**The 1st call for projects for the Interreg IPA Romania-Serbia Programme**

 **worth 26 million Euros was launched**

On the 4th and 5th of October 2022, the first call for project proposals of the Interreg IPA Romania-Serbia Programme (2021-2027) was launched in Timișoara, Romania and Vršac, Serbia, with a budget of approximately **26 million Euro** (IPA funds) and will finance projects on environmental protection and adaptation to climate change, healthcare and education, tourism and culture and border management. The deadline for submitting projects is **February 1st, 2023**.

At the same time, within the two events, the Interreg IPA Romania-Serbia Programme (2021-2027) was also launched, which continues the financing of cross-border cooperation in the Romanian-Serbian border area, for the 2021-2027 programming period, through the Pre-accession Assistance Instrument (IPA III), with the support of the European Union and the governments of the two states.

The event was attended by representatives of the Ministry of Development, Public Works and Administration, the Ministry of European Integration in Serbia, regional development agencies, local and regional authorities in the programme area, local and regional media and potential beneficiaries.

In the 2021-2027 programming period, the Ministry of Development, Public Works and Administration is acting as Managing Authority for the Interreg IPA Romania-Serbia Programme 2021-2027, which will have a total budget of 87.725.681 EUR.

The funding for these priorities will be 85% from the Instrument for Pre-Accession assistance (IPA III), 13% Romanian state budget co-financing and 2% as own contribution of the Romanian beneficiaries. Serbian beneficiaries will provide 15% co-financing as their own contribution.

Potential beneficiaries will exclusively use the JEMS electronic system for the transmission of documents and will benefit from simplified cost options for the reimbursement of expenses, respectively, a simplification of the project implementation system.

The Programme area includes three counties in Romania (Timiș, Caraș-Severin and Mehedinţi), as well as six districts in Serbia (North Banat, Central Banat, South Banat, Braničevski, Borski and Podunavski).

Potential beneficiaries, as well as all those interested in Romanian-Serbian cross-border cooperation within the Interreg IPA Romania - Serbia Programme, can consult the Applicant's Guide, related to the first call for project proposals and can obtain more information by accessing the official website of the Programme: [www.romania-serbia.net](http://www.romania-serbia.net)