

KOSOVO

PROGRESS REPORT¹

on recent developments regarding S&T cooperation in/with the WBC (December 2012 / Belgrade till June 2013 / Budva)

1 Policy actions

(e.g. essential changes in the political authorities, administrative bodies, agencies, institutions, personnel, development/launch of new national funding programmes, etc.)

- The Ministry of Education, Science and Technology in cooperation with ministry of Trade and Industry, and Ministry of Economic Development and in consultation at large with other stakeholders drafted the National Innovations Strategy 2013-2020, with support of OECD and funds of European Commission;

2 Legislative initiatives - development of the legal and strategic framework

- The Law on Scientific Research of the Republic of Kosovo was revised during 2012/2013 and adopted in Parliament in 2013;
- The Ministry of Educaiton, Science and Technology started in 2013 the amendment of Higher Education Law;

3 Important events, meetings, training activities, etc.

- During 14-17 May 2013 the Regional/international Conference “The Science Week” was held supported and organized by Ministry of Education, Science and Technology, with participation of around 500 scientists from Kosovo and countries from region;
- With funds from IPA the ESSle Research Training Program - "Winter School module" implemented between 11-16 February 2013 in Prishtina with participation of 40 scholars/researchers from social sciences from Kosovo in Research Design, Qualitative Research Methods, Quantitative Research Methods, Project Management and Project Economics;
- With funds from IPA the Empirical Social Sciences Laboratory (ESSL) was established at the Institute of Social Sciences and Humanities of the University of Prishtina;

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 May 29, 2013.

4 Development of international cooperation and actions on integration into ERA

(e.g. new bilateral/international agreements, memberships, support structures, important international projects, programmes, etc.)

- 12 Research collaborative projects for regional cooperation awarded in the framework of HigherKOS project, with participation of 13 research institutions from Kosovo, 12 from Austria, 9 from Albania, 3 from Macedonia, 1 from Croatia, and 1 from Montenegro;
- In the framework of HigherKOS project 12 PhD Kosovar candidates supported to accomplish their studies in Austrian Universities;
- With support of HigherKOS project five partnerships were established between Higher Education Institutions from Kosovo and those from Austria with the purpose of collaboration in study programs, research projects, exchange of academic staff and students, and so on;
- In the framework of CEEPUS Program during 2013 (until end of May) were supported 11 incoming mobilities of foreign academic staff and students to Kosovar Higher Education Institutions, and 10 outgoing Kosovar students and academic staff in other countries;
- From the National Research Program the following activities were supported:
 - 20 PhD Kosovar excellent candidates who are completing their studies in other countries;
 - 36 short-term outgoing mobilities of Kosovar research community;
 - 20 scientific publications;
 - 9 small-scale research projects
 - 6 research awards, three for senior researchers and 3 for early-career researchers;
 - Payment of access for Kosovar research institutions in international electronic databases/libraries (EPSCO);

5 Statistics - major changes / updates of relevant statistical data

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6 Assessment of the developments and outlook on the next 6 months

(Optional personal opinion)

- Proposal for Adoption of the National Innovations Strategy 2013-2020 at the Government of Kosovo;
- Organization of Kick-off for Horizon 2020 in November 2013 in Prishtina;
- Two trainings, one in summer (July) and one in Autumn (November) 2013 for research community in Kosovo with focus on advanced research designs and research methodologies, research publications and presentations and the European Research Area, incl. Horizon 2020;

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Appendix: additional data

(Delete if not applicable.)

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