Geoinformation Centre
for the Western Balkans
GEO-WB6
Agricultural University of Tirana

IAMO
Leibniz Institute of Agricultural Development
in Transition Economies

Call for Participation in the Training Course:
"Online Maps - Design, Implementation and More"
April 7-11, 2025, Campus of the Agricultural University of Tirana

The Agricultural University of Tirana (UBT) and the Leibniz Institute of Agricultural Development in Transition Economies (IAMO) are pleased to announce the upcoming course **"Online Maps - Design, Implementation and More".** This course will be dedicated to the design and implementation of online maps. In interactive sessions and group works, participants will learn the principled of map design including map elements, existing data sources and data collection methods. Further, they will learn how to choose and design appropriate cartographic representation forms based on their purpose and target group, and how to implement their intended map visualization with different off-the-shelf tools.

The course is organised by UBT and IAMO within the project *Establishing a Geoinformation Centre for the Western Balkans* (GEO-WB6, www.geo-wb6.net). The project's objective is to improve the EU accession process regarding negotiating Chapter 11 (Agriculture and Rural Development). Specifically, the project aims to strengthen technical capacities to manage and analyse geodata in agriculture and natural resource management and to strengthen the regional network of geoinformation experts. The course is open to all students, lecturers, researchers and other professionals in agriculture, natural resource management, rural development and related fields who study or work in the Western Balkan and who have an interest in geographic informations systems (GIS) and spatial data analysis. Participants must be fluent in English and bring their own laptop. Previous experience in GIS is desirable, but not required. Full attendance in person is expected for the entire week.

Course Contents:

- Cartographic communication theory and principles of map design
- Practical exercise with different data sources (e.g. OpenStreetMap) and different data collection methods such as participatory mapping and GPS tracking
- Practical exercises with online mapping tools such as Google Earth Pro and ArcGIS Online
- Interactive online maps, 3D scenes and animations
- Introduction to dashboards and story maps

What we offer:

- A state-of-the-art training course free of charge
- Facilitation by experienced lecturers and researchers
- An official course certificate issued by UBT and IAMO
- Travel scholarships of 250 € for participants from institutions located in the Western Balkans but outside of Albania (Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kosovo, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Serbia)

How to apply:

Please send your CV and a motivation letter to geo-wb6@ubt.edu.al. All submitted documents should be in English language. The application deadline is **March 24, 2025**. Applicants will be notified of acceptance after **March 25, 2025.** We are committed to fostering an inclusive and diverse learning environment and strongly encourage women and individuals with disabilities to apply.

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