VIRAL Project

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| **Project Name** | **Vitalising ICT Relevance in Agricultural Learning – VIRAL** | |
| **Logo** |  | |
| **Web page** | <http://viralerasmus.org/> |
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| **Donor** | European Education and Culture Executive Agency, Erasmus+ KA2 |
| **Active Period** | 2019-2022 |
| **Consortia members** | 1. UNIVERSITY OF BANJA LUKA - **coordinator** 2. UNIVERSITY OF MOSTAR DZEMAL BIJEDIĆ 3. SVEUČILČIŠTE U MOSTARU 4. UNIVERSITY IN TUZLA 5. UNIVERZITET BIJELJINA 6. UNIVERSITY DONJA GORICA 7. WAGENINGEN UNIVERSITY 8. UNIVERSITY MARIBOR 9. UNIVERSITY OF AGRONOMIC SCIENCES AND VETERINARY MEDICINE OF BUCUREŞTI 10. AGRO-VOĆE 11. JAFFA-KOMERC 12. PLANTAŽE 13 JULI 13. WESTERN BALKANS INSTITUTE 14. INNOVATION AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP CENTER TEHNOPOLIS 15. INNOVATION CENTER BANJA LUKA 16. FOUNDATION FOR INNOVATION AND TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT 17. MONTENEGRIN ASSOCIATION FOR NEW TECHNOLOGIES |
| **Short Description** | VIRAL project aims to trigger higher level of knowledge, skills and application with reference to use of ICT in agricultural education and training in both formal and informal settings. Henceforth, VIRAL connects key HEIs and industry learning communities’ participants in the process of co-creating and testing new in and out of the classroom methods and practices, initiating professional pitch competitions (hackathons), and spinning off a distinctive regional university-business collaboration platform. Core learning experience involving agricultural and IT engineering teaching staff and students and passing on the knowledge gained onto professional advisory services and collaboration practices with the companies in the field is realized through intensive training experience and study visits to European universities. On the impact level boosted ICTs use in agriculture underpins sustainable rural development, increases resilience of rural families, improves access of farmers to needed services, and further empowers women and youth living prospects in rural areas. |
| **Main Results** | Targeted scientific results include:   * Comparative analysis report [(link](http://viralerasmus.org/download/comparative-analysis-of-university-business-cooperation-in-agriculture-in-the-western-balkans-and-eu-and-develop-policy-recommendations/)) and needs assessment report ([link](http://viralerasmus.org/download/needs-assessment-knowledge-transfer-update-report/)) of the state of the art regarding the use of ICT in agriculture in Bosnia and Herzegovina and Montenegro and the needs for improvements, and better reflect these identified needs when planning implementation of the project. * Educational seminar on ICT in agriculture. To familiarize the teaching staff and practitioners with the use of ICT in agriculture. The seminar was introduction activity in preparation of training sessions ([link](https://youtu.be/muizyEVFj1o)) * Training sessions focusing on training in ICT and agriculture ([link](http://viralerasmus.org/en/ict-in-agrictulture/)) * Creation of University ToT teams and development of ToT course toolkits: ToT team of educators in IoT ([link](http://viralerasmus.org/download/wp2-3-team-of-trainers_internet-of-things/)), in mobile applications ([link](http://viralerasmus.org/download/wp-2-3-team-of-trainers-mobile-application/)), use of drones in agriculture ([link](http://viralerasmus.org/download/wp-2-3-team-of-trainers-drones/)), robotics in agriculture ([link](http://viralerasmus.org/download/wp-2-3-team-of-trainers-robotics/)), GIS ([link](http://viralerasmus.org/download/wp-2-3-team-of-trainers-gis/)), sets of courses/toolkits ([link](http://viralerasmus.org/en/ict-in-agrictulture/)) * Practical Guide for the use of ICT in AET in English ([link](http://viralerasmus.org/download/practical-guide-for-the-use-of-ict-in-agriculture/)), in Serbian ([link](http://viralerasmus.org/download/prakticni-vodic-za-primenu-ikt-u-poloprivredi-srb/)), in Croatian ([link](http://viralerasmus.org/download/prakticni-vodic-za-primenu-ikt-u-poloprivredi-hrt/)), in Bosnian ([link](http://viralerasmus.org/download/prakticni-vodic-za-primenu-ikt-u-poljoprivredi-bos/)), in Montenegrin ([link](http://viralerasmus.org/download/prakticni-vodic-za-primjenu-ikt-u-poljoprivredi-mne/)). * Video guide ([link](http://viralerasmus.org/download/video-guide-for-the-organization-of-student-competitions/))and guidelines for organizing student pitching competitions ([link](http://viralerasmus.org/download/new-forms-of-training-and-development-of-entrepreneurial-skills-of-students/)). * Development and implementation of student pitching competitions ([link](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=v42IMFQouSc)) ,([link](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=g8ugRnjBN3o)), ([link](http://viralerasmus.org/viral-hackathon-pet-timova-predstavilo-inovativna-rjesenja-za-poljoprivredni-sektor/)), ([link](http://viralerasmus.org/niksicani-probili-viral-led/)), [(link](https://rtrs.tv/vijesti/vijest.php?id=432687)). * Introduction seminar on university-business cooperation ([link](http://viralerasmus.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/02/VIRAL_Workshop_ABConference_Agenda_090221_Meeting-Minutes-.pdf)). * Development and Implementation of student crash courses ([link](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1mCmVypR8oI)) * Knowledge transfer seminar for extension service providers ([link](http://viralerasmus.org/demonstrirana-prakticna-upotreba-dronova-u-zastiti-voca/)) * Knowledge transfer seminar for agriculture businesses ([link](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LGOimaWjgtk)) |
| **Interested in further cooperation** | Cooperation with ICT and agricultural SMEs with HEIs by:   * providing IT services appropriate to the needs of regional agro-communities including both AET and producers, increasing their efficiency & sustainability, * ever-expanding knowledge base constructed around a user-friendly knowledge co-creation and transfer in the field that goes both ways from university to business and vice versa, * competitive and available agricultural integrated IT solutions for agricultural business operators, increasing efficiency and profit-making ability of the sector.   Developmental strategies and/or internationalization strategies of participating HEIs stress both the relevance and quality of higher education stemming in particular from the use of new technologies in different scientific fields. |
| **Multimedia content, short film or slide show**  **The links** | <http://viralerasmus.org/en/home/>  <http://viralerasmus.org/en/mediji-o-nama/> |