



2026

THE POLYTECHNIC UNIVERSITY OF BEJA INVITES YOU
TO PARTICIPATE IN AN ERASMUS+ BLENDED
INTENSIVE PROGRAMME:

New Challenges in Livestock Production under Mediterranean Climate

Programme Overview:

Location: Polytechnic University of Beja/Portugal

Virtual part: 3 on-line meetings in March/April before
physical part in April – dates still to define

Physical Part: 13rd-17th April

Credits: 3 ECTS + certificate

Level Study: First cycle / bachelor's or equivalent level

Nomination deadline: January 23, 2026

Application deadline: March 1, 2026

New Challenges in Livestock Production under Mediterranean Climate

Target Audience

Undergraduate students and teaching staff in Animal Science, Agronomy, and Environmental Studies

Language

English

Topic of the Programme

The subject of this BIP is to find solutions for livestock production in Mediterranean climate conditions, in the context of current climate change

Partners involved

Polytechnic University of Beja - Portugal (Lead University), Universidad de Cordoba-Spain, Aeres University of Applied Sciences - The Netherlands, Faculty of AgriSciences Mendel University in Brno- Czech Republic, VIKO Vilniaus Kolegija/University of Applied Sciences – Lithuania and University of Applied Sciences Thomas More – Belgium

Objectives of the programme

- Promote the adoption of innovative technologies such as IoT, mechatronics, and remote sensing in livestock production
- Encourage a forward-looking approach in the livestock sector to address current and future challenges
- Optimize production efficiency across different livestock species
- Improve farm operations, including maintenance, feeding, and reproduction processes
- Enhance animal welfare standards while ensuring environmental protection
- Foster collaborative problem-solving among participants to develop
- sustainable solutions tailored to Mediterranean climate conditions affected by climate change

Virtual Component Summary

The online phase introduces key concepts and fosters collaboration. It begins with a welcome session and programme overview, including interactive activities to encourage student engagement. Participants are introduced to the challenges of livestock production under Mediterranean climate conditions.

Subsequent sessions explore the environmental characteristics of the Mediterranean region, focusing on soil, climate, and adaptive strategies in livestock farming. The final online meeting introduces Precision Livestock Farming (PLF), highlighting technological innovations, economic and environmental benefits, and future trends such as AI and automation.

Face-to-Face Week Summary in Beja

Participants engage in sessions covering PLF technologies, including sensors, IoT devices, and remote monitoring systems. Ethical considerations in animal production are addressed, emphasizing responsible practices.

Field visits to extensive and intensive farms provide practical insights into different production models. Students work collaboratively on projects integrating technical, environmental, economic, and social perspectives. A visit to EDIA offers a regional view of climate adaptation strategies. The week concludes with student presentations, a closing session, and certificate distribution.

Cultural and Social Activities

During the face-to-face week, some activities will take place, such as wine tasting, farewell dinner, and others.

Expected Learning Outcomes

- Understand the challenges and opportunities of livestock production under Mediterranean climate
- Gain knowledge of PLF technologies and their applications
- Develop awareness of ethical considerations in animal production
- Apply theoretical concepts in real-world contexts
- Collaborate effectively in international teams
- Explore regional climate adaptation strategies
- Present and evaluate sustainability-focused solutions

Financial Support

Students may apply for Erasmus+ financial support through their home institution.

Accommodation will be the responsibility of the participants.

Contact Information

For Erasmus+ details, arrival information and registration:

Erasmus+ Coordinator: Ana Mestre ana.mestre@ipbeja.pt

For Academic details:

Coordinator for the BIP: Prof. Luis Santa Maria lsm@ipbeja.pt

Academic Coordinator for Agronomy Bachelor: Sofia Ramôa sramoa@ipbeja.pt

