

# VITALISING ICT RELEVANCE IN AGRICULTURAL LEARNING

## From **VIRAL** to real *project achievements*

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**"The role and importance of ICT in Agriculture future development"**

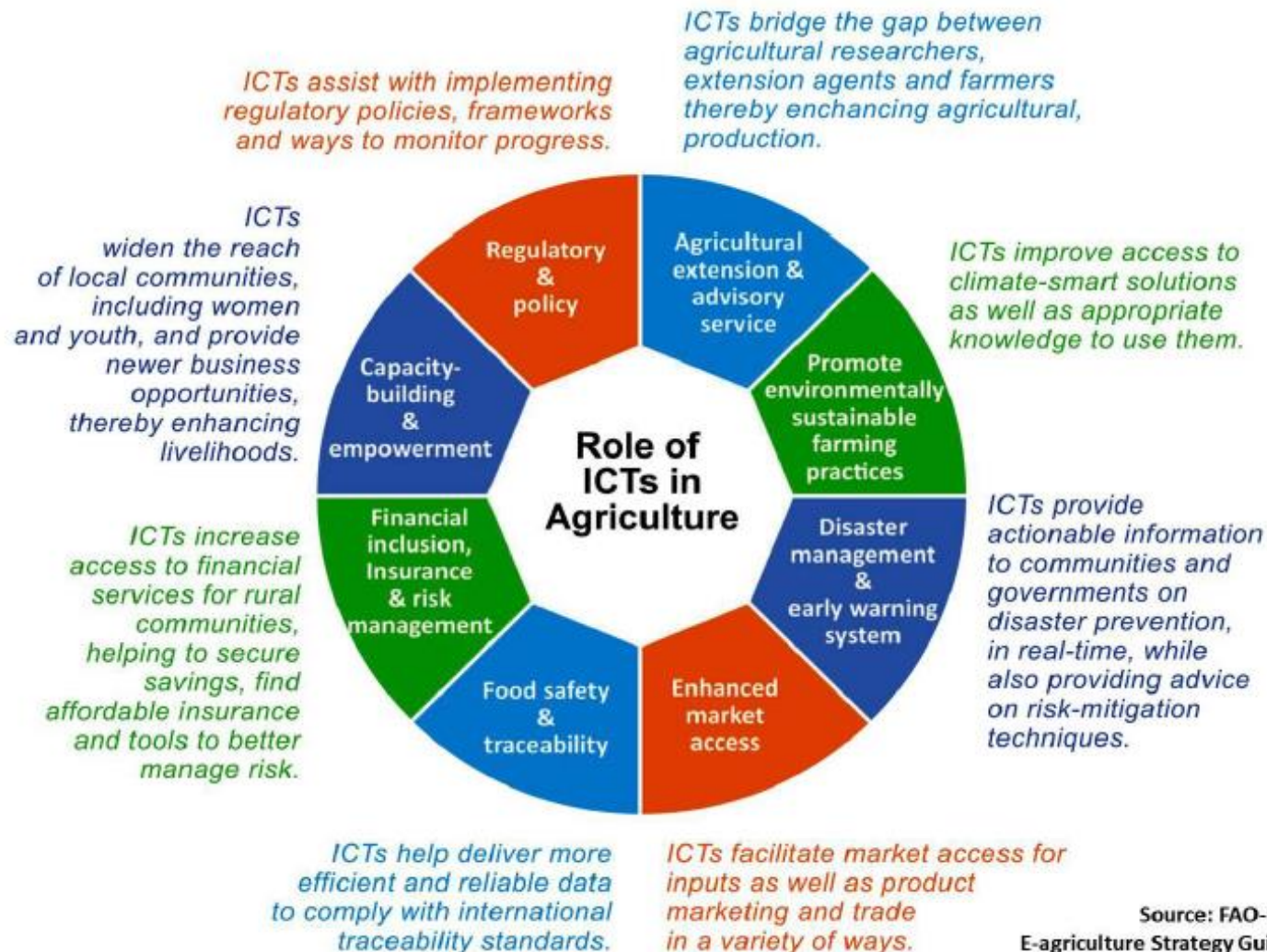
VIRAL workshop

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Erasmus+ Programme  
of the European Union



# Figure 1: Role of ICT in agriculture



<http://viralerasmus.org/en/home/>

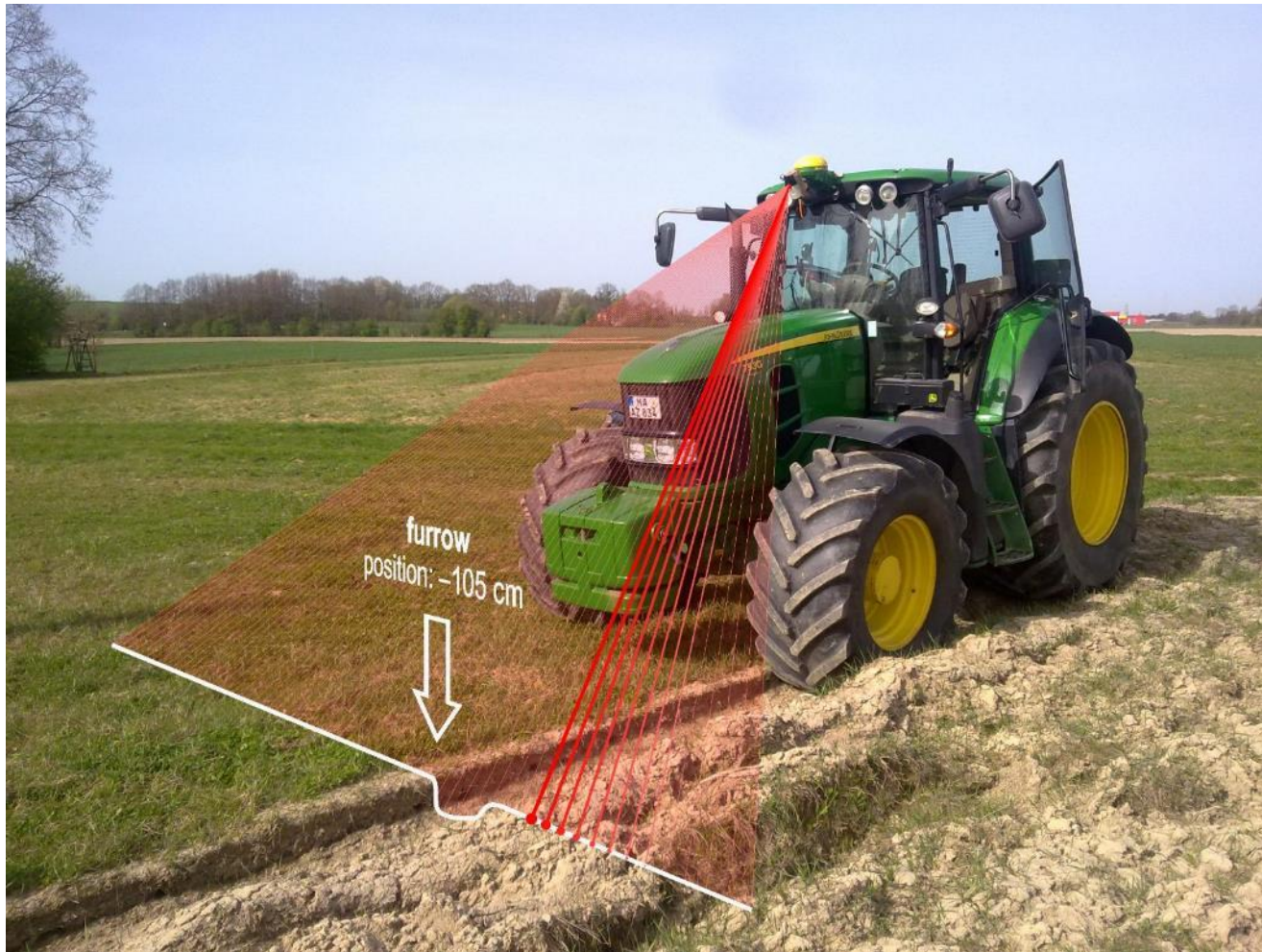


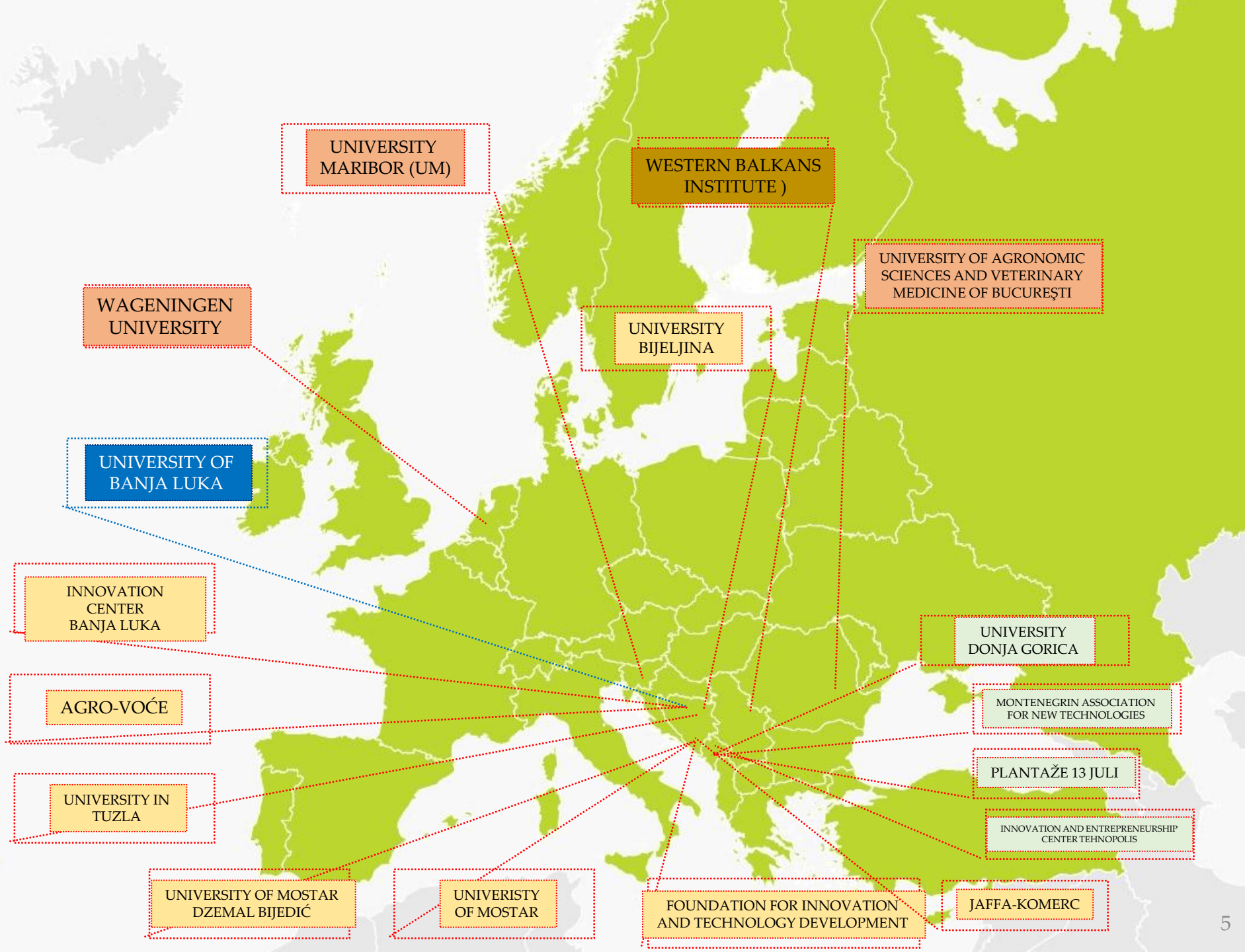
PARTNERS



# Partners

(universities, private companies, NGOs)





UNIVERSITY  
MARIBOR (UM)

WESTERN BALKANS  
INSTITUTE )

UNIVERSITY OF AGRONOMIC  
SCIENCES AND VETERINARY  
MEDICINE OF BUCUREȘTI

UNIVERSITY  
BIJE LJINA

WAGENINGEN  
UNIVERSITY

UNIVERSITY OF  
BANJA LUKA

INNOVATION  
CENTER  
BANJA LUKA

AGRO-VOĆE

UNIVERSITY IN  
TUZLA

UNIVERSITY OF MOSTAR  
DZEMAL BIJEDIĆ

UNIVERISTY OF MOSTAR

FOUNDATION FOR INNOVATION  
AND TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT

JAFFA-KOMERC

UNIVERSITY  
DONJA GORICA

MONTENEGRIN ASSOCIATION  
FOR NEW TECHNOLOGIES

PLANTAŽE 13 JULI

INNOVATION AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP  
CENTER TEHNOPOLIS

## PROJECT AIM

**Overall project aim of VIRAL to support university and business collaboration (UBC) through accelerating the use of ICT across Western Balkans agro-communities.** The concept is led by relevant regional AET facilities and based on enabling the use of different ICT solutions/techniques/tools in the classroom and outside of it in order to obtain desired integration of agriculture and it engineering which in effect reinforces UBC across regional agro communities.



ICT for  
Agriculture



*SO1: to increase the capacity of HEIs to apply and generate ICT in AET and practice*

*SO2: to improve effectiveness and employability of AET graduates*

*SO3: to boost academic-business cooperation regional platform for sustainability, networking and exchange within agricultural and technological communities*



# Work packages



**WP 1 – Preparation**

**WP 2 – Building competences in AIT**

**WP 3 – Development of Student pitching competitions - hackatons**

**WP 4 – Creation of University-Business cooperation platform**

**WP 5 – Knowledge transfer across Agri-community**

**WP 6 – *Quality assurance***

**WP 7 – *Results dissemination & exploitation***

**WP 8 – *Management***



# From VIRAL...



...to

**WP1.1.Comparative analysis report ([link](#))**

**WP1.2.Needs assessment report ([link](#))**

*Both reports were carried out. The input data was collected through the questionnaire surveys which were carried out in all participating countries (BA, ME, RS, SI, RO, NL). Surveyed population include: 256 farmers, 89 extension service providers, 164 professors i 643 students.*

**WP1.3. Web <http://viralerasmus.org/>**

**WP1.4. Introduction conference ([link](#)), ([link](#)), ([link](#))**

Completed

COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS OF  
UNIVERSITY-BUSINESS  
COOPERATION IN AGRICULTURE  
IN THE WESTERN BALKANS AND  
EU AND DEVELOP POLICY  
RECOMMENDATIONS

VIRAL  
WP 1.1. REPORT

NEEDS  
ASSESSMENT/KNOWLEDGE  
TRANSFER UPDATE REPORT

VIRAL  
WP 1.2 REPORT



## WP2.1. Educational seminar on ICT in agriculture

*Introduction seminar on ICT in agriculture was prepared and delivered by WU online. 87 persons applied and 77 attended the seminar. ([link](#))*

### Architecting IoT-based Farm Management Information Systems



## WP2.2. Training sessions

*First ToT training session focusing on training in ICT and agriculture, was held in Tuzla. 47 persons attended the training, out of which 25 were online ([link](#)).*



*Second ToT training session focusing on training in ICT and agriculture, was held in Mostar. 39 persons attended the training, out of which 16 were online ([link](#)).*





## WP2.3. Creation of University ToT

*Following the completion of 2 training sessions cross-institutional ToT teams of educators were constituted for all 5 disciplines: IoT; Mobile Applications; Drones in Agriculture; Robotics in Agriculture; GIS*

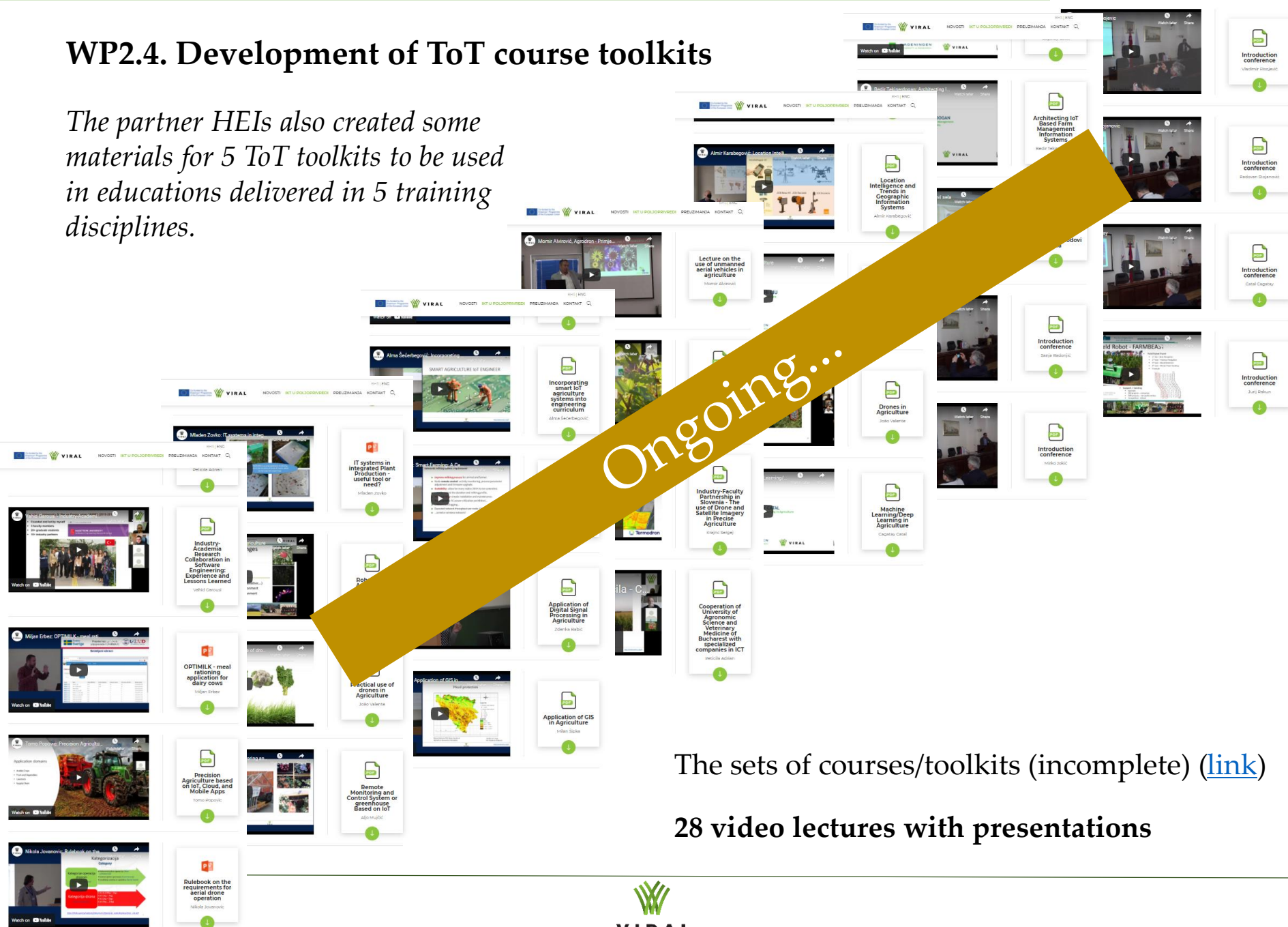
Completed

GIS team of trainers			
	Name and surname	Academic title	E-mail address
University of Tuzla	Milan Šipka	Teaching assistant	<a href="mailto:milan.sipka@agro.unibl.org">milan.sipka@agro.unibl.org</a>
University of Tuzla	Emina Bajraktarević	Teaching assistant	<a href="mailto:emina.bajraktarevic@fet.ba">emina.bajraktarevic@fet.ba</a>
"Džemal Bijedić" University of Mostar	Aleksandra Šupljeglav	Teaching assistant	<a href="mailto:aleksandra@unmo.ba">aleksandra@unmo.ba</a>
University of Mostar	Antonio Stipanović	Associate, MSc	<a href="mailto:antonio.stipanovic@aptf.sum.ba">antonio.stipanovic@aptf.sum.ba</a>
University of Donja Gorica	Tomo Popović	Assistant professor	<a href="mailto:tomo.popovic@udg.edu.me">tomo.popovic@udg.edu.me</a>
	Stevan Čakić	Research assistant	<a href="mailto:stevan.cakic@udg.edu.me">stevan.cakic@udg.edu.me</a>
University of Bijeljina	Miroslav Nedeljković	Assistant professor	<a href="mailto:miroslav.nedeljkovic.bn@gmail.com">miroslav.nedeljkovic.bn@gmail.com</a>
University of Agronomic Sciences and Veterinary Medicine of Bucharest	Doru Mihai	Professor	<a href="mailto:doru.mihail@gmail.com">doru.mihail@gmail.com</a>
	Cristian Moise	Lecturer	<a href="mailto:cristian.moise@rosa.ro">cristian.moise@rosa.ro</a>



## WP2.4. Development of ToT course toolkits

*The partner HEIs also created some materials for 5 ToT toolkits to be used in educations delivered in 5 training disciplines.*



Ongoing...

The sets of courses/toolkits (incomplete) ([link](#))

28 video lectures with presentations

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## WP2.6. Practical Guide for the use of ICT in AET

Practical guide for the use of ICT in agriculture in English ([link](#))

Practical guide for the use of ICT in agriculture in Serbian ([link](#))

Practical guide for the use of ICT in agriculture in Croatian ([link](#))

Practical guide for the use of ICT in agriculture in Bosnian ([link](#))

Practical guide for the use of ICT in agriculture in Montenegrin ([link](#))





## WP2.7.Creation of crash course on ICT in agriculture

*In the period covered by this report the structure of the crash courses has been developed. The structure covers 5 specific fields: IoT; Mobile Applications in Agriculture; Robotics in Agriculture; GIS). The structure of each course has also been developed, along with design and training materials for teachers and learners.*

Ongoing...

## WP.3.1. DEVELOPMENT OF STUDENT PITCHING COMPETITIONS – HACKATONS

Video guide for organizing student pitching competitions ([link](#))

Guidelines for organizing student pitching competitions ([link](#))

Manual for organizing student pitching competitions ([link](#))



Completed



[www.viralerasmus.org](http://www.viralerasmus.org)  
[viral.erasmus@unibl.org](mailto:viral.erasmus@unibl.org)

The total of **18,100 EUR** raised from businesses by project partners for rewards.





## WP4.1.Introduction seminar on university-business cooperation

*The Introduction academic-business cooperation (ABC) seminar was held online via ZOOM with participation of more than 60 professors, business representatives and stakeholders ([link](#)).*

Academy-Business Cooperation  
(ABCoop)

Introduction Workshop

Improving knowledge on university-business cooperation

Completed



VIRAL



# Development workshops on university-business cooperation

Chamber of Commerce and Industry of the Republic of Serbia and participants in the “Scaleup4europe” project ([link](#)).

Developing a model of a multifunctional robot for use in protected areas ([link](#)).

HORIZON 2020 project “Scaleup4europe” ([link](#)).

Project AgroLIFE is funded by GIZ (German Technical Assistance Agency) and implemented by the International Alliance for Local Economic Cooperation) and TeleGroup doo ([link](#)).

Cooperation agreement in the field of ICT application in agriculture was signed by the Faculty of Agriculture, University of Banja Luka, and the Association for Unmanned Systems in Agriculture and Agrodron Consortium ([link](#)).



## WP5.1. Implementation of student crash courses

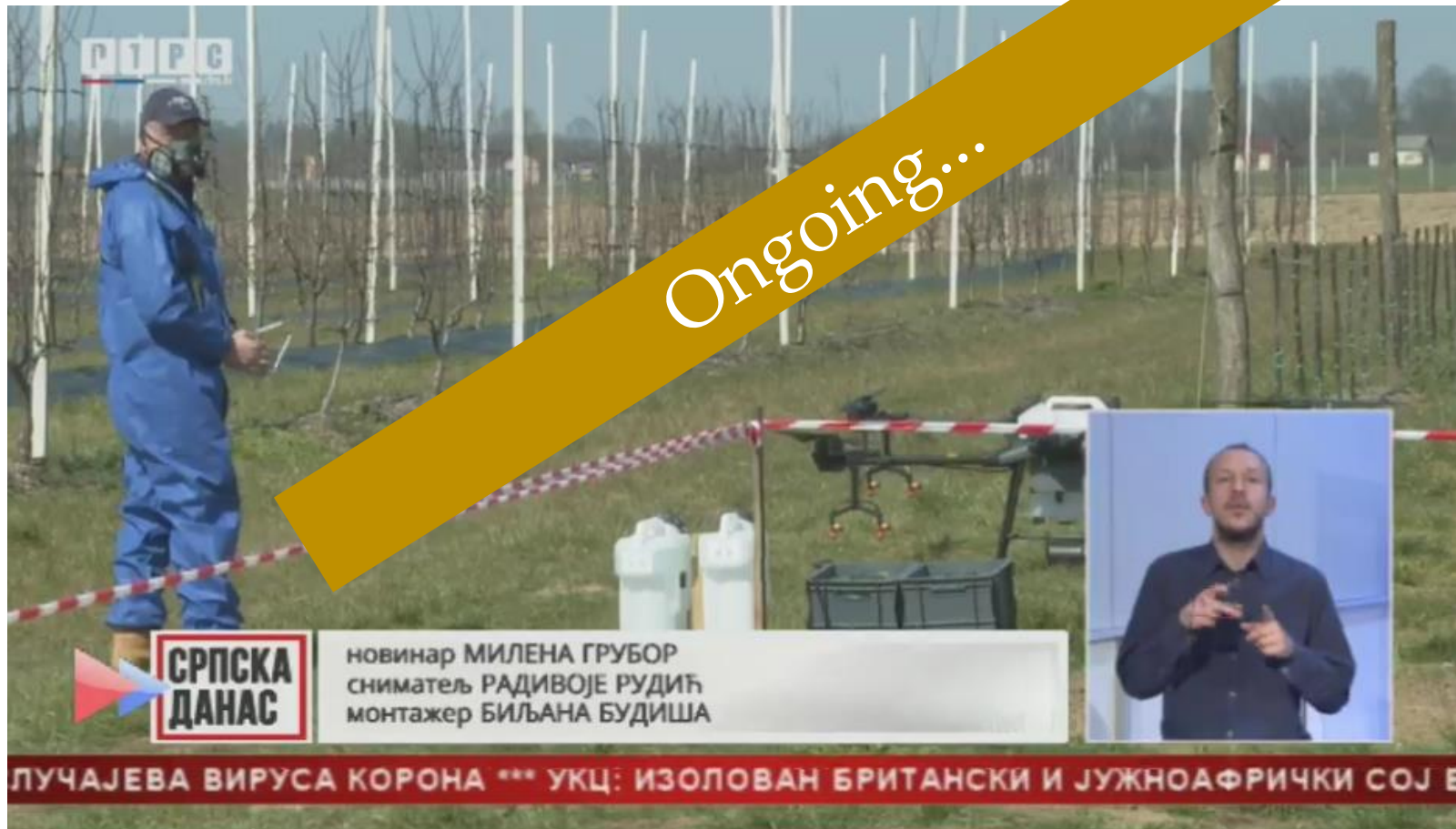
*Agrodrone lecture for students about the use of drones in agriculture ([link](#))*





## WP5.2. Knowledge transfer seminar for extension service providers

On 26/03/2021 within the VIRAL project, the Faculty of Agriculture of the University of Banja Luka and the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Water Management of the Republic of Srpska organized the practical demonstration of the use of drone for extension service providers ([link](#)). The activity is realized in cooperation with the company “Agrodron” from Serbia and “Agro” from Laktaši. More information is available at the following ([link](#)).



## WP5.3. Knowledge transfer seminar for agriculture businesses

*The seminar about the challenges of agricultural production in 2021, was organized by the Faculty of Agriculture of the University of Bijeljina on 10/03/2021 within the “Viral” project and co-organized by the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Water Management of Republika Srpska and the City of Bijeljina. The seminar was attended by more than 50 participants, mostly farmers from Bijeljina. More information is available at the following ([link](#)).*



# Project dissemination

**Ongoing...**

31/05/2021  
**Presentation of results of the work of the Viral project at the MECO conference 2021**

This year, the VIRAL project will be presented at the MECO conference. Project partners from the company "I3. Jul Plantaže", Montenegrin Association for New Technologies (MANT), University of Donja Gorica and University of Banja Luka, present a paper entitled **"A Feasible IoT-Based System for Precision Agriculture"**. The paper presents the development of the application of digital technologies in the field of agriculture, with new applications and design solutions, which contributes to the application of technologies that support smart computers. The authors of the paper are Radovan Stojanović, Vesna Maraš, Sanja Radonjić, Anita Martić, Jovan Đurković, Katarina Pavićević, Vasilije Mirović and Miljan Cvetković.

X Mediterranean Conference on Embedded Computing Systems (MECO) will be held from 7-10 June 2021 in Budva. The Conference is attended by

31/05/2021  
**AgriORE**

31/05/2021  
**Agri** conference

31/05/2021  
 Alisa Hadžićabulic presented the results of the research within WP1 at the Agriores 2021 conference

31/05/2021  
 ICT in agriculture is an important but still underdeveloped segment

31/05/2021  
 VIRAL workshop – The role and importance of ICT in Agriculture future development

26/05/2021  
 Panel section on the use of ICT in agriculture at Agriores 2021

26/05/2021  
 Research within WP1 will be presented at the Agriores 2021 conference



We are halfway to reaching reality...

...equipment...

...training toolkits...

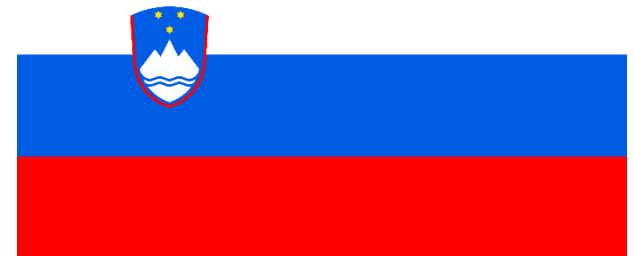
...regional hakaton...

...EXPO online event...

...trainings...

...dissemination...

...traveling to...





Join in the journey - it's not too late...  
You are welcome!

**Thank you !**



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AGRICULTURAL LEARNING