



Summary of the GEO-WB6 Summer School 2025:
**“Crop-type Mapping and Area-based Monitoring
using Satellite Remote Sensing”**
May 11-17, 2025, Driloni, Albania



In the frame of the project *GEO-WB6 - Establishing a Geoinformation Centre for the Western Balkans*, the Agricultural University of Tirana (UBT) and the Leibniz Institute of Agricultural Development in Transition Economies (IAMO) carried out the project’s second Summer School on “*Crop-type Mapping and Area-based Monitoring using Satellite Remote Sensing*” from May 11 to 17, 2025, in Driloni, Albania.

Accurate crop-type mapping with satellite data is essential for monitoring of agricultural land use. It forms the basis of area monitoring systems (AMS), a key element of Integrated Administration and Control Systems (IACS) to disburse subsidies under the EU’s Common Agricultural Policy. Developing AMS for the Western Balkan countries is crucial in the EU accession process. During this Summer School, a total of 24 participants from four Western Balkan countries (Albania, Kosovo, North Macedonia and Serbia) came together to learn about the principles of remote sensing for crop-type mapping and the main functionalities of AMS and IACS. The class covered a range of remote sensing data sources, technical challenges in setting up a functional AMS, and highlighted use cases of AMS from Denmark and Austria. The participants performed their own crop-type classification using different satellite data with the software packages R and QGIS, and validated their classification results in a field work session. The Summer School was facilitated by Bernadett Csonka, Marcel Schwieder, and Kenneth Grogan, internationally renowned experts for remote sensing and AMS.