



## **EPOS Summer School 'Organic Food Production Chain':**

### **E-learning introductory phase of the course**

**Time:** 15th May – 3rd July 2015

**Main objective:** to prepare the students for the intensive summer school

#### **Learning objectives:**

1. To get understanding of the principles of organic production with the perspective of potential peculiarities within the European frame.
2. To get acquainted with the place the organic systems hold in own country.

#### **Topics of e-materials**

1. Introduction into organic farming – Prof. Peter von Fragstein (Germany)
2. Crop management (incl. veg production ) – Dr. Roberto Mancinelli & Dr. Emanuele Radicetti (Italy)
3. Plant protection – Prof. Anne Luik and Assoc. Prof. Eve Veromann (Estonia)
4. Alternative crops - Assoc. Prof. Petr Konvalina & Assoc. Prof. Jan Moudry (Czech Republic)
5. Food quality – Prof. Ewa Rembiałkowska & Dr. Dominika Średnicka-Tober (Poland)
6. Marketing and environmental management – Assoc. Prof. Teresa Briz and Assoc. Prof. Maite Gomez (Spain)
7. Environmental impact – Assoc. Prof. Petr Konvalina & Assoc. Prof. Jan Moudry (Czech Republic)
8. Ecosystem services – Docent Irina Herzon (Finland)

#### **E-course = individual and group work**

**Individual work: 15th May – 3rd July 2015.** Students work entirely independently and asynchronously on the topics during the whole course period. They learn by (a) reading the literature, (b) looking through the handouts and presentations and (c) going through on-line quiz.

**Group work: 24<sup>th</sup> May – 26<sup>th</sup> June 2015.** Review of the organic sector from own country by students of the same country (= 6 students as a team). Topic: Place of the organic sector in the agriculture of our country. Issues to be covered: (1) agricultural sector overall: production, environmental impacts, social impacts and values; (2) organic production types, impacts, challenges, opportunities; (3) if available, distribution chains; (4) (potential) contribution of organic sector to addressing (some of the) problems.

The student groups submit drafts for feedback (1 page A4 plan with key findings) not later than on the 26<sup>th</sup> June 2015. The student groups prepare brief presentations (15-20 minutes) to be presented at the beginning of the summer course.

### **An introductory round for students and teachers**

**15<sup>th</sup>-24<sup>th</sup> May 2015.** This means that everyone is registered in the platform and puts a short “Hello, I am...” to the Attendees list (together with a photo) by 24<sup>th</sup> May 2015. Every student is obliged to place 2-3 sentences about her / his University background & motivations to participate in the course. We ask everyone to read at least 2-3 presentations of others (from other countries) and reply with a message of Hello back.

### **Feedback round among the students & teachers**

There is a Forum in Moodle platform open during the whole course that provides an opportunity to exchange ideas and opinions. The students have a possibility to check their understanding of the key issues or speak up their concerns and personal interests in the topic but also the course itself. They can for example ask others for advice if they could not get through some of the control questions. The teachers expect that in a week 12<sup>th</sup>-19<sup>th</sup> June 2015 every student will give her / his feedback on the e-learning progress. The students should ask 5 questions related to the content of the lectures or they can give their own 5 comments. Every teacher can propose an individual way of communication with the students. They also should report how advanced they are with the presentation on the organic farming in own country.

### **On-line quiz (self-control of the knowledge)**

The lectures (PP, video, handouts) and research papers have been placed at the Moodle platform together with the short quiz (10-20 questions - multiple choice). Every student has the possibility to go through the lecture and to take a quiz as a self-checking activity. The results will be visible only to the students.

The quizzes are offered for each topic separately so that a student can take the same topic quiz several times until he/she is satisfied with the results.

Then around 26<sup>th</sup> June one joint quiz including all topics will become available. The students will be asked to take again the whole quiz and the results will be visible for the teachers who will give a feedback to every student, indicating the necessity of the further studying the provided on-line materials before coming to Poland.

### **Evaluation**

The group presentations on organic farming in each country will be treated as the e-learning phase of the course and will be evaluated during the summer course and the grades will be influencing the final grade according to the following system: 20 % from e-learning and 80 % from the summer course.

### **Timetable**

15<sup>th</sup> May – 3<sup>rd</sup> July 2015: e-learning course (asynchronous learning)

15<sup>th</sup>-24<sup>th</sup> May 2015: an introductory round for students and teachers

24<sup>th</sup> May – 26<sup>th</sup> June 2015: group work (working in groups based on countries)

12<sup>th</sup>-19<sup>th</sup> June 2015: mid-way feedback round among the students & teachers

26<sup>th</sup> June 2015: deadline to answer the final quiz & to submit a draft of PP presentation of the group work project (1 page A4 = 1800 characters).

The planned changes: there were some remarks in relation to the e-learning. The most important was that the online course not completely addressed the knowledge level of the students and that the summer school and online module haven't complemented each other sufficiently. In order to improve, the topics of e-learning should be more introductory, preparing the students to the intensive program. The lectures offered during the e-learning should be adapted to the lower level of knowledge of the students, so shorter and easier comparing to the intensive program.