

ResIST-TUBITAK's Contribution from the Regional Viewpoint

“Turkey’s Science and Technology Initiatives
towards the South East Europe and Western
Balkans”

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Turkey's S&T Cooperation Agreements

There are around 220 scientific and technical bilateral cooperation agreements signed with 80 states at intergovernmental and inter-institutional level.

These agreements are signed as a result of

- Suggestions of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Undersecretariat of the Prime Ministry for Foreign Trade
- Initiatives of the reciprocal institution
- Initiatives of our Institution

Actives and Non-actives

	Number of Countries	Number of Countries having bilateral S&T agreements with our country	Number of Countries having project based S&T agreements with our country
EU Member	27	22	8
EU Candidates	1	1	0
European Countries	6	4	1
Other Countries	57	52	6
Total		80	15

The Institutions with which TÜBİTAK has Bilateral Agreements Based on Conducting Joint Projects -1

- ✓ **USA** - NSF (National Science Foundation)
- ✓ **BELARUS** - National Academy of Sciences of Belarus
- ✓ **BULGARIA** - Academy of Sciences of Bulgaria
- ✓ **GERMANY** - DFG (Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft)
- Jülich Research Center
- ✓ **FRANCE** - CNRS (Centre National de la Recherche)
- Ministry of Foreign Affairs
- ✓ **S. KOREA** - KRF (Korea Research Foundation)
- ✓ **INDIA** - CSIR (Council of Scientific and Industrial
Research)
- ✓ **ITALY** - CNR (Consiglio Nazionale delle Ricerche)
- Ministry of Foreign Affairs

The Institutions with which TÜBİTAK has Bilateral Agreements Based on Conducting Joint Projects -2

- ✓ **HUNGARY** – National Research and Technology Office (NKTH)
- ✓ **MACEDONIA** – Ministry of Education and Science
- ✓ **PAKISTAN** – Ministry of Science and Technology
- ✓ **SLOVAKIA** – Academy of Sciences
- ✓ **SLOVENIA** – Ministry of Higher Education, Science and Technology
- ✓ **TUNISIA** – Ministry of Higher education, Scientific Research and Technology
- ✓ **UKRAINE** – Academy of Sciences
- Ministry of Education and Science
- ✓ **GREECE** - GSRT (General Secretariat for Research and Technology)

International Dimension and Balkans

- Europe has got the first priority in Turkey's international Science and Technology Cooperation Policy.
- Turkey is an Associated Candidate Country of the European Union and participated fully in FP6 and now FP7!
- Turkey is a member of major European fora for S&T organizations named EUREKA, COST, ESF, EMBO/EMBC, ESA, INTAS and the like.
- Now Western Balkans wishes to make close RTD cooperation with Europe, also.
- EC has given Special Attention to Balkans under FP6 - FP7 specific programmes namely:
 - SEE-ERA.NET and PLUS
 - INCO and SICA and
 - Research Potential
- Now Turkey is interested in cooperating with Balkans by using this European tools and programmes (by contributing the joint pool) and producing new programmes and initiatives nationally.

Initiatives under the EU Umbrella

– REGIONAL MEETINGS

- Paris (April 2002),
- Vienna (June 2006)
- Ljubljana (Sept. 2006)

– SEE-ERA.NET (FP6)

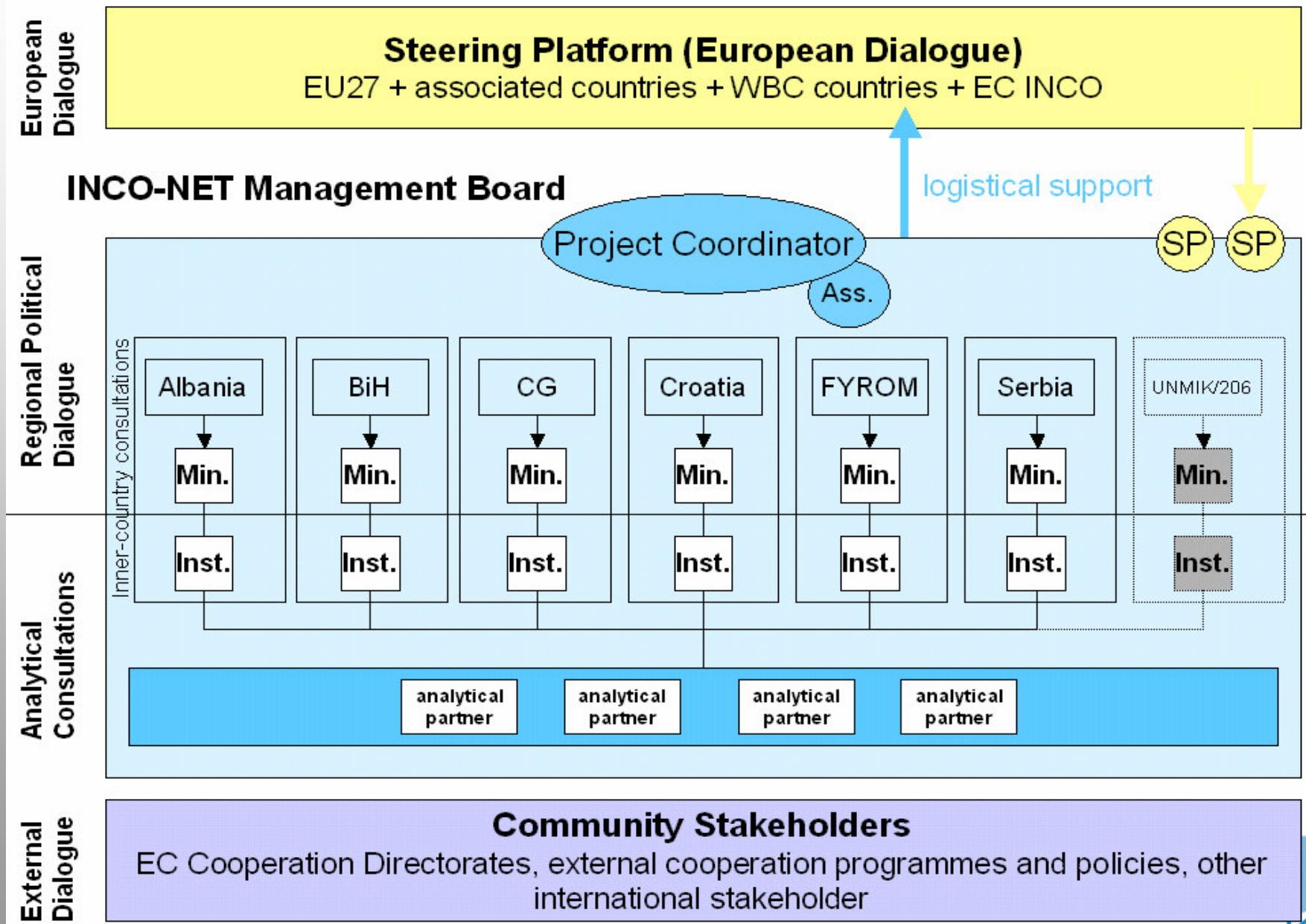
– SEE-ERA.NET PLUS (FP7)

– INCO-NET.WBC (FP7)

SEE-ERA.NET (FP6) and PLUS (FP7)

- **Scope of the Project:** SEE-ERA.NET is a networking project aimed at integrating EU Member States and SEE countries in the ERA by linking research activities within existing national, bilateral and regional RTD programmes
- **Countries concerned:** 17 Institutions from 14 European Countries WBC + AUSTRIA, Bulgaria, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Romania, Slovenia, (Turkey?)
- **Project Budget:** ~1M Euro (Pilot Call). Budget of the calls is from countries. The project is financed by the EC. They have obtained INTAS's electronic submission system.
- **Current Situation:** Turkey is planning to participate in the project and would like to join the next RepSEE call (Regional RTD funding programme for SEE). Steering Committee Meeting would be in Berlin end of March. We expect to clarify the financial contribution of Turkey. They produce see.science.eu e-journal and TUBITAK is contributing this publication.
- **Activities:** Research projects (ICT, Food, Env.) Networks and Summer Schools. Turkey wants to join SEE-ERA.NET PLUS (FP7)

INCO-NET WBC (FP7)



National Initiatives towards the Balkans

- **ISTANBUL AGENDA**
- **BILATERAL COOPERATION**
 - Agreements and Protocols
 - Bilateral Projects
 - Bilateral Workshops
 - Exchanging experts
- **FELLOWSHIP PROGRAMMES**
 - Ph.D. Students
 - Research Fellowships
 - Turkish Researchers in SEE (e.g. BIDEB, Hungary, Slovenia opens the national programmes to Turkish Researchers)

ISTANBUL AGENDA

- **Scope:** This agenda is a rolling plan of action to enhance the participation and performance of the enlargement countries under FP7 and further integration in the European Research Area (ERA). The countries engage themselves to this Agenda and count on full cooperation and support of the European Commission.
- **Countries:** This plan was adopted in Istanbul, on 8 December 2006 with the participation of the following countries: *Republic of Albania, Republic of Bosnia-Herzegovina, Republic of Bulgaria (guest-could not attend), Republic of Croatia, Macedonia, Republic of Montenegro, Republic of Romania (guest), Republic of Serbia, Republic of Turkey*. The representatives of the SEE-ERA.NET also participated in the meeting.
- **Cooperating Areas:** Awareness and Information, Increase Participation under FP7, Mobility of Researchers, Involvement of SMEs, Increase Research Capacity.
- **Official Application to the EC:** TÜBİTAK will send an official cover letter presenting the Istanbul Agenda to the Turkish Ministry of Foreign Affairs, to be sent to the Permanent Mission of Turkey to the EU in Brussels. Then it will be submitted to the EC, also asking for a joint meeting of the representatives of Istanbul Agenda partner countries, for the purpose of putting into implementation of the IA.

BILATERAL COOPERATION

Turkey's bilateral cooperation programmes in Science and Technology among the WBC and SEE by February 2007

Cooperation prog. with	Starting year	Periodicity (ad hoc, annual, biannual, etc.)	Joint research	Exchange of scientists	Number of project by March 07
Albenia	07.02.2007	once every two years	X	X	-
Bosnia	-	-	-	-	-
Croatia	16.04.1998	whenever necessary	X	X	-
Macedonia	17.05.1994	once every three years	X	X	8 Projects
Montenegro	29.8.2002 (FRY)	once every two years	X	X	-
Serbia	29.8.2002	once every two years	X	X	-
Bulgaria	29.05.2002	once every three years	X	X	16 Projects
Hungary	05.08.1989	once every two years	X	X	10 Projects
Slovenia	19.04.2001	once every year	X	X	13 Projects
Greece	04.02.2000	once every two years	X	X	21 Projects



National Grants and Fellowships

2215 Ph.D. FELLOWSHIPS FOR FOREIGN COUNTRY CITIZENS

- Travel and research grants in the fields of Natural Sciences, Engineering and Technology, Medical Sciences, Agricultural Sciences, Social Sciences and Humanities (*) will be awarded to highly qualified students who are intending to complete their Ph. D studies in Turkey.
- Acceptance from a Turkish University
- 5 years
- 1.500 YTL. per month

2216 RESEARCH FELLOWSHIPS FOR FOREIGN COUNTRY CITIZENS

- Travel and research grants in the fields of Natural Sciences, Engineering and Technology, Medical Sciences, Agricultural Sciences, Social Sciences and Humanities (*) will be awarded to highly qualified Ph.D. students and young post-doctoral researchers to conduct part of their research in Turkey.
- For Ph. D students; to be enrolled in a Ph.D. programme in a university at abroad.
- For post-doctoral researchers; not to be older than 35 years old.
- 12 months
- 1.500 YTL. per month

Turkish Researchers in SEE (e.g. BIDEB, Hungary, Slovenia opens the national programmes to Turkish Researchers)

Findings and Expectations

- Turkey's national initiatives towards the Balkans are rather new.
- Turkey's initiatives are expected to develop in parallel with the EU Initiatives
- Turkey's programmes are expected to develop while the country develops her S&T base
- Turkey's programmes are expected to develop by providing more money in her GERD and international programmes
- Turkey's participation EU projects will give her a big opportunity to make further cooperation with SEE region and WBC.
- After Istanbul Agenda's implementation Turkey would gain a better role in the area concerned.
- Turkey has to give further attention in implementing social science fellowship programme (MBA. etc.) in a master level as well.
- Turkey needs to take further attention to bilateral projects in WBC as it was happened in the other SEE countries.

THANK YOU...!