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FORUM ITALY · SERBIA



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ITALY - SERBIA FORUM on SUSTAINABLE, GREEN and CIRCULAR ECONOMY

Belgrade, 26-27 November 2018

Concept Note

The signature of the Paris agreement on 12 December 2015 marked a milestone for the world and the global economy. We are now moving towards a low-carbon society, where sustainable and green economy, renewable energy and smart technologies increase our quality of life, spurring job creation and growth without damaging our planet. The fact that over 170 countries have now ratified the Paris agreement sends a powerful signal: the low-carbon transition is here to stay.

The European Commission has started to improve climate mitigation by establishing an EU sustainability taxonomy, to define areas where investments are needed most; clarifying investor duties to extend the time horizons of investment and bring greater focus on environmental, social and governance (ESG) factors into investment decisions; upgrading disclosures to make sustainability opportunities and risks transparent; enabling retail investors to invest in sustainable finance opportunities; developing official European sustainability standards for some financial assets, starting with green bonds; establishing 'Sustainable Infrastructure Europe' to deploy development capacity in EU member states for infrastructure necessary for a more sustainable economy and integrating sustainability firmly in the governance of financial institutions as well as in financial supervision.

Taking into account the framework above, **"The Cooperation Protocol" between the Serbian Ministry of Agriculture and of the Environmental protection (that later became the Ministry of Agriculture, forests and water management and the Ministry of Environmental protection, hereinafter the "Ministries") and the National research council (NCR) Sassari directorate, in collaboration with Albatros & Associati S.a.s was signed on January 22, 2015 in Belgrade** aiming to support the implementation of innovative projects that would contribute to the growth and the modernization of the agro-industrial and environmental sectors of the Republic of Serbia.

The Serbian Government is interested in promoting the identification of sustainable development projects in the implementation of the circular economy principals, in the respect of the natural environment and of the social protection, which could be eligible for the financing from the competent European Institutions and which could attract investments from public and private investors, international and local, preferably through the mixed partnerships.

Two departments of the Italian NCR are involved in this collaboration with the Serbian Ministries: the Department of Chemical Science and Materials Technology (DSCTM) and the Department of Biology, Agriculture and Food Sciences (DISBA).

The Department of Chemical Science and Materials Technology is one of the seven core departments of the Italian National Research Council (NCR). It operates through 13 research institutes spread throughout the country. The DSCTM employs around 1000 staff, mostly researchers, technologists and technicians who are dedicated to research activities.

The synthesis of novel functional compounds and materials for application in various fields of national strategic importance and the understanding of the rules that govern chemical reactivity by anticipating and driving the relationships linking the molecular structure to the chemical and physical properties of systems of molecular and supramolecular materials and new materials, represent the Department scientific mission. At the same time, these aspects define the technological competences that the DSCTM may provide to help successfully tackling the global challenge of smart, sustainable, and inclusive growth.

The Department of Biology, Agriculture and Food Sciences carries out research and performs innovation and training activities in all fields related to Agriculture and Food Sciences.

The mission of the Department is to promote scientific and technological knowledge for the development and valorisation of a sustainable and innovative agri-food system, thereby contributing to tackle the global grand challenges of Future Earth, including the need to provide enough food, water, and energy to a growing population, through a sustainable use of limited natural resources.

The investments needed to meet the Sustainable Development Goals in the EU more broadly will be higher than €170 billion/year. The current investment gap calls for rapid and substantial redeployment of capital towards sustainable activities that shall foster employment, productivity and competitiveness of the EU's economy.

The scale of the investment challenge is well beyond the capacity of the public sector alone, that's why the investment of the private sector could have an important role.

Based on the aforesaid Agreement, the Italian **NCR proposed 22 innovative projects**, selected from its research activities and patents, offering, in collaboration with Albatros and Damm doo, making available its scientific capabilities and its know-how and assistance for the definition of products, the industrialization process, the identification of potential markets and financial support, in the following two areas,

1. Biology, Agriculture, Food Sciences;
2. Green Chemistry and Environmental Science.

The Projects will be presented to both Serbian and Italian investors, interested in giving concrete industrial application, at the FORUM, in Belgrade on November 26-27, 2018, organized by Confindustria Serbia, under the patronage of the Ministries of Agriculture, Forestry, Water Management and Environment Protection of The Republic of Serbia.

The Forum's aim is to stimulate a debate among all participants and stakeholders on the new era of sustainable, green and circular economy, by providing concrete and real projects to the attention of public and private investors, and to contribute the change of perspective for a sustainable and long term and integrated Europe.

ITALY - SERBIA FORUM on SUSTAINABLE, GREEN and CIRCULAR ECONOMY

Belgrade, 27 November 2018

Introduction to the B2B session of November 27, 2018

The primary scope of the B2B session is to provide an opportunity to do match-making among **subscribed investors and CNR** (the Italian National Research Council) researchers, development agencies, Albatros, DAMM Management& Marketing doo, and other requested participants.

The CNR in order to implement the Agreement signed with the Government of Serbia intends to offer its scientific contribution, the transfer of its know-how and assistance for the definition of products, the industrialization process and the identification of potential markets, in favor of Serbian and Italian investors interested to develop concrete industrial applications to research and patents, concerning the following areas: ¹

a) Farms, Agricultural and agri-food industries, and dairy companies.

Targets are companies aimed at investing in these sectors by carrying out highly competitive and highly specialized research and technological innovation.

Potentially interested companies should be:

Factory farming
Intensive breeding
Large food distribution chains
Active packaging
Dairies
Industries for agricultural products
Agri-food industry

Researches to be industrialized

- ☐ **Natural and natural-like phenolic compounds inhibitors of trichothecene biosynthesis and host infection by the durum wheat pathogen *Fusarium culmorum***
- ☐ **Sustainable seed dressing for cereal crop protection**
- ☐ **Integrated postharvest treatments to reduce decay in horticultural commodities**
- ☐ **Minimally processed fruits and vegetables**
- ☐ **Analytical Lab for improvement of Milk and dairy products**
- ☐ **Milk all year caprine chain**
- ☐ **Milk all year sheep industry**

¹ Attachments: Summary by NRC; Data sheet of the Projects;

- ☐ **Beer with native raw materials without addition of CO₂**
- ☐ **Snack on raw materials native**
- ☐ **Local wines of high quality**
- ☐ **Development and improvement of polysaccharide-based films for potential application in food packaging**
- ☐ **Novel formulations and valorization of agro-food by-products by advanced membrane operations**
- ☐ **Technology transfer and implementation of (bio)sensoristic platform 'BEST' for technological innovation in Serbian milk chain monitoring**

b) Environmental Pollution and Green Chemistry

In this strategic research and innovation area, targets are industries for the production and use of chemicals produced from renewable sources such as bio based chemicals. Examples are companies like manufacturers of bioplastics, producers of bio lubricants or bio pesticides. Just to mention a few. From an environmental point of view, the main interest is focused on restoration of polluted sites, industrial processes with low environmental impact, recycling and recovery of both industrial and urban wastes.

Potentially interested companies should be:

Bio-refineries

Bio compostable polymers

Bio based compounds manufactures

Industries for recycling and reuse of waste, bio-lubricants industries

Bio pesticides industries biotechnological companies

Enterprises for environmental recovery

Researches to be industrialized

- ☐ **Agricultural residues as raw materials for the recovery/transformation of high added-value compounds**
- ☐ **Biotechnological applications of photosynthesis**
- ☐ **Sustainable fabrication of functional hybrid nanomaterials for the development of smart textile fabrics with photocatalytic, self-cleaning, flame retardant and oil/water separation properties**
- ☐ **Foams and emulsions stabilized by nanoparticles**
- ☐ **Pollutant adsorption and degradation by Bi-based inorganic nanostructures**
- ☐ **AMPHIPHOBIC COATINGS FOR MATERIALS PROTECTION**
- ☐ **Synthesis and characterization of innovative TiO₂-based photo catalysts for water decontamination**
- ☐ **Multi-functional nanomaterials for safety, environmental remediation and sustainable energy production**
- ☐ **Discovery and synthetic application of novel biocatalysts**