

A vertical banner on the left side of the slide. It features the text 'SWG' in large green letters and 'RRD' in smaller orange letters above it. At the bottom of the banner, there is a close-up photograph of golden wheat stalks.

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.

SRD
SVMG

Thank you for your attention!