



# State of play on preparation for National RD Network in Croatia

Training on “Establishment of National Rural Networks” in  
Candidate Countries  
Brussels, 11.November 2010.



**Within the PHARE 2005 project "Institutional Capacity Building and Support for Implementation of SAPARD / IPA-RD Programme in Croatia" was carried out preparatory activities for the establishment of the Network for Rural Development of Republic Croatia:**

- there held workshops and training for the potentially Networks stakeholders (representatives of national and regional organizations / institutions / agencies, whose work can contribute to overall rural development of the Republic of Croatia) during December 2008. - May 2009.**
- on address of the 200 stakeholders representing almost all organizations / institutions / agencies related to rural development, sent a questionnaire / survey on the proposed Network**
- made the proposal of the concept of Network**



**In November 2009. was established The Committee for drafting the Ordinances of Network for Rural Development of Republic Croatia in order to the Network could be formally established.**

**In July 2010. the final version of Ordinance has completed and approved by Minister.**

**In August 2010. the Ordinance published in Official Gazette.**



## **Ordinances of Network for Rural Development**

### **Legal status**

**The NRD in Croatia will be operated under non-profit legal acts, but there will be not special status of Network.**

**Secretariat will be in Ministry, and managed by Ministry staff**

### **Network members**

**Ministry will be opened public notice for applications for membership in Network. Members of the Network may be: governmental institutions, specialized institutions in agriculture and rural development, local and regional government, local and regional development agencies, agricultural holdings, education and scientific institutions from the field agriculture and rural development, associations and chambers of farmers, producers, industry organizations, chambers ... from agriculture and rural development, local action groups, all other individuals and organisations from the field of agriculture and rural development.**



## **Members rights**

- 1. To participate in General Assembly meetings**
- 2. To elect and be elected on the consultative bodies of the Network**
- 3. To participate in the dicussion and the indentification of solutions to issues of common interest**



## **General Assembly**

**General Assembly is the supreme body of the Network and elect representatives for Bord of Directors.**

**Member will be divided in 14 main categories, for election of representatives in the Bord of Directors and for easier/more quality work in Network.**

## **Bord of Directors**

**Bord of Directors will be consist of 21 member, with mandate on 3 years (or till Croatia join EU).**

**President of the Bord will be from Ministry.**

**21 member will represent the main categories of rural actors**



## **Future activities**

- Publication of public notice for membership in Network (first quarter 2011)**
- Provision of technical conditions for the functioning of the Secretariat (office, staff).**
- Constitution of the General Assembly**
- Election of Bord of Directors**
- Drafting Action plan of the Network**



## **Measure 202 „The preparation and implementation of local rural development strategies“ - LEADER measure**

### **Sub-measures:**

- Acquisition of skills, animating the inhabitants of LAG territories**
- Implementation of local development strategies**
- Cooperation projects**





## **Sub-measure 1: „Acquisition of skills, animating the inhabitants of LAG territories”**

**Preparatory work for the implementation of sub-measure 1 (TOR's for the experts who will implement sub-measure)**

**30 % of Technical Assistance is allocated for implementation sub-measure 1**

**Technical Assistance is still not implemented, so sub-measure need to be prolonged.**



## **Sub-measure 2: „ Implementation of local development strategies ”**

**For the implementation of sub-measure 2 in April 2010. the Committee for drafting the Ordinances on the implementation of sub-measure 2 was established.**

**In October 2010. final draft of Ordinance has completed.**



## **Sub-measure 2: „ Implementation of local development strategies ”**

**For the implementation of sub-measure 2 in April 2010. the Committee for drafting the Ordinances on the implementation of sub-measure 2 was established.**

**In October 2010. final draft of Ordinance has completed.**

**In drafting the Ordinances have included representatives of other ministries and non-governmental organizations involved in rural development.**

**In the Ordinances Committee defined all procedures related to the implementation of sub-measure 2**



## **Criteria for LAGs in Croatia:**

- **Legal status – Association based on means of a valid Act on Associations**
- **Geographical continuity of LAG territory**
- **Rural area 5 000 – 150 000 inhabitants**
- **Islands and peninsula Pelješac - could < 5 000 inhabitants**
- **Settlement < 25 000 inhabitants**
- **Settlement could be member of only one LAG**
- **In management structure at least 50% representatives from non-government and business sector**
- **Local government is obligatory member of LAG**
- **Ability to manage with public money**
- **Ensurance of money for planned activities**
- **Created local development strategy**



## **Eligible expenditure are running cost for LAGs:**

- **Goods and services**
- **Salary and transport**
- **Office**
- **Official travel**



## **Selection procedure:**

- **IPARD Agency open tender**
- **Evaluation Committee do pre-selection based on administrative control of submitted applications, quality of local development strategy and quality of local partnership**
- **IPARD Agency check pre-selection process and do approval of selected LAGs**
- **IPARD Agency – contracting, payment, control on the spot**



## **Local partnerships in Croatia – current situation:**

**Within the PHARE 2005 project "Institutional Capacity Building and Support for Implementation of SAPARD / IPA-RD Programme in Croatia" was established three pilot areas for LEADER approach.**

**The results of the PHARE 2005 Project are:**

- made statutes for potential LAG's in the pilot areas**
- made Local Development Strategy for the potential LAG's in the pilot areas**
- defined the legal form of LAG (association)**
- a study tour to Greece (LEADER)**
- held TAIEX / LEADER seminars, Osijek and Split, October 2008.**
- registration potential LAG's in pilot areas in accordance with Croatian legislation (July, August 2009.)**

**There are and other initiatives for establishing LAGs, out of this project and Ministry. According Managing Authority data there is around 20 local partnerships existing in Croatia (October 2010.) – from partnership to final LAG.**



## **Future activities:**

- **Consultations with EC about Ordinance for implementation sub-measure 2**
- **National accreditation of sub – measure 2**
- **Delegation of power**
- **Publication of tender for sub-measure 2 (first quarter of 2011) – for all potencial local partnerships or only for existing local partnerships (depending on star of implementation TA)**





## **Measure 501: „ Technical assistance ”**

**Sub-measure 1: „Acquisition of skills, animating the inhabitants of LAG territories” – 30% from TA**

**Establishment of the Network for Rural Development – 12% from TA**



## **Eligible expenditure for Sub-measure 1 provided through TA**

**• related to raising awareness of the local population to participate in creating local partnerships, acquisition of skills and creation of local development strategies, engagement of experts and also support through the information and promotional campaigns:**

- seminars
- trainings
- workshops
- study tours



## **Eligible expenditure for Network for Rural Development provided through TA**

**• related to the establishment of a national rural network, informational and promotional campaigns for the establishment and supporting operation of the national rural network, and participation in the European Network for Rural Development :**

- seminars
- trainings
- workshops
- study tours



## **Administrative preparations for the implementation TA**

- Finished National accreditation of the Measure 501**
- Signed Cooperation agreement Managing Authority – IPARD Agency**



**THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION!**

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