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PROTOCOLLO USCITA

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To the kind attention of

Legal representatives  
of all projects of the First Standard Call

Copy to Contact persons

## Interreg IPA CBC Italy-Albania-Montenegro GENERAL DEROGATION TO PROJECT CLOSURE DEADLINES

Dear Lead Partners of the Projects of the First Call,

The Managing Authority of the Interreg IPA CBC Italy-Albania-Montenegro, on the basis of

- The general delays caused by restrictions set by national authorities to face the COVID-19 pandemics, during the last year of project implementation, which also affects the reporting and certification procedures;
- The delays in collecting the entire necessary documentation (audit trail) and for submitting it for verification, as well as in collecting the documentation related to all project deliverables and outputs, occurring in the closure phase of projects;
- The necessity for the programme to timely certify to the European Commission sufficient amounts to meet the de-commitment targets for 2021, in accordance with article 136 Reg. (EU) No. 1303/2013;
- The necessity to exceptionally derogate from the Programme procedures to timely certify the funds to the European Commission;
- The obligation of the Managing Authority to ensure sound management and procedures in relation to the verification of expenditures and audit trails, as provided by article 125 (4) (d) Reg. (EU) No. 1303/2013;
- The necessity to timely process partner reports, which are already verified and certified, but not yet submitted to the Programme, because of pending cases of other partners;

### **provides a derogation**

from the closure procedures set in the Programme Manual (Fact Sheet 5.1 Project Closure) and in the Subsidy Contract (articles 3, 5 and 6) to allow Lead Partners of the closed projects to submit the last JPR (i.e. JPR after the project end date), in two phases, i.e. the first phase **until 7 December 2021**, including all expenditures certified by the national controllers until that date, and the second phase **until 31 January 2022** including all other currently pending partner reports and certificates.

Please do not hesitate to contact your contact person at the Joint Secretariat for guidance on the eMS procedures and submission practicalities.

Best regards,

Crescenzo Antonio Marino  
Managing Authority of the Interreg IPA CBC  
Italy-Albania-Montenegro Programme