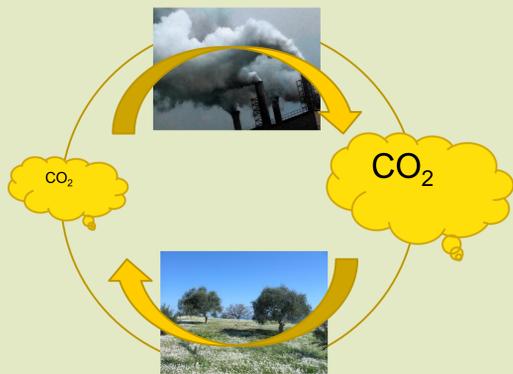




LIFE oLIVE-CLIMA

Introduction of new oLIVE crop management practices focused on CLIMate change mitigation and adaptation



The oLIVECLIMA project is an effort to guide the agricultural sector in order to face current challenges by converting olive cultivation to a climate change management tool.

In 120 olive groves in 3 farmer groups (E.A.S. Peza in Heraklion, E.A.S. Mirabello in Lassithi, and F.G. Nileas in Messinia), olive cultivation practices are applied that contribute to:

Climate change mitigation:

- a) by reducing greenhouse gases (GHG) emissions
- b) by increasing carbon dioxide capture

Adaptation to new climate conditions:

- a) by increasing fertility and water retention in olive groves soil
- b) by strengthening the economic and environmental sustainability of production



The cultivation practices that will be applied for 2012-2017 are:

Practices for capturing organic matter derived from either the process of olive growing or olive oil production, in order to return to its groves by:

- Recycling the wood produced from tree pruning as mulch / nutrition material
- Re-use of olive oil mill by-products through land application, either directly or after composting

Practical increase of CO₂ capture from the atmosphere to plants through photosynthesis and "storage" in plant tissue and soil by:

- Modification of olive grove flora
- Modification of olive trees pruning

Conservation practices of organic matter, through the zero tillage for limiting erosion and destruction of organic matter, and improving the soil water storage capacity.

These practices contribute to long-term "storage" of carbon dioxide in the soil in the form of an increasing percentage of organic matter, improving fertility (e.g. by better retention of water and fertilizers) and reducing greenhouse gases (GHG) emissions.

Main project objectives:

- To determine farming practices that lead to increased CO₂ uptake by plants from the atmosphere
- To take measures to reduce GHG emissions and other environmental impacts during crop production processes
- To reverse the trend of soil organic matter losses, erosion and desertification by measures that increase the rate of soil organic matter build up
- To improve the biodiversity and sustainability of the olive grove ecosystem
- To lower the olive oil production cost and to create added value from the standardization of a climate beneficial product
- To develop a set of easily measurable indicators that can be used to link farmer practices to the quantification of carbon stored in the soil
- To provide farmers and consumers with a clear and robust information system about the environmental performance during food production processes

PARTNERS of the project		
	COORDINATOR Development Agency of Eastern Thessaloniki's Local Authorities, ANATOLIKI SA.	www.anatoliki.gr
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With the contribution of the LIFE financial instrument of the European Community



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