

SWG
SECRETARIAT

Realized activities in the period December 2015 – April 2016 within the LEIWW Program

SWG Head Office/Secretariat



Second working meeting of the Regional Expert Advisory Working Group on Wine in South Eastern Europe, December 2015, Skopje, Macedonia



SWG

- The second meeting of the REAWG on Wine was held in the period 15th -16th December in Skopje, Macedonia organized by the Regional Rural Development Standing Working Group (SWG) in South Eastern Europe and German International Cooperation (GIZ);
- The aim of the meeting was to discuss the possibilities for regional cooperation in the wine sector in coordination with SWG discussion regarding the operational plan for possible regional activities and actions that can be taken in the SEE region.
- The meeting was intended for head of departments/sectors from the Ministries of Agriculture member institutions of the SWG and experts from the Universities i.e. Faculties of Agriculture/Institutes and other entities that manage wine and viticulture issues
- The main focus of the discussions was on:
 - ✓ Agreement ahead of CEFTA- VI1 Document
 - ✓ Possibility for TAIEX assistance for Year 2016
 - ✓ Promotion of the autochthonous varieties of wine in the Region

Global Forum for Food and Agriculture Berlin, January 2016

SWGRRD



SWG RRD

- The main focus of the 2016 Global Forum for Food and Agriculture was on “How to feed our cities? – Agriculture and rural areas in an era of urbanization”;
- The Forum discussed topics important to meet this challenge such as the impact urbanization on food security in different regions of the world, the role of agriculture and rural areas in light of this trend and cooperative partnerships with rural and urban development going hand in hand;
- The Regional Rural Development Standing Working Group (SWG) in SEE was presented at the Cooperation Market with opportunity to showcase its activities in the agricultural sector together with a number of international organizations, institutions, associations, universities and the BMEL within the International Green Week and the Global Forum for Food and Agriculture (GFFA) which was held on 16th January 2016 in Berlin, Germany.
- The world’s biggest fair for food, agriculture and horticulture – the International Green Week Berlin (IGW) was organized for the 81th time in the period from 13th to 17th of January 2016, while the GFFA was held during IGW

Roundtable on Agriculture and Rural Development in the Western Balkans and Turkey, Berlin, January 2016



SWG RRD

- The Roundtable on Agriculture and Rural Development in the Western Balkans and Turkey took place on January 17th, 2016, as a side event in the context of the Global Forum for Food and Agriculture (GFFA) in Berlin, Germany;
- The Roundtable was initiated by the Regional Rural Development Standing Working Group (SWG) in SEE in cooperation with the European Commission, DG Agriculture and Rural Development and the Federal Ministry of Food and Agriculture (BMEL) of Germany;
- H.E. Mr. Phil Hogan, European Commissioner for Agriculture and Rural Development and H.E. Mr. Christian Schmidt, German Federal Minister of Food and Agriculture participated at the Roundtable in order to hear about accomplishments from the Ministers of agriculture in their respective sectors and countries, as well as to actively engage in the discussions;
- Ministers of Agriculture of Albania, Montenegro, Kosovo* as well as Minister of Foreign Trade and Economic Relations of Bosnia and Herzegovina participated on the event. Serbia was represented by the State Secretary.

The discussion focused on three main topics:

- Strengthening regional cooperation on agriculture and rural development in the Western Balkans;
- Facilitating cross-border (intra-region and with EU) trade in agri-food products;
- Key issues on IPARD (rural development programmes under the Instrument for Pre-accession Assistance).



Kick-off meeting of the Regional Expert Advisory Working Group on development, mapping and analyses of Areas with Natural Constraints, March 2016, Skopje, Macedonia



SWG RRD

- The kick off meeting was held in the period 2nd -3rd March in Skopje, Macedonia organized by the Regional Rural Development Standing Working Group (SWG) in South Eastern Europe and German International Cooperation (GIZ);
- The aim of the meeting was to explore the possibilities for future regional dialogue and cooperation in SEE and setting up the structure and technical framework of the Regional Expert Advisory Group on developing the ANC in the future ahead.
- The meeting was intended for experts from respective institutions/agencies/institutes working in the field of Agro-meteorology, Soil science and GIS (Geographic Information System) experts from the Universities i.e. Faculties of Agriculture etc.
- The main outcome is conducting a study and providing policy recommendations on characterization and mapping of areas with natural constrains in the Western Balkan countries compatible with the EU methodology and standards based on the assessment on the areas with natural and specific constraints in agriculture in the Western Balkans.

Strengthening regional capacities for rural development through integrated forest and water resources management in Southeast Europe (LEIWW)

- Grant agreement has been signed with GIZ in March 2016
- **Time-frame:** February 2016 – December 2017
- **Value:** 1.031.221,96 EUR

SWG Contribution: 253.000,00 EUR

GIZ Contribution: 778.221,96 EUR

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