



# **Project Evaluation and Appraisal / Planning Mission**

**„Rural Development through Integrated Forest and  
Water Resources Management in SEE - LEIWW“**

## **Presentation at SWG Assembly Meeting**

**Ljubljana, 10.04.2017**



## Approach for the Evaluation and Appraisal Mission

- Project Evaluation (PEV) of the LEIWW-project
- Planning of a follow-up measure (project)
- Mission Team: Ms Anette von Lossau (GIZ), Mr Hans Helmrich (independent expert,), Mr Stefan Elsing (independent expert)
- Preparation - Review of documents; Skype-conferences
- Mission to the 6 countries: 29.03. – 12.04.2017
- Field visits to all 6 countries (on 3 different routes): Discussions and interviews with LEIWW-team, SWG-Secretariat and other GIZ-supported projects, KfW, GIZ-Country Directors; Ministries of Agriculture, other stakeholders (NGOs, Research, Consultants, others) and beneficiaries at regional, national and local levels
- Elaboration of joint conclusions with the GIZ-team and the SWG Secretariat
- Presentation of findings and recommendations to the SWG-Assembly



## General Remark

- The LEIWW-project is highly integrated in SWG
- The project has the challenge to work in 6 countries on three levels with very limited resources – in the framework of the EU-integration process
- Very good preparation and support to the PEV mission (documents, meetings, organisation, company)
- – **Thanks a lot to the whole team!**



## OECD-DAC Criteria

- **Relevance** - project addresses a core development problem?  
Alignment with relevant strategies?
- **Effectiveness** - achievement of the objective in accordance with indicators, unintended negative and positive results
- **Impact** - support to long-term development objectives? Helps to achieve broad impact? Scaling-up potentials?
- **Efficiency** - use of project resources to achieve results? Returns on investment?
- **Sustainability** - Anticipation how project can be sustainable?  
Will positive results in the partner / stakeholder system stay?



## Assessment of relevance

- Regional cooperation is an important instrument in the context of peace and conflict.
- The LEIWW-project is relevant for the Berlin process, which started in 2014 and provides new opportunity for the EU integration of the SEE countries.
- There is a clear relevance for the SDGs 2 and 15
- Relevance for the BMZ strategies: Natural Resources Management, Biodiversity Conservation.



## Assessment of effectiveness

- The indicators are likely to be fulfilled during LEIWW lifetime
- But the Indicators do not sufficiently measure the achievement of the project objective.
- The project objective is not achievable in its present general and overly ambitious formulation.
- The key concepts of the project objective: NRM, rural economic development are not significantly addressed by the contributions of LEIWW in the ABD intervention area
- Achievements beyond the objective include building up informal relationships as an important condition for formal arrangements



## **Assessment of overarching development results (impact)**

LEIWW contribution to ABD through local grants: too early in the process to identify impact

Impact expected at national level: policy analysis and policy formulation.

The SWG with its outreach is potentially an up-scaling mechanism of the project



## Assessment of efficiency

- The project is 100 % aligned with the partner system.
- LEIWW became efficient by using existing structures:
  - ABD, PMU, local stakeholder groups
  - Assembly sessions for steering
  - The APF
  - The REAWGs as a modality
- Project grant schemes for ADB: high transparency of procedures and decisions. But imply high transaction costs and little expected effects.
- The cooperation with other German TC projects is not well developed





## Assessment of sustainability

- The question of sustainability of positive results has limited importance for regional TC projects.
- Some positive results of the LEIWW are likely to continue with the continuation of the work under the SWG.
  - E.g. further development of the SEE 2020 by incorporation of the project strategy development
- Sustainability of positive results of local grant schemes for rural development very much in question



# Recommendations for a Follow up Project



## Framework for project design

- BMZ for SEE:
  - from NRM focus to a rural economic development focus
  - build on Strategies: Fokus Europa 2016, Private Sector Development 2013
- BMZ for the follow up project:
  - 2,5 Mio €, 3 years project duration
  - SWG: is the proposed political partner
  - Tangible indicators to be applied
- SWG Secretariat:
  - ABD approach to stay as an essential instrument
  - Project output: develop capacities of stakeholders of ABD areas



## Conclusions for the design of a follow up project:

The achievement of significant results in rural economic development: using an ABD approach (targeting value chains in agriculture and tourism) by developing capacities of stakeholders in the 6 SEE countries is unlikely.

This leads to 2 options to be developed by the mission for GIZ.

**Option 1:** GIZ takes up rural economic development as the main focus and proposes a project to BMZ, following the demands of the SWG Secretariat, which is classified as a high risk project and has soft indicators.

**Option 2:** GIZ proposes a project to BMZ, which does not take up rural economic development as the main focus, but concentrates on organizational and financial support to the SWG only.



## Option 1

**Project Objective:** Capacities of the 6 SEE countries for the diversification of the rural economy are improved

- **Output 1:** Enhanced capacities of stakeholders for sustainable agricultural value chains and tourism in the SEE countries
- **Output 2:** ABD based exchange and learning between government, civil society, research and private sector for sustainable agriculture value chains and tourism in the 6 SEE countries
- **Output 3:** Regional cooperation between SEE countries and between SEE countries and the EU for the diversification of the rural economy
- **Output 4:** Access to financial means for the diversification of the rural economy



## Option 1

### Instruments:

- International long term expert
- Regional/ national long term experts on: rural development, value chain development, networking, communication, training
- Local subsidy contracts with regional/ national service providers
- National, regional and international short term expertise
- Financial Agreement with SWG for Output D



## Option 2

**Project Objective:** Capacities of the 6 SEE countries for the diversification of the rural economy are improved

- **Output 1:** Regional cooperation between SEE countries and between SEE countries and the EU for the diversification of the rural economy
- **Output 2:** Access to financial means for regional cooperation between SEE countries and between SEE countries and the EU



## Option 2

### Instruments:

- Financial Agreement with the SWG
- National, regional and international short term expertise





**Thank you for your attention**