



The project is financed by the European Union

Cross-border region "Drina - Sava"

“Regional cooperation and networking in the field of agriculture, rural and economic development of cross-border areas”

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Minutes from the 18th Stakeholders' Group Meeting for "Drina-Sava" cross-border region



Tršić / Loznica, Serbia

07. March 2018

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I. List of participants

The eighteenth Stakeholders' Group Meeting for "Drina-Sava" cross-border region was attended by 42 participants, representatives of the stakeholder group of the cross-border region "Drina-Sava" and SWG project team.

Annex 1: List of participants

II. Agenda

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| 10:00 – 10:15 | Welcome speech

<i>Dejan Stalović, City manager of Town Loznica</i>
<i>Aleksandar Damnjanovic, SWG Regional Manager</i> |
| 10:20 – 10:35 | Introduction to the programme

<i>Mirela Causevic, SWG Regional Coordinator</i> |
| 10:35 – 11:15 | Activities on the project “Regional cooperation and networking in the field of agriculture, rural and economic development of cross-border areas”

<i>Aleksandar Damnjanovic, SWG Regional Manager</i>
<i>Mirela Causevic, SWG Regional Coordinator</i> |
| 11:15-11:45 | Implemented and planned activities within the project “Rural development through integrated forest and water resources management in Southeast Europe: Rural perspectives: qualification, reintegration and (self) employment”

<i>Aleksandar Damnjanovic, SWG Regional Manager</i>
<i>Mirela Causevic, SWG Regional Coordinator</i> |

11:45 – 12:45

Lunch

12:45– 13:30

Tour the Ethno village „Trsic“, Loznica

III. Minutes of the meeting

The eighteenth meeting of the stakeholder group for the cross-border region “Drina-Sava” was organized on the 07th March in Educational and cultural center “Vuk Karadžić” in Tršić/ Loznica (Serbia). Following topics were discussed:

1. Presentation and discussion on activities on the project “Regional cooperation and networking in the field of agriculture, rural and economic development of cross-border areas”
2. Results of the Call for support of “people to people” actions in the cross-border region “Drina-Sava”
3. Implemented and planned activities within the project “Rural development through integrated forest and water resources management in Southeast Europe: Rural perspectives: qualification, reintegration and (self) employment”

Appendix 2: Presentation used during the meeting

Official opening of the meeting

The meeting was opened and the participants were welcomed by Mr. Dejan Stalovic, City manager of Town Loznica and Mr. Aleksandar Damjanović, SWG Regional Manager how gave a short review on the activities that were implemented by the “Drina-Sava” stakeholder group.

- 1. Presentation and discussion on activities on the project “Regional cooperation and networking in the field of agriculture, rural and economic development of cross-border areas”**

The Standing working group for regional rural development (SWG) in SEE is implementing the project ““Regional cooperation and networking in the field of agriculture, rural and economic development of cross-border areas” financed by the European Union in the period from 15.12.2017-14.12.2018. During that period implementation of following activities is planned:

- Organization of three Stakeholder Group Meetings (March, May, November);
- Support to "people-to-people" manifestations / activities;
- Provide support to stakeholders in generation of ideas and preparation of project proposals on different calls for proposals, partner search and networking

- 2. Results of the Call for support of “people to people” actions in the cross-border region “Drina-Sava”**

People to people activity represent tool for strengthening networking, cooperation, promotion of the cross-border regions and their cultural, traditional, natural heritage and enabling economic potential, both in terms of products and services, as well as creation of cross-border value chains/links. According to EU procedures, SWG will not support activities in EU member countries (Croatia), but costs for participants (transport, accommodation, engagement of experts) from this country in the scope of people to people activities will consider as eligible cost. The Call for support was open in the period from 16.01-16.02.2018 and published on the SWG web pages for four cross-border region “Drina-Tara“, “Drina-Sava“, “Prespa“ and “Sharra“. In total 74 application were received, out of which 23 were approved for financing, 28 are on the reserve list and 23 were rejected for financing. The main criteria for selecting of manifestations according to the Manual are:

- Economic aspect and sustainability;
- Partnership;
- Environmental aspect of the event/ manifestation/ action;
- Expected results
- Budget and cost - efficiency.

In the cross-border region “Drina-Sava” 24 applications were submitted out which 12 from Bosnia and Herzegovina, 11 from Serbia and one from Macedonia. Total amount of funds required is 104.280, 00 EUR. After receiving the application the SWG Secretariat organized in the period of 22-23.02.2018 on Zlatibor (Serbia) the Evaluation Committee composed of representatives of the Ministries of Agriculture of the Western Balkans who evaluated the received application for the cross-border regions “Drina-Sava” and “Drina-Tara“. Through the project ““Regional cooperation and networking in the field of agriculture, rural and economic development of cross-border areas” in the cross-border region “Drina-Sava” in total seven manifestations will be supported, eight manifestation/ actions are on the reserve list and will be supported in case that additional sources of financing will be provided. Nine manifestation that were evaluated with less than 50 points, are considered as not eligible for support. All applicants will receive information on the results of the Open call via e-mail. For the approved project proposals, the applicants need to submit corrected budget (where required) and a final application in English language. Below presented are the results:

Table 1: List of approved events

No.	Applicant	Activity	Number of points
1	Touristic Organization of City of Loznica, Loznica, Serbia	“Saborsko prelo” with interactive workshops of traditional crafts	90.5
2	SME Development Agency Ugljevik, Ugljevik, Bosnia and Herzegovina	Plum, fruit brandy and honey fair	88

3	Cycling Club Sveti Nikolaj, Brcko, BiH	III Circle of Friendship – International Cycling Marathon in the “Drina-Sava” and “Drina-Tara” CBR	85.5
4	NGO Prirodno, Bijeljina, Bosnia and Herzegovina	Pumpkin day	80.5
5	NGO Golub, Brčko, Bosnia and Herzegovina	Beekeepers school	79.5
6	Municipality Lopare, Lopare, Bosnia and Herzegovina	Fair of domestic products and handicrafts	79
7	NGO Kraljevski karneval, Banja Koviljaca, Serbia	Kraljevski karneval	78

Table 2: List of manifestation on the reserve list

No.	Applicant	Activity	Number of points
8	NGO UNECO Podrinje, Sabac, Serbia	Sava day – every day	69.5
9	NGO Beli andjeo, Dvorovi, Bosnia and Herzegovina	Easter Etno festival	69
10	Proni Youth Development Centar, Brcko, Bosnia and Herzegovina	Folklore fest Bostanovo 2018	66
11	Info and culture Centre Lopare, Lopare, Bosnia and Herzegovina	Folklore to reconciliation	65
12	Klaster Sveti Dimitrije, Sremska Mitrovica, Serbia	Osmomartovska daroteka 2018	63.5
13	NGO “Kreativna vizija”, Loznica, Serbia	Handicraft workshop	60
14	Vila Albedo, Varna, Serbia	Jagodafest	58.5
15	NGO Ruralni centar Sova, Sremska Mitrovica, Serbia	Stairs to the regional brand	51.5

Tabela 3: Spisak odbijenih manifestacija

No	Applicant	Activity	Number of points
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16	NGO Pokret gorana Sremska Mitrovica, Sremska Mitrovica, Serbia	I International student conference	40.5
17	International Foundation Balkan Net, Skopje, Macedonia	Quality and standards for food producers	39.5
18	Udruženje Dečji svet, Sremska Mitrovica, Serbia	Childs etno fair	31
19	Faculty for tourism and hotel management, Banja Luka, BiH	Turizmijada 2019 – Megadogadjaj	-
20	Touristic organization of Sokolac, Bosnia and Herzegovina	Romanija Mowing	-
21	Eco Club Grmec, Bosanski Petrovac, Bosnia and Herzegovina	Farm Fest and Horse Plowing Competition	-
22	Turisticka organizacija Sabac, Sabac, Serbia	Brandy days	-
23	NGO Zena i porodica, Gradiska, Bosnia and Herzegovina	Zdravofest	-
24	Beekeepers Association Brcko, Bosnia and Herzegovina	Study tour	-

The stakeholder group discussed about recommendation while applying on calls:

- Procedures and manual for the Call should be carefully considered (acceptable activities, area and eligible costs);
- All costs should be of the event should be presented in the budget;
- Difference between the participant and the partners should be made.

3. Implemented and planned activities within the project “Rural development through integrated forest and water resources management in Southeast Europe: Rural perspectives: qualification, reintegration and (self) employment”

Within the frame of the project “Rural development through integrated forest and water resources management in Southeast Europe: Rural perspectives: qualification, reintegration and (self) employment” which SWG implements in cooperation with GIZ, under the ABD Grant scheme one additional project was supported, the project of the applicant Šumsko gazdinstvo “Sremska Mitrovica and the project “Improving the development of birdwatching on the territory of SRP “Obedska bara”.

In addition, six regional events/ manifestation were supported by the project:

- 18. Drina - Sava international, tourist, sports and recreational, kayak, canoe regatta Memorijal "Vitimir Dizdarević - Admiral Kuk" from Visegrad (B&H) to Sremska Mitrovica (SER);
- Romania Mowing 2017, Sokolac, Bosnia and Herzegovina;

- Saborsko prelo- with interactive workshops of traditional crafts, Loznica, Serbia;
- Pumpkin day, Bijeljina, Bosnia and Herzegovina;
- 12. Ethno Food and Drink Fair, Belgrade, Serbia;
- International trade fair Brčko 2017, Brčko, Bosnia and Herzegovina

Organized also were capacity building measures:

- Capacity building workshop “How to achieve successful association and business linking of actors in rural tourism” for the participants from cross border region “Drina-Sava”, Šabac, Serbia (60 participants);
- Capacity building workshop for honey producers, Brčko, Bosnia and Herzegovina (141 participants)
- „Culinary workshop “An innovative approach in rural tourism - Traditional food in a new and authentic way” for participants from the cross-border regions “Drina-Tara” and “DrinaSava” (23 participants) Kosjeric, Serbia
- Small value chains in tourism: education, organization and promotion, Banja Koviljača, Srbija (64 participants).

Within the frame of the project “Rural development through integrated forest and water resources management in Southeast Europe: Rural perspectives: qualification, reintegration and (self) employment” following activities are planned:

- Assessment of the potentials for diversification of economic activities in rural cross-border areas through the development of small value chains (access through sustainable use of natural resources through ABD approach)
- Support to people-people events / activities
- Organization of capacity building events

Conclusions from the meeting:

- Information on the results of the call for support of people to people manifestation,
- Stakeholder group will send suggestions for trainings that could be supported.

Prepared by:

Mirela Čaušević, Coordinator for the "Drina-Sava" cross border region