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# AGFOSY NEWSLETTER #1

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AGFOSY is an EU funded Erasmus+ project that will create a flexible training system relating to agroforestry. It will be based on case studies and best practices that will provide farmers and landowners with the skills, knowledge and competencies to implement agroforestry systems on their own farms.

Agroforestry (AF) is a land-use system where trees are grown in association with agricultural crops or livestock on the same land. Such measures can bring a wide range of positive benefits to land management, as well as to help landowners to achieve the goals of the Common Agricultural Policy.

The project began in 2018 and will run for 24 months. The consortium is made up on 7 partners from 6 countries.

The project will:

- Create a state-of-the-art analysis on the situation of agroforestry implementation in partner countries
- Compile a set of interesting case studies that will represent the core content of the training system
- Develop methodological sheets for establishment and management of agroforestry
- Develop training materials with introductory videos.

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### Summary Report

The Summary Report has combined the State-of-the-Art National Reports written by each partner country: Czech Republic, Spain, Slovakia, France, Hungary, Belgium. It gives an overview of the situation of Agroforestry in partner countries, looking at the awareness, implementation, training and policy.

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## Meet the Partners



Asociace  
soukromého  
zemědělství ČR

**The Association of Private Farming of the Czech Republic** is a voluntary professional organisation of private farmers in the Czech Republic. All its activities are based on respecting old peasant traditions and the conviction that

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**The Czech Association for Agroforestry** is an NGO, whose main objective is to promote agroforestry in the Czech Republic. CSAL is focused on building awareness among a broad range of stakeholders working in the rural environment about positive impacts of agroforestry systems.



**On Projects** is a project management consultancy company. Its main focus is advising companies, associations, and public bodies on the management, monitoring and evaluation of publicly funded projects.

The Co-operational Centre of the **University of Sopron** focuses on research activities in the field of Environmental Resources Management, Agroforestry and Improvement of the methodology, and practical implementation of environmental impact assessment procedures. Work is carried out on a participatory basis, in cooperation with experts at the University's faculties and networks of stakeholders.



**The French Agroforestry Association** aims to promote and encourage the development of agroforestry across France. The association is involved in a number of projects ranging from research and development through awareness raising and education.

**National Forest Centre** is a semi-budgetary forestry agency established by the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development of the Slovak Republic. The agency is in charge of the research and development of all areas of forestry, addressing the issues relating to the natural environment and human activities.

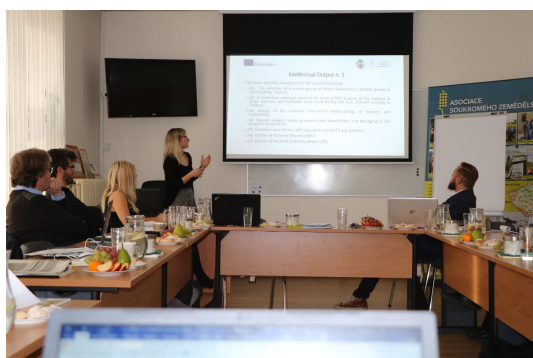


**The European Landowners' Organization** is a federation of national associations from the 28 EU Member States and



ELO is committed to supporting sustainable development, conservation and the responsible use of natural resources.

## 1<sup>st</sup> Project Meeting



The project kicked off in Prague, the Czech Republic at the headquarters of project coordinator Association of Private Farming of the Czech Republic. It was an opportunity for partners to meet, discuss the aspirations, timeline and deliverables of the project. Each partner presented a brief overview of the situation of agroforestry in their country. This would then be developed into a National Report and would feed into the Summary Report.

## Field Trip



The second day of the project was devoted to a field trip to a Farm in Černčice u Milešovky, owned by Daniel Pitek: a farmer, forester and entrepreneur. During the last 18 years he has been restoring the landscape of his 600 ha farm with respect to the heritage and legacy of previous generations. The farm is focused on horticulture, deer breeding, sheep and horses. Daniel Pitek's farm is situated in a naturally dry area, but through his management he has planted new orchards, trees and dug pools to restore nature's ability to retain water.

In 2016, Pitek won the Josef Vavroušek Award for exceptional achievement in favour of sustainable development and healthy environment. Furthermore, during the 2019 Earth Day Celebrations on April 25th, Daniel was awarded the Laureate from the Faculty of Environment (University of Live Science in Prague) by Dean Vladimír Bejček. Awarded for outstanding contribution to nature conservation and environmental protection.

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## 2<sup>nd</sup> Project Meeting

The AGFOSY project second meeting took place in Toulouse, France. Partners met at J'GO, an innovative restaurant that works with local farms to bring both their food and their stories to the table. The farmers produce their products in a sustainable way, which includes incorporating agroforestry measures alongside their farming activities. During the day, partners discussed the development of the State-of-the-Art National Reports, giving an overview of Agroforestry measures. They also discussed the case studies that will be collected by partners along with the videos that will be done as part of the training material.

## Field Trip

The second day included a field visit to farms in the Auch region, and members the Association Française d'Agroforestrie.



The first visit was to Ferme Blagny-Albiges, a Chicken farm that also has arable crops and beekeeping. Over the last 20 years the farmer has integrated AF measures onto the farm. The use of trees and shrubs offer the birds a habitat and protection which enables them to roam freely, whilst the man-made lake and ditches built for irrigation help reduce the amount of runoff from the water.

The second farm visit was to La Ferme En Coton, a mixed crop-livestock farm (pigs, sheep, chickens, laying hens, arable crops, and vegetables). Diversity of crops and livestock across the landscape was key to this organic farm's development, with the integration of trees and shrubs where the animals can roam. Established in 2001, the farm currently boasts around 45 ha of agroforestry.



If you would like to keep up to date with the project development, you can follow us on the links below.



## GDPR (General Data Protection Regulation)

As of 25 May 2018, the EU General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) is in effect. Our newsletters are sent by email to make you aware of how the AGFOSY project is progressing. If you're happy with the emails you receive from us, you do not need to

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ASSOCIATION FRANÇAISE  
d'**AGROFORESTERIE**  
*L'agriculture dans les règles de l'arbre*



Project No: 2018-1CZ-KA202-048153

Co-funded by the  
Erasmus+ Programme  
of the European Union



*This project has been funded with the support from the European Commission. This publication reflects the views only of the author, and the Commission cannot be held responsible for any use of which may be made of the information contained therein.*

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