

Hippocrates multifunctional farm, GR

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- **Scale of activity:** local
- **Actor/s:** Conservation-tourism-education
- **State of the activity:** started in 2015, ongoing
- **Keywords.** Biodiversity conservation, multifunctional agriculture, environmental awareness



Summary

Multifunctionality of agriculture is a sustainable way of land and resources use. We created a multifunctional farm, with high quality and sustainable brand identity products. The farm is located near forests protected by various directives and we create activities in and around the farm supporting the education-tourism-recreation function of agriculture. Economic viability of small scale farms can co-exist with sustainable methods of forestry and agriculture.

Description of activities

The project started at 2015 focusing on land use methods and a sustainable combination of different functions of agriculture (food and fibre production, tourism-recreation-education, ecosystem services, on-farm sales etc.) and forestry. We started the cultivation of a non-native species sea buckthorn and a native species *Sideritis scaritca* (mountain tea). Sea buckthorn was selected because of the special microclimate of the farm, near the UNESCO monument of Meteora, to create a diversified product with ideal organoleptic characteristics. Also, herbs and fruits are collected from the forest in a sustainable way.

In its final stage the farm will include many facilities and activities such as underground bedrooms and greenhouses, herbal gardens, aquacultures etc. Visitors will exchange their work on the farm with the use of facilities and activities. Public will be educated to be more aware about environmental issues, the importance of forests and how to use them in a sustainable way.

Outlook

Challenges. A great challenge is the lack of funding to build the farm. Until now, we found funding for the marketing and branding selling of the product.

Next steps. Finding funding for the educational activities on the farm in order to create other facilities for visitors.

Source and contact

Information gathered at: the 3rd workshop on Sustainable Forest Management (18-21 October 2018)

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