Interreg Europe

Co-funded by the European Union

EAGER

Project EAGER

Easing Agrophotovoltaics for EuRope

Study Visit in Pazardzhik, Bulgaria

16 – 17 September 2026

Interreg Europe

Co-funded by the European Union

EAGER

Project EAGER: Easing AGrophotovoltaics for EuRope

Martin Ivanov

Regional Energy Agency of Pazardjik

m.ivanov@reap-bg.eu

16 September 2026 | Pazardzhik, Bulgaria

Project characteristics

Project duration: **1 April 2024 - 30 June 2028**

Partners:

1. **University of Applied Sciences Landshut (Germany), Lead Partner**
2. Agricultural and Agrifood Technological Center ITAGRA (Spain)
3. Catholic University of Leuven (Belgium)
4. Municipality of Ruhstorf an der Rott (Germany)
5. Municipality of Strelcha (Bulgaria)
6. National Paying Agency under the Ministry of Agriculture of the Republic of Lithuania (Lithuania)
7. Nuovo Circondario Imolese (Italy)
8. Palencia Provincial Council (Spain)
9. Provincial Development Agency Flemish Brabant (Belgium)
10. Public Institution Lithuanian Innovation Centre (Lithuania)
11. Regional Energy Agency of Pazardjik (Bulgaria)
12. Rzeszow Regional Development Agency (Poland)
13. Municipality of Bačka Palanka (Serbia)
14. Institution "Zakarpattia Regional Development Agency" (Ukraine)

What is APV?

Agro-photovoltaic (APV) system presents a solution to the pressing need for increased **solar energy capacity** while resolving competition over **land use**. With the EU aiming for significant renewable energy expansion, APV can bridge land optimization difficulties by **combining** solar energy production with crop cultivation, therefore producing energy and food at the same time, while offering investment opportunities for partners in this area and fostering collaboration with local communities in their transition to renewable energy.

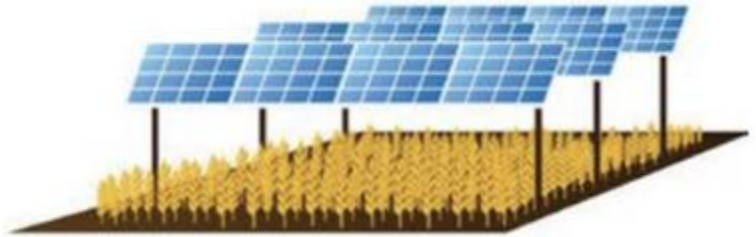
What is APV?

Conventional use

100% crop cultivation and
100% energy production over
2,000 square meters

In total: **100% land use efficiency**

Agriphotovoltaics



80% crop cultivation and
80% energy production over
1,000 square meters

In total: **160% land use efficiency**
within 1,000 square meters

Brief overview of the project

EAGER

The EAGER project facilitates the adoption of agro-photovoltaic systems across partner regions. By fostering a shared understanding of this technology, identifying **best practices**, and **enhancing policy instruments**, this project is paving the way for a greener future.

Brief overview of the project

Main objective:

- ✓ The goal of the EAGER project is to **improve the policy instruments in each participating region**.
- ✓ The improvement is expected to be finalized and adopted **by 2027**.
- ✓ These **policy instruments** will focus on the **combined use of agriculture and photovoltaics**.

Integrated Development Plan of Strelcha Municipality 2021 - 2027

The Municipality of Strelcha is implementing an Integrated Development Plan (IDP) for the period of 2021–2027. This is the municipality's primary strategic document, which was developed with the active participation of local stakeholders, particularly citizens and representatives of local businesses. The municipality will follow this plan during the period 2021–2027.

Integrated Development Plan of Strelcha Municipality 2021 - 2027

- Measure 1.1, “Investments in Infrastructure and Improvement of Economic Activities,” under **Priority 1**, “Accelerating the Growth of the Local Economy,” of the IDP forsees specific actions aimed at improving agricultural infrastructure in the municipality.
- The implementation of sustainable renewable energy sources in the municipality of Strelcha is expected under Measure 1.1, and under **Priority 2**, “Territorial Connectivity and Sustainable Development,” through Measure 2.6, “Improving the Energy Performance of the Public Sector,” and Measure 2.7 “Improving Energy Performance in the Residential Sector.” The municipality of Strelcha acknowledges that without the active participation of the local community, these goals will not be achieved, and the EAGER activities will support the process of local participation by monitoring and evaluating the effectiveness and impact of local legislation, projects, and actions planned in the IDP, from the development stage through to implementation.

Concept for APV Development in the Municipality of Strelcha

Община Стрелча

Дата: 17.07.2026 г.

ОБЩИНА СТРЕЛЧА

КОНЦЕПЦИЯ ЗА ПОДБОР НА ТЕРЕНИ И ОБЩИНСКА РАМКА
ЗА РАЗВИТИЕ НА АГРОФОТОВОЛТАИЧНИ СИСТЕМИ
НА ТЕРИТОРИЯТА НА ОБЩИНА СТРЕЛЧА

СТРЕЛЧА

Interreg Europe

Co-funded by the European Union

EAGER

Настоящият документ е изготвен като работна основа за приемане на общинска рамка за предварителна оценка, подбор на терени и насърчаване на агрофотоволтаични инициативи на територията на Община Стрелча.

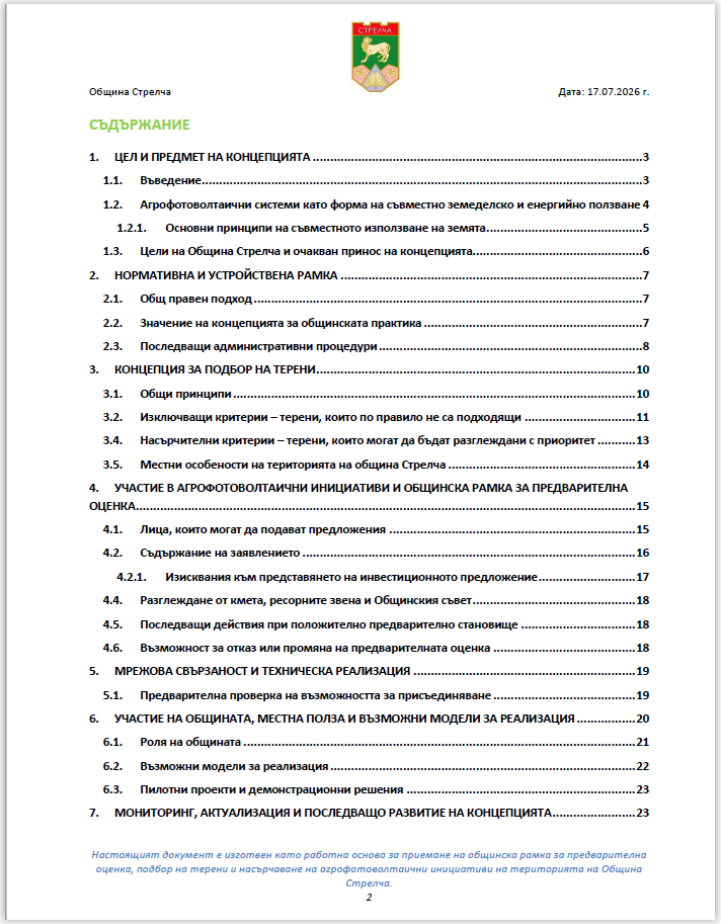
CONCEPT FOR SITE SELECTION AND MUNICIPAL FRAMEWORK FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF APV SYSTEMS IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF STRELCHA

- **Main objective**: general principles for the preliminary assessment of sites suitable for the construction of APV systems;
- **Specific criteria and legal frameworks**;
- **A starting point** for farmers in developing APV projects.

CONCEPT FOR SITE SELECTION AND MUNICIPAL FRAMEWORK FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF AGRO-PHOTOVOLTAIC SYSTEMS IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF STRELCHA

CONTENT

1. Main objective of the concept;
2. Regulatory and structural framework;
3. Site selection concept;
4. Participation in APV initiatives and a municipal framework for preliminary assessment;
5. Networking and technical implementation;
6. Municipal participation, local benefits, and implementation models;
7. Monitoring, updating, and further development of the concept.



Община Стрелча Дата: 17.07.2026 г.

СЪДЪРЖАНИЕ

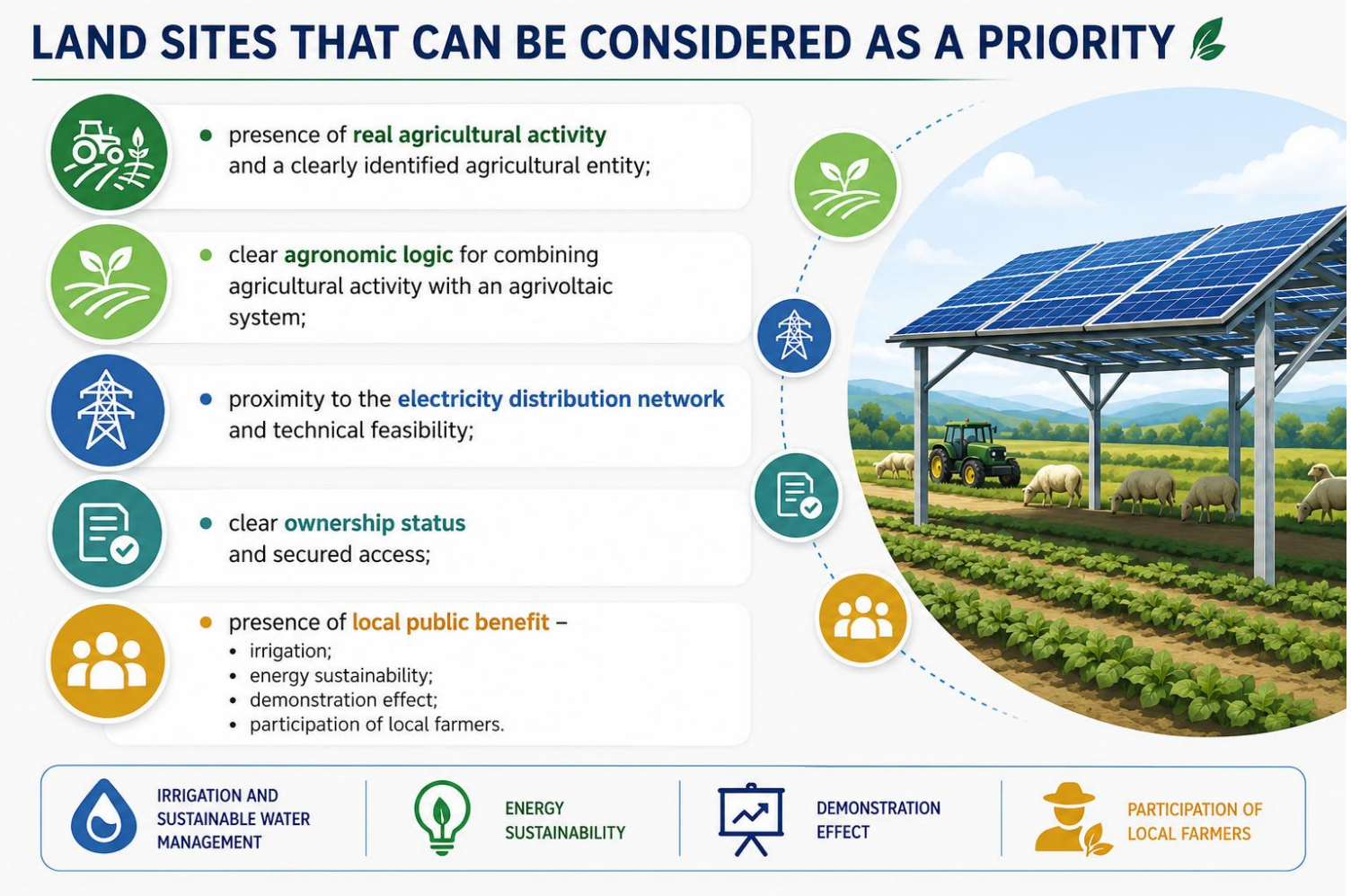
1. ЦЕЛ И ПРЕДМЕТ НА КОНЦЕПЦИЯТА 3
1.1. Въведение....3
1.2. Агрофотоволтаични системи като форма на съвместно земеделско и енергийно ползване 4
1.2.1. Основни принципи на съвместното използване на земята....5
1.3. Цели на Община Стрелча и очакван принос на концепцията....6
2. НОРМАТИВНА И УСТРОЙСТВЕНА РАМКА 7
2.1. Общ правен подход....7
2.2. Значение на концепцията за общинската практика 7
2.3. Последващи административни процедури....8
3. КОНЦЕПЦИЯ ЗА ПОДБОР НА ТЕРЕНИ....10
3.1. Общи принципи 10
3.2. Изключващи критерии – терени, които по правило не са подходящи 11
3.4. Насърчителни критерии – терени, които могат да бъдат разглеждани с приоритет 13
3.5. Местни особености на територията на община Стрелча 14
4. УЧАСТИЕ В АГРОФОТОВОЛТАИЧНИ ИНИЦИАТИВИ И ОБЩИНСКА РАМКА ЗА ПРЕДВАРИТЕЛНА ОЦЕНКА....15
4.1. Лица, които могат да подават предложения 15
4.2. Съдържание на заявлението 16
4.2.1. Изисквания към представянето на инвестиционното предложение....17
4.4. Разглеждане от кмета, ресорните звена и Общинския съвет....18
4.5. Последващи действия при положително предварително становище 18
4.6. Възможност за отказ или промяна на предварителната оценка 18
5. МРЕЖОВА СВЪРЗАНОСТ И ТЕХНИЧЕСКА РЕАЛИЗАЦИЯ 19
5.1. Предварителна проверка на възможността за присъединяване 19
6. УЧАСТИЕ НА ОБЩИНАТА, МЕСТНА ПОЛЗА И ВЪЗМОЖНИ МОДЕЛИ ЗА РЕАЛИЗАЦИЯ 20
6.1. Роля на общината 21
6.2. Възможни модели за реализация 22
6.3. Пилотни проекти и демонстрационни решения 23
7. МОНИТОРИНГ, АКТУАЛИЗАЦИЯ И ПОСЛЕДВАЩО РАЗВИТИЕ НА КОНЦЕПЦИЯТА....23

Настоящият документ е изготвен като работна основа за приемане на общинска рамка за предварителна оценка, подбор на терени и насърчаване на агрофотоволтаични инициативи на територията на Община Стрелча.

2

CONCEPT FOR SITE SELECTION AND MUNICIPAL FRAMEWORK FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF AGRO-PHOTOVOLTAIC SYSTEMS IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF STRELCHA

- The methodology is inspired by the German and Belgian approaches;
- Finalization and official adoption: 2027
- The first document of its kind in Bulgaria;
- Applicable to other municipalities throughout the country.



The current situation in Bulgaria

Interreg Europe

Co-funded by the European Union

EAGER

Thank you for your attention!

GREEN

16 September 2026 | Pazardzhik, Bulgaria

https://www.interregeurope.eu/eager