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INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE “FUTURE OF LEADER APPROACH 2020+”

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Sea Resort Albena, Bulgaria

**“LEADER approach in the Republic of
Moldova: opportunities and challenges”**

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The vision of agriculture and rural development in 2020



- A competitive restructured and modernized agri-food business sector.
- Improved living and working conditions in rural areas.
- Agri-food activities existing in harmony with the natural environment maintaining the biodiversity, cultural and traditional values for future generations.



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EU – Republic of Moldova



27 June 2014, Moldova and the EU signed the **Association Agreement** including a **Deep and Comprehensive Free Trade Area (AA/DCFTA)**;

ENPARD - European Neighbourhood Programme to Agriculture and Rural Development (EUR 64 million for the period 2016-2018);



The National Strategy



**National Agriculture
and Rural Development
Strategy 2014-2020**



**It reflects the recognition by
the Republic of Moldova of the
importance of the agri-food
sector and rural development,
and it stands as a precondition
for their long-term
development**



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The 3 Priority Axis of the Strategy



OB 1. Increase competitiveness of the agri-food sector through modernization and market integration;

OB 2. Ensure sustainable management of natural resources in agriculture;

OB 3. Improve living and working conditions in rural areas;



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Specific objectives under Priority 3



- **3.1.** Enhance investment in physical infrastructure and rural services;
- **3.2.** Increase employment and income opportunities in rural areas in the non-agri-food sector;
- **3.3.** Stimulate local community involvement in rural development;



New Measures under Obj 3.



- Improvement of rural public infrastructure in rural areas;
- Village renewal and development (including basic services for the economy and rural population and conservation and upgrading of the rural heritage (both natural and cultural));
- Diversification of rural economy by non agricultural activities (including rural tourism and rural SMESs);
- Support to local development initiatives for rural economy under LEADER approach;



LEADER approach on the ground in Moldova



- ✓ **SARD project (EU funded)** : establish **8 LAGs** in the south region of the country (Taraclia and Gagauzia);
- ✓ **Rural community empowerment through promoting LEADER approach in the Republic of Moldova (HEKS/EPER funded)**: establish **9 LAGs** in the north & south region of the country;
- ✓ **Other donors initiatives/bilateral projects** :
 - **Estonia-Moldova** : “Rural community empowerment through promoting LEADER approach in the Republic of Moldova” support **2 pilot LAGs** in the north;
 - **Latvia-Moldova** : “Support to the Northern regions of Moldova by developing the regional cooperation within local partnerships” support **3 pilot LAGs** in the north;

Programming initiatives at MoARDE level

Implement LEADER approach by 2019:

- ✓ Amend the Subsidy Law in order to allow LAGs to be “beneficiary”;
- ✓ Amend the Draft Law on noncommercial organizations to allow Local Public Authorities to become members of LAGs;
- ✓ Draft the main programming documents for LEADER implementation:
 - The LEADER Measure Fiche;
 - The Subsidy Regulation for LEADER Measure;



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**Thank you
for your attention !!!**