



**WELCOME  
To the 13<sup>th</sup>  
European Academy for Sustainable Rural  
Development**

**"Volunteering and Sustainable Rural  
Development"**

**by**

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President**

## Who we are



- ❖ A network of universities, training organisations, NGOs, research institutes, planning consultancies, local authorities, social partners
- ❖ an interdisciplinary group of individuals,
- ❖ Carrying a commitment to help in a practical way the sustainable development of rural areas through capacity building
- ❖ Having the legal status of a non-profit association set up in the beginning of 2004

## Who do we address

**Individual actors who have a role in rural development.** We help people to increase their knowledge and readiness to take initiatives, learn from others and cooperate with them

- ❖ **Organisations** both within and outside government, responsible for policy making or policy implementation in rural areas. We aim to strengthen their ability to conceive, fund and manage rural development programmes.

## **How do we promote capacity-building of rural development stakeholders?**

- ❖ Exchange of experience**
- ❖ Transfer of good practice**
- ❖ Learning**
- ❖ Networking and cooperation**

## Capacity building activities

- ❖ **Summer Academies** organised annually. Since 2002, 12 summer academies have been successfully held in 9 different countries (SE, GR, PL, HU, FI, ES, IT, SI, EE) focusing on different aspects of rural development
- ❖ **website and social media**
- ❖ **seminars and conferences**
- ❖ **Project – based European-wide partnerships**
- ❖ **Research** on sustainable rural development issues
- ❖ **Publications:** “Thematic Guides” to complement the summer academies; research reports and project reports



## Summer academies

**The Euracademy's approach to capacity building is demonstrated in the summer academies model**



- ❖ Lectures
- ❖ Panels of experts
- ❖ Workgroups
- ❖ Plenary discussions
- ❖ Study trips
- ❖ networking opportunities

## **Integrated approach to rural development**

- considering all the different sides of development and the different routes it can use to achieve a sustainable future:

**Rural Tourism / Information society /  
Diversification of Rural Economies / Social Capital /  
Education and LLL / Culture / Environment /  
Agriculture / Social Innovation / Local Governance /  
Landscape / Creative Industries / Volunteering**



## Research activities and project work

- ❖ Adapted the Euracademy Thematic Guides on Rural Tourism and ICT to the needs of small rural businesses
- ❖ Created an Observatory of ICT- assisted learning in rural areas accessible at [www.euracademy-observatory.org](http://www.euracademy-observatory.org/) / [www.e-ruralnet.eu](http://www.e-ruralnet.eu)
- ❖ Researched the impact of lifelong learning on social inclusion in rural areas [www.ll4inclusion.net](http://www.ll4inclusion.net)
- ❖ Researched the cultural heritage of rural areas (CULT RURAL project) [www.cultrural.net](http://www.cultrural.net)
- ❖ Focused on European policies and especially the ELC aiming to make it better understood by the ordinary people





# **The European Masters Programme for Rural Animators**

## **EMRA**

A two-year MA delivered online by 7 EU universities, utilising the material collected in the summer academies and published in the thematic guides

Starting on 1 December 2014, led by the University of Valencia



**[www.euracademy.org](http://www.euracademy.org)**