



Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations

**SUMMARY OF FAO'S
REGIONAL VIRTUAL
LEARNING ACTIVITIES
IN EUROPE AND
CENTRAL ASIA AS OF
1 JULY 2024**

Summary of the regional FAO Virtual Learning Center activities as of 1 July 2024

Dear Training Focal Points,
Dear colleagues,

The **Regional FAO Virtual Learning Center** for Europe and Central Asia (regional FAO) of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) would like to share its third biannual newsletter: a summary of the courses delivered in the first half of 2024, including other ongoing activities, and an overview of the upcoming courses planned for the second half of 2024, including future developments.

Delivered courses:

In the first of 2024, the regional FAO successfully conducted the following online courses:



Introduction to One Health in English (February – March, 216 participants from 43 countries). This 4-week tutored course was delivered jointly with the World Health Organization (WHO) and the World Organisation for Animal Health (WOAH).



Improving Ruminant Biosecurity open access course in English, Russian and Turkish (February – March, 211 participants from 43 countries). This 4-week course was developed in collaboration with the Autonomous University of Barcelona (UAB), Lleida University (UdL) and LleidaVet. The course follows seven core modules (basic biosecurity measures) and four elective modules focusing on specific production systems (dairy, fattening, pasture-based and smallholder farms). The course was later adapted and delivered in other three languages, targeting both official and private veterinarians from central, regional and field levels:

1. ***in Turkish*** (April - May, 473 participants from Türkiye and Azerbaijan);
2. ***in Russian*** (May – June, over 150 trainees from 12 countries); and
3. ***in Romanian*** (May – June, over 100 participants from Romania and Republic of Moldova).



African Swine Preparedness in Romanian (April - May, around 150 trainees from Romania and Republic of Moldova). This 4-week course is an adaptation of the **English version**, that was also previously adapted and delivered in several other languages, including Russian, Serbian and Spanish. The target audience was official and private veterinarians involved in the management of African swine fever.



Upcoming courses:

The regional FAO is expanding its training areas beyond livestock health, as well as the modes of delivery. In the second half of 2024 we are planning to develop and/or deliver eight online courses.

Improving Ruminant Biosecurity open access course in English, Russian and Turkish.

This is an adaptation of the tutored courses delivered this year. This allows the access to the course to a larger audience, at any point in time. A further adaptation to face-to-face, will allow more hands-on, face-to-face trainings taught to veterinarians and farmers on a farm.

Sheep and Goat Pox Preparedness in Russian will be delivered in September-October 2024. This course is an adaptation of the English version delivered last year with improvements based on the feedback received.

Introduction to One Health in Russian is planned for October-November 2024. This FAO course will be delivered, as its English predecessor, jointly with the World Health Organization (WHO) and the World Organisation for Animal Health (WOAH). The course will host participants from different sectors in the spirit of One Health.

A new **Introductory course on Food Loss and Waste in English** is under development. and planned for late 2024 or early 2025. This course will host around 400 participants representing different actors along the food value chain (e.g. farmers, processors, retailers, etc.) from Europe and Central Asia.

A new course on **Zoonoses** is being developed together with a team of experts. The course is planned to be delivered in early 2025.

A new course on **Brucellosis** is under discussion. Development is planned to start in late 2024.

Others:

The VLCs have received the **accreditation of three online courses** by the Veterinary Continuing Education in Europe (**VetCEE**) as a level 7 post-graduate training courses, namely Introduction to One Health, Improving Ruminant Biosecurity, and African Swine Fever Preparedness. All participants who successfully completed these courses this year were able to receive the certificates with accredited ECTS credits.

Currently, the **regional FAO** web page is being developed. This page will include information on all online courses delivered in the region.

If you wish to receive regular updates on VLC courses, please let us know, and we will include you into our distribution list. Feel free to share this newsletter among your network and colleagues.

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