

Improvement of Information Exchange between Education Institutions in the SEE Region, Godollo, Hungary 1- 3 June 2005,

Introduction and background

The workshop will be organized by the GAK Godollo, in collaboration with Banat's University of Agricultural Sciences and Veterinary Medicine, Timisoara, Romania, with support of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations Sub-regional Office for Central and Eastern Europe.

The main objective of the workshop is to enhance e-communication among the agricultural education institutions within the countries of the SEE Region (Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Macedonia, Moldavia, Romania, Serbia and Montenegro, Slovenia).

The above main objective will be achieved through:

1. exchange of experience on approaches, methods and tools used in e-communication within the FAO WAICENT framework
2. review of experience of the FAO field programme development in the SEE region
3. exchange of experience on establishing and developing AgroWeb Education platform
4. exchange of experience with OEC, University of Hohenheim and its collaboration with the different EU projects and activities.

The project builds on the activities and implements the recommendations of the following workshops:

FAO National Committees on the Internet (Godollo, Hungary, 1999);
FAO-related National Information on the Internet (Prague, Czech Republic, 2001);
CEE Expert Meeting (Budapest, Hungary, 2004).

Project rationale and justification in relation with the FAO WAICENT capacity building process:

The FAO Sub-regional Representative for Central and Eastern Europe has an accreditation only in Moldova within the SEE region; the FAO has National Correspondents in Albania, Moldova, Romania and emergency office in Serbia and Montenegro.

The national Ministries of Agriculture (MoA) have in a number of occasions expressed their interest in obtaining more information.

Expected project outputs:

The workshop will invite participants from the following FAO member countries of the SEE region: Albania, Bosnia & Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Macedonia, Moldavia, Romania, Serbia and Montenegro and Slovenia. The invited experts contributed to the AgroWeb Network and were trained within FAO field programme development through FAO WAICENT e-communication methods and tools to build and maintain their AgroWeb National portals. Each country will be represented by one AgroWeb resource person and one expert responsible for cooperation with the SEE Education program coordinator. The workshop aims to provide a basis for enhanced cooperation with FAO and more efficiency for the AgroWeb Network. The resource persons from the operating national web portals will share their experience in establishing and start-up of activities, including the position and relations with agricultural educational institutions. The country information and review of FAO activities collated for the project will be distributed in the form of an e-manual on the national AgroWeb and the Education Sub portals. The sub portals have to be updated regularly. The information about selected FAO activities and programmes will be disseminated to interested institutions and countries; in particular to the transition economies. The technical assistance activities will be reviewed in view of the specific needs of this group of countries.

Implementation and project inputs:

- FAO SEUR with inputs from GILF outposted officer in cooperation with the GAK Godollo, of the SZIU, will organize the sub-regional workshop. Two information specialists from each SEE FAO member countries will be invited, who are actively working on the AgroWeb Network development.
- FAO resource persons will be: Mr Michal Demes, Information Management Specialist, FAO SEUR, and Ms Ildiko Pocza, Information Resources Clark, FAO SEUR;
- Mr Laszlo Papocsi, GAK, Godollo, was designated as responsible for the technical and logistic arrangements for the workshop;
- Mr Cosmin Salasan, Banat's University of Agricultural Sciences and Veterinary Medicine Timisoara, Romania, was designated as responsible for the professional programme of the workshop.