

## PROGRAMMING PERIOD 2007-2013

### ADMINISTRATIVE IMPLEMENTATION PROCEDURE OF TRANSNATIONAL COOPERATION (TNC) UNDER LEADER AXIS

#### SECTION A: COUNTRY SPECIFIC DETAILS

1. Name of the programme:

Rural Development Programme 2007-2013

2. Number of LAGs:

5

3. Axes covered by LAGs:

Axis 1 – Measures 111, 114, 121, 122, 123, 132

Axis 2 – Measures 214, 215, 216, 221, 227

Axis 3 – Measures 311, 313, 321, 323, 331

4. Axes covered by TNC projects:

Axis 1 – Measures 111, 114, 121, 122, 123, 132

Axis 2 – Measures 214, 215, 216, 221, 227

Axis 3 – Measures 311, 313, 321, 323, 331

5. Total RDP budget for all the four axes (including EU+ public+ private expenditure):

EUR 1,698,169,465

Total budget for Leader axis:

EUR 85,636,186

Of which:

a. EU Funding: EUR 25,766,500

b. Public funding: EUR 25,766,500

c. Private funding: EUR 34,103,186

## SECTION B: PROGRAMMING AND IMPLEMENTATION OF TRANSNATIONAL COOPERATION PROJECTS

### 1. FINANCIAL ASPECTS

Budget for TNC projects  (Total public funding: EU + public)	The budget allocated to measure 421 - "interterritorial and transnational cooperation" is EUR 4,818,516, which is 0.5% of the total RDP public funding budget. The funds have not been pre-allocated to TNC projects and to the LAGs.
Responsibility for the management of the Budget (MAs or LAGs)	The LAG is responsible for managing the TNC budget.
Special budget for the preparatory technical support of TNC projects	Actions to support the preparation of TNC projects cannot exceed 15% of expenses of actually implemented cooperation projects.

### 2. PROGRAMMING ASPECTS

Local Development Strategies and TNC	The proposals for cooperation projects are presented together with the Local Development Strategy. LAGs will have to justify the consistency of the submitted project with their LDS and the measures addressed by the project.
Way of selecting cooperation projects	Following the approval of the LDS, the LAG will present a fully detailed project application to the Leader Technical Committee (LTC). Following examination the LTC will issue its opinion on its compliance with Regulation (EC) 1698/2005, regional and provincial programming acts and the LDS.
Main topics of TNC proposed for the 2007-2013 programming period	The main themes proposed by LAGs refer to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Local products;</li> <li>• Quality of life;</li> <li>• Rural tourism.</li> </ul>
Cooperation with third countries	The cooperation with territories of third countries that have a similar approach is foreseen.
Maximum/minimum number of TNC projects per LAG	Not specified.

### 3. COMMON PROVISIONS FOR TNC PROJECT APPROVAL

Information about procedures of approval and implementation of TNC projects	LAGs will have to complete a specific application form, providing detailed information and data.  The LTC will meet approximately every four months and will hold special meetings, if deemed necessary.  MA approval is foreseen once the LTC has issued its opinion.
Eligibility criteria for cooperation projects	Participation of territories selected under the Leader Axis.

<p>Selection criteria for cooperation projects</p>	<p>Cooperation projects will obtain a score to assess their contribution to the overall achievement of the LDS. This evaluation approach considers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The number of proposed projects;</li> <li>• Their complexity in terms of implementation (role of the LAG, lead or partner role in the project, inter-territorial or transnational cooperation project and duration of the project);</li> <li>• The implementation of a project carried out during the previous programming period;</li> <li>• The coherence that inter-territorial and transnational cooperation projects display with regional priorities.</li> </ul> <p>Furthermore, priority will be assigned to areas that have been involved in previous transnational cooperation activities (Interreg and SAPARD programmes).</p>
<p>Eligible activities of measure 421 Cooperation</p>	<p>Cooperation should involve operations implementing the local strategy. The projects must address RDP measures of axis 1, 2 and 3.</p>
<p>Typical examples of eligible costs for TNC projects</p>	<p>In accordance with the National Guide for eligible costs (approved by the Ministry of Agriculture of Italy) the following expenses are considered eligible. They are incurred during one of the following phases:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Preparatory actions and missions: study visits; translation and interpretation; communication and information; organization of meetings; studies; feasibility studies; counselling for setting-up the cooperation project.</li> <li>• Project Implementation: the costs of implementing the interventions fall under the individual RDP measures. The types of eligible expenditure will be identified in provincial or regional public notices. Based on the specificity of the cooperation action, eligible expenses include communication and information; activities to exchange experience and best practices; organization of meetings; travel; expenses for the coordination, monitoring and evaluation of projects.</li> </ul>
<p>Specific documents concerning the cooperation partners required from LAGs</p>	<p>In addition to the requirements established by the Guide for the implementation of the measure Cooperation under Leader axis of rural development programmes 2007-2013, LAGs will have to complete a specific application form, providing detailed information and data.</p>
<p>The approval process of TNC applications</p>	<p>Emilia Romagna Region has issued the call for the selection of LDSs in May 2008, which included the presentation of cooperation strategies. The MA has concluded the assessment procedure of submitted LDSs on 30 April 2009. The deadline for the collection of the final project is 29 February 2012.</p> <p>MA approval for TNC projects is foreseen once the LTC has issued its opinion.</p> <p>Subject to approval(s) by other MAs concerned by the TNC project, the approval of Emilia Romagna's MA remains provisional. Final approval will be issued thereafter.</p>

## List of abbreviations:

EU: European Union  
LAG: Local Action Group  
LDS: Local Development Strategy  
LAP: Local Action Plan  
MA: Managing Authority  
MS: Member State  
PA: Paying Authority  
TNC: Transnational Cooperation  
RDP: Rural Development Programme