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

Operational Plan January 2017 - December 2017

11/28/2017

Time Frame

	Activity	Beneficiary/Target group	Location of implementation	Foreseen Outcomes	Relation to the SWG objectives	Date of execution	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		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			Throughout the year												
1.3	Preparation of new SWG regional project proposals	SWG Member Institutions/countries	SWG Head Office			Throughout the year												
2	**Core Activities (Assembly meetings, policy and political forums, working groups, executed in cooperation with GIZ and ABD)**																	
2.1	38th SWG Assembly session (assessments of achievements, replanning of activities)	SWG assembly and partner institutions	Ljubljana, Slovenia	Preparatory activities for APF, MM, and post 2017	1, 2, 3, 4	11th-14th April												
2.2	39th SWG Assembly Session (assessments of achievements, replanning of activities)	SWG assembly and partner institutions	Zagreb, Croatia	Preparatory activities for APF, MM, and post 2017		12th - 15th September												
2.3	40th SWG Assembly session (annual reporting, financial reporting and SWG Assembly decisions)	SWG assembly and partner institutions	Graz, Austria	Preparation of Operational Plan 2018		4th - 7th December												
2.4	Agricultural Policy Forum 2017	SEE ministry representatives, academics and various stake holders	Podgorica, Montenegro	Preparation of the APF Agenda	1, 2, 3, 4	10th-13th October												
2.5	11th Annual meeting of Ministers of Agriculture from SEE	Ministers of Agriculture from SEE, EC and supporting governments	Jahorina, Bosnia and Herzegovina	Preparation of Conclusion of the Ministers for Agriculture from SEE	1, 2, 3, 4	16th-17th November												
2.6	Global Forum for food and agriculture 2017 - trade and global food security	SWG Member Institutions/countries	Berlin, Germany	SWG stand at the cooperation market and Panel Discussion participation	1, 4	18th-21st January												
2.7	Lunchtime Conference- Balkan story of Rural Development	DG Agri	Brussels, Belgium	Presentation of policy outcomes from JRC study	1, 2, 3, 4	30th - 31st of January												
3	**Regional Expert Advisory Working Groups**																	
3.1	5th meeting of SEE REAWG on Managing Authorities and IPARD Agencies	SWG EAG Members	Turkey - TBD		2, 3, 4	End of January/February												
3.2	4th meeting of SEE REAWG on Wine	Regional Expert Advisory Working Group (REAWG)	Belgrade, Serbia	Harmonisation of legislation and policy	2, 3, 4	February												
3.3	4th meeting of SEE REAWG on Areas with Natural Constraints (ANC)	Regional Expert Advisory Working Group (REAWG)	Zlatibor, Serbia	Development of a follow up project concept	1, 2, 3, 4	13-15 March 2017												
3.4	Kick-off meeting of SEE REAWG on LEADER	Regional Expert Advisory Working Group (REAWG)	Skopje, Macedonia	Development of methodology for preparation of the assesment	2, 3, 4	March												
3.5	1st interim meeting SEE REAWG on LEADER	Regional Expert Advisory Working Group (REAWG)	Andrevlje, Serbia	Preparation of national reports for the assessment	2, 3, 4	05-07 June 2017												
3.6	Study tour on LEADER in SEE	ABD Stakeholders, Civil Society	Austria and Italy	Successful examples of LEADER and LAG	1, 2, 3, 4	14-19 May 2017												
3.7	Kick-off SEE Working Group on Agro biodiversity - SWG expert advisory group		Skopje, Macedonia		2, 3, 4	12th July 2017												
3.8	First interim SEE Working Group on Agro biodiversity - SWG expert advisory group	REAWG Members	Podgorica, Montenegro		2, 3, 4	13-14 October 2017												
3.9	Second interim SEE Working Group on Agro biodiversity - SWG expert advisory group	REAWG Members	Albania		2, 3, 4	Postponed for February 2018												
3.10	Third interim SEE Working Group on Agro biodiversity - SWG expert advisory group	REAWG Members	TBD		2, 3, 4	Postponed												
3.11	2nd interim meeting SEE REAWG on Water and Forest	Regional Expert Advisory Working Group (REAWG)	Jahorina,BiH	Presentation of draft regional report	1, 2, 3, 4	28 Feb - 02 March 2017												

3.12	Study Tour on Water and Forest	SWG Member Institutions/countries and Young Researchers	Sweden	Foreign experience on Integrated Management of NRM	1, 2, 3, 4	22-26 May 2017
3.13	Final meeting and presentation of the results and policy recommendations of the Study on Water and Forest	Regional Expert Advisory Working Group (REAWG)	Andrevlje, Serbia	Development of follow-up project concept	2, 3, 4	27-29 June 2017
3.14	2nd interim meeting of SEE REAWG on LEADER	Regional Expert Advisory Working Group (REAWG)	Zagreb, Croatia	Presentation of the final draft of the assessment	2, 3, 4	September 2017
3.15	Multilateral Agreement-Trade Facilitation in case of dispute- CEFTA	SWG member countries /teritories	Tirana, Albania	Solving the regional aspects related to trade	1, 2, 3, 4	March 2017
4	**Grant Scheme from LEIWW Programme**					
4.1	Implementation and reporting of approved projects under the first call	all 4 CBR	all 4 CBR	Improved economic aspects of businesses through sistainable use of natural resources	1, 2, 3, 4	January - May
4.2	Final on-spot check for projects under the first call	all 4 CBR	all 4 CBR		1, 2, 3, 4	March - May
4.3	Final payment (After realization of the projects but not later than May 31st, 2017)	all 4 CBR	all 4 CBR			May-17
4.4	Preparation of Monitoring documents, tables and regular monitoring of implemented projects / investments	all 4 CBR	all 4 CBR	Measurement of ivestments impact		June - December
4.5	Finalization of Analysis 1 for second call CBR Prespa and Sharra	Private, public and civil sector	Prespa and Sharra			Mid January
4.6	Analysis 2 for second call CBR Prespa and Sharra - Selection and scoring of eligible projects	Private, public and civil sector	Prespa and Sharra			End of January
4.7	Analysis 2 for second call CBR Prespa and Sharra - request for supplement documents	Private, public and civil sector	Prespa and Sharra			Mid of February
4.8	On-spot control for selected project after Analysis 2	Private, public and civil sector	Prespa and Sharra			End February
4.9	Sample base control for selected project	Private, public and civil sector	Prespa and Sharra			End February
4.10	Analysis 3 - Final decision for selection of the grant beneficiaries	Private, public and civil sector	Prespa and Sharra			Beggining of March
4.11	Contracting of grant beneficiaries and contracts signing ceremony	Private, public and civil sector	Prespa and Sharra			Latest by 15th March
4.12	Implementation of grant projects	Private, public and civil sector	Prespa and Sharra			20th March - 20th August
4.13	Final on-spot check	Private, public and civil sector	Prespa and Sharra			June - August
4.14	Final payment (After realization of the projects but not more than 30th of September)	Private, public and civil sector	Prespa and Sharra			July - 30th September
4.15	impact monitoring of implemented projects / investments	Private, public and civil sector	Prespa and Sharra	Measurement of ivestments impact		July - December
4.16	Organization of trainings for grant beneficiaries on various topics listed above	Private, public and civil sector	Drina-Tara, Drina-Sava, Prespa and Sharra			Mid of February-end of April
5	**EC -Fostering regional cooperation and balanced territorial development of WB countries in the process towards EI integration**					
5.1	Facilitation of the economic development of the WB region	Ministries of Agriculture and WB cross-border areas	WB countries	Policy papers	1, 2, 3, 4	January - April
5,1,1	16th SHG meeting CBR Prespa	SHG Prespa	Macedonia	Increased cooperattion among stakeholders	1, 2, 3, 4	February 2017
5,1,2	17th SHG Meeting CBR Prespa	SHG Prespa	Albania	Increased cooperattion among stakeholders	1, 2, 3, 4	April 2017
5,1,3	16th SHG Meeting CBR Sharra	SHG Sharra	Albania	Increased cooperattion among stakeholders	1, 2, 3, 4	February 2017
5,1,4	17th SHG Meeting CBR Sharra	SHG Sharra	Macedonia	Increased cooperattion among stakeholders	1, 2, 3, 4	April 2017

5,1,5	16th SHG Meeting CBR Drina-Sava	SHG Drina-Sava	Croatia	Increased cooperattion among stakeholders	1, 2, 3, 4	February 2017
5,1,6	17th SHG Meeting CBR Drina-Sava	SHG Drina-Sava	Serbia	Increased cooperattion among stakeholders	1, 2, 3, 4	April 2017
5,1,7	15th SHG Meeting CBR Drina-Tara	SHG Drina-Tara	Serbia	Increased cooperattion among stakeholders	1, 2, 3, 4	February 2017
5,1,8	16th SHG Meeting CBR Drina-Tara	SHG Drina-Tara	Montenegro	Increased cooperattion among stakeholders	1, 2, 3, 4	April 2017
5.2	Implementation of capacity building measures for preparation of relevant projects with adequate quality	WB cross-border areas	WB countries	Training material and project proposals	1, 2, 3, 4	End of February - mid of March
5,2,1	ABD team capacity building - follow up on prepration of project proposals	ABD staff	Albania	Increased capacities of ABD team for preparation of project proposals	1, 2, 3, 4	Mid May
5,2,2	Capacity building for DT, DS, Pr, Sh	Stakeholders from 4 CBR	WB countires		1, 2, 3, 4	February - April
5,2,3	Capacity building for new 3 CBR	Stakeholders from new regions			1, 2, 3, 4	February - April
5.3	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	1, 2, 3, 4	January - April
5.4	Performance of publicity activities related to available funding	WB cross-border areas	WB countries	Informative documents, project proposals	2, 3, 4	January - April
5.5	Organization of people-to-people actions	WB cross-border areas	WB countries	Reports, promotional material, MoUs, contracts etc.	2, 3, 4	January - April
5.6	Participation in meetings with other regional structures	WB cross-border areas		Reports	2, 3, 4	January - April
5.7	Finalization of the assessment of the situation, development potentials and strategic planning of the economic development, and follow up activities in three additional cross border areas	WB cross-border areas	"Neretva", "Prokletije" and "Pcinja"	Baseline analysis and strategic development frameworks	2, 3, 4	January - April
5,7,1	Follow up activites in the new regions	Stakeholders from new regions	"Neretva", "Prokletije" and "Pcinja"	Incresed cooperation betwenn the stakhoders	2, 3, 4	Januari - April
5,7,2	Organization of SHG meetings	Stakeholders from new regions	"Neretva", "Prokletije" and "Pcinja"	Incresed cooperation betwenn the stakhoders	2, 3, 4	Januari - April
5,7,3	Organization of capacity building events			Incresed capacities of the Stakholders	2, 3, 4	Januari - April
5.8	ROM (result oriented monitoring) Assessment	SHG in all CBR	all 4 CBR	ROM assessment report	2, 3, 4	16.01.2017 - 02.02.2017
5.9	Monitoring of implemented projects / investments within ABD 3 project	contracted beneficiaries in Drina-Tara and Drina-Sava	Drina-Sava, Drina-Tara		1, 2, 3, 4	February - May
5.10	3rd PSG meeting	PSG members	Brussels, Belgium		1, 2, 3, 4	31st of January
5.11	Final Report					By end of May
6	**JRC - "National Policy Instruments and EU Approximation Process: Effects on Farm Holdings in the WB Countries (EUEWB)"**					
6.1	Third interim meeting	WB countries	Skopje, Macedonia	Study of agriculture and RD policies and recommendations for their alignment with EU CAP 2014-2020	1, 2, 3, 4	2-3 February
6.2	Publication of the first part of the results - Agriculture and rural development policy analysis	WB countries	N/A			June 2017
6.3	Farm productivity analysis in Western Balkans- final model results	WB countries	WB countries			June 2017
6.4	Final meeting	WB countries	JRC Spain			June 2017
7	**TAIEX**					
7.1	Producers Groups - legal framework, organization structure, roles, good practices	Representatives of the SWG member institutions	TBC		3, 4	TBD

7.2	Wine Regulation - PDO, PGI	Representatives of the SWG member institutions	TBC	Capacity building of SWG member insittutions	1, 2, 3, 4	TBD
7.3	Organic Agriculture - new EU regulations	Representatives of the SWG member institutions	TBC		1, 2, 3, 4	TBC
7.4	Definition of areas with natural constraints	Representatives of the SWG member institutions	TBC		1, 2, 3, 4	TBC
8	**Other Activities**					
8.1	RCC Donors Conference	SWG and other regional initiatives	Sarajevo, BiH	Possible cooperation with donor organizations for implemenatation of SEE 2020 Regional Strategy	1, 2, 3, 4	March
8.2	RCC Coordination Board Meetings	SWG and other regional initiatives	SEE and EU member states	SEE 2020 Strategy and Programming Implementation for 2017-2019	1, 2, 3, 4	February, June, October
8.3	Project Evaluation (PEV) Mission	SWG Member Institutions/countries	SEE Countries	Preparation of LEIWW 2 phase	1, 2, 3, 4	March/April 2017
8.4	Berlin Process - Trieste Summit 2017		Italy	Lobbying and visibility		10-13 July 2017
8.5	Slow Food International Conference	SWG/ Cross-border stakeholders	Italy			September
8.6	European Rural Parliament	Civil society, BRDN	Vendors, Netherlands	Integration of BRDN and support of civil society	1, 2, 3, 4	17 - 21 Oct
8.7	Networking	Civil society, BRDN	N/A	Support of civil society, rural networks - BRDN	1, 3, 4	Throughout the year
8.8	Ministers Meeting GMO	SWG member countries /teritories	Vienna, Austria	Positive examples of RD and policies	1, 2, 3, 4	08-10 May 2017
8.9	GIZ Fachtage	SWG member countries /teritories	Bonn, Germany	Lobbying and visibility	1, 2, 3, 4	First week of July
9	**Additional New Activities**					
9,1	Study tour on Agro-biodiversity	REAWG Members	Germany		2, 3, 4	November 2017
9,2	Study tour on Areas with Natural Constraints (ANC)	REAWG Members	Italy		2, 3, 4	December 2017

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

Explanation of the different colors for implementation of the Operational Plan

Completed
On-going
Cancelled
Postponed