



Reform of Education Thru
International Knowledge exchange



Double Degree Agreement

on

**Master in Energy and Environmental
Engineering/Master in Science in Agricultural
Ecology**

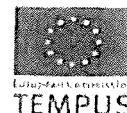
between

Polytechnic Institute of Leiria, Portugal

and

Alecu Russo State University of Balti, Moldova

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The Polytechnic Institute of Leiria, hereinafter referred as IPL, represented by the President **Nuno** André Oliveira **Mangas** Pereira and the Alecu Russo State University of Balti, hereinafter referred as USARB, represented by the Rector **Ion Gagim**.

Agree on the following terms regarding a **DOUBLE DEGREE PROGRAMME** on Master in Energy and Environmental Engineering/Master in Science in Agricultural Ecology.

1. PURPOSE OF THE AGREEMENT AND RELEVANCE FOR THE RETHINKe PROJECT

The aim of this agreement is to establish a double degree programme with regard to these official degrees:

- a) Master in Energy and Environmental Engineering, official degree of the current academic offer of IPL.
- b) Master in Science in Agricultural Ecology, official degree of the current academic offer of USARB.

By means of this agreement, students enrolled in one of these programmes could be awarded with both degrees, providing that they fulfil the conditions and requirements established in the following clauses.

The double degree set up by this agreement is intended to be a relevant academic tool to achieve the following basic objectives of the RETHINKe project in the field of Environmental Sciences:

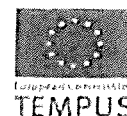
- a) To promote the reform and modernisation of higher education in Moldova.
- b) To enhance the quality and relevance of higher education in Moldova
- c) To build up the capacity of higher education institutions in Moldova and Portugal, in particular for international cooperation and for a permanent modernisation process.
- d) To foster the reciprocal development of human resources in both institutions.
- e) To enhance networking between IPL and USARB.
- f) To enhance mutual understanding between peoples and cultures of Portugal and Moldova.

2. MUTUAL CREDIT RECOGNITION UNDER THIS AGREEMENT

Students taking part in this double degree programme will have to get a total of 120 ECTS credits to be awarded with both degrees. Part of those total ECTS credits must be earned at the student's home institution and other part at the other Higher Education Institution (HEI) involved in this double degree programme.

All the ECTS credits and grades awarded by one HEI to students taking part in this double degree programme will be fully recognized by the other institution, according to the terms and conditions established in the Annex to this agreement.

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3. DOUBLE DEGREE STUDY PROGRAMME

Students participating in the double degree programme must follow the study programme set out in this agreement's Annex in order to be awarded with both degrees.

The administrative procedure to obtain each official degree after having completed the study programme is defined and managed by the issuing institution.

A new edition of the double degree programme will take place every academic year, only provided that both titles are officially implemented during that year at the partner institutions.

It is agreed and understood that each HEI has the right and responsibility to make changes to its curricula to meet accreditation standards. Any such changes that impact upon the Double Degree programme will be promptly and duly communicated to the other HEI in writing.

4. NUMBER OF STUDENTS

Every year a maximum number of 5 students from each party will take part in this double programme. Each partner institution will reserve the necessary places for these students in the programmes affected by this agreement.

This number may be increased by mutual written consent.

5. ENROLMENT CONDITIONS

Both institutions will set up a proper internal procedure to select the students that will take part in the double degree among those enrolled in the degrees affected by this agreement. The conditions of access to the double degree will be stipulated by each institution and verified by the academic commission.

5.1) ENGLISH LEVEL

In any case, every student taking part in this programme must, at least, accredit a CEFRL «B1» level in English language.

Students will accredit their language level by means of internationally fully recognised certificates (Cambridge, TOEFL, IELTS, TELC, etc.) or official certificates at the students' home country.

Students without one of the aforementioned certificates could be exceptionally admitted to the double programme, provided that both universities agree on an assessment procedure to ensure that they have the proper language level.

5.2) REGISTRATION PROCEDURE

USARB will communicate to IPL by 20th July a list with the name, passport and other relevant data of all the students taking part in this programme each year. All the students included in this list will also be registered as ordinary degree seeking students at IPL in September.

IPL will communicate to USARB by 20th July a list with the name, passport and other relevant data of all the students taking part in this programme. All the students included in this list that fulfil the master's requirements will also be registered as ordinary degree seeking students at USARB in September.

The dates established in the previous paragraphs could vary. Each institution will give notice to its partner of any change regarding those dates as soon as they happen.

C) TUITION FEES

a) Fees and taxes when the same number of students from each HEI takes part in the programme

If an equal number of students from each institution takes part in the double programme during the same period, these students will pay only their regular tuition fees and taxes at the home institution. No further tuition costs will be charged by the host institution, except for the following:

- At IPL, students from USARB will have to pay 160 € for the application fee plus 2.50 € for the school student insurance.
- At IPL, students from USARB will have to pay 25 € when they finally request the official certificate from IPL, 100 € if they request the official diploma. Certificates with the discrimination of the subjects will cost 10 €.
- At USARB, students from IPL will have to pay 110 lei (equivalent to 5 €) in accordance with the tax diploma graduation year, when they finally request the official diploma from the university authorities.
- This fees could vary from year to year due to governmental decisions. USARB undertakes to communicate to IPL any change regarding fees and taxes as soon as it officially published and IPL undertakes to communicate to USARB any change regarding fees and taxes as soon as it officially published.

For all purposes, students will be considered as students enrolled at the two HEI.

b) Fees and taxes when there are more students from USARB than from IPL taking part in the programme

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Each additional students coming from USARB will pay the following fees at IPL at the beginning of the first year of the double programme:

- Tuition fees corresponding to official local regulations for 1 year master: 1040 € per year.
- 160 € for the application fee plus 2.50 € for the school student insurance.
- 25 € when they finally request the official certificate from IPL. 100 € if they request the official diploma.
- Certificates with the discrimination of the subjects will cost 10 €.

The prices and fees could vary from year to year due to governmental or both institutions decisions. IPL undertakes to communicate to USARB any change regarding fees and taxes as soon as it is officially published.

c) Fees and taxes when there are more students from IPL than from USARB taking part in the programme

Each additional student coming from IPL will pay the following tuition fees at USARB at the beginning of the first year of the double programme:

- Tuition fees corresponding to official local regulations USARB MSc. programmes (currently: 6000 lei, equivalent to 285 €).
- At USARB, students from IPL will have to pay a 110 UA lei (equivalent to 5 €) in accordance with the tax diploma graduation year, when they finally request the official diploma from the university authorities.

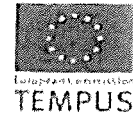
These prices and fees could vary from year to year due to governmental decisions. USARB undertakes to communicate to IPL any change regarding fees and taxes as soon as it is officially published.

6. MANDATORY STUDENT MOBILITY

Mobility in accordance to this agreement's clauses is mandatory for every student taking part in the double degree programme. Teaching staff mobility could be eventually required as well.

Whenever available, student and teaching staff mobility will be carried out under the Erasmus+ programme. The parties agree on establishing a specific Erasmus+ exchange agreement suitable to implement this provision.

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Should the Erasmus+ programme not be available to finance the mobility, this double degree agreement, in itself, is considered by both parties a valid agreement for exchanging students and staff. These exchanges will take place according to the following terms:

6.1. Duration of student exchanges

The exchange period shall not exceed the provisions of the learning programme included in the Annex.

6.2. Exchange conditions

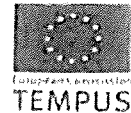
- a) Exchange students will conform to the requirements established in this agreement and will be subject to all the rules and procedures of the home and the host institutions.
- b) Exchange students will be enrolled as regular degree seeking students in the programme of the host institution affected by this agreement. During the exchange period all of them will be registered and attend the courses and activities established in the learning programme included in the Annex.
- c) Exchange students will be provided with the same academic resources and supporting services as normally provided to regular of the same academic level at the host institution.
- d) Exchange students shall take out appropriate health, life and non-life insurance.
- e) Both institutions undertake to award official transcripts of academic records to the students. These transcripts shall be communicated to the other party in order to get the full academic recognition established in section 2.
- f) The host institution will help exchange students in the search of accommodation by providing all the available information.

6.3 Financial Responsibilities

Exchange students will be responsible for the payment of housing-related costs, transportation, food, life, non-life and medical insurance, medical treatment and all other personal expenses.

7. FACULTY EXCHANGES

Both parties agree on the possibility of exchanging Faculty. This mobility will be governed by specific arrangements between the parties. The details of such arrangements will be negotiated at the appropriate time, according to the academic needs of the double programme and the available funding.



8. ACADEMIC COMMISSION

In order to ensure the good development of the double degree programme, an Academic Commission will be formed including the coordinators of both degrees and one additional representative named by each institution.

This Academic Commission will be responsible to examining the efficiency of the learning programme and the academic results achieved by the students, as well as the resources supplied by both institutions.

The Academic Commission will also be in charge of suggesting modifications suitable to improve the programme quality. The members of this Commission will meet, either personally or on-line, at least once a year.

9. FINANCIAL CONDITIONS

The signature of this agreement does not mean any financial commitment for any of the parties.

10. PROCEDURE FOR DISPUTE RESOLUTION

The parties agree to resolve any dispute arising from the interpretation or performance of the present agreement by common consent. In case that the dispute could not be solved that way, it will be resolved by arbitration of a technical commission formed by three members. Each party will designate a member of the arbitration commission and the third member will be agreed by both parties.

11. ENTRY INTO FORCE AND DURATION OF THE AGREEMENT

The present agreement shall entry into force after being signed by both parties.

The agreement is valid for a period of 5 years and may be renewed for identical periods with the express written consent of the two parties.

The parties may terminate this Agreement with immediate effect, due to the determinations of national authorities.

12. CONTACT DATA FOR NOTICES REGARDING THIS AGREEMENT:

Polytechnic Institute of Leiria

Contact: Rui Filipe Pinto Pedrosa

Position: Vice-president of Polytechnic Institute of Leiria

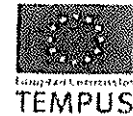
Address: Rua General Norton de Matos, Apartado 4133, 2411-901 Leiria – Portugal

Phone: + 351 244 830 010

E-mail: presidencia@ipleiria.pt



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Alecu Russo State University of Balti:

Contact: Stanislav Stadnic

Position: Vice-head of the Department of Environmental Sciences and Agroecology

Address: 38 Puskin str., Balti, Republic of Moldova

Phone/fax: +373 231 52 3 13

E-mail: stadnicst@gmail.com

In witness whereof, the present agreement is signed in duplicate by the official representatives of both institutions.

Ion Gagim
Rector
Alecu Russo State University of Balti

Nuno Mangas
President
Polytechnic Institute of Leiria

Date: _____



Date: _____

21.09.2017

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ANNEX

STUDY PROGRAMME

Section 1

- The study programme for the students participating in the Double Degree whose home institution is **USARB**, is provided in the following table:

Semester	Chairs	ECTS
1 (USARB)	Scientific basis for the development of sustainable agriculture	5
	Comparative analysis of natural ecosystems and agro-ecosystems	5
	Sociology of leadership	5
	Information technologies in agroecology	5
	Soil fertility and crop productivity	5
	Ecological weed management in agro-ecosystem	5
2 (IPL)	Electives chairs ¹	30
3 and 4 (USARB / IPL)	Dissertation or Internship or Project*	60
TOTAL		120

*The student should pick one. Co-supervision by IPL Professor and Defence in IPL.

¹The students will have to choose four (4) of the following subjects:

Elective subjects (IPL)	ECTS
Water Quality Management	7.5
Waste Management	7.5
Energy and Environment in Transports	7.5
Rational Use of Energy	7.5
Heating, Ventilation and Air-Conditioning Systems	7.5
Renewable Energies Technology	7.5
Environmental Impact Assessment	7.5



In addition, students of USARB will have the possibility to enrol in the following elective chair during each of the first two semesters:

Name of the chair	ECTS
In-depth English language	5

- The study programme for the students participating in the Double Degree whose home institution is **IPL**, is provided in the following table:

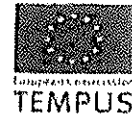
Semester	Chairs	ECTS
1 (USARB)	Scientific basis for the development of sustainable agriculture	5
	Comparative analysis of natural ecosystems and agro-ecosystems	5
	Sociology of leadership	5
	Information technologies in agroecology	5
	Soil fertility and crop productivity	5
	Ecological weed management in agro-ecosystem	5
2 (IPL)	Electives chairs ¹	30
3 and 4 (IPL/USARB)	Dissertation or Internship or Project*	60
TOTAL		120

*The student should pick one. Co-supervision by USARB Professor and Defence in IPL

¹ The students will have to choose four (4) of the following subjects:

Elective subjects (IPL)	ECTS
Water Quality Management	7.5
Waste Management	7.5
Energy and Environment in Transports	7.5
Rational Use of Energy	7.5
Heating, Ventilation and Air-Conditioning Systems	7.5
Renewable Energies Technology	7.5
Environmental Impact Assessment	7.5





- Entrepreneurship: Each student taking part in the double programme will be offered, in IPL, for free, a course on International of Entrepreneurship. This course will be considered as an option part of the double programme. It is intended to strengthen the students' skills and competences to plan, design, develop and manage business activities related to environmental sciences.

- The Master in Energy and Environmental Engineering takes place at the School of Technology and Management of IPL, from Monday to Friday, according to schedules established for every academic year.

- The Master in Science in Agricultural Ecology takes place at the Faculty of City Economy and Environmental Protection, from Monday to Friday, according to schedules established for every academic year.

Section 2

The learning programmes described in the previous section follow these criteria:

1. Students enrolled at USARB

- IPL gives recognition to 30 ECTS obtained by the student in Master in Science in Agricultural Ecology at USARB, during the first semester of the first year, for the 30 ECTS corresponding to the first semester of the first year of the Master in Energy and Environmental Engineering.

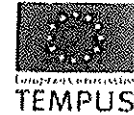
- USARB gives recognition to 30 ECTS obtained by the student in Master in Energy and Environmental Engineering at IPL, during the second semester of the first year, for the 30 ECTS corresponding to the second semester of the first year of the Master in Science in Agricultural Ecology.

- USARB gives recognition to 60 ECTS obtained by the student in Master in Energy and Environmental Engineering at IPL, during the second year, for the 60 ECTS corresponding to the second year of the Master in Science in Agricultural Ecology.

2. Students enrolled at IPL

- IPL gives recognition to 30 ECTS obtained by the student in Master in Science in Agricultural Ecology at USARB, during the first semester of the first year, for the 30 ECTS corresponding to first semester of the first year of the Master in Energy and Environmental Engineering.

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- USARB gives recognition to 30 ECTS obtained by the student in Master in Energy and Environmental Engineering at IPL, during the second semester of the first year, for the 30 ECTS corresponding to second semester of the first year of the Master in Science in Agricultural Ecology.
- USARB gives recognition to 60 ECTS obtained by the student in Master in Energy and Environmental Engineering at IPL, during the second year, for the 60 ECTS corresponding to second year of the Master in Science in Agricultural Ecology.

Section 3

The weighted average of the students' grades obtained at USARB will be assigned, as its grade, to each of the IPL courses passed by means of recognition according to the following table.

Grade description	USARB	IPL
<i>Excellent</i>	90--100	19-20
<i>Very Good</i>	82-89	17-18
<i>Good</i>	74-81	14-16
<i>Satisfactory</i>	60-73	10-13
<i>Fail</i>	0-59	0-9
<i>Failed to appear</i>	No grade	No grade

Any possible conflicts about the mechanism of grade conversion shall be solved by the Academic Commission of the Double Master Degree and accepted by both parties.

Section 4

Students from USARB and IPL taking part in the double programme must successfully complete a master thesis at USARB and IPL. Any master thesis presented and defended under this programme must fulfil the requirements for such works established by both institutions, and each institution will provide the necessary mechanisms for evaluation of the master thesis.

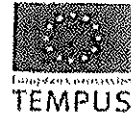
Section 5

Students enrolled in the Double Master degree will have to be awarded, directly or by recognition:

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- A minimum of 120 ECTS at IPL to obtain the title of Master in Energy and Environmental Engineering, and
- A minimum of 120 ECTS at USARB to obtain the title of Master in Science in Agricultural Ecology.

Students will receive both degrees in two years, after they have successfully finished all the courses of the Double Master Degree.

Section 6

USARB reserves the right to establish other national and /or international agreements related to the Master in Science in Agricultural Ecology.

IPL reserves the right to establish other national and /or international agreements related to the Master in Energy and Environmental Engineering.

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