

# IPARD



REPUBLIC OF SERBIA  
MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE, FORESTRY  
AND WATER MANAGEMENT  
IPARD MANAGING AUTHORITY



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# FIFTH IPARD III MC SESSION

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June 18<sup>th</sup> 2025, Belgrade



# IPARD programmes

## Brief overview and update

IPARD III monitoring committee

<sup>2</sup>Belgrade, 17 June 2025

Agriculture  
and Rural  
Development

*Anna Nowak-Wood  
DG Agriculture and Rural  
Development  
European Commission*

# IPARD II programmes [2014-2020]

- For all 5 programmes, implementation ended on 31/12/2024
- Situation after the **fourth quarter of 2024**:

(in EUR)	ALLOCATION 2014-2020	Pre-financing	EU interim payments	Absorption rate	Decommitments (***)
Albania (*)	71 000 000	13 200 000	41 934 886	59,1%	
Montenegro (**)	39 000 000	6 900 000	34 630 562	88,8%	
North Macedonia (**)	60 000 000	11 700 000	51 041 718	85,1%	
Serbia	175 000 000	34 500 000	99 031 456	56,6%	
Türkiye (**)	601 000 000	95 640 000	598 700 317	99,6%	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>946 000 000</b>	<b>161 940 000</b>	<b>825 338 939</b>	<b>87,2%</b>	<b>23 294 638</b>

(\*) Reimbursements are interrupted as of July 2023

(\*\*) Reimbursement by Commission subject to maximum 95% for pre-financing and interim payments

(\*\*\*) Decommitments on 2020 allocation not yet included

# IPARD III programmes [2021-2027]

	Adoption programme (+ last modified)	Sectoral agreement	Financing agreement (+ last modified)	Entrustment for measures	
Albania	09/03/2022	31/01/2023			
Montenegro	29/06/2022 (14/12/2023)	23/01/2023	02/02/2024 (30/04/2025)	1, 3, 7	
North Macedonia	09/03/2022 (24/06/2024)	15/02/2023	29/11/2023	1, 3, 7, 9	
Serbia	09/03/2022 (20/10/2023)	09/08/2023	29/10/2024	1, 3, 7, 9	Conditional
Türkiye	14/03/2022 (27/03/2024)	12/04/2023	08/04/2024	1, 3, 4, 5, 7, 9	

# IPARD III programmes [2021-2027]

## Programmed allocation per measure [EU contribution]

MEASURE	Albania	Montenegro	North Macedonia	Serbia	Türkiye	
1 Investments in physical assets of agricultural holdings	28,1%	27,5%	30,1%	30,0%	23,7%	Entrustment
3 Investments in physical assets for processing and marketing of agricultural and fishery products	27,1%	23,4%	26,8%	21,0%	16,3%	Conditional
4 Agri-environment-climate and organic farming	1,9%	8,5%	1,1%	5,0%	3,3%	No entrustment
5 Implementation of local development strategies - LEADER approach	3,9%	1,5%	1,7%	5,0%	10,5%	
6 Investments in rural public infrastructure	10,7%	9,1%	9,5%	18,0%	18,1%	
7 Farm diversification and business development	19,0%	20,1%	27,1%	18,0%	21,6%	
9 Technical assistance	1,7%	2,0%	2,5%	3,0%	2,3%	
10 Advisory services	2,2%		1,1%		4,2%	
11 Establishment and protection of forests	5,4%	7,9%				
TOTAL	100,0%	100,0%	100,0%	100,0%	100,0%	

# IPARD III programmes [2021-2027]

(Based on information provided by IPARD countries)

	Calls	Launch	Measures	Status
Albania				
Montenegro	No 1	07/02/2024	7	Call closed
	No 2	28/03/2024	7	Call closed
	No 3	19/06/2024	3	Call closed
	No 4	29/08/2024	1	Call closed
	No 5	../../2025	7.2	Under preparation
	No 6	../../2025	4	Under preparation
	No 7	../../2025	1	Under preparation
North Macedonia	No 1	01/09/2023	1 & 7	Call closed
	No 2	13/04/2024	3	Call closed
	No 3	05/11/2024	7	Call closed
	No 4	12/02/2025	1	Call closed
	No 5	../../2025	3	Under preparation
	No 6	../../2025	7	Under preparation

# IPARD III programmes [2021-2027]

(Based on information provided by IPARD countries)

	Calls	Launch	Measures	Status
Serbia	No 1	23/02/2024	1	Call closed
	No 2	04/10/2024	1	Call closed
	No 3	23/12/2024	1	Call closed
	No 4	14/03/2025	3	Call closed
	No 5	.././2025	7	Under preparation
	No 6	.././2025	1	Under preparation
	No 7	.././2025	1	Under preparation
Türkiye	No 1	21/03/2024	3	Call closed
	No 2	12/07/2024	7	Call closed
	No 3	16/09/2024	1	Call closed
	No 4	23/08/2024	4	Call closed
	No 5	12/11/2024	7	Call closed
	No 6	02/06/2025	5	Call ongoing
	No 7	../07/2025	7	Under preparation
	No 8	../09/2025	1	Under preparation
	No 9	../09/2025	4	Under preparation
	No 10	../10/2025	3	Under preparation

# IPARD III programmes [2021-2027]

- Pre-financing: maximum 30% of 3 most recent years; at least 50% for first instalment; subject to budget availabilities
- Envelopes 2021-2022: eligible for EU contribution if paid by **31/12/2025** [N+3]
- Situation after the **first quarter of 2025**:

(in EUR)	ALLOCATION 2021-2027	Pre-financing	EU interim payments	Absorption rate	Decommitments
Albania	112 000 000	0	0	0,0%	
Montenegro	63 000 000	4 200 000	0	0,0%	
North Macedonia	97 000 000	6 300 000	2 066 068	2,1%	
Serbia	288 000 000	17 850 000	0	0,0%	
Türkiye	430 000 000	30 750 000	15 578 880	3,6%	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>990 000 000</b>	<b>59 100 000</b>	<b>17 644 948</b>	<b>1,8%</b>	<b>0</b>



# Thank you

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## MAIN ACTIVITIES PERFORMED BETWEEN TWO IPARD III MC SESSIONS

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**Jasmina Miljković**

Head of the IPARD Managing Authority  
Head of Department for Management of IPARD Programme

June 18<sup>th</sup> 2025, Belgrade

Amendment to the Decision  
on the establishment of the  
IPARD III Monitoring  
Committee for monitoring of  
implementation of the  
Programme for Pre-  
Accession Assistance for  
Rural Development of the  
Republic of Serbia for the  
period  
2021-2027

**In the period between the two IPARD III Monitoring Committee sessions,  
the following changes of members/deputy members took place:**

**Changes of members**

Ministry of Economy

Ministry of Public Administration and Local  
Self-Government

Environmental Protection Agency

Institute for Nature Conservation of Serbia

Provincial Secretariat for Regional  
Development, Interregional Cooperation  
and Local Self-Governmen

Serbian Young Farmers Association (SYFA)

Tourism Organisation of Serbia

Faculty of Agriculture, University of  
Belgrade

**Cancellation of membership**

Cluster of Aquaculture „Our Fish”

# MAIN ACTIVITIES CARRIED OUT BETWEEN THE TWO MC SESSIONS



Legal  
basis



- Preparation of the Rulebook on IPARD support for Farm diversification and business development (Measure 7);
- Proposal for amendment of the procedure regarding the submission of three offers sent to the European Commission;
- Preparation of amendments to rulebooks for Measure 1 and Measure 3;
- Action Plan for the entrustment of new IPARD measures;
- Preparation of the Law on IPARD support.



Public  
Calls



- The Third Public Call for Measure 1 was closed on January 24<sup>th</sup>, 2025;
- The First Public Call for Measure 3 was closed on March 14<sup>th</sup>, 2025.



Final  
report



- The Final Implementation Report on IPARD II Programme (FIR) has been prepared;
- A Written procedure regarding the approval of the FIR by the IPARD II MC members is ongoing;
- Submission of the FIR to the European Commission by June 30<sup>th</sup> of the current year.

# Final Implementation Report on IPARD II Programme

The IPARD Managing Authority has prepared the Final Implementation Report on IPARD II Programme in accordance with Article 59 (2) of the Sectoral Agreement. The Final Report covers the entire IPARD II Programme implementation period, including an overview of the activities carried out during 2024.

**Submitted application: 3,181**

Requested IPARD support: EUR 409.1 m

EU contribution: EUR 306.8 m

**Paid projects: 1,233**

IPARD support paid: EUR 131.6 m

EU contribution: EUR 98.7 m

Execution rate: 56.4%



Share in the total IPARD implementation per measure:

**MEASURE 1: 64.3%**

**MEASURE 3: 24.4%**

**MEASURE 7: 11.3%**

**MEASURE 9: 0.02%**

# IPARD II PROGRAMME CONTRIBUTION

## Sensitive categories of recipients

### *Young farmers*

750 projects were paid with IPARD support amounting to EUR 53.6 m (**23.0% of the Programme budget**).

### *Women farm holders*

461 projects were paid with IPARD support amounting to EUR 31.8 m (**13.6% of the Programme budget**).

## Areas with difficult working conditions

294 projects were paid with IPARD support amounting to EUR 35.2 m (**15.1% of the Programme budget**) to recipients from areas with difficult working conditions in agriculture.

## Agricultural cooperatives

10 projects were paid with IPARD support amounting to EUR 2.1 m (**0.9% of the Programme budget**).

## Environmental protection

During the IPARD II Programme implementation period a total of 87 projects contributing to environmental protection were approved with approved amount of IPARD support of EUR 4.4 m, out of which 50 projects were paid by the end of 2024.

*Energy production from renewable sources* - 31 paid projects.

*Manure storage*- 16 paid projects.

*Effluent/waste/wastewater management* - three paid projects.

# LESSONS LEARNED

- 01 Legal framework**  
Amendments to the Law on Agriculture and Rural Development and the rulebooks for the implementation of measures, adoption of a new law on IPARD support
- 02 Efficiency and effectiveness**  
Through 3,181 submitted applications, recipients have gradually adapted to EU rules and standards. The growing number of applications indicates the need for increased efficiency, administrative simplification of procedures, strengthening of human resources, additional training and enhanced supervision.
- 03 Process automation**  
Automation of the application submission and application processing, linking to existing public databases in order to improve the IPARD Agency's access to the necessary data and information
- 04 Prescribed mandatory documentation**  
Duly completed application form, offers, business plan and list of movable and immovable property
- 05 Management of a large number of requests for project modification**  
For an approved project, only one modification request can be submitted.

- 06 On-the-spot control**  
Alternative control methods with the use of modern technologies in order to increase efficiency
- 07 Reducing the number of rejected and withdrawn applications**  
Improving the awareness of applicants for obtaining IPARD support through continuous training for potential recipients, as well as advisors and consultants. Reduction of uncertainty of potential recipients regarding outcome.
- 08 Facilitate access to finances**  
Application of advance payments and introduction of interim payments
- 09 Challenges of the new market conditions**  
Application of price indexation as support for the recipients during unfavourable investment circumstances due to the growth of market prices of IPARD investments

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# THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION!

**Jasmina Miljković**

Department for Management of IPARD Programme  
Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Water Management  
Blvd kralja Aleksandra 84, Belgrade

[jasmina.miljkovic@minpolj.gov.rs](mailto:jasmina.miljkovic@minpolj.gov.rs)

[www.minpolj.gov.rs](http://www.minpolj.gov.rs)

[www.ipard.gov.rs](http://www.ipard.gov.rs)



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# IPARD PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION

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IPARD AGENCY

SLOBODAN NIKOLOVSKI, DIRECTOR

Belgrade, June 2025

# Agenda



01

## Statistical overview

- Summary of the previous cycle. What do the numbers tell us?

02

## Activities

- Preparing the legal framework and implementing the IPARD III public calls

03

## Challenges

- Roll-over of M7 and accreditation of M4 and M5

04

## Our resources

- Human capacity building



# IPARD II in numbers

## Applications submitted

Requested support:  
EUR 306.81 million



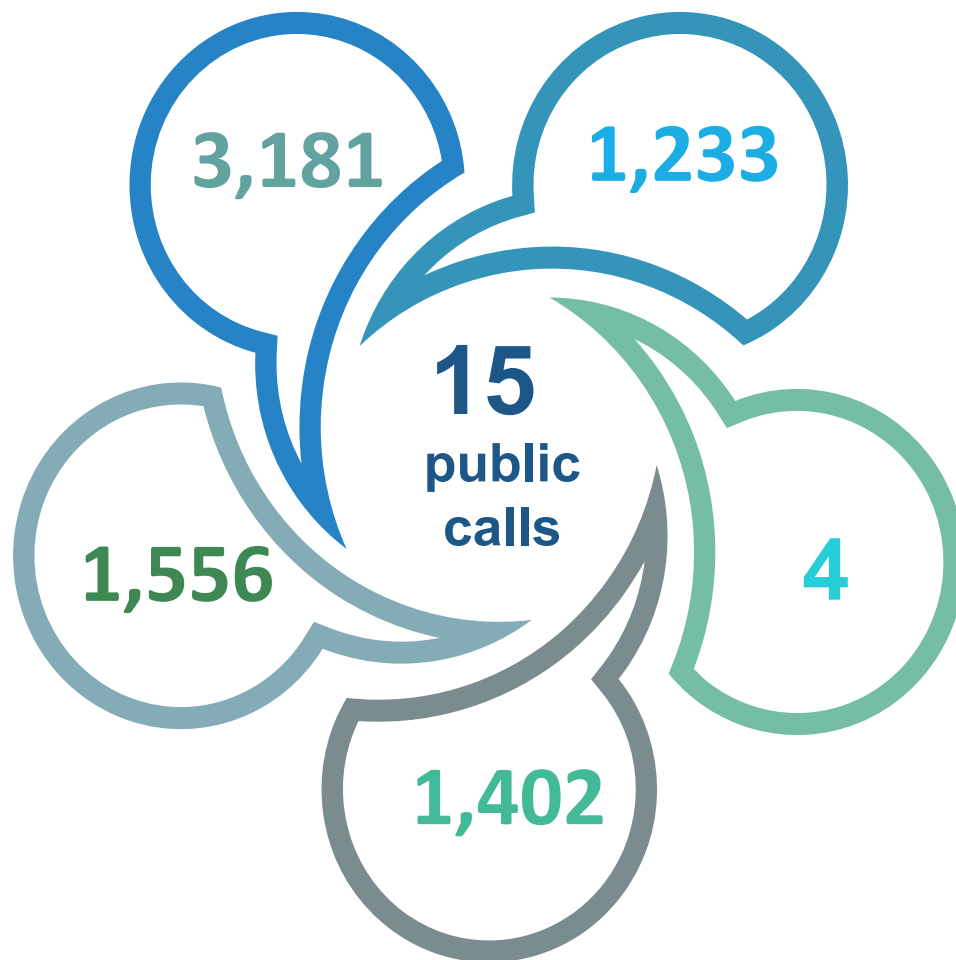
## Projects approved

Approved support:  
EUR 148.06 million



## Payment requests

Requested support:  
EUR 122.10 million



## € Beneficiaries paid

Funds disbursed  
EUR 98,71million

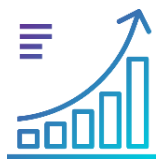
## Measures



Allocated funds:  
EUR 175 million  
*74,32 unused funds*

Cut-off date: 31/12/2024

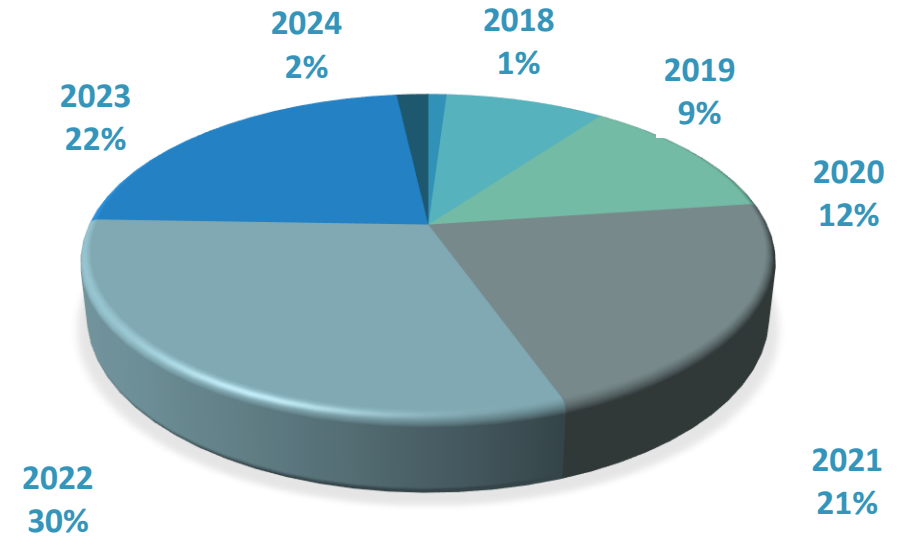
Measure	APPLICATIONS SUBMITTED		PROJECTS APPROVED		FINAL PAYMENT		ADVANCE PAYMENT	
	Number	Requested support	Number	Approved amount of support	Number	Funds disbursed	Number	Funds disbursed
M1	2.260	154.142.925	1.185	83.502.279	1014	60.507.289	22	2.946.387
M3	313	73.662.208	174	40.877.369	117	20.651.485	18	3.401.867
M7	605	78.974.589	195	23.664.761	100	9.933.796	16	1.250.847
M9	3	29.933	2	18.785	2	18.796	0	0
TOTAL	3.181	306.809.654	1.556	148.063.195	1.233	91.111.366	56	7.599.101



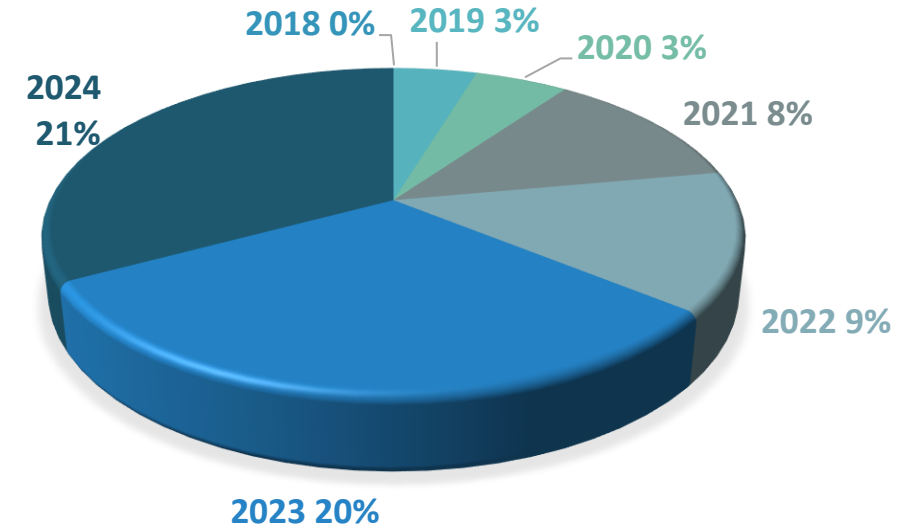
# Per annum implementation

Cut-off date 31/12/2024	APPLICATIONS SUBMITTED		PROJECTS APPROVED		PAYMENT REQUESTS		BENEFICIARIES PAID	
	Number	Requested amount	Number	Approved amount of support	Number	Requested support	Number	Funds disbursed
2018	736	151.357.649	22	1.520.324	10	212.276	0	0
2019	701	155.574.277	244	13.296.794	175	5.891.523	145	4.577.520
2020	311	75.334.471	332	18.957.127	177	9.807.325	72	5.112.389
2021	774	290.791.955	239	32.235.348	223	12.817.760	293	12.113.315
2022	657	27.916.992	381	45.827.657	190	19.678.824	135	13.633.845
2023	2	31.415	323	33.585.590	406	36.296.318	354	30.795.244
2024	0	0	15	2.640.354	221	37.399.996	234	32.478.133
<b>Total</b>	<b>3.181</b>	<b>701.006.759</b>	<b>1.556</b>	<b>148.063.195</b>	<b>1.402</b>	<b>122.104.022</b>	<b>1.233</b>	<b>98.710.446</b>

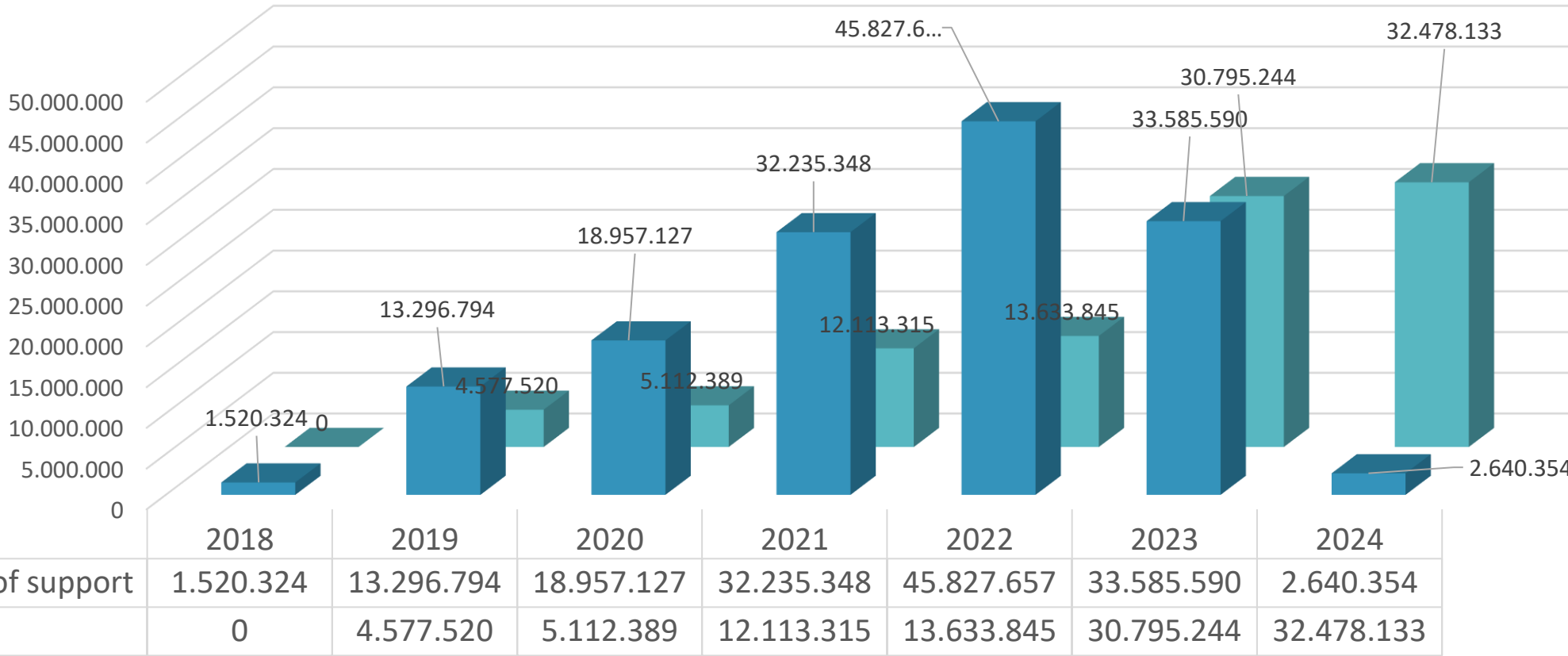
## APPROVED AMOUNT OF SUPPORT



## FUNDS DISBURSED



Per annum implementation





# Implementation of IPARD III Programme



Rulebook for Measure 1 adopted in February 2024

On 17 September 2024, the NAO approved the IA procedures for the implementation of Measure 1

Three public calls have been announced

Rulebook for Measure 3 adopted in December 2024

On 24 January 2025, the NAO approved the IA procedures for the implementation of Measure 3

One public call has been announced

New Rulebook on Reference Price Determination Methodology

# M1 – First Public Call

Number of applications

389

Requested amount of funds

EUR 263.75 million in total

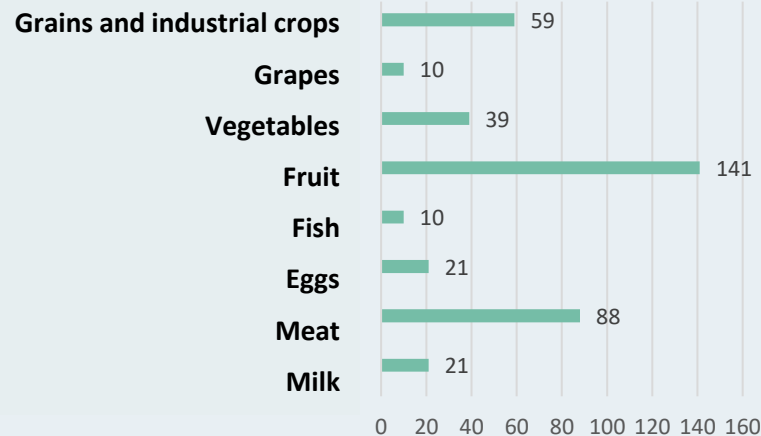
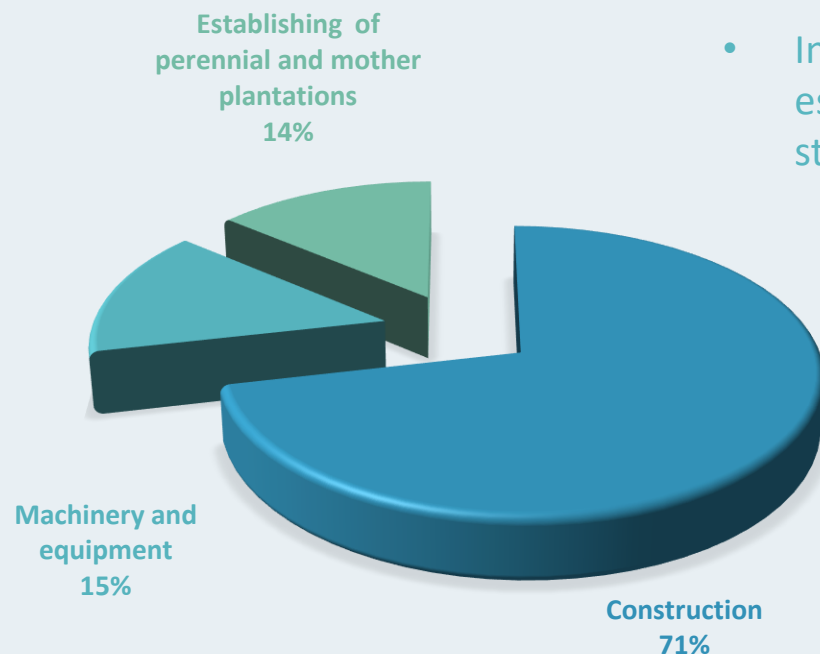
Allocated funds

EUR 41.06 million (EU contribution EUR 30.8 million)

## IPARD III Public Calls



- From 23 February to 16 December 2024
- Incentives for the construction and equipping of establishments and for growing new perennial stock of fruit and rootstock of fruit and grapes





# M1 – Second Public Call

Number of applications

846

Requested amount of funds

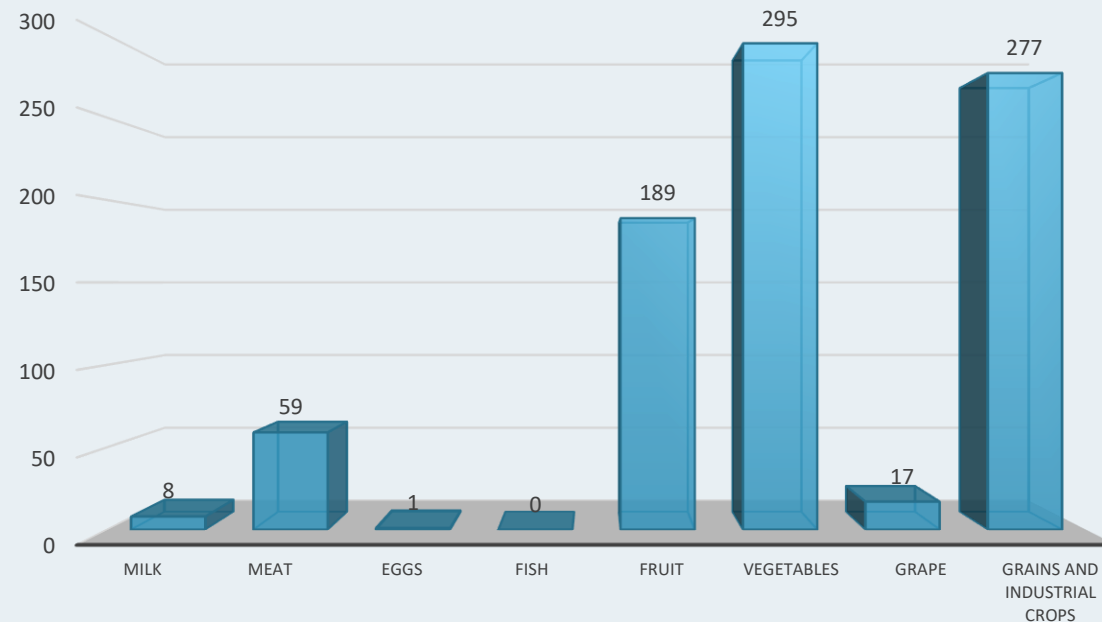
EUR 74.73 million in total

Allocated funds

EUR 23.04 million (EU contribution EUR 17.28 million)

From 4 October to 8 November 2024

Incentives for the purchase of a new tractor with the engine power not exceeding 100 kW



## IPARD III Public Calls



## M1 – Third Public Call

Number of applications

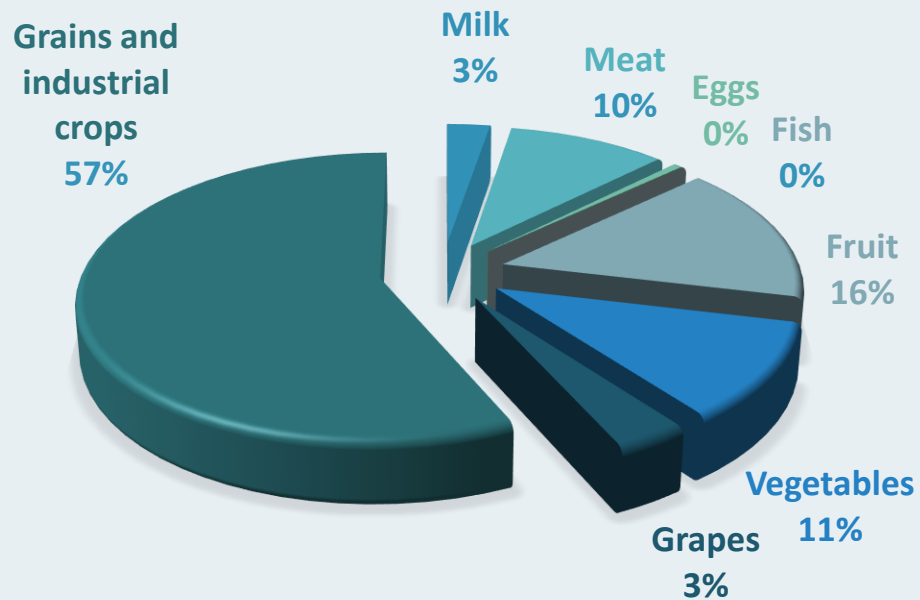
380

Requested amount of funds

EUR 99.93 million in total

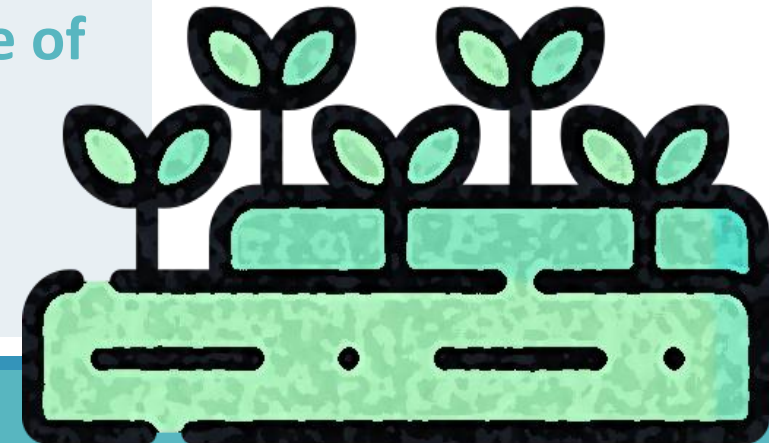
Allocated funds

EUR 14.43 million (EU contribution EUR 10.82 million)



- From 23 December 2024 to 24 January 2025
- Incentives for the purchase of machinery and equipment

## IPARD III Public Calls



# M3 – First Public Call

## IPARD III Public Calls

Number of applications

271

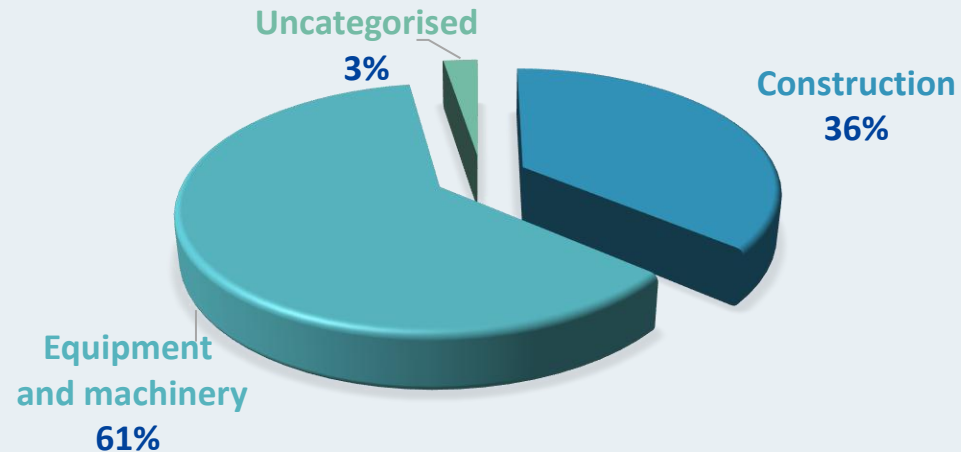
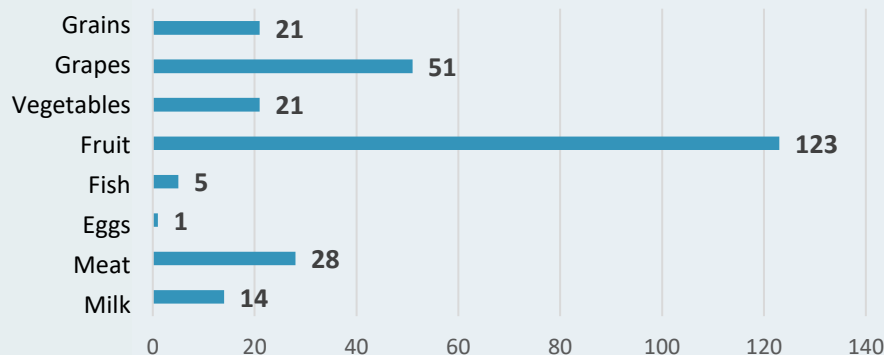
Requested amount of funds

EUR 233.76 million in total

Allocated funds

EUR 67.78 million (EU contribution EUR 50.84 million)

- From 10 February to 14 March 2025
- The largest Public Call to date
- Incentives for the construction and equipping of processing establishments and purchase of machinery and equipment and vehicles



- **90.82%** of investments in construction intended for the development of processing and storage establishments
- **12** investments in renewable energy sources
- **3** investments in environment protection



# Roll-over



- Financial Agreement under the IPARD III Programme was ratified on 29 October 2024
- The Rulebook for Measure 9 was adopted on 6 September 2024
- Procedures under M9 have undergone a major simplification: instead of the two administrative units formerly in charge of application processing under this measure, processing is now done by only one unit, and several steps in project application have been merged
- On 23 April 2025, the NAO approved the implementation procedures for Measure 9
- The procedures for implementation of Measure 7 which require reaccreditation, will be finalized following the adoption of the Rulebook related to this measure.
- Preparation for the development of procedures for the measures that have not been implemented (Measure 4 and Measure 5) will follow the schedule of preparation of the relevant Rulebooks for these measures

# Verification of eligible expense

- Initiative of the Sector for Project Approval to change the “double-check” system – three offers + reference price – which was surpassed during the program implementation.
- A new principle is based on one selected offer accompanied by a control mechanism through the reference price database within the procedural steps of administrative processing.
- The documentation package related to the new approach for verifying cost eligibility was sent to the NAO SO on February 26, 2025.
- It was assessed as a substantial change and, in accordance with the procedure, forwarded by the NAO SO to the European Commission for review and approval on June 4, 2025.



# Human resources – the way to a stable and efficient system

## Ensuring continuity through the long-term mandate of the management structure

The new DAP Director has been appointed for a five-year term on 1 August 2024

(from the ranks of civil servants of the Directorate for Agrarian Payments)

Five assistant directors have been appointed for a period of **five years**

One assistant director has been appointed for a period of 6 months

## Public competitions

In 2024, there were no public competitions for filling executive positions.

In May 2025, a request was submitted to the competent Government Commission to approve additional hiring. Upon receiving approval, a public competition will be announced to fill 30 executive positions

**The new Rulebook on Internal Organisation and Job Systematization entered into force on January 31, 2025**

## Staff retention policy

The Government of the Republic of Serbia approved the DAP to classify a higher number of senior positions.

30 civil servants have been promoted to senior positions and 34 of them have progressed to a higher pay grade in 2025

Salaries of civil servants have increased by 8% since 1 January 2025

**219** systematized IPARD positions  
**151** filled positions  
**24** employees on temporary contracts

A

B

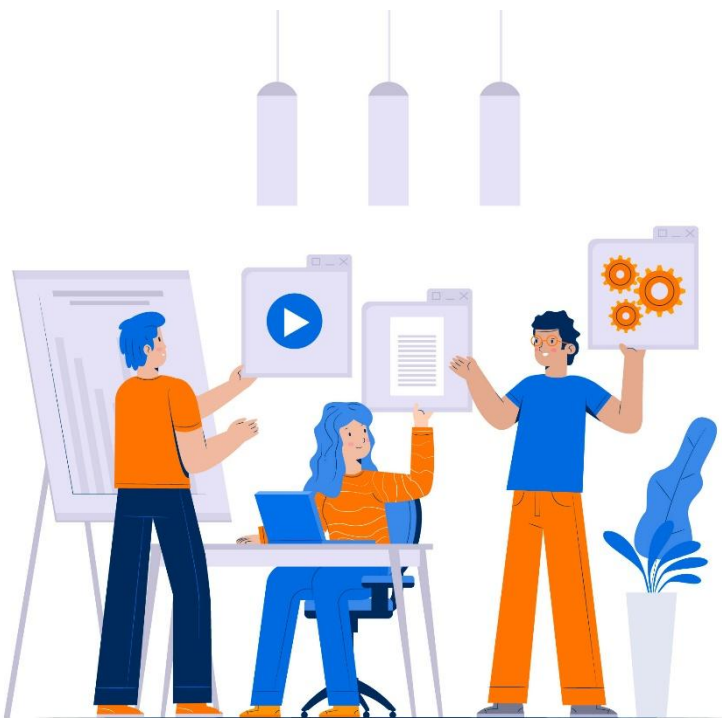
C

D

E



# Strengthening institutional capacities for the implementation of the IPARD III program



- **Adoption of a New Job Classification Act is Planned**
- In line with the requirement to introduce new IPARD measures
- more IPARD positions
- **Training Plan for 2025 has been adopted**
  - Basic information package for newly employed personnel
  - (introduction to work, organizational structure, IA procedures, and job description tasks)
  - **Newly employed personnel training:**
    - Presenting and implementing IPARD III measures
    - Concept of irregularity
    - IPARD
    - IPARD within the framework of IPA
  - **Mentor support in the first six months after the initial employment date**
  - **Trainings for all employees:**
    - IPARD III – implementation of M4, M5 and M9
    - Specific LPIS trainings

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Directorate  
for Agrarian  
Payments

SLOBODAN NIKOLOVSKI, DIRECTOR  
DIRECTORATE FOR AGRARIAN PAYMENTS – IPARD AGENCY  
MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE, FORESTRY AND WATER MANAGEMENT  
BELGRADE, REPUBLIC OF SERBIA

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Uprava za agrarna plaćanja



# **IPARD III Monitoring Committee**

## **18 June 2025**

### **Action Plan for finalization of IPARD III entrustment process - Measure 4 and Measure 5 -**

NAO Support Office  
Ministry of Finance



- 
- The background of the slide features abstract, overlapping green geometric shapes, primarily triangles and polygons, in various shades of green, creating a modern and dynamic visual effect.
- ▶ **Measure 4 - Agri-environment-climate and organic farming measure**
  - ▶ **Measure 5 - Implementation of Local Development Strategies - LEADER approach**

- ▶ In the previous period, number of meetings and consultations were held between key IPARD bodies, which resulted in preparation of Action Plan for finalization of IPARD III entrustment process for Measure 4 and Measure 5 (final version as of 6 June 2025).
- ▶ Preparation of legal, institutional, administrative and procedural framework is necessary to be ensured before commence of self-assessment by internal audit, external audit and submission of NAO request for entrustment to EC.

# Action Plan for finalization of IPARD III entrustment process - Measure 4 (Agri-environment-climate and organic farming measure) and Measure 5 (Implementation of Local Development Strategies – LEADER approach)

cut-off date: 06/06/2024

#	Activity	2022 ...	2023	2024												2025												2026								Responsibility	Status	Note/Comments
				jan	feb	mar	apr	may	jun	jul	aug	sep	oct	nov	dec	jan	feb	mar	apr	may	jun	jul	aug	sep	oct	nov	dec	jan	feb	mar	apr	may	jun	jul	aug			
1	Legal Framework																																					
1.1	Financial Framework Partnership Agreement (FFPA)	dec																																		NIPAC	signed and ratified	
1.2	IPARD III Programme		dec														x																			IPARD MA	adopted	In April 2025, amendment to the IPARD III Programme is adopted by the Commission.
1.3	Sectoral Agreement (SA)		aug																																	NIPAC	signed and ratified	
1.4	Financing Agreement (FA)											x	x																							NIPAC	signed and entered into force	
1.5	Decree on the Management of EU Pre-accession Assistance programmes under the instrument for Pre-accession Assistance (IPA III) for the period 2021-2027 (Decree on IPA III)		apr																																	MFIN/NAO	adopted	
1.6	Law on IPARD Programme implementation (final draft)*																		x	x	x	x													MAFWM	not prepared	*All provisions regarding IPARD Programme shall be included in the Law on IPARD Programme implementation.	
1.7	Rulebook for M4 (agri-environment) (final draft)*																		x	x	x	x													IPARD MA	not prepared	*According to Annex 3 (S) required for the application of the budget implementation tool. Based on MAFWM practice, it is base for publishing.	
1.8	Rulebook for M5 (LEADER) (final draft)*																		x	x	x	x													IPARD MA	not prepared	*According to Annex 3 (S) required for the application of the budget implementation tool. Based on MAFWM practice, it is base for publishing.	
2	Institutional Framework																																					
2.1	Decision on the Designation of the Responsible Persons and Bodies in the Management of EU Pre-Accession Assistance Programmes under the Instrument for Pre-Accession Assistance (IPA III) for the period 2021 – 2027		apr																																	MFIN/NAO	adopted	
2.2	Decree on amending Decree on AA Designation		sep																																	MFIN/NAO	adopted	
2.3	Memorandum of Understanding between NAO - IPARD MA - IA											x																								NAO	signed	MoU is applicable for implementation of the IPARD III Programme (all measures) for additional modification of the IPARD III Programme in 2025, the MoU will be amended.
	Memorandum of Understanding between IPARD MA - IA																x	x	x																	IPARD MA/IA	not signed	Draft MoU is prepared and submitted to the Commission for approval of the IPARD III Programme in 2025.

# Overview of implemented key activities

1. Financial Framework Partnersheep Agreement (FFPA): signed and ratified in December 2022;
2. Sectoral Agreement (SA): signed and ratified in August 2023;
3. IPARD III Programme: adopted in December 2023;
4. Finanacing Agreement (FA): signed and entered into force in October 2024 („roll-over“ entrustment for Measures 1, 3, 7 and 9);
5. Decree on IPA III 2021-2027: adopted in April 2023;
6. Decision on designation of responsible persons and bodies in the management of IPA III: adopted in April 2023;
7. Protocol on the conditions and manner of handling bank accounts opened at the National Bank of Serbia for the purpose of the management of IPA III Programmes: signed in August 2023;
8. Protocol on the conditions and manner of handling bank accounts opened at the Ministry of Finance - Treasury Directorate for the purpose of the management of IPARD III Programme: signed in November 2024;
9. Memorandum of Understanding between NAO - IPARD MA – IA: signed in November 2024.

# On-going activities

- ▶ Ensuring staff capacity in all IPARD bodies, focusing on: further recruitment of staff in line with WLA, applying different tools and mechanisms for retaining staff and continuous training and improving institutional capacity.
- ▶ Appointment of all positions of Assistant Directors in IPARD Agency on a long-term basis (5 positions are filled on a long-term basis, out of 6).

# Overview of key activities to be completed

1. Preparation of final draft of Law on IPARD Programme implementation;
  2. Preparation of final drafts of Rulebooks on implementation of Measures 4 and 5;
  3. Memorandum of Understanding between IPARD MA and IA to be signed;
  4. Agreements with technical bodies to be signed;
  5. IPARD Managing Authority and IPARD Agency procedural framework to be prepared.
- ▶ ***Self-assessment by internal audit for all IPARD bodies***
  - ▶ ***External audit and corrective actions***
  - ▶ ***Final preparation of entrustment package***
  - ▶ ***Submission of request for entrustment by NAO to EC (planned for May 2026)***
  - ▶ ***DG AGRI verification and signing of Financing Agreement for IPARD III M4 and M5 (entrustment)***

NAO SO will monitor realization of envisaged activities, according to planned timeline.

**Thank you for the attention!**



Ministry of Finance  
Department for Management of EU funds



# IPARD



REPUBLIC OF SERBIA  
MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE, FORESTRY  
AND WATER MANAGEMENT  
IPARD MANAGING AUTHORITY



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## **ACTION PLAN FOR THE MEASURE 9: TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE 2025 – MODIFICATION 1**

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**Sanja Prodanović**  
**Head of the Group for Technical Assistance and**  
**IPARD Programme Promotion**  
**18<sup>th</sup> June 2025, Belgrade**

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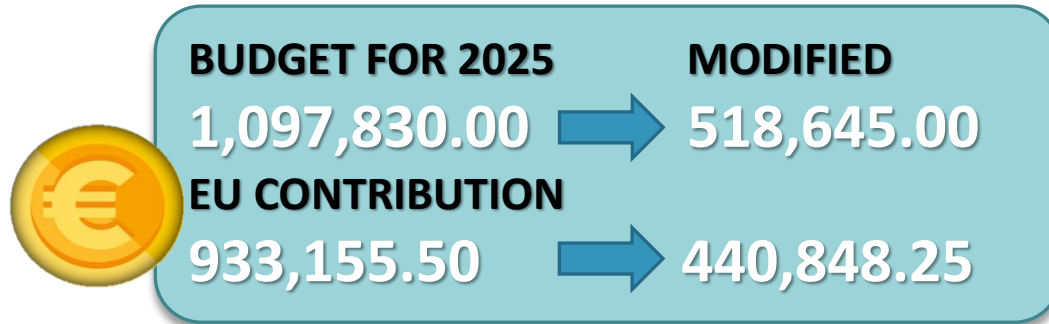
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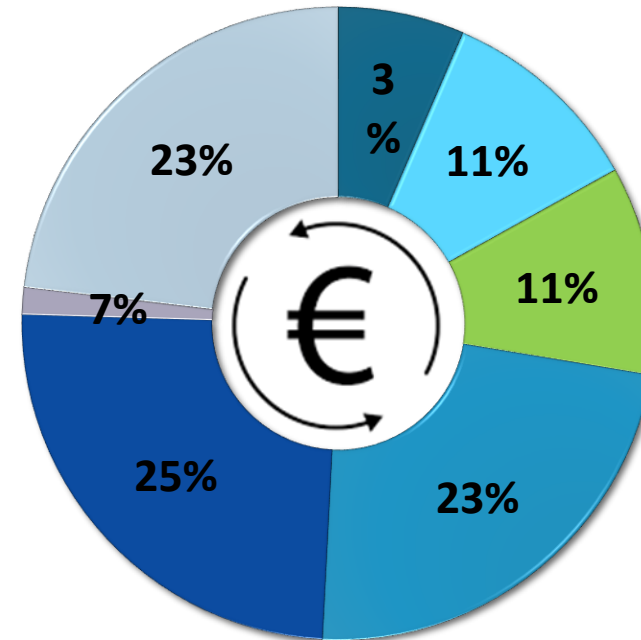


# ACTION PLAN FOR 2025 – MODIFICATION 1

Structure of the expenditures per group of activities in reduced budget for 2025



- Functioning of the MC (6,46%)
- Promotion and visibility of the IPARD Programme (10,46%)
- IPARD entities capacity building (10,69%)
- "Acquisition of skills" to prepare potential LAGs (23,20%)
- Preparation, reduction of the administrative burden for recipients or streamlining of implementation of measures (24,65%)
- Expenditure associated with the purchase of IT equipment and software licenses for the purpose of IPARD implementation (these costs are limited to up to 5% of the TA budget (1,39%)
- Evaluation of the IPARD II Programme (23,14%)



## 9.2. Expenditure related to promotion and visibility of the IPARD Programme



Supply of promotional materials

• 19,940.00 → 6,770.00

IPARD Info days - 5 days

61,330.00 → 15,000.00

Preparation, printing, producing, copying, distributing of promo materials

33,670.00 → 29,900.00

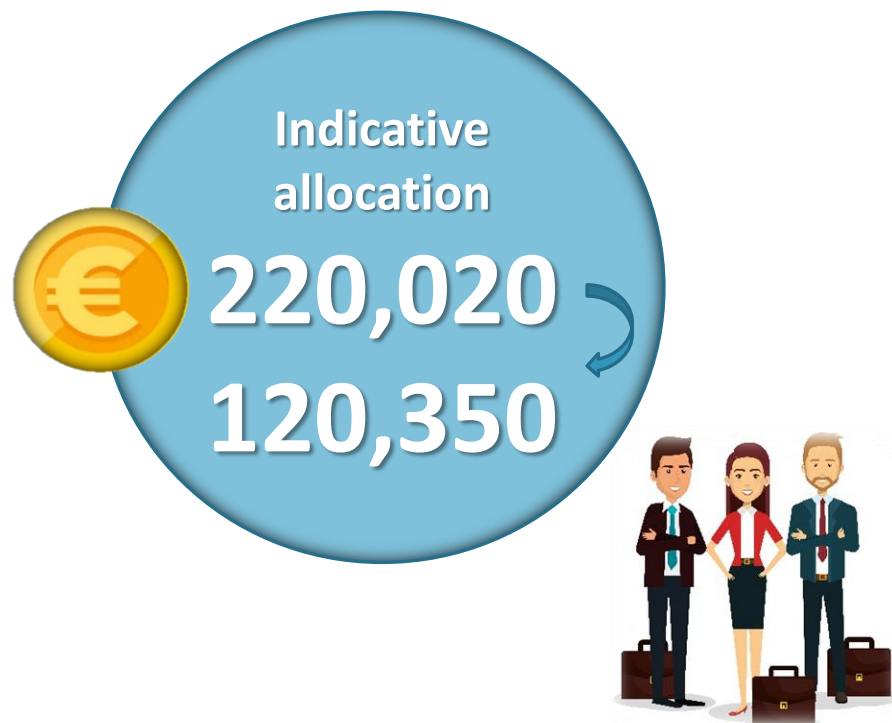
Indicative allocation

401,890  
54,270

# 9.4. Expenditure related to capacity building of the IPARD entities, including technical bodies and the national advisory services, to perform tasks associated with implementation of IPARD



# 9.5 Expenditure related to "acquisition of skills" to prepare potential LAGs for the implementation of the measure "Preparation and implementation of local rural development strategies – LEADER approach"



Study visit on LEADER implementation

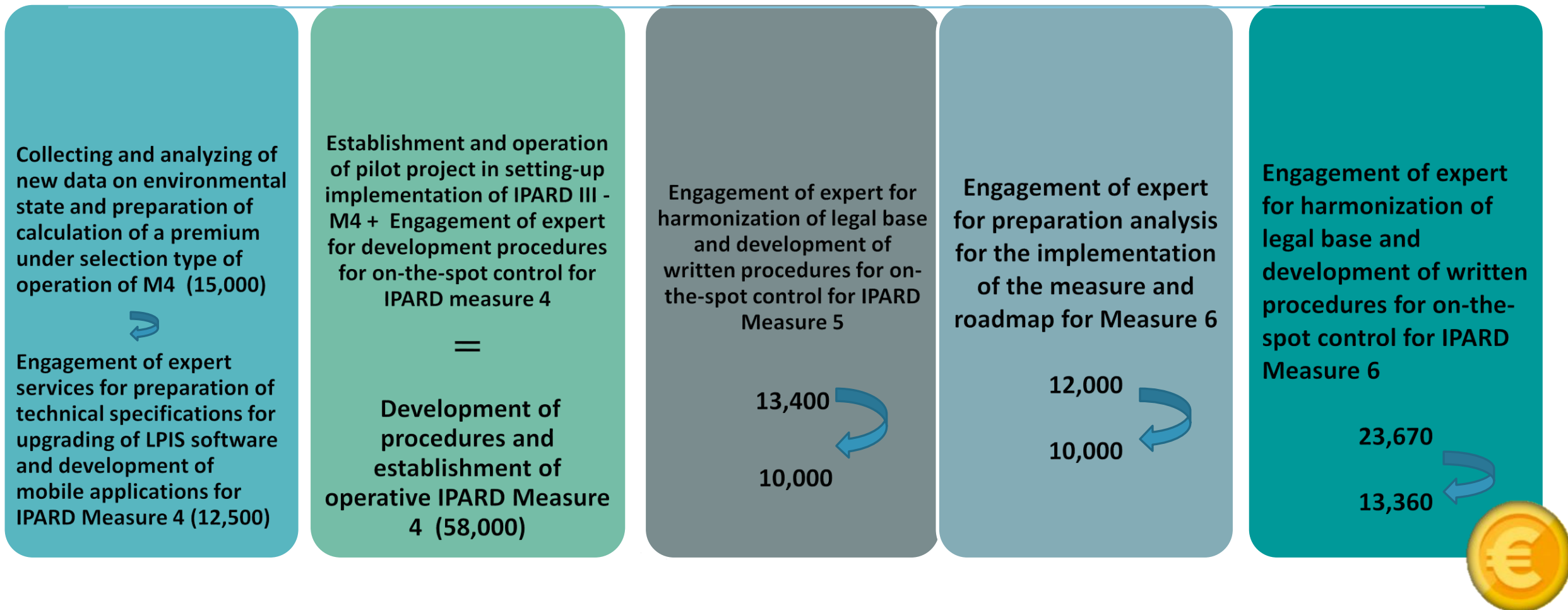
34,500 → 16,100

Support for preparation of potential LAGs to achieve higher level of competence for improvement of LDSs

140,400 → 104,250



## 9.6. Expenditure related to the preparation, reduction of the administrative burden for recipients or streamlining of implementation of measures in the Programme to ensure their effectiveness, including pilot projects for those measures where entrustment implementation is foreseen at a later stage



## 9.9 Expenditure associated with the purchase of IT equipment and software licenses for the purpose of IPARD implementation (these costs are limited to up to 5% of the TA budget)

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**Purchase of IT equipment and software licenses for the purpose of IPARD Programme implementation**



**Procurement of Global navigation satellite system data controllers (GNSS)**



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# THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION!

## Sanja Prodanović

Head of the Group for Technical Assistance and IPARD Programme Promotion  
Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Water Management  
Belgrade, Bulevar kralja Aleksandra 84

[sanja.prodanovic@minpolj.gov.rs](mailto:sanja.prodanovic@minpolj.gov.rs)

[ipardnadlanu@minpolj.gov.rs](mailto:ipardnadlanu@minpolj.gov.rs)

[www.ipard.gov.rs](http://www.ipard.gov.rs)



@ipardnadlanu



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# IMPLEMENTATION OF PLAN OF VISIBILITY AND COMMUNICATION ACTIVITIES FOR IPARD III PROGRAMME

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**Sanja Prodanović**

**Head of the Group for Technical Assistance and  
IPARD Programme Promotion**

**18<sup>th</sup> June 2025, Belgrade**

# INFORMATION AND PUBLICITY MEETINGS/EVENTS

- Participation of the IPARD MA at 92<sup>nd</sup> International Agricultural fair in Novi Sad:
  - Agro talk – IPARD measures and IPARD recipients (EU pavillion);
  - Conference - Subsidies in focus (conversation with farmers)
- Promotion of Measures 1, 3 and 7 of IPARD III Programme in Regional Chambers of Commerce Leskovac, Kruševac and Požarevac
- Workshop on Measure 4 - Spatial model development



# INSTRUMENTS FOR PUBLICITY AND INFORMATION

Communication tools are of a great importance for fulfilling the goals of the PVCA and providing adequate information to the target groups



Printed and promotional (publicity) materials



Publication/printing of the national Rulebooks and Guide for Applicants for the IPARD measures



Publication/broadcasting in mass media, IPARD Website and social networks



Newsletter  
IPARD in Focus



# INSTRUMENTS FOR PUBLICITY AND INFORMATION

Support to (potential) recipients:



e-mail address for questions – 650

telephone calls – 1700



direct communication in the premises of the IA

Activities of the AASs:

- dissemination of the IPARD Programme opportunities, which are the part of their Annual plan of activities, to (potential) recipients through forums, winter schools, tribunals, workshops, media and bulletins,
- trainings to (potential) IPARD recipients with no adequate formal education or experience in agriculture, by attending 50 hours of lessons in the appropriate sector (<https://www.psss.rs/edukacije-ipard-50h/>)

**Trainings for the advisory services experts and private consultants planned**

# INDICATORS OF ACHIEVEMENT

Achievement of the general and specific objectives of the PVCA is monitored by output and result indicators

## Output indicators

Type of indicator	Indicator	1.1-6.6.2025 year	Target for the whole programming period	Execution Rate (%)
Output	Number of potential recipients attending information events	451	4,000	11.28
	Number of national events	1	5	20
	Number of printed and promotional materials disseminated	2,787	6,000	46.45
	Number of national and regional media, reached by informational materials (press conferences, press releases)	24	20	Achieved
	Number of sector stakeholders acting as multipliers (providing links to IPARD website, distributing promotional materials)	6	10	60.00
	Number of TV and/or radio presentations	34	1 per call	Achieved
	Number of press conferences organised	10	At least 5 national and at least 4 regional	Achieved
	Number of press releases provided	24	At least 20	Achieved
	Number of people accessing the IPARD website (MA and IA)	215,000	2,000	Achieved

# INDICATORS OF ACHIEVEMENT

## Results indicators

	Indicators	1.1-6.6.2025 year	Target for the whole programming period	Execution Rate (%)
Result	Number of promotional actions/events, seminars, workshops, etc. to provide information on IPARD III Programme	6	70	8.57
	Number of publications/articles, TV and radio reportages for the IPARD III Programme	300	100	Achieved
	Number of applications for grants per measure	C1M1: 389 C2M1: 846 C3M1: 380 C1M3: 271	At least for M1: 80 M3: 45	Achieved



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## Sanja Prodanović

Head of the Group for Technical Assistance and IPARD Programme Promotion  
Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Water Management  
Belgrade, Bulevar kralja Aleksandra 84

[sanja.prodanovic@minpolj.gov.rs](mailto:sanja.prodanovic@minpolj.gov.rs)

[ipardnadlanu@minpolj.gov.rs](mailto:ipardnadlanu@minpolj.gov.rs)

[www.ipard.gov.rs](http://www.ipard.gov.rs)



@ipardnadlanu



IPARD na dlanu



# IPARD II Programme

Results of Activities

Governmental Audit Office of EU Funds



# Audit of the IPARD Structure in the Republic of Serbia

- The audit of the IPARD II Programme for the programming period 2014-2020 was conducted at:
  - ❖ The Directorate for Agrarian Payments (Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Water Management);
  - ❖ The Managing Authority - Department for management of IPARD Programme (Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Water Management);
  - ❖ Sector for EU Funds Management (Ministry of Finance).



# Statistics of conducted Audits for the IPARD II Programme for the 2014-2020

- The audit team responsible for auditing IPARD support initiated the audit procedures for the IPARD II Programme in 2018.
- During the 2018-2024 period, the audit team carried out:
  - ❖ 6 system audits;
  - ❖ 6 audits of operations (Final payments to beneficiaries);
  - ❖ 6 audits of annual accounts and the Management Declaration.



# Statistics of conducted Audits for the IPARD II Programme for the 2014-2020

- The main activity of the audit team within the scope of system audits was to verify the functioning of the established control systems in all IPARD bodies, namely:
  - ❖ For all functions within each IPARD body (the functioning of individual roles within the IPARD system, as well as the system as a whole—responsible for the proper and compliant implementation of the IPARD support approval process—was tested);
  - ❖ Through a detailed examination of 92 submitted IPARD support applications during the 2018-2024 period (on average, 15 to 20 applications per year were tested—from the submission of the request for project approval phase to the payment of IPARD support, including any appeals filed by applicants regarding the processing of their applications).





# Statistics of conducted Audits for the IPARD II Programme for the 2014-2020

- During the System Audit of the IPARD II Programme, the audit team identified a total of **88 findings** accompanied by recommendations aimed at improving the functioning of the IPARD II system in the Republic of Serbia.
- Based on the identified findings—weaknesses in system performance—and the corrective measures taken, the IPARD bodies successfully implemented **66 recommendations**.
- **22 recommendations** have not yet been implemented and serve as a basis for further improvement of the IPARD system in the Republic of Serbia through the implementation of the IPARD III Programme.



# Statistics of conducted Audits for the IPARD II Programme for the 2014-2020

- As part of the Audit of Operations for the period 2019-2024, the audit team conducted audits of a total of **253 final payments**—from the submission of the Requests for the Project Approval to the disbursement of IPARD support to applicants' accounts.
- The audit covered a total of **EUR 16,955,208.94** in IPARD support disbursed by the European Union.
- The audit team focused on verifying the eligibility of costs for IPARD financing, the methodology for calculating the eligible amount of IPARD incentives, the assessment of submitted offers, and the procedures for processing, ranking, and disbursing payments to applicants.



# Statistics of conducted Audits for the IPARD II Programme for the 2014-2020

- During the Operations Audit, the audit team also identified certain shortcomings in the process of receiving, processing, and disbursing IPARD incentives—**22 findings with recommendations** for improving the process, and in some cases, requests for financial corrections due to incorrectly calculated levels of IPARD support.
- By the time of the organization of this event, the IPARD structure in the Republic of Serbia had successfully implemented **15 of the audit body's recommendations.**"





# Statistics of conducted Audits for the IPARD II Programme for the 2014-2020

- As part of the Audit of Operations, the audit team was also required to carry out On-the-Spot Checks for the transactions that were subject to detailed testing (253 final payments) under the IPARD II Programme.
- The objective of the On-the-Spot Checks was to confirm that the investment had been fully implemented, at the location designated as the investment site, and that it was being used for the purposes stated in the IPARD support application. The checks also included verification that applicants properly maintain the required documentation and that the investment is correctly labeled.





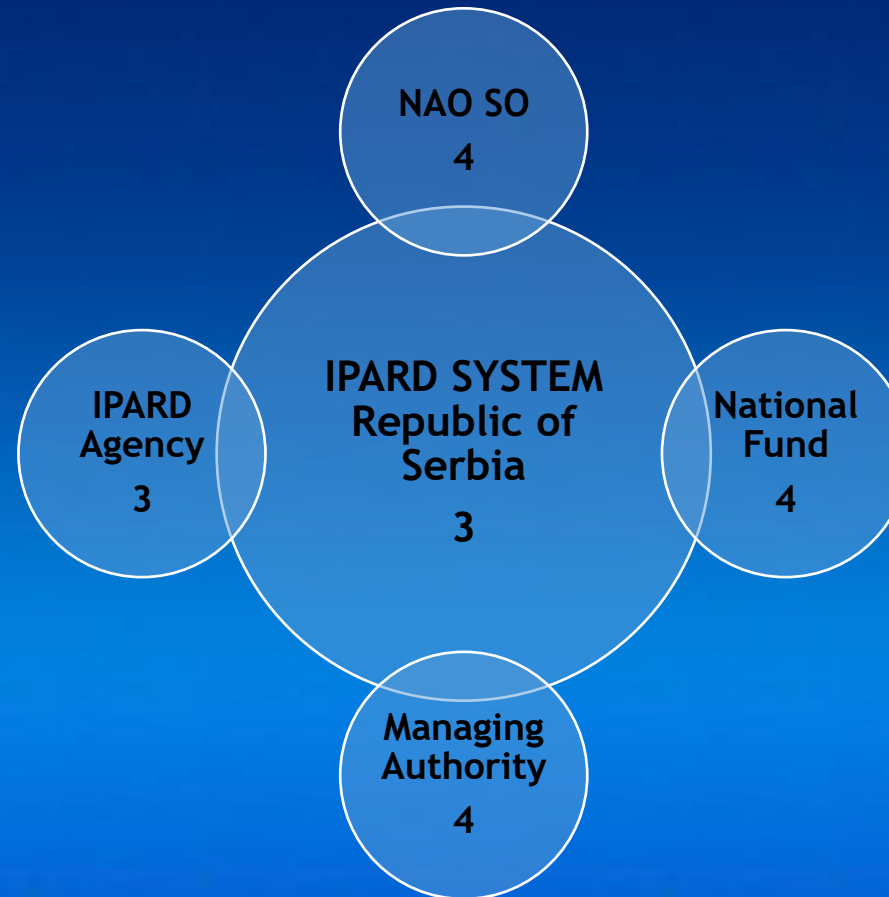
# Statistics of conducted Audits for the IPARD II Programme for the 2014-2020

- The audit team carried out On-the-Spot Checks for all applicants whose transactions were tested (with the exception of the COVID-19 period, due to movement restrictions).
- No major irregularities were identified during the On-the-Spot Checks. Through on-site guidance—primarily related to bookkeeping practices—the audit team contributed to preparing applicants for the ex-post control, which all beneficiaries are subject to within five years from the date of IPARD support payment.



# Assessment of the IPARD System in the Republic of Serbia at the end of the Programming Period:

4 - Works well  
3 - Works  
2 - Works partially  
1 - Not working



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# FIFTH IPARD III MC SESSION

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June 18<sup>th</sup> 2025, Belgrade