

**Minutes of the Info-Day
Project Inno-FOOD SEE
"Setting up the innovation support mechanisms and increasing awareness
on the potential of Food Innovation & RTD in the South-East Europe area"**

Constanta, 25th May 2012

25 May 2012 Info-Day

The day was dedicated to the organisation of the first national project Info-day, in accordance with the attached Agenda.

Dr. Ion Danut Juganaru, General Director of CCINA took the floor and greeted the participants and opened the meeting officially.

The detailed project presentation was led by Mrs. Adriana Barothi, who gave an overview about the project: objectives, activities, structure, budget and partnership.

Mrs. Denisa Duta expanded on the work packages structure, presented the activities from current work packages: 3-4-5, activities done, on way and what will come further. She pointed out the importance of creating strong connections between the research institutes and industry (SMEs) with regard to innovation. She explained the importance of the trainings and seminars which will be organised by the lead partner and by the partner from Italy in the field of innovation in food sector. The speaker's point of view shifted to useful examples of viable cases, describing a number of successful Food Cluster functioning within the European Union.

Mrs. Irina Gaitanaru presented the activities and the objectives of WP2-Communication and she explained the importance to fill in the questionnaire by the industrial companies in order to be part of the project database for further involvement in the project and cooperation.

Mr. Viorel Vulturescu from the National Authority for Scientific Research presented the specific measures for research – development – innovation as part of the relevant politics and strategies for the food sector.

A relevant example regarding the application of innovation in food sector was given by the director of SC Dobrogea Group SA, Mrs. Otilia Stanciu, who presented some bakery products with healthy attributes which were developed by the company in collaboration with research institutes.

Further, a very clear presentation of the financial measures for supporting the innovation at national, regional and international level was given by Prof. Ovidiu Alupei-Cojocariu.

Mrs. Adriana Macri presented the National Platform 'Food for Life' and invited the presented SMEs to become members.

A very interesting project regarding the recovery of human capital in rural areas of Romania by acquiring the skills and knowledge with high added value was presented by Ms. Claudia Mosoiu from IBA Bucharest.

A new tool for improving the competitiveness of people and SMEs was presented by Mrs. Denisa Duta from IBA Bucharest: "Transfer of knowledge and training for European traditional food producers' related to innovative quality control methodologies" Tol4Food project, from LIFELONG LEARNING PROGRAMME, LEONARDO DA VINCI - Transfer of innovation.

The discussions continued between the project partners and stakeholders describing the work that had begun and was already bearing results, on one hand, and it expanded on future activities, such as SWOT Analysis which will be done in September 2012, key policies, programmes at regional or national level etc on the other hand. The SWOT analysis will be organized after the training in Idrija, Slovenia, in September 2012.

It was concluded that there are still Questionnaires to be filled from both research organisations and industrial companies in order to reach the indicators established in the project. This means that a more efficient collaboration is necessary between the SMEs and Institutes.

The partners declared that an effort would be made to investigate the possibility of intervening further with the questionnaire and facilitating the process.

The info-day arrived to an end by discussions – questions and answers - about how to apply for the presented innovative programmes and measures and the advantages the companies may achieve by investing in innovation activities.









Annexes:

- Meeting Agenda
- List of participants.