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SUMMARY

I-RESTART PROJECT PARTNERS MEET IN MURCIA



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From the 23rd to the 24th of September, Murcia welcomed the second partners meeting, where valuable ideas and insights were shared in order to further develop the project numerous tasks and goals.

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During Murcia's meeting, the partners were grouped to a challenging workshop that aimed to understand on what grounds can the European Strategy of Pact for Skills outgrow itself.



WORKSHOP ON EUROPEAN STRATEGY

CURRICULA DESIGN FOR I-RESTART PROJECT



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Get to know the Line of Competences, designed by the partners, regarding skills requirements for I-RESTART sectors - Food industry, Animal Production and Veterinary activities!

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Aeres Barneveld visited Kisumu and Insinya, in Kenya, to teach about Poultry and Smart Farming. Addressing topics like animal health, housing, and smart farming techniques, this was one way of empowering farmers to make informed choices for better productivity.



I-RESTART'S IMPACT ON POULTRY AND SMART FARMING IN KENYA



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I-RESTART PROJECT PARTNERS MEET IN MURCIA

During the 23rd and the 24th of September, all 27 entities of the I-RESTART consortium gathered in the University of Murcia for the second partners meeting.

With a full program of actions to carry out, this was an unique opportunity for all the partners to make known the progress that has been made on the tasks assigned to them. More than simply sharing, it is through these meetings that the other members of the consortium can also contribute with their insights into the other tasks, thereby allowing this teamwork to become a motto for further improvement.



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I-RESTART PROJECT PARTNERS MEET IN MURCIA

During the first day, special attention was paid to the progress made on *Work Package 2 - Fast Track to Curricula and Training* and also to *Work Package 3 - Skills Needs Identification*, which are essential to the project's primary objective: to design, in line with the European agenda Strategy, an inclusive framework of micro-credential modules, in an innovative way that not only allows for rapid upskilling and reskilling in the agri-food and veterinary sector in general, but also to increase the uptake of VET of these sectors.

To complete this first day of work, a workshop about the EU Strategy was held. After a presentation about the FIELDS project findings and some key trends to be taken into account, the partners gathered in four subgroups working for around 30 minutes on specific elements of the strategy to be developed: a starting point for the formulation of the I-Restart European Strategy.



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I-RESTART PROJECT PARTNERS MEET IN MURCIA

On the 24th, work recommenced on *Work Package 9 - Dissemination & Communication*, based on an open dialog about the need for all partners to make this important project known. After this chapter, we heard about the developments of *Work Package 6 - Long Term Action Plan* and *Work Package 4 - Training Design and Development*, with an active and constructive involvement of partners in the *Training Content* subject.

Concluding the meeting with a highlight on *Work Package 7 - Strategic Approach Development* and *Work Package 1 - Management & Risk Assessment*, it is safe to say that all the tasks were tackled with both professionalism and success!

After this personal meeting with all the partners, it was possible to witness not only the results that have already been achieved, but above all the good progress of the work, allowing us to say, for sure, that the project's impact will soon be visible throughout European industry.

Indeed, the content to be developed and the certification of learning through micro-credentials indicate that I-RESTART will facilitate the transfer of cross-sectoral skills and bridge the gap between generations and sectors, ensuring better preparation in line with new sustainability directives outlined by the European Union.

We have proudly confirmed how all the I-RESTART consortium entities are committed to guaranteeing inclusive, flexible and engaging standards for both students and workers already in and out of the agri-food sector, so that the training content can be used in the way that best suits the needs of its intended audience.



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WORKSHOP ON EUROPEAN STRATEGY

On the first day of the 2nd partners' meeting in Murcia, Wageningen University, in the person of Jacques Trienekens, challenged all members of the consortium to reflect further in the Pact for Skills European Agenda.

Using the **FIELDS** Project as an exemple and starting point of this exercise, our partners were then divided in to four sub-groups, and given 30 minutes to discuss together on what can still be done to improve and expand the atuation of the EU Strategy's action.

Thus, partners were invited to brainstorm about:

-  **Cross European Training and Development;**
-  **Regulations and Funding;**
-  **Governance and Agri-Food Pact for Skills;**
-  **Monitoring and Observatory.**



As members of this project and of the Pact for Skills itself, it's important that we engage in insightful conversations that meet our purpose, which is, ultimately, build a more inclusive and flexible system of learning within Europe.

Knowing that there's always room to achieve better results in the agrifood and veterinary sectors, it goes without saying that this workshop too was not only the start of the European I-RESTART Strategy, but may also have been the starting point for something new!

There will certainly be more interesting news on this subject soon, so be sure to stay tuned.



An initiative of the European Commission

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CURRICULA DESIGN FOR THE I-RESTART PROJECT

by Milena Corredig, Konstantina Ntrallou,
Luis Mayor and Ana Ramalho
AARHUS UNIVERSITET and ISEKI-Food Association

I-RESTART project's main goal is to upskill and reskill the workforce of the agri-food and veterinary sectors, by developing training that will answer the most urgent skills' needs as been identified in the project. The training content that is still under development from the project's partners, has been classified into the broad topics of Digitalization, Sustainability, Entrepreneurship and Soft skills, One-Health and Sector Specific Emerging Trends, for the sectors of Food Industry, Animal Production and Veterinary.

I-RESTART partners started the activities of the curricula development with a dedicated workshop in February, in Brussels (please check the 3rd newsletter for more details) so to agree on the methodology to be applied. The data regarding skills' requirements for the I-RESTART sectors - Food industry, Animal Production and Veterinary activities - from the Focus Groups analysis, Survey analysis and Scenario analysis, were the primary sources of information that led to the development of Lines of Competences.

A Line of Competences refers to “a specific set of knowledge, skills, and competences required to perform particular activities within a given sector”. The proposed Lines of Competences are designed to be flexible and applicable across various educational and training contexts, from higher education to vocational or professional education.









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CURRICULA DESIGN FOR THE I-RESTART PROJECT




by Milena Corredig, Konstantina Ntrallou,
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About an equal number of Lines of Competences were developed per sector, and these are:




FOOD INDUSTRY:

-  Improving/Managing sustainability of food industry;
-  Digital tools for Circular traceability in the Agrifood system;
-  Food innovation;
-  Sustainable and innovative food packaging.



ANIMAL PRODUCTION:

-  Data driven livestock farming;
-  Managing the animal farm in a sustainable and digital environment;
-  Animal welfare, handling and related regulations.

VETERINARY ACTIVITIES:

-  Complex data management and analysis;
-  Responsible use of medicines and chemicals in line with One-Health;
-  Skills for business.

“MULTI-SECTOR”:

-  Business management;
-  One Health concept in animal farming and veterinary sector.

For each Line of Competences, the wider skills (intended as overall knowledge and competencies on a specific “topic” or subject or discipline) were initially defined, followed by the identification of a set of sub skills and finally the learning outcomes to achieve the required skills.

Additionally, the design of training material follows the approach of micro-credentials: a highly flexible, inclusive form of learning allowing the targeted acquisition of skills and competences, aiming to tackle the issue of upskilling and reskilling the workforce that has not the time and rarely follows and completes full training courses and can conversely benefit from this type of training.



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I-RESTART'S IMPACT ON POULTRY AND SMART FARMING IN KENYA

As part of the I-Restart initiative, Jan Gundelach, from Aeres Barneveld, recently had the opportunity to teach lessons on Poultry and Smart Farming in two vibrant villages in Kenya: Kisumu and Insinya. Spending one week in each location and working closely with local farmers and trainers to promote sustainable farming practices has, for sure, proven that the necessity of reskilling and upskilling knows no borders.



Conducting training sessions for 5 local trainers and 80 farmers, our partner covered a wide range of topics in poultry farming, including animal health, housing, and smart farming techniques. Over the course of the training, 12 essential topics related to Poultry Farming were discussed in order to guarantee the improvement of productivity and sustainability of kenyan farmers.



During these weeks, many local farms were visited, including one with 10,000 layers, where farmers were helped to test their feed formulations using a nutrient tester. It was an exciting and educational experience to see how this technology works. By using an app to read the results of the feed's nutrient content, farmers can make informed decisions about the best type of feed to purchase from the right suppliers.



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I-RESTART'S IMPACT ON POULTRY AND SMART FARMING IN KENYA

In conclusion, Smart Farming is making a real difference, even in rural Kenya. While there is still much to be developed, Jan Gundelach guarantees that *“I-Restart is playing a key role in advancing farming techniques and supporting local communities with tools that can improve agricultural outcomes.”*

It's been inspiring to witness the enthusiasm and dedication of Jan and all the farmers he worked with, so we all couldn't be more proud to be part of a project that is helping to make a lasting impact on the future of farming, may that be in Kenya or anywhere else in the world.





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MEET THE PARTNERS

