



“Preparation for implementation of Area Based Development in the Western Balkans”

Up-date on Progress

Irena Dzimrevska

The project is financed by:



Overall Objective

To facilitate **regional cooperation**, **political reconciliation** and **economic growth** in the Western Balkans through application of area based development approaches in selected rural cross-border areas.



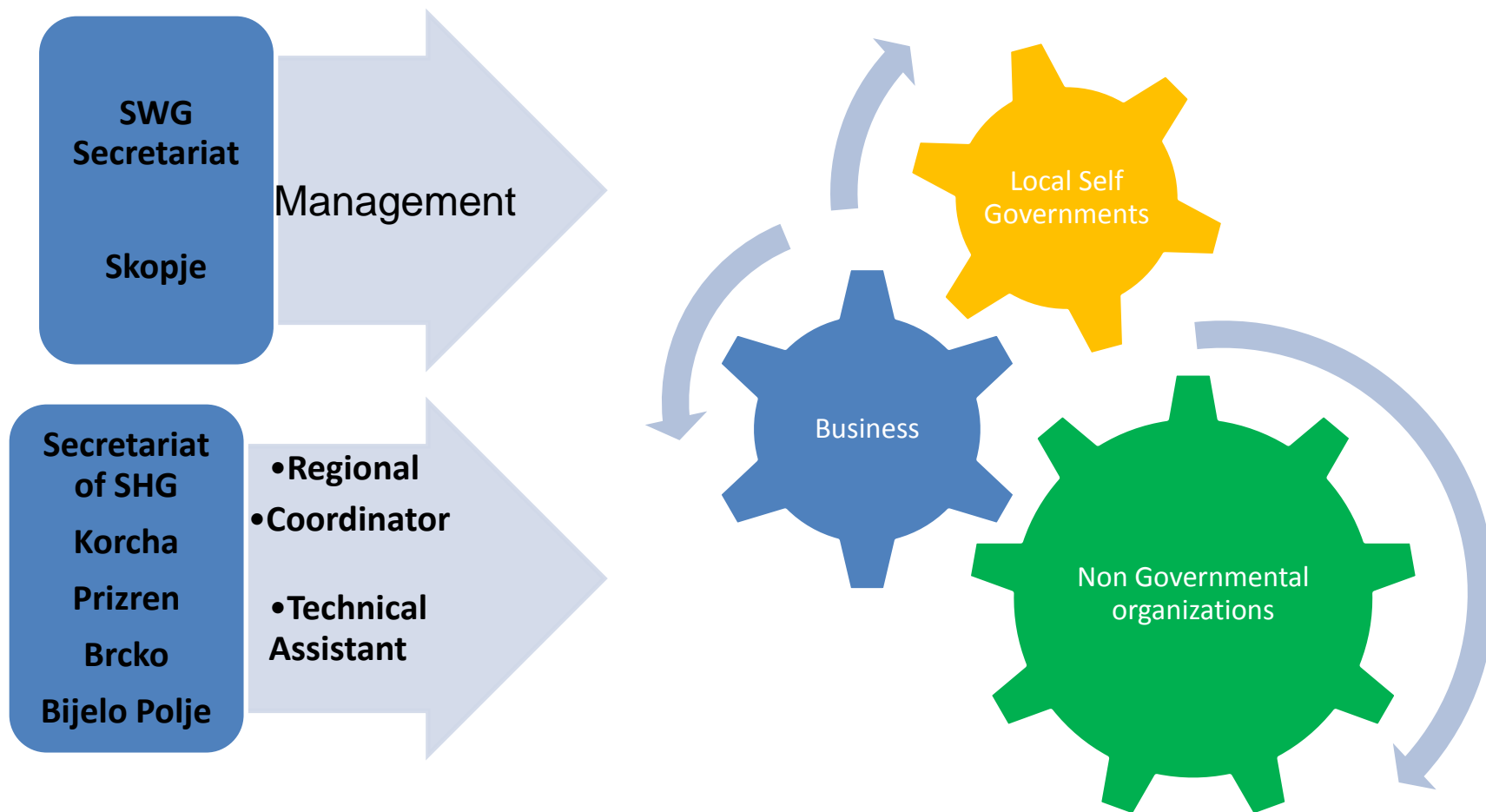
Aim of the project

The overall **objective** of the project: “Preparation for implementation of the Area Based Development (ABD) Approach in the Western Balkans” **is to further work on building capacities and structures within the SWG and the “Drina- Tara”, “Drina-Sava”, Prespa” and “Sharra” cross-border regions in order to be able to implement the forthcoming programmes related to territorial and regional cooperation.**

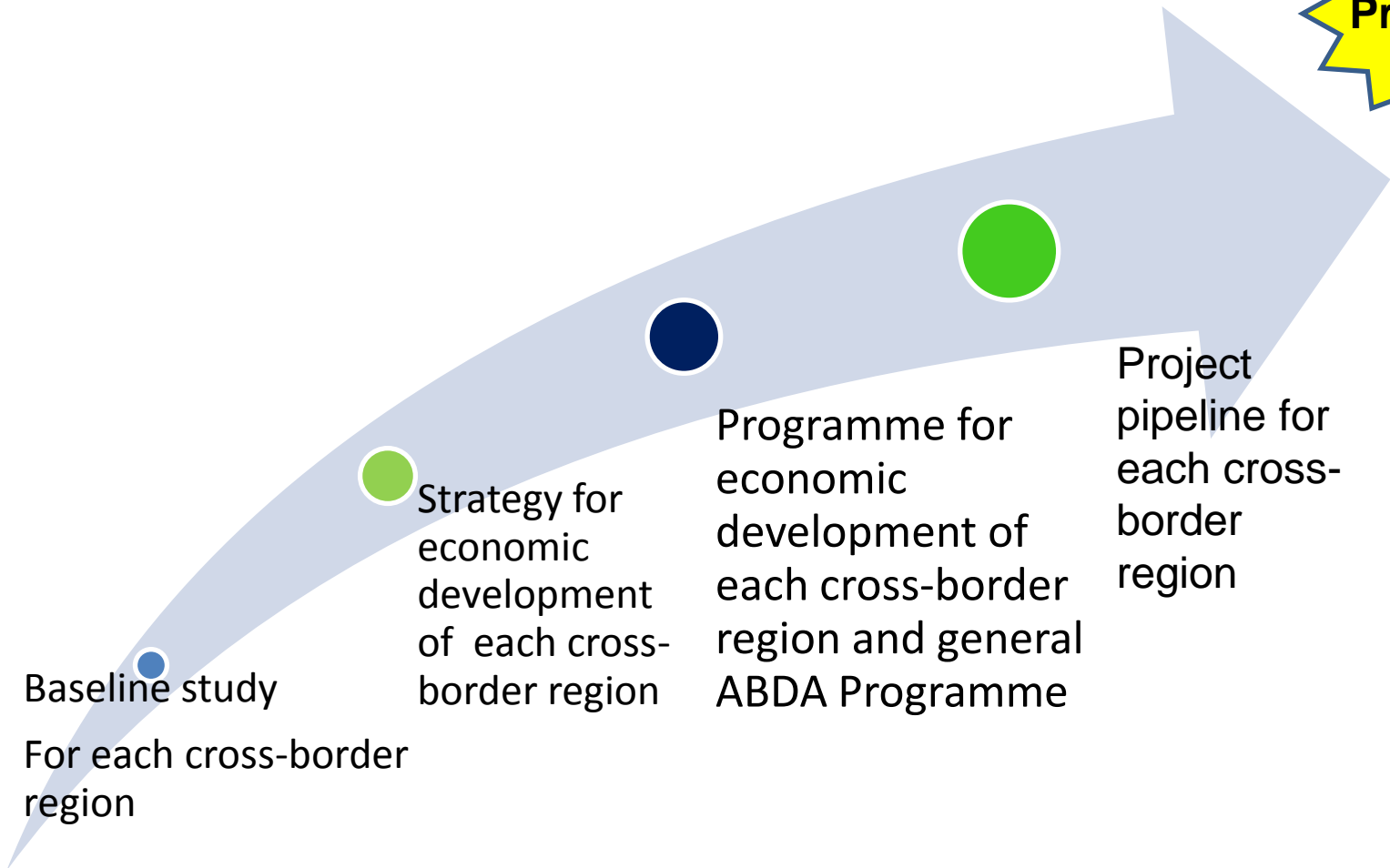
Specific Objectives

- **Objective 1:** Contribute to **sustainable economic growth** of a particular region by **facilitating the preparatory activities** for **implementation** of identified **economic development actions**.
- **Objective 2:** Strengthen **cooperation of public administrations and other public bodies, private sector and NGOs** in the field of **local development and regional cooperation** by **building-up** local and regional **cross-border capacities**.

Stakeholder Group



Main outputs



Baseline study

For each cross-border region

Strategy for economic development of each cross-border region

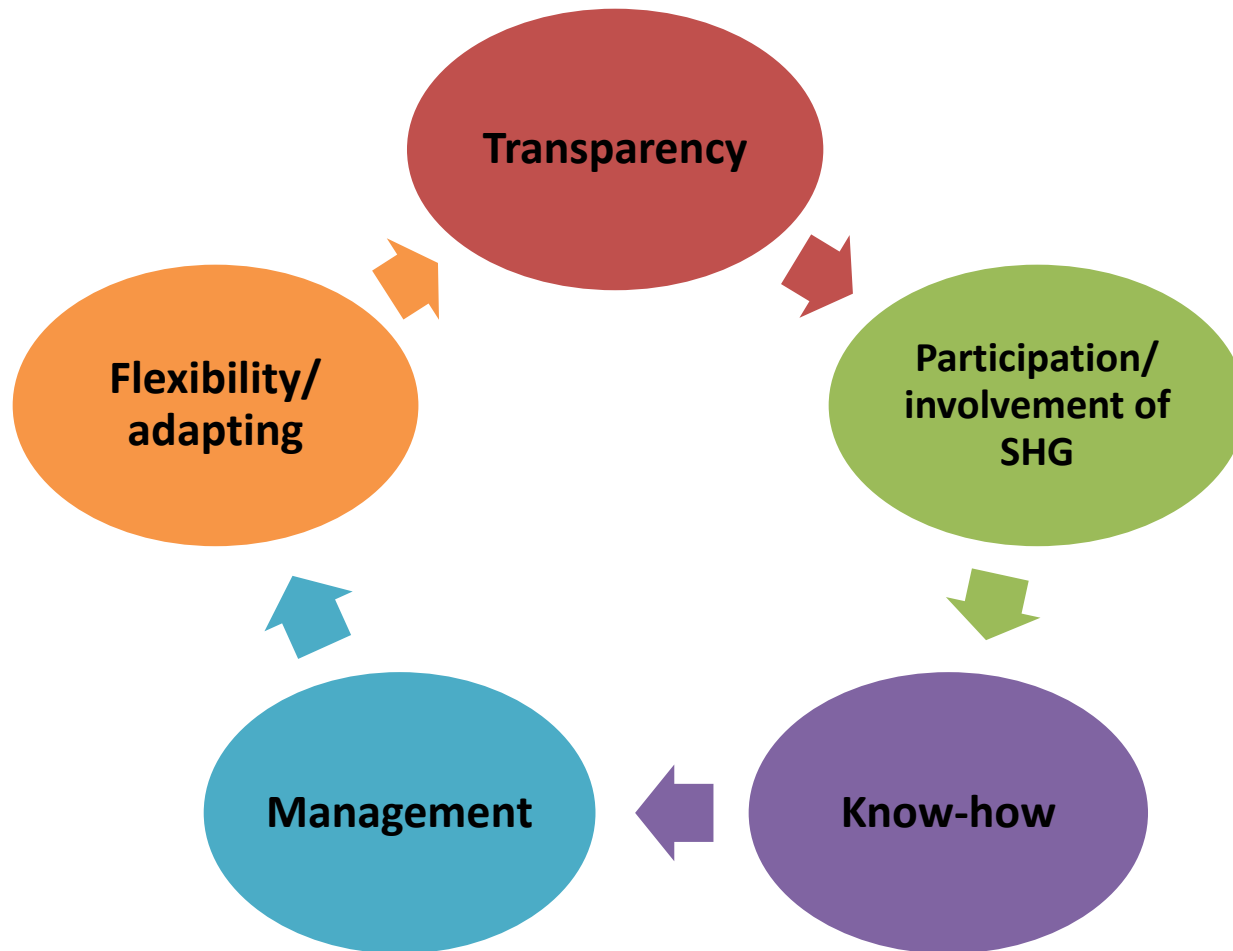


Programme for economic development of each cross-border region and general ABDA Programme



Project pipeline for each cross-border region

Main principles



Activities

1. Establishment of Project Management Units (PMU)

- 1.1. Memorandum of Understanding for regional cooperation between SWG and participating municipalities – **signed** by Mayors on First Stakeholder Group Meetings (February-March 2013)

Activities

1. Establishment of Project Management Units (PMU)

1. 2. Process of establishment of PMU in the four regions

- “Drina-Tara” - Bijelo Polje in Montenegro
 - “Drina-Sava” - Brcko, Bosnia and Herzegovina;
 - “Prespa” - Korcha, Albania;
 - “Sharra” - Prizren, Kosovo*
- Protocol for establishment and functioning of SWG country offices prepared

Activities

1. Establishment of Project Management Units (PMU)

1.3 **Technical assistants for the “Drina- Tara”, “Sharra”, “Prespa” and “Drina – Sava”** started as of September 1st

1.4 Establishment of Regional SWG Office in Belgrade, Serbia for **coordination** of activities in Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Montenegro, Serbia- **on going**

1.5. SWG Head Office/ Secretariat based in Skopje, Macedonia will serve as Regional Office for **coordination** of activities in Albania, Macedonia and Kosovo*

Kosovo "This designation is without prejudice to positions on status, and is in line with UNSCR 1244 and the ICJ Opinion on the Kosovo declaration of independence."*

Activities

2. Consolidation of Stakeholder Groups (SHG)

2.1 Official nomination of members of the Stakeholder Groups (SHG) by Mayors, Presidents of NGO, CEO of business entities etc. – in **final stage**

2.2 **Capacity building** of the members of the Stakeholder Groups (SHG) on project cycle management , project proposal writing, strategic planning, communication organized during the 2nd and 3rd Meeting of the SHG (March – April 2013)

Activities

2. Consolidation of Stakeholder Groups (SHG)

- 2.3 **Capacity building** on LEADER, Regional Rural Governance, LAG Management etc. will continue in the forthcoming period (in cooperation with GIZ)
- 2.4 **Protocol** for Operational Functioning of SHG – discussed and should be endorsed by SHG member on the 5th SHG meetings

Activities

3. Preparation of project pipe-line

3.1 **Identification** of priority actions which will be basis for development of project proposals

3.2 Preparation of project proposals 3/ region **on –going**



Activities

4. Drafting of programming documents for Territorial and Cross-Border Cooperation

4.1 Up-date of existing Strategic Frameworks (vision, SWOT, strategic goals, actions) – in final stage

4.2 Preparation of **programming documents** for economic development of the cross-border regions - on going



Next steps



Next steps

- Finalization of process of **establishment of PMU**
- Finalization of up-dates of Strategic Frameworks

Next steps

- Process of preparation of programming documents
 - Programming documents for economic development through regional and territorial cooperation of “D-T”; “D-S”; “P”; “S” cross-border regions
 - Programming Document for implementation of Area Based Development Approach within the Regional and Territorial Cooperation in the framework of International Pre-Accession Assistance (IPA) 2014-2020.

Next steps

- Continuation with second phase of bridging period (January 2014 –September/ December 2014)
- Working Group discussion on ABDA during APF 2013 and presentation of the progress in front of the Ministers of Agriculture from WB countries
- Presentation of the project proposals to EC and other donors for possible funding