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SULawe Newsletter № 5, July 2025

# SUSTAINABLE LIVESTOCK PRODUCTION AND ANIMAL WELFARE (SULawe)

№ 101083023 – SULawe - ERASMUS-EDU-2022-CBHE

The project duration: 01.01.2023 - 01.12.2025

## Contents:

Student mobility within the framework of the SULawe project.....	2
5th Steering Committee Meeting of the Project at SLU (Sweden).....	3-4
Multimedia training materials.....	5
SULawe activity.....	6-9
Series of open lectures in the frame of SULawe project.....	10-12
International Summer School.....	13
The International Online Conference “Politics – Business – Science – Education: Sustainable Pig Farming in Ukraine”.....	14-15
Outlook.....	15



Student mobility has started. It is carried out through student internships at partner universities in Ukraine.

As part of this initiative, Associate Professor Nataliia Hryshchenko from the Department of Poultry, Pig and Sheep Breeding Technologies at NUBiP of Ukraine and Svitlana Usenko, Dean of the Faculty of Livestock and Food Technologies at Poltava State Agrarian University, met at the National University of Life and Environmental Sciences of Ukraine to familiarise themselves with the organisation of student academic mobility within the project framework. In total 16 students participated.

## 5th Steering Committee Meeting of the Project at SLU (Sweden)



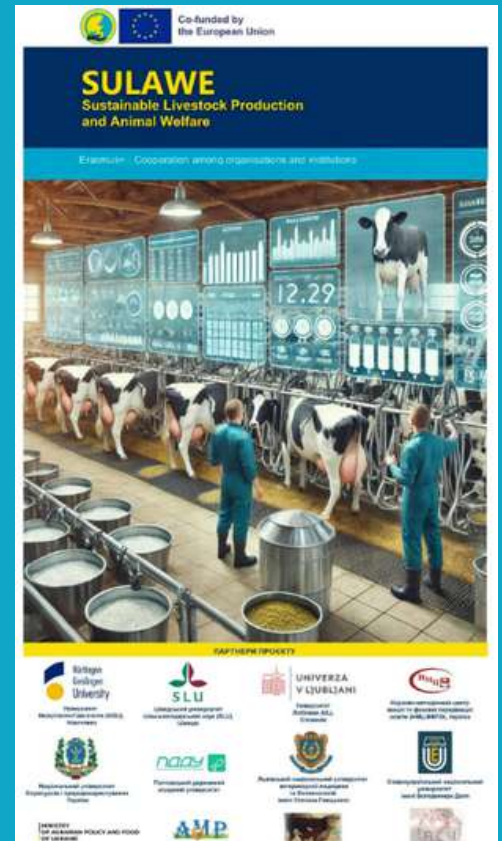
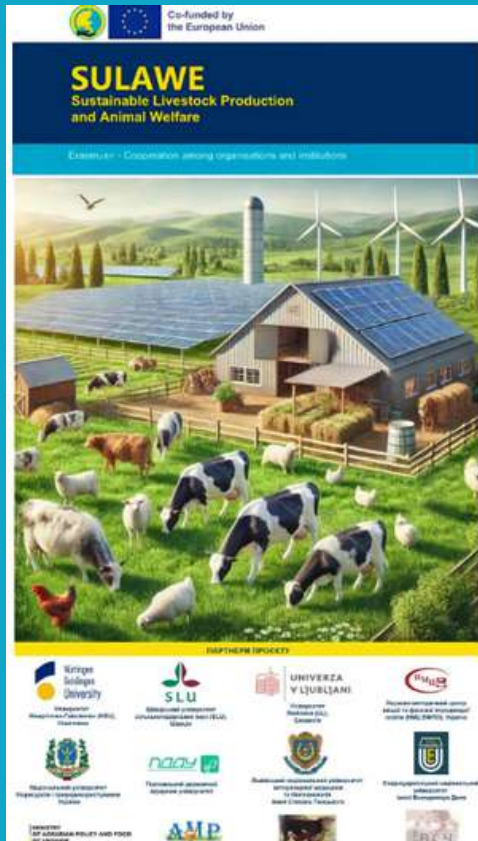
From 7 to 9 April 2025, consortium members participated in the 5<sup>th</sup> SULawe Project Steering Committee meeting, held at SLU in Uppsala, Sweden. The project partners gathered to discuss joint progress and future steps in promoting sustainable livestock farming and animal welfare. The partners presented the results of implementing SULawe programme modules at all Ukrainian universities. The topic of student academic mobility and its online format was discussed. One of the key issues raised was the work of established centres of excellence (LLL centres). University representatives shared their experience of delivering lifelong learning courses.

The Steering Committee also held a bilateral discussion on implementing the project results. Particular attention was paid to ensuring the quality of the project. Future activities were planned and further steps for the sustainability strategy were identified.



The final day started with a tour of Resta Gård, an eco-friendly farm that operates according to the principles of ethical animal husbandry and the preservation of rare breeds and heritage crops. Members of the delegation learnt about various activities, such as caring for pigs and sheep with their lambs. Project representatives were introduced to the farm's commitment to organic farming methods. The project participants then outlined new areas of cooperation and how to implement international experience in the educational process and research.





As a result of the joint efforts of the project consortium members, three electronic manuals were created for the three developed modules.

Module 1: Sustainable Livestock Production

Module 2: Animal Welfare

Module 3: Digital Livestock Farming.

These manuals can be found on the project website and are available to all interested users. In the future, it is planned to place these manuals at the libraries at each partner university and the website of SMC HPHE.

## Meeting of Ukrainian experts on the development of Didactic Recommendations and Policy Recommendations on Animal Welfare in Ukraine



On February 4, 2025, within the framework of the Erasmus+ SULawe project, a meeting of Ukrainian experts on the development of Didactic Recommendations and Policy Recommendations on Animal Welfare in Ukraine was held. This is one of the most important elements of project implementation. The meeting was attended by representatives of all universities – members of the consortium, as well as specialists of the SMC HPHE.

## Teaching young people how to carry out basic sustainability assessments using the 'RISE' tool.



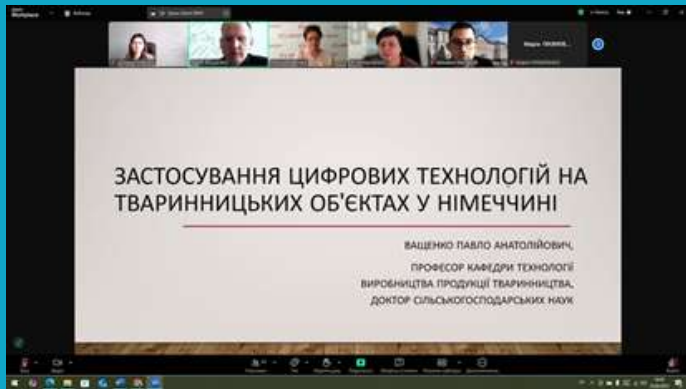
The workshop “RISE – a tool for assessing the sustainability of agricultural enterprises” was held on February 6, 2025 and was attended by students of NUBiP, as well as teachers and young scientists from NUBiP and PSAU.

Developed by the Bern University of Applied Sciences (BFH-HAFL), the RISE programme is supported by a global network of consultants who provide advice on implementing sustainability projects, farm assessments, etc. So far, this methodology has been successfully applied in different countries of the world to advise businesses, farmers, researchers and sustainability professionals. RISE is currently used by more than 5,500 farms in 64 countries.

During the workshop, participants received information from speakers about the practical experience of using RISE to assess the sustainability of production on two different farms: Farm for breeding goats and production of craft products “DOBRO-KRAFT” and Large industrial farm for breeding dairy cattle LLC “Yastrubchanske” and milk production. The speakers clearly demonstrated how the assessment is conducted, what issues are important, what assessment philosophy is embedded in the program algorithm, etc.



# Shaping the future: digital innovation in animal breeding



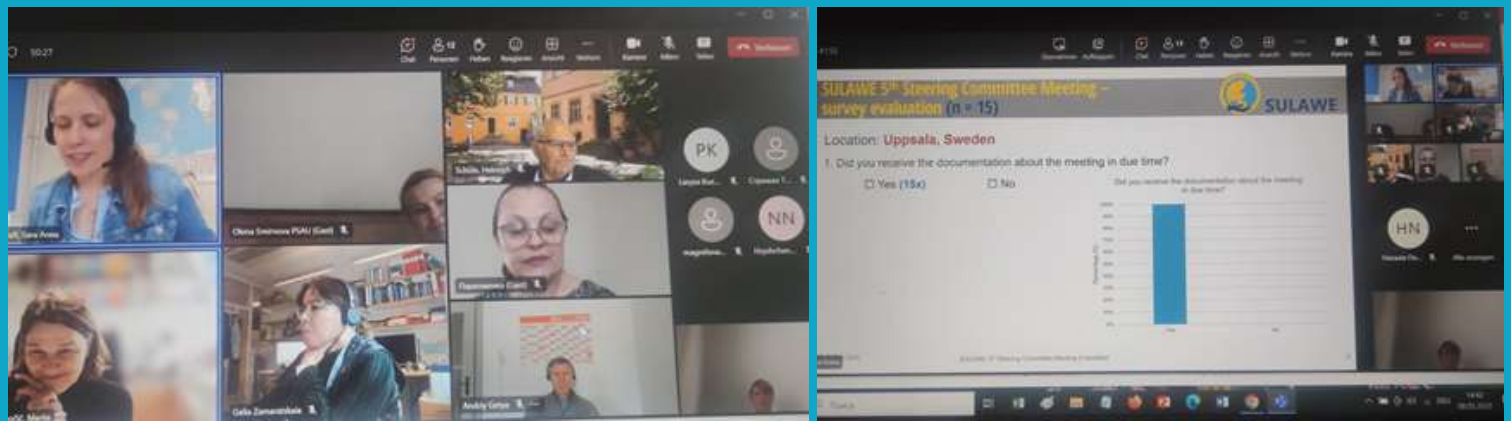
On 23 April, as part of the ERASMUS+ SULawe project, a seminar entitled 'Practical application of digital technologies in livestock farming in Ukraine and Europe' was held.

Participants included teachers and practitioners from various educational institutions in Ukraine. Speakers from commercial companies supplying products (AVA GROUP and Chub Agroconcept) spoke about digital solutions used in pig and cattle breeding.

Representatives of livestock producers (SE "DH Myrne IPR NAAS", Group of Companies "Globino", VINNYTSKA PTAKHOFABRYKA LLC) shared their own experience of how innovative tools help manage their farms. The SULawe project was presented by Mr. Pavlo Vashchenko with a report "Application of digital technologies at livestock facilities in Germany" and Mr. Mykhailo Matveev, who spoke about the use of mathematical models for forecasting in livestock farming.



## Project consortium working meeting (Jour Fixe)

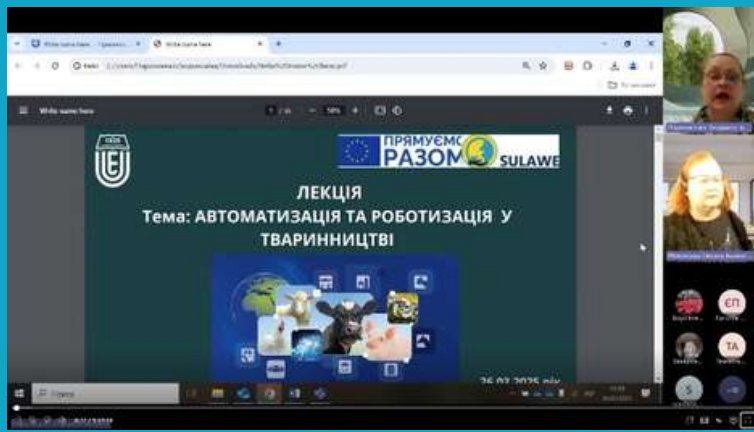


On 8 May 2025, a working meeting dedicated to the project activities and plans for the next period was held within the framework of the SULAWE project. Almost all members of the consortium attended the event and took part in the presentations and discussions.

Maria Klopčič from UL presented the results of the evaluation of the 5<sup>th</sup> Project Steering Committee Meeting and discussed the commencement of the evaluation of student mobility in June/July.

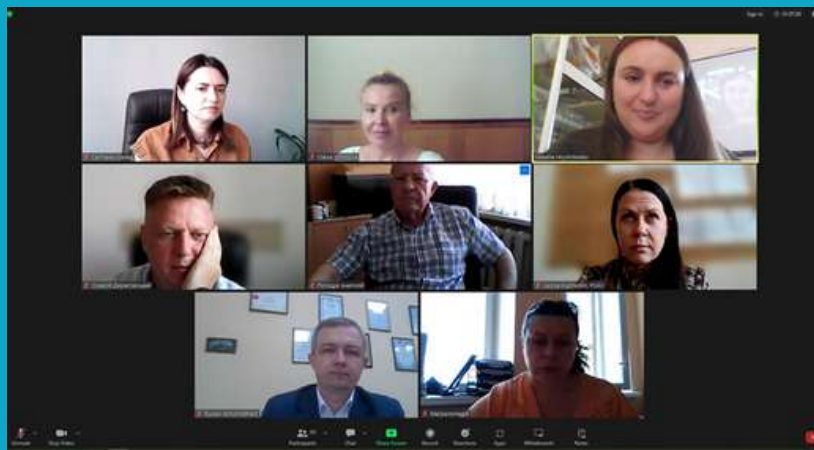
Other important issues discussed included developing a sustainability strategy, planning the distribution of materials, creating didactic recommendations and advertising multimedia educational materials developed as part of the project.





**On 26 March 2025**, Liudmyla Parkhomenko, Associate Professor of the Department of Veterinary Medicine and Animal Husbandry of the Faculty of Agriculture of the Volodymyr Dahl East Ukrainian National University, gave an open lecture on Automated Systems and Robotics in Animal Husbandry, developed within the framework of the project. The speaker highlighted such aspects as the peculiarities of database management, the principles of using artificial intelligence to analyse the efficiency of production processes, the importance of digital technologies to ensure the traceability of products from farm to table, the principles of the Internet of Things in creating smart farms, etc.

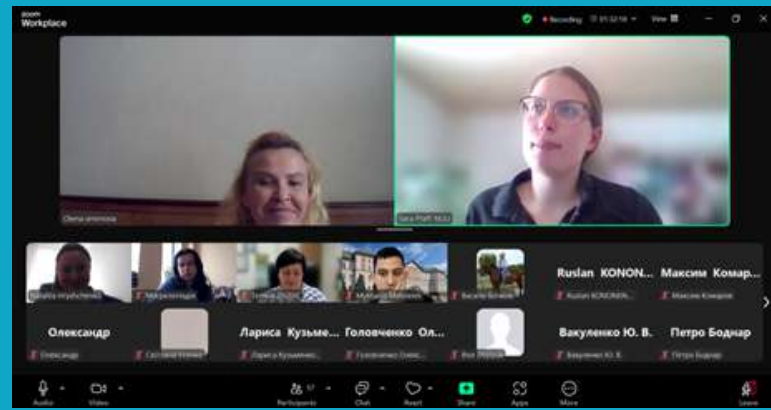
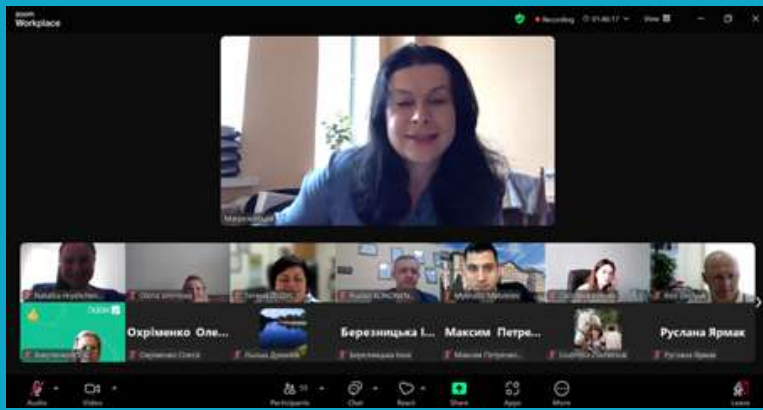
As part of the SULawe project, an open lecture on 'National and International Regulations in the Field of Animal Welfare' was held on 31 March 2025. The lecturer was Ihor Dvilyuk, Acting Vice-Rector for Scientific and Pedagogical Work and Digitalisation, Associate Professor of the Mykhailo Demchuk Chair of Hygiene, Sanitation and General Veterinary Prevention, who spoke in detail about the key legislative acts regulating animal protection issues at both the national and international levels. The lecture covered the aspects of legal regulation of relations in the field of animal welfare.



**On May 21** Mykhailo Matvieiev, a senior lecturer in the Department of Milk and Meat Production Technologies at the NUBiP of Ukraine gave an open lecture on the topic 'Using mathematical models for forecasting in livestock farming'. Students, postgraduates and teachers from the Faculty of Technology of Production and Processing of Livestock Products, Standardisation and Biotechnology attended the lecture. During the event, Mr. Matvieiev spoke about the use of PLF in livestock farming and shared the results of his own research on the subject.

**On June 10, 2025** an open lecture was delivered by Svitlana Usenko, Dean of the Faculty of Livestock and Food Technologies at Poltava State Agrarian University, Doctor of Agricultural Sciences, and Senior Research Fellow. The lecture focused on "The Impact of Livestock Development on Biodiversity, the Environment, and Climate Change."

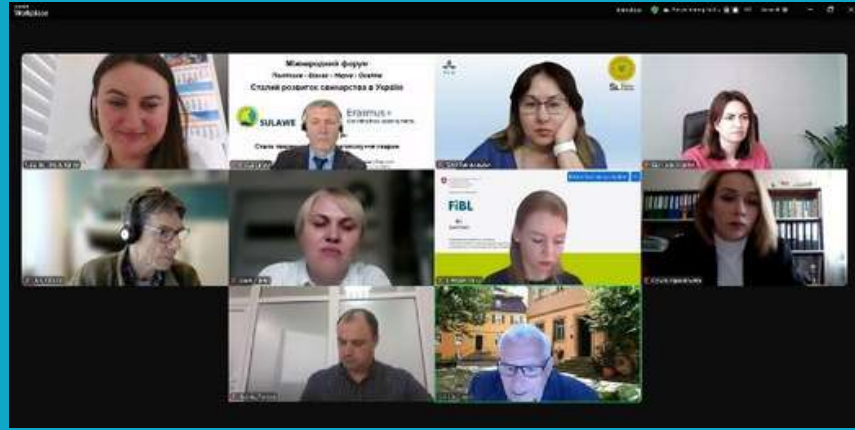




To implement the strategy for international cooperation between scientific institutions and universities, to exchange experience and improve the quality of the educational environment, and as part of the Erasmus+ programme's international project "Sustainable Animal Husbandry and Animal Welfare" (SuLaWe), an international summer school was held from 2 to 13 June 2025 at the Centre for Innovative Technologies for Sustainable Development of Animal Husbandry and Animal Welfare at the Faculty of Animal Husbandry and Aquatic Bioresources at the National University of Life and Environmental Sciences of Ukraine. All project partners took part in its organisation.

The training consisted of three main modules: Sustainable Animal Husbandry, Animal Welfare and Precision Animal Husbandry. The lecturers were the associate professors and professors from Ukrainian and European universities.

More than 60 students, postgraduates, and university teachers participated in the International Summer School, and the communication that took place during the study contributed to the establishment of close relationships with the aim of developing new projects and educational and scientific activities.



The "Sustainable Pig Farming in Ukraine" conference took place on 27 March 2025. The aim was to highlight current issues relating to sustainable pig farming and animal welfare. This is important for understanding current trends and the future development of the industry.

A total of 133 people participated in the conference. These included 80 university professors, 4 agricultural college teachers, 12 postgraduate students, 23 undergraduate students and 3 scientists. The event was also attended by eight representatives of various businesses, two participants of international projects and one media representative. In addition to the SULawe project participants, representatives of two more EU projects were invited to participate in the forum: QFTP and FABU.

The conference programme was designed to ensure that information was presented in a way that was accessible and understandable for participants. The Ministry of Agrarian Policy and Food of Ukraine and the Association of Pig Breeders of Ukraine were the key partners in organising the conference.

The Ministry provided political support and outlined Ukraine's plans for implementing welfare principles in pig farming. The Association of Pig Breeders of Ukraine presented a unified position on the issues raised by domestic producers.

Additionally, the experience of other international projects that have helped Ukraine implement EU requirements was emphasised.

### **Outlook**

On 2<sup>nd</sup> October 2025 our final conference will be held on “Sustainable Livestock and Animal Welfare Forum” online. Further information, the registration link and the program will follow soon.