

APPROVED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF LAG DOBRICHKA ON 08.08.2017

Management Board Chairman:.....

/end. Toshko Petkov/

COMMUNITY LED LOCAL DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY
LAG DOBRICHKA

Introduction:

The administrative and territorial structure of the territory, that present strategy is developed, is an exception to the rules Bulgarian municipalities are structured. It is the largest municipality without its own administrative center, uniting 68 villages within a radius of 35 km from Dobrich district. The largest village has a population of about 1500 inhabitants. This peculiarity of spatial planning imposes another approach and parameters in the application of the concentration principle that is leading in the distribution of European funds, including under the EAFRD.

The successful approach to solving territory's problems was implemented in the programming period 2007-2013 by Local Action Group Dobrichka (LAG Dobrichka) through the implementation of Strategy for Local Development under Contract No RD 50-145/13.10.2011. The implementation of the Strategy gave LAGs team administrative management experience, built capacity and trust in local informal leaders. The involvement of citizens in the process of implementation of the Strategy's activities established LAG Dobrichka as an active organization for local sustainable development and has undoubtedly proven the benefit to the territory from the implementation of the LEADER approach. For the time of implementation of the Strategy (2012-30.09.2015), here were:

- received 69 applications with total value of BGN 6 118 066.31;
- applied for 61 projects with a total value BGN 5,325,957.93;
- executed and approved for financing 52 contracts for BGN 4,212,123;
- assisted 42 beneficiaries from three sectors;
- enhanced living environment for 71.8% (14,953 people) of the population, providing new services in 47 out of 68 villages in the LAG territory;

Thankfully this added value for the territory is estimated. People are genuinely proud of the results of the Local Development Strategy implementation, resulting from cross-sectoral partnerships and synergies for initiatives of common interest achieved through good governance and stakeholder involvement in the development of the territory. They found a broad reputation among the local population. For this reason, its representatives developed the new CLLD Strategy with responsibility for the specificities and problems of the territory, with desire to increase the good practices and partnerships, and LAG Dobrichka activities to continue generate benefits and unleash potential of territory with concentration of small producers, minority and vulnerable groups, developing specific territorial potential.

1. LAG DOBRICHKA DESCRIPTION

LAG Dobrichka is a legal non-profit entity established for the purpose of socially useful activity and registered as an Association under the Non-Profit Legal Entities Act. LAG Dobrichka was established in an area covering the administrative boundaries of Dobrichka Municipality - the largest rural municipality in the country, with 68 settlements (villages) and a total area of 1296,163 m². According to 31.12.2016 NSI data, the total population of Dobrichka Municipality is 20 882 people (11.70% of the population of Dobrich region), of which 10 445 males and 10 437 women.

There is only one LAG registered on the territory of Dobrichka municipality, which applies this CLLD Strategy for EAFRD financing.

Headquarters and management address of LAG Dobrichka: Dobrich; Branishte village; 19, Parva Str.

The demarcated territory, included in LAG Dobrichka, meets the defined criteria for the implementation of sub-measure 19.2 "Implementation of operations under the CLLD's strategies" of measure 19 "Local communities led by the communities" of the Rural Development Program (RDP) for the period 2014-2020, such as:

- 1) A territory included in the list of rural areas, according to Annex No. 3 to Art. 4, paragraph. 4 of Decree No. 161;
- 2) A territory with uninterrupted boundaries, including all settlements in Dobrichka municipality
- 3) With a population of 10 000 to 150 000 inhabitants, according to data from the National Statistical Institute (NSI) as at 31 December 2016

LAG Dobrichka has a collective supreme body (general assembly - GA), which includes the municipality from the territory of the LAG - Dobrichka municipality. All members of the GA have a permanent address and / or work in the territory of action of the LAG (for natural persons) as well as a seat and address of management of the LAG's territory (for legal persons). In the composition of the General Assembly of LAG Dobrichka there is also a branch of a legal person, which is registered in the territory of the LAG - the territory of Dobrichka Municipality with decision № 277/2008. of Dobrich Regional Court.

LAG Dobrichka has a collective management body (a board of directors), consisting of 7 persons with headquarters and headquarters address. An exception is made only by Dobrichka Municipality, which is included in Annex № 3 of Decree № 161 of the Council of Ministers and has its residence in the regional town of Dobrich.

The share of representatives of the public sector, of business sector representatives and of non-profit sector representatives in the collective supreme body and in the collective management body of the association does not exceed 49 per cent of the persons entitled to vote according to art. 28, para. 1 of the Law on Non-profit Organizations.

Since the last meeting of the collegial supreme body of LAG Dobrichka, held on 08 August 2017, the members of the association are 49 of 36 villages (52.94% of the settlements in the LAG territory) distributed as follows:

1 public sector representative - Dobrichka Municipality, represented by Mr. Toshko Petkov - mayor of the municipality and chairman of the Managing Board of the LAG;

24 representatives of the business sector, of which: 8 private farmers; 4 agricultural cooperatives; 1 production and commercial cooperative; 11 private legal entities;

24 representatives of the non-profit sector (NGOs), of which: 4 associations; 1 school board, 1 tourist

company, 2 football clubs and 13 community centers from the territory of Dobrichka municipality, one physical person with interest in the development of the territory and 2 legal entities who identify themselves as representatives of minority communities.

In the composition of the collective supreme body (General Assembly) of LAG Dobrichka, are represented 93% of the identified groups of stakeholders from the territory:

REPRESENTATION OF STAKEHOLDERS IN THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE LAG DOBRICHKA	
PUBLIC SECTOR	
Local Government – Dobrichka Municipality	1
COMMERCIAL SECTOR	
Agricultural producers: Plant Breeding	13
Agricultural producers: Stock Raising	1
Enterprises from the food and beverage industry	4
Enterprises from the processing industry (without food and beverage)	1
Tourism businesses	2
Enterprises from trade, services and construction sectors	3
NON-COMMERCIAL SECTOR	
Community centers	13
Educational Institutions	1
Associations in the field of sport and youth activities	3
Other associations from the territory	4
Natural persons with interests in the development of the territory	1
Representatives of minority communities and vulnerable groups	2
TOTAL	49

1.1. Data on municipalities and settlements falling within the LAG territory:

<p>- list of municipalities covered by the LAG:</p>	<p>Dobrichka Municipality № DOB15 72624 by Unified classifier of administrative-territorial and territorial units</p>
<p>- list of settlements covered by the LAG:</p>	<p>Alcek, Batovo, Bdinci, Benkovski, Bogdan, Bozhurovo, Branishte, Vedrina, Vladimirovo, Vodnyanci, vratarite, Vrachanci, General Kolevo, Geshanovo, Debrene, Dobrevo, Dolina, Donchevo, Draganovo, Dryanovec, Enevo, Zhitnica, Zlatiya, Kamen, Karapelit, Kozloduici, Kotlenci, Kragulevo, Lovchanci, Lomnica, Lqskovo, Malka Smolnica, Medovo, Metodievo, Miladinovci, Novo Botevo, Ovcharovo, Odrinci, Odurci, Opanec, Orlova mogila, Paskalevo, Plachi Dol, Pobeda, Podslon, Polkovnik Ivanovo, Polkovnik Minkovo, Polkovnik Sveshatarovo, Popgrigorovo, Prilep, Primorci, Pchelino, Pchelnik, Rosenovo, Samuilovo, Svoboda, Slaveevo, Slivenci, Smolnica, Sokolnik, Stefan Karadzha, Stefanovo, Stozher, Tyanevo, Feldfebel Denkovo, Hitovo, Tzarevec, Cherna Villages</p>
<p>- number of inhabitants of the territories covered by the LAG:</p>	<p>20 882 people</p>

1.2. Map of the territory:



2. Description of the process of community involvement in strategy development:

2.1. Process description - meetings, seminars, conferences, trainings and public debates:

In order to achieve a high level of information, consultation and immersion of the partnership, a large-scale information and training campaign was carried out (Annex №12), which included the following activities:

- **3 information meetings** to meet the local community with the CLLD approach and to involve stakeholders in preparing the LAG Strategy. The meetings were held in the villages of Paskalevo (27.07.2016), Plachi dol and Odrintsi (on 05.08.2016 - 2), with a total of 40 participants.

- On **2 one-day information meetings** for consulting with the local community (on 18.08 and 26.08.2016, in the village of Svoboda and in the village of Enevo with a total of 40 participants) were presented the possibilities for funding the Strategy by including financial resources from several operational programs, discussing appropriate measures that address the needs of the territory.

- At the **information conference** held on 05.10.2016 in the building of the Dobrich municipality with 63 people present, the attitudes of the local stakeholders regarding the sources of financing of the Strategy were taken into account; the objectives expected to be achieved as a result of its implementation; the measures to be included; the criteria that will be of major importance in the evaluation and selection of projects. In the course of the conference, the overall strategic framework of the CLLD was presented and discussed.

- A **two-day training for the LAG team** was organized and conducted on 21 and 22 July 2016, with coordinators, members of the Managing Board and Control Board (12 people in total), resulting in a 100% awareness of the team connection with the implementation of CLLD and willingness to implement the new Strategy of the Territory.

- Parallel to the information campaign, on 12, 16 and 18 August 2016. have prepared and conducted **3 trainings for local leaders**. There were 58 people representing the various sectors - public, business and civic. The main purpose of the trainings was to inform and build up the Community capacity to work in the context of the LEADER / CLLD approach and the RDP 2014-2020.

At the end of the campaign, **3 public discussions** were also carried out on the initial version of the new LAG's Development Strategy (December 20, 10:30, 11:30 and 12:30 respectively for representatives of:

- 1) local government, NGOs, vulnerable groups, community centers, clubs;
- 2) farmers;
- 3) non-agricultural business and services (micro-enterprises, small and medium-sized enterprises).

The announcement of the public discussion of the CLLD strategy project was published in the regional daily newspaper "New Dobrudja's Tribuna" (06.12.2016) and on the LAG website. The discussions were conducted with a strong interest from the local population (79 participants). In the course of the events to the general public, the developed draft of the Strategy was presented and the participants were given the opportunity to modify and complement different texts of the document.

In the process of elaboration of the CLLD Strategy of LAG Dobrichka, 85% of the stakeholder groups identified in the analyzes were represented in the public deliberations and trainings. As a result of this information campaign, 100% awareness was achieved in the LAG and over 70% awareness and counseling on the territory of Dobrichka municipality.

On August 08, 2017, the General Assembly of the Association adopted the final version of the CLLD Strategy for LAG Dobrichka for the period from 2017 to 31.12.2020 (Annex 4). CLLD strategy on the LAG Dobrichka territory was supported by 574 people or 2.75% of the population (Annex 13).

2.2. Groups / sectors stakeholders involved in strategy development:

In the stakeholder identification process, information from 128 individuals and legal entities, randomly selected local representatives, from which: 24% represented the local business, was obtained through the survey method; 17% are representatives of informal civil organizations and NGOs and 59% are representatives of local authorities. As a result of the study, the following conclusions were made:

- a wide range of natural and legal persons are involved, which is a factor for objective assessment of the stakeholders with potential to be involved in the implementation of the future BOM;
- the majority of the active citizens on the LAG territory are educated and informed people who declare interest in the implementation of the CLLD;
- there is the necessary critical mass of interested citizens within the 65-year age limit (representing 94% of all respondents) able to implement the Community-led local development strategy of LAG Dobrichka.

In the stages of CLLD Strategy development of LAG Dobrichka, the LAG took representatives from different groups of the local population and business. Business representatives took an active part in discussing private sub-measures (19.2-4.1, 19.2-4.2 and 19.2-6.4) in defining the scope of activities and their costs; the financial parameters of the projects; when defining the project evaluation criteria and their weight. Representatives of the public sector (municipal employees, mayors and mayors, municipal councilors) conducted an awareness campaign among the population and made specific suggestions when preparing sub-measures 19.2-7.2 and 19.2-7.5. Representatives of the civil sector (NGOs, community centers and sports club) actively participated in the discussions of the Strategy, in the definition of the strategic framework and priorities, in the development of sub-measures 19.2-7.2 and 19.2-7.6, as well as in the selection criteria of the projects submitted to them.

The identified stakeholder groups that have been involved in the process of information, consultation, discussion, training and development of the LAG Dobrichka Strategy are: Local Government; Agricultural producers; Enterprises from the food and processing industry; from the sphere of tourism; from trade, services, construction. From the civil sector – Community Center; Educational Institutions; Associations in the field of sport and youth activities; Other associations in the territory; Natural persons with interests of development of the territory; Representatives of minority communities and vulnerable groups (individuals and legal entities).

3. Description of the situation in the region at the time of application:

3.1. Analysis of needs and potential for development of the territory:

LAG DOBRICHKA was established on territory, covering the administrative borders of Dobrichka municipality. Dobrichka municipality is located in the northeastern district of Level 2, Dobrich region, close to the Black Sea and its resorts. It is a peripheral territory of the Black Sea area and is close to the border with Romania.

- **number of inhabitants in the territory of LAG Dobrichka:** According to NSI data at 31 December 2016 there are 20 882 people. For the time of 2009, when started the first works of LAG Dobrichka, the population decreased by 3150 or by almost 13%.
- **area on the territory of LAG Dobrichka:** 1296,163 km² - the largest area in the Republic of Bulgaria.
- **population density:** Population density is 16.11 people / km², which is 2.40 times lower than the average for Dobrich region (38.73 people / km²) and almost four times lower than the average for the

country (64.88 people / km²).

Socio-economic characteristics of the territory

1) Social trends:

Specifically for the municipality, only one on the LAG territory, is its non-traditional administrative-territorial structure. It has no natural center and is formed on the principle of a set of 68 villages located around the Dobrich district, 2 of which have up to 1500 inhabitants, 17 villages - with a population of 400 to 1000 people, 29 villages - 100 to 400 people, and 20 settlements have a population of less than 100 people. This fact has led to the gradual formation of a specific structure of about 10 supporting villages with a population of 350-1,500, which are mini-agglomerations, centers of labor, social and cultural life. About 6 to 7 small villages gravitate around them, which affects the access of residents to services and creates a way of life characterized by the production of products for the needs of households and social isolation. It is reinforced by the limited public transport, which is missing for 4 of the villages on the territory. The aging process in these villages reaches critical dimensions.

The population continually reduces. For the last 6 years it has decreased by 13%, and formed permanent tendency of depopulation. The reason for this is the negative natural growth, to a lesser extent compensated by a positive mechanical increase, due to migration of people mostly in retirement age who have completed their professional career in the district of Dobrich and preferred the peace of village life. The average life expectancy is 69 years for men and 76 years for women.

The population of Dobrichka Municipality has the following age characteristics: 55.16% are in working age, 29.2% are over working age, 1017 people (17%) are living alone, and only 16.64% are children and young people up to 19 years of age.

The educational level of the people in the territory is lower than the average for the country and the region, 68% have primary and incomplete primary education, and 4% did not attend school at all. The low education of the population corresponds to the characteristics of the ethnic composition.

The ethnic structure of the population in the territory shows a steadily growing share of the Roma ethnic group - 21.7%, of which 35% are children and young people and only 7.9% are over 60 years old. In comparison, for the Bulgarian population, children and young people are 11% and those over 60 years - 56%. The concentration of the Roma population on the territory is the highest in the region, and the increasing number of children of this ethnicity, combined with their attitudes, traditions and property status, deepens the differences in the ethnic groups on the territory and increases the migration processes among the young Bulgarian families, who seek for their children better education than that offered in mixed classes and among children who do not speak fluently Bulgarian.

There is a high risk of poverty and social exclusion of whole groups of people, due to low employment of the working population, high unemployment, low educational attainment, low incomes and also the age and ethnic structure of the residents.

Demands: *The characteristics of the population on the one hand and the structure of the territory on the other, forms the need to bring more services to the people from the territory by revealing new and enlarging the perimeter of the existing ones. The continuing trend of widespread illiteracy and lack of education among the Roma community forms a need for action to counteract the risk of poverty and*

isolation. High unemployment and the social exclusion of groups of working-age people form the need to focus on job creation and action to integrate these groups into the labor market and the life of the territory.

There is a growing range of social services such as Home Social Patronage, Public Dining Room, Center for Public Support for Children at Risk, 53 clubs for the pensioner on the territory, are financed by Municipality.

Demands: *However, the need for social services continues to grow due to an aging population, an increasing number of lonely people, children at risk and people with disabilities.*

The network of educational services is well developed on the ground. By 2015, 1498 students were studying in 21 schools. Due to the reduction of children and the need for optimization, the educational establishments are reduced to 13.

Demands: *Released buildings need new functionalities. Main problem is the taking and retention of children subject to compulsory education. There is a need for new tools and equipment to improve the quality of the learning process, from building sports grounds and providing sports equipment to improve the motor activity of children and young people, to diversify their leisure time and to strengthen sports clubs on the territory.*

Primary pre-hospital assistance is provided to the population, doctors 'and / or dental offices are mainly in the supporting villages, there are no doctors' practices in 8 settlements and their mayors indicate that the distance to the nearest practice is between 2 and 25 km. There is only one active pharmacy in the territory and the supply of medicines is partially taken on a voluntary basis either by doctors working on the territory or by the mayors of the settlements.

Demands: *Providing mobile health services is a way of improving people's access to them.*

Local community relations are preserved, supported by 35 community centers, education centers, information events, for preservation and continuation of ethnic traditions.

Demands: *Part of the cultural calendar has the potential to attract visitors to the territory, but in discussions with stakeholders it was felt that there was a need to change the approach of events, to improve marketing, to attract interest in the territory, to take into account the attitudes of people to survive, to see and to feel, to taste, to have fun.*

2) Economic trends

The economy of the territory comprises 581 enterprises, of which 90.7% are micro, 7.92% are small and 1.5% are medium enterprises. 1585 are registered agricultural producers. "Agriculture, forestry and fisheries" are leading, forming 58% of net sales revenue, followed by the "trade" sector. The largest enterprises in the territory are Eggs and Poultry - Zora Ltd, Class Oil Ltd. and Nedko Nedkov Ovcharovo Ltd. respectively for production of eggs, vegetable oil and dairy products, meat and meat products.

The employed in the territory are 13.76%. People rely on seasonal employment, 28.12% people are working abroad and most of people are counting on food produced in their own yard. 1.82% are employed on their own farms. Unemployment at the end of 2015 is 14.4%. It maintains long-lasting values above average for the country and the region, and is permanent for low-skilled and / or non-qualified residents of the territory.

The increase in Tangible Assets in the period from 2011 to 2015 compared to the base year 2010 is

124.47%, which is an indicator of the expansion of the activity and the technological renewal of the enterprises. The cost of purchasing tangible assets is 90% in the agricultural sector, 5,36% in industry and 3,13% in services.

The investment activity of business structures depends on their size and sector of activity and is directly influenced by the action of the RDP and in particular CLLD managed by the LAG for the period 2011-2014, through which, in the agricultural sector, the processing industry industry and non-agricultural activities are investing.

Demands: *The contribution of LAG Dobrichka in the previous period is mostly in supporting micro and small business structures that are highly vulnerable to market conditions and without the support of rural development policy they could not plan investment and development. This applies equally to the current programming period.*

2.1. Industry and services

The economy of the territory has a low degree of diversification. The primary sector, which creates added value and higher seasonal employment, is being developed. A small part of the produced agricultural output is processed on the spot, there are several dairies, 2 distilleries for essential oils, a slaughterhouse, shock freezing chambers, a plant for processing and packaging of honey, and a plant for the production of vegetable oil and biodiesel.

The development of non-agricultural sectors is limited by higher investment risk and costs as well as by the availability of workforce quality. There are small factories for furniture, shoes, concrete blocks, wrought iron, several small construction companies, two guest houses.

The existing network of retail outlets and services does not meet the needs of the population. Only basic necessities are available, there is no supply even of standard services because of their limited demand and unprofitableness.

Demands: *The problem has been for years, and an innovative approach to offering services to cover the entire LAG territory with its 68 villages is a must.*

The territory has the potential to develop sustainable tourism by preserving and exhibiting natural and cultural heritage and promoting continuity with respect to living heritage and traditions. In the previous period, including with the support of the construction and assembly works of LAG Dobrichka, there are built guest houses and attraction "Honey house - Mihovi", but in the process of transformation of a territory into a place for attraction, cultural, nature, rural and other thematic tourism requires intervention and public sector involvement. The potential of the territory is not used, there is no developed tourist product, public-private partnerships and attractions are undeveloped, no expertise is attracted.

Demands: *It is necessary to promote the diversification of the local economy by supporting investment in the processing of production and also in non-agricultural sectors, with a focus on job creation and preservation. Due to limited market opportunities in small settlements part of the territory, making investments in services is unprofitable, the promotion of mobile services is an opportunity that can expand the market and meet the need.*

2.2. Agriculture

A) Plant growing:

Agriculture on the territory has traditions. Land and fertility of soils are the main resource that determines the livelihood. According to the balance of the territory from a total of 1298 000 decares area, 79% are agricultural land, of which the sown agricultural areas are 880055 decares (68%), the irrigated areas are only 206 decares and the permanent crops - 4576,29 decars (0,45% of agricultural land). Conditions for the consolidation of arable land are created and 28 farmers cultivate over 34% of the sown areas. There is a bipolarity of the agricultural structure.

Depending on the size of the holdings, changes in their specialization have occurred in the last 2 years. A lasting tendency of diversification of cultures typical for small and medium farms up to 800 decares is expected, due to the following processes:

Traditionally, the area is dominated by cereal cultivation. The combination of fertile soil, large arable land, high-performance equipment and high grain prices allowed intensive farming to get record yields and high added value in the production of wheat, corn and sunflower. In the last few years, these factors have provided good yields not only for large but also for small producers.

The change in the market situation, linked to the decrease in grain purchase prices, traditionally high rents and modified support schemes under the RDP 2014-2020, as well as climate change, have initiated re-routing processes, especially small farms, to other crops. Perennial crops increased by 323.8% compared to 2010, increases is also the number of vegetable growers on average between 5 and 15 decares, as well as the areas planted with essential oil crops and herbs. In the area there are producers of pumpkins, melons, watermelons, raspberries, aronia, nuts. The agricultural product on the territory changes its characteristics and targets another type of consumer.

Demands: Redirecting farms to new crops other than cereals generates the need for new types of agricultural machinery, including irrigation, warehouses and storage systems, from greenhouses. New local products need marketing and integration of their producers into the food chain. There is also a need for the processing of fruits, vegetables and also of essential oil crops, which contributes to the increase of the added value of the territory. Taking into account these needs, LAG Dobrichka's CLLD strategy provides measures and indicators that will give priority to their satisfaction with traditional forms of agriculture.

B) Livestock breeding:

According to State Agricultural Fund data, at the end of 2014 there are 369 registered farmers in the territory who are engaged in animal husbandry. Compared to 2010, both the number of livestock breeders and livestock grows, with a growth rate of 1604% reaching 1 283 223 units animals. 40% of cattle, 28% of sheep, 77% of laying hens, 73% of chickens for fattening, and 30.58% of bee families in Dobrichka district are kept on the territory of LAG. A breeding center for Peking ducks has recently been opened. Favorable factor for the development of the sector is the availability of own feed, which makes livestock farmers less dependent on market fluctuations.

Demands: The investment needs of livestock breeders are related to the construction of new livestock farms, the introduction of systems and innovations, leading to the achievement of standards and quality of production, machines that allow the automation and improvement of livestock services. Beekeepers need

platforms for mobile beekeeping, honey processing, wrapping and labeling equipment.

3) Infrastructure:

The distance from main roads and developed industrial centers is the reason why the territory of the LAG DOBRICHKA is isolated and entirely dependent on agriculture. The necessary engineering infrastructure is built on the territory, but access to most villages is on the fourth-class road network, the roads are of low throughput, and in winter conditions are often impassable. The Sofia-Kardam railway line passes through the territory.

For the period 2010-2015, LAG Dobrichka through CLLD made efforts to improve the street network and the park space, as well as the construction works.

***Demands:** The large number of settlements on the territory (68 villages) also forms the need for such actions and in the current programming period, the mayors of 19 villages report in the questionnaire that the streets in their settlements are bad and that the public green areas require maintenance.*

The territory is completely covered by mobile communications. 72% of the settlements have Internet access. In 19 settlements, the lack of Internet access deprives people and businesses of access to information and further increases isolation.

The water supply network to all the settlements of the territory has been built for a long time and is characterized by the large water losses caused by the amortized asbestos cement pipes, a prerequisite for continuous accidents. There is a water supply regime in 11 villages. No sewerage systems for waste water are built, so there are no built-up sewage treatment plants.

4) Climate and Environment

4.1. Climate:

The territory of LAG Dobrichka is moderately continental, softened by the proximity of the Black Sea basin. Typical are moderate and strong winds. The average annual temperature is 12.1 ° C, the lowest temperatures are in January, and the highest in July. There are signs of climate change in the area. There has been a rise in maximum summer temperatures over the past few years, coupled with a strong waterlessness. The average annual rainfall is about 500 mm.

4.2. Water resources

A) Surface water:

There is almost no surface water on the territory of LAG Dobrichka, they occupy only 0.19% of its total area. The only significant rivers are The Dry River and Batova River. There are 16 micro-dams on the territory, 10 of which have relatively constant water quantities and 6 are dry. On the land of the village of Odrintsi lies Odrintsi dam (3 million cubic meters of water), which is mainly used for fishing. Eight of the functioning dams are classified as potentially dangerous. No watering systems are built.

On the territory of the municipality is located a drilling mineral spring near Batova River, near Prilep village. There are cold springs in Novo Botevo and Batovo village. No attempts have been made to water bottling.

***Demands:** There is a need for targeted action to protect water resources and make them a source of*

income, notably by building irrigation systems. This is also a way to sustainably develop part of the farms in a changing climate.

B) Groundwater:

Groundwater is located on two horizons, which are used for water supply to settlements. However, underground sources are at high risk of contamination. Dobrichka municipality is included in the List of Sensitive Areas in the Republic of Bulgaria where, through leakage or drainage, water is polluted by agricultural sources. Agricultural chemistry and drinking pits are the main causes of pollution of shallow groundwater. The inefficiently functioning sewage treatment plants of the livestock farms, the uncontaminated waste water sewage system, the lack of wastewater treatment plants, contribute to nitrate contamination of groundwater used for drinking purposes. The problem is also the unregulated discharge of wastewater from livestock farms in drylands and gullies.

***Demands:** Proper storage of nitrogen-containing fertilizers is needed, which is also the most effective way to protect soil and water from point contamination with nitrates. For this purpose, farms need facilities for their storage with sufficient capacity.*

4.3. Soil resources:

According to the soil classification of Bulgaria, the soils in the region are represented by the following soil types: "Chernozems", "Rendzic leptosols" and "Antrosols". For the development of agriculture, chernozems are most important. Due to the way of land use the soil in the region is affected by water and wind erosion. This risk for the soils in the region is specifically cited for Dobrich region in the RDP 2014-2020 and the National Action Program for Sustainable Land Management and Combating Desertification, on the other hand it was commented with concern by stakeholders in the development process of CLLD strategy.

***Demands:** According to risks for natural resources, which in their entirety create jobs and incomes for the people from the territory, the CLLD strategy addresses the need to conserve the land resources to the planned measures under priority 1 in the strategic framework of the Strategy.*

4.4. Air:

The potential of air pollution from local sources is low.

4.5. Biodiversity and forest resources:

Characteristic of the natural vegetation in the territory is its dry-resistant type. The analyzes reveal increased degradation of pasture vegetation. These processes are compounded by the fact that pastures have been allowed to be destroyed and turned into extra grain areas by large farmers who have won land leases.

There are 2 protected areas, 3 Natura 2000 protected zones under Directive Birds and under Directive Habitats and wildlife. Their conservation status is not "unfavorably unsatisfactory" and therefore there are no conditions for the inclusion of measures in the CLLD strategy for the 2014-2020 OPE.

***Demands:** When discussing the problems in the animal world on the territory, stakeholders have identified facts of destroyed bee colonies as a result of fertilization of the fields and the need to balance the*

interests of farmers.

15% of the territory of LAG Dobrichka is occupied by old forests. Actions to improve their management over the past 15 years have not been undertaken due to unclear ownership. Therefore, despite the need for the restoration of the forest identified by the local community in order to maintain the natural balance and generate added value, it is not possible to include measures related to the development of the forest fund in the CLLD strategy.

4.6. Waste:

2015 was build and put into operation new landfill on the territory of LAG Dobrichka, and was made an installation for the separation of recycling materials and an open composting facility for biowaste.

The morphological analysis of the garbage generated on the site shows high content of recyclable waste as a separate collection system is in building process.

Demands: Stakeholders united around the idea of educational actions and the introduction of home composting systems. A potential opportunity in this direction is the organization of similar thematic events through support under sub-measure 19.2-7.6 of the CLLD strategy.

3.2. Identified stakeholder groups on the LAG territory:

Local community stakeholders have been identified through research and analysis (Appendix 22-2). They are structured on the basis of belonging to the sectors, interests and benefits of the development of the territory. The survey shows that stakeholders have a different interest, different need to be involved, and a degree of involvement in the decision-making process of the development of the CLLD strategy. Sector stakeholders are segmented as follows:

REPRESENTATION	INTEREST	INCLUSION REQUIREMENTS	STAGE OF PARTICIPATION
PUBLIC SECTOR			
Municipal administration and municipal councilors of Dobrichka Municipality, elected positions in settlements of the territory	strong interest and benefits	YES	active
State structures at regional and municipal level	consistency and indirect benefits	NO	information, counseling
COMMERCIAL SECTOR			
Farmers in different legal forms	strong interest and benefits	YES	active
Small and medium-sized enterprises in the food	strong interest and	YES	active

industry, services, construction, trade and tourism sectors	benefits		
Enterprises in the manufacturing industry	interest	YES	active
NON-COMMERCIAL SECTOR			
Associations from the territory (in the sphere of education, sports, youth activities, others)	strong interest and benefits	YES	active
Community Centers Board of Trustees	benefits	YES	active
Representatives of minority communities and vulnerable groups	interest	YES	information, counseling
Individulas	interest	YES	counseling

3.3. SWOT Analysis:

Strengths	Weaknesses
Location, climate, natural and cultural heritage	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Preserved rich natural environment offering good living conditions ▪ Fruitful plain land suitable for agriculture ▪ Proximity to the Black Sea and tourist flows ▪ Territory without large industrial pollutants ▪ Accessibility of the formed supporting villages with concentration of population 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Lack of administrative center in the largest Municipality in the country (68 settlements) ▪ Imbalance in the development of the villages ▪ Climate change manifestations - droughts, floods, floods; ▪ Trends in soil and water pollution from intensive agriculture ▪ Poor condition of forests and nature protection belts
Technical infrastructure	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Spatially well developed road and railway network ▪ Developed telecommunications and coverage by mobile operators ▪ Built public buildings with funds attracted by programs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Worn infrastructure ▪ Limited Internet coverage ▪ Lack of separate garbage collection ▪ Existence of dams at risk ▪ Low energy efficiency of the building stock
Social infrastructure and human resources	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Presence of educational and cultural-educational structures (Kindergartens, schools and community centers) ▪ Renovated building stock ▪ Provided administrative service in supporting villages ▪ Experience in project management ▪ Ethnic diversity ▪ Local community, motivated by LAG Dobrichka, towards common efforts for actions and changes ▪ Acquired experience in implementing the 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Unfavorable demographic structure ▪ Shortage of health and social services ▪ High unemployment rate ▪ Low educational and qualification level of the workforce ▪ Concentration of large disadvantaged groups ▪ High degree of impoverishment and isolation of the population in the small villages

LEADER approach	
Economy	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Presence of traditions and skills in agriculture ▪ Improved material and technical base for agricultural production ▪ Existence of a large number of small farms with a pronounced tendency towards diversification - fruits, vegetables, essential oil crops, new crops ▪ Development of livestock farming with advantages of the possibility to produce own feed ▪ There are a large number of beekeepers on the territory ▪ Existence of free terrains suitable for enterprise based ▪ Small but flexible and business-related micro-enterprises ▪ Presence of large egg production complex 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Polarized farm structure - a lot of land in a few large landlords ▪ Development of monoculture agriculture ▪ Production from agriculture is directly exported as raw material ▪ Limited number of processing plants ▪ Unfinished modernization, especially in small and medium-sized farms ▪ Direct access of farmers to the market ▪ Highly dependent on agriculture economy ▪ Undevelopment of the service sector ▪ Insufficient share of innovation and weak communication with science ▪ Seasonal employment in agriculture ▪ Lack of irrigated agriculture ▪ Poor valorisation of natural and cultural heritage
Opportunities	Threats
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Implementation of innovations and diversification of agricultural crops ▪ Organic agriculture ▪ Attract tourists from the Black Sea coast and from the regional centers ▪ Development of services and extension of their scope to all settlements ▪ Association of Farmers ▪ Increasing investment activity and entrepreneurship ▪ Creation and consolidation of small processing enterprises and modernization of the light and food industry 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Deepening depopulation on the LAG territory ▪ Risk of contamination of resources creating livelihoods - soils and groundwater as a result of intensive agriculture ▪ Risks related to climate change - fires, floods, snowfalls ▪ Risk of market or climatic destabilization of monoculture agriculture ▪ Lack of entrepreneurial activity and qualified human resources for the introduction of innovations ▪ Deepening isolation, poverty and labor emigration, especially of young people ▪ Development of non-ecological productions
<p>3.4. Needs of vulnerable and minority groups:</p> <p>According to NSI data from the last census of 2011, 19.87% of the population in the ethnic group is represented by the Roma ethnic group; for the children up to 9 years and the youths up to 19 years this difference is more than three times the average for the country. Characteristic of this ethnicity are the early marriages, high birth rates, uneducation, low qualification, poverty, inability to raise and educate children, low or completely absent hygienic culture, disinterest and non-use of Bulgarian language, early school leaving. The analysis of demographic data shows a trend of shaping villages where the Roma ethnicity prevails (over 50%), such as the situation in 27 villages in the LAG Dobrichka. This reflects on the ratio of the number of students in schools - out of a total of 1140 students - 1010 are representatives of the Roma ethnic group, ie. there are classes and schools where all students are representatives of a vulnerable group. The needs of this minority group are related to creating conditions for social inclusion through education and motivating activities for children and young people, working with parents to overcome attitudes, and</p>	

ensuring employment for the working people.

The territory of LAG Dobrichka is also characterized by a **large number of retired people, lonely living elderly people and people with disabilities**. More than 3300 inhabitants are over 69 years of age, with more than 31% (1,037) living alone and 414 people of different ages with registered disabilities. *As a result, about 17% of the population in the area forms a highly vulnerable group of people in need of additional care, both in home and outside, and social contacts.*

The unemployed, and in particular the long-term unemployed youth, formed the third strong group of vulnerable persons on the territory of LAG Dobrichka. The reasons for this are related to the lack or low education and qualification of this group, the inability to employ farmland to provide a livelihood, and seasonal employment in agriculture. *The needs of this vulnerable group are related to the provision of a lasting source of income, such as the acquisition of qualifications, the landing of the municipal land fund to young people, alongside actions to increase jobs in the area, which implies an integrated stakeholder's march.*

4. Strategy Objectives:

4.1. Objectives of the strategy and priorities for development of the territory:

The strategic part of the Community-led Local Development Strategy of LAG Dobrichka was developed on the basis of a Territorial and Socio-Economic Analysis (Annex 22-1), a study of the strategic documents affecting the territory, surveys among the mayors of the settlements, as well as attitudes and expectations among the local population and stakeholders. The analysis of the strengths and weaknesses, opportunities and threats to the territory is derived from the meetings with the people from the territory. In setting goals and priorities, local stakeholders took into account the achievements of the previous programming period, including the findings and outcomes of the implementation of the Local Development Strategy of LAG Dobrichka 2011-2014. They are aware that problem solving and satisfaction of multiple identified needs is a matter of prioritizing and searching for different sources to address them. In this sense, the local community united around the need to efficiently target resources in the CLLD strategy and synergy in action to make progress. With particular concern, people commented on the need for a friendly attitude towards natural resources that should create livelihood not only for the present but also for the future. Under the terms of dialogue, respect and willingness to act responsibly, the following strategic framework was adopted:

Main objective: LOCAL COMMUNITY STRENGTH FOR IMPROVING LIFE AND STORING THE FORTUNE FOR FUTURE GENERATIONS

Justification of main objective: The main goal is to engage the local community to work for sustainable development that "meets the needs of the current generation, without prejudice to the ability of future generations to meet their own needs." The main goal of the Strategy is the community-led approach and addresses stakeholders to work together to achieve a better life today and with responsibility for tomorrow by undertaking joint actions to implement social and environmentally friendly economic policies. The main objective continues and builds on the objective formulated in the previous programming period: "The territory of LAG Dobrichka to become a vibrant rural environment through targeted actions in partnership with the local community." Thus, the formulation of the objective in Dobrichka CLLD strategy, the desired

image of the development of the territory and on the other hand the three components of the national policy implemented through the RDP - a fairer (better life), greener (preserving the wealth of the territory), more efficient (through joint efforts and optimal means).

Most important demands of the territory:

a) The need to support entrepreneurship, developing and protecting the resources of the territory. They are her wealth because they alone or in combination create the conditions for a successful livelihood for the population;

b) The need to support actions that oppose remoteness from the city center and the difficult accessibility of services, the monotony of life and isolation, actions that contribute to the feeling of a good and interesting life, including the weaker and needy from support.

The following priorities came from these needs and result in the realization of the main objective:

1. CREATING A PEMINI THAT PROTES THE FORTUNE OF THE TERRITORY
2. IMPROVEMENT AND DIVERSITY OF LIFE AND ATTRACTION OF INTEREST TO THE TERRITORY

Priority 1 justification: This priority builds on priority 1 "**Improving the Competitiveness of the Local Product**" in the Local community strategy of LAG Dobrichka 2011-2014, focusing on the outgrowth produced on the territory under the rules of Good Agricultural Practice and created with responsibility to the resources / wealth of the territory. It responds to the desire of the local community to use resources in a way that preserves them for future generations as well.

Priority 2 justification: This priority corresponds to Priority 2 "**Improving the Quality of Life in the Territory**" of the previous Strategy, implemented during the period 2011-2014 by the LAG Dobrichka. It is also relevant for the current programming period and stems from the fact that the local population wants to improve living conditions and access services such as those of the city, to communicate fully and to share traditions, culture, history, and with outsiders (tourists and visitors).

4.2. Specific goals:

Priority 1:

Specific goal 1.1. ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT OF RESOURCES AND INNOVATIONS FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF BALANCED ECONOMY

Justification 1.1. :

As a wealth of territory-based livelihood (priority 1), the local community identifies: soil, water, organic / plant waste, bees, cultural heritage due to the following:

Soil and water are the main natural resource for the development of balanced agriculture. Intense fertilization gradually pollutes soils and groundwater sources. Climate change leads to reduced rainfall or natural disasters such as floods and fires, resulting in lower harvests or crop loss.

Organic and, in particular, plant waste is in large quantities and is not being utilized. The morphological composition of the garbage generated on the site shows the presence of organic components in over 33% of the total mass. This percentage does not include the waste that remains in the gardens and fields, it is not processed and creates a problem for its storage. At the same time, it is biodegradable under certain conditions and usable for fertilizing and restoring organic matter in the soil.

There are 16,602 bee families in the territory, producing more than 415 tonnes of honey, or 30.58% of the honey produced in the Dobrichka region. **Bees** are those invisible workers who support farmers' efforts

for better results, they are an indicator of environmental pollution and often become a victim of it. They need support and responsible farming activities, providing conditions for them to exist.

The population preserves **customs, beliefs, culture and traditions**, but they are not turned into a source of income.

Innovations in the local economy, coming from the **development of science and practice**, are underestimated. They are needed to optimize processes of organization, cultivation, processing, product range diversification, etc. (**innovations**).

In most of the farms on the territory there is a narrow specialization in production and market realization in free market conditions. This makes small farms highly vulnerable to climate and market conditions. Balancing them in the direction of reasonable diversification and improving market realization is not only possible, it is necessary (**balance**).

The envisaged sub-measures for the implementation of specific objective 1.1 selected from the 2014-2020 RDP are: 19.2-4.1 "Support for investments in agricultural holdings", 19.2-4.2. "Investments in the Processing / Marketing of Agricultural Products", 19.2-6.4. "Investments in support of non-agricultural activities", **expected results** of which are: balanced and less vulnerable to market and natural events business structures on the territory of LAG Dobrichka; preserved and developed resources creating livelihoods; implemented achievements of science and practice in the local economy; stronger, richer and socially responsible entrepreneurship.

Specific goal 1.2. VALIDATION OF THE LOCAL PRODUCT AND IMPROVEMENT OF THE FOOD CHAIN ORGANIZATION

Justification 1.2:

It comes to meet the need to increase the added value of products produced on LAG Dobrichka territory. They are mainly agricultural crops on the ground - vegetables and fruits, cereals, beans, essential oils, livestock - milk and dairy products, meat and eggs, honey, pollen, propolis etc. This specific goal continues the efforts of the local community from the previous programming period, to support and encourage the creation of a local product and its processing, the new one in this CLLD strategy is related to improving its market implementation and guaranteeing consumers the origin and quality of the products.

The sub-measures selected in support of this specific objective, selected from the 2014-2020 RDP, are: 19.2-4.1 "Support for investments in agricultural holdings" and 19.2-4.2. "Investment in processing / marketing of agricultural products". The expected results from the realization of the sub-measures are: improved quality and / or varied product range; increased sales, including direct sales; improved links across the chain from manufacturer to retailer. Implementation of this specific objective in combination with a specific objective 2.2. proposes integrated solutions (including collaborative efforts - see main objective) and initiative from both the private and public and civil sectors and strengthens the impact of the impacts.

Priority 2:

Specific goal 2.1. SUPPORT FOR SOCIAL INCLUSION AND POVERTY REDUCTION

Justification 2.1.:

On the territory of Bulgaria's largest village municipality, which is the territory of LAG Dobrichka, there are 68 settlements inhabiting 20,882 people by 2016, 29% of them are over working age. Elderly people, and not just them, need specific services, access to which is limited, including due to the particular spatial

structure and remoteness of the city. *The strategy will promote entrepreneurship, including social, facilitating access to different types of services, using the structure of supporting and surrounding villages.*

According to their ethnic composition, the population in the LAG territory is formed by three ethnic groups - Bulgarians, Turks and Roma, the share of the latter growing constantly. 69% of the population has basic and lower education (with an average of 36%). Lack of education condemns a part of the population of poverty, it is without permanent work, which reflects the impossibility to meet the needs of the children and the family. Illiteracy leads to marginalization, and the range of people affected increases, especially among Roma.

Target groups in the context of a specific objective 2.1. are: elderly and lonely people, disadvantaged children and young people, and isolated groups due to uneducation and ethnic origin.

The measures through which this specific objective will be realized are the RDP sub-measures 19.2-6.4 "Investments in support of non-agricultural activities" and 19.2-7.2. "Investments in creating, improving or expanding all types of small-scale infrastructure". **Expected results** from their implementation are: improving access to services and building an infrastructure to support social inclusion.

Specific goal 2.2. INCREASING ATTRACTIVENESS AND INTEREST AT THE TERRITORY

Justification 2.2.:

This specific objective seeks to build on the achievements of LAG Dobrichka in CLLD for the period 2011-2014, with the support of which two guest houses and a local attraction "Honey House - Mihovi" in the village of Prilep were built.

Although available, rural heritage and rural landscapes, the sense of authenticity, proximity to the land and its fruits continue to bring no added value to enhance the interest in the territory and are not transformed into an experience. As a buffer zone the Black Sea area is close to major tourist flows visiting the seaside resorts of the Northern Black Sea coast, but this fact does not bring incomes to the population by offering alternatives to leisure time.

The local community recognizes that single and single actions are not insufficient to attract interest in the territory. The solution is in the synergy of impacts - building an appropriate infrastructure, creating attractions based on local potentials, providing services from local entrepreneurs.

In order to achieve this goal, a combination of selected RDP sub-measures is foreseen in the CLLD Strategy: 19.2-6.4. "Investments in support of non-agricultural activities", 19.2-7.5. "Investments for public use of recreational infrastructure, tourist infrastructure" and sub-measure 19.2-7.6. "Conservation and inclusion of wealth in the LAG territory", which is part of Regulation (EU) No 1305/2013. In their combined impact, they create a balance in the activity of the three sectors and focus their joint efforts on an integrated approach to the valorisation of local potentials. **Expected results from the implementation of the measures are:** *improved infrastructure for conducting events; increased number of events on the territory attracting visitor interest, new and improved tourist sites and services.*

4.3. Link between the CLLD strategy and the specific territory, developed on the basis of local needs and potential, in line with policies at national, regional and local level, including policies on desegregation and deinstitutionalization:

In the preparation of the CLLD strategy, the identified needs and potential of the territory are compared in

the context of strategic documents of higher rank. The purpose of this analysis is to create prerequisites for consistency of the CLLD strategy with the available strategic documents, the scope of which falls within the target territory.

A) on local level

Dobrichka Municipality Development Plan 2014-2020

The characteristics of the LAG territory, corresponding to the local needs and potential for development, and to the Municipal Development Plan of Dobrichka region 2014-2020, are:

Regarding Priority 1 of the CLLD Strategy: CREATING A PEMINI THAT PROTES THE FORTUNE OF THE TERRITORY:

- Stimulating farmers to modernize farms, preserve farm produce, diversify products and market realization
- Promotion of investment in the processing / marketing of agricultural products
- Improving the conditions for realization of the local product to the end customer
- Support for non-agricultural activities, including the improvement and / or creation of services for the population on the territory
- Support for the introduction of novelties in the production and realization processes
- Creating employment and income, with a focus on young people
- Compliance with environmental protection requirements in the course of economic activities

Regarding Priority 2 of the CLLD Strategy: IMPROVEMENT AND DIVERSITY OF LIFE AND ATTRACTION OF INTEREST TO THE TERRITORY

- Providing conditions and environment for inclusion of vulnerable social groups in the life of the community
- Improving access to social services for different categories of the population - children and youth, elderly people, minority groups
- Upgrading the infrastructure that provides access to the territory and provides its residents with a normal living environment
- Creation of attractions based on the cultural and historical heritage and the natural potential through which the local people and the guests of the territory know it better and prefer it as a place for recreation and for living.

CLLD objectives contribute to the implementation of strategic objectives of Dobrichka municipal development plan, namely:

- Strategic objective 1: Developing competitive and sustainable agriculture and creating conditions for dynamic economic development in the sustainable management of natural resources;
- Strategic objective 2: Increasing the attractiveness of the municipality for investment and residence by improving the technical, environmental and social infrastructure;
- Strategic objective 3: Human resources development by improving the quality of education, health and workforce qualifications

In this way, the CLLD strategy has added value to the development of the territory and addresses the improvement of the living environment, complementing the RDP efforts in this regard. It supports and directly complements the three strategic objectives of the RDP, focusing on the creation of a livelihood based on and safeguarding the wealth of the territory, a high quality end product, improved services and job creation as well as rural development with local community involvement.

2) on regional level

Dobrich Regional Development Plan 2014-2020

- Strategic objective 1: Increase the potential of human resources, increase employment levels, income and achieve social inclusion of disadvantaged groups.
- Strategic objective 2: Establish conditions for increasing competitiveness to achieve dynamic development of the area in reducing disparities both within it and neighboring areas.
- Strategic objective 3: Promotion of balanced territorial development through the establishment of adequate spatial planning models, improvement of environmental conditions, effective use of mechanisms for cross-border and interregional cooperation.

Dobrich Regional Development Plan 2016-2020 – Social Services

The strategy was developed as a sector policy in Dobrich region based on an analysis of the needs for social services in each municipality on the territory of the district:

Priority Axis 1 Development of community based services for the prevention of children and families at risk, overcoming social exclusion and isolation

Priority Axis 2 Development of Social Services in the Community for Social Inclusion of Vulnerable Groups and Disadvantaged Persons

Priority Axis 3 Care for the elderly for a better and dignified life

Dobrich Regional Development Plan 2012-2020 - Integration of Bulgarian Roma People and Other Citizens in a Vulnerable Social Situation

- Operational objective 1 - Covering and retaining in the education system, providing quality education in a multicultural educational environment to children and pupils identified by their parents as representatives of the Roma ethnic group.
- Operational objective 2 - Improving housing conditions, including adjacent technical infrastructure
- Operational objective 3- Improvement of Roma access to the labor market and increase of the share of the employed among them
- Operational objective 4 - Guaranteeing citizens' rights, focusing on women and children, protecting public order, preventing and counteracting intolerance, discrimination and tensions among ethnic groups.
- Operational objective 5 - Creation of conditions for equal access of the Roma community to the public cultural life and preservation and development of the Roma traditional culture and creativity.

3) On national level

Rural Development Policy, defined in the Rural Development Program 2014-2020.

CLLD strategy of LAG Dobrichka contributes to the implementation of Priority 6 "Promoting Social Inclusion, Poverty Reduction and Economic Development in Rural Areas", which aims to strengthen the territorial competitiveness of rural territories through public investment, improving the quality of life and business and promotion conditions of local development under the LEADER approach and in particular under 6B "Stimulating local development in rural areas".

Through the supported projects, LAG Dobrichka CLLD strategy will contribute to the following priority areas of the RDP:

2A-2: Improving the viability and sustainability of small farms

3A-2 Accelerating innovation, improving energy efficiency and technological innovation in the food industry

3A-4 Shortening supply chains, promoting local markets and improving the marketing of agricultural products

4B-1: Conservation and enhancement of soil fertility

6A-1: Increasing investment in non-agricultural sectors of rural areas

6B-1: Improving social infrastructure

6B-3: Improvement of tourist infrastructure

Desegregation Policy, defined in the Framework Program for Integration of Roma in Bulgarian Society for the Period 2010-2020.

The adopted Regional Strategy for Integration of Bulgarian Roma People and Other Citizens in a Vulnerable Social Situation Living in a Roma-like Situation in the Dobrich Region for the Period 2012-2020 reflects the commitments on the national desegregation policy at regional and municipal level. By contributing to Operational Objectives 1, 3, 4, 5 and 6 of the regional strategy, the current local development strategy will also contribute to the achievement of national desegregation priorities.

Deinstitutionalization policy, defined in the National Strategy "Vision on Deinstitutionalisation of Children in the Republic of Bulgaria"

The adopted Strategy for Development of Social Services in Dobrich region reflects the commitments to the national deinstitutionalization policy at the regional and municipal level. Through its contribution to Priority Axes 1 and 3 of the Regional Strategy, the present local development strategy will also contribute to the achievement of national deinstitutionalization priorities.

4.4. Description of the innovative features of the strategy:

The innovative features of this CLLD Strategy are predetermined by the very philosophy of the LEADER approach and are expressed through the methods and means for its implementation in LAG Dobrichka territory:

1) The innovative nature of CLLD strategy is related to the application of a new method and way of solving the local problems and weaknesses of the territory

In its essence, LEADER represents an innovative approach to territorial development in the EU. The development of LAG Dobrichka CLLD strategy, and subsequently its application and reporting are fundamentally different from the approach adopted and implemented by other strategic documents affecting the territory. Innovation is in the characteristics of the approach applied in the development of the LAG Dobrichka CLLD strategy: 1) the decision making by the local stakeholders is done "bottom-up"; 2) the focus of the CLLD strategy is on the needs and potential of the territory, with the analysis done with the stakeholders raising needs, some of which are not even identified in the Municipal Development Plan (e.g the need for forest regeneration). Furthermore, the strategy, as well as the LEADER approach, addresses for the first time the needs of vulnerable groups in the territory; 3) public-private partnerships between the municipality, NGOs and community centers, farmers and local businesses; 4) the multisectoral strategy - agriculture, production, business and public services, training, civic initiatives, etc. 5) networking - the local network of stakeholders, the network of other local initiative groups in the country and abroad, rural network; 6) cooperation and interaction with partner organizations;

2) The CLLD includes a measure providing a new form of use of the natural resources, the cultural and historical heritage

In accordance with Regulation (EU) No 1305/2013, a new form of conservation, presentation and conservation of local tangible and intangible cultural and historical heritage and protection of natural heritage has been developed, encouraging the expansion of the activities which, at present, are involved Community Centers, NGO and LAG.

3) The CLLD strategy provides the possibility of creating a new product or service for the territory

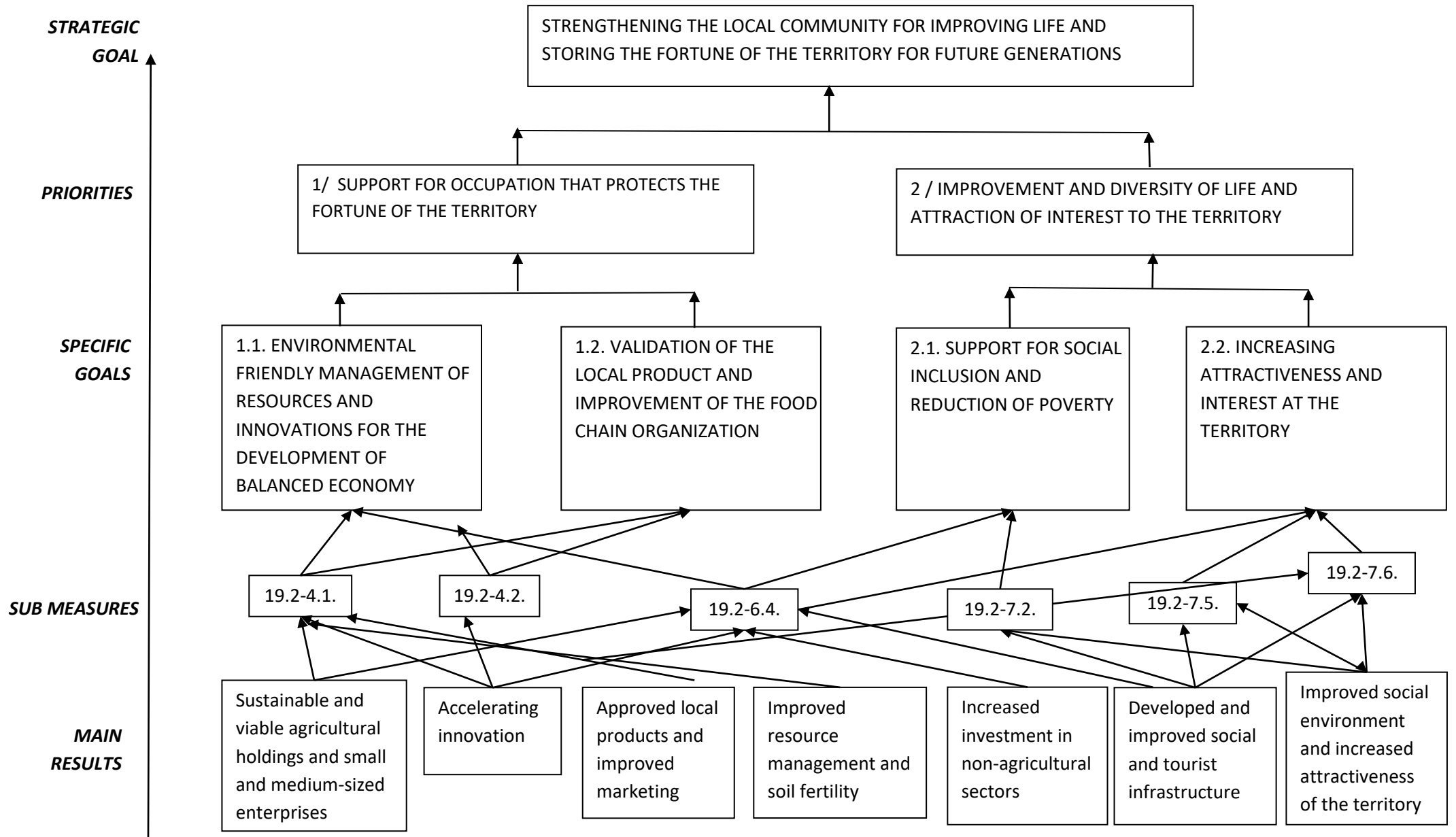
Promoting and stimulating innovation is a horizontal policy built into the LAG Dobrichka CLLD. The measures under Priority 2 and its two specific objectives are aimed at introducing innovative approaches to solving existing problems with public (social) services and capitalizing on the potential of local natural resources and assets. And the measures taken to achieve priority 1 and its two specific objectives are aimed at supporting and promoting the creation of new products or business services.

4) Innovative characteristic of the CLLD strategy is also the development of project evaluation

criteria in terms of their innovativeness

Innovation in projects will be assessed against local conditions and their effectiveness compared to existing methods and solutions applied in our territory. In this way, projects introducing a new service that develops a new product or offering a new approach to addressing existing problems in the territory will be prioritized over the classical types of projects.

4.5. The hierarchy of goals - incl. targets for end products or results:



5. Measures description:

In the LAG Dobrichka CLLD strategy are included five sub-measures financed by the EAFRD which are selected from the RDP of Bulgaria for the period 2014-2020 and a sub-measure not included in the RDP 2014-2020 but included in Regulation (EU) No 1305/2013.

<i>Sub-measure code:</i> 19.2-4.1	<i>Sub-measure name:</i> „ Investments in agricultural holdings “
--------------------------------------	--

Agriculture is a major source of income for the population of the LAG's territory. Both sub-branches - plant growing and livestock breeding are covered. In the crop field, farms are mainly concerned with grain, fruit and vegetable production, and in the livestock sector - with poultry and cattle breeding. Bees and technical crops are grown on the territory. In recent years, many have focused on growing non-traditional oil-based and medicinal crops and herbs for the region. In meetings with representatives of the sector there was a need for support mainly in three directions: for the bigger farmers - towards the achievement of sustainability; for the medium - support for the modernization of the facilities for storing their production and for the smaller farms - support for the purchase of land cultivation and harvesting equipment. In the process of setting up the CLLD strategy, 21 potential beneficiaries of the measure with declared project intentions were registered for: purchase of agricultural machinery, incl. specialized herbal equipment; purchase of small-scale equipment for livestock farms; construction of warehouses for storing own production; construction of scales for agricultural production; creating perennials - orchard, lemon balm, lavender, yarrow; creating a planting of organic lavender; purchase of a platform for mobile beekeeping; construction of irrigation system for growing vegetables; buying hives.

Goal description of the sub-measure:	<p>Diversification of the agricultural production and quality improving, through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Modernization of production conditions and introduction of new processes and technologies for production, storage and transportation; ✓ Restructuring and development of the available material capacities in the farms; ✓ Promoting the introduction of new technologies in the production and modernization of physical capital; ✓ Conservation of environmental components; ✓ Compliance with European Union standards and improvement of farm conditions.
Sub-measure range:	<p>Support is given to projects that lead to an improvement in the overall activity of the farm through :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Upgrading of available land cultivation and harvesting techniques; ✓ Modernization of the material base for storing own production; ✓ Improvement of working conditions, improvement of hygienic, veterinary, phytosanitary, ecological and other conditions of production; ✓ Conservation of environmental components, including reduction of harmful emissions and waste; ✓ Providing opportunities for the production of organic agricultural products.
Eligible beneficiaries:	<p>Farmers for investments in their holdings directly linked to one or more of the primary agricultural production and storage of only their own agricultural products, as well as preparation of the production for sale.</p>

	<p>As of the date of submission of the application, candidates must meet the following conditions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. to be registered as farmers under Art. 7, para. 1 of the Agricultural Producers Support Act; 2. the minimum standard production volume of their agricultural holding is not less than the equivalent of BGN 8000; 3. if they are legal entities, they must be: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) received for the preceding or the current financial year income from agricultural activities or participation and support under the single area payment scheme, including revenue from public financial assistance directly linked to the performance of these activities, or income from the processing of agricultural produce or services directly related to agricultural activities or public financial assistance received; b) registered under the Commerce Act, the Law on Cooperatives, the Law on Religious Denominations or created under the Law of the Agricultural Academy.
Eligible activities:	<p>Investments in tangible and intangible assets that improve the overall activity and competitiveness of agricultural holdings by:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. introduction of new products, processes and technologies and renovation of the available production tangible and / or intangible assets; or 2. preservation of environmental components, including reduction of harmful emissions and waste; or 3. Increasing energy efficiency in agricultural holdings; and / or 4. improvement of working conditions, improvement of hygienic, veterinary, phytosanitary, ecological and other conditions of production; or 5. improvement of the quality of agricultural products; or 6. ensuring the possibilities for production of organic agricultural products.
Eligible costs:	<p>Within the farm:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. construction or renovation of buildings and other immovable property used for agricultural production; 2. the purchase and / or installation of new machinery, and equipment necessary to improve the production process, to store and prepare for sale of the agricultural production on the holding; 3. purchase and / or installation of new irrigation equipment on farms - tanks, wells, drip irrigation systems, etc.; 4. the creation and / or replanting of permanent crops (including dessert vines) and essential oil crops; 5. the purchase of equipment and attachments for apiculture necessary for the production of honey and other bee products and for the breeding of mother bees; 6. purchase of specialized agricultural transport vehicles, such as: lorries, milk collection tanks, refrigerated vehicles for the transport of produce, vehicles for transporting live animals and poultry; 7. costs related to the project, incl. costs for feasibility studies, fees, fees for architects, engineers and consultants, consultations on the environmental and economic sustainability of projects, etc., carried out both in the process of preparation of the project before the submission of the application for assistance and during its implementation, which may not exceed 12 % of the total eligible costs of the project.

Ineligible activities and costs:	According to Art. 21 of Ordinance №22 and the general rules for ineligible expenses for all sub-measures of the CLLD strategy.
Financial parameters for the projects:	Minimum – 10 000 BGN (without VAT) Maximum - 150 000 BGN (without VAT)
Intensity of financial assistance:	The financial contribution is 50% of the total eligible costs
Amount of financial support under the sub-measure:	The amount of the financial support under the sub-measure is 850 000,00 BGN.

Objective criteria for evaluating projects and their weight:	EVALUATION CRITERIA	POINTS
	The applicant's holding ranges from EUR 8,000 to EUR 25,000 units standard production volume	20
	The project contains innovation - introducing new product, service and / or good practice for the territory	10
	The project is for investment in own farm, which is:	15
	o in the "fruit and vegetables" sector (excluding pumpkins); or	
	o for perennials (without shell); or	
	o for the production of essential oils and medical cultures; or	
	o stock-breeding, beekeeping.	
	The project contributes to improving the marketing or to include the farm in the food chain	10
	The project is an investment for the production of organic raw materials and products	10
	The project reveals a permanent job /jobs (not less than 12 months)	10
	The project contributes to climate change mitigation / adaptation and / or environmental components - soil, water, air, waste (by technical parameters)	10
	The project is presented by an applicant who is not assisted by the LAG or RDP of Bulgaria for the period 2007 - 2013	5
The project is presented by potential beneficiaries up to the age of 40 or women or representatives of vulnerable groups (points do not accrue, max. 10 points)	10	
Total Points:	100	

Projects that received less than 30 points are rejected.

Expected results from the implementation of the sub-measure:

- ✓ balanced and less vulnerable to market and nature farms ;
- ✓ Embedded innovations / scientific achievements;
- ✓ Established employment in the agricultural sector;
- ✓ Reserved and developed livelihood resources.

Sub-measure code: 19.2-4.2	Sub-measure name: „Investment in processing / marketing of agricultural products“
<p>A substantial part of the agricultural production produced on the LAG territory is marketed as a raw material. Using the potential of fertile Dobrudja land and obtaining more products from it to be sold not only as a raw material, but as a ready meal, makes the support of the food processing industry expedient and should therefore be supported by the CLLD strategy. Businesses on the territory of LAG Dobrichka may derive many benefits for its development from the so-called "short supply chains". At the stage of elaboration of this strategy, interest was expressed for participation in the sub-measure by 4 pcs. farmers for investment in: building a distillery for essential oil crops; reconfiguration of premises and purchase of equipment for small distillery (for own raw material only); purchase of a fruit juice production line and fruit dryer; purchase of milk processing equipment for an existing dairy.</p>	
Sub-measure goals description:	<p>Improving the overall activity, cost-effectiveness and competitiveness of enterprises in the food processing industry by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ better use of production factors; ✓ introduction of new products, processes and technologies, including short supply chains; ✓ improving the quality and safety of food and its traceability; ✓ achieving compliance with EU standards; ✓ improving the protection of the environment.
Sub-measure range:	<p>Support is given to projects that lead to the creation or improvement of existing enterprises in the food processing industry by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ implementing new and / or upgrading existing capacities and improving their use, and / or ✓ implementation of new products, processes and technologies, and / or ✓ reduction of cost of production, and / or ✓ achieving compliance with newly introduced EU standards, and / or ✓ environmental protection, including reduction of harmful emissions and waste; and / or ✓ improving energy efficiency in enterprises, and / or ✓ improving safety and hygiene conditions of production and labor, and / or ✓ improving the quality and safety of food and its traceability, and / or ✓ improvement of the possibilities for organic food production through processing of primary agricultural biological products.
Eligible beneficiaries:	<p>Candidates that may apply for assistance at the date of submission of the application for assistance:</p> <p>1. Farmers who, at the date of submission of the aid application, must meet the following conditions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - to be registered as farmers in accordance with Ordinance No. 3 of 1999 establishing and maintaining a register of farmers (State Gazette No. 10 of 1999); - the minimum standard production volume of their agricultural holding is not less than the BGN equivalence of 8000 euro.

	<p>2. Sole proprietors and legal entities, other than the candidates under item 1, registered under the Commerce Act or the Cooperatives Act, which are micro, small or medium enterprises, defined according to Commission Recommendation 2003/361 / EU.</p>
<p>Eligible activities:</p>	<p>Financial assistance is provided for investments in the following production sectors related to the processing and / or marketing of agricultural products:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) milk and dairy products, with the exception of the production, processing and / or marketing of products that resemble / substitute milk and dairy products; 2) meat and meat products 3) fruits and vegetables, incl. mushrooms; 4) honey and bee products except for the production, processing and / or marketing of products that resemble / substitute honey and bee products; (5) cereal, miller and starch products except for the production, processing and / or marketing of bread and pasta; (6) vegetable and animal oils and fats, excluding the production, processing and / or marketing of olive oil; 7) technical and medical crops, including herbs, excluding the production, processing and / or marketing of tobacco and tobacco products, sugar and confectionery; (8) ready-made feed for farm animals (feed); 9) grape must, wine and vinegar. <p>Support is focused on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Investments related to construction, acquisition and modernization of buildings and other real assets necessary for production and marketing; ✓ Investments in technology for production, including those related to short supply chains and installation of new machinery and equipment to improve the production process and marketing; ✓ Investments in assets for storage, processing, packaging, cooling, freezing and drying in order to preserve the quality of the production and the raw material.
<p>Eligible costs:</p>	<p>The following are eligible for financial assistance:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. construction, acquisition and upgrading of buildings and other immovable assets related to production and / or marketing, including those used to preserve environmental components; 2. purchase, including through financial leasing, and / or the installation of new machinery, equipment and equipment necessary to improve the manufacturing process of the processing and marketing, incl. for: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (a) processing, packaging, including refrigeration, freezing, drying, storage, etc. of raw materials or output; b) production of new products, introduction of new technologies and processes; (c) conservation of environmental components; (d) production of energy from renewable energy sources for the undertaking's own needs, including through the processing of plant and animal primary and secondary biomass; (e) improving energy efficiency and improving and controlling the quality and safety of raw materials and food; 3. the purchase, including by financial leasing, of specialized means of transport, including

	<p>refrigeration, for the transport of the raw materials or finished products used and produced by the enterprise;</p> <p>4. building / upgrading, including equipment owned by the applicant, located on the premises of the undertaking and directly related to the production process, including through financial leasing;</p> <p>5. tangible investments to bring them into line with newly adopted Union standards (Minimum standards for the protection and welfare of animals and minimization of their suffering at the time of slaughter), including through financial leasing;</p> <p>6. purchase of software, including through financial leasing;</p> <p>7. for know-how, acquisition of patent rights and licenses, for registration of trademarks and processes necessary for the preparation and implementation of the project;</p> <p>8. costs to achieve compliance with internationally recognized management system standards, costs of introducing good manufacturing practices, quality management systems, and certification preparation in enterprises only when these costs are part of a joint project of the applicant;</p> <p>9. costs related to the project, incl. feasibility studies, fees, fees for architects, engineers and consultants, consultations on the economic sustainability of projects carried out both during the project preparation phase before the application for assistance and during its implementation, which may not exceed 12 % of the total eligible project costs, incl. in items 1 to 8.</p>								
Ineligible activities and costs:	According to Art. 21 of Ordinance №22 and the general rules for ineligible expenses for all sub-measures of the CLLD strategy.								
Financial parameters for the projects::	<p>Minimum – 10 000 BGN</p> <p>Maximum – 200 000 BGN</p>								
Intensity of financial assistance:	The financial contribution is 50% of the total eligible costs								
Amount of financial support under the sub-measure:	The amount of financial support under the sub-measure is 491 000,00 BGN								
Objective criteria for evaluating projects and their weight:	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>EVALUATION CRITERIA</th> <th>POINTS</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>The project introduces innovation - applying a new product and / or service, and / or good practice for the territory</td> <td>20</td> </tr> <tr> <td>The project includes processing of own resources and / or produced in the LAG territory agricultural raw materials / products</td> <td>20</td> </tr> <tr> <td>The project includes the processing of raw materials from the sensitive sectors - livestock (including beekeeping), vegetable, ethereal-oil and</td> <td>10</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	EVALUATION CRITERIA	POINTS	The project introduces innovation - applying a new product and / or service, and / or good practice for the territory	20	The project includes processing of own resources and / or produced in the LAG territory agricultural raw materials / products	20	The project includes the processing of raw materials from the sensitive sectors - livestock (including beekeeping), vegetable, ethereal-oil and	10
EVALUATION CRITERIA	POINTS								
The project introduces innovation - applying a new product and / or service, and / or good practice for the territory	20								
The project includes processing of own resources and / or produced in the LAG territory agricultural raw materials / products	20								
The project includes the processing of raw materials from the sensitive sectors - livestock (including beekeeping), vegetable, ethereal-oil and	10								

fruits	
The project reveals a permanent job /jobs	10
o one permanent job position	5
o two and more permanent job positions	10
The project contributes to improving the marketing of the applicant or shortening the supply chain	10
The project is for investments to produce bio-energy for own use or to improve the energy efficiency of the plant itself	10
The project is for investments contributing to climate change mitigation and / or environmental components - soil, water, air, waste (by technical parameters)	10
The project is presented by potential beneficiaries up to the age of 40 or women or representatives of vulnerable groups (points do not accrue, max. 10 points)	10
Total points:	100
Projects that received less than 30 points are rejected.	

Expected results from the implementation of the sub-measure:

- ✓ Improved quality and / or varied product range;
- ✓ Improved chain links from manufacturer to merchant;
- ✓ Increased sales, including direct sales;
- ✓ Established employment in the sector;
- ✓ Embedded achievements of science and practice;
- ✓ Increased added value of the territory.

Sub-measure code: 19.2-6.4	Sub-measure name: „Investments in support of non - agricultural activities“
<p>The analyzes made in the preparatory phase report that in most of the settlements in the LAG Dobrichka territory the services are insufficient and difficult to access and the productions are poorly represented. To improve the quality of life of local residents, it is necessary to support the provision of easily accessible services to the population comparable to those in large cities. After processing the data received from the application forms, it was found that 8 potential beneficiaries were interested in the sub-measure.</p> <p>Project intentions include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • construction of a swimming pool with barbecue (with public access); • Purchase a new car for the transportation of guests to a local attraction; • repair, reconstruction and furnishing of a grocery store; • Purchase of a refrigerated van for the transport of flowers; • building a bee as a tourist attraction; • construction of Visitor Center "Dobrudja legends near the hearth"; • Construction of a bread oven with a tasting hall "Golden Dobrudzha"; • Furnishing and equipment of a guest house. 	
Sub-measure goals description:	<p>Support for farmers and micro-enterprises from the territory to invest in the establishment and development of non-agricultural activities that lead to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ creation and validation of a product based on local resources and / or innovation; ✓ provision of missing or insufficiently developed services in the territory of remote settlements; ✓ development of tourism and attraction of interest to the territory; ✓ providing additional and stable incomes and creating new jobs for the population.
Sub-measure range:	<p>It covers support to farmers or micro-enterprises from the territory for investments in non-agricultural activities leading to the achievement of the objectives of the measure.</p>
Eligible beneficiaries:	<p>Farmers or micro-enterprises registered as sole traders or legal entities under the Commerce Act, the Cooperatives Act or the Religious Denominations Act, as well as individuals registered under the Crafts Act.</p> <p>Beneficiaries must have their registered office / branch or permanent address for natural persons on the territory of Dobrichka municipality.</p> <p>The definition of a micro-enterprise is the definition of Commission Recommendation 2003/361 / EU.</p>
Eligible activities:	<p>Non-agricultural activities may include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Tourism development activities (renovation of tourist sites and development of tourist services); ✓ Production or sale of products not listed in Annex 1 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union (irrespective of inputs and materials); ✓ Development of services in all sectors (eg child care, elderly people, people with disabilities, health services, accounting and auditing services, veterinary services)

	<p>and IT-based services, etc.);</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Production of energy from renewable energy sources for own consumption; ✓ Craft development (including the provision of services related to the participation of visitors in craft activities) and other non-agricultural activities.
Eligible costs:	<p>Financial assistance for tangible and intangible investments, for the creation and development of non-agricultural activities on the LAG Dobrichka territory, including:</p> <p>(a) Construction, acquisition or improvement of immovable property;</p> <p>(b) Purchase, including the leasing of new machinery and equipment up to the market value of the assets;</p> <p>(c) Total costs related to the costs of "a" and "b", such as fees for architects, engineers and consultants, consultancy fees relating to environmental and economic sustainability, including feasibility studies;</p> <p>(d) Intangible investments: acquisition and creation of computer software and acquisition of patents, licenses, copyrights and trade marks.</p> <p>Expenditure under item "c" may not exceed 12% of the amount of expenditure under items a, b and d.</p>
Ineligible activities and costs:	<p>Under the general rules on ineligible costs under all sub-measures of the CLLD strategy.</p>
Financial parameters for the projects:	<p>Minimum – 10 000 BGN</p> <p>Maximum – 200 000 BGN</p>
Intensity of financial assistance:	<p>The financial contribution is 75% of the total eligible costs</p>
Amount of financial assistance under the sub-measure	<p>The amount of financial assistance under the sub-measure is 491 000,00 BGN.</p>

Objective criteria for evaluating projects and their weight:	EVALUATION CRITERIA	POINTS
	The project includes investments in production	20
	The project provides services for more than one settlement, including mobile; health services and / or services targeting vulnerable groups of the population, the elderly and / or children	20
	The project offers new / innovative for the location production, service or product, or is for the development of crafts	15
	The project creates employment (points accumulate)	15
	- up to 2 permanent job positions	5
	- more than 2 permanent job positions	10
	- outside the family and / or provide jobs for women and / or for persons over 54 and / or young people under 29 and / or employment for representatives of vulnerable groups	5
	The project uses local resources produced on the territory	10
	The project is for investments contributing to climate change mitigation / environmental components - soil, water, air, waste (by technical parameters)	10
	The project leads to the expansion of an existing activity	5
	The project is presented by potential beneficiaries aged up to 40 years or women or representatives of vulnerable groups (points do not accumulate, maximum 5 points)	5
	Total points	100
	Projects that received less than 30 points are rejected.	

Expected results from the implementation of the sub-measure:

- ✓ created attractions and attracted interest in the territory;
- ✓ bringing more services to the people from the territory, incl. mobile;
- ✓ new jobs created;
- ✓ balanced and less vulnerable to market fluctuations, micro and small business structures in the territory;
- ✓ greater, richer and socially responsible entrepreneurship.

Sub-measure code: 19.2-7.2	Sub-measure name: „Investments in creating, improving or expanding all types of small-scale infrastructure“
<p>Due to a lack of funds investments in green areas, squares, sidewalks, street lighting, sports infrastructure in the settlements of LAG Dobrichka are very limited. In the process of developing the CLLD, it was hoped that the local initiative could lead to the rehabilitation of old playgrounds, parks, recreation areas, creation of sports and leisure facilities. The following project ideas have been identified by the conducted study: * repairs of streets and sidewalks and preparation of signs with the names of streets and house numbers; * construction of sports grounds, open-air fitness grounds, repair of stadiums and changing rooms; * building / rehabilitation of existing playgrounds; * development of recreation areas, parks with arbors, benches, children's facilities, camping site; * construction of family-type accommodation; * repairs of chitalishte buildings, ritual room; * Increasing the energy efficiency of public buildings - external and internal insulation; purchasing club furniture for pensioners; for repairs, equipment, furniture of the chitalishte; for the purchase of scenes and scenery; for the purchase of digital library digitization equipment; for the purchase of computers, software; for furniture and repair of youth clubs.</p>	
Sub-measure goals description:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Promoting social inclusion, poverty reduction and economic development in Dobrichka region. ✓ Improvement of the access of the population on the territory of LAG Dobrichka to services in the sphere of culture, sport, leisure and recreation; social services; information and communication technology services; ✓ Improving the attractiveness of the living environment and interest in the LAG territory
Sub-measure range:	<p>Support under the measure will encourage investment to create core services and related provision / rehabilitation of buildings / infrastructure to provide them.</p> <p>The sub-measure provides support for small-scale infrastructure investments that provide basic services to the population such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ existing streets, pavements, municipal roads, as well as the facilities and accessories thereto; ✓ areas for wide public use; ✓ social infrastructure to provide services that are not part of the deinstitutionalization process; ✓ municipal buildings in which public services are provided; ✓ objects related to cultural life; ✓ municipal educational infrastructure of local importance. <p>The activities included in the projects should be in line with the priorities of the Municipal Development Plan for the Dobrichka region for the period 2014-2020.</p>
Eligible beneficiaries:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Dobrichka Municipality ✓ Non-profit legal entities - for activities related to social infrastructure and cultural life; ✓ Community centers - for activities related to cultural life
Eligible activities:	<p>Financial assistance for the following eligible actions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Reconstruction and / or rehabilitation of existing streets and sidewalks and their facilities and accessories; 2. Reconstruction and / or rehabilitation of existing municipal roads and their facilities and accessories;

	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3. Renovation of areas for wide public use, intended for the sustainable fulfillment of the public needs of municipal importance; 4. Reconstruction, repair, equipment and / or furnishing of social infrastructure to provide services that are not part of the deinstitutionalisation process of children and adults, including means of transport; 5. Reconstruction and / or renovation of municipal buildings where public services are provided in order to improve their energy efficiency; 6. Reconstruction, repair, restoration, purchase of equipment and / or furnishing of objects related to cultural life, including mobile ones, including vertical planning activities and improvement of adjacent spaces (for the Community Centers); 7. Reconstruction, repair, equipment and / or furnishing of municipal educational infrastructure of local importance on the territory.
Eligible costs:	<p>The following costs are eligible for financial assistance:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Reconstruction, rehabilitation, construction, renovation, repair and / or restoration of buildings and / or premises and / or other immovable property under the eligible activities that are: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (a) costs relating to the direct execution of construction works; (b) unforeseen expenditure of up to 5 % of the value of the expenditure authorized under (a); 2. for the purchase of specialized means of transport, including vehicles for the purposes of the investment, mobile objects, equipment and furnishing at their market value, including through financial leasing, according to the activities eligible for support; 3. for the acquisition of computer software, patents and copyrights, licenses, trademark registration, up to their market value - the expenses under item 3 are eligible only in case of applying for expenses under item 1, letter a) and are necessary to achieve the objectives of promoting social inclusion, reducing poverty and improving economic development in Dobrichka region. 4. Project related costs, including architect, engineer and consultant fees, consultancy for economic and environmental sustainability of the project, both during the project preparation phase before the application for support and during its implementation , which may not exceed 10 % of the total eligible costs of a project included in item 1 (a), items 2 and 3. <p>The eligible costs under item 4 may not exceed the following values:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. for advisory services related to the preparation of the project: 1% of the eligible costs under item 1, letter a), items 2 and 3; 2. for advisory services related to project management: 1% of the eligible costs under item 1, letter a), items 2 and 3; 3. the costs of preparing a technical and / or working design in the case of construction and assembly activities as part of the costs under item 4 may not exceed 5% of eligible costs under item 1 a); 4. the costs of construction supervision, as part of the expenses under item 4, may not exceed 2% of the eligible expenses under item 1, letter "a"; 5. the costs of author's supervision, as part of the expenses under item 4, shall not exceed 1% of the eligible expenses under item 1, letter "a". "
Ineligible activities and costs:	According to Art. 21 of Ordinance №22 and the general rules for ineligible expenses for all sub-measures of the CLLD strategy.

Financial parameters for the projects:	Minimum amount of eligible costs per project – 10 000 BGN Maximum amount of eligible costs per project – 391 000 BGN	
Intensity of financial assistance:	100% of the total amount of eligible costs for projects that do not generate net revenue after the investment.	
Amount of financial assistance:	The amount of financial assistance under the sub-measure 850 000,00 BGN	
Objective criteria for evaluating projects and their weight:	EVALUATION CRITERIA	POINTS
	The project involves investing in social infrastructure or delivering social services	15
	The project contributes to the retention of compulsory children in school and / or to improving the quality of the learning process	10
	The project involves the construction of playgrounds and / or the provision of sports equipment to improve the motor activity of children and young people. * Note: Under "Playground" within the meaning of the CLLD strategy is meant a publicly accessible indoor or outdoor area designed for individual or group games with appropriate devices, flooring and play facilities depending on the age group of the users.	10
	The project provides for the construction and / or reconstruction of playgrounds, green areas and / or lighting	5
	The project offers investments for two or more settlements with:	15
	- total population of up to 500 inhabitants	10
	- total population over 500 inhabitants	15
	The project contributes to climate change mitigation and / or protects against disasters and accidents	10
	The project introduces innovative technologies and / or offers an innovative approach to solving local problems	10
	Implementation of the project creates employment for local unemployed or for representatives of vulnerable groups	20
	The project is presented by a non-governmental organization or a community center	5
	Total points:	100
	Projects that received less than 30 points are rejected.	
Expected results from the implementation of the sub-measure: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ built and improved infrastructure to support social inclusion and poverty reduction; ✓ improved access to basic services for the population; ✓ improved living environment. 		

Sub-measure code: 19.2-7.5	Sub-measure name: „Support for public use in infrastructure for recreation, tourist information and small-scale tourist infrastructure“
<p>The measure corresponds to the identified potential of the territory and contributes to the achievement of the specific objectives set out in the Municipal Development Plan of Dobrichka region for the period 2014-2020. The public sector is interested in * building tourist attractions - the "Brewery Museum »,« Museum of Science », * development of tourist routes; * building an eco-path; * development / construction of a bicycle lane, * creation of tourist infrastructure for the development of hunting tourism. The idea that met with the most serious support during the public discussions was related to the creation of a training center and an attraction for the education of the children and students from the whole municipality (there is no similar in the whole Dobrich region) on the safety of the traffic and the purchase of the respective equipment for its functioning.</p>	
Sub-measure goals description:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Increasing the attractiveness of places with preserved natural, cultural, educational and historical heritage from the territory of Dobrichka municipality through diversification and improvement of the existing infrastructure, building of attractions and facilities for visitors and their adequate exposure and popularization, improvement of marketing to attract interest in territory. ✓ Creation of employment by supporting the development of integrated rural tourism on the territory of LAG Dobrichka.
Sub-measure range:	<p>The sub-measure covers support for tangible and intangible investments in existing infrastructure, building visitor attractions, development and marketing of tourism products locally.</p> <p>The activities included in the projects should be in line with the priorities of the Municipal Development Plan of the Dobrichka region for the period 2014-2020.</p>
Eligible beneficiaries:	<p>For support can apply:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Dobrichka municipality; ✓ Non-profit legal entities.
Eligible activities:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Construction, reconstruction, repair, purchase of equipment and / or furnishing of tourist information centers; ✓ Construction, reconstruction, repair, purchase of equipment and / or furnishing of visitor centers for presentation and exhibition of local natural and cultural heritage; ✓ Construction, reconstruction, repair, purchase of equipment and / or furnishing of the art and crafts centers for tourist purposes; ✓ Construction, reconstruction, repair and purchase of facilities for attractions related to the local natural, cultural and / or historical heritage and / or providing services for cognitive or educational purposes; ✓ Construction, reconstruction, repair and purchase of facilities for tourist infrastructure (information boards and direction indicators for tourist sites and routes, safety facilities, bicycle paths and hiking trails).
Eligible costs:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Building or improvement of real estate; ✓ Purchase of new machinery and equipment, furniture to the market price of the asset;

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Total costs related to the above, such as fees for architects, engineers and consultants, consultancy fees for environmental and economic sustainability; ✓ Costs associated with the following intangible investments: acquisition or development of computer software and acquisition of patents, licenses, copyrights, trademarks. 	
Ineligible activities and costs:	Under the general rules on ineligible costs under all sub-measures of the CLLD strategy.	
Financial parameters for the projects:	Minimum amount of eligible costs per project – 10 000 BGN Maximum amount of eligible costs per project – 200 000 BGN	
Intensity of financial assistance:	100% of the total amount of eligible costs for projects that do not generate net revenue after the investment.	
Amount of financial assistance under the sub-measure:	The amount of financial assistance under the sub-measure is 200 000,00 BGN	
Objective criteria for evaluating projects and their weight:	EVALUATION CRITERIA	POINTS
	The project includes activities to build / improve infrastructure for events attracting visitor interest	10
	The project offers investment in a settlement with a total population of more than 500 people	10
	The project includes activities supporting the development of integrated tourism and / or enhancing the attractiveness of the territory	10
	The project directly leads to an increased number of events on the territory attracting visitor interest	10
	The project creates new attractions providing services with a cognitive or educational purpose aimed at vulnerable groups of the population and / or children	20
	The project creates employment for women / or for persons over 54 and / or young people up to 29 years of age and / or employment for representatives of vulnerable groups and / or the population of more than one population	10
	The project includes activities to improve marketing, expose and popularize attractions, attract interest in the site	10
	Project investments will save the environmental components and / or provide environmental impact	10
	The project was submitted by non-profit legal entities	10
	Total points:	100
Projects that received less than 30 points are rejected.		

Expected results from the implementation of the sub-measure:

- ✓ Improved infrastructure and built attractions for visitors;
- ✓ Improved marketing of the territory;
- ✓ Increased number of events on the territory attracting visitor interest;
- ✓ Increased attractiveness of the territory.

<p>Sub-measure code:</p> <p>19.2-7.6</p>	<p>Sub-measure name:</p> <p>„Storage and inclusion of the fortune in the LAG Dobrichka territory“</p> <p>under Art. 20 of Regulation EU No 1305 of 17 December 2013</p>
<p>From the analysis of the LAG's territory and the survey conducted, it is clear that the non-governmental sector is active and interested in the application of the CLLD approach. Enhanced interest has been registered for organizing and conducting events for the promotion of both natural resources and for the presentation of various attractions related to the cultural heritage of the territory - restorations of customs and demonstration of the countryside. During the meetings, the opportunities for realization of projects aimed at preserving local identity and the sense of belonging to the territory and transferring cultural experience, knowledge, skills and traditions between generations were discussed. All this shows that on the territory of the LAG Dobrichka there is a potential for realization of projects for development and preservation of the cultural and historical heritage. In this regard, the LAG has developed a new measure, in accordance with Regulation (EU) No 1305/2013, which includes activities for preservation, presentation and conservation of local tangible and intangible cultural and historical heritage and protection of natural heritage with eligible beneficiaries of community centers, NGO and LAG Dobrichka Association. In the completed forms for declared interest are described project intentions for: * organization of holidays and reunions of the tradition "Harvest", organization and holding of various festivals: The bread, The songs of Plamen Dimitrov, The crafts, The wine, "Silk smiles", The berg; * providing authentic costumes; * organizing and conducting of children's tournaments; * revival of the traditional in the past, but forgotten today holidays of the villages - congregations.</p>	
<p>Sub-measure goal description:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Development of territorial identity based on the specific territorial potential and products of a local nature; ✓ Encourage the involvement of the local population in joint initiatives for studying and preserving heritage and natural resources and intensifying the links between different groups of the territory; ✓ Uncovering the richness of the local cultural, historical and natural heritage and raising the public interest in its preservation; ✓ Improving the quality of life of the local population by adding value to the environment, the landscape and diversifying leisure time.
<p>Sub-measure range:</p>	<p>Tangible and intangible investments and activities for restoration, conservation and promotion of the cultural traditions and identity of the rural area and preservation and promotion of the natural resources and fortune from the LAG Dobrichka territory</p>
<p>Eligible beneficiaries:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Non-profit legal entities; ✓ Community center registered under the Community Centers Law; ✓ LAG Dobrichka, in case that the project for which it is applying for funding is in the public interest and no other proposal for financing under the procedure has been submitted.
<p>Eligible activities:</p>	<p><u>Cultural and historical heritage:</u></p> <p>The sub-measure will support projects that restore or enhance the performance of local cultural and historical heritage and ensure continuity of intergenerational traditions.</p> <p>1. To study and preserve by documenting the local culture, lifestyle, culinary tradition,</p>

	<p>history, traditions, music, dances and fine arts, traditional crafts, customs and rituals, unwritten tradition and / or their revival through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ thematic exhibitions, ethnographic collections; ✓ movies or video clips; ✓ preparation and dissemination of information materials - thematic research, photo archive, catalogs, guides, etc .; ✓ development and presentation of models, restoration of elements of traditional costumes or objects from the traditional way of life; <p>2. Preparation and organization of local cultural events:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ folklore festivals, fairs, festivals, etc. ✓ reconstructions of historical / memorial to the territory events; ✓ restoration of traditional local customs and rituals; ✓ local thematic competitions, concerts, plays, etc. <p><u>Natural Heritage:</u></p> <p>The sub-measure will support projects that raise awareness of environmental issues, improve environmental culture, preserve, restore and maintain the natural heritage and rural landscape through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Information and inclusion of the population in activities related to environmental protection and climate change mitigation, incl. to present new knowledge, practices and technologies for conservation and resourcefulness; ✓ Activities related to exploration and promotion of the natural resources of the territory - valuable formations, plants, tree species and animals; ✓ Activities related to the restoration and improvement of nature recreation sites, for example: shelters, information and signboards, paths, fountains, bridges, etc.
<p>Eligible costs:</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Remuneration for individuals, for activities directly related to the implementation of the project, including the insurance contributions charged by the insurer on the agreed remuneration; 2. Expenditure on missions on the LAG territory under the current Delegation Ordinance in the country - for activities directly related to the implementation of the project; 3. Costs for the purchase of inventory, equipment, furnishings (such as musical instruments, stage wear, costumes, showcases for exhibitions, racks, decorations, requisites, etc.) 4. To explore and promote the local cultural, historical and natural heritage: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - costs of studies, identification, documentation, research and / or conservation of the natural and cultural heritage; - costs of organizing and conducting festivals, conferences, exhibitions, seminars, information meetings and campaigns, restorations, competitions, productions, etc. events, incl. fees for the remuneration of external experts - folklorists, ethnographers, event leaders, etc .; - costs of restoration, preservation and enrichment of collections (historical, ethnographic, etc.); - costs of producing and printing / publishing / presenting information materials such

	<p>as: posters, articles, radio and television broadcasts, films, videos, catalogues, photographs, archives, atlases and maps of the territory, guides, plates, etc .;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - the cost of creating websites; - external service costs - rental of premises, terrain, equipment, etc. <p>5. For restoration and improvement of natural heritage sites:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Expenditure related to exploration and / or restoration of high nature value sites and the areas around them; - Costs for the construction and installation / restoration / improvement of nature recreation sites - shelters, information and signboards, paths, fountains, bridges, etc. similar. <p>6. Costs needed to build partnerships and establish networks between different institutions (museums, museum collections, community centres, municipalities, NGOs and private individuals).</p>																						
Financial parameters for the projects:	<p>Minimum – 5 000 BGN</p> <p>Maximum – 15 000 BGN</p>																						
Intensity of financial assistance:	100% of total eligible costs for projects in the public interest that do not generate net revenues.																						
Amount of financial assistance:	The amount of financial assistance under sub-measure is 50 000,00 BGN.																						
Objective criteria for evaluating projects and their weight:	<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="text-align: center;">EVALUATION CRITERIA</th> <th style="text-align: center;">POINTS</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>The project activities involve volunteers / parents / active citizens / children / young people</td> <td style="text-align: center;">15</td> </tr> <tr> <td>The project brings cultural experiences, knowledge, skills and traditions between generations.</td> <td style="text-align: center;">15</td> </tr> <tr> <td>The project creates conditions for attracting visitors and increasing the interest in the territory</td> <td style="text-align: center;">10</td> </tr> <tr> <td>The project is promoting the cultural heritage of minority communities</td> <td style="text-align: center;">10</td> </tr> <tr> <td>The project contributes to improving the state of the natural or historical heritage and / or the rural landscape</td> <td style="text-align: center;">10</td> </tr> <tr> <td>The project includes activities directly related to the protection of environmental components and / or the mitigation of climate change</td> <td style="text-align: center;">10</td> </tr> <tr> <td>The project promotes public awareness and enhances the ecological culture of the local population</td> <td style="text-align: center;">10</td> </tr> <tr> <td>The project offers an innovative approach to marketing, presenting and promoting local potentials</td> <td style="text-align: center;">10</td> </tr> <tr> <td>The project is implemented in more than one settlement</td> <td style="text-align: center;">10</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: right;">Total points:</td> <td style="text-align: center;">100</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	EVALUATION CRITERIA	POINTS	The project activities involve volunteers / parents / active citizens / children / young people	15	The project brings cultural experiences, knowledge, skills and traditions between generations.	15	The project creates conditions for attracting visitors and increasing the interest in the territory	10	The project is promoting the cultural heritage of minority communities	10	The project contributes to improving the state of the natural or historical heritage and / or the rural landscape	10	The project includes activities directly related to the protection of environmental components and / or the mitigation of climate change	10	The project promotes public awareness and enhances the ecological culture of the local population	10	The project offers an innovative approach to marketing, presenting and promoting local potentials	10	The project is implemented in more than one settlement	10	Total points:	100
	EVALUATION CRITERIA	POINTS																					
	The project activities involve volunteers / parents / active citizens / children / young people	15																					
	The project brings cultural experiences, knowledge, skills and traditions between generations.	15																					
	The project creates conditions for attracting visitors and increasing the interest in the territory	10																					
	The project is promoting the cultural heritage of minority communities	10																					
	The project contributes to improving the state of the natural or historical heritage and / or the rural landscape	10																					
	The project includes activities directly related to the protection of environmental components and / or the mitigation of climate change	10																					
	The project promotes public awareness and enhances the ecological culture of the local population	10																					
	The project offers an innovative approach to marketing, presenting and promoting local potentials	10																					
	The project is implemented in more than one settlement	10																					
Total points:	100																						
Projects that received less than 30 points are rejected.																							

Expected results from the implementation of the sub-measure:

- ✓ Rural heritage and rural landscape have become an experience;
- ✓ Increased added value and interest in the territory due to the sense of authenticity, proximity to the land and its fruits;
- ✓ Improved quality of life of the local population through attracted visitors and proposed alternatives to leisure time;
- ✓ Applied innovative approach to valorisation of local potentials.

THE FOLLOWING ARE VALID FOR ALL SUB-MEASURES OF LAG DOBRICHKA'S STRATEGY

GENERAL:

1. The CLLD strategy has been developed for a period ending on 31 December 2020. 2. Projects under CLLD sub-measures are negotiated by the end of 2020.
3. The deadline for implementation of project activities under the CLLD Strategy is June 30, 2023.
4. The terms and procedure for granting financial assistance under measure 19.2 of LAG Dobrichka are regulated in Chapter Two of Ordinance 22 / 18.12.2015.
5. The sub-measures included in the Strategy apply only to the territory where the LAG Dobrichka operates.
6. **Structure of a sub-measure in the Strategy:** Each sub-measure included in the Strategy contains: a description of objectives, scope, eligible recipients, eligible activities and costs, financial parameters for the projects, financial aid intensity, financial aid amount, objective project evaluation criteria and their weighting.
7. **"Changes in the CLLD sub-measures are permissible in the event of a change in Ordinance 22 of MAFG or in the applicable regulations. Changes brought about by amendments to the regulatory framework are reflected in the CLLD Strategy without further decision by the High Authority of the LAG"**
8. **The eligible recipients of financial assistance under the sub-measures** of the Strategy are detailed in Art. 18 para. 1 of Ordinance 22 / 18.12.2015, functionally independent, having permanent address (for individuals) and seat and address of management - for sole proprietors and legal entities on the territory of LAG Dobrichka. Legal entities or sole traders with a branch on the territory of the LAG **are not eligible for assistance** if the legal entities or sole proprietors who have opened the branch do not have a permanent address or registered office in the LAG territory and / or the project activities are not carried out in the territory of the LAG .
9. Plans, projects and investment proposals related to the implementation of the LAG Dobrichka Strategy, for which EIA/EA is required (according to the EPL) and assessment of their compatibility with the subject and the purposes of protection of the protected zones (as per the Biodiversity Act) may be approved under the relevant special law only after a decision /opinion for approval/ coordination by the competent environmental authority and taking into account the recommendations made by the assessments made, as well as the conditions, requirements and measures laid down in the relevant administration acts.
10. **Conditions for second and subsequent application of the measures of the Strategy:**
Beneficiaries can apply with a new application for assistance after submitting a final payment application for a previous project. Dobrichka municipality can apply with new applications before final payment claims for previous projects have been submitted.
11. **The Local Action Group is an eligible beneficiary of financial assistance under Art. 19 of Ordinance 22 / 18.12.2015**
12. **An advance payment for realization of projects under the Strategy** is admissible under the terms of Ordinance No. 4 of 2018 on the terms and procedure for payment, reduction or refusal to pay or for withdrawal of paid financial support for the measures and sub-measures under Art. 9b of the FAA (2018).
13. **An intermediate payment for implementation of projects under the Strategy** is eligible under the terms of Ordinance No. 4 of 2018 on the terms and procedure for payment, reduction or refusal to pay or for withdrawal of paid financial support for the measures and sub-measures under Art. 9b of the FAA(2018).
14. **Upon completion** of the first admission of project proposals, the LAG may change the total minimum score obtained from compliance with the evaluation criteria for each sub-measure needed to finance the projects.
15. For the sub-measures of CLLD Strategy apply the **conditions for state aid under** Art. 10 of Regulation 22 / 18.12.2015

16. Under "**Project / Investments Contributing to Climate Change Reduction**" within the meaning of the CLLD are meant those resulting in Art. 23 para. 2 pt. 1 letters a to d inclusive of the Climate Change Reduction Act.

17. **All cases not covered by these rules and description of the sub-measures in the Strategy** shall be subject to the mandatory instructions of the Managing Authority of the RDP 2014-2020, the provisions of Ordinance No 22/2015 and the Guidelines for Application under each of the sub-measures of the CLLD, approved by the Managing Board of LAG Dobrichka.

FROM LAG DOBRICHKA CLLD STRATEGY NOT ELIGIBLE FOR FINACING ARE THE FOLLOWING EXPENSES:

1. Designated as ineligible by Council of Ministers Decree No 189 of 2016;
2. For an investment or activity that has received funding from another ESIF;
3. For the acquisition of goods vehicles for land transport pursuant to Art. 3.2 and 3 of Commission Regulation (EU) No 1407/2013 of 18 December 2013 on the application of Articles 107 and 108 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union to "de minimis aid" (OB L 352/1, 24.12.2013) .
4. Defined as ineligible in the guidelines under § 3 of the final provisions of Decree 161 of the Council of Ministers on the general requirements for the strategies to be financed under the respective programs.
5. No costs for the construction and renovation of accommodation with more than 20 accommodation places and the value of the financial assistance above BGN 50 000, VAT included;
6. It is not eligible activities and expenditures foreseeing investments in state or municipal health care infrastructure.

Ineligible expenditure under Art. 21 of Ordinance 22 / 18.12.2015:

1. for interest on debts;
2. for the purchase of non-built-up and built-up land at a market value above 10 % of the total eligible costs of the operation concerned;
3. for value added tax other than the non-refundable;
4. for simple replacement and maintenance;
5. for interest and commissions, profit of the leasing company, interest on refinancing, operating and insurance costs under a leasing contract;
6. Leasing, except for a finance lease, in which the beneficial owner of the aid becomes the owner of the relevant asset no later than the date of filing an interim or final payment application for the same asset;
7. for overheads;
8. for insurances;
9. for the purchase of second-hand equipment;
10. committed before 1 January 2014;
11. for contributions in kind;
12. for investments in agriculture - purchase of production and payment rights, purchase of animals, purchase of annual plants and their planting;
13. for an investment that has been identified as having a negative impact on the environment;
14. incurred prior to the submission of the application for financial assistance, whether or not all related payments have been made, except for the costs of feasibility studies, fees, architects, engineers and consultancy services paid after 1 January 2014;
15. for construction and assembly works and for the establishment of permanent plantations carried out before a site visit by the LAG;
16. in excess of those determined under Art. 41 of the Decree of the Council of Ministers No 189;
17. defined in the measures of the RDP 2014 - 2020, other than those referred to in items 1 to 15.

6. Finance plan:**6.1 Indicative allocation of funds under programs / funds and measures:**

The amount of the total public contribution in the financing plan for the implementation of projects in the CLLD Strategy of LAG Dobrichka is BGN 2 933 000,00 (the equivalent of € 1 499 642,09)

Sub-measure code	Sub-measure name	Total for the strategy period	
		BGN	%
Measures financed under the RDP 2014 - 2020 (EAFRD)			
19.2-4.1.	„Investments in agricultural holdings “	850 000.00	28,98%
19.2-4.2.	„Investment in processing / marketing of agricultural products“	491 000.00	16,74%
19.2-6.4.	„Investments in support of non - agricultural activities“	492 000.00	16,77%
19.2-7.2.	„Investments in creating, improving or expanding all types of small-scale infrastructure“	850 000.00	28,98%
19.2-7.5	„ Support for public use in infrastructure for recreation, tourist information and small-scale tourist infrastructure“	200 000.00	6,82%
Measures that are not part of the RDP 2014 - 2020 but are included in Regulation (EU) No 1305/2013 (financed by EAFRD)			
19.2-7.6	„Storage and inclusion of the fortune in the LAG Dobrichka territory“	50 000.00	1,70%
TOTAL FOR PROJECTS IN CLLD STRATEGY:		2 933 000.00	100 %

6.2. Financial justification of the budget and allocation of funds under programs and measures:

The budget of the Strategy implements policies aimed at overcoming the weaknesses of the LAGs territory. The sub-measures included in the CLLD strategy are mapped out as a result of a LAG survey, stakeholder surveys, local agricultural and non-agricultural business and non-governmental sector, numerous work and information meetings of the team and external experts, meetings with the municipal administration and the social partners, as well as conducting a series of trainings with the different target groups. Following the SWOT analysis to identify the strengths and weaknesses, opportunities and threats for development of the territory of LAG Dobrichka, the strategic framework of the CLLD was structured. Priority sectors were formulated by conducting a poll among potential LAG beneficiaries on their interest in the 2014-2020 RDP measures. In this way, the budget was allocated to sub-measures, depending on the project proposals submitted and the needs of the target groups.

The total public contribution of the CLLD Strategy is **BGN 2 933 000.00**, which should be provided for financing projects from the territory of the LAG Dobrichka during the period 2017 - 2020. In accordance with the requirements of Ordinance No 22 of 14.12.2015, the contracting of projects under the Strategy will be carried out by 2020 and their implementation until 30.06.2023.

The Strategy budget includes measures from the RDP 2014-2020 and its distribution for the entire programming period is as follows:

- ✓ **BGN 1 341 000.00 for sub-measures aimed at strengthening the business structures creating and processing agricultural product on the territory, with emphasis on innovation and environmentally sound management of resources**

The budget of the Strategy under sub-measure **19.2-4.1** envisages **BGN 850 000.00**. The use of these funds will be opposed to the trend of large-scale renting, which introduces high production equipment but does not create jobs and leads to land exploitation. Small farmers are interested in developing alternative farming and diversifying their agricultural production to succeed. In order not to export the production as raw material only, sub-measure **19.2-4.2** will support the establishment of processing plants for dairy and meat products, processing and packaging of honey and bee products, fruit processing, distillation of essential oils, etc. , related to the diversification of output and added value. The funds amount to **BGN 491,000.00**.

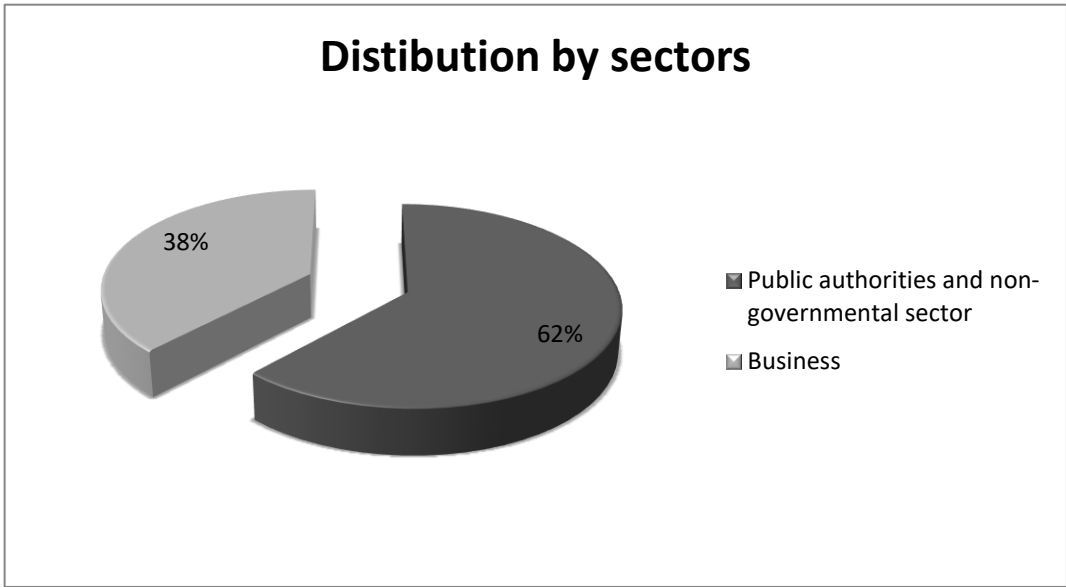
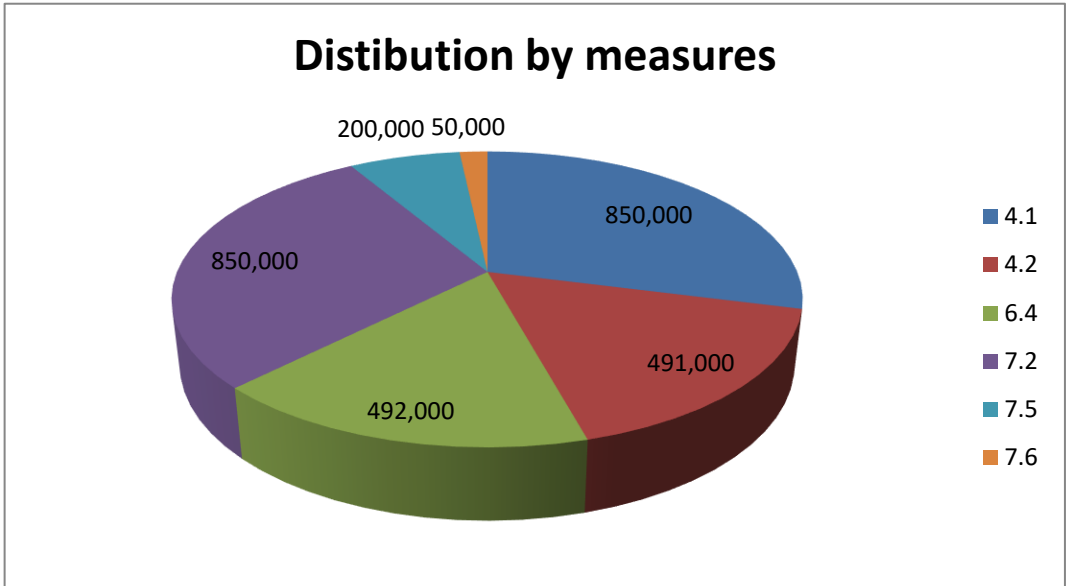
- ✓ **BGN 1,592,000.00 for measures aimed at diversifying and improving the quality of life and attracting the interest to the territory.**

For micro-enterprises and farmers, developing non-agricultural activities, the CLLD strategy provides for a budget of **BGN 492 000.00** under sub-measure **19.2-6.4**. It is expected that this sub-measure will apply to entrepreneurs who have the capacity to provide missing or insufficiently developed services; to create and validate non-agricultural products based on local resources and innovation; to develop alternative tourism; to increase interest in the territory.

Sub-measures **19.2-7.2** and **19.2-7.5** stimulate the public sector and civil society structures to develop activities to improve rural life by investing in infrastructure, equipment and furnishings amounting to **BGN 1,100,000.00**.

Sub-measure **19.2-7.6** complements them with **BGN 50 000.00** for activities aimed at preserving and improving the rural natural and cultural heritage. This measure will contribute to preservation and consolidation of the rural identity and culture of the region. The scope of the sub-measure includes activities for restoration, preservation and promotion of the cultural traditions and identity of the rural area, preservation and promotion of the natural resources and fortune on the territory of LAG Dobrichka.

Expectations are to support projects for tangible and intangible investments and activities that restore or enhance the presentation of local heritage, local material heritage and promote informal ways of transferring knowledge, traditions, tastes, experience and lifestyle.



7. Action plan:

The Action Plan is an organized list of activities. For each activity there is a certain financial resource. In order to achieve the organization's long-term goals, it is important to develop an action plan to determine what needs to be done, by whom, and by what date. The role of the Action Plan in the Strategy is to increase the potential beneficiaries with projects on the sub-measures included therein. This will be achieved by raising awareness of the opportunities to develop innovative solutions to local problems. The Action Plan seeks to ensure the beneficial effects and impacts generated on the site.

The main strategic objective of the LAG Dobricha CLLD strategy is: **"Local community efforts to improve life and preserve the wealth of the territory for future generations"**.

Actions should target the following stakeholders: Local government; Farmers: plant growing; Farmers: livestock; Enterprises from the food industry; Enterprises in the sphere of tourism; Enterprises from the processing industry (excluding food processing industry); Enterprises from the sectors of trade, services, construction; Community centres; Educational Institutions; Associations in the field of sport and youth activities; Other associations in the territory; Individuals with interests of development of the territory; Representatives of minority communities and vulnerable groups (legal and natural persons).

It is essential that these groups of people are informed about the calls for applications to be published as well as the procedures for the admission and evaluation of the projects. To make the general public aware of EU-funded activities and initiatives, in particular the EAFRD, as well as LEADER /CLLD good practices.

The Action Plan will ensure that interested parties have access to the following information:

- the invitation for announced admission on the relevant sub-measures under the CLLD - through publications on the site of the Association, local media exposed in the public place;
- application procedures and funding methods;
- information and guidelines for supporting the application process;
- the role of the LAG and the CLLD, and actions to ensure that beneficiaries participate in EU funded projects;
- Contribution of the CLLD, EU and RDP 2014-2020.

In the process of implementing its Strategy, the LAG Dobrichka will disclose the overall implementation of the projects and their progress.

ACTIVITIES FOR IMPLEMENTING THE CLLD STRATEGY OF LAG DOBRICHKA:

Responsible authority of the LAG - Team, Managing Board, General Assembly / according to responsibilities, competencies and deadlines under Chapter IV, Section I, and Section II of Ordinance No 22 of 14.12.2015. and in accordance with the LAG Statute.

For Specific Goal 1.1. ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT OF RESOURCES AND INNOVATIONS FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF BALANCED ECONOMY

Actions to achieve goals – CLLD sub-measure	19.2-4.1. „Support for investments in agricultural holdings” 19.2-4.2. „Investment in processing / marketing of agricultural products” 19.2-6.4. „Investments in support of non - agricultural activities”
Financial resource - by sub-measures	19.2-4.1: 850 000,00 BGN 19.2-4.2: 491 000,00 BGN 19.2-6.4: 492 000,00 BGN
Timeframe for implementation	<i>Project application:</i> Periodically from 2018 to 2020 incl. while there is a budget available; <i>Execution of contracts:</i> not later than 30.06.2023.
Indicators and target value	<i>Sub-measure 19.2-4.1:</i> Supported beneficiaries – 25, created / saved job positions - 15 <i>Sub-measure 19.2-4.2:</i> Supported beneficiaries - 3, created / saved job positions - 7 <i>Sub-measure 19.2-6.4:</i> Supported beneficiaries - 5, created / saved job positions - 8
Expected results	Sustainable and viable agricultural holdings and small and medium-sized enterprises Accelerated innovation / integrated achievements of science and practice in the local economy Approved local products and improved marketing Improved resource management and soil fertility Increased investment in non-agricultural sectors Greater, richer and socially responsible entrepreneurship

For specific goal 1.2. VALIDATION OF THE LOCAL PRODUCT AND IMPROVEMENT OF THE FOOD CHAIN ORGANIZATION

Actions to achieve goals – CLLD sub-measure	19.2-4.1. „Support for investments in agricultural holdings” 19.2-4.2. „Investment in processing / marketing of agricultural products”
Financial resource - by sub-measures	19.2-4.1: 850 000,00 BGN 19.2-4.2: 491 000,00 BGN
Timeframe for implementation	<i>Project application:</i> Periodically from 2018 to 2020 incl. while there is a budget available; <i>Execution of contracts:</i> not later than 30.06.2023.
Indicators and target value	<i>Sub-measure 19.2-4.1:</i> Supported beneficiaries - 25; created / saved job positions - 15 <i>Sub-measure 19.2-4.2:</i> Supported beneficiaries - 3, created / saved job positions - 7
Expected results	Sustainable and viable agricultural holdings and small and medium-sized enterprises Improved quality and / or varied product range Increased sales, including direct sales Improved chain links from manufacturer to merchant Accelerated innovation Improved resource management and soil fertility

For specific goal 2.1. SUPPORT FOR SOCIAL INCLUSION AND POVERTY REDUCTION

Actions to achieve goals – CLLD sub-measure	19.2-6.4. „Investments in support of non - agricultural activities” 19.2-7.2. „Investments in creating, improving or expanding all types of small-scale infrastructure”
Financial resource - by sub-measures	19.2-6.4: 492 000,00 BGN 19.2-7.2: 850 000,00 BGN
Timeframe for implementation	<i>Project application:</i> Periodically from 2018 to 2020 incl. while there is a budget available; <i>Execution of contracts:</i> not later than 30.06.2023.
Indicators and target value	<i>Sub-measure 19.2-6.4:</i> supported beneficiaries - 5, created / saved job positions – 8 <i>Sub-measure 19.2-7.2:</i> created / saved job positions – 1, Population that uses an improved environment - 20%
Expected results	Improved access to services Accelerated innovation Increased investment in non-agricultural sectors Built / Improved infrastructure supporting social inclusion

For specific goal 2.2. INCREASING ATTRACTIVENESS AND INTEREST AT THE TERRITORY

Actions to achieve goals – CLLD sub-measure	<p>19.2-6.4. „Investments in support of non - agricultural activities”</p> <p>19.2-7.5. „Investments for public use of recreational infrastructure, tourist infrastructure”</p> <p>19.2-7.6. „Storage and inclusion of the fortune in the LAG Dobrichka territory “</p>
Financial resource - by sub-measures	<p>19.2-6.4: 492 000,00 BGN</p> <p>19.2-7.5: 200 000,00 BGN</p> <p>19.2-7.6: 50 000,00 BGN</p>
Timeframe for implementation	<p><i>Project application:</i> Periodically from 2018 to 2020 incl. while there is a budget available;</p> <p><i>Execution of contracts:</i> not later than 30.06.2023.</p>
Indicators and target value	<p><i>Sub-measure 19.2-6.4:</i> supported beneficiaries - 5, created / saved job positions – 8</p> <p><i>Sub-measure 19.2-7.5:</i> supported beneficiaries – 1, Population that uses an improved environment – 10%</p> <p><i>Sub-measure 19.2-7.6:</i> supported beneficiaries – 6, Population that uses an improved environment - 15%</p>
Expected results	<p>Accelerated implementation of innovation</p> <p>Increased investment in non-agricultural sectors</p> <p>Developed and improved social and tourist infrastructure</p> <p>Enhanced social environment</p> <p>Increased number of events on the territory attracting visitor interest</p>

TIME SCHEDULE FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF CLLD ACTIVITIES:

Activities	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Project application			until 31.12			
Project implementation						until 30.06
Project monitoring and evaluation		IE				until 30.09 EE
Activities promotion						until 30.09
Activities management, Current expenditure						until 30.09

* Legend: IE- Interim evaluation; EE – Ex-post evaluation

**Note: According to Ordinance No. 22 of 14.12.2015. on MAFF:

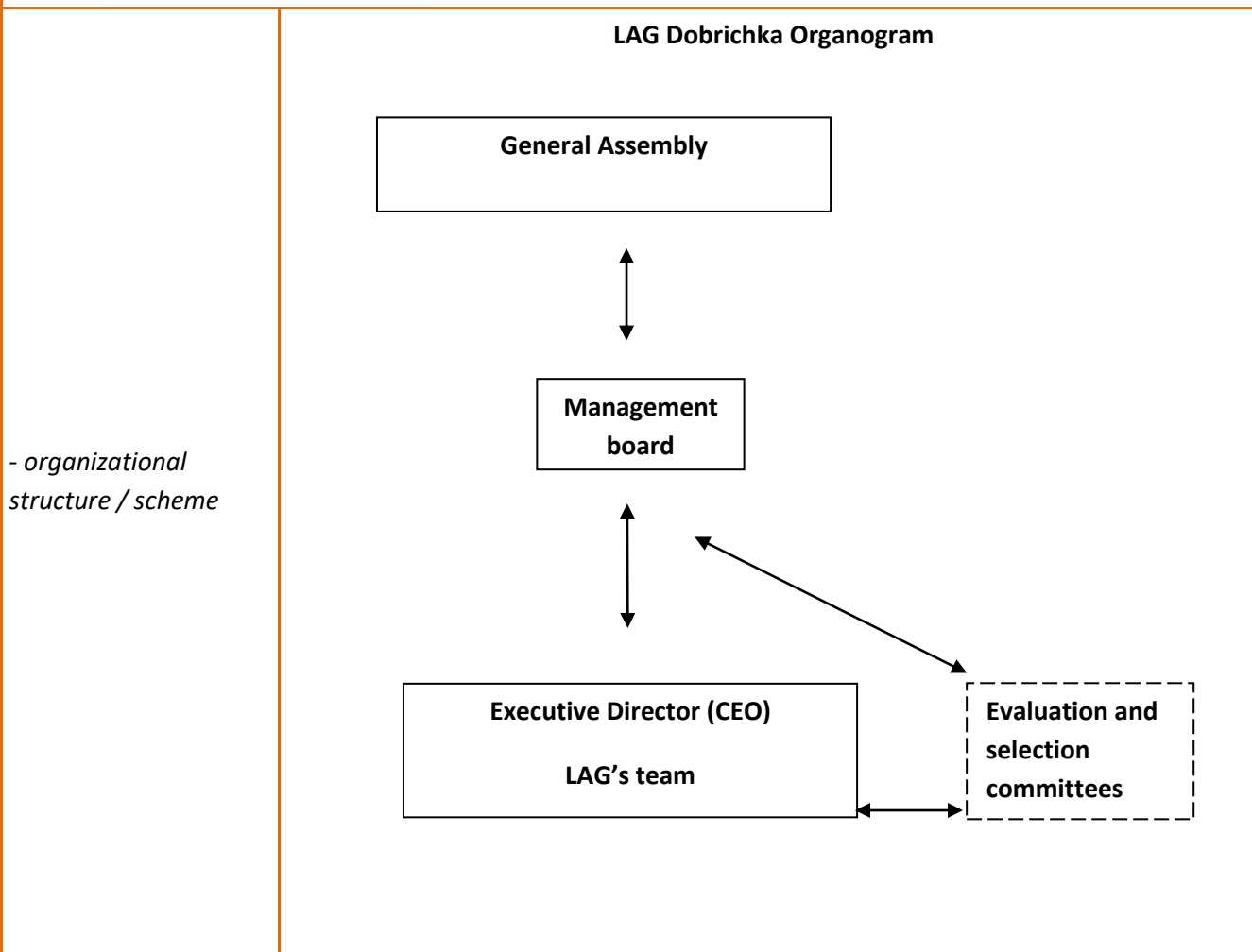
Art 14: The CLLD Strategy is developed until 31.12.2020.

Art. 66, para 2: The deadline for the implementation of the CLLD projects is 30 June 2023.

According to Ordinance No. 1 of 22.01.2016. of the Ministry of Agriculture and Food, Art. 4, paragraph 5: the deadline for running costs and the promotion of the CLLD strategy for the respective LAG territory, including for an activity in Article 5 (2) of the said Ordinance applies, is September 30, 2023.

8. Description of the management and monitoring arrangements for the strategy, which shows the capacity of the local action group to implement the strategy, and a description of the specific assessment arrangements:

8.1. LAG organizational structure:



LAG Dobrichka Association is a non-profit legal entity for the purpose of carrying out socially useful activity registered under the Law on Non-Profit Legal Entities. The Association is a public-private partnership between representatives of the public sector, representatives of the business sector and representatives of the non-profit sector in order to implement a CLLD strategy on the territory of Dobrichka municipality.

In accordance with the requirements listed in Section II. of Ordinance No 22 of December 14, 2015, the LAG Dobrichka has the following organizational structure:

1/ Collective supreme body - General Assembly (GA), a mandatory member of which is the municipality from the territory of the LAG, ie. Dobrich municipality. The General Assembly of the Association consists of all its members. **Members** of the collegiate supreme body may be: adult individuals who have a permanent address and / or work in the territory of a LAG, or legal entities having their registered office and management address in the LAG's territory. Branch of a legal entity is an eligible member if the branch is registered in the LAG's territory for at least 5 years prior to submitting an application for financial assistance.

Members of the LAG Dobrichka may be individuals or legal persons who:

- wish to contribute to the achievement of the objectives of the LAG by committing themselves to contribute to the activities of the Association according to their capabilities;

- represent the non-profit, business / farmers / or the public sector;
- have a permanent address, respectively have their registered office, on the territory of Dobrichka municipality.

2/ Collective Managing Authority – Management Board /Board of Directors, comprising at least 5 persons who have a permanent address and / or work in the territory of LAG when they are individuals or have their registered office and management address at the LAGs' territory where they are legal entities.

The Managing Board of LAG Dobrichka has a 4-year mandate and consists of 7 members - members of the association divided into three quotas corresponding to the three sectors: economic/ business incl. farmers / non-profit and public as follows:

- Public quota: consists of 1 / one / representative / of the public sector
- Business quota: consists of 3 / three / representatives of the economic sector
- Non-economic quota: consists of 3 (three) representatives of the non-profit sector

According to the Articles of Association, members of the Management Board may be individuals - members of the LAG or legal entities, and at the Council meetings they are represented by their legal representative or an explicitly authorized person. The members of the Management Board and their representatives, when they are legal entities, can not be related persons within the meaning of § 1 of the Supplementary Provisions of the Commerce Act. Board members may be re-elected without restriction. Any person may be a member of the LAG as a representative of only one of the three allowances.

Members of the Association are accepted by the General Assembly. Candidates make a written request to the Management Board. The application should contain the full name, personal ID and exact address for the individuals, and the applicants - legal entities should submit a decision to their management bodies for participation in the association and a registration certificate of their organization. The Management Board shall consider the application within one month and submit the application to the General Assembly. The decision to join is taken by open ballot and a simple majority of the members of the General Assembly.

The composition of the Collective Supreme Authority (GC) and the Collective Management Body (BD) of the Association has a share of representatives of the public sector, representatives of the business sector and representatives of the economic sector, each of them not exceeding 49 percent of the rightholders vote according to Art. 28, para. 1 of the Non-Profit Legal Entities Act.

Each member of the association is entitled to: participate in the activity of the Association and in the work of the General Assembly; to be elected in its governing bodies; to control the work of the Association and the governing bodies; to be informed about the activity of the Association; to enjoy the property of the Association and the results of its activities in accordance with the provisions of the Statutes.

Each member of the Association is obliged: to observe the Statute of the Association and to implement the decisions of the governing bodies; to participate regularly in the meetings of the Association and in its activities and to work towards the achievement of its goals; to work to increase the property of the Association and to elevate its public authority; to make the property contributions provided for in the Articles of Association within the relevant deadlines.

According to the requirements of Ordinance No 22 of the Ministry of Agriculture and Foods, the two collective bodies of the LAG - Collective High Authority (GC) and the Joint Managing Authority (BD) - should include representatives of the various stakeholders from the local community identified in the analysis annexed to this CLLD Strategy.

8.2. LAG Management:

8.2.1 Control and monitoring bodies:

According to Art. 20 of the Articles of Incorporation of the NGO LAG Dobrichka (Appendix 2), the decision-making and management bodies of the Association are the General Assembly and the Management Board. The powers, competences, representativeness, as well as the responsibilities of the decision-making and management bodies are laid down in the Statute.

The **General Assembly** is the supreme governing body of the Association and consists of all its members. Rights of the General Assembly: Amends the Statute; adopt other internal acts; elects and dismisses the members of the Management Board; accept and exclude members; takes a decision to open and close branches; decides to participate in other organizations; Decides on the transformation or termination of the Association; adopts the main guidelines and program of the Association's activities, including a LEADER Local Development Strategy; adopts the budget of the Association, including the budget of the Local Development Strategy under the LEADER approach; Decides on the liability and amount of membership fees or property contributions; adopt the activity report of the Management Board; revokes decisions of the other bodies of the Association which contradict the law, the statute or other internal acts regulating the activity of the association; makes other decisions that are binding on the other bodies of the association.

The Management Board has basic and specific powers:

Main: Represents the Association through its Chairman, and determines the volume of representative power of other members and LAG employees; elects from its members the Chairman of the Management Board; ensures the implementation of the decisions of the General Assembly; determines the order and organizes the activity of the Association, including the one in common benefit, and is responsible for it; ensures the maintenance and preservation of the property of the Association; takes decisions on acquiring, expropriating and burdening immovable property and establishing real rights thereon, as well as letting them out for up to three years, accepts the organizational and management structure, the procedure for appointing and dismissing the staff, the rules for the salary and other internal rules of the Association; prepares and submits to the General Assembly a report on the activity of the Association; prepares and submits to the General Assembly a draft budget; determines the seat and address of management of the Association; decides to participate in other organizations; elect an Executive Director who can not be a member of the MB of a LAG or a related person with the members of the LAGs MB within the meaning of § 1 of the Additional Provisions of the Commerce Act; discusses and resolves all other matters except those which by law or by statute do not fall within the rights of any other authority. The members of the Management Board have the same rights and obligations regardless of the internal division of functions between the members and the decisions conferring the right to manage executive members.

Specific: with regard to the implementation of Programs and Projects managed by the Association, the Management Board takes decisions on the CLLD Strategy and its budget and other strategic documents and proposes them for approval to the General Assembly; elaborates and accepts the organizational structure, rules and procedures for the functioning of the executive bodies of the Association for Implementation of the CLLD Strategy; elects and releases the executive and operational units of the Association, whose functions and responsibilities are regulated in the internal rules and procedures of the Association; spend the funds from the budget of the Association by organizing competitive procedures on the basis of the adopted CLLD and in compliance with the requirements of the financing organizations / institutions; approves forms, guidelines, timelines and evaluation criteria to be used in each call for proposals for the implementation of the Strategy; delegates to expert advice and / or project selection committees the

power to evaluate project proposals funded by the Association for the CLLD or other funding programs. Makes final decisions for project financing; elects representatives of the Association in national and European networks of rural regions; prepares the accounting information provided for in the Accountancy Act for the activities of the Association in the terms required there, observing the principles of openness, credibility and timeliness.

The board of directors shall elect chairman from his members. **The Chairman of the Management Board** has the following powers: manages the implementation of the Local Development Strategy on the territory of LAG Dobrichka; report its activity to the Management Board once a year; prepare and submit a report on the activity of the Association during the reporting period; shall submit, by May 31 of each year, information on the activities of the Association in the preceding year to the central register of the Ministry of Justice; convene and lead the meetings of the Management Board; organizes the implementation of the decisions of the Management Board; organizes the activity of the Association, performs its operational management, ensures the management and preservation of its property; concludes the employment contracts with the executive director and the employees of the association, whose functions and responsibilities are determined by internal rules and procedures regulated by the adopted Strategy, observing the rule that the LAG employees are not members of the MB of the LAG or related persons within the meaning of § 1 of the Supplementary Provisions of the Commerce Act; Dealt with other issues related to the activity of the Association in accordance with the Statutes. The Chairman has the right to carry out all actions and transactions that are related to the activity of the Association, to represent it and to authorize other persons to carry out certain actions; to sign contracts for financing projects by the Association with beneficiaries from local communities according to the rules and regulations of the funding organizations, including the MAFL under the LEADER approach. The powers of the Chairperman may be terminated early on by a decision of the Managing Board in case of: violations of the Statute; not dealing with work; a factual failure to perform its duties; committing a crime of a general nature; damaging the reputation and authority of the Association.

The immediate management and coordination of the work of the Association in connection with the implementation of LAG Dobrichka CLLD is carried out by an operational implementation team, managed by an Executive Director (CEO). The direct responsibilities of the Executive Director are contracted by the Managing Board, signed by its Chairman.

The Executive Director (CEO) has the following powers, ensuing from the Statute of the Association: performs the operational management of LAG Dobrichka; participates in the meetings of the Management Board of the Association with the right to an advisory vote; organizes the implementation of the decisions of the Managing Board and the General Assembly; ensures the maintenance and preservation of the property of the Association; is responsible for the development of plans, programs, reports and opinions on the activity of the Association; prepare and submit to the General Assembly an annual report on the implementation of the Strategy; monitors the implementation of projects funded under the Local Development Strategy. For its activities, the Executive Director reports to the Management Board and the General Assembly.

8.2.2. Description of the positions and requirements for the Executive Director and the staff:

The requirements for education, experience and qualifications for each of the positions in the team of LAG Dobrichka are present as a mandatory element of their job descriptions. They comply with the minimum requirements according to Ordinance No. 22 / 14.12.2015. All employees of the LAG team are individuals who meet the general requirements for an employee described in the Guidelines for determining the conditions for application and the conditions for the implementation of the approved CLLD strategy related to reception

2017 in accordance with Art. 13 of Ordinance No. 22:

para. (3) **The Executive Director** of LAG Dobrichka shall meet the following minimum requirements: completed tertiary education, at least "bachelor" degree; professional experience of at least 5 years; managerial experience for at least two years; experience in implementing a project, program or strategy worth over BGN 100,000 funded by the EU or by other international donors. The powers of the Executive Director are set out in the LAG Statute and in his employment contract.

para. (4) **The expert on the implementation of LAG Dobrichka's CLLD strategy** corresponds to the following minimum requirements: completed higher education, at least "Bachelor" degree; professional experience of at least two years; experience in implementing projects / contracts funded by the EU or other international donors and having at least 1 year of experience in implementing the LEADER approach.

para. (5) **The Assistant of LAG Dobrichka** meets the requirements for completed higher education, at least "Bachelor" and professional experience of at least two years.

The rights, duties and responsibilities of all employees of the LAG Dobrichka team are laid down in the job descriptions adopted by the Managing Board for each of the positions (Appendix 16). Pursuant to the Articles of Association of the LAG Dobrichka, the LAG team, including the Executive Director, are appointed and dismissed by the Chairman after approval by the MB.

For the period of implementation of the Strategy, LAG Dobrichka has provided:

1 / separate office located in Branishte village, 19 "Parva" str., Comprising two working premises, a storage room, as well as a separate room for holding meetings. The office has a facility providing access for disabled persons (Annex 17);

2 / Full-time employees for the positions of "CEO" and "Expert on the implementation of the CLLD strategy"; and a full-time employee for the assistant position (appendixes 14-16);

3 / office equipment for carrying out the activity, including printers, equipped workplaces and computers, corresponding to the number of insured employees (Annex 18);

4 / "Chevrolet Orlando" car bought in accordance with Ordinance No 23 of MAF;

5 / financial resources amounting to BGN 30,000 for the implementation of the Strategy (app).

8.3. LAG capacity to implement the CLLD strategy:

The main objective of the first adopted, funded and implemented Local Development Strategy of LAG Dobrichka is: **"The territory of LAG Dobrichka to become a vibrant rural environment through targeted actions in partnership with the local community"**.

The effectiveness of the implementation of Local Development Strategy is measured mainly as the value and number of contracts concluded / implemented activities on the projects submitted under the measures included in it. In the implementation period from November 2011 to September 2015, the Strategy demonstrates economic efficiency. 69 applications for assistance from 50 private and 3 public beneficiaries were received at LAG Dobrichka. The total amount of the investment intentions amounts to BGN 6 118 066.31, of which BGN 1 159 057.80 are for the public sector and BGN 4 959 008.51 for the private sector. The subsidy is over BGN 3 590 000, which represents about 111.5% of the budget allocated to the LAGs under Axis

1 and Axis 3 of the RDP 2007-2013, amounting to BGN 3 220 000. The investments made through the RDP projects, affect **69.12%** of the territory of Dobrichka municipality or in **47 villages** (out of 68). **78.35%** of the municipality's population benefit from the improved social environment, and **over 30%** from access to sport-motor and information services, with a focus on children. The share of subsidies for support to the private sector is **61.92%** of the total amount of the funds approved for financing by the Ministry of Education and Science. Investments over BGN 4 million contribute to a **4.52% increase** in FTA in Dobrichka municipality. The **workplaces** generated by the private sector only as a result of the implementation of the construction works are **22**.

These facts show that LAG Dobrichka LAG has optimally planned the support needs of the three sectors and has well publicized the opportunities and objectives of the Strategy. In a spirit of **cooperation and partnership**, the LAG has worked effectively with business, public and civil sector and has mobilized their interest.

The team of the LAG Dobrichka, together with the members of the GA and the MB, have established, maintain and develop **international relations and contacts** with different structures in the country and abroad. It is a potential that will allow the exchange of people, ideas and products, attracting foreign experience, spreading ours, looking for new markets, and cooperating to add value to the territory.

The LAG Dobrichka, implementing a Local Development Strategy, also contributed to improving the knowledge and skills of the people in the area, better management of business and social ideas and their development in the region. The participants in training events organized by LAG Dobrichka over 360 people are a significant target group, which is a natural ally of the LAG for long-term partner actions to revitalize the territory and the new programming period.

The accumulated administrative capacity, potential capabilities and activity of stakeholders, as well as the expertise and experience of members of the GA, the MB and the team determine the capabilities and capacities of the LAGs for the successful implementation of this CLLD.

The expertise and experience of the members of the General Meeting corresponding to the objectives and scope of the Association are detailed in Appendix № 21.

8.4. Description of the monitoring and evaluation system:

Monitoring is an on-going and systematic gathering and analysis of information used in the management, control and decision-making process for the implementation of the CLLD. Monitoring activity also makes it possible to assess whether planned and approved activities lead to the achievement of the expected results, objectives and indicators of the project. This in turn makes it possible to identify possible problems in a timely manner and to take appropriate corrective action. The monitoring is carried out at 2 levels - at the project level and at the CLLD Strategy level.

Monitoring at project level is achieved through:

- reviewing the technical and financial implementation reports of the projects;
- making on-site visits;
- periodic meetings to report progress of projects.

The collected information is entered into a database and serves to prepare Strategic Implementation Reports and to perform independent evaluations of its implementation.

Monitoring at the CLLD Strategy level is carried out by the LAG's Management Board through the approval of the 6-month Strategic Implementation Reports as well as by the LAG's GA through the approval of the Annual Reports on the implementation of the Strategy. On the basis of the information presented in the reports, the Management Board and the General Assembly take a decision approving the implementation of the CLLD Strategy and / or its change. The implementation of the CLLD Strategy is subject to independent external evaluations - one interim and one follow-up. Estimates are performed by external evaluators.

Interim evaluation (IE) is done towards the middle of the implementation period of the CLLD. The IE shall be based on the information gathered during the implementation of the monitoring activities. The prepared report, including the results of the interim evaluation, is approved by the MB of the LAG. Interim evaluation includes:

- Evaluation of initial performance results;
- Assessment of achievement level of the respective objectives and indicators;
- Assessment of the use of financial resources and management and monitoring procedures
- Conclusions and recommendations.

Ex-post evaluation (EE) is carried out in the last year of implementation of the strategy and includes:

- Evaluation of the efficiency and effectiveness of the resources used to implement the CLLD strategy;
- Assessment of the performance of the indicators;
- Analysis of the positive and negative factors in the implementation of CLLD strategy;
- An assessment of the degree of achievement of the objectives and of the sustainability of the results;
- Conclusions and recommendations.

The ex-post evaluation shall be based on the information gathered in the course of the monitoring activities. The prepared report, including the results of the evaluation, is approved by the MB of LAG.

Strategy renewal procedure: once approved, the Strategy for the BOM can change as regards:

- its financial parameters;
- the procedures for its implementation;
- in case of change of the eligibility conditions set in the measures of the RDP 2014-2020 or the regulations for their implementation;
- when changing the applicable regulations.

The necessity to change the CLLD Strategy is justified in the six-monthly and / or annual reports on its implementation. After reports approval from the MB and from the General Assembly, the Executive director proceeds with the preparation of the Application for the change of the CLLD strategy which contains:

- a report on the agreed, implemented projects and the activities carried out;
- financial table with the funds used, contracted and planned;
- justification for the requested change;
- other documents required by MAFF.

The application for a change of the CLLD Strategy is submitted for approval to the LAG Managing Board. Approval shall be documented by a protocol as provided for in the Statutes.

The LAG Dobrichka will monitor and evaluate the quality of the CLLD implementation by applying a

system for ongoing monitoring and evaluation using **indicators** - output indicators and result indicators, and where possible, it will also monitor impact indicators to be defined in the course of the CLLD implementation. Through the indicators, the LAG will measure the achievement of the objectives of the Strategy, track the progress in the implementation of the activities and the results of the CLLD implementation. LAG Dobrichka will track the following indicators:

- number and value of the **applications submitted and their distribution by sub-measures**;
- number and value of **approved applications and their distribution by sub-measures**;
- number and value of the **contracts concluded and their distribution by sub-measures**;
- number and value of **payment claims submitted**;
- number and value of **successfully completed projects**.

Output indicators and result indicators are presented for both - the whole CLLD Strategy and the sub-measures included in it. The indicators will be set in an information system that will allow to provide up-to-date information for each individual contract as well as for the aggregated indicators for the CLLD.

The system of ongoing monitoring and evaluation of the implementation of LAG Dobrichka CLLD Strategy has the following main functions:

- (1) Regular collection and analysis of information throughout the duration of the CLLD;
- (2) An objective assessment of the progress of its implementation; and
- (3) supporting decision-making for the effective management of the Strategy.

In this way the system will provide timely monitoring of the results, comparison of the achieved with the planned and measuring the effect on the territory. The leading components of the monitoring and evaluation system are: information provision of monitoring; indicators to measure the performance of the CLLD; evaluate the results and take corrective action on significant deviations.

9. Indicators for monitoring and evaluation:

9.1. Indicators for the full implementation of the CLLD strategy, including number of jobs created:

Type of indicator	Indicator	Unit	End of strategy goal	Source of information
Output	Consulted potential beneficiaries	Number	150	Diary / register of consulted beneficiaries in LAG
	Applications submitted	Number	50	Information System (UMIS) or LAG database
	Projects funded	Number	47	
	Beneficiaries supported	Number	43	
	Participants in trainings	Number	100	Present lists of trainings
	Participants in activities / initiatives / events organized by the LAG	Number	1000	Present lists of events
	Activities for acquiring skills and achieving social activity	Number	20	LAGs annual reports
Result	Assisted innovative activities / products / services / technologies	Number	6	Information System (UMIS) or LAG database
	Work places, created in assisted projects	Number	32	
	Projects to increase the interest in the territory (activities and objects)	Number	7	
	Projects contributing to environmental protection (direct)	Number	2	
	Population in the territory that benefits from improved services / infrastructure	Percentage	35% (cumulatively on all measures)	
	Beneficiaries - vulnerable groups of the population, including minorities	Number	1500	LAG database

9.2. Indicators by measures:

Indicators under sub-measure 19.2-4.1				
Type of indicator	Indicator	Unit	End of strategy goal	Source of information
Putput	Projects funded under the measure	Number	25	Information System (UMIS) or LAG database
	Beneficiaries supported under the measure	Number	25	
Result	Assisted holdings with a size of 8000 to 25 000 units standart output	Number	10	LAG database / farmer questionnaires
	Projects to support holdings from the sensitive sectors of the CLLD	Number	5	LAG database / farmer questionnaires
	Projects related to innovation	Number	3	LAG database
	New jobs created	Number	15	Contracts concluded / accounting records from the beneficiaries

Indicators under sub-measure 19.2-4.2				
Type of indicator	Indicator	Unit	End of strategy goal	Source of information
Output	Projects funded under the measure	Number	3	Information System (UMIS) or LAG database
	Beneficiaries supported under the measure	Number	3	
Result	Projects for processing of own and / or produced in the LAG output	Number	3	LAG database
	Projects related to innovation	Number	1	
	New jobs created	Number	7	Contracts concluded / accounting records from the beneficiaries

Indicators under sub-measure 19.2-6.4				
Type of indicators	Indicator	Unit	End of strategy goal	Source of information
Output	Projects funded under the measure	Number	5	Information System (UMIS) or LAG database
	Beneficiaries supported under the measure	Number	5	
Result	Projects related to innovation	Number	1	LAG database
	Introduced new proceedings	Number	1	LAG database
	New services introduced	Number	2	LAG database
	New jobs created	Number	8	Contracts concluded / accounting records from the beneficiaries
	Population using services, created as a result of the projects	Percentage of inhabitants of the territory	10%	LAG database

Indicator under sub-measure 19.2-7.2				
Type of indicator	Indicator	Unit	End of strategy goal	Source of information
Output	Projects funded under the measure	Number	5	Information System (UMIS) or LAG database
	Beneficiaries supported under the measure	Number	1	
Result	Projects with investments in social infrastructure or provision of social services	Number	1	LAG database
	In the project implementation activities are included local unemployed or representatives of vulnerable groups.	Number	2	LAG database

	Population in the territory benefiting from the improved environment	% from the population of the territory	20%	LAG database
	Beneficiaries - vulnerable groups of the population, including minorities	Number	1000	LAG database

Indicators under sub-measure 19.2-7.5

Type of indicator	Indicator	Unit	End of strategy goal	Source of information
Output	Projects funded under the measure	Number	1	Information System (UMIS) or LAG database
	Beneficiaries supported under the measure	Number	1	
Result	Projects related to innovation	Number	1	LAG database
	Created new attractions providing services for cognitive or educational purposes	Number	1	LAG database
	New jobs created	Number	2	LAG database
	Beneficiaries - children and youth; vulnerable groups of the population including minorities	Number	500	LAG database

Indicators under measure 19.2-7.6. „Storage and inclusion of the fortune in the LAG Dobrichka territory ”

Type of indicator	Indicator	Unit	End of strategy goal	Source of information
Output	Projects funded under the measure	Number	6	Information system for management and monitoring of eu funds in bulgaria 2020 LAG database
	Beneficiaries supported under the measure	Number	6	

Result	Activities / events that have raised interest in the territory	Number	4	LAG database
	Sites related to natural heritage that have improved their attractiveness	Number	1	LAG database
	Sites related to historical heritage that have improved their attractiveness	Number	1	LAG database
	Share of population, covered by the project activities	Percentage	15%	LAG database

10. Compliance with horizontal EU policies:

10.1. Gender equality and lack of discrimination:

<p><i>- application of the principle of gender equality;</i></p>	<p>The CLLD strategy guarantees equal opportunities between men and women as well as gender mainstreaming in the implementation of activities co-funded under the Strategy. All priorities and actions are based on the principle of equality and non-discrimination, and the Strategy contains adequate measures to integrate the principle of gender equality into implementation, monitoring and evaluation. The contribution of the CLLD strategy is expressed in the interventions related to sub-measures 19.2-4.1, 19.2-4.2, 19.2-6.4, where projects submitted by women - farmers or entrepreneurs are prioritized. The provision of jobs for women is also a priority.</p>
<p><i>- contributing to the promotion of equal opportunities principle</i></p>	<p>In its realization, the CLLD will not allow discrimination and will guarantee equal opportunities for everyone on the territory. Following the European policies, the CLLD foresees positive and encouraging measures aimed at overcoming such problems and promoting equal opportunities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - public measures projects include a horizontal activity "Enhancing Access for Persons with Disabilities"; - as benchmarks are provided points to support projects submitted by women, young people, vulnerable groups; - the recruitment of persons from vulnerable and minority groups is a priority - Measure 19.2-7.6 gives priority to projects to promote the cultural heritage of minority communities. <p>The principles of equal opportunities and non-discrimination will be respected in the setting up of evaluation committees and in the implementation of the projects funded by the CLLD strategy.</p>

<p>- <i>creating conditions for the discrimination prevention</i></p>	<p>The LAG Dobrichka CLLD strategy implements activities and methods that create conditions for prevention of discrimination in the different spheres of action - administrative, informational, educational, as well as actual activities for realization of the strategy. The CLLD shall ensure a level playing field in the sphere of social protection, including opportunities for social inclusion through the envisaged sub-measures for its implementation, the access and the opportunities for applying for the sub-measures of the Strategy; access to training and services offered by the LAG itself. Compliance with the principles of discrimination prevention is also mandatory for all management processes in the LAG Dobrichka.</p>
---	---

10.2. Sustainable development (environmental protection):

The concept of sustainable development is inherent in agriculture, which determines how economically efficient, environmentally responsible and socially responsible it is, that its welfare and lifestyle depend not only on employees but also on consumers of agricultural products. This rural municipality, whose economy is competitive, is sustainable, its living conditions are socially acceptable and, in general, its development is environmentally compatible with the requirements of environmental protection. This understanding is underpinned and defines the main purpose, as well as the specific objectives set out in the Good Practice Framework of LAG Dobrichka. Sustainable development and environmental protection policies are strongly integrated at the level of strategic goals and priorities. Environmental protection is intrinsic to a specific objective 1.1 while economic and social sustainability issues are more pronounced in priority 1 and specific objectives 1.2., 2.1. and 2.2. All sub-measures of the CLLD introduce environmental protection as a top priority. Additionally, project selection criteria are to improve the state of the environment, and such projects will be encouraged. The projects on all sub-measures included in LAG Dobrichka CLLD strategy will be funded only after an assessment of the need to carry out the EIA (where required). Specifically, through its sub-measures, the Strategy also responds to requirements for interventions for climate action and improvement of air quality and reduction of greenhouse gas emissions. The implementation of sustainable development policies is also reflected in the expected results of the CLLD implementation.

10.3. Promoting employment and competitiveness:

Achieving and promoting competitiveness through CLLD aims to improve economic performance by reducing production costs, increasing the size of farms, fostering innovation and enhancing market orientation. Such results are laid down in the sub-measures with codes 19.2-4.1, 19.2-4.2 and 19.2-6.4 LAG Dobrichka CLLD strategy.

The deteriorated quality of agricultural machinery and processing equipment due to amortization and inefficiency, and limited access to finance and services for the population and the economy have a negative impact on the competitiveness of rural areas.

Service levels in rural areas are significantly lower than those in urban areas and are well below the EU average. By applying sub measures 19.2-4.1 and 19.2-4.2 aims to improve the physical infrastructure and to increase the competitiveness of the agricultural sector within the LAG Dobrichka and through sub-code 19.2-6.4 aim of developing and stimulating the local economy and competitiveness through agricultural activities.

The integration of policies to promote employment and competitiveness at project level is monitored and reported objectively both in the indicators of the individual measures and in the Strategy:

- assessed during the selection process, with relevant horizontal policies included in the project

evaluation criteria;

- monitored during the implementation of the CLLD and reported in the implementation reports.

10.4. Compatibility with the programs financed by the ESIF (European structural and investment funds):

The strategy of LAG Dobrichka is in line with and coherence with the Structural Funds programs for Bulgaria, and the objectives and interventions set out in the Strategy also correspond to the objectives of Europe 2020 (Intelligent, Sustainable and Inclusive Growth).

The hierarchy of objectives and expected results reflect the coherence between the different documents, respecting the European Union's flagship horizontal principles as well as the main objectives and priorities of the Common Agricultural Policy.

The programming has taken into account the demarcation of the National Operational Programs financed by the ESIF, in defining the measures, priorities and prosperity in the territory of LAG Dobrichka, the conditions for financing each of the funds and the opportunities of the Local Government to be implemented of a multi-fund strategy.

CLLD has a specific character and direction which adds value to the existing opportunities on the territory of LAG Dobrichka, coinciding with Dobrichka Municipality. The CLLD seeks to develop, complement and achieve synergy with programs at regional, national and supranational level, which are eligible for the Municipality of Dobrichka (RDP, OPSESG, HRDOP, OPRD) and the structures of the territory (RDP, OPSESG, HRDOP, OPDCBE).