

**ONLINE WORKSHOP**  
**ON AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH AND KNOWLEDGE TRANSFER**  
**IN WESTERN BALKAN COUNTRIES**  
**23-24 NOVEMBER**  
**AGENDA**

**23 November**

**10:00-10:20 Welcome address, Presentation of the programme and objectives of the workshop**

Mr Mario Milouchev – Director, Rural development programmes I and pre-accession assistance, DG AGRI, European Commission

Mr John Bell – Director, Healthy Planet, DG RTD, European Commission

Mr Boban Ilic – Secretary-General of SWG

**1<sup>st</sup> Session – Current state of play**

Chaired by SWG – Mr Boban Ilic, Secretary-General of SWG

**10:20-10:50 Agriculture and rural development in the WB – potential, needs, gaps in research, knowledge transfer, innovation & Reflections on findings from JRC/AGRI studies on research capacity and areas of excellence for research in the WB**

Ms Dori Pavloska-Gjorgjieska, Project Manager, SWG & Ms Ankica Kondic-Spika, Institute of Field and Vegetable Crops, Novi Sad

**10:50-11:20 State of play with research, knowledge transfer and innovation in Western Balkan countries/territories**

Albania – Mr Edvin Zhllima, Agriculture University of Tirana

Bosnia and Herzegovina – Mr Sabahudin Bajramovic, Faculty of Agriculture and Food Sciences, Sarajevo & Mr Zeljko Vasko, Faculty of Agriculture, University of Banja Luka

**11:20-11:35 Break**

**11:35-12:35 State of play with research, knowledge transfer and innovation in Western Balkan countries/territories (continued)**

Montenegro – Mr Mirsad Spahic, Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development

North Macedonia – Ms Ana Simonovska and Ms Emelj Tuna, Faculty of Agricultural and Food Sciences, University St. Cyril and Methodius, Skopje, North Macedonia

Serbia – Ms Ankica Kondic–Spika, Institute of Field and Vegetable Crops, Novi Sad

Kosovo\* - Ms Mihone Kerolli Mustafa, International Business College Mitrovica

**12:35-13:35 Questions and answers, contribution from other country participants**

**24 November**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Session – EU support**

Chaired by DG AGRI – Mr Liam Breslin, Head of Unit Pre-Accession Assistance (IPARD)

**09:00-10:30 EU support on research and innovation to Western Balkans in 2014-2020 and 2021-2027 & IPARD in the Western Balkans – investments and gaps in research, knowledge transfer and innovation**

Mr Bernhard Fabianek – Senior Expert in Unit Horizon Europe Association, DG RTD, European Commission

Mr Marius Lazdinis – Deputy-Head of Unit Pre-Accession Assistance (IPARD), DG AGRI, European Commission

**A) Horizon//Bioeconomy//Widening**

Ms Kristina Bole – Policy Office in Unit Bioeconomy & Food Systems, DG RTD, European Commission

Mr Stefan Weiers – Unit Era & Country Intelligence - Widening, DG RTD, European Commission

**B) COST**

Mr Ronald De Bruin - Director of the COST Association

**C) BIOEAST**

Mr Barna Kovacs – BIOEAST Secretary General

**D) EIP**

Mr Marc Duponcel – Head of Sector in Unit Research and Innovation – Research Sector, DG AGRI, European Commission

**10:30-11:10 2 Best examples from the EU countries**

Ireland - Dr Tom Kelly, Director of Knowledge Transfer in Teagasc

Lithuania - Prof. Dr. Antanas Maziliauskas, Chancellor at Vytautas Magnus University Agriculture Academy

**11:10-11:40 Questions & Answers**

**11:40-11:55 Break**

**3<sup>rd</sup> Session – Future perspectives**

Chaired by DG RTD - Mr Bernhard Fabianek, Senior Expert in Unit Horizon Europe Association

**11:55-12:25      Enhancement of research, knowledge transfer and innovation capacities in the region**

Ms Floor Geerling-Eiff - Innovation- and Risk Management and Information Governance, Wageningen Economic Research

**12:25-13:05      2 Examples of effective collaboration by agricultural researchers from the Western Balkans**

Serbia – Ms Kristina Petrović, Assistant Director for Science, Institute of Field and Vegetable Crops, Novi Sad

Montenegro – Prof. Dr. Božidarka Marković, Dean of the Biotechnology Faculty at the University of Montenegro & Dr. Sanja Radonjic, Vice-Dean of the Biotechnology Faculty at the University of Montenegro

**13:05-14:05      The way forward - Discussion on ways how to improve research, innovation and knowledge transfer capacity in Western Balkans during the EU pre-accession period**

Mr Colin Wolfe – Head of Unit Western Balkans Regional Cooperation and Programmes, DG NEAR, European Commission

**14:05-14:15      Conclusions by DG AGRI and SWG**

Mr Boban Ilic – Secretary-General of SWG

Mr Liam Breslin - Head of Unit Pre-Accession Assistance (IPARD), DG AGRI, European Commission