

Regional Rural Development Standing Working Group
(SWG) in South Eastern Europe

Regional Meeting on
“Establishment of Balkan Rural Development
Network”

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19th – 21st May, 2013, Andrevlje, Serbia

“Balkan Rural Network”

- **Declaration on Networking** among the SWG, National Rural Development Networks (NRDN) and initiatives for National Rural Development Networks of the South-East European countries has been signed on March 4th, 2011 in Skopje.
- The document aims to establish a framework and give directions for future cooperation in the area of rural development between the signatories' organizations.
- Considering the importance of the regional cooperation, the signatories of the Declaration on networking, expressed their readiness to work together on improvement and strengthening the cooperation of the rural development networks in the Balkans and establishment of a platform for regular exchange of information, experience and knowledge, as well as joint initiation and implementation of multi-lateral project “Balkan Rural Network”.
- Following the current situation within the National Rural Development Networks in SEE countries related to organization structure, capacity, scope of work and operations, further support is needed in terms of strengthening of the capacities of the NRDN in SEE.

The Need for establishment of the Balkan Rural Development Network

- Meeting of the initiative board for establishment of Balkan Rural Development Network – BRDN held on March 28th 2013, Belgrade, Republic of Serbia;
- The initiative for establishment of the Balkan Rural Development Network is preceded by 3 existing networks and is supported by the SWG :
 - i. Rural Development Networks of Macedonia,
 - ii. Rural Development Networks of Serbia;
 - iii. Rural Development Networks of Montenegro



The Need for establishment of the Balkan Rural Development Network

- Main principles of the signed declaration on the 4th of March 2011 were elaborated as a starting point of the future activities on the meeting of the initiative board for establishment of BRDN March 28th 2013, Belgrade, Serbia
- In the initial stage the network should act as an informal association of a civil society rural development networks in the region with a possibility to formalize its work in the future period



The Need for establishment of the Balkan Rural Development Network

- willingness to establish an organization to work on rural development on sustainable principles
- open to new membership through transparent networking,
- permanent cooperation between all rural development stakeholders in SEE



Conclusions of the Initiative Board Meeting for establishment of the BRDN

- to develop the main goals and principles of the Balkan Rural Development Network (areas of work, operation and management, chairing etc.) in a form of a Statute
- to elaborate the Statute
- to announce the official startup of the Balkan Rural Development Network during this meeting by signing the Statute



Conclusions of the Initiative Board Meeting for establishment of the BRDN

- continue with a planning workshop in the second half of 2013
- it was decided that the networks that will join BRDN must have LEADER approach as main tool for delivering rural development activities
- decide chairing of the Balkan Rural Development Network
- assess the possibilities for financing



Thank you!

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