E-BULETIN NO. 10

JUNE-DECEMBER 2022

brdn

Balkan Rural Development Network

BALKAN RURAL DEVELOPMENT NETWORK

ANRD
ALBANIAN NETWORK FOR RURAL DEVELOPMENT

MREŽA ZA RURALNI RAZVOJ CRNE GORE

RURAL DEVELOPMENT NETWORK OF NORTH MACEDONIA

RRJETI I ORGANIZATAVE PER ZHVILLIM RURAL TE KOSOVES

Network for Rural Development of Serbia

MRRBiH
Mreža za ruralni razvoj u Bosni i Hercegovini

HMRR
CROATIAN RURAL DEVELOPMENT NETWORK

E-BULETIN NO. 10

JUNE-DECEMBER 2022

brdn

Balkan Rural Development Network

BRDN PARTICIPATION AT THE EUROPEAN RURAL PARLIAMENT 2022 HELD IN KIELCE, POLAND

BRDN ensured the participation of the Western Balkan delegation consisted of about 20 representatives of BRDN Secretariat and BRDN member-networks, at the 5th European Rural Parliament. The president of BRDN, Petar Gjorgievski, addressed the ERP audience, sharing successful stories from the W. B. countries. "We expect that the common stands of the W.B. rural communities, agreed with the declaration of the 2nd Balkan Rural Parliament, will be seriously taken into consideration by the decision makers and will be adequately trans-ponded in the national legislation, that will later on contribute for improved rural livelihood", concluded in his speech.

By active inclusion in the working groups and well presentation of the tradition and local products of the Western Balkans during the fair organized within the event, BRDN's work in the region was recognized by more than 400 participants at the ERP 2022 and the wider audience.

Read More

ANRD
ALBANIAN NETWORK FOR RURAL DEVELOPMENT

MREŽA ZA RURALNI RAZVOJ CRNE GORE

RURAL DEVELOPMENT NETWORK OF NORTH MACEDONIA

RRJETI I ORGANIZATAVE PER ZHVILLIM RURAL TE KOSOVES

Network for Rural Development of Serbia

MRRBiH
Mreža za ruralni razvoj u Bosni i Hercegovini

HMRR
CROATIAN RURAL DEVELOPMENT NETWORK

E-BULETIN NO. 10

JUNE-DECEMBER 2022

brdn

Balkan Rural Development Network

ORGANIZED THE 1ST REGIONAL LAG EXPO IN WESTERN BALKANS

The first regional LEADER fest in the region, named as LAG EXPO, was organized on September 22 and 23, in Radovish, North Macedonia, with joint efforts of BRDN, RDN of NM and 5 Macedonian LAGs.

The aim was to offer the representatives of the LAGs and LAG initiatives in the region, an opportunity to network, exchange knowledge on the implementation of LEADER and initiate partnerships for transnational cooperation.

With the financial support of We Effect and the USAID Community Development Program implemented by RDN of NM, the two-day event gathered more than 60 stakeholders from N. Macedonia, Serbia, Albania, Kosovo, Bosnia and Herzegovina and Croatia.

Inspiring presentations were delivered by the Macedonian LAGs (Bojmija, Malesh-Pijanec, Belasica-Ograzden, Aber 2015 and Plachkovica), the Serbian LAG Srce Bachke and the Croatian LAGs Izvor and Cetinska Krajina.

Special attraction for the visitors was the fair of local products organized on open space in the centre of Radovish, where each of the 5 Macedonian LAGs had arranged stands for the local producers coming from their LAGs' territory.

Additionally, field visit of local initiatives on the territory of the LAGs in the South-eastern part of the country, were organized for the participants, to show positive examples of cooperation between the local community, businesses and the local self-government, for improvement of the rural livelihoods.

The LAG Expo which BRDN tends to become a regular regional event in different WB country, has proved to be useful tool for promotion of LAGs and LAG initiatives, for strengthening the networking and cooperation among all LEADER stakeholders in the region.

Read More

ANRD Albanian Network for Rural Development

Mreža za ruralni razvoj Crne Gore

Rural Development Network of North Macedonia

Rrjeti i Organizatave për Zhvillim Rural të Kosovës

Network for Rural Development of Serbia

MRRBiH Mreža za ruralni razvoj u Bosni i Hercegovini

HMRR Croatian Rural Development Network

E-BULETIN NO. 10

JUNE-DECEMBER 2022

brdn

Balkan Rural Development Network

INSPIRING STORIES FROM WOMEN ENTREPRENEURS IN WESTERN BALKANS

A booklet containing 7 inspiring stories of women entrepreneurs coming from different WB countries and Croatia, was prepared with the support of the BRDN Gender Equality Hub and published on the International Day of the Rural Women - October 15. Each of these women living in rural areas, tell their interesting stories about their motivation for starting the business, the support offered from their families, communities or public institutions and challenges they're facing. The stories were written by the members of the Gender Equality Hub, who after identifying the women entrepreneurs, paid them a visit to conduct an interview. The messages addressed by these women are inspiration for the other women in the region to take actions for their economic empowerment, as well as to raise their awareness of the various opportunities offered by the rural areas for increasing their income and becoming financially independent.

Read More

ANRD
ALBANIAN NETWORK FOR RURAL DEVELOPMENT

MREŽA ZA RURALNI RAZVOJ CRNE GORE

RURAL DEVELOPMENT NETWORK OF NORTH MACEDONIA

RRJETI I ORGANIZATAVE PER ZHVILLIM RURAL TE KOSOVES

Network for Rural Development of Serbia

MRRBiH
Mreža za ruralni razvoj u Bosni i Hercegovini

HMRR
CROATIAN RURAL DEVELOPMENT NETWORK

E-BULETIN NO. 10

JUNE-DECEMBER 2022

Balkan Rural Development Network

SITUATION ANALYSIS IN THE WESTERN BALKAN COUNTRIES

JULY 2022

UNDERSTANDING OF SOCIAL ENTREPRENEURSHIP ECOSYSTEM IN RURAL AREAS

BRDN has recognized the social entrepreneurship as a new and innovative opportunity for socio-economic development in the region, which can particularly bring benefit to the development of the rural communities.

To provide better understanding on the level of awareness, involvement and conditions for development of the social entrepreneurship in the WB countries' rural areas, BRDN conducted a tailored-made survey in the WB-6 countries. As a result, data was collected from North Macedonia, Serbia, Albania, Kosovo, Montenegro and Bosnia and Herzegovina, through a total of 248 surveys completed by representatives of local CSOs.

The findings and recommendations with relevance for the whole WB region, point to the increasing awareness of the role and meaning of social entrepreneurship and the extent of the current activities promoting it in the Western Balkan countries. The majority of survey respondents are aware of the importance of social entrepreneurship initiatives for further development of rural communities. However, the understanding of this subject is still limited and most of the CSOs are involved through supporting and consulting, though there is an orientation towards activating in social entrepreneurship in the near future. Recommendations on further activities include improvement of the social entrepreneurship awareness in the countries in order to spark higher interest, that should be supported with adequate institutional framework, access to markets and finance, and last but not least, knowledge, skills and business development support.

The prepared regional analysis is published on the BRDN website

Read More

ANRD ALBANIAN NETWORK FOR RURAL DEVELOPMENT

MREŽA ZA RURALNI RAZVOJ CRNE GORE

RURAL DEVELOPMENT NETWORK OF NORTH MACEDONIA

RRJETI I ORGANIZATAVE PER ZHVILLIM RURAL TE KOSOVES

Network for Rural Development of Serbia

MRRBiH Mreža za ruralni razvoj u Bosni i Hercegovini

HMRR CROATIAN RURAL DEVELOPMENT NETWORK

E-BULETIN NO. 10

JUNE-DECEMBER 2022

brdn

Balkan Rural Development Network

TOGETHER FOR A MORE BEAUTIFUL PEHCHEVO – COMMUNITY ACTION FOR CLEANING THE RIVERBED OF PISA RIVER

Thanks to the collaboration of the community and civil activism, the joint community action to clean the riverbed of the Pisa River in the Municipality of Pehcevo was successfully completed. The community action encompassed the cleaning of the riverbed of the river Pisa the length of 420 meters, the removal of soil, low-stemmed vegetation, and waste, as well as the restoration of the quay and the installation of urban equipment and horticultural landscaping.

Read More

12TH ANNUAL ASSEMBLY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT NETWORK OF NORTH MACEDONIA

On October 12, the 12th Annual Assembly of the Rural Development Network of NM was held in Veles. The President of RDN of NM, Petar Gjorgievski, addressed the representatives of the member organizations, and referred to the challenges of the civil sector in rural areas and the need for joint action in order to represent and advocate for the rural community.

Read More

ANRD ALBANIAN NETWORK FOR RURAL DEVELOPMENT

MREŽA ZA RURALNI RAZVOJ CRNE GORE

RURAL DEVELOPMENT NETWORK OF NORTH MACEDONIA

RRJETI I ORGANIZATAVE PER ZHVILLIM RURAL TE KOSOVES

Network for Rural Development of Serbia

MRRBiH Mreža za ruralni razvoj u Bosni i Hercegovini

HMRR CROATIAN RURAL DEVELOPMENT NETWORK

E-BULETIN NO. 10

JUNE-DECEMBER 2022

brdn

Balkan Rural Development Network

CELEBRATING THE INTERNATIONAL DAY OF RURAL WOMEN

Over 150 women from rural areas in the country conveyed the message of a needed greater involvement of rural women through an event in Demir Kapija to mark International Day of Rural Women, which RDN of NM traditionally celebrates every year. The event was organized in collaboration with the National Federation of farmers - NFF with the support of We Effect. The event was attended by H.E. Ami Larsson Jain, Ambassador of the Kingdom of Sweden in the Republic of North Macedonia, Ljupco Nikolovski, Minister of Agriculture, Forestry and Water Management, Jovana Trenchevska, Minister of Labor and Social Policy, Elizabeta Gjorgievska, wife of the President of RNM and Anneli Leina, Regional Director of the Swedish development organization We Effect

Read More

ANRD
ALBANIAN NETWORK FOR RURAL DEVELOPMENT

MREŽA ZA RURALNI RAZVOJ CRNE GORE

RURAL DEVELOPMENT NETWORK OF NORTH MACEDONIA

RRJETI I ORGANIZATAVE PER ZHVILLIM RURAL TE KOSOVES

Network for Rural Development of Serbia

MRRBiH
Mreža za ruralni razvoj u Bosni i Hercegovini

HMRR
CROATIAN RURAL DEVELOPMENT NETWORK

E-BULETIN NO. 10

JUNE-DECEMBER 2022

brdn

Balkan Rural Development Network

NEW BUSINESS MODEL FOR RURAL DEVELOPMENT NETWORK OF NORTH MACEDONIA

Representatives from the member organizations of the Rural Development Network of NM together with the employees of the Network participated in a two-day business model canvas training. They learned more about the components of a business model canvas and ways to effectively implement a business model.

Read More

PARTICIPATION AT TASTE THE TRADITION – FIRST NATIONAL FOOD AND BEVERAGES FAIR IN NORTH MACEDONIA

Taste the tradition – the first food and beverages fair was an opportunity for a large number of visitors to enjoy the great tastes of local, traditional food, drinks, as well as various rural products and handicrafts. RDN of NM participated in the fair together with the Local Action Groups (LAGs), which are its members. The stands of the Network were also visited by the Prime Minister, the Minister of Agriculture, Forestry and Water Management and other senior government officials.

Read More

ANRD
ALBANIAN NETWORK FOR RURAL DEVELOPMENT

MREŽA ZA RURALNI RAZVOJ CRNE GORE

RURAL DEVELOPMENT NETWORK OF NORTH MACEDONIA

RRJETI I ORGANIZATAVE PER ZHVILLIM RURAL TE KOSOVES

Network for Rural Development of Serbia

MRRBiH
Mreža za ruralni razvoj u Bosni i Hercegovini

HMRR
CROATIAN RURAL DEVELOPMENT NETWORK

E-BULETIN NO. 10

JUNE-DECEMBER 2022

brdn

Balkan Rural Development Network

EMPOWERMENT OF WOMEN IN RURAL AREAS AND TOURISM

Since September 2022, Albanian Network for Rural Development is engaged as Responsible Party of UN Women Albania to implement the intervention "Support the economic and social empowerment of rural women in the municipalities of Elbasan and Kolonjë" within the Gender Rural Equality and Tourism (GREAT) project. The GREAT project is a three-year initiative funded by the Government of Italy and implemented by UN Women and FAO, in collaboration with the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development of Albania.

The project aims to contribute to the rural women empowerment in Albania and to strengthen their role and contribution to rural development, as well as work towards a sustainable economic development of rural women in the municipalities of Elbasan and Kolonjë by increasing their income and ability to obtain work. For further information please refer the link below

Read More

ANRD ALBANIAN NETWORK FOR RURAL DEVELOPMENT

MREŽA ZA RURALNI RAZVOJ CRNE GORE

RURAL DEVELOPMENT NETWORK OF NORTH MACEDONIA

RRJETI I ORGANIZATAVE PER ZHVILLIM RURAL TE KOSOVES

Network for Rural Development of Serbia

MRRBiH Mreža za ruralni razvoj u Bosni i Hercegovini

HMRR CROATIAN RURAL DEVELOPMENT NETWORK

E-BULETIN NO. 10

JUNE-DECEMBER 2022

brdn

Balkan Rural Development Network

PRO-RURAL WOMEN 2022- AN AWAKENING CALL TO ELIMINATION OF GENDER INEQUALITY IN THE AGRI-FOOD SECTOR

On the occasion of the International Rural Women's Day, the Albanian Rural Development Network organized the fourth edition of the event "Pro-Rural Women" on October 15, 2022 in Shirgjan, Elbasan. This event was attended by over 110 participants from different rural areas of Albania, national government and civil society, international organizations, academics and media.

Pro-Rural Women 2022, with the theme "Rural Women Cultivating Quality Food for All," focused on women working in and contributing to the agri-food sector. The IV edition provided an opportunity to learn about the invaluable role and contribution of women in agriculture and rural development, food security and poverty alleviation, highlighting the successes and challenges of rural women entrepreneurs.

For further information please refer the link below:

Read More

ANRD ALBANIAN NETWORK FOR RURAL DEVELOPMENT

MREŽA ZA RURALNI RAZVOJ CRNE GORE

RURAL DEVELOPMENT NETWORK OF NORTH MACEDONIA

RRJETI I ORGANIZATAVE PER ZHVILLIM RURAL TE KOSOVES

Network for Rural Development of Serbia

MRRBiH Mreža za ruralni razvoj u Bosni i Hercegovini

HMRR CROATIAN RURAL DEVELOPMENT NETWORK

E-BULETIN NO. 10

JUNE-DECEMBER 2022

Balkan Rural Development Network

DECLARATION OF RURAL WOMEN AND GIRLS

Women in rural areas are important actors in the agri-food sector and the main contributors to the agricultural and rural sector. However, the sector is not helping rural women to improve their social economic status due to the difficulties and challenges they experience that undermine productivity and entrepreneurial potential and generate unequal benefits for men and women in value chains in the agri-food sector.

We are sharing with you the DECLARATION OF RURAL WOMEN AND GIRLS – the main output of the the 2022 'Pro Rural Women' Edition. The Declaration is an Awakening Call to Elimination of Gender Inequality in the Agri-Food Sector. We, at ANRD care about the wellbeing of women and girls in rural areas, so we will strive to sustain our advocacy work to acknowledge the invaluable role and contribution of women in agriculture and rural development and build society-wide solidarity to empower women and girls in rural areas.

Read More

WORKSHOP ON AGROECOLOGY AND LOCAL PLANT GENETIC RESOURCES

Thanks to the cooperation with Schola Campesina, the Albanian Network for Rural Development organized a workshop in Dvoran, Korçë, to promote agroecology and facilitate the exchange of local knowledge about agroecology practices at the local level, ANRD is working to make the 'school' of agroecology - a school without walls dedicated to the exchange of knowledge and practices between farmers and other actors- functional in the future.

ANRD ALBANIAN NETWORK FOR RURAL DEVELOPMENT
MREŽA ZA RURALNI RAZVOJ CRNE GORE
RURAL DEVELOPMENT NETWORK OF NORTH MACEDONIA
RRJETI I ORGANIZATAVE PER ZHVILLIM RURAL TE KOSOVES
Network for Rural Development of Serbia
MRRBiH Mreža za ruralni razvoj u Bosni i Hercegovini
HMRR CROATIAN RURAL DEVELOPMENT NETWORK

E-BULETIN NO. 10

JUNE-DECEMBER 2022

brdn

Balkan Rural Development Network

HANDICRAFT AND WOMAN WELL-BEING, THE CENTER OF HANDICRAFT FAIR

On 27 August, in Golem beach a lively and wonderful atmosphere was created by the motives of Albanian traditional culture and the rhythm of ethno-music. The handicraft fair assembled several artisans from Kavaja and from different cities such as Kruja, Berat, Tirana, Durres Vau Dejës, and Gjirokastra, who presented their artisan products, are carefully crafted by their hands, and attracted the attention of all those present. Many Albanian and foreign tourists and visitors visited the fair and stand stilled at the tables filled with various artisan products: loom products, pottery, traditional dresses, carpets, embroidery, crochet and needlework, macramé, filigree, resin, etc. and got to known with the mastery and creativity of artisans in the production of handicraft products.

This event was organized by the Albanian Network for Rural Development in collaboration with Kavaja municipality and support of UN Women in Albania in the framework of the intervention "Women's Economic Empowerment in Handicrafts Value Chain in the Municipality of Kavaja" that is being implemented within the Gender-Sensitive Post-Earthquake Recovery and Reconstruction Project, supported by UN Women Albania and funded by the Government of Sweden, through the UN Albania SDG Acceleration Fund.

Read More

ANRD ALBANIAN NETWORK FOR RURAL DEVELOPMENT

MREŽA ZA RURALNI RAZVOJ CRNE GORE

RURAL DEVELOPMENT NETWORK OF NORTH MACEDONIA

RRJETI I ORGANIZATAVE PER ZHVILLIM RURAL TE KOSOVES

Network for Rural Development of Serbia

MRRBiH Mreža za ruralni razvoj u Bosni i Hercegovini

HMRR CROATIAN RURAL DEVELOPMENT NETWORK

E-BULETIN NO. 10

JUNE-DECEMBER 2022

brdn

Balkan Rural Development Network

GREEN FLAG AWARD FOR THE ANRD RURAL YOUTH HUB INITIATIVE

A delegation, consisting of seven representatives of the Rural Youth Hub, accompanied by members of the team of Volontari nel Mondo RTM, spent three days exploring the realities of local youth through visits to farms producing sustainably produced vegetables, milk for Parmigiano Reggiano cheese and wine.

On November 17th, in Campidoglio, Roma, Italy the delegation of RYH took part at the award ceremony of Green Flag, awarded the Bandiera Verde Agricoltura - AgriMED section of CIA - Agricoltori Italiani.

"A recognition due, that of the Bandiera Verde Agricoltura to the ANRD Network because it bears witness to how the union of forces and professionalism of young farmers can safeguard the territories, populations and economic development, in particular, Albania and, more generally, the Mediterranean".

The ANRD brings together 31 Albanian and international organizations that are part of the network in order to join forces to conduct effective, inclusive and strongly oriented rural policies to meet the needs of local communities. The award was picked up by the National Coordinator of ANRD.

On the same day, AGIA CIA and ANRD signed the Memorandum of Understanding aimed at strengthening the partnership and cooperation between the two parties in the area of agriculture and rural development, in particular regarding the role and contribution of rural youth in the sector.

The RURAL-YOU (Rural Albanian Youth) project is funded by the European Union in Albania and implemented by RTM Volunteers in the World, in partnership with ADAD Malore, Partners for Development Foundation, AgroPuka, Albanian Network for Rural Development- ANRD, Agia Giovani Imprenditori Agricoli – Agriculture is Life Agriagenzia (CIA - Italian Farmers).

ANRD
ALBANIAN NETWORK FOR RURAL DEVELOPMENT
RRJETI SHQIPTAR PER ZHVILLIMIN RURAL

MREŽA ZA RURALNI RAZVOJ CRNE GORE

RURAL DEVELOPMENT NETWORK OF NORTH MACEDONIA

RRJETI I ORGANIZATAVE PER ZHVILLIM RURAL TE KOSOVES

Network for Rural Development of Serbia

MRRBiH
Mreža za ruralni razvoj u Bosni i Hercegovini

HMRR
CROATIAN RURAL DEVELOPMENT NETWORK

Balkan Rural Development Network

TWO NEW PARTNERSHIP-BASED PROJECTS KICKED-OFF

ANRD is happy to announce the starting of two new projects financed by Agenzia Italiana per la Cooperazione allo Sviluppo. As partner of the two implementing consortiums, ANRD representatives took part in the two kick off events of the two new projects.

RURALBANIA project aims to increase the income of small agricultural producers in Northern Albania through access to new agricultural support services in line with European best practices, opportunities for qualified professional training, sustainable production resources and local markets.

Specifically, the project aims to increase the productivity and added value achieved by family-owned mountain farms, particularly those run by women, younger, and returning migrants, operating in high-potential supply chains (beekeeping, small mountain fruits, orchards, ovine and caprine) of Shkodra, Dibra and Kukës Regions. The project is being implemented by Volontari nel Mondo – RTM, CIA – Agricoltori Italiani, Regione Emilia Romagna, ADAD Malore – The Organization of Agriculture Development in Mountainous Regions, Agropuka, Regional Agency For Agricultural Assistance – AREB, Albanian Network For Rural Development – ANRD.

The project "LAKES OF ALBANIA - Promotion of sustainable and responsible tourism models for the inclusive development of communities is being implemented by COSV and VIS Albania in partnership with Rrjeti Shqiptar per Zhvillim Rural - ANRD, Agricultural University of Tirana (UBT), A.I.T.R. - Associazione Italiana Turismo Responsabile, Diesis Network, Kallipolis, Studioazue, in collaboration with Fondacioni Albanian Besa Capital and Partnership for Development Foundation (PfD). The project intends to promote innovative models of sustainable and responsible tourism in the areas related to the two main lakes of Albania - Lake Shkoder and Lake Pogradec/Ohrid - as opposed to models of invasive tourism and development in strong expansion throughout the Albanian territory, to contribute to the inclusive economic growth of Albania.

ANRD
ALBANIAN NETWORK FOR RURAL DEVELOPMENT
RRJETI SHQIPTAR PER ZHVILLIMIN RURAL

MREŽA ZA RURALNI RAZVOJ CRNE GORE

RURAL DEVELOPMENT NETWORK OF NORTH MACEDONIA

RRJETI I ORGANIZATAVE PER ZHVILLIM RURAL TE KOSOVES

Network for Rural Development of Serbia

MRRBiH
Mreža za ruralni razvoj u Bosni i Hercegovini

HMRR
CROATIAN RURAL DEVELOPMENT NETWORK