



European Food Safety Authority's cooperation with the Western Balkan IPA countries now and in the future

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Consumers in the Balkans", 23 September, Brussels

Objectives of the Pre-Accession Programme

- to prepare the food safety authorities in the beneficiary countries for future participation in EFSA networks,
- transfer knowledge of areas covered by EFSA,
- develop communication and information exchange systems,
- support national risk assessment and risk communication activities.



2005-2006 - Pre-Accession Programme for Bulgaria and Romania

2006-2007 - Pre-Accession Programme for Turkey and Croatia

2008 - Pre-Accession Programme for Turkey, the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and Croatia

2009-2010 - Programme for the Candidate and the Potential Candidate Countries



Total amount of **3 mil EUR over 5-year period**

Target groups

- The target groups were the Competent Authorities for food and feed safety in the beneficiary countries, in particular those with similar responsibilities as EFSA,
- Representatives of senior management, decision makers, service managers, scientific networks leaders, communication officers, and scientists took part in a range of activities within the programme.
- Focus was on development of the cooperation between authorities and the stakeholder groups.



Main activities

- series of *seminars, workshops, trainings, colloquia, conferences,*
- participation by experts from the beneficiary countries in *EFSA meetings* with the technical or scientific issues of relevance for the beneficiaries, on the condition that participation to observers is allowed,
- *Study tours* to food safety competent authorities in EU Member States

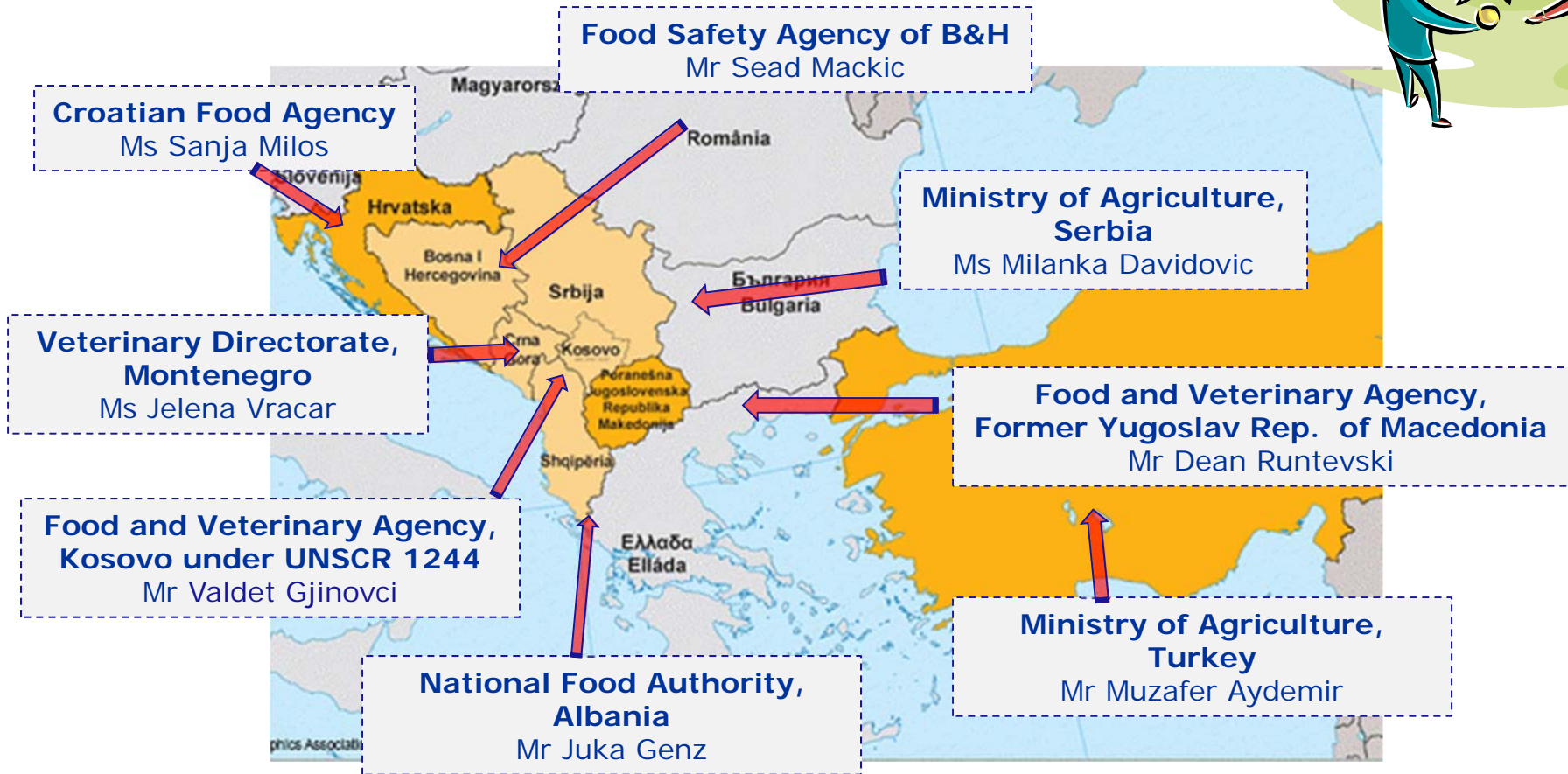


Staff involvement

- **EFSA staff** from scientific, communications and administrative departments take part as speakers, together with speakers from the EU Member States and the European Commission,
- In the beneficiary countries **official coordinators** for the Programme have been appointed by the national authorities (via the EU Delegations),
- the Programme is funding one **assistant coordinator** in each IPA country to take care of the practical work on the Programme.



EFSA Pre-Accession Network



Food safety cooperation beyond borders

- The 2009/2010 Programme started officially 01.04.2009 and ran up to **30 June 2011**
- **Candidate Countries:**
Turkey, Croatia, the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Montenegro (since December 2010)
 - continuation of the work in 2008 including training seminars, study tours and participation in EFSA meetings, networks, colloquiums and conferences.
- **Potential Candidate Countries:**
Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kosovo (under UNSCR 1244), **and Serbia**
 - introduction to EFSA with seminars, a study tour to an EU Member State and observership in EFSA networks, colloquiums and conferences.

Training seminars during 2009/2010:

Candidate Countries

- Series of seminars on topics relevant for food safety authorities – **Animal Health and Welfare, RA Methodology, Chemical Contaminants, Emerging risks, Food Additives and Flavourings, Dietetic products, nutrition and health claims.**

Potential Candidate Countries

- **EU Food Safety system and EFSA** (8 from each country)
4/5 November, 2009 in Budva, Montenegro,
- **Seminar on Handling Crisis** (6 from each country),
23/24 June 2010 in Parma

NB! Support to a national conference on food safety.



Study tours to EU Member States:

- Study tour for Croatia and the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia to Paris, **France**, October 2009
- Study tour for Turkey and Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia to Madrid, **Spain** March 2010
- Study tour for Montenegro and the 4 Potential Candidate countries to **Denmark**, 15/16 June 2011



Working Alongside the EFSA

- Signing up to the **expert database** to potentially join the pool of experts assisting EFSA in its work, **ongoing project, no deadline**,
- Application to new call for membership of the EFSA Scientific Committee and Panels (3 years mandate),
- Call for expressions of interest for **Seconded National Experts** within EFSA, **fix term agreement**, work in Parma,
- Programme supports **national food safety events/conferences** on organised by public sector – providing speakers from EFSA or EU MS,
- **Traineeship in EFSA**



New Programme: September 2011- September 2013

- The new EFSA IPA Programme for the Candidate and the Potential Candidate countries starts now and will run to September 2013,
- 8 training seminars, 3 study tours and participation in 70-80 EFSA networks meetings and technical meetings
- The new Programme means further involvement of the Potential Candidate Countries.



- European Neighbourhood Policy - ENP

- ENP aims to forge closer ties with countries to the South and to the East of the EU.
- Through this policy, the EU seeks to promote greater economic development, stability and better governance in its neighbourhood,
- Priority area No.5 - **“Promoting cooperation between ENP partners and EU agencies”**, has an objective of to facilitate enhanced sector cooperation in areas such as food safety, drugs, disease prevention, aviation, environmental protection and maritime safety.
- **16 countries in direct EU neighbourhood**
Algeria, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Egypt, Georgia, Israel, Jordan, Lebanon, Libya, Moldova, Morocco, Occupied Palestinian Territory, Syria, Tunisia, Ukraine



Programme 2009

Seminar on the Food Safety and the role of the European Food Safety Authority - 1st and 2nd July in Brussels;

- the first meeting of the EU food safety bodies with the ENP countries
- the starting point for a new cooperation between the EU and ENP-countries in the area of food safety

Programme for 2010 - 2011

- 2 regional seminars on Handling Emergencies/Crises in the Food Chain
- 2 regional seminars on Animal Health and Welfare

Plans for 2012/2014 Programme for ENP countries following the best practices of the Pre-Accession Programme



Thank you for your attention

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