

Enhancing knowledge and building relationships were the aims of the second “USAMV Bucharest Agricultural Economics and Policy Summer School”.

The *University of Agronomic Sciences and Veterinary Medicine of Bucharest* hosted the second Enhance project Summer School between 18 and 22 September 2017 with a focus on “Policy Evaluation in Agriculture”. The event gathered 23 participants (14 ladies and 9 gentlemen), of 15 nationalities: Chilean, Croatian, Dutch, German, Indian, Iranian, Italian, Lithuanian, Nepalese, Polish, Romanian, Russian, Swiss, Turkish and Vietnamese, aged between 22 and 39 years ([See photos from the opening ceremony](#)).

The lecturers have a wide background in teaching and research with impressive results in Agricultural Policy and Policy Evaluation. Dr. Dr. Habil. Stefan Mann is Head of the Socioeconomics research group at *Federal Research Centre for Agriculture (AGROSCOPE)*, Tänikon, Switzerland and Dr. Matthias Stolze is Head of the Department of Socioeconomics, *Research Institute of Organic Agriculture (FiBL)*, Frick, Switzerland.

They conducted the lectures by mixing their knowledge and experience, in a way that the participants had the chance to absorb all the information. The lectures were intensive, with theoretical sessions, practical works, group works, presentations and instant feedback from the lecturers. ([See photos from the courses](#))

Key enabling factors such as Policy Evaluation, Normative Foundations, Forecasting Models, Stakeholder Involvement, Statistical and Qualitative Methods, all helped together to stimulate challenging scientific discussions and professional networking. Quite certainly, the event will have a positive impact on the participants’ future scientific development and why not, on Policy Evaluation!

To make the 5 days even more interesting, the organizing team prepared some visits that aroused the participants’ curiosity and broadened their knowledge:

- On the first day they did a campus visit joined by a guide who described the history of USAMV, leaving the group very impressed with this vast, green and quiet place in the middle of Bucharest. ([See photos](#))
- On the third day, the participants got the chance to meet the representatives of the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development, in an official meeting, where issues related to the Policy Evaluation were discussed and clarified. ([See photos](#))
- Last but not least, an entertaining moment was the visit to the Village Museum, a place where Romanian’s traditional history unfolds in front of the visitors’ eyes through monuments, costumes, documents, and houses. ([See photos](#)).

After five full days, everyone received a well-deserved Program Completion Certificate. As part of the cultural awareness aspect of such a multinational event, the organizing team prepared a cultural night, that all

the participants attended and where they enjoyed music, food, dances and folk costumes from all the participating countries. ([See photos from the Closing Ceremony & Cultural Night](#)).

After the program's closure, all the participants (students and lecturers) expressed their contentment for this learning week, sharing written and video testimonials that certify that the second Summer School at USAMVB was about enhancing knowledge ([See testimonials here](#))

