

# AGRIDIAG

## AGRI-ENVIRONMENTAL FARM DIAGNOSTIC TOOL "DIALECTE" IN VOCATIONAL TRAINING

Leonardo da Vinci innovation transfer project // 2012 December 1 – 2014 November 30

### Background

Faced with society's increasing expectations, the European Common Agricultural Policy's review considers environmental management to be an ever more critical criterion in the allocation of farm subsidies (focus shift from production subsidies to payments for supplying public goods). There is an increasing demand (both by policy officials & farmers) to assess the ecological & environmental performance of farms. The public money spent on provision of environmental services require justification. It is a central interest for the farmers to be able to assess the nature and degree of environmental effects of their activities.

However, there is still relatively little experience in Europe with accurate and authentic assessment of environmental performance of farms. Some Member States (AT, DK, UK, NL, DE, FR) made steps to develop environmental farm management evaluation systems. One of the most complex, best documented & widely used indicator-based environmental assessment tool is DIALECTE by Solagro (since 1994), that enables multi-criteria analysis & the production of ecological & environmental performance accounts of concrete individual farms.

Current agricultural vocational training can prepare advisors & prospective farmers for these challenges to only a very limited extent. Experiences show that vocational training in particular plays a fundamental role in supporting the dissemination & implementation of approaches related to agri-environmental (AE) performance assessments of farms.

### Aims and target groupst

The 2-year AGRIDIAG project, supported by the EU Lifelong Learning Programme, is realized with 7 partners from Hungary, France and Portugal. The aim is to integrate & adopt these tools and related course material into a teaching pack and transfer it into vocational training module to be tested in Hungary and Portugal.

The target group of the transfer are innovative professionals including vocational teachers, trainers, advisors, trainers and practitioners from agricultural chambers and farming organisations, agri-environmental scheme operators. The training courses related to Dialecte will be adapted to the needs of the target groups and transferred in two parallel forms: a) further trainings for agricultural VET teachers, agri-environmental auditor trainings for innovative professionals.

### Partners to the project

The consortium consists of research and training institutes who can act as mediators between policy and practice including public authority supervising national agricultural advisory services and agricultural vocational schools, farming advisory service, agricultural secondary vocational schools

- Szent István University, Faculty of Agriculture and Environmental Sciences, Institute of Environmental and Landscape Management (Gödöllő, HU) – coordenação;
- National Institute for Agricultural Advisory, Training and Rural Development (Budapest, HU);
- Dr. Entz Ferenc Vocational School for Agriculture, Commerce and Catering (Velence, HU);
- Solagro (Toulouse, FR);
- Institut d'éducation à l'agroenvironnement Supagro Florac (Florac, FR);
- Instituto Superior Técnico (Lisboa, PT);
- Terraprima – Serviços Ambientais (Caria, PT).

### Outcomes

- further training course on Dialecte for VET teachers,
- Dialecte agri-environmental auditor training course for innovative professionals,
- Dialecte manual & online tool adopted to Hungarian & Portuguese conditions,
- Collection of Dialecte related French pedagogic methods adapted for Hungarian secondary vocational teachers,
- National Contact Points deep trained in Dialecte, advisory trainers trained, secondary vocational school teachers trained,
- HU network of Dialecte farm auditors.

### Impact

The project will bring methodological novelty and practice to professional advisory and training in the field of sustainable agri-environmental management, hence contribute to the better understanding of locally adapted farming for professional trainers, advisors and agricultural vocational school teachers. Improved agri-environmental awareness of farmers and decision making based on own farm assessment or assisted by advisor is expected. Environment and farming interrelations are better understood by vocational school teachers who are triggered to use Dialecte for school farms and teaching.

### Contact

[www.agridiag.szie.hu](http://www.agridiag.szie.hu)  
[agridiag@szie.hu](mailto:agridiag@szie.hu)