

**Minutes of the Networking of stakeholders
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, 24th of May 2012

24 May 2012 - Networking of stakeholders and decision makers

Introduction

The first Info-Day for the project Inno-Food SEE in Romania was scheduled well in advance, following the Project's timeline and it was correlated with the activity for developing a network of stakeholders and decision makers. The meeting was held in Constanta, Romania at the premises of CCINA (Constanta Chamber of Commerce, Industry, Shipping and Agriculture). It was attended by partners: CCINA, IBA and invited speakers, representatives from authorities, universities, research organisations, and industry.

1st Day - Networking of stakeholders and decision makers

The meeting took off on Thursday, 24 May 2012, at the premises of CCINA in Constanta, starting with 10.00 a.m. The presented stakeholders were:

- Mrs. Otilia Stanciu – R&D Director of SC Dobrogea Group SA Constanta
- Mrs. Violeta Simionescu – Prof. at University "Ovidius" Constanta
- Mr. Viorel Vulturescu – Coordinator of the FP7 National Contact Points, National Authority for Scientific Research (ANCS) Bucharest
- Mr. Ovidiu Alupei Cojocariu – Executive Unit for Funding of the Higher Education, Research, Development and Innovation (UEFISCDI), Bucharest.

On behalf of the CCINA (the host organisation), Dr. Ion Danut Juganaru took the floor and greeted the participants and opened the meeting officially.

The participants have been detailed informed about the project and about the importance and the need of developing a network of stakeholders (of the R&D and innovation system) in Romania that will be further involved in the formulation of the policies and of the building of the appropriate mechanisms for food innovation. They have been informed that the network will have a consultative role in the elaboration of a strategy.

It was proposed to extend the network and to prepare an invitation for other key-organisations like:

- the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development
- the ROMALIMENTA Employers' League (Romanian Federation of Food Industry)
- other food industry associations (dairy, milling-baking etc.).

CCINA and IBA will work closely to prepare this Letter of Information and to send it to potential stakeholders. The stakeholders have been informed that a Memorandum of Understanding will be developed and signed.

There will be a single network of stakeholders for the country.

The four stakeholders' representatives presented during the meeting agreed to be further involved, but they asked for more detailed information about the project, about the expectations from them, in order to better understand their role.

For this, it is necessary to have in time the draft of the Memorandum (from the coordinator), to translate it in Romanian language and to present it to the stakeholders.

The stakeholders' representatives and the project teams from both CCINA and IBA agreed to offer the next day to the info-day participants detailed information about projects with innovative characters (not only about Inno-food) as the annexed agenda is including. It is important for the participants to understand different national and international measures to stimulate and to finance the innovation (with specific data about food sector).

