BGRS0100003 - " Preparation of the population for actions in case of disasters and improvement of the capacity of the professional teams for response in case of emergency situations within the cross-border region - RESPONSE"

- 1. **Project stage:** Project in implementation.
- 2. **Duration of the project:** 30 months, period 01.09.2023. 28.02.2026.
- 3. **Project budget:** 7.289.816,15 EUR out of which 6.196.343,71 EUR represents funding assured by the Instrument for Pre-accession Assistance (IPA III) and 1.093.472,44 EUR represents national public contribution. The budget of the Ministry of Interior of the Republic of Serbia, Sector for Emergency Management is 3,000,000.85 EUR.
- 4. **Lead Partner:** Ministry of Interior of the Republic of Bulgaria, Directorate General Fire Safety and Civil Protection,

Partners:

- Ministry of Interior of the Republic of Serbia, Sector for Emergency Management,
- Academy of the Ministry of Interior of the Republic of Bulgaria,
- National Association of Volunteers in Republic of Bulgaria.

5. **General objective of the project:**

The project is aiming at ensuring the necessary education and preparation of the population and volunteers for actions in case of disasters in the cross-border region, as well as ensuring proper and timely response of the professional teams in case of disasters, using different methods for improvement of the capacity. Well-coordinated professional teams and volunteers in cross border region and properly educated local population will increase local response capacity and disaster resilience.

6. **Project activities:**

- Raising awareness of the population for right actions in case of disasters:
 - Education of children in schools through the organization of workshops, the preparation of educational materials that will be used during the workshops, such as an educational movie, educational mobile application, informative brochures,
 - Procurement smoke detectors which will be distributed among elderly people

in cross border region and preparation educational and informative brochures with the aim of fire protection.

- Strengthening the capacity of professionals and volunteers through education:
 - Conduction of trainings for rescue in case of different natural disasters for professionals and volunteers,
 - Organization of specialized trening for the rescue interventions in tunnels,
 - Organization of training for instructors and team leaders for the rescue interventions in tunnels,
 - Equipping the Educational centre for emergency management unit in Zaječar.
- Strengthening the capacity for joint interventions in case of natural disasasters:
 - Updating documents at the national and cross-border level for actions in the event of a disaster, such as Joint Operating Procedures, Joint Intervention Plans, Forest Fire Management Strategy,
 - Procurement of specialized equipment,
 - Procurement of ICT equipment,
 - Organization of joint field exercise.

7. Project results:

- Joint strategies and action plans taken up by organisations,
- Participations in joint actions across borders after project completion,
- Completion of joint training schemes,
- Population benefiting from wildfire protection measures.