South Eastern Europe

SWG RRD

Regional Rural Development Standing Working Group

**IPA Multi-beneficiary Annual Programme**

**"Preparation for Implementation of the Area Based Development (ABD) Approach in theWestern Balkans"**

## BACKGROUND INFORMATION

During the process of "*Preparation of a Proposal for Area-Based Development Project in the Western Balkans"* the SHGs brought the preparation for the ABD project to the stage where a baseline study, incl. a SWOT analysis, together with a strategy and action plan were prepared for each selected region. These documents constitute the strategic support framework for the region and will provide a structure for local participation in the process.

SWG will engage, in this process, by providing platform for the exchange of experiences and mutual assistance among the members of the SHGs and provide direct support to member organisations, networking, awareness raising, project identification and implementation, etc.

Additionally to the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU), the SWG will facilitate the process of increasing the capacities of the SHGs, as well as their consolidation, and support the streamline of their field of interest via various courses and workshops. Furthermore, the SHGs will benefit from providing guidelines to the PMU and the technical working groups which will elaborate the programming documents and projects.

The role of the SHG, at this stage, will be to review and adapt the strategic framework to emerging needs and to approve programming documents and project pipeline developed on the basis of the Strategic Framework. Furthermore, they will provide guidance to the PMU and the technical working groups established to elaborate programming documents and projects.

All members of the SHG will have the opportunity to take part in various training as well as workshops (WS) organized by SWG. They are intended to help develop participatory approach as well as facilitation, animation and consolidation of the stakeholder structures.

## INFORMATION OF THE TRAININGS AND WORKSHOPS

The workshops are intended to enable the established stakeholder structures to be consolidated in order to intensify its level of activities and start developing programming documents/projects in the period leading up to start of the ABD grants component.

There are two sets of workshops which are intended to improve capacity for furthering the programmes within the ABDA.

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**Set 1**

- Project Cycle Management
- Project Proposal Writing
- Strategic Planning

**Set 2**

- Moderation and presentation
- Programming Documents

## IMPORTANT DATES

During the first 10 months of the expected bridging period of 18-20 Months the participants of the SHGs are expected to take part in the following events, trainings and workshops:

**First Stakeholders Meeting**

**1th March, 2013**

- Signing of the Memorandum of Understanding by the Mayors of participating Municipalities.

**Second Stakeholders Meeting**

**12th March, 2013**

- Capacity building on Project Cycle Management,

**13th March, 2013**

- Project proposal writing – Option 1
- Strategic planning – Option 2

**14th March, 2013**

- Project proposal writing – Option 1
- Strategic planning – Option 2

**Third Stakeholders Meeting**

09th, 10th, 11th April, 2013

- Moderation
- Facilitation techniques
- Organization of meetings

12th April, 2013

- Capacity building on preparation IPA programming documents

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**Fourth Stakeholders Meeting**

28th May, 2013

**Fifth Stakeholders Meeting**

17th September, 2013