



# ACTIVITY PLAN AND AVAILABLE FUNDS FOR 2023



- We Effect (ends in December 2022)
  - New strategic period 2023-2027
  - Potential partnership with BRDN, through which is expected to strengthen the influence of CSOs from the Western Balkan countries on the regional decision-making processes related to rural development. With the introduction of partnership with regional partner organization the new Europe Program will aim to change regional structures and influence regional actors, and to include both national and regional partner organizations.



## ■ Effective Equitable and just food systems

The partners organizations will be supported in their lobby and advocacy activities, including, but not limited to:

- Strengthening legislation and policy frameworks for improved Food Security on national and local level;
- Mobilization of the existing community-based groups (such as Local Action Groups, co-operatives, social enterprises; etc.) to develop and implement food security strategies and action plans that incorporate the main principles Human Rights Based Approach, Gender Equality and Environment Climate Change and Resilience;
- Introduction and support to strategies for modernizing agriculture and rural development;

## ■ Sustainable Livelihood

The main focus areas for ROEU related to building sustainable livelihood in rural and sub-urban areas and communities will be the following:

- Lobby and advocacy activities for strengthening and expansion of the existing social protection systems, in order to include those who have not been previously covered and who are particularly vulnerable, informal workers, especially women in rural areas, youth and the elderly populations, minorities (e.g., Roma).
- Effective inclusion of women and youth in development processes.
- Promoting a green agenda in the rural development processes.



## ■ Resilience

Concentrated efforts will be put on:

- Full integration of climate justice approach in the overall work of We Effect and Partners' Organisations;
- Contributing to an enabling environment for CSOs to mitigate the trend of shrinking civic space and to become more resilient to the exposure of political influence;
- Strengthen our capacity, and that of Partners' Organizations, to develop climate resilience, through support to rural organizations in climate smart agricultural practices, agribusiness and entrepreneurship.

## ■ Gender Equality

The region will continue to fully integrate the human rights-based approach into its development work and to mainstream gender equality in all programme activities. Focus will be maintained on women's economic empowerment through access to economic opportunities and control over resources, as well as women in leadership positions and participation in decision making.



## ○ Strengthened Civil Society

The priority will be on building of strong and vibrant civil society that contributes to strengthened democracy, poverty alleviation and greater respect for human rights in line with the EU alignment process. The aim is the civil society organisations active in rural development to be able to act as a voice for and provide quality services to their members, and to be promoters of Gender Equality in Rural Development.

- Strengthen regional collaboration through regional networks and platforms. Strengthen national and regional mechanisms for lobby and advocacy such as Local Action Groups (LAGs), Rural Development Networks etc.
- Direct partnership with Balkan Rural Development Network (BRDN), as an umbrella organisation that is uniting the National Rural Development Networks of the Western Balkan countries, is aiming at positioning the BRDN as a driving force for regional EU integration processes in the field of rural development, through introduction and implementation of LEADER approach as an innovative approach within EU rural development policy. Furthermore, LEADER is a vehicle for social inclusion and decentralization of public interventions based on a bottom-up approach to local rural economic development.



# GIZ SEDRA II PROGRAM

## STRENGTHENED NETWORKING IN WESTERN BALKANS FOR SOCIO-ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT OF RURAL AREAS

1.1 Assessment of the situation with LAGs/LAG initiatives and existing LDSs

- 1.1.3 Processing of collected data and selection of LAG(s) (initiatives) for support (NRDNs) – **January 2023**

1.2 Identification of different funding sources/ desk research, meetings with relevant institutions (LAGs+NRDNs+BRDN) – **December 2022**

1.3 ToT for the national coordinators for developing of LDSs (BRDN)

2-day training to be organized in the week of **6-10 February 2023**



## 1.4 Support the development of 7 LDSs

1.4.1. Development of a toolbox for LDS development (BRDN + PEM (HMRR)–  
**end of February 2023**

1.4.2. Organization of LAG/stakeholder meetings (NRDNs) – **end of August 2023**

1.4.3. Finalization of LDSs (NRDNs) – **end of September 2023**

## 2.1 Organize coordinative meetings of BRDN

## 2.2 Work of thematic HUBS and preparation of position papers

2.2.3. Organization of thematic hub meetings (BRDN)

2.2.4. Preparation of position papers (BRDN, NRDNs) - **2 position papers by May 2023; 2 position papers by November 2023;**

## 2.3. Promotion of the position papers at regional and EU events

2.3.2 Organize the 3rd Balkan Rural Parliament 2023 (BRDN) – **June, 2023**



## 3.1 Conducting assessment of NRDN's services and TNA for improvement of networks' services

3.1.2. Conducting assessment – **March 2023**

3.1.4. Elaboration of capacity development priorities (short summary) for NRDNs (based on TNA findings) – **April 2023**

## 3.2 Organization of National Rural Parliaments (NRDNs)

3.3. Mentorship and training on identified topics through TNA (NRDNs) - **Starts in second half 2023**

3.4 Preparation or revision of strategic documents for the NRDNs





# SEARCH FOR FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES FOR REGIONAL EVENTS

- Regional Rural Youth Camp
- International Day of Rural Women – October 15
- LAG Expo
- European Rural Parliament 2024

