



3rd KNOWLEDGE EXCHANGE AND CAPACITY BUILDING SEMINAR FOR PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS - OIP COVASNA, ROMANIA

Overview	
Date	10 sEPTEMBER 2020
Location	ONLINE
Aim of the event	Exchange of information and institutional capacity regarding the framework conditions for the creation / extension / completion of organic value chains, the current stage of the revision of the Intelligent Specialization Strategy of the Center Development Region and the synergies with the activities of the BE-RURAL project

Short summary:

The event was organized online by the Institute of Economic Forecast (IPE) of the Romanian Academy and the Romanian Cluster Association-CLUSTERO, within the BE RURAL project at Objectives 4.3 and 4.4. about seminars with public sector stakeholders.

The purpose of this seminar is the exchange of knowledge and the strengthening of institutional capacities regarding the framework conditions for the creation / extension / completion of organic value chains, the current stage of the revision of the Smart Specialization Strategy of the Center Development Region and synergies with BE-RURAL project activities.

The event also took place within the broader thematic seminars organized by CLUSTERO and IPE on the policy mix related to the Regional Smart Specialization Strategies for the period 2021-2027 and the portfolio of projects related to the strategies that will be included in the Operational Program. Regional 2021 -2027.

The title of this seminar was: Framework conditions for creating, expanding and completing organic value chains within the Regional Strategy for intelligent specialization

“This seminar was attended by 27 guests representing the Center Regional Development Agency, ASIMCOV, Ghelinta and Belin Communes Council, Institute National Bio-Food Resources, Clusters, AGROSIC Intercommunity Development Association.

The seminar took place according to the agenda developed by the Institute of Economic Forecast (IPE) of the Romanian Academy.

After the presentation of the participants, Mrs. Carmen Pauna pointed out the elements regarding the stage of the BE Rural project.

The representative of the Development Agency of the Central Region, Mr. Ioan Levitchi underlined the importance of the bioeconomy for the Central Region as a sector of intelligent specialization and the online organization on September 18 this year of an entrepreneurial discovery workshop focused on the agri-food sector, technical events that will continue with the wood-furniture sector, circular economy, re-manufacturing and eco-design in order to identify the RIS3 priorities of the region. At the same time, tools are needed to implement RIS3 in order to finance SMEs, local value chains and RDI and technology transfer. The initiative of the Be-Rural team to contribute to the Intelligent Specialization Strategy is welcome and mutual information is requested, the organization of joint meetings for the generation of ideas to be highlighted in the strategy. Considering that Covasna county is a generator of clusters, ADR requested the presentation during the seminar of some initiatives in bioeconomy.

Thus, the clusters PRO WOOD, Transylvania Textile & Fashion, Green Energy, Agro-food and Balneo-touritic presented their ongoing projects on value chains in wood-furniture, reuse of textile waste, project 1 village 1 MWH, BioBuild project, Agrobioheat project, the STRING project, the ROSEWOOD 4 project and the importance of mineral waters for the development of sustainable communities where there is spa potential.

The mayors of Ghelinta and Belin highlighted the achievements of the projects implemented in their communities and showed interest in participating in the co-creation process in the elaboration of the bioeconomy strategy / roadmap in Covasna county. At the same time, they are interested in the aspects regarding the protection of the environment and the involvement of the human factor in this period of crisis caused by coronavirus. They are interested in organizing educational events (course support) on bio-economics for students in schools in Covasna County.

Mr. Sorin Iorga from the Institute of Bio Food Resources stressed the importance of vouchers for financing projects in the bio-economy, but also issues regarding the transfer of unused materials in agriculture and use as bio-fuel, aspects of the circular economy and expressed interest in participating in the activities of the BE-Rural project.

Mr. Bogoly Levente, President of ASIMCOV presented the legislation governing the forestry sector and the ecological limits imposed (emissions from waste, water pollution, etc.). He also referred to the aspects of illegal deforestation with implications for natural ecosystems.

The representative of the Development Agency of the Central Region emphasized in conclusion that the Be-Rural project completes the process of the Intelligent Specialization



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Strategy through the co-creation process of the ideas that will be found in the strategy and through the bottom up approach that actively involves the localities from Covasna county. The representatives of the Regional Development Agency participated in all the events that took place in Covasna County.

Finally, the seminar participants discussed the coordination of the activities of the Center Development Region with those in Covasna County, having as object of activity the elaboration of the strategy / roadmap for the bioeconomy.

They agreed that the talks should continue on September 18, 2020, by the occasion of the entrepreneurial discovery workshop focused on the agri-food sector, organized by the Regional Development Agency CENTRU.

Agenda	
11:00-11:10	Presentation of participants; updating on current projects for bio-based industries in the Central Region / Covasna County
11:10-11:40	Regional Development Agency & Local Subsidy in Covasna: Framework conditions for the creation / enlargement / completion of bio-based value chains Questions from the audience
11:40-12:00	Initiatives related to ecological limits in Covasna
12:00-12:15	Debate on the ways to design and implement new projects for the green economy in Covasna region
12:15-12:30	Key conclusions regarding the next steps R & I capacity building workshop announcement

