

The Government of the Republic of North Macedonia -Agency for Financial Support of the Agriculture and Rural Development

On the basis of Annex A Clause bb paragraph 1 point b from the Law on ratification of the Framework Agreement for financial partnership signed by and between the Commission of the European Communities and the Republic of North Macedonia represented by the Government of the Republic of Macedonia stipulating the specific procedures for implementation of the EU financial assistance to the Republic of North Macedonia under the Instrument for Pre-Accession Assistance IPA 3 (Official Gazette of Republic of North Macedonia no.235/22) and on the basis of the IPARD Programme 2021-2027 and article 6 from the Decree on the manner and the procedure for allocation of financial assistance for rural development measures funded under the IPARD Programme 2021-2027 (Official Gazette of RM no. 88/23)

The Agency for Financial Support of the Agriculture and the Rural Development

On 05 November 2024 hereby announces

Call for Applications No.02/2024

for submitting applications for allocation of funds under the IPARD Program 2021-2027

PART I

1. The Agency for Financial Support of the Agriculture and Rural Development (hereinafter: The Agency) as a relevant institution and contracting authority for implementation of the EU Instrument for Pre-Accession Assistance for Rural Development (IPARD) invites all interested natural and legal parties from the Republic of North Macedonia to submit the applications for allocation of funds from the IPARD Programme 2021-2027 for the following measures:

1. Farm Diversification and Business Development

- **2.** The financial support for this Public Call is comprised of 75% funds provided by the European Union Instrument for Pre-Accession Assistance for Rural Development (IPARD) according to the IPARD Programme 2021-2027and 25% funds from the Budget of the Republic of North Macedonia.
- **3.** The Financial resources per single application shall be awarded as a non-refundable financial support (grant) in the amount of:

3.1. 60% of the value of the total eligible expenditures for the investments under Measure - Farm Diversification and Business Development.

The percentage shall be increased up to 70% for investments by young farmers and/or certified organic producers and for collective investments.

The percentage for co-financing can be increased by an additional 10% for investments related to waste management, renewable energy and circular economy investment type from the (efficient, re-use of waste materials).

The ceiling for cumulative/combined financial support must not exceed 75%.

4. The deadline for submitting applications is 20 December, 2024.

The total financial support under this call for Measure 7 "Farm Diversification and Business Development" is 14.000.000,00 euros or 862.890.000 denars. The euro exchange rate for this Call is 61.635 denars.

5. Forms and instructions:

The required forms of the "Application for allocation of funds from the IPARD Programme 2021-2027" as well as the "Guidelines for Beneficiaries of funds for Measure 7 **Farm Diversification and Business Development** which comprises all information on the criteria, eligibility requirements for the projects and the funding conditions as well as any other information necessary for preparing an Application for allocation of funds under the IPARD Program 2021-2027, the Guidelines for drafting the Business Plan/Technical Project Proposal, Guidelines for issuing the necessary documentation from the relevant institutions and the other useful information in electronic form can be downloaded from the Agency's web address: <u>www.ipardpa.gov.mk</u>.

6. Submitting the application:

The Applicant shall fill out and submit an Application for allocation of funds from the IPARD Programme 2021-2027 for the measure, Business Plan developed according to the Guidelines for drafting Business Plan or Technical Project Proposal and supporting documentation as specified in this Public Call.

The completed application for allocation of funds from the IPARD Programme 2021-2027 along with the Business Plan/Technical Project Proposal and the overall documentation shall be submitted in a sealed envelope. The front of the envelope, in the upper left corner, should have an indication "DO NOT OPEN", for Public Call IPARD Programme 2021-2027 number 02/2024 and indication of the measure for which the application is sent. The application can be sent via registered mail or in person to the Archive of the Agency.

After completing the investment, the Beneficiary is obliged to submit to the Agency claim for payment within a deadline specified in the Contract for Financial Support.

The claim for payment is standard form which the Final Beneficiaries shall obtain after signing the Contract for Measure 7. The Claims for payment shall also be available at the premises of the Agency and the Agency's web page: www.ipardpa.gov.mk

Note: For the purpose of performing on-the-spot controls by the Agency, the applicant should have copies of the overall documentation submitted to the Agency.

More detail contact information can be obtained at: telephone (02) 3097-460 or the email address: <u>ipardpa.info@ipardpa.gov.mk</u> and the website: <u>www.ipardpa.gov.mk</u>.