



MONTENEGRO
Ministry of Agriculture and Rural
Development

DIRECTION FOR COORDINATION AND PR RELATIONS

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MINUTES FROM THE MEETING OF IPARD II MONITORING COMMITTEE

Meeting number 2

Minutes from the second meeting of the IPARD II Monitoring Committee
27 Jun 2017/ Hotel „Verde Complex“, Donja Gorica, 81 000 Podgorica

I. List of participant (attached to Minutes):

Meeting was attended by the IPARD II monitoring committee members, as well as the representatives of the European Commission and EU Delegation in Montenegro. Meeting was not attended by the representative of the Chamber of Commerce and the representative of the NGO Environmental movement „OZON“.


Result:

Quorum was fulfilled, so the meeting could be held and decisions can be taken (23 members or their substitutes with voting rights was present from 25 members with voting rights).


Attachment: Apart from the short list of the participants explained in Minutes, attached is the list of participants divided as:

1. Voting members (concluding with number 26. except for a member under number 3. Đuro Žugić, newly appointed State Secretary of the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development and he attended this meeting as an observer)
2. Non-voting members (from number 27 to and including 30.)
3. Representatives of the European Commission with advisory role (from number 33 to and including 35.)
4. Observers (number 31 and 32.)


II. Agenda

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No. items	Provisional time	Content	Informative /Need agreement /Need approval /Need opinion of the IMC members	Responsibility
1.	10:00-10:05	Opening of the meeting; Approval of the Agenda	Need approval	Nemanja Katnić, Secretary of the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development, Chairperson
2.	10:05-10:10	Adoption of the minutes of the previous IPARD monitoring committee (MC) meeting	Need approval	Nemanja Katnić, Secretary of the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development, Chairperson
3.	10:10-10:20	<p>Follow-up of issues from the minutes of the previous IPARD monitoring committee (MC) meeting</p> <hr/> <p>Decision number 4 from 1st meeting: A report on the improvements of the IPARD II website</p>	Informative	Ana Čabarkapa, Advisor for coordination and public relations of rural development
4.	10:20-10:35	Information on the adopted Amendments of the IPARD II Programme	Informative	Nemanja Katnić, Secretary of the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development, Chairperson

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5.	10:35-11:00	Status of IPARD II (to be further specified)	Informative	Liam Breslin, Head of Pre-Accession Unit of DG AGRI/European Commission
6.	11:00-11:20	Update of current situation related to the REBIT for IPARD measure 1 and 3	Informative	Darko Konjević, General director of Directorate for Rural Development Blagota Radulović, General Director of Directorate for Payments
7.	11:20-11:35	Coffee break		
8.	11:35-11:45	General state of play of the preparation of the other IPARD II measures (excluding the measures 1 and 3)	Informative	Darko Konjević, General director of Directorate for Rural Development
9.	11:45-12:15	Lessons learned from the implementation of IPARD like project	Informative	Representatives of the NIPAC, MA and IA

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10.	12:15-12:25	Presentation of some of the members of the IPARD II monitoring committee**	Informative	Union of livestock breeders of the north of Montenegro, Milko Živkovic, president Network for Rural Development of Montenegro, Ratko Bataković, President
11.	12:25-12:30	Information about the communication activities linked to the 'plan of visibility and communication activities for IPARD II programme' approved at the 1 st meeting	Informative	Ana Čabarkapa, Advisor for coordination and public relations of rural development
12.	12:30-12:45	AOB		
13.	12:45-13:00	Proposals for a date and the agenda of the next meeting	Informative	

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III. Result of the IPARD II meeting

In accordance with point 1 of the Agenda: Opening of the meeting, Adoption of the Agenda

Nemanja Katnić, Secretary of the Ministry and Chairperson of the IPARD II MC opened the meeting and presented the Agenda.

Decision number 1

- Agenda was adopted.
- All 23 members with voting rights voted YES for the adoption.

In accordance with point 2 of the Agenda: Adoption of the Minutes from the previous meeting of the IPARD II Monitoring Committee

The overview of the main conclusion of the discussion:

- **Nemanja Katnić, Secretary of the Ministry and Chairperson of the IPARD II MC**
Concluded that the Minutes were sent to all members of the IPARD II Monitoring Committee within the foreseen deadline. He said that the comments were provided by Ms. Jelena Zvizdojević, Assistant Director of the Statistical Office of Montenegro - Monstat, and they were accepted and included in the Final Minutes. Comments were related to the clarification regarding the survey on the structure of agricultural holdings. Also, the comments were submitted by EC representatives that were accepted and included in the final minutes that all members received.

Decision number 2

- Minutes from the previous meeting of IPARD II MC was approved.
- All 23 members with voting rights voted YES for the adoption.

- The Chairperson informed the attendees about the change of members of the IPARD II Monitoring Committee. For the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Mrs. Ana Vukadinović, who was a member, was replaced by Ivana Glišević Đurović, Director General for European Funds, while the replacement is still Ms. Ivana Vujošević. Milos Celanovic, General Manager for Development, was appointed to the position of Ms. Dragica Sekulic in the Ministry of Economy, while Mrs. Mia Zivkovic was replaced by Ms. Milena Jovetic, Advisor to the Directorate for Development. Mrs. Zana Filipovic, Director General of the Directorate for Relations with Religious Communities, was appointed to the position of Mr. Mersudin Gredic in the Ministry of Human and Minority Rights, while Mr. Dragutin Papovic was replaced by Ms. Sanja Zugic, the head of the Cabinet of the Minister. For the Ministry of Sustainable Development and Tourism, this meeting is attended by Andrej Lakić, Head of the Directorate for International Cooperation, due to the other commitments of the member and its replacement.



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In accordance with point 3 of the Agenda: Follow-up of issues from the minutes of the previous IPARD monitoring committee (MC) meeting

The overview of the main conclusion of the discussion:

- **Ana Čabarkapa, Advisor for Coordination and Public Relations of Rural Development**, reported on the implementation of **decision number 4 from the first meeting**: "*The report on improvements to the IPARD II website will be presented at the next meeting of the Committee*". She pointed that all the documents adopted at the previous meeting were posted through the IPARD banner on the Ministry's website, in Montenegrin and English language. In order to establish a separate IPARD website, a meeting with representatives of the Ministry of Public Administration were held. The Ministry of Public Administration are in charge of the IT system of the Government of Montenegro. The joint dialogue resulted in the following two proposals: Creation of a separate website or portal by the Ministry of Public Administration, which would look like all the websites of the ministries that are under the Government's server and that would be completely free of charge. The maintenance of this website would not require additional costs, since training would be provided by a Ministry of Public Administration to the person from the Directorate for Rural Development, who will update and maintain the website. Another option would be the implementation of a tender procedure for the purchase of a new website, where the specifications would be defined in cooperation with the Ministry of Public Administration. This option would require significant financial resources for purchase and maintenance.

The MPRR's recommendation was to approach the creation of a free website, the EC representatives agreed.

In accordance with point 4 of the Agenda: Information on the adopted Amendments of the IPARD II Programme

The overview of the main conclusion of the discussion:

- **Nemanja Katnić, Secretary of the Ministry and Chairperson of the IPARD II MC**, he informed the members of the IPARD II Monitoring Committee that the proposed amendments to the IPARD II program were adopted at the previous meeting and officially sent to the EC, which was adopted by the EC, except for the proposal from the Matrix of modification of the IPARD II programme - number 7, in connection with the chapter of IPARD II program 8.1.7. Specific eligible criteria (by sectors) - "Agricultural holdings involved in ruminant rearing (cattle, sheep, and goats) at the time of submission of application must have a minimum of 5 ha of agricultural land (owned or rented). As a suggestion it was indicated "This criterion is proven and checked administratively". Although it was adopted by the IPARD II Monitoring Committee, the EC did not accept the proposal of an administrative check only, and it was not included. Also number 29 was not accepted by the EC. Other proposed changes are accepted.



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In accordance with point 5 of the Agenda: Status of IPARD II (to be further specified)

The overview of the main conclusion of the discussion:

- **Liam Breslin, Head of the Pre-accession Unit of the Directorate-General for Agriculture and Rural Development**, praised the work of the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development, stressing that the recommendations of the auditors in order to obtain the authority for the execution of budget tasks were almost completely fulfilled. The conditions for starting the implementation of the IPARD II programme, announcement of the first public call, were practically created, which can be expected in September, October this year. He stressed that Montenegro has met the key conditions related to the establishment of the administrative structure necessary for the start of implementation of the IPARD II programme, through which Montenegrin agriculture will start withdrawing previously committed EUR 39 million of non-refundable support from the EU.

In accordance with point 6 of the Agenda: Update of current situation related to the REBIT for IPARD measure 1 and 3

The overview of the main conclusion of the discussion:

- **Darko Konjević, General director of Directorate for Rural Development, Head of Managing Authority**, Reminded the attendees of the accreditation of measure 1 - Investments in physical assets on agricultural holdings and measure 3 - Investments in physical assets concerning processing and marketing of agricultural and fishery products. Almost all the auditor's findings have been met. He pointed out that the only finding for the Managing Authority was the appointment of the Head of Direction for Coordination and Public Relations (PR) for Rural Development that was fulfilled. He said that the deadline for submitting the Report to the auditors was on July 5th 2017, and that in that report, the majority of the audit findings will be fulfilled.

In accordance with point 8 of the Agenda: General state of play of the preparation of the other IPARD II measures (excluding the measures 1 and 3)

The overview of the main conclusion of the discussion:

- **Darko Konjević, General director of Directorate for Rural Development, Head of Managing Authority**

Continuously is working on the elaboration of measures that will be accredited in the forthcoming period, primarily measures 7 and 9, but also others.

Measure 7 - Diversification and business development - reminded that at the previous IMC meeting a number of changes were introduced for this measure, which deal with specific eligibility criteria, as well as ranking criteria. In the coming period, the measure will be developed more detailed.

Measure 9 - Technical assistance - with the support of a number of TAIEX workshops, a draft of the list of eligible expenditure and an action plan for the implementation of the measure has been drafted. All members of the IPARD II Committee received the list of eligible expenditures, and if



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they had comments or recommendations they can certainly submit it to the Ministry, even before the official adoption of the list.

After that, he briefly presented the so-called "Dormant measures", which are an integral part of the IPARD II program, but are not yet fully developed.

Measure 4 – Agro-environment-climate and organic farming - The measure will include, inter alia, organic production, usage of pastures and conservation of autochthonous genetic resources; Support up to 100%.

Measure 5 - Implementation of local development strategies – LEADER approach - implementation planned from 2018; Beneficiaries of this measure are selected LAGs; Support up to 100%.

Measure 6 - Investments in rural public infrastructure - implementation planned from 2020. Beneficiaries of this measure are municipalities; Support up to 100%.

He suggested that with the accreditation of measure 6 - Investment in rural public infrastructure - which is planned to be the last accredited by three "dormant measures", it should start immediately after receiving accreditation for Measures 7 and 9. The proposal was agreed by all present members of IPARD II Committee.

In accordance with point 9 of Agenda: Lessons learned from the implementation of IPARD like project

The overview of the main conclusion of the discussion:

- **Blagota Radulović, General director of Directorate for payments, Director of Paying Agency**
For measures 1 and 2 of IPARD *like* project 500 contracts is signed. Technical bodies are included in the implementation of the project. Excellent cooperation with the Directorate for Foodsafety, Veterinary and Phytosanitary Affairs. Paying Agency is fully ready for implementation of the IPARD II programme measures.
- **Dick Van Dijk, „desk officer“ for Montenegro in Pre-Accession Unit of DG AGRI/European Commission**
Question: Is the survey of MONSTAT on the structure of agricultural holdings finished and what about results.
- **Jelena Zvizdojević, Assistant Director – MONSTAT**
Answer: A survey on the structure of agricultural holdings is finished with a sample of about 15.000 households. The Technical Working Group was established, with representatives of MARD, Biotechnical Faculty and Monteorganica, which were responsible for the conducting of the survey. Research data are important for the further development and improvement of agricultural and rural development policy.

In accordance with point 10 of Agenda: Presentation of some of the members of the IPARD II monitoring committee

The overview of the main conclusion of the discussion:

- **Milko Živković, President, Union of livestock producers of north of Montenegro**
He introduced the Union of livestock producers of north of Montenegro which is established in 2013 with FAO support. It is composed of 20 associations from different municipalities: Rožaje,



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Berane, Petnjica, Andrijevica, Bijelo Polje, Kolašin and Pljevlja. The low level of knowledge of agricultural producers is emphasized. The EU funds are important for improving and modernization of agricultural production but also for increasing the employment in rural areas. He stressed the need to improve infrastructure in rural areas, which is considered as a prerequisite for the further development of these areas.

- **Liam Breslin, Head of Pre-Accession Unit of DG AGRI/European Commission**

Question: What investments are most needed in the future and whether they will need help for writing project proposals/applications.

- **Milko Živković, President, Union of livestock producers of north of Montenegro**

Answer: The most important is the education of farmers through various trainings and study visits, while investments should continue in the same direction that have been implemented so far through MIDAS and IPARD *like* project. Advisory services are always available to farmers, so they will have help and support in writing project proposals/applications.

- **Ratko Bataković, President, Network for Rural Development of Montenegro**

The Network for Rural Development of Montenegro is presented, stressing that it was established in 2012, and that it had 23 formal members. Through its website, (www.ruralportal.me) the Network already promotes support measures for agricultural producers that are published and implemented by the Ministry and will continue with these activities in the future.

In accordance with point 11 of Agenda: Information about the communication activities linked to the 'plan of visibility and communication activities for IPARD II programme' approved at the 1st meeting

The overview of the main conclusion of the discussion:

- **Ana Čabarkapa, Advisor for coordination and public relations of rural development**

A concrete event for the promotion of the IPARD II program was not realized. Indirect promotion is constantly being done, where the IPARD II program is promoted through the presentation and promotion of the IPARD *like* project. This refers to the organization of workshops in municipalities, appearances on TV and radio - local television, press conference. The IPARD II programme is presented to the employees of the municipalities and advisory services, so they are familiar with it.

- **Liam Breslin, Head of Pre-Accession Unit of DG AGRI/European Commission**

Question: Are agricultural producers aware of the IPARD II program?

- **Milko Živković, President, Union of livestock producers of north of Montenegro**

Answer: They are largely familiar with the IPARD II program, but other workshops, promotions and field work are needed.

In accordance with point 13 of Agenda: Proposals for a date and the agenda of the next meeting

The overview of the main conclusion of the discussion:

- **Darko Konjević, General director of Directorate for Rural Development, Head of Managing Authority, Deputy Chairperson**

It was agreed to agree on a precise date, taking into account the announcement of the first public call through the IPARD II program, and its duration.



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Signatures

CHAIRPERSON OF IPARD II MC	FOR SECRETARIAT:
Mr. Nemanja Katnić	Mr. Darko Konjević
<i>Position: Secretary of the MARD</i>	<i>Position: General Director directorate for rural development, Head of MA</i>
Signature: 	Signature: 
Date: 28 th August 2017	Date: 28 th August 2017

Attachment: List of participants



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Vlada Crna Gora
Ministarstvo poljoprivrede i ruralnog razvoja

DRUGI SASTANAK IPARD II ODBORA ZA NADGLEDANJE/ SECOND IPARD II MONITORING COMMITTEE MEETING
27. jul 2017. godine

Broj	Član	Zamjena člana	Institucija	Telefon	Email	Potpis
1.	Nemanja Katnić	Darko Konjević	Ministarstvo poljoprivrede i ruralnog razvoja	067/670-778	n.katnic@wp.gov.me	
2.	Danijela Stolica	Gorica Bojić	Ministarstvo poljoprivrede i ruralnog razvoja – Direktorat za poljoprivredu	067601277	d.stolica@wp.gov.me	
3.	Duro Žugić		Ministarstvo poljoprivrede i ruralnog razvoja – državni sekretar	067 407 666	d.juro.zugic@wp.gov.me	
4.	Vesna Daković	Biljana Blečić	Ministarstvo poljoprivrede i ruralnog razvoja - Uprava za bezbjednost hrane, veterinu i fitosanitarne poslove	069345903	vesna.dakovic@wp.gov.me	
5.	Vukota Stanišić	Branko Četković	Ministarstvo poljoprivrede i ruralnog razvoja - Odjeljenje za savjetodavne poslove u biljnoj proizvodnji	069/331-127	v.vukota@wp.gov.me	
6.	Gojko Babović	Sanja Petrović	Ministarstvo poljoprivrede i ruralnog razvoja - Odjeljenje za savjetodavne poslove u oblasti stočarstva	069/306-313	g.babovic@wp.gov.me	
7.	Miloš Čelanović	Milena Jovetić	Ministarstvo ekonomije			
8.	Marija Vukčević	Lena Radusinović Andrej Lakić	Ministarstvo održivog razvoja i turizma	020/446-222	andrej.lakic@wp.gov.me	



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21	Čazim Alković	Fahrudin Mujić	Udruženje maslinara Bar	069 039 143	cazimalkovic@gnovic.com	CALL-XY
22	Dejan Zejak	Miroslav Čović	NVO Centar za razvoj Agrara	069 172 041	zejdkd@t-com.me	DA
23	Jovan Nikolić	Branislav Vojinović	„Monteorganica“ doo		nikolic2com@yandex	DA
24	Zoran Vulević	Milan Dragić	Montenegro Biznis Alijansa	069 239 254		
25	Ratko Bataković	Veselin Gardašević	Mreža za ruralni razvoj Crne Gore	067 216 889	rural.me@gov.me	PNB
26	Milko Živković	Vučko Pešić	Unija stočara sjevera Crne Gore	067 620 466	Milko.zivkovic@pismost.com	DA
27	Darko Konjević	Enis Gjokaj	Ministarstvo poljoprivrede i ruralnog razvoja – Upravljačko tijelo	020/482-336	darko.konjevic@UPR-GOV.ME	Darko Konjevic
28	Blagota Radulović	Milena Vukotić	Ministarstvo poljoprivrede i ruralnog razvoja – IPARD agencija	067 686-067	blagota.radulovic@UPR-GOV.ME	Blagota Radulovic
29	Dragan Darmanović	Ivana Maksimović	Ministarstvo finansija	067 225-170	IVANA.MAKSIMOVIC@MFP.GOV.ME	DA
30	Ivana Glišević Đurović	Ivana Vujošević	Ministarstvo vanjskih poslova i evropskih integracija			
31	Nataša Simonović	Zoran Medenica	Revizorsko tijelo Crne Gore	067 270 273	zoran.medenic@revizorskitelo.me	Zoran Medenica
32	Zoran Vujpović	Nikola Milosavljević	Investiciono-razvojni fond	067-609-123	Nikola.Milosavljevic@IRF-GOV.ME	IRF



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33	Liam Breslin		Evropska komisija		liam.breslin@ec.europa.eu	
34	Dick Van Dijk		Evropska komisija		dick.van-dijk@ec.europa.eu	
35	Benoit Esmanne		Delegacija Evropske unije u Crnoj Gori	069 126 616	benoit.esmanne@ec.europa.eu	
36						
37						
38	Milica Abramović	Milica Jovetić	Ministarstvo Evropske unije	010/482-316	Milica.jovetic@mc.gov.me	
39	Milica Abramović	Juana Clisović-Burčić	Minist. Evropskih poslova	067/602-693	Milica.abramovic@mc.gov.me	
40			Ministarstvo Evropske unije	069/213-324	ivana.vujobanovic@mc.gov.me	
41	Mira Jesević		Ministarstvo poljoprivrede i ruralnog razvoja	067/655-806	mira.jesevic@mc.gov.me	
42	Mira Jesević		Ministarstvo poljoprivrede i ruralnog razvoja		mira.jesevic@mc.gov.me	
43						
44						
45						