

SmartFarmer

"Improving skills for smartfarming as an innovative tool for rural development and economic growth"

Newsletter6



Pilot Training Workshop: Countries Evaluation Report

Purpose and Scope

The testing and evaluation activities of WP5 were organised on the basis of pilot training workshops to ensure the comparability of results in the different project countries.

The aim of the pilot workshop was an overall evaluation by the beneficiaries of the SmartFarmer's products (training material and e-learning platform).

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Methods

During 23/5 – 6/7/2015 partners organised a workshop and made a show case of e-platform teaching and giving feedback in each partner country. The total number of participants of the pilot training ranged between 20-26 participants per partner country (Cyprus: 26, Portugal: 23, Spain: 22, Latvia: 21, Greece: 20). The target groups consisted of superfoods farmers and organic farmers, agriculture entrepreneurs, managers and staff of agro-production SMEs, and potential farmers. Partners were free to run their pilot training on any of the groups indicated above, be it just one group or a mix of them.

After the testing of Smartfarmer programme, each partner country, based on evaluation forms, made a report in order to have comparable information from all the countries for the synthesis report. For the evaluation purpose, questionnaires for the trainers and trainees were designed. The proposed evaluation criteria were: overall satisfaction, meeting training objectives, application in everyday work, easiness to use the platform and possibilities for expansion and sustainability (suggest links, further readings, recommendations to others, etc.).



Basic results of the Synthesis Report

The results showed that the SmartFarmer workshop satisfied all the countries' participants who gained important knowledge on smartfood issues. In particular, the participants felt that in general the SmartFarmer workshop met their personal learning objectives / expectations at a moderate to a large extent. Additionally, according to all trainees the SmartFarmer e-learning

platform is a very useful and easy tool that they could apply in their daily lives. Finally, the organization of the SmartFarmer workshop was regarded as very good, as well as the trainer(s)' knowledge and abilities.

On the other hand, most trainers were satisfied with the trainees' background and participation.

Next Steps

On 26th – 27th October 2015 the final conference of the project is going to be held in Cyprus (Limassol). An official announcement will follow soon.

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