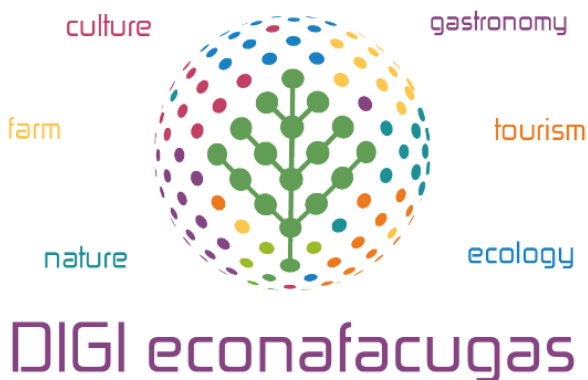


Press release

End of Erasmus+ Project

DIGI - ECONAFACUGAS



**Co-funded by
the European Union**

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European Collaboration advances digitalization and sustainable practices in rural tourism through Erasmus+ DIGI ECONAFACUGAS Project

The Erasmus+ DIGI ECONAFACUGAS project, a collaborative effort between five environmental NGOs from Spain, Slovakia, Romania, and Austria, is proud to announce the successful completion of its mission, co-funded by the Erasmus+ program of the European Union (KA2 – Cooperation among Organizations and Institutions). The project aimed to promote digitalization in rural tourism and develop sustainable practices in the management of natural and agricultural resources.

Between 2023 and 2024, the project organized two key workshops in Romania and Spain. These workshops brought together experts in nature conservation, agriculture, and tourism to exchange knowledge and develop innovative approaches to rural development. The insights and outcomes from these workshops have been compiled into a comprehensive Best Practices Guide, which highlights existing digital tools and provides concrete examples of successful strategies in these fields.

The Best Practices Guide developed under the DIGI ECONAFACUGAS project seeks to enhance understanding and application of digitalization in rural tourism. It aims to contribute to population retention in rural areas and promote the sustainable management of agricultural, forestry, and livestock activities. The guide also includes a network of digital tool developers and showcases successful initiatives that can serve as models for other regions.

"This project marks an important milestone in promoting digitized rural tourism and conserving our natural and cultural

heritage. We hope that our guide will inspire other communities to adopt sustainable practices and leverage technology to develop rural tourism," said Miryam Palomo Sepulveda, Biodiversity Project Officer and Researcher at CESEFOR, Spain, and coordinator of the DIGI ECONAFACUGAS project.

The DIGI ECONAFACUGAS project is a testament to the power of international collaboration, emphasizing innovation and sustainability, and showcasing the potential of technology to support the development of rural communities.

For more information and to access the full Best Practices Guide, please visit our website.

Partners:

- **Cesefor** (Spain): A foundation focused on the sustainable development and management of forest resources, providing technical support, research, and training to enhance the economic, social, and environmental benefits of forestry.
- **Fundación Monte Mediterráneo** (Spain): Committed to the sustainable management and conservation of the Mediterranean agro-ecosystem known as the "dehesa," promoting biodiversity and sustainable farming practices.
- **Hochschule für Agrar- und Umweltpädagogik** (Austria): An institution specializing in higher education and research in agricultural and environmental education, training future educators and experts in sustainable agriculture and rural development.
- **Propark - Foundation for Protected Areas** (Romania): Dedicated to nature conservation and environmental education, supporting local communities in sustainable development and promoting active involvement in protecting natural heritage.

- **Lišov Múzeum** (Slovakia): A cultural institution preserving and promoting the rural heritage and traditions of the Lišov region, involved in educational initiatives, workshops, and community events supporting sustainable rural tourism development.