



REPUBLIC OF MACEDONIA

IPARD Monitoring Committee

*Minutes No. 15*

*Minutes of the of the 15th meeting of the IPARD Monitoring Committee*

*February 20<sup>th</sup> / Parliamentarian Club*

Arch. No. 30- 7767/ 1

Date: 08.07, 2015

Skopje

## **I. LIST OF PARTICIPANTS**

**Chairperson of the IPARD Monitoring Committee,** Vanco Kostadinovski, Deputy Minister of Agriculture, Forestry and Water Economy (MAFWE).

**Secretariat of the IPARD Monitoring Committee:** Head of Managing Authority, Margarita Deleva.

### **Members present at the IPARD Monitoring Committee:**

1. **Abdilgafar Sinani**, Head of the Department of Agriculture, Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Water Economy;
2. **Igor Zlatkov**, Director, National Extension Agency;
3. **Stevanche Jordanoski**, President of the Federation of Farmers in the Republic of Macedonia;
4. **Natasha Vrteska**, Legal Advisor to the Association of Local Government units;
5. **Robertina Brajanoska**, Executive Director of the Macedonian Ecological Society;
6. **Olivia Shterjova**, Director of the Chamber of Crafts of the Republic of Macedonia;
7. **Petar Georgiev**, President of the Rural Development Network of R.M;
8. **Dragi Dimitrievski**, Dean of the Faculty of Agricultural science and Food ;
9. **Vasko Ristovski**, Independent Advisor in the Department of Agriculture and Food Industry, Economic Chamber of Macedonia;
10. **Evgenija Serafimovska Kirkova**, Secretariat for European Affairs;
11. **Ardiana Abazi Ramadani**, Head of Department for European Affairs, Ministry of Economy;
12. **Blazo Janevski**, Head of Department, Agency for Food and Veterinary;
13. **Sasho Ristevski**, Secretary, Macedonian Association of Processors.
14. **Sonja Trajkova**, Cabinet of the Minister, Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Water Economy.
15. **Biljana Petkoska**, Ministry of Environment and Physical Planning.
16. **Ljubisha Nikoloski**, Head of Department, coordination and institutional support, Agency for Promotion of Entrepreneurship of the Republic of Macedonia.
17. **Snezana Gerasimova- Mateska**, Advisor, Ministry of Culture

*Present deputy members of the IPARD Monitoring Committee:*

1. **Aleksandra Dika**, replacement for Zivko Brajkoski, Head of the Department of viticulture, orcharding and enology, Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Water Economy.
2. **Vaska Petrova**, replacement for Olga Stoimenova, Association of women farmers “Agro-Vinka”, Vinica.
3. **Valentina Smiljanov**, replacement for Olivija Sterjova, Chamber of Crafts of Republic of Macedonia.

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

1. **Gerard Kiely**, Directorate for Agriculture and Rural Development (DG-Agri);
2. **Elitsa Zhivkova**, Directorate for Agriculture and Rural Development (DG-Agri).

### **Representatives of the European Delegation**

**Olivier Maes**, Delegation of European Union in the Republic of Macedonia

Representatives of IPARD structure:

Representatives from the NAO and NF:

1. **Aleksandra Simjanoska**, National Fund, Ministry of Finance.

Representatives of the IPARD Managing Authority (MA):

1. **Mladen Kolaric**, Head of Unit for monitoring of the implementation of IPARD funds and reporting;
2. **Jasmina Hadzhibulic**, Junior Associate, Unit for monitoring of the implementation of IPARD funds and reporting;
4. **Viktor Mladenovski**, Acting Head of Unit for implementation of Technical Assistance of IPARD funds;
5. **Igor Troshanski**, Advor for Programming and Evaluation of IPARD funds.

*Representatives from the Agency for Financial Support to Agriculture and Rural Development (AFSARD):*

1. **Biljana Vukovic**, Head of Department for project approval, Agency for Financial Support in Agriculture and Rural Development (AFSARD).
2. **Maja Brajovic**, Head of Internal Audit, Agency for Financial Support in Agriculture and Rural Development (AFSARD)

*Results: The Chairperson of the Committee, 17 members and 3 deputy members with voting right (out of a total of 24 members with a right to vote) participated in the meeting. A quorum of 2/3 of the members with a right to vote (or their replacements) was achieved to hold the meeting in accordance with the Rules of Procedure Article 9 paragraph 4.*

*The Checklist for presence of members from the meetings of the IPARD Monitoring Committee is shown in Appendix 1 of these minutes.*

*The List of observers is shown in Appendix 2 of these minutes.*

## II. AGENDA

### III. RESULTS OF THE IPARD MONITORING COMMITTEE MEETING:

#### **1. In reference to Item 1 of the Agenda: „Adoption of the draft agenda of the 15th meeting of the IPARD Monitoring Committee"**

The meeting was opened by the Chairperson of the IPARD Monitoring Committee, welcoming the representatives of the European Commission (EC) and all others participating at the meeting. He also informed the members of the Monitoring Committee of IPARD about the new point within the point 6 of the draft agenda for the fifteenth meeting of the IPARD Monitoring Committee.

**Decision No.1:** The IPARD Monitoring Committee adopted the Agenda for the 15<sup>th</sup> (autumn) meeting of the IPARD Monitoring Committee with the new proposed point within point 6: „Preparation for programming and accreditation of new IPARD measures "

*The adopted Agenda is attached in Annex 1.*

#### **2. In reference to point 2 of the Agenda: “Adoption of the Minutes of the 14th IPARD MC meeting, held on 20<sup>th</sup> of June, 2014”**

The Chairperson informed the members about the Draft Minutes of the 14th meeting of the IPARD Monitoring Committee (held on 20<sup>th</sup> of June, 2014) which was submitted for comments to all members of the Committee and to the representatives from the European Commission.

In absence of comments, the Chairperson adopted the following decision:

**Decision No.2:** The IPARD Monitoring Committee adopted the draft Meeting Minutes of the (14th) fourteenth (spring) meeting, held on June, 20<sup>th</sup>, as a final version.

**The adopted Draft Minutes is attached in Annex 2.**

**3. In reference to point 3 of the Agenda: "Information for implementation of decisions/conclusions adopted at the previous (14th) meeting of the IPARD Monitoring Committee"**

Mr. Kolarikj - Head of Department for monitoring of implementation of IPARD funds and reporting, informed about the progress of implementation of the decisions / conclusions adopted on the previous (14th) meeting of the IPARD Monitoring Committee, noting that all conclusions have been realized except conclusion No. 8 i.e. „ IPARD Agency is obliged to make a detailed analysis of all applications that were not approved because of not issuing a building permit or had a problem during obtaining a building permit. Full analysis IPARD Agency within 10 days to submit to ZELS in order to process to municipalities and to inform members of the IPARD Monitoring Committee ". Regarding this conclusion, Mr. Kolarikj informed that IPARD Agency has submitted a letter to ZELS with highlighted problems in obtaining building permits. He also added that ZELS was waiting for further guidelines for activities related to this letter.

In addition to this point, Ms Vrteska - Association of Local Government Units, confirmed that an official letter has been submitted to ZELS, but it contained no additional guidance for making the analysis. As a result, ZELS submitted the letter to other municipalities expecting that communication between the IPARD Agency and the municipalities will go to a higher level. She asked AFSARD to make a detailed analysis which will clearly indicate where and in which part these problems are concerning or whether the human factor is the reason for not issuing building permits. In this regard Vrtevska also stressed that ZELS could co-ordinate the work between municipalities and the IPARD Agency.

AFSARD representative Biljana Vukovic pointed that after sending the letter to ZELS, taking into account their role, IPARD Agency expected that ZELS will be actively engaged

in detecting problems that occur in the municipalities. IPARD Agency will contact each municipality individually regarding solving these problems.

Based on the submitted report (Report of the IPARD MA), amendment by Ms. Natasha Vrteska and remarks by AFSARD, the Chairperson and members of the committee brought the following conclusion:

**Conclusion No. 1:** The IPARD Monitoring Committee, was informed on the progress of implementation of the decisions/conclusions adopted at the 14th meeting of the IPARD Monitoring Committee, held on June 20, 2014 taking into account the amendment by ZELS and remarks by AFSARD towards greater activity, engagement and communication on a higher level between the ministries, the IPARD Agency and ZELS in terms of solving the problems of local government (the issuance of building permits, etc.).

*Report of the IPARD MA is attached in Annex 3.*

**4. In reference to point 4 of the Agenda: “Information of the IPA Monitoring Committee”**

Mrs. Serafimova informed about the IPA Monitoring Committee held on 23.01.2015, and on the conclusions adopted at that meeting.

In the absence of comments, the Chairperson adopted the following decision:

**Conclusion No. 2:** The IPARD Monitoring Committee was informed about the IPA Monitoring Committee held on 23.01.2015.

**5. In reference to point 6 of the Agenda: „ State of play of implementation of the IPARD Programme 2007-2013”**

**5.1: „ Presentation of the results of the IPARD Programme via monitoring indicators/data”**

The representative from MA, Mr. Kolarikj presented the progress and results of the implementation of the IPARD Program 2007- 2013 and the realization of the goals of the Programme.

Based on the detailed presentation i.e. analysis on the implementation of the IPARD 2007-2013 Programme, the Chairperson adopted the following conclusion:

**Conclusion No. 3:** The IPARD Monitoring Committee has reviewed the results from the implementation of the IPARD Programme through indicators and data for monitoring the programme for the period May 2014- December 2014.

In addition to this point, Mrs. Margarita and the representative from AFSARD Biljana Vukovic, informed that in 2014 there has been increased number of applications and approved projects. The average of rejection has been reduced to 50% at the same time informing that measure 302 shows a positive trend, and an increased number of applications for measure 302 as well as their approval. As one of the reasons for the termination of contracts, AFSARD pointed the problem regarding providing a certificate for paid taxes and contributions from the Public Revenue Office.

Also, as one of the reasons for the small number of approved applications, the representative of the Association of Farmers Mr. Shaklev, pointed the fact that 95% of farms are not legalized. In context of his presentation, and in order to increase the absorption of IPARD funds, Mr. Shaklev requested for an establishment of a working group, which, through regular meetings will discuss about the problems applicants face with during the process of application for IPARD funds. Based on this proposal as well as his implication on the problem with the legalization of farms, these conclusions were adopted:

**Conclusion No. 4:** The IPARD Monitoring Committee has obliged IPARD Managing Authority to establish a working group which will be composed of representatives from the IPARD Managing Authority, AFSARD, Commission for Rural Development within ZELS, NEA, representatives from the Ministry of Transport and Communications, Association of Farmers, Federation of farmers, Union of farmers in order reviewing the problems during the process of application for IPARD funds.

**Conclusion 5:** The IPARD Monitoring Committee has obliged ZELS to convene a working meeting within the Commission for Rural Development, with representatives from the Ministry of Transport and Communications and the mayors of rural municipalities regarding the issuance of building permits and legalization of buildings on agricultural

land, in order finding concrete solutions which will help to overcome these obstacles. Decisions brought on the working meeting to be submitted as information to the Government of Republic of Macedonia.

Regarding the proposal of Prof. Dr. Dimitrievski (Faculty of Agriculture and Food) who pointed out that the provision of a certificate for paid taxes and contributions from Public Revenue Office is one of the obstacles for the poor utilization of IPARD funds, the IPARD Monitoring Committee adopted the following conclusion:

**Conclusion No. 6:** The IPARD Monitoring Committee has obliged IPARD Managing Authority in cooperation with AFSARD, to modify the IPARD Program 2007- 2013 in order to facilitate the implementation, thus a to delete the criteria that the applicant/beneficiary should not have outstanding liabilities against the state in terms of fiscal obligations to the health, social and pension insurance funds and tax authorities, nor toward MAFWE. I didn't understand that such decision was reached at the meeting but in any case I don't think we can agree to delete these requirements.

Also as one of the obstacles or problems encountered by applicants, Mr. Dimitrievski stated about the submission of documents for capital relationship, especially with equipment suppliers from abroad. In this context, the IPARD Agency informed that in order to resolve the problem in terms of ownership structures, the following activities have been undertaken:

- Establishing a database of standard cost prices for a certain part of investment (machinery, construction, tractors, drop by drop system) i.e. these investments to go with one offer;
- The process of signing a memorandum with the Economic Chamber of Macedonia in order to facilitate the process of security and control of these documents is ongoing.

Based on this discussion, the following conclusion was adopted:

**Conclusion No. 7:** The IPARD Monitoring Committee obliged Economic Chamber of Macedonia and AFSARD, on its web site to publish the possibility of providing the necessary information about determining the ownership structure of foreign suppliers and equipment manufacturers, which IPARD potential applicants can provide through the Economic Chamber of Macedonia. This information as well as contact persons to be

published on the web site after the signing of the Memorandum of Cooperation between AFSARD and the Economic Chamber of Macedonia, but before publication of the next public call for IPARD funds.

In terms of advisory services in primary agricultural production, the director of NEA- Igor Zlatkov gave a brief retrospective in terms of number of applications prepared by NEA for the period 2009- 2014, i.e, about 80% of the submitted applications were prepared by NEA advisors. The Director of NEA requested the IPARD Monitoring Committee, after each public call to provide training to advisors that will help in completing the application, i.e which will increase the quality of the applications. In context of problems farmers face with while applying for IPARD funds, is the requirement for confirmation from NEA for education of farmers who have not completed secondary education. NEA does not have legal formal act to issue such a document. Untimely informing the applicants regarding whether their applications are approved or rejected has also been pointed out as a problem. The IPARD Monitoring Committee adopted the proposal for providing trainings for NEA's consultants and adopted the following conclusion:

**Conclusion No. 8:** The IPARD Monitoring Committee obliged IPARD Managing Authority and AFSARD, after completion of each public call, to provide training to NEA's advisors in order to improve their capacity for accurately and more precisely filling the applications as well as to review the mistakes which have been done in order not to be repeated in future.

Regarding the request for providing trainings, the representative of the Network for Rural Development of the Republic of Macedonia Petar Georgievski suggested during maintaining them, to invite representatives with positive and successful IPARD projects. The proposal was approved and adopted with the following conclusion:

**Conclusion No. 9:** The IPARD Monitoring Committee obliged IPARD MA, the Annual Plan for communication and publicity for 2015 to include activities for maintaining focus groups or so-called leader farmers (IPARD users) that would present their positive experiences to other potential IPARD users.

The submission of a letter to the applicants of IPARD funds to fulfil the documentation, the loss of interest and cancellation of the same in terms of completing the documentation, Mrs. Margarita Deleva pointed out as a problem which solution would contribute to an increased number of approved IPARD projects. Considering that solving that kind of a problem, NEA has a key role, regarding timely information and encourage the applicants to complete the necessary documentation, the IPARD Monitoring Committee adopted the following conclusions:

**Conclusion No. 10:** The IPARD Monitoring Committee obliged NEA, during the preparation of the necessary documentation for applying for using IPARD funds, to develop an internal act or pattern that along with the application which will be submitted to AFSARD, will constitute the consent of the applicant who applies for IPARD, NEA to be informed regarding the additional documents which have to be submitted in order to complete the necessary documentation. Also, AFSARD is obliged in these cases, the communication related to the application, to direct to NEA, and furthermore NEA to be used as a intermediary by AFSARD to improve the quality of all applications in measure 101.

**Conclusion No. 11:** The IPARD Monitoring Committee obliged AFSARD in cases where the applicant has formally agreed, to inform the consultant/advisor that has prepared the application, on the incompleteness/ irregularity of the IPARD application. Also, AFSARD to consider the possibility, NEA to be used as a direct liaison with the applicants so that the quality of application for measure 101 is improved and to report on this activity to the Monitoring Committee of IPARD.

*Semi-annual report for monitoring the implementation of the IPARD Programme for the period May 2014 – December 2014 is presented in Annex 4.*

#### **In relation to item 5.2 of the Agenda: “Report on approved/rejected projects”**

The representative of the IPARD Agency- Biljana Vukovic informed that with the last public calls, state of implementation of the IPARD Program 2007- 2013 is significantly improved, especially after the fourth modification of the IPARD Program 2007- 2013 the interest for applying has increased up to 8 times. One of the problems which IPARD

Agency is facing with, is the lack of staff and lack of trained staff that will work during the process of applications. The biggest problem in terms of rejection of projects she pointed the uncompleted applications by users. Therefore, the following conclusion was adopted:

**Conclusion No. 12:** *The IPARD Monitoring Committee was informed about the monitoring of the IPARD Programme projects*

In context of this point, the IPARD Monitoring Committee was informed about the results of the survey made for the project for ongoing evaluation of IPARD Program 2007- 2013, from the representative from Rural Development Network of the Republic Macedonia.

*Project follow up report for the IPARD Programme is presented in Annex 5.*

**6. In relation to item 6 of the Agenda: „Information on IPARD 2014-2020- Status of Framework Agreement and Sectoral Agreement 2014- 2020 "**

Regarding this point, Mrs. Margarita Deleva informed the IPARD Monitoring Committee about the adoption of the new IPARD II program, ie IPARD 2014- 2020 with a total EU budget funds of 60 million euros, while briefly referring to the new opportunities offered by the new program. In this regard, IPARD Monitoring Committee adopted the following conclusion:

**Conclusion No. 13:** The IPARD Monitoring Committee was informed about the adoption of IPARD II Programme 2014-2020, new opportunities which are offered and the next steps for operability of the program, specifically on the status of IPA II Framework Agreement and IPARD Sectoral Agreement II 2014-2020.

Regarding this point a discussion was opened, in terms when to stop the implementation of the IPARD I Programme and start the implementation of the IPARD II. Following the issue, the Head of Department for pre-accession funds (IPARD) in DG Agriculture and Rural development- Gerard Kiley, having in mind that allocations for IPARD II for the first few years are quite small, ie € 5 million in the first 3 years, said there is no need to stop and IPARD I and lose funds that can be used until the end of 2017, ie 12 million €.

If implementation of the IPARD Program 2007- 2013 continues to its deadlines, it is necessary to comply the programs in terms of opportunities which are offered in the IPARD Program 2014- 2020, and therefore, the IPARD Monitoring Committee adopted the following conclusion:

**Conclusion No. 14:** The IPARD Monitoring Committee obliged IPARD Managing Authority, in case IPARD I implementation continues with funds disbursement up to 31.12. 2017, MA to start a preparation of a proposal for modification of the IPARD Program 2007-2013 that would be in line with the opportunities offered in IPARD 2014-2020. The modification proposal to be consulted with DG AGRI.

Regarding the obligation of the IPARD Managing Authority to submit information to the Government of the Republic of Macedonia, which will provide options for closing the IPARD I and starting IPARD II, and the fact that the action plan for accreditation of the IPARD II is already prepared by NAO, the following conclusion was adopted :

**Conclusion No. 15:** IPARD Monitoring Committee obliged IPARD Managing Authority until March 2015, the information with options for closing the IPARD I and starting IPARD II which will be submitted to the Government of the Republic of Macedonia based on duty, previously to submit it to all members of the IPARD Monitoring Committee, so that they can contribute through their suggestions, comments etc. which will be an integral part of information.

**In relation to item 6.1 of the Agenda: "Preparations for programming and accreditation of new IPARD measures "**

Regarding this point, the leader of the twinning project from IPARD Agency Ms. Maja Brajovic gave a brief summary regarding the preparations for the accreditation of the new measure Rural infrastructure, progress in implementation of project activities and previous observations by the experts. As specific objectives of this measure were listed: the provision of infrastructure required for the development of rural areas, improving the living standards of the rural population, supporting public investment in rural areas and increasing economic activity therein. Final beneficiaries of this measure are: local government units pursuant to the Law of territorial organization of local government with

less than 10,000 inhabitants, Public enterprises for forest management according to the Law on public companies registered in the Central Register and Public Enterprises Management pasture. Mr. Adrian Neal - team leader of IPA project introduced new measures: IPARD LEADER and Advisory services - NIMS, and presented the activities of the project and their previous observations.

**Conclusion No. 16:** *The IPARD Monitoring Committee was informed about the preparations for programming and accreditation of new IPARD measures "*

**7. In relation to item 7 of the Agenda: "Information on functioning of the IPARD management and control system of IPARD"**

The representative of the National Authorising Officer informed the IPARD Monitoring Committee about the system for management and control. Verification visits and internal audits are tools for implementing supervision of the entire structure. During 2014 4 verification visit were conducted , one internal audit in the National Fund of the Ministry of Finance, 10 internal audits in the IPARD Agency and one in the IPARD Managing Authority.

**Conclusion no. 17:** The IPARD Monitoring Committee was informed on the operation of the system for management and control

**Information on the Activities undertaken by NAO for better implementation of the IPARD Programme and of the system for management and control is attached in Annex 6.**

**8.In relation to item 8 of the Agenda: "Technical Assistance Measure Activities "**

**8.1 of the Agenda: „ Progress on the accreditation of the Measures 501"**

The representative of the National Authorising Officer informed the members of the IPARD Monitoring Committee on the progress of the IPARD accreditation 501 Technical Assistance measure. Also, it was noted that accreditation of this measure is expected during 2015 taking into account the recommendations made by the European Commission as a result of their audit mission held during 11- 14 November 2014.

**Conclusion.18:** „ The IPARD Monitoring Committee was informed about the progress of the accreditation for Measure 501 – Technical Assistance from the IPARD Programme”

*Report on the progress of the accreditation of the technical assistance measure from the IPPARD Programme 2007-2013 is attached in Annex 7.*

In relation to item 8.2 of the Agenda: „ Adoption of the Annual Action Plan for implementation of Technical Assistance Measure for 2015"

*„ Approval of Long-term procurement of Technical Assistance measure "*

The representative of the Managing Authority IPARD, Mr. Viktor Mladenovski informed regarding the activities of the Annual Action Plan for implementation of technical assistance measure.

**Conclusion No. 19:** Due to lack of quorum for decision-making, according to the Rules of Procedure of the IPARD Monitoring Committee, Article 14 paragraph 1 and Article 15 paragraph 1, the Annual procurement plan for Measure 501- Technical assistance will be submitted to the members of Monitoring Committee and adopted by written procedure

*Annual Action Plan for implementation of Technical Assistance Measure is attached in Annex 8.*

9. In reference to point 9 of the Agenda: “Information on the progress on the activities related to the Communication and Publicity of the IPARD 2007- 2013Programme for 2014”

The representative of the IPARD Managing Authority, Mr. Viktor Mladenovski informed about the activities of communication and publicity of the IPARD program, implemented in 2014. In terms of actions for communication and publicity he pointed IPARD info days, workshops, forums, 8000 brochures were distributed through the MAFWE regional units to end users.

**Conclusion No. 20:** The IPARD Monitoring Committee was informed about the progress of the activities regarding the implementation of the communication and publicity of the IPARD 2007- 2013 Programme for 2014

*The Progress Report on the implementation of the Annual action plan for communication and publicity of for 2014 is attached in Annex 9.*

**10. In reference to point 10 of the Agenda:., Adoption of the Annual Communication Plan for 2015 "**

The representative from IPARD Managing Authority, Mr. Viktor Mladenovski, presented the Action Plan for communication and publicity for 2015.

**Conclusion No. 21:** Due to lack of quorum for decision-making, according to the Rules of Procedure of the IPARD Monitoring Committee, Article 14 paragraph 1 and Article 15 paragraph 1, the Annual Action Plan for communication and publicity for 2015 will be submitted to the members of IPARD Monitoring Committee and adopted by written procedure

*Annual Action Plan for publicity and communication is attached in Annex 10.*

**11. In reference to point 11 of the Agenda: „ Preliminary results of the ongoing evaluation**

The representative of the European Delegation, Mr. Olivier Mas briefed on the preliminary results of the project for the current evaluation of the IPARD 2007- 2013 Programme. The final report on the ongoing evaluation of IPARD program is expected 15 days after the IPARD Monitoring Committee.

**Conclusion No. 22:** The IPARD Monitoring Committee obliged Managing Authority to submit electronically the final report on the current evaluation of the IPARD 2007- 2013 Programme to the members of the IPARD Monitoring Committee.

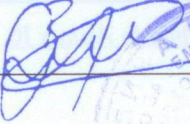
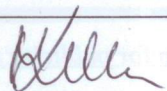
**12. In connection with item 12 of the agenda: „AOB”**

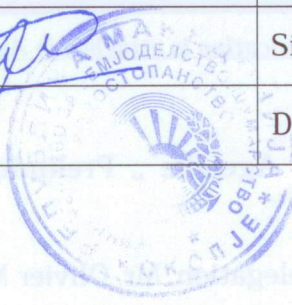
In relation to this point, a discussion was not raised .

**13. In reference to point 13 of the Agenda: “Proposals for the Agenda for the next (16th) spring IPARD MC meeting / agreement on indicative new date**

The representative IPARD Managing Authority, Margarita Deleva proposed the next meeting of the IPARD Monitoring Committee to be held in June 2015.

**Comments regarding the Draft Minutes from the 15<sup>th</sup> MC are presented in Annex 11.**

FOR THE IPARD MONITORING COMMITTEE:	FOR THE SECRETARIATE:
Vancho Kostadinovski	Margarita Deleva, MSc.
Title: <i>Chairperson</i>	Head of IPARD Managing Authority
Signature: 	Signature: 
Date:	Date: <i>08/07/2015</i>



**Appendix 1: Checklist for presence of members from the meetings of the IPARD Monitoring Committee**

No .	Title and name of member	Institution	Present “√”	Absent “√”	Representative “√”	Replacement	Number of absences
1.	Vancho Kostadinovski Chairman	MAFWE	√				0
<b>Government Institutions</b>							
2.	Mrs. Sonja Trajkova	MAFWE	√				0
3.	Mr.Zivko Brajkovski	MAFWE		√	√	Mrs. Aleksandra Dika	1
4.	Mr. Abdilgafar Sinani	M3IIB	√				0
5.	Mr.Uljusi Sherifi	MLSG		√			1

***Appendix 1: Checklist for presence of members from the meetings of the IPARD Monitoring Committee***

6.	Mrs. Evgenija Serafimovska Kirkovski	SEA	√				0
7.	Mrs. Snezana Gerasimova-Mateska	MC	√				2
8.	Mrs. Ardiana Abazi – Ramadani	ME	√				0
9.	Mr. Blazo Janevski	Agency for food and veterinary	√				0
10.	Mrs. Biljana Petkoska	MESP	√				0
<b>Agencies</b>							
11.	Mr. Igor Zlatkov	NEA	√				0
12.	Mr. Ljubisha Nikolovski	Agency for support of entrepreneurship	√				2
<b>ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL PARTNERS</b>							

**Appendix 1: Checklist for presence of members from the meetings of the IPARD Monitoring Committee**

13.	Mr. Vasko Ristovski	Macedonian Chamber of commerce	√				2
14.	Mr. Ognen Orovchanec	Agrobiz chamber at the Association of Chambers of commerce of RM		√			3
15.	Mr. Sasho Risteski	Macedonian association of processors	√				0
16.	Mr. Stevanche Jordanovski	Federation of farmers of Macedonia	√				0
17.	Mr. Veljo Tantarov	Association of farmers of Macedonia		√			3
18.	Ms. Natasha Vrteska	Association of local self-government units	√				0
19.	Prof. Dr. Dragi Dimitrievski	Faculty of agricultural sciences and food	√				2

**Appendix 1: Checklist for presence of members from the meetings of the IPARD Monitoring Committee**

20.	Mrs. Olga Stoimenova	Association of women farmers Agrovinka, Vinica			√	Mrs. Vaska Petrova	1
21.	Mrs. Olivija Shterjova	Chamber of craftsmen			√	Mrs. Valentina Simjanov	2
22.	Prof. Dr. Ilija Karov	Faculty of agricultural sciences and food – Shtip		√			1
23.	Mr. Eftim Shaklev	Farmers' association	√				0
24.	Mr. Petar Gjorgiev	Rural network of RM	√				1
25.	Mrs. Robertina Brajanoska	Macedonian ecological group		√			0
	<b>Total</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>3</b>		

**Representatives from government institutions:**

- Tatjana Arsova- Cabinet of the Prime Minister of the Government of the Republic of Macedonia;
- Blagojcho Tabakoski- Agency for food and veterinary;
- Goran Kovachev- Agricultural Credit Discount Fund, Ministry of Finance;
- Aleksandar Dimitrovski- Ministry of agriculture, forestry and water economy;
- Ljubo Penov- Ministry of agriculture, forestry and water economy;
- Svetlana Gligorova- Ministry of Environment and Physical Planning ;
- Ljiljana Vukovic- Agency for Entrepreneurship Support.

**Representatives of the Audit Body:**

- Vesna Mladenovska – Sector for audit for component V – SAO;
- Arben Ramadani - Sector for audit for component V – SAO.

**Representatives of economic and social partners**

- Eleonora Nastova Dimova – Association of fish producers of the Republic of Macedonia Aqua Fortis;

**Representatives of the IPA project for introduction of new IPARD measures LEADER and Advisory services:**

- Adrian Neal - team leader of IPA project for introduction of new IPARD measures : LEADER and Advisory services - NIMS;
- Donald Aquilina – expert for advisory services.

Matrix with comments of the minutes from 15th IPARD Monitoring Committee held on 20<sup>th</sup> of February

In reference to	Text	Comments from EC	Response from MC Secretariat
<p><b>Point 6 of the Agenda: „ State of play of implementation of the IPARD Programme 2007- 2013"</b></p> <p><b>5.1: „ Presentation of the results of the IPARD Programme via monitoring indicators/data"</b></p>	<p><b>Conclusion No. 6:</b> The IPARD Monitoring Committee has obliged IPARD Managing Authority in cooperation with AFSARD, to modify the IPARD Program 2007- 2013 in order to facilitate the implementation, thus a to delete the criteria that the applicant/beneficiary should not have outstanding liabilities against the state in terms of fiscal obligations to the health, social and pension insurance funds and tax authorities, nor toward MAFWE.</p>	<p><i>I didn't understand that such decision was reached at the meeting but in any case I don't think we can agree to delete these requirements.</i></p>	<p><u>The comment could not be accepted with the following justification:</u> „The Secretariat of the MC has gone thoroughly again through the transcript from the 15<sup>th</sup> MC meeting and this conclusion has been reached. The amendments of the Law on Agriculture and Rural Development determine the mechanism for compensation of applicant's liabilities towards the state. The control of applicant's liabilities is done by the Agency's Department for direct payments and if outstanding liabilities are found, the amount is being compensated from the applicant's subsidy"</p>
	<p><b>Conclusion No. 11:</b> The IPARD Monitoring Committee obliged AFSARD in cases where the applicant has formally agreed, to inform the consultant/advisor on the incompleteness/ irregularity of the IPARD application in order for further improvement and completion of documentation, communication related to the application to direct to the related</p>	<p><i>This conclusion is not clear, please revise the text.</i></p>	<p><u>The text has been revised as follows:</u> The IPARD Monitoring Committee obliged AFSARD in cases where the applicant has formally agreed, to inform the consultant/advisor that has prepared the application, on the incompleteness/ irregularity of the IPARD application. Also, AFSARD to consider the possibility, NEA to be used as a direct liaison with the</p>

	side. Also, AFSARD to consider the possibility NEA to be used as a conduit with the potential beneficiaries/farmers so that the quality of application for measure 101 is improved and to report the Monitoring Committee of IPARD.		applicants so that the quality of application for measure 101 is improved and to report on this activity to the IPARD Monitoring Committee.
<b>5.2 of the Agenda: “Report on approved/rejected projects”</b>	<b><u>Conclusion No. 14:</u></b> The IPARD Monitoring Committee obliged IPARD Managing Authority, if IPARD I continues to its deadlines, from 23 February to start preparing a proposal for modification of the IPARD Program 2007- 2013 in line with IPARD 2014- 2020, i.e. in those part of opportunities offered in IPARD II, and to share it with representatives from DG Agri to consider further steps in terms of whether it is acceptable or not.	<i>This conclusion is not clear, please revise the text.</i>	<u>The text has been revised as follows:</u> The IPARD Monitoring Committee obliged IPARD Managing Authority, in case IPARD I implementation continues with funds disbursement up to 31.12. 2017, MA to start a preparation of a proposal for modification of the IPARD Program 2007- 2013 that would be in line with the opportunities offered in IPARD 2014- 2020. The modification proposal to be consulted with DG AGRI.