

*Sustaining BSB Biodiversity through Traditional Knowledge and Innovation - BIOSUSTAIN
With the support of the EU Black Sea Basin Interreg NEXT program*

BIOSUSTAIN MEETING AGENDA IN THESSALONIKI, GREECE 11 - 12 JUNE, 2026

THURSDAY, 11 JUNE, 2026

- 17:00- 19:30 **CONSORTIUM MANAGEMENT BODY STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING**
Meeting place: Aristotle University Research Dissemination Center (KEDEA)
<https://kedeia.rc.auth.gr/>
3rd September AUTH CAMPUS, 546 36, MEETING ROOM 1 – MEZZANINE
Thessaloniki, Greece
- 20:00- 21:30 Dinner in a Greek traditional restaurant / Massalia
<https://www.massalia.gr/>

FRIDAY, 12 JUNE, 2026

INTERNATIONAL SEMINAR

Traditional Ecological Knowledge in Black Sea Basin Countries: Preservation, Sustainable Use, and Innovative Applications of Traditional Plant Species

Venue: Aristotle University Research Dissemination Center (KEDEA)
3rd September AUTH CAMPUS, 546 36, AMPHITHEATER 3, Thessaloniki, Greece
(<https://kedeia.rc.auth.gr/>)

- 09:00 - 09:30 **Registration | Welcomes | Salutations**
- 09:30 - 09:45 **Presentation of BIOSUSTAIN Project**
Mariam Dvalishvili, *Georgian Arts and Culture Center (GACC) Director*
- 09:45 - 10:00 **Presentation of COMMON METHODOLOGY**
Eleni Athanasiadou, *Aristotle University of Thessaloniki (AUTH), Scientific coordinator*
- 10:00 - 10:30 **TEK STUDY IN GEORGIA**
Zurab Shevardnadze, *Lead Expert, Georgian Arts and Culture Center (GACC)*

- 10:30 - 11:00 **TEK STUDY IN BULGARIA**
Hristo Stoyanov & Tzvetalina Genova, *Varna University of Management (VUM)*
- 11:00 - 11:30 **TEK STUDY IN GREECE**
Eleni Athanasiadou, *Scientific coordinator, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki (AUTH)*
- 11:30 - 12:00 **Coffee break**
- 12:00 - 12:30 **TRADITIONAL ECOLOGICAL KNOWLEDGE AND AGRICULTURAL HERITAGE IN ITALY**
Professor Mauro Agnoletti, *UNESCO Chair – Agricultural Heritage Landscapes
Department of Agricultural, Food, Environmental, and Forestry Science and Technology*
- 12:30 - 13:00 **MARCHING TOWARDS SELF-SUFFICIENCY**
Panagiotis Seitanoudis, *Founder of Peliti ‘An alternative community for harmonious coexistence.’*
- 13:00 - 13:30 **RE-INTRODUCTION OF HERITAGE CROPS ON FARMER’S FIELDS – EXAMPLE OF BIOLOGICAL FARMING ASSOCIATION ELKANA, GEORGIA**
Elene Shatberashvili, *Biological Farming Association Elkana, Advocacy & Research Officer*
- 13:30 - 14:00 **NEW BULGARIAN CUISINE ASSOCIATION AND THE CULINARY TRADITIONS OF THE BULGARIAN BLACK SEA REGION**
Kaloyan Kolev, *Chef Instructor and Chairman of the New Bulgarian Cuisine Association*
- 14:00 - 15:00 **ROUND TABLE DISCUSSION & Conclusions**
Coordinator - Professor Maria Partalidou, Rural Sociology & Agritourism
- Participants:
- Panagiotis Sainatoudis, Peliti (Greece)**
- Dimitris Macharidis, Vioma Organic plants and supplies for professionals and hobbyists**
- Anastasia Chamalidou, Trelia Rodia, Rehabilitation NGO (Greece)**
- Hristo Stoyanov, Varna University of Management (VUM), Dobrudzha Agricultural Institute – Bulgarian Academy of Science, Bulgaria**
- Tzvetalina Genova, Varna University of Management (VUM), Bulgaria**
- Vessela Panova, Varna University of Management (VUM), Bulgaria**
- Zurab Shevardnadze, Georgian Arts and Culture Center (GACC), Georgia**

Maka Dvalishvili, *Georgian Arts and Culture Center (GACC), Georgia*

Elene Shatberashvili, *Biological Farming Association 'Elkana', Georgia*

15:00 - 16:00 **LUNCH BREAK**

Working language: English

Live streaming of the International Seminar is available at the following link: **we will have the link in the next couple of days**

Organizer of the Seminar:

Aristotle University of Thessaloniki (AUTH)

AUTH Campus, Tritis Septemvriou, K.E. D.E.A. Building 54636 Thessaloniki, Greece

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Co-Organizers:

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About the Project-BIOSUSTAIN:

The overall objective of the international project BIOSUSTAIN is to contribute to the preservation of BSB ecosystems through innovative approaches to traditional ecological knowledge. The project envisages pilot studies in partner countries and explores the application of traditional knowledge in areas such as traditional crafts, food traditions, traditional medicine, etc. while also building capacity of local communities as stewards of traditional ecosystems and promoting public awareness of the value of local knowledge and community practices.

The Project is implemented by the Georgian Arts and Culture Center (Georgia) as Lead Partner, in partnership with Varna University of Management (Bulgaria) and Aristotle University of Thessaloniki (Greece), with the support of the **EU Black Sea Basin Interreg NEXT program**. (2026 - 2027)

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