



- ▶ *Perspectives of cooperation in the field of fisheries and potential areas for joint interaction in the Black Sea area.*
- ▶ Online Conference “Fisheries and Aquaculture in the Danube and the Black Sea region: views for building forward better “
  - ▶ 22 April 2021



# ORGANIZATION OF THE BLACK SEA ECONOMIC COOPERATION (BSEC)

- ▶ Established in 1992
- ▶ objective to promote peace, stability and sustainable development through means of economic cooperation

Member states: Albania, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bulgaria, Georgia, Greece, Moldova, Republic of North Macedonia, Romania, Russian Federation, Serbia, Turkey, Ukraine

Observer states: Austria, Belarus, Croatia, Germany, France, Egypt, Israel, Italy, Poland, Slovakia, Tunisia, USA, European Commission, Commission of the Protection of the Black Sea against Pollution.

# MAIN AREAS OF COOPERATION

- ▶ TRANSPORT
  - ▶ ENERGY
  - ▶ TRADE&ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
  - ▶ INFORMATION&COMMUNICATIONS
  - ▶ BANKING&FINANCE
  - ▶ TOURISM
  - ▶ *AGRICULTURE&AGRO-INDUSTRY*
  - ▶ SMEs
  - ▶ SCIENCE&TECHNOLOGY
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# *AGRICULTURE&AGRO-INDUSTRY*

- ▶ *Working Group on Agriculture and Agro-Industry.*
  - ▶ elaborates recommendations for policy settings in the field of agriculture.
  - ▶ *Meeting of the Ministers of Agriculture*
  - ▶ adopts guiding principles on cooperation of the Member States in the agriculture and agro-industry sector.
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# BSEC WGAAI Priorities

- ▶ – Enhance cooperation in the production and processing of agricultural products, inter alia, in the vine-growing and the wine-making sectors, including through the organization of and participation in relevant exhibitions and fairs. – Promote cooperation related to the procedures of import/export of animals (e.g. certification, laboratory testing, additional requirements).
- ▶ – Enhance cooperation among the BSEC Member States in cases of epizootic situations.
- ▶ – **Follow up on the developments in the field of fisheries.**
- ▶ – **Encourage the collection and analysis of scientific data in the field of fish resources.**
- ▶ – **Promote the elaboration of studies and the application of good practices in the field of fisheries.**
- ▶ – Promote cooperation in the field of food and feed safety among the national competent authorities, national reference laboratories and relevant research institutions, in order to share experience and know-how.
- ▶ – Promote consultations on the issue of harmonizing the labeling standards for food products, as an important part of food quality and food safety in the Member States, in conformity with their obligations in other regional and international organizations and agreements.

# Meeting of the **Ministers of Agriculture** (Istanbul, 17 May 2017)

## ▶ **Joint Declaration**

- ▶ “...on the scientific basis, raise the cooperation on protection and sustainable production of the genetic resources in the field of fisheries. We will cooperate to implement co-management programs for aquaculture among the Member States”.

# “BSEC ECONOMIC AGENDA”

## Towards an Enhanced BSEC Partnership

### ▶ AGRICULTURE & AGRO-INDUSTRY

- ▶ increase intra-regional trade in agricultural products;
- ▶ and enhancing the international competitiveness
- ▶ harmonizing labeling standards;
- ▶ availability of financial services and credits to farmers and processors,
- ▶ cooperation in the vine-growing and wine-making sectors,
- ▶ simplifying customs formalities and reducing waiting times at the border crossing points,

### ▶ sustainable management of fishery resources;

- ▶ cooperation among the reference laboratories, veterinary services and disease control agencies
- ▶ dialogue on bio-technology methods, taking into consideration the issue of genetically modified food products and radiation control of food;

# BSEC Related Bodies:PABSEC

- ▶ **Reports and Recommendations**
- ▶ “Food Security in the BSEC Member States (2010)
- ▶ Use of Genetically Modified Organisms (GMO) in the BSEC countries (2011)
- ▶ State and prospects of Fisheries in the BSEC Member States (2014).



# Proposals for enhanced cooperation

- ▶ *Establish an ad-hoc Working group on Fisheries and Aquaculture*
- ▶ Specific objectives:
  - ▶ – Collection and analysis of scientific data in the field of fish resources.
  - ▶ – Elaboration of studies and application of good practices in the field of fisheries.
- ▶ Participation of national and independent experts is essential

# TOPICS AND AREAS of PERSPECTIVE INTERACTION

- ▶ HARMONIZING THE LABELLING STANDARDS FOR FOOD PRODUCTS, AS AN IMPORTANT PART OF FOOD QUALITY AND FOOD SAFETY, TAKING INTO ACCOUNT THE OBLIGATIONS ARISING FOR BSEC MEMBER STATES IN THE FRAMEWORK OF THEIR MEMBERSHIP IN OTHER REGIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS AND AGREEMENTS.
- ▶ ENHANCING BIO-TECHNOLOGY METHODS, TAKING INTO CONSIDERATION THE ISSUE OF GENETICALLY MODIFIED FOOD PRODUCTS AND RADIATION CONTROL OF FOOD;
- ▶ ELABORATION OF JOINT REGIONAL PROGRAMS FOR EFFECTIVE MANAGEMENT AND CONTROL OF THE PLANT QUARANTINE DISEASE.
- ▶ OPTIMIZATION OF THE COOPERATION BETWEEN THE BSEC MEMBER STATES IN VINE-GROWING AND WINE-MAKING SECTORS
- ▶ ESTABLISHING THE BSEC REGIONAL COOPERATION CENTER FOR SUSTAINABLE FOOD SYSTEMS, IN PARTNERSHIP WITH FAO
- ▶ OPPORTUNITIES OF THE JOINT COOPERATION IN THE FIELDS OF FISHERIES, REHABILITATION OF AQUA- AND MARINE CULTURE IN THE BLACK SEA
- ▶ IDENTIFYING SPECIES AND POPULATION OF ORIGIN OF FISH IN FISHERY PRODUCTS AS A MEANS OF COMBATING ILLEGAL, UNREPORTED AND UNCONTROLLED (IUU) FISHING (**DNA barcodes**)

# PERSPECTIVE of INTERACTION FOR JOINT PROJECTS

- ▶ **PDF** – *Project Development Fund*
- ▶ **PPF** – *Project Promotion Facility*
- ▶ **PMU** – *Project Management Unit*
- ▶ *Co-financing Reg. and Int. Organizations, including BSTDB.*

# *Accomplished and ongoing projects*

- “*A Feasibility Study for Variable Rate **Irrigation** in the Black Sea region: Economical and Environmental Benefits*” submitted by Greece (Lead Partner), Turkey and Bulgaria;
- “*Fatty liver incidence on **mini** dairy cow **farms** in the Republic of Serbia, Romania and the Republic of Moldova*” submitted by Serbia (Lead Partner), Romania and Moldova

# *Accomplished and ongoing projects*

- ▶ BSEC – CSFS project :
  
- ▶ **BSEC REGIONAL COOPERATION CENTER FOR SUSTAINABLE FOOD SYSTEMS, IN PARTNERSHIP WITH FAO**
  
- ▶ • Project beneficiaries: **13** BSEC Member States,
- ▶ • Project duration: 01 August 2020 – 31 July 2023,
- ▶ • Project budget **USD 500,000**
- ▶ • **Impact:** BSEC countries - **capacity to analyse and monitor food systems for sustainability** and implement interventions that make food systems more sustainable
- ▶ • **Outcome: Stronger regional cooperation** in the areas of:
  - ▶ ' food security and safety;
  - ▶ ' strengthening institutional capacity;
  - ▶ ' poverty alleviation; and
  - ▶ ' **sustainable natural resource management, including aquatic resources**
- ▶ **UN Food Systems Summit 2021**

# Cooperation with Black Sea Municipalities

- ▶ Fisheries **important economic activity** for local communities
- ▶ Fisheries in the Black Sea represent a sector of enormous socio-economic importance.
- ▶ Fisheries provides *the occupation and employment opportunities*
  
- ▶ issues affecting fisheries management,
- ▶ assess the environmental and socio-economic impact on fisheries and aquaculture
- ▶ encourage the cooperation between the private and public sectors on the above issues.
  
- ▶ Conference on Fisheries and Aquaculture (31 October – 01 November 2017 Sariyer municipality)
  
- ▶ BSEC will work closely with the local authorities, including municipalities in supporting the fishery sector by a set of recommendations aimed at a sustainable long-term development in the Black Sea area.



ORGANIZATION OF THE BLACK SEA  
ECONOMIC COOPERATION  
PERMANENT INTERNATIONAL SECRETARIAT

**FOR MORE INFORMATION**

[www.bsec-organization.org](http://www.bsec-organization.org)

**THANK YOU**