

“Green Agenda Consultative Meeting”

21 September 2023
Online

'Farm to Fork Academy for Green Western Balkans, Our shared European future'



'Farm to Fork Academy for Green Western Balkans, Our shared European future'

'F2F Academy Project'

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'F2F ACADEMY Project'

In a Nutshell



FARM *to* FORK
ACADEMY

PROJECT TITLE

'Farm to Fork Academy for Green Western Balkans – Our shared European Future'

LEAD PARTNER

Albanian Network Rural Development

PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION

48 Months

STARTING – ENDING DATE

16 January 2023 – 16 January 2027

TARGET AREA

6 Western Balkans + Croatia

Project Budget : 1,442,183.16 Euro



F2F ACADEMY Project

PARTNERSHIP



Rrjeti Shqiptar per Zhvillim Rural (ANRD), Albania
Leading Partner

Hrvatska Mreza Za Ruralni Razvoj, Croatia, PP1

Mreza Za Ruralni Razvoj CRNE Gore, Montenegro, PP2

Mreza Za Ruralni Razvoj Srbje, Serbia, PP3

Mreza Za Ruralni Razvoj U Bosni I Hercegovini, B&H, PP4

Shoqata Rrjeti I Organizatave per Zhvillim Rural te Kosovës, Kosovo, PP5

Mreza Za Ruralen Razvoj Na Republika Makedonija, NM,
PP6



'F2F ACADEMY PROJECT':

FOCUS OF WORK



- **Strengthening the contribution** of civil society part of agricultural and rural development sector across the 6 Western Balkans in the **implementation of the EU strategic framework**, European Green Deal and Farm to Fork Strategy.
- **Build capacities and confidences** among the rural networks to proactively contribute in addressing challenges related with climate change and biodiversity losses in the context of sustainable rural development and aligned with the SDG`s 1/2/3/10/12/15
- **Assisting the farmers and rural communities towards the green and just transitions** based on a participatory approach and financial instruments. (through F2F Academy)

`F2F ACADEMY` - LOGICAL FRAMEWORK



Overall Project Objective

Strengthen the CSO`s and CSO Networks contribution and impacts in the implementation of EU integration and approximation process in the WB agricultural and rural sector through advancing the green and just transition in the region.

Strategic Objectives:

- **SO 1.** Strengthening of CSO`s capacities in sustainable food system and livelihood through the F2F Academy.
- **SO 2.** Introducing innovative, green and inclusive solutions for sustainable food systems and livelihoods THROUGH `F2F Fund`
- **SO 3.** Strengthening the contribution of National Rural Networks in the 6 WB countries and BRDN in policy and decision – making processes at national and regional level aiming the acceleration of EU Reforming processes, in particular alignment with European GREEN Deal and F2F Strategy.



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WORK PACKAGE 1

‘FARM TO FORK ACADEMY’-

WORK PACKAGE 2

Sustainable solutions ‘F2F SubGranting’

WORK PACKAGE 3

‘Bottom Up Advocacy & Policy Agenda’



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The fifth pillar of the Green Agenda

5.Sustainable Food system in Rural Areas

*Finding from the draft report
National Mapping and Capacity Assessment of CSOs on
sustainable food systems and rural livelihoods for green
and just transition*

Findings

- Large gaps in understanding climate change mitigation
- 39.7% of respondents were ‘not at all’ and ‘slightly’ familiar with the European Union Farm to Fork Strategy
- 76.8% of surveyed respondents were aware (‘moderately’ and ‘highly’) about the current challenges related to sustainable farming and food production in their respective country
- Every one of WB6 countries has at least one academic institution with capabilities to educate future experts in fields of organic agriculture, sustainable energy, environmental protection
- There is need to enlarge knowledge among institutional bodies, private sector and organizations
- In rural areas there is inadequate: technical support and financial possibilities, there is inadequate knowledge about EU Green deal goals, inadequate and under capacitated state and private advisory networking, in this content there is not a good knowledge transfer directly to the rural stakeholders
- Common weakness to all WB6 countries is lack of official projections and transitional plans for the same EU Green deal goals
- Purchasing power is low which is weakening growth of local organic market
- There are CSOs in each countries ready for providing technical, knowledge transfer and financial assistance to main stakeholders, through the Farm to Fork Strategy



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Findings

Task of CSO is to:

- Raise awareness of EU Green Deal goals, especially in the field of food production, environment protection and renewable energy sources, especially in the light of global climate changes;
- Gather necessary knowledge about renewable energy adoptable for rural communities (bio-energy: bio-gas, bio-fuel, bio-mass, agro-voltaic panels, wind turbines) and their sustainable way of usage, together with circular economy, waste management and Nitrogen and Carbon cycles in agriculture)
- The build-up competences and knowledge about organic agriculture production, differences between conventional and organic farming (especially in approach to crop protection through non-chemical measures), animal welfare system of organic certification, allowed substances and measures;
- Identify and gather examples of good agricultural practices in different areas and fields of expertise (plant growing, animal husbandry, greenhouses, irrigation, novel agro-mechanization, food processing, novel/value added products, marketing of organic food and lifestyle, sales techniques/selling methods, etc.), in order to transfer knowledge and experience to other Farm to fork actors)
- Through the CSOs network to connect/intermediate between experts and actors, preferably by some kind of open-source list/catalog/database of topics which can be offered to local/regional actors, offered through the popular science lectures, dedicated articles in farm journals, field days and/or social network media

Strengths

- Different levels of legislative frames regarding organic food production, water protection, biodiversity and green energy, in accordance with EU Green Deal
- Existence of academic sources of knowledge (university curricula)
- Existence of organic certification bodies (some approved by EU legislation)
- Readiness of government to join EU and its legal framework
- Trading and other relationships with EU
- Existence and awareness of CSOs at the field of green transition, sustainable development and global climate changes
- Willingness of CSO to participate Farm 2 Fork Academy training

Weaknesses

- No official projections and plans for transition to 25% of organic food production
- Poor knowledge transfer to farmers
- Non-familiarity of stakeholders with EU Green deal
- Weak local organic market due to buying power of local people

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Contact:

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