



REPUBLIC OF MACEDONIA  
IPARD Monitoring Committee

Minutes No. 12

Minutes of the 12th meeting of the IPARD Monitoring  
Committee

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## I. LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

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

The Secretariat of the IPARD Monitoring Committee was represented by: **Mrs. Margarita Deleva (MSc.)**, State Advisor for Rural Development in the capacity of Head of the IPARD Managing Authority (HoMA), and

**Ms. Vasilka Tamburkova**, Advisor for monitoring of the implementation of IPARD funds and reporting, Secretary of the IPARD Monitoring Committee (Secretary), .

### I.1. Presence of members of the IPARD Monitoring Committee or substitutes of members:

1. **Mrs.Valentina Stojanovic-Tufa**, Chief of Cabinet, MAFWE.
2. **Mr. Abdilgafar Sinani**, Head of Department for Agriculture, MAFWE.
3. **Mr. Zivko Brajkoski**, Head of Department for Viticulture, Orchards and Wine, MAFWE.
4. **Mrs.Valentina Jankoska**, stand-in for the member **Mr. Jordan Kuzmanoski**, Director of National Extension Agency of Republic of Macedonia (NEA).
5. **Mrs. Natasha Ljubecki-Angjelik**, stand-in for the member **Mr. Saso Ristevski**, Secretary of Macedonian Association of Processors (MAP).
6. **Mrs. Marija Gjoseva -Kovacevik**, stand-in for the member **Mr. Andrija Sekuloski**, President of Federation of Farmers of the Republic of Macedonia (FFRM).
7. **Mrs. Natasa Vrteska**, Legal Advisor, Association of Local Self-Government Units (ALSU).
8. **Mrs. Evgenija Serafimovska Kirkovski**, Head of Unit for Monitoring and Evaluation of EU Programmes, NIPAC Office, Secretariat for European Affairs (SEA).
9. **Mr.Nikola Stamenov**, stand-in for the member **Mr. Veljo Tantarov**, President of the Association of Farmers of Macedonia. (AFM)
10. **Mr. Vasko Ristovski**, stand-in for the member **Mrs. Stojmirka Taseva**, Director at Chamber of Commerce of Macedonia (CCM).
11. **Mrs. Robertina Brajanoska**, representative of the Macedonian Ecological Society (MES).
12. **Mr. Peter Gjorgievski**, President of the National Rural Network of the Republic of Macedonia (MRN).

13. **Mrs. Ardiana Abazi – Ramadani**, Deputy Head of Department for EU Integration, Ministry of Economy (MoE).
14. **Mr. Ljubisa Nikolovski**, Head of Sector for Coordination and Institutional Support, Agency for Support of Entrepreneurship of Republic of Macedonia (ASE).
15. **Mr. Aleksandar Zarkov**, stand-in for the member **Mr. Ognen Orovcanev**, President of the Agri-Food Group at the Macedonian Chambers of Commerce (MCC).
16. **Mrs. Snezana Gerasimova Matevska**, Advisor, Ministry of Culture (MoC).
17. **Mrs. Vaska Petrova**, stand-in for the member **Mrs. Olga Stoimenova**, President of the Association of Women-Farmers „Agro-Vinka”, Vinica.
18. **Mrs. Olivija Sterjova**, Executive Director of Craft Chamber of Republic of Macedonia (CC).
19. **Mr. Rahim Musliu**, stand-in for the member **Mrs. Slavica Jakimovska**, State Advisor at the Ministry of Local Self-Government (MoLS).
20. **Mr. Eftim Saklev**, President of the Association of Farmers (AoF).

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

**Results:** The Chairperson and 20 members or their representatives with voting right (out of total of 24 members with voting rights) were present at the meeting. Therefore, quorum was reached and decisions could be taken at the meeting.

#### **I.2. Representatives from the European Commission (EC) in Advisory role:**

- **Mr. Gerard Kiely**, Head of Unit G.4., Directorate-General for Agriculture and Rural Development, European Commission (DG-AGRI)
- **Mrs. Ingrid Sager**, Head of Finance and Contracts Delegation of the European Union – Skopje (EUD)
- **Mr. Dimitar Malinovski**, Programme manager, Delegation of the European Union – Skopje (EUD)

#### **I.3. Representatives of the IPARD Structure:**

##### **Representatives of National Authorising Officer and National Fund:**

- **Mrs. Suzana Peneva**, National Authorising Officer (NAO), Ministry of Finance (MoF).

- **Mr. Fatmir Ademi**, National Fund (NF), Ministry of Finance.

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

- **Mr.Mladen Kolarik**, Head of Unit for Monitoring of IPARD funds and Reporting
- **Mr. Viktor Mladenovski**, Senior Associate, Unit for Monitoring of IPARD funds and Reporting
- **Ms.Jasmina Hadzibulik**, Junior Associate, Unit for Monitoring of IPARD funds and Reporting
- **Mr. Stojan Gacov**, Head of Unit for Programming and Evaluation of IPARD funds,
- **Mr. Aleksandar Mitrevski**, Senior Associate, Unit for Programming and Evaluation of IPARD funds
- **Mrs. Muhadin Limani**, Junior Associate, Unit for Programming and Evaluation of IPARD funds.
- **Mr.Igor Agoski**, Head of Unit for implementation of Technical Assistance of IPARD funds.
- **Mr.Zlatko Kolevski**, Associate, Unit for implementation of Technical Assistance of IPARD funds.
- **Mr.Oliver Stefanovski**, Junior associate, Unit for implementation of Technical Assistance of IPARD funds .
- **Mr.Angel Karapetrov**, Junior associate, Unit for implementation of Technical Assistance of IPARD funds.

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

- **Mr. Toni Dimovski**, Director.
- **Mr. Pance Arsov**, Head of Department for on-the spot Control.
- **Mrs.Maja Brajovik**, Head of Department for Internal Audit
- **Mrs.Biljana Vukovic**, Head of Department for Approval of Projects

**I.4. Representatives of the IPA Audit Authority:**

- **Zoran Ristovski**, Independent auditor- IPA Component V
- **Sonja Veljanovska**, Senior auditor- IPA Component V
- **Jasmina Vukicevic**, Senior auditor- IPA Component V

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

## II. AGENDA

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

## III. OUTCOMES FROM THE MEETING OF THE IPARD MONITORING COMMITTEE:

### *1. In relation to item 1 of the Agenda: “Opening of the meeting / Approval of the Draft Agenda for the 12th IPARD MC meeting”*

The Chairperson welcomed the attendees and the representatives of the EC, presented the proposed topics on the Agenda and endorsed it for approval.

Having no further comments, the following decision was taken:

*Decision No 1: (In relation to item 1 of the Agenda)* The IPARD Monitoring Committee approved the Agenda on the (12th) (spring) meeting.

*The adopted Agenda is presented in Annex 1.*

### *2. In relation to item 2 of the Agenda: “Adoption of the Minutes of the previous (11th) IPARD MC meeting, held on 13<sup>en</sup> of December, 2012”*

The Chairperson has briefed that the draft-Minutes from the 11th meeting of the IPARD Monitoring Committee have been delivered to all members and to the representatives of the European Commission. He further informed that the comments made by EC are duly considered and included in the proposed draft - Minutes.

Having no further comments, the following decision was taken:

*Decision No 2: (In relation to item 2 of the Agenda ) “The IPARD Monitoring Committee adopted the draft Minutes of the 11<sup>th</sup> (winter) meeting of the IPARD Monitoring Committee, held on 13<sup>th</sup> of December, as final. “*

*The adopted Minutes is presented in Annex 2.*

### *3. In relation to item 3 of the Agenda: “Information on the implementation of decisions/conclusions taken at the previous (11th) IPA MC meeting and discussion”*

Mrs. Deleva (MA) reported on the progress in implementation of the Decisions /Conclusion reached at the 11th IPARD Monitoring Committee meeting, held on 13th of December, 2012.

Having no further comments, the following conclusion was taken:

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***Conclusion No.1: (In relation to item 3 of the Agenda)***

*The IPARD Monitoring Committee was informed on the progress made in implementation of the decisions/conclusions from the 11th IPARD MC, held on 13th of December (via the “MA Progress Report”).*

*Progress Report on the Decisions/Conclusions taken on the 11<sup>th</sup> (autumn) IPARD MC held on the 12<sup>th</sup> of December, 2012 is presented in **Annex 3**.*

***4. In relation to item 4 of the Agenda:” Preparations for IPA II (Progress in preparation of the IPA Country Strategy Paper)”***

Mrs. Deleva (HoMA) informed that MAFWE has prepared and delivered proposal for IPA Strategic framework for Policy Area - Agriculture and Rural Development to SEA.

Mrs. Serafimova-Kirkovski (SEA) added that, in accordance with the country's national priorities, Agriculture and Rural Development remains to be one of the key sectors for further support under IPA 2014-2020. She pointed out that the purpose of the Country Strategy Paper is to serve as basis for the IPA II programming process. She stressed that the draft strategic document is expected to be ready by the end of June and delivered to EC as national proposal. Then, Mrs. Serafimova-Kirkovski concluded that the preparation of the sectoral program will follow with a more detailed definition of the areas of agriculture and rural development that will receive financial support of the EC.

Mr. Kielly (DG AGRI) pointed on the importance of inclusion of IPARD into the national strategy for rural development in the following programming period 2014 – 2020. He provided with directions on the measures under IPARD II which will have continuity with the actual measures, but with new measures in the field in of improvement of provision of advisory services and forestry. He also guided, that for the purpose of programming new sectoral analysis or simply an upgrade of the actual will be needed.

Having in mind the time frame for introduction of the IPARD II Programme, Mr. Kielly (DG AGRI) stressed on the importance of adoption of Programme by Commission services by the end of 2014, meaning that DG AGRI should receive first drafts of the IPARD II Programme by the end of the summer 2013.

In relation to the preparation of the IPARD II Programme, Mr. Kielly (DG AGRI) presented that the DG Agri services have prepared draft measure fiches that will be consulted with the countries beneficiaries of IPARD II.

Having no further comments, the following conclusions were reached:

***Conclusion No. 2: (In relation to item 4 of the Agenda) “The IPARD Managing Authority to submit the national proposal for Strategic framework for use of IPA II in the area of Agriculture and Rural Development to the members of the IPARD Monitoring Committee within next 7 working days.”***

***Conclusion No. 3: (In relation to item 4 of the Agenda) “The members of the IPARD Monitoring Committee to submit their contribution to the national proposal for Strategic framework of RM for use of IPA II in the area of Agriculture and Rural Development, no later than 21.06.2013.”***

*MAFWE Proposal of strategic framework for Policy Area - Agriculture and Rural Development is presented in Annex 4.*

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

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

Mr. Mladenovski (MA) briefly presented the results derived from the monitoring system for implementation of the IPARD programme reported for the period January 2013-April 2013. He concluded that due to the decision for “interruption of payments” during the first half of 2012 the reported monitoring data are not reflecting any implementation results for the reporting period, as there were no new Calls for proposal, but the report focuses on information on the undertaken activities for increase of the absorption capacity and strengthening the management and financial control system.

Having no further comments, the following conclusion was reached:

***Conclusion No.4: (In relation to item 5.1 of the Agenda) “The IPARD Monitoring Committee reviewed the results of the implementation of the IPARD Programme (via the “Semi-Annual Monitoring Report on the implementation of IPARD Programme for the period December 2013- June 2013”).”***



*Semi-Annual Monitoring Report on the implementation of IPARD Programme for the period December 2013- June 2013 presented in Annex 5.*

**5.2 In relation to item 5.2 of the Agenda: “Report on the results from monitoring of projects (and discussion)”**

Mr. Dimovski (IPARD Agency) has summarized the difficulties encountered by the IPARD Agency in the process of project approval and approving the claims for payment , as well as undertaken activities for improvement of the IPARD Programme implementation in the light of strengthening the control system.

**Conclusion No.5: (In relation to item 5.2 of the Agenda)** The IPARD Monitoring Committee was informed about the results from the monitoring of the IPARD Programme projects (through the “Project follow up report for the IPARD Programme”).

Discussion which took place under the point 5.2.:

- Mr. Kielly (DG-AGRI) reminded on the pending de-commitment risk of the funds committed for 2010. He further stressed that the implementation difficulties and encountered control deficiencies have to be addressed timely to mitigate any future potential risks for losing the allocations for 2011 and beyond. He pointed out that simplification for beneficiaries is also to be highly considered whilst strengthening the implementation procedures.
- Furthermore, Mr. Kielly (DG-AGRI) informed that in the past period EC initiated a process of collecting proposals for “simplification” of IPARD from the national authorities and that special Seminar is planned to be organized in September to discuss the proposals. He stressed that this opportunity should be seriously addressed by the national authorities, especially the IPARD Agency, and sound ‘simplification’ proposals should be delivered prior the seminar is held.
- Mrs. Gjoseva-Kovachevik (FFRM) commented that the recent process of cancellation of already signed contracts and issued request for return of already received funds have affected specially the farmers who have activated loans to implement the previously approved investments. She stressed that the ‘image’ of the instrument is depreciated and significant



efforts need to be done by the national authorities to improve the damaged reputation and regain the 'trust' of the farmers to use the available funds.

- Mrs. Gjoseva-Kovachevik (FFRM) also added that the main problems identified by the farmers refer to collection of three offers from independent suppliers and that the farmers are not able to check the collected offers for potential of conflict of interest as it is requested by the IPARD Agency. In this respect she proposed that the IPARD Agency should fully perform the controls prior the contract is signed and should bear solely the responsibility in case of control deficiencies.
- Mr. Dimovski (IPARD Agency) reacted on Mrs. Gjoseva-Kovachevik statement that there is a legal base for cancellation of contracts which provides that cancellation of signed contracts can occur at any time in the contract duration when irregularities will be detected and that the beneficiaries are timely informed. He further agreed that the detected irregularities are mostly related to the identification of connected suppliers in the application phase but detected at the later stage during contract implementation. He concluded that in the future more attention should be paid both by the IPARD Agency and by the beneficiaries and by the consultants to avoid this particular issue and that specific guidance on collection of offers is included in the beneficiary guides.
- Mrs. Ljubeckij – Angjelic (MAP) reacted on the duration of the decisions for approval of applications from the last Call for proposals which brings to breach of deadlines in the administrative procedure for application approval. She also mentioned that there a high rate of rejection of payment applications and commented on Mr. Dimovski statement that most of the beneficiaries are informed on the encountered issues only when they apply for payment and not at the point when the irregularity is identified. She then proposed that List of the main problems encountered during IPARD implementation is needed to be published, articulating the problems clearly and in transparent manner.
- Mrs. Deleva, Mrs. Peneva and Mr. Stamenov agreed with the proposal of Mrs. Ljubeckij – Angjelic (MAP). Respectively, Mrs. Deleva proposed for MA to initiate survey to identify the difficulties from the point of view of the applicants; Mrs. Peneva, suggested that the List should be presented to the farmers widely through special organized event; Mr. Stamenov has added to the suggestions that the List should take a form of published brochure. Mr. Ademi attached to the discussion by further proposing that the List should

become common practice of the IPARD Agency and is to be published on their web-site regularly – after each Call of proposals. Mrs. Shterjova (CCM) suggested that the Guidelines are to be divided by measure specifically addressing different potential beneficiaries.

***Conclusion No.6: (In relation to item 5.2 of the Agenda)*** “The IPARD Agency is obligated to prepare a list of most frequent mistakes made during application for IPARD and to submit it to the IPARD Managing Authority by the end of June 2013.”

***Conclusion No.7: (In relation to item 5.2 of the Agenda)*** “Based on the received list with the most frequently made mistakes during application for IPARD, the IPARD Managing Authority is obligated to prepare a brochure and to advise the farmers associations.”

***Conclusion No.8: (In relation to item 5.2 of the Agenda)***

The IPARD MA is obligated to prepare a questionnaire on the problems faced during implementation of IPARD and to send the questionnaire to the farmers associations, the Chamber of Commerce of RM, the Craftsmen Chamber of commerce of RM and other involved parties by the end of August 2013.

***Conclusion No.9: (In relation to item 5.2 of the Agenda)***

The IPARD MA is obligated to submit to the EC received replies on the questionnaires from the involved parties by the end of September 2013.

- Furthermore, Mrs. Ljubeckij – Angjelij (MAP) informed on the reaction letter by group of consultants which was delivered to the national authorities in which the problems faced by the private sector to use the IPARD funds were presented. She clarified that the cut of general costs without any prior notice by the IPARD Agency caused the reaction from the private consultants. Also she noted that in circumstances of uncertainty of IPARD rules for implementation resulting in cancelling contracts previously approved, asking for return of already paid funds or asking for more documents related to application after the contract is signed, most of the good and professional private consultants have start avoiding providing support to potential applicants for IPARD and Mr. Dimovski (IPARD Agency) replied that the rejection of payment applications does not result only by the decision of the

IPARD Agency but the beneficiaries are also cancelling the contracts before payment due to various reasons.

- Mr. Nikolovski (Agency for Support of Entrepreneurship of Republic of Macedonia) suggested introducing voucher subvention and consulting system in the IPARD Programme as they have use in there Agency for Support of Entrepreneurship of Republic of Macedonia.

*Project follow up report for the IPARD Programme presented in **Annex 6**.*

***5.3. In relation to item 5.3 of the Agenda: "Discussion/ approval of the Annul Implementation Report for 2012"***

The Chairperson informed that draft AIR for 2012 is subject to adoption via written procedure initiated on the 28.05.2013

***6. In relation to item 6 of the Agenda: "Other points e.g. matters arising particularly from correspondence relevant to the Programme"***

***6.1. In relation to item 6.1 of the Agenda: "Information on the de-commitment of 2009 funds (corrections of the Financial Plan)"***

Mrs. Deleva (MA) informed that a notification from the European Commission, also confirmed by the NAO, for the loss of funds for allocation from 2009 in the amount of 7.3 million Euros was received. She noted that the funds should have been disbursed till 31.12.2012 year, but were withdrawn by the EC. She also said that adjustments to the amounts and allocations of funds per priority axis and per priority measures were made. It is expected that the conducted equal allocation for the coming years and the IVth modification of the IPARD programme shall arise more interest. She noted that in the part of new measures an allocation in 2012 and 2013 was made to implement the measure of rural infrastructure and noted that the financial plan upon its adoption by the Commission shall be part of the Vth modification of IPARD programme because it includes the new allocations for 2013.

*Proposed corrections of the Financial Plan for IPARD 2007-2013 presented in **Annex 8***

**6.2/6.3. In relation to item 6.2/6.3 of the Agenda: 6.2. Information on the implementation status of the Action Plan for improving the absorption /6.3. Information on the proposed actions to improve IPARD absorption**

Mrs. Deleva (HoMA) informed on the progress of implementation of the Action plan for increase of absorption pointing out the encountered delays and suggesting that

revision of the Action Plan shall be done for the forthcoming period since this is also an obligation taken on the meeting in Brussels (held on the 14<sup>th</sup> of May).

Discussion which took place under the point 6.2./6.3:

- In relation to the increase of funds of the Agriculture Credit and Discount Fund is administered by the Macedonian Bank for Development Support **Mrs. Gjoseva –Kovacevik (FFRM)** asked for an explanation regarding the available funds for Agriculture Credit and Discount Fund since the commercial banks are returning the clients from it's use stating that there are no available funds.
- **Mrs. Peneva (NAO)** explained that the implementation and distribution of funds to the end users is via 10 commercial banks, which are regularly informed regarding the available funds from Agriculture Credit and Discount Fund. She informed that at the moment there are about 2-3 million Euros at disposal and can be placed to the end users.
- **The Chairperson** informed on amendments on the Law of agriculture land for the possibility of legalization and obtaining property deeds for illegally constructed buildings for agriculture purposes so the farmers can place the immovable property as mortgage. Than he explained that the Law on water was also amended to simplify the procedure for obtaining water use licences in a qucker manner He also reminded that the deadline for legalization of agriculture objects expires at the end of August this year.
- **Mr. Shaklev (AoF)** suggested that the Macedonian Bank for Development Support should publish the consultants which are preparing the credit projects on their website so that the interested individuals can use their support.
- **Mr. Kielly (DG AGRI)** noted that the advisory services should be included as a part of the IPARD Programme. He noted that there should be plenty of activities in the Action Plan and in his opinion there is plenty more work to be done to improve the absorption.

Having no further comments, the following conclusions were reached:

***Conclusion no.10: (In relation to item 6.2/6.3 of the Agenda)***

*The IPARD MA is obligated by 05.06.2013 to prepare a questionnaire on the problems faced during implementation of IPARD in order to review the Action Plan for increase the absorption of IPARD funds.*

***Conclusion no.11:(In relation to item 6.2/6.3 of the Agenda)***

*The members of the IPARD Monitoring Committee are obligated to submit their contribution to the IPARD Managing Authority by 15<sup>th</sup> of June 2013. Managing Authority to submit to the EC improved Action Plan to increase the absorption of IPARD funds by the the end of June.*

*Action Plan to increase the absorption of IPARD funds presented in Annex 9*

***7. In relation to item 7 of the Agenda: “Discussions on proposals for Vth IPARD Programme modifications /updates, modifications of the financial tables”.***

Mrs. Deleva (HOMA) informed that MA is preparing the proposal for Vth modification of the IPARD Programme which focuses on inclusion of Measure 301-Rural Infrastructure and minor technical adaptations of the existing measures. She proposed that the proposal should be initially subject to consultations with the EC services out that the IPARD Agency will start with preparations and only after being technically agreed with EC to be sent for adoption by the IPARD Monitoring Committee via written procedure.

Mr. Kielly (DG AGRI) required that the modification proposal of the IPARD Programme is sent to EC by the end of June in order to be approved by September.

Following the discussion, the following conclusions were reached:

*Proposal for Vth modification of the IPARD Programme is presented in Annex 10*

***8. In relation to item 8 of the Agenda: “Information on functioning of the IPARD management and control system of IPARD”***

Mrs. Peneva (NAO) informed that regarding the amendments to the IPARD Programme a new package of modified procedures has been prepared and submitted to the EC. She noted that upon receipt of some comments from the Commission a consolidated version was prepared. She informed that a meeting was held at the highest level with the Minister of Finance, Minister of Agriculture, Director of the IPARD Agency in order to submit all the following steps for both sides to speed up the activities regarding approval procedures so that the IPARD Agency could issue a new public call in June. She informed that the package shall be sent to EC until 31.05.2013 and a positive response from the EC is expected by mid-July.

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Mr. Kielly (DG AGRI) reported that in case of money transfer they receive a message from their sector budget that there is a debt from RM and it is unable to transfer the money to foreign currency account. Therefore, he proposed this account to be supplemented by the Government of RM. In relation to the debts, Mrs. Peneva said that the question was presented several times to the Government which adopted conclusions and letters were sent to all institutions that have debts in other EU programs so they could avoid problems using IPA funds. Regarding the verification visit she stated that it was made in March and a report was sent to the IPARD Agency.

Having no further comments, the following conclusions were reached:

***Conclusion no. 12: (In relation to item 8 of the Agenda)***

*The IPARD Monitoring Committee was informed about the functioning of the IPARD management and control system of IPARD. (through the “Information regarding the effective functioning of the management and control system under IPARD”).*

*Information regarding the effective functioning of the management and control system under IPARD presented in Annex 10.*

***9. In relation to item 9 of the Agenda: “ Technical Assistance Activities - Progress on the preparation for accreditation of the Measures 501 - Technical Assistance in 2013”***

Mr. Stefanovski (MA) informed about the activities and preparations for the upcoming accreditation of measure 501 Technical Assistance, undertaken by the Managing Authority, IPARD Agency and NAO.

Mrs. Peneva (NAO) added that in March 2013 the IPARD Agency submitted the accreditation package related to accreditation of Measure 501 and currently NF is conducting the assessment of the proposed procedural arrangement as part of the process of national accreditation. She notified that the accreditation package for Measure 501 is planned to be delivered to EC for conferral of management by the end of July, 2013.

Having no further comments, the following conclusions were reached:

***Conclusion no. 13: (In relation to item 9 of the Agenda)***

*The IPARD Monitoring Committee was informed about the progress made for the accreditation of the Technical Assistance measure under the IPARD Programme (through the “Progress report for the accreditation of the Measure 501 Technical Assistance under the IPARD Programme 2007-2013”).*

*Progress report for the accreditation of the Measure 501 Technical Assistance under the IPARD Programme 2007-2013 presented in Annex 11.*

***10. In relation to item 10 of the Agenda: “ Information on the progress on the activities related to the Communication and Publicity of the Programme ”***

**Mr. Gacov (MA)** informed on the progress on implementation of the Annual Communication and Publicity Plan for 2013 by summarizing the undertaken activities.

Following the presentation on the achieved, **Mrs. Gjoseva-Kovacevik** proposed organizing additional meetings with farmers about informing on the IPARD Programme by the NEA, Managing Authority and FFRM. She also noted to put amendments of the IPARD Programme in the the magazine” My country”. **Mr. Nikolovski (ASE)** proposed strengthening the promotion of local TV stations related to IPARD programme. **Mrs. Ljubecki – Angelik (MAP)** informed there is a list of concrete problems faced by applicants on the type of documentation.

**Mr. Kielly (DG AGRI)** suggested prior to the meeting in Brussels to organize a work group to prepare for the meeting and to establish the most frequent problems while applying the IPARD Programme.

Having no further comments, the following conclusions were reached:

***Conclusion no. 14: (In relation to item 10 of the Agenda)***

*The IPARD Monitoring Committee was informed on the progress of activities related to the implementation of communication and publicity of the IPARD Programme for the period December 2012 - April 2013 (through the “Progress report on the implementation of the Annual Action Plan for communication and publicity for 2013), pointing to the IPARD Managing Authority to involve the local media in organization of the IPARD info days.*

*Progress report on the implementation of the Annual Action Plan for communication and publicity for 2013 December 2012-May2013) is presented in Annex 12.*

***11. In relation to item 11 of the Agenda: “AOB”***

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### **11.1. Progress on preparation of the IPARD Programme 2014-2020**

**Mrs. Deleva (HOMA)** informed that by September the first draft of the IPARD Programme after 2013 should be submitted to the EC. It should include statistics, updating the legal framework and update of the draft measure. She noted that upon development of the first draft a prior evaluation of the IPARD program is planned by the end of the year. She noted there are plans to finalize the package at the beginning of 2014 with discussions and negotiations with the European Commission and preparation of final draft IPARD Programme which should be adopted by the IPARD Monitoring Committee and approved by the Government, and in accordance with the proposed action measures to be submitted to the EC for approval by July 2014. She noted that the adoption of the common strategic framework is provided for in March 2014 and the adoption of the Strategic Document for RM on using IPA 2 EC is provided for in June 2014.

Having no further comments, the following conclusions were reached:

***Conclusion no.15: (In relation to item 11 of the Agenda)***

*The IPARD Monitoring Committee was informed on the draft IPARD Programme 2014-2020 measures.*

***Conclusion no. 16: (In relation to item 11 of the Agenda)***

*The members of the IPARD Monitoring Committee are obligated to submit their contribution to the IPARD Managing Authority on the draft IPARD Programme 2014-2020 measures by the September 2013.*

*Background document for the workshop on draft rural development measures for IPA II, 2014 – 2020 is presented in **Annex 13***

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

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

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The Chairperson closed the 12th Meeting of the IPARD Monitoring Committee.

## 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: 10.01.2014	Date: 10.01.2014



**Attendance Checklist of the Members on the IPARD Monitoring Committee**

<b>Бр .</b>	<b>Title and name of the members</b>	<b>Institution</b>	<b>Present “√”</b>	<b>Absent “√”</b>	<b>Represented “√”</b>	<b>Represented by</b>	<b>Subsequent absences</b>
1.	Mr.Zoran Konjanovski Chairperson	MAFWE	√				0
<b>GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS</b>							
2.	Mrs. Valentina Stojanovik	MAFWE	√				0
3.	Mr. Zivko Brajkovski	MAFWE	√				1
4.	Mr. Abdilgafar Sinani	MAFWE	√				0
5.	Mrs. Slavica Jakimovska	MoLSG		√			4
6.	Mrs. Evgenija Serafimovska Kirkovski	SEA	√				0
7.	Mrs. Snezana Gerasimova Mateska	MoC	√				1

8.	Mrs. Ardiana Abazi- Ramadani	MoE	√				0
9.	Mr. Dejan Runteski	Agency for food and veterinary		√			3
10.	Mrs. Jadranka Ivanova	MoEPP		√			3
AGENCIES							
11.	Mr. Jordan Kuzmanovski	NEA			√	Mrs.Valentina Jankoska	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			√	Mrs.Natasha Ljubecki Angelik	0
16.	Mr. Andrija Sekulovski	Federation of Farmers of Macedonia			√	Mrs. Marija Gjosheva Kovacevik	0

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

17.	Mr. Veljo Tantarov	Association of Farmers of Macedonia			√	Mr.Nikola Stamenov	1
18.	Mrs. Natasha Vrteska	Association of Units of Local Self-government	√				0
19.	Mr. Dragi Dimitrievski (PhD)	Faculty of Agricultural Sciences and Food		justified absent			4
20.	Mrs. Olga Stoimenova	Association of Women Agricultural Producers Agrovinka, Vinica			√	Mrs.Vaska Petrova	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		√			3
23.	Mr.Eftim Shaklev	Association of farmers	√				0
24.	Mr. Petar Gjorgiev	National Rural Network	√				0
25.	Mrs. Robertina Brajanoska	Macedonian Ecological Society	√				0
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>7</b>		

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

Note: According to the rule of procedure of the IPARD MC, article 3 paragraph 3 the members Mrs. Slavica Jakimovska, Mr. Dejan Runteski, Mr. Ilija Karov (PhD), Mrs. Jadranka Ivanova do not take part in the Committee meeting two times subsequently. In the next meeting the Minister shall propose a new member of the IPARD MC.

**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,

**Representatives of economic partners:**

1. Mr. Mende Ivanovski, President, Macedonian Association of Agricultural Cooperatives.

**Representatives of social partners::**

1. Mr.Vasko Zlatkovski, (PhD), Faculty for agricultural Science and Food - UGD Stip.








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










1. Mrs.Gabriela Micevska, CeproSard
2. Mr.Bekim Imeri, World Bank



**DRAFT AGENDA**  
**of the 12<sup>th</sup> IPARD Monitoring Committee Meeting**

Date: 29.05.2013  
 Location: Parliamentarian Club

No	Time	Subject	Presented/ Endorsed by:	Documents
	<b>8:30</b>	<b>Arrival and Registration</b>	<b>MA Secretariat</b>	
1.	9:00	Opening of the meeting Approval of the Draft Agenda for the 12 <sup>th</sup> IPARD MC meeting	(Chairperson (Cp))	 Draft Agenda
2.	9:10	Adoption of the Minutes of the previous (11th) IPARD MC meeting, held on 13 <sup>en</sup> of December, 2012	(Cp)	 Final Draft Minutes
3.	9:20	Information on the implementation of decisions/conclusions taken at the previous (11th) IPA MC meeting and discussion	(Managing Authority (MA))	 MA Progress Report
4.	9:35	Preparations for IPA II (Progress in preparation of the IPA Country Strategy Paper)	(Perica Ivanoski/Maja Lazareska )	 (to be presented at the meeting)
5.	09:50	State of play of implementation of the IPARD Programme		
5.1.	09:50	Examination of the results of the IPARD Programme via monitoring indicators/data	(MA Monitoring Officer)	 Semiannual Monitoring Report (Status December/May)
5.2.	10.05	Report on the results from monitoring of projects (and discussion)	(IPARD Agency)	 IPARD Agency progress report
5.3.	10:20	Discussion/ approval of the Annual Implementation Report for 2012	(MA)	 Discussion
6.	10:35	Other points e.g. matters arising particularly from correspondence relevant to the Programme		

6.1.	10:35	Information on the de-commitment of 2009 funds (corrections of the Financial Plan)	(NAO/MA)	 Discussion
6.2.	10:50	Information on the implementation status of the Action Plan for improving the absorption	(MA)	 MA Progress Report
6.3.	11:05.	Information on the proposed actions to improve IPARD absorption	(EC)	 Discussion
7.	11:20	Discussions on proposals for Vth IPARD Programme modifications /updates, modifications of the financial tables	(MA)	 Discussion
8.	11:35	Information on functioning of the IPARD management and control system of IPARD	(NAO)	 NAO Report to MC
9.	11:50	Technical Assistance Activities - Progress on the preparation for accreditation of the Measures 501 - Technical Assistance in 2013	(MA)	 Progress report for TA preparations.
10.	12:05	Information on the progress on the activities related to the Communication and Publicity of the Programme.	(MA)	 Progress Report on communication and publicity activities.
11.	12:20	AOB		
11.1	12:20	Progress on preparation of the IPARD Programme 2014-2020	(EC)	 Discussion
12.	12:35	Proposals for the Agenda of the next (13en) autumn IPARD MC meeting / agreement on indicative new date.	(Cp)/European Commission	 Discussion
	13:00	Closing of the meeting	Chairperson	