





GEO ERGON PAIDEIA "START UP FARM: SKILLS FOR FUTURE ECO FARMERS"

PROJECT CODE: 2016-1-EL01-KA201-023601

DURATION: 24 MONTHS: 01/9/2016-31/8/2018

COURSE DESCRIPTION SUSTAINABLE RURAL LANDS







Authors:

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Revision History

Revised by	Date	Revision Control	Revision Reason
Demetris F. Lekkas	01/03/2017	1st Draft Version	Additional Information & Corrections
Demetris F. Lekkas	30/03/2017	Final Version	



















Course title: Sustainable Rural Lands

Name of trainer: Demetris F. Lekkas

Aim / Purpose

The purpose of the course is to highlight on the need for sustainability during the design and implementation of an agricultural business plan. Environmental and financial considerations must go together for the wellbeing of both the farmer and its capital.

Objectives

- Explanation of the term "Sustainable Agriculture". We aim to show to the students the importance of organizing their investment according to some main restrictions which have to do with water requirements, energy consumption, land use, quality of end product, habitat protection.
- Development and support of group-based businesses is a strategy for increasing the economic viability of farm operations and enhance the quality of life for farmers and society as a whole.
- Understand the need to be a part in a "Circular Economy". Food production is only a hoop in a chain that links with other items like, processing, distribution, retail and market, consumption and waste recovery.
- Focus on the practices of "Organic Farming" so as to protect and renew the natural environment, build local economies, enhance the quality of life of farmers and farm workers.



















Course Content Options

Environmental considerations

- Definition of the term "Water Footprint"
- Definition of the term "CO2 Footprint"
- Use of pesticides and fertilizers
- Organic farming practices

Financial considerations

- Land requirements
- Water requirements
- Fuel requirements
- Capital investment
- Enhancing farmers' skills
- Marketing
- Added value to local economy

Success stories

- Examples from local and international good practices

Methodology

Teaching and Learning Methods

The course is based on the principles and learning methods of nonformal education and informal learning and includes a wide range of interactive, participatory and creative activities. Presentations, video projections, team-working activities, open group discussions and evaluation will be combined in order to achieve the highest participation of the students, the development of knowledge and the exchange of



















information, ideas and experiences connected to the thematic field of the course.

Teaching Materials

- Articles
- Books
- Videos
- Previous knowledge
- Slides
- Projector
- Flip chart paper
- Pens and markers
- Sticky Notes

Teaching - Student Assessment

Oral Open Group Discussion

- Feedback
- Evaluation

At the end of the course, students along with the educator will participate in an open group discussion where they will give feedback on the concluded activities and the learning outcomes. The educator will pose questions, will resolve any queries and will provide clarifications to the students if needed.

Flow Chart of Teaching

The duration of the course will last for three (3) hours. The educator will manage time and keep balance between the slides/presentations, the videos and the open-group discussions.











