



INFORMATION ABOUT BIOEAST INITIATIVE

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BIOEAST – Central and Eastern European initiative for knowledge-based agriculture, aquaculture and forestry in the bioeconomy.



AT THE BEGINNING IT WAS THE WORD AND ITS WRITTEN FORM:

- INNOVATING FOR SUSTAINABLE GROWTH - A BIOECONOMY FOR EUROPE, PUBLISHED 2012 (EU BIOECONOMY STRATEGY)
- DEBATE ABOUT THE NEED OF THE UPDATE – lasts about 3 years

BIOEAST INITIATIVE



BIOEAST – Central and Eastern European initiative for knowledge-based agriculture, aquaculture and forestry in the bioeconomy.

An open initiative started by the Visegrad Group Countries: Czech Republic, Hungary, Poland, Slovakia, and joined by Bulgaria, Romania, Slovenia, Croatia

Why BIOEAST?

- Significant internal bioeconomy disparities in terms of effectively joining the European Research Area
- Offer a shared strategic research and innovation framework for working towards sustainable bioeconomies in the Central and Eastern European (CEE) countries.
- Sustainability is only achievable at the macro-regional level.

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BIOEAST – Central and Eastern European initiative for knowledge-based agriculture, aquaculture and forestry in the bioeconomy.

Macroregion's homogeneity and complexity may help to growth

- Joint efforts are required to address present and future challenges successfully.
- A macro-regional perspective, along with more vigorous European Union (EU) wide cooperation, is necessary for implementing in an effective and efficient way tailored actions that are conducive to safe, secure and sustainable development for all.
- The sustainability criteria for a circular economy add an additional challenging feature.



**2 Political papers
= 2 MAIN IMPETUS**

**Warsaw Declaration
dated
26th Oct. 2016
for stronger inclusion of
the research potential
Central and Eastern
European (EU 13) into
the implementation of
projects within H2020 in
the field of agriculture, i
including the bioecenomy
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**COMMON DECLARATION OF THE MINISTERS OF AGRICULTURE
OF THE VISEGRAD GROUP AND BULGARIA, ROMANIA AND SLOVENIA**

for the stronger inclusion of the research potential of the Central and Eastern European (EU-13) countries into the implementation of projects within the Horizon 2020 in the field of agriculture, including the bioeconomy.

The European Commission is currently preparing the Work Programme 2018 -2020 under the Horizon 2020 Societal Challenge 2 (*Food security, sustainable agriculture and forestry, marine, maritime and inland water research and the bioeconomy*). At the same time, the European Commission completed the work related to the *Long-term EU strategy in the field of agricultural research and innovation* that, in accordance with the European Commission information, should provide the guidelines and the contribution to the programming of the Horizon 2020 for the years 2018-2020.

An analysis of the existing participation of the EU-13 countries in the Horizon 2020 still indicates, that the widening participation principle of the present programming period has not been reached yet. The EU-13 countries account for less than 5% of the total budget spent under the Horizon 2020 until now.

The Ministers of Agriculture of the Visegrad Group and of Bulgaria, Romania and Slovenia:

APPRECIATE the efforts undertaken by the European Commission. However UNDERLINE that, despite the increasing budget for the programme and structural changes implemented so far (widening package, simplification of measures, actions towards synergies with ESIF instruments), low participation of the EU-13 countries is still persistent.

BELIEVE that in case of many research areas the EU-13 countries perspective is part of the scientific excellence and without EU-13 countries knowledge and involvement the basic principle of scientific excellence is seriously constraint.

UNDERLINE a need to find effective solutions to ensure a stronger involvement of the research needs and potential of the Central and Eastern European countries in co-creating and functioning of the European Research Area (ERA) in the field of agriculture, bioeconomy and rural areas.

COMMITTED to work together and to contribute to the further development of the European Research Area by organizing joint programming exercises. The support from all the member states and the European Commission is crucial. In the frame of the already existing tools, like research and innovation actions, collaborative and support actions, pilot and flagship initiatives, joint programming initiatives should be found solutions to focus the common efforts for a successful co-construction.

REQUEST the European Commission to take urgent measures aimed at the stronger use of the research potential of all Member countries in the process of building the single European Research Area (ERA).

CALL ON the European Commission to introduce instruments reducing disproportions in participation of the EU-13 countries in the Horizon 2020 Programme, *inter alia*, by:

- considering the needs and possibilities of the EU-13 countries, related to the climatic and social specificity of the agri-food, bioeconomy and rural areas of the EU-13 countries;
- flagging certain topics as requiring research scope from across all the macro-regions of the EU;
- supporting the macro-regional cooperation actions, e.g. the BIOEAST Initiative;
- enhancing incentives for new participants;
- introducing research and innovation actions, coordination and support actions and joint programme initiatives for the EU-13 countries in the order to increase their activity in creating and functioning of the European Research Area (ERA);
- strengthening the efforts foreseen in the Horizon 2020 regulations i.e. balance between small and large projects and geographical balance of evaluators;
- considering further simplification of rules within the Horizon 2020, including remuneration schemes for participants.

PROPOSE to introduce into the Work Programme 2018-2020 under the Horizon 2020 Societal Challenge 2 the common developed proposals of the topics in order to increase the use of the research potential of the Central and Eastern European countries. Joint proposals of the topics (attached) have been formulated in the following thematic areas:

- (i) development of regional, national and European Bioeconomy in the Central and Eastern European countries,
- (ii) sustainable agri-food sector,
- (iii) rural renaissance.

Warsaw, 26.10.2016

On behalf of

• Poland:

.....
Krzysztof Jurgiel, Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development

• Czech Republic:

.....
Jiří Šír, Deputy Minister of Agriculture

• Hungary:

.....
Sándor Fazekas, Minister of Agriculture

• Slovakia:

.....
Gabriela Matečná, Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development

Bulgaria:

.....
Vassil Groudev, Deputy Minister of Agriculture and Food

• Romania:

.....
Teodor Mihalcea, State Secretary in the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development

• Slovenia:

.....
Tanja Strniša, State Secretary in the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Food



HUNGARIAN PRESIDENCY OF THE VISEGRÁD GROUP
JULY 2017 – JUNE 2018

**Joint Declaration of the Agricultural Ministers of Visegrad Group as well
as Bulgaria, Croatia, Romania and Slovenia on the**

**Central Eastern European Initiative for Knowledge-based Agriculture, Aquaculture
and Forestry in the Bio-economy “BIOEAST”**

Visegrád, Hungary 21 September 2017

Having regard to the Warsaw Common Declaration of 26 October 2016 signed by the Visegrad Group’s agriculture ministers of Czech Republic, Hungary, Poland, Slovakia and additionally Bulgaria, Romania and Slovenia for a stronger inclusion of the research potential of the Central and Eastern European (EU-13) countries into the implementation of projects within the Horizon 2020 in the field of agriculture, including bio-economy; and considering the Common Conclusions from agricultural ministerial meeting of Visegrad Group on 2 June 2017 at Nadarzyn.

We AGREE that due to the global societal challenges, sustainability is only achievable with increased awareness to the macro-regional level, and we should continue to put great emphasis on research, innovation and cross-border cooperation with a view to promoting knowledge-based development.

We COMMIT to cooperate and to contribute to the development of the European Research Area in the field of agriculture in context of other primary production and processing sectors of the bio-economy.

We SUPPORT the further development of the Central Eastern European Initiative for Knowledge-based Agriculture, Aquaculture and Forestry in the Bio-economy – “BIOEAST”, which provides a common and shared strategic research and innovation framework for working towards sustainable bio-economies of the Central and Eastern European countries and by building a network of research institutions, industry and other key stakeholders including the partnership of countries from the EU13, and ministries that could contribute to the development of the European Research Area in Bio-economy.

We AIM to develop a Vision Paper focusing to macro-regional priority areas, and based on it a Strategic Research and Innovation Agenda, for which is essential a joint effort between the Member States and the support of the European Commission.

We RECOMMEND to continue and deepen the cooperation beyond the HORIZON 2020 Framework Programme - having regard to EU policies and funds - by preparing a roadmap

BIOEAST INITIATIVE



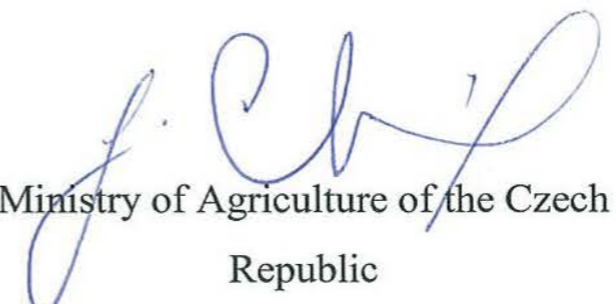
**Visegrád Declaration
dated
21st September 2017
(page 1)**

HUNGARIAN PRESIDENCY OF THE VISEGRÁD GROUP
JULY 2017 – JUNE 2018

on how to continue the BIOEAST Initiative and cooperate with the EU Member States and with the European Institutions. The role of agricultural ministers as signatories to this joint declaration and contributors to the BIOEAST Initiative will be established in the frame of the roadmap on the initiative.



Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Forestry
of the Republic of Bulgaria




Ministry of Agriculture of the Czech
Republic




Ministry of Agriculture of the Republic of
Croatia



Ministry of Agriculture of Hungary



Ministry of Agriculture and Rural
Development of Poland



Ministry of Agriculture and Rural
Development of Romania



Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Food
of Slovenia



Ministry of Agriculture and Rural
Development of the Slovak Republic

BIOEAST INITIATIVE



Visegrád Declaration
dated
21st September 2017
on the Central
Eastern European
Initiative for
Knowledge-based
Agriculture,
Aquaculture and
Forestry in the Bio-
economy
„BIOEAST“
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BIOEAST INITIATIVE GEOGRAPHIC VIEW



8 member states:
(orange group)

CZ – Czech Republic
PL – Poland
SK – Slovakia
HU – Hungary
SI – Slovenia
HR – Croatia
RO – Romania
BG – Bulgaria

2 candidate states:
(yellow group)

EE – Estonia
LT – Lithuania



BIOEAST INITIATIVE



**WHERE WE ARE?
(HOW FAR WE ARE
TODAY?)**

**VISION PAPER endorsed
by the agricultural
ministries**



BIOEAST – Central and Eastern European Initiative for Knowledge-based Agriculture, Aquaculture and Forestry in the Bioeconomy

BIOEAST VISION PAPER

23/02/2018

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next to this Vision paper
there is a Roadmap with a
flexible working character



BIOEAST - CENTRAL AND EASTERN EUROPEAN INITIATIVE FOR KNOWLEDGE-BASED AGRICULTURE, AQUACULTURE AND FORESTRY IN THE BIOECONOMY

ROADMAP v.27/02/2018

2017-2018

BIOEAST INITIATIVE



The next steps:

- **GOVERNANCE** (common agreement on structure incl.)
- **The consortium of the BIOEAST CSA** (coordinated support action)
- **Start of SRIA** (strategic research and innovation agenda)

**BIOEAST
INITIATIVE**



More info:

You can find on website:

www.bioeast.eu

BIOEAST – Central and Eastern European initiative for knowledge-based agriculture, aquaculture and forestry in the bioeconomy.

Important remark:

the data on this website is continually updated



**THANK YOU FOR
YOUR
ATTENTION**

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