



2023-1-ES01-KA220-ADU-000158430

ERASMUS+ Key Action 2 –  
Cooperation between organizations  
and institutions – Adult education

# STAR FOREST

**Adult training to use the  
multifunctional forest as a source  
of employment, sustainability and  
social inclusion**

Is a project ERASMUS+ that reinforces the contribution to the environmental and climate problems mitigation through the promotion of learning on innovative practices of sustainable forests management and use, increasing their carbon sink capacity and resilience against Climate Change. The new economic growth models in the EU based on the development of the green economy and decarbonisation will allow a better use of natural resources, offering an opportunity to “reinvent” the economy.



**Co-funded by  
the European Union**

*The support of the European Commission for the production of this publication does not constitute an approval of the content, which reflects solely the opinions of the authors, and the Commission is not responsible for any use that may be made of the information contained therein.*



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Strategic Association



**Ayuntamiento  
de San Vitero**

The project is highly motivating for the Cooperation Association, as it will contribute to improve the capacity of organisations to work transnationally and across sectors and provide new economic and employment niches through the sustainable use of forests in their regions, rather economically disadvantaged and with problems of depopulation, in the case of the region of the coordinator and some partners.



The new possibilities linked to the NWFPs, the green economy and the transition to a climate-neutral economy are a clear opportunity for economic development, especially in rural areas, which will always result in the fixation of population and an opportunity for the integration of the disadvantaged groups.

Non-wood forest products (NWFP) are an important source of income and a fundamental pillar that sustains the concept of multifunctional forest. As it is a relatively new activity, there is a gap of specific training tools adapted to the population that can access these new resources. This is the reason for developing a competence that addresses this forest aspects, which at the same time favours the strengthening of key competences that affect the whole EU.



# OBJECTIVES

- Develop new skills for adult education and training resources supported by ICT, with an innovative and multidisciplinary approach, on sustainable multifunctional forests.
- Contribute to using the forest and its non-wood products as a means of integrating vulnerable social sectors in rural areas, reincorporating unskilled adults, women and youth into the labor market.
- Promote innovative sustainable forest management practices to increase the carbon sink capacity of forests and resilience to Climate Change
- Promote information transfer, adult education and employment at local, regional, national and European level.
- Promote the implementation of training and cooperation networks between different sectors and countries in Europe (adult education, forestry and NTFP sector, sustainable management, rural development, environment, etc.) involving all actors in training.
- Support social awareness about environmental and climate challenges.

# TARGET GROUPS



## RURAL COMMUNITIES

Adult population, entrepreneurs and job seekers in rural areas.



## VULNERABLE SOCIAL GROUPS

People with low levels of training or with difficulties finding work or a first job; unskilled workers; adults excluded from the labour market in areas with depopulation problems and other disadvantaged groups.



## ADULT EDUCATION

Non-formal education, teachers, trainers, educators, etc...



## OTHERS

- Actors involved in forest management and the use and commercialization of NTFPs.
- Rural development agents.
- Employees of local and regional public organizations or administrations.
- Authorities.
- Technicians and trainers of Local Action Groups.
- Social entities.
- Unions (forestry, agricultural and livestock).
- Other educational or cultural associations in rural areas.
- Environmental, educational, forestry entities, protected areas.

# RESULTS

- An innovative curriculum with new competencies for non-formal adult education.
- Other educational resources for adult education.
- Training of trainers manual.
- The STAR FOREST PORTAL (Electronic learning environment for non-formal training).
- Training content: A structured training course with training modules and visual resources ("training pills").
- A pilot course.
- A compilation of "Good Practices" and several practical reports for the sustainable management of forests and their non-timber products, for the mitigation of climate change and the socioeconomic revitalization of rural areas.
- OTHER RESULTS:
  - Cooperative links and multidisciplinary networks on NTFPs, sustainable forest management and adult education/non-formal vocational training.
  - Training and dissemination activities (for exchange of experiences and project results).
  - Website and other information and dissemination tools of the project.

