

Bosnia and Herzegovina

PROGRESS REPORT¹

on recent developments regarding S&T cooperation in/with the WBC (1st half 2011 or November 2010 / Besci - May 2011 / Ohrid)

1 Policy actions

Bosnia and Herzegovina has nominated representatives to the FP7 Program Committees.

IPA 2009 project on institutional capacity development of the research and innovation centres in BiH is in the implementation phase since the beginning of 2011.

2 Legislative initiatives - development of the legal and strategic framework

The draft Strategy for Science Development in the Federation of BiH 2011-2021 is now completed. In this draft version of the document in the second half of this year it is envisaged that the law on the system and the development of science policy in the Federation BiH will be adopted.

3 Important events, meetings, training activities, etc.

In Banja Luka on 31 March was organised the first workshop in the framework of the pilot project 'Triple Helix' – partnerships among research community, business sector and public administration for the sector "Food". The workshop gathered 100 participants from Bosnia and Herzegovina - including international experts - with the aim to convey the best practices on cooperation within the 'triple helix' of public-private-research communities in BiH. Second workshop within this project is organised in Mostar on 19th of May. Approximately 20 ideas for partnerships were discussed. The project intends to select the best 3 ideas for technical assistance. The Triple Helix pilot project has an objective to strengthening the links between research and business sector and to encourage SMEs to invest in research and innovation. It is jointly implemented by the Ministry of Civil Affairs and the OECD Investment Compact for South East Europe (OECD IC), and is part of the Regional Competitiveness Initiative (RCI), supported by the European Commission and the Government of Flanders.

¹ The progress reports are collected in preparation of the meetings of the Steering Platform on Research for the Western Balkan Countries and will be provided for download from the WBC-INCO.Net homepage (www.wbc-inco.net) about one week before the meeting takes place. Therefore please submit your report to office@zwbc-inco.net until May 15, 2011.

Ministry of Civil Affairs with the support of the Austrian Development Agency organized the Info Day on research in transport on March 17th 2011 in Sarajevo. This event was an opportunity for local researchers to hear about future research opportunities and calls in the field of transport within the FP7. Researchers were also introduced to the workshop „SEETRANS 2011“ (Transport Research Opportunities for South East Europe in the EU) which took place in Ljubljana, Slovenia, on 12th and 13th April 2011.

Several Info days on FP7, EUREKA and COST were organised at the universities in the country: on 21st April and 17th May in Banja Luka, on 2nd May at the University of „Džemal Bijedić“ in Mostar, on 10 May at the University of Zenica.

The Ministry of Civil Affairs of Bosnia and Herzegovina and the Directorate for European Integration of Bosnia and Herzegovina organised EUREKA info day on 1 February 2011 in Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina.

The Agency for Information Society of the Republika Srpska in cooperation with the EU Directorate General for Information Society and Media (DG INFSO), organized info-day on Information and communication technology within the FP7.

4 Development of international cooperation and actions on integration into ERA

Within the frame of PEOPLE programme Bosnia and Herzegovina's academic institutions are implementing the project „Development of Bosnia and Herzegovina's Network of Mobility Centres (BAMONET)“ with main aim to establish EURAXESS network in this Western Balkan country. The Bridgehead organization is University of Banja Luka and its EURAXESS Centar BiH.

The promotion of BiH EURAXESS network and its activities is planned for the end of May 2011 in Banja Luka, where we expect participation of other EURAXESS colleagues from Western Balkan region at the event called „Researchers' Mobility Day in Bosnia and Herzegovina“.

5 Statistics - major changes / updates of relevant statistical data

European Commission's project the 'Capacity building and institutional strengthening of Science and Research in BiH' (Sept. 2009 – August 2010) provided a basis for improved policy-making in STI field. The main deliverable of this project is the Manual on Science, Technology and Innovation Statistics in BiH, which contains recommendations for the establishment of STI statistics in BiH. The Council of Ministers of BiH has used this document to launch activities which will develop methodology in accordance with the EUROSTAT standards for STI data collection and for production of the statistics in the STI field.

Institute of Statistics of the Republic of Srpska carried out a statistical research in the field of science and research in Republic of Srpska. Results of this research have served as a basis for a strategy development on STI in RS.