



ALMA MATER STUDIORUM
UNIVERSITÀ DI BOLOGNA

8th International Conference on Microbial Diversity Microbial Diversity for Empowering the Ecological Transition: Research, Innovation, and Technological Transfer

September 23-26, 2025 Rome, Italy



The HEMUA Project: a way to improve research, innovation and contacts with the labour market in the Higher Education system in Uzbekistan

Diana Di Gioia, Elena Baldi, Daniele Alberoni, Moreno Toselli

Department of Agricultural and Food Sciences (DISTAL), University of Bologna, Via Fanin 44, Bologna, Italy

HEMUA is a project co-funded by European Union within the Erasmus+ Programme 2021-2027, Capacity Building in Higher Education (CBHE). HEMUA follows up a series of initiatives that link DISTAL (UNIBO) to the Samarkand State University in Uzbekistan.

Main aim of the project: to prepare **new professionals able to respond to the needs of modern agriculture in Uzbekistan** by introducing in the Uzbek Higher Education (HE) system upgraded teaching content and new teaching methods.

SPECIFIC AIMS of HEMUA

- i) to increase attractiveness and quality of 4 pilot courses (one in each partner Uzbek University) by improving their content and introducing innovative teaching methods and tools;
- ii) to improve the soft skills of the students to make them suitable to new job challenges;
- iii) to improve the quality of teaching in order to obtain, in the long term, a comprehensive amelioration of the HE system;
- iv) to introduce a quality assurance system in HE.

ACTIONS TO REACH THE OBJECTIVES

- i. choice of the courses (1 for each Uzbek University) to be evaluated within the project;
- ii. implementation of questionnaires among students of the selected courses to evaluate possible improvements;
- iii. introduction, in addition to face-to-face teaching, of laboratories and field activities, visits to agri-food companies and seminars;
- iv. designing of detailed syllabuses for the new improved courses;
- v. stimulation of the international training of Uzbek students and professors with the two EU partner countries as well as other EU countries;
- vi. enrichment of the teaching plan with courses taught in English;
- vii. tutorship activities and seminars in English;
- viii. introduction of student traineeship activities in private companies;
- ix. exchange of good practices through dedicated training to Uzbek lectures with a tailored mobility programme;
- x. quality monitoring of the courses via dedicated questionnaires;
- xi. communication and dissemination activities.



HEMUA is co-funded by European Union within the Erasmus+ Programme 2021-2027, Capacity Building in Higher Education (CBHE). GA number 101179517 Views and opinions expressed are those of the authors only and do not necessarily reflect those of the EU or the European Education and Culture Executive Agency (EACEA). Neither the EU nor EACEA can be held responsible for them.

PARTNERSHIP

- University of Bologna (Coordinator)
- University of ROSTOCK, Germany
- Samarkand State University
- Bukhara State University
- Urgench State University
- Karshi State Technical University
- Marokand (company, Samarkand)

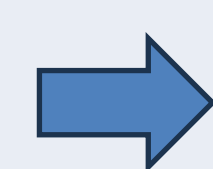


KOM in Bologna
(February, 19-20, 2025)



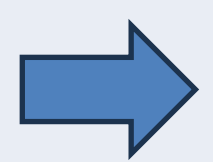
Final meeting to be held in Samarkand (2027)

ACTIVITIES PERFORMED UP TILL NOW:



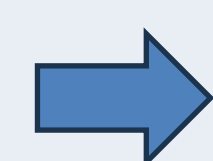
PROJECT WEBSITE: <https://site.unibo.it/hemua/en>

PREPARATION OF A FACTSHEET OF THE PROJECT

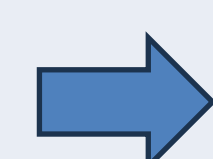


SELECTION OF THE COURSES

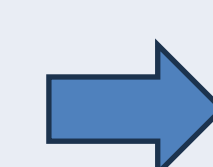
- 1) Agroecology (Bukhara State University)
- 2) Sustainable horticulture (Samarkand State University)
- 3) Basis of food safety (Urgench State University)
- 4) Mechatronics and robotics (Karshi State Technical University)



STUDENTS QUESTIONNAIRES SUBMITTED AND ANALYSED → the results showed that the main gaps of the Uzbek HE system are: low international mobility of students, limited availability of teaching tools (library, labs, experimental fields), and limited to internships possibilities in companies.



CRITICAL REVIEW OF THE COURSES' SYLLABUS: ONGOING



TUTORSHIP ACTIVITIES WITH UZBEK STUDENTS: ONGOING