



State of the art of data collection and country reports, issues and obstacles

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Task 2: Assessment of research, innovation and technology transfer capacities in the agri-food sector in the WB countries

- Provide an inventory and description of all relevant agri-food research capacities, advisory and extension services, business incubators and the description of the relative strength of these capacities in the WB countries (especially research capacity);
- The role of farmers' cooperation in prompting technological and knowledge transfer and adoption. This involves analyzing the extent to which cooperation among farmers in WB countries is used to facilitate joint procurement of technology, provision of services to improve product quality, managerial support or technical assistance, credit support, etc. and explain how new technology penetrates to farm level;
- The capacity of small agri-food firms to adopt innovations and new technology, the process of adoption of innovations and new technology in practice, the process and sources used by agri-businesses in learning and acquiring knowledge and information about innovations/new technology;
- The role of business networks/clusters in promoting transfer and adoption of innovations and technology;
- The role of foreign direct investment in promoting innovation and adoption of technology in the food chains;
- The role of education system (universities, agricultural/technical schools) in facilitating innovation and technology transfer capacities in the agri-food sector;
- The role and capacity of the education system in supplying education and skills required in the labour market in agriculture particularly with respect to facilitating innovation and technology transfer in the agro-food sector;
- The state of innovation and technology transfer capacities of processing and retail companies;
- How could Horizon Europe or Structural funds or IPA play a role (e.g. funding) to contribute to the research, innovation and technology transfer capacities in the agri-food sector.

Workplan – Task 2

Task	Activity	Who	Deadline
2	Kick-off meeting	All	29-Nov
2	Draft structured interview questionnaires and country report outline	SR T2	29-Nov
2	Final structured interview questionnaires and country report outline	SR T2	13-Dec
2	Provide a per-country inventory and description of all relevant agri-food research capacities, advisory and extension services, business incubators and the description of the relative strength of these capacities in the WB countries (especially research capacity).	NE T2	31-Jan
2	Provide a summary inventory and description of all relevant agri-food research capacities, advisory and extension services, business incubators and the description of the relative strength of these capacities in the WB countries (especially research capacity).	SR T2	20-Feb
2	Contribution to the first draft interim report - including outline of further steps of project's Task 2. The interim report will be discussed at the interim meeting and will be improved with the proposals and suggestions, if any.	SR T2	15-Apr
12	Interim report	SWG	25-Apr
2	Interim meeting	All	5 – 8 May or 26 – 28 May (TBC by EC)
2	First draft country reports including assessment of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The role of farmers' cooperation in prompting technological and knowledge transfer and adoption - The capacity of small agri-food firms to adopt innovations and new technology - The role of business networks/clusters in promoting transfer and adoption of innovations and technology - The role of foreign direct investment in promoting innovation and adoption of technology in the food chains - The role of education system (universities, agricultural/technical schools) in facilitating innovation and technology transfer capacities in the agri-food sector - The role and capacity of the education system in supplying education and skills required in the labour market in agriculture particularly with respect to facilitating innovation and technology transfer in the agro-food sector - The state of innovation and technology transfer capacities of processing and retail companies - Elaboration on the potential role of Horizon Europe, Structural funds and IPA in the research, innovation and technology transfer capacities in the agri-food sector. 	NE T2	15 - May
2	Feedback to the National Experts on the first draft country reports on WB (Task 2)	SR T2	15-Jun
2	Second draft country reports	NE T2	10-Jul
2	Provide cross country synthesis report	SR T2	14-Aug
2	Final report	SWG	1-Sep
2	Final meeting	SWG, SR T2	15-Sep (TBC)

Obstacles

- Difficulties in defining the questionnaires:
 - A huge amount of different data that should be covered by the questionnaires
- Difficulties in obtaining responses to the questionnaires:
 - The questionnaires were very long and demanding,
 - Different sectors in each institution must be engaged (R&D, administrative, financial, HR, etc.) to provide the valuable data,
 - Answering the questions takes a lot of time and effort
 - No interest in institutions for such efforts
 - Personal communication and efforts to obtain responses
- The responses arrived from a small number of institutions

Obstacles

- ▶ COVID-19 pandemic declared and had a huge impact on project activities:
 - a state of emergency has been declared in most countries in the WB region ,
 - strict quarantine measures have stopped regular activities
 - most institutions organized work from home for their employees
 - the flow of information was further slowed down

The updated workplan - Task 2.

Task	Activity	Who	Original deadline	New deadline
1,2	Organization of kick-off meeting	SWG	29-Nov	
1	Draft templates for: collection of data on agri-policy measures (APM), and outline for the country case studies	SR T1	29-Nov	
2	Draft structured interview questionnaires and country report outline	SR T2	29-Nov	
1	Final templates for: collection of data on agri-policy measures (APM), and outline for the country case studies	SR T1	13-Dec	
2	Final structured interview questionnaires and country report outline	SR T2	13-Dec	
2	Provide a per-country inventory and description of all relevant agri-food research capacities, advisory and extension services, business incubators and the description of the relative strength of these capacities in the WB countries (especially research capacity).	NET 2	31-Jan	5-May
2	Provide a summary inventory and description of all relevant agri-food research capacities, advisory and extension services, business incubators and the description of the relative strength of these capacities in the WB countries (especially research capacity).	SR T2	20-Feb	22-May
1.1	Collect statistical and agricultural policy data in the respective country/territory (APM and statistical database)	NET 1	14-Apr	5-May-20
1.1	Provide a cross-country harmonised and consistent database of the support level by specific policy instrument as well as aggregated support level of the individual policy instruments by the support type following the international classification of agricultural support.	SR T1	25-Apr	##### ###
1, 2	Contribution to the first draft interim report - including preliminary results of project's Task 1.1, based on the received input from the national experts, and outline of further steps of project's Tasks 1.2, 1.3, 1.4 and 2. The interim report will be discussed at the interim meeting and will be improved with the proposals and suggestions, if any.	SR T1 & SR T2	25-Apr	##### ###
1, 2	Interim report	SWG	5-May	2-Jun
2	<p>First draft country reports including assessment of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - All relevant agri-food research capacities, advisory and extension services, business incubators and the description of the relative strength of these capacities in the WB countries (especially research capacity) - The role of farmers' cooperation in prompting technological and knowledge transfer and adoption - The capacity of small agri-food firms to adopt innovations and new technology - The role of business networks/clusters in promoting transfer and adoption of innovations and technology - The role of foreign direct investment in promoting innovation and adoption of technology in the food chains - The role of education system (universities, agricultural/technical schools) in facilitating innovation and technology transfer capacities in the agri-food sector - The role and capacity of the education system in supplying education and skills required in the labour market in agriculture particularly with respect to facilitating innovation and technology transfer in the agro-food sector - The state of innovation and technology transfer capacities of processing and retail companies - Elaboration on the potential role of Horizon Europe, Structural funds and IPA in the research, innovation and technology transfer capacities in the agri-food sector. 	NET 2	15-May	##### ###
1, 2	Organization of interim meeting	SWG	26-28 May 2020	17 - 19 June 2020

Country reports received so far

- Albania
 - Chapter 1 and additional data for other chapters
- Bosnia and Herzegovina
 - The Republic of Srpska - Complete report
 - The Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina - Complete report
- Kosovo*
 - Chapter 1
- Montenegro
 - Complete report
- North Macedonia
 - Chapter 1
- Serbia
 - Complete report

Thank you for your attention!



Interim Meeting, 26 June 2020



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