

This is a report of the implementation of international mobility activity between the University of Sarajevo and the University of Natural Resources and Life Sciences, Vienna (BOKU). Basic details are presented in this section of the report.

The mobility period started on 04.03.2019 and ended on 31.07.2019, which is also evident in the attached certificate - Confirmation of Stay (Departure Sheet), signed by Michael Tritthart, Priv. -Doz. Dipl. Ing. Dr.techn. During a five-month period of mobility in Vienna - a city of many cultures, beautiful architecture and a friendly population, I stayed at Studentenheim Akademikerhilfe.

Having founded in 1872, the University of Natural Resources and Life Sciences in Vienna has always been one of the top-ranking universities in both Austria and Europe. It has been recognised as a university that offers a broad spectrum of learning and self-developing activities. There is no wonder that many international students choose BOKU for their MA and PhD studies and I, being one of them, followed that path. My wish to acquire knowledge and develop my competencies inspired me to take this step. This opportunity was beneficial for gaining appropriate experience outside of my native country.

The mobility period was mostly used for preparation, research and writing of my Master's Thesis. I had no knowledge of GIS - Geographic Information System, but as I had a need for it while working on my Master's Thesis, I did learn some basics, which, I am sure, will be valuable for my professional development. Also, helping my colleague with her Master's Thesis, I learned to work in Surfer and encountered some other softwares such as RSim. The main part of my Thesis required a really good knowledge of HEC-RAS and AutoCad, which was not a problem for me, since I have already been working with these softwares for a few years, but of course there is always something new to learn about them. Besides, I also attended lectures of Sediment Regime and River Morphology, which really improved my professional skills.

Being ready for additional forms of education and training, as well as for getting to know people and cultures, I am very grateful to the University of Sarajevo and the University of Natural Resources and Life Sciences (BOKU) for the fantastic opportunity I have been given. I owe special thanks to my mentor, Professor Emina Hadžić, for her constant support from the beginning.



*Beautiful dawns (view from my room at the Studentenheim Akademikerhilfe, Starkfriedgasse 15, at
7AM)*

Early to bed and early to rise

Scholarships were late, so we had to face the huge costs of coming and living in Vienna on our own. Our parents helped us and we can not thank them enough.

According to my point of view, new knowledge and experience achieved and improved by people who previously had been in an opportunity to take part in projects more demanding than those in my country can remarkably help my professional identity to be formed and developed.

Considering the historical background and the fact that Bosnia and Herzegovina was under Austro-Hungarian rule, I had a chance to see many constructions built in a recognisable architecture style and have always admired it.



Me in front of the Stephen's Cathedral

We also travelled to Nice and Madrid.



Merima Trako and me in wonderful Nice (Côte d'Azur)

Reading makes me happy since I was a little child, so I read a lot of books during the stay in Vienna.



Reading in the train on my way to the airport

Friendly people, culture, education and public transport definitely made a big impression on me. It is amazing how many good habits a person can acquire in five months. One such habit I have acquired in Vienna is waste sorting. I hope that habit will soon be widespread and applicable in my country. A funny situation happened after returning to Sarajevo, in one of our shopping malls, when I was looking for a special bin for the bio-waste disposal.

Theoretical knowledge which I gained thanks to highly-educated, highly-skilled and committed teaching staff whom I have been surrounded by was completed and developed by some practical and experimental activities, under the direction of Sabrina Schwarz and Martin Glas, employees of the Institute of Hydraulic Engineering and River Research (IWA, BOKU).

The topic of my Master's thesis is: "Modeling the bedload transport during the flood event in October 2018 of the Gail River", which is a reason why a tour of the Gail River was organized. We also participated in the field research on the Danube River as a part of the topic "Impact of sediment transport on the river morphology self-sustainability". It was a unique experience to have this type of education, which is based on research and innovation.



Sabrina Schwarz and me at the Gail River



Field work at the Gail River



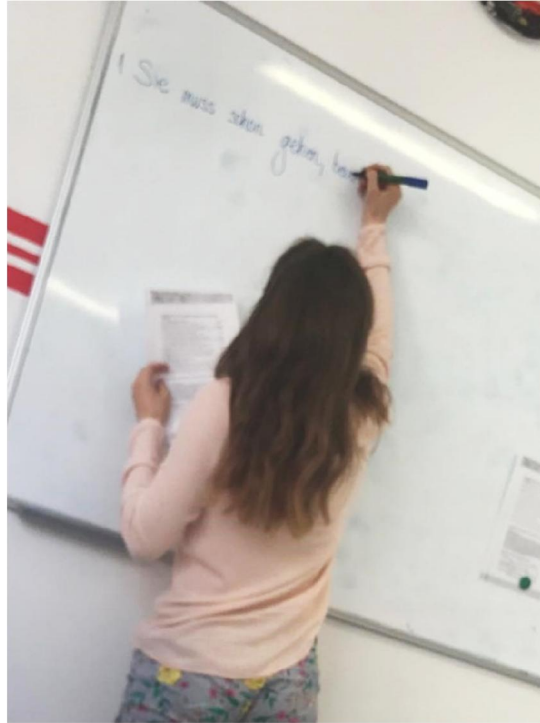
Field work at the Danube

Vienna is a city where new cultures meet each other and as a friendly and communicative person I was able to learn something about other people's traditions, languages and customs.

The university has made it possible to have quality interaction between students through many workshops. I have made many friendships and I am sure that some of them will last for a long time.

As I supposed, the curiosity of my colleagues made them interested in my experience at the University of Natural Resources and Life Sciences in Vienna. This way we understood how important it could be for our professional development to study at two different universities.

The mobility period was used, not only for preparation, research and writing of my Master's Thesis, but also for the purpose of learning German, both at the BOKU University – during the semester and in the one-month course after the end of the lectures at the Big Ben Bildungsinstitute. I have always loved languages, so I really enjoyed it.



Learning of German at the Big Ben Bildungsinstitute, Vienna

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