



www.smartskillsproject.eu

January 2026

Newsletter 3



Co-funded by
the European Union

Funded by the European Union. Views and opinions expressed are however those of the author(s) only and do not necessarily reflect those of the European Union or the European Education and Culture Executive Agency (EACEA). Neither the European Union nor EACEA can be held responsible for them. 2023-2-PL01-KA220-VET-000178755



What's Inside



01

**A Warm Welcome
to Our New
Project
Coordinator**

Page 3

02

**From Denmark to
Italy: Celebrating
the WP2 Mini-
Launch Events**

Page 4

03

**Looking Ahead:
Delivering the
Twin Transition in
2026**

Page 7



This license enables reusers to distribute, remix, adapt, and build upon the material in any medium or format, so long as attribution is given to the creator. The license allows for commercial use. CC BY includes the following elements: BY: credit must be given to the creator.



**Co-funded by
the European Union**

Funded by the European Union. Views and opinions expressed are however those of the author(s) only and do not necessarily reflect those of the European Union or the European Education and Culture Executive Agency (EACEA). Neither the European Union nor EACEA can be held responsible for them. 2023-2-PL01-KA220-VET-000178755



Welcoming Our New Project Coordinator: Maja Boczkowska

The SMART SKILLS consortium is thrilled to ring in the new year with a significant milestone in our project leadership.

We are proud to officially introduce our new Project Coordinator, Maja Boczkowska, representing IHAR (Plant Breeding and Acclimatisation Institute – National Research Institute).



Maja
Boczkowska

Maja brings an incredible wealth of expertise in agricultural research, genetic resource management, and sustainable farming innovations to the helm of the SMART SKILLS initiative. Her leadership at IHAR will ensure our consortium continues to build robust, high-impact educational frameworks that support vocational trainers, educators, and smallholders across Europe. Under her guidance, the partnership is fully aligned to deliver our upcoming open-education resources and cross-border training modules

Putting Knowledge into Practice:

Celebrating Our WP2 Mini-Launches

*Across our European partner networks, the past months have been defined by local engagement and collaboration. Partners successfully hosted localized mini-launch events to disseminate the foundational results of **Work Package 2 (WP2) — The SMART SKILLS Good Practice Compendium & Digital Skills OER Kit.***

These participatory meetings allowed regional educators, agricultural technicians, young farmers, and rural entrepreneurs to interface directly with our newly developed frameworks.

Here is a look at how our partners brought the project to life on the ground:

DENMARK

An Earth Day Celebration of Climate-Smart Farming



(EUEI) at the Naturcenter Herstedhøje environmental hub in Albertslund Forest, this event beautifully married nature with technology. Twenty-four participants—including VET educators, agro-SME leaders, and digital learning specialists—participated in a guided sustainability walk followed by an interactive pavilion workshop. Attendees explored real-world case studies from our Compendium, with multiple VET educators requesting early access to weave these smart-farming materials directly into their college lesson plans.

IRELAND

Mapping Opportunities for Irish Agri-Communities



In Ireland, Momentum hosted an engaging local workshop that brought together regional farmers, agricultural agencies, and agri-food representatives from within the local community. The session focused on an open dialogue regarding the SMART SKILLS project and an evaluation of the educational resources available to date. Participants actively discussed the unique opportunities that lie within the digital and green Twin Transition specifically for rural Irish farms, as well as the broader networks and businesses that rely on them.



POLAND

Engaging VET Educators and the Next Generation.



Led by IHAR and ARID, this targeted dissemination event focused on bridging the generational and technological gap in modern agriculture. VET educators were familiarised with the content of the training materials and provided with concrete recommendations on utilising microlearning and short educational videos in their classrooms. Additionally, agricultural students looking to manage their own future holdings gained valuable insights into useful and relevant modern approaches to farm-resource management.

Mapping Territorial Needs in Bovino

At their headquarters in Bovino, Meridaunia hosted a highly participatory meeting with twenty local stakeholders, including young farmers, rural entrepreneurs, and agricultural consultants. The diverse variety of cases collected in the Compendium of Good Practices generated massive interest and praise as a highly replicable, inspirational tool.

Attendees also participated in an exclusive preview of the upcoming online training modules, mapping out critical regional requirements for smart irrigation, sustainable fertilisation, and accessible, low-cost digital technologies



“Investments in agriculture are the best weapons against hunger and poverty, and they have made life better for billions of people.”

**Bill And Melinda
Gates Foundation**



What's Next for 2026?

With the evidence base and stakeholder feedback from Work Package 2 successfully gathered, the SMART SKILLS consortium is charging ahead into a landmark year.

Our core focus is now shifting to the enhancement of the **SMART SKILLS E-Learning Platform**, where we are preparing to roll out our extensive suite of resources. A major part of this process involves the localisation and integration of our **30 microlearning modules** across our partner languages. We plan to ensure that all courses are fully accessible in Slovak, Italian, Danish, Czech, and Polish. By stripping away technical jargon and removing language barriers, we aim to make smart agricultural adoption seamless for end-users across Europe.

Simultaneously, we are nearing completion on the delivery of the **SMART SKILLS Educator's Guide / Trainers Handbook**. This practical methodology will serve as a definitive roadmap to support VET professionals and local mentors in rolling out these training suites effectively on the ground. Together with our upcoming regional design thinking workshop guides, these tools will empower trainers to help local agri-stakeholders co-create immediate, sustainable, and actionable digital strategies.

CLICK
TO VIEW

WELCOME TO THE Welcome to the Smart Skills Project

This project aims to strengthen digital literacy & the exchange of innovative practices across the EU's Agri-sector. The initiative aligns with the pressing goals of combating climate change, meeting SDGs & promoting rural sustainability. Within our European partnership we will address cultural & vocational barriers to digital adoption in agriculture. Evaluate and share best practices in digital technologies in the Agri-sector and share our results openly across Europe as a way to spread the word and create increased impact.

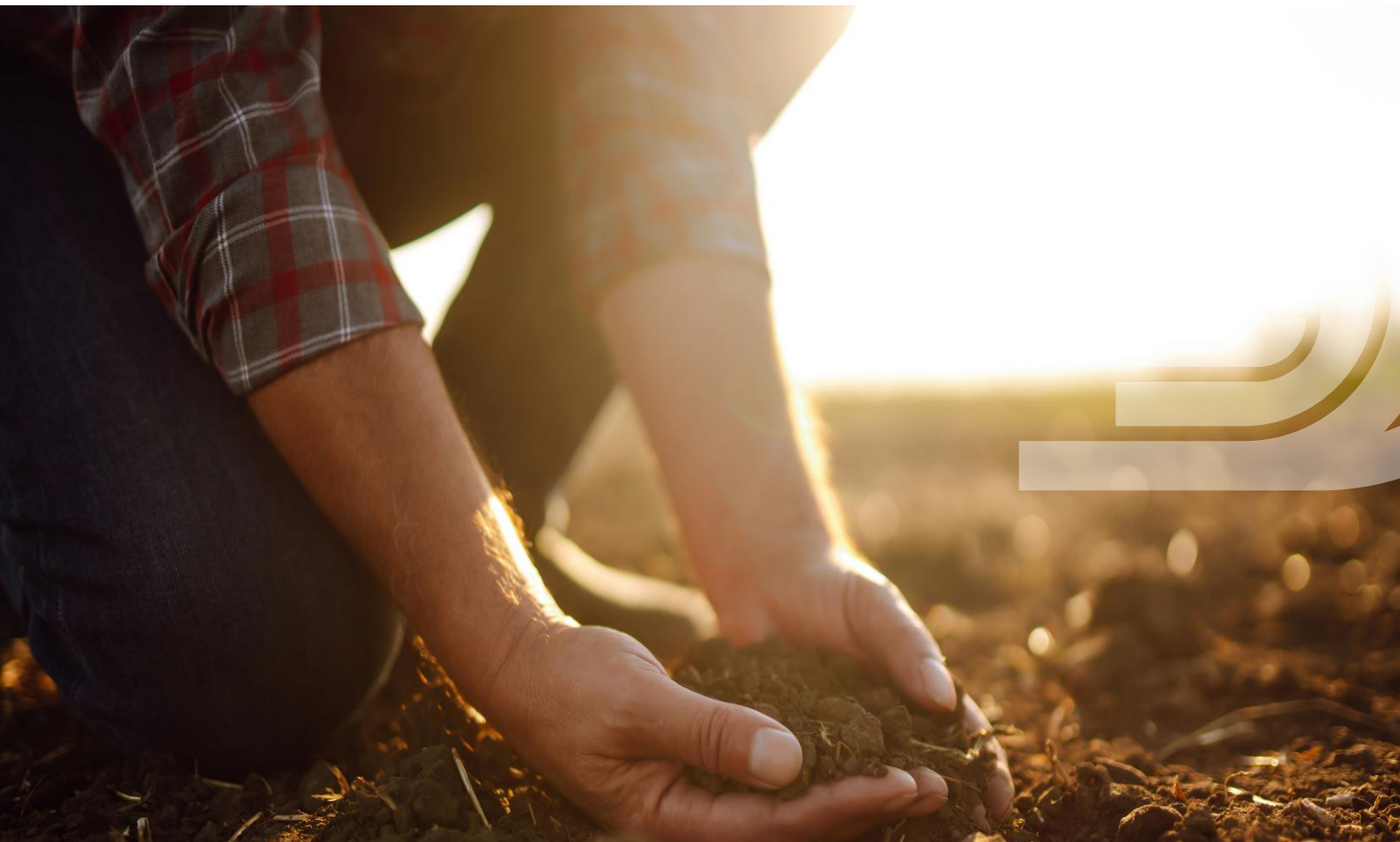


"Investments in agriculture are the best weapons against hunger and poverty, and they have made life better for billions of people."

BILL AND MELINDA GATES FOUNDATION



Follow Our Journey



www.smartskillsproject.eu

Follow our journey



Co-funded by
the European Union

Funded by the European Union. Views and opinions expressed are however those of the author(s) only and do not necessarily reflect those of the European Union or the European Education and Culture Executive Agency (EACEA). Neither the European Union nor EACEA can be held responsible for them. 2023-2-PL01-KA220-VET-000178755