

### **Concept of the SS - Agri-Cooperatives and Institutions for Rural Development**

The main focus of the SS is to teach students about qualitative as well as quantitative research.

Therefore, each group for training purpose of questionnaire design and data processing must collect at least 20 questionnaires. If we go all together to all places, the only idea how to organize data collection is following:

- Each group will have 1 assigned cooperative as a source of data.
- Big group of all students visit the farm. Then we split for extra 3-4 hours.
- Every group will have two questionnaires ready – 1 more qualitative for coop members (focusing on interaction with coop), the other quantitative for local villagers (focusing on impact of coop on local area, same questionnaire for all groups) living close to the cooperative
- During each visit, one assigned group will make 5 interviews with coop individual members. Meanwhile the other three groups will collect data from 5 villagers each.
- During the next visit, the role of interviewing the coop members will rotate to the next group
- The results will be, that each group will have 5 respondents – members of one coop, and 15 respondents from the local village (but collected by other groups)
- Each group will process data individually for their respective villages

The main focus of the research will be on contribution of cooperatives to the local development, relations in the village and sustainability of cooperative business. The view of members as well of local villagers will focus on their frequency and types of interactions with the cooperative, their perceived benefits and needs from cooperative as a dominant local business.