# **WBC-RTI.info Newsletter**



The Western Balkans in 2035: participate in foresight study and co-design future looking STI policies today!

With the COVID-19 crisis, the world is experiencing unprecedented disruption to daily lives and to the social, economic, and governance systems that support them. The Western Balkans are no exception.

While being overwhelmed by these challenges, economies must not overlook the opportunities that crises can provide to re-imagine and rebuild our future.

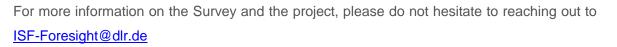
In the coming period, choices will be made on how to best allocate and invest resources to recover from the crisis. Such decisions will shape the coming decades and therefore it is important to start thinking about:

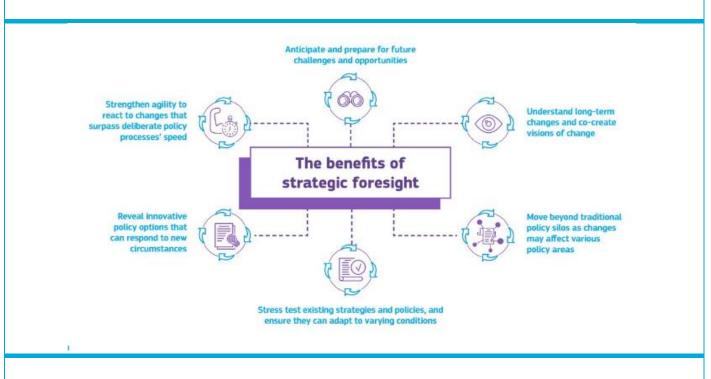
- What are the biggest opportunities for transformation towards a more resilient WB6?
- How will the WB6 economy, society, and governance evolve until 2035?
- What role can Science, Technology and Innovation (STI) play in the coming decades?

On behalf of the European Commission, the International Service Facility (ISF) is currently conducting a **strategic foresight study** in the Western Balkans Six in order to **support policymakers in creating an enabling environment for STI policies** to thrive and decide on priorities for strategic investments.

The study aims to co-design regional and national scenarios for 2035 together with stakeholders from the **private sector, civil society, academia and government**. The ISF invites all expert on Science, Technology, and Innovation interested in participating in this foresight study and in supporting the development of innovative policies, to take this 20 min <u>online survey</u>. The Survey is available in <u>Albanian</u>, <u>Bosnian</u>, <u>Macedonian</u>, <u>Serbian</u>, as well as <u>English</u> and <u>will remain</u> **open until 14 March 2021**.

With this survey, the EC and the ISF seek to reflect on current challenges and opportunities present for WB6 and provide tailored roadmaps and policy recommendations to the national governments.





## • CALL

# Posted on March 3, 2021 [CALL ANNOUNCEMENT] THE WESTERN BALKANS IN 2035: PARTICIPATE IN FORESIGHT STUDY AND CO-DESIGN FUTURE LOOKING STI POLICIES TODAY! With the COVID-19 crisis, the world is experiencing unprecedented disruption to daily lives and to the social, economic, and governance systems that support them.

## DOCUMENT

#### A STRATEGIC FORESIGHT INITIATIVE FOR THE WESTERN BALKANS

COVID-19 has caused major disruptions to the Western Balkan economies and the consequences are evident in all parts of society. Small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) are struggling hard and looking...

## • LINK

#### • STRATEGIC FORESIGHT

Foresight is the discipline of exploring, anticipating and shaping the future to help building and using collective intelligence in a structured, systematic and systemic way to anticipate developments...

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# ABOUT THE INFORMATION PORTAL

Access to the WBC-RTI.info platform is free of charge. The Platform will be regularly updated this year, with particular focus on one selected theme per month. If you would like to suggest a research topic or promote your R&I project or your research results to over 11,000 interested researchers and policy makers in the Western Balkans and Europe-wide, or if you have any questions, do not hesitate to contact us at <u>office@wbc-rti.info</u>.

INFORMATION SERVICE

The WBC-RTI.info platform acts as a source of high quality targeted information on research, technology and innovation in/with/for the Western Balkan countries (WBCs). The Platform supports the Steering Platform on Research for the Western Balkan Countries and is funded by the European Commission (contract №30-CE-0838742/00-87).



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