

**Interreg - IPA CBC**  
Italy - Albania - Montenegro



**BRE**

# BRE PARTNER QUERY PLATFORM

WP T2 – BRE Partner Query Platform

Activity T2.1 – Pilot: BRE Partner Query Platform  
implementation, population and promotion

Deliverable T2.1.1 – BRE Partner Query Platform

## FOREWORD - Project general description

BRE is a project co-funded by European Union, under the Instrument for Pre-Accession Assistance (IPA II) in the framework of first call for proposal for standard projects “IPA CBC Italy – Albania – Montenegro”. The project falls within the priority axis 1 “Strengthening the cross-border cooperation and competitiveness of SMEs” and in particular the thematic priority 1.1 “Enhance the framework conditions for the development of SME’s crossborder market”.

## Project summary

A coordination among European Business Registries (BR) is a key factor for a joint continental business environment, producing administrative harmonization, transparency, legal certainty, competitiveness. Thus, national Business Registers from 26 EU Countries gave birth to EBR (European Business Register, a network to exchange experiences and to bring national BRs into harmony. Besides, the 1st EU Council Directive, March 9, 1968) mandated new Member Countries for a central BR, meeting some common requirements. Nowadays, pre-Accession Countries (e.g. Albania and Montenegro) have not tackled this issue yet and are still having a legislative debate on it; if nothing happens, after their formal accession they will have to accomplish the significant effort of connecting to an EU "standards" all at once. There it comes BRE project, by exchanging and improving experiences among Italian, Albanian and Montenegrin BRs on 3 levels: legislative (laws, actors involved, policies), operational (process management), technology (software, hardware, outputs). The Italian experience (1993-2005 reforms and electronic BR implementation) may come as a strength: "Early business registry reformers transformed a formerly paper-based business registry into a nationally centralized, one-stop, automated, web-enabled electronic system. Countries with efficient e-registries tend to have a shorter incorporation timeframes, fewer bureaucratic procedures, a lower cost of entry, a significant role in facilitating business creation. These lessons are hoped to be of help to EU new Member Countries as they embark on delivering EU-conformant e-BRs" [World Bank, "Implementing Electronic Business Registry (e-BR) Services", 2007]. So, creating a transnational platform to link national BRs, the BRE project will empower Chambers of Commerce, Ministries and IT providers (policies, process management, IT instruments); but above all SMEs (cross-border partner searching, legality, competitiveness).

## Project objectives

BRE Project main objective matches with the specific objective of the Programme, aiming to enhance the framework conditions for the development of SME’s cross-border market, through the

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creation of a transnational Platform, linked to the three National BRs, in order to favour the collaboration among companies. This tool, disseminated by tailored training activities, will boost the internationalization behaviour of SMEs giving them access to an official database of existing companies, enabling them to cooperate and innovate together. Therefore, BRE main output will be the Partner Query Platform, in which the 3 BRs will be joint. These registries are (and remain) property of the Public Institutions involved in BRE and they record existing companies, but can be adequately consulted by an on-demand query and deliver partners list, for instance. The main lack of these Registries, in fact, is that they are “stand-alone” and do not communicate with each other. Moreover, Italian, Albanian and Montenegrin companies are not mapped at all and they use different classification criteria. Besides, data are integrated, provided, managed in different ways, so an harmonization of laws, duties, procedures, processes is a key-factor to provide a commercial and industrial integration among the 3 Countries. The second main output of BRE will be a map of existing repositories and database of business information, favouring the integration between them with unique classification criteria. The third main output is the analysis of the existing legislation systems. BRE will provide a white paper proposal for the unification of business registration system. The other main output will be the capacity building actions addressed to Public institutions and mostly training session both virtual and front-end addressed to companies, fostering the possibility to create value collaborating and innovating at CB level.

#### Project main results

BRE main result is to improve the SME CB framework conditions, in which PPs work as facilitators of competitiveness. With BRE Platform, SMEs located in Italy, Albania and Montenegro will be able to increase their internationalization with the possibility to enter in foreign markets, open new communication channels and introduce collaborative innovations, as well as with the support of such PPs providing tailored training actions. This will be reflected on a wide number of enterprises receiving non-financial support and the number of business support organizations, public institutions and Research centres cooperating and offering such kind of support. Besides, the general improvement of the 3 BRs will enhance business environment, by facilitating information access, providing transparency and accuracy of data, reducing costs and strengthening efficiencies for SMEs, decreasing the public-sector cost, providing a better tool for market surveillance, business monitoring and competitiveness.

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## BRE Partner Query Platform

The Chamber of Commerce of Tirana, Lead Partner of BRE Project, developed a Platform on the basis of the Italian Business Register. The Platform is available in English, Albanian, Montenegrin and Italian at the following link: <https://interreg-bre.com/>

Below some screenshot of the Platform.



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