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Erasmus+ Programme  
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## EVEC Athens — Erasmus+ Traineeship: Microgreens, Vertical Farming & Urban Agriculture Intern

European Voluntary and Educational Center Athens (evec.org.gr)

*This document describes the intern profile EVEC Athens is seeking through Erasmus+ traineeship mobility. It is intended to be shared with sending institutions and their Erasmus offices to facilitate candidate matching.*

### 1. About the Host Organisation

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| <b>Organisation</b>      | European Voluntary and Educational Center Athens (EVEC Athens)   |
| <b>Legal form</b>        | Non-profit NGO registered in Greece  |
| <b>Sector</b>            | Non-formal education, youth mobility, VET cooperation, sustainability  |
| <b>Erasmus+ status</b>   | KA1 Youth Accreditation (active) · ESC Quality Label · KA220-VET project coordinator   |
| <b>PIC / OID</b>         | 909448430 / E10172681  |
| <b>Core activity</b>     | Microgreens-based pedagogy integrating STEM, circular economy, entrepreneurship, and VET across multiple EU projects (KA151-YOU, KA210-YOU, KA220-VET)   |
| <b>Location</b>          | Athens, Greece (Group 2 — medium cost of living for Erasmus+ grant purposes)   |
| <b>Working languages</b> | English (primary), Greek (beneficial but not required)   |
| <b>Supervision</b>       | Dedicated mentor/supervisor per trainee; weekly check-ins; structured learning outcomes aligned with Learning Agreement  |
| <b>Compliance</b>        | Written safeguarding policy for activities involving minors; GDPR-compliant photo and data consent procedures (parental consent for under-16s); food-safety practices aligned with EU Regulation 852/2004 on the hygiene of foodstuffs. Sending institutions receive these documents on request. |

### 2. Microgreens Growing Systems and Educational Programme

For an agricultural student, this traineeship offers something extraordinarily rare: the chance to work hands-on with **four different growing systems running in parallel under one roof — soil-based, hydroponic, aquaponic, and aeroponic — as pedagogical infrastructure rather than commercial production.** Most agriculture programmes across Europe expose students to one or two of these systems in theory and let them try one in a pilot project. EVEC operates all four simultaneously, which means in 2–6 months you gain side-by-side practical experience with techniques that most graduates only encounter as separate university modules — comparing yields, water use, energy use, and growth quality between systems where parameters allow direct comparison, week after week, with longer-cycle herbs and leafy greens running on the aquaponic and aeroponic loops alongside the microgreens lines.

**Why this role matters in Athens specifically.** Athens is one of Europe's most densely urbanised capitals. Many of its young people grow up in apartment blocks without regular contact with green space, agricultural production, or the visible cycle of seed-to-plate. EVEC's pedagogical premise is that the short microgreens cycle — fast enough to hold attention, complete enough to teach the full food system — is one of the most accessible entry points to agricultural literacy, environmental responsibility, and circular economy thinking for urban youth. The intern joins a project that turns this premise into structured weekly workshops. EVEC's hands-on, multi-system pedagogical setup is uncommon in Greek vocational and higher education, where these techniques are typically taught as separate theoretical modules — as an agricultural student from outside Greece, you bring expertise that

goes directly to the young people who need it most.

**The work itself.** Microgreens cycles run between 7 and 21 days depending on variety — Brassicas (radish, broccoli) at 7–10 days, sunflower and pea shoots at 8–14 days, slower herbs (basil, cilantro) at 14–21 days — which means young people can experience a complete seed-to-fork journey within the timespan of a single Erasmus+ activity, school workshop, or ESC volunteering month. Microgreens are EVEC's signature pedagogical vehicle: short cycles, dense nutrition, low cost per cycle, and side-by-side comparison capability make them ideal for teaching STEM, sustainability, circular economy, and food entrepreneurship across age groups. Around these systems, EVEC has produced **four draft toolkits** under its Erasmus+ KA151-YOU project (2024-1-EL02-KA151-YOU-000229166), in partnership with organisations from Greece, Serbia, Bulgaria, North Macedonia, and Italy: a Universal Growing Guide ('Microgreens Growing Guide — Seed to Harvest' in the project deliverable schedule), a Young Entrepreneurs Toolkit (18–30), a Primary School Toolkit (13–14), and a High School STEM Toolkit (15–19). These drafts exist as content outlines that need development into finalised, photographed, illustrated, and field-validated materials.

**Your work outlives the placement.** The growing protocols you develop (yields, soak times, EC and pH values, photoperiod choices, troubleshooting solutions) become the operational reference that every future intern, ESC volunteer, and workshop facilitator at EVEC consults. The four toolkits you co-develop are produced as Erasmus+ project deliverables, used in classrooms in Greece and across the partner countries, and — where the project coordinator uploads them — made available on the Erasmus+ Project Results Platform for educators across Europe. **EVEC commits to crediting you in toolkit deliverables you contribute substantively to, subject to your written GDPR consent.** Few agricultural traineeships offer this kind of permanence to a trainee's contribution.

***Outside working hours.** Athens is one of Europe's most popular Erasmus+ destinations: the Acropolis, the Mediterranean coast, world-famous food culture, weekend ferries to the islands, mild winters, and a moderate cost of living that lets the Erasmus+ grant go further than in northern Europe. You arrive as a trainee; you leave as someone who has lived in the cradle of European civilisation.*

#### Educational programme components and their status:

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| <b>Soil-based system</b>                   | Operational — needs documentation, yield optimisation, and comparative protocol with the other three systems.          |
| <b>Hydroponic system</b>                   | Operational — needs nutrient protocol refinement, EC/pH monitoring, and variety performance trials.                    |
| <b>Aquaponic system</b>                    | Operational — needs cycle integration with microgreens production and water-quality validation.                        |
| <b>Aeroponic system</b>                    | Operational — needs trial cycles, misting protocol development, and root-zone documentation.                           |
| <b>Universal Growing Guide</b>             | Draft outlined — needs day-by-day photography, validated soak times, refined troubleshooting, and printable resources. |
| <b>Young Entrepreneurs Toolkit (18–30)</b> | Draft outlined — needs editable templates (business plan, finance, HACCP, pitch), case studies, and validation.        |
| <b>Primary School Toolkit (13–14)</b>      | Draft outlined — needs activity sheets, journal templates, illustrations, and classroom field-testing.                 |
| <b>High School STEM Toolkit (15–19)</b>    | Draft outlined — needs sensor wiring diagrams, Arduino/micro:bit code templates, lab safety guide, lesson plans.       |
| <b>Seed-to-fork workshops</b>              | To be launched — weekly recurring sessions for Athens youth from schools, NGOs, and walk-in groups.                    |
| <b>microgreens.org.gr</b>                  | Live, with 100+ articles — needs technical content (cultivation, sustainability, circular economy) from this role.     |

#### Shared resources available to the intern:

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| <b>Workspace</b>           | Dedicated indoor growing space at EVEC's office, with the four parallel systems and supporting infrastructure (racks, trays, seeds, substrates, sensors, hand tools). |
| <b>Visual support</b>      | Collaboration with EVEC's Graphic Designer trainee on toolkit illustrations, infographics, growth-cycle photography, and printable layouts.                           |
| <b>Editorial support</b>   | Collaboration with the Multilingual Content Writer for editing toolkit text into clear English; the toolkits are produced in English as the working language.         |
| <b>Web publishing</b>      | All content is published on microgreens.org.gr (WordPress + Blocksy Pro), uploaded by the Web Content Manager.  |
| <b>Documentation tools</b> | YouTube Studio, Canva Pro, Google Workspace for Nonprofits — for video documentation, visual design, and shared documents.  |

### 3. Position: Microgreens, Vertical Farming and Urban Agriculture Intern

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| <b>Position title</b>       | Microgreens, Vertical Farming & Urban Agriculture Intern  |
| <b>Area / department</b>    | Urban Agriculture and Educational Programme Development   |
| <b>No. of positions</b>     | 1–2 per intake period   |
| <b>Duration</b>             | 2–12 months allowed under Erasmus+; 3–4 months recommended by EVEC to cover multiple full growing cycles. Longer placements considered case by case.  |
| <b>Weekly hours</b>         | 30–35 hours per week (EVEC's institutional schedule for trainee well-being; can be extended on agreement with the sending institution)  |
| <b>Format</b>               | On-site in Athens, Greece (the role is hands-on with growing systems)   |
| <b>Start</b>                | Rolling — trainees can start as soon as the Learning Agreement is signed. Flexible alignment with sending institution call calendar.  |
| <b>Erasmus+ grant</b>       | Approximately <b>€600–700/month</b> from the sending institution (Greece is Group 2 — medium cost of living — under the 2024–2027 Erasmus+ Programme Guide; figure includes the standard €150/month traineeship top-up and varies by sending national agency). Additional <b>€250/month inclusion top-up</b> available for fewer-opportunities participants; green travel and travel-day top-ups also available.                                      |
| <b>Study level</b>          | VET Diploma / ITS Academy (EQF 5–6), BA, or MA. Open to ITS Academy students under both <b>KA131-HED</b> traineeships (where the ITS holds an Erasmus Charter for Higher Education) and <b>KA1-VET</b> mobility (where it does not) — EVEC works with both routes.  |
| <b>Linguistic skills</b>    | English: B1 minimum (working language) · Greek: not required · Other EU languages welcome   |
| <b>Practical skills</b>     | Practical horticulture or microgreens experience (any of: soil cultivation, hydroponics, aquaponics, aeroponics) is highly valued. Candidates are expected to bring at least <b>theoretical knowledge of how each of the four growing systems works</b> — including how they are assembled, operated, and disassembled — with hands-on familiarity in at least one. Enthusiastic learners with a strong related study background are also considered. |
| <b>Facilities provided</b>  | Workspace at EVEC Athens with the four growing systems, full city orientation, dedicated supervisor, integration into multicultural project team, support with accommodation search.  |
| <b>Application deadline</b> | Rolling — applications accepted year-round. Early contact recommended to align with sending institution call deadlines.   |
| <b>Contact</b>              | erasmus@evec.org.gr   |

### 4. Candidate Profile — Who We Are Looking For

This is the **practical and pedagogical** role at EVEC — the first hands-on agricultural position in the team. While the communication team (Marketing Strategist, Graphic Designer, Content Writer, and others) handles digital outreach, you are the person closest to the actual subject matter EVEC teaches: how food grows. Your work has two halves. The first half is **practical**: you maintain and optimise four parallel microgreens growing systems (soil, hydroponic, aquaponic, aeroponic), run experimental cycles, document yields and conditions, and produce evidence that informs EVEC's educational content. The second half is **pedagogical**: you take EVEC's four draft toolkits and develop them into complete, tested educational materials, and you facilitate weekly seed-to-fork workshops for Athenian youth who often have no prior contact with green space or food production.

The ideal candidate is enrolled in **Agronomy, Horticulture, Sustainable Agriculture, Food Science and Technology, Agricultural Engineering, Environmental Science, Urban Agriculture, Plant Biology, or a related programme**. Practical experience with at least one of EVEC's four growing systems is highly valued — particularly hydroponics, since it is the most transferable skill across the four. Aquaponic or aeroponic experience is rare and a strong asset. Pedagogical experience (workshops, school projects, summer camps, scout work) is welcomed. We do not expect candidates to be experts in all four systems; we do expect curiosity, observation skills, and the patience to run multiple growing cycles before drawing conclusions.

#### Your role in a multicultural team — how this role connects to others:

EVEC's trainee team is multicultural and cross-functional, composed of up to five Erasmus+ trainees from different EU countries and academic backgrounds. As the Microgreens, Vertical Farming & Urban Agriculture Intern, you are the team's **subject-matter contributor on the actual content EVEC teaches**. The communication team produces digital materials about microgreens; you are the one who actually grows them, documents them, and turns experience into curriculum. Here is how your role intersects with each team member:

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| <b>You → Graphic Designer</b>            | You provide raw photography of growing cycles (day-by-day shots of seed → cotyledon → harvest across the four systems), data points for infographics (yield per system, water use, harvest density), and content blocks for toolkit layouts. The Graphic Designer turns these into the illustrated guides, infographic posters, growth-timeline visuals, and printable activity sheets that the toolkits need. |
| <b>You → Multilingual Content Writer</b> | You draft technical content for the four toolkits and microgreens.org.gr articles in English. The Content Writer edits, restructures for clarity, and adapts the tone for each target audience (children vs. teenagers vs. entrepreneurs). For workshops, the Writer produces the participant-facing communication; you produce the curriculum content.  |
| <b>You → Web Content Manager</b>         | You produce technical articles and toolkit deliverables for microgreens.org.gr. The Web Content Manager publishes them on WordPress with proper SEO, image optimisation, and internal linking. You decide what should be published; they handle how it appears on the site.  |
| <b>You → Social Media Coordinator</b>    | You document growing cycles, workshops, and system experiments visually (photos, short videos, time-lapses). The Social Media Coordinator turns this raw documentation into Instagram Reels, TikTok content, YouTube Shorts, and Facebook posts that show EVEC's pedagogical work to a European audience.  |
| <b>You → UX / Web Strategist</b>         | You provide content architecture input for microgreens.org.gr: how the four toolkits, the universal growing guide, and the workshop content should be organised. The UX Strategist produces wireframes; you ensure the agricultural content logic (cycle stages, system comparison, age-based filtering) is reflected in the structure.  |
| <b>You → Marketing Strategist</b>        | You produce the substantive content that EVEC's marketing campaigns promote. When the Strategist plans an autumn campaign around urban agriculture in Athens, your workshop schedule, your toolkit launches, and your growing system data are the campaign's substance.  |
| <b>You → Athens youth participants</b>   | The most important relationship of all. Weekly workshops bring young people from local NGOs, schools, and walk-in groups into EVEC's space to follow a microgreens cycle from seed to fork. You are their guide. They will eat what they grow.   |

#### Ideal fields of study (in order of relevance):

1. **Primary** Agronomy, Horticulture, Sustainable Agriculture, Urban Agriculture
2. **Strong** Food Science and Technology, Agricultural Engineering, Plant Biology, Botany
3. **Good** Environmental Science, Forestry, Biotechnology, Ecology
4. **Acceptable** STEM Education, Biology Education, Sustainability Studies — if the candidate has demonstrable practical horticultural experience and pedagogical interest

*Italian CUN codes for reference (per MUR DM 1648/2023 and DM 1649/2023): L-2 (Biotechnologie), L-13 (Scienze biologiche), L-25 (Scienze e tecnologie agrarie e forestali), L-26 (Scienze e tecnologie alimentari), L-32 (Scienze e tecnologie per l'ambiente e la natura), L-38 (Scienze zootecniche e tecnologie delle produzioni animali), LM-7 (Biotechnologie agrarie), LM-69 (Scienze e tecnologie agrarie), LM-70 (Scienze e tecnologie alimentari), LM-73 (Scienze e tecnologie forestali ed ambientali), LM-75 (Scienze e tecnologie per l'ambiente e il territorio), LM-86 (Scienze zootecniche e tecnologie animali). Italian ITS Academy: Area 4 (Sistema Agroalimentare) and, secondarily, Area 1 (Energia, which absorbs the former environmental sustainability area) and Area 5 (Sistema casa e ambiente costruito) under DM 203/2023. Equivalent VET / BA / MA programmes from any EU country are equally accepted.*

### Required skills and competencies:

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| <b>Growing system assembly and operation</b>        | Theoretical knowledge of how the four growing systems work — soil-based, hydroponic, aquaponic, and aeroponic — including how each is <b>assembled, operated, maintained, and disassembled</b> . Hands-on assembly experience with at least one system is required; candidates with practical experience across multiple systems are particularly welcome. EVEC's intern is expected to take the systems apart, clean and reset them between cycles, and rebuild them with increasing independence as the placement progresses — with continued mentor oversight on the more complex aquaponic and aeroponic systems. |
| <b>Practical microgreens cultivation</b>            | Demonstrable hands-on experience growing edible plants — at least with one method (soil, hydroponic, aquaponic, or aeroponic). University coursework with practical lab/field components is acceptable; commercial or volunteer experience is a bonus. The role involves running continuous 7–21 day cycles depending on variety, so candidates must be comfortable with daily observation, watering routines, and germination troubleshooting.   |
| <b>System documentation</b>                         | Ability to keep a structured growing log: date, seed variety, substrate, watering schedule, temperature, humidity, germination rate, harvest yield, observations on quality and flavour. The toolkit deliverables depend on this documentation.   |
| <b>Pedagogical communication</b>                    | Ability to explain biological and agricultural processes to non-specialists, including children. Workshop facilitation experience — even informal (camp counsellor, peer tutor, volunteer educator) — is valuable.  |
| <b>Sustainability and circular economy literacy</b> | Working understanding of food miles, water-energy-nutrient cycles, composting, packaging waste, and the circular economy concepts that underpin urban agriculture. The toolkits reference these concepts; the intern must understand them well enough to translate them for different audiences.  |
| <b>Scientific approach</b>                          | The High School STEM toolkit involves controlled experiments (light vs. dark trays, hydroponic vs. soil yield comparison, sensor-based environmental monitoring). The intern must be able to design, run, and document such experiments rigorously.   |
| <b>Visual documentation basics</b>                  | Ability to take clear, well-lit smartphone photos and short videos of growing cycles. Cinematography is the Social Media Coordinator's job; what we need from you is reliable, daily documentation that captures growth changes accurately.   |

### Desirable skills (not required, but valued):

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| <b>Multi-system experience</b>        | Hands-on experience with hydroponics AND one of aquaponics or aeroponics. The four-system parallel setup is unusual; candidates familiar with multiple systems will accelerate quickly.      |
| <b>Sensor and data-logging basics</b> | Experience with environmental sensors (DHT22 for temperature/humidity, BH1750 for light, pH/EC probes) and Arduino or micro:bit coding. Directly applicable to the High School STEM toolkit. |

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| <b>Food safety and HACCP</b>            | Basic understanding of food handling, hygiene standards, and HACCP principles. Relevant for the Young Entrepreneurs toolkit, which covers food business compliance.  |
| <b>Workshop facilitation with youth</b> | Prior experience facilitating learning activities with children, teenagers, or young adults — particularly in hands-on, outdoor, or experiential education settings. |
| <b>Greek language</b>                   | Not required, but useful for direct interaction with Athens youth participants whose English may be limited.   |

### Personal qualities:

**Patient and observant** — microgreens reward attention to small daily changes; you notice things others miss. **Hands-on and field-practical** — you are comfortable with the physical reality of working in a growing environment (substrate, water, restarting a contaminated tray); reasonable adjustments and adaptive setups can be discussed individually. **Pedagogically warm** — you can explain photosynthesis to a 13-year-old without condescension and food economics to a 28-year-old without lecturing. **Documentation-disciplined** — you log every cycle, every variable, every observation; you understand that toolkits are only as good as the data behind them. **Mission-aligned** — you are motivated by the conviction that urban youth deserve agricultural literacy and that microgreens are an excellent entry point to it. **Culturally aware** — comfortable working in a multicultural NGO team in Athens with colleagues from different EU countries.

## 5. Key Tasks During the Traineeship

The role is broad by design — four growing systems, four toolkits, weekly workshops, documentation, and content production. To make the scope feasible within 30–35 hours per week, the work is **phased and time-budgeted**. Indicative weekly distribution: production and monitoring 12–15 h, toolkit development 8–10 h (front-loaded weeks 1–8, lighter thereafter), workshop preparation and delivery 4–6 h (biweekly during Month 1, weekly from Month 2), photography and documentation 3–4 h (daily during the first two growing cycles, weekly thereafter), writing for microgreens.org.gr ~3 h (one article per month). The supervisor adjusts this distribution with the trainee at the start of the placement and at each weekly check-in.

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| <b>Growing system optimisation</b>             | Run continuous variety-appropriate cycles across the four growing systems (soil, hydroponic, aquaponic, aeroponic). Document yield, time-to-harvest, water use, energy use, success rate, and quality variables for at least 4–6 varieties (radish, broccoli, sunflower, pea shoots, basil, cilantro — with cycle lengths from 7 to 21 days depending on species). Identify which varieties perform best in which system. Produce a comparative protocol document that becomes a permanent reference for EVEC. |
| <b>Universal Growing Guide development</b>     | Take the existing draft Microgreens Growing Guide — Seed to Harvest (full cycle coverage across varieties, troubleshooting) and develop it into a finalised reference: photography of every stage, validated soak times and yields, refined troubleshooting card, nutritional comparison charts (with proper academic citations), and printable tear-out resources.  |
| <b>Young Entrepreneurs Toolkit development</b> | Develop the existing draft 10-day bootcamp toolkit (18–30) into finalised materials: business model canvas templates, startup cost calculator (Excel), cash flow template, marketing plan worksheet, pitch deck framework, a food-safety SOP / GHP-GAP framework aligned with EU Regulation 852/2004 hygiene principles (with HACCP-based hazard analysis where appropriate), customer interview guide, and day-by-day facilitator notes.  |
| <b>Primary School Toolkit development</b>      | Develop the existing draft 10-day activity programme (13–14) into finalised materials: illustrated step-by-step guides, experiment journal templates, game/quiz cards (Microgreens Bingo, Nutrition Detective, Troubleshooting Challenge), daily activity sheets, teacher/facilitator notes, and starter kit checklist.  |

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| <b>High School STEM Toolkit development</b> | Develop the existing draft 10-day STEM programme (15–19): hydroponic assembly guide with diagrams, sensor installation manuals (DHT22 for temp/humidity, BH1750 for ambient light in lux — with explanatory note on the lux-vs-PAR distinction; pH/EC probes), Arduino/micro:bit code templates, CSV data sheets, data analysis frameworks, research report template, and lab safety guide. Test the build with a real student group during the traineeship.                      |
| <b>Weekly seed-to-fork workshops</b>        | From Month 2 onwards, plan and facilitate one workshop session per week for groups of Athenian youth (school groups by booking, NGO partner groups, walk-in participants). Each workshop type (45-minute introduction, full-day session, multi-week course) follows a different format. Month 1 is used for orientation, two pilot workshops biweekly, format refinement, and safeguarding briefing. Track participation, gather feedback, and adapt content based on what works. |
| <b>Content for microgreens.org.gr</b>       | Produce one technical article per month on microgreens cultivation, sustainability, circular economy, or urban agriculture for publication on microgreens.org.gr. Provide content in English; the Web Content Manager publishes.  |
| <b>Visual documentation of systems</b>      | Capture daily photo and short-video records during the first two complete growing cycles, then transition to weekly milestones thereafter. Build a visual archive (organised by date, variety, system) that the Graphic Designer uses for toolkit illustrations and the Social Media Coordinator uses for content.  |
| <b>Handover and transferability</b>         | Before the traineeship ends, ensure all work is transferable to the next intern: a documented growing system manual, finalised toolkit deliverables stored with templates, archived photo/video material, and a brief operational handover note explaining where everything lives. The next intern should be able to continue cycles within the first week.   |

## 6. Learning Outcomes

By the end of the traineeship, the Microgreens, Vertical Farming & Urban Agriculture Intern will leave with concrete, portfolio-grade evidence of agricultural and educational work — not coursework hypotheticals, but published toolkits, validated growing protocols, and workshops delivered to real youth audiences. Each outcome below is mapped to one of the eight **EU Key Competences for Lifelong Learning** (Council Recommendation of 22 May 2018), the framework Erasmus offices use to recognise transversal learning gains:

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| <b>(a) Multi-system urban agriculture experience</b>    | Demonstrable hands-on competence in four growing systems (soil, hydroponic, aquaponic, aeroponic) that few graduates of agricultural programmes can claim. Listing 'operated four parallel microgreens systems for an Erasmus+ NGO over X months' is a distinctive line on a CV. <i>EU key competence: Mathematical competence and competence in science, technology and engineering (STEM).</i> |
| <b>(b) Toolkit development and instructional design</b> | Co-authorship of multiple finalised educational toolkits at three age levels (13–14, 15–19, 18–30) plus a universal reference. Demonstrable instructional design experience is rare in agricultural CVs and very valuable for roles bridging agriculture and education. <i>EU key competence: Personal, social and learning to learn competence.</i>   |
| <b>(c) STEM-integrated agricultural education</b>       | Experience installing and operating environmental sensors (temperature, humidity, light, pH, EC) and running data-driven plant biology experiments with high school students. Cross-disciplinary STEM credentials. <i>EU key competence: STEM competence (with Digital competence).</i>  |
| <b>(d) Workshop facilitation with urban youth</b>       | Concrete experience designing and delivering weekly seed-to-fork workshops for an audience that often has no prior agricultural exposure. Pedagogical experience that translates directly into school education, NGO programme management, or eco-tourism roles. <i>EU key competence: Citizenship competence (with Personal, social and learning to learn).</i>                                 |

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| <b>(e) Sustainability and circular economy in practice</b> | Applied experience translating circular economy principles (water cycling, nutrient cycling, composting, zero food miles, reduced packaging) into pedagogical content for different age groups. Sustainability literacy is now expected in nearly every sector. <i>EU key competence: Citizenship competence.</i>   |
| <b>(f) Cycle documentation and protocol development</b>    | Demonstrable ability to design, run, and document growing cycle experiments at scale; produce comparative protocols; and translate empirical observation into educational content. Research and protocol skills. <i>EU key competence: STEM competence.</i>   |
| <b>(g) Food entrepreneurship literacy</b>                  | Through co-developing the Young Entrepreneurs toolkit (business plan, finance, food-safety framework, branding, pitch), exposure to the food entrepreneurship landscape that prepares the intern for roles in agri-food startups, food tech incubators, or microgreen businesses. <i>EU key competence: Entrepreneurship competence.</i>  |
| <b>(h) Content production for an EU project ecosystem</b>  | Articles, toolkit content, and educational materials produced under an Erasmus+ KA151-YOU project become part of EVEC's permanent project deliverables and may appear on the Erasmus+ Project Results Platform. Tangible EU project authorship. <i>EU key competences: Digital competence and Literacy competence.</i>  |
| <b>(i) Cross-functional creative collaboration</b>         | Experience working with a multicultural NGO team (Graphic Designer, Content Writer, Web Content Manager, Social Media Coordinator, UX Strategist, Marketing Strategist) to translate agricultural work into published material. Real-world team experience that mirrors how impact-oriented organisations operate. <i>EU key competence: Personal, social and learning to learn competence.</i> |
| <b>(j) International teamwork</b>                          | Daily work in a small, multicultural NGO team in Athens alongside colleagues from different EU countries. Navigate cultural differences in pedagogical preferences, food culture, and communication styles — a transferable competence valued by every international employer. <i>EU key competences: Cultural awareness and expression competence; Multilingual competence.</i>                |

**Career positioning:** This traineeship positions you for roles in **urban agriculture, vertical farming, sustainable food systems, agri-tech startups, agricultural education, environmental NGO programme management, food entrepreneurship, sustainability consulting, or research into circular food systems**. The combination of running four parallel growing systems, co-developing educational toolkits at three age levels, facilitating workshops with urban youth, and producing content for an active Erasmus+ project distinguishes this from a typical agricultural internship. You will leave with published toolkits, validated growing protocols, a documented workshop programme, and proof that you can work at the intersection of agriculture, sustainability, and education.

## 7. ESC Development Pathway

EVEC Athens holds the ESC Quality Label and regularly hosts long-term European Solidarity Corps volunteers. Trainees who demonstrate strong engagement and mutual fit during their Erasmus+ placement may be offered a fully funded ESC volunteering position of up to 12 months (subject to the lifetime ESC volunteering cap, which counts also any prior EVS or ESC time). The position covers accommodation, daily living allowance ('pocket money'), travel, insurance, and language support; the volunteer is not an employee under EU/Greek labour law and works approximately 30–38 hours per week with two consecutive free days and two vacation days per month. This represents a potential pathway of up to 18 months with EVEC in Athens — particularly relevant for this role, where multiple growing cycles, workshop iterations, and toolkit refinements benefit from continuity beyond the traineeship period.

## 8. How to Apply

Interested students or their Erasmus offices should contact EVEC at [erasmus@evec.org.gr](mailto:erasmus@evec.org.gr) with:

1. CV highlighting relevant experience or coursework
2. Motivation letter (max 1 page) explaining interest and learning goals

3. Portfolio or examples of relevant work — growing logs, lab notebooks, school garden projects, photos of personal growing setups, pedagogical activities (student work welcome)
4. Confirmation of Erasmus+ traineeship grant eligibility from sending institution
5. Preferred dates and duration

**Inclusion:** EVEC welcomes applications from candidates with fewer opportunities as defined by the Erasmus+ Programme Guide and supports access to the additional inclusion top-up where applicable. Reasonable adjustments to the role can be discussed at application stage.

**Safeguarding:** for placements involving facilitation with minors, EVEC will request a recent criminal-record certificate (or sending-country equivalent) before workshops begin, and the trainee receives a safeguarding briefing during orientation.

**Documents EVEC provides on request:** Letter of Intent, pre-filled Learning Agreement template (KA131 or KA1-VET as relevant), Host Organisation Profile, insurance and safeguarding documentation, and the Traineeship Certificate at the end of the placement.

EVEC responds within 10 working days with a Letter of Acceptance if suitable, after which the tripartite Learning Agreement is finalised.

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**Blagoj Ristov, Founder and Director — EVEC Athens**

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