| **No.** | **Question received** | **Answer provided** |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **I. Application Form** | | |
| **I.1** |  |  |
| **II. Eligibility of expenditures** | | |
| **II.1** |  |  |
| **III. Eligibility of applicants and activities** | | |
| **III.1** | In Chapter 2.3 Eligible indicative types of actions, Specific Objective 2.7 the following “Inspirational example", is introduced:  "Investments in developing natural systems to manage rainfall runoff and effective natural solutions to handle flooding and storm-water pollution of urban and peri-urban green areas (green roofs, permeable surfaces/pavings, infiltration trenches/basins, stormwater green streets/rain gardens, bioswales, detention basins, naturalized storm water ponds, bio-retention measures etc".  This specific inspirational example, in our view, overlaps the aim of the SO 2.4 "supporting water and land management through green solutions (for example: swales, creek restauration and nature scaping, green solutions for drainage systems, naturalized storm water ponds etc)”.  There are even the same expressions used to define possible activities under the two different objectives.  Please clarify, if a beneficiary, allegedly, is to submit a project proposal for the development of a “naturalized storm water pond”, under what Specific Objective will do it: 2.4 or 2.7 given that the eligible activity is presented in both SOs. | Please consider that association and the relevance of your project ideas to any of the related Specific objectives of Interreg VI-A Ro-Bg Programme is depending on the entire conception of the related project ideas and not only to the eligibility of certain activity under the respective specific objectives.  Speaking about the specific example of action you have mentioned – handling the flooding by development of a naturalized storm water pond and its’ relation to the climate change adoption and indicator RCR35 - Population benefitting from flood protection measure, without having details for the rest of the concept idea, according to the provisions of the Applicant’s Guide, definitely, the proposed actions is relevant to the specific objective 2.4 Promoting climate change adaptation and disaster risk prevention, resilience, taking into account eco-system based approaches.  According to the provisions of the Applicant’s Guide, the indicative types of actions envisaged within the Specific objective 2.4. are related to climate change adaptation. This means that nature-based solutions will be preferred, wherever possible, above hard or grey infrastructure. This includes flood plains, ecosystem restoration, afforestation, natural water retention measures and other green (or blue) infrastructure measures that have a direct benefit for climate change adaptation and risk prevention.  At the same time, according to the provisions of the Applicant’s Guide, the objective of the Specific objective: 2.7 is the protection and preservation of nature, biodiversity and green infrastructure, including in urban areas, and reducing all forms of pollution.  There are used similar expressions in the defining of the possible activities under the both specific objectives due to the fact that the both specific objectives actually are representing the same Priority 2 A greener region in a different way, depending on the context. More than this, the mentioned examples are representing inspirational examples and not an exhaustive list. |
| **III.2** | In Chapter 2.3 Eligible indicative types of actions, Specific Objective 2.7the following “Inspirational example", is mentioned:  “green sport facilities”  **Please clarify to what the term “green” refers to: to sport (green sport) or to facilities (green facilities for sports).**  The clarification is important because it determines the project objective to be attained:  a)   if SO 2.7 supports **green sports** (these being the eco-friendly sports such as football, running, cycling, outdoor swimming etc), than the submitted project will focus only on the above mentioned sports.  **b)**  if SO 2.7 supports green facilities (for sports), than the submitted project will focus on developing green facilities **but for all types of sports.** | Please consider that the expression "green sport facilities" is mentioned for the indicative action “Developing green areas, including connections between green spaces”. Therefore, all the actions within the brackets – “(urban parks, green sport facilities, forests, riverbank greens)” are linked with the indicative action for development of green areas.  In conclusion, the expression “green sport facilities” clearly refers to investments / facilities and not to the type of sports. |
| **III.3** | Is a National research and development institute eligible to lead projects if the headquarter is located in Bucharest and has a local offices in eligible area? | Such an institute could be considered eligible for financing under the present call for proposals. Also, please consider that, according to the provisions of the Applicant’s Guide, the applicants from Romania and Bulgaria but outside the Programme area, cannot take the Lead Partner role. |
| **III.4** | It is mentioned in the guide: " Applicants, outside the Programme area, but from Romania and Bulgaria, can also participate in projects, but only in exceptional cases " , what documents must be provided in order to respect this requirement? | There is no established list of the documents in this aspect but you have to keep in mind that the supporting documents which you will provide, have to prove the followings aspects:  ”Applicants, outside the Programme area, but from Romania and Bulgaria, can also participate in projects, but only in exceptional cases, namely if they:   * **Are competent in their scope of action for certain parts of the eligible area (e.g. ministries, national agencies, research institutes);** * Carry out activities that are beneficial for the Programme area; * Their participation must bring clear added value and expertise to the implementation of a project and has to be beneficial for the Programme area. * They cannot take the Lead Partner role. ”   Still, please be informed that the eligibility of the partners is to be analysed during the evaluation process, based on the justification documents submitted and in accordance with the eligibility criteria of the applicants listed in the Applicants Guide.  The Managing Authority or the Joint Secretariat may request, at any time, additional documentary evidence and argumentations regarding the eligibility of applicants. |
| **IV. Applicant’s Guide and Annexes** | | |
| **IV.1** |  |  |
| **V. JEMS** | | |
| **V.1** |  |  |
| **VI. Budget** | | |
| **VI.1** |  |  |
| **VII. Horizontal issues and other aspects** | | |
| **VII.1** |  |  |