

European Rural Sustainability Gathering - 17-21 May 2017 – Greece

FIELD VISITS

We will organise 3 field visits in parallel. The field visits will show different initiatives illustrating the territory and the dynamic of development.

Each field trip will include 3 stops offering a visit of a project/ initiative addressing one of the three main fields:

- **AG** - Agriculture/ cooperatives/ processing
- **SO** - social/ cultural/ education activities
- **EC** - local economy/ cooperation/ networking

GROUP A

- **EC: Development Agency of Karditsa**

It hosts a CLLD LAG; it operates an incubator
It supports the "Ecosystem of Collaboration"

Topics to be addressed:

The local CLLD project; The "Ecosystem Support" ; The Business Development Support in the frame of Local Micro financing system

- **AG: Agricultural cooperative of Superfoods**

Factory financed by LEADER, processing of "superfoods" (gogi berry, blue berry etc) and producing jam

Topics to be addressed:

Superfood as a niche; Benefits for local economy

- **SO: Women center**

promotes gender issues

Topics to be addressed:

Situation of women in the region; Goal of the center; Success stories

GROUP B

- **EC: Energy cooperative**

Civic cooperative
Pellets production unit financed by LEADER
Local Biomass exploitation

Topics to be addressed:

How to start a civic cooperation? Contribution to local/ regional economy; Impact on the employment in mountain areas

- **AG: Agricultural Cooperative of Stevia producers**

Agricultural Cooperative financed by LEADER

Topics to be addressed:

Stevia as a niche; Benefits for local economy; Bottom up or top down initiative

- **SO: Social Cooperative "Roda" (Wheel)**

Education through Theater

FIELD VISITS

Topics to be addressed:

Addressees; Success stories; Actual projects

GROUP C

• **EC: Cooperative bank of Karditsa**

Civic cooperative
Financial services

Topics to be addressed:

Contribution to local economy; Micro financing Program

• **AG: NGO "Oikosfaira"**

It promotes the organic farming. They organize during the last 16 years the "Eco festival" in Karditsa inviting organic farmers from all over Greece. They also invite speakers from various NGO's (like Peliti)

Topics to be addressed:

The role of NGOs in the organic sector; Their work with volunteers; Their networking and cooperation with other initiatives.

• **SO: Foundation "Alexopoulos"**

It offers scholarships

Topics to be addressed:

Meeting people who have received scholarships, in order to learn about their experiences/ how they could benefit.

The scholarships are focused on graduate, post graduate education

For the case of Alamanis scholarships, they focus on technical education and training.

For the case of Valtadoros scholarship, it is an ideas' competition.

The first two are related to the topic of youth/ unemployment.

The Alexopoulos scholarship is suspended for the last two years (possibly because of the crisis)



Project kindly supported by:

