

Cross-border region "Drina - Sava"

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

Minutes from the 14th Stakeholders' Group Meeting for "Drina-Sava" cross-border region



The project is financed by:

Šabac, Serbia

30. September 2016,

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I. List of participants

The fourteenth Stakeholders' Group Meeting for "Drina-Sava" cross-border region was attended by 30 participants, representatives of the stakeholder group of the cross-border region "Drina-Sava" and SWG project team.

Annex 1: List of participants

II. Agenda

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|---------------|---|
| 10:00 – 10:10 | Welcome speech

<i>Bojana Mladenović, Head of Social Services and Economy Department City of Šabac</i>

<i>Aleksandar Damnjanović, Regional Manager</i> |
| 10:10 – 10:15 | Introduction to the programme

<i>Mirela Čaušević, 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, Regional Manager</i>

<i>Mirela Čaušević, Coordinator</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>Mirela Čaušević, Coordinator</i> |
| 11:20 – 11:50 | Coffee break |
| 11:50 – 12:30 | Nomination of Chairperson and Chairman/s of Stakeholder group according to the Operational protocol

<i>Aleksandar Damnjanović, Regional Manager</i> |

12:30 – 13:00 **Update on ABD Grant scheme within the Project “Rural development through integrated forest and water resources management (LEIWW)”**

Aleksandar Damnjanović, Regional Manager

13:00 – 13:30 **Conclusions and future activities**

III. Minutes of the meeting

The fourteenth meeting of the stakeholder group for the cross-border region “Drina-Sava” was organized on the 30th September in the CSU – Centre for Professional Development Šabac in Šabac and the objective was discussion about general achievements related to the implementation of ABDA in the Western Balkan countries, on going activities and future perspective, implemented activities under the project: “Solid Waste Management in cross-border rural and coastal areas of SEE region” update on ABD Grant Scheme under the project: “Rural development through integrated forest and water resources management (LEIWW)” and nomination of Chairperson and Chairman/s of the Stakeholder group.

Topics during 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”
2. Implemented activities within the Project “Solid Waste Management in cross-border rural and coastal areas of South Eastern European region”
3. Nomination of Chairperson and Chairman/s of Stakeholder group according to the Operational protocol
4. Update on ABD Grant Scheme within the project: “Rural development through integrated forest and water resources management (LEIWW)”
5. Conclusions and future activities

Appendix 2: Presentation used during the meeting

Official opening of the meeting

The meeting was opened and the participants were welcomed by Ms. Bojana Mladenović, Head of Social Services and Economy Department City of Šabac and by Mr. Aleksandar Damnjanović, SWG Regional Manager how gave a short review on the activities that were implemented by the “Drina-Sava” stakeholder group.

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”***



Mirela Čaušević, regional coordinator referred on 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 that respect, presented were implemented manifestation supported by SWG under people to people actions:

- "II. Circle of friendship – International cycling marathon through Drina-Sava & Drina-Tara region" organized by NGO Cycle club "Sv.Nikolaj" Brcko,
- "Divan je kiceni Srijem" organized by Tourism organization of Municipality Nijemci,
- "Roses of Lipolist" organized by Tourism organization of Town Sabac,
- "Kosidba na Rajcu" organized by Tourism organization of Ljig,
- "Hajducko vece" organized by Tourism organization of municipality Bogatic,
- "43rd International fair of agriculture and food processing industry – Plum Fair Gradacac" organized by company Gradacacki sajam doo and
- "5th International festival of plum fruit brandy and honey" organized by Agency for small and medium enterprises of Municipality Ugljevik.

In the upcoming period SWG will also provide support for organization of participation of stakeholders on the Brcko Trade Fair and Eco camp Trsic.

Regarding implementation of people to people actions at the meeting were presented EU recommendations for ensuring visibility of support received by the SWG:

- 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.

Annex 3: Recommendations for ensuring visibility of SWG support under EU action

2. Information on pilot activities within the project: "Solid Waste Management in cross-border rural and coastal areas of SEE region"

The project "Solid Waste Management in cross-border rural and coastal areas of South Eastern Europe" which was implementation 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.

The project goal was 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.

Within the cross border region “Drina-Sava” a pilot project was implemented named “The selection of waste suitable for recycling in educational institutions” in Brčko, Ugljevik and Loparama (Bosnia i Hercegovina) and Loznica and Bogatić (Serbia). The pilot project enabled the equipping of 47 schools with buckets for sorting waste and with benches and tables. Additionally to that 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 16-19th May performed cleaning actions in different locations in Brcko, Ugljevik, Lopare (Bosnia and Hercegovina), Nijemci (Croatia) and Lopare and Bogatic (Serbia).

Objectives of the project were:

- Established selection of waste suitable for recycling at source in primary and secondary schools through the purchase of containers for sorting waste,
- Establishment of cooperation between SWG, public utilities, educational institutions, NGO and networking between educational institution of the cross border region „Drina-Sava“,
- Education and motivation of students/local population for implementation of ecology activities.

3. Nomination of Chairperson and Chairman/s of Stakeholder group according to the Operational protocol

Members of the stakeholder group for the cross-border region „Drina-Sava“ agree that during the next stakeholder group meeting the Chairperson and Chairman/s of the Stakeholder group according to the Operational protocol will be selected.

4. Update 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 - 06.07.2016 was published Call for



Grant beneficiaries. LEIWWE 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 presented were 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-Sava” was conducted in the following order:

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

For the potential Grant beneficiaries where submission of supplementary documents after Analysis II was not required On-spot control was organized. Official results from the Grant scheme are expected at the beginning of October.

Members of the stakeholder group stated that trainings for preparation of business plan should be organized.

5. 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 10th in row Agricultural Policy Forum 2016 titled Enabling Environment for Developing the Agricultural Sector in the South East Europe in a period from 12-13th October. APF is supported within the GIZ LEIWWE programme “Rural development by integrated forest and water resource management in South-East-Europe”.

Main topics on the Forum:

- 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 Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia and Serbia to participate at the forthcoming APF 2016.

Conclusions from the meeting:



- Within the ABDA 4, from total 19 applications 10 events were selected for support (7 implemented),
- It is recommended to ensure visibility of received support from the donor (to respect reporting procedure),
- Chairperson and Chairman/s of the Stakeholder group will be elected during next stakeholder group meeting,
- Official results from the ABDA Grant scheme are expected in October;
- Members of the stakeholder group stated that trainings for preparation of business plan should be organized,
- The stakeholder group will delegated one representative of stakeholder from Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia and Serbia for participation at the Agri Policy Forum.

Prepared by:

Mirela Čaušević, Coordinator for the "Drina-Sava" cross border regi

