



Small and medium companies in countryside territories

LATVIAN RURAL ADVISORY AND TRAINING CENTRE (LLKC)



SMALL AND MEDIUM COMPANIES AND CONSULTANTS, THAT HELP COMPANIES GROW



The goal of our project was to evaluate the professional qualification of Ukrainian agriculture consultants and create a unified qualification improvement scheme for this country, to promote the export capabilities of small and medium companies and provide them with the chance to receive professional consultations.

During the experience exchange visits in Latvia we stressed the importance of consultant work with small and medium companies, product quality and the necessity to introduce products to the European Union market. During these visits we went to the involved state institutions, together with LLKC specialists we held discussions about the cooperation model with entrepreneurs, cooperative societies and local governments.

We visited shops of domestic producers in Jelgava and Talsi, degustation's of different products and experience stories were offered. A visit to the Dobele Institute of horticulture and meeting their specialists was very valuable for the fruit and berry producers from Ukraine. Questions about growing technologies and processing possibilities were discussed.

The senior specialist of the LLKC Māris Narvils informed everyone about biological management of a farm, growing fruit and berries, diversity of sorts and the newest trends. During the practical activities, we



visited many fruit and berry producer farms, e.g. “Gaidas” farm and SIA “Lubeco”. Both are great examples of not only growing and processing questions but are also successful in cooperation and sales.

The historical overview on horticulture development in Latvia by the Horticulture institute as well as their research directions and all questions related to processing drew much attention. That is why there were already ideas of continuing cooperation in dealing with certain problems and regarding education.

In the educational seminars in the Ukraine (Odesa and Lviv) the emphasis was on the knowledge of Latvian experts about the institutional, financial and legal aspects. Information about observing fruit and berry quality standards in the European Union (EU) market was very valuable for the Ukrainian parties.

At the end of the project in the ministry John Millns – leader of the EU Project Support to Agriculture and Food Policy Implementation in Ukraine and other agriculture politics experts took part in a round table discussion. Based on the results of the working parties in Latvia and the Ukraine, a special understanding about educational needs was attained and an educational program base for agricultural consultants was developed.

During 2019-2020 the development cooperation project between Latvia and the Ukraine will be continued, by introducing an online education platform “E-konsultants”.

For the Ukrainian agricultural companies and entrepreneurs, the most valuable gain from this project was the possibility to see in practice, that even small volume companies (especially domestic producers) are able to produce goods that meets the standards of the EU market.

“ To enter the market with product with high added value is a problem for any producer both in Latvia and the Ukraine. Small producers cannot be alone in this market, they must cooperate with similar producers and they must work together.

— «Agro Tavriya» consultant
VLADIMIR TERNOVSKY



Domestic producer shop visit in Talsi.



Domestic producer shop visit in Jelgava.



More about the project:

- <https://ej.uz/4w4y>
- <https://ej.uz/tzn2>
- <https://ej.uz/dhf4>

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