

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 Piemonte Region

2. Number of LAGs:

13

3. Axes covered by LAGs:

Axis 1 – Measures 111, 121, 122, 123, 124, 133

Axis 2 – Measures 216, 227

Axis 3 – Measures 311, 312, 313, 321, 323, 331

4. Axes covered by TNC projects:

Axis 1 – Measures 111, 121, 122, 123, 124, 133

Axis 2 – Measures 216, 227

Axis 3 – Measures 311, 312, 313, 321, 323, 331

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

EUR 1,368,207,651

Total budget for Leader axis:

EUR 96,295,821

Of which:

a. EU Funding:	EUR	25,700,000
b. Public funding:	EUR	32,709,091
c. Private funding:	EUR	37,886,730

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 1,752,273, which is 0.13% of the total RDP public funding budget. The funds have not been pre-allocated to TNC projects.
Responsibility for the management of the Budget (MAs or LAGs)	LAGs are responsible for managing the TNC budget.
Special budget for the preparatory technical support of TNC projects	A special budget for the preparation of TNC projects is not foreseen.

2. PROGRAMMING ASPECTS

Local Development Strategies and TNC	Cooperation actions must be integrated in the local development strategy (LDS).
Way of selecting cooperation projects	With approval of the financing plan of the LDS, LAGs have pre-allocated funds for the financing of one or more cooperation projects at their disposal.
Main topics of TNC proposed for the 2007-2013 programming period	The main themes addressed by the selected LDS include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local products; • Rural tourism.
Cooperation with third countries	For partners from outside the EU, the project proposal must include a resume summarising the proposed partner's experience with cooperation and the partner's skills relevant to the proposed project.
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	Cooperation project proposals must be submitted to the Technical Committee by 30/06/2012. Final project approval will be issued by the 'Direzione Economia Montana e Foreste' once all authorities concerned have expressed a positive assessment of the proposal.
Eligibility criteria for cooperation projects	The participation of partners originating from at least two countries, including at least one from an EU Member State, is mandatory.

<p>Selection criteria for cooperation projects</p>	<p>The commitment to the implementation of cooperation projects is essential for obtaining the score for the selection and approval of the LDS. The LAG's commitment to develop an inter-territorial or transnational cooperation project is assessed on the basis of the following criteria:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Degree of definition of the objectives of inter-territorial or transnational cooperation projects; • Eligibility of actions under the measures that can be implemented by the LAG; • Consistency with the intervention strategy; • Identification of the potential partners. <p>Projects deemed formally eligible will be evaluated on the basis of the following criteria:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nature of the partnership; • Financial contribution; • Quality of the strategy.
<p>Eligible activities of measure 421 Cooperation</p>	<p>Cooperation projects must relate to those measures of axes 1, 2 and 3, which can be addressed through Axis 4 of the RDP. They must be consistent with the objectives and the central theme of the LDS.</p>
<p>Typical examples of eligible costs for TNC projects</p>	<p>The following items are eligible for financing:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Preliminary technical assistance to support the definition of partnerships (travel, meals, accommodation, consultancy, translations) up to a maximum of 3,000 Euro; • Lead partner coordination activities (development of the cooperation agreement and of a model of a legal common structure, financial data collection, coordination of the implementation, processing of documents, etc.); • Animation of the partnership (travel, meals, accommodation, consultancy and translation costs)*; • Eligible costs referring to measures of Axes 1, 2 and 3 to be implemented within Axis 4 and useful for the realisation of a common action; • Management of a legally constituted common structure. <p>*The costs for coordination and animation cannot exceed 10% of the total project expenditure.</p>
<p>Specific documents concerning the cooperation partners required from LAGs</p>	<p>The procedure is still under consideration. However, in addition to the requirements established by the Guide for the implementation of the measure Cooperation under the 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>The approval process is still under consideration.</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