

---

## Press release

Historically, Hungary has been renowned for its fruit production and quality. However, modern society has forgotten much of the ancient knowledge used to preserve nature and culture. The 20th century further pushed the elimination of organic, stable patterns, including traditional orchard management. Consequently, the economic importance of fruits from traditional orchards has declined or disappeared altogether. As orchards were abandoned, meadows began to deteriorate and were afforested, leading to the disappearance of the mosaic cultural landscape and biodiversity.

Recognizing this problem and the local need to revitalize food and fruit culture in Hungary, CEEweb initiated the [GlocaLIFE project](#) to address the management of the abandonment orchards and raise awareness of organic agricultural practices

The project recently ended with the following outputs:

- A cooperative, gamified, learning-based [methodology](#), which is rooted in sustainable food systems, adaptive orchard management, and agroecology, aiming to harmonize human-nature relationships, promote cooperation, strengthen short food supply chains, and advance food sovereignty. The methodology constitutes the basis for a board game, which combines role-play and simulation as educational tools.
- A brand new podcast channel, including the first 2 [episodes](#) of the GlocaLIFE project, which focuses on sustainable catering, solidarity economy, and basket communities.
- A [live cooking webinar](#) featuring a professional chef who prepared dishes using traditional ancient Hungarian fruits.
- A [policy study](#) examining regulations affecting short supply chains, including recommendations on national legislation.
- And a [handbook](#) on best food sovereignty practices and sustainable food systems in the Central and Eastern European region.

The project has been represented at several events such as the National Assembly of Environmental and Conservation Civic Society Organizations (Zöld OT), the Newcomers (Gyüttment) Festival, and the Annual Meeting of the Orchardists of the Carpathian Basin).

CEEweb has established strong cooperation with the relevant organizations to foster active collaboration and expects to continue post-project.

This was co-funded by the European Union within the framework of the "Towards an open, fair and sustainable Europe in the world - Fourth Trio EU Presidency Project". Its contents are the sole responsibility of CEEweb for Biodiversity and do not necessarily reflect the views of the European Union.