

Update on IPARD



Entrustment of budget implementation tasks

Upcoming entrustment request

Number indicates the number of calls

2 4 7 8 10

No	Measures
1	Investments in physical assets of agricultural holdings
3	Investments in physical assets concerning processing and marketing of agricultural and fishery products
4	Agri-environment- climate and organic farming measure
5	Implementation of local development strategies – LEADER approach
6	Investments in Rural Public Infrastructure
7	Farm diversification and business development
9	Technical assistance
Budget (in million EUR)	

AL	ME	MK	RS	TR
71	39	60	175	601

Main achievements

- Roll out of measures and calls in all countries, very strong response
- Efficiency speeding up
- Very good EU visibility
- Administrations learning fast, working well together
- Policy is evolving
- Implemented projects now appearing
- Calls operated efficiently and transparently
- Good collaboration with countries and SWG

Key issues faced

- Weak administrations: lack of staff, not well paid
- Unstable administrations - frequent changes after elections, even in lower ranks
- Weak advisory services, lack of know-how
- Lack of efficient cooperation among responsible authorities, poor quality of guidance/procedures
- Private sector not accustomed of doing accountancy, keeping records, planning
- Limited access to finance for private co-financing
- IT systems need to be further improved

IPARD III – broader context

- IPA III Regulation – advanced, in Trilogues
- Budget – so far unknown, but signals are good, depends on final agreement on Multi-annual Financial Framework
- Next:
 - **IPA Implementing Regulation**
 - **Programming Framework**
 - **Framework and Sectoral Agreements**

IPARD III – our work

- Programming guidelines drafted
 - Annex I. Detailed description of the measures
 - Annex II. Guidance on Sections 8.1 and 8.2 of the programme - *new*
 - Annex II. Guidance on selection criteria - *new*
 - Annex IV. IPARD III programme template
- Guidelines for *ex ante* evaluations sent
- Two new measures proposed:
 - **Financial instruments and**
 - **Innovation and knowledge transfer**

IPARD II-III measures

- (1) investments in physical assets of agricultural holdings
- (2) support for the setting up of producer groups
- (3) investments in physical assets concerning processing and marketing of agricultural and fishery products
- (4) agri-environment-climate and organic farming measure
- (5) implementation of local development strategies - LEADER approach
- (6) investments in rural public infrastructure
- (7) farm diversification and business development
- (8) improvement of training
- (9) technical assistance
- (10) advisory services
- (11) establishment and protection of forests

IPARD III - other changes

- Modified objectives – but essence remains the same
- Aid intensities modified taking into account our experiences and new policy priorities
- Choice introduced for the country to decide between:
 1. having a definitive list of selection criteria included in the Programme, or
 2. including only a list general principles for the selection criteria in the programme, leaving setting of the selection criteria allocation of points for each of the calls to the Managing Authority, after having consulted DG AGRI and the Monitoring Committee



Economic and Investment Plan for the WB

- Aims to spur the long-term recovery, backed by a green and digital transition, leading to sustained economic growth, and support reforms required to move forward on the EU path, including bringing the Western Balkans closer to the EU Single Market
- Sets out a substantial investment package for the region - nine investment flagships
- Agriculture – investing in the environment + private sector

Green Agenda

- Part of the Economic and Investment Plan
- Sustainable food systems and rural areas – one of five pillars – examples of actions:
 - Support alignment of the agri-food and primary production sectors with EU standards for food safety, plant and animal health and welfare and environment, and addressing effluent, manure and waste management.
 - Strengthen the official sanitary controls along the entire food chain and improve the traceability and labelling of food products to ensure food safety, improve consumer information and promote sustainable food

Vision for rural areas

A Long-Term Vision for Rural Areas

- Part of the von der Leyen Commission programme
- **Reply to the need to address the specific challenges and opportunities of Rural areas in Europe**
- Sets out a vision for the future of rural areas by 2040
- Aims at creating a debate on the future of rural areas and the role they have to play in our society
- Commission Communication in June 2021
- Stakeholder events and a final conference in March 2021
- Public consultation until 30.11.2020:
<https://ec.europa.eu/info/law/better-regulation/have-your-say/initiatives/12525-Long-term-vision-for-rural-areas>

#RuralVisionEU