



Republic of North Macedonia
Ministry of agriculture,
forestry and water economy



9th – 10th
OCTOBER

2019

Agricultural Policy Forum

Ohrid, North Macedonia

Contribution of Diversification of Economic Activities to Sustainable Rural Development in SEE

MAIN TOPICS

- IPARD II in the Western Balkans
- Diversification of economic activities in rural areas in SEE through rural tourism
- Harmonization of wine regulations in the Western Balkans
- Quality policy and schemes of geographical indications and traditional specialties in SEE
- Research capacities - factor of sustainable development in rural areas
- Community-led local development



HIGHLIGHTS/RECOMMENDATIONS

- Improved management systems and human capacity to achieve better absorption of IPARD
- Adequate rural development policies aligned with the EU CAP
- Efficient control systems providing flexibility and derogations on the food safety requirements
- Inter-sectorial cooperation, public-private partnerships and coordination among stakeholders
- Involvement of rural communities and farmers into policy making
- Regional cooperation and joint promotion and valorisation of Balkan vine varieties
- Harmonized regulatory framework on wine
- Higher position of research amongst governmental priorities with significantly increased budgets
- Dialogue platform on research in the Western Balkans - SWG should progress this concept.

PARTICIPANTS

- 150 attendees
- 16 countries/territories from SEE and beyond
- Public institutions, universities and research institutes, private sector, international organizations, farmers, civil society organizations, chambers

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