

South Eastern Europe



Regional Rural Development Standing Working Group



“Fostering regional cooperation and balanced territorial development of Western Balkan countries in the process towards EU integration”

European Union funded project implemented by Regional Rural Development Standing Working Group in South Eastern Europe (SWG)



This project is funded by the European Union

Achievements and results

March 2016 – June 2016



Facilitation of the process of economic development of rural cross - border areas

- 12th meeting of stakeholder group was organized on 25th March 2016, at Information Center Pelister National Park, Republic of Macedonia



Implementation of capacity building measures for preparation of relevant projects with adequate quality

- Regular meetings with SHG members and organizations at PMU-office and also field visit to the SHG premises (Meetings with SHG members)
- Contacts established with the new municipalities established after the new territorial administrative division in Albania, Pogradec, Maliq, Kolonje and Devoll municipality.
- “Prespa” SHG Operational Protocol and Rules of procedure was reviewed and updated with comments of the stakeholders.
- Prespa web page is updated with relevant information from the region (<http://prespa.seerural.org/>)
- Prespa facebook page was updated with information (<https://www.facebook.com/Cross-Border-Region-of-Prespa/>).



- Database for the implemented projects in Prespa Region and portfolio shared with all the stakeholders
- Active web page for Prespa region with all relevant information regarding open calls within IPA II, information related to the region and members of the organizations active in the SHG group in order to find and contact partners easily.
- Direct contact with all stakeholders regarding other open calls (national, local, calls from other donors, etc.) depending on the topic and territorial range.



Share information with SHG about different call for proposals

- Interreg IPA CBC Programme Greece – Macedonia 2014-2020 opened from 7 December 2015 until 31 March 2016 (one stakeholder supported)
- Balkan-Mediterranean 2014-2020 (Two stakeholders supported to find partnership, four project proposals application submitted)
- Interreg IPA Programme Greece-Albania 2014-2020 for Strategic Projects (The first Call for Proposals 17 May 2016 – 5 September)
- National scheme for Albanian farmers (Deadline 15 March – end of April 2016)
- Call for Participation in Capacity Building Program for CSO Networks and Coalitions and Civil Society Forum Belgrade on 12-13 May 2016
- ABDA Grant Scheme within LEIWW Programme – Info days organized in Resen 1st of June and Korca 3rd of June. Deadline for application is 6th of July 2016.

People-to-People actions

- 5 preapproved People to People activities for Prespa Region:
 - *Prespa Business Forum*
 - *Prespa region as attractive cross-border regional destination*
 - *Tour de Galicica 2016*
 - *Traditional food fair*
 - *Apple Fest*



Tour de Galicica 2016

- *TOUR De Galicica 2016 is a cycling event organized during 18 – 19 of June 2016, for the third time by the Municipality of Resen, Republic of Macedonia*

The cycling tour is 71km long, which includes 35km off-road cycling through the slopes of the Galicica Mountain. The activity was organized in partnership with the municipalities of Resen, Korca and Pogradec. This year, for the first time, cyclists from the Republic of Albania participated in the event with two organized groups from the cyclist sport club of Pogradec and interested group of people from Korca.



Discussion for Future actions in Prespa Region

- Prespa Business Forum - postponed
- Prespa region as attractive cross-border regional destination - postponed
- Creation of database regarding the implemented projects in Prespa Region.
- Target, collect and develop actions and ideas which can be supported by grant scheme or People to People program. Wine Festival in Pogradec, December 2016.
- Continuous mapping and facilitation of networking between public and private parties interested to apply on different calls.





Wonderful Prespa Region!