

## PARTNER IDENTIFICATION FORM

PARTNER ORGANIZATION		
OID	E10080011	
Full legal name	Cooperativa Mas Les Vinyes SCCL	
National ID	DY9564519	
Address (Street and number)	Mas Les Vinyes s/n	
Country	Spain	
Region	Catalonia	
Post Code	08515	
Town	Sant Marti d'Albars	
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PROFILE		
Type of organization	Worker Cooperative	
Is the partner organization a public body?	No	
Is the organization a non profit?	No	
Has the organization received any type of accreditation before submitting this application?	No	
Has the organization received/applied for any EU grants?	Yes	



## **BACKGROUND AND EXPERIENCE**

## Please briefly present your organization/the group.\*

Mas Les Vinyes (MLV) is a community living project on a 25 hectare farm following Permaculture and regenerative agriculture practices. The main building dates from the early fourteenth century and was rehabilitated by the members and founders of the project.

It emerged in 2013 from the will of a group of people to promote health, care for people, land and living beings. The management of the project is done through the non-profit worker cooperative Mas Les Vinyes SCCL formed by partners with varying degrees of participation in the project.

Nowadays, MLV is a regenerative land with lots of biodiversity. Apart from the land and old buildings improvements, MLV has become a renowned non-formal training center that provides courses in Permaculture, regenerative agriculture, natural building, personal development, and holistic management, among others. Thanks to the many trainings they give, the wide experience of its members, their great work of dissemination in the networks, the numerous guided tours they offer and the collaboration with various entities of the territory, MLV has become a reference project in Spain.

It is worth mentioning their political work in social and solidarity economy entities, some universities and the multiple consultancies and designs they make during the year to different projects that are committed to sustainability and a positive environmental impact. They also organize many talks on the relevance of food sovereignty and the importance of closing cycles. In addition, for years they have been committed to raising awareness of the energy crisis and the whole farm is an example of resilience.

What are the activities and experience of the organization in youth work? Please provide information on your organization's / group's regular youth work activities.\*

During the last 9 years, at Mas Les Vinyes we have welcomed dozens of volunteers from different countries through Woofing, Workaway and the ESC program. Although volunteers from 18 to 60 years old have passed through here, most of them are between 18 and 30 years old. Our main purpose in hosting volunteers is to help Mas Les Vinyes achieve its vision, support the self-development of our volunteers and be agents of spreading good practices to the new generations. In general, we meet many young people committed to their present and their future who want to gain new tools to live in a more sustainable and resilient way.

Since 2019, Mas Les Vinyes has been working with the ESC program and has participated in the training organized by Erasmus +: "Engage in Sustainability and Solidarity through Volunteering Projects". In this training we were able to gather many resources and tools to understand, motivate, integrate and empower



young volunteers. Thanks to this training we could improve our volunteer program, now designed in a way that it can provide many learning opportunities and support for people with different skill levels and abilities.

In addition, for years at Mas Les Vinyes we have developed an effective system for the many aspects of hosting volunteers from general infrastructure to emotional and social support for both long and short-term volunteers.

It is also worth noting that each year we welcome groups of more than 20 people who stay at Mas Les Vinyes for two or three weeks of training and experience life in a sustainable intentional community (PDC, Permaculture Design Course). The average age of the people who participate in these courses is between 20 and 40 years old, from very diverse backgrounds but with very similar interests. With them we have learned to develop very powerful group dynamics, to create a good group culture and a respectful and motivating environment.

We are also happy to say that both the students of these trainings and many of the volunteers who have passed through here have made great and positive changes in their lives, creating a great support network with the people they have met here and being inspired by the experience at our farm.

On the other hand, in 2023 at Mas Les Vinyes we hosted and facilitated a Youth Exchange based on the regenerative development paradigm and the increased challenges that rural youth faces. We invited young people to learn from how we decided to live, share what we are experiencing and learning, do practical work at the project, and strengthen youth permaculture networks across Europe. We also hosted a Training Course on Graphic Facilitation applied to Permaculture.

In addition, we have also given workshops in schools, colleges and universities while some have been able to come and spend a few days with their teachers on the farm and experience sustainability and solidarity first hand.

Please give information on the key staff/persons involved in this application and on the competences and previous experience that they will bring to the project.

- Sergi Caballero is the general manager of Mas Les Vinyes. He is overseeing the financial and coordination matters of the project. He is an experienced trainer and facilitator. He also holds a diploma on Permaculture Design, which means he is qualified to teach Permaculture Design Courses, but also he is a teacher at the Academia en Permacultura. Sergi is also cofounder of Agroforesteria Regenerativa, a company that designs regenerative agroforestry systems for Mediterranean weather, as well as advising and consulting farmers who want to switch from conventional to regenerative agriculture. He has been working and learning about



regenerative practices since he was young and he has a wide knowledge on designing farms, no-tilling biointensive productive gardens, agroforestry regenerative systems, holistic management with grazing animals and soil fertility.

- Lídia Ramos (Lilo): Despite being born in Barcelona, she quickly left the city to live in the countryside. Since then, she has been working in regenerative farms from all over the country and is currently studying beekeeping. She is the resident of the community handling the Erasmus+ projects and ESC volunteers. She is also the contact person for partners, participants and the National Agency.
- Ariadna Tremoleda: Since she was young, Ariadna has been actively participating on social projects around the territory, which she now accompanies so they reach their full potential and have a clear positive impact on the local community. She is also a therapist and facilitator who mentors groups of people that want to start their own intentional community. She is now currently leading the creation of a nursing home that follows the ethics and principles of permaculture, which is located in the nearest village to the farm. Together with Sergi, they founded the cooperative Mas Les Vinyes, a permaculture farm located in the north of Barcelona, Spain. It is an ecovillage created in 2013 that is currently home for 10 residents plus temporary volunteers which aims to bring life back to the land through permaculture practices.
- Febe de Jong: She was born and raised in The Netherlands but came to Spain to study permaculture. She started at Mas Les Vinyes as an ESC volunteer but has then stayed as a worker given her skills and knowledge. She specialised in agroforestry and currently manages the food forests of the farm. Despite her career in Law, she is currently teaching herself microbiology and the role of microbes in soil health.



LEGAL REPRESENTATIVE		
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