



Bulgaria-Serbia IPA Cross-Border Programme
CCI Number 2007CB16IPO006

Project number: 2007CB16IPO006-2009-1-103
Project name: KRAIShte – REGION OF UNIQUE VARIETIES OF FRUIT CROPS
Project partners:
▪ **Lead partner:** University of Forestry, Bulgaria
▪ **Project partner 2:** Municipality of Treklyano, Bulgaria
▪ **Project partner 3:** Municipality of Bosilegrad, Serbia
▪ **Project partner 4:** Cultural and Information Centre of the Bulgarian Minority “Bosilegrad, Serbia

Budget: 114 557,89 Euro
Project duration: 15 months

Project description:

The main project objective was to determine and preserve the rich biodiversity of poorly known and unknown fruit crops variety in the cross-border region of Kraishte, increasing the interest of the target groups for preservation and use of the native varieties of fruit trees, as well as encouraging of environment-friendly fruit-growing, as an organic agriculture branch. The project objective was met through implementation of the following activities:

- Researching, identifying and documenting of local varieties of fruit crop fields in the region of Kraishte. This was the main activity of the project and included a study performed through external expertise on the elaboration and distribution of 800 questionnaires among the target group, identification and GPS mapping and photographing of unique local fruit varieties;
- Processing of the received questionnaires, development of grid maps of the identified fruit tree varieties. Specialized software was developed to manage the database of the identified fruit varieties. The results were presented in a trilingual catalogue;
- Development of Strategy for AFGFI and Programme of creating of two fruit nurseries in Treklyano and Bosilegrad for preservation of local varieties threatened with extinction;
- Organization of a workshop with international participation for strategic development and practical training of target groups. The activity included 2 training sessions in ecological fruit growing of local varieties and an international workshop on the development of fruit-growing and food industry in the region;
- Establishment of the Eco-network and Center of CBC Kraishte in Bosilegrad. An international forum was organised in Bosilegrad at the end of the project to present the achieved results under the project.

The project was successfully complete in October 2012.



Local varieties of apples were included in the comprehensive research



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