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‘Strategic partnership for competence based training in Bio- fertilizers’

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Concept of the Project

Eco-innovation is a core action of EU 2020 strategy which promotes the development of products and processes that contribute to sustainable development, applying the commercial application of knowledge to elicit ecological improvements. This includes a range of related ideas, from environmentally friendly technological advances to socially acceptable innovative paths towards sustainability. This

concept is strongly supported by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) promoting innovations in the agricultural sector and preserve the environment. The EU Commission also has launched Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) which promotes the development of sustainable agricultural practices. This concept is on the ground of the Bio-FIT project rationality and sharpens the need for VET training of the professionals working in green biotechnology application for improving the agriculture sector which possessed high employment _

The main objective of the 'Strategic partnership for competence based training in Bio-fertilizers'- Bio-FIT project is to develop an innovative educational program based on biotechnology of bio fertilizers content and EQF/NQF strategic system for organization of VET educational process. This scheme will improve the professional performance of people working in this sector and will encourage implementation of relevant quality standards in agriculture sector.

Bio-Fit outputs, results and/or products:

- **Case studies** for each of the countries-participants in the consortium (for analysing/assessing the current state of the art: existing education curricula in bio fertilizers and the presence of green approaches in them, existing competence assessment schemes, existing competence classifications, etc.);

- **Classification of “green” skills/competencies** going to be taught (Searching for compliance with the ESCO system of the European Commission for European Skills/ Competences, qualifications and Occupations as well as with the relevant national systems (where they exist);
- **On-line training platform**
- **Training materials** developed, tested and adjusted (e-Book, course content, guides for teaching/studying, etc.);
- **Pilot trainings** for testing the project training program carried out;
- **Workshops**; to allow for a larger number of teachers and trainees to learn about the models and to inspire them to use it.
- A project dissemination materials(brochures, leaflets, posters **etc**) produced and widely disseminated
- Other **dissemination activities** to relevant branch organisations (with many SME members)
- **Recommendations** to the relevant national authorities in view to enrich/improve the acting skills/competence classification



The project Bio Fit

innovates the VET themes in the field of bio-farming through introduction of the subject of bio-fertilizers, which are alternative in modern agriculture to substitute agrochemicals, causing increasing production costs and problems for the environment. The use of bio-fertilizers is a viable alternative to improve the profitability of crops, particularly for agriculture on medium and small-sized farms with intensive production systems, such as vegetables. Given that bio-fertilizers can be produced on the farm and used successfully in crop production, the Bio-FIT programme can successfully contribute to stimulate small and medium business as well as to enhance the employability in the sector. Thus, investing in the education in the innovative technologies in bio-farming a strong ecological feedback is expected. Following all these, the Bio-FIT programme is foreseen:

- to embed the best practices and results based on competence description focused projects and to implement of EQF principles .
- to introduce innovative e-based educational curriculum and blended learning methodology using ECVET tools;
- to build up Learning Outcomes (LOs) and implementing those standards in the curricula;

- to strengthen the mutual learning within partner organizations and their partners at the workplace;
- to form a learning network between the partners, disseminate and use the results of the learning partnership and the services offered by the partner organizations.

The BIO-FIT target **beneficiaries:**

teachers ,trainers ,learning facilitators, guidance professionals ,school/institution managers as well political decision;

BIO-FIT Consortium:

1. "BULGAP" Ltd. (Bulgaria) – Coordinator E: ventsislavap@yahoo.com URL: <http://www.bggap.eu/>

2. Research and Development Center "Biotech"

(R & D "Biotech") BulgariaE: kujumdzieva@biofac.uni-sofia.bg URL: <http://biotech.org/>

3. Europa 21, BulgariaE: europa212015@gmail.com

4. National School of Public Health, GreeceE: gdounias@esdy.edu.gr URL: <http://www>

5. GREENFORCE LTD Cyprus E: gelaw@citanet.com.cy



6. Kék Tenger Business Network Kft. (Ltd.) HungaryE: pen1921@gmail.com

URL: <http://www.kektenger.com>