

Directed Study 5

English part

Reference website: <https://www.reseaucocagne.org>

Introduction: **RÉSEAU COCAGNE**

The “Jardins de Cocagne” are a French network of organic farms with a strong social mission.

They were created to support people facing unemployment or social difficulties by offering them contracts in organic fruit and vegetable production.

Through this work, participants not only gain technical skills in agriculture, but also benefit from personal and professional support, such as training, workshops, and guidance toward future employment.

The food produced is distributed mainly through weekly vegetable baskets, purchased by local members.

This system promotes short food supply chains, encourages responsible consumption, and strengthens the link between farmers and citizens.

In addition to food production, many gardens organize educational activities, environmental awareness programs, and community projects, which reinforce their role as actors of local solidarity and sustainable development.

Similar models exist in English-speaking countries, such as Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) in the United States and the United Kingdom.

These initiatives share the same values: combining ecological farming, social inclusion, and the creation of stronger community bonds.

FARM'IN (socialfarming.eu)



The platform socialfarming.eu presents the FARM'IN – Inclusion through Social Farming project. FARM'IN is an Erasmus+ initiative whose objective is to promote social farming in Europe through the development of vocational education and training (VET) tools, the mapping of existing social-farming actors, and the implementation of pilot courses for trainers and operators.

The project defines itself as an enabling and capacity-building programme. Its outputs include



mapping reports, training materials for farmers and operators, and train-the-trainer activities. These deliverables are designed to support practitioners, trainers, organisations and institutions involved in the development of social farming.

FARM'IN is co-funded by Erasmus+ (KA210-VET small-scale VET projects) and involves several partner organisations in countries such as Italy, Slovenia and Greece. The official website provides access to a News section, a Partners section, and downloadable training tools and newsletters. Through this online platform, the project ensures the dissemination of results and resources to a European audience.

The FARM'IN website is functional and provides clear access to project outputs and resources, which is valuable for practitioners looking for concrete tools and updates. The downloadable materials and structured sections (News, Partners, Tools) enhance usability and transparency. However, the site could benefit from a more modern and engaging design to improve user experience. Navigation can feel a bit basic, and some sections lack detailed descriptions or interactive features that would make the content more appealing and easier to explore. Additionally, the visibility of success stories or real-life examples of social farming projects is limited, which reduces the potential for inspiring new participants.

Advantages	Disadvantages
Erasmus+ initiative aimed at promoting social farming in Europe.	The "Partners" and "Tools" pages do not really detail the roles or missions of each partner.
Development of training tools for practitioners and trainers.	The "News" section mainly contains generic announcements and few detailed stories about ongoing projects.
Mapping of existing stakeholders in social farming in Europe.	Few concrete examples of social projects are highlighted to inspire new participants.
Organization of pilot courses for trainers and operators.	Navigation is basic: for example, in "Tools," PDF files are listed without description or preview.
Promotion of social inclusion and sustainable farming practices.	The website does not provide videos, photo galleries, or interactive maps to visualize projects in the field.
Clearly identified sections: News, Partners, Tools, making navigation easier.	The "News" section has no filters or internal search engine to quickly find a specific topic or project.

Bio&Co(Bio-co.ro)



The platform bio-co.ro presents Bio&Co, a social farm based in Ciocănari, Dâmbovița County, Romania. Bio&Co is run by the association Ateliere Fără Frontiere and aims to promote social inclusion and professional integration through organic farming. The farm produces a wide variety of vegetables on both open fields and greenhouses, distributes weekly subscription baskets to local communities, and employs people from disadvantaged backgrounds, providing them with training and work opportunities.

The project highlights sustainability and social engagement. Its output includes fresh seasonal vegetable baskets, educational materials on gardening and healthy eating, and community events at collection points. These deliverables are designed to support local residents, subscribers, and other stakeholders interested in sustainable and socially responsible farming.



Bio&Co combines agricultural production with social objectives, creating a model that supports both environmental sustainability and social inclusion. The website provides access to subscription services, recipes, stories from collection points, and information on the farm's practices. Through this online platform, Bio&Co ensures the dissemination of its approach and resources to a wider audience.

The Bio&Co website is clear and well-organized, allowing visitors to easily navigate between subscription options, farm information, and community stories. The emphasis on social and environmental values is a strong point, and the connection with the local community is well highlighted. However, the site could benefit from a more modern and visually engaging design, particularly for mobile users. Some sections, like seasonal calendars or product displays, could be more interactive and detailed to enhance user experience. Additionally, the online store could be better integrated, with improved filtering options and clearer product descriptions to facilitate online purchases.

Advantages	Disadvantages
Promotes social inclusion and professional integration through organic farming.	Limited information on the impact of individual employees or success stories.
Provides weekly subscription baskets with fresh seasonal vegetables to local communities.	Seasonal calendars and product displays could be more detailed to explain crop availability and farming cycles.
Educational materials on gardening and healthy eating.	Community events are mentioned but details or schedules are sometimes insufficient.

Supports environmental sustainability alongside social engagement.	Information on farm practices and production methods is concise; lacks in-depth case studies.
Website is clear, well-organized, and easy to navigate between subscriptions, farm information, and community stories.	Design is functional but not visually modern; could be more engaging especially on mobile.
Provides access to subscription services, recipes, and stories from collection points.	Online store integration could be improved: product filtering and descriptions are limited.
Emphasis on social and environmental values is well communicated.	Interactive elements are limited; e.g., seasonal calendar or product gallery lacks dynamic or interactive features.

Social Farms & Gardens(farmgarden.org.uk)



The platform farmgarden.org.uk presents Social Farms & Gardens (SF&G), a UK-based charity that supports communities in practicing agriculture, gardening, and collective cultivation. SF&G aims to improve health, well-being, and environmental sustainability by connecting and empowering local farms, community gardens, and green care projects.

The organisation provides a wide range of outputs, including resources and guidance for community organisations, training events, support for better policies and funding, and the Green Care Quality Mark recognition for green care providers. SF&G also maintains a member directory and an interactive map of projects, offering networking and collaboration opportunities. These deliverables are designed to support practitioners, organisations, and institutions involved in community-based agriculture and gardening.

SF&G operates as both a network and a capacity-building organisation, promoting social inclusion, environmental responsibility, and professional development across the UK. The website provides access to member services, project resources, news updates, opportunities for employment within member organisations, and guidance for starting and managing community farms and gardens. Through this online platform, SF&G ensures the distribution of its resources, impact, and network opportunities to a wider audience.

The SF&G website is functional and well-organised, making it easy to navigate between information on projects, membership, resources, and employment opportunities. Strengths include clear presentation of



services, support for community organisations, and emphasis on social and environmental impact. Additional positive features include the interactive map of members and projects, which facilitates networking and local engagement. However, the site could benefit from a more modern and visually engaging design, particularly for mobile users. Some sections, such as project showcases and case studies, could be more interactive and detailed to better highlight SF&G's impact. Enhancing the online resources with multimedia content and a more visually appealing interface would further improve user experience.

Avantages	Inconvénients
UK-wide charity supporting community farms, gardens, and green care projects.	Impact stories and project showcases are brief; lack of detailed case studies.
Provides training events, guidance, a support for better policies and funding.	Some areas (e.g., "Starting a project") are quite text-heavy, which may discourage quick reading.
Offers the Green Care Quality Mark certification to support standards in green care.	Limited use of storytelling or visual narratives to inspire newcomers.
Maintains a member directory and networking opportunities through its platform.	Benefits of membership could be explained with more concrete examples or testimonials.
Promotes social inclusion, well-being, and environmental sustainability at national scale.	Few multimedia resources (videos, infographics) to enrich the experience and highlight impact.
Job opportunities and member services are easily accessible via the platform.	Design is functional but dated; not visually engaging compared to modern standards.
Interactive map of members and projects adds real value for networking.	On mobile, navigation can feel dense with long menus and small text.
Provides downloadable resources, guides, and practical toolkits for community groups.	Project pages lack interactive features (e.g., filters, multimedia showcases).

ConQuito(conquito.org.ec)



The platform conquito.org.ec presents ConQuito, the Economic Promotion Agency of the Metropolitan District of Quito, Ecuador. ConQuito aims to foster economic and social



development in the city by supporting entrepreneurship, innovation, professional training, and sustainable urban agriculture.

The organisation provides a variety of outputs, including training programs, seed capital support, project incubation, and technical guidance for urban agriculture initiatives through its AGRUPAR program. ConQuito also offers networking opportunities, workshops, and online resources designed to support entrepreneurs, community organisations, and institutions involved in local economic development. These deliverables are intended to strengthen social inclusion, innovation, and sustainable practices in Quito.

ConQuito operates as both a capacity-building and enabling organisation, promoting economic growth, social equity, and environmental sustainability. The website provides access to news, project information, training offerings, funding opportunities, and resources for entrepreneurs and community members. Through this online platform, ConQuito ensures dissemination of its services, programs, and results to a wider audience.

The ConQuito website is informative and rich in content, offering downloadable PDFs, video tutorials, and news updates that cater to various users. It includes interactive forms for training and funding applications, and content is categorised by program type, which aids navigation. However, the search function is limited, making it sometimes difficult to locate specific resources. While the website highlights success stories and entrepreneurial impact, there is minimal interactive engagement such as forums or comment sections. Technical aspects could be improved: some documents are large and slow to load on mobile devices, and certain sections occasionally contain outdated links. Additionally, the site is primarily in Spanish, which may restrict access for non-Spanish-speaking international partners.

Advantages	Disadvantages
Broad mission covering entrepreneurship, innovation, training, and sustainable urban agriculture (notably through AGRUPAR).	Limited international reach: website is mainly in Spanish, making it less accessible for non-Spanish-speaking partners.
Offers many programs: incubation, seed capital, workshops, and technical guidance.	Some sections (e.g., news) contain quickly outdated information.
Promotes social inclusion, equity, and environmental sustainability on an urban scale.	Impact stories are present but fairly generic, lacking detailed narratives to inspire more engagement.
Strengthens connections between institutions, entrepreneurs, and local communities through its metropolitan role.	Limited search function: difficult to locate a specific resource among news and PDFs.
Provides concrete funding and networking opportunities for entrepreneurs.	Some PDF files are heavy and slow to load, especially on mobile devices.
Rich content, structured by themes (programs, training, urban agriculture, funding).	Some internal links or documents are outdated.

Regular updates of news and events, reflecting active institutional dynamics.	No interactive spaces such as forums or comment sections to foster direct community exchange.
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Red Wiggler Community Farm(redwiggler.org)

RED WIGGLER
COMMUNITY FARM

The platform redwiggler.org presents Red Wiggler Community Farm, a sustainable farm located in Montgomery County, Maryland, USA. Founded in 1996, Red Wiggler is a social care farm where people with and without developmental disabilities work together to grow healthy food, learn agricultural skills, and build community.

The organisation provides a variety of outputs, including inclusive employment opportunities, community-supported agriculture (CSA) programs, educational workshops, and farm tours. Red Wiggler also offers programs for schools and local groups, designed to promote social inclusion, environmental sustainability, and community engagement. These deliverables are intended to support participants, volunteers, and community members while promoting awareness of sustainable agriculture and inclusive practices.



Red Wiggler operates as both a capacity-building and enabling organisation, fostering social inclusion, skill development, and sustainable food production. The website provides access to information about the farm's programs, CSA memberships, volunteer opportunities, events, and educational resources. Through this online platform, Red Wiggler ensures distribution of its activities, community initiatives, and impact to a wider audience.

The Red Wiggler website is clear and functional, with well-structured sections for programs, volunteering, CSA subscriptions, and events. Strengths include accessibility features, clear navigation, and emphasis on community engagement. The site effectively highlights the farm's social mission and showcases participant stories. However, the visual design is somewhat dated and could benefit from modernization. Multimedia content, such as videos or interactive galleries, is limited and could enhance the user experience. Adding interactive tools like a crop calendar or event planning features would further improve visitor engagement and participation.

Advantages	Disadvantages
Social care farm promoting inclusion: people with and without developmental disabilities work together.	Social mission is well explained, but detailed personal stories remain limited.
Provides inclusive jobs, CSA (Community Supported Agriculture) programs, and educational workshops.	Limited presentation of measurable impact (e.g., number of participants, cultivated area, production volume).

Hosts community events and educational farm visits.	Some descriptions remain general without practical details (e.g., exact content of workshops).
Raises awareness of sustainable agriculture and strengthens community engagement.	Visual design looks dated compared to more modern platforms.
Strong educational dimension with programs for schools and local groups.	Limited multimedia content: few videos, photo galleries, or interactive features.
Clear website with intuitive navigation and dedicated sections (CSA, Volunteer, Programs, Events).	No interactive tools such as an integrated harvest or event calendar.
Good accessibility: readable text, simple structure, suitable for diverse users.	Mobile-friendly but some pages load slowly due to heavy images.
Highlights volunteering opportunities and CSA subscriptions via simple forms.	