

I. Regional cooperation and policy advice

The regional project: **Support to Economic Diversification of Rural Areas in Southeast Europe (SEDRA)** involves the countries: Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kosovo*, Macedonia, Montenegro, and Serbia. SEDRA is jointly implemented by the Standing Working Group for Regional Rural Development in South Eastern Europe (SWG RRD) and the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ).

Objective

The overall objective of the SEDRA project is to strengthen the institutional capacities of selected stakeholders in Southeast Europe for supporting EU-compliant economic diversification in rural areas.

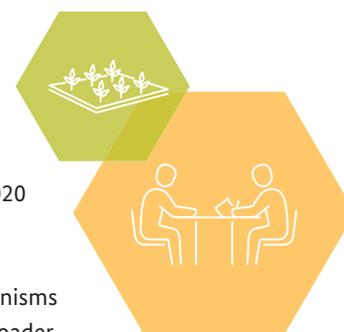
Regional cooperation and policy advice

The project aims to formulate regional recommendations for evidence-based and EU-compliant policies for economic diversification in rural areas to be implemented on a national level. The regional and national capacities in Southeast European (SEE) countries are strengthened through facilitating theme-specific policy dialogues and providing technical expertise on issues related to the economic diversification as a key strategy for rural development. This leads to accelerated harmonisation of the appropriate laws, regulations, and procedures with the EU *acquis communautaire*, progress in the respective chapters of the SEE 2020 Strategy, and improved capacities of the potential beneficiaries in SEE countries.

Project name	Support to Economic Diversification of Rural Areas in Southeast Europe (SEDRA)
Commissioned by	German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ)
Project region	Southeast Europe (SEE): Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kosovo*, Macedonia, Montenegro, and Serbia
Project partner	Standing Working Group for Regional Rural Development in South Eastern Europe (SWG RRD)
Duration	01.09.2018 – 31.08.2021

Expected results:

- Support to measures under the flagship initiatives “Connectivity” or “Competitiveness” of the SEE 2020 Strategy;
- Strengthening of the regional coordination structures and mechanisms in respect to more intensive and broader cooperation and a higher share of self-financing;
- Strengthening of regional stakeholders’ competencies and expertise through building relevant working groups;
- Exchanging good practices within the SEE region, as well as between the region and other European countries;
- Development of policy recommendations on the topics of economic diversification in rural areas to assist the EU accession process.



* This designation is without prejudice to positions on status, and is in line with UNSCR 1244/1999 and the ICJ Opinion on the Kosovo Declaration of Independence.

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