

Nr. AFIR: 7431/08.06.2021

# COOPERATION AGREEMENT

between

## AFIR (Romania)

Ministerul Agriculturii și Dezvoltării Rurale



Agenția  
pentru Finanțarea  
Investițiilor  
Rurale



and

## OPEKEPE (Greece)

PAYMENT AND  
CONTROL AGENCY  
FOR GUIDANCE AND  
GUARANTEE  
COMMUNITY AID



Ref. N. 35876/15.06.2021

# Cooperation Agreement

between

the **Rural Investments Financing Agency** of the Republic of Romania (hereinafter referred to as AFIR), 43<sup>rd</sup> Stirbei Voda Street, sector 1, Bucharest.

And

Payment and Control Agency for Guidance and Guarantee community Aid (hereinafter referred to as OPEKEPE), Domokou 5 street, 10445, Athens Greece,

hereinafter referred to jointly as "Parties"

## **I. Subject of Cooperation Agreement**

AFIR and OPEKEPE both act as paying agencies and implementing bodies of the agricultural policies of the EU and carry out activities related to rural development issues of the Common Agricultural Policy, for both the 2014-2020 and the new programming period. The object of this agreement is to develop strong cooperation activities between AFIR and OPEKEPE by mutual exchange of experience in areas of common interest.

## **II. Scope of the cooperation**

The Parties hereby agree on the following:

1. The Parties ensure the opportunity for their experts to raise questions through the contact persons in connection with professional issues arising in their scope of work. Contact persons are responsible for forwarding queries and proposals about the exchange of information and experiences, as well as the methods in process of implementation of EU funds for agriculture and rural development, in addition to forwarding responses to the contact person of the other Party.
2. The Parties seek to establish and to maintain balanced and mutual cooperation, and to raise questions that have a significant impact on professional activities with the aim to improve processes of the partner institution. The Parties hereby agree, depending on the urgency of the issue and the workload of experts, to exchange ideas and best practices, information and knowledge on CAP between the two agencies providing a framework for regular meetings of experts of both sides.
3. The Parties will exchange theoretical and practical knowledge related to:

- Organisational model for implementation EU funds Rural Development

### III. Forms of cooperation

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

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

AFIR:

Ms. Victoria Oprea,

Head of Coordination and Institutional Relations Unit

Agreement Coordination Directorate

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And

OPEKEPE

Mr. Kriton Maniatis

Head of European Affairs, Communication & Public Relations Office

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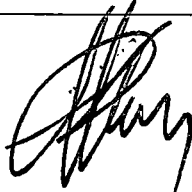
2. The Parties agree that all forms of cooperation shall take place maximum four (4) times per year and meetings shall not exceed duration of three (3) working days. Contact persons organise and participate at the meetings. The venues for each of the meetings shall be settled by separate communication.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

(transportation costs, daily allowance and accommodation costs) for its own staff concerned.

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

#### IV. Final provisions

1. The agreement is valid until closure of the 2021-2027 Programming Period.
2. Each Party may propose amendments to this Agreement, which require acceptance by other Party. Amendments to the Agreement shall be made in written.
3. Each Party may propose termination of this Agreement prior of its expiration; which needs to be notified to the other Party. Termination shall enter into force when one Party informs the other in written.
4. This Agreement is prepared in two original copies in English (one copy for each Party).

<b>Rural Investments Financing Agency</b>	<b>PAYMENT AND CONTROL AGENCY FOR GUIDANCE AND GUARANTEE COMMUNITY AID</b>
<b>Mihai-Liviu MORARU</b> <b>Director General</b>	<b>Dimitrios Melas</b> <b>President</b>
<b>Mihai-Liviu Moraru</b> Digitally signed by Mihai-Liviu Moraru Date: 2021.06.08 17:00:52 +03'00'	 15.06.21