



**gardeniser**  
pro

# GARDENISER PRO

NEWSLETTER 1

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## What is Gardeniser Pro?

GARDENISER PRO" is a European project developed within the Erasmus+ KA2 VET programme and implemented by a consortium of 5 partners: Replay Network (Italy), PETRARCA (Germany), Pistes-Solidaires (France), ECTE (Greece) and Social Farms & Gardens (the United Kingdom). The project has a duration of 2 years from September 2017 to February 2020. The main objective of Gardeniser Pro is to create and test an innovative European training programme promoting the

development of a new professional role – the GARDENISER that is a urban/community garden's coordinator/organiser – with the purpose of strengthening knowledge, skills and competencies of the people aspiring to perform this role, testing the evaluation of their learning achievements through the ECVET system (European Credit system for Vocational Education and Training), with the objective of paving the way for their recognition in the educational and professional training systems, both at a regional and national level, thus fostering their employability.

## Kick-Off Meeting

The 30th and 31st of October 2017 the kick-off meeting took place in Rome. Strategies, tasks, opportunities, and all the practical aspects necessary to implement the project were discussed and defined by the project managers of the consortium. The meeting was hosted by the Italian partner (and project coordinator) Replay Network and its main result was defining action plans, tools, and roles to ensure the successful implementation of the project in the following 30 months.



The meeting was also an opportunity for the partners to get to know each other and to get a better understanding of the development of the urban gardens phenomenon in Rome. A visit was organised to the “Garibaldi Cooperative”. This cooperative and its urban garden were created to give to autistic people an opportunity to be actively included in the community and to give a concrete contribution to society. The organisation is indeed owned and run by autistic people with the support of specialised staff, volunteers and the local community and it might be one of the placements where the gardeniser-trainees will do their internship foreseen by the training programme in 2019.

## 2° Transnational Project Meeting

The 6th and 7th of July 2018 the project managers met up again for the first monitoring meeting of the project. The meeting was hosted by the Greek partner ECTE in Rethymno (Crete) and was an opportunity for evaluating the overall implementation of the project after the first 10 months of activities. After the training course in Manchester and the substantial work done to refine the training model and its structure to adapt it to the formal requests of the ECVET system, it was time to validate activities and processes, in view of the organization of the

experimental phase that will take place next year in the various countries. The partners had also the opportunity of getting to know better the Crete context and the working environment of the Greek partner ECTE.



## Training for Trainers in Manchester

Between the 24th and the 29th of April 2018 two trainers from each of the partner countries participated in the "Training for Trainers" organised and hosted in Manchester by the English partner Social Farms & Gardens. The aim of the training was to ensure the appropriate preparation of those trainers who will implement the professional courses for aspirant Gardenisers at a local level.



The first day of training started with the participation of the trainers in the "Growing Better Lives National Conference", an event organised to celebrate the launch of the new organisation "Social Farms & Gardens", resulting from the merger between Federation of City Farms and Community Gardens and Care Farming UK. The rest of the training was dedicated to addressing a variety of topics such as training modules and activities, learning outcomes, stakeholders engagement, concept and types of urban gardens, principles of group building, training methodology, designing principles and a lot more. Through theoretical and practical sessions, the trainers were provided with information and all the pedagogical, methodological, educational tools that are necessary in order to implement the local trainings sufficiently and in a standardised way across Europe.



## Local news

### Urbact in Rome

The European Commission has awarded the action done on Urban Gardens and Governance in Rome as best practice under the URBACT programme (<http://urbact.eu/>). A big part of the impact at local level has been achieved thanks to the integration between ENPI project SIDIG-MED (up-bottom approach), realised by the Municipality of Rome (together with Barcelona, Hamman and Tunis), and the project GARDENISER (bottom-up approach). As a result, Replay Network was asked to present Gardeniser Pro to the partners involved in the project RURAL URBAN (realised within the URBACT programme), a transfer of innovation involving also Greece, Spain and Lithuania and was included among the stakeholders of the project. .



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