



Call for Participation in the Training Course:
“Visualizing and Analyzing Spatial Data in R”
February 3-7, 2025, 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 **“Visualizing and Analyzing Spatial Data in R”**. This course will introduce you into how to use the software R to handle spatial data.

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 in the Western Balkans (Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kosovo, Montenegro, North Macedonia and Serbia).

Course Highlights:

- *Time:* February 3-7, 2025 (five days, in-person, full attendance required)
- *Place:* Campus of the Agricultural University of Tirana, Kodër-Kamëz, Tirana
- *Eligibility:* The course is open to all students, lecturers and professionals in agriculture and related fields who study or work in the Western Balkan and who have an interest in GIS and spatial data analysis. Participants must be fluent in English, have previous experience in GIS and bring their own laptop. Previous experience in a script language is highly beneficial.

Course Contents:

- Basics of R: how to write code commands, conditions and loops
- Data visualization with the packages *sf* and *ggplot*
- Spatial data analysis with the package *terra*
- Creating interactive maps with the package *leaflet*
- Interpolation with the package *gstat*

What we offer:

- A state-of-the-art training course free of charge, using the open-source software R
- Facilitation by experienced lecturers and researchers
- An official course certificate issued by UBT and IAMO
- Travel scholarships of 250 € for course participants from institutions located outside Albania

How to register:

Please send your CV and a half-page motivation letter stating why you would like to attend this course to geo-wb6@ubt.edu.al. All submitted documents should be in English language. The application deadline is **January 17, 2025**. Applicants will be notified of acceptance in the week of **January 20, 2025**. We are committed to fostering an inclusive and diverse learning environment and strongly encourage women and individuals with disabilities to apply.