

## PROGRAMMING PERIOD 2007-2013

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

#### SECTION A: COUNTRY SPECIFIC DETAILS

##### 1. Name of the programme:

Entwicklungsprogramm für den ländlichen Raum (EPLR) im Freistaat Sachsen 2007-2013

##### 2. Number of Local Action Groups (LAGs):

12

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

Axis 3: M313, M321, M322, M323, M341;

Axis 1/4: M411 A.1 - implementation of local development strategies (LDS) by implementing job-creating actions described in M121 of the RDP, to achieve the objectives of the LDS;

Axis 1/4: M411 A.2 - implementation of LDS by implementing job-creating actions meeting the objectives of axis 1 not covered by A.1, to achieve the objectives of the LDS, in particular investments in the framework of cooperation for the generation of added value;

Axis 3/4: M413 A.1 - implementation of LDS by implementing the measures listed for axis 3, to achieve the objectives of the LDS;

Axis 3/4: M413 A.2 - implementation of LDS by implementing job-creating activities that meet the objectives of axis 3 not falling under A.1, to achieve the objectives of the LDS.

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

Axis 4: M421 A.1 - project initiation and preparation of joint actions;

Axis 4: M421 A.2 - actions implementing cooperation projects and the support of these actions;  
Otherwise TNC is restricted to the measures listed in section 3 above.

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

EUR 1,913,495,577

Total budget for Leader axis: EUR 73,108,198 Of which:

a. EU Funding: EUR 45,652,500

b. Public funding: EUR 11,413,125

c. Private funding: EUR 16,042,573

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

1. FINANCIAL ASPECTS	
Budget for TNC projects  (Total public funding: EU + public)	<p>Overall, an amount of EUR 2,500,000 has been allocated to Cooperation, which is 3.4% of the axis 4 budget.</p> <p>The MA has neither specified budgets per LAG nor a budget limit for Cooperation. The budget allocation depends on the cooperation agreements submitted by the LAGs.</p>
Responsibility for the management of the Budget (MAs or LAGs)	The respective budget is managed by the Ministry for Environment and Agriculture (MA).
Special budget for the preparatory technical support of TNC projects	<p>No specific budget has been set aside for the preparation / initiation of TNC projects. Related costs are covered through above mentioned budget provision. The maximum amount paid per project idea to support expenditure for project initiation / preparation activities is EUR 3,000 (= 80% of actual expenditure).</p> <p>Expenditure for monitoring actions promoting the cooperation between rural areas according to the Leader approach are supported up to a maximum amount of EUR 10,000 (= 80% of actual expenditure).</p>

2. PROGRAMMING ASPECTS	
Local Development Strategies and TNC	LAGs have included Cooperation in their local development strategy (LDS). However, Cooperation projects can still be applied for, if Cooperation was not expressly provided for in the LDS.
Way of selecting cooperation projects	Projects are selected by the LAG. Project applications are processed approved by district authorities.
Main topics of TNC proposed for the 2007-2013 programming period	<p>Cooperation projects relate to the following themes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Culture;</li> <li>• Economic cooperation;</li> <li>• Exchange of experience.</li> </ul>
Cooperation with third countries	There are no restrictions defined regarding cooperation with third countries. In accordance with the EARDF regulation, funding is available for the LAGs of Saxony to undertake TNC projects with another Leader group, or with a group taking a similar approach, in another region, Member State, or even a third country.
Maximum/minimum number of TNC projects per LAG	No limits have been specified.

3. COMMON PROVISIONS FOR TNC PROJECT APPROVAL	
Information about procedures of approval and implementation of TNC projects	TNC procedures were presented at information events held in 2008, 2010 and 2011. Relevant information has also been published on LAG websites. Specialist support to approval authorities and the LAGs is provided by the government agency LfULG (State Office for Environment, Agriculture and Geology).
Eligibility criteria for cooperation projects	<p>Fully detailed eligibility criteria have been published as part of the ILE/2007 guidelines and are available on the website of the MA <a href="http://www.smul.sachsen.de/foerderung/85.htm">http://www.smul.sachsen.de/foerderung/85.htm</a></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cooperation with an area that has elaborated a LDS (concepts and similar informal plans) and that is of an organisational form corresponding to the concerns of Leader.</li> <li>• The action addresses, in accordance with the ILE/2007 guidelines, individual measures of complex projects under axes 1, 3 or the monitoring of actions promoting the cooperation between rural areas according to the Leader approach.</li> </ul>
Selection criteria for cooperation projects	<p>In accordance with the RDP, for the implementation of complex cooperation projects (except for project initiation), the following selection criteria, additional to the general requirements for Leader measures, apply:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Presence of a cooperation agreement, identifying the lead partner and describing the complex project;</li> <li>• The Cooperation project is likely to achieve a critical mass;</li> <li>• The Cooperation project implements a joint action;</li> <li>• Presence of an adequate cost / benefit ratio as regards the sustainability of the measure.</li> <li>• The transfer or continuation of regional LDS-implementing activities at the level of inter-territorial and transnational cooperation produces synergies in the sense of Article 59 (e) of regulation (EC) No 1698/2005 and enables to complement the LDS in a sustainable manner.</li> </ul>
Eligible activities of measure 421 Cooperation	<p>In accordance with chapter 5 of the RDP document (section 5.3.4.2), cooperation projects involve the following development actions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Project preparation / initiation activity;</li> <li>• Implementation and monitoring of the joint cooperation project addressing any Leader activity described in section 5.3.4.1 of the RDP.</li> </ul>
Typical examples of eligible costs for TNC projects	<p>Expenditure related to the initiation / preparation / monitoring of Cooperation projects.</p> <p>Expenditure related to the implementation of Cooperation actions described in section 5.3.4.1 of the RDP.</p>



Specific documents concerning the cooperation partners required from LAGs	Cooperation agreement, in accordance with the Guide for the implementation of the measure Cooperation under the Leader axis of rural development programmes 2007-2013 (RD12/10/2008 rev. 3).
The approval process of TNC applications	<p>Following project selection by the LAG, individual project applications may be submitted at any time for approval to the relevant subordinate authority of the Ministry for Environment and Agriculture (MA), i.e. the district authorities.</p> <p>Prior to the district authority's approval, the MA's approval of the cooperation agreement is required, which will be issued in conjunction with a financial commitment.</p> <p>Grants awarded may only be used for projects in Saxony.</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