

BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA

-LEADER-

-NVO-

I- FIRST ATTEMPTS FOR INTRODUCTION THE LEADER IN BiH

Pilot project:

- **Through the Projects of UNDP in Central Bosnia, three Local Action Groups are formed (Doboј - Maglaj; Una-Sana for municipalities: Buzim, Bosanska Krupa i Sanski Most;GOZB – for municipalities: Drvar, Bosanski Petrovac,Glamoč i Bosansko Grahovo)**
- **Project SERDE- four Local Action Groups**
- **Project REDAH- two Local Action Groups**

Institutional framework for introduction the LEADER in BiH

- Ministry of Foreign Trade and Economic Relations of BiH –Sector for agriculture, food, forestry and rural development , within the Working Groups for rural development formed a Technical Team for introduction the LEADER Program in BiH
- Representatives of the Technical team for introduction the Leader Program in BiH are:
 - ┌ Federal Ministry of Agriculture, Water Management and Forestry
 - ┌ Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Water Management of Republic of Srpska
 - ┌ Divisions for Agriculture, Forestry and Water Management of Brcko District.

Tasks of the Technical Team:

- Preparation of draft guidelines for introduction the LEADER Program in BiH

Objectives:

- The aim of the guidelines is to support the establishment of local partnership in rural areas, Local action groups (LAG), by the principle of individual cooperation from the public, private and civil sector.
- The guidelines contain the basic principles for the LEADER initiatives, rules and recommendations for the establishment and operations of LAG.

Other assumptions:

- Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Water Management of the Republic of Srpska within the Strategy for rural development anticipated till the year 2015, introduced a new concept for rural development. Besides the previous measures that were divided in two lanes: (support to production and income and support the capital investments), a measure for support to the rural development was also introduced. For this measure an allocation of 20% of the agricultural budget was made.
- The Federal Ministry of Agriculture, Water Management and Forestry has also planed funds for rural development.

II) NVO IN RURAL AREAS

- The most common organizational structures in the rural areas are the associations of agricultural producers. In most cases, they were created as a part of other project activities (IFAD, USAID etc.), and rarely as a form of self-organization.
- Association of women in rural areas.

III) Associations of agricultural producers

- Formed in the municipalities, usually for easier implementation of program for rural development and rural areas on behalf of the relevant Ministries and some international organizations.
- The main objective of these associations is a market oriented commercial and commodity production.
- These associations reflected the needs, unfortunately small percent of rural population (specificity of our area)

Working problems for associations of agricultural producers

- Lack of cooperation and other organization methods of associations of agricultural producers
- Inadequate legal framework of NVO
- Unregulated market
- Unfair competition (registered and not registered producers)
- Lack of modernized and finalized production
- Lack of agricultural production zoning for defining particular areas for growing certain crops and protect the character and the geographical origin of the same.

IV) Reasons for organizing women's' NVO is rural areas

- The most associations arise for the need of the Local community
- From the need of cooperation and social contacts which are very limited in the rural areas, that later developed into:
 - Organized efforts to improve the quality of life in the rural areas and
 - Economical empowerment of women and their families

Reasons for low number of NVO who use the incentive funds

- **Lack of ideas and programs for business**
- **Insufficient information on possible funding sources**
- **Distrust of governmental and nongovernmental institutions**
- **Bad coordination and communication**
- **Lack of leadership**

Measures for overcoming the problems of women's organization in rural areas

- Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Water Management of Republic of Srpska, within the strategy for rural development for the period from 2009 to 2015, predicted a series of measures and sub-measures
- As a part of a measures for the Support of development of female entrepreneurship in rural areas two sub-measures are foreseen:
 1. Support of trainings for rural women in entrepreneurship
 2. Support the development of business activities of women in rural areas

V) Working problems for NVO in rural areas

- Poor working conditions
- Political problems
- Sustainability
- Poor coordination and information flow
- Human resources
- Apathy, lack of information, lack of interests, passive attitude of the population of rural areas and slow acceptance of changes, brought changes in the social systems
- Not strategic orientation on the local government on the lowest level (advices from the local community)
- Absence of participation of women in management in local communities (local political community, community councils, etc.)

Lack of NVO networks in rural areas

- According to data information's from the Gender centre of the Republic of Srpska, under the Rules on how to achieve financial incentives for agricultural and rural development in the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Water Management of Republic of Srpska in year 2007, only two women associations were reported, in year 2008 – four associations and in year 2009 also four associations.
- There is no cooperation between these associations

VI) Examples of the completed projects

Centre for information and education for women and girls, MZ Gucevo Municipality, Rogatica

- Educational and creative workshops for women in the project financially supported by the OAK Foundation



Centre for information and education for women and girls MZ Gucevo

- Visit of medical crew at "SNOP"
- The project is supported by the OAK Foundation



Centre for information and education for women and girls MZ Gucevo

- The aim of the activity is to eliminate the marginalization of children in rural areas
- The project is supported by the OAK Foundation



Project for production

- Economic empowerment of women in rural areas by their employment in small - mini project. The Project is supported by the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Water Management of Republic of Srpska, Municipality of Rogatica and final beneficiaries



Negative aspects of the “ad hoc” Project

- No effects of added value to the achieved results
- The issue of sustainability of the project results
- No “ownership” of the project, more stakeholders and partners who affects to the efficiency of the project and their sustainability
- All of this is a consequence of lack of established strategic partnership, on a local level, but also on the regional and national level.

VII) Recommendation for improved work

- Networking of organizations which operate in rural areas to facilitate the achievement of systematic problem-solutions, which is the reason why all organizations were created (social exclusion)
- Better coordination and communication on private and public sector on local level, representing the solely method of self-sustainability of the organizations

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR
ATTENTION**