

TRAINING SESSION "AGENT-BASED MODELLING IN AGRICULTURAL AND RESOURCE ECONOMICS" OF THE TWINNING PROJECT ENHANCE "BUILDING AN EXCELLENCY NETWORK FOR HEIGHTENING AGRICULTURAL ECONOMIC RESEARCH AND EDUCATION IN ROMANIA"

The training sessions on the topic "Economic Modeling" continued at the *University of Agronomic Sciences and Veterinary Medicine of Bucharest* starting November 20, 2017 at 9:00 AM. The courses were held by **Dr. Zhanli Sun, Dr. Marten Graubner, Prof. Dr. Alfons Balmann si Franziska Appel**, all from *Leibniz Institute of Agricultural Development in Transition Economies (IAMO)*.

The audience consisted of participants from the *Faculty of Management, Economic Engineering in Agriculture and Rural Development* (PhD students, Postdocs and staff).

The objective of this training session was to improve the participants' knowledge regarding the agent-based modelling in agricultural and resource economics.

The modelling methods were the main subject and the topics approached were: Agent-based system, developing agent-based models, models of agent decision making mechanism, application of ABM and empirical applications and simulating structural change with AgriPolis. All the materials are uploaded on the online platform of the project in order to facilitate study and exchange during and after the sessions.

The lecturers divided the courses in several parts: Dr. Zhanli Sun held the courses in the morning for the first three days and Dr. Marten Graubner continued in the afternoon for the first two days and the last two days had the same structure, with classes held by Prof. Dr. Alfons Balmann and Ms. Franziska Appel.

On November 20, the first lectures focused on introducing the Agent-based system and modeling and after the lunch break the participants ran their first simulation and explored the Netlogo programme.

The second day, November 21, the courses continued with developing agent-based models, models of agent decision making mechanism, application of agent-based models, i.e. computational microeconomics.

On the third day, November 22, the morning began with an intensive exercises session in modelling for an hypothesis and game playing and continued in the afternoon with examples from complex adaptive systems given by Prof. Dr. Alfons Balmann.

The fourth day, November 23, the classes were concentrated on empirical applications in AgEcon: simulating structural change with AgriPolis, model documentation- the ODD protocol and model parametrization at the regional level.

During the last day, all the participants made a model parametrization at farm level and analyzed the results.

At the end of the courses, the professors asked and gave feedback and had interesting and useful discussions with the participants which were awarded Participation Certificates.

