SOILSTICE

Funded by the European Union

The EU Soil Mission and introduction of SOILSTICE project



ELARD

European Leader Association for Rural Development
Brussels, www.elard.eu

POLISH PRESIDENCY 2025-2026

POLSKA SIEĆ LGD

ELARD

The Association is a non-profit organisation set up to **improve the quality of life in rural areas** and to maintain their population **through sustainable, integrated local development**.



ELARD

32 countries the EU and beyond

REPRESENTING over 2600 LAGs

Our purpose is to:

- promote LEADER and Community Led Local development (CLLD)
- support rural and regional development
- promote cooperation
- influence EU policies in favour of integrated rural development





ELARD Knowledge Hub

BACKGROUND
Started up during Swedish presidency (2020-2022) in order to strengthen ELARD advocacy and capacity building of LAGs in the following fields:

- Policy work in favor of CLLD/Leader
- Spreading of the Leader principle/CLLD
- Increase the networking for members
- **Supporting LAGs with innovative solutions through R&D projects**

ELARD Knowledge Hub Project Portfolio

Showcasing Our Commitment to Rural Innovation & Sustainable Development Across Europe

SOILSTICE

REROOTED

NEXRUR

FLARA

RUSTIK

RENOVERTY

EC4rural

Fostering Local Engagement for Clean Energy Transition in Rural Areas through Energy Communities

DigiMedFor

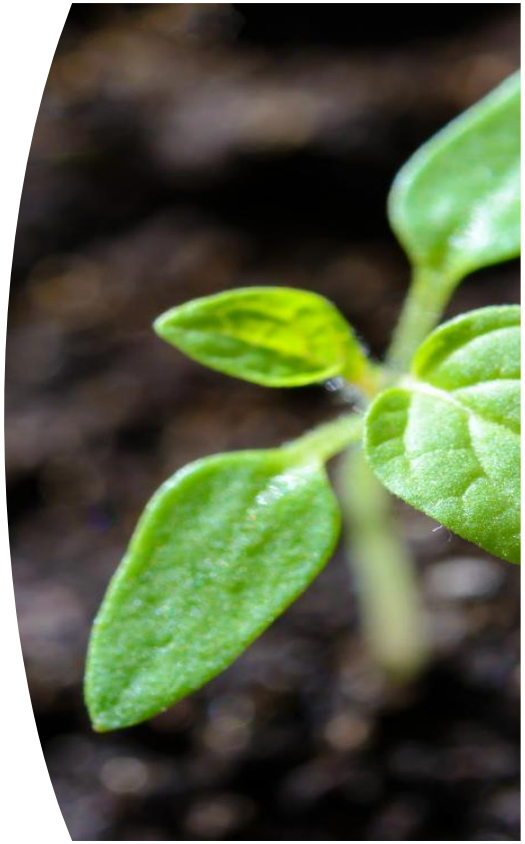
Digital Mediterranean Forest

COMMUNITIES FOR LOCAL GREEN DEALS

Cowork4YOUTH | Collaborative and Sharing Workspaces Policies for Youth in EEA Peripheral Regions



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Partners

Rural territories in Germany, France, the Netherlands, Belgium, Italy, Portugal, Slovenia, Spain, UK and Albania

EUROPEAN-LEVEL ORGANISATIONS

- ECOLISE – Belgium (Coordinator)
- ICLEI Europe (ICLEI) – Germany
- Global Ecovillage Network of Europe (GEN-EU) – Germany
- ELARD – Belgium
- International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) – Switzerland

ALBANIA

- Co-PLAN Institute for Habitat Development (Co-PLAN)
- Municipality of Lushnja
- Municipality of Shkodra
- Bashkia Berat
- Municipality of Elbasan

BELGIUM

- REVOLVE
- Administration communale Saint-Gilles
- Province de Liège
- Bruxelles Environnement – Leefmilieu Brussel
- Commune de Woluwe-Saint-Pierre
- Stad Brussel (City of Brussels)
- PROVINCIE ANTWERPEN

GERMANY

- Gemeinde Dunum
- Stadt Waldkappel
- Steyerberg

ITALY

- Comune di Firenze
- Comune di San Lazzaro di Savena

NETHERLANDS

- Wageningen University (WU)
- Gemeente Wageningen (Municipality)
- City of Amsterdam

PORTUGAL

- University of Aveiro (UA)
- Intermunicipal Community of the Region of Coimbra (CIM-RC)
- Município de Vizela
- Município de Valpaços

SLOVENIA

- Regional Development Agency Podravje – Maribor (RRA)

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FRANCE

- Cooperative Oasis
- Commune de Saurat
- Mairie de Rueil Malmaison
- Commune de Nanterre
- COMMUNE D EOURRES
- COMMUNE DE KEMBS

SPAIN

- Ayuntamiento de Almócita
- Ayuntamiento de Burgos

UNITED KINGDOM

- Gaia Education (GEDU)
- Westmorland and Furness Council
- Brecon Beacons National Park Authority

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Agenda 13 November at 9:30-11:30 CET

09:40–10:00 | **The EU Soil Mission in the current and future EU programming context**
Abdul Otman, ECOLISE

10:00–10:20 | **Introduction to the SOILSTICE project**
Project objectives, expected outcomes and main activities
Abdul Otman, ECOLISE

10:20–10:30 | Q&A

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Agenda 13 November at 9:30-11:30 CET

10:30–10:50 | **Capacity building for local actors within the SOILSTICE project**
Capacity-building activities and the role of Local Action Groups
Sally Bogale, Gaia Education

10:50–11:10 | **Communication and dissemination at national and local levels**
The role of LEADER networks and Local Action Groups
Mariam Younes, REVOLVE

11:10–11:30 | **Q&A and closing discussion, Kristiina Tammets, ELARD**
Discussion and brainstorming on:

- the relevance of soil-related topics for LEADER networks and LAGs;
- how LAGs could contribute to soil-related actions at local level;
- how soil-related priorities could be integrated into Local Development Strategies (LDS) for the next programming period.

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Participants today

LAGs and LEADER Networks from:

Belgium	Bulgaria
Croatia	Czech Republic
Estonia	France
Hungary	Italy
Latvia	Romania
Slovenia	Spain

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- how soil-related priorities could be integrated into Local Development Strategies (LDS) for the next programming period;
- Recommendations from your side how to include you to Soilstice

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Follow up 2027-2028

- Capacity building activities
- Dissemination activities
- Cascade of funding
- LDS linking with SOIL topic, new LEADER period
- Developing new projects under Erasmus, Horizon, etc

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Thank you

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