

EUROPEAN UNION GRANTS ADVISOR

Czech Republic University Develops New E-Learning Courses Using EU Funds



“In the last decade, IT has grown in power and ubiquity. This project aims to help people understand the importance of IT and how to utilise it. We are grateful for the funds that have helped us provide this important training.”

Jan Jarolímek, Project Manager,
University of Agriculture

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Situation

In the Czech Republic, students and teachers are required to develop a better understanding of information and communication technology (ICT) to improve their productivity and competitiveness. Due to the financial and time constraints faced by most Czech universities, this is only possible with the provision of independent ICT expertise and appropriate training incentives. The University of Agriculture, Prague, has teamed together with Microsoft to develop e-learning courses for new styles of training. Together, they have developed courses designed to show students and teachers how to maximise the benefits of e-learning.

Solution

With the help of a European Union Grants Advisor consultant, the University of Agriculture successfully applied for funds from the New Training Principles Development Programme in December 2005. It was awarded €500,000 (U.S.\$640,000)—100 per cent of the project cost. Using the funds, it purchased a new hardware and software platform and covered development costs for the application and the course, including pilot-programme training and documentation.

Benefits

- University granted €500,000 to fund its training project.
- Teachers and students learn benefits of e-learning.
- Courses close IT skills gap in Czech Republic.