**Project statement**

The Lead partner, [*name of the organization - in English and in national language],* represented by the undersigned, being the authorised signatory of the lead partner, in the context of the present Call for proposals, hereby certifies that by signing the application form, the lead partner on behalf of all partners confirms that:

* the project respects the EU requirements for joint development, joint implementation, joint staffing and joint financing;
* has got acquainted with the Interreg VI-A NEXT Romania-Ukraine Programme, read the Guidelines for grant applicants and the draft version of the grant contract, and understood what our respective obligations under the contract will be, if the grant is awarded.
* commits itself to the project and the activities laid down in the application form, and intends to provide the total amount of EUR [insert amount] as contribution to the project’s budget.
* is aware of the programme rules on reimbursement and confirms the availability of own resources for pre-financing the activities and understands what its role will be in the project;
* have stable and sufficient sources of finance to ensure the continuity of the organisations throughout the project duration, to play a part in co-financing it and to ensure the needed cash flow. Moreover, the partners must have the necessary financial resources and mechanisms to cover operation and maintenance cost for operations comprising investment in infrastructure so as to ensure its financial sustainability.
* shall repay the Union contribution to the project if, within five years of the final payment to the beneficiaries, it is subject to a substantial change affecting its nature, objectives or implementation conditions which would result in undermining its original or, if the ownership of an item of infrastructure was changed and gives to a firm or a public body an undue advantage. Sums unduly paid in respect of the project shall be recovered by the Managing Authority from the beneficiaries in proportion to the period of non-compliance.
* confirms that no expenditure related to the above-mentioned project has been, is or will be funded, in part or in whole, by any other EU-funded programme or any other national/international funds;
* the project, neither in whole nor in part, has benefited from a financing support from public funds for the same project proposal (in terms of objectives, activities, deliverables and results) in the past 5 years before the deadline for submitting the application, or will receive any other additional EU funds (except for the funds indicated in this application form) for the activities indicated in the application form during the duration of the project;
* the project has not been physically completed or fully implemented before the submission of this application;
* is aware of the obligation to sign a Partnership Agreement specifying the Partners’ tasks and obligations in the project, before the signing of the grant contract with the Managing Authority.
* will keep available all documents related to the project in accordance with the programme requirements on the availability of documents.
* the project partners listed in the application form are committed to take part in the project’s activities and financing and have the sources of financing and the professional competence and qualifications required to implement the project, as described in the application form.
* the project is in line with the relevant EU and national/regional legislation and policies of the regions and countries involved;
* the lead partner and the project partners will act according to the provisions of the relevant EU regulations, the specific provisions of the programme and national rules, especially regarding structural funds, public procurement, State Aid, equal opportunities and non-discrimination and sustainable development, and has no harmful impact on the environment;
* the information in the application form is accurate and true to the best knowledge of the lead partner.
* all natural persons participating in the project and project activities have in advance given their consent to the collection, recording, storage and transfer of their personal data in databases of the programme authorities and management bodies, as well as data transfer to third parties identified in *[insert programme name]* 's privacy policy (e.g., European Commission), in accordance with the provisions for data transfer and data processing described in Regulation 2016/ 679 (General Data Protection Regulation/ GDPR).
* is not in any of the situations excluding them from participating in contracts which are listed in the Guidelines for grant applicants and in Article 136 (1) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) no. 1046/ 2018. Furthermore, it is recognised and accepted that if it will participate in spite of being in any of these situations, it may be excluded from other procedures in accordance with Article 141 of Regulation (EU, Euratom) no. 1046/ 2018.
* is eligible in accordance with the criteria set out in the Guidelines for grant applicants.
* if recommended to be awarded a grant, it accepts the contractual conditions as laid down in the grant contract (draft version) annexed to the Guidelines for grant applicants.
* [only for Ukrainean organizations] is able to open a dedicated bank account in a state-owned bank from Ukraine and to transfer/ receive funds to/ from foreign countries.
* is aware that, for the purposes of safeguarding the financial interests of the EU, the personal data may be transferred to internal audit services, to the European Court of Auditors, to the Financial Irregularities Panel or to the European Anti-Fraud Office.
* the lead partner is fully aware of the obligation to inform without delay the JS if the same proposal for funding made to other donor institutions has been approved by them after the submission of this application undertakes to comply with the obligations foreseen in the Partnership Agreement and with the principles of good partnership.
* is directly responsible for the preparation, management and implementation of the project together with its Partners, and is not acting as an intermediary.
* the lead partner is aware that the partnership is a relationship of substance involving shared responsibilities in undertaking the project to be funded by the Interreg VI-A NEXT Romania-Ukraine. In this respect, the principles of good partnership practice set out below are acknowledged and agreed and, as lead partner, I hereby state that:
  + I understood what the role in the project will be before the proposal is submitted for evaluation.
  + I read the grant contract (draft version) and understood what the respective obligations under the contract will be if the grant is awarded.
  + I shall consult with the project Partners regularly and keep them fully informed of the progress of the project.
  + proposals for substantial changes to the action (e.g. activities, partners, etc.) will be previously agreed with all the project Partners before being submitted to the Managing Authority.
  + I am aware of the obligation to sign the Partnership Agreement stating the tasks and obligations in the project, before the signature of the grant contract with the Managing Authority.
* will inform the public about European Communities’ assistance received from the Programme to implement the project in compliance with the visibility rules of the Interreg VI-A NEXT Romania-Ukraine Programme.

On behalf of the lead partner

Name

Signature and stamp

Organisation

Position

Date and place