

## Cross-border region "Drina - Tara"

"Fostering regional cooperation and balanced territorial development of Western Balkan countries in the process towards EU integration"

Minutes from the 16<sup>th</sup> Stakeholders Group Meeting for "Drina-Tara" cross-border region



The project is financed by:



## Minutes from the 16<sup>th</sup> Stakeholders Group Meeting for the Cross-border region "Drina-Tara"

28 April 2017

Village Gostilje, Municipality of Cajetina, Serbia

### I. List of participants

The Sixteenth Stakeholder Group Meeting for cross-border region "Drina-Tara" was attended by 22 participants, Assistant to the Mayor of the Municipality of Cajetina, interested stakeholders from "Drina-Tara" region, media and SWG project team.

Annex1: List of participants

Annex 2: Presentation

### II. Programme

#### **April 28th, 2017 (Friday)**

#### **Lodging and restaurant "Gostiljska vrela", village Gostilje**

10:30 - 11:00	<b>Arrival of participants and welcome gathering</b>
11:00 – 11:20	<b>Welcome speech</b> <i>Representative of the Municipality of Cajetina, TBC</i> <i>Mr. Aleksandar Damnjanović, SWG Regional Manager</i>
11:20 – 11:35	<b>Introduction to the programme</b> <i>Mrs. Danica Nešević, SWG Coordinator</i>
11:35 – 12:20	<b>Information on the ABD Grant scheme within the Project "Rural development through integrated forest and water resources management (LEIWW)"</b> <i>Mr. Aleksandar Damnjanović, SWG Regional Manager</i>
12:20 – 12:40	<b>Implemented activities within the EU Project "Fostering regional cooperation and balanced territorial development of Western Balkan countries in the process towards EU integration"</b> <i>Mr. Aleksandar Damnjanović, SWG Regional Manager</i> <i>Mrs. Danica Nešević, SWG Coordinator</i>
12:40 – 13:00	Conclusions and future activities
13:00 – 13:45	Lunch
13:45 - 15:45	Experience of Tourism Association "Gostilje" in implementation of the ABD Grant investment; Visit to Gostilje waterfall and Culture monument birth house of Dimitrije Tucovic <i>Mr. Miroslav Tucovic, Tourism Association "Gostilje"</i>
15:45	Departure of participants

### **Minutes from the meeting:**

The XVI Stakeholders' Group Meeting at discussion about general achievements related to the implementation of ABDA 4 in the Western Balkan countries and implementation of GIZ LEIWW programm.

The main objectives of the Sixteenth Stakeholders Group Meeting held on 28<sup>th</sup> April in the village Gostilje, Municipality of Cajetina, Serbia was to present realized activities within EU project: "Fostering regional cooperation and balanced territorial development of Western Balkan countries in the process towards EU integration", implementation of the ABD Grant Scheme within the LEIWW project in cross border region "Drina-Tara" and presentation of work of Tourism Association "Gostilje" as example of good practice in the Cross border region of "Drina-Tara".

### **Topics during the meeting:**

- Overview of the realized activities related to the implementation of ABDA in the "Drina-Tara" region within the EU funded project;
- Information on the ABD Grant scheme within the Project "Rural development through integrated forest and water resources management (LEIWW)";
- Experience of Tourism Association "Gostilje" in implementation of the ABD Grant investment;
- Visit to Gostilje waterfall and Culture monument birth house of Dimitrije Tucovic.

### **Official opening of the event**

The meeting was opened and welcomed by Mr. Mirko Blagojevic, Assistant to Mayor of the Municipality of Cajetina. The participants were welcomed by Mr. Aleksandar Damjanovic, SWG Regional Manager and Danica Nesevic, Regional Coordinator who were the moderators of the meeting. *"We gathered today in the beautiful village Gostilje to sum up the realized activities in the previous two years period. Concluding with 31 May, the current phase of the project will be finalized, and we gathered here today to see what has been done so far. Our activities are focused on cross-border cooperation and networking of stakeholders from the public, private and civil sector which will contribute to a common, wider regional offer in tourism and agriculture, as tourism and agriculture are the two main priorities on which we are focused from the start. Cross border region "Drina-Tara" is the first region that is established and defined as a priority region at the SWG Assembly Meeting, where for 5 years are implemented projects important for balanced territorial development of the Western Balkans in the process towards European integration"* stated Aleksandar Damjanovic, SWG Regional Manager.

#### **1. Implemented activities within the framework of the EU project: "Fostering regional cooperation and balanced territorial development of Western Balkan countries in the process towards EU integration"**

Within the ABD 4 phase in the period from 1 June 2015 – 31 April 2017 in the cross border region "Drina-Tara" were organized/supported:

- 7 Stakeholder Group Meetings for the cross border region "Drina-Tara";

- 13 regional event (regional trade fairs and events promoting tradition and cultural heritage, environment protection and tourism and gastronomy).

In a period from 19-21 April 2017 in Banja Koviljaca, were organized training and coaching activities for the key actors from "Drina-Sava" and "Drina-Tara" cross-border regions in the following fields: greening of the value chain, designing of the business plans/strategies, examples of good practice, projection of local strategies and project management. Joint capacity building activity was financed through EU project: "Fostering regional cooperation and balanced territorial development of Western Balkan countries in the process towards EU integration - Support to the Regional Rural Development Standing Working Group (SWG) in South-East Europe", as well as FAO TCP Facility: "Implementation of short value chain development in cross-border areas in the Western Balkan region".

## **2. ABD Grant Scheme within the project: "Rural development through integrated forest and water resources management (LEIWW)"**

The first ABD Grant Scheme within the LEIWW program financed through GIZ is focused on income generation by improvement of production processes, technology and quality of products and services in "green" value chains (tourism, agriculture, forestry, etc.), promoting sustainable use of natural resources and integrated water and forest resources management. In the Cross border region of "Drina-Tara", 8 project are approved for financing where 17 Contracts were signed in total amount of up to EUR 138.150,38. All Grant beneficiaries are advised to finalize their investments and to submit reporting documents on time since the deadline is 11 May 2017.

In the period from 14-19 May 2017, the Regional Rural Development Standing Working Group (SWG) from South Eastern Europe in cooperation with German International Cooperation (GIZ) will organized study tour/exposure visit on "Successful examples of LAGs and LEADER in the area of Austria and Italy" for junior level representatives from the relevant public authorities, experts from civil society and experts from ABDA regions dealing with LAGs and LEADER approach. Two representatives from the CBR "Drina-Tara" are nominated to participate on this study tour.

## **3. Experience of Tourism Association "Gostilje" in implementation of the ABD Grant investment; Visit to Gostilje waterfall and Culture monument birth house of Dimitrije Tucovic**

President of the Tourism Association "Gostilje", Miroslav Tucovic has presented the work of the association and the beauty of the village Gostilje. Village Gostilje is located 20 km from the center of Zlatibor Mountain, on the slopes of Čigota and Borkovac at an altitude of 1,000 meters. It is the typical village of Zlatibor Mountain with exceptional tourist offer. Rakovica Cave, Gostilje waterfall, cultural monument -birthplace of Dimitrije Tucović (leader of the socialist movement in Serbia, founder of the Serbian Social Democratic Party, founder and editor of Radnicke novine and Borba) are just some of the sights to be seen in the village. Farming of trout fish, production of healthy food (fruits and vegetables), meat (ham, bacon), dairy products (cheese, cream), corn bread and corn meal are the traditional offer of the village. In the summer, visitors can use sports facilities, children's playground and swimming pool.

Tourism Association "Gostilje" promotes Gostilje village and Zlatibor Mountain. Main activities are focused at improving facilities around the Gostilje waterfall and maintenance of existing facilities. As well the association is working on promotion and marketing of traditional products. Future plans are construction of sports grounds and improvement of accommodation facilities (Construction of camp type katun with two beds and a bathroom). Through ABD Grant investment in the coming period for the visitors will be open birthplace of Dimitrije Tucović. After the meeting was organized tour to Gostilje waterfall and cultural monument -birth house of Dimitrije Tucovića which is in the stage of completion of works on the reconstruction of the roof under the supervision of the Serbian Institute for Protection of Cultural Monuments.

Prepared by:

Danica Nesevic

Coordinator for CBR "Drina-Tara"