

## Facilitating entrepreneurship and improving skills of NEETs living in rural areas

# NEWSLETTER

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eNEET Rural project benefits from a € 1.5 million grant from Iceland, Liechtenstein and Norway through the EEA and Norway Grants Fund for Youth Employment

[www.eneet-project.eu](http://www.eneet-project.eu)

## INTRODUCTION

**WHY?** In many rural areas of Europe there are few job opportunities. Youth unemployment is high, and many young people, who have dropped out of school, are low-skilled and face difficulties in getting a job.

This is especially true for the disabled and those belonging to ethnic minorities, who face discrimination from education and employers.

**WHAT?** The project will focus on innovation and technology in the agricultural sector in order to create a Toolkit for young people, who are no longer in the education system, not working or being trained for work (NEETs). The Toolkit will include online and on-the-spot trainings, youth competition, staff exchange and mentoring services.

**WHERE?** The geographical coverage of the project:

- Territorially, it covers eNEET Rural partnering countries: Bulgaria, Hungary, Italy, Romania, Slovenia and Spain;
- Bilaterally it includes partnering countries such as Bulgaria-Greece, Romania-Latvia, Spain-Portugal, Hungary-Slovakia, Slovenia-Croatia and Italy-Malta.

- Center for the Development of the Structural Funds Romania (CPDIS), [www.cpdis.ro](http://www.cpdis.ro)
- Business Research Association National Agrofood Technological Center, Extremadura (CTAEX), [www.ctaex.com](http://www.ctaex.com)
- Fruto Consulting Ltd (FRUTO), [www.fruto.eu](http://www.fruto.eu)
- STYRIAN TECHNOLOGY PARK – Business Support Centre and Incubator & Regional Centre for Technology Development (STP), [www.stp.si](http://www.stp.si)
- Mantuan Oltrepò Consortium (COM), [www.oltrepomantovano.eu](http://www.oltrepomantovano.eu)
- Inclusion AS, [www.inclusion.no](http://www.inclusion.no)



|                        |    |
|------------------------|----|
| Our events, courses    | 3  |
| News                   | 13 |
| Future relevant events | 14 |
| Contact                | 15 |

## OUR EVENTS, COURSES

**Do not miss our e-NEET Rural e-learning courses!!!!**

**Our elearning courses are still running and widely circulated among NEETs with interest to improve their soft skills and knowledge on agriculture**

Iceland  
Liechtenstein  
Norway grants

Norway  
grants

# eNEET Rural

Facilitating entrepreneurship and improving skills of NEETs living in rural areas

[www.eneet-project.eu](http://www.eneet-project.eu)


We are really happy to announce the release of our **new soft-skills and agro-professional online courses for unemployed youth** who are no longer in the education system and not working or being trained for work.


If you are over 25 but not yet 30 you can join our free online trainings which will help you to successfully develop your **personal skills from beginner to advanced level**.

Browse through the brief intro of our courses available in Bulgarian, English, Hungarian, Italian, Romanian, Slovenian and Spanish to find the best ones for you:

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The Soft-Skills **BASIC** Training Path is aimed at those NEETs, who do not have a secondary school diploma and therefore are non-graduates, but that wish to enter the job market. These step-by-step training materials guide NEETs through different subjects and topics, which apply to all kinds of job environments and places. Thanks to them, at the end of this training path the NEET is expected to be more competitive on the job market, as he/she would have acquired the most essential communication skills, which are very important for any job position. NEETs are expected to acquire all those competences, which facilitate their integration in the work environment, especially on how they should relate with co-workers, as well as all those productivity and problem-solving skills, needed to success master every day's tasks.





The Soft-Skills **ADVANCED** Training Path is aimed at those NEETs, who do not have a secondary school diploma and therefore are non-graduates, but that wish to enter the job market and therefore need to acquire all of the most essential soft-skills. These step-by-step training materials guide NEETs through different subjects and topics, which apply to all kinds of job environments and places. Thanks to them, at the end of this training path the NEET is expected to be more competitive on the job market, as he/she would have acquired the most essential communication skills, which are very important for any job position. Contrary to the BASIC training path, this **ADVANCED** path prepares NEETs in becoming more competent when it comes to leadership. It is especially designed for those who wish not only to acquire the basic skills, but also to be able to step over the productivity boundaries in order to bring some new inputs, ideas and opportunities to their company/organisation.



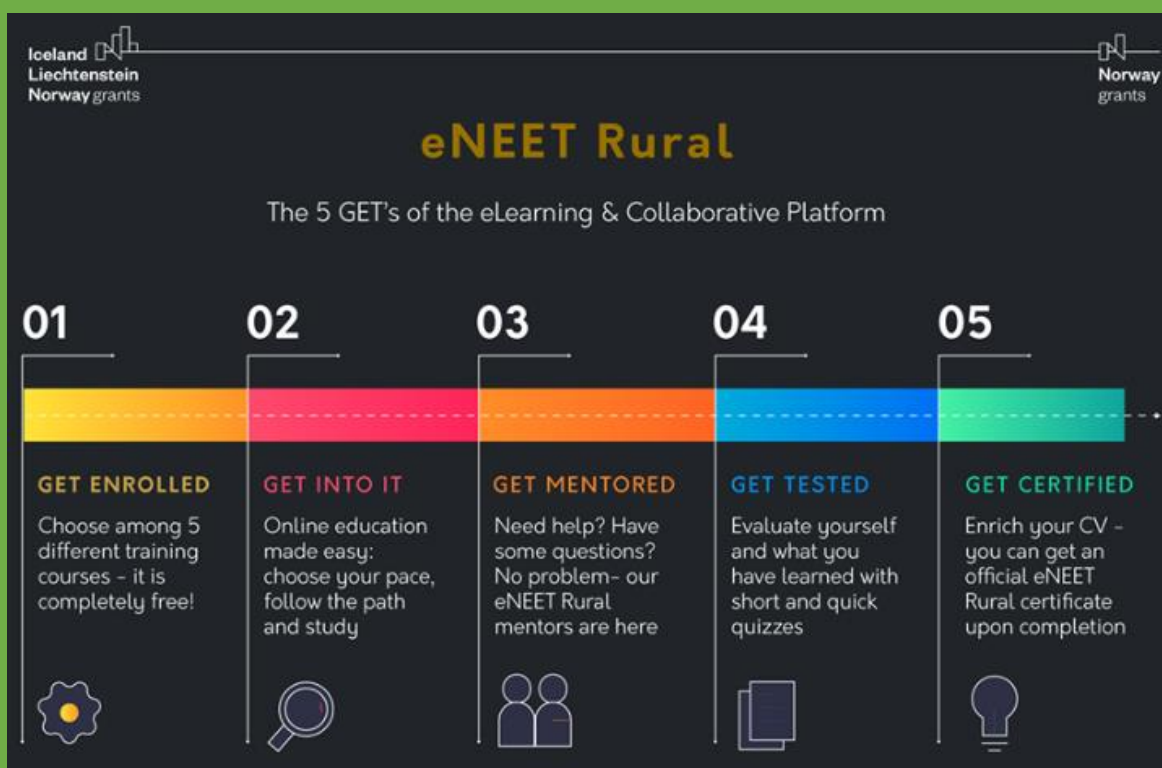
## OUR EVENTS, COURSES

While eNEET Rural on-the-spot trainings are restarting - if you are an unemployed youth why not start with one of our online courses in parallel?

Register today: <https://www.eneet-elearning.eu/>

Our free online trainings will help you to successfully develop your personal skills from beginner to advanced level.

Browse through our short trainings to find the best ones available for you in several languages: Bulgarian, English, Hungarian, Italian, Romanian, Slovenian and Spanish!



## OUR EVENTS, COURSES

### Two-day international conference in Budapest brought together NEETs and stakeholders

20-21 September 2021

The long-awaited **international start-up competition and 3rd brokerage event** took place on the 20th of September 2021 in Hungary, Budapest. The event organised by partner FRUTO brought on the same platform the representatives of the youth target group, policy makers, employment specialists, successful start-up leaders and technology pioneers. The second day program included a country visit where stakeholders and NEETs had the opportunity to study thriving Hungarian farm sites and agro businesses. The event series also included the eNEET Rural project meeting.

The conference was attended by **guests and speakers** from several relevant domain delivering thought provoking messages on **urban and rural farming opportunities, after pandemic labour market changes, youth employment and the new youth guarantee**. Presenters included among others the representatives of:

🔑 SMAPP LAB, an agro-tech start-up, the winner of EIT Food Innovation Prize for developing a digitised trap system that supports farmers with automated pest monitoring for crop protection,

🔑 Bedrock farm that produces chemical-free micro-greens and herbs in an urban cellar farm,

🔑 Government Employment Office of Békés-County that is involved in Youth Guarantee implementation and specialist in NEETs opportunities in Hungary



#### eNEET Project Meeting

On the first day of the event series partners gathered for a meeting where they discussed the indicators achieved during the last 6 months of the eNEET Rural project implementation. They also elaborated and advanced plans for ensuring the sustainability of results and for capitalizing the project.

## OUR EVENTS, COURSES

### International start-up competition - the final round!

20th of September 2021

After the unforeseen postponements due to the pandemic, we finally gathered to decide who will win the title of the most promising young entrepreneurs.

Entrepreneurship is a force of economy and social development but also a weapon to empower youth. In frame of the eNEET project we invited young minds with passion for launching own businesses to take part in the start-up contest. Through our mentoring scheme we offered support for example on skill development, agro-business specialities, technicalities of setting up a business and business plan development, just to name a few areas.

In the national level contest over 50 unemployed young people participated in Bulgaria, Hungary, Italy Romania, Slovenia and Spain. In total 40 business plans were developed by interested NEETs. In the first round the 3 best star-up idea proposers were selected in each country, to whom customised mentoring was offered on financial planning, pitching and domain specific questions.

At long last the 18 young and ambitious future entrepreneurs delivered their pitches on agro-business ideas in front of the international jury. The audience were delighted to see many impressive presentations with catching activities and business ideas addressing agricultural opportunities and innovative technologies. After the votes and unanimous decision, the Jury selected the three best business plans with ecologic, trendy concepts and promising market potentials. You can watch the contest on YOUTUBE:

part I: <https://youtu.be/lhkMn2Ql0kA> /part II: <https://youtu.be/0iynzmlPSQc>

part III: <https://youtu.be/ajlW8NjlGfQ>



## OUR EVENTS, COURSES

### International start-up competition

We were happy to announce  
the winners!

#### 1st place winner: Yumento (Slovenia)

Yumento is a healthy, hypoallergenic dog food, that combines insect protein with plant-based ingredients in a sustainable way. Yumento aims to provide a cost-effective alternative to reduce dog allergies and negative health effects commonly triggered by meat, fish and soy protein as well as the excessive use of antibiotics, salt and additives.

#### 2nd place winner: UrbanFarmer (Bulgaria)

The goal of the start-up is to create an innovative modular system (lego based) that will enable people living in cities to grow vegetables, fruits, herbs, flowers, etc. on their private terraces.

#### 3rd place winners: Life Village Holistic Farm (Hungary)

Life Village Holistic Farm is the combination of a visiting centre hosting various size gatherings and a bio production site. The unique holistic agriculture approach aims to bring production and processing in harmony with nature.





## OUR EVENTS, COURSES

### Get networked!

### 3rd international brokerage event

The event brought together parties from all consortium countries with the aim to extend networks and establish entry points for further cooperation. Participants had an opportunity to examine mutual interest areas, share ideas and best practices and identify challenges particularly in the agricultural and youth employment sphere.

Discussions were triggered by a few interesting presentations. For example, an organic grower from Bulgaria showed how his bio farm near the Black Sea works, which provided a good ground for discussions.

The representative of the Hungarian Association for small-scale producers and service providers presented their work in safeguarding the interest of their clients and their results in stimulating short food supply chains.

Finally, the possible calls for cooperation (eg. Eurostars/EUREKA, ERASMUS+, INTERREG) were introduced and discussed.





## OUR EVENTS, COURSES

### Hop on the bus and visit the native breed of buffalos!

#### Farm tour in the vicinity of Szob

After the excitement of the tournament and passing the 2<sup>nd</sup> day morning sessions we hopped on the bus to travel to Szob, a town 70 km to the north from Budapest. Here partners, stakeholders and NEETs visited two local farm sites both unique in their own ways. First, we were greeted by Dr. István Fehér, the professor of the Hungarian University of Agriculture and Life Sciences and his colleagues who introduced the microregion and explained the local traditions of fruit and vegetable production before escorting us to the farms.

#### First stop@ a modern, family-owned apple orchard

We were amazed to learn that this adventure is started out as a retirement hobby a few years ago, but by now surely transformed into a business and passion that keeps the whole family busy. ☺ Ipoly 2000 Fruct Kft produces several cultivars on ~12 acres including Golden Delicious, Jonagold etc. The 90% of eating apple is sold on the site and they also have storing, and processing facilities. There are many traces of advance technology on the farm. While early spring frost damages (also sun damage) cause a big headache to farmers here the trees and fruits are well protected by hail and ice nets.

Thank you for having us and offering to taste the apple and sea buckthorn juice a speciality of the farm!

#### Next stop@ Malomkert ecoturims center and ecological farm

The farm keeps indigenous breed of buffalo livestock and grey cattle a real national symbol of Hungary. Unfortunately, they ran away from us and hid on a far pasture on the ~7 acres of land. ☺ Malomkert produces a special selection of buffalo meat and dairy products for example cured ham, salami, sausages, mozzarella, blue cheese, ricotta etc. For fruit and veggie products they use own produce. Besides selling on Saturdays at Nagymaros Farmers' Market they host guests and cater events such as weddings at the popular tourist centre. After having lunch at Malomkert and tasted specialties with homemade brad we can full heartedly declare that everything they make taste just superb. How one can tell if it is true? If you believe the Irish proverb "Laughter is brightest (or say loudest) where food is best." well...we left no questions open. ☺



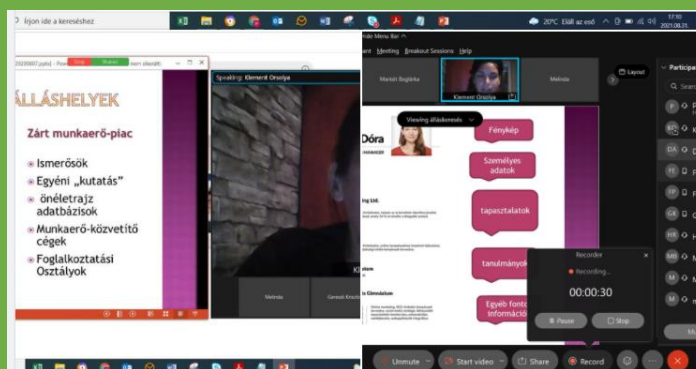
## OUR EVENTS, COURSES

### The series of online and on the spot trainings continued

#### Online trainings:

**Fruto (Hungary)** continued its **training** series with online sessions **on biogardening and soft skills:**

- **Late summer gardening works** webinar was held on 27/07. The lesson included:
  - Mulch and deep mulch method
  - Must know about seed collecting and storing
  - Preserving and canning techniques
- **Soft-skill development training webinars on job search, carrier orientation, employment and entrepreneurship** were held on 31/08 and 03/09. Participants learned about for example available support for finding employment or engage in training activities and opportunities to establish own companies. A few trendy CV tips and trick were discussed along with professional advises on how to conduct successful interviews. The webinars were followed by consultancy services for those who require individual support. Trainer: Orsolya Klement, Carrier specialist
- 



#### On-the-spot trainings

- **August ended with on-the-spot trainings in 2 rural areas of Hungary** in Békés-County (Békéscsaba) coorganised by the Government Office of Békés-County and in Nógrád County (Iklád) coorganised by @szederfa. While on the first day (26/08) more emphasis was given to theory, in Iklád (27.08) participant could practice biogardening in real working conditions with the assistance of our biogardener trainer, Anita Papp-Felber.
- **Fruto organised a whole day biogardening, on-site training course in Sarkad, Hungary on 14/09 from 9:00 am to 3:30 pm.** Theory and practice covered the following topics:
  - Conventional and eco horticultural concepts
  - Practical steps for designing and starting gardens
  - How can farmers become primary producers? Getting started
  - Use, preservation and plant protection of vegetables and fruits
  - Intro of plant juices and nutrients

## OUR EVENTS, COURSES

### Our other current events

#### National apprenticeship actions, mobility & mentoring

**CTAEX (Spain)** has **organized national learning actions** during the period of 26.07.2021 - 26.08.2021. A small group of participants (5) who have received prior online training had the opportunity to receive first-hand practical experience in the agri-food sector in Extremadura. They studied the different business models and new entrepreneurship projects and participated in several skills improving workshops.

Enjoy the essence of eNEET services in Spain! National apprenticeship actions @YouTube:



#### SHARING EXPERIENCE SEMINAR

The seminar **organised by Inclusion AS (Norway)** brought together the eNEET Rural partners and mentors on 27.07.2021. Using our newly established meeting arena Metorum, this online event aimed mainly to present the results of the internal survey among project partners, initiated in May by Inclusion AS team, best practices and training tools used in our online and on-the-spot trainings in the eNEET Rural project.

### Webinar program 27.07.2021

**Part 1:**

- 14:00-14:05 Welcome remarks/ introduction (Paul Bø)
- 14:05-14:15 Presentation of Metorum (Morten Flate Paulsen)
- 14:15-14:25 Introduction to Course Badges and BigBlueButton (Morten Flate Paulsen)
- 14:25-14:40 Presentation of the project partners survey results (Paul Bø)
- 14:40-14:50 BREAK

The major challenges, takeaways and lessons learnt by partners during project implementation so far was summarised and conclusions drawn that can greatly facilitate sustainability of results and project follow-up activities.



## OTHER EVENTS

### We spread the word about eNeet Rural

- **CTAEX (Spain)** attended the event of '**Oportunidades en la Raya: Una mirada a los proyectos emprendedores y rayanos**' organized by Ruralízate on July 6, 2021. Topics that are closely related to the eNEET Rural Project such as cooperation and entrepreneurship issues in the rural world were discussed. The event provided opportunities to delve into the following disciplines that is of great assistance to activities targeting young people in the rural world:
  - Design a rural business plan
  - Plan the path of entrepreneurship
  - Analyse public financing options
  - Connect with entrepreneurs / entities in the sector
 More information can be found: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=A5dR8iaDvWI>
- **CTAEX (Spain)** participated in the **online conference 'Youth and the Long-Term Vision for Rural Areas of the European Union'** on 16/09/2021 organized by the National Rural Network where they presented the eNEET Rural project as an example of a training initiative carried out by CTAEX
- **CTAEX (Spain)** published an **article 'Training. A European program teaches unskilled young people to run their own business'** in **HOY magazine** on 06/08/2021. The full article in English is accessible on the project [website](#).
- **STP (Slovenia)** disseminated the eNEET Rural Project and its results on the final conference of the Urban Soil for Food project, organized by the Wcycle Maribor Institute in Maribor. They also attended workshops of other organizations and lectures by experts on the topic of sustainable management.



## NEWS

The Youth Employment Online Magazine Issue 14 is out!



For updates on the projects participating in the Fund for Youth Employment visit:  
<https://youthemploymentmag.net/>

### INTERNATIONAL YOUTH DAY

August 12th



#### Why we celebrate International Youth Day?

The day of August 12 in every year is dedicated to raising awareness of challenges and problems facing the world's youth.

Watch out for workshops, concerts, conferences, and other cultural events, organised by national and local governments, youth organisations etc. around the world.

## FUTURE EVENTS

### Our future events in the forthcoming months:

#### October – December 2021

- Don't miss our **new webinar 'The magical world of mushrooms'** due on 15/10/2021! Registration is now open: <https://eneet-project.eu/hu/webinars>

- **INTERNATIONAL PRESS-CONFERENCE, TRANSNATIONAL APPRENTICESHIP ACTION AND 4<sup>TH</sup> BROKERAGE EVENT in BUCHAREST, ROMANIA - 31/10/2021-02/11/2021**

The event will be twined with **visiting Romania's largest food industry fairs, INDAGRA** that provide business opportunity for producers, suppliers of processing technology and retail chains. Linked to Indagra Exhibition <https://www.indagra.ro/en/> the event will be visited not only by the consortium partners but - as a transnational apprenticeship action - also by their cooperative stakeholders and their NEETs proved excellent on different eNEET Rural actions such as online/offsite trainings, the national and international rounds of the start-up competition and/or the national apprenticeship and mentoring programs.

The program will provide great opportunity for the participants to visit INDAGRA - International Fair of products and equipment in the field of agriculture, viticulture and animal husbandry and INDAGRA FOOD & CARNEXPO - International Fair for the food industry, the most anticipated fairs in the 2021 exhibition program in Romania.

In the framework of the 4th brokerage event the stakeholders of eNEET Rural partners can deepen their contacts and network with other specialists of agro-segment, the exhibitors and visitors of INDAGRA.

#### **The participants will attend tailored study visits at various places such as:**

- 1 A4ACTION - a youth NGO from a rural area which support youth from the local community.
- 2 Social incubator - its aim is to support young people who have left - or are about to leave - the child protection system, (including NEET) aged between 16 and 26,
- 3 Casa Seciu - Here we will visit a family business - restaurant and winery in a rural area near Bucharest alongside with local authorities and stakeholders

- the elearning courses are still open for NEETs: <https://www.eneet-elearning.eu/>
- mentoring program at farms, for taking part in the practical trainings, contact your local contact point: <https://eneet-project.eu/partners/>
- on-the-spot trainings depending on the pandemic situation, sign up to be informed: <https://eneet-project.eu/newsletter/>
- our series of webinars continue, check here the details: <https://eneet-project.eu/hu/webinars/>



## CONTACT

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