



Agreement of the Cooperation

between

UNIVERSITETI BUQËSOR
TIRANE

Nr 1743 Prot.

Datë, më 28.05.2024

Agricultural University of Tirana, Albania (AUT)

and the

**University of Natural Resources and Life Sciences Vienna
(BOKU)**

Background:

The University of Natural Resources and Life Sciences Vienna (BOKU) and the Agricultural University of Albania (AUT) started their cooperation with a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) signed by both parties on October 11th 2021, to support AUT in its strategy entitled “AUT 2030” by BOKU to become a leading Agricultural University in the Balkan region. This MoU did not regulate any obligations or financial matters.

Since 2021 different activities in research and teaching took place and a full project proposal entitled “**Implementation of the AUT Strategy 2030**” has been developed by both parties. In this proposal the structure of the support, the time line and the financial issues in implementing the “**AUT strategy 2023**” with the help by BOKU University is formulated.

This proposal has been approved on the Austrian side by the Federal Ministries for (i) Education, Science and Research and (ii) Agriculture, Forestry, Regions and Water Management, as well as on the Albanian side by the Ministries of (iii) Education and Sports and (iv) Agriculture and Rural Development. With this approval the financial support according to the project outline is secured and the official signing of this agreement took place on April 15, 2024 in Vienna, Austria.

Paragraph 1

BOKU university is an independent legal body. Thus, the purpose of this agreement is to legally formalize the cooperation between the two universities in accordance to the existing documents to start the project "Implementation of the AUT strategy 2030".

Paragraph 2

The agreement is based on the following documents, which are an integral part of the cooperation:

- Attachment 1: The Memorandum of Understanding on the cooperation of the Universities in the fields of Agriculture, Forestry and Water management which regulates the financial support by the State of Austria and the State of Albania based on the project "Implementation of the AUT strategy 2030" (Attachment 2).
- Attachment 2: The project proposal "Implementation of the AUT strategy 2030" with the detailed outline of the work load including the financial details and time lines.

Paragraph 3

Both parties agree:

- AUT is responsible for the work load, administration and reporting duties financed by the budget share provided by the Albanian Government (see Attachment 2).
- BOKU is responsible for the work load, administration and reporting duties of the budget share provided by the Austrian Government (Attachment 2).
- Any financial activities beyond the current project agreements (see Attachment 2), as they may evolve during the project, are subject to a case by case agreement of both parties.

Paragraph 4

The MoU signed on April 15, 2024 (Attachment 1) by State of Austria and the State of Albania and based on the project "Implementation of the AUT strategy 2030" (Attachment 2), regulates the following financial issues:

- The project costs for BOKU of 1,026,00 Euro are covered by the Federal Ministry for Education, Science and Research and are made available within the framework of the performance agreements between Ministry and BOKU.
- The project costs for AUT of 1,950,000 Euro are covered by funds from the State of Albania within the process of internationalization of studies and in accordance with the management rules of the budget system, for a period of 4 years.

Paragraph 5

This agreement will take effect from the date of signature and will remain effective for the duration of the project, but not later than the end of 2030. Any future changes to this agreement require the mutual agreement of both parties, must be formulated in a written statement and will take effect from the date of signature.

Paragraph 6

This contract can be cancelled at any time, by one of the parties, by informing the other side in writing. The side willing to cancel this contract must notify the other side in writing at least 6 (six) month in advance of its intention and must outline the reasons.

Paragraph 7

In an event of any dispute arising out of or in connection with this agreement, the sides will endeavor to resolve the matter amicably through mutual consultations.

Paragraph 8

This agreement does not regulate any legal or financial rights beyond those outlined in the proposal (see Attachment 1 and Attachment 2) and will be implemented in accordance with national and international law.

Signed in Tirana on May 28th 2024 in two originals, in English language.



Eva Schulev-Steindl

Rector of BOKU



Fatbardh Sallaku

Rector of AUT