

Introduction to WBC-INCO.NET and its Work Package 2

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Consultation session on setting regional priorities in the field of Health
Tirana, May 12 and 13, 2009

1. WBC-INCO.NET



- ***Coordination of Research Policies with the Western Balkan Countries***
- EU funded project under FP7
- 26 partners from 16 countries
- from January 2008 until December 2011

2. WBC-INCO.NET Objectives

Aims:

- Structuring and supporting S&T political **bi-regional dialogue**
- *Developing concrete research **priorities** of mutual interest (with a special focus on FP7 Themes)*
- Supporting and transferring **know-how** to **research community** and **NCPs**,
- Enhancing production and use of knowledge based **indicators**
- Enhancing **participation of researchers** in multilateral RTD activities,
- Increasing **competitiveness** and **networking**

3. Political context

- Most of Western Balkan countries are **Associated Countries** to the Framework Programme: competition at equal footing with EU Member States, no special treatment
- **European Commission** is interested to support cooperation in priority areas in the thematic fields
- **WBC-INCO.NET** will define regional priorities in some Themes and give input to Work Programmes of FP7
- **WBC-INCO.NET** will follow-up on the priorities defined (checking Work Programmes, networking activities, etc.)

4. Current priority setting activities

- Work package 2 of WBC-INCO.NET: Priority setting to structure participation in FP7
- Guidelines for priority setting developed by UNU-MERIT
- **Consultation sessions** are organised (Task 2.4):
 - *ICT* Belgrade, December 10, 2008
 - *AgroFood* Podgorica, January 15-16, 2009
 - *Health* Tirana, May 12-13, 2009
 - *Transport* Sarajevo, May 19-20, 2009
 - *Environment* Skopje, June 16-17, 2009
- Consultation process
- Aim: define regional research priorities of common interest
- Results are disseminated to European Commission and other stakeholders

More information at

www.wbc-inco.net



Thank you for your attention!