



FOOD-cluster initiative

DG RTD-B.4 - Regions of Knowledge and Research Potential

EU-BALKANVEGETABLES

EU-BALKANVEGETABLES Balkan Vegetable Crops Research Centre for transfer of European knowledge, research and practice



Maritsa

Vegetable Crops Research Institute

THE GENERAL OBJECTIVE of the project is to revive and reinforce the Maritsa Vegetable Crops Research Institute (VCRI) to become a leading horticultural research centre in the Balkan region disseminating information on the recent achievements in the European Research Area (ERA) in this scientific field.

THE SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES, arising from this as related to the FP 7 call "Research Potential" are:

- ✚ Recruitment of key scientists from leading European Institutes in order to create awareness in VCRI of recent achievements of European knowledge in the field of plant genetics diversity, pest risk analysis, plant nutrition and organic production
- ✚ Short-term training of newly appointed young scientists and sabbatical visits of experienced researchers from Maritsa VCRI to state of the art European laboratories in order to develop research capability especially in new and/or emerging areas of research; enhance and up-date the level of knowledge, competence and competitiveness of Bulgarian scientists

further information:

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- ✚ Improvement the technical status of VCRI laboratories, dealing with vegetable and fruit quality and modernization of protected and open fields and the Gene bank premises in order to promote advanced research in the management of valuable vegetable gene resources, plant health, crop protection, pest risk analysis and soil fertility
- ✚ Establishment of VCRI as a dissemination centre and promoter of European knowledge and practice in the field of vegetable science through Inner-Bulgarian and Balkan links between appropriate Bulgarian and Balkan institutes and universities.
- ✚ Support of the VCRI Technology Transfer Office to improve the innovation infrastructure in Bulgarian vegetable production and to create a modern intermediary body between science and practice.

