



Design and testing
new VET frameworks
for the transfer and recognition
of organic livestock
management skills in Europe



Newsletter No. 1 - June 2014

LIVORG

Design and testing new VET frameworks for the transfer and recognition of organic livestock management skills in Europe

Project period: 01.12.2013 - 30.11.2015

Motivations, Needs and challenges

- The increasingly relevance of the Organic Farming system in Europe for a sustainable, social and economic development and the strategic role of organic animal husbandry sector within organic farming system.
- Organizing a harmonic and common VET (Vocational Education and Training) framework in the organic livestock management area and encouraging the conversion from high-input agriculture to Organic Agriculture system in Europe.



http://ec.europa.eu/agriculture/organic/downloads/photos/index_en.htm

Aims of the project

- Increase the awareness of organic livestock management to meet the sector and policymakers needs in the EU improving the system to be competitive with conventional processes.
- Extend the sector skills alliance activities reinforcing the effective cooperation between organic farmers and stakeholders.
- Develop and deliver a specific-sector curriculum with a stronger package of "VET" Units in organic livestock management, strongly connected with EQF and ECVET system.
- Improve the quality of training systems through the development of innovative contents, methods and procedures within VET system.



<http://www.oekolandbau.de/service/informationsmaterien-und-bilder/bildarchiv/>

Main activities

- Creation of a pilot VET curriculum for organic livestock production. This will be a modular curriculum and available in different versions for different target groups.
- Design and implementation of a pilot training course of 80 hours in all partner countries, with the aim of testing the developed curricula.



<http://www.oekolandbau.de/service/informationsmaterien-und-bilder/bildarchiv/>



This project has been funded with support of the European Commission within the Lifelong Learning Programme: LEONARDO DA VINCI Multilateral Projects for Development of innovation. This publication reflects the views only of the author, and the Commission cannot be held responsible for any use which may be made of the information contained therein.

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- Form a "focus group organic livestock" in each partner country with stakeholders from businesses and educational institutions to discuss the actions and results of the project.
- Development of counselling methods to support entry of members of ethnic minorities into organic livestock production.
- Development of an evaluation system to measure the results of training and education that is based on the European evaluation standards in education (EQARF).
- Development of a compendium on educational content and evaluation results.
- Realise a workshop in each of the 6 project partner countries to present the project results and to explain the curricula.
- Creation of videos for the presentation and dissemination of the developed training programmes in the languages of the project partners.
- Creation of a "fan page" for social networks to inform young people, students, teachers, interested citizens on organic livestock production.



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Main results:

- one training and professional VET CURRICULUM
- one pilot training courses experience to run in each Country and two pilot counselling labs through innovative training methods
- an Evaluation and Validation Portfolio
- LivOrg Compendium
- LivOrg Video-Lessons and Trailer to present and promote the benefits of the training programs.



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Partners cooperating in the project

Lead partner:

- **ERIFO - Entre per la Ricerca e la Fromazione (Italy)**:
ERIFO is a non-profit organization, founded in 2000 in Rome. It is a vet provider accredited by the Lazio Region in quality of educational subject. Accredited by the Minister for Public Education for school personnel as vet provider, it counts many relations on the territory and it works jointly with UNCI (National Union of Cooperatives) Lazio on workers' continuous training.
www.erifo.it

Partner

- **EkoConnect e.V. (Germany)**
EkoConnect - International Centre for Organic Agriculture of Central and Eastern Europe e. V. is a charitable non profit organization founded by organic agriculture experts 2003 in Dresden. EkoConnect works for a sustainable growth of the organic agriculture sector throughout Europe with focus on Central and Eastern Europe (CEE).
www.ekoconnect.org
- **ENFAP Toscana (Italy)**
ENFAP Toscana is the Regional Professional Training Agency belonging to the National Trade Union U.I.L. ENFAP is a not-profit organization which has been operating since 1964 throughout Tuscany with a large-scale of activities targeted at professional training, counseling and advocacy.
www.enfap-toscana.org
- **Estonian University of Life Science (Estonia)**
Estonian University of Life Sciences (EMU) is the only university in Estonia whose priorities in academic and research activities provide the sustainable development of natural resources necessary for the existence of Man as well as the preservation of heritage and habitat.
www.emu.ee

- **INFODEF - Institute for the Promotion of Development and Training (Spain)**

INFODEF, Institute for the Promotion of Development and Training, is an institution founded with the intention of providing management services, advisory and consultancy for projects development in the field of professional qualification, local development and promotion of entrepreneurship, knowledge of the socio-economic environment and management of European and International projects.
www.infodef.es

- **MAICh - Mediterranean Agronomic Institute of Chania (Greece)**

The Mediterranean Agronomic Institute of Chania (MAICh) is a constituent institute of the International Centre of Advanced Mediterranean Agronomic Studies (CIHEAM), an intergovernmental organization comprising thirteen member countries from the Mediterranean Basin whose purpose is the development of scientific cooperation by providing post graduate education, research and training in economics, management, and applied biological, technological and environmental sciences related to rural areas.

www.maich.gr

- **IPED - "Institute for the Private Enterprise and Democracy" of the Polish Chamber of Commerce (Poland)**

Foundation "Institute for Private Enterprise and Democracy" was established at the beginning of 1993. It is one of the first independent research institutes in Poland and a leading Polish think tank. The Institute supports market reforms, development of democratic institutions and creation of friendly climate for economic activity by realizing projects, conducting objective researches and analyses, education and preparing recommendations for economic policy.

www.iped.pl



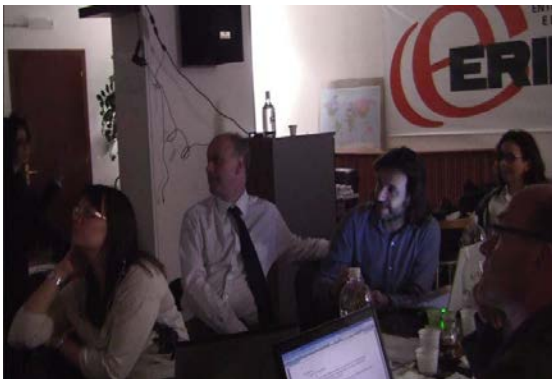
1st Project meeting in ROME - 23rd and 24th January 2014

ERIFO - the coordinator from Rome - hosted the LivOrg partners' first meeting in their premises and welcomed the project partners from Spain, Greece, Poland, Germany and Estonia.

This were two intensive working days where partners, coordinated by ERIFO, discussed about the main objectives of the project, the activities to carry on and the most relevant deadlines. Particular focus was addressed to the role of the organic livestock management activities in European labour market and the chances for the project to facilitate the process of recognition of professionals working in organic livestock production.

The consortium analysed all the work packages (WP) and deliverables that compose the entire project and that will be achieved by the end of the two years, scheduling the proper milestones and deadlines.

During the task analysis, the partners paused to reflect on the message that the project aims to give to the final beneficiaries and stakeholders in each country and at European level. Then, the partners intensively worked on the structure and strategy to organise and realise the pilot courses and laboratories in each national context.



Also some ideas for the logo of the project were presented and the strategy to adopt for an effective and massive dissemination process during the two years of activities. Erifo presented and shared with the partner some documents that will be filled during the next months regarding the management, communication, the quality and the dissemination WP.

Afterwards all financial and administrative aspects to organise during the activities and for the interim report were discussed and shared. At the end, partners agreed that the second meeting will be in Valladolid on 14th and 15th of July.

LivOrg at the 9th Organic Marketing Forum in Warsaw (1st and 2nd June 2014)



The 9th Organic Marketing Forum was held in Warsaw, 1st and 2nd June 2014. The Organic Marketing Forum (OMF) is an international business to business exhibition as well as a networking and training meeting for companies and organisations from Eastern and Western Europe. About 250 Visitors from 20 countries participated in this year's event.

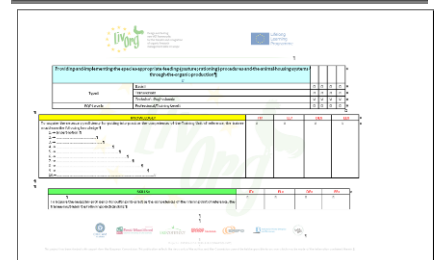
During a short presentation of the activities, LivOrg Project was presented to the international audience by Mr. Bernhard Jansen from EkoConnect (in the picture). In addition, there was an opportunity for interested visitors to get to know more details at the information table in the exhibition hall.

A very significant experience to promote our project across Europe!!

Next Steps

The partners also decided about the work plan for the next deliverable, the WP of implementation, with the following deadlines:

- “A Competency-based Framework about the main thematic areas of the training Units, covering production, processing, certification and safety”.
- For the II meeting in Spain a draft of “training unit and training plan” will be provided and analysed.
- After the II meeting the “Training Programme Toolkit” will be drafted.
- Partners will work to provide the National Pilot editions and Laboratories during the Autumn 2014.
- The Second project meeting will take place in Valladolid, Spain 14 - 15 July 2014 and will be organised by INFODEF.



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