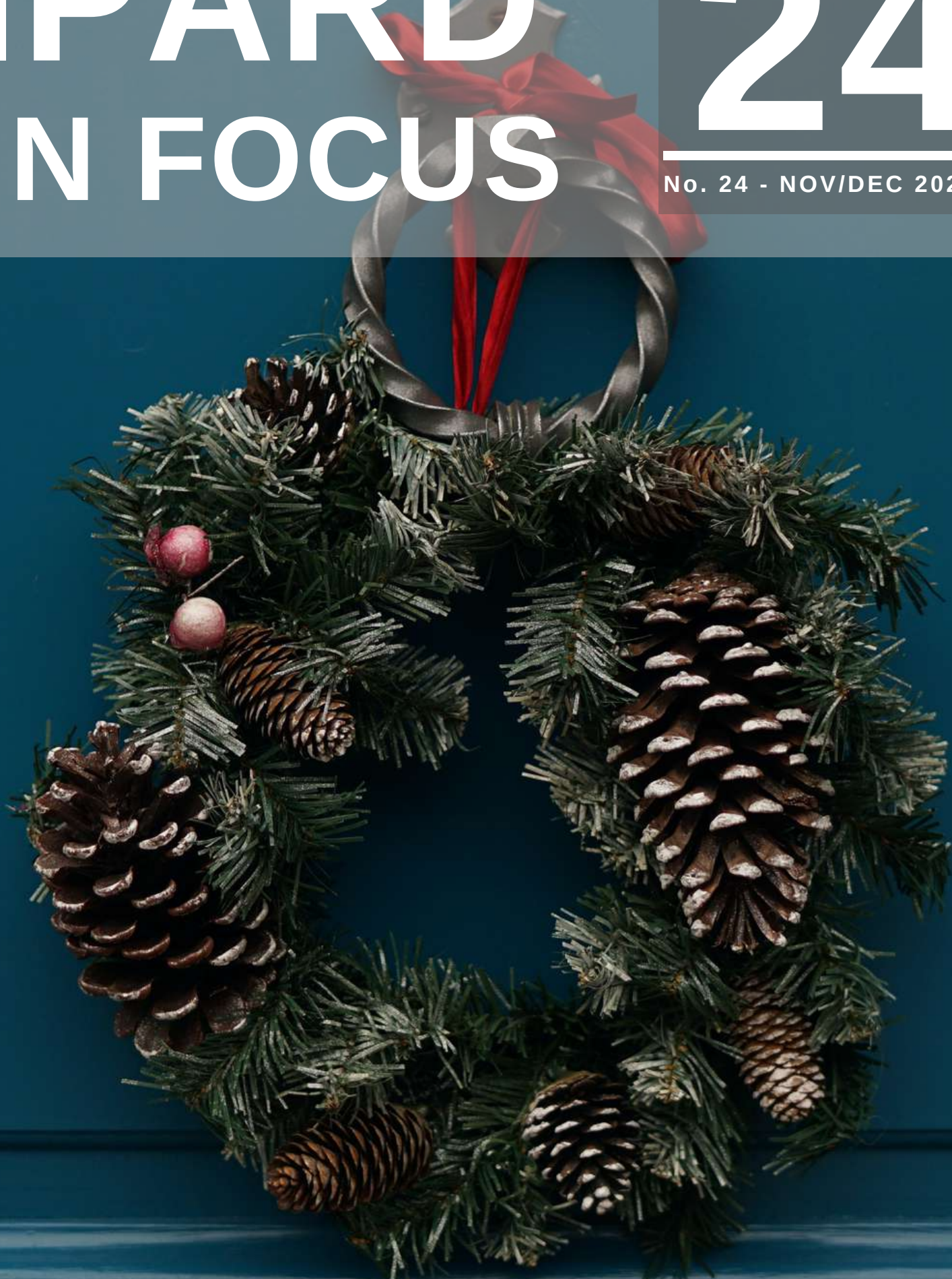


IPARD IN FOCUS

24

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IPARD



Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry
and Water Management



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EXAMPLE OF GOOD PRACTICE



The IPARD II Programme results

During 2023, the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Water Management made great efforts to ensure that the IPARD support funds reach the end recipients. So far, 1,064 projects with almost EUR 99 million of support have been paid within the IPARD II Programme period, of which the EUR 74.07 million is the contribution of European Union. In 2024, project payments from the IPARD II Programme will continue, and in addition, potential recipients can expect new calls for accredited measures within the IPARD III Programme.

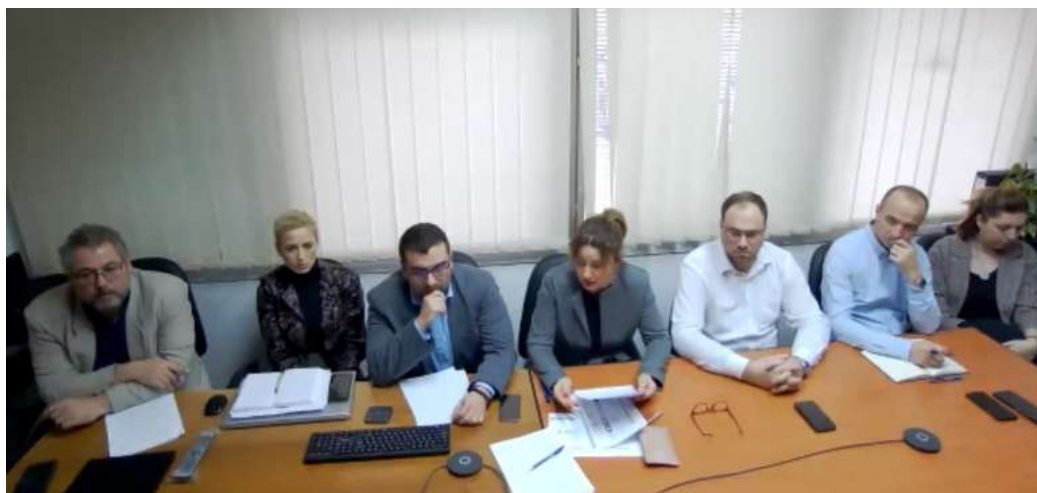
What is new in the rulebook for Measure 1

Experiences during the implementation of the IPARD II Programme, as well as the introduction of a new investment sector and new types of investments, significantly influenced the drafting of the rulebook for the implementation of Measure 1 of the IPARD III Programme. The most significant amendments are related to definition of investment sectors, new types of investments and other terms in the rulebook. Administrative control procedure for requests for application approval and payment approval is described in detail. Within the rulebook eligibility criteria for project approval are listed first, followed by the requirements for advance/final payment approval of IPARD support. The eligibility criteria are divided into common eligibility criteria and specific eligibility criteria. Specific eligibility criteria are prescribed depending on the type of investment and investment sector.

One of significant amendments introduced by the new rulebook is that, in the case when scoring and ranking procedure of projects is performed, two ranking lists will be published: first will consist of applicants for whom there are available funds and second for applicants for whom funds are not available and will receive decision on suspension of the process. In this way, the processing of all submitted applications within the public call will be significantly accelerated and all applicants will be informed timely on the status of their application. The new rulebook foresees the control of selection criteria upon modification of the approved project as well as during the procedure for approval of final payment.

Workshop for consultants for Measure 1

The IPARD Managing Authority, in cooperation with the IPARD Agency, held an online informative workshop on the topic “What is new in the Rulebook for Measure 1 – Investments in physical assets of agricultural holdings of the IPARD III Programme”, on December 22nd, 2023. The workshop was attended by representatives of the IPARD Managing Authority, the IPARD Agency and approximately 100 interested companies and entrepreneurs, who are engaged in providing consulting services, creating business plans, projects and technical documentation, as well as other interested parties. The draft rulebook for the implementation of Measure 1 and the novelties that this document brings were presented at the workshop.



“What is new in the Rulebook for Measure 1 – Investments in physical assets of agricultural holdings of the IPARD III Programme”

The main topics were related to the new form of the rulebook, the procedure for claiming IPARD support, obligatory documentation and other elements important for the approval and payment of support for IPARD Measure 1. Within the discussion part of the workshop participants had the opportunity to pose questions. Most questions were related to the selection criteria, as well as publication of the first public calls. Timely informing the interested parties regarding the novelties that new programming period will bring is highly important for the successful implementation of IPARD projects. The workshop is published on the website of the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Water Management ([link](#)).

The Second session of the IPARD III Monitoring Committee

The Second session of the IPARD III Monitoring Committee (MC) was held on December 13th 2023 in Belgrade, at the Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Serbia. The MC session was chaired by Milica Đurđević, State Secretary of the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Water Management. The MC members considered the plans for the IPARD III Programme implementation, as well as the achieved results and progress of the IPARD II Programme implementation. Action Plan for Technical Assistance for 2024 was adopted by the members of the IPARD III Monitoring Committee at the Second session.

At the beginning of the session, Milica Đurđević stressed the importance of continuous payments of the IPARD funds to the final recipients and achievement of the objective and purpose of the IPARD Programme. Furthermore, in the continuation of the session, representatives of the European Commission, Frank Bollen and Marius Lazdinis, expressed their observations and suggestions regarding the IPARD II Programme implementation and presented the novelties envisaged within the new programming period.



After the session, representatives of the IPARD Managing Authority and the IPARD Agency, together with representatives of the European Commission and the Delegation of the European Union to the Republic of Serbia, visited IPARD recipients. On that occasion, they first visited the recipient “Tarska jutra”, which received IPARD support for the construction and equipping of a categorised facility for the provision of tourist services within Measure 7 – Farm diversification and business development. In addition, during the field visit, they also visited the dairy “Moravica d.o.o.”, which successfully implemented an investment related to the construction of wastewater treatment facility under Measure 3 – Investments in physical assets concerning processing and marketing of agricultural and fishery products.

LEADER Congress

The European LEADER Congress, organised by the European LEADER Association for Rural Development (ELARD), in cooperation with the European Committee of the Regions and the European Economic and Social Committee, was held in Brussels, in the period 18-19th December 2023.

The LEADER Congress was attended by over 650 participants and 70 speakers from 38 European countries, and the main topic was the future of the LEADER approach.



Representatives of the IPARD Managing Authority at the congress had the opportunity to learn about the implementation of the LEADER measure in the member states of the European Union, as well as examples of good practice. The European LEADER Congress included a presentation on the possibilities provided by the LEADER approach, while the challenges and opportunities for further development were presented through the discussion. The unique challenges and opportunities for implementing the LEADER approach in countries that are not members of the European Union were presented through workshops. Gaining new knowledge and experiences of other countries in LEADER implementation contributes significantly to overall activities that are important for the beginning of implementation of Measure 5 – Implementation of local development strategies – LEADER approach in the Republic of Serbia through IPARD III Programme.

Example of good practice “Tarska Jutra”

After the Second Session of the IPARD III Monitoring Committee held on December 13th, 2023, in Belgrade, representatives of the IPARD Managing Authority, the IPARD Agency, the European Commission and EU Delegation visited the recipient of the IPARD II Programme support, who has successfully implemented the investment and started to provide accommodation services in a categorised accommodation facility “Tarska Jutra”.

The recipient of the IPARD support, from Bajina Bašta, has submitted an application for the project approval in 2020, within the First Public Call for Measure 7 of IPARD II Programme. After the project approval, she started the implementation of the project, completed in 2023.



The categorised accommodation facility, “Tarska jutra”, is located on the territory of the municipality of Bajina Bašta, on Tara mountain, in the area of Mitrovac on Tara. Facility consists of two identical mountain houses, with a net area of 84 m² each, of combined massive and wooden construction, ambiently integrated into the landscape, built in the spirit of time and place where they are located. The total accommodation capacity of both buildings is eight beds. Each of the houses has a kitchen, living room, bathroom and covered porch on the ground floor, and two bedrooms in the attic. The houses are fully equipped and offer all the comforts for a pleasant multi-day stay.

The total value of the investment was EUR 105,440.40, while the amount of IPARD support that was approved and paid was EUR 46,701.13. The recipient states that the entire procedure and the dynamics of processing approval and payment requests was according to her expectations. The only delay that occurred was related to meet the requirements for a building permit and its obtaining, given that the project was related to construction in the national park area, but those circumstances were well known to her. This was her first step towards providing rural tourism services and construction of accommodation facilities, considering that she was not engaged in this activity before.



One click to first-hand information

For the newest information on events, announcements, calls and rules regarding the implementation of the IPARD Programme in Serbia, follow the official IPARD Managing Authority accounts - on Instagram (@ipardnadlanu) and Facebook (IPARD na dlanu).

DO YOU HAVE A QUESTION FOR US?

For prompt answer, please contact us through e-mail ipardnadlanu@minpolj.gov.rs or Instagram and Facebook pages!



Used photos in the newsletter are from the following sources: <https://unsplash.com/>, MAFWM photos, as well as photos of "Tarska Jutra" owner

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