

SOUTH EAST EUROPE

South East Europe (SEE) is a key region for many ZSI activities. In the last 15 years, ZSI particularly developed a high profile in the analysis of policies and policy-making related to education, science, technological development and innovation in the SEE region (including Turkey). On behalf of the former Austrian Federal Ministry of Science and Research, ZSI hosted for many years **the Austrian Science and Research Liaison Offices in Ljubljana and Sofia**, responsible for supporting the bilateral and regional S&T cooperation between Austria and the partner countries, and coordinated several EU- and nationally funded high-profile projects in the area of **research and innovation**. ZSI can rely on a **superb network** consisting of national and regional policy makers, agencies and universities, business support structures (such as business incubators and science technology parks) as well as of individual researchers from different sectors in the whole region. ZSI employees speak several South East European languages and communicate easily with different stakeholders. ZSI also provides active support to the **EU Strategy for the Danube Region** since its launch, building on the available regional expertise and networks.

WE OFFER

- sound analytical understanding of RTDI systems as well as labour markets in the region
- contributions to several important policy fora and strategy processes, such as the EU Strategy for the Danube Region and the Steering Platform on Research for Western Balkan countries
- analysis and assessments of the performance of the research and innovation systems through multi-methodological approaches including co-publication analysis, foresight, mappings, statistical

analysis based on large surveys, qualitative approaches including expert interviews, policy dialogues etc.

- capacity building, policy and strategy development and implementation
- outstanding relations with policy makers and researchers from the region
- dissemination of information relevant for the RTDI communities



OUR REFERENCES

OUR FLAGSHIP PROJECTS AND ACTIVITIES IN THE REGION:

- **WBC-INCO.NET**, FP7 Coordination and Support Action with Western Balkan countries, succeeded by **Danube-INCO.NET**, a flagship initiative for the EU Strategy for the Danube Region; both coordinated by ZSI
- **EVAL-INNO** (Evaluation in RTDI in SEE), a ZSI coordinated project which contributed to the development of evaluation culture in the region
- **Southeast European ERA-NET (plus)**, the first international ERA-NET implemented within the European Framework Programme for RTD ever with significant impact on integrating the target region in European RTD funding structures
- several projects in which ZSI contributed to data collection and analysis, benchmarking, dialogue activities, quality assurance etc. such as **WBCInno** (Modernisation of Western Balkan universities through strengthening of structures and services

for knowledge transfer, research and innovation), **FORSEE** (Regional ICT Foresight exercise for SEE) and **Higher KOS** (Promoting Institutional Development in Higher Education and Research in Kosovo) as well as **RI-LINKS2UA** (Strengthening Research and Innovation Links towards Ukraine)

- regular outreach to more than 10,000 researchers and policy-makers via the information platform **WBC-RTI.info**

Publication of more than 65 articles, deliverables and reports (available at www.zsi.at → Products → Publications). Some examples:

Marinkovic I., E. Dall (ed.): R&D and Innovation in Western Balkan. Moving Towards 2020. WBC-INCO.NET project, 2014

Lampert, D., A. Degelsegger, K. Büsel et al.: Co-publication and co-patenting analysis among countries in the Danube Region. Danube- INCO.NET project, 2015

Zupan I., F. Gajdusek, I. Marinkovic (ed.): Developing RTDI Evaluation Culture in Southeast Europe. EVAL-INNO project, 2014

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