

FRANCE

PROGRESS REPORT¹

on recent developments regarding S&T cooperation in/with the WBC (June 2013 / Budva until December 2013 / Zagreb)

1 Policy actions

The law on Higher Education and Research was voted by the Parliament last July, 9.

Four main objectives :

- Increase the qualification of our young people (access to job market)
- Give a new ambition for research in order to tackle global economic and social challenges and develop technology research and transfer
- Overcome research fragmentation
- Open the French higher education and research system to European and international partnerships

How ? By :

- setting up a new Strategic agenda for research and innovation
- improving better coordination between the ESR institutions using a “site” strategy or alliance
- promoting technological research, strengthening digital infrastructures, supporting transfer and innovation.

2 Development of international cooperation and actions on integration into ERA

CROATIA:

- 1- Continuation for the 2d year of the 15 new projects selected in December 2012 within the “Cogito” (Hubert Curien partnership) programme.
- 2- Cooperation with the Rudjer Boskovic Institute through 8 joint fellowships of 1 month for young scientists in the fields of nanosciences, material sciences, marine research and environment.
- 3- Organization, in June 2013, with the Rudjer Boskovic Institute, of the “MerMex” workshop (within Mistrals programme) with 40 scientists from Mediterranean region.
- 4- Support to the set up of STIM at Split University (Center for advanced Studies in science and technologies integrating Mediterranean region) in the fields of nanotechnologies, environment and renewable energies with the collaboration of Université de Lyon.

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 December 5, 2013.

5- Study visit in Aquitaine region on set-up and management of Structural Funds.

BOSNIA-HERZEGOVINA

- 1) Promotion of collect and waste recycling during the “Kid’s Fest” of Bosnia-Herzegovina in June 7 to 11.
- 2) French participation during the Science Day.
- 3) Cooperation between students from architecture and natural sciences on ‘Stolac gardens, garden of Europe’. Preparation of a summer school on environmental protection and preservation of cultural heritage.
- 4) Cooperation in social and human sciences with Sarajevo University. International seminar on “gender issue in religions”.

SERBIA

- 1) The bilateral selection committee for the “Pavle Savic” (Hubert Curien partnership) programme will meet, December 16th, in Belgrade, to select projects, in all scientific fields, to be financed during the period 2014-2015.
- 2) Within the new call for proposals cofinanced by CNRS and Serbian Ministry for Education and Science, 9 projects have been selected for 2013-2014 out of 19 proposals received.
- 3) The Institut français de Serbie has confirmed this year the priority given to young scientists for the allocation of scholarships for masters and PhDs : the new call has been launched for 6 scholarships for master’s degree and 8 for PhD in “cotutelle”.
- 5) The Institut français de Serbie has developed new actions of cooperation for the promotion of sciences : the Institut Français has a partnership with the Institute of Molecular Genetics and Genetic Engineering for the “Night of researchers” (in September).