



## WESTERN BALKANS

# Geoinformation Centre for the Western Balkans

GEO-WB6 intends to support the agricultural sector in the Western Balkans in the EU accession process by improving capacities in geodata analysis

## The Agriculture in the Western Balkans

Geoinformation facilitates informed decisions on land use and sustainable resource management. In the Western Balkans, there is still much room for progress in leveraging the power of geoinformation technology, with a particular lack of appropriately trained personnel and training opportunities. We establish a Geoinformation Centre to close precisely this gap, with the aim of supporting the region in the EU accession process regarding Chapter 11 (Agriculture and Rural Development).

## The Project

The Centre will provide ample opportunities for training and networking. We will build capacities in geodata analysis with a comprehensive course program targeted at students, researchers and practitioners from the agricultural and related sectors. Summer schools, academic exchange and an online portal will help to build a strong regional network of geoinformation experts. We aim for the Centre to become a central hub for geodata in the Western Balkans, advancing the region's research portfolio and supporting governments, NGOs and academic institutions.

## Project Goals

- Carry out trainings to improve the capacities for analyzing geospatial data
- Provide exchange opportunities to build a strong regional network of geoinformation experts
- Develop an online geoinformation portal to improve the access to geodata from the region
- Integrate geoinformation technology into university curricula to advance research capacities in the long term



The first summer school brought together participants from five Western Balkan countries to learn about the geospatial foundations of the Integrated Administration and Control System (IACS). The image shows the participants in the summer school.

**PROJECT TITLE**  
Establishing a Geoinformation Centre for the Western Balkans at the Agricultural University of Tirana

**TIMEFRAME**  
01/2024 to 12/2025

**AS OF**  
December 2024

Rural Development

Education and Training in the Agricultural Sector

With support from



by decision of the German Bundestag



**PORTRAIT**  
**WESTERN BALKANS**  
Agricultural landscapes in the Western Balkans are fragmented and dominated by small-scale agriculture practises. Most countries in the region still lack a comprehensive land monitoring system, which is a key requirement for the disbursement of agricultural subsidies in the European Union.

## Results and Successes

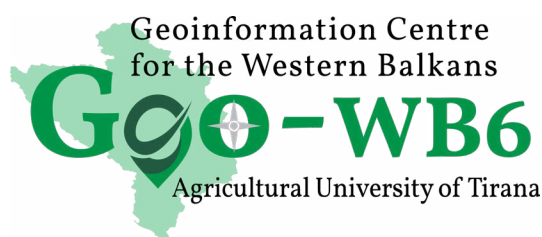
We will run eight one-week training courses and two summer schools for 20 students, researchers and practitioners each. In a monthly online seminar, experts will present research applications using geo-information in the Western Balkans. Finally, we will organise a stakeholder workshop to identify opportunities for the future development of geoinformation technology in the region.

## Project Partners

- Agricultural University of Tirana  
Rruga Paisi Vodica 1025  
Tirana, Albania

## Implementing Organisation

- Leibniz Institute of Agricultural Development in Transition Economies (IAMO)  
Theodor-Lieser-Str. 2  
06120 Halle (Saale), Germany



## Geoinformation Centre for the Western Balkans

Agricultural University of Tirana  
Rruga Paisi Vodica 1025  
Tirana, Albania



Mail: [info@geo-wb6.net](mailto:info@geo-wb6.net)

Web: [www.geo-wb6.net](http://www.geo-wb6.net)



**Bilateral Cooperation  
Programme**  
of the BMEL



The BKP-Projects are supported with funds from the German Federal Ministry of Food and Agriculture under the supervision of GFA Consulting Group GmbH.

### PUBLISHED BY

Leibniz Institute of Agricultural Development in Transition Economies (IAMO)  
Theodor-Lieser-Str. 2  
06120 Halle (Saale), Germany  
Tel.: +49 345 2928-0  
Mail: [iamo@iamo.de](mailto:iamo@iamo.de)  
Web: [www.iamo.de](http://www.iamo.de)

TEXT  
IAMO

### PHOTO CREDITS

Page 1: IAMO/Hofmann  
Page 2: IAMO/Todorovic

### DESIGN

K-tiv.com, Berlin  
Pauline De Langre  
Michael Berger

### AS OF

December 2024