Measure 1: Investments in agricultural holdings	
Description of objectives:	The measure will lead to the achievement of Specific Objective 1.1 'Development of agricultural holdings and enhancing the competitiveness of the local economy' of the CLLD, linked to Priority 1 'Enhancing the competitiveness of the local economy, encouraging innovation activity and developing sustainable business' of the CLLD, of the Specific Objective 'Enhancing the competitiveness of local economies and opportunities for local business creation, including through diversification and support for alternative activities' and of the Specific Objective 'Promoting sustainable and quality employment' in the implementation of the CLLD approach. By implementing the eligible activities under the measure, it will contribute to climate change mitigation through sustainable and efficient management of natural resources, with support for biomanufacturing and modernisation of farms, with priority for innovation and digitalisation.
Eligible applicants:	**1. Eligible farmers** must also comply with the following conditions: - be natural persons or; - be legal entities registered under the Commerce Act or the Cooperatives Act, the Religious Denominations Act or established under the Agricultural Academy Act; - have a business plan for the activities on the agricultural holding and demonstrating the improvement of the activity of the agricultural holding by implementing the planned investments and activities. Projects should be sustainable and financially viable. **2. Eligible producer groups and organisations** must also comply with the following conditions: - be recognised as a producer group or organisation in accordance with national and/or European legislation for producer organisations and/or groups; - have a business plan for the activities in the producer group/organisation and demonstrate improvement of

	its activity by implementing the planned investments and activities. Eligible applicants/beneficiaries must have their permanent address or registered office on the territory of the LAG.
Eligible activities:	– Activities on agricultural holdings linked to the production of agricultural products listed in Annex I to the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union or cotton, with the exception of fish and fishery products; – Activities related to modernization and mechanization /investments in physical assets/, related to reducing production costs and increasing labor productivity; – Activities directly related to improving the energy efficiency of farms; – Activities for storage of agricultural production in order to preserve the quality of production; – Activities aimed at protecting the environmental components of organic production and precision/smart/digital farming; – Activities related to social farming and/or collective investment; – Activities related to the acquisition of real estate related to the activity of agricultural holdings; – Activities related to the creation and/or replanting of permanent crops, table vineyards, melliferous tree species for honey production and fast-growing shrubs and tree species for bioenergy production; – Activities related to the production of energy from renewable energy sources (water, wind, solar, geothermal and residual/waste biomass) for own use for the needs of agricultural holdings. – Basic agricultural investments where they relate to social farming and/or to collective investment**.** Installations for the production of energy from renewable sources must not exceed a capacity of 1 megawatt and must comply with the sustainability conditions in the Renewable Energy Act.
Eligible costs:	- construction and installation works for construction, repair, reconstruction,

	reconstruction, maintenance or restoration; – the purchase of new machinery, facilities, equipment and furniture, including unmanned aerial systems and associated equipment; – general costs related to the main costs of the project such as architects, engineers and consultants' fees, feasibility studies, acquisition of patent rights and licenses, copyrights and construction supervision amounting to up to 12% of the total eligible costs of the project proposal; – computer software; – intangible assets other than software (books, films, etc.); – basic agricultural investments where they relate to social farming and/or to collective investment**;** – the purchase of land for up to 10 % of the total eligible costs of the operation concerned related to the main activity of the project; – the purchase of buildings for up to 10 % of the total eligible costs of the operation concerned related to the main activity of the project.
Ineligible costs:	Support is also not eligible for basic agricultural investments - the purchase of machines, except those intended for social farming and those related to collective investments, as well as for expenditure under point 14.2.1. of the Conditions for application to procedure № BG06AFSP001-01.001 under intervention 'Implementation of operations, including cooperation activities and their preparation, selected within the framework of the local development strategy' of the Strategic Plan for Agriculture and Rural Development of the Republic of Bulgaria for the period 2023-2027.
Ineligible activities:	According to point 13.4. of the Conditions for applying to procedure № BG06AFSP001-01.001 under intervention 'Implementation of operations, including cooperation activities and their preparation, selected within the framework of the local development strategy' of the Strategic Plan for Agriculture and

	Rural Development of the Republic of Bulgaria for the period 2023-2027. **Definitions:** **Social farming:** All activities using agricultural resources to promote or develop social services in rural areas such as rehabilitation, therapy, sheltered employment*, lifelong education and other activities that contribute to social inclusion. Social farming includes the following four main types of activities - rehabilitation and therapy; work inclusion and social integration; education; care for people. Protected *employment - an environment in which people with disabilities receive services and training to develop work skills and behaviour, and which is safe and not competitive.* **Collective investment:** Investments by two or more natural or legal persons who have registered a legally established structure under the Commerce Act, the Cooperatives Act or the Obligations and Contracts Act, which is established for the joint purchase and use of tangible assets for agricultural activities in accordance with Article 73 of Regulation (EU) 2021/2115.
Financial parameters of the projects:	Minimum total eligible costs per project – BGN 30 000 Maximum total eligible costs per project: BGN 300 000
Amount of financial assistance:	The financial assistance shall amount to 50 % of the total eligible costs. Maximum grant amount: BGN 150 000
Criteria for the evaluation of projects and their weighting:	1. Project submitted by an applicant who has been active for at least 24 months at the time of application – **15 points** 2. Project activities are implemented in less-favoured areas (Gaberovo, Dabnik, Laka) – **10 points** 3. Project proposals with investments that ensure the protection of the components of the environment

	through the production of sustainable energy from renewable sources for self-consumption - **10 points** 4. Support for projects, the implementation of which leads to the creation of at least 1 workplace - **10 points** 5. The project proposal includes activities related to social farming and/or collective investments - **10 points** 6. Projects of applicants who have not received EU aid in the 2014-2020 programming period - **10 points** 7. Project submitted by a female or a young entrepreneur – **15 points** 8. Project proposals targeting the fruit and vegetables sector and/or the livestock sector - **10 points** 9. The project envisages investments for the production of organic products – **10 points** **Maximum points: 100** **Threshold to pass – 30** In the event that two or more project proposals receive an equal total number of points and in the absence of sufficient financial resources, these projects will be consistently prioritised/classified according to the following criteria: - Criterion 3: Project proposals with investments that ensure the protection of the components of the environment through the production of sustainable energy from RES for own consumption; - for criterion 4: Support for projects, the implementation of which leads to the creation of at least 1 job; - according to criterion 2. The project activities are implemented in the scope of disadvantaged areas (Gaberovo, Dabnik, Laka).