



RURAL WOMEN TO SUSTAINABLE FOOD AND FARMING

*Fresh Food
from Farm to Table*

STRATEGIC PLAN · Year of 2020-2025

NETWORK OF WOMEN FROM RURAL COMMUNITIES

SHORT VERSION – English language

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Preface

The Strategic Plan for the Network of Women from Rural Communities (NWRC) builds on existing work within the project RWSFF - Rural Women to Sustainable Food and Farming - Fresh Food from Farm to Table co-funded by Erasmus+ Programme of the European Union - for the action KA2 Strategic Partnerships in the field of Adult education (Ref.no. 2019-1-RSO1-KA204-000854) and articulates a path for the next two years for achieving the NWRC's vision and mission.

⇒ Who worked on this document and how it came about?

Partners in the RWSFF project and founders of NWRC are four NGOs: EDUFONS – Center for Lifelong Education from Serbia, Gramigna Associazione di Volontariato from Italy, Institute of Entrepreneurship Development (iED) from Greece and Udruga ISTARSKO - Ekomuzej iz Vodnjana from Croatia.

The representatives and members of these four NGOs participated in the process of the Strategic plan creation and contributed to its successful finalization through their diligent work.

The document development process took two months, under the leadership of the Udruga ISTARSKO – Ekomuzej iz Vodnjana, which coordinated and monitored.

The original draft of the Strategic plan resulted from a workshop during the transnational meeting of four representatives from NGOs included in RWSFF project in Italy in half of December 2019. After that, the original draft was improved through the teamwork of these organizations - sharing an online document to work together on it, including brainstorming, discussions and substantive comments.

⇒ What is the time frame for this document?

For the Strategic Plan, the time frame is a set period of 5 years from 2020. to 2025.

The Strategic Plan will be updated in the next three years.

⇒ When will it be implemented?

Its implementation will start on the **1st of January, 2020** and it will end on the **31st of December, 2025**



MANDATE OF THE NETWORK

The Network of Women from Rural Communities (NWRC) founded to:

- support joint work of women agro-producers from different areas to learn and help each other
- provide connections and exchange ideas, initiatives, actions of regional or European agriculture, social innovations and cooperation under the aspect of agriculture and food system
- provide cross-national know-how about farm-related development, production and commercialization in different areas

THE PURPOSE of the NWRC is to harness the capacities and capabilities of all members/partners to support empowering rural women involved in agriculture or the agriculture supply chain and to serve as a strategic forum for collegial collaboration, coordination, and integration.

Taking about modern trends, the NWRC is ready to share their rich experience to contribute to empowering rural women and enhancing rural development.

VISION AND MISSION

VISION:

Together we can empower rural women through lifelong learning and connecting.

MISSION:

Our dedication is to empowering, connecting and supporting rural women through education, collaboration, opportunities and initiatives based on the needs of economic independence, dignified work and fulfilled lives, and focused on facilitating them to make positive, sustainable change and progress in their lives and communities.



NWRC AIMS



To implement and support competency-based and work-based learning

- to launch an exchange of knowledge and initiatives for empowering rural women involved in agriculture or the agriculture supply chain



To enhance the quality and effectiveness of learning mobility experiences (physical and virtual mobility)

- to support the process of networking and develop access to exchanges and mobility connecting women with women (women-to-women approach)

- to create conditions for exchanging lecturers and organising interstate sessions of lectures for women in rural areas

- to develop models for international visits with the goal of learning and acquiring/improving skills and competencies for food production and agricultural entrepreneurship



SCOPE OF WORK

Network is fostering employability, socio-educational and personal development, as well as participation in civic and social life through improving language skills, entrepreneurial mindset, critical thinking and creativity, as well as forward-looking skills in domains that are strategic for smart economic and social progress.

1. NWRC promotes Fresh Food Access and rural women's education empowering them to participate fully as an actor for a change:

- increasing rural women knowledge about new trends "Fresh Food Economy" and agricultural entrepreneurship
- exchanging knowledge and launching initiatives to empower rural women who are involved in agriculture or the agriculture supply chain
- providing rural women with empowerment by encouraging new trends of "Fresh Food Economy" and agricultural entrepreneurship, as well as additional farm-related segments of the rural economy, contributing to generating income and employment, taking into account the adaptability of methods and technologies to meet local conditions in each member/partner's country
- developing alternative approaches for sustainable development, through rural women empowerment and their social inclusion
- supporting and encourages rural women with fewer opportunities to engage and actively participate
- supporting sustained engagement, transition, and progression of rural women who are involved in agriculture or the agriculture supply chain or who want to engage in this field and need support and assistance

2. NWRC increases networking among rural women, especially highlighting the process of networking and developing access to exchanges and mobility by connecting woman with a woman (women-to-women approach):

- develops cooperation and connectivity of rural women from European countries who are facing similar difficulties and engaging in joint work that contributes to the development of the community
- establishes a mechanism of direct contact between rural women included in the network to organize learning and transfer of good practice by virtual and physical mobility
- provides mechanisms for transnational mobility of rural women, contributing to greater connectivity and circulation of knowledge

In this way, the NWRC provides rural women jointly organizing their virtual or physical meets to exchange experience and know-how or arrange study visits. Through such cooperation, with minimal costs, models will be developed to arrange international visits with the goal of learning and acquiring/improving skills and competencies for food production and agricultural entrepreneurship. The collaborative economy is a societal trend, who can play a significant role here: women will transfer each other



their experience in agricultural production, which can generate new ideas and initiatives.

3. NWRC as the transnational network facilitates partnerships, including capacity development and training initiatives:

- creating new and increased inter-regional and cross-border cooperation in the fields of adult education and rural development
- providing mechanisms and creating conditions for transnational mobility of adult educators, contributing to greater connectivity and knowledge circulation, exchanging lecturers and organizing interstate sessions of lectures for women in rural areas
- building new cross-sector partnerships
- facilitating knowledge sharing and good practice experiences as well as encouraging the common application of practices
- promoting innovation and joint initiatives
- developing jointly working, services and support to pool essential information, and creating an appropriate set of support and tailored provision
- developing appropriate linkages that connect members/partners to ensure an efficient network
- monitoring and evaluating the effectiveness of NWRC strategy in meeting shared objectives

The success of the Network depends both upon the success of individual self-directed partnerships in addressing the needs most important within their geographies, as well as the NWRC collective ability to address goals at even broader geographic scales.

EXTERNAL COMMUNICATION

The Network will provide all relevant information to its beneficiaries, formal and informal groups, institutions and citizens through the media. Media activities will take the form of participation in various programs and publishing articles on Network activities and results.

Also, promotional activities will be conducted through online media, website, organizing roundtables, forums and other types of events, fieldwork and face-to-face conversation and printed informational materials - brochures, flyers, etc.

VISIT OUR WEBSITE

ruralwomen.eu

FIND US ON SOCIAL MEDIA:

Facebook: [@RWSFFproject](https://www.facebook.com/RWSFFproject)

Instagram: [@rwsff_project](https://www.instagram.com/rwsff_project)



PARTNERS



EDUFONS – Centar za celoživotno obrazovanje
(Serbia)

<https://www.facebook.com/edufons.centar/>



Udruga ISTARSKO-EKOMUZEJ IZ VODNJANA
(Croatia)

<http://www.istrian.org/hr/>



Gramigna Associazione di Volontariato
(Italy)

<https://lentamente.wixsite.com/odvgramigna>



IED - Institute of Entrepreneurship Development
(Greece)

www.ied.eu

