**Goal:** To permanently increase Agricultural University of Tirana’s (AUT) contribution to Albania’s economic development by bolstering the capacity of its Faculty of Economy and Agribusiness (FEA)

### Overall Objectives
1. To strengthen the Agricultural University in Tirana/Faculty of Economy and Agribusinesses (FEA) faculty’s capacity to provide quality graduate education
2. To build capacity for effective training, consulting and advising to the Ministry of Agriculture, extension agencies, and producer associations

### Benefits to UH
**Faculty:**
1. Enhance research collaboration
2. Information exchange – cultural & scientific

**Students:**
1. Broaden students global knowledge
2. Employment and exchange opportunities

**Organization:**
1. Enhance opportunity to increase extramural activities
2. More exchange students
3. Raise UH/NREM reputation globally as an organization with global reach and presence
4. Increase international students studying at UH
5. Increase NREM’s reputation in building capacity in agricultural economics

### Progress Highlights
1. Masters degree program evaluation & development
2. Conducted grant writing and priority setting workshops
3. Developed improved standards and departmental guidelines for relevant graduate research
4. Initiated and conducted annual conference to showcase AUT faculty and student research work
5. Planned research presentation in international conferences.
6. Identified economic & training needs of Agricultural Technology Transfer Centers (ATTC)
7. Conducted workshops on research ethics and teaching methods

### Project Impacts
1. Newly proposed Masters Studies Program
2. Integrated teaching and research activities relevant to extension needs
3. Enhance FEA faculty and students capacity and opportunities in grant writing and priority setting
4. Narrowing the gap between knowledge and skill levels in agricultural economics between Albanian and the industrialized world
5. Increase knowledge of UH faculty about Eastern Europe and exposure to their agriculture and country

### Benefits to Global Community
1. Enhance inter-country and cultural understanding
2. Build better relationships for global issues resolution such as climate change and diplomacy
3. Enhance international trade
4. Thriving global agriculture
5. Enhance research and information exchange

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