



EVENT 8 | Co-Green International School Karditsa, 26th to 30th November 2023

Organised by Euracademy Association, in cooperation with the University of Thessaly, Department of Forestry, Wood Sciences and Design, and the Municipality of Karditsa

COMMUNITY-BASED ACTION FOR THE GREEN TRANSITION OF RURAL COMMUNITIES

Winter Academy

**Meeting place:
University of Thessaly, Department of Forestry, Wood Sciences and Design**

Programme

Sunday 26th November 2023

- 16:00 – 18:30 Arrival of Participants, settling in at their accommodation (Hotel Astron, Karditsa).
Registration
- 20:00 – 20:30 Participants meet the organisers and prepare the international dinner
- 20:30 **Welcome by the organisers. Presentation of the CO GREEN project** by the project coordinator
- 21:00 **International Dinner to be held at the breakfast room of the Hotel Astron**
- The International Dinner is a long-standing tradition of Euracademy Association. All participants contribute with a dish and/or a drink, representative of their country or region of origin, and each participant presents it at the beginning of the Dinner. The meal that follows is indeed an International Dinner where we can all experience and share tastes from different countries.

Monday 27th November 2023

- 9:00 – 9:30 Registration of participants
- 9:30 – 10:00 Welcome addresses: University of Thessaly, Vice-Mayor of Karditsa, Euracademy, CO-GREEN project coordinator
- 10:00 – 10:45 Open space. Participants break in small groups of 6-8 persons and present themselves and their expectations from the Winter School
- 10:45 – 11:00 **Coffee break**, Open Space continues



- 11:00-11:30 Speaker: ***The green transition of rural communities. Main issues and challenges*** (Ass. Prof. Wojciech Goszczyński, Nicolaus Copernicus University in Torun)
- 11:30 – 12:15 ***Workgroups***. Discussion in small groups (around 6-8 persons each, including a facilitator). Indicative questions: What a rural community should do in order to achieve green transition? What are the main obstacles and challenges that should be overcome? Participants will be asked to consider their own communities in answering these questions. Each group prepares a poster with their main conclusions.
- 12:15 – 13:00 ***Presentation in plenary of the posters of all groups***, discussion, answering questions
- 13:00 –14:00 ***Light Lunch*** at the premises of the University of Thessaly
- 14:00 – 14:30 ***The role of the Green Activator*** (Dr Fouli Papageorgiou, Euracademy Association)
- 14:30 – 15:00 ***Community development: A methodology for enabling the Green Transition through the Green Activators*** (Prof. Andrea Volterrani, University of Rome Tor Vergata)
- 15:00 – 16:00 ***World Cafe***. The participants are divided in “tables” of 4 persons each, alternating between tables every 20’, to discuss the role of the Green Activators and the methods they can use to encourage community participation and engagement. Indicative questions: What are the expected skills of the Green Activator? How a Green Activator would act to encourage the green transition of his/her rural community? What community development methods can they use to encourage community involvement? What type of initiatives would they undertake?
- 16:00 – 16:15 ***Coffee break***
- 16:15 – 17:45 Participants break in two workshops
- Workshop 1. Good practice examples of successful green transition of rural communities*** - Coordinator: Association Zmergo
- Rural change and green infrastructure: how can the immigration form the green areas of villages? (Tamás Hardi - HU)
- Citizen participation and issues in green transformation processes, emphasis on energy communities (Davorka Medved -HR)
- Efforts and partnerships for strengthening greening and biodiversity in Burgenland (Iréen Szörényiné Kukorelli - AU)
- InterpretEurope – from small individual ideas to EU organized network for heritage interpretation (Lili Mahne- DE)
- Successful cooperation project of several Slovene LAGs: 1. Bicycle chain in the Countryside, and 2. Contribution of farms to the mitigation of and adaptation to climate change using the concept of ecosystem services (Tamara Urbančič - SI)
- Ecogenia- Building Greece's Youth Climate Corps (Vasilis Diamantopoulos - GR)
- Workshop 2. Good practice examples of community engagement methods.*** - Coordinator: Silvio Cilento, Forum Nazionale Terzo Settore
- Good practice examples of community engagement methods in community Elbląg, in community Górnó, in community Wiazowna and in community Starachowice (Joanna

Abramowicz with Małgorzata Kasprzyk-Sawościan, Przemysław Łysak Małgorzata Łysik, and Tomasz Margula - PL)

Good practice examples of community Panebianco (Pietro Valicenti - IT)

Good practice examples of community Magione (Angelica Sebastiani -IT)

Good practice examples of community Cavalese (Samuele Sandri - IT)

Good practice examples of community engagement methods in Rijeka, Croatian Debut, (Helena Traub - HR)

17:45 – 18:00 Preparation of the study trips

20:00 **Dinner** in Karditsa (Mikro Palati restaurant)

Tuesday 28th November 2023 – all day

Study trips in nearby examples of green transition efforts/results

Participants will be divided in small groups (up to 12 persons each) and will be driven in cars/vans to the pre-arranged locations of the study trips, and will have discussions with local stakeholders in these locations. 3 visits per group are anticipated. Information will be provided to participants on Monday.

20:00 **Dinner** in Karditsa (Mikro Palati restaurant)

Wednesday 29th November 2023

9:00 – 12:00 **Participants prepare their reports from the study trips (in groups).** They provide a brief presentation of the cases visited and the lessons learnt regarding the green transition or rural communities, including suggestions about how the Green Activator and community engagement methods would help.

12:00 – 13:30 **Workshop: Training methods for developing Green Activators' skills and competences**

Panel: Dr. Fouli Papageorgiou, Euracademy Association, Prof. Andrea Volterrani, University of Rome Tor Vergata

13:30 – 14:30 **Light Lunch** at the premises of the University

14:30 – 16:30 Presentation of the reports of the study trips, discussion

16:30 – 16:45 **Coffee break**

16:45 – 18:00 **Conclusions panel. Evaluation of the summer academy. Award of Diplomas** to participants

20:00 **Dinner** in Karditsa (Mikro Palati restaurant)

Thursday 30th November 2023

Participants depart.