



## Cross-border region "Drina - Tara"

"Fostering regional cooperation and balanced territorial development of Western Balkan countries in the process towards EU integration"

Minutes from the 13<sup>th</sup> Stakeholders Group Meeting for "Drina-Tara" cross-border region



The project is financed by:



Minutes from the 13<sup>th</sup> Stakeholders Group Meeting for the  
Cross-border region "Drina-Tara"  
28 September 2016  
Uzice, Serbia

**I. List of participants**

The Thirteen Stakeholders' Group Meeting for "Drina-Tara" cross-border region was attended by 25 participants, Deputy Mayor of the City of Uzice, Member of the City Council, interested stakeholders from "Drina-Tara" region, local media and SWG project team.

Annex1: List of participants

Annex 2: Presentation

**II. Programme**

**September 28<sup>th</sup> , 2016 (Wednesday)**

**City Development Centre, Uzice, Serbia**

09:30 - 10:00	Arrival of the participants and welcome gathering
10:00 – 10:10	Welcome speech <i>Representative from the City of Uzice</i> <i>Aleksandar Damnjanović, Regional Manager</i>
10:10 – 10:15	<i>Introduction to the programme</i> <i>Danica Nešević, Coordinator</i>
10:15 – 10:45	Implemented and planned activities within the EU Project “Fostering regional cooperation and balanced territorial development of Western Balkan countries in the process towards EU integration” <i>Aleksandar Damnjanović, Regionalni Menadžer</i> <i>Danica Nešević, Koordinator</i>
10:45 – 11:20	Implemented activities within the Project “Solid Waste Management in cross-border rural and coastal areas of South Eastern European region” <i>Aleksandar Damnjanović, Regional Manager</i> <i>Danica Nešević, Coordinator</i>
11:20 – 11:50	Coffee brake

11:50 – 12:30	Update on ABD Grant scheme within the Project “Rural development through integrated forest and water resources management (LEIWW)” <i>Aleksandar Damnjanović, Regional Manager</i>
12:30 – 13:00	Conclusions and future activities
13:00 – 14:00	Lunch brake
14:00	Departure

### **Minutes from the meeting:**

The 13th SHG meeting aimed at discussion about general achievements related to the implementation of ABDA 4 in the Western Balkan countries, ongoing activities and future perspective, as well as implementation of two GIZ programmes.

The main objectives of the Thirteen Stakeholders' Group Meeting held on 28<sup>th</sup> September in City Development Centre in Uzice, Serbia was to present ongoing and realized activities within EU project: “Fostering regional cooperation and balanced territorial development of Western Balkan countries in the process towards EU integration”, realized activities within GIZ project “Solid Waste Management in cross-border rural and coastal areas of SEE region” and update on the evaluation process of ABD Grant project proposals within GIZ project of Rural development via water and forest management in SEE. As well at the Meeting was announced new Agricultural policy forum (APF 2016) to be held in a period from 11-12<sup>th</sup> October in Tirana.

### **Topics during the meeting:**

- Update on the ABDA 4 program
- Realized activities within the Solid Waste management in SEE project
- Update on the ABD Grant Scheme (GIZ LEIWW programme)
- APF 2016 in Tirana

### **Official opening of the event**

The meeting was opened and welcomed by Mr. Nemaja Nestic, Deputy Mayor of the City of Uzice. He stated that individually we are as a touristic area small and the stressed the importance of networking. As well he stated that SWG programme is a good base and model for cross border cooperation where boundaries doesn't exists. Meeting was as well attended by Dunja Djenic, Member of the City Council for environmental protection and energy efficiency. The participants were welcomed by Mr. Aleksandar Damnjanovic, SWG Regional Manager and Danica Nesevic, Regional Coordinator who were the moderators of the meeting.

## 1. Implemented and planned activities within the framework of the EU project: “Fostering regional cooperation and balanced territorial development of Western Balkan countries in the process towards EU integration”

In the ongoing forth phase of implementation of Area Based Development Approach (ABDA) within people to people activities, so far 7 regional events were supported:

- “Drina fish Pot” in Visegrad;
- “Days of Pljevlja Cheese” in Pljevlja;
- Presentation of traditional products from cross-border regions “Drina-Tara” and “Drina-Sava” at the Belgrade Tourism Fair 2016 – through the “Mountain breakfast” concept.
- May Day gatherings in the village Zaton;
- Environmental actions in a scope of the International Drina Regatta Bajina Basta, Let's raise environmental awareness;
- 9<sup>th</sup> International Lim Biathlon Priboj-Rudo (Setihovo);
- 4<sup>th</sup> Youth Night Falcon Games “Dobrun 2016”;

Till the end of the project 2 more traditional events will be supported:

- Fair of Traditional dry- cured ham – prosciutto “Prsutijada”;
- Fair of traditional products in Rudo.

Within the LEIWWWE programme additionally were supported several events:

- Promotion of rural tourism potentials of Visegrad municipality trough support in organization of Jahorina Ultra Trail;
- Nature, children, imagination-Promotion of Proscenje mountain;
- Second regional children Mountaineers camp "Tara 2016";
- 8<sup>th</sup> International Children’s folklore dance festival "Licider heart”;

Regarding implementation of people to people actions, recommendations for ensuring visibility of support under EU action were presented:

- Beneficiaries should develop communication and visibility plan, even before the operational activities begin;
- Beneficiaries should ensure proper visibility of the respected cross-border region, as well as the project that the event is supported by.
- The branding of SWG must be ensured and approved by SWG;
- Beneficiaries should respect the reporting documents.
- To prepare press clipping of the event with a list of sources, photos and/or videos of the event.

For better organization of the event it was suggested to engage lager number of volunteers through existing centres in respective countries. Municipality of Rudo is in the process of establishing voluntary service. Participants suggested some new interested events to be supported in the future. They concluded that joint promotion of municipalities from the cross

border region is very important. As well they suggested that SWG should financially support promotion at the regional level (e.g at regional media).

Annex 3: Recommendation for ensuring visibility of support under EU action

## 2. Solid Waste management in SEE - project activities

Realized activities within the project “Solid Waste Management in cross-border rural and coastal areas of South Eastern Europe” which is in the implementation phase by “Network of Associations of Local Authorities in SEE” (NALAS) and the “Regional Rural Development Standing Working Group in SEE” (SWG) founded under the GIZ Open Regional Fund for South East Europe – Modernization of Municipal Services (ORF MMS) and the Government of Switzerland were presented. The proposed intervention focuses on three pilot areas: "Sharra mountain" (Macedonia, Albania and Kosovo\*), “Drina-Tara” (Serbia-Bosnia and Herzegovina-Montenegro), “Drina-Sava” (Serbia-Bosnia & Herzegovina and Croatia) and third costal area between Albania, Montenegro, Bosnia and Herzegovina and Croatia.

The project aims to improve the conceptual and organizational framework conditions for Integrated Solid Waste Management (ISWM) in cross-border rural and coastal areas in SEE with the specific goal to assess and develop schemes (models) for integrated management of solid waste that are environmentally effective and economically affordable in order to reduce adverse environmental and economic impacts of solid waste miss-management and support the ecological and socio-economic development of the cross-border rural and coastal areas in the SEE countries. The project supported the local authorities and stakeholders in establishing a dialogue platform for assessing and developing effective management schemes for integrated solid waste management in the regional cross-border rural and coastal areas.

### Realized activities:

- Kick off meeting, Albania, August 2015;
- First Dialog Platform ((input to the model and draft ISWM models for the pilot regions), Zlatibor December 2015;
- Assessment of regional cross border impact of Solid Waste Management in rural areas (Report);
- Second Dialog Platform session (input to the model and draft ISWM models for the pilot regions), Banja Koviljaca, March 2016.
- Joint Workshop on measures and policy recommendations, Neum, April 2016;
- ISWM model in the cross-border rural and coastal areas;
- Ministerial meeting in Visegrad, May 2016;
- Final project conference, Struga, June 2016.

The SWG team in cooperation with local stakeholders, local population, NGO's and local authorities in a scope of the “Earth Day” in a period from 20-22th April performed cleaning actions in different locations in the Municipalities of Uzice, Cajetina, Bajina Basta, Priboj, Prijepolje, Ljubovija in Serbia, Municipalities of Visegrad, Rudo, Gorazde, Bratunac, Milici in B&H and Municipality of Bijelo Polje in Montenegro. In Municipality of Pljevlja pilot actions were conducted on May 27th 2016 in a scope of Let's do Montenegro. Around 700 volunteers took an active part in these pilot actions during which was collected 9 000 kg mainly dry mixed waste from 29

locations from 13 municipalities. During the actions were organized 2 educational and 2 creative workshops. Communal equipment was purchased for 5 municipalities. Promotional movie was developed including all three regions participating in the project.

Participants agreed that environmental protection is very important part of our lives. It was suggested to establish regional voluntary service at schools with emphasize on importance of raising environmental awareness among young people.

Annex 4: Pilot actions photo documentary

### **3. ABD Grant Scheme within the project: “Rural development through integrated forest and water resources management (LEIWW)”**

Within the LEIWW programme “Rural development by integrated forest and water resource management in South-East-Europe” in the period from 27.05-6.07.2016 was published Call for Grant beneficiaries. LEIWW is a three years period programme (2015-2017) which targets 6 countries in SEE. It aims to build capacities for rural development, sustainable forest and water resource management.

During the Meeting were presented in brief objectives of the Grant Call, type and dynamic of financing, financial framework, system of scoring, overview of necessary documents to be submitted. Process of evaluation of project proposals within the Grants scheme in the cross border region “Drina-Tara” was conducted in the following order:

- 19 applications submitted + 2 incorrect
- Analysis I - overview of technical documentation (07-12 July)
- Supplement documents after Analysis I (09- 17 August)
- Analysis II – Evaluation Commission Meeting (25-26<sup>th</sup> August)
- 4 project proposals rejected
- Evaluation of Business Strategy and environmental criteria
- Supplement documents after Analysis II (15-23<sup>rd</sup> September)

For the potential Grant beneficiaries where submission of supplementary documents after Analysis II was not required was organized On-spot control. Official results from the Grant scheme are expected at the beginning of October. Some of the participants, potential Grant beneficiaries pointed out that support from consultants provided during project proposal development with Business Strategy was very helpful.

Participants agreed that Municipalities should plan budget lines for co-financing of different projects.

### **4. Agricultural Policy Forum (APF 2016) in Tirana, Albania**

SWG in a cooperation with Ministry of Agriculture, Rural Development and Water Management of the Republic of Albania will organized 10<sup>th</sup> in row Agricultural Policy Forum 2016 titled Enabling Environment for Developing the Agricultural Sector in the South East Europe in a period from 12-



13<sup>th</sup> October. APF is supported within the GIZ LEIWWE programme “Rural development by integrated forest and water resource management in South-East-Europe”.

Main topics of the Meeting:

- EU market and trade policy - impact on the SEE countries
- Policy orientation in the SEE countries in their approximation toward the CAP
- IPARD and rural development policy evaluation
- Characterization and mapping of areas with natural constraints (ANC) in the SEE countries, compatible with the EU methodology and standards

Members of Stakeholders’ group should nominate one representative from Serbia, B&H and Montenegro to participate at the forthcoming APF 2016.

#### **Conclusions from the meeting:**

- Within the ABDA 4, from total 15 applications 10 events were selected for support (7 implemented); Within the LEIWWE programme, 4 events were additional supported;
- It is recommended to ensure visibility of received support from the donor (to respect reporting procedure);
- In the pilot environmental actions within the framework of "Earth Day" in the cross border region of “Drina-Tara” participated 700 volunteers on 29 locations in 13 municipalities; 90 000 kg of mixed solid waste was collected; purchased communal equipment in 5 municipalities; Developed promotional movie:  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hvAUlSkXze8>
- Official results from the ABDA Grant scheme are expected at the beginning of October;
- Till Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> October to delegated one representative of stakeholders from Serbia, B&H and Montenegro to participate at the forthcoming Agricultural policy forum in Tirana.

Prepared by:

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