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| **No.** | **Institution** | **Proposals as received** | **IP structures opinion** | **Updated** |
| 1. | **SR (private person)** | In response to your invitation for participation in the public consultation for the Applicant's Guide dedicated to Priority 3 – An Educated Region, Specific Objective 4.2 - Improving Equal Access to Inclusive and Quality Services in Education, Training, and Lifelong Learning through Developing Accessible Infrastructure, including by Fostering Resilience for Distance and Online Education and Training, please find below the following feedback and suggestion:  1. The indicative type of action, suggested on page 11, under Chapter 2.3. Eligible indicative types of actions of the Applicant’s guide for Open Call for the operations under PO4, Priority 3: An educated region:  “Investments in the infrastructure of educational facilities (e.g. learning spaces such as classrooms, labs, libraries, workshops, gyms, outdoor learning spaces but also other facilities) for all education levels and educational activities (including remedial and after-school), technical and vocational training and LLL etc.; special attention will be given to promoting accessible and inclusive learning for all persons.”  can be reworded, as follows:  “Investments in the infrastructure of educational facilities or other spaces, providing educational value (e.g. learning spaces such as classrooms, labs, libraries, workshops, gyms, outdoor learning spaces but also other facilities) for all education levels and educational activities (including remedial and after-school), technical and vocational training and LLL etc.; special attention will be given to promoting accessible and inclusive learning for all persons.”  The reason for including additional text is that the “term” or “phrase” educational facilities can be interpreted as only facilities or institutions that are defined as educational through specific legislation. For example, school institutions are defined as such in Bulgaria through the Law on preschool and school education. As shown in the examples following the term, the Programme uses educational facilities in broad terms, and includes spaces or facilities that are not strictly educational, such as gyms or other facilities, but they need to provide educational activities to be considered as eligible actions.  I hope that this suggestion is helpful to you to improve the Applicant's Guide or at least get a perspective of how some applicants might interpret the above mentioned information. | Not accepted | Unfortunately, the proposed types of actions proposed to be supported under PO 4, Priority 3, SO 4.2 by the Interreg VI-A Romania-Bulgaria Programme (IP) are included as such in the EC approved IP. Still the indicative types of actions should be interpreted in a broad sense, but in the scope of the Specific Objective. |
| 2. | **VS (private person)** | Referitor la consultarea publică cu privire la “Ghidul Aplicantului dedicat Priorității 3 - O regiune educată, Obiectivul specific 4.2 - Îmbunătățirea accesului egal la servicii incluzive și de calitate în educație, formare și învățare pe tot parcursul vieții prin dezvoltarea unei infrastructuri accesibile, inclusiv prin promovarea rezilienței pentru educația și formarea la distanță și online!”, in cadrul Programului Interreg VI-A Romania Bulgaria nu am identificat in documentele supuse procedurii de consultare reguli expres mentionate si clare, privind conflictul de interese. Cred ca este foarte important (in conditiile prevazute de regulamentele europene) sa se asigure protectia intereselor financiare ale UE, prin prevenirea situatiilor in care un organism sau o persoană are un interes financiar direct sau indirect ce ar putea influența îndeplinirea imparțială a obligațiilor sale.  Astfel, similar cu Programul Operațional Regional, pentru a asigura respectarea regulilor privind conflictul de interese va rog sa introduceti in ghidul aplicantului prevederi clare privind incompatibilitatile beneficiarilor programului cu privire la prestarea de servicii pentru alti beneficiari ai aceluiasi program, astfel:  1. Organizatiile ce au calitatea de beneficiari ai Programului Interreg VI-A Romania – Bulgaria nu pot avea calitatea de subcontractor pentru alti beneficiari ai Programului Interreg VI-A Ro-Bg (nu pot fi subcontractori ai propriilor proiecte, nu pot fi subcontractori ai proiectelor implementate de catre partenerii lor din proiect sau implementate de oricare alt beneficiar al Programului Interreg VI-A Ro-Bg);  2. Angajatii organizațiilor beneficiare de fonduri europene in cadrul Interreg VI-A Ro-Bg nu pot fi subcontractori ai acelei organizații (ca persoane fizice, persoane fizice autorizate sau in calitate de reprezentanti ai altei persoane juridice).  Translation in EN  It is very important to ensure transparency and avoid conflicts of interest within the Interreg VI-A Romania Bulgaria Programme. Your proposals for introducing clear provisions in the Applicant Guide are in line with European regulations and could contribute to strengthening the integrity and impartiality of the project implementation process.  Thus, the introduction of the following provisions could help prevent conflicts of interest:  Beneficiaries of the Interreg VI-A Romania – Bulgaria Programme cannot act as subcontractors for other beneficiaries of the same programme, including for their own projects or for projects implemented by their project partners or any other beneficiary of the Interreg VI-A Romania – Bulgaria Programme.  Employees of organizations benefiting from European funds under the Interreg VI-A Romania Bulgaria Programme cannot act as subcontractors for the same organization, whether as individuals, self-employed individuals, or representatives of other legal entities.  These provisions will ensure that the project implementation process is conducted in a transparent and fair manner, while also adhering to European rules and standards regarding the management of public funds and the prevention of corruption. | Not accepted | The Applicant’s Guide includes a clear provision regarding the subcontracting between project partners or associated partners within the same project.  *No subcontracting between project partners or associated partners is allowed, thus, if such cases are identified, the partnership will be considered ineligible, and the project rejected without further evaluation* (page 9).  In addition to these, all partners of the Programme, including their employs must observe the rules regarding the conflict of interest set at Programme level (including by Code of Conduct), but also, the EU and national legislation in this field.  Moreover, at this stage, the Programme did not identify the legal framework to include this restriction. |