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

2025 AGRICULTURAL POLICY FORUM
2nd – 5th June Ohrid, North Macedonia

20 Years
South Eastern Europe SWG RRD
Regional Rural Development Standing Working Group

Navigating EU Integration and impact of Climate Change on Agriculture: Ensuring the future of our farmers and food in South East Europe

Working group 4: Towards the new Agricultural Policy Dialogue

A short presentation of the preliminary results of the APD - SOUTHEAST EUROPE Evaluation (PPR) in its current phase

Ohrid, North Macedonia
03 - 05 June, 2025

Regional Climate Partnership
GERMANY – WESTERN BALKANS

german cooperation
DEUTSCHE ZUSAMMENARBEIT

Implemented by:
giz Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH

Agricultural Policy Dialogue

GFA CONSULTING GROUP
General Agent BMEL
Berlin Office

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Main Purpose of the WG

South Eastern Europe SWG RRD Regional Rural Development Standing Working Group
20 Years

- To present to SWG assembly members the main findings of the preliminary results of the APD - SOUTHEAST EUROPE Evaluation (PPR) of its first phase (2021-2025)
- To analyse and assess the project's planning and implementation
- To present the resulting recommendations and condense observations for a proposed 2nd phase
- To discuss the evaluation in the context of the current state of the project
- To review the progress made in the Skopje declaration and to inform on developments with regards to the Berlin process and the next UK presidency

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Key Assets/Opportunities

Key assets constitute the positive evaluation of the APD and the work produced by SWG, the German partners and other involved stakeholders in:

- reaching the two key objectives of "strengthening the policy framework for agriculture, forestry and rural development in the SEE countries regarding the implementation of the EU Green Agenda in the Western Balkans and the alignment with the CAP 2023-2027"

- producing the expected outputs in the technical dialogue on wine, organic agriculture, AKIS, close-to-nature forest management and in the regional cooperation on issues like agricultural policy monitoring, soil, women and youth and in building a partnership for climate adaptation measures in agriculture aligned among SEE countries with the EU's Strategy on Adaptation to Climate Change and the European Green Deal.

- showing high performance in the analysis and assessment of the project's planning and implementation and in particular in its results for relevance, coherence, effectiveness, efficiency, impacts produced and the sustainability of the benefits

- creating a particular cooperation culture, additional social capital and peer learning in the WGs

- achieving, finally, the evaluator's recommendation for the continuation of the project in a 2nd phase of 3 + 2 years – until 2030

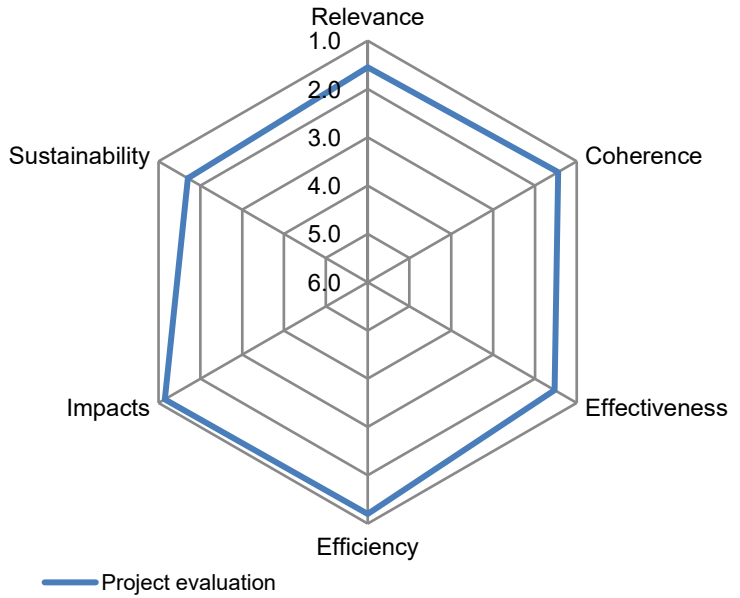
Opportunities arising from this involve:

- the continuation and expansion of the APD, stability conditions and the facilitation of strategic planning and capacity building

- the broadening and deepening of networking and cooperation partnerships

Graphic presentation of evaluation results

Criteria	Project Evaluation
Relevance	1,6
Coherence	1,4
Effectiveness	1,5
Efficiency	1,2
Impacts	1,2
Sustainability	1,7
Overall grade (total)	**1,4**



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Key Barriers/weaknesses

- Constraints in financial and human resources affecting the valorization and capitalization of the work produced
- Insecurity and instability affecting negatively long term strategic planning
- Weak linkages to practical implementation
- Unexploited opportunities with regards to public relations, international and EU institutions and donors
- Uneven political appreciation and treatment of APD's importance
- Growing frustration with regards to the prospects of EU integration

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Ways Forward

- Make a leap forward through strategic planning, prioritization of recommendations, reorganizational adjustments and an extension of collaboration and networking
- Improve visibility through new methods for the dissemination of outcomes, new partnerships and collaborations (private sector included), new initiatives
- Broaden internal and external contextualization of actions, exchange and the critical appraisal
- Investigate and adopt new methods of analysis and planning as recommended
- Exploit the outcome of the evaluation in persuading the political system to consciously engage and support the collaboration and the implementation of the work produced by APD partners for the benefit of regional rural economy, environment and society

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