

What expenditures are not supported?

- Taxes, incl. VAT, customs or import duties
- Purchase, rent or leasing of land and existing buildings
- Fines, financial penalties and expenses of litigation;
- Operating costs;
- Second hand machinery and equipment;
- Bank charges, costs of guarantees and similar charges;
- Contributions in kind;
- Purchase of agricultural production rights, animals, annual plants and their planting;
- Any maintenance, depreciation and rental costs;

What are the financing conditions?

- Public sector support is in general granted up to 50% of total eligible costs;
- Total eligible cost per application is between 5,000 EURO and 200,000 EURO
- One beneficiary may submit several applications up to the max. ceiling of 250.000 EURO total eligible costs within the programming period 2007-2013. Previous projects must be successfully finalized, i.e. final payment is received.
- Eligible investment activities have to take place after the signature of the contract with exception to feasibility and technical studies, in the limit of the percentage approved in the measures.
- General costs linked to expenditures for architects, engineers and other consultation fees, feasibility studies etc are eligible up to 12% with the business plan preparation costs not greater than 5%.
- Beneficiaries must keep accounting books/ records min. 5 years after realization of investments

What is IPARD?

IPARD is a pre-accession instrument of the EU for the development of the rural areas in Candidate Countries for the period 2007 – 2013.

IPARD is part of the National Strategy for Agriculture and Rural Development 2007 – 2013 (NARDS) with the objective to contribute to the Macedonian accession process to the EU by:

- Implementation of the *acquis communautaire* concerning the Common Agricultural Policy
- Sustainable adaptation of the agricultural sector and rural areas

How to apply?

Application form and the set of required supporting documents must be submitted to AFSARD.

For more information please contact:

**IPARD Managing Authority
Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Water
Economy**

Belasica 2, 1000 Skopje
Phone: 02/ 3109 809
www.mzsv.gov.mk
www.ipard.gov.mk

**Agency for Financial support in agriculture and
rural development**

Skupi 3a
1000 Skopje
Phone: 02/ 3097 450
www.ipardpa.gov.mk

*In the frame of the EU Instrument for Pre-Accession for Rural
Development (IPARD) – National Programme for Agriculture and
Rural Development 2007 – 2013 supported by*



**IPARD PROGRAMME
FOR
REPUBLIC OF MACEDONIA
2007-2013**



**Measure 302:
Diversification and development of
rural economic activities**



**Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Water
Economy**

What are the objectives?

Create or maintain employment opportunities
Diversification of economic activities through development of on-farm, off-farm and micro-business activities
Increase income of rural population
Preserve traditional handicraft activities
Provide openings for potential economic development, incl. tourism and handicrafts

Who can apply?

Agricultural producers registered in the Farm Registry of MAFWE for additional activities, defined legal entities (micro-businesses) according to Law on Trade or Craft Act for off-farm activities, cooperatives in case of collection centers

What are general criteria to apply?

- Proven professional experience of applicant
- Demonstrated financial and economic viability of investment through business plan
- No outstanding liabilities against the State
- Projects placed in the defined Rural Areas and in accordance with Municipality Strategy
- Proven ownership or lease/ concession contract of building with min. 5 years; specific requirements apply in case of construction works
- Compliance of investment with relevant national environmental, hygiene and animal welfare standards at date of contracting and with the relevant EU minimum standards at end of realization of investment

What sectors are supported with which conditions?

Rural micro-enterprises:

- Establishment of on-farm and off-farm processing capacities (fruit & vegetable, dairy, honey, medicinal/ oil plants and spices, mushrooms)
 - Construction/ modernization of buildings
 - Packaging, storage facilities and other equipment
 - Applicants are eligible processing traditional niche food products, usage of own raw materials or from local producers (with min. 1 year supply contract)
 - Capacity/ size: fruit and vegetable processors min 0,5 ha of own plantation; milk processors min. 10 heads of dairy cows, 150 ewes or 50 goats, honey producer min. 30 bee hives, medicinal/ oil plants and spices according to the country list – 0,75ha, mushroom production – 30m²
- Establishment of collection centers for mushrooms and medical/oil herbs:
 - Construction/ modernization of buildings
 - Purchase of equipment
 - Beneficiaries can be only agricultural cooperatives and must have a license for wild collection
- Construction/ modernization of mushroom cultivation facilities incl. compost production
- Establishment of workshops for traditional handicrafts:
 - Construction/ modernization of buildings
 - Purchase of packaging equipment
 - Marketing activities
 - Establishment of selling points
 - Applicant must produce traditional handicraft as listed in IPARD Programme
- Establishment of agriculture machinery repair workshops

Rural tourism:

- Reconstruction/ conversion of farm houses for tourism activities completed with recreational facilities:
 - Refurbishment and adaptation of farm-house for accommodation (max. 20 beds)
 - Establishment of catering services, tasting, selling points
 - Establishment of rural museums
 - In case of reconstruction of wine cellars or on-farm houses on vineyards, applicant must have annual min. wine production of min. 20hl and 400 hl,
- Construction/ modernization of catering premises, outdoor activities (camping sites) and investment in recreational activities
- In case the concerned building is a Protected Cultural Heritage or is located in one of the protected zones the applicant has also to comply with the respective national laws
- Investments in recreational facilities must be completed with the provision of rural accommodation facilities