

## **Conclusions**

### **of the First National Conference on Macedonian Agriculture and Climate Change**

1. Due to the negative impact of climate change such as increase of air temperature, intensity of solar radiation, heat waves, intensive precipitation, hail, as well as shortage of rain during the vegetation period followed by long drought periods, agricultural producers in the Republic of Macedonia face large challenges in dealing with it.
2. Challenges in dealing with climate change are a process where agricultural producers should invest their capacities in adapting production to this phenomenon, but also seek large support by the public (raising public awareness) and joint efforts, cooperation and coordination of all relevant institutions.
3. Continuous evolution regarding selection of new cultures, new technologies and new practice of agricultural production management with reference to climate change results in the need for involving science and research expertise to ensure implementation of sustainable agricultural production.
4. New technologies and acquired knowledge, as well as raising the awareness of agricultural producers regarding adaptive measures to climate change should be transferred by actively involving the agricultural advisory services as part of their regular practice in providing advisory services for successful planning and realization of agricultural production.
5. The future policy of Macedonia regarding agriculture and rural development should take into account the need for adaptation of agricultural production and promotion of farming practices that are compatible to the new climate conditions and contribute at the same time to preservation of natural resources.
6. The Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Water-Economy should make a needs assessment of agricultural producers for the purposes of additional support and adaptation to climate change in agriculture within the framework of the support measures of the agriculture and rural development programs.
7. Coordination is needed among institutions and organizations from the region for the purposes of timely exchange of information and experience, as well as set up of similar measures that would contribute to successful practice in overcoming negative effects of climate change. Cooperation is particularly important in creating joint regional climate change prevention system.