



# LIFE-RIZOELIA- Improving the conservation status of the priority habitat types \*1520 and \*5220 at the Rizoelia National Forest Park, Cyprus

**Open University of Cyprus**

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LIFE12 NAT/CY/000758



# Project passport

- The MAIN goal of the project:  
to promote and enable the long term conservation of '\*5220 - Arborescent matorrals with Ziziphus' and '\*1520 - Gypsum steppes (Gypsophiletalia)'
- Country involved: Cyprus
- Duration of the project: September 2013 – February 2017 (42 Months)
- Partners: Department of Forests, Department of Environment, MANRE, Frederick University Cyprus, Open University of Cyprus



# Ecosystem services



## What ecosystem services you deal with, in your project?

- a. Nature-based recreation
- b. Carbon related services involved in the **Global Climate Regulation**

## What are the actions that you take to evaluate/describe/assess them?

- a. Field survey
- b. Phone Survey
- c. Mapping
- d. Global databases (i.e IPCC tier 1 database, 2006)

## What methods do you use?

- **Toolkit for Ecosystem Service Site-based Assessment-TESSA** (Peh et al., 2013)
- a. **Recreation-Census method:** Estimation of annual visits. 3 periods, 7 surveys in each period including weekends, weekdays and national holidays from 7:00 to 19:00.
  - b. **Global climate regulation-** Estimate the storage of carbon (C) **i)** Above-ground biomass (AGB), **ii)** Below-ground biomass (BGB), **iii)** Litter and dead organic matter, **iv.** Soil carbon stock and **v)** Greenhouse gas emissions of each habitat type.



# Ecosystem services - results



## What are your conclusions?

For small sites relying solely on TESSA results on over or underestimation of ES due to the lack of appropriate spatial and thematic resolution .

There is a need for field survey to account for carbon sequestration at the field level

## Dissemination

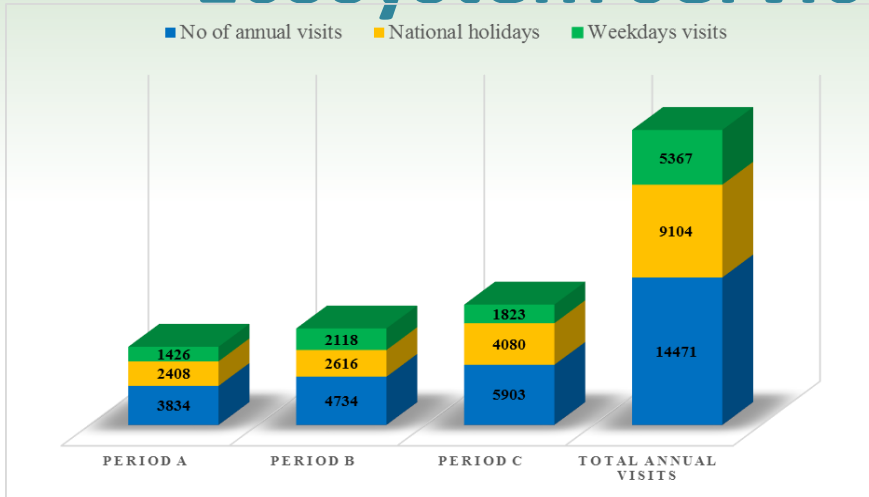
1. Rizoelia monthly reports, midterm report
2. Two posters with preliminary results : **IALE-UK** Annual Conference in London, September 2014, **ICCB - ECCB** Montpellier, 2-6 August 2015
3. Project's website: [www.life-rizoelia.eu](http://www.life-rizoelia.eu)

## Reports, publication planned:

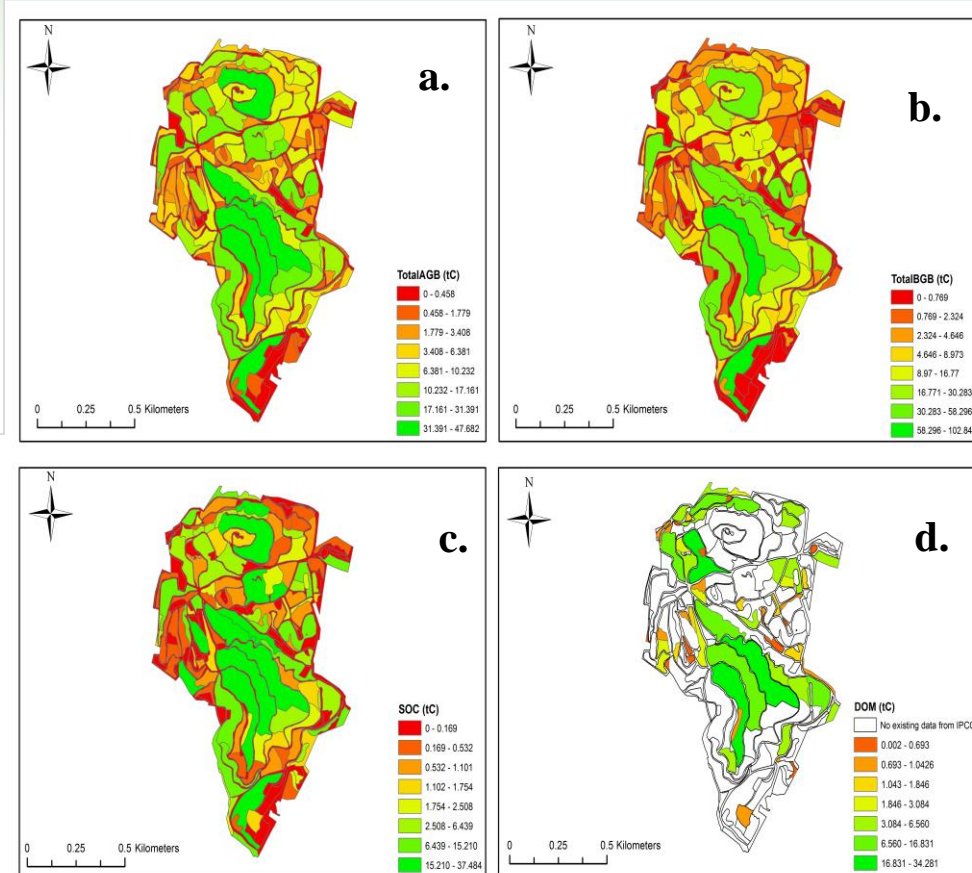
1. D2 Action Final Report [end of project]
2. Peer review publication [After LIFE]



# Ecosystem services - results



Number of visits recorded on three census periods during weekdays, days off work and total number of annual visits in RNFP



Spatial mapping of carbon stock for a. AGB, b. BGB, c. Soil and d. Dead organic matter (DOM) in tones of carbon.

