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“Transnational network for SME support in the animal breeding and horticulture sector- AGRO-START” Project

Priority: Facilitation of Innovation and Entrepreneurship

Area of intervention: Develop the enabling environment for innovative entrepreneurship

South East Europe Transnational Cooperation Programme



AGRO-START PROJECT PARTNERSHIP



AGROSTAR Federation
Romania

Centre for Research and Technology -
Thessaly – CERTH/IRETETH
Greece

Business Support Centre for Small and
Medium Enterprises – Ruse - BSC SME
Bulgaria



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Bulgaria



Chamber of Agriculture and Forestry of
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The Regional Development Agency of
the South - East Development Region -
SE RDA/ADR SE
Romania



Federation of the Farmers in the
Republic of Macedonia - FFRM
**Former Yugoslav Republic of
Macedonia**

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Acronyms and Abbreviations

Agrostar	Agrostar Federation Romani
BEF	Bulgarian Economic Forum
BSC SME	Business Support Centre for Small and Medium Enterprises – Ruse, Bulgaria
CAFS	The Chamber of Agriculture and Forestry of Slovenia (CAFS)
CBPD	Centre for Business and Parliamentary Dialog, Albania
CERTH/IRETETH	Centre for Research and Technology - Thessaly - Institute of Technology and Management of Agricultural Ecosystems, Greece
CONFAGRICOLTURA PUGLIA	Regional Federation Of Farmers Puglia
ERFC	European Regional Framework Co-operation Greece
EU	European Union
FFRM	Federation of the Farmers in the Republic of Macedonia
ICT	Information and Communications Technology
IRETETH	The Institute for Research and Technology- Thessaly
KGZS	Chamber of Agriculture and Forestry of Slovenia
R&D	Research and Development
SEE	South East Europe
SME	Small and Medium Enterprises
SE RDA/ADR SE	The Regional Development Agency of the South - East Development Region, Albania
UNIMOL	University of Molise



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Acknowledgements

We would like to express our gratitude to our partners, whose expertise and collaboration make this project possible.

Also a special thank you to the South East Europe Programme Management Authority who catalyzed our ideas into a project made reality.

Last but not least, we would like to thank all of our beneficiaries and collaborators with whom we work every day in our effort to make a better life in our region.

Foreword

*“Being an entrepreneur is not, nor will it ever be, easy. **SEE KIT for Entrepreneurs** provides you with tool kit information to accelerate your company’s success, whether you’re in the early stages of your vision, or in full execution*

AGRO-START is pleased to introduce ***SEE KIT for Entrepreneurs***

This document is a tool that gets together at national, regional and EU level: legislation, financial support for entrepreneurs initiatives information, contact points for entrepreneurship, business plan conditions and requirements, networks or agricultural innovation clusters, relevant statistics, official quality standards, any other relevant and helpful information.

The tool kit also includes links to Good Practice Guide as case study for entrepreneurs.

It is our hope that the information, policies, strategies and lessons, linked and presented here, will help and better support entrepreneurs and businesses in their own communities and further more in the region, and shed additional light on how to contribute to business growth as:

- ✓ ***Smart growth*** as being achieved through the competitiveness of agriculture and food industries;
- ✓ ***Sustainable growth*** through the sustainable management of natural resources;
- ✓ ***Inclusive growth*** through balanced territorial development of rural areas.

“Center for Business & Parliamentary Dialog”- CBPD

Executive Summary

The South East Europe (SEE) economic area is a SME-based economy in which the sectors of horticulture and animal breeding play a vital role regarding economic growth and employment opportunities. However, SMEs face severe common problems in sustainably keeping up their competitiveness in their national and on the European market. Project partners have decided to tackle the urgent need to improve business support services in order to elaborate an integrated transnational approach that will help to provide a specific support service for SMEs of the horticulture and animal breeding sector.

Furthermore, the overall economic development in the Western Balkan countries went hand-in-hand with agricultural growth. Nevertheless, it is proven that this does not necessarily imply an increasing competitiveness in European export markets. Support has to be provided with a transnational approach in relation to specific requirements and quality standards that help SMEs to improve their competitiveness. Most of the entrepreneurs do not fully exploit the opportunities that the SEE area is offering by not also considering the opportunity to open their business in one of the participating SEE countries or by being reluctant to widening the scope of their business activities and implant internationalisation strategies.

The core results of the project will be an improved effectiveness and quality of business support services that will be able to facilitate an innovative environment for entrepreneurship, assist SMEs to access new markets, improve their product quality and marketing strategies and assess them in the development and implementation of internationalisation strategies. The overall result will be the increased competitiveness of the SMEs active in the horticulture and animal breeding sector.

The SEE KIT for Entrepreneurs will be an important tool component designed as an important solution step forward for the detected lack of support tools to be offered to entrepreneurs, that are capable of providing efficient assistance in preparing the SMEs for a successful start of their entrepreneurship initiative. In this means that deficient tools exist that give information on the national conditions, but no tool exists that will tackle and inform in a structured and clear manner the requirements and conditions for entrepreneurship in several SEE areas.

Thus, the overall objective of SEE Kit for entrepreneurs is to offer specific products for the business support services that these can directly offer to entrepreneurs in order to prepare them for innovative entrepreneurship that takes into account the opportunities that the SEE area offers.

USER GUIDE

LINK TO SPECIFIC COUNTRY INFORMATION FOR ENREPRENEURS



IDENTIFY

ROMANIA

GREECE

SLOVENIA

BULGARIA

ITALY

[ALBANIA](#)



FYROM

SECTOR GENERAL PERSPECTIVE

The main goal of the Agriculture and Rural Development Sector is to reinforce its ability to compete in the integrated regional markets of the European Union and South-Eastern Europe, through measures for increasing the efficiency of agricultural production, processing and marketing; contribute to the gradual alignment to the EU standards and acquis; and to build viable rural communities through sustainable rural development, which are also prepared to adapt to the effects of climate change.

Five strategic policy issues that are to be addressed are:

- ✓ to increase sector competitiveness;
- ✓ to achieve food quality and safety;
- ✓ to achieve sustainable resource management;
- ✓ to improve living conditions in rural areas;
- ✓ to reform regulatory and institutional framework.





SEE KIT for Entrepreneurs- Objectives

The specific objectives are the following:

- ✓ Provide better assistance to SMEs in order for them to increase the internationalization
- ✓ Raise awareness on the need for innovation and provide better innovation diagnostic and assessment services;
- ✓ Provide better assistance for entrepreneurs and facilitate the environment for innovative entrepreneurship for entrepreneurs
- ✓ Transfer the lesson learned and the support tools and capacitate employees of business support service to implement them.
- ✓ offer specific products for the business support services that these can directly offer to entrepreneurs in order to prepare them for innovative entrepreneurship that takes into account the opportunities that the SEE area offers.

The **project's overall objective** is to increase the SMEs competitiveness and promote and facilitate and innovative entrepreneurship by giving answer to the need of a specific support Service for SMEs in the horticulture and animal breeding sector that adapts an integrated transnational approach.

The AGRO-START project aims increase the SMEs competitiveness and promote and facilitate and innovative entrepreneurship by giving answer to the need of a specific support Service for SMEs in the horticulture and animal breeding sector that adapts an integrated transnational approach. Our project is addressed to business support organizations and services that provide assistance to SMEs of the South East European economic area active in the horticulture and animal breeding sector and to SMEs from those two sectors.

TOOLKIT INFORMATION FOR ENTREPRENEURS – *ALBANIA*

Animal Breeding and Horticulture Sector

<u>National legislation / ALBANIA</u>	ALB / LEGISLATION
<u>National financial supports for entrepreneurs initiatives / ALBANIA</u>	ALB / FIN.SUPPORT
<u>National contact points for entrepreneurship / ALBANIA</u>	ALB / CONTACT
<u>National network / ALBANIA</u>	ALB / NETWORK
<u>Agricultural innovation clusters / ALBANIA</u>	ALB / CLUSTERS
<u>National Statistics / ALBANIA</u>	ALB / STASTICS
<u>National official quality standards / ALBANIA</u>	ALB / STANDARDS
<u>Other informations / ALBANIA</u>	ALB / OTHER INFO

“Center for Business & Parliamentary Dialog” - CBPD



1. National legislation / ALBANIA

Policies:

Albanian State Policy in the field of horticulture and animal breeding.

The Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development is the central public authority responsible for enforcing the policies and programs of the Albanian Government, the national strategy in the agricultural sector, food and bio-food production, rural development, fisheries and aquaculture, land reclamation, and related areas: phytosanitary, specialized scientific research, conservation and sustainable management of soil and plant and animal genetic resources. The Ministry is responsible for the adaptation of the agricultural sector in compliance with the European and international standards. Other attributions are related to the improvement of the production competitiveness and enhancing the export capacity of the Albanian agriculture under strict standards of environmental protection, food safety and uniform control of the food chain and welfare of animals.

To achieve the objectives of its field, the Ministry has the following functions:

- ✓ **strategy**, developed in accordance with Government policy, EU norms and worldwide trends;
- ✓ **regulatory**, which ensure the development of the legal framework and specific rulemaking activities in its areas of activity;
- ✓ **administration and management** the public and private property of the state and the management of funds and services for which the state is responsible, in its field of activity;
- ✓ **European fund management and allocation** for national rural development, agriculture and fisheries; for IPARD Programme, National Rural Development Programme 2007-2013, 2014-2020 and Fisheries Operational Programme;
- ✓ **representation** internally and externally in its field and within the limits set by the laws in force;
- ✓ **state authority**, which ensures the implementation, monitoring, enforcement and compliance regulations in its areas of activity;
- ✓ **payment** through AZHBR and its subordinated institutions and departments.

The strategy and development of agriculture need a clear conceptual policy basis. Although the manner, priorities and areas of interventions through different policies, whether public or private, are well-outlined in multi-year and one-year strategic ones, there is a need for a clearer and systematic reformulation of the agriculture policy concept to be implemented in Albania.

The new concept of agricultural policy will consist of the following important principles:

- ✓ Increase the participatory or inclusive character of the political process throughout the policy cycle: identification, design, approval, implementation, monitoring and evaluation.
- ✓ Ensure the continuity of the policy cycle, avoiding pauses and breaks, to ensure the continuity of support to agriculture.
- ✓ Focus more on direct support, to ensure an impact on critical points, on direct factors, such as technology, growth of agricultural production and improvement in quality.

- ✓ Pass to a phase of obligatory and standardised monitoring and evaluation of policy and programme impact, as a condition that will not only increase managerial engagement but will also ensure the effectiveness of development programmes.
- ✓ Measure results or effects of development policies against 'SMART' indicators.
- ✓ Focus attention on demand-driven or market agricultural policies. In the future, policies that aim to manage consumer demand will need to have a special place, deriving from their effectiveness in other countries but also in Albania.
- ✓ Integrate the Millennium Development Goals, to which Albania is a signatory, in particular the poverty reduction goal. Although this goal is not derived explicitly, it is reflected implicitly in the above-mentioned principles of the new agricultural policy and will be achieved through the increase in production and rural employment.

The five priorities are:

1. Financial support for farms, agricultural and agro-processing businesses will increase
2. The management, irrigation and drainage of agricultural land will improve
3. The marketing of agricultural and processed products will improve
4. The level and quality of technologies, information and farmer knowledge and agro processors will improve
5. Food quality and safety of agricultural and agro-processed products will increase

The strategic sectors are:

1. Fruit, olive and grape production
2. Vegetable production
3. Livestock products
4. Industrial processing of fruit and vegetables
5. Industrial processing of grapes
6. Industrial processing of milk and meat

Strategic goals is :

to support in a sustainable way the agricultural and agro-processing sector.

Specific goals are:

- ✓ Sustainable land management, as a basic component of, and in full compliance with, sustainable agricultural development
- ✓ Increased employment, income, and living standards of farmers and their households
- ✓ Increased economic efficiency of the agricultural and agro-processing sector, which is expressed through an increase in the productivity and the quality of products
- ✓ Assurance of higher food safety standards for the entire population
- ✓ Improvement of agricultural marketing

Laws:

Entire legislative package applied in can be found on:

- ✓ <http://www.qbz.gov.al/>

✓ <http://www.bujgesia.gov.al/al/legjislacion/legjislacion>

✓ <http://www.ligjet.org>

✓ <http://www.legjislacionin.gov.al>

✓ <http://www.bujgesia.gov.al/al/programi>

- ✓ Law 7941 of 31.05.1995, "On Food" (replaced recently by the Law 9863 of 28.01.2008)
- ✓ Law 7643 of 02.12.1992, "For the State Sanitary Inspectorate"
- ✓ Law 9308 of 04.11.2004, "For the veterinary service and inspectorate"
- ✓ Law 9135 of 11.09.2003, "For the consumer protection"
- ✓ Law 9362 of 24.03.2005, "For the plant protection service"
- ✓ Law 8702 of 01.12.2000, "For the identification of animals and registration of animal raising farms"
- ✓ Law no.8752 dated 26.03.2001, "On the establishment and operation of structures for Management and Earth Protection ", amended.
- ✓ LAW NR.121, dated 17.02.2011, "On ways of exercising the functions of the department's management and protection of land in the districts and the offices of management and protection of land in municipalities
- ✓ LAW no. 410, dated 02.07.2012 "On establishing the rules and procedures changing categories of land resources "
- ✓ Law no. 8312, dated 26.03.1998, "On inherent agricultural land", as amended.
- ✓ LAW no. 531, dated 21.08.1998, "On inherent agricultural land", as amended by Law no. 176, dated 30.03.2001.
- ✓ Instruction no. 1, dated 18.07.2012, "On the procedures of leasing agricultural land inheritance"
- ✓ Law no. 8318, dated 01.04.1998, "On leasing the agricultural land and forest land, meadows and pastures that are state property"
- ✓ LAW no. 830, dated 28.12.1998, "On the criteria of calculating the annual rental value of agricultural, forest, meadows and pastures."
- ✓ LAW no. 831, dated 28.12.1998, "On the way of leasing the agricultural land, state property ", as amended.
- ✓ PM Instruction no. 3, dated 28.12.1998, "On the procedure for the auction of leasing of agricultural land, state property."
- ✓ Prime Minister Order no. 287, dated 20.12.2006, "On the identification and disruption of alienation procedures of state property, farmland, woodland, meadows and pastures "
- ✓ Law no. 459, dated 22.05.2013 "On a change in the fund of physical compensation created by fund of agricultural land"
- ✓ Law no. 460, dated 05.22.2013 "On the definition of the criteria, rules and procedures for leasing agricultural land owned by the state"
- ✓ Law no. 9244 dated 17.06.2004, "On the protection of agricultural land."
- ✓ LAW no. 80, dated 28.1.2005, "On the composition, methods of operation, tasks and responsibilities of state structures for protecting agricultural land"
- ✓ LAW no. 59, dated 28.01.2005, "On the analysis of values indicators of agriculture land "
- ✓ Law no. 8337, dated 04.30.1998, "On transferring the ownership of agricultural land, forest, meadows and pastures"
- ✓ LAW No. 567, dated 05.09.2007, "In accepting the criteria and procedures for appointment property real estate fund, for physical compensation"
- ✓ LAW no. 500, dated 14.08.2001, "On the inventory of immovable property state and the transfer of

assets in units of local government”

- ✓ Law no. 8743, dated 22.02.2001, "For immovable property of the state"
- ✓ Law no. 10119, dated 23.04.2009, "On Territorial Planning".
- ✓ Law no. 10263, dated 08.04.2010, "On the use and exploitation of uncultivated agricultural lands".
- ✓ Law no. 9948, dated 07.07.2008 "On the legal validity of creating titles of ownership on agricultural land", as amended,
- ✓ Law no. 56/2012 for an addition to the Law no. 8053, dated 21.12.1995 "Transition to owned agricultural land without compensation ", change
- ✓ Law no. 57/2012 for the completion of the transition in ownership beneficiaries of agricultural land of former agricultural enterprises
- ✓ Law no. 58/2012 for some additional and amendments to Law no. 9948, Dated 07.07.2008 "On the legal validity of creating ownership titles for agricultural land ", amended
- ✓ Law no. 222, dated 06.03.2013 to establish procedures to complete the transfer process of agricultural land of former agricultural enterprises owned by beneficiaries.
- ✓ Law no. 253, dated 06.03.2013 for determining the procedures of fulfillment the acts of agricultural land acquisition owned agricultural households in the villages of former agricultural cooperatives.

Treaties, Agreements or Protocols:

- ✓ The Agreement on Agriculture (international Treaty of the World Trade Organization)
- ✓ Interim Agreement on Trade and trade-related matters between the European Community, of the one part, and the Republic of Albania, of the other part
(http://ec.europa.eu/enlargement/pdf/albania/st08154.06_en.pdf)
- ✓ The **Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety** is an international agreement on [biosafety](#), as a supplement to the Convention on Biological Diversity.15 May 2000
- ✓ The **International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture** (IT PGRFA)
- ✓ Treaty Series - Cumulative Index No. 42
- ✓ *Commission Regulation (EC) No 1622/2000 of 24 July 2000-Albanian tariff concessions for Community industrial products Annex II(a) – Albanian tariff concessions for agricultural primary products originating in the Community (referred to in Article 27(3)(a))*
- ✓ 2007/239/EC: Council Decision of 5 March 2007 on a Community Position concerning Decision No 1/2007 of the Joint Committee referred to in the Interim Agreement on trade and trade-related matters between the European Community, of the one part, and the Republic of *Albania*, of the other part, adopting its Rules of Procedure including the Terms of Reference and Structure of the EC-*Albania* Working Parties
- ✓ **22006A0901(01)**: Interim Agreement on trade and trade-related matters between the European Community, of the one part, and the Republic of *Albania*, of the other part - Protocol 2 on trade between *Albania* and the Community in the sector of processed agricultural products (SAA protocol)
- ✓ **22006A0901(01)**: Interim Agreement on trade and trade-related matters between the European

Community, of the one part, and the Republic of **Albania**, of the other part Protocol 3 on reciprocal preferential concessions for certain wines, the reciprocal recognition, protection and control of wine, spirit drinks and aromatised wine names (SAA protocol 3)

- ✓ Council Regulation (EC) No 1616/2006 of 23 October 2006 on certain procedures for applying the Stabilisation and Association Agreement between the European Communities and their Member States, of the one part, and the Republic of **Albania**, of the other part, and for applying the Interim Agreement between the European Community and the Republic of **Albania**
- ✓ **22008A1219(01)**: Protocol to the Interim Agreement on trade and trade-**related** matters between the European Community, of the one part, and the Republic of **Albania**, of the other part, to take into account the accession of the Republic of Bulgaria and Albania to the European Union
- ✓ 008/936/EC: Council Decision of 15 September 2008 on the signing and conclusion of the Protocol to the Interim Agreement on trade and trade-**related** matters between the European Community, of the one part, and the Republic of **Albania**, of the other part, to take account of the accession of the Republic of Bulgaria and Albania to the European Union
- ✓ 2008/936/EC: Proposal for a Council Decision on the conclusion of the Protocol to the Interim Agreement on trade and trade-**related** matters between the European Community, of the one part, and the Republic of **Albania**, of the other part, to take account of the accession of the Republic of Bulgaria, and Albania to the European Union
- ✓ **22005X0811(01)**: Information concerning the date of entry into force of the Protocol to the Stabilisation and Association Agreement between the European Communities and their Member States, of the one part, and the Republic of **Albania**, of the other part, on a Framework Agreement between the European Community and the Republic of **Albania** on the general principles for the participation of the Republic of **Albania** in Community programmes
- ✓ 2003/252/CFSP: Council Decision 2003/252/CFSP of 24 February 2003 concerning the conclusion of the Agreement between the European Union and the Republic of **Albania** on the activities of the European Union Monitoring Mission (EUMM) in the Republic of **Albania** - Agreement between the European Union and the Republic of **Albania** on the activities of the European Union Monitoring Mission (EUMM) in the Republic of **Albania**
- ✓ **2006/0045/ACC**
Proposal for a Council Decision on the conclusion of the Interim Agreement on trade and trade-**related** matters between the European Community, of the one part, and the Republic of **Albania**, of the other part
- ✓ Agreement between Albania and the European Free Trade Association (EFTA) and bilateral agricultural arrangements referred to in the agreement, On December

“Albania applies a liberal trade regime while its foreign trade has been liberalized since 1990 and follows the guidelines set by the European Union and World Trade Organization. Albania has been a member of WTO since 2000 and applies WTO rules on import licensing. As a result of this liberalization and an on-going process of harmonization of Albanian customs rules with the EU system, imports and exports of commodities are not generally subject to special authorization requirements. Exceptions apply to quotas or control requirements imposed through different bilateral or multilateral agreements signed by Albania. Licenses are also required for specific commodities with restricted circulation within the country such as military or strategic goods, radioactive materials and psychotropic substances, drugs etc. The country’s trade policies compilation subduced to some duties generated by its membership as well as to the need for

adoption of country's legislation in conformity with global trade rules. Albania committed to:

- liberalize its tariff regime by employing a tariff reduction process (bound rates and sectorial initiatives);
 - to perform all commitments derived by the agreements on Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT) and Sanitary and Phytosanitary Standards (SPS);
 - Albanian Customs Code emphasizes that custom valuation will take place in compliance with the requirements of WTO;
 - Albania is a member of WIPO (World Intellectual Property Organization) since 1992 and it has recognized some international agreements in this area. Albania has committed to implement the entire TRIPS Agreement and the legislation regarding author's copyrights. Albania has also signed the respective memorandum related to intellectual Property Regime.
- ✓ Exports are not subject to any export taxes, fees or other barriers. Imports are not subject to any import duty taxes other than customs duties. Imports are subject to VAT and some items, such as tobacco, alcoholic beverages and fuel are also subject to an **Albania: [Law No. 10433 dated 16.6.2011 on the inspection in the Republic of Albania.](#)**
Date of text: 16 June 2011.
FAOLEX No: LEX-FAOC133380
- ✓ **Albania: [Law No.10201 dated 17.12.2009 on the general registration of the agricultural economic units.](#)**
Date of text: 17 December 2009.
FAOLEX No: LEX-FAOC112572
- ✓ **Albania: [Law No. 9860 amending and supplementing Law No. 8518 of 1999 on irrigation and drainage.](#)**
Date of text: 21 January 2008.
FAOLEX No: LEX-FAOC083672
- ✓ **Albania: [Law No. 9817 on agriculture and rural development.](#)**
Date of text: 22 October 2007.
FAOLEX No: LEX-FAOC083478
- ✓ **Albania: [Law No. 8518 regulating irrigation and drainage.](#)**
Date of text: 30 July 1999.
FAOLEX No: LEX-FAOC020563
- ✓ **Albania: [Law No. 8337 on giving ownership in agricultural lands, forests, pastures and meadows.](#)**
Date of text: 30 April 1998.
FAOLEX No: LEX-FAOC020242
- ✓ **Albania: [Law No. 8312 on non-divided agricultural lands.](#)**
Date of text: 26 March 1998.
FAOLEX No: LEX-FAOC020241
- ✓ **Albania: [Law No. 8084 amending Decree No. 1359 on land compensation.](#)**
Date of text: 7 March 1996.
FAOLEX No: LEX-FAOC025411

- ✓ **Albania:** [Law No. 8047 on the administration of refused agricultural lands.](#)
Date of text: 14 December 1995.
FAOLEX No: LEX-FAOC067854
 - ✓ **Albania:** [Law No. 7836 on pricing of agricultural lands for compensation.](#)
Date of text: 22 June 1994.
FAOLEX No: LEX-FAOC020268
 - ✓ On December 19, 2006, all of Albania's bilateral trade agreements with countries in the region were transformed into a multilateral one, the Central European Free Trade Agreement (CEFTA 2006), which includes eight countries: Albania, Macedonia, Montenegro, Kosovo, Moldova, Croatia, Serbia and Bosnia and Herzegovina.
 - ✓ United Nations Framework Convention on climate change, signed in Rio de Janeiro on 5 June 1992, at the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development
 - ✓ International Dairy Agreement
 - ✓ International Bovine Meat Agreement
 - ✓ Protocol to the Convention on the elaboration of an European Pharmacopoeia (Strasbourg)
 - ✓ Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety to the Convention on Biological Diversity (Montreal)
 - ✓ The System of Preferences General (GSP) is a US trade program designed to promote economic growth in developing countries by providing preferential duty-free entry of up to 3,500 products from 128 countries including Albania & Kosovo.
- 28 April 2009** - Albania submits its application for EU membership
- 1 April 2009** - Entry into force of the [Stabilizations and Association Agreement \(SAA\)](#)
- June 2008** - The European Commission presents a road map identifying specific requirements for visa liberalization with Albania.
- March 2008** - Visa liberalization dialogue launched
- 18 February 2008** - Council decision on a revised [European partnership](#) for Albania
- 22 January 2008** - Albania and the EC sign the Financing Agreement for the instrument for Pre-Accession Assistance (IPA) 2007 National Programme
- January 2008** - The [visa facilitation agreement](#) enters into force.
- 18 October 2007** - Albania signs the IPA Framework Agreement
- September 2007** - Signature of a [visa facilitation agreement between Albania and the EU](#)
- May 2007** - Adoption of the Multi-Annual Indicative Planning Document (MIPD) 2007-2009 for Albania

under the IPA

January 2007 - Entry into force of the new instrument for Pre-Accession Assistance (IPA).

December 2006 - Entry into force of the [Interim Agreement](#)

June 2006 - Signature of the [Stabilisation and Association Agreement](#) (SAA) at the General Affairs and External Relations Council in Luxembourg

May 2006 - Entry into force of the EC-Albania readmission agreement

January 2006 - Council decision on a revised European Partnership for Albania

June 2004 - Council decision on a first European Partnership for Albania

June 2003 - at [Thessaloniki European Council](#) the [Stabilisation and Association Process \(SAP\)](#) is confirmed as the EU policy for the Western Balkans. The EU perspective for these countries is confirmed (countries participating in the SAP are eligible for EU accession and may join the EU once they are ready).

January 2003 - Commission President Prodi officially launches the negotiations for a SAA between the EU and Albania.

October 2002 - Negotiating Directives for the negotiation of a SAA with Albania are adopted in October.

2001 - The Commission recommends the undertaking of negotiations on SAA with Albania. The Goeteborg European Council invites the Commission to present draft negotiating directives for the negotiation of a SAA.

2001 - First year of the Community Assistance for Reconstruction, Development and Stabilisation (CARDS) programme specifically designed for the Stabilisation and Association Process countries

November 2000 - [Zagreb Summit](#) launches the [Stabilisation and Association Process \(SAP\)](#) for five countries of South-Eastern Europe, including Albania

June 2000 - Feira European Council states that all the SAP countries are "potential candidates" for EU membership.

2000 - Extension of duty-free access to EU market for products from Albania.

1999 - Albania benefits from Autonomous Trade Preferences with the EU.

1999 - The EU proposes the new Stabilisation and Association Process (SAP) for five countries of South-Eastern Europe, including Albania.

1997 - Regional Approach. The EU Council of Ministers establishes political and economic conditionality

for the development of bilateral relations.

1992 - Trade and Co-operation Agreement between the EU and Albania. Albania becomes eligible for funding under the EU's Phare programme.

Strategies and Plans:

The National Strategy for Development and Integration (NSDI) is prepared in the framework of the Integrated Planning System as a coherent reflection of sector and crosscutting strategies. One of the most important strategic documents in this framework is the Agriculture and Food Sector Strategy (AFSS).

The AFSS is based on:

- ✓ the Government Programme on the economic development of the country and in particular the development of agriculture and food
- ✓ the effort towards European and Euro-Atlantic integration, in other words the implementation of the Interim Agreement, the Stabilization Association Agreement (SAA) and the NATO membership plan
- ✓ the public investment programme and external assistance

Apart from being a contribution to the NSDI, the AFSS aims to provide the link between the strategic objectives, with a 7-year perspective, and the expenditure programmes prepared in the framework of the Medium-Term Budget Programme (MTBP).

The other purposes of the strategy are:

- ✓ to ensure the coherence of policies and the long-term orientation of the development of the agriculture and food sector
- ✓ to clarify the reform and development process taking place in the public and private sectors
- ✓ to outline the needs for technical and financial support to agriculture

AFSS and Common European Policy

The AFSS is linked with the Common European Policy. The new European policy on agriculture is included in the framework of rural development.

Rural development in the EU includes four axes:

- ✓ Axis 1: Raise competitiveness of agriculture and forestry
- ✓ Axis 2: Improve the environment and the village
- ✓ Axis 3: Improve the quality of life and diversify the economy in rural areas
- ✓ Axis 4: LEADER or development with participation

Keeping in mind our vision for agricultural development (competitiveness) it is clear that our

agriculture and food strategy is aligned with it (Axis 1). Similarly, in our approach to agricultural development, the participation of beneficiaries and all actors of agricultural development, from the identification of problems and all the way to monitoring and evaluation, is foreseen as to take place with broad and democratic participation, which is in accordance with the philosophy of Axis 4 of European policy. The EU aims to promote competition and the competitiveness of the products of European farmers by removing subsidies to the quantity of production (the so-called single payment mechanism). This will strengthen competition, because farmers will be oriented more to market demand. This mechanism does not encourage large farms, so that even they need to think more about competition. The subsidy to European farmers is also linked with the demand for food safety, the protection of the environment, product quality, animal and plant health etc (there are 18 standards that need to be fulfilled in this framework before farmers can receive assistance).

Vision, strategic priorities and strategic goals

Vision

The agricultural and agro-processing sector must reach a higher level of productivity and competitiveness, both in domestic and foreign markets, on the basis of improving the conditions to allow the private initiative to operate and of fully supporting development in a sustainable way, guaranteed by efficient institutions. The sector depends on the level of technology and knowledge and on the efficiency of using land, labour and other inputs. Higher productivity and competitiveness are foundations for production to increase, for market access to improve for farmers and agro-processing businesses, for income to increase, and for the living standards of farmers and their families to improve.

The increase in the quality of agro-food products is a fundamental factor for the increase of competitiveness. The increase in quality will come from technological improvements but also from new methods and techniques of integrated management of production systems and the reduction in the use of chemicals, which will promote the increase of organic production.

The strategic vision of the AFSS considers the development of agriculture and agro-processing through the spectrum of European integration, which guides the vision of the government for these sectors and bodes well for meeting the standards and requirements of a faster integration of Albania into the EU, in general, and of the SAA, in particular.

Strategic priorities

It is already clear that without a gradual increase of financial support for farmers and agro-processors, in the form of grants or loans for development, in order to enable and accelerate farm and business modernization and to increase productivity and competitiveness, progress will be too slow. All the technical support, from which farmers and agro-businesses have benefited so far in different ways, ranging from training to advice), has already improved the 'software' of development. Now, the effectiveness and speed of development will depend on interventions and improvements in the 'hardware', i.e. in improving the technological level of production, which demands more direct investment. This is the reason why planning a larger financial support is

considered a strategic priority for the farm and agro-business sector.

Irrigation and drainage have taken the lion's share of agricultural funds up to now, as water is the main input for the increase of agricultural production. Considering the current situation, as a large part of the irrigation and drainage system is still not rehabilitated or inefficient, it will be necessary to complete and improve this process.

The market is the key factor generating development stimuli for the production sectors. As identified in the first part, the marketing of agricultural products is underdeveloped. In previous years or even at the moment, some development initiatives are being implemented which have proved insufficient to establish agricultural marketing at the farm or at the market level according to the necessary standards. This makes it a special priority.

The level of technology and knowledge, including information remains a key factor for increasing productivity, production itself, product quality and, through these, competitiveness and the level of market access for farmers and agro-businesses. Although the technology level in farms and agro-businesses has considerably improved compared to the first transition years, it is still low compared to other countries. For this reason, it is an important strategic priority.

Food safety for agricultural and agro-processed products is a vital issue that is related to the quality and security of life. The issue of food safety is critical, very fragile and highlighted even in the integration dialogue of the country with the EU. Meanwhile, despite progress that has been identified above, there are many serious aspects of food safety elements and issues of food safety yet unconsolidated and still waiting for a relevant resolution. Therefore, guaranteeing a more food safety for the population will be an absolute priority. Food safety will be guaranteed through technological improvements, the application of new methods and systems of food safety control, the use of integrated pest management methods, the integrated management of plant nutrition and animal breeding, and the use of good agricultural practices, which together will increase the importance and weight of organic products in agricultural production and the consumer basket.

Strategic sectors

Strategic sectors will be developed with priority. The basic factors that were considered in defining the priorities are: (i) the development trends so far; (ii) the future development potential, given the agro-climatic conditions and the tradition; (iii) the impact on farmer income; (iv) market conditions and, generally, competition and (v) the export potential.

The strategic sectors over the period 2007-2013 are:

- ✓ Fruit, olive and grape production
- ✓ Vegetable production
- ✓ Livestock products
- ✓ Industrial processing of fruit and vegetables
- ✓ Industrial processing of grapes
- ✓ Industrial processing of milk and meat

GENERAL POLICY CONCEPT OF AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT

The strategy and development of agriculture need a clear conceptual policy basis. Although the manner, priorities and areas of interventions through different policies, whether public or private, are well-outlined in multi-year and one-year strategic ones, there is a need for a clearer and systematic reformulation of the agriculture policy concept to be implemented in Albania.

The new concept of agricultural policy will consist of the following important principles:

- ✓ Increase the participatory or inclusive character of the political process throughout the policy cycle: identification, design, approval, implementation, monitoring and evaluation.
- ✓ Ensure the continuity of the policy cycle, avoiding pauses and breaks, to ensure the continuity of support to agriculture.
- ✓ Focus more on direct support, to ensure an impact on critical points, on direct factors, such as technology, growth of agricultural production and improvement in quality.
- ✓ Pass to a phase of obligatory and standardised monitoring and evaluation of policy and programme impact, as a condition that will not only increase managerial engagement but will also ensure the effectiveness of development programmes.
- ✓ Measure results or effects of development policies against 'SMART' indicators
- ✓ Focus attention on demand-driven or market agricultural policies. In the future, policies that aim to manage consumer demand will need to have a special place, deriving from their effectiveness in other countries but also in Albania.
- ✓ Integrate the Millennium Development Goals, to which Albania is a signatory, in particular the poverty reduction goal. Although this goal is not derived explicitly, it is reflected implicitly in the above-mentioned principles of the new agricultural policy and will be achieved through the increase in production and rural employment.

This explicit reformulation would be an important condition in order for the agricultural strategy to be coherent, objective and to have tangible effects on agriculture and food.

Policies related to investment in agriculture or agro-processing

- ✓ Direct payments in the form of grants or credit for investment in production technologies
- ✓ Direct payments in the form of grants or credit to increase the inventory of fruit trees or production animals, equipment, agricultural machinery and storing capacities
- ✓ Direct payments in the form of grants for agricultural or agro-processing inputs
- ✓ Interest rate subsidy (or credit guarantee) of private loans
- ✓ Direct payments or credit to promote and support local initiatives
- ✓ Investment in the infrastructure of markets and producer organisations

Policies related to technical assistance and advice to farmers

- ✓ Rural innovation platforms
- ✓ Parallel partnerships (associations, producer or marketing groups, local action groups)
- ✓ Vertical partnerships (farmers and traders or agro-processing manufacturers, who cooperate in joint programmes of trading inputs and outputs)
- ✓ Establishment of rules and strengthening of monitoring to eliminate potential

- monopolistic phenomena in the input market
- ✓ Easing of licensing and tax burden of traders to increase market competitiveness
- ✓ Establishment of farmer schools
- ✓ Improvement of agricultural techniques and capacities
- ✓ Stronger monitoring capacities of the quality of seeds and seedlings
- ✓ Exchange of local experiences in production technologies, trading and organization of associations
- ✓ Improvement of the 'knowledge and agricultural information' system across the country
- ✓ Promotion of farmer lobbies at the level of the zone across the country
- ✓ Group discussions to identify roads that will promote agro-tourism and organic products
- ✓ Expansion of good agricultural practices and of integrated plant protection
- ✓ Studies to identify niche markets
- ✓ Technical or financial assistance for value-adding activities of farmer products
- ✓ Awareness-raising campaigns
- ✓ Establishment and implementation of standards for agricultural products
- ✓ Improvement in the collection, dissemination, use and publication of statistical information
- ✓ Improvement in the procedures of planning, monitoring, evaluation and publication of their results
- ✓ Legal improvements and approximation with the EU legislation
- ✓ Improvement of the market information system
- ✓ Introduction of the private agricultural advisory services on payment
- ✓ Training of the administration, farmers and producer groups

POLICY APPROACHES FOR AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT

The policy approaches that will be implemented in the course of achieving the objectives of the AFSS are:

- ✓ Direct and indirect public financial support
- ✓ Encouragement of domestic resources
- ✓ Learning and linking
- ✓ Participation and dialogue between beneficiaries and stakeholders
- ✓ Empowering of beneficiaries through programmes
- ✓ Creation of a competitive environment
- ✓ Stimulation of cooperation

Short-term policies (2008)

- ✓ Improvements to the laws on land use and transfer, including adequate fiscal policies
- ✓ Training for the organizational and institutional strengthening of water associations
- ✓ Institutional strengthening of land management (land inspectorate)
- ✓ Extension to improve integrated land management
- ✓ Rehabilitation of irrigation and drainage with public funds or through the encouragement of the private sector

Medium-term policies (2009-2010)

- ✓ Mobilisation and awareness raising among the agricultural development stakeholders to improve the management of agricultural land
- ✓ Land use information system
- ✓ Extension to improve integrated land management

- ✓ Rehabilitation of irrigation and drainage with public funds or through the encouragement of the private sector
- ✓ Training for the organizational and institutional strengthening of water associations

Long-term policies (2011-2013)

- ✓ Rehabilitation of irrigation and drainage with public funds or through the encouragement of the private sector
- ✓ Strengthening of the role of local government in irrigation and drainage
- ✓ Extension to improve integrated land management
- ✓ Training for the organisational and institutional strengthening of water associations

Taxes:

Taxes

A summary of the personal tax regime in Albania compiled by EY at following:

<http://www.icaew.com/en/library/subject-gateways/tax/tax-by-country/albania>, includes information for:

- ✓ income tax
- ✓ social security taxes
- ✓ tax filing and payment procedures
- ✓ visas and permits for work and residence
- ✓ double tax relief and tax treaties.

Favorable Tax and Customs System

With the adoption of the new 2014 fiscal package Law no. 179/2013 on the 28th December 2013 the government has taken a number of initiatives such as:

- ✓ NO VAT on machinery worth over 500,000 dollars that will be used to increase the productivity.
- ✓ NO TAXES on Small Businesses with an annual turnover less than 2 million ALL. Small Business will pay a tax amount of 25 thousand ALL (177€) per year.
- ✓ Businesses with an annual turnover from 2 – 8 million ALL(€14,000.00-56,000.00)will be

subject to a tax rate of 7.5%

- ✓ NO VAT on medicines, health services, as of April 1st 2014.
- ✓ NO Excise on fuel used for the needs of oil producing companies.

THE ALBANIAN CUSTOMS SYSTEM

Customs legislation and administration

The General Directorate of Customs (GDC) is the institution responsible for the management of customs in the Republic of Albania. The GD Customs is under the Ministry of Finance and conducts its activity pursuant to the **Law No.8449 dated 27.01.1999 "Customs Code of the Republic of Albania"** and its amendments.

More info about Albanian customs can be found in www.dogana.gov.al.

Custom Tariffs

Albania is a member of the World Trade Organization since September 2000. By joining the WTO, Albania had to align its trade legislation with international and WTO rules.

Custom tariffs apply on the Combined Nomenclature of Classification of Goods. This Classification is in compliance with the European Community Combined Nomenclature of Classification of goods. The tariff system is very simple. The most-favored-nation tariff system applicable is: **0%, 2%, 5%, 6%, 10% and 15%**.

Under FTA-s, Albania applies **Preferential import tariffs** for CEFTA parties, EFTA parties, EU Member States and Turkey. In case of industrial products (chapters 25-97 of Classification of Goods Nomenclature) the tariff is 0%, while for agricultural products they are, as set out in the relevant agreements.

Favorable Tariff Treatment – FTT, is also applied. It provides reduction or relief from import duties chargeable by reason of nature of goods.

ALBANIAN CUSTOMS REGIMES

1. Placing in free circulation regime gives. Goods placed in free circulation, with a level of reduction or zero import duty, due to their particular/special use, will remain under customs supervision. This supervision shall end when the conditions for the level of reduction or zero rate of duty cease to exist, when goods are exported or destroyed, or when goods are used for purposes other than those provided for the implementation of level reduction or zero rate of duty, provided that the relevant obligations are paid.

2. The Temporary Permit Regime enables into the customs territory of the Republic of Albania, the total or partial relief from import duties and without their being subject to commercial policy measures, to the non-Albanian goods intended for re-export without having undergone any change except depreciation due to their use.

3. Inward processing Regime refers to a customs procedure where goods imported to Albania, or of Albanian origin, are manufactured or processed and then re-exported from Albania in the form of compensating product. The inward processing regimes allow producers to import raw materials or semi-processed products, exempt fully or partially from customs duties, and to manufacture/process and re-export the finished compensating products. The original imported product may or may not be distinguishable from the finished product.

4. The outward processing regime applies to Albanian goods temporarily exported from the country for being processed outside the country and re-imported in the form of compensating products, into the territory of Albania. The re-imported compensating products will be released for free circulation fully or partially exempted from import duties.

5. The warehousing regime allows storage in a custom warehouse of:

- a) Non Albanian goods not subject to custom duties,
- b) Albanian goods, when the provisions in force, in cases of their warehousing in customs, require the application of measures regarding the export of these goods.
- **A customs warehouse may be public or private.**
 - - Public warehouses are used to store goods by any interested person.
 - - Private warehouses are used to store goods by warehouse operators only.

6. Transit Regime. It refers to the circulation of goods from one customs point to another in the territory of Albania of:

- Non Albanian goods not subject to custom duties and import duties.
- Albanian goods subject to export procedures.

This regime can be also applied on circulation of goods to another territory in cases of :

- a signed international agreement
- it is accompanied by a transport document released in the territory of Albania.

7. The regime of processing of goods under customs control allows the import of non-Albanian goods exempted from custom duties; their utilization in operations that cause the change of their nature, and then placement in free circulation of the products obtained as a result of these operations, once the relevant import duties have been fulfilled.

8. Temporary admission is applied to goods that will not be released into free circulation immediately and are held temporarily in a warehouse until they are put in another customs regime. The warehouses are premises that have been approved by the Customs Authorities. The storage time in these areas shall be no more than 5 days for goods of road and railway transport and no more than 10 days for the goods of maritime transport.

Value Added Tax (VAT)

Imports - VAT is assessed, applied and paid at the moment goods enter the Albanian custom territory. The VAT rate is 20% of the taxable value. **According to the Law No.7928 dated 26.12.2007 "For VAT"** as amended, the exempt from VAT is applied to:

- ✓ Import of goods placed in the transit regime.
- ✓ Import of goods declared to fall under Temporary Allowance Regime
- ✓ Import of goods in active processing
- ✓ Import of goods or services relating to the performance of exploration and development phases of petroleum operations, carried out by contractors who work for these operations.
- ✓ Import of live animals of origin, coming from different donors.
- ✓ Import of goods coming from NATO.
- ✓ Import of good of appliances that help the integration of people in everyday life.

The customs Code foresees the exemption of the customs duties for the returning emigrants (persons that have lived in another country for a period of not less than 12 months continuously and are coming back to Albania).

Exports

Albanian *exports* are exempted from VAT (VAT rate 0%)

Tax or mandatory contribution	Payments (number)	Notes on Payments	Time (hours)	Statutory tax rate	Tax base	Total tax rate (% profit)	Notes on TTR
Social security contributions	12		94	15%	gross wages, minimum salaries are imposed	16.9	
Corporate income tax	13		119	10%	taxable profit	9.4	
Health insurance contribution	0	paid jointly		1.7%	gross salaries	1.9	
Municipal taxes	1			ALL 230,000	fixed fee varies by type of business	1.4	
Property transfer tax	1	on land		2%	sale price	1.2	
Property tax	1			ALL 140	area of building (land) in square meters	0.8	
Tax on impact on infrastructure	1			2%	value of investment	0	
Fuel tax	1				included into the fuel price	..	small amount
Value added tax (VAT)	12		144	20%	value added	..	not included

<http://www.icaew.com/en/library/subject-gateways/tax/tax-by-country/albania>

Register your business:

- ✓ <http://ncr.gov.al/>
- ✓ <http://qkr.gov.al>
- ✓ <http://aida.gov.al/>
- ✓ <http://qkl.gov.al>

COMPANY REGISTRATION AND BUSINESS LICENSING

Two major initiatives taken by the Government of Albania which aim to improve the business climate

are the establishment of the National Business Registration Center (NRC) and of National Licensing Center (NLC). The legislation regarding business registration and licensing procedures is harmonized to EU standards with focus the reduction of administrative barriers for businesses operating in Albania.

Company Registration

The Commercial Law no. 9901 "On Entrepreneurs and Commercial Companies") entered into force on 21. 05. 2008. This Law regulates the status of entrepreneurs, the founding and managing of companies, the rights and obligations of founders, partners, members, and shareholders, companies' reorganization and liquidation.

According to the Commercial Law, the types of business entities are:

- ✓ **General Partnership Company** – A company is a general partnership if it is registered as such, conducts its business under a common name and the liability of partners towards creditors is unlimited.
- ✓ **Limited partnership Company** - A company is a limited partnership, if at least one partner's liability is limited to the amount of his interest (limited partner), while the liability of other partners is not limited (general partners). General partners have the status of partners in a general partnership.
- ✓ **Limited liability company**- A limited liability company is a company founded by natural or juridical persons who are not liable for the company's commitments and which personally bear losses only to the extent of any unpaid parts of stipulated contributions. Members' contributions constitute the company's basic capital.
- ✓ **Joint stock Company** – A Joint Stock Company is a company the basic capital of which is divided into shares and subscribed by founders. Founders are natural or juridical persons, which are not liable for the company's commitments and which personally, bear losses only to the extent of any unpaid parts of the shares in the basic capital they subscribed.
- ✓ **Branches and Representatives.** According the Law No. 9901 persons authorized to manage a company may establish branches and representatives.
- ✓ **Branches** are places of business without legal personality. They have a degree of permanence, their own management, and enter into agreements on behalf of the company.
- ✓ **Representatives** are places of business without legal personality and without a management. They promote the business of the company and may also enter into agreements on behalf of the company.
- ✓ **Joint Ventures** – According the Albanian Civil Code the joint ventures (simple company) are established by two or more persons, whether individuals or legal entities, foreign or national, agreeing to engage in an economic activity in order to share profits deriving from them.

Registration in NRC

The registration of new business in Albania according to the **Law no. 9723, dated 03.05.2007 "On National Registration Center" is done through NRC**. The NRC is a central public institution, with legal personality, subordinated to the minister responsible for economy and its legal seat is in Tirana.

Obligation to register

The Subjects obliged to register in the Commercial Register are:

1. Physical persons exercising a commercial economic activity;
2. Simple partnerships provided by the Civil Code;
3. Commercial Companies;
4. Branches and representation offices of foreign companies;
5. Savings and Credit Companies and Unions;
6. Cooperation Companies;
7. Any other entity subject to registration in accordance with the Albanian law.

Application in NRC

The application for initial registration of new businesses may be done for 24 hours with a cost of 100 ALL at the service window at NRC's office in Tirana, or in any other NRC service window located in a municipality office. An application may be done at *any* NRC service window, regardless of the applicant's seat or location of activity. The on-line business registration is allowed.

Using a single application procedure, the NRC not only registers commercial companies in the Commercial Register but enrolls them as well with tax, social and health insurance authorities and the Labor Inspectorate.

Moreover, the principle "silence is consent" is applied; In case that NRC, within the mandatory term of 1 day from the presentation of the application for registration, does not perform the registration, notify the suspension of the application or does not notify the denial, the registration shall be considered as immediately accepted.

Regulations:

Documentation Required for Registration by the NRC

For registration of a new company in the National Registration Center the following documents are required:

1. **Application form**

To start the registration, the applicant must complete the application form. The application form is specific to different types of applying entities. Applications form and the instructions for their completion can be retrieved at every service window of NRC or can be downloaded from the NRC website. The applicant may fill out the form either at any NRC service window with the help of the service window clerk if necessary, or via the Internet, using the NRC's "Apply On-Line" function.

2. **Accompanying documents**

- ✓ Original personal identification document (ID card), which the NRC service window clerk will verify, copy and scan, and return;

✓ Other accompanying documents

The list of the accompanying documents for the initial registration is specific to different legal forms of companies. The applicant may find the list of the accompanying documents attached to the relevant application form.

For more detailed information about Company Registration, please refer to the NRC website at www.qkr.gov.al

Permits & Licenses:

List of the Permits & Licenses in Albania : <http://www.qkl.gov.al/RegistriesInsideNLC.aspx>

Based on **Law no. 10081, dated February 23, 2009**, which reforms the business licensing process in Albania, the National Licensing Center (NLC) has started its activity as a central public institution, which is subordinate to the minister responsible for economic issues, since June 2009. This law aims at improving the business climate, through reduction of administrative barriers regarding free initiatives to conduct economic, commercial, or professional activities, or regarding the use of public goods, guaranteeing at the same time the safeguard of public interests, while carrying out the above-mentioned activities and using public goods.

With its one-stop-shop services and shortened, transparent and quick procedures, the NLC has reduced the administrative barriers to free enterprise, reduced the costs of business related to the licensing process and minimized the level of informality, thus improving considerably the business climate in Albania.

The NLC offers these services

- ✓ handles licensing and permitting procedures, compliant with law no. 10081;
- ✓ keeps and administers the National Registry of Licenses and Permits;
- ✓ provides free public access, as per provisions of the law;
- ✓ informs and advises applicants and the public at large on licensing and permitting criteria;

<http://www.qkl.gov.al/default.aspx>

Licenses and permits, and/or respective subcategories which fall under the competence of the NLC are divided, into three groups:

- ✓ **The first group** included those categories or subcategories that require only the applicant's self-declarations, in order to evaluate whether criteria are properly fulfilled.
- ✓ **The second group** included those categories or subcategories that besides the applicant's self-declarations require also proof documents to be submitted by the applicant, at least for one of the criteria.
- ✓ **The third group** included those categories or subcategories for which assessment of criteria (at least for one of them) must be based, not only in what is provided for in paragraphs 2 and 3 of

this article, but also on a process of inspection, testing, competition, interview, or any other assessment method.

Depending to their nature and requirements to which they are subject, not all licenses and permits are subject to the examination by the National Licensing Center. As a general rule, applications for obtaining an authorization are examined directly by the competent public authorities without intervention of the National Licensing Center. Authorization process may become part of the licensing process in the case of the license belonging to Group III, as well as, only when the authorizations requirements coincide with one or more licensing requirements.

Furthermore, the law regulates 12 licensing areas, where licenses/permits are processed by/through the NLC or without the involvement of NLC. As regards to the areas where the licenses/permits are processed without the involvement of NLC, the licensing system is regulated by the sector related legislation. Such licensing legislation exist in the following sectors :

- ✓ Banking financial service ;
- ✓ Non-banking financial services (insurance, securities, bonds of joint stock companies and local governance, collective investment enterprises, retirement funds etc.)
- ✓ Broadcasting services ;
- ✓ Services in energy sector (production, transmission, distribution, supplying and trading the electrical power ; transmission, distribution, supplying and trading of natural gas ; operation in the depositing premises of natural gas and operation in the NLG plants) ;
- ✓ Air, maritime and road transport services ;
- ✓ Gambling ;
- ✓ Postal services ;
- ✓ Concessions (law on concessions provides that certain economic activities are subject to a concession agreement, see factsheet no **1**).

Licensing through NLC

Requests for licenses/permits or respective subcategories may be done at the service window at NLC's office in Tirana, or in any other NLC service window located in a municipality office a cost of **100 ALL**. An application may be done at *any* NLC service window, regardless of the applicant's seat or location of activity.

Requests shall comprise filled out standard application forms and required enclosed documents. The applicant himself/herself or a person duly authorized may submit the request for application at the NLC service window. The NLC it's not be entitled to require from applicants further documents or information, which are not included in the standard form.

The NLC review applications and take a decision within two working days from the request submission for group one and four working days for group two. The NLC makes a preliminary examination of the requests for the third group and when there is no ground for rejection publish in the Register preliminary decisions for transition to the second phase of review process, and notified by electronic means, the other institutions that are involved in the criteria examination process, for their part of criteria, falling under their competence.

The assessment of fulfillment of licensing or permitting criteria is based accordingly on: applicant's self-declarations, documents issued by other public bodies or private institutions, assessments made,

preliminary inspections taken place, tests, contests, interviews, hearings or other adequate methods that have been employed.

The procedure to handle the applications for licenses or permits is clear, simple, transparent and is relied on the following:

- a. 'silent consent' principle;
- b. electronic communication and information means, including the possibility for *on-line* application;
- c. the one-stop-shop model;
- d. Integrated exchange of information and documents among public bodies.

For more detailed information about instructions for registration, please refer to the NRC website at www.qkl.gov.a

According to Government Emergency Law procedure, in Albania may be issued the following:

- ✓ Sanitary authorization
- ✓ Legal entities certificate of its intention to conduct land reclamation in the agricultural land
- ✓ Authorization to grub up vines
- ✓ Authorization for the establishment of vines plantations
- ✓ Sanitary-veterinary certificate
- ✓ Certificate of variety registration
- ✓ Storage license for grain and oilseed
- ✓ Storage certificate for grain and oilseed
- ✓ Notice for land reclamation organizations setting
- ✓ Authorization to work with classified material
- ✓ Operating license for hunting funds management
- ✓ Authorization for keeping wild animals in captivity
- ✓ Authorization for the establishment and operation of venison breeding
- ✓ Authorization for the establishment and functioning of the hunting complexes
- ✓ Authorization for wildlife naturalization, venison processing and other hunting products for trading or services purposes
- ✓ Assigning of the hunting funds rights
- ✓ Certification/recertification of operators in logging activities
- ✓ Certificate of legal and individual persons carrying out the design and/or performing work in the forestry land reclamation
- ✓ Authorization for manufacturers of forest reproductive material
- ✓ Authorization of the forest districts established as their own
- ✓ Authorization to practice for the forestry personnel
- ✓ Certificate of trading right for wines with designation of origin
- ✓ Decision for the right to produce wines with controlled denomination of origin
- ✓ Notice of seeds and seedlings import
- ✓ Authorization for the seeds and seedlings production, processing or marketing
- ✓ Commercial authorization for plant protection products
- ✓ Authorization for the use of groups I and II toxicity plant protection products
- ✓ Authorization for the services provision with plant protection products
- ✓ Certificate of entitlement to import samples of plant protection products
- ✓ Authorization for specialized units to develop forest management plans

- ✓ Plant passport
- ✓ Certificate of registration for producers, dispatch centres, collective warehouses and importers of certain plants and products

Copyright & Intellectual property:

The major Albanian legislative acts governing copyright and intellectual property are the Law on Industrial Property, No. 9947 dated 7 July 2008, and the Law on Copyright and Related Rights, No. 9380, dated 28 April 2005 (amended).

The Law on Copyright and Related Rights governs the rights and obligations of participants in the creative, productive and commercial activities and any other evaluation, utilization, exercise, literature, art or science activity. This law is applicable to local and foreign natural persons and legal entities performing commercial, creative, productive or estimating works, exercise or a variation of artistic or scientific functions on Albanian territory. Subject to this law are original works and derived works and collections.

The Law on Industrial Property, No. 9947 dated 7 July 2008, entered into force on 1 November 2008. This Law governs the acquisition of industrial property rights and protects copyrights, patents, trademarks, stamps, marks of origin, industrial designs and geographical indications. This law is applicable to the industrial, commercial and agricultural fields and to the development of all natural and manufactured products. The provisions of the law are equally applicable to foreign persons or legal entities that are resident of member countries of:

- a) international treaties and conventions where Albania is a member
- b) countries which are members of the World Trade Organization, or
- c) countries where the mutual or regional reciprocity principle with the Republic of Albania is applicable.

Pursuant to this law, inventions and the use of a model are protected by patents issued by the Patent Office. Industrial designs, trademarks, services and origin marks are protected through registration with the General Directorate of Patents and Marks (GDPM).

The GDPM has the authority to keep and administer the registers for:

- a) applications for the registration of marks, industrial designs, geographical indications and applications for granting the patents and registration of integrated circuits
- b) patents, integrated circuits, marks, industrial designs, registered geographical indications
- c) authorized representatives for the patents, marks, industrial designs and geographical indications.

These registers are available for public inspection. Any data related to the protected industrial property rights or applications for their protection are published periodically in the GDPM bulletin not less than four times a year. The public may ask for further information regarding the industrial property in view of the respective tariffs and in accordance with provisions of the Law.

WIPO-Administered Treaties (Entry into force of the Treaty for the Contracting Party)

Summary Table of Membership of the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) and the Treaties Administered by WIPO, plus UPOV, WTO and UN

- ✓ Patent Law Treaty (May 17, 2010)
- ✓ Strasbourg Agreement Concerning the International Patent Classification (July 24, 2007)
- ✓ Hague Agreement Concerning the International Registration of Industrial Designs (March 19, 2007)
- ✓ WIPO Copyright Treaty (August 6, 2005)
- ✓ Budapest Treaty on the International Recognition of the Deposit of Micro-organisms for the Purposes of Patent Procedure (September 19, 2003)
- ✓ Nice Agreement Concerning the International Classification of Goods and Services for the Purposes of the Registration of Marks (September 19, 2003)
- ✓ Protocol Relating to the Madrid Agreement Concerning the International Registration of Marks (July 30, 2003)
- ✓ WIPO Performances and Phonograms Treaty (May 20, 2002)
- ✓ Convention for the Protection of Producers of Phonograms Against Unauthorized Duplication of Their Phonograms (June 26, 2001)
- ✓ Rome Convention for the Protection of Performers, Producers of Phonograms and Broadcasting Organizations (September 1, 2000)
- ✓ Madrid Agreement Concerning the International Registration of Marks (October 4, 1995)
- ✓ Paris Convention for the Protection of Industrial Property (October 4, 1995)
- ✓ Patent Cooperation Treaty (October 4, 1995)
- ✓ Berne Convention for the Protection of Literary and Artistic Works (March 6, 1994)
- ✓ Convention Establishing the World Intellectual Property Organization (June 30, 1992)

2. National financial supports for entrepreneurs initiatives / ALBANIA

Key projects:

Programs and projects for entrepreneurs

- ✓ Ministry of Food and Agriculture- Department for SME
- ✓ AIDA <http://www.aida.gov.al/> and
- ✓ AZHBR <http://azhbr.gov.al>
- ✓ **National Rural Development Programme** <http://www.bujqesia.info/agricultura.html>
- ✓ **Fisheries Operational Programme** <http://www.bujqesia.ujra.gov.al/>

Available funding (Local & International funds):

IPA: The Instrument for Pre-Accession will be the only vehicle of EU assistance for countries aspiring for membership, because the previous instruments, such as PHARE, SAPARD, CARDS, and ISPA, will not operate any more. IPA is the mechanism through which the EU will assist countries which have been awarded the status of candidate country.

It covers five areas or components:

- ✓ assistance for transition and capacity building
- ✓ Cross-border cooperation
- ✓ Regional development
- ✓ Human resource development
- ✓ Rural development (IPARD)

Albania is still a potential candidate and as such it can benefit only from the first two components but a part of the funds received through these two components can be also used for the fifth component. In 2007 Albania received €61 million from the EU for the first two components. In 2010 this amount will increase to €93.2 million. These funds are managed by the Delegation of the European Commission in Tirana.

When Albania becomes an EU candidate, it will benefit from support under all five components of IPA, therefore also for rural development, which includes agriculture. On the basis of the experience of other countries it will receive about €93 million each year. In the framework of IPARD or IPA-5 for rural development, Albania will receive about an assistance of €5-13 per hectare or about €5.6-14.6 million per year. Two of the conditions will be the preparation of the rural development strategy according to European standards and the establishment of a payments agency to administer the assistance. Of course, an appropriate system of agricultural information will also need to be established which consists of registers and important indicators, which has a considerable cost.

Grants:

The Instrument for Pre-accession Assistance (IPA) 2007 – 2013 is the main tool used by the European Union (EU) to provide financial and technical support to enlargement countries. The overall IPA objective for Albania is to support reforms and capacity building needed to achieve compliance with EU law in order to fully prepare the country to take on the obligations of membership in the EU.

IPA has a Rural Development component (IPARD), which provides assistance to EU candidate countries for the implementation of multiannual programmes contributing to the sustainable development of the agricultural sector and rural areas and their preparation for the implementation of the EU policies and law.

The Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Consumer Protection (MAFCP) has the overall responsibility for preparation for the IPARD implementation in Albania. The draft IPARD Programme for Albania has been developed and discussed with key economic and social partners in the country. The designated IPARD Operating Structure (Paying Agency for Rural Development and Agriculture/ ARDA; and Managing Authority of MAFCP) is responsible for the management and control of the future IPARD programme and their capacity are gradually developed.

The European Community, represented by the Commission of the European Communities, which is further represented by the EU Delegation to Albania, delegated to the GIZ – Deutsche Gesellschaft fuer Internationale Zusammenarbeit – the implementation of the IPA 2011 Project “Support to Agriculture and Rural Development” (SARD-IPARD) through Delegation Agreement No. 2012/295-403. The Project duration is from 07/2012 until 06/2014. This Project provides assistance to the designated Albanian IPARD Operating Structure and other stakeholders to increase awareness on EU standards and to strengthening their management and implementation capacity of future IPARD funds.

One of the components of the IPA 2011 Project is the implementation of an investment Grant Scheme for agro-food sector development based on IPARD compliant rules (IPARD-like). The “IPARD-like” Grant Scheme is co-funded by the EU (75%) and the Government of Albania (25%), and implemented by GIZ as Contracting Authority for the EU funds and ARDA.

This Guideline for Applicants sets out the rules for the submission, selection and implementation of investment actions under the two measures “Investments in agricultural Holdings” and “Investments in processing and marketing of agricultural products” of the “IPARD-like” Grant Scheme. Further copies of this Guideline together with all information related to the Call for Application can be downloaded via www.azhbr.gov.al and www.IPARD-like.al.

<http://www.Ipard-like.al/>

Contributions:

- ✓ www.azhbr.gov.al
- ✓ <http://keshilluesibujqesor.al/>
- ✓ <http://qttb.gov.al>

Subsidies:

<http://azhbr.gov.al>

Subsidies are granted as direct payments per hectare managed by the Integrated Administration and Control System (IACS) and as market measures for the implementation of trade mechanisms under the Common Agricultural Policy (CAP).

The responsible institution is the **Agency for Payments and Rural Development AZHBR**
www.azhbr.gov.al

As regards **horizontal issues**, the government allocated about €6.8 million in 2013 for direct support and national investment schemes in agriculture and agro-processing. Agricultural production in 2012 increased slightly, mostly due to improved production in fruit trees and olives. Part of the growth is linked to the government direct support schemes that have encouraged the planting of new trees.

Schemes of direct support 2010-2011 include:

- ✓ Planting of olives, citrus and fruit trees;

- ✓ Planting vineyards;
- ✓ Water drops in orchards, citrus and intensive olive groves;
- ✓ Production of agricultural bio products from cultivated plants;
- ✓ Buying plastic cover for greenhouses with technical and solar heating;
- ✓ Production of extra-virgin olive oil;
- ✓ Payment incentives for productive dairy farms, for livestock farms and matriculated sheep flocks of 50 and more accruing to specific conditions;
- ✓ Promotion of lending in agriculture:
- ✓ support by subsidy of up to 70% of interest for 3 consecutive years for credits for storage and processing of agriculture and livestock products as well as agriculture mechanical equipment/vehicles;
- ✓ creating a credit guarantee fund for the agriculture and agro-industry credit activities as well as those for export of up to 50% of the principal amount

Wages subsidies:

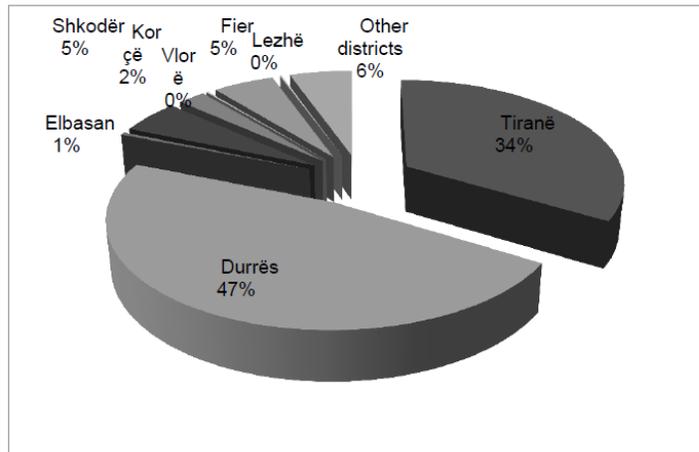
<http://azhbr.gov.al>

Financial Assistance:

- ✓ www.aida.gov.al
- ✓ www.azhbr.gov.al
- ✓ www.bujqesia.gov.al/program
- ✓ www.procreditbank.al

In general, investments in agriculture are supported by loans and foreign grants. Financial support for farmers and agriculture is offered also by a number of rural financial institutions and agencies. Rural financing in Albania can be seen through contribution of some actors, agencies and projects such as: Mountainous area development agency, mountainous area development program, 2KR project, Agriculture Service project, Support for agricultural production (FAO), SBCA project (USAID), Saving and Loan union (USHKK), SASA (the support of sustainable development of agriculture in Albania), many other projects of international associations, as well as the bank system and farmers themselves. Nevertheless their support has been considerable and it is insufficient. They have supported individual farmers, farmers associations, different agri-business enterprises with grants, and loans for implementing new technologies, seed and seedlings, marketing, knowledge and technical assistance. Currently mountainous areas financial fund, mountainous areas development program and USHKK are active.

Geographic Distribution of Loans for Agriculture. June 2012.



The data to draw the graph from Albanian Bank

Data on Agro-industry Section

Description	2000	2009	2010	2011	2012
1.Number of enterprises	1844	2060	2117	2081	2156
2.Number of employees	9076	9865	10919	10262	10804
3.Agroindustri investments (Million All)	898	2917	2063	612	524
3.1.By establishment	831	1236	1794	390	336
3.2.By budget			2	0.1	12.3
3.3.By foreign loans	50	237	0.1	1.2	12.7
3.4.By bank credit	17	1444	266	220	163

Loan guarantees:

Guaranteeing loans is regulated by the banking system.

ProCredit Bank is one of the banks that offer agricultural loans for any purpose secured from the Rural Credit Guarantee Fund. www.procreditbank.al

Program & Services:

FAO Projects:



FAO Technical Cooperation Department
Field Programme Activities

List of **Operationally Active projects for all Organizational Units in Albania, Republic of** by funding source

[View projects by Strategic Objective](#)

Symbol	Title	From	To	Total Budget	Available Budget as at Jan 1st 2014
Technical Cooperation Programme (TCP)					
TCP.ALB.3401	Conservation and management of endangered locally adapted crop varieties	2013	2015	254,000	182,094
TCP.ALB.3402	Capacity Development of Agricultural Technology Transfer Centres and Extension Services for Rural Diversification Projects -	2014	2014	95,000	0
TCP.ALB.3302	TCP Facility	2014	2015	24,999	0
TCP.RER.3403	Streamlining of agriculture and rural development policies of SEE countries for EU accession	2012	2014	496,000	243,343
Other Trust Funds (TF)					
GCP.INT.062.GFF	Capacity building on Obsolete and POPs Pesticides in EECCA countries (FSP)	2009	2012	1,000,000	0
Trust Fund/FAO-Government Cooperative Programme (TF/GCP)					
GCP.RER.010.ITA	Scientific Cooperation to Support Responsible Fisheries in the Adriatic Sea (AdriaMed)	1999	2014	9,141,778	732,698

Foreign Projects

Project Title	Donators	Value mln	Comple. date
Improving the Consumer Protection Against Zoonotic Diseases	EC(IPA) 2008	7,5 €	2013
Capacity Building for Implementation of Rural Development Strategy	EC(IPA) 2008	2 €	2012
Consolidation of Food Safety System in Albania	EC(IPA) 2009	3,5 €	2012
Construction and rehabilitation of National Food Authority Regional offices and Laboratories	EC(IPA) 2010	4,7 €	2015
Strengthening Food Control Institutions in Albania	Government of Italy	2 €	2012
Promali Value chains for Sustainable Lively Hoods in Mountains of Albania	SNV/Danish Government Promali	5 €	2013
Mountain towards market (MADA)	IFAD	11 \$	2012
Improving Competitiveness of Albanian Farmers	USAID	10 \$	2012
Sustainable Agriculture Support in Albania (SASA) (PHASE V)	Switzerland (SASA)	1.42 €	12/2011
Support to the preparation of a National Land Consolidation Strategy and a Land Consolidation Pilot Project in Albania	FAO	0.39 €	2012
Support The improvement of Livestock Sector in Albania	EC and Italian government	1,4 €	2012
Inter-sectorial Rural Development Project North Albania	Italian government	2,4 €	2012
Advance Agreement for preparation of proposed Water Resources and irrigation Project	EBRD	1 mln \$	2011

Project Title	Donators	Sum mln
Support to Agriculture and rural Development	EC (IPA 2011)	20,7€

Publications:

<http://www.usaid.gov/albania>

<http://www.bujgesia.gov.al/publications> [http://www.kash.org.al/new/wp-content/files/Agrobiznesi Nr./](http://www.kash.org.al/new/wp-content/files/Agrobiznesi_Nr..../)

http://aida.gov.al/?page_id=323

<http://redeval.org/category/publikime/>

<http://qttb.gov.al>

Supporting institutions:

The Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development www.bujgesia.al is the central public authority responsible for enforcing the policies and programs of the Albania Government, the national strategy in the agricultural sector (field crops, organic agriculture, animal breeding), food production, rural development, fisheries and aquaculture, land reclamation, and related areas: phytosanitary, specialized scientific research, conservation and sustainable management of soil and plant and animal genetic resources.

The Ministry is responsible for the adaptation of the agricultural sector in compliance with the European and international standards. Other attributions relate to the improvement of the production competitiveness and enhancing the export capacity of the Albania agriculture under strict standards of environmental protection, food safety and uniform control of the food chain and welfare of animals.

MAFCP: Ministry of Agriculture, and Rural Development
Sheshi "Skenderbej" Nr 2, Tirana ALBANIA Tel/fax 00355 42 2279 24
website: <http://www.bujgesia.gov.al>

National Food Authority (NFA) Street:Muhamet Gjollësia, 56
Tel/fax: +355 (4) 2252658
Email: info@aku.gov.al
Website:<http://www.aku.gov.al>

Agriculture and Rural Development Agency (Paying Agency) Sheshi "Skenderbej" Nr 2,
Tirana ALBANIA
Tel/fax: +355 (4) 2228318
Website: <http://www.azhbr.gov.al>

Agricultural Transfer Technology Centers (ATTC)
MAFCP (The contact point: Department of Extension Service, Research & Agricultural
Information)
Tel/fax 00355 42 2232 69

National Seed Entity
National Seed and Seedling Institut Address: "Siri Kodra" street,
Tirana , Albania Tel/Fax: +355 4 230324

National Tobacco Agency
National Agency of Tobacco and Cigarettes Address: "Siri Kodra" street, Tirana, Albania Tel/Fax: +355
42 256 911
Email: akdc@icc-al.org

Albanian Agrobusiness Council
Address : Rr Mine Peza, Pall.87/3, Tiranë - ALBANIA. Tel / Fax : +355 4 229 445
Web: <http://www.kash.org.al>

Agricultural University of Tirana
Address ' Koder Kamez' Tirana Albania Tel/fax 00355 47 200 874 e-mail: iroaut@yahoo.com
web:
<http://www.ubt.edu.al>

Publications:

- ✓ <http://www.bujqesia.gov.al/publications> [http://www.kash.org.al/new/wp-content/files/Agrobiznesi_Nr./](http://www.kash.org.al/new/wp-content/files/Agrobiznesi_Nr..../)
- ✓ http://aida.gov.al/?page_id=323
- ✓ <http://redeval.org/category/publikime/>
- ✓ <http://qttb.gov.al>

Contacts & Useful Links:

National:

- ✓ Ministria e Bujqësisë - <http://www.mbumk.gov.al/>

- ✓ Ministria e Brendshme - <http://www.moi.gov.al/>
- ✓ Ministria e Shëndetësisë - <http://www.moh.gov.al>
- ✓ Ministria e Financave - <http://www.minfin.gov.al>
- ✓ Ministria e Mjedisit - www.moe.gov.al
- ✓ Qendra Kombëtare e Licensimit - www.qkl.gov.al

International:

- ✓ EFSA - <http://www.efsa.europa.eu>
- ✓ Bashkimi Evropian - http://europa.eu/index_en.htm
- ✓ Rapid Alert System for Food and Feed (RASFF) - <http://ec.europa.eu>

3. National contact points for entrepreneurship / ALBANIA

Government Links & Contacts:

- ✓ <http://www.kryeministria.gov.al>
- ✓ Ministry of Agriculture & Rural Development
Address: Blvd: Dëshmoret e Kombit Tirane, Albania
Website: <http://www.bujqesia.gov.al/al/ministria/institucione-ne-varesi/drejtorete-rajonale-te-bujqesise>
- ✓ <http://www.bujqesia.gov.al/al/ministria/institucione-ne-varesi/bordet-e-kullimit>
- ✓ <http://www.bujqesia.gov.al/al/ministria/institucione-ne-varesi/qendrat-e-transferimit-te-teknologjive-bujqesore-qttb>
- ✓ <http://www.bujqesia.gov.al/al/ministria/institucione-ne-varesi/autoriteti-kombetar-i-ushqimit>
Adresa: Bulevardi "Dëshmoret e Kombit"
Telefon: +355 (4) 22 54 052
E-mail: info@aku.gov.al
Web: www.aku.gov.al
- ✓ <http://www.bujqesia.gov.al/al/ministria/institucione-ne-varesi/agjencia-e-zhvillimit-bujqesor-rural-azhbr>
Address: Rruga "Muhamet Gjollësia", Nr. 56, Tiranë
+355 4 22 28 318
info@azhbr.gov.al
- ✓ <http://www.bujqesia.gov.al/al/ministria/institucione-ne-varesi/instituti-i-sigurise-ushqimore-dhe-veterinare-isuv>
Adresa: Rr. "Aleksander Moisiu", Nr.10
Telefon: 04 23 64 238
Web: <http://isuv.gov.al/>
www.paza-albania.eu

- ✓ <http://www.bujqesia.gov.al/al/ministria/institucione-ne-varesi/drejtoria-e-shepbimit-te-peshkimit-dhe-akuakultures>
- ✓ <http://www.bujqesia.gov.al/al/ministria/institucione-ne-varesi/agjencia-e-zhvillimit-te-zonave-malore-mada>

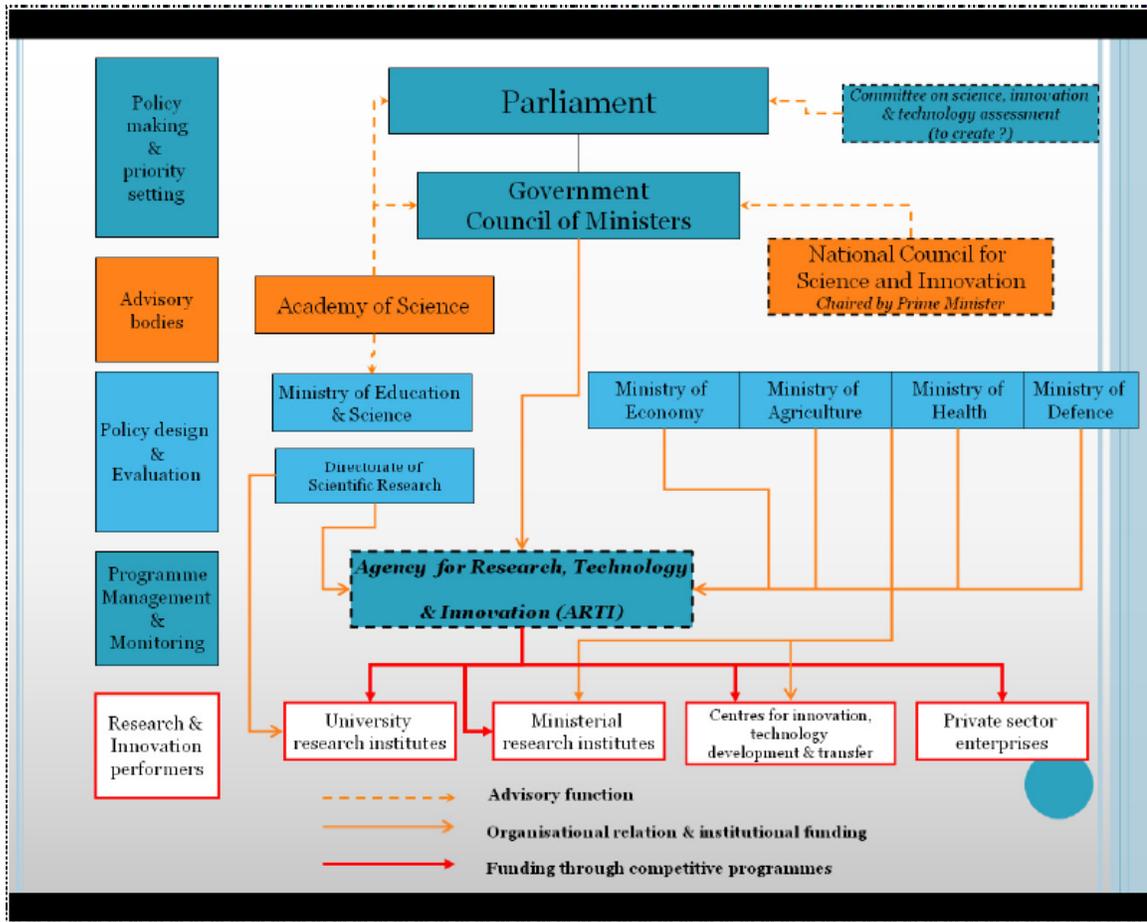
Adresa: Rruga Shinasi Dishnica, nr 100, (Afer Selvise), Tirane

Telefon: + 355 4 22 67 542

E-mail: mada@redeval.org

Web: www.redeval.org

4. National network / ALBANIA



Strategic Partnership :

Albanian Agrobusiness Council

www.kash.org.al

Facts:

KASH is the biggest organization reaching all sectors of Agriculture. KASH has 23 nationwide member associations with elected bodies in 12 Prefectures and 36 districts of the country. KASH mission is advocacy and promotion of the business that operates in agriculture. Advocacy is done through lobbying on legislative and executive organisms.

The Mission... KASH is the union of agribusiness associations, which serves to protect its members interests and fosters agribusiness development in support of consumers needs and Albanian economic development. **The Vision...** To be the leading advocate for a growing and competitive agribusiness sector in Albanian economy. KASH will be leading the agriculture and food industry into the new century.

By the end of 2001, KASH was fully recognized on a national level. While maintaining this momentum, the main focus of 2002 moved to regionalism of KASH's activities. This objective was successfully completed. KASH actively had its voice heard in country policy formulation by: (1) participating in the preparation of six Free Trade Agreements with neighbor countries; (2) contributing in the Stabilization Association Agreement (3) contributing in the CEFTA (4) support in policies to take the status of the candidate country in the EU (5) contribute in drafting and improving of the fiscal and custom laws and registration facilitating on one stop shop of the businesses. (6) informing in time KASH members about the changes in Albanian Legislation. (7) Informing on local and regional prices for agricultural fresh and processed products. KASH actively participates with its' representatives in regular meetings in different boards set up by different institutions as: Business Advisory Council directed by the Minister of Economy, National Labor Committee directed by Minister of the Labor Social Issues and Equal Chances, Board of the National Authority of Food directed by the Minister of the Agriculture Food and Consumers' Protection, Taxation Council directed by the Minister of the Finances, also in different projects' boards. KASH collaborates very well with media and uses them to transmit the problems to the legislative and executive organs to the benefit of the members. Through its' newspaper "Agrobiznesi" KASH transmits to the readers agriculture science news, weather forecast, prices of the local and regional market for fruits and vegetables, KASH activity, legislation news, and advices connected to the farmers season work. KASH has Partnership with sister organizations of neighboring countries, as AKA (Alliance of Kosovo Agribusiness), AKB (Kosovo Business Alliance), OEMVP (Economic Chamber of North West Macedonia), Communes and Municipals of the country and the region as well

Partners / Institutions / Organization:

Partners & Members

 <p>HABA (Horticulture Albanian Businessmen Association)</p>	 <p>AFADA (Albania Fertilizers & Agribusiness Dealers Association)</p>	 <p>ADAMA (Albanian Dairy & Meat Association)</p>
 <p>BKFSH (National Union of Albanian Farmers)</p>	 <p>ANSPA (Albanian National Seed of Potatoes Association)</p>	 <p>LEAA (Livestock Entrepreneurs Association of Albania)</p>
 <p>APFA (Albanian Poultry Farmers Association)</p>	 <p>PVSH (Albanian Wine Producers)</p>	 <p>FWPAA (Family Wine Producers Association Of Albania)</p>
 <p>EPCA (Essential Oils Producers and Cultivators Association)</p>	 <p>ABA (Albanian Beekeepers Association)</p>	 <p>UTA (Union of Agrifood Dealers)</p>



Coordination & Consultancy:

The Albanian Agribusiness Council represents 21 agribusiness trade associations.

KASH mission is advocacy and promotion of the business that operates in agriculture.

Advocacy is done through lobbying on legislative and executive organisms. This is realized through the representation of members of KASH in the Business Advisory Council, Work Committee, AKU, Fair Board, MADA Project, ProMali and other projects. Through this representative KASH proposes and observes to protect the interests of the membership.

KASH has Memorandums of Understanding with MBUMK with UBT and is preparing several collaborative projects with other institutions.

KASH encourages its member to take part in conferences, seminars, training both inside and outside of the state for advanced experience and expanding businesses.

KASH implements promotion of agribusiness through fairs on national and local levels.

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Guidelines & Procedures:

Categories of members:

- actives;
- associates;
- honorary.

The KASH membership is requested by written declaration of the legal person representatives, certifying the acceptance and compliance with the Statute and the Ethics Code.

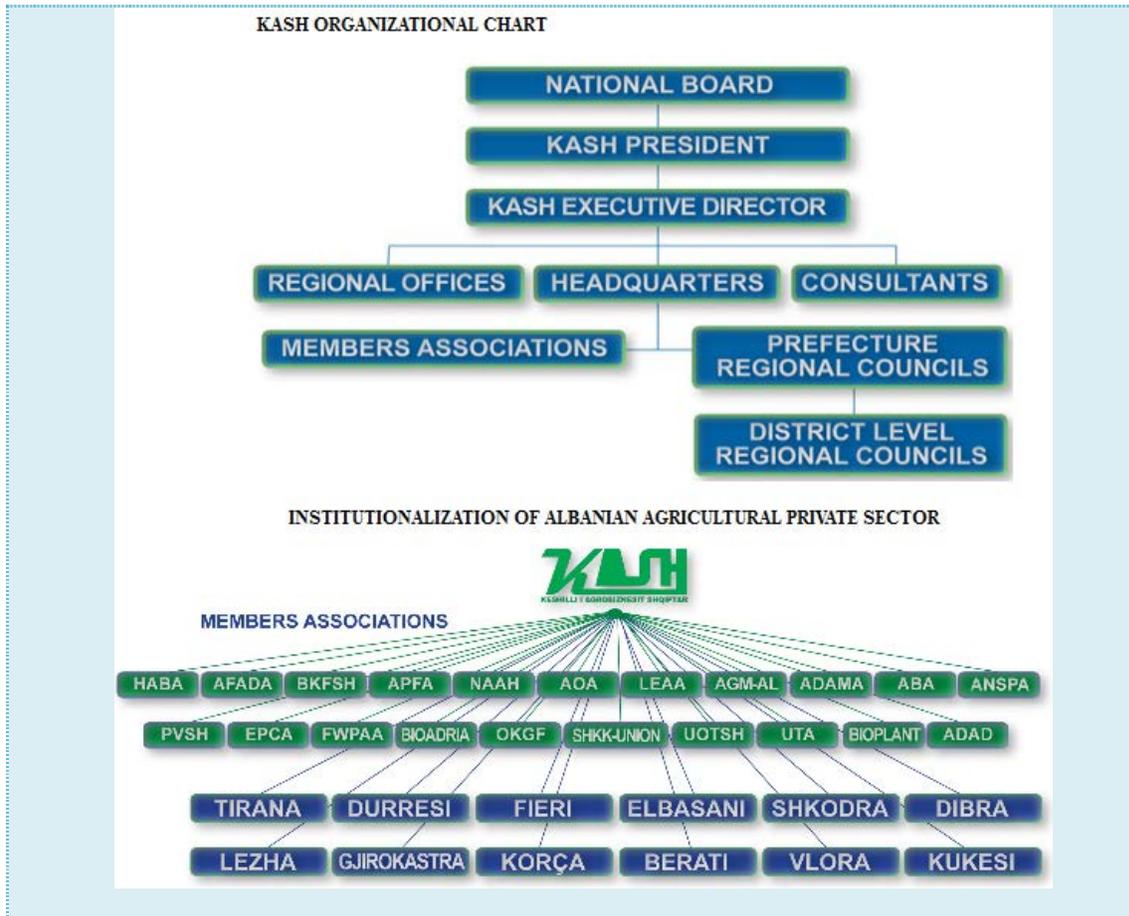
Strategic Plan:

The main goals are:

- ✓ initiate and propose agriculture policies and draft legislation to the ability structures;
- ✓ activate, in the name and for its members, against non-compliance of commitments in the field of agricultural policy;
- ✓ identify, by the specialized department, the possibility to access funds, partially or reimbursable, both to improve the structuring of member associations and for the economic activities of farmers;
- ✓ organizes conferences, debates, experience exchanges, conferences, domestic and international scientific sessions;

concerns, constantly, to maintain and increase the national representativeness of the association, attracting regional organizations from across all counties.

Governance:



Regional Councils



Databases:

<http://www.kash.org.al/new/>

<http://www.kash.org.al/new/business-news/prices/>

Download AGROBIZNES (the KASH Newspaper)

Agrobiznesi Nr. 259 (6.3 MiB, 71 hits)
 Agrobiznesi Nr. 258 (7.2 MiB, 137 hits)
 Agrobiznesi Nr. 257 (6.5 MiB, 290 hits)
 Agrobiznesi Nr. 256 (9.3 MiB, 270 hits)
 Agrobiznesi Nr. 255 (8.1 MiB, 271 hits)

Download Wholesale Prices (PDF)

26 March 2014 (unknown, 154 hits)
 October 2013 (unknown, 104 hits)
 August 2013 (unknown, 126 hits)

5. Agricultural innovation clusters / ALBANIA

Research & Development Units:

1. Agency for Research, Technology and Innovation (ARTI)

Acronym: ARTI

Organisation title in local language: Agjencia e Kërkimit, Teknologjisë dhe Inovacionit (AKTI)

Organisation type: Agency/Fund

The Agency for Research, Technology and Innovation (ARTI) is a public, legal institution under the competences of the Council of Ministers. ARTI was established with the Decision of Council of Ministers and has started its activity in March 2010. ARTI aims to build a modern system of science, strengthen the research and technology, as well as their integration inside the higher education system. Furthermore, ARTI facilitates the exchange of knowledge, mutual activities and partnership within and outside the country.

ARTI is a coordinating and guiding structure for sustainable development of the country which cooperates with institutions in the field of science and technology in line with national priorities, development of scientific and technological policies and management of Research and Development institutes. The Agency operates as a coordinating structure for programs and projects based on national and international bilateral and multilateral cooperation between Albania and other countries.

ARTI is in charge of the coordination of the following programmes:

National programmes of Research and Development:

National programmes of Research and Development encompass three-year programmes and projects implemented in certain priority areas selected by the Council of Scientific Policy and Technological Development (CSPTD). For the period 2010-2012, there are seven programmes in the areas of Social Sciences and Albanology; Information Systems and Technologies; Agriculture, Food and Biotechnology; Water and Energy; Biodiversity and the Environment; Health; and Materials.

International Programmes:

Bilateral S&T programmes and multilateral programmes (FP7).

Research Infrastructure Programme:

The objective of the research infrastructure programme is to improve the equipment and facilities of public research institutes and universities in order to enable research and research projects on international standards. To this end, communities of engineering, science and technology; professional and polytechnic institutes; and entrepreneurial universities and

technical institutes with a focus on business incubation and community development are being created.

Programme for Technology Transfer and Innovation:

The main purpose of this programme is to promote the linkage between science and private sector to foster the development of the Albanian economy.

Programme for Young Researchers:

This programme aims to address the Albanian government's goal to double the number of researchers (DSCS 2009: 16) by financing researchers to conduct PhD studies in Albania, to attend PhD trainings in the EU; and providing grants to researchers returning to Albania.

Brain Gain Programme:

The purpose of this programme is to motivate talented scholars to return to Albania by supporting universities and public administration to employ persons with higher qualification.

Contact

Website: www.akti.gov.al

E-mail: info@akti.gov.al

Phone: +355 4 2222 409

Address: St. Abdi Toptani 4, the former Ministry of Transport, 1000 Tirana, Albania

Agency of Environment and Forestry (AEF)

Acronym: AEF

Organisation title in local language: Agjencia e Mjedisit dhe Pyjeve

Organisation type: Agency/Fund

The Agency of Environment and Forestry was set up through the restructuring of two institutes directly dependent upon the Ministry of Environment, Forests and Water Administration (MEFWA). The structure was approved by Order of the Albanian Prime Minister.

The duties and scope of activities of the AEF are stipulated in Albania's environmental legislation. The Agency is envisaged to act as the central focus for environmental monitoring and to provide high quality reference and general laboratory services

The Environmental legal framework in Albania defines a set of duties for MEFWA, and is going through a process of approximation to EU legislation.

Mission of AEF is to restore, improve and protect the environment, while ensuring sustainable development

Contact

Website: www.aefalbania.org

E-mail: info@aefalbania.org
Phone: +355 4 2371 237, +355 4 2371 242
Fax: +355 42 371243
Address: Rr. Halil Bega 23, 1000 Tirana, Albania

Albanian Agency for Business and Investment (AIDA)

Acronym: AIDA

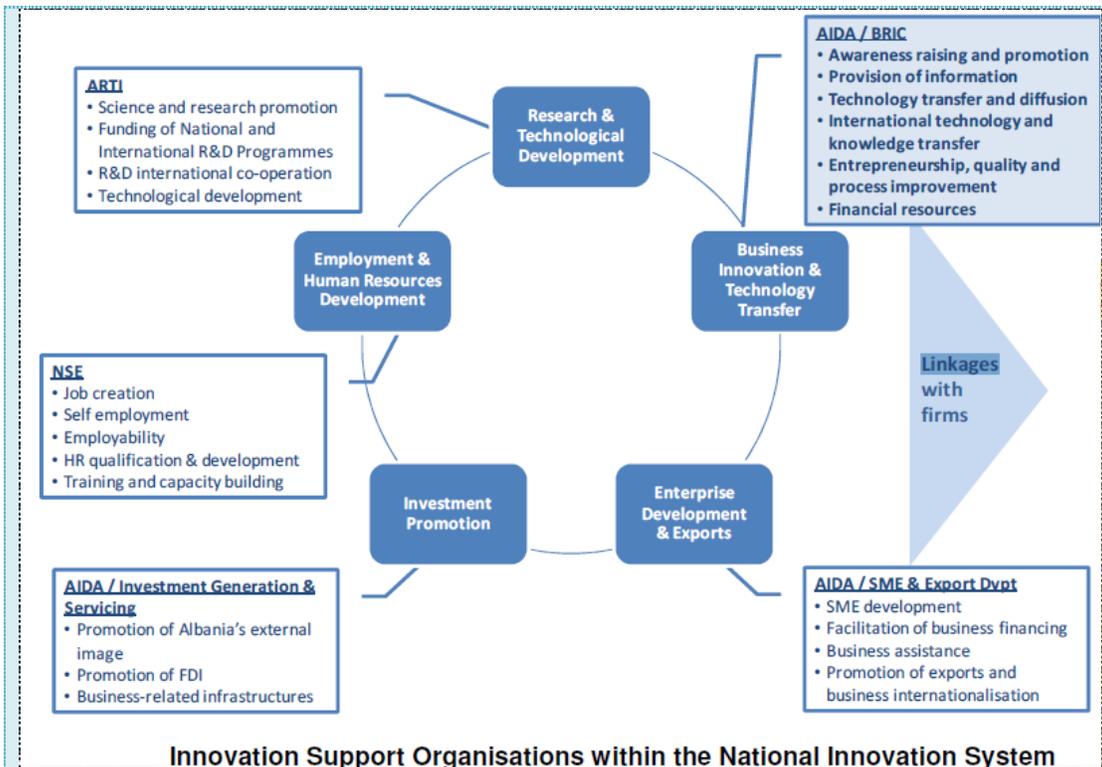
Organisation title in local language: Agjencia Shqiptare e Zhvillimit dhe Investimeve
Organisation type: Agency/Fund

The Government of Albania through the Law no. 10303, dated 15.07.2010 “On creation and organization and functioning of the Albanian Investment Development Agency” that entered into force on 26 August 2010, creates AIDA as an investment promotion agency, and as a key player for attracting FDIs in the country. The Agency, in view of its activities, performs all acts and undertakes all the necessary initiatives to support private sector development and improving business climate, pursuing and helping private commercial entities in all phases of their economic activity as well as by intermediating and cooperating with investors and state authorities. The new Albanian Investment Development Agency (AIDA) is established replacing the former Albanian Agency of Investment and Business (Albinvest) and has three main mandates: facilitation and support to direct investments in Albania; increasing competitiveness of small and medium enterprises in Albania; and promotion of export of goods and services.

The Agency manages

The government Competitiveness Fund – 200.000 Euro/year
Export Credit Guarantee Fund (ECGF) – 1,6 million Euro /6 years

Within AIDA, a specific Division, denominated Business Relay and Innovation Centre (BRIC), will have the express role of implementing the Business Innovation and Technology Strategy (BITS) and Business Innovation Technology Action Plan (BITAP). The Albanian Government has recently adopted the (BITS) and its respective Action Plan (BITAP), through the Decision of the Council of Ministers (LAW) no. 104, dated 09.02.2011.



Contact

Website: www.aida.gov.al

E-mail: info@aida.gov.al

Phone: +355 4 2250 970; 355 4 2251 001

Fax: +355 4 222 2341

Address: Bulevard Gjergj Fishta, Pall.Shallvareve, 1000 Tirane, Albania

4. National Agency for Information Society (NAIS)

Acronym: NAIS

Organisation title in local language: Agjencia Kombëtare e Shoqërisë së Informacionit (AKSHI)

Organisation type: Agency/Fund

The National Agency on Information Society (NAIS) was established by the Albanian Council of Ministers in 2007 and became fully operational in 2008. Its mission is to coordinate all of the Government of Albania's activities in the field of Information and Communication.

The object of National Agency of Information Society (NAIS):

- ✓ Implementation of strategies for the development of IS sector and especially ICT;
- ✓ Co-ordination of programs in the field of IS and especially ICT;

- ✓ Promotion of investment in the field of IS;
- ✓ Compilation of practices of minister competencies regarding to the electronic communications legislation framework;
- ✓ Promotion of new technologies in the field of IS;
- ✓ Contribute in education and promotion of ICT use by the public.

Contact

Website: www.akshi.gov.al;

www.e-albania.al/web/Our_Mission_National_Agency_for_Information_Society_55_2.php E-

mail: info@akshi.gov.al

Phone: +355 4 2277 750

Fax: +355 4 2277 764

Address: Rruga "Papa Gjon Pali II" 3 Kati I, 1000 Tirana, Albania

National Agency of Natural Resources (AKBN)

Acronym: AKBN

Organisation title in local language: Agjencia Kombëtare e Burimeve Natyrore

Organisation type: Agency/Fund

The National Agency for Natural Resources protects and manages the interests of Albania in hydrocarbon, mining and energy field.

The scope of AKBN is the development and supervision of the rational exploitation of natural resources based on Government policies, and the monitoring of their post-exploitation in the sectors of mining, hydrocarbons and hydropower with these tasks and responsibilities:

- ✓ The agency consults and cooperates with the relevant government structures for the development of policies in the area of mining, hydrocarbons and energy;
- ✓ It implements government policies in the area of mining, hydrocarbons and energy;
- ✓ It provides within its scope, the government critical opinion on studies and projects in the areas of mining, hydrocarbons and energy that have been presented by government or private entities from the country or abroad. In special cases it asks for specialized assistance.

✓ Contact

✓ Website: www.akbn.gov.al

✓ E-mail: sekretaria@akbn.gov.al, info@akbn.gov.al

✓ Phone: +355 4 2257 117, +355 4 2257 454, +355 4 2246 195

✓ Fax: +355 4 2257 382

✓ Address: Bulevardi Bajram Curri, Blloku Vasil Shanto, Tirana, Albania

✓ Key Programmes and Instruments

- ✓ National and international donors and institutions are aware of the significance of innovation for the competitiveness and development of national economies.

Therefore, different key programmes and instruments have been created to support activities that initiate and foster innovation and development.

- ✓
- ✓
- ✓ **Business Environment Reform and Institutional**
- ✓ **Strengthening Project / World Bank (BERIS)**
- ✓ Acronym: BERIS
- ✓ Organisation type: Project (Other)

The Albania Business Environment Reform and Institutional Strengthening Project 2006-2012 aims to assist the Government in:

- ✓ Facilitating business entry and operations in the formal economy;
- ✓ Strengthening the enterprise sector's capability to increase exports towards region and European Union (EU) markets.

The project consists of the following three components:

- ✓ Facilitating business entry and operations by improving quality of business regulations, including their potential impact on market competition;
- ✓ Strengthening the enterprise sector's capability to export to regional and EU markets by developing further the Metrology, Standards, Testing and Quality system;
- ✓ Project coordination support component.

Since January 2011 a new website www.rlb.gov.al (electronic legal registry of businesses) is in function, where all the individuals and businesses can find the business legislation information and news in Albania.

- ✓ **Contact**
- ✓ Website:
<http://web.worldbank.org/external/projects/main?pagePK=64283627&piPK=73230&theSitePK=301412&menuPK=301444&Projectid=P096643>; www.rlb.gov.al
- ✓ Phone: +355 4 2280 650; +355 4 2280 651
- ✓ Fax: +355 4 2240 590
- ✓ Address: The World Bank Office, Dëshmorët e 4 Shkurtit, 1000 Tirana, Albania

Central European Initiative Know-how Exchange Programme

(CEI KEP)

Acronym: CEI KEP

Organisation type: Programme (Other)

Created in 2004, the Know-how Exchange Programme (KEP) of the Central European Initiative (CEI) is a grant facility supporting the transfer of best practice and transformation experience from CEI EU to non-EU Member States. The CEI member states are currently: Albania, Austria, Belarus, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Czech Republic, Hungary, Italy, FYR of

Macedonia, Moldova, Montenegro, Poland, Albania, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia and Ukraine.

In order to achieve its objectives, KEP finances capacity building and technical assistance in its non-EU member countries carried out by experts from the CEI EU member states. The programme mainly aims to:

- ✓ Strengthen the economic and social advancement of the CEI non-EU Member States;
- ✓ Help the recent EU members in their transformation from recipients to donors (emerging donors) of development assistance;
- ✓ Promote the principles of foreign development aid and support international collaboration among institutions in CEI member countries.

Projects supported under the KEP shall have an economic background, covering economic transition or institution building and shall be carried out by using combinations of know-how transfer tools (e.g. study tours, secondment of staff, peer reviews, preparation of manuals, etc.) which promise effective transfer of given know-how and its successful implementation by the recipient institution. The projects have to contribute to one of the priority areas: 1) European Integration, Capacity Building and Market Economy; 2) Infrastructure Planning and Development; 3) Agriculture, Energy and Environment. The programme is open to all public and private sector bodies, international and non-governmental organisations (NGOs) registered in CEI member states.

Contact

Website: <http://www.ceinet.org/KEP>

Competitiveness and Innovation Framework Programme (CIP)

Organisation type: Programme (CIP)

The EU's Competitiveness and Innovation Framework Programme (CIP) aims to encourage the competitiveness of European enterprises. With small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) as its main target, CIP supports innovation activities (including eco-innovation), provides better access to finance and delivers business support services in the regions. It encourages a better take-up and use of information and communication technologies (ICT) and helps to develop the information society. It also promotes the increased use of renewable energies and energy efficiency. The

CIP runs from 2007 to 2013 with an overall budget of € 3.6 billion.

Economic Development and Employment Promotion

Programme, Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ)

Acronym: GIZ

Organisation type: Programme

The Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) focuses on two priority areas in Albania:

- ✓ sustainable economic development;
- ✓ water supply in Albania.

To this end, GIZ conducts an economic development and employment promotion programme (2007-2013) in Albania. The programme's objectives are to increase the competitiveness of SMEs and improve the investment environment through supporting Albanian economic promotion institutions and the implementation of the national rural development strategy (2011-2013) as well as by promoting businesses chambers and associations. Results so far have been the establishment of an IT cluster, a national tourism association ATA, and economic promotion offices in Korça, Shkodra and Tirana or the elaboration of regional development plans. Furthermore, companies in the priority sectors IT, clothing, industry, tourism and agriculture have been supported in introducing modern processes.

Contact

Website: www.gtz.de/en/weltweit/europa-kaukasus-zentralasien/albanien/18172.htm

E-mail: giz-albanien@giz.de

Phone: +355 4 2230 414

Fax: +355 4 2251 792

Address: GIZ Coordination Office Tirana, P.O. Box 2391, Tirana, Albania

Instrument for Pre-Accession Assistance (IPA)

Acronym: IPA

Organisation type: Programme (IPA)

The Instrument for Pre-Accession Assistance (IPA) is the key tool of the European Commission's pre-accession assistance strategy. This Instrument is replacing the former pre-accession instruments: PHARE, ISPA, SAPARD and CARDS. IPA will help transition countries meet the Accession Criteria (fulfil the political, economic and acquis-related criteria for membership, building up their administrative and judicial capacity) and prepare for the programming, management and implementation of EU Cohesion, Structural and Rural Development Funds after accession. IPA is designed with five components to provide for targeted and effective assistance for each country according to its needs and evolution. These five components are: transition assistance and institution building; cross-border cooperation; regional development; human resources development; and rural development.

Since 2007, Albania is receiving financial assistance under the first two components of IPA. In the area of economic development, the EU supports Albania to foster economic growth, improve the business environment, and increase the competitiveness of the private sector.

To this end, the EU supported Albania to develop a SME policy by implementing the EU SME Project Albania under IPA 2007.

The EU SME Project Albania 2009 – 2011: “Supporting SMEs to become more competitive in the EU market”

Organisation title in local language: Projekti i BE “Mbështetje NVM-ve për t’u bërë më konkurruese në tregun e BE”

The main goal of this project is to improve the competitiveness of the Albanian private sector and strengthen the business environment for investment and employment in Albania. For this purpose, the capacity of Ministry of Economy, Trade and Energy (METE) and AIDA to develop, implement, and monitor Albanian SME policy in order to provide entrepreneurship and innovation programmes to SMEs.

The project encompasses the following components:

Component	Progress as in April 2011
Establishment of Albanian Business Relay And Innovation Centre (BRIC)	The BRIC has been established as a specific Division within the Albanian Investment Development Agency (see Fig. 3, page 20 and description, page 35) and is currently in the process of starting its operational activity
Development of Albanian Business Innovation and Technology Strategy (BITS)	The BITS and its respective Action Plan (BITAP) have been developed and adopted (see Ministry of Economy, Trade and Energy, 2011)
Training Needs Analysis for Albanian SMEs (development of methodology, review of existing Business Service Providers, implementing training needs analysis, etc.)	Concluded and published in 2010 (see EU SME Project Albania 2009 – 2011, 2010:2)
National competitiveness programme for SMEs (review of existing Albanian SME competitiveness training materials, programmes; development of “competitiveness” training modules; provision of competitiveness training programmes; development of a National Competitiveness Programme monitoring and evaluation structure)	Currently ongoing, involving 5 Modules for SMEs and 7 Modules for Trainers and Consultants. (see EU SME Project Albania 2009 – 2011, 2010:1, “Participate!” and “News” sections for more information)
Component	Progress as in April 2011
SME development programme (support and technical assistance to METE within the scope of the project, to improve the Albanian participation in current and future programmes, in developing new SME projects, etc.)	Currently ongoing

Contact

Instrument for Pre-Accession Assistance

Website: http://ec.europa.eu/enlargement/potential-candidates/albania/financial-assistance/index_en.htm

Open Regional Fund for Foreign Trade Promotion in South-East Europe (ORF)

Acronym: ORF

Organisation type: Agency/Fund

The Open Regional Fund (ORF) is financed by the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) and it is implemented by Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ).

Contact

Website: www.gtz.de/en/praxis/25459.htm; <http://www.gtz.de/en/weltweit/europa-kaukasus-zentralasien/25472.htm>

E-mail: info@giz.de

Phone +49 61 9679 0

Fax +49 61 9679 1115

Address: Postfach 5180, 65726 Eschborn, Germany

GIZ Coordination Office Tirana Tel:

+355 4 2230 414

Fax: +355 4 2251 792

Email: giz-albanien@giz.de

Address: Rr Skenderbej (Rr .Ambasadave), 21/1 (kati 3), Tirana, Albania

Turn Around Management (TAM) and Business Advisory

Services (BAS) Programme in Albania

Acronym: TAM / BAS

Organisation type: Programme (Other)

The TurnAround Management (TAM) and Business Advisory Services (BAS) Programme of the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD) are complementary technical assistance programmes that combine direct assistance at the enterprise level to viable micro, small and medium-sized enterprises (MSMEs) across a broad range of industry sectors.

TAM Programme

The TurnAround Management (TAM) Programme aims at building strong, competent enterprise management and restructuring through the transfer of international best practice in small and medium sized enterprises. These managerial and structural changes within SMEs should be achieved through training activities and the provision of international advisers in TAM projects lasting usually 18 months. Since its start in 2008 the TAM Programme Albania has completed 18 projects in a wide variety of sectors and industries.

BAS Programme

The BAS Programme works directly with individual SMEs, providing specific and practical business advice. At the same time, BAS builds local/national consultancy capacity to serve enterprise needs. Typical BAS projects are short-term projects with a rapid payback, such as upgrading management/financial IT systems, market research, introducing quality systems and human resource management techniques, etc.. Launched in 2006, the BAS Programme for Albania has implemented more than 170 projects involving more than 80 consultancy companies.

Contact

Website: www.bas-albania.org

E-mail: info@bas-albania.org

Phone: +355 4 2594 39

Fax: +355 4 2594 39

Address: Rr. Abdi Toptani, Albania BAS Programme, Apartment 102, 10th floor,
Tirana, Albania

USAID Albania

Acronym: USAID

Organisation type: Agency/Fund

Operating in Albania since 1992, assistance programme of U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) is aimed to support peace, stability and prosperity in the country and enhance economic growth, poverty reduction, democratic institutions and civil society. To this end, USAID programmes are focused on four areas: economic growth & trade, democracy & rule of law, health, and anti- trafficking. In the first priority area, the following projects supporting economic growth and innovation are currently implemented:

Competitive Enterprise Development Programme (CED) 2009 – 2014

The aim of this USAID project is to strengthen trade and investment capacity of non- agriculture enterprises, to increase enterprise productivity through investments in technological innovation, and to support workforce development. The project is focused on four key sectors: tourism, recycling, ICT, and textile industries.

Development Credit Authority 2005 – 2019

In cooperation with Raiffeisen Bank, USAID/Albania aims to facilitate access to finance especially for micro, small and medium sized enterprises (MSMEs) for business expansion and diversification.

Albanian Agriculture Competitiveness Programme (AAC) 2007 – 2012

The AAC program supports three main areas: (1) Strengthening producer capacity for commercial farming; (2) Strengthening capability for market development and (3) increasing access to and utilization of timely and reliable market information. The program provided technical assistance and training to producers in improved technologies, good farm management practices, and appropriate marketing strategy.

Contact

Website: albania.usaid.gov

E-mail: tirana-webcontact@usaid.gov

Phone: +355 4 2247 285

Fax: +355 4 2233 520

Address: USAID/Albania, American Embassy, Rr. Elbasanit, Nr. 103, Tirana, Albania

Infrastructure support:

Key Innovation Infrastructures

A national system of innovation can be understood as a “network of institutions in the public and private sectors whose activities and interactions initiate, import, modify and diffuse new technologies”. These institutions ranging from technology/innovation centres, science and technology parks to clusters, business start-up centres and incubators constitute a country’s innovation infrastructure. In the following chapter, the particular elements of the Albanian innovation system are presented.

Technology/Innovation Centres (TICs)

A Technology/Innovation Centre (TIC) is an institution established in order to facilitate technology transfer as well as to promote research uptake and innovation by linking researchers and universities with SMEs. TICs enable the industry to exploit new and emerging technologies by providing linkages between research and SMEs.

Business Relay and Innovation Centre (BRIC) within the Albanian Agency for Business and Investment (AIDA)

Acronym: BRIC

Organisation title in local language: Qendra e Ndërmjetësimit të Inovacionit të Biznesit

Organisation type: Agency/Fund

As Albania currently lacks a support body bringing enterprises fully into the innovation dynamics, a Business Relay and Innovation centre (BRIC) is being set up to fill the institutional gap in the Albanian innovation system and implement the programmes supporting actions of the Business Innovation and Technology (BITS) policy according to the Strategic Programme for the Development of Innovation and Technology of SMEs (2011-2016) (METE 2011: 5-7). Its purpose is to address the following tasks:

- ✓ Awareness raising and promotion;
- ✓ Provision of information;
- ✓ Technology transfer and diffusion;
- ✓ International technology and knowledge transfer;
- ✓ Entrepreneurship, quality and process improvement;
- ✓ Financial

resources.

Intellectual Capacity:

Agricultural University of Tirana
Address ' Koder Kamez' Tirana Albania Tel/fax 00355 47 200 874 e-mail:
iroaut@yahoo.com web:
<http://www.ubt.edu.al>

Field of Undergraduate Studies	Study Program
Agronomy	Agriculture
	Plant Protection
	Machinery and Equipment Operation for Agriculture and Food Industry
Horticulture	Horticulture
	Landscaping
Forest Engineering	Woodprocessing Engineering
	Engineering and design of finished wood
Forestry	Forestry
	Forest Exploitation
Agriculture and Rural Development Engineering and management	Economic Engineering in Agriculture
Biotechnologies	Genetic Engineering
	Biotechnologies
Food Engineering	Food Engineering
	Agricultural Products Processing Technology
	Food Control and Expertise
	Extracts and Natural Food Additives
Breeding	Breeding
	Fish Farming and Aquaculture
Veterinary	Veterinary
Economy	Agro-food Economy

Knowledge Creation: Centres of Agricultural Technology Transfer (QTTB)

Acronym: QTTB

Organisation title in local language: Qendrat e Transferimit të Teknologjive Bujqësore Organisation type: Cluster/Incubator/Innovation Infrastructure

Following the decision of the Council of Ministers no. 515 (2006) on the restructuring of research institutes under Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Consumer Protection, five centres of agricultural technology transfer have been established. The main objective of these centres

is to support the direct transfer of agricultural technologies to farmers by testing, adapting and introducing new agricultural practices, methods and materials, research on problems raised by local farmers, training of farmers, students, etc., provision of technical expertise, demonstration of new technologies in agriculture and support the ministry of agriculture in policy-making.

In addition to the focus on the specific needs and priorities of their region, each centre concentrates on specific activities and agricultural crops as follows:

Centre of Agricultural Technology Transfer, Fushë-Krujë:

Forage cultivation, legume (white beans), bovine, swine (pigs), poultry and integrated management of farm; services for soil and water; needs and other priorities of the region

Centre of Agricultural Technology Transfer, Lushnjë:

Vegetables in greenhouses and open field; wheat; needs and other priorities of the region

Centre of Agricultural Technology Transfer, Vlorë:

Nuclei fruit trees, olive trees, vineyards, citrus; needs and other priorities of the region

Centre of Agricultural Technology Transfer, Korçë:

Small ruminants, Seedy fruit trees (apples), potatoes, barley; needs and other priorities of the region

Centre of Agricultural Technology Transfer, Shkodër:

Maize; needs and other priorities of the region

Technology Commercialization & Transfer:

Contact

Centre of Agricultural Technology Transfer, Fushë-Krujë

Address: Qendra e Transferimit të Teknologjive Bujqësore-Fushë Krujë, Rruga e Rinasit, Fushë Krujë-Albania

Phone/Fax: +355 5 1124 356

E-mail: qttbfushekruje@yahoo.com

Centre of Agricultural Technology Transfer, Lushnjë

Address: Qendra e Transferimit të Teknologjive Bujqësore, Lushnjë-Albania Phone/Fax: +355 35 222 498

E-mail: qttblushnje@yahoo.com

Centre of Agricultural Technology Transfer, Vlorë

Address: Qendra e Transferimit të Teknologjive Bujqësore, Shamogjin, Vlorë-Albania Phone/Fax:
+355 3 323 225

E-mail: gttbvlore@yahoo.com

Centre of Agricultural Technology Transfer, Korçë

Address: Qendra e Transferimit të Teknologjive Bujqësore, Rruga e Voskopojës, Korçë-
Albania

Phone: +355 8 2254 950

E-mail: gttbkorce@yahoo.com

Centre of Agricultural Technology Transfer, Shkodër

Address: Qendra e Transferimit të Teknologjive Bujqësore, Dobraq, Shkodër-Albania Phone: +355 2
251 200

E-mail: gttbshkoder@yahoo.com

R&D Funds:

Agriculture Applied Research Management:

Albanian Association of Information Technology in

Agriculture, Food and Environment (AITA)

Acronym:

AITA

Organisation title in local language: Shoqata Shqiptare e Teknologjisë së
Informacionit në Bujqësi, Ushqim dhe Mjedis

Organisation type:

Association/NGO

The mission of AITA is to facilitate the exchange of information and experience,
development of knowledge in the ICT area in agriculture, food and environment in order
to strengthen the competitiveness of these sectors in Albania and elsewhere and to
promote awareness of ICT in agriculture, food and environment.

Contact

E-mail: aita@yahoo.com

Address: Rruga Irfan Tomini Pall 26 Shk. 3 Ap 28, Tirana, Albania Phone:
+355 67 201 8121

Contact person:

Prof.Dr. Petraq Papajorgji, President

E-mail: aita@yahoo.com

Research & development Links:

Institute of Biologic Agriculture (IBB)

Acronym: IBB

Organisation title in local language: Instituti i Bujqesise Biologjike

Organisation type: Research Institute

The IBB was established as NGO in 2008 but has a long experience in the field of bio agriculture products since 1996. The institute has its network in Vlora, Shkodra, and Korca.

The Institute of Biologic Agriculture offers these services:

results of research in farms;

consulting/extension service for integrated and bio agriculture operators;

trainings of agriculture and farmers specialists.

Contact

Website: www.ibb.al

Address: Godina e Laboratorit të Mbrojtjes së Bimëve, Shkozet, Durrës, Albania

Contact person

Prof. Asc. Dr. Enver Isufi, Director

Phone: +355 69 2087 205

E-mail: enver_isufi@yahoo.com

2. Institute of Food and Veterinary Security/Protection (ISUV)

Acronym: ISUV

Organisation title in local language: Instituti i Sigurise Ushqimore dhe Veterinarise

Organisation type: Research Institute

The Institute of Food Safety and Veterinary (ISUV) is a public institution that depends on the Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Consumer Protection (Ministry of Agriculture). It continues the work of the former Veterinary Research Institute and the former Institute of Food Research and is created based on their merge in 2006.

It is the only reference centre in the country that pursues research and control in food safety and quality as well as animal health protection by diagnosing and preventing animal diseases.

Contact

Website: www.isuv.al

E-mail: info@isuv.al

Phone: +355 4 2364 283

Address: Aleksander Moisiu 10, Tirana, Albania

Sector Statistics

Albania Statistics:

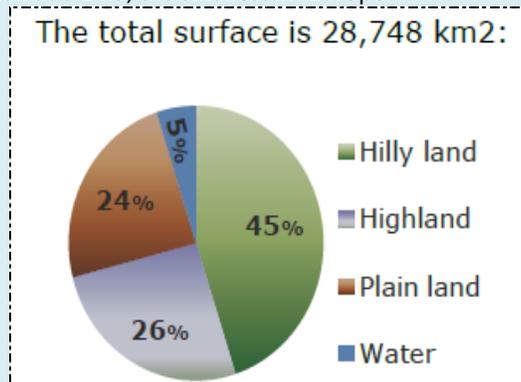
Country Pasture/Forage Resource Profiles - The Country Pasture/Forage Resource Profile provides a broad overview of relevant general, topographical, climatic and agro-ecological information with focus on livestock production systems and the pasture /forage resources. It also provides information concerning key institutions and personnel and their current research interests, as well as selected references.

Statistics 2013

Country Area: 2875(1000ha)
Agricultural Area: 1201.3(1000ha)
Land Area: 2740(1000ha)
Forest Area: 774.02(1000ha)

According to National Agriculture and Food Strategy for the period 2007-2013, the surface of agricultural land managed organically will reach the level of 5% in the year 2013.

The average agricultural land per capita is very small at 0.2 ha, the smallest in Europe.



The land used for agriculture is often quite sloping, with only about 44% of the agricultural land having a slope of less than 5%.

Agriculture provides the income basis for most of the population and serves as an employment safety net. The rural population is estimated to comprise about 50 percent of the total population while about 60 percent of the labor force works in agriculture and related fields.

Approximately 3250 kinds of plants or 29 % of the species of the European flora and 47 % of the Balkan flora, vegetates in Albania.

Agriculture is one of the most determinative sectors of the Albanian national economy. Its contribution has been decreasing over years and it is estimated at 17% of the GDP. The rural families continue to dominate the national economy, more than 50 percent of the

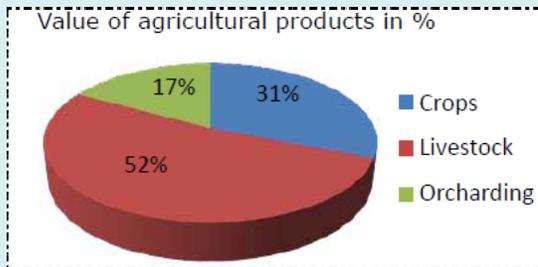
population lives in the rural areas, and agriculture is the main working alternative of people living in these areas. The real mean growth rate of agriculture production during the last five years is estimated to about 4 percent per year.

The agricultural sector suffers from the small size of farms and the fragmentation of farm land, which is a barrier to production and marketing.

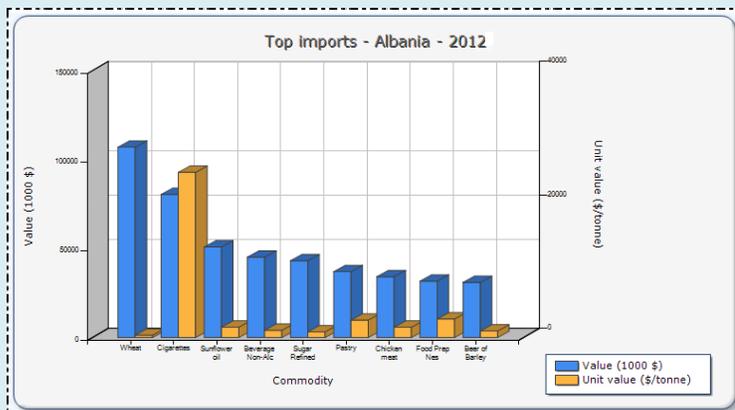
Higher competitiveness, as a result of lower costs and higher quality, food safety and standards, will strengthen the position of farmers in the market, will raise their income and will introduce safer products in the market for farmers.

This is the result of the specific problems that this sector is facing, among which the most evident are the migration from rural areas, land ownership and very limited size of farms, the marketing of products, the irrigation and the drainage system, the low level of technologies in use, the weak organization of farmers, the low development level of agro-processing, etc.

At 108%, led by orcharding by 119%, crop production by 113% and livestock by 102%.



Imports:



Rank	Commodity	Quantity (tonnes)	Flag	Value (1000 \$)	Flag	Unit value (\$/tonne)
1	Wheat	305944	1	107013	1	350
2	Cigarettes	3249	32	80438	2	24758
3	Sunflower oil	32720	6	50926	3	1556
4	Beverage Non-Alc	41445	4	45229	4	1091
5	Sugar Refined	50772	2	43216	5	851
6	Pastry	14186	13	37039	6	2611
7	Chicken meat	22201	9	34223	7	1542
8	Food Prep Nes	11392	16	31729	8	2785
9	Beer of Barley	31627	7	31040	9	981
10	Maize	47526	3	18257	10	384
11	Pork	8609	20	17020	11	1977
12	Coffee, green	4922	28	15311	12	3111
13	Flour of Wheat	33286	5	14808	13	445
14	Macaroni	15432	12	13891	14	900
15	Bananas	17396	10	12934	15	744
16	Oranges	22791	8	12648	16	555
17	Coffee Roasted	1620	51	12217	17	7541
18	Chocolate Prsnes	2740	37	11875	18	4334
19	Bever. Dist.Alc	1136	65	9547	19	8404
20	Apples	11399	15	8870	20	778

Lands:

Albanian land structure composes by 24 % agricultural land and 76 % forestry, meadow, pasture and other land

The total agricultural land represents only 24 % (about 695,520 ha) of
The total area of the country.

About 44 percent (about 304,000 ha) of the total agriculture land is in the lowland area, with relatively high productivity potential.

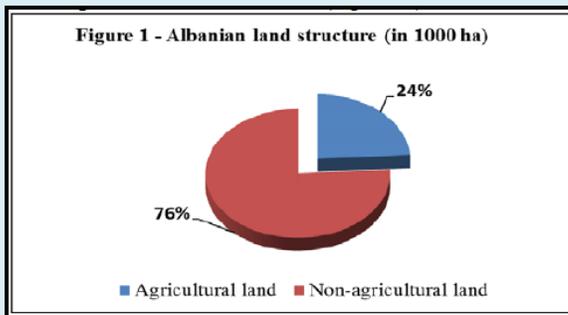
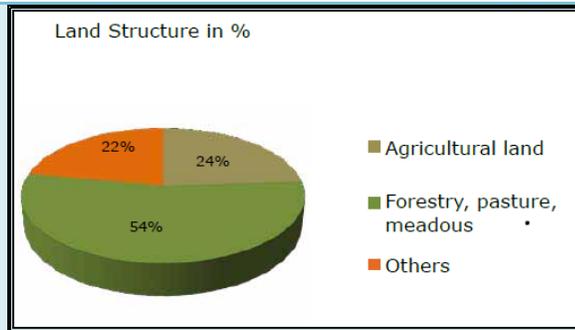
From a total of 696 thousand ha agricultural land in Albania, about:

562 thousand ha have been privatized, and still

134 thousand ha, or about 20% of total agricultural land, are in state ownership

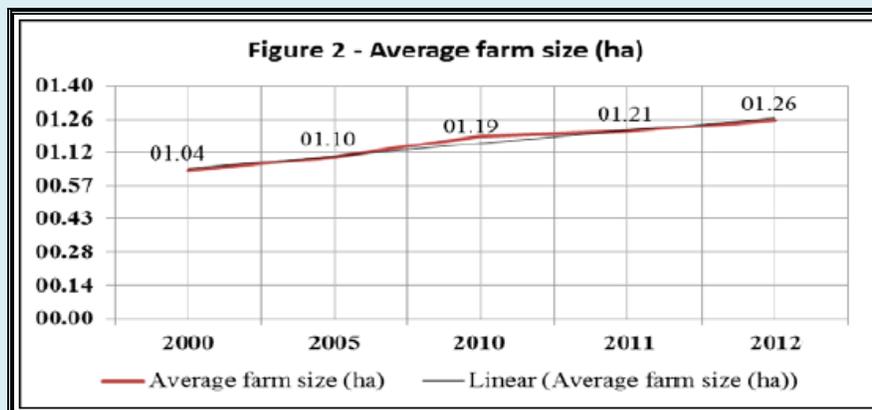
The land use policies are developed based in this above reality.

The land market in Albania is still in first steps and a package of integrated measures is needed for its development and consolidation.



The existing infrastructure of irrigation, drainage and flood protection has been designed for insuring irrigation to around 360,000 ha, ensuring drainage to 280,000 ha, and reduction of the risk against a river and sea flooding to a potentially endangered surface of 130,000 ha. Actually, the total area with rehabilitated irrigation infrastructure is 200,000 ha while the total area with rehabilitated drainage infra-structure is 220,000 ha. Rehabilitated dams for irrigation are 80, out of a total 626 dams.

✓ According the privatization policy about 450,000 farm families have profited averaging 1,3 hectares (Ha) agrarian land per farm or 0,25 Ha per person making 1.8 million parcels. During the transition process still now farms continue to be very small. The average agricultural land per capita is the smallest in Europe.

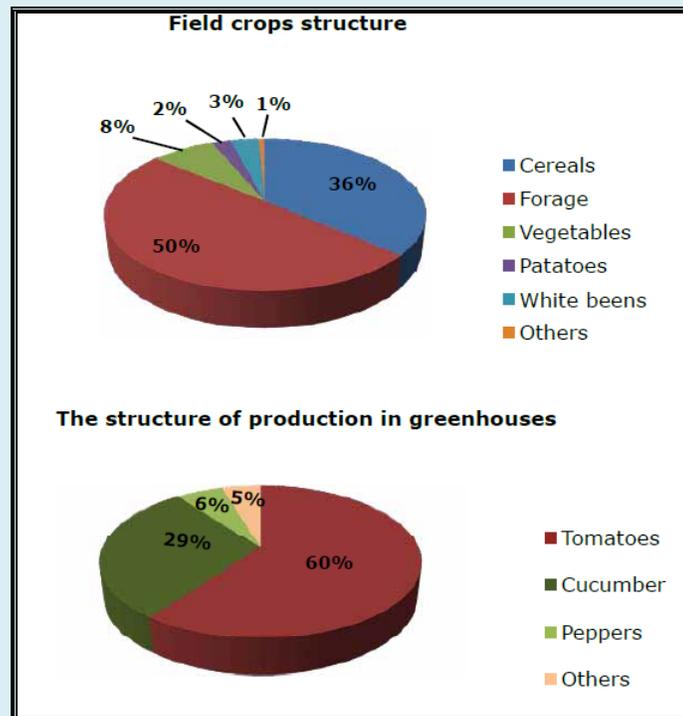


Crops:
Agricultural production has increased significantly in recent years. Field crops occupy about 31% of total agricultural production. Cereals, vegetables, potatoes and white bean, continue to be the dominant crops.

As a result of supporting schemes applied, orchard production has been continuously increasing in recent years. It occupies about 17% of total agricultural production, with grape and fruit trees as dominant cultures, and a continuous increase in olives production.

During 2012, are dominated farms with field crops 36%, farms with livestock 31%, orcharding 17%, farms with fallow land 10% and only 6% were farms with crop without livestock.

Ha	Farms with crops and livestock	Farms with crops without livestock	Farms with field Crops	Orcharding	Fallow land	Total farms
0.1 - 0.5	20%	20%	20%	8%	6%	20%
0.6 - 1.0	25%	27%	25%	26%	22%	26%
1.1 - 2.0	41%	40%	41%	48%	53%	40%
2.1 +	14%	13%	14%	18%	19%	14%



Livestock:

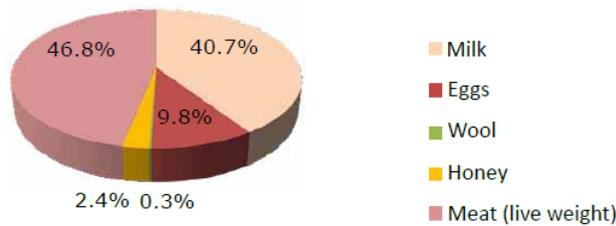
Livestock is a strategic sector. It occupies about 52% of all production of the sector. Albania has optimal conditions for sheep and goat breeding in hilly and mountainous areas and cows in

some flat areas.

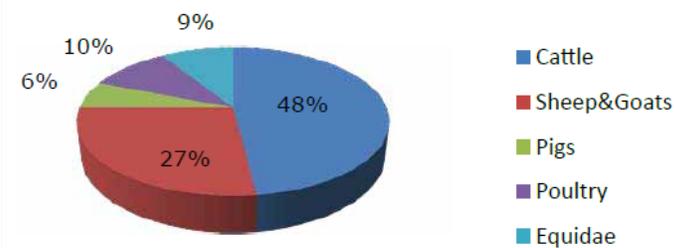
Albania has a high self sufficiency rate of livestock production, especially for beef, sheep and goat meat, eggs and milk products.

As a result of policies to support farm-to-market orientation, the number of specialized livestock farms with products destined for market, is gradually increased.

The structure of livestock production (in%)



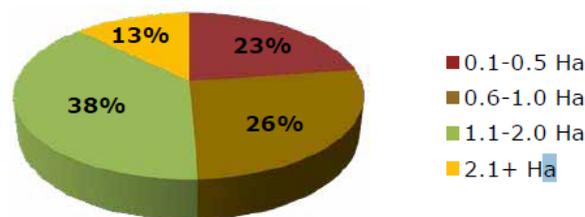
The structure of livestock in cattle unit



Farm business:

Actually, the total area with rehabilitated irrigation infrastructure is 200,000 ha while the total area with rehabilitated drainage infrastructure is 220,000 ha. Rehabilitated dams for irrigation are 80, out of a total 626 dams.

Agricultural Households

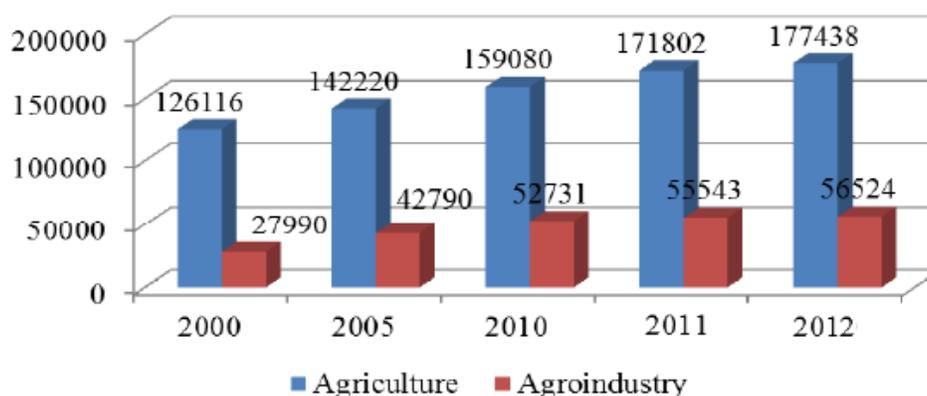


Agro-Processing:

Agro processing industry occupies about 34.4% of total estimated production (prices of 2012) from agriculture and agro-industry. The dominant activities are those of dairy, meat, bread and flour processing.

The situation in the sector varies. The enterprises especially in dairy and meat processing have made large investments to assure compliance with standards.

Value of production by branches in mln ALL



Structure of planting shows domination of forage 52%, cereals 34%, 9% vegetables and potatoes and others 5% (INSTAT, 2013). Besides, the greenhouse areas continue to growth in more productive rural area by the initiatives of new entrepreneurship and the implantation of new technologies. In term of dynamic of production 'value by branches are demined 52% by livestock production, 31% by field crop production and 17% by fruit trees Production

ALBANIA		Table 2		
		Units	2012*	2013*
Gross value added of the agriculture, forestry, hunting and fishery sector (A)				
- GVA (at current prices)	mill. EUR		1,612.1	1,765.0
- share in GVA of all activities	%		20.4	21.3
Employment in the agriculture, forestry, hunting and fishery sector (A)				
- number	000		507.0	:
- share in total employment	%		54.6	:
Trade in food and agricultural products				
- export of agri-food products	mill. EUR		71.5	82.9
- share in export of all products	%		5.1	5.4
- import of agri-food products	mill. EUR		597.0	618.4

- share in import of all products	%	17.2	15.8
- trade balance in agri-food products	mill. EUR	-525.5	535.5
Agricultural land, total	000 ha	1,201	1,321.1
- Arable land	000 ha	408.9	449.8
<i>of which</i> fallow and uncultivated land	000 ha	:	
- Land under permanent crops	000 ha	74.5	81.9
<i>of which</i> orchards	000 ha	18.0	19.8
vineyards	000 ha	10.1	11.1
olive trees	000 ha	45.6	50.1
other permanent crops (nurseries)	000 ha	0.8	0.9
- Permanent grassland	000 ha	505.3	555.8
<i>of which</i> meadows	000 ha	:	:
pastures	000 ha	:	:
- Other agricultural land	000 ha	212.3	233.6
Farm structure			:
Number of agricultural holdings	000	353	388.3
Utilised agricultural area (UAA)	000 ha	989	1,087.5
UAA per holding	ha	2.8	3.1
Change in volume of Gross Agricultural Output (GAO)****			:
- Total	%	3.3	3.6
- Crops	%	4.4	4.8
- Livestock	%	2.3	2.5
- Crops*****	%	48.2	53.1
- Livestock	%	51.8	56.9

Rural development statistics

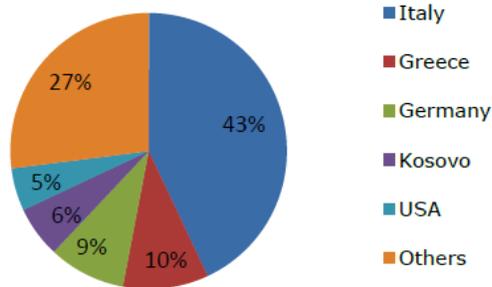
Trade Statistics:

In Albania imports dominate over exports. Anyway, recently the agricultural exports are increasing, softening so the trade deficit. The main exported products are vegetables, medicinal plants, eggs, mineral water, fruit juices etc.

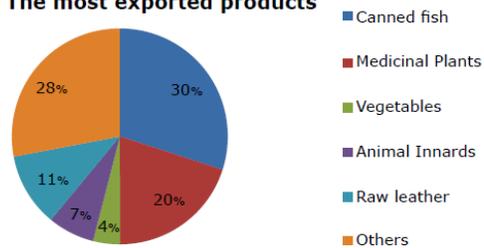
Export-Imports (in 000 Euro)

Description	EXPORTS			IMPORTS		
	2008	2009	2012	2008	2009	2012
Crops	24806	19851	23571	170129	131006	149174
Livestocks	8592	7296	7212	73726	70374	71039
Agroindustry	27057	29752	35673	376280	337861	380204
Total	60456	56899	66456	620135	539241	600416

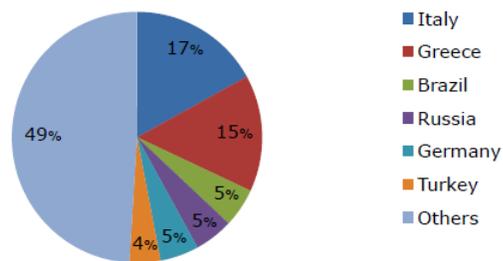
Agricultural Exports by Country



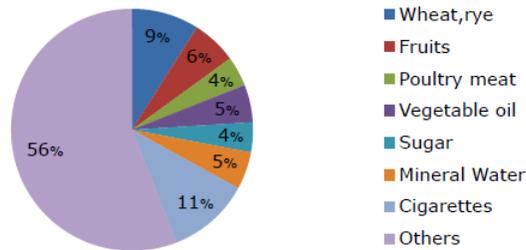
The most exported products



Agricultural Imports by Country



The most imported products



Fact Sheets:

1. Keshilluesi Bujqesor (periodic fact sheet)
2. Agrobusiness (periodic fact sheet)

ALBANIA

EU PROGRESSREPORT 16.10.2013

Agriculture and rural development

As regards **horizontal issues**, the government allocated about €6.8 million in 2013 for direct support and national investment schemes in agriculture and agro-processing. Agricultural production in 2012 increased slightly, mostly due to improved production in fruit trees and olives. Part of the growth is linked to the government direct support schemes that have encouraged the planting of new trees. While exports increased, the trade balance has improved marginally. There has been good progress with agricultural statistics. Since the beginning of 2013 the National Statistics Institute (INSTAT) has been responsible for agricultural statistics. The Census of Agricultural Holdings was conducted in October 2012. According to preliminary results, the total number of agricultural holdings is 324 013, compared to 350 654 in 2010. The share of holdings keeping livestock fell from 84% in 2010 to 71% in 2012. The work on setting up a functional land cadastre continues to progress very slowly. Under the Law on agricultural cooperation companies, new cooperatives have been registered for the production of oil, cereals and vegetables. The work on creating a functioning electronic agricultural information system (farm register, animal register, etc.) must intensify in order to create a basis for sound financial management of national and EU assistance.

- ✓ In the area of the **common market organization**, a new law on olive oil was approved by parliament. It aims to align with the *acquets* on marketing standards.

The adoption of the 2014-20 strategy for agriculture and **rural development** is pending. Preparations to manage and control rural development funds under the rural

development component of the Instrument for Pre-accession Assistance (IPARD) have continued. The first call for proposals under an IPARD-like scheme took place from December to February, followed by a second call launched in April. The expected results of the project will need to be closely monitored.

An assessment of the preparedness of IPARD operating structures (paying agency and managing authority in the Ministry of Agriculture and other bodies involved, such as the National Authorizing Officer (NAO) and the national fund at the Ministry of Finance) to manage funds of IPA component V was carried out in March. The main weaknesses identified include the lack of progress made by the NAO and the national fund in managing pre-accession assistance in agriculture, the lack of appropriate office space and equipment, including checking tools, in the paying agency and the lack of a clear policy to retain trained staff both at the managing authority and the agency. Efforts are needed to further train staff on the appropriate procedures and in order to build up the administrative capacity of all structures involved in the accreditation process.

Conclusion

There has been limited progress in the area of agriculture and rural development. The Agricultural statistics have been improved. While the administrative structure to implement IPARD schemes has been established at the Ministry of Agriculture, all involved elements of the management and control system need to be substantially strengthened in order to carry out their respective functions, in particular the NAO and the national fund. Overall, preparations in this area are not very advanced.

Food safety, veterinary and phytosanitary policy

In the area of **general food safety**, risk assessment capacity has still not been established although a first step has been made with a decision by the Ministry of Agriculture to set up a dedicated Scientific Committee. The regulatory framework relating to the Scientific Committee needs to be completed with clear rules and internal procedures that govern the activities of this body, including relations with the National Food Authority, risk communication, risk assessment methodology, and the allocation of an adequate budget. The quality of inspections of food facilities has gradually improved. However, the organizational and administrative framework of the inspection system lacks appropriate procedures and inspection plans, including for import controls.

As regards **veterinary policy**, progress has been made with the identification and registration of sheep and goats. Official veterinarians at regional level were assigned the role of data managers. The ear tagging and data entry into the animal database are close to completion. Two mass vaccinations against brucellosis in sheep and goats have been carried out in conformity with required standards, including the use of certified vaccines, fully controlled vaccine cold chain, enhanced awareness campaign and monitoring of the process. Vaccination against classical swine fever has started. Most of the data on vaccination of animals have been recorded in the animal information system.

Field epidemiology officers were provided with job descriptions and operational manuals. Nevertheless, due to intra- and inter-institutional fragmentation of the veterinary service,

a clear definition of competencies, responsibilities, procedures and communication is lacking. Staff levels at the central veterinary office remain inadequate. The role of the Chief Veterinary Officer is only technical. Although a good animal information system exists, no steps were taken with regard to animal waste management or improving of physical infrastructure in animal markets.

In the area of **placing on the market of food, feed and animal by-products**, the pace of progress is slow, with the exception of the updating and validation of the food establishments database (AKU-net) that now records 17 800 units. There has been no progress in ensuring food traceability due to the lack of enforcement of rules, timely reporting and updating of information on animal movements. Resources for monitoring contaminants, hormones, veterinary medicines, pesticide residues, etc. are insufficient. It is necessary to ensure that national residue monitoring plans are carried out in accordance with procedures. Introduction of new procedures and standards in order to align with the *acquis* has to be accompanied with intensive awareness and information campaigns for food business operators.

As regards **food safety rules** there is a need for progressive compliance with EU requirements as regards bacteriological criteria for raw milk.

There have been few significant developments in the area of **phytosanitary policy**. Inspection tasks have been assigned to the National Food Authority. The Plant Protection Section of the Ministry of Agriculture will be responsible for drafting legislation, with regional staff having an advisory function.

Field epidemiology officers were provided with job descriptions and operational manuals. Nevertheless, due to intra- and inter-institutional fragmentation of the veterinary service, a clear definition of competencies, responsibilities, procedures and communication is lacking. Staff levels at the central veterinary office remain inadequate. The role of the Chief Veterinary Officer is only technical. Although a good animal information system exists, no steps were taken with regard to animal waste management or improving of physical infrastructure in animal markets.

Conclusion

There was little progress in the area of food safety, veterinary and phytosanitary policy. The capacity of the inspection system needs to be increased and systematic inspection plans have to be introduced. Risk assessment capacity remains to be established and the regulatory framework relating to the Scientific Committee needs to be completed. Overall, preparations remain at an early stage.

Fisheries

Amendments to the Fisheries Law were adopted in December, providing that fishing boats of more than 12 metres must install a mobile transceiver unit, as required by Council Regulation 1224/2009/EC. Implementing legislation on the rules for the collection and use of data in the fisheries sector and support for scientific advice on national fisheries strategy, as well as on

management measures for the sustainable exploitation of fishery resources in the sea was adopted. The legal framework needs to be properly enforced.

In the area of **inspection and control**, implementing legislation on prevention of illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing and establishing a catch certification scheme, as well as a control system for ensuring compliance with the rules of the fisheries management policy was adopted. Despite recent amendments to the Fisheries Law, through which observers have been assigned to assist inspectors in carrying out their duties, the capacity of the Fisheries Directorate to collect information on landing of catches, which is necessary for the preparation of the multi-annual fisheries management plans and in particular for meeting reporting obligations under international agreements, remains limited. Prohibited species are still placed on the market, along with fish smaller than the allowed minimum size. The Vessel Monitoring System, which has been idle since August 2012, needs to be reactivated. As regards **international agreements**, Albania has been attending the General Fisheries Commission for the Mediterranean and re-established its collaboration with the International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT). There has been very little progress in the area of fisheries, mainly in adopting new legislation in the area of data collection and the prevention of illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing. Further efforts are needed to ensure enforcement of the legal framework, clarify administrative responsibilities and strengthen capacity, particularly in policy making and inspection. Overall, preparations are not very advanced.

7. National official quality standards / ALBANIA

National Food Authority is established as an integrated part of the program to create and guarantee a food safety system in Albania. (http://www.aku.gov.al/aku/?page_id=68&lang=en/)

NFA, as an institution under the Ministria e Bujqësisë, Zhvillimit Rural dhe Administrimit të Ujërave provides a high level of protection for citizens and aims not only to build trust but also to guarantee it for the food products in our country.

NFA was established with a Ministers Council Decision No. 1081 date 21. 10. 2009 and it was officially inaugurated from the Prime Minister on 20 May 2010. This institution is set up with the assistance of international experts with EU funds since 2007, period which grounded the first steps for NFA conception. Today the institution has 12 regional directorates all over Albania. The field of operation:

- ✓ Leads the risk assessment process in food, feed and plant protection field. Plans, coordinates and realizes official controls of food and feed and plant protection.
- ✓ Ensures the official control practices unification for food, feed and plant protection at national level.
- ✓ Coordinates authorized laboratories activities in food, feed and plant protection official controls.
- ✓ Performs preliminary controls to prove if the technical-technological, hygiene-sanitation, phytosanitary and veterinary requirements are met and also to verify the necessary documentation for registering and licensing the food business operators and plant protection.

- ✓ Blocks temporarily or permanently the activity of food and feed business operators in stages of production, processing, delivery and marketing of food or feed when it is proved that food or feed and respective business operators do not meet food safety standards, determined in the legislation into force.
- ✓ Carries out necessary scientific researches on risk assessment in the field of food and feed safety and plant protection.
- ✓ Provides technical, administrative and scientific support to enable the activity of scientific committee and scientific panels.
- ✓ Informs the public on food and feed safety and plant protection.

Important links:

- **European Food Safety Authority (EFSA)**

EFSA was established as part of a program to improve food safety in the EU, to ensure a high level of consumer protection and to recover lost faith, but also to ensure that for the food products in EU. As an assessing body, EFSA provides scientific opinions and advice in order to cast a safe ground for European policies and legislation, and to support the European Commission, European Parliament and EU member states to take effective decisions on risk management. EFSA is responsible for food for humans, animal health and animal welfare, protection of the health and welfare of plants. The end goal of EFSA is to be the main European reference body for risk assessment on food products for human and animal health, animal welfare, food safety and plant health. Independent scientific advice of EFSA's includes the European food safety system.

For more information click here: <http://www.efsa.europa.eu/>

- **Rapid Alert System for Food and Feed (RASFF)**

Rapid Alarm System for Food and Feed (RASFF) is a fast and effective tool for exchange of information between competent authorities, when risk is ascertained for human health along the food chain. This quick way of information sharing allows all member states to immediately verify the network if they are also affected by the problem. Although the product is still on the market and may not be consumed, the authorities have the position to take immediate action, including immediate provision to inform the public, if necessary. Rapid exchange of information about risk in food for human consumption and livestock feed, provides quick and safe measures from all members of the RASFF system. This is an important contribution to food security.

What is the status of Albania?

The Commission informs a non-member state of RASFF if a product is tracked in member states exporting to non-member countries of the EU. This information is accessible via RASFF Window, which is a new database that serves as a tool for providing information to non-EU countries. Through the window, NFA has access to the original documents of the state notification which has identified risk in their country that threatens food safety.

World Health Organization (WHO)

World Health Organization (WHO) is the leading and coordinating authority of the health care system in the United Nations. This organization is responsible for leadership creation regarding global health issues, shaping the health research agenda, setting norms and standards, providing technical support to countries that need it, and is responsible for monitoring and assessing health trends throughout the world. For more information click here: www.who.int

The International Food Safety Authorities Network (INFOSAN)

The rapid globalization of food production and commerce has increased the ability of the international accidents related to food contamination. National authorities throughout the world are now aware that food safety should be high not only at a national level, but also at a high level through cooperation between national authorities on an international level. This is very important to exchange information on food safety issues, share experiences, and to have access to accurate information on food emergencies worldwide. INFOSAN is a joint initiative between WHO and FAO. It is a global network that includes 177 member states. Any country part of this initiative is a focal point for communication with INFOSAN between national authorities of each country and the INFOSAN secretariat regarding emergencies. For more information click here: www.who.int/foodsafety/fs_management/infosan/en

Global Outbreak Alert & Response Network (GOARN)

Global Outbreak Alerts and Response Network (GOARN) is a technical collaboration of existing institutions and networks that join human and technical resources for the rapid identification, confirmation and response to emergencies of international importance. The network provides an operational framework to link this expertise and ability to keep the international community constantly in alert for the risk of emergencies and also willing to answer.

For more information click here: <http://www.who.int/csr/outbreaknetwork/en/index.html>

The Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)

Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) of the United Nations leads the international efforts to defeat hunger. FAO serves in developed countries as well as developing countries, playing the role of a neutral forum where all nations meet on an equal basis to negotiate agreements and policy development. FAO is also a source of knowledge and information. It helps developing countries and countries in transition to modernize and improve agriculture and fishing practices to ensure good nutrition for all. Since its foundation in 1945, FAO was focused on rural areas development and now is home to 70% of the world's people who suffer from hunger.

For more information click here: www.fao.org

Directorate General for Health and Consumers (DG SANCO)

The work of the Directorate-General for Health and Consumers (DG SANCO) is to guarantee the food safety and consumer goods in the European Union. This organization also provides the internal market of the EU, to work for the benefit of consumers and ensure that Europe helps to protect and improve the health of its citizens. Its daily activities affect the lives of European citizens. In order to have a successful mission, DG SANCO cooperates with the EU institutions, governments and nations and their

agencies, consumer organizations, health interest groups, business groups, scientists, researchers and various experts.

Inspection activities of genetically modified organisms - IMG

Perform official controls to ensure the traceability of genetically modified production, from growing up to the warehouse.

Responsibilities:

- monitor and control the cultivation of genetically modified plants, allowed to be grown;
- carry out inspections and controls to the companies cultivating genetically modified plants;
- perform information campaigns, notices the farmers;
- monitor and verify isolation distance;
- inventories the areas planted with genetically modified crops;
- apply legal measures to eliminate unauthorized genetically modified plants;
- collaborate with other institutions in order to respect the national legislation on GMO's;
- prepare and implement the genetically modified crops sampling plan, from the stored production, which will be sent to the country accredited laboratories for specific analysis.

Plant control

It refers to:

- plant protection and plant quarantine;
- plant protection products approval;
- after approval control of plant protection products;
- plants and plant products pesticide residues;
- national action plan for the pesticides sustainable use;
- procedure to avoid conflicts of interest;
- national strategy for plant.

Phytosanitary policy - established by Order no. 38 of 11 February 2009.

Central Plant Laboratory was established by Government Decision no. 753/2010. It is an institution subordinated to the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development - National Phytosanitary Agency. It is a national reference unit, accredited according to ISO 17025/2005.

Laboratory performs:

- detection and identification of plants and plant products harmful organisms;
- quality control of plant protection products;
- evaluation of dossiers for approval new products;
- customs plant inspections;
- monitoring of pesticide residues in fruits, vegetables and grains;
- implementation of quality assurance system according to ISO 17025;
- strengthening administrative capacity and professional training;
- technical and methodological training of specialists;
- participation in the field inter-laboratory studies;
- creating and maintaining harmful organisms reference collections.

Animal health and welfare

Institute of Diagnosis and Health for animals

Institute for Diagnosis and Animal Health (IDSA) is a legal unit and operates as a national interest public institution, subordinated to the National Sanitary Veterinary and Food Safety Authority i.

Institute for Veterinary Hygiene and Safety ISUV



Its role is to sanitary-veterinary monitor the food by checking the levels of pollutants, additives, organic load, biotoxins, before food enters in the food chain.

Responsibilities:

- guidance, technical coordination and control of the County Health Department laboratories;
- expansion and optimization methods;
- organize inter-laborator testing;
- drafting legislation;
- participation in advisory committees for substances and new products to be introduced in agricultural and veterinary practice;
- conducting epidemiological investigations;
- expertise and laboratory tests.

The Institute performs:

- evaluation of the veterinary medicines technical documentation, in order to place on market and use in Albanian veterinary medical practice of safe and effective medicine products;
- evaluation of the biocides products technical documentation in order to obtain the selling advice, to place on market and use in Albania of certain safe and effective disinfectants products;
- evaluation of the kits and diagnostic reagents technical documentation, in order to place on market and use in Albania of safe products;
- quality control of veterinary medicines by conducting The Surveillance and Control Program;
- ensuring access for interested people to the useful information on veterinary medicines authorized for selling in Albania.

Customs control

Customs General Directorate <http://www.dogana.gov.al/>

It is the institutions which apply the Albanian Customs Code Regulations as a member state of the European Union. For the products subject to sanitary-veterinary and food safety control, which enter and leaving Albania, are set special border inspection posts.

Food Safety Requirements:

I. Regulation

Albanian Agriculture has numerous regulations, many of which contain building standards and sanitation requirements that are meant to enhance food safety.

Regulations are laws which must be followed by the food processor. In Albania, the fundamental food regulations are found in: The Food and Drug Act and Regulations. All processors (big and small) must follow the regulations outlined in the Food and Drug Act and Regulations.

Public Health Inspection -Public health inspection is suitable when selling products within the province. Often these products will go to local farmers markets, catering, or used in the operation of a restaurant. Inspection is completed under *The Public Health Act* and *Sanitation Regulations*.

- ✓ Getting HACCP Certified or Recognized
- ✓ Organic Certification
- ✓ Natural Health Products and Functional Foods

The emphasis on living a healthier lifestyle is creating opportunities for new products to promote health and prevent disease

II. Inspection

There are three levels of inspection:

- ✓ central inspection,
- ✓ provincial or local, and
- ✓ public health inspection, all designed to enhance food safety.

Critical Control Points (CCPs)

Critical Control Points (CCPs) are the steps, when run through the CCP decision trees, that come out as being critical to the process.

Domestic Meat Inspection Program

To provide voluntary inspection of abattoirs and meat processing plants to help ensure food safety.

Marketing Meat and Meat Products

Producers who raise livestock with the intent of marketing their own meat or processed meat products should give careful consideration to where they will have their livestock slaughtered or meat processed.

III. Monitoring

- ✓ Hazard Analysis Critical Control Point (HACCP) is an internationally recognized, science-based system that works to ensure food safety by anticipating and preventing problems during the production of food products.
- ✓ Allergen Programs
- ✓ Allergens cause an allergic reaction due to the immune system reacting to a protein present in the food.
- ✓ Consumer Food Safety
- ✓ Consumer food safety is extremely important. It is the responsibility of each consumer to ensure they are handling, storing and cooking food safely.
- ✓ Corrective Actions and Preventative Measures
- ✓ Steps taken to correct a deviation or problem when it occurs.
- ✓ Good Manufacturing Practices (GMPs)
- ✓ Basic principles of operation a food processor should follow to produce a consistent, quality food product.

HACCP Implementation

- ✓ Process to implement a Hazard Analysis Critical Control Points (HACCP) program.

Hazards in Food Manufacturing

- ✓ Hazard analysis is critical to the development of a Hazard Analysis Critical Control Points (HACCP) plan.

- ✓ Introduction to HACCP
- ✓ Hazard Analysis Critical Control Points (HACCP) is a systematic approach to prevent food safety hazards from occurring during the course of food production.

Risk Analysis:

Risk Assessment:

The removal of the risks related to food, human health, animal health and welfare, genetically modified products, food additives etc. is done together with their certification and standardization.

The need for safe agricultural products certification and standardization is requested, also, by the major retailers.

Risk Management:

HACCP Standards (Hazard Analysis and Critical Control)

HACCP is been applying in all business operator in Albania.

HACCP is:

- part of the quality management system;
- condition for obtaining the sanitary-veterinary operating authorization;
- self control preventive method of assurance food harmlessness.

HACCP:

- increase customers and company employees confidence in its ability to make safe for consumption products;
- limit incidents involving the company legal responsibility;
- demonstrate compliance with the actual relevant legislation.

ISO 22000 is an international standard designed to ensure the worldwide food chains safety. ISO 22000 allows the creation of a food safety management system, including the principles of HACCP plan and requirements for food chain safety.

ISO 22000 is a standard that can be certified and:

- ensure better implementation of the HACCP system;
- include benefits of implementing HACCP.

It applies to all companies in the food industry (food production, packaging, transport, storage, serving and selling), regardless of their size and complexity.

ISO 22000 is structured as ISO 9001 which allows an easier implementation in the companies that are already certified ISO 9001.

ISO 31000 is a new standard for risk management. It can be used by any organization. It is not specific to any sector and any industry.

Global Gap is an internationally recognized standard for agricultural production. GLOBAL GAP certification covers:

- ✓ food safety and traceability;
- ✓ environment (including biodiversity);
- ✓ workers health, safety and welfare;
- ✓ animal welfare;

- ✓ Integrated Crop Management (ICM);
- ✓ Harmful Organisms Integrated Control (IPC);
- ✓ Quality Management System (QMS);
- ✓ Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Points (HACCP).

GLOBAL GAP requires a comprehensive approach in the agricultural production, which leads to the development of best practices. GLOBAL GAP certification provides to the products a greater competitiveness in the food market and new business development opportunities.

Risk Communication:

Consumers Interest:

National Food Authority is the competent authority with inspecting functions to manage at national level in the field of safety and protection of consumers', plants and animal's health protection. The establishment of this responsible institution to monitor food safety in Albania is necessary to fulfill legal, economic and social requirements.

National Food Authority (NFA) is set up as a public institution under the responsibility of Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Consumer Protection and operates in accordance with Article 62 of the Law no. No 9863 of 28.01.2008 "On food" and of the Council Ministers Decision No. 1081, date 21/10/2009 "On Organization and Functioning of NFA". The main target of NFA is the controls and inspections, risk assessment and communication, for the whole area of food safety, animal health and plant protection in Albania.

Traceability system:

Inspection activities of genetically modified organisms - IMG

<http://www.aku.gov.al/inspections>

It performs official controls to ensure traceability of genetically modified production, from growing up to the warehouse.

The traceability is regulated by Nr. 9863, date 28.01.2008 on food safety and Law Nr.10433, 16.06.2011 "For Inspections in Republic of Albania

Export –Import:

www.dogana.gov.al

The documents accompanying the customs declaration for free circulation release are:

- ✓ the bill based on which is declared the goods customs value;
- ✓ the statement with necessary elements for determining the declared goods customs value;

- ✓ the documents required for the application of a preferential tariff arrangement or other derogating measures from the legal rules applicable to the declared goods;
- ✓ transport documents or, where appropriate, previous customs regime related documents;
- ✓ packing list or an equivalent document indicating the contents of each package where in customs it presents a good in one or more packages;
- ✓ other documents required for the application of the provisions governing the declared goods release for free circulation.

State Responsibilities:

National Food Authority (NFA)

Street:Muhamet Gjolllesha, 56

Tel/fax: +355 (4) 2252658

Email: info@aku.gov.al

Website:

<http://www.aku.gov.al>

Food Health:

National Food Authority (NFA)

Street:Muhamet Gjolllesha, 56

Tel/fax: +355 (4) 2252658

Email: info@aku.gov.al

Website:

<http://www.aku.gov.al>

Plan Health:

Institute of Biologic Agriculture (IBB)

<http://www.ibb.al>

Agricultural Transfer Technology Centers (ATTC)

MAFCP (The contact point: Department of Extension Service, Research & Agricultural Information)

Tel/fax 00355 42 2232 69

National Seed Entity

National Seed and Seedling Institut Address: "Siri Kodra" street, Tirana , Albania
Tel/Fax: +355 4 230324

Phytosanitary Certificate:

Institute of Food and Veterinary Security/Protection (ISUV)

The Institute of Food Safety and Veterinary (ISUV) is a public institution that depends on the Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Consumer Protection (Ministry of Agriculture).

It is the only reference centre in the country that pursues research and control in food safety and quality as well as animal health protection by diagnosing and preventing animal diseases.

<http://www.isuv.gov.al>

Databases:

<http://www.aku.gov.al/aku-net>

<http://www.aku.gov.al/aku/?p=611>

Rules on pesticides residues in food:

The Monitoring Plan of pesticide residues in vegetables, fruits and grains:

- is part of the Integrated National Control Plan & National Strategy Plan in Albania;

Quality Package:

Quality Regulations:

Law Nr. 8025, Chapter 1526/2 date 13.04.2012

<http://www.ligjet.org>

General base-line standard:

Law Nr. 8025, Chapter 1526/2 date 13.04.2012

<http://www.ligjet.org>

Database of Origin & Registration – DOOR:

The Database of Origin & Registration (DOOR) project supports the agricultural product quality policy by providing a modern IT system for the dissemination of public data with regard to registered PDOs (Protected Designations of Origin), PGIs (Protected Geographical Indications) and TSG (Traditional Specialities Guaranteed) through Europa.

Brochures & Publication:

1. http://www.seclimateforum.org/upload/document/albanian_figures2012final.pdf
2. http://www.kash.org.al/new/wp-content/files/Agrobiznesi_Nr._X.pdf
3. http://www.kash.org.al/new/wp-content/files/Agrobiznesi_Nr._XX.pdf
4. Ministry of Agriculture and Consumer Protection, 2013. "Statistical yearbook".
5. Bank of Albania "Economic Buletin"
6. Bank of Albania "6 Month Report"
7. Bank of Albania "1 Year Report"



Links:

- ✓ <http://www.bujqesia.gov.al>
- ✓ <http://aku.gov.al>
- ✓ <http://isuv.gov.al>

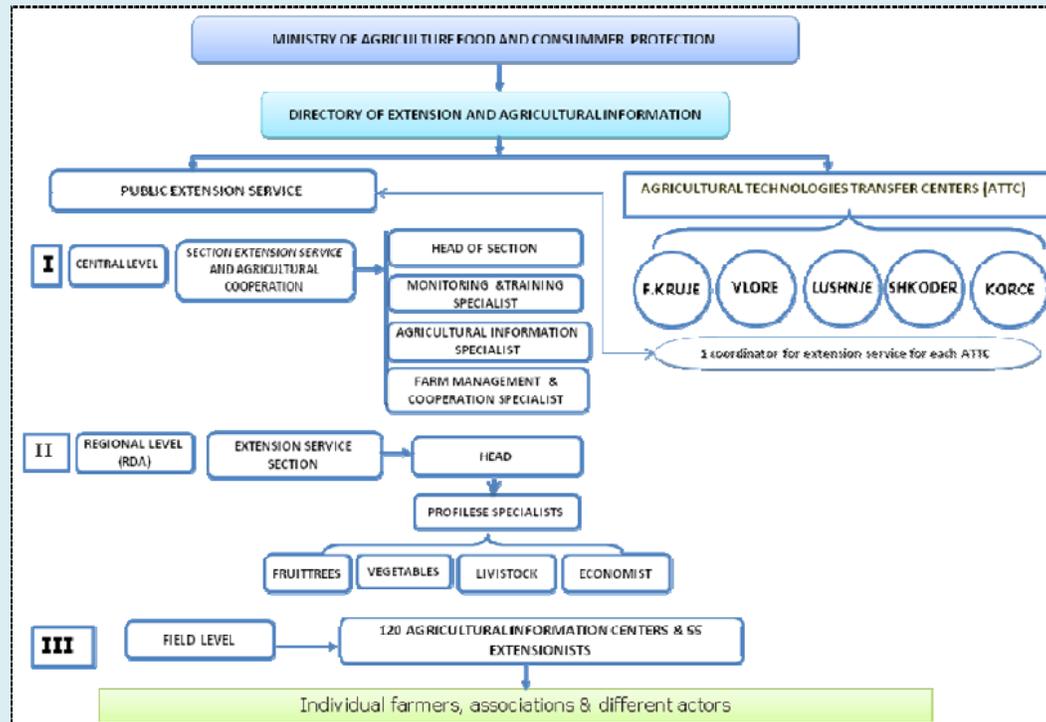
8. Other informations / ALBANIA

Ministry of Agriculture and other Public Institutions

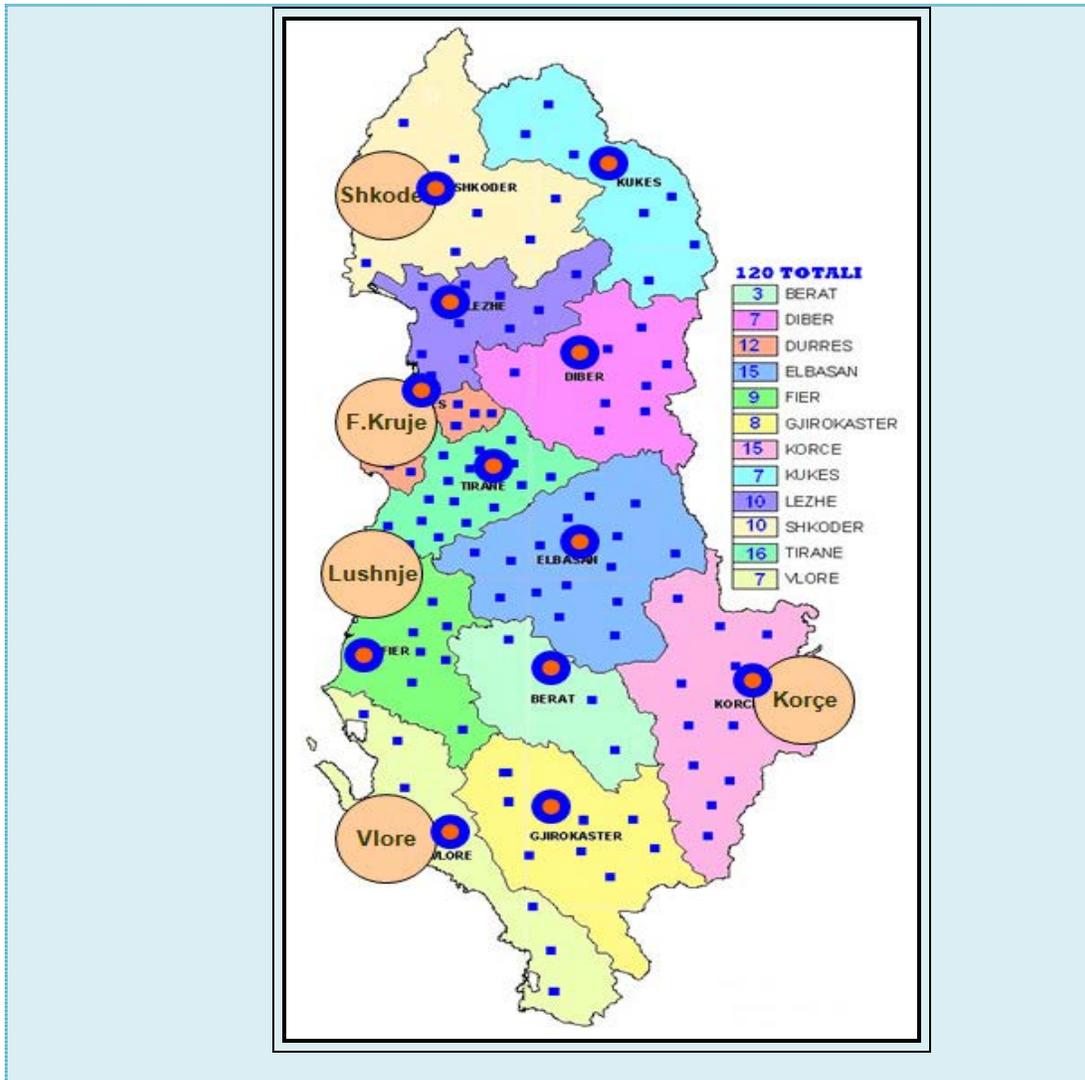
Branches/Agencies(Branch Mandate, Program, Strategy):

Agricultural Research:

The Ministry of Agriculture financially supports activities in the area of applied research and technology transfer in fields relevant for agricultural community especially for the growth in the agriculture sector. In the centre stands the production of higher value crops, livestock, processing, and some agricultural niche markets.



Part of the organization chart of MAFCP- Department of Extension Service, Research and Agricultural Information and Agricultural Technology Transfer Centres (ATTC)



Lands:

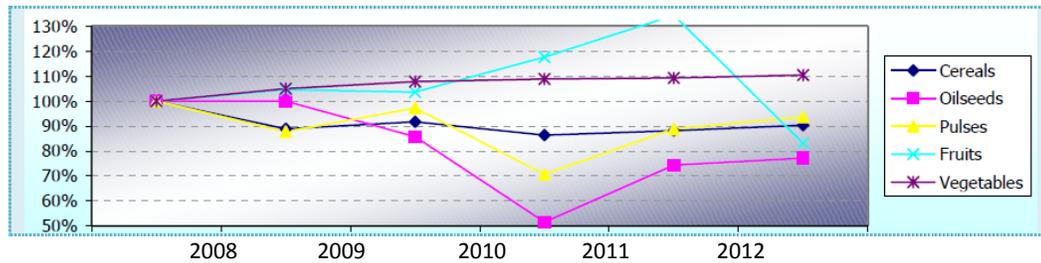
- ✓ Law no.8752 dated 26.03.2001, "On the establishment and operation of structures for Management and Earth Protection ", amended.
- ✓ LAW NR.121, dated 17.02.2011, "On ways of exercising the functions of the department's management and protection of land in the districts and the offices of management and protection of land in the townships or municipalities
- ✓ LAW no. 410, dated 02.07.2012 "On establishing the rules and procedures changing categories of land resources "
- ✓ Law no. 8312, dated 26.03.1998, "On inherent agricultural land", as amended.
- ✓ LAW no. 531, dated 21.08.1998, "On inherent agricultural land", as amended by Law no. 176, dated 30.03.2001.
- ✓ Instruction no. 1, dated 18.07.2012, "On the procedures of leasing agricultural land

inherent”

- ✓ Law no. 8318, dated 01.04.1998, "On leasing the agricultural land and forest land, meadows and pastures that are state property”
- ✓ LAW no. 830, dated 28.12.1998, "On the criteria of calculating the annual rental value of agricultural, forest, meadows and pastures.”
- ✓ LAW no. 831, dated 28.12.1998, "On the way of leasing the agricultural land, state property ", as amended.
- ✓ PM Instruction no. 3, dated 28.12.1998, "On the procedure for the auction of leasing of agricultural land, state property.”
- ✓ Prime Minister Order no. 287, dated 20.12.2006, "On the identification and disruption of alienation procedures of state property, farmland, woodland, meadows and pastures ".
- ✓ Law no. 459, dated 22.05.2013 "On a change in the fund of physical compensation created by fund of agricultural land”
- ✓ Law no. 460, dated 05.22.2013 "On the definition of the criteria, rules and procedures for leasing agricultural land owned by the state”
- ✓ Law no. 9244 dated 17.06.2004, "On the protection of agricultural land.”
- ✓ LAW no. 80, dated 28.1.2005, "On the composition, methods of operation, tasks and responsibilities of state structures for protecting agricultural land”
- ✓ LAW no. 59, dated 28.01.2005, "On the analysis of values indicators of agriculture land ".
- ✓ Law no. 8337, dated 04.30.1998, "On transferring the ownership of agricultural land, forest, meadows and pastures”
- ✓ LAW No. 567, dated 05.09.2007, "In accepting the criteria and procedures for appointment property real estate fund, for physical compensation”
- ✓ LAW no. 500, dated 14.08.2001, "On the inventory of immovable property state and the transfer of assets in units of local government”
- ✓ Law no. 8743, dated 22.02.2001, "For immovable property of the state”
- ✓ Law no. 10119, dated 23.04.2009, "On Territorial Planning”.
- ✓ Law no. 10263, dated 08.04.2010, "On the use and exploitation of uncultivated agricultural lands”.
- ✓ Law no. 9948, dated 07.07.2008 "On the legal validity of creating titles of ownership on agricultural land”, as amended,
- ✓ Law no. 56/2012 for an addition to the Law no. 8053, dated 21.12.1995 "Transition to owned agricultural land without compensation ", change
- ✓ Law no. 57/2012 for the completion of the transition in ownership beneficiaries of agricultural land of former agricultural enterprises
- ✓ Law no. 58/2012 for some additional and amendments to Law no. 9948, Dated 07.07.2008 "On the legal validity of creating ownership titles for agricultural land ", change
- ✓ Law no. 222, dated 06.03.2013 to establish procedures to complete the transfer process of agricultural land of former agricultural enterprises owned by beneficiaries.
- ✓ Law no. 253, dated 06.03.2013 for determining the procedures of fulfillment the acts of agricultural land acquisition owned agricultural households in the villages of former agricultural cooperatives.

Crops:

Farms in Albania are generally characterised by semi-subsistence, mixed production systems. In the majority of farms the most dominant mixed production system is currently Cereals–Forage–Livestock–Vegetables–Orchards.



Livestock:

The importance of livestock production in Albania's overall agricultural production is increasing again. The share of the livestock sector in total agriculture GAO has slightly but steadily increased since 2000 from 44 % to 56 % in 2012.

Highest increases were found in poultry meat (+80%) followed by pig meat (+35%), sheep/goat meat (+31.3%) and beef and veal (+11.9%). Milk production has also increased from 984,000 tons to 1,464 million tons, representing an increase of (+15.1%).

Cattle

Cow/Calf

Beef Cattle & Feeding Systems: Forms:

<http://www.bujqesia.gov.al/beefcattleprogram/>

Beef Cattle handling Facilities:

The animals can be raised on farms (in large systems, industrial) or in households.

Beef Cow-Calf Plan:

Program UNDP: Improving the Livestock sector in Albania

Implementation time 42.5 monts (2010-2013)

Amount: 1 368 497 EUR

Nutrition & Feeding:

<http://www.bujqesia.gov.al/nutritionprogram/>

Environmental Regulation for Cattle Producers :

www.bujqesia.gov.al/program/

Farm Structure & handling system:

Agricultural Transfer Technology Centers (ATTC)
MAFCP (The contact point: Department of Extension Service, Research &
Agricultural Information)
Tel/fax 00355 42 2232 69

Farm Business management

Business Strategy:

- ✓ Agricultural Life Annuity
- ✓ Complementary national direct payments in the livestock sector - cattle
- ✓ Complementary national direct payments in the livestock sector - sheep / goats
- ✓ State aid for achieving voluntary commitments for the poultry welfare
- ✓ State aid for achieving voluntary commitments for the pigs welfare and protection
- ✓ State aid for diesel used in agriculture

Business Structure

Marketing Strategy:

Agricultural Transfer Technology Centers (ATTC)
MAFCP (The contact point: Department of Extension Service, Research & Agricultural
Information)
Tel/fax 00355 42 2232 69

Environment Strategy:

Financial management:

Agriculture and Rural Development Agency (Paying Agency)
Sheshi "Skenderbej" Nr 2, Tirana ALBANIA Tel/fax: +355 (4) 2228318
Website: <http://www.azhbr.gov.al>

Human Resources:

Available Forms:

Crop Forms: YES , www.bujqesia.gov.al

- ✓ Irrigation Development Process Form - Request for Technical Assistance

- ✓ Herbicide Resistance Diagnostic Lab Form
- ✓ Insect Identification Request Forms

Land Forms: NO

Farm infrastructure forms: YES, www.bujqesia.gov.al, www.azhbr.gov.al

Livestock forms: YES, www.bujqesia.gov.al

Livestock Forms

- ✓ Declaration for Release of Payment
- ✓ Domestic Fur Farm License Application
- ✓ This application may be used by individuals that wish to be licensed in order to operate a commercial fur farm.
- ✓ Livestock Agent License Application
- ✓ This form may be used by a licensed Livestock Dealer to apply to authorize an individual as Livestock Dealer License Application
- ✓ This form may be used by individuals that wish to conduct business as a licensed and bonded livestock dealer. A livestock dealer is a person who buys or sells livestock or who offers to buy
- ✓ PorkPLAN Version (testing in Albania)
- ✓ PorkPLAN is an Excel computer program for business planning and financial analysis of pork production operations. It simulates the profitability of an operation by using the production and financial inputs of an operation. PorkPLAN can simulate various types of operations including: farrow to wean, farrow to feeder, farrow to finisher, and feeder/finisher operations.

Traceability Application Form

Livestock Loan Forms:

Pesticide Forms: YES

Pesticide Forms

- ✓ Agreement Form - The Weed Control Act
- ✓ Agreement Form - The Weed Control Act
- ✓ Order Form - The Weed Control Act
- ✓ Order Form - The Weed Control Act
- ✓ Out-Of-Province Pesticide Applicator Licensing Requirements
- ✓ Pesticide Applicator Licence Application Form
- ✓ Pesticide Service Licence Application Form
- ✓ Pesticide Vendor Licence Application Form
- ✓ Training Session Attendance Form
- ✓ Candidates should complete the following form to request credit approval of a meeting, informational session, workshop, clinic and/or other training through the Continuing Education Program.

Farm Business Management:

Support measures financed from the national budget and IPA Programme:

- ✓ Agricultural Life Annuity
- ✓ Complementary national direct payments in the livestock sector – cattle/ sheep / goats
- ✓ State aid for achieving voluntary commitments for the poultry welfare/pigs welfare & Protection
- ✓ State aid for diesel used in agriculture

Food Safety

FOOD SAFETY AND STANDARDS

Veterinary control:

This service protects the national territory from animal infections and it protects public health from diseases coming from animal products, through improvements in the control procedures in border crossing points. There are 14 border veterinary inspection points. All cargoes with imported animal products are controlled in these points. Only after this control in these points, which are the first barriers of veterinary control of animal products, and after customs control, can these products freely move in the domestic market. The infrastructure of these inspection points leaves much to be desired. With the completion of a CARDS project, the infrastructure of 7 border veterinary inspection points will be improved.

The improvement of infrastructure will strengthen veterinary control. In total, 128 importers, processors and sellers of animal-origin products have been approved by The food safety inspectorate. On a monthly basis, all these units are inspected, whether they import, keep in refrigerators, or process food products. The control is monthly and is conducted on the basis of inspection protocols. About 90% of these units are under the permanent control of the food safety inspectorate. Food establishments are improving their conditions, in compliance with the veterinary legislation in force and in fulfillment of their obligations according to protocols with veterinary inspectors. A small number even satisfies the standards to export to EU countries. The drafting of the new law on food is a basic requirement for the development of the food industry in the country and for the introduction of HACCP system after a period of two years, which will ensure safer products from a health point of view.

Growing

Export & Import:

www.aku.gov.la
www.dogana.gov.al

Business support organizations:

1. KASH – www.kash.org

2. UCCI – www.ucci.al

3. AIDA – www.aida.gov.al

4. AZHBR – www.azhbr.gov.al



**LINK TO ANOTHER COUNTRY
INFORMATION**

TOOLKIT INFORMATION FOR ENTREPRENEURS – **BULGARIA**
Animal Breeding and Horticulture Sector

National legislation / BULGARIA	BLG / LEGISLATION
National financial supports for entrepreneurs initiatives / BULGARIA	BLG / FIN.SUPPORT
National contact points for entrepreneurship / BULGARIA	BLG / CONTACT
National network / BULGARIA	BLG / NETWORK
Agricultural innovation clusters / BULGARIA	BLG / CLUSTERS
National Statistics / BULGARIA	BLG / STASTICS
National official quality standards / BULGARIA	BLG / STANDARDS
Other informations / BULGARIA	BLG / OTHER INFO

“BULGARIA ECONOMIC FORUM” & “BSC SME RUSE”



1. National legislation

Policies:

Bulgarian State Policy in the field of animal breeding and horticulture

The **Ministry of Agriculture and Food is the main institution that implements the state policy in the field of agriculture, animal breeding, rural development, forestry, fisheries and aquaculture.** The Ministry is responsible for the adaption of the agricultural sector in compliance with the European and international standards, to increase the competitiveness of production and enhancing the export capacity of the Bulgarian agriculture under strict standards of environmental protection, food safety and uniform control of the food chain and welfare of animals.

The **main priorities** in this area are:

- ✓ to ensure a fair standard of living for farmers;
- ✓ providing the necessary conditions for development of small and medium enterprises in the agricultural sector;
- ✓ increase the competitiveness of the Bulgarian agricultural products;
- ✓ provide quality and safe food products for consumers;
- ✓ rural development;
- ✓ environmental protection by creating conditions for the development of environmentally friendly forms of agriculture;
- ✓ to ensure the competitiveness and sustainability of the fisheries sector and the creation of better living conditions in the fisheries areas;
- ✓ management and conservation of the forestry resources;
- ✓ implementation of educational innovation and effective implementation in the agricultural practice;
- ✓ to provide quality administrative services in the Agriculture;
- ✓ to synchronize Bulgarian to European legislation in the field of agriculture;
- ✓ to ensure animal health status, improving surveillance of animal diseases and reduce morbidity, ensuring welfare.

The **measures to ensure the fulfillment of the policy objectives** are:

- ✓ assistance to farmers through direct payments;
- ✓ state aid for problem solving and priority area in agriculture;
- ✓ control and genuine implementation of the legislation on animal health and welfare;
- ✓ exercising control over food safety and quality assessment;
- ✓ improve the quality of life in rural areas by developing infrastructure and creating conditions to encourage local initiatives;
- ✓ purposeful activity in the conservation of fishery resources and to promote responsible fishing;
- ✓ development of organic farming in Bulgaria;

- ✓ Implementation of integrated information management environment in agriculture and construction of a modern system of scientific and applied activities for development of the agricultural sector and the optimization of its business;
- ✓ revise the law in Agriculture and adoption of a package of legislation in the context of an EU reform of the common agricultural policy;
- ✓ reform and restructuring of the forestry sector by optimizing the organizational structure for the management of state forests, certification and implementation of decentralized management of forestry recourses and gradually taking steps to voluntarily economically, socially and ecologically rational transfer of rights, obligations and responsibilities from the state to municipalities based on a long-term agreement.

The **expected results from the implementation of the policies in the agricultural sector** are:

- ✓ construction of agriculture and forestry, according to contemporary trends;
- ✓ increase agricultural production and preserve traditional Bulgarian proceedings;
- ✓ protect consumers from poor quality and health foods;
- ✓ reduce and halt the depopulation of rural areas and preserving the natural and cultural treasures, traditions and customs;
- ✓ providing adequate vocational education and training in the agricultural sector, consistent with the requirements of modern agricultural practices.

Laws:

The Bulgarian legislation concerning horticulture and animal breeding is structured in both ways: some aspects of these two agricultural sectors are regulated by specific legislation and some specific matters are treated as cross-section subjects in different Laws, Rules of application of the relevant law, Ordinances and Regulations.

(ref. Table on next page)

Title	Year	Publisher	Keywords
LAW ON PROTECTION OF PLANTS	1999	State Gazette	plants
Law implementing the common market organization OF AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS OF THE EUROPEAN UNION	2007	State Gazette	agricultural products, market,
Foodstuffs Act	1999	State Gazette	foodstuff, packaging, distribution, processing, bottled water
LAW OF CONSERVATION OF AGRICULTURAL LANDS	1996	State Gazette	agriculture, land
LAW OF PRESERVATION OF ENVIRONMENT	2002	State Gazette	ecology, biodiversity, agriculture
Veterinary Law	2005	State Gazette	animal breeding, forage, market, meat, processing
Act on Genetically Modified Organisms	2005	State Gazette	GMO, control, market, defence, export, import
Animal Breeding Act	2000	State Gazette	animal breeding, forage, market, meat, processing
LAW OF CONSUMER PROTECTION	2006	State Gazette	foodstuff, protection, customer, rights
Apiculture Act	2003	State Gazette	bees, honey, pollen
Law on Ownership and Use of Farm Land	1991	State Gazette	land, arable, ownership, farm
The Bulgarian Commercial Law	1991	State Gazette	merchant, Commercial Register, Types of companies, trade, commerce

Treaties, Agreements or Protocols:

- ✓ The Agreement on Agriculture (international treaty of the World Trade Organization)
- ✓ International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture (IT PGRFA) also known as the International Seed Treaty
- ✓ European Convention for the Protection of Animals kept for Farming Purposes
- ✓ Law on Ratification of the European Convention for the protection of animals kept for farming purposes and the amending Protocol.
- ✓ Decision of the EU Association Council – Bulgaria № 2 / 2002 for the improvement of the trade arrangements for processed agricultural products referred to in Protocol № 3 of the Association Agreement of EU.
- ✓ Protocol adjusting the trade aspects of the European Agreement between the European Communities and their member states, on one hand, and Republic of Bulgaria on the other, taking into accounts the outcome of negotiations between the parties on new mutual agricultural

concessions.

- ✓ Law to ratify the Protocol adjusting the trade aspects of the European Agreement between the European Communities and their member states, on one hand, and Republic of Bulgaria on the other, taking into accounts the outcome of negotiations between the parties on new mutual agricultural concessions.
- ✓ Ordinance No. 15 of 01.10.2012 on the procedure for providing security for the issues of import licenses and export certificates and advance fixing certificates for refunds for agricultural products or for third parties.
- ✓ Law on ratification of the Agreement between the Bulgarian Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry and the Austrian Federal Minister of Agriculture and Forestry, Environment and Water Management on cooperation in agriculture and forestry and its Addendum.
- ✓ Protocol on Cooperation in the field of agriculture and forestry between the Bulgarian Ministry of Agriculture and Food and the Ministry of Agriculture of the Palestinian Authority.
- ✓ Agreement between the Bulgarian Government and the Government of the United States for the supply of agricultural products on the basis of the "Food for Progress" Law.
- ✓ Agreement between the Commodity Credit Corporation of the United States of America and the Bulgarian Government for the sale of agricultural goods.
- ✓ Statement of Principles for cooperation in agriculture between the Bulgarian Ministry of Agriculture and the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

Strategies and Plans:

Bulgaria's draft Partnership Agreement for 2014-2020 is the national strategic document outlining the framework for the management of European Structural Funds and investment in Bulgaria in the current 2014 - 2020 programming period. The project has been developed by an interagency working group under the direct guidance of Deputy Prime Minister Zinaida Zlatanova, which includes representatives of the administration, NGOs, socio-economic partners, academia, organizations of employers and workers and organizations of and for people with disabilities, etc.

The Partnership Agreement identifies four strategic priorities through which the country will implement the EU Cohesion Policy, the Common Agricultural Policy and the Common Fisheries Policy:

- ✓ Education, qualification, employment for inclusive growth;
- ✓ Scientific research, innovations and investments for intelligent growth;
- ✓ Connectedness and green economy for sustainable growth;
- ✓ Good management and access to quality public services

The draft Partnership Agreement and its annexes can be found [here](#).

National Development Programme: Bulgaria 2020 - The National Development Programme: Bulgaria 2020 (NDP BG2020) is the leading strategic and programming document detailing the objectives of the development policies of the country to 2020. The vision, objectives and priorities of NDP BG2020 are defined on the basis of a socio-economic analysis drawn up for this purpose as well as on the submissions received as result of the public discussions of each stage of the drafting of the document. The formulated objectives of the government policies will ensure the achievement of accelerated

economic growth and raising the standard of living of the Bulgarian citizens in the medium and long term.

NDP BG2020 is a document for the national decisions for growth. It is in line with the commitments of Bulgaria at European and international level, while at the same time it embodies the aspiration of the state for selection of national road to progress.

Download the document: <http://www.strategy.bg/FileHandler.ashx?fileId=2928>

National Regional Development Strategy (NRDS) of the Republic of Bulgaria for the period 2012-2022 -

The National Regional Development Strategy (NRDS) for the period 2012-2022 is the fundamental document defining the strategic framework of the government policy for attaining balanced and sustainable development of the country's regions and for overcoming the intra- and interregional differences/disparities in the context of the all-European policy of cohesion and achieving smart, sustainable and inclusive growth.

The NRDS sets the long-term goals and priorities of the regional development policy, which is integral in nature, enables coordination of the sectorial policies in the relevant territory and supports the synchronicity between them.

The NRDS plays an important role for achieving compliance and synergy between the goals and priorities of the regional development policy and the sectorial policies and strategies, which contribute to the balanced development of the regions.

Download [link](#)

National Strategic Plan for Development of Rural Areas 2007-2013 - contributing to its goal to reach an effective, contemporary and competitive sector for production of agricultural products, applying sustainable agricultural practices, a sector producing high quality products, using the natural and human resources of the rural areas and ensuring increase in the incomes of the rural population.

New programming documents for the period 2014-2020 are still under development.

Download the document: <http://prsr.government.bg/index.php/en/sections/12/62>

National Strategy for Sustainable Development of Agriculture for the period 2014-2020 is the strategic document that should lead to a rapid change in the current agriculture into a modern, powerful and dynamic sector of the Bulgarian economy, which is based on scientific progress and innovations.

Download the document:

http://www.noa.bg/Files/Docs/Natzionalna_strategiia_za_ustoihiwo_raz133.pdf

National Strategy for the Development of Viticulture and Wine Production in Bulgaria 2005-2025

Download the document: <http://www.strategy.bg/StrategicDocuments/View.aspx?lang=bg-BG&Id=354>

The **Regional Innovation Strategy for North-Western and North-Central Planning Regions of Bulgaria** is an old strategic document. Among its strategic goals includes the establishment of an informational network for innovation, incl. financing, consultancy and intermediaries, as well as development of a network of existing and newly established organizations in support of innovations.

The new National Innovation Strategy for Smart Specialisation is still under development.

Regional Development Plans for NUTS 2 regions in Bulgaria – these are strategic planning documents that are developed at a territorial level from level 2 (NUTS 2). At this level, the two approaches for the study and forecasting of development are found: - "top-down", i.e. from the European and national level to the regional level and "bottom-up" - the initiatives coming from municipalities and regions. The

regional level is the one that best characterizes the state of European territorial communities regarding the implementation of EU Cohesion Policy. Therefore, well integrated planning at this level is essential for overcoming the differences in the socio-economic sphere.

A list of all **Regional Development Plans for the period 2014-2020**:

<http://www.mrrb.government.bg/?controller=articles&id=521>

The **Regional Development Strategy of Ruse Region for the period 2005 – 2015** outlines its first priority to be “Investment in innovations, new technologies and human resources development in conformity with the strategic needs of the regional economy”. The first measure of this priority is the enhancement of the information supply to the business and attraction of investments. Among the planned outputs there is the development of a virtual web market (commodity) for agricultural production. Another priority of the regional strategy is “Preparation of the agricultural business and land owners and SMEs for introduction and adoption of European standards.

Download the document: http://www.ruse.bg/documents/2_obla_str.doc

Taxes:

- Tariff of fees (taxes) to be paid in case of change of the use of agricultural land, approved by Decree No. 112 of 31.05.2002 (*Official Gazette Issue 56th of June 7 2002, last amended and supplemented with Gazette Issue 35th of May 8th 2012*) [download link](#)
- Tariff of fees (taxes) charged by landed property authorities (*effective as of march 13th 1997; Annex to Art. 1 of Decree No. 286 of 10.07.1997; last amended with Gazette Issue 39th of May 20th 2011*) [download link](#)
- Tariff of fees (taxes) collected by the National Grain and Feed Service – Ministry of Agriculture and Food, approved by Decree No. 167 of 25.07.2003 (*Official Gazette Issue 69th of August 5 2003, last amended with Gazette Issue 71st of September 13 2011*) [download link](#)
- Tariff of fees (taxes) collected by the Technical Control Inspectorate of the Ministry of Agriculture and Food under the Act for registration and control of agricultural and forestry machinery (*Title Amendment – SG 64th of 2002, amended SG 11th of 2006, amended SG 48th of 2009*) [download link](#)
- Tariff / 26.11.2004 for the fees (taxes) collected by the Executive Agency for Variety testing, Approbation and Seed control under the Act for protection of new plant varieties and animal breeds and the Act for crops and planting material, governed by Decree No. 310 of 2004 (*SG. 104 of November 26,2004*) [download link](#)
- Tariff of fees (taxes) collected by the Executive Agency for Vines and Wine, approved by Decree No. 337 of 15.12.2006 (*last amended S.G. Issue 37th of May 18, 2010*) [download link](#)
- Tariff of fees (taxes) collected by the National Service for Plant Protection, Quarantine and Agro chemistry, Ministry of Agriculture and Food (*last amended S.G. Issue 3rd of January 12,2007*) [download link](#)
- Tariff of fees (taxes) collected by the Bulgarian Food Safety Agency, approved by Decree No. 375 of 30.12.2011 [download link](#)

Register your business:

Any trade entity or commercial enterprise in order to be registered in Bulgaria and perform legal activities should comply with the stipulations of Bulgarian Commercial Law.

The Bulgarian Commercial Law is regulating all the activities related to business entities, such as registration in the Commercial Register, transactions with enterprises, details regarding the branches, account books, types of companies and their activities, company liquidation or transformation.

According to the Commercial Law, the merchants are entities handling a series of activities, such as providing various services or various commercial activities. The entities which are not considered merchants are the providers of accommodation in their own homes, individuals handling farming procedures or artisans.

Each merchant, as defined by the Commercial Law, has the obligation to register in the Commercial Register in maximum seven days from the decision of having any commercial activity. After the entry in the Commercial Register it's mandatory that the new establishment is announced in the State Gazette.

Basic Information

1. Doing business in Bulgaria

The official governmental website for foreign investments: <http://www.investbg.government.bg/>
Another web portal dedicated to foreign investments and doing business in Bulgaria, which is private - <http://www.investbulgaria.com>
a more detailed section from it: <http://www.investbulgaria.com/CostOfDoingBusinessBulgaria.php>

2. Link of the Single Point of contact for the Services Directive, the National portal of e-government for providing of electronic administrative services to citizens and business - <http://www.egov.bg>

3. Property Ownership by Foreigners

Important links, which entrepreneurs may consult are:

<http://www.firmi.biz/en/>
<http://www.businessgroup-consult.com/en/>
<http://www.evrodit.com/index.php?oid=5002&lng=2>

4. The main fees for the registration of a Limited company are:

- ✓ Registering a name of the company - BGN 50.00 (EUR 25.00)
- ✓ Fee for Trade Register entry - BGN 110.00 (EUR 55.00)
- ✓ Certificate fee - BGN 9.00 (EUR 4.50)
- ✓ Shareholder companies and for limited partnerships with shares - BGN 360.00 (EUR 180.00)
- ✓ Joint stock companies in the banking and insurance sectors - BGN 1300.00 (EUR 650.00)

Useful links:

National Trade Register - <http://www.brra.bg/>

Ministry of Agriculture and Foods - <http://www.mzh.government.bg>

Rural Development Programme - <http://prsr.government.bg/index.php/en/>

Registration as an agricultural producer

http://www.mzh.government.bg/odz-vtarnovo/bg/Documents/other_documents/Registraciq.aspx

Information on registering a Limited liability company - <http://www.regfirms.com/page.php?9> and

<http://www.lawsbg.com/articles/471-registracia-turgovsko-drujestvo.html?showall=1>

Regulations:

- ✓ Ordinance № 47 of 9 January 2012 for the acquisition of qualifications for the profession "technician-stock breeder"
- ✓ Ordinance № 52 of 25 January 2012 for the acquisition of qualifications for the profession "worker in horticulture"

Permits & Licenses:

- ✓ Permit for transportation of animals; production and use of veterinary medicinal products; wholesale and retail trade with medicinal products according to the Veterinary Law. The permit is issued by the Director General of the National Veterinary Service (administrative structure of the Ministry of Agriculture and Food).
- ✓ Centralized licensing procedure for the use of veterinary medicinal products according to the Veterinary Law. The license is issued by the European Medicine Agency.
- ✓ Permit for variety testing activities in accordance with Ordinance No. 19 of 07.07.1998 for the terms and conditions for licensing of variety testing under the Law for protection of new plant varieties and animal breeds. The permit is issued by the Minister of Agriculture and Food – State Variety Commission.
- ✓ Permit to manufacture, import and tradeoff tobacco products according to the Rules for execution of the Law on Tobacco and Tobacco Products. The permit is issued by the according Municipality Mayor.
- ✓ License for appraiser of farmland according to Ordinance No. 11 of 07.04.1998 for licensing of appraisers of farmland. The license is issued by the Ministry of Agriculture and Food.
- ✓ License for professional competence of experts assessing the environmental impact (EIA) in accordance with Ordinance amending and supplementing Ordinance No. 2 of 1995 for certification of the professional competence of the experts carrying out the environmental impact assessment. The license is issued by the Minister of Environment and Water.
- ✓ License for storage, wholesale and retail of wine, grape and wine products, alcohol, distillates and spirits; according to the Law for wine and spirits and the Ordinance for the terms and conditions for registration, licensing, removal from the register and revocation of licenses, the data subject to filling, record keeping, content and format of the declarations on harvest and stock and control of licensed persons and their activities. The license is issued by the according Municipality Mayor.
- ✓ License for persons who import, sell, cut and package plant protection products for commercial purposes or provide plant protection services according to the Law for Plant Protection. The license is issued by the National Plant Protection Service.
- ✓ License for public warehouses for grain according to the Law for grain storage and trade. The license is issued by the Minister of Agriculture and Food upon proposal from the National Grain and Feed Service.
- ✓ Licenses for import of agricultural products according to the Ordinance for the terms and conditions

of licensing and certification when importing and exporting agricultural and processed agricultural products and control on the imports and exports of agricultural and processed agricultural products (renewed SG No. 2 of 7 January 2014). The licenses are issued by the Ministry of Agriculture and Food.

Copyright & Intellectual property:

Bulgaria is a country with traditions in the field of the Intellectual property rights. The country is a member of the Paris Convention for the Protection of Industrial Property since 1921. Bulgaria is also a member of WIPO – the World Intellectual Property Organization, EPO- the European Patent Organization, the Office for the Harmonization in the Internal Market (OHIM), etc.

Bulgarian law recognizes both national and international protection and enforceability of intellectual property rights (including industrial property rights like patents, marks, geographical indications, industrial design and copyrights and neighboring rights, etc.).

Organizations specialized in providing services in the field of IPR in Bulgaria:

The Patent Office of the Republic of Bulgaria

The Patent Office is the National State authority for the legal protection of the industrial property rights. It implements the state policy in the field of the industrial property throughout the territory of the country, represents the Republic of Bulgaria in the relevant international industrial property organizations, ensures the fulfillment of the obligations assumed in compliance with the Office's status and pursues the international co-operation in this field. The principal tasks of the Patent Office are stipulated in article 80 of the Patent Law.

The great expertise accumulated by the Patent Office in the field of the examination of the industrial property rights (IPRs), the training followed by the examiners in this domain as well as in the field of information at the European Patent Office (EPO), World Intellectual Property organization (WIPO), Office for the Harmonization in the Internal Market (OHIM) and other relevant institutions, the existing national databases and the access provided to the databases of other patent offices and international organizations, EPO databases inclusive, the experience in organizing various seminars, including with participation of foreign lecturers, are among the most favorable factors for the Office's activity aimed at raising the IP awareness in Bulgaria.

<http://www1.bpo.bg>

Commission on Protection of Competition

THE COMMISSION is empowered to enforce the Law on Protection of Competition (LPC), the Public Procurement Act and the Concessions Act. The scope of activities of the Commission covers all requests on ascertaining infringements of free market competition, direct enforcement of the provisions of Art. 81 and Art. 82 of the EC Treaty, cooperation with the European Commission and the other national competition authorities of the EC member states in conformity to EC Regulation No.1/2003 and EC Regulation No. 139/2004, conducting sector analyses and competition advocacy.

On the grounds of the LPC, the Commission grants protection against imitation of goods or services. The protection encompasses intellectual property rights (Article 35 (2) – trading name, mark or geographical indication), as well as the other characteristic marks (Article 35 (1) – appearance, packaging, marking, name or other features which may lead to a deception in respect of their origin, manufacturer, seller, method and place of manufacture, the source and manner of acquisition or purpose, the quantity,

quality, nature, consumer properties and other substantive characteristics of the goods or services). The prohibition also covers the use of a domain or of a web-site identical or similar to those of other persons (Article 35 (3)).

<http://www.cpc.bg/Competence/UnfairCompetitionDescription.aspx>

The Intellectual Property Center was established with a decision of the Academic board of the University of National and World Economy on 01.09.2003. The Center works as an information and consultancy center, offering services for researchers, students, academics and all interesting parties from business organizations and non-government and non-profit organizations, in the field of intellectual property. The main goal of the Center is to deliver information about: the intellectual property system; the possibilities for protection of results of research and development activities as intellectual property objects; the possibilities of economic realization of scientific results; the new trends in the development of the intellectual property system; the national and international initiatives in the field of intellectual property.

There is an agreement with the World Intellectual Property Organization for the Center to be developed as a branch of the WIPO Academy, according to which the Academy will provide programs for IP education in a Master's degree.

<http://cip.unwe.acad.bg/en/>

The Bulgarian Industrial Property Network (BIPN) involves the regional PATLIB (Patent Libraries) centres and the University Industrial Property Points (IP Points).

The main role of these centres is, on the one hand, to provide different kinds of patent information services and support to the SMEs, scientific, research, academic circles and the individual inventors and, on the other, to promote the industrial property and raise awareness of the industrial property system.

http://www1.bpo.bg/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=92&Itemid=191

IP Alliance

The main objective of the Alliance is IPR protection in specific areas such as chemistry, pharmacy, biology /microbiology/ and environment. The Alliance supports, promotes and protects the interests of creators and owners of IP and its members, combining efforts, knowledge and experience of IPR specialists. The members of the organization are patent agents with expertise in the field and relevant entities.

<http://www.ipalliance-bg.com/>

LEGISLATION IN THE IPR FIELD IN BULGARIA

The legislation in the field of IPR in Bulgaria is on national, European and international level.

NATIONAL LEGISLATION

National Law of Copyright and Related Rights (in force as from 01.08.1993; Denomination of 05.07.1999 reflected, promulgated in State Gazette no. 56 of 29 June 1993., amended in SG. 63 of 5 August 1994., am. SG. 10 of 27 January 1998., am. SG. 28 of 4 April 2000. supplemented in SG. 107 of 28 December 2000, am. SG. br.77 of 9 August 2002., am. SG. 28 of 1 April 2005., am. SG. 43 of 20 May 2005, am. SG. 74 of 13 September 2005, am. SG. 99 of 9 December 2005., am. SG. 105 of 29 December 2005, am. SG. 29 of 7 April 2006., am. SG. 30 dated 11 April 2006, am. SG. br.73 5 September 2006., am. SG. 59 of 20 July 2007, am. SG. 12 of 13 February 2009, am. SG. 32 of 28 April 2009, am. SG. No. 25 of 25 March 2011.

Industrial designs

[LAW ON INDUSTRIAL DESIGNS](#) in force as from 15.12.1999, promulgated in State Gazette No. 81/14 September 1999; amended, No. 17/ 21 February 2003; amended, No. 43/20 May 2005; amended, No. 105/29 December 2005; amended, No. 30/11 April 2006; amended, No. 73/5 September 2006; amended, No. 59/20 July 2007 [REGULATIONS on the Drafting, Filing and Examination of Applications for the Registration of Industrial Designs, State Gazette No 9/2000](#)

New plant varieties and animal breeds [LAW on the Protection of New Plant Varieties and Animal Breeds](#)

Laws relating to all IPRs

[TARIFF of Fees Collected by the Patent Office](#), in force from 30.12.2009, granted with Government Decree № 242 from 27.12.1999. Denomination from 05.07.1999 reflected. Published in State Gazette № 114/ 30 December 1999, amended with State Gazette № 117/ 17 December 2002, amended with State Gazette № 91/ 15 November 2005, amended with State Gazette № 35/ 27 April 2007, amended with State Gazette № 42/ 29 May 2007, amended with State Gazette № 31/ 15 April 2011 [REGULATIONS on the Industrial Property Representatives](#)

HARMONIZED EUROPEAN LAW

Directive 98/44/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 6 July 1998 on the legal protection of biotechnological inventions

Regulation (EC) No 1610/96 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 23 July 1996 concerning the creation of a supplementary protection certificate for plant protection products

Council Regulation (EC) No 2100/94 of 27 July 1994 on Community plant variety rights

Regulation (EC) No 469/2009 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 6 May 2009 concerning the supplementary protection certificate for medicinal products.

Council regulation (EC) No 509/2006 of 20 March 2006 on agricultural products and foodstuffs as traditional specialties guaranteed

Council regulation (EC) No 479/2008 of 29 April 2008 on the common organization of the market in wine, amending Regulations (EC) No 1493/1999, (EC) No 1782/2003, (EC) No 1290/2005, (EC) No 3/2008 and repealing Regulations (EEC) No 2392/86 and (EC) No 1493/1999

Regulation (EC) no 110/2008 of the European parliament and of the Council of 15 January 2008 on the definition, description, presentation, labeling and the protection of geographical indications of spirit drinks and repealing Council Regulation (EEC) No 1576/89

Council regulation (EC) no 207/2009 of 26 February 2009 on the Community trade mark

Commission Regulation (EC) No. 2868/95 of 13 December 1995 implementing Council Regulation (EC) No. 40/94 on the Community trade mark

Council regulation (EC) No 510/2006 of 20 March 2006 on the protection of geographical indications and designations of origin for agricultural products and foodstuffs

First Council Directive of 21 December 1988 to approximate the laws of the Member States relating to trade marks (89/104/EEC)

New Plant Varieties and Animal Breeds Commission Regulation (EC) No 1831/2004 of 21 October 2004 amending Commission Regulation (EC) No 930/2000 establishing implementing rules as to the suitability

of the denomination of varieties of agricultural plant species and vegetable species

Council Regulation (EC) No 2100/94 of 27 July 1994 on Community plant variety rights

Council Regulation (EC) No 1650/2003 of 18 June 2003 amending Regulation (EC) No 2100/94 on Community plant variety right

INTERNATIONAL CONVENTIONS AND AGREEMENTS

http://www1.bpo.bg/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=80&Itemid=127

2. National financial supports for entrepreneurs initiatives

Key projects:

Programs and Projects for entrepreneurs (Ministry of Economy and Energy)

<http://www.mi.government.bg/bg/themes-c339.html>

Operational Programme “Development of the Competitiveness of the Bulgarian Economy” 2007 – 2013

<http://www.opcompetitiveness.bg/index.php?lid=2>

List of Projects of the Bulgarian Agricultural Academy:

www.agriacad.bg/международно-сътрудничество/списък-проекти.html

Projects of the Institute for Market Economics: <http://ime.bg/en/projects/>

Available funding (Local & International funds):

The **Directorate General “European Funds for Competitiveness” at the Ministry of Economy and Energy** is the Managing Authority under Operational Programme “Development of the Competitiveness of the Bulgarian Economy” 2007 – 2013 and **Operational Programme “Innovations and Competitiveness” 2014 – 2020**.

Operational Programme “Innovation and competitiveness” 2014-2020 is directed to the achievement of dynamic competitive development of the economy, based on the innovations, optimization of the manufacturing chains and sectors with high added value.

To achieve this goal, the following two priority directions have been defined for support:

- ✓ Entrepreneurship, export and production potential as a base for accelerated growth including
 - A) Technological development and innovations („smart— growth);
 - B) Competitiveness and productivity of the enterprises, incl. SME (fast growth);
- ✓ Green and efficient economy as a guarantee for sustainable growth
 - C) Green economy and recourse efficiency;
 - D) Energy technologies and energy efficiency.

The **State Fund Agriculture** has been established in 1998 under the Agricultural Producers Support Act to provide financial support to agricultural producers under the state aid programmed, pre-accession SAPARD Programme, Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) and the Common Fisheries Policy (CFP) of the European Union, including the Rural Development Programme. The State Fund Agriculture is accredited by the European Commission as SPARD Agency and Paying Agency.

The Paying Agency - **State Fund Agriculture** provides financial support from the Euro-funds destined for the Bulgarian agriculture by four instruments – direct payments with attached complementary national payments, agricultural market mechanisms support, measures under the Rural Development Programme and the Fisheries Programme.

The State Fund Agriculture provides financial aid for agricultural producers under **state aid schemes** with resources from the national budget by short-term and long-term instruments. The short-term financial instruments are applied for financial support and stimulation of the production of definite agricultural products (grain, oil-bearing cultures, vegetables, milk and others). The long-term financial instruments are for stimulation of the investment process in the agriculture and the support is for over year.

The State Fund Agriculture is managed by Managing Board of 11 members under the Chairmanship of the Minister of Agriculture and Food, and the operational management is carried out by the Executive Director. The structure of the Fund includes Headquarters and 28 Regional Offices.

The **Ministry of Labour and Social Policy** is appointed as Managing authority of the “**Human Resources Development**” Operational Programme, responsible for the effective and efficacy management and implementation of the operational programme. The Managing authority delegates some of its responsibilities and management tasks as per the relevant priority axis to Intermediate bodies in compliance to Intrainstitutional agreements regarding the delegation of responsibilities for the implementation of the HRD OP: **National employment agency, Ministry of Education, Youth and Science, Social assistance agency.**

The strategic objective of the “**Human Resources Development**” Operational Programme is to improve the quality of life of people in Bulgaria through enhancement of the human capital, achievement of high employment levels, improvement of the productivity, access to high-quality education and lifelong learning and strengthening the social inclusion. Specific objectives of the Programme are:

- ✓ Increasing the labor supply and the quality of the labor force;
- ✓ More intensive investment in the human capital through better and more accessible education;
- ✓ More social capital, partnerships and networks and development of the social economy In order to attain the set up objectives it is envisaged that the Operational programme will focus on achievement of the following priority axes:
 - Priority axis 1: Promotion of economic activity and development of inclusive labor market;
 - Priority axis 2: Raising the productivity and adaptability of the employed persons;
 - Priority axis 3: Improving the quality of education and training in correspondence with the labor market needs for building a knowledge-based economy;
 - Priority axis 4: Improving the access to education and training;
 - Priority axis 5: Social inclusion and promotion of social economy;

- Priority axis 6: Improving the effectiveness of labor market institutions and of social and healthcare services;
- Priority axis 7: Transnational and interregional cooperation;
- Priority axis 8: Technical assistance.

Grants:

Rural Development Programme 2007 – 2013 <http://prsr.government.bg/index.php/en/>
<http://prsr.bg/>

Rural Development Programme 2014 – 2020 <http://prsr.government.bg/index.php/bg/sections/12/101>

Operational Programme “Development of the Competitiveness of the Bulgarian Economy” 2007 – 2013 <http://www.opcompetitiveness.bg/>

Operational Programme “Innovations and Competitiveness” 2014 – 2020
http://www.opcompetitiveness.bg/module6.php?menu_id=296

“Human Resources Development” Operational Programme <http://ophrd.government.bg/>

Contributions:

<http://www.dfz.bg/bg/uvedomlenia/tekushti-priemi/>

Credit scheme for investment in agriculture

Credit scheme for approved projects under the Rural Development Programme

Credit scheme for approved projects under measures B & G of the National Beekeeping Programme (NRP) 2014 – 2016

Credit scheme for projects under the State aid "Investments for the construction of commercial premises and purchase of commercial equipment for farmers engaged in direct supply of small quantities of raw materials and foodstuffs of animal origin"

Subsidies:

<http://www.dfz.bg/bg/uvedomlenia/tekushti-priemi/>

- ✓ State aid scheme for keeping the herd book and performance and to determine the genetic qualities of livestock
- ✓ State aid to offset the cost of farmers related to control of tomato moth *Tuta absoluta*
- ✓ State aid "Investments for the construction of commercial premises and purchase of commercial equipment for farmers engaged in direct supply of small quantities of raw materials and food products of animal origin"
- ✓ State aid scheme "Support for voluntary commitments on pigs welfare"
- ✓ State aid scheme "Support for voluntary commitments on birds welfare"
- ✓ Compensation Scheme for landslides areas as a result of natural disasters or adverse weather conditions

- ✓ State aid de minimis for cotton growing
- ✓ State aid de minimis for rise growing

Wages subsidies:

National Programs of the Employment Agency, Ministry of Labor and Social Policy:

- ✓ "Career Start" <http://www.az.government.bg/pages/programa-start-na-karierata/>
- ✓ "Employment and training of people with disabilities"
<http://www.az.government.bg/pages/nacionalna-programa-zohtu/>
- ✓ "From Social Assistance to Employment" <http://www.az.government.bg/pages/nacionalna-programa-ospoz/>
- ✓ **Employment promotion:**
<http://www.az.government.bg/pages/nacionalna-programa-aktivirane-na-neaktivni-lica/>
<http://www.az.government.bg/pages/nacionalna-programa-ospoz/>
<http://www.az.government.bg/pages/nacionalna-programa-nova-vazmozhnost-za-zaetost/>
- ✓ **Entrepreneurship promotion:**
<http://www.az.government.bg/pages/nacionalna-programa-kredit-bez-lihva/>
- ✓ **Regional Programmes:** <http://www.az.government.bg/pages/regionalni-programi/>
- ✓ **Incentives for employers:**
<http://www.az.government.bg/pages/merki-po-znz-procedura-za-podbor-na-rabotodateli/>

Financial Assistance:

Financing of insurance premiums to insure agricultural production

Loan guarantees:

Scheme to refinance loans granted by commercial banks for projects under the Rural Development Programme (RDP)

Publications:

- ✓ Publications of the Thematic working group for the development of the Rural Development Programme ([RDP 2014-2020](#))
- ✓ Concept of the Ministry of Agriculture and Food regarding direct payments as of 2015
http://nivabg.com/files/1zedd1406866695Concept_Political+Decisions_Future+DP.pdf

Supporting institutions:

The **State Fund Agriculture** provides financial support from the Euro-funds destined for the Bulgarian agriculture by four instruments – direct payments with attached complementary national payments, agricultural market mechanisms support, measures under the Rural Development Programme and the

Fisheries Programme. The State Fund Agriculture provides financial aid for agricultural producers under state aid schemes with resources from the national budget by short-term and long-term instruments. The short-term financial instruments are applied for financial support and stimulation of the production of definite agricultural products (grain, oil-bearing cultures, vegetables, milk and others). The long-term financial instruments are for stimulation of the investment process in the agriculture and the support is for over year.

The **National Agricultural Advisory Service** (NAAS) conducts its business within the state agrarian policy, providing farmers current information, specialized counseling, and provide expert assistance for the implementation of efficient and competitive agriculture in accordance with approved by the European Union standards. NAAS implements state policy in the agricultural sector giving up-to-date information, special advice and other services to agricultural producers. It carries out extension activities and provides expert assistance to farmers in their efforts to realize an effective and competitive agriculture.

The **Bulgarian Farmers Association** is the first non-governmental, non-economic organization whose aim is to support the activities and to defend the interests of Bulgarian farmers.

The **National Grain Producers Association** (NGPA) is a sectoral organization with the objective to represent and protect the common economic interests of grain producers in Bulgaria and encourage the development of their business and individual economic prosperity, and the grain industry as a whole.

The **Bulgarian Association of Agricultural Producers** (BAAP) has the objectives and priorities to:

- ✓ protect and represent the interests of the members of BAAP in the communication with all national and municipal authorities, as well as with the institutions of the EU;
- ✓ collect, summarize and present useful economic, technical and financial information to the members of BAAP;
- ✓ promote the products and services, offered by the members of BAAP and to cooperate in the establishment of business contacts with potential partners;
- ✓ enhance the public image of the agricultural sector by attaining professional unity and providing protection to the people, employed in agriculture;
- ✓ facilitate the improvement of the expertise of the members of BAAP on newly introduced requirements by organizing seminars and conferences on important and acute issues;
- ✓ contribute to the development of projects on international cooperation and to the strengthening of the communication in the NGO sector;
- ✓ speed up the process of the adaption of the agricultural sector to the EU requirements and standards, by popularizing the respective legislation and informing well in advance the members of BAAP about forthcoming legislation amendments.

The **Bulgarian Association of Dairy Processors** conducts the following activities: analysis, expert opinions, advice, training, information services, marketing research, development and implementation of company documentation, organizing and conducting of fairs and exhibitions, professional visits and contacts with organizations and companies from other countries and other activities in accordance with goals.

Contacts & Useful Links:

Managing Authority (MA) of the Programme for Rural Development 2007 – 2013 was the “Rural Development” Directorate at the Ministry of Agriculture and Food

BULGARIA, Sofia 1040, 55 Hristo Botev Blvd.

Phone: +359 (2) 985-11-354

Fax: +359 (2) 981-94-23

E-mail: rdd@mzh.government.bg

www.prsr.bg/index.html

<http://prsr.government.bg/>

Ministry of Agriculture and Food

BULGARIA, Sofia 1040, 55 Hristo Botev Blvd.

Phone: 02/ 985-11-384

E-mail: minister@mzh.government.bg

www.mzh.government.bg

National Agricultural Advisory Service / NAAS /

BULGARIA, Sofia 1331

Shosse Bankya No.7

Phone: ++359/ 2/ 8 100 988

Fax: ++359/ 2/ 8 100 992

E-mail: office@naas.government.bg

www.naas.government.bg

State Fund Agriculture, Headquarters

BULGARIA, Sofia 1618

136 Tzar Boris III Blvd.

Phone: +359/2/ 81-87-100

E-mail: dfz@dfz.bg

www.dfz.bg

State Fund Agriculture, Regional Offices

<http://www.dfz.bg/en/contacts/regional-offices/>

Bulgarian Farmers Association

BULGARIA, Sofia, 29 Vladaiska Str.

Phone: +359 (2) 952-17-02

Fax: +359 (2) 952-17-02

E-mail: office@baf-bg.org

bulassfarm@abv.bg

www.baf-bg.org

National Grain Producers Association (NGPA)

BULGARIA, 1606 Sofia, “Vladaiska” str. 39A, ground floor, ap. 2

tel./fax:+359 (2) 953 37 26

e-mail: office@grain.bg

www.grain.bg

Bulgarian Association of Agricultural Producers (BAAP)

BULGARIA, 1606 Sofia, 29, Vladaiska str., fl.1
Tel/fax: +359 (2) 951 62 65
E-mail: info@azpb.org
www.azpb.org

Bulgarian Association of Dairy Processors
BULGARIA, Sofia 1612, Lagera Qrt., block 44, entr. A
Phone: +359 (2) 952 32 65, 953 27 23
E-mail: bam@milkgb.org
www.milkgb.org

3. National contact points for entrepreneurship

Government Links & Contacts:

MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FOOD - <http://www.mzh.government.bg/MZH/NationalServices.aspx>
National Export Portal - <http://export.government.bg/ianmsp/en/catalogue-of-bulgarian-exporters>
National Agricultural Advisory Service - <http://www.naas.government.bg/en>
Rural Development Programme - <http://prsr.government.bg/index.php/en/>
Public Procurement Agency
http://rop3-app1.aop.bg:7778/portal/page?_pageid=173,1&_dad=portal&_schema=PORTAL
Enterprise Europe Network - <http://een.ec.europa.eu/>
EU Structural Funds - <http://www.eufunds.bg/?cat=2>
InvestBulgaria Agency - <http://www.investbg.government.bg/en>

Useful links to access databases for entrepreneurs:

Fairs

Inter Expo Centre Sofia - <http://iec.bg/en>
Plovdiv Fair - <http://www.fair.bg/en/>
Dobrich - <http://www.dobrich-fair.com/bg>

Catalogues / Databases

Agriculture - Business.bg - <http://www.business.bg/en/o-1/farming-agriculture.html>
Bulgarian Agricultural Guide - <http://www.bulgarianagriculture.com/Category.php?c=29>
Agro producers - <http://www.need.bg/?c=99>
Invest Bulgaria
✓ <http://www.investbulgaria.com/searchDirectory.php?c=32&s=&l=&ls=&companyName=&companyDesc=&companyWebsite=>
✓ <http://www.investbulgaria.com/Category.php?c=3>

Meat Processors:

- ✓ <http://mesni-proizvedeniya.hranitelni-stoki.catalog.bg/>
- ✓ <http://mesni.hranitelni-stoki.catalog.bg/>

Apiculture

- ✓ <http://www.pcheli.net/links/42-pchelarski-sdrujenia.html>
- ✓ <http://pchelarstvo.selsko-i-gorsko-stopanstvo.catalog.bg/>
- ✓ <http://www.farmer.bg/firmi/pchelarstvo-pg1/>
- ✓ <http://kras.net/bbs.php?bransh=505&lang=1>

Animal Breeding

- ✓ <http://jivotnovadstvo.selsko-i-gorsko-stopanstvo.catalog.bg/>
- ✓ <http://kras.net/bbs.php?bransh=451&lang=1>
- ✓ <http://www.farmer.bg/firmi/zhivotnovadstvo-pg1/>

Vine and Wine

- ✓ <http://bulgarianwines.com/>
- ✓ <http://lozarstvo.selsko-i-gorsko-stopanstvo.catalog.bg/>
- ✓ <http://kras.net/bbs.php?bransh=503&lang=1>

Poultry Farming

- ✓ <http://pticevadstvo.selsko-i-gorsko-stopanstvo.catalog.bg/>
- ✓ <http://kras.net/bbs.php?bransh=504&lang=1>

Dairy Sector

- ✓ <http://mlechni-proizvedeniya.hranitelni-stoki.catalog.bg/>
- ✓ <http://mlechni-produkti.hranitelni-stoki.catalog.bg/>

Fruit Growing

- ✓ <http://ovoshtni.selsko-i-gorsko-stopanstvo.catalog.bg/>

Horticulture

- ✓ Vegetables, greenhouses - <http://kras.net/bbs.php?bransh=452&lang=1>
- ✓ Herbs, mushrooms, nuts - <http://kras.net/bbs.php?bransh=450&lang=1>

Farming

- ✓ <http://zemedelie.selsko-i-gorsko-stopanstvo.catalog.bg/>
- ✓ <http://rastenievadno-jivotnovadno.selsko-i-gorsko-stopanstvo.catalog.bg/>
- ✓ <http://www.farmer.bg/firmi/zemedelski-proizvoditeli-pg1/>
- ✓ <http://www.farmer.bg/agro-firms>

Food and beverage

- ✓ <http://www.farmer.bg/firmi/hrani-napitki-pg1/>
- ✓ <http://www.business.bg/en/o-2/food-food-products.html>

4. National networks

Strategic Partnership I: [Associations of Dairy Processors](#)

Facts:

The **Association of Dairy Processors** in Bulgaria (AMB) has been established in early 1991. The Dairy processors, members of the Association, process about 65% of the raw milk and occupy about 70% of the market share of dairy products.

The Association of Dairy Processors in Bulgaria is:

- Voluntary association of dairy products producers in Bulgaria;
- Non-political, not connected to an independent of government, cooperative, trade, political and other organisations;
- Open for membership and members of the association could be foreign active persons and legal entities;
- Possibility of participating in other national and foreign organisations;
- Independent legal entity, separate from its members with own stamp.

Scope of activities: The association performs the following activities: analyses, expert assessments, consultations, training, organizing and conducting of fairs and exhibitions, professional visits and contacts with foreign organisations and companies.

Partners / Institutions / Organization:

The **Association of Dairy Processors** in Bulgaria is a member of:

- ✓ European Dairy Association;
- ✓ National Dairy Board;
- ✓ Bulgarian Chamber of Commerce;
- ✓ Bulgarian Industrial Association;
- ✓ Bulgarian Association of Food and beverage industry;

AMB works in partnership with the Hellenic Association of Dairy Industry (HAMDPI).

The Association is a recognized partner of the government, state institutions and various public organizations.

Coordination & Consultancy:

- ✓ Coordination of project implementation
- ✓ Organizing and carrying out of forums and conferences
- ✓ Exhibitions
- ✓ Publishing activities
- ✓ Training courses and seminars

- ✓ Questionnaires

Guidelines & Procedures:

Organization and Statutes:

<http://www.milkgb.org/%D0%9E%D1%80%D0%B3%D0%B0%D0%BD%D0%B8%D0%B7%D0%B0%D1%86%D0%B8%D1%8F+%D0%B8+%D0%A3%D1%81%D1%82%D0%B0%D0%B2/1/MIW-gRWHIISHI9Or1KHchSrcNKncJafI9OjIRePUtKrkJaLQhKLkpK7gh>

Membership Terms:

<http://www.milkgb.org/%D0%A3%D1%81%D0%BB%D0%BE%D0%B2%D0%B8%D1%8F+%D0%B7%D0%B0+%D1%87%D0%BB%D0%B5%D0%BD%D1%81%D1%82%D0%B2%D0%BE/1/MIW-gRWHIISHI9Or1KHchSrcNKncJafI9OjIRePUtKrkJaLQhKLkpK7gN>

Strategic Plan:

Main objectives

- ✓ Protect the interests of its members and support them for implementation of effective business
- ✓ Improvement of the activities of its members in scientific and practical directions
- ✓ Protection of intellectual and material property of its members

Governance:

The governing bodies of the Association are:

- ✓ General Assembly (GA)
- ✓ Management Board (MB)
- ✓ Control Board (CB)

Databases:

<http://www.milkgb.org/%D0%94%D0%BE%D0%BA%D1%83%D0%BC%D0%B5%D0%BD%D1%82%D0%B8/1/MIW-gRWTIRS3I9KPUDkBYJW3glOjMpeXItOLMJOjUhO-gBKnQtOf>

Strategic Partnership II: [Bulgarian Association of Agricultural Producers \(BAAP\)](#)

Facts:

The Bulgarian Association of Agricultural Producers (BAAP) is a non-profit legal entity, registered in September 2004. Since its very inception, the organization has been dedicating its efforts to the protection of its members' interests, providing assistance to their activities and to the resolving of acute problems in the agricultural sector of Bulgaria. Over the last years, BAAP established effective partnership with all institutions and organizations in agriculture, which actually work for the

development of the sector, and have the capacity, ideas and willingness to seeking solutions to problems and to contribute to the devising of the sectoral policy.

The organization's membership consists of registered agricultural producers, entrepreneurs, regarding agriculture as a serious business activity and exhibiting pragmatic and innovative thinking, who wish to have equal rights and to be competitive on the European market. Many of these agricultural producers have been granted different awards and achievement recognitions for their endeavors in agriculture.

BAAP participated in the working groups of the Ministry of Agriculture and Food for the preparation of the National Strategy Plan for Rural Development and the Rural Development Programme 2007-2013. This granted the organization an access to the most recent information regarding existing funding opportunities for the new planning period, which BAAP readily provided to its members. As a result, many of the association's members were among the first applicants with projects for modernization of their agricultural holdings, approved for funding under the Rural Development Programme. BAAP also prepared and presented a number of position statements and proposals for the draft regulations for implementation of the measures under the Rural Development Programme. In the process of legislation drafting the association invariably took account of and respected the position of its members.

At the moment the association is represented in the working groups of the Expert Commission for transparency in the implementation of the Rural Development Programme measures. The representatives of BAAP possess the necessary expertise and experience to protect the interests not only of the association's members, but also of all agricultural producers, who have opted for applying for funding under the various measures of the Programme. The association's experts monitor the effectiveness and the proper implementation of the Programme, thus protecting the beneficiaries' interests and acknowledging the requirements and objectives of the Common Agricultural Policy of the European Union. BAAP maintains good communication with all European institutions, directly involved in agriculture and rural development.

BAAP organizes annual round tables, where its members have the opportunity to present and discuss issues of interest with high representatives of the Executive and the Legislature and to make practical proposals on how their problems can be resolved.

BAAP also participates in numerous national and international projects for exchange of experience, organizes and takes part in trainings, covering specific important topics, works for the improvement of life in rural areas.

BAAP's team of experts knows in detail the European requirements and legislation and, by means of its information bulletin, web-page and specialized seminars, aims at presenting and clarifying any forthcoming changes, the opportunities, alternatives and innovations in agriculture, at ensuring the competitiveness of its members on the European and other international markets. Indeed, the access to up-to-date information and the implementation of an adequate to the situation business approach are prerequisites for a successful agribusiness.

Management bodies of the association are the General assembly and the Executive Board, comprising agricultural producers from the whole country. The duration of the Chairman's mandate is 5 years. The association's own regional coordinators in all major agricultural centers of the country facilitate the effective communication with agricultural producers at a local level.

Partners / Institutions / Organization:

<http://www.azpb.org/en/pages/partners.html>

Coordination & Consultancy:

BAAP has its own regional coordinators, respected and experienced agricultural producers, members of the association. The main task of the regional coordinators consists in the timely informing the BAAP managing body on any events and problems in the respective region, which require special attention and/or reaction, so that the association can communicate them to all its members and take the necessary steps.

There are regional coordinators in 12 regions of the country, appointed with decision of the General Assembly. The 12 regions are Varna, Veliko Tarnovo, Dobrich, Plovdiv, Pazardzhik, Stara Zagora, Burgas, Yambol, Sliven, Vratsa, Svishtov and Northwestern region. BAAP intends to designate soon regional coordinators in the rest of the country's regions to facilitate the activities of the association.

Strategic Plan:

- ✓ To protect and represent the interests of the members of BAAP in the communication with all national and municipal authorities, as well as with the institutions of the EU;
- ✓ To collect, summarize and present useful economic, technical and financial information to the members of BAAP;
- ✓ To promote the products and services, offered by the members of BAAP and to cooperate in the establishment of business contacts with potential partners;
- ✓ To enhance the public image of the agricultural sector by attaining professional unity and providing protection to the people, employed in agriculture;
- ✓ To facilitate the improvement of the expertise of the members of BAAP on newly introduced requirements by organizing seminars and conferences on important and acute issues;
- ✓ To contribute to the development of projects on international cooperation and to the strengthening of the communication in the NGO sector;
- ✓ To speed up the process of the adaption of the agricultural sector to the EU requirements and standards, by popularizing the respective legislation and informing well in advance the members of BAAP about forthcoming legislation amendments.

Governance:

Management bodies of the association are the General assembly and the Executive Board, comprising agricultural producers from the whole country. The duration of the Chairman's mandate is 5 years. The Association's own regional coordinators in all major agricultural centers of the country facilitate the effective communication with agricultural producers at a local level.

The Board is the Executive Body of BAAP, which acts in accordance with the legislation, the association's statute and the decisions of the General assembly. The Board decides on the specific actions of BAAP. It meets at least once every three months.

<http://www.azpb.org/en/pages/directors.html>

Databases:

Bulletin: <http://www.azpb.org/en/pages/bulletin.html>

Strategic Partnership III: [National Grain Producer Association](#) (NGPA)

Facts:

The National Grain Producer Association (NGPA) is a sectoral organization in the Republic of Bulgaria, registered as a legal entity on 17.11.2006. Founders of the association are regional organizations of the Grain producers from all areas of the Republic of Bulgaria, who are united by the idea of a modern, competitive Bulgarian grain-growing industry.

NGPA is a non-governmental, voluntary, non-political independent and a non-profit organization in the private representation and protection of the interests of its members engaged in the business sector grain.

Object of the organization is representing and protecting the common economic interests of its members support and encourage the development of their business and their individual economic prosperity, and the grain industry as a whole.

Partners / Institutions / Organization:

List of Association's Members: <http://www.grain.bg/members?lang=en>

Strategic Plan:

The main objectives of the organization are:

- ✓ To represent and protect the economic interests of employers and members of the Organization to all state and municipal authorities and the institutions of the EU;
- ✓ To establish and validate modern economic relations in the grain industry, based on the achievements of science and technology;
- ✓ To support effective and transparent, fair competition and honest business relationships in the grain industry;
- ✓ To examine and adapt the European social and economic standards and best practices to the grain industry;
To stimulate enterprise of persons who develop business in grain industry and prosperity of every individual member of the Organization;
- ✓ To examine the problems of analyzing the economy and finance, labor and industrial relations in the grain industry;
- ✓ To improve market infrastructure, principles and mechanisms in the current legislation regulating the public relations in the grain producing industry.

Governance:

Board of Managers: <http://www.grain.bg/board-of-managers?lang=en>

Databases:

<http://www.grain.bg/archives/category/news-en?lang=en&lang=en>

Strategic Partnership IV: [Association of Meat Processors in Bulgaria](#) (AMPB)

Facts:

The Association of Meat Processors in Bulgaria (AMPB) is a voluntary non-profit organisation. It is founded in 1994 in Veliko Tarnovo by 34 companies. The association was established with the financial and organisational support of the USA organisation ACDI/VOCA. One of the aims of the Association is to protect the legitimate interests of its members and to be useful to them and help to solve their common and private problems, based on their equality. AMPB is a worthy partner to government and administrative institutions in the determination of the main priorities for the development of the meat industry and the implementation of national policy in the field of agriculture and food industry.

Partners / Institutions / Organization:

The Association of Meat Processors in Bulgaria is a member of two European associations:

- ✓ European Association of Meat Processors - CLITRAVI
- ✓ EU traders of live animals and meat from the EU - UECBV

AMB membership in organizations in Bulgaria:

- ✓ Bulgarian Industrial Association
- ✓ Bulgarian Chamber of Commerce
- ✓ Union food industry
- ✓ "Made in Bulgaria"
- ✓ BAFDI

List of Members of the Association:

<http://www.amb-bg.com/index.php?MIW-gRW3I5SPMhKvQBOvgISfchOXMFanYhOzcVOzgleDUJePg9KbQpaHgta-Id&page=1>

Coordination & Consultancy:

Project development and implementation: <http://www.amb-bg.com/index.php?MIW-gRSDMISHMBKvUFOzYVOHc9O-MBeTMZazYJK-Qte3g1ebQ5ebU1eLQhaPI1mX&page=1>

Publications: <http://www.amb-bg.com/index.php?MIW-gRSDM5SzMZKfUFKnYJSfclO-QtejIBK7cFObk9OvUFabkla3QleT&page=1>

Guidelines & Procedures:

Statute: http://www.amb-bg.com/language/bg/uploads/files/documents_0/document_1cd0eb2df45db17810404d8ee21e9790.pdf

Code of Ethics: http://www.amb-bg.com/language/bg/uploads/files/documents_0/document_223d31a3ffa4a93cb80786a0bb258da5.pdf

Strategic Plan:

The principal activities of AMPB are defined by Clause 6. from III. ACTIVITIES of the Statute of AMB, which states:

- ✓ The Association performs the following activities:
- ✓ To collect, summarize and provide its members with business and other information
- ✓ To assist its members in developing their business through the development of legal, economic analysis and consulting, expert assessments, engineering and information services, marketing research, staff training, information services through print,
- ✓ To organize and conduct fairs and other activities in accordance with their goals.

Governance:

<http://www.amb-bg.com/index.php?MIW-gRWHIISHI9OrI1KHchSrcNkncJafi9OjRePUtKrKZaLQhKLkpK7gl&page=1>

- ✓ Management Board
- ✓ Supervisory Board
- ✓ Ethics Committee

Databases:

- ✓ Annual Reports: <http://www.amb-bg.com/index.php?MIW-gRWTIRS3I9KPUdKbYJW3glOjMpeXitOLMJOjUho-gBKnQtOf&page=1>
- ✓ Financial Reports: <http://www.amb-bg.com/index.php?MIW-gRWTIRS3I9KPUdKbYJW3glOjMpeXitOLMJOjUho-gBKnQtOfg1aXUtKDIFmHc1il&page=1>
- ✓ Analyses: <http://www.amb-bg.com/index.php?MIW-gRWTIRS3I9KPUdKbYJW3glOjMpeXitOLMJOjUho-gBKnQtOfg1aXUtKDIFmHc5&page=1>
- ✓ Bulletins: <http://www.amb-bg.com/index.php?MIW-gRWTIRS3I9KPUdKbYJW3glOjMpeXitOLMJOjUho-gBKnQtOfg1aXUtKDIFmHcV&page=1>
- ✓ Legislation: <http://www.amb-bg.com/index.php?MIW-gRWTIRS3I9KPUdKbYJW3glOjMpeXitOLMJOjUho-gBKnQtOfg1aXUtKDIFmHcR&page=1>

Strategic Partnership V: [Union of poultry breeders](#)

Facts:

The Union of Poultry Breeders in Bulgaria was established on November 27, 1991 as a professional organization of producers and processors of poultry production, a non-profit legal entity for private benefit.

Partners / Institutions / Organization:

List of Members of the union:

<http://www.bpu-bg.org/index.php?MIW-grW3I5SPMhKvQBOvgISfchOXMFanYhOzcVOzgleDUJeP&page=1>

Coordination & Consultancy:

- ✓ Project development and implementation
- ✓ Consultancy and publication

Guidelines & Procedures:

Statute:

http://www.bpu-bg.org/language/bg/uploads/files/about_0/about_bd6a69a77adc9b636f16a446159113ce.doc

Membership procedure:

http://www.bpu-bg.org/language/bg/uploads/files/about_0/about_102d7406e21c54d2f54e60e246204863.doc

Strategic Plan:

Statutory main objective and practical task of the Union is to protect the economic interests of its members and support the deployment of scientific and technical knowledge in practice. The Union represents poultry breeders and processors at state bodies and public organizations in the country and abroad.

Governance:

The Union is a member of the National Branch of the World Poultry Science Association. Supreme governing body of the union is the General Assembly. Executive body is the Governing Board, and control function is performed by The Supervisory Board. Operating activities are carried out by a Chairman and Vice-Chairman. The Chairman, Vice-Chairman and Chairman of the Supervisory Board are elected by the General Assembly for a term of three years. President of the Union and is chairman of the Board.

Databases:

<http://www.bpu-bg.org/index.php?MIW-gRWzIJSDF0311KHchSrcNKncJafi90jiRePUtKr&page=1>

<http://www.bpu-bg.org/index.php?MIW-gRWTIRS3I9KPUDkBYJW3glOjMpeXitOLMJOjUhO-gBKnQtOf&page=1>

Strategic Partnership VI: [Bulgarian Association of Independent Winegrowers \(BAIW\)](#)

Facts:

Young and active non-profit organization uniting wine-growers (mostly family businesses) from different regions of Bulgaria, who do everything from A to Z: *take care of the vineyard, harvest their grapes, produced bottled wine and sell it under their own name/brand.*

Main objectives of BAIW

- ✓ to represent and protect the interests of independent growers in Bulgaria, including at the European Parliament;
- ✓ to promote the quality and authenticity of Bulgarian wine "of terroir";
- ✓ Participate in the development of wine-growing and agricultural policy;
- ✓ to assist its members in the organization and participation in local and international exhibitions;
- ✓ organize meetings, seminars, training, exchange of experience, including abroad;
- ✓ to develop its structure to combine forces and expertise of its members;

Partners / Institutions / Organization:

Member of the European Confederation of Independent growers – CEVI (www.cevi-eciw.eu), along with organizations of growers from Portugal, Spain, France, Luxembourg, Switzerland, Slovenia, Hungary, Quebec, and Italy, representing a total of over 8,000 members.

List of Members of the Association: <http://baiw.org/en/about-us/members/>

Guidelines & Procedures:

Membership documents: <http://baiw.org/en/about-us/documents/>

Governance:

Board of Directors: <http://baiw.org/en/about-us/board-of-directors/>

Strategic Partnership VII: [Union of the processors of fruit and vegetables](#)

Facts:

The Union of Cannery Producers in Bulgaria was established on February 19, 1999. On April 17, 2003 by a decision of the General Meeting the Union was renamed to Union of the Processors of Fruit and Vegetables. At present the Union has 50 members - canneries, the University of Food Technologies - Department of Conservation and refrigerating equipment, the Institute of Gardening and Conservation, Plovdiv.

Partners / Institutions / Organization:

List of Members: <http://www.org-bg.net/index.php?mid=28>

Strategic Plan:

<http://www.org-bg.net/index.php?mid=36>

Governance:

Management Board: <http://www.org-bg.net/index.php?mid=29>

Supervisory Board: <http://www.org-bg.net/index.php?mid=30>

Statute: <http://www.org-bg.net/index.php?mid=31>

Databases:

Sector Reports: <http://www.org-bg.net/index.php?mid=4>

Companies Catalogue: <http://www.org-bg.net/index.php?mid=3>

Main institutions in the sector: <http://www.org-bg.net/index.php?mid=8>

Publications: <http://www.org-bg.net/index.php?mid=6>

Strategic Partnership VIII: [Union of Bulgarian Bee-keepers](#)

Facts:

Non-profit association "Union of Bulgarian beekeepers" is a voluntary association of individuals and companies producing bee products under a common name and common tools will work for development of beekeeping in the country. The Association is an independent legal entity registered under the Law on non-profit to operate in the public interest. The name of the association is "UNION OF BULGARIAN Beekeeper" (UBB). The registered office and head office of the Association is Sofia region "Vazrazhdane" street "George Washington" № 39.

Partners / Institutions / Organization:

List of Union Members: <http://www.ubb.hit.bg/index.html>

Coordination & Consultancy:

The **main objectives** of the union are:

- ✓ support and protection of the common and individual interests of beekeepers producing honey products;
- ✓ interact with public authorities in apiculture policy ;
- ✓ support for mandatory and regular conduct of autumn and spring screening of all bee colonies;
- ✓ ensure proper payment of any registered bee family from the state for crop pollination by bees;
- ✓ to increase the yield of crops and maintenance of biodiversity;
- ✓ production of safe and quality bee products through the application of good hygiene practices in beekeeping.

Guidelines & Procedures:

Documents: <http://www.ubb.hit.bg/documents.htm>

5. Sector Innovation Clusters

Research & Development & Technology related to:

Research & Development Units:

Agricultural Academy – an organization for scientific research applied and support actions in agriculture, livestock and food industry; operates within the national agrarian policy in accordance with the Common Agricultural Policy of the EU. (Chairman: Assoc. Prof. Dr. Hristo Bozukov, tel. +359 2 812 7515; ssa@agriacad.bg)

Institutes of the Agricultural Academy: www.agriacad.bg/cca-б/институти.html

Research Center of the Agricultural University – Plovdiv (Director: Assoc. Prof. Dr. Maya Dimitrova, tel. + 359 32 654 357, +359 32 654 420, e-mail: nic@au-plovdiv.bg)

Infrastructure support: n/a

Intellectual Capacity: n/a

Knowledge Creation:

Agricultural University – Plovdiv <http://www.au-plovdiv.bg/en/>

Technology Commercialization & Transfer: n/a

R&D Funds: National Innovation Fund (NIF) <http://www.mi.government.bg/bg/themes/nacionalen-inovacionen-fond-19-287.html>

Agriculture Applied Research Management:

Institute of Agricultural Economics <http://www.iae-bg.com/en/>

Agricultural Academy <http://www.agriacad.bg/>

Research & development Links:

AGROLAB RDS <http://bg.agrolab-rds.gr/default.aspx?lang=en-US&page=378>

National Science – Business Portal: <http://bg.agrolab-rds.gr/default.aspx?lang=en-US&page=378>

INSTITUTE OF AGRICULTURE AND SEED SCIENCE "Obraztsov chiflik" – Rousse
<http://izs-ruse.org/en/index.php>

Lactina Ltd. <http://www.lactina-ltd.com/>

Corn Institute- Kneja <http://www.ic-kneja.com/>

Institute of Animal Science http://www.ias.bg/english/index_en.html

Environmental Management in Bulgarian Agriculture <http://iae-eko.alle.bg/>

6. National Statistics

Sector Statistics

Key agricultural statistics for 2012 (EU Report 24/11/2013):

Utilized agricultural area (1 000 ha): 5 123

Number of holdings (1000 holdings): 357

UAA per holding (ha): 14.3

Employment in the agriculture, forestry, hunting and fishing sector (1000 persons): 649

Share in employed civilian working population (%): 18.9

Output of the agricultural industry (Mio EUR): 4 424

Consumption of inputs (Mio EUR): 2 761

Gross value-added at basic prices (Mio EUR): 1 662

Share of products in agricultural production:

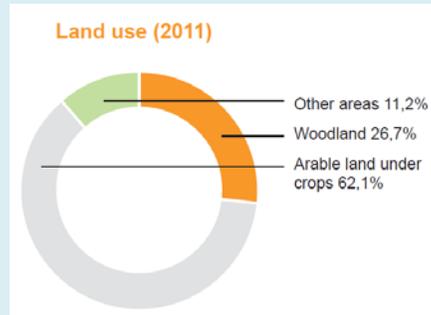
Source: http://ec.europa.eu/agriculture/statistics/agricultural/2013/index_en.htm

Lands: Although farming land use in Bulgaria covers only 5 486 572 hectares, it provides farmers with more opportunities than other countries in Central and Northern Europe.

The high quality of farmland, in combination with the favorable climatic conditions in the country, allows for the cultivation of a wide variety of crops.

In 2011, the share of agricultural land was 45.8 of the country's territory.

Arable land includes areas used for rotation crops, included in rotation of temporary grass with wheat and pulses. In 2011, these areas occupied 3 227 237 hectares and accounted for 62.1% of arable farmland.



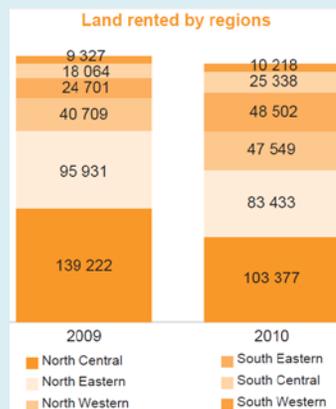
The prices of farming land in Bulgaria are among the lowest in Europe.

In 2010, the average selling price of land was between € 1 530 and € 1 590 per hectare, according to the Bulgarian Association of Agricultural Land Owners.

In 2010, land lease prices were in the range of € 112-138 per hectare, depending on the region.

One exception is the Dobrudzha region, where prices for land lease are traditionally higher: € 205 - 307 per hectare.

Land lease prices are tied to the amount of subsidies received by farmers, the average lease price being approximately equal to the subsidies received by farmers for declared arable land.



Source: Savills (2008/2009), Eurostat (2007); Agricultural Report 2012

Crops: The largest share in total revenues for 2010 belongs to the following crop-growing sectors:

- ✓ Grain: 19.6% (€ 755 million)
- ✓ Technical crops: 15.8% (€ 593 million)
- ✓ Fodder crops: 5.9% (€ 228 million)
- ✓ Vegetables: 5% (€ 191 million)

Key crops cultivated in Bulgaria (2011)

Arable area	Ha (2011)	% of arable land
Wheat	1 152 999	35.7
Sunflower	795 319	24.6
Maize	430 914	13.4
Barley	174 010	5.4
Fallow	174 110	5.4
Technical and oil-bearing crops	233 934	7.2
Areas under pulses	83 503	2.6
Other technical crops	60 629	1.9
Oats	17 163	0.5
Fresh vegetables	27 227	0.8
Tobacco	21 710	0.7

Livestock: Livestock breeding accounts for 16.7% (€ 640 million) of the total revenue from farming produce, while animal products manufactured account for 14.2% (€ 544 million) of the total revenue.

Farm business:

http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/statistics_explained/index.php/Farm_structure_in_Bulgaria

Agro-Processing:

<http://www.nsi.bg/bg/content/809/%D1%81%D0%B5%D0%BB%D1%81%D0%BA%D0%BE-%D1%81%D1%82%D0%BE%D0%BF%D0%B0%D0%BD%D1%81%D1%82%D0%B2%D0%BE>

Rural development statistics

Trade Statistics: 2013

By category of product	Total Trade	Trade with EU countries		Trade with non-EU countries	
	Million EUR	Million EUR	% change 2013/2012	Million EUR	% change 2013/2012
Exports					
Commodities	1 390.5	852.3	9.5%	538.2	165.0%
Intermediate	1 347.2	1 004.2	23.9%	343.0	19.2%
Final products	1 342.1	849.0	5.1%	493.1	3.8%
Other products	18.5	16.0	-9.2%	2.5	-12.2%
Total agricultural products	4 098.3	2 721.5	12.7%	1 376.8	42.1%
as % of total exports	18.4%	20.4%	-	15.5%	-
By category of product	Total Trade	Trade with EU countries		Trade with non-EU countries	
	Million EUR	Million EUR	% change 2013/2012	Million EUR	% change 2013/2012
Imports					
Commodities	270.1	156.3	2.1%	113.8	32.7%
Intermediate	607.3	464.3	-4.6%	143.1	33.2%
Final products	1 506.2	1 300.8	1.8%	205.5	7.9%
Other products	50.7	43.2	5.0%	7.5	30.3%
Total agricultural products	2 434.4	1 964.5	0.3%	469.9	20.7%
as % of total imports	9.4%	12.7%	-	4.5%	-

Balance					
Commodities	1 120.4	696.0	-	424.4	-
Intermediate	739.8	539.9	-	199.9	-
Final products	-164.1	-451.7	-	287.6	-
Other products	-32.2	-27.3	-	-5.0	-
Total agricultural products	1 663.9	756.9	-	906.9	-

Source: Directorate General for Agriculture and Rural Development, based on COMEXT data. Updated: May 2014

Fact Sheets:

BULGARIA Factsheet, issued by the EU, June 2014

http://ec.europa.eu/agriculture/statistics/factsheets/pdf/bg_en.pdf

Other:

Development in agriculture and rural areas of Bulgaria:

<http://library.fes.de/pdf-files/bueros/belgrad/10399-20131211.pdf>

Agricultural Economic Analyses of the Institute for Market Economics:

<http://ime.bg/en/projects/agricultural-review/>

Grain Markets overview: http://ime.bg/var//zarno_April_2013---ENG.pdf

Application of the Single Area Payments Scheme in Bulgaria: Analysis of the Effects:

<http://ime.bg/var/images/Direct-Payments-Impact-in-Bulgaria.pdf>

Analysis of the Meat and Meat Products Market in Bulgaria:

http://ime.bg/var/images/Meat-market_BG.pdf

Analysis of the potential for cultivation of fruit and vegetables in Bulgaria

<http://ime.bg/var/images/horticultureBG.pdf>

Food Industry in Bulgaria, Report of the Bulgarian Investment Agency

http://investbg.government.bg/files/useruploads/files/static/stranici/broshuri_sectors/food_industry_en.pdf

7. Official Quality Standards

Official Standards, Regulations and Links related to:

Principles & requirements of food law related to:

Health Protection: The assurance of high level of protection of human life and health (Environment, Animals, Plants)

Free Movement Food: The free movement of food as an essential aspect of the internal market.

Consumers' interest: Protection of consumers' interests

Bulgarian Food Safety Agency (BFSA) is the only CA body (Competent Authority) responsible for and performing the official controls of the requirements related to phytosanitary activities, plant protection products and fertilizers, veterinary activities, animal health and welfare.

BFSA is also the CA to perform official controls of animal by-products (i.e. such not intended for human consumption), feed, raw materials and all types of food, excluding the bottled natural mineral

waters, bottled spring waters and bottled table waters, the food-contact materials and objects, together with the quality of fresh fruits and vegetables against the European Union's standards for their placing on the market.

Plant Protection and Controls of Quality of Fresh Fruits and Vegetables

BFSA conducts phytosanitary control of plants and plant products or other contagious pest. It monitors the plants in cultivated areas (including fields, fields, nurseries, gardens, greenhouses and laboratories) and wild fauna, as well as storage and transportation of plants and plant products, the availability, the emergence and spread of pests and their control.

The Agency inspects consignments of plants and plant products moving in international trade, and if necessary, other regulated articles to prevent the introduction and / or spread of pests.

BFSA issues:

- ✓ Phytosanitary certificates in accordance with the phytosanitary regulations of the importing country for consignments of plants, plant products and other regulated articles.
- ✓ Plant (phytosanitary) passports, plant products and other regulated articles intended for use in the country and the EU.

All persons who grow plants and plant products have to maintain and keep in good state of health. Control authorities for violations issue mandatory instructions for their removal and citations.

All persons who manufacture or import of plants and plant products, and public stores and marketplaces are required to register with the relevant regional directorate of Food Safety under the terms and conditions set by the Minister of Agriculture and Food.

BFSA monitors the compliance of the stated quality of fresh fruits and vegetables with the statutory requirements for quality and maintain a national register of traders of fresh fruits and vegetables.

Up-to-date information about plant protection and controls of quality of fresh fruits and vegetables:
<http://babh.government.bg/bg/actualno-department-plants.html>

Plant Protection Products and Fertilizers

Plant protection products are marketed and used, where permitted by order of the Executive Director of the Bulgarian Food Safety Agency. The main objective of the Agency is to allow marketing of only officially authorized plant protection products. These are products that have been tested for efficacy using uniform standards of the European and Mediterranean Plant Protection Organization / EPPO /. They contain active substances included in the list of active substances authorized in the European Union / Annex I /, or notified for inclusion in this list.

The procedure for the authorization of plant protection shall be determined by ordinance of the Council of Ministers.

Unauthorized plant protection products can be produced, stored and transported in the country, if intended for use in another country where allowed.

Executive Director of the Food Safety Agency endorses by an order the lists of:

- ✓ active substances authorized in the European Union;
- ✓ active substances for which the European Commission has decided not to be included in the list;
- ✓ active substances banned for marketing and use in the European Union.

Active substances for the manufacturing of plant protection products to be marketed and used in the

Republic of Bulgaria shall be notified to the European Commission for inclusion in the list of active substances authorized in the European Union.

The Minister of Agriculture and Food establishes by an order the Council for plant protection products as an advisory body on matters related to plant protection products. It comprises representatives of the Ministry of Agriculture and Food, Ministry of Health, Ministry of Environment and Water Sciences, research institutes and others. The Council shall submit proposals to the Executive Director of the Food Safety Agency for authorization to resolve the parallel import for the expansion purpose for minor uses, allowing additional uses for renewal authorization, to extend the authorization to cancel the authorization of plant protection products.

The Executive Director of the Food Safety Agency upon proposal of the Council permits by the marketing and use of plant protection products when:

- ✓ are effective;
- ✓ no unacceptable effects on plants or plant products which are not subject to destruction;
- ✓ does not cause unnecessary suffering and pain to vertebrates to be applied;
- ✓ no harmful effect on the health of humans and animals;
- ✓ no harmful effect on the environment of the use or degradation, especially on water, including drinking water and groundwater and species which are not subject to the ongoing struggle;
- ✓ residues resulting from the proposed use which are of toxicological and ecotoxicological significance can be determined by standardized or validated methods or by methods proposed by the applicant;
- ✓ residues in agricultural products do not exceed the maximum levels under the Food Act.

Plant protection products are marketed with labels in Bulgarian and are classified, packaged and labeled in accordance with the Law on Protection against Harmful Impact of Chemical Substances and Mixtures. The material of which the packaging of a plant protection product and its capacity approved in the resolution of the product. Plant protection products are marketed in original sealed containers from the manufacturer or repackaged by a person authorized for this purpose.

Up-to-date information about plant protection products and fertilizers:

<http://babh.government.bg/bg/actualno-department-plant-products.html>

Feed

The Bulgarian Food Safety Agency performs the official control of feed safety, feed materials, feed additives and premixes during their production, transportation, marketing, storage, import, export and use.

BFSA controls:

- ✓ feed materials and feed additives containing, consisting of or produced from genetically modified organisms;
- ✓ water for animals as a source of environmental contamination or transfer of pathogens and / or products of vital activity.

Forage production prohibits the addition of hormonal products, beta-blockers and thyreostatics used to feed food-producing animals in order to stimulate growth. Addition of hormonal medicinal products, beta-blockers and thyreostatics allow an exception for therapeutic and zootechnical

research purposes under the supervision of a veterinarian.

Medicated feed:

In medicated feed consumed medicinal products only in the form of medicated premixes. Medicated feed is transmitted to the person indicated in the recipe, or his authorized representative. Veterinarian prescribing is required to give written instructions to the owners of productive animals for storage and use of medicated feed, as well as compliance with the withdrawal period.

The owner of productive animals:

- ✓ comply with the instructions of the veterinarian;
- ✓ appoint a person responsible for the use of medicated feed;
- ✓ keep a diary in which fits applied medicated feed;
- ✓ observe the withdrawal period of medicated feed.

National monitoring program: BFSA annually prepares and implements National monitoring programs for the safety of feed materials, feed additives, premixes, compound and medicated feed. Based on data collected BFSA assesses and plans measures to remedy the violations of the safety of objects.

Up-to-date information about feed:

<http://babh.government.bg/bg/actualno-department-feed-control.html>

Animal Health and Welfare

In carrying out the control of animal health BFSA applies the following measures for prevention, control and eradication of animal diseases:

- ✓ clinical examinations, diagnostic tests and epidemiological studies;
- ✓ laboratory tests;
- ✓ immunoprophylaxis and chemoprophylaxis;
- ✓ chemotherapy and immunotherapy;
- ✓ quarantine;
- ✓ isolation;
- ✓ foreclosure;
- ✓ destruction of animals and germinal products, raw materials and foodstuffs of animal origin, feed materials, feed additives, compound feed and equipment that cannot be disinfected;
- ✓ disposal or destruction of animal products;
- ✓ diagnostic slaughter;
- ✓ sanitary slaughter;
- ✓ disinfection and disinfestation and devastation;
- ✓ establishing protection zones to limit the spread of animal diseases;
- ✓ sanitary shooting wildlife.

Every year BFSA prepares National prevention program and a list of communicable diseases.

There is a compulsory register for all contagious animal diseases established in Bulgaria. Measures to

address infectious disease in their appearance are determined by order of the Executive Director of the Food Safety Agency.

In particularly dangerous infectious diseases which spread can cause significant economic losses, the measures introduced to the part or the whole of the country, on a proposal from the Executive Director of the Food Safety Agency by the Minister of Agriculture and Food, with the Minister of the Interior.

The regional governors and mayors create permanent epizootic the application of measures for Animal Health.

Control over health care is carried out both on the activities of veterinarians, registered veterinary practice and the following objects of epidemiological interest:

- ✓ holdings;
- ✓ facilities for processing and disposal of animal by-products;
- ✓ landfills;
- ✓ carcass collection facilities and carcass pits for animals;
- ✓ centers for production and storage of seed products;
- ✓ facilities for production, trade and storage of feed materials, feed additives, premixes and compound feed;
- ✓ pastures and watering points;
- ✓ markets and sites where the shows and competitions with animals;
- ✓ vehicles in which animals are transported, by-products and products derived from them, feed materials, feed additives and compound feed;
- ✓ places where wild animals are kept;
- ✓ sites for extraction, processing and storage of raw materials and foodstuffs of animal origin.

Control over health care is done by:

- ✓ veterinary checks at the aforementioned objects and documentation thereof;
- ✓ clinical examinations and autopsies killing animals for diagnostic purposes;
- ✓ making and sending materials for laboratory tests;
- ✓ issuance of veterinary documents;
- ✓ measures of prevention, control and eradication of animal diseases and notification to interested persons and entities;
- ✓ enforcement of administrative measures;
- ✓ epizootological conducting a study to identify the causes of the disease.

Livestock owners are required to notify the veterinarian serving the holding of any changes in the number of animals. Also submit within three days of the veterinarian veterinary certificate for animals acquired, and for bovine and equine animals - and veterinary passport.

Animal owners are required to provide animals for identification, vaccination and diagnostic tests and keep a logbook in which the veterinarian service facilities, records held curative and prophylactic

measures.

An obligation of the owner of the animals includes immediate notification of the veterinarian who serves holdings to changes in animal health, committed to emergency slaughter and dead animals. The owner is obliged to provide access to the farm animals and the veterinarian who serve them and to build and maintain a holding in accordance with veterinary requirements.

Mayors of municipalities, regions and municipalities to cooperate in the implementation of measures to prevent the registration of holdings and for control and eradication of contagious animal diseases. Also regionalise pastures and water to the epidemiological situation, and if necessary prohibit their use. The mayors are obliged to take measures to prevent animals within the landfill and to organize the collection of carcasses and carcass construction of pits and carcass collection facilities.

Owners and keepers of animals, and holding managers are required to care for the animals and not to abandon them, to ensure that each animal depending on the species, age and breed place for living and conditions tailored to his needs, necessary space and freedom of movement, adequate food and water. Also, the animals must have free access to the feeding and watering and providing them with regular preventive veterinary care and immediate treatment in case of illness or injury.

Prohibited is the inhumane treatment of animals such as causing pain, distress, and torture others.

Animal experiments take place when it is not possible to apply alternative methods. These experiments are performed with the aim of developing and producing safe medicinal products for veterinary and human medicine, food and feed additives and feed and feed additives.

Animal experiments are performed in experimental centers of scientific research institutes, factories, laboratories, secondary schools and universities after receiving permission from the Executive Director of the Food Safety Agency.

The slaughter of animals is carried out in the fastest way, after stunning, providing a complete loss of consciousness and sensibility for the duration of bleeding. Allowed the slaughter of farm animals reared for meat yield and raw materials that are treated by non-communicable diseases, but treatment is unproductive or uneconomic. Also eradication of contagious diseases or for religious rituals of registered religions.

Killing animals in a humane manner and shall be allowed the eradication of contagious diseases, pest control, attack on animals and self-defense.

Transport of animals is carried out under conditions which safeguard the health, physiological and behavioral needs in specially equipped vehicles. Carriers have to receive from BFSA a Transport License for short or long trips.

BFSA constantly cooperates with all agencies and companies to protect animal rights and carry out independent and joint inspections on their signals.

Up-to-date information about animal health and welfare:
<http://babh.government.bg/bg/actualno-department-health.html>

Veterinary Medicinal Products

The use of veterinary medicinal products in Bulgaria is legal after the issuance of a license by the Bulgarian Food Safety Agency.

Production, import and export of medicinal products

Production of veterinary products in the country can be carried out by physical and legal entities registered under the Commercial Law, which have received a production license issued by the

Executive director of the Food Safety Agency.

The License to manufacture medicinal products is issued and carried out simultaneously or individually to one of the following operations: cutting, tableting, packaging, mixing and production of active substances.

Wholesale of medicinal products:

Wholesale of medicinal products may be performed by physical and legal entities registered under the Commercial Law and licensed by the Executive Director of the Food Safety Agency. Manufacturers of medicinal products can sell to wholesalers of veterinary products only derived products without requiring a license for wholesale trade. Requirements to the facilities for wholesale veterinary products are determined by the Minister of Agriculture and Food.

Retail sale of medicinal products:

Retail sale of medicinal products is carried out only in veterinary pharmacies. The veterinary pharmacy keep and sell medicinal products, tools, equipment and supplies for veterinary and livestock purposes, as well as pet food and ornamental animals in original packaging and be prepared and veterinary medicinal products granted by highway or official formula.

Retail sale of medicinal products is carried out by individuals and legal entities registered under the Commerce Act, after obtaining a license from the Executive Director of the Food Safety Agency. The manager of veterinary pharmacies and persons conducting the sale of medicinal products must be veterinarians. Veterinary requirements to pharmacies are regulated by the Minister of Agriculture and Food.

State veterinary control of veterinary medicinal products:

BFSA supervises the production, wholesale and retail, importing, advertising and use of veterinary medicinal products. The Agency carries out inspections at the request of the competent authority of a Member State, the European Commission and the European Medicines Agency.

Up-to-date information about veterinary medicinal products:

<http://babh.government.bg/bg/actualno-department-vetproducts.html>

Food Controls

The Bulgarian Food Safety Agency monitors the compliance with the requirements for food measures and conditions to ensure food hygiene and safety. Controlled packaging, labeling, presentation and advertising including food.

Its task is to monitor the compliance with the requirements for all stages of production, processing and distribution of food. Lays down the procedure for the production and marketing of food, establishes the rights and obligations of persons who produce or market foods.

Requirements for packaging and labeling:

Food packaging may use only materials and articles, including active materials and articles manufactured in accordance with good manufacturing practices. Under normal and foreseeable conditions of use the packaging must not transfer their constituents to food in quantities of parts which pose a risk to human health or lead to unacceptable changes.

Labeling, presentation and advertising materials and articles intended for contact with food must not mislead consumers.

The labeling of food is necessary to express the data name under which the food is sold, a list of food

ingredients and quantity, quantization of genetically modified organisms and their unique code, expiration date of the food and conditions where they need to be stored, the net quantity of prepackaged in the absence of consumer foods, name / company, registered office and address of the manufacturer or the person placing the food on the market, the country of origin for food imports, identification marking the lot, instructions for use, if necessary, and actual alcoholic strength by volume of beverages containing more than 1,2% vol.

Requirements for the transport of food:

Vehicles and / or vessels and containers used for transporting food must be kept clean, in good condition and provide conditions that prevent contamination of food, and if necessary to be constructed in a way that can be cleaned and / or disinfected.

Forbidden are vascular compartments of vehicles and / or containers used for the transport of goods other than foodstuff where this may result in contamination of food.

Food in bulk, in the form of liquids, granules or powder form is transported in containers, tankers or tanks specially designed for the transport of food. They should be marked with clearly legible and indelible inscription in Bulgarian that are designed for the transport of food or wear distinctive inscription "just food."

Requirements for food storage:

Sites for production and storage of food and adjacent areas should be kept clean and in good condition. Projects, technology plan, design, location and size of the rooms in the premises should be implemented in a manner that ensures appropriate maintenance, cleaning and / or disinfection of premises and avoiding or minimizing pollution from the air.

Sites must have secured workspace, allowing completion of all activities in hygienic conditions; to prevent accumulation of waste, pollution, contact with toxic materials, ingress of foreign bodies in food and vapor condensation or undesirable mold on surfaces is required. Implementation of good hygiene and manufacturing practices must be available, including protection against contamination and pest management. If necessary conditions and facilities with sufficient capacity to maintain and control the temperature during processing and storage of food, enabling the monitoring of temperatures and when necessary - their enrollment.

Up-to-date information about food control:

<http://babh.government.bg/bg/actualno-department-food-control.html>

Border Controls

The Bulgarian Food Safety Agency strictly monitors the implementation of all regulations on intra-Community trade and transit of animals, germinal products, raw materials and food products of animal origin, animal products and products derived from them and the specific plant products, feed materials, feed additives, premixes and compound feed. Border control subject and any vehicles that transport them.

Border control is carried out at border inspection posts. Each crossing, buildings and equipment, personnel, procedures and documentation shall be approved by the European Commission.

Each consignment at the border inspection post shall be subject to verification of the documents, identity, physical inspection and disinfection and disinfestations of the shipment and vehicle.

All animals imported into the Republic of Bulgaria for breeding or production is placed under quarantine and this procedure is approved by the Minister of Agriculture and Food.

Up-to-date information about border control:

<http://babh.government.bg/bg/actualno-department-borders.html>

For the Consumer:

Bulgarian Food Safety Agency (BFSA) is the only body (Competent Authority) responsible for and performing the official controls of standards for quality of food-stuffs, food-additives and drinks, the rules and requirements applicable in the areas of veterinary activities and animal welfare, of plant protection and fertilizers, of phytosanitary controls, feed controls and border controls. The main purpose of BFSA is to care and ensure that consumers would be granted with "Safety Everyday".

Basic information related to applicable requirements:

- ✓ Recommendations to the consumer:
http://www.babh.government.bg/bg/recommendations_food.html
- ✓ Information from the competent supervisory authorities for medicines in the EU and third countries concerning food supplements containing undeclared packaging substances:
<http://www.babh.government.bg/bg/informacia.html>
- ✓ Harmful to human health, animal disease: <http://www.babh.government.bg/bg/animal-plants-illnesses.html>
- ✓ Information supplied by the rapid alert system for food and feed / RASFF /:
<http://www.babh.government.bg/bg/RASFF.html>

Registers <http://www.babh.government.bg/en/registers.html>

Food Standards

The Bulgarian Food Safety Agency continues its policy for the development of common standards for traditional Bulgarian products. Established standards are made from specially formed working groups that have an active role and professional organizations in Bulgaria.

In 2010, after a successful collaboration with business representatives, the predecessor of the Food Safety Agency - National Veterinary Service developed common standards for meat products under the brand "Stara Planina", suggested patenting Bulgarian state standards for yogurt, cheese. And one of the main priorities with the launch of the activities of Food Safety Agency is the creation of common standards for bread, and setting standards for nutrition in nurseries and kindergartens.

Established standards "Stara Planina":

<http://www.babh.government.bg/bg/standards-stara-planina.html>

Bulgarian state standards for dairy products:

<http://www.babh.government.bg/bg/standards-dairy.html>

Standards for bread: <http://www.babh.government.bg/bg/standards-bread.html>

Food Safety Requirements:

The Bulgarian Food Safety Agency monitors the compliance with the requirements for food measures and conditions to ensure food hygiene and safety. Controls the labeling, presentation and advertising

including food.

Its task is to monitor compliance with the requirements for all stages of production, processing and distribution of food. Lays down the procedure for the production and marketing of food, says the rights and obligations of persons who produce or market food.

Requirements for packaging and labeling:

Food packaging should only use materials and articles, including active materials and articles manufactured in accordance with the good manufacturing practices. Under normal and foreseeable conditions of use the packaging must not transfer their constituents to food in quantities of parts which pose a risk to human health or lead to unacceptable changes.

Labeling, presentation and advertising of materials and articles intended for contact with food must not mislead consumers.

The labeling of food is necessary to express the data name under which the food is sold, a list of ingredients of food and amount, quantization of genetically modified organisms and their unique code, date of minimum durability of the food product and storage conditions, the net quantity of prepackaged food, the user name / company, registered office and address of the manufacturer or the person placing the food on the market, the country of origin for food imports, marking to indicate the batch, instructions for use, if necessary, and actual alcoholic strength by volume of beverages containing more than 1,2% vol.

Requirements for the transportation of food:

Vehicles and / or vessels and containers used for transporting foodstuffs must be kept clean, in good condition and provide conditions that prevent contamination of food, and if necessary to be constructed in a way that they can be cleaned and / or disinfected.

Forbidden are vessels compartments of vehicles and / or containers used for the transport of goods other than food when it can lead to contamination of food.

Food in bulk, in the form of liquids, granules or powder form is transported in containers, tankers or tanks specially designed for the transport of foodstuffs. They should be marked with clearly legible and indelible inscription in Bulgarian language that they are designed for the transport of food or wear distinctive inscription "just food."

Requirements for food storage:

The production and storage of food and adjacent areas should be kept clean and in good condition. Projects, technology plan, design, location and size of the rooms in the premises must be implemented in a manner that ensures appropriate maintenance, cleaning and / or disinfection of premises and avoiding or minimizing pollution from the air.

Storage sites must be secure spaces, which allow carrying out all activities in hygienic conditions. Prevent accumulation of waste, pollution, contact with toxic materials, ingress of foreign bodies in food and vapor condensation or undesirable mold on surfaces is required. Must be available for the implementation of good hygiene and manufacturing practices, including protection against contamination and pest management. If necessary, provide opportunities and facilities with sufficient capacity to maintain and control the temperature during processing and storage of food, enabling the monitoring of temperatures and when necessary - their enrollment.

<http://babh.government.bg/bg/actualno-department-food-control.html>

<http://babh.government.bg/bg/drinks.html>

http://www.bds-bg.org/images/upload/lzdanja/Brochures_OP_2013/Brochure_Food.pdf

Risk Analysis:

Risk Assessment: The Risk Assessment Center (RAC) conducts independent scientific risk assessment regarding food safety, human health, animal health and welfare, food additives and feed GMOs, dietetic products, nutrition and allergies, materials and articles intended to come into contact with food, enzymes, flavorings and processing aids, biological hazards, contaminants, plant health and plant protection.

RAC carries out independent scientific assessment, by direct assignment from the Food Safety Authority (FSA) and the award of other state bodies and natural or legal persons upon payment under the Tariff pursuant to Art. 3, para. 5 of the Bulgarian Food Safety Agency.

RAC is an independent legal entity in the structure of the Bulgarian Food Safety Agency, a third-degree budget spending authority to the Minister of Agriculture and Food. Authorities of TSOR director and management board. Members of the Board include the Executive Director of NVS or proposed by the deputy executive director and a representative from the Ministry of Agriculture and Food and the Ministry of Health proposed by the respective ministers. Board members shall be approved by the Council of Ministers for a period of three years as a board member may not serve more than two consecutive terms.

RAC has an advisory board, consisting of 15 permanent members, representatives of the organizations listed in its register in accordance with Regulation (EC) № 2230/2004 EU.

Contacts:

Address: 136 "Tsar Boris" Blvd., Sofia
Phone: +359 2 955 74 54

Risk Management:

[Risk Management in the Agri-food Sector](#) , Hrabrin Bachev

National Risk Management Standard ISO 31000

http://www.bds-bg.org/bg/standard/?natstandard_document_id=55523

<http://www.sgs.bg/en/Health-Safety/Quality-Health-Safety-and-Environment/Risk-Assessment-and-Management/ISO-31000-Risk-Management/ISO-31000-Risk-Management.aspx>

Consumers Interest:

Commission for Consumer Protection <http://www.kzp.bg/>

Objectives of Commission for Consumer Protection:

- ✓ Promoting developments in legislation to protect consumers of goods and services.
- ✓ Improving the coordination with other specialized and supervisory bodies to ensure a more effective consumer protection.

- ✓ High levels of protection of the rights of consumers from dangerous products and services and their economic interests.

Traceability system:

National information system for the identification and tracking of animals

Integrated information system of the Food Safety Agency

National Control Plan of Bulgaria for food, feed, animal health, animal welfare and plant protection

<http://www.babh.government.bg/en/registers.html>

Export –Import:

As a member of the European Union (EU), Bulgaria follows all EU directives, regulations, and obligations where available. Since the EU is a customs union, all Member States apply the same import duties on goods imported from outside the EU based on tariff classification of goods and the customs value. Once import goods are cleared in one Member State, they can be moved freely throughout the EU territory.

Council Regulation 2913/92 establishes the Community Customs Code. Commission Regulation 2454/93 lays down provisions for the implementation of the Code. Regulation 450/2008 establishing the “Modernized Customs Code” was adopted in 2008 but is not yet applicable.

EU’s applicable duties information can be found in the on-line customs data base.

It is possible to obtain Binding Tariff Information (BTI) from a Member State Customs Authority. In the case of Bulgaria, Customs Agency ascribed to the Ministry of Finance, is the responsible entity.
<http://customs.bg>

Other taxes applicable to agricultural products include the Value Added Tax (VAT) and inspection fees which are not harmonized throughout the EU.

Bulgaria standard VAT rate is 20% percent. The reduced rate applicable to hotel and tourist services is set at 10 percent. Animal products are subject to inspection fees. The information on the inspection fees payment process for plant and animal products can be consulted in the BFSA website.

Import Documentation and Process

The following documents are required for ocean or air cargo shipments of food products into Bulgaria:

- ✓ Bill of Lading and/or Airway Bill
- ✓ Commercial Invoice
- ✓ Phyto-sanitary Certificate and/or Health Certificate when applicable
- ✓ Import Certificate

Most food products require an Import Certificate issued by the competent Bulgarian authorities. This certificate must be obtained by a registered importer as it is intended for tariff classification purposes.

Documents required for border control on imports (certificates) for food products for human and non-human consumption <http://www.nvms-gvc.com/> <http://www.nvms-gvc.com/Sert.Products.htm>

Documents required for border control for imports (certificates) for feed and feed products
<http://www.nvms-gvc.com/Furaj.htm>

Documents required for border phyto-sanitary control for imports (certificates)
<http://www.nvms-gvc.com/Fito-control.htm>

The import process requires:

- ✓ Pre announcement by Common (veterinary) Entry Document (CVED or CED)
- ✓ Documentary Check
- ✓ Identity Check
- ✓ Physical check

EU legislation related to veterinary border inspection procedures:
http://www.nvms-gvc.com/Border_veter.-Legislation.htm

Agricultural products are examined when they enter Bulgaria by the Bulgaria Border Inspection Posts. There are 8 border inspections points in Bulgaria. TRACES software system is not applied yet but the BFSAs plans are to introduce the system in the first quarter of 2014. Bulgaria has derogation for updating all BIPs to execute both veterinary and phyto-sanitary control until August 2014. Currently, four BIPs have this ability and the other 4 should be upgraded in the first half of 2014.

Regulation about Requirements to Border Inspection Points and Border Inspection Veterinary Control (last revision January 2007)

http://babh.government.bg/uploads/File/Dokumenti_naredbi/naredba_47_granichen_kontrol.pdf

Order for phyto-sanitary inspections at BIPs (May 2011)

http://babh.government.bg/uploads/File/Zapovedi_Granichen_k_l/Zapoved.pdf

In addition to 8 approved by the EC border inspections posts /BIP/ for veterinary control, entry points are added as follows: Vrashka Chuca, Strazimirovtsi, Logodaj, Lesovo, Malko Tarnovo, Oltomantsi:
<http://www.nvms-gvc.com/granichnipunktove.htm>

Designated point of entry (DPE) in accordance with Regulation 284/2012 EC;

Designated point of entry (DPE) in accordance with Commission Decision 2008/298/ EC

http://babh.government.bg/uploads/File/Aktualno_Border_controls/DPE%20284_2012%20and%20PE%202008_289.pdf

First points of entry (FPE) in accordance with Regulation 1151/2009 EU

[http://babh.government.bg/uploads/File/Aktualno_Border_controls/FPE%20reg.1151\(1\).pdf](http://babh.government.bg/uploads/File/Aktualno_Border_controls/FPE%20reg.1151(1).pdf)

Designates point of entry (DPE) for import of food of non-animal origin in the EU according to Regulation (EC) № 1152/2009 http://babh.government.bg/uploads/File/Laboratorni_deynosti/13-0351-5-Reg-1152.pdf

Competent authority on certificates is the Bulgarian Food Safety Agency. Agency responsibility covers products intended for human consumption and those for non-human consumption.

Goods are only released for free circulation within the EU once the documentary and analytical requirements are checked and the import duty and other taxes that may be due are paid. Information on import duties can be consulted in the EU on-line customs data base.

Temporary entry may be permitted for goods in transit (up to 24 months), manufacturing for re-export, and/or for temporary storage. Generally, the exporter must pay normally applied import

duties and VAT, which are then reimbursed upon re-export of the merchandise to a destination outside of the EU.

Food Health:

Bulgarian Food Safety Agency <http://www.babh.government.bg/en/>

Plant Health:

National Service for Plant protection <http://www.nsrz.government.bg/>

Phytosanitary Certificate:

The phytosanitary control at Bulgarian border crossing points is effected by the National Service for Plant Protection of the Ministry of Agriculture and Food. <http://www.nsrz.government.bg/>

The following groups of goods are subject to phytosanitary control:

- ✓ Plants and seeds
- ✓ Vegetal produce
- ✓ Nutrient media, vehicles and packages of plants and vegetal products

Border phytosanitary control is available only at the border crossing points.

Phytosanitary control bodies require:

- ✓ Certificate issued by the National Service for Plant Protection or by its Regional Offices
- ✓ Phytosanitary certificate, issued by an official state authority of the exporting country

For the re-exportation of plants and vegetal products, the phytosanitary authorities require:

- ✓ Phytosanitary re-exportation certificate
- ✓ Phytosanitary certificate (a validated copy or original), issued by the first exporting country.

The charges collected for the phytosanitary control are set by Tariff of Charges Collected by the National Service on Plant Protection of the Ministry of Agriculture and Food.

<http://www.nsrz.government.bg/>

<http://www.mzh.government.bg/mzh/ShortLinks/SelskaPolitika/PhytolIssues.aspx>

Databases:

- ✓ The “Animal Breeding” Directorate of the Ministry of Agriculture and Food maintains an information database containing a register of slaughterhouses, applying the classification rates and database for classifiers giving a certificate of classification.
- ✓ The Horticulture Directorate of the Ministry of Agriculture and Food maintains a database of recognized producers of fruits and vegetables and their associations.

Rules on pesticides residues in food:

National Monitoring Programme for control of pesticide residues in and on food of plant and animal origin.

The Bulgarian Food Safety Agency hosts the official contact point for pesticide residues in Bulgaria.

Standard Operative Procedure for conducting efficiency check on the official control for implementation of the National Monitoring Programme for control of pesticide residues by the District Food Agency Directorates in compliance with Art. 8, par. 3 of the EU Regulation No. 882 / 2004 http://babh.government.bg/uploads/File/Laboratorni_deynosti/14-324/2014-04-25_SOP_NPMKO.PDF

Quality Package:

Quality Regulations: Bulgaria applies EU-harmonized legislation to packaging.

There are two EU Directives related to the making-up by weight or by volume of certain prepackaged products (Council Directive [76/211/EEC](#)) and laying down rules on nominal quantities for pre-packed products ([Directive 2007/45/EC](#)) that were transposed into Bulgarian's National Law Chapter 3 of the Food Law.

Additional information:

http://europa.eu/legislation_summaries/consumers/product_labelling_and_packaging/l32029_en.htm

General base-line standard:

- ✓ http://europa.eu/legislation_summaries/consumers/product_labelling_and_packaging/index_bg.htm
- ✓ **BDS ISO 7558:2002** Guide to the prepacking of fruits and vegetables
- ✓ **BDS ISO 22000:2005** Food safety management systems - Requirements for any organization in the food chain
- ✓ **Requirements of the Bulgarian Food Safety Agency for packaging and labeling:** Food packaging may use only materials and articles, including active materials and articles manufactured in accordance with good manufacturing practices. Under normal and foreseeable conditions of use the packaging must not transfer their constituents to food in quantities of parts which pose a risk to human health or lead to unacceptable changes.

Labeling, presentation and advertising materials and articles intended for contact with food must not mislead consumers.

The labeling of food is necessary to express the data name under which the food is sold, a list of food ingredients and quantity, quantization of genetically modified organisms and their unique code, expiration date of the food and conditions where they need to be stored, the net quantity of prepackaged in the absence of consumer foods, name / company, registered office and address of the manufacturer or the person placing the

food on the market, the country of origin for food imports, identification marking the lot, instructions for use, if necessary, and actual alcoholic strength by volume of beverages containing more than 1,2% vol.

Database of Origin & Registration – DOOR:

In November 2012, Regulation [1151/2012](#) on quality schemes for agricultural products and foodstuffs repealing Council Regulation [510/2006](#), was published, and came into force on January 3, 2013.

Regulation 1151/2012 sets out the mechanisms to protect PDOs and PGIs in third countries. In any case, some regulations additional regulations need to be adopted for it to be fully functional.

Note: Wines and spirit drinks are covered by separate legislation.

Lists of protected names by country, product type, registered name, and name applied for are available through the Commission's online "[DOOR](#)" (Database of Origin and Registration) database.

8. Other Information related to:

Ministry of Agriculture and other Public Institutions

Branches/Agencies (Branch Mandate, Program, Strategy):

Agricultural Research:

Agricultural Academy <http://www.agriacad.bg/>

Improving the feasibility focus of researches in the agriculture and food sectors.

Activity description: Conducting research related to the actual needs of the Bulgarian agriculture and accelerated transfer of scientific knowledge and innovation for stabilization and development of the agricultural production in the country: Maintain and create new varieties, hybrids and crop lines and technologies for conventional and organic production; Maintain and create new lines and breeds and technologies for conventional and organic production; Develop efficient technologies in crop and livestock production; Improve the range, quality and food safety; Develop strategic documents for action on mitigation of climate change; Use public-private partnership in research and partnership in the implementation of best practices and innovations in Bulgarian agriculture; Create technology centers for technology transfer; Patent and certify new scientific products. Modernization of the research infrastructure of the Agricultural Academy: Inventory of the existing research infrastructure; Construction of new complex research infrastructures; Increasing the efficiency of scientific infrastructure.

Address: 30 Suhodolska Str., Sofia 1517, BULGARIA

Phone: + 359 2 812 75 05

Fax: + 359 2 812 75 15

ssa@agriacad.bg

[Departments](#)

[Institutes](#)

[Experimental Stations](#)

Communication: http://www.mzh.government.bg/MZH/bg/mzh_reception.aspx

Corporate Services: <http://nap.bg/page?id=274>

Crops & Irrigation:

Ordinance № 18 of 27.05.2009 on the quality of water for irrigation of agricultural crops, issued by the Minister of Environment and Water and the Minister of Agriculture and Food

http://www3.moew.government.bg/files/file/Legislation/Naredbi/vodi/N18_vodi_napog_v.pdf

Law for Irrigation Association in Bulgaria

http://ec.europa.eu/agriculture/stateaid/newms/bg/174_bg.pdf

Policy: Directorate General “Agriculture and Regional Policy”, Ministry of Agriculture and Food

<http://www.mzh.government.bg/MZH/bg/Structure/GDZGPO.aspx>

Regional Services: <http://www.mzh.government.bg/MZH/bg/OblastniDirekcii.aspx>

<http://www.babh.government.bg/bg/contacts-regions.html>

Annual Reports:

<http://www.mzh.government.bg/MZH/bg/Documents/AgrarenDoklad.aspx>

Performance Plans:

<http://www.mzh.government.bg/MZH/bg/Documents/programs.aspx>

Programs & Services:

Agriculture Awareness Initiatives:

✓ “CAP: RE:TURN to the future” campaign <http://cap.europe.bg/>

Agriculture Innovation, Research and Technology Transfer:

✓ Reimbursable Advisory Services Program on Innovation, “Governance and institutional development of Bulgaria’s innovation system in the context of a smart specialization strategy”, Private and Financial Sector Development Department, World Bank

<http://www.mi.government.bg/files/useruploads/files/innovations/governancedec24.pdf>

✓ Innovation and Transnational Technology Transfer, Innovation Relay Centre – Bulgaria: http://www.arcfund.net/fileadmin/user_upload/annual/05/innovation/IRC-

[BG.htm](#)

Environment:

The rural development programme includes measures for the protection and enhancement of the EU's natural resources and landscapes in rural areas.

Rural development money is given in exchange and as compensation for actions that, not only protect and preserve the EU countryside, but also help fight climate change. Examples include:

- ✓ preserving water quality
- ✓ sustainable land management
- ✓ planting trees to prevent erosion and floods.

Biodiversity Action Plan for Agriculture

http://europa.eu/legislation_summaries/agriculture/environment/l28024_en.htm

Conservation, characterization, collection and utilization of genetic resources in agriculture

http://europa.eu/legislation_summaries/agriculture/environment/l60039_en.htm

Thematic strategy for soil protection

http://europa.eu/legislation_summaries/agriculture/environment/l28181_en.htm

Trade and Market Development:

Analysis of the effects of modern retailing penetration on the foods and beverages market in Bulgaria http://ime.bg/var/docs/Analysis_BG_Retail.pdf

Value Added Business Development:

Annual Agriculture Report 2013 of the Ministry of Agriculture and Food for the current status and future development of the sector

http://www.mzh.government.bg/MZH/Libraries/%D0%9E%D1%84_%D0%94%D0%BE%D0%BA_%D0%90%D0%B3%D1%80%D0%B0%D1%80%D0%B5%D0%BD_%D0%B4%D0%BE%D0%BA%D0%BB%D0%B0%D0%B4/Aragren_doklad_2013.sflb.ashx

Farm Business management

Business Strategy:

<http://www.fermer.bg/бизнес-стратегии-за-семејни-ферми-tip823.html>

<http://www.e-ferma.bg/>

<http://businessplan.bg/земеделие-и-гори/>

<http://newthraciangold.eu/cms/folders/biofarming/Rakovodstvo.pdf>

TOOLKIT INFORMATION FOR ENTREPRENEURS – *GREECE*

Animal Breeding and Horticulture Sector

National legislation / GREECE	GR / LEGISLATION
National financial supports for entrepreneurs initiatives / GREECE	GR / FIN.SUPPORT
National contact points for entrepreneurship / GREECE	GR / CONTACT POINT
National network / GREECE	GR / NETWORK
Agricultural innovation clusters / GREECE	GR / CLUSTERS
National Statistics / GREECE	GR / STATICS
National official quality standards / GREECE	GR / STANDARDS
Other informations / GREECE	GR / OTHER INFO

E.R.F.C. (European Regional Framework Co-operation)
CERTH / IRETETH



1. National legislation

Policies:

The Common Agricultural Policy (CAP), being one of the oldest policies of the European Union, is strongly rooted in the European integration project. Due to the CAP's long history, it is also a policy that has been reformed on many occasions, in particular during the past decade. There have been different reforms and some fundamental documents, decisive in the development of the CAP: the early years, the reflection documents and measures taken during the crisis years (the 1970s and the 1980s), the 1992 reform, the Agenda 2000, the 2003 reform, the simplification of the CAP, the 2008 Health Check and the CAP post-2013. The new CAP maintains the two pillars, but increases the links between them, thus offering a more holistic and integrated approach to policy support. Specifically it introduces a new architecture of direct payments; better targeted, more equitable and greener, an enhanced safety net and strengthened rural development. As a result it is adapted to meet the challenges ahead by being more efficient and contributing to a more competitive and sustainable EU agriculture.

Greece's agriculture (including horticulture and animal breeding) legislation and regulations follow European Union (EU) rules to the extent that EU laws have been harmonized. However, in cases in which the EU law may be incomplete or absent, the specific law applies. In Greece the responsible organization for agricultural legislation is the Ministry of Rural Development and Food. Occasionally, and mainly for funding issues, the Ministry of Development plays also a role. Rural Development Policy comprises interventions by the ministry of Rural Development and Food, in the rural growth and the economy of the countryside, via national or European policies. The interventions focus on the production of sufficient and safe quality products, as well as on safeguarding a satisfactory level of rural income and reasonable prices of products to the consumer. Furthermore there is a motivation towards providing public goods, sustainable use of natural resources and the protection of the environment. The Rural Policy deals with social, economical, environmental and cultural issues of rural regions and societies of the countryside. For this reason, the Ministry studies data of the rural sector, discusses with stakeholders, sets long and medium-term objectives, and plans the implementation of policies compatible with the frameset by the Common Agricultural Policy of European Union. Legislation is the same in the whole country.

http://ec.europa.eu/agriculture/cap-history/post-2013/index_en.htm

Laws:

Settings for Livestock and Livestock Facilities & other devices (Law No.4056/FEK52A/12.03.2012)

The Clarification Newsletter for Law 4056/2012 is about the following:

-Creation of a one-stop service, the Department of Agriculture and Veterinary Medicine which is the only point of contact

for farmers to public service.

-Temporary authorization of the livestock facilities with documentation.

-Testing facilities.

-Recording licensed premises in electronic register.

<http://www.minagric.gr/index.php/el/eservicesmenu-2/99-greek-content/egkatastaseis/ktinotrofikeseगतastaseis/280-nomothesia3>

National legislation for fresh fruit and vegetables.

JMD 257543/2006 Additional measures for the implementation of Reg (EC) 1148/2001 of the EC on checks on conformity to the marketing standards applicable to fresh fruit and vegetables.

MD 290524/2010 "Defining technical details for implementing the marketing standard for the minimum maturity requirements of kiwifruit"

International standards UNECE.

<http://www.unece.org/trade/agr/standard/fresh/ffv-standardse.html>

Quality control check in deep frozen Fruit and vegetables.

HY 4123451 / 1.12.95. (GG B 1023-1095) Penalties and enforcement process, in an exercise quality control on vegetables deep freeze.

HY 311 990 / 05/09/97 (Government Gazette 402/97). Agriculture yp.ar.4123455 / 95, which refers to quick-frozen vegetables intended for human consumption in all plants. original products similar situation and use, and reducing temperature tolerance in the local distribution and retail display cabinets to the final consumer.

UNHCR 330 326 / 19.01.2000 (GG B98 / 2000) of 412,345 .Modifications / 01.12.95 Sentence appeal. Georgia Gov. 1023V12.12.95 and validity of these and 311 990 / 05.09.97 Decision Sentence. Agriculture FEK402 V16.5.97.

UNHCR 400 778 / 28.11.00 (GG V'1548 / 2000) .Modification provisions of the Ministry. Decision 381185/1994 Official Gazette 645/412345/1995 and 26/08/94 Gov. 1023V12.12.1995.

JMD 287 979 / 02/04/08 (GG V639 / 08). Modification of the subject. 412 345 / 01.12.95 Decision of the Minister of Agriculture (V1023 "Penalties and enforcement process, in an exercise quality control on the deep-frozen vegetable") as applicable.

JMD 320 109 / 08/19/08 (Gov. 1737-1708) .Modification of resolution. 412 345 / 12.01.95 Decision of the Minister of Agriculture (V1023 "Penalties and enforcement process, in an exercise quality control on the deep-frozen vegetable") as amended and in force.

http://farmer-future.blogspot.gr/2012/09/blog-post_8722.html

The country follows the reformed CAP. All the relevant info, instruments, calls and tools can be found here:
<http://www.agrotikianaptixi.gr/index.php?obj=4c1776c316a3cccb>

Law No. 3955 on the Traders of Agricultural Products Common Register and other provisions.

Treaties, Agreements or Protocols:

Protocol of cooperation between Greek and the People's Republic of China for export of bovine hides and sheep.

Law No. 3614 on the management, control and implementation of development initiatives for the 2007-2013 period.

Law No. 3852. New structure of local self-government and decentralized management – Kallikratis Plan.

Strategies and Plans:

The National Strategic Plan for Rural Development (ESSAA) 2007-2013 defined the priorities of Greece for the period 2007-2013, in accordance with Article 11 of Regulation (EC) 1698/2005 on support for rural development by the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development (EAFRD), which states that the national rural development strategy will be implemented through the Rural Development Programme (RDP) 2007-2013.

Rural Development policy 2007-2013 for Greece focuses on three main areas:

- Improving the competitiveness of agriculture and forestry.
- Improving the environment and countryside.
- Improving quality of life in rural areas and diversification of the rural economy.

Co-assisted by fourth horizontal axis LEADER, based on the experience of the Community Initiatives Leader of previous programming periods.

<http://www.agrotikianaptixi.gr/>

The National Strategic Plan for Agricultural Development (NSPAD) for the 4th Programming Period of EU Structural Funds 2007-2013, of the Hellenic Ministry of Rural Development and Food (MRDF), focuses on promoting, encouraging and maintaining increased exports of agricultural products, through promotion of transformation, manufacturing and quality control. In the medium run, Greek products, either fresh or manufactured, will face even more intense competition as a result of the gradual banning of all tax protective measures or other equally protective restrictive measures emerging from the ongoing negotiation in the framework of the World Trade Organisation (WTO) as well as from operationalisation of several Free Trade Zones that related EU Agreements (with Mediterranean and Latin American countries) in various contexts entail (e.g. Euro-Mediterranean Partnership Free Trade Zone by 2010, MERCOSUR, COTONOU). In this future more competitive context, the system of "Cross Compliance" introduced by NSPAD will become even more crucial for ensuring a market share for Greek products domestically and abroad (see also under Chapter "Decision-making, Legal and Regulatory Framework, Policy Instruments").

The reformed CAP

The Rural Development Programme (active until 2020)

<http://www.agrotikianaptixi.gr/index.php?obj=4c1776c316a3cccb>

Taxes:

The concept of the farmer is described in the Article 42 of Law. 2859/2000

"Farmers, agricultural products, farm and services tax code."

"For the purposes of Article 41 shall be considered:

1. As farmers, they engaged personally or with family members or employees or laborers on farms and services provided by the provisions of paragraphs 3 and 4.
2. Agricultural products, goods produced by farmers as part of their agricultural holdings.
3. Example of Farms: a) agriculture in general and in particular the cultivation of cereals, vegetables, tobacco, cotton, fruit and fruit trees, aromatic and ornamental plants, viticulture, horticulture, production of mushrooms, spices, seeds and plants, b) animal husbandry in general, including in particular livestock, poultry farming, the rabbits, apiculture, sericulture and snail farming, c) forestry generally, d) fishing in freshwater, fish farming, cultivation mussels, oysters and rearing mollusks and crustaceans, e) manufacturing activities of the farmer, made by conventional means, in their farms, products derived primarily from agricultural production.
4. Rural services, provided by farmers or by manual labor with the usual equipment of the operator, which contribute to the production of agricultural products. These services mainly include:
 - a) the work of sowing and planting, growing, harvesting, threshing, baling, collecting, harvesting,
 - b) the preparation for the sale of products, such as sorting, drying, cleaning, milling, pressing, disinfection, packaging and storage
 - c) storage, fattening and farming,
 - d) hiring mechanical and equipment generally used in farms,
 - e) technical assistance,
 - f) the control of weeds and pests, and spraying of crops and land
 - g) use of irrigation, drainage and media equipment,) logging, cutting wood and other forestry services. "

The legislation which determined the way of taxable profit, etc., is the LAW NO. 4172/2013 "Income Tax urgent enforcement of the law. 4046/2012 of n. 4093/2012 and Law. 4127/2013 and other provisions", aka New

Income Tax Code.

Regulations:

The implementing Regulation (EU) 543/2011 of the European Commission concerning the implementing rules of Regulation (EC) 1234/2007 of the Council relating to the fields of vegetables introduce new general and specific marketing standards for fruit and vegetables as well as provisions for the recognition of producer organizations, for products for which they are applying. Also requirements for the recognition of producer groups and controls must be on imports of vegetables from third countries.

The Regulations are general requirements concerning the minimum quality requirements, minimum maturity requirements, tolerances and marking of goods origin. From specifications that made extensive reference to the trading regulations of each product separately. For fruit and vegetables not covered by a specific marketing must conform to the general marketing standard.

Regarding labeling, the required information must be shown legibly and prominent figures in one of the sides of the packaging, either indelibly printed directly either built or label affixed to the packaging. For goods shipped in bulk and loaded directly onto a means of transport, the particulars must appear on a document accompanying the goods or on a notice placed in an obvious position inside the transport vehicle. Invoices and accompanying documents, excluding receipts for the consumer, indicate the name of the country of origin of the products and, where applicable, class, variety or commercial type, if required by a specific marketing, or that the products are intended for processing. Fruit and vegetables for processing, which are not required to meet the marketing standards are not put on the fresh market. These products should be appropriately labeled.

Also the new Regulation makes extensive reference to compliance checks to be carried out by Member States.

The Regulation gives gravity and producer groups and outline the requirements for recognition, determining the minimum number of members may have. As features in order to facilitate the concentration of supply, it is desirable to encourage the merger of existing producer organizations, establishing rules for the merger of operational programmes of the merged organizations. It should also be adopted for the elements that must be included in the plan submitted by the recognition of producer groups.

Imports of fruit and vegetables from third countries must comply with the marketing standards or equivalent standards. The compliance checks should therefore be made before the introduction of the goods into the customs territory of the Union, except for small lots, for which the inspection bodies consider that there is minimal risk. In some third countries which provide satisfactory guarantees compliance checks prior to export may be carried out by the inspection bodies of these third countries.

<http://www.paseges.gr/el/news/Neos-ektelestikos-kanonismos-gia-ta-opwrokhpeytika>

Regulation (EC) No. 1974/2006 of 15 December 2006 laying down detailed rules for implementing Regulation 1698/2005 on support for rural development by the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development (EAFRD)
Regulation (EC) No. 363/2009 of 4 May 2009 amending Reg. (EC) No. 1974/2006 laying down detailed rules for implementing Regulation (EC) No. 1698/2005 for support for rural development

Permits & Licenses:

Approvals for pesticides

<http://www.minagric.gr/index.php/el/for-farmer-2/crop-production/fytoprostasiamenu/egkriseisfarmakamenu/826-odhgiesegeiseis>

Approvals of feeding

<http://www.minagric.gr/index.php/el/for-farmer-2/animal-production/zootrofes/nomothesia-gia-zootrof/871-egkriseiszootrofon>

Copyright & Intellectual property:

2. National financial supports for entrepreneurs initiatives

Key projects:

1. The National Strategic Plan for Rural Development (ESSAA) 2007-2013 defined the priorities of Greece for the period 2007-2013, in accordance with Article 11 of Regulation (EC) 1698/2005 on support for rural development by the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development (EAFRD), which states that the national rural development strategy will be implemented through the Rural Development Programme (RDP) 2007-2013.
2. New NSRF 2014 - 2020

The Ministry of Regional Development and Competitiveness in the European Commission presented formally on April 2014, the new Corporate Pact for Development Framework (NSRF) 2014-2020. The debate on the future of cohesion policy after 2013 began with the publication of "5th Report on Cohesion Policy" of the European Commission in 2010. The Multiannual Financial Framework 2014-2020 adopted by the European Council and the European Parliament on 19 November 2013 the legislative framework which governs the planning and implementation of the Structural Funds and the Rural Development Fund approved on December 20, 2013 except

for the adoption of the Maritime and Fisheries Fund:

General Regulation (EU) 1303/2013 all Funds. Regulation (EU) 1301/2013 on the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF). Regulation (EU) 1304/2013 on the European Social Fund (ESF). Regulation (EU) 1300/2013 on the Cohesion Fund. Regulation (EU) 1299/2013 on European Territorial Cooperation. Regulation (EU) 1305/2013 on the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development. Regulation for the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund

www.agrotikianaptixi.gr , www.espa.gr

3. New investment law 4146/13 relating to investment proposals relating to the cultivation, production, processing of agricultural products and farming and processing products from the breeding of these animals. Of particular interest is the possibility of growing and harvesting of agricultural products made from agricultural or agro-industrial cooperatives and producer groups or associations of producer groups, which are formed in accordance with Community legislation. Also covered farms - farms and greenhouse-type organic farming for the production of vegetables, mushrooms, floriculture plant propagating material and any other product horticulture.

www.ependytikos.com.gr

4. The Leader + is one of four initiatives financed by EU structural funds and is designed to support rural actors consider the potential of the area under a longer term perspective.

http://ec.europa.eu/agriculture/rur/leaderplus/index_el.htm

www.espa.gr

<http://www.startupgreece.gov.gr/>

www.investingreece.gr

Available funding (Local & International funds):

The holdings of all productive way and all types of farming, supported by the development law 3908/2011, or establishment or modernization or expansion, with or without relocation of existing facilities such as those described in the Act for 4056/2012 livestock and livestock facilities.

Specifically, the 6904 Joint Ministerial Decision of the Ministers of Development and Rural Development, published in Official Gazette 465 / B / 25 - 2-2014, fixed investment projects related to the production, processing and marketing of agricultural products and subject to the provisions of Law 3908/2011 both for the plant and for livestock production.

Circular Instructions for payment procedure in agricultural investment Farms of Measure 1.2.1. Agricultural modernization Exploitation of the RDP 2007-2013.

Grants:

The National Strategic Plan for Rural Development (ESSAA) 2007-2013 defined the priorities of Greece for the period 2007-2013, in accordance with Article 11 of Regulation (EC) 1698/2005 on support for rural development by the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development (EAFRD), which states that the national rural development strategy will be implemented through the Rural Development Programme (RDP) 2007-2013.

www.agrotikianaptixi.gr , www.espa.gr

New investment law 4146/13 relating to investment proposals relating to the cultivation, production, processing of agricultural products and farming and processing products from the breeding of these animals. Of particular interest is the possibility of growing and harvesting of agricultural products made from agricultural or agro-industrial cooperatives and producer groups or associations of producer groups, which are formed in accordance with Community legislation. Also covered farms - farms and greenhouse-type organic farming for the production of vegetables, mushrooms, floriculture plant propagating material and any other product horticulture.

www.ependytikos.com.gr

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http://ec.europa.eu/agriculture/rur/leaderplus/index_el.htm

Bank Financing

<http://www.piraeusbank.gr/el/agrotos/agrotika-daneia/gi-exoplismos>

The Rural Development Programme

The Hellenic Agriculture Organization - Dimitra

All the relative info and calls can be found here: <http://www.agrotikianaptixi.gr> and also here www.espa.gr

Contributions:

<http://www.aua.gr/index.php>

Subsidies:

A new programme of the European Commission covers 50% of the cost of promotion within Greece and abroad for 106 selected agricultural products <http://agroepidotiseis.blogspot.gr/2014/05/106-2014-2016.html>

Wages subsidies:

The programme "Promoting the employment through economic support business initiatives, 2000 unemployed young people aged up to 35 years under the name "Entrepreneurship young people with an emphasis on innovation "co-financed by the FIRST Social Fund (ESF). Also the Employment Agency has a new programme for unemployed from 30 to 66 years and will extend the age limit to this programme because all the previous programmes for unemployed groups were aged 35 and the programme will run for 12 months.

www.oaed.gr

Financial Assistance:

A new programme of the European Commission covers 50% of the cost of promotion within Greece and abroad for 106 selected agricultural products <http://agroepidotiseis.blogspot.gr/2014/05/106-2014-2016.html>

Bank Financing

<http://www.piraeusbank.gr/el/agrotes/agrotika-daneia/gi-exoplismos>

Loan guarantees:

Loans for purchasing of farmland & agri - livestock buildings, purchase of fixed assets, Construction of agriculture - livestock buildings, purchase of plant and / or livestock

<http://www.piraeusbank.gr/el/agrotes/agrotika-daneia/gi-exoplismos>

Programme & Services:

ELGA will provide New Electronic Services to farmers in consultation with the General Secretariat for Information Systems of the Ministry of Finance. In particular, the new electronic services provided by ELGA to farmers concerning the printing of documents and certificates attestation as a) a certificate of payment of insurance contributions, b) insurance clearance, c) a statement of the compensation payment ELGA or state financial aid for tax purposes, d) breakdown of reimbursements of ELGA or state financial aid, and the printing of documents, certificates and attestations concerning outsourcing ELGA.

www.taxheaven.gr

The Rural Development Programme

The rural development policy for Greece is implemented through the Rural Development Programme 2007-2013

(RDP) focusing on the following Axes :

AXIS 1 : Improvement of the Competitiveness of the Agricultural and Forestry Sector

AXIS 2 : Improvement of the Environment and the Countryside

AXIS 3 : Quality of Life in Rural Areas and Diversification of the Rural Economy

AXIS 4 : Implementation of LEADER Approach

The Hellenic Agriculture Organization - Dimitra

Publications:

The course of the Common Agricultural Policy and its future after 2013. POLYZOU P. (2/2011) The European Union policy in the field of horticulture and its application in Greece. BOURDARAS D. N. (2/2007)

<http://minagric.gr/index.php/el/the-ministry-2/agricultural-policy/arthrameletes>

Rural Development Programme of Greece :

[http://www.bmelv.de/cln_181/SharedDocs/Downloads/Landwirtschaft/LaendlicheRaeume/Strategiepapier.pdf?
_blob=publicationFile](http://www.bmelv.de/cln_181/SharedDocs/Downloads/Landwirtschaft/LaendlicheRaeume/Strategiepapier.pdf?_blob=publicationFile)

National Strategy Plan

[http://www.bmelv.de/cln_181/SharedDocs/Downloads/Landwirtschaft/LaendlicheRaeume/Strategiepapier.pdf?
_blob=publicationFile](http://www.bmelv.de/cln_181/SharedDocs/Downloads/Landwirtschaft/LaendlicheRaeume/Strategiepapier.pdf?_blob=publicationFile)

Supporting institutions:

PASEGES : (Pan-Hellenic Confederation of Unions of Agricultural Co-operatives (PASEGES))

<http://www.paseges.gr/en>

NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH FOUNDATION (N.AG.RE.F.) – <http://www.nagref.gr>

Publications:

Greek Livestock, Ministry of Rural Development and Food, General Directorate of Animal Production.

http://minagric.gr/images/stories/docs/ypoyrgeio/dimosieyseis-Arthra/elliniki_ktinotrofia.pdf

The Ministry of Agriculture has launched 13 regional studies to assess the effects of the new CAP and new data on the agricultural sector. The conclusions of the studies listed below and refer to the regions of the country.

<http://minagric.gr/index.php/el/the-ministry-2/dimosieyseis?id=1008>

Contacts & Useful Links:

www.agrotikianaptixi.gr

www.espa.gr

<http://www.enterprise-hellas.gr/>

<http://www.aua.gr/index.php?lang=2> - The Agricultural University of Athens

3. National contact points for entrepreneurship

Government Links & Contacts:

The European Network for Rural Development (ENRD). ENRD is the hub that connects rural development stakeholders throughout the European Union (EU). The ENRD is contributing to the effective implementation of Member States' Rural Development Programmes by generating and sharing knowledge, as well as through facilitating information exchange and cooperation across rural Europe.

<http://enrd.ec.europa.eu/>

Payment and control agency for guidance and guarantee community aid. (OPEKEPE).

OPEKEPE is the Greek Payment Authority of Common Agricultural Policy (C.A.P.) Aid Schemes. It is a private legal entity operating since 2001 for the public interest. OPEKEPE is supervised by the Ministry of Rural Development and Food.

OPEKEPE's main task is the control and payment of beneficiaries, according to European and national Laws. Every year almost 900.000 beneficiaries benefit approximately 3 billion, from community subsidies. Beneficiaries are mainly farmers and also farmer associations, export companies, investors of the agricultural sector, manufacturing enterprises, etc. OPEKEPE's Board of Directors consists of 11 members. It has its siege in Athens and 6 regional branch directorates and 4 regional units. There are also 39 local offices at Prefecture level.

www.opekepe.gr

Useful links to access databases for entrepreneurs:

<http://www.enterprise-hellas.gr/> - Enterprise Europe Network - Hellas

<http://www.elgo.gr/> - Hellenic Agricultural Organization (It's an umbrella Organization. Members are: National Agricultural Research Foundation, Agricultural Vocational Training and Education "DIMITRA", Hellenic Organization of Milk and Meat "ELOGAK, Hellenic Certification Organization of Agricultural Products.

<http://www.agrotikianaptixi.gr> – Hellenic Ministry of Rural Development and Food

www.espa.gr – National Strategic Reference Framework

<http://www.paseges.gr/en> - Pan-Hellenic Confederation of Unions of Agricultural Co-operatives (PASEGES)

<http://www.enterprise-hellas.gr/> - Enterprise Europe Network - Hellas

4. National networks

Strategic Partnership:

Under the Rural Development Programme for the period 2007-2013 for the first time, the creation of a National Rural Network which brings together representative organizations of the agricultural, agri-food sector, Chambers, research centers, environmental organizations, Local Action Groups LEADER, was foreseen. Moreover, Services of the Ministry of Rural Development and Food and the Ministry of Environment, Energy & Climate Change participate, responsible for managing and / or implementing the Rural Development Programme (RDP).

The main categories of the NRN is: Organizes conferences, seminars, Organization of thematic workshops, Publications such as newsletters RDP magazine, thematic or methodological files and drivers for rural development, Function databases for collection and promotion of good practices, Create website (site) in Greek and English and electronic networking tools, Structure Responsible for the operation and coordination of the actions of NRN is Unit E 'National Rural Network' in Managing Rural Development Programme (RDP) 2007-2013.

<http://www.ead.gr/portal/cc7146d26842552e/31ab328e47c4ea3f/dabec86add49a4af.html>

<http://ead.gr/data/files/17684e79f0bc97d3/file.pdf>

<http://voa3r.eu/79-partners/86-grnet> - Greek Research and Technology Network – Virtual Open Access Agriculture and Aquaculture Repository

Facts:

National Statistics Hellenic Statistical Authority :

http://www.statistics.gr/portal/page/portal/ESYE/BUCKET/General/ELLAS_IN_NUMBERS_EN.pdf

Partners / Institutions / Organization:

- 1.PASEGES - Panhellenic Confederation of Unions Agricultural Cooperatives
2. General Confederation of Agricultural Associations of Greece
3. SYDASE - Confederation of Agricultural Associations of Greece

4. KEDE - Central Union of Municipalities of Greece
5. ENPE - Association of Regions of Greece
6. Union of Hellenic Chambers
7. SEVT - Greek Association of Food Industries
8. PEN - Panhellenic Union of Young Farmers
9. TEC - Greek Association of Livestock
10. GREEK AGRICULTURAL ORGANIZATION "Dimitra"
11. WWF HELLAS - World Wide Fund for Nature
12. GREEK Ornithological Society
13. ARKTOUROS
14. EKBY - Greek Biotope Wetland
15. CRES - Centre for Renewable Energy Sources
16. Greek Society for the Protection of Nature
17. Local Action Groups (LAGs) Axis 4 RDP / Greek Network LEADER (analyzed in the third column)
18. Greek Environment Society and Culture
19. EAVOSE - Association of Rural Craft and cottage industries cooperatives Greece
20. SETE - Association of Greek Tourist Enterprises
21. Geotechnical Chamber of Greece
22. Greek Network of Protected Areas Management Organizations
23. AUA
24. Faculty of Agriculture, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki / Line (AUT)
25. School of Forestry and Natural Environment, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki
26. Benaki Phytopathological Institute
27. MAICH - Mediterranean Agronomic Institute of Chania
28. CERTH - Centre for Research and Technological Development

29. ETAGRO - Society of Agricultural Economics

30. EFET - Single Food Authority

Development Companies – Greek Network LEADER consists of Local Action Groups from:

1 Aitoliki 2. North Peloponnese region 3. ANKO Company 4. East Macedonia region 5. City of Grevena 7. City of Drama 8. Dodecanese Region 9. Municipality of Evros 10. City of Larissa 11. City of Elikona Parnassou 12. North Ipiros Region, 13. Evia Region 14. City of Zakinthos 15. Municipality of Thessaloniki 16. City of Kavala 17. City of Kastoria 18. City of Corfu 19. Crete Region and many more

Services : 1. Directorate General for Development and Protection Forestry & Natural Environment ministry 2. Managing the Rural Development Programme 2007 2013 (ESA RDP - Units A, F) 3 Special Service Implementation Rural Development Programme 2007 2013 - Competitiveness (ENA RDP - Units B1, B2, B3, B4, B5, B6) 3. Managing Authority of OP "Fisheries" 4. General Directorate of Plant Production, Ministry of Agriculture.5, General Secretariat for Research and Technology

<http://www.ead.gr/portal/b6d1577e2189a5de.html>

<http://www.itap-nagref.gr/> - Institute of Technology of Agricultural Products (ITAP)

<http://www.nagref-dri.gr/> - Dairy Research Institute (DRI)

<http://www.aua.gr/index.php?lang=2> - The Agricultural University of Athens

Coordination & Consultancy:

The Steering Committee supports the structure, having lead and advisory role in the design, modification and implementation of the Action Plan, and in the establishment of the annual work programme NRN. The committee may suggest topics that will be covered by the Thematic Working Groups (TWGs). The Committee members are 7 and from both MADF Services, and other members of the NRN representing the axes of the RDP.

<http://www.ead.gr/portal/b6d1577e2189a5de.html>

Guidelines & Procedures:

Thematic Working Groups

The TWGs were determined by the structure of the NRN in cooperation with the Coordinating Committee and recommendations of the members.

- These involve many members of the NRN and will address specific issues of common interest.
- The TWGs are established based on a theme that relates to the field of rural development, while they may, if appropriate, participate therein external stakeholders (members of other networks, representatives of European

Network ENRD, experts, etc.).

- Purpose of the TWGs is to contribute to the understanding and dissemination of knowledge and experience acquired in order to produce useful tools / suggestions.
- Potentially the TWGs could contribute to shaping the future Rural Development policy proposals on the subject they are dealing with.

<http://www.ead.gr/portal/b6d1577e2189a5de.html>

Strategic Plan:

The Action Plan was developed based on the strategic objectives of the NRN, which translated into 7 priority axes. More specifically:

Priority 1: Linking organizations / institutions and administrative services involved in rural development. As part of the shaft up and Programme Communication and Publicity of the CHR.

Priority 2: Identifying, analyzing and disseminating information at local and national level with regard to transferable practices for rural development.

Priority 3: Dissemination of RDP at local, national and European level.

Priority 4: Organization of exchanges of experience and expertise in rural development.

Priority 5: Technical assistance for inter-territorial and transnational cooperation under Axis 4 of the NRN.

Priority 6: Collaboration and linkages with the European Network for Rural Development and other national rural networks.

Priority 7: Contribute to the ongoing evaluation of the RDP.

<http://www.ead.gr/portal/b6d1577e2189a5de.html>

Governance:

<http://www.agrotikianaptixi.gr> – Hellenic Ministry of Rural Development and Food

5. Sector Innovation Clusters

Research & Development & Technology related to:

Research & Development Units:

The National Institute for Agricultural Research (N.AG.RE.F.) is the national agency for agricultural research and technology in Greece and works as a Legal Entity of Private Law (NPID), supervised by the Ministry. Founded in 1989 and its operation is governed by Law 1845/1989 (Government Gazette 102 / 04.26.89), "Development and utilization of agricultural research and technology," as amended and in force today. N.AG.RE.F. is responsible for the conduct and development of agricultural research and technology in Greece. It conducts applied research and develops technology for the agriculture, forestry, livestock and fisheries production, crop protection, veterinary science, fishery management, the soil science, land improvement, processing and maintenance of agricultural products and rural economy and sociology.

www.nagref.gr

Infrastructure support:

Intellectual Capacity:

Services of NAGREF: Analyses of soil samples, water and plant tissue. Experimentation and evaluation of plant protection preparations and fertilizers. Evaluation of varieties and hybrids. Microbiological and other laboratory tests dairy products, flour and other foods of plant and animal origin. Production and distribution of healthy propagating material of varieties and hybrids ownership NAGREF. Evaluation of new machinery and equipment in agriculture and testing. Microbiological tests for sewage treatment plant effluents Investigation of soil fertility and nutritional status of orchards. Provide operational guidance rational fertilization. Analyzes of tar, nicotine and carbon monoxide in cigarettes in the Greek market.

The research and development activities NAGREF, made by scientific personnel of various specialties and disciplines within the programmes or studies funded by various agencies such as the Ministry of Rural Development & Food and supervised organizations, the General Secretariat for Research and Technology, the European Union, regions, local authorities and other bodies.

www.nagref.gr

Knowledge Creation:

The NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH FOUNDATION (N.AG.RE.F.) has many publications and journals, such as:

1. Agricultural Research ISSN 1108-6939 Scientific Review of the National Institute for Agricultural Research.

Agricultural Research is a national scientific journal which publishes original research papers, short notice

precursors, synthetic original studies and literature review commissioned relating to the whole range of agricultural research and in all individual subjects dealt with by the National Institute for Agricultural Research. Specifically, the reports relating to the following topics: Crop - Crop Protection, Animal and Fisheries Production, Maintenance - Processing - Processing - Quality of Agricultural Products, Agricultural Economics, Rural Development, Rural Sociology, Marketing and Management of Agricultural and Food Soil - Fertilizers - agricultural Machinery - Construction, Land Reclamation - Agricultural Ecology - Environment - Renewable Energy.

2. Quarterly publication of Hellenic Agricultural Organization "Dimitra" ISSN: 2241-8016

Technology Commercialization & Transfer:

R&D Funds:

Agriculture Applied Research Management:

Research & development Links:

A wide series of national entities conduct advanced research and pilot applications in the field of agriculture (e.g. explore the feasibility of applying new methods of cultivations, new technologies and new products, explore interlinkages and synergies between climate change and agricultural practices, explore and develop innovative and profitable methods of managing agricultural waste and residues etc) including the National Agricultural University of Athens (AUA) (<http://www.aua.gr/>), NAGREF (<http://www.nagref.gr/>), the Benaki Phytopathological Institute (BPI) (<http://www.bpi.gr/>), the Centre for Renewable Energy Sources (CRES) (<http://www.cres.gr/>), the National Centre of Scientific Research DIMOKRITOS (<http://www.demokritos.gr/>) etc.

6. National Statistics

Sector Statistics

Lands: Used agricultural area: 34.779 thousand acres, Non-used agricultural area: 716.823 thousand acres.

Crops: Area: Arable, Vegetables, vines, trees. 32.350 thousand acres. Production of some agricultural products market :Wheat, Cotton, Cauliflowers, Grape, Olive oil, Oranges, Lemons, Clementines: 4811 thousand tonnes

Livestock: Animal capital: Oxes, pigs, sheep, goats, bee hives: 16988 thousand

Production : Meat, milk, cheese, honey: 2664 thousand tonnes

Farm business: 605 farm businesses in 2009.

Agro-Processing:

The processing is one of the most important areas of economic activity in the country, and a total of 18 sectors of economic activity, the second largest sector of the country in terms of turnover and the fifth largest sector in terms of number of enterprises. Specifically, the manufacturing sector consists of 95.309 enterprises, the vast majority very small. It employs 406.965 people (2007 figures), while the employment growth over the period was

7,78%. The largest increase is found in very small businesses, while conversely, a decrease in employment for very large companies.

<http://www.gsevee.gr/attachments/article/129/metapoiisi.pdf>

Rural development statistics

Trade Statistics: In the year 2013, the overall growth comes from increases in fuel exports by 16.5% and agricultural products by 6.4%, which more than offset the decline in exports to other major categories (-12.8% raw materials, manufactured goods -4, 2% and Commodities and transactions not classified by categories -8.9%). As regards the classification of the top 20 products, stands the great rise of virgin olive oil in the third position (from 14 in 2012), the strengthening of exports of aluminum (alloys, sheets etc..),

<http://www.voria.gr/index.php?module=news&func=display&sid=160642>

Fact Sheets: The statistical data refer at the year 2009.

http://www.statistics.gr/portal/page/portal/ESYE/BUCKET/General/ELLAS_IN_NUMBERS_GR.pdf

7. Official Quality Standards

Official Standards, Regulations and Links related to :

Principles & requirements of food law related to:

Health Protection: The assurance of high level of protection of human life and health(Environment, Animals, Plants)

Free Movement Food: The free movement of food as an essential aspect of the internal market.

Consumers' interest: Protection of consumers' interests

1. The HACCP (Hazard Analysis Critical Control Points) or otherwise Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Points, is a proactive process that aims to ensure the safety and hygiene of food and drink producing a business at all stages of production and distribution.

The application of HACCP is mandatory in our country, on the basis of the European Directive 93/43 / EEC and CMD 487 / B GG 1219 / 4.10.2000 and requiring all companies that manufacture, process, produce, package, store, transport, distribute, possess or distribute food and drink to a documented (written) HACCP.

A prerequisite for the proper implementation of HACCP is the commitment of management to the firm for the installation of the system and its continued support. Management should ensure the necessary resources

available, such as adequate facilities, equipment and trained staff.

For the effective implementation of the system the company should obtain the required level of hygiene with the application of the rules of good industrial practice (GMP) and good hygiene practices (GHP).

HACCP is a system that identifies health risks that adversely affects the safety of products and identifies in detail measures for control. These risks fall into three categories:

- Biological (mycotoxin Ochratoxin A by fungi, pathogens, etc.)
- Chemical (pesticide residues, packaging material, cleaning agents and disinfectants, toxic substances, heavy metals, sulfide, methanol, biogenic amines, potassium ferrocyanide, cyanide, etc.)
- Physical (foreign materials regarding food: metals, stones, wood, plastic, insects, etc.).

2. JMD V3-32 / OG 386 / B / 02-04-2003 Setting matters referred to the concept of the first phase of processing and the organization and coordination of the control system of the departments of the Ministry of Agriculture and the Integrated Food Authority (EFET)

http://www.efet.gr/portal/page/portal/efetnew/legislations/national_legislations

“Agricultural Products Certification and Supervision Organization” of Greece, or commonly known as “AGROCERT”, is a Private Law Legal Entity operating for the public benefit under the supervision of the MRDF, and its establishment dates back in 1998 (Law 2637/98). AGROCERT is responsible for the implementation of national policy objectives regarding quality assurance and control in agriculture, aiming at a safe production of high quality agricultural products while safeguarding the environment. Its competencies cover, inter alia: certification of agricultural production systems; certification of agricultural products; evaluation, approval and supervision of Control and Certification private bodies that are accredited by the National Accreditation System and are active also in the field of verifying compliance with standards AGRO 2.1 and AGRO 2.2. on “Integrated Management System for agricultural production”; preparation and publication of optional sectoral standards for both farming and husbandry as well as development of specifications towards quality assurance of agricultural products (i.e. breeding, production and packaging of fish farming products, beef-veal, pork, poultry products).

In this context, AGROCERT is responsible for the certification and labelling of organics products as well as for the certification of products and foodstuff of “designations of origin” (PDO) and of “protected geographical indication” (PGI), aiming at protecting the exceptional properties and quality of some products that derive from their place of origin and/or from their production process itself. In particular, regarding PDO and PGI products, current institutional context comprises EU Regulation 510/2006 on the protection of geographical indications and designations of origin for agricultural products and foodstuffs, coupled by JMD 261611/2007 on the determination of supplementary measures for its application in Greece as well as EU Regulation 1898/2006 laying down detailed rules for its implementation. Up to now, Greece has established 86 products as PDO and PGI. The identification of agricultural products and foods as PDO and PGI on one hand enables producers, in particular those of disadvantaged and remote areas, to promote products presenting special characteristics more easily, improving in this way their income with better prices in the market, while on the other hand enables consumers to buy high quality products with guaranties for their production, processing and geographical origin. Moreover, certification

of PDO and PGI products by AGROCERT enables the use of acknowledged special labels, which ensure full compliance with EU and national legislation requirements.

Food Safety Requirements:

The preparation, processing, manufacturing, packaging, storing, transportation, distribution, handling, sale shall be made in a hygienic way. Operators should implement a permanent procedure in accordance with the quality standard HACCP.

JGD 487/FEK1219 B/4-10-2000. Health food in compliance with Directive 93/43/EOK of the Commission

http://www.efet.gr/portal/page/portal/efetnew/legislations/national_legislations

Consumers Interest:

For the purposes of the Article (N2251-1994-enc2007), a product is any product intended for consumers or likely, under reasonably foreseeable conditions, to be used by consumers even if not intended for them, and is supplied or made available in the course of a business, for a consideration or free of charge, either new or used or reconditioned.

Safe, is considered the product which, under normal or reasonably foreseeable conditions of use, including duration and position in this operation, installation and maintenance requirements, or does not present any risk or minor risks, which is inherent in the use of the product and considered to be acceptable in the context of a high degree of protection of the health and safety of persons taking account, in particular, the following elements:

- a) the characteristics of the product, including its composition, packaging, instructions for assembly, installation and maintenance
- b) the impact of the product to other products, if reasonably can be foreseeable that it will be used with other products
- c) the presentation of the product, the labeling, any warnings risk and leaflet and disposal and any other indication or Information regarding the product
- d) the categories of consumers at risk when using the product, in particular children and the elderly.

The feasibility of obtaining higher levels of safety or other products, lowest risk shall not constitute grounds for determination of an unsafe or dangerous.

http://www.synigoroskatanaloti.gr/docs_ecc/law/gr/N2251-1994-enc2007-el.pdf

www.inka.gr

E.KPIZO Consumer Union "Quality of Life" 43/45 ValtetsiouGR-19681 Athens

Consumers' Union – Neo N.KA31 Poseidonos GR-17561 Palio Faliro

Union of Citizens – General Consumers' Union of Greece31 Poseidonos GR-17561 Palio Faliro

Association for Consumers' and Citizens' Rights, 70 KolokotronisGR-18531 Piraeus

Consumer Protection Centre (KEPKA)54 TsimiskiGR-54623 Thessaloniki

Operators Responsibilities:

The Decision of Minister of Development or joint decision established the reference standards applicable in Greece for each product category and each specific matter and relevant detail for compliance with the general safety requirement, and the relevant provisions of the Joint Ministerial Decision No. no. Z3 / 2810/2004 (Government Gazette 1885V).

The producers under their obligation under paragraph 1, has to:

a) provide consumers with the relevant information in Greek language with which they can assess the risks inherent in a product throughout the normal or reasonably foreseeable use, where such risks are not immediately obvious without appropriate warning

b) take appropriate measures, depending on the characteristics of products supplied, in order to inform consumers about the risks they may present their products and, if necessary for risk prevention, to make the appropriate action, as to adequate and effective warn consumers to withdraw or withdrawal from the market of products, or to return from their consumers. These actions shall, either voluntarily or at the request of the competent authorities. The recall is performed if the producers consider necessary or required by the competent authority if other actions do not suffice to prevent any risks. If the supplier knows or ought to know, of information available to their professional experience, that products on the market poses risks to the consumer who is incompatible with the safety requirements, shall without delay inform the General Secretariat for Consumer Affairs and any other competent authority, to prevent risks. Suppliers are required to cooperate with the competent authorities, after their request, to implement measures to prevent risks by products which they supply or have supplied in consumers. Without joint decision of the Minister of Development and any other competent Minister set out the authorities responsible for monitoring compliance product safety requirements and defining the relevant responsibilities, cooperation between themselves and with the competent authorities of the Member, members of the EU, and any relevant issues and detail.

http://www.synigroskatanaloti.gr/docs_ecc/law/gr/N2251-1994-enc2007-el.pdf

Traceability system:

ARTEMIS (Agricultural Resources - Traceability - Environmental Management Information System) is the ultimate tool for Easy, secure and creditable Implementation of Quality Schemes, safe and essential quality Certification, honest, convincing and direct Communication with the clients.

<http://www.agron.gr/artemis>

ARTEMIS Basic 'ingredients':

Internet: only a browser and a connection to the internet is enough to run the application

International protocols: designed to meet the documentation requirements of all applicable protocols for Good Agricultural Practice and Integrated Crop Management (GLOBALGAP crops, ISO 14001-2004)

Implementation experience: management of human resources for the implementation of schemes.

Dynamic design: open design in php source code with multiple tables and various relational functions.

Interface: designed to have the possibility to exchange data between different applications.

Extroversion: due diligence through out the whole food chain can be enforced by immediate information flow between traceability stops.

ARTEMIS basic acts:

Data entry: Grower's data, field data, Pesticides application records, Fertilizer records, Cultivation techniques records, Residue testing, Traceability factors and Internal Audit are all supported via atomization's providing a user friendly environment saving time and increasing integrity and credibility.

Reporting: All data entered can be presented as reports following the principles of various protocols. Reports can also be reproduced as web-links in various languages (Greek and English already active) that can be forwarded to any interested to follow up any data.

Data Analysis: All data gathered for the group of Growers involved can be statistically analyzed, providing information regarding Pesticides application and residues findings or even scheduling harvesting according to provisional harvesting date or first harvestable date due to applied pesticides' pre harvest intervals.

Export –Import:

Output	201	2012	2013	
	Million EUR	Million EUR	Million EUR	% of EU-28
Cereals:	1 203.0	1 200.1	1 053.8	11.5
Wheat and spelt Rye and meslin Barley	372.4	322.9	439.8	4.8
Oats and summer cereal mixtures	4.7	4.3	4.3	0.0
Grain maize	71.2	67.0	71.9	0.8
Rice	23.2	20.4	14.9	0.2
Other cereals	645.6	710.6	451.6	4.9
Industrial crops:	85.9	74.9	71.3	0.8
Oil seeds and oleaginous fruits	-	-	-	-
Protein crops	802.1	706.0	640.9	7.0
Raw tobacco	35.4	25.2	55.4	0.6
Sugar beet	12.7	13.4	14.6	0.2
Other industrial				1.4

A n i	Animals: <i>Cattle</i>	1 471.1	1 415.6	1 460.0	15.9	1.4
	<i>Pigs Equines</i>					
	<i>Sheep and goats</i>	277.2	279.7	270.4	2.9	0.8
	<i>Poultry</i>	247.6	241.3	357.4	3.9	0.9
	<i>Other animals</i>	1.9	2.2	0.9	0.0	0.1
			698.0			
		767.5		644.7	7.0	12.8
	Agricultural goods	9 915.5	9 780.0	9 199.6	100.0	2.4
	Gross value added	5 292.3	5 058.6	5 115.7	-	3.2

State Responsibilities:

Hellenic Food Authority is a dynamically developing service in terms of responsibilities and standards is the principal Food Control Body in Greece. Since its establishment on 13 January 2000 until today, its Management Board has set the development strategy of the organization, planning and proceeding to the integration of actions, which were the result of the creation and fulfilment of those conditions that set the organization basis of a modern organization able to respond successfully to its obligations. These obligations which create a huge dynamic range of the Body, but are also a huge responsibility towards Greek society, are as follows:

The conduct of systematic inspections in food businesses (food production, marketing and distribution businesses). During such inspections it should be checked whether the rules on good hygiene practices, good manufacturing practices and hazard analysis and critical control point system (HACCP) are complied with.

The systematic and unhindered control during transport and placing food on the market.

The provision of technical assistance to productive sectors, either by issuing guides to good hygiene practice for each sector or through the various seminars which are organized under the auspices of E.F.E.T. to train workers and professionals.

The confrontation of various food crises, a particularly common phenomenon in recent years (e.g. arising problems related to bovine spongiform encephalopathy, dioxins, acrylamide, aflatoxins and other mycotoxins, etc.)

The development of Greek positions in food safety issues and their support in the EU.

The proposal for the drafting of national legislation on food safety issues.

The communication with the consumers in order to inform them and train them on food safety issues.

The protection of consumers from fraudulent or deceptive trade practices or from the adulteration of food products, the coordination of other services for monitoring food safety issues.

The installation of more efficient (and preventive) systems, for monitoring, accessing and managing of health risks with adoption of risk analysis and risk assessment principles.

<http://www.efet.gr/>

Food Health:

All aquaculture operations (including fish and shellfish farming) in Greece require approval by an array of Ministries; i.e. an Environmental Impact Assessment that is submitted to the Ministry of Environment and a license from a Regional Fisheries Authority.

A system of limited entry for new applicants is in place to control production and to support the overall policy objective of achieving a balance between environmental and health concerns as well as economic benefits. The licensing procedure for aquaculture farms controls the introduction of alien species. There are also plans underway to establish Areas of Organized Aquaculture Development, to increase efficiency of aquaculture activities and to better integrate them in coastal zone management. It should also be noted that one important benefit of the mariculture effort has been the new employment and income generated in previously uninhabited island areas normally excluded from commercial activities.

Plan Health:

<http://www.minagric.gr/index.php/el/for-citizen-2/food-and-segure>

Phytosanitary Certificate:

The plant health checks carried out on imported, produced and traded plants, plant products and other objects in accordance with Presidential Decree 365 / GG 307a / 10-12-2002, which has been harmonized by Directive 2000/29 / EC as amended, and aims to reduce the risk of introduction and spread of harmful organisms in the country and in the EC Bodies responsible for the audit: the Regional Offices of the Ministry of Rural Development and Food (eight Regional Centres of Plant Protection and Quality Control) and the Departments of Agriculture or Rural Development Directorates of the Prefectures. The plant health checks carried out at points of entry (customs) or destination for imported plants products and other objects and in the premises of manufacturers, importers, exporters, packers for produced and traded in our country.

Specifically, the plant control includes:

Phytosanitary control of imported, exported and migrant plant products and other objects in the country and by extension the EC. Phytosanitary control of propagating material produced and crop farm. Phytosanitary inspection to ascertain the presence or absence of various pests (surveys).

Phytosanitary control farms, businesses and associations involved in circuit production or marketing of plants or propagating material. Monitoring of discharges of plants and plant products that do not meet the phytosanitary requirements of the legislation. Implement quarantine measures to contain and eliminate pests.

<http://www.ektelonismos.com/phytosanitary.htm>

Databases:

Centre for Research and Technology Hellas (CE.R.T.H.)	www.certh.gr
SymAgro	www.symagro.com
Science & Technology Park of Epirus	www.step-epirus.gr
Greek Technology Platform "Food for Life"	www.sevt.gr
Fisheries Research Institute	www.inale.gr
Agricultural Development Department of Epirus Region	www.php.gov.gr

Rules on pesticides residues in food:

Consumers are exposed to pesticides because small quantities remain as residues at harvest. The amounts of residues found in food must be safe for consumers, should be as low as possible and correspond to the lowest amount of pesticide used on the crop to achieve the desired effect. The maximum residue limit (MRL) is the maximum possible level of pesticide residue that is legally tolerated in food and feed.

The new regulation covers approximately 1100 pesticides currently used or previously used in agriculture in or outside the EU. Contains lists MRLs for 315 agricultural products. These MRLs also apply to processed products, adjusted to take account of dilution or concentration during processing.

The new rules take into account the safety of all consumer groups, including, for example, infants, young children and vegetarians. EFSA is responsible for the safety assessment based on the properties of the pesticide, the maximum levels expected on food and different diets of European consumers.

Farmers, traders and importers are responsible for food safety. This responsibility includes compliance with MRLs. The authorities of the Member States are responsible for monitoring and enforcement of the MRLs.

The Commission carries out inspections in the Member States for the evaluation and control of their supervision. From today, the European Commission website has a database, which you can consult to find the MRL applicable to each crop and for each pesticide. Access to this database is newly developed free and easy for every citizen, in order to ensure transparency and timely information on legislation on pesticide residues in the EU.

http://ec.europa.eu/sanco_pesticides/public/?event=homepage

Quality Package:

Quality Regulations: “Agricultural Products Certification and Supervision Organization” of Greece, or commonly known as “AGROCERT”, is a Private Law Legal Entity operating for the public benefit under the supervision of the MRDF, and its establishment dates back in 1998 (Law 2637/98). AGROCERT is responsible for the implementation of national policy objectives regarding quality assurance and control in agriculture, aiming at a safe production of high quality agricultural products while safeguarding the environment. Its competencies cover, inter alia: certification of agricultural production systems; certification of agricultural products; evaluation, approval and supervision of Control and Certification private bodies that are accredited by the National Accreditation System and are active also in the field of verifying compliance with standards AGRO 2.1 and AGRO 2.2. on “Integrated Management System for agricultural production”; preparation and publication of optional standards for both farming and husbandry as well as development of specifications towards quality assurance of agricultural products (i.e. breeding, production and packaging of fish farming products, beef-veal, pork, poultry products).

General base-line standard:

Database of Origin & Registration – DOOR:

AGROCERT is responsible for the certification and labelling of organics as well as for the certification of products and foodstuff of “designations of origin” (PDO) and of “protected geographical indication” (PGI), aiming at protecting the exceptional properties and quality of some products that derive from their place of origin and/or from their production process itself. In particular, regarding PDO and PGI products, current institutional context comprises EU Regulation 510/2006 on the protection of geographical indications and designations of origin for agricultural products and foodstuffs, coupled by JMD 261611/2007 on the determination of supplementary measures for its application in Greece as well as EU Regulation 1898/2006 laying down detailed rules for its implementation. Up to now, Greece has established 86 products as PDO and PGI. The identification of agricultural products and foods as PDO and PGI on one hand enables producers, in particular those of disadvantageous and remote areas, to promote products presenting special characteristics more easily, improving in this way their income with better prices in the market, while on the other hand enables consumers to buy high quality products with guaranties for their production, processing and geographical origin. Moreover, certification of PDO and PGI products by AGROCERT enables the use of acknowledged special labels, which ensure full compliance with EU and national legislation requirements.

8. Other Information related to:

Ministry of Agriculture and other Public Institutions

Branches/Agencies (Branch Mandate, Programme, Strategy):

Agricultural Research: Research & Development Units:

The National Institute for Agricultural Research (N.AG.RE.F.) is the national agency for agricultural research and technology in Greece and works as a Legal Entity of Private Law (NPID), supervised by the Ministry of rural Development and Food. Founded in 1989, its operation is governed by Law 1845/1989 (Government Gazette 102 / 04.26.89), "Development and utilization of agricultural research and technology," as amended and in force today.

N.AG.RE.F. is responsible for the conduct and development of agricultural research and technology in Greece. It conducts applied research and develops technology for the agriculture, forestry, livestock and fisheries production, crop protection, veterinary science, fishery management, the soil science, land improvement, processing and maintenance of agricultural products and rural economy and sociology.

www.nagref.gr

The Research team of Agrotechnology focuses on crop production under controlled environment (greenhouses and screenhouses) in view of climate change but also of future water scarcity. The team develops biosensors for optimum CO₂ concentration control in greenhouse environment for alleviating salinity stress problems. The GreenSense project will contribute to precision greenhouse horticulture through the combined use of conventional sensors; remote sensing technology. The Agrotechnology team has prepared a roadmap for the needs and priorities of agricultural production and related food and beverage industry in Thessaly Region for the next 20 years (Regional Innovation Pole of Thessaly). With specific actions, experiments and collaboration with farmers enhances sustainable livestock production primarily in reducing their environmental footprint. The team explores the gaseous environment of livestock facilities and correlate parameters of environmental pollution to human health. They develop indicators for animals' thermal discomfort adapted to Greek conditions. The Agrotechnology team, has created, perhaps the first in Greece Rural Environmental Observatory for short-term forecasting of aerial pollution, and investigation of its effects on human, animal health and plant production. The research team promotes and introduces precision agriculture technologies (sensors, robots and automation and farm management information systems) to maximize production while reducing external inputs.

<http://ireteth.certh.gr/agrotechnology/>

- The systematic investigation of nutritional physiology of farm animals, such as ruminants (cattle, sheep, goats), monogastric herbivores (ungulates, rabbits), monogastric omnivores (pigs, poultry) and others, in combination with the development of Biotechnology and Molecular Biology.
- The study of the properties, chemistry and technology of various feedstuffs
- The detailed study of the effects of nutrients on metabolism and various physiological functions of the animal body, so as to protect animal health and optimize their performance.
- Improving product quality through supplementing diets with bioactive compounds (omega-3 fatty acids, conjugated linoleic acid-CLA, antioxidants, etc.) that promote human health.
- Reducing the environmental pollution caused by animal farming (organic farming, grassland management, reduced methane emissions and excretion of minerals, such as N, P, etc.).
- The study of the interactions between genes and nutrients.
- Promotion, dissemination and application of scientific knowledge to optimize the effectiveness of nutrition in practice (through counselling and education of people, involved directly or indirectly to animal nutrition).

<http://zp.aua.gr/en/node/154>

There are also laboratories and departments settled in various Agricultural Universities such as:

Department of Agricultural Crop production and rural Environment in University of Thessaly

http://www.agr.uth.gr/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=14&Itemid=29

The departments of University of Athens occupies in:

1. Crop Science 2. Animal Science and Aquaculture 3. Agricultural Biotechnology 4. Agricultural Economics & Rural Development 5. Food Science & Technology 6. Natural Resources Management & Agricultural Engineering

<http://www.aua.gr/index.php>

Faculty of Agriculture, Forestry, and Natural Environment in University of Thessaloniki.

Research in the Department of Agriculture is theoretical, experimental basic, applied and development and aims to solve problems or purely theoretical interest or practical problems requiring experimental study or the development of methods, products, or social goods, or providing services officer. The research contributes to the improvement of the educational process and the reform of the educational programme within the context of modernization and international developments in agronomic sciences, the development of human resources and the creation of new specialized scientists, but also to improve the laboratory facilities of the Department through research funding of research projects.

<http://www.agro.auth.gr/>

Communication: In the context of e-services to citizens, the Ministry of Rural Development and Food plans and implements a range of Digital Services which will facilitate and simplify the procedures of the transaction together with the Ministry and Regional Services. Will enhance the quality of service, reduce their costs and ensure the transparency of transactions.

<http://www.minagric.gr/index.php/el/eservicesmenu-2>

Corporate Services: <http://www.minagric.gr/index.php/el/eservicesmenu-2>

Crops & Irrigation Branch: The general aim is to reinforce and supplement Member States' initiatives by implementing information and promotion measures aimed at highlighting the intrinsic features and advantages of the products of the European Union, notably the quality and safety of food, specific production methods, nutritional and health value, labelling, high animal welfare standards and respect for the environment (Article 2 of Regulation (EC) No 3/2008). The purpose is to allow competent national bodies and representative trade organizations to submit promotional programmes, to assess them as objectively as possible on the basis of a uniform methodical approach, and to manage the programmes throughout their duration. The competent national bodies shall publish calls for proposals for the sector(s) for which they are responsible, indicating in particular the priority themes, markets and types of measures, as well as the deadlines for submission of programme proposals and applications for funding, and for the provisional start date of the measures (Article 7 of Regulation (EC) No 3/2008). A call for proposals may relate to all programmes or to one or more markets, themes or types of measures. In order to ensure that programmes involving several products and several

Member States are coordinated, joint calls for proposals may be issued.

Calls for proposals shall be sent to the representative trade organizations, the competent bodies in the other European Union Member States.

In response to these calls for proposals, the interested trade organizations shall submit their programme proposals to the competent authorities by the deadline foreseen in Article 8 of Regulation (EC) No 501/2008. Programme proposals shall be:

- sent to the competent national bodies, signed and dated by the person responsible for the programme,
- completed in one of the official languages of the European Union. A brief summary of the proposal in one or more other languages of the European Union may be attached. In addition to the duly completed information form relating to the proposing organization, a strategic and marketing analysis must be submitted, accompanied by an outline of the general background to the proposed programme. <http://www.minagric.gr/index.php/el/for-farmer-2/enimerosiproothisigeorproionton>

Policy: Agricultural Policy is the interventions in rural development and the rural economy of the country, holding the Ministry of Rural Development and Food and institutions through national or European policies. Interventions targeting both the production of sufficient quality and safe products, to ensure a satisfactory level of farm income and reasonable price products to the consumer, and also the provision of public goods, ensuring the sustainable use of natural resources and environmental protection. The Agricultural Policy administered by the social, economic, environmental, cultural issues of rural areas and rural communities. For this reason, the Ministry is investigating the data of the agricultural sector, discusses with stakeholders poses term goals, considering the difficulties and is implementing policies that are always compatible with the framework set by the Common Agricultural Policy of the European Union.

<http://www.minagric.gr/index.php/el/the-ministry-2/agricultural-policy>

Regional Services: DIRECTORATE GENERAL OF REGIONAL RURAL ECONOMY AND VETERINARY

The Department's responsibilities relate to preparing annual and multiannual regional development programmes for agriculture, livestock and fisheries, development and evaluation of relevant studies and policy measures, and to ensure the development and qualitative improvement of agriculture and livestock in area of plant and animal production, respectively, in conjunction with the adoption of measures necessary for the development and modernization of agricultural holdings. To liaise with the relevant departments of the substantive ministries and implement national policies in areas of responsibility in accordance with their instructions, cooperate, communicate and provide information to the municipalities of the region on issues of competence and provides guidelines to regional services, exercising powers agriculture, livestock and fisheries at regional unity. The Department's responsibilities (Veterinary) relate to ensuring the protection of livestock throughout the region, ensuring the health of the animals' decisions on animal diseases that can have an epidemic character, as well as taking measures to protect public health.

Annual Reports:

The Annual Progress Report for 2012, the sixth year of the Rural Development Programme of Greece 2007-2013 (RDP), prepared by the Managing Authority of the RDP (RDP ESA). ESA RDP has primary responsibility for the management of the Programme, in collaboration with the Special Service Application RDP (ENA RDP), the implementing agencies and the Paying Agency (Opekepe), pursuant to Article 82 of Regulation (EC) 1698/2005 on support for rural development by the European Agricultural Fund for Rural development (EAFRD) and the Article 60 and Annex VII of Regulation (EC) 1974/2006 of the Commission laying down detailed rules for applying the above Rules, as amended and in force each time.

www.agrotikianaptixi.gr

<http://www.minagric.gr/index.php/el/the-ministry-2/agricultural-policy/arhrameletes>

Programmes & Services:

Agriculture Awareness Initiatives:

Press releases: Passed by a majority of the new law MADF for Aquaculture - New map development for the industry and attract investment.

Meeting at MADF the problems of citrus producers Laconia

33m. Euros budget of the Commission in the first instance for the exceptional support measures for peaches and nectarines. Regulation is reviewed at the request of Greece

Corrects problems paying the compensation In 2013 130 million. EUR appropriations secured by the MRDF

Clarifications on the European Commission Communication on measures to certain fruits and vegetables affected by the Russian embargo - not affect the already announced measures for peaches

With enhanced 1.513.764,05 € 238 producers for the Integrated Management of sugar beet

Until tomorrow MRDF data recording quantities peaches-nectarines.

Strengthened its presence in the Greek agri-food products in China through an international transit center

Five payments to beneficiaries for the Conservation of endangered indigenous breeds of livestock

First payment of compensation for farmers in 2013

For the first time, start mapping the Greek seagrass (Posidonia)

Improvements in aquaculture bill

Notice MADF for Greek exports to the Russian Federation

Compensation and mildew in vines with new programme state aid amounting to 28.5 million. Euros.

<http://www.minagric.gr/index.php/el/the-ministry-2/grafeiotypou/89-press>

Agriculture Innovation, Research and Technology Transfer:

Guidance and advice for new and existing complementary crops have started and given to willing to dare producers - farmers, those who have proven that they can stand in the difficult arena of agricultural production.

The Ministry of Agriculture in collaboration with the regions, agricultural cooperatives and producer groups are calling farmers in briefings to promote crop. So far, meetings have taken place in Chalkis, in Tripoli, Kiparissia and Messinia. The new supplementary crops are presented by:

- 1.The Ministry of Rural Development for 40 crops which can be seen every person on the website of the Ministry
- 2.The Agricultural Cooperative Zagora for growing apple
- 3.The Agricultural Cooperative Chalastras for rice cultivation
- 4.The Agricultural Cooperative Growers and Aromatic Plant Energy Aetoloakarnanias for growing herbs
- 5.The Agricultural Producers Cooperative Groups Agios Athanasios Dramas to grow pomegranate
6. The Greek Agricultural Organization "Dimitra" for the cultivation of legumes (beans, lentils, chickpeas, etc.)

Also useful information on the rural economy and sustainable agriculture to now provide:

- Dr. John Spanos - Senior Researcher, Forest Research Institute National Agricultural Research Foundation
- MUCH Musk - Professor of Instrumental Analysis - Organic Chemistry, D / Director of the Laboratory of Chemistry at AUA
- Vassilakakis Miltiades, Professor of Pomology Faculty of Agriculture, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki
- Zervakis George, Agronomist, Assistant Professor of Mycology AUA.
- Vlachostergios Dimitris Assistant Researcher Institute fodder and grazing Larissa

Environment:

Spatial planning is a set of actions the organization, regulation and coordination of human activities in space, in order to create a spatial development model, based on the principles of sustainability.

The development and expression of the National Spatial Policy, is three planning levels:

- National level.
- Regional Level.

-Sub-regional level

Given that spatial planning at national and regional level includes the management of rural areas, the Rural Planning is a sine qua non modulation component of our national strategy in this area.

The Rural Planning among other issues, the location of human activities in rural areas through the sustainable management of natural resources, thus ensuring that a balance between urban-rural landscape, environmental protection and quality of life. The main purpose of the land use policy of the Ministry of Rural Development and Food is, firstly to support regional development through the empowerment of rural production, on the other hand, protection of environment and natural resources. The Department of Planning Yp.A.A.T as responsible for implementation of this policy, ensure that:

distribution, delineation and mapping of renewable resources and non-agricultural areas and infrastructure of the location of activities formulating the views of the Ministry of any change in the use or removal of such resources quantitative terms, in order to maintain balance and ensure the infrastructure of the agricultural area. Given that the agricultural land and especially the highly productive agricultural land is a scarce and irreplaceable natural resource, constitutionally protected property of national significance, an essential condition for sustainable development and an essential basis of our production system, the State is obliged to protect and to preserve, through appropriate legal and regulatory framework.

<http://www.minagric.gr/index.php/el/for-farmer-2/xorotajian>

Trade and Market Development:

<http://www.minagric.gr/index.php/el/the-ministry-2/agricultural-policy/tomeisanapt/empor>

Value Added Business Development:

Crops:

<http://www.minagric.gr/index.php/el/for-farmer-2/crop-production>

Cattle

Cow/Calf

Beef Cattle & Feeding Systems:

The primary criteria for feeding systems focus on organic food, and to minimize the selective collection of waste. The analytical criteria focus also on environmental criteria, in use paper products and cleaning products, kitchen equipment, on food, etc.

<http://www.ypeka.gr/LinkClick.aspx?fileticket=dCKOkxzZcuc%3D&tabid=533>

Beef Cattle handling Facilities:

All kinds of livestock facilities institution being run over populated areas (cities, towns, villages, settlements), as well as of spas, traditional villages, national and roads, railways, rivers, lakes, Foreshores, beaches, zone A archaeological sites or featured tourist sites, hospitals, charitable institutions, camps, factories, workshops, camping sites, monasteries and increased traffic other relevant areas.

2 The minimum pitch extent needed to construction of livestock buildings is determined the provisions of Articles 6, 7 and 8 of Law. 1577/1985 "General Building Regulation" (A140) and the specific Sloop provisions of planning legislation force each time. 3 The minimum distances between livestock buildings and installations or activities that uses live protection, refer to Tables 1 and 2 Annex to Article 20 and have not valid in the sense that they apply the same manner in the cases in the area, which already farm is operating legally, the programme is going to be taking up a new project or activity. If after installation of any class, farm of issued building permits for homes, hotels, schools, camps or other activity referred to in paragraph 1, the farm is not affected by newer activities.

http://www.minagric.gr/images/stories/docs/agrotis/kthn_egkatastaseis/diadiakasia_ekdosis_adeias_egatast.mon_adasN.4056.pdf

Beef Cow-Calf Plan:

Nutrition & Feeding: The agricultural sector of the food industry annually produces about 120 million tons of feed in the European Union. The quality of animal nutrition is essential, as it affects the health of the animals and, therefore, the safety of food. The legislation governing the labeling and marketing of feed supplemented so as to give greater emphasis to the protection of human health and animals. Besides the rules concerning hygiene and controls applicable to feed the Union regulates in this way certain substances and products to reduce or eliminate their presence in animal nutrition.

http://europa.eu/legislation_summaries/food_safety/animal_nutrition/index_el.htm

Environmental Regulation for Cattle Producers :
http://www.minagric.gr/images/stories/docs/agrotis/kthn_egkatastaseis/diadiakasia_ekdosis_adeias_egatast.mon_adasN.4056.pdf

Farm Structure & handling system: Documents required for the issuance of a license to establish a holding operation

- Application of farmer
- Technical Report
- Topographical Chart Cover and Chart
- Architectural drawings
- Adoption Study of Waste Disposal - Sewage Certificate or non-waste production (D / Department of Public Health)
- Environmental Terms Approval or Exemption Certificate (W / Promotion Department and Environmental Protection)
- Document W. Prehistoric and Classical Antiquities
- Act Designation Area (D / Department of Forestry)
- Finality Act Designation Area (W / Forestry Division)
- Certificate of Exemption from demolition of buildings for fodder (D / Directorate of Rural Development)
- Certificate of Land Use (Planning)

Certificate of Municipality • Building Permit • Wastewater discharge permits (D / Division Promotion and Environmental Protection) • Declaration of forage on animal by-products and that bear Sheep Ear Tags • Contracts Property, Heritage Acceptance or lease parcels • Various other service records as appropriate • Application - Statement Single Payment Scheme (Union of Agricultural Co / operatives) • 2 - 3 photos of the flock of sheep and goats to show that animals have ear tags (only for farms free range where there are no buildings).
<http://www.gazi.gov.gr/index.php/lang-el/organotiki-domi/ypiresies-dimou/tmima-georgikis-anaptyxis-kai-topikis-oikonomias/606----a---->

Conditions for the construction of agricultural livestock buildings.

http://www.minagric.gr/images/stories/docs/agrotis/kthn_egkatakastaseis/apof270804.pdf

Mortalities Handling Guide: <http://www.paseges.gr/el/news?subject=BeefBreeding>

Processed Feeds- Company listing:

http://europa.eu/legislation_summaries/food_safety/animal_nutrition/index_el.htm

Back grounding

Nutrition: http://europa.eu/legislation_summaries/food_safety/animal_nutrition/index_el.htm

Facilities: http://www.minagric.gr/images/stories/docs/agrotis/kthn_egkatakastaseis/apof270804.pdf

Feeding System:

Handling facilities: <http://www.minagric.gr/index.php/el/for-farmer-2/egkatakastaseis/ktinotrofikesegatakastaseis/280-nomothesia3>

Market Update:

Finishing:

Dairy:

JMD 175 180 (Government Gazette 1721 / 02-08-11) Replacing the no. 296113/2006 (B 1414) Joint Ministerial Decision on "Measures for the control of production use, processing, packing, distribution and marketing of milk and dairy products" (balance-milk-whey)

Decision 312 745 (Government Gazette 9 / 11-01-11) Further implementing measures of Regulation (EC) no. 479/2010 of the Commission on communications between the Member States and the Commission in the milk

and milk products.

<http://www.minagric.gr/index.php/el/for-farmer-2/animal-production/milk-dairy>

Pork:

RM 834/52120 / 04.17.2014: "Determination of necessary additional measures for the implementation of Regulation (EU) no. 1308/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council Regulation (EC) no. 1249/2008 and the number. 2010/642 / EU Commission decision on the classification of pig carcasses and the reporting of prices. "(09/05/14)

JMD 187062 / 06.10.2011: "Additional measures can define procedures and documents for the granting of Community financial aid in the system of private storage of pigmeat in the context of Reg (EC) 1234/2007 & Reg (EC) 826/2008 ". (24.11.11)

<http://www.minagric.gr/index.php/el/for-farmer-2/animal-production/pigs/367-nomothesia-xoiron>

Other Livestock

Sheep / Goats / Poultry

Dairy Goat Production- a Guide Line for estimating Investment & Operating Cost:

Ewe Planner: JMD arithm.262345 / OG 323 / 22-03-10 for specific support measures in pursuance of Article 68 of Regulation (EC) No. 73/2009 and Regulation 1120/2009 of the Commission (10.06.2010)

HY 267 051 / 13-05-10 (Official Gazette 754 / 11.06.10) implementation of CMD for specific support in implementation of Article 68 of Regulation (EC) No. 73/2009

<http://www.minagric.gr/index.php/el/for-farmer-2/animal-production/sheep-and-goats/452-nomothesiaaigoprovata>

Farm Structure: http://www.minagric.gr/images/stories/docs/agrotis/kthn_egkatastaseis/apof270804.pdf

All kinds of livestock facilities institution being run over populated areas (cities, towns, villages, settlements), as well as of spas, traditional villages, national and roads, railways, rivers, lakes, Foreshores, beaches, zone A archaeological sites or featured tourist sites, hospitals, charitable institutions, camps, factories, workshops, camping sites, monasteries and increased traffic other relevant areas.

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http://www.minagric.gr/images/stories/docs/agrotis/kthn_egkatastaseis/diadikasia_ekdosis_adeias_egatast.mon_adasN.4056.pdf

Marketing Meat & meat products:

In order to ensure stability in the markets and a satisfactory standard of living for the agricultural community, a system of price support has been developed in parallel to the introduction of direct support schemes. The price support system takes account of the needs of each agricultural sector and their interdependence. The measures take the form of: public intervention in the markets for agricultural products; the payment of aid for the private storage of cereals, rice, sugar, olive oil and table olives, beef and veal, milk and milk products, pigmeat, sheepmeat and goatmeat.

http://europa.eu/legislation_summaries/agriculture/agricultural_products_markets/l11067_en.htm

This Regulation lays down: i. procedures adopted by the AGROCERT for inclusion in the system of control and certification holdings / enterprises that produce products specifically Poultry breeders as defined in the Joint Ministerial Decree. 313 875 / 07.12.2004, hereinafter referred to for brevity Products Ltd, in accordance with applicable law. ii. procedures adopted by the AGROCERT to control the market in order to ensure continued compliance of poultry products bearing indications referring to No CMD. 313 875 / 07.12.2004 or the trade AGROCERT with the requirements of applicable legislation the rights and obligations of holdings / enterprises and AGROCERT. iv. The cost of services AGROCERT.

http://www.minagric.gr/images/stories/docs/agrotis/poulerika/Kan_pistopoiisis_Agrocert_gia_eidikes_ptinotrof_ektrofes.pdf

Domestic meat Inspection Programme:

Sheep / Goat / Poultry Breeds:

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http://www.minagric.gr/images/stories/docs/agrotis/poulerika/Kan_pistopoiisis_Agrocert_gia_eidikes_ptinotrof_ektrofes.pdf

<http://www.minagric.gr/index.php/el/for-farmer-2/animal-production/sheep-and-goats/737-egatastaseisaigoprobata>

General Nutrition fact sheets:

http://europa.eu/legislation_summaries/food_safety/animal_nutrition/index_el.htm

Health disease fact sheets:

<http://www.minagric.gr/index.php/el/for-farmer-2/animal-production/ptina/208-astheneiesptinon-cat>

<http://www.minagric.gr/index.php/el/for-farmer-2/animal-production/sheep-and-goats/823-astheneiesaiGOPROBATON>

Processed feeds:

Feed must comply with the safety and marketing. It must: be secure not have a direct adverse impact on the environment or animal welfare be healthy, authentic, genuine, fit for purpose and of merchantable quality labeled, packaged and presented in accordance with applicable law and comply with the technical provisions on impurities and other chemical determinants (see. Annex I of the Regulation). The feed does not include a raw material who's placing on the market or use of which is restricted or prohibited (see. Annex III of the Regulation). The traceability of feed must be guaranteed at all stages of production, processing and distribution. Feed business operators are thus able to identify any person from whom he purchased a feed, an animal used for food or any other substance intended for incorporation in feed or could be incorporated into it. The feed placed or may be placed on the Community market shall be adequately labeled or identified to facilitate its traceability. If a feed business operator considers that a feed does not comply with the requirements for the safety of animal feed, immediately initiate procedures to withdraw the feed in question from the market. Then, promptly inform the competent authorities and users.

http://europa.eu/legislation_summaries/food_safety/animal_nutrition/sa0019_el.htm

Forage

Pastures/grazing: http://www.minagric.gr/images/stories/docs/agrotis/Boskotopoi/nomos4264_artho60.pdf

<http://old.law.uoa.gr/crime-research/boskotopoi.pdf>

Pasture, as the decision of the demarcation, as it manages forest or woodland. As to property rights, the protection and logging of forest land generally included pasture to the provisions of the Forest Law. Where the vegetation of the pasture is partially or totally destroyed by fire or other cause, the adjustment range is made after consideration of elements of management study and the terms of Article 1 Fri c.

2 The management of all pastures (lowland, upland, mountain), regardless of their ownership, is acting on a uniform basis and subject to responsibility of the state, which is exercised by the Ministry of Agriculture.

Annual crops for Green feed and grazing: Feed must comply with the safety and marketing. It must: be secure not have a direct adverse impact on the environment or animal welfare be healthy, authentic, genuine, fit for purpose and of merchantable quality · labeled, packaged and presented in accordance with applicable law and · comply with the technical provisions on impurities and other chemical determinants (see. Annex I of the Regulation). The feed does not include raw materials who are placing on the market or use of which is restricted or prohibited (see.

Annex III of the Regulation). The traceability of feed must be guaranteed at all stages of production, processing and distribution. Feed business operators are thus able to identify any person from whom he purchased a feed, an animal used for food or any other substance intended for incorporation in feed or could be incorporated into it. The feed placed or may be placed on the Community market shall be adequately labeled or identified to facilitate its traceability. If a feed business operator considers that a feed does not comply with the requirements for the safety of animal feed, immediately initiate procedures to withdraw the feed in question from the market. Then, promptly inform the competent authorities and users.

http://europa.eu/legislation_summaries/food_safety/animal_nutrition/sa0019_el.htm

<http://www.agrocapital.gr/Category/News/Article/5351/etisia-ekthesi-gia-to-eyrwpaiko-systima-egkairis-proeidopoiisis-gia-ta-trofima-kai-tis-zwotrofes>

Pest Control:

http://www.efet.gr/portal/page/portal/efetnew/enterprises/hygiene_guides?par=ENTERPRISE

<http://www.efet.gr/portal/page/portal/efetnew/iso>

Food Safety

Regulation: The HACCP (Hazard Analysis Critical Control Points) or AKSSE (Hazard Analysis Critical Control Points) is a process designed to:

- a. Recognition of microbial, chemical and physical hazards associated with any stage of the life cycle of food (risk analysis)
- b. Appraisal of signs which may reduce or eliminate the potential risks (critical control points)
- c. Application procedures for checking the critical control points

<http://asfaleiatrofimon.blogspot.gr/2011/04/haccp.html>

Inspection:

Monitoring:

Irrigation

Districts:

<http://dydaton.damt.gov.gr/images/stories/files/KYA43504-05.pdf>

Categories water licenses and implementation of recovery projects, issuing process, content and duration thereof.

Food Safety

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<http://asfaleiatrofimon.blogspot.gr/2011/04/haccp.html>



**LINK TO ANOTHER COUNTRY
INFORMATION**

TOOLKIT INFORMATION FOR ENTREPRENEURS – *FYROM*

Animal Breeding and Horticulture Sector

National legislation / FYROM	FYM / LEGISLATION
National financial supports for entrepreneurs initiatives / FYROM	FYM / FIN.SUPPORT
National contact points for entrepreneurship / FYROM	FYM / CONTACT
National network / FYROM	FYM / NETWORK
Agricultural innovation clusters / FYROM	FYM / CLUSTERS
National Statistics / FYROM	FYM / STASTICS
National official quality standards / FYROM	FYM / STANDARDS
Other informations / FYROM	FYM / OTHER INFO

Federation of the Farmers in the Republic of Macedonia



9. National legislation

Policies:

- Programme for work of the Government of the Republic of Macedonia for the period 2011-2015 (<http://www.konkurentnost.mk/StrateskiDokumenti/ProgramaVlada20112015.pdf>)
- National Programme for the Adoption of the European Union, Revised 2014 – 2016 (<http://www.sep.gov.mk/content/?id=96#.U-IY5GMq9bx>)

Laws:

- Law on agriculture and rural development (OG 49/2010, 53/2011, 126/2012);
- Law on IPARD Agency (OG 72/2007, 05/2009);
- Law on FADN (OG 110/2007, 53/2011);
- Law on livestock breeding (OG 07/2008, 116/2010);
- Law on quality of agricultural products (OG 140/2010, 53/2011, 55/2012);
- Law on agricultural inspection (OG 20/2009, 53/2011);
- Law on wine (OG 50/2010, 53/2011);
- Law on organic production (OG 146/2009,53/2011);
- Law on seeds and seedlings material (OG 39/2006, 89/2008, 171/2010, 53/2011);
- Law on establishment of agencies for entrepreneurship of the Republic of Macedonia (OG 60/2003, 161/2009, 171/2010/, 41/2014);
- Law on **trade companies (OG 28/04, 84/05/, 25/07 87/08, 42/10,48/10,24/11 and 166/12);**
- **Law on industrial property (OG 21/2009 and 24/2011);**
- **Law on agricultural cooperatives (OG 23/2013);**
- **Law on Cooperatives (OG 54/02, 84/05)**
- **Law on Employment Relation (OG 62/05, 106/08, 161/08);**
- **Law on Property Taxes (OG 61/04, 92/07, 102/08);**
- **Law on Agriculture Activity (OG 11/02, 89/08);**
- **Law on Agricultural Land (OG 135/07, 17/08);**
- **Law on Standardisation (OG 54/02);**
- **Law on agricultural cooperatives (23/2013)**
- **Decision for enacting the National Classification of Activities (OG 147/08);**
- **Law on Animal welfare (OG 113/07);**
- **Animal Identification and Registration Act (OG RM 69/04, 81/07);**

- **Livestock Breeding Act (OG 7/08);**
- **Law on Veterinary Health (OG 113/07);**
- **Law on Waste and By-products of Animal Origin (OG 113/07);**
- **Law on Public Veterinary Health, (OG 114/07);**
- **Law on Plant Health (OG 29/05, 81/08, 20/09);**
- **Law on Plant Protection Products (OG 110/07, 20/09);**
- **The Law on Food Safety and Products and Materials in Contact with Food (OG 54/02; 84/07);**
- **Law on Environment (OG 53/05, 81/05, 24/07, 159/08);**
- **Law on Occupational Health and Safety (OG 92/07, 136/11)**
- **Law on Waste Management (OG 68/04, 71/04, 107/07, 102/08, 143/08);**

Treaties, Agreements or Protocols:

- Stabilization and association agreement (OG 28/2001
<http://www.sep.gov.mk/data/file/SSA/SSA%281%29.pdf>)
- Law on Ratification of the Free Trade Agreement between the Republic of Macedonia and Turkey (OG 83/1999)

Strategies and Plans:

- National plan for organic production 2013-2020
(http://www.mzsv.gov.mk/files/Nacionalen%20Plan%20za%20Organsko%20Proizvodstvo_2013%20-%202020.pdf)
- Strategy for export promotion
(<http://www.konkurentnost.mk/StrateskiDokumenti/Strategija%20za%20promocija%20na%20izvozot.pdf>)
- National strategy for development of agriculture and rural development 2014 - 2020
- Strategy for innovation of the Republic of Macedonia 2012 - 2020
(http://www.konkurentnost.mk/StrateskiDokumenti/Strategija%20za%20inovacii_final_oktomvri2012.pdf)
- National programme for development of the agriculture and rural development 2013 – 2017 (OG 134/2012)
- National strategy for sustainable development of the Republic of Macedonia 2009 – 2030
(<http://www.konkurentnost.mk/StrateskiDokumenti/Nacionalna%20strategija%20za%20Odrzliv%20razvoj.pdf>)
- South east Europe 2020: jobs and prosperity in European
(perspective <http://www.economy.gov.mk/dokumenti/strategii/index.1.htm>)
- Strategic plan of the Secretariat for European Affairs 2014 2016

(http://www.sep.gov.mk/data/file/Dokumenti/Registar-na-dokumenti/00%20SEP_STRATESKI%20PLAN%202014_2016_30%2007%202013_13_01_2013_kusa%20verzija.pdf)

Taxes:

- Law on personal income tax (OG 80//93, 3/94, 70/94, 71/96, 28/97, 8/01,50/01, 52/01, 2/02, 44/02, 96/04, 120/05, 52/06, 139/06, 6/07, 160/07, 159/08, 20/09, 139/09, 171/2010, 135/2011, 166/2012, 187/2013 и 13/2014)
(http://www.ujp.gov.mk/files/attachment/0000/0646/Zakon_za_personalniot_danok_na_goh_od_13_21.01..2014...pdf)
- Law on value added tax (GO 44/99, 59/99, 86/99, 11/00, 93/00, 8/01, 21/03, 17/04, 19/04, 33/06, 45/06, 101/06, 114/07, 103/08, 114/09, 133/09, 95/10, 102/10, 24/11, 135/11, 155/12, 12/14 and 112/2014).
- law on employment and insurance in case of unemployment (OG 153/2012)
- Law on innovation activities (OG 79/13, 137/13)
-

Register your business:

- Programme for self-employment
(http://issuu.com/samovrabotuvanje/docs/01_programa_za_samovrabotuvanje_201?e=7165560/1438908)
- Manual for self-employment
(http://issuu.com/samovrabotuvanje/docs/priracnik_samovrabotuvanje_2013_web_final)

Regulations:

- Sub law for Trade Mark (OG 92/2009)
- Rules for general requirements for food safety (OG 54/2002)
- Regulations for specific requirements for food of animal origin (OG 115/2008)
- Rules for general requirements for primary production and associated operations and general requirements for food (OG 12/2012)
- Regulation on conditions for direct supply by the producer of small quantities of primary products to the final consumer or to local retail merchants directly supplying the final consumer and the general and specific requirements for localized activity for operators of small-scale food (OG 10/2013)

- Book of rules on keeping a register of suppliers of seeds material of agricultural plants (OG 8/07)
- Book of rules for varieties and quantities of seed and propagating material of selected varieties for personal use of the producer whose registration in the Register of suppliers of seed and propagating material is not mandatory (OG 23/11)
- Book of rules for registering varieties in National variety list and for updating the National variety list (OG 103/09)
- National Variety List valid on the date of the announcement of Call for proposals
- Book of rules for trade of propagating material and seedling material of fruit plants for production of fruit (OG 84/11)
- Book of rules for trade of seed material for vegetables (OG 59/07)
- Book of rules for trade of material for vegetative reproduction of vine (OG 116/11)
- Book of rules for quantities of seed and seedling material from varieties of agriculture plants in original packing which can be imported for personal use (OG 107/11)
- Book of rules for conditions which have to be fulfilled by the supplier to be registered in the Registry for seed material and Register for seedling material, content and manner of running the registers and content of the application for registration (OG 8/07)
- Book of rules for the conditions and means for protection of farm animals (OG 140/09)
- Book of rules for form and content of the Register, information needed for registration of facilities for animal housing for breeding purposes and means of registration (OG 161/11)
- Book of rules on cattle identification and registration (OG 47/05, 57/07)
- Book of rules on identification and registration of sheep and goats (OG 58/08)
- Book of rules for identification and registration of animals of swine species (OG 84/10)
- Annual orders and Programmes for measures and actions for animal disease preventions valid on the date of the announcement of Call for proposals
- Book of rules for mandatory reporting of animal disease and list of animal disease which must be reported (OG 110/10)
- Book of rules for specific requirements for safety and hygiene and means and ways for performing official controls of milk and milk products (OG 26/12)
- Rulebook of procedure for granting approval for construction of auxiliary facilities, greenhouses or facility for primary processing of agricultural products on agricultural land, the application form and required documentation (OG 93/11)
- Rulebook of Procedure for temporary conversion of agricultural land, form and content of the application form and required documentation (OG 94/11, 143/11)
- Rulebook on amendment and supplement the Rules of Procedure for granting approval for construction of auxiliary facilities, greenhouses or facility for primary processing of agricultural products on agricultural land, the application form and required documentation (OG 152/11)
- Book of rules on the signs for health and safety work (OG127/07)
- Book of rules on the form and content of the template for notification of starting occupational activities (OG 136/07)
- Book of rules on the manner of evidencing in the area of occupational safety (OG 98/00)

- Book of rules on the health and safety work during working process exposed to noise risk (OG 21/08)
- Book of rules on personal occupational safety equipment (OG 116/07)
- Book of rules on occupational health and safety during use of working equipment (OG 116/07)
- Book of rules on the health and safety work during working process exposed to mechanical vibrations (OG 26/08)
- Book of rules on the procedure for issuing operational permit with operational plan (OG 04/06)
- Book of rules on the procedure for obtaining B-integrated environmental permit (OG 04/06)
- Book of rules on the procedure for obtaining A-integrated environmental permit (OG 04/06)
- Decree on determining projects and criteria on the basis of which the screening for an environmental impact assessment shall be carried out (OG 74/05, 109/09)
- Decree on determining the activities of the installations for which integrated environmental permit or operational permit with operational plan is issued and the time line for submitting the application for operational permit with operational plan (OG 89/05)
- Book of rules on manner for registration in the register of wine producers, form, content and manner of keeping the register (OG 144/10, 113/11, 04/12)
- Book of rules on detailed conditions in respect of premises and equipment for wine production (OG 144/10).
- Book of rules on the form and content on applications and manner for applying on changes in the vine register (OG 15/11)
- Rulebook on the content and manner of use of data on the label of the products of grapes and wine (*) (OG 106/11)
- Rulebook on the form, content and manner of maintaining the input and output registers of the products of grapes and wine *(OG 161/11)
- Rulebook on the manner of application of oenological means, their characteristics as well as maximum amounts of approved oenological means that are used in wine production *(OG 16/12)
- Book of rules for the conditions and means for protection of farm animals (OG 140/09)
- Book of rules for treating animals while killing (OG 163/10)
- Book of rules on the procedures for implementing HACCP principals by the food operators, as well as the manner of verifying these procedures by the competent authority (OG 113/08)
- Book of rules for specific requirements for safety and hygiene and means and ways for performing official controls of milk and milk products (OG 26/12)
- Book of rules on the manner for issuing certificate for safety, form and contents of the request for issuing the certificate and the of costs for issuing (OG 156/07)
- Book of rules for sanitary-hygienic condition for production of food (OG 32/06, 35/09)
- Book of rules on the labelling of foodstuffs (OG 118/05)
- Book of rules for special requirements on quality of fruit juices and other similar products (OG 32/06)

- Book of rules for special requirements of quick frozen products (OG 32/06)
- Book of rules on way of issue the approval and required documentation for production of food for particular nutritional purposes and novel food (OG 3/2007)
- Book of rules for products and materials in contact with food (OG 93/10)
- Book of rules on the special requirements for the food from animal origin (OG 115/08, 21/09)
- Book of rules on the form and the content of the register of food facilities and operators and the manner and the procedure for registration of the food facilities and operators (OG 19/08)
- List of categorized by-products from animal origin (OG 53/08)
- Book of rules on the conditions that have to be fulfilled by the facilities for slaughtering animals, processing and storage of products of animal origin (OG SFRY 53/89)
- Book of rules on the veterinary-sanitary minimum for production, keeping, breeding, trade and quarantine and isolation of animals (OG SRM 2/79)
- Book of rules for manner the handling of animals during slaughter (*) (OG 163/10)
- Book of rules for additional identification of poultry meat intended for market in terms of cooling and breeding method, the markings and their usage (*) (OG 35/11)
- Book of rules on the form and content of the register of facilities and operators with food from non-animal origin, form and content of the register of facilities and operators with food from animals, form and content of application for registration and the manner of registration of food operators and facilities (94/11, 152/11, 15/12)
- Book of rules on the means of conducting and securing traceability of food from animal origin and animal feed (OG 59/12)
- Book of rules on the application form for entry in the register of buyers and register of importers of certain agricultural products and the necessary supporting documentation (OG 102/10)
- Book of rules on detailed conditions to be fulfilled by the buyers of agricultural products and detailed conditions to be met at the purchase points for agricultural products (OG 102/10, 144/10, 156/11)
- Book of rules for the type of data for the planned amount for purchase of agricultural products and purchase for the previous year, the manner of delivery, form and form submission (OG 102/10)
- Book of rules on the form of application for registration in the register of purchasers and the register of importers of certain agricultural products and the necessary supporting documentation (OG 102/10, 144/10, 156/11)
- Book of rules on conditions for entry in the register of importers of certain agricultural products (OG 102/10, 144/10)
- Book of rules on the form and content of the application forms for submitting reports where the data refer to quantities of purchased, sold and stored fresh fruits and vegetables by species, varieties and classes, as well as their origin (OG 90/11)
- Book of rules on minimum quality standards for fresh fruits and vegetables intended for processing and specific marketing standards for quality of fresh fruits and vegetables intended for use (*) (OG 91/11)
- Book of rules on the form, content and manner of keeping the record from the register of users of marks of origin, Register of users of geographical indications or Register of

- users of the mark for guaranteed traditional specialty (*) (OG 99/11)
- Book of rules on the form and content of the specification for obtaining mark for guaranteed traditional specialty (*) (OG 99/11)
 - Rulebook on the form and content of the single document on the registration of the mark of origin or geographical indication (*) (OG 99/11)
 - Book of rules on the form of application and the necessary supporting documentation for registration in the register of producer organizations (OG 125/11)
 - Book of rules on the application form and documentation required for registration on groups of producers in the Register of groups of producers (OG 126/11)
 - Book of rules for the manner of storage of the raw milk and taking samples for analysis and superanalysis, the content, form and the manner of filing of the minutes, the methods for analysis of raw milk, the method of classification and method of valuation of raw milk, and the manner of conducting the training program and conducting training for controllers (OG 151/11)
 - Book of rules for minimum technical conditions for administrative facilities and facilities in which trade is performed (OG 21/04, 54/04, 79/04, 70/07, 93/08, 124/11)
 - Book of rules on form and content of the document – application for fulfillment of the minimum technical conditions for performing trade and starting with sale stores and other commercial object (OG 21/04, 86/05)

Permits & Licenses:

- Law on custom codes (39/2005, 04/2008, 158/2010, 44/2011, 53/2011, 11/2012, 171/2012, 187/2013)
- Ministry of economy (<http://www.economy.gov.mk/>)
- Ministry of agriculture, forestry and water Economy (<http://www.mzsv.gov.mk/?q=node/138>)

Copyright & Intellectual property:

- Publication for Secrets of Intellectual Property (<http://www.ippo.gov.mk/docs/xFiles/Pub/TajnitenaIS/TajnitenaIS.pdf>)
- Publication for Inventions and patents (<http://www.ippo.gov.mk/docs/xFiles/Pub/PRONAJDOCI%20I%20PATENTI/PRONAJDOCI%20I%20PATENTI.pdf>)

Note: The above information, links or documents should be focus on national legislation:

2. National financial supports for entrepreneurs initiatives

Key projects:

Mostly of the projects implemented in Republic of Macedonia are registered in the Central Donor Assistance Database (CDAD), in this topic used as source of information. Take in consideration the data of CDAD can be noted that 9.231% of total assistance of registered projects in database is linked to Agriculture, in total amount of 226.698.576, 85 EUR. Only IPA founded projects and small one has a status of ongoing, others have status completed. For this case could be pick the following:

CDAD ID	Project Title	Start Date	End Date	Committed EUR
CARD01 83	MAFWE Structural and Legal Reform	20.01.200 5	20.12.200 7	2.960.497,00 EUR
USA 0106	Seal of Quality and Agribusiness Assistance Program	30.09.200 3	29.09.200 7	4.800.387,65EUR
IPA 0369	Introducing of cross-compliance into direct payments scheme	19.09.201 3	18.03.201 5	950.000,00EUR
IPA 0409	Capacity building of the competent authorities for food safety, veterinary and phytosanitary policy	21.12.201 3	20.12.201 5	1.795.000,00EUR
IPA 0434	Transnational Network for SME support in the animal breeding and horticulture sector	01.12.201 2	30.11.201 4	1.713.000,00EUR
USA 0171	USAID - Adaptation to climate change in agriculture	08.03.201 2	08.03.201 5	1.079.626,72EUR
TUR 0007	Development of production and quality of rice in R.Macedonia	01.03.201 3	31.12.201 4	134.500,00EUR
IPA 0303	Experience the healthy rural life	19.03.201 3	19.11.201 4	161.721,00EUR
IPA 0340	Development of an E-auction Market for Agri-products in the Cross-border area - E-auction	04.07.201 3	03.03.201 5	192.665,20EUR
SWE 0070	Continuation and Enhancement of the Agricultural Credit Discount	01.07.200 8	30.06.201 0	155.146,08EUR

	Fund			
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Available funding (Local & International funds):

IPA, as international funds, is delivered through the following five components: I – Transition and Institution Building; II – Cross-border cooperation, supports cross-border activities among beneficiary countries and between beneficiary countries and Member States; it also covers the participation of IPA beneficiaries in ERDF trans-national and interregional co-operation programmes and in ENPI sea basins programmes, as appropriate.; III – Regional Development, is accessible to candidate countries and emulates, to the greatest extent possible, the ERDF and Cohesion Fund, thereby giving to the beneficiary countries the highest possible approximation to Structural Funds implementation under External Aid rules; IV – Human Resources Development, accessible to candidate countries, prepares them for the programming, implementation and management of the European Social Fund, in the framework of the European Employment Strategy; and V – Rural Development, Rural Development, helps the candidate countries prepare for post-accession EU-funded rural development programmes by implementing pre-accession assistance through systems which are as similar as possible to those required post accession.

Local one is National budget founded program for rural development implemented through Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Water Economy of the Republic of Macedonia.

Grants:

There is no specific national grant program or national body where specific funds can be used in process of SME development. On global level, The Global Environment Facility is a partnership for international cooperation where 183 countries work together with international institutions, civil society organizations and the private sector, to address global environmental issues.

Since 1991, the GEF has provided \$12.5 billion in grants and leveraged \$58 billion in co-financing for 3,690 projects in 165 developing countries. For 23 years, developed and developing countries alike have provided these funds to support activities related to biodiversity, climate change, international waters, land degradation, and chemicals and waste in the context of development projects and programs.

Through its Small Grants Programme (SGP) the GEF has made more than 20,000 grants to civil society and community based organizations for a total of \$1 billion.

Contributions:

In compliance with Article 173 of the Commission Regulation (EC) No 718/2007 of 12 June 2007 implementing Council Regulation (EC) No 1085/2006, the share of public funds in individual measures varies.

For the purpose of this Program and within the frame of the proposed measures the following aid intensities are considered:

(a) For investments within the Priority axis 1, "Improving market efficiency and implementation of Community standards", the share of public funds in principal shall not exceed 50% of the eligible investments providing that the beneficiary private co-funding is also 50%. The share of the EU funds in the public funds is 75% and the contribution of the country is 25%.

In particular, cases the following aid intensity applies for Measure 101 ,

Investments in agriculture holdings:

- 55% for investments in agricultural holdings made by young farmers (between 18 and 40 years of age);
- 60% for investments in agricultural holdings in mountain areas*;
- 65% for investments in agricultural holdings in mountain areas made by young farmers;

*In order to benefit in full the aid intensities, MAFWE is in preparation of a Government Decision adopting the List of Mountainous Areas in the country with reference to the areas as in the first subparagraph of Article 50(2) of Council Regulation (EC) No 1698/2005/116 132 .

Subsidies:

The Government of the Republic of Macedonia implements agricultural policies which contribute to the development and strengthening of the competitiveness of Macedonian agriculture. The Government undertakes the measures allowing farmers: to have easier access to loans, to have part of the expenses for acquiring livestock and growing plantations and crops covered, as well as to have their farm production subsidized.

Between 2011 and 2015, a total of 670 million Euros will be allocated as agriculture subsidies:

2011 - 115 million Euros

2012 - 130 million Euros;

2013 - 135 million Euros;

2014 - 140 million Euros; and

2015 - 150 million Euros.

The Government of the Republic of Macedonia and the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Water Supply will continue implementing an agricultural policy whose results are already visible in terms of development and raising the competitiveness of Macedonian agricultural products. Europe and the world should recognize us as reliable and quality agricultural business partners.

The Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Water Supply has already recognized the effect of subsidizing.

Wages subsidies:

Ministry for labor and social policy through Agency for employment implements the programs and measurements for wages subsidies. The measurements in general can be spited in two groups:

- Programs and measurements that lead to direct employment – wages subsidies for starting new business and new employment orientation
- Programs and measurements that lead to indirect employment – training of unemployment for skills improvement.

First group - Programs and measurements that lead to direct employment are realized through program for financial support of SME, program for self employment, program for first employment of the person under 29 years old, employment of the youth with no parents care. Only wages subsidies for Agro cooperative manager are fulfilled through Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Water Supply.

Financial Assistance:

The Crimson Development Foundation (CDF) is a registered, non-profit, Macedonian foundation, owned and operated by Crimson Capital Corp. CDF's mission is to facilitate economic growth and job creation through the provision of innovative types financing for small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) and through financial literacy and management training to its client borrowers. CDF supports SMEs working in all sectors of the economy, but especially targets those that are not being adequately served by existing financial institutions, including rural businesses, entrepreneurs and enterprises owned by women and minorities. In just eight years (and with only \$1.5 million in initial loan capital), CDF has made loans totaling more than \$22.25 million to Macedonian SMEs, supporting over \$91 million in new exports for Macedonian companies (many of which hadn't exported at all prior to CDF's assistance), and more than 3,200 new, permanent jobs, including over 1,600 jobs for women and 320 for minorities. To date, CDF has indirectly supported more than 11,150 local farmers and 270 agro-collection points. CDF loans and financial literacy training have also stimulated large increases in revenues and profits for client SMEs.

MRFP continuously improving access to financial services and thus fight against poverty. Good ideas and dedicated entrepreneurs should have access to the necessary financial support. This approach MEDF contributed to the end of 2013 to pay over 2.4 billion dinars (39.3 million euros) to 11,144 customers. This way supported 17,637 Total current and planned 4424 jobs.

- Financial services

Loans

Accredited mediators

Access to credit

Development indicators

Entrepreneurial examples

- Capital investments
- Capacity Building for Financial Services

Study visits and training

- Advocacy for the Development of Financial Services

The Micro Foundation horizon is another similar institution. The Micro Foundation horizon provides quick and easy access to finance for micro-entrepreneurs and the rest low-income population in Macedonia. Horizons Until now we have disbursed more than 30,000 loans to support the development of small businesses and needs housing. On our web site you can find information about us and our work. For additional information, please contact us.

Loan guarantees:

Agricultural Investment Credits – In the following period, the policy of favorable rural crediting by providing improved credit terms, made possible by the Agricultural Credit Discount Fund will continue:

Credits that are available through commercial banks for investments in primary agriculture can be used at the lowest annual interest rate of 3%, and for investments in the processing industry and trade (export), the annual interest rate will be 4% (2011–2015);

The purposes, terms and amount of granting the agricultural credits will be adapted and aligned to the investment terms required by the IPARD program (December 2011);

The farmers will be able to us subsidy funds for securing loans (December 2011);

Direct agricultural crediting will be made possible on favorable terms and conditions through the Macedonian Bank for Development Promotion. (November 2012).

Program & Services:

National Program for Agriculture and Rural Development, National program for unemployment reduction, National program for FDI, Platform for poverty reduction.

Publications:

Publications can be attachable on the links bellow

Supporting institutions:

Institutions responsible for programs and projects implementation are: Ministries and others governmental bodies, Donors, Agencies ect.

Publications:

Publications can be attachable on the links bellow

Contacts & Useful Links:

<http://www.cdad.sep.gov.mk>;

<https://sgp.undp.org>;

<http://www.avrm.gov.mk/programa-na-avrm.nspix>;

<http://www.samovrabotuvanje.mk/default.aspx>

<http://www.mtsp.gov.mk/proekt-za-samovrabotuvanje-so-kreditiranje.nspix>

http://www.mzsv.gov.mk/nacionalna_programa.pdf

http://www.pa.gov.mk/Root/mak/default_mak.asp

<http://vlada.mk/node/305?language=en-gb>

http://www.ffrm.org.mk/index.php?option=com_jdownloads&Itemid=116&view=viewcategory&catid=3

<http://www.mrfp.org.mk/mk/za-nashata-rabota/finansiski-uslugi.html>

<http://www.thegef.org/gef/whatisgef>

3. National contact points for entrepreneurship

Government Links & Contacts:

1. Agency for Promotion of Entrepreneurship of the Republic of Macedonia

http://apprm.gov.mk/index_e.asp -

10. Ministry of agriculture <http://www.mzsv.gov.mk/>

Agency for Financial Support in Agriculture and Rural Development

http://www.ipardpa.gov.mk/Root/mak/default_mak.asp

3. Agency for Employment of the Republic of Macedonia <http://www.avrm.gov.mk/programi-za-vrabotuvanje.nspix>

4. Self employment program implemented by the Government in RM and the United Nations

Development Programme (UNDP). It is an important part of the national strategy employment and is

one of seven active employment measures prescribed in the National Operational Plan for self-employment 2014 <http://www.samovrabotuvanje.mk/>

3. Ministry of economy - http://www.economy.gov.mk/javni_konkursi/oglasji/4266.html
4. Web portal konkurentnost.mk is portal to promote policies, programs, projects and measures aimed at increasing the competitiveness of businesses. His main goal is to facilitate the access of businesses to date information in one place about the available support to improve competitiveness, such as the current government programs, measures, procedures for application, and other donor and European initiatives also predict direct aid to companies. <http://www.konkurentnost.mk/>
5. Invest Macedonia is the primary government institution which is in charge of attracting new foreign investments in the country and supporting the expansion of the foreign companies with already established operations. In addition to the investment function, Invest Macedonia is also engaged in promoting the Macedonian companies on foreign markets and supporting them in the process of increasing their exports abroad. <http://www.investinmacedonia.com/>

Useful links to access databases for entrepreneurs:

<http://www.up.co/communities/macedonia/skopje/startup-weekend/4123>

4.National networks

Strategic Partnership:

- 1.Balkan Agricultural associations Network (BAAN)**
- 2. Transnational network for SME support in the animal breeding and horticultural sector- AGRO - START**

Facts:

1. Balkan Agricultural associations Network (BAAN) - Project for regional cooperation among farmers' associations from Western Balkans (Macedonia, Albania, Kosovo, Serbia, Montenegro, Bosnia and Herzegovina), which was finalized by a joint concept for further cooperation among 14 farmers'

organizations from 6 Balkan countries

2. AGRO-START is part of South East Europe Transnational Cooperation Programme and will last two years from 01/12/2012 to 30/11/2014. AGRO-START is implemented in seven countries (Romania, Bulgaria, Greece, Italy, Slovenia, R. Macedonia, Albania) by 12 organization. The overall objective of the AGRO-START project is to increase the SMEs competitiveness and promote and facilitate an innovative entrepreneurship by giving answer to the need of a specific support service for SMEs in the horticulture and animal breeding sector that adapts an integrated transnational approach.

Partners / Institutions / Organization:

1. The Federation of Farmers of the Republic of Macedonia – FFRM organize and unite farmers at national level with a view to jointly resolving problems and improving the agricultural production and rural development in the Republic of Macedonia. The main goal is to be a modern, transparent and democratic farmers' organization that is nationally recognized and acknowledged and unites the majority of farmers, represents and protects their interests and act to improve and develop agricultural production and rural areas according to the real needs of the farmers in the Republic of Macedonia. FFRM acts at the national level, according to the needs and interests of its members. As a structural model it takes the steps of the Swedish farmers with signing of cooperation agreement with Swedish Farmers Federation. More than 10,000 people are directly or indirectly involved in the organization, namely: as members of the governing bodies, employees, volunteers, training participants for study circles, school leaders, business training academy and many others through study tours abroad, organized fairs, and many other forms. In addition, intensive cooperation is accomplished with organizations from countries in the region such as Albania, Bulgaria, Bosnia, Kosovo, Montenegro, Serbia, Romania, Slovenia, as well as with organizations in European countries such as Sweden, France and the Netherlands. <http://ffrm.org.mk>

2. **Rural Development Network of The Republic of Macedonia** – “RDN of RM” was established in March 2010 in Skopje, as a movement organized at national level to provide a voice for rural communities in the Republic of Macedonia. <http://ruralnet.mk>

3. **Association "Center for promotion of sustainable agricultural practices and rural development" CeProSARD** is established as initiative of a group of citizens – experts in the field of agriculture, rural development, economy and environment based on their personal knowledge and experience as well as realization of the necessary need for intensive work in the field to introduce sustainable practices in the area of agriculture and rural development. The Association is established with an initial meeting of its founders in June, 2007 when a decision is made about the name, short name (with latin letters) and the symbol of the Association. <http://www.ceprosard.org.mk>

4. **Macedonian Chamber of Commerce (MCC)** was founded in 2004 as an independent, nonpolitical and nonprofit organization. In the Macedonian Chambers of Commerce are joined eight chambers: Industry Chamber, Trade Chamber, Services Chamber, Agro-business Chamber, ICT Chamber, Tourism Chamber, Accounting Chamber and the Construction Chamber. With a number of over 1000 members MCC represents the most perspective business association in the Republic of Macedonia. MCC is important for Macedonia because it is key element of all a well-functioning private sector. <http://www.sojuzkomori.org.mk>

5. The Faculty of Agriculture at University "Goce Delcev" STIP offers a perfect educational basis that integrates the conventional and the traditional ways of production, by using sophisticated and advanced methods in the field of agriculture <https://www.ugd.edu.mk/index.php/en/>

6. Faculty of Agriculture and Food was established on 12/16/1947 and is one of the founders of the University "Ss. Cyril and Methodius" in Skopje. In its long-standing tradition, faculty achieved fruitful teaching, research and applied work, and active collaboration with domestic and foreign related institutions. In terms of facilities and staff with equipment, faculty is supreme institution in the field of agriculture and food in R. Macedonia. Faculty of Agriculture and Food (FZNH) within the Ss in Skopje <http://www.fzh.ukim.edu.mk>

7. The Institute of agriculture - Skopje is one of the oldest (after the Institute of tobacco in Prilep, formed in 1924) scientific organizations in the field of agricultural sciences in Republic of Macedonia. <http://zeminst.edu.mk/>

7. National Extension Agency through a system of providing advisory services to farms, aims to enable the transfer of knowledge and information, as well as their implementation in farms in order to improve the quality and quantity of agricultural production with economic viability, competitiveness of Macedonian and EU markets, sustainable development of agriculture in rural areas, and support the development and implementation of agricultural policy by maintaining a database of the sum insured through field visits to farms. NEA is responsible for providing technical assistance to increase the quality, quantity and profitability of agricultural production with optimal utilization of available resources and their greater utilization in market oriented and rural areas. <http://agencija.gov.mk>

8. Youth Entrepreneurial Service (YES) Foundation with its main component, business incubator for supporting micro, small and medium enterprises in the ICT field, through the process of business incubation, offers access to services for accelerating their growth and development. <http://www.yes.org.mk/YES/Testimonials.aspx?r=6&l=54&c=22#sthash.okOfmNkn.dpuf>

Coordination & Consultancy:

1. EPICENTAR International DOOEL is a private consulting company, providing service in the area of business and rural development, established on November 1st, 2005. Provide consultancy services and expertise to strengthen the capacities of individuals, private business companies and local communities for achieving greater economic, financial and developmental results.

<http://www.epicentar.com.mk/>

2. Macedonia Export is private company and field of expertise of the personnel are for economics, marketing and business cooperation.

3. Levidia Dooel Skopje is private medium company with 3 employees who have University degree. Field of expertise of the personnel are for economics, marketing and business cooperation.

4. Holand Farming Macedonia DOO is private company and their expertises are for economics, marketing and business cooperation.

5. FOUNDATION FOR SUSTAINABLE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT - PREDA Plus, Prilep is meant to become a main hub of various resources for the donor organizations, co-funding agencies, national, regional and municipal government organizations, private sector organizations, universities and higher education Institutes, non-governmental organizations and consulting firms of the region with the following vision: Promote sustainable economic development and social prosperity through facilitation of public, private and civil initiatives, on local / regional level in the Balkans.

<http://www.predaplus.eu/>

Guidelines & Procedures:

Link from FFRM WEB SITE RESURSE CENTER

http://ffrm.org.mk/index.php?option=com_jdownloads&view=viewcategory&catid=3&Itemid=116

1. Marketing standards for fresh tomatoes and pepper
2. Manual for contract farming.
3. Forms of association of farmers - cooperatives Groups of producers and producer organizations.
4. Manual for cooperatives - a few steps to a successful cooperative
5. HANDBOOK FOR YOUNG FARMERS: Starting a business in agriculture
6. Innovative financial products for financing agriculture

Strategic Plan:

Governance:

National Entrepreneurship and Competitiveness Council in the Republic of Macedonia is to promote ideas and policies that will enable broad and sustainable economic development of Macedonia. NECC should contribute to the development of the competitiveness the Republic of Macedonia and knowledge based economy through the growth of domestic industries with high added value due to the fact that they are recognized as the crucial driving force of the economic development. <http://www.necc.mk/our-missionmk-MK>

Databases:

<http://database.agro-start-see.eu/index.php>

5 Sector Innovation Clusters

Research & Development & Technology related to:

Research & Development Units:

Infrastructure support: **The Programme for Support and Development of Clusters' Associations in the Republic of Macedonia** offers support to the clusters associations in the country and implements activities that are supporting the development of clusters in Macedonia.

The goal of this programme is to enhance the present clusters in Macedonia and to establish a foundation for the development of new clusters.

The funds in this programme are provided by the state budget, with the programme being managed by the Ministry of Economy. The 2012 budget for all the activities envisioned in the programme was set at €49,000.

The activities that are financed through this programme are:

- organisation of seminars for clustering;
- support of projects performed by cluster associations;
- enhancing the capacities of employees working at institutions that support the clusters; and
- organisation of round table discussion on the topic "Indicators for successful cluster".

The funds are given through yearly competitive calls to which cluster associations apply with their projects.

Technology Commercialization & Transfer:

Non-financial forms of development support in the field of entrepreneurship and small business

- business networking in the country and abroad
- collecting, processing and delivering information
- organizing specific training and consulting services
- organizing panel discussions, conferences and business forums
- implementing cooperation programs with particular countries
- implementing other national development projects

**Financial forms of development support
in the field of entrepreneurship and small business**

- co-financing arranged projects for the needs of the Agency, implemented through the institutional structure of entrepreneurship centers
- co-financing of development projects in cooperation with national and foreign investors and donors
- co-financing of postgraduate studies in the field of entrepreneurship

http://www.apprm.gov.mk/about_us.asp

R&D Funds: **Agency for Promotion of the Entrepreneurship of the Republic of Macedonia (APERM)** is a state institution and is the most relevant institution on the national level for implementation and coordination of the overall domestic and international support for small business sector in the Republic of Macedonia. APERM, together with other Macedonian partners, is an institution responsible for implementation of strategic policy measures and contributes to preparation of national analysis according to estimated TIAS rate, identification of national policy gaps and preparation of national policy recommendations. It also contributes by organizing one workshop for stakeholders and by participating in all project activities. <http://www.apprm.gov.mk>

Fund for innovations and technology development

The Fund for Innovations and Technology Development ("the Fund") aims to promote and stimulate innovation activity, improve access to finance for innovations, develop infrastructure for innovations and technological development and foster development of partnerships between the academia, research community and the private sector in the Republic of Macedonia. The Fund will stimulate innovations and their inclusion in the mainstream private sector (commercialization) in order to build a competitive, knowledge-based economy. The Fund will pursue its objectives by providing co-financed grants for start-ups, spin-off companies and innovations, co-financed grants for technology transfer, co-financed grants and conditional loans for commercialization of innovations, technical assistance through business and technology accelerators, equity and mezzanine investments, and support in establishment of private equity funds. <http://fondzainovacii.mk/>

Research & development Links:

<http://www.konkurentnost.mk/>

<http://www.necc.mk/>

<http://www.apprm.gov.mk/>

<http://fondzainovacii.mk/>

6. National Statistics

Sector Statistics

Crops:

Crops	2011	2012	2013
Cereals			
Wheat (ha)	76.545	79.745	80.980
Wheat (tonnes)	256.103	214.963	258.960
Maize (ha)	29.369	29.180	31.028
Maize (tonnes)	126.096	115.928	131.043
Barley (ha)	41.096	41.057	41.944
Barley (tonnes)	129.509	90.384	125.565
Fruits			
Apple (fruit bearing trees '000)	4.281	4.373	4.385
Apple (tonnes)	124.552	127.171	112.929
Pears (fruit bearing trees '000)	361	368	372
Pears (tonnes)	7.460	6.937	7.265
Sour cherries (fruit bearing trees '000)	606	682	724
Sour cherries (tonnes)	6.514	8.127	8.867
Vegetables			
Pepper (ha)	8.465	8.626	8.501
Pepper (tonnes)	153.842	166.247	152.153
Tomatoes (ha)	5.632	5.614	5.457
Tomatoess (tonnes)	165.642	145.818	130.960
Livestock:			
Livestock, poultry and beehives	2011	2012	2013
Cattle	265,299	251,240	238,333
Cows and heifers in calf	164,537	161,012	154,487
Pigs	196,570	176,920	167,492
Sows and first farrow sows	24,180	23,534	23,581
Sheep	766,631	732,338	731,828
Ewes for breeding	545,214	520,767	530,760

Poultry	1,944,260	1,776,297	2,201,550
Beehives	65,277	52,897	68,294

Farm business:

	Number of business entities		Number of business entities by number of persons employed					
			0 ¹⁾	1-9	10-19	20-49	50-249	250 +
Total	71,290	100,0	4,415	60,599	2,989	1,787	1,291	209
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	2,866	4,0	158	2,608	35	30	33	2

According to the last agricultural census in 2007 there were 192,675 agricultural household.

Agro-Processing:

There are approximately 1,600 enterprises for the production of food and beverages in the country, with an annual average employment of about 17,000 employees. The majority (96%) of the enterprises are small according to the classification of the enterprises provided in the Law on Trade Company⁶⁰ (OG 28/04, 84/05, 25/07). The main sub-sectors of the food processing industry include production of bread and bakery products, production of fruit and vegetable juices, production of mineral water and other beverages, pasta production and confectionary production.

Rural development statistics

Trade Statistics:

Total trade '000 Euros	2011	2012	2013
Total export	3.197.660	3.123.952	3.211.771
Total import	5.038.481	5.070.607	4.968.420
Export of agri-food product	458.909	470.674	494.976
Import of agri-food products	611.932	673.486	648.400
Trade balance of agri-food products	- 153.024	- 202.812	- 153.424
Share of export of agri-food products in total trade export	14%	15%	15%
Share of import of agri-food products in total trade import	12%	13%	13%

Fact Sheets:

Table: Area and population by statistical regions

Statistical regions	Area in km ²	Total Population - 2006	Population density inhabitants /km ²	Region-based village	Number of settlements	Percentage of rural population
Republic of Macedonia	25.713	2.040.228	82	41	1.767	43,3
Vardar region	4.042	154.230	38	4	215	31,3
East region	3.537	180.938	51	3	217	33,7
Southwest region	3.340	222.385	66	8	286	63,9
Southeast region	2.739	171.972	63	5	188	54,7
Pelagonia region	4.717	236.088	50	4	343	32,4
Polog region	2.416	310.178	126	7	184	70,8
Northeast region	2.310	173.982	75	3	192	43,4
Skopje region	1.812	590.455	319	7	142	28,2

Value in %	2009	2010	2011	2012
Share of agriculture in GDP	10	10	10	/
Share of agriculture in total employment	20	19	19	/

7. Official Standards, Regulations and Links related to :

Principles & requirements of food safety law related to:

Health Protection: The assurance of high level of protection of human life and health (Environment, Animals, Plants)

Free Movement Food: The free movement of food as an essential aspect of the internal market.

Consumers' interest: Protection of consumers' interests

Risk Analysis: RASFF unit at the RFVA, chapter 36

Risk Assessment: Food business operators /FVA

Risk Management: Food business operators /FVA

Risk Communication: RASFF = e-mail notification and information on a daily basis

Consumers Interest:

unit for consumer protection at FVA

Operators Responsibilities:

Food Safety Law ("Official Gazette" RM 157/2010, 53/11 and 1/12)", Rules for the implementation and ensuring traceability of food from animal origin and feed ("Official Gazette" RM 59/12)", Rules on the form, content and the method of issuing commercial document for food of animal origin ("Official Gazette" RM 38/12)"

Traceability system:

Implementation of food safety law - chapter 32 Traceability of food products

Export –Import:

GHP, GMP, HACCP, IFS, BRC standards, Global Gap for primary producers

State Responsibilities:

FVA (Food and Veterinary Agency); State Agriculture Inspectorate; Fitosanitary Administration

Tasks and responsibilities of the Food and Veterinary Agency:

Performing the operations relating to the food safety and animal feed safety;

Implementation, control, supervision and monitoring of veterinary services in the field of animal health;

Protection and welfare of domestic animals and pets, zoo animals and animals used for

experimental and other scientific purposes;

Performing the operations relating to the by-products of animal origin;

Identification and registration of farm animals and other animals;

Quality control of the food, with the exception of primary agricultural produce of plant origin;

State Inspection for Agriculture – MAFWE (Ministry of Agriculture Forestry and Water Economy) official control related to plant protection and products for plant protection

Fitosanitary Department - MAFWE (Ministry of Agriculture Forestry and Water Economy)

Food Health:

Law on Food Safety ("Official Gazette" RM 157/2010, 53/11 and 1/12) "

Law on Veterinary Health ("Official Gazette" No. 113/07);

Law on health protection and animal welfare ("Official Gazette" RM No. 113/07);

Plant Health:

Law on plant protection Official Gazette" RM No 20/09, 53/11, 164/13, 43/14

Phytosanitary Certificate:

Official Gazette" RM No 113/10, 8/11

Databases:

<http://www.mzsv.gov.mk/?q=registri>

Rules on pesticides residues in food:

Maximum residue limits - Regulations "Official Gazette" RM No118/05, 102/13, 156/13

Quality Package:

Quality Regulations: Law of quality for agriculture products Official Gazette" RM No140/2010; 53/2011; 55/2012

General base-line standard: EU

Database of Origin & Registration – DOOR:

<http://www.mzsv.gov.mk/?q=node/1115>

Criteria to assess the risk:

Product (nature, price, the volume of the lot): nature of the product –

Operations(packing, handling, storage, the means of transport): maintain cold chain

Company(size, position in the market chain): position of the market and distribution channels

Production(the weather conditions, the period of production, the country of origin):

Quality System: HACCP, BRC

Recommendation:

<http://www.mzsv.gov.mk/?q=opendata>

Brochures & Publication:

Program for Consumer Protection for the period 2013-2014

Guide for consumers through the law on food safety

Guide to business operators through the law on food safety

Guide to inspectors through the law on food safety

Food additives and consumers

Food supplements and consumer

Foods for particular nutritional uses and consumers

Food An added vitamins, minerals and certain other substances and consumers

Guide for Inspectors

Advice for consumers

Five steps to safer food

Advices for consuming safe food

The labeling of food

Consumers - bread in retail stores in the Republic of Macedonia

Consumers – on the green market in the Republic of Macedonia

Consumers - safe consuming the ice cream

Food pyramid

What are food additives

What is important to know about listeriosis

Flyers for consumer information

1. Additives in our food
2. Food allergy useful information
3. How to read the labeling of foodstuffs
4. Health is important! What information should include labeling of food?

5. Labeling of nutritional and health claims
6. Step by step to HACCP-Manual for food retailers and caterers
7. Manual procedures that are based on HACCP principles in certain food businesses
8. Guide to safe handling and serving of ice cream
9. Handbook for practicing Regulation on microbiological criteria
10. Guide to HACCP principles for food operators, particularly in the catering business

Links:

www.ahv.gov.mk

<http://www.mzsv.gov.mk/>

8 Other Information related to:

Ministry of Agriculture and other Public Institutions

Branches/Agencies(Branch Mandate, Program, Strategy):

Agricultural Research:

- Institute for livestock (<http://www.institut-stocarstvo.ukim.mk/>)
- Agency for food and veterinary (<http://www.fva.gov.mk/index.php?lang=mk>)
- Institute for Tobacco (Prilep), <http://www.tip.edu.mk/>
- Institute for Southern Crops (Strumica),
- The Faculty of Veterinary Medicine <http://fvm.ukim.edu.mk/en>
- Hydro-biological Institute, Ohrid <http://www.hio.edu.mk/>

Communication:

- Moja Zemja (“My Land”) is the only monthly magazine on Republic of Macedonia that presented comments, opinions of farmers, experts and relevant institutions, reports, educational advice and analyses. Magazine continuously follows the work of FFRM, inform farmers about all developments in the agricultural sector and education. The magazine grew into a real agricultural messenger where many scholars, analysts, farmers, companies, with their own themes build the right way for the development of agriculture.

Corporate Services:

- <http://www.economy.gov.mk/>
- Economic chamber of Macedonia
<http://www.mchamber.org.mk/%28S%28kcpzhcvr3s1df2ifo55x4w45%29%29/default.aspx?lId=2&mlId=0&smId=0&clId=0&plId=1>
- Macedonian chamber of commerce (<http://www.sojuzkomori.org.mk/default-en.asp>)
- Economic chamber of North –West Macedonia <http://oemvp.org/mk/>
- Small business chamber
(http://www.sbch.org.mk/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=47&Itemid=55&lang=mk)

Crops & Irrigation Branch:

- Ministry for agriculture forestry and water economy
(<http://www.mzsv.gov.mk/?q=node/138>)

Policy:

- Ministry for agriculture forestry and water economy
(<http://www.mzsv.gov.mk/?q=node/138>)
- Agency for food and veterinary (<http://www.fva.gov.mk/index.php?lang=mk>)

Regional Services:

- FFRM's branches in Skopje, Prilep, Bitola, Strumica, Gostivar, Tetovo
(<http://ffrm.org.mk/>)
- National Extension Agency branches (<http://agencija.gov.mk/regionalcentars/>) (Bitola, Demir Hisar, Krusevo, Prilep, Resen, Ohrid, Struga, Kumanovo, Sveti Nikole, Kriva Palanka, Kratovo, Skopje, Veles, Kavadarci, Negotino, Stip, Probistip, Delcevo, Vinica, Kocani, Berovo, Tetovo, Debar, Gostivar, Makedonski Brod, Kicevo, Strumica, Radovis, Valandovo, Gevgelija)

Annual Reports:

- Annual report for agriculture and rural development, 2011
http://www.mzsv.gov.mk/GIZRR_2011.pdf
- Annual report for agriculture and rural development 2012
http://www.mzsv.gov.mk/files/GIZRR_2012.pdf

Programs & Services:

Agriculture Awareness Initiatives:

- Different form on associating of the farmers – cooperatives, group of producers (http://ffrm.org.mk/jdownloads/broshuri/gradinarite%20i%20eu/formi_na_zdruzuvanje.pdf)
- National extension agency <http://agencija.gov.mk/>
- Measures to support companies <http://www.konkurentnost.mk/ProgramDetailViewJavno.aspx?id=73e31891-ba08-4f84-a966-cbfc4347dea9>
- Programme for self-employment <http://apprm.gov.mk/vest.asp?id=328&lang=mk>

Agriculture Innovation, Research and Technology Transfer:

- IPARD programme (http://www.ipardpa.gov.mk/Root/mak/default_mak.asp).
- Programme for rural development, 2013 (http://www.ipardpa.gov.mk/Root/mak/default_mak.asp)
- National extension agency (<http://agencija.gov.mk/>)
- Fund for innovation and technological development (http://fondzainovacii.mk/?page_id=48)

Environment:

- Programme for investing in environment for 2014 <http://www.konkurentnost.mk/ProgramiPdf/Pograma%20za%20KIP%202014.pdf>
- Brochure for Agro ecological measures (http://ffrm.org.mk/jdownloads/broshuri/gradinarite%20i%20eu/agroekoloski_merki.pdf)
- Manual for agro ecological practices in vegetables production http://ffrm.org.mk/jdownloads/broshuri/gradinarite%20i%20eu/priracnik_-_agroekoloski_merki_01.pdf)
- Agro-ecological measures (http://www.mzsv.gov.mk/agroekoloski_merki.pdf)

Trade and Market Development:

- Market standards for fresh tomato and pepper
(http://ffrm.org.mk/jdownloads/broshuri/gradinarite%20i%20eu/pazarni_standardi.pdf)
- Manual for contracting farming
(http://ffrm.org.mk/jdownloads/broshuri/gradinarite%20i%20eu/dogovorno_proizvodstvo_05.pdf)
- Quality Standards for purchasing of vegetable products aimed for processing industry
(http://ffrm.org.mk/jdownloads/broshuri/gradinarite%20i%20eu/standardi_pri_otkup_na_zelencuk.pdf)

Value Added Business Development

Lands:

- Sector for consolidation of agricultural land exchange and land parcel identification
<http://www.mzsv.gov.mk/?q=node/83> :
 - Department for consolidation of agricultural land
 - Department for exchange of agricultural land
 - Department for Land Parcel Identification - LPIS
 - Department for Land Bank

Crops:

- Apples care in harvesting and preparation for market
<http://ffrm.org.mk/jdownloads/broshuri/agbiz%20-%20upravuvanje%20so%20svezhi%20proizvodi%20posle%20berba/jabolko.pdf>
- Care for tomatoes after harvesting
(http://ffrm.org.mk/jdownloads/broshuri/agbiz%20-%20upravuvanje%20so%20svezhi%20proizvodi%20posle%20berba/griza_za_domatite_posle_berba.pdf)
- Care for fruits and vegetables after harvesting
(http://ffrm.org.mk/jdownloads/broshuri/agbiz%20-%20upravuvanje%20so%20svezhi%20proizvodi%20posle%20berba/griza_za_ovosjeto_i_zelencukot_po_berba_del1.pdf)
- Table grapes – care after harvesting and preparation for market
(http://ffrm.org.mk/jdownloads/broshuri/agbiz%20-%20upravuvanje%20so%20svezhi%20proizvodi%20posle%20berba/griza_za_ovosjeto_i_zelencukot_po_berba_del1.pdf)

[%20upravuvanje%20so%20svezhi%20proizvodi%20posle%20berba/grozje.pdf \)](#)

- Cabbage - care after harvesting and preparation for market
(<http://ffrm.org.mk/jdownloads/broshuri/agbiz%20-%20upravuvanje%20so%20svezhi%20proizvodi%20posle%20berba/zelka.pdf>)
- Watermelon - care after harvesting and preparation for market
(<http://ffrm.org.mk/jdownloads/broshuri/agbiz%20-%20upravuvanje%20so%20svezhi%20proizvodi%20posle%20berba/lubenici.pdf>)
- Manual for harvesting and storage of potato
(http://ffrm.org.mk/jdownloads/broshuri/agbiz%20-%20upravuvanje%20so%20svezhi%20proizvodi%20posle%20berba/kompir_korekcii_2-1.pdf)
- Manual for harvesting and storage of cucumber
(<http://ffrm.org.mk/jdownloads/broshuri/agbiz%20-%20upravuvanje%20so%20svezhi%20proizvodi%20posle%20berba/krastavica01-1.pdf>)
- Manual for harvesting and storage of onion
<http://ffrm.org.mk/jdownloads/broshuri/agbiz%20-%20upravuvanje%20so%20svezhi%20proizvodi%20posle%20berba/kromid.pdf>
- Manual for harvesting and storage of plums
(http://ffrm.org.mk/jdownloads/broshuri/agbiz%20-%20upravuvanje%20so%20svezhi%20proizvodi%20posle%20berba/sliva_.pdf)
- Manual for harvesting and storage of cherries
(<http://ffrm.org.mk/jdownloads/broshuri/agbiz%20-%20upravuvanje%20so%20svezhi%20proizvodi%20posle%20berba/creshi.pdf>)
- Manual for post harvesting activities at fresh fruits and vegetables
(http://ffrm.org.mk/jdownloads/broshuri/gradinarite%20i%20eu/guidelines_posta_harvest_management_practices_protected.pdf)

Market Update:

- Agricultural Market Information System
(<http://www.zpis.gov.mk/index.php?lang=en>)

Finishing:

Other Livestock

Sheep / Goats / Poultry

Dairy Goat Production- a Guide Line for estimating Investment & Operating Cost:

Ewe Planner:

Farm Structure:

Marketing Meat & meat products:

Domestic meat Inspection Program:

Sheep / Goat / Poultry Breeds:

General Nutrition fact sheets:

Health disease fact sheets:

Processed feeds:

Forage

Pastures/grazing:

- Public Enterprise for Pastures (<http://www.getlokal.mk/mk/skopje/public-enterprise-for-management-of-pastures-skopje-jp-za-stopanisuvanje-so-pasista-skopje>)

Annual crops for Green feed and grazing :

Costs:

Crop Collection:

Feed value:

Hay

General Info

Animal Health and Welfare:

Animal Health Unit:

Anthrax (FAQ):

Veterinary Expertise:

- Veterinary Chamber of Republic of Macedonia
<http://mvk.org.mk/index.php?lang=en>

Pest Control:

- National list of the approved products and active ingredients for plant protection
(http://www.mzsv.gov.mk/nacionalna_lista.pdf)

Farm Business management

Business Strategy:

- National Extension Agency <http://agencija.gov.mk/makedonski-fadn/>

Food Safety

Regulation:

See section: Regulation in part

Inspection:

State Inspectorate for agriculture (<http://www.mzsv.gov.mk/?q=node/1161>)

Monitoring:

Agency for food and veterinary <http://www.fva.gov.mk/index.php?lang=mk>

Irrigation

Districts:

Irrigation systems have existed in the country since 1956 so most irrigation schemes are more than 25 years old. After 1991 following the declining trends in agricultural production of enterprises and cooperatives, irrigation schemes were widely neglected and started deteriorating so the total irrigated area underwent a severe decline.

According to official statistics, the total area with irrigation infrastructure is 144,894 hectares (ha) comprising 144 schemes, but only 123,864 ha can actually be irrigated. Cultivated land in the country with irrigation potential is around 400,000 ha, this includes the existing area under

irrigation systems.

Generally, all irrigation systems have functional difficulties. The most common problems are the obsolete equipment and infrastructure, inadequate maintenance because of lack of funds and transitional processes in the water economy and the agriculture sector. From the financial aspect, the irregular payment of water charges has reduced the funds for regular maintenance of the systems.

Outputs:

Indicator (in million denars)	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
1. Crop output	49.460	46.233	47.613	50.079	51.259	53.616
2. Animal output	14.356	15.721	18.448	21.719	18.058	16.362
3. Agricultural goods output (1+2)	63.816	61.954	66.061	71.798	69.317	69.978
4. Agricultural services output	171	259	248	201	361	345
5. Agricultural output (3+4)	63.987	62.214	63.309	71.998	69.678	70.323
6. Non-agricultural secondary activities	1.479	1.462	1.070	925	1.325	1.701
7. Subsidies on products	977	901	1.693	3.339	4.214	4.083
8. Output of the agricultural "industry" (5+6+7)	66.443	64.576	69.072	76.263	75.217	76.107
9. Total intermediate consumption	34.372	31.831	34.936	34.926	33.719	32.213
10. Gross value added (8-9)	32.071	32.745	34.136	41.336	41.498	43.894
11. Consumption of fixed capital	2.637	2.669	3.017	3.184	3.425	3.468
12. Net value added	29.434	30.077	31.119	38.152	38.073	40.426

Farm Business Management:

- [Manual for young farmer - Starting a business in agriculture](http://www.ffrm.org.mk/jdownloads/broshuri/priracnik%20za%20mladi%20farmeri/zaem_priracnik_final-mkd.pdf)
http://www.ffrm.org.mk/jdownloads/broshuri/priracnik%20za%20mladi%20farmeri/zaem_priracnik_final-mkd.pdf

Food Safety

- Agency for food and veterinary <http://www.fva.gov.mk/index.php?lang=mk>

Other Information related to national conditions for elaboration the business plan:

Starting a business:

Before starting your business

Developing entrepreneur ideas:

- Rural economy (http://www.ffrm.org.mk/jdownloads/broshuri/ruralna_ekonomija_-_brosura.pdf)

Business planning:

- Guidelines for writing business plan
<http://www.konkurentnost.mk/JavenpovikDetailView.aspx?idmer=60de778a-ee95-4a7b-989c-82b8878bb812>
- Manual for young farmer - Starting a business in agriculture
http://www.ffrm.org.mk/jdownloads/broshuri/priracnik%20za%20mladi%20farmeri/zaem_priracnik_final-mkd.pdf

Market research & statistics:

State statistical office (<http://www.stat.gov.mk/>)

-

Buy a business or start your own:

- Guide for foreign direct investments in Macedonian agro-food sector
(http://www.mzsv.gov.mk/invest_agro_macedonia.pdf)

Growing

Business support organizations:

- <http://www.economy.gov.mk/>
- Economic chamber of Macedonia
<http://www.mchamber.org.mk/%28S%28kcpzhcvr3s1df2ifo55x4w45%29%29/default.aspx?lId=2&mlId=0&smId=0&clId=0&plId=1>
- Macedonian chamber of commerce (<http://www.sojuzkomori.org.mk/default->

[en.asp](#))

- Economic chamber of North –West Macedonia <http://oemvp.org/mk/>
- Small business chamber
(http://www.sbch.org.mk/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=47&Itemid=55&lang=mk)



**LINK TO ANOTHER COUNTRY
INFORMATION**

TOOLKIT INFORMATION FOR ENTREPRENEURS – *ITALY*

Animal Breeding and Horticulture Sector

[National legislation / ITALY](#)

IT / LEGISLATION

[National financial supports for entrepreneurs initiatives / ITALY](#)

IT / FIN.SUPPORT

[National contact points for entrepreneurship / ITALY](#)

IT / CONTACT POINT

[National network / ITALY](#)

IT / NETWORK

[Agricultural innovation clusters / ITALY](#)

IT / CLUSTERS

[National Statistics / ITALY](#)

IT / STATICS

[National official quality standards / ITALY](#)

IT / STANDARDS

[Other informations / ITALY](#)

IT / OTHER INFO

UNIMOL & CONFAGRICOLTURA PUGLIA & REGIONE MOLISE



1. National legislation

Policies:

Policies, strategies and plans: Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) 2014-2020, including information about I pillar (directly financed by EU funds) and II pillar, rural development (financed half by EU funds and half by national funds);
Regulation (EC) 1234/2007; “Common organisation of the rural markets and specific guidelines for some agricultural products”

Laws:

Legislative decree no.99, 29th March 2004 “Dispositions on subjects and activities, business integrity, administrative simplifications in agriculture” and modifications on legislative decree No. 101/2005;
Legislative decree no. 114, 31st March 1998, “Reform of the trade sector, art 4, subsection 4, law no. 59 15th March 1997”

Taxes:

Legislative Decree no. 91, 24th June 2014 “Dispositions for the agricultural sector and environmental protection aimed at reintroducing agricultural sector through fiscal and simplification measures for businesses”

Regulations:

Civil code, art 2135 “Orientation and modernisation for the agricultural sector art 7 law no. 57, 5th March 2001”;

Copyright & Intellectual property:

Law no.633, 22nd April 1941 with modification Law no.2, 9th January 2008 (valid for brands and databases)

2. National financial supports for entrepreneurs initiatives

Available funding (Local & International funds):

European Agricultural Guarantee Fund (EAGF) and the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development (EAFRD) managed by member states.

Law no.135, 23rd May 1997 (grants for disadvantaged areas)

Law no.236, 19th July 1993 (Support for young entrepreneurs)

Fund for the development of youth entrepreneurship in agriculture

Law no. 215, 25th February 1992 (actions supporting female entrepreneurship)

Contributions:

Legislative decree no. 1, 24th January 2012 “Dispositions for competition, infrastructure development and competitiveness;

National contributions to businesses

Supporting institutions:

AGEA ;

SAISA (custom agency);

Rice national body;

CAA (Agricultural Assistance centres)

Banca della nuova terra (New earth bank) supplies loans and grants.

Contacts & Useful Links:

<http://www.ismea.it/flex/cm/pages/ServeBLOB.php/L/IT/IDPagina/2841>

Risk capital

<http://www.ismea.it/flex/cm/pages/ServeBLOB.php/L/IT/IDPagina/7386>

Facilitation for young entrepreneurs

<http://www.ismea.it/flex/cm/pages/ServeBLOB.php/L/IT/IDPagina/4652>

Land re-assignments

<http://www.ismea.it/flex/cm/pages/ServeBLOB.php/L/IT/IDPagina/1058>

<http://www.ismea.it/flex/cm/pages/ServeBLOB.php/L/IT/IDPagina/7668>

Agricultural lands to public auction

<http://www.ismea.it/flex/cm/pages/ServeBLOB.php/L/IT/IDPagina/926>

3. National contact points for entrepreneurship

Government Links & Contacts:

MIPAAF Ministero delle Politiche Agricole, Alimentari e Forestali (Ministry of Agricultural, Food and Forestry Policies)

Enterprise Europe Network: <http://www.enterprise-europe-network-italia.eu/>

Camera di Commercio italiana (Italian chamber of commerce): <http://www.camcom.gov.it/>

Regione Emilia-Romagna (Contact Point SEE for Italy)

Useful links to access databases for entrepreneurs:

INEA Istituto Nazionale di Economia Agraria ((National Institute of Agrarian Economy):

<http://www.inea.it/banchedati>

Good and sustainable practices for farms:

<http://www.confagricoltura.it/ecocloud/#/>

Marketing regulations:

<http://www.agecontrol.it/normativa/normativa-generale/index.php>

4. National networks

Strategic Partnership:

MIPAAF (The Ministry of Agricultural, Food and Forestry Policies)

Trade Unions of Agricultural Workers:

FLAI (Agro-industry workers federation),

FAI (Food-agriculture and environment-industry federation)

UGC (General farmers' union)

UILA (Italian agro-food workers' Union)

UIMEC (Italian farmers' Union)

Partners / Institutions / Organization:

CIA (Confederation of Italian farmers)

Confagricoltura (General Confederation of Agriculture)

Coldiretti (National Confederation of Farmers)

AIA (Italian Breeders Association)

Copagiri (Confederation of agricultural producers)
UCI (Italian Farmers' Union)
AGIA (Association of young agricultural entrepreneurs)
AIS (Seed association of Italy)
AGICA (Agency focused on agricultural cooperatives)
ANCA LEGACOOOP (Agency focused on agricultural cooperatives)
National confederation of food and agriculture cooperatives
ANDAA (Agriculture managers)
Confederdia (Manager and employees in agriculture)
Green Tourism (agritourism association)

5. Sector Innovation Clusters

Research & Development & Technology related to:

Research & Development Units:

CRA (Council for Research and Experimentation in Agriculture);

Organic agriculture:

ISS (National Health Institute)

CIHEAM-IAMB (Mediterranean Agronomic Institute – Bari);

Forestry and Agrarian Experimentation center – Bolzano;

Edmund Mach Foundation – Trento;

AIAB Italian Association for Organic Agriculture – Rome;

Sustainable Agriculture:

CRPA – Research center for livestock products – Reggio Emilia

CERSAA- Regional center for experimentation and agricultural assistance – Savona

Tuscia University (department of livestock production) – Viterbo

Bio-energy:

ICGEB – International Centre for Genetic Engineering and Biotechnology – Trieste;

Fruit-Farm:

IEMEST Euro-Mediterranean Science and Technology institute – Palermo

Olive-growing:

CNR-IPCF – Institute for physical chemical processes

Viticulture:

CIHEAM – IAMB Mediterranean Agronomic Institute – Bari

Plant Nursery:

ENEA – Authority for new technologies, energy and environment – Rome

Animal Breeding:

ANASB – National association of Buffalo breeders
Experimental Italian Institute – Spallanzani” - Milano

Knowledge Creation:

Universities:

University of Molise - Department of Agricultural, Environmental and Food Sciences;

University of Perugia – Department of Agricultural and Environmental sciences;

University Alma Mater Bologna – Department of agricultural, food science and technology;

University of Naples (Federico II) – Faculty of veterinary medicine;

University of Naples (Parthenope) – Department of applied sciences;

University “Politecnica delle Marche” – Department of environmental sciences and vegetable production;

University of Foggia – Interdepartmental research center bioagromed;

University of Sassari – Department of livestock science;

University of Salento – Cultural centre of innovative enterprises;

High Institute of Milan – Mario Boella;

Innovation centre in the agro-environment field – AGROINNOVA;

Studies:

Bee-net project (bees monitoring and intervention)

GAL (Local area groups of intervention)

Technology Commercialization & Transfer:

6. National Statistics

Sector Statistics

Lands: ISTAT <http://censimentoagricoltura.istat.it/>

Crops: ISTAT (Statistics on agriculture - <http://censimentoagricoltura.istat.it/>); INEA (National Institute of agro-economy: <http://www.inea.it/banchedati>,

Livestock: ISMEA (Fish and aquaculture, agro-food markets, animal and meats, logistics
<http://www.ismea.it/flex/cm/pages/ServeBLOB.php/L/IT/IDPagina/1>

Farm business: Eurostat (<http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/portal/page/portal/eurostat/home/>),
Eurispes (<http://www.eurispes.eu/>)

7. Official Quality Standards

Official Standards, Regulations and Links related to :

Principles & requirements of food law related to:

Health Protection: The assurance of high level of protection of human life and health (Environment, Animals, Plants)

Free Movement Food: The free movement of food as an essential aspect of the internal market.

Consumers' interest: Protection of consumers' interests

Hygiene:

Regulation (EC) no. n. 852/2004: HACCP as monitoring and analysis instrument on food production hygiene and safety

Regulation (EC) no. 853/2004: storage, carriage and manufacturing of livestock products

Regulation (EC) no. 854/2004: Hygiene of food products

Food Safety Requirements:

Directive no. 93/43/EEC concerning HACCP (Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Points)

Regulation (EC) n. 882/2004: official controls about cattle feed and animal conditions

Traceability system:

Regulation (EC) 178/2002: concerning products traceability

Regulation (EC) 1169/2011: labelling

Law no. **580** 4th July 1967: discipline about manufacturing and trade of cereals

Regulation (EC) 834/2007: labelling of organic products

AGECONTROL: monitoring authority about trade regulations.

Export –Import:

Regulation (EC) 1235/2008: Import of organic products

Food Health:

Directive 2002/99/EC: Health police, regulation of all the phases of the supply chain from manufacturing to selling

Recommendation:

Regulation (EC) 432/2012: list of indications about health products
Regulation (EC) 206/2010: concerning veterinarian certification

8. Other Information related to:

Ministry of Agriculture and other Public Institutions

Branches/Agencies(Branch Mandate, Program, Strategy):

Agricultural Research: CRA (Council for research and experimentation in agriculture);
INRAN (National research institute for food and nutrition)
National seeds authority
ENEA: National institute of agro economy
ISMEA: Institute of services for the agro-food market

Food Safety

Monitoring:
ICQRF Quality control and anti-fraud centre
Corps of Forest Rangers
NAC (anti-fraud Carabinieri Team)
Coast Guard

Food Safety

Coldiretti: Observatory on criminality in the agricultural system
<http://www.coldiretti.it/News/Pagine/osservatorio-criminalita.aspx>

Other Information related to national conditions for elaboration the business plan:

Starting a business:

Before starting your business

Market research & statistics:
ISMEA: Manual for agricultural product selling:
<http://www.ismea.it/flex/cm/pages/ServeBLOB.php/L/IT/IDPagina/6843>
Buy a business or start your own:

TOOLKIT INFORMATION FOR ENTREPRENEURS – *ROMANIA*

Animal Breeding and Horticulture Sector

National legislation / ROMANIA	RO / LEGISLATION
National financial supports for entrepreneurs initiatives / ROMANIA	RO / FIN.SUPPORT
National contact points for entrepreneurship / ROMANIA	RO / CONTACT POINT
National network / ROMANIA	RO / NETWORK
Agricultural innovation clusters / ROMANIA	RO / CLUSTERS
National Statistics / ROMANIA	RO / STASTICS
National official quality standards / ROMANIA	RO / STANDARDS
Other informations / ROMANIA	RO / OTHER INFO

AGROSTAR FEDERATION & SE RDA/ADR SE



1. National legislation

Policies:

Romanian State Policy in the field of animal breeding and horticulture

The Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development is the central public authority responsible for enforcing the policies and programs of the Romanian Government, the national strategy in the agricultural sector (field crops, organic agriculture, animal breeding), food production, rural development, fisheries and aquaculture, land reclamation, and related areas: phytosanitary, specialized scientific research, conservation and sustainable management of soil and plant and animal genetic resources. The Ministry is responsible for the adaptation of the agricultural sector in compliance with the European and international standards. Other attributions are related to the improvement of the production competitiveness and enhancing the export capacity of the Romanian agriculture under strict standards of environmental protection, food safety and uniform control of the food chain and welfare of animals.

To achieve the objectives of its field, the Ministry has the following functions:

- **strategy**, developed in accordance with Government policy, EU norms and worldwide trends;
- **regulatory**, which ensure the development of the legal framework and specific rulemaking activities in its areas of activity;
- **administration and management** the public and private property of the state and the management of funds and services for which the state is responsible, in its field of activity;
- **European fund management and allocation** for national rural development, agriculture and fisheries; for SAPARD Programme, National Rural Development Programme 2007-2013, 2014-2020 and Fisheries Operational Programme;
- **representation** internally and externally in its field and within the limits set by the laws in force;
- **state authority**, which ensures the implementation, monitoring, enforcement and compliance regulations in its areas of activity;
- **payment** through its subordinated institutions and departments.

The main priorities in this area are:

- ✓ to develop and implement appropriate policies for Romanian citizens as consumers, farmers and processors;
- ✓ to support increased food competitiveness and sustainable development in rural areas, in food safe and protected environment conditions;
- ✓ to increase the country's agricultural potential recovery;
- ✓ to focus on the export of value added products that provide welfare and living conditions in rural areas related to urban areas;
- ✓ to consolidate the land and farms and to remove constraints on land market;
- ✓ to reduce rural poverty;
- ✓ to value specific regional products;
- ✓ to improve the agro-food chain - mainly by developing associative forms (associations and market organizations);

- ✓ to support cooperation between farmers;
- ✓ to give particular attention to livestock;
- ✓ to modernize the system of education and research as well as rural consultancy services;
- ✓ to facilitate the access to finance for the development of productive activities;
- ✓ to create jobs;
- ✓ to attract young people to the countryside.

The **expected results during the implementation of the policies in the agricultural sector** are objectives of the Agro-Food Sector Development Strategy on medium and long term 2020-2030: increasing the competitiveness of the agro-food, ensuring sustainable management of the natural resources, improving living standards in rural areas, stimulating agriculture knowledge based.

The **measures to achieve the expected results** are:

- ✓ Systematic recording of real estate in the land register and ensure ease transfer of agricultural goods (complete cadastral reform)
- ✓ Encouraging land consolidation and stimulating farmers' association
- ✓ Environmentally friendly agricultural practices and the gradual reduction of labour in agriculture
- ✓ Providing opportunities for future farm managers
- ✓ Ensuring protection for small farmers
- ✓ Support for investment in agricultural machinery for producers and modernization of agro-food processing units
- ✓ Developing short supply chains
- ✓ Facilitating access to loans and guarantees
- ✓ Stimulating the cultivation of industrial crops (flax and hemp)
- ✓ Support for the fruit growing
- ✓ Support for investment in protected areas (greenhouses, solariums) for vegetable producers
- ✓ Support for breeding and breeding investment, stimulating the use of certified seed, genetic diversification
- ✓ Support animal welfare - pigs, poultry
- ✓ Support for branding / certification of agricultural products and their commercialization to international markets
- ✓ Support for construction and the modernization of the deposits
- ✓ Support for investment in crops protection through active influences in the atmosphere
- ✓ Review the level and the charging of food products system
- ✓ Adoption of modern practices for recovery of land, effective management of used water for irrigation
- ✓ Expanding organic agribusiness, with effect on the environment protection and value-added production
- ✓ Supporting renewable energy sources in agricultural production, including the use of animal waste for energy production on farms

- ✓ Investment in the construction, modernization and renovation of the rural infrastructure (roads, water and sanitation etc.)
- ✓ Supporting rural local community initiatives, promoting the concept of partnership for development
- ✓ Promoting agricultural vocational and technical education

Laws:

The Romanian legislation concerning horticulture and animal breeding is structured in both ways. Some aspects are regulated by specific legislation and other matters are treated in different laws, ordinances and regulations.

Title	Year	Publisher	Keywords
Law. 17 of sale and purchase of agricultural land located in the city limits	2014	State Gazette	land, arable, property
Law. 383 of beekeeping	2013	State Gazette	bees, honey, pollen
Law. 214 of organization, administration and operation of grasslands	2011	State Gazette	grasslands, operation
Law. 56 of access to national forest fund	2010	State Gazette	forests, wood, protection
Law. 283 of agriculture chambers, forestry and rural development	2010	State Gazette	consulting, organization
Law. 153 of general agricultural census in Romania	2008	State Gazette	property, land, livestock, farms
Law. 231 of investment stimulating in agriculture	2005	State Gazette	investment
Law. 205 of animals protection	2004	State Gazette	protection, welfare
Law. 312 (Republished) of vegetables production and exploitation	2003	State Gazette	vegetable, crops
Law. 348 (Republished) of fruit growing	2003	State Gazette	fruit, orchards
Law. 72 of livestock	2002	State Gazette	growth, protection, welfare
Law. 192 (Republished) of fisheries fund, fishery and aquaculture	2001	State Gazette	fish, fishery, aquaculture
Law. 18 (revised 2013) of land fund	1991	State Gazette	land
The Romanian commercial Law 31	1990	State Gazette	Commerce, Trade Register, types of companies

Entire legislative package applied in Romania can be found on:

<http://www.apia.org.ro/ro/directia-metodologie-monitorizare-raportare-si-relatii-institutionale/noua-politica-agricola-comuna-2014-2020>

<http://www.apia.org.ro/ro/legislatie/legislatie-europeana>,

<http://www.apia.org.ro/ro/legislatie/legislatie-nationala1386861017>

<http://www.apdrp.ro/>

<http://www.ansvsa.ro/>

<http://www.anarz.eu/AnarzAdministratorSite/public/Legislatie.aspx>

<http://www.domeniilestatului.ro/#>

<http://www.onvpv.ro/#>

Treaties, Agreements or Protocols:

- ✓ The Agreement on Agriculture (international Treaty of the World Trade Organization)
- ✓ International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture (IT PGRFA) also known as the International Seed Treaty
- ✓ The Romanian Accession Treaty to the European Union
- ✓ Commission Regulation (EC) No 2125/2005 of 22 December 2005 laying down transitory measures arising from the adoption of improved trade arrangements concerning the export of certain processed agricultural products to Romania
- ✓ Agreement in the form of an Exchange of Letters between the European Community and Romania concerning certain arrangements for live bovine animals
- ✓ Agreement in the form of an Exchange of Letters between the European Union and Australia pursuant to Article XXIV:6 and Article XXVIII of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) 1994 relating to the modification of concessions in the schedules of the Republic of Bulgaria and Romania in the course of their accession to the European Union
- ✓ 2009/852/EC: Commission Decision of 26 November 2009 on transitional measures under Regulations (EC) No 852/2004 and (EC) No 853/2004 of the European Parliament and of the Council as regard the processing of non-compliant raw milk in certain milk processing establishments in Romania and the structural requirements of such establishments (notified under document C (2009) 9083)
- ✓ 2011/289/EU: Council Decision of 12 May 2011 granting mutual assistance for Romania
- ✓ 2007/874/EC: Commission Decision of 18 December 2007 approving the national programme for the control of salmonella in breeding flocks of Gallus submitted by Romania (notified under document number C(2007) 6354)
- ✓ International Plant Protection Convention, signed in Rome on December 6, 1951
- ✓ Convention of 31 March 1977 on multilateral international specialization and mutual use of the black spotted cattle breeds genetic funds
- ✓ Agreement between Romania and the European Free Trade Association (EFTA) and bilateral agricultural arrangements referred to in the agreement, signed at Geneva on December 10, 1992
- ✓ United Nations Framework Convention on climate change, signed in Rio de Janeiro on 5 June 1992, at the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development
- ✓ International Dairy Agreement

- ✓ International Bovine Meat Agreement
- ✓ International Convention for the Protection of New Varieties of Plants of December 2, 1961 reviewed at Geneva on December 10, 1972, October 23, 1978 and March 19, 1991
- ✓ Convention on the elaboration of an European Pharmacopoeia (Strasbourg, July 22, 1989)
- ✓ Protocol to the Convention on the elaboration of an European Pharmacopoeia (Strasbourg)
- ✓ Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety to the Convention on Biological Diversity (Montreal)
- ✓ Additional Protocol on the rules applicable to trade in certain fish and fishery products between Romania and the European Community, to the European Agreement, establishing an association between Romania, on one hand, and the European Communities and their Member States, on the other hand and the European Communities and their Member States, signed in Brussels on February 1, 1993
- ✓ Convention on the European Forest Institute (Joensuu)
- ✓ European Convention for the protection of vertebrate animals used for experimental and other scientific purposes (Strasbourg, March 18, 1986) and the Protocol amending the Convention (Strasbourg, June 22, 1998)
- ✓ Treaty on European Union of February 7, 1992
- ✓ Protocol on the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity and landscape diversity, adopted and signed in Bucharest on June 19, 2008, at the Framework Convention on the Protection and Sustainable Development of the Carpathians, adopted in Kiev on May 22, 2003

Strategies and Plans:

Romania's Partnership Agreement for 2014-2020 is the national strategic document outlining the framework for the management of European Structural Funds and investments in Romania in the current 2014 – 2020 programming period. The agreement includes the arrangements to ensure alignment with the Union Strategy of Smart, Sustainable and Inclusive growth, as well as the Fund specific missions according to their Treaty-Based objectives, including economic, social and territorial cohesion. The document has been developed by an interagency working group under direct guidance of the Ministry of European Funds, in consultation with various institutions.

http://www.fonduri-ue.ro/res/filepicker_users/cd25a597fd-62/2014-2020/acord-parteneriat/Partnership_Agreement_2014RO16M8PA001_1_2_ro.pdf

The Partnership Agreement identifies the following priorities and challenges through Romania will implement the EU Policies:

- ✓ promoting competitiveness and local development in order to consolidate the sustainability of economic operators and to improve regional attractiveness;
- ✓ developing human capital by raising employment and the number of graduates in tertiary education, while providing solutions to severe social challenges and poverty reduction, especially in the disadvantaged or marginalized communities, or in the rural areas;
- ✓ developing of physical infrastructure, both in the ICT sector and in the transport sector, in order to increase accessibility of the Romania' regions and their attractiveness for investors;
- ✓ encouraging sustainable and efficient use of natural resources by promoting the energy efficiency,

the low-carbon economy, the environment protection and climate change adaptation;

- ✓ consolidating of a modern and professional public administration through a systemic reform, oriented towards solving structural governance.

National Rural Development Programme for the 2014-2020 period - official version 1 – 1st of July,2014

<http://www.madr.ro/ro/programare-2014-2020-pndr.html>

The new RDP is the leading strategic and programming document for agriculture and rural development; it has 15 funding measures and a total allocation of 9.85 billion euros.

The **main priorities** are:

- ✓ Upgrading and increasing of agricultural holdings viability by consolidating them, market-opening and processing of agricultural products.
- ✓ Encouraging rejuvenation of farmers' generations by supporting the setting up of young farmers.
- ✓ Developing of basic rural infrastructure as a precondition for attracting investment in rural areas, creating new jobs and thus, for rural development.
- ✓ Encouraging diversification of the rural economy by promoting the creation and development of SME's in rural non-agricultural sectors.
- ✓ Encouraging local development led into the community responsibility through the LEADER approach.

National Strategic Framework for Sustainable Development of the Agriculture and Food Sector and Rural Areas in the period 2014-2020-2030 – STRATEGIC NATIONAL RURAL FRAMEWORK

www.presidency.ro

It is a document developed by the Presidential Commission for Agricultural Development Public Policies in Romania.

The overall objective is to develop a vision and some strategic objectives for the period 2014 - 2020 relating to national public policy options.

The purpose of this document is to analyze the agricultural sector and to develop an indicative strategic framework for guiding the agriculture development, for substantiating the national policy options in the sector, according to the priorities identified, accompanied by concrete measures and actions possible to implement on long-term 2014-2020.

National Strategic Plan for Development of Rural Areas 2007-2013

National Strategic Plan for Romania was based on Council Regulation (EC) no. 1698/2005 of 20 September 2005 on support for rural development by the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development (EAFRD). National Strategic Plan **measures** take into account the Community Strategic Guidelines that refer to rural areas and contribute to reach an effective, contemporary and competitive sector for production of agricultural products, to apply sustainable agricultural practices, to use the natural and human resources of the rural areas and to ensure increased revenues for the rural population.

http://old.madr.ro/pages/dezvoltare_rurala/programul-national-strategic-update_3.11.2008.pdf

National Beekeeping Programme 2014-2016

Continues the policy of the National Beekeeping Programme 2011-2013.

Goals:

- supporting the prophylactic and anti varroasis activities, the physico-chemical analyzes for honey properties;
- the acquisition of biological material for the restoration of bee census that favours apiculture products of the highest quality in apiaries;
- printing and multiplying of good guide beekeeping practices and the purchase of bee census;
- administrative and geographical inventory of all honey bee massive on the Romanian territory;
- analysing of the county geographical aspects and road infrastructure.

<http://www.aca.org.ro/programe-de-finantare/pna-20142016.html>

<http://www.madr.ro/ro/programul-national-apicol.html>

Agricultural and Food Sector Development Strategy in the medium and long horizon 2020-2030 is in draft in this moment.

Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development (MARD)'s priority are to develop and implement agro-food policies appropriate for the Romanian citizens as consumers, farmers and processors, to support increased competitiveness and sustainable agro-food in rural areas, to support the sustainable development of rural areas in terms of food safety and environment protection.

The Strategy:

- aiming smart and sustainable capitalization of the agro-food potential and rural development;
- is a visionary document which supports the progress of agriculture and rural development in Romania;
- underlying the new European Financial programming period 2014-2020 as a commitment of Romania to the EU in order to achieve CAP.

The Strategy is a strategic document that should lead to an important change of the entire national economy, with three steps:

Horizon 2013: Incorporating the principles and practices of sustainable development according to EU requirements in all programs and policies of Romania.

Horizon 2020: Reaching the current average level (with reference to the figures of 2006) of EU-27 according to basic indicators of sustainable development.

Horizon 2030: Romania gets significantly close to the average in that year of EU countries in terms of sustainable development indicators.

<http://www.madr.ro/ro/proiecte-de-acte-normative/1291-proiect-1-25-06-2014.html>

On <http://www.madr.ro/>, official site of the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development, there are some public policies implemented through projects. The most significant are:

Strategies for harnessing the agro-food potential of Romania - SMIS Cod 39078 - project co-financed by the European Social Fund, Administrative Capacity Development Operational Programme 2007-2013

Overall objective: improving the administrative capacity of MARD to manage public policies cycle specific to the agro-food.

Purpose: to develop a package of public policies documents specific of the MARD portfolio, to develop tools, methods and actions for their implementation, monitoring and evaluation; to strength MARD capacity to develop, implement, monitor and evaluate public policies.

Strategic Planning for Agricultural Administration - SMIS Code 39173 - Project co-financed by the European Social Fund through the Administrative Capacity Development Operational Programme 2007-2013

Overall objective: developing MARD administrative capacity in the strategic management domain.

Purpose: to improve the MARD capacity to develop, implement, monitor and evaluate sustainable strategic planning activities.

Implementing the Internal Management System by the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development and its subordinated structures - SMIS Code 39182 - Project co-financed by the European Social Fund through Administrative Capacity Development Operational Programme 2007-2013

Overall objective: increasing efficiency and effectiveness of operational management in the MARD and subordinated structures by developing and implementing an internal management system.

Purpose: to create and implement by the MARD and its subordinated structures of working tools set for improving management function and developing personnel skills to raise the quality of provided services.

Creating and implementing an Integrated Financial Management Information System (FMIS) in the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development - SMIS Code 39178 - Project co-financed by the European Social Fund through Administrative Capacity Development Operational Programme 2007-2013

Overall objective: strengthening the capacity of MARD to ensure effective management of budget funds by the permanent control of costs, facilitating amounts prioritization for implementation of sector policies; supporting the effective and proper use of budgetary resources.

Purpose: to develop an integrated information platform to provide the necessary information about the resources use performances and responsibilities and to serve as a tool for obtaining feedback, in order to ensure an effective planning of budgetary allocations.

The local and county authorities from the South East Development Region develop and maintain a set of documents that comprise actions and measures for agriculture and rural development. On a wider purpose is **The regional development plan 2014-2020**, a working version that subsequently improves with new statistical data and relevant information. By a local interest there are **The County Development Strategies** made with the involvement of local actors in the territorial harmonious development.

http://www.adrse.ro/DezvoltareRegionala/PDR_2014-2020.aspx

<http://www.adrse.ro/DezvoltareRegionala/StrategiiJudetene.aspx>

Taxes:

Romanian tariffs and fees to be paid are regulated by the Law 571/2003 corroborated with GD 44/2004 regarding **The Fiscal Code**, with implementing rules, last amended and supplemented in 2014.

https://static.anaf.ro/static/10/Anaf/Legislatie_R/Cod_fiscal_norme_2014.htm

The fiscal year is the calendar year.

The most important taxes are:

Profit tax

It is paid by Romanian legal persons, foreign legal persons that operate through a / multiple permanent establishments in Romania (available since July 1, 2013), foreign legal entities and non-resident individuals active that operates in Romania in an association with or without legal personality. **Share of profit tax applicable to the taxable profit is 16%.**

https://static.anaf.ro/static/10/Anaf/Legislatie_R/Cod_fiscal_norme_2014.htm#doi

Income tax

The tax share is 16% and applies to taxable income corresponding to each source in each category to determine the tax on income from independent activities; wages; rental and leasing; investment; pensions; agricultural activities, forestry and fisheries; awards; other sources.

https://static.anaf.ro/static/10/Anaf/Legislatie_R/Cod_fiscal_norme_2014.htm#_Toc304299706

Income from agriculture activities, forestry and fisheries has allocated a separate chapter in the Tax Code.

https://static.anaf.ro/static/10/Anaf/Legislatie_R/Cod_fiscal_norme_2014.htm

Micro-enterprises' income tax

The tax rate is 3%, but if during a taxable year a micro-enterprise' incomes are greater than 65,000 euros or share revenues from consulting and management in the total income is over 20%, it will pay profit tax.

https://static.anaf.ro/static/10/Anaf/Legislatie_R/Cod_fiscal_norme_2014.htm#_Toc304299811

Representative tax

It is paid by any foreign entity which has an authorized to operate representative in Romania, according to the law.

For a fiscal year this tax is equal of EUR 4,000 equivalent in RON, BNR exchange rate.

https://static.anaf.ro/static/10/Anaf/Legislatie_R/Cod_fiscal_norme_2014.htm#_Toc304299838

Value Added Tax

It applies to deliveries of goods, services, exchange of goods or services, intra-community acquisitions of goods, import of goods. **The standard rate is 24%.**

The reduced rate of 9% applies to the following products:

- CAEN code / CPSA 1071: all kinds of bread and bread specialties enclosed in the bakery group;
- CAEN code / CPSA 1061: white wheat flour, milled wheat flour, black wheat flour and rye flour;
- CN code 1001 99 00: triticum spelta, common wheat and meslin;
- CN code 1002 90 00: rye.

These products with the reduced VAT rate of 9% are listed in Annex I to Council Regulation (EEC) no. 2658/87, July 23, 1987 on the Tariff and Statistical Nomenclature and on the Common Customs Tariff, amended by Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) no. 927/2012 on October 9, 2012.

https://static.anaf.ro/static/10/Anaf/Legislatie_R/Cod_fiscal_norme_2014.htm#sase

Excise duty on fuel

For agriculture used diesel is applied a reduced rate. Level and conditions of reduced excise duty are established by a Government Decision, at the proposal of the Ministry of Finance. The rate of reduced excise duty on diesel used to perform mechanical work in agriculture, in vegetable, livestock and land reclamation sectors is provided in art. 8 par. (2) a) and b), table B of Appendix. 1 of Directive 2003/96/EC of 27 October 2003 on restructuring the Community framework for the taxation of energy products and electricity.

The reduction in excise duties is performed by the repayment of amounts representing the difference between the standard rate of excise duty and the excise differential provided in par. (6) to the operators licensed in the European Union. The conditions, procedure and terms of repayment are established by Government Decision.

The harmonized excise taxes are special taxes applied directly or indirectly on the consumption of the following products:

a) alcohol and alcoholic beverages containing: different types of wine, intermediate products and ethyl alcohol (plum brandy and fruit brandies). There are exempt from excise duty: wine, plum brandy and fruit brandies produced by an individual and consumed by him and his family members, unless there are not sold.

https://static.anaf.ro/static/10/Anaf/Legislatie_R/Cod_fiscal_norme_2014.htm#Toc304299993

b) processed tobacco; it is equal with the sum of the specific duty and ad valorem duty.

https://static.anaf.ro/static/10/Anaf/Legislatie_R/Cod_fiscal_norme_2014.htm#Toc304299993

c) energy products and electricity.

Warehousing system excise

For alcoholic beverages and tobacco products withdrawn from the market, if their condition or age makes them unfit for consumption or if the conditions of trade are not meet, duty paid may be refunded as provided in norms.

For excise goods which have been released for consumption in Romania and subsequently exported, the person who has made export has the right to refund the excise duty, as provided in norms.

https://static.anaf.ro/static/10/Anaf/Legislatie_R/Cod_fiscal_norme_2014.htm#sapte

Local taxes

These are as follows: tax on buildings; tax on land; tax on vehicles; fee for the issuance of certificates, permits and licenses etc.

https://static.anaf.ro/static/10/Anaf/Legislatie_R/Cod_fiscal_norme_2014.htm#_Toc304300149

Construction tax

https://static.anaf.ro/static/10/Anaf/Legislatie_R/Cod_fiscal_norme_2014.htm#a296e33

Mandatory social contributions are paid by the individuals who obtain taxable independent income from agricultural activities, forestry, fishery, associations without legal personality, as well as lease of goods.

https://static.anaf.ro/static/10/Anaf/Legislatie_R/Cod_fiscal_norme_2014.htm#noua_e2

Taxes on interest, dividends, fees and royalties

https://static.anaf.ro/static/10/Anaf/Legislatie_R/Cod_fiscal_norme_2014.htm#_Toc304299829

Romanian Fiscal Code clearly defines taxable and non-taxable income from agricultural, forestry and fishery, establishes annual income from agricultural activities based on income norms and also the calculation and payment of tax on income from agricultural activities.

https://static.anaf.ro/static/10/Anaf/Legislatie_R/Cod_fiscal_norme_2014.htm

Register your business:

Any trade commercial enterprise or entity in order to be registered in Romania and perform legal activities should respect the stipulation of Romanian Commercial Law. The procedure for setting up a company in Romania has changed several times in the past 10 years.

Until the time of obtaining the registration certificate issued by the Trade Register Office, entrepreneurs must comply with the legislation and the necessary steps are published on the website of this institution: www.onrc.ro

Other useful information are published by the Minister of Finance on <http://www.mfinante.ro/pjuridice.html?pagina=domenii>

Doing business in Romania. Useful links

Information about the conditions in which the foreign investors can perform activities in Romania, can be found on the official portals of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs www.mae.ro, Ministry of Finance www.mfinante.ro, Ministry of Economy www.minind.ro, Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development www.madr.ro, National Trade Register Office www.onrc.ro, The chamber of Commerce and Industry of Romania www.ccir.ro, Ministry of European Funds www.fonduri-ue.ro, Romanian Centre for Trade and Investment <http://www.portaldecomert.ro/ContactIntern-Centrul-Roman-Promovarea-Comertului-Investitii-27.htm>, Department for SME, Business Environment and Tourism <http://www.imm.gov.ro/>.

Link of the Point of contact for the Services Directive

<http://www.edirect.e-guvernare.ro/PISEGWeb/PISEGPortal.portal>

Property Ownership by Foreigners

Getting information is possible from the following sources:

- www.snia.ro

The National Business Information System of the Chambers of Commerce and Industry of Romania is an electronic platform which contains information on Romanian companies, offers and demands for products, services and cooperation of Romanian and foreign companies, international auctions, investment projects, national and international events. To access the modules of the National Business Information System is necessary to register as a user of NBIS.

- <http://www.wall-street.ro/tag/investitori-straini-in-romania.html>

Wall-Street for the new economy, site for news, analysis and interviews

- <http://www.business24.ro>, site for news, analysis and interviews

- http://www.dreptonline.ro/legislatie/legea_dreptului_straini_terenuri.php containing Law no 312/2005 on acquiring private ownership of land by foreign citizens and stateless persons and foreign legal persons

- <http://www.fic.ro/press/press.php?pag=22>

Foreign Investors Council. FIC's member companies believe that the dialogue between policy makers and the foreign investment community lies at the very heart of successfully improving the climate for investment while stimulating the development of the Romanian economy.

The main fees for the registration of a Limited company are:

Since 2012, operations of the Commercial Register are charged with a single tariff, depending on the type of request. Under the new regulations is paid a single price for setting up a company or freelancers. In addition, the new system allows online payment of fees and charges.

Application for registration in the commercial register - corporate 250 lei/ 56 EUR

Application for registration in the commercial register – freelancers 90 lei/ 20 EUR

Simple mentions request – 45 lei/ 10 EUR

Complex mentions request – 220 lei/ 50 EUR

Rest of taxes can be found on:

<http://codfiscal.net/26056/hg-9022012-taxe-si-tarifele-pentru-operatiunile-efectuate-de-oficiile-registrului-comertului>

<https://portal.onrc.ro/ONRCPortalWeb/ONRCPortal.portal>

Other useful links

▶ portal.onrc.ro

▶ anaf.ro

- | | |
|--|--|
| ▶ bpi.ro | ▶ monitoruloficial.ro |
| ▶ portal.just.ro | ▶ imm.gov.ro |
| ▶ just.ro | ▶ unbr.ro |
| ▶ e-justice.europa.eu | ▶ uniuneanotarilor.ro |
| ▶ gov.ro | ▶ unpir.ro |

Regulations:

National Economy Activities Classification CAEN sets of the agriculture, forestry, fishing activities

CAEN Rev. 2 is implemented nationwide starting with January 1, 2008, according to Order no. 337/2007 of the National Institute of Statistics President, on updating the activities of the national economy - CAEN, published in State Gazette no. 293 of May 03, 2007.

Updated CAEN Rev. 2 was performed in compliance with European Commission Regulation no. 1893/2006 amending Council Regulation of the European Economic Community no. 3037/90 on the Activities Nomenclature in the European Community - NACE Rev. 2.

International Standard Classification of Occupations - ISCO, version 88 (COM) of the European Union underlying the COR structure (Classification of Occupations in Romania), but is not fully met.

Used legislation

- ✓ Order of MMFSPV 190/2014; Order 76/2014 INS COR amending
- ✓ GD 1161/2013 on amending and supplementing Government Decision no. 1352/2010 on the approval of the Classification of Occupations in Romania - the level of the base, according to the International Standard Classification of Occupations - ISCO 08 (available since February 22, 2014)
- ✓ MMFSPV Order 2176/2013; Order 931/2013 INS COR amending
- ✓ MMFSPV Order 150/2013; Order 132/2013 INS COR amending
- ✓ MMFPS Order 177/2012; Order 81/2012 INS COR amending, published in State Gazette no. 128 of February 22, 2012
- ✓ ANNEX of MMFPS Order no. 1832/2011 on the approval of COR - level of occupation (six characters), published in the State Gazette no. 561 of August 08, 2011

Permits & Licenses:

According to Government Emergency Ordinance no. 27/2003 regarding the approval procedure, <http://www.minind.ro/dma/listaaptacit.pdf> may be issued:

Sanitary authorization

Legal entities certificate of its intention to conduct land reclamation in the agricultural land

Authorization to grub up vines

Authorization for the establishment of vines plantations

Sanitary-veterinary certificate

Certificate of variety registration

Storage license for grain and oilseed

Storage certificate for grain and oilseed

Notice for land reclamation organizations setting

Authorization to work with classified material

Operating license for hunting funds management

Authorization for keeping wild animals in captivity

Authorization for the establishment and operation of venison breeding

Authorization for the establishment and functioning of the hunting complexes

Authorization for wildlife naturalization, venison processing and other hunting products for trading or services purposes

Assigning of the hunting funds rights

Certification/recertification of operators in logging activities

Certificate of legal and individual persons carrying out the design and/or performing work in the forestry land reclamation

Authorization for manufacturers of forest reproductive material

Authorization of the forest districts established as their own

Authorization to practice for the forestry personnel

Certificate of trading right for wines with designation of origin

Decision for the right to produce wines with controlled denomination of origin

Notice of seeds and seedlings import

Authorization for the seeds and seedlings production, processing or marketing

Commercial authorization for plant protection products

Authorization for the use of groups I and II toxicity plant protection products

Authorization for the services provision with plant protection products

Certificate of entitlement to import samples of plant protection products

Authorization for specialized units to develop forest management plans

Plant passport

Certificate of registration for producers, dispatch centres, collective warehouses and importers of certain plants and products

For the European Union livestock

Intra-community trade authorization request

Non-animal food safety register request

Vehicles authorization

Retail recording

Sanitary-veterinary request authorization

Direct sale request register

Basically notice request

Intra-community transport notification

Intra-community trade register request - import

Pet shop unit register request

Own responsibility statement for achieved production

Request of notice issue

For livestock relations with countries outside the European Union

Health veterinary certificate for bovine growth exported in Macedonia, Serbia, Lebanon

Health veterinary certificate for sheep cutting exported in Jordan

Health veterinary certificate for poultry (day old chickens) exported in Mexico

Health veterinary certificate for rabbits exported in Morocco

Health veterinary certificate for live pigs cutting exported in the Republic of Serbia

Health certificate of the cattle species for breeding / fattening / slaughtering - Republic of Albania

Health certificate of sheep-goat species for breeding / fattening - Republic of Albania

Health certificate for sheep-goat species for slaughtering - Albania

Health certificate for pigs species for breeding / fattening - Albania

Health certificate for domestic pigs species for slaughtering - Republic of Albania

Health certificate for poultry reproduction or production - Republic of Albania

Copyright & Intellectual property:

Romania is a founding member of **the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO)** and always cooperates with it, based on the Program on Cooperation between the Romanian Government and WIPO. In March 2002 took effect the **WIPO Copyright Treaty (WCT)** and in May 2002 the **WIPO Performance and Phonograms Treaty (WPPT)**, which has been ratified by 30 countries in the UN framework.

Romania - member since 1927 - joined the Berne Convention revised by Law no. 77/1998 published in

State Gazette 166/28 April 1998.

Romania has signed numerous agreements and multilateral treaties on the protection of intellectual property rights.

Agreements and multilateral treaties on patents concluded by Romania

<http://www.osim.ro/legis/legislatie/brevet/lgbrcont.htm>

Agreement Establishing the World Trade Organization and the intellectual property issues related to trade (TRIPs)

<http://www.wipo.int/wipolex/en/details.jsp?id=4064>

The following areas are covered by national legislation on industrial property: patents (valid for 20 years); trademarks and geographical indicators; designs and models; topographies of semiconductor products; supplementary protection certificates (for medicines and plant protection products); utility models; new varieties of plants.

http://europa.eu/youreurope/business/start-grow/intellectual-property-rights/index_ro.htm#romania_ro_protecting-intellectual-property

The industrial property rights protection is regulated mainly by the following acts, which are on:

<http://www.osim.ro/legis/legislatie/brevet/lgbrcont.htm>

<http://www.osim.ro/legis/legislatie/soiuri/lg255rep.pdf>

- ✓ Law 64 of October 11, 1991 (republished) on patents, published in State Gazette no. 541 of August 8, 2007
- ✓ GD 547 approving the implementing of Law 64/1991
- ✓ Law 83/2014 on service inventions, published in the State Gazette, Part I, no. 471/2014
- ✓ Government Ordinance no. 41/1998 (republished) on charges in the protection of industrial property and their usage, published in State Gazette no. 959 of November 29, 2006
- ✓ Annex 1 Corrigendum to the Ordinance 41/1998
- ✓ Law 611 of November 13, 2002 regarding Romania's accession to the European Patent Convention, adopted in Munich on October 5, 1973, and its revision act, adopted in Munich on November 29, 2000
- ✓ Budapest Treaty on the International Recognition of the Microorganisms Deposit signed on April 28, 1977 and amended on September 26, 1980 at which Romania acceded by Law 75/1999 published in State Gazette no. 115 / March 16, 2000
- ✓ Instructions on documentary research reports performance
- ✓ Order no. 112 / November 21, 2008 approving the Instructions on electronically patent applications published in the State Gazette no. 864 of December 22, 2001
- ✓ Law 84/1998 on trademarks and geographical indications
- ✓ Law 129/1992 on the protection of industrial designs and models
- ✓ Law 255/1998 on the protection of new varieties of plants

In Romania, Law 8/1996 establishes the legal framework on copyright and related rights. This law is in force, now being modified and enlarged by the following acts:

- ✓ Law 285 of June 23, 2004
- ✓ Emergency Ordinance 123 of September 1, 2005.

Romanian specialized organizations in providing services for the intellectual property domain

Romanian Office for Copyright (ORDA)

<http://www.orda.ro/default.aspx?pagina=1>

It was established by Law 8/1996, art. 137 and operates in the field of intellectual property, copyright and related rights matters. It works as a specialized body of the central public administration subordinated to the Government, with legal personality, being the unique regulator. It ensures evidence in national registries, surveillance, licensing, arbitration and technical-scientific cooperation in the field of copyright and related rights.

It is the Romanian representative in dealing with similar professional organizations and relevant international organizations.

European Copyright Office

<http://www.eucopyright.com/ro>

It makes international registration and archives copyright applications. A deposit of copyright demonstrates the intellectual property rights in case of any claims or disputes.

Copyright Romanian Services

www.ecopyright.ro

Based on the Law 451 of November 1, 2004 and the Decision 896 of November 8, 2008, is an institution authorized by the National Authority for Management and Regulation in Communications of Romania to prove the existence at one time of a work protected by copyright.

State Office for Inventions and Trademarks

www.osim.ro

It is the organization that provides the following services: general information, services in the field of inventions, trade mark, designs and models, publishing and printing, library, pre-diagnosis, support, "Ideas envelope" service.

Besides OSIM operates another organization, most of them private, in order to ensure compliance of the intellectual property rights.

Working Group on Intellectual Property Issues is organized as a public-private partnership, consisting of state institutions and private organizations whose common goal is to combat piracy and counterfeiting.

www.grupdi.ro

National Chamber of Industrial Property Counsellors in Romania (CNCPIR) is a non-governmental professional organization whose mission is to regulate this profession.

www.patent-chamber.ro

Chamber of Commerce and Industry provides information on obtaining the protection titles of industrial property.

www.ccir.ro

SOLVIT is a problem-solving network in which EU Member States work together to solve, without legal

proceedings, problems caused by the misapplication of internal market law by public authorities. In each member state of the European Union there is a SOLVIT centre that provides these services for free. SOLVIT provides fast and practical support for entrepreneurs who face difficulties when operating abroad.

2. National financial supports for entrepreneurs initiatives

Key projects:

Programs and projects for entrepreneurs - Ministry of Economy- Department for small and medium enterprises, business environment and tourism- Agency for the Projects implementation

<http://www.aippimm.ro/>

National Rural Development Programme <http://www.eufinantare.info/agricultura.html>

Competitiveness Operational Programme http://www.fonduri-ue.ro/res/filepicker_users/cd25a597fd-62/2014-2020/po/Prezentare.POC.2014-2020.pdf

Fisheries Operational Programme <http://www.ampeste.ro/>

Available funding (Local & International funds):

Once integrated into the European Union, Romania follows the principles of the **Common Agricultural Policy (CAP)**, which is a set of rules and measures related mainly to increase productivity, to ensure a fair standard of living for the agricultural population, to stabilize markets, to guarantee the security of supply, to ensure consumer supplies at reasonable prices. According to the Council Regulation no. 1290/2005 on the financing of the CAP, they have created two European funds for agriculture:

- **EAFRD - European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development** - to fund rural development programs.
- **EAGF - European Agricultural Guarantee Fund** - to fund marketing measures.

European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development (EAFRD) is accessed since March 2008 after the approval of the National Rural Development Programme (RDP).

Based on Council Regulation (EC) no. 1698/2005 on support for the rural development by the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development (EAFRD) is was created the **National Strategic Plan for Romania**, which is the basis for the implementation of the National Rural Development Programme, for the period 2007-2013.

National Rural Development Programme 2007-2013 (RDP), and later, RDP 2014 - 2020, details how specific investments are financed from European funds for agriculture and rural development.

Through **The National Strategic Plan 2007-2013** and then through RDP were outlined four directions (priority axes) for EAFRD funding.

Axis I - Increasing competitiveness of agriculture and forestry

Axis II - Improving the environment and the countryside

Axis III - Improving the quality of life in rural areas and diversification of the rural economy

Axis IV - LEADER - takes into account implementation of local development strategies to improve administrative governance in rural areas.

National Rural Development Programme 2014-2020 <http://www.eufinantare.info/agricultura.html> will pursue the following strategic priorities: structural change and competitiveness of the agro-food sector; natural resource management; balanced local rural development in accordance with the

Partnership Agreement.

It will have 14 rural development measures and 9.363 billion euros (8.015 billion - EAFRD and 1.347 billion - national contribution).

It should be noted: Axis I - Increasing competitiveness of agriculture and forestry by **Measure 121 - Modernization of agricultural exploitation**.

The institution responsible for implementing RDP is **the Rural Investment Funding Agency (AFIR)** established by the Government Emergency Ordinance no. 41 of 18 June 2014, by reorganizing the Paying Agency for Rural Development and Fisheries (APDRP) <http://afir.info>

European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development (EAGF) finances the following expenses:

- refunds for agricultural products exported to third countries;
- intervention measures to regulate agricultural markets;
- direct payments to farmers in the context of the common agricultural policy;
- some information actions and promotion of the agricultural products on the internal Community market and in third countries carried out by the Member States;
- expenses related to sugar industry restructuring measures under Regulation (EC) no. 320/2006 Council;
- promoting program to fruit consumption in schools.

EAGF finances on a centralized basis the following expenses:

- Community financial contribution to specific veterinary measures, veterinary inspection measures, inspection measures for food and feed, eradication programs and animals disease control and phytosanitary measures;
- promotion agricultural products either directly by the Commission or by international organizations;
- measures taken in accordance with Community law to ensure the conservation, characterization, collection and utilization of genetic resources in agriculture;
- founding and supporting accounting informatics' systems for agriculture;
- agricultural survey systems;
- expenses relating to fisheries markets.

The institution responsible with the implementation of the support measures financed by EAGF is the **Agency for Payments and Intervention in Agriculture (APIA)** www.apia.org.ro

Other funds and programs that may finance entrepreneurs and institutions from agriculture and rural development are:

European Fisheries Fund (EFF) finances the fishing industry and coastal communities to help them to adapt to changing conditions and to strengthen their economic and environmental sustainability.

Fisheries Operational Programme 2014-2020 <http://www.madr.ro/ro/programare-2014-2020-pop.html>, <http://www.ampeste.ro/>

European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) designed to reduce the difference between the levels of the European regions development and recover the gap of the least favored regions. The ERDF support is to achieve the "Convergence", "Regional competitiveness and employment" and "European territorial cooperation" objectives of cohesion policy.

Competitiveness Operational Programme 2014-2020 http://www.fonduri-ue.ro/res/filepicker_users/cd25a597fd-62/2014-2020/po/Prezentare.POC.2014-2020.pdf

Regional Operational Programme 2014-2020 <http://www.inforegio.ro/ro/>

Human Capital Operational Programme 2014-2020, the successor of the Operational Programme Human Resources Development 2007-2013 <http://eufinantare.info/resurse-umane.html>

Grants:

<http://www.eufinantare.info/agricultura.html>

www.apdrp.ro

www.apia.org.ro

<http://eufinantare.info/ghid-fonduri/societati-comerciale.html>

<http://eufinantare.info/ghid-fonduri/apl.html>

<http://eufinantare.info/ghid-fonduri/universitati.html>

Contributions:

In addition to EU funding is required **the national contribution**. This can be covered from two directions: **the state budget** and **the budget of the beneficiary companies**. The proportions are different on categories and types of funded projects.

The annual state budget law applies dispositions relating to projects funded by external non-reimbursable grants, for the next period of the EU budget appointment, 2014-2020. In this way it covers the national contribution to various programs and projects.

Another category are **Programs to support SMEs with funding from the state budget**
<http://programe2014.aippimm.ro>:

- Program to stimulate setting up and development of micro enterprises by young entrepreneurs
- Multiannual national Programme to support arts and crafts
- Program for the development and modernization of the business of selling products and market services
- Program for developing the entrepreneurial skills among young people and facilitating their access to START finance.
- Program for developing entrepreneurship among women managers in the SME sector.

Companies contribute to funding from two sources: their own funds or borrowed funds (loans, leasing).

Subsidies:

Subsidies are granted as direct payments per hectare managed by the Integrated Administration and Control System (IACS) and as market measures for the implementation of trade mechanisms under the Common Agricultural Policy (CAP).

The responsible institution is the **Agency for Payments and Intervention in Agriculture (APIA)**
www.apia.org.ro

- Support measures financed by the European Agricultural Guarantee Fund (EAGF)

- ✓ Specific aid to producers of milk and beef in disadvantaged areas
- ✓ Specific aid to producers of milk and meat of sheep / goats in disadvantaged areas
- ✓ Specific aid for improving the quality of agricultural products from organic farming sector
- ✓ National and EU legislation

- Support measures financed by the national budget

- ✓ Agricultural Life Annuity
- ✓ Complementary national direct payments in the livestock sector - cattle

- ✓ Complementary national direct payments in the livestock sector - sheep / goats
- ✓ State aid for achieving voluntary commitments for the poultry welfare
- ✓ State aid for achieving voluntary commitments for the pigs welfare and protection
- ✓ State aid for diesel used in agriculture
- ✓ State aid livestock farmers, in order to collect animal cadavers
- ✓ De minimis aid for the purchase of milk cooling tanks

- Support measures for foreign trade

- ✓ Goat and Sheep meat
- ✓ Poultry
- ✓ Pork
- ✓ Beef
- ✓ Cereals
- ✓ Fruit and Vegetables
- ✓ Milk and milk products
- ✓ Non - Annex I
- ✓ Rice
- ✓ Export refunds
- ✓ Olive oil and olives
- ✓ Sugar

- Support measures to promote agricultural and organic production

- ✓ Promoting wines in the National Support Program
- ✓ Promoting agricultural and organic products

- Market support measures

- ✓ Food aids
- ✓ Beekeeping
- ✓ Meat
- ✓ School Fruit Scheme
- ✓ Cereals
- ✓ User Guide
- ✓ Milk
- ✓ School Milk Scheme
- ✓ Vegetables and fruit
- ✓ Viti - Wine
- ✓ Sugar

- Support measures and IACS

- ✓ information for farmers
- ✓ delegated measures from the RDP
- ✓ Integrated Administration and Control System (IACS) in Romania

Wages subsidies:

De minimis aid scheme "subsidized employment" in 2014 <http://www.fonduri-ue.ro/posdru/images/doc2014/minimis2.1.pdf>, <http://www.aippimm.ro>

Hiring current graduates (cf. article 80 of Law no. 76/2002) <http://www.anofm.ro/subventionarea-locurilor-de-munca-actualizat-la-14-04-2011>

Hiring unemployed people aged over 45 and unemployed who are single parents of single parent

families (cf. art. 85 of Law no. 76/2002) <http://www.anofm.ro/subventionarea-locurilor-de-munca-actualizat-la-14-04-2011>

Hiring the unemployed who have three years until retirement (cf. Article. Paragraph 85. (5) of Law no. 76/2002) <http://www.anofm.ro/subventionarea-locurilor-de-munca-actualizat-la-14-04-2011>

Financial Assistance:

Credits for employers to on favorable terms

<http://www.anofm.ro/subventionarea-locurilor-de-munca-actualizat-la-14-04-2011>

Financing agriculture may also be provided by bank loans or leasing.

Bank loans: <http://www.finantariagricole.ro/finantari/credite-bancare/>

Loans Types:

- Credit to finance dairy farms
- APIA Credit
- Revolving medium term limit for working capital
- Credit for agricultural machinery and equipment purchase
- Credit for farmland purchase
- Credit for working capital based on scoring
- Investment Credit for storages and agricultural production
- APIA Credit for discounting

Leasing <http://www.finantariagricole.ro/finantari/credite-bancare/>

- Sale & Lease Back
- Interactive Leasing

Loan guarantees:

Guaranteeing loans is regulated by the banking system.

ProCredit Bank is one of the banks that offer agricultural loans for any purpose secured from the Rural Credit Guarantee Fund. <http://www.procreditbank.ro/ro/agricultori/credite/fondul-national-de-garantare-a-creditului-rural>

AgroFlexibil – Rural Credit Guarantee Fund

AgroInvest – Rural Credit Guarantee Fund

Publications:

http://portal.apdrp.ro/informatii_generale_pndr_dezvoltare_rurala_feadr

<http://www.agroinfo.ro/>

<http://www.agri-news.ro/>

<http://www.mesagerul.ro/2011/05/27/informatii-pentru-agricultori-de-la-bruxelles>

<http://www.wall-street.ro/tag/agricultori+terenuri-agricole.html>

Supporting institutions:

The Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development www.madr.ro is the central public authority responsible for enforcing the policies and programs of the Romanian Government, the national strategy in the agricultural sector (field crops, organic agriculture, animal breeding), food production,

rural development, fisheries and aquaculture, land reclamation, and related areas: phytosanitary, specialized scientific research, conservation and sustainable management of soil and plant and animal genetic resources.

The Ministry is responsible for the adaptation of the agricultural sector in compliance with the European and international standards. Other attributions relate to the improvement of the production competitiveness and enhancing the export capacity of the Romanian agriculture under strict standards of environmental protection, food safety and uniform control of the food chain and welfare of animals.

Agency for Payments and Intervention in Agriculture (APIA) www.apia.org.ro is subordinated to the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development according to the Law 1/2004 with subsequent amendments.

Since January 1, 2007, APIA implements support measures financed by the European Agricultural Guarantee Fund (EAGF).

Subsidies are granted as direct payments per hectare managed by the Integrated Administration and Control System (IACS) and as market measures for the implementation of trade mechanisms under the Common Agricultural Policy (CAP). In this way, the Agency for Payments and Intervention in Agriculture manages the export-import certificates and guarantees for the import and export of agricultural products system, develops and implements the procedures for the implementation of agricultural products intervention system.

Agency for Rural Investments Funding (AFIR) <http://afir.info/> was established by the Government Emergency Ordinance no. 41 of 18 June 2014, by reorganizing the Paying Agency for Rural Development and Fisheries (APDRP).

The Agency took over the APDRP heritage, the duties arising from SAPARD monitoring function and also duties of the technical implementation, payment and monitoring for the National Rural Development Programme 2007-2013. Moreover, AFIR will follow the accreditation criteria throughout the period for which the European Commission decided to award it the assistance management.

In accordance with the other investment components are financed both economic diversification activities, tourism, conservation of natural, cultural and architectural heritage and renovation of rural villages.

Another priority is funding LEADER program which aims to encourage the innovation in agriculture and forestry, to use the natural and cultural resources in a rational way and to improve the quality of life in rural areas.

Pork Producers Association from Romania (APCPR) (former Romanian Pork Meat Employers) <http://www.apcporc.ro/prezentare-apcpr> It represents the professional organization of pigs breeders in Romania. APCPR is a Romanian legal entity of private law, independent, non-profit, apolitical. APCPR currently comprises over 100 members engaged in pig breeding, slaughter and pork processing, service providers for pork chain from Romania and educational/research institutions. The organization was founded in 1991 by a group of 37 pig breeding companies, aiming to support the production and economic efficiency of the members' activity.

Union of Poultry Breeders from Romania (UPCPR) <http://www.avicultura.ro/> is an association of professional, non-profit, non-governmental, autonomous, legal personality, built on the basis of the specific activity of the poultry industry.

Founded in 1993 with the purpose of achieving organizational unity of poultry in Romania, UCPR acts as a liaison between businesses operating in the field of poultry farming.

Romanian Meat Association (RMA) <http://www.rma.ro/hrm/0.php> is the professional organization representing the interests of the meat industry.

RMA was formed in 1999 by the union of ROCARNE (1993) and ASIC (1995) with 50 companies members that achieved more than 60% of the national production of meat.

Beekeepers Association from Romania (ACAR) <http://www.aca.org.ro/index.html> is a beekeepers

professional organization, nongovernmental, autonomous and apolitical, being established in 1958 for an indefinite term, sentence updated in 2006.

The Beekeepers Association from Romania is the largest national association, its structure covering the entire country, through the county branches and "APICOLA" stores, units located in the country major cities. The Beekeepers Association from Romania aims to provide the organizational framework and the conditions that facilitate nationwide development of professional and amateur beekeeping

National Vine and Wine Employers (PNVV) <http://www.pnvv.ro/eng/> is an institution which identify and promote systematic and uniform specific professional interests of viticulture and wine-producing industry in Romania; supports and defends the interests of its members in relations with public authorities, trade unions and other legal and individual person regarding its activity object and purpose, both nationally and internationally.

Romanian Dairy Industry Association (APRIL) <http://www.april.org.ro/> is the only nationally representative association. The main objective of the Association is the development of professional, technical and economic activities in the common interest of all members.

The Association oversees the dairy industry, provides specific promoting trade policies, advocates for combating unfair competition and defends the specific interests of sector members in discussions with regulators.

Romanian Association of Breeders, Producers and Traders of Seeds and Propagating Material (AMSEM) <http://www.amsem.ro/defahome.aspx> is an inter-professional, nongovernmental, non-profit and public utility association, that brings together professional groups in seed production chain in order to commercialization.

Activities: introduction of genetic progress through breeding; production and quality of seeds and planting material support to the main agricultural and horticultural crops; development of the internal market; participation in the development of Romanian and European legislation; stimulate seeds and propagating material; international trade.

The Associations League of Agricultural Producers from Romania (LAPAR) <http://www.lapar.org/> is a national federation, established by free consented associating of the territorial professional associations from agriculture and the producers.

LAPAR is Romanian legal person, private, non-profit, non-governmental, apolitical and independent. The League operates in accordance with the interests of member associations or agricultural producers.

Contacts & Useful Links:

Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development (MADR) www.madr.ro

Carol I Bd. no. 2-4, Sector 3, Bucharest

Public relationship phones: +40-21-307.24.46; +40-21-307.24.22

E-mail: relatii.publice@madr.ro

Agency for Payments and Intervention in Agriculture (APIA) www.apia.org.ro

Carol I Bd. no. 17, Sector 2, Bucharest

Public relationship phones: +40-21-305.48.02; +40-21-305.48.00

E-mail: relatii.cu.publicul@apia.org.ro

Agency for Rural Investments Funding (AFIR) <http://afir.info/>

Știrbei Vodă Street no. 43, Sector 1, Bucharest

Public relationship phones: +40-31-860.11.00

E-mail: relatii.publice@afir.info

Pork Producers Association from Romania (APCPR) (former Romanian Pork Meat Employers)

<http://www.apcporc.ro/prezentare-apcpr>

Hristo Botev Bd. no. 1, et. 3, Sector 3, Bucharest

Phone: +40-21-312.59.64; Phone/Fax: +40-21-310.33.61

Email: executiv@apcporc.ro

Union of Poultry Breeders from Romania (UPCPR) <http://www.avicultura.ro/>

Ion Mihalache Bd. no. 106, Bl. 84, Sc. A, Ap. 24, Sector 1, Bucharest

Phone/Fax: +40-21-666.37.65

E-mail: officeUCPR1993@yahoo.com; office@avicultura.ro

Romanian Meat Association (RMA) <http://www.rma.ro/hrm/0.php>

Bucureștii Noi Bd. no. 118, Sector 1, Bucharest

Phone: +40-21-667.74.06 ; Phone/Fax: +40-21-667.74.07

E-mail: office@rma.ro

Beekeepers Association from Romania (ACAR) <http://www.aca.org.ro/index.html>

Ficusului Bd. no. 42, Sector 1, Bucharest

Phone/Fax: +40-21-233.40.17

National Vine and Wine Employers (PNVV) <http://www.pnvv.ro/>

George Enescu Street no. 27-29, Sector 1, Bucharest

Phone/Fax: +40-21-312.63.90

E-mail: office@pnvv.ro

Romanian Dairy Industry Association (APRIL) <http://www.april.org.ro/>

Aviator Petre Crețu Street no. 49, floor 1, Sector 1, Bucharest

Phone/Fax: +40-21-313.38.67

E-mail: office@april.org.ro

Romanian Association of Breeders, Producers and Traders of Seeds and Propagating Material (AMSEM) <http://www.amsem.ro/defahome.aspx>.

Ing. Vasile Cristescu Street no. 7, ap. 1, ground floor, Sector 2, Bucharest

Phone: +40-21-320.04.20; Phone/Fax.: +40-21-317.72.91

E-mail: office@amsem.ro, ghedesan.amsem@ymail.com

The Associations League of Agricultural Producers from Romania (LAPAR) <http://www.lapar.org/>

Walter Mărăcineanu Market no. 1-3, floor III, Chamber 247, Sector 1, Bucharest

Phone: +40-744-152.020; Phone/Fax: +40-21-314.70.65

E-mail: info@lapar.org

3. National contact points for entrepreneurship

Government Links & Contacts:

Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development - <http://www.madr.ro/ro/informatii-de-interes-public.html>

Agency for Payments and Intervention in Agriculture - <http://www.apia.org.ro/>

Agency for Rural Investments Funding - <http://afir.info/>

The National Sanitary Veterinary and Food Safety Authority - <http://www.ansvsa.ro/?pag=1>

National Agency for Animal Amelioration and Reproduction "Gh. K. Constantinescu" - <http://www.anarz.eu/>

Agency of State Domains - <http://www.domeniilestatului.ro/>

National Agency for Land Reclamation - <http://www.anif.ro/>

National Office of Vine and Wine products - <http://www.onvpv.ro/>

State Institute for Variety Testing and Registration <http://istis.ro/>

National Network for Rural Development (RNDR) <http://www.rndr.ro/Index.aspx>

Farm Accountancy Data Network (RICA) <http://www.madr.ro/ro/reteaua-de-informatii-contabile-agricole-rica.html>

Thematic Advisory Committee for Rural Development, Agriculture and Fishing (CCT DRAP) coordinated jointly by the Ministry of European Funds (MFE) and the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development (MADR) - <http://www.madr.ro/ro/programare-2014-2020-pndr/comitet-consultativ-tematic.html>

County Agricultural Departments <http://www.madr.ro/ro/directii-agricole-judetene.html>

Agricultural Chambers subordinated to County Councils <http://www.madr.ro/ro/camerele-agricole.html>

Ministry of Economy, Department of Foreign Trade and International Relations - <http://www.dce.gov.ro/>

The Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Romania - <http://www.ccir.ro/#>

Territorial Chamber of Commerce, Industry and Agriculture

National Authority for Regulating and Monitoring Public Procurement - <http://www.anmap.ro/>

National Rural Development Programme - <http://www.madr.ro/en/rural-development.html>

Romanian Foreign Trade Portal - <http://www.portaldecomert.ro>

The National Office of Romanian Traditional and Organic Products - <http://www.onpterbv.ro/>

National Federation of Labour Union in Agricultural, Food, Tobacco and Related and Services „AGROSTAR” - <http://www.federatiaagrostar.ro/>

PRO AGRO National Federation - <http://www.cnproagro.ro/>

Enterprise Europe Network - <http://een.ec.europa.eu/>

EU Structural Funds - <http://www.eufunds.bg/?cat=2>

European Union information for agriculture http://europa.eu/pol/agr/index_ro.htm, food-safety http://europa.eu/pol/food/index_ro.htm, fishery business and fishing http://europa.eu/pol/fish/index_ro.htm

Useful links to access databases for entrepreneurs:

Fairs

Romexpo S.A. Bucharest - <http://www.romexpo.ro/home>

Romanian Traditional Products Fair - <http://www.targprodusetraditionale.ro/home>

International Trade Fair of Equipment and Products in Agriculture, Horticulture, Viticulture and Animal Husbandry - INDAGRA - <http://www.indagra.ro/home>

Wines, Alcoholic and Non-Alcoholic Beverages Trade Show - Expo Drink & Wine -
<http://www.targdevinuri.ro/home>

Fairs and exhibitions schedule - <http://infoexpo.ro/>

Catalogues / Databases

Ecological Agriculture - <http://ecologic.agroromania.ro/>

"Info agrar" Catalogue of agriculture companies - www.infoagrar.ro

"Universul Alimentar" Catalogue - <http://www.universulalimentar.ro/>

National Companies Top Catalogue - <http://www.tnf.ro/index.php/ro/catalog>

"AgroAzi" - 100% Romanian agriculture portal - <http://www.agroazi.ro/catalog>

"AgroInfo" Portal of agricultural information - <http://www.agroinfo.ro/>

"AgroConsultanța" Portal of information and consultancy in agro-food domains - <http://www.agro-consultanta.ro/>

"Pagina de agricultură" Portal of agricultural information - <http://paginadeagricultura.ro/>

"Profitul agricol" Review - <http://www.agrinet.ro/>

"Bursa Fermierului" Review - www.bursafermierului.ro

"Ferma" Review - <http://www.revista-ferma.ro/>

"Agrointeligenta" Review - <http://agrointel.ro/>

"Recolta.eu" Agribusiness daily - <http://www.recolta.eu/>

News and information from agriculture and animal husbandry - www.infoferma.ro

News and information from the food and hospitality industry - <http://www.infoaliment.ro/>

Creating, supporting, strengthening and promoting an entrepreneurial and management culture -
<http://fiiantreprenor.ro/>

Animal Breeding

- ✓ Pork Meat Producers Association from Romania (APCPR) - <http://www.apcporc.ro/>
- ✓ Associative Forms for Sheep and Goats - <http://www.madr.ro/ro/cresterea-animalelor/ovine-si-caprine/forme-asociative-ovine-si-caprine.html>
- ✓ Angus Association <http://asociatia-angus.ro/>
- ✓ <http://www.catalogafaceri.ro/search/?what=zootehnie&where=>

Poultry Farming

- ✓ Federation of Poultry and Small Pure Breed Animals Breeders Associations from Romania (FACPCAMRPR) - <http://www.bankiwa.ro/>
- ✓ Union of Poultry Breeders from Romania (UCPR) - <http://www.avicultura.ro/>

- ✓ <http://www.catalogafaceri.ro/search/?what=pasari&where=>

Meat Processors

- ✓ Romanian Meat Association - <http://www.rma.ro/>
- ✓ Agency for Payments and Intervention in Agriculture - <http://www.apia.org.ro/ro/directia-masuri-de-piata/carne>
- ✓ <http://www.fabricadecarne.ro/>
- ✓ http://www.infoaliment.ro/tot_procesatori++carne+porc_firme_simpla.html
- ✓ <http://www.industriacarnii.ro/index.php>

Apiculture

- ✓ Beekeepers Association from Romania - <http://www.aca.org.ro/informatii-apicole.html>
- ✓ Beekeeping Associations and Federations - <http://www.madr.ro/ro/programul-national-apicol/lista-forme-asociative/asociatii-si-federatii-apicole.html>
- ✓ Agency for Payments and Intervention in Agriculture - <http://www.apia.org.ro/ro/directia-masuri-de-piata/apicultura>
- ✓ <http://www.stuparitul.com/>
- ✓ <http://producatoriapicoli.ro/>

Vine and Wine

- ✓ National Employers' Association of Vine and Wine (PNVV) - <http://www.pnvv.ro/eng/>
- ✓ Wine Producers and Wine Products Association from Dobrogea & Dobrogea Plateau (APVPV) - <http://www.winestory.eu/en/>
- ✓ Wine Producers and Exporters Association from Romania (APEV) - <http://www.wineromania.com//index.jsp?page=apev&language=EN>
- ✓ Agency for Payments and Intervention in Agriculture - <http://www.apia.org.ro/ro/directia-masuri-de-piata/viti-vinicole>
- ✓ <http://www.producatori-vinuri.ro/>
- ✓ <http://www.catalogafaceri.ro/search/?what=viticol&where=>

Dairy Sector

- ✓ Agency for Payments and Intervention in Agriculture - <http://www.apia.org.ro/ro/directia-masuri-de-piata/lapte>
- ✓ Romanian Employers' Association of Dairy Industry - <http://www.april.org.ro/>
- ✓ <http://www.catalogafaceri.ro/search/?what=lactate&where=>
- ✓ http://www.universulalimentar.ro/director_web/1/Lapte_si_produce_lactate/Fabrici_de_produce_lactate.html
- ✓ <http://www.ro.all.biz/lapte-si-produce-lactate-bgr1753>

Fruit Growing

- ✓ Agency for Payments and Intervention in Agriculture - <http://www.apia.org.ro/ro/directia-masuri-de-piata/legume-si-fructe>
- ✓ http://www.universulalimentar.ro/catalog_universul_alimentar/1/Distribuitori_importatori_producatori/Distribuitori_legume_si_fructe.html
- ✓ <http://www.catalogafaceri.ro/search/?what=fructe&where=>

Horticulture

- ✓ Breeders, Manufacturers and Merchants Seed and Seedlings Association from Romania - http://amsem.ro/Defahome_en.aspx
- ✓ National Association of Mushrooms Producers from Romania - <http://anpcr.ro/despre-noi>
- ✓ <http://www.ghid.revistafermierului.ro/home/producatori-agricoli/horticultura.html>

- ✓ <http://www.agriculturae.ro/index.php/asociatii-si-fundatii/641-grupuri-de-producatori-din-horticultura-romaneasca.html>
- ✓ <http://www.catalogafaceri.ro/search/?what=horticultura&where=>

Farming

- ✓ Agency for Rural Investments Funding - <http://afir.info/>
- ✓ Agency for Payments and Intervention in Agriculture - <http://www.apia.org.ro/ro/directia-masuri-de-piata/cereale1387019732>
- ✓ League of Agricultural Producers Association from Romania (LAPAR) - <http://www.lapar.org/>
- ✓ Confederation of Peasant Associations from Romania (CATAR) - <http://www.catara.ro/index.php>
- ✓ Farmers Association from Romania (AFR) - <http://www.asociatiafermierilor.ro/>
- ✓ Bio Ecological Agriculture Operators Association from Romania - <http://www.bio-romania.org/>
- ✓ Agriculture Machinery Manufacturers and Importers Association from - <http://www.apimar.eu/nou/home/>
- ✓ Association for Peasant Agriculture Support - <http://asatromania.ro/>
- ✓ <http://www.pndr.ro/content.aspx?lang=RO&item=2195>
- ✓ <http://www.catalogafaceri.ro/search/?what=agricultura&where=>

Food and beverage

- ✓ Romanian Employers' Federation of Food Industry ROMALIMENTA - <http://www.romalimenta.ro/>
- ✓ National Association for Soft Drinks - <http://www.anbr.ro/site/>
- ✓ http://www.universulalimentar.ro/catalog_universul_alimentar/1/Distributori,_importatori,_producatori/Producatori_produce_alimentare.html
- ✓ Alcoholic Drinks Manufacturers and Importers Association from Romania SPIRITS - http://www.spirits-romania.ro/despre_noi.html
- ✓ Employers' Organization of Alcohol and Alcoholic Drinks Industry GARANT - <http://www.garantalcohol.ro/index.php>
- ✓ <http://furnizorialimente.ro/>
- ✓ <http://www.miciproducatori.ro/>

4. National networks

Strategic Partnership I:

Pork Producers Association from Romania (APCPR) (former Romanian Pork Meat Employers)

<http://www.apcporc.ro/prezentare-apcpr>

Facts:

It represents the professional organization of pigs breeders in Romania. APCPR is a Romanian legal entity of private law, independent, non-profit, apolitical.

APCPR currently comprises over 100 members engaged in pig breeding, slaughter and pork processing, service providers for pork chain from Romania and educational / research institutions.

The organization was founded in 1991 by a group of 37 pig breeding companies, aiming to support the production and economic efficiency of the members' activity.

In over 20 years of activity, the organization has represented and defended the interests of associate members and became the main spokesman for the pork chain in Romania in relation to state authorities, but also European and extra - EU.

The Association:

- participates in multi-sector strategies on pork chain and legislation development;
- support the state financial support granted to the pig breeding farms;
- protect pork producers in Romania by supporting customs duty on pork imports;
- represents farmers in the acquisition and implementation of EU legislation on pig farming and pork exploitation;
- participates in drafting legislation regarding carcass classification;
- implements the system for the carcasses classification in Romania's slaughterhouses;
- represents pig breeders in the major regulatory structure of the pork market ("Pork" Interprofessional Organization, the Product Council, the Carcasses Classification Commission, the Commission for Social Dialogue).

Partners / Institutions / Organization:

National Federation PRO AGRO <http://www.cnproagro.ro/>

Romanian Meat Association (ARC) <http://www.rma.ro/hrm/0.php>

Carcasses Classification Commission from Romania <http://www.ccceurop.ro/>

The National Sanitary-Veterinary and Food Safety Authority (ANSVSA) <http://www.ansvsa.ro/?pag=1>

Coordination & Consultancy:

The Association members are individual and legal authorized entities. Their activity object is:

- growth, slaughter, industrialization and marketing of pork and pork products;
- perform various services for pork chain;
- work as educational institutions / research profile entities.

Categories of members:

1) Permanent members, with voting rights are represented by small and medium enterprises with pigs breeding activity, by large companies which have an integrated activity, including its own sales, by the producers associations.

2) Observers members, without voting rights, are represented by individual / companies that provides

various services to the pork chain (supply of feed materials, feed additives, medicines and equipment, etc.) and educational institutions / research profile entities.

Guidelines & Procedures:

Membership of the association is acquired through an application.
APCPR Members pay an annual fee in accordance with the scale of fees approved by the General Members Assembly.

Strategic Plan:

The main goals are:

- ✓ maintain a dialogue with the National Sanitary-Veterinary and Food Safety Authority in order to declare the entire Romanian territory PPC free and to bilateral certification of trade with meat and pork with non-EU countries;
- ✓ strengthen institutional relationships with internal state authorities and external organizations (COPA-COGECA, advisory experts groups of the European Commission etc.);
- ✓ promote the Romanian pork producers' and processors interests point of views according to the new Common Agricultural Policy after 2013;
- ✓ propose measures to the competent authorities in order to reduce the untaxed meat and pork products trade and to eliminate the non-competitive conditions in the meat and meat products market;
- ✓ initiate discussions with other participants in the meat production, processing and marketing chain in order to associate in a strong federation that support the unitary interests of all stakeholders in the meat chain in Romania;
- ✓ modernize and adapt the role of the organization according to the evolution of Romanian and European society.

Governance:

Management consists of:

- ✓ General Members Assembly;
- ✓ Board of Directors.

Databases:

The European animal welfare concept <http://www.apcporc.ro/conceptul-de-bunastare-a-animalelor-la-nivel-european/>

Strategic Partnership II:

Union of Poultry Breeders from Romania (UCPR) <http://www.avicultura.ro/>

Facts:

The Union of Poultry Breeders from Romania (UCPR) is an association with professional character, non-profit, non-governmental, autonomous, legal personality, based on the specific activity of the poultry industry.

Founded in 1993 with the purpose of achieving organizational unity of poultry breeders in Romania, UCPR acts as a liaison between businesses operating in the field of poultry farming.

UCPR is not engaged in trade relations of its members; the association represents and communicates the interests of poultry companies in relation to the state institutions and the public.

The poultry sector offers at the moment over 30,000 jobs directly related to poultry. Also, through indirect activities related to poultry there are created another about 100,000 jobs (companies supplying raw materials for grain, feed additives, poultry medicines and disinfectants, distribution and sales, service, packaging equipment factories, medicines and disinfectants etc.).

Partners / Institutions / Organization:

Manufacturers which performed more than 10,000 tons of meat per year and 40 million eggs per year.

Medium manufacturers which performed between 5-10000 tons of meat per year and 10-40 million eggs per year.

Small producers which performed until 5000 tons of meat per year and 10 million eggs per year.

Coordination & Consultancy:

UCPR currently has 250 members, of which:

- 18 members representing the largest poultry company, specialized or mixed (meat, eggs or both);
- 22 members in poultry sized companies;
- 236 members of the small poultry companies;
- 22 members nonpoultry (25%) - are functionally linked to poultry business (producers and distributors of vaccines, medicines, feed additives, poultry equipment etc.).

Guidelines & Procedures:

The five steps from the producer to the buyer:

- the slaughterhouse - performs the carcass chickens slaughter, packaging, labeling etc.;
- sliced product conditioner - performs the slicing, packaging, labeling etc. operations, to meet customer demand;
- the distributor - which is based on economic and technical criteria - such as packaging, wrapping, transport, storage, product features presentation and information to the client;
- the seller - staff appropriate to conduct the sale of meat and meat products;
- the buyer - the buyer activity is specific, requiring to have a good memory, to show fidelity to the packing.

Strategic Plan:

The main goals are:

- ✓ represent the professional interests of poultry breeders in Romania of the national and international bodies;
- ✓ develop professional, technical and economic common interest activities of the members for the purposes of profitable activities for its members;
- ✓ unify the specific poultry production in Romania;
- ✓ collaborate in organizational, administrative, economic-technical and scientific issues to carry out the activity of union members at a competitive level.

Governance:

Management consists of:

- ✓ General Assembly (the supreme governing body)
- ✓ Board of Directors
- ✓ Executive Committee

Databases:

"Avicultorul" Review <http://www.avicultura.ro/revista-Avicultorul>

Press releases <http://www.avicultura.ro/Comunicate-de-Presa>

Articles <http://www.avicultura.ro/Arhiva%20Articole>

Members <http://www.avicultura.ro/membri>

Strategic Partnership III:

Romanian Meat Association (ARC) <http://www.rma.ro/hrm/0.php>

Facts:

The Romanian Meat Association is the professional organization representing the interests of the meat industry.

ARC was formed in 1999 by the union of ROCARNE (1993) and ASIC (1995), with 50 companies members that achieved more than 60% of the national production of meat.

Its mission is to promote the Romanian meat processing industry by:

- lobby for positive influence of legislative decisions;
- informing the members about the internal, European and world market trends;
- preparing the domestic companies to enter in the Community market;
- including members in the domestic and foreign aid programs;
- transmitting of information about trade, legal and technological updates.

Partners / Institutions / Organization:

Romanian Meat Association is a member of the following structures:

AAMP - American Association of Meat Processors
CLITRAVI - European Federation of Meat Industry
Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Romania
EUAMT - European Union Animal and Meat Traders

Coordination & Consultancy:

Laboratory services

The Association Laboratory is authorized by law to perform analysis on food of animal origin and to issue analysis reports (test reports) that will probe the care of hygiene and quality against any control entity.

Publishing activities

- "Slaughtering of animals for obtaining red meat" - Welfare requirements and good hygiene and production practices
- "Guide to hygiene and production good practices for the meat processing sector" - Second Edition, works carried out with the support of USDA (United States Department of Agriculture), ARC and USAID (United States Agency for International Development).

Strategic Plan:

The main goals are:

- ✓ lobby for positive influence of legislative decisions;
- ✓ inform members on trends in the domestic, European and world market;
- ✓ prepare the domestic companies to enter in the Community market;
- ✓ include members in domestic and foreign aid programs;
- ✓ transmit information relating commercial, legal and technological updates.

Governance:

Management consists of:

- ✓ General Assembly
- ✓ Board of Directors consists of nine members, including the Chief Executive.

Databases:

Newsletter <http://www.rma.ro/hrm/1.php>

Useful web links <http://www.rma.ro/hrm/4.php>

Strategic Partnership IV:

Romanian Beekeepers Association (ACAR) <http://www.aca.org.ro/index.html>

Facts:

It is a beekeepers professional organization, nongovernmental, autonomous and apolitical, being established in 1958 for an indefinite term, sentence updated in 2006.

The Romanian Beekeepers Association is the largest national association, its structure covering the entire country, through the county branches and "APICOLA" stores, units located in the country major cities.

The Romanian Beekeepers Association aims to provide the organizational framework and the conditions that facilitate nationwide development of professional and amateur beekeeping.

The Association represents and supports the interests of its members both in the legislative and executive bodies of the country and in other central and local institutions.

The ACAR national network beekeeping stores offers to the beekeepers both the opportunity to purchase materials and equipment necessary for the activity and the chance to exploit bee products, especially - honey, also representing beekeeping product sales centres for general consumption.

Partners / Institutions / Organization:

Beekeeping Research and Development Institute <http://www.aca.org.ro/index.html>

Veceslav Harnaj Beekeeping Complex <http://complex-apicol.ro/>

"Albina Melifera" Cooperative <http://www.aca.org.ro/structura-asociatiei/cooperativa-albina-melifera.html>

Coordination & Consultancy:

The beekeepers contact is done in the branches, where they can find updates from the beekeeping sector, both professionally and legislative, in different occasions or meetings organized mainly in the beekeeping season. The beekeepers can, also, get advice on European funding opportunities and other types of funds.

Guidelines & Procedures:

Members of the Association may become Romanian citizens who turned age 18, authorized individuals, individual and family enterprises operating in beekeeping.

The Association' members benefits of the rules and advantages that exist for its members:

- supplying by the economic units of ACAR with biological material, beekeeping equipment, artificial honeycombs, medicines and other materials;
- selling of the bee products made in its apiaries by the Association' trade companies, in the market economy conditions;
- support in obtaining placements for permanent and temporary apiaries in bees areas;
- specialized technical and legal assistance;
- sanitary-veterinary assistance;
- information and support in accessing and developing European funds under the laws;
- support in raising the professional knowledge by taking part in educational activities, courses, experience exchanges, conferences, scientific and technical meetings, cooperation with the ACAR

publications;

- participate in ACAR meetings where they can express their views on issues related to association, to elect and to be elected in management structures.

Strategic Plan:

The main goals are:

- ✓ provide the framework and conditions for fulfilment of purposes specified in the statute and for its members' aspirations to beekeeping practicing;
- ✓ organize and facilitate exploitation by its members of bee products in market economy conditions;
- ✓ act for raising the professional knowledge of its members by organizing lectures, demonstrations, experience exchanges, exhibitions, bee museums, conferences and beekeeping consulting;
- ✓ organize for its members the technical assistance and various services;
- ✓ initiate and participate in international cooperation in the field of beekeeping;
- ✓ support and coordinate through the county branches the beekeepers work, enrolled in the accreditation and certification of bio honey program and other hive products.

Governance:

Management consists of:

- ✓ ACAR Congress
- ✓ ACAR National Council
- ✓ Board Committee

Databases:

Members <http://www.aca.org.ro/structura-asociatiei/filiale-si-societati-comerciale-judetene.html>
"România Apicolă" Review <http://www.aca.org.ro/revista-romania-apicola.html>
Beekeeping information <http://www.aca.org.ro/informatii-apicole.html>
Events <http://www.aca.org.ro/evenimente.html>
Publications <http://www.aca.org.ro/publicatii.html>

Strategic Partnership V:

National Vine and Wine Employers (PNVV) <http://www.pnvv.ro/eng/>

Facts:

National Vine and Wine Employers:

- is a civil society institution that brings together some of the leading wine producers in Romania;
- is a framework for wine social partnership;
- was established as a Romanian legal entity in 2000 and was reorganized under the Employers Law as national representation rights in 2002.

The association goals:

- to identify and promote systematic and uniform specific professional interests of viticulture and wine-producing industry in Romania;
- to support and defend the interests of its members in relations with public authorities, trade unions and other legal and individual person regarding its activity object and purpose, both nationally and internationally.

Actions:

- lobbying activities: a) besides national, European, international authorities in order to promote or defend the rights and common interest of PNVV's members; b) besides Romanian, European and international associative structures, having the same purpose;
- complying the Romanian sector legislation with the European one, with accent on the national priorities and facts;
- collecting and disseminating the information regarding relevant subjects issued by the institutions mentioned above or others;
- counselling the members on juridical, technical, economical and commercial subjects;
- organizing of especially events particularly for the members and, generally, for the wine sector.

Partners / Institutions / Organization:

PNNV is a member of the:

- Committee of European Wineries (CEW), which brings together 23 national organizations in the field of industrial and commercial wines, flavoured sparkling wines, liqueur wines;
- UGIR - 1903, the most important Employers Confederation of Romania.

Coordination & Consultancy:

PNNV has, through its members, over 60% of the wine trade in Romania.

Honorary and correspondents members are elected by the General Assembly on a proposal of the Board of Directors, from the persons who, by their work activities, contribute to the progress of national wine industry. The number of honorary and correspondents members is unlimited.

It can become members:

- wine profile industrial enterprises;
- financial institutions that finance wineries;
- wine research institutes and stations;
- research and design, marketing and consulting institutes;
- regional organizations of wine growers and wine producers;
- individuals authorised for wine production;

- companies with specific complementary activity.

Guidelines & Procedures:

Together with the documents set, the applications for membership will be addressed to the President, who shall submit it for approval to the Board of Directors in the upcoming session.

The Board of Directors shall decide on applications for enrolment by absolute majority of all those present at the meeting. In case of application rejection, the Board decision shall be communicated without the motivation.

Applications for membership shall be accompanied by a set of documents that will include presentation sheet of the company, copies of constitutive documents, sheet products (types, characteristics, approval mentions or trademark, where applicable).

Regional organizations that have joined the Association represent a distinct part of the Association and remain autonomous, on their own statutes.

Each active member shall be represented by one delegate. Delegate names must be communicated timely to the Board. The validity of the delegation is determined by each active member, or until a new person is delegated.

Strategic Plan:

The main goals are:

- ✓ support, defend and promote the interests of viticulture and wine-producing industry;
- ✓ perform appropriate steps to prevent and eliminate members damage made of the abusive application of regulations or administrative actions;
- ✓ inform public opinion and state institutions on issues, aspirations and demands of the Association;
- ✓ propose legislative, social and administrative measures, need to strengthen, maintain and develop systematic economic sector profile;
- ✓ effectively encourage the winemaking production, being involved to cover the largest domestic consumption by national products and support export initiatives;
- ✓ develop and disseminate specialized knowledge, support scientific work related to improving the national economic life, urging on taking into account worthy technical inventions and innovations;
- ✓ establish and develop links with similar abroad associations through exchange of information and publications, through affiliation or other means of collaboration;
- ✓ organize public actions to promote their products, such as fairs, exhibitions, competitions, congresses, symposia, roundtables, showrooms etc.;
- ✓ support initiatives for harmonizing the national wine legislation with the European Union one.

Governance:

Management consists of:

- ✓ General Assembly;
- ✓ Board of Directors;
- ✓ Censors Commission.

The Association has a Honorary President and a Honorary and Arbitration Senate.

Databases:

Members <http://www.pnvv.ro/membri.php>

Legislation <http://www.pnvv.ro/legislatie.php>

Press releases http://www.pnvv.ro/presa_vin/comunicate_2.html

Links <http://www.pnvv.ro/linkuri.php>

Strategic Partnership VI:

Romanian Dairy Industry Association (APRIL) <http://www.april.org.ro/>

Facts:

Established in 2001, the Romanian Dairy Industry Association (APRIL) is the only national representative association. The main objective of the Association is the development of professional, technical and economic activities in the common interest of all members.

The Association oversees the dairy industry, provide specific promoting trade policies, advocates for combating unfair competition and defend the specific interests of the sector members in discussions with regulators.

Besides fulfilling specific tasks resulting from the association status, the Romanian Dairy Industry Association, aims to support the sector improvements, at all stages, from primary production to sell, fulfilling the conditions of food safety and food security in Romania.

Partners / Institutions / Organization:

The most important partners are:

Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development
The National Sanitary-Veterinary and Food Safety
National Authority for Consumer Protection
Food companies publication "infoALIMENT"
Rural Investment Funding Agency
"Fabrica de lapte" Review

Coordination & Consultancy:

Romanian Dairy Industry Association has 39 members of which 32 milk processors and 7 companies in related fields.

APRIL Members processes more than 73% of raw milk from Romanian Milk Cota.

Approximately 60% of employees in the dairy industry are employed by the APRIL members.

APRIL is a member of the Employers` Federation of Food Industry - Romalimenta.

Guidelines & Procedures:

The legal representatives of companies stated, by free consent, that they are agree the Statute of the Romanian Dairy Industry Association and want to register the company that they represents as an Association member.

Strategic Plan:

The main goals are:

- ✓ involve in the development of common projects regarding education, open and transparent information to the final consumer;
- ✓ conduct information campaigns in order to increase milk consumption for a healthy life;
- ✓ diversify the consumption of dairy products.

Governance:

Management consists of:

- ✓ General Assembly;
- ✓ Board of Directors;
- ✓ President and two Vice Presidents.

Databases:

Journal of dairy industry experts <http://www.fabricadelapte.ro/>

The producers and processors of dairy industry map, "Fabrica de Lapte"

<http://www.fabricadelapte.ro/comandati-harta-fdl-a-fermierilor-si-procesatorilor-din-sectorul-de-lapte#>

Romalimenta - Romanian Federation of Food Industry <http://www.romalimenta.ro/>

Dairy Industries International <http://www.dairyindustries.com/>

Strategic partnership VII:

Romanian Association of Breeders, Producers and Traders of Seeds and Propagating Material (AMSEM) <http://www.amsem.ro/defahome.aspx>

Facts:

The Romanian Association of Breeders, Producers and Traders of Seeds and Propagating Material is a inter-professional association, non-governmental, non-profit and public utility that brings together professional groups in seed production chain, in order to commercialization.

Activities:

- introduction of genetic progress through breeding;
- production, seeds quality and planting material support to the main agricultural and horticultural crops;
- development of the internal market;
- intellectual and revenues protection;
- equilibrium prices for both its members and the farmer;
- participation in the development of Romanian and European legislation;
- stimulate seeds and propagating material international trade.

Partners / Institutions / Organization:

AMSEM aims to be affiliated to the European Seed Association, International Seed Federation and the Central and Eastern European Seed Association.

The Association establishes bilateral relations and cooperation with national associations in other countries regarding the seeds exchange.

It organizes reciprocal visits, conferences, experience and expertise exchanges.

The Association members contribute to the development of European and international legislation (OECD) in the field.

Coordination & Consultancy:

The basic operation principle is to solve all the national proposals.

The territorial proposals are collected in the 8 regional branches, which include seed producers' associations.

The proposals shall be transmitted to the 7 professional departments which analyze, propose or establish measures to regulate and improve the pathway activity.

Guidelines & Procedures:

It can become members:

- research and educational entities;
- associations, researchers and specialists whose work is to improve breeding, plant production or the quality control of seeds and propagating material;
- agricultural enterprises and associations with legal personality;
- stations and units for conditioning and selling of the seed and propagating material;
- export-import companies for seeds and propagating material;
- individuals or legal entities breeders;

- individuals or legal entities providing services on seeds and propagating material, sector complementary or those wants to support the sector in terms of intellectual or material;
- associations and federations or other associative operators listed above.

Strategic Plan:

The main goals are:

- ✓ seed quality insurance;
- ✓ a wide consultation between related professional groups and public authorities;
- ✓ seed sector development which, through genetic progress, will support agricultural production;
- ✓ monitoring and statistical analysis of the seed market in Romania and abroad;
- ✓ training of the professional groups and farmers educating;
- ✓ developing relations and international cooperation.

Governance:

Management consists of:

- ✓ General Assembly;
- ✓ Board of Directors;
- ✓ Censor and, where appropriate, the Board of Censors.

Databases:

AMSEM Projects and studies http://www.amsem.ro/proiecte_amsem.aspx

INFO-AMSEM Review http://www.amsem.ro/revista_info-amsem.aspx

Seed Market http://www.amsem.ro/pia%C5%A3a_semin%C5%A3elor.aspx

Seed Legislation http://www.amsem.ro/legislatia_amsem.aspx

Bio Industry <http://www.amsem.ro/industriabio.aspx>

Strategic Partnership VIII:

The Associations League of Agricultural Producers from Romania (LAPAR) <http://www.lapar.org/>

Facts:

The Associations League of Agricultural Producers from Romania (LAPAR) is a national federation, established by free consented associating of the territorial professional associations from agriculture and the producers.

LAPAR is Romanian legal person, private, non-profit, non-governmental, apolitical and independent. The League operates in accordance with the interests of member associations or agricultural producers.

LAPAR represents the farmers interests, established by their own decisions and resolutions of the professional member organizations, in relationships with central government bodies, with other internal and international associations and federations.

The League attends and requires registration as a participant or a full member in all professional and inter-professional structures on products or groups of products.

Partners / Institutions / Organization:

The Associations League of Agricultural Producers from Romania (LAPAR) was officially accepted in the ELO (European Landowners Organization), the accession treaty being signed in 2013 in Brussels.

Members of the organization are able to communicate through Facebook accessing INFOLAPAR.

Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development is the main partner which resolves the most important part of the problems facing agriculture and farmers.

Other Partners: Ministry of Finance, Government, Presidency.

Coordination & Consultancy:

The League provides the interrelation with national and local, governmental or nongovernmental structures, and with all the institutions or organizations that can contribute to the progress of Romanian agriculture. It promotes the technological progress and necessary resources, the legislative process in accordance with the actual requirements of Romanian farmers.

The League provides the interrelation with European and international structures and organizations regarding the information exchange, the better access to technology news, the market research and the European funds, in the agriculture and rural areas field. It works to introduce a national information system that allows rapid flow of information in all directions, between associations and federation and from the federation to the affiliates.

Guidelines & Procedures:

It can become a full member of LAPAR any territorial organization representing an important segment of farmers and agricultural companies with more than 5,000 ha surfaces.

The members evidence is held in the "Register of Members", located at the federation.

There are non-voting members: education and research institutions, researchers, teachers, members of ASAS, of the Romanian Academy, other specialized institutions, cultural personalities, media representatives, companies that fulfill services related to agriculture, potential sponsors etc.

Strategic Plan:

The main goals are:

- ✓ initiate and propose agriculture policies and draft legislation to the ability structures;
- ✓ activate, in the name and for its members, against non-compliance of commitments in the field of agricultural policy;
- ✓ identify, by the specialized department, the possibility to access funds, partially or reimbursable, both to improve the structuring of member associations and for the economic activities of farmers;
- ✓ organizes conferences, debates, experience exchanges, conferences, domestic and international scientific sessions;
- ✓ concerns, constantly, to maintain and increase the national representativeness of the federation, attracting regional organizations from across all counties.

Governance:

Management consists of:

- ✓ General Assembly;
- ✓ Board of Directors;
- ✓ Executive Department;
- ✓ Censor.

Databases:

Legislation <http://www.lapar.org/legislatie/>

News <http://www.lapar.org/media/stiri/>

Conferences <http://www.lapar.org/media/conferinte/>

Press Releases <http://www.lapar.org/media/comunicate/>

Forum <http://www.lapar.org/forum/>

Strategic Partnership IX:

The Romanian Food Industry Federation Romalimenta <http://www.romalimenta.ro/>

Facts:

Romalimenta is an open, non-profit, autonomous, apolitical employers national federation, being the professional representative of those who are working in the Romanian food and beverage industry. Romalimenta Federation brings together companies from the food and beverage industry in order to promote professional and business ethics, as well as supporting the interests of companies from this branch.

Federation actively dialogues with state institutions.

Romalimenta aims to create the right image of the food and beverage industry, while facilitating the dialogue between producer and consumer.

Food safety and quality, environmental protection, professional training, energy efficiency, nutrition are just some of the areas of interest for which Romalimenta advises and provides relevant information.

Partners / Institutions / Organization:

Romalimenta Federation is a member of the Confederation of the food industry in the EU (FDE) from 2004. The Confederation of the food industry in the EU has proposed, since its establishment, to facilitate the development of an environment where all European food and beverage industry, regardless their size, can satisfy the needs of consumers and society.

The organization promotes the interests of its members in key areas such as food safety, innovation and scientific discoveries, nutrition and health, consumer confidence, competitiveness and sustainability.

Federation is a member of CNIPMMR (National Council of Private Small and Medium Enterprises).

Coordination & Consultancy:

Romalimenta Federation brings together most associations/employers in the food industry, large processing companies, local and multinational companies.

The members of the Romalimenta Federation expect a constant support and cooperation to develop a fair business environment. Basically, Romalimenta acts to remove artificial barriers in the way of business and to increase the food operators competitiveness.

Guidelines & Procedures:

Categories of members:

- actives;
- associates;
- honorary.

The Federation membership is requested by written declaration of the legal person representatives, certifying the acceptance and compliance with the Statute and the Ethics Code.

Strategic Plan:

The main objectives of the Federation are:

- ✓ representing the members interests before the authorities;
- ✓ improving legislation by lobbying the Government, Parliament and through positive influence campaigns of the new regulations;
- ✓ developing relationships with similar organizations;
- ✓ including the Federation members in technical assistance programs;
- ✓ organizing educational and technical programs: conferences and seminars, business and study trips, management materials, marketing etc;
- ✓ supporting the sector importance, through media campaigns that reveals the industry's problems and the efforts on providing quality products at reasonable prices;
- ✓ providing economic, legal, technological and commercial information;
- ✓ strengthening relationships with similar organizations in the country and abroad.

Governance:

Management consists of:

- ✓ General Assembly;
- ✓ Board of Directors;
- ✓ President;
- ✓ Executive Department;
- ✓ Censor.

Databases:

News Releases <http://www.romalimenta.ro/comunicate-de-presa>

Romalimenta in media <http://www.romalimenta.ro/romalimenta-in-media>

Posts <http://www.romalimenta.ro/interventii>

5. Sector Innovation Clusters

Research & Development & Technology related to:

Research & Development Units:

The Academy of Agricultural and Forestry Sciences "Gheorghe Ionescu-Șișești" Bucharest - increasing of the scientific research contribution to the complex, harmonious and sustainable development of agriculture, forestry and Romanian rural area, in order to fulfill the major national objective of achieving food security and safety. (President: Professor, PhD. Gheorghe Sin, TEL. +40 (21) 318 44 50; e-mail: secretariat@asas.ro)

University of Agronomic Science and Veterinary Medicine Bucharest has as fundamental mission to train the future specialists in the fields of vegetal and animal production, animal health, plant protection, biology and forestry, land improvement and management, environment protection, biotechnologies, land measurements and cadastre, agricultural production systems and rural development management and administration, engineering and management in public food supply and agritourism, horticulture and landscape architecture, economic engineering in constructions, engineering, foodstuffs control and expertise. (Rector: Professor, PhD. Sorin Mihai Cîmpeanu, tel. +40 (21) 318 22 66; e-mail: post@info.usamv.ro)

Faculties of the University: <http://en.usamv.ro/>

University of Agricultural Sciences and Veterinary Medicine Cluj-Napoca promote the excellence in the field of education, research and innovation by primary academic initial and postgraduate instruction, by life long learning and integration within the universal value system according to the requirements of a knowledge based society. (Rector: Professor, PhD. Doru Pamfil, tel. +40 (264) 596 384; e-mail: contact@usamvcluj.ro)

Faculties of the University: <http://www.usamvcluj.ro/eng/index.php/facultati>

The University of Agricultural Sciences and Veterinary Medicine "Ion Ionescu de la Brad" Iași is a specialized institution of superior agronomic and veterinary medicine training, financed by the state and having as fundamental mission the formation of agricultural, horticultural and animal husbandry engineers, economic engineers in agriculture and veterinary surgeons. (Rector: Professor, PhD. Vasile Vîntu, tel. +40 (232) 213 069, e-mail: vvintu@uaiasi.ro)

Faculties of the University: <http://www.uaiasi.ro/index.php?lang=en&pagina=pagini/home.html>

Banat's University of Agricultural Sciences and Veterinary Medicine of Timișoara assumes fundamental roles in education, while being aware of the function and position it occupies within national higher education, properly assessing its level of competence and responsibilities to the community, and constantly analyzing social demand. (Rector: Professor, PhD. Paul Pîrșan, tel. +40 (256) 277 009, e-mail: ppirsan@yahoo.com)

Faculties of the University: http://www.usab-tm.ro/USAMVBT-Facultati_en.html

The University of Craiova

The sustainable partnerships, mobility schemes, examples good of practice, collaboration with top-ranking universities, and development of joint projects with our partners from the socio-economic environment brand the 21st century European university. The high quality of our teaching staff, the infrastructure at our disposal, the determination and commitment of decision-makers are the

evidence that the University of Craiova has asserted its identity on the competitive market of high performance education systems. (Rector: Professor, PhD. Dan Claudiu Dănișor, tel. +40 (251) 414 398; e-mail: rectorat@central.ucv.ro)

Faculty of Agriculture and Horticulture: <http://www.agro-craiova.ro/>

**Research and Development unit subordinated to the Academy of Agricultural and Forestry Sciences
"Gheorghe Ionescu-Șișești" Bucharest:**

- National Institute for Agricultural Research and Development Fundulea, Călărași County
<http://www.incda-fundulea.ro>
- Research and Development Institute for Plant Protection Bucharest <http://www.icdpp.ro>
- Research and Development Institute for Grassland Brașov <http://www.pajisti-grassland.ro>
- National Institute of Research and Development for Potato and Sugar Beet Brașov
<http://www.potato.ro>
- Research and Development Institute for Fruit Growing Mărăcineni, Argeș County <http://www.icdp.ro>
- Research and Development Institute for Viticulture and Winemaking Valea Calugărească, Prahova County
<http://www.icdvv.ro>
- Research Institute for Vegetable and Floriculture Vidra, Ilfov County <http://www.icdlfvidra.ro>
- Research and Development Institute for Industrialization and Marketing of Horticultural Products
„Horting” București <http://www.horting.ro>
- National Institute for Research-Development in Animal Biology and Nutrition Balotești, Ilfov County
<http://www.ibna.ro>
- Institute of Research and Development for Aquatic Ecology, Fishing and Aquaculture Galați
<http://www.tuugo.ro>
- Research Institute of Agricultural Economics and Rural Development Bucharest <http://www.iceadr.ro>
- Research and Development Institute for Montanology Cristian, Sibiu County
- Research and Development Institute for Cattle Breeding Balotești, Ilfov County <http://www.icdcb.ro>
- Research and Development Institute for Sheep and Goats Palas, Constanța County
<http://www.icdcopalas.ro>

Another Research and Development Units:

- Institute of Biology Bucharest <http://www.ibiol.ro>
- Institute of Research and Forest Management Bucharest <http://www.icas.ro>
- National Institute of Research and Development for Microbiology and Immunology „Cantacuzino”
Bucharest <http://www.cantacuzino.ro>
- National Institute of Research-Development in the Pathology Domain and Biomedical Sciences
„Victor Babeș” Bucharest <http://www.ivb.ro>
- Pasteur Institute Bucharest <http://www.pasteur.ro>
- National Institute of Research and Development for Biological Sciences Bucharest
<http://www.dbioro.eu>
- National Research and Development Institute for Soil Science, Agrochemistry and Environment Protection
Bucharest <http://www.icpa.ro>
- Research and Development National Institute of Food Bioresources Bucharest
<http://www.bioresurse.ro>

Infrastructure support:

- National Network for Rural Development (RNDR) <http://www.rndr.ro/Index.aspx>
- Farm Accountancy Data Network (RICA) <http://www.madr.ro/ro/reteaua-de-informatii-contabile-agricole-rica.html>
- Agency of State Domains <http://www.domeniilestatului.ro/>
- National Agency for Land Reclamation <http://www.anif.ro/>
- National Institute of Research and Development for Land Reclamation <http://www.ispif.ro/>

The first Agricultural Cluster „Agro-Food-Ind Napoca” was founded at Cluj-Napoca, Romania in February 2013, at the Cluj County Council initiative <http://www.agrotransilvaniacluster.ro/>.

The general objectives of the cluster are:

- to create a framework for interaction between stakeholders operating in the agro-industrial;
- to create a platform for research, development and innovation;
- to develop, support and promote common interest projects;
- to support the integration of the educational offer with the real needs of the agro-industrial business environment;
- to promote and encourage the entrepreneurship;
- to create tools for the effective management of the information and opportunities in the field;
- to develop national and international partnerships;
- to promote legislative initiatives;
- to identify collaboration opportunities for the financial support through programs, partnerships, tools and / or banking operations;
- to organize and to participate at forums, symposiums, conferences, seminars, debates etc. in the country and abroad.

Intellectual Capacity:

Young people can learn in professional schools and colleges specialized in agriculture and animal breeding.

Superior training is provided in faculties, with the following study programs (<http://www.edu.ro/index.php/articles/21834>):

Field of Undergraduate Studies	Study Program
Agronomy	Agriculture
	Soil Sciences
	Montanology
	Plant Protection
	Machinery and Equipment Operation for Agriculture and Food Industry
Horticulture	Horticulture
	Landscaping
Forest Engineering	Woodprocessing Engineering
	Engineering and design of finished wood
Forestry	Forestry
	Forest Exploitation
	Cynegetics
Agriculture and Rural Development Engineering and management	Economic Engineering in Agriculture
	Engineering and Management in Catering and Tourism

Biotechnologies	Genetic Engineering
	Biotechnologies
Food Engineering	Food Engineering
	Agricultural Products Processing Technology
	Food Control and Expertise
	Fishing and Fish Processing
	Consumer and Environmental Protection
	Extracts and Natural Food Additives
Breeding	Breeding
	Fish Farming and Aquaculture
Veterinary	Veterinary
Economy	Agro-food Economy
	Agro-food and Environmental Economy

Knowledge Creation:

The Academy of Agricultural and Forestry Sciences "Gheorghe Ionescu-Șișești" Bucharest -

<http://www.asas.ro>

National Network for Rural Development (RNDR) www.rndr.ro/Index.aspx

State Institute for Variety Testing and Registration <http://istis.ro/>

Technology Commercialization & Transfer:

Romanian Association for Technology Transfer and Innovation <http://www.its-romania.ro/arott.php>

R&D Funds:

European Funds – through Operational Programmes, Projects, Grants, Contracts:

European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) - regional and urban development

European Social Fund (ESF) - social inclusion and good governance

Cohesion Fund - economic convergence of regions lagging

European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development (EAFRD)

European Fund for Fisheries and Maritime Affairs (EMFF)

National Funds – through budgetary allocations for:

National Plan for Research, Development and Innovation 2007-2013

Research-Development-Innovation in Agro-food Sector Strategy on Medium and Long Term 2014-2020/2020-2030

National Rural Development Programme 2014-2020

National Beekeeping Programme in Romania

Romanian National Support Program for Wine Sector, 2014-2018

<http://www.madr.ro/ro/cercetare-inovare.html>

<http://uefiscdi.gov.ro/>

Agriculture Applied Research Management:

The Academy of Agricultural and Forestry Sciences "Gheorghe Ionescu-Șișești" Bucharest
www.asas.ro

National Institute for Agricultural Research and Development Fundulea, Călărași County
<http://www.incda-fundulea.ro> subordinates:

- Agriculture Research and Development Station Pitești, Argeș county;
- Agriculture Research and Development Station Valu lui Traian, Constanța county;
- Agriculture Research and Development Station Livada, Satu-Mare county;
- Agriculture Research and Development Station Lovrin, Timiș county;
- Agriculture Research and Development Station Podul Iloaiei, Iași county;
- Agriculture Research and Development Station Șimnic, Dolj county;
- Agriculture Research and Development Station Suceava, Suceava county;
- Agriculture Research and Development Station Secuieni, Neamț county;
- Agriculture Research and Development Station Teleorman, Teleorman county;
- Agriculture Research and Development Station Turda, Cluj county;
- Agriculture Research and Development Station Oradea, Bihor county;
- Agriculture Research and Development Station Brăila, Brăila county;
- Agriculture Research and Development Station Mărculești, Călărași county;
- Potato Research and Development Station, Tulcea county.

Research and Development Institute for Plant Protection Bucharest <http://www.icdpp.ro>

Research and Development Institute for Grassland Brașov <http://www.pajisti-grassland.ro>
subordinates:

- Research and Development Station for Grassland Pajiști Jucu, Cluj county;
- Research and Development Station for Grassland Timisoara, Timiș county;
- Research and Development Station for Grassland Vaslui, Vaslui county.

National Institute of Research and Development for Potato and Sugar Beet Brașov
<http://www.potato.ro> subordinates:

- Potato Research and Development Station Târgu Secuiesc, Covasna county;
- Potato Research and Development Station Miercurea Ciuc, Harghita county;
- Sugar Beet Research and Development Station Roman, Neamț county.

Research and Development Institute for Fruit Growing Mărăcineni, Argeș County
<http://www.icdp.ro> subordinates:

- Research and Development Station for Fruit Growing Băneasa, București;
- Research and Development Station for Fruit Growing Cluj, Cluj county;
- Research and Development Station for Fruit Growing Bistrița Bistrița-Năsăud county;

- Research and Development Station for Fruit Growing Valu lui Traian, Constanța county;
- Research and Development Station for Fruit Growing Fălticeni, Neamț county;
- Research and Development Station for Fruit Growing Iași, Iași county;
- Research and Development Station for Fruit Growing, Râmnicu Vâlcea, Vâlcea county;
- Research and Development Station for Fruit Growing Craiova, Dolj county.

Research and Development Institute for Viticulture and Winemaking Valea Calugărească, Prahova County <http://www.icdvv.ro> subordinates:

- Research and Development Station for Viticulture and Winemaking Valea Călugărească;
- Research and Development Station for Viticulture and Winemaking Blaj;
- Research and Development Station for Viticulture and Winemaking Bujoru;
- Research and Development Station for Viticulture and Winemaking Drăgășani;
- Research and Development Station for Viticulture and Winemaking Iași;
- Research and Development Station for Viticulture and Winemaking Murfatlar;
- Research and Development Station for Viticulture and Winemaking Miniș;
- Research and Development Station for Viticulture and Winemaking Odobești.

Research Institute for Vegetable and Floriculture Vidra, Ilfov County <http://www.icdlfvidra.ro> subordinates:

- Research and Development Station for Vegetables Bacău, Bacău county;
- Research and Development Station for Vegetables Buzău, Buzău county;
- Research and Development Station for Vegetables Ișalnița, Dolj county;
- Research and Development Station for Vegetables Iernut, Mureș county.

Research and Development Institute for Cattle Breeding Balotești, Ilfov County <http://www.icdcb.ro> subordinates:

- Research and Development Station for Cattle Breeding Arad, Arad county;
- Research and Development Station for Cattle Breeding Dancu, Iași county;
- Research and Development Station for Cattle Breeding Dulbanu, Buzău county;
- Research and Development Station for Cattle Breeding Tg. Mureș, Mureș county;
- Research and Development Station for Cattle Breeding Șercaia, Brașov county;
- Research and Development Station for Cattle Breeding Sighet, Maramureș county.

Research and Development Institute for Sheep and Goats Palas, Constanța county <http://www.icdcocpalas.ro> subordinates:

- Research and Development Station for Sheep and Goats Secuieni, Bacău county;
- Research and Development Station for Sheep and Goats Reghin, Mureș county;
- Research and Development Station for Sheep and Goats Caransebeș, Caraș-Severin county;

- Research and Development Station for Sheep and Goats Bilciurești, Dâmbovița county;
- Research and Development Station for Sheep and Goats Popăuți, Botoșani county.

Research and Development Centres:

- Research and Development Centre for Plant Growing on Sandy Soil Dăbuleni, județul Olt.
- Research and Development Centre for Preventing Soil Erosion Perieni, județul Vaslui.
- Research and Development Centre for Fish Farming Nucet, județul Dâmbovița.
- Sericulture Research Station Băneasa, București.

National Office of Vine and Wine products <http://www.onvpv.ro/>

County Agricultural Departments <http://www.madr.ro/ro/directii-agricole-judetene.html>

Research & development Links:

National Institute for Agricultural Research and Development Fundulea <http://www.incda-fundulea.ro>

Research and Extension Center for Agriculture, Forestry, Rural Development and Environment
Protection Bucharest <http://www.acex.ro/index.html>

National Institute of Research and Development for Environment Protection Bucharest
<http://www.incdpm.ro/production/en/>

National Agency for Animal Breeding and Reproduction Bucharest
<http://www.anarz.eu/AnarzAdministratorSite/public/ANARZ.aspx>

6. National Statistics

Sector Statistics

Key agricultural statistics for 2012 (EU Report 24/11/2013):

Utilized agricultural area (1 000 ha): 13 306

Number of holdings (1000 holdings): 3 859

UAA per holding (ha): 3.4

Employment in the agriculture, forestry, hunting and fishing sector (1000 persons): 2 815

Share in employed civilian working population (%): 30.6

Output of the agricultural industry (Mio EUR): 14 410

Consumption of inputs (Mio EUR): 8 209

Gross value-added at basic prices (Mio EUR): 6 201

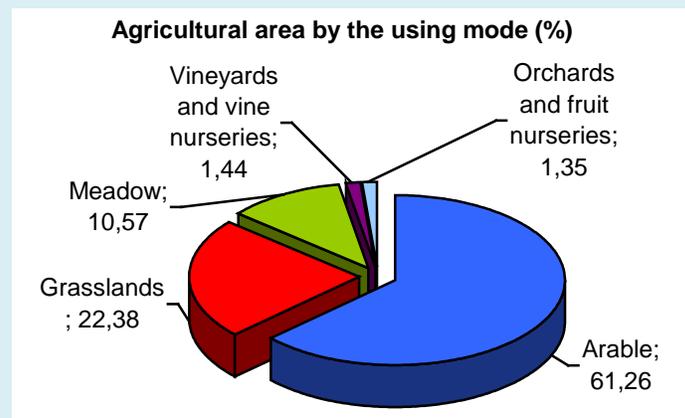
Share of products in agricultural production:

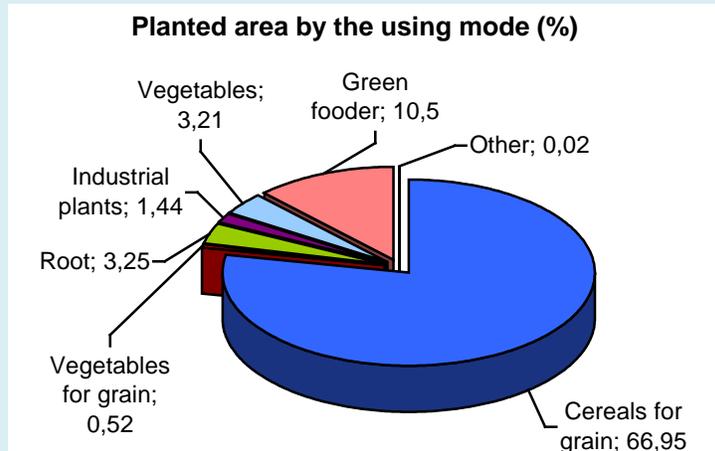
Source: http://ec.europa.eu/agriculture/statistics/agricultural/2013/index_en.htm

Lands:

Of the 23.8 million hectares as sums Romania, the agricultural area used on farms is about 13.3 million hectares (55.9%), of which about 8.3 million Hectares are arable land.

By use arable land occupies about 62.5% of the agricultural area, cereals and oilseeds occupy about 80% of the arable land.





The ratio of arable land and population means that each citizen of Romania represents about 0.41 hectares of arable land, a superior value than many European Union countries and nearly double than the EU27 average, which is 0.212 ha / capita.

Romanian agricultural land prices increased 25 times during 2002-2012, with an annual appreciation rate of 40%, the highest among 15 markets in world agriculture.

The average price of Romanian farmland has been indicated at the \$ 6,400/Hectare (4,600 euro/Hectare), close to those of France and Brazil, but over the value of a hectare in Australia, Hungary and Canada.

Agricultural land market in Romania was liberalized in 2014 for individual investors from the European Union, therefore the Parliament passed a law to transactions in agricultural land that gives precedence to purchase to the local communities.

Foreign investors control through ownership or long-term lease agreements about one million hectares of arable land.

Source: www.madr.ro, *Romanian Statistical Yearbook 2013*, *Eurostat Yearbook 2010 (date 2007)*, www.zf.ro

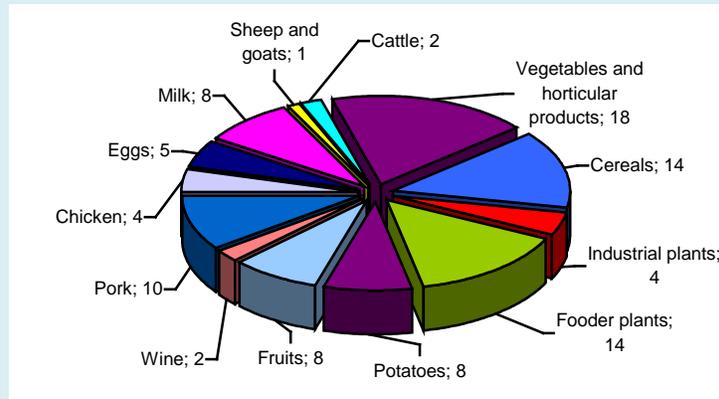
Crops: The structure of agricultural product in 2011:

- ✓ Vegetal products sector: 70,8%
- ✓ Livestock sector: 28,5%
- ✓ Agricultural services: 0,7%

Traditionally, Romania is a major producer of grains and oilseeds, these crops occupying, every year, the largest areas. Thus, in 2011, of the 8.1 million hectares cultivated area, 5.2 million hectares (64%) were cereal grains, and 1.5 million hectares (18%) oilseeds (NSI, 2012).

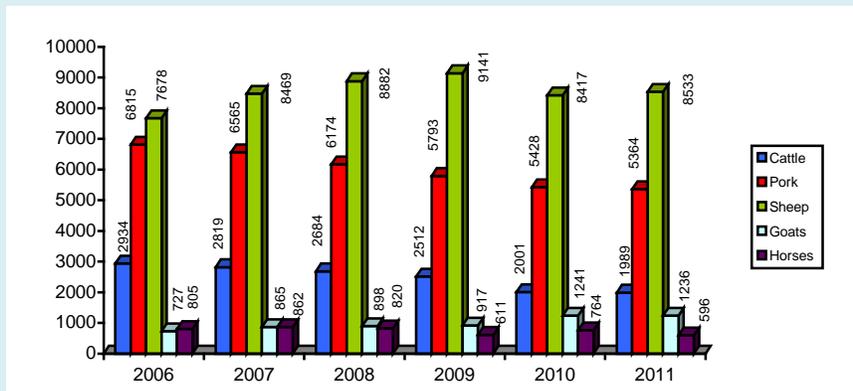
Significant share value into the structure of agricultural production in 2007-2011 had vegetables and horticultural products (18%), cereals (14%), fodder (14%) and of livestock products, pig meat (10%) and milk (8.3%).

The structure of the Romanian agricultural production (average 2007-2011 in current prices to producer)



Sursa: EC, DG Agri, Member States Factsheets, 2012 (http://www.fonduri-ue.ro/res/filepicker_users/cd25a597fd-62/2014-2020/Dezbateri%20parteneriale/Rezultatele%20analizei%20documentare/03.06.2013/12.Agriculture%20and%20rural%20development_22%20mai.pdf)

Evolution of livestock during 2006-2011



Sursa: Romanian Statistical Yearbook, NSI, 2012 (http://www.fonduri-ue.ro/res/filepicker_users/cd25a597fd-62/2014-2020/Dezbateri%20parteneriale/Rezultatele%20analizei%20documentare/03.06.2013/12.Agriculture%20and%20rural%20development_22%20mai.pdf)

Farm business:

http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/statistics_explained/index.php/Farm_structure_in_Romania

Agro-Processing: <http://www.insse.ro/cms/ro/content/anuarul-statistic-2012>

Rural development statistics

Trade Statistics: 2013

By category of product	Total trade	Trade with EU countries		Trade with non-EU countries	
	Million EUR	Million EUR	% change 2013/2012	Million EUR	% change 2013/2012
Exports					
Commodities	2 041.7	543.2	-14.4%	1 498.5	89.7%
Intermediate	1 697.2	1 219.0	30.8%	478.2	77.3%
Final products	1 551.9	1 401.2	9.4%	150.7	14.2%
Other products	54.7	41.0	1.1%	13.7	19.1%
Total agricultural products	5 345.5	3 204.4	11.0%	2 141.1	78.0%
as % of total exports	10.8%	9.3%	-	14.2%	-
Imports					
Commodities	623.2	415.6	-11.3%	207.6	22.1%
Intermediate	1 322.7	855.6	-4.6%	467.1	-10.1%
Final products	2 915.2	2 633.9	12.3%	281.3	1.5%
Other products	90.3	87.1	4.9%	3.2	-21.3%
Total agricultural products	4 951.5	3 992.3	5.2%	959.1	-1.2%
as % of total imports	9.0%	9.5%	-	7.1%	-
Balance					
Commodities	1 418.5	127.6	-	1 291.0	-
Intermediate	374.5	363.3	-	11.1	-
Final products	-1 363.3	-1 232.7	-	-130.6	-
Other products	-35.7	-46.1	-	10.5	-
Total agricultural products	394.0	-787.9	-	1 182.0	-

Note: Other products = products that do not bear a direct linkage to agriculture, e.g. waters, flavours...
Source: Directorate General for Agriculture and Rural Development, based on COMEXT data. Updated: May 2014.

Fact Sheets:

ROMANIA Factsheet, issued by the EU, June 2014

http://ec.europa.eu/agriculture/statistics/factsheets/pdf/ro_en.pdf

Other:

The national strategy for sustainable development of the agro-food sector and rural areas in the period 2014 - 2020 - 2030:

<http://www.presidency.ro/static/Cadrul%20National%20Strategic%20Rural.pdf>

Socio-economic analysis in the perspective of rural development 2014-2020:

<http://www.madr.ro/docs/dezvoltare-rurala/programare-2014-2020/analiza-dezvoltarii-rurale-agricultura-iulie-2013.pdf>

European funds for agriculture. Romania options for direct payments (2014-2020):

<http://www.crpe.ro/wp-content/uploads/2013/08/CRPE-Policy-Memo-nr.-42-Optiunile-Romaniei-privind-platile-directe.pdf>

Analysis of the Meat and Meat Products in Romania:

http://www.dce.gov.ro/Info_business/sectoare/sectCarneProdCarne2012.pdf

Analysis of the Grain potential export in Romania:

http://www.dce.gov.ro/Info_business/produse/Cereale2012.pdf

Analysis of the Agriculture and Food industry in Romania:

http://www.dce.gov.ro/Info_business/sectoare/sectAgrIndAlim2012.pdf

7. Official Quality Standards

Official Standards, Regulations and Links related to :

Principles & requirements of food law related to:

Health Protection: The assurance of high level of protection of human life and health (Environment, Animals, Plants)

Free Movement Food: The free movement of food as an essential aspect of the internal market.

Consumers' interest: Protection of consumers' interests

The National Sanitary Veterinary and Food Safety - ANSVSA is the institution responsible for the quality and performance of official controls relating to plant protection activities, plant protection products and fertilizers, veterinary activities, animals health and welfare.

<http://www.ansvsa.ro/?pag=1>

Since 2009 the Authority's control activity related to agriculture and food products is done by national plans. For the period 2014-2016 is available the **Romanian National Multiannual Integrated Control Unique Plan (PNC)**.

http://www.ansvsa.ro/upload/admin/documente/PNCUI_2014_2016_anexe.pdf

The plan is developed in accordance with European Community Regulation no. 882/2004 on official controls.

PNC is developed by ANSVSA together with other competent authorities for organizing and carrying out official controls in Romania, namely:

- Ministry of Health;
- Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development;
- National Authority for Consumer Protection;
- Ministry of Environment and Climate Changes;
- Ministry of Internal Affairs;
- Ministry of Justice;
- Ministry of National Defence.

Important links:

- **Rapid Alert System for Food and Feed - RASFF Romania**

http://www.ansvsa.ro/upload/admin/altele/RASFF_Notificari_europene_28.08.2014.pdf

- **Strategic Programme for monitoring, control and eradication of rabies in Romania**

http://www.ansvsa.ro/upload/admin/altele/2_afis_Atentionare_A3.jpg

- **European Food Safety Authority - EFSA,**

<http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/aboutefsa.htm>

The European Food Safety Authority (EFSA) is the keystone of European Union (EU) risk assessment regarding food and feed safety. In close collaboration with national authorities and in open consultation with its stakeholders, EFSA provides independent scientific advice and clear communication on existing and emerging risks.

EFSA is an independent European agency funded by the EU budget that operates separately from the European Commission, European Parliament and EU Member States.

The agriculture inspection activity is conducted by **the State Inspection Department of the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development**. Its subordinate bodies are:

Fruit and vegetable production and exploitation

State Inspection for Technical Control in the Production and Exploitation of Vegetables and Fruit (ISCTPVLF) <http://www.madr.ro/ro/inspectia-legume-fructe.html>

It is the authority responsible for coordinating activities regarding the quality standards conformity control retrieved in Law no. 348/2003 on fruit growing and Law no. 312/2003 on production and

exploitation of field vegetables.

It is organized and operated by:

- coordinating authority - at the ministry level;
- control bodies - at the agriculture county departments level.

Quality standards control:

- is a selling standards conformity control applied in the fresh fruits and vegetables sector;
- is one of the essential elements that ensure the proper functioning of fresh fruit and vegetables sector;
- covers the following areas: agronomic, commercial, organoleptic, nutritional and health;
- is determined by the commercial aspect of the fresh products offered for sale by their visual characteristics;
- provides a representative reference frame in the field;
- ensure compliance with the commercial parameters.

The control is carried out in all phases of fresh fruits and vegetables selling, to check 37 species of fruits and vegetables in order to respect the Community provisions:

- a group of 10 fruits and vegetables (apples, citrus fruits, kiwi, peaches and nectarines, pears, strawberries, grapes, lettuce, curled-leaved endive, broad leaf endive, peppers and tomatoes);
- a second group of cucumber, onion, mushrooms culture, green beans, carrots, eggplants, cantaloupe, watermelon, garlic, cabbage, apricots, cherries and sour cherries, walnuts and prunes;
- the third group with the rest of fruits and vegetables types.

Inspection activities of genetically modified organisms - IMG <http://www.madr.ro/ro/inspectia-in-the-bodies-modified-genetic.html>

Perform official controls to ensure the traceability of genetically modified production, from growing up to the warehouse.

Responsibilities:

- monitor and control the cultivation of genetically modified plants, allowed to be grown;
- carry out inspections and controls to the companies cultivating genetically modified plants;
- perform information campaigns, notices the farmers;
- monitor and verify isolation distance;
- inventories the areas planted with genetically modified crops;
- apply legal measures to eliminate unauthorized genetically modified plants;
- collaborate with other institutions in order to respect the national legislation on GMO's;
- prepare and implement the genetically modified crops sampling plan, from the stored production, which will be sent to the country accredited laboratories for specific analysis.

Inspection activities of fertilizers - IDF <http://www.madr.ro/ro/inspectia-in-the-fertilizantilor.html>

Ensures compliance with Regulation (EC) no. 2003/2003 on the fertilizers movement and national legislation.

Minimum requirements for the fertilizers use necessary to ensure agri-environmental measures are included in the National Rural Development Programme (RDP) 2014-2020, 2007-2013.

http://www.madr.ro/docs/dezvoltare-rurala/PNDR_2007-2013_versiunea-enhanced-august2014.pdf

Plant control

It refers to:

- plant protection and plant quarantine;
- plant protection products approval;
- after approval control of plant protection products;
- plants and plant products pesticide residues;

- national action plan for the pesticides sustainable use;
- procedure to avoid conflicts of interest;
- national strategy for plant.

Phytosanitary policy - established by Order no. 38 of 11 February 2009.

Central Plant Laboratory was established by Government Decision no. 753/2010. It is an institution subordinated to the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development - National Phytosanitary Agency. It is a national reference unit, accredited according to ISO 17025/2005.

Laboratory performs:

- detection and identification of plants and plant products harmful organisms;
- quality control of plant protection products;
- evaluation of dossiers for approval new products;
- customs plant inspections;
- monitoring of pesticide residues in fruits, vegetables and grains;
- implementation of quality assurance system according to ISO 17025;
- strengthening administrative capacity and professional training;
- technical and methodological training of specialists;
- participation in the field inter-laboratory studies;
- creating and maintaining harmful organisms reference collections.

Animal health and welfare

Institute for Animal Diagnosis and Health <http://www.idah.ro/>

Institute for Diagnosis and Animal Health (IDSA) is a legal unit and operates as a national interest public institution, subordinated to the National Sanitary Veterinary and Food Safety Authority.

It has a sanitary-veterinary complex activity for which are levied charges based on the Order no. 96/2014 regarding the approval of tariffs applicable in the veterinary and food safety.

Institute for Veterinary Hygiene and Public Health <http://www.iispv.ro>

Its role is to sanitary-veterinary monitor the food by checking the levels of pollutants, additives, organic load, biotoxins, before food enters in the food chain.

Responsibilities:

- guidance, technical coordination and control of the County Health Department laboratories;
- expansion and optimization methods;
- organize inter-laborator testing;
- drafting legislation;
- participation in advisory committees for substances and new products to be introduced in agricultural and veterinary practice;
- conducting epidemiological investigations;
- expertise and laboratory tests.

Institute for the control of biological products and veterinary medicines

<http://www.icbmv.ro/ro/>

The Institute main objective, as the competent European authority, is to help protect and promote animal health and, therefore, consumer health and protection.

The Institute performs:

- evaluation of the veterinary medicines technical documentation, in order to place on market and use in Romanian veterinary medical practice of safe and effective medicine products;
- evaluation of the biocides products technical documentation in order to obtain the selling advice, to place on market and use in Romania of certain safe and effective disinfectants products;
- evaluation of the kits and diagnostic reagents technical documentation, in order to place on market

and use in Romania of safe products;

- quality control of veterinary medicines by conducting The Surveillance and Control Program;
- ensuring access for interested people to the useful information on veterinary medicines authorized for selling in Romania.

Customs control

Customs General Directorate www.customs.ro

It is the institutions which apply the Romanian Customs Code Regulations as a member state of the European Union. For the products subject to sanitary-veterinary and food safety control, which enter and leaving Romania, are set special border inspection posts.

[http://www.customs.ro/ro/vamuirea_marfurilor/produse-supuse-controlului-veterinar/lista_posturilor_de_inspectie_la_frontiera_in_care_sunt_organizate_controale_sanitare_ve](http://www.customs.ro/ro/vamuirea_marfurilor/produse-supuse-controlului-veterinar/lista_posturilor_de_inspectie_la_frontiera_in_care_sunt_organizate_controale_sanitare_vegetinare_si_pentru_siguranta_alimentelor_si_programul_de_lucru_al_acestora.aspx)

Also, there are some state border crossings points where the phytosanitary control is organized.

http://www.customs.ro/ro/vamuirea_marfurilor/vegetale-i-produse-vegetale/lista_punctelor_de_trecere_a_fronierei_de_stat_in_care_este_organizat_control_fitosanitar.aspx

For the consumer

Food Inspection – IIA <http://www.madr.ro/ro/inspectia-in-industria-alimentara.html>

Its activity covers the technical rules concerning the food nature, content, origin, manufacture, packaging, labelling, storage and quality. It is based on 23 ministerial orders.

<http://www.madr.ro/ro/inspectia-in-industria-alimentara/legislatia-specifica-iscia.html>

Traditional products

The law governing this matter is available on the website of the National Authority for Consumer Protection

http://www.anpc.gov.ro/index.php?option=com_content&view=category&layout=blog&id=31&Itemid=38

Food Safety Requirements:

Packaging and Labelling

The law governing these matters is available on:

<http://www.madr.ro/ro/inspectia-in-industria-alimentara/legislatia-specifica-iscia.html>

[http://www.mmediu.ro/beta/wp-content/uploads/2012/06/2012-06-](http://www.mmediu.ro/beta/wp-content/uploads/2012/06/2012-06-04_biosecuritate_hg106din2002actualizataetichetarealimente.pdf)

[04_biosecuritate_hg106din2002actualizataetichetarealimente.pdf](http://www.mmediu.ro/beta/wp-content/uploads/2012/06/2012-06-04_biosecuritate_hg106din2002actualizataetichetarealimente.pdf)

http://europa.eu/legislation_summaries/consumers/product_labelling_and_packaging/l21090_ro.htm

Risk Analysis:

Risk Assessment:

The removal of the risks related to food, human health, animal health and welfare, genetically modified products, food additives etc. is done together with their certification and standardization.

The need for safe agricultural products certification and standardization is requested, also, by the major retailers.

The Romanian Standards Association <http://www.asro.ro/>

The standardization is nationally organized by the national standardization body - ASRO. At European

level (regional) operates the European standardization organizations CEN, CENELEC and ETSI, and internationally operates the International Standardization Organizations ISO and CEI.

The economic operators, professional associations, public institutions, market surveillance authorities, conformity assessment bodies, consumer associations and other stakeholders participate in standardization activities in order to promote their interests in the field.

Quality legislation:

- Law no. 150/2004 on food safety
- Law no. 245/2004 on general product safety, supplemented by other documents relating to food hygiene, feed, food, health rules and animal welfare.

Global Gap is an internationally recognized standard for agricultural production. GLOBAL GAP certification covers:

- food safety and traceability;
- environment (including biodiversity);
- workers health, safety and welfare;
- animal welfare;
- Integrated Crop Management (ICM);
- Harmful Organisms Integrated Control (IPC);
- Quality Management System (QMS);
- Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Points (HACCP).

GLOBAL GAP requires a comprehensive approach in the agricultural production, which leads to the development of best practices. GLOBAL GAP certification provides to the products a greater competitiveness in the food market and new business development opportunities.

Risk Management:

HACCP Standards (Hazard Analysis and Critical Control)

<http://www.racis.ro/module/servicii/haccp.php>

International law include EC Council Directive 93/43 / EEC / June 14, 1993, EU Regulation 178/2002, the Romanian Law no. 150/2004 and Government Decision no. 924/August 11, 2005.

HACCP can't be certified.

HACCP is:

- part of the quality management system;
- condition for obtaining the sanitary-veterinary operating authorization;
- self control preventive method of assurance food harmlessness.

HACCP:

- increase customers and company employees confidence in its ability to make safe for consumption products;
- limit incidents involving the company legal responsibility;
- demonstrate compliance with the actual relevant legislation.

ISO 22000 is an international standard designed to ensure the worldwide food chains safety. ISO 22000 allows the creation of a food safety management system, including the principles of HACCP plan and requirements for food chain safety.

ISO 22000 is a standard that can be certified and:

- ensure better implementation of the HACCP system;
- include benefits of implementing HACCP.

It applies to all companies in the food industry (food production, packaging, transport, storage, serving and selling), regardless of their size and complexity.

ISO 22000 is structured as ISO 9001 which allows an easier implementation in the companies that are already certified ISO 9001.

ISO 31000 is a new standard for risk management. It can be used by any organization. It is not specific to any sector and any industry.

Consumers Interest:

National Authority for Consumer Protection

http://www.anpc.gov.ro/index.php?option=com_content&view=featured&Itemid=72

The authority:

- coordinate and implement strategy and government policy in the field of consumer protection;
- acts to prevent and combat harmful practices of life, health, safety and economic interests of consumers.

The Authority has the following objectives:

- creation of a national legal framework on consumer protection compatible with the European Union one;
- activity to inform and educate citizens about their rights as consumers;
- carrying out the market surveillance activities for consumers products and services;
- the consumers' protection against unfair trade practices etc.

Traceability system:

Inspection activities of genetically modified organisms - IMG

<http://www.madr.ro/ro/inspectia-in-domeniul-organismelor-modificate-genetic.html>

It performs official controls to ensure traceability of genetically modified production, from growing up to the warehouse.

The traceability is regulated by art. 18 of the Law on food safety.

<http://www.ansvsa.ro/?pag=318>

The new rules on traceability - another challenge for companies in Romania

According to the European Commission Decision, from July 1, 2012, all the EU Member States are forced to apply the new Regulation (931/2011) regarding the food traceability requirements. To learn more you can access <http://www.aptus.ro/images/stories/Regulamentul-CE-nr. 931 2011.pdf>.

Export –Import:

<http://www.customs.ro/ro/politica-farm-comuna.aspx>

EU trade policy related to agricultural products, custom, additional and refunds duties causes a significant impact on the competitiveness influencing the volume and value of imports, also the export performance.

The common agricultural policy measures are financed from the European Union through the European Agricultural Guarantee Fund (EAGF), which is the largest component of the Community budget.

In Romania, the paying agency is the Agency for Payments and Intervention in Agriculture (APIA), which, also, manage payments made in the agricultural and food products foreign trade, in accordance with European Union legislation.

The principles of trade mechanisms applied within the European Union for various agricultural markets are available on the website <http://www.apia.org.ro>.

The customs and agricultural duties are considered traditional own resources; they are collected by member states from companies, according to their national procedures and adjusted, where necessary, to meet the requirements of the Community own resources.

The agro-food trade with third countries includes the condition of holding an import/export license. The import/export licenses field and application are set out in Regulation (EC) no. 376/2008 of April 23, 2008.

Licenses for agricultural products import/export are drawn up on AGRIM and AGREX forms, being valid in all EU member states. In Romania are issued by APIA.

The customs authority records and certifies, on the license form, the used quantities, as stated as part of the customs clearance process.

The company wishing to obtain export refunds is required to hold a license for export refunds or a certificate establishing advance refund.

The field of export refunds is established by the European Commission. The products eligible for export refunds are described by 12 digits codes - NRE (Nomenclature for Export Refunds) and 8 digit codes (CN) for the market of processed products - Non-Annex I.

Currently, is available the 12 digits codes structure. The applying principles for the export refunds mechanism is established by the Commission Regulation (EC) no. 612/2009.

The documents accompanying the customs declaration for free circulation release are:

- the bill based on which is declared the goods customs value;
- the statement with necessary elements for determining the declared goods customs value;
- the documents required for the application of a preferential tariff arrangement or other derogating measures from the legal rules applicable to the declared goods;
- transport documents or, where appropriate, previous customs regime related documents;
- packing list or an equivalent document indicating the contents of each package where in customs it presents a good in one or more packages;
- other documents required for the application of the provisions governing the declared goods release for free circulation.

http://www.customs.ro/ro/agenti_economici/proceduri_vamale/plasarea_marfurilor_sub_un_regim_vamal/punerea_in_libera_circulatie.aspx

Food Health:

The National Sanitary Veterinary and Food Safety Authority – ANSVSA <http://www.ansvsa.ro/?pag=1>

Plan Health:

Research and Development Institute for Plant Protection <http://www.icdpp.ro/ro/index>

Phytosanitary Certificate:

Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development has in its structures:

- **National Phytosanitary Agency**, which operates through the Plant Protection Products Approval Department; the Plant Protection and Plant Quarantine Service, the Monitoring Department <http://anfdf.ro/>

It technically coordinates the following public institutions responsible for field specific licenses:

- Phytosanitary Quarantine Central Laboratory;
- Plant Protection Research Institute;
- Plants and Plant Products Pesticide Residues Control Laboratory.

- **County and Bucharest plant units**

<http://www.madr.ro/docs/fitosanitar/personal-unitati-fitosanitare-judetene-decembrie-2013.pdf>

The required permits and certificates list can be found on

http://anfdf.ro/legislatie/avize_dmapdr.pdf

- **Other institutions**, which have a checking role in the compliance of phytosanitary and plant quarantine regime regulations are:

Plant police <http://www.madr.ro/ro/politia-fitosanitara.html>;

Customs Directorate http://www.customs.ro/ro/vamuirea_marfurilor/vegetale-i-produse-vegetale/lista_punctelor_de_trecere_a_fronierei_de_stat_in_care_este_organizat_control_fitosanitar.aspx

Databases:

The Ministry Departments and Agencies responsible for livestock issues also deals with the field databases creating and updating.

<http://www.madr.ro/ro/cresterea-animalelor.html>

The Ministry Departments and Agencies responsible for horticulture issues also deals with the field databases creating and updating.

<http://www.madr.ro/ro/horticultura/fructe-si-legume.html>,

<http://www.madr.ro/ro/horticultura/seminte-material-saditor.html>,

<http://www.madr.ro/ro/horticultura/viticultura-vinificatie.html>

<http://www.madr.ro/ro/horticultura/floricultura.html>

Rules on pesticides residues in food:

The Monitoring Plan of pesticide residues in vegetables, fruits and grains:

- is part of the Integrated National Control Plan (NCP);
- is draw up in accordance with European Community Regulation no. 882/2004.

<http://www.madr.ro/ro/reziduuri-de-pesticide-in-plante-si-produse-vegetale/planul-national-de-monitorizare-a-reziduurilor-de-pesticide.html>

Quality Package:

Quality Regulations:

Romania applies the EU harmonized legislation in the field of packaging.

There are two EU Directives:

- [Directive 76/211/EEC](#) related to the pre-packaging by weight or by volume of certain prepackaged products;
- [Directive 2007/45/EC](#) laying down rules on nominal quantities for pre-packed products.

Additional Information:

http://europa.eu/legislation_summaries/consumers/product_labelling_and_packaging/index_ro.htm

Database of Origin & Registration – DOOR:

The Database of Origin & Registration (DOOR) project supports the agricultural product quality policy by providing a modern IT system for the dissemination of public data with regard to registered PDOs (Protected Designations of Origin), PGIs (Protected Geographical Indications) and TSG (Traditional Specialities Guaranteed) through Europa.

In November 2012, Regulation [1151/2012](#) on quality schemes for agricultural products and foodstuffs repealing Council Regulation [510/2006](#), was published. It came into force on January 3, 2013.

Regulation 1151/2012 sets out the mechanisms to protect PDOs and PGIs in third countries. In any case, some additional regulations need to be adopted for it to be fully functional.

Note: Wines and spirit drinks are covered by separate legislation.

Lists of protected names by country, product type, registered name, and name applied for are

available through the Commission's online "[DOOR](#)" (Database of Origin and Registration) database.

Brochures & Publication:

Romania Standards Association <http://www.asro.ro/>

"Standardizarea" Publishing House <http://standardizarea.ro/publicatii/index.html>

AFNOR - international services group organized around four main areas of expertise: standardization, certification, specialized editing and training.

<http://www.afnor.ro/ro/bun-venit/domeniul-dumneavoastra-de-activitate/industria-agroalimentara>

Links:

The National Sanitary Veterinary and Food Safety Authority – ANSVSA <http://www.ansvsa.ro/?pag=1>

8. Other Information related to:

Ministry of Agriculture and other Public Institutions

Branches/Agencies (Branch Mandate, Program, Strategy):

Agricultural Research:

Academy of Agricultural and Forestry Sciences "Gheorghe Ionescu-Șișești" (ASAS) www.asas.ro

It is a specialized public institution, academic consecration and scientific coordination, legal person, and works as its own status. The Academy activity is related to that of the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development (MARD), the Ministry of Environment and Climate Change, the Ministry of National Education. It has branches in six cities, where function the biggest national universities.

Activity description: leads the research on the current needs of agriculture in Romania and contributes to the knowledge transfer acceleration and innovation in agriculture.

ASAS has nine scientific departments: Agricultural Economics and Rural Development; Horticulture; Food Industry; Mechanization; Veterinary Medicine; Field Crop; Forestry; Soil Science Land Reclamation and Environmental Protection; Livestock Breeding.

Research and Development unit subordinated to the Academy of Agricultural and Forestry Sciences "Gheorghe Ionescu-Șișești" Bucharest:

- National Institute for Agricultural Research and Development Fundulea, Călărași County, subordinated 14 Agriculture Research and Development Stations

<http://www.incda-fundulea.ro>

- Research and Development Institute for Plant Protection Bucharest

<http://www.icdpp.ro>

- Research and Development Institute for Grassland Brașov, subordinated 3 Research and Development Stations for Grassland

<http://www.pajisti-grassland.ro>

- National Institute of Research and Development for Potato and Sugar Beet Brașov, subordinated 3 Potato Research and Development Stations

<http://www.potato.ro>

- Research and Development Institute for Fruit Growing Mărcineni, Argeș County, subordinated 8 Research and Development Stations for Fruit Growing

<http://www.icdp.ro>

- Research and Development Institute for Viticulture and Winemaking Valea Calugărească, Prahova County, subordinated 8 Research and Development Stations for Viticulture and Winemaking

<http://www.icdvv.ro>

- Research Institute for Vegetable and Floriculture Vidra, Ilfov County subordinated 4 Research and Development Stations for Vegetables

<http://www.icdlfvidra.ro>

- Research and Development Institute for Industrialization and Marketing of Horticultural Products „Horting” București

<http://www.horting.ro>

- National Institute for Research-Development in Animal Biology and Nutrition Balotești, Ilfov

County

<http://www.ibna.ro>

- Institute of Research and Development for Aquatic Ecology, Fishing and Aquaculture Galați

<http://www.tuugo.ro>

- Research Institute of Agricultural Economics and Rural Development Bucharest

<http://www.iceadr.ro>

- Research and Development Institute for Montanology Cristian, Sibiu County

- Research and Development Institute for Cattle Breeding Balotești, Ilfov County subordinated 6
Research and Development Stations for Cattle Breeding

<http://www.icdcb.ro>

- Research and Development Institute for Sheep and Goats Palas, Constanța County, subordinated
5 Research and Development Stations for Sheep and Goats

<http://www.icdcopalas.ro>

Research and Development Centres:

- Research and Development Centre for Plant Growing on Sandy Soil Dăbuleni, Olt County

- Research and Development Centre for Preventing Soil Erosion Perieni, Vaslui County

- Research and Development Centre for Fish Farming Nucet, Dâmbovița County

- Sericulture Research Station Băneasa, București

National Office of Vine and Wine Products <http://www.onvpv.ro/>

Communication: <http://www.asas.ro/wcmqs/>

Corporate Services:

The "ASAS Heritage" Foundation

Foundation aims to support ASAS to stimulate, support and develop the scientific research, innovation, technology transfer and original creations in ASAS domains, to promote them in the country and abroad, and its social activities.

According to the statute, between the types of activities are included:

- developing the consulting programs, services specialized assistance

<http://www.asas.ro/wcmqs/fundatia/fundatia+asas+-+statut.pdf>

- providing news and public information

<http://www.asas.ro/wcmqs/noutati/interes-public/>

- point of views

<http://www.asas.ro/wcmqs/noutati/interes-public/articol+05.html>

Crops & Irrigation Branches:

" Field Plants Growing " Section

<http://www.asas.ro/wcmqs/sectii/plante-camp/> , <http://www.madr.ro/ro/culturi-de-camp.html>

It contributes to the development of national strategies, technologies and innovation in the field. The applied activity is conducted by the National Institute for Agricultural Research and Development Fundulea and the Agricultural Research and Development Stations from Turda, Lovrin, Teleorman, Secuieni and Valu lui Traian.

"Soil Science, Land Reclamation and Environmental Protection" Section

<http://www.asas.ro/wcmqs/sectii/stiinta-solului/>
<http://www.madr.ro/ro/fond-funciar-si-imbunatatiri-funciare.html>

It contributes to the development of national strategies, technologies and innovation in the field. Applied activity is carried out to:

- Research and Development National Institute for Soil Science, Agrochemistry and Environment Protection Bucharest;
- Research and Development Centre for Soil Erosion Combating Perieni;
- Research and Development National Institute for Land Reclamation - I.N.C.D.I.F. - "ISPIF" Bucharest.

Policy: http://ec.europa.eu/dgs/agriculture/index_en.htm

Regional Services: <http://www.cdep.ro/proiecte/2009/300/30/7/ax337.pdf>

Annual Reports:

<http://www.asas.ro/wcmqs/asset/a1f5871e-7e9e-4896-8fdb-707b7715a813/Anuar+ASAS+2013.pdf>

<http://www.asas.ro/wcmqs/noutati/relatii-internationale/activitati-curente/rapoarte-anuale/>

Performance Plans:

The agriculture future and performance are conditioned by: farm management, irrigation availability, technologies quality, inputs quality, farming quality, supply and trading prices etc.

All are strategic objectives of the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development in Romania.

http://www.madr.ro/docs/dezvoltare-rurala/programare-2014-2020/PNDR_2014_-_2020_01.07.2014.pdf

Programs & Services:

Agriculture Awareness Initiatives:

<http://www.viitorul.org/newsview.php?l=ro&idc=132&id=3220&t=/STIRI-EVENIMENTE-IDIS/Producatorii-autohtoni-sunt-cei-care-trebuie-sa-lupte-pentru-recunoasterea-indicatiilor-geografice-si-denumirilor-de-origine-in-cadrul-UE>

<http://www.madr.ro/ro/axa-leader/legislatie-axa-leader.html>

<http://www.sgsgroup.ro/ro-RO/Agriculture-Food/Food/Primary-Production/Awareness->

[Training/AHA-Food-Allergen-Management-Awareness-Training.aspx](#)

<http://fngal.ro/misiune/>

Agriculture Innovation, Research and Technology Transfer:

The national legislation includes entities that perform research and development in a national system. It includes all establishments and institutions of public and private law, legal persons, which concerns of research and development.

"Agro-Ecological Center of Research, Innovation and Technology Transfer" within the Agricultural Research and Development Institute Fundulea

http://85.120.75.151/a-fost-infiintat-centrul-agro-ecologic-de-cercetare-inovare-si-transfer-tehnologic-in-cadrul-institutului-de-cercetare-dezvoltare-agricola_11a47051.html

Ministry of National Education, within Technology Transfer and Infrastructure Department, draws-up **the Registry of Accredited and Temporarily Authorized Entities from the innovation and technology transfer infrastructure.**

<http://www.research.ro/ro/categorie/1069/sistemul-de-cercetare-infrastructura-inovare-si-transfer-tehnologic-incubatoare-tehnologice-si-de-afaceri>

Environment:

Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development collaborates with the Ministry of Environment and Climate Change. The rural development programs include measures to protect and improve the environment and resources in rural areas. These measures include: preserving water quality, durable sustainable management, trees planting against erosion and desertification etc.

The plans and programs includes:

The National Action Plan for Environmental Protection

http://www.anpm.ro/planul_national_de_actiune_pentru_protectia_mediului-529,
implemented by **Regional and Local Action Plans.**

National Strategy and National Action Plan for the Romanian Contaminated Sites Management

http://mmediu.ro/new/wp-content/uploads/2014/01/2013-10-29_Raport_mediu.pdf

Trade and Market Development:

The promoting of agricultural and food industry products is a strategic priority of the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development. The Ministry currently requires opinions and proposals on this issue, which are expected on its website within a dedicated questionnaire.

<http://www.madr.ro/ro/promovarea-produselor-alimentare-romanesti.html>

Information regarding the national and international markets issues, prices, product promotion are supported by specialized publications:

Agricultural Market: <http://www.piataagricola.eu/>

<http://www.bursaagricola.ro/>

<http://www.agroinfo.ro/economic/piata-agricola>

<http://www.piata.ro/anunturi/piata-agricola/>

Value Added Business Development

The Annual Reports of the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development and the Romanian Statistical Yearbook shows the sector indicators development from year to year and the obtained results.
<https://statistici.insse.ro/shop/?page=tempo2&lang=ro&context=45w.madr.ro/ro/pndr/raport-anual-pndr.html>

Lands:

The Law 17/2014 regarding the sale and purchase of agricultural land located in the city limits, mentions the local authorities responsibilities and the steps to be followed by the farmland seller and buyer.

<http://www.madr.ro/terenuri-agricole/legislatie/5-ordin-nr-719-din-12-mai-2014.html>

[http://www.curierulnational.ro/Eveniment/2014-04-](http://www.curierulnational.ro/Eveniment/2014-04-07/Intabularea+terenurilor+agricole+nu+este+obligatorie+inainte+de+vanzare)

[07/Intabularea+terenurilor+agricole+nu+este+obligatorie+inainte+de+vanzare](http://www.curierulnational.ro/Eveniment/2014-04-07/Intabularea+terenurilor+agricole+nu+este+obligatorie+inainte+de+vanzare)

Crops:

A variety of plants is cultivated in Romania: cereals (wheat, corn, rice, barley, oats), oilseeds (sunflower, rapeseed, flax, hemp), legumes (soy, peas), vegetables (potatoes, cabbage, eggplants, tomatoes, red beet), melons, onion, root vegetables (carrots, parsley, parsnips), mushrooms. Annual production reports can be consulted on the website of the National Institute of Statistics:

http://www.insse.ro/cms/files/statistici/comunicate/com_anuale/Prod_veg/prod_veg_r13.pdf ,

http://www.insse.ro/cms/files/statistici/comunicate/com_anuale/valoarea%20prod%20ramurii%20agr/val_prod_agr13r.pdf

Livestock:

It is a traditional occupation, is raising a variety of animals, mainly: cattle, swine, sheep, goats, poultry, horses, rabbits. Annual production reports can be consulted on the website of the National Institute of Statistics:

http://www.insse.ro/cms/files/statistici/comunicate/com_anuale/productia%20animala/prod_anim13r.pdf

Livestock is regulated by Law no. 72/2002, updated in 2014. The growing conditions are regulated and inspected by the National Sanitary Veterinary and Food Safety Authority (ANSVSA)
<http://www.ansvsa.ro>.

Cattle

Cow/Calf

Beef Cattle & Feeding Systems:

The animals can be raised on farms (in large systems, industrial) or in households.

Beef Cattle handling Facilities:

Beef Cattle is beneficiary of the support measures financed by the European Agricultural Guarantee Fund (EAGF)

<http://www.apia.org.ro/apia/ro/servicii-apia/directia-ajutoare-specifice-comunitare-i-de-stat/masuri-de-sprijin-finantate-din-fondul-european-de-garantare-agricola-fega>

Beef Cow-Calf Plan:

The problem is closely monitored because, in recent years, in Europe there were some specific diseases that could affect livestock production and consumption.

The responsibility for the healthy animals growing and getting meat quality lies to:

- National Sanitary Veterinary and Food Safety Authority (ANSVSA)

<http://www.ansvsa.ro>

- National Agency for Animal Breeding and Reproduction

<http://www.anarz.eu/AnarzAdministratorSite/public/default.aspx>

Nutrition & Feeding:

National Institute of Biology and Animal Nutrition Balotești, Ilfov County <http://www.ibna.ro>

National Sanitary Veterinary and Food Safety Authority (ANSVSA) (ANSVSA) <http://www.ansvsa.ro>

<http://www.anarz.eu/AnarzAdministratorSite/public/default.aspx>

Environmental Regulation for Cattle Producers:

The National Sanitary Veterinary and Food Safety Authority (ANSVSA) <http://www.ansvsa.ro> regulates aspects of animal welfare, feed, nutrition, hygiene, animal health, medicines, transport, growth conditions.

Farm Structure & handling system:

National Institute of Biology and Animal Nutrition Balotești, Ilfov County

<http://www.ibna.ro>

Research and Development Institute for Cattle Breeding Balotești, Ilfov County subordinated

6 Research and Development Stations for Cattle Breeding

<http://www.icdcb.ro>

Mortalities Handling Guide:

National Institute of Biology and Animal Nutrition Balotești, Ilfov County <http://www.ibna.ro>

Processed Feeds - Company listing:

The General Department of Sanitary Veterinary and Food Chain Safety within ANSVSA grants operating licenses to slaughterhouses and processing units, according to the law. http://www.ansvsa.ro/documente/admin/Lista%20unitati%20documentatie%20depusa%20la%20ANSVSA_26992ro.pdf

Fishing:

The Fishing and Aquaculture Law no. 192/2001 governs the protection, conservation, management and exploitation of living aquatic resources, aquaculture activities, processing and marketing of fishery and aquaculture products, when those activities are conducted in managed system in Romania.

Institute of Research and Development for Aquatic Ecology, Fishing and Aquaculture Galați
<http://www.tuugo.ro>

Dairy:

The required information for milk and dairy products producers are updated by the Romanian Dairy Industry Association (APRIL) <http://www.april.org.ro/>

The Romanian Milk Pathway <http://www.ansvsa.ro/?pag=866>

The Milk Selling in Romania http://www.ansvsa.ro/?pag=47&id_t=96&id_d=38222

Pork:

The animals can be raised on farms (in large, industrial systems), or in households. ANSVSA regulates issues relating to animal welfare, feed, nutrition, hygiene, animal health, medicines, transport, growth conditions <http://www.ansvsa.ro/>

The General Department of Sanitary Veterinary and Food Chain Safety within ANSVSA grants operating licenses to slaughterhouses and processing units, according to the law. http://www.ansvsa.ro/documente/admin/Lista%20unitati%20documentatie%20depusa%20la%20ANSVSA_26992ro.pdf

Other Livestock

Sheep / Goats / Poultry

Dairy Goat Production - a Guide Line for estimating Investment & Operating Cost:

Ewe Planner:

Research and Development Institute for Sheep and Goats Palas, Constanța County, subordinated
5 Research and Development Stations for Sheep and Goats
<http://www.icdcopalas.ro>

Farm Structure:

The animals can be raised on farms (in large, industrial systems), or in households. ANSVSA regulates issues relating to animal welfare, feed, nutrition, hygiene, animal health, medicines, transport, growth conditions <http://www.ansvsa.ro/>

Marketing Meat & meat products:

The sheep meat is exported in large quantities, therefore are organized collection centers for carrying live sheep exports from Romania.

Domestic meat Inspection Program:

It is carried out by the Government Decision and approves veterinary actions contained into the Programme of the surveillance, prevention, control and eradication of animal diseases, those transferable from animals to humans, animals and environment protection, identification and registration of cattle, pigs, sheep, goats and equine, the actions contained in the Food Safety Surveillance and Control Program, as well as their related charges.

Sheep / Goat / Poultry Breeds: <http://www.icdcopalas.ro>

General Nutrition fact sheets: <http://www.icdcopalas.ro>

Health disease fact sheets: <http://www.icdcopalas.ro>

Processed feeds: <http://www.icdcopalas.ro>

Animal Health and Welfare:

Animal Health Unit: the system is coordinated by the National Sanitary Veterinary and Food Safety Authority www.ansvsa.ro

Anthrax (FAQ): special procedure for verifying the detecting and combating anthrax actions http://www.ansvsa.ro/documente/admin/PS%20006.5%20Antrax%20-%202015.03.2011_122ro.pdf

Veterinary Expertise: it is organized by each County Sanitary Veterinary Department. <http://www.ansvsa.ro/?pag=8>

Vitamins:

Links: www.ansvsa.ro

Traceability:

Traceability is regulated by art. 18 of Food Safety Law <http://www.ansvsa.ro/?pag=318>

The traceability of food, feed, food producers and any other substance intended to be incorporated or likely to be incorporated into food or feed shall be established at all stages of production, processing and distribution.

Food and feed traders must be able to identify any person who has provided food, feed or substance intended to be incorporated or likely to be incorporated into food or feed. Merchants have systems

and procedures able to provide this information, on request, to the competent authority.

Food and feed products sold in the European Union will be properly labeled and identified to facilitate traceability.

Livestock Dealer:

<http://www.romvac.ro/parteneri-si-dealeri.html>

Pest Control:

<http://www.ansvsa.ro/?pag=26>

Farm Business management

Business Strategy:

Support measures financed from the national budget:

- ✓ Agricultural Life Annuity
- ✓ Complementary national direct payments in the livestock sector - cattle
- ✓ Complementary national direct payments in the livestock sector - sheep / goats
- ✓ State aid for achieving voluntary commitments for the poultry welfare
- ✓ State aid for achieving voluntary commitments for the pigs welfare and protection
- ✓ State aid for diesel used in agriculture
- ✓ State aid livestock farmers, in order to collect animal cadavers
- ✓ De minimis aid for the purchase of milk cooling tanks

Business Structure

Marketing Strategy:

Research and Development Institute for Industrialization and Marketing of Horticultural Products „Horting” București <http://www.horting.ro>

Environment Strategy:

Research and Development National Institute for Soil Science, Agrochemistry and Environment Protection Bucharest <http://www.icpa.ro>

Financial management:

Farm Accountancy Data Network (RICA) <http://www.madr.ro/ro/reteaua-de-informatii-contabile-agricole-rica.html>

Food Safety

Regulations: <http://www.ansvsa.ro/?pag=744>

Inspection: <http://www.ansvsa.ro/?pag=744>

Monitoring: <http://www.ansvsa.ro/?pag=744>

Irrigation

Irrigation can be done by the National Land Reclamation Agency (ANIF)

<http://www.anif.ro/patrimoniu/amenajari-irigatii.htm>

There are, also, important agricultural companies, which are doing private irrigation.

Outputs:

Landscaped area, total:	2.991.943 ha
in which:	
- by sprinkler	2.665.594 ha
- by furrows	276.624 ha
- by flooding	49.725 ha
Assured water supply for irrigation facilities:	
- the Danube (85%)	2.543.150 ha
- inland rivers and lakes (15%)	448.793 ha
Number of complex irrigation facilities managed by ANIF	296
ANIF county branches that have irrigation facilities	35

The efficiency is ensured for large areas.

Development process:

Agency of State Domains <http://www.domeniilestatului.ro/>

National Agency for Land Reclamation <http://www.anif.ro/>

Research and Development National Institute for Land Reclamation <http://www.ispif.ro/>

Research & Development

Research and Development Institute for Industrialization and Marketing of Horticultural Products „Horting” București <http://www.horting.ro>

Available Forms:

Crop Forms: http://www.apia.org.ro/files/pages_files/Formulare_2013..pdf

Land Forms: http://www.apia.org.ro/files/pages_files/Formulare_2013..pdf

Farm infrastructure forms: <http://afir.info>

Livestock forms: http://www.apia.org.ro/files/pages_files/Formulare_2013..pdf

Livestock Loan Forms: http://www.apia.org.ro/files/pages_files/Formulare_2013..pdf

Pesticide Forms: <http://www.ansvsa.ro/?pag=18>

Regulatory Forms: <http://afir.info>

Research Funding Form: <http://afir.info>

Farm Business Management:

Farms managers learn in the agricultural high schools or in the agricultural faculties of the great universities:

University of Agronomic Sciences and Veterinary Medicine Bucharest
University of Agricultural Sciences and Veterinary Medicine Cluj-Napoca
University of Agricultural Sciences and Veterinary Medicine "Ion Ionescu de la Brad" Iași
University of Agricultural Sciences and Veterinary Medicine of Banat Timișoara
There are organized training courses that can be paid or free.

Examples:

- Free training courses for Measures 112 and 141 beneficiaries
- Farm management and the diversification of agricultural exploitations
- Farm accounting
- Farm management to develop skills in the matter of agriculture business plan development

Food Safety

National Sanitary Veterinary and Food Safety Authority (ANSVSA) <http://www.ansvsa.ro>.

Other Information related to national conditions for elaboration the business plan:

Starting a business:

Before starting your business

Developing entrepreneur ideas:

The agriculture development plans during 2007-2013, 2014-2020 offer appropriate support to the young people to become farmers <http://afir.info/>

- **Measure 112 "Setting up of young farmers"** falls into Axis I - "Increasing the competitiveness of agriculture and forestry" and has the following objectives:

- Agricultural sector competitiveness improving and increasing by promoting the setting up of young farmers and supporting the modernization and conformity process with the requirements for environmental protection, hygiene and animal welfare, work safety;
- Improving farm management by renewing their managers generation without increasing the active population agriculture employed;
- Increasing farm incomes led by young farmers;
- Increasing the number of young farmers starting for the first time an agricultural activity as farms managers and supporting young farmers to invest.

The State supports agricultural development through various measures: www.apia.org.ro

- Support measures and IACS

- ✓ Information for farmers
- ✓ Delegated measures in the PNDR
- ✓ Integrated Administration and Control System (IACS) from Romania
- ✓ Support measures financed by the European Agricultural Guarantee Fund (EAGF)
- ✓ Specific aid to producers of milk and cattle from disadvantaged areas

- ✓ Specific aid to producers of milk and meat of sheep/goats from disadvantaged areas
- ✓ Community and national legislation
- ✓ Specific aid for improving the quality of agricultural products from bio farming sector

- Measure 2.1.5 Payments on animal welfare - pigs, poultry

- Market measures

- ✓ Food aids
- ✓ Beekeeping
- ✓ Meat
- ✓ School Fruit Scheme
- ✓ Cereals
- ✓ User Guide
- ✓ Milk
- ✓ School Milk Scheme
- ✓ Vegetables and fruit
- ✓ Viti - Wine
- ✓ Sugar

Business planning: Integrated Administration and Control System (IACS) from Romania

Market research & statistics:

Research and Development Institute for Industrialization and Marketing of Horticultural Products „Horting” București <http://www.horting.ro>

Buy a business or start your own:

Planning:

Business plan:

The two possibilities are buying a business or starting a new one.
Choosing one of the options depends on the experience of each manager and financial resources at its disposal.

Business plan template:

http://portal.apdrp.ro/informatii_generale_investitii_prin_pndr_masura_141_srijinirea_fermel_or_agricole_de_semi-subzistenta

Market research:

Research Institute of Agricultural Economics and Rural Development Bucharest
<http://www.iceadr.ro>

Managing

Day-to-Day operation:

Animal Ear tagging is a permanent activity. There are official ear tags for cattle, sheep, swine, goats <http://www.ansvsa.ro/?pag=906>

Employees: http://www.identificare.ro/identificare_ListaFurnizoriSecundari.php

Growing

Business support organizations:

National Network for Rural Development (NRDN) <http://www.rndr.ro/Index.aspx>



**LINK TO ANOTHER COUNTRY
INFORMATION**

TOOLKIT INFORMATION FOR ENTREPRENEURS – *SLOVENIA*

Animal Breeding and Horticulture Sector

National legislation / SLOVENIA	SLV / LEGISLATION
National financial supports for entrepreneurs initiatives / SLOVENIA	SLV / FIN.SUPPORT
National contact points for entrepreneurship / SLOVENIA	SLV / CONTACT POINT
National network / SLOVENIA	SLV / NETWORK
Agricultural innovation clusters / SLOVENIA	SLV / CLUSTERS
National Statistics / SLOVENIA	SLV / STATICS
National official quality standards / SLOVENIA	SLV / STANDARDS
Other informations / SLOVENIA	SLV / OTHER INFO

The Chamber of Agriculture and Forestry of Slovenia (CAFS)



1. National legislation

Policies:

Resolution on the strategic direction of development of Slovenian agriculture and food industry in 2020.

Resolucija o strateških usmeritvah razvoja slovenskega kmetijstva in živilstva do leta 2020 – »Zagotovimo.si hrano za jutri« (ReSURSKŽ) (Uradni list RS, št. 25/11) provides the contextual framework for the preparation of various developing and implementing agricultural policy documents. The resolution follows a specific commitment to ensure consistency of performance through a variety of instruments and coherence with other public policies and strategies. They include mandatory components that are prescribed by the regulations on development planning documents and procedures preparation of the National Budget. Special attention is paid to the consistency between measures of income and development assistance within the framework of the common agricultural policy and state aid in accordance with national legislation. The primary purpose of the strategy is to identify key actions and activities that will enable the achievement of the targets set by resolution.

Objectives of development of agricultural and food sectors are:

- Ensuring food security through stable production of safe, quality and affordable food to the consumer.
- Increasing the competitiveness of agriculture and food industry.
- Sustainable production potential and providing agriculture-related public goods.
- Ensuring a coherent and socially sustainable rural development (in collaboration with other policies).

The strategy was prepared with the participation of many experts, representatives of agricultural holdings and interested non-governmental organizations. It includes a set of key actions and activities that reflect the development needs of Slovenian agriculture and food sectors.

http://www.vlada.si/delo_vlade/gradiva_v_obravnavi/gradivo_v_obravnavi/?tx_govpapers_pi1%5Bsingle%5D=%2FMANDAT13%2FVLADNAGRADIVA.NSF%2F18a6b9887c33a0bdc12570e50034eb54%2F48c3391ca56f0f2ac1257cec00222642%3FOpenDocument&cHash=cbdc20d303037611f0f2a2bb402a42d9

Slovenian development strategy 2014 -2020

Slovenia's Development Strategy represents the fundamental strategic document, which defines the direction of development by 2020. The Ministry of economic development and technology, together with the Institute of Macroeconomic Analysis and Development, coordinated the preparation of this document.

The vision of the SDS 2014-2020 is concentrated in statement: »Socially and environmentally responsible investment for the competitive Slovenia«. Development will be based on improving the efficiency of all resources; human, financial, natural and the technology, and on the appropriate sharing of burdens and benefits with increased level of employment.

http://www.mgrt.gov.si/en/areas_of_work/eu_cohesion_policy/development_planning_and_programming_of_strategic_and_implementing_documents/slovenias_development_strategy_2014_2020_sds_2014_2020/

The National Reform Program

is the Government's medium-term plan of priority measures and projects focused on achieving the objectives of the EU 2020 Strategy. This document together with the Stability Program presents the foundation for preparing country-specific recommendations to Member States, which are drafted at the end of the semester by the European Commission and approved by the European Council. The Government's key orientations or main priorities and macroeconomic standpoints are presented. The priority measures in 2013 and 2014 are response to the recommendations in the In-Depth Review of the European Commission 1. The document also comprises a chapter on the fulfillment of recommendations in 2012 and the review of measures which contribute to the main objectives of the EU 2020. The final chapter describes the process of preparing and coordination the National Reform Program. It shows the country's commitment to the common objectives of the EU, while taking into account its specific circumstances and requirements. Slovenia will continue to implement measures and

reforms in 2013 and 2014.

http://www.vlada.si/fileadmin/dokumenti/20130510_NRP_2013_ENG.pdf

Action plan to increase competitiveness forest-wood chain by 2020 "Wood is beautiful"

The aim of Action Plan is to increase the competitiveness of the whole forest-wood value chain in Slovenia. The document defines timber as a strategic raw material. The action plan based on analysis of the situation sets out the objectives, measures, indicators and deadlines for the intensification of forest management and the recovery and development of wood processing and energy use of its residues. Key objectives of the Action Plan are:

- create a market for timber products and services;
- increase harvest and good shape of forests in line with plans for forest management;
- increase the volume and wood processing at higher difficulty levels with new technologies;
- Jobs and growth in added value per employee in the wood products industry.

The Action Plan tries to integrate all different not sufficiently interrelated documents connected to forest, renewable energy, wood-processing industry and sustainable development.

http://www.mko.gov.si/fileadmin/mko.gov.si/pageuploads/podrocja/Gozdarstvo/Akcijski_nacrt_Les_jelep.pdf

Laws:

Horticulture and animal breeding are incorporated in national legislation which is based on EU legislation. In Slovenia the responsibility for all agricultural legislation is concentrated in the Ministry of Agriculture and Environment of Slovenija. Basic laws are Law on Agriculture - Zakon o kmetijstvu - Zkme-1, (Uradni list RS, št. [45/2008](#), [57/2012](#)) and Law on Agricultural Land - Zakon o kmetijskih zemljiščih - (Uradni list RS, št. [71/11](#), [58/12](#)) based on EU legislation. Horticulture and animal breeding have many implementing Regulations and Rules: Beekeeping - 20, Cattle breeding - 19, Horse breeding - 17, Pig

breeding - 24, Small ruminants - 14, Poultry - 2, other rules in animal breeding - 12. Horticulture is covered by legislation about hop production, integrated filed and orchard production and national regulation for organic farming based on EU regulations. Many regulations are concerned with regulating the market for different products, from meat, milk to vegetables, vine and olive oil. Legislation is the same for entire country and there is no additional laws regionally.

The list of EU and national legislation connected to agriculture is accessible on the link of Ministry of agriculture and environment of Slovenia:

http://www.mko.gov.si/si/zakonodaja_in_dokumenti/veljavni_predpisi/kmetijstvo/

Treaties, Agreements or Protocols:

Partnership agreement between Slovenia and EU for 2014 – 2020,
http://www.svrk.gov.si/fileadmin/svrk.gov.si/pageuploads/KP_2014-2020/Partnerski_sporazum/Partnerski_sporazum_potrjeno_na_vladi_splet_140728.pdf

Agreements of [World Trade Organization](#):

Agreement on Agriculture

The Agreement on the Application of Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures

International Convention for the Protection of New Varieties of Plants Mednarodna konvencija o varstvu novih sort rastlin (Uradni list RS-MP, št. 13/1999)

Convention on biological diversity

United nations framework convention on climate change

Kyoto protocol to the UN framework convention on climate change

The list of all agreements signed by Slovenia is accessible on the site:

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Category:Treaties_of_Slovenia

Strategies and Plans:

Strategy of development and measures of CAP for agriculture

The strategy represents common document of all holders of agricultural development. The strategy of

agricultural development (SRK) sets out the vision and objectives of agricultural development in Slovenia in up to 2020 and is response to the challenges with which agriculture is facing in the 21st century. The focus is to define the development of agriculture through sustainable development objectives, based on the economic, environmental and social functions of agriculture. The strategy identifies the adequacy of the existing institutional framework of the Common Agricultural European Union policy (CAP). Slovenia will therefore seek to further strengthen multi-purpose the role of agriculture in the context of the CAP.

http://www.arhiv.mkgp.gov.si/si/delovna_podrocja/strategija_razvoja_in_ukrepov_kmetijske_politike/

Adaptation strategies of Slovenian agriculture and forestry to climate change

Adapting to climate change has become inevitable and indispensable complement for mitigation. Slovenian agriculture will face many challenges in coming years. Production of food may be compromised due to heat waves, droughts and pests, but will also be more frequent crop failure. Climate change will increase the role of agriculture and forestry in Slovenia as providers of environmental and ecosystem services. It is necessary to promote sustainable, multifunctional and climate resilient forest and agricultural land management, tillage which preserves organic carbon and protection of permanent grassland.

http://www.arhiv.mkgp.gov.si/fileadmin/mkgp.gov.si/pageuploads/saSSo/Sektor_za_naravne_nesrece/Strategija_prilagajanja_slovenskega_kmetijstva_in_gozdarstva_podnebnim_spremembam.pdf

Action Plan for Organic Farming in Slovenia

Akcijnski načrt razvoja ekološkega kmetijstva v Sloveniji – ANEK is strategically designed document which contains analysis, proposals and actions to encourage sustainable development of organic farming in Slovenia. The main strategic directions of the Action Plan are given in the sections: support for organic farming; regulation framework for the production, processing and marketing of organic crops/food; tourism; control system and certification; education, counseling and promotion; scientific research; genetically modified organisms and the priorities and measures of agricultural policy up to 2015. The material is based on the European Action Plan for organic food and farming. The Action Plan sets out the strategic objectives of development, identifies the main areas of proposed priority actions and activities to achieve the objectives.

http://www.mko.gov.si/si/delovna_podrocja/kmetijstvo/ekolosko_kmetovanje/akcijijski_nact_razvoja_e_koloskega_kmetijstva_v_sloveniji/

Taxes:

Till 2014 all taxes were collected by the [Tax Administration of the Republic of Slovenia](#) (DURS), except for customs duties, excise duties and value added tax on imports, which were collected by the [Customs Administration of the Republic of Slovenia](#) (CURS). From 1st august 2014 both administration bodies merged in into **Financial Administration of Republic of Slovenia** (FURS) <http://www.fu.gov.si/en/>.

Overview of standard tax rates in Slovenia:

Corporate Income Tax	17%
Tax Relief	- 100% of the amount invested in R&D - up to 40% of the amount invested in equipment and intangible long-term assets
Profit Repatriation Tax	- 0% on dividends paid abroad for EU members; - 15% for other countries unless otherwise stated in a bilateral agreement
Capital Gains Tax	0 – 25% (depending on a holding period)
VAT (Value Added Tax)	22% - standard rate; 9.5% - reduced rate
Property Tax	0%
Immovable Property Transfer Tax	2%
Social Security Contributions	16.1% paid by employer; 22.1% paid by employee
Payroll Tax	abolished in 2009
Personal Income Taxes	progressive tax rates: 16%, 27%, 41% and 50%

Source: Ministry of finance of Slovenia, 2013

Detailed information on Personal income tax, Corporate income tax, Value added tax and other taxes are accessible on <http://www.investslovenia.org/business-environment/taxes-accounting/taxes/>

Slovenia has conventions about double taxation with more than 60 countries.

http://www.mf.gov.si/en/areas_of_work/taxes_and_customs/documents/list_of_double_taxation_conventions/

Farmers pay their taxes on the bases of so called cadastral income which represents estimated production potential of their farmland.

[http://www.racunovodja.com/clanki.asp?clanek=7086/dohodek_iz_kmetijske_in_gozdarske_dejavnosti_%96_splo%9ano_pojasnilo_\(velja_od_1._1._2013_dalje\)](http://www.racunovodja.com/clanki.asp?clanek=7086/dohodek_iz_kmetijske_in_gozdarske_dejavnosti_%96_splo%9ano_pojasnilo_(velja_od_1._1._2013_dalje))

Register your business:

There is no special law for registration business in horticulture or animal breeding sector. "Podjetniški portal" Portal for entrepreneurs on SPIRIT Slovenia - Public Agency of the Republic of Slovenia for the Promotion of Entrepreneurship, Innovation, Development, Investment and Tourism, provides all necessary information and support for new entrepreneurs. Help in developing ideas, registration of company, planning and realization of production. In addition actual information accessible there. <http://www.podjetniski-portal.si/>.

A lot of small firms and regional development agencies also help in establishing business locally by cooperating in VEM points or as subsidiaries of international BSOs.

Registration of foreign company in Slovenia is possible according to legislation and it can be facilitated through VEM points maintained by Ministry of work, family and equal opportunities and established in different entities as development agencies, Chambers, Administrative units, SPIRIT etc.

More information about registration of foreign enterprise in Slovenia is available on different sites as:

<http://www.companyformationslovenia.com/>, <http://evem.gov.si/evem/drzavljani/zacetna.evem>,
<http://www.podjetniski-portal.si/ustanavljam-podjetje/registracija-podjetja/druzba-z-omejeno-odgovornostjo-doo/Tujci>

Regulations:

In Slovenia common law regarding all aspects of business companies is the **Law on Companies** (Zakon o gospodarskih družbah (Uradni list RS, št. [65/09](#) - uradno prečiščeno besedilo, [33/11](#), [91/11](#), [32/12](#), [57/12](#), [44/13](#) - odl. US in [82/13](#)))

For farm owners a specific organization of supplementary (other gaining) activities on farm is regulated on the basis of **Agriculture Act** (Zakon o kmetijstvu (Uradni list RS, št. [45/08](#), [57/12](#), [90/12](#) - ZdZPVHVVR in [26/14](#))) and **Regulation** of the nature, scope and conditions for the provision of supplementary activities on farms (Uredba o vrsti, obsegu in pogojih za opravljanje dopolnilnih dejavnosti na kmetiji (Uradni list RS, št. [61/05](#), [45/08](#) - ZKme-1 in [12/14](#)).

Permits & Licenses:

There are no special licenses required for running a farm. For practicing organic farming certificate issued by certification institution is necessary. If the SME is active in animal breeding or food processing sector for some activities permit or license and inscription in specific databases will be necessary (connected to hygiene, registration of animal products processing, use of water sources, etc....). To use plant protection products farmers should have a permit and spraying equipment should be tested. To use a water source so called "water consensus" should be obtained from authorities.

Copyright & Intellectual property:

Intellectual Property Office of Slovenia is a covering organization for copyright and IP sector. The legislation is based on EU standards and comprises regulations on Author rights (copyright), Industry property (including patents, models, trademarks), regulations on geographic origin (wine, liquors, farm products and foodstuffs) and legislation for new plant varieties.

The list of legislation is accessible on website: <http://www.uil-sipo.si/uil/dodatno/koristni-viri/zakonodaja/predpisi-rs/>

11. National financial supports for entrepreneurs initiatives

Key projects:

For young entrepreneurs the project »Podjetno v svet podjetništva« enables young unemployed people to develop their business ideas. It includes also activities of horticulture (herbs, herbal products, organic production of vegetables, innovative ways of selling produce)... For people till 35 years, unemployed and with high education. Co-financed also by European social fund.

<http://www.rcr-zasavje.si/si/projekti/17-podjetno-v-svet-podjetnistva-2013.html>

Available funding (Local & International funds):

The European institutions daily calls for financial aid and invitations for entrepreneurs are published:

http://ec.europa.eu/slovenija/kaj_mi_eu_ponuja/razpisi/index_sl.htm,

http://europa.eu/youreurope/business/funding-grants/access-to-finance/index_sl.htm

In Slovenia there are no specially designed commercial financial products to support farming and SMEs in the sectors of horticulture and animal breeding. Only bank offering financing of agricultural activities is Slovenian Provincial Bank (Deželna banka Slovenije d.d.) offering favorable "sowing credits" as a short-term financing for seasonal agricultural activities.

<http://www.dbs.si/prebivalstvo/kredit/setveni-tolarski.html>

Financial assistance for the sectors of horticulture and animal breeding is available through public tenders of Ministry of agriculture and environment

http://www.mko.gov.si/si/javne_objave/javni_razpisi/

Mostly financing measures of CAP (PRD) are processed through Paying agency (Agency of Republic of Slovenia for Agricultural Markets and Rural Development) as a part of Ministry of agriculture and environment http://www.arsktrp.gov.si/si/o_agenciji/javne_objave/javni_razpisi/

Some specially designed loans for projects in agriculture are processed through Slovenian Regional Development fund <http://www.regionalnisklad.si/>

There are occasional tenders for co-financing from municipalities which support rural development on their territory. <http://www.investslovenia.org/business-environment/incentives/other-incentives/>

Also **Local action groups** (LAG) have possibility to co-finance business ideas comprising with their developmental goals for the region.

The list of LAGs and their links: <http://www.drustvo-podezelje.si/sl/lanstvo/lokalne-akcijske-skupine-las>

There are numerous initiatives for financial support of small entrepreneurs in Slovenia including loan guarantees. Some of them as Slovenian entrepreneurs' fund, exclude agriculture sector but 10 **Regional Guarantee Schemes** in regions of Slovenia include as eligible also farmers and agricultural SMEs. They are managed by regional development agencies.

Institute RS for employment finances self employment trough financial incentives by Ministry of Labor, Family, Social Affairs and even opportunities. <http://www.ess.gov.si/>

Venture capital funds invest in companies with high growth potential, a few years selling equity to someone else. These are eg. Alpe Adria Venture Fond Assets Ventures, Prophetes, Rustic company, venture capital fund of New Ljubljana Bank and Horizonte Venture Management. Good funds to companies in which they invest, they also provide a permanent professional business support. The companies often "lead" at least as much money from other investors (individuals, institutions), as tabled by themselves.

Business angels are wealthy individuals who are willing to invest their capital in good entrepreneurial projects, while with certain business knowledge and experience ready for small-scale and often a young company to further assist in day to day decisions. <http://www.posloviangeli.si>.

For young people who want to start their own entrepreneurial path, the European Union has drawn up an action within the broad LLP. There are subsidies in the context of the initiative Erasmus for Young Entrepreneurs : <http://www.erasmus-entrepreneurs.eu/index.php?lan=sl>

Financial Assistance:

On the bases of Regulation on co-financing of insurance premiums for agricultural production and fisheries (Uredba o sofinanciranju zavarovalnih premij za zavarovanje kmetijske proizvodnje in ribištva (Uradni list RS, št. [102/10](#), [7/13](#) in [3/14](#))Ministry of agriculture and environment is financing up to 40% of insurance premiums to insure agricultural and aquaculture production in Slovenia.

http://www.mko.gov.si/si/delovna_podrocja/kmetijstvo/zavarovanje/

Ministry of agriculture and environment has also the scheme of financial assistance in cases of contingency in agriculture due to weather problems, economic crisis, environmental degradation, financial assistance upon the death, disability or incapacity for work or fire damages. In the same scheme there is financial assistance for the promotion of forming of market associations of primary producers of agricultural products (cooperatives, companies which unite primary producers and organizations of producers according to EU legislation).These schemes are considered as "de minimis" state aid.

http://www.arskrp.gov.si/si/storitve_ukrepi/trzni_ukrepi/ukrepi_pomoci/

Loan guarantees:

The bank loan guarantee line provided by **Slovenian enterprise fund** is oriented in supporting the development investments aiming at ensuring faster growth of an enterprise, creating higher value added per employee, replacing low value-added jobs by high value-added ones, and providing for successful transfer of development ideas to successful market-oriented undertakings.

Two kinds of guaranties are offered:

Classical guarantees for development: guarantees as collateral for bank loans intended for financing of development and expansion investments, micro guarantees intended as collateral for bank loans for working capital or guarantees for new business as collateral for bank loans taken by enterprises registered less than 42 months.

Counter - guarantees for Regional guarantee schemes provide support for regional guarantee schemes operating in Slovenia and providing guarantees as collateral for smaller bank loans taken by SMEs from their regions. <http://www.podjetniskisklad.si/guarantees-credits-1.html>

Supporting institutions:

For the sector of rural development supporting institutions in Slovenia are

Ministry of agriculture and environment <http://www.mko.gov.si/>

Agency of the Republic of Slovenia for Agricultural Markets and Rural Development
<http://www.arsktrp.gov.si/>

Chamber of agriculture and forestry of Slovenia <http://www.kgzs.si/>

Chamber of agricultural and food enterprises at Chamber of Commerce of Slovenia,
http://www.gzs.si/slo/panoge/zbornica_kmetijskih_in_zivilskih_podjetij

Slovenia Beekeepers' Association, <http://www.czs.si>

Local development agencies and other local Business support organizations

12. National contact points for entrepreneurship

Government Links & Contacts:

VEM national contact points for entrepreneurs are supported by Ministry of work, family, social affair and even opportunities. All services on VEM points are free of charge. On VEM an application for registration of sole proprietorships and limited liability company can be submitted and the registration in the registers and records of the Tax Administration, the Health Insurance Institute, CCS and ESS. Tasks are performed by all the points of Agency of the Republic of Slovenia for Public Legal

Records and Related Services (AJPES) and are organized also in the context of the Chamber of Commerce of Slovenia (CCIS), Craft and Small Business Chamber of Slovenia (OZS), administrative units (AU), the agency i SPIRIT and notaries. <http://info.evem.gov.si/info/tocke-vem/>

Useful links to access databases for entrepreneurs:

http://www.podjetniski-ortal.si/index.php?t=E_publicacije&type=prirocnik&article_id=9198
http://www.rra-sp.si/projekti/cezmejni_2/icon--konkurencnost-msp--inovativnost-in-kooperativno-podjet
<http://mladipodjetnik.si/>
<http://www.ajpes.si>

13. National networks

National Rural Network

The importance and role of networking in the programming period 2014-2020 reinforces both at the level of the European Union, as well as at the national level. On the basis of Article 55 of Regulation for Rural Development (EAFRD), each Member State shall establish a national rural network, which brings together organizations, administrations and partners involved in rural development.

The strategic orientation of the rural network is to support the implementation of the RDP 2014-2020.

Objectives of Rural Network are:

- information to the general public and potential beneficiaries of rural development policy and funding opportunities;
- quality implementation of the rural development program;
- involvement of stakeholders in the implementation of rural development;
- encourage innovation and cooperation in agriculture, food production, forestry, and rural areas.

The **main activities** of the Rural Network:

PUBLIC RELATIONS

Informing the public about the Rural Development Program 2014-2020 (RDP 2014-2020) is ensured by informing potential beneficiaries, professional organizations, economic and social partners, bodies involved in promoting equality between men and women, as well as relevant non-governmental organizations, including environmental organizations. It provides the information about the opportunities provided by the RDP 2014-2020, and the rules regarding access to financial support. The Managing Authority provides information to beneficiaries on the European Union, the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development and the general public about the EU's role in the implementation of the RDP 2014-2020. Informing the general public and potential beneficiaries, in particular through providing rural network. Also with help of social networks (<https://www.facebook.com/MrezaZaPodezelje>) and e-newsletter.

Newsletter of Rural Network - distributed weekly to members of the network. Newsletter brings news from the European, national and local levels, which relate to the rural development program. To receive weekly e-newsletter one should be registered to the Database of the Rural Network.

TRANSFER OF KNOWLEDGE, INNOVATIONS AND COOPERATION

<http://www.program-podezelja.si/sl/vsebina-programa/mreza-za-podezelje/prenos-znanja-inovativnosti-in-sodelovanja>

PROMOTING GOOD PRACTICES

Examples of good practices show how the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development (EAFRD) works in practice and what are the concrete results of the implementation of the Rural Development Programme 2007-2013. The examples should be a source of motivation and inspiration for future investment vehicles respectively. beneficiaries of the activities co-financed Rural Development .

<http://www.program-podezelja.si/sl/prp-2007-2013/primeri-dobrih-praks>

Facts:

National Rural Network connects following partners:

- at the supranational level;
- public authorities at national level;
- scientific, research and educational institutions;
- public authorities at regional and local level;
- economic and social partners;
- civil society, including environmental partners, non-governmental organizations, and bodies responsible for promoting equality and combating discrimination and
- other organizations and administrations involved in rural development.

The key to the integration of partners in the context of Rural Network is mutual information, communication and co-operation of partners in the preparation, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of the Rural Development Programme.

Partners / Institutions / Organization:

National Rural Network is bringing together all the organizations and administrations involved in rural development.

Rural Network is carrying out its tasks involved with organizations on European, national and local levels:

a) the European level:

- European Network for Rural Development
- Rural networks of other Member States.

b) National level:

- Ministry of Agriculture and Environment of Slovenia, and other ministries connected to rural development
- Community of Municipalities of Slovenia,
- Association of Municipalities of Slovenia,

- Association for Rural Development
- Regional development agencies (12)
- Slovenian Association of Women Farmers
- Association of Rural Youth of Slovenia.

c) Local level:

- Municipalities (210)
- Administrative units (58)
- The LAG
- Corporations,
- Societies
- Rural development kernels
- Natural persons

Coordination & Consultancy:

In developing the activities of the network Steering Group of the rural network is actively involved. It consists of 4 representatives from Ministry of Agriculture and environment, 1 representative of Slovenian Payment Agency, 1 from Institute of RS nature protection, 1 Institute for cultural heritage of Slovenia, 1 Biotechnical Faculty, 1 Agricultural institute of Slovenia; Association of tourist farms of Slovenia, Chamber of agriculture and forestry of Slovenia, Cooperative Union of Slovenia and representatives of different NGOs connected to rural development.

Strategic Plan:

Strategic plan of the Network is elaborated on different documents:

National Reform Program 2012-2013

Action plan to increase the competitiveness of the forest-wood chain in Slovenia until 2020 "Wood is good"

Resolution on the strategic direction of development of Slovenian agriculture and food industry in 2020 - "Zagotovimo.si hrano za jutri"

A platform for the debate on the EU Common Agricultural Policy after 2013

Action Plan for Organic Farming in Slovenia 2015 - ANEK

Slovenia's Development Strategy 2014-2020

National program development priorities and investments of the Republic of Slovenia for the period 2014-2017

partnership Agreement

Operational Program for the implementation of the Resolution on the strategic choices of Slovenian agriculture and food industry in 2020 "Zagotovimo.si hrano za jutri"

Governance:

National Rural Network is governed by Ministry of agriculture and environment.

Publications:

Flyer with presentation of National Rural Network

http://www.mko.gov.si/fileadmin/mko.gov.si/pageuploads/publikacije/Program_razvoja_podezelja/Mreza_za_podezelje.pdf

Action plan of National Rural Network:

http://www.mko.gov.si/fileadmin/mko.gov.si/pageuploads/podrocja/Program_razvoja_podezelja/priloga_15.pdf

Flyer Reducing errors in the implementation of the measure OMD and sub-CRC :

http://www.program-podezelja.si/images/zlozenka_najpogost_napake_SPLET.pdf

Good practices:

http://www.mko.gov.si/fileadmin/mko.gov.si/pageuploads/publikacije/Program_razvoja_podezelja/Gradimo_vitalno_podezelje.pdf

[The Slovenian Rural Development Network](#)

The mission of the Society of Slovenian Rural Development is to combine all individuals and organizations that are, at various levels, involved in the development of the Slovenian countryside. The main concern of the network is informing and educating members and target public to pursue improvement of the life of the inhabitants of the Slovenian countryside. DRSP network acts as a connection point for the coordination and support of integrated rural development and rural practical projects. It represents the interests of its members at the national and international level.

The aim of the network is an effective co-operation and mutual assistance between individuals and organizations in the countryside, thereby effectively represent the interests of rural and flow of information between government departments and non-governmental organizations, as well as from local and regional to national and international bodies

Program of platform of DRSP network consists of Exchange information, Connectivity and networking international cooperation, assistance to civil society movements in the countries of the Western Balkans and South east Europe. Assistance and integration of Slovenian LAGs with foreign LAGs and similar foreign national initiatives; implementation of international projects.

Facts:

Association of Slovenian Rural Development was established at the founding assembly at Rodica on 18 October 2002 with a view to inform and educate members and the interested public and to improve the quality of life of people in the Slovenian countryside. It is the result of initiative of Ministry of agriculture and European PREPARE network that encouraged to connect of non-governmental organizations, local authorities, local working groups and other organizations, which were involved in rural development to surpass main barriers as poor connection of individual rural initiatives, the lack of formal structures to actively participate in the formulation of rural development policy, poor-informed and lack of knowledge.

Partners / Institutions / Organization:

Currently, the association of member 29 local action groups (LAG) of 33 in Slovenia, 7 other nongovernmental organizations (as regional institutes of CAFS, cooperatives, environmental NGOs

and others) and a few dozen individuals. <http://www.drustvo-podezelje.si/si/lanstvo>

Governance:

The Slovenian Rural Development network is governed by the Management Board of seven elected members and supervised by Supervisory Board (3) and The Court of Honor. Special body is the Commission for the implementation of the LEADER program.

14. Sector Innovation Clusters

Research & Development & Technology related to:

Research & Development Units:

Agricultural institute of Slovenia (KIS)

Agricultural Institute of Slovenia is a public research institution founded in 1898. The number of persons employed at the Institute is 175, of whom 84 are researchers. Institute is organised in the eight departments and Infrastructure Centre Jablje. Topics studied cover Crop Science Plant Protection Fruit Growing, Viticulture and Oenology Agricultural Economics Animal Production Agricultural Engineering and Energetics Agroecology and Natural Resources. A separate Service for Official Certification of Seed and Plant Propagation Material is also organized.

<http://www.kis.si/pls/kis/!kis.web>

National Veterinary Institute

National Veterinary Institute (NVI) is unit of the Veterinary Faculty, which carries out the activity of public veterinary services. NVI carries out also activities of authorized, and appointed national reference laboratories. The designated laboratories are responsible for the investigation of official samples, which each year under the regulatory control of animal health, food of animal origin and animal feed. Operation of its' 30 national reference laboratories comprising highly professional and consulting activities. NVI units are located across Slovenia. Routine laboratory tests, ensuring pathomorphological diagnostics, veterinary hygiene services and health of fish and bees are carried out in seven regional units. Other activities are performed in the unit, located in Ljubljana.

<http://www.vf.uni-lj.si/vf/index.php/si/o-fakulteti/instituti-klinike-obmocne-enote/87-si/splosno-slo/oe/114-nvi>

National institute of biology

National Institute of Biology has been operating and developing since 1960. It is a public research institution with the mission of creating new knowledge in the field of biology and enabling higher quality of life on Earth on the basis of findings from performed research. The Institute consists of five research departments and dealing with topics of omics, microorganisms and genetically modified organisms; [ecotoxicology](#), [genetic toxicology](#) and [cancer biology](#); fundamentals of insect communication biology, investigation of freshwater and terrestrial ecosystems, the influence of anthropogenic factors on the environment marine research and monitoring of sea - water quality. Special unit is [instrumental Centre Planta](#). The staff consists of 66 researchers, 30 postgraduate students, and 25 technicians. <http://www.nib.si/>

Institute for organic agriculture

Institute for Organic Agriculture is the unit of Faculty for agriculture and life sciences of University

Maribor. In this context, staff of the Department of organic farming, crops, vegetables and ornamentals cooperate with partners from industry and other partners implement various professional activities, research and organize various events connected to organic agriculture. Institute of Organic Agriculture is active in assessment of materials used in organic farming according to the applicable EU and national legislation.

<http://www.fk.uni-mb.si/fkbv/index.php/katedre/1756-katedra-za-ekolosko-kmetovanje-poljscine-vrtnine-in-okrasne-rastline?start=5>

Infrastructure support: n/a

Intellectual Capacity: n/a

Knowledge Creation:

Biotechnical Faculty - University Ljubljana

The fundamental mission of the Biotechnical Faculty of the university Ljubljana are higher professional and post-graduate education, research, professional and advisory work in the field of life and earth sciences (biology, microbiology) and agriculture, forestry and fisheries (forestry, livestock, agronomy) and related manufacturing technologies (wood, food, biotechnology). The common basis of all studies and scientific disciplines at the Biotechnical Faculty natural resources (land, space, flora, fauna, water). The field of sectors of horticulture and animal breeding is covered by Department of agronomy, department of zootechnics, Department of forestry and food processing on Department of Food sciences. <http://www.bf.uni-lj.si/>

Faculty for agriculture and life sciences – University Maribor

Faculty of Agriculture and Life Sciences of the University Maribor is carrying out educational, research and innovative processes for the purpose of Slovenian agriculture and the food processing industry, as well as in a broader sense, for the needs of industries associated with agriculture (tourism, renewable energy, waste materials, environmentalism, health, etc.). The vision of the FALS is to become an educational, research and economy-integrating centre of European importance, where superb knowledge will be created and later spread amongst domestic and foreign graduates at all study levels, as well as into the technological knowledge of agricultural holdings and companies. Faculty has 14 departments dealing with organic farming, fruit growing, vine growing, vegetables and field crop production, animal breeding, grassland management, agro-economy, rural development, phyto-medicine, agro-chemistry, agro-microbiology, biosystem engineering and informatics. <http://www.fk.uni-mb.si/fkbv/>

Consortium of biotechnical schools

The purpose of the Consortium is a long-term cooperation in the educational, professional and development activities. It is formed by 11 institutions (schools) from sector of agricultural professional and vocational education. They developed in successfully implemented international project »Biotechnical areas, most learning environment« and national project »Implementation of new programs in the field of biotechnology« for the period 2008-2012. The consortium of schools is currently lead by Grm Novo mesto - center biotechnology and tourism. Consortium has big educational, developmental and advisory potential and very good equipped grounds for practical trainings of skills in agriculture, food processing, tourism and development of rural areas.

<https://www.google.si/webhp?sourceid=chrome-instant&ion=1&espv=2&ie=UTF-8#q=konzorcij%20biotehni%C5%A1kih%20%C5%A1o>

<http://www.grm-nm.si/>

Technology Commercialization & Transfer: n/a

R&D Funds:

Slovenian Research Agency (ARRS)

Slovenian Research Agency (ARRS) as an independent public funding organization perform tasks relating to the National Research and Development Program and creation of European Research Area. ARRS provides framework for scientific research within the national budget and other sources, promotes high quality scientific research in Slovenia and its application, fosters internationally comparable evaluation standards in Slovenia, provides the transparency of organizing research community in Slovenia, promotes international research cooperation, analyses R&D activities and provides science policy expertise. <https://www.arrs.gov.si/en/agencija/>

Agriculture Applied Research Management:

Unit of agro-ecology, management of agricultural areas, agro-economy and rural development,
Department of Agronomy, Biotechnical Faculty, University Ljubljana

<http://www.bf.uni-lj.si/agronomija/organiziranost/katedre-in-druge-org-enote/za-agrometeorologijo-urejanje-kmetijskega-prostora-ter-ekonomiko-in-razvoj-podezelja/ekonomika-in-razvoj-podezelja/>

Department of Agricultural Economics and Rural Development, Faculty of Agriculture and Life Sciences, University Maribor <http://www.fk.uni-mb.si/fkbv/index.php/katedre/1569-katedra-za-agrarne-ekonomiko-in-razvoj-podezelja>

Agricultural Economics Department , Agricultural Institute of Slovenia

<http://www.kis.si/pls/kis/!kis.web?m=7&j=EN#nav>

National Statistics

Sector Statistics

Utilized agricultural area (ha): 477.923

Number of holdings 72.377 + 201 agro enterprise

UAA per holding (ha): 6,6

Employment in the agriculture (AWU): 82.746

Share in employed civilian working population (%): 3,4

Structure of land use 2013:

173.693 ha fields , 344 ha nurseries, 10.700 ha orchards, 16.234 ha vineyards, 276.047 ha meadows and permanent grassland

Status of livestock in 2013:

cattle 460.576, pigs: 288.350, poultry: 4.907.010, sheep: 108.779, goats: 21.240

All other data are accessible on the site of Slovenian Statistic office:

<http://pxweb.stat.si/pxweb/Database/Environment/Environment.asp>

and EuroStat site

http://ec.europa.eu/agriculture/statistics/agricultural/2013/index_en.htm

Farm business:

http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/statistics_explained/index.php/Farm_structure_in_Slovenia

Agro-Processing:

According Slovenian Statistic office 1340 food processing companies and 120 beverage producers were active in 2012. The value of production of food processing companies was 1.389.855.712 € and of beverage sector 303.772.156 €. Other data are available on the site of Statistic Office of Slovenia:

http://pxweb.stat.si/pxweb/Database/Ekonomsko/17_rudarstvo_predel/17060_letna_ind_proiz/17060_letna_ind_proiz.asp

Rural development statistics

The newest data about Rural development statistics in Slovenia are gathered in publication of DG AGRI "Rural Development in the EU, Statistical and Economic Information, Report 2013", where all elements of rural development are presented for EU member states.

http://ec.europa.eu/agriculture/statistics/rural-development/2013/full-text_en.pdf

Data for Slovenia are published also in SLOVENIA Factsheet, issued by the EU, June 2014

http://ec.europa.eu/agriculture/statistics/factsheets/pdf/si_en.pdf

Other:

Older data up to the year 2004 are covered also by Statistical Office of R. Slovenia. They were gathered according to different methodology mostly based on OECD Concept. With joining EU Slovenia adopted common methodologies of statistical surveys.

http://pxweb.stat.si/pxweb/database/General/26_indicators/26253_indicators_rural_develop/26253_indicators_rural_develop.asp

15. Official Quality Standards

Official Standards, Regulations and Links related to:

Principles & requirements of food law related to:

Health Protection: The assurance of high level of protection of human life and health (Environment, Animals, Plants)

Free Movement Food: The free movement of food as an essential aspect of the internal market.

Consumers' interest: Protection of consumers' interests

Official Standards

Council Regulation (EC) No. 1234/2007 of 22 October 2007 establishing a common organization of agricultural markets and on specific provisions for certain agricultural products, lays the foundation for the issue of marketing standards for fruit and vegetables and additional requirements for the marketing of fruit and vegetable sector. Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) No. 543/2011 of 7 June 2011 laying down detailed rules for the application of Council Regulation (EC) No. 1234/2007 for the fruit and vegetables and processed fruit and vegetables provides specific marketing standards (PTS) for the following products, which are mandatory for use: apples, citrus fruit, kiwi fruit, lettuces, curled-leaved endives and broad-leaved endives, peaches and nectarines, pears, strawberries, sweet peppers, table grapes, tomatoes.

Fruits and vegetables, which are not subject to specific marketing standard shall be in accordance with the general marketing standard (STS), defined in Commission Regulation no. 543/2011, Annex I, Part A.

The following products are not required to be in line with market standards: wild mushrooms, capers, bitter almonds, shelled almonds, hazelnuts in shell, shelled walnuts, pine nuts, pistachios, macadamia, pecans, other nuts, dried plantains, dried citrus fruit, mixtures of nuts, tropical, a mixture of other nuts, saffron.

http://www.mko.gov.si/si/delovna_podrocja/promocija_lokalne_hrane/lokalno_pridelana_zelenjava/varnost_kakovost_nadzor_in_oznacevanje/

Food Safety Requirements:

In the area of food safety in the Republic of Slovenia, the so-called »Food Law« ((ES) Regulation No. 178/2002 of the European Parliament and Council), defining the general principles and demands of the food production legislation, the founding of the European Agency for Food Safety and the procedures connected with food safety has been in force since the country joined the EU on 1 May 2004. From 2013 issues of food safety, veterinary and plant protection are covered by [Administration of the Republic of Slovenia for Food Safety, Veterinary Sector and Plant Protection](#) as the body Ministry of agriculture and environment of Slovenia.

Food safety legislation and resulting bylaws are listed and commented on the website of ARSFSVSP:

http://www.uvhvvr.gov.si/si/delovna_podrocja/zivila/varnost_hrane_in_zascita_potroznikov/

Hygiene package

Regulation (EC) No [852/2004](#) of the European Parliament and of the Council of 29 April 2004 on the hygiene of foodstuffs includes the following acts. This Regulation forms part of the " Hygiene package", a body of law laying down hygiene rules for foodstuffs, which, in addition to:

- [Regulation \(EC\) No 853/2004](#) laying down specific hygiene rules for food of animal origin in order to guarantee a high level of food safety and public health;
- [Regulation \(EC\) No 854/2004](#) putting in place a Community framework for official controls on products of animal origin intended for human consumption and laying down specific rules for fresh meat, bivalve molluscs, milk and milk products.

The following acts supplement Community legislation on food hygiene:

- [Regulation \(EC\) No 178/2002](#) laying down the general principles of food law. This Regulation explains the food safety procedures and establishes the [European Food Safety Authority](#);
- [Regulation \(EC\) No 882/2004](#) reorganizing official controls on foodstuffs and feeding stuffs so as to integrate controls at all stages of production and in all sectors;
- [Directive 2002/99/EC](#) laying down the conditions for placing products of animal origin on the market and the restrictions applicable to products from non-EU countries or regions of non-EU countries subject to animal health restrictions.

Risk Analysis:

Article 19 of Regulation 178/2002 / EC, Article 8 of the Regulation on the implementation of certain Community regulations concerning food, food hygiene and official control of foodstuffs as well as 62, 63 and 64 of the Law on Veterinary Compliance Criteria food business operators impose, that they should in the event of a suspected or, on the basis of evidence, that the product is not in compliance with food safety requirements, perform recall or withdrawal of food from the market. It is necessary to inform the authority which is competent to carry out official controls in this area. In Slovenia the authority is Administration of the Republic of Slovenia for Food Safety, Veterinary Sector and Plant Protection: <http://www.uvhvvr.gov.si/si/>

Risk Communication:

By getting full membership in EU in 2004 Slovenia also became a member of Rapid alert system for food and feed - RASFF network (http://ec.europa.eu/food/safety/rasff/index_en.htm) Contact point in Slovenia is [Administration of the Republic of Slovenia for Food Safety, Veterinary Sector and Plant Protection](#) (http://www.arhiv.vurs.gov.si/si/za_prebivalce_in_pravne_osebe/varna_hrana_krma_in_zdravila/letna_porocila_rasff_rapid_alert_system_for_food_and_feed/)

Publication:

Flyer about RASFF: http://ec.europa.eu/food/safety/rasff/docs/rasff_leaflet_sl.pdf

Consumers Interest:

Objectives of Commission for Consumer Protection:

- ✓ Promoting developments in legislation to protect consumers of goods and services.
- ✓ Improving the coordination with other specialized and supervisory bodies to ensure a more effective consumer protection.
- ✓ High levels of protection of the rights of consumers from dangerous products and services and their economic interests.

Consumers Interest:

Consumers are informed about the recall of food in a manner specified in Annex 1 of the Regulation on the implementation of certain Community regulations concerning food, food hygiene and official control of foodstuffs (Ur. L. RS, no. 72/2010).

Operators Responsibilities:

Food business operators shall inform Administration of Food Safety, Veterinary and Plant Protection, in case of withdrawal or recall of all foods, except for dietary supplements and foods for particular nutritional purposes (in this case, Health inspectorate of RS). Notification shall be made by notification form AFSVPP available on the site:

http://www.uvhvvr.gov.si/si/delovna_podrocja/zivila/umik_in_odpoklic_zivil/

Traceability system:

Identification and registration of animals is organized on the basis of EU regulations:

Regulation (EC) No 1760/2000 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 17 July 2000 establishing a system for the identification and registration of bovine animals and regarding the labelling of beef and beef products and repealing Council Regulation (EC) No 820/97

Regulation (EC) No 21/2004 of 17 December 2003 establishing a system for the identification and registration of ovine and caprine animals and amending Regulation (EC) No 1782/2003 and Directives 92/102/EEC and 64/432/EEC

All activities are controlled by Administration of the Republic of Slovenia for Food Safety, Veterinary Sector and Plant Protection:

http://www.uvhvvr.gov.si/si/delovna_podrocja/identifikacija_in_registracija_zivali/

AFSVPP is keeping VOLOS - Central Register of Bovine Animals, pigs and Central Register of sheep and goats accessible on the agency portal. The condition that the holder of livestock gains authorization for access to the portal VOLOS is entry in the Register of holders of livestock (EIRŽ). Also Register of bee colonies and Central Register of equine animals are kept on AFSVPP.

Without authorization access to Notification of stock for pigs, Notification of stock for sheep and Notification of number of bee colonies is available.

http://www.uvhvvr.gov.si/si/registri_obrazci_in_spletne_aplikacije/identifikacija_in_registracija_zivali/spletne_aplikacije/

All forms and instructions for registration are accessible on the site of AFSVPP:

http://www.uvhvvr.gov.si/si/registri_obrazci_in_spletne_aplikacije/identifikacija_in_registracija_zivali/obrazci_in_navodila/

In Slovenia labeling of beef is compulsory. The system is based on a system of cattle identification. Customers can trace the origin of purchased Slovenian beef in Central register of on basis of registry number of individual animals.

https://storitve-mkgp.gov.si/dad/sir_javno/wjavnivpogled.startup

Publication:

http://www.uvhvvr.gov.si/fileadmin/uvhvvr.gov.si/pageuploads/DELOVNA_PODROCJA/Identifikacija_in_registracija_zivali/2013/KOmunikacije_EU/Slovenia_ovine_21_2004_2013.pdf

Export –Import:

Import regulations:

Process of control is defined in Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) No. 543/2011 laying down detailed rules for the application of Council Regulation (EC) No. 1234/2007 for the fruit and vegetables and processed fruit and vegetables,

Commission Regulation (EC) No. 2257/94 of 16 September 1994 laying down quality standards for bananas and

Commission Regulation (EC) No. 2898/95 of 15 December 1995 concerning verification of compliance with quality standards for bananas.

In accordance with the regulations imported fresh fruit and vegetables from third countries must be in line with market standards or standards that are at least equivalent to them. Verification of compliance is mandatory before the customs procedure of release for free circulation, except in the case of small lots which the inspection authorities consider to be of low risk.

All necessary legislation for import of food is listed and commented on the site of AFSVPP:

http://www.uvhvvr.gov.si/si/delovna_podrocja/mednarodne_zadeve/uvoz/rastlinski_proizvodi/uvoz_hrane/#c18976

Export regulations and procedures are presented on the site of Administration of the Republic of Slovenia for Food Safety, Veterinary Sector and Plant Protection:

http://www.uvhvvr.gov.si/si/delovna_podrocja/mednarodne_zadeve/izvoz/

Regulations for accessing foreign markets are available also in EU Market Access Database:

<http://madb.europa.eu/madb/indexPubli.htm>

Food Health:

In the area of food safety in the Republic of Slovenia, the so-called »Food Law« ((ES) Regulation No. 178/2002 of the European Parliament and Council), defining the general principles and demands of the food production legislation, the founding of the European Agency for Food Safety and the procedures connected with food safety has been in force since the country joined the EU. Food safety is one of sections covered by Administration of the Republic of Slovenia for Food Safety, Veterinary Sector and Plant Protection.

http://www.uvhvvr.gov.si/si/delovna_podrocja/zivila/varnost_hrane_in_zascita_potrosnikov

Publication:

http://www.arhiv.mkgp.gov.si/fileadmin/mkgp.gov.si/pageuploads/O_ministrstvu/Food_safety_and_concern_for_the_consumer.pdf

Plant Health:

Slovenia is a member of International Plant Protection Convention – IPPC

<https://www.ippc.int/>

The basic national regulation in Slovenia is a Law on Plant Protection (Official Gazette of RS, no. 45/2001, 45/2004-ZdZPKG, 86/2004, 61/2006-SA-1, 40/2007, 62/2007-ZZVR-1-UPB2, 36 / 2010 40/14 - ZIN-B) and incorporates all EU regulations concerning plant protection and plant health. The main authority is Ministry of agriculture and environment, Administration of the Republic of Slovenia for Food Safety, Veterinary Sector and Plant Protection
http://www.uvhvvr.gov.si/si/zakonodaja_in_dokumenti/zdravje_rastlin/slovenska_zakonodaja/zakon_mednarodna_konvencija_uvoz_izvoz/zakon/

Phytosanitary Certificate:

When **importing** planting material or seeds from any third country, material must be accompanied by a phytosanitary certificate confirming the absence of quarantine pests, which are prescribed by the Council Directive 2000/29 / EC implementing acts, which applies to the entire territory of the EU. The phytosanitary certificate should be provided by exporter before shipment of seedlings and shall be issued under the authority of the National Phytosanitary Administration of exporting country.

For shipments **exported** to third countries (countries outside the European Union) and originating from the Republic of Slovenia and/or European Union, export phytosanitary certificate is issued by an official person of Inspections for Food Safety, Veterinary and Plant Protection. For consignments exported to third countries and not originating in the European Union, but after importation into the Republic of Slovenia stored, repackaged, or distributed, phytosanitary certificate for re-export should be issued. Both types of phytosanitary certificates shall be issued provided that the phytosanitary inspector in the inspection of a consignment finds that the plants, plant products or other regulated articles meet specified phytosanitary requirements of the importing country.

All needed information is provided by Administration of the Republic of Slovenia for Food Safety, Veterinary Sector and Plant Protection: <http://www.uvhvvr.gov.si/si/>

Rules on pesticides residues in food:

Slovenian legislative system is in compliance with EU legislative also in terms of pesticide residues in food. It is based on Regulation (EC) No 396/2005 and was adopted as Decree on the implementation of the Decree of the European Parliament and of the Council of 23 February 2005 on maximum residue levels of pesticides in or on food and feed of plant and animal origin and amending Council Directive 91/414/EEC (Official Gazette of the Republic of Slovenia, Nos 16/2009*1, 40/2010*2). Administration of the Republic of Slovenia for Food Safety, Veterinary Sector and Plant Protection is responsible for managing the area of pesticide residues and their control.

http://www.uvhvvr.gov.si/si/delovna_podrocja/ostanki_pesticidov/

Publications:

http://www.uvhvvr.gov.si/si/delovna_podrocja/ostanki_pesticidov/ Publication

http://ec.europa.eu/food/plant/protection/pesticides/explanation_pesticide_residues.pdf

Quality Package:

Quality Regulations: Slovenia has EU-harmonized legislation based on Regulation (EC) No. 178/2002 with all later amendments and all related regulations. The list of EU regulations in Slovene is available on the site: http://www.gzs.si/slo/panoge/zbornica_kmetijskih_in_zivilskih_podjetij/zakonodaja_eu

Slovenian vertical legislation on food and foodstuff has more than 90 specific regulations for different agricultural products, food and foodstuffs and is summarized on the site:

http://www.gzs.si/slo/panoge/zbornica_kmetijskih_in_zivilskih_podjetij/nacionalna_zakonodaja/vertikalni_predpisi_za_zivila

Database of Origin & Registration – DOOR:

Slovenia is a part of DOOR system and 17 traditional products are already in the database:

<http://ec.europa.eu/agriculture/quality/door/list.html?&recordStart=48>

European and national schemes of higher quality accepted in Slovenia:

http://www.mko.gov.si/fileadmin/mko.gov.si/pageuploads/podrocja/Varna_in_kakovostna_hrana_in_krma/zasciteni_kmetijski_pridelki/sheme_kakovosti.pdf

Publication: about traditional Slovenian traditional products:

http://www.mko.gov.si/fileadmin/mko.gov.si/pageuploads/publikacije/Zasciteni_proizvodi_SLO_ANG/Zasciteni_brosura_SLO_SPLET.pdf

16. Other Information related to:

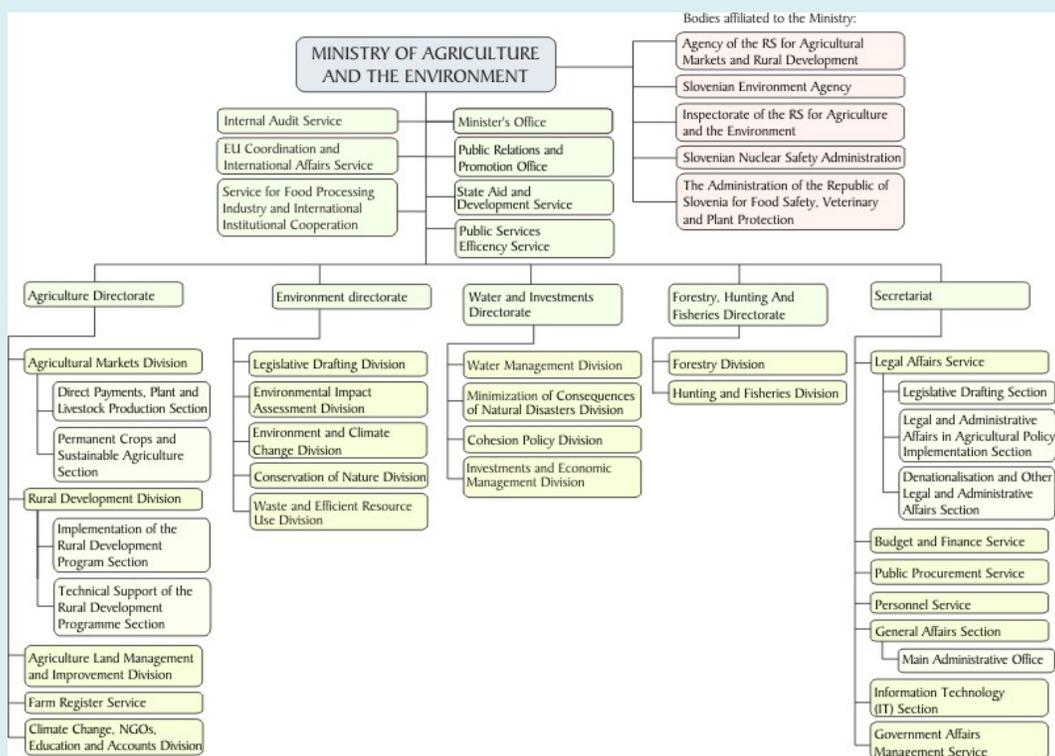
Ministry of Agriculture and other Public Institutions

Ministry of agriculture and environment of Slovenia

Was created by merging of Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Food of the Republic of Slovenia and Ministry of the Environment and Spatial Planning of the Republic of Slovenia. Consequently, the name of the ministry has been changed. Ministry covers 19 areas of work from which 6 are

directly engaged with agriculture, forestry, animal breeding and food. Three (water, air, nature) are common with environmental part of Ministry.

In the frame of Ministry five different Agencies are active: Agency of RS for Agricultural markets and rural development, Administration for Food Safety, veterinary and Plant Protection, Slovenian Environmental Agency, Slovenian Nuclear Safety Agency, Inspectorate for Agriculture and Environment.



Ministerial publication on Strategy for 2014-2020:

http://www.mko.gov.si/fileadmin/mko.gov.si/pageuploads/podrocja/Kmetijstvo/strategija_razvoj_slo_kmetijstva_2020.pdf

Services and

Address:

Ministry of Agriculture and the Environment
Dunajska 22
SI - 1000 Ljubljana
SLOVENIA

Phone.: +386 1 478 9000

Fax: +386 1 478 9013

e-mail: gp.mko@gov.si

web page: <http://www.mko.gov.si/en/>

Public Agricultural Advising Service

PAAS is a part of the Chamber of Agriculture and Forestry of Slovenia. CAFS is nongovernmental cover organisation of all natural persons and legal entities that work in the sectors of agriculture, forestry and fishing in the Republic of Slovenia. PAAS is providing free technical aid and advising in agricultural, forestry, legal and economic consultancy. It also helps in application to different public tenders connected to measures of PRD and submission of data for CAP subventions. CAFS has 8 local Institutes to cover entire territory of Slovenia.

Address:

Kmetijsko gozdarska zbornica Slovenija
Gospodinjska ulica 6
1000 Ljubljana
SLOVENIA

Phone: ++ 386 1 51 36 600

Fax: ++ 386 1 51 36 650

Starting page of CAFS: <http://www.kgzs.si/ž>

English introduction to CAFS : <http://www.kgzs.si/gv/eu-in-svet/english.aspx>

The site of PAAS on CAFS:

<http://www.kgzs.si/gv/kmetijstvo/zivinoreja/oddelek-za-zivinorejo/kmetijska-svetovalna-sluzba-pri-kgzs.aspx>

Annual Reports:

Annual report of Agency of RS for Agricultural markets and rural development:

http://www.arsktrp.gov.si/fileadmin/arsktrp.gov.si/pageuploads/Aktualno/Aktualno/2014/Letno_porocilo_2013.pdf

Annual report of Public agricultural advisory service:

<http://www.kgzs.si/Portals/0/letno%20porocilo%20jsks.pdf>

Annual report of Inspectorate for Agriculture and the Environment:

http://www.iko.gov.si/fileadmin/iko.gov.si/pageuploads/IRSKGH_SKUPNO/IRSKO_POROCILO_ZA_LETO_2013.pdf

Other Information related to national conditions for elaboration the business plan:

Starting a business:

Planning

Business plan template: <http://www.blazkos.com/orodja-in-primeri-poslovnih-nacrtov.php>



**LINK TO ANOTHER COUNTRY
INFORMATION**

This publication is prepared by Center for Business & Parliamentary Dialog under the
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Project

Priority: Facilitation of Innovation and Entrepreneurship
Area of intervention: Develop the enabling environment for innovative entrepreneurship
South East Europe Transnational Cooperation Programme

<http://www.agro-start-see.eu>

