

Regional Expert Advisory Working Group (REAWG) on Quality Policy – Schemes of Geographical Indications and Traditional Specialties

29 – 30 January 2019

Skopje, Macedonia

Intro to SWG

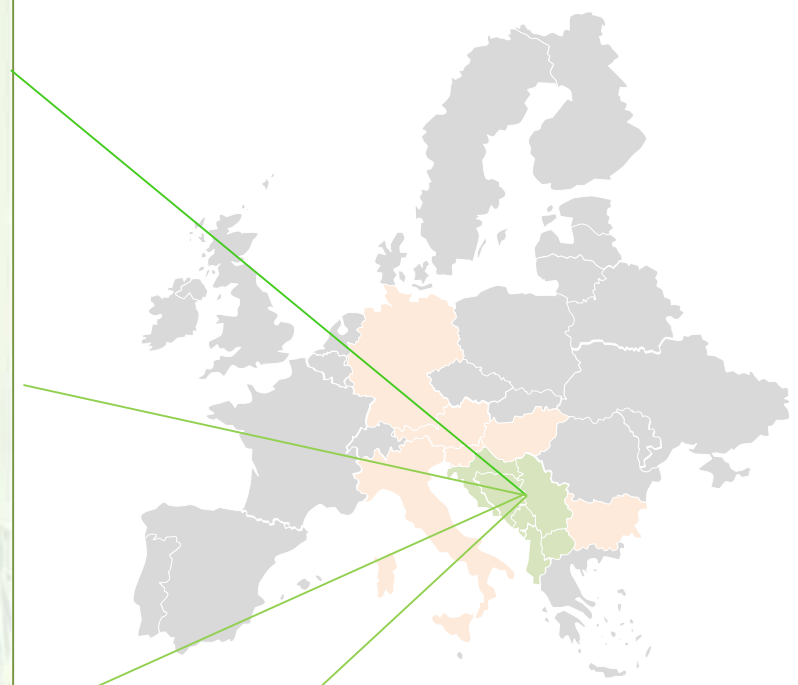
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“SWG” = Regional Rural Development Standing Working Group in South Eastern Europe.

International Intergovernmental Organization, consisted of governmental institutions responsible for agriculture and rural development in respective countries and territories of Southeastern Europe.

Managing and coordinative body - the SWG Head Office/Secretariat, in Skopje, Macedonia.

www.seerural.org



Member Institutions

- Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Consumer Protection, **Albania**
- Ministry of Foreign Trade and Economic Relations, **Bosnia and Herzegovina**
- Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Water Management of the **Republic of Srpska**, Bosnia and Herzegovina
- Federal Ministry of Agriculture, Water Management and Forestry, **Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina**, Bosnia and Herzegovina
- Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Rural Development, **Kosovo***
- Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Water Economy, **Macedonia**
- Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development, **Montenegro**
- Ministry of Agriculture, Trade, Forestry and Water Management, **Serbia**

* *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.*

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Observer Institutions

- Federal Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, Environment and Water Management, **Austria**
- Ministry of Agriculture and Food, **Bulgaria**
- Federal Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Consumer Protection, **Germany**
- Ministry of Rural Development, **Hungary**
- Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Forestry Policies, **Italy**
- Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Food, **Slovenia**
- Ministry of Agriculture, **Croatia**
- Provincial Secretariat of Agriculture Water Management and Forestry, Autonomous Province of **Vojvodina**, Serbia

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Background

- **3-year regional program** “Support to economic diversification of rural areas in SEE (**SEDRA**)”, commissioned by BMZ, implemented by SWG and GIZ
- Targets **Western Balkans** countries/territories
- **Central project outputs:**
 - Regional cooperation and policy advice
 - Sustainable business models
 - Community-led and area-based development strategies.

Specific situation

- **Objective of the assignment:** preparation of overview of requirements and implementation of the EU schemes of geographical indications and traditional specialties and of the state of the art in the SEE countries.
- **Major outputs:**
 - **Analysis** of the state of the art and existing gaps in the **legislative, strategic, policy and institutional framework** related to implementation of quality policy and schemes of geographical indications and traditional specialties in SEE;
 - **Identification of key problems and challenges** requiring policy interventions based on the given analysis and providing policy recommendations and actions to overcome the challenges and ease the approximation process;
 - **Identification of products** from SEE countries which fulfill criteria and have potential to be registered under the schemes of geographical indications and traditional specialties;
 - **Identification of good examples and practices** to raise awareness about the importance of the implementation of quality policy and schemes of geographical indications and traditional specialties in SEE and their importance for sustainable economic development of rural areas;
 - Assessment of possibilities and recommendations to apply **digital approaches** in promotion of the schemes of geographical indications and traditional specialties in SEE;
 - **Guidelines on the steps and procedures** for registration of products with geographical indications and traditional specialties.



Deliverables

Methodology for assessment of the state of the art and existing gaps in the legislative, strategic, policy and institutional framework

Participation at the kick-off meeting

First draft report including:

- a. Identification of key problems and challenges requiring policy interventions in SEE
- b. Identification of products from SEE countries which fulfill criteria and have potential to be registered under the schemes of geographical indications and traditional specialties and cost-benefit analysis
- c. Identification of good examples and practices of the implementation of quality
- d. Assessment of possibilities to apply digital approaches in promotion of the schemes of geographical indications and traditional specialties policy and schemes of geographical indications and traditional specialties
- e. Policy recommendations and actions to overcome the challenges and ease the approximation process.

Participation at the interim meeting

Preparation of guidelines on the steps and procedures for registration of products with geographical indications and traditional specialties based on the EU regulations

Final meeting

Final report and final guidelines

Presentation of the findings at the Agricultural Policy Forum 2019

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Place and timeframe

- Western Balkans
- January – September 2019

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Experts

- **Senior Expert** – Ms. Sonja Srbinovska
- **International Expert** – Ms. Paola Corsinovi

Regional Experts

- **Albania and Kosovo*** – Mr. Veli Hoti
- **Serbia, Montenegro, BiH** – Mr. Vlado Kovacevic
- **Macedonia** – Ms. Sonja Srbinovska

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