use of business innovation

In the context of strengthening Transnational Cooperation



cooperation



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2nd Balkan Forum 2020



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2nd Balkan Forum 2020

key objectives

- ▶ Evaluating the existing business and technology inventory as well as identifying specific needs and shortcomings.
- ▶ Bridging the gap between research and market.
- ▶ Exploring the possibilities of developing business and technological networking and synergies in order to make the best use of the existing potential at the Balkan level.
- ▶ Incorporating innovative proposals, through the presentation of good practices.
- ▶ The transition and consolidation of a greener economy, since environmental protection is an essential condition for sustainable development.
- ▶ The promotion of sustainable development programmes, partnerships and networks in the Balkans during the programmatic period 2021 – 2027 of the EU funds.





European Commission

2021–2027 Programming Period

designed to increase mainly the EU Programmes and funds in
Business Innovation & Green and Digital Transformation through
the Policy Objectives 1, 2,3.

The fields for developing collaborative actions in
the public, innovation and research institutions in
the Balkan area are many:

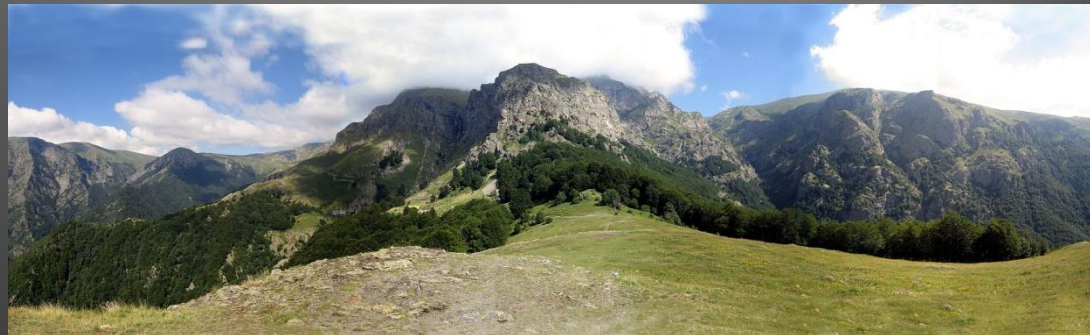




We are inter-connected by the
rich environmental

Biodiversity

of the mountains, plains, lakes,
rivers and seas of the Balkans





We are inter-connected by the long-standing historical tradition of the Balkan countries in the production and trading of

PDO/ PGI/ PGI local quality products and foods



We are inter-connected by the rich

Architectural and Cultural Heritage

of the hundreds of traditional and historical settlements and the thousands of traditional buildings





We can promote policies and sustainable development programmes in the Balkans, as long as **we create the necessary "social capital of trust"** of the people and institutions through equal and mutually beneficial partnerships



MINISTRY OF INTERIOR

(Sector Macedonia – Thrace)

Master Plan 2019–2025

main objectives :

strengthen transnational co-operation for sustainable co-development in the Balkans and South East Europe,

exploit our regions' and countries' comparative advantages and

transform them into competitive advantages



Aiming at a Balkan, Mediterranean and South East Europe of

- fair,
- democratic and
- equitable cooperation through



1. Annual organization of the Balkan Programming Forum in Thessaloniki



it is a necessity for the development of a substantial public, programmatic and interdisciplinary dialogue on the conditions for co-development of the wider Balkan region and South East Europe



2. Creation and activation of a European Grouping for Territorial Cooperation

(organizations from the public, entrepreneurial and innovation sectors)

Promotion of

necessary actions for

- the modernization and
- further development of

- ▶ business,
- ▶ transport, industrial,
- ▶ technological and energy infrastructures and networks



economic convergence of
the regions and countries
of the Balkans

promotion of
transnational cooperation
on entrepreneurship and
innovation



3. European Structural Funds programmes of the current and new (2021–2027) programming periods



Transnational (BalkanMed, Adriatic, MED ENI, Black Sea) and the cross-border Interreg Programmes

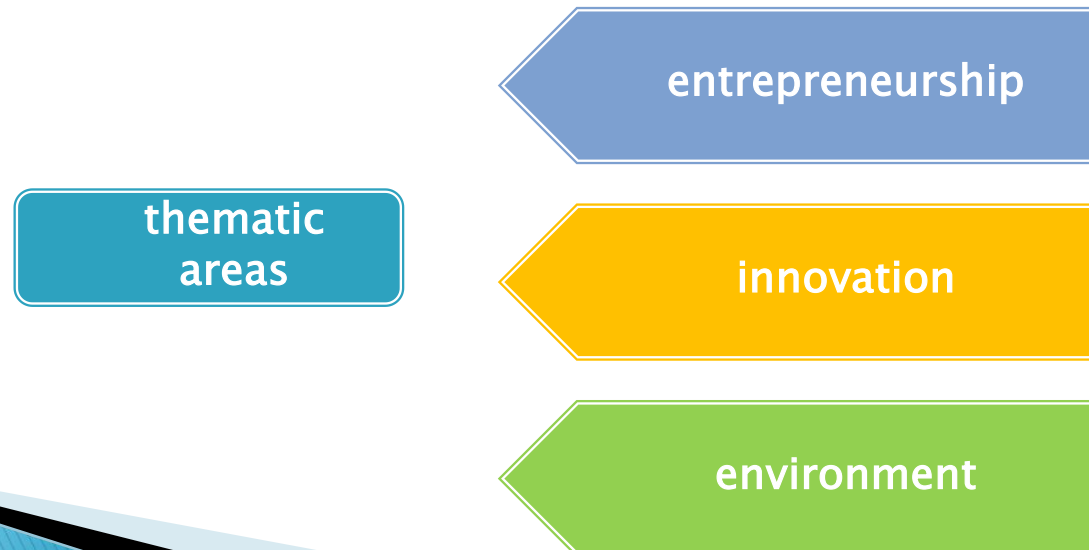


- ▶ Regional Development Fund,
- ▶ Agricultural Fund,
- ▶ Social Fund,
- ▶ Instrument for Pre-Accession Assistance for candidate countries
- ▶ Recovery Fund
- ▶ Life Programme
- ▶ Horizon Europe



4. The Balkan Med Transnational Programme

- was established through bottom-up approach
- has sought to identify potential functional areas for regional cooperation
- acts as a substantial “convening power” to bring together the relevant actors to develop and begin implementation of a coherent strategy in the Balkan peninsula



The Balkan Med area

has a joint historical past that spans through centuries

It is a unified and functional geographical area

It has an uninterrupted, dense and two-way flows of people, goods and services in the fields of economy, tourism and culture

successful implementation
of the Balkan Med
programme –achieve all
its Indicators target values

several Projects are
considered **good practices**
by the European
Commission

asked for the Balkan Med
programme **continuation**
in the new Programming
period 2021–27



MINISTRY OF INTERIOR

(Macedonia and Thrace sector)

The Master Plan 2019–25 Adopts the EU principles of Proximity and Subsidiarity, focusing its efforts to develop programmes in the Balkan, Black Sea and Mediterranean area in the sectors of :

Business innovation, investments and networking

PDO local products

cultural and architectural heritage

environmental projects

Promoting: The **sustainable management** of natural resources and renewable energy resources in our common and beyond borders: rivers, lakes, mountains and seas with our neighbor regions and countries

And enhance the **Cooperation with MA of Interreg in Thessaloniki** which is effective for the wider Balkan Area



The new EU budget 2021–27



will further extend, integrate and democratically deepen its common policies, with sufficient financial resources such as the structural funds, the new recovery fund and the Territorial Cooperation Programmes

The new programming period of EU Cohesion Policy 2021–27 offers the possibility to promote a smarter Europe and Balkan area through governance and institutional capacity–building.

Support regions in designing and implementing place–based policies in order to enhance the quality of their capacities to absorb funds.



The new EU budget 2021–27



The regional innovation governance structure and institutional arrangements could be based on ex-ante conditionalities, such as ‘a series of guidelines aimed at facilitating local capacity-building, increasing participation in the development process, increasing transparency and accountability, and strengthening the European values and principles of good governance’, in order to obtain support from the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) and from the ETC Interreg cross border and transnational programmes the budget of which should be increased in the new Programming period.



The European Commission and all the EU Institutions

in order to deepen the **transparency and democratic accountability** of all the stakeholders must take into account the **National, regional and the transnational networks' proposals** when deciding and planning the EU and Interreg policies and programmes.



Thank you for your attention



Georgios Emmanouil
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