



Podgorica Agenda 2017

Agricultural Policy Forum 2017: *Sustainable Agricultural and Rural Development for Accelerated EU Integration of the Western Balkans*

17 November 2017

Jahorina, Bosnia and Herzegovina

Overview

- **No of participants: 130**
- **No of countries/territories represented: 16**
- **No of virtual participants (via livestreaming): 221 views, with total watch time of 2521 min**
- **No of plenary speakers: 7**
- **No of working groups: 3**



Topics

- Improving **competitiveness** of the rural economy considering the farm structure in the Western Balkans
- Agricultural products **trade barriers** in the Western Balkans
- Rural Development and **migration**



Topics

- Management of **forest, water and soil** within the framework of environmental and rural development policies in the Western Balkans
- Sustainable rural development through the **LEADER** approach in the Western Balkans
- **IPARD** as an instrument in sustainable rural development in the Western Balkans

Main Recommendations

(from Podgorica Agenda 2017)

- To improve **competitiveness** of **small rural businesses** by investments, and by increasing their level of competence for business management and cooperation, thus improving their ability to **integrate** in short value chains;
- To streamline policy instruments and management of **natural resources**, and create synergies for multi-functional use of land and ecosystem services as innovative approaches towards new levels of business development;

Main Recommendations

(from Podgorica Agenda 2017)

- To strengthen the cooperation and enhance the exchange of experience on the implementation of **IPARD** in the pre-accession period, concentrate on policies improving the competitiveness of agriculture sector and to facilitate access to markets, both domestic and foreign;

Main Recommendations

(from Podgorica Agenda 2017)

- Accelerate harmonization of the relevant trade regulation with the EU and conclude regional/bilateral agreement/s about **mutual recognition of certificates**;
- To put more effort in setting up the required legislative and administrative procedures for making the **LEADER** approach operational under the National Rural Development Programmes and/or IPARD.

SRPD
SVMG

Thank you for your attention!