

Context

The Euro-EducATES project exists to develop and disseminate innovative agroecological teaching tools among five partner countries in France, Italy, Lithuania, Slovenia and Austria. The project supports the Europe 2020 strategies, initiated in 2010, aiming at promoting sustainable growth and therefore at protecting the environment and natural resources such as soil, water and biodiversity. Additionally important, the European Common Agricultural Policy entails technical and organizational changes for farms in order to lead farmers to agroecological practices.



Euro-EducATES partner map

Agroecology (AE): “the ecology of food systems”

(Francis, 2003)

AE is a biophysical science focused on ecological aspects of sustainable agriculture transitioning towards recognition of AE as a social movement.

An agroecological transition will rest on the ability of the European educational systems to adjust to the innovations arising from research and development as well as from farmer practices. The diffusion of these developments and practices is important in order to bring about the necessary changes in curricula, teaching methods and pedagogical practices.

Systemic in nature, Agroecology needs new teaching methods focusing on nontraditional systemic and multidisciplinary approaches as well as on observation, experimentation, demonstration and in-the-field case studies.



Euro-EducATES kick-off meeting in France



Discussing soil fertility, Vienna, Austria

The Main Objective:

To professionalize and assist teachers and trainers working in agricultural schools in order to implement the environmental objectives initiated by the European Union.



Erasmus+

Partner Aims:

- to improve existing agricultural training systems and the quality of the training itself,
- to increase and make possible the implementation of innovative practices,
- to enable the various partners to work in an international cooperative environment.



Practicing AE: BOKU Community Garden

Expected results

The partners will develop and disseminate common and innovative educational tools to help teachers and trainers throughout Europe to transmit the essential knowledge and skills for agroecological transition.

Five intellectual outputs of two types will be produced:

- 2 reports: First report compiles an inventory and comparative study of the diversity of agroecological approaches among the partners (coordinated by the Italian partners)
Second report illustrating innovations and changes entailed by agroecology among the partners, based on case studies (coordinated by the Austrian partners)
- 3 educational tools:
 - Written materials (coordinated by the Slovenian partners)
 - Audio-visual materials (coordinated by the French partners)
 - E-learning development tools (coordinated by the Lithuanian partners)



Valley of the Orchids, Italy



Presenting AE in Austria



Group photo in Padula, Italy



“Orti di Sala” in Salerno, Italy