



LBTU Malnavas koledža

Vienā solī ar laiku

Latvia University of Life Sciences and Technologies (LBTU)

International Conference of Malnava College

**Education, Innovation and Cooperation
for the Future of Regions**

13–15 May 2026

Malnava, 4 Muižas Street, Latvia

The aim of the conference is to pilot and validate newly developed study programmes created within the framework of the European Union Recovery Fund project “*Strengthening the Institutional Capacity of LBTU for Excellence in Studies and Research*”, by promoting the exchange of experience between Latvian and international experts, including through visits by foreign experts.

The conference is designed as a platform for the international visibility of the new study programmes, the strengthening of the academic capacity of Malnava College of the Latvia University of Life Sciences and Technologies, the development of international partnerships, and a contribution to the sustainable development of regions.

The conference motto “*Shaping Future Together!*” encourages the combination of ideas and experiences to foster joint discussions on the quality of education, innovation, and regional development.

Target Audience

Academics and Researchers interested in enhancing the quality of higher education, modernizing the study process, and developing interdisciplinary approaches. Particular attention is given to those seeking to expand their professional perspective, learn from international experiences and trends, and exchange best practices.

Policy Makers, especially in the fields of education, higher education, regional development, and innovation, who value a data- and research-based approach to decision-making.

Institutional Partners from Latvia and Abroad – universities, colleges, research institutes, international organizations, and professional associations aiming to strengthen international cooperation and develop joint projects.

Entrepreneurs and Industry Professionals who recognize the importance of innovative study programmes, skills development, and close collaboration with educational institutions.

Students who wish to engage in an international academic environment, learn about new study opportunities, and participate in experience exchange.

Conference Programme

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| 13 May | Arrival of Participants. Individual Meetings. Guest Lectures. |
| 14 May | Conference Activities at LBTU Malnava College
(<i>Working languages: Latvian and English with simultaneous interpretation</i>) |
| 15 May | Visit to Enterprises in the Latgale Region |

Participation in the conference is free of charge.

Registration deadline: **1 March 2026**, by completing the registration form [here](#).

Agenda – 14 May

09.30-10.00	Registration and Coffee
10.00-10.30	Conference Opening
10.30-11.00	Expert Presentation: Innovations in Education and International Cooperation
11.00-11.25	Expert Presentation: Innovations in Woodworking Technologies
11.25-11.35	Programme Director Presentation: Study Programme “ Woodworking Technologies ”
11.35-12.10	Panel Discussion: Innovations in Woodworking Education – Aligning with Regional Labour Market Needs and Adopting International Experience
12.10-12.50	Coffee Break and Networking
12.50-13.15	Expert Presentation: Smart Tourism as Entrepreneurship in Rural Areas
13.15-13.25	Programme Director Presentation: Study Programme “ Smart Tourism as Entrepreneurship in Rural Areas ”
13.25-14.00	Panel Discussion: Digital Transformation and Sustainable Business Models in Rural Tourism Development
14.00-15.00	Lunch
15.00-16.00	Participant Presentations in Parallel Sessions: Technologies, Education, and Sustainability in Regional Development
16.00-16.20	Conference Closing
17.00-18.00	Excursion at LBTU Malnava College
18.00-20.00	Conference Dinner

Agenda – 15 May

09.00-13.00	Visit to Enterprises in the Latgale Region (Parallel Tours) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wood Processing Sector: SIA Avoti, RSEZ SIA VEREMS • Tourism Sector: ZS Liepkalns, ZS Kotiņi
13.00-15.00	Lunch

Contact Information:

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The activities are carried out within the framework of project No. 5.2.1.1.i.0/2/24/I/CFLA/002 “Strengthening the Institutional Capacity of LBTU for Excellence in Studies and Research”. The goal of the project is to implement structural changes at LBTU to promote excellence and the efficiency of higher education and research quality and resource investment, as well as international competitiveness.

