

AGRIBASE Report

2015-2017

**Boosting Adult System Education
In Agriculture
Erasmus+ K2 Action
2015-1-MK01-KA204-002857**

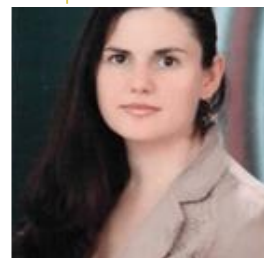




AgriBase is an effective instrument in the boosting of adult education in agriculture. Through its intellectual outputs, it defined the weakness in this field over a comparative baseline Report, then filled in the gaps with the educative materials and strengthened the adult education and networking via the open access e-platform.

Grujica Vico, WG1 Leader

University of East Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina



AgriBase is a strategic partnership project within the Erasmus+ program and its consortium of eight partner institutions used their resources and capacities in producing intellectual outputs in the field of agriculture, thus contributing to the development of the adult education in this field.

Marijana Kroteva, WG2 Leader

OCULL" Vanco Prke" Stip, R Macedonia



AgriBase is a great opportunity to present the farmers the new technologies and opportunities for production or enterprises which can contribute to the rural development. Experts in each topic made easily understood educational materials with open access on the project e-platform.

Maria Dolores Gomez Lopez, WG 3 Leader

Technical University of Cartagena, Spain



In AgriBase we achieved to develop new training materials in the field of agriculture and enhance the possibility to benefit from the network. AgriBase helps education institutions to access the needs of the business sector and adopt their curricula following the demand in the society.

Evzi Hani, WG4 Leader

College Iliria, Kosovo

Content



Engaging in the adult education area	3
AgriBase at a glance	4-8
AgriBase in a nutshell	9
Working groups and intellectual outcomes	14
Baseline Report	16
English for Agricultural purposes	17
Materials for adult education in agriculture	18
E-platform and web-site	19
Webinars	20
Media events and dissemination	21

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Engaging in the adult education area

In today times, generation and application of agricultural knowledge demand that people working and seeking jobs in agriculture academic and business sector pursue education beyond secondary schools. Local adult agriculture programs can address this demand through carefully prepared and evidence based curricula provision. AgriBase project objectives are therefore structured to enhance the cooperation between academia and business sectors in agriculture field and to particularly address the training needs of adult agriculture educators who are the primary target group of the project that will consequently improve the system of adult education in the field of agriculture and rural development in Europe wide communities in the East and South.

Through its milestone activities grouped under training courses, webinars, online platform and web site development, methodology and training syllabus on establishing and operating the LLL agri-units within open-university approach, the Agri Base project targeted 300 adult agriculture educators per country (3000 in total) who are the key resource for further impact and long term benefits in the cooperation between academia and business sector in the field.

The consortium approach in forming the Value Added Partnership marked a multiplier effect in terms of: access to a broader and higher quality range of professional development; stronger platform for succession planning and dissemination; better use of resources; increased innovation potential of wider European regions, and fostered potential for replication, sustainability and impact in a number of European agricultural communities in the East and South.

AGRIBASE AT A GLANCE

AgriBase is a strategic partnership Erasmus+ project that reiterates the need for sound methods, innovative approaches and building on human resources in adult agricultural education across Southern and Eastern European communities. Over past 100 years, agricultural educators have been pioneers in the development of adult education programs, yet emphasis on adult education in agriculture itself has declined in recent years in a number of European countries, as a result the need for interdisciplinary training is reflected in a number of agricultural areas, particularly where jobs and safeguarding of material necessities for living are at stake.

Agri Base consortium sets in motion a multidisciplinary approach towards introducing the LLL in agriculture by developing new methodology and curricula in agriculture and agri-business sectors, preparing training material and organizing pilot training sessions (webinars) for adult educators in English language (farming and agriculture specific voc. and business English) and modern agri methods of production and techniques. Project strategy is based on coordinated process in this field, starting from LLL agri-units which will be sufficiently prepared to act through adequately educated agricultural experts who will have a remarkable knowledge in agriculture in terms of a change in the growing crops, cybernetic research of soil, long-term production strategies for a higher GNP, technology, language, internet, marketing and management (including financial aspects).



Visit to the Laboratory for food protection and safety
at UAB, Romania



Visit to the Moyca Company for production of
seedless grapes in Murcia

AGRIBASE CONSORTIUM

Driven by the fact that knowledge, skills and innovation are the indispensable foundation of sustainable development, the multidisciplinary AgriBase team popped up to boost adult education by knowledge and technology transfer in the agricultural sector. We address the deficiency and the need for adult education, Agriculture and Rural Development (ARD) technology adoption and corresponding training through incorporation of existing and development of new educative materials. Our target group are stakeholders, ARD experts, adult trainers, and practitioners. The strategic partnership of the AgriBase consortium is made of eight partner institutions:

- OCULL “Vanko Prke”- R Macedonia
- University of East Sarajevo, BH
- University of Foggia, Italy
- Technical University of Cartagena, Spain
- Cukurova University, Turkey
- Technical University of Varna, Bulgaria
- University “1 Decembrie 1918” Romania
- College Iliria, Kosovo



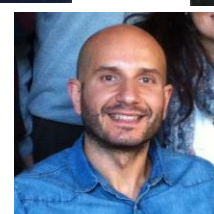
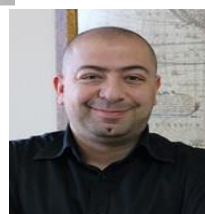
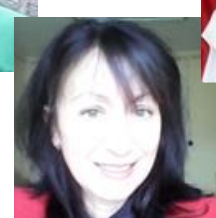
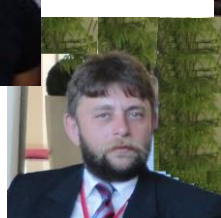
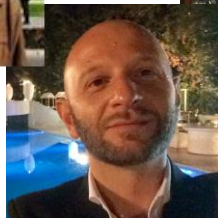
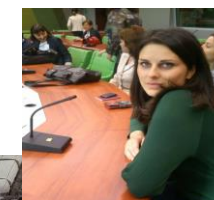
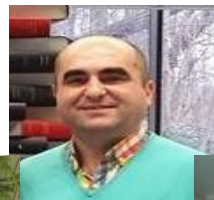
Università di Foggia



Universidad
Politécnica
de Cartagena



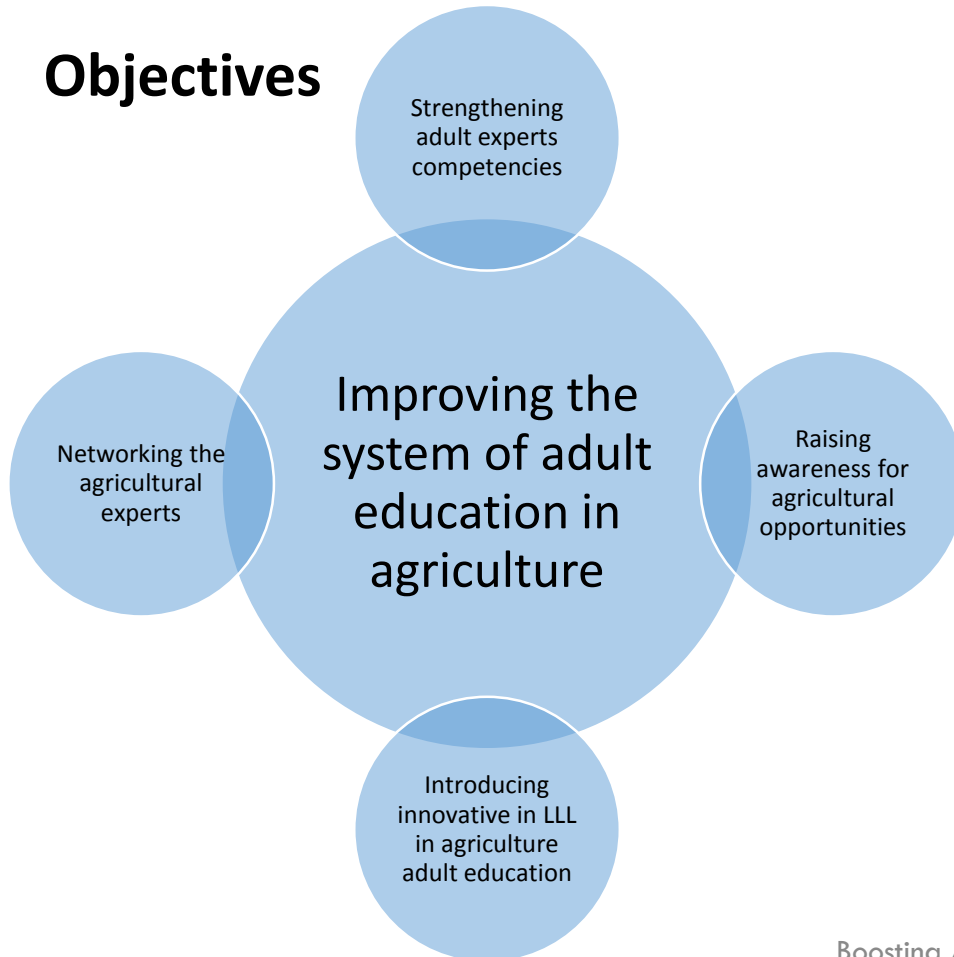
AgriBase is a multidisciplinary team of experts in the field of agriculture, languages, ITC and education.



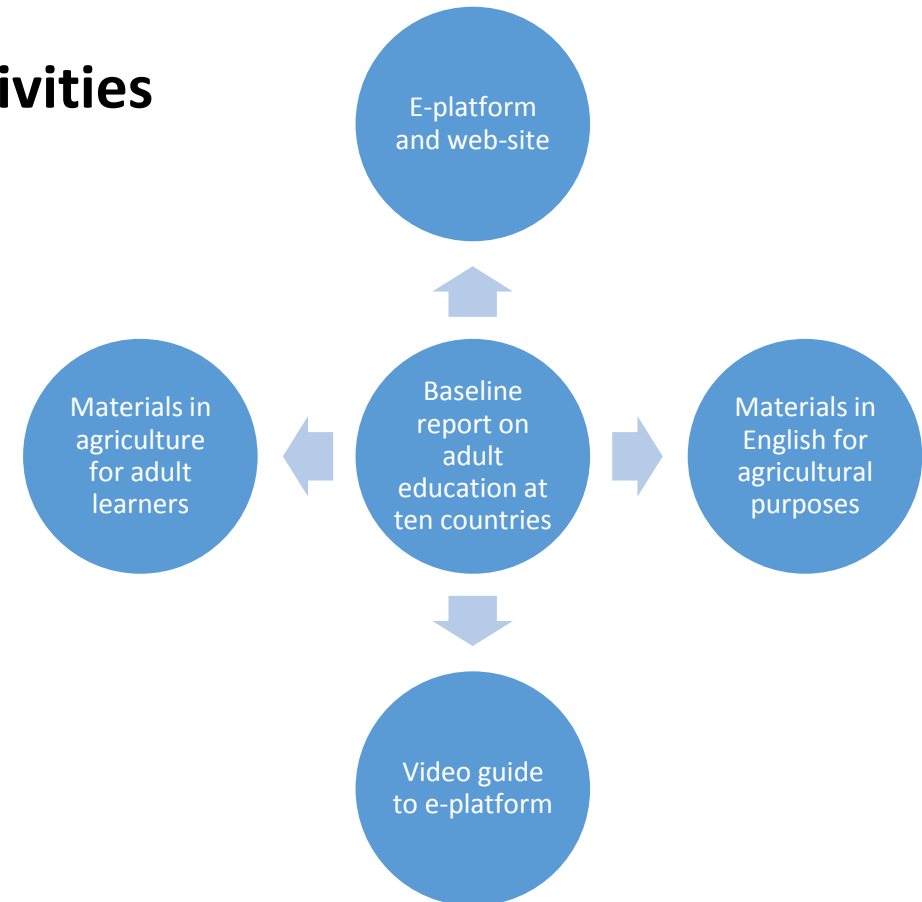
AgriBase



Objectives



Activities



AgriBase in a nutshell

- 8 partner institutions
- 35 academic staff
- 5 Working groups: Baseline Report, EAP, Agriculture educative materials, E-platform and web-site, Video guide
- 8 Transnational meetings
- 20 Virtual meetings
- 63 peer to peer presentations
- 16 national webinars
- 3092 stakeholders engaged
- 8 networking stakeholder meetings
- 2 Media Dissemination Events
- Xx downloads on the web-site
- Xx visits on the e-platform
- 19 members in LinkedIn Group
- 201 followers on @AgriBase



Transnational meetings (1-6 month, covered output O1, O2, O3)

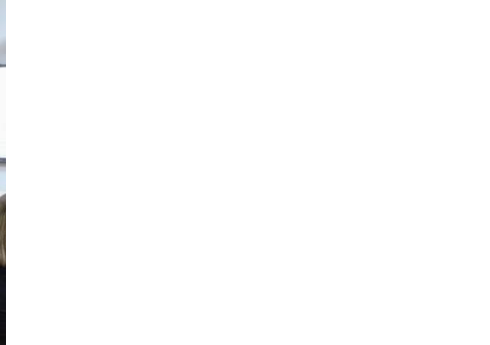


Transnational meetings (6-14 month, covered output O2, O3)

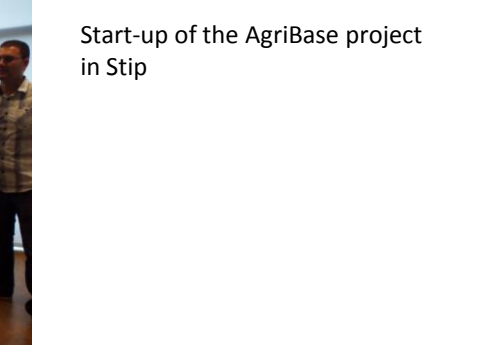
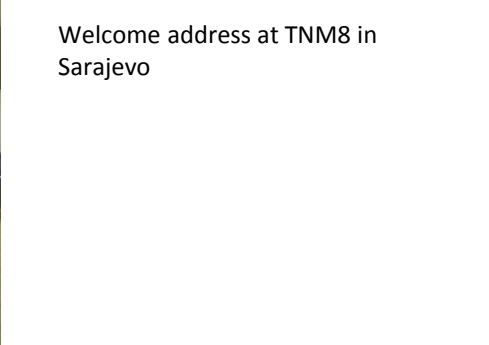
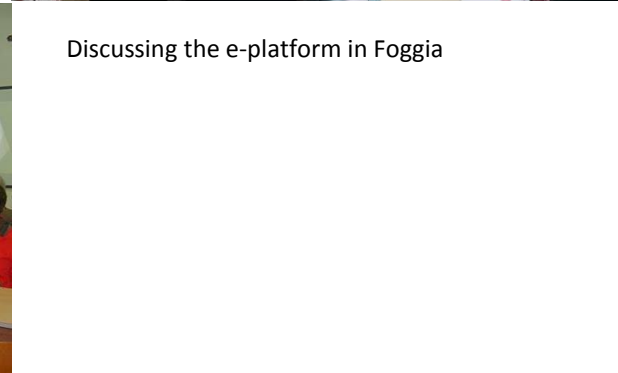
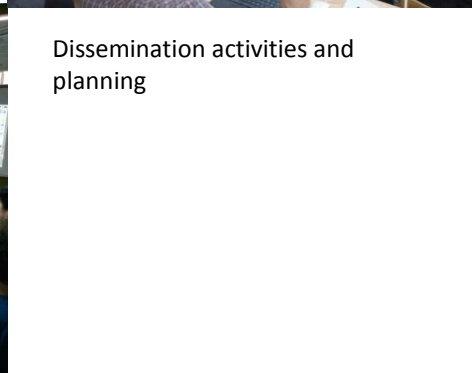


Transnational meetings (14-24 month, covered output O3, O4, O5)

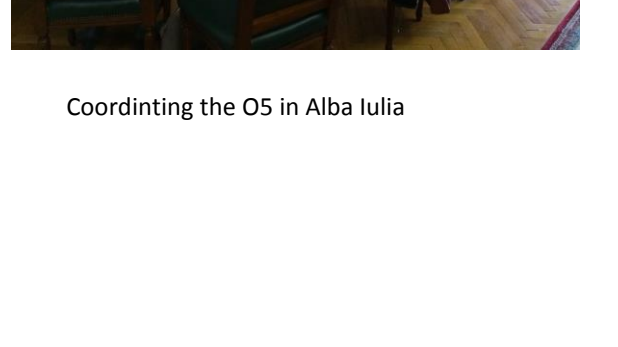
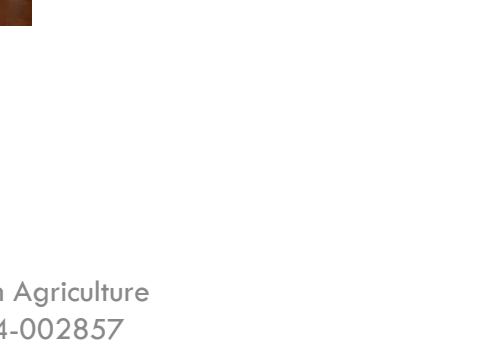
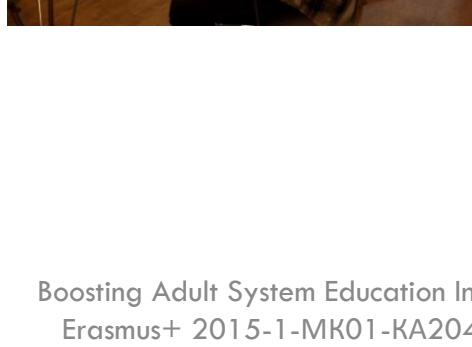




Discussing EAP at TNM 2 in Varna

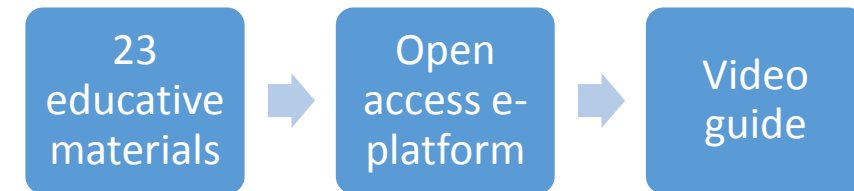
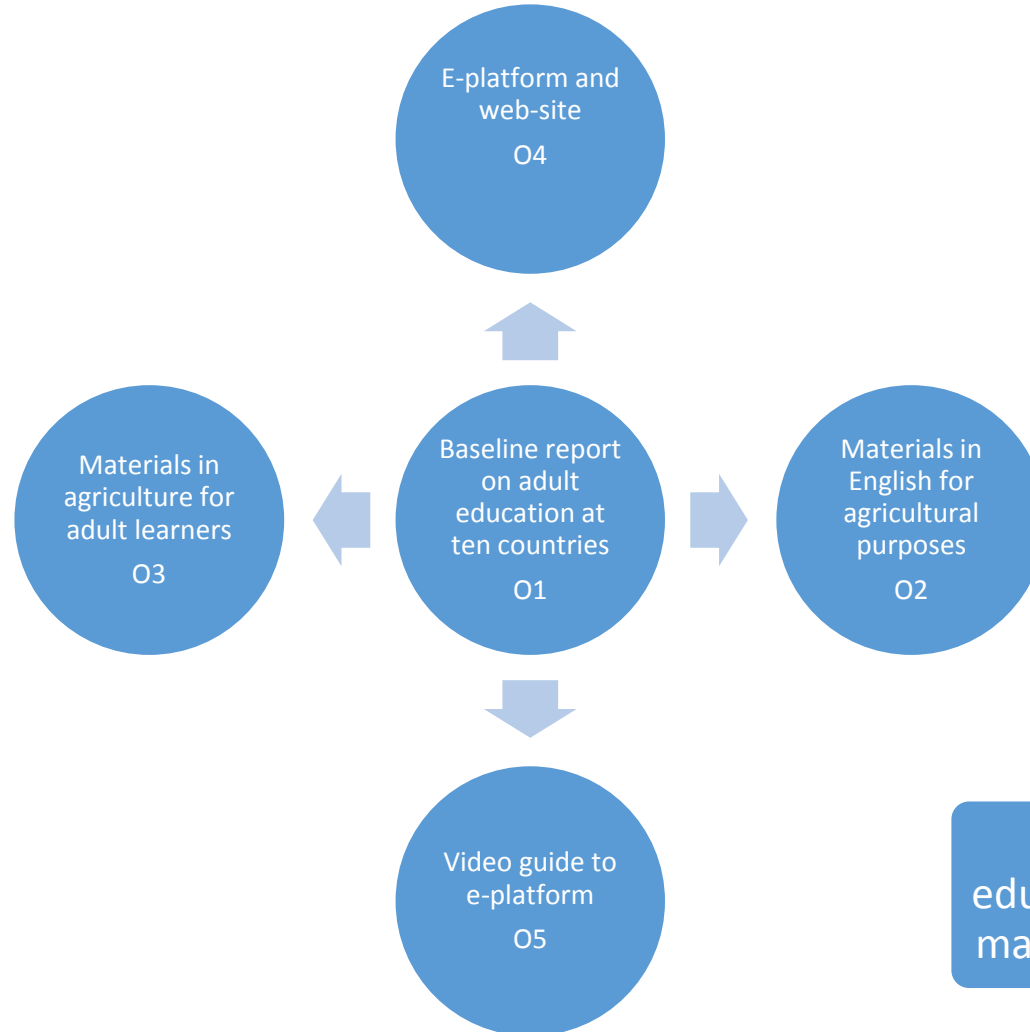
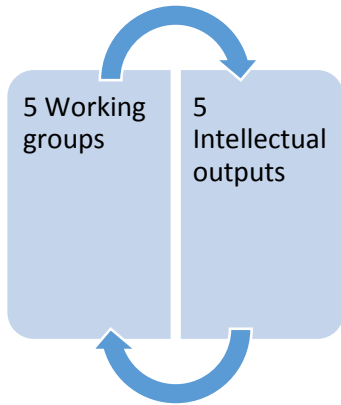


Survey on O3 materials in Caratgena



Coordinating the O5 in Alba Iulia

Working groups and intellectual outputs



•Agribase project has been a great opportunity to establish and strengthen networking activities with colleagues from EU and other countries. The study of adult education, the approach used for the development of the learning activities has been a great challenge. Outputs of the project, I believe, are very useful tools to improve the sector of adult education. The target is very interesting and it could represent a very good opportunity for further investments into educational activities.

Antonio Stasi, University of
Foggia, Italy



- The main Agri Base project results are improved educational system of adults in the field of agriculture, established network of agricultural experts and raised awareness for the agricultural opportunities, benefits and improved knowledge in the field of agriculture.
- Thanks to the developed courses and professional agricultural materials and the created on-line platforms for an easy access to the educative materials, the mentoring support, the intercultural networking, the synergies among different types of the participating organizations, participants' opportunities for practical experiences was supported. TU Varna benefited from the project in terms of increased of agricultural adult education, adaptation and use of the best practices for professional agricultural training as well as the network in agricultural education sector.

Miglena Drumeva, Technical
University Varna, Bulgaria



- AgriBase is an effective instrument to contribute to the professional development of main target group besides trainers and other educational staff. An important output is that it makes a platform for exchange of good practices in the field of agricultural adult education. Educational materials produced throughout the Project will give target group an opportunity to learn new teaching approaches, methods and technics. On the other hand, the project contributed to identify similarities and differences between countries on adult education and also to the social cohesion between cultures.
- At an institutional level, AgriBase has contributed not only to an increase in knowledge of the participant's own area of specialisation but also to an acquaintance with new knowledge and skills in various specific fields and to reflection on the participant's own teaching and working methods. Furthermore, it was an opportunity to contact with colleagues from other countries.

Fatih Barutcu, Adana
Agricultural Extension and In-
Service Training Center, Turkey





Visit to “Popovo Polje” AD, Trebinje, BH



Visit to greenhouse Eco-Samandov in Stip, RM

O1 Baseline report

The Baseline report refers on the current conditions and trends in adult education in agriculture in ten countries of the consortium. The baseline report moves from some general facts about each of the above mentioned country, to the particular aspect on the sector of agriculture with a detailed agricultural profile referring to the issues in this field, typical agricultural products and data about their production and export. The analyses is made on the current condition of LLL and AE in agriculture in terms of: institutional frame, legal frame, the role and place of the university in that process, possible previous researches in this field, financing the system of adult education, possible existing data of the effectiveness of the system; additionally, identification, i.e. suggested needs /fields/ theme for education for each institution. It is designed to contribute to a better understanding of the needs and potential direction for further development of adults education system in the field of agriculture at all countries from the Agri Base consortium.



O2 English for agricultural purposes

The O2 objective was to create set of multi-usage (individual/group approach) e-EAP* materials designed to meet the specified needs of the learner. The materials are related in content (i.e. in its themes and topics) to particular disciplines, occupations and activities and they are centered on the language appropriate to those activities in syntax, lexis, discourse, semantics, etc., and analysis of this discourse.

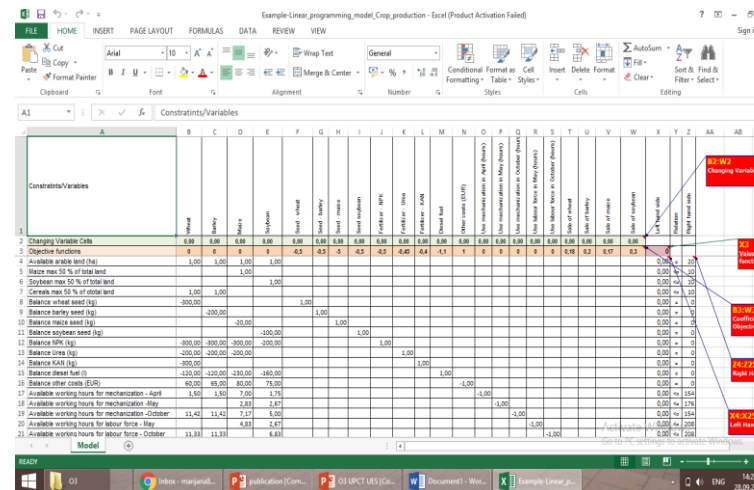
English for specific purposes is in contrast with General English and the materials are significantly important for the stakeholders in agriculture.



O3 Materials in the field of agriculture

The materials within the third project output O3 (Creating educative materials in the field of agriculture) are developed on specific topics and particularly designed according to the target group in order to contribute to the improving the basic and transversal skills of the agricultural experts. This innovative approach will bring to strengthening the added skills at the beneficiaries and incorporating the best practices from eight countries in terms of adult education.

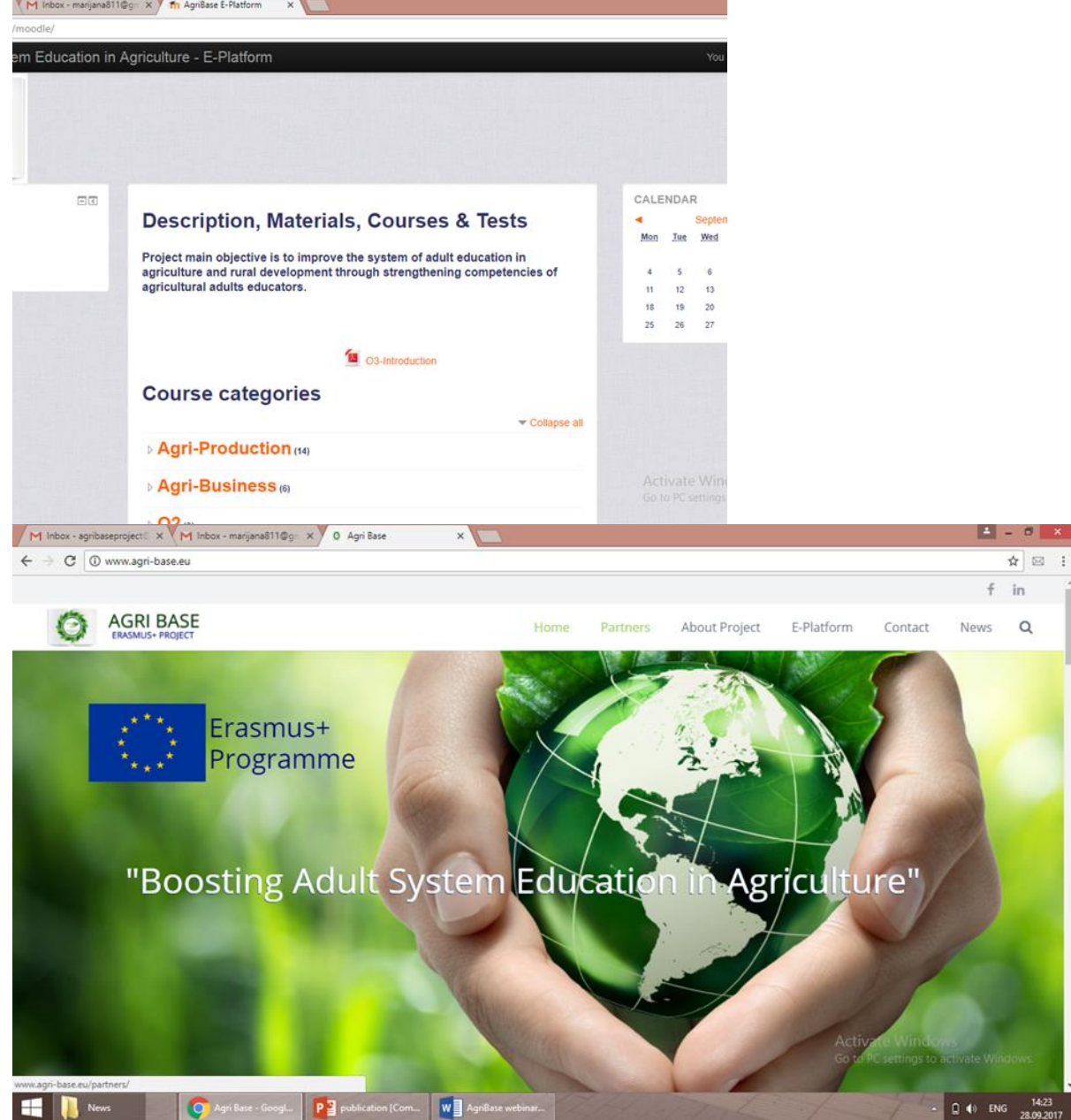
Beneficiaries may choose among the variety of thematic units divided into two sub-categories agriproduction and agribusiness.



O4- e-platform and web-site

The e-platform (<http://agri-base.eu/moodle/>) is of open access and user-friendly. It contains the educative materials (outputs O2 and O3) in English for agriculture purposes as well as in the agriculture. Each material is accompanied with a brief introductory abstract, a power point presentation and a self-check test. The materials are intended both for individual or group learning.

The project web-site (www.agri-base.eu) is the main dissemination method of the project activities. It contains all the information about the project as well as the announcements of up-coming events.



O5- video guide to e-platform

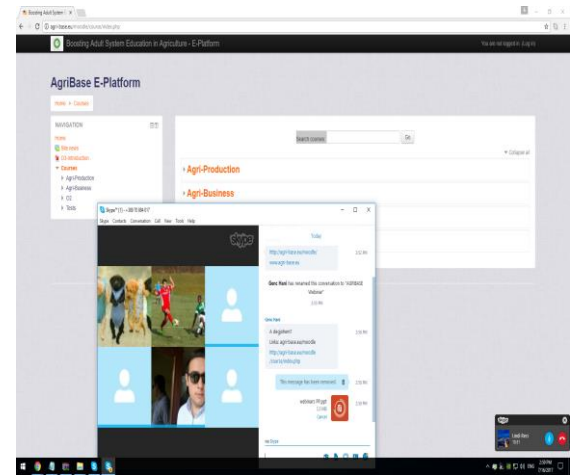
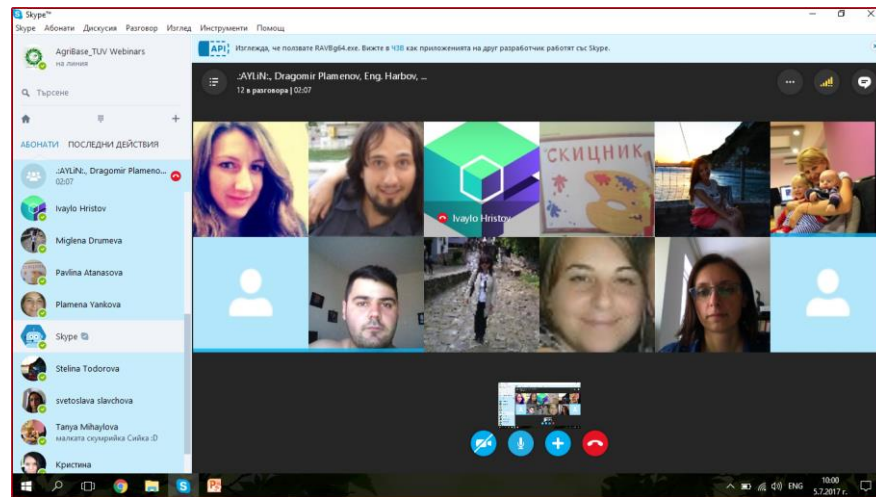
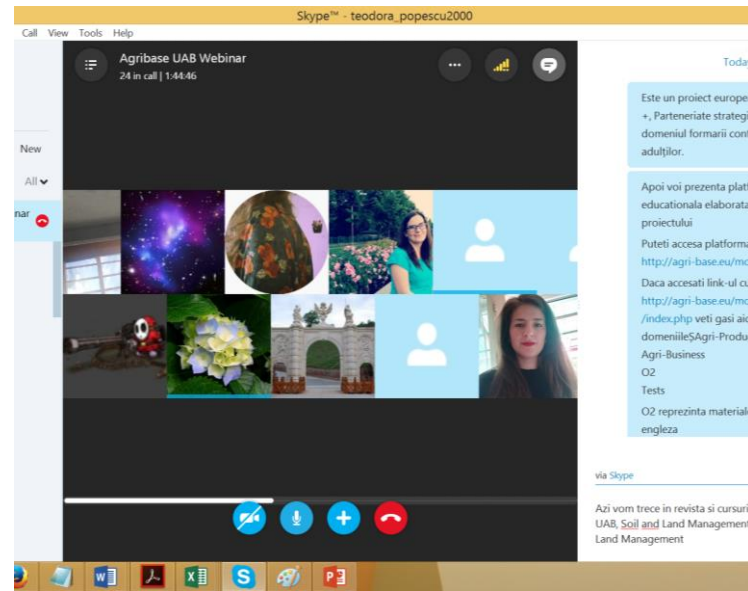
AgriBase team prepared a video-guide to the e-platform which facilitates the usage of the materials. The video guide is of double effect:

- informative (directs the user to the e-platform with simple instructions on access)
- disseminative (shares the information about the project activities, results and outcomes).

National webinars

AgriBase project consortium organized 16 national webinars based on the project intellectual outputs. The webinars were organized in the period from 15.06.2017 to 15.08.2017 and were intended for a wide group of beneficiaries: adult learners and educators, adult policy makers, students, teachers and university professors, small scale farmers, individual farmers and stakeholders.

Each partner institution within the consortium organized a webinar for approximately 200 participants. The webinars were free of charge and on the national language of the country and no previous knowledge of English was needed.





I took part in the webinars organized within the AgriBase project and I am very satisfied. I deepened my knowledge in practical sphere, and I consider it an extraordinary opportunity for learning and sharing of best practices. Besides, I also use the e-platform of this project as a source of educational materials in agriculture, and I am very content to use the materials on my own due to the simplicity in style and user-friendly options.

Milan Kulidjan, independent farmer,
Bosnia and Herzegovina



KOLEGJI
ILIRIA

First of all, thank you so much for such opportunity, that you presented to us your platform and you did such great job. The Agri Base Webinar, helped me a lot to meet more people that work in the same field of my interests. It is always great that in one place you have the possibility to learn more about different topics and thanks to this, I had such possibility.

In case you are planning to have other activities which are similar, please let me know. It will be me pleasure to follow them.

Trina Xheladini, student, Kosovo



The AgriBase online webinar has been of real help for me in order to better understand the problems facing farmers nowadays, in particular those who want to expand their business and grow internationally. In my capacity as business consultant (for EU projects for rural development) I was able to grasp some of the issues that farmers need to address. I consider that such educational events are very useful, and I found the platform extremely helpful. I will definitely recommend the outcomes of the project to all my clients who want to go international.

Ioana Girlea Iuliana, CV Construct Grup SRL, Agricultural EU projects consultant, Romania



I found the webinar very interactive and useful. The topic was very interesting for my job as a farmer, and thanks to this webinar I have finally found a very useful information I can now use in my daily job. In fact, during the first part I asked a number of questions about further developments of the project. Moreover, I was interested into the real application at European level and possibility to scale up the project. In the second part, agribusiness courses were described and introduced in a very simple and understandable way. I found very interesting the topic on Food trends, which was firstly introduced and I found innovative the material on Economics of Agro-Food Safety.

Antonio Seccia, independent farmer, Italy



AgriBase webinar was a unique opportunity for me to enrich my knowledge, but also to establish contacts with other farmers in my surrounding. It opened the possibility for cooperation, widening of knowledge and renewal of my English language, enriching the vocabulary with words from this field, learning how to advertise my products, but also learning of sources for self-study in the field of agriculture as well as sources for funds for agricultural producers.

Trajce Apostolov, individual farmer, R Macedonia



I am very impressed from the AgriBase webinar because it provided me with important information that I can use in my work, every day. I learned how to increase the quantity without diminishing the quality of the crops, that can give us more production from one unit area. I think this was very good way to receive important information, by experts, that can explain profoundly and can answer our questions at the moment. Thank you for inviting me and let me learn how to be better in my work! I will participate in such webinars in the future with a pleasure!

Georgi Petrov, agronomist at "SVEMAR Agro Ltd", Bulgaria

E1 Media Event

After the completion of the first intellectual output O1 “Comparative baseline report on the system of adult education in agriculture”, the E1 multiplier event -dissemination and press conference- was organized in Stip, R Macedonia, within the AgriBase project.

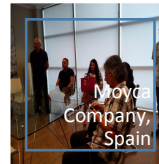
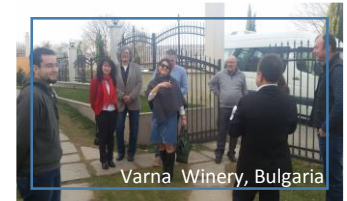
Around hundred representatives from the educational institutions, local ministries and sectors of the education and agriculture, agricultural experts and engineers and farmers from R Macedonia and abroad attended the event and expressed an impressive interest in the project activities and its outcomes. The local, regional and national media informed about the event and broadcasted it.

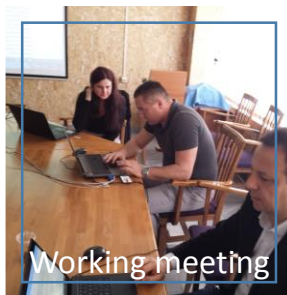


NETWORKING

During the implementation of the AgriBase project , the consortium visited a number of local stakeholders at the project partner countries, mostly in from the winery sector.

These visits were a ground for the creation of the educative materials, connecting the science to society, establishing relations with the stakeholders and boosting the modernization of the adult education in agriculture towards the actual needs of the final users.

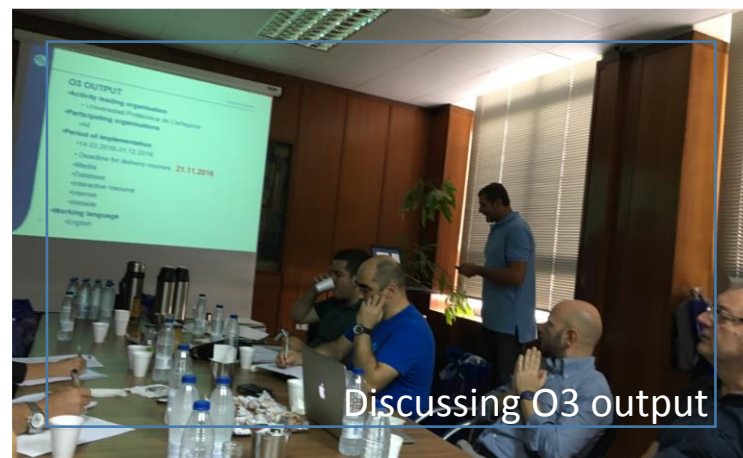




Working meeting



Stakeholders meeting



Discussing O3 output



Stakeholder meeting



Lab visit



Lab visit at UniFg



UPCT team



Stakeholders meeting



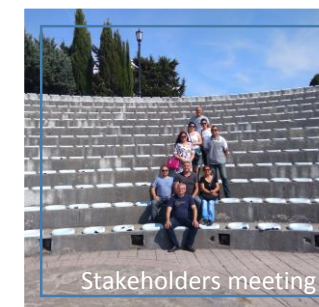
Innovative networking ideas



UPCT team



Lab visit at UES



Stakeholders meeting

