

# eTOMATO Final Conference

on

How to learn Multifunctional Agriculture from Higher Education

28 October 2021

organised by

## eTOMATO partners

Project Coordinator

University of Foggia

Ghent University

Agricultural University of Plovdiv

University of Granada

Masseria Redenta

Wild Farm

La Junquera

Gebroeders Vercammen

ValueDo

TINADA



<http://www.etomato.eu/>



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## Training and Orientation for Multifunctional Agriculture entrepreneurial Opportunities - eTOMATO

eTOMATO is an initiative of 10 partners from 4 European countries (BE, BU, IT, ES) aimed at creating an educational offer for easing the uptake of new business practices respecting the Multifunctional Agriculture (MA) framework, particularly in the domains of Social and Didactic Agriculture, Rural Tourism and Short Food Supply Chains. eTOMATO intends to systematise approaches for bringing key skills to University students, traditional farmers and new entrants, turning them into MA practitioners. The project sustains the collaboration of partner Universities expertise in the domains of MA and Farmers already adopting successful business models inspired by MA to create educational pathways aimed at reducing key skills fragmentation, overcoming the detachment between theoretical training (learned at the University) and practical experience (acquired on the field). It will develop a path composed of three steps: i) classes (entrepreneurial skills), ii) e-learning modules (MA knowledge) and iii) work-based experience (transnational/national level).



## Why

In light of recent developments by the European Commission and, in general, the worldwide public authorities, the future of the economies is closely interrelated to the surrounding environments. This constraints the economic agents to operate within boundaries that are dictated by the aim of accomplishing economic, environmental and social sustainability, at least. The attention to natural resources have moved to the heart of the policy makers agenda; therefore, addressing the behaviours of the economic operators. The agricultural sector plays a crucial role in using and preserving natural resources. The preservation, in particular, entails that both inputs are carefully pondered to guarantee the regeneration of natural resources themselves, and so-called bad outputs are no longer released to the environment.

## What

Innovative ideas are urgently needed. This implies an improvement of the educational standards to foster innovative knowledge and skills to approach the agricultural sector. The Multifunctional Agriculture (MA) offers a channel that provides solutions to trigger the rural development and fulfil all the three dimensions characterising the sustainability as above mentioned.

## How

eTOMATO has acted for three years to deliver a course merging the contributions received by both academia and farms already implementing multifunctionality in the three domains of short food supply chains, touristic agriculture and social/didactic agriculture.

## About the Conference

The conference aims to shed a light to the contribution of eTOMATO to the Higher Education in Multifunctional Agriculture. Final results of the project will be presented. Professors, students and representatives of farms will contribute by providing different points of view. Finally, experts from academia and MA farms will debate over the opportunities deriving from undertaking multifunctional organizations.

## Programme

15:30 - 15:45 | *Welcome and Introduction to the eTOMATO Project*  
**Gianluigi De Pascale**  
University of Foggia  
Assistant Professor of Applied Economics  
eTOMATO Project Manager

### Keynote speakers

15:45 - 16:20 | *Multifunctionality and Circular Economy*  
**Nina Drejerska**  
Warsaw University of Life Sciences  
Deputy Director for Research at the  
Institute of Economics and Finance

16:20 - 16:30 | *Comments and Questions*

16:30 - 17:05 | *Multifunctional Agriculture and Rural Development*  
**Gianluca Brunori**  
University of Pisa  
Full Professor of Food Policy

17:05 - 17:15 | *Comments and Questions*

17:15 - 17:30 | *Break*

### *Presentation of eTOMATO outputs*

17:30 - 17:55 | *Presentation of eTOMATO MA tools*

**Gianluigi De Pascale**

17:55 - 18:20 | *Presentation of eTOMATO course*

**Margo Degieter**

Ghent University

and **Francisco A. Navarro Valverde**

University of Granada

18:45 - 12:10 | *Presentation of work-based experience*

**Yanniek Schoonhoven - La Junquera**

and **Evy Van Camp - Gebroeders**

**Vercammen**

18:45 - 19:00 | *Comments and Questions*

19:00 | *Closing*

## How to participate virtually

[Click here to register by Zoom](#)

[Click here to follow the event by YouTube](#)

## Instructions for Zoom

1. Click the link to register
2. Type Name, Surname and email
3. Check your email and find the link to join to the event