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**Boosting Innovation in Education  
And Research of Precision  
Agriculture in Palestine**

**P.R. #: 609544-EPP-1-2019-1-PS-EPPKA2-CBHE- JP**

**[2020–2023]**



# BENEFIT PARTNERS

## Why Is BENEFIT?

Because Precision Agriculture (PA) is a whole-farm management approach using innovative technologies such as ICT, satellite positioning (GNSS) data, remote sensing, proximal data gathering etc. These technologies have the goal of optimizing returns on inputs whilst potentially reducing environmental impacts.

Moreover, the agricultural sector is an important driver in the Palestinian economy since it creates job opportunities in the local Palestinian market. The agricultural sector and its activities show that the sector is facing many challenges and obstacles. The political conflict in Palestine is the most critical of these challenges, characterized by the Israeli practices of land confiscation, control over natural resources especially water, and restrictions on the mobility of products between Palestinian areas on one hand; and with international markets on the other, thus increasing the cost of agro production and marketing. Climate change has also been a major issue challenging the agricultural sector in Palestine, and directly affecting agricultural production, mainly due to changes and fluctuations in rainfall quantities, and the disintegration of agricultural holdings reducing their productivity, efficiency and profitability. These issues have jointly increased the risk of investment in the agricultural sector and have led many to shift their economic activities away from this sector.

The protection and development of agriculture sector is a priority at the governmental and educational level. There is a need to increase and encouraging research in the different fields of agriculture, develop agricultural infrastructure, encourage the use of best practices in terms of water use, and encourage the application of smart or precise agriculture in order to increase the benefit values of unit of water or land. For this BENEFIT project will offer the knowledge, science and experience from other participant's countries as well as transfer these new technologies and solutions about precise agriculture to Palestine.

### Specific Objectives of the Project:

- ✓ To realize training of Palestinians teachers/researchers in "precision agriculture", open Educational Resources (OER) and related fields.
- ✓ Developing a joint, contemporary, open and flexible curriculum in precision agriculture will entail the need to focus not only on competences related to technology/digital innovation in the agricultural sector
- ✓ Designing, piloting, and evaluating pilot and initial courses, focusing on the precision agriculture.
- ✓ Creating an international research network about precision agriculture.



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**Palestine Technical University  
(PTU)**



**Slovak University of Agriculture  
In Nitra (SAU)**



**University of Patras  
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**An-Najah National University**



**University of Ruse (URAK)**



**Institute of Technology and  
Business in Czech Republic**



**Hebron University**



**AL-Istiqlal University (PASS)**



**University College of Applied  
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[Benefit\\_Erasmus@qou.edu](mailto:Benefit_Erasmus@qou.edu)

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## BENEFIT Deliverables and Outputs

Benefit Training Consists from ToT (Training of Trainers) and ToR (Term of Reference )

- ✓ BENEFIT course consists from curriculum , open education resources and BENEFIT Incubator
- ✓ BEBENFIT repository as a storage for dissemination material
- ✓ BENEFIT community of practice cover online research collaborative environment and networking of all relative institution
- ✓ BENEFIT e-Space.

## Target Groups

- ✓ Academic staff and researchers in Palestinian Universities
- ✓ Agronomists and extension agents
- ✓ Students and trainees
- ✓ Policy makers
- ✓ Farmers and agribusiness sector

## Main Objectives:

Involving Palestinian High Education Institutes in Research Movement related to PA in Europe and encouraging both Palestinian researchers and academics interests related to concept, domains, tools and digital technology of the PA.

## Specific Objectives of the Project:

- ✓ To realize training of Palestinians teachers/researchers in PA, open Educational Resources (OER) and related fields.
- ✓ Developing a joint, contemporary, open and flexible curriculum in precision agriculture.
- ✓ Designing, piloting, and evaluating pilot and initial courses, focusing on the PA.
- ✓ Creating an international research network about precision agriculture.

## Main Activates:

BENEFIT project activities are based on the following main steps of methodology

- ✓ Capacity building for Palestinian Partners on topics Related to PA.
- ✓ Curricula Development focusing on the different filed of PA.
- ✓ Establishing BENEFIT Incubator and Research Centers.

## What Is BENEFIT

Precision Agriculture (PA) is a whole-farm management approach using innovative technologies such as ICT, satellite positioning (GNSS) data, remote sensing, proximal data gathering etc. These technologies have the goal of optimizing returns on inputs whilst potentially reducing environmental impacts. PA still an innovative concept in Palestine. Adopting and using this technology could achieve big leaps in Palestine. The knowledge about advanced agricultural technologies have therefore become key for the farmers in Palestine, throughout the process of cultivation and harvest. BENEFIT will increase and scale up the experience and component of the researchers, teachers, students, agronomists, and extension agents in the universities and markets in Palestine. As well, open the door to all stakeholders in a national agriculture in Palestine about the important of adopting PA technique as a good tool for:

1. Increasing the profitability of national agriculture sector.
2. Sustainable use and management of available resources.

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الزراعة الدقيقة في فلسطين: نحو الابتكار في التعليم والبحث العلمي (BENEFIT)

الرقم المرجعي للمشروع 609544-EPP-1-2019-1-PS-EPPKA2-CBHE- JP



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جامعة فلسطين التقنية



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