

Study on the research, innovation and technology transfer capacities and on the recent agricultural policy developments in the context of the EU approximation process in the pre-accession countries (ARAPD)

**June 26th, 2020
Online meeting**

Study on the research, innovation and technology transfer capacities

Kosovo Case

Prof. Dr. Mihone Kerolli-Mustafa



Content

- Introduction
- The strength of all relevant agri-food research capacities in the WB countries
- The capacity of small agri-food firms to adopt innovations and new technology
- The role and capacity of the education system in supplying education and skills required in the labor market in agriculture
- The role of other relevant stakeholders in agri-food sector in prompting technological and knowledge transfer and adoption
- The role of Horizon Europe or Structural funds or IPA in contributing to the research, innovation and technology transfer capacities in the agri-food sector

SWG
KRD

Introduction

- The agriculture sector is the sector of great importance in the Kosovo overall economy.
- Currently, it contributes with 13.5% to gross domestic product.
- Kosovo has put in place elements of a legislative framework in research.
- The main challenges remain the implementation, allocation of financial resources and adequate capacities and knowledge in research and innovation.

Legal framework for research in Kosovo

National Research Programme 2017-2021 of Kosovo addresses the:

- Development of the human capacity for research activities
- Development of research infrastructure
- Internationalization of scientific research activity
- Strengthening the links between science and society and economy for enhancing economic and social development
- Enhancing the excellence in research and scientific activity

Background: the research situation in Kosovo

- **Assembly of Kosovo** adopts the R&I legislation as well as approves policy and financial documents
- **Ministry of Education, Science and Technology (MEST)** is responsible for the development of the scientific research and higher education system and the promotion of technological development.
- **Kosovo Academy of Science and Arts (ASHAK)**
- **National Research Council (NRC)**
- **Scientific Innovation Council (SIC)**

Legal Basis:

- Education Strategic Plan 2017-2021
- Law on Scientific Research Activities 04/L-135
- Law (No. 06/L-049) on Scientific Innovation and Transfer of Knowledge and Technology
- Law (No.04/L-037) on Higher Education in the Republic of Kosovo
- Law (No. 2004/ 19) on Academy of Science and Arts of Kosovo

The organization of the national RI system

ASSEMBLY OF KOSOVO

COMMITTEE FOR EDUCATION, SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, INNOVATION AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP

GOVERNMENT OF KOSOVO

Policy making Institutions

MINISTRY OF EDUCATION, SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

KOSOVO ACADEMY FOR SCIENCE AND ART

NATIONAL SCIENCE COUNCIL

MINISTRY OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

SCIENTIFIC INNOVATION COUNCIL

MINISTRY OF INNOVATION AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP

Policy Implementation institutions

Dep. HEST
Div. ST
Div. ITT
Div. ICHES

NATIONAL SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH AGENCY

SCIENTIFIC COUNCIL OF MEST

COUNCILS OF SCIENTIFIC FIELDS

Dep. Of INNOVATION

DONORS PROJECTS

Financing instruments

MINISTRY OF FINANCE

INTERNATIONAL RESEARCH AND INNOVATION PROGRAMS

INNOVATION FUND

RI performers

KOSOVO ACADEMY FOR SCIENCE AND ART

PUBLIC RESEARCH INSTITUTIONS

HIGHER EDUCATION INSTITUTIONS

OTHER RI INSTITUTIONS

SMEs

MANUFACTURING DEVELOPMENT INSTITUTIONS

Supportive institutions

Business-technological incubators

Scientific-technological Park

Scientific innovation accelerators

Innovation Center Kosovo

Regional Innovation and Entrepreneurship Centers

Red dotted lines show RI bodies that aren't functional or not established yet

Source: HERAS Report, 2019.

Funding situation

- Article 5 of the Law on SRA, specifies that “ for providing the conditions and necessary means for scientific-research activity, the GoK allocates zero-point seven percent (0.7 %) of the local annual budgeted.
- “Innovation Fund” grant scheme dedicated to innovative ideas with potentials for export and employment creation for micro, small and medium sized enterprises (MSMEs). The maximum amount of grant is €50,000

Other donor projects:

- European Research Framework for Research and Innovation, Horizon
- COST Program
- Regional Cooperation Council / South East Europe 2020 strategy
- Western Balkans Regional R&D Strategy for Innovation
- Erasmus + Program
- CEEPUS (Central European Exchange Program for University Studies)

SME RRD

The strength of all relevant agri-food research capacities in the WB countries

- In Kosovo, the main institutions that are dealing with agriculture research are:
- The Ministry of Agriculture Forestry and Rural Development (MAFRD)
- The Ministry of Education Science Technology and Innovation (MESTI)
- The Kosovo Agriculture Institute in Peja and
- The Universities

The capacity of small agri-food firms to adopt innovations and new technology

- The MAFRD is currently redefining the role of the Kosovo Agriculture Institute in Peja with the aim of transforming it into a centre of excellence for technology, training and advisory services.
- The capacity of small agri-food firms is supported by several donors projects in order to strengthen the research institute capacity for the planning, implementation and management of research programmes with specific emphasis on adaptive agriculture research and technology assessment and transfer as well as the capacities of universities dealing mostly with research.

The role and capacity of the education system in supplying education and skills required in the labor market in agriculture

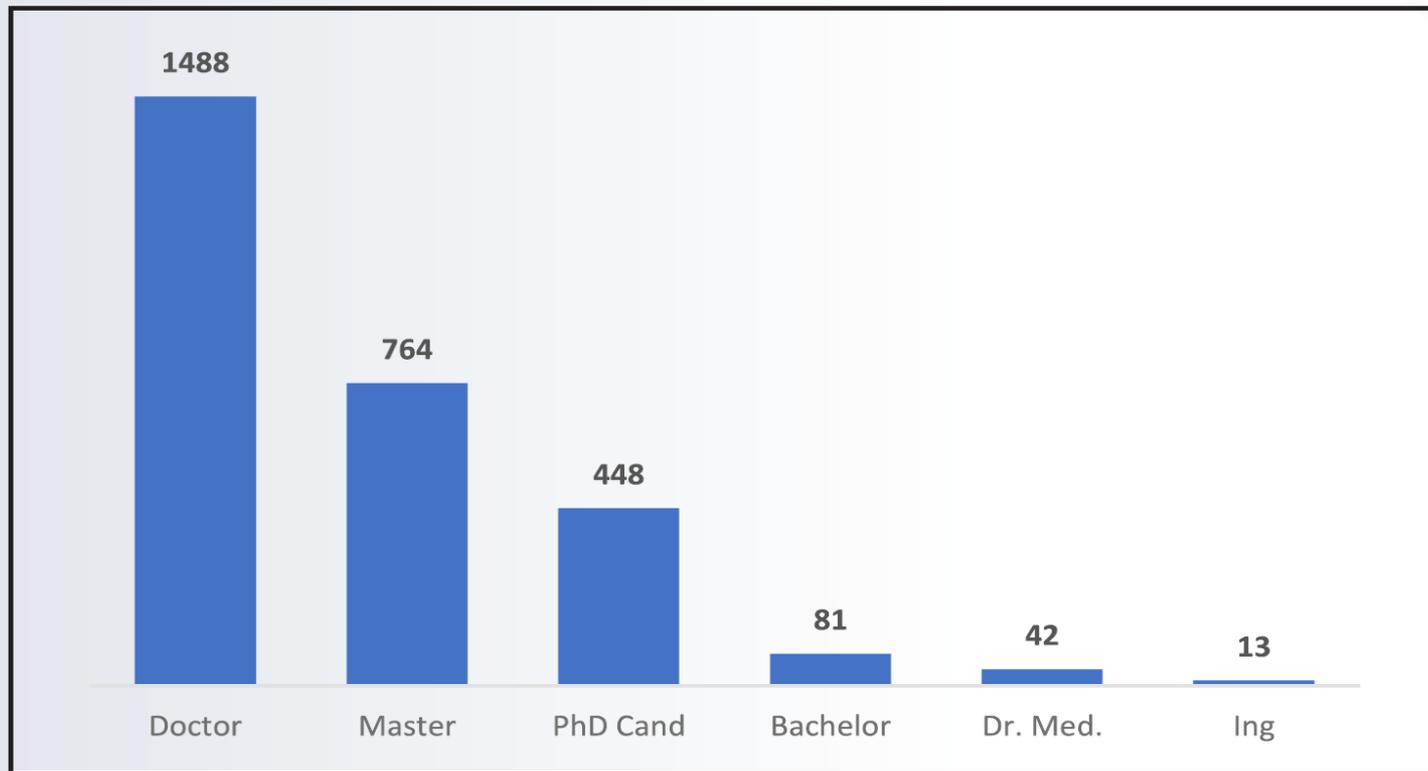
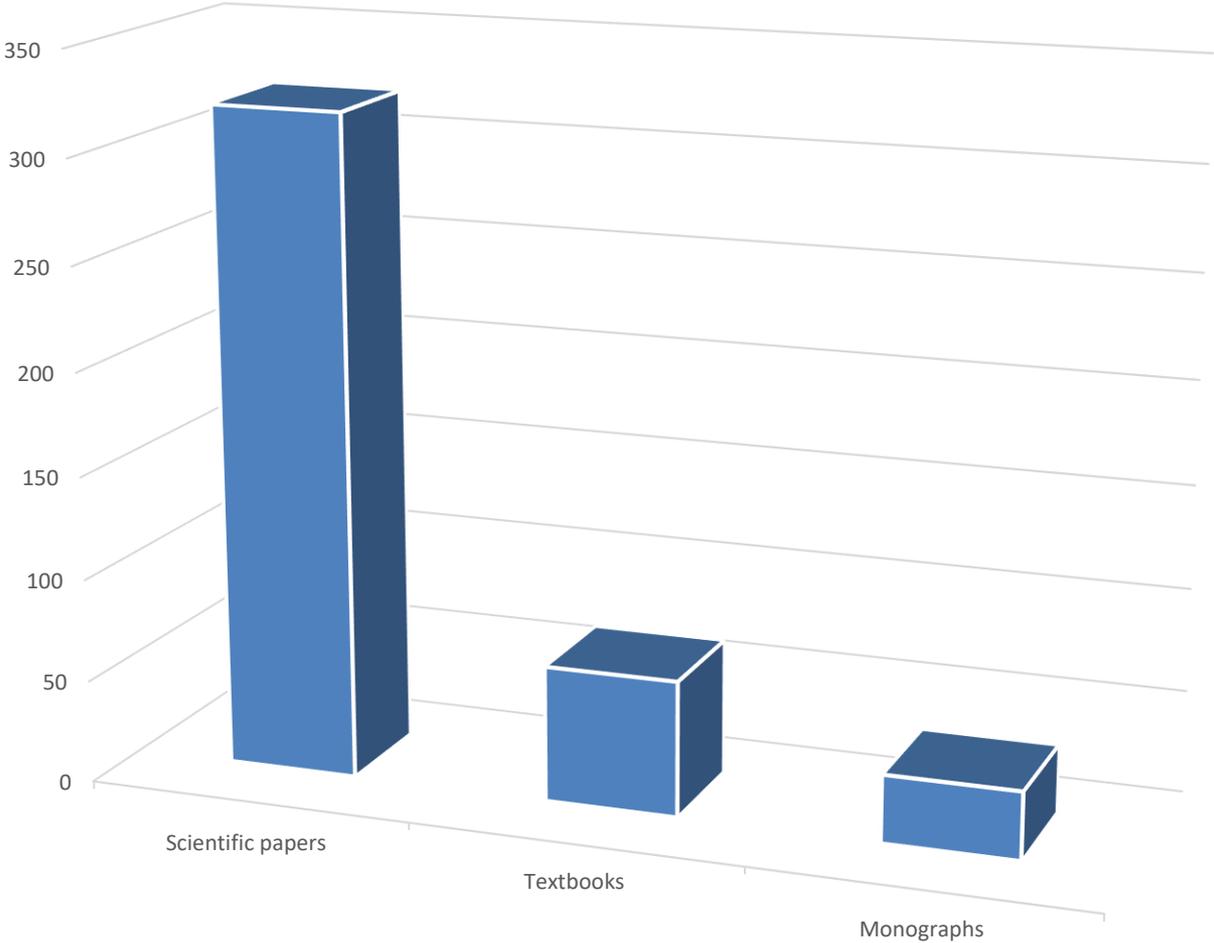


Figure 1. Number of employed researchers in Higher Education Institutions in Kosovo. Source: Kosovo Accreditation Agency <http://www.akreditimi-ks.org/new/index.php/en/>

Publications related to agriculture topics

Publications in Agriculture fields



The role of stakeholders in agri-food sector in prompting technological and knowledge transfer

Year of signing	Agreement	Partner	Duration
2018	Capacity Building	University of Burgundy – France	2018-2021
2018	Sustainable Forest Management	Kosova Forestry Agency	2018- 2019
2019	For cooperation in Field of Forestry	NGO “Fincha” Prizren	2019-2024
2019	Agreement for Academic Cooperation	College of Agriculture& Life Sciences of Chungnam National University, South Korea	2019- 2024
2017	Academic support	U.S Embassy in Prishtina	2017-2019
2019	Scientific - Technical	Veterinarian Faculty in Skopje, Macedonia	2019 - active
2017	Kosovo Chamber of Commerce	Partner	2017-active
2016	IADK	Partner	2016-active

The role of Horizon Europe or Structural funds or IPA in contributing to the research

Project	Type ¹	Funder(s)	Duration	Value (EUR)
Creating theory to practise centres for innovation and employment ResearchCult	Capacity Building	EU	2017-2020	1, 200,000
Western Balkans Urban Agriculture Initiative QUADIC	Capacity Building	EU	2020-2023	899,000
Theory to Practice canters for innovation and employment Heat stress and animal welfare in small-scale dairy holdings in Kosovo and Macedonia	Internationa l	Erasmus Plus	2017 - 2021	120,000
One Health Network for the Prevention of Vector-Borne Diseases around the Mediterranean and Black Sea Region	Capacity Building	EU	2020-2023	999,000
Platform for the Implementation of Risk Assessment of Pesticides in South-eastern Europe PIRAP SEE	Internationa l	Erasmus Plus	2017 - 2021	100,000
Sustainable Biosecurity by means of Diagnostic and Surveillance of CCHF Virus in Kosovo 2017-2019	Internationa l	HERAS Austria	2019 - 2021	N/A
Possibilities of race improvement of domestic fleece shorts with Virtemeberg sheep	Internationa l	European Comision FP7	2019 - 2021	N/A
Capacity Building	Internationa l	European HORIZON 2020	2018 - 2021	N/A
Erasmus+: Higher Education-International Capacity Building (STEPS)	Internationa l	Hamburg, Germany	2017 – 2019	N/A
Capacity Building in Higher Education	National	MEST	2019	10,000
	Internationa l Funded	French Government	2018-2020	Scholarship
	MSc in Sustainable Food Production Systems	ERASMUS +	36 months	107,507
	“Western Balkans Urban Agriculture	ERASMUS +	36 months	120,219

Conclusions and recommendations

In general, the development of agriculture research shows little progress, mainly in the objectives of strengthening capacity building and increasing the budget. As well as:

- Institutional set up improvements
- Research Policy improvements
- Empowering local stakeholders involved in agriculture research
- Capacity Building