SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY IN THE REPUBLIC OF MACEDONIA

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Republic of Macedonia

Landlocked country in **SEE 1991** – Independence 25,333 sq. km Area **Population 2.038.059** Capital city – Skopje Language – Macedonian Currency – MK Denar **GDP** US \$ 3.7 billion **GDP/capita US \$ 1830**

Science and Technology in Macedonia

Ministry of Education and Science (Department of Science and Technology)

- **b** the governmental body in charge for the S & T policy
- responsibility to organize, finance, develop and promote the science, technology development, technical culture, information system and international cooperation

Other Ministries with activities in the field of S & T

- Ministry of Economy
- Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Water Management
- Ministry of Health
- Ministry of Environmental protection
- Department for European Integration

SCIENTIFIC INSTITUTIONAL INFRASTRUCTURE

- Macedonian Academy of Sciences and Arts
 - **Members (40)**
 - Departments (5)
 - Research Centers (5)
- **Universities (2 public and 1 private)**
 - Faculties (34)
 - Public Scientific Institutes (14)
 - Colleges (3)

RTD units within industry (20)

SCIENTIFIC HUMAN RESOURCES IN MACEDONIA

Number of researchers in R. Macedonia

No. researchers / Year	<i>1998</i>	<u>1999</u>	2000	2001	2002
FTE	1892	1838	1786	1630	1574
FTE/1000 Labour Force	2.3	2.3	2.2	1.9	1.7
Total	3275	3168	3094	2909	2838

Full-time equivalence by sectors of performance

Sector / Year	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002
Business enterprise	345	290	234	205	185
Governmental sector	800	828	862	734	671
Higher education	748	720	690	691	667
Total	1892	1838	1786	1630	1523

Research and development in GDP

Share of R & D in national GDP (1998-2002) - 0.2%

Structure of Gross Domestic Expenditure on R&D by sector of performance

Sector of performance	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002
	(%)	(%)	(%)	(%)	(%)
Business enterprise	11.6	12.5	5.7	6.2	4.5
Government sector	35.7	45.7	34.1	51.5	50.8
Higher education	52.7	41.8	60.2	42.4	44.7
Total	100	100	100	100	100

R & D in Macedonia - problems

- unsatisfactory level of budgetary, public funds for R & D
- insufficient S & R infrastructure, equipment & materials
- inefficient institutional infrastructure
- unsatisfactory transfer of knowledge and research results in the business sector
- inconvenient distribution of researchers by sectors (the number of researchers in the business sector is very low)
- small investments in applied research and innovation
- low level of private investments in R&D sector
- unsatisfactory level of young researchers ratio in the total number of researchers
- serious brain-drain problems.

Research Center for Genetic Engineering and Biotechnology Macedonian Academy of Sciences and Arts Skopje, R. Macedonia

- Founded in 1986 as a research unit of MASA
- the National Reference Laboratory for Hemoglobinopathies has become a part of this Institution.





- 500 m² laboratory space, 200m² offices, library
- Scientific staff of 12 and technical staff of 4 persons





The RCGEB is equipped with modern and sophisticated equipment. The current value of the scientific equipment of the institution is app. 1.2 million US\$. The equipment has been purchased continuously in the past 25 years, primarily from the funds supplied by research grants and funds provided by the Government of the R. Macedonia.

RCGEB ACTIVITIES

RESEARCH

25 projects

>100 papers

EDUCATION Postgraduate studies Specialization

Training courses

APPLICATION

Molecular diagnosis of inherited, infectious & malignant diseases Forensic identification

RCGEB - Research

- 25 research projects were performed
- Molecular characterization of monogenic diseases (Hemoglobinopathies, cystic fibrosis, hemophilia, muscular distrophy, Fragile X syndrome, cystinuria, male infertility etc.)
- Molecular epidemiology of *infectious diseases* (Hepatitis C, Human papilloma virus, Chlamidia trachomatis etc.)
- Molecular basis of the most common malignant diseases (Colon cancer, cervical cancer, lung cancer etc.)
- Molecular characterization of common *chromosomal aneuploidies*
- **DNA markers for** *human identification*
- Genetic studies of the Ohrid trout

Financed by:

- Macedonian American Joint Funds for Scientific & Technological cooperation
- National Institute of Health of the USA
- American Ministry of Agriculture
- ICGEB Trieste, Italy
- Ministry of Science of the R. Macedonia
- Science funds of the Macedonian Academy of Sciences and Arts

Balkan Journal of Medical Genetics



RCGEB - Education

Postgraduate studies

- Postgraduate studies in molecular genetics on several Faculties (Medicine, Biology, Technology, Agriculture)
- Coordinator of the Interdisciplinary postgraduate studies in Molecular Biology and Genetic Engineering

Specialization and training

- Specialization in Medical Genetics
- Short and long-term training to domestic and foreign scientists

Short advanced theoretical/practical courses

• sponsored by UNESCO, FEBS, ICGIB-Trieste

RCGEB - Application

Diagnosis and prevention of monogenic diseases ~1000 cases/year for diagnosis ~30 prenatal diagnosis

Diagnosis of common chromosomal aneuploidies ~200 prenatal diagnosis/year

Detection and characterization of infectious diseases ~3000 cases/year

DNA Identification (paternity, criminal cases, missing persons) ~30 cases/year

Participates in *quality control programs* for DNA testing of the common inherited diseases and forensic DNA analysis

INSTITUTE OF EARTHQUAKE ENGINEERING AND ENGINEERING SEISMOLOGY (IZIIS) University "Ss. Cyril and Methodius" Skopje, Republic of Macedonia





IZIIS – General information

The Institute is *established in 1965* within the University "Ss. Cyril and Methodius", Skopje, upon recommendation of the United Nations International Consultative Board for Repair and Reconstruction of Skopje, following the 1963 Skopje earthquake, and *with substantial support from the United Nations and its specialized agencies, UNDP and UNESCO*

Space 8500 m2 of laboratories, offices, lecture rooms and other premises

Staff 73 employees of which 20 PhD and 10 MSc

Financial input

25% Ministry of Education and Science75% from research and education activities



Scope of Activities

IZHS – Education and Training

> Postgraduate Studies for *Master & Doctor of Technical Science*

✓ IZHS DAAD Course - The Master of Science course lasts two years and admits candidates from all Balkan countries

✓ IZIIS TEMPUS Course - The study has been prepared within the frames of the regional cooperation projects mentioned in the national priorities of the beneficiary countries (Albania, Croatia and Macedonia), whose common field of interest is earthquake engineering.

Long and short term courses

Course on Aseismic Design and Construction (CADAC)

Twelve-week course

Organized by Government of R. Macedonia and Royal Government of Netherlands

Transfer of knowledge to participants from developing countries

>400 participants from 69 countries during its 23 years existence

Has played an enormous role in mitigation of risk pertaining to EQ in developing countries

Important International Research Projects

- 6 Bilateral scientific research projects financed by the US-Macedonian Joint Board on Scientific and Technological Cooperation
- > USA (Paul Getti Inst.) "Conservation of cultural and historical monuments"
- IDNDR financed project RADIUS: "Estimation of the Seismic Risk and Diagnosis of the Behavior of the Urban Areas During Strong Earthquakes" – 9 cities from Ethiopia, Chile, Indonesia, Ecuador, Turkey, Macedonia, Uzbekistan, Mexico, China
- Belgium (Royal Observatory of Belgium) "Seismic Hazard Analysis and Mapping of Belgium"
- UNESCO "Expert Assessment of Land Subsidence Related to Hydrogeological and Engineering Geological Conditions in the Regions of Sofia, Skopje and Tirana (Bulgaria, Macedonia and Albania)
- > **PHARE** "Conservation of cultural and historical monuments"
- EU INCO-COPERNICUS EUROQUAKE Project (England, Slovenia, Macedonia, Romania, Slovakia, Italy)

Important International Research Projects (cont.)

- Geophysical Institute of Italy "Site Model and Analytical Investigation of Seismic Safety of the Imperator Marcus Aurelius Column in Rome"
- NATO Science for Peace Program "Seismic Assessment and Rehabilitation of Existing Buildings (Turkey, Greece, USA and Macedonia)
- NATO SfP Development of Low-cost Rubber Bearing for Seismic Safety of Structures in Macedonia and Balkan (Macedonia, Albania, Italy and USA)
- EU (Imperial College-London and Dipertimento Di Scienze-Trieste) "Strong Motion Data Base"
- UNICEF "Physical and Psychological Management of Earthquake Related Emergencies in Schools in Macedonia"
- EU "An Advanced Approach to Earthquake Risk Scenarios with Applications to Different European Towns" (contribution institutions from France, Italy, Romania, Spain, Greece, Bulgaria and Macedonia)
- GERMANY DAAD : DYNET Project " Academic Reconstruction of Southeast Europe" – Universities Bochum, Skopje, Saraevo and Nish



Small selection of Research Projects

Shaking table test of 1/30 scale model of PalaSport in Bologna – Model with wooden roof, 1993

> Seismic strengthening, Conservation and Restoration of churches dating from Byzantine period in Macedonia, 1992

> > Optimum design of passive controlled steel frame structures, 2001

Analysis of seismic risk of existing column monuments in Rome by seismic shaking table testing of a model, 1995

> Dynamic testing of the Alma-Ata bank model in scale 1/11 on Shaking tables, 1996

> > Evaluation of seismic resistence Of the 105Storey Ryugyong Hotel In Pyongyang, Korea, 1992