

IPARD



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



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SEVENTH IPARD III MC SESSION

June 17th 2026, Belgrade

Project "Organisation of IPARD MC meetings, in and out of Belgrade" is implemented with the financial support of the European Union



IPARD programmes

Brief overview and update

Belgrade, 17 June 2026

IPARD III monitoring committee

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%	
TOTAL	946 000 000	161 940 000	825 338 939	87,2%	23 294 638

(*) 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 (+ last modified)	Financing agreement (+ last modified)	Entrustment for measures	
Albania	09/03/2022	31/01/2023 (27/10/2025)			
Montenegro	29/06/2022 (14/12/2023)	23/01/2023 (29/09/2025)	02/02/2024 (18/05/2026)	1, 3, 7, 9	
North Macedonia	09/03/2022 (24/06/2024)	15/02/2023 (03/12/2025)	29/11/2023	1, 3, 7, 9	
Serbia	09/03/2022 (20/10/2023)	09/08/2023 (expected)	29/10/2024 (08/08/2025)	1, 3, 7, 9	
Türkiye	14/03/2022 (15/09/2025)	12/04/2023 (18/03/2026)	08/04/2024 (23/12/2024)	1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 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%
3 Investments in physical assets for processing and marketing of agricultural and fishery products	27,1%	23,4%	26,8%	21,0%	16,3%
4 Agri-environment-climate and organic farming	1,9%	8,5%	1,1%	5,0%	3,3%
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%

Entrustment

No entrustment

Requested

IPARD III programmes [2021-2027]

(Based on information provided by IPARD countries)

	Calls	Launch	Measures	Status	Calls	Launch	Measures	Status
Albania								
Montenegro	No 1	02/07/2024	7	Call closed	No 5	Q2 2026	4	Under preparation
	No 2	28/03/2024	7	Call closed	No 6	Q2 2026	7.2	Under preparation
	No 3	19/06/2024	3	Call closed	No 7	Q3 2026	3	Under preparation
	No 4	29/08/2024	1	Call closed	No 8	Q3 2026	7.1	Under preparation
					No 9	Q4 2026	6	Under preparation
North Macedonia	No 1	09/01/2023	1 & 7	Call closed	No 5	10/10/2025	3	Call on hold
	No 2	13/04/2024	3	Call closed	No 6	15/10/2025	7	Call on hold
	No 3	11/05/2024	7	Call closed				
	No 4	02/12/2024	1	Call closed				
Serbia	No 1	23/02/2024	1	Call closed	No 6	.././2026	7	Under preparation
	No 2	10/04/2024	1	Call closed	No 7	.././2026	3	Under preparation
	No 3	23/12/2024	1	Call closed	No 8	.././2026	1	Under preparation
	No 4	14/03/2025	3	Call closed				
	No 5	15/12/2025	1	Call closed				
Türkiye	No 1	21/03/2024	3	Call closed	No 10	18/11/2025	3	Call closed
	No 2	07/12/2024	7	Call closed	No 11	../06/2026	3	Under preparation
	No 3	16/09/2024	1	Call closed	No 12	../07/2026	1	Under preparation
	No 4	23/08/2024	4	Call closed	No 13	../08/2026	7	Under preparation
	No 5	11/12/2024	7	Call closed	No 14	.././2026	6	Under preparation
	No 6	06/02/2025	5	Call closed				
	No 7	14/07/2025	7	Call closed				
	No 8	01/09/2025	4	Call closed				
	No 9	22/09/2025	1	Call closed				

Status
contracting

did not start

running

completed

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 2023: eligible for EU contribution if paid by **31/12/2026** [N+3]
- Situation after the **first quarter of 2026**:

(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	8 100 100	5 878 218	9,3%	
North Macedonia	97 000 000	6 300 000	8 265 949	8,5%	
Serbia	288 000 000	17 850 000	3 742 205	1,3%	
Türkiye	430 000 000	54 000 000	84 249 051	19,6%	
TOTAL	990 000 000	86 250 100	102 135 423	10,3%	43 124 598

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MAIN ACTIVITIES PERFORMED BETWEEN TWO IPARD III MC SESSIONS

Jasmina Miljković

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

June 17th 2026, Belgrade

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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
there were no changes of members/deputy members**

The latest Decision on the establishment
of the IPARD III MC was made on
November 20th, 2025

Number of the members with voting
rights: 39

Number of the members without voting
rights: 10

Change of member should be reported to
the Secretariat prior the next MC session

Voting procedure:

Agenda for the Seventh session of the
IPARD III Monitoring Committee

Minutes from the Sixth session of the
IPARD III Monitoring Committee

Third Modification of the IPARD III
Programme

Annual Implementation Report 2021-
2025

MAIN ACTIVITIES CARRIED OUT BETWEEN THE TWO MC SESSIONS



Legal
basis



- Draft Third Modification of the IPARD III Programme;
- Draft Amendment to the Rulebook on IPARD support for Investments in Physical Assets of Agricultural Holdings (Measure 1);
- Draft Amendment to the Rulebook on IPARD support for Investments in Physical Assets Concerning Processing and Marketing of Agricultural and Fishery Products (Measure 3);
- Draft Rulebook on IPARD support for Farm Diversification and Business Development (Measure 7);
- Draft Rulebook on IPARD support for Agri-Environment – Climate and Organic Farming Measure (Measure 4).



Public
Calls



- The Fourth Call for Measure 1 (investments in establishing and restructuring of fruit production plantation and higher phytosanitary categories of new fruit planting material plantations) has been published on December 15th and lasted until December 31st, 2025. The allocated funds amount to EUR 10 million;
- Announcement of the First Call for Measure 7 (sector: Rural tourism), September 2026.
- Announcement of the Second Call for Measure 7 (sector: Direct marketing and Small-scale services), November 2026.

MAIN ACTIVITIES CARRIED OUT BETWEEN THE TWO MC SESSIONS

Another activities



- High level interinstitutional Working Group for monitoring the implementation of activities aimed at improving the implementation of the IPARD III Programme held two sessions and prepared the Action Plan for improvement of the implementation of the IPARD III Programme;
- Preparation of the entrustment package for M4: Agri-Environment – Climate and Organic Farming Measure;
- Preparatory activities for preparation of the entrustment package for Measure 6: Investments in Rural Public Infrastructure;
- Significant increase of activities performed under Measure 9: Technical Assistance;
- Contract for the Ex-post evaluation of IPARD II Programme signed on June 4th, 2026;
- Promotional activities;
- Meetings with representatives of interested parties.

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THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION!

Jasmina Miljković

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

IPARD AGENCY

NEMANJA LEČIĆ, ACTING DIRECTOR

Belgrade, June 2026

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IPARD III in numbers

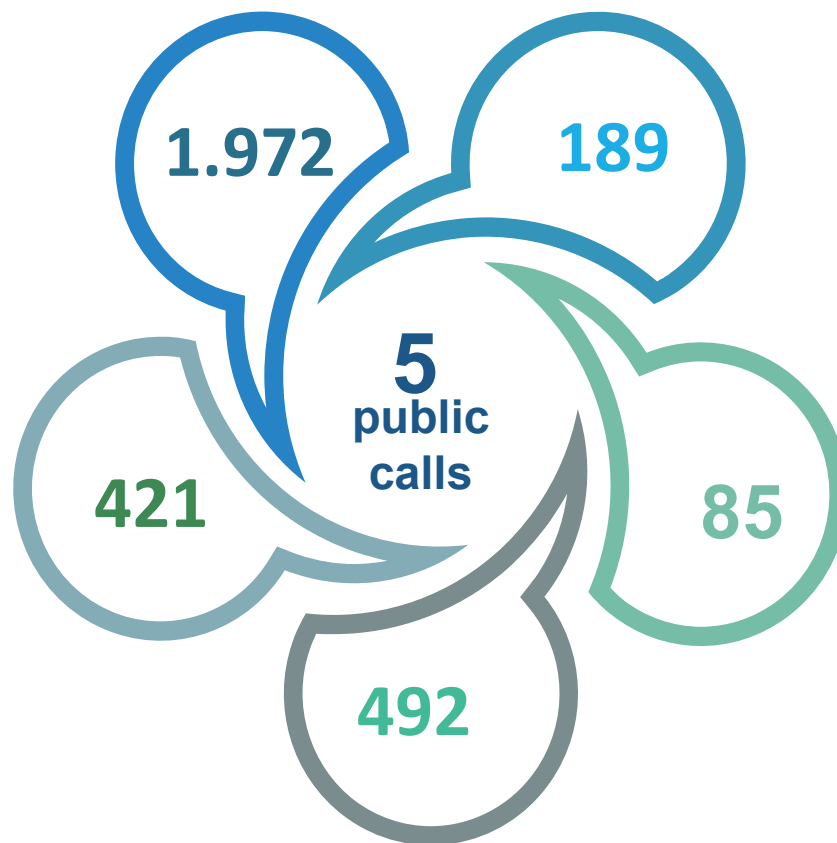
Applications submitted

Requested support:
EUR 315.63 million

Projects approved

Approved support:
EUR 46.82 million

Projects within the
allocated budget
Under three public calls



Final payment requests

Requested support:
EUR 8.87 million

Payment

Paid support (advance +
final payments):
EUR 8.04 million

Cut-off date: 15.06.2026

IPARD III in numbers

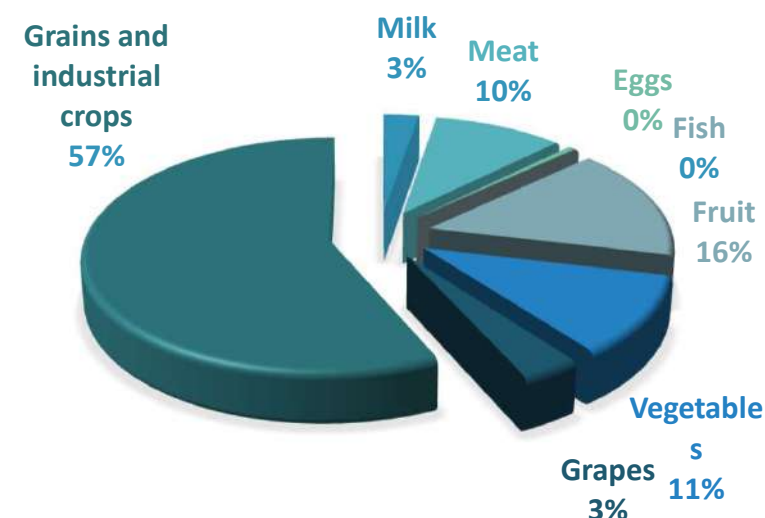


Cut-off date: 15.06.2026	October 2025	June 2026
Applications	1,615	1,972
Requested support	212,950,056	315,627,172
Projects within the allocated budget	439	492
Contracted projects	5%	85%
Approved support	1,741,325	46.818.284
Final payment requests	0	189
Requested amount for payment	0	8.874.475
Advance payment	0	4,820,098
Paid support (advance + final payments)	0	8,037,861

Measure 1 – Third Public Call



IPARD III Public Calls



Number of applications	380
Requested amount of funds	EUR 65.36 million in total
Allocated funds	EUR 14.43 million (EU contribution EUR 10.82 million)
Projects within the allocated budget	53
Approved projects	37
Approved support	8.34 милиона EUR

- Support for the purchase of machinery and equipment

Measure 1 – Fourth Public Call

Number of applications	80
Requested amount of funds	EUR 16 million in total
Allocated funds	EUR 10 million (EU contribution EUR 7.5 million)

- Establishment and equipping of perennial production and mother fruit plantations

The ranking list was published on 8 May 2026.

In accordance with Exceptional Situation No. 1, a compliance check regarding due and unpaid tax liabilities between the ranking list and the final ranking list is underway

IPARD III Public Calls



M3 – First Public Call

IPARD III Public Calls

Number of applications

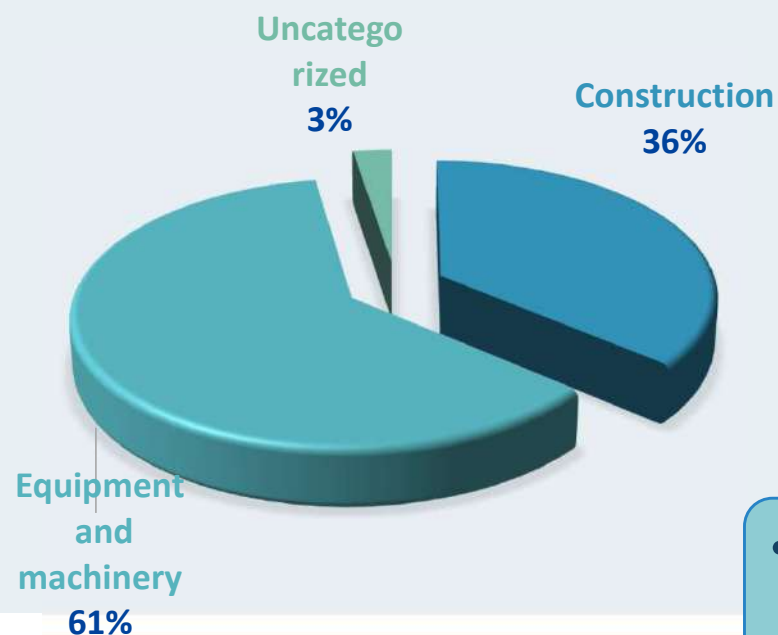
271

Requested amount of funds

EUR 119.5 million in total

Allocated funds

EUR 67.78 million (EU contribution EUR 50.84 million)



- The largest Public Call to date
- Incentives for the construction and equipping of processing establishments and the purchase of machinery, equipment, and vehicles
- In accordance with Exceptional Situation No. 1, a compliance check regarding due and unpaid tax liabilities between the ranking list and the final ranking list is underway



• The number of supported projects is expected to be around 150

Calls to be
published soon

Measure 7

- First call – investments in the rural tourism sector
 - **EUR 40** million allocated
- Second call – investments in direct marketing sectors for small-scale products and services
 - **EUR 13** million allocated

Measure 3

Second call – investments in the procurement of new equipment and the construction of new facilities to enhance processing capabilities

EUR 10.23 million allocated

Right to Advance Payments

- Advance payment of up to 50% of approved funds
- Bank guarantee amounting to 110% of the requested advance payment
- Return of the bank guarantee after payment execution

Continuously
Available

Challenges

Large Number of Applications and the Scoring and Ranking Process

- Significant increase in the number of submitted applications
- Scoring and ranking within each public call

Administrative complexity and a high volume of case supplementations

- High percentage of administratively incomplete applications
- Most frequent clarifications related to business plans and offers
- High administrative burden on beneficiaries

Delivery of Decisions

- The administrative burden has been further increased due to the delivery of acts across various stages of the procedure through an outdated postal communication model

Activities

- Human resources strengthening and continuous staff training
- Enhanced supervision and weekly monitoring of work results
- Introduction of digital tools into the processing
- Simplification of scoring and ranking procedures
- Reduction of the maximum support amount per individual claim to enable support for a larger number of applicants

- Simplification of Procedures and Documentation
- Introduction of a single-offer system instead of three offers
- Collection of data ex officio and electronic interconnection of databases
- Cooperation with local self-government units

- Introduction of electronic communication and electronic delivery of official acts

Challenges

Activities

Investment Implementation and Payment Execution

- Growing number of submitted payment requests
- Unfavourable market conditions
- Availability of funding sources
- Obtaining bank guarantees for natural persons
- Regulatory compliance (e.g., occupancy permit, prosumer status)

- Intensive communication with beneficiaries
- Continuous education of beneficiaries, consultants, and advisory services
- Advance payments
- Support for beneficiaries in investment implementation
- Mitigation of the risk of withdrawal and rejection of applications
- Coordination and communication with competent authorities and the bank sector

Efficiency of Technical Bodies

- Need for faster processing of payment requests
- High number of controls on compliance with prescribed standards and complex technical procedures

- Regular cooperation with technical bodies
- Enhancement of coordination mechanisms

Strategic Response for Better Absorption

- Shifting the focus from launching new public calls to implementing approved projects and accelerating payments
- Implementation of the "single-offer" system
- Amendments to the legal framework
- Further strengthening of human resources

**EUR 46.82
million**

of contracted projects

**EUR 5.58
million**

of projects paid in 2026

**EUR 25
million
approximately**

of projects to be paid by the
end of 2026

**EUR 10.2
million
approximately**

potential for advance
payments by the end of 2026
– M3C1

Process Digitalization

eAgrar

- ✓ More than 300,000 agricultural holdings are digitalized and included in the eAgrar system
- ✓ Online registration and renewal of holdings
- ✓ Electronic submission of applications and status tracking
- ✓ Available digital archive and reduced administrative burden for beneficiaries
- ✓ Greater transparency and faster communication between beneficiaries and administration

Under consideration

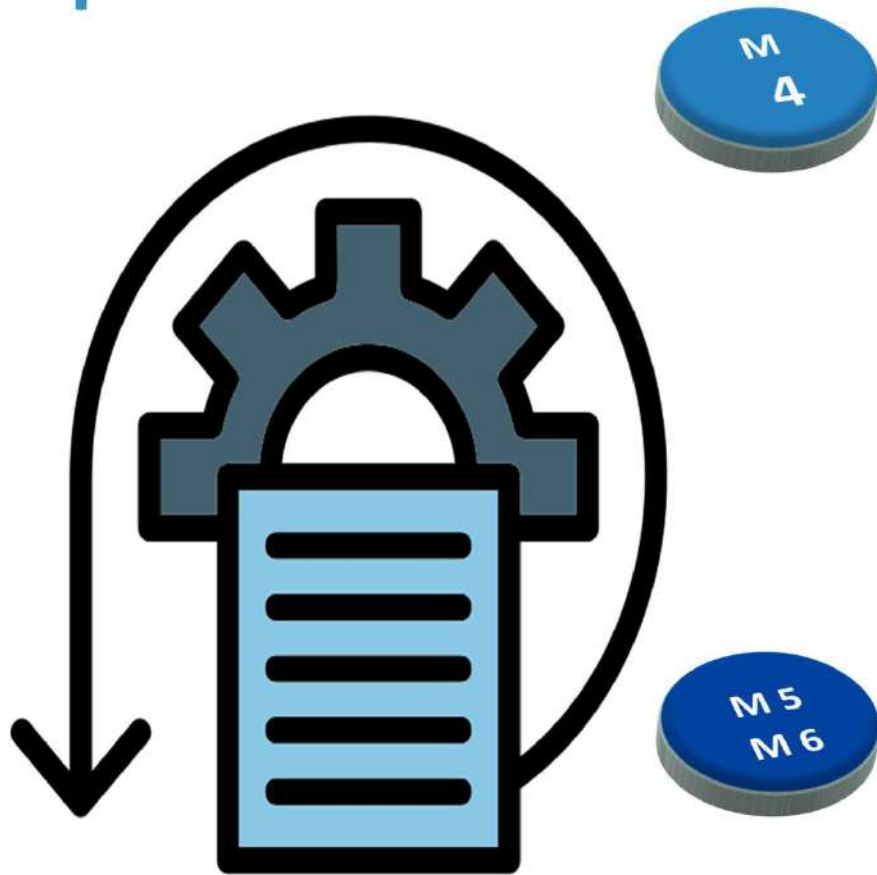
- Considering the possibilities for transferring the successful eAgrar model to IPARD fund management
- Reduction of paper documentation and acceleration of the application processing
- Planned introduction of electronic communication with beneficiaries
- Expected effects: accelerated decision-making and more efficient management of European funds

- Fully digitalized agricultural land use layer by 2027
- More reliable system of controls, incentives, and agricultural policy management

IACS/ LPIS

Simplified procedures, less paperwork, faster payments and greater accessibility of support measures for farmers.

Entrustment procedure



- Measure 4 procedures have been developed in accordance with the available drafts of the legal framework (the draft amendments to the Law on Agriculture and Rural Development and the draft Rulebook for M4), and at that stage they underwent a self-assessment that detected the necessary actions to continue the accreditation of this measure
- Measure 5 and Measure 6 will be prepared after receiving the appropriate regulation for these measures and in accordance with the dynamics from the Action Plan for Entrustment

Human resources – the way to a stable and efficient system

IPARD agency in numbers

219 systematized IPARD positions

147 filled positions

26 employees on temporary contracts

Continuous training: implemented in accordance with the 2026 Training Plan

Rulebook on Job Systematization

A proposal for the new Rulebook on Internal Organization and Job Classification of the DAP has been prepared in line with the requirements for the introduction of new IPARD measures and the establishment of additional IPARD positions



Public competitions

- In March 2026, approval from the competent Government Commission was obtained for filling 30 positions.
- The public competition will be implemented following the adoption of the Rulebook on Internal Organization and Job Classification of the DAP and the reassignment of employees in accordance with the new Job Systematization

Staff retention policy

- 93 civil servants have been promoted to senior positions in 2025
- Salaries of civil servants have increased by 5,1% since 1 January 2026

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Directorate
for Agrarian
Payments

NEMANJA LEČIĆ, ACTING DIRECTOR
DIRECTORATE FOR AGRARIAN PAYMENTS – IPARD AGENCY
MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE, FORESTRY AND WATER MANAGEMENT
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THIRD MODIFICATION OF THE IPARD III PROGRAMME

Milica Marčeta

Head of the Group for Programming of IPARD Measures for Competitiveness Improvement, Rural Infrastructure and
LEADER Approach

Department for Management of IPARD Programme - IPARD Managing Authority

Belgrade, 17th June 2026

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IPARD III PROGRAMME OF THE RS

- IPARD III Programme of the RS for the period 2021-2027 adopted by the EC on 9th March 2022.
- First Modification of the IPARD III Programme of the RS for the period 2021-2027 adopted by the EC on 20th October 2023.
- Second Modification of the IPARD III Programme of the RS for the period 2021-2027 adopted by the EC on 23rd January 2025.
- **Third modification of the IPARD III Programme**

Reason for change:

- Financial tables amended in accordance with the Article 36(1) of the Sectoral Agreement for the IPARD III Programme, since funds have not been used for purpose as budgetary commitment “n+3”.
- Alignment with IPARD III Programme and ‘indicator target values’ note.

THIRD MODIFICATION OF THE IPARD III PROGRAMME - AMENDED FINANCIAL TABLES

Table 7.1. Maximum EU contribution for IPARD funds in EUR by year, 2021-2027

7.1. Maximum EU contribution for IPARD funds in EUR by year, 2021-2027								
Year	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2021-2027
Total	20,000,000.00	25,000,000.00	31,000,000.00	43,000,000.00	54,000,000.00	57,000,000.00	58,000,000.00	288,000,000.00

Amended Table 7.1. Maximum EU contribution for IPARD funds in EUR by year, 2021-2027 (*amendments are marked as bold*)

7.1. Maximum EU contribution for IPARD funds in EUR by year, 2021-2027								
Year	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2021-2027
Total	1,808,989.41	18,500,000.00	31,000,000.00	43,000,000.00	54,000,000.00	57,000,000.00	58,000,000.00	263,308,989.41

Amended Financial Tables

Funds for 2021 and 2022 are reduced in the amount of EUR **24,691,010.59**.

Funds from allocation for 2021 for Measure 1, Measure 3, Measure 7 and Measure 9 are reduced in the amount of EUR **18,191,010.59**.

Measure 1 – 6,691,010.59

Measure 3 – 5,000,000

Measure 7 – 6,000,000

Measure 9 – 500,000

Funds from allocation for 2022 for Measure 7 and Measure 9 are reduced in amount of EUR **6,500,000.00**.

Measure 7 – 6,000,000

Measure 9 – 500,000

THIRD MODIFICATION OF THE IPARD III PROGRAMME

De-commitment of funds of budget allocation for 2021 and 2022.

Decreased IPARD support under M1 is set on maximum EUR 700.000 per project.

Amended moment of time for verification of condition for settled tax debts for M1, M3 and M7. Provision „at time of submission of application/payments request“ is deleted.



The beneficiary must be registered on the “eTourist” platform and put the investment into operation, in accordance with the decision on project approval.

Registration of AHs at least one year prior to request for support for M4, except for state-owned agricultural land.

Introducing the possibility of advance payments for Measure 9.

THIRD MODIFICATION OF THE IPARD III PROGRAMME



Measure 1 –
Investments in physical
assets of agricultural
holdings

Recipient can claim support of up to EUR 700,000 irrespective of the total value of the investment, for eligible expenditure.

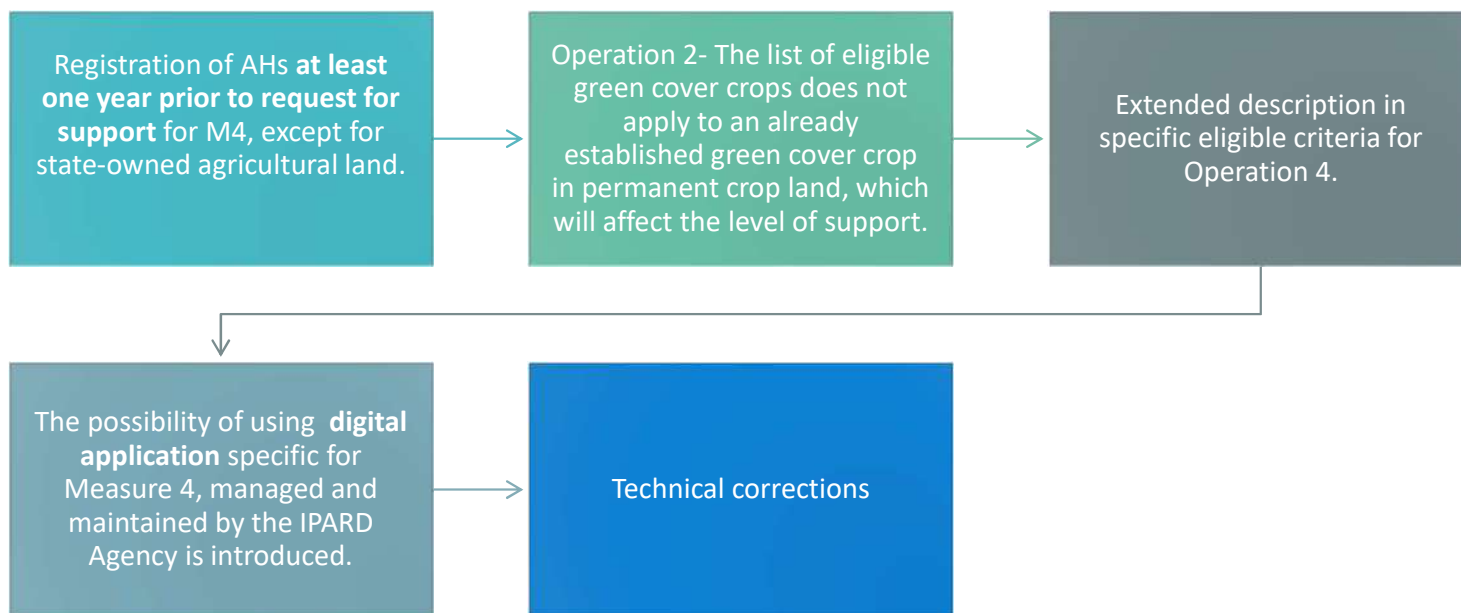
1.000.000 EUR → 700.000 EUR



Measure 1, Measure 3
and Measure 7

Condition for verification tax debts **at time of submission of application/payments request** deleted for M1,M3 and M7.

Measure 4 - Agri-environment – climate and organic farming measure



THIRD MODIFICATION OF THE IPARD III PROGRAMME



Measure 7

The beneficiary must be registered on the “eTourist” platform and put the investment into operation, in accordance with the decision on project approval.

Measure 9

Payments of advances, for the Measure 9 - Technical assistance qualify as eligible expenditure up to 90% of the public aid related to the operation and shall not be subject to the establishment of a bank guarantee or an equivalent guarantee.

*** Updated List of relevant national standards.**

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Milica Marčeta

Head of the Group for Programming of IPARD Measures for Competitiveness Improvement, Rural Infrastructure and LEADER Approach

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ANNUAL IMPLEMENTATION REPORT ON THE IPARD III PROGRAMME FOR THE PERIOD 2021-2025

Verica Lazić

Group for Monitoring, Evaluation and Reporting of the IPARD Programme
Department for Management of IPARD Programme - IPARD Managing Authority

Belgrade, 17th June 2026

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IMPORTANCE OF REPORTING

- The Annual Implementation Report on the IPARD III Programme 2021-2027 is a valuable instrument for monitoring the Programme implementation, as well as the degree of achievement of the Programme objectives, which is of great importance from the point of evidence-based decision-making.
- This is the First AIR on the IPARD III Programme, covering the period 2021-2025.
- The content of the AIR is presented in new form, based on the relevant provisions from the Sectoral Agreement and in line with the guidelines provided by the EC.
- New form of the AIR ensures more concise, simpler, clearer, as well as more user-friendly reporting.

TABLE OF CONTENTS OF THE AIR 2021-2025

AIR consists of seven chapters, describing the following:

- ❖ **1. Programme and implementation context** (changes in general conditions of relevance to the implementation of the IPARD III Programme, in particular, the main socio-economic trends, changes in national, regional and/or sectoral policies, including national support scheme);
- ❖ **2. Implementation of the IPARD III Programme** (progress in the implementation of the respective measures in relation to the attainment of the objectives, use of Technical Assistance and steps taken to involve local bodies to a greater extent);
- ❖ **3. Financial implementation** (financial allocations, absorption of the available EU budget at measure level, commitments and payments, as well as decommitted amount and the de-commitment risks);

TABLE OF CONTENTS OF THE AIR 2021-2025

- ❖ **4. Management and control system, including irregularities and fraud** (control activities and findings, remedial actions, irregularities detected and remedial measures implemented and anti-fraud measures);
- ❖ **5. Monitoring and evaluation** (monitoring system, including MC sessions and Evaluation plan activities);
- ❖ **6. Visibility and communication** (activities carried in order to implement the Plan of visibility and communication activities);
- ❖ **7. Summary of changes compared to the previous year** (summarising changes year-on-year).

IMPLEMENTATION OF THE IPARD III PROGRAMME

Budget per public call (EUR)

Published calls	EU budget per call	EU support					Required budget in relation to the budget per call
		Requested	Rejected	Withdrawn	Approved	Paid in advance	
Measure 1	66,400,000	213,111,219	29,819,921	9,692,212	28,586,733	2,458,989	+ 146,711,219
<i>The First Call</i> 23/2 - 16/9, 2024	30,800,000	128,573,642	23,631,645	8,158,231	18,970,264	2,458,989	+ 97,773,642
<i>The Second Call</i> 4/10 - 8/11, 2024	17,280,000	36,500,161	2,675,541	1,039,548	9,616,469	-	+ 19,220,161
<i>The Third Call</i> 23/12, 2024 - 24/1, 2025	10,820,000	48,037,416	3,511,735	494,433	-	-	+ 37,217,416
<i>The Fourth Call</i> 12/12 - 31/12, 2025	7,500,000	-	-	-	-	-	-
Measure 3	50,840,000	88,959,106	11,886,687	-	-	-	+ 38,119,107
<i>The First Call</i> 10/2 - 14/3, 2025	50,840,000	88,959,106	11,886,687	-	-	-	+ 38,119,107
Measure 9	440,848	135,958	0	0	5,483	0	- 304,890
Total	117,680,848	302,206,284	41,705,608	9,692,213	28,592,217	2,458,989	+ 184,525,436

IMPLEMENTATION OF THE IPARD III PROGRAMME

Largest amount of support was approved within the Fruit and Meat Sector, while the lowest amount of support was approved within the Milk Sector



29.7%

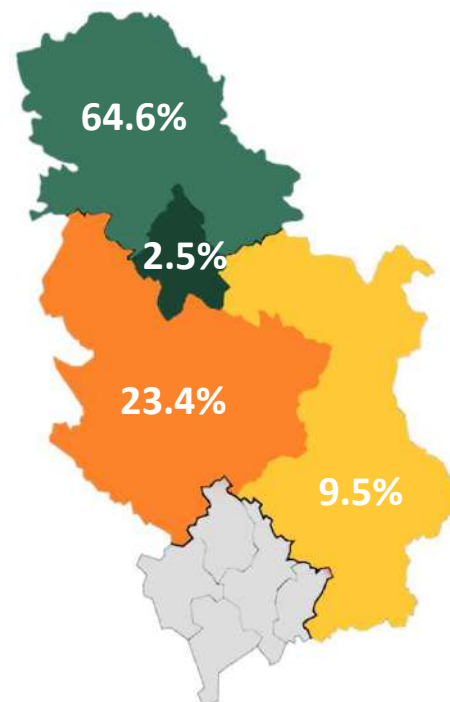


27.3%



6.7%

Largest amount of support was requested by the Vojvodina region, while the lowest amount of support was requested by Belgrade region



APPROVAL OF THE AIR 2021-2025

- Voting procedure
- In line with the Article 59(4) of the Sectoral Agreement, the IPARD III Programme Annual Implementation Report 2021-2025 will be sent to the European Commission by 30th June 2026.

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THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION!

Verica Lazić

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Action Plan for entrustment of budget implementation tasks for Measure 4 and Measure 6 under the IPARD III Programme - information -

Ivana Slović

Section for supervision and monitoring of the system for management of EU funds for IPARD Programme

Division for supervision and monitoring of the system for management of EU funds (NAO SO)

Department for EU funds Management

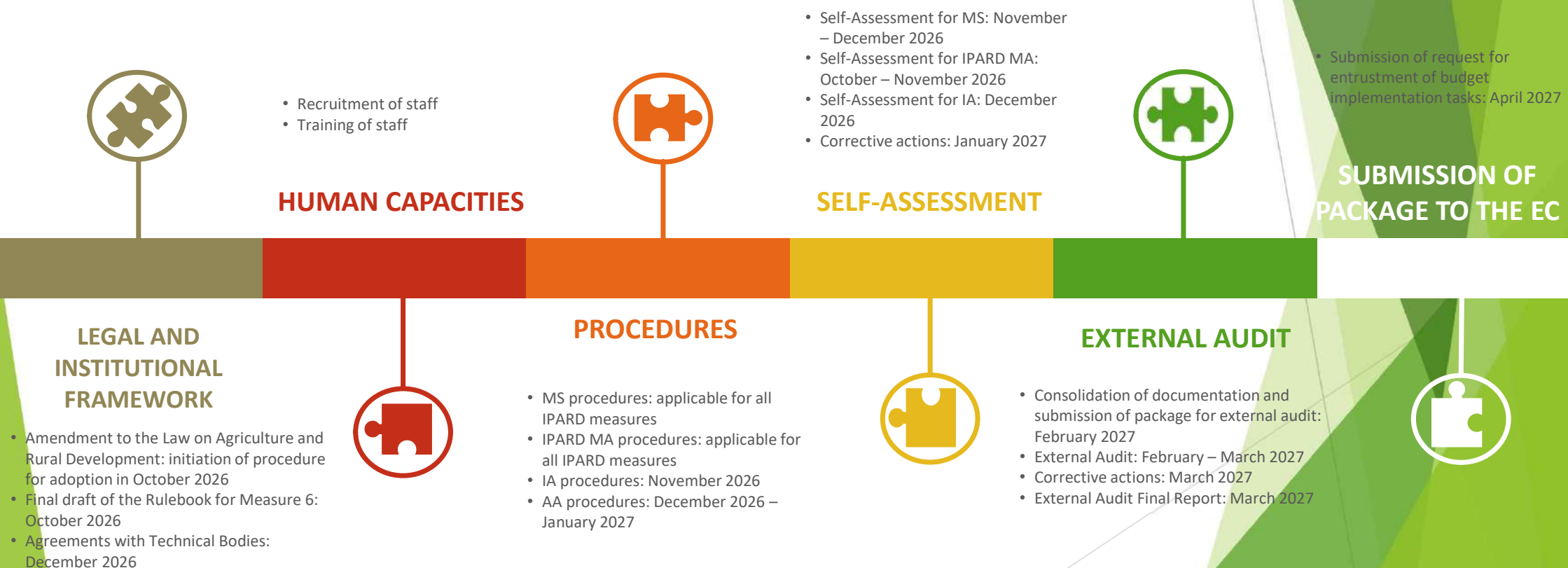
Ministry of Finance

17th June 2026, Belgrade

Action Plan for entrustment of budget implementation tasks for Measure 4

- ▶ Legal base - The preparation of a proposal for amendment to the Law on Agriculture and Rural Development and the draft Rulebook for the implementation of Measure 4 is underway;
- ▶ Development of procedures for all bodies;
- ▶ Self-Assessment of all bodies by internal audit is conducted;
- ▶ Closure of internal audit findings;
- ▶ Update of Action Plan and realization of defined activities.

Action Plan for entrustment of budget implementation tasks for Measure 6





THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION!

Ivana Slović

Section for supervision and monitoring of the system for management of EU funds for IPARD Programme

Division for supervision and monitoring of the system for management of EU funds (NAO SO)

Department for EU funds Management

Ministry of Finance

17th June 2026, Belgrade

IPARD III Programme - Audit Authority

IPARD Monitoring Committee 17.06.2026
Results of Audit Activities for FY 2025



Executive Summary:

- Overall MCS: Category 3 - Works;
- 5 intermediate findings;
- 9 advance payments audited (€2.46m);
- No errors or irregularities;
- Unqualified opinion on accounts and MCS;



Audit Coverage 2025:

- System Audit for 2025;
- Audit of Operations for FY 2025;
- Audit of Annual Accounts for FY 2025;
- Follow-up of recommendations;

Audited bodies:

- NAO Support Office;
- Account Body;
- IPARD Managing Authority;
- IPARD Agency;



Management and Control System (MCS) Assessment:

- NAO Support Office - Category 3
- Account Body - Category 4
- IPARD Managing Authority - Category 3
- IPARD Agency - Category 3
- Overall MCS - Category 3



Main Audit Findings:

- Reasonableness of costs;
- Information security (ISO 27002);
- Indicative Call Plan documentation;
- Consulting services methodology;
- Procedure version management;
- **No systemic findings identified**



System Challenges:

- Human resources;
- Staff turnover;
- Management changes;
- Low absorption;
- Slow processing of applications;



Audit of Operations FY2025

- 9 advance payments for Measure 1;
- Total declared expenditure to EU - EUR 2,458,989.39;
- 100% coverage of audit;
- Error rate 0%;
- Residual error rate 0%.



Annual Accounts Audit

- **Verification of D2 Annual Declaration** (reconciliation with quarterly declarations (D1), verification of declared expenditure, consistency checks of financial information);
- **Verification of IPARD Euro Account** (reconciliation of account balances, verification of transactions recorded during FY 2025, verification of interest and account movements);
- **Verification of Debtors' Ledger** (reconciliation of declared balances, verification of recoveries and outstanding amounts);
- **Assessment of the Management Declaration** (consistency with audit results, consistency with system audit conclusions, consistency with audit of operations results);



Annual Audit Opinion 2025

- **Management and Control System** - The Audit Authority obtained reasonable assurance that the management and control system is functioning and supports the implementation of the IPARD III Programme.
- **Legality and Regularity of Expenditure** - As no final expenditure was declared in FY 2025, the Audit Authority could not assess the legality and regularity of final payments.



Audit Activities Initiated in 2026

- System Audit FY2026 - ongoing;
- Audit of Operations FY2026 - ongoing;
- Audit of Annual Accounts FY2026 - ongoing;
- 7 final payments selected;
- Administrative and on-the-spot checks for 7 final payments are completed;



Closing Message:

The system is operational. Further assurance will be obtained through audits of final payments and continued implementation;

Following the significant decommitment recorded by the end of 2025, timely implementation of approval and payment procedures will be critical to reducing the risk of further decommitment in 2026.



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

Sanja Prodanović

Head of the Group for Technical Assistance and IPARD Programme Promotion

17th June 2026, Belgrade

Project "Organisation of IPARD MC meetings, in and out of Belgrade" is implemented with the financial support of the European Union

INFORMATION AND PUBLICITY MEETINGS/EVENTS

- ❖ Agro Belgrade Fair – Presentation of IPARD III measures at the DAP stand;
- ❖ 93rd International Agricultural Fair, Novi Sad:
 - Presentation of IPARD III measures at the MAFWM stand;
 - Panel discussions at the EU stand - Meaningful Conversations:
 - "Sustainability, the EU and Serbian agriculture"
 - "Standards and Market Access"
 - "Innovation and Interactive Zone - Ask the Expert"
 - Panel discussion: National subsidies in agriculture and subsidies under the IPARD Programme, digitalization and application of artificial intelligence in agriculture, as well as leasing and use of state-owned agricultural land;
- ❖ Mini Livestock Fair in Melenci - Presentation of IPARD III measures.



INSTRUMENTS FOR PUBLICITY AND INFORMATION

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



**Newsletters
IPARD in Focus
No. 34 and 35**



INSTRUMENTS FOR PUBLICITY AND INFORMATION

Support to (potential) recipients:



e-mail address for questions – 650



telephone calls – 2800



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/>)

Educational event for the advisory services experts – M4

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	1.1-17.6.2026 period	Target for the whole programming period	Execution Rate (%)
Output	Number of potential recipients attending information events	482	4,000	12.05
	Number of national events	1	5	20
	Number of printed and promotional materials disseminated	200	6,000	3.33
	Number of national and regional media, reached by informational materials (press conferences, press releases)	92	20	Achieved
	Number of sector stakeholders acting as multipliers (providing links to IPARD website, distributing promotional materials)	6 (22)	10	Achieved
	Number of TV and/or radio presentations	96	1 per call	Achieved
	Number of press conferences organised	4	At least 5 national and at least 4 regional	44.44
	Number of press releases provided	12	At least 20	60.00
	Number of people accessing the IPARD website (MA and IA)	274,477	2,000	Achieved

INDICATORS OF ACHIEVEMENT

Results indicators

Result	Indicators	1.1-17.6.2026 period	Target for the whole programming period	Execution Rate (%)
	Number of promotional actions/events, seminars, workshops, etc. to provide information on IPARD III Programme	12	70	17.14
	Number of publications/articles, TV and radio reportages for the IPARD III Programme	850	100	Achieved
	Number of applications for grants per measure	No public calls in 2026 yet	At least for Measure 1: 80 Measure 3: 45 Measure 7: 80 Measure 4:100 Measure 5: 20 Measure 6: 15	/

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IMPLEMENTATION OF THE ACTION PLAN FOR THE MEASURE 9: TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE FOR 2025/2026

Sanja Prodanović

Head of the Group for Technical Assistance and IPARD Programme Promotion

17th June 2026, Belgrade

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IMPLEMENTATION OF THE ACTION PLAN FOR TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE 2025



9.1. Expenditure related to the functioning of the Monitoring Committee

9.7. Expenditure related to evaluations of the IPARD Programme

9.9. Expenditure associated with the purchase of IT equipment and software licences for the purpose of IPARD implementation

9.1. Expenditure related to the functioning of the Monitoring Committee APTA 2025



Organization of IPARD MC meetings, in and out of Belgrade, including 3 days activities each and all costs (field visits, rental of facilities, equipment, accommodation, catering, translation, all costs for participants, etc.)

- Contract signed in May 2026
- Contracted value – EUR 33,375

Indicative
allocation

33,500

9.7. Expenditure related to evaluations of the IPARD Programme APTA 2025



Indicative
allocation
120,000

Ex-post evaluation of the IPARD II Programme

- Contract signed in June 2026
- Contracted value EUR 117,500

9.9 Expenditure associated with the purchase of IT equipment and software licenses for the purpose of IPARD implementation



Indicative
allocation
7,205

Procurement of Global navigation satellite system data controllers (GNSS) – two pieces

- Contracted value – EUR 6,450
- Project is implemented

IMPLEMENTATION OF THE ACTION PLAN FOR TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE 2026

9.1. Expenditure related to the functioning of the Monitoring Committee

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

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 Programme

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"

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

9.7. Expenditure related to evaluations of the IPARD Programme

9.9. Expenditure associated with the purchase of IT equipment and software licences for the purpose of IPARD implementation



ACTION PLAN FOR 2026 – MODIFICATION 2



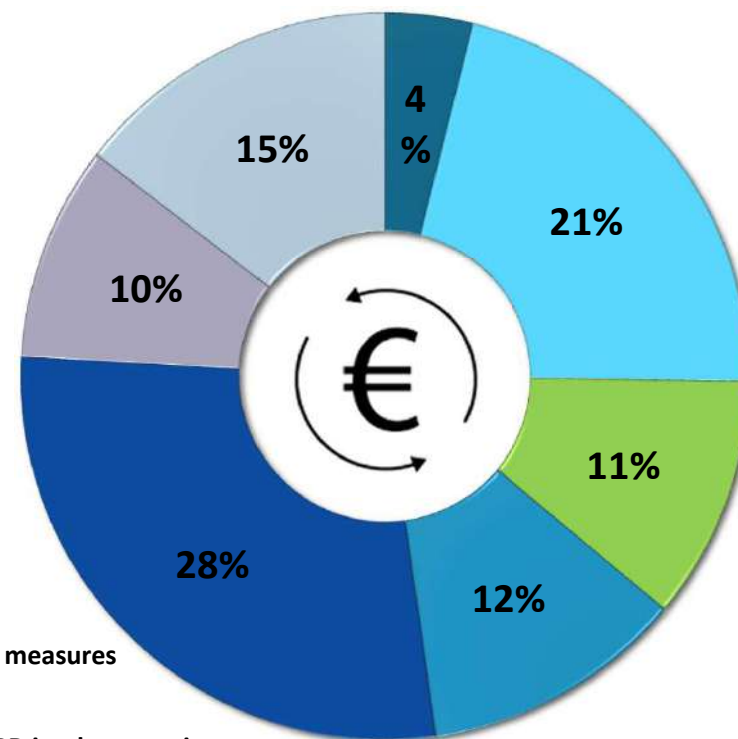
BUDGET FOR 2026

1,511,412.00

EU CONTRIBUTION

1,284,700.20

- Functioning of the MC (3.90%)
- Promotion and visibility of the IPARD Programme (21.32%)
- IPARD entities capacity building (10.83%)
- "Acquisition of skills" to prepare potential LAGs (11.70%)
- Preparation, reduction of the administrative burden for recipients or streamlining of implementation of measures (28.12%)
- 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 (9.57%))
- Evaluations of the IPARD Programme (14.56%)



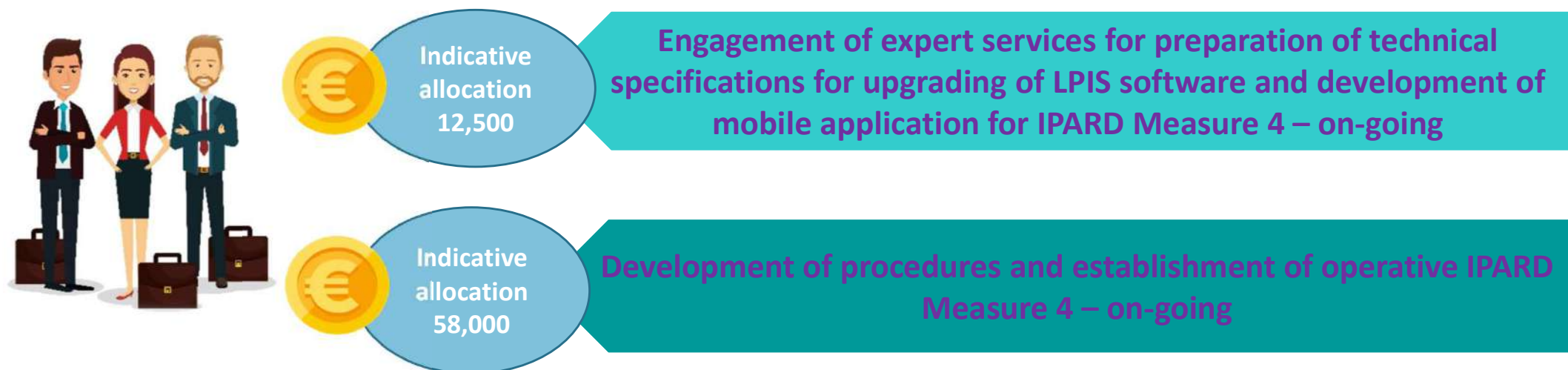
9.4. Expenditure related to capacity building of the IPARD entities, including technical bodies and the national advisory services, to perform tasks associated with implementation of IPARD



TAIEX study visit to Croatia - on-the-spot verifications organized in May 2026



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



Indicative
allocation
46,600

Procurement of Global navigation satellite system data controllers (GNSS) – 13 pieces

- Tender Dossier is prepared

APTA ACTIVITIES PLANNED FOR 2ND HALF OF 2026

- Upgrading of LPIS software for M4 - EUR 60,806
- Development of mobile application for on-the-spot control for M4 – EUR 70,806
- External audit for Measure 4 entrustment - EUR 19,000
- Preparation of IPARD structures for M6 implementation – EUR 161,250
- Design and updating of Web pages including support for maintenance and content management – EUR 3,000
- Expert for PRAG procurement – EUR 24,000
- Organization of events reduced to – EUR 104,450
- Interim evaluation – EUR 100,000



M9 implementation challenges



- ☐ Capacities - number of employees in IPARD structure implementing Measure 9 and experience in implementation of PRAG rules
- ☐ Number of economic operators interested in small scale PRAG tenders
- ☐ Application of national and PRAG rules in the same procurement process
- ☐ Unexpected circumstances that slow down launching/implementing of the procurement process
- ☐ Communication and coordination with organisational units in and out the MAFWM

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