



**SWG EC Project Preparation Facility:
“Preparation of a Proposal for an Area Based
Development in the Western Balkans”**

**4th Meeting of the Project Steering Group
Irena Dzimrevska**

The project is financed by the
European Union



Topics for discussion:

- Presentation of the activities realized in the period May-September 2012
- Presentation and discussion of the final versions of the Strategic Frameworks and the Action Plans for regional cooperation for implementation of the ABD in the “Sharra”, “Prespa” and “Drina - Sava” cross-border regions to be annexed to the project fiche

Ms. Natalija Bogdanov, Ms. Aleksandra Nikolic and Mr. Zvonko Naumoski

- Discussion of the final draft of project fiche for implementation of the Area Based Development in the Western Balkans- document to submitted to the EC
- Discussions about future activities related preparations for implementation of ABDA in SEE

Activities and events realized in the period May- September 2012

1. Work of the Project Steering Group and SWG Assembly

1. Third Meeting of the Project Steering Group (PSG) of the SWG EC Project Preparation Facility: “Preparation of a Proposal for an Area Based Development in the Western Balkans”, 7th May, 2012, Milocer, Montenegro

- The aim of the meeting was to discuss and present the:
- working versions of the baseline analysis, strategic framework and action plans of the “Drina- Sava”, “Sharra” and “Prespa” regions;
- needs of the Stakeholders` Groups (SHG) (structure, responsibilities, operations, finances) for implementation of ABD in the regions of “Drina-Tara”, “Drina- Sava”, “Sharra” and “Prespa” regions;
- future activities related preparations for implementation of ABDA in SEE (reflection on the methodology, stakeholders structures, future activities and budgeting, timing, lessons learned so far).

1. Work of the Project Steering Group and SWG Assembly

2. Meeting of SWG with the European Commission Directorate General for Agriculture and Rural Development and Directorate General for Enlargement, June 1st, 2012

- During the meeting the SWG Secretary General and the team of EC SWG project on Area Based Development (ABD) discussed the proposal for continuation of activities related to the ABD implementation in the Western Balkan countries following the period after September 2012.
- Based on the meeting conclusions, project proposal on setting up a structure for implementation of an Area Based Development Approach (ABDA) was submitted to the Directorate General for Enlargement.

2. Assessment of the potential target areas

- **Fourth Meeting of the Stakeholders Groups of the “Sharra”, “Prespa” and “Drina-Sava” cross- border regions within the project “Preparation of a Proposal for an Area Based Development in the Western Balkans”, June 27th and 29th, Tearce and Carev Dvor, Macedonia; 2nd July 2012, Ilok, Croatia**
- The three Stakeholders Groups from the “Sharra” “Prespa” and “Drina- Sava” cross-border regions held their 4th meeting at the end of June and beginning of July (The Sharra Stakeholders Group on June 27th, 2012 in the village of Tearce, Macedonia; the Prespa Stakeholders Group on June 29th, 2012 in the village of Carev Dvor, close to Resen, Macedonia; The Drina- Sava Stakeholders Group on July 2nd, 2012 in Ilok, Croatia).
- The main objective of this meeting was the presentation of the draft strategic frameworks and the action plans for regional cooperation for implementation of the ABD in the target areas and the formal acceptance of the documents by the Stakeholders Groups (SHG-s).

2. Assessment of the potential target areas

- **Fourth Meeting of the Stakeholders Groups of the “Sharra”, “Prespa” and “Drina-Sava” cross- border regions within the project “Preparation of a Proposal for an Area Based Development in the Western Balkans”, June 27th and 29th, Tearce and Carev Dvor, Macedonia; 2nd July 2012, Ilok, Croatia**
- Apart from the information on the progress made so far, the participants discussed the possibilities to further the facilitation and support of the area based development concept, in this pilot region, through analysis of the presented/proposed implementing structure, the needs of the Stakeholder`s Group (SHG) (structure, responsibilities, operations, finances) and the Memorandums of Understanding among the Minicipalities participating in the implementation of ABD in the regions of “Sharra”, “Prespa” and “Drina- Sava” .
- At the same time, the participants proposed some ideas related to setting up working/interest groups and one SHG facilitator for the follow up and facilitation of future activities.