

A practical example of Regional Networking in South-East-Europe

**EU-Project: Support Network for Improvement of
the Strategic Planning (SuNISP)**

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Background

- The membership in the EU is top priority for all South Eastern Europe Countries
- The reintegration of the old trans-national economic network is supported very much by the EU → it is easier than to initiate a regional co-operation in the agriculture and nutrition sector
- But: missing capacities and competencies
- Therefore the EU supports programmes to establish networks for regional and cross-border cooperation (e.g. SWG)
- Until now: most of the Agricultural Ministries are involved but none of the responsible educational institutions in the agriculture and nutrition sector of the region



Tempus Cards Projects

- Enhancing and Complementing Postgraduate Education in Balkan Countries with Emphasis on Regional Planning and Institutional Development (Skopje, Tirana, Sarajevo)
CD-JEP-15050-2000 (2001-2005)
- Reform of Agricultural Studies in Croatia (Zagreb, Osijek)
CD-JEP-17108-2002 (2003-2006)
- Institutional Evaluation of the Agricultural Universities (Novi Sad, Tirana, Prishtina)
UM-JEP-16079-2001 (2002-2004)
- Reform of Agricultural Studies (Prishtina, Tirana)
CD-JEP-17089-2002 (2003-2005)



Tempus Cards Projects

- Reform of Agricultural Higher Education in Serbia and Montenegro
(Novi Sad, Belgrad)
JEP-18069-2003 (2004-2007)
- Balkan Agri-Sector Initiative for Capacity Building
(Novi Sad, Sarajevo, Tirana, Skopje)
JEP-19027-2004 (2005-2008)
- Master's Studies in Agriculture
(Prishtina, Tirana)
JEP-19021-2004 (2005-2008)
- Building the European Food Science Education in B&H
(Sarajevo, Mostar, Banja Luka)
JEP-40035-2005 (2006-2009)



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Support Networking for Improvement of the Strategic Planning (SuNISP)

Consortium Members:

- University of Zagreb
- University of Osijek
- University of Tirana
- University of Sarajevo
- University of Prishtina
- University of Skopje
- University of Novi Sad
- University of Belgrade
- University of Montenegro
- University of Natural Resources and Applied Life Sciences (BOKU)
- Agricultural University Timisoara
- Slovak Agricultural University Nitra
- German's Rector Conference (HRK)
- University of Hohenheim



Educational institutions in agriculture and nutrition sector can be characterized by the following structural deficits and unsolved problems:

- Lack of attention to the real needs of learners
- Lack of “customer orientation” regarding stakeholder and community
- Cooperation
- Lack of human resources management
- Lack of long-term institutional vision
- Lack of realistic mid- and long-term planning
- Lack of international contacts and cooperation
- Slow student progression
- High drop-out rates during exams and long duration of studies
- Low and inadequate student participation in decision-making
- Evaluation of teaching and student support services
- Lack of management capacities for strategic planning



The project:

- Aim: Increasing of the management capacities in universities and faculties in the West-Balkan-Region

Time schedule:

- Kick-Off-Meeting in Zagreb, October 2007
- 2 study trips to Vienna, Nitra and Hohenheim (participants: decision makers, administrators, local project coordinators, staff members, students), December 2007 + January 2008
- 1st Regional Working Group Meeting in Belgrade, January 2008
- 2nd Regional Working Group Meeting in Skopje, May 2008
- Regional Conference in Novi Sad, June 2008
- 3rd Regional Working Group Meeting in Osijek, November 2008
- 4th Regional Working Group Meeting in Podgorica, January 2009
- Student Conference in Krk/Croatia, June 2009
- Final Conference in Sarajevo, July 2009



Thank you very much...

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