

Duration: 11-15/09/2023

Practical information, need to know before visiting:

- prices are quite high when compared to Poland, so it is advisable to budget extra for food and fuel,
- the most convenient mode of transportation is a car (although not all roads, even the main ones, are paved, consider a 4-wheel drive vehicle),
- in the Hvanneyri campus, there is no store; the nearest one is about 15 km away,
- the weather in Iceland can be unpredictable, is definitely worth investing in warm thermal underwear,
- the eduroam network functions efficiently on the campus,
- credit card payments are accepted everywhere, including contactless payments. In stores, there are self-checkout counters even with Polish language options,
- the university facilities are accessible even during late hours, thanks to the access control system. You can feel safe because only authorized individuals have access,
- there is a cafeteria on the campus that offers good food at reasonable prices

The main purpose of my visit was to exchange knowledge and experiences with my international cooperation office counterpart. What interested me the most was their approach to the implementation of the strategic initiative - the European University, our shared creation, and pride - UNIGreen - the Green European University.

But from the outset, travels are educational, and every journey imparts valuable lessons. As my first supervisor at SGGW used to say, one should extract something from every meeting or trip, even if it's just a conference pen : -) This trip offered me much more.

During my stay, I successfully achieved all the set objectives:

1. Enhancement of professional skills and knowledge.
2. Establishment of valuable contacts and partnerships.
3. Identification of best practices.
4. Reinforcement of project management capabilities.
5. Enrichment of perspectives.

My stay started with participation in field activities alongside exchange students who were in Iceland at the time. Participating in activities involving the herding of sheep among local farmers was an incredible experience that will undoubtedly remain in my memory for a long time.

I had a chance to engage in discussions regarding the strategic goals of the UNIGreen alliance. I participated in a meeting of local coordinators from all WPs. My host during the stay provided me with a tour of the university. I was accommodated in the university's guesthouse for visiting professors who come to Hvanneyri for teaching purposes. This was an incredible opportunity to establish new contacts and exchange ideas, particularly considering the number of people from various parts of the world present at the guesthouse due to activities related to sheep herding. Indirect benefits encompass the connections made, the stories of the people encountered, the landscapes, and the memories of the Northern Lights, which will be cherished for a lifetime.

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