

LeadFarm

Improving cooperatives through a new and innovative young farmer leadership

LeadFarm Newsletter #3 - July 2019

Project Overview

The LeadFarm project is developing a flexible training system to support young farmers in developing their Farm Business Skills and to promote co-operative culture and values to provide a better understanding of the co-operative to the young farmers, thus increasing their level of involvement and commitment in co-operatives.

The project also aims to promote gender balance in co-operative's board of directors and other co-operative bodies.

Besides, the project will review the communications and engagement structures with young farmers to establish the best way to engage with young farmers going forward.

The project started in October 2017 and will last for a total of 24 months. The consortium is made up of five partners from different EU countries.

The co-ordinator of the project is the Irish Co-operative Organisation Society Ltd.

For further information on the project, please visit www.leadfarm.eu or contact us by email on info@leadfarm.eu

Project Partners



@leadfarm.project



@LeadFarmCoop

Blended mobilities

Within the framework of the co-operative learning process, two trans-national blended mobilities have been implemented. Three young farmers (women and men) from Ireland, Latvia, France and Spain have participated in two learning trips to France and Spain.

The first one was held in France (February 2019), which is a country with high involvement of young farmers in agricultural co-operatives. The host partner, Services Coop de France, organised five days full of activities.

The training started with a complete explanation on French co-operatives structure, key figures, types of agricultural co-operatives, legal framework, organisation of representative bodies, and examples of success.

The following days, the participants visited some attractive co-ops, such as *Invivo*, an internationally oriented co-op and highly digital-oriented. *Advitam Group*, which covers the entire value chain of seed production to the distribution of finished products, also focusing their policy towards co-operative's

young members. *La REcyclerie*, one of the biggest urban farms in Paris. Finally, the group had a meeting with the union of young farmers *Jeunes Agriculteurs*, which represents the interests of young farmers in France.

In June 2019, Agaca hosted the mobility in Galicia, Spain, which is a region with high participation of women in co-operatives.

During five days, our young farmers learnt about Social Economy and the co-operative movement in Galicia/Spain and also on agri-food co-operatives.

They met co-operatives' board of directors members and young farmers in several agricultural societies and farms, such as *Horsal*, one of the largest companies in vegetable production in Galicia, with a high percentage of young members and women, also on the board of directors.

Pazo Baión, owned by co-op Condes de Albarei co-operative society. This is an excellent example of best practices on social responsibility, among other several aspects. Condes de Albarei is a wine co-op, whose

president is a woman.

O Rodo, a multisectoral agricultural co-op, which provides several services to its members, as machinery services on a co-op basis, among others. They also visited *Casa do Rei SC*, a dairy and poultry farm run by a young farmer, who also is a member of the co-op *O Rodo*.

SAT O Chope, a dairy and swine farm which arose from the union of two family farms. Its representative talked on generational renewal and also on their plan to improve the farm's efficiency by respecting the environment, meanwhile using new tech.].

Finally, the group knew *Tenera Gallega* -Galician veal Protected Geographical Indication and, at present, named leading beef meat in Spain, both quantitative and above all qualitatively.

Advitam Co-operative Group. France. February 2019



Horsal Co-operative. Spain. June 2019



3rd Trans-National Meeting

The 3rd Transnational meeting of the project took place from 25th to 26th March 2019 in Paris. Services Coop de France hosted the meeting.

The core focus was dedicated to operational implementation, progress on deliverables and project management.

The next steering committee meeting will be the last one. Stay tuned! Dublin, July 2019.

Pilot Training Sessions

The pilot training sessions within the LeadFarm project are events held in Ireland, France, Latvia and Spain to promote, disseminate and test the previously developed training contents on Basic farm management and Co-operative culture and values, serious games, and also the IT platform to support learning among groups of potential end-users, such as young farmers (women and men) or many other stakeholders.

The pilot training sessions were

carried out during May, June and July 2019. A total of four events were implemented, one per country.

The feedback received has been remarkable, since the participants did like the idea of using serious games and blended learning approach, i.e., in-classroom lessons together with access to the IT platform.



Training pilot session. Spain. June 2019.



Training pilot session. Latvia. June 2019.

GDPR Compliance

As of 25 May 2018, the EU General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) is in effect. Our newsletters are sent by email to make you aware of how the LeadFarm project is progressing. If you're happy with the emails you receive from us, you do not need to take any action. We will continue to send email updates to keep you informed about the LeadFarm project. If you no longer wish to receive these emails, please email info@leadfarm.eu and we will remove your email address immediately from our mailing list.

If you have questions regarding your data, please contact the Project Coordinator at billy.goodburn@icos.ie