



Food and Agriculture  
Organization of the  
United Nations

**SUMMARY OF  
THE REGIONAL  
VIRTUAL LEARNING  
CENTER ACTIVITIES  
IN EUROPE AND  
CENTRAL ASIA AS OF  
1 JULY 2025**

# Summary of the regional Virtual Learning Center activities as of 1 July 2025

Dear Training Focal Points,  
Dear colleagues,

The **Regional Virtual Learning Center (VLC)** for Europe and Central Asia of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) is delighted to share its fifth biannual newsletter. This edition provides an overview of online courses delivered during the first half of 2025, upcoming training opportunities for the remainder of the year, and other VLC developments.

## Delivered courses (first half of 2025):



***Tackling Food Loss and Waste throughout the value chain: Pilot in English*** (March–April 2025, 171 participants from 11 countries). This regionally adapted 4-week course hosted a wide range of participants from various sectors, including primary production, processing, distribution, retail, catering, restaurants, hotels, extension services, industry associations (producers, retailers, processors, and others), chambers of commerce, academia, civil society, and government, including food safety authority. That offered practical tools to identify, measure, and reduce food loss and waste within their operations.



***Zoonoses for Field Veterinarians: Pilot in English*** (April–May 2025, 383 participants from 43 countries). Developed by FAO in collaboration with the Autonomous University of Barcelona and the Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences, this course was designed for field and official veterinarians involved in the detection and response to zoonotic diseases, thus protecting public health by reducing the risk of human transmission. The course is accredited by the Veterinary Continuing Education in Europe ([VetCEE](#)) with 0.5 ECTS credits.



***Introduction to One Health in Ukrainian*** (June–July 2025, 487 participants from Ukraine). Adapted from the English version (delivered in early 2024), the course was delivered by the Quadripartite: FAO, the World Health Organization (WHO), the World Organisation for Animal Health (WOAH) and the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP). Similarly, participants were nominated from human health, animal health, food safety and environmental health (including wildlife) sectors.

## Newly launched course:

***Introduction to One Health in English*** This self-paced and self-enrolment course raises awareness of the One Health approach and explores how interconnected global challenges such as climate change, biodiversity loss, and emerging diseases can be addressed collaboratively.





## New developments:

**Basic Epidemiology in English (tutored).** Course development is scheduled to start during the second half of 2025.

**Sheep and Goat Pox in Russian (open access).** To be launched following the English version.

**Forestry Chestnut Blight in English (open access).** Course development to begin in 2025-2026.

**Lumpy Skin Disease in Russian (open access).** Launch planned after the English adaptation is completed.

**Introduction to One Health in Russian (open access).** This adaptation of the [open-access version in English](#) is planned for late 2025.

## Other:

The **Virtual Learning Centers platform** has been redesigned for improved user experience and regional relevance. A Course catalogue is placed in the **Resources section**, while all released open access and tutored courses are listed in the **Course section**.

Visit [the regional VLC web page](#) for more information on past and upcoming training opportunities.

We welcome you to share this newsletter with your networks and colleagues. To receive regular updates or share training needs and suggestions, please contact us at [REU-VLC@fao.org](mailto:REU-VLC@fao.org)

<https://virtual-learning-center.fao.org>

**Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations**  
Budapest, Hungary

The designations employed and the presentation of material in this information product do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) concerning the legal or development status of any country, territory, city or area or of its authorities, or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers or boundaries.



Some rights reserved. This work is made available under the Creative Commons Attribution - 4.0 International licence ([CC BY 4.0](#))