

UNIVERSITY OF BASILICATA, ITALY

The University of Basilicata is a public State University. It was founded in 1981 and started its academic activities in 1982. It is a small but dynamic academic reality with its scientific and arts vocation. It is located in Potenza and in Matera, inside a Region of Southern Italy -- the Basilicata Region --- well known for its agricultural, cultural and touristic vocation. UNIBAS expresses the positive meaning of a small University, in which its institutional activities are taken in an encouraging social atmosphere, in harmony with a natural and civil environment that preserves the ancient nature and the relaxing rhythms of a small city. UNIBAS comprises several schools and departments, research centers, interuniversity and excellence centers and laboratories all engaged in preserving and stimulating the cultural, economic and environmental heritage of the region while simultaneously looking at excellence in research and education. Its educational and scientific activities have been conceived to develop its internationalization process merging the regional needs with much cultural and environmental potential. One of the Departments of the University of Basilicata is the SAFE School.

The mission of the SAFE School of the University of Basilicata is focused on all activities connected with agriculture, forestry, food technology and environmental management. Both didactic and research activities within these sectors are performed. Many Erasmus bilateral agreements are managed by the SAFE School. Within the SAFE School, a research group specialized into rural constructions and agro---forestry land offers specific training on subjects related with the technical aspects of agricultural, forestry, food and environmental science.

This research group specialized on rural constructions and agro---forestry land has a team of three permanent professors, one researcher, three technicians, and some external collaborators (Ph. D., researchers, *etc.*). They have a long and wide tradition in terms of International Cooperation Activities, including Projects financed by the European Union (6th and 7th RTD Framework Programme), by some Interreg/ETC – European Territorial Cooperation Programmes (*e.g.*: Archimed, MED, *etc.*), by the LIFE+ Programme, *etc.* Moreover, this group is leading the SAFE School into one International Master Course (about: “*Sustainable Management of Food Quality –EDAMUS*) financed by the *Erasmus--Mundus* Programme. Research works ---presented into scientific publications, journals.