



**ONLINE CROSS-COUNTRY MEETING
ON AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH, INNOVATION AND
TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER IN THE WESTERN BALKANS:
TOWARDS POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS**

Bosnia and Herzegovina - **The Republic of Srpska**

Željko Vaško

University of Banja Luka

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Case studies of RITT identified during interviews with experts

- 1) Stacking of ecosystem services: mechanisms and interactions for optimal crop protection, pollination enhancement, and productivity (project under HORIZON 2020 programme);
- 2) Inventory and genotyping of autochthonous breed of Gatacko cattle;
- 3) Creating a new maize hybrid (BL-43) adapted to local conditions;**
- 4) CARPO reporting and forecasting software based on ICT for giving advice for the use of pesticides in the field of control of plant diseases and pests in fruit growing, vegetables and crop production;
- 5) “SINERGIA” programme for strengthen cooperation between scientific research community and business sector.
- 6) AgroLIFE - Digitization of municipal land management;



Summary of the innovation case

- Innovation:
Domestic maize hybrid BL 43
(as a result of many years of research);
- Holder of innovation:
Public institution **Agricultural Institute of the Republic of Srpska**, Banja Luka, institution that deals with the creation of new varieties and hybrids of cultivated plants in the Republic of Srpska and Bosnia and Herzegovina;
- Type of innovation:
Product innovation (patent – protected new plant variety and propagation rights);



Significance and results of research

- Maize as a plant species No. 1 in the Republic of Srpska (about 138,000 ha or 43% of the total sown area);
- Any increase of maize yield and finding hybrids tolerant to drought and adjusted to local climatic conditions is imperative for increasing productivity and survival of small farms whose income and profit largely depend on results in maize production.
- The Agricultural Institute has a long tradition (more than 60 years) in plant selection and breeding and has own gene bank.
- The institute conducting a large number of different experiments.
- One of the research results is the recognition of three new Banja Luka hybrids of corn, among which was the BL-43 hybrid in 2013.



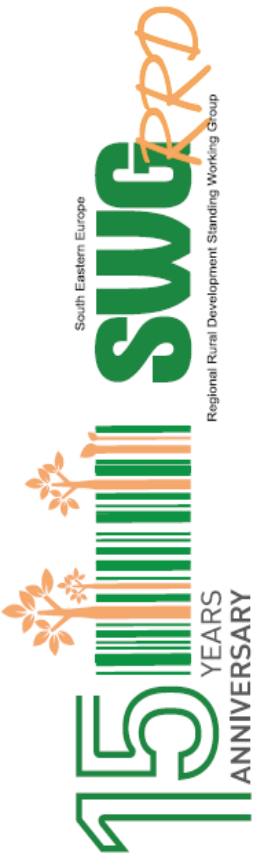
Actors involved in RITT and their role(s)

Actors	Type of actor	Sector	Role(s)
PI Agricultural Institute of the Republic of Srpska, Banja Luka	Scientific-Research Institution	Public	Research and invention of innovation
Ministry of Science and Technology of the Republic of Srpska	Public authority - Sponsor	Public	Financial support to research projects
Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Water Management of the Republic of Srpska	Public authority - Institutional verifier	Public	Recognition of a new hybrid variety and its official confirmation through the commission for recognition of new varieties
Seed distributors	Intermediators	Private	Mediation in the acceptance and difusion of innovation
Farmers	Users of innovationn	Private	Use of hybrid maize seed in mercantile maize production for animals and humans



Strengths versus Weaknesses

Strengths	Weaknesses
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• scientific research potential of the institute (human and material);• desire for self-affirmation;• success in adaptation of hybrids to domestic agroecological conditions;• own visual identity of the product;• special packaging design (recognition, traceability, protection against counterfeiting, etc.);• own marketing campaign.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• insufficient financial resources;• limited land and technical capacity;• obsolete equipment in the seed multiplication center;• dependence of seed distributors.



Opportunities versus Threats

Opportunities	Threats
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• interest for local products;• financial support to scientific research;• media support and space given to domestic research;• existence of conditions for protection of intellectual property;• subsidizing domestic seeds;	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• strong competition of maize hybrid seeds from abroad (about 15 multinational and regional companies);• new genetics and new hybrids (higher yield and improved characteristics, drought tolerance, selection for different purposes, etc.);• aggressive advertising and promotion of competitors;• climate change;



Ways to overcome Weaknesses and Threats

Weaknesses	Treats
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• insufficient financial resources;• limited land and technical capacity;• obsolete equipment in the seed multiplication center;• dependence of seed distributors;	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• strong competition of maize hybrid seeds from abroad (about 15 multinational and regional companies);• new genetics and new hybrids (higher yield and improved characteristics, drought tolerance, selection for different purposes, etc.);• aggressive advertising and promotion of competitors;• climate change;



Ways to overcome Weaknesses and Threats



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