



ProAgriCulture

CALL FOR PARTICIPANTS

TRAINING COURSE

**“ProAgriCulture: Engaging Youth towards
professional Agriculture”**

**21 – 27 May 2018
Thessaloniki, Greece**

THE PROJECT

“ProAgriCulture: ENGAGING YOUTH TOWARDS PROFESSIONAL AGRICULTURE”

The basic idea of the project is the observation that there is a tendency for young people living in urban areas to take the important life decision to move to rural areas and to engage professionally in agriculture. This decision of young people is based on the fact that they themselves are in the most productive phase of their lives, have an appetite to work and create, but the unemployment rates among young people are particularly high. As a result, young people are frustrated by city life and looking for alternative solutions, professionally and to improve their quality of life.

Therefore, many young people seek to build their future in the countryside, changing their professional orientation and dedicating their creativity and energy to engaging in agriculture. Many have managed to create healthy agricultural businesses with enviable export activity. A common feature of these young professional farmers is their constant search for vocational training. In other words, they believe in the power of continuing training and education as they get informed, learn and apply the new knowledge they acquire in their businesses.

The Project focuses on the need to provide primary vocational education to young people wishing to professionally turn to agriculture through Youth Workers training. We believe that the higher the level of professional education, the greater the professional success which is also true in the field of agriculture.

OBJECTIVES OF THE PROJECT

1. Provide primary vocational training (non-formal) to young people oriented to their occupation with agriculture, at a professional level,
2. Give Youth Workers the information they need about agricultural entrepreneurship and inform them properly about what it means to be an entrepreneur in a rural area, but also about the formal obligations of an entrepreneur,
3. To bring Youth Workers into contact with successful agricultural practitioners so that they themselves can see that there is also a professional way out and can become profitable and successful,
4. To give Youth Workers the opportunity to broaden their network of acquaintances,
5. Strengthen the contact between different business cultures between partners and contact with different business environments,
6. Empower young people who are a population group affected by the effects of the economic crisis.

NEEDS WE SEEK TO ADDRESS

A. Lack of useful information: It has been observed that most young people have knowledge about agricultural entrepreneurship, both about how to set up such a business from the legal and tax point of view and from practical management and administration issues. On the other hand, they have difficulty collecting information either because they do not know where to go first and where to start their search, or because taking legal and accounting services is costly and they cannot cover it,

B. Primary Education in Agricultural Entrepreneurship: there is a particular fear of undertaking professional initiatives to set up their own business among young people, which is growing when we are talking about an activity based on the elements of nature. This fear is cultivated: a) by SMEs bombarding the public with news about the economic crisis and unfavorable tax policies for entrepreneurs, b) the social and family environment which in most cases discourages rather than encourages a young person to work as an entrepreneur and (c) the ignorance of young people on business patterns and business practices, on management and marketing tools, on methods of network development, etc. Our goal here is to provide young people with a clear information, education and training on business practices in agriculture, methods of administration and organization, promotion and development of networks and methods crisis management.

C. Establishing Business Relationships: Another issue we seek to address is the lack of primary business partnerships. Many young people are reluctant to enter the business arena because they have no professional relationships and partnerships that will make them useful in their first steps. The existence of a supportive grid is an important factor for taking initiatives and for activating young people because they feel more secure when they know that there are people they can reach when they are in a confusing situation and get counseling, psychological support, get an opinion, etc.

THE TRAINING COURSE

The TC is structured in such a way that it includes a variety of experiential non-formal learning activities so that youth workers deepen into professional agriculture and acquire the knowledge and methods of engaging to the youth in the field of agricultural entrepreneurship. The goal is to create a seminar plan, learning and dissemination material on professional agriculture.

Participants, through the training activities are expected to understand and embrace the reasons that lead young people to practice agricultural entrepreneurship and their tendency to move from urban areas to the countryside. The objectives are achieved through appropriate activities that enable participants to develop critical competence, express and deepen on the topic, and then be able to work with young people, identify skills and competencies related to entrepreneurship and present agriculture as a new business outlet.

PROFILE OF THE PARTICIPANTS

- Youth Workers, people working in youth organizations,
- Interested to increase their competences, to acquire new skills to better respond to the new youth scenario and to increase their knowledge on the project's topics,
- Have a plan on how to use in the future the knowledge they will gain from their participation in the Project,
- Able to interact fluently in English,
- Have good command of internet and computer skills,
- Able to attend the course in its full duration (it will not be possible to arrive later or to leave the training before the end of the activity).

PARTICIPATING ORGANISATIONS

PARTNER	COUNTRY	WEBSITE
Social Innovation & Cohesion Institute	Greece	www.fifty-fifty.gr
Kulturno Izobrazevalno Drustvo Pina	Slovenia	www.pina.si

SOCIAL INNOVATION & COHESION INSTITUTE FIFTY – FIFTY



Fifty – Fifty is a Non – Profit Organisation based in Thessaloniki, Greece, which is active in the field of youth. It was established in 2015 by a group of young individuals to help individuals, communities and institutions to develop their skills, improve their performance and share knowledge in order to be able to meet the challenges of society and thus contribute actively to the development of a European area

of skills and qualifications. Our goal is to promote lifelong learning and initiatives of transnational orientation, specifically addressed to young people, adult learners and professionals, through non-formal education. Our main vision is to develop innovation to be implemented at the level of civil society and therefore contribute to social cohesion.

EXPECTED COMMITMENT AND WORKING METHODOLOGY

The working methodology used will be based on non – formal education process. There will be a combination of non – formal education methods, based on participatory approach where all participants will contribute with their experiences, expertise and backgrounds. Case Studies will be discussed, simulation games and role playing, group discussions and reflection, as well as open air activities and study visits will be conducted.

The TC will be led by 2 trainers, together with guest speakers who will enrich the training programme.

LOCATION, TRAINING FACILITIES AND ACCOMMODATION



The activity will take place in Thessaloniki which is the second largest city of Greece, a unique city of different cultures and civilizations, it will offer you a wonderful experience. Training will take place in Fifty – Fifty's new offices in the city center (**51, Proxenou Koromila, str, PC: 54622**). There is a large, fully equipped seminar room along with all necessary facilities to host a training course. In May, the weather is pretty lovely in Thessaloniki which allows open air activities to be held in the recently renovated sea front of Thessaloniki. Large open air spaces allow training activities.

Accommodation will be in a hotel/hostel in the city center, in shared rooms with a private bathroom per room. Each room will have maximum 2 people.



TRAVEL ARRANGEMENTS, REIMBURSEMENT CONDITIONS AND OTHER COSTS

Travel

Fifty – Fifty will prepare a pre – departure **InfoPack** with project details, practical information for the city of Thessaloniki, directions on how to reach the TC venue and your hotel. Fifty – Fifty will arrange accommodation, meals and free time activities and also will help the participants with their travel arrangement.

Arrival date: 20th May 2018 - Departure date: 28th May 2018

Any expenses that may occur before and after the training will be at the participants' responsibility and their own expense.

Travel Tickets & Reimbursement

We encourage participants to buy all the tickets online (do not use travel agencies, as cash payments are not allowed) and always make online check-in where possible. This will speed up the reimbursement process and is more environmentally friendly.

**All tickets should be sent before the project to
lisa@fifty-fifty and john@fifty-fifty.gr
for approval**

Reimbursement of travel costs can be done as soon as we have all original documents from participants and participants have carried out follow-up activities. Fifty - Fifty will make bank transfers following receive of necessary:

Documents which are needed:

- Original invoice of the flight ticket, it should be in English and amounts in Euros (if possible). Please book your tickets in travel sites where you can get the documents in English,
- Bank statement of the payment or credit card slip,
- Boarding passes (very important) from your journey to Greece and from your journey back (electronic versions, please make online check-in),
- Flight tickets with travel times (travel itinerary),
- Bus/train tickets to/from the airport,
- If luggage is not included in plane tickets, try to add it right away while buying the tickets online,
- Use of taxi / personal car will not be reimbursed.

**Participants are requested to hand in Boarding Passes
and any relevant receipts to the Hosting Organisation (Fifty – Fifty)
by the end of the training course**

All participants are required to issue a European Health Insurance Card

You can find information on the European health Insurance Card here <http://ec.europa.eu/social/main.jsp?catId=653&langId=en>

WHERE AND WHEN TO APPLY

All interested participants may fill the **Application form** which is available [here](#) to participate in the training course by **15th April 2018**.

For further information please contact:

Fifty – Fifty

Email: lisa@fifty-fifty.gr
Email: Vicky@fifty-fifty.gr

www.fifty-fifty.gr

Facebook: Social Innovation & Cohesion
Institute - Fifty

T. +30 2310 433434

PiNA

Email: terminal@pina.si

www.pina.si

Facebook: facebook.com/kid.pina

T. +386 (0)5 63 00 320