



April 2024 | 1st PRESS RELEASE

05.04.2024

Educating the Future: Drones Elevate European Agriculture to New Heights

Agricultural Drone Technology Awareness Training for Industry Professionals

In the European Union, agriculture employs over 44 million people and faces new challenges with the expected 70% increase in consumption by 2050 and rising extreme weather events. Drone technology offers a solution through precise farming, enhancing soil analysis, irrigation management, and crop health monitoring. However, the adoption of such technologies is limited by a significant knowledge and skills gap among farmers, highlighting the need for innovative educational initiatives.

AgroPro is a two-year European Erasmus+ project with the primary objective of bridging the gap between the technological revolution happening in the agriculture industry and the lack of related education and skills of agriculture professionals.

The project is on a mission to:

- Support all agriculture professionals who are engaged or interested in learning how to utilise drones within the EU.
- Create access to knowledge regarding the new technologies in the industry.
- Increase agriculture professionals' self-awareness of their prospects in this field.



Co-funded by
the European Union



AgroPro has been awarded a grant of €250,000 by the European Union under the KA220-VET - Cooperation partnerships in vocational education and training program, promoting innovation in agricultural practices through education and technology.

Project Progress and Milestones

AgroPro has marked significant progress and achievements in outlining the future of agriculture through drone technology. A key focus of this project is creating an e-Guide that highlights the new career opportunities emerging in the agricultural sector as a result of advancements in drone technology.

Developing the e-Guide

- **Survey, interviews and workshops.** Surveys, interviews and workshops were conducted to launch the project, starting with a detailed questionnaire and interactive workshops in each participating country. Through this process, project partners outlined the essential roles, skills, and qualifications required for emerging agricultural professions leveraging drone advancements.
- **Career e-Guide and occupational analysis.** A comprehensive e-Guide has been developed, detailing new agricultural roles, which is now available on the project [website](#). This guide provides insights into the evolving job market and the impact of drone technology on rural employment opportunities in Europe.
- **Report on occupational profiles:** A detailed report synthesising the occupational profiles influenced by drone technology has been published and translated into Greek and Portuguese for broader distribution.
- **Interactive online platform.** Currently under development by Future Needs, this platform on the project's website will soon provide extensive information on agricultural drone professions and career paths, with the aim of becoming a primary resource for individuals and institutions.



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Continuing Efforts

Project partners are presently concentrating on developing a Competence Framework and MOOC, aimed at promoting sustainable agricultural practices through UAVs and digital tools, thereby preparing the workforce for the evolving demands of the agricultural sector.

The team behind AgroPro

The project is led by the Agricultural University of Athens and includes a consortium of five organizations from Greece, Portugal, and Cyprus. These partner companies contribute diverse backgrounds to the project, representing an NGO, educational institutions with expertise in agriculture and vocational education, alongside other organizations focusing on socio-technical research and winemaking.



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Project's Transnational Meetings

April 3rd-4th, 2023

The project's kick-off meeting took place in Athens, Greece, hosted by the Agriculture University of Athens, the project's coordinator.

October 23rd, 2023

The team of AgroPro held its 2nd project meeting virtually to review and track the progress made since the kick-off meeting in Athens. This session was crucial for reviewing milestones and strategising for the road ahead.

March 6th-7th, 2024

The project held its 3rd meeting hosted by ISCTE - Instituto Universitário de Lisboa in Lisbon, which provided an ideal setting for international collaboration.

The project officially started on January 1st, 2023 and it will last until December 2024.

For additional details about the project and its latest developments, please check the official project webpage at <https://agropro-drone.eu/> and follow its social media channels: LinkedIn [@AgroPro](#), Twitter [@agropro_project](#), Facebook [@AgroPro](#), Instagram [@agropro_project](#).

