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Novelties on Rulebook for Measure1 of IPARD III Programme

The Rulebook on IPARD subsidies for Measure 1 – Investments in physical assets of agricultural holdings under IPARD III Programme has been published of 14th February, 2024.

Under Measure 1 of the IPARD III Programme, investments are foreseen in following sectors: milk, meat, eggs, fishery, fruit, vegetables, cereals and industrial crops and viticulture.

IPARD Measure 1 is predominantly intended for natural persons – registered in Register of AHs, as well as entrepreneurs, legal entities and agricultural cooperatives.

Opportunities for investing under this measure are related to construction and equipping of facilities, purchasing of machines, mechanisation and equipment, investments in production and storage of energy from renewable energy sources, investments in waste and waste water treatment, purchasing of tractors and specialised vehicles for raw milk transportation and transport of primary agricultural products, live animals and fish.

Aid intensity is up to 60% of value of total eligible costs, and in the case when the investment is realized in mountain area, aid intensity is up to 65%. For young farmers and certified organic producers in primary agricultural production aid intensity is up to 70% of total eligible costs. Additionally, 10% of support is entitled for the waste and wastewater investments and for investments in production and storage of energy from renewable sources. Percentage of IPARD support cannot exceed 75% of total eligible costs.

The minimum support that IPARD recipients of Measure 1 could receive is EUR 20,000, while the maximum support amounts EUR 1,000,000 per project.

Recipient can receive a total support EUR 2,000,000 under this measure for the entire IPARD III Programme implementation period.

Scoring and ranking

When the amount of available funds per public call is not sufficient for all submitted applications for Directorate for project approval, Agrarian Payments (IPARD Agency) launches scoring and ranking procedure. In such case, only those applications that meet pre-formal conditions are subject of scoring and ranking procedure. By the means of the pre-formal conditions timeliness of application submitted by the entity that is right holder for project approval, on the prescribed form, application with proper offers purchasing of investment, as well as business plan and inventory of movable and immovable property on December 31st of the year previous to year in which the application is submitted are checked. Whether the applicant has submitted another application within the same public call, is also checked as pre-formal condition. After the scoring and ranking procedure, Directorate for Agrarian Payments publishes scoring list of applications for

project approval on its official web site. Applicants for project approval can make an objection on scoring list in time frame of 15 days from the day of publishing, while the decision on objections is

made in 15 days.



Directorate for Agrarian Payments publishes the final rank list on its official web site, after decisions on objections on scoring list became final.

Final rank list consists the rank list of applications for projects approval for which there are available funds and the rank list of applications for which there are no available funds under the public call in subject. Applications for which there are no available funds will be terminated.

This would give opportunity to applicants who are not on the list for available funds, to prepare timely for the next public call.

Verification of conditions for project approval and on-the-spot verification

Directorate for Agrarian Payments conducts procedure for verification of other formal conditions, general and specific conditions for project approval, as well as economic sustainability of the project, for applications for whom available funds for project approval exist.

Unlike the previous programming period in which on-the-spot verification was carried out by physical visits of all applicants for project approval before issuing a decision on project approval, in this programing period on-the-spot verification will be performed by using alternative means, as well (such as geotagged photos). Geotagged photos cannot be older than 15 days from day of submitting an application for project approval and specifically should have place, longitude and latitude, as well as date and time when photos are taken. If applicant for project approval do not deliver geotagged photos , on-the-spot verification will be performed by physical visits.

On-the-spot verification of applications for project approval will be performed always by physical visits if the project contains: construction/works for which is not necessary to issue permit in accordance with law on planning and construction (i.e. construction of irrigation system), investments in facilities on which some works have been made before submission of application for project approval, investments in purchasing of new enriched cages and equipment that demands reconstruction, adaptation, rehabilitation of already existing facility for keeping laying hens and investments in multi annual plantations.



Deadlines



All applicants for project approval who meet general and special conditions for project approval, will be issued a decision on project approval that contains all information about project, including eligible investments and expenditures, the total approved amount of IPARD subsidies, as well as deadline for realisation of the investment and submission of a request for final payment of IPARD subsidies. IPARD beneficiaries are entitled to only one modification of approved project.

Request for modification of approved project can be submitted not later than 30 days from deadline for realisation of approved project, that is, deadline for submitting application for final payment.

IPARD beneficiary can claim advance payment of IPARD subsidies up to 50% of the value determined in the decision on project approval. The request for approval of advance payment of IPARD subsidies has to be submitted within 60 days from the day of decision on project approval receipt, with written bank guarantee that amounts 110% of requested amount of advance payment.

In compresence to IPARD II Programme, a recipient of IPARD III support can ask for retrieval of bank guarantee, before it expires.

After the validity of the project approval decision, IPARD beneficiary can start with realisation of the investment according to the decision.



Before submitting an application for final payment, depending of sector of investment, applicant has to meet all general and specific conditions. Furthermore, all obligations towards suppliers have to be fulfilled, and the subject of investment put into the function.

On-the-spot verifications before the final payment will verify whether the IPARD beneficiary has realized the investment in accordance with the project approval decision.

Decision on final payment of IPARD subsides, among other, determines a total amount of IPARD subsidies, obligations of IPARD recipient, contribution of EU and national budget, as well as obligations of the recipient of the IPARD subsidies.

In order to make EU support visible, approved/paid IPARD investments have to be properly marked.



It is important to emphasise that Rulebook on IPARD subsidies for investments in physical assets of agricultural holdings under IPARD III Programme prescribes that Directorate for Agrarian Payments will gather all relevant facts necessary for taking decision in the process of claiming IPARD support from other institutions by e-mail, e-service of institution or by other e-means.

The First public call for M1 has been published



The First public call for submitting applications for project approval for Measure 1 – Investments in physical assets of agricultural holdings under IPARD III Programme was published on 23th February and it will be open until 24th May 2024.

The subject of the First public call are investments and eligible expenditures in physical assets of agricultural holdings regarding construction of facility, construction of facility with equipping of facility in subject, establishing new or renew existing perennial plantations of fruits, establishing new nursery plantations of higher phytosanitary categories of fruit planting material and new nursery plantations of higher phytosanitary categories of grape planting material. Available funds for potential recipients of IPARD support amounts RSD 4,809,728,000.39.

It is important to stress that within the First public call investments in purchasing of equipment are eligible only within investments in construction of facilities, as well as investments in perennial productive and nursery plantations.

The First public call prescribes general documentation for project approval and project approval form. Additionally, specific documentation for construction and equipping of facilities, for investments in production and storage of energy from renewable sources, as well as for investments in establishing perennial productive plantations of fruits and nursery plantations of fruits and grapes is prescribed.

This public call prescribes elements of offer for investment purchasing, which is submitted with project approval form, as well as documentation for selection criteria for additional points.





General documentation, prescribed by public call, includes: project approval form, three written offers, simple or complex business plan (for investments above EUR 100,000) and list of movable and immovable property. An evidence for applicants – natural persons, about experience and competences in the field of agriculture has to be submitted with project approval form. If applicant is an entrepreneur, legal entity or agricultural cooperative, an evidence, that manager, responsible for production process, has experience and competences, has to be submitted. Also, it is necessary to submit a photo of the place of control of the investment, not older than 15 days from the date of submission application for project approval. If applicant is a joint stock company, founding act has to be submitted with project approval application. When applicant for project approval is an entrepreneur, legal entity or agricultural cooperative, with project approval application a copy of last published financial report for financial year has to be submitted.

If an applicant for project approval is VAT payer, copies of the last balance sheet and the last publicly published income statement have to be also submitted with the project approval application.

Applicant for project approval may submit:

- 1) a certificate of settled due liabilities based on public revenues from the jurisdiction of the tax administration, on the date of submission of project approval application;
- 2) a certificate of settled due liabilities based on public revenues from the competent local tax administration, according to the applicant's place of residence or the headquarters of the applicant or the place of control of the investment in subject, on the date of submission of project approval application.

The Public call prescribes the Final payment request form, as well as the general or specific documentation to be submitted with.





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?

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