

BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA

PROGRESS REPORT¹

**on recent developments regarding S&T cooperation in/with the WBC
(1st half 2012 or - November 2011 / Sarajevo till June 2012 / Tirana)**

1 Policy actions

In 2012 the Ministry of Civil Affairs of Bosnia and Herzegovina (MCA) will support innovation activities by means of grant totalling 135 000 BAM (app. 70.000 euro).

The MCA will also support the preparation of FP7 projects approved by the European Commission, projects in the application stage related to all FP 7 specific programmes and themes, and present or future scientific and research projects in the framework of COST and EUREKA by means of grants totalling 200.000 BAM (app.102.000 euro) in 2012.

The MCA prepared the Project Identification Fiche (PIF) for the IPA programme 2012 and IPA 2013. This project has the aim to implement some of the priorities of the Innovation Union in BiH.

Contract regarding the implementation of the IPA 2010 project is expected to be signed by September 2012. This project will contribute to the capacity building of researchers from BiH to participate in European Research and Technology Development (EU RTD) programmes and initiatives. Project will have two components: 1) Training for writing and implementation projects for FP 7, COST and EUREKA programmes and 2) Media campaign about possibilities of programmes FP7, COST and EUREKA.

Entities in Bosnia and Herzegovina:

- Ministry of Science and Technology of the Republic of Srpska prepared the Draft Strategy of Scientific and Technological Development of the Republic of Srpska for 2012 -2016. Adoption of this document by the Parliament of the RS is expected in summer 2012.
- Ministry of Education and Science of the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina prepared final version of the Strategy of Development and Research for 2012- 2022. The Government of the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina adopted the draft proposal of the Strategy and submitted it to the final adoption to the Parliament of the FBiH.

Ministry of Education and Science of the Federation BiH will support by means of grant the following research and scientific activities in 2012:

- publishing of scientific books and university textbooks

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@wbc-inco.net until June 5, 2012.

- publishing of magazines (both scientific and magazines for popularization of science)
- organization of scientific conferences
- organization of professional conferences
- support to technical culture and innovation
- promotion of scientific work
- procurement of foreign scientific journals
- financing the access to the international data base (Web of Science, Journal Citation Reports, Conference Proceedings Citation Index, Current Contents Connect, Medline, EndNote Web)

Total budgetary resources for the field of science which will be allocated through the Federal Ministry of Education and Science in 2012 amounts to 3 million BAM (app. 1.5 mil euro).

2012 budget of the Republic of Srpska for science and technology amounts to 4.4 million BAM (2.25 mil euro). This budget will be distributed on

- scientific -research activities,
- technology
- the Agency for Information Society
- SARNET
- the Academy of Sciences and Arts of the Republic of Srpska
- Fund "Dr. Milan Jelic".

2 Legislative initiatives - development of the legal and strategic framework

- Law on Scientific and Technological Development Activities of the Republic of Srpska was adopted („Official Gazette of RS“ No. 6/12);

3 Important events, meetings, training activities, etc.

- May 2012: OECD and the Ministry of Civil Affairs organized InnoBiH conference in Sarajevo in the framework of the "Triple Helix Partnerships" between academia, business and local government. In 2011, three concrete and innovative partnership projects have been selected to receive support in the implementation of their project proposals. The conference presented the activities undertaken and final results of each project, as per following:

- 1) "Introduction Omega-3 eggs on the BiH market" (a partnership between: Biotechnical Faculty at the University of Bihac, Posavina Koka d.o.o. and the Food Safety Agency)
- 2) "Processing field peas into pea proteins, starch and cellulose fractions" (a partnership between: Entrepreneurial Center at the University of Banja Luka, RS SME Development Agency and HPK A.D. d.o.o.)
- 3) "Organic disinfection product" (a partnership between: KIKO d.o.o., Veterinary Faculty at the University of Sarajevo, and the RS Ministry of Science and Technology)

- Ministry of Civil Affairs of Bosnia and Herzegovina with the support of the Austrian Development Agency organized the following Info days:

- Info Day HEALTH, in cooperation with the Clinical Center of Sarajevo University, April 2012, 86 participants;
- Info Day MOBILITY, in cooperation with the University of Sarajevo, May 2012, 90 participants.
- Workshop WRITING PROJECTS, in cooperation with the University of Banja Luka, May 2012.

During the reporting period the meetings with the appointed NCPs and designated focal points for the FP7 program were regularly organized.

4 Development of international cooperation and actions on integration into ERA

- In the framework of scientific and technological cooperation between Bosnia and Herzegovina and the Republic of Slovenia 28 joint research projects were approved for period 2012-2013;
- In the framework of scientific and technological cooperation between Bosnia and Herzegovina and Montenegro 15 joint research projects were approved for period 2012 – 2013

5. Statistics - major changes / updates of relevant statistical data

Institute of Statistics of the RS published two Annual Releases containing statistical data on:

1. Innovation activity of enterprises referring to the period 2008–2010 “ (Annual Report No.126/11)
2. Research and Development Statistics in 2010, (Annual Report No. 219/11)

Appendix: additional data

Federal Ministry of Education and Science (FMES) prepared “Information about the state of art of FBiH in the context of the international scientific and technological cooperation”, which was adopted at the 29 session of the Government of Federation BiH.

FMES in cooperation with the BiH National and University Library prepared the *Collection of Abstracts of Papers during period 2001-2008* which is a result of the scientific research publishing projects financed by the FMES.