

A brief recap on "The First Annual Regional Conference of the RCF in WB6"

We would like to close this year with a brief recap on "The First Annual Regional Conference of the RCF in WB6".

The Regional Challenge Fund has successfully held the <u>First Annual Regional</u> <u>Conference in the Western Balkans 6</u> on Wednesday, December 15th.

19



speakers

attendees

The conference virtually gathered **19 speakers and 350+ attendees!** We had the chance to host officials and experts from international organizations, WB6 public institutions, Chambers of Commerce in the Western Balkans 6, vocational education providers, enterprises, and civil organizations with the same mission to share valuable lessons and experiences from the RCF first open call.



The RCF opened the first call earlier this year and received 205 applications from consortia of vocational training institutes and enterprises from all Western Balkan economies. The Selection Committee's decision resulted in **37 most successful projects** being proposed for finance, allocating approximately **14,5 million Euros** to the region.



The conference also promoted **exchange among VET stakeholders** and **cooperation** between national economies. Additionally, the panelists spoke about the three additional aspects that cut across economic sectors and boundaries and their potential for building labour-market relevant skills in line with the current policy initiatives: **green transition, regional integration, digitalization**.

Organized through a virtual events platform, the attendees had the opportunity to visit our Exhibit Hall and browse through the booths of our partners: <u>Western Balkans 6 Chamber</u> <u>Investment Forum</u>, <u>KfW Development Bank</u>, <u>Chamber of Commerce and Industry of</u> <u>Serbia</u>, <u>The Economic Chamber of North Macedonia</u>, <u>Kosova Chamber of</u> <u>Commerce</u>, and <u>Chamber of Economy Montenegro</u>.

Watch the full video of the conference on <u>the official Regional Challenge</u> <u>Fund YouTube channel</u>.



We thank all our partners and applicants for their cooperation! We are looking forward to continuing with our mission of improving cooperative training for employment and boosting the competitiveness of enterprises from the Western Balkan 6 in 2022.

Implementation Partners

