



# AgroTec Newsletter

Third Issue

January 1, 2024 - June 30, 2024

**AgroTechnology VET Centres to Network and Train  
Future Farmers in Jordan and Palestine / AgroTec**

January 1, 2023 – December 30, 2025

## Project Facts

**Type:** Erasmus+ Programme

**Grant Holder:** AgriWatch B.V.

**Duration:** 3 Years

**Start Date:** January 1, 2023

UNDER "ERASMUS+ Capacity Building in the field of  
Vocational Education and Training (VET)"

## Contact Information:

Dr. Ali Abkar (AgriWatch B.V., General Coordinator)

Tel: +31 642 648 220

Email: [ali.abkar@agriwatch.nl](mailto:ali.abkar@agriwatch.nl), [agrotec@nuct.edu.jo](mailto:agrotec@nuct.edu.jo)

Project Website: <https://nuct.edu.jo/agrotec/>

Erasmus+ VET Programme, AgroTec Project Number: 101092160

**Disclaimer:** "Funded by the European Union. Views and opinions expressed are however those of the author(s) only and do not necessarily reflect those of the European Union or the European Education and Culture Executive Agency (EACEA). Neither the European Union nor EACEA can be held responsible for them."



**Co-funded by  
the European Union**

# Project Profile



## Project Summary

AgroTec is a 3-years project that started on the January 1, 2023 and is co-funded by the Erasmus+ programme of the European Union. It is coordinated by AgriWatch B.V. from the Netherlands, in collaboration with 7 partners from Jordan, Palestine and Europe.

The main objective of the AgroTec project is to establish 5 “AgroTec” centres within Universities in Jordan and Palestine. These centres will be dedicated to the development of practical and innovative VET (Vocational Education and Training) courses. They aim to foster collaboration between companies and VET institutions while creating strong connections among all stakeholders involved in the Agri-Food value chain. Additionally, these centres will facilitate the implementation of smart tools, leveraging IoT sensor networks for soil-crop monitoring, processing, marketing and quality control.

By achieving these goals, the AgroTec project aims to enhance knowledge transfer, promote technological advancements, and strengthen the agricultural sector in the region.



# Partners



## P1 – AgriWatch B.V.

Project General Coordinator  
Contact Person: Dr. Ali Abkar  
Email: [ali.abkar@agriwatch.nl](mailto:ali.abkar@agriwatch.nl)



## P2 – Mutah University (MU)

Contact Person: Prof. Mohammad Almajali  
Email: [m\\_r\\_almajali@yahoo.com](mailto:m_r_almajali@yahoo.com)



## P3 – University of Jordan (UJ)

Contact Person: Prof. Ahmed Al-Salaymeh  
Email: [salaymeh@ju.edu.jo](mailto:salaymeh@ju.edu.jo)



## P4 – National University College of Technology (NUCT)

Contact Person: Dr. Walaa Al-Smadi  
Email: [walsmadi@nuct.edu.jo](mailto:walsmadi@nuct.edu.jo)



## P5 – Palestine Technical University–Kadoorie (PTUK)

Contact Person: Dr. Yousef Daraghma  
Email: [tubassi@gmail.com](mailto:tubassi@gmail.com)



## P6 – Palestine Polytechnic University (PPU)

Contact Person: Prof. Nabil Al-Joulani  
Email: [njoulani@ppu.edu](mailto:njoulani@ppu.edu)

جامعة بوليتكنك فلسطين



**SUA**  
Slovak University  
of Agriculture  
in Nitra

## P7 – Slovak University of Agriculture in Nitra (SUA)

Contact Person: Dr. Jana Galova  
Email: [jana.galova@uniag.sk](mailto:jana.galova@uniag.sk)



**INT@E**  
Innovative Technologies and Education

## P8 – Int@E UG

Contact Person: Mrs. Juman Ebdah  
Email: [jum.ebdah@gmail.com](mailto:jum.ebdah@gmail.com)

Erasmus+ VET Programme, AgroTec Project Number: 101092160

**Disclaimer:** “Funded by the European Union. Views and opinions expressed are however those of the author(s) only and do not necessarily reflect those of the European Union or the European Education and Culture Executive Agency (EACEA). Neither the European Union nor EACEA can be held responsible for them.”.



Co-funded by  
the European Union

# Meetings



## 3<sup>rd</sup> Steering Committee Meeting

April 27<sup>th</sup> - 28<sup>th</sup>, 2024

The 3<sup>rd</sup> Management Meeting of "Agro Technology VET Centres to Network and Train Future Farmers in Jordan and Palestine" (AgroTec), organized by INT@E during the period from 27<sup>th</sup> - 28<sup>th</sup> April, 2024 in Leipzig, Germany.

The partners discussed the progress of the project by presenting the progress of each partner, and then they discussed the progress in each work package by the work package leader.

Also, the partners discussed the progress of the courses and the progress of the next 6 months. In addition, they agreed on the date of the third training workshop and the next management meeting.



# Training



## 2<sup>nd</sup> AgroTec Training

April (22 – 26), 2024

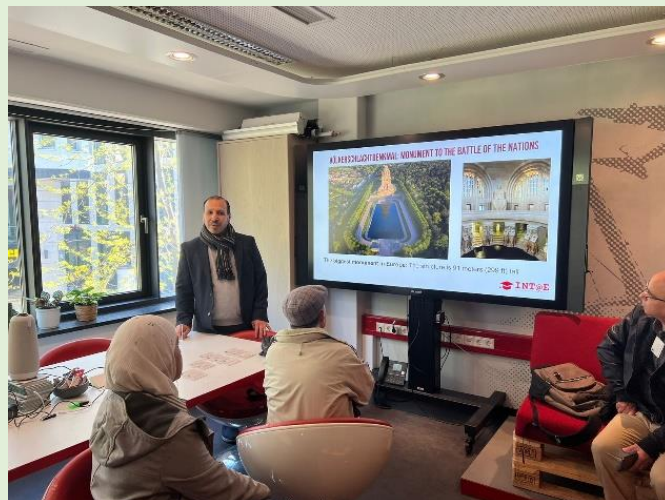
The Second AgroTec training was held by INT@E UG in Leipzig, Germany with participation of the Jordanian and Palestinian partners:

1. National University College of Technology (NUCT);
2. The University of Jordan (UJ);
3. Mutah University (MU);
4. Palestine Technical University Kadoorie (PTUK);
5. Palestine Polytechnic University (PPU).

Twenty-three (23)23 participants attended the training workshop.

The training topics included:

1. The smart farming foundations.
2. The use of drones and robotics in agriculture.
3. The use of sensors in agriculture.
4. Blockchain and Marketing.
5. The use of Augment and Virtual Reality in agriculture.



# Training



## 2<sup>nd</sup> AgroTec Training

April (22 – 26), 2024

In addition, the training included field visits to the Botanical Garden in the University of Leipzig and the Dairy Farm in Leipzig.



# Training



## 2<sup>nd</sup> AgroTec Training

April (22 – 26), 2024

The training also included a workshop on introducing a new idea of smart agriculture using drones, robotics, sensors, etc. The trainees divided into four groups, each group introduced a new idea of using technologies in agriculture.



# Activities



## NexusWatch Training Workshop

February, 2024

A team from NUCT and UJ participated in the training of NexusWatch project co-funded by Dutch Orange Knowledge Programme. The training was held at the Hamdi Mango Center for Scientific Research at the University of Jordan, with the goal of enhancing the use of environmental monitoring techniques and geographic information technology to improve the relationship between water, food, and energy, and to enhance the skills and knowledge of experts and organizations active in these fields.





# Activities



## NexusWatch Training Workshop

April, 2024

NUCT and UJ participated in NexusWatch Training Workshop which was held at the University of Twente in the Netherlands in April, 2024.

The two-week workshop covered various topics, including lectures on land use and land use change modeling, remote sensing science, vegetation monitoring, the foundations of smart agriculture, and the use of drones and robots in agriculture. During the workshop, we had the opportunity to visit the Netherlands Enterprise Agency (RVO), which was honoured by H.E. Ambassador Daifallah Alfayez of the Jordanian Embassy in the Netherlands. The visit aimed to educate the course participants about the Dutch Private Sector Status and Potential, Water Policy and Programs, Netherlands Space Office, and information exchange.



# Upcoming Events



## 4<sup>th</sup> AgroTec Management Meeting at SUA

Sep or Oct, 2024

The fourth AgroTec Management Meeting will be held at SUA in Nitra, Slovakia, in Sep or Oct, 2024.

## 3<sup>rd</sup> AgroTec Training at AgriWatch B.V

April, 2025

The third AgroTec training will be held at AgriWatch B.V. in the Netherlands, in April 2025.

