

MINUTES

3rd meeting of the Monitoring Committee

Interreg NEXT Programme Poland – Ukraine 2021-2027

15 December 2023, Warsaw & online (Zoom)

1. Opening, objectives of the meeting

The Chairman proposed to modify the agenda of the meeting and start with the selection of projects submitted under the 1st Call in HEALTH priority. There were no objections.

2. The 1st Call for Proposals – report on the evaluation

- The Joint Secretariat (JS) representatives (*Mr Andrzej Słodki, Ms Agnieszka Gawron*) presented the assessment process, the ranking list of projects, the statistics per region/country and reminded the members of the Monitoring Committee about the rule of impartiality and confidentiality in the project selection process.
- The representative of the Association for the Development and Promotion of Podkarpacie "Pro Carpathia" (*Ms Agnieszka Pieniążek*) declared that the institution acted as a project partner who had submitted an application within the priority HEALTH.

3. Selection of the projects for co-financing

- The Chairperson (*Mr Rafał Baliński*) informed the attendees about the rules of selecting projects for financing and then initiated the discussion on the ranking list of projects.
- The representative of Mazowieckie region (*Ms Ewa Orzełowska*) presented the joint proposal of the Polish regions:
 - 1) to apply the principle “one institution – one project” and exclude the second project of the Autonomous Public Health Maintenance Organisation Jędrzej Śniadecki Voivodship Polyclinical Hospital in Białystok (**0049**) from the list of the projects recommended for financing¹;
 - 2) to give additional points within the strategic assessment to two projects which demonstrate the added value for the Programme and have a great potential to positively impact the Programme area:

¹ The project 0049 was finally not excluded from the financing

- **0076** (*“Cross-border Interaction for Modern Diagnostic & Therapeutic Approaches at Regional Hospitals of Lublin Voivodeship and Zakarpattia”*, Lead Partner – *Stefan Cardinal Wyszyński Provincial Specialist Hospital Independent Public Health Care Centre in Lublin*),
 - **0108** (*“Common challenges in the treatment of patients with urological diseases using laparoscopic surgery”*, Lead Partner – *Fryderyk Chopin University Clinical Hospital in Rzeszow*).
- The JS representative (*Mr Tomasz Jędrzejewski*) showed how the proposed changes influenced the ranking list and pointed out that financing the two additional projects would require additional funds. Two options were suggested:
- 1) transferring the additional funds from other priorities to priority HEALTH;
 - 2) reducing the percentage of the maximum co-financing for the selected projects.
- The NA representative (*Mr Rostyslav Tomenchuk*) presented the joint proposal of the Ukrainian regions that would ensure the implementation of projects in all the Ukrainian regions of the Programme area:
- 1) to accept the list of projects recommended for a grant within the allocation available (including 2 projects submitted by the same institution: Autonomous Public Health Maintenance Organisation Jędrzej Śniadecki Voivodship Polyclinical Hospital in Białystok);
 - 2) to add additional points for a strategically important project:
 - **0043** (*“Improving access to eye care in the Polish-Ukrainian cross-border region”*, Lead Partner – *Medical Care Centres in Dębica*);
 - 3) to transfer additional funds from priority COOPERATION (SO 4.1) to priority HEALTH;
 - 4) to reduce the percentage of the maximum co-financing for the projects;
 - 5) to optimise the project’s budget during the contracting procedure and to introduce changes in the following project:
 - **0002** (*“TransCare: Cross-Border healthcare and palliative care”*, Lead Partner – *Independent Public Health Care Facility in Siedlce*).
- The representatives of the Polish regions (*Mr Marek Rainer*, Podkarpackie, *Ms Magdalena Fotek-Kułak*, Lubelskie) and the representative of the Ukrainian regions (*Ms Iryna Butynets*, Lviv, *Mr Vasyl Ivancho*, Zakarpattia, *Mr Viktor Ustenko*, Ternopil) explained that the projects 0076, 0108 and 0043 had a clear strategic impact on the Programme area and the addressed regions. They will have a significant contribution to tackle the challenges indicated in the Programme strategy as well as strategic objectives on the regional level.

Decision 1:

- To approve the list of **20 projects recommended for financing** (17 projects from the initial basic list sent to the MC after the assessment + the 3 projects for which the MC carried out the strategic assessment and gave additional points:
 1. 0043 - the Monitoring Committee upgraded that project (increase from 80.5 to 81.25 points) because of its significance for healthcare challenges in the Programme area including care for the refugees and victims of the war in Ukraine, while the project is also a response to the identified deficiencies and includes activities leading to an increase in the number of performed ophthalmological surgeries.
 2. 0076 - the Monitoring Committee upgraded that project (increase from 77.5 to 81.25 points) because of its significance for healthcare challenges in the Programme area including care for the refugees and victims of the war in Ukraine, while the project responds to one of the main challenges for the regions by providing the modern diagnostic and therapeutic methods in the field of cardiovascular diseases and diseases requiring neurosurgical treatment, in particular of victims of military conflicts.
 3. 0108 - the Monitoring Committee upgraded that project (increase from 75 points to 81.25) because of its significance for healthcare challenges in the Programme area including care for the refugees and victims of the war in Ukraine, while the project activities will create a real basis for further joint cross-border projects, being part of the preparation of subsequent strategic investments in the field of technological transformation of medical entities specializing in surgical treatment, in particular of urological diseases.
- the total co-financing will amount to **39 917 360. 86 EUR**.

Poland: 10 voting members, 8 votes “YES” (1 vote “NO”, 1 vote “ABSTAIN”).

Ukraine: 8 voting members, 6 votes “YES”² (2 votes “ABSTAIN”).

Decision 2:

- To approve of the reserve list of the projects (28 projects).

Poland: 10 voting members, 10 votes “YES”.

Ukraine: 8 voting members, 7 votes “YES” (1 vote “ABSTAIN”).

² Voting members are shown in Table 1.

Decision 3:

- To transfer funds from priority COOPERATION (2 555 672.22 EUR to priority HEALTH and 2 555 672.22 EUR to priority ENVIRONMENT).

Poland: 10 voting members, 10 votes “YES”.

Ukraine: 8 voting members, 7 votes “YES” (1 vote “ABSTAIN”).

Decision 4:

- To decrease the maximum co-financing allocated to the projects selected for financing under Priority HEALTH from 90% to 83%.

Poland: 10 voting members, 10 votes “YES”.

Ukraine: 8 voting members, 7 votes “YES” (1 vote “ABSTAIN”).

4. Interreg NEXT Poland – Ukraine Programme – state of play

- The JS representative (*Mr Stanisław Bielański*) gave an overview of the Programme modifications, the SEA update, the large infrastructure projects, the Small Project Funds and the further steps to be taken in the implementation of the Programme.
- Chairman proposed 18-19 April, 2024 as the date of the next MC meeting for the selection of projects submitted in the 1st call under Priority ENVIRONMENT. There were no objections to that.

Table 1. Voting members

	Name	Institution	Participation
POLAND			
1.	Rafał Baliński	Managing Authority	In place
2.	Bogdan Kawałko	Lubelskie Voivodship Marshal’s Office	In place
3.	Ewa Orzełowska	Mazowieckie Voivodeship Marshal's Office	In place
4.	Marek Rainer*	Podkarpackie Voivodeship Marshal's Office	In place
5.	Izabela Łokić*	Podlaskie Voivodeship Marshal's Office	In place
6.	Galina Grabarczuk*	Euroregion Bug	In place
7.	Andrzej Skiepmo*	Euroregion Puszcza Białowieska	In place

8.	Wojciech Żukowski	Euroregion Rostocze	In place
9.	Dariusz Jodłowski	Konfederacja Lewiatan	In place
10.	Joanna Ejdys	Conference of Rectors of Academic Schools in Poland	In place
UKRAINE			
1.	Rostyslav Tomenchuk	Secretariat of the Cabinet of the Ministers of Ukraine	In place
2.	Vitalii Ilchyshyn	Ivano-Frankivsk Regional State (Military) Administration	Online
3.	Andriy Godyk	Lviv Regional State State (Military) Administration	In place
4.	Sergii Gemberg	Rivne Oblast State State (Military) Administration	In place
5.	Viktor Ustenko	Ternopil Regional State (Military) Administration	In place
6.	Olena Behal*	Volyn Regional State (Military) Administration	In place
7.	Vasyl Ivancho	Zakarpattya Regional State (Military) Administration	In place
8.	Ivan Kulchyyskyy	National Council of Ukraine for Science and Technology Development Scientific Committee	Online

* deputy member according to the RoP MC PL-UA.

Annexes:

1. Presentation 1: 1st Call for proposals – results
2. Presentation 2: Monitoring Committee – decision making
3. Presentation 3: Programme – state of play
4. List of the projects recommended for financing
5. Reserve list of the projects
6. Strategic assessment report

Chaired by:

RAFAŁ BALIŃSKI (MA)

Secretary:

OLENA BUDARINA (JS)