



AgroTec Newsletter

Second Issue
December 31, 2023

**AgroTechnology VET Centres to Network and Train
Future Farmers in Jordan and Palestine / AgroTec**

January 1, 2023 – December 30, 2025

Project Facts

Type: Erasmus+ Programme

Grant Holder: AgriWatch B.V.

Duration: 3 Years

Start Date: January 1, 2023

UNDER "ERASMUS+ Capacity Building in the field of
Vocational Education and Training (VET)"

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Project Profile



Project Summery

AgroTec is a 3-years project that started on the January 1, 2023 and is co-funded by the Erasmus+ programme of the European Union. It is coordinated by AgriWatch B.V. from the Netherlands, in collaboration with 7 partners from Jordan, Palestinian and Europe.

The main objective of the AgroTec project is to establish 5 “AgroTec” centres within Universities in Jordan and Palestine. These centres will be dedicated to the development of practical and innovative VET (Vocational Education and Training) courses. They aim to foster collaboration between companies and VET institutions while creating strong connections among all stakeholders involved in the Agri-Food value chain. Additionally, these centres will facilitate the implementation of smart tools, leveraging IoT sensor networks for soil-crop monitoring, processing, marketing and quality control.

By achieving these goals, the AgroTec project aims to enhance knowledge transfer, promote technological advancements, and strengthen the agricultural sector in the region.



Partners



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جامعة بوليتكنك فلسطين



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Meetings



2nd Steering Committee Meeting

July 5th - 6th, 2023

The 2nd Management Meeting of "Agro Technology VET Centres to Network and Train Future Farmers in Jordan and Palestine" (AgroTec), organized by AgriWatch during the period from 5th -6th July, 2023 in the Netherlands.

The partners discussed the progress of the project by presenting the progress of each partner, and then they discussed the progress in each work package by the work package leader.

Also, the partners discussed the progress of the next 6 months and agreed on the date of the first training workshop and the next management meeting.



Labour Fair

Labour Fair at PPU

August 20th, 2023

In the presence of His Excellency the former Minister of Agriculture, Dr. Sufyan Sultan, the President of Palestine Polytechnic University, Dr. Amjad Barham, and the Vice President of the University for Planning and Development, Engineer Ayman Sultan, a workshop was held.

The project director, Professor Dr. Nabil Al-Joulani, gave a general presentation about the AgroTec project in terms of the idea, goals, expected outcomes, and the local and international partners from the European Union in the project.

The importance of the workshop and its goal, which is to work and network with the local community, companies, and local and regional organizations in the field of agricultural technology, were reviewed. And the extent of the benefit that will accrue to the private sector through their involvement and partnership in the project. He also presented a presentation of the stages of development in the project and what was accomplished during the past seven months of the project's life, which extends from 1/1/2023 to 12/31/2025.

In addition, 3 scientific lectures were presented in the field of agriculture, focusing on the idea of the project, as follows:

- 1- The role of modern technology in agriculture and agricultural pest control.
- 2- The impact of climate change on the agricultural sector and the importance of using modern agricultural technology to mitigate the effects of climate change on agriculture.
- 3- Modern methods of marketing in the field of agriculture.



Labour Fair



Labour Fair at UJ

August 22th, 2023

Under the patronage of Prof. Safwan Al-Shayyab, Dean of the Faculty of Agriculture at the University of Jordan, and Prof. Ahmed Al-Salaymeh, Director of the AgroTec project supported by ERASMUS+, a labour fair day for smart agriculture was held in the Faculty of Agriculture at the University of Jordan, with the participation of a distinguished group of private sector representatives from relevant companies and a distinguished presence of faculty members, employees, and students of the College of Agriculture.

During this day, the latest developments in the field of smart agriculture were presented, and awareness of the professional higher diploma program for smart agriculture at the College of Agriculture was presented, in addition to discussing the topics of the seminars with the attendees, especially from the college. Some of the students' work in this field was also reviewed.



Labour Fair



Labour Fair at PTUK

August 27th, 2023

Palestine Technical university – Kadoorie (PTUK) organized the first labor in August 27, 2023. The event was held in Thenaba Farming Association where farmers, academics and private companies met to discuss issues related to agriculture technologies.

The first PTUK AgriTec Labor Fair is dedicated to cultivating connections between the dynamic realm of technology and the ever-essential field of agriculture. In an age where cutting-edge solutions are transforming traditional farming practices, this fair serves as a vital bridge, bringing together professionals, researchers, entrepreneurs, and farmers. Participants in this event plow the fields of opportunity and sow the seeds of collaboration.



Labour Fair



Labour Fair at NUCT

August 29th, 2023

National University College of Technology held a Job fair on Tuesday August 29, 2023 under the patronage of His Excellency the Minister of Industry, Trade, Supply and Labor to provide training and employment opportunities for students and recent graduates. Companies from different fields participated in this day, such as: agriculture, sensors, renewable energy, electric and hybrid vehicles, etc. There was media coverage from Roya Channel and sponsorship from a group of institutions such as Starbucks, Bin Izhiman and Nescafe.

The labour fair at NUCT included a lot of activities, such as presentations about various subjects from a group of experts in the fields. One of these presentations was about smart agriculture which was presented by Engineer Rawad Swaidan from The National Agricultural Research Center (NARC).

Also, each company gave a small introduction about itself, presented the services that it offers, and received the recent graduates' CV in order to give them new jobs or training programs.



Training



1st AgroTec Training

October (2 – 6), 2023

The first AgroTec training was held by the Slovak University of Agriculture in Nitra in Slovakia. with participation of the Jordanian and Palestinian partners:

1. National University College of Technology (NUCT);
2. The University of Jordan (UJ);
3. Mutah University (MU);
4. Palestine Technical University Kadoorie (PTUK);
5. Palestine Polytechnic University (PPU).

The training topics was mainly about the marketing in the agriculture sector, the training included the following topics:

1. Agrarian Marketing;
2. Global marketing;
3. Food Marketing & Consumer Behavior.



Training



1st AgroTec Training

October (2 – 6), 2023

Also, there was a lecture on the projects of doctoral students at the College of Engineering in the field of agriculture. In addition to a tour of the laboratories of the Faculty of Engineering and Agriculture at the university.



Training

1st AgroTec Training

October (2 – 6), 2023

In addition, at the Faculty of Economics and Management, they introduced a new format of education - the Knowledge Cafe, intended especially for students of international business and international economics and development. They took advantage of the presence of educators from the Middle East and organized an intercultural dialogue.



Activities



NexusWatch Training Workshop

October, 2023

AgroTec project has been disseminated during a training workshop conducted in October, 2023 hosted by the university of Jordan and National University College of Technology in the contest of NexusWatch “Earth Observation and Geoinformation Technologies to Foster Water-Energy-Food Nexus Interventions”, a project funded by Nuffic.

NexusWatch project aims to contribute to strengthening and enhancing the skills and knowledge of specialists and active organizations in priority areas using the water, food and energy nexus approach to sustainable development.

The workshop aims to enhance the use of environmental monitoring techniques and geographic information technology to improve the water-food-energy nexus, and to enhance the skills and knowledge of specialists and organizations active in these vital fields.

During the workshop, Prof. Ahmed Al-Salaymeh, the dean of National University College of Technology and the local coordinator of the AgroTec and NexusWatch projects, pointed out that this project comes in a complementary context with the “AgroTec” project, which was launched at the beginning of the year with support from the European Union.



Activities

NexusWatch Training Workshop

October, 2023

In addition, the workshop included a session at National University College of Technology presented by Dr. Mutaz Hamdan, The Head of Mechanical Engineering Department at NUCT, to introduce the AgroTec project including the main and specific objectives, impacts of the project.



Upcoming Events



2nd AgroTec Training at INT@E

April (22nd – 26th), 2024

The Second AgroTec training will be held at INT@E in Leipzig, Germany, in the period between (22-26) of April 2024.

3rd AgroTec Management Meeting at INT@E

April (27th – 28th), 2024

Third AgroTec Management Meeting will be held at INT@E in Leipzig, Germany, in the period between (27-28) of April 2024.

