

11<sup>th</sup> International Scientific Conference WoodEMA 2018  
**INCREASING THE USE OF WOOD IN THE GLOBAL BIO-ECONOMY**  
***Belgrade, 26-28 September, 2018***

**FIVE INNOVATIVE INITIATIVES FOR FORESTRY SECTOR  
DEVELOPMENT IN BULGARIA AND MACEDONIA**

Rossitsa Chobanova

# The project:

**CB006.1.31.070 «Innovative cooperation initiatives in cross-border region»** is financed by European Union through [INTERREG-IPA CBC CCI Number 2014TC16I5CB006](#).

## **LEADING PARTNER:**

[Bulgarian Academy of Sciences](#) – BAS

### **Team:**

Prof. Dr.Sc. Rossitsa Chobanova – Leading partner project manager  
Chief. Assist. Prof., Ph.D. Daniela Georgieva – Assistant  
Magister Rositsa Deyanova – Accountant

## **PROJECT PARTNER:**

[Macedonian Academy of Sciences and Arts](#) – MANU

### **Team:**

Acad. Ljupco Kocarev – Project partner manager  
Master Victor Stojkoski – Assistant  
Master Anna Sokolovska – Coordinator

# The partners



Increasing the Use of Wood in the Global Bio-Economy, Belgrade, Serbia, September 26<sup>th</sup> – 28<sup>th</sup>, 2018

# Working meetings



Increasing the Use of Wood in the Global Bio-Economy, Belgrade, Serbia, September 26<sup>th</sup> – 28<sup>th</sup> , 2018

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# About the project

- **MAIN GOAL OF THE PROJECT:**

To improve the competitiveness of regional businesses in Blagoevgrad and Kyustendil regions in Bulgaria and in the Southeast, East and North-Eastern Regions of Macedonia, through joint innovative cooperation initiatives.

- **RESULTS:**

Joint Bulgarian-Macedonian virtual office for consulting forestry and forest-based industries –

[www.vofis.bas.bg](http://www.vofis.bas.bg);

- A collaborative Bulgarian-Macedonian virtual e-learning platform with open access –

[www.vep.bas.bg](http://www.vep.bas.bg);

- Books.



- **IMPLEMENTATION:**

Training activities of people working in the sector and all stakeholders, interested in the development of logging and forestry based industries, how to use the office and the e-learning platform, and how to improve the competitiveness of the sector and the region. Providing methodical guides of how to work with the office and the e-learning platform.

# Publications



Increasing the Use of Wood in the Global Bio-Economy, Belgrade, Serbia, September 26<sup>th</sup> – 28<sup>th</sup> , 2018



# Aim

Aim - to find solutions how to increase the competitiveness of forest enterprises in the specific conditions of the region.

## Methodology

- a field survey based on face-to-face interview with representatives of enterprises in forestry sector based on more than 20 years ERI-BAS experience
- literature review on supply chain management.



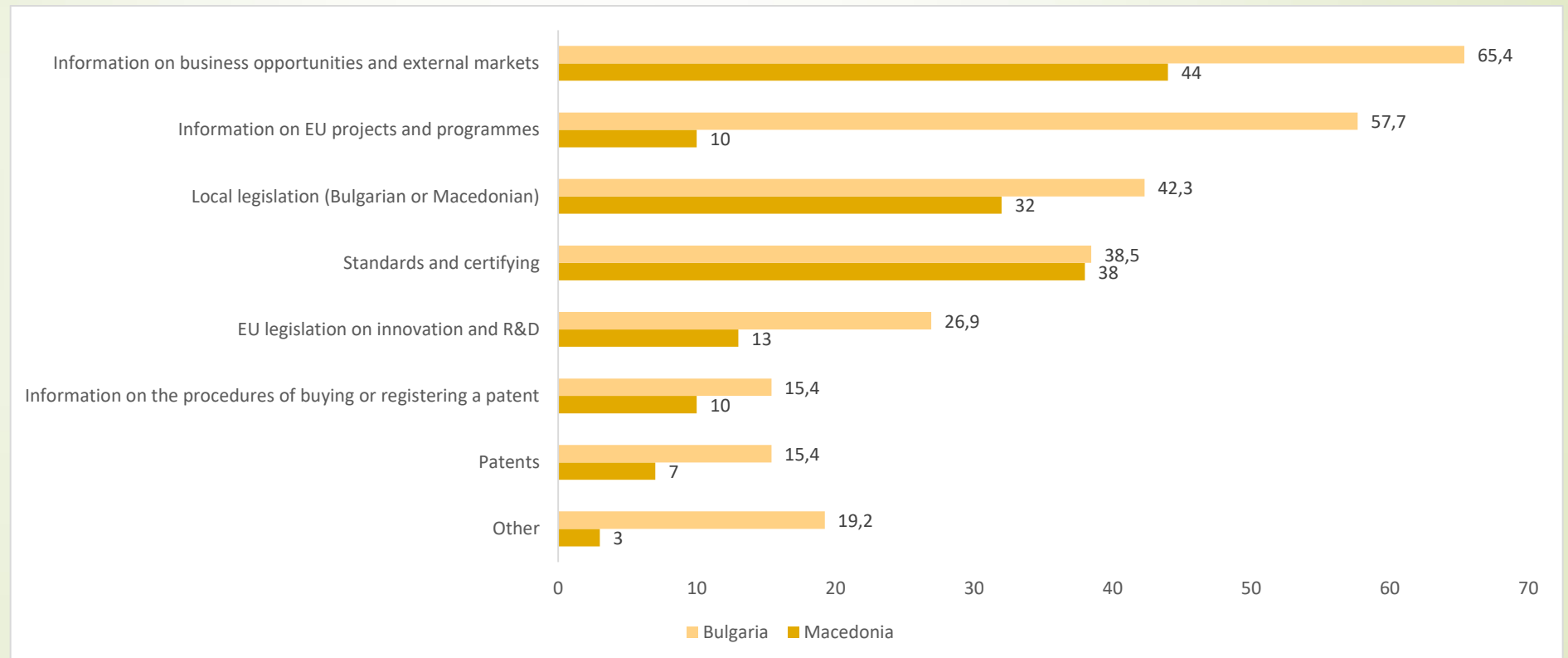
# Scope - Cross-border region



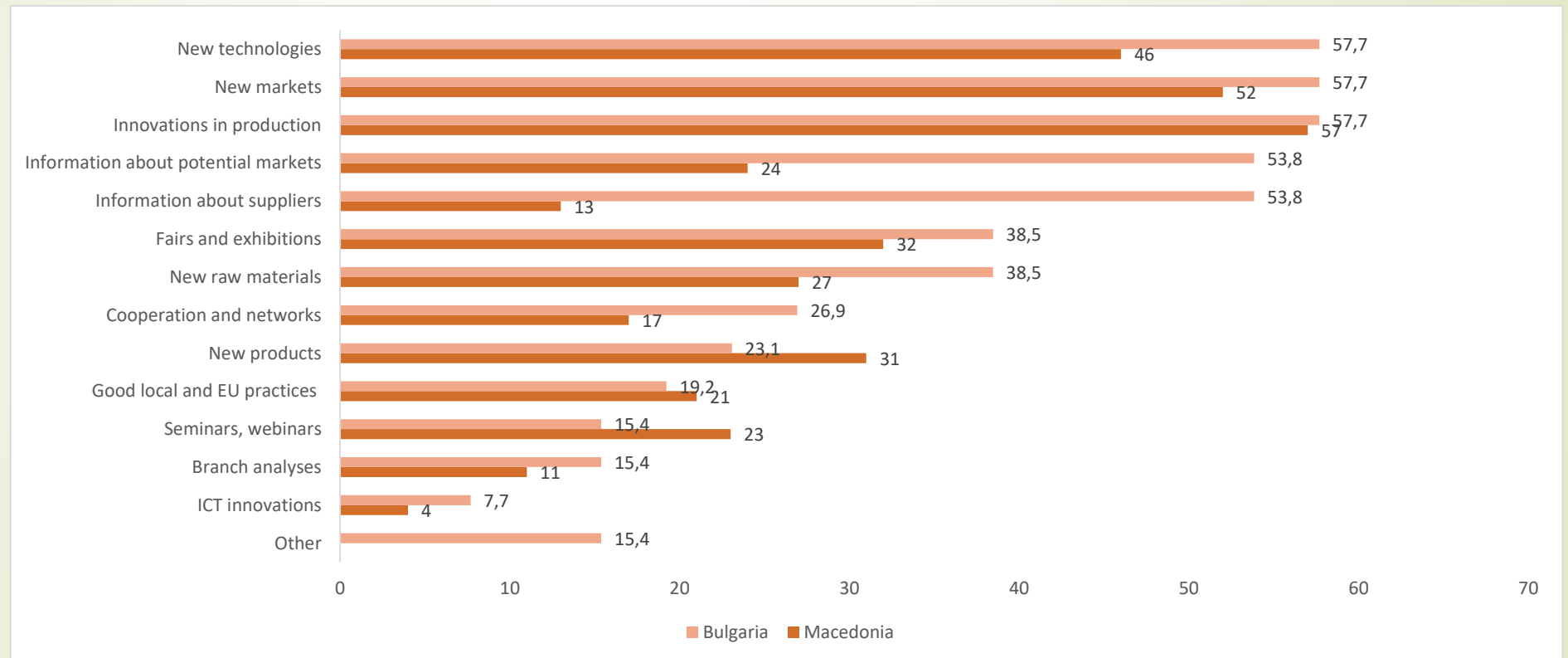
# Output - five initiatives

- Five groups of initiatives for innovation were identified, taking into account the answers of majority of 196 entrepreneurs from both Bulgaria and Macedonia and statistical survey of 1943 enterprises.
- The initiatives are addressing entrepreneurs, the state, and e-services developers.
- The later include network development, e-consultancy and e-education services development.

# e-consultative services on demand



# e-learning services on demand



# Joint Bulgarian-Macedonian virtual office for consulting forestry and forest-based industries – [www.vofis.bas.bg](http://www.vofis.bas.bg)

Implementation of results of the research:

- A. a structured database of companies to connect in order to initiate innovation cooperation along the supply chain;
- B. a structured database of useful links for other innovative partnerships – with education, research and government organizations in the border region and the European Community;
- C. current programs to finance these collaborations; opportunities for consultation on your own initiative.

Access and registration in the office are free.

# Database of companies - better connectivity along the supply chain



# Better connectivity in the regional, national and global innovation system



# Links with global innovation system – NGO - sector

- **EUROPEAN LINKS FOR PARTNERSHIPS**
- **[EUROFOREST Portal – Associations](#)**
- **[EUSTAFOR – European State Forest Association](#)**
- **[CEPF – Confederation of European Forest Owners](#)**
- **[CEPI – Confederation of European Paper Industries](#)**
- **[EOS - European Organisation of the Sawmill Industry](#)**



# VOFIS and VEP – follow up

- ▶ Are open
- ▶ Free of charge to access
- ▶ Free of charge for:
  - ▶ Registration
  - ▶ use all results, analysis and publications.
- ▶ BAS and MASA took responsibility to keep them for 3 years
- ▶ GO:

Vofis.bas.bg

Vep.bas.bg

# Thank you

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