



Co-funded by the
Erasmus+ Programme
of the European Union

Project: “Valorisation of ancient farming techniques in resilient and sustainable agriculture”

Dear partners and colleagues,

Olympus National Park Management Agency and partners are pleased to invite you to the online Study Visit, a regional event of the project “Valorisation of ancient farming techniques in resilient and sustainable agriculture – VALOR”, co-funded by the Erasmus+ Programme of the European Union. The meeting is part of mobility activities dedicated to staff and researcher training and capacity development aiming to foster the exchange, flow and co-creation of knowledge, giving the possibility to the Alliance working team to confront partners’ different approaches. The Study Visit further aims to present the results of the project, current innovations, and prospects for future cross-border cooperation.

The VALOR Alliance is formed by nine participants and a large number of associated partners from six European countries Italy, Greece, Germany, Romania, Spain, Turkey and Cyprus. The project partners include higher education institutions, enterprises, authorities of European Parks, relevant stakeholders including regional and national authorities and umbrella organisations. The Alliance joins efforts/complementary expertise to the scope of contributing to the improvement of skills in order to to confront successfully the specific requirements of resilient and sustainable farming in Europe.

The project partners produce jointly compatible education, training and management tools aiming to structure a multifunctional framework leading to resilience and sustainability in agriculture. Towards this direction the planned Study Visits, will support expertise and experience exchange, towards transferring and capitalizing new ideas and knowledge into best practices.

The Study Visit is entitled ‘Sustainable agriculture practices in the shadow of mountain Olympus, the house of gods’. The event will be attended by representatives of the partners, farmers, scientists, policy makers, key stakeholders and environmental experts. We have the pleasure to invite you to take part in this virtual Study Visit and give an account of your own experience and work with information and data relevant to sustainable agriculture.

The meeting will be held online on **28, 29 & 30 June 2021 (Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday)**.

Please register at https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1nXd5uDpgKlrIV-ssIXltC2rF0VFDqLmmpIRu23n0S_Q/edit by 25 June 2021.

04 June 2021

Litochoro, Pieria, Gr

Triantafillos Bitos

ONPMA project coordinator

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Virtual Study Visit

Sustainable agriculture practices in the shadow of mountain Olympus, the house of gods

28 – 30 June 2021, Litochoro, Pieria, Greece

Zoom link: <https://authgr.zoom.us/j/95223511314>

PROVISIONAL AGENDA

DAY 1

Monday, 28 June 2021

Moderator: Antonios Mazaris

09:30 – 09:45 **Opening**

09:45 – 10:00 **Welcome section**

10:00 – 10:15 **Opening Remarks**

- 1) Mr Aristidis Nikas, President of Olympus National Park Management Board
- 2) Dr. Evaggelia Mylona, Representative of the Regional Unit of Pieria – Bureau of Tourism
- 3) Mr Dimitrios Patsiarikas – Mr Georgios Karalis, Representatives of Municipality of Dion-Olympus

10:15 – 10:30 **Introduction of participants**

10:30 – 10:50 **An introduction to VALOR Project. Aims and methodology**

Dr Elena Curcetti, Ente Parco Nazionale del Gran Sasso e Monti della Laga, IT

10:50 – 11:10 **Olympus National Park**

10:50 – 11:00 **Landscape – Relief – Weather - Biodiversity. From sea level to the kingdom of Gods.**

Video presentation

11:00 - 11:05 **A travelogue dedicated in the first conquering of Mt Olympus highest peak (2.918 m)**

Video presentation

11:05 – 11:10 **OLUMPUS 3D VIDEO (narrative film)**

11:10 – 11:30 **Coffee Break**

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- 11:30 – 11:50 **Olympus National Park: Real life in a mythical area. Biodiversity measurement and assessment**
Mrs Jamie Giannakas, M.Sc. Biologist, Responsible for the Monitoring of species and habitats in ONPMA (2012-2019)
- 11:50 – 12:10 **Challenges for conservation and management in the National Park of Mt Olympus.**
Mr. Triantafillos Bitos, M.Sc. Forester – Environmentalist, ONPMA, Gr
- 12:10 – 12:40 **Best Practices of EMbleMatiC project and of Emblematic Mediterranean Mountains (EMM) network for sustainable tourism in hinterland and rural areas**
Dr. Eng. Konstantinos Zapounidis, Senior Project Manager of Pieriki Anaptixiaki (Local Development Agency)
- 12:40 – 13:00 **Ensuring food biosecurity in Pieria. The role of Regional Unit of Pieria.**
Dr. Evaggelia Mylona, Business Administrator Representative of the Regional Unit of Pieria – Bureau of Tourism
- 13:00 – 13:30 **Stakeholders' roundtable – international dimensions (one stakeholder per country)**
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DAY 2

Tuesday, 29 June 2021

Moderator: Triantafillos Bitos

- 09:30 – 09:45 **Introduction of the agenda**
- 09:45 – 10:10 **1st Best Practice: Cherry cultivation, production, sorting, standardization and marketing, under the rules of integrated crop management – virtual tour**
- 10:10 – 10:30 **Practices, products and challenges in cherry cultivation.**
Mrs Calliope Ntourou, Member of the Management Committee of the Agriculture Cooperative of Rachi, Pieria "AGIOS LOUKAS"
- 10:30 – 11:00 **Coffee Break**
- 11:00 – 11:20 **Future challenges and innovative solutions for the small ruminant sector**
Mr. Alexandros Theodoridis Assoc Prof, School of Veterinary Medicine, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, Gr
- 11:20 – 11:40 **2nd Best Practice: Organic farming of vineyard and innovative vinification – virtual tour**
- 11:40 – 12:00 **Anthropocene and entrepreneurial evolution of environmental dualism: From ancient farming practices to immune and sustainably resilient agriculture**
Mr. Paschalis Giannoulis, Visiting Professor, Department of Natural Resource Sciences,

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Macdonald Campus of McGill University, Quebec, Canada

12:00 – 12:30 **Circularity in Greenhouse Horticulture**

Mr. Nikolaos Katsoulas, Prof. School of Agricultural Sciences, University of Thessaly, Gr

12:30 - 13:30 **Summary discussion: Sustainability plans & inputs to VALOR curriculum**

DAY 3

Wednesday, 30 June 2021

Moderators: Triantafillos Bitos & Antonios Mazaris

09:30 – 09:45 **Introduction of the agenda**

09:45 – 10:10 **3rd Best Practice: Olive Oil Mills- Olive groves under integrated management in the shadow of Mt Olympus – virtual tour**

10:10 – 10:30 **Research initiatives for the livelihoods of mountain livestock farming in Greece**

Mr Athanasios Ragkos, Associate Researcher, Agricultural Economics Research Institute, ELGO – Demeter, Gr

10:30 – 10:50 **Coffee Break**

10:50 – 11.10 **Pilgrimage Tourism and self-sufficient Rural Economy on the edge of the Protected Area. The case of Holy Monastery of Saint-Dionysios of Olympus - virtual tour**

11:10 – 11:30 **Sustainable agricultural practices for improving crop production and soil fertility**

Mr. Nikolaos Monokrousos, Assist. Prof. Social Sciences and Economics at the International Hellenic University, Gr

11:30 – 11:50 **VALOR principles enclosed in a certification award**

Dr. Antonios Mazaris, Assoc Prof, Dept. Ecology, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, Gr

11:50 – 12:20 **Roundtable**

12:20 - 12:40 **Summary & Close-up**

**Times on this programme are stated as Central European Standard Time (CEST)*

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