



PRESS RELEASE

The European Union promotes the modernization of higher education in Uzbekistan and Kyrgyzstan, aimed at supporting industries for sustainable production of quality agricultural products

From 5 to 6 October, 2023 at the Kyrgyz National Agrarian University named after K.I.Skryabin (*address: 68 Mederov Street, 720005 Bishkek, Kyrgyz Republic*), will be held an **international forum** dedicated to **the modernization of higher education in Kyrgyzstan and Uzbekistan to meet the needs of agricultural and other related sectors**. The forum will be organized within the framework of the project "*Contribution of higher education institutions to the development of sustainable agro-food production systems in Kyrgyzstan and Uzbekistan*".

The participants of the forum will summarize the results of the work done in the "AgroDev" project, jointly identify the necessary measures and conditions for further improving the quality and relevance of higher education to the needs of the food industry, discuss barriers and prerequisites for improving the competences of teaching staff and the level of knowledge and skills of graduates, as well as consider issues of cooperation between the academic and scientific communities of Central Asia and the European Union.

The forum will be attended by representatives of relevant government bodies (*standardization bodies, Ministries of Education, Economy and Agriculture of Uzbekistan and Kyrgyzstan*), universities (*Central Asia and the European Union*), industry associations and representatives of business communities (*producers, processors and exporters of agricultural products*).

Special attention will be given to discussing opportunities and necessary steps to establish long-term sustainable cooperation between relevant government agencies, HEIs and the private sector (*agribusinesses*) to address: the issues of training qualified personnel to meet the demands of the industry; and to identify the most effective mechanisms for cooperation between education, science and business in Kyrgyzstan and Uzbekistan.

This forum is organized by the consortium of the project "AgroDev", funded by the European Union programme "ERASMUS +". The project is led by the Latvian University of Natural Sciences and Technology. The AgroDev project aims to modernize higher education to support the development of national agro-food production systems in Uzbekistan and Kyrgyzstan.

For more information and to enquire about participation, please contact the following email addresses:

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The event is organized with the financial support of the European Union's ERASMUS+ programme. The European Union is made up of 27 Member States that have decided to gradually pool their knowledge, resources and destinies. Together, in a period of enlargement of 60 years, they have created a zone of stability, democracy and sustainable development, preserving cultural differences, tolerance and guaranteeing individual freedom. The European Union is ready to share its achievements and values with countries and peoples beyond their borders. To this end, the European Union has been active in Central Asia since 1991.