

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 of Sardinia Region

2. Number of LAGs:

13

3. Axes covered by LAGs:

Axis 3 – Measures 311, 312, 313, 321, 322, 323, 341

4. Axes covered by TNC projects:

Axis 3 – Measures 311, 312, 313, 321, 322, 323, 341

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

EUR 1,565,962,307

Total budget for Leader axis:

EUR 235,000,000

Of which:

a. EU Funding: EUR 74,767,500

b. Public funding: EUR 95,158,636

c. Private funding: EUR 65,073,864

SECTION B: PROGRAMMING AND IMPLEMENTATION OF TRANSNATIONAL COOPERATION PROJECTS

1. FINANCIAL ASPECTS

Budget for TNC projects	The budget allocated to TNC is EUR 5,000,000 which is 0.4% of the total RDP budget. The budget per LAG is EUR 384,615.38
Responsibility for the management of the Budget (MAs or LAGs)	The Managing Authority is responsible for managing the budget.
Special budget for the preparatory technical support of TNC projects	A special budget for the preparation of TNC project has been foreseen (12% of the total amount foreseen for measure 421).

2. PROGRAMMING ASPECTS

Local Development Strategies (LDS) and TNC	LAGs must specify in their Local Development Strategies their project ideas in terms of objectives, criteria, priorities, methodologies, and approaches without preventively identifying the partners.
Way of selecting cooperation projects	The regional MA will publish a call for the submission of cooperation project proposals within one year from the selection of the LDS. The call will have a multi-year duration with an "on-going" selection procedure.
Main topics of TNC proposed for the 2007-2013 programming period	Topics of interest for transnational cooperation projects: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Food safety; • Product origin; • Other.
Cooperation with third countries	Participation of at least three different partners, of which two are from EU Member States.
Maximum/minimum number of TNC projects per LAG	Participation of at least two EU partners.

3. COMMON PROVISIONS FOR TNC PROJECT APPROVAL

Information about procedures of approval and implementation of TNC projects	The procedures of approval of TNC projects follow an "on-going" selection procedure.
Eligibility criteria for cooperation projects	Two eligible criteria must be respected in order to participate in TNC projects: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. to be a LAG legally constituted and selected under current call for proposals; 2. to submit a project either as promoter or as a partner which falls under the Axis, which is carried out under the Leader approach (Axis 3).

<p>Selection criteria for cooperation projects</p>	<p>The TNC cooperation projects will be selected on the basis of the following criteria:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. grade of definition of the partnership at the moment of the submission of the project; 2. quality of the project (compliance of the project with the diagnosis and the objectives of the Regional Rural Development Programme (RDP) and of the LDS, added value of the cooperation project, level of innovation, definition of the project, level of compliance of the budget and of the timetable with the actions to implement, sustainability of the project); 3. managing modalities (level of the managing and communication modalities, evaluation and monitoring system, tasks and roles of the partners).
<p>Eligible activities of measure 421 Cooperation</p>	<p>Cooperation projects concern operations related to the measures of axis 3.</p>
<p>Specific eligible costs for TNC projects</p>	<p>The following are the only items eligible for financing:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Animation and technical assistance supporting the definition of partnerships, cooperation agreement and project plan; • Implementation of the joint action, operation of the common structure and technical support for the implementation of joint actions foreseen by the cooperation project.
<p>Specific documents concerning the cooperation partners required from LAGs</p>	<p>The LAG has to fill a specific application form (in addition of what is required by the "Guide for the implementation of the measure Cooperation under LEADER axis of rural development programmes 2007-2013"), in which detailed information and data is requested. In addition the LAG has to justify the consistency of the submitted project with its Local Development Strategy and the Measures carry out. Anyway the procedure is not completely set up yet, but it is under discussion.</p> <p>The only specific national requirement for the Cooperation Agreement concerns the eligible expenses.</p>
<p>The approval process of TNC applications</p>	<p>In April 2011 the MA published a call for proposal following an on-going selection procedure. The deadline for submission was scheduled for 31 December 2012.</p>

List of abbreviations:

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