

Ministerul Agriculturii și Dezvoltării Rurale


**AFIR**  
 împreună creștem  
 satul românesc

**Agenția  
 pentru Finanțarea  
 Investițiilor  
 Rurale**

**AGENCIJA ZA  
 PLAĆANJA U  
 POLJOPRIVREDI,  
 RIBARSTVU I  
 RURALNOM  
 RAZVOJU**

**ROMÂNIA**

## Cooperation Programme

between

the **Rural Investments Financing Agency** of the Republic of Romania (hereinafter referred to as RIFA), 43rd, Stirbei Voda Street, sector 1, Bucharest

and

the **Paying Agency for Agriculture, Fisheries and Rural Development** of the Republic of Croatia (hereinafter referred to as PAAFRD), Ulica grada Vukovara 269 d, Zagreb

hereinafter referred to jointly as "Parties"

### I. Subject of Cooperation Programme

The subject of the Programme refers to the establishment of rules for organised contacts and cooperation between RIFA and PAAFRD in order to be able to ensure beneficial and effective mutual assistance between the Parties in reference to:

- Technical, organisational, legislative, procedural and administrative aspects that refer to management and payment from II. CAP pillar (Rural Development).
- Establish cooperation within next trio programme (Trio Presidents of the Council of European Union Romania-Finland-Croatia)

### II. Scope of the cooperation

The Parties hereby agree on the following:

1. The Parties ensure the opportunity for their experts to raise questions through the contact persons in connection with professional issues arising in their scope of work. Contact persons are responsible for forwarding queries and proposals about the exchange of information and experiences, as well as the methods in process of implementation of EU funds for agriculture, fisheries and rural development, in addition to forwarding responses to the contact person of the other Party.
2. The Parties seek to establish and to maintain balanced and mutual cooperation, and to raise questions that have a significant impact on professional activities with the aim to improve processes of the partner institution. The Parties hereby agree, depending on the urgency of



the issue and the workload of experts, to exchange ideas and best practices, information and knowledge on CAP between the two agencies providing a framework for regular meetings of experts of both sides.

3. The Parties will exchange theoretical and practical knowledge related to:

- Organisational model for implementation EU funds Rural Development

### **III. Forms of cooperation**

Forms of cooperation include communication in writing (e-mail) related to subjects of interest and meetings. Meetings shall be held between PAAFRD and RIFA experts upon request of any of the Parties. Meetings shall be organized on-line (conference call meetings) or as technical meetings at PAAFRD/RIFA premises depending on topics concerned. Technical meetings are related to the issues of a high priority and requiring mutual understanding and information exchange in any of the main professional areas in order to improve the efficiency of the Paying Agencies. Also, other forms of cooperation may include, but are not limited to, the exchange of publications and work materials (on demand) taking into consideration the data protection, exchange and transfer of knowledge through Webinars and online conferences.

1. The Parties have hereby designated the following organisational units as contact units and their heads as contact persons for implementation of Cooperation Programme:

PAAFRD: Ms. Natalija Bijelić Hodžić,  
Independent Service for Informative and International Affairs  
E-mail: [natalija.bijelic@aprrr.hr](mailto:natalija.bijelic@aprrr.hr)  
Phone: + 385 1 6002 745

RIFA: Ms. Victoria Oprea,  
Coordination and Institutional Relations Unit - Programme Coordination Directorate  
E-mail: [victoria.oprea@afir.info](mailto:victoria.oprea@afir.info); [relatiiInstitutionale@afir.info](mailto:relatiiInstitutionale@afir.info)  
Phone: + 4031 860 26 46

2. The Parties agree that all forms of cooperation shall take place maximum four (4) times per year and meetings shall not exceed duration of three (3) working days. Contact persons organise and participate at the meetings. The venues for each of the meetings shall be settled by separate communication.
3. The Parties agree to use English as working language in the course of cooperation. All correspondence, responses and consultation will be performed in English. The Parties agree that if interpretation is required, the Party requesting it will ensure the interpreter.
4. The Parties agree that in all mutual activities and in the activities concerning the exchange of know-how, experience and experts, each Party shall cover the expenses (transportation costs, daily allowance and accommodation costs) for its own staff concerned.



5. The Parties declare that all information and data received in the course of cooperation will be handled confidentially and forwarding this information to third parties may only be allowed by mutual consent of both Parties. In addition, the Parties are consent to sign Non-disclosure Agreement in case of exchanging documents with sensitive information.
6. All the information and knowledge delivered by the Parties to each other through Cooperation Programme are only informative, each Party may use them on its own responsibility. The information and views provided by the Parties do not necessarily reflect the official opinion of the European Union.

#### IV. Final provisions

1. This Programme enters into force on the date of its signing and is valid for the period of three (3) years with possible renewal afterwards.
2. Each Party may propose amendments to this Programme, which require acceptance by other Party. Amendments to the Programme shall be made in written.
3. Each Party may propose termination of this Programme prior of its expiration, which needs to be notified to the other Party. Termination shall enter into force when one Party informs the other in written.
4. This Programme is prepared in two original copies in English (one copy for each Party).

  
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**Mr. Adrian - Ionuț CHESNOIU**  
General Director  
RIFA

  
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**Ms. Matilda COPIĆ**  
General Director  
PAAFRD

Classification number: 018-01/18-01/0001  
Registration number: 343-0200/01-18-002

Bucharest, \_\_\_\_\_