

**40th Meeting of the Assembly of Regional Rural Development Standing Working Group
(SWG) in South Eastern Europe,**

**December 4th – 7th 2017
Graz, Austria**

PROGRAMME

December 4th, 2017 (Monday)

- Arrival of the participants at the Hotel via Graz/Wien
- 19:00 Dinner at Hotel "Steiermarkhof"

December 5th, 2017 (Tuesday)

SWG Assembly Session - Open Meeting

Venue of the meeting: Hotel "Steiermarkhof"

Chair: President of the SWG Assembly

Co-Chair: SWG Secretary General

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| 08:30 – 08:35 | Introduction to the program |
| 08:35 – 08:45 | Official address on behalf of the Federal Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, Environment and Water Management of Austria |
| 08:45 – 12:00 | Presentations by the Federal Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, Environment and Water Management of Austria on: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• agricultural training• agri-environmental program• organic agriculture <i>Discussion</i> |
| 12:00 – 12:45 | Drive to Vogau |
| 12:45 – 14:00 | Visit of „Vinofaktur“ with „Genussregal Südsteiermark“ including lunch snack
<i>An der Mur 13, 8461 Vogau</i>
http://www.genussregal.at/
https://www.vinofaktur.at/ |
| 14:00 – 14:30 | Drive to Leibnitz |

- 14:30 - 16:30 Visit of Educational Centre for Fruit Growing and Viticulture and Winegrowing estate „Silberberg“ and Vocational School for fruit growing and viticulture
Bildungszentrum für Obst- und Weinbau und Weingut Silberberg, Fachschule für Obst- und Weinbau, Silberberg 1, 8430 Leibnitz
<http://www.silberberg.at/>
- 16:30 – 17:00 Drive to Stainz
- 17:00 - 18:30 Visit of „Forest Administration Meran“, Stainz
Schloßpl. 5, 8510 Stainz
<http://www.schloss.stainz.at>
- 19:00 Dinner at local restaurant - Steirischer Weingasthof „Rauch-Hof“, Stainz

December 6th, 2017 (Wednesday)

(Closed Meeting - for SWG Delegates and Observers)

Venue of the meeting: Hotel „Steiermarkhof“

Chair: President of the SWG Assembly

Co-Chair: SWG Secretary General

- 09:00 - 10:00 Retrospective of the Accomplishment in 2017
- *Operations*
 - *Activities related to the cooperation with EC, JRC and DG Agri*
 - *SWG – EC: “Fostering regional cooperation and balanced territorial development of Western Balkan countries in the process towards EU integration - Support to the Regional Rural Development Standing Working Group (SWG) in South-East Europe”*
 - *SWG – JRC: Update on completed, ongoing and potential cooperation initiatives*
- 10:00 - 10:15 Presentation of the APF Podgorica Agenda 2017
- 10:15 - 10:30 Presentation of the Conclusions of the 11th Annual Working Meeting of the Ministers of Agriculture from SEE
- 10:30 - 11:00 Coffee Break
- 11:00 - 11:30 Input from each SWG Member Institution related to the plan and measures which should be taken for implementation of the Conclusions of the 11th Annual Ministers Meeting
- 11:30 – 12:30 Elaboration and update on the cooperation with GIZ
- *SWG - GIZ: Summary of the evidence-based policies relevant for rural development (ANC, NRM, LEADER, Agrobiodiversity)*

- *SWG - GIZ: Presentation on the strategic framework of the proposal for LEIWW phase II (06.2018 – 05.2021)*
 - *Elaboration and discussion related to the proposal*
- 12:30 – 13:30 Lunch Break
- 13:30 – 15:30 Planning and proposal for the SWG Operational Plan 2018
- *Discussion and decision on the SWG Operational Plan 2018;*
 - *Major activities for the period until 41st SWG Assembly Session*
- 15:30 - 16:00 Coffee Break
- 16:00 - 18:00 Discussions and decisions regarding the future functioning of the SWG Operational structures and planning of the future operations
- *SWG Annual Financial Report for the period October 1st, 2016 – September 30th, 2017;*
 - *Discussion related to the SWG Financial Planning;*
 - *Discussion and decisions on the SWG Membership;*
 - *Discussion and decision related to the proposal on LEIWW phase II*
- 18:00 - 18:30 Final discussions and conclusions
- 19:00 Dinner at “Gasthaus Stainzerbauer”, Graz

December 7th, 2017 (Thursday)

(Closed Meeting - for SWG Delegates and Observers)

Venue of the meeting: Hotel “Steiermarkhof”

Chair: President of the SWG Assembly

Co-Chair: SWG Secretary General

- 07:30 – 09:30 Planning and discussions related to the SWG future proposals and initiatives for the Year 2018
- *Discussion on initiatives and partnership cooperation with donor organizations and future proposals;*
 - *Discussion about the operational functioning of the SWG related to: (working language, information flow, transparency, employment, sub-accounts etc.);*
- 09:30 – 10:00 Official closing of the Assembly Session
- 12:00 – 14:00 Lunch
- Departure of the participants

