

CEEAG - Centre of Excellence for European Agri-Food Chain

Erasmus+ Jean Monnet Centre of Excellence project
No. 611446-EPP-1-2019-1-SK-EPPJMO-CoE

Project implementation phase – summary

The phase of the project implementation is dedicated to creation of the courses and online teaching materials, teaching and research activities, production of deliverables and organisation of events.

In terms of the **teaching** process, there were 4 subjects planned to be provided to the PhD students – Challenges and Impacts of the EU Agricultural Policy, Risk Factors of Food Chain, Agri-Environmental and Food Legislation of the EU, and EU Agrarian Marketing.

The subjects are supervised by the renowned guarantors – professors from three faculties of the SUA in Nitra – Faculty of European Studies and Regional Development, Faculty of Biotechnology and Food Sciences and Faculty of Economics and Management. To facilitate the teaching process and to assure its maximum effectiveness, members of the Centre of Excellence created online teaching materials for the main target group of the project – the PhD students.

Research activities were conducted in both areas planned in the project – the EU dimension of the short food supply chains and the risk factors affecting animal and human health. Results of the research within both areas are provided in the form of scientific papers published in renowned journals.

Organisation of **events** was significantly affected by the coronavirus pandemic. Planned events were organised online via the MS Teams platform. Website of the project and an E – learning platform are the most significant **deliverables** in the project and are fully functional.



Teaching activities

The teaching within the 4 subjects was organised in the summer semester of the academic year 2021/2022. 13 doctoral students attended the lectures from February to April 2022. The teaching process within each subject was divided into blocks composed of lectures provided by professors, and an independent work where students worked on tasks assigned by professors.

To support and improve the teaching process, the Centre of Excellence hosted Bruce L. Ahrendsen, professor of agricultural economics & agribusiness from the University of Arkansas, USA. On June 7, 2022, after a series of meetings and discussions with students and university staff, professor Ahrendsen provided students with the presentation of current research outcomes

carried out within the U.S. Department of Agriculture on the riskiness of farm borrowers' ability to repay loans.

Research activities

In line with the CEEAG work plan, research was carried out in 2 areas:

- European dimension of short supply chains, and,
- risk factors affecting human and animal health.

Within the short supply chain, the research was focused on the evaluation of economic aspects of agricultural enterprises in the Slovak Republic associated in short supply chains, including the support of project measures within the Rural Development Program of the Slovak Republic 2014-2020. As a result, five research papers have been presented and published at the scientific Conference co-organised by the Centre of Excellence – International Scientific Days 2022 - "Efficient, sustainable and resilient agriculture and food systems – the interface of science, politics and practice". Within the risk factors affecting human and animal health, research focuses on the identification of risk elements in food and wildlife organs, as well as their effects on mycotoxin production. The results of these activities have been presented and published in 3 research papers at the scientific Conference co-organised by the Centre of Excellence – International Scientific Days 2022 - "Efficient, sustainable and resilient agriculture and food systems – the interface of science, politics and practice". Information on the conference are available at: <https://spu.fem.uniag.sk/isd2022/index.php/en>

Events

The Centre of Excellence co-organised the scientific Conference - International Scientific Days 2022 - "Efficient, sustainable and resilient agriculture and food systems – the interface of science, politics and practice". The conference provided a venue for policy makers, top managers, academicians and researchers all over the world who deal with global challenges affecting the agri-food system.

Papers were accepted in the following fields: the agrifood policy: economics, management, trade, foreign investment, industrial policies and logistics, bioeconomy, resource management and sustainable development,



healthy and sustainable food consumption, ensuring food safety, food security, circularity of

food systems at local, regional, or global levels, food system innovation, advisory, covid pandemic impact, food chain and unfair trade practices, and new dimensions of education and use of ICT.

In May and June 2022, members of the Centre of Excellence attended 2 international scientific conferences organised in Slovakia.

Conference **HYGIENA ALIMENTORUM XLII** took place in Štrbské Pleso on May 18-20, 2022. It was organised under the auspices of the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development of the Slovak Republic. Current issues and trends in the health safety and in the quality of poultry, fishing and game products were the main topic of the conference. In addition to the representatives of an academic environment and public authorities, the conference was attended by the variety of exhibitors from the private sector. These were represented by companies, such as lab technics suppliers, livestock feed producers, etc.

Conference **ANIMAL PHYSIOLOGY 2022** took place in Košice on June 1-3, 2022. It was organised by the Slovak Academy of Sciences. A member of the Centre of Excellence was a chairperson of the Session I. Nutrition, Metabolism and Microbiology.

News in the agricultural sector of the Slovak Republic and the EU

Calculator of supports within the Strategic plan 2023-2027 in Slovakia

Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development of the Slovak Republic and the Institute of Agricultural Policy have prepared for farmers the possibility to calculate the amount of support in the new period of 2023-2027. The calculator allows farmers to calculate non-project supports in the years 2023-2027. After entering information about the acreage, crops, animal production as well as the farming method, the farmer will receive information about the total support of the farm in the years 2023-2027. All calculations are based on the Strategic Plan of the Slovak Republic proposal for the years 2023-2027 approved by the Government of the Slovak Republic.

More information is available on: <https://www.mpsr.sk/aktualne/kalkulacka-podpor-v-ramci-strategickeho-planu-2023-2027-na-slovensku/17743/>

Agrokomplex 2022

The 47th Agrokomplex international exhibition will take place from August 18 to 21, 2022 at the agrokomplex National Exhibition Center, State Enterprise in Nitra. During the four exhibition days, visitors to the Agrokomplex will see news from agriculture, food industry, livestock breeding, and trends in technology. 208 exhibitors and 9 national agricultural and food associations come with their exhibits. Workshops, discussions with experts, lectures, professional advice and an accompanying cultural program are prepared for professionals and the general public. The detailed program of the exhibition is available on: <https://agrokomplex.sk/agrokomplex/>

Observation letters on CAP strategic plans

By the end of May 2022, the Commission had sent observation letters relating to all 28 draft CAP strategic plans that were submitted by EU countries. The letters identify elements of the proposed plans that require further explanation, completion or adjustments before the



Commission can approve them. Each EU country has been given the opportunity to comment on their observation letter.

Alongside the letters themselves, the Commission has created an overview of the content of the letters, which summarises the key elements of the 28 proposed plans and the related observations which were made for each country. More information at: https://agriculture.ec.europa.eu/cap-my-country/cap-strategic-plans_en

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