



DualAFS - **Dual** Curricula - Study and Work Practice in **Agriculture and Food Safety**

Programme:	Erasmus +
Key Action:	Cooperation for innovation and the exchange of good practices
Action:	Capacity Building in Higher Education (CBHE)
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Baseline study – Skills Demand and Supply in Agriculture and Food Safety in Albania & Kosovo

Overview: For the design of a Dual program, all issues related to the collaboration between the university and the Work Life Partners (WLP) must be developed, since a Dual program means a combination of classroom theory and company-based apprenticeship.

In order to reorganize the current bachelor's degree programs in livestock and agribusiness in the dual form, an empirical study was conducted with the quantitative method using structured questionnaires. Three target groups were identified in Albania and Kosovo: farms, agri-food public institutions, and academic target groups, respectively. The questionnaires focused on the required skills of the graduates and on the cooperation between the university and WLP in the implementation of the dual degree program in agriculture. The questionnaires were offered online using the program Webropol 3.0. A total of 919 completed questionnaires were returned; valid: 150 from companies, 144 from public institutions, and 267 from students/teachers of the respective programs of the four universities in both countries. The data were statistically analyzed using the program Webropol 3.0.

The results of this survey show that all target groups, especially the WLP, give great importance first on practical training, and then on the IT, communication and business skills of graduates. In addition, all WLPs declare their willingness to participate in the implementation of dual studies together with the universities. For this, the WLPs advocate support from the state in the form of various incentives as well as clear legal regulation.

DualAFS - Dissemination events

ISAE World Congress 2022. Representatives of the Faculty of Agriculture and Veterinary (Skender Muji and Alltane Kryeziu), University of Pristina “Hasan Prishtina”, participate in the ISAE World Congress 2022, held in Ohrid, North Macedonia. In this Congress, were presented the goals and achievements of the DualAFS Project, financed by the EU



Commission.

During the presentation of the poster entitled “Initiation of University dual study programs in the field of animal sciences in Albania and Kosovo (Erasmus+ DualAFS)”, there were numerous discussions with representatives of various universities in the region and beyond, about the status, value and attribute of the Dual Curriculum.

- Short input: 1st International Conference about “Rural Youth and the New Youth Guarantee” held in Brescia (Italy).

1st International Conference about “Rural Youth and the New Youth Guarantee”
Representatives of “Fan S. Noli” University of Korça and Agricultural University of Tirana participated in the 1st International Conference about “Rural Youth and the New Youth Guarantee” held in Brescia (Italy), with the topic “Development Trends of Agriculture Sector in Albania: Prospects of Rural Youth”. In this activity were presented the results of the backdrop survey that were developed in the framework of the DualAFS project. Conference proceeding link: <https://rnyobservatory.eu/web/wp-content/uploads/2023/03/Brescia23-Proceeding.pdf>.

EU4Youth Days The EU organized youth days on 11 and 12 October 2022, where a series of youth-oriented events called EU4Youth Days, took place. The DualAFS project was chosen to be presented and have a stand in House of Europe. The activity was opened by EU Ambassador Christine Hohmann, who along with the delegation visited all the participants’ stands. At this activity, high school students, university students and young professionals participated and interacted with all representatives. The activity was organised in four informing sessions (i) studies in the European Union, (ii) mobility and exchange programmes, (ii) Research, innovation, EU assistance programmes





for innovative studies; (iii) youth employment, social inclusion, membership and equal opportunities, (iv) contacts with persons after the European year for Youth & Tirana-Capital for European youth.



Prof. Lumturi Papa, Prof. Anila Hoda, Prof. Enkelejda Sallaku participated in the event, who informed interested parties on the study programmes reorganized within this project, the possibilities of theoretical and especially practical education of young people, as well as employment opportunities. The information became known not only through the DualAFS poster, but also through the presentation on PPT, where participants were informed about the project partners, investments made towards the creation of hybrid classrooms and the improvement of teaching laboratories at AUT in the frame of the DualAFS project, financed with EU funds under the Erasmus Plus programme, “Capacity Building”. Participants were informed with trainings done by Hannu Vitala for the use of e-learning and distance learning tools, as a need of time, which is

already a reality at AUT.

The participants were also informed of the possibilities of practical education, through “learning by doing” that offer our study programs, as well as specifically for the possibility of conducting one semester studies at SAVONIA University of Applied Sciences, Finland

EU Ambassador Christine Hohmann, during the stop at the DualAFS stand, praised the investment in the education of young people, in the agricultural sciences, their orientation according to the needs of the labour market and especially the use of distance learning methods, as well as highlighted the time of digital agriculture.

DUALAFS MEETING IN KORÇA, ALBANIA

Between 26.09.2022 and 01.10.2022 partners of the DualAFS project met for a workshop and steering committee meeting at the University Fan. S Noli in Korca, Albania. This time the focus was, among other topics, on the exchange of experiences in the field of teacher exchanges between Albanian and



Kosovar universities and EU partner universities. So far, a total of 10 teachers from the universities in Tirana, Korca, Prishtina and Mitrovica have participated in exchanges funded by the project.

An EU partner was also able to gain initial experience during an exchange at the participating universities in Albania and Kosovo. During his mobility, e-learning



specialist Hannu Viitala from Savonia University of Applied Sciences was able to train numerous teachers in the use of e-learning devices and teaching methods. Since some of the universities involved in the project are already equipped with e-learning equipment, what has been learned can be put directly into practice.

In a round table discussion on September 28, 2022, to which external stakeholders were also invited, it was possible to address the need for practice-oriented agricultural studies and the close cooperation between the university and practice partners that is essential for this. The participants expressed their interest in qualified employees in the agricultural sector. Overall, the objectives of the DualAFS project were very much



welcomed and the willingness of the practice partners to participate in the implementation of the practical part was expressed.

In addition, the consortium visited in several excursions, among others, the Agricultural Center for Technology Transfer, Korce (27.09.2022), the beer factory Korca (28.09.2022) and also a cultural education of the participants could be covered with a study trip to Voskopojë (30.09.2022).

DualAFS Mobility – Learning eLearning

The purpose of the education and training program is to develop the participants' use of digital tools in teaching and to raise the level of eLearning in the participating universities.

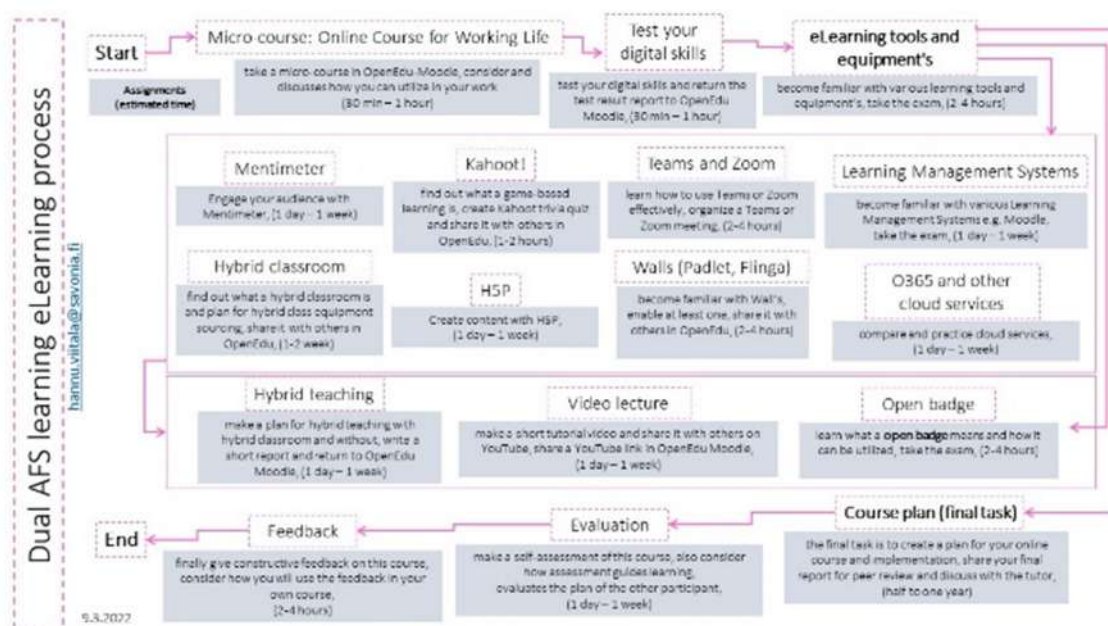


Hannu Vitala organized training and held workshops at four DualAFS partner universities: Pristina UNI-PR and Mitrovica UIBM in Kosovo, Tirana AUT and Korca UNIKO in Albania.

The workshops discussed what opportunities online teaching offers for the development of

higher education. Through practical exercises, the participants got to know a wide range of different online teaching tools. Moodle and hybrid teaching were the focus of special attention. Two universities have already acquired at least a hybrid class during the project, and other universities are planning to acquire it. The use of the hybrid class was demonstrated in the workshops.

The content of the workshops was similar at all universities, although it was also possible to participate in the workshops remotely. The network connection did not function smoothly at all



universities. In addition, the purpose was to meet the participants face-to-face, so that in the future the contact work would be more effective remotely

The eLearning presentations sparked a lot of discussion, and the practical exercises inspired the participants to try the online teaching tools in their own teaching as well, based on the feedback received.

A total of 60 participated in the eLearning workshops, of which 39 also completed the exercises included in the workshops. There was therefore an average of ten active participants per university.

There were participants from several different faculties, although DualAFS partners represent the food science or agriculture.

eLearning training continues in OpenEdu-Moodle and Zoom with monthly workshops, whose purpose is to give ideas for the use of online learning tools in their own teaching and to practice using them.

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