



Project “Networking and Advocacy for Green Economy - NAGE”
Support to enhance the policy and decision-making impact of the Balkan Rural Development Network (BRDN) and its constituents, through involvement in the agricultural and rural program and policy reform processes for introduction of the green economy concept

Roadmap to Green Economy in the Western Balkans - proposed steps and actions -

September 2021



INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND

The overall objective of the project “Networking and Advocacy for Green Economy-NAGE” is to **provide support to enhance the policy and decision-making impact of the Balkan Rural Development Network (BRDN) and its constituents, through involvement in the agricultural and rural program and policy reform processes for introduction of the green economy concept.**

Objective

This output is a part of the broader objective of development of strategic documents and policy briefs to attribute the processes of national agriculture and rural development policy amendments in the WB countries for achieving enhanced introduction and/or advancing of green economy model by ensuring participative approach that will satisfy the rural networks’ constituents’ and rural stakeholders’ needs and interests.

This will contribute to the achievement of the following project’s expected result to initiate comprehensive and CSO participatory policy development process through identification of the key stakeholders for including/promoting green economy in agriculture and rural development and defining a roadmap with proposed steps and actions for introducing and advancing the green economy concept in the Western Balkan countries.

Transition to green economy

The transition to a green economy is critical for addressing the economic, environmental, and social pillars of sustainable development. Agriculture is a unique sector that encompasses issues such as food security, environmental sustainability, and economic opportunity simultaneously. As such, the sector must not only ensure food supply and achieve profitable operations, but also needs to improve its environmental sustainability through reduced footprint of production and climate change adaptation, as well as ensure improved rural livelihoods, long-term viability of farmers and others involved in the supply chain.¹

Agriculture has a central role in delivering a green economy, with farmers and the agri-food industry as drivers of these changes. The sectorial transition to a green economy means adopting a wide-ranging, knowledge-centered approach to agricultural development. To achieve this, several few major objectives should be in the focus: (i) address the implementation gaps through targeted training, knowledge sharing, and advisory services; (ii) ensure consistent, evidence-based agricultural and rural development policy; (iii) improve productivity by supporting innovation, technology transfer and learning from best practices.

Agriculture is a major sector in all the Western Balkan economies, significantly contributing to both the gross value added and employment, especially in rural areas. A fundamental shift in the way the whole food system operates in these countries is vital to fully realize agriculture’s potential to secure quality and safe food, ensuring a fair standard of living for the farmers and their community, with optimal resource use and environmental care. To boost the green economy switch, this sector should be increasingly innovation-driven, through various interventions alleviating value chain constraints, such as improved input technology and farmer capabilities. In that sense, transitioning tools are only effective if they are backed up by appropriate policy, infrastructure, and market structure. Furthermore, to inspire innovative actions, policy objectives must be matched with the resourcefulness of the local entrepreneurs.²

¹ Farming First Coalition (2014). Agriculture for a Green Economy: Improved rural livelihood, reduced footprint, secure food supply.

² World Economic Forum (2010). Realizing a New Vision for Agriculture: A roadmap for stakeholders.

In order to be effective, green economy roadmaps typically involve several conditions that need to be worked on simultaneously, both bottom up and top down, and in the short and long run. Among the most important ones is **collaboration**, with enhanced links between key actors, greater transparency and reporting of relevant policy and practices among government, implementing units (farmers and industry), civil society organizations, and community, donors and other stakeholders. The scale of the green economy challenge entails everyone to step up their efforts: (i) governments to set the priorities and create the right environment for them to be achieved; (ii) businesses to drive the implementation through enhanced entrepreneurship, innovative thinking, new investments; and (iii) civil society to carry the role of mobilizing and supporting communities, building local capacity, and filling the gaps not addressed by the market. Creating new **innovative** approaches and combinations at social, environmental, and economic levels is also required for designing integrated strategies and policies. Finally, to achieve successful policy coherence in the green objectives, integrated **governance** structures are vital in shaping the context and enabling frameworks for all actors to deliver on their shared responsibilities.³

The EU approximation is a key driver to the Western Balkans and the approximation to the European strategic and legislative framework remains a strategic priority. The European policy is a 'moving target', meaning the WB countries need to orientate and adjust its policy accordingly. Sustainable development and herewith green economy concept are the core of the EU Green Deal, which presents a roadmap for making the EU's economy sustainable by turning climate and environmental challenges into opportunities across all policy areas and making the transition just and inclusive for all. The deal represents an effort to review legislation and redesign public policies across different policy areas, including sustainable agriculture, sustainable food systems, biodiversity, clean energy, and climate. The Farm to Fork Strategy is central to the European Green Deal aiming to make food systems fair, healthy and environmentally friendly. In addition, the UN's 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development calls for urgent actions and commitment to the global Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) for attaining better economic, social, and environmental future for all.

Western Balkans and the path to green economy

The issue of green economy in the region has been the focus of the NAGE publication "State of affairs for fostering green economy in agriculture and rural development: Comparative analysis of programs and measures in the Western Balkan countries and Croatia" (2020)⁴. This document provided thorough identification, analysis and comparison of the non-EU member countries' documents, national programs and measures for agriculture and rural development regarding green economy against the Croatian legislation on the same topic. As such, it provided grounds to further explore the potential and feasible paths to green economy in the Western Balkan countries (Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kosovo, Montenegro, North Macedonia, and Serbia). This brief serves as an introductory guide to the Western Balkans' green economy thinking by mapping stakeholder groups and identifying relevant priorities, actions and responsible actors for their initiation and implementation.

The country roadmap briefs presented herewith were prepared by the National Working Group coordinators, following a participatory process within the National Working Groups and its members comprising a range of relevant stakeholders (academic and research community, NGO sector etc.), and synthesized in collaboration with the Regional Working Group coordinator and a regional consultant from Croatia.

³ International Chamber of Commerce (2012). Green Economy Roadmap. A Guide for business, policymakers and society.

⁴ Martinovska Stojcheska, A. (Ed.). (2020). State of affairs for fostering green economy in agriculture and rural development: Comparative analysis of programs and measures in the Western Balkan Countries and Croatia. Skopje: Rural Development Network of North Macedonia. Available at: <http://brd-network.org/>

In all Western countries, it is recognized that the green economy introduction process needs to be reinforced by raising and building awareness, greater visibility, and fluid knowledge across the sector, involving all key stakeholders (producers, processors, suppliers, government, community, knowledge systems, international donors, CSOs, consumers). The role of national governments in the process of transforming the existing economic models towards greening is undisputed; nevertheless, active involvement of local communities, civil society sector and inter-sectoral horizontal and vertical interactions can prove to be similarly significant. Other supporting actions are therefore needed to increase capacity and strengthen institutions and relevant actors, provide training and skill enhancement to the workforce, and improve general education on sustainability and green economy. To shape a sustainable environmental future, all the actors in the countries, but also across the region, need to cooperate and jointly address key challenges.

It is furthermore important to have in place adequate measurement tools to help policy makers evaluate the efficiency of the policies and measure the extent to which the shift into a greener path is occurring. A set of indicators is necessary to monitor and evaluate the progress toward green economy in agriculture and rural development, in terms of policy, but more importantly, in assessing its effect on economic outcomes in agriculture, pressures on the environment and quality of life aspects, especially in rural areas.

Although many of the steps along the green economy transition pathways are similarly identified in the WB countries, still, one-size-fits-all approaches need to be avoided, as country roadmaps need to consider national, regional, and sectoral context and specific circumstances. The key message is nevertheless that a critical common denominator to success is the enrolment of the private sector as the core driver of solutions for green economy, with sustainable partnerships among stakeholders, and effective government leadership. We hope these WB countries roadmaps to green economy will encourage the relevant stakeholders to initiate action and join collaborative efforts to achieve the shared goals for a sustainable future.

ALBANIA

Main stakeholders for including/promoting green economy in agriculture and rural development	
Stakeholder group	Relevant actors
Producers and processors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ⇒ Farmers ⇒ Farmers' groups ⇒ Processors
Input and technology providers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ⇒ Suppliers (importers) of inputs and technologies ⇒ Private advisory services ⇒ Agriculture input suppliers ⇒ Veterinary input suppliers
Community	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ⇒ Albanian Agribusiness Council (KASH) ⇒ Chamber of Commerce and Economic Consultative Council ⇒ Business associations (Biznes Albania, Konfindustria, etc). ⇒ National Federation of Forest and Pasture users Association ⇒ Association of Food Industrialists and other sector level associations
Government	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ⇒ Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development (MoARD) ⇒ Agricultural and Rural Development Agency (ARDA) ⇒ Ministry of Tourism and Environment (MoTE) and depended agencies ⇒ Ministry of Infrastructure and Energy (MoIE) ⇒ Ministry of Economy and Finance (MoEF) and Albanian Investment Development Agency (AIDA) ⇒ Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs (MoEFA) ⇒ Municipalities
Civil society organizations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ⇒ Albanian Rural Network ⇒ Local Action Groups (LAGs) ⇒ Consumer Protection Association ⇒ NPO and NGOs operating in the sphere of agriculture and rural development and environment
Knowledge and transfer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ⇒ Albanian National Extension System (ANES) and Regional Agricultural Extension Agency (RAEA) ⇒ Agriculture Technology Transfer Centres (ATTTC) ⇒ Agricultural University of Tirana, University of Korca ⇒ Agricultural vocational schools
Media	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ⇒ TV broadcasting ⇒ Printed media ⇒ Social media
International donor organizations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ⇒ European Commission; Multilateral donors, such as UN Agencies (UNFAO, UNDP, UNEP) World Bank; Bilateral donors USAID, GIZ, Italian Cooperation, French Cooperation, Spanish Cooperation, etc.

Relevance of actor: **high** - **medium** - **low**

ALBANIA

Roadmap to green economy in agriculture and rural development			
Priority	Specific steps to be taken to introduce/promote green economy	Responsible actor and other contributing actors	Time frame and additional comments
Establish an expert advisory group for green economy to prepare a national study	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify key experts Prepare terms of references for a national study on green economy in agriculture and rural development Carry out the national study Prepare a written report 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <u>MoARD</u> NAGE Donors 	<p>Short-term priority</p> <p>NAGE could support the preparatory work for the national report.</p>
Awareness and dialogue event	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prepare an awareness and dialoguing event also using mechanism of Open Government Partnership Identify key stakeholders through stakeholder mapping Prepare a program with presentation of inputs from the national study Conduct the awareness and dialoguing event which will define main institutional and legal changes to be carried Prepare (as an output of the event) a resolution that regulates the basis of an agency or coordinating office for green economy (inter/multi-institutional body such as the Council of Ministers) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <u>MoARD, MoTE, MoEF</u> NAGE, Donors AUT, University of Korca, Council of Ministers, Director of Policies and Good Governance System Directorate Parliament 	<p>Short-term priority</p> <p>MoARD lead the event organisation together with MoTE and MoEF. GIZ and KFW in association with FAO and UNEP support the event.</p>
Strategic policy document	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Draft a national strategic document for green economy in agriculture and rural development Prepare an action plan and budgetary support instruments (including green finance, risk coverage and guarantee instruments) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <u>MoARD</u> <u>MoARD, MoTE, MoEF</u> NAGE, Donors <u>Business associations</u> 	<p>Short-term priority</p> <p>MoARD lead the drafting.</p>
SARDF 2021/2027 mainstreaming	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide immediate commitment for the expert group and NAGE to contribute with elements of green economy in the SARDF 2021-2027 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <u>MoARD, Donors, NAGE</u> Civil society 	<p>Short-term priority</p> <p>MoARD lead the drafting.</p>
Prepare a national budgetary measure for ARDPF	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Draft a national budgetary measure as part of ARDPF by supporting green economy Prepare the main criteria and budgetary limits Prepare the premium criteria for other investments measures. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> MoARD, ARDA, NAGE, Civil society DG Agri 	<p>Mid-term priority</p> <p>MoARD lead the drafting.</p>

Roadmap to green economy in agriculture and rural development

Priority	Specific steps to be taken to introduce/promote green economy	Responsible actor and other contributing actors	Time frame and additional comments
Draft a Law on green economy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Preparatory regulatory impact assessment for drafting a Law on green economy which regulates main activities related to green economy 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> MoARD, MoTE, MoIE, MoEF, MoEFA, DG Agri Council of Ministers, Director of Policies and Good Governance System Directorate Parliament (eg. Parliamentary Commission for the Production Activities, Trade and Environment) 	<p>Mid-term priority</p> <p>MfEFA and MoARD lead the drafting while the Parliament and Council of Ministers proceed with the adoption. Council of Ministers approves the regulatory framework and determines targeted public expenditure, policy reforms and changes in taxation and regulation.</p>
Create a multi-institutional framework	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Define a leading institution 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Council of Ministers MoTE, MoEF, MoEFA AIDA 	<p>Mid-term priority</p> <p>Council of Ministers lead the procedure for the recognition of a leading institution.</p>

Timeframe: **Short-term priority** (<1yr) - **Mid-term priority** (2-5yrs) - **Long-term priority** (>5yrs)

Additional insights...

The various groups of stakeholders involved in agriculture production, trade, food nutrition health etc., in Albania can also be grouped as follows:

- i) regulatory bodies (such as central government; line Ministries and subordinate institutions responsible for policy, institutional and legal components of green economy (MoARD, MoTE, MoIE, and MoEF), the Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs (MoEFA) responsible for adopting the regulatory framework and aligning it with EU and other international conventions; and local level government),
- ii) green economy implementing units, which are farmers and processors ((interested in investing into green economic activities, infrastructure and assets that enable reduction of carbon emission and pollution, promote energy, and resource efficiency, and prevent the loss of biodiversity and ecosystem services) and importers of inputs and technologies (as main sources and partner organizations in knowledge technology transfer, adoption and innovation),
- iii) media, donors, knowledge, innovation and information transfer organization, civil society and business community groups and associations.

Partnership is necessary for achieving a constructive dialogue for increasing institutional, legal, and budgetary instruments for promoting green economy in agriculture and rural development. Efforts should be made to establish an inter- ministerial and multi-stakeholder cooperation. The national strategic document suggested in the Roadmap should be prepared on an *ad hoc* basis and include interventions for improving the regulatory framework and a budgetary framework for promoting green economy. In the midterm, it is very important to define a leading institution which enables the political reforms for mainstreaming agricultural and rural development as well as other macroeconomic and sector-based policies to support the transition to green economy and coordinate efforts to enable access to green finance (including risk coverage and guarantee instruments), technology and investments for green economy.

BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA

Main stakeholders for including/promoting green economy in agriculture and rural development	
Stakeholder group	Relevant actors
Producers	⇒ Agricultural producers of all branches of agriculture (crop and animal production)
	⇒ Agricultural cooperatives
	⇒ Associations of farmers
	⇒ Producers of agricultural inputs
Industry	⇒ Milk processing industry
	⇒ Meat processing industry
	⇒ Fruit and vegetable processing industry
	⇒ Mill and bakery industry
	⇒ Oil refining industry
	⇒ Herbal processing industry
	⇒ Other food industry
Customers	⇒ Direct customers
	⇒ Wholesale
	⇒ Retail
	⇒ Intermediaries (agents)
Community	⇒ Chamber of Commerce
	⇒ Citizens' organizations
	⇒ Consumer protection associations
	⇒ Environmental protection associations
Government	⇒ Ministry of Foreign Trade and Economic Relations – MoFTER
	⇒ Federal Ministry of Agriculture, Water Management and Forestry – FMAWMF
	⇒ Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Water Management of the Republic of Srpska – MAFWMRS)
	⇒ Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Water Management of Government of Brcko District BIH - DAFWMOGBDB&H
	⇒ Other relevant ministries (Ministry of Environment, Ministry of Development and Entrepreneurship, Ministry of Health, Ministry of Tourism) at the state and entity level.
	⇒ Governments (Council of Ministers of B&H and entity governments)
	⇒ Local community government (municipalities and cities)
	⇒ Public institutions (agricultural institutes, veterinary institutes/stations, hydro-meteorological and agro-pedological institutes, public enterprise for hail prevention of RS, etc.)
Civil society organizations	⇒ Civil society organizations / NGOs
	⇒ Development agencies
	⇒ Local action groups (LAGs)
Knowledge and transfer	⇒ Academia (universities / faculties)
	⇒ Agricultural institutes
	⇒ Extension (advisory) services (public and private)
	⇒ Consulting firms
International donor organisations	⇒ European Commission (EC), USAID, United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), International Fund for Agriculture Development (IFAD) Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ), Swedish Agency for Development and Cooperation (SIDA), Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC): Standing working group for regional rural development (SWG RRD).

Relevance of actor: **high** - **medium** - **low**

BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA

Roadmap to green economy in agriculture and rural development			
Priority	Specific steps to be taken to introduce/promote green economy	Responsible actor and other contributing actors	Time frame and additional comments
Drafting of a regulatory framework (legislation, strategies, action plans) in the field of agriculture and rural development that will include the principles of the green economy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Incorporate green economy principles in strategic documents (agriculture and rural development sector) and appropriate measures • Establish support programs/ subsidies for the transition to a green economy • Initiate activities related to the development of a legislative framework that will include the principles of the green economy in the laws on agriculture and the law on rural development 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>MoFTER, FMAWME, MAFWMRS, DAFWMoGBDB&H</u> • Working groups at relevant ministries, Academia 	<p>Short-term priority</p> <p>At the level of both B&H entities and Brcko District B&H, the development strategies of agriculture and rural development are either in the phase of public consultation or in the preparatory phase and can be updated to include the principles of green economy in strategic (priority) goals.</p> <p>The Green Agenda for the Western Balkans is a document that should be used in the activities of this priority.</p>
Raising awareness and knowledge about the importance of the green economy including institutional strengthening of human capacities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Involve all actors of the AKIS system who will be familiar with the concept of green economy in an organized way • Organize workshops, seminars and other forms of education and knowledge transfer 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>All actors of AKIS</u> • <u>MoFTER, FMAWME, MAFWMRS, DAFWMoGBDB&H</u> 	<p>Short-term priority</p>
Absorption of EU pre-accession funds that include green economy issues (IPARD, EU4Agri and EU Recovery programs)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work on providing the necessary preconditions for drawing IPARD funds (harmonization with the IPARD operating structure). • Define activities that will enable greater absorption of funds from EU programs in B&H that cover green economy issues 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>MoFTER</u> • <u>FMAWME</u> • <u>MMAFWMRS</u> • <u>DAFWMoGBDB&H</u> • UNDP and other international organizations 	<p>Short-term priority</p> <p>Due to the lack of political will, B&H is not using IPARD funds yet. Given the exceptional importance of these funds, it is necessary to create preconditions for their absorption as soon as possible.</p>
Establishment of a greater inter-ministerial cooperation between the ministries responsible for agriculture, rural development, environmental protection and economy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establish a special body that will coordinate the work of relevant ministries when it comes to the introduction and implementation of the concept of green economy 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>MoFTER</u> • <u>FMAWME</u> • <u>MMAFWMRS</u> • <u>DAFWMoGBDB&H</u> 	<p>Short-term priority</p> <p>Currently, there is a very low level of coordination of relevant ministries dealing with agriculture, rural development and the environment issues.</p>

Roadmap to green economy in agriculture and rural development

Priority	Specific steps to be taken to introduce/promote green economy	Responsible actor and other contributing actors	Time frame and additional comments
Application of international technical, scientific and research assistance projects in the field of green economy (TAIEX workshops, HORIZON projects, cross-border cooperation projects)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Activities related to greater participation of B&H entities (organizations) and individuals in international assistance of various forms (workshops, projects, etc.) Activities are related to better information and capacity building 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <u>Academia</u> MoFTER FMAWMF MMAFWMRS DAFWMoGBDB&H NGO Development agencies Local community 	Mid-term priority

Timeframe: Short-term priority (<1yr) - Mid-term priority (2-5yrs) - Long-term priority (>5yrs)

Additional insights...

B&H is at the very beginning of introducing the concept of green economy in the sector of agriculture and rural development. The adoption of this concept will depend mostly on the institutional (line ministries) involvement and the interest of the authorities in recognizing its importance. This will be reflected primarily in the adoption of government strategic documents, the provision of an adequate legislative framework and the definition of measures that will be accompanied by significant budget support. All other activities, such as raising awareness of the importance of the green economy, educating all actors, and strengthening the AKIS system, animation of the local community and others, are important for the overall success of the introduction of the green economy concept but they are only as an upgrade. Therefore, the success of the introduction of the concept of green economy in B&H is primarily up to the authorities (institutions) that need to recognize its importance as soon as possible. Very soon there will come a time when without the application of adequate measures (standards) of this concept, the export of agri-food products to the EU will be disabled. Let's not forget that the EU market is the most important market for B&H agricultural producers.

KOSOVO

Main stakeholders for including/promoting green economy in agriculture and rural development	
Stakeholder group	Relevant actors
Producers	⇒ Small and medium enterprises
	⇒ Agriculture cooperatives
	⇒ Primary agricultural producer
	⇒ Primary producer (logging, hunting, fishing)
Industry	⇒ Agribusinesses - milk processing sector
	⇒ Agribusinesses - meat processing sector
	⇒ Agribusinesses - fruit and vegetables processing sector
	⇒ Agribusinesses - wine sector
Customers	⇒ Direct domestic customers
	⇒ Retailers/wholesalers
	⇒ Tourists
Community	⇒ Chambers of Commerce
	⇒ Association of Businesses
	⇒ Industry associations (Dairy Producers Association, Association of Fruits and Vegetables Processors, Association of Processors and Exporters of NWFP)
	⇒ Association of Agricultural Input Traders
	⇒ Association of Municipalities
	⇒ Manufacturing club
⇒ Media	
Government	⇒ Central Government (Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Rural Development – MAFRD; Ministry of Environment, Spatial Planning and Infrastructure – MESPI; Ministry of Finance, Labor and Transfers – MFLT; Ministry of Industry, Entrepreneurship and Trade – MIET; Ministry of Economy - ME, Ministry of Regional Development - MRD)
	⇒ Agriculture Development Agency (ADA)
	⇒ Food and Veterinary Agency (FVA)
	⇒ Municipalities (Departments for Economy, Agriculture or similar)
Civil society organizations	⇒ Customer protection department
	⇒ Network of Organizations for Rural Development (NORDK)
	⇒ Civil Society Organizations (also fostering environmental protection issues, women organizations, farmers' associations)
	⇒ Local Action Groups (LAGs)
Knowledge and transfer	⇒ Tour operators and guides
	⇒ Department of Advisory and Technical Services (MAFRD)
	⇒ Public and Private Universities
	⇒ Institute for Agriculture
	⇒ Institute for Spatial Planning
	⇒ Municipal advisory information centers
	⇒ Green Activists/ Movements
	⇒ Professional Schools (Economic, Agriculture School and Competency Centers)
	⇒ Licensed Agriculture Companies
⇒ Private Advisors of Agriculture and Rural Development	
⇒ Consultants	
International donor organizations	⇒ USAID, GIZ, World Bank, European Commission, FAO UN, UNDP, SIDA, Swiss Cooperation, Millennium Foundation Kosovo.

Relevance of actor: **high** - **medium** - **low**

KOSOVO

Roadmap to green economy in agriculture and rural development			
Priority	Specific steps to be taken to introduce/promote green economy	Responsible actor and other contributing actors	Time frame and additional comments
Establishing a department for green economy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Set-up a legal framework • Prepare policies in line with the Green Agenda • Establish sound regulatory frameworks • Raise inter-sectorial cooperation (between government and private sector/ business community) • Foster innovation for greening growth 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Ministry of Economy</u> • Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Rural Development • Ministry of Industry, Entrepreneurship and Trade • 	<p>Mid-term priority</p> <p>The aim is to identify initial green economy policy options that exploit policy synergies that deliver outcomes across all three – economic, social and environmental – dimensions, in accordance with national circumstances.</p>
Strengthening Cooperation with Municipal advisory information centers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide incentives for farmers by making them aware of the possible benefits, while retaining or improving the economic performance of the farm (economic role) • Encourage and facilitate the adoption of appropriate agri-environmental land management practices to maximise environmental benefits (environmental role) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Rural Development</u> • Department of Advisory and Technical Services • Municipalities • Donors 	<p>Mid-term priority</p> <p>Several types of practices:</p> <p>Technical advice and support</p> <p>Training in agri-environmental management</p>
Empowerment of women	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Design a training program to build capacity in an effort to expand income opportunities for women entrepreneurs • Promote (green) entrepreneurship among women, by (among others) providing them training programs on green entrepreneurship, access to finance and resources and skills development 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Ministry of Industry, Entrepreneurship and Trade</u> • <u>Ministry of Economy</u> • <u>Agency for Gender Equality</u> • Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Rural Development • NGO's • Ministry of Regional Development • Donors 	<p>Mid-term priority</p> <p>Green economy offers new opportunities to promote gender equality</p>

Roadmap to green economy in agriculture and rural development

Priority	Specific steps to be taken to introduce/promote green economy	Responsible actor and other contributing actors	Time frame and additional comments
Introduction of eco-schemes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Support farmers and agroindustry who practice: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Pesticide reduction - Integrated nutrient management - Environmental and nature protection, incl. landscape features - Reduce GHG emissions and adapt to climate change 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <u>Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Rural Development</u> <u>Ministry of Environment, Spatial Planning and Infrastructure</u> Ministry of Economy 	<p>Long-term priority</p> <p>Eco-schemes could also support practices that address employment and green growth. The eco-schemes can be used as subsidies, as intended support action to improve environment and climate.</p>

Timeframe: **Short-term priority** (<1yr) - **Mid-term priority** (2-5yrs) - **Long-term priority** (>5yrs)

Some green businesses examples in Kosovo...

- **Greenhouse Hydroponics System** - The Kosova Agricultural Technology Park project is an over 2.500.000 m² local and export oriented hydroponic, aquaponic, aeroponic and vertical greenhouse project with state of the art innovative methods for high quality crop varieties production throughout Kosovo. Kamenica is the first municipality who has signed the contract for around 6 mil € (<https://agrotec-kosova.org/>).
- Located in the National Park "Germia" in a tranquil corner of the capital Prishtina is the **Soma Slow Food Restaurant**. SSF is the epitome of Albanian slow food, which is all about keeping the things eat local, sustainable and healthy. No packing and no waste by stimulating collectors and growers to return authentic soil products. The business principles are zerowaste & recycling (<http://www.facebook/cpm/somaslowfood/>).
- **Tourist complex N'MAL**- located in the village Reka e Allages (1400m asl), in Rugova, Kosovo. It operates as a family business and offers accommodation services in family villas (lodge cabins), with proper infrastructure and preserving the environment, where 30% of energy is applied with renewable energy, while the primary goal is to operate with renewable energy up to 100% within 4 years. The food served for guests comes from local farmers, mainly women, at the same time the business is led by a woman. This project has been supported twice by MAFRD (measure 302) and is a success story (<http://nmal.info/index.html>).

MONTENEGRO

Main stakeholders for including/promoting green economy in agriculture and rural development	
Stakeholder group	Relevant actors
Producers	⇒ Individual producers
	⇒ Producer associations
	⇒ Producers involved in rural tourism
Industry	⇒ Food processing industry
	⇒ Fish processing industry
	⇒ Feed production industry
	⇒ Tourism industry
Customers	⇒ Direct individual customers
	⇒ Wholesale
	⇒ Retail
	⇒ Intermediaries
Community	⇒ Montenegrin Chamber of Economy
	⇒ Society for consumer protection
Government	⇒ Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development (MARD)
	⇒ Ministry of Economic Development (Directorate for innovations)
	⇒ Environmental Protection Fund
	⇒ Montenegro Institutional Development and Agriculture Strengthening Project (MIDAS), IPARD units
	⇒ Ministry of Urban planning and tourism
	⇒ State-owned enterprise Elektroprivreda Crne Gore (EPCG)
Civil society organizations	⇒ Civil society organizations / NGOs dealing in environmental protection
	⇒ Civil society organizations / NGOs dealing in agriculture
	⇒ Civil society organizations / NGOs dealing in gender equality
Knowledge and transfer	⇒ Extension services (Extension services for animal and plant production - MARD)
	⇒ University of Montenegro (Biotechnical Faculty), University of Donja Gorica (Faculty of Food Technology, Food Safety and Ecology)
	⇒ Municipal agricultural services
	⇒ Research and innovation initiatives (innovative and research developmental and capacity building projects)
International donor organisations	⇒ Foreign donor organizations (World Bank, European Commission, FAO UNDP)

Relevance of actor: **high** - **medium** - **low**

MONTENEGRO

Roadmap to green economy in agriculture and rural development			
Priority	Specific steps to be taken to introduce/promote green economy	Responsible actor and other contributing actors	Time frame and additional comments
Further improvement of existing and adoption of missing strategic and legal documents	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establish a thematic working group with relevant institutional representatives Define a set of initiatives for the stimulation of agricultural production based on good ecological practices (e.g., elaborate strategic document with the action plan; define the specific support programs and lines, etc.) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <u>Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Water Management</u> <u>Extension services in agriculture</u> <u>Agency for payments in agriculture</u> <u>Food Safety Directorate</u> <u>Ministry of Economic Development</u> <u>Ministry of Ecology, Spatial Planning and Urbanism</u> 	<p>Long-term priority</p> <p>Current agricultural policy support mainly relates to the Agro-budget lines. Further gradual alignment with EU CAP should be continued. Specific program lines should be approved at the national level for stimulation of good ecological practices in agriculture.</p>
Capacity building in green economy for the decision makers, producers/food industry and other relevant stakeholders	<p>Knowledge transfer and practical examples, specifically adjusted to different stakeholder groups in the areas of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Apprehending fundamental principles of green economy in food production Setting-up a Codex of Good Agricultural Practice - especially for waste management Start applying ecologically-based agricultural practices - e.g., harvesting, pasture, crop protection that minimize the application of pesticides, boost biodiversity preservation and vitality of rural areas 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <u>Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Water Management</u> <u>Ministry of Economic Development</u> Educational institutions and individual experts. Extension services in agriculture Producer associations NGO sector 	<p>Mid-term priority (continuous process)</p> <p>Promotional campaigns for production chain stakeholders and wider public.</p>
Adding value for the 'greener' food products	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Stimulate the increase of the degree of product finalization and production of traditional domestic products that could enter the system of protection of quality labels and organic production Launch an initiative to establish an environmental label for agricultural products that would enable producers to attract a premium price for "green" products and services Introduce new quality labels in the existing legal framework (eco-branding of agricultural products and support for their promotion) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <u>Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Water Management</u> Extension services in agriculture Producer associations NGO sector Monteorganica 	<p>Mid-term priority</p> <p>Agro-budget lines for the support of collection centres and investments in rural tourism (MIDAS II) IPA calls</p>

Roadmap to green economy in agriculture and rural development

Priority	Specific steps to be taken to introduce/promote green economy	Responsible actor and other contributing actors	Time frame and additional comments
Strengthen the link to the tourism sector	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Encourage the development of environmentally friendly forms of tourism, domestic eco-product tasting. • Establish small craft shops for marketing of high-quality domestic food products. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Ministry of Ecology, Spatial Planning and Urbanism</u> • <u>Local tourist Organizations</u> • Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Water Management • Producer associations • NGO sector 	<p style="background-color: #e67e22; color: white; padding: 2px;">Mid-term priority</p> <p>Strategy for the development of Rural Tourism by 2030.</p>
Formation of agro-green clusters	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establish a framework for agro-green clusters to help rural communities to become more sustainable. • Introduce policy support mechanisms for producer clusters and networking aiming to better promotion and marketing. • Start implementing training programs and practical examples on ecology-friendly additional uses of raw materials and reprocessing of the waste materials. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Water Management</u> • <u>Ministry of Economic Development</u> • <u>Ministry of Ecology, Spatial Planning and Urbanism</u> • Educational institutions and individual experts • Producer associations • NGO sector 	<p style="background-color: #e67e22; color: white; padding: 2px;">Long-term priority</p>

Timeframe: Short-term priority (<1yr) - Mid-term priority (2-5yrs) - Long-term priority (>5yrs)

Additional insights...

Strengthening of the rural-urban links is important, as green investments and activities in rural areas can contribute to green economic growth in urban areas and vice versa. Montenegro has significant natural resources and potential for strengthening human resources to continue through the path of green businesses. The transition to a green economy will require activities on many fronts, and significant investment is likely to be required to create the necessary impetus in some areas. Rural Development Programs (RDPs) can play a key role by supporting low carbon, resource, and socially equitable investments, as well as fostering sustainable natural resource management across a wide range of economic sectors, not just agriculture and forestry. Although often small and not branded, there are already many examples of RDP investments and initiatives that can contribute to job creation and economic growth within a low-carbon and resource-efficient way. Combining the measures provided via European agricultural fund for rural development (EAFRD) with the support of other EU funds and working between sectors and institutional divisions could increase support for rural development. Planning how to combine these measures in packages to support integrated schemes to achieve certain outcomes will be as important as using financial instruments, especially if the goal is to support small investments at the local level.

NORTH MACEDONIA

Main stakeholders for including/promoting green economy in agriculture and rural development	
Stakeholder group	Relevant actors
Producers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ⇒ Big and mid-size agricultural holdings ⇒ Small agricultural holdings (family farms), especially organic producers ⇒ Producer cooperatives
Industry	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ⇒ Meat and dairy industry ⇒ Wineries, fruit and vegetable processors ⇒ Food packaging industry ⇒ Cereals' processing industry
Customers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ⇒ Consumers organization of Macedonia ⇒ Large retail chains (ex. Tinex, Vero, etc.) ⇒ Stores for organic and health food ⇒ Nasha Dobra Zemja (consumer cooperative)
Community	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ⇒ National Federation of Farmers (NFF) ⇒ Macedonian Association of Processors (MAP) ⇒ Macedonian Chamber of Commerce (MCC) ⇒ Economic Chamber of North Macedonia (ECNM) ⇒ Macedonian Association of Agricultural Cooperatives (MAAC) ⇒ Chamber of Organic Producers (COP)
Government	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ⇒ Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Water Economy (MAFWE) ⇒ Agency for Financial Support of Agriculture and Rural Development (AFSARD) ⇒ State Inspectorate for Agriculture (SIA) ⇒ Food and Veterinary Agency (FVA) ⇒ Ministry of Environment and Physical Planning (MoEPP) ⇒ State Environmental Inspectorate (SEI) ⇒ Ministry of Economy (ME) ⇒ State Market Inspectorate (SMI) ⇒ Ministry of Local Self-government (MLS) ⇒ Bureau for Regional Development (BRD) ⇒ Agency for Promotion and Support of Tourism (APST)
Civil society organizations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ⇒ Rural Development Network (RDN) ⇒ Local action groups (LAGs) ⇒ Slow Food Macedonia ⇒ Ajde Makedonija ⇒ Macedonian Ecological Society (MES) ⇒ SOS Ohrid
Knowledge and transfer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ⇒ National Extension Agency (NEA) ⇒ Universities and institutes (Faculty of Agricultural Sciences and Food, Faculty of Natural Sciences and others) ⇒ High schools ⇒ Centre for Informal Education ⇒ Ministry of Education and Science
International donor organisations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ⇒ Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ), European Commission (EC), Standing working group for regional rural development (SWG RRD), Swedish Agency for Development and Cooperation (SIDA): We Effect, Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC): IME programme, United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), USAID

Relevance of actor: **high** - **medium** - **low**

NORTH MACEDONIA

Roadmap to green economy in agriculture and rural development			
Priority	Specific steps to be taken to introduce/promote green economy	Responsible actor and other contributing actors	Time frame and additional comments
Concerted action among institutions relevant for green economy (coordinate)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Advocate the idea for setting-up a technical inter-ministerial body for green economy 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <u>RDN</u> 	Short-term priority In addition to the National Council for Sustainable Economy, to be responsible for technical coordination and regulation among institutions.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Organize a round table with all key stakeholders that support the idea and provide joint document endorsing it 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <u>RDN</u> 	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establish technical inter-ministerial body for green economy 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <u>Government</u>, ministries and relevant institutions 	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Revise and ensure compliance of regulations and supporting measures among relevant institutions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <u>Inter-ministerial body</u> for green economy 	Short-term priority To clear all conflicting issues.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide joint coordinated framework for supporting green economy 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <u>Inter-ministerial body</u> for green economy 	Short-term priority To regulate and monitor, but also to promote and support.
Promotion of the green economy concept and education of key participants (promote)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Promote the green economy concept among farmers, processors, distributors, suppliers, other entrepreneurs, employees in the related institutions, and public 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <u>MAFWE</u>, other government institutions, academia, CSOs, and media 	Short-term priority (continuous process)
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maintain functional agricultural knowledge and innovation transfer (AKIS) system 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <u>MAFWE</u>, <u>NEA</u>, academia and other knowledge and transfer institutions 	Short-term priority (continuous process) To ensure accessible and quality advisory services focusing on green economy practices and their implementation.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Educate and train producers, especially farmers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <u>NEA advisors</u> and other knowledge and transfer stakeholders, and CSO 	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Train representatives from different ministries with different background and professional focus Ensure same interpretation of the green economy concept (for instance in agriculture, environment and economy) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <u>Universities</u>, and other educational institutions 	Short-term priority (continuous process) To consider the specific needs and opportunities, and other conditions to mitigate possible misinterpretations.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prepare promotional and educational material (brochures, guidelines, protocols, etc.) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <u>MAFWE</u>, other government institutions, academia, CSOs, and media 	Short-term priority To explain what green economy is, how it can be supported, what needs to be done, how it should be done, what are the available opportunities for supporting green business decisions, etc.

Roadmap to green economy in agriculture and rural development

Priority	Specific steps to be taken to introduce/promote green economy	Responsible actor and other contributing actors	Time frame and additional comments
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Disseminate informative material 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <u>MAFWE</u>, other government institutions, academia, CSOs, and media 	<p>Short-term priority</p> <p>To disseminate via officials web-sites, but also through outlets closer to the potential applicants (MAFWE regional offices, local community centres, advisory offices, etc.).</p>
Provided support for green economy (support)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Advocate the idea for budgetary sources for green economy measures 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <u>RDN</u>, <u>NFF</u>, other CSOs and relevant actors 	<p>Short-term priority</p> <p>National budget, IPARD and foreign donor organisations</p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide budget for supporting 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <u>MAFWE</u>, and other relevant ministries (ME, MoEPP, MLS) 	<p>Mid-term priority</p> <p>For, example, the planned increase in the budget for agricultural and rural development to be in the rural development budget, with a defined share of green economy measures.</p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Accredit and implement green-oriented IPARD measures, related to agri-environment, climate and organic farming, LEADER-approach, advisory services 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <u>IPARD Managing Authority</u> 	<p>Short-term priority</p> <p>To be included in the IPARD 2021-2027 programme</p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide more measures for green economy practices 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <u>MAFWE</u>, <u>MOEPP</u>, <u>ME</u> 	<p>Mid-term priority</p> <p>To be coordinated among relevant institutions.</p>
Simplified procedures for access to financial support (facilitate)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Advocate the idea for simplified procedures 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <u>RDN</u>, <u>NFF</u> 	<p>Short-term priority</p> <p>To ease the burden of the applicants and the administrators</p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Simplify the procedures for financial support 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <u>MAFWE/IPARD Managing Authority</u>, <u>ME</u> Inter-ministerial body 	

Timeframe: **Short-term priority** (<1yr) - **Mid-term priority** (2-5yrs) - **Long-term priority** (>5yrs)

Additional insights...

This initial roadmap to green economy in agriculture and rural development proposes four basic priorities (promote – support – facilitate – coordinate). It involves engagement of various stakeholders and actors to initiate, monitor and support its implementation. Some stakeholders have less power to act, but are more aware and motivated; whereas others have more power, but focus their action on other priorities. Therefore, they can and should act upon their ability - to spread the idea and emphasize the importance of green economy - so the potential beneficiaries and wider public become the additional push factor for some of the more inert institutions. Having this in mind, each actor and each action within the given priorities so far recognized, are necessary, thus full commitment of all involved institutions and leading authorities is the crucial factor for the success of this process.

SERBIA

Main stakeholders for including/promoting green economy in agriculture and rural development	
Stakeholder group	Relevant actors
Producers	⇒ Farmers associations (i.e. Klub 100P plus; Serbian Young Farmers Association; etc.)
	⇒ Agricultural cooperatives
	⇒ Small farms
Industry	⇒ The Chamber of Commerce of Serbia
	⇒ Association of small food producers
	⇒ Serbian Dairies Association
	⇒ Global Seed Company
	⇒ Association for Plant Production and Food Industry
Customers	⇒ Wholesale and retail sectors
	⇒ Intermediaries (agents)
	⇒ National Consumer Organization of Serbia
Community	⇒ Environmental protection associations (local)
	⇒ Consumer protection associations (local)
Government	⇒ Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Water Management (MAFWM)
	⇒ Ministry of Environmental Protection (MEP)
	⇒ Ministry of Economy (ME)
	⇒ Ministry of Local Self-government (MLSF)
	⇒ Provincial Secretariat for Agriculture, Water Management and Forestry of Autonomous Province of Vojvodina (PSAWFV)
	⇒ Local self-governments;
	⇒ Standing Conference of Cities and Municipalities
	⇒ Regional Development Agencies (http://ras.gov.rs/korisni-linkovi/regionalne-razvojneagencije)
Civil society organizations	⇒ Center for Ecology and Sustainable Development (CEKOR)
	⇒ Serbian Crop Protection Association (SECPA)
	⇒ Serbia Organica
	⇒ Network for Rural Development of Serbia
	⇒ Young Researchers of Serbia (YRS)
	⇒ Local Action Groups (LAGs)
Knowledge and transfer	⇒ Institute for the Application of Science in Agriculture (IPN)
	⇒ Research Institutes
	⇒ Agricultural advisory and professional services
	⇒ Faculties of Agriculture, Forestry, Veterinary Medicine, Environmental Protection (Universities of Belgrade, Novi Sad, Kragujevac, Nis)
	⇒ Vocational agricultural schools
International donor organisations	⇒ Companies dealing with advisory and extension
	⇒ EBRD
	⇒ World Bank
	⇒ European Commission;
	⇒ UN Agencies (UNFAO, UNDP, UNEP)
⇒ Bilateral donors - GIZ, SIDA, USAID	

Relevance of actor: **high** - **medium** - **low**

SERBIA

Roadmap to green economy in agriculture and rural development			
Priority	Specific steps to be taken to introduce/promote green economy	Responsible actor and other contributing actors	Time frame and additional comments
Develop further and adopt the missing strategic and programming policy documents	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establish a working group consisting of representatives of all relevant bodies dealing with environment related issues Ensure the coherence of NPRD and IPARD III with other programs and policies implemented by various bodies within MAFWM and other ministries 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <u>MAFWM</u> Directorates for forests, land management, and water Directorate for Agrarian Payments Sectors for agricultural policy and rural development 	Short-term priority National Programme for Rural Development (NPRD) and IPARD III should be prepared during 2021
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Set-up a national program to put green public procurement into action, as well as economic and fiscal policy measures for greening (the government already adopted the Public Procurement Development Program for the period 2019-2023 that recognizes green procurement) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <u>Ministry of Finance</u> <u>Ministry of Economy</u> 	Short-term priority The law on public procurement recognizes the possibility of conducting green procurement, but it is not mandatory.
Raise awareness and build the knowledge	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Advocate the establishment of inter-ministerial body for green economy 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <u>MEP</u> CSOs Media 	Short-term priority
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mobilize all key stakeholders, mapping their capacities, and promotion activities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <u>MEP</u> CSOs Research institutions Media 	Short-term priority Promotion to target farmers, processors, suppliers, rural population and general public
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Strengthen capacities of extension services to provide advice, trainings and promote agri- environmental activities and practices 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <u>MAFWM,</u> <u>PSAWFV</u> IPN Agricultural advisory and professional services 	Short-term priority
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increase the number of advisors and upgrade the knowledge and skills of extension service providers 		Mid-term priority
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop of new training curricula targeted to the specific groups of farmers and their needs 	Faculties, research institutes, IPN, Agricultural advisory and professional services, CSOs	Mid-term priority
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Broaden the access to extension services and increase the number of users; 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <u>MAFWM,</u> <u>PSAWFV</u> IPN 	Mid-term priority
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Design more effective systems for extension service delivery to reach new users 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Agricultural advisory and professional services 	Mid-term priority

Roadmap to green economy in agriculture and rural development

Priority	Specific steps to be taken to introduce/promote green economy	Responsible actor and other contributing actors	Time frame and additional comments
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Train public administrators at different levels of government, CSOs, regional development agencies, LAGs, to strengthen programming capacities and to ensure that the specific needs, opportunities and interests of various sectors and social groups are considered 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Ministry of public administration and local self-government</u> • <u>MEP</u> • <u>MAFWM</u> • Standing conference of cities and municipalities 	Short-term priority
Raise awareness on agri-environmental issues and resource management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promoting of the green economy concept among farmers, processors, distributors, suppliers, other entrepreneurs, employees in the related institutions, and public • Dissemination of informative material 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Research and knowledge transfer institutions, • CSOs • Media 	Short-term priority (continuous process)
Improve the legal framework by adapting laws related to the green economy concept and supporting efficient enforcement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Revision and consolidation of legal framework • Adopt missing laws and bylaws governing the green economy concept supporting the efficient application of laws through more effective supervision 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>MAFWM</u> • Other Ministries and governmental bodies in charge with environmental issues 	Short-term priority
Facilitate better integration of agri-environmental objectives within the agricultural policy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase the number of measures • Expand the number of beneficiaries and better target objectives • Increase the budgetary allocations • Accreditation of the other IPARD measures (AE, LEADER, rural infrastructure) for next programming period 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>MAFWM</u> • Directorate for Agrarian Payments • Sector for rural development • Ministry of Finance 	Short-term priority The agri-environmental schemes should include long-term contracts with farmers and go beyond the mandatory requirements

Timeframe: **Short-term priority** (<1yr) - **Mid-term priority** (2-5yrs) - **Long-term priority** (>5yrs)

Additional insights...

- A national program to put green public procurement into action should be prepared, as well as economic and fiscal policy measures for greening the economy in order to stimulate the creation of new jobs.
- Include green economy performance indicators and set specific targets for agro-environmental policy assessment.

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Project “Networking and Advocacy for Green Economy - NAGE”
Support to enhance the policy and decision-making impact of the Balkan Rural Development Network (BRDN) and its constituents, through involvement in the agricultural and rural program and policy reform processes for introduction of the green economy concept

BALKAN RURAL DEVELOPMENT NETWORK (BRDN) members:

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RURAL DEVELOPMENT NETWORK IN BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA (MRRBIH)

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NETWORK FOR RURAL DEVELOPMENT OF MONTENEGRO (NRDM)

RURAL DEVELOPMENT NETWORK OF NORTH MACEDONIA (RDN OF NM)

NETWORK FOR RURAL DEVELOPMENT OF SERBIA (NRDS)

For more information, consult www.brdnetwork.org for related publications:

- State of affairs for fostering green economy in agriculture and rural development: Comparative analysis of programs and measures in the Western Balkan Countries and Croatia
- Policy recommendations for facilitation of the approximation process of the Western Balkan countries to the EU CAP segment related to green economy and entrepreneurship

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