

GAEA Project Unveils a Comprehensive Training Program to Empower Women in Agripreneurship

GAEA is a forward-looking project which aims at improving entrepreneurship education in the agriculture sector for young women who currently are not in employment and training (NEETs) and migrant women, living in rural areas. Today GAEA is proud to announce the design of a new and much-needed comprehensive training program for this target group. Aligned with the latest EU priorities, GAEA addresses sustainable development, green transition, and the Common Agricultural Policy, by offering a unique opportunity for young women to thrive in agri-preneurship.

The GAEA Training Program Structure follows a holistic approach and encompasses four distinct curricula which effectively address different targeted female groups in agribusiness: (a) higher education (HE), (b) vocational education and training (VET), (c) upskilling for trainers and career counsellors, and (d) micro-credential for future knowledge angels. The four curricula are designed to empower women in agriculture and address their prior identified needs which include limited access to resources, stereotypes, and balancing family and business responsibilities. The proposed training is based on blended learning including face-to-face training, e-learning, learning in real environments (work-based learning) and self-study.

The development of the above training schemes was substantiated by the evidence of a thorough training need analysis that can be found in the recently released GAEA Training Needs Mapping Report. The need analysis provides a comprehensive report of the current training offers and unmet training needs in agri-preneurship. This report highlights the gender disparities in the sector, the limited access to resources for women, and the challenges arising from traditional stereotypes and discrimination. Yet, the report signifies the key skills and knowledge deficit in agribusiness knowledge, opportunities identification, business planning, networking and collaboration, financial management, and understanding of EU policies and legislation. Another significant outcome of the study is the importance placed on the environmental, social, and governance considerations in agribusiness and on the need for sustainable farming practices and technological innovation.

The GAEA project is committed to fostering an inclusive and gender-responsive training environment in the agri-business sector. By empowering young women with the necessary skills, knowledge, and support, GAEA strives to pave the way for a more equitable and prosperous agricultural industry.

For more information about the GAEA project, please visit <https://www.gaeaeuproject.com/>