



Regional Cooperation in the Western Balkans

Support to Economic Diversification in Rural Areas of Southeast Europe (SEDRA II)

2nd Balkan Rural Parliament 15.06.2021, Ohrid/ online

15.06.21

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Basic Facts

Volume: up to 3 Mio. EUR + 1 Mio. EUR ("Returning to New

Opportunities" Programme)

Duration: 09/2021 - 08/2024

Commissioning Party: German Federal Ministry of Economic Cooperation

and Development (BMZ)

Political Partner: Standing Working Group Regional Rural

Development (SWG RRD), tbd

Implementing Partners: SWG RRD, Balkan Rural Development

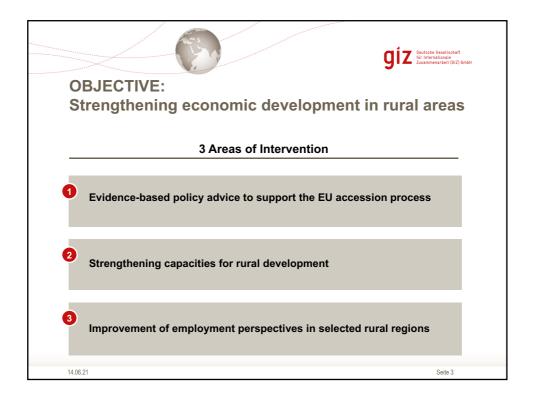
Network (BRDN) as main partners, tbd

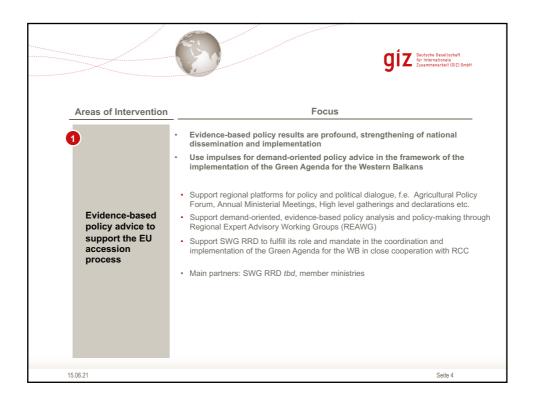
WB Economies: Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kosovo,

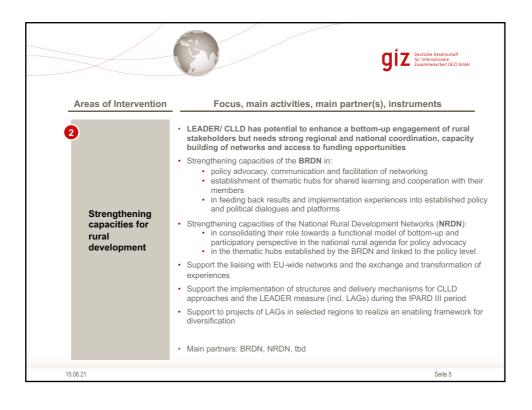
Montenegro, North Macedonia, Serbia

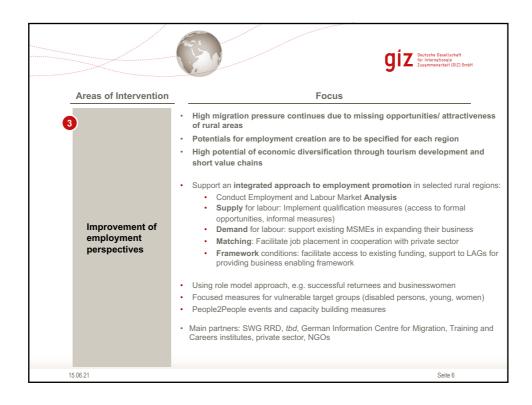
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Frame conditions

- · EU Green Agenda and Economic and Investment Plan for the WB countries
 - · Accelerating EU approximation
 - · Focus on regional approaches and cooperation
 - · RCC in charge for the overall coordination
 - Pillar IV: Sustainable agro-food systems & Tourism relevant for SEDRA II
- Integration of EU CAP acquis requirements 2021 2027
 - EU Farm-to-Fork Strategy, Bio-Diversity, Organic, et al
 - IPARD III (4 countries), IPARD-like
 - Programming of Agro-Environment, CLLD/ LEADER, Economic Diversification & TA
 - · window of opportunity:
 - -> relative small transaction costs for a green transition of the WB agriculture

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Rural Networks

- · Rural Networks member based organisations as driver of a rural revival
 - Rural Networks as civil society organisations
 - · assuring accountability of decision makers
 - to be accountable towards there members
 - influencing policies to well match members needs
 - · advocate interests of rural actors
 - · build capacities and provide services
 - bring knowledge and innovation to rural regions
 - · Civil Society & Public Sector:
 - Cooperation is the key once a civil voice becomes a governmental one it's silenced
 -> though civil society can't be a governmental legacy
- Cooperation of Rural Networks in the Western Balkans and in the EU
 - Cooperation is the DNA of networking in the region and of the region with the EU
 - · Informal space to tranlate priorities (such as the Green Deal) to rural realities
 - Development of joint European Perspectives for sustainable rural areas worth living in.

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