



**REPUBLIC OF MACEDONIA**  
**IPARD Monitoring Committee**

The Secretariat of the IPARD Monitoring Committee was presented by:  
(the Head of the IPARD Managing Authority, Ms. Margarita Delva (MSC),  
State Advisor for Rural Development and Secretary of the IPARD  
Monitoring Committee, Ms. Vasilka Tamburkova, Senior Associate for  
monitoring of the implementation of IPARD funds and reporting.

**Minutes No. 11**

**Minutes of the eleventh meeting of the IPARD Monitoring  
Committee**

**12 December, 2012/Debate Hall of the Government of the  
Republic of Macedonia**

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Date: 06.06, 2013

Skopje

Draft Minutes of IPARD Monitoring Committee Meeting

## I. LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

**The Chairperson of the IPARD Monitoring Committee, Mr. Zoran Konjanovski**, Deputy Minister of Agriculture, Forestry and Water Economy (MAFWE)

**The Secretariat of the IPARD Monitoring Committee was presented by:**  
The Head of the IPARD Managing Authority, **Ms. Margarita Deleva** (MSc.), State Advisor for Rural Development and Secretary of the IPARD Monitoring Committee, **Ms. Vasilka Tamburkova**, Senior Associate for monitoring of the implementation of IPARD funds and reporting.

### **Presence of members of the IPARD Monitoring Committee and their deputies**

1. **Mrs. Valentina Stojanovic-Tufa**, Chief of Cabinet, Ministry of agriculture, forestry and water economy,
2. **Mr. Abdilgafar Sinani**, Head of the sector Agriculture Department, Ministry of agriculture, forestry and water economy,
3. **Mr. Zivko Brajkoski**, Head of the Sector of wine, Ministry of agriculture, forestry and water economy,
4. **Mrs. Milka Kostrevska**, stand-in for the member **Mr. Jordan Kuzmanoski** Director, National Extension Agency of Republic of Macedonia, (NEA),
5. **Mr. Saso Ristevski**, Secretary, Macedonian Association of Processors
6. **Mr. Andrija Sekuloski**, President, Federation of farmers of the Republic of Macedonia,
7. **Mrs. Natasa Vrteska**, Legal Advisor, Association of the Local self-government Units
8. **Mrs. Zuica Zmejkovska**, stand-in for the member, **Mrs. Evgenija Serafimovska Kirkova**, Secretariat for European Affairs
9. **Mr. Asen Dukovski** stand-in for the member **Mr. Veljo Tantarov** Association of Farmers of Macedonia
10. **Mr. Vasko Ristovski** , stand-in for the member **Mrs. Stojmirka Taseva** , **Mrs. Stojmirka Tasevska** Chamber of Commerce of Macedonia
11. **Mrs. Robertina Brajanoska**, Macedonian Ecological Society,
12. **Mr. Peter Gjorgievski**, President, National rural network.

**13. Mr. Vlado Karovski**, , stand-in for the member Mrs.Jadranka Ivanova, Mrs.Jadranka Ivanova , Ministry of environment and physical planning.

**14. Mr. Ljubisa Nikolovski**, Head of Sector, Coordination and institutional support, Agency for Support of Entrepreneurship of Republic of Macedonia.

**15. Mr.Aleksandar Zarkov** , stand-in for the member **Mr. Ognen Orovcanec**, Union of Chambers of Commerce of the Republic of Macedonia,

**Representatives from the European Commission (EC) in advisory role:**

**1. Mr. Gerard Kiely**, Head of Unit G.4., Directorate-general for Agriculture and Rural Development (DG-Agri)

**2. Mrs. Elitsa Yanakieva**, Desk Officer, Unit G.4, Directorate-general for Agriculture and Rural Development (DG-Agri)

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**Representatives of the IPARD structure:**

**Representatives of National Authorising Officer (NAO) and National Fund (NF):**

**1. Mr. Fatmir Ademi**, National Fund, Ministry of finance,

**Representatives of the IPARD Managing Authority (IPARD MA):**

**1. Mr. Viktor Mladenovski**, Senior Associate, Unit for monitoring of IPARD funds and reporting

**2. Mr.Mladen Kolarik**, Head of Unit for monitoring of IPARD funds and reporting

**3. Mr. Aleksandar Mitrevski**, Senior Associate, Unit for Programming and Evaluation of IPARD funds

**4. Mr. Stojan Gacov**, Advisor, Unit for Programming and Evaluation of IPARD funds,

**5. Mr. Igor Troshanski**, Advisor, Unit for Programming and Evaluation of IPARD funds

**6. Mr.Igor Agoski**, Head of Unit for Programming and Evaluation of IPARD funds

**7. Mr. Zlatko Kolevski**, Associate, Unit for Technical assistance.

8. Mr. Oliver Stefanovski, Junior associate, Unit for Technical assistance.

9. Mr. Angel Karapetrov, Junior associate, Unit for Technical assistance

**Representatives of the Agency for Financial Support of Agriculture and Rural Development (IPARD Agency):**

1. Mr. Toni Dimovski, Director of IPARD Agency
2. Mr. Pance Arsov, IPARD Agency,
3. Mrs. Maja Brajovik, IPARD Agency
4. Mr. Slobodan Dimitrovski, IPARD Agency

*The Attendance Checklist of the members on the IPARD MC meetings is presented as **Appendix 1** to this document.*

*The Attendance List of Observers is presented in **Appendix 2** to this document.*

***Results: The Chairperson and 15 members or their representatives with voting right (out of total of 23 members with voting rights) were present at the meeting. Therefore, the quorum was reached and decisions could be taken.***

## **II. AGENDA**

*The proposed Agenda for this meeting is presented in **Appendix 3** to this Minute.*

## **III. OUTCOMES FROM THE MEETING OF THE IPARD MONITORING COMMITTEE 1. In relation to item 1 of the Agenda: “Opening of the meeting”**

*The Chairperson of the IPARD Monitoring Committee opened the meeting by welcoming the attendees and the representatives of the European Commission (EC).*

## **2. In relation to item 1 of the Agenda: “Approval of the draft Agenda for the 11<sup>th</sup> IPARD Monitoring Committee meeting”**



*The Chairperson elaborated on the draft-Agenda and initiated a discussion on the proposed items asking for comments.*

*Having no further comments, the Chairperson adopted the following decision:*

***Decision No. 1.:***

*The IPARD Monitoring Committee approved the draft Agenda on the (11<sup>th</sup>) eleventh (winter) meeting of the IPARD Monitoring Committee.*

*The adopted Agenda is presented in **Annex 1.***

***3. In relation to item 2 of the Agenda: “Adoption of the Minutes of the previous (10<sup>th</sup>) IPARD Monitoring Committee meeting (held on 13<sup>th</sup> of July, 2012)”***

The Chairperson informed the members that the draft-Minutes from the 10<sup>th</sup> meeting of the IPARD Monitoring Committee (held on 13<sup>th</sup> of July, 2012) have been delivered to all members of the Committee. The Minutes in English language have been delivered to the representatives of the European Commission. The representatives of the European Commission have made comments which have been included in the Minutes.

Having no further comments, the Chairperson adopted the following decision:

***Decision No. 2:***

*The IPARD Monitoring Committee adopted the draft-Minutes of the (10<sup>th</sup>) tenth (spring) meeting, held on 13<sup>th</sup> of July, including the comments given by the EC, as final.*

*The adopted Minutes is presented in **Annex 2.***

***4. In relation to item 3 of the Agenda: “Information on the implementation of decision/conclusions taken at the previous (10<sup>th</sup>) IPARD Monitoring Committee Meeting (held on 13<sup>th</sup> of July, 2012)”***

Ms. Tamburkova, reported about the progress of the implementation of the Decisions reached at the 10<sup>th</sup> IPARD Monitoring Committee meeting, held

on 13<sup>th</sup> of July, 2012. She informed that the all decisions and conclusions are realized. She informed that all decisions and conclusions were realized and said that conclusion 2 and 6 currently are implementing.

Mr. Kiely said that the conclusion about forming a working group of members of the IPARD Monitoring Committee and the IPARD Agency in order to make a more detailed analysis of the problems of the applicants supports, but asked when analysis will be done.

Mrs. Deleva said that the working group that grew out of discussions at the 10th IPARD Monitoring Committee for analyzing the identified problems and issues raised by members of the Committee related to the system for the implementation of the IPARD program is received in writing form by a group of consultants, which initiate specific problems. To overcome the problems, she said that she would schedule a meeting with NAO and IPARD Agency where the Managing Authority will coordinate meetings. She noted that she expects results of those meetings or suggestions for determining overhead costs and preparing business plan. She noted that all stakeholders need to communicate to the Managing Authority proposals to analyze the problems faced by applicants.

Having no further comments, the Chairperson adopted the following conclusion:

***Conclusion No. 1:***

*The IPARD Monitoring Committee was informed on the progress made in implementation of the decisions/conclusions from the 10<sup>th</sup> IPARD MC held on the 13<sup>th</sup> of July, 2012*

*The full report is presented in Annex 3.*

***5. In relation to item 4 from the Agenda: "Information from the previous (5<sup>th</sup>) meeting of the IPA Monitoring Committee, held on 3<sup>d</sup> of December, 2010"***

Mrs. Kaljoshevska informed about conclusions and the recommendations from the fifth IPA Monitoring Committee held on 17 of July, 2012. She

pointed out that the following conclusions have been adopted on that IPA Monitoring Committee:

General Conclusions and Recommendations:

Reaffirmed its commitment for proper implementation of all individual programmes/projects under the Instrument for Pre-Accession Assistance;

Recognised the good cooperation between the national authorities and the European Commission, in which enhanced dialogue, common goals and actions must prevail;

Recognised the determined role of the authorities to comply with EU rules and regulations;

The Monitoring Committee acknowledged:

- The importance of greater inter-institutional co-operation and proper coordination between the different stakeholders for efficient implementation of IPA funds;

- The political commitment shown and the important efforts made by the Government to address the deficiencies in the IPA management and control systems;

*The Monitoring Committee urged:*

- NAO to reinforce its role ensuring proper management and control over implementation of EU funds under DIS, to avoid similar circumstances to the ones which led the Commission to interrupt payments under three IPA Components in March 2012.

- NIPAC to take greater responsibility in programming and monitoring, ensuring fulfilment of project conditionalities,

*The Monitoring Committee recommends:*

- To the national authorities to increase efforts to reach a higher level of absorption of IPA funds and a more efficient implementation of programmes under DIS; every shortcoming identified in the follow-up Audits needs to be reflected on and addressed in a timely and effective manner by producing relevant Action Plans until the end of the year;
- To the national authorities to reinforce the efficiency and impact of on-going the co-operation, by fostering good cooperation between NAO, PAO and NIPAC and by improving the reporting lines for proper programme and project monitoring;
- To present a staff retention policy plan at the next sectoral Monitoring Committees per Component. To follow and implement the principles of "partnership and ownership" for successful use of EU funds;
- NIPAC to take leadership for all Policy Areas in view of the forthcoming new IPA 2 programming under sector wide approach to begin in the fall.

***6. In relation to item 5 of the Agenda: "State of play of implementation of the IPARD Programme"***

***In relation to item 5.1 of the Agenda: "Examination of the results of the IPARD Programme via monitoring indicators/data "***

Mr. Mladenovski reported the results achieved from the implementation of the IPARD programme and the realization of the Programme's objectives based on collected monitoring data in 2012.

Mr. Kiely said if 30 million from 538 submitted applications were realized there wouldn't be wasting of funds. He noted that the approval rate is dire, especially for the measure 103 and 302. He noted that the precise reasons for refusal should be marked and to work to overcome them. It is necessary to prevent the occurrence of the same reasons for rejection that have occurred in the past three years. The Managing Authority and IPARD Agency have the information on the reasons for rejection and they should make them public, in order to inform potential users.



Mr. Mladenovski explained that the reasons for rejection are not given detailed in the report, but the annual report that is submitted at the summer IPARD Monitoring Committee has analysis of the reasons for rejection. As a conclusion, working group should be created between the Managing Authority and IPARD Agency to analyze the reasons for rejection and to take their resolution.

Mr. Sekulovski presented the analysis made by FFRM in several measures and outlined the views of FFRM members about their problems facing the implementation of IPARD measures. He noted that the part related to financing the funds of ACDF, applicants can not reach these funds and they are obliged with high interest rates. He also informed that most of the contracts that were approved were later canceled during the control. Mr. Sekuloski asked if FFRM could receive the latest modification of the Programme in written form, so that FFRM could inform its members and determine if their requests have been met.

Mr Ristevski said that the percentage of approved applications from the beginning of the IPARD program until now is considerably smaller.

Mr Dimovski said that the percentage of rejection is high and that about all these reasons the IPARD Agency informed continuously and that they have been the subject of discussion on the IPARD Monitoring Committees meetings. The Agency is working on improvement of the situation in terms of respect of the procedures in the Agency. Also the many obstacles in the implementation and procedures have been resolved and beneficiaries, including FFRM and consultants are learning the improvements. He noted the problems encountered in the implementation especially regarding the detected market conditions, offers by the suppliers, consultancy etc.. He pointed out the main prerequisite for usage of IPARD funds – sound financial construction of the project. According to the Sectoral Agreement and the signed contract with the IPARD Agency, the contracts can be terminated or in worst scenario funds can be returned by the applicant, if irregularities are detected and proved. Through a system of controls and tools that are developed, IPARD Agency detects irregular conditions and will always respond in a way that should be in function on protection of interests of the EU budget but also the budget of the Republic of Macedonia. He noted that the IPARD Agency is not remaining only on specific

conditions or solutions, it continues with further analysis and efforts to improve the conditions of implementation so they could be better achieved by the applicants.

Mr Dimovski said that according to the calendar of public calls, that IPARD Agency publishes each year, the next call is planned for December. Since the entry into force of the amendments of the IPARD Program, the Agency is automatically entering into procedure of adaptation of its working procedures, so the planned public call could be missed. The IPARD Agency is making efforts to finalize the adaptation of its procedures as soon as possible and submit the package to DG-Agri for approval. He informed that the IPARD Agency planned to release the final public call with the modified IPARD Program by the end of the first semester of 2013.

The Chairperson proposed creation of working group between Managing Authority and IPARD Agency in January, which should completely analyze the problems of rejection and propose solutions. The results of its work should be sent to the EC.

Mr. Kiely said that it is necessary to shorten the deadlines because with this *dynamic work the next call will be in June, July, putting them in danger of losing funds from 2010.*

In the absence of objections, the Chairperson approved the following:

**Conclusion No.2:**

The IPARD Monitoring Committee was informed about the examination of the results of the IPARD Programme via monitoring indicators/data.

*The Annual Monitoring Report on IPARD Programme 2007-2013 is presented in Annex 4.*

***In relation to item 5.2 of the Agenda: "Report on monitoring of projects":***

Mrs. Brajovic noted that according the Decree for implementation of IPARD, submitted offers should be valid and independent. The Agency has direct access to the Macedonian Central Registry data and can check the capital connection between different offers. Access for Serbian and Croatian firms is free and also checked and for access for Bulgarian firms, the Agency pays for

the check to be performed. Also, the Agency can control the suppliers and offers which that have been submitted in the Agency in the past, since the Agency has a database of suppliers. But if the firm first appeared before the IPARD Agency there is no other way to perform such checks. She noted that the problems mainly stem from the non-conformity of national legislation. For that specific activities undertaken in cooperation with the Ministry of Finance, SEA and MAFWE a working group is set up for working on amending the Decree on the implementation of IPARD, where these provisions of the EU legislation would have been transported or brought the law enforcement overall IPA. In the process of authorization of payments, applicants face problems of providing complete documentation. Also, deadlines for submission of the claim for payment are problem, they're too short. The IPARD Agency changes the procedures in this way, providing documents through electronic connection with certain system databases in Republic Macedonia. The changes have already been sent to the EC in October and are to be operational for the next implementing year.

Mr. Arsov informed that in several cases Sector for control established several problems with the legal property (parcels) documentation. Land parcels are checked in data base of the State cadaster and in the LPIS data base within MAFWE. With the availability of these data bases controllers can easily locate the land parcels, perform on screen measurement, and extract coordinates to the GPS device (waypoint) in order controllers to ensure that they are on-the-correct parcel. Manual for use of GPS device and post processing of data is prepared together with working papers for on screen and on-the-spot measurement with GPS. Based on the experience gathered from the on-the-spot checks, the controllers have prepared Manual for recognizing second hand equipment. Expert assistance from the Judicial Bureau of Expertise has been used for several on-the-spot controls at investments including construction/reconstruction and equipment.

About the problems in the process of control field in terms of unregulated right to use land parcels - a problem that occurs at some users who use state land taken under lease of 10 years and over, and the same parcels have been compiled with parts of neighbouring parcels. He noted that in order for the timely establishment of such cases, the Department of Control declared parcels checked in the database of the State or the Cadastre GIS portal and

database system for the identification of agricultural land in MAFWE. The exact location of the parcels shall be determined through the use of GPS devices. Control Department prepared a guideline for using the GPS device. Old equipment (second hand) – during the controls on the spot before payment for a number of users is determined old or second-hand equipment that is declared as a new. In order to facilitate timely detection of such equipment Sector for control prepared a guide for recognition of old equipment containing photographs and explanations of the different types of equipment and machinery that are subject to investment. Manual is updated regularly. Also, IPARD Agency through a memorandum of cooperation signed with the Bureau of Forensic has experts from civil engineering, mechanical and electrical engineers whose expertise was used several times by the Control.

Mr. Sekulovski demanded an explanation what happens if the applicant took parcel under a lease but was erroneously entered in the cadastre and when control comes onsite sees that the parcel is not in the property list.

Mr. Arsov explained that for the IPARD Agency is very important to know on which parcel is the investment. In section regulating property and legal relations obligation is each applicant. When operational LPIS 2013 starts to function, these problems will be overcome.

In the absence of objections, the Chairperson approved the following

***Conclusion No.3:***

*The IPARD Monitoring Committee was informed about the implementation of the IPARD Programme by the IPARD Agency.*

*Report on the implementation of the IPARD Programme by the IPARD Agency is presented in **Annex 5**.*

***In relation to item 5.3 of the Agenda: “IPARD 2014-2020 ”***

Mr. Kiely noted that the proposal of the Commission is in process of harmonization between the Council and the European Parliament and will be finalized during 2013. The amount of money in the IPA and IPARD hasn't been cleared yet. He noted that the Commission has proposed roughly similar budget. There are no major changes that will address the potential users and the agricultural sector in general. The Commission's intention is to retain existing and introduce new measures, such as measures of Forestry and advisory services. He noted that at the national level, we are required to prepare a strategy for IPA, as part of agriculture and rural development and based on the National Strategy for Agriculture and Rural Development where you guidelines for development in the upcoming period will be presented. Sectoral analysis for determination of needs, opportunities and absorption capacity are necessary. The approval of the IPARD II program can not be prior to the required EU regulation and underlined that the preparation of the program should start in 2013.

Mr Georgiev, stressed the importance to include the measure LEADER in the Programme as soon as possible, since the importance of the measure for improving economic conditions in rural areas.

Mr. Kiely pointed out that LEADER will be part of the IPARD in future. He noted that it is difficult to achieve accreditation LEADER in the current programming period, but his recommendation is to work its introduction in IPARD II, knowing its importance as well as access and synergies which should be created between the different sectors.

Since LEADER is a measure that requires more preparation, Mr. Georgiev proposed LEADER to be tested through the Rural Development Programme.

The Chairperson explained that we already have prepared a strategy and as soon as possible it will be presented to the Government.

Mr. Georgiev proposed a public debate about the strategy and to engage all stakeholders to express their opinion.

Mr. Zarkov explained that there is initiative and request for extension of the IPARD Programme, specifically in the mill and bakery industry and inclusion of this sector. Ms. Deleva noted that measure 302 includes these activities and can already be used. She noted that the amendments to the



IPARD Programme are not only for micro-enterprises, the definition of small business is expended and investment and further expansion both in line with EU regulations on the size of the Company and not under company law in the country.

The Chairperson proposed that if there are some suggestions from the mill and bakery industry, a consultative meeting should be held for further changes to the program in relation to the mill and bakery industry.

***7. In relation with item 6 of the agenda: "Discussion / approval of Program modification/ updates, modification of the financial tables in the Programme "***

Mrs. Deleva informed about IV modification IPARD Programme which was approved by the Committee for Rural Development within the EC Directorate General for Rural Development 21.11.2012. She noted that all proposals are accepted except for the part on the use of groundwater as a source for irrigation. She noted that such investments have been delayed by the EC's Directorate-General for Environment. Further communication with the Ministry of Environment will seek for a solution to this problem because it was several times pointed by the farmers where no primary irrigation system and output required in drilling boreholes. At the same time she noted that RM is a country where climate change will be affected by processes of diversification.. Many agricultural regions which produce agricultural products will be affected by drought and therefore requires the availability of water as a factor that will reduce the risk of agricultural production in terms of climate change. She noted that V modification of the IPARD program includes a new measure, rural infrastructure which is currently finalizing or includes Slovenian experts for the preparation of analyzes for investment, needs cooperation with ZELS and municipal representatives. She noted that the planning and consultation event with all the municipalities in order to examine the recommendations of experts and their need to make a measure that will reflect the priorities for investment in rural infrastructure. She also noted that the planned changes in the updating of legislation in the IPARD Programme and propose III modification that will require IPARD Agency in developing procedures for IV modification.

***8. In relation with item 7 of the agenda: "Technical Assistance activities  
"In relation with item 7.1 of the agenda: "Progress on the preparation for  
accreditation of the Measures 501 Technical Assistance activities in  
2012"***

Mr. Kolevski from IPARD Managing Authority informed about the activities and preparations for the upcoming accreditation of measure 501 Technical, undertaken by the Managing Authority, IPARD Agency and NAO; the compliance assessment of measure 501 Technical Assistance.

Having no further comments, the Chairperson adopted the following conclusion:

***Conclusion No.4:***

*The IPARD Monitoring Committee was informed about the progress made for the accreditation of the Technical Assistance measure under the IPARD Programme for the 2012.*

*Progress report for the accreditation on the measure technical assistance under the IPARD Programme 2007-2013 is presented in **Annex 6**.*

***In relation with item 7.2 of the agenda: "Approval of the Annual Action Plan for implementation of the measure for Technical Assistance"***

Mr. Karapetrov informed about the Annual Action Plan for the implementation of the measure for Technical Assistance.

Mr. Sekulovski asked to have more meetings about IPARD Monitoring Committee during a year.

Mrs Tufa asked for a precise answer about the accreditation of the measure 501 Technical Assistance.

Mr. Ademi explained that the full documentation will be finalized in December and in January will give national accreditation and will then submit the accreditation package to the EC.

In the absence of objections, the Chairperson approved the following:

***Decision No. 3:***

*The IPARD Monitoring Committee reviewed and adopted the Annual Plan for implementation of the measures of the IPARD Programme 2007-2013 for Technical Assistance.*

*Annual Plan for implementation of the measures of the IPARD Programme 2007-2013 for Technical Assistance. is presented in **Annex 7.***

***In relation with item 7.3 of the agenda: "Approval of the Annual Communication Plan"***

Mr. Gacov informed about the Annual Communication Plan for 2013.

Mrs. Deleva explained that institution responsible for implementation of publicity and communication is a Managing Authority, IPARD Agency. NEA is the intermediary organization and it will be corrected in the Annual Communication Plan.

In absence of objections, the Chairperson approved the following:

***Decision No.4:***

*The IPARD Monitoring Committee reviewed and approved the corrected the Annual Communication Plan for 2013.*

*Annual Communication Plan for 2013 is presented in **Annex 8.***

***9. In relation to item 8 of the Agenda: "Information on functioning of the IPARD management and control system of IPARD" and in relation to item 9 of the Agenda "Information on controls (on-spot control, undertaken activities, Follow up actions taken, annual Audit report, Statement of assurance)"***

Mr. Ademi informed about activities undertaken by the IPARD structures to improve the implementation of functioning of the system - verification visit of National Fund in IPARD Managing Authority and IPARD Agency

audit mission carried out by the Directorate General of Agriculture in March 2012/October 2012, the lack of staff in all key authority for monitoring activities on how to implement the recommendations of the controls, the activities in terms of administrative capacity for monitoring meetings, implementation of the IPARD Programme and absorption of IPA funds and statement of assurance.

Having no further comments, the Chairperson adopted the following conclusion:

***Conclusion No. 5:***

*The IPARD Monitoring Committee was informed about the functioning of the IPARD management and control system of IPARD.*

*Information on functioning of the IPARD management and control system of IPARD is presented in **Annex 9**.*

***10. In relation to item 10 of the Agenda: “Information/discussion of results of on-going evaluation”***

Mrs. Deleva informed that the Managing Authority in this year fails to submit reports on the ongoing evaluation because the activities that were undertaken are quite limited and focus on the implementation of previous findings in the area of directing resources towards the implementation of the action plan to improve absorption. Also during the discussion with representatives from the EC, she explained that it is required under the Sectoral agreement that the Managing Authority can only take actions for the ongoing evaluation but must hire an independent evaluator who will be in the system of ongoing evaluation and will be as an external evaluator. This year we had the opportunity to rent an independent evaluator because we did not have the funds and plan if accredit measure 501 Technical Assistance to engage an independent evaluator.

Having no further comments, the Chairperson adopted the following conclusion:

***Conclusion No.6:***

*IPARD Monitoring Committee was informed about the problem of ongoing evaluation activities of IPARD Programme.*

***11. In relation to item 11 of the Agenda: "Information on the progress on the activities related to the Communication and Publicity of the IPARD Programme"***

Mr.Gacov informed about the annual progress report on the implementation of the Annual Communication and Publicity Plan for 2012. He elaborated on the realized activities, the updating of the website (www.ipard.gov.mk), the organization of the IPARD INFO days, workshops, seminars, , IPARD forum and panel discussions for the issues in the process of submitting applications for allocation of funds from the IPARD Program 2007-2013, Campaign "Learning about IPARD", press releases and conferences for the general public etc.

Mr. Sekulovski proposed to make IPARD internet forum where on a daily basis would have answered all the questions raised.

Mrs. Deleva said that on the website ipard.gov.mk users can ask questions about the IPARD and IPARD forum can do more with a direct meeting with the farmers if they accredit measure 501 Technical Assistance.

In the absence of objections, the Chairperson adopted the following:

***Conclusion No.7:***

*The IPARD Monitoring Committee was informed on the progress on activities related to the implementation of the Communication and publicity of the IPARD Programme for 2012.*

*Report on the activities taken in accordance with the Annual Plan for Communication and Publicity of the IPARD Programme for 2012 in **Annex 10**.*

***12. In relation with item 12 of the agenda: "AOB"***



### 12.1 NPAA and TAIEX activities

Mrs. Veta presented the progress of the National Programme for Adoption of the *acquis communautaire* (NPAA) and the TAIEX activities for 2012.

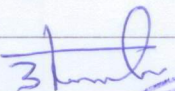
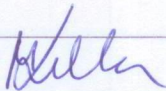
NPAA and TAIEX planning activities is presented in **Annex 11**.

### 13. In relation to item 13 of the Agenda: "Proposals for the Agenda of the next (12th) IPARD MC meeting / agreement on indicative new date."

The Chairperson proposed that the next IPARD Monitoring Committee meeting should be held in May 2013, whereas the exact date of the meeting would be agreed in accordance to the availability of the European Commission representatives.

No additional comments were given therefore the Chairperson concluded the 11th Meeting of the IPARD Monitoring Committee to be closed

### SIGNATURES:

FROM THE IPARD MONITORING COMMITTEE:	FROM THE SECRETARIAT:
Zoran Konjanovski	Margarita Deleva, MSc
Title: Chairperson	Title: Head of IPARD Managing Authority
Signature: 	Signature: 
Date: 29.05.2013	Date: 29/05/2013



No.	Title and name of the members	Institution	Present "√"	Absent "√"	Represented "√"	Represented by	Subsequent absences
1.	Mr.Zoran Konjanovski Chairperson	MAFWE	√				0
GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS							
2.	Mrs. Valentina Stojanovik	MAFWE	√				0
3.	Mr. Zivko Brajkovski	MAFWE	√				1
4.	Mr. Abdilgafar Sinani	MAFWE	√				0
5.	Mrs. Slavica Jakimovska	MoLSG		√			3
6.	Mrs. Evgenija Serafimovska Kirkovski	SEA			√	Mrs. Orhideja Kaljosevska	0
7.	Mrs. Snezana Gerasimova Mateska	MoC		√			1
8.	Mr. Ilir Shabani	MoE		√			5
9.	Mr. Dejan Rundeski	Agency for food and veterinary		√			2

Appendix 1 – Attendance Checklist of the Members on the IPARD Monitoring Committee

10.	Mrs. Jadranka Ivanova	MoEPP			√	Mr. Vlado Karovski	2
AGENCIES							
11.	Mr. Jordan Kuzmanovski	NEA			√	Mrs. Milka Kostrevska	0
12.	Mr. Ljubisa Nikolovski	Agency for Support of Entrepreneurship	√				2
ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL PARTNERS							
13.	Mrs. Stojmirka Tasevska	Chamber of Commerce of Macedonia			√	Mr.Vasko Ristovski	1
14.	Mr. Ognen Orovcanec	Association of Chambers of Commerce			√	Mr.Aleksandar Zarkov	2
15.	Mr. Saso Risteski	Macedonian Association of Processors	√				0
16.	Mr. Andrija Sekulovski	Federation of Farmers of Macedonia	√				0
17.	Mr. Veljo Tantarov	Association of Farmers of Macedonia			√	Mr.Asen Dukovski	1



18.	Mrs. Natasha Vrteska	Association of Units of Local Self-government	√				0
19.	Mr. Dragi Dimitrievski (PhD)	Faculty of Agricultural Sciences and Food		√			4
20.	Mrs. Olga Stoimenova	Association of Women Agricultural Producers Agrovinka, Vinica		√			1
21.	Mrs. Olivija Sterjova	Craft Chamber of Republic of Macedonia		√			2
22.	Mr. Ilija Karov (PhD)	Faculty of Agricultural Sciences and Food – UGD-Stip		√			2
23.	Mr. Petar Gjorgiev	National Rural Network	√				0
24.	Mrs. Robertina Brajanoska	Macedonian Ecological Society	√				0
	<b>TOTAL</b>	16	10	8	6		

**List of observers at the IPARD Monitoring Committee:**

**Representatives from Government Institutions:**

1. Mrs. Biljana Kostovska, Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Water Economy, in the Mission of the Republic of Macedonia under the European Communities,
2. Mr. Viktor Kajajdziski, Agricultural Discount Credit Fund, Ministry of Finance,

**Representatives for IPA Audit Authority :**

1. Mrs. Sonja Veljanoska, State Audit Office,
2. Mrs. Jasmina Vukicevik, State Audit Office

**Representatives of social partners:**

1. Mr. Jorde Jakimovski (PhD) Director, Institute for socio-political and legal research

**Representatives from IFI's, Donors and Donor projects:**

1. Ms. Lidija Fajdiga, representative from the German Agency for Technical Cooperation (GTZ)

**Additional participants and presenters:**







1. Mrs. Tatjana Veta , EU Department, Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Water Economy



### DRAFT AGENDA of the 11<sup>th</sup> IPARD Monitoring Committee Meeting







**Date:** 12<sup>th</sup> of December, 2012,

**Location:** Debate Hall in the Government of Republic of Macedonia

No	Time	Subject	Presented/ Endorsed by:	Documents
	8:30	Arrival and Registration	MA Secretariat	
1.	9:00	Opening of the meeting Approval of the Draft Agenda for the 11 <sup>th</sup> IPARD MC meeting	(Chairperson (Cp))	 Draft Agenda
2.	9:10	Adoption of the Minutes of the previous (10 <sup>th</sup> ) IPARD MC meeting, held on 13 <sup>en</sup> of July, 2012	(Cp)	 Final Draft Minutes
3.	9:20	Information on the implementation of decisions/conclusions taken at the previous (10 <sup>th</sup> ) IPA MC meeting and discussion	(Managing Authority (MA))	 MA Progress Report
4.	9:35	Follow-up information and feedback from the previous (5 <sup>th</sup> ) IPA Monitoring Committee held on 17.07.2012.	(NIPAC representative)	 (to be presented at the meeting)
5.	9:50	State of play of implementation of the IPARD Programme		
5.1.	9:50	Examination of the results of the IPARD Programme via monitoring indicators/data	(MA Monitoring Officer)	 Annual Monitoring Report
5.2.	10:05	Report on monitoring of projects: a) Summary on problems encountered in the process of approval of projects b) Summary on on-spot controls executed c) Summary on problems	(IPARD Agency)	 IPARD Agency progress report

		encountered in the process of approval of payments - Other issues deriving from the implementation of the Programme		
5.3	10:20	Ipard 2014 – 2020	EC	 Discussion
6.	10:35	Discussions /approval of Programme modifications /updates, modifications of the financial tables in the Programme.	(MA)	 Discussion
7.	10:50	Technical assistance activities:		
7.1.	10:50	Progress on the preparation for accreditation of the Measures 505 (501) Technical Assistance activities in 2012.	(MA)	 Progress report for TA preparations.
7.2	11:05	Approval of the Annual Action Plan for the implementation of Technical Assistance activities in 2013.	(MA)	 Annual Action Plan for the implementation of Technical Assistance activities in 2013
7.3	11:20	Approval of the Annual Communication Plan	(MA)	 Annual Communication Plan

No	Time	Subject	Presented/ Endorsed by:	Documents
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8.	11:35	Information on functioning of the IPARD management and control system of IPARD.	(NAO)	 NAO Report to MC
9.	11:50	Information of controls: - Controls and audit undertaken - Follow-up actions taken - Annual Audit Report - Statement of assurance	(NAO)	 NAO Report to MC
10.	12:05	Information/discussion of results of on-going evaluation	(MA)	 Discussion
11.	12:20	Information on the progress on the activities related to the Communication and Publicity of the Programme.	(MA)	 Progress Report on communication and publicity activities.
12.	12:35	AOB		
12.1.	12:35	NPAA and TAIEX planning activities	EU Dept.	 NPAA and TAIEX Progress Report.
13.	12:50	Proposals for the Agenda of the next (12en) spring IPARD MC meeting / agreement on indicative new date.	(Cp)/Europe an Commission	 Discussion
	13:00	Closing of the meeting	Chairperson	