

# Tourism and Local Products

at the area of Psiloritis UNESCO

Global Geopark in Crete



ΓΕΩΠΑΡΚΟ  
ΨΗΛΟΡΕΙΤΗ



unesco

Global Geopark

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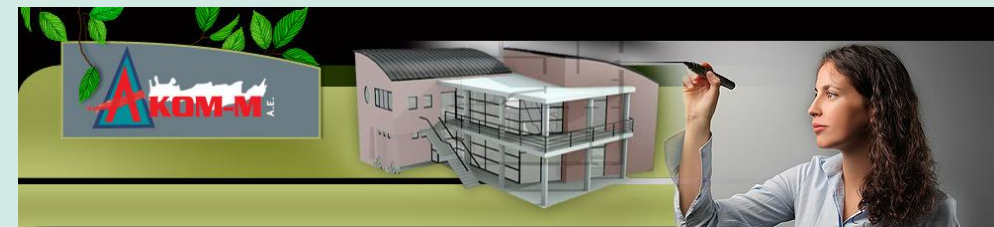




# 1st Lab of Emblematic Mediterranean Mountains Network 2

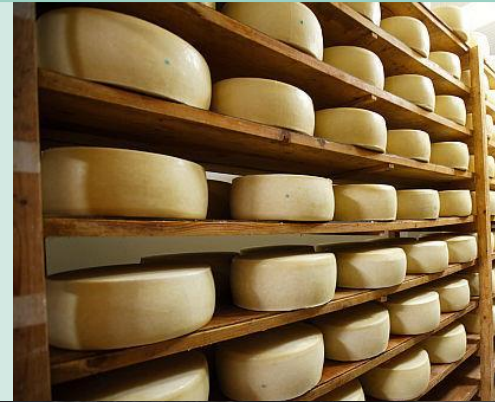


- 2day meeting of partners at **Anogia**, in Crete: **Project kick-off meeting and 1st European Lab: 27-28/7/2022**
- 2nd day of the project was dedicated to the 1st European emblematic lab: **with the topic of mountainous smallscale cheese-making processes** .
- The Lab was dedicated to discovering four concrete experiences and improve our respective practices through exchanges: from production to commercialization of mountainous cheese.
- After the lab, **field visit** in two cheese production and one dairy production units took place.



# The importance of primary sector in Psiloritis

- The rock formations and landscape of Psiloritis are important factors of carving an **economy based in animal husbandry and agriculture**.
- Animal husbandry, agriculture and construction of houses
- The primary sector is the basis of the Cretan economy and part of the island's identity.
- The **production of dairy** products in Crete constitutes **25% of the national production** and the standardization of dairy products is done in modern industrial units.
- Primary sector and alternative forms of tourism (tertiary sector) are the pillars that can redefine the economy and development of the area.





# Psiloritis area

- Animal husbandry remains a **traditional occupation with free-range herds**
- The lowland zone has olive producing areas.
- The fertile land favors the **cultivation of olives, vines** at Amari, Mylopotamos and Malevizi (for the production of raisins and wine), cereals and **fruit trees** at Fodele
- Crete: More than 3 million acres of used agricultural land. 40,3% of that are arboreal cultivations



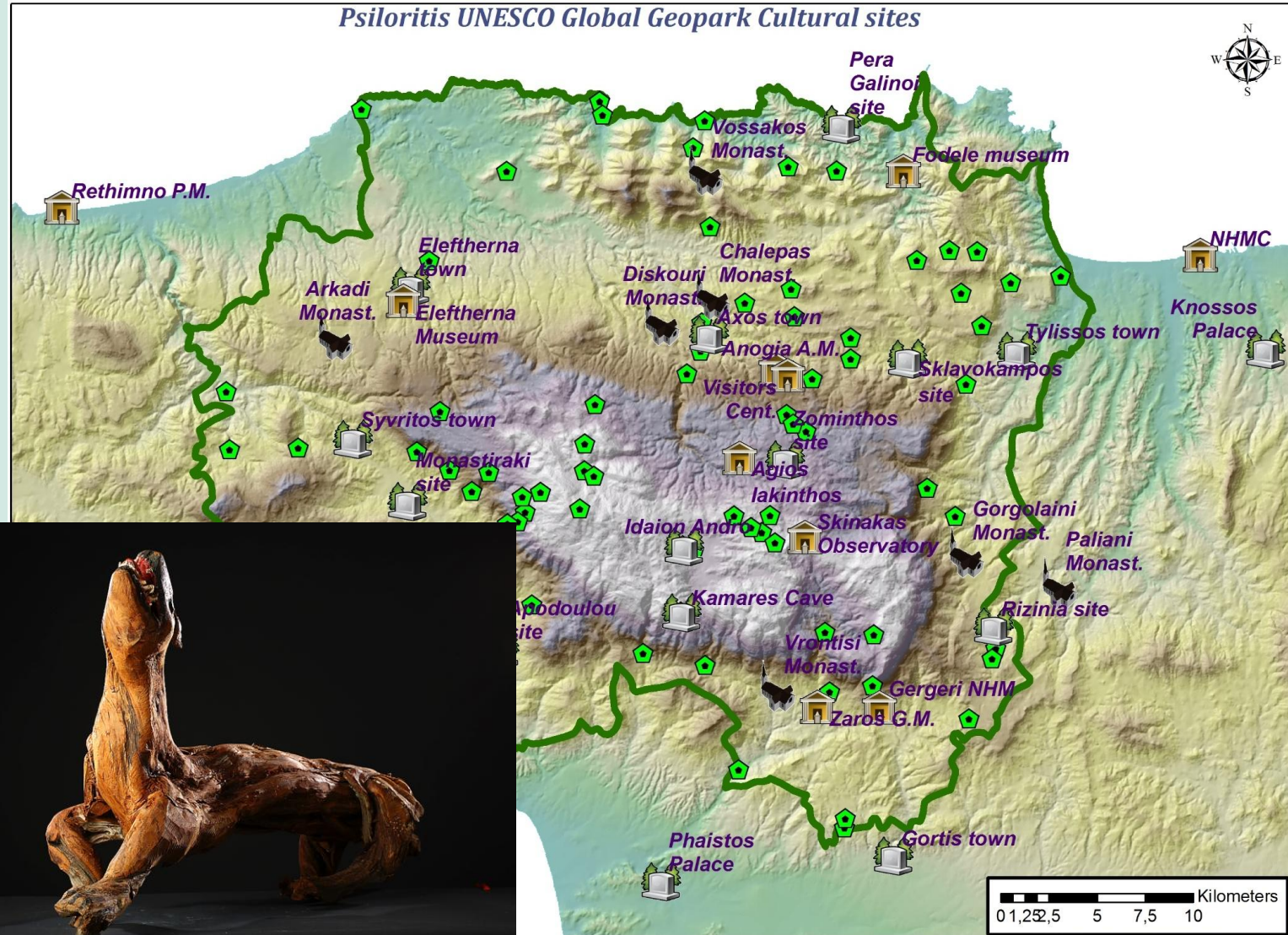
# Psiloritis area

- Beekeeping (cretan honey) and herb gathering
- Fishing remains in the coastal zone
- Folk arts are preserved to this day - handmade masterpieces
- At the same time, whichever product tourism offers is directly influenced by which local products are being offered at the market.
- Agritourism units, cafes, taverns, folk art workshops, tourist businesses





# Psiloritis area - arts





# Psiloritis area

- The inhabitants live with the sound of the **lyre** and the **Cretan dance**
- They compose **mandinades** (poems) about love and life and obituaries about death
- Folk **festivals**, religious festivals in the villages and on the mountain at the small churches
- The weddings, the shearing of the sheep, the rakokazana (raki cauldrons)
- Municipalities and cultural institutions organize events, festivals, conferences, local gastronomy events





# Cultural events linked with tourism and local products

Throughout the summer

Examples:

Yakinthia festival

*at an altitude of 1260m and in an environment with drystone constructions*





# Geopark's festival





# Traditional cheese and pies making and musical activities at “Topos tou Voskou”





# Pottery seminars and Boudalia theater festival

- Margarites village the most famous pottery village in Crete
- Theatrical performances VOUDALIA (August)





# Amari Green Festival

- Culture
- history
- arts
- revival of customs
- support of farmers and shepherds





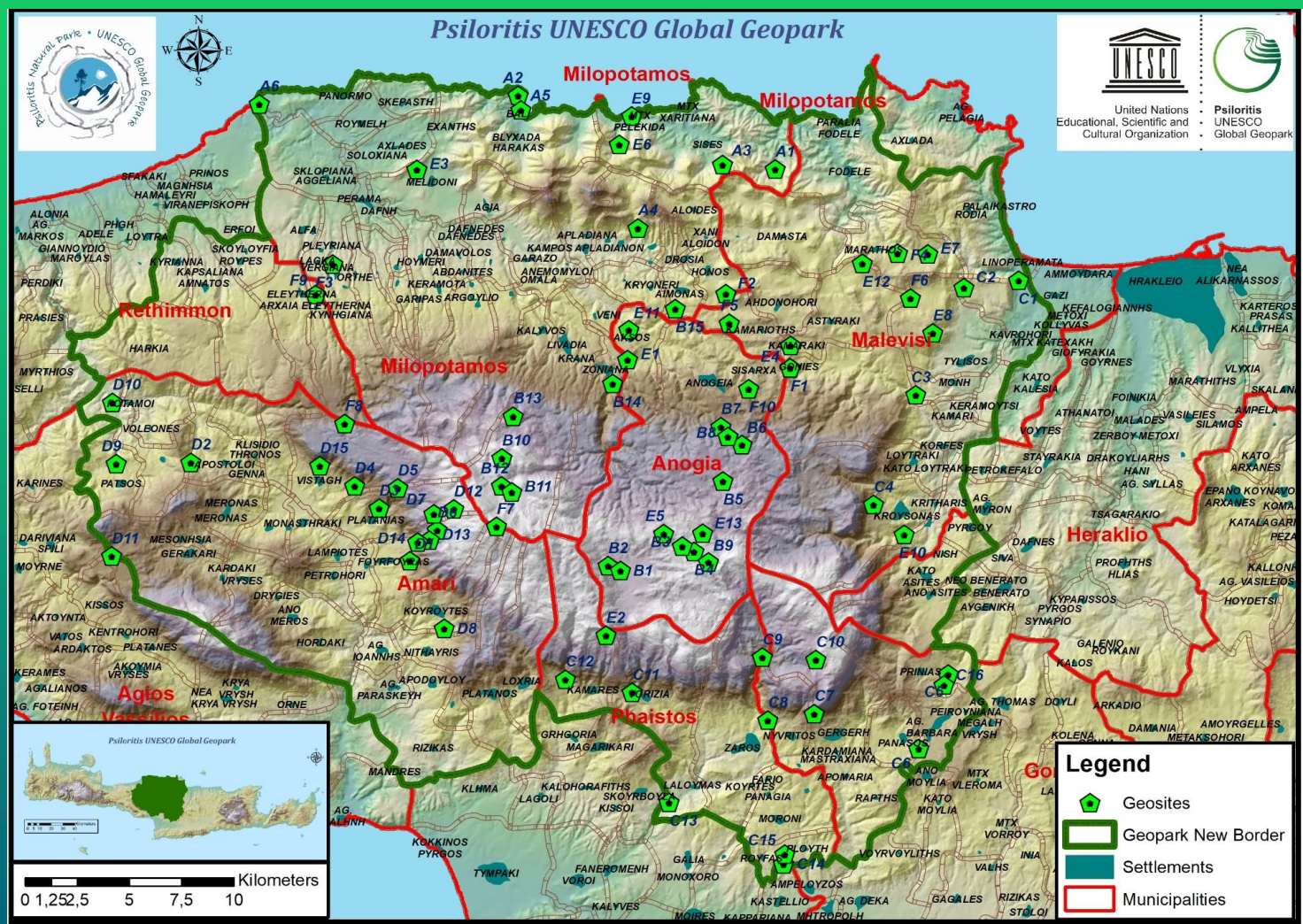
# Fodele Orange Festival

- At Fodele village every spring
- Treats and freshly cut oranges for visitors of the festival





# Psiloritis UNESCO Global Geopark



## Location



- It includes the entire volume of the same name, from its southern edges in the basin of Messara and Mt. Kedros further west, to the northern coast with the Thalia Mountains that form its natural continuation to the west of Gazi.
- It has an area of 1272 km<sup>2</sup>.
- It includes 8 municipalities, 202 settlements, 37,927 inhabitants.





# A geopark is not only all about minerals and geology!



βιοποικιλότητα



μνημεία



άυλη πολιτιστική  
κληρονομιά



τοπικά προϊόντα



αθλητικές/ τουριστικές  
δραστηριότητες









Thank you for your  
attention !