



The banner features logos for the European Union, ESSEDRA (Environmentally Sustainable Socio-Economic Development of Rural Areas), and Slow Food. The main title is 'FINDINGS AND FEEDBACK ON FARM SPECIFIC POLICY ISSUES'. Below this, it reads 'ESSEDRA Policy Advocacy Event Sofia, 8-9 November 2013'. At the bottom left, there is a logo for the 'EUROPEAN FORUM ON NATURE CONSERVATION AND PASTORALISM' with a bull's head icon. The background of the bottom section shows a green landscape with a herd of cows grazing.

This project is funded by the European Union

**ESSEDRA**  
Environmentally Sustainable Socio-Economic  
Development of Rural Areas

**Slow Food®**  
a project implemented by

**FINDINGS AND FEEDBACK ON  
FARM SPECIFIC POLICY ISSUES**

**ESSEDRA**  
**Policy Advocacy Event**  
**Sofia, 8-9 November 2013**

 EUROPEAN FORUM ON  
NATURE CONSERVATION  
AND PASTORALISM

## Let's remind ourselves again the objectives of this project

This project will catalyse and support a

- 1)** skilled and engaged CSOs network in the Balkans and Turkey
- 2)** which will develop a joint strategy to achieve the goal of an effective agriculture and rural development providing
- 3)** effective analysis, advocacy and monitoring at local, national and European level.



## Let's remind also the agreed approach..

**The Advocacy actions are to be based on the food products** that are identified during the so-called mapping exercise.

Therefore **EFNCP produced a questionnaire to accompany the food mapping** template

In order to **understand better the farm-specific issues about each food** product identified

So that **we can develop a joint strategy** to achieve effective agriculture and rural development



## Results of food mapping from our perspective

Products'group	AL	BiH	BG	HR	MK	RO	SR	TR	Total
Bread, pasta, pastry	2	-	1	1	1	5	-	-	<b>10</b>
Spirits, ferm. beverages	2	1	1	1	1	3	2	1	<b>12</b>
Breeds	1	1	1	-	-	1	4	1	<b>9</b>
Cheeses, dairy products	4	5	-	1	-	2	4	10	<b>26</b>
Cured meats, salamy	1	-	6	-	-	1	4	1	<b>13</b>
Plant varieties, herbs	2	1	4	1	3	2	2	1	<b>16</b>
Orchards, vines	-	-	1	1	1	1	-	4	<b>8</b>
Fruits&vege preserves	1	-	3	-	-	3	1	-	<b>8</b>
Honey	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	1	<b>3</b>
Fish	1	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	<b>3</b>
others	1	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	<b>3</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>111</b>



## Types of responses to the policy questionnaire

Types of responses	AL	BiH	BG	HR	MK	RO	SR	TR	Total
Farm-specific				x	x				2
Product-specific					x			x	2
Regional summary		x					x		2
National summary			x			x	x		3
Other	x								1



## Let's begin with the findings from the review of responses:

- At least two approaches to products nominations:

### 1) Nominating the original raw material/product such as

- Breeds – sheep, cow, pigs; (no goats?)
- Plants – herbs, vegetables, cereals, etc;
- Permanent crops – apples, cherries, vines, etc;
- Honey, fish, olive oil, tobacco, etc.

} direct link to farmer

### 2) Nominating the resulting products such as

- Processed food – cheeses and dairy products, cured meats, pasta, preserves
- Cooked food – bread, pies, meals, etc.

} not necessarily farmer  
rather a processor  
or home-producer



## Key challenges

**(1) Socio-economic realities**

**(2) Paradigm shift**

**(3) Policy measures and support**

- ✓ Which ones can we really address in ESSEDRA?
- ✓ Can we find ESSEDRA “20 cm” message?



## Key challenges

**(1) Socio-economic**

- Well developed informal economy
- Outmigration and ageing of population
- High rural poverty
- Underdeveloped rural infrastructure and services
- Ongoing reduction in the number of small farms
- Industrial technologies replace traditional practices



## (2) Shift of paradigm – **potential aim of the ESSEDRA communications?**

- Extensive farming is not 'serious' enough to young farmers
- Modernization is not equal to intensification
- The need to have own initiative instead of relying on external forces



## (3) Policy support

- Align it specifically to small and HNV farms in the EU accession process –**national and IPARD schemes**
- Harmonization of legislation, esp. veterinary and sanitary needs to **make use of flexibility instrument**
- Land eligibility for extensive land use, especially pastures and small-scale mosaic plots – **agri-environmental payments? National payments?**
- Tourism and organic farming need to be **synchronized with small and HNV farming**



TIME FOR DISCUSSION

