

**Managing Authority of European  
Territorial Cooperation Programmes**

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**2<sup>nd</sup> CALL FOR PROJECT PROPOSALS  
EUROPEAN TERRITORIAL COOPERATION PROGRAMME  
"GREECE – ITALY" 2007-2013  
CO-FINANCED BY  
THE EUROPEAN REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT FUND (ERDF)**

**1. Context**

The European territorial cooperation programme "Greece – Italy" 2007-2013 is a cross-border cooperation Programme co-financed by the European Union under the European Regional Development Fund.

Its specific mission is to improve and develop the border relations and partnership between Greece and Italy.

The total budget (ERDF and national contribution) for the Cross-border cooperation Programme Greece-Italy in the period 2007-2013 is **€118.606.893**. The total financing consists of **€88.955.170** (75%) ERDF funding and **€29.651.723** (25%) national contribution.

Territorial cooperation for the eligible regions constitutes both a challenge and an opportunity for the programming period 2007-2013. Polycentric spatial development with a new relationship between urban and rural areas parity of access to infrastructure and knowledge, along with wise management of the natural and cultural heritage represent already major objectives for balanced and sustainable growth. Within this framework, the **strategic objectives** which constitute the policy outline for the convergence in the area of intervention are:

- Strengthening competitiveness and innovation of the cross border area economic systems focusing especially on common comparative advantages;

- Improve the accessibility of the programme area to networks and services thus enhancing the competitiveness of its economic systems in the wider Mediterranean space;
- Improve the quality of life, preserve and effectively manage the environment and increase social and cultural cohesion.

## 2. Documents of reference

Before submitting any project proposal, applicants are invited to consult the Operational Programme approved by the European Commission on March 28<sup>th</sup> 2008, Regulation (EC) 1083/2006 as in force, Regulation (EC) 1080/2006 as in force, Regulation (EC) 1828/2006 as in force. These documents are available on the Programme website at <http://www.interreg.gr>

## 3. Priorities and Specific Objectives

The present call for proposals is open to Programme Priorities 2 and 3 and the respective five Specific Objectives:

PRIORITY	SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES
<b>2. Improve accessibility to sustainable networks and services</b>	2.1 Enhancement of the cross-border integrated and sustainable connections  2.2 Improvement of transport, information and communication networks and services
<b>3. Improving the quality of life, protection of the environment and enhancement of social and cultural cohesion</b>	3.1 Promotion of cultural and natural heritage 3.2 Valorisation & improvement of joint protection, management of natural resources, natural and technological risks' prevention 3.3 Protection of health and promotion of social integration

## 4. Budget available

The total budget available for the present call is **14.000.000 €** (of which **10.500.000 € ERDF**).

## 5. Eligible Partnerships

Project proposals must include partners from both countries participating in the Operational Programme and cooperating in at least two of the following ways: joint development, joint implementation, joint staffing and joint financing. The total number of partners must not exceed ten (10) including the Lead Partner.

This call for proposals is only addressed to category a. of the Programme Manual:

- National and regional **public authorities**;

## 6. Eligible Programme Area

Project beneficiaries should be located within the eligible programme area as indicated in the table below:

REGIONS/ NUTS I	NUTS II	NUTS III
GREECE	Region of Western Greece	Prefecture of Aitoloakarnania
		Prefecture of Achaia
	Region of Ionian Islands	Prefecture of Kerkyra/Corfu
		Prefecture of Lefkada
		Prefecture of Kefallinia/Cephalonia
		Prefecture of Zakynthos
	Region of Epirus	Prefecture of Ioannina
		Prefecture of Preveza
		Prefecture of Thesprotia
ITALY	Region of Apulia	Province of Bari
		Province of Brindisi
		Province of Lecce

Moreover, the following NUTS III areas have been included as **adjacent territories** and therefore funding for operations in these territories can be admitted up to 20% of the total expenditure provided by the ERDF in the Programme:

REGIONS	NUTS II	NUTS III
GREECE	Region of Western Greece	Prefecture of Ilia
	Region of Epirus	Prefecture of Arta
ITALY	Region of Apulia	Province of Taranto
		Province of Foggia

The **adjacent areas** have been selected to maximise the impact of cross border cooperation programmes' achievements. According to ERDF Regulation<sup>1</sup>, these areas can receive up to 20% of the Programme total eligible public funds. This means in practice that the programme may report costs related to the activities incurred on the territory of these areas to the limit of 20% of the ERDF budget.

However, this does not mean that a fixed share of 20% of the programme budget is reserved for partners from these areas. The cross border added value of participation of partners from these areas will be assessed on a project by project basis.

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<sup>1</sup> Article 21 of the ERDF Regulation states that: "In the context of cross-border cooperation and in duly justified cases, the ERDF may finance expenditure incurred in implementing operations or parts of operations up to a limit of 20 % of the amount of its contribution to the operational programme concerned in NUTS level 3 areas adjacent to the eligible areas for the programme referred to in Article 7(1) of Regulation (EC) No 1083/2006 or surrounded by such adjacent areas. In exceptional cases as agreed between the Commission and Member States, this flexibility may be extended to the NUTS level 2 areas in which the areas referred to in Article 7(1) of Regulation (EC) No 1083/2006 are located."

## 7. How to apply - deadline

In order to submit a project proposal, Applicants must refer to the Applicant's Package and to all relevant documents for this call for proposals.

Project Proposals should be submitted according to the guidelines provided in the Programme Manual (Project Applicant's Manual).

A Project Proposal consists of:

1. the Application Form
2. the Partnership Declaration
3. The Declaration of not generating revenues. In case of revenue generating projects, a cost - benefit analysis should be attached (using the "Guide to cost-benefit analysis of investment projects Published by DG Regional Policy in 2008" available at [http://ec.europa.eu/regional\\_policy/sources/docoffic/working/sf2000\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/regional_policy/sources/docoffic/working/sf2000_en.htm) )
4. A Justification of budget costs (providing concrete examples of the way that each Action/Deliverable costs have been calculated)
5. Maturity Sheet per partner
6. Compatibility Check Sheet with SEA

The project proposal must also include a CD/DVD-ROM including the electronic version of the Application Form (always respecting the original excel format, or otherwise the proposal shall be rejected) as well as a scanned version of the pages signed and all accompanying documents also in scanned version.

The Project Proposal must be submitted to the Programme's Joint Technical Secretariat in the following way:

**by post** (the stamp date should not exceed the deadline of the call)

or by **private courier service** or **hand-delivery** in the following address:

**European territorial cooperation programme "Greece – Italy" 2007-2013**

**Joint Technical Secretariat**

65, Georgikis Scholis Avenue, Pilea 57001, Thessaloniki, Greece

A signed and dated certificate of receipt will be handed to the deliverer. To be recognised as admissible submission, a proposal must be submitted on **21/11/2011** at the latest. Proposals sent after this date will not be considered as eligible.

<p><b>ATTENTION: If the signed Project Proposal is submitted by registered mail or private courier service, only the stamp indicating the postal date proves that the Project Proposal has been sent within the deadline.</b></p>
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**If the signed Project Proposal is submitted in person, only the Managing Authority's register number is proof of timely submission.**

#### **8. Project size**

Projects shall have a minimum total eligible cost of **300.000 €**.

#### **9. Duration**

Projects should be concluded in a period of one year after the signing of the Subsidy Contract.

#### **10. Eligibility of expenditure**

The starting date for eligible expenditure is 1/1/2007. The closing date of the eligibility period of the expenditure stated in the approved proposals is one year after the signing of the subsidy contract. Under no circumstances can the final date of eligibility of expenditure exceed the 31<sup>st</sup> of December 2015.

Eligibility rules on activities and related expenditure are set out in the Programme Manual.

#### **11. Additional information**

To obtain additional information on the project application procedure and project development, please contact:

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All relevant information and documents shall be available on the Operational Programme website, which is a key communication tool between the programme management bodies (MA, JTS) and the potential beneficiaries.

**THE ALTERNATE MINISTER FOR DEVELOPMENT  
COMPETITIVENESS AND SHIPPING**

**SOCRATIS XINIDIS**

Annexes:

1. Applicant's Package (Application Form, Partnership Declaration, Declaration of not generating revenues, Justification of budget costs, Maturity sheet, Compatibility Check Sheet with SEA, Programme Manual, Project Selection criteria, Environmental Assessment Indicators)
2. Progress Report
3. Partnership Agreement
4. Subsidy Contract