**PRESS RELEASE**

13 July 2023

**Three strategic importance projects will receive funding through**

**the Interreg IPA Romania-Serbia Programme.**

During the second meeting of the Monitoring Committee for the Interreg IPA Romania-Serbia Programme, three projects of strategic importance were selected for funding, totalling over 20 million euro (EU funds) in the field of border management and health.

The projects in the health field aim to improve the healthcare infrastructure in the border area, including the acquisition of state-of-the-art medical equipment, as well as the digitalization of medical services.

The project dedicated to border management aims to enhance safety and security in the border area, reduce cross-border crime and illegal migration, and strengthen the institutional capacity of the authorities involved in border management, including through the acquisition of specific equipment.

The Ministry of Development, Public Works, and Administration is acting as Managing Authority for the Interreg IPA Romania-Serbia 2021-2027 Programme, which has a total budget of 87,725,681 euro and will finance projects related to environmental protection and climate change adaptation, health and education, tourism and culture, and border management.

The Programme was approved by the European Commission on July 19, 2022, making it the first Interreg IPA Programme at the European level approved for the 2021-2027 period.

Potential beneficiaries will exclusively use the JeMS information system for document submission and will benefit from simplified cost options for expense reimbursement, as well as a simplification of the project implementation system.

The Programme area includes three counties in Romania (Timiș, Caraș-Severin, and Mehedinți) and six districts in Serbia (Severno Banatski, Srednje Banatski, Južno Banatski, Braničevski, Borski, and Podunavski). Those interested in Romanian-Serbian cross-border cooperation within the Interreg IPA Romania-Serbia Programme can obtain more information by accessing the official programme website: [www.romania-serbia.net](http://www.romania-serbia.net)