

Minutes of Screening Meeting on Major project 2019RO16RFMP002 “Increasing accessibility of Dobrogea region: Road Bridge over the Danube at Braila”

***the minutes were prepared in response to a request for information, as all documents discussed in the meeting, including the PSA report, are confidential.**

Location: Tulcea, Braila Counties, Romania

Beneficiary (entity applying for EU funding): National Company for Roads Infrastructure Administration of Romania (NCRIA)

Operational Programme: Large Infrastructure Operational Programme

The project was submitted to JASPERS for preparing a post-submission appraisal (PSA) on 28 May 2019. The PSA was ready on 24 June 2019. Consequent to this, on 25 June 2019, to take a decision on the funding application for the project concerned, with the participation of Commission experts, as well as the support of JASPERS experts.

The scope of this meeting excluded environmental issues, state aid issues, wider policy and programme issues and how they fit with this investment, as well as the admissibility of the documentation. Those issues were reflected through a presentation, at the end of the meeting, of the results of the interservice consultation of the project. The admissibility of the project had been confirmed 5 days after submission, in line with the requirements of the Regulation.

The discussion included a discussion of the capacity of the beneficiary to implement the project (no issues), the project and its location (no issues), the project cost (no issues), the options analysis (no issues), the options analysis (where there was a discussion between the relative merits of a 2x2 and 2x1 option for design but finally confirming the option selected by the Romanian authorities), the cost-benefit analysis (no issues), the risk assessment of the project (no issues but simply a further examination of the 2x2 v 2x1 options), the financial analysis (discussion focused on the revenues foreseen from the tolls, CAPEX cost of the project, revenue allocation for determining the cost to be eligible for EU funding as per requirements of the Regulation, as well as operation and maintenance costs, again, the discussion confirmed the validity of the choices of the Romanian authorities), project timetable and financing plan of the project.

The meeting concluded with a recommendation that the funding of the Major project should be approved.