



Authentic Learning in land based Education

Authentic learning in land based education

A Leonardo network project

About learning in land-based education from a social constructivist point of view

- every individual is willing to learn
- learning starts with prior knowledge
- learning is not only a cognitive process
- learning is based on experience
- learning happens life long
- learning is an active process
- learning is a mental process, not only physical action
- learning is a social activity: often you learn together with others
- learning is constructing your own knowledge

With 17 partners from 14 countries who are all one way or another involved in land-based education

- vocational land based education
- teacher training for land-based education
- industry
- teachers union

Kick off meeting: January 20-23, 2005, Spain

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www.alie-project.com (under construction)



Expected project outcomes

- Overview of knowledge about and examples of good practice in authentic learning and competence based curricula based on social constructivism. P.e. ways of knowledge dissemination like the in the Netherlands developed "green knowledge web game for students in VET.
- Articles in magazines, meetings and internet (www.europea.org)
- Newsletters (publication of proceedings of the project)
- New learning method "authentic learning" in a rich learning landscape in land based education
- Extended EUROPEA-network around authentic learning
- Website (virtual knowledge center) about authentic learning (part of EUROPEA-website) and competence base learning in land based VET and teacher training.
- Curriculum for international bachelors year in "authentic learning" for students who follow a teacher training education and for teachers. Accessible for students from all countries where this innovation is a present theme. Description of the curriculum (ECTS, competences, assessments, content, program) and supporting working materials for the students.
- Evaluation report by the external evaluation committee. Evaluation of the process and the products.

The final results are not mainly theoretical knowledge. During the project the transfer from theory to practice will be an ongoing part of the process. By giving workshops in their own country, partners and other participants will share and construct knowledge.

Aims of the project

The aim of this project is researching, sharing and executing new ways of learning and teaching within the framework of "authentic learning". In all the EUROPEA-member states we will find out how education is changing and share our novelties and innovating methods in order to strengthen vocational land-based education and teacher training. We do this by developing and executing new ways of teaching and coaching, about authentic learning related innovating subjects and by learning each other new tools and methods. In workshops and meetings the results and methods about new ways of learning between schools will be compared, with involvement of students, policymakers, social partners and trade and industry. Representatives of all sorts of supporting institutes can compare the results and analyze the differences and similarities. Also important is to broaden the network with industry/ enterprises as very important context of the learning of students. Especially this connection will help to make the step to working life more fluent.



Partners in land based education

All partners try to find their way in improving their Agricultural (land-based) Vocational Education and Training (VET). Vocational Education and Training is very important to increase the growth of the European economy. VET should deliver young people to the labor market with technical and ethical competences, good entrepreneurs with a responsibility to society, who can fluently flow into the labor market, are able to work in all European countries, and have developed the competence to learn during their long life (working) career.

To reach these aims vocational schools, need to innovate the education, find new ways of teaching that assure a better connection with "real" (labor) life in the sector. Most schools in land based education who are member of the EUROPEA network feel an urgent need to exchange experience and knowledge with partners from abroad, to share good practice, in order to implement these new ways of teaching and learning in the schools. Every country has its own changes, but roughly spoken, we are all inventing the same innovation based on "social constructivism" as a way to improve education and support competence based learning.

Want to know more about EUROPEA ?

Go to www.europea.org !!!

European agricultural colleges **facilitate learning** for all people who intend to pursue a career in the land-based sector. The colleges are open learning centres where the exchange and transfer of knowledge is facilitated by teams of professionals in land-based education and training.

European agricultural colleges, in addition to giving professional training, aim to **develop students' key competencies** (eg flexibility; adaptability; entrepreneurial skills; social and communication skills), and an awareness of the local and global environment and their responsibilities towards sustainable land use.

European agricultural colleges **encourage students' awareness of the wider world**, and develop international citizenship through trans-national exchanges, cooperation and work placements.

Students at European agricultural colleges learn through a combination of theory and practice, delivered within the college and in industrial placements.

European agricultural colleges **train students to operate within an enterprise**, keeping the balance between economic demands and environmental issues. Because of the many requirements brought about by rapidly changing general conditions, agricultural education will become the most important resource in world-wide competition. Modern training in agriculture ensures the future of people in the land based sector and is, therefore, the basis for a vital rural area, worth living in.


















European agricultural colleges **have a range of other functions**. They are also centres, open to the whole community, for: experimentation and innovation, research and development, service, lifelong learning, rural development

European agricultural colleges **work in partnership with a range of relevant bodies and institutions**, eg. governmental, regional authorities, employers, research institutions, schools and universities, at local, regional, national and international levels.





Partners

- Wellantcollege, The Netherlands 
- EUROPEA Austria 
- Europea Germany 
- Europea Denmark 
- Europea Spain 
- Europea Finland 
- Europea France 
- Europea Hungary 
- Europea Italy 
- Europea Luxembourg 
- Europea Latvia 
- Europea Netherlands 
- Europea Portugal 
- Europea Sweden 
- Aequor (NI) 
- AOB (NI) 
- Europea UK 

Europea Estonia, Europea Greece, Europea Slovakia support the project and will join if possible.

