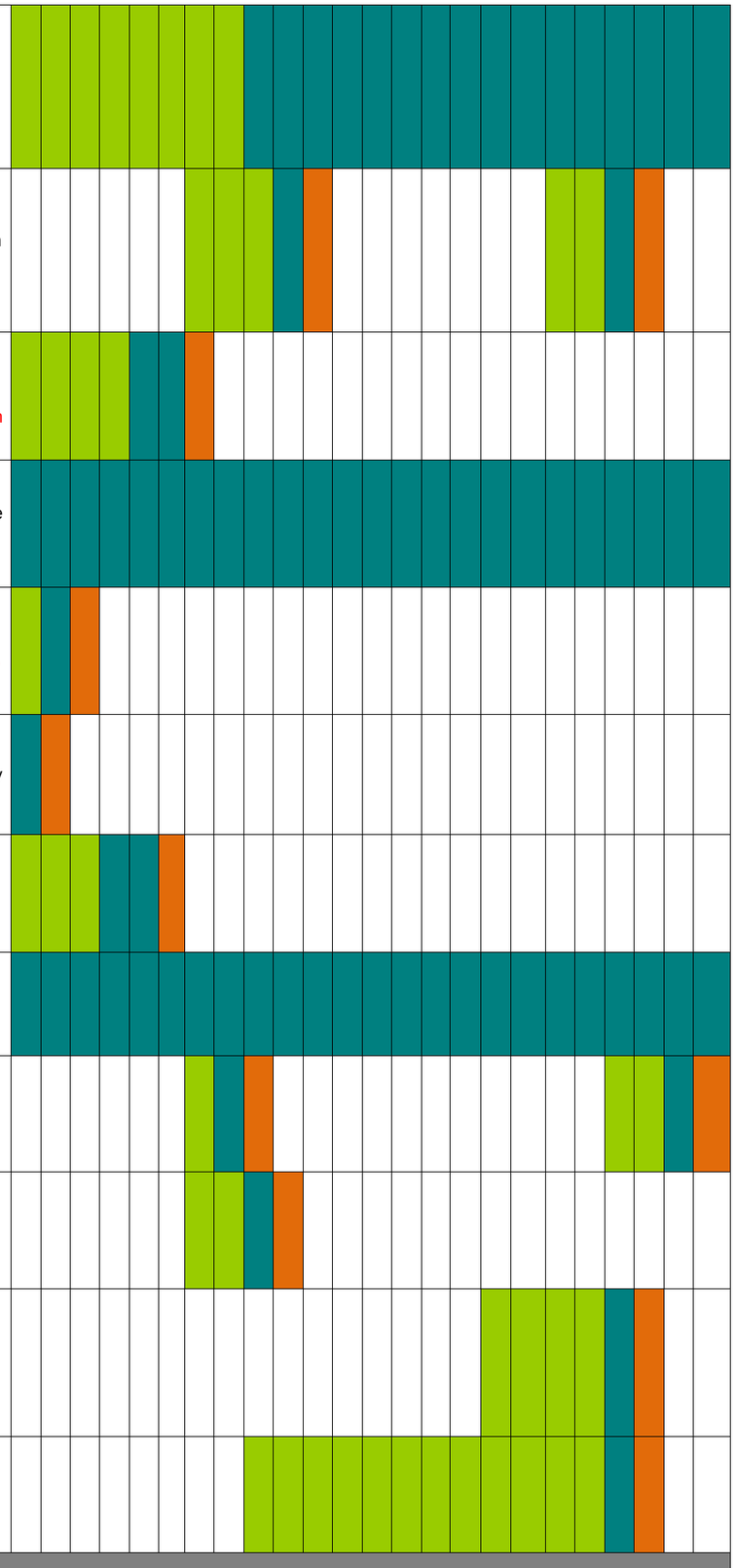
Standing Working Group for Regional Rural Development in SEE (SWG)

Operational Plan January 2015 - December 2015

30/11/2015

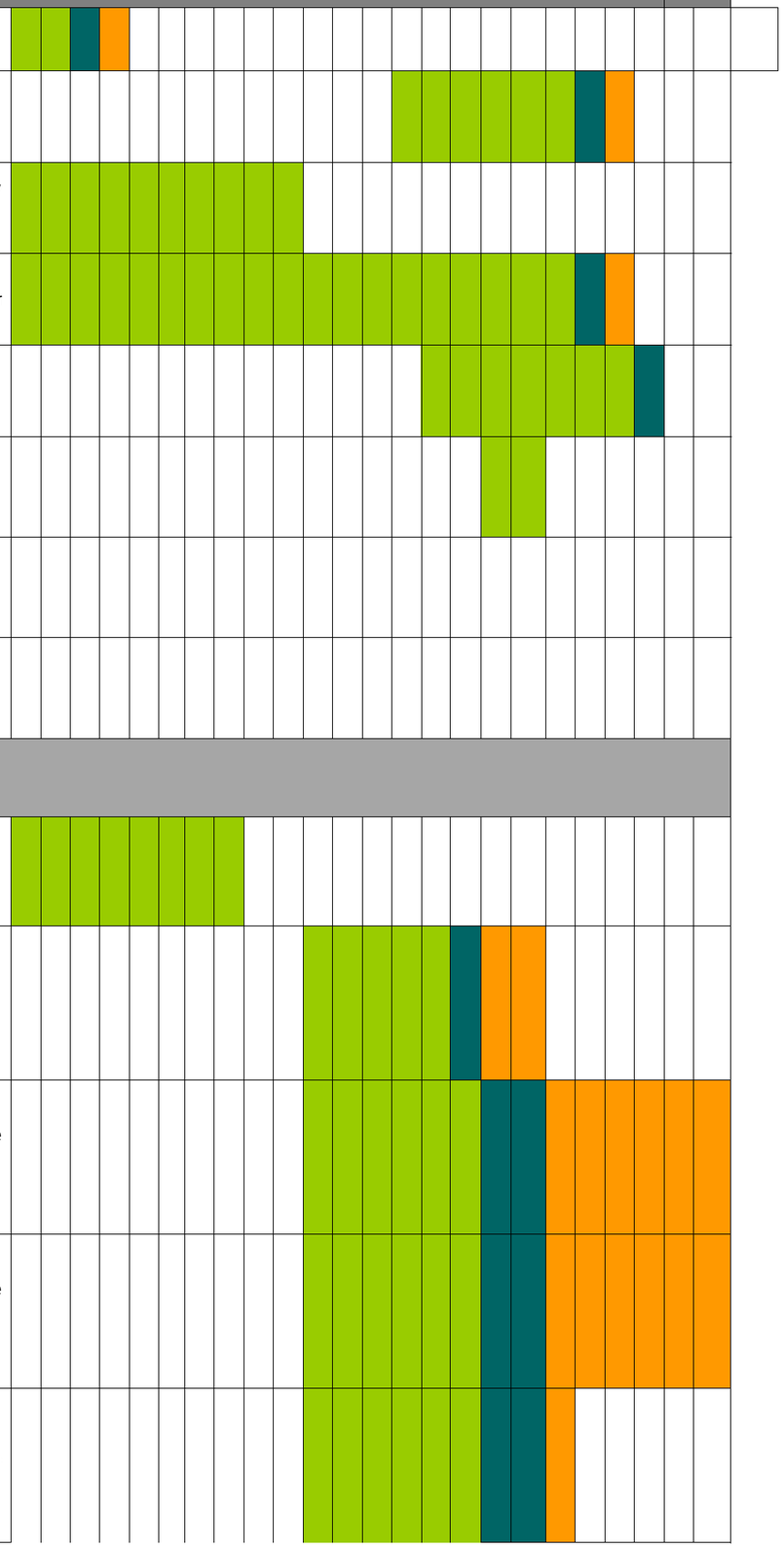
	Description of the activity	Beneficiary/Target group	Location of implementation	Foreseen Outcomes	Responsible person	Relation to the SWG objectives	Date of execution	Time Frame											
								Jan	Feb	Mar	April	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec
1	**General SWG /Head Office Activities**																		
1.1	Steering and facilitation of political/policy discussions regarding SWG	Ministries of Agriculture in SEE	N/A		Boban	SWG Objectives 1,2,3,4	throughout the year												
1.2	Fund raising and contacts with donors/partners	Donor community, implementing agencies, governments and EC	N/A		Boban, Irena, Kate, Bogdanka		throughout the year												
1.3	Preparation of new SWG regional project proposals	SWG Member Institutions/countries	SWG Head Office		Boban Irena, Kate, Bogdanka		throughout the year												
2	**CORE ACTIVITIES Assembly meetings, Policy and Political Forums, Working Groups, executed in cooperation with GIZ (SEF 2 and HCD 2)**																		
2.1	32nd SWG Assembly session (assessments of achievements, replanning of activities)	SWG assembly and partner institutions	Brussels, Belgium	preparatory activites for APF, MM, and post 2015	Kate, Bogdanka	SWG Objectives 2 and 4	20-23 April												
2.2	33rd SWG Assembly Session (assessments of achievements, replanning of activities)	SWG assembly and partner institutions	Montenegro		Kate, Bogdanka		8-11 September												
2.3	34th SWG Assembly session (annual reporting, financial reporting and SWG Assembly decisions)	SWG assembly and partner institutions	TBD	Preparation of Operational Plan 2016	Kate, Bogdanka		01-04 December												
2.4	Agricultural Policy Forum 2015	SEE ministry representatives, academics and various stake holders	Bulgaria	Preparation of the APF Agenda	Kate, Bogdanka		13-16.October												
2.5	Annual meeting of Ministers of Agriculture from SEE	Ministers of Agriculture from SEE, EC and supporting governments	Albania	Preparation of Conclusion of the Ministers for Agriculture from SEE	Kate, Bogdanka	SWG Objectives 1,2,3,4	11-13 November												
2.6	SEE Water and Forestry - SWG expert advisory group (Balkan Forest Forum)	SWG EAG Members	Bulgaria		Kate, Bogdanka	SWG Objectives 2,3,4	26-28 February												
2.7	SEE Working Group on Wine - SWG expert advisory group		Macedonia	first informal meeting Belgrade in May	Kate, Bogdanka	SWG Objectives 2,3,4	December												
2.7.1	Preparatory meeting for Working Group on Wine	SWG EAG Members	Serbia	provisonal plan	Bogdanka, Kate	SWG Objectives 2,3,4	June 12-13												

2.8	Study on LFA's in SEE	SWG EAG Members	SEE		Kate, Bogdanka	SWG Objectives 1,2,3,4	May start
2.9	SEE Managing Authorities and Paying Agencies	SWG EAG Members	Podgorica, Montenegro		Bogdanka, Kate	SWG Objectives 1,2,3,4	27th May 13th November
2.10	SEE Fresh Fruits and Vegetables - SWG expert advisory group	SWG EAG Members	Macedonia		Kate, Bogdanka	SWG Objectives 1,2,3,4	last week February, 1st week of March
2.11	SEE Strategy 2020	SWG Member Institutions/countries	SEE countries	Strategy for the SEE region for the period 2014-2020	Boban, Kate	SWG Objectives 1,2,3,4	throughout the year
2.12	European Investment Bank Meeting	RD Departments, Ministries of Finances	Luxemburg	Credit line for IPARD	Bogdanka		last week of January 2015
2.13	Global Forum for food and agriculture 2015 - trade and global food security	SWG Member Institutions/countries	Germany	SWG stand at the coopraiton market and Pannel Discussion participation	Kate, Bogdanka	SWG Objectives 1 and 4	15-18 January
2.14	Support to the establishment of SEE Extension Services Network	SWG EAG Members	Montenegro or Macedonia	Discussion and follow up of the TAIEX WS October 2013 IPARD 2 Programs	Kate, Bogdanka	SWG Objectives 1,3 and 4	05-06 March
2.15	People to people actions				n/a	SWG Objective 4	TBC
2.16	Balkan Rural Development Network Assembly Meetings	BRDN of SEE	Bosnia and Herzegovina		Bogdanka, Kate	SWG Objectives 2,3 and 4	20-23 April
2.17	International Soil Conference	WB countries	Albania		Bogdanka, Boban	SWG Objectives 2,3 and 4	04-07 May
2.18	Planning for cooperation on Rural Development, Food Safety and Advisory Services	SEE Ministries of Agriculture	Ireland		Bogdanka	SWG Objective 1,3 and 4	15-20 November
2.19	Investment business forum CEI Summit of Prime Ministers		Macedonia		Kate, Bogdanka	SWG Objective 1,3 and 4	November
3	**Activities related to cooperation with FAO**						



3.2	**FAO TCP Facility - "Support to the implementation of an integrated and innovative economic development approach in Drina-Tara and Drina-Sava – the Area Based Development Approach"**						
3,2,1	Training on networking, partnership development	"Drina-Tara" and "Drina-Sava" cross-border regions	Serbia	strengthened networks between grant beneficiaries; increased capacities	Irena & ABDA team	SWG Objectives 2,3 and 4	22-23 January
3,2,2	Practical training on sustainable diversification of rural economy	"Drina-Tara" and "Drina-Sava" cross-border regions	Serbia/Croatia	strengthened capacities of grant beneficiaries and stakeholders	Irena & ABDA team		22-28 March
3,2,3	Preparation of training material	"Drina-Tara" and "Drina-Sava" cross-border regions			Irena & ABDA team		by end of April
4	**GIZ-Rural Development on water and forest management Program**						
4.1	Orientation phase for the project impementation		SEE	engagement of experts and definition of operaitonal plan	Kate, Bogdanka	SWG Objectives 1,3,4	September - January 2016
5	**ABD European Commission**						
5,1	Organization of Project Steering Group Meeting and WG disscussions on ABDA	WB cross-border areas	Brussels	Conclusions, Reccomendations	Irena and Core Funcions Team	SWG Objectives 1, 2, 3 and 4	22-23 April
5,2	Organisation of meetings of Stakeholder Groups and Working Groups	WB cross-border areas	WB cross-border areas	Conclusions; Endorced documents	Irena & ABDA team		March
5,3	Meetings with donor community	WB cross-border areas	WB and EU countries	Possible agreement on finacing of development priorities for the region	Irena & ABDA team		February
5,4	Finalization of grant projects	"Drina-Tara" and "Drina-Sava" cross-border regions	"Drina-Tara" and "Drina-Sava" cross-border regions		Irena & ABDA team		by 15th April
5,5	Promotional activities of "Drina-Tara" , "Drina-Sava"., "Prespa" and "Sharra" products and services throught people to people actions	"Drina-Tara" and "Drina-Sava" cross-border regions	WB cross-border areas		Irena & ABDA team		
6	**JRC - Analysis of agriculture and RD policies of WB countries**						
6,1	Analysis of agriculture and RD policies of WB countries	WB countries	WB countries	study of agriculture and RD policies and recommendations for their alignment with EU CAP 2014-2020	Irena	SWG Objectives 1, 2, 3 and 4	possible start January
6,2	Organization of kick - off meeting		Belgium/Macedonia		Irena		19 February/19-20 March
6,3	Organization of interim meeting		BiH or Serbia		Irena		10-11 September
6,4	Dissemination meeting - presentation of results		APF Bulgaria		Irena		13-16 October

7	**TAIEX**						
7.1	Advisory Services in Agriculture sector	Representatives of the SWG member institutions	Macedonia	national legislation alligned with EU legislation, proper strustures established in WB countries	Irena	SWG Objectives 1 and 4	5th February
7.2	Publicity - IPARD and national RD programme	Representatives of the SWG member institutions	Croatia		Irena	SWG Objectives 1, 3 and 4	27-28 April
7,3	Producers Groups - legal framework, organization structure, roles, good practices	Representatives of the SWG member institutions	Macedonia		Irena	SWG Objective 3 and 4	TBC (possibly 1st quarter 2016)
7.4	FADN	Representatives of the SWG member institutions	Croatia		Irena	SWG Objective 3 and 4	22-23 October
7.5	Registration of plant varietes	Representatives of the SWG member institutions	TBD		Irena	SWG Objectives 1, 2, 3 and 4	TBD
7.6	Wine Regulation - PDO, PGI	Representatives of the SWG member institutions	TBC		irena	SWG Objectives 1, 2, 3 and 4	TBD
7.7	Organic Agriculture - new EU regulations	Representatives of the SWG member institutions	TBC		Irena	SWG Objectives 1, 2, 3 and 4	TBC
7.8	Definition of areas with natural constraints	Representatives of the SWG member institutions	TBC		Irena	SWG Objectives 1, 2, 3 and 4	TBC
8	**GIZ Solid Waste Management in SEE**						
8.1	Orientation phase for the project impementation	Ministries of Agriculture and Environemnt in SEE	SEE countries	Definition of experts and implementation actions	Kate, Bogdanka	SWG Objectives 1,2,3,4	February - March
8.2	Kick off meetings	Stakeholder groups from the pilot region, Municipalities of the regions	Adriatic coastal region/ Albania	Introduction of the project and the operational plan to the stakeholders	Kate, Bogdanka		25th-26th August
8.3	Tendering procedure for International Expert	N/A	SEE region	engagement of the International expert	Kate, Bogdanka		in the course of July and August
8.4	Drafting of ToRs for the regional/ national experts	N/A	SEE region	engagement of the regional experts	International Expert and SWG		in the course of July and August
8.5	Development of a method for assessment of cross-border adverse environmental and economic (tourism) impacts	Stakeholder groups from the pilot region, Municipalities of the regions, Ministries of Agriculture, Water and Forest Management and Environment	Drina-Tara/ Drina Sava and Sharra Region	Method for assessment has been developed	International and Regional Experts, SWG Head office/Secretariat		October 5th final document of the method 2015



8.5	Conducting of assessment of regional cross-border impact of solid waste management in rural areas	Stakeholder groups from the pilot region, Municipalities of the regions, Ministries of Agriculture, Water and Forest Management and Environment	Drina-Tara/ Drina Sava/ Sharra Region	Assessment/analysis paper of the pilot regions has been developed	International and Regional Experts, SWG Head office/Secretariat		Information/results to be conducted till 31st October 2015, final draft November 2nd 2015																							
8.7	1st Dialog Platform session for identification of challenges and needs for establishment of cross-border ISWM model	Stakeholder groups from the pilot region, Municipalities of the regions, Ministries of Agriculture, Water and Forest Management and Environment, NALAS	Drina-Tara/ Drina Sava/ Sharra Region	Presentation of the assessment preformed and feedback provided from the stakeholders, identification	SWG Head office/Secretariat		2nd - 4th November 2015																							
9	**EC -Forstering regional cooperation and balanced territorial developemnt of WB countries in the process towards EI integration**																													
9.1	Facilitation of the economic development of the WB region throught intensive political and policy discussions	Ministries of Agriculture and WB cross-border areas	WB countries	policy papers	Irena and ABDA team	SWG Objectives 1, 2,3 and 4	June - December																							
9.2	Implementation of capacity building measures for preparation of relevant projects with adequate quality	WB cross-border areas	WB countries	training material and project proposals	Irena and ABDA team	SWG Objectives 2,3 and 4	June - December																							
9.3	Provision of consultancy support to stakeholders for preparation of project proposals for different calls with special emphasis on Calls within IPA II	WB cross-border areas	WB countries	project proposals	Irena and ABDA team	SWG Objectives 2,3 and 4	June - December																							
9.4	Performance of publicity activities related to available funding	WB cross-border areas	WB countries	informative documents, project proposals	Irena and ABDA team	SWG Objectives 2,3 and 4	June - December																							
9.5	Organization of people-to-people actions	WB cross-border areas	WB countries	reports, promotional material, MoUs, contracts etc.	Irena and ABDA team	SWG Objectives 2,3 and 4	June - December																							
9.6	Participation in meetings with other regional structures	WB cross-border areas	WB countries	reports	Irena and ABDA team	SWG Objectives 2,3 and 4	June - December																							
9.7	Initiation of the assessment of the situation, development potentials and strategic planning of the economic development of two additional cross border areas	WB cross-border areas	"Neretva", "Prokletije" and "Pcinja"	baseline analysis and strategic developemnt frameworks	Irena and ABDA team	SWG Objectives 2,3 and 4	June - December																							
10	**Other Activities**																													
10.1	World plowing competition	SWG Member Institutions/countries	Denmark		Kate, Bogdanka	SWG Objective 4	3-4 October																							

Explanation of the different colors	
Preparation period	
Execution period	
Time for follow up activities after the execution	

Ongoing Activities
Finished Activities
Cancelled activities
Long Term activities
Postponed activities
New activities

SWG Objectives:

1 To improve the common understanding of EU agriculture and rural developme

2 To assist the improvement of implementation structures and systems for agriculture and rural development in rural areas, with specific emphasis on cross border cooperation

3 To improve the understanding and use of implementation tools for agriculture and rural development

4 To identify and share information and application of good practice in agriculture and rural development to broaden the rural agenda

Kosovo* "This designation is without prejudice to positions on status, and is in line with UNSCR 1244 and the ICJ Opinion on the Kosovo declaration of independence."