

## KOSOVO\*

### PROGRESS REPORT<sup>1</sup>

#### on recent developments regarding S&T cooperation in/with the WBC (June 2013 / Budva until December 2013 / Zagreb)

#### 1 Policy actions

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

- The National Innovations Strategy 2013-2020 developed jointly by the Ministry of Education, Science and Technology, Ministry of Trade and Industry, and Ministry of Economic Development, with support of OECD and funds of European Commission, has been submitted in Government for endorsement;

#### 2 Legislative initiatives - development of the legal and strategic framework

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#### 3 Important events, meetings, training activities, etc.

- Two trainings, one in July and the other in November 2013 were held for research community in Kosovo with focus on advanced research designs and research methodologies, research publications and presentations and the European Research Area, incl. Horizon 2020, with support of IPA funds (ESSIe Project), which concluded with certification of 31 participants;

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<sup>1</sup> 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](http://www.wbc-inco.net)) about one week before the meeting takes place. Therefore please submit your report to [office@wbc-inco.net](mailto:office@wbc-inco.net) until May 29, 2013.

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

#### **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.)

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- Singing the cooperation agreement between Government of Kosovo and US Government for higher education cooperation, respectively supporting the following main actions:
  - Study scholarships (Master, PhD, and post-doc) of Kosovar students to US universities;
  - Cooperation actions between Higher Education Institutions from Kosovo and from USA;
- Launching of Conference Horizon 2020 in Kosovo; 165 participants from Kosovo and the region were present, coming from governmental institutions, research institutions, business/industry, civil society organizations, etc.
- Establishment of ICT Diaspora Advisory Board, with support of ICT KOS-EU project (an FP7 funded project), <http://www.ictkoseu.eu/?p=2666> ;
- Realization of audit report on ICT field in Kosovo, supported by the ICT KOS-EU project (an FP7 funded project),
- In the framework of HigherKOS project 3 post-doctoral Kosovar candidates supported to accomplish their work in Austrian Universities;
- In the framework of CEEPUS Program during 2013 (June-December) were supported 3 incoming mobilities of foreign academic staff to Kosovar Higher Education Institutions, and 5 outgoing Kosovar students in other countries;
- In the framework of cooperation of MEST with University of Sheffield, City College, and SEERC, 4 PhD scholarships for Kosovar students were granted to complete studies at SEERC;
- From the National Research Program the following activities were supported:
  - 37 PhD Kosovar excellent candidates who are completing their studies in other countries;
  - 25 short-term outgoing mobilities of Kosovar research community;
  - 17 scientific publications;
  - 20 small-scale research projects
  - 6 research awards, three for senior researchers and 3 for early-career researchers;
  - Payment of access for Kosovar research institutions in international electronic databases/libraries (EBSCO);

#### **5 Statistics - major changes / updates of relevant statistical data**

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

*(Optional personal opinion)*

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### **Appendix: additional data**

*(Delete if not applicable.)*