



**Agricultural University of Athens**

**School of Environmental and Agricultural Engineering**

**Department of Natural Resources Development and Agricultural  
Engineering**

**Quality Policy for the development and improvement of the MSc  
Digital Technologies and Smart Infrastructures in Agriculture**

The mission of the Department of Natural Resources Development and Agricultural Engineering is to provide high-level educational work at undergraduate, postgraduate and doctoral level, which correspond to the latest developments in science and concerns the broader scientific field of agricultural sciences with emphasis on Natural Resources, Environment and Agricultural Engineering, covering, among others, subjects of water resources, soil science, land reclamation in general, environmental management, geoenvironment and natural hazards, agricultural construction and agricultural engineering. In addition, it promotes basic and applied research and social development, represents the independence of science and seeks meritocracy and social benefit through the exploitation of the results of science and technology.

The Department of Natural Resources and Agricultural Engineering, in collaboration with the Quality Assurance Unit of the Agricultural University of Athens and the competent services of the University, has harmonized the Quality Policy of the Department with the Quality Policy of AUA with the aim of ensuring and continuously improving the quality of undergraduate, postgraduate and doctoral programs of study, which it offers either autonomously or in collaboration with other Departments or Institutions in Greece and abroad.

The Department of Natural Resources and Agricultural Engineering is committed to implementing the quality assurance procedures provided for in the Institution's Internal Quality Assurance System Manual, in the Undergraduate, Postgraduate and Doctoral Programs in collaboration with the Quality Assurance Unit of the University.

Quality assurance procedures are adapted for the Postgraduate Programs of the Department according to those related to the Undergraduate Programs of Studies and include the active participation of all members of the Department (teaching, research, technical and administrative staff and students) with distinct roles.

In particular, they concern:

1. the definition of the **Quality Policy** and how it is implemented,
2. the **provision and management of the necessary financial and human resources and infrastructure** for the smooth operation of the educational, research and administrative operation and services of the Department, to serve the Postgraduate Programs of Study,
3. the **establishment of quality objectives** on an annual basis by all the Postgraduate Programs of the Department of Natural Resources and Agricultural Engineering, which operate or will operate, which will be clearly defined, measurable, achievable, realistic and time-bound. Quality objectives are linked to quantitative or qualitative indicators, are continuously monitored according to their schedule and are determined in cooperation and agreement with its management Department.

4. **the periodic Internal Evaluation** of the Postgraduate Programs of the Department of Natural Resources and Agricultural Engineering in collaboration with the Internal Evaluation Team of the Department and the Assurance Unit of AUA and the participation of all involved parties, in order to evaluate the degree of response of each MSc to the Quality Standard, the achievement of quality objectives, any corrective actions for the improvement of quality in education, research and administrative performance.
5. **the collection, analysis and utilization of quality data** relating to each Postgraduate Program of the Department. At regular intervals, the Department collects and analyzes data, in collaboration with the University's Quality Assurance Unit, both through the Information Systems and through the use of questionnaires, which it provides to the Integrated Quality Information System of HAHE as well as to internal Information Systems of the University. The data is used to calculate indicators performance and are used to improve quality through goal setting.
6. **the publication of the information** of the MSc Digital Technologies and Smart Infrastructures in Agriculture of the Postgraduate Programs of the Department of Natural Resources and Agricultural Engineering. The main, but not the only, means of information of the Department is its website, where all the information of the MSc Digital Technologies and Smart Infrastructures in Agriculture is published, in accordance with its management regulation. The MSc Digital Technologies and Smart Infrastructures in Agriculture is hosted in distinct space on the website of the Department and is checked for the completeness, validity and timeliness of its content in Greek and English.
7. **the external evaluation of the MSc Digital Technologies and Smart Infrastructures in Agriculture** of the Department of Natural Resources and Agricultural Engineering by the National Authority of Higher Education, in accordance with the legislative framework and the instructions of HAHE.

The implementation of the quality assurance procedures of the MSc Digital Technologies and Smart Infrastructures in Agriculture, aims to meet the following objectives:

- α) the provision of rationally structured postgraduate programs, with clear learning outcomes and professional qualifications in accordance with the National Qualifications Framework
- β) the cultivation of skills and competences such as critical thinking, problem solving, writing scientific articles, taking initiatives, creativity, team collaboration of students and interdisciplinary approach to address modern professional challenges
- γ) timely graduation and graduate response to today's changing work environment
- δ) the implementation of a variety of teaching methods in accordance with international good practices, responding to the different ways of learning and the different needs of the student population
- ε) promoting the quality and effectiveness of teaching work and selecting highly qualified teaching staff
- στ) the production of high-level research based on international developments through the promotion of

research collaborations and the exploitation and dissemination of results for the benefit of society and the economy

- ζ) promoting and recognising excellence and innovation by encouraging, enhancing and rewarding the achievements of its members in teaching and research
- η) promoting extroversion and connection with society through partnerships with private and public bodies for mutual benefit
- θ) participation in mobility programs through new collaborations with foreign institutions, enhancing the international dimension of the MSc Digital Technologies and Smart Infrastructures in Agriculture of the Department
- ι) The effectiveness of the administrative operation with emphasis on the timely and valid information of its members, the student welfare services and the upgrading of digital media.
- ια) the suitability and adequacy of infrastructure and equipment for education and research

The President of the Department  
Natural Resources Development and Agricultural Engineering

Professor Ioannis Papanikolaou