

**Nordic Association of Agricultural Science (NJF)**  
**Section of Economy, Education and Society**  
**Programme for the virtual seminar on December 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2020**  
**12:00 to 13:30 Central European time (13:00 to 14:30 Eastern European time)**  
**Web address: <https://ac.vdu.lt/vk1>**

**Presentation 1**

**Title: Factors affecting the development of urban agriculture – historical review and contemporary trends.**

**Speaker: Madara Dobele, Latvia University of Life Sciences and Technologies**

**Authors: Madara Dobele, MBA, Mg.art, Andra Zvirbule, Dr.oec., Latvia University of Life Sciences and Technologies**

**Annotation:** The role and importance of urban agriculture has changed, due to various social, political and economic factors in history, giving it a multifunctional paradigm in nowadays. Starting as the basic principle of city planning, continuing with changes to different functions during Industrial revolution and period of World Wars, nowadays urban agricultural has multifunctional approach – from individual hobby to supporting role of United Nations’ sustainable development goals.

United Nations has predicted that until year 2050 68% of population will live in cities, and the number of city dwellers in total will increase from 7.6 to 9.8 billion. In the context of analysis of agricultural processes, trends and aspects the focus is on rural areas, but risks, as food insecurity, low income level, public health problems, low social cohesion, climate changes, pollution in urban areas, sustainability of cities, gives new context, opportunities and approaches of urban agriculture, its possibilities and impacting factors.

The research examines the complexity of factors, influencing the development of urban agriculture by analysing historical aspects and contemporary trends. The aim is to identify and classify impact factors of urban agriculture. The research is based on the systematic review analysis of scientific articles on the topic of urban agriculture.

**Presentation 2**

**Title: Opportunities to maintain positive outcomes of Youth Guarantee initiatives on NEETs population in EU.**

**Speaker: Linas Stabingis, Vytautas Magnus University, Agricultural Academy**

**Author: Linas Stabingis, Vytautas Magnus University, Agricultural Academy**

**Annotation:** The Youth Guarantee (YG) it was initiated seeking to decrease the number of young people from 15-24 aged group, who are Not in Employment, Education or Training (NEET). It was the political response of European Commission to increase of unemployment in EU countries among population of all age groups, but especially among youth, during economic downfall, which started at the end of year 2008. The purpose of research, which has been conducted at the first half of 2020, it was identification of success factors, driving positive changes in NEETs population by implementing YG, and grouping of EU countries according level of youth unemployment and impact made by implementing YG. Using cluster analysis techniques several groups of EU Member States has been singled out, deeper analysis of situation in each of these groups has been made as well as discussion on possibilities for the YG improvement has been developed.

**Link to publication: <https://ejournals.vdu.lt/index.php/mtsrbid/article/view/950>**