



Smart Agriculture for Resource Efficiency

Training Activity in Cyprus

PROGRAMME: ERASMUS+

KEY ACTION: SMALL-SCALE PARTNERSHIPS IN VOCATIONAL EDUCATION AND
TRAINING (KA210-VET)

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SARE
Smart Agriculture
for Resource Efficiency



Project Information

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General Information

Partner's Name: OMNIA

Dates: 15.05.2026 – 17.05.2026

Place: Online and Riverland Bio Farm

Format: Hybrid training with online sessions, study at home sections and field trip workshops on Riverland Bio Farm.

Number of participants: 11 participants

Target Group: Farmers and Agricultural practitioners

Training Activity Description

The National Training Activity in Cyprus under Activity 6 of the SARE Project was implemented by OMNIA between 15/05/2026 and 18/05/2026. The activity consisted of a 32-hour hybrid training programme delivered through online sessions, field visits, practical demonstrations, self-directed learning activities, group discussions, and participant evaluations.

Participants

A total of 11 participants attended the training activity, exceeding the initially planned number of 10 learners. All participants represented the project's target group, as they were farmers, agricultural practitioners, and active producers involved in agricultural cultivation, sustainable farming activities, and the production of agricultural products in Cyprus. Several participants also had higher educational qualifications, including university degrees and academic backgrounds, while actively engaging in agricultural practices and nature-based lifestyles. The group included both experienced agricultural practitioners and academics with a strong interest in sustainable farming, resource efficiency, and smart agriculture approaches.

Participants were invited through targeted email communication and direct outreach conducted by OMNIA.

The Training Activity in Cyprus

The general structure of the training activity in Cyprus followed a 4-day hybrid format, with each day representing approximately 8 hours of combined learning activities, practical engagement, networking, breaks, and reflection sessions. The training sessions and coordination were facilitated by representatives of OMNIA while representatives of RIVERLAND BIO FARM contributed to the practical demonstrations and field-based discussions during the study visits.

Day 1: 15/05/2026 (Online Session - 8 Hours)

The first training day was conducted online and focused on introducing participants to the project and establishing a collaborative learning environment.

The day began with a welcome session by OMNIA, including presentation of the objectives of the SARE project and the aims of the National Training Activity in Cyprus.

Participants introduced themselves individually, presenting their agricultural activities, cultivation practices, and products.

This introductory networking session was followed by group discussions where participants identified common challenges and obstacles affecting their agricultural activities. The discussions focused on themes directly related to the project objectives, including digital and green skills, application of smart agricultural techniques, resource efficiency, irrigation management, water supply, fertilization practices, pest control, and climate change impacts on farming activities.

A coffee break was provided during the morning sessions, followed by additional discussions regarding the importance of access to free educational resources and digital learning opportunities for farmers and agricultural practitioners. Participants were then introduced to the SARE DigiHub platform developed under Activity 3 and the educational materials developed under Activity 4. OMNIA project manager guided participants through the platform, presenting the available modules and explaining how the DigiHub can support continuous learning and adoption of sustainable agricultural practices.

Following the lunch break, the afternoon sessions focused on open discussions regarding participants' expectations from the training programme and the relevance of digital and sustainable farming approaches within the Cypriot agricultural sector. The first training day concluded with reflections on the importance of practical learning and preparation for the upcoming field visits.

Day 2: 16/05/2026 (Field Visit at Riverland Bio Farm - 8 Hours)

The second training day was organised as a practical field visit to RIVERLAND BIO FARM located in Kampia village, Nicosia District, Cyprus. Riverland Bio Farm is recognised as one of the first certified organic bio farms in Cyprus, established in 2004 and known for combining sustainable agricultural production with environmentally friendly farming practices and educational activities. The farm applies organic cultivation methods, resource-efficient systems, and sustainable production approaches aimed at reducing environmental impact while promoting healthy agricultural products.

During the field visit, participants had the opportunity to engage directly with farm representators and observe the operational systems implemented at the farm. The sessions focused on energy systems and resource efficiency solutions used for agricultural production, including photovoltaic systems, irrigation systems, and water management approaches.

designed to support sustainable farming. Participants explored crop cultivation areas and discussed the relationship between resource efficiency and agricultural productivity.

Following a morning practical tour and discussions, participants attended a coffee break and networking session on-site. Additional sessions during the late morning focused on digital agriculture technologies, including IoT sensors, soil and weather data collection systems, AI-supported farming approaches, drones, and agricultural data platforms. Participants discussed how these technologies could improve agricultural productivity and sustainability while also identifying challenges related to implementation, including financial costs, technological accessibility, educational gaps, and increasing climate-related uncertainties.

Lunch was provided at the farm facilities, allowing participants additional time for networking and informal discussions. The afternoon sessions continued with collaborative discussions on sustainable farming practices, climate adaptation challenges, and practical examples observed during the field visit. The second day concluded with reflection activities and exchange of experiences among participants.

Day 3 - 17/05/2026 (Advanced Practical Activities at Riverland Bio Farm - 8 Hours)

The third training day continued with a second practical visit to RIVERLAND BIO FARM. The day started with a recap session reviewing the main topics and learning outcomes from the previous training days, allowing participants to reflect on practical examples and discussions related to sustainable farming and smart agriculture practices.

The sessions then focused on advanced farm management practices and operational efficiency. Participants explored topics related to storage and preservation of crops, management of agricultural products, modern agricultural vehicles used for gathering wheat and hay, landscaping machinery, and technologies supporting efficient farming operations.

Farm representatives demonstrated practical approaches used to improve farm productivity and operational sustainability.

Hands-on learning activities allowed participants to observe equipment and discuss practical implementation of smart agriculture techniques in real farming environments. Throughout the day, participants engaged in practical discussions regarding how similar techniques and technologies could be adapted within their own agricultural activities and local contexts.

Coffee breaks and networking opportunities were integrated throughout the day, while lunch was provided at the farm. The final afternoon sessions focused on preparing participants for the final online learning day and explaining the use of the Digi Hub platform for self-paced learning, quizzes, and evaluation activities.

Day 4: 18/05/2026 (Online Learning, Educational Material Review, and Evaluation - 8 Hours)

The final training day was conducted online and focused on consolidation of learning outcomes, review of educational materials, independent learning, and evaluation activities.

The day started with a joint online session where trainers and participants reviewed all educational modules developed under Activity 4, including Resource Efficiency, Smart Agriculture, and Sustainable Farming.

During the first part of the day, participants engaged in guided discussions connecting the theoretical educational materials with the practical experiences and solutions observed during the field visits at RIVERLAND BIO FARM. Participants reflected on how digital and sustainable approaches could be applied within their own agricultural environments and discussed practical solutions for addressing climate-related and operational challenges.

A short coffee break was provided before participants continued with self-paced learning activities through the SARE DigiHub platform. Participants were encouraged to independently explore the educational content, download learning materials, review the different modules in detail, and complete the available quizzes and self-assessment activities. They were also instructed to complete the final evaluation activities and provide feedback regarding the quality, relevance, and usefulness of the training programme.

OMNIA's project managers remained available online throughout the day to provide guidance and technical support where needed.

The activity successfully achieved its objectives by enhancing participants' awareness and understanding of sustainable and smart agricultural practices, promoting the use of digital tools in agriculture, facilitating peer exchange and practical learning, and encouraging the use of the SARE DigiHub and training materials as long-term educational resources for the agricultural sector.

Training Results

The following learning outcomes were achieved through the implementation of the National Training Activity in Cyprus under Activity 6 of the SARE Project:

- Improved understanding of sustainable farming principles and environmentally responsible agricultural practices.
- Increased awareness of resource efficiency approaches in agriculture, including water management, irrigation systems, fertilization practices, and energy efficiency solutions.
- Enhanced knowledge of smart agriculture technologies and digital tools such as IoT sensors, soil and weather monitoring systems, AI-supported farming approaches, drones, and agricultural data platforms.

- Improved ability to identify challenges related to climate change and discuss practical adaptation strategies applicable within local agricultural contexts.
- Strengthened digital competences related to accessing, navigating, and using online educational platforms and digital learning resources through the SARE DigiHub, under activity 3.
- Increased familiarity with the educational materials developed under Activity 4, including modules related to Resource Efficiency, Smart Agriculture, and Sustainable Farming.
- Enhanced understanding of practical applications of sustainable and smart farming techniques through field-based learning and direct observation at Riverland Bio Farm.
- Improved capacity to evaluate and discuss the benefits and limitations of implementing digital and sustainable agricultural practices within participants' own farming environments.
- Strengthened collaboration, networking, and exchange of experiences among farmers, agricultural practitioners, and sustainability-oriented professionals.
- Increased motivation to adopt innovative, environmentally friendly, and resource-efficient agricultural approaches in daily agricultural activities and future farming practices.

Training Evaluation

At the end of the SARE Training Activity in Cyprus, 8 out of 11 participants completed the evaluation questionnaire assessing the quality, relevance and practical impact of the training. The evaluation results demonstrate strong participant engagement, positive learning outcomes and high appreciation for the practical and interactive nature of the training.

The Cyprus training combined online learning sessions based on the SARE DigiHub materials with face-to-face practical activities hosted at Riverland Bio Farm. This blended learning approach allowed participants to explore both the theoretical foundations of climate-smart agriculture and the practical application of sustainable farming methods in a real agricultural environment.

Participants represented different professional backgrounds, including farmers, agricultural practitioners, trainers and academic professionals. Overall, the evaluation confirms that the training successfully supported knowledge development in smart agriculture, resource efficiency and sustainable farming practices.

Digital Skills Development

The evaluation indicates a positive improvement in participants' self-assessed digital competences following the training activity. Before the training, the majority of participants described their digital skills as basic, while only a small number identified themselves as intermediate or advanced users.

Following the training, most participants reported increased confidence in using digital tools and understanding smart agriculture technologies. The majority of respondents assessed their digital

competences at an intermediate level after the training, while advanced-level participants maintained their high confidence.

The results suggest that the training contributed to strengthening participants' familiarity with digital agriculture concepts, including the use of data, monitoring tools and technology-supported farm management approaches.

Learning Outcomes and Training Impact

The evaluation responses show consistently positive learning outcomes across all thematic areas covered during the training.

Participants particularly valued the practical understanding of smart agriculture and the opportunity to connect digital technologies with real farming applications. Strong results were recorded for understanding how IoT sensors, AI tools, drones and data platforms can support agricultural management and improve decision-making processes.

Participants also demonstrated increased awareness of resource efficiency and sustainable farming approaches. The training successfully strengthened understanding of water and energy management, irrigation efficiency, crop rotation, soil health and integrated pest management practices.

The highest-rated aspects of the learning experience were related to:

- Clear trainer explanations and practical demonstrations;
- Easy-to-follow training materials and visual presentations;
- Increased awareness of climate-smart agriculture;
- Improved understanding of sustainable and resource-efficient farming practices;
- Practical examples presented during the face-to-face sessions.

Participants highlighted that the practical activities at Riverland Bio Farm were among the most valuable components of the training. Hands-on demonstrations and real-life examples helped participants better understand how digital and sustainable farming solutions can be applied in practice.

While the overall evaluation was highly positive, some participants suggested that future activities could include even more practical exercises, additional real-life case studies and more tailored examples related specifically to Cypriot agricultural conditions, particularly olive production and local climate realities.

Training Structure and Delivery

The evaluation results confirm that participants considered the training well structured, understandable and appropriately balanced between theory and practice.

The blended learning model, combining online sessions through the DigiHub with in-person practical activities, was positively received. Participants appreciated the supportive learning environment, the accessibility of the trainers and the opportunity to engage in discussion and practical experimentation.

Several participants specifically mentioned the quality of communication, the inclusive atmosphere and the dedication of the trainers as important strengths of the activity.

Suggestions for future improvement mainly focused on extending practical sessions, increasing

the frequency of similar training activities and allocating more time for interactive discussion and questions.

SARE DigiHub Evaluation

The SARE DigiHub was evaluated positively as the central learning and resource platform supporting the training activity.

Participants appreciated the accessibility of the platform, the organisation of the training materials and the availability of resources in one place. Respondents described the DigiHub as practical, easy to use and useful for supporting different aspects of their professional work.

The most appreciated DigiHub features included:

- Easy access to training materials and resources;
- Well-organised learning content;
- Practical and clearly explained topics;
- Accessibility and simplicity of use;
- The possibility to continue learning after the training.

Participants also acknowledged the value of the DigiHub as a tool for continuous learning beyond the duration of the training activity.

At the same time, several recommendations were made for future development of the platform. Participants suggested adding more video tutorials, improving navigation and interface simplicity, and including more examples directly connected to Cypriot agriculture and local farming conditions.

These suggestions indicate that participants see strong long-term potential in the DigiHub and would welcome further expansion of its practical and interactive learning resources.

Participant Satisfaction and Recommendation

Overall satisfaction with the training was very high. Most participants described themselves as “Very satisfied”, while additional participants selected “Satisfied”.

Participants highlighted the practical nature of the sessions, the relevance of the topics covered and the combination of digital and hands-on learning approaches as major strengths of the activity.

All participants who responded to the recommendation question stated that they would recommend the training to others. This demonstrates the perceived relevance and usefulness of the SARE training approach for agricultural professionals and practitioners in Cyprus.

Participants also expressed interest in attending similar activities in the future and emphasised the importance of continuing knowledge-sharing initiatives related to smart and sustainable agriculture.

Qualitative Feedback from Participants

The qualitative feedback further confirmed the practical value and relevance of the training activity.

Participants identified the following aspects as particularly valuable:

- Practical demonstrations and hands-on learning;
- Exposure to digital tools and smart agriculture concepts;
- Real-life examples presented during the sessions;
- The learning environment at Riverland Bio Farm;
- Inclusive communication and supportive trainers;
- Opportunities to connect sustainability concepts with everyday agricultural practice.

Participants also proposed several ideas for future improvement, including:

- More hands-on exercises and practical workshops;
- More examples adapted to Cypriot farming realities;
- Additional content related to olive production;
- More media visibility and dissemination activities;
- Continued delivery of similar training opportunities in the future.

Overall, the comments reflect strong participant engagement and a positive perception of the SARE project's relevance for modern agricultural development in Cyprus.

Evaluation Conclusions

The evaluation confirms that the SARE National Training Activity in Cyprus successfully achieved its learning objectives and was positively received by participants.

The training contributed to increasing awareness of climate-smart agriculture, strengthening understanding of sustainable farming practices and improving participants' confidence in digital agriculture tools and resource-efficiency approaches.

The blended methodology combining online learning through the DigiHub with practical field-based activities at Riverland Bio Farm proved particularly effective in supporting participant engagement and practical understanding.

The evaluation also demonstrates the importance of continuing accessible, practice-oriented agricultural training opportunities that combine sustainability, digitalisation and real-world application.

Based on participant feedback, the following recommendations should be considered for future activities:

- Continue developing the SARE DigiHub as a long-term learning and resource platform;
- Expand the use of video tutorials and practical multimedia resources;
- Include additional local case studies and examples adapted to Cypriot agriculture;
- Increase opportunities for hands-on practice and interactive learning;
- Develop more specialised examples connected to local crop production, including olive farming;
- Organise follow-up training activities to support continued knowledge transfer and participant engagement.

These recommendations can further strengthen the accessibility, practical relevance and long-term impact of the SARE project results in Cyprus.

Conclusion

The National Training Activity in Cyprus, implemented by OMNIA between 15 May 2026 and 18 May 2026, successfully achieved the objectives of Activity 6 of the SARE Project by promoting sustainable agriculture, resource efficiency, and smart farming approaches within the Cypriot agricultural sector.

The training was delivered through a hybrid learning format combining online educational sessions, independent study activities through the SARE DigiHub, and practical field-based learning activities hosted at Riverland Bio Farm in Kampia village, Nicosia District. This approach enabled participants to combine theoretical learning with direct observation and practical engagement in a real agricultural environment.

The activity brought together 11 participants, exceeding the initially planned number of learners. Participants included farmers, agricultural practitioners, agricultural producers, and sustainability-oriented professionals actively involved in farming and cultivation activities in Cyprus. The diversity of the participant group contributed positively to the exchange of experiences, collaborative discussions, and peer learning throughout the programme.

The training sessions and coordination activities were facilitated by OMNIA's project managers, who guided participants through the educational modules, online learning activities, discussions, and DigiHub platform resources. In addition, representatives and professionals working at Riverland Bio Farm contributed substantially to the practical implementation of the activity by leading field demonstrations, presenting sustainable farming practices, and sharing practical expertise related to resource efficiency, organic cultivation, irrigation systems, and smart agriculture applications.

Throughout the four-day programme, participants actively engaged in discussions and practical activities related to climate-smart agriculture, sustainable farming practices, digital agriculture technologies, water and energy efficiency, irrigation management, soil protection, and climate adaptation strategies. Particular emphasis was placed on connecting the educational materials developed under the SARE project with practical farming realities and local agricultural challenges in Cyprus.

The practical visits at Riverland Bio Farm represented one of the strongest components of the activity, allowing participants to directly observe sustainable farming systems, photovoltaic energy solutions, irrigation management approaches, agricultural machinery, and examples of operational farm efficiency. Participants also explored the potential application of digital agriculture technologies, including IoT sensors, soil and weather monitoring systems, drones, AI-supported farming approaches, and agricultural data platforms.

The activity additionally strengthened participants' familiarity with the SARE DigiHub platform and the educational modules developed under Activity 4, supporting continuous learning and long-term access to educational resources beyond the duration of the training itself.

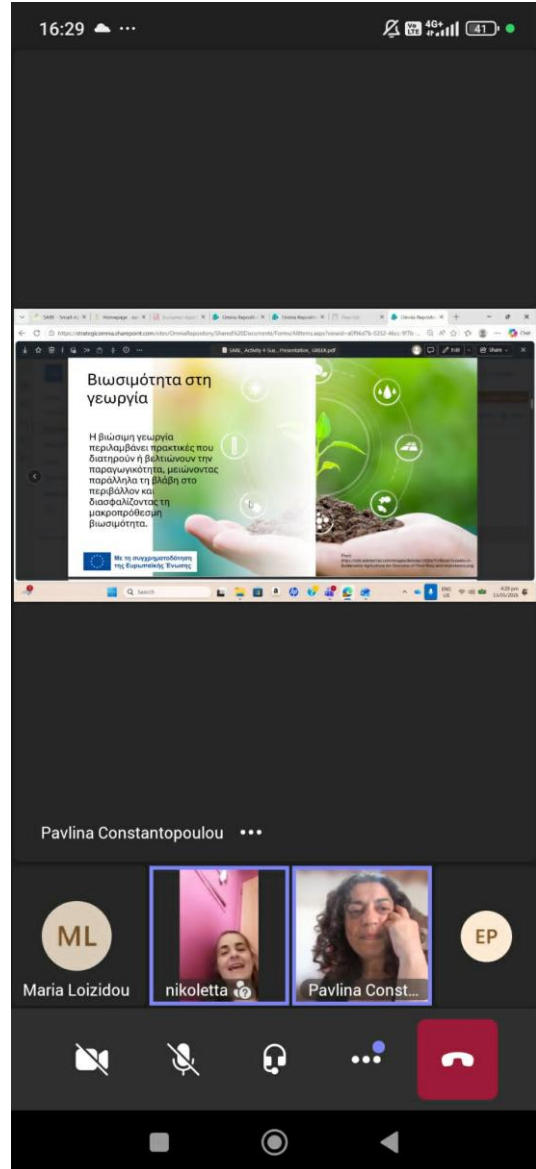
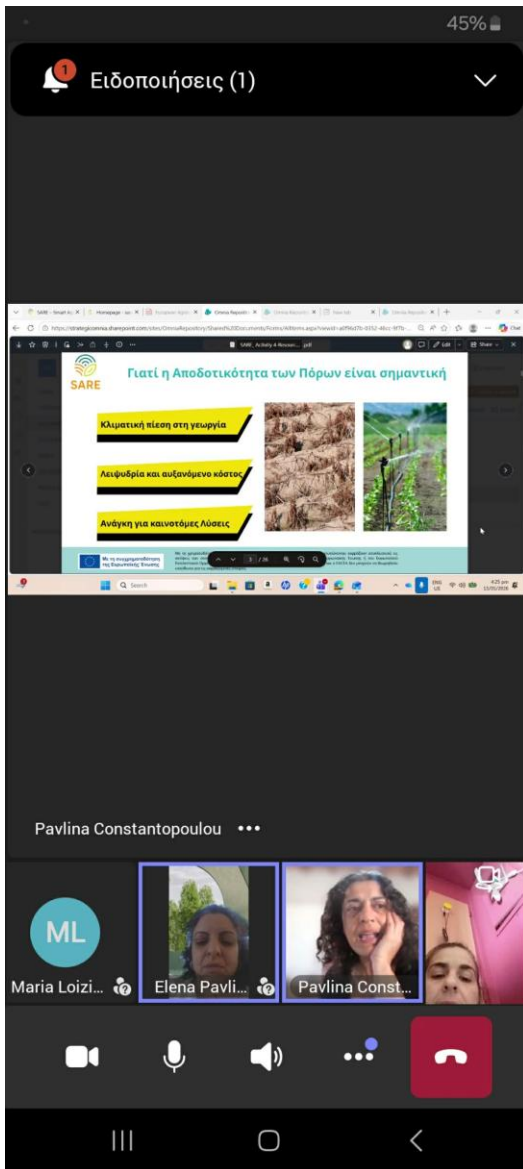
The evaluation results and participant feedback confirmed a high level of satisfaction regarding the quality, structure, relevance, and practical value of the training activity. Participants particularly appreciated the balance between theoretical learning and practical implementation, the inclusive and collaborative learning environment, the accessibility of the trainers, and the

opportunity to exchange experiences with other agricultural practitioners.

Overall, the Cyprus National Training Activity successfully contributed to increasing awareness of sustainable and smart agricultural practices, strengthening digital competences related to agriculture, improving understanding of resource-efficient farming approaches, and encouraging participants to further explore innovative and environmentally responsible farming solutions within their own professional activities.

The successful implementation of the activity also demonstrated the importance of continuing practice-oriented and locally relevant agricultural training initiatives that combine sustainability, digitalisation, and practical real-world application. The outcomes of the activity confirm the strong potential for long-term use, dissemination, and further development of the SARE educational materials and DigiHub platform within the agricultural community in Cyprus.

Evidence











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