



DEMETER

Developing Interdisciplinary Methodologies In Education Through
Enhanced Relationships Between Schools And Farms



Vänersborgs kommun



Some Information

European Programme	Erasmus+ Key Action 2 project – Development of innovation in the field of school education
Length	3 years (September 2018/august 2021)
Budget	308.672,00 €
Promoter	Vänerns borg Municipality
Partners	Husshållningsäskapet Väst (SE) SERN (IT) Municipality of Bertinoro (IT) Università Milano Bicocca (IT) Collegio do Sardo (PT) The soil association (UK) Washingborough Academy (UK)



Background

“Skills-related memories are harder to forget, cognitive memories from the classroom are more likely to be forgotten”.

CHALLENGES

- To link more effectively the curriculum with learning experiences outdoor
- Farms are a source of potential learning not yet sufficiently valorised
- Learning activities regarding agriculture or food education are not well structured (one shot).
- Farmers and teachers do not speak the same language when it comes to pedagogy.

Objectives

The general objective of DEMETER is to improve the quality of school education through an increased collaboration between schools and farms.

SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES

1. To increase the integration of farm/food-related experiences in the school curriculum in the framework of a wider path of education toward food, respect for the environment and health
2. To improve the competences of school teachers and operators in the agricultural business by exchanging, consolidating and developing teaching methodologies
3. To create synergies among the actors of the community (schools, local authorities, business and researchers) for the improvement of school education



Expected Results

- Teaching methodology based on the concept of interdisciplinarity
- Increased participation of pupils, and motivation in learning
- More opportunities of collaboration between schools and farms
- Improved coordination and collaboration between teachers in different subjects
- Raised awareness in decision makers
- Better integration of activities with farms in the curricula
- Increased competences in teachers and farmers/operators in the agrifood sector.



Target Groups

The main target groups which will benefit from the project's results will be:

- Pupils
- Families
- Teachers
- schools' staff
- Civil servants
- decision makers
- Farmers and association of farmers
- Business actors

To be reached through a dissemination and valorisation strategy

Project Outputs

The partners of DEMETER will produce at the end of the project 2 products:



**interdisciplinary methodology
based on the best practices
related to agriculture and food
education**



**Guidelines for facilitating the
collaboration with farmers
and the use of the
methodology**

Interdisciplinary methodology



Composed of best practices
from 4 countries that are
“ready to be used”



Containing practices from
different subjects, including
food and health education



Linked with the common learning
Outcomes of the different countries



Demeter Guidelines



Prerequisites (legal and practical aspects)



Step by step guide on how to set up a collaboration with farms



Quality indicators



Financial sustainability for schools and farmers

Activities 2018/2019

- 1st transnational project meeting in Vänersborg
- Literature review
- 2nd transnational project meeting in Lincoln
- Collection of practices
- 3rd transnational project meeting in Parma
- Internal testing of the practices collected
Development of the methodology



Activities 2020/2021

○ Prototype of the methodology

○ Training seminar with teachers and farmers

○ Testing phase open to stakeholders

○ Development of the guidelines

○ Finalisation of the products on the basis of the stakeholders' feedback

○ Multiplier events

