

Terms of Reference for Trainer on LEADER/CLLD Approach

1. Background

The overall aim for rural transformation of the Western Balkan countries is to be in line with the EU rural policies. The participation of rural youth is very important segment in this challenge to help them use the opportunities produced by modernization in the agriculture and emerging businesses in non-farm sectors in rural areas. LEADER/CLLD approach is one of the mechanisms that offers opportunity for meaningful public participation among rural stakeholders particularly rural youth.

Therefore, the aim of the Balkan Rural Development Network - BRDN is to strengthen the participation of rural youth as part of the LAGs in the WB countries as driving vehicle that will bring forward fresh and innovative ideas on crucial issues such as “agricultural productivity, commercialization and diversification of production patterns and livelihoods within rural communities.

The project “LEADER/CLLD Youth Camp” envisages preparation and implementation of a three-day training of rural youth regarding LEADER/CLLD approach entitled as LEADER/CLLD Youth Camp. Young representatives from the six Balkan countries (Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Serbia, Montenegro, Kosovo and N. Macedonia) will attend the workshop to learn how to actively participate in local community decision-making processes and to provide opportunities to address their needs and the needs of the local stakeholders in order to improve living conditions in rural areas.

The activity will be implemented by BRDN on the territory of the Republic of Montenegro with local support from representatives of the Network for Rural Development of Montenegro.

The project aims at promotion of sustainable rural development through improvement of the knowledge and capacity of rural development stakeholders, with a special focus on youth and contributing to mitigation of the overall negative effects of COVID-19 pandemic in the Western Balkan countries.

2. Objective of the assignment

The aim of organizing the LEADER/CLLD training is to increase the knowledge about the LEADER/CLLD approach among the young rural population in the Western Balkans, as well as to increase their active participation in the formation of the public-private partnership (Local Action Group). For that, a regional expert/Trainer with an extensive knowledge and experience in implementation of LEADER/CLLD approach, will be engaged. The LEADER/CLLD trainer shall design and implement a 2 full-days training covering: introduction to LEADER approach and LEADER principles; the process of creation of Local Action Group – LAG; developing bottom-up strategies designed by Local Action Groups; ways of involvement of the rural youth in the process of creation of LAGs and examples of good practices from Europe. Therefore, the Trainer shall preferably have a first-hand experience in implementation of LEADER approach and management of LAGs, to be able to share with the participants practical examples and recommendations for successful implementation of LEADER.

3. Tasks

The regional expert/Trainer is expected to undertake the following tasks:

- Design and execution of 2 full-days training on LEADER/CLLD approach in English, covering the following themes:
 - Introduction to LEADER approach and LEADER principles;
 - The process of creation of Local Action Group – LAG;
 - Developing bottom-up strategies designed by Local Action Groups;
 - Ways of involvement of the rural youth in the process of creation of LAGs;
 - Examples of good practices from Europe.
- Prepare training materials (presentations, video material) and evaluations for the training;
- Prepare report of the training.

4. Consultant Skills and Experience Required

The regional expert/Trainer must have previous experience in similar assignments specifically as follows:

- An extensive knowledge on the EU LEADER/CLLD approach;
- First-hand experience and knowledge in implementation of LEADER/CLLD and management of LAG;
- Experience in conducting trainings and workshops;
- Knowledge of the rural development processes in the Western Balkan countries, particularly the process of implementation of LEADER;
- Fluent knowledge of English language;
- Good communication, organization, facilitation and interpersonal skills.

5. Timeframe

The LEADER/CLLD Youth Camp shall be organized from May 24th till May 28th, 2021.

6. Estimated workload

6 consultancy days for design and execution of the training and reporting.

7. Evaluation criteria

Price and competence

8. Terms of payment

The payment will be conducted in two instalments upon delivery of Timesheet. The first instalment will be paid for 3 consultancy days for design and preparation of the training. The second instalment will be paid for 3 consultancy days for execution of the training and reporting.