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**Udržateľnosť malých a rodinných fariem - Sustainability of Small and Family Farms (SOILS)
2016-1-SK01-KA203-022611**

Multiplier Event Report 2018

Slovak University of Agriculture in Nitra, Slovakia

May 16-17, 2018

Within the project „Sustainability of Small and Family Farms (SOILS) – Udržateľnosť malých a rodinných fariem“, No. 2016-1-SK01-KA203-022611, the first multiplier event was held as a part of International Scientific Conference with the title „International Scientific Days 2018“. The topic of the conference was „Towards Productive, Sustainable and Resilient Global Agriculture and Food Systems“. This event has a long tradition and this year its 15th anniversary was celebrated. Each two years it gives a place to exchange knowledge, experience and present different project results solved within the academic sphere. The conference dealt with different topics of sustainable agriculture and food industry, which is related to the project SOILS, which deals with questions about small and family farms and they are the base of agriculture in most countries of the EU. The event was organised at the Slovak University of Agriculture in Nitra, between May 16-17, 2018, with the aim to discuss current questions in the field of productive and sustainable global agriculture and food systems. Participants of the conference were from Slovakia and also from abroad, because the event has international character. During this activity results of O1 were presented and also partial results of O2, that means the methodology of farm evaluation and analyses of the position of farms in different EU regions. Information and knowledge were exchanged by experts from practice and universities not only during the plenary sections, but within individual sections of the conference.

The first day of the conference started with the registration of guests and later the plenary section was held, where prof. Dr. Ing. Elena Horská (Dean of the Faculty of Economics and Management, SUA Nitra) opened the conference and presented information about the project SOILS (see presentations and photos from the plenary section, where banners were presented, too). After this, experts from International Life Sciences Institute for Europe (ILSIE) (Brussels, Belgium), Corvinus University (Budapest, Hungary), Aristotle University of Thessaloniki (Greece), University of Ljubljana (Slovenia) and Louisiana State University (USA) had presentations, which have good experiences and examples of sustainable agriculture and food industry. After discussion and lunch, the conference continued with presentations in sections. Many sections focused on problems of agricultural policy and sustainable agriculture, and also to financial system, accounting and information systems. As an example of presentations, we are attaching the presentations of doc. Ing. Patrik Rovný, PhD. et al. from



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SUA in Nitra and Ing. Ivo Zdráhal, Ph.D. et al. from Mendel University in Brno (both of them are experts from the project SOILS). Dr. doc. Linas Stabingis from Aleksandro Stulginskio Universitetas in Kaunas, Lithuania was a passive participant of the event. Other project partners were not participants of the conference, but they were part of the Scientific Committee. During the evening all participants attended social evening where informal discussions continued and allowed creating new contacts and cooperation.

During the second day, conference participants could choose to go to an excursion in the research centre AgroBioTech at SUA in Nitra, Salaš Zbojská or could discuss with experts at the FEM SUA in Nitra.

The conference was organised under the patronage of the Faculty of Economics and Management, Slovak University of Agriculture in Nitra, Visegrad University Association, Club of Agricultural Experts, ASECU, EUNIS Slovakia, Junior Chamber International – Slovakia and Association of Agricultural Economists in Slovakia. Partners of the conference were the Faculty of Agricultural Management from the National University of Life and Environmental Sciences of Ukraine, Faculty of Economics from the National University of Life and Environmental Sciences of Ukraine, ASECU and Faculty of Economics from the Russian State Agrarian University. The number of participants was 296, from which 105 participants (65 local, 40 foreign, see list of participants) were supported by the project SOILS with conference materials, food, accommodation and transport. In the case they were interested to publish an article in the conference proceedings or be a part of the excursion, participants could pay a fee for this.