

Innovative education for sustainable development in peripheral rural areas

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Aims

1. Deepen understanding on skills & competencies for the labor market & societal needs in such regions

2. Support curricula development to ensure learning for the skills and competencies

3. Strengthen collaboration between Higher Education and potential regional and cross-regional employers

4. Support professional competencies of the HE educators in such regions

5. Contribute to the international pool of open educational resources (OER)

Ambition: To improve capacity for sustainable development in peripheral rural areas across Europe

Deliverables – Intellectual Outputs (IO)

1 Education needs and gaps for sustainable development of the EU peripheral rural areas

2 Syllabus and materials for E-course

3 Bank of Case Studies (to support the e-course)

4 Digital Teaching Platform and Digital Learning Resource

6 Reflective report on the approach and methodology

5 Syllabus and materials for Intensive Study Activity (summer school)

Strong involvement of stakeholder representatives into developing educational materials



A framework of participatory innovation process applied to the sustainable development of rural areas. Students worked with one of seven regional cases (one from each country).

Activities: individual and group, several rounds of peer-feedback, actor role activity, meeting local stakeholders, innovation analysis, presentations, facilitated discussions.

Major educational activities:

➤ **E-course** - a foundation for the Summer School: 50 students from 7 countries finalised in spring 2022.



➤ **In-field Summer School** – 35 participants in Pindos mountain area, Greece, July 2022. Students acted as regional experts in participatory innovation process to engage in a multi-cultural and multidisciplinary hands-on learning.

Lessons learnt:

➤ An excellent experience for students and teachers alike



➤ Need for more attention to the group work process, when working across cultures and disciplines

➤ A promising approach for transferring to educational contexts in other countries

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