MedForum2024

9th EDITION | THE MMFN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Working Together for Sustainable and Resilient Mediterranean Forests

Pau Gill Room, Sant Pau Art Nouveau Site | 4-5 November 2024 - BARCELONA, SPAIN













Western Macedonia Model Forest



Updates on activities, challenges, and successes

Speaker: Dimitris Tsimplinas





















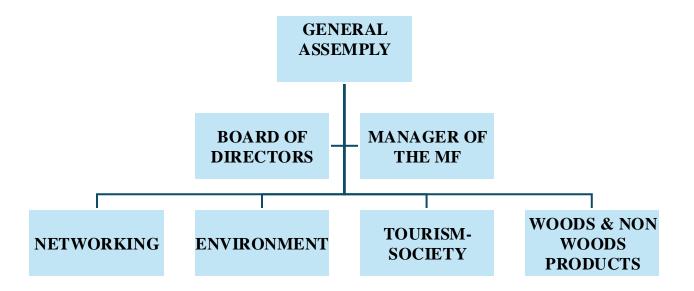


General overview

Map of the WMMF



Organizational structure















General overview

OVERVIEW OF CHARACTERISTICS OF WESTERN MACEDONIA MODEL FOREST

https://modelforestwm.gr/

AREA	945,100 Ha (7.2% of country's total)
NUMBER OF INHABITANTS	255,056
REGIONAL UNITS	Grevena, Kastoria, Kozani and Florina
UNEMPLOYMENT RATE	12%
FOREST OWNERSHIP	-Public : 62%
	-Municipal: 24%
	-Church : 0.4%
	-Joint Public & Private : 7.7%
	-Private : 5.2%
	-Communal: 0.6%
LAND COVER AND USE	Agricultural land, 22.3%
	• Mixed forests, 3.45%
	• Coniferous forests, 4.52%
	• Broad-leaved forests, 16.95%
	• Transitional woodland / shrub, 21.89%
	• Lakes, 65% of country's total
	• Pastures, 11.64%
	• 24 NATURA 2000 areas
NO. OF STAKEHOLDERS	13 groups + 65 individuals
TYPES OF STAKEHOLDERS	-Region authority
	-Communities & municipalities
	-NGOs
	-Industries
	-Private sector (forestry)/ Forest Cooperatives
	-Chambers
	-Associations (Mountaineering, Cultural-Folklore)
GOVERNANCE	•General Assembly
	•Board of Directors (10 persons/5 permanent and 5 deputy
	members)
	•Evaluation Committee
	•Working groups
	•Dedicated staff













Update on latest activities INTERNATIONAL DAY OF FORESTS





The Western Macedonia Model Forest in collaboration with the Municipality of Voio, the Forest Services of Regional Unit of Kozani, CERTH (Centre for Research & Technology Hellas) and the support of the Koukoulidis Foundation, took part in an event for the International Day of Forests.



















FORESTIVAL 2024

- stands of wood and non-wood forest products(mushrooms, aromatic plants, forest honey)
- Tree climbing impressed our little friends











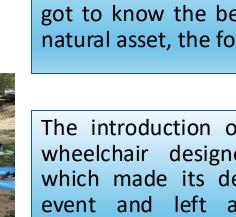








FORESTIVAL 2024



Forest therapy, forest bathing, mindfulness-meditation-flexibility-yoga filled with positive energy and well-being the participants and got to know the beneficial properties of this natural asset, the forest.

The introduction of the **Joelette**, a special wheelchair designed for mountain trails, which made its debut at this pan-Hellenic event and left a strong impression on attendees.

















FORESTIVAL 2024



The festival offering children the chance to participate in experiential games, educational workshops, and forest orientation activities.

A highlight for many was listening to the sounds of plants and trees through specialized equipment, an experience that brought the forest to life in a whole new way.









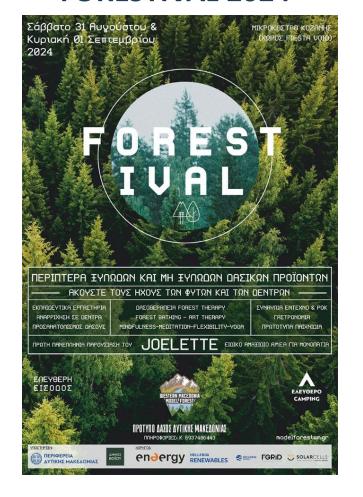








FORESTIVAL 2024



The festival offered the opportunity to participants to taste some forest flavors of Western Macedonia.

The funding by the **sponsors** was very important for the festival.













FORESTIVAL 2024



















FORESTIVAL 2024





























20 Mental Health Festival

















20 Mental Health Festival



The aim of the event was to bring together the citizens of Kozani, especially the youth, into contact with the services and agencies in the field of mental health and psychosocial development.















Challenges and way forward

- 1. Rational use of natural resources into the framework of climate change
- 2. Promotion of Sustainable Forest Management at Regional level in order to enhance the Forest Ecosystems Services, forest biodiversity and organic carbon
- 3. Development of Forest Fire Protection Plan during the summer period, when the lack of precipitation in combination with high air temperatures leads to forest fires with multiple environmental, economic and social impacts
- 4. Promotion of alternative uses of wood and non-wood forest products for rural development
- 5. Effects of climate change: Increased heat, humidity
- 6. Deforestation
- 7. Forests and human health
- 8. Limited community engagement













Possible Solutions

- ✓ Enhanced sustainable forest management -Implementation of Collaborative Governance
- ✓ Skill Development and Training
- ✓ Policy development: Advertising
- ✓ Nature-based intervention focused on improving the health of people (forest therapy, forest bathing e.t.c)
- ✓ Encouraging sustainable agricultural and forestry practices can significantly reduce deforestation
- ✓ Plant More Trees. Engage in tree-planting initiatives in your community or through global organizations
- √ Creating a community engagement strategy













How the Mediterranean Model Forest Network (MMFN) can help

- Sharing knowledge and best practices
- ➤ Capacity Development
- Strengthen collaboration and synergies among members
- ➤ Submit new project ideas

MMFN can be a critical tool to address these challenges by enabling collaboration, sharing resources and building a collective approach.

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Thanks for your attention
Grazie per la vostra attenzione
شكراً على انتباهكم
Gracias por su atención
Merci pour votre attention
Ευχαριστώ για την προσοχή σας
Ηvala na vašoj pažnji
Faleminderit për vëmendjen tuaj
Dikkatiniz için teşekkür ederim

Speaker: enter speakers Name









