



Regional Cooperation among SEE Market Surveillance Institutions



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Susanne Hartmann, Open Regional Fund for SEE
Foreign Trade Promotion



The Open Regional Funds for South East Europe

The ORFs are a flexible instrument of German Development Cooperation.

*Through **regional cooperation projects** the ORFs build capacities and support EU harmonization & integration of South-East European countries.*





The ORF Foreign Trade Promotion:

Improving framework conditions for free trade and competitiveness



- EU Harmonization
- Elimination of barriers to trade
- Improved trade procedures on national level
- Better services for exporting businesses



Sub-Projects:

Regional Cooperation in Market Surveillance I/II

(01/2012 – 02/2013)

(06/2013 – 02/2015)





Market Surveillance – Our Approach in the ORF Sub-Projects



We support **regional cooperation** among SEE
Market Surveillance Institutions:

- ...to learn from each other
- ...to complement each other
- ...to jointly learn from EU Best Practices

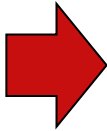


More efficient & effective Market Surveillance



Regional Cooperation in Market Surveillance – Activities within the ORF Sub-Projects

The Activities

- 
- Establish **SEE Network of MS Institutions**
 - Establish **information exchange mechanism** in the MS Network
 - **Joint Actions** between SEE Market Surveillance Institutions
 - Foster **Peer Learning** & exchange on **good practices**
 - Strengthen **linkages with the EU / PROSAFE**
- Joint field checks & risk assessment by SEE inspectors
 - Joint trainings of inspectors
- Cooperation with Customs
 - Awareness raising towards consumers & econ.operators



SEE Network of Market Surveillance Institutions

- Members:
 - Albania, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Kosovo*, FYR Macedonia, Montenegro, Republic of Serbia (Ministries of Economy/ Trade or MS Authorities)
- Purpose:
 - Enable joint learning
 - Raise efficiency and effectiveness of MS
- Focus of Activities: Information exchange
- Institutional set-up: 1 contact point per country, decentralized structure
- Financing: self-sustaining by contribution of members



* This designation is without prejudice to positions on status and is in line with UNSCR 1244 and the ICJ Advisory Opinion on the Kosovo declaration of independence



SEE Network of Market Surveillance Institutions

Type of information exchanged through the Network:

- Info on unsafe/ dangerous products (along lines of RAPEX):
information on the product, identified risk and measures taken in the
notifying country
- Check lists
- Annual Market Surveillance Plans
- List of certified laboratories
- Guidelines or any other info relevant to other
Network members

Info exchange mid 2013 – Feb 2014:

- Info on 26 dangerous
products exchanged



Regional Cooperation in Market Surveillance

Conclusions

- Benefit of cooperating regionally on MS is recognized by institutions
- Lean cooperation structure and cost-effective information exchange mechanisms has been key success factor
- Personal relationships between institutions crucial for functioning of peer learning/ info exchange
- Different levels/sophistication of MS in the region remains a challenge for the network





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