Black Sea Horizon International Workshop
“The Future of Agriculture: Grand Challenges and technological Change”

Identifying Perspective Area of S&T Cooperation between the European Union and the Black Sea Region in Sustainable Agriculture

Perspectives of cooperation in the field of agriculture and potential areas of joint research projects

Moscow, 3 March 2016
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Established in 1992

Objective to promote peace, stability and sustainable development through means of economic cooperation

**Member states:** Albania, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bulgaria, Georgia, Greece, Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Serbia, Turkey, Ukraine

**Observer states:** Austria, Belarus, Croatia, Germany, France, Egypt, Israel, Italy, Poland, Slovakia, Tunisia, USA, European Commission.
MAIN AREAS OF COOPERATION

- TRANSPORT
- ENERGY
- TRADE&ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
- INFORMATION&COMMUNICATIONS
- BANKING&FINANCE
- TOURISM
- AGRICULTURE&AGRO–INDUSTRY
- SMEs
- SCIENCE&TECHNOLOGY
Working Group on Agriculture and Agro-Industry elaborates recommendations for policy settings in the field of agriculture.

Meeting of the Ministers of Agriculture adopts guiding principles on cooperation of the Member States in the agriculture and agro-industry sector.
Among the priorities of the Working Group:

- food safety
- selection, reproduction and protection of plants,
- cooperation among agrarian research and educations institutions.
- control and surveillance for the fishing
- vine-growing and wine making
PROJECTS

“A Feasibility Study for Variable Rate Irrigation in the Black Sea region: Economical and Environmental Benefits” submitted by Greece (Lead Partner), Turkey and Bulgaria;

“Fatty liver incidence on mini dairy cow farms in the Republic of Serbia, Romania and the Republic of Moldova” submitted by Serbia (Lead Partner), Romania and Moldova
Russian Chairmanship in Office in BSEC January-June 2016

- Priorities of the chairmanship AGRICULTURE&AGRO–INDUSTRY
  - food security
  - agro–industry development
  - infrastructure of agri–food market
  - mutual food supplies
Meeting of the Ministers of Agriculture
(Moscow, 7 October, 2011)

- Joint Declaration

- simplification of export and import procedures for agricultural products

- harmonizing the labelling standards

- food quality and food safety,

- food safety

- selection, reproduction and protection of plants,

- effective management and control of the plant quarantine disease,

- protecting, storing and imploring the genetic resources of plants
“BSEC ECONOMIC AGENDA”
Towards an Enhanced BSEC Partnership

- **AGRICULTURE&AGRO–INDUSTRY**
  - increase intra-regional trade in agricultural products;
  - and enhancing the international competitiveness
  - harmonizing labeling standards;
  - availability of financial services and credits to farmers and processors,
  - cooperation in the vine-growing and wine-making sectors,
  - simplifying customs formalities and reducing waiting times at the border crossing points,
  - sustainable management of fishery resources;
  - cooperation among the reference laboratories, veterinary services and disease control agencies
  - dialogue on bio-technology methods, taking into consideration the issue of genetically modified food products and radiation control of food;
BSEC Related Bodies: PABSEC

- Reports and Recommendations
  - “Food Security in the BSEC Member States (2010)
  - Use of Genetically Modified Organisms (GMO) in the BSEC countries (2011)
  - State and prospects of Fisheries in the BSEC Member States (2014).
BSEC–FAO cooperation


- Consultations with FAO representatives, including its Director General,

- FAO Regional Conference for Europe (Antalya. 4–6 May 2016)
BSEC–EU RELATIONSHIP

- EC – observer status with the BSEC
- Black Sea Synergy
- BSEC –EU partnerships
- a flexible, practical and result–oriented cooperation
- concrete projects in priority areas, which will be further elaborated and eventually proposed to the EU side.
- BSEC–COEST Working Party
PERSPECTIVE of JOINT PROJECTS

- **PDF** the *Project Development Fund*
- **PMU** the *Project Management Unit*
- **HDF** *Hellenic Development Fund*
- **Co–financing UNDP, FAO, BSTDB.**
TOPICS AND AREAS OF JOINT RESEARCH PROJECTS

- Harmonizing the **labelling standards** for food products, as an important part of **food quality and food safety**, taking into account the obligations arising for BSEC member states in the framework of their membership in other regional and international organizations and agreements.

- Enhancing **bio-technology methods**, taking into consideration the issue of genetically modified food products and **radiation control** of food;

- Elaboration of joint regional programs for effective management and control of the plant quarantine disease.

- Optimization of the cooperation between the BSEC member states in **vine-growing** and **wine-making** sectors

- Opportunities of the joint cooperation in the fields of **fishery**, **rehabilitation of aqua- and marine culture** in the Black Sea
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