

## 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

##### 2. Number of LAGs:

25

##### 3. Axes covered by LAGs:

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

##### 4. Axes covered by TNC projects:

Axis 1 – Measures 111, 112, 114, 121, 122, 123, 124, 125, 132, 133

Axis 2 – Measures 211, 212, 214, 216, 221, 223, 226, 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 2,197,135,081

##### Total budget for Leader axis:

EUR 441,972,656

Of which:

a. EU Funding: EUR 169,388,000

b. Public funding: EUR 124,626,589

c. Private funding: EUR 147,958,067

## 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 - "inter-territorial and transnational cooperation" is EUR 11,976,649, which is 0.76% 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	<p>Under "Phase I - Selection of territories and local partnerships", priority will be given to LAG applicants which have included Cooperation in the local development strategy (LDS). During the evaluation of the LDS, particular attention will be paid how TNC project proposals integrate with the objectives of the LDS. Assessment scores will reflect the level of integration achieved.</p> <p>Under "Phase II – Constitution of LAGs and selection of Local Development Plans," LAGs which have passed the first stage will have to present the cooperation strategy of their LDS, indicating:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• the general plan of intended actions;</li> <li>• the level of involvement of partners,</li> <li>• the relevance of the proposed actions in terms of project objectives, methodology, intended type of intervention and goals;</li> <li>• the amount of funding requested.</li> </ul>
Way of selecting cooperation projects	The Puglia Region reserves the right to subsequently issue a call for proposals, in order to invite project proposals beyond those submitted as part of the LDS.
Main topics of TNC proposed for the 2007-2013 programming period	<p>The main themes the selected LDS indicate include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Local products;</li> <li>• Exchange of experiences and know-how;</li> <li>• Rural tourism;</li> <li>• Quality of life.</li> </ul>
Cooperation with third countries	No specific restrictions have been indicated with regards to cooperation with third countries.
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	Before presentation of detailed TNC project proposals, LAGs will be given about six months of time following approval of the LDS to establish their partnership
Eligibility criteria for cooperation projects	<p>The participation of partners originating from at least two countries, including at least one from an EU Member State, is mandatory. The following aspects are of particular relevance for the eligibility of project proposals:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Consistency with the strategies pursued in the LDS and with its financial resources;</li> <li>• Quality and intended results of the project proposal, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>— Information details provided by the signed cooperation agreement;</li> <li>— Modalities of project implementation;</li> <li>— Organisational approach adopted;</li> <li>— Financial aspects.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
Selection criteria for cooperation projects	<p>The assessment of project proposals will be based on the following elements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Identification of needs in relation to the area's strengths and weaknesses identified in LDS;</li> <li>• Link between the proposed project and the central theme presented in the LDS;</li> <li>• Compliance of the interventions with the provisions of the LDS (technical description, upper limits, % of contribution, indicators, etc.);</li> <li>• Eligibility of the interventions;</li> <li>• Degree of innovation in relation to new products or new methods and productive processes;</li> <li>• Quantification of result and output indicators, with reference to specific objectives and operational objectives;</li> <li>• Employment effects in relation to the number of working units created or maintained as a result of project implementation;</li> <li>• Financial and organisational sustainability</li> <li>• Coherence and complementarity with the Community guidelines concerning the European Neighbourhood Policy (ENP) and the Instrument for Pre-Accession (IPA).</li> </ul>
Eligible activities of measure 421 Cooperation	The cooperation projects must address the objectives of one of the axes of the RDP.
Typical examples of eligible costs for TNC projects	Eligibility of expenses for implementing actions is determined by criteria described in the relevant specific measure fiches. If the cooperation involves a country outside the EU, with the exception of animation costs, only the expenditure committed on EU territory will be considered eligible for financing.
Specific documents concerning the cooperation partners required from LAGs	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.
The approval process of TNC applications	<p>Measure 421 has been activated by the MA and a call for submitting TNC project proposals was launched with the deadline to collect the final projects till 15 July 2011. The evaluation procedure is in progress.</p> <p>Opening an other call is subject to budget still available for TNC.</p>

### List of abbreviations:

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