

# The situation in the agricultural sector in Bulgaria CBAO

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Lisbon, 26 – 27 February, 2013

# Bulgaria – basic figures



# Structure of agricultural holding by size of used arable land

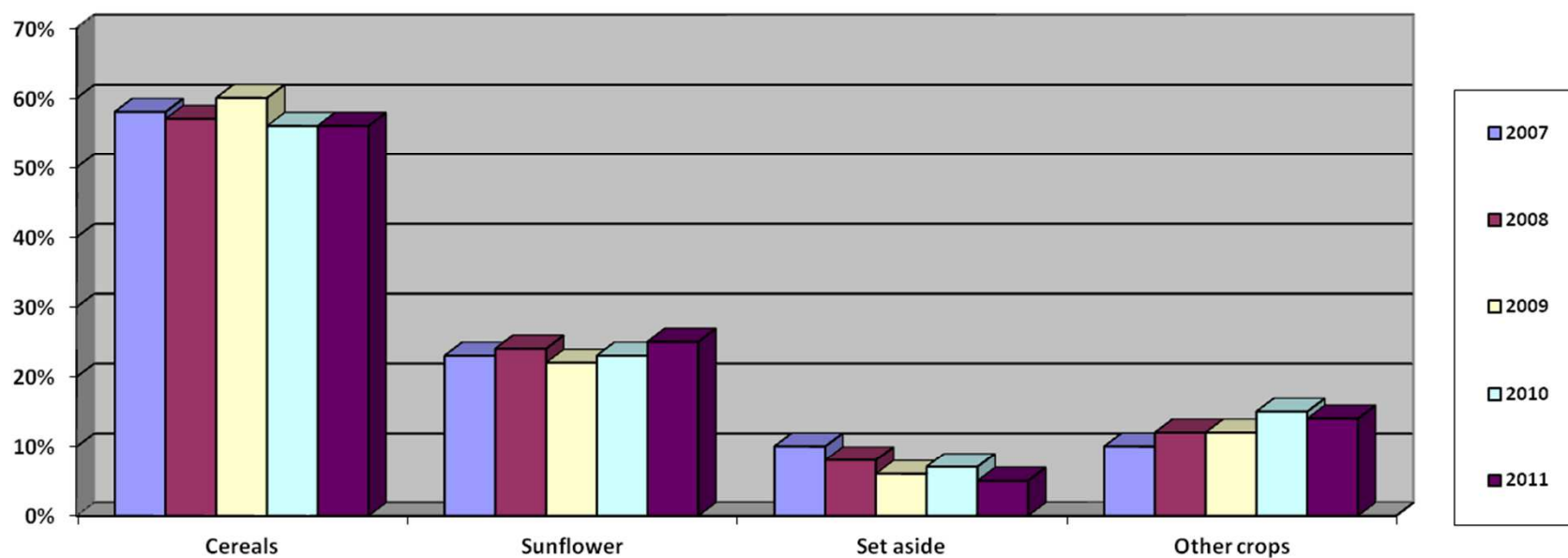
Source:MAF

Indicators	Total	From 0.00 ha to 1.99 ha	From 2.00 ha to 4.99 ha	From 5.00 ha to 9.99ha	From 10.00ha to 49.99 ha	From 50.00ha to 99,99 ha	100.00 > and more
Number of holding	371 000	308 800	30 400	10 800	12 900	2 900	5 300
UAA (ha)	3 620 900	144 300	90 600	73 000	279 700	203 300	2 830 300



# *Areas by crops in the period 2007-2011 (%)*

Source: MAF



# Number of animals and distribution by farm

*Source:MAF*

Total number	Cattle	Buffalo	Pigs	Sheep	Goat
Of animals (in 000)	544,5	9,2	664,0	1 368,0	356,3
Of Farms (in 000)	85,9	0,9	98,2	104,2	91,6
Average size Of farms (nb of animals)	6,3	10,5	6,8	13,1	3,9

# Structure of labor force in agriculture

371 100 agricultural holdings employed 751 700 persons in 2010:

418 900 ♂

332 860 ♀

- The proportion of family labor force is 92.8% or 697 400 persons
- 54 300 are paid workers



# Structure of labor force according age and education

- **61.0%** of employed persons were aged 35 to 64 years.
- **9.8%** of the persons employed were aged between 15 and 34 years, and
- **29.2%** were persons over 65 years of age.
- **2,4%** of the managers have an agricultural education.
- Low share of the employed having a university degree - around 4% compared to the average of 25% for the country
- Source MAF



# Main characteristics of the rural area

231 municipalities - 2,88 M people

## NEGATIVE DEMOGRAPHIC TRENDS

In 2011 the population in rural area dropped by 140 500 people - 4,65%

Main reasons:

- migration
- negative age structure
- negative rural growth



# Legislation into force

## Posting of Bulgarian Nationals

Bulgarian legislation is completely harmonized  
with the EU legislation

- Labor code
- Employment Promotion Act
- Regulations 883/2004 and 987/2009, since 01/05/2010 – for coordination of social systems

# International cooperation

Source: NA Labor Inspection

- Agreements signed with the Netherlands, France and Germany covering the area of Directive 96/71/EC;
- Negotiations held with Belgium;

## **Labor Inspectorates' Agreements:**

- Cooperation Agreements with the National Labor Inspectorate in Poland and the Working Conditions Authority in Portugal
- Negotiations held with the State Labor Inspectorate of Greece, The Gangmasters Licensing Authority in the UK, The Labor and Social Security Inspectorate in Spain etc.

# Migration (statistics)

Source: TUC PODKREPA

**During the transitional period in total 1,6 mio Bulgarian left the country**

**360 000** are living and working in Germany, France, Portugal, Spain and Italy

**290 000** – in Greece and Cyprus

**60 000** – in Poland, Hungary and Czech Republic

According EUROSTAT and NSI every year around 25 000 Bulgarians between 25 to 39 years old are leaving the country. Most of them have a secondary or university education.

One of the main risks that the migrants are facing is the fraud of the labor intermediaries, and the non respect of contractual conditions

# Bulgarian workers posted in Holland to harvest tomatoes for 1 100 EUR sleeping at the train station in Aindhoven

source: e-vestnik 28, February 2008



# Intermediary companies or Social partners

~~Kostadin Todorov of Todorov and Co Limited based in Plovdiv, Bulgaria, supplied Bulgarian workers Bulgarian to fruit farms in the Arbroath, Angus and Cambridgeshire regions, UK . They reported that they had to pay 16% of their salary to Todorov, who also made a weekly charge to the farmers he supplied his workers to. The vast majority of workers had not been given a copy of their contract with some being asked to sign blank documents on a bus prior to leaving Bulgaria.~~

# Social Competence development at work in the AGRICultural sector

The goal of the project is to transfer the Spanish training course on labour risk prevention at work in agriculture to other countries - Bulgaria, Poland and Romania.

The idea in transference this complete programme to those countries is based on the following characteristics:

- significant amount of employment in agriculture;
- deficiencies in labour risk prevention training
- high volume of migrants

The main output will be a six - language blended e - learning training platform which could be used in our countries, but by the migrants in their own language

# CONCLUSIONS

Reinforcement of the integration

Better management of the labour market

✕ strengthening the cooperation between social partners and public authorities

✕ mutual recognition of the qualification