

**Kick off Meeting of the Regional Expert
Advisory Working Group on LEADER
on the
“Assessment of the application on LEADER
approach in the Western Balkan countries”**

9th – 10th March, 2017
Skopje, Macedonia

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Regional Rural Development Standing Working Group
(SWG) in SEE

Responsibilities of National Experts

- Collection and elaboration of the relevant national data, policy documents and research papers on LEADER, identification of data gaps and provision of recommendations to cope with missing data;
- Development of the country report on the state of LEADER, as per the agreed outline;
- Assessment of the respective institutional, strategic approach of rural development policy and legal frameworks in the respective country/territory;
- Development of recommendations for improved management and institutional, policy and legal setup in the country ;
- Provision of country assessment report and contribution to the development of the regional synthesis assessment report.

Responsibilities of Regional Experts

- Guidance and support to the National experts of the REAWG on LEADER concerning the development of the Country assessments, collection of data/information and addressing data gaps;
- Support to the National experts in the process of development of recommendations and analysing of the existing institutional, policy and legal frameworks and the recent experiences with and conclusions from LEADER-like community-led initiatives;
- Quality control of the collected national data/information and the developed country assessments;
- Review and approval of the final country assessments (alignment of the country reports, quality control, assurance of the consistency and good scientific practice);
- Development of the Regional synthesis assessment report.

OUTPUTS

- Draft country assessment on LEADER approach of the agreed outline of the assessment report (5th May 2017);
- Final country assessment report (due date 5th June 2017);
- Regional synthesis assessment report (September 2017)
- Provision of recommendations for improved mainstreaming of the LEADER approach in the SEE and introduction of mechanisms for LEADER monitoring and implementation (September 2017)
- Presentation of major outcomes at the Rural Policy Forum in October 2017

SWG
LEADER

Timeframe of the activities

- Identification of experts + TOR (February 2017)
- Contracting and engagement of experts (March 2017)
- Fine-tuning of methodology, detailed working plan related to the content of the assessment (February - March 2017)
- Kick-off meeting (experts+line Ministries) – (March 2017)
- 1st Interim meeting on REAWG (June 2017)
- 2nd Interim meeting on REAWG (September 2017)
- Final presentation of results and policy recommendations (October 2017)
- Dissemination and publication of the assessment policy recommendations (February 2018)



Thank You!!!

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