

# IPARD IN FOCUS

# 16

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Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry  
and Water Management



**IPARD**  
EU4Rural Areas



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## IPARD III PROGRAMME

# Status on Rulebooks for the Measure 1, Measure 3 and Measure 7 preparation

The IPARD Programme, an Instrument for Pre-Accession Assistance for Rural Development, is intended for candidate countries with the aim to prepare them for implementation and management of the Common Agricultural Policy of the European Union. The IPARD Programme priorities are to modernize and improve the productivity of agricultural production and processing sector, as well as to further develop the rural communities and improve quality of life of people within them. In addition, IPARD has a role in reaching the European standards in the fields of hygiene and food safety, animal welfare and environmental protection. The IPARD III Programme of the Republic of Serbia for the 2021–2027 period was adopted by the European Commission on 9<sup>th</sup> March 2022.

Prerequisite for starting the implementation of the IPARD III Programme, is fulfilment of certain conditions which relate to the ability of the Republic of Serbia to successfully implement the IPARD III Programme measures. According to this, the IPARD III Programme implementation will start after the roll over of IPARD II Programme measures. Publishing of IPARD III public calls is planned for the first quarter of 2023.

In this regard, the IPARD Managing Authority is in the process of intensive preparation of the rulebooks for the implementation of Measure 1 - Investments in physical assets of agricultural holdings, Measure 3 - Investments in physical assets concerning processing and marketing of agricultural and fishery products and Measure 7 - Farm diversification and business development.

New rulebooks will prescribe eligibility criteria for project approval, amount of IPARD support, selection criteria, as well as other criteria in line with the IPARD III Programme. These rulebooks will also determine criteria for the newly introduced sectors, i.e. investments in Fishery sector within Measure 1, as well as the investments in Cereals and industrial crops processing sector and marketing and Fishery processing sector and marketing within Measure 3. Besides the Rural tourism sector in Measure 7, two additional sectors are included: Small-scale services for local people and tourists and Direct marketing of agricultural - food products and homemade products.

## The Ninth session of the IPARD II Monitoring Committee

The Ninth session of the IPARD II Monitoring Committee was held on Tuesday, 21<sup>st</sup> June, 2022, at the “Amphitheater” hall of the Ministry of Finance in Belgrade. The session was chaired by Jasmina Miljković, Head of the IPARD Managing Authority and Head of the Department for Management of IPARD Programme.



At the very beginning of the session, State Secretary Senad Mahmutović addressed the audience on behalf of the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Water Management, as well as Gojko Stanivuković, State Secretary in the Ministry of Finance and National Authorising Officer. Representatives of the European Commission, Frank Bollen and Marius Lazdinis, expressed their observations and suggestions regarding the IPARD II Programme implementation and presented the novelties envisaged within the new programming period.

At the Ninth session of the IPARD II Monitoring Committee, an overview of the results achieved in the implementation of IPARD subsidies and a plan of activities for the next period from the aspect of the Managing and IPARD Operating Structure were presented. The IPARD II MC members adopted the draft Annual Implementation Report on IPARD II Programme for 2021, as well as the proposal of the Fifth IPARD II Programme Modification. In addition, the IPARD III Programme was presented at the session, adopted on 9<sup>th</sup> March 2022, by the European Commission.

After the session of the IPARD II Monitoring Committee, a field visit of IPARD recipients was organized for representatives of the European Commission, the Delegation of the European Union to the Republic of Serbia, the Managing Authority and the IPARD Agency.

On the occasion, they visited the recipients who successfully realized their investments within the Measure 3 - Investments in physical assets concerning processing and marketing of agricultural and fishery products, namely: “Fruvita” d.o.o. Smederevo (fruit processing), “Petković” d.o.o. Paraćin (meat processing), as well as “Voćar” d.o.o. Svilajnac (fruit processing). The field visit also included “Aleksandrović Winery”, which was approved IPARD support under Measure 7 – Farm diversification and business development, and which was paid the first advance for the construction of accommodation facilities.



## Annual Implementation Report on IPARD II Programme for 2021

### PARTICIPATION OF YOUNG FARMERS AND WOMEN IN THE IMPLEMENTED CALLS



The IPARD Managing Authority has prepared the Annual Implementation Report on IPARD II Programme for 2021. This report also includes the results of the implemented calls for Measure 1 and Measure 7, with the participation of young farmers and women as a category of IPARD recipients.

In order to keep the young people in the rural areas, IPARD II Programme pays special attention to the young farmers, up to 40 years of age at the time of submission of application for project approval, who may obtain 65% of support under Measure 1 and Measure 7. Also, they earn additional advantages by the scoring and ranking of projects.

The IPARD II Programme also provides support for the strengthening the positions of women in agriculture. As the recipients of IPARD support, women can receive 60% of support under Measure 1 and 65% under Measure 7. As in the case of young farmers, women recipients receive additional points during the scoring and ranking, which can ensure a better position on the ranking list.

## CALL RESULTS BY THE END OF 2021

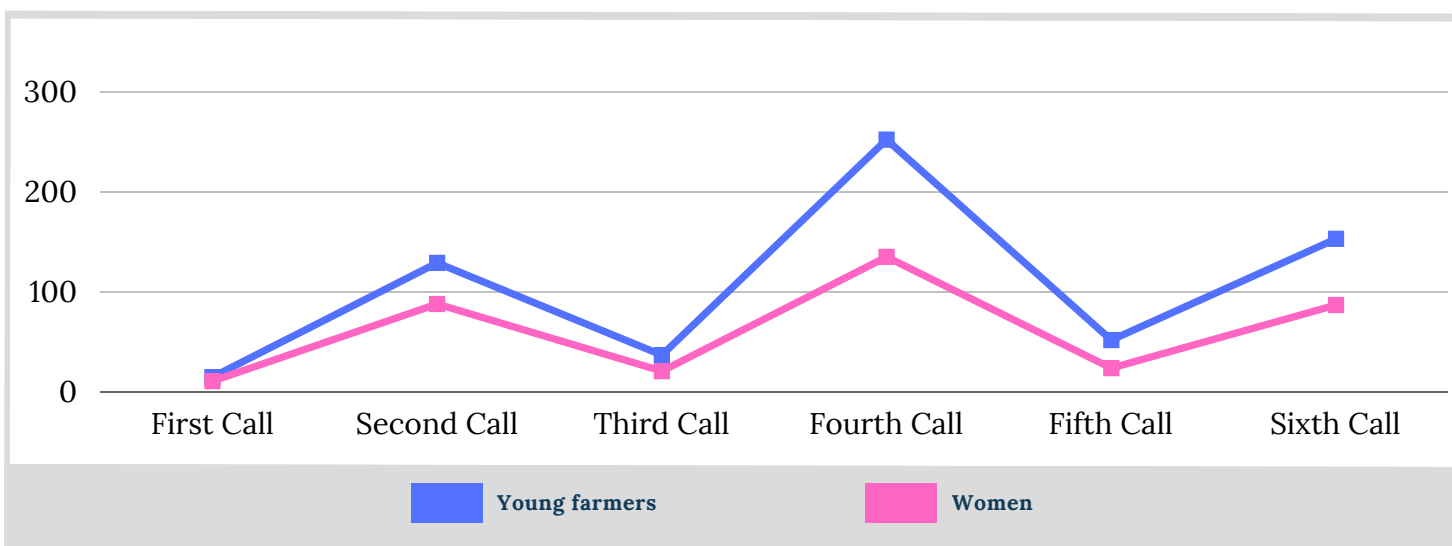
Young farmers and women, with a total of 1,222 submitted applications, achieved a share of 55% in the total number of submitted applications for six calls for Measure 1 and two calls for Measure 7, with the total amount of requested expenditures of EUR 192.2 m (44% of total requested expenditures). In the total number of submitted applications and the total requested expenditures, young farmers participate with 60%, and women with 40%.

In terms of the number of submitted applications by measure, the category of young farmers is more represented under Measure 1, and women under Measure 7.

### Measure 1 - Investments in physical assets of agricultural holdings

Under Measure 1, young farmers and women submitted a total of 1,004 applications, which represents 63% of the total number of submitted applications for Measure 1, with total requested expenditures of EUR 143 m.

**Graph: Overview of the number of applications submitted by young farmers and women per call**



The total number of applications submitted by young farmers in Measure 1 was 638, which is an increase by 22% compared to the previous annual report. The amount of requested expenditures was EUR 95.7 m.

**YOUNG FARMERS**  
**638 APPLICATIONS**  
**<40**  
**40%**

**WOMEN**  
**366 APPLICATIONS**  
**23%**

The total number of applications submitted by women holders of agricultural holding under Measure 1 is 366, which is an increase of 31% compared to the previous annual report. The amount of requested expenditures was EUR 47.3 m.

According to the report data, the highest interest within Measure 1 was expressed by young farmers and women for the calls related to the purchase of a new tractor.

Under Measure 1, 535 young farmers and women obtain Decision on project approval, with the amount of approved eligible expenditures of EUR 37.6 m.

By the end of 2021, 420 applications were paid, in the amount of EUR 16.6 m of public support, of which EUR 12.5 m is the EU contribution. Under the IPARD Programme, 268 young farmers successfully realized investments in the amount of EUR 10.7 m and 152 women in the amount of EUR 5.9 m.



### Measure 7 - Farm diversification and business development

Within the First Call for Measure 7, young farmers and women submitted a total of 218 applications in the amount of EUR 49.3 m.



Slightly higher interest for support in the Rural tourism sector was expressed by women with 125 submitted applications, in the amount of EUR 28.8 m, compared to young farmers who submitted 93 applications for the realization of planned investments in the amount of EUR 20.5 m.

After the Decision on project approval was issued, one third of the total number of applications submitted by young farmers had the opportunity to start realization of investments in the amount of approximately EUR 5 m. On the other hand, 29 women with the project approved could start the realization of the planned investments in the amount of approximately EUR 4.6 m.





## Example of successful project

After the Ninth session of the IPARD II Monitoring Committee, representatives of the European Commission, the EU Delegation to the Republic of Serbia and the IPARD Operating Structure have visited the IPARD recipients within Measure 3 and Measure 7. The first recipient during the field visit was company “Fruvita” d.o.o. and their production facilities in Lunjevac village, near Smederevo.

“Fruvita” d.o.o. was founded in 2003 in the Smederevo-Grocka region, which is well-known for peaches and apples production, but also for plums, cherries, apricots and pears. “Fruvita” d.o.o. is up and running in the production of fruit juices, nectars, beverages, as well as fruit puree. In addition to the processing facility in Lunjevac, in the village of Kolari “Fruvita” d.o.o. has the most modern line for the production of fruit puree and a unique line for fresh fruit squeezing. Only ripe, healthy and undamaged fresh fruit provided from local producers are processed within the processing facility.

According to “Fruvita” d.o.o. representatives, quality is priority of their business, as well as the continuous introduction of innovations. This is supported by the fact that they introduced the HACCP standard before it became mandatory. They were the first in the region offering 100% fruit juice, not made from concentrate and premium quality in PET packaging. Furthermore, with the IPARD Programme support they decided to purchase the most modern aseptic line for filling fruit juices - SERAC, which is located at the processing facility in the village of Lunjevac.

For this project, “Fruvita” d.o.o. received support within the Second Public Call for Measure 3 in the Fruit Processing Sector. The investment value was approximately EUR 2.5 m, while almost EUR one million of support was paid to the recipient, where the EU contribution value was over EUR 700 thousand.



“Aseptic filling is the final phase of the production process, dedicated to exceptional taste, and it consists of sterilizing the packaging and filling it with a sterile product in sterile conditions. This line is the heart of our production and will allow us to produce high-quality juices for the next decade. Currently, without the IPARD Programme support, we would not be able to realize the investment. This investment brought us a greater market share, as well as the export growth of up to 50%”, said by the company representatives, emphasizing that they had no major issues during the process of IPARD support approval, nor during the demanding process of procuring this custom made production line.



Source: <https://www.fruvita.com/>

## One click to first-hand information

For the newest information on events, announcements, calls and rules regarding the implementation of the IPARD II Programme in Serbia, follow the official IPARD Managing Authority accounts - on Instagram (@ipardnadlanu) and Facebook (IPARD na dlanu).

### DO YOU HAVE A QUESTION FOR US?

For prompt answer, please contact us through e-mail [ipardnadlanu@minpolj.gov.rs](mailto:ipardnadlanu@minpolj.gov.rs) or Instagram and Facebook pages!



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