









Business Support Center for Small and Medium Enterprises

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BG-RO E-GoverNet web platform A practical user guide



Project "BG-RO E-GoverNet - Development of an information network to ease the cooperation between public authorities, NGOs, business and citizens in the cross-border region Bulgaria-Romania" is co-financed by the European Union through the European Regional Development Fund under the Interreg V-A Romania - Bulgaria Programme

Project value (ERDF): 311 794,00 EUR

Editor: Business Support Centre for SMEs

Date: 10.05.2018



PROJECT

BG-RO E-GoverNet – Development of an information network to ease the cooperation between public authorities, NGOs, business and citizens in the cross-border region Bulgaria-Romania, ROBG-168

The project is implemented within the Interreg V-A Romania-Bulgaria 2014-2020 cross-border cooperation program

Priority Axis 5: Effective Region

Specific objective: To increase cooperation capacity and the

efficiency of public institutions in a CBC context

Project duration: April 20, 2017 to April 19, 2019 (24 months) Lead Beneficiary (LB): Business Support Centre for Small and Medium Enterprises – Ruse

Beneficiaries: Eastern Danube Convention & Visitors Bureau

Association – Giurgiu, Romania

Total project budget: 366 816,47 euro

EU funding: 311 793,99 euro

Project context

- Romanian and Bulgarian public authorities are considered bureaucratic, incompetent, and reluctant to perform their duties.
- National Operational Programs have provided trainings for institutional competence which are insufficient to fill the gaps in communication/coordination between authorities and non-governmental organizations/business.
- Bulgaria and Romania ranked in the last two places in the EU in terms of using e-government by individuals in 2014 – immediate action to develop new governance models.

The current situation can only be changed through joint initiatives between all stakeholders and through the implementation of innovative instruments. The project envisages the establishment of a cross-border public-private network that will be the effective mechanism for better communication and interaction between all stakeholders across the cross-border region.

Project goals

<u>Main objective</u> – to promote long-term cooperation between public authorities by creating an efficient and effective innovative tool for better coordination between public and private stakeholders at cross-border level as well as appropriate means of communication and promotion of eGovernment.

Target groups

- Public sector municipalities and district administrations
- Representatives of all types of NGOs in the cross-border area
- Private companies
- Local communities

Main project activities

- Study and analysis of the current state of the electronic services provided by local administrations in the cross-border region
- Developing an online platform in three languages, Bulgarian,
 Romanian and English, for exchange of information between local administrations in the cross-border region Bulgaria Romania,
 which will benefit businesses and citizens
 - Creating the BG-RO E-GoverNet network
- Developing a strategy for improvement of the coordination between local public authorities in the cross-border area on a cross-border level and promoting specific cross-border initiatives; the strategy will remove existing barriers to cross-border mobility of people and businesses; with a special focus on digital services or their lack and what can be done for their improvement
 - Promotion and publicity of project activities and results

Expected main results

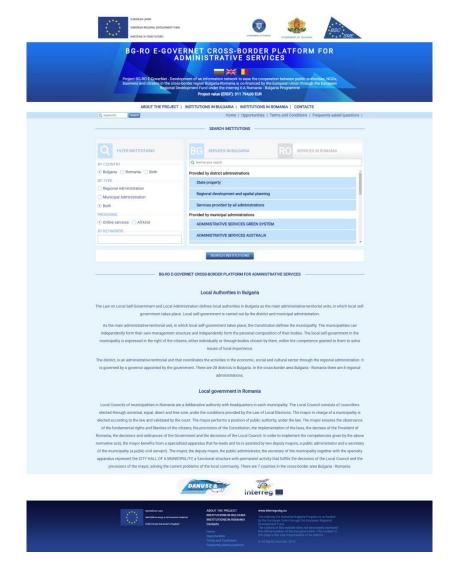
- Drafting and signing specific cooperation agreements between district administrations, municipalities, district councils and NGOs in the cross-border region at least $5\,$
- Establishing a network of public and non-public organizations BG-RO E-GoverNet in order to ensure closer cooperation and better coordination $-\,1$
- Detailed public authorities' research on their services and attitudes towards them for identifying needs and problems, looking

for opportunities and measures that could be taken to address existing problems or prevent new ones - 1

- **Strategy** will include opportunities and potential that could be used to develop and improve existing public services and non-public sector attitudes **1**
- Information exchange platform an innovative tool for information and communication between public sector stakeholders and public-private stakeholders. It will present the important information in a short and structured way, it will be easy to navigate and quickly accessible 1

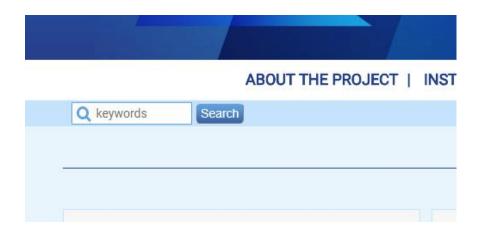
Menu: Home

Home page with a preview as required by the program, with main menu and submenu, quick search tool, detailed search tool, and information on local government authorities in Bulgaria and Romania.



Quick search tool

It can quickly find information about a specific city or service. The city name or service name is entered and then the **Search button** is pressed.



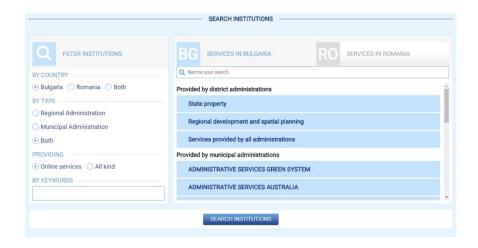
Detailed search tool

It can filter the search on the platform very thoroughly. On the left side the institutions can be filtered. It can filter by country by choosing only Bulgaria, only Romania or both countries; by type, by choosing the Municipal administration, Regional administration or both institutions; by Providers, by choosing Electronic Services (all institutions providing electronic services) or Any (including institutions that do not have electronic services). It can also filter by keyword, such as the name of the city or institution. On the right side the services can be filtered.

There are two large buttons at the top for selection of the country for which the search will be filtered. If, for example, **Romania** is selected, the country filter to the left automatically changes to **Romania** and vice versa, if on the left side the filter by country is

selected and **Bulgaria** is selected, then on the right the service filter in **Bulgaria** will be activated. If on the left side a country filter is selected and **Both** is selected, the service filter will show the services for both countries to the right.

To find a service quickly, there is a "Narrow Search" search box in which when a keyword is entered, a filter for the services that contain that keyword is displayed. After filtering, there will be a checkbox next to the services that need to be checked (several services can be checked at the same time) so that the filtering can be done by the selected services. Once the user has selected all filters, the Search Institutions button is pressed.



The search result shows all the filters that have been selected on the left, and on the right side shows the result with the name of the institution, a brief information about it and a "Search Matches" field where the keywords (if any) and a link to the searched service are marked (if the searched services are few, the result shows only one) and this link leads directly to the institution's site. There is also an "institution page" link which leads to full information about the institution.



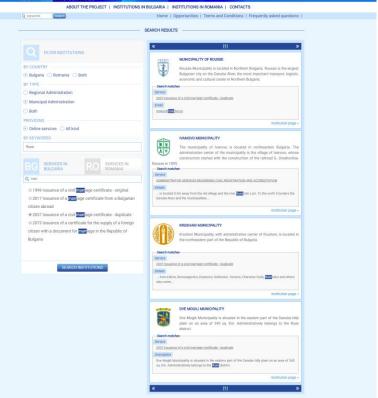


















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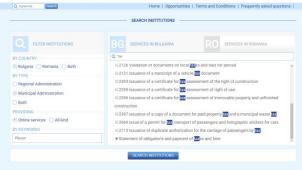






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BG-RO E-GOVERNET CROSS-BORDER PLATFORM FOR ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

Local Authorities in Bulgaria

The Law on Local Self-Government and Local Administration defines local authorities in Bulgaria as the main administrative-territorial units, in which local self-government takes place. Local self-government is carried out by the district and municipal administration.

As the main administrative territorial unit, in which local self-government takes place, the Constitution defines the municipality. The municipalities can independently form their own management structure and independently form the personal composition of their bodies. The local self-government in the municipality is expressed in the right of the citizens, either individually or through bodies chosen by them, within the competence granted to them to solve issues of local importance.

The district, is an administrative termorial unit that coordinates the activities in the economic, social and cultural sector through the regional administration. It is governed by a governor appointed by the government. There are 28 districts in Bulgaria. In the cross-border area Bulgaria - Romania there are 8 regional administrations.

Local government in Romania

Local Councils of municipalities in Romania are a edibertative authority with headquarters in each municipality. The Local Council consists of councillors elected strough universal, equal, disect and free voie, under the conditions provided by the Law of Local Elections. The mayor in charge of a municipality is elected according to the law and validated by the court. The mayor performs a position of public authority, under the law. The mayor ensures the observance of the Industrian rights and Electrical of the citizens, the provisions of the Constitution, the implementation of the laws, the decrease of the President of Romania, the decisions and ordinances of the Occurrent and the decisions of the Local Council, in order to implement the competencies given by the above normative acts, the mayor benefits from a specialized apparatus that he leads and he is a sasted by two depay mayors, a public administrator and a accretant of the municipality to public lovis servant). The mayor the depay mayor, the public administrator, the secretary of the municipality together with the specialty apparatus represent the CITY HALL OF A MUNICIPALITY, a functional structure with permanent activity that fulfills the decisions of the Local Council and the provisions of the mayor, solving the current problems of the local community. There are 7 counties in the cross-border are abiligatis -Romania.







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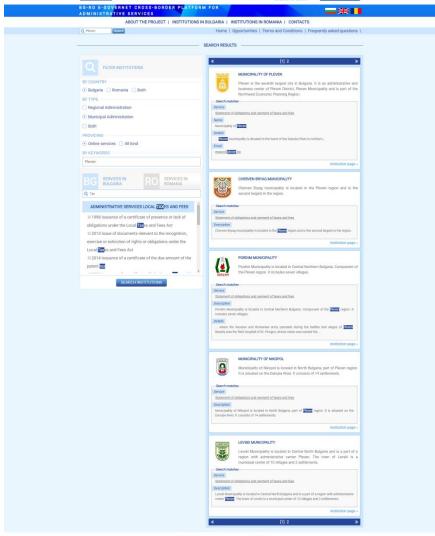
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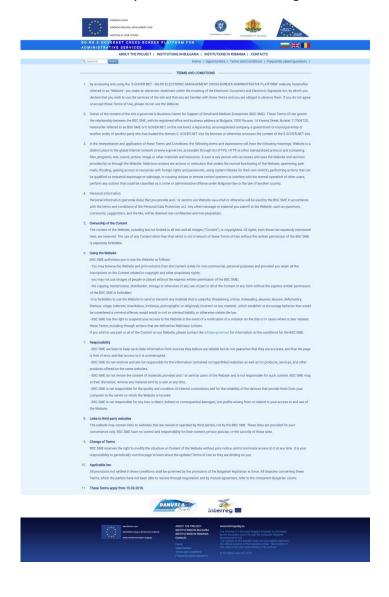
Menu: Opportunities

Place for publishing e-government news, information on new services provided by institutions and opportunities for cross-border cooperation.



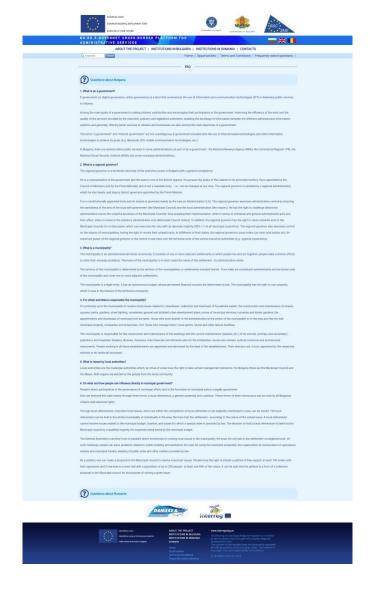
Menu: Terms of Use

This page introduces the user to the website's terms of use. These terms define the relationship between a Business Support Centre for Small and Medium Enterprises and each user using the site.



Menu: Frequently Asked Questions

Here, the user can find answers to some of the most frequently asked questions about e-government. The information for Bulgaria and Romania is different.



Menu: About the project

Here information about the project as well as two documents developed within the project can be found:

- Research and analysis of public information and services in the Bulgarian part of the Bulgaria-Romania cross-border region
- Strategy for Improving the Environment in Public Services in the ROMANIA - BULGARIA Cross-border Region



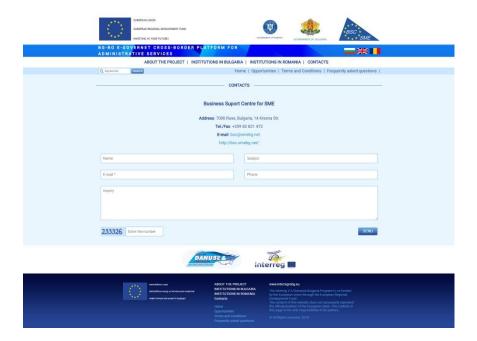
Menu: Institutions in Bulgaria / Institutions in Romania

The menu contains a list of all the institutions in the country entered in the platform. To the left of the list there is an option to filter it according to the needs of the visitor.



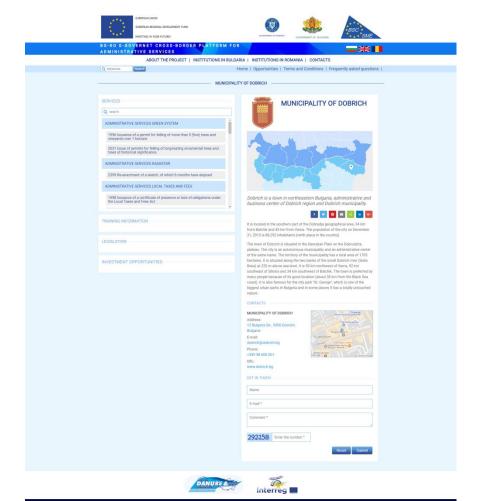
Menu: Contacts

The site contains contact information of the Business Support Centre for Small and Medium Enterprises as well as a feedback form.



Page of an institutions. On the left is information about the services provided by the institution with the option of filtering. There is information on training, legislation and investment opportunities below. On the right is the name of the institution with its coat of arms; map of the cross-border region with the districts and a marker with the location of the institution; description of the institution with an option for sharing on social networks; contact details with a picture of the location on the map, and feedback form with an option for a contact with the Business Support Centre for Small and Medium Enterprises.















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