



Support to Economic Diversification of Rural Areas in Southeast Europe (SEDRA II)

52nd SWG RRD Assembly

07.12.2021

Basic Information

Duration: 09/2021 – 08/2024

Commissioning Party: German Federal Ministry of Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ)

Political Partner: Standing Working Group Regional Rural Development (SWG RRD)

Implementing Partners: SWG RRD, Balkan Rural Development Network (BRDN) as main partners

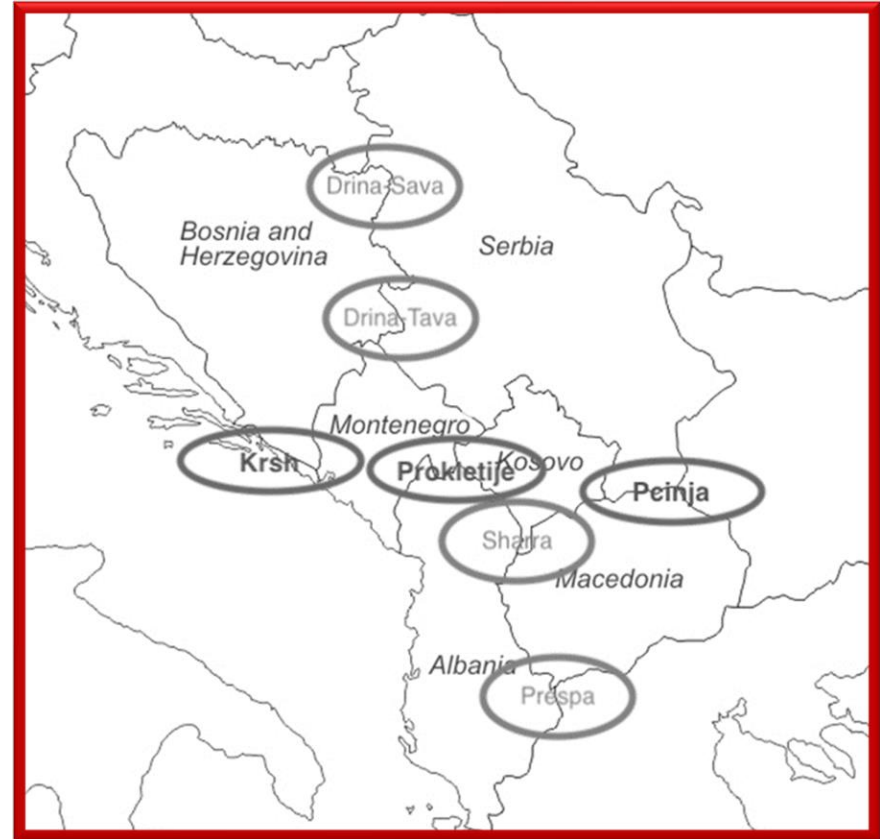


Implemented by:



Where we work

- **6 countries:** Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kosovo*, Montenegro, North Macedonia, and Serbia.
- **7 cross-border regions:** Drina-Sava, Drina-Tara, Krsh, Prokletije, Pchinja, Shara and Prespa
- **1 region:** Southeast Europe





What we want to achieve

The **overall objective** of the SEDRA II is: strengthening the potentials for increasing **employment and incomes** in the rural areas in the Southeast European countries in line with the **EU approximation process** and the **Sofia Declaration**.

SEDRA II main areas of intervention



Regional
Cooperation and
Policy Advice



Community Led
Local Development



Employment
promotion in rural
cross-border areas

Output 1

Evidence-based policy development processes for rural development improved in the context of the EU approximation of the Western Balkans

14 policy recommendations, developed in the framework of regional policy making processes of SWG RRD, have been **incorporated by 7 national Ministries of Agriculture** into their national or EU support programmes for agriculture and rural development.

3 additional SWG RRD policy recommendations for support to the rural economy included in the SEE **joint regional action plans or agendas**.

6 additional regional resolutions or policy recommendations regarding EU-compliant rural development have been **adopted by the political representatives of the SEE in the SWG**.

Output 2

The capacities of rural development networks have been strengthened

Indicators

7 additional local development strategies of SEE Local Action Groups (LAGs) supporting inclusive, environmentally and climate friendly economic diversification **are financially consolidated**.

The Balkan Rural Development Network (**BRDN**) has **contributed 6 strategic position papers** to regional, national or Europe-wide policy dialogues and platforms through thematic working groups **together with its members** (NRDN).

163 of 217 NRDN member organizations confirm an improved service orientation of their respective NRDN.

Output 3

The qualification offer for rural MSMEs as well as for the population in cross-border rural areas is improved

350 people, including **140 young people, 140 women and 21 people with disabilities**, have found **new or additional local employment** in the tourism, agriculture or related sectors in 7 cross-border rural areas.

70 representatives MSMEs from the 7 cross-border rural areas that have taken advantage of qualification measures **rate their business development 2 points more positively** on a 6-point scale.

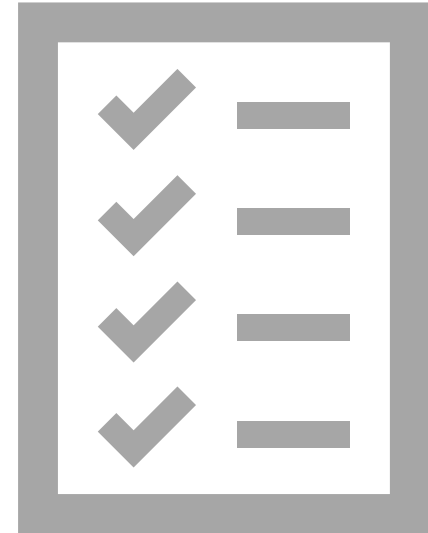
840 people from the 7 cross-border rural areas, including 490 young people, 350 women and 70 people with disabilities, have **participated in vocational training** measures for economic diversification.

Main partners/beneficiaries



Guiding Documents

- An **Economic and Investment Plan** for the Western Balkans
 - **EU Green Agenda** for the WB countries
 - European Commission Enlargement Package: **Reform Priorities for the Western Balkans** (10/2021)
 - Berlin process : **Sofia Declaration** (11/2020)
 - **BMZ 2030** Reform Agenda
 - **SWG Strategy 2021 – 2025** : Streamline effective EU accession process
 - **Stronger regional approaches and cooperation**
 - **RCC Action Plan** for the Implementation of the Sofia Declaration on the Green Agenda for the Western Balkans 2021-2030
- Pillar IV: **Sustainable agro-food systems**



Output 1 Main Activities

Support **regional platforms for policy and political dialogue** through Agricultural Policy Forum, Annual Ministerial Meetings, High level gatherings and declarations etc.



Support **demand-oriented, evidence-based policy analysis and policy-making** through Regional Expert Advisory Working Group (REAWG)



Support SWG RRD in the **coordination and implementation of the Green Agenda for the WB**, e.g., development of the Pillar IV action plan on environmentally sound and sustainable agricultural and food systems, contributions to other areas relevant to rural regions, development of monitoring tool, formation of advisory committee for WB economies in close cooperation with RCC



Concrete policy advisory topics shall be defined by the SWG RRD members



Output 2 Main Activities

Advise on **strengthening the capacities of BRDN** in political advocacy, communication and networking (regional and Europe-wide)



Advise on **establishment of thematic hubs for joint learning and collaboration** with its members (**NRDN**) on economic diversification in less favoured regions, or inclusive environmentally- and climate friendly rural and tourism development



Feedback results and implementation experiences into **established policy dialogues and platforms**



Advise on **strengthening the capacity of NRDN** for a functioning bottom-up model for **participatory rural development**



Advise **NRDN on implementation of structures and delivery mechanisms** for community-led local development (CLLD) approaches and LEADER under IPARD



Output 3 Main Activities

Support a **systematic approach for rural employment promotion** in selected cross-border regions



Implement **qualification measures** (access to formal opportunities, informal measures)



Support **existing MSMEs** in expanding their business

Analyse opportunities in cooperation with the private sector



Facilitate **access to existing funding**, support for providing business enabling framework (e.g. touristic infrastructure)



Focused **measures for vulnerable target groups** (women, young and disabled)



People2People events and **capacity building** measures

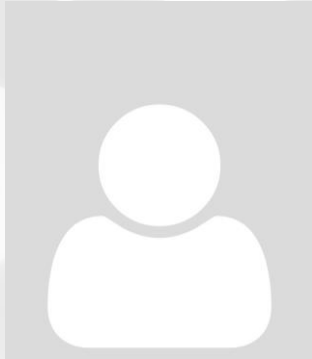


THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION!

Please come forward with any question...



Kontakt



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