



## Theme in Focus: "RTI capacity in WBC and capacity building opportunities"

As we have discussed in the last WBC-RTI.info newsletter, several studies so far confirmed that all WB countries need not only to increase investment in research in general but also to **further strengthen the research and innovation capacity** at national level as well as to **strengthen the administrative capacity** in order to ensure successful participation in Horizon 2020 and other national, regional and EU research funding programmes.

*"Although sustained funding remains an obvious enabler for research excellence, growing the quality and volume of human talent that carries out the research, produces the publications, wins grant income, trains the next generation of researchers and contributes to economic and societal innovation, engagement and education remains an essential element when growing a successful, sustainable university or national economy."*  
Prof. Peter W Halligan



These are some of the reasons why we focus this time on RTDI capacity and potential of WB countries that might be of interest for regional but also EU and international researchers, as well as on some capacity building opportunities for researchers from WB countries (not exclusively). Please find below some related information.

Besides, You are warmly welcome to upload any further relevant call for funding, call for papers, training and internship opportunity for young researchers, national training opportunity for administrative project staff etc.

When registered at the WBC-RTI.info, you have the opportunity to upload your content by yourself. Otherwise, you can any time provide the information via email to [office@wbc-rti.info](mailto:office@wbc-rti.info)

[Find more related articles](#)

### Related articles

#### ...CAPACITIES IN WBC...

##### SOCIAL INNOVATION POTENTIAL IN WBC |

###### NEWS | 26. NOV. 2015

WE CONGRATULATE: SIT-IN BEEKEEPING FOUNDATION APFOM FROM BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA - ONE OF THE WINNERS OF THE 2015 EUROPEAN COMMISSION SOCIAL INNOVATION COMPETITION

###### ORGANISATION | 26. NOV. 2015

SOCIAL INNOVATION LAB

##### SOCIAL SCIENCES | MANAGEMENT DISCUSSIONS

###### NEWS | 20. NOV. 2015

[EVENT REVIEW] ROUND TABLE ENTITLED "YOUNG RESEARCHERS IN SOCIAL SCIENCES: EDUCATION AND SUPPORT"

###### NEWS | 20. NOV. 2015

[EVENT REVIEW] INTERNATIONAL WORKSHOP FOR MANAGERS OF RESEARCH ORGANIZATIONS IN THE WESTERN BALKANS AND THE EU

##### RESEARCH AND INNOVATION POTENTIAL IN WBC | ONLINE DATA SOURCES

###### LINK | 26. NOV. 2015

VIRTUAL PLATFORM OF RESEARCHERS IN KOSOVO\*

###### LINK | 16. NOV. 2015

ONLINE CATALOGUE ON RESEARCH AND INNOVATION POTENTIAL OF UNIVERSITY NOVI SAD

###### LINK | 16. NOV. 2015

ONLINE CATALOGUE ON RESEARCH AND INNOVATION POTENTIAL OF UNIVERSITY KRAGUEVAC

###### LINK | 16. NOV. 2015

ONLINE CATALOGUE ON RESEARCH AND INNOVATION POTENTIAL OF UNIVERSITY IN BANJA LUKA

###### LINK | 16. NOV. 2015

ONLINE CATALOGUE ON RESEARCH AND INNOVATION POTENTIAL OF UNIVERSITY OF ZENICA

###### LINK | 16. NOV. 2015

ONLINE CATALOGUE ON RESEARCH AND INNOVATION POTENTIAL OF UNIVERSITY OF MONTENEGRO

###### LINK | 24. OCT. 2013

ACADEMLINK

#### FIND MORE INFORMATION ON CAPACITIES IN WBC | NOT YET INCLUDED? LET US KNOW!

##### RESEARCH INFRASTRUCTURES | 118 Entries

NUMBER OF (R&S), IMPORTANT RESEARCH FACILITIES AND RESEARCH EQUIPMENT IN WBC

##### PROJECTS | 218 Entries

LIST OF INTERESTING CLOSED AND RUNNING PROJECTS AND INITIATIVES

##### ORGANISATIONS | 1538 Entries

LIST OF RTI STAKEHOLDERS FROM THE REGION AND/OR CLOSE COOPERATING WITH THE REGION

#### ...OPPORTUNITIES FOR CAPACITY BUILDING...

##### ERASMUS+ | BALKAN YOUTH WINDOW

###### CALL | DEADLINE 31. MARCH. 2016

2016 ERASMUS+ CALL FOR PROPOSALS (EACIAD42015) - FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES FOR UNIVERSITIES

###### CALL | DEADLINE 02. FEB. 2016

COOPERATION WITH WESTERN BALKANS UNDER ERASMUS+ - YOUTH IN ACTION: WESTERN BALKAN YOUTH WINDOW

###### LINK | 24. NOV. 2015

CONTACT POINTS FOR ERASMUS+ - YOUTH IN ACTION IN THE WESTERN BALKANS (SUPPORT FOR PROJECT PLANNING AND IMPLEMENTATION IN EACH COUNTRY OF THE REGION)

###### DOCUMENT | 25. NOV. 2015

ERASMUS + - PRIORITIES AND POSSIBILITIES FOR COOPERATION WITH THE WESTERN BALKANS / CURRENT TRENDS AND CHALLENGES

###### NEWS | 25. NOV. 2015

[EVENT REVIEW] NETWORKING FORUM „EU-HIGHER EDUCATION COOPERATION BETWEEN GERMANY AND THE WESTERN BALKAN REGION“

###### NEWS | 23. NOV. 2015

[EVENT REVIEW] NORDIC-BALTIC CONTACT SEMINAR IN WESTERN BALKANS 2015

##### HORIZON 2020 | OTHER CALLS

###### CALL | DEADLINE 15. DEC. 2015

[EFB] FELLOWSHIP PROGRAMME FOR GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS 2015/2016

###### CALL | DEADLINE 12. JAN. 2016

[MSCA-ITN-2016 CALL] INNOVATIVE TRAINING NETWORKS

###### CALL | DEADLINE 13. JAN. 2016

[MSCA-NIGHT-2016] EUROPEAN RESEARCHERS' NIGHT

###### CALL | DEADLINE 26. JAN. 2016

CELEBRATING EUROPEAN SCIENCE (H2020 CALL)

###### CALL | DEADLINE 9. FEB. 2016

COST ACTION OPEN CALL - THE NEXT COLLECTION DATE IS 9 FEBRUARY 2016

##### SCHOLARSHIPS | GRANTS | TRAININGS

###### LINK | 25. NOV. 2015

"TRAININGS NEWS" (REGULARLY UPDATED DATABASE ON SCHOLARSHIPS, GRANTS, INTERNSHIPS, TRAININGS ETC.)

###### CALL | 25. NOV. 2015

4 YEARS FULLY FUNDED SCHOLARSHIPS AT THE EU - APPLY NOW - 150 GRANTS AVAILABLE

###### NEWS | 25. NOV. 2015

EUROPEAN UNION OFFICE INTERNSHIP IN KOSOVO\*, 2016 - OPEN TO APPLICANTS FROM EU28, DEADLINE 31.12.2015

###### CALL | 24. NOV. 2015

"BEST OF SOUTH-EAST": TRAINEE PROGRAMME OR INTERNSHIP IN GRAZ - ACADEMIC YEAR 2016/17

###### CALL | 20. NOV. 2015

EUROPEAN SOCIETY OF ENDOCRINOLOGY SCHOLARS PROGRAMME (ESP), DEADLINE: JANUARY 14, 2016

##### CALL FOR PAPERS |

###### NEWS | 25. NOV. 2015

[EVENT ANNOUNCEMENT AND CALL FOR PAPERS] 22ND ANNUAL EARMA CONFERENCE: NEW HORIZONS IN RESEARCH MANAGEMENT

###### NEWS | 25. NOV. 2015

[EVENT ANNOUNCEMENT AND CALL FOR PAPERS] SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING FOR RELIABLE ENERGY - THE 6TH INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE & WORKSHOP REMOO 2016

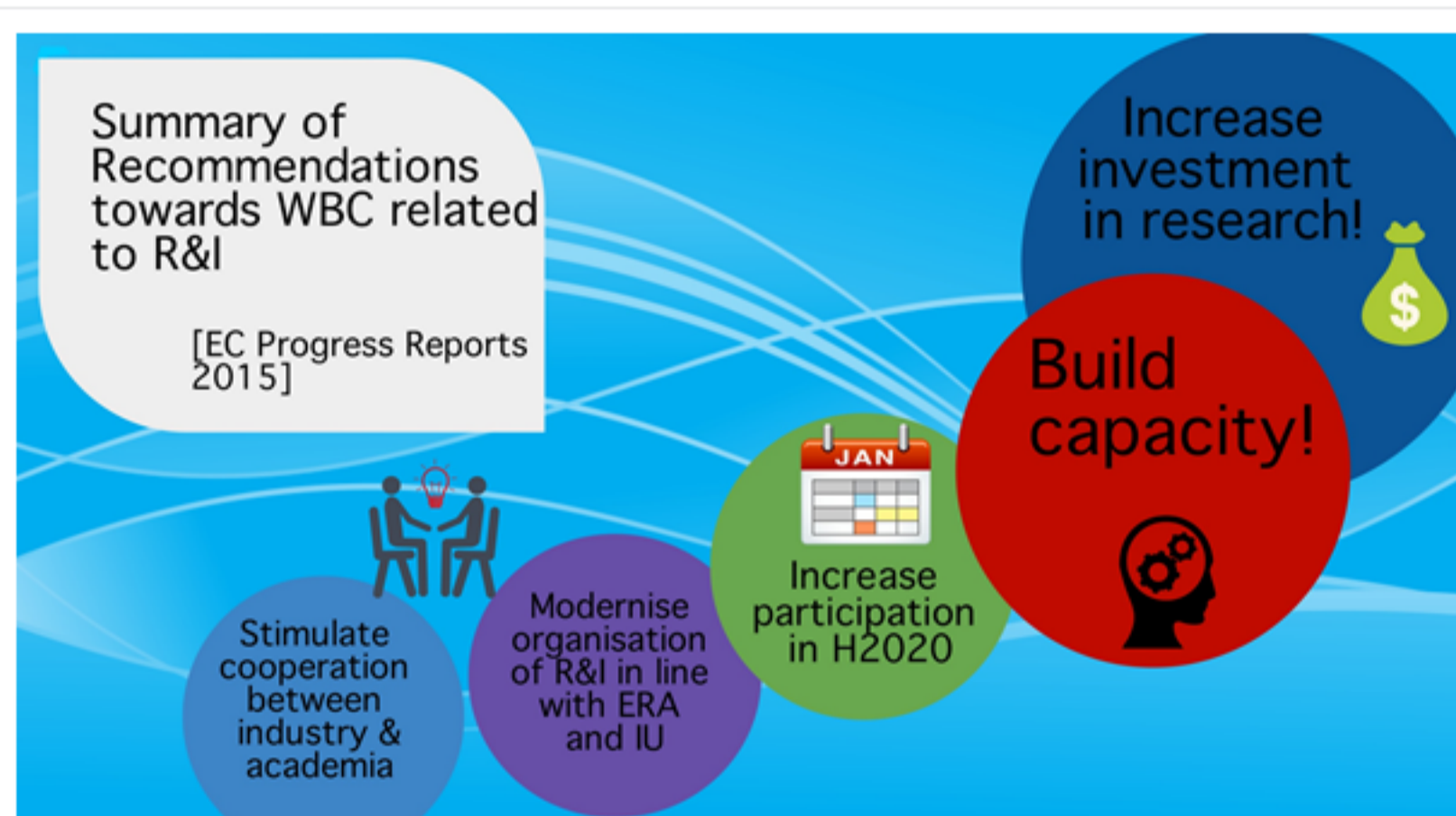
###### NEWS | 4. NOV. 2015

[EVENT ANNOUNCEMENT AND CALL FOR PAPERS] ENTERPRISE RESEARCH INNOVATION CONFERENCE (ENTRENOVA'16)

###### NEWS | 23. NOV. 2015

[EVENT ANNOUNCEMENT AND CALL FOR PAPERS] 4TH INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE "OHRD - YODICL 2016"

## "Global War for Talent" - Western Balkans continues to lose highly educated young people



It is no secret, those highly skilled individuals from Western Balkans are still leaving their home countries in search of a better life somewhere else – if they get a chance.

Also the new World Bank report on the economies of the WB countries, published in September this year warns again that the region is losing a vital part of its young and educated population and urges governments to take action to deal with the consequences. It states furthermore that while the recovery has encouraged job creation, unemployment is still very high, especially for the young. **Youth unemployment** in the region is about **45 percent**, which has not only near- and longer-term economic costs, but also social consequences.

In the discussion about the impact of highly educated migration on the economic development – two concepts prevail. One refers to brain drain as "a phenomenon that negatively impacts the sending country's human capital accumulation and fiscal revenue" thus proponents underline the need of implementing public policies targeted at restricting highly educated labor mobility while the other focuses on the "nature of highly educated Diaspora acting as a powerful force in promoting economic development through a variety of instruments, such as remittances, trade, foreign direct investment (FDI), and knowledge transfer". (Stankovic 2014).

The scholars from the region (either living in WB or abroad) repeatedly emphasize the need for structural measures in this regard and call on governments to further increase their efforts.

*"Developed countries are introducing innovative developments to attract "the best and the brightest" from around the world, while developing countries are becoming increasingly aware of the importance of human capital for their development, and are putting in efforts to retain their most educated citizens within the country's boundaries. Unfortunately, the countries of the Western Balkans, not surprisingly, behave as if they are not aware of the worldwide race for talent, and put almost no effort into either retaining their highly skilled individuals or attracting the ones from their own diasporas; despite the significant outflow of highly skilled individuals from the region."* (Nemrin Oruc)

*"To mitigate and reverse this process, the WB countries' governments should proactively foster the process of brain circulation through the adoption of a regional approach to this issue. This will provide expatriates with the opportunity to transfer their expertise and skills to the country of origin, without necessarily returning home permanently. The WB countries will gain access to the knowledge and expertise of expatriates, and to the knowledge networks that they form in the host countries."* (Bratislav Stankovic)

Now, also the national and regional strategies continuously deal with the topic of brain drain and suggest indeed concrete measures (see for example WB regional R&D strategy on innovation and its strategic goal 1.1 "Slowing down brain drain and supporting "brain gain"; investing in human capital" (p.15) and suggested "Research Excellence Fund" (p.19)).

Unfortunately, quite often national and regional strategies, action plans and initiatives are **simply not implemented** or are only partly implemented due to other pressing issues (such as currently migration). In this way, the impact of good national and even regional R&D initiatives is naturally limited.

In the end - highly educated individuals are still leaving the region and those who stay struggle in some cases for fundamental working and living conditions – as this week's protest of researchers in Serbia shows. "Naučni rad vodi u glad" ("Scientific work leads to famine") – they say and call for urgent action. (...)

[Read the full article here](#)

### WBC-RTI.info website

WBC-RTI.info website is regularly updated, in particular focusing on one selected theme per month. The last topic for this year is related to "South East European Diaspora - success stories in research and innovation" (end of December). If you are working successfully with your peers abroad - please let us know! We would love to present your story to our readers. If you have published some interesting papers you would like to share with the community, or you have some other related news or documents - please contact us.

Access to WBC-RTI.info platform is **free of charge**. All you have to do to publish your event announcements or your project news and documents is to **sign up for an account**. Do not hesitate to contact us at [office@wbc-rti.info](mailto:office@wbc-rti.info) in case of any questions.

[Information Service](#)

### Overview

#### NEWS | 3572 Entries

SELECTED NEWS, EVENT ANNOUNCEMENTS AND REVIEWS, THEMATIC ARTICLES AND INTERVIEWS ETC.

#### EVENTS | 187 Entries

SELECTED EVENTS OF RELEVANCE FOR STAKEHOLDER FROM THE WBC REGION

#### CALLS | 20 Entries

SELECTED NATIONAL AND EU CALLS FOR FUNDING OF PARTICULAR RELEVANCE FOR WB COUNTRIES

#### DOCUMENTS | 1244 Entries

COLLECTION OF RELEVANT POLICY DOCUMENTS AND STRATEGIES, ANALYTICAL REPORTS AND PRACTICAL GUIDES

#### PROJECTS | 218 Entries

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#### LINKS | 392 Entries

SELECTION OF USEFUL LINKS



The WBC-RTI.info platform acts as a source of high quality targeted information on research, technology and innovation within the Western Balkan countries (WBCs). The platform is funded by Austrian Federal Ministry of Science, Research and Economy (BWFV) and implemented by Centre for Social Innovation (ZSI).



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