

## RELIEF Newsletter #4

### Exploring bioeconomy in agriculture: discover RELIEF e-learning and future training opportunities

In this issue, we are excited to announce the launch of our new e-learning platform, update you on the recently held national workshops, and give you a preview of the training opportunities scheduled for autumn.

#### 1) Introducing our e-learning platform

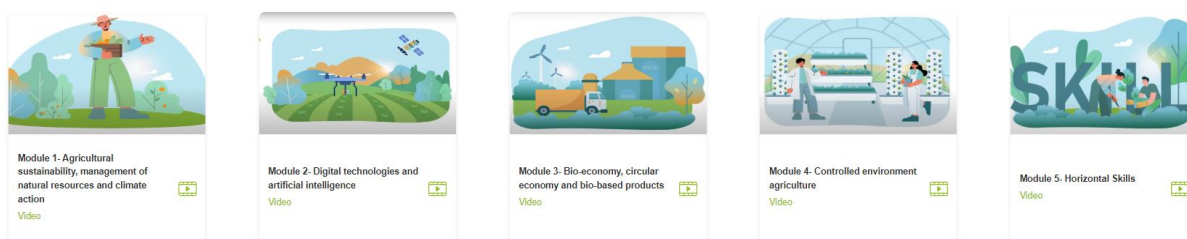
We are pleased to announce the launch of the RELIEF innovative e-learning platform, designed to provide educational resources and specific courses on bioeconomy in agriculture. The e-platform was officially launched in June 2024 and offers a range of courses and supplementary materials, as well as gamified resources:

##### Key features:

- 20 RELIEF courses and supplementary materials
- Gamified resources
- Available in five languages (English, Greek, Italian, Portuguese, Swedish)
- Two levels of courses: university and professional
- Aimed at university students, agronomists, and farmers
- Completely free!

##### 5 Courses available

Each of these modules offers several learning units: watch the videos describing the content of the 5 modules:



- Agricultural sustainability <https://youtu.be/52X8pSfEOD4?feature=shared>
- Digital technologies and artificial intelligence <https://youtu.be/itKyt9KDMBs?feature=shared>
- Bio-economy, circular economy, and bio-based products [https://youtu.be/I6PxMy00\\_e8?feature=shared](https://youtu.be/I6PxMy00_e8?feature=shared)
- Controlled environment agriculture <https://youtu.be/6V7FRlkZxHE?feature=shared>
- Horizontal skills <https://youtu.be/atruwQL20IE?feature=shared>

### Expected benefits for users:

- Learn the most important aspects of bioeconomy and circularity concepts related to agriculture
- Update your professional profile with multidisciplinary, cross-sectoral, and managerial skills
- Apply bioeconomy practices in your rural context and improve sustainability

**How to register:** You can register and take the courses online independently and for free through the following link: <https://elearning.relief.uop.gr/>

### Support and resources:

- Guides and tutorials for using the platform are available, including a YouTube video explaining how to access and navigate (in English): <https://youtu.be/Ul6bCPoXViI?feature=shared>
- The platform also provides support material for trainers, such as PowerPoints and activity instructions for each module.

## 2) Engaging with our community: a recap of recent national workshops

We have recently organized a series of national workshops to promote bioeconomy in agriculture and meet our community. Here is a summary of the main events:

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### Portugal – May 15, 2024

#### “Bioeconomy in agriculture: challenges and opportunities”



On May 15, 2024, the multiplier event for the RELIEF project in Portugal took place at TERINOV, showcasing the main objectives and proposed curriculum and learning units to several important local and regional stakeholders. The event was a significant success, drawing an audience of 15 participants, including farmers, agronomists, researchers, university professors, VET trainers, and regional policymakers. The presentation detailed the objectives, partners, and the potential impact and expected results of

the project as well as RELIEF’s curriculum and learning units’ contents.

## Sweden – April 25, May 15, May 23, May 26, 2024

### Bioeconomy and agroecology: discover the RELIEF project and learning opportunities



The RELIEF events in Sweden comprised a successful series of four gatherings held between late April and May 2024, featuring both online and in-person formats. These events gathered 142 diverse participants, who explored the project's objectives and results, learning opportunities, and the bio-economy hub of Sweden. Participants included VET school teachers and students, many of whom are practicing farmers, as well as university professors, students, local NGO representatives, and innovative farmers engaged

in agroecology and regeneration to enhance the sustainability and circularity of their businesses.

## Greece – May 21, 2024

### Bioeconomy in Agriculture: the next big deal



On May 21, 2024, the RELIEF project held a national workshop at the University of Peloponnese in Kalamata titled "Bioeconomy in Agriculture: the next big deal". Attendees explored the project's objectives, curriculum, and learning units, discussing the growing importance of bioeconomy in agriculture and the skills needed to support this transition. The workshop emphasized practical applications of bioeconomy principles and provided an overview of the RELIEF e-learning platform and upcoming training opportunities. Special guest Nasos Makios, Ambassador of the European Climate

Pact, presented on "*Bio-economy in Practice*," highlighting real-world applications.

Italy – May 23, 2024

## Bioeconomy in agriculture: exploring concrete opportunities for rural stakeholder



On May 23, in conjunction with the Sixth National Bioeconomy Day in Italy, the RELIEF project hosted a multiplier event in Stia, Arezzo. The event drew 61 participants—43 in person and 18 online—including farmers, agronomists, researchers, university professors, VET trainers, and regional policymakers. It featured extensive discussions on the concrete opportunities provided by the bioeconomy, detailed the project’s goals, partners, potential impacts, and expected outcomes, and presented the content of the RELIEF curriculum and learning units.

Each event was tailored to engage key stakeholders and discuss the bioeconomy's practical applications and benefits, reflecting RELIEF’s commitment to advancing agricultural education and practice across Europe.

### 3) Upcoming opportunities: join RELIEF's innovative training pilot

The RELIEF training pilot is a unique opportunity to explore and experience the innovative Learning Units and learning methods dedicated to bioeconomy in agriculture, available at two levels: Higher Education (HE) and Vocational Education and Training (VET). This program aims to enhance the skills of university students, VET trainers, agronomists, agricultural advisors, and farmers.

**What does the training pilot offer?** Each project partner will select six Learning Units for each level, tailored to the specific needs of the target groups and national context. These units will cover crucial topics such as agricultural sustainability, digital technologies, circular bioeconomy, controlled environment agriculture, and transversal skills.

#### Who can participate?

The pilot targets four main groups:

- HE/VET institutions
- agronomists and agricultural advisors
- farmers
- university students

Each group will have the opportunity to follow the Learning Units that best meet their needs and professional interests.

**When and where?** The pilot will start in September 2024 and end on November 30, 2024. Training sessions will be conducted in a mixed mode: in-person, online through the RELIEF e-learning platform, and work-based learning (WBL) activities.

It will take place in Greece, Portugal, Sweden and Italy.

### Why participate?

- Deepen your knowledge of bioeconomy and its practical application in agriculture
- Update your professional profile with multidisciplinary and cross-sectoral skills
- Experience innovative and flexible learning methods, such as gamified activities and WBL
- Collaborate with industry experts and enhance your managerial skills

### Do you want to receive more information?

Don't miss this unique opportunity to contribute to the future of bioeconomy in agriculture. Join us in the RELIEF project pilot and be part of the change! Contact:

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