

Western Stara Planina region – Bulgaria, cross-visit to LA-Thessaly, Greece

Dates: 13th-15th of June 2018 (Programme, Annex 1)

Photos (Annex 2)

During 13-15 June, a group of producers, researchers and local authorities from the Western Stara Planina region - Bulgaria visited the Mouzaki region, (see list of participants annex 3). Similarly, the Greek team consisted of five researchers participating in the HNV-link program. The purpose of the visit was: (a) to inform on innovations such as GPS-tracking, Terra Thessalia, Participatory Guarantee System and (b) to visit livestock holdings in order the exchanging ideas among the breeders.

13/7/2018

On the arrival of the group from Bulgaria, a brief presentation of the LA-Thessaly profile was made. The economic and demographic situation of the region was analyzed. Special mention was made of the number and type of livestock farms, the problems and the appearing perspectives. At the same time, the innovations Terra Thessalia and the Participatory Guarantee System were presented, explaining the purpose and the advantages offered to the breeders and cheesemakers from the establishment and operation of these specific structures

14/7/2018

During the second day there were field visits to two producers in a mountain community within LA-Thessaly. The first producer has a goat extensive livestock farm. The team visited the stable as well as the pastures where the animals graze. Also, a GPS-tracking demonstration was conducted. The GPS system was mounted in a goat and with a computer the movement of the animal was being monitored in real time. The second producer has beehives. The team visited the bee-farming site where the beehives are placed and discussed with the producer different issues concerning the production and the sale of honey. A field visit to Lake Plastiras took place in the afternoon. Executives of the development agency of Karditsa (ANKA) presented and analyzed the features of flora and fauna as well as the economic potential of the region.

15/7/2018

In the morning of the last day, the Bulgarian group visited two livestock farms, with cows and sheep respectively. Breeders from Bulgaria had interesting discussions with Greek colleagues on issues like feeding and marketing (meat, milk, etc.).

The visit of the Bulgarian group to LA-Thessaly was completed with a meeting with the mayor and deputy mayors of the municipality of Mouzaki. During this, the potential cooperation between the two regions (Mouzaki and Western Stara Planina), in the fields of exchange of know-how and joint participation in European projects was discussed.



ANNEX 1: Schedule, Cross visit Bulgaria to Greece, 13-15 June 2018

Date	Time	Place	Activity	Responsible	Participants
Wednesday 13	17:30	Arrival at Environmental Centre of Mouzaki	Arrival	Vyara	Colleagues from Bulgaria
13	18:30	Conference room of environmental Centre	Welcome! <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Presentation of LA Thessaly to the visitors - Presentation of LA Western Stara Planina Presentation of Innovations: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Terra Thessalia - Participatory Guarantee System 	Faraslis Vyara Felekis	Colleagues from Bulgaria Faraslis, Liotiris, Felekis, (Presintent of National Park of Tzoumerka)
13	20.30	Environmental Centre of Mouzaki	Dinner	Vyara	Colleagues from Bulgaria
Thursday 14	8:00	Environmental Centre of Mouzaki	Breakfast	Vyara	Colleagues from Bulgaria
14	8.30	Gralista Farm, Ellinopirgos Village (LA Thessaly). Goat farmer Thanasis Papoutsis Beekeeping Farm, Ellinopirgos Village (Dimitris Georgoulas)	Goat-Farm visit <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Innovation: Gps- tracking in practice - Homemade cheese in practice Beekeeping visit – HNV sites	Faraslis	Colleagues from Bulgaria Liotiris, Greek Famers (Papoutsis - Georgoulas), Felekis, National Park of Tzoumerka
14	10:30		Coffee break	Faraslis	All
14	11:00	Ellinopirgos Village – Cultural centre	Brief information about a goat farmer activities Introduction to 3D-Mapping GIS, 3-D visualisation GIS, technical aspects	Papoutsis (farmer) Faraslis	Colleagues from Bulgaria, Local Authorities, Local Farmers, Liotiris, Felekis (National Park of Tzoumerka).
14	14:00	Environmental Centre of Mouzaki	Lunch	Vyara	Colleagues from Bulgaria.
14	17:00	HNV site: Lake Plastira	Visit HNV sites around Lake Plastira: Villages Ag. Akakios – Neoxori. Presentation of local Flora and Fauna and biodiversity	Bourziotis	Colleagues from Bulgaria, Vlahos Georgios (associate professor, Department of

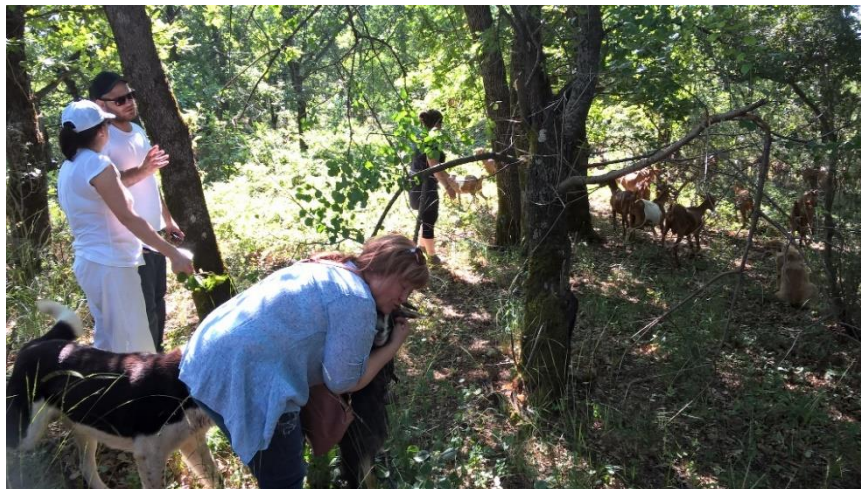


		Plastira's lake Environmental Center	Presentation of National Park of Tzoumerka. Touristic label case Discussion about the Greek – Bulgarian Rural Development Program	Felekis Vlahos	Agricultural Economy and Development, Athens), Liotiris, Felekis (National Park of Tzoumerka), Theofilos Bourziotis (Biologist-Development agency of Karditsa, ANKA).
14	20:00		Debriefing	Vyara	Colleagues from Bulgaria.
14	20:30	Environmental Centre of Mouzaki	Dinner	Vyara	

Date	Time	Place	Activity	Responsible	Participants
Friday 15	08:00	Environmental Centre of Mouzaki	Breakfast	Vyara	Colleagues from Bulgaria.
15	09.30	Sheep Farm, Magoulitsa Trifonas	Visit to Sheep farm. Extensive livestock holding. Pastures' improvements HNV-pasture walk UAV mapping demonstration	Fasianou Faraslis	Colleagues from Bulgaria, Vlahos Georgios, (associate professor, Department of Agricultural Economy and Development, Athens), Liotiris, Felekis, (National Park of Tzoumerka)
15	11:00	Conference room of environmental Centre	Dissemination meeting: Presentation of NGO Pindos. Goals – actions. What are the main HNV-challenges in Bulgaria/ Greece? Which innovations from Greece/ Bulgaria could be of use? Next steps and follow up activities	All Gkrekos Vlahos	Grekos Xr. (NGO Pindos) Fasianou Voula (agronomist of Department Agricultural Service of Karditsa).
15	14:00		Lunch	Vyara	Colleagues from Bulgaria
15	15:30		Departure	Vyara	Colleagues from Bulgaria



ANNEX 2: Photos





ANNEX 3: List

of Bulgarian participants in the HNV Link cross visit in Greece

Period: 13-15 June 2018 .

Place : Mouzaki, Trikala - Greece

No	Name and occupation
1.	Vyara Konstantinova Stefanova - STEP
2.	Mariya Marinova Yunakova -STEP
3.	Evdokiya Vasileva Georgieva - STEP
4.	Iva Georgieva Haramliyska – Tsenkova -STEP
5.	Neli Bozhidarova Nikolova, Municipal agricultural office – Godech
6.	Emilya Radkova Nikolova – Godech municipality
7.	Nadya Asenova Todorova - Godech municipality
8.	Borislav Kirilov Borisov – farmer, Godech municipality
9.	Hristo Dimitrov Boyadzhiev, - farmer, Godech municipality
10.	Tatyana Hristova Petrova – NGO, Varshetz municipality
11.	Silviya Dimitrova Nikolova, Municipal Agricultural office – Berkovitza/ Varshetz
12.	Biser Kostov Dimitrov, Municipal Agricultural office – Chiprovtsi
13.	Ivayla Venelinova Ivanova, farmer, Chiprovtsi municipality
14.	Diyana Ivanova Aleksandrova, farmer, Chiprovtsi municipality
15.	Yuliya Dimitrova Stoyanova – farmer, Godech municipality
16.	Bus driver



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