

Outstanding in Europe: The Educational Network on Soil and Plant Ecology and Management

The network is based on a partnership between four European universities from Estonia, the Czech Republic, France and Germany. It focusses on teaching in the field of soil science and plant ecology.

Soils have received specific attention in Europe as they are the basis for plant production and provide numerous ecosystem services. Many human activities are affecting the soil conditions in several ways. Effects like soil compaction, degradation, acidification and salt accumulation restrain the basic requirements for ecosystem functioning, plant production and thus food supply for humans.



The network will implement four work packages (WP):

- WP1:** Offering the annual Summer School "Soil & Water"
- WP2:** Establishing of a permanent teaching module based on the Summer School "Soil & Water"
- WP3:** Enhancing teaching and networking potential for teachers
- WP4:** Sustaining and expanding the educational network

The project aims to provide a teaching standard for a European-wide perspective from the expertise of the consortium integrating humid, intermediate and dry Mediterranean environments. This approach is unique in Europe.

State of affairs:

- WP1:** Three successful Summer Schools (France 2014, Germany 2015, Czech Republic 2016)
- WP2:** Preparations for the permanent teaching module (e.g. evaluations of existing lectures) + Erasmus agreements
- WP3:** "Wetland ecology" course (Czech-German cooperation) + E-learning platform Moodle + guest teaching within the network partners
- WP4:** Intensification of common research and teaching activities



www.uni-ulm.de/nawi/nawi-edusapman.html



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