



## Fourth-quarter Joint Report of AGFORWEB project





### Project information

Project title	Agroforestry practices in West Balkan for sustainable development: weaknesses and strengths
Project acronym	AGFORWEB
Project reference number	2022-1-RS01-KA220-HED-000089900
Coordinator	University of Belgrade
Project start date	December 1, 2022
Project duration	24 months

### Document control sheet

Title of the Work Package	WP1 Project Management
Title of Deliverable	Fourth-quarter Joint Report (QR4)
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Status of the document	Final



In the third three-month period from September to November activities were planned in all WPs according to the timeline of the Project (Fig. 1).

Months		10	11	12
		Sep-23	Oct-23	Nov-23
P1	Project management team meetings	PMU		
	Guidelines for reporting and correspondence			
	Reports			
	Day-to-day correspondence and administrative tasks			
P2	Analysis of the existing curricula			
	Consultations regarding curricula analysis and methodology for digital database			
	Creating a methodology for digital data base			
	Forming a digital database			
P3	Curricula improvement			
	Proposal for change of curricula in next accreditation round			
	Study visits for professors and students		2	
	Guest lectures			
	Master thesis			
P4	Creating a learning materials for students			
	Manual for using the digital database			
	Guide for Farmers and Local SelfGovernment			
P5	Development of Quality Assurance plan			
	Development of Dissemination plan			
	Promotional material			
	Website establishment and maintenance			
	Workshops for local community			
	Quality Assurance Committee meetings			QAC

Figure 1. Timeline of AGFORWEB project for the period from September to November (4<sup>th</sup> quarter)

In the WP1 activities, the Project management team have a meeting held on October 25<sup>th</sup>, 2023, in Osijek, Croatia. Presentations and discussion at the PMU meeting covered following topics:

- Third quarterly report
- Financial management, reporting and correspondence
- Action plan for next three months (September – November).

Report of the third PMU meeting was submitted.

Several online meetings were held, including day-to-day correspondence as needed.

WP leaders and contact persons submitted reports for the third quartile (September – November). According to the reports, this joint report has been prepared.



Activities conducted in the WP2 in the period from September to November were:

*Activity 2.4* – Forming a digital database. Final activities on the field data collection and from the non-digital sources were performed in this period. A collaborative digital database on agroforestry systems will be available after final adjustments.

Activities in WP3 are in progress in the period from September to November.

*Activity 3.1* - Curricula improvement. An external evaluation of seven improved curricula was carried out. Peer-reviews of external evaluators were collected and analyzed. External evaluators were expert in agroforestry and expert in the field of education (psychology and pedagogy). Both reviewers gave positive and suggestions for slight adjustments in the next accreditation round.

Students started to attend the modules according to the improved curricula in the academic year 2023/24. At the end of the semester, students will evaluate improved curricula by filling the Questionnaire for the evaluation of improved curriculum.

*Activity 3.2* – Proposal for change of curricula in next accreditation round. After designing new curriculum and submitting the Report of proposal for new curriculum (R3), the material was submitted for analysis and review to the Chamber of Commerce of Montenegro – Sector for education. The education sector of the Montenegrin Chamber of Commerce emphasized that the initiative is justified and useful, and the submitted material was processed in great detail. Prepared material correspond with the already accepted standards in education.

*Activity 3.3* – Study visits. The second study visit was held from 25<sup>th</sup> to 27<sup>th</sup> October in Osijek, Croatia. The main consideration of study visit in Croatia was on agroforestry practices related to alley cropping systems in agricultural plain areas. In the focus of study visit were alley cropping field trials near Osijek. The participants were informed on the microclimatic parameters that are being monitored in the observed systems. Furthermore, the soil profile was opened to get insight into the soil type of the location. After the field trials, the Nature park Kopački rit was visited, which is a famous bird sanctuary. As part of the Kopački rit there is a farm of domestic cattle but due to the epidemic of the African swine flu the farm was closed so the famous castle and hunting ground Tikveš was visited. The report of the study visit was prepared by organizer UNIOS.

Also, the next study visit to Istria was discussed, which will be organized by CFRI. It is planned for the end of April. The study visit to Bulgaria is planned for the end of June 2024, and finally study visit to Serbia will be organized in October 2024.

*Activity 3.4* – Guest lectures. This activity started in October. First guest lecture was held on October 26<sup>th</sup> 2023 et UNIOS. Prof. dr. sc. Snežana Belanović Simić held the lecture titled - *Soil Quality and agroforestry practice* and presented the most common soil types in Serbia and issues related to its degradation. The guest lecture was attended by 49 attendees, among them, 29 students from the Faculty of Agrobiotechnical Sciences Osijek, second year of the bachelor study program “Plant production”. The same date Prof. dr. sc. Jelena Lazarević and MSc. Milena Đokić held the lecture titled – *Katuni in Montenegro* and presented practices of animal husbandry in Montenegro where cattle is kept in the open



semi-forested areas in the mountains during the spring and summer months. The guest lecture was attended by 36 attendees, among them, 16 students from the Faculty of Agrobiotechnical Sciences Osijek, second and third year of the bachelor study program "Animal production" and two ERASMUS students.

*Activity 3.5 – Master thesis.* The activities related to the processing of data collected in the field during the summer at UoM. After that, the collection and review of literature in the field of Agroforestry was started. The framework topics of master's theses were discussed. The final specification of the topics and the application of the titles of master's theses are scheduled for the next period.

Activities in WP4 are in progress in the period from September to November.

*Activity 4.1 – Textbook for students.* The concept for the textbooks has been agreed upon. The tasks for writing the textbooks have been assigned among the partners and some draft versions of some chapters have been prepared. Regarding the WP4 more regular meetings have been suggested. An **online** meeting was held on **November 13<sup>th</sup>, 2023** to discuss draft versions of chapters have been prepared to avoid potential overlapping of the text. Contributions of the general part of the textbook in English should be submitted at least by the 20th of December so that on the January meeting have a clear insight in the first 6 chapters.

There has been a decision on two reviewers, one from University of Bangor and the other from the University of Minnesota Duluth National Resource Research Institute.

Writing the textbook will be the most demanding activity of WP4. A potential risk Identified is possible delays due to the requirement of the review of a large number of textbook pages by an international expert.

*Activity 4.2 – Manual for using the digital database.* The first draft of the Manual for using the digital database has been prepared. The created digital database will have an option of adding new data. The purpose of the manual is to set up procedures for adding new data.

*Activity 4.3 – Guide for Farmers and Local Self-Government.* Guide for Farmers and Local Self-government has been completed, printed and distributed among the partner. Printing was the responsibility of UB, and printed Guides were delivered on **September 20<sup>th</sup>, 2023**. The format of the printed edition of the guide is B5 and has a volume of 9 pages and a cover.

Each Guide for Farmers and Local Self-government was translated to English and available at the official website of the Project including versions in partner countries' languages ([www.agforweb.org](http://www.agforweb.org)).



Activities in WP5 are in progress in the period from September to November.

**Activity 5.1** – Development of Quality Assurance Plan. The questionnaire for improved curricula and the questionnaire for evaluation of Community workshops were revised and the final version prepared.

**Activity 5.2** – Development of Dissemination Plan.

Dissemination activities in period September-November 2023:

UFS conducted dissemination activities according to DP:

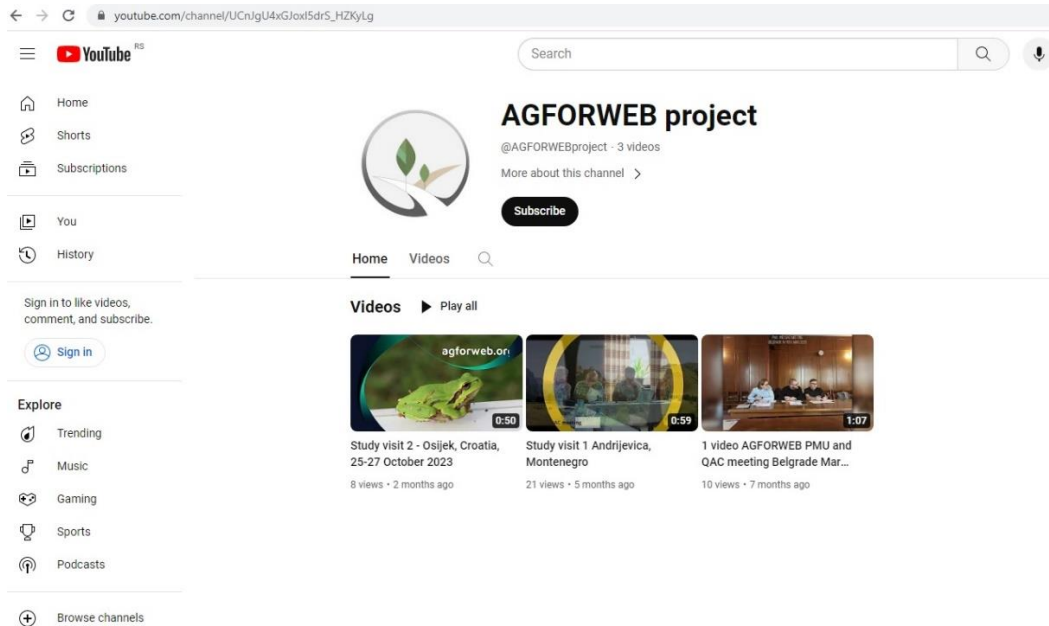
- October 20<sup>th</sup>, 2023, at the International Scientific conference '95 Years Forest Research Institute – Forests without Borders', Sofia, Bulgaria, 19 -21<sup>st</sup> of October 2023 – poster presentation



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– Uploading materials to Youtube through the AGFORWEB channel



UB conducted dissemination activities in the period from September to November:

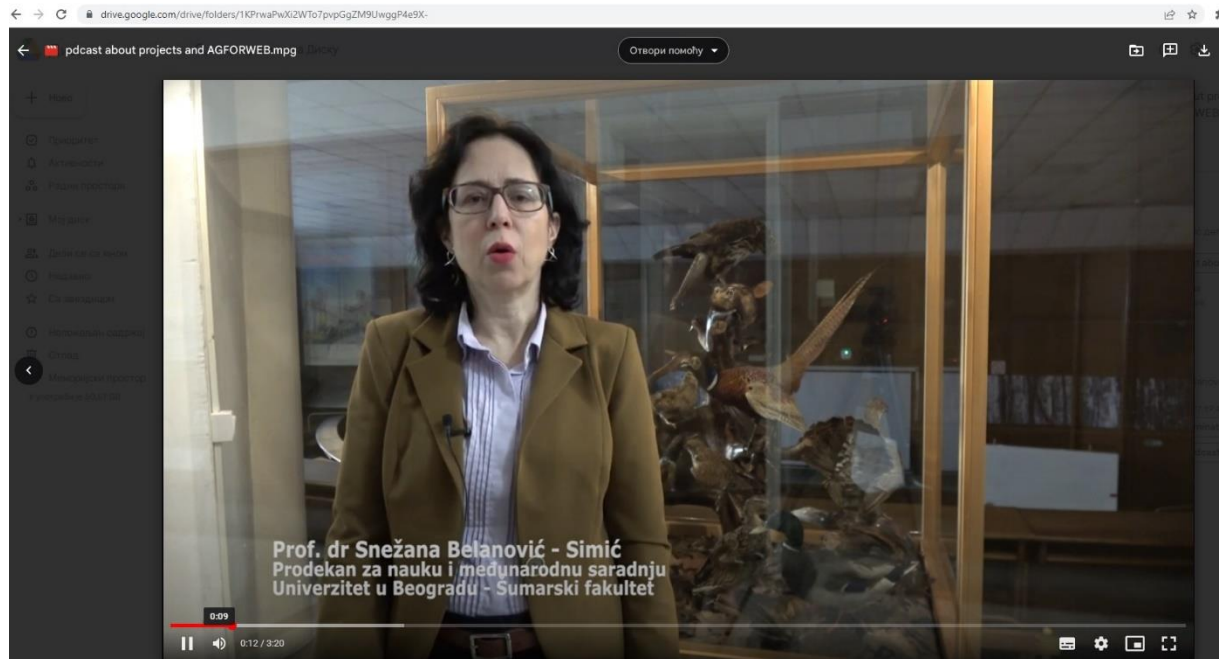
- September, 2023 - In the magazine Planeta, the article *“Modern solution, based on tradition”* was published (online and printed *Planeta no.112 July-August 2023*), which talks about the concept of agroforestry and environmental protection. Dr. Sara Lukić and Dr. Snežana Belanović Simić, explain that the systems and practices of agroforestry are significant because they represent a nature-based solution, for dealing with accelerated climate changes, and that these techniques can serve to mitigate them.



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- Promotion of AGFORWEB project in Podcast about promotion of University of Belgrade Faculty of Forestry



- October 31<sup>st</sup>, 2023 - A promotion of the AGFORWEB project was held at the enrollment of master's students at the University of Belgrade – Faculty of Forestry



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UOM conducted dissemination activities:

- 19-21<sup>st</sup> October 2023 – Project IRIS Closing Conference, Kolašin, Montenegro – dr Jelena Lazarečić presented AGFORWEB project. The activity was announced on social networks Instagram and Facebook.
- Promotion of AGFORWEB Project through social networks Instagram and Facebook by announcing news and events of the project implementation.

UNIOS conducted dissemination activity:

- Dissemination of AGFORWEB project at 21<sup>st</sup> International Symposium Animal Science Days (ASD 2023) in Lipica, Slovenia (20-22<sup>nd</sup> of September 2023) – *Agroforestry as basis for breeding autochthonous pig breeds in Croatia*. The activity was announced on social networks Instagram and Facebook.

*Activity 5.4* – Website establishment and maintenance. AGFORWEB website <https://agforweb.org/> has been weekly updated with news, information on events and results and outputs of the Project.

*Activity 5.5* – Workshops for local community. CFRI organized first workshop for local communities in Istria, Pazin. Ivana Antolović Smoljan and Anton Brenko was presenters at this workshop. Workshop was conducted on October 21<sup>st</sup>, 2023 in Vodnjan, Istria. The workshop was attended by 17 participants.

