

FOOD CLUSTER initiative

We are particularly proud to the fact that we have taken a very proactive approach to the new challenges of ERA. We are active member of FOOD CLUSTER initiative of EC (DG RTD-B.4 - Regions of Knowledge and Research Potential) which helps us to build partnership across the Europe, get information, exchange knowledge and experience, and improve our future activities through regional food sector networking.

The European Research Information event: "Towards Integration into the European Research Area" with more than 400 participants was held in Belgrade on 29th of June 2009. Vice-prime minister Viktor Nedović, Minister for Science and Technological Development Božidar Đelić and the European Commissioner for Research Janez Potočnik addressed the participants during the Opening Statements.



By the initiative of Feed to Food Research Centre, at the same event, Prof. dr Xavier Gelink coordinator of FOOD CLUSTER INITIATIVE took part in EC delegation and gave presentation "Pathways to develop a cluster approach: Experiences from the EU Food Cluster. During this event Prof. Gelink have a meeting with Vice-prime minister for Science and Technological Development Prof. dr Victor Nedovic, their assistants and researchers from FINS about possibilities for Food Cluster Initiative in Serbia. Suggested concrete actions of this meeting were presented during the concluding session. Realisation of the conclusions will be followed up in the forthcoming period both by the Ministry and European Commission.



FEED-TO-FOOD

ABOUT US

FEED-TO-FOOD Research Center with proven high level Scientific and Technological capacities exists as the independent working unit 46 years, and now it acts as a part of Institute for Food Technology (FINS) at the University of Novi Sad, Serbia. It was the only research institution specialized for feed technology in former Yugoslavia, and it is still unique organization of that type in Southeast Europe.

Following the signing of the Memorandum of Understanding associating the Republic of Serbia to the Seventh Framework Program of European Community for research, technological development and demonstration activities (2007-2013), our research group take the first chance and get the FP7-REGPOT-2007-3 project FEED-TO-FOOD. Established policy dialogue between EC and Serbian Ministry of Science and Technological development and FP7 project funded by EC enabled us to begin our development and achieve EU level before other research groups.

PROJECT BENEFICIARIES



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www.feed-to-food.uns.ac.rs

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CONCEPT

The project FEED-TO-FOOD has an explicit strategic importance. Agriculture is one of the principal business affairs in WBC region and also in Serbia. Agriculture and Food is one of seven national R&D priorities defined in "Scientific and Technological Development Strategy of the Republic of Serbia 2009 to 2014". Knowledge advancement in sustainable management, production and use of biological resources and development of new technologies and products in the food processing industry are some of priority topics in this strategy harmonized with "National strategy of economic development of the Republic of Serbia from 2006 to 2012", "National program of agriculture in Serbia 2009-2011" and fully compatible with the directions of the EC.

OBJECTIVES

The program planned through FEED-TO-FOOD project forms a coherent set of coordination, training, dissemination and development actions directly aimed at improving research capacities (equipment and researchers), increasing networking with EU research institutions and gaining experience in how to take part in EU projects.

ACTIVITIES REALIZED IN 2009

It must be emphasized that we have made a great progress through FP7-REGPOT-2007-3 project FEED-TO-FOOD, funded by EC, and we have many reasons to be satisfied with the "harvest" of our common investment in research potentials. All activities were obtained through project's Work Packages:

Reinforcement of FEED-TO-FOOD research potentials

- Establishing of Research Pilot Plant Laboratory - New Pilot plant research laboratory purchased by EU funding was opened by Prof. dr Viktor Nedović, Assistant minister for international cooperation and European integration in Ministry of Science and Technological Development of Serbia during the 1st FEED-TO-FOOD Workshop. Now this centre will start providing training and research opportunities to scientists, researchers, students and also for feed and food industry.



- Employing of 4 young researchers and technician

Developing and unlocking research potential

- Exchanging of know-how and scientific experience at international board meetings, through short stays in IFF, INRA, IAS, IBNA and FINS and through one month scientific visit of researcher from FINS at IFF;
- Networking - In the scope of project activities, we achieved very productive communication with project beneficiaries, which certainly will be continued after project ending. Research Center FEED-TO-FOOD and IFF became the members of EUFETEC (European Feed Technology Centre),
- Employing experienced researcher- return of nationals
- Training of new young researchers in IFF and "KAHL" (equipment producing company)



- Gaining experience in how to take part in EU research projects. Eminent EU Institutes accepted project beneficiaries as a participant in proposals for FP7 research and other projects. We are ready to form new consortiums and to make a new proposals

Dissemination and promotional activities

- Food Cluster Initiative
- Presenting project activities, EU funding and beneficiaries at national and international workshops and conferences



- Developing of FEED-TO-FOOD web portal
- Increasing visibility of FEED-TO-FOOD Project, through public presentations (FEED-TO-FOOD and other web portals, TV shows, Workshops, Interviews, radio)
- Promoting the research potentials of beneficiaries at scientific meetings
- Publishing 2nd Leaflet etc.

Knowledge transfer

- 1st Workshop



As a part of activities related to Feed-to-Food project, 1st Workshop „Modern trends in production chain from feed to food“ and 13th International Symposium „Feed Technology, Quality and Safety“ were organized and held in Novi Sad from September 29th to October 1st, 2009. Representatives from European and Serbian Universities, Institutes, Associations and Serbian government, gave opening talks at the beginning of the event. In these three days, invited speakers from 12 European countries, get introduced with latest scientific achievements over 150 visitors, working in research institutes, companies, laboratories and governmental organizations. They brought new ideas for future research or industrial activities related to feed and food production. Connection between experts and scientific workers was one of the most important additional goal of these meetings as well as enjoying in Serbian food and music.

