

Promising results for the 1st training session organised by the Agroforestry-MM project - "Teaching to produce differently"

From 18 to 22 April 2016, the first week of training for the Agroforestry-MM project was held, bringing the future project instructors together to the Vocational Training Centre of Die in France. These four full days of training included presentations on agroforestry and the results of the AgroFE project, and workshops on project teaching tools, as well as activities and participatory workshops. The project coordinator, Helen Coché of AgroSup Eduter-Dijon, stated **"We have provided instructors with methodological, technological and digital tools, which allow them to develop training methods appropriate to agricultural stakeholders and above all to communicate internally and externally on the project"**. Indeed, each agricultural plot is unique and it is therefore necessary that instructors adapt their lessons on a case by case basis as farmers and foresters do not all face the same challenges. The project offers three types of training for agricultural actors: a few hours training for beginners, basic training courses and longer training courses in order to acquire in-depth knowledge, and also training to become an instructor.

The training may take place either face to face or remotely using tools which can be made available on the Moodle platform, such as videos and virtual classrooms. Participants were able to discover the pedagogical scenario tools including Opal and Prezi, and tools for undertaking a monitoring exercise on a given topic (scoop it). Furthermore, they learnt about some mapping tools along with the use of drones in precision agriculture. They were also able to try out video and sound recording, and they worked together to develop a comprehensive farm questionnaire along with a technical questionnaire. These completed tasks were put to use during the visit to the holdings of a winemaker who had begun an agroforestry project in his vineyards. The instructors can now develop training programs which they will develop in their respective countries over the coming months.

"Teaching to produce differently" is the objective of these training programs. However, the changing of attitudes and working methods is a task which takes time. It is for this reason that the Agroforestry-MM project encourages agricultural stakeholders to work together through special interest groups on matters such as agricultural conservation. Moreover, not only is this project directed to farmers and foresters: it also has a willingness to promote agroforestry among consumers by supporting sustainable agriculture and food sovereignty through reducing the use of pesticides and antibiotics, the development of beekeeping, the reduction of livestock waste, and the restoration of biodiversity. Agroforestry is a solution for the development of sustainable agriculture, allowing us to meet the food challenges that we will face from now until 2050.



Over a period of 3 years, the Agroforestry-MM project: "Training in Agroforestry - Mediterranean – Semi-Arid Zones – Mountain" aims to:

- **Train between 130 and 150 agricultural professionals** in Europe
- **Improve and develop the education tools** which will allow the agroforestry training to be long-lasting
- **Develop a unique agroforestry qualification program** in each European country



Project coordinators

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This project has been funded with support from the European Commission. This publication reflects the author and the Commission is not responsible for any use that may be made of the information contained therein.