Grassland management for high forage yield and quality in the Western Balkans

HERD project 2012-2014
Project partners:

- The Norwegian Institute for Agricultural and Environmental Research – Bioforsk
- Department of Plant and Environmental Sciences, Norwegian University of Life Sciences (UMB)
- The Faculty of Agriculture, University of Banja Luka
- The Faculty of Agriculture and Veterinary in Prishtina
- The Faculty of Agriculture, University of Novi Sad
Aims and objectives:

• Capacity building of Balkan institutions through targeted activities for scientific staff and students at master and PhD levels

• Inventarisation of the current situation of grassland management (e.g. botanical composition, fertilisation practice, cutting/grazing regimes)

• Conduct field experiments to assess the effect on grass yield and quality (protein and mineral composition) and soil carbon sequestration as affected by: i) botanical compositions, ii) cutting/grazing regimes, and iii) different fertilisation practices
Aims and objectives:

- Economical evaluation of cost/benefit analysis for different grassland management strategies (i.e. cutting regimes, fertilizer input, botanical composition)
- Transfer new knowledge on innovative solutions and new research findings for improved grassland management through participating in national and international seminars/workshops and joint meetings between scientists from Norway and Balkan countries, and development of educational materials
Working packages:

- 4 work packages to cover the main activities
- **WP1** Inventerisation and phytocenosis
- **WP2** Legumes / grass mixtures and cutting regimes
- **WP3** Fertilisation practise
- **WP 4** Economical analysis and transfer of knowledge