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**European Cooperation Day 21.09.2013**

**Celebrating Territorial Cooperation — S*haring borders, growing closer!***

For the first time ever, 72 European Territorial Cooperation and neighbouring programmes organised a joint **European Cooperation Day /ECD/** campaign which took place on 21 September 2012 and the surrounding week. Under the motto ***“Sharing borders, growing closer****”*, 281 local events were held in 36 countries, reaching out to more than 200,000 people. The aim of the campaign which is coordinated by the INTERACT Programme with the support of the European Commission (DG Regional Policy and Urban Affairs), the European Parliament and the Committee of the Regions is to celebrate the achievements of cooperation between European regions and countries. Following the great success of last year, ECD will be celebrated for second time.

The **Joint Technical Secretariat** in cooperation with the **Ministry of Regional Development** of the Republic of Bulgaria (Managing Authority) **and Ministry for EU Affairs**, Republic of Turkey (National Authority) of the Bulgaria-Turkey IPA Cross-border Programme are organizing on **21 September 2013** a local event for **European Cooperation Day** under the slogan **"Together to the top".** During the event Bulgarian and Turkish participants will climb the highest peak in the cross-border area - Big Mahiada (1031 m) near Yenice Village, Kirklareli, Turkey. Within the event the participants will mark the path to the top naming it “The Cooperation Route”.

For further information and a detailed plan of the event, please visit the official web-site of the Programme [www.ipacbc-bgtr.eu](http://www.ipacbc-bgtr.eu) and/or contact the Joint Technical Secretariat (Haskovo).

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