

Sustainable Agriculture and Rural Development (SARUD)

Erasmus + KA2 project number 561969-EPP-1-2015-1-DE-EPPKA2-CBHE-JP

Information letter 01.08.2016

Dear Partners,

Meanwhile our project has made some progress and herewith we would like to inform you about achievements and further plans, before likely all of us will go for a summer break.

Overview of the general project progress is available at the intranet as a monthly update of the GANTT-chart under “Documents & Information → Workplan”:

https://sarud.uni-hohenheim.de/intern0?&no_cache=1#jfmulticontent_c283718-4

2nd regional coordination meetings in Kazakhstan and Russia

The regional coordination meetings have been conducted in Kazakhstan (German Agricultural Center, Chaglinka) and Russia (Buryat State Academy of Agriculture, Ulan-Ude) end of June – beginning of July 2016 and *we would like to thank the host for the perfect organization and warm welcome of our project team!*

Short reports and events’ picture galleries are available on the project webpage under the following links:

Kazakhstan:

https://sarud.uni-hohenheim.de/119254?&tx_ttnews%5Btt_news%5D=32654&cHash=b7768799605264e29a46578cc937411a

Russia:

https://sarud.uni-hohenheim.de/119254?&tx_ttnews%5Btt_news%5D=32859&cHash=1ed27038f4be6a8397dce4daf1697e74

Meetings’ programmes, presentations and summaries of assigned tasks are available in intranet under “Meetings”:

https://sarud.uni-hohenheim.de/intern0?&no_cache=1#jfmulticontent_c283721-2

The main outcomes of the meeting were the reworked study plans of the new master curricular for different majors:

- Economics (OSAU, BSAA, Michurinsk SAU, KATU, KSU, KokSU)
- Agronomy (OSAU, KSU)
- Municipal and public management (NSAU)

Current versions of study plans (can be found in intranet under “Study Plans” https://sarud.uni-hohenheim.de/intern0?&no_cache=1#jfmulticontent_c283718-5) are going to be revised by EU partners as well as Prof. Alexander Merzlov from Timiryazev Academy. Afterwards partner

universities in Russia and Kazakhstan will start elaboration of modules' contents. Responsibilities for the modules elaboration have been distributed among partners involved and the modules' leads have been appointed. These modules' lead partners will coordinate the interinstitutional creative working groups consisting of the representatives from all partner universities, introducing the particular module into the new curricular at their institutions. This approach will assure involvement of all partner institutions into the elaboration of all thematic modules. The backstopping visits of these key partners as well as RUDECO partners will support the lively exchange between the members of the creative working groups and the now-how transfer among the consortium network.

SARUD study trips

Study trips and didactic trainings of the first waves are scheduled for **2-15 October 2016 in Warsaw & Prague**. Programme of the study trips is available in intranet under "Meetings":

https://sarud.uni-hohenheim.de/intern0?&no_cache=1#jfmulticontent_c277925-1

Ongoing selection process of participants (2 persons per university) for the 1st study trip targets on building of the interdisciplinary team, involving representatives from the four main thematic areas of the sustainable rural development: economics, ecology, social sciences as agro-technological field. Study trip programme will be enriched by the 3-days didactic seminar organized by the Agency for Development of Agriculture and Rural Areas of the Federal State of Baden-Wuerttemberg, Germany.

Monitoring visit

The preventive monitoring visit performed by representative of the National Erasmus+ Office in Russia took place on the premises of Yaroslavl State Agricultural Academy on 25 May 2016. Based on the monitoring the National Erasmus+ Office in collaboration with EACEA will provide our consortium with recommendations for the project implementation. The official monitoring report is not received so far; we will send it around as soon as available.

We would like to express our gratitude to Sergey Shchukin and his team for the preparation and hosting the monitoring visit in Yaroslavl!

Partnership Agreement

Partnership Agreement has so far been signed by all project partners with the only exception: due to the changes in personnel at the Department for Rural Development at the Ministry of Agriculture of Russian Federation, the signing of the Partnership Agreement will still take some time. You can find the current version of the signed Partnership Agreement in the intranet under "Documents":

https://sarud.uni-hohenheim.de/intern0?&no_cache=1#jfmulticontent_c283718-1

The final version will be uploaded as soon as all partners sign the Agreement. We will inform you accordingly.

Guidelines for the use of the Grant & EACEA Templates

Please note that the **updated version of the Guidelines for the use of the Grant** was published on the CBHE beneficiaries' space on 1 May 2016 and is now also available in intranet under "Documents". Please note that this revised version applies for the entire project lifetime. On the back of the cover page of the Guidelines you will find a detailed description of the changes implemented and that concern mainly clarifications on the co-financing principle, the supporting documents, the reimbursement approach, the subcontracting, the travel costs, etc.

Additionally the templates for Staff Convention Forms and Individual Travel Reports have been changed also. You can download updated documents in intranet under "Templates". Please make sure to use these up-to-date versions for the documentation of project events and payments taking place starting from the very beginning of the project.

Dissemination

We would like to remind you that we are still missing information from some partners requested in order to update **SARUD webpage**. Therefore if not done yet, we would kindly remind you:

- to place information about your participation at the project on the webpage of your institution (please always use SARUD logo and EU flag with acknowledgement the support under Erasmus+ programme – both are available in intranet) and link this information to our project web page <https://sarud.uni-hohenheim.de/start>;
- always, when you publish any information online (about project, news, reports, etc.), please send us a link to these publications. It will help to document the dissemination and interlink published information with SARUD webpage;
- **Partners in Russia and Kazakhstan** are kindly asked to check information about their institution and main representatives, which was placed on SARUD webpage under the link <https://sarud.uni-hohenheim.de/partners> and give a short feedback whether this information is correct and up to date. Please provide also the institution description in Russian language to be placed on the RU webpage. We would be grateful to receive feedback from all partners **by the end of August 2016**.
- In case you would like to share any fundamental information on Sustainable Agriculture and Rural Development (pertinent publications, e-books, etc. in English or Russian) with all consortium partners, please provide us those documents to be placed in respective download area in intranet.

We wish you an enjoyable summer time and remain at your disposal for further questions and information.

Sincerely,

Your SARUD Team