



Contracting Authority: European Commission

Support to Civil Society Organizations capacities

ANNEX A.2 – Full application form

Budget line(s):

BGUE-B2016-22.020401-C1-ELARG DELALB

BGUE-B2017-22.020401-C1-ELARG DELALB

Reference:

EuropeAid/155863/DD/ACT/AL

Dossier No	
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(for official use only)

¹ To obtain information about the deadline for submission, please see section 2.2 of the guidelines.

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FULL APPLICATION FORM

1 General information

Reference of the call for proposals	EuropeAid/155863/DD/ACT/AL
[Lot number you are applying to:]	Lot n° 6 – Rural Development
Number of the proposal²	IPA/2017/155863-6/7
Name of the lead applicant	Institute for Democracy and Mediation
Title of the action	Consolidating the role of Albanian Network for Rural Development toward a functional model of bottom-up and participatory perspective in national rural agenda
Location of the action	n/a - applying via PROSPECT
Duration of the action	n/a - applying via PROSPECT

² When the Contracting Authority has evaluated the concept note it informs the lead applicant of the outcome and allocates a proposal number.

2 The action³

2.1. Description of the action

2.1.1. Description (max 13 pages)

The Albanian Network for Rural Development (ANRD) - a network of twenty-two local CSOs with consolidated profiles in rural development, is created from the 'bottom-up' in 2105 (anrd.al). ANRD is a policy network in the domain of rural development emerged as a need to ensure effective policymaking on rural development through direct involvement of non-public stakeholders in the formulation and implementation of rural development policies. It strives to advocate for effective rural policies, which are closer to residents of rural communities; designed with the participation of local communities, understood and implemented with the people in the ground. ANRD supports and implements policies of rural development in Albania in the light of the principles that guide the country's integration into the European Union. Currently ANRD is member of both European and Balkan Network for Rural development. The lead applicant - Institute for Democracy and Mediation (IDM) is the founding initiator and mentor of the ANRD, whereas both project partners - AGRINET and AgroPUKA – are among the founding and among most active member organisations of the ANRD. The ANRD member organizations are grounded in the vision of civil participation in the national rural agenda, work to strengthen capacities of local grass-root and community-based groups. Simultaneously, ANRD constituents dedicate efforts to consolidate the role and enhance impact of the ANRD in influencing rural policy making. The proposed action reflects the project partners' shared vision for ANRD in advocating and influencing the design and implementation of rural development policy in Albania for improved quality of life in rural communities as well as accelerating the reforming process in approximating EU policy of rural development. This action is aligned with main focus area of the ANRD Strategic Framework (2018-2020) on which partner organisations and other ANRD constituents have committed themselves to jointly network, work and advocate for.

The overall objective of the project is to enhance the impact and the involvement of CSOs and CSOs Network (and other rural stakeholders) in advocating and influencing the design and implementation of rural development policy in Albania for improved quality of life in rural communities as well as accelerating the reforming process in approximating EU policy of rural development.

The overall objective will be achieved through the following *specific objectives (outcomes - Oc)*:

Oc1: The Albanian Network for Rural Development (ANRD) is consolidated through strengthened regional representation of its constituents, decentralized decision-making, country-wide and coverage of the territory and enhanced visibility;

Oc2: The role of ANRD and its constituents is empowered through multi-stakeholder partnership forums at regional level as spaces for stakeholders' interaction and consultation, information sharing, exchange and transfer of know-how with regard to rural development;

Oc3: Capacities of ANRD and its constituents and members of multi-stakeholder partnership forums are strengthened in advocacy and lobby, research and analysis, to be able to influence the agenda of rural development and dialogue with government structures;

Oc4: ANRD and its regional forums promote evidence-based rural policymaking and bottom-up advocacy to accelerate Albanian rural reforming process in approximating with EU CAP, especially with CLLD (Community Led Local Development).

Intermediary project outcome (iOc), which will be achieved as a result of the delivery of the action is:

iOc: Strengthened networking and advocacy capacities of Albanian Network for Rural Development (ANRD) and its constituents; Improved participation in rural policy-making processes; consolidated role and broadened impact of the ANRD in rural policy formulation and implementation; (Related to Op0a and Op0B).

The *objectively verifiable indicator (OVI)* for the overall project objective is:

- The Albanian Network for Rural Development (ANRD) and its constituents represent a crucial actor in a number of concrete initiatives and processes advancing rural communities' interests and accelerating the rural reforming processes toward EU positive development models and practices;

The outcome *OVI*s are:

- % of grass-root CSOs – future member organizations of ANRD - representing the % of the county territory coverage and # of rural development thematic area;
- % of the involved grass-root CSOs and other stakeholders that use their networking skills and contacts to maximize their works' results and advocacy and lobby efforts;

³ The evaluation committee will refer to information provided in the concept note as regards objectives and the relevance of the action.

- % of the trained grassroots CSOs that apply in their work the knowledge gained in advocacy and lobby, research and analysis training;
 - % of grass-root CSOs that embark on (or plan to) evidence-based rural policymaking and bottom-up advocacy initiatives local and/or national level.
- i. **State how the action will improve the situation of the target groups and final beneficiaries and the technical and management capacities of target groups and/or any local co-applicants**

Oc1: The Albanian Network for Rural Development (ANRD) is consolidated through strengthened regional representation of its constituents, decentralized decision-making, country-wide and coverage of the territory and enhanced visibility;

Impact on target groups and final beneficiaries: the envisaged activities for the Oc1 will have strong impact on ANRD consolidation and its strengthening at all levels. The result will be reflected in improved and consolidated structure of the Network, extended grass-root CSOs membership in ANRD, decentralized decision-making bodies of the ANRD, country-wide coverage of the territory by ANRD constituents and expertise in various themes of rural development and enhanced visibility of the Network. All envisaged activities will positively affect the future involvement of ANRD and grass-root CSOs in rural policy making at all levels, national, regional and local and will enhance their impact in policy making processes.

The re-organization of ANRD based on four regional forums according to regional development areas proposed by the Government in the frame of regional development. Such re-organization of ANRD constituents, which are grassroot CSOs working in rural development, will provide a framework for an equal representation of different regions of the country, thus ensuring a country-wide coverage of the territory and local grass-root expertise and experience in different themes of rural development. Moreover, it will create an internal dynamic of active and visible CSOs member of ANRD at local level, and will empower the bottom-up founding perspective of the ANRD.

Oc2: The role of ANRD and its constituents is empowered through multi-stakeholder partnership forums at regional level as spaces for stakeholders' interaction and consultation, information sharing, exchange and transfer of know-how with regard to rural development;

Impact on target groups and final beneficiaries: The main output under the envisaged set of activities are establishment and functioning of the four multi-stakeholder partnership forums as spaces for stakeholders' interaction and consultation, information sharing, exchange and transfer of know-how with regard to rural development. At the core of these multi-stakeholder partnerships are the ANRD regional forums which consist of active and visible grass-root CSOs. These forums will strengthen bottom-up approach which gives to local stakeholders more say in designing and implementing programmes and initiatives that meet local needs. Empowering local stakeholders to cooperate and dialogue with the government and take on the role of the initiator of change is crucial. At the end, ANRD will be invigorated having the capacity to bring together CSOs and other stakeholders in partnership forums from different sectors and will advance debates and exchange about rural development.

The multi-stakeholders partnerships will underline the importance of the multi-stakeholder and cross sectoral approach of rural development, by initiating debates, exchanging of experiences, sharing knowledge and common interests among grass-root CSOs, CSO networks and government. To assist the process, the partner organizations will offer networking activities to the members of multi-stakeholder partnerships so that they can grasp networking skills and use them in their future advocacy efforts.

Members of these partnerships, representing various stakeholders of rural sector, will work together in this joint learning process to build accountability for the role they have to play towards positive and sustainable development models.

Oc3: Capacities of ANRD and its constituents and members of multi-stakeholder partnership forums are strengthened in advocacy and lobby, research and analysis, to be able to influence the agenda of rural development and dialogue with government structures;

Impact on target groups and final beneficiaries: the impact of this result will be reflected in the strengthened capacities of ANRD constituents and other stakeholders to initiate advocacy and lobbying, and carry out policy research and analysis. The envisaged activities will build sustained capacities of grass-root CSOs – members of ANRD, as a crucial stakeholder to advance rural communities' priorities. The achieved result will enable civil players, as ANRD, and other stakeholders to engage in effective advocacy initiatives making use of acquired know-how and skills through capacity building programs. Being a national rural development network, the project partners understand the value and need for having strong constituents' members, as this is a prerequisite for getting just position in the policy and

decision-making processes, but also for gaining power and credibility to initiate and sustain a social change that is in the interest of the end-users.

Oc4: ANRD and its regional forums promote evidence-based rural policymaking and bottom-up advocacy to accelerate Albanian rural reforming process in approximating with EU CAP, especially with CLLD (Community Led Local Development).

Impact on target groups and final beneficiaries: Due to the expected result, the rural development policies are improved through generating innovative and meaningful evidence-based recommendations and bottom-up policy making process.

Rural decision makers at local and national level will make decisions that are sufficiently well informed by robust policy research and consolidated evidence-based practices. Through various initiatives in conducting research studies, reports and policy briefs research in areas of benefit to rural development, the CSOs and CSO Network (ANRD) represent an important actor concerning needs and problems identification especially in relation to EU CAP approximation process, especially CLLD. Through enhanced capacities in applied, evidenced based research, the CSOs and their Network have greater access to the development and consolidation of agricultural and rural development policies as well as to the identification and monitoring of solutions that are sustainable and easily applicable to address rural challenges.

The ANRD initiative of Albanian Rural Parliament – as an advocacy, capacity building and networking platform dedicated to rural development – intends to become an inclusive practice to promote and undertake the necessary reforms that strive for revitalized and reborn rural areas. Similar to national rural parliament in EU member states, Albanian rural parliament will act as a platform to strengthen the voice of rural communities, and to ensure that the interests and well-being of these communities are strongly reflected in national and regional policies. The regional rural parliaments will strengthen its national-wide, bottom-up and inclusive features.

ii. Identify and describe in detail each activity (or work package)

The project activities are going to be organised in work packages each leading to a specific project result (outputs – Ops). The Ops, which will be delivered by the proposed action are:

- **Op 0A** - Developed and demonstrated transparent, efficient and effective project implementation, through prompt and effective delivery of the planned activities and expected results (Op 1.1 – Op 4.2)
- **Op 0B** – Transparent and intensive dissemination of knowledge and information to the target groups and other project stakeholders; raised awareness among the general audiences of the Action's overall and specific objectives
- **Op 1.1:** ANRD's structure, decision-making and territory coverage is consolidated through internal re-organization based on four regional forums
- **Op 1.2:** Enhanced ANRD visibility on national and regional level through a diversified promotional package and using social media
- **Op 2.1:** ANRD and its constituents' role is empowered through the establishment and functioning of the four regional multi-stakeholder partnership forums
- **Op 2.2:** Strengthened networking capacities as well as identity of ANRD regional forums through networking activities, exchange and exposure visits among the four multi-stakeholder forums
- **Op 3.1:** Capacity building program to increase grass-root CSOs and ANRD constituents' capacities on lobbying and advocacy, research and analysis of local, national and EU policies and instruments of rural development to be able to influence the agenda of rural development and dialogue with government structures;
- **Op 3.2:** Members of multi-stakeholder forum participate in advocacy events and exposure visits in the Western Balkan countries and those in region
- **Op 4.1:** Evidence-based rural policy-making is promoted through research studies and a series of policy papers addressing critical issues in rural development and/or identified gap in relation to EU CAP approximation process, especially CLLD (community led local development); monitoring report/ or shadow report on main rural development program and government commitment;
- **Op 4.2:** Bottom-up and participatory advocacy platforms are organized at regional and national level to advance rural communities' interests and priorities and making government responsive to their needs

Two additional work packages - **WP0A and WP0B** - are proposed, linked to the intermediary project outcome of the project (networking and advocacy capacities of ANRD and participation in policy making processes) that will strengthen the project and organisational management capacities of the Albanian Network for Rural Development as well as the visibility of the network and action.

The WPs and the corresponding activities within them are as described below:

WP1: Project management, quality assurance and progress monitoring	
Justification:	<p>This work package is to ensure prompt, efficient and effective implementation of the activities proposed in the Action, and delivery of the expected results and achievement of objectives.</p> <p>WPOA is about team setting, with a purpose to achieve congruence among the partners of the objectives, scope and the implementation, project management practices and procedures, as well as assessment of the success of the project and its internal progress monitoring. WPA, as well as the entire project, is under the direct responsibility of the Project manager, who will be supervised by the Project director, as a secondary quality-assurance instance.</p>
Activity A0A.1:	<p><u>Project team set-up</u> – As part of the activity, project team members will be assigned. Their roles and responsibilities within the project will be discussed and clarified during a kick-off meeting. Project Manager will maintain continuous communication using various communication means (phone calls, skype call, emails, meetings etc.)</p> <p><i>Deliverables:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Set project team • Defined partners and team responsibilities • Organised kick-off meeting <p><i>Time:</i> 1st month of the project implementation <i>Location:</i> Tirana <i>Responsible party:</i> Lead applicant (with participation of all co-applicant organisations)</p>
Activity A0A.2:	<p><u>Development of implementation plan and procedures for internal progress monitoring</u></p> <p>The project manager will develop an internal progress monitoring procedures, and plan for its implementation, that will be shared with the project partners, which all together will have to follow it and comply with it. This will be a mechanism to ensure that the project activities and budget are implemented in according to the plan, and that the planned results are delivered as described.</p> <p><i>Deliverables:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Defined and implemented progress monitoring procedures <p><i>Time:</i> First trimester of the project implementation <i>Location:</i> Tirana <i>Responsible party:</i> Lead applicant (implementation by all project partners)</p>
Activity A0A.3:	<p><u>Development of financial management and reporting procedures and following them throughout the project duration period</u> – The project financial manager will develop procedures for financial management and reporting, following the requirements of the contracting authority, while considering the principles for transparency and accountability of ANRD. This will not only ensure effective and efficient implementation of the project activities and delivery of the results, but will also strengthen the financial management procedures of ANRD.</p> <p><i>Deliverables:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Defined and implemented financial management and reporting <p><i>Time:</i> First trimester of the project implementation <i>Location:</i> Tirana <i>Responsible party:</i> Lead applicant (implementation by all project partners)</p>
Activity A0A.4:	<p><u>Implementation of external evaluation and audit</u> – In order to demonstrate the effectiveness and efficiency of the action, as well as sustain the transparent and accountable relation towards its constituents, the project partners will implement external evaluation and independent financial audit at the end of the action. The findings will be published publicly, thus contributing to the open and responsible principles of work ANRD aims to establish and maintain towards its constituents and stakeholders.</p> <p><i>Deliverables:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implemented and published independent external evaluation • Implemented and published independent financial audit <p><i>Time:</i> Last trimester of the project implementation <i>Location:</i> Tirana <i>Responsible party:</i> Lead applicant (with inputs and documents provided by all project partners)</p>
Activity A0A.5:	<p><u>Regular reporting to the contracting authority</u></p> <p>The project manager, supported by Local Coordinators, will prepare regular reports</p>

	<p>towards the contracting authority, according to the terms of the contract. The financial manager will be responsible for preparation and delivery of the financial report.</p> <p><i>Deliverables:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Project progress and final report prepared accurately and delivered promptly • Project's financial reports are prepared accurately and delivered promptly <p><i>Time:</i> Throughout the project duration period</p> <p><i>Location:</i> Tirana</p> <p><i>Responsible party:</i> Lead applicant (with inputs and documents provided by all project partners)</p>
WPOB: Visibility, communication and promotion justification	<p>The visibility and promotion of the Action will be a continuous activity throughout the project implementation period and is part of almost all envisaged activities. Visibility and Communication plan will follow EC guidelines as well as the visibility rules and principles for the EU funded actions.</p>
Activity A0B.1:	<p><u>Prepare and follow Communication and visibility plan, throughout the project implementation period</u> - The project partners will prepare communication and visibility plan that will plan the communication with and involvement of the stakeholders, as well as building relation with the media, and managing the public presentation and visibility of the entire action. The plan will be followed throughout the project implementation period, and its implementation will be coordinated by the project manager.</p> <p><i>Deliverables:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Communication and visibility plan – prepared and implemented <p><i>Time:</i> Prepared first trimester of the project, implemented throughout the project duration period</p> <p><i>Location:</i> Tirana – preparation; Implementation – all territory of Albania</p> <p><i>Responsible party:</i> Lead applicant – preparation; All project partners - implementation</p>
WP1.1: Consolidation of ANRD structure and decentralization of decision-making	
Justification	<p>Albanian Network for Rural Development represent a milestone and a crucial asset to effective rural policy making that can positively contribute to the wellbeing of rural people. In order to be able to fulfil its mission and produce concrete positive changes in the rural sector, it needs to consolidate its role and impact. Similar to other Networks in the other Western Balkan countries and the EU, ANRD should be a vital part of the Albanian rural development 'architecture', advancing the interests and priorities of rural communities.</p> <p>This set of activities will address the identified weaknesses of ANRD organisational structure and its grass-root CSOs limited membership resulting in partial geographical coverage of country's territory and limited expertise in thematic area of rural development.</p>
Activity A 1.1.1.	<p>Draft Guidelines for ANRD re-organization based on the four decentralized regional forums and their approval by the ANRD General Assembly</p> <p>An expert will be contracted for drafting the Guidelines for ANRD re-organization, Five expert working days are planned for drafting the Guidelines in close consultation with project staff and members of ANRD Executive Board.</p> <p><i>Time:</i> 2nd month of the project implementation</p> <p><i>Location:</i> Albania</p> <p><i>Responsible party:</i> Lead applicant</p>
Activity A 1.1.2	<p><u>Mobilizing and engaging CSOs through informing sessions, consultative meetings and workshops to involve in the election of ANRD regional forums;</u></p> <p>The draft Guidelines will be consulted with CSOs - current members of ANRD Assembly and other non-member grass-root CSOs that operate throughout Albania and are actively involved in various thematic area of rural development. The consultation process will allow the expert to revise and adjust Guidelines reflecting the opinions, ideas and inputs incited from consultation meetings.</p> <p>12 consultation meeting are planned under this activity, one meeting/per Qark</p> <p>12 expert working days and costs for organizing information and consultation meetings</p> <p><i>Time:</i> 4th -7th month of the project implementation</p> <p><i>Location:</i> Tirana</p> <p><i>Responsible party:</i> Project partners</p>

<p>Activity <u>A 1.1.3</u></p>	<p><u>Organize four one-day regional gathering of CSOs in each region and elect respective ANRD regional forums</u></p> <p>Project partners will organize four one day regional gathering of CSOs (one gathering per region). The gatherings will aim to present the platform of ANRD as an advocacy network in rural development striving to advance the country rural agenda. The need for strong constituents at local level and principle of participatory rural development will be highlighted.</p> <p>The guidelines of ANRD will be shared with CSOs representatives and the election process will follow the stated guidelines. The output of the gathering will be four regional forums, composing of active and visible grass-root CSOs – the new structures of ANRD ensuring country-coverage of the country territory and various thematic area of rural development.</p> <p>Around 100 participant is expected to participate in the gatherings.</p> <p>Required means: space rent, refreshment and lunch, transport and visibility</p> <p><i>Time:</i> 7th month of the project implementation</p> <p><i>Location:</i> Albania</p> <p><i>Responsible party:</i> Project partners</p>
<p>WP1.2: Enhance ANRD visibility</p>	
<p>Justification</p>	<p>Visibility plan is a prerequisite for getting credibility among public and other important rural actors. Having a clear idea what the Network stands for and what are its forthcoming activities and the impact in the overall rural communities is the first step toward the visibility plan. Social media will be used as a tool to gain more credibility, visibility and a well recognition of the network in a wider public</p>
<p>Activity <u>A1.2.1</u></p>	<p><u>Develop and print a diversified promotional packages to enhance ANRD visibility</u></p> <p>The visibility package will contain brochures and leaflets about the objectives, activities and overall work of the Network. These packages will be distributed to local institutions and other rural stakeholders.</p>
<p>Activity <u>A 1.2.2</u></p>	<p><u>Use of Social media to enhance ANRD and its constituents' visibility</u></p> <p>Social media will be used as a tool to gain more credibility, visibility and a well recognition of the network in a wider public. The articles, the facebook posts and activities shared in facebook and other social media will increase the chance to visit the website more often. The idea behind this is to create an audience of followers that will primarily rely on the reliable information that will be shared by the ANRD. This in turn will automatically give a star ranking and increase the numbers of followers.</p>
<p>WP2.1 Empowering local stakeholder through multi-stakeholder partnerships</p>	
<p>Justification</p>	<p>ANRD is committed to the principle that rural development actions will be most effective if they are based on partnership between rural people and the government; and that this partnership can be greatly assisted by active cooperation between civil society organisations and governments. Given that rural development requires cross-cutting and multi-stakeholder approach, ANRD will put efforts to establish multi-stakeholder regional forum in each of the four regional area. The founding principle of the forums will be cooperation and partnership among public and non-public actors of rural development, private and civil society. ANRD recognizes that cooperation and partnership with the public entities and private and civil actors will boost awareness, advocacy and know-how transfer for improved public policies and better decision making, which will positively impact the quality of life in rural areas throughout Albania. This set of activities represent a focus area of the ANRD's Strategic Framework (2018-2020).</p> <p>These partnerships will serve as platform for dialogue and interaction, experience sharing and exchange. Moreover, they will serve as mechanisms for connecting governments and rural stakeholders and moving ahead from information and consultation to partnership level</p> <p>Being a national rural development network, the partners understand the value and need for having strong constituents' members, as this is a prerequisite for getting just position in the policy and decision-making processes. At the core of these partnerships will be local grass-root constituents of ANRD which will invite and extend the collaboration among other public and private actors. The partnerships will bring together various representatives of local authorities (municipalities), regional public directorates in different sectors of rural development and rural entrepreneurs,</p>

	academic and expert staff, active citizens
Activity <u>A 2.1.1.</u>	<p><u>Carry out regional consultation process with ANRD regional forums and other rural stakeholders regarding the establishment of multi-stakeholders partnership forums at regional level</u></p> <p>Project partners will organize 8 one-day regional workshops (2 per each region) in order to consult with local stakeholders the platform of the multi-stakeholder partnership forums. 160 participants (20 participants per each workshop) will be consulted and provide input on the platforms.</p> <p>10 expert working days and costs of organizing workshops are the main means of the activity</p> <p><i>Time:</i> 9th-10th month of the project implementation</p> <p><i>Location:</i> four regions</p> <p><i>Responsible party:</i> All project partners</p>
Activity <u>A 2.1.2.</u>	<p><u>Elaborate the agreed terms for cooperation and partnership among stakeholders – members of four multi-stakeholder forums</u></p> <p>A national assessment workshop (one day) will be held with rural stakeholders working at national, regional and local level to assess the interest, needs, power and influence, and attitude of each actor, public and non-public, involved in rural development.</p> <p>The output of the workshop will be the terms of references for establishing and functioning of the multi-stakeholder partnerships, or the Memorandum of Understanding which will be signed by members of the partnerships at regional level.</p> <p>5 expert working days and costs of organizing workshop are the main means of the activity</p> <p><i>Time:</i> 10th month of the project implementation</p> <p><i>Location:</i> Tirana</p> <p><i>Responsible party:</i> Lead applicant</p>
Activity <u>A 2.1.3.</u>	<p><u>Organize (4) one-day multi-stakeholder rural forum in each of the four region</u></p> <p>After a wide consultation process at local and regional level, the project partners in close cooperation with grass-root constituent of ANRD will organize one-day multi-stakeholder rural forum in each of the four region with the aim to bring together the stakeholders to identify concrete common actions and to consult which will target pressing rural issues that need quick response and support from government and other actors.</p> <p>An average of 180 participants will participate in the four forums (an average of 45 participants per forum)</p> <p>Costs for organizing the forums (space rent, refreshment, and lunch), visibility and transport expenses are the main means of this activity.</p> <p><i>Time:</i> 11th-12th month of the project implementation</p> <p><i>Location:</i> four regions</p> <p><i>Responsible party:</i> All project partners</p>
WP2.2	
Activity <u>A 2.2.1</u>	<p><u>Organize networking activities and exchange visits among representatives of the four multi-stakeholder forums on regional and national level</u></p> <p>It is planned four networking activities and exchange visits <i>among representatives</i> of the four multi-stakeholder partnerships. 60 participants will participate in four three day activities.</p> <p>The networking activities and exchange visits will promote successful models of mutual understanding and cooperation among the stakeholders in rural development. Positive practices and initiatives in rural development will be identified in the four regions and serve as an opportunity for public and non-public actors – active members of multi-stakeholder partnership – to replicate models they are expose to in their work and territory.</p> <p><i>Time:</i> throughout the second year of the project implementation</p> <p><i>Location:</i> four regions</p> <p><i>Responsible party:</i> Lead applicant (with contribution of project partners)</p>
WP3.1 Capacity building program on research and analysis, advocacy and lobby	
Justification	Given that grass-root CSOs have limited capacities to influence for improved rural policies, the action will build CSOs capacity in research and analysis, advocacy and lobby and in order to enable them to engage in effective advocacy initiatives. CSOs

	<p>need capacities to be able to dialogue with and provide credible advices to relevant government structures regarding critical issues of rural development and influencing reforming process. The capacity building program will equip grass-root CSOs with the adequate know-how and skills to sustain their role as advocates of rural communities' priorities.</p> <p>The capacity building program aim to enhance the capacities of the grassroots CSOs in advocacy, lobbying and networking, and in Leader/CLLD. This will be achieved through designing a two-module training.</p>
Activity A 3.1.1	<p><u>Develop ToT toolkit in advocacy and lobby and policy research and analysis of local, national and EU policies, with special focus on Leader/CLLD</u></p> <p>Two national experts will be hired for five working days to develop the two ToT training modules</p> <p><i>Time:</i> the first semester of the second year of the project implementation</p> <p><i>Location:</i> Tirana</p> <p><i>Responsible party:</i> Lead applicant</p>
Activity A 3.1.2	<p><u>Provide ToT in advocacy and lobby and policy research and analysis of local, national and EU policies, with special focus on Leader/CLLD for representatives of ANRD regional forums. A national ToT training course will be provided for representatives of grass-root CSOs, member of ANRD regional forums. A five day training course for 15 representatives of grass-root CSOs. 3-4 participants from each of the four regions will be selected to participate in the national ToT training course.</u></p> <p><i>Time:</i> the first semester of the second year of the project implementation</p> <p><i>Location:</i> Tirana</p> <p><i>Responsible party:</i> Lead applicant</p>
Activity A3.1.3	<p><u>Implement (4) training courses in advocacy and lobby and policy research and analysis of local, national and EU policies, with special focus on Leader/CLLD for members of the four multi-stakeholder rural forums by ToT trainees</u></p> <p>During the ToT training course, a team of three to four dedicated trainees will be identified and encouraged to provide a three day training course at regional level (in their own region) to members of multi-stakeholder partnerships. They will provide training on advocacy and lobbying, and policy research and analysis of local, national and EU policies, with special focus on Leader/CLLD.</p> <p>80 participants will be trained in regional trainings (20 participants per region). Such training will be designed to build the capacity of CSOs and other interested stakeholders of multi-stakeholder partnerships to play an active role in programming, implementation, use, promotion and monitoring of local, national and EU policies and instruments of rural development.</p> <p><i>Time:</i> the second semester of the second year of the project implementation</p> <p><i>Location:</i> Four regions of Albania</p> <p><i>Responsible party:</i> all project partners (IDM – regions 1&4; Agrinet – region 3; Agropuka – region 1)</p>
WP3.2 Participation in advocacy events, conferences, fairs and other related exposure visits	
Activity A.3.2.1	<p><u>Members of multi-stakeholder partnership forums participate in advocacy events and conferences, fairs and other related exposure visits, in the Western Balkan countries and those in the region</u></p> <p>It is planned that a total of ten representatives from multi-stakeholder partnership forums participate in advocacy events, conferences and other related platforms (three day event) that rural networks in the Western Balkan countries and those in region implement to influence policy process in rural development. As other rural networks in Balkan countries, ANRD is member of the Balkan Rural Development Network which is an active platform for regional cooperation in rural development and a series of advocacy events are carried out and coordinated by rural actors and other stakeholders. Such events and exposure visits/study visits orient participants for a new type of learning to grasp new skills and know how. Moreover, they represent an effective instruments to introduce participants and transfer experience regarding implementation of the EU policy rural development, such as LEADER approach, successful examples of LAGs and LEADER</p> <p><i>Time:</i> throughout the second year and first semester of the third year of the project implementation</p> <p><i>Location:</i> Western Balkan</p> <p><i>Responsible party:</i> Lead applicant</p>

WP4.1 Evidence-based rural policy-making in rural development and/or identified gap in relation to EU CAP approximation process, especially CLLD (community led local development)	
Justification	<p>This set of activities will provide evidence-based policy solutions on critical issues in rural development in order to accelerate the rural reforming process in Albania. These activities support the development of tools and methods that would enable rural policymakers to make decisions that are sufficiently well informed by robust policy research and consolidated evidence-based practices. Through a research study, monitoring report and policy briefs research in areas of benefit to rural development, ANRD represents an important actor concerning needs and problems identification in relation to EU CAP approximation process, especially CLLD. The developed policy brief, reports and research, as well as other recommendations will be based on positive evidence and functional practices that are beneficial to the rural communities. Expected impact is linked with improved rural development policies through generating innovative and meaningful evidence-based recommendations and bottom-up policy making process.</p> <p>The envisaged activities represent a main focus area of policy engagement of ANRD articulated in the ANRD Strategic Framework (2017-2020), as it (ANRD) has a clear vision that most of its efforts should rest with the evident need for advocacy for more support for the rural area. To this end, in 2017 ANRD developed a partnership with the Agricultural University of Tirana (AUT) aimed at coordinating advocacy efforts and academic experience in influencing rural development policies so that they can be more effective, closely related to the real needs of the local communities and bring concrete results in the life of people living in rural areas. The partnership of the two institutions aim to support and give impetus to the evidence based rural development policymaking.</p>
Activity A.4.1.1	<p><u>Prepare a research studies and three policy papers addressing critical issues in rural development and/or identified gap in relation to EU CAP approximation process, especially CLLD (community led local development);</u></p> <p>Prior to preparation of research documents, the project team will launch a call for experts in rural development to create a pool of experts who will be engaged in study preparation according to their expertise and involved in policy discussions. It is planned to prepare three policy papers/briefs which will focus on challenges and identified gap in relation to EU CAP approximation process, especially CLLD (community led local development); twenty expert working days are the main means regarding the drafting of three policy papers or/and briefs.</p> <p>One research study which will focus on critical issues in rural development will be carried out for 45 expert working days.</p> <p><i>Time:</i> throughout the second year of the project implementation <i>Location:</i> Tirana <i>Responsible party:</i> Lead applicant</p>
Activity A.4.1.3	<p><u>Prepare monitoring and/or shadow report on main rural development program and government commitment;</u></p> <p>Monitoring is an important aspects of ANRD activity in policy engagement, in order to measure the results of the Government efforts to rural development, the changes in Rural Development policy as well as changes in the IPARD II program. Monitoring and/or shadow reports are effective advocacy instrument to submit as an alternative to a government's official report regarding rural development program. As the IPARD II programme – the main rural development programme ANRD as the voice of the “rural”, will work out a specific monitoring and/or shadow report on the Albanian IPARD II programme.</p> <p>Main means for the preparation of monitoring report is 28 expert working days <i>Time:</i> throughout the second year of the project implementation <i>Location:</i> Tirana <i>Responsible party:</i> Lead applicant</p>

Activity <u>A.4.1.4</u>	<u>Organize national and regional round tables on main researches and reports' findings and policy papers' recommendations</u> Three national and/or regional round tables will be organised with the intention to share evidences and research findings and provide policy recommendations generated by researches and report. Additionally, they will aim to bring together rural stakeholder to debate on key policy issues of rural development and reforming process in Albania. Around 90 participants will participate in the three round tables, average number of participants/round table is 30. Participants will be representatives of national government, local authorities, CSOs, ANRD constituents, academics and experts. <i>Time:</i> throughout the second year and first months of the third year of the project implementation <i>Location:</i> Tirana <i>Responsible party:</i> Lead applicant
WP4.2 Bottom-up and participatory advocacy platforms to advance rural communities' interests and priorities and making government responsive to their needs	
Justification	The envisaged activities represent a main focus area of policy engagement of ANRD articulated in the ANRD Strategic Framework (2017-2020), as it (ANRD) has a clear vision that most of its efforts should rest with the evident need for advocacy for more support for the rural area. It will results in concrete actions to advance rural communities interests and priorities as well as accelerating relevant reforming processes through inclusive, nationwide and bottom up advocacy initiative. The 1ST Albanian Rural Parliament, jointly organized in September 2017 by ANRD in partnership with Agricultural University of Tirana, was the first ever nation-wide and bottom-up advocacy event in rural development which brought together more than 300 participants from the 61 municipalities. This major advocacy event created the right environment to dialogue and cooperate, exchange idea and discuss critical issues in rural development.
Activity <u>A.4.2.1</u>	<u>Drafting the platform of the second Albanian Rural Parliament as a nation-wide, bottom-up advocacy event</u> Five expert working days; carry out three focus groups with main stakeholders of rural development <i>Time:</i> 14-18 th month of the project implementation <i>Location:</i> Tirana, Korca, Shkoder <i>Responsible party:</i> Lead applicant
Activity <u>A.4.2.1</u>	<u>Kick-off event of the second Albanian Rural Parliament</u> A kick-off event will be held to launch the second Albanian Rural Parliament (ARP). The launch event aim to inform the rural stakeholders about the platform of the second ARP, the main policy are it will address, follow-up activities and invite local stakeholders to express their interest to host the second ARP. The event will have media coverage in order to reach a larger audience and promote the event effectively. Social media will be used to promote the event and the 2 nd ARP. Costs include expenses for kick off gathering with 20 participants, visibility <i>Time:</i> 20 th - 21 th month of project implementation <i>Location:</i> Tirana <i>Responsible party:</i> Lead applicant with project partners
Activity <u>A.4.2.3</u>	<u>Hold (4) two-day regional rural parliaments</u> Following the kick-off event of the second Albanian Rural Parliament, four two-day regional rural parliaments will be held (one each region) with participation of 50 participants which represent public and non-public actors (local authorities, CSOs, ANRD's local constituents, farmers, rural people, youth and rural women, rural entrepreneurs, expert and academic staff. The regional rural parliaments are very important to the overall platform of the ARP, as they strengthen the nation-wide and bottom-up feature and inclusive feature of the initiative. Costs for organising a two-day gathering of 50 participants; key speakers and moderators fees, simultaneous translation and equipment; visibility <i>Time:</i> 24 th -27 th month of the project implementation <i>Location:</i> Regions 1, 2, 3, 4 <i>Responsible party:</i> All project partners (IDM region 2&4; Agrinet region 3; Agropuka region 1)

<p>Activity <u>A.4.2.4</u></p>	<p><u>Hold the second Albanian rural parliament – 2.5 day gathering</u></p> <p>The second ARP is envisaged in the proposed action as the bottom-up advocacy, (which at the same time is pan-European campaign, which seeks to express the voice of rural communities; to articulate the concerns of rural people; and to promote action by rural people, in partnership with civil society and governments.</p> <p>The 1st Albanian Rural Parliament, jointly organized in September 2017 by ANRD in partnership with Agricultural University of Tirana, was the first ever nation-wide and bottom-up advocacy event in rural development which brought together more than 300 participants from the 61 municipalities. This major advocacy event created the right environment to dialogue and cooperate, exchange idea and discuss critical issues in rural development.</p> <p>ARP1 was successful in putting the rural development priorities into the government agenda and rural policies, meantime orienting Albanian rural stakeholders toward positive and functional models in local integrated development.</p> <p>Similar to the 1st ARP, the second one will be held to assess the achievement to date and promote them, and identifying new challenges ahead.</p> <p>The rural parliament are massive gathering and very challenging with regard to ensure adequate fund to welcome high number of participants.</p> <p>the proposed action will cover only a part of funding. Project staff will dedicate efforts to engage a wide stakeholders and ensure additional support for the remaining costs needed for this 2.5 gathering.</p> <p>it is expected to have the same participants as the first ARP, more than 300 participants representing all rural stakeholders</p> <p><i>Time:</i> 28th – 32th of the project implementation</p> <p><i>Location:</i> Tirana</p> <p><i>Responsible party:</i> Lead applicant with project partners</p>
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- i. If financial support is allowed by the guidelines for applicants, lead applicants wishing to give financial support to third parties must define, in line with the conditions set by the guidelines for applicants the objectives and results to be obtained with financial support, the different types of activities eligible for financial support, on the basis of a fixed list, the types of entity eligible or categories of persons which may receive financial support, the criteria for selecting these entities and giving the financial support, the criteria for determining the exact amount of financial support for each third entity, and the maximum amount which may be given.

n/a

- ii. [Describe/highlight eventual changes of the information provided in the concept note.]

During the preparation of the full application, the project partners became aware of an intermediary *project outcome (iOc)*, which will be produced as a result of project implementation.

iOc: Strengthened networking and advocacy capacities of Albanian Network for Rural Development (ANRD) and its constituents; Improved participation in rural policy-making processes; consolidated role and broadened impact of the ANRD in rural policy formulation and implementation; (Related to Op0a and Op0B). Such an outcome will be achieved through the delivery of a series linked output and respective activities as well as through the additional outputs, i.e. **Op0A**, referring to transparent, efficient and effective project implementation and **Op0B**, which is about transparent and intensive dissemination of knowhow to the stakeholders, communication and visibility. These outputs will directly contribute to the sustainability of ANRD, as well as to its consolidated role and increased contribution to rural development policy debates at national and local level, and enhanced its impact on the rural reforming process toward EU integration as well.

As a result of detailed planning of the envisaged activities, the broad timeline of the action is reduced to 32 months from the proposed 36 months in the concept note. The changes in the timeline is reflected in the estimated budget of the action. Therefore, the requested EU contribution is reduced to 195,389.70 EUR from 200,000 EUR which is initially requested.

2.1.2. Methodology (max 5 pages)

i. the methods of implementation and rationale for such methodology;

- **Bottom-up, inclusive and participatory rural development** is the main principle of the action.

The action is built on and promotes the 'bottom up' founding perspective of the Albanian Network for Rural Development. The action will dedicate attention to empower the integrated 'bottom up', inclusive and participatory local development approach. To this end, the proposed advocacy initiatives at regional and national level seeks to raise the voice of rural people and bring it at the policy making processes.

- **Empowerment of grass-root stakeholders to dialogue with government through capacity building, knowledge sharing, know-how transfer**

Empowerment of civil society is a priority to enable the development through bottom-up approach, the kind of development that occurs by the rural communities. Being a national rural development network, the project partners understand the value and need for having strong constituents' members, as this is a prerequisite for getting just position in the policy and decision-making processes, but also for gaining power and credibility to initiate and sustain a social change that is in the interest of the end-users. If this innovative advocacy approach is to work well, the CSOs must have or acquire prior the necessary capabilities in terms of know-how and skills.

- **Partnership and mutual trust among local stakeholder** is at the core of multi-stakeholder partnership forums as spaces for interaction, consultation and knowledge sharing. Effective rural development requires constructive dialogue, partnership among various actors. The proposed methodological approach aims at fostering communication and cooperation, solidarity and mutual trust among stakeholders in agriculture and rural development at local and regional level. It is a relatively long-term investment and inclusive process consulted with local communities and relevant actors.

- **Evidence-based policy making** – the action supports the development of tools and methods that would enable rural policymakers to make decisions that are sufficiently well informed by robust policy research and consolidated evidence-based practices. Through research studies, reports and policy briefs research in areas of benefit to rural development, the CSOs represent an important actor concerning needs and problems identification in relation to EU CAP approximation process, especially CLLD. Drawing attention to alternative policy options can contribute to building a more open and democratic society in terms of enabling environment of evidence-informed policymaking in the country and bringing social change to rural communities. Thus, rural development policies are improved through generating innovative and meaningful evidence-based recommendations and bottom-up policy making process.

- **Networking – as a skill of grass-root CSOs and ANRD as CSOs Network to influence policy making.**

Despite the fact that local grass-root CSOs in Albania might develop initiatives that aim to improve welfare of rural communities, lack of networking platform undermines their pretty much fragmented actions. Networks are recognized as powerful tools for transferring best practice, disseminating innovation and inspiring and empowering local people in rural communities. ANRD as a mechanism to support and implement policies of rural development in Albania in the light of the principles that guide the country's integration into the European Union - represent a major milestone in rural development in Albania.

- **CLLD/LEADER - Community-led local development** is an effective instrument of local, rural, regional development promoted by the EU. The CLLD approach is one of the key methodological tools invested in this project to further develop civil society efforts in building effective dialogue within the rural population, local public and private actors, facilitating in this way good governance through local partnerships.

ii. where the action continues a previous action, describe how the action is intended to build on the results of the previous action (give the main conclusions and recommendations of any evaluations carried out);

The action is not continuation of a previous action implemented by the project partners, although the type of proposed intervention (policy engagement in rural development, capacity building of stakeholders, especially grass-root CSOs, community mobilization in integrated local development etc) represents the main focus area of previous similar actions implemented by project partners. Moreover, that the three project partners have joint their forces and cooperated to convene the first Albanian Rural Parliament (September 2017); they aim to convene the following Albanian Rural Parliaments at two year interval.

The overall action reflects the vision and perspective of the ANRD, where the three project partners represent the leading organizations among the fourteen founding CSOs. Furthermore, the action represents an articulation of ANRD involvement in rural development for the next two years, as it stated in ANRD strategic framework for 2018-2019. Although, it builds on the existing groundwork carried out by ANRD and its member organizations and leverages existing resources and network, to further advance

the country rural agenda toward functional development model and positive practices. All in all, the action will facilitate the EU approximation process in regards to sustainable rural and agricultural policy development, with special focus on Leader/CLLD (community-led local development).

iii. where the action is part of a larger programme

The project forms part of a long-term effort by actors on both government and civil society side to strengthen and diversify the economy of rural areas in the Western Balkans and to strengthen the role of civil society. The action is designed in a time that represents a climax of bottom-up advocacy efforts at all level, local, regional and European, marked by three important consecutive events and their main outputs:

- The 1st Albanian Rural Parliament held on 28-30 September 2017 and its first Joint Declaration⁴
- Agricultural Policy Forum 2017 and its Podgorica Agenda 2017⁵
- The 3rd European Rural Parliament held on 21-23 October 2017 and Venhorst Declaration and its Rural Manifesto⁶

Together, these urge the Government to put more effort in setting up the required legislative and administrative procedures for making the LEADER approach operational under the National Rural Development Programmes and/or IPARD. Importantly, capacities of various development actors should be systematically strengthened.

The action will create synergies with other initiatives which take place at both regional and European level. Thus, the bottom-up advocacy events envisaged in the action are linked with the European Rural Parliament which is a pan-European campaign which seeks to express the voice of rural Europe; to articulate the concerns of rural people; and to promote self-help and action by rural people, in partnership with civil society and governments. Recently, ANRD representative was invited and took part at the 3rd European Rural Parliament, held on 21-23 October, to speak about the first Alb. Rural Parliament. This was a great opportunity for ANRD to tell a wide audience about it, and also to help promote the idea of rural parliaments.

iv. the procedures for follow up and internal/external evaluation

The project manager will be responsible for the monitoring, measuring the overall progress of the implementation of the action, against the project objectives and results. Even though the four local coordinators will be involved in data gathering and assist the project manager with the monitoring of project activities. The internal monitoring will be implemented on regular basis in order to identify possible issues and being able to take preventive measures, or corrective ones if the first measures are not sufficient. The Project manager will gather and analyse monitoring data and prepare monthly progress reports about the implementation of the activities and achievement of the objectives and results.

Internal evaluation will be done by project team and will contain the perception on implemented activities by the participants. External evaluation will be done by a professional evaluator. He or she will evaluate project achievements and other milestone events. External evaluation and auditing are planned on the end of the project. The external evaluator will be an independent and recognized professional evaluator and auditor. In that way, the project team will gain insight as to how their work appears in the eyes of an outsider.

v. the role and participation in the action of the main actors and stakeholders

Institute of Democracy and Mediation (IDM) is the lead applicant of the action. The organisation will provide the core technical and administrative support staff to the project. IDM relies on its 18 year experience and profile as trustworthy independent player, with significant impact in local / national decision making and influence on regional debates concerning civil society development, local integrated development, with special focus on Leader/Community-led Local development, European integration, and other policy areas. The professionalism of its staff, its network of associates from academia and the community of practitioners combined with quality-assurance mechanisms in place ensure high quality of IDM deliverables (studies, papers, reports, public events and advocacy activities) and constructive relations with state (central / local government, oversight institutions, legislative bodies, foreign or multilateral institutions etc.) and non-state stakeholders (civil society, academia, media, business and other interest groups). Moreover, that IDM is the founding initiator, the host and mentor of the ANRD.

Proejct partners - Agrinet & Agropuka - are co-applicant of the action. Both of them took active role in the design and formulation of the action, ensuring that it is aligned to the strategic objectives of ANRD

⁴ <http://anrd.al/first-albanian-rural-parliament/joint-declaration-of-the-first-albanian-rural-parliament/>

⁵ <http://apf.seerural.org/podgorica-agenda-2017/>

⁶ <http://www.europeanruralparliament.com/>

and addresses the relevant needs of ANRD and rural stakeholders. Similar to the lead partner, both project partners have strong and cooperative working relations with the local and central governmental institutions, as well as with the grassroots CSOs and rural communities which represent their target and end beneficiaries of their efforts. Moreover, both project partners are among the founding members and main supporters of its activity.

Albanian Network for Rural Development (ANRD) is the main target of the action. The Network is formally established on 11th December 2015 through a civil society bottom-up initiative. As a policy network (actual membership involves 22 CSOs) in the domain of rural development, ANRD need to consolidate its network, raise capacities of and empower its constituents in order to have impact in rural policy engagement for improved quality of life in rural communities and accelerated process toward EU policy of rural development. The action is aligned with the main focus area of the ANRD strategic framework: policy engagement, knowledge sharing and know-how transfer, cooperation and partnership among stakeholders.

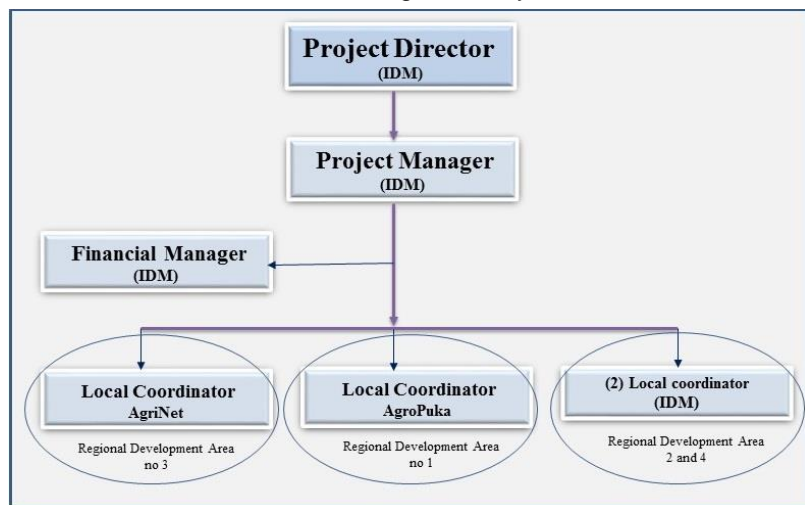
Grassroots CSOs will be involved throughout the action implementation through the capacity building, networking and exchange activities and advocacy platforms as well. Moreover, that they will be encouraged to take an active role in the decentralized decision-making bodies of ANRD.

Local and national authorities and policy decision-makers represent target audience of the action which will be given special attention as important players in inter-sectoral and inter-level cooperation at all level, in order to ensure that stakeholders are committed to the effective cooperation and partnership. The government authorities are the main target of the evidence-based policy making and bottom-up advocacy initiatives envisaged in the action

vi. the organisational structure and the team proposed for the implementation of the action

IDM and both project partners as the implementer of the action will establish a dedicated core project team for the day-to-day management of the implementation, in close cooperation with ANRD board members. The core project management team (project director, project manager and financial manager) will be established and located in IDM - as the lead applicant which is responsible and in charge of the substance and financial management and as a liaison and coordinator agent for the implementation of the action as well as representing the main interlocutor of the Contracting Authority. In addition, four Local Coordinators will be assigned by the three project partners (Agrinet, AgroPuka and IDM) responsible for coordination of activities in the respective regional areas (1, 2, 3, and 4). The four Local Coordinators will ensure nationwide coverage of the action. Other specific national experts will be identified in the course of implementation for carrying out different assignments envisaged in the action.

The project team will include basically a) Project Director; b) Project manager; c) Financial manager; d) four Local Coordinators as per the following:



- i. **Project director (PD)** with 10% of the time. It will oversee the project resources and the progress towards the planned results, within the anticipated timeline. Her/his objective will be to maintain clear and accurate picture of the entire project cycle management process, and review the work, in order to ensure completion of each stage and delivery of the results, and will be responsible for communication with the Contracting Authority together with the project manager. In addition the Project Director is in charge for continuous communication and consultation with ANRD board members, as the action targets the consolidation of the ANRD through internal re-organization of the Network structures, capacity building and other advocacy initiatives.
- ii. **Project Manager (PM)** (50%) is responsible for the day-to-day management and operation of the Action to ensure its successful implementation. She/he will be responsible for overall coordination of the activities envisaged in the Action. He/she will be nominated by the lead applicant with allocation of 50% of the time. PM will coordinate with project partners in preparing the interim and final reports and working plans and reports for the entire project; she/he will keep regular communication with and provide orientation to other members of the team. The project manager

will cooperate closely and share information with the PD; both of them will be responsible for communication with the Contracting Authority.

- iii. **Financial Manager (FM)** (50%) will be assigned by IDM. He/she will be responsible for management and implementation of the finance of the action, recording the expenditures, and ensuring transparent, accountable and diligent financial working.
- iv. **Local Coordinator (LC)** (four) will be responsible for field coordination of the stakeholders and implementation of the activities at regional and local level. Considering that the action is national in scope, four local coordinators will be assigned with 50% of the time, for implementing activities at their respective areas. Therefore, one LC will be assigned by Agrinet for the regional development areas no.3, which represents the geographical area of Agrinet activity; one LC will be assigned by AgroPuka for the regional development areas no.1 – the geographical area of AgroPuka activity; as IDM has national geographical scope of its activity will assign two LCs for the regional development areas no.1 and no.4.

vii. *the main means proposed for the implementation of the action*

The main means proposed for the implementation of the action are:

- Human resources, technical and administrative staff,
- Travel expenditure,
- Other costs and services, including:
 - Publications,
 - Studies and research,
 - Expenditure verification/Audit,
 - Evaluation costs,
 - Translation and interpreters,
 - Costs of conferences and seminars, (capacity building, advocacy events etc)
 - Visibility actions,

The financial resources estimation for the overall action is 205,673.37 EUR, 95% or 195,389.70 EUR out of which is the required EU contribution, and 5% or 10,283.67 EUR will be the project partners' contribution.

viii. *the attitudes of all stakeholders towards the action in general and the activities in particular;*

The proposed action is an output of a wide consultation process with rural stakeholder that ANRD has undertaken in its first two years of operation with the aim to understand and consult on main challenges and issues the different rural stakeholder are faced with. Moreover, the three partner organizations and other ANRD member organizations works closely with rural communities and other stakeholders such as local authorities and other public institutions, farmers, academia, rural entrepreneurs etc., therefore they are aware of the challenges they face in terms of promoting wellbeing and social inclusion of rural communities. Additionally, they have extensive experience of using participatory approaches among the target groups and final beneficiaries. Their experiences are enthusiastic and promise a full and committed participation in the envisaged activities.

ANRD is committed to the principle that rural development actions will be most effective if they are based on partnership between rural people and the government; and that this partnership can be greatly assisted by active cooperation between civil society organisations and governments. The preparation of the full application is done after a successful advocacy event that ANRD – consisting of 22 CSOs (among them IDM, Agrinet and AgroPuka) held on 28-30 September, 2017 – the 1st Albanian Rural Parliament. The event welcomed more than 300 participants from the 61 municipalities of the country, represented by national and local public authorities, private sector, grass-root civil society organizations, ANRD member organizations, scholars and research institutions, rural entrepreneurs, and other formal and informal groups from local communities throughout the country. This initiative was successful due to the positive attitudes of the stakeholders toward actions that aim to accelerate the country rural reforming process in approximating EU policy and offer space for know-how transfer and sharing experiences to orient them towards European and positive development models in rural development. The 1st ARP indicated that rural stakeholders need opportunities to discuss, network, transfer know-how and exchange ideas and best practices on rural development.

The envisaged projects' activities will set the stage for synergy among public stakeholders, rural businesses, and civil society at all level, national, regional and local. It will offer opportunity to rural stakeholders to share information and transfer knowledge, capacity building and networking. The action will pursue a participatory and inclusive approach to engage all stakeholders in order that they share their contributions, merits and responsibilities.

ix. the planned activities in order to ensure the visibility of the action and the EU funding.

At the very beginning of the project implementation a Visibility and Communication plan will be prepared in order to foster visibility and raise the public profile of the action, build up awareness among stakeholders, support the involvement of partners and stakeholders into the project implementation, dissemination of the information and further promote the principle of sustainable and inclusive rural development, dialogue between civil society actors and government structures, partnership etc. The Visibility and Communication plan will be developed in accordance with the requirements of the European Commission's '*Communication and Visibility Manual*' and all visibility and communication deliverables will consider the *templates for communication products*, defined in the Manual.

The aim is to offer a rich visibility and communication plan in terms of communication products, information outreach, special events, electronic and web communication, with special focus on the use of social media. The communication backbone will be provided by the following websites:

IDM website (www.idmalbania.org), as the lead applicant of the project; Agrinet (www.agrinet.al) and AgroPuka (www.agro-puka.org) websites – as project partners; ANRD website (www.anrd.al) – as the main target and beneficiary of the action as well as through the web-sites of ANRD member organisations. In addition, social media will be used as a dissemination tool for further outreach regarding project activities and promotion project's principles. Only IDM Face book page has more than 1000 members.

The project envisages a series of local, regional and national events, such as Regional rural parliaments and 2nd Albanian Rural parliament which are massive gatherings of rural stakeholders; national round tables, training and networking activities etc., which will contribute to visibility of the project's deliverables and results in Albania and region as well. All communication and visibility activities will be carried out in close cooperation with the Contracting Authority, European Commission.

2.1.3. Indicative action plan for implementing the action (max 4 pages)

The action plan will be drawn up using the following forma

Year 1													
	Half-year 1						Half-year 2						
Activity	Month 1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	Implementing body
Execution A0A.1 – Project team set-up													All partners
Preparation A0A.2 –Implementation plan and procedures for internal progress monitoring													Lead applicant
Execution A0A.2 –Implementation plan and procedures for internal progress monitoring													Lead applicant (implemented by all project partners)
Preparation A0A.3 – Financial management and reporting procedures and their implementation													Lead applicant
Execution A0A.3 – Financial management and reporting procedures and their implementation													Lead applicant (implemented by all project partners)
Preparation A0A.5 – Regular reporting to the contracting authority													Lead applicant
Execution A0A.5 – Regular reporting to the contracting authority													Lead applicants (with inputs by project partners)
Preparation A0B.1 – Prepare and follow Communication and visibility plan													Lead applicant
Execution A0B.1 – Prepare and follow Communication and visibility plan													All partners
Preparation A0B.2 – Preparation and dissemination of project promotional materials													Lead applicant
Execution A0B.2 – Preparation and dissemination of project promotional materials													Lead applicant and co-applicants
Preparation A 1.1.1 - Draft Guidelines for ANRD re-organization and their approval													Lead applicant
Execution A 1.1.1 - Draft the Guidelines for ANRD re-organization and their approval													Lead applicant
Preparation A 1.1.2 - Mobilizing and engaging CSOs to involve in the election of ANRD regional forums													Lead applicant

Year 1													
	Half-year 1						Half-year 2						
Activity	Month 1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	Implementing body
Execution A 1.1.2 - Mobilizing and engaging CSOs to involve in the election of ANRD regional forums													All partners
Preparation A 1.1.3 - Organize four one-day regional gathering of CSOs and elect respective ANRD regional forums													Lead applicant
Execution A 1.1.3 - Organize four one-day regional gathering of CSOs and elect respective ANRD regional forums													Lead applicant and co-applicants
Preparation A 1.2.1 - Develop and print a diversified promotional packages to enhance ANRD visibility													Lead applicant
Execution A 1.2.1 - Develop and print a diversified promotional packages to enhance ANRD visibility													Lead applicant
Preparation A 1.2.2 - Use of Social media to enhance ANRD and its constituents' visibility													Lead applicant
Execution A 1.2.2 - Use of Social media to enhance ANRD and its constituents' visibility													Lead applicant
Preparation A 2.1.1 - Carry out regional consultation process regarding the establishment of multi-stakeholders partnership forums													Lead applicant
Execution A 2.1.1 - Carry out regional consultation process regarding the establishment of multi-stakeholders partnership forums													Lead applicant and co-applicants
Preparation A 2.1.2 - Elaborate the agreed terms for cooperation and partnership among stakeholders – members of four multi-stakeholder forums													Lead applicant
Execution A 2.1.2 - Elaborate the agreed terms for cooperation and partnership among stakeholders – members of four multi-stakeholder forums													Lead applicant and co-applicants
Preparation A 2.1.3 – Organize (4) one-day multi-stakeholder rural forum in each of the four region													All partners
Execution A 2.1.3 – Organize (4) one-day multi-stakeholder rural forum in each of the four region													All partners
Preparation A.4.1.1 - Prepare three policy papers													Lead applicant

Following years:					
Activity	Half-year 3	4	5	6	Implementing body
Execution A0A.2 –Implementation plan and procedures for internal progress monitoring					Lead applicant (implemented by all project partners)
Execution A0A.3 – Financial management and reporting procedures and their implementation					Lead applicant (implemented by all project partners)
Preparation A0A.4 – Implementation of external evaluation and audit					Lead applicant
Execution A0A.4 – Implementation of external evaluation and audit					Lead applicant
Execution A0A.5 – Regular reporting to the contracting authority					Lead applicants (with inputs by project partners)
Execution A0B.1 – Prepare and follow Communication and visibility plan					All partners
Execution A 1.2.2 - Use of Social media to enhance ANRD and its constituents' visibility					Lead applicant
Preparation A 2.1.4. - Establish (4) multi-stakeholder partnership forums and sign the MoU					All partners
Execution A 2.1.4. - Establish (4) multi-stakeholder partnership forums and sign the MoU					All partners
Preparation A 2.2.1 - Organize networking activities and exchange visits					Lead applicant
Execution A 2.2.1 - Organize networking activities and exchange visits					Lead applicant (with project partners)
Preparation A 3.1.1 – Develop ToT toolkit in research and analysis, advocacy and lobby					Lead applicant
Execution A 3.1.1 – Develop ToT toolkit in research and analysis, advocacy and lobby					Lead applicant
Preparation A 3.1.2 – Provide ToT in research and analysis, advocacy and lobby					Lead applicant
Execution A 3.1.2 – Provide ToT in research and analysis, advocacy and lobby					Lead applicant
Preparation A 3.1.3 – (4) training courses in research and analysis, advocacy and lobbying					All partners

Execution A.3.1.3 – (4) training courses in research and analysis, advocacy and lobbying					All partners
Preparation A.3.2.1 – Participation in advocacy events and conferences, fairs and other related exposure visits, in the Western Balkan countries and those in the region					Lead applicant
Execution A.3.2.1 – Participation in advocacy events and conferences, fairs and other related exposure visits, in the Western Balkan countries and those in the region					Lead applicant (with project partners)
Execution A.4.1.1 - Prepare three policy papers					Lead applicant
Preparation A.4.1.1 – Prepare a research study					Lead applicant
Execution A.4.1.1 - Prepare a research study					Lead applicant
Preparation A.4.1.2. – Prepare monitoring and/or shadow report					Lead applicant
Execution A.4.1.2. – Prepare monitoring and/or shadow report					Lead applicant
Preparation A.4.1.4 - Organize national and regional round tables					Lead applicant
Execution A.4.1.4 - Organize national and regional round tables					Lead applicant (with project partners)
Preparation A.4.2.1 – Draft the platform of the 2 nd Albanian Rural Parliament					Lead applicant
Execution A.4.2.1 – Draft the platform of the 2 nd Albanian Rural Parliament					Lead applicant
Preparation A.4.2.2 - Kick-off gathering of the second Albanian Rural Parliament					Lead applicant
Execution A.4.2.2 - Kick-off gathering of the second Albanian Rural Parliament					Lead applicant (with project partners)
Preparation A.4.2.3 - Hold (4) two-day regional rural policy forums					All partners
Execution A.4.2.3 - Hold (4) two-day regional rural policy forums					All partners
Preparation A.4.2.4 - Hold the second Albanian rural parliament					Lead applicant (with project partners)
Execution A.4.2.4 - Hold the second Albanian rural parliament					Lead applicant (with project partners)

2.1.4. Sustainability of the action (max 3 pages)

i. Describe the expected impact of the action

As the action targets the Albanian Network for Rural Development and given that networks play an increasingly important role in social, political and economic life, it is expected that the action will have impact at various level as the following:

Impact at technical level: the action will support and build sustained capacities for rural civil society as a crucial stakeholder to advance rural communities' priorities and interests through concrete bottom-up advocacy actions. Given that grass-root CSOs have limited capacities to influence for improved rural policies, the action will build CSOs capacity in research and analysis, advocacy and lobby in order to enable them to engage in effective advocacy initiatives. The capacity building program will equip grass-root CSOs with the adequate know-how and skills to sustain their role as advocates of rural communities' priorities. In addition, being aware of the imbalance of power between government and local stakeholder, empowering rural stakeholder and improve their capacity to dialogue and cooperate with government, at the same time to hold them accountable represent an important component of the proposed action.

Impact at economic level: The IPARD II (2014-2020) - the main financial instrument for agriculture and rural development in Albania - amounting to 94 million EUR, represents a unique opportunity for agricultural and rural development in Albania; not only for the funding for farmers and rural businesses abut also introducing the LEADER approach. Out of seven measures envisaged in the Programme, two are limited to the territory of rural areas ('Farm Diversification and Business Development' and 'Implementation of local development strategies – LEADER approach'). The experience of IPARD-like project indicates the low level of the funds absorption, due to several reasons such as limited capacities of rural stakeholders, inadequate information, demanding rules, lack of credit and advisory services for small farmers. By enhancing the involvement of CSOs in policy formulation, implementation and monitoring, the action will contribute to higher absorption of allocated funds. Moreover, as the action will pay special attention to Leader/CLLD instrument it will contribute to economic development of rural area. The LEADER approach might address the barriers that exist in rural areas which prevent vulnerable groups such as poor farmers, women, youth etc. to benefit from pre-accession support of IPARD or national subsidy schemes.

Impact at social level: Rural areas in Albania are demographically very important as more than half of Albanian population lives in rural areas. While rural population is exposing to poverty and higher risk of social exclusion, the rural territories are richly endowed with cultural and historic heritage which is much they need to combat poverty. The advocacy initiatives (rural parliaments) will focus on the real problems that persist in rural areas across Albania and will provide a set of recommendations that address the development priorities of these areas. The action puts at the core of rural development rural people which have to voice their real problems and solutions. If the voice of rural people should be heard, that voice must come first from the rural people, at grassroots level. Women and youth living in rural areas will represent another key theme of the envisaged advocacy initiative, which will call for dynamic policy approaches which are youth and women-oriented. To this end, the proposed action seeks to raise the voice of rural people and bring it at the policy making processes through implementation of advocacy activities, which pursue a bottom-up approach.

Impact at policy level: As the action will provide a functional model of bottom-up and participatory perspective in national rural agenda meaning, it will result in improved rural development policy. Targeting the consolidation of the Albanian Network for rural development – as the sole advocacy network in rural development domain - the action will mainstream non-public actors in rural policy formulation and implementation. (*Policy networks are set up in order to support the delivery of a policy by directly involving stakeholders in the formulation and implementation of that policy.*) Moreover, that the ANRD strategic framework for 2018-2020 includes policy engagement as one of the main focus area, considering the evident need for advocacy for more support for rural development. Simultaneously, the action will enable synergies between public and private actors that would participate and contribute in shaping of rural development strategies which is a key part of the EU approach for rural development. CSOs involvement in support of the programming, implementation and monitoring of the rural strategies and programmes (IPARD II implementation and monitoring, LEADER measure accreditation and its implementation in the upcoming years etc.) will advance the national agenda on rural development. CSOs advocacy engagement will focus on addressing critical issues in rural development and identified gap in relation to EU CAP approximation process, especially to CLLD (community led local development).

ii. Describe a dissemination plan and the possibilities for replication and extension

The project is designed such that allow involvement and contribution of stakeholders to the project's deliverables, which is enabled through wide consultation and the participatory and inclusive approach pursued by the action. This feature will ensure the local ownership over the project's results by the grass-root CSOs and other stakeholders. Dissemination channels are as following: a) Publication of a research study, three policy papers and a monitoring report which will be delivered to participants in various national and regional debates and forums as well as to relevant government officials and members of the IPARD II monitoring committee; b)

Mobilization of grass-root CSOs that are constituents of the Albanian Network for Rural Development (ANRD) and co-applicant networks will ensure dissemination of information on the planned activities, and participation of relevant CSOs in those activities; c) Considering the target of the action – CSOs Networks – and the facts that networks are an effective means of informing, the dissemination of the project's results will be facilitated due to the communication channels of the Network. Moreover, the three project partners have their own networks and make use their websites, mailing lists, social networks a such as Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn, YouTube etc.

The project has vast **replication possibility**, since the know-how and skills that CSOs need to influence policy making can be used after the project ends by all the other interested rural development actors. CSOs have the adequate skills to influence and seek support from Government for a wide range of issues in rural sector.

The action is expected to generate several **multiplier effects** such as: increased number of ANRD member organisations; an internal dynamics of grass-root CSOs member organisations of ANRD; active and visible grass-root CSOs initiated advocacy initiatives at local and regional level; increased number of functional LAG (local action group) like structures, etc. The economic multiplier effects will generate from the project funded by the IPARD II measures, especially supported LEADER LAGs (Local action groups) as their projects will generate jobs for vulnerable groups such as youth and women.

iii. Provide a detailed risk analysis and contingency plan.

<i>Result</i>	<i>Risk</i>	<i>Mitigation measure</i>
<u>Op 1.1:</u> ANRD's structure, decision-making and territory coverage is consolidated through internal re-organization based on four regional forums	<p><i>Social risks</i> CSO sector in rural areas is underdeveloped and limited in number and human resources.</p> <p>The grass-root CSOs are reluctant to be member of ANRD regional forums, due to their limited capacities.</p> <p><i>Severity: medium</i></p>	<p><i>Social risks</i> Apart from formal CSOs, the action will promote the principle of active citizens – key to rural development initiatives. The membership of ANRD will involve active citizens which take responsibility for their communities.</p> <p>An important effort of the action will be dedicated to capacity building of CSOs. Information sessions and consultation meetings will be carried out with CSOs in order to raise awareness about the Network and reasons why the Network stands for. The project partners have good communication with their grassroots SCOs and adequate capacity to mobilise and engage CSOs.</p>
<p><u>Op 2.1:</u> ANRD and its constituents' role is empowered through the establishment and functioning of the four regional multi-stakeholder partnership forums</p> <p><u>Op 2.2:</u> Strengthened networking capacities as well as identity of ANRD regional forums through networking activities, exchange and exposure visits among the four multi-stakeholder forums</p>	<p><i>Social risk</i> Low level of trust among local stakeholders</p> <p>Lack of adequate time to participate in the envisaged activities</p> <p><i>Severity: Low</i></p>	<p><i>Political risk</i> The project will dedicate efforts for cooperation among rural stakeholders and will contribute to increase the interaction among them; the shared interest of various stakeholder will be identified as a basis for cooperation.</p> <p>The activities will be planned in close coordination with local stakeholders with regard to the place, date, hour, etc. of the meeting and workshops in order to reach a consensus and guarantee that the travel and time costs are the minimum for participants and ensure the maximum number of participants.</p>
<u>Op 4.1:</u> Evidence-based rural policy-making is promoted through research studies and a series of policy papers addressing critical issues in rural development and/or identified gap in relation to EU CAP	<p><i>Political risks:</i> Government officials might consider the research findings as evaluation of their work performance and;</p>	<p><i>Political risks:</i> IDM and project partners has an excellent track record in working in policy engagement in different focus area, including integrated and participatory rural development as well. The 1st Albanian Rural parliament was a successful event</p>

<p>approximation process, especially CLLD (community led local development); monitoring report/ or shadow report on main rural development program and government commitment; Op 4.2: Bottom-up and participatory advocacy platforms are organized at regional and national level to advance rural communities' interests and priorities and making government responsive to their needs</p>	<p>The initiative may be perceived as criticism of the authorities for the slow process in approximation to the EU CAP policies.</p> <p>Changes of government officials at local and regional level due to the local election in 2019), staff changes in line Ministries as well <i>Severity: Medium</i></p>	<p>which represents a major milestone in rural development policy-making creating the right environment to dialogue and cooperate with government officials</p> <p>Creation of the right mechanism for cooperation and communication which does not depend on political-level changes.</p>
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iv. The main preconditions in the Action are:

- The sustainable dynamics of political climate do not affect project implementation
- Trust-based relationship and good communication among project partners which are dedicated to common goals
- Active and visible CSOs and CSOs Network, led by energized and motivated leaders
- Actual ANRD member organizations are positive toward decentralized decision-making in the Network

The main **assumptions at the result level** are:

- There is mutual trust among stakeholders at local and regional level
- The CSOs understand their crucial role as advocates of rural communities interests and driver of reforming process toward EU integration
- The grass-root CSOs are aware of their limited capacities
- The local stakeholders are aware of the added value of cooperation and networking among them
- The advocacy and lobby, networking and research skills are acquired by CSOs and willing to play an active role in advocacy initiatives at local level
- The instrument of CLLD is well accepted by project stakeholders and willing to embark on CLLD initiatives in their territories

The main **assumptions at the objective level** are:

- The national institutions carry out meaningful consultations with civil players in rural policy formulation and implementation
- The national institutions and their officials accept civil players as equal partners in reforming process
- The government officials understand and accept the importance and need for evidence based policies as a starting point for effective rural policy making
- Government officials are open and willing to dialogue and cooperate with civil players

v. Explain how the action will be made sustainable after completion.

Similar to many rural networks in the EU member states which organize national Rural Parliaments at two-yearly intervals, the 2nd Albanian Rural Parliament will be held in 2019, following the first one held in 2017. Convening the rural parliament every two year, ANRD intends that the Albanian Rural Parliament to become an inclusive practice which serve as an instrument to influence and accelerate reforming processes in rural sector. **(Institutional sustainability)**. For each consecutive rural parliament, ANRD and its constituents will work to ensure wide support and raise adequate funds to hold such massive gatherings. The case of 1st Alb. Rural Parliament – as an initiative where funds were raised through advocacy efforts - shows that **financial feasibility** is feasible for holding the following rural parliament every two year. The consolidated ANRD and its constituents, its decentralized internal structures (regional ANRD forums) and the four multi-stakeholder partnership forums (which will operate based on the MoU) are the specific structures equipped with adequate know how and skills that would allow the results of the action to continue after the end of the action through organizing every two year regional rural parliaments and national rural parliaments **(Institutional sustainability)** as a way to assess the achievements in rural reforming and to further inspire and promote them as well as to identify challenges ahead. As an inclusive practice and an instrument to influence and accelerate reforming processes in rural sector, the Albanian rural parliament will monitor the commitment of Government with regard to 1st (and consecutive) Joint Declaration/s, especially with the regulatory framework for the LEADER implementation in Albania, which is related with one of the IPARD II measures. **(Policy level sustainability)**. As environment represents an important thematic area of rural development, the action and its follow-up will pay attention to the management of natural resources as a transversal theme of the overall advocacy effort and take necessary advocacy initiatives for their sustainable use. **(Environmental sustainability)**

2.1.5. Logical Framework

Please fill in Annex C to the guidelines for applicants.

LOGFRAME MATRIX OF THE PROJECT

The logframe matrix should evolve during the project lifetime: new lines can be added for listing new activities as well as new columns for intermediary targets (milestones) when it is relevant and values will be regularly updated in the column foreseen for reporting purpose (see "current value").

	Results chain	Indicators	Baseline (incl. reference year)	Current value Reference date	Targets (incl. reference year)	Sources and means of verification	Assumptions
Overall objective: Impact	<p><i>The broader, long-term change which will stem from the project and a number of interventions by other partners.</i></p> <p>To enhance the impact and the involvement of CSOs and CSOs Network (and other rural stakeholders) in advocating and influencing the design and implementation of rural development policy in Albania for improved quality of life in rural communities as well as accelerating the reforming process in approximating EU policy of rural development.</p>	<p><i>Measure the long-term change to which the project contributes. To be presented disaggregated by sex.</i></p> <p>The Albanian Network for Rural Development (ANRD) and its constituents represent a crucial actor in a # of concrete initiatives and processes advancing rural communities' interests and accelerating the rural reforming processes toward EU positive development models and practices</p>	<p><i>Ideally, to be drawn from the partner's strategy</i></p> <p>ANRD influence and recognition is limited</p> <p>ANRD is the last Network for Rural Development established in the Western Balkan (December 2015)</p> <p>Established by the bottom-up initiative by fourteen grass-root CSOs (2015)</p>	<p>ANRD counts 22 CSOs as member organizations (2017)</p> <p>ANRD as policy network in rural development is present at national level. The 1st Albanian Rural Parliament – organized by ANRD - was the first ever nation-wide and bottom-up advocacy event in rural development which brought together more than 300 participants</p>	<p><i>Ideally, to be drawn from the partner's strategy</i></p> <p>ANRD has increased its contribution to rural development policy debates at national and local level, and has enhanced its impact on the rural reforming process toward EU integration</p> <p>ANRD is credible due to its active, visible and capable constituents</p> <p>(ANRD Strategic Framework (2017-2019))</p>	<p><i>To be drawn from the partner's strategy.</i></p> <p>Project reports and internal monitoring data</p> <p>ANRD strategic Framework (2017-2019)</p> <p>ANRD annual plan and reporting</p> <p>Other documents and studies</p>	

				from the 61 municipalities. (September 2017)			
Specific objective(s): Outcome(s)	<p><i>The direct effects of the project which will be obtained at medium term and which tend to focus on the changes in behaviour resulting from project</i></p> <p>Outcome = Oc (possibly) intermediary Outcome = iOc</p> <p>OC1: The Albanian Network for Rural Development (ANRD) is consolidated through strengthened regional representation of its constituents, decentralized decision-making, country-wide coverage of the territory and enhanced visibility</p> <p>OC2: The role of ANRD and its constituents is empowered through multi-stakeholder partnership forums at regional level as spaces for stakeholders' interaction and consultation, information sharing, exchange and transfer of know-how with regard to rural development;</p> <p>OC3: Capacities of ANRD and its constituents and members of multi-stakeholder partnership forums are strengthened in advocacy and lobby, research and analysis, to be able to influence the agenda of rural development and dialogue with government structures;</p> <p>OC4: ANRD and its regional forums promote evidence-based rural policymaking and bottom-up advocacy to accelerate Albanian rural reforming process in approximating with EU CAP, especially with CLLD (Community Led Local Development).</p>	<p><i>Measure the change in factors determining the outcome(s).</i></p> <p><i>To be presented disaggregated by sex</i></p> <p>% of grass-root CSOs – member organizations of ANRD - representing the</p> <p>a) % of the county territory coverage by ANRD constituents; b) various thematic area of rural development; and</p> <p>% of the involved grass-root CSOs and other stakeholders that use their networking skills and contacts to maximize their works' results</p> <p>% of the trained grassroots CSOs that apply in their work the</p>	<p><i>The starting point or current value of the indicators.</i></p> <p>ANRD's organisational structure is weak and limited membership</p> <p>ANRD's role remains weak with regards to information sharing, exchange and transfer of know-how in rural development;</p> <p>Grass-root CSOs have limited networking skills and opportunities in networking activities</p> <p>Grass-root</p>	<p><i>The value of the indicator at the indicated date</i></p>	<p><i>The intended value of the indicators.</i></p> <p>Four regional forums are established and functioning as a decentralized decision making bodies of ANRD at regional level, involving a membership of at least 61 grass-root CSOs</p> <p>ANRD regional forum activates and facilitates the multi-stakeholder partnership forums reaching at least 30 members, public and non-public actors.</p> <p>At least 90% of the trained grassroots CSOs use the gained knowledge and are empowered to advocate, network and participate in policy decision-making processes on local and national level.</p> <p>At least 90% of the grassroots CSOs are active in</p>	<p><i>Sources of information and methods used to collect and report (including who and when/how frequently).</i></p> <p>Project reporting documents; M&E reporting data; ANRD Annual report; Organisational statutes and strategic documents</p> <p>Project reporting documents; M&E reporting data; ANRD annual plan and reporting; Organisational statutes and strategic documents</p> <p>Project reporting documents; M&E reporting data; ANRD annual</p>	<p><i>Factors outside project management's control that may impact on the outcome-impact linkage.</i></p> <p>The national institutions carry out meaningful consultations with civil players in rural policy formulation and implementation</p> <p>The national institutions and their officials accept civil players as equal partners in reforming process</p> <p>The government officials understand and accept the importance and need for evidence based policies as a starting point for effective rural policy making</p> <p>Government officials are open and willing to dialogue and cooperate with civil players</p>

	<p>iOc – Strengthened networking and advocacy capacities of Albanian Network for Rural Development (ANRD) and its constituents; Improved participation in rural policy-making processes; consolidated role and broadened impact of the ANRD in rural policy formulation and implementation; (Related to Op0a and Op0B).</p>	<p>knowledge gained in advocacy and lobby, research and analysis training;</p> <p>% of grass-root CSOs that embark on (or plan to) on evidence-based rural policymaking and bottom-up advocacy at local and/or national level</p>	<p>CSOs have limited capacities in advocacy and policy research and analysis to influence for improved rural policies</p> <p>There are limited initiatives of evidence based rural policy making & bottom-up advocacy initiatives</p>		<p>evidence based rural policy making and bottom-up advocacy initiatives</p>	<p>plan and reporting; organisational statutes and strategic documents</p> <p>Project reporting documents; M&E reporting data; ANRD annual plan and reporting;</p> <p>Project reporting documents; M&E reporting data; ANRD annual plan and reporting; Country report data</p>	
<p>Outputs</p>	<p><i>The direct/tangible outputs (infrastructure, goods and services) delivered by the project.</i></p> <p><i>Output = Op</i></p> <p><i>Op 1.1. (related to Oc 1)</i></p> <p><i>Op 1.2. (related to Oc 1) (...)</i></p> <p><i>Op 2.1. (related to Oc 2) (...)</i></p> <p>Op 0A - Developed and demonstrated transparent, efficient and effective project implementation, through prompt and effective delivery of the planned activities and expected results (Op 1.1 – Op3.2)</p> <p>Op 0B – Transparent and intensive dissemination of knowledge and information to the target groups and other project stakeholders; raised awareness among the</p>		<p><i>Idem as above for the corresponding indicators.</i></p> <p>Limited number of ANRD member organizations and partial geographical</p>		<p><i>Idem as above for the corresponding indicators.</i></p> <p>Four regional forums are established and functioning as a decentralized decision making</p>	<p><i>Idem as above for the corresponding indicator.</i></p>	<p><i>Factors outside project management's control that may impact on the output-outcome linkage.</i></p> <p>There is mutual trust among stakeholders at local and regional level</p> <p>The CSOs understand their crucial role as advocates of rural</p>

	<p>general audiences of the Action's overall and specific objectives through tailored media visibility actions.</p> <p>Op 1.1: ANRD's structure, decision-making and territory coverage is consolidated through internal re-organization based on four regional forums</p> <p>Op 1.2: Enhanced ANRD visibility on national and regional level through a diversified promotional package and using social media</p> <p>Op 2.1: ANRD and its constituents' role is empowered through the establishment and functioning of the four regional multi-stakeholder partnership forums</p> <p>Op 2.2: Strengthened networking capacities as well as identity of ANRD regional forums through networking activities, exchange and exposure visits among the four multi-stakeholder forums</p> <p>Op 3.1: Capacity building program to increase grass-root CSOs and ANRD constituents' capacities on lobbying and advocacy, research and analysis of local, national and EU policies and instruments of rural development to be able to influence the agenda of rural development and dialogue with government structures;</p> <p>Op 3.2: Members of multi-stakeholder forum participate in advocacy events and exposure visits in the Western Balkan countries and those in region</p> <p>Op 4.1: Evidence-based rural policy-</p>	<p># of grass-root CSOs which are member organizations of ANRD</p> <p># of outreached stakeholders in partnership forums to interact and exchange know how and information with regard to rural development</p> <p># of grassroots CSOs participate in networking activities, exchange visits, knowledge sharing and know-how transfer among stakeholders</p> <p># of grassroots CSOs which have the know-how and skills to sustain their role as advocates of rural communities'</p>	<p>coverage of country's territory There is no space for rural stakeholders to interact and exchange know how and information with regard to rural development There are only few limited networking activities, mainly with farmers, involving limited number of participants</p> <p>Grass-root CSOs have limited capacities in advocacy and policy research and analysis to influence for improved rural policies</p> <p>Limited evidences are generated from civil players to influence improvement of rural policies Limited number of bottom-up advocacy</p>	<p>1st Albanian rural parliament, September 2017, represents an advocacy platform which is nation-wide and bottom-up in character. It represents a major milestone of advocacy efforts in rural development</p>	<p>bodies of ANRD at regional level, involving a membership of at least 60 grass-root CSOs At least 200 representatives of public institutions and civil and economic players are member of multi-stakeholder partnership forums (4) Minimum 60 CSOs representatives and other stakeholders participate in networking activities</p> <p>Minimum 60 grass-root CSOs representatives have acquired the knowledge of local, national and EU policies and instruments of rural development and have the necessary research and advocacy skills Evidence-based rural policy solutions are offered - the drive of rural reform and ANRD policy engagement The second Albanian Rural Parliament is held in 2019, as a way</p>		<p>communities interests and driver of reforming process toward EU integration The grass-root CSOs are aware of their limited capacities The local stakeholders are aware of the added value of cooperation and networking among them The advocacy and lobby, networking and research skills are acquired by CSOs and willing to play an active role in advocacy initiatives at local level. The instrument of CLLD is well accepted by project stakeholders and willing to embark on CLLD initiatives in their territories</p>
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	<p>making is promoted through research studies and a series of policy papers addressing critical issues in rural development and/or identified gap in relation to EU CAP approximation process, especially CLLD (community led local development); monitoring report/ or shadow report on main rural development program and government commitment;</p> <p>Op 4.2: Bottom-up and participatory advocacy platforms are organized at regional and national level to advance rural communities' interests and priorities and making government responsive to their needs</p>	<p>interest</p> <p># of identified and raised advocacy issues in rural development and/or gap in relation to EU CAP approximation process, especially CLLD (community led local development); # of concrete bottom-up advocacy initiatives at both level, regional and national, to dialogue and influence government on rural communities priorities</p>	<p>initiatives</p>		<p>to assess the progress of Government commitments (the Joint Declaration of the 1st Alb. Rural Parliament) and identify new challenges ahead</p>		
<p>Activities</p>	<p><i>What are the key activities to be carried out, to produce the outputs? (Group the activities by result and number them as follows:</i> A 1.1.1. – "Title of activity " A 1.1.2. – Title of activity " <i>(related to Op 1.1.)</i></p> <p>A 1.2.1. – "Title of activity " (...) <i>(related to Op 1.2.)</i></p> <p>A 2.1.2. – Title of activity " (...)</p>	<p>Means: <i>What are the means required to implement these activities, e. g. staff, equipment, training, studies, supplies, operational facilities, etc.</i></p> <p>Costs <i>What are the action costs? How are they classified? (Breakdown in the Budget for the Action)</i></p> <p>The action proposes a realistic and cost-effective budget based on detailed activity planning, previous organisation similar experiences and current market prices. The required means are divided in the following categories:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Human resources, technical and administrative staff, • Seminar, conference participants • Travel, 			<p><i>Factors outside project management's control that may impact on the output-outcome linkage.</i></p> <p>Pre-conditions The sustainable dynamics of political climate do not affect project implementation Trust-based relationship and good communication among project partners which are dedicated to common goals Project stakeholders are willing to play an active role in project</p>		

<p>(related to Op 2.1.)</p> <p>A0A.1 – Project team set-up (Related to Op0A)</p> <p>A0A.2 – Plan and procedures for internal progress monitoring (Related to Op0A)</p> <p>A0A.3 – Financial management and reporting procedures (Related to Op0A)</p> <p>A0A.4 – Implementation of external evaluation and audit (Related to Op0A)</p> <p>A0A.5 - Regular reporting to the contracting authority (Related to Op0A)</p> <p>A0B.1 – Prepare and follow Communication and visibility plan (Related to Op0B)</p> <p>A0B.2 – Prepare and disseminate project promotional materials (Related to Op0B)</p> <p>A 1.1.1. - Draft Guidelines for ANRD re-organization based on the four decentralized regional forums and their approval by the ANRD General Assembly (Related to Op.1.1)</p> <p>A 1.1.2. - Mobilizing and engaging CSOs through informing sessions, consultative meetings and workshops to involve in the election of ANRD regional forums; (Related to Op.1.1)</p> <p>A 1.1.3. - Organize four one-day regional gathering of CSOs in each region and elect respective ANRD regional forums (Related to Op.1.1)</p> <p>A 1.2.1 - Develop and print a diversified promotional packages to enhance ANRD visibility (Related to Op. 1.2)</p> <p>A 1.2.2 - Use of Social media to enhance ANRD and its constituents'</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Other costs and services, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Publications, ○ Studies and research, ○ Expenditure verification/Audit, ○ Evaluation costs, ○ Translation and interpreters, ○ Costs of conferences and seminars, ○ Visibility actions, • Indirect costs • Contingency reserve <p>195,389.70 Euro will be applied for, from the EC grant program, and minimum 5% will be provided by the project partners, as own contribution.</p> <p>Costs The detailed budget is presented in Annex B. The budget breakdown, per major budget category is as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Human resources – 87,800.00 Euro • Travel –11,320.00 Euro • Other costs and services – 94,820.00 Euro • Indirect costs (5%) – 9,697.00 Euro • Contingency reserve – 2,036.37 <p>Total budget: 205,673.37 Euro</p> <p>EC grant: 195,389.70 Euro (95%) Partners' own contribution: 10,283.67 Euro (5%)</p>	<p>implementation Actual ANRD member organizations are positive toward decentralized decision-making in the Network</p>
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<p>visibility (Related to Op. 1.2)</p> <p><u>A 2.1.1.</u> - Carry out regional consultation process with ANRD regional forums and other rural stakeholders regarding the establishment of multi-stakeholders partnership forums at regional level (Related to Op.2.1)</p> <p><u>A 2.1.2.</u> - Elaborate the agreed terms for cooperation and partnership among stakeholders – members of four multi-stakeholder forums (Related to Op.2.1)</p> <p><u>A 2.1.3.</u> – Organize (4) one-day multi-stakeholder rural forum in each of the four region (Related to Op.1.2)</p> <p><u>A 2.1.4.</u> - Establish (4) multi-stakeholder partnership forums and sign the MoU among members (Related to Op.2.1)</p> <p><u>A 2.2.1</u> - Organize networking activities and exchange visits among representatives of the four multi-stakeholder forums on regional and national level (Related to Op. 2.1)</p> <p><u>A 3.1.1</u> – Develop ToT toolkit in research and analysis, advocacy and lobby (Related to Op 3.1)</p> <p><u>A 3.1.2</u> – Provide ToT in research and analysis, advocacy and lobby for representatives of ANRD regional forums (Related to Op 3.1)</p> <p><u>A 3.1.3</u> – Implement (4) training courses in research and analysis, advocacy and lobbying for members of the four multi-stakeholder rural forums by ToT trainers; (Related to Op 3.1)</p> <p><u>A.3.2.1</u> - Members of multi-stakeholder partnership forums</p>		
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	<p>participate in advocacy events and conferences, fairs and and other related exposure visits, in the Western Balkan countries and those in the region (Related to Op 3.1)</p> <p><u>A.4.1.1</u> - Prepare research studies and a series of policy papers addressing critical issues in rural development and/or identified gap in relation to EU CAP approximation process, especially CLLD (community led local development); (Related to Op4.1)</p> <p><u>A.4.1.2</u> – Prepare monitoring and/or shadow report on main rural development program and government commitment; (Related to Op4.1)</p> <p><u>A.4.1.3</u>- Organize national and regional round tables on main researches and reports' findings and policy papers' recommendations (Related to Op4.1)</p> <p><u>A.4.2.1</u> – Drafting the platform of the second Albanian Rural Parliament as a nation-wide, bottom-up advocacy event (Related to Op4.2)</p> <p><u>A.4.2.2</u> - Kick-off gathering of the second Albanian Rural Parliament (Related to Op4.2)</p> <p><u>A.4.2.3</u> - Hold (4) two-day regional rural parliament (Related to Op4.2)</p> <p><u>A.4.2.4</u> - Hold the second Albanian rural parliament – 2.5 day gathering (Related to Op4.2)</p>		
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The Coordinator may unilaterally amend the activities, outputs, all the indicators and the related targets, baselines and sources of verification described in this logical framework in accordance with Article 9.4 of the General Conditions. Any change must be explained in the reports, whenever possible anticipatively. In case of doubt it is recommended to check beforehand with the Contracting Authority that the proposed modifications do not impact the basic purpose of the action.

Although it is allowed to have more than one specific objective, essentially in complex programmes, it is a good practice to determine only one specific objective/(main) outcome. When necessary, intermediary outcomes with their related (outcome) indicators my figure in the line of the outputs: the sequence of abbreviations in this case should be: Oc (main outcome); iOc1 (intermediary outcome 1) iOc2, (...); Op1.1. (output related to intermediary outcome 1), Op 1.2, Op 2.1., Op2.2. (...).

Definitions:

“Impact” means the primary and secondary, long term effects produced by the Action.

“Outcome” means the likely or achieved short-term and medium-term effects of an Action’s outputs.

“Output” means the products, capital goods and services which result from an Action’s activities.

“Indicator” is the quantitative and/or qualitative factor or variable that provides a simple and reliable means to measure the achievement of the Results of an Action.

“Baseline” means the starting point or current value of the indicators.

“Target” (or results Goal) means the quantitatively or qualitatively measurable level of expected output, outcome or impact of an Action.

A “logical framework matrix” (or “logframe matrix”) is a matrix in which results, assumptions, indicators, targets, baselines, and sources of verification related to an action are presented.

The intervention logic tells how, in a given context, the activities will lead to the outputs, the outputs to the outcome(s) and the outcome(s) to the expected impact. The most significant assumptions developed in this thinking process are to be included in the logframe matrix.

2.2. Experience in similar actions in the past 3 years: Institute for Democracy and Mediation

Name of the organisation: Institute for Democracy and Mediation – IDM					
Lead applicant <input type="checkbox"/> Co-applicant <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Affiliated entity <input type="checkbox"/>					
Project title: Active Local Territories for Economic Development of Rural areas			Sector (ref. list of sectors in Sectorial experience in PADOR): 15150 Strengthening civil society		
Location	Cost of the action (EUR)	Role: Coordinator, co-beneficiary, affiliated entity	Donors to the action (name)⁷	Amount contributed (by donor)	Dates (from..to) dd/mm/yyyy
Western Balkans and Turkey	Total: 1,174,936.00 EUR IDM: 115,020.00	Co-applicant	Civil Society Facility and Media Programme 2014-2015 Grant contract 20151370	85%	December 2015 – April 2019
Objectives and results of the action		<p>Active Local Territories for the Economic development of Rural areas is a Regional Project funded under EU's Western Balkans and Turkey Civil Society Facility.</p> <p>The proposed action aims to strengthen the capacity of the CSO networks, of the CSOs already in their membership and of other CSOs to contribute to sustainable socio-economic development in the Western Balkans and Turkey, and to promote their partnership with public institutions and their involvement in decision-making and governance processes, for the well-being of rural communities in those countries. The actions have a primary focus on networking, capacity building and advocacy. Particular attention will be devoted to cross-cutting issues (support to vulnerable categories and marginalized groups such as minorities, women, youth and handicapped people; support for social entrepreneurship; encouraging innovation in rural areas environmental conservation), and to developing the capacity of civil society to deal with these issues.</p>			

⁷ If the donor is the European Union or an EU Member State, please specify the EU budget line, EDF or EU Member State

Name of the organisation: Institute for Democracy and Mediation – IDM

Lead applicant **Co-applicant** **Affiliated entity**

Project title: Empowering Women through Economic Clusters Development. Community-Based Agro-Tourism Cluster in the Municipality of Belsh

Sector (ref. list of sectors in Sectorial experience in PADOR):

15150 Strengthening civil society
31165 Agricultural alternative development

Location	Cost of the action (EUR)	Role: Coordinator, co-beneficiary, affiliated entity	Donors to the action (name) ⁸	Amount contributed (by donor)	Dates (from..to) dd/mm/yyyy
Albania	2,873,076.00 ALL (≈21,765 EUR)	Applicant	UN Women	2,873,076.00 ALL (≈21,765 EUR)	June 2015- March 2016

Objectives and results of the action

The overall objective of this project was to ensure economic advancement and better self-employment opportunities for women in the Municipality of Belsh, by promoting, developing and supporting a cluster of community-based agro-tourism.

Within a period of nine-month, the project achieved the following results:

- Comprehensive guidelines for community-based agro-tourism women cluster developed;
- One pilot community-based agro-tourism women cluster established;
- Economic activity and territorial valorization expanded;
- Institutional capacities built among women economic cluster members leading to increased levels of cooperation and networking.

Some of the main outputs delivered and activities undertaken in the framework of the project implementation were the following:

- Preparation of a methodology on community; -based agro-tourism women cluster; -Business environment analysis report relevant to cluster development; -Capacity building plan aiming at developing knowledge and skills of stakeholders on agro-based clusters; -Establishment of the community-based agro-tourism cluster; -Capacity building activities for cluster members (workshops, mini-fair, study visit, etc.); -Website development for the promotion of the Cluster and the territory (www.ejanebelsh.al); -Organization of a national conference launching women economic clusters; -Production a short documentary on the cluster and its activity –aiming at increasing visibility of the cluster to a wider audience and link it to new potential markets.

⁸ If the donor is the European Union or an EU Member State, please specify the EU budget line, EDF or EU Member State

Name of the organisation: Institute for Democracy and Mediation – IDM					
Lead applicant <input type="checkbox"/> Co-applicant <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Affiliated entity <input type="checkbox"/>					
Project title: Balkan Civil Society Acquis - Strengthening the Advocacy and Monitoring Potential Capacities of CSOs Project			Sector (ref. list of sectors in Sectorial experience in PADOR):		
Location	Cost of the action (EUR)	Role: Coordinator, co-beneficiary, affiliated entity	Donors to the action (name) ⁹	Amount contributed (by donor)	Dates (from..to) dd/mm/yyyy
EU, Western Balkans & Turkey	27,409.00	Coordinator	EU	21,927.00	01.12.2012 - 30.11.2016
Objectives and results of the action		<p>The “Balkan Civil Society Acquis” Project was implemented during 2012-2016 by the Balkan Civil Society Development Network (BCSDN) with 11 partners from the EU, Western Balkans and Turkey, including IDM Albania as one of the local implementers for Albania. The Project’s two overall objectives included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Strengthen the foundations for monitoring and advocacy on issues related to the enabling environment and sustainability of civil society at regional-and country-level; and, •Strengthen the structures for CSO integration and participation in EU policy and accession processes at European and country-level. <p>Activities implemented include monitoring, advocacy, information -sharing, and grant-making.</p>			

⁹ If the donor is the European Union or an EU Member State, please specify the EU budget line, EDF or EU Member State

Other actions: Please provide a detailed description of other actions managed by your organisation in the past three years.

Maximum 1 page per action and maximum 10 actions.

Name of the organisation: Institute for Democracy and Mediation – IDM Lead applicant <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Co-applicant <input type="checkbox"/> Affiliated entity <input type="checkbox"/>					
Project title: CIVILISC – CIVil society InStruments against Corruption			Sector (ref. list of sectors in Sectorial experience in PADOR): 15 Government and Civil Society; 15150 Strengthening civil society;		
Location	Cost of the action (EUR)	Role: Coordinator, co-beneficiary, affiliated entity	Donors to the action (name) ¹⁰	Amount contributed (by donor)	Dates (from..to) dd/mm/yyyy
Albania	EUR 570,997	Lead applicant – IDM (Risk Monitor Foundation Bulgaria as Co-applicant)	EU (Budget-line: BGUE-B2014-22.020401-C1-ELARG DELALB; & BGUE-B2015-22.020401-C1-NEAR DELALB) Co-financing	EUR 542,448 (EUD) EUR 28,549 (co-fin.)	December 2017 – August 2018
Objectives and results of the action		Goal: Empowering and developing capacities of civil society in disadvantaged areas to promote good governance and fight corruption. Specific objectives: (1) Consolidation of capacities and strengthening the impact of civil society in disadvantaged areas through a development-oriented approach; (2) Building active civic players to promote good governance and accountability, fighting corruption through integrity mechanisms, citizen participation and agents of change; (3) Developing resources and opportunities for networking and exchange within civil society and across the spectrum of local governance stakeholders – civic, public and private. Results: Improved capacity of the CSOs small/medium municipalities (<u>re-granting</u>) to engage in anticorruption, promotion of good governance and high integrity levels at local level.; Enhanced efforts to ensure an efficient mid- and long-term monitoring of anticorruption policies, instruments and practices at local level. Increased effectiveness of the beneficiaries to analyse, monitor, advocate and participate in the policymaking and policy implementation processes. (ca. EUR 400,000 re-granting)			

¹⁰ If the donor is the European Union or an EU Member State, please specify the EU budget line, EDF or EU Member State

Name of the organisation: Institute for Democracy and Mediation – IDM

Lead applicant **Co-applicant** **Affiliated entity**

Project title: Western Balkans enabling project for civil society monitoring of Public Administration Reforms

Sector (ref. list of sectors in Sectorial experience in PADOR):
15 Government and Civil Society

Location	Cost of the action (EUR)	Role: Coordinator, co-beneficiary, affiliated entity	Donors to the action (name) ¹¹	Amount contributed (by donor)	Dates (from..to) dd/mm/yyyy
Western Balkans	139,008,00	Coordinator	EU and Kingdom of the Netherlands	100%	December 2015 – November 2018

Objectives and results of the action

Western Balkans Enabling Project for Civil Society Monitoring of Public Administration Reform – WeBER – is a three-year project funded by the European Union and co-financed by the Kingdom of the Netherlands.

The overall goal of WeBER is to increase the relevance, participation and capacity of civil society organisations and media in the Western Balkans to advocate for and influence the design and implementation of public administration reform (PAR).

Specifically, WeBER aims to:

- facilitate civil society monitoring of PAR based on evidence and analysis in the WB;
- facilitate sustainable regional and national level government-CSO consultation platforms, policy dialogue and quality media reporting on PAR;
- enable local watchdog and grassroots organisations and media to work on local PAR issues;
- improve organisational and financial sustainability and transparency of the Think for Europe Network (TEN) and its member organisations.

¹¹ If the donor is the European Union or an EU Member State, please specify the EU budget line, EDF or EU Member State

Name of the organisation: Institute for Democracy and Mediation – IDM

Lead applicant Co-applicant Affiliated entity

Project title: Preventing religious radicalization & violent extremism among youth

Sector (ref. list of sectors in Sectorial experience in PADOR):
15 Government and Civil Society; 15150 Strengthening civil society; 42000 Women in development; 88320 Social development and employment

Location	Cost of the action (EUR)	Role: Coordinator, co-beneficiary, affiliated entity	Donors to the action (name) ¹²	Amount contributed (by donor)	Dates (from..to) dd/mm/yyyy
Albania	EUR 89.000	Coordinator	US Department of State	EUR 89.000	October 2014 – March 2016

Objectives and results of the action

The overall goal of this project was to address root causes and drivers of violent extremism and religious radicalism in Albania through sustainable and evidence based interventions. To achieve this goal IDM (1) conducted a comprehensive assessment of VE drivers in 8 areas of the country/hotspots which was disseminated with governmental and other stakeholders; (2) carried out a series of trainings and awareness raising events with central government institutions, local governments, education institutions, civil society etc at national and local level; (3) facilitated a series of closed-door forums with imams to inform and raise their PVE capacities; (4) provided financial support (sub-granting) to eight community initiatives in country's hotspots to develop alternative messages and address youth concerns. As a result of the project, the National CVE strategy employed to a large extend the evidence and recommendations of the study; Muslim Community of Albania supported by IDM developed better capacities initiated discussions at local level; civil society and community groups were informed and supported to address VE drivers in local communities; international partners and donor agencies engaged in design of PVE/CVE programs based on the baseline study of the project; civic and public stakeholders in six municipalities engaged in constructive dialogue by involving also religious communities to develop PVE measures; high school teachers and officials of regional education inspectorates improved their capacities and understanding on VE and radicalism, including use of prevention approaches for youngsters.

¹² If the donor is the European Union or an EU Member State, please specify the EU budget line, EDF or EU Member State

(i) Experience in similar actions in the past 3 years: AgriNet

Name of the organisation: AgriNet					
Lead applicant <input type="checkbox"/> Co-applicant <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Affiliated entity <input type="checkbox"/>					
Project title: “ Rural Community Development through Farmers Organization”			Sector (ref. list of sectors in Sectorial experience in PADOR): 88220- Education, Training and Research/ 88320- Social Development and Employment		
Location	Cost of the action (EUR)	Role: Coordinator, co-beneficiary, affiliated entity	Donors to the action (name) ¹³	Amount contributed (by donor)	Dates (from..to) dd/mm/yyyy
Korça, Albania	35,000.00	Coordinator	“We Effect “ (SCC) Sweden	30,000.00	01.01.2014 – 31.12.2016
Objectives and results of the action <i>Increased environmental awareness among farmers and rural youth.</i>		<p>The collaboration between AGRINET and rural schools for improving their approach towards environmental issues is established. Five ecological clubs have been established and they have implemented their activity for the protection of environment in their communities. AgriNet has supported these ecological clubs and have been an orientation point for their activity. Motto of the ecological program was: “Environment – our common house”. Trainings and practical activities with eco clubs have served to increase the awareness of school youth for environmental issues. Through ecological program AgriNet has promoted and supported the initiatives of rural youth for a clean and beautiful environment in the school and community. To be mentioned are two initiatives of different activities for cleaning the roads of the village and for cleaning the setting inside and outside the school and for painting them. Promotional materials with “We Effect” and “AgriNet” logo (T-Shirts and caps) have been delivered to ecological club members. Five Eco- clubs have been composed by 130 youth (60% girls), one of them is the coordinator that collaborates with the president of farmer organization where the school is located and with AgriNet coordinator for eco clubs. Besides the teacher coordinators, there has been an active involvement of other teachers of the schools, who together with students, have participated in the activities of eco clubs: trainings, practical activities and exchange visits. Collaboration between AgriNet and rural schools through ecological clubs has been fruitful giving a positive impact to rural community for environment protection and climate change.</p>			

¹³ If the donor is the European Union or an EU Member State, please specify the EU budget line, EDF or EU Member State

Name of the organisation: AgriNet

Lead applicant Co-applicant Affiliated entity

Project title: Project title: “ Rural Community Development through Farmers Organization”

Sector (ref. list of sectors in Sectorial experience in PADOR):
31100- Agriculture

Location	Cost of the action (EUR)	Role: Coordinator, co-beneficiary, affiliated entity	Donors to the action (name) ¹⁴	Amount contributed (by donor)	Dates (from..to) dd/mm/yyyy
Korca, Albania	65.000	Coordinator	“We Effect “ (SCC) Sweden	60.000	01.01.2014 – 31.12.2016

Objectives and results of the action

Production is improved and awareness of integrated farming systems and EU standards is increased.

The implementation of Integrated Pest management in fruit has been an important activity regarding the improvement of quality. This technology is based on the requirements of EU standards. 150 farmers from 8 farmers group in Korca region and 25 farmers of Maqellara association are trained on IPM and their production and they have sold in the market with 10% better price.

As part of the project have been organized study tours, trainings and other activities. 35% of the farmers participating in the project were young farmers.

Sustainable and integrated agriculture are promoted by the project, as from one hand these are environmentally friendly systems of production, and on the other, farmers can reduce the production costs. Farmers of participating organizations have been trained about integrated pest management, and standards. Through assistance to the small-scale farmers of all the associations, with the rational use of chemicals, the methods of treatment, kind and amount of pesticide, it has been achieved to reduce the costs of chemicals for plant protection at an average of 10%. The experience given in Korca has been implemented also in farmers of Peshkopi and Elbasan regions.

During reporting period 15 farmers formal and informal groups including 800 farmers where of 450 men and 350 women have participated in 3 thematic specializations, 11 groups in fruit production, 2 groups in potato production and 2 group in livestock production (cattle and small ruminants) have been included in the implementation of project activities. The activity plan consisted on trainings, exchange visits, field demonstration and field experiments. Leaflets, manuals and brochures have been prepared and distributed to participating farmers in each activity.

The demonstration plots are supported with different inputs (seeds, fertilizers, pesticides, etc) have been used during the field demonstrations, trainings and experiments in order to promote the new and good quality input, the new technology of cultivation.

¹⁴ If the donor is the European Union or an EU Member State, please specify the EU budget line, EDF or EU Member State

(i) Experience in similar actions in the past 3 years: AgroPuka

Name of the organisation: AgroPuka					
Lead applicant <input type="checkbox"/> Co-applicant <input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> affiliated entity <input type="checkbox"/>					
Project title: “To contribute to the sustainable improvement of livelihood of people in Puka rural areas”			Sector (ref. list of sectors in Sectorial experience in PADOR): 15140 Government administration / 15150 Strengthening civil society/		
Location	Cost of the action (EUR)	Role: Coordinator, co-beneficiary, affiliated entity	Donors to the action (name) ¹⁵	Amount contributed (by donor)	Dates (from..to) dd/mm/yyyy
Puka, Albania	342,000.00	Coordinator	We effect –Swedish Cooperative Center	303,450	1 January 2015-end of December 2017
Objectives and results of the action		<p>The objective of the project was “to better address the needs and rights of AP members and rural community of Puka Districts in general” through: Increasing their business capacity; Improving their advocacy and lobbying capacity and activity; and Increasing gender equality within AP and in rural communities of Puka District.</p> <p>Results:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Capacity development of association members and rural communities, through: (a) trainings in business start up; production and marketing; and in self-financing schemes; (b) promotional activities focusing on business development; (c) Awareness activities on formalization of rural economies (50% of beneficiaries were women) Improved advocacy and lobbying capacities, through (a) meetings with LGU representatives regarding provision of better public services for farmers, women participation in local decision making, establishment of women participation models at village level and replicating the model to other communities; (b) Information and awareness activities with farmers regarding public services and environmental protection. Capacity building in gender equality, gender sensitive organizational & project planning, & gender sensitive budgeting: - 450 AP members and members of rural communities were trained; - 45 women were enabled to participate in national activities on women leadership (conferences, training courses, etc.); - A library on women empowerment and gender equality is established at AP premises and reading corners at cooperation groups. Organizational development: - revision of the structure and statute, policies and procedures of AP to respond to changing internal and external environment and with the focus on gender equality; revision of the strategic plan and organizing and conducting study circles. 			

¹⁵ If the donor is the European Union or an EU Member State, please specify the EU budget line, EDF or EU Member State

Name of the organisation: AgroPuka

Lead applicant

Co-applicant

Affiliated entity

Project title: Protection of biodiversity in the mountains of Puka municipality

Sector (ref. list of sectors in Sectorial experience in PADOR):
41030 Bio-diversity / **41081** Environmental education/training/
43040 Rural Development

Location	Cost of the action (EUR)	Role: Coordinator, co-beneficiary, affiliated entity	Donors to the action (name) ¹⁶	Amount contributed (by donor)	Dates (from..to) dd/mm/yyyy
Puka, Albania	18,988.00	Coordinator	Eko Nord-European Union in Tirana	17,876	1 August 2016- end of July 2017

Objectives and results of the action

Objective: The specific objective of the project was “to improve the sustainable use of non-timber forest products through an inclusive and integrated approach”. The implementation of this project has contributed to the achievement of two general goals: (1) Promotion of biodiversity in the areas of Puka municipality; and (2) Sustainable rural development in the areas of Puka municipality.

Results:

1. **Sustainable increase** of the volume of non-timber forest products, through (a) Inventory of non-timber forest products; (b) Training courses for harvesters, collectors, and processors on sustainable harvesting and house manipulation; (c) Rehabilitation of 1 ha hot spot/damaged area in the Terbuni mountain; (d) Demonstrations for farmers on cultivation technology of non-timber forest products; (e) Exchange visits to Kosovo areas.

2. **Increased awareness** of people from rural communities relating to the importance of plant diversity and the need for their conservation and sustainable use, through (a) Information sessions on sustainable use of non-timber forest products and protection of biodiversity and environment with the farmers from the areas of Puka municipality, and the 9-year and high school students in Puka; (b) Designing and disseminating a leaflet(1000 copies) and poster (100 copies) on main non-timber forest products of Puka municipality as well as their harvesting and house manipulation;

3. **Increased capacity** of local government staff regarding the protection of biodiversity and environment, through (a) Support and (b) training courses for the staff of the municipality of Puka to develop/review the Management Plan for non-timber forest products;

The project methodology was based on three main pillars: a) Capacity development of harvesters and collectors regarding the sustainable use of NTFPs; b) Capacity development of municipal staff regarding the sustainable use of these products; and c) awareness campaigns accompanied with actions.

¹⁶ If the donor is the European Union or an EU Member State, please specify the EU budget line, EDF or EU Member State

Name of the organisation: AgroPuka

Lead applicant

Co-applicant

Affiliated entity

Project title: Litter serves up a lesson: Youth action and media campaign for litter reduction

Sector (ref. list of sectors in Sectorial experience in PADOR):

41081 Environmental education/training/

99820 Promotion of Development Awareness

Location	Cost of the action (EUR)	Role: Coordinator, co-beneficiary, affiliated entity	Donors to the action (name) ¹⁷	Amount contributed (by donor)	Dates (from..to) dd/mm/yyyy
Puka, Albania	12,886.00	Coordinator	US Department of State	12,886	1 October 2017-30 September 2018

Objectives and results of the action

The project objectives:

Objective 1: Twenty-four participants will gain skills in community organization, design of media messages and project planning and implementation.

Objective 2: At least 10 buses and 2 bus stations will have anti-litter media and containers to collect trash from passengers.

Objective 3: At least 120 schoolchildren have participated in anti-littering activities and lessons at their schools.

Results:

- 24 Albanian youth (aged 14-29) trained in producing media materials and designing messages to influence people to TAKE ACTION;
- Community awareness on volunteering and collaboration for achieving common goals; and awareness campaigns with students about roadside trash;
- 24 Albanian youth (aged 14-29) were enabled to plan and implement an advocacy and education campaign;
- Bus stations in two towns have signage and trash receptacles promoting a clean environment.
- 15 bus drivers have been educated about the importance of not throwing trash out of windows
- 15 buses equipped with trash cans and flash drives with commercial spots about not throwing trash out of windows.

¹⁷ If the donor is the European Union or an EU Member State, please specify the EU budget line, EDF or EU Member State

Name of the organisation: AgroPuka

Lead applicant Co-applicant Affiliated entity

Project title: Making Money from Raising Bees & Bottling Honey	Sector (ref. list of sectors in Sectorial experience in PADOR): 88220- Education, Training and Research. 88320- Social Development and Employment.
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Location	Cost of the action (EUR)	Role: Coordinator, co-beneficiary, affiliated entity	Donors to the action (name) ¹⁸	Amount contributed (by donor)	Dates (from..to) dd/mm/yyyy
Puka, Albania	4,282.00	Coordinator	US Peace Corps in Tirana	3,678	1 January 2017-end of December 2018

Objectives and results of the action	<p>Puka Young Beekeepers Project</p> <p>Objective: Youth will gain new skills, not only in maintaining healthy bee hives, but also in working together to share resources and knowledge. Each of the youth will have healthy beehives that produce honey for family use, and for earning income.</p> <p>Results:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A group of 15 young beekeepers (boys and girls aged 14-19), living in an areas with fewer opportunities for employment and other economic prospects, was (a) enabled to put into practice beekeeping as a source of income; (b) trained on how to market their products and collaborate as a group to strengthen their skills and community; - Each of the 15 youth has received a beehive and essential equipment to gain practical skills to complement the more theoretical training they received; - 7 of the Puka Yong Beekeepers had honey production to market at a profit by the end of the project; - 7 of the members of the Puka Young Beekeepers have had the experience of working together to jointly package and market their honey by the end of the project.
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¹⁸ If the donor is the European Union or an EU Member State, please specify the EU budget line, EDF or EU Member State

2.3. Declaration by the lead applicant (full application)

2.3. Declaration by the lead applicant (full application)

The lead applicant, represented by the undersigned, being the authorised signatory of the applicant, in the context of the present call for proposals, representing any co-applicant(s), affiliated entity(ies) in the proposed action, hereby declares that

1. the lead applicant has the sources of financing specified in section 2 of the Guidelines for Applicants;
2. the lead applicant has sufficient financial capacity to carry out the proposed action or work programme;
3. the lead applicant certifies the legal statutes of the lead applicant, of the co-applicant(s) and of the affiliated entity(ies) as reported in part 3 and 4 of this application;
4. the lead applicant, the co-applicant(s) and the affiliated entity(ies) have the professional competences and qualifications specified in section 2 of the Guidelines for Applicants;
5. the lead applicant undertakes to comply with the obligations foreseen in the affiliated entity(ies)'s statement of the grant application form and with the principles of good partnership practice;
6. the lead applicant is directly responsible for the preparation, management and implementation of the action with the co-applicant(s) and affiliated entity(ies), if any, and is not acting as an intermediary;
7. if the requested amount is above EUR 60.000 the lead applicant, the co-applicant(s) and the affiliated entity(ies) are not in any of the situations excluding them from participating in contracts which are listed in section 2.3.3 of the Practical Guide (available from the following Internet address: <http://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/prag/document.do?locale=en>). Furthermore, it is recognised and accepted that if the lead applicant, co-applicant(s) and affiliated entity(ies) (if any) participate in spite of being in any of these situations, they may be excluded from other procedures in accordance with section 2.3.4 of the Practical Guide;
8. the lead applicant and each co-applicant and affiliated entity (if any) is in a position to deliver immediately, upon request, the supporting documents stipulated under section 2.4 of the guidelines for applicants.
9. **the lead applicant and each co-applicant and affiliated entity (if any) are eligible in accordance with the criteria set out under sections 2.1.1 and 2.1.2 of the guidelines for applicants;**
10. if recommended to be awarded a grant, the lead applicant, the co-applicant(s) and the affiliated entity(ies) accept the contractual conditions as laid down in the standard grant contract annexed to the guidelines for applicants (annex G) (or the PA Grant Agreement , where applicable);

These are the sources and amounts of Union funding received or applied for the action or part of the action or for its functioning during the same financial year as well as any other funding received or applied for the same action

195,389.70 Euro – Applied for IPA Civil Society Facility and Media Programme 2016- 2017, Support to Civil Society Organizations capacities - EuropeAid/155863/DD/ACT/AL

The lead applicant is fully aware of the obligation to inform without delay the Contracting Authority to which this application is submitted if the same application for funding made to other European Commission departments or European Union institutions has been approved by them after the submission of this grant application.

We acknowledge that if we participate in spite of being in any of the situations listed in Section 2.3.3.1 of the Practical Guide or if the declarations or information provided prove to be false we may be subject to rejection from this procedure and to administrative sanctions in the form of exclusion and financial penalties representing 2 % to 10 % of the total estimated value of the grant being awarded and that this information may be published on the Commission website in accordance with the conditions set in Section 2.3.4 of the Practical Guide. We are aware that, for

the purposes of safeguarding the EU's financial interests, our personal data may be transferred to internal audit services, to the Early Detection and Exclusion System, to the European Court of Auditors, to the Financial Irregularities Panel or to the European Anti-Fraud Office.

Signed on behalf of the lead applicant

Name: Sotiraq HRONI
Position: Executive Director
Signature:
Date and place: November 03, 2017/Tirana, Albania



2.4. Mandate (for co-applicant(s))AgroPuka

The co-applicant authorises the lead applicant, IDM (Institute for Democracy and Mediation), to submit on its behalf the present application form and to sign on its behalf the standard grant contract (Annex G of the guidelines for applicants) (or a PA Grant Agreement, where applicable) with the European Commission ("Contracting Authority"), as well as, to be represented by the lead applicant in all matters concerning this grant contract.

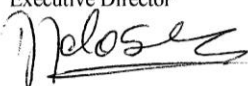
I have read and approved the contents of the proposal submitted to the Contracting Authority. I undertake to comply with the principles of good partnership practice.

Name: Sabah Djaloshi

Organisation: AgroPuka

Position: Executive Director

Signature:



Date and place: 02/11/2017

Puka, Albania

EuropeAid/155863/DD/ACT/AL
15 January 2016 Mandate_AgroPuka

2.5 Mandate (for co-applicant(s)) AgriNET

The co-applicant authorises the lead applicant IDM (Institute for Democracy and Mediation) to submit on its behalf the present application form and to sign on its behalf the standard grant contract (Annex G of the guidelines for applicants) (or a PA Grant Agreement, where applicable) with the European Commission ("Contracting Authority"), as well as, to be represented by the lead applicant in all matters concerning this grant contract.

I have read and approved the contents of the proposal submitted to the Contracting Authority. I undertake to comply with the principles of good partnership practice.

Name:

Tomi Pikuli

Organisation:

AgriNet Albania

Position:

Executive Director

Signature:

Date and place: 30.10.2017 Korçë, Albania