



EUROPEAN UNION
European regional
development fund



OPRD 2014
2020

OPERATIONAL PROGRAMME „REGIONS IN GROWTH” 2014 -2020

“Better place for living”





PROGRESS IN THE PROGRAMMING PROCESS

- 36 approved Integrated plans for urban regeneration and development (IPURD) for cities of levels 1-3 in accordance with the National Spatial Development Concept 2013-2025:

1st hierarchical level – Sofia;

2nd hierarchical level – Plovdiv, Varna, Burgas, Ruse, Stara Zagora, Pleven, Veliko Tarnovo, Blagoevgrad, Vidin;

3rd hierarchical level – Montana, Vratsa, Lovech, Gabrovo, Targovishte, Razgrad, Shumen, Silistra, Dobrich, Sliven, Yambol, Haskovo, Kardzhali, Smolyan, Pazardzhik, Pernik, Kyustendil, Svishtov, Kazanlak, Karlovo, Dupnitsa, Petrich, Lom, Gotse Delchev, Panagyurishte, Velingrad;

- 31 IPURD are in process of elaboration – for 3 cities from 3rd level (Asenovgrad, Gorna Oriahovitsa, Dimitrovgrad) and 28 cities from 4th level;

4th hierarchical level – Sandanski, Svilengrad, Samokov, Botevgrad, Troyan, Sevlievo, Karnobat, Nova Zagora, Popovo, Peshtera, Pomorie, Razlog, Devin, Novi pazar, Mezdra, Provadiya, Cherven bryag, Kozloduy, Berkovitsa, Tutrakan, Elhovo, Belogradchik, Zlatograd, Nikopol, General Toshevo, Krumovgrad, Ivaylovgrad, Malko Tarnovo.

Developed socio-economic analysis for the needs of OPRG 2014-2020 www.bgregio.eu;
Adopted National Spatial Development Concept 2013-2025 www.bgregio.eu;

- Analysis of the capacity of the beneficiaries;
- Finalised preliminary and environmental assessment of the OPRG 2014-2020;
- Approved logo and slogan – „Better place to live“;
- Fourth draft of OPRG 2014-2020 approved by the Council of Ministers – 21.05.2014.

CONTRIBUTION TO EUROPEAN AND NATIONAL STRATEGIC DOCUMENTS

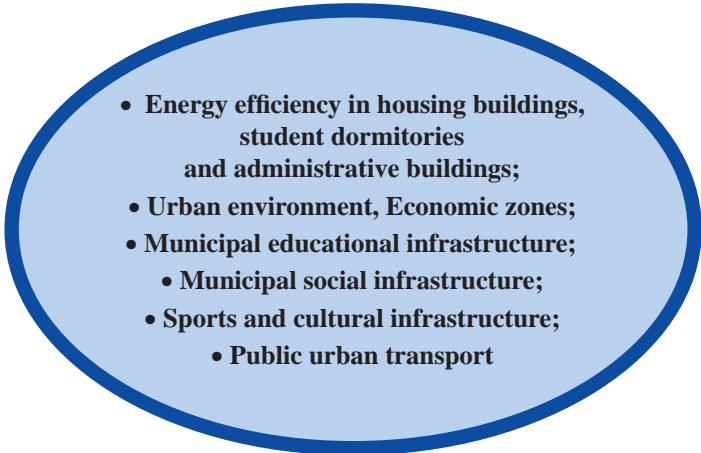


LOGIC OF INTERVENTIONS

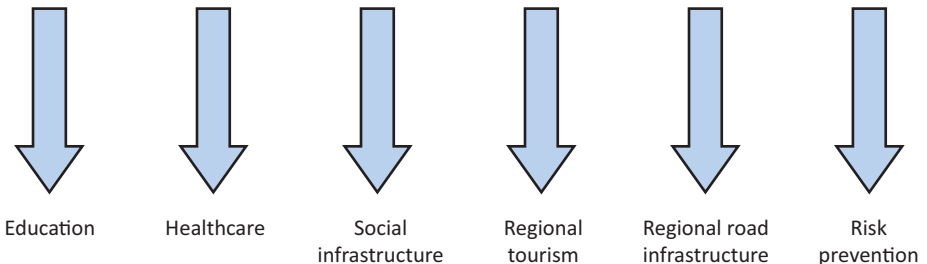
- Funding based on territorial strategies at city level – support for IPURDs;
- Concluded framework agreements with 67 municipalities – specific beneficiaries and implementation of one common scheme for under Priority Axis 1;
- Defined financial limits between thematic objectives;
- At least 5% of the aggregate budget under Priority Axis 1 will be focused on the social infrastructure group of activities;

- Allocated financial resource to each beneficiary under Priority Axis 1;
- Integrated impact on the territory and 20% of the budget of Priority Axis 1 for functional links for the cities of Level 1 to 3 for projects outside the intervention zones, but within the municipal territory;
- Funding for predefined projects prioritized in accordance with national strategic sectoral documents;
- Horizontal approach for the energy efficiency in housing buildings, student dormitories and administrative buildings and for the public transport – investments in urban areas without limitation in the intervention zones;
- Increased use of financial instruments and combination with grants.

INTEGRATED URBAN PRIORITY UNDER PRIORITY AXIS 1

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- **Energy efficiency in housing buildings, student dormitories and administrative buildings;**
 - **Urban environment, Economic zones;**
 - **Municipal educational infrastructure;**
 - **Municipal social infrastructure;**
 - **Sports and cultural infrastructure;**
 - **Public urban transport**

Sectoral policies of regional importance



SUPPORT FOR SECTORAL POLICIES OF REGIONAL IMPORTANCE

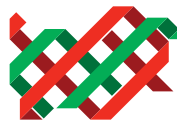
- Regional education infrastructure in accordance with the Strategy for Development of Educational Infrastructure 2014–2020;
- Support for the health reform considering the territorial dimension and in compliance with the Concept for development of emergency medical care;
- Support for the process of Deinstitutionalisation of social services for children and elderly people;
- Protection and development of the cultural and historical attractions of national and world significance;
- Finance a predefined number of 1st, 2nd and 3rd class roads of national and regional significance ensuring connectivity with the TEN-T network;
- Prevention the risk of landslides.



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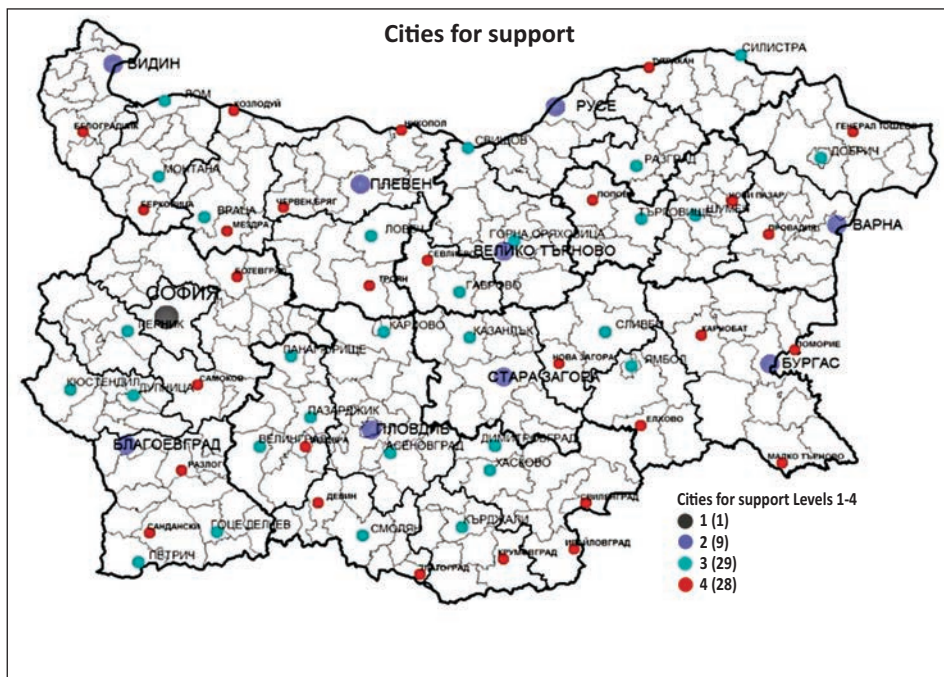
„Better place to live”



OPRD 2014
2020

PRIORITY AXIS 1:

Sustainable and Integrated Urban Development



INVESTMENT PRIORITY 1.1:

Energy efficiency in residential, student dormitory and public administrative buildings – 16,5% of the total budget of OPRG

Specific objectives: Raising energy efficiency in the housing sector, student dormitories and in public administrative buildings.

Examples of eligible activities:

- ✓ Renovation of the common parts of multifamily residential buildings and student dormitory buildings, such as: repairs of the following key structural elements of the building: roof, façade, external joinery, stairwells, external and internal hallways, entrance doors and landings, lifts); and vertical technical installations (water supply and sewage, electrical, heating, telecommunications, fire hydrants) of the building;
- ✓ Renovation of administrative buildings of the governmental and municipal administration, such as: repairs of the following key structural elements of the building: roof, façade, external joinery, stairwells, external and internal hallways, entrance doors and landings, lifts); and vertical technical installations (water supply and sewage, electrical, heating, telecommunications, fire hydrants) of the buildings; repair and reconstruction of the interior of the buildings, including restrooms;
- ✓ Constructional reinforcement of multifamily residential buildings, student dormitory buildings and administrative buildings of the government and municipal administration;
- ✓ Measures for improving the energy efficiency of housing buildings, student dormitory buildings and administrative buildings of the government and municipal administration, including, e.g., thermal insulation, replacement of external joinery, local installations and/or connections to the district heating, gas supply, etc. systems;
- ✓ Commissioning of installations for production of energy from renewable energy sources for the buildings listed above to meet their own energy consumption, where this is technically possible and economically feasible;
- ✓ Provision of loans and/or repayable investment guarantees for energy efficiency and renewable-source energy usage in multifamily residential buildings and student dormitory buildings;
- ✓ Energy efficiency audit and constructional inspections of the existing buildings;
- ✓ Improving access for people with disabilities to the buildings mentioned above.

Direct beneficiaries:

- ✓ Directorate „Renovation of Multifamily Buildings”, Ministry of Regional Development / Housing Renovation Fund;
- ✓ 67 designated municipalities;
- ✓ Universities and legal entities managing student dormitories;
- ✓ Financial instruments.

Specific target territories:

- ✓ Energy efficiency in housing buildings, student dormitory buildings and administrative buildings of the government and municipal administration will be funded in the entire territory of the 67 cities, without any territorial restrictions within the intervention zones for Level 1, 2 and 3 cities.

Guiding principles for selection of operations:

- ✓ With respect to energy efficiency in administrative buildings of the government and municipal administration, projects integrated within the framework of IPURDs will be funded, with a view to achieving a comprehensive synergetic effect on the intervention zones in Level 1, 2 and 3 cities and, respectively, IPURDs in Level 4 cities.

Use of financial instruments:

- ✓ With respect to the buildings of the governmental and municipal administration, no financial instruments are envisaged to be used.
- ✓ The financial instruments to be used for energy efficiency measures in residential buildings and student dormitory buildings will be selected taking into account the potential for return on investments and market failures identified in the respective area.
- ✓ Financing of energy efficiency in residential buildings and student dormitories is envisaged through 75% provision of grant funding and 25% of financial instruments.

Expected Results:

Pr. Axis	Indicator	Mesurement unit	Final target (2023)
1	Final energy consumption from public administration, commerce and services	tonne of oil equivalent	Decrease with 1,45%
1	Number of households with improved energy consumption classification	households	12 392
1	Decrease of annual primary energy consumption of public buildings	kWh/year	175 368 169

INVESTMENT PRIORITY 1.2:

Improving the urban environment and areas with potential for economic development – 17% of the total budget of OPRG. Proportion Grants/Financial instruments – 83%/17%

Specific objective:

- ✓ Improving the quality of the urban environment;
- ✓ Improving investment activity in the cities through regeneration of zones with potential for economic development.

Examples of eligible activities:

Group of activities „Urban environment“

- ✓ Construction and rehabilitation of public recreation spaces and physical elements of the urban environment, e.g. parks, green areas, children’s playgrounds, zoos, city squares, the spaces between multifamily housing buildings, free-access sports grounds, pedestrian alleys and sidewalks, bicycle trails and lanes, pedestrian areas, etc.;
- ✓ Construction, rehabilitation and reconstruction of streets and public parking garages;
- ✓ Installation of energy saving street lighting; security and crime prevention measures, e.g. installing lighting in parks, security surveillance systems in public places, etc.;
- ✓ Introducing systems for control of motor vehicle access into pedestrian areas;
- ✓ Creation of an accessible architectural environment in relation to the above areas of activity, including by improving the access for people with disabilities to buildings of the municipal administration.

Group of activities „Areas with potential for economic development“

- ✓ Improvement/ upgrading and reconstruction of existing, or construction/ development of new technical infrastructure pertinent for promoting business and entrepreneurship, within areas with potential for economic development under IPURDs.
- ✓ Construction, renovation, rehabilitation, reconstruction and repair of business and industrial zones within areas with potential for economic development under IPURDs, including buildings;
- ✓ Introducing energy efficiency measures in the buildings/ premises mentioned above;
- ✓ Commissioning of installations for production of energy from renewable sources for the buildings listed above for meeting their own energy use, where this is technically possible and economically feasible;

- ✓ Landscaping, places for recreation, bicycle lanes, bicycle and motor vehicle parking spaces for workers in the areas with potential for economic development;
- ✓ Energy efficiency surveys and structural surveys of the buildings listed above;
- ✓ Improving the access for people with disabilities to the buildings mentioned above.

Direct beneficiaries:

- ✓ 67 designated municipalities;
- ✓ Financial instruments.

Specific target territories:

- ✓ The group of activities „Urban environment” envisages interventions in all intervention zones included in the IPURDs of Level 1, 2 and 3 cities and the entire territory of Level 4 cities designated for support under OPRG.
- ✓ The group of activities „Zones with potential for economic development” are to be implemented in the zones with potential for economic development included in the IPURDs of Level 1, 2 and 3 cities and the entire territory of Level 4 cities designated for support under OPRG.
- ✓ Cities from Level 1 to 3 are eligible for funding for projects outside the IPURD intervention zones, within the framework of the municipal territory and within the 20% threshold of the pre-set limit for the relevant city.

Guiding principles for selection of operations:

- ✓ Projects will be funded on the basis of pre-defined site lists within the scope of IPURDs with a leading role of the municipalities.
- ✓ Projects integrated within the framework of IPURDs will be financed, with a view to achieving a comprehensive synergetic effect on the intervention zones in Level 1, 2 and 3 cities and, respectively, IPURDs in Level 4 cities, as well as for strengthening the functional links with the surrounding territories for level 1 to 3 cities

Expected Results:

Pr. Axis	Indicator	Mesurement unit	Final target (2023)
1	Increased share of population benefitting from an improved urban environment	Number of persons	Increase with 37,2%
1	Open space created or rehabilitated in urban areas	square metres	5 869 492
1	Total surface area of rehabilitated land	hectares	163

INVESTMENT PRIORITY 1.3:

Investments in municipal educational infrastructure – 6,75% of the total budget of OPRG
with 100% grants

Specific objective: Improving conditions for modern educational services

Examples of eligible activities:

- ✓ Construction, reconstruction and renovation of municipal educational institutions, such as crèches and kindergartens, middle and secondary schools (classrooms, libraries, school labs, sports facilities, school wings, dorms, internet connectivity), including the adjacent school yards;
- ✓ Delivery and assembly of equipment and furnishings for the buildings and facilities listed above, as part of their general overhaul;
- ✓ Introducing energy efficiency measures in the buildings / premises mentioned above, including thermal insulation, replacement of frames, local installations and/or connections to the heating, gas, etc. systems;
- ✓ Commissioning of installations for production of energy from renewable sources for the buildings listed above for meeting their own energy use, where this is technically possible and economically feasible;
- ✓ Energy efficiency audits and construction inspections of the existing buildings;
- ✓ Improving access for people with disabilities to the buildings mentioned above.

Direct beneficiaries:

- ✓ 67 designated municipalities.



Specific target territories:

- ✓ The interventions will be carried out within the framework of IPURDs, respectively of the intervention zones for Level 1, 2 and 3 cities and the entire urban area of Level 4 cities.
- ✓ Cities of Level 1 to 3 are eligible for funding under this investment priority outside the IPURD intervention zones, within the framework of the municipal territory and within a 20% limit for all activities outside the intervention zones from the indicative reference budget for the relevant city.

Guiding principles for selection of operations:

- ✓ In accordance with the criteria for selection of operations, the programme will fund sites and facilities with the highest potential to achieve social inclusion and fulfil the objective of least school drop-out rate.
- ✓ Projects integrated within the framework of IPURDs will be financed, with a view to achieving a comprehensive synergetic effect on the intervention zones in Level 1, 2 and 3 cities and, respectively, IPURDs in Level 4 cities, as well as for strengthening the functional links with the surrounding territories for level 1 to 3 cities.

Expected Results:

Pr. Axis	Indicator	Mesurement unit	Final target (2023)
1	Share of modernized educational institutions	%	Increase with 49%
1	Capacity of supported childcare or educational infrastructure	Number of persons	151 045



INVESTMENT PRIORITY 1.4:

Investments in social, sports and cultural infrastructure – 10,2% of the total budget of OPRG with financial instruments for sports and cultural infrastructure

Specific objective:

- ✓ Improving the housing conditions for marginalised groups of the population including the roma;
- ✓ Improving conditions for modern social services;
- ✓ Improving the conditions for sports for all and cultural life in cities.

Examples of eligible activities:

Group of activities „Social infrastructure”

- ✓ Support for the provision of modern social housing to vulnerable, minority and marginalised groups of the population and other disadvantaged groups through construction, reconstruction, renovation and expansion of social housing for the target group;
- ✓ General renovation / reconstruction / construction of adequate municipal infrastructure for provision of community-based services to the elderly and to people with disabilities outside the state policy on deinstitutionalisation: day-care centres, shelters, crisis assistance centres, social hostels, etc. including the adjacent yard;
- ✓ General renovation / reconstruction / construction of adequate municipal infrastructure for provision of community-based services to children outside the state policy on deinstitutionalisation: centres for support of homeless children, crisis assistance centres, day-care centres, counselling centres, etc. including the adjacent yard;
- ✓ Delivery and assembly of equipment and furnishings for the buildings and facilities listed above, as part of their general overhaul.

Direct beneficiaries:

- ✓ 67 designated municipalities for facilities within the IPURDs.

Group of activities „Sports infrastructure”

- ✓ Construction, reconstruction, renovation, equipment and furnishing of sports infrastructure, such as sports halls, swimming pools, football fields, stadiums, combined volleyball / basketball playgrounds, tennis courts, etc.

Direct beneficiaries:

- ✓ 39 designated municipalities and financial instruments for facilities within the IP-URDs in cities of Level 1, 2 and 3.

Group of activities „Cultural infrastructure”

- ✓ Development of infrastructure in the cultural field through construction, reconstruction, renovation, equipment and furnishing of cultural centres, theatres, community centres, libraries, opera houses, galleries, exhibition halls and other cultural institutions including the adjacent yard.

Direct beneficiaries:

- ✓ 67 designated municipalities and financial instruments for facilities within the IP-URDs.

FOR ALL GROUPS OF ACTIVITIES UNDER INVESTMENT PRIORITY 1.4

- ✓ Introducing energy efficiency measures in the buildings / premises mentioned above, including thermal insulation, replacement of frames, local installations and/or connections to the heating, gas, etc. systems;
- ✓ Commissioning of installations for production of energy from renewable sources for the buildings listed above for meeting their own energy use, where this is technically possible and economically feasible;
- ✓ Energy efficiency audits and construction inspections of buildings mentioned above.
- ✓ Improving access for people with disabilities to the buildings subject to intervention.

Specific target territories:

- ✓ Interventions in the „Social infrastructure” and „Cultural infrastructure” groups of activities will be implemented within the framework of IPURDs, respectively within the intervention zones in the cities of Level 1, 2 and 3, and within the entire urban territory of Level 4 cities.
- ✓ Special focus will be placed on social intervention zones with a view to addressing to the fullest extent possible the needs of marginalised groups of society, especially the Roma, who in their great majority are concentrated in such zones.
- ✓ Interventions in the „Sports infrastructure” group of activities will be implemented solely within the framework of IPURDs of Level 1 to 3 cities.
- ✓ Cities of Level 1 to 3 are eligible for funding of projects under the investment priority (all groups of activities), outside the intervention zones of IPURD, within the frame-

work of the municipal territory and within the 20% limit for all activities outside the intervention zones from the indicative reference budget for the relevant city.

Guiding principles for selection of operations:

- ✓ At least 5% of the aggregate budget under Priority Axis 1 will be focused on the implementation of the social infrastructure group of activities. The project proposals for provision of municipal social housing for vulnerable, minority and indigent groups of the population, as well as other groups in a disadvantaged position, shall conform to the National Strategy for Roma Integration of the Republic of Bulgaria 20122020.
- ✓ Projects integrated within the framework of IPURDs will be funded, with a view to achieving a comprehensive synergic effect on the intervention zones in Level 1, 2 and 3 cities and, respectively, IPURDs in Level 4 cities and improvement of the functional connections with neighboring territories for the cities of Level 1 to 3.

Expected Results:

Pr. Axis	Indicator	Mesurement unit	Final target (2023)
1	Increase of the representatives from marginalised groups, including roma, with improved housing conditions	persons	Increase with 415,6%
1	Increase of the share of modernized facilities for social services	%	Increase with 154,0%
1	Increase of the share of modernized cultural/ sport objects	%	Increase with 560,8%
1	Rehabilitated housing in urban areas	housing units	1186
1	Population covered by improved social services	persons	330 420
1	Number of supported facilities of sport and cultural infrastructure	facilities	308

INVESTMENT PRIORITY 1.5:

Promotion of sustainable multi-modal urban mobility – 9% of the total budget of OPRG.
Proportion Grants/Financial instruments – 85%/15%

Specific objective: Improving the urban mobility

Examples of eligible activities:

- ✓ Development of traffic management plans and establishment of automated traffic management and control systems through implementation and improvement of traffic management and information systems, for example traffic operations centres, central computer system, vehicle detection stations, remote-controlled changeable message signs, ramp metering stations, communication sub-systems), including also video surveillance systems to be used by the urban mobility centres and competent units of the Ministry of the Interior;
- ✓ Improvement of the accessibility of city bus stations and the infrastructure leading to them (underpasses and overpasses), such as platforms and elevators for people with disabilities, removing the orientation and information barriers, light and audio announcements on stops, clear visualization of the lines, readable timetables even for those with impaired vision, information for the blind, etc.;
- ✓ Renovation of the transport infrastructure, such as the socket and catenary cable network, improving stations and stops, repair and maintenance facilities and equipment;
- ✓ Development of infrastructure and route network with new destinations to remote residential areas;
- ✓ Provision of noise-reduction systems, such as construction of tram tracks with anti-vibration and anti-noise elements;
- ✓ Development and improvement of urban public transport systems using buses, trams, trolleys that are compliant with the European legislation on harmful emissions from engines and measures to increase the use of renewable / alternative energy sources in urban transport;
- ✓ Renovation and reconstruction of street networks and transport infrastructure together with the adjoining structures (bridges, tunnels, overpasses, underpasses etc.) as an element of the technical infrastructure pursuant to Article 64 (1) of the Spatial Development Act, as well as the socket and catenary cable network, stations and stops of the urban public transport, repair and maintenance facilities and equipment, including video surveillance systems etc. in relation to the development of an integrated urban transport system;

- ✓ Construction / reconstruction / renovation of pedestrian streets and sidewalks, construction of cycling tracks and lanes, pedestrian areas, streets for pedestrians and cyclists, bicycle parking lots, underpasses, overpasses, transport infrastructure, including related activities such as installation of road signs, information boards, street marking etc., as part of the integrated urban transport system;
- ✓ Improving the connections between integrated city transport and intercity bus, rail and marine transport as part of realisation of intermodal transportations – renovation of municipal bus stations, areas owned by municipalities in front of train stations, bus stops for the public transport ensuring easy transfer to the subsequent type of transport and logical connections between the pieces of infrastructure etc.;
- ✓ Measures to establish parking arrangements in proximity to public urban transport nodes outside the city centre.

Direct beneficiaries:

- ✓ 39 designated municipalities and Financial instruments for the cities of Level 1, 2 and 3.

Specific target territories:

- ✓ Interventions will be implemented on the entire territory of the 39 cities of Level 1, 2 and 3, including functional connections with neighbouring settlements, which represent part of the public urban transport system and are included in the integrated sustainable urban transport project.

Guiding principles for selection of operations:

- ✓ Funding will be provided to projects within the 39 cities of Levels 1, 2 and 3 and in addition to the territory within the boundaries of the urban built-up area. The actions will cover also functional connections with neighbouring settlements which are part of the public urban transport system and are included in the integrated sustainable urban transport project.
- ✓ In cases where integrated urban transport measures are applied, the need to apply them shall be clearly indicated and justified in the required feasibility studies for integrated urban transport projects, while at the same time evidence shall be provided for their integrated nature and relevance to the system of public urban transport.
- ✓ In view of the potential of certain components of integrated urban transport projects to generate revenue and the possibilities for return on investment, those individual components or holistic solutions of integrated urban transport projects will be financed using financial instruments.

Expected Results:

Pr. Axis	Indicator	Measurement unit	Final target (2023)
1	Increase of the travels with public urban transport	%	Increase with 3-5%



PRIORITY AXIS 2:

Regional Educational Infrastructure

Thematic objectives 10: Investing in education, training and vocational training for skills and lifelong learning.

Investment priority: Investing in education, skills and life-long learning by developing educational and training infrastructure – 7,2% of the total budget of OPRG with 100% grants.

Specific objective: Creating conditions for modern educational services

Examples of eligible activities:

- ✓ Construction, reconstruction and repair of state schools and colleges and universities and municipal schools of national and regional importance, including the adjacent school yards and dormitories;
- ✓ Delivery and assembly of equipment and furnishings for the buildings and facilities listed above, as part of their general overhaul;
- ✓ Introducing energy efficiency measures in the buildings / premises mentioned above, including thermal insulation, replacement of frames, local installations and/or connections to the heating, gas, etc. systems;
- ✓ Commissioning of installations for production of energy from renewable sources for the buildings listed above for meeting their own energy use, where this is technically possible and economically feasible;
- ✓ Energy efficiency audits and constructional inspections of the buildings;
- ✓ Improving access for people with disabilities to the buildings mentioned above.

Direct beneficiaries:

- ✓ Ministry of Education and Science for the state school under its umbrella;



- ✓ Ministry of agriculture and food for the state school under its umbrella;
- ✓ Ministry of culture for the state school under its umbrella;
- ✓ Ministry of youth and sports for the state school under its umbrella;
- ✓ Colleges and universities;
- ✓ Municipalities for municipal education infrastructure of national and regional importance.

Specific target territories:

- ✓ The territory of the entire country.

Guiding principles for selection of operations:

- ✓ Predefined projects in accordance with the Methodology for prioritization of objects of educational infrastructure.

Expected Results:

Pr. Axis	Indicator	Mesurement unit	Final target (2023)
2	Increase of the share of modernized educational institutions	%	Increase with 723,9%
2	Capacity of supported childcare or education infrastructure	persons	235 603



PRIORITY AXIS 3:

Regional Health Infrastructure

Thematic objective 9: Promoting social inclusion, combating poverty and any discrimination.

Investment priority: Investing in health and social infrastructure which contribute to national, regional and local development – 5,2% of the total budget of OPRG with 100% grants.

Specific objective: Improving the conditions for adequate emergency medical aid.

Examples of eligible activities:

- ✓ Delivery of appropriate equipment, furniture and construction and repair works to establishments for emergency medical care (including ambulances), introducing energy efficiency measures, commissioning of installations for production of energy from renewable sources, improving access for people with disabilities to the buildings as part of the remaining construction and installation works related to the object, energy efficiency audits and construction inspections of the building in accordance with the Concept for Development of the emergency medical care;
- ✓ Delivery of appropriate equipment, furniture and construction and repair works for the municipal hospital care for long-term treatment, including mobile intensive units according to the needs and activities of the institution, including the adjacent yard, introducing energy efficiency measures and commissioning of installations for production of energy from renewable sources, improving access for people with disabilities to the buildings as part of the remaining construction and installation works related to the object and energy efficiency audits and construction inspections of the building.

Direct beneficiaries:

- ✓ Ministry of Health for the state health infrastructure and municipalities for municipal healthcare infrastructure.

Guiding principles for selection of operations:

- ✓ Predefined projects in accordance with the Concept for development of emergency medical care and the National Health Strategy. Funding will be provided to projects which contribute to the national health reform.

Expected Results:

Pr. Axis	Indicator	Measurement unit	Final target (2023)
3	Increased share of modernized healthcare establishments	%	Increase with 51%
3	Population covered by improved health services	persons	3 682 175

PRIORITY AXIS 4:

Regional Social Infrastructure

Thematic objective 9: Promoting social inclusion, combating poverty and any discrimination.

Investment priority: Investing in health and social infrastructure which contribute to national, regional and local development, reducing inequalities in terms of health status, promoting social inclusion through improved access to social, cultural and recreational services and the transition from institutional to community-based services – 3,2% of the total budget of OPRG with 100% grants.

Specific objective: Deinstitutionalization of social services.

Examples of eligible activities:

- ✓ Construction, repair, reconstruction of centres providing services for children at risk – day-care centres for children with disabilities, centres for social rehabilitation and integration, centres for prevention for children and families from different vulnerable groups (drug addicts, children with disabilities, children with deviant behaviour, etc.), including the adjacent yard (provided the building has such yard);
- ✓ Construction of family-type residential centres and the adjacent yards for children at risk. Construction, repair, reconstruction, renovation of buildings for protected homes (extension, reconstruction and restructuring of spaces), including the adjacent yard (provided the building has such yard);
- ✓ Development of infrastructure for accompanying services for children and elderly people – day-care centre and centre for social rehabilitation and integration, including the adjacent yard (provided the building has such yard);
- ✓ Construction, repair, reconstruction and renovation of buildings for community-based social services (including resident social services) in connection with the deinstitutionalisation of elderly people (adult persons) (extension, reconstruction and restructuring of spaces), including the adjacent yard (provided the building has such yard);
- ✓ Construction, reconstruction and repair of infrastructure for provision of services for early development of children for children and their families;
- ✓ Delivery and assembly of equipment and furnishings for the buildings and facilities listed above, as part of their general overhaul;
- ✓ Introducing energy efficiency measures in the buildings / premises mentioned above, including thermal insulation, replacement of frames, local installations and/or connections to the heating, gas, etc. systems;

- ✓ Commissioning of installations for production of energy from renewable sources for the buildings listed above for meeting their own energy use, where this is technically possible and economically feasible;
- ✓ Energy efficiency audits and constructional inspections of the buildings listed above;
- ✓ Improving the access for people with disabilities to the buildings mentioned above.

Direct beneficiaries:

- ✓ Ministry of Health for the medico-social care homes as well as municipalities.

Guiding principles for selection of operations:

- ✓ Predefined projects in accordance with the National Strategy „Vision for Deinstitutionalisation of the Children in the Republic of Bulgaria” and the National Strategy for Long-term Care.
- ✓ Projects will be financed contributing to the achievement of an integrated approach to childcare and care for elderly people, with a clear social effect and impact.
- ✓ The actions which will be supported are related to the renovation and development of infrastructure for deinstitutionalisation, including family-type residential centres.
- ✓ With a view to achieving an integrated approach in childcare, actions related to the improving of the infrastructure for provision of social services such as day-care centres, rehabilitation centres, etc. will be supported.

Expected Results:

Pr. Axis	Indicator	Mesurement unit	Final target (2023)
4	Decrease of the people in institutional social care	persons	Decrease by 9,2%
4	Number of supported facilities of social infrastructure in the process of deinstitutionalization	objects	95



PRIORITY AXIS 5:

Regional Tourism

Thematic objective 6: Preserving and protecting the environment and promoting resource efficiency.

Investment priority: Conserving, protecting, promoting and developing natural and cultural heritage – 8% of the total budget of OPRG. Proportion Grants/Financial instruments – 50%/50%.

Specific objective: Increasing the tourist offer of cultural monuments of national and world significance.

Examples of eligible activities:

- ✓ Development of cultural and historical attractions of national and world significance, such as regeneration, protection, exhibiting, socialising, equipping, introducing techniques and programmes for interpretation and animation, etc.; including regeneration, protection, exhibiting, restoration and reconstruction of religious sites of national and world significance, including landscaping activities, improvement of the adjacent spaces;
- ✓ Development of tourist infrastructure needed for the attractions (tourist paths and health paths, climbing, horse riding and biking routes, picnic locations, signs, visitor information centres);
- ✓ Development of additional small-scale technical infrastructure in the area of the attractions needed for visiting the attractions (water supply and sewage, children's playgrounds, recreation and sports facilities, parking areas, green areas, toilets, lighting and electricity installation, small facilities for garbage collection, utilities, serving the tourist attractions and visitors and necessary for the development of an end-to-end tourist product);
- ✓ Additional small-scale non-infrastructure activities relevant to the supported attractions (organisation of events in the area of the attractions, marketing and advertising activities);
- ✓ Support for the development of regional products and market information, such as regional marketing and impact assessment, regional visitors surveys, development of inter-municipality marketing and promotional strategies and programmes related to the tourist product, development of tourist packages, promotional activities – preparing and dissemination of information and promotional materials about the tourist product, etc., for the financed cultural heritage sites and their link to surrounding natural sites;

- ✓ Concomitant training for the staff working at the supported attractions;
- ✓ Participation in regional, national and international exchanges, exhibitions and fairs and organising of expedition trips, visits of travel agents, tour operators, writers of travel guides, journalists;
- ✓ Public awareness, including through campaigns for raising the awareness of the natural and cultural heritage and its protection and conservation;
- ✓ Improving the access of people with disabilities to the cultural and natural heritage sites and the adjacent infrastructure.

Direct beneficiaries:

- ✓ Ministry of Culture for the sites – state property, managed by the MC;
- ✓ Regional religious denomination institutions and their local structures – legal entities for the sites owned by religious institutions and their local structures – legal entities;
- ✓ Municipalities for the sites – municipal property (or for the sites – state property with management right granted to municipalities), including in partnership with NGOs for actions for development of regional tourist products;
- ✓ Financial instruments.

Specific territories:

- ✓ Investments will be made in the entire territory of Bulgaria.

Guiding principles for selection of operations:

- ✓ Predefined projects in accordance with the Methodology for prioritization of cultural heritage sites of national and world significance. The concept is to finance a limited number of cultural and historical attractions of national and world significance and religious sites, determined in advance and having potential to be developed as complex tourist products and to attract tourist interest. The interventions for conservation, protection, promoting and development cultural heritage will build on the measures financed in the 2007-2013 period.

Expected Results:

Pr. Axis	Indicator	Mesurement unit	Final target (2023)
5	Increase of the net annual revenues from international tourism	mIn. euro	Increase with 0,12%
5	Increase in expected number of visits to supported sites of cultural and natural heritage and attractions	visits/year	213 659



PRIORITY AXIS 6:

Regional Road Infrastructure

Thematic objective 7: promoting sustainable transport and removing bottlenecks in key network infrastructures.

Investment priority: Enhancing regional mobility through connecting secondary and tertiary nodes to TEN-T infrastructure, including multimodal nodes – 12,2% of the total budget of OPRG with 100% grants.

Specific objective: Improving connectivity and accessibility of the network of cities and sites of cultural and natural heritage with the TEN-T network.

Examples of eligible activities:

- ✓ Construction, reconstruction and rehabilitation of 1st and 2nd class roads (outside the Trans-European Transport Network) and 3rd class roads, serving intraregional connections between cities and providing opportunities for the development of their specific economic potential, connectivity and accessibility with the TEN-T network;
- ✓ Construction, reconstruction and rehabilitation of 1st and 2nd class roads (outside the Trans-European Transport Network) and 3rd class roads, providing access to regions with potential for tourism development, connectivity and accessibility with the TEN-T network

Direct beneficiary: Road Infrastructure Agency.

Guiding principles for selection of operations: The concept is to finance a predefined number of road sections of national and regional significance, ensuring connectivity with the TEN-T network, defined in advance based on a developed Methodology and criteria for prioritising road sections, elaborated by the Road Infrastructure Agency.

Expected Results:

Pr. Axis	Indicator	Measurement unit	Final target (2023)
6	Increased passenger and freight flow	Thousands of tons	Increase with 1-2 %
6	Total length of reconstructed or upgraded roads	kilometres	672,9

PRIORITY AXIS 7:

Risk Prevention

Thematic objective 5: Promoting climate change adaptation, risk prevention and management.

Investment priority: Promoting investments to address specific risks, ensuring disaster resilience and developing disaster management systems – 1,2% of the total budget of OPRG with 100% grants.

Specific objective: Preventing the risk of landslides.

Examples of eligible activities:

- ✓ Infrastructural measures for strengthening, limiting and prevention of landslide, erosion, abrasion and other unfavourable geodynamic processes;
- ✓ Design and execution of geo-protection projects and facilities may include surface processing of landslides, planning, water protection, drainage, underpinning the slides, their reinforcement with supporting constructions and other activities pursuant to Ordinance No. 12 on the design of geo-protective structures, buildings and facilities in landslide areas;
- ✓ Infrastructure measures for consolidation and stabilization of landslides, including demolition of unlawful buildings and facilities triggering landslide growth; demolition of unusable buildings and facilities compromised by the release of the landslide;
- ✓ Construction of facilities to bring underground water below the level of the sliding surface (horizontal drilling, collectors, etc.) and discharge it outside the landslide area;
- ✓ Construction of facilities for surface drainage outside the landslide area (trenches, ditches, edge drains, etc.);
- ✓ Infrastructure measures and construction of new installations for reinforcing and structural supporting of the landslide, including re-battering, surface drainage and deep underground drainage, anchor, pile and pile-anchor structures, drainage systems, ditches and shafts, retaining walls, anchor walls, groove walls, etc.;
- ✓ Construction of facilities at landslips – reinforcing the active zone of the landslip, covering with wire nets, protection ditches, catchment nets, catchment walls, protection earth banks, protection canopies, etc.;
- ✓ Vertical planning of the landslide area to ensure stability of the slope;
- ✓ Building automated measurement and control systems (MCS) to monitor landslide behaviour after the infrastructural measures.

Direct beneficiaries: 264 municipalities.

Specific territories: Investments will be made in the entire territory of Bulgaria.

Guiding principles for selection of operations: Predefined projects in accordance with the Methodology for prioritising of landslide sites, developed by the Ministry of Regional Development.

Expected Results:

Pr. Axis	Indicator	Mesurement unit	Final target (2023)
7	Increased share of the population not at risk of landslides	persons	Increase with 16%
7	Reinforced landslide area	square meters	1 430 538



PRIORITY AXIS 8:

Technical Assistance

Specific objective: Strengthening and enhancing the administrative capacity of the Managing Authority and the beneficiaries of the Programme – 3,3% of the total budget of OPRG with 100% grants.

Examples of eligible activities:

- ✓ Technical support, consultations, research, analyses, studies, etc. required for the correct management, implementation, monitoring, evaluation and control of OPRG;
- ✓ Delivery and maintenance of computerised information system (hardware and software) and office equipment required for the management, implementation, monitoring, evaluation and control of OPRG;
- ✓ Evaluation of the OPRG implementation (including current evaluation);
- ✓ Support for financial control and audit (including on-the-spot verifications and related reports, internal control systems, observance of compliance with public procurement procedures, etc.);
- ✓ Support for the processes of evaluation and selection of projects (organisation of evaluation committees, database of independent experts possessing the required technical knowledge and experience, hiring of experts, etc.), independent evaluations of projects;
- ✓ Work organisation, running costs and trainings of the OPRG Monitoring Committee;
- ✓ Training of the staff of the beneficiaries and OPRG Managing authority (working meetings, seminars, exchange of good practices and experience, etc.);
- ✓ Support for the preparation of documents related to the next programming period (consultations, studies, manuals, etc.);
- ✓ Development and maintaining of a web site, media appearances, information films and videos on TV, advertisements and other contacts with the press;
- ✓ Publications, bulletins, leaflets, posters, manuals, etc.;
- ✓ Organising of conferences, „travelling” exhibitions and seminars, information campaigns, community analyses, round tables and focus groups, publications, questionnaires, surveys, seminars for stimulating civil society support and ownership of the proposed investments.
- ✓ Assessment of the training and consultation needs;
- ✓ Development and implementation of Action Plans to strengthen the administrative

capacity of the OPRG beneficiaries based on the assessments made;

- ✓ Development and implementation of training programmes (hiring of experts, organising training events, training materials, etc.) for facilitating the OPRG implementation;
- ✓ Providing support for the preparation of projects to be financed under OPRG;
- ✓ Remuneration, including social security and health insurance contributions, and additional financial incentives for the OPRG Managing authority and beneficiaries, providing funding for business trips of officials directly involved in the programming, management, implementation, monitoring, evaluation and control of OPRG;
- ✓ Rental and maintenance of tangible fixed assets for the needs of OPRG Managing authority.
- ✓ Closure activities for 2007-2013 period.

Direct beneficiaries: Managing Authority and Beneficiaries of OPRG 2014–2020.



Priority Axes and investment priorities	Union support + National counterpart		Grants		Financial instruments	
	(with national counterpart)	euro	%	euro	%	euro
Pr. axis 1 „Sustainable and integrated urban development”	946 153 713	59,53%	755 970 389	79,90%	190 183 325	20,10%
1.1 Energy efficiency in the housing and public sector	262 226 298	16,50%	218 521 915	83,33%	43 704 383	16,67%
1.2 Urban environment	270 175 088	17,00%	224 616 152	83,14%	45 558 936	16,86%
<i>Urban environment</i>	190 711 827	12,00%	171 640 644	90,00%	19 071 183	10,00%
<i>Areas with potential for economic development</i>	79 463 261	5,00%	52 975 507	66,67%	26 487 754	33,33%
1.3 Educational infrastructure	107 339 502	6,75%	107 339 502	100,00%	-	0,00%
1.4 Social infrastructure	163 380 300	10,28%	83 915 174	51,36%	79 465 126	48,64%
<i>Social infrastructure</i>	52 129 123	3,28%	52 129 123	100,00%	-	0,00%
<i>Sports infrastructure</i>	47 679 076	3,00%	-	0,00%	47 679 076	100,00%
<i>Cultural infrastructure</i>	63 572 101	4,00%	31 786 051	50,00%	31 786 051	50,00%
1.5 Integrated urban transport	143 032 526	9,00%	121 577 647	85,00%	21 454 879	15,00%
Pr. axis 2 „Regional educational infrastructure”	114 896 483	7,23%	114 896 483	100,00%	-	0,00%
Pr. axis 3 „Regional health Infrastructure”	83 597 313	5,26%	83 597 313	100,00%	-	0,00%
Pr. axis 4 „Regional social Infrastructure”	50 857 681	3,20%	50 857 681	100,00%	-	0,00%
Pr. axis 5 „Regional tourism”	127 141 218	8,00%	63 570 609	50,00%	63 570 609	50,00%
Pr. axis 6 „Regional road infrastructure”	194 526 920	12,24%	194 526 920	100,00%	-	0,00%
Pr. axis 7 „Risk prevention”	19 704 793	1,24%	19 704 793	100,00%	-	0,00%
Pr. axis 8 „Technical assistance”	52 394 118	3,30%	52 394 118	100,00%	-	0,00%
TOTAL:	1 589 272 239	100%	1 335 518 305	84,03%	253 753 934	15,97%

TOTAL BUDGET: 1 589 272 239 EURO





Operational Programme Regional Development 2007-2013

Investing in your future!



MINISTRY OF REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND
PUBLIC WORKS
DIRECTORATE GENERAL
"PROGRAMMING OF REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT"
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www.mrrb.government.bg
www.bgregio.eu
opr@opr.mrrb.government.bg

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