

Magazine of the project

Issue II

# Agropuzzle 3



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## ABOUT THE PROJECT

“Agropuzzle 3 - Puzzle for businessmen in agriculture carrying business in a permanently maintainable way III” is a project of partnership in the Erasmus plus program, Key Action: Cooperation for innovation and exchange of good practices, Action Type: Strategic Partnerships for vocational education and training aimed at developing, updating and supplementing profilespecific skills and training in sustainable agriculture and agribusiness.

The coordinator is: Masarykova střední škola zemědělská a Vyšší odborná škola Opava, Czech Republic. There are partner organisations from: Poland - Agrarian Chamber of Opole; Portugal -Regional Agency for Rural Development; Spain - Asociación Escuela de Negocios del Pirineo; Romania- University and Agronomic Sciences and Veterinary Medicine of Bucharest USAMVB; Bulgaria -University of Ruse, and Czech Republic –Natura Opava Organization. This project prepares relevant conditions and encourages individuals in the field of agribusiness and farming. Also, targets the exchange of experiences as well as the increase of practical self-confidence, promotion of professional development and growth of the participants who will work together on issues such as farming, support of rural environments, agrobusiness in selected small family farms, their stories and background. It is expected to identify examples of good practice for all participating countries as serve as source of inspiration for people in different regions, as well as local or regional communities of seven partner organizations.

The “Agropuzzle 3” project is generally aimed at keeping the topic of agriculture alive. Agricultural production provides us with our daily bread. It is really necessary to appreciate everyone who nowadays deals with real work that feeds all of us. It is really necessary to teach the next generation to follow those principles. The next generation should be given the opportunity to learn about new trends and innovations from other EU countries so that the young people can compare these aspects and use the experience as inspiration for their own work.

Another goal is about linking the know-how of partners from the EU countries, the professional diversity and specificity of individual countries, exchange of experience, possibility to compare the level of supporting the agriculture and farming, working conditions and marketing strategy.

The spectre of partners is stacked in such way that the organizations mutually discuss and inspire each other; there are representatives of educational institutions (e.g. theoretical organizations) as well as representatives of

professional organizations (e.g. those from open practice area). This project can perfectly gather the interdisciplinary knowledge and experience of the participants to the profit of the partner organizations and their entire local communities.

## About the project Agropuzzle 3 – Mobility in Bulgaria

### First day of Mobility in Bulgaria, 23 April 2018

#### Buffalo farm - village Tcerovec

We began the project mobility by visiting the local regional buffalo farm in the nearby village Tserovets. The owner of the farm Galina Stoyanova Peinova breeds 30 buffalo of the breed “Bulgarian mura”. She began with explanation of the farm history and the beneficial qualities of the farm production. Buffalo have primarily been bred for milk production; secondary product is buffalo meat or also sales of breeding bodies. Mrs. Peinova sales the milk for processing to cheese and yogurt to the local dairy. We also had the opportunity to taste these cheese and yogurt. They were really fantastic!



*Mrs. Peinova's buffalo herd*



*Buffalo products taste*



*Visit to Mrs. Peinova's buffalo farm*



#### Organic Family farm for goats and sheep “Delian Georgiev” village of Cherven

Then our visit continued to the neighboring village of Cherven. There we visited organic family farm for goats and sheep. This farm is located in one of the most beautiful places in Rusenski Lom Natural Park Rouse, which is included in Natura 2000. The owners of the farm have told us in detail about the breeds of goats and sheep breeding, the technology of cultivation, the production and its the realization. From the conversation it

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became clear that the farm cultivates 270 animals, of which 240 goats and 30 sheep. Animals are selected for milk donation with very high productivity. The breed of goats is Bulgarian White Milk. The breed of sheep is "Black-headed Pleven". The farm is biological. Animals for the greater part of the year are raised by pasture.



### Agroproduct RSOOD- cow farm-village Pisanets

After lunch we went to the village called Pisanets to visit the cow farm of cooperation "Agroproduct". The owner of the farm explained us that cows from the breed of "Cherno shareno" are kept in the farm.



The farm has own dairy where it processes the milk in cheese and sells it at the local market.

In addition to the cows in the farm are also breeding sheep of the type synthetic milk and "Chernoglava Plevenska".



*Kids in the farm*



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### Fruit nursery BB GARDEN village Basarbovo

We ended the first day of Mobility in Bulgaria by visiting Mr. Boian Bogomilov's nursery in the nearby village called Basarbovo.



BB GARDEN Licensed Fruit Nursery was established in 2011. The nursery owner cultivates 0,5 ha land as offering all kinds of fruit trees. The produced propagation material has a guaranteed high quality meeting all the requirements of the European Standard.



*Presentation in the nursery*



*Demonstration in the nursery*

The owner of the nursery Boyan Bogomilov has detailed the technology of growing the fruit trees and demonstrates some techniques in the planting and the cares that are being put in place.



The first day of mobility in Bulgaria ended with a visit to the nearby village of Basarbovo, the only rock monastery on the Balkan Peninsula. All participants in the mobility had the opportunity to get to know the history of the monastery, to taste the aromatic herbal tea offered in the monastery by the monks.

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### Second day of Mobility in Bulgaria, 24 April 2018

#### Family Biofarm Todorovi

We arrived at the farm where we were immediately accompanied by Mr. Dean Todorov, the owner. He breeds the goats of “Bulgarska biala mlechna”, Turgen wald (TWZ), Saian, and sheep of SPBM. It is a family farm based on organic farming. They produce all feed by themselves. The farm includes 350 goats and kids and 350 sheep and lambs are produced at the farm, for the purpose of milk, meat and breeding animals.

In 2009, a milking hall with a capacity of 48 animals was commissioned.



*Visiting in the dairying room*



Some of the milk is processed on the farm, producing traditional Bulgarian products - cheese and yellow cheese.



The farm has its own dairying room. We also had the opportunity to taste cheese and yellow cheese.



*Presentation of the feed machine*

The owner of the farm presented an innovative feed distributor, which is a constructive development of the farmer. A demonstration was done with the machine. All participants were very impressed.

## About the project Agropuzzle 3 – Mobility in Bulgaria

### **Nord Agro Complex Ltd. Village Gorno Ablanovo**

After visiting the Biofarm Todorovi, we went to visit the big company for agriculture and livestock farming called Nord Agro Complex Ltd.



#### *Presentation in the farm*

The main activity of the company is agriculture and livestock farming. Agriculture consists of growing wheat, corn, sunflower, canola and alfalfa on own land and rented land of 1200 ha situated in the territory of the village of Gorno Ablanovo. The company owns agricultural facilities, grain warehouses and agricultural machinery for cultivation.

The livestock farming consists of breeding ile de France breed of sheep and of Aberdeen-Angus breed of cattle. Six stock breeders and the production organizer are responsible for the sheep and cattle breeding. The animals of these two breeds are raised for meat production and their meat has very good taste qualities. The growth of young animals is well expressed which allows the lambs to reach 35 kilograms at the 75<sup>th</sup> day of their birth. The sheep farm has a capacity of 1500 sheep. The farm is a member of the Association for Breeding of ile de France in Bulgaria.



## About the project Agropuzzle 3 – Mobility in Bulgaria

### Winery Seven Generation, village Mechka

After visiting the Nord Agro Complex company, we all went to a restaurant in the village called Mechka to have a lunch. Mechka is a village in the Central part of Northern Bulgaria. It is situated in the Ivanovo Municipality, Ruse Region.

Mechka spreads out at the banks of the Danube River, at 90 m above the sea level. The lands are plain and hilly, and the climate - humid continental. Winter is cold and summer is dry and hot.



*Presentation in Winery Seven Generation*



### ZKPU „Briast” Village Brestovisa

After lunch we went to the village called Brestovica to visit the cow farm of cooperative “Briast” with the president Krassimir Kostadinov.



The president of the cooperative made a brief presentation of the activities developed by the cooperative. The cows were then visited by our group. In the cooperative are grown 50 cows, 20 heifers and 10 calves of „Chernosharena“ breed. Animals are grown on an area of 60 h. The animal feed needs are provided by own production of wheat, barley, corn and sunflower. There are 25 workers in the cooperative.

## About the project Agropuzzle 3 – Mobility in Bulgaria



### **Beekeeper “Plamen Minev”- Brestovica**

After the visit of the cooperative, all participants took off for one of the big beekeeping farms in the village of Brestovitsa with owner Plamen Minev.



#### *Presentation of the beekeeper*

The bee families are located in 3 beeches in the land of the village of Brestovitsa. Bee honey, wax and pollen are produced in the beekeeping farm and bee products are obtained. The farm is of a family type and benefits only to one hired worker. The beekeeping farm is certified for organic production at Lakon.



#### *View of the apiary*

We ended the second day of mobility in Bulgaria by visiting the sheep farm in the same village Brestovica with owner Zdravko Georgiev.

The farm breed 500 sheep for production of milk and lambs.



## About the project Agropuzzle 3 – Mobility in Bulgaria

### Third day of Mobility in Bulgaria, 25 April 2018

#### University of Ruse „Angel Knachev”

We began that day with our visit at the University of Ruse.



*View of the University of Ruse*

We visited the University's laboratories, the library, the Kaneff Center, the printing base and other interesting halls.

#### Mod Marie EOOD, confectionery "Dolce Vita"

After the University we went to the well-know mini confectionery "Dolce Vita".

The owner informed us of the activity of the confectionery company. We looked at the technological processes in the production of sweets.

Dolce Vita is a producer of various confectionery products, which are realized both in its own premises and in other establishments and shops. The assortment includes small sweets and

desserts, standard cakes, boutique cakes and desserts.



*Visiting in confectionery company  
Dolce Vita*

We also had the opportunity to taste these desserts. They are really great!

## About the project Agropuzzle 3 – Mobility in Bulgaria

### Meat processing factory “Borimes”

Our visit continued to the next site near Ruse called “Borimes”. This is very big meat processing factory. The technologist of the factory made a brief presentation of the factory timeline. Then we all visited the production premises.



*Visiting in meat processing factory “Borimes”*

On an area of 4000 m<sup>2</sup> there is a slaughterhouse, a cutting room, a meat processing plant for sausages, high-tech equipment and machines serviced by qualified and well-paid staff.

### Wine Union, Nisovo, Bulgaria

Another interesting site to visit on the third day of mobility in Bulgaria was the winery in the village of Nisovo.

A representative of the company introduced us to the technology of wine production, the types of wine that are produced, the grape varieties, etc.

The wine is mainly made on the local market, with one part being exported to Russia and Germany.

In order to produce the highest quality wine the company have ensured a fully closed cycle of production - from the grapes to the bottling of the wine.



We also had the opportunity to taste six types of wine. The taste was excellent.



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### C-FRUTS" EOOD

After lunch we went to the orchards farm C-FRUTS in village Stambolovo.



*View of the cherry orchard in Stambolovo*

The farm was set up in 2004 and the main activity is the cultivation of grain and technical crops, and fruit and vegetables are an additional activity. As a result of certain changes in the environment, the farm reorientates to fruit production and gradually over the years the area occupied by fruit species reaches 50 ha. Most of them are peaches - 20 ha, and the rest are 10 ha for cherries, apricots and apples.

### Fourth day of Mobility in Bulgaria, 26 April 2018

#### Research Institute of Mountain Livestock and Agriculture - Troyan

On the fourth day of the mobility, all participants traveled to the city of Troyan to visit the Research Institute of Mountain Livestock and Agriculture and mountain farms.

The Institute is the largest in mountain farming in Bulgaria.

The thematic research plan comprises 15 scientific research projects targeted at problems of stockbreeding, grass forage production, fruit-growing, economics of mountain agriculture as well as environment preservation and conservation.

At the institute, the scientists presented us the cattle and sheep breeds grown in the institute. They got acquainted us with the selection work, breeding technologies and dairy instrumentation.



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### Hereford cow farm “Vasil Ganchev”-village Goliamia Jelizna



Vasil Ganchev's Hereford cow farm is one of the largest farms in the region. The farm is breeding 165 cows. Animals are bred entirely by pasture on an area of 100 ha. without the use of concentrated feed. 400 ha of farmland pastures are used to produce hay.



*Presentation at the Research Institute of Mountain Livestock and Agriculture*

*View of the mountain cattle farm*

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### Fifth day of Mobility in Bulgaria, 26 April 2018

On the last day of mobility in Bulgaria, we visited Troyan and the Troyan Monastery. Everyone touched upon the centuries-old history of the monastery and many of the participants bought souvenirs for memory of the adventure in Bulgaria.



*Troyan Monastery view*

### Brewery “Bolyarka”- Veliko Tarnovo

Finally we visited one of the famous breweries in central Bulgaria called “Bolyarka”. The brewery technologist told us in detail of the existing techniques and technologies for beer production, planned improvement, development and introduction of new own production processes, increasing the capacity of the production and storage capacities of the brewery.



*Presentation Brewery “Bolyarka”*



*Beer degustation*