



Innovation and Networks Executive Agency

Department C - Connecting Europe Facility (CEF)

**AMENDMENT N° 3
TO AGREEMENT No INEA/CEF/TRAN/M2015/1127671**

The **Innovation and Networks Executive Agency (INEA)** ("the Agency"), under the powers delegated by the European Commission ("the Commission"), represented for the purposes of signature of this amendment by the Head of Department C of the Agency, Andreas Boschen,

on the one part,

and

State Enterprise National Railway Infrastructure Company (NRIC)

Public body

Registration No 23/202

Kniaginya Maria Luiza 110

1233 Sofia

Bulgaria

VAT No BG130823243,

represented for the purposes of signature of this amendment by Minister of Transport, Information Technology and Communications, Rossen Jeliakov

hereinafter referred to collectively as "the beneficiaries", and individually as "beneficiary" for the purposes of this amendment

on the other part,

Having regard to the above-mentioned grant agreement concluded between the Agency and the beneficiary on 10/11/2016 as amended on 25/07/2018 and 24/10/2018,

Whereas:

- (1) The beneficiary has requested the Agency on 13/09/2019 to amend the above-mentioned grant agreement for the following reason(s): i) the start of the physical implementation of the Action had significantly delays and therefore the end date of the Action needs to be extended, ii) the scope of the Action needs to be reduced as part of the works fall out of the eligibility period of the maximum extension of the end date allowed.
- (2) The measures provided for in this amendment do not affect the award of the Union financial aid.

HAVE AGREED AS FOLLOWS:

Article 1

(1) Article 2.2 is replaced by the following article:

"2.2 The action shall run from 01/10/2016 ("the starting date") until 31/12/2022 ("the completion date")."

(2) Article 3 "Maximum amount and form of the grant" is replaced by the following article:

"ARTICLE 3 – MAXIMUM AMOUNT AND FORM OF THE GRANT

The grant for the action shall be of a **maximum amount of EUR 130,488,600**.

The grant shall take the form of:

(a) the reimbursement of 85% of the eligible costs of the action ("reimbursement of eligible costs"), which are estimated at EUR 153,516,000 and which are:

- (i) actually incurred ("reimbursement of actual costs")
- (ii) reimbursement of unit costs: not applicable
- (iii) reimbursement of lump sum costs: not applicable
- (iv) reimbursement of flat-rate costs: not applicable
- (v) declared on the basis of an amount per unit calculated in accordance with the beneficiary's usual cost accounting practices ("reimbursement of costs declared on the basis of the beneficiary's usual cost accounting practices") for personnel costs

(b) unit contribution: not applicable

(c) lump sum contribution: not applicable

(d) flat-rate contribution: not applicable"

(3) Article 4.1.1 "Reporting periods" is replaced by the following article:

"4.1.1 Reporting periods

The action is divided into the following reporting periods:

- Reporting period 1 from the starting date of the action to 31 December 2017;
- Reporting period 2 from 1 January 2018 to 31 December 2018;
- Reporting period 3 from 1 January 2019 to 31 December 2019;
- Reporting period 4 from 1 January 2020 to 31 December 2020;
- Reporting period 5 from 1 January 2021 to 31 December 2021;
- Last reporting period from 1 January 2022 to the completion date of the action."

(4) Annex I shall read as follows:

"ANNEX I

DESCRIPTION OF THE ACTION

ARTICLE I.1 – IMPLEMENTATION OF THE TEN-T NETWORK

The action contributes to the implementation of the:

- the core network
- Corridor(s): Orient/East-Med

ARTICLE I.2 – LOCATION OF THE ACTION

I.2.1 Member State(s): Bulgaria.

I.2.2 Region(s) (using the NUTS2 nomenclature): Yugozapaden (BG41), Yuzhen tsentralen (BG42).

I.2.3 Third country(ies): not applicable.

ARTICLE I.3 – SCOPE AND OBJECTIVES OF THE ACTION

The proposed Action is part of the Global project that aims to remove existing bottlenecks between Sofia and Septemvri, by upgrading the concerned section of the railway. It will complete the whole Sofia - Plovdiv line upgrade and will solve one of the major bottlenecks of the pan-European rail network in South Eastern Europe, situated on the shortest link between Western and Central Europe, Middle East and Asia.

The current infrastructure parameters of the 24.475 km long railway section of the Orient-East Med core network corridor Kostenets – Septemvri are not fully compliant with the requirements set out in the EU Regulation No. 1315/2013, No. 1299/2014 and the interoperability EU Directive No. 2008/57/EC (double track, electrified, with a normal railway track gauge 1435 mm, operational speed for passenger transport 160 km/h and 120 km/h for freight, 22.5 t axle load). These constraints limit the competitiveness of the railway line and create important bottlenecks on the overall railway network in Bulgaria.

The general objectives of the Action are:

- Aiming at removing the bottlenecks on this section of the railway line;
- Ensuring an optimal level of integration and of interoperability on this railway section in compliance with the EU Regulation No. 1299/2014 and the interoperability EU Directive No. 2008/57/EC;
- Improving and maintaining the quality of infrastructure in terms of safety, security and efficiency;
- Supporting modal split by fostering the use of railway transport.

The scope of the Action is:

The modernisation and upgrade of the 24.475 km long railway section of the Orient-East Med core network corridor along the railway section Kostenets-Septemvri. The starting of section is km 73+598 and the end of section is km 98+073.

The upgraded section will be in line with EU requirements for Core Network Corridors as set by Regulation (EU) No 1315/2013, namely: 22.5 t axle load, possibility of running trains with a length of 740 m, and at least 160 km/h speed for the passenger trains and 120 km/h for freight.

The Beneficiary of the Action is the National Railway Infrastructure Company (NRIC).

ARTICLE I.4 – ACTIVITIES

I.4.1 Activities timetable

| Activity number | Activity title | Indicative start date | Indicative end date | Milestone number |
|-----------------|------------------------------|-----------------------|---------------------|---|
| 1 | Project management | 01/10/2016 | 31/12/2022 | 1 |
| 2 | Land acquisition | 01/10/2016 | 30/04/2020 | 7 |
| 3 | Information and publicity | 01/04/2017 | 31/12/2022 | 6, 25 |
| 4 | Construction works | 01/04/2017 | 31/12/2022 | 5, 8, 9, 10, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24 |
| 5 | Supervision during the works | 01/03/2017 | 31/12/2022 | 2, 3, 4, 11, 26, 27, 28 |

I.4.2 Activities description

Activity 1: Project management

This Activity covers the management and coordination of the Action. The Project Management Implementation Unit (PMIU) is established in the National Railway Infrastructure Company (NRIC) and it will be responsible for the project management and coordination, tendering procedures, financial management, monitoring, internal quality control, reporting.

The PMIU consists of internal experts who will work full time throughout the project duration and will report their working time by means of reports. The PMIU team will be supported with specific experience by the relevant departments of NRIC and with external contractors to be contracted following the EU public procurement law.

The beneficiary (NRIC) and Ministry of Transport, Information Technology and Communications (MTITC) have a bilateral system for the management and implementation of projects financed by the EU, which will also apply to the proposed Action:

The Coordination of Programmes and Projects Directorate within the Ministry of Transport,

Information Technology and Communications (MTITC) will be responsible for ensuring the efficiency and correctness, as a competent body of the Member State. The Ministry will be responsible for certification of Action Status Reports to certify that the reports are full, reliable and true within the implementation of operations co-financed by the CEF.

The management and control is performed by the NRIC's Project management board (PMB). This board consists of the Deputy Director General "Strategy and Administration", the Deputy Director General "Operation", the Director of the Directorate "Strategic Development and Investment Projects" and all the Heads of the PMIU. The main responsibility of the board is setting out strategic objectives, planning, organizing, leading and controlling the implementation of the Action at the highest level in NRIC.

Expected deliverables for Activity 1 include:

- Project management plan is approved by the Project management board (PMB) of NRIC.

Activity 2: Land acquisition

This activity aims at land acquisition in order to achieve entirely the objectives of the Action: to achieve line speed of 160 km/h, the modernization of the railway section Kostenets-Septemvri, the realignment of the existing railway track in some sections. The expropriation is in accordance with the approved Detailed Zoning Plan. The beneficiary of the Action National Railway Infrastructure Company (NRIC) is responsible for the preparation of all required documentation and expropriation of the land under this Activity.

The Activity includes land acquisition that located at 73+598 and at km 98+073. The total area of affected land is about 130 ha.

Expected deliveries for Activity 2 include:

- Decision of the Council of Ministers approving the transfer of the ownership of the land plots

Activity 3: Information and publicity

This Activity covers communication and dissemination activities for publicity measures which will be implemented in line with the EU requirements. The plans for information and publicity of the project will be approved and supervised by the beneficiary.

The scope of this activity under this project includes:

- Communication action plan
- Design, supply and installation of two billboards - one at the beginning and one at the end of the railway section Kostenets-Septemvri;
- Conducting two information and publicity events promoting the project: at the start of the construction period and after completion of the construction process;
- Preparation of brochures aiming to promote the project (1000 copies). The brochures will be necessary for the above mentioned two publicity events;
- Preparation of video for public awareness and promotion of the project. In the future, these

videos will be used further for project results related activities and media campaigns

Expected deliverable for Activity 3 include:

- Communication action plan approved by the Project management board.

Activity 4: Construction works

The Activity covers all the constructions works along the railway section Kostenets-Septemvri double track railway line of 24.475 km. Start of section is km 73+598 and the end of section is km 98+073. The construction involves the following railway substructures: Railway superstructure; Traction and non-traction power supply; 2 Station facilities; 23 bridges and viaducts of the total length of 2400.9 m ; 3 new road overpasses and 1 new road underpass; 24 culverts; 17 retaining walls; 3,698 m noise protection barriers and 3 tunnels: No 11, 12 and 13 Tunnels No 12 (located at km 80+642 – 81+515) and No 13 (located at km 81+635 – 82+850) will be fully completed and ready for TSI certification. In tunnel No 11 (located at km 76+570 – 79+050) the works will concern only excavation of 1,822 m (out of 2,480 m of total length). Three building permits will be issued to start the construction works under this Activity.

This Activity will be implemented through the open tender procedure following the EU public procurement law.

Sub-Activity 4.1 Modernization of the railway line and electrification

This Sub-Activity includes the following works:

- Modernization of 24.475 km long double track line along the railway section Kostenets-Septemvri, of which 12.057 km (located at km 73+598 to km 75+840 and km 88+258 to km 98+073) will be compliant with the Technical Specifications for Interoperability (TSI) requirements within the eligibility period of the Action. The part of the remaining 12.418km (located at km 75+840 to km 88+258), on the section Kostenets - Belovo that will be constructed under this Grant Agreement, will be in line with TSI requirements but certified after the end date stipulated in art. 2.2, namely 31.12.2022.
- Modernization of 10.573 km long double track railway line on existing track, the section starting at (84+950÷89+700) and ending at (92+250÷98+073);
- Construction of 13.902 km long new double track railway line on the section starting at (73+598÷84+950) and ending at (89+700÷92+250), of which:
 - 11.422 km will be newly constructed and electrified and
 - 1.822 km of tunnel No 11 will be excavated. The rest 658 m of tunnel No 11 are not in the scope of this Action.
- Installation of new overhead contact line AC 1x25 kV/50 Hz and electric Power supply equipment for 160 km/h speed purposes.
- Reconstruction of one existing traction sub-stations (Belovo).

Sub-Activity 4.2 Level crossings removal and new road overpasses

The objective of this Sub-Activity is to replace four level crossings and crossing roads with crossings on two levels:

- On the road I-8 near connection existing station Kostenets-new station Kostenets will be implemented new underpass located at new rail way km 72+775.
- On the road I-8 at open line near connection existing station Kostenets-Belovo will be implemented new overpass located at new rail way km 81+530.
- The road crossing near Belovo-Septemvri (existing km 97 + 500) will be replaced by an overpass located at km 93+630.
- The road crossing near Septemvri station (existing km 101+227) will be replaced by an overpass located at km 97+357.

Sub-Activity 4.3 Construction of bridges and viaducts

The objective of this Sub-Activity is the construction of 23 bridges and viaducts of the total length of 2400.9 m with the following chainage:

- 73+766.52 (indicative length 162 m)
- 74+003.50 (indicative length 6 m)
- 74+623.25 (indicative length 6 m)
- 75+436.18 (indicative length 186 m)
- 75+717.69 (indicative length 6 m)
- 76+051.00 (indicative length 68m)
- 76+386.89 (indicative length 6 m)
- 76+482.00 (indicative length 6 m)
- 79+450.00 (indicative length 522 m)
- 80+230.00 (indicative length 68 m)
- 80+480.20 (indicative length 93 m)
- 81+606.00 (indicative length 26 m)
- 83+259.28 (indicative length 715 m)
- 83+874.50 (indicative length 31 m)
- 84+171.50 (indicative length 66 m)
- 85+228.21 (indicative length 8 m)
- 86+087.90 (indicative length 5 m)
- 86+809.00 (indicative length 50 m)
- 88+360.00 (indicative length 5 m)
- 89+882.34 (indicative length 17 m)
- 89+249.00 (indicative length 6.9 m)
- 89+973.66 (indicative length 149 m)
- 90+926.10 (indicative length 193 m)

Sub-Activity 4.4 Upgrade of stations

The objective of this Sub-Activity is to reconstruct 1 existing station and construct 1 new platform at the following railway stations:

- Construction of a new Kostenets station (km 74+298.41÷75+840.05) with the following parameters: track alignment ensuring the movement of trains of 750 m length, 3 new platforms, pedestrian underpass, electrification of the station and facilities insuring accesses of passengers to the platforms, construction of rooms/offices for the station employees which are an integral part of the station and which are necessary for the efficient and reliable operation of the station - station master's office, head movement office, operations personnel facility, rooms for signaling facilities, machine room, archive room, storages for hygienist,

dressing room equipped with showers, toilet rooms, storages for equipment and lubricants, resting room for the employees, parking area with parking spots and railway link to existing Kostenets station- 2.230 m.

- Reconstruction of Belovo station with track alignment ensuring the movement of trains of 750 m length (km 88+257.68÷89+989.58)); 2 platforms, pedestrian overpass equipped with elevators and parking area with parking spots

Sub-Activity 4.5 Construction of tunnels

This sub-activity includes the construction of three double rail track tunnels on a stretch with total length of 4,568m (including total length of tunnel No 11) of which 2,088m will be fully built and 1,822m of tunnel No 11 will be excavated. Construction of tunnels No 12 (indicative length 873m) and No 13 (indicative length 1,215m) will be in compliance with TSI safety in rail tunnels Regulation.

In tunnel No 11 excavation works will take place from 76+570 to 77+400 and from 78+058 to 79+050. The section between 77+400 to 78+058 (length of 658m) is not part of this Grant Agreement.

Sub-Activity 4.6 Installation of noise protection barriers, culverts and retaining walls

This sub-activity includes the construction of 3698.88 m noise protection barriers, 24 culverts of the indicative length of 604.5 m and 17 retaining walls with the indicative length of 4792.08 m with the following chainage:

1. Retaining walls:

- 79+715.00 ÷ 79+810.00 (indicative length 95 m) -Track-1;
- 79+820.00 ÷ 80+180.00 (indicative length 360 m) -Track-1;
- 80+525.00 ÷ 80+555.00 (indicative length 30 m) -Track-1;
- 82+850.00 ÷ 82+862.00 (indicative length 12 m) -Track-1;
- 83+775.00 ÷ 83+847.60 (indicative length 75 m) -Track-2;
- 86+850.00 ÷ 86+970.00 (indicative length 120 m) -Track-2;
- 90+380.00 ÷ 90+455.00 (indicative length 72.6 m) -Track-2;
- 83+900.00 ÷ 84+900.00 (indicative length 1000 m) -Track-1;
- 84+891.58 ÷ 85+257.27 (indicative length 365.69 m) -Track-2;
- 85+484.17 ÷ 85+927.02 (indicative length 442.85 m) -Track-2;
- 85+562.00 ÷ 85+865.00 (indicative length 303 m) -Track-1;
- 86+100.00 ÷ 86+175.00 (indicative length 75 m) -Track-1;
- 86+839.56 ÷ 86+970.00 (indicative length 130.44 m) -Track-2;
- 87+135.00 ÷ 87+320.00 (indicative length 185 m) -Track-1;
- 87+330.00 ÷ 88+200.00 (indicative length 1130 m) -Track-1;
- 90+380.00 ÷ 90+455.00 (indicative length 75 m) -Track-2;
- 90+495.00 ÷ 90+815.50 (indicative length 320.5 m) -Track-1;

2. Noise protection barriers:

- 84+799.62 ÷ 86+327.35 (indicative length 1527.73 m) -Track-2;
- 85+203.85 ÷ 86+200.00 (indicative length 775 m) -Track-1;
- 85+425.00 ÷ 88+285.00 (indicative length 996.15 m) -Track-1;
- 91+200.00 ÷ 91+600.00 (indicative length 400 m) -Track-1;

3. Culverts:

- 73+578.50 (indicative length 24,5 m);
- 74+350.65 (indicative length 26,00m);
- 74+826.68 (indicative length 53,00 m);
- 75+052.76 (indicative length 60,00 m);
- 75+855.05 (indicative length 38,00 m);
- 79+117.61 (indicative length 57,00 m);
- 79+806.32 (indicative length 25,00 m);
- 84+666.95 (indicative length 13,00 m);
- 84+844.13 (indicative length 14,00 m);
- 86+371.41 (indicative length 14,00 m);
- 87+833.94 (indicative length 13,00 m);
- 90+236.43 (indicative length 33,00 m);
- 91+417.00 (indicative length 34,00 m);
- 91+942.59 (indicative length 28,00 m);
- 91+991.16 (indicative length 17,00 m);
- 92+006.03 (indicative length 18,00 m);
- 92+950.00 (indicative length 14,00 m);
- 93+159.20 (indicative length 28,00 m);
- 93+925.00 (indicative length 14,00 m);
- 94+950.00 (indicative length 13,00 m);
- 95+714.47 (indicative length 29,00 m);
- 95+925.00 (indicative length 13,00 m);
- 96+925.00 (indicative length 13,00 m);
- 97+375.00 (indicative length 13,00 m);

Sub – activity 4.7. Management systems of railway traffic.

This sub-activity concerns at Installation of a Computerized Electronic Interlocking System in 2 stations (Kostenets and Belovo) aiming at the better management of trains in two stations to bring the signaling system in accordance of TSI. The equipment to be installed is mainly electronic, including software, hardware and hard equipment such as axle counters.

Expected deliverables for Activity 4 include:

- Modernization of 21.995 km long double track line and supporting infrastructure along the railway section Kostenets-Septemvri;
- Excavation works to tunnel No 11 – total 1,822m;
- Modernization of 24.475 km long double track line along the railway section Kostenets-Septemvri, of which 12.057 km (located at km 73+598 to km 75+840 and km 88+258 to km 98+073) will be corresponding to the TSI requirements ensuring the passenger trains speed of 160 km/h and freight trains at 130 km/h is completed and accepted by the Ministry of Regional Development and Public Works (MRDPW).
- The remaining 12.418km (located at km 75+840 to km 88+258), on section Kostenets – Belovo will be constructed under this Grant Agreement and will be in line with TSI requirements (except for tunnel No 11) but certified after the end date stipulated in art. 2.2, namely 31.12.2022.

-Tunnel No 11 (located at km 76+570 – 79+050) will be partially implemented (only excavation works of 1,822 m).

- Article 1.4.2 Activity 5 sub-Activity 5.3

The text of Activity 5 sub-activity 5.3 is replaced with the following text:

This Activities include:

- European Union verification and assessment of compliance with Technical Specifications for Interoperability by a Notified Body under Directive No. 2008/57 / EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 17 June 2008 on the interoperability of the railway system within the Community, Directive 2014/106 / EC [42] of 5 December 2014 amending Annexes V and VI Directive 2008/57/ EC of the European Parliament and the Council on the interoperability of the railway system within the Community and in accordance with the requirements of the Railway Transport Act and Regulation No 57 of 9.06.2004 in Bulgaria to achieve interoperability of the national railway system with the railway system within the European Union;
- European Union verification and compliance assessment in terms of the open questions in the applicable TSI with the Commission Recommendation 2014/897 / EC [59] of 5 December 2014, issues of commissioning and use of structural subsystems and vehicles in accordance with Directives 2008/57 / EC and 2004/49 / EC of the European Parliament and the Council (DV29bis), repealing Recommendation 2011/217 / EU and national safety and technical rules by an Evaluator of the compliance of a subsystem or part thereof with the national safety rules or technically, according to the Bulgarian legislation;
- Independent assessment under Art. 6 of Regulation (EC) No. 402/2013 on the adoption of a common safety method on the determination and assessment of risk with respect to risk identification and assessment for the entire railway section Kostenets-Septemvri.

Deliverables of the activity shall cover the authorisation procedure documents. Reference of the following documents to the above mentioned section must be clearly demonstrated:

1. EC certificate of verification of subsystem(s) from a Notified Body/ Designated Body and the safety assessment report the entire railway section Kostenets-Septemvri except for railway section Kostenets-Belovo is issued. The EC certificate for section Kostenets-Belovo (including tunnel No 11) will be issued after the end date of the Action stipulated in art. 2.2. and it will be subject to verification by the EC. The EC certificate of verification shall be in line with Directive 2008/57/EC.

Activity 5: Supervision during the works

This Activity aims at 4 different types of supervision during the construction works: technical supervision of the construction works, detailed author design supervision during the construction works, interoperability compliance supervision and archaeological site supervision. All 4 types of the supervision are compulsory elements according to the Bulgarian Law. This Activity will be implemented through 4 open tender procedures following the EU public procurement law.

This Activity is split into 4 sub-activities to separate different types of the supervision.

Sub - Activity 5.1 Technical supervision during the construction works

This Activity will include the technical supervision during the construction works which is performed in accordance with the Spatial Development Act of Bulgaria (SDA). An external licensed consultant performing the following tasks: Control of the construction works and issuance of acts and protocols during construction (under Ordinance No. 3 with the SDA); Control of products used in the construction; Monitoring health and safety requirements during construction; prepare a Design assessment report for compliance of the construction design, in accordance with SDA; Preparation of site technical passport; Assessment of the monthly statements and invoices for the execution submitted by the contractors; entering the facility into operation for commissioning of the construction; preparation of the Final report of the technical supervision, report on the results of operations during the period of reporting defects.

Sub - Activity 5.2 Design author supervision during construction works

Provision of author supervision during construction works is a necessary activity under the provisions of the (SDA). Railway lines are categorized as first category construction works according SDA. Author supervision in all parts of the project is mandatory for all constructions from first to fifth category, according to Art. 162, paragraph 2 of SDA. The Designer who has prepared the technical design based on Art. 162 of SDA shall provide author supervision during works.

The objective of this Activity is to perform author supervision during construction works, according to Art. 162 of SDA for 1 construction contract.

Sub - Activity 5.3 Interoperability compliance

This Activities include:

- European Union verification and assessment of compliance with Technical Specifications for Interoperability by a Notified Body under Directive No. 2008/57 / EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 17 June 2008 on the interoperability of the railway system within the Community, Directive 2014/106 / EC [42] of 5 December 2014 amending Annexes V and VI Directive 2008/57/ EC of the European Parliament and the Council on the interoperability of the railway system within the Community and in accordance with the requirements of the Railway Transport Act and Regulation No 57 of 9.06.2004 in Bulgaria to achieve interoperability of the national railway system with the railway system within the European Union;
- European Union verification and compliance assessment in terms of the open questions in the applicable TSI with the Commission Recommendation 2014/897 / EC [59] of 5 December 2014, issues of commissioning and use of structural subsystems and vehicles in accordance with Directives 2008/57 / EC and 2004/49 / EC of the European Parliament and the Council (DV29bis), repealing Recommendation 2011/217 / EU and national safety and technical rules by an Evaluator of the compliance of a subsystem or part thereof with the

national safety rules or technically, according to the Bulgarian legislation;

- Independent assessment under Art. 6 of Regulation (EC) No. 402/2013 on the adoption of a common safety method on the determination and assessment of risk with respect to risk identification and assessment for the entire railway section Kostenets-Septemvri.

Deliverables of the activity shall cover the authorisation procedure documents. Reference of the following documents to the above mentioned section must be clearly demonstrated:

1. EC certificate of verification of subsystem(s) from a Notified Body/ Designated Body and the safety assessment report. The EC certificate of verification shall be in line with Directive 2008/57/EC.

Sub - Activity 5.4 Archaeological site studies and monitoring during construction works

The area of the Action is rich of historical fields and could have many sites for archaeological monitoring and field investigation. Therefore, during the project implementation, in areas where there is an evidence of archaeological sites, preliminary archaeological studies will be performed to determine whether these archaeological sites will be affected or disturbed. The archaeological sites discovered during these studies, the rescue excavations conducted prior to the commencement of construction and during construction works are monitored by archaeologists. The scope of the archaeological monitoring during the construction consists of monitoring by archaeologists over archaeological sites discovered along the track of the railway section Kostenets-Septemvri.

Expected deliverables for Activity 5 will include:

- Implemented design and construction works supervision and all related controls in accordance with the national legislation for the whole project by the Contractor for sub – activity 5.1.
- Obtained authorization to operate the infrastructure in line with national legislation by the National Construction Control Department
- Final Report is prepared by the Author supervision selected by the tender procedure.
- Compliance with the TSI of the design and executive subsystems certificates are issued by Notified Body (NOBO) / Designated Body (DEBO).
- Archaeological monitoring report is approved by NRIC (In case of archaeological findings the Ministry of Culture).

ARTICLE I.5 – MILESTONES AND MEANS OF VERIFICATION

| Milestone number | Milestone description | Indicative completion date | Means of verification |
|-------------------------|--|-----------------------------------|--|
| 1 | Project management plan finalised (Activity 1) | 30/01/2017 | Plan is approved by the Project management Board |
| 2 | Contract signed for supervision of the construction works (Activity 5, Sub - Activity 5.1) | 08/04/2019 | Publication of the award notice in the OJEU |
| 3 | Contract signed for design author supervision (Sub - Activity 5.2) | 30/11/2019 | Publication of the award notice in the Public |

| | | | Procurement Agency |
|----|---|------------|--|
| 4 | Contract signed for archaeological studies and monitoring (Sub - Activity 5.4) | 30/11/2019 | Publication of the tender notice in the OJEU |
| 5 | Contract signed for construction works (Activity 4 and all sub-activities 4.1,4.2,4.3, 4.4, 4.5, 4.6 and 4.7) | 12/08/2019 | Publication of the award notice in the OJEU |
| 6 | Communication action plan (Activity 3) | 22/06/2018 | Plan approved by the Project management Board |
| 7 | Completion of land acquisition procedure (Activity 2) | 30/04/2020 | Ownership transfer documents presented |
| 8 | Issuing of Building Permit(s) for all construction works on station Belovo and railway section Belovo- Septemvri at km 94+760 to km 98+100 (Activity 4) | 02/10/2019 | Publication of Building Permit(s) in the State gazette |
| 9 | Issuing of Building Permit(s) for all construction works on track side in Belovo station and railway section Belovo- Septemvri at km 81+515 to km 94+760 (Activity 4) | 15/01/2020 | Publication of Building Permit(s) in the State gazette |
| 10 | Issuing of Building Permit(s) for all construction works on new station Kostenetz and railway section Kostenetz- Belovo at km 73+600 to km 81+515 (Activity 4) | 30/06/2020 | Publication of Building Permit(s) in the State gazette |
| 11 | Contract signed with NOBO/ DEBO for Interoperability compliance (Activity 5, Sub - Activity 5.3) | 08/08/2018 | Publication of the award notice in the OJEU |
| 12 | Start of construction works (Activity 4 and all sub-activities 4.1,4.2,4.3, 4.4, 4.5, 4.6 and 4.7) | 22/11/2019 | Protocol(s) for opening of construction site(s) signed by Employer, Engineer, Contractor |
| 13 | Approval of detailed drawings (Activity 4) | 05/01/2020 | Protocol issued by the NRIC |
| 14 | Completion of construction works in Belovo station and new station Kostenets (Activity 4) | 01/01/2022 | Taking Over Certificate(s) issued by the National Construction Control Department |
| 15 | Start of construction of tunnels (Sub-activity 4.5) | 12/08/2019 | Monitoring reports issued by the Engineer |
| 16 | Start of Level crossings removal and new road overpasses (Sub-Activity 4.2) | 01/11/2019 | Monitoring reports issued by the Engineer |
| 17 | Start of installation of noise protection barriers, culverts and retaining walls (Sub-activity 4.6) | 01/11/2019 | Monitoring reports issued by the Engineer |
| 18 | Start of modernization of the railway line and electrification (Sub-Activity 4.1) | 02/12/2019 | Monitoring reports issued by the Engineer |
| 19 | Start of construction of stations (Sub-activity 4.4) | 02/12/2019 | Monitoring reports issued by the Engineer |
| 20 | Start of Installation of Electronic Interlocking in 2 stations with all facilitates, equipment, software and the signalling system in accordance of TSI. (Sub-activity 4.7) | 01/02/2021 | Monitoring reports issued by the Engineer |
| 21 | Progress of the construction works (Activity 4, all sub-activities 4.1,4.2,4.3, 4.4, 4.5, 4.6 and 4.7) | 31/12/2020 | Protocol of the Project management board meeting |
| 22 | Progress of the construction works (Activity 4, all sub-activities 4.1,4.2,4.3, 4.4, 4.5, 4.6 and 4.7) | 31/12/2021 | Protocol of the Project management board meeting |
| 23 | Completion of the 72 hour tests for train control system (Sub-activity 4.7) | 17/11/2022 | Protocol issued by the NRIC, Consultant and Constructor |

| | | | | |
|----|--|------------|---|-------------------------------------|
| 24 | Completion of all construction works (Activity 4, all sub-activities 4.1,4.2,4.3, 4.4, 4.5, 4.6 and 4.7) | 01/12/2022 | Taking Certificate(s) issued by the National Construction Control Department | Over issued by the National Control |
| 25 | Publicity measures at the end of the Action (Activity 3) | 08/12/2022 | Commemorative board is installed | |
| 26 | Approved report for monitoring during construction works (Sub - Activity 5.4) | 15/12/2022 | Protocol issued by the NRIC | |
| 27 | Conformity assessment of interoperability requirements excluding section Kostenets-Belovo (Sub - Activity 5.3) | 22/12/2022 | Issuing of certificates of conformity with the TSI for all the built sub-systems. Issued by No-BO/De-Bo | |
| 28 | Authorization to operate the infrastructure excluding Tunnel No 11 (Activity 5) | 31/12/2022 | Authorization is obtained | |

"

(5) Annex III shall read as follows:

**"ANNEX III
ESTIMATED BUDGET OF THE ACTION**

Table 1: Planned sources of financing of the eligible costs of the action

| Financing sources | Amount of financial contribution to the action eligible costs (EUR) |
|--|--|
| 1. CEF-Transport financing | 130,488,600 |
| 2. Beneficiary's own resources | 0 |
| of which: | |
| (a) EIB loan | 0 |
| 3. State budget(s) | 23,027,400 |
| 4. Regional/ local budget(s) | 0 |
| 5. Income generated by the action | 0 |
| 6. Other sources | 0 |
| TOTAL | 153,516,000 |

Table 2: Indicative breakdown per activity of estimated eligible costs of the action (EUR)

| Activities | 2016 | 2017 | 2018 | 2019 | 2020 | 2021 | 2022 | Total |
|---|-----------|--------|--------|-------------|---------------|---------------|--------------|--------------------|
| ELIGIBLE DIRECT COSTS | | | | | | | | |
| Activity 1 | 0 | 81,429 | 79,899 | 133,548 | 50,000 | 50,000 | 76,305 | 471,181 |
| Activity 2 | 0 | 0 | 5,310 | 5,375 | 2,225,494 | 0 | 0 | 2,236,179 |
| Activity 3 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2,740 | 2,740 | 2,740 | 8,220 |
| Activity 4 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 3,065,543 | 46,198,634 | 44,754,926 | 53,417,170 | 147,436,273 |
| Activity 5 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 232,010 | 1,044,045 | 1,044,045 | 1,044,047 | 3,364,147 |
| TOTAL ELIGIBLE DIRECT COSTS | 0 | 81,429 | 85,209 | 3,436,476 | 49,520,913 | 45,851,711 | 54,540,262 | 153,516,000 |
| Annual instalments of maximum contribution | 141,642.3 | 0 | 0 | 2,921,004.6 | 42,092,776.05 | 38,973,954.35 | 46,359,222.7 | 130,488,600 |

Table 3: Indicative breakdown per beneficiary of the maximum CEF contribution (EUR)

Not applicable.
"

Article 2

All the other provisions of the grant agreement shall remain unchanged.

Article 3

The present amendment shall form an integral part of the grant agreement and it shall enter into force on the date on which it is signed by the last party. It shall take effect on 13/09/2019.

SIGNATURES

For the beneficiary State Enterprise
National Railway Infrastructure Company
Rossen Jeliakov

For the Agency
Andreas Boschen

Done at Sofia, on

Done at Brussels, on

In duplicate in English.