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LIVORG

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

Supporting Sector Skills Alliances



Project n. 539313-LLP-1-2013-1-IT-LEONARDO-LMP

Agreement n°. 2013-4336-/001-001

Building the Organic Farming System in Europe

Organic farming will play an increasingly important role in European agriculture. Further, organic food and farming systems are **highly knowledge-intensive**. Growth of organic production will require measures for training and education in systems-oriented knowledge and techniques

Organic farming is also directly relevant to a series of **EU policy objectives**. By providing a framework for future oriented farming systems, it can and will contribute to the overall **EU 2020 strategy** for a smart, sustainable and inclusive growth towards a greener, more resource-efficient and more competitive economy. It will also contribute to the **EU's Sustainable Development Strategy**.

Organic livestock deliver extra employment benefits since they are more likely to be involved in **business innovation** activities like on-farm processing, marketing and retailing. What makes organic farming unique is that it is a management-based system of producing food, rather than one that is heavily input-based.

The organic **sector is highly innovative** and has produced many smart and green technologies. Approaches and techniques developed within the organic system are often easily transferrable to other food and farming systems. The role of the farmer in Europe is changing, as farmers have to develop new skills to be competitive.



LivOrg innovative VET products

The LivOrg project has developed a sector specific **Curriculum in Organic Livestock Management** with a strong package of “VET” (Vocational Education and Training) Units in organic livestock management tightly connected to the European Qualifications Framework (EQF) and the European Credit system for Vocational Education and Training (ECVET) for the transfer and recognition of organic farmers’ skills in the EU.



The project has developed an **evaluation and validation portfolio**, an innovative system to measure the results of training and education, based on the European evaluation standards in education (EQARF). The portfolio also includes instruments for the recognition and validation of the learning outcomes acquired through the training modules as well as the methodology for appropriate utilization.

The portfolio aims to be a useful instrument to develop and improve the **entrepreneurial skills in organic livestock management in Europe**, supporting lifelong learning strategies for the sector.

The portfolio includes also instruments to encourage the growth of an entrepreneurial spirit with **interethnic and intergenerational approaches** through a transition from conventional agriculture to an organic farming system.

Development Sector Skills Alliances in the Organic Farming System

The LivOrg project aims to increase the awareness of organic livestock management and to extend the **sector skills alliance** in order to meet the sector and policymakers needs in the EU. The aim is to extend the sector skills alliance activities reinforcing the effective cooperation between organic farmers and stakeholders.

LivOrg relies on a multi-actor approach, particularly thanks to: a) strong **networks** between partners and stakeholders; b) the initiatives of LivOrg **strategic networking groups** composed of skill-based members; c) regional, national and European initiatives thematically organized among partners, targets groups and **stakeholders**.

LivOrg promotes **transnational networks for professional, entrepreneurial and training mobility** in the field of organic farming, with particular attention on the professions in organic livestock management. The project is fostering the entrepreneurial-mobility experiences across EU in organic farming system through the **Erasmus for Young Entrepreneurs Programme**, an exchange programme which gives entrepreneurs who intend to start a business, or have recently started one, the chance to learn from experienced owners of small businesses in other EU countries.

