



MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE, FORESTRY AND WATER ECONOMY
IPARD MANAGING AUTHORITY
IPARD Programme 2021-2027 Monitoring Committee

Minutes of the first meeting of the IPARD Programme 2021-2027
Monitoring Committee

29 march 2023
Hotel „Sirius“
Strumica

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I. List of participants

MR. Rexhail Ismaili – Chairperson of the IPARD Programme 2021-2027 Monitoring Committee.

Members present at the IPARD Programme 2021-2027 Monitoring Committee meeting:

1. Ms. Nazmije Idrizi - Ministry of Environment and Physical Planning;
2. Mr.Vulnet Arifi – Ministry of Local Self Government;
3. Ms.Dana Petreska – Secretariat for European Affairs;
4. Mr.Dzemilj Kjamili – National Extension Agency;
5. Mr. Vladimir Petkov - Faculty for Veterinary Medicine;
6. Ms.Aleksandra Martinovska Stojcheska – Faculty of Agricultural Sciences and Food;
7. Mr. Sasho Risteski - Macedonian association of processors;
8. Ms.Maja Taseva – Agency for support of entrepreneurship;
9. Ms. Vaska Mojsovska- National Federation of Farmers;
10. Ms. Robertina Brajanoska - Macedonian ecological group;
11. Mr. Agron Fazliji – Chamber of Crafts of North Macedonia;
12. Mr. Goran Mitev - Assosiation of farmers;
13. Mr. Pero Mocan - Wines from Macedonia;
14. Mr. Arben Halili – Economic Chamber of Noth West Macedonia;
15. Mr.Ljupcho Mihajlov - Faculty of agricultural sciences and food – UGD Stip;
16. Mr.Stevche Stevanovski – ZELS – Union of units of local self-government;
17. Mr. Sasho Krcoski - Network of young farmers;
18. Mr.Goran Gjorgjievski – Union of Chambers of Commerce.

Present deputy members of the IPARD Programme 2021-2027 Monitoring Committee meeting:

1. Ms.Tatjana Veta - Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Water economy;
2. Mr.Sasho Kutleshovski - Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Water economy;
3. Ms.Dajana Todorovska - Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Water economy;
4. Mr.Sasho Gjuroski - Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Water economy;
5. Mr.Refet Ameti – Ministry of culture;
6. Ms.Jasmina Majstoroska – Ministry of economy;
7. Mr.Argjend Osmani - Food and Veterinary Agency;
8. Mr.Dejan Dzokoski – LAG AGRO LIDER.

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

Mr. Frank Bollen – Directorate General for Agriculture and Rural Development;

Mr. Zigo Rutkovskis – Directorate General for Agriculture and Rural Development.

Representatives of the European Delegation:

Mr. Kostas Soupilas - Delegation of European Union in the Republic of North Macedonia.

Representatives of NAO and NF:

1. Ms. Elizabeta Manusheva Apostolovski - Ministry of Finance;
2. Ms. Zorica Josifoska - Ministry of Finance;

3. Mr. Robert Nikoloski - Ministry of Finance;

Representatives from IPARD Managing Authority (MA):

1. Mr. Zhivko Brajkovski - Head of IPARD MA;
2. Mr. Igor Troshanski - Deputy Head of MA;
3. Mr. Viktor Mladenovski - Unit for monitoring of implementation of IPARD funds and reporting;
4. Ms. Jasmina Hadzibulik - Unit for monitoring of implementation of IPARD funds and reporting;
5. Ms. Gordana Smileska - Unit for monitoring of implementation of IPARD funds and reporting;
6. Mr. Kiril Ristoski - Unit for implementation of IPARD technical assistance;
7. Mr. Zlatko Kolevski - Unit for implementation of IPARD technical assistance;
8. Mr. Oliver Stefanovski - Unit for implementation of IPARD technical assistance;
9. Mr. Aleksandar Anteski - Unit for Programming and Evaluation of IPARD funds;
10. Mr. Dusko Jakimovski - Unit for Programming and Evaluation of IPARD funds;
11. Mr. Isa Imishti - Unit for Programming and Evaluation of IPARD funds;
12. Ms. Sadzide Demir - Unit for Programming and Evaluation of IPARD funds;











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

1. Mr. Nikica Bachovski - Director of the IPARD Agency;
2. Mr. Remzi Abdulahi - Deputy director of the IPARD Agency;
3. Mr. Vangel Nanevski - IPARD Agency;
4. Mr. Vladimir Hristov - IPARD Agency;
5. Ms. Svetlana Ristovska - IPARD Agency;
6. Mr. Panche Arsov - IPARD Agency.

Results: The Chairperson of the Committee, 18 members and 8 deputy members with voting right (out of a total of 33 members with a right to vote) participated at the meeting. A quorum of 2/3 of the members with a right to vote was achieved to hold the meeting in accordance with article 8 paragraph 3 of the Rules of Procedure.

*The checklist for presence of members from the last meeting of the IPARD Programme 2021-2027 Monitoring Committee is shown in Appendix 1 of these minutes.
The list of observers is shown in Appendix 2 of these minutes.*

I. Agenda for the 1st IPARD Programme 2021-2027 Monitoring Committee meeting

Bp.	Time	Topic	Presented by:	Documents
		Registration	MA Secretariat	
	12:30 12:40	Confirmation of presence of members/deputies at the meeting	IPARD MA Secretariat	/
	12:40 12:50	Opening of the meeting	Chairperson/Frank Bollen - Head of unit G4, DG Agri	Opening
1.	12:50 13:00	Adoption of the draft Agenda for 1 st meeting the IPARD 2021-2027 Monitoring Committee	Chairperson	 Draft Agenda
2.	13:00 13:10	Decision on establishment of IPARD III Monitoring Committee	IPARD MA	 Decision
3.	13:10 13:20	Information on adoption of Draft Rules of Procedures of the Monitoring Committee for IPARD 2021-2027 of the Republic of North Macedonia	IPARD MA	 Rules of Procedures
4.	13:20 13:30	Information on the adoption of the Sectoral Agreement and Financial Agreement for IPARD III	NIPAC NAO	 To be presented at the meeting
5.	IPARD Programme 2021-2027			
5.1	13:30 13:45	Adoption of the first modification of the IPARD Programme 2021- 2027	IPARD MA	 Proposal for first modification
5.2	13:45 13:55	Information on status of accreditation of IPARD III measures	NAO	 To be presented at the meeting
5.3	13:55 14:00	Information on the plan for public call under IPARD 2021-2027	IPARD Agency	 To be presented at the meeting
6.	14:00 14:10	Evaluation plan for IPARD III Programme	IPARD MA	 To be presented at the meeting
7.	14:10 14:20	Plan for visibility and communication activities for IPARD III Programme	IPARD MA	 To be presented at the meeting
8.	Technical Assistance Activities			
8.1	14:20 14:30	Adoption of the APTA for 2023	IPARD MA	 To be presented at the meeting
9.	AOB			
9.1	14:30 14:40	Proposal for the Agenda of the next second IPARD 2021-2027 MC meeting/ agreement on indicative date	Chairperson/ European commission	
	14:40	Closure of the meeting	Chairperson	

II. RESULTS OF THE IPARD PROGRAMME 2021-2027 MONITORING COMMITTEE MEETING

Opening of the meeting

The Chairperson of the Committee, Mr. Redzail Ismaili, opened the first meeting of the Committee by welcoming all attendees.

Mr. Frank Bollen, Head of Unit G4 at DG AGRI, welcomed the members of the IPARD III MC to the first meeting in North Macedonia and overall - in the IPARD countries. He recognised efforts by the national authorities to make IPARD more efficient and broader by introducing new measures. In order to use provided opportunities, Mr. Bollen encouraged to strengthen capacity in all responsible IPARD authorities along with increasing knowledge and skills of stakeholders, which would increase information about IPARD instrument and quality of submitted project applications. He wished the participants to maintain the achievements under IPARD II and ensure further improvements as that would play a significant role during accession of North Macedonia to the European Union.

With reference to item 1 of the Agenda: "Adoption of the draft agenda for the first meeting of the IPARD Programme 2021-2027 Monitoring Committee":

None of the members of the Committee had any remarks regarding the agenda, and the following decision was adopted:

Decision No. 1: IPARD Programme 2021-2027 Monitoring Committee adopted the agenda for the first meeting of the Monitoring Committee.

With reference to item 2 of the Agenda: "Decision on establishment of IPARD Programme 2021-2027 Monitoring Committee":

The Head of IPARD Managing Authority, Mr. Zhivko Brajkovski informed that based on the Framework and Sectoral Agreement that entered into force on 15th of February 2023, the Minister of Agriculture, Forestry and Water Economy adopted a Decision on establishment of the IPARD Programme 2021-2027 Monitoring Committee.

Regarding this item, the members of the Committee adopted the following conclusion:

Conclusion No. 1: The IPARD Programme 2021-2027 Monitoring Committee was informed about the Decision on establishment of IPARD Programme 2021-2027 Monitoring Committee.

With reference to item 3 of the Agenda: "Information on adoption of Draft Rules of Procedures of the IPARD Programme 2021-2027 Monitoring Committee of the Republic of North Macedonia".

The Head of IPARD Managing Authority, Mr. Zhivko Brajkovski informed about the adoption of Rules of Procedure of the IPARD Programme 2021-2027 Monitoring Committee. It was prepared in cooperation with all operational structures within the IPARD Programme as well as with the

representatives of the EC. Rules of procedures were adopted by written procedure on 14th of March 2023.

Regarding this item, the members of the Committee adopted the following conclusion:

Conclusion No. 2: The IPARD Programme 2021-2027 Monitoring Committee was informed regarding the adoption of Draft Rules of Procedures of the IPARD Programme 2021-2027 Monitoring Committee of the Republic of North Macedonia.

With reference to item 4 of the Agenda: "Information on the adoption of the Sectoral Agreement and Financial Agreement for IPARD III":

Ms. Dana Petresca, the representative of the National IPA Coordinator, informed that after receiving the opinion from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs that it is not necessary to initiate a procedure for the ratification of the Sectoral Agreement for IPARD 2021-2027, it was signed and submitted to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the EU Delegation and all relevant institutions. After being signed by the Director General and the Deputy Prime Minister for European Affairs, the Sectoral Agreement entered into force on 15th of February 2023. The same procedure shall be applied for signing of the Financial Agreement.

Regarding this item, the members of the Committee adopted the following conclusion:

Conclusion No. 3: The IPARD Programme 2021-2027 Monitoring Committee was informed regarding adoption of the Sectoral Agreement and Financial Agreement for IPARD III.

With reference to item 5 of the Agenda: "IPARD Programme 2021-2027":

Sub item 5.1 of the Agenda: "Adoption of the first modification of the IPARD Programme 2021- 2027":

IPARD MA representative, Mr. Aleksandar Anteski presented the details regarding the first modification of the IPARD Programme 2021- 2027. The IPARD Managing Authority has proposed these modifications as a result of the need for amendments in the IPARD III Programme in terms of referencing to the provisions of signed Financial Framework Partnership Agreement - FFPA and the Sectoral Agreement. These amendments will allow all supplies purchased under this Programme funds to originate from any country, which will lead to better and easier absorption of IPARD funds.

Regarding this sub-item, the following conclusion was adopted:

Decision No.2: IPARD Programme 2021-2027 Monitoring Committee reviewed and adopted the first modification of the IPARD Programme 2021- 2027

Sub- item 5.2 of the Agenda: "Information on status of accreditation of IPARD III measures":

Ms. Elizabeta Manusheva Apostolovski, the representative of the NAO, informed that the procedure for granting the right for indirect management of the IPARD III Programme is in the final stage, i.e., it is necessary to adopt the two decrees: establishment of mutual relations of the

IPA structures, which is in the Government procedure and the Decree for IPARD, which is final stage, i.e. alignment with the Secretariat for Legislation. It is expected that the two decrees shall be adopted in the shortest possible time by the Government of North Macedonia. In order to submit the package to the EC, an official nomination of the Head of IPARD Managing Authority is also required. After the adoption of the two decrees, the National Coordinator for Authorization will submit the entire request to the EC for granting the right for indirect management within 10 days. In meantime, the process for signing the implementation agreements, memorandums of cooperation with the technical bodies and the agreements between the IPARD structures will be started.

Regarding this sub-item, the following conclusion was adopted

Conclusion No. 4: IPARD Programme 2021-2027 Monitoring Committee was informed regarding the status of accreditation of IPARD III measures.

In relation to sub-item 5.3 of the agenda: "Information on the plan for public call under IPARD Programme 2021-2027":

Mr. Vangel Nanevski, the representative of the IPARD Agency, informed that after the adoption of the two decrees and the signing of the Financial Agreement between EC and the Government of North Macedonia, the implementation of the IPARD Programme 2021-2027 will begin. Indicatively, the first public call is expected to be published in the second half of May or the beginning of June.

Regarding this sub-item, the following conclusion was adopted:

Conclusion No. 5: The IPARD Programme 2021-2027 Monitoring Committee was informed on the plan for public call under IPARD 2021-2027.

With reference to item 6 of the Agenda: "Evaluation plan for IPARD III Programme":

Head of IPARD MA, Mr. Zhivko Brajkovski informed that the Evaluation Plan of the IPARD Programme 2021-2027 was already presented to the members on the previous - informal - meeting of the Monitoring Committee and there were no comments received. He added that the Evaluation Plan has been improved in context of the guidelines received from the EC on the communication and visibility of the IPARD Programme.

Regarding this item, the following decision was adopted:

Decision No. 3: The IPARD Programme 2021-2027 Monitoring Committee reviewed and unanimously adopted the Evaluation plan for IPARD III Programme.

With reference to item 7 of the Agenda: "Plan for visibility and communication activities for IPARD III Programme":

Mr. Kiril Ristoski presented the Plan for visibility and communication activities for IPARD Programme 2021- 2027. The aim of the Plan of visibility and communication activities for IPARD Programme 2021- 2027 (hereinafter - Plan of visibility and communication activities) is to inform the target groups and the general public on the assistance provided under the EU Instrument for

pre-accession assistance for rural development, to highlight the role of the European Union, to identify the information and publicity measures for the public and to identify the information measures for potential recipients.

Regarding this item, the following decision was adopted:

Decision No. 4: The IPARD Programme 2021-2027 Monitoring Committee reviewed and unanimously adopted the Plan for visibility and communication activities for IPARD Programme 2021-2027.

With reference to item 8 of the Agenda: "Technical Assistance activities":

Sub-item 8.1 of the agenda: "Adoption of the APTA for 2023":

Mr. Kiril Ristoski presented the activities foreseen in the APTA for 2023. MC members had no comments.

Regarding this item, the following decision was adopted

Decision No. 5: The IPARD Programme 2021-2027 Monitoring Committee reviewed and unanimously adopted the APTA for 2023.

With reference to item 9 of the agenda: "AOB":

Sub-item 9.1 of the agenda: "Proposal for the Agenda of the next second IPARD 2021-2027 MC meeting/ agreement on indicative date":

Regarding sub-item 9.1 of the Agenda, the Chairperson informed that the date for the next 2nd meeting will be agreed in accordance with the availability of the representatives of the European Commission.

The Chairperson of the Monitoring Committee closed the meeting and declared it as successful.

FOR THE IPARD MONITORING COMMITTEE:

FOR THE SECRETARIAT:

Rexhail Ismaili	Zhivko Brajkovski
Title: Chairperson	Title: Head of IPARD Managing Authority
Signature:	Signature:
Date:	Date:

Appendix 1: List of members (or their deputies) present at the meeting of the IPARD Programme 2021-2027 Monitoring Committee meeting

No.	Name of member	Institution	Present	Present (deputy member)	Deputy	Number of absences
1	Mr. Rexhail Ismaili	MAFWE	√			
Governmental organizations						
2	Ms. Vase Boshkova	MAFWE	/	√	Mr. Sasho Gjuroski	0
3	Mr. Goce Georgievski	MAFWE	/	√	Mr. Sasho Kutelesevski	0
4	Ms. Maja Lazareska Joveska	MAFWE	/	√	Ms. Tatjana Veta	0
5	Mr. Jovan Stojanovski	MAFWE	/	√	Ms. Dajana Todorovska	0
6	Ms. Dana Petreska	SEP	√	/	/	0
7	Mr. Jumni Ademi	Ministry of Economy	/	√	Ms. Jasmina Majstoroska	0
8	Mr. Vullnet Arifi	MLS	√			0
9	Mr. Dejan Kotevski	Ministry of Culture	/	√	Mr. Refet Ameti	0
10	Ms. Nazmije Idrizi	Ministry of Environment and Physical Planning	√			0
11	Mr. Igor Mojanoski	Ministry of Transport and Communications	/	/	/	1
12	Ms. Ankica Ivanovska	Ministry of Labour and Social Policy	/	/	/	1
13	Mr. Vanco Novoselski	FVA	/	√	Mr. Argjend Osmani	0
AGENCIES						
14	Mr. Xhemil Qamilli	NEA	√			0
15	Ms. Maja Taseva	Agency for support of entrepreneurship	√			0
ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL PARTNERS						
16	Mr. Vasko Ristovski	Macedonian Chamber of Commerce	/	/	/	1
17	Mr. Goran Gjorgjievski	Macedonian Chambers of Commerce	√			0

18	Ms. Vaska Mojsovska	National Federation of farmers	√			0
19	Mr. Sasho Risteski	Macedonian Association of processors	√			0
20	Mr. Stevche Stevanovski	Local self-government units	√			0
21	Ms. Aleksandra Martinovska Stoevska	Faculty of agricultural sciences and food	√			0
22	Mr. Agron Fazliji	Chamber of Crafts of the Republic of North Macedonia	√			0
23	Mr. Ljupco Mihajlov	Faculty of agricultural sciences and food – UGD Stip	√			0
24	Ms. Marina Toshevska	LAG Agro- Lider	/	√	Mr. Dejan Dzokoski	0
25	Mr. Petar Gjorgjievski	Rural Development Network of the Republic of Macedonia	/	/		1
26	Mr. Vladimir Petkov	Faculty for Veterinary Medicine	√			0
27	Mr. Sasho Krcoski	Network of young farmers	√			0
28	Ms. Robertina Brajanoska	Macedonian ecological group	√			0
29	Ms. Liljana Jonoski	Rural Coalition	/	/	/	1
30	Mr. Goran Mitev	Association of farmers	√			0
31	Mr. Pero Mocan	Wines from Macedonia	√			0
32	Mr. Arben Halili	Economic Chamber of North West Macedonia	√			0
33	Mr. Hazir Polozhani	University of Tetovo	/	/	/	1
TOTAL:			27			

Appendix 2: List of observers

Representatives of governmental institutions:

- **Mr. Aleksandar Dimitrovski** – Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Water Economy;
- **Ms. Remzije Biljali** - Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Water Economy;
- **Ms. Ljunturie Dervishi** - Secretariat for European Affairs.

Representatives of the State Audit Office (Audit Authority):

- **Ms. Mimoza Shishkovska** - Audit Authority;
- **Mr. Kastriot Dauti** - Audit Authority.

Representatives of ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL PARTNERS:

- **Ms. Arta Starova** - Macedonian ecological group.