

### **PREPARE Gathering**

30 August - 3 September 2010, Ohrid, Macedonia

### Networking in Rural Areas Common Agriculture Policy Reform after 2013

## Our Commitment to future of RURAL COMMUNITIES

# Focal point of Sustainable rural development in Macedonia



### Situation in Rural Development Economic, Social importance of the rural areas

- 87% of Macedonia is a rural area and
- Home to 40% of the population but
- 60% of the villages are affected by de-population
- 33.5% of villages are with up to 100 inhabitants
- 20.6% of all villages are under 50 inhabitants
- Dissatisfaction from the income from agriculture
- Villages have too little access to public services



### **Rural Development REQUIRES:**

#### INITIATIVE and TECHNIAL KNOW-HOW



of detecting ONE or GROUP of creative and deter-mined individuals

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# Crucial importance - human factors in rural development issues:

- Education
- Technical training
- Development of skills



# To make it socially and regionally more inclusive and equitable



### Implemented Programs in Rural Development

RURAL COMMUNITY ENABLEMENT APPROACH PROGRAM 2001-2002, 670.000 €

Integrated Rural Development Programs

2002-2004,  $\underline{659.000}$  € 2004-2007,  $\underline{1.691.640}$  € 2007-2009,  $\underline{789.980}$  €

COMMUNITY FORUM PROGRAMS

2008-2010, 98.000 € 2009-2010, 81.430 €





# METHODOLOGY Based on Participatory approach Balanced participation of all stakeholders:

- Local Rural development INITIATIVES
  - DECISION making process and
- Participation in Implementing PRIORITY projects

### in favor of creating and implementing RURAL SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT STRATEGIES



### **METHODOLOGY** "Participatory approach"

MOBILISING
and
DELIVERING
Rural development
in rural areas
Rather than

Implementing fixed set of measures





### **METHODOLOGY** "Participatory approach"

### Process in which stakeholders (real people) have own INFLUENCE and CONTROL:

- In making own rural development initiatives
- To analyze and select their own priorities
- To establish clarity & consensus for rural priorities
- To plan, mobilize and utilize own local resources
- Over the way of solving their priority problems
- In making decisions from common importance



# METHODOLOGY "Participatory approach" Involvement of all local actors:

Population at large: diverse profiles and all age representatives, gender equality, marginalized groups

- All interested citizens, local formal/informal groups
- Local political representatives
- Women and young people
- Business/Trade, local CSO's
- LSGU, Public services, media





# METHODOLOGY "Participatory approach" With aims to:

- Increase feeling of joint ownership
- Generate sense for participation in decision making
- Mobilize and utilize all local resources and skills
- Build local capacities for independent actions
- Provide sustainability in future rural activities
- Improve rural area's economic competitiveness





Enhancing links and partnerships

Detecting human, material & financial resources

Detecting and capacity building of local leaders - decision makers

Strengthening **dialog** and cooperation

METODOLOGY
For Rural
Development

**Bottom-up** approach in developing and applying strategies

Actions tailored to suit **real** local **needs** 

Initiating innovation

Transferring
tools and
know-how,
new
initiatives

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### **Results from methodology**

Handbook with selected good practices
Potential for replicating
Alka's working methodology

### Possible users of the methodology

- Donors, experts, consultants
- Rural population, local groups/decision makers
- Formal and informal community groups
- Interested private and civil sector
- Ministries, Institutions, LSG & public services





# Applicability of ALKA methodology Different components can be employed in particular actions on rural level:

- Analysis of rural real situation and needs
- Identification and mobilization of rural recourses
- Preparing short & long-term development strategies
- Building specific local capacities
- Planning future initiatives & decision making
- Independent monitoring & evaluation of actions
- Increasing local/regional cooperation, transparency



# RESULTS: Alka Partners in rural community development projects

- 41 Municipalities
- Centers for development of Regions in RM
- 112 Rural communities, CC and IB with implemented community projects, conducted PCM trainings and Development Action Plans designed
- 50.274 Inhabitants as project beneficiaries



# Financial Contributions in rural communities' priority projects

Programs	ALKA (EURO)	Partners Participation (EURO)	Total (EURO)	Partners' participation from Total (%)
CAD 2001-2002	317.000	171.715	488.715	35%
ACTED 2002-2004	912.090	782.830	1.694.920	46%
Alka 2004-2009	1.108.935	654.460	1.763.395	37%
Total	2.338.025	1.609.005	3.947.030	41%



#### **Dominated rural priorities from DP**

- AGRICULTURE
   Irrigation Systems, Infrastructure
   Organised Market for products trade
   Accessible Credits
- LIFE STOCK BREEDING
   Accessible Credits
   Establishing Profitable Farms
   Professional Help and Consultancies
- INDUSTRY Establishing Small & Medium Enterprises, Fruits & vegetable processing capacities Organised Promotion of Handcraft products



### **Dominated rural priorities from the DP**

- INFRASTRUCTURE Roads Water Supply System Sewage systems and purification plants
- PUBLIC SERVICES Medical points, primary health care Improvements in transport
- ENVIRONMENT Organised solid waste collection Solid waste disposal areas Cleaning rural areas, environmental campaigns



#### **Alka - Future Focus**

- Sustainable Rural Development, Climate Change
- BUILDING CAPACITIES FOR LOCAL REGIONAL PARTNERSHIP FOR MOBILIZING RECOURSES/POTENTIALS
- STIMULATING PROMOTING THE COOPERATION AND INNOVATION IN RURAL DEVELOPMENT
- Increasing performances of Rural Development Stakeholders
- DEVELOPMENT OF SUSTAINABLE STRATEGIES FOR SOLVING RURAL PRIORITIES



#### **Alka - Future Instruments and tools**

- EXTENDED PRESENCE ON NATIONAL LEVEL
- ESTABLISHING RURAL PARTNERSHIPS AND LINKAGES
- CROSS BORDER AND REGIONAL COOPERATION
- ACTIVE NETWORKING
- UTILIZING ALL FOREIGN FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS



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