

TECH.FOOD

Solutions and interventions for the technological transfer and the innovation of the agro-food sector in South East regions

IPARD PROGRAM

Agriculture and Rural Development Plan 2007-2013

**Information on possibilities of receiving grants from the IPARD Programme
in the Sectors of:**

WINE PRODUCTION AND VITICULTURE



What is IPARD Programme?



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- IPARD is a new pre-accession programme of the European Union for the period 2007 – 2013. It is an integral part of IPA (Instrument for Pre-Accession Assistance), i.e. - its 5th component - the Rural Development.
- The main goal of IPARD programme is to improve the agricultural sector through competitiveness of agricultural products.
- For the period 2007 – 2013 the support amount of €179.000.000 has been granted.

How is IPARD Programme implemented in Croatia?

IPARD Programme will be implemented under three principal objectives or strategic priorities:

1. Improving market efficiency and implementing Community standards
 101. Investment in agricultural holdings
 102. Investments in the processing and marketing
 2. Preparatory actions for implementation of the agri-environmental measures and local rural development strategies
 201. Actions to improve the environment and the countryside
 202. Preparation and implementation of local rural development strategies
 3. Development of rural economy
 301. Investment in rural infrastructure
 302. Diversification of economic activities
- Paying Agency for Agriculture, Fisheries and Rural Development is responsible for tendering, contracting and execution of payments

What can I expect to obtain from IPARD if I am dedicated to wine production and viticulture?

Grant amounting to 50% of the eligible investment if the specific criteria listed in the applicable ordinances are met. The Beneficiary applies the project on the basis of a public tender. Tenders related to Measures 101 and 103 are published a few times a year. Further information on eligibility of investments and beneficiaries in the wine production and viticulture sectors are given below.

What is the role of AZRRI in the implementation of the IPARD programme?

Considering the complexity of the application, AZRRI offers the IPARD beneficiaries services regarding the assessment of eligibility of beneficiary/investment, project management, production of business plan, public procurement management in compliance with the PRAG, support throughout the project and on-the-spot control.

VITICULTURE:

Beneficiaries:

- Farming businesses in compliance with Article 3 of the Agriculture Act (OG 149/09), registered in the Farm Register and in the VAT System, 100% privately owned or owned up to 25% by the State, local authorities and/or regional self-government or the City of Zagreb.

Eligible investments in the viticulture sector:

- Investments in the restructuring of existing wine-grape groves
 - soil development (soil levelling, grubbing-up, clearance and/or trench-ploughing, deep ploughing and/or subsoiling, fertilization and soil reclamation and soil improvement measures, drainage, secondary tillage, harrowing)
 - establishment (procurement of certified planting material and planting of the grove)
 - construction of the hail protection and frost protection systems (poles, anchorage, cables, wires, caps, tensioners, clips, netting),
 - fencing of the plantation

Specific eligibility criteria:

- From not less than 2 ha up to a maximum of 50 ha under wine grape cultivars.
- Vineyard must not be older than 30 years (or must not be older than 30 years and non-health-compliant) and if the hybrids or existing allowed cultivars are replaced with the recommended ones, in line with the Ordinance on the National List of Recognized Vine Cultivars.

Financing and grants:

- Eligible investments ranging from 13,500 EUR to 900,000 EUR.
- The amount of the grant can reach up to 75% of eligible investments (usually 50%).
- Payment of grants takes place upon completion of the investment.
- Funding of the IPARD projects is supported by the CBRD (HBOR) loan facility with a 2% interest rate and a 12-year repayment period (possibility of a 2-year grace period).

WINE PRODUCTION SECTOR:

Beneficiaries:

- Crafts businesses, companies and cooperatives, registered to pursue the related activities and VAT payers:
 - Ranked as micro, small or medium sized companies with less than 25% of the capital held by the state.
 - Ranked as company with less than 750 employees or with an annual turnover not exceeding 200 million Euros, with less than 25% of the capital held by the state.

Eligible investments in the wine production sector:

- Wine cold stabilization tanks
- Wine cold stabilization appliances
- Rotary vacuum-drum filter
- Tangential, floating, plate and combined filters
- Wine pumps
- Centrifugal separator
- Nitrogen generating system
- Wine bottling line with associated equipment
- CIP stations
- Pneumatic presses
- Piping and fittings

Specific eligibility criteria:

- Beneficiary must be registered in the Register of Producers of Grape, Wine and Fruit Wine.
- In the year preceding the application, the Beneficiaries must produce from 200 hl up to 20,000 hl per year of quality and/or top-quality wine in compliance with the Wine Act (OG 96/03).

Financing and grants:

- Eligible values of investments between 33,800 EUR and 3,000,000 EUR.
- Value of the grant is 50% of the investment.
- Payment of grants takes place upon completion of the investment.
- Funding of the IPARD projects is supported by the CBRD (HBOR) loan facility with a 2% interest rate and a 12-year repayment period (possibility of a 2-year grace period).

ASSESSMENT OF ELIGIBILITY OF THE BENEFICIARY/PROJECT FOR PARTICIPATION IN THE IPARD PROGRAMME QUESTIONNAIRE

No.	Denomination	Cross (x) if YES
1.	My project idea is in line with the described sectors and list of eligible investments	<input type="checkbox"/>
2.	I have obtained the approval/permit to commence construction/reconstruction	<input type="checkbox"/>
3.	I am in possession of a Design in Principle and a Detail Design	<input type="checkbox"/>
4.	I am registered in the Farm Register	<input type="checkbox"/>
5.	I am registered in the VAT System	<input type="checkbox"/>
6.	The owner of the land, holder of the permit and the beneficiary are the same legal/natural person	<input type="checkbox"/>
7.	I have no liabilities against the State and/or local authorities	<input type="checkbox"/>
8.	I am in possession of adequate professional qualifications to perform the planned activity	<input type="checkbox"/>
9.	I am in possession of personal and/or loan funds to implement the planned investment	<input type="checkbox"/>
10.	I have not received more than two items of support from IPARD Programme	<input type="checkbox"/>

All answers must be affirmative. In this case it is recommended to continue with the next stage i.e. to contact the IPARD Programme Consultant.

Further information:

Further information can be obtained from the Agency for Rural Development of Istria. Individual consulting for potential beneficiaries of the IPARD Programme is available on Wednesdays from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. upon prior appointment.



This project is funded by the European Union



A project implemented by AZRRI - Agency for Rural Development of Istria Ltd. Pazin

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