



REPUBLIC OF MACEDONIA
IPARD Monitoring Committee

Minutes No. 7

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

**16 December, 2010 /Congress Hall at Sports Hall "Boris
Trajkovski", Skopje**

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Date: 13-06, 2011

Skopje

I. LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

The Chairperson of the IPARD Monitoring Committee, Mr. Perica Ivanoski (MSc.), 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, **Mrs. 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. **Mr. Stojan Gacov**, State Advisor for Rural Development, Ministry of agriculture, forestry and water economy, stand-in for the member Mrs. Valentina Stojanovic
2. **Mr. Zhivko Brajkovski**, Head of EU department, Ministry of agriculture, forestry and water economy,
3. **Mr. Abdilgafar Sinani**, Head of the sector for agriculture, Ministry of agriculture, forestry and water economy,
4. **Mrs. Snezana Gerasimova Matevska**, Advisor, Ministry of culture,
5. **Mr. Jordan Kuzmanovski**, Director, Agency for promotion of agricultural development,
6. **Mrs. Vahida Redzepagic**, Director, Agency for promotion of entrepreneurship of the Republic of Macedonia, stand-in for the member Mr. Ljubisa Nikolovski
7. **Mr. Aleksandar Zarkov**, Agribusiness chamber, stand-in for the member Mr. Zoran Danevski
8. **Mr. Sasho Ristevski**, Secretary, Macedonian association of processors,
9. **Mrs. Marija Gjosheva Kovacevik**, Federation of farmers of the Republic of Macedonia,
10. **Mrs. Natasa Vrteska**, Legal Advisor, Association of the Local self-government Units
11. **Mrs. Olga Stoimenova**, President, Association of Women-farmers „Agro-Vinka”, Vinica,
12. **Mrs. Olivija Shterjova**, Director, Craft Chamber of Republic of Macedonia,
13. **Mr. Hristo Lovacev**, NIPAC representative, Secretariat for European Affairs, stand-in for the member Mrs. Evgenija Serafimovska Kirkovski.

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

Representatives of the IPARD structure:

1. **Representatives of National Authorising Officer (NAO) and National Fund (NF):**
 - **Ms. Aleksandra Simjanovska**, Head of Unit, Ministry of Finance
2. **Representatives of the IPARD Managing Authority (IPARD MA):**
 - **Mr. Viktor Mladenovski**, Senior Associate, Unit for monitoring of IPARD funds and reporting
 - **Mr. Aleksandar Mitrevski**, Senior Associate, Unit for Programming and Evaluation of IPARD funds
 - **Mr. Stojan Gacov**, Advisor, Unit for Programming and Evaluation of IPARD funds,
 - **Mr. Igor Troshanski**, Advisor, Unit for Programming and Evaluation of IPARD funds
3. **Representatives of the Agency for Financial Support of Agriculture and Rural Development (IPARD Agency):**
 - **Mr. Toni Dimovski**, Director of the IPARD Agency
 - **Mrs. Maja Brajovik**, Head of Internal Audit Department
 - **Mrs. Biljana Vukovic**, Head of the unit for legal affairs

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

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

Results: The Chairperson and 13 members or their representatives with voting right (out of total of 21 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 Minutes.

III. OUTCOMES FROM THE IPARD MONITORING COMMITTEE MEETING

1. In relation to item 1 of the Agenda: "Opening of the meeting"

The Chairperson opened the meeting by welcoming the attendees and the presence of the representatives of the European Commission (EC).

According to the procedure, Mrs. Deleva informed that the envisaged deadline for submitting the working materials to the IPARD Monitoring Committee (15 working days before the day of holding the meeting) i.e. 29.11.2010, the materials were submitted to the European Commission on 30.11.2010 and to the members on 05.12.2010. She has expressed apologies on the late delivery of the Macedonian version of the documents which was due to the low quality of the translation from the selected low-cost contractor; therefore further time for revision of the translated documents was needed.

Due to this, Mrs. Deleva pointed out to the members that pursuant to the Rules of Procedure, they can reserve their right not to take decisions on the said materials during this meeting; instead, the decisions can be taken via "written procedure".

No further comments were received, therefore the members have agreed to discuss and approve the submitted documents according to the adopted Agenda.

2. In relation to item 2 of the Agenda: "Approval of the draft Agenda for the 7th IPARD Monitoring Committee meeting"

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

Mrs. Deleva proposed to include an additional topic with three presentations under item 11 "Any Other Business" as follows: IPA 2008 Project "Development and implementation of Agri-environment measures", Centar for promotion of sustainable agriculture practices and rural development (Ce ProSARD), and IPA 2008 Project "Adoption and implementation of the Acquis vis-à-vis CAP, specifically CMO establishment".

Having no further remarks, the Chairperson adopted the following:

Decision No. 1

The IPARD Monitoring Committee approved the draft Agenda on the seventh IPARD Monitoring Committee, including the corrections proposed by the present members.

The adopted Agenda is presented in Annex 1.

3. In relation to item 2 of the Agenda: "Adoption of the Minutes of the previous (6th) IPARD Monitoring Committee meeting (held on 28th of May, 2010)"

The Chairperson informed the members that the draft-Minutes from the 6th meeting of the IPARD Monitoring Committee (held on 28th of May, 2010) have been delivered on time to the members and representatives of the EC. The representatives from the EC submitted remarks for the Minutes that are attached as Appendix 3 to the draft-Minutes.

The Chairperson proposed adoption of the improved draft-Minutes from the 6th meeting of the IPARD Monitoring Committee as well as the supporting materials.

Having no further remarks, the Chairperson adopted the following

Decision No.2

The IPARD Monitoring Committee adopted the draft-Minutes of the (6th) meeting of the IPARD Monitoring Committee, held on 28th of May, 2010, 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 6th IPARD Monitoring Committee meeting and discussion"

Mrs. Deleva reported on the progress that has been made in the implementation of the decisions and conclusions reached at the 6th IPARD MC meeting, held on 28th of May, 2010.

Considering the reported under Conclusion No.1 from the Progress Report on the Decisions/Conclusions taken on the 6th (spring) IPARD MC-related to the membership aspects, Mrs. Deleva pointed out that the new members and the deputy members need to sign statements of impartiality and the same should be submitted to the Secretary of the Committee – Vasilka Tamburkovska.

Mrs. Marija Gjosheva – Kovacevik has commented on the Decision No.4. from the Progress Report on the Decisions/Conclusions taken on the 6th (spring) IPARD MC-related to the Programme modification status by giving a proposal for amendments of the Programme in relation to the eligibility criteria and modification of the eligible expenditures. (The proposal is included as Annex 4.

Draft-Minutes_7th IPARD Monitoring Committee

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The Chairperson has asked the representatives of the economic partners to timely provide their comments and suggestions on the Programme modification aspects to the Managing Authority in written.

The Progress report is presented in **Annex 3**

Proposal for Programme modification and modification of the List of eligible expenditures by the Federation of Farmers is presented in full as **Annex 4**.

5. In relation to item 4 from the Agenda: "Follow-up Information and feedback from the previous (3rd) meeting of the IPA Monitoring Committee, held on 3rd of December, 2010

Mr. Lovacev informed on the conclusions and the recommendations from the third IPA committee held on 3rd of December, 2010. He pointed out that the following conclusions have been adopted on that IPA committee related to Component V-IPARD:

1. Revision on the administrative capacities and organisational set up is needed within the IPARD operating structures aiming at meeting future challenges.
2. Examination of reasons which caused high rejection of the applicants at the first call is done in order to improve the process and provide further support to potential beneficiaries for the future calls under this Programme.
3. Preparation of plan for announcement of calls under IPARD in 2011 with possibility to increase the number of calls to meet the demands of the potential beneficiaries.

He also informed on the recommendations from the IPA committee:

1. The accreditation of new measures should be in the focus of attention, especially the accreditation of the Technical assistance measure.
2. The third modification should be finalised without any further delays.
3. Extended and in-dept work is needed in overcoming the identified system inconsistencies of the national legal and institutional frame.
4. Special attention should be put on retention of well trained staff

In relation to the management and control system, as Mr. Lovacev informed, the following conclusions and recommendations were considered by the IPA MC members:

1. NAO is committed in maintaining and even more in increasing the quality of the management and control systems installed within each OS by providing

regular follow up and reporting on mitigating the remaining medium risks deriving from the EC Audit Reports to the Government and the EC services.

2. The accreditation of the DIS and the conferral of management (in particular for component I) have the highest priority as it is a precondition for the implementation of the programmes under the IPA instrument.
1. To reinforce and sustain the cooperation between the Operating structures for efficient use of the IPA assistance and to follow and implement the principles of "partnership and ownership".

Mr. Lovacev has also presented the general recommendations and conclusions, as follows:

- with respect to the Design of the programmes and choice of activities to achieve the stated objectives:

1. The project design under all Operational/National Programmes is relevant to the priorities of the country as set in the MIPDs.
2. Once the implementation is launched under all components, it will be followed with interim evaluations under each component thus offering solid base for drawing conclusions and recommendations vis-à-vis the design of the programmes not undermining the specific features of the programmes.

- with respect to the Sustainability or likely sustainability of the changes initiated with the assistance of the programmes:

1. The JMC calls upon sharing good practices identified in the frame of sectoral and future sub-sectoral monitoring committees.
2. To avoid overlapping with other bilateral and multilateral assistance.
3. Where necessary, additional staff should be recruited quickly and available training possibilities used.

Mr. Lovacev informed that the IPA MC highly recommended that the Sectoral Monitoring Committees to be schedule in advance to the IPA Monitoring Committee meetings. Also, he informed, that the IPA MC members highly recommend advance scheduling of the respective two annual meetings of the Sectoral Monitoring Committee as to accomplish timely preparation and submission of the respective reports and effective work of the Sectoral Monitoring Committees, and finally to have in December, each year a Joint Monitoring Committee meeting that summaries the achievements in all five components.

Taking into account the discussions, the Chairperson reached the following conclusion:

Conclusion No. 1

The IPARD Monitoring Committee was informed about the third IPA Committee and about the conclusions and recommendation adopted on the meeting held on 3rd of December, 2010.

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

Mr. Mladenovski explained the results from the implementation of the IPARD programme and the realization of the goals of the Programme based on the collected monitoring data in the period December, 2009/December/2010.

Having no further remarks, the Chairperson adopted the following:

Decision No. 3:

The IPARD Monitoring Committee reviewed the Annual monitoring report for 2010 and endorsed the results from the implementation of the IPARD Programme, particularly the realization of the objectives per measure and the usage of financial allocation per measure and groups of investments in the measures.

The Annual monitoring report for 2010 is presented in **Annex 5**.

5.2. In relation to item 5.2 of the Agenda: "Status with the second call for proposal for IPARD funds, published on 30.09 which ended on 29.11.2010".

Mr. Dimovski explained the results from the second public call for proposals for IPARD funds published on 30.09.2011 which ended on 29.11.2010. He summarizes that 112 applications have been submitted by the end of the call, out of which 67 are for Measure 101 "Investments in Agriculture Holdings", 25 applications for measure 103 "Investments in processing and marketing" and 20 applications for measure 302 "Diversification of rural economic activities".

With relation to the highest interest within the group of investments per measure, Mr. Dimovski informed that the highest interest under the measure 101 is for investments in reconstruction of orchards (39 applications) and vegetable production (12 applications) out of which 9 applications are for construction and reconstruction of greenhouses. Under the measure 103, Mr. Dimovski reported that the highest interest has been registered for fruit and vegetable processing - 15 applications. High interest was reported for investments in promotion of activities for rural tourism - 13 applications, out of which 6 applications are for reconstruction

of on-farm houses for tourism activities, accompanied with recreational capacities and 7 investments for construction of catering facilities, outdoor accommodation (camps) and capacities for recreational activities; under the measure 302.

He also pointed out that the amount requested for co-financing of this notice indicatively amounts around 14 millions of EURO. In relation to the first public call, he said that out of 27 approved applications, 5 have been processed and will be paid to the applicants by the end of December or at the beginning of January.

Ms. Yanakieva, has asked for the detail data report to be submitted to the EC services, as to plan the amount of pre-financing payment in accordance to the Sectoral Agreement.

Taking into account the discussions, the Chairperson reached the following new conclusion:

Conclusion No. 2

The IPARD Managing Authority is obliged to include the report, as Annex to the Minutes of the 7th IPARD Monitoring Committee submitted from the IPARD Agency.

The data on status with the second call for proposals for IPARD funds, prepared by the IPARD Agency is presented in **Annex 6**.

5.3. In relation to item 5.3 of the Agenda: "Discussion on problems faced by the applicants during the implementation of the Call for proposals under the IPARD Programme from 23.12.2009-17.03.2010".

Mr. Mitrevski presented the results from the thematic research of the opinion of the applicants on the application process and publicity as to identify and overcome the problems encountered under the first public call. Mr. Mitrevski explained that the survey research has been carried out by the Managing authority through 130 questionnaires that were sent to the applicants. He pointed out that the rate of answered questions is 33%, which affects the representativeness of the results. For further improvement of the future surveys as part of the on-going evaluation system, he proposed that the IPARD Agency to include these questionnaires in the application forms for the upcoming call for proposals as they become mandatory to be filled by all applicants.

Mr. Dimovski pointed out that the survey is quite useful and that it will be used for further researches of all institutions included in the process.

Mr. Ristevski has raised doubts on whether the surveys to be conducted via the IPARD Agency since it is an authority that implements the IPARD and that the applicants will be reluctant to sincerely answer the questions specially the once related with the work of the IPARD Agency. He emphasized that the surveys should be performed by the Managing Authority. Mr. Ristevski further proposed that the IPARD Agency should provide detail explanation on the reasons for rejection of the applicants.

Mrs. Ilievska explained the problems of the applicants from the first public call of the IPARD Programme, registered by the NEA. She pointed out that based on the experience from the first public call, NEA focused its potential and resources towards upgrading its own capacities, transfer of information and trainings of the farmers, altogether emphasizing the strengthening of the personal structure, more information to the farmers, media coverage, support in filling the application package.

At the end, Mrs. Ilievska pointed out that for the purpose of efficient realization of the IPARD Programme there is need for formalization of the role, rights and responsibilities of the stakeholders, active and direct communication with the smaller groups of farmers which are potential beneficiaries, strengthening the active functioning of the working groups for monitoring and implementing the measures under the IPARD Programme, formed by the IPARD Monitoring Committee, where representatives from the NEA are also members.

Mrs. Deleva pointed out that in order to overcome the problems that farmers and the advisors facing on the field, there is need of feedback between the institutions who manage the programme and those that implement the programme or are involved as intermediary organisations.

Mrs. Gjoseva-Kovacevic proposed all institutions and organisations involved in the process to have their own presentations for overcoming the problems with the applicants on the forthcoming Monitoring Committee meeting. She pointed out that the applicants face big problems with the commercial banks for obtaining loans and that further analysis on how many applications are filled by the NEA advisors and approved.

Mr. Shaklev stated that the farmers are satisfied with the cooperation with the NEA advisors, but he rose that the advisors are not present in the field to get familiar with the problems of the farmers and to identify beneficiaries. He also stated that

there should be more trained advisors in order to help in fulfilling the applications of the farmers and timely informing the applicants for each future call

Mr. Kiely pointed out that the problem is not in the insufficient number of applications as there number is rather high but in the rejection rate. He said that efforts should be made to decrease the rejection rate and to ensure transparency in the processing of applications in order to keep the interest of the farmers to apply for the next calls for proposals for IPARD funds.

Taking into account the discussions, the Chairperson reached the following conclusion:

Conclusion No. 3

All institutions included in the IPARD Programme are obliged to timely inform the Managing authority about the applicant's problems, so that Managing authority can take actions to overcome the problems of the applicants and for it to inform the IPARD Monitoring Committee.

The survey of the applicants from the first public call carried out by the Managing authority is presented in Annex 7

The report from NEA is presented in Annex 8

The comments from FFRM is presented in Annex 9

6. In relation to item 6 from the Agenda: "Information/discussion of results of on-going evaluation"

Mr. Mitrevski presented the first Annual On-going evaluation report. He asked the representatives from the European Commission whether the Economic Institute-Skopje can carry out an evaluation of the IPARD Programme, but he did not receive comments.

Mrs. Deleva stated that the first Annual evaluation report of the IPARD Programme is submitted to the Competent Accreditation Officer – Minister of finance, MSc. Zoran Stavrevski and to the Head of Audit Authority for pre-accession fund, Mr. Ivan Ignjatov.

Having no further remarks, the Chairperson adopted the following

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Decision No. 4

The IPARD Monitoring Committee reviewed and approved the On-going evaluation Annual report of the IPARD Programme for 2010.

Conclusion No. 4

The IPARD Managing authority is obliged to include the Annual monitoring report, as a part of the Annual implementation report for the IPARD Programme

First Annual On-going report is presented in Annex 10

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

Mrs. Simjanovska informed about the monitoring on functioning of the system and the fulfillment of the accreditation criteria, IPARD financial allocations, Capacities of IPARD structure and Unit for Internal Audit of EU – IPA funds.

NAO report is presented in Annex 11

8. In relation to item 8 of the Agenda: "Progress activities related to the Communication and publicity of the IPARD Programme"

Mrs. Deleva, upon the approval by the representative from the European Commission replaced the Chairperson of the IPARD Monitoring Committee.

8.1 Report on progress in implementing the information and publicity measures

Mrs. Deleva stated the key activities that are planned and realized in accordance with the action plan for 2009 and the planned and realized activities in accordance with the action plan for communication and publicity for 2010. She stressed that the promotional measures will continue in the following period, particularly directly before and after publishing the public calls in the following year, and they will be carried out in accordance with the action plan for implementing the activities for communication and publicity for 2011.

8.2 Consideration/approval of the updates of the Communication Plan for the IPARD Programme 2007-2013 and Draft Annual Communication Plan

Mrs. Deleva informed that the activities for Communication of the IPARD Programme are performed in accordance with a strategic document, which is valid

upon the entire duration of the Programme, and every year a special Action Plan is presented and submitted for an approval. This Communication Plan was adopted last year, agreed between the European Commission and the Managing Authority and adopted by the IPARD Monitoring Committee. This year, an audit of the strategic part was made, i.e. the part referring to the Budget, whereupon the budget for financing of these activities has been allocated for the period of 2007-2013 with indicative spending percentage and with indicative strategic activities. In the part of the implementation, the Communication Plan has been adopted in accordance with the distribution of tasks between the IPARD Managing Authority and IPARD Agency in accordance with the concluded implementation agreement with the inclusion of the special provisions for visibility of the IPARD Programme. Correction has also been made to the reaction resulting from the accreditation process for the activities called trainer's training by which the auditors recommended that a danger would appear to create a few that could assist in the application process and that it would be potential bottleneck. Therefore, the trainings will refer to large groups and will be conducted by the Managing Authority and so called mediation organisation will be used, that is, all economic, social partners, non-governmental organisations which will show an interest for education, conducting seminars on their initiative.

Mr. Troshanski further presented Draft Annual Action Plan for Communication for 2011. He emphasized the amendments made in the Draft Action Plan for Communication for 2011 including publication of the amendments of the IPARD Programme on CD once a year, presentation of good practices of the IPARD projects, participation on seminars, press releases and press conferences – 20 times per year. He also emphasized that we have obtained a proposal from the Sector for Public Relations to add 2 more briefings per month with the journalist which will be informed on the changes happening in terms of the IPPARD Programme and the last amendment is promotional campaign for additional IPARD measures.

Mr. Troshanski further informed that due to the decrease of the capacity of employees in the IPARD Managing Authority and lack of financial means, on-the-spot publicity for the second public call could not be performed as prior the first call.

Mrs. Deleva suggested to activate the Committee for Publicity for more efficient promotion of the IPARD Programme which will include all mediation organisations from the local self-government, centres for regional development, the Agency for Promotion of Entrepreneurship and all together to agree the activities which we will be distributed and implemented in the following year in order to provide better publicity for the IPARD Programme. However, she added that no publicity officer is appointed in the Managing Authority since the decrease of staff.

Mrs. Simjanovska suggested not only NEA, but the associations of farmers, federation of farmers, associations to be actively involved in the information of its members for the IPARD Programme.

Mrs. Kovacheva suggested including of the magazine "Moja zemja" of the Federation of Farmers in the Annual Report on Communication from which more farmers would be informed on the IPARD Programme.

Having regard the discussion, the Chairperson adopted the following:

Decision No. 5:

IPARD Monitoring Committee reviewed and adopted the revised Communication Plan for IPARD 2007-2013 and accompanying Draft Action Plan for Communication for 2011. IPARD Monitoring Committee also obliged the Chairperson of the Committee to inform on the realisation of the Action Plan for Communication for 2011 on the following (spring) meeting.

The progress report on the implementation of the measure for publicity is given in Annex 12
The adopted revised Communication Plan for IPARD and Annual Action Plan for Communication for 2011 is given in Annex 13

9. In relation to item 9 of the Agenda: "Technical assistance activities".

9.1. Progress on the preparation for accreditation of the Measure 505 Technical Assistance

Mrs. Simjanovska emphasized that in terms of the accreditation of the technical assistance measure, the IPARD structures have finalized the process of the preparation and establishment of the system by adapting their internal work procedures for the implementation of the Technical Assistance measure and using of its segregated funds. She also emphasized that the following step would be independent audit which will implement the compliance assessment of the IPARD structures. She informed that the funds for this measure are provided from the 2011 budget. She also informed that a national accreditation of the National Authorising Officer and the National Fund by the Competent Accreditation Officer will follow after the acquisition of the positive result by the independent audit, and based on the accreditation, the National Authorising Officer will allocate national accreditation to the IPARD Managing Authority and IPARD Agency. She reported that the accreditation of the technical assistance measure depends on the employees' capacity and that they are currently working to increase the capacities

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of the IPARD structures and hopes that the accreditation of the technical assistance measure will happen in the first half of 2011.

9.2 Approval of the draft Annual Action Plan for the implementation of Technical Assistance activities in 2011.

Mrs. Deleva informed on the content of the Annual Action Plan for the implementation of the Technical Assistance measure.

No further discussions were raised. Since quorum was not reached at this point, the Chairperson adopted the following:

Decision No. 6

IPARD Monitoring Committee reviewed the Annual Action Plan for the implementation of the measure from the IPARD Programme 2007-2013 for Technical Assistance 2011 and the approval decision shall be taken by written procedure.

10. In relation to item 10 of the Agenda: "Input from the IPARD MC on next MIPD 2011-2013 adoption"

Mrs. Deleva explained the draft proposal for the Multi-annual Indicative Planning Document 2011-2013 for Component V.

Conclusion No. 5:

IPARD Monitoring Committee was informed on draft proposal for the Multi-annual Indicative Planning Document 2011-2013 for Component V.

10.1 Information on the status of signing the Multi-annual Financial Agreement for the IPA Component V – Rural Development for the financial period 2007-2011.

Mr. Lovacev informed that on the 200th session of the Government of the Republic of Macedonia held on 14 december 2010, under item 95 the text of the information was adopted and NIPAC Mr. Vasko Naumovski were authorised to sign the amendment to the Multi-annual Financial Agreement 2007-2010 for IPARD with financial allocation for 2011 in the amount of 14 million Euros on the behalf of the Government. It will be signed by the two parties in January 2011 in accordance with the last information from the GD for agriculture. With the implementation of the new MIPD 2011-2013 according to which 16 million Euros have been allocated for the Republic of Macedonia, signing will follow which will put at disposal additional 2 million Euros i.e. total value of 16 million Euros for 2011.

Taking into account the discussions, the Chairperson reached the following new conclusion:

Conclusion No. 6:

IPARD Monitoring Committee was informed on the signing of the Multi-annual Financial Agreement for the IPA Component V – Rural Development for the Financial Period 2007-2011.

11. In relation to item 11 of the Agenda: "AOB"

11.1 Progress report on the approximation of the national legislation related to IPARD under NPAA.

11.2 Report on implementation of TAIEX activities related to IPARD.

Mr. Brajkovski informed the members on the undertaken activities for the realisation of NPAA (National Programme for the Adoption of the Acquis Communautaire) and TAIEX activities in the last period and informed on the plan for further activities.

11.3 IPA Component I – Projects related to IPARD.

- Centre for Promotion of Sustainable Agricultural Practices and Rural Development - CeProSARD

Mrs. Micevska informed the members on the CeProSARD project "Agroenergy" – non-governmental organisation directing its activities towards sustainable development, applying the multidisciplinary approach. She informed the members that the rural development is in the focus of CeProSARD and that this non-governmental organisation has two current projects which are related to the IPARD Programme. She informed in details on the two current projects Agroenergy and IPARD information service.

- Adoption and application of the European legislation for Common Agriculture Policy, especially for the establishment of common market organisation

Mr. Abbott informed the members on the project in details, including which are the members of the project, where it is located and what are the main tasks of the project that would assist for the IPARD Programme.

- Development and implementation of agro-environmental measures

A representative of the project for development and implementation of agro-environmental measures explained the essence of the project. He informed the members that the objective of the project is provision of technical assistance for MAFWE and the IPARD Agency in order to strengthen the national and regional competencies necessary for realisation of the priorities for approximation to the EU requirements and market oriented reforms and sector development with special emphasizes Development of Agro-Environmental Measures. He presented the expected results of the project.

Given the fact that IPARD is mentioned, Mrs. Deleva asked which are the other relevant institutions related to IPARD that will have the opportunity to use the project activities besides the IPAARD Agency, and what is the connection of the project activities which are planned for the programming and implementation of the IPARD funds.

The project representative replied that the users will be MAFWE and the IPARD Agency and the second beneficiary will be NEA in order to explain farmers what are the measures, what is the procedure and forms that should be used and what are the consequences if the procedures are not being followed i.e. the deposited means will not be returned.

Mrs. Deleva asked who will be included from MAFWE in the project since MAFWE has many employees.

The project representative replied that the Sector for Rural Development of MAFWE will be included.

Ms. Yakanieva, pointed out that the focus of the agro-environmental project should be more on the preparatory aspects as in accordance with IPARD and the approach of the member-states shall be foreseen at later stages.

The presentation of the progress of NPAA and TAIEX activities related to the IPARD Programme which are undertaken in 2010 is included in Annex 14.

The presentation of CeProSARD is included in Annex 15.

The presentation of the adoption and application of the European legislation for Common Agriculture Policy, especially for the establishment of common market organisation is included in Annex 16.

The presentation of the project for development and implementation of agro-environmental measures is included in Annex 17.

12. In relation to item 12 of the Agenda: "Proposals for the Agenda of the next (8th) spring IPARD MC meeting /agreement on indicative new date"

The Chairperson that the following IPARD MC is planned in May and proposed the regular items of the Agenda for the next meeting.

Mrs. Deleva informed the members on the initiative for inclusion of additional members representing the National Rural Development Network, and other agriculture associations of agriculturists in the IPARD Monitoring Committee. She also proposed annual rotation of the representatives from the Education and Scientific Institutions as MC member as to include all the institutions from different Universities.

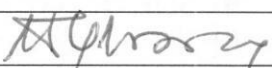
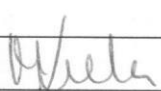
No additional discussions were raised and the Chairperson has adopted the following:

Conclusion No. 7:

IPARD Managing Authority was obliged to initiate a procedure for introduction of new members to the IPARD Monitoring Committee involved in the IPARD Programme in accordance of the Rules of Procedure of the IPARD Monitoring Committee.

No additional comments were given therefore the Chairperson concluded that the 7th Meeting of the IPARD Monitoring Committee is closed.

SIGNATURES;

FROM THE IPARD MONITORING COMMITTEE:	FROM THE SECRETARIAT:
Perica Ivanoski, Msc.	Margarita Deleva, MSc.
Title: Chairperson	Title: Head of IPARD Managing Authority
Signature: 	Signature: 
Date: 13/06/2011	Date: 13/06/2011



Attendance Checklist of the Members on the IPARD Monitoring Committee

No	Title and name of the members	Institution	Present "√"	Absent "√"	Represented "√"	Represented by	Subsequent absences
1.	Perica Ivanovski, (MSc).Chairperson	MAFWE	√				0
GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS							
2.	Mrs. Valentina Stojanovik	MAFWE			√	Mr. Stojan Gacov	0
3.	Mr. Zhivko Brajkovski	MAFWE	√				0
4.	Mr. Abdilgafar Sinani	MAFWE	√				0
5.	Mrs. Slavica Jakimovska	MoLSG		√			1
6.	Mrs. Evgenija Serafimovska Kirkovski	SEA			√	Mr. Hristo Lovancev	0
7.	Mrs. Snezana Gerasimova- Mateska	MoC	√				0
8.	Mrs. Ilir Sabani	MoE		√			2

9.	Mrs. Jadranka Ivanova	MoEPP		√			2
AGENCIES							
10.	Mr. Jordan Kuzmanovski	NEA	√				0
11.	Mr. Ljubisa Mikolovski	Agency for Support of Entrepreneurship			√	Mrs. Vahida Redzepagik	0
ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL PARTNERS							
12.	Mrs. Stojmirka Tasevska	Chamber of Commerce of Macedonia		√			1
13.	Mr. Zoran Danevski	Association of Chambers of Commerce			√	Mr. Aleksandar Zarkov	0
14.	Mr. Saso Risteski	Macedonian Association of Processors	√				0
15.	Mr. Andrija Sekulovski	Federation of Farmers of Macedonia			√	Mrs. Marija Gjosheva Kovacevik	0
16.	Mr. Veljo Tantarov	Association of Farmers of Macedonia		√			1
17.	Mrs. Natasha Vrteska	Association of Units of Local Self-government	√				0

Appendix 1 – Attendance Checklist _7th IPARD Monitoring Committee Meeting

18.	Mr. Dragi Dimitrievski (PhD)	Faculty of Agricultural Sciences and Food		√			2
19.	Mr. Petar Andonov	Movement of Ecologists of Macedonia		√			1
20.	Mrs. Olga Stoimenova	Association of Women Agricultural Producers Agrovinka, Vinica	√				0
21.	Mrs. Olivija Sterjova	Craft Chamber of Republic of Macedonia	√				0
TOTAL		14	9	7	5		

11. AOB

11.1 Progress report on the approximation of the national legislation related to IPARD under NPAA.

11.2 Report on implementation of TAIEX activities related to IPARD

11.3 IPA Component I Projects related to IPARD

- CeProSARD
- Project for Adoption and Implementation of the Acquis for Common Agricultural Policy, and particularly for establishing a common market economy
- Project for Development and Implementation of Agro-Environmental Measures

11.4. Final report of the CARDS 2006 Project "Supporting the IPARD Preparation" (SIPP)

12. Proposals for the Agenda of the next (8th) spring IPARD MC meeting /agreement on indicative new date"

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**ФЕДЕРАЦИЈА НА ФАРМЕРИТЕ
НА РЕПУБЛИКА МАКЕДОНИЈА**

18 December 2011
Skopje

For the IPARD Monitoring Committee

Subject: COMENTS from the seventh meeting of the IPARD Monitoring Committee

It is FFRM's position that the minutes from the 7th IPARD MC have left out many important propositions that refer to more successful realization of the program.

Page 8 of the minutes, between paragraph 4 and 5, should include:

The deputy member (representative) of FFRM – Marija Gjoseva Kovacevic, gave a proposition for modification of the criteria and the list of eligible expenditure of the program, as follows:

Measure 101:

To decrease the minimum number of heads needed for construction or reconstruction of facilities for milking cows, from 10 to 5. Also, these criteria should be same for legal entities as for the individual farmers.

The minimum number of sheep should also be decreased from 300 on 150 heads, according our conditions and capacities of pastoral farms so as to natural and legal persons.

For construction and reconstruction of facilities for pig breeding, the number of 2000 pigs for fattening is very big for our conditions and should be reduced to 500, while the minimum of 40 sows should be 10 sows.

The minimal number of 5000 broilers for the establishment of new poultry farms is realistic, but the upper limit is low and should be abolished.

Measure 103

FFRM noted on the minimum capacity needed for investments in modernization and technological upgrade of specialized capacities for

BGE

processing of milk (5000 l/day). The possibilities for collection of such amounts of cow's and especially sheep and goat milk are small.

The list of eligible expenditure should be increased, especially in the part of agricultural mechanization, since the interest for tractors is very big. Also, all agricultural additional equipment and machinery should be made available for the applicants in the program. As for the complementarities between the IPARD program and the national program, we propose to limit the applicant that applied in one, not to apply in the other program for the same investment.

On page 8, paragraph 5, the name of the FFRM representative Mr. Nedim Kasami, should be added.

There is a error in the surname of Marija Gjoseva Kovacevic on page 11, paragraph 2.

El presidente of FFRM

Andrija Sekulovski

