



# REAWG on LEADER

# Progress

- 3<sup>rd</sup> Interim Meeting of the REAWG on LEADER – held on 28<sup>th</sup> of March in Skopje, North Macedonia

## Main focus:

- State of play on **LEADER** in SWG countries/territories
- State of art of the **Local Action Groups (LAGs)** in the Western Balkans
- Discussion on the next steps and actions for **implementation of successful LEADER Program** in the Western Balkans

## Follow up:

- Rural Networks/LAGs are engaged and contracted to follow up the **LEADER road maps**



## Ongoing activities:

- Assess the **states' progress** as per the actions defined in the LEADER Road map in WB
- Prepare **national progress reports** related to LEADER in 3 different areas:
  - **Legal and institutional framework;**
  - **Rural development networking;**
  - **Local Action Groups and development initiatives**
- Prepare **conclusions on the current state and recommendation on future steps** for **accelerating LEADER implementation** in WB
- Prepare regional report on the overall progress of LEADER implementation in the Western Balkan countries including **conclusions** on the current state and **recommendation** on future steps for accelerating LEADER implementation in the region.



# Next steps

- **Six national road maps** for Albania, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Kosovo\*, Serbia and Bosnia and Herzegovina will be updated;
- **One regional summary assesment** will be conducted providing regional conclusions and recommendations
- **Presentation of the regional report:** Progress of LEADER Approach implementation in the Western Balkan countries - conclusions and recommendation on future steps for accelerating LEADER implementation in the WB region **during APF 2024**
- 4th Interim meeting in November 2024
- Collaboration with LAGs and LEADER Network and possible study visit for LAGs from SEE in Greece in 2024

