



EU pre-accession assistance in the field of agriculture and rural development under IPA II 2014-2020

Anna Nowak

Unit A5 "Pre-accession Assistance for Agriculture"

DG Agriculture and Rural Development

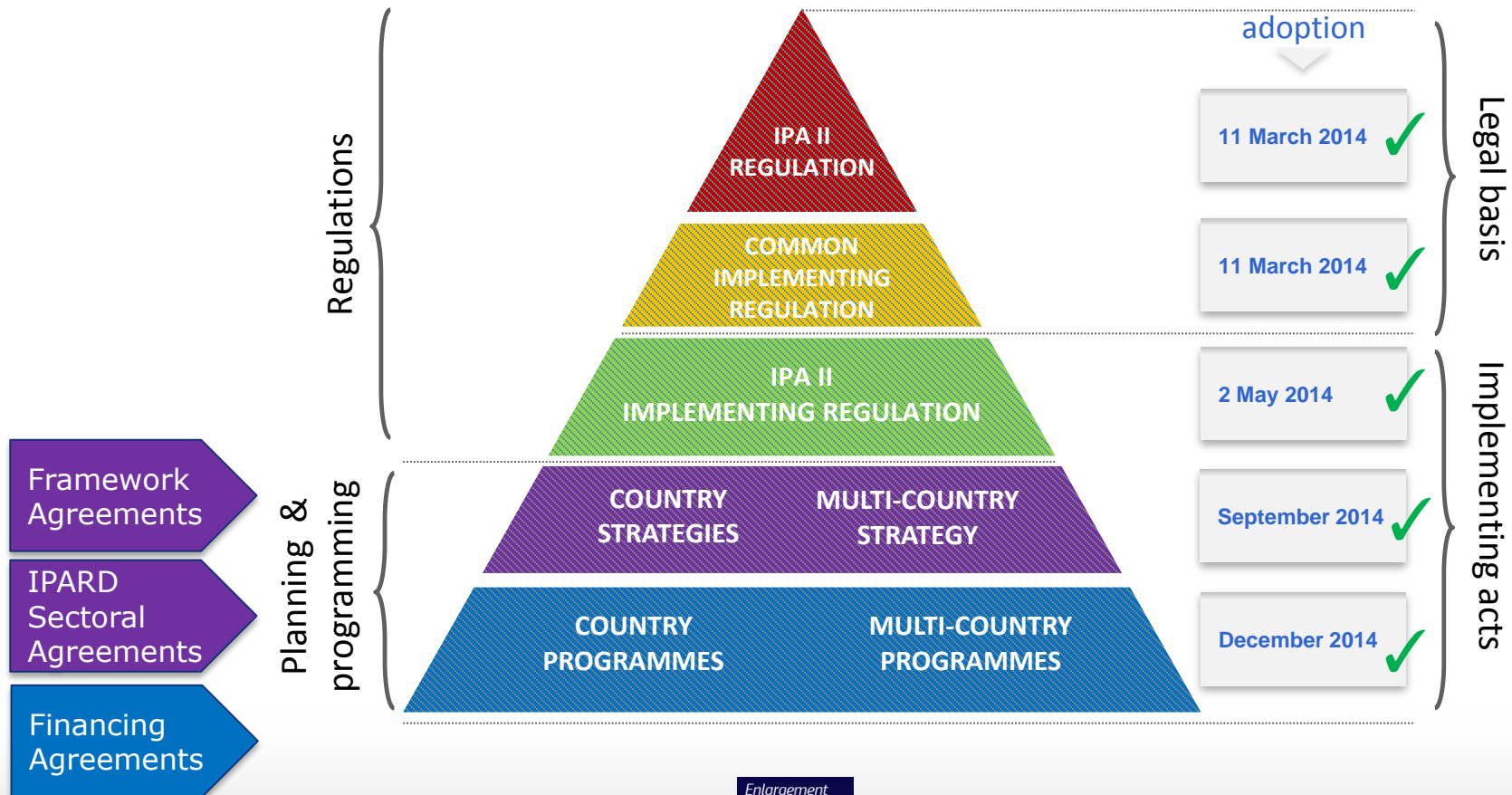
Ways of interaction

- **Trade** – Stabilization and Association Agreements (SAAs), largely liberalised, except for some sensitive products: e.g. baby beef, wine, sugar
- **Approximation to the acquis** – SAA, administrative burden, but helping access EU single market
- **Pre-accession assistance** - institutional and capacity building, investment support

Pre-accession assistance

- IPA II - Instrument for Pre-Accession assistance for candidate and potential candidate countries
- Financial envelope allocated for the period 2014–2020 – EUR 11.7 billion
- All pre-accession countries are eligible – depending on the level of preparedness!

IPA II architecture



Five policy areas (IPA II Regulation)

1. Reforms in preparation for Union membership and related institution- and capacity building
2. Socio-economic and regional development
3. Employment, social policies...
- 4. Agriculture and rural development**
5. Regional and territorial cooperation



Policy area

Agriculture and rural development

Two different management modalities:

- Institutional and capacity building projects – either direct management by Delegations or indirect with *ex-ante* controls by beneficiaries' structures
- IPA Rural Development programmes (IPARD) - Indirect management without *ex-ante* controls – full responsibility of the beneficiaries

IPARD programmes

Indirect management without *ex-ante* controls after entrustment of budget implementation tasks

- Grants to farmers and SMEs in the agro-food sector, therefore many but small, in terms of value, projects
- The Commission empowers a national body (IPARD Agency) to select, contract and pay the projects after making sure that this body is able to properly manage the EU funds
- The selection of measures, programme monitoring, publicity, evaluation and reporting is done by the Managing Authority

IPARD programmes - objectives

- To increase the food-safety of the beneficiary country and the ability of the agri-food sector to cope with competitive pressure as well as to progressively align the sector with Union standards, in particular those concerning hygiene and environment
- To provide investment support through management and control systems which are compliant with good governance standards of a modern public administration equivalent to those in similar organisations in the Member States of the European Union

Measures – 11 in total

First ones used:

- Investments in physical assets of agricultural holdings
- Investments in physical assets concerning processing and marketing of agricultural and fishery products
- Farm diversification and business development

Example - on the farm level

Milk sector

- Milking machinery, milking room facilities, milk cooling and storage as well as on-farm milk transportation equipment
- Construction and modernisation of open and semi-open stables

Example - on the farm level

Meat sector

- Construction and modernisation of animal stables/shelters, storage buildings and machine sheds
- Manure & waste storage and management
- On-farm animal feed preparation, handling, distribution systems and storage

Example – primary processing

Meat sector

- Construction / renovation of slaughter houses, cooling storage rooms
- Investments in establishment of food safety systems to reach EU standards
- Construction of rendering plants

How can the MS private sector contribute?

Advice and know-how:

- TA expertise – capacity building, improvement of implementation
- Project preparation phase – idea generation, business plans, search of suppliers
- Implementation phase – technological know-how

How can the MS private sector contribute?

Supplies:

- Machinery
- Processing and packaging lines
- Infrastructure projects
- All sorts of other equipment

How can the MS private sector contribute?

Where to find?

Calls for tender and public procurement on relevant EC websites:

- EC Delegations
- Europe aid
- <https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/europeaid/online-services/index>

What funds to expect?

MK – close to EUR 70 million for 7 years, continuing in 2014

TR – around EUR 800 million for 7 years, continuing in 2014

ME – close to EUR 40 million, starting in 2015

RS – around EUR 170 million, starting in 2015

AL – around EUR 70 million, starting in 2015 or 2016

+ projects to support institution and capacity building in agriculture and rural development ~EUR 230 million for 7 years

Timing

Programming of institutional and capacity building projects:

- Ongoing, 2015 being finalised, 2016 reflections started
- Look at the IPA II Indicative Strategy Papers for outline of needs and priorities

IPARD:

- Turkey and the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia – programmes approved, implementation will continue in the autumn
- Serbia – programme approved, start expected in early 2016
- Montenegro and Albania – start expected by mid-2016



Thank you