



MedSEVa

NEWSLETTER 1

<https://medseva.eu>

THE PROJECT

MedSEVa is a transnational project funded by the Erasmus+ Programme, bringing together partners from Greece, Portugal, Türkiye, and Cyprus to promote sustainable economies in the Mediterranean. Our focus is on enhancing bushland and maquis ecosystems, combining ecological conservation with economic development.

The project aims to:

- Empower local communities and higher education students to engage with Mediterranean ecosystems;
- Preserve biodiversity and cultural heritage;
- Develop innovative tools and resources to support sustainability in the region.

Our partners include:

- Aristotle University of Thessaloniki (Greece) – Project Coordinator
- EGE University (Türkiye)
- Cyprus University of Technology (Cyprus)
- The USE Concept, Lda. (Portugal)
- AidLearn, Consultoria em Recursos Humanos, Lda. (Portugal)



PROGRESS OF THE PROJECT AND KEY MILESTONES

Since the kick-off meeting in December 2024, MedSEVa partners have worked hard to establish strong collaboration.

Highlights include:

- **First in-person meeting in Izmir, Türkiye** (January 2025) – A chance for all partners to meet and plan the next operational steps;
- **Online project meetings** – Regular discussions on project management, promotion, and sustainability strategies;
- **Learning Teaching Training Activity (LTTA) Workshop – Documentary& Podcast** (May 2025) – Partners gathered in Serpa and Mértola, Portugal, to learn storytelling techniques, develop short documentaries, and produce podcasts to showcase sustainability practices and entrepreneurship in Mediterranean ecosystems.

- **Focus Groups in Portugal, Türkiye, Greece, and Cyprus** (May–July 2025) – Sessions with researchers, educators, farmers, land managers, policymakers, and local stakeholders to discuss sustainable land management, traditional ecological knowledge, and strategies for the future of Mediterranean bushlands and maquis.

At the same time, we have been advancing the MedSEVa Handbook, carrying out research and elaborating a first draft version that bridges scientific insights with traditional ecological knowledge.

The pilot project video, filmed during this LTTA at Herdade de Vale Côvo, tells an inspiring story of sustainable entrepreneurship in agriculture, bushlands, and the production of essential oils. Watch the **VIDEO HERE**



MedSEVa HUB

Our central platform, the MedSEVa HUB, is now live. It will serve as a one-stop resource for:

- Project updates, news, and results;
- Educational materials for students, researchers, and community members;
- Storytelling Resources, including interviews and multimedia content highlighting Mediterranean bushlands and maquis.

Visit the HUB here: <https://medseva.eu>

STORYTELLING RESOURCES

We are currently developing a set of Storytelling Resources, which will include:

- Interviews and documentaries with experts, farmers, and local stakeholders;
- Multimedia educational content to engage students and communities;
- Tools to inspire sustainable land management practices and celebrate traditional ecological knowledge.

These resources will be central to our educational and awareness-raising activities in the coming months.

NEXT STEPS

Looking ahead, MedSEVa will focus on:

- Final version of the MedSEVa Handbook – A comprehensive guide combining scientific research and traditional knowledge;
- StoryMaps – Interactive multimedia maps showcasing sustainable practices and economic opportunities in Mediterranean ecosystems.

Stay tuned for upcoming updates and discover how MedSEVa is making a difference for Mediterranean ecosystems!

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PARTNERSHIP:



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