

Introduction to WBC-INCO.NET and its Work Package 2

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Consultation session on setting regional priorities in the field of Environment
Skopje, June 16 and 17, 2009

Overview



1. Political context
2. What is WBC-INCO.NET
3. WBC-INCO.NET Objectives
4. Work Packages
5. Current priority setting activities

1. Political context

- **Steering Platform** on research for the Western Balkan Countries: Political forum of High Level representatives, established 2006, supported by the EC and the EU Council presidency
- Members: EU 27, AC, WBC; half-yearly meetings
- Most of WBC are **associated** to FP: competition at equal footing with EU Member States, no special treatment
- **EC** is interested in supporting cooperation with WBC in priority areas of FP7 Themes
- **WBC-INCO.NET** will define **regional priorities** in some Themes and give input to Work Programmes of FP7
- **WBC-INCO.NET** will follow-up on the priorities defined (checking Work Programmes on uptake of priorities, networking activities, etc.)

2. What is WBC-INCO.NET?



- ***Coordination of Research Policies with the Western Balkan Countries***
- EU funded project under FP7
- 26 partners from 16 countries (Western Balkans, EU MS and AC)
- mainly research ministries and agencies involved
- from January 2008 until December 2011

3. WBC-INCO.NET Objectives



Aims:

- Structuring and supporting S&T political **bi-regional dialogue**
- *Developing concrete research **priorities** of mutual interest (with a special focus on FP7 Themes)*
- Supporting and transferring **know-how** to **research community** and **NCPs**,
- Enhancing production and use of knowledge based **indicators**
- Enhancing **participation of researchers** in multilateral RTD activities,
- Increasing **competitiveness** and **networking**

4. Work Packages

1. European and Regional Dialogue
- 2. Priority Setting to Structure Participation in FP7**
3. Monitoring and Analysis of S&T Cooperation
4. Building Capacities
5. Facilitating Networking and Increase Participation in FP7
6. Project Management
7. Dissemination

5. Current priority setting activities

- Methodologies and guidelines for priority setting
- **5 consultation sessions** are organised (Task 2.4):
 - *ICT* Belgrade, December 10, 2008
 - *AgroFood* Podgorica, January 15-16, 2009
 - *Health* Tirana, May 12-13, 2009
 - *Transport* Sarajevo, May 19-20, 2009
 - *Environment* Skopje, June 16-17, 2009
- Aim: define **regional research priorities** of common interest
- Preparation: consultation process in each country (background reports by experts, consultation meetings)
- Results are disseminated to EC and other stakeholders

More information at

www.wbc-inco.net



Thank you for your attention!