

## III. Community-led and area-based development

The regional project: **Support to Economic Diversification of Rural Areas in Southeast Europe (SEDRA)** involves the countries: Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kosovo\*, Macedonia, Montenegro, and Serbia. SEDRA is jointly implemented by the Standing Working Group for Regional Rural Development in South Eastern Europe (SWG RRD) and the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ).

### Objective

The overall objective of the SEDRA project is to strengthen the institutional capacities of selected stakeholders in Southeast Europe for supporting EU-compliant economic diversification in rural areas.

### Community-led and area-based development

The SEDRA project strengthens the capacities of local and sub-regional actors, public-private stakeholder networks (Local Action / Stakeholder Groups, Rural Development Networks) in order to support community-led and area-based development and to sustainably secure their funding through EU pre-accession assistance.

Key topics are ‘cooperation’ and ‘access to funding’. This range from the financial sustainability of regional cooperation to securing funding for small enterprises and community initiatives. Following the LEADER approach people are empowered to shape development processes in their communities. The reason behind is that only a bottom-up approach, which builds on broad, cross-

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Commissioned by	German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ)
Project region	Southeast Europe (SEE): Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kosovo*, Macedonia, Montenegro, and Serbia
Project partner	Standing Working Group for Regional Rural Development in South Eastern Europe (SWG RRD)
Duration	01.09.2018 – 31.08.2021

sectoral partnerships between administration, civil society, and the private sector, can mobilise resources and pool energies that enable a region to further develop and integrate.



#### Expected results:

- Strengthening of the capacities and cooperation of stakeholders and actors to shape and implement the LEADER approach;
- Enabling relevant stakeholders to harness project funding opportunities by appropriate capacity development measures;
- Consideration of particular needs of women and young people by appropriate capacity development measures in view of their full and equal participation in all decision-making structures and levels.

\* This designation is without prejudice to positions on status, and is in line with UNSCR 1244/1999 and the ICJ Opinion on the Kosovo Declaration of Independence.

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