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The Fifth Interim Meeting of the Regional Expert Advisory Working Group - REAWG on Organic Agriculture within the "Agriculture Policy Dialog Germany - Western Balkan" Project

**14th – 16th June 2023 Mostar,
Bosnia and Herzegovina**

PROGRAMME

(TOPICS: ORGANIC AGRICULTURE, LEGAL HARMONISATION, TRANSPOSITION, CERTIFICATION, ORGANIC MARKET DEVELOPMENT)

- Arrival of participants in Hotel Mostar in Mostar

Wednesday 14th June 2023

***Balkan Food Summit
(venue: hotel "Mostar")***

14:00 – 14:10 Introduction to the program

Significance of the transformation of the food system and possibilities from a transformation theory perspective

14:10 – 14:30 *Mr. Alexander Schrode, NAHhaft, Germany (online address)*
(<https://www.nahhaft.de/ueber-uns/team/alexander-schrode>)

The Slow Food Movement

14:30 – 14:50 *Ms. Dessislava Dimitrova, Associate professor at the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences, Coordinator of Slow Food in Sofia, Bulgaria (online address)*
(<https://globalvoices.org/author/dessidim3010/>)

Transformation of food systems and an innovative gastronomy approach for sustainable Western Balkans rural development

14:50 – 15:20 *Prof.Dr. Natasa Kilibarda, Faculty of Tourism and Hospitality Management, Singidunum University, Belgrade, Serbia*
(<https://singidunum.ac.rs/profile/nkilibarda>)

Employing agrobiodiversity and traditional knowledge for innovative rural development in evolving Western Balkan environments

15:20 – 15:50 *Prof.Dr. Suzana Đorđević-Milošević, Environment and Sustainable Development Studies, Singidunum University, Belgrade, Serbia*
(<https://singidunum.ac.rs/profile/sjordjovicmilosevic>)

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15:50 – 16:15 *Coffee break*

Future agricultural challenges and the role of organic farming

16:15 – 16:30 *Thomas Zebunke, Organic Food Sector Unit - EU and National Regulations, International Trade in Organic Agriculture, Federal Ministry of Food and Agriculture (BMEL)*

Western Balkans local specialities for a healthy and sustainable diet

16:30 – 17:00 *Prof. Svetlana Stanisic, Environment and Sustainable Development Studies, Singidunum University, Belgrade, Serbia*

Adoption of the 3rd Balkan Rural Parliament Declaration

17:00 – 18:00 Official closing of the 3rd Balkan Rural Parliament & Balkan Food Summit

19:30 *Dinner (restaurant “Neretva”) ([restoran neretva - Search \(bing.com\)](#))*

June 15th 2023 (Thursday)

**The Fourth Interim Meeting of the REAWG on Organic Agriculture
(venue: hotel “Mostar”)**

• *Breakfast*

09:00 - 09:10 Welcome greetings **by SWG, GFA, IAK**

09:10 - 09:20 Introduction to the topics of the program meeting

09:20 - 09:40 The "Agricultural Policy Dialogue" - Progress on Climate Change Adaptation in Western Balkans
Boban Ilic, Secretary General

09:40 - 11:00 An overview of the country/territory achievement in the EU 848/2018 Regulation transposition and achievement of the work plan for 2023/2024
(Representatives of the Ministries) - tour the table

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09:40 - 09:50	Albania
09:50 - 10:10	Bosnia and Herzegovina - Federation of BiH; Republika Srpska
10:10 - 10:20	Kosovo*
10:20 - 10:30	North Macedonia
10:30 - 10:40	Montenegro
10:40 - 11:00	Serbia
11:00 - 11:30	<i>Coffee break</i>
11:30 - 11:45	Discussion and recommendations on how to speed up harmonization of domestic legislation with EU regulations in the field of organic agriculture. Moderator Mr. Branislav Raketec, Regional expert
11:45 - 12:30	Updates on organic agriculture from the EU and from Germany and Questions and Answers (Q&A) from WB countries Mr. Thomas Zebunke , Director of Agriculture and Deputy Head of Unit, Division Organic Food Sector - EU and National Legislation, International Trade in the Organic Sector, German Federal Ministry of Food and Agriculture (BMEL)
12:30 - 14:00	Lunch
14:00 - 15:30	Risk mitigation when exporting organic products to the EU market; Group certification – Latest updates and Q&A from WB countries Dr. Toralf Richter (online), Research Institute of Organic Agriculture (online)
15:30 - 16:00	<i>Coffee break</i>
16:00 - 16:20	Organic Market Development - example of the realised activities in Republika Srpska/Bosnia and Herzegovina Ms Nikolina Juric, Ministry of Agriculture of Republika Srpska
16:20 - 16:45	Summary of the first-day discussion, and introduction to the topics of the next-day program.
19:00	<i>Dinner</i>

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April 16th 2023 (Friday)

- Breakfast

- 08:00 - 08:15 Wrap-up of the day before discussion and introduction to the topics of today's program
- 08:15 – 09:15 Group discussion on Organic Agriculture Policy Developments as well as perspectives and priorities in market development of the organic sector in the Western Balkans countries
- 08:15 – 09:15 **The countries/territories representatives** - tour the table; (PPP/ another written or oral form of presentation)
Moderators Mr. Branislav Raketec, Regional expert
Mrs Mareike Brandt, International expert
- 09:15 – 10:15 EU-Imports from Third Countries: TRACES, residues and OFIS
Dr Jochen Neuendorff, Resource Protection Ltd. (GfRS, www.sicher.bio) (online)"
- 10:15 - 10:30 Closing the meeting and concluding remarks
- 10:45 Lunch (*Lunch packet*)
- 11:00 Departure of the participants
- Coffee will be served during the meeting

* This designation is without prejudice to positions on status, and is in line with UNSCR 1244/1999 and the ICJ Opinion on the Kosovo* declaration of independence