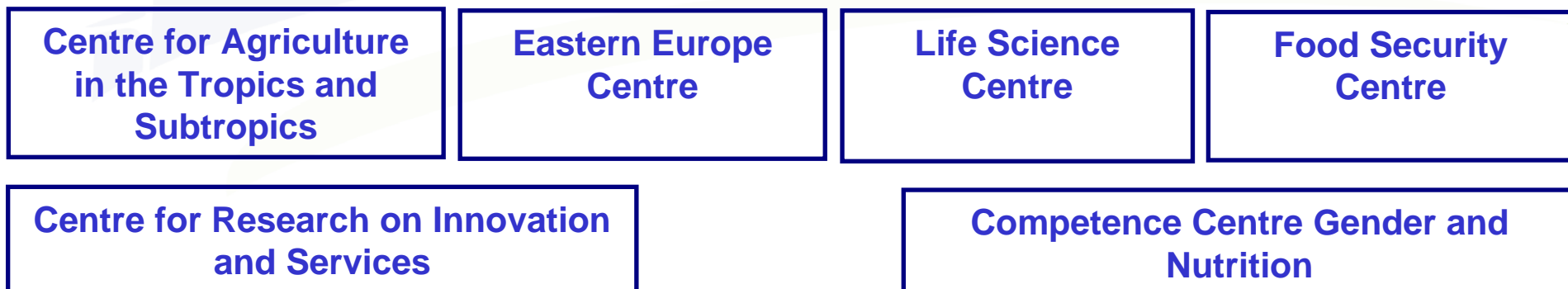




Universität Hohenheim - Structure in Teaching and Research



Cross-sectional institutions



Eastern Europe Centre of the University of Hohenheim

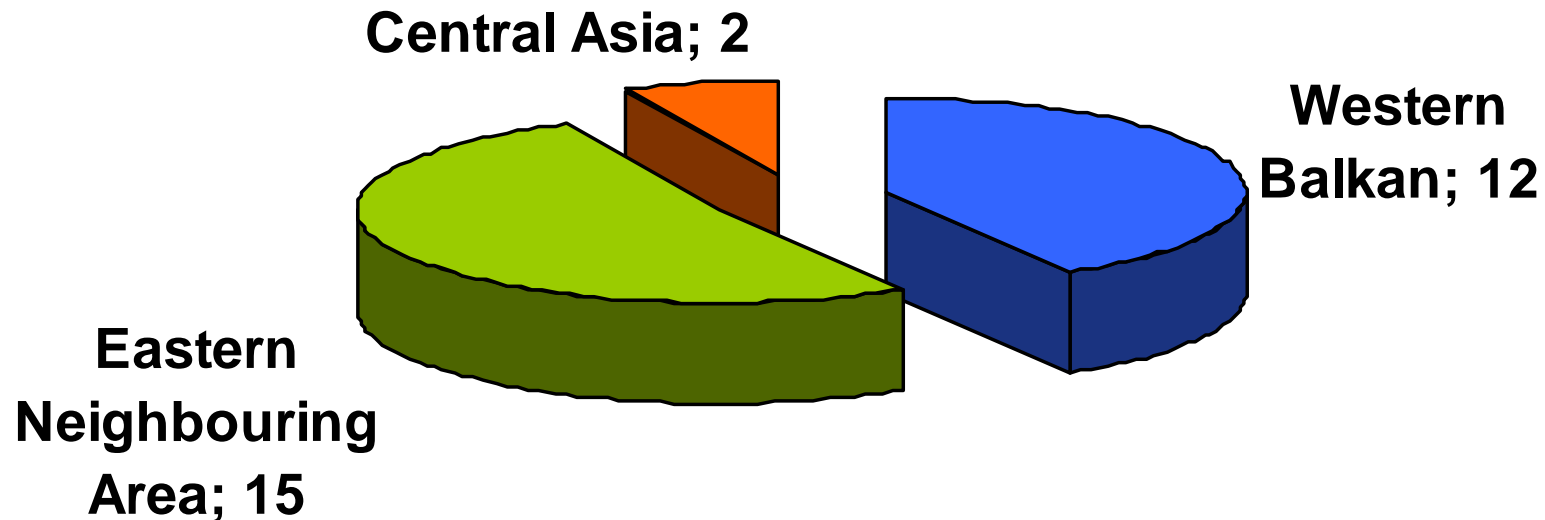
- founded in 1995
- support and co-ordination of interdisciplinary activities within the University's specific research areas of natural sciences, agricultural sciences and economics concerning Eastern Europe

The Centre's functions and activities comprise:

- building a broad network of institutionalised co-operations between the University of Hohenheim and scientific institutions of the Central and Eastern European Countries (CEEC)
- supporting sustainability of projects through continuous contacts and planning of new projects with the same partners - and some new partners too, of course
- the support of students' education and further education of junior lecturers and professors from the CEEC
- consultancy on the restructuring and modernisation of curricula at universities in the CEEC
- the co-ordination of various elaborate research co-operations
- the collaboration within reform projects in the CEEC in the fields of science, politics and economics in co-operation with the federal ministries and the European Commission as well as national and international organisations.

TEMPUS projects coordinated by the Eastern Europe Centre

Total: 29



Eastern Neighbouring Area including 2 projects with Lithuania (PHARE)
Western Balkan including 2 projects with Romania

Tempus Cards Projects

- Enhancing and Complementing Postgraduate Education in Balkan Countries with Emphasis on Regional Planning and Institutional Development (Skopje, Tirana, Sarajevo)
CD-JEP-15050-2000 (2001-2005)
- Reform of Agricultural Studies in Croatia (Zagreb, Osijek)
CD-JEP-17108-2002 (2003-2006)
- Institutional Evaluation of the Agricultural Universities
(Novi Sad, Tirana, Prishtina)
UM-JEP-16079-2001 (2002-2004)
- Reform of Agricultural Studies
(Prishtina, Tirana)
CD-JEP-17089-2002 (2003-2005)

Tempus Cards Projects

- Reform of Agricultural Higher Education in Serbia and Montenegro
(Novi Sad, Belgrad)
JEP-18069-2003 (2004-2007)
- Balkan Agri-Sector Initiative for Capacity Building
(Novi Sad, Sarajevo, Tirana, Skopje)
JEP-19027-2004 (2005-2008)
- Masters Studies in Agriculture
(Prishtina, Tirana)
JEP-19021-2004 (2005-2008)
- Building the European Food Science Education in B&H
(Sarajevo, Mostar, Banja Luka)
JEP-40035-2005 (2006-2009)
- Support Network for Improvement of the Strategic Planning
(Zagreb, Osijek, Novi Sad, Belgrade, Skopje, Tirana, Prishtina, Podgorica)
JEP-41143-2006 (2007-2009)
- Improvement and Establishment of Biotechnology in Higher Education
(Tirana, Skopje, Tetova, Prishtina, Podgorica)
145040-TEMPUS-2008-DE-JPCR (2009-2012)

Improvement and Establishment of Biotechnology in Higher Education (Project 145040-TEMPUS-2008-DE-JPCR)



Consortium

Consortium Members Western Balkan

- Agricultural University of Tirana, Al
- University of Tirana, Al
- University of Montenegro, ME
- Ss. Cyril and Methodius University in Skopje, MK
- State University of Tetova, MK
- University of Prishtina, 1244

Consortium Members EU

- University of Hohenheim, DE
- TU Munich-Weihenstephan, DE
- Università Degli Studi della Tuscia Viterbo, IT
- Università Degli Studi di Perugia, IT
- Szent Istvan University Gödöllő, HU

Website of the Project: <http://www.agroedu.net/biotech/>

Western Balkan Partners



Source: Wikipedia

Some Details:

Albania:	28800 km ²	population 3,2 Mio
Kosovo:	11000 km ²	population 1,8 Mio
FYROM:	67000 km ²	population 5 Mio
Montenegro:	13800 km ²	population 0,7 Mio
Total (WB Partners)	120600 km²	population 10,7 Mio
Baden-Württemberg	36000 km ²	population 10,7 Mio
Germany	360 000 km ²	population 82 Mio

- **Compared to Baden-Württemberg:
Same population, area 3,5 times bigger!**

Background (1)

- Partner universities in Prishtina and Tirana have a strategic planning concept to increase enrolment of students to universities (now about 10 % of an age group)
- Germany: about 40 % of the pupils of same age are finishing with the exam allowing them to enter Higher Education

Possible development of student numbers in Kosovo:

- o In Kosovo about 900 000 people – 50 % of the inhabitants - are under 25 years old!
- o About 36000 students per year! (900000 / 25 years)
- o About 15000 (40 % of 36000) could apply for higher education at the universities
- o Bachelor 3 years: $3 \times 15000 = 45000$ students
- o Master: 25 % of the Bachelors ($2 \times 0,25 \times 15000$), total 7500 Master students
- o **Total number of students at universities could be 52500 !**
(currently 29 000 students at UP)

Background (2)

- Capacities at the UP are too low, therefore private universities for some studies (mainly economics)
- No private universities in agriculture, food and biotechnology (costs too high!)
- At the other partner universities similar situation
- Future: In 20 years the situation will change! Student numbers will drop dramatically!
- Farms are very small, structural reforms necessary in the next years with larger farms and new working fields like biotechnology as a highly important field of agriculture, food sciences and medicine

Two specific needs addressed:

- Education on an international level, especially in high tech fields such as biotechnology, enabling young people to find jobs in their own countries or abroad
- Keep people employed and provide new jobs in the partner countries

Background (3)

- All partner countries aim to become members of the EU.
- After borders are open, students will be free to decide where they intend to do their studies depending on their language skills.

Preparation for future structure:

- smaller universities offer basic studies, emphasis on BSc (for example Tetova)
- large universities like in Skopje and Tirana will offer the full programme up to PhD
- even very small countries like Kosovo and Montenegro need to attend to duties like veterinary medicine, food control, rural development, even for a small number of inhabitants

Within this project different study programmes are being developed according to the specific needs of the partner universities

- Basic studies for small universities
- Highly specialized studies for large universities

Aim (1)

Improvement and Establishment of Biotechnology in Agriculture and Food Sciences

- Plant and animal breeding
- Food biotechnology
- Bioenergy

Not being addressed within this project:

- Bioengineering
- Medicine



Aim (2)

- New installation or upgrading of BSc and MSc studies in biotechnology within a network of universities depending on the local needs, which are different in small countries like Montenegro with a lot of tourism and bigger countries like Macedonia and Albania
- Reform of Bachelor studies
- Restructuring and introduction of MSc Studies (as in the projects title: Improvement and Establishment of Biotechnology in Higher Education)
- Studies on a European level at all partner universities

Example:

During his period of being vice rector in Prishtina Dr. Berisha introduced an interesting model:

New study courses, which are a minimum of 85 % identical with a minimum of two accredited study courses at western universities, follow a simplified procedure of accreditation.

Aim (3)

- Networking of universities and study programmes to prepare for future challenges
- Common development of BSc and MSc study courses
- Adjustment of study courses depending on the local needs at the partner universities in the Balkan region
- Lasting networks with EU universities
- New cooperation agreements
- International staff and student mobilities, experience in other countries and universities
- Renewed focus on future challenges in the field of agriculture and food in Europe
- Development of new working fields on an international level

The Project - Equipment

Equipment for biotechnology is highly expensive

Equipment purchases (according to the project aims):

- Two Real Time Livecyclers (real time PCR) for up-to-date-education purposes in Tirana and Prishtina
- basic PCR technique for the partner university in Skopje
- Partner universities in Tetova and Montenegro: basic equipment for teaching purposes for bachelor education (BSc)
- Staff training

Cooperation

- Thorough selection of partners in view of usage of language competences (for instance many young Albanians watch Italien TV)
- Building of a lasting network – regionally and internationally with EU partners
- Usage of transition experience of „new EU member“ Hungary – University Gödöllő
- Sustainable cooperation with the partner universities
- Partnership is open to new institutions

Project Management and Distribution of Tasks

- Large Steering Committee involving all partners
- 5 SCM during the lifetime of the project, addressing administrative and academic issues
- LCC to improve local cooperation (discussions, adjustments and fine-tuning within the Balkan region)
- Main project office at the Eastern Europe Centre in Hohenheim, responsible for all financial matters, reporting procedures and monitoring of the project progress
- Strict financial management, no further instalments to partners without proper documentation of the funds used

Thank you!

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