



Ministry of
Agriculture, Forestry
and Water Management



Agricultural Policy Forum 2023

Towards Climate Adaptation Partnership in Southeast Europe

Working Group 2: Agricultural Policy Developments

Dr. Ana Kotevska

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Main Purpose of the WG

- To **continue** the process of **monitoring the agricultural policy development** in the Western Balkan and to **update** the agricultural policy **data** for the latest available years for the WB (**2022**).
- To present and discuss the **policy analysis** for the latest available years for WB.
- To identify the major recent **changes** introduced to the **national agricultural policies** in the WB and their implications for the EU accession process.
- To provide **information** relevant for the implementation of the **Green Agenda for the WB**.
- To provide **evidence – based recommendations** to steer WB policies towards stimulating sustainable Ag and RD and smoother EU approximation.



Key Assets/Opportunities

- Although at different level, there is an **increasing budgetary transfers** to agriculture in all WB countries
- Contribution of Agriculture in the Green Agenda for the WB
 - Small farmers and **extensive production** in WB
 - The hypothesis of lower **utilization of fertilizers and pesticides** to be examined and confirmed.
 - **Organic production** is increasing, still at quite a low level.
- Diversification of measures under **IPARD III programme**





Key Barriers

- Recent crises demonstrated the **vulnerability** of the sector and the **importance of food security**
- Slow progress towards EU approximation
- **Incomplete policy cycle**
 - Declarative strategic objectives, not necessarily followed in the process of implementation
 - Weak monitoring and evaluation system
- **Direct Payments** - dominant form of support in most of the countries
- Low budget for **Agri-Environment-Climate Support**





Ways Forward

- Importance of **food security** improvement
- Need for **faster adjustment** of SEE agricultural and rural development policies and management systems to the EU policy framework.
- **Need for restructuring and harmonization of the allocation of funds**, between the two broad pillars of direct payments and rural development, **to enhance the sector's adaptive capacity for sustainability.**
- Importance of the **policy cycle** - precise implementation of the **declared** policy objectives, **regularly** followed by monitoring and evaluation of their performance and long-term **impact.**
- Reconsideration and improvement of **risk management tools** to care for the implications of climate change.

