



FOOD
TRAILS



The Municipality of Thessaloniki

The vision of food and its production in the city.

Food policies & agriculture for a sustainable urbanization.



This project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under Grant Agreement n. 101000812



snapshot

- 2nd largest city in Greece
- 1.100 million population
- The largest student population in Balkans
- 2 million+ visitors/year
- 30 Museums & 15 UNESCO monuments
- Coastal city
- Lively, walkable, multicultural

#DimosThessalonikis #Thessaloniki #SKG



What is the “*vision*” about?

The urban food policies and agriculture as innovative tools for a sustainable urbanization and a reason for a creative transformation of the food system.

- limit food systems' impact on climate and the environment
- shorten and strengthen productions chains
- influence food public procurement



- create urban agriculture spaces
- engage communities on food initiatives
- easy access to healthy and nutritious food by citizens especially those are in need

How to reach it?

networks and initiatives

- Eurocities network
- Milan Food Pact initiative
- Urban Vineyards Association
- NetZeroCities Mission

EU projects

- UNESCO Thessaloniki City of Gastronomy
- Food Trails Horizon Project



Building relationship with peri urban bio farmers.

Field visit in unique Bio farm with Food Trails and Eurocities Partners.



FOOD STRATEGIES meet FOOD TRAILS

- A European Funding Horizon 2020 project ('20-'24)
- 20 partners - consortium (11 cities, 3 Universities, 6 organizations)
- Milan - coordinator city
- Based on "Farm to Fork" Strategy and "EU-FOOD 2030" Policy
- 4 pillars: NUTRITION - CLIMATE CHANGE - CIRCULAR ECONOMY - INNOVATION

City's Pilots:

Food Policy Council ✓
& Urban Agriculture ✓



FOOD TRAILS Agenda, www.eurocities.sharepoint.com

Food Policy Council



The 1st greek Food Policy Council. An innovative and cooperative mechanism to address sustainability and resilience by food policymaking.

- Work on its institutionalization
- Seek for cross-sectoral and cross-governmental collaboration
- Create innovative ideas - part of a national norm
- Push for public policies



its parties:

Municipality's officers, local experts, academia, doctors, teachers, touristic enterprises, NGOs, local farmers, restaurants, volunteers, communities and civil society.

Active stakeholders to co-design actions and create policies in four thematic axes.

Food Council's thematic axes:

1. Food Production and Distribution

support locality, organic farmers, the interaction between citizens and local producers , urban agriculture

1. Education/ Nutrition/ Obesity

influence public procurement for food - the Units, create a nutrition curriculum

2. Food Waste and Circular Economy

influence public and private sector to support circularity

3. Gastronomy

support gastronomy events, introduce local products and producers to gastronomic professionals

4 thematic groups with officers, local stakeholders and civil society.



Tasting Chilly Bio food in bio farm with Food Trails and Eurocities Partners.

Urban Agriculture Initiatives



influences:

- The alternative green trend worldwide
- The need of an easy access on healthy food
- The benefits of creative greening for citizens



Harvesting in the urban vineyard
as an annual celebration
(20/09/2022).



initiatives:

- Doxa Park (urban vineyard, vegetable gardens, orchard)
- Schoolyards/vegetable gardens
- Green planted roofs

Who: The Municipality, local stakeholders, experts, NGOs, volunteers and communities.

a. The Urban Vineyard

A big effort in a small-scale production.

The 1st urban vineyard in Greece!

About:

- Established in 2013
- Two acres area
- Previously was located the Municipality's engineering workshop
- Biological cultivation
- Four indigenous varieties
- First harvest in 2015



Varieties:

-Two red and two white varieties:

- Xinomavro
- Agiorgitiko
- Malagouzia
- Robola

- 125 vines per variety

-350 bottles per year

-GORGONA: the name of the wine



The Urban Vineyard

Γοργόνα - Gorgona



-The **vinification** process is a donation of the Gerovassiliou Estate - a famous winery.

-Gorgona is given for **social** dinners or an auction with a **charity** purpose.

-Limited **wine tasting** at special occasions (vineyards meetings).



Who are involved in?



-**Municipality** of Thessaloniki, Directorate of Environment and Green Management (the idea).

-Aristotle **University** of Thessaloniki - Viticulture Dept. (expert advisor).

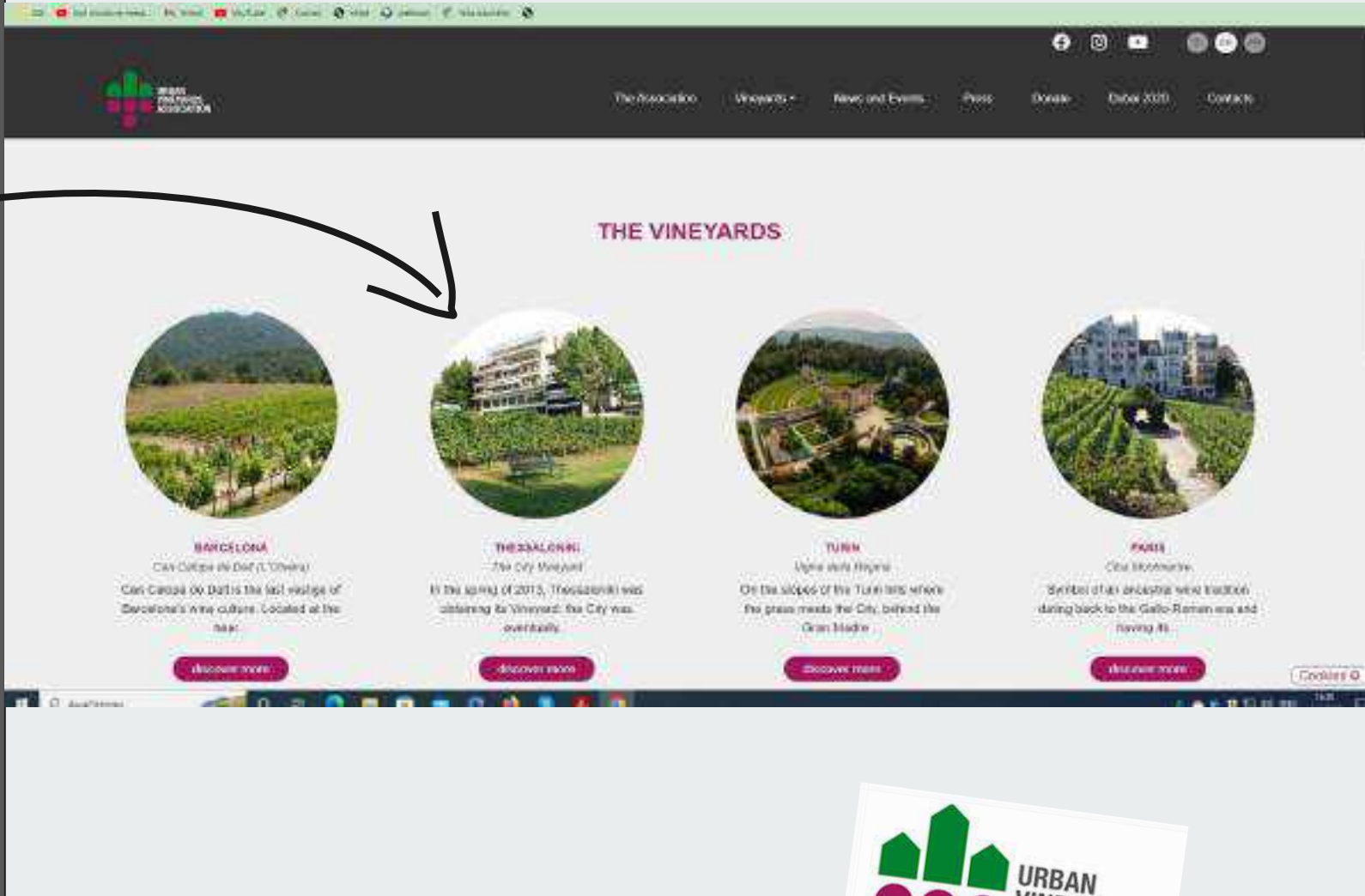
-Private sector - **Gerovassiliou** Estate (greatest ally & donator).

-**Volunteers** and vine experts.

“Our Gorgona is delightful, mainly because it is the result of a joint effort...”

Dr. E. Matziris

- **Urban Vineyards Association** member - 2023
- A creative cities network alongside Venice, Turin, Paris, Barcelona, Avignon, New York, Lyon etc.
- Support the culture and the history of viticulture, promote the initiatives and create cities synergies.



Working with the city...



- Engaging communities/stakeholders
- Organizing tours and visits for environmental groups, students, visitors
- Creating Living Labs and events (pruning lesson, harvesting)
- Creating synergies (Associate Professor M. Partalidou - The sea of wine)

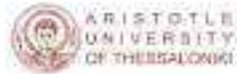


Defining the purpose...



- to create **co-benefits** for local environment and for communities by engaging people and actors and offering opportunities with a social profile
- strengthen relationship with communities
- support urban agriculture - stimuli for poliferization

(Varsami, 2022)



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KIPOS3 & the Orchard

- Parts of Doxa Park
- Municipal space offered to the citizens (+cleaning, water, tools)
- Community vegetable gardens
- Funding project
- Supported by KPE, Center of Environmental Education
- Orchard fruit trees (almonds, lemons, apricots, pears, plums etc.)

FB: Urban Vineyard Friends
FB: KIPOS3

Pictures by KPE - C. Athanasiou



Ongoing UA actions.

Betting on schoolyards.



- Creating **vegetable/edible gardens** & greening creatively
- Organise **Living Labs** for planting and nutrition with students

WHY?

Because schools lack green space in their courtyards and Cement is the predominant material - to integrate healthy food habits.



Green roofs - edible herbs.



- Create **Living Labs** and **events** for **planting edible herbs** and **composting** plant materials to understand the importance of herbs and their properties, the need of green roofs and the composting process and meaning.

WHO?

Civil society, school community, NGOs, Environmental groups.

CO-BENEFITS of Urban Agriculture:

- The contact of people are involved with the land the unique process of growing edibles
- The social interaction of the citizens and communities
- The food production and the easy access by gardeners
- The specialized knowledge in crop cultivation and the chance of living labs and workshops
- The improvement of local environment and ecosystem (conservation of biodiversity)
- The improvement of citizens mental health
- The chance of scientific research in urban agriculture field
- The stimuli to create initiatives in the city



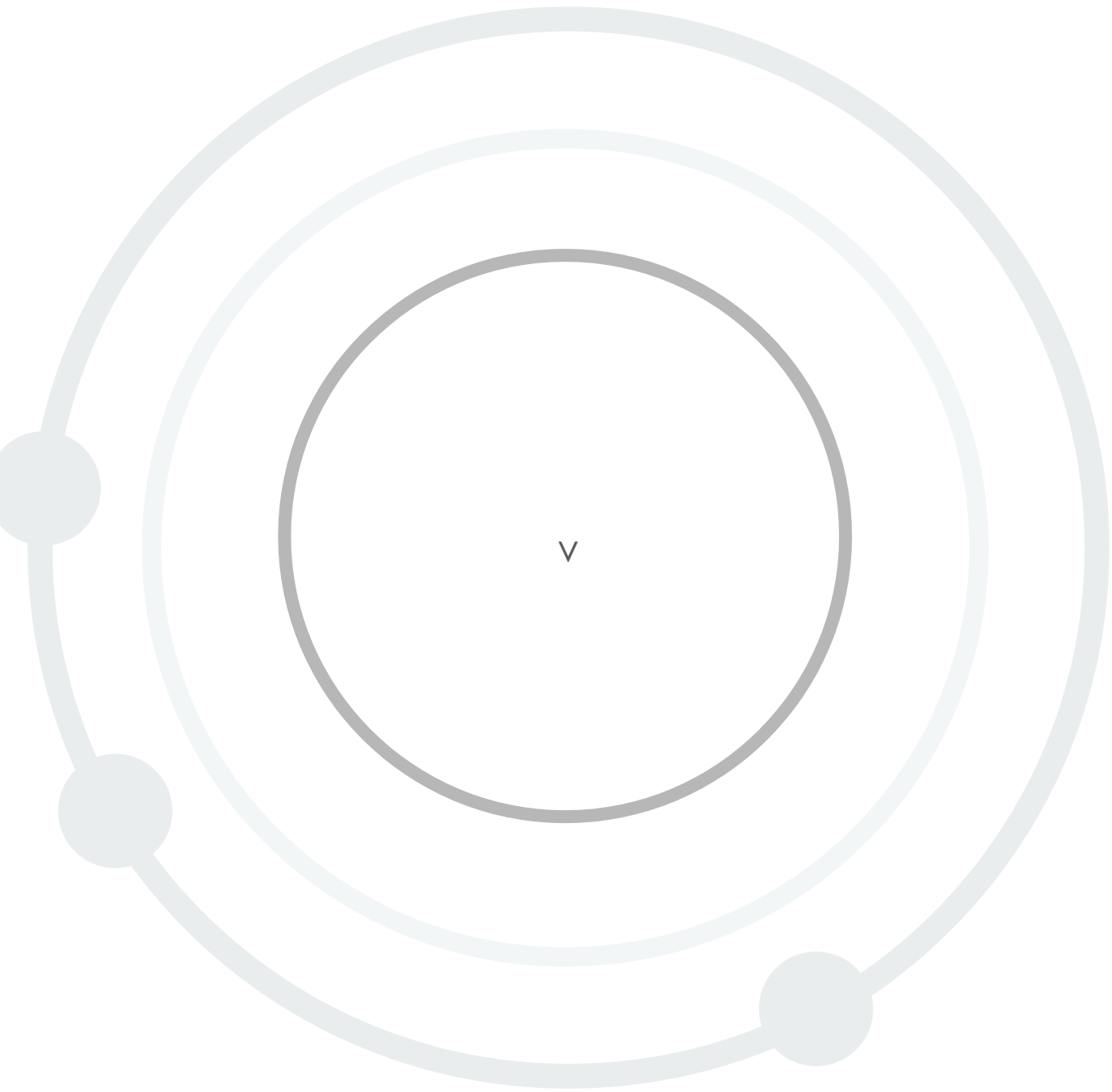
Specifying the COMMITMENT.

- Food Policy Council's function in each thematic area
- Act on Food Council's directions
- Institutionalization of specific policies
- Collaborations between Municipality Departments, private sector, academia and civil society
- Food & agriculture funding projects
- More free spaces to implement urban agriculture
- Projects' and actions' dissemination



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THANK YOU

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[HTTPS://FOODTRAILS.MILANURBANFOODPOLICY.PACT.ORG/](https://foodtrails.milanurbanfoodpolicy.org/)



Thessaloniki Food Trails



Food Trails



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