

# NEWS

## WORKSHOP

### BTSF ON ANIMAL BY-PRODUCTS FOR THE WESTERN BALKAN COUNTRIES

22-24 November 2022, Zagreb, Croatia

Activity A7  
22-  
24/11/2022



#### *Workshop objective*

The overall objective was to emphasize the economic opportunities as well as the challenges that arise from the proper collection, storage, processing, and placing on the market of animal by-products, and in particular:

- to enhance/reinforce compliance with EU legislation
- to raise awareness on the importance of safe handling of ABPs
- to raise awareness on the economic opportunities arising from safe ABPs processing

The workshop was held in Zagreb, Croatia, on 22-24 November 2022.

#### *Participants*

Representatives of the Western Balkan Veterinary Services from regional to ministry level and representatives of relevant stakeholders dealing with animal by-

products at any part of proper management of ABP from place of origin until the end use or disposal.

The participants were from Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kosovo\*<sup>1</sup>, Montenegro, North Macedonia and Serbia.

Representatives of EU stakeholders and Veterinary Services of Slovenia and Croatia presented their field of action and showed best practice examples for the added value for public health and economic gains of proper ABP handling.

A total of 136 participants attended the training.

The organisation of the training was managed under the umbrella of "Better Training for Safer Food - BTSF", by the contractor OPERA S.R.L.

### *Summary of the program*

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the whole process of ABP management was presented, including ABP originating from slaughterhouses, food producing establishments and animal husbandry. The risk if ABP is not handled properly, was explained, as well as that ABP materials contain a high nutritional and energy value and should be used in the best possible way, in order to preserve resources.

Training was also focused on elements which will emphasize the economic opportunities as well as the challenges that arise from the proper collection, storage, processing and placing on the market of those materials.

The training was divided in two parts, theoretical and on-site visits in two groups. Presentations were given on different topics:

- ABPs rules in the EU - Legal framework;
- Implementing the rules and relevant challenges - Operator's and Competent authorities' perspective
- Organization and financial aspects of collection and proper handling of dead-on-farm animals and in case of disease culling
- Proper separation of ABPs in slaughterhouses and its added value;
- Overview of the animal sector and ABPs production in the West Balkan (each country gave 15' presentation);
- Example of ABPs management across several EU and West Balkan Countries;
- Small scale, centralised and integrated solutions for ABPs management
- ABPs channels of marketing and relevant opportunities;
- ABPs management from the hunters' perspective.

First Round table was held with the topic: Focus on Public-private partnership (PPP): constrains, difficulties and opportunities.

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<sup>1</sup> \*This designation is without prejudice to the position on status, and is in line with UNSCR 1244/1999 and the IJC Opinion on the Kosovo declaration of independence

Second Round table was held with the topic: ABPs management: opportunities and constrains - Legal and institutional problems that may inhibit the success of ABP processing initiatives -The different interest of the stakeholders: States, Institutions, ABP producers/owners, investors - Transnational cooperation.

Field visits were organised to an ABPs processing establishment, Agroproteinka d.d, Sesvete, Croatia. On site, the Overview of the animal sector and ABPs production in Croatia was presented by the competent authority. Participants/visitors were divided in the groups, and each group visited the Categories of 1, 2 and 3 processing plant.

One Breakout Session was held at the end of the third day, were each West Blakan country discussed on the: Strengths/Weaknesses; Possible options and ways to proceed in the Country/Region; Identification of Best/better practice/opportunities. Each group/country presented the summary of their discussions at the plenary session.

*Summary of discussions*

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All the topics were addressed from different angles, speakers from state veterinary authorities, renderers and other operators, as well as other stakeholders.

All participants expressed their satisfaction with the content and organization of the training.

The WeTransfer Link with the presentation's PDFs from the ABP workshop in Zagreb: [website ADEWB 2 www.adewb.eu](http://www.adewb.eu)



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"Capacity building of veterinary and plant health services in the Western Balkans"  
LOT 1 - Animal Health - ADEWB II

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**Disclaimer**

This News leaflet has been prepared by the Technical Assistance (TA) team provided by the Contractor, Agriconsulting Europe S.A. (AESA) in consortium with Istituto Zooprofilattico Sperimentale della Lombardia e dell'Emilia Romagna (IZSLER). The findings, conclusions and interpretations expressed in this document are those of the authors alone and should in no way be taken to reflect the policies or opinions of the European Union. As a result, these will be verified before implementation of any of the recommendations contained