

## Summer -Autumn 2024

In the spring and summer of 2024, Euracademy was actively engaged in a range of initiatives. We hosted the 22nd Summer Academy in Rafina and continued our involvement in five EU-funded projects. Our work included participation in partners' and own events aimed at capacity building and advancing sustainability in rural areas across Italy, Spain, Greece, Hungary, Slovenia, Croatia, Montenegro, Poland and Ireland. Euracademy consistently contributed its expertise and resources to these projects, all of which focus on supporting sustainable development throughout Europe. We look forward to sharing more about our experiences during the General Assembly in Gyor this October.

### Summer Academy 2024



The 22nd Summer Academy, held from June 16-20, 2024, in Nea Makri, was a great success. This event was organized in the context of the GOODFOOD project, funded by Erasmus+. The Academy welcomed 44 participants from 8 different countries and focused on the theme "Responsible Food Production and Consumption for a Sustainable Future." This year's event highlighted the important role that families and schools play in shaping young people's food choices and habits. By combining scientific knowledge with practical experience, the programme covered topics like ingredient choices, traditional and new recipes, and the environmental effects of food production. Through workshops, lectures and study trips in local farms and

food-producing businesses in the area, participants learned how urban and rural communities can work together to promote sustainable and fair food practices. The sessions and international cooperation provided valuable insights into how to help school communities and their wider local areas make informed and responsible food decisions. Participants engaged in study trips, visiting various sites related to sustainable food production. Reports and presentations from the Summer Academy provide insights into the integration of sustainable practices in food production, distribution, and consumption, and highlight the critical role of education in promoting sustainability and are available at our [website](#).

### Join us for our 19<sup>th</sup> General Assembly in Gyor!

The Board of Euracademy Association has the pleasure to invite all members of Euracademy to attend the 19th General Assembly to be held in Gyor, Hungary on Thursday 3 October 2024 from 16:00 to 17:30 CET. Online participation of members who cannot take part in the General Assembly face-to-face will be possible following registration in the following [link](#).

## Current Projects Update

### EuroCluster Rural Tourism



[EuroCluster Rural Tourism](https://www.euroclusterruraltourism.eu/en/tools/), launched in September 2022 and supported by COSME, is designed to assist micro and nano SMEs in the tourism sector. Euracademy is currently providing support to 40 rural businesses, offering technical assistance through dedicated local service providers trained under Euracademy's guidance. The focus is on helping 34 rural guesthouses and 6 specialist tour operators enhance their green, digital, and social skills. Support has already been successfully delivered to 6 SMEs in Croatia and 8 in Slovenia, with local final events held in each country, allowing businesses to exchange their experiences. Currently, the project is in its final stages with 5 SMEs in Ireland, 5 in Montenegro, and 14 in Greece receiving assistance. Local

final events are planned for these countries as well. The project will conclude in February 2025, with transnational events organized to ensure its continuity. The second transnational event, held on 17th September, was a great success, with over 80 participating SMEs and ASPs sharing their insights from the support phase. Another event is scheduled for 30th September, where discussions will focus on sustaining the project's impact. Euracademy is also preparing a final report summarizing the lessons learned throughout the project. Additionally, a comprehensive list of beneficiary companies is available on the website, providing full transparency on the businesses supported and the assistance provided. A growing repository of over 100 resources—including publications, case studies, and other materials—on rural tourism has also been created to further assist stakeholders.

<https://www.euroclusterruraltourism.eu/en/tools/>

More info: <https://www.euracademy.org/eururaltourism/>

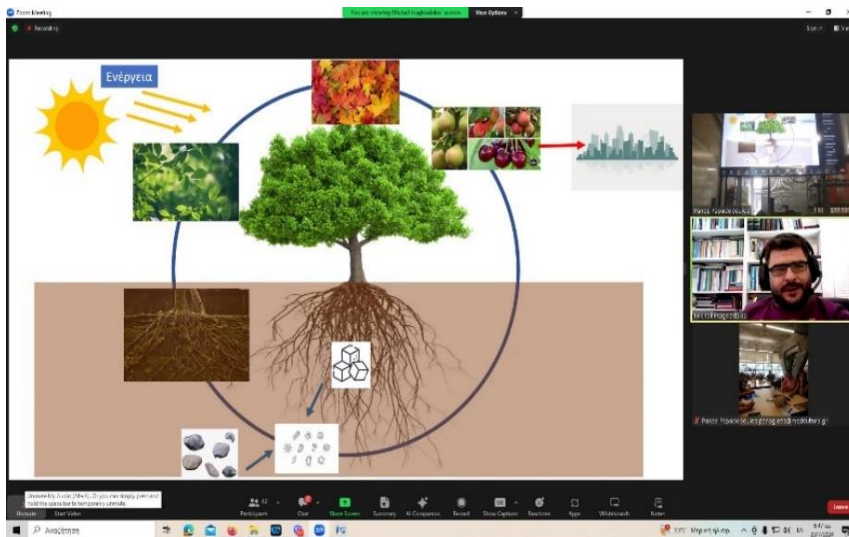
### CO-GREEN



The CO-GREEN project, due for completion in December 2024, focuses on engaging local communities in the co-design and implementation of sustainable practices aligned with the values of the European Green Deal. At the heart of this initiative are local communities and individuals, whose active involvement is key to fostering the adoption of sustainable, practical, and replicable 'green' measures. The project includes 15 events that engage local stakeholders through a variety of formats, including virtual and on-site transnational webinars, workshops, conferences, local seminars, round tables, and focus groups, as well as the International Winter School held in Karditsa last year. These activities aim to inspire community-driven action for

the green transition, with strong appreciation and support from citizens. Euracademy Association, in collaboration with the Municipality of Karditsa, organized 11 events up until September 2024, including 8 on-site and 3 online, with a total of 300 participants. Similar events were held across 8 other communities in Poland, Italy, and Croatia, which are also part of the project. Additionally, a specialist 40-hour training was conducted for 20 participants, resulting in the development of two comprehensive project proposals focused on green initiatives that the Karditsa community can implement to tackle real-world challenges. More info: <https://www.euracademy.org/co-green/>

## REGINA Project



REGINA Project started in November 2021 and is an Erasmus+ Cooperation partnership project in the universities strand. During the last 3 years, with the active involvement of Euracademy Association, the project effectively promoted Regenerative Agriculture (RA) principles and practices throughout Europe by conducting comprehensive research and establishing a Library of Good Practices. This library, developed through

national surveys in five countries, serves as a valuable resource for understanding RA's development and identifying obstacles to its advancement. Additionally, the project successfully completed the development of innovative, flexible educational methodologies and modules tailored for higher education, secondary education, and informal adult education, including targeted programs for farmers (delivered by Euracademy). A key achievement was the creation of the REGINA online interactive platform, which hosts the developed educational materials and facilitates interaction among educators, students, and other users. The platform supports interdisciplinary learning and experience sharing across different educational levels. Pilot testing in different educational settings validated the effectiveness of the educational content, leading to its adaptation for various contexts. Furthermore, a comprehensive Guidebook on RA educational content (edited by Euracademy) is under construction, ensuring the project can be sustained and expanded across diverse learning environments. More info: <https://www.euracademy.org/regina/>



## GOODFOOD



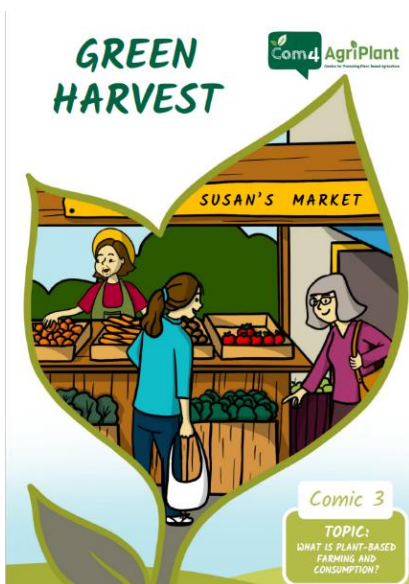
### GOODFOOD – Education to become responsible food consumers

is an Erasmus+ Cooperation partnership project on school education, based on the cooperation of research centres, academic institutes and secondary education schools from 3 Mediterranean countries – Greece, Italy and Spain. The project aims to develop an innovative learning methodology, tools and material to help schools introduce the theme of healthy and sustainable eating, and to help create an active community of stakeholders to raise awareness and promote responsible school education on the theme of

GOODFOOD. After 2,5 years of implementation the project is entering its final stage, having produced valuable learning resources for secondary school education: The GOODFOOD Learning Methodology based on the Inquiry-Based Learning approach and the STEAM framework, and 11 Learning Units dedicated to a range of topics under 4 themes (Sustainable Food Production, Sustainable Food Supply and Food Selection, Sustainable food waste management, and Nutritious and Healthy Food Consumption). During the last year the methodology and learning units were pilot-tested in secondary schools in each country, and the findings have been incorporated into the GOODFOOD Methodology Handbook that provides guidance to teachers wishing to integrate GOODFOOD learning into their work at school. The students in each country have also created sustainable and healthy recipes gathered in the GOODFOOD Recipes Handbook. Finally, a European GOODFOOD Video Competition was launched, inviting students around Europe to develop a short video dedicated to any of the 4 themes. There were 23 entries in total with inspiring videos, and the Winners of the team “Genius Hub” from the school IES El Bohío (Cartagena, Spain) were announced at the GOODFOOD International Conference.

More info: <https://www.euracademy.org/goodfood/>

## Com4AgriPlant



### Com4AgriPlant - Comics for Promoting Plant-Based Agriculture

is an Erasmus+ cooperation project on adult education bringing together six partners from five European countries (Slovenia, Greece, Italy, Spain and Lithuania), aiming to create an open and alternative adult learning pathway on plant-based agriculture and consumption through the use of comics and graphic novels. During the past year the partnership has produced a Learning Methodology for integrating comics in adult education on the themes of plant-based farming and plant-based diets. Moreover, the partnership has developed a learning toolkit including learning content on 5 main themes: What is plant-based farming and consumption, What is plant-based nutrition, Sustainable plant-based farming, Plant-based farming in action, and Marketing of plant-based products. The learning content is accompanied by 30

Comics – 6 per topic – designed to stimulate interest and discussion among the learners. Currently the comics and learning material are being translated to all project languages (SI, GR, IT, ES, LT). The next stage of the project foresees the development of a training course for adult education, led by Euracademy. The training course and the learning toolkit will be pilot-tested following an online train-the-trainers seminar. More info: <https://www.euracademy.org/com4agriplant/>

## Other news

### **REGINA International Webinar (30<sup>th</sup> September 2024)**

The REGINA Erasmus+ Regenerative Agriculture International Webinar is due to take place on Monday, September 30<sup>th</sup>, 2024, from 12:30 pm to 1:30 pm (CET). This online webinar, led by academic experts and European project partners, presents the outcomes of the REGINA Erasmus+ project, including a new online learning platform and a best practice library focused on regenerative agriculture. The event highlights four newly developed modules designed to promote sustainable farming practices, which enhance soil health, increase biodiversity, and improve ecosystem resilience. These modules are freely accessible and tailored for use in higher education, secondary vocational training, and by practitioners. Experts from Hungary, Slovenia, and Italy will provide detailed insights into the educational resources and their practical applications in regenerative agriculture. Registration to the event is available at the following link: [www.secad.ie/news/regenerative-agriculture-international-webinar](http://www.secad.ie/news/regenerative-agriculture-international-webinar)

### **REGINA International Conference in Győr, Hungary (3<sup>rd</sup> October 2024)**

The REGINA International Conference, organized as the final event of the Erasmus+ REGINA project, will take place at Széchenyi István University in Győr, and aims to present the project's results while fostering discussions on the role of regenerative agriculture in mitigating climate change. This event will bring together a diverse group of stakeholders, including academics, researchers, educators, and students, to exchange views, policies, and best practices. The conference will focus on how regenerative agriculture, an innovative approach to sustainable farming, can restore biodiversity, enhance soil health, and reduce pollution. The program includes keynote speeches by experts Abdul M. Mouazen from Ghent University, discussing precision farming technologies, and Wojciech Kniec from Nicolaus Copernicus University, who will explore the social aspects of regenerative agriculture. Panel discussions will cover both theoretical and practical aspects of regenerative agriculture, with sessions on education and farmer experiences. Highlights include presentations of the REGINA project's educational materials and pilot testing results, followed by a panel with farmers sharing their real-world applications of regenerative practices. Registration to the event is available at the following link: [Regina International Conference registration.](#)