



FARM

Fostering Agriculture
Rural Development
and Land Management



Co-funded by the
Erasmus+ Programme
of the European Union

Project Description

Overview:

The scope of the project is on a systematic overview of existing ICT DSS tools in ARD that support crop farming, precision livestock farming, climate and quality control and farm management. Therefore, software services for the collection, analysis and visualization of spatial data can effectively support decision-making processes among different stakeholders. Based on such a systematically derived overview, existing gaps will be identified and filled by developing new training materials as well as two DSS prototypes for specific purposes referring to the FARM focus. The project activities are aimed at and tailored according to the needs of the target group such as ARD experts, trainers and policy makers, researchers, academic staff, students, farmers, development practitioners, as well skilled and unskilled adult and other members of vulnerable groups.

Project Results:

- (1) Creating an online map of European ICT and DSS Hotspots
- (2) Creating an online catalog on the existing ICT and DSS tools in ARD
- (3) Creating two prototype DSS tools
- (4) Creating educative training material for DSS in ARD

Partner:

- (1) Harz University of Applied Sciences (Lead; HSH; Germany)
- (2) Association for Internationalization of Education and Science (INTER-EDU; North Macedonia)
- (3) Technical University of Cartagena (UPCT; Spain)
- (4) University of Cyprus (UCY; Cyprus)
- (5) Vytautas Magnus University (VMU; Lithuania)

Background:

Knowledge, skills and innovation are the indispensable foundation of sustainable development. European agricultural and rural development policies have a long-standing record of stimulating innovation, moreover, sharing knowledge within networks speeds the process of adoption of innovations. Given these preliminary considerations, the first challenge of FARM project is to boost knowledge and technology transfer in the agricultural sector. The possibility to increase the level of information available to ARD (Agriculture and Rural Development) about new technologies is directly linked to sectorial investments, economic and environmental efficiency and sustainability, food healthiness and safety, ability to compete in the international market area. The support in agriculture and rural development (ARD) remains a vital component for economic, social and environmental sustainability. The ARD faces the challenge in terms of sustainable management of natural resources, depopulation and contributing towards the economic development. The scientific development complements this challenge by focusing on knowledge share and fostering the technology and innovations in ARD. According to economic theory and practice, the formation and transfer of knowledge form a basis of economic development. Moreover, although direct demand for knowledge is today lower than in the past, economic literature confirms the importance of wide networking, in terms of diversification and number of subjects, for the introduction of new technologies in the agro-food sector. There is still a huge gap in European agriculture concerning technological development and organization. Consequently, in a vast majority of European countries and regions, especially those of southern Europe, a well-developed sphere of formation and transfer of knowledge is required. E2020 in ARD fosters innovation, cooperation, and development of a knowledge base in rural areas, enhancing farm viability and competitiveness of all types of agriculture in all regions and promoting innovative farm technologies and sustainable management.