

ROMANIA

PROGRESS REPORT¹

on recent developments regarding S&T cooperation in/with the WBC
(1st half 2012 or - November 2011 / Sarajevo till June 2012 / Tirana)

1 Policy actions

(e.g. essential changes in the political authorities, administrative bodies, agencies, institutions, personnel, development/launch of new national funding programmes, etc.)

Romanian R&D and Innovation governance framework, from 2011:

- *National Authority for Scientific Research - ANCS,*
- *National Council for Scientific Research (CNCS) and National Council for Development and Innovation (CNDI)*
- *Executive Unit for Financing of Universities, Research, Development and Innovation (UEFISCDI)*

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2 Legislative initiatives - development of the legal and strategic framework

- **National Plan II for RDI 2007-2013 (PN II), 6 programmes: Partnership in priority RDI fields, Innovation, Ideas, Human Resources, Capacities, Promoting Institutional Performance; budget (~4.000 M€) shared between programmes ~FP7;**
- **New legal framework for evaluation of research system – Gov. Ordinance no. 6/2011 and Gov. Decision no. 133, 1062/2011**
- **Assessment and ranking of national RD system by Advisory College for R&D&I (CCCDI – appointed for 4 years; well-known personalities);**
- **Standards provided by ANCS:**
 - **classified by following levels: A+, A, A-, B and C; institutional funding;**
 - **made by expert evaluators (min. 50% from EU and OECD);**
 - **evaluation criteria and the rules for selection of the evaluators.**

¹ The progress reports are collected in preparation of the meetings of the Steering Platform on Research for the Western Balkan Countries and will be provided for download from the WBC-INCO.Net homepage (www.wbc-inco.net) about one week before the meeting takes place. Therefore please submit your report to office@wbc-inco.net until June 5, 2012.

The evaluation of the national research institutes started on January 2012 and it should be finished until the end of this year, at least. The institutes with A+, A, A- certification level will receive the institutional funding through the “Promoting Institutional Performance” Programme, a national programme planned to be launched during this year.

The evaluation process of the universities is already completed. The universities are classified in three categories: advanced research universities, research and education universities, and education universities; this classification will be used for the range of funding of these universities!

3 Important events, meetings, training activities, etc.

The National Conference on Research and Innovation will take place on June 21st -23rd, 2012 in Bucharest. One of the main objective of the conference is to show the outcomes of the national research, but also to collect the first ideas on strategy and policies for the next period (2014-2020), which has to take into account the recommendations of the interim report of Technopolis for the period 2007-2009, even some of them have already been into consideration by the legislation issued in last year.

4 Development of international cooperation and actions on integration into ERA

(e.g. new bilateral/international agreements, memberships, support structures, important international projects, programmes, etc.)

- **The last two joint calls for S&T cooperation between Romania and Slovenia have funded as follow:**
 - 2010-2011, 12 projects;
 - 2012-2013, 16 projects;
- **Eureka projects between RO and WBC:**
 - E! 5415 NEWCOMAT, LT-SB-RO-PL, 2011-2014, 1.2 M€;
 - E! 5851 FeVal, SI-SB-RO, 2011-2013, 1.01 M€;

5 Statistics - major changes / updates of relevant statistical data

- RO ranked 18th, success rate 15% (EU average-21.6%)
- Higher Education- 28.8% of all RO participants, Research organizations-27.7%, Private Organizations-25.8%;
- Most successful: ICT (61 prj, 12.9 M€-EU contribution), Transport (38 prj., 8.7 M€), Nano (37 prj., 7.5 M€), Environment (39 prj., 5.7 M€);

On December 2011, the interim evaluation (covering 2007-2009) of the National Strategy implementation and of the PN II was completed by a consortium led by Technopolis, in association with two Romanian consultancy firms.

The analysis was made at three levels: RDI system, programmes and modules, and projects. The conclusions and recommendations of it are largely the same with those of the

Word Bank Report (functional review of the Romanian Government – May 2011) which analysed the R&D&I sector.

The main conclusions and recommendations are the following:

- Private sector not enough involved! Lack of cooperation between private sector and public sector (research institutes and universities);
- Large number of advisory and coordinating bodies! Now, by the new legislation adopted in last year, this number of advisory bodies was reduced to only 3 bodies!
- Focus on performance of institutions; Abandon the orientation towards a very broad range of economic and societal problems and challenges.
- Link the next generation national RDI policy with the use of Structural Funds for RDI (2014-2020)
- Abandon the orientation towards a very broad range of economic and societal problems and challenges

6 Assessment of the developments and outlook on the next 6 months

(Optional personal opinion)

Initiation of discussions with Serbian authorities for A Bilateral Agreement between Romania and Serbia for S&T Cooperation! Based on the “Agreement between the Romanian Government and the Republic of Serbia Government in the fields of education, science, culture, youth and sports”, from 2010.

Appendix: additional data

(Delete if not applicable.)

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