



Regional Cooperation Council



SEE2020
SOUTH EAST EUROPE 2020

SKILLS AND MOBILITY



This project has been
financed by the European Union

PROGRESS TOWARDS MEETING THE SEE 2020 TARGETS

SEE 2020 HEADLINE INDICATOR	2010 (BASELINE)	PROGRESS TOWARDS THE TARGET	2020 (TARGET)
GDP per capita relative to the EU-27 avg (in PPS), %	36	16%	44
Total trade in goods and services (EUR million)	94,413	13%	209,500
Trade balance (% of GDP)	-15.7	144%	-12.3
Intra-regional trade in goods (EUR million)	16,005	17%	30,500
Overall FDI Inflows (EUR million)	4,527	48%	8,800
GDP per person employed (EUR)	29,770	37%	36,300
No of highly qualified persons in the workforce (mil)	1.33	50%	2.05
Business creation (no. of newly registered businesses)	28,105	71%	36,090
Exports of goods and services per capita (EUR)	1,612	21%	4,184
Overall employment rate 15+ age group	39.7	8%	44.4
Government's effectiveness, WGI (scale 0-5)	2.3	37%	2.9

SKILLS AND MOBILITY

The Regional Cooperation Council is working towards

globally competitive base of knowledge and skills in South East Europe; **unhindered movement of people**, students, researchers and workforce, allowing for increased **employment opportunities** and creation of **new jobs**

WHERE DO WE WANT TO BE?

Our goals are:

OPEN SOUTH EAST EUROPE

- **Removing obstacles to movement** of people, students, researchers and workforce

INCREASED EMPLOYMENT AND EFFECTIVE LABOUR MARKET POLICIES

- Effective labour market policies and governance aimed at **creation of new jobs**, development of skilled workforce and inclusive participation in the labour market

COMPETITIVE KNOWLEDGE AND SKILLS BASE - QUALITY EDUCATION ACCESSIBLE TO ALL

- **Quality, inclusive education** which develops and maintains advanced knowledge and skills responsive to labour market needs

INNOVATIVE RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT

- **Increased research** cooperation and mobility within SEE and between SEE and the EU and developed research infrastructure for Open Science



WHAT DID THE RCC DO SO FAR TO GET THERE?

- The RCC **brokered an agreement** between SEE economies on prioritising **removal of obstacles to mobility** of the following professionals: doctors of medicine, dentists, architects and civil engineers
- We **identified obstacles to research** cooperation and mobility of PhD students and researchers within SEE and between SEE and the EU
- The **implementation** of a 1.5 million EUR **project** on improving **employment** policies in South East Europe has **started**
- Together with our partners, we developed and **implemented training** programmes for advancement of entrepreneurial and **business skills** of **women entrepreneurs** across the region
- We **brokered** and supported **participation of SEE** ministries in charge of science in regular **EU meetings** on **open science**
- The RCC **developed regional** action **plan** to support development of **Open Science in South East Europe**
- We **initiated** development of **SEE database** on **education, employment** and labour mobility



WHERE DOES THE REGION STAND NOW?

- Different performance between economies in achieving employment target of the SEE 2020 Strategy
- Participation rates of women and youth in the labour market remain considerably below those of men
- Western Balkans still lag behind the EU in tertiary education attainment of the 30-34 age group
- Persistently low investment into research and development and innovation
- Impact of research produced in the Western Balkans is low



Source: SEE2020 monitoring process

WHAT THE PEOPLE/BUSINESS THINK?

53%

More than half of businesses in the region say they are satisfied with how education system meets the needs of their enterprises

WHILE LARGER

EXPORT ORIENTED COMPANIES in the region say they consider education systems unsatisfactory

7 OUT OF 10

citizens of SEE say unemployment is the most important problem their economy is facing

61%

of people in SEE say they are not confident they would have a job in two years' time

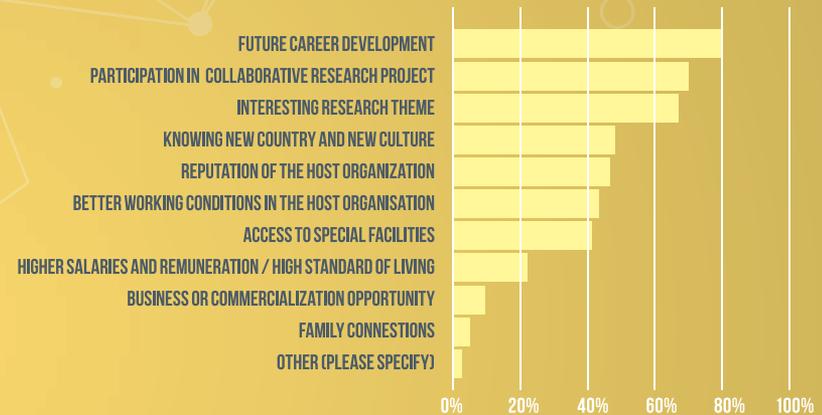
35%

believe they are at risk of falling into poverty



MOTIVES AND BARRIERS TO INTERNATIONAL MOBILITY OF RESEARCHERS IN THE WESTERN BALKANS

MOTIVES



BARRIERS



WHAT THE RCC WILL DO NEXT TO CHANGE THIS?

The RCC will:

- **Facilitate** negotiations on **mutual recognition of professional qualifications** agreements in health and construction sectors and identification of other sectors of mutual interest in the region
- Contribute to the implementation of **automatic recognition of academic qualifications** in SEE
- Develop policy measures for **increased mobility of researchers** within SEE and between the SEE and the EU
- **Support** the design, evaluation and implementation of **employment strategies** and active labour market measures
- **Develop** performance comparisons between **Public Employment Services (PES)** in SEE
- Facilitate **integration** of regional PES to the **EU PES Network**
- **Create** a comprehensive, comparative, public SEE **database on education, employment, labour** mobility and mobility of professionals
- **Create** concrete **tools** to address the identified **skills gaps** in **tourism** and food and beverages sectors
- Support **development** of **open access policies** for research publications and data in SEE
- **Help design the research infrastructure** for Open Science
- Assist in **producing policy measures** and actions for increasing **research** cooperation in the region

HOW?

To ensure removal of obstacles to mobility of people and the development of competitive skills base, innovative research and development, increased employment and effective labour market policies, the RCC will:

- **Continue to chair and facilitate the Working Group on Mutual Recognition of Professional Qualifications** and cooperate with Ministries of Education and Science on the removal of obstacles to recognition of academic qualifications and mobility of researchers
- **Continue implementing the “Employment and Social Affairs Platform”** in close cooperation with the ministries of labour and social affairs, public employment services, DG EMPL and other international partners, in particular the ILO
- **Implement Regional Work Plan on Open Science** and forthcoming Work Plan on Mobility of Researchers, together with relevant governmental institutions, national libraries, EU institutions and other stakeholders



THE RCC TEAM IN CHARGE OF SKILLS AND MOBILITY FLAGSHIP:



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The Regional Cooperation Council serves regional cooperation and European and Euro-Atlantic integration of South East Europe in order to spark development in the region to the benefit of its people

MOBILITY

EMPLOYMENT

EDUCATION

RESEARCH AND INNOVATION

Good. Better. Regional.



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