



LEADER PROGRAMME



KARPAZ AREA LOCAL DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY



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Nicosia, 14 December 2010

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Introduction

'LEADER means listening to the voice of local citizens and increasing their participation.'

Prof. Laurent Van Depoele-University of LEUVEN (Belgium)

This **Local Development Strategy** for the Karpaz area has been prepared by the local stakeholders and communities with the facilitation and support of the *Rural Development Support Team*¹.

In October 2009, the RDST started work to introduce the LEADER approach in the northern part of Cyprus. LEADER as an integral component of the EU rural development policy, is a methodological approach aiming at increasing the local governance and improving the capacity of local public-private partnerships in territorial management by preparing area-based Local Development Strategies (LDS) using a bottom-up approach and integrating multi-sector actions.

The Karpaz area, transcends the existing administrative district boundaries. The area has been selected considering its homogeneous natural resources and environmental challenges and has been submitted as a LEADER area in accordance with the willingness of the municipalities and of the civil society to work together to valorise the opportunities for economic and social sectors in order to increase prosperity and to improve quality of life across the whole area. The preparation of this local development strategy has benefited with the corporation of the EU Coordination Center from the continuous support of the central public administration.

As defined in this Local Development Strategy, Karpaz is geographically the long peninsular strip of land jutting out from the north eastern side of Cyprus and pointing towards Turkey. This area has a particular and specific combination of rich, diverse and valuable natural and historic heritage. This heritage which has a sensitive and fragile structure is under pressure from uncontrolled infrastructure development, economic activities, neglect, quarrying and other threats.

It's necessary to ensure the environmentally and socio-economically sustainable development of this unique area and a good local governance.

¹ The RDST is a technical assistance project aimed at preparing a Rural Development Plan according EU regulations, at introducing the Leader approach, at preparing calls for proposals for rural and community development and at supporting the potential beneficiaries in preparing projects including the setting up local partnerships. Since October 2009, RDST has started to work for developing LEADER approach in northern part of Cyprus.
<http://www.tccruraldevelopment.eu/rdst/>

Acronyms and Abbreviations

°C	Degree Celsius
CMC	Cyprus Mining Company
CSO	Civil Society Organisation
Cu.m	Cubic meter
dn	Dönüm (1.338 Dekar)
Dka	Dekar (1,000 square meters or 1/10 of ha)
EC	European Commission
EU	European Union with 27 Member states (since 2006)
EUNIS	European Nature Information System (Species, Habitat types and Sites)
EUL	European University of Lefke
EUR	Euro Currency (or €)
GIS	Geographic Information System
GCc	Greek Cypriot community
ha	Hectare (= 10,000 square meters)
HNV	High Nature Value
IBA	Important Bird Area
ICT	Information and Communication Technology
LDS	Local Development Strategy
LEADER	Liaison entre actions de développement rural (Axis “4” of C. Reg. 1698/05)
METU NCC	Middle East Technical University Northern Cyprus Campus
Km	Kilometre
Km2	Square Kilometre (= 100 ha)
m	Metre
mm	Millimetre
NATURA 2000	EU wide network of nature protection areas (1992 Habitats Directive)
KA	Karpaz Area
KM	Kyrenia Mountains
RDP	Rural Development Plan
SME	Small and Medium Sized Enterprises
SEPA	Special Environment Protected Area
SIT	Special Interest Tourism
Spp.	Species
SWOT	Strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats
TCc	Turkish Cypriot community
Ton	Tonne (1 ton = 1,000 Kg)
TÜK	TCc's marketing board responsible for cereals and potatoes
UN	United Nations
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNDP-PFF	UNDP Partnership For Future (programme)
USAID	United States Aid
WWTP	Waste Water Treatment Plant

I - Territorial Profile

1. - Physical Features

The total Karpaz Area (KA) covers a surface of 898 km², corresponding to about 27% of the total TCc area.

It includes five municipalities under the Iskele District (Iskele/Trikomo, Mehmetcik/Galatia, Büyükkonuk/Komi Kepir, Yenierenköy/Gialousa, Dipkarpaz/ Rizokarpaso) and one municipality under the Famagusta/Mağusa district (Tatlisu/Akanthou). The latter is geographically linked to the Karpaz and has requested to be included in the LDS Karpaz Area. In addition to the municipality city centres the KA includes 35 villages, of which 5 are in the Mesaoria Plain.

The land boundaries of the KA are: north-west the Esentepe/Agios Amvrosios municipality (Girne/Kyrenia district), west and south-west the Geçitkale/Lefkoniko and Yeniboğaziçi/Agios Sergios Municipalities (Magusa/ Famagusta district).

The population density of the KA is of 26 inhabitants per km² (which is well below the average of 78 of the TCc), and is characterized by an extremely high unemployment and emigration of the young people to the towns.

From a physical point of view the Karpaz Area (KA) includes:

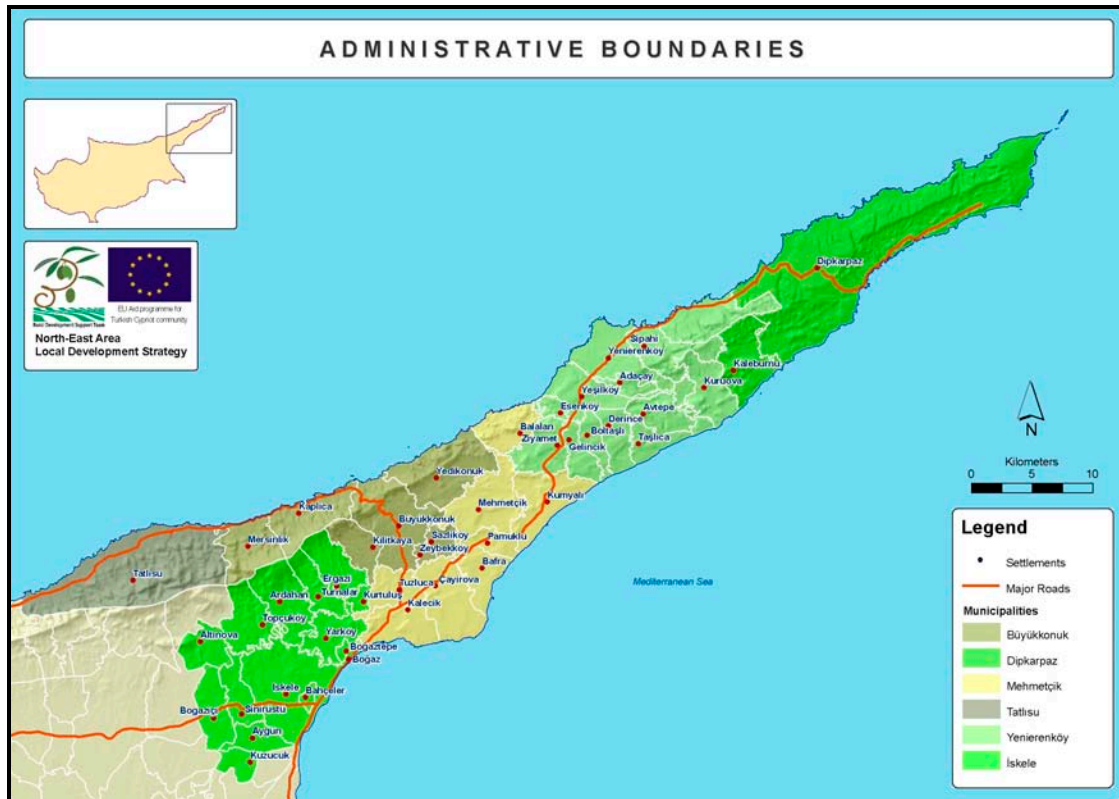
- the Karpaz peninsula proper featuring the descending eastern end of the Pentadaktilos/Besparmak mountain range which runs parallel to the northern coast of the island and opens up into an extensive interior area with hills, slopes and valleys. The northern slope of Besparmak, which includes the town of Tatlisu and two villages of the municipality of Büyükkonuk, is greener and moist while the southern slope, stretching towards the municipality centers of Büyükkonuk and Mehmetcik, is drier. Approaching to the tip of the peninsula, where the municipalities of Yenierenköy and Dipkarpaz are located, the landscape becomes mainly hilly with small valleys and highlands and ends at cape Apostolos Andreas/Zafer Burnu.
- starting from Bogaz, traditionally considered as the gate of the Karpaz peninsula, the southern base of the peninsula opens up into the large Mesaoria plain. Here is based the town of Iskele which is district centre.

The weather is mildly cold and rainy in winter and hot and dry in summer. The average annual rainfall of the area is between 455-506 mm according to records of the Yenierenköy meteorological station. The highest rainfall is during December/January, the lowest in August. The dominant winds during the winter are north and north-west while during summer times south and south-easterly winds predominate.

The Karpaz peninsula is particularly known for its unspoilt landscapes and wild environment. This exceptional natural heritage and its high biodiversity have lead to the setting up of a national park and of two special protected areas (SEPA). The area, probably the first inhabited in Cyprus due to its proximity with the Asian continent, also boasts a wealth of cultural and historical heritage that still shape the territory (Antique period, Roman, Byzantine, Medieval, etc).

These outstanding natural and historical heritage resources are so far largely untapped in economic terms. The isolation of the Karpaz peninsula, that has on one side protected its environment and the presence of different cultures (Dipkarpaz is still the home to largest community of Greek Cypriots in the northern part of Cyprus), has on the other side, affected the local population which is the poorest of the island.

Development policies, not based on the real strengths and opportunities, could generate the degradation of the rich resources of the area.



2. – Local administrative units and their infrastructure

2.1 – Six neighbouring municipalities

The area includes six municipalities: Iskele, Mehmetçik, Büyükkonuk, Yenierenköy, Dipkarpaz and Tatlısu.

Iskele - With a total population of 7,613, Iskele is the main municipality of the Karpaz Area and at the same time it is the district centre. Iskele borders Geçitkale to the east and Magusa to the south. Bogâz, one of its coastal villages is considered the gate to the Karpaz peninsula.

The town of Iskele is mainly known for its Icon Museum located in the 12th century church of Panagia Theotokos and for its international folk dance festival. The town itself is a relatively modest settlement, but the municipality area is large and includes different landscapes, parts of the Besparmak and of the Mesaoria plain and the tourist-oriented coastal strip (particularly around Bogâz).

The privileged location (between Famagusta and the Karpaz peninsula) together with the hope of a solution to the Cyprus problem, has attracted in the last five years a multitude of property investments (second houses and resorts) – that has converted a large part of the coastal strip into an urban area. The local economy mainly consisting in tourism activity and property development sector has been sorely hit by the general economic crisis and by the continuation of the TCc isolation. As a consequence, abandoned and semi-finished property developments are spread all along the coastal area of the municipality and gives a bleak impression to the visitor.

Yenierenköy - With a total population of 5,693, it is the second municipality of the Karpaz Area and it borders the municipalities of Mehmetçik to the west and Dipkarpaz to the east. The town centre hosts the some public offices among which the tourism information office and a sizeable community of micro and small businesses.

The municipal territory is unevenly developed. It is economically more dynamic in the northern coastal area (including the town of Yenierenköy and the villages along the main road Iskele-Dipkarpaz) while it is underdeveloped and agriculture-oriented in the south.

Along the northern coast real estate has been active and several property projects (mainly villas) have been developed, some of which are hit by the crisis. The area has one of the most renowned historical attractions of the Karpaz peninsula, the Sipahi Ayas Trias basilica, and offers many natural shelters on the northern coast, where a large marina is currently under construction. The tourism investments associated with the marina could contribute to the revitalization of the local economy. The fishery shelter of Yenierenköy, currently under renovation, is very active and hosts the highest number of fishermen of the Karpaz area.

The southern side, that includes most of the villages, has been the centre of the once thriving and lucrative tobacco activity in Cyprus. The industry stopped operations in 2004 and currently only the sale of tobacco stocks occurs. Agriculture is mostly a subsistence activity; farmers lack alternative incomes, and mostly are sheep and goat breeders.

Mehmetçik - With a total population of 3,381 it is the third municipality of the Karpaz area and is located to the north-west of Büyükkonuk and south-west of Yenierenköy. The town stretches on a long hilly ridge overlooking the plain and sea, and is pleasantly refreshed by winds.

The economy of the Mehmetçik town, based on the solid historical roots of the population on the territory, is fairly well developed and based on agriculture, tourism and a fabric of dynamic micro and small enterprises. The area around Mehmetçik is traditionally renowned for its grapes that are celebrated by the annual Mehmetçik Grape festival, now in its 50th rehearsal. Mehmetçik has an outstanding natural wetland area well known by bird watchers.

Besides agriculture and marble quarrying activities, the main economic focus of the municipality is located in Bafra, identified as priority area for tourism development by the central tourism authority. The area is already equipped with the highest standard hotel of Karpaz peninsula² and up to four new high standard hotels and a golf course are planned to be built before 2014.

Büyükkonuk - With a total population of 2,885, it is the fourth municipality of the Karpaz area. It borders Iskele to the south-west and Mehmetçik to the north-east.

The town has a poor economic base (essentially agricultural) which is reflected in the quality of the city centre buildings and in the small number of and size of local businesses. Nevertheless, some positive developments are fostered by the presence of a dynamic civil society that catalyses community-based efforts. Büyükkonuk is known as the first "eco-village" due to the popular "ECO-DAYS" festival that is held twice a year. This event, as well as other activities (embellishment of the city centre, increase of the accommodation capacity and renovation of the rural heritage) has been assisted by international donors.

The territory of the municipality is partially covered by the eastern part of the Tatlisu coastal SEPA. The villages of Kaplica (on the northern coast) and especially Mersinlik (a formerly isolated inland village) will surely benefit from the new road that is being built connecting Tatlisu with Büyükkonuk. It could be expected that tourism will be the leading sector that will develop, especially due to the presence of the medieval Kantara Castle landmark.

Dipkarpaz - With a total population of 2,398, it is the fifth municipality of the Karpaz area and borders Yenierenköy to the south-east. So far the municipality has suffered from isolation from the main urban centres, but impressive road improvement works have been undertaken in 2010 between Yenierenköy and Dipkarpaz that will facilitate the connection with the rest of the island.

The town is mainly characterised by the cultural variety of the population (Greek and Turkish Cypriots) and by its old city centre which develops around the main road. Based on an eco-tourism strategy prepared by the tourism authority, a pilot project (e.g. Arch Houses) was initiated ten years ago in the town surroundings. This involved the restoration of old village houses for tourism purposes according

² Kaya Artemis

to traditional styles and materials. This positive example was followed by similar private investments supported by the public authority.

Dipkarpaz municipality is the greenest and wildest part of the Karpaz peninsula, famous for its unspoilt countryside. The municipality area includes some of the most beautiful beaches³ of the island and outstanding protected areas including the Karpaz national park within SEPA and two SEPAs⁴. Due to its geographic position, Dipkarpaz was one of the first places inhabited of the island and one of the largest baronies under the Lusignans. A lot of historical heritage is spread over the area, attesting its rich history having roots in the archaic period.

The local economy is mainly based on extensive farming, sheep/goat breeding and artisanal fishery. There are some embryonic elements of sustainable green and cultural tourism which are however insufficiently supported by adequate infrastructure and promotion.

Tatlisu - With a total population of 1,379, it is the sixth municipality of the Karpaz area. It borders Iskele and Geçitkale to the south and Büyükkonuk to the east. The town of Tatlisu is typically rural and, located inland on the hills, is it surrounded by a vast forested mountain area which has been recently valorised through the development of two walking paths and which is part of the Tatlisu coastal SEPA.

The western part of the Tatlisu municipality is territorially contiguous and functionally linked with Kyrenia and shows a number of property developments, while the eastern part, including the town of Tatlisu, is wilder and less inhabited and has the same characteristics of the Karpaz peninsula with beautiful landscapes.

The weak local economy is principally based on agriculture; however the municipality has been very active in developing some successful tourism activities such as the small sea resort (bungalows and restaurant) on the northern coast.

2.2 – With infrastructure under modernisation

The road network

The KA, until recently, has been poorly connected to the rest of the island by narrow roads. This isolation has contributed to the preservation of its environment but has affected its economic and tourism development.

The KA is crossed by an east-west road axis which connects Lefkoşa/Ercan airport to Iskele (via Serdarlı and Geçitkale) and further on to Yenierenköy and then Dipkarpaz. Girne is connected to this main axis via the Tatlisu-Büyükkonuk road. Magusa is also connected northward to Iskele through a good coastal road.

There are currently two important road improvement/expansion projects underway in the area. The Tatlisu/Büyükkonuk road crossing the Beparmak that facilitates tourism exchange between Bafra and Girne areas, as well as the last seven Km of the road leading to Dipkarpaz, that will definitely improve the connection of the Karpaz peninsula with the rest of the island and reduce its isolation. There have been however some criticisms on the environmental impact of the road construction.

Drinking water, Electrification and Communication

Drinking water supply, electrification and telephone lines are accessible for the population of the KA both in towns and in villages. However, the power supply and telephone are subject to service interruptions which in turn affect the population and businesses including agricultural (water pumps, cold chain, internet connections, etc). This situation requires a solution which is nevertheless far beyond the objective of this local development strategy. An EU funded project “Development and Restructuring of Telecommunication Infrastructure Network”, implemented by the Telecommunication Department, will improve the telecommunication infrastructure in the area.

³ The Golden and Ronnas beaches are the most known, but there are others also.

⁴ Karpaz SEPA and the South Karpaz Coasts SEPA

Industrial Areas

There are no real industrial areas in the KA, only two small artisanal areas, with basic infrastructure. The first one is in Iskele (20 enterprises and no telephone line) and the second one is in Mehmetçik (three enterprises). The majority of the companies are car mechanics, blacksmiths and construction companies.

3. – Demographic trend and social services

3.1 - Demography

The Karpaz area male population (51.6%) is slightly higher than the female one (48.4%) out of a total of 23,349 people (or about 9% of the TCc total). The majority of the population (around 70%) is between the 15 and 64 years old, followed by 22.5% under 15 years, and the remaining 9.5% more than 64 years.

Annual population growth rate is around 2.4 %, and natural growth rate is 0.9%. In the villages, the economically active population (between 15 and 64 years) is lower than the TCc average, indicating that this population segment emigrates from the villages due to low employment opportunities and lack of sufficient social and cultural facilities. (*Annex 1- Karpaz population*)

3.2 - Social services

Education

The general educational level of the population in the Karpaz Area is lower than the TCc average. According to TCc figures, enrolment rates at preschools and primary schools is 100%, for secondary schools is 60% and for general/vocational high school it is 37% of the population above 18 years old. These values are increasing over time since the elderly people of Karpaz received less education than their children. The gender distribution in all schools (primary /secondary/ high school) is about fifty-fifty. The schools lack of sufficient infrastructure (teaching rooms) in relation to the pupil population. The solution of this problem is beyond the objective of this local development strategy.

There are two public vocational high schools in the KA: the Karpaz Vocational school in Kumyali (161 students with departments of Education: Tourism, Electric/Electronics, Machinery Technologies, Motor Vehicles, Furniture and Decoration, Information Technologies and Child Development) and the Iskele Commerce school (30 students). There are two other high schools which are Bekirpaşa Lisesi (in Iskele) and Erenköy Lisesi (in Yenierenköy).

Health and social facilities

Health Centres

The situation of health facilities in the Karpaz Area is poor. This is worsened by the fact that the nearest general hospital is in Magusa. Health centres are in the towns of Iskele, Yenierenköy, Mehmetçik (that serves also Büyükkonuk) and Dipkarpaz which provide daytime first-step medical services and advice. However, Tatlısu, as well as most of the villages of the Karpaz Area, is only equipped with a simple health room.

The Centres are generally staffed by a small number of general practitioners, paediatricians, gynaecologists and dentists either on full or part time basis. The centres are equipped with basic instruments and analytical apparatuses. Each of the Health Centres has an ambulance, but some are not equipped with life saving equipment. The Yenierenköy Health Centre is the only one that is operating an elderly people care project.

Kinder gardens

There is only one kinder garden in the Karpaz Area, located in Iskele. For the moment the practice is that children stay with their families (especially grand parents). However, with the future economic development and employment opportunities that could be created for women, the need for kinder gardens could increase in the mid term, but this can be catered for by the private sector as and when needed.

Sports and cultural centres and recreational areas

In terms of sport facilities the Karpaz area is fairly well equipped. All the municipalities have football pitches and some have also basketball grounds. Iskele and Yenierenköy have covered sport halls and some tennis courts are available in the district centre. Some sports and recreational facilities can be also found in tourism areas like Bogâz or Bafrâ.

In terms of cultural and recreational facilities, most of the town centres are equipped with public libraries offering internet connection and/or some of them have cyber cafés. Dipkarpaz appears to be the less equipped town in terms of IT and cultural facilities. Most of the villages have no internet access at all. The two main towns of the KA (Iskele and Yenierenköy) have got cultural centres facilities used mainly for theatre performances. A new theatre is under construction in Büyükkonuk which has also a nice picnic area integrated in a new municipal area offering café bar and bungalows.

Two weekly village bazaars occur in Büyükkonuk and Yenierenköy where villagers and traders sell their products.

Community transport

There are 11 transportation companies registered in whole Karpaz area. There are also public busses of Magusa and private companies which are registered in other cities and operate in this area. Overall, the community transport in the KA is satisfactory and regular service is ensured by private Dolmuş (minibuses) and buses. Main routes are Magusa-Yenierenköy-Dipkarpaz, Lefkoşa-Iskele-Yenierenköy, Tatlisu-Girne/Nicosia, and Ercan Airport-Bafrâ Tourism Area. In addition Cyprus Airport services and Artemis Hotel have buses operating between the Ercan Airport and Bafrâ Tourism Area.

One of the complaints from foreign tourists is the insufficient information (leaflets in different languages) on routes, departure stations and schedules of these services.

Challenges

The development of the KA depends on the well being of the population. The key challenges for the KA are to improve:

- The medical services (especially emergency) for the safety of the population and of the growing number of tourists expected in the area. This can be achieved through the provision of life-saving equipped ambulances, better medical and laboratory equipments, but also more medical and support staff.
- The communication, knowledge exchange and ultimately economic development by supporting community internet access in rural Karpaz (purchase of hardware for internet cafés and halls, etc).
- The organisation, information and integration of public/private transport from key tourist points of the northern part of Cyprus (including border points) to the KA with the aim of facilitating tourist inflow and improve transport facilities for residents.



4. – Employment and the Economy

4.1 - Employment

According to official statistics, the total labour force of the KA was around 7,000 people in 2006, which represents around 7% of the total TCc labour force. The unemployment rate is around 17.8%, which is higher than the TCc rate of 10%. Given the high number of unregistered work and wages, the real unemployment rate could be lower.

The unemployment rate of the young population (between 15-24 years old) is particularly high (28.1%) against 19.7% for the TCc. In comparison to men, the participation of women into labour force is substantially lower (24% of the total). In the villages 11.6% of male labour force is unemployed while for women this rate is up to 35.1% (TCc average 17%).

The services sector provides the largest employment share⁵ (about 69% of the total, in line with the TCc average). The agricultural sector (including fishery) with 5.3% of the total share (against 3.5% at TCc level) reflects the importance of agriculture in the local economy. Industry employs 25.3% of which the major part is in the construction sector (around 19.6% that is almost the double of the TCc average of 11.5%). This reflects the construction workers linked with tourism developments in the area. The bearish trend in the real estate sector has decreased the employment in the construction, and conversely has increased the number of unemployed and/or of the employed in agriculture. (*Annex 2 - Karpaz labour Force*).

4.2 - Economy

The Karpaz Area business environment is quite underdeveloped, comprising a large number of micro enterprises and very few small enterprises.

⁵ Employment according to household labour force survey, October 2006, SPO

In total around 490 active businesses are listed in the combined registers of the Chamber of Industry, of the Chamber of Commerce and of the Chamber of Shopkeepers and Artisans. According to these almost 40% of them are retailers/shop keepers, 13% construction enterprises, 9% artisans (mechanics, wood workers, iron workers, barbers, etc), 9% cafes and restaurants, 7% tourist operators, 6% confection retailers, 5% producers/processors (mostly agriculture-related food processors and some industrial production).

The majority of the enterprises (67%) are located in the villages while 31% are in the town centres and 2% in the artisanal areas. This is explained by the fact that the enterprises in the villages and towns are mainly service micro-enterprises (shops, café, etc), while larger enterprises work in the vicinity of the towns.

In terms of geographical repartition, Iskele municipality has the highest number of enterprises among which the larger ones are a cement factory, an electric production plant, two petrol storage plants, one limestone factory, one carob factory and some agro-processors (honey, etc). Yenierenköy has the dairy processing plant, and what remains of the tobacco plant. Mehmetçik has one quarrying enterprise, an olive oil mill and a catering enterprise. Büyükkonuk has one olive oil mill and Tatlisu has a water bottling plant. Dipkarpaz has no industrial plants at all.

The Chamber of Shopkeepers and Artisans has recently started an initiative to establish an Apprenticeship and Adult Training Centre in the Lefkosa Industrial Zone with financial support of European Commission. In this centre, three-years vocational training is provided on ten different vocations. Another recent development related to vocational training is a three years technical assistance project funded by the EU that aims at capacity improvement in related organizations (including the education and labour authorities and vocational schools), standard setting up, programs and curriculum development.

Challenges

The key challenge for the KA is to support the creation of employment opportunities, especially for women, in economically sustainable activities. This involves the qualification of the work force in languages and technical skills in the different fields (eco-tourism, handicrafts, environment, etc.).



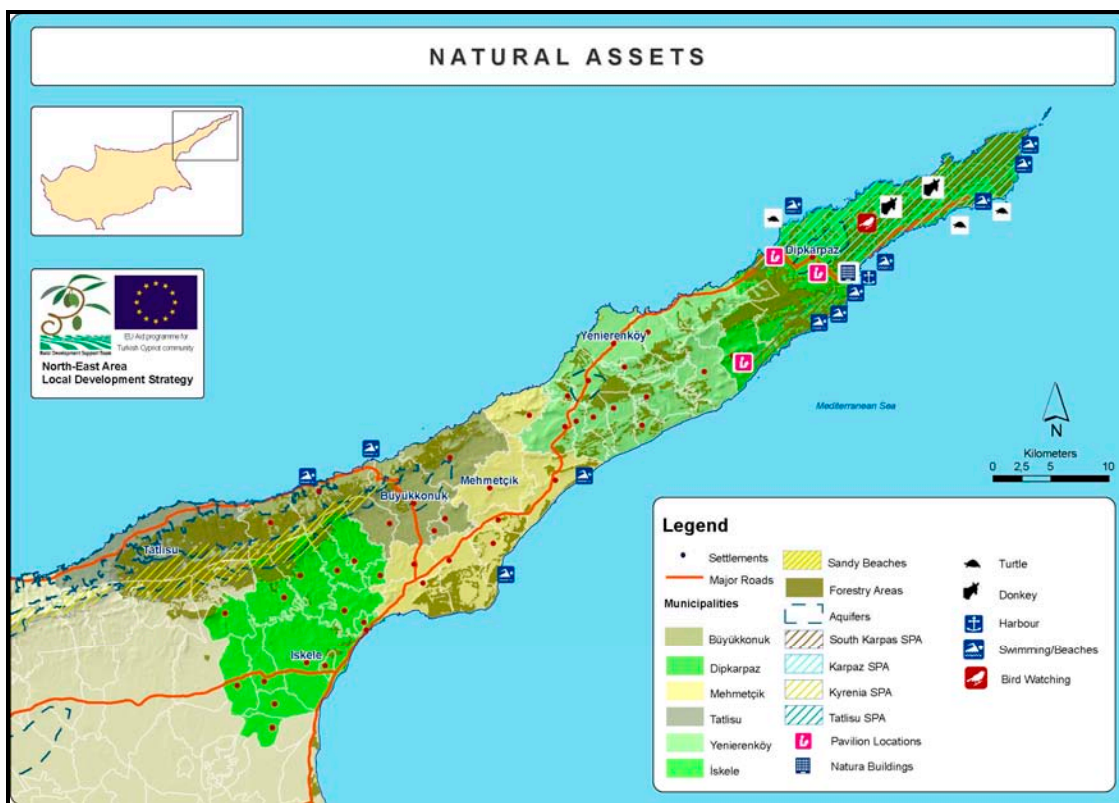
5 - Natural and historical heritage

5.1 - Some environmentally well preserved but menaced areas

5.1.1 – A quality environment to be valorised

The Karpaz Area is well endowed with natural landscapes, habitats and biodiversity. Around 27,900 ha of forestlands are spread along the Besparmak ridge up to the tip of the peninsula.

The KA includes three special environmental protected areas (SEPA), which are potential NATURA 2000 sites⁶: the Karpaz, the south-Karpaz coasts and the Tatlisu coastal SEPA. Additionally, the proposed SEPA for Besparmak mountains also includes some part of the KA. The KA includes as well the Karpaz National Park (the only one in northern Cyprus) located at the tip of the peninsula and constituted by a rich and dense forest inhabited by feral donkeys.

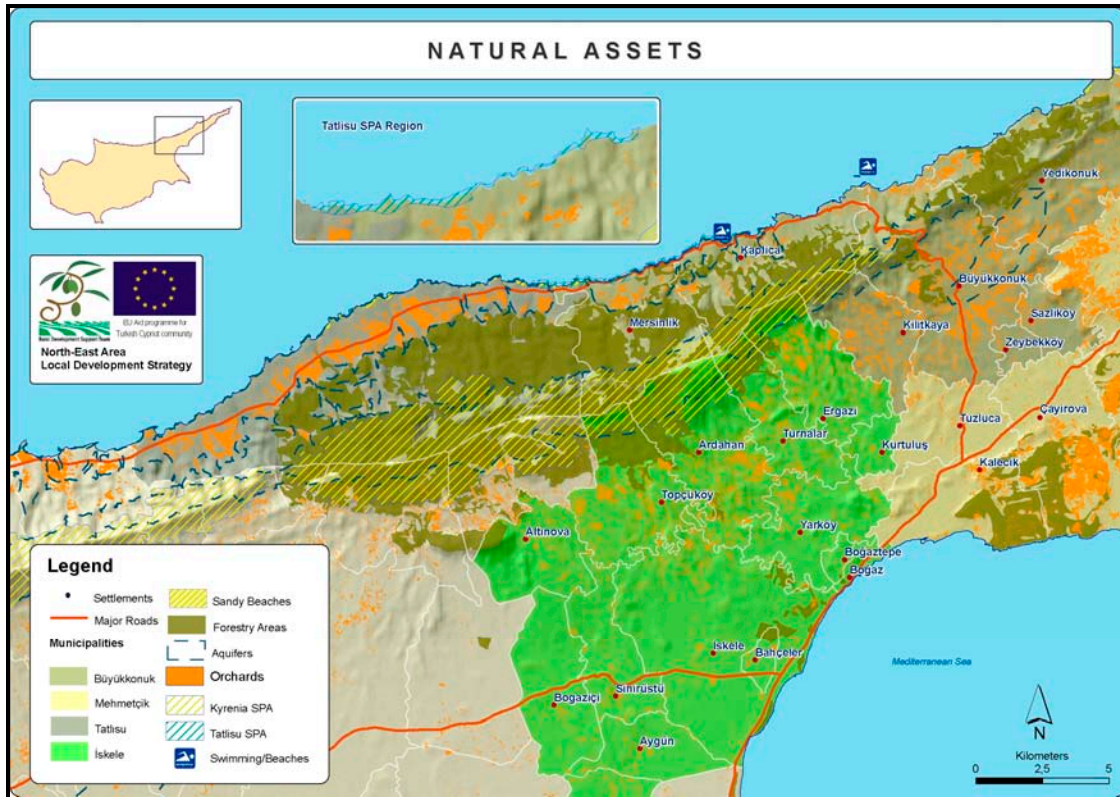


The potential NATURA 2000 areas

The total surface of the three SEPAs is around 15,300 ha. The proposed SEPA for Besparmak Mountains range covers part of the Tatlisu, Büyükkonuk and Mehmetçik municipalities while the two Karpaz SEPAs are located at the tip of the peninsula. The first one includes both the northern and southern coasts and the second one (the south Karpaz SEPA) covers the coastline at the south and south-east of Dipkarpaz town.

⁶ In the framework of the EU funded NATURA 2000 project, some investments and activities are planned (a visitor centre, volunteer researcher centre, researcher centre and guard station in Dipkarpaz area and entrances of SEPAs; 160 km of walking paths including signs, wooden and stone steps, and a wooden bridge, two car parks will be established in the coastal zone including sign and information posts).

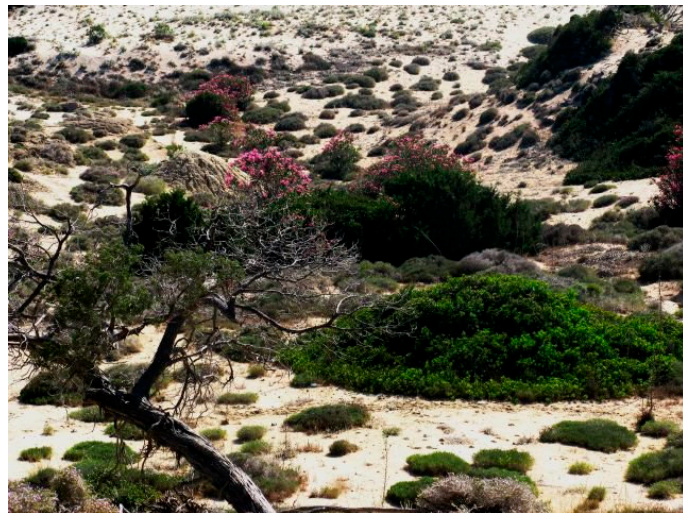
The main reason for selecting the sites as potential NATURA 2000 areas is the existence of internationally protected flora and fauna (13 endemic plants either restricted to or closely associated with the proposed SEPA for Besparmak Mountains range) and the presence of important habitats listed in Annex I of the Habitats Directive (Council Directive 92/43/EEC of 21 May 1992 on the conservation of natural habitats and of wild fauna and flora).



Habitats

The typical vegetation structure of the sites is of coastal Mediterranean nature, with sandy and/or rocky shorelines. There are many natural systems such as “mattoral” and sand dunes (hosting sea turtle⁷ nesting sites) which are unique, valuable and fragile. These natural areas, especially the dune ecosystems, require to be carefully protected.

In total there are 20 different habitats types identified for conservation under the Habitats Directive (Dir 92/43/EEC) within the three areas (15 for the proposed SEPA for Besparmak Mountains range, 14 for Karpaz SEPA and 7 for south Karpaz coasts SEPA) and two EUNIS habitats in south Karpaz SEPA.



⁷ Green (Chelonia mydas) and loggerhead (Caretta caretta) sea turtles.

The natural habitats of the areas have remained relatively untouched by the negative developments experienced in other parts of the island even if there is some disturbance due to agricultural practices and small scale tourism developments, particularly in the Karpaz SEPs.

Despite of the fact that Karpaz area has always been focal point for many environmental protection and conservation efforts, the road construction between Tatlisu/Büyükkonuk and Yenierenköy/Dipkarpaz could entail negative impacts on these fragile habitats due to increased tourist presence and the pressure for uncontrolled development of tourism facilities (hotels, bungalows, restaurants, etc).



Flora

The Besparmak mountain range is the most important centre of plant endemism for the northern part of Cyprus: 13 endemic plants, included into annex II of habitat directive and all together 45 endemic species, were recorded. The two Karpaz SEPs are also hosting many endemic and rare plant species in their own unique special habitats. Particularly the Cyprus orchid (*Ophrys Kostchyi*) that flowers in March–April, is listed under EU Annex II plant species and protected by the Turkish Cypriot community Flora-Fauna Protection Ordinance (21/97). In addition there are 19 other endemic plant species⁸ and 2 IUCN threatened plant species⁹.



Fauna

Both Karpaz SEPs are among the most important nesting areas in the Mediterranean basin for green (*Chelonia mydas*) and loggerhead (*Caretta caretta*) marine turtles and many tourists witness their nesting and hatching. In addition, the rare monk seal (*Monachus monachus*) uses the caves of Karpaz

⁸ *Juncus maritimus*, *Salsola soda*, *Valantia muralis*, *Helianthemum obtusifolium*, *Helianthemum obtusifolium*, *Astragalus cyprius*, *Sedum porphyreum*, *Asperula cypria*, *Anthemis tricolor*, *Limonium albidum*, *Onosma fruticosum*, *Origanum majorana tenuifolium*, *Scutellaria sibthorpii*, *Teucrium divaricatum*, *Tecium micropoidoides*, *Teucrium karpasiticum*, *Bosea cypria*, *Gladiolus triphyllus*, *Onopordum cyprium*

⁹ *Dianthus cyprius*, *Euphorbia paralias*,



SEPAs for resting and pupping. A number of bats, namely the Egyptian Fruit (*Rousettus*) and the Greater Horseshoe (*Rhinolophus ferrumequinum*) frequent specific habitats in the part of the 386 bird species of Cyprus can be seen in the three SEPAs of the KA, including Cyprus endemic species, the Pied Wheatear (*Oenanthe cypriaca*) and the Warbler (*Melanophaga*). In proposed Besparmak mountains SEPA, there are also important resident bird species¹⁰ and some endemic and rare species of butterfly¹¹.

Cyprus is crossed by two main European bird migration routes. This ensures that many birds (of which are listed Appendix I species from the EU Birds Directive) come across the island during migrations to and from breeding and wintering grounds. The most important locations for the Karpaz area are the Kleidhes/Klithes Islands, located at the eastern tip of the peninsula, which are also the nesting sites for two rare species, the Shag (*Phalacrocorax aristotelis desmarestii*) and Audouin's gull (*Larus audouinii*). Other species present during either spring or autumn migrations include the Common crane (*Grus grus*), the Honey buzzard (*Pernis ptilorhynchus*) and the Marsh harrier (*Circus aeruginosus*).



The Karpaz National Park

The Karpaz National Park¹² that is included by Karpaz Ordinance has a surface of 9,486 hectares, and is a hilly range stretching from the southwest to northeast from the neighbourhood of Dipkarpaz town up to the Cape Zafer Burnu. The park does not have a proper management plan, even though its fauna and flora are under protection of “**Flora and Fauna conservation ordinance**”¹³. The adoption and enforcement of a proper management scheme falls under the responsibility of two different institutions¹⁴ that does not facilitate a proper management of the area (weak law enforcement, no physical planning of the park, control policy, sanctions, fines, etc).

The poor management policy is reflected on the ground by the lack of initiatives aiming at increasing visibility and enhancing the exceptional natural heritage of the area. No sign mentioning the presence of a National Park is visible on the field and there are no indications on the outstanding natural heritage. Even in the existing tourist brochures promoting Karpaz the presence of the National Park is hardly visible.

The park benefits of a strong image mainly due to the presence of the feral donkey population. The latter, due to the increase of donkey numbers, requires a better control to avoid reaching the carrying capacity limits with consequent overgrazing, depletion of the wild flora and conflicts with local population on crop trampling and grazing.

The vast forest area of Karpaz

The forest area (approx. 27,900 ha), one of the largest of northern Cyprus accounting for 43% of the TCc total, has a very high nature value and an important social and environmental function, rather than a productive role. Only 21% of forestry source is used for timber production.

¹² Designated as a national park according to the Forestry Department Law. With the Karpaz Ordinance (enacted in 12 August 2004 by Town Planning Department), the Karpaz National Park came under protection

¹³ Published by the department of environmental protection in 2003.

¹⁴ The 21/97 environment law and 59/89, department of forestry law (organization, duties and working principles), 55/89 land use law, 60/94 antiquities law.

The forest is dominated by scrubland vegetation characteristic of the Mediterranean region, the maquis and the phrygana. The maquis is the most common formation and mainly includes *Juniperus phoenicea* (endemic of this area) and *Pistacia lentiscus*. The Phrygana is instead composed primarily of open dwarf scrub dominated by low, often cushion-shaped, shrubs (leathery, broad-leaved evergreen or spiny). These formations are extremely high temperature and drought-tolerant. Many plants are aromatic and well known for their medicinal purposes since ancient times.

Mosaics of agro-sylvo-pastoral systems are the characteristic vegetation types. Olive-carob formations are common and spread all over the area interspersed between pasturelands and barley fields.

The Forestry Department gives particular importance to the Karpaz Area in terms of nature protection and afforestation works. The eastern part of the Beparmak range, particularly rich in Pine trees (*Pinus brutia* and *Pinus pinea*), is being afforested with shrubs, Cyprus Acacia (*Acacia Cyanophylla*) and Eucalyptus (*Eucalyptus meliodorra*). Almost the totality of the forest lands is declared public property given their scarcity, protection needs and strategic importance for the environment. Within the forest lands there is a substantial collection of wild forest products that are for home consumption but also sold in markets, along the roads and to processors to complement household incomes. Main products collected are: ayrelli¹⁵ (wild asparagus), wild mushrooms¹⁶, capers¹⁷, aliç¹⁸, sage and thyme, pine kernels¹⁹, carob²⁰.

Fires, illegal logging, high wild donkey population and sheep and goat overgrazing affect the forests of the Karpaz Area.



15 Ayrelli are a popular product in Cyprus. The collection is made during the winter/early spring.

16 Wild Mushrooms (*Lactarius Deliciosus* Red mushroom *Kırmızı mantar*, white mushroom *Russula Delica*, wild Champignon, *Agaricus Campestris*), *Pleurotus Eryngii* Var. *Ferulae*, *Morchella Conica*, *Coprinus comatus*), are collected in the forests during the rainy season.

17 Gabbar - Caper (*Capparis spinosa* L.) is a perennial wild spiny bush that grows on walls or in rocky coastal areas. It bears rounded, fleshy leaves, buds and fruits which are collected and pickled.

18 Aliç (*Crataegus laevigata* -Hawthorn) is a dry and mealy texture fruit. The fruit is used for producing jams and preserves. The fruit pulp can be dried, ground into a meal and mixed with flour to make bread.

19 Pine kernels (*pinus pinea*).

20 Carob (Harup) pods are collected from carob trees which are spread in forest areas. The pods are sold to processing factories located in Famagusta and which processes it for animal feed production and to exporters (exports of this product have increased from 548 ton in 2007 to 575 ton in 2009).

Beaches

In addition to the natural and historical heritage, the Karpaz area is well endowed with beaches, some of which are among the most beautiful of Cyprus, are internationally renowned and constitute an essential catalyst for the tourists.

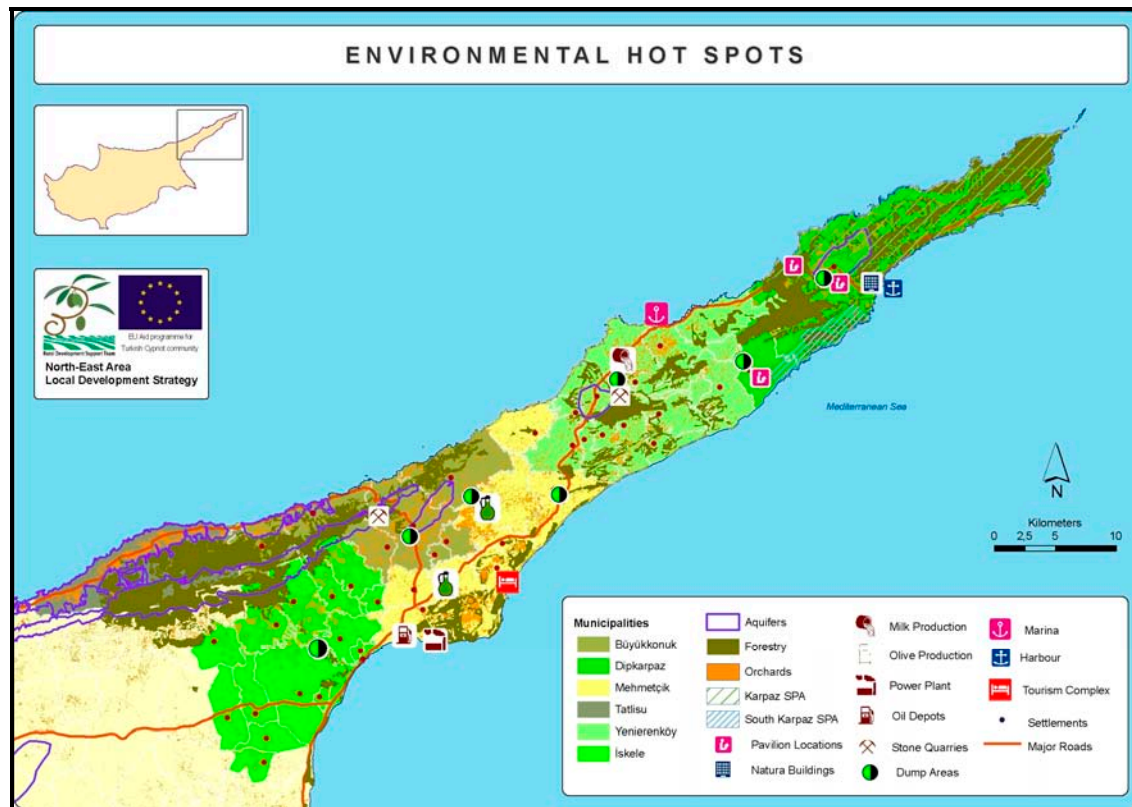
Along the northern coast of the KA, there are about ten sandy or pebbly beaches scattered among a generally rocky coast. The great majority of these beaches is short and included in small bays. Only on four beach sites there are some facilities such as restaurant, bar, bungalows and hotel (Tatlisu, Kaplica, Yenierenköy and Ayios Filion). There is one long beach called Ronnas Bay about 3 Km long, known for its white sand and unspoilt location and for the fact that it is a turtle nesting site (it is proposed to be protected under the NATURA 2000).

The southern coast of the KA, being less exposed to prevailing winds, has more sandy beaches which are much longer. Starting from Famagusta to Iskele, up to Bogâz, a single beach strip stretches along the coast for about 11 km. The beaches before Bogâz are mostly used by Cypriots and are of little interest to foreign tourists. From Bogâz to Bafra the beaches are generally managed by the hotels/resorts that offer the facilities and comforts requested by tourists (sun lounges, bathrooms, sunshades, showers, bars and restaurants).

After Bafra, there are several other beach stretches up to Pamuklu (about 5 Km), Kumyali (about 4 Km), and other small beaches amounting to about 8 km, of which one is proposed for protection under the NATURA 2000. Continuing eastward along the south coastal road appears the Golden Sands Beach (4 km) that is the most famous among tourists, where three bungalow resorts propose basic facilities and restaurants. An additional small resort is located after the Apostolos a-Andreas monastery, overlooking a small sandy bay.

5.1.2 – An unsustainable environmental management

Even if the high quality environment is the main strength of the Karpaz Area a number of threats affect it.



The uncontrolled construction

Over the last years, the Karpaz area²¹ has been targeted by several real estate developers for building villas, apartments and resorts for the foreigners' market. The recent world economic downturn and the specific northern part of Cyprus property setbacks have hit hardly the real-estate market. Several estate projects collapsed in the Karpaz Area and half finished ghost villages are scattered in the landscape.

Bogâz was one the centres of this property speculation and is now particularly affected having lost its charming side which had done the success of the place. North of the Yenierenköy municipality, near Sipahi and along the road towards Dipkarpaz, a lot of villas have been built and remain unsold.

In the whole Karpaz Area, unplanned settlements and illegal construction are also observed that lead to, environmental degradation and tax losses for municipalities.

The new marina together with the road reconstruction project, once completed, will probably restore estate investors' confidence. Also in Tatlisu the real-estate projects are in a precarious situation since many new developments have not been linked to electricity framework.

Solid waste and wastewater management

Waste water collection and treatment is a responsibility of KA municipalities. Households and public buildings collect their waste waters in underground septic tanks that are periodically emptied using public or private sewage pumping trucks. The waste is then disposed at the respective municipal dump sites. The only Waste Water Treatment Plant (WWTP) in the area is located in Bafra and serves the hotels near the sea shore.

The KA municipalities collect solid waste within their boundaries and transport it to their respective dump sites (there are six of them in the Area). These dumpsites are sometimes improperly located²², designed²³ and use inappropriate waste storage modalities²⁴. The rationalisation of the disposal of solid waste at TCc level is going to be tackled by the EU-funded construction of the Güngör central dump and transfer station in Famagusta.

The fleet of garbage trucks in the KA is generally sufficient to cover the needs of the population but most trucks are old (Iskele owns 3 units and one road sweeping machine; Yenierenköy 4 units; Mehmetçik 2; Dipkarpaz 2; Büyükkonuk 2 and Tatlisu 2). Garbage is collected twice a week in the villages. The number of garbage bins (in towns, villages and recreation areas) is sufficient.

As for the whole TCc, in KA there is no system in place for the differentiated collection of reusable waste materials (paper, glass, aluminium, other metals, plastics, batteries, exhausted oils, etc), except in Büyükkonuk where there is an initiative from the civil society aiming at collecting aluminium cans.

Littering (household rubbish, plastic materials, construction residues, etc) in the nature occurs sporadically and still doesn't appear to be a major problem in environmentally sensitive areas of the KA. However, littering could increasingly become a problem with the increase of population and economic activities. This endogenous littering is compounded by the recurrent arrival of sea-borne plastic bags arriving from overseas dumps and from ships.

Heavy Industrial Establishments in Kalcik

In Kalcik, there are three industrial establishments that cause serious environmental pollution; one of them is the petroleum storage establishment. The establishment in itself is not a pollution factor, but the ships that bring petroleum to the storage leak petroleum into sea, and pollute it.

The other two establishments are cement factory and power plant working with fuel oil that are not have filters on their chimneys, and cause to air pollution that adversely affect natural habitat around this area.

²¹ Tatlisu municipality, Bogâz (Iskele municipality), Sipahi (Yenierenkoy municipality)

²² For instance Iskele dump is located along the Kantara road, Tatlisu dump in the forest area and Dipkarpaz dump in the old mine site near Ayios Philon area.

²³ The sites are unlined.

²⁴ There is the practice of burning solid wastes that cause air pollution and health hazard.

5.2 – A wealth of historical heritage and cultural activities



5.2.1 – A varied historical legacy and diversified social events

Historical monuments

The Karpaz area, due to its proximity with the mainland Asian continent, was probably the first inhabited area of Cyprus and has hosted different civilisations and cultures. The main historical, religious and cultural elements that complement and support the leading tourist product, represented by the above mentioned environmentally well preserved areas (including the beaches), are the following:

- **Iskele icon museum:** The church housing the museum (Panayia Theotokos - Blessed Virgin Mary) was built in the early 12th century and includes wall paintings which are rare examples of the medieval art decoration in the island and a collection of icons belonging to this church and coming from other parts of the TCc.
- **Kantara castle:** laying at 630 metres above sea level on the Kyrenia mountain range, it was built by the Byzantines in the 10th century as a lookout post against raiding Arabs. The castle was entirely rebuilt at the Lusignan time and used as a hunting lodge.
- **Ayias Trias basilica:** located in Sipahi (Yenierenköy) originally it had three naves and a baptistery, still has colourful 6th century mosaics.
- **Ayios Philon:** This 5th century complex includes a basilica peristyle court, a bishops place, and other buildings that were built on the foundations of earlier Hellenistic and Roman structures including a port.





- Karpazia city site: Is the most important archaeological site of the KA dated from classical period but flourished after IVth century with the spreading of Christianity. The city has repeatedly been raided by Arab pirates and only few remnants are visible: *the Karpazia city harbour, the Tsambres tombs area, the Anavrysia tombs and the Latsia tombs* and the ancient stone quarries.
- Aphendrika site: The foundation of the Urania city is dated around 200 BC. Remains of three churches are still visible: Ayios Georgios (Byzantine) Panayia Chrysotissa and Panayia Asomatos (Romanesque style).
- Apostolos Andreas Church and Monastery: A fortified monastery was built in the 12th century on the site that St Andrew briefly landed in Cyprus on his final missionary journey back to Palestine. The current chapel is from the 15th century. The church is visited by Greek Cypriots and other tourists as it is said that many healings occur.



The Karpaz area boasts a lot of other smaller archaeological sites and many others that are probably still to be discovered: The main ones are the *Agridia city site*, the *Chelones City site* situated south of Dipkarpaz village, the *Kastros settlement* at the end of the cape Apostolos Andreas. The 12th century church Ayios Synesios in Dipkarpaz and the middle Bronze Age fortress known as Nitovikla. Numerous other minor sites (tombs, necropolis, archaic temples, prehistoric sites and ports, etc) are known only to local people and to the specialists but not to the general public.

Except for the Iskele icon museum, the Kantara castle and the Ayias Trias basilica which are guarded and protected²⁵, all the remaining known and lesser known historical and cultural sites are totally unvalued and unprotected (no reception and information facilities, access roads are poor and not

²⁵ These three sites are visited by around 23,000 visitors (this figure is about 50% of the annual KA visitors and of which 40 percent are foreigners). The most visited is the Aya Trias Basilica that accounts for about half of the visitors, followed by the Panagia Theotokos Icon Museum with one third of the visits.

signposted, no fences, gates, etc.). There is scope for increasing local awareness and conservation/valorisation of these sites to attract tourists. (*Annex 3 - Karpaz historical heritage*).

Festivals

The KA has three main thematic festivals renowned at TCc level (Grape festival of Mehmetçik, Eco-days festival in Büyükkonuk, Iskele International Folk Dance Festival) and some smaller events such as the Avtepe Tulip Festival and the Tatlisu Carob festival. (*Annex 4 - Karpaz festivals*).

A promising handicrafts sector

Handcraft is a popular activity in KA constituting a complementary source of family incomes. Currently products are mainly addressed to the local demand and sales occur in some basic village handicraft selling points, but especially in bazaars, fairs and festivals and through shopkeepers both in northern and southern Cyprus.

The handicraft association Hasder conducts qualified handicrafts training in Büyükkonuk and markets products through its sale point in Nicosia. Overall the market for handicrafts is limited for foreigners. Courses on handicrafts for village women are also provided by the education authority²⁶ and by some municipalities (such as Tatlisu). These are generally conducted by traditional trainers under basic conditions (inadequate premises and equipments) and are rather social than market oriented.



5.2.2 – ...but neglected and under-valorised

The authority in charge of antiquity and museums, that lists 55 key historical and monumental sites in the KA, lacks a comprehensive development plan to protect, maintain and valorise them, as well as funds and means. With the exception of three sites (the Aya Trias Basilica in Yenierenköy, the Panagia Theotokos church and Icon Museum in Iskele and the Kantara castle that are properly protected and maintained) all the other historical/archaeological “minor” listed sites, nominally under public control are not maintained, protected or valorised at all²⁷, and face an increasing degradation. A partial exception is the Apostolos Andreas Monastery in Dipkarpaz that, although in urgent need of important restoration, is run the orthodox authority and visited by tourists (among which many Greek Cypriots).

Even the three main historical/archaeological sites are poorly managed (ticket selling staffs do not speak foreign languages, sites are generally poorly equipped with tourist facilities such as toilets, bars, shops; guides are normally provided by tour operators for organised groups but for individual visitors they are hardly available, and information on the spot about the sites, buildings or artefacts is lacking or poor or only in Turkish language).

Most of the Karpaz area festivals and events, organised under territorially relevant and interesting themes (grape, folk dance, tulip), often include also many other activities that are not linked with or

²⁶ Iskele, Büyükkonuk, Kilitkaya and Sipahi villages.

²⁷ The “minor” sites lack of any signalization along the main roads, proper access roads to the sites, parking areas, fencing for the most fragile and valuable elements of the site (tomb, etc), adequate visitors paths, signalization and information of the sites, buildings or artifacts, and warnings (do not litter, etc)

pertinent to the territory or with the festival theme itself (sale of textiles or of household appliances, etc) that modify the thematic event in to a fair, more oriented to satisfy local population meeting and amusement expectations than to attract tourists. The organisation of the Karpaz festivals is not adequately programmed, territorially promoted and advertised and needs a better coordination between events to increase their visibility and attendance.

Although local artisans understand that handicrafts could profitably be integrated with tourism activities, most of the wide range of handicrafts produced is traditional and old-fashioned, and does not relate to modern needs and to the fashion industry, thus limiting the interest of foreign tourists. Overall handicraft premises and equipments are basic and there is a lack of capacity to improve/modernise the handicraft design.

Challenges

The Karpaz peninsula is one of the most natural and untouched areas of Cyprus, and is also well endowed with historical & cultural heritage. These are important assets for the sustainable development of the KA. A balanced socio-economic development of the area must be based on the valorisation of these assets as well as on human capital improvement.

The key environmental and cultural/historical heritage challenges are to:

- Implement a solid spatial planning policy (Master Plan) and law enforcement in order to protect and valorise the fragile environment, avoiding uncontrolled/invasive real estate developments and preventing damages caused by the increasing littering and illegal dumping. A basic component of the master plan should be a comprehensive cultural/historical heritage territorial plan covering all aspects (prioritisation of investments, marketing/promotion, networking and tourist circuits, etc).
- Mobilise public and private finance to implement historical heritage projects (framed in the master plan), such as provision of basic protection means (external fence, etc), new or improved tourist reception facilities, rehabilitation of access roads, appropriate signposting and provision of basic tourist information about the sites, increasing local awareness, etc.
- Contribute to maintain a clean environment by increasing the environmental awareness of the local population through education (especially at schools), cleaning campaigns, warning signalisation, pilot collection of reusable waste materials and developing eco-friendly activities.
- Promote the exceptional natural heritage of the area through activities aiming at preserving the biodiversity (turtles, seals, birds, etc.), increasing the visibility and networking within and outside the KA.
- Support the development, improvement and promotion of new initiatives (like festivals, folk dancing shows, special sport and cultural events coherently connected to the territorial assets: nature, culture and vocation in terms of local products, handicrafts, traditions, etc), and coordinate them with existing events.
- Organize training courses (design, marketing, etc) aimed at improving production, promotion and sale of traditional, folkloric handicrafts (adapted to the modern needs and fashion, and linked to the image of the territory). Upgrade the existing sale points/workshops and equipments.
-



6. – The Tourism Sector.

6.1 - A dual oriented tourism sector

According to the official figures, 11% of the tourists staying in the northern part of Cyprus accommodated in the Karpaz Area (80% of the beds are proposed by hotels and 20% by pensions). The average nights spent by tourist in the area is three nights which is slightly lower to the TCc average.

The KA is characterized by two very different tourism models which are both developing and both supported by the tourism authority. The first and economically most important is the coastal/modern “mass” tourism represented by large resorts and big hotels located essentially in the Bafra, Bogâz and, in the future, in the Yenierenköy areas. The second, geographically scattered over the area, but whose impact is relatively more important for the local economy, is the rural and eco-tourism sector represented by touristic pensions and guest houses/bungalows.

Concerning the accommodation capacity, a total of 2,695 beds are offered in the KA, of which 84% by 13 hotels and 16% by 25 pensions and guest houses/bungalows. (*Annex 5 - Karpaz tourism capacity*).

6.1.1 – The coastal/modern “mass” tourism model

The majority of the accommodation capacity is concentrated in the mass tourism areas of Bafra (Mehmetcik) and Bogâz (Iskele). These areas account for 1,762 beds, a single hotel²⁸ accounts for 54% of the total bed offer in the KA (1,484 beds). The remaining hotels in the KA are classified as 1 to 3 stars and represent 795 beds, which is about the double of the offer proposed by pensions and guest houses/bungalows (432 beds).

²⁸ The 5 stars Kaya Artemis hotel, in Bafra, Mehmetcik

The *Bafra* tourist area has been designated priority spot for Tourism Development in the Karpaz Area and is subject to strict planning and development regulations under the coordination of YAGA²⁹. The existing offer will be supplemented by four high standard hotel units before 2012. Therefore, a total capacity of 15,000 beds is expected to be reached in Bafra. A golf course will be set up in the area targeting high range clients. In order to increase the impact of this investment, YAGA coordinates the Bafra Tourism Committee which includes the investors and the TCc central and local stakeholders. This committee monitors the selection process and the training of the 5,000 workers expected to be recruited. The committee intends to increase the offer of activities in the area to ensure a direct positive economic impact on the local population.

The *Bogâz* tourist area, located on the southern edge of the Karpaz peninsula, was one of the first tourism development areas of northern Cyprus and has been declining as tourist destination due to the competition of the nearby Bafra, by the obsolescence of its hotels and some wrong and too dense real estate investments. However, Bogâz tourism offer has evolved positively in restaurants due to its location and its charming fishermen's harbour.

The third potential tourism pole in the Karpaz Area is in Yenierenköy around the *Marina* that is currently under construction and planned to be completed by end 2011. The tourist port will be able to host around 300 boats, and will be linked with other ports in the east Mediterranean (Turkey, Lebanon, Israel, etc). In addition to the marina, the project includes the future development of two resort hotels as well as a holiday village, with a total capacity of 2,000 beds. The implementation of the latter investments will depend on the success of the Marina.

6.1.2 – The “rural/eco/green” tourism model

Based on the exceptional environment of the Karpaz Area in the last decade a more balanced and sustainable approach to tourism development has been supported by the TCc authority and by international donors (USAID, UNDP) in particular in the Karpaz Peninsula. A number of initiatives, fitting with rural, eco or nature-oriented tourism concept, have been implemented with the aim of supporting alternative tourism (both rural-eco/traditional) and of increasing environmental awareness in the communities.

The 25 pensions/guest houses/bungalows (432 beds or 16% of the global KA bed capacity), are mainly located in Dipkarpaz (53% of the KA), followed by Büyükkonuk (21%), and by Tatlisu (13%). About half of the beds are in pensions/guest houses and the other half in bungalows. The bungalow villages, currently 8, are mainly located near beaches and offer a basic accommodation and catering. These bungalows have the advantage of being near the sea, which is a powerful attraction product for tourists.

Most of the pensions (15 out of the 17 pensions) of the area are members of the newly established “*Karpaz Eko Turizm*” Union. The *Union*, aims at improving the networking and cooperation among its members (namely by sharing information and customers). The Union is a solid base for the development of a KA rural, eco and green tourism platform, and is planned to evolve into an association which could potentially extend membership to many other local operators (including the bungalows, handicraft and niche food producers, service providers, etc), thus increasing the quantity, variety and network integration of the tourist offer. However, the Union's promotional materials and the only existing website³⁰ are only in Turkish language with low attraction power on the international market.

In general the pensions/guest houses are of higher standards, mainly located inland near village centres, and built in traditional Cypriot rural buildings and/or in newly built small houses using the traditional styles. Some of these initiatives have become success stories such as Nitovikla hotel³¹ in Kumyali and Arch Houses in Dipkarpaz. The latter was developed by the municipality using funds of the tourism body to set an example for future pension developments. The concepts has, however, been replicated by eight other private spin-off pensions all located around the Arch Houses. The

²⁹ Cyprus Turkish investment development agency

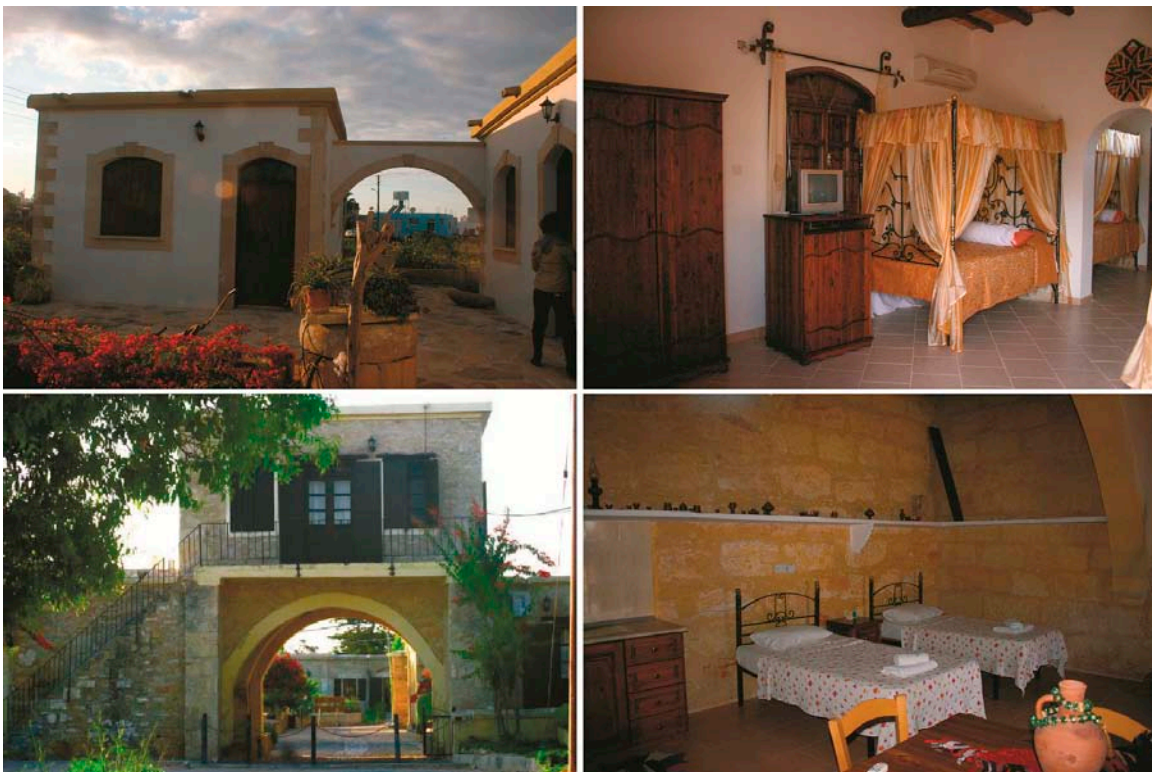
³⁰ www.karpazekoturizm.com

³¹ The Nitovikla hotel is recognised by the Lonely Planet Guide (the most sold internationally) not only as an original “farmhouse experience” but also as one of the five best restaurants in all Cyprus offering typical traditional foods.

result is a concentration of offer of houses in a relatively small and not panoramic area, without significant differences in offered services, all missing some basic facilities like pools that are necessary due to the climate and the distance from sea or dedicated transport to beaches. Therefore they have low occupancy rates. These spin-offs have been funded by budget-supported soft loans that were provided without a proper analysis on market potential, customers' requirements, structures distribution and location.

Services proposed by pensions are limited; the majority propose local food and deliver some information aiming at promoting the surroundings but actually do not offer organized activities like cycling, pedestrian or cultural tours over the main heritage assets of the area. The offer of services and activities is extremely poor (or difficult to access), does not match the tourist demand and is largely insufficient in comparison with what is offered in other similar Mediterranean destinations.

Moreover, infrastructure (access roads to reach the sites, facilities such as parking, tourist reception areas in important attraction points, walking/biking trails, etc) are missing or very poor. Some interesting initiatives for pedestrian/biking activities (based on private³² or public initiatives³³) do exist, but are largely insufficient.



6.2 – Tourism marketing and promotion

The Karpaz area suffers from weak promotion and marketing at international level. Although a wide range of websites and publications promoting the tourist assets of the KA exists, most of them are commercially oriented; sites and attractions are superficially described and some essential information is missing or confused.

³² Kyrenia mountain trail activities

³³ Paths arranged through the USAID project for Büyükkonuk community, the Tatlisu walking trails, the Kaleburnu kings trail arranged by the tourism body and mountain association.



The TCc authority in charge of the tourism publishes a wide range of documents and proposes a website.³⁴ These brochures are often out of stock and difficult to find at the hotel desks and tourism offices. The Cyprus Turkish tourist guides association publishes an interesting semi-annual magazine and proposes an historical and rural heritage information web site.³⁵

The KA suffers of lack of signalisation of natural and historical assets, of sufficient and adequately located information offices and of territorial marketing. In the Karpaz Area there is only one³⁶ tourism information office functioning in Yenierenköy that has only one staff with no foreign language skills.

Marketing strategies in terms of websites, brochures, guides, tourist information centres, etc, should be up-dated and tailored to the specific territorial profile. A modern marketing plan should soundly describe and emphasise the environmental and rural appeal of Karpaz territory, mainly in comparison with Mediterranean competitors. In the meantime it should try to anticipate the tourism needs for the short, medium and long term. In this context the in-country tourism could also be seen as a desirable way to bring resources to rural communities.

Local tourist operators miss a coherent marketing and promotional action. This causes a deep frustration and is creating a “do-yourself” marketing strategy that in some cases gave excellent results³⁷.

³⁴ www.northcyprus.cc

³⁵ www.kitreb.org

³⁶ A second one, actually closed, was located in Iskele

³⁷ Golden Beach Burhan website and brochures in 6 languages

Challenges

Tourism in the KA is a “dual” sector (mass and rural). Both models should be developed in a synergic way (although implemented in separate locations) and adequately integrated in the local economy. The challenges in the tourism sector are to:

- Establish local coordination committees, taking as example the YAGA-coordinated Bafra Tourism Committee, with the aim to involve as much as possible local communities in the provision of services and products to the “mass” tourism establishments (employment of hotel staff, cleaning/servicing, “nature” excursions in the Karpaz peninsula, handicrafts and traditional niche foods, etc).
- Contribute to the economic viability (increased occupancy rate and extended tourist season) of the existing rural/eco/green accommodation facilities (pensions/bungalows) by supporting:
 - The grouping/association/networking of the rural/eco/nature tourism stakeholders. This can be done through the increase of the operational capacities of the *Karpaz Eco-Turizm Union* (providing specialised trainings and advisory on standards/pricing, international promotion/marketing, management, language courses, preparation of territorial information materials, etc and provision of equipment for common tourist activities such as mini-busses, etc).
 - A plan for the “territorial marketing” of KA. Traditional products, precious environment, historical/cultural heritage and human factor as well as their inter-relationships, must be duly considered and coordinated into a policy/plan aimed at promoting the image of a green Karpaz (clean environment, quality nice products, golden beaches, crystalline sea, genuine and hospital people, etc).
 - The diversification of services and activities for the guests (diving centre, sport-angling, horse-riding, biking, bird/flora/fauna watching, cultural heritage and oeno-gastronomic³⁸ tours, etc.)
 - The improvement of tourism related infrastructure such as access roads, info points, parking areas and tourist reception areas in important attraction sites, walking/biking trails, etc

7. – Agriculture, agro-processing and fishery

Agriculture is the basic economic sector of Karpaz area although production showed a declining trend in the last decades. Main products are by far barley, milk and meat (both from sheep and goats) and, in specific areas olive, potatoes, carob, grapes and honey. With a higher share of employed in agriculture than the rest of the TCc area (5% against 3%), the productivity is low due to the small size and fragmentation of farms and their low technological level. Other main constraints are the difficult markets access (especially export ones) and small scale processing characterised by low hygiene, lack of food standards and of brand names and proper packaging.

In 2008, the total agricultural surface of the KA was 38,893 ha (290,681 donums) which represents 20% of the total TCc agricultural surface. Of these only 634 ha (4,743 donums) are irrigated (6% of the TCc total).³⁹

Farmers and farms structure

According to official statistics, in 2009 around 1,722 farms from Karpaz Area were active mainly in cereal (wheat and barley) production for animal foodstuff. The average land size of the cereal farms is around 70 donums in the Karpaz Area against 105 donums in average for the TCc. The majority of farmers have small and scattered plots. The average farm size for orchards and vineyards is 7 donums and some farmers even operate only on 2 or 3 donums. Mixed farming is common and no specialization exists on the majority of agricultural holdings. This backward farming structure results in

³⁸ Including visits with products tasting to wineries, olive mills, bakeries, cheese factories, etc.

³⁹ Agriculture Structure and Production 2008, Statistic and Planning Office.

subsistence level incomes. Therefore the majority of farmers seek off-farm employment incomes, such as part time work in small businesses, seasonal work or complement pension payments.

These structural handicaps are compounded by water scarcity (recurrent drought and lack of irrigation), poor equipment and infrastructure and low commercial capacity/opportunities. In particular the restrictions to EU trade after 1994 caused a dramatic decrease in well renowned Karpaz potato, carob, grape, hellim, melon and olives. Landownership in the Karpaz area is another important constraint in agricultural production as the insecurity of land titles negatively affects the long/medium term investments.

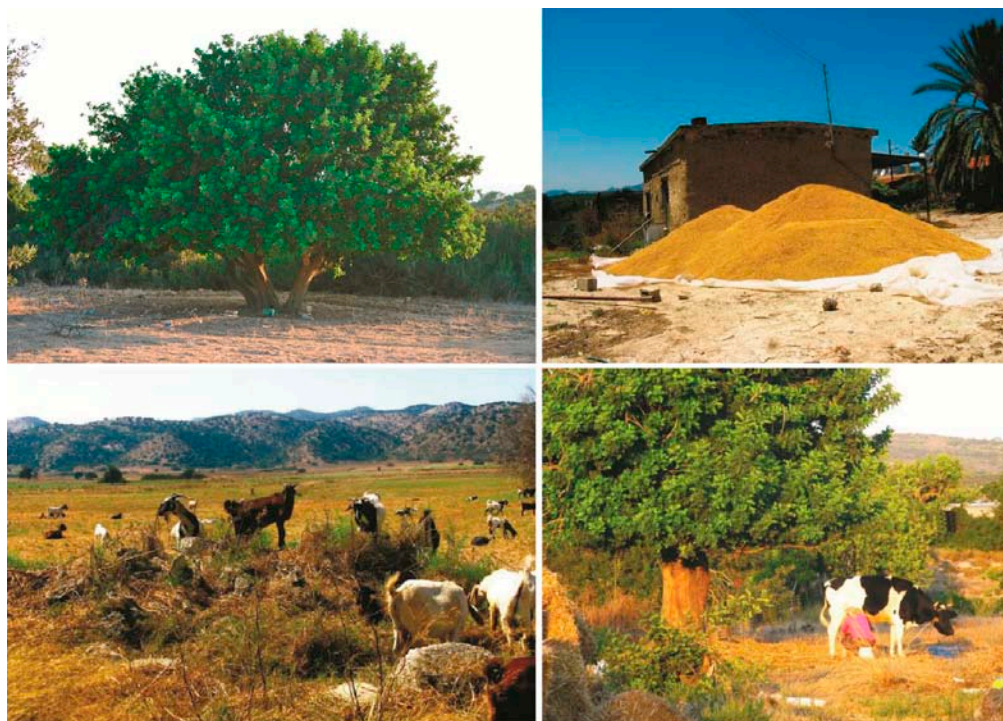
7.1 – Crop and Animal Production: declining activities

Crop Production

Cereals. Due to the prevailing environmental (water scarcity) and structural conditions cereals are the main agricultural production. In 2008 wheat (around 1,500 tons) and barley (7,200 tons) accounted for around 50% of the total TCc production⁴⁰. Yields are however low and depend very much on precipitation, use of un-appropriate technology (low quality seeds, lack of rotation, etc)..

Potato. Karpaz region produced 7,300 tons in 2008 (31% of the TCc total). Mainly spring potato is produced (70% of total KA production) mostly in Yeşilköy and Gelincik villages. There is little farm level potato storage capacity. TÜK⁴¹ is the main potato buyer and also provides certified seed to farmers. The remaining production is bought by middle men that also trade under the Green Line regulation. The restricted market is the main limiting potato production factor that if removed could raise the offer of such product.

Carob is a very important crop for the area. In terms of number of trees and production the Karpaz area represents about 70% of the TCc (around 1,600 tons in 2008). Nowadays, the government is implementing incentive schemes to increase carob production. The Kooperatife Bank Co is the main buyer but some tradesmen are also active in the market and sell to a processor in Magusa.



⁴⁰ The production figures are based on the year 2008 that was particularly dry. The figures are taken from the Agriculture Structure and Production 2008, Statistic and Planning Office for Iskele to which have been added the estimated volumes of production of Tatlisu.

⁴¹ TÜK is the TCc's marketing board responsible for cereals and potatoes

Olives. Karpaz region accounts for about 40% of the total TCc olive trees. However production share is lower since the olive harvest accounts for 20% of the total TCc⁴², thus reflecting low yield of trees. Recently some farmers established new olive plantations.

Grapes. Mehmetçik is the main grape production area, accounting for 35% of the TCc production. White grapes predominate and the most common variety is the *Sultana*, which is marketed as dried fruit or processed as wine, vinegar or *molasses/pekmez*. Black grapes production constitutes only 4% of the total TCc production. Fresh grape leaves are highly demanded in the domestic market for preparing traditional recipes. New vineyards for wine production are being established in the Iskele district.

Greenhouses. There is a sizeable vegetable production under controlled environment in the KA. The main concentration of greenhouses and tunnels is in Tatlisu and to a lesser extent in Yenierenköy.

Animal Husbandry

Cattle, sheep and goat. Although in Karpaz Area breeders are traditionally experienced and the environmental conditions are suitable for quality sheep and goat production, output has been decreasing over the last decade. The cold chain milk production is largely deficient; the organized animal sites (like cowshed and/or goat or sheep sheds) are not enough in the region yet. Most of the animal shelters are next or inside the villages affecting the general hygienic conditions. There are some new initiatives to set up organized animal sheds in Yenierenköy and Dipkarpaz. The main problem of the animal husbandry sector is the poor feeding and hygiene levels that affect animal wellbeing and cause low quality/quantity production.

In the Karpaz Area, the cattle and sheep/goat populations are respectively 5,000 and 58,000 (80% of which are sheep) or around 10% and 20% of total TCc in 2008. These percentages are roughly reflected in the respective meat and milk productions. The number of cattle and sheep/goat breeders is respectively around 550 and 1,330 which account for 32% and 28% of TCc.

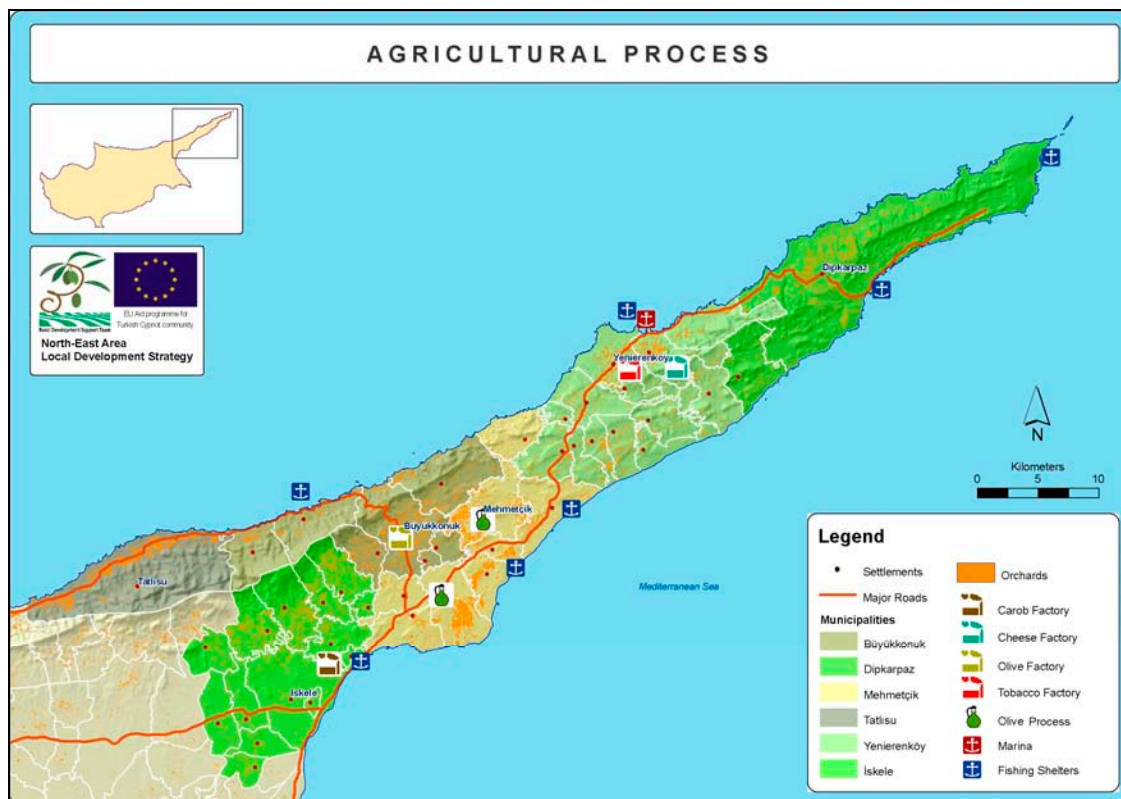
The highest cattle production comes from Iskele and Yenierenköy (about 80%) while main sheep and goat production is from Yenierenköy and Mehmetçik (about 80%). Average size for livestock holdings is around 10-15 cows and 50-100 sheep and goats. A great number of sheep and goat farmers operate under semi subsistence (30-100 small ruminants) or subsistence (below 30 animals) conditions. Sheep and goat breeders are the lowest income earners of the farming sector and endure harsh working conditions.

In 2008 cattle meat production in the KA was 400 tons while sheep/goat meat was 850 tons. In the KA there are four municipal slaughterhouses that are used by the butchers (Iskele, Yenierenköy, Mehmetçik and Dipkarpaz - the latter three were established by UNDP in 2002). Generally these slaughterhouses are in poor conditions (lack of staff and equipment and water scarcity), although the Iskele and Yenierenköy slaughterhouses are comparatively in better conditions.

Cow milk production was 9,400 tons in 2008 while sheep/goat milk production was 2,400 tons, of which goat milk constitutes only a fourth. About 90% of the milk is not cooled (milking parlours with cooling tanks) and especially in the summer there are quality reductions due to contamination (high bacterial content, fermentation etc.) that leads to income losses.

Honey production is estimated in 2009 at about 70 tons (of which the majority is oregano/thyme honey which is highly demanded in the domestic market). A few beekeepers from Topçuköy, Ziyamet and Yenierenköy are dealing with large size production and control the market. Beekeeping establishments, generally small size, have in average 20 to 50 colonies which could be considered as semi-subsistence holdings (most beekeepers are part timers).

⁴² Data are from the Agriculture Statistical Yearbook 2008 for Iskele to which have been added the estimated volumes of production of Tatlisu.



7.2 – Food Processing: a promising but weak sector

Homemade traditional products

A large number of rural households process their own fruits and vegetables; moreover there are some traditional micro-enterprises for the production of specialty products such as: pekmez⁴³, macun⁴⁴, uzum sucuk⁴⁵, zivania⁴⁶, samarella, sujuk⁴⁷, pastırma⁴⁸, zeytinli⁴⁹, hellimli⁵⁰, peksimet⁵¹, pilavuna⁵² etc. There are also some traditional yoghurt and hellim/halloumi producers that operate under low hygienic conditions and don't meet the food standards. They don't use any brand name and proper packing. However some villages, namely Kaleburnu, have good reputation as hellim producers among Turkish Cypriots abroad.

These traditional niche products could be an interesting complementary source of income for farmers if adequately promoted and marketed (image, brand, quality control, etc.).

⁴³ Pekmez is a traditional dense juice made up from grapes and carob.

⁴⁴ Macun is a name given for a preserved sweet made from various fruits such as walnut, citrus and bergamot, figs and watermelon. Macun is a popular traditional product in the local market.

⁴⁵ Uzun Sucuk is also a preserved sweet made from pekmez and walnut.

⁴⁶ Zivania is a traditional Cypriot beverage, a distillate produced in the island of Cyprus from pomace (or marcs), the residue of grapes that were pressed during the winemaking process (including the stems and seeds) mixed with high-quality dry wines produced from the local grape varieties of Cyprus.

⁴⁷ Sujuk (sucuk) is a form of raw sausage (made with beef meat and a range of spices, especially garlic, slightly similar to Spanish chorizo) commonly eaten with breakfast.

⁴⁸ Pastırma is another famous beef delicacy. Both pastırma and sujuk can be put in kuru fasulye (dry beans) to enrich the aroma. Both can be served as a meze as well.

⁴⁹ Zeytinli is a Cypriot savory pastry made with Olives. It is made by mixing hamur and olives and onions. It is also suitable for breakfast.

⁵⁰ Hellimli is a Cypriot savory pastry made with Hellim

⁵¹ Peksimet (Dried bread sticks)

⁵² Pilavuna (Traditional savory buns)

Food processing industry

The KA provides opportunities for the development of food processing enterprises which however remain unexploited due to external trade difficulties and weak local demand, the majority of the small and micro enterprises in the area deals with processing and packaging of agricultural products such as olive, cheese, carob, fruits/vegetables and honey.

Olive processing plants. There are two modern olive oil mills which are Diner Olive Oil Co in Çayırova and Mehmetçik Olive Oil Co in Pamuklu village. These mills use only partially the installed capacity due to low amount of olive production. Due to the subsidies for new plantations olive production is expected to increase substantially in the next future. Some traditional mills exist in Büyükkonuk and Ergazi villages. There is only one brand “Karpaz” used by Diner Co. The great part of olive oil produced is used for home consumption as black boiled oil (karayağ). Olives are also used for family consumption, or sold to friends and relatives, as green olives (çakistes) and in brine.

Honey processing. Only a few brand names exist in the honey market such as Kantara and Topcuoğlu. Other apiculture products (royal jelly, propolis and pollen) have no market yet. Kantara Honey Co. which uses modern facilities for filling and packing honey is the main market player. Additional to honey and apiculture products, the company manufactures a significant amount of “macun” and other popular traditional sweet preserves. This company exports to England, Turkey and some Middle Eastern countries.

Dairy In the Karpaz area there is only one modern private milk factory in Yenierenköy (Akgöl Dairy plant). Actual amount of milk processed is around 20 tons/day (which is around 50% of the installed capacity). The dairy is oriented on one product hellim, which is 95% for export markets (particularly in the Middle East). The managers of the plant report that there is a potential to substantially increase exports of their product, even in the actual markets, allowing at least to use the installed capacity, and that the limiting factor is the insufficient milk supply.

Carob processing. Carob trees are one of the main markers in the northern part of Cyprus landscape and the carob pod is a popular product used for feeding animals and producing pekmez. Carob seeds are exported for different purposes (film production, cosmetics, etc.). A producer's cooperative, participated by the Kooperatife Bank Co, manages one storage and processing plant, located in Iskele district that serves all the northern part of Cyprus. This plant processed 600 tons of carob in 2009 that is a vertical fall from the 6.000 tons processed in 1985. There is a deep crisis in the carob seed international market, due to the world over production as well as to the introduction of alternative products. Prices are so low that the last three years carob seed couldn't be sold and is stored waiting for better market conditions. The other products derived from carob, animal feed and pekmez have a stable domestic demand.

Water bottling plants. There are two water bottling plants in KA one located in Tatlısu (managed by the Municipality) and the other in Çayırova (managed by the Diner Olive Oil Co.). Both plants distribute still water only in the KA as they do not produce carbonised (soda water). Both typologies (plain and sparkling) of bottled water, produced in other parts of TCc or even imported, are largely sold in the area meaning that a potential market for these products exist.

7.3 – Fishery: an endangered sector

The Karpaz area has the biggest number of boats and shelters of the northern part of Cyprus. There are 9 shelters used by around 190 registered commercial boats (representing around 40% of the TCc total) of which only 41 (mainly registered in Yenierenköy) are certified to sell fish through the Green Line Trade agreement. See elements on Karpaz fishery sector in Annex 6

- Yenierenköy and Taşlıca shelters (Yenierenköy municipality) host respectively 36 and 2 professional vessels and 5 and 2 non professional vessels. Yenierenköy shelter is going to become the most important fishery hub of the area after the improvement financed by EU.
- Bogâz shelter (Iskele municipality) hosts 58 vessels (34 professional and 24 non professional vessels)

- Selonez and Zaferburnu shelters (Dipkarpaz municipality) host 29 vessels in total (respectively 15 professional + 2 non professional the first one and 10 professional + 2 non professional the second one)
- Balalan and Kumyali shelters (Mehmetçik municipality) host 34 vessels (respectively 4 professional + 4 non professional the first one and 23 professional + 3 non professional the second one)
- Kaplica shelter (Büyükkonuk municipality) hosts 15 vessels (7 professional and 8 non professional vessels)
- Tatlisu shelter hosts 11 vessels (7 professional and 4 non professional vessels)

The main catches are small pelagic species: Groupers (Lagoz), Little Tuna (Orkinos), Scorpion fish (Iskorpit), Pandora, Red Mullet (Barbun), Striped Mullet (Tekir), Common Dentex (Sinarit), White Sea-Bream (Sorgoz), Common Two-Banded Sea-Bream (Karagöz), Mackerel. Spine feet (Sokan - Çarpan). The large majority of fishermen sell fish on local markets through middle men (called kamat).

The artisanal/coastal fishing potential is improperly exploited due to the disorganization of the sector. Despite the government support to registered fishermen, covering in average 50% of the required expenses to run fishing activities, the registered fishing boats are generally small (average 7 meters long), backward, poorly equipped and poorly maintained. All of them are made in wood or in fibre hulls and equipped with low power engines (4 to 100 HP). This type of boats does not use towed gears, but use stationary gears: long line, bottom line, gill nets and traps. They are in poor technical conditions, particularly for what concerns cold storage facilities, hygiene and safety conditions.

Infrastructure and equipment of shelters are unsatisfactory. None of them has specific facilities for landing, storage and sale of fishery products. Facilities for boats maintenance, water, fuel and ice supply are also lacking. In Dipkarpaz, Yenierenköy, Bogâz and Mehmetçik the shelters will be improved by EU financed Projects jointly managed by the Turkish Cypriot Fishermen Union, Municipalities and Iskele-Boğaz Fishermen Development Association.

According to the Bogâz Fishermen Association⁵³, one of the largest in the area, illegal fishing is the main problem for the KA fishermen since it has depleted fish stocks and reduced incomes to subsistence levels⁵⁴. Illegal fishing involves wrong fishing practices and nets that overexploit the reproduction areas. Local fishermen are also affected by the trawler boats coming from Turkey. Other factors, common to all the Mediterranean, have an important impact on fish population, such as the global warming and colonisation of waters by the tropical Puffer fish.

Due to lack of staff, boats and equipment the animal breeding department of the agriculture authority does not implement the fishing controls on sea and at landing sites for which it is mandated. Occasional control of illegal fishing is done by the coastal guards when informed by the members of local associations.

In Karpaz two fish farms exist to fatten sea bream and sea bass species in Kalecik (Deepsea Fisheries Ltd has capacity 250 tons/year and received an EU grant for purchase of equipment) and Kumyali (Dardanel Group- capacity 500 tons/year). TCc restrictions have recently been issued on new fish farms.

A tourism-related artisanal fishery (i.e. tourists spending a day on fishermen boats) is not developed in the KA although there is a great potential for developing it, particularly in the tourist-frequented fishermen shelter of Bogâz.

⁵³ This association was recently awarded an EU grant for setting up artificial reef to increase fish resource.

⁵⁴ The average income of this group is around minimum wages level, corresponding to 1,237 TL in 2009.

Challenges

In KA the interdependencies between agriculture, natural resources, landscape and cultural heritage are stronger than in other parts of the island, meaning that agriculture still has a valuable contribution to make to socio-economic development of this rural area. In KA the concept of “sustainable agriculture” appears as fundamental and consequently issues such as environmental sustainability, viability of rural economy, food quality, animal health and welfare standards must be duly highlighted and are partially considered also in other sectors of this Strategy.

The specific key challenges for the agricultural, agro-processing and fishery sector in KA are to:

- Encourage the establishment of producers’ organisations aimed at improving compliance with quality standards (including of cottage/homemade processed goods if applicable), fostering cost reduction (inputs, machinery), and strengthening the territorial promotion /branding and marketing.
- Restore fish stocks, via the control of illegal fisheries and the setting up of artificial reefs, and diversify fishermen’s incomes, by equipping artisanal fishing boats in terms of safety to embark tourists for angling or nets setting.

8 - The governance in the KA

District

The great majority of the Karpaz Area is included in the Iskele district (the balance is under the Magusa district). The Kaymakamlığı (district offices), representing at local level the central authority are located in Iskele (district centre of Karpaz with its sub-district office⁵⁵ in Mehmetcik) and in Magusa.

The main role of Kaymakamlık is to ensure coordination and cooperation among the local branches of central authorities (department of agriculture, veterinary office, social services, employment, forestry, etc) and of other public organizations including municipalities through the coordination committee (meetings are held three times a year, but operational communications are daily).

In the frame of territorial management, the Kaymakamlık is responsible for controlling and registering the establishment of associations; for issuing hunting and tree cutting-pruning permits, etc. In terms of land management, its authority spans over hali lands and stream basins. Except for Iskele municipality, the Kaymakamlık issues construction permits in the territories of all the other municipalities of the Karpaz Area (except the municipality of Tatlisu).

Municipalities and Villages

The Karpaz Area includes six municipal administrative areas: Iskele, Mehmetçik, Büyükkonuk, Yenierenköy, Dipkarpaz and Tatlisu. The first five are within the borders of the Iskele district while the latter, Tatlisu, falls under Magusa.

Each municipality has under its territory some villages. Iskele municipality is the biggest and includes 16 villages (muhtarlıks). The other municipalities have smaller territories and number of villages (Mehmetçik 6, Büyükkonuk 7, Yenierenköy 12, Dipkarpaz 2 and Tatlisu 3 muhtarlıks).

The Municipalities are the main bodies in terms of local affairs management and are generally well structured (different departments, etc) and have abundant human resources. However, the majority of the personnel is generally high school educated or under, with few of them holding university degrees, and there is a lack of technical capacities in many fields. The responsibilities of the municipalities (including the underlying villages) are the waste collection, water provision and maintenance of the water network, sewage development and maintenance, provision of lighting, architecture, gardening, parks and urban embellishment works. They also support a wide array of social and cultural activities but much less economic development activities. Municipalities are in charge of municipal- and intra- village roads that they finance from their own budgets. They have almost no duties with respect to education and healthcare.

At village level the Muhtars have limited civil responsibilities (such as collecting the water fees, issuing property documents, birth/death certificates, etc.). The consultation and coordination mechanisms between municipalities and other local stakeholders (Muhtars and the various civil society organizations) are weak and unstructured. This situation sometimes causes, in the latter a feeling of exclusion from the local governance process.

Although the Law of Municipalities states the mandatory establishment of Muhtars Advisory Committees under the municipalities, up to now these have not been activated in all municipalities. The municipalities are not aware of the means and modalities to activate and manage participatory mechanisms. To this extent the municipalities and other stakeholders need capacity improvement and external support.

Role of the Civil Society Organisations (CSO)

The Karpaz civil society organisations are few but very dynamic and have a great capacity to involve the local population in large events. It is the case of the Büyükkonuk Eco-tourism Association or the Friend of Karpaz. The civil society organisations had been involved actively in the drafting process of the Rural Development Plan (RDP) and Local Development Strategy through thematic workshops proposed by RDST (agriculture/fishery, tourism/culture and environment/forestry). These CSOs were

⁵⁵ Bucak (sub-district office)

also involved in preparing applications forms under the calls for proposal proposed through UE package even though the grantees were very limited. Beside, some NGOs were supported also in Büyükkonuk by USAID and UNDP aiming at revitalizing the village in an eco-friendly approach.

Challenges

The “bottom up approach” has been extensively used to define and prepare this local development strategy. To ensure its success and sustainability the ownership of the strategy by local public and private stakeholders is essential. Consequently the key local governance challenges are:

- The consultation and coordination mechanisms between central authorities, municipalities and other local stakeholders (Muhtars, civil society organizations and private sector operators, etc.) need to be improved and this will in turn improve the local governance of the area. The Municipalities are not aware of the means and modalities to activate and manage participatory mechanisms. To this extent the Municipalities and other stakeholders need capacity improvement and external support.
- The development of public-private partnerships will enhance/increase the governance in the local areas, it is therefore important to increase the capacity of municipality staff as well as of staff of other local development committees and CSOs through provision of training on planning and strategy preparation, prioritisation, project design and implementation, etc.
- Since the development and issuance of zoning plans is the responsibility of the “Town Planning Unit”, municipalities are not allowed to play a role in stewarding the preservation of land and natural resources at the local level. In order to increase local responsibility and interest in playing this role, policies should be foreseen to provide for a shared responsibility between central and local authorities for land use planning at the local level as well as the decentralization of enforcement of zoning restrictions. These policies could greatly increase transparency and decrease uncertainty in public land use management, while at the same time allowing better safeguards for the preservation of land and other natural resources. This last achievement is of utmost importance if the long-term growth of the tourism sector is to be made sustainable.
- Law enforcement for all sectors (cultural heritage, environment/littering, animal health, construction sector, etc) increasing the number and quality of controls/inspections on the territory and the coordination of local activities with central authorities.

Strengths	Weaknesses	Opportunities	Threats
A - Environment and Forests			
Important natural ecosystems and biodiversity: one National Park and three Special Environmental Protected Areas	Poor solid waste and waste water management. Lack of appropriate dumpsites	EU funded solid waste management project	New investments (two lane roads, marina etc.) may increase construction business and settlement pressures
Beautiful and characteristic landscapes including coastal areas	Uncontrolled building and construction developments (including quarrying)	Potential NATURA 2000 areas and its related future investments (paths, etc)	Uncontrolled collection of protected wild plants
Vast forested areas in the Karpaz peninsula with social functions	Fires, illegal logging, high wild donkey population and overgrazing affect forests	High international demand for special interest tourism (trekking, bicycling, nature-related activities)	
Presence of local environmental protection CSOs	Animal breeding sides in villages	Foreign support to CSOs and municipalities for social and economic development and environment protection projects (EU, USAID)	
Emerging environmentally sustainable rural, eco- and agro-tourism	Lack of systematic and comprehensive promotion of Karpaz natural assets	High potential for exploitation of renewable energies (solar, wind, biomass)	
	Pollution from petroleum storage, cement factory and power plant in Kalecik,		

Strengths	Weaknesses	Opportunities	Threats
B - Heritage, Tourism and Handicraft			
Wealth of historical religious monuments, archaeological sites (basilicas, ports, tombs, caves, etc) and traditional architecture buildings in some villages	Low population awareness of environmental/cultural heritage Neglected, dilapidated, unvalorised historical and natural	Eastern Mediterranean University active in the area and new universities planned to be opened soon.	Non recognition and isolation of northern Cyprus and linked problems (land titles, embargo, no direct flights, etc)

<p>Karpaz image of pristine natural environment including beaches and coasts and characteristic landscapes</p> <p>Long tourist season and high potential for special interest tourism for nature (rare plants, birds and turtle watching), <u>for sports</u> (walking, trekking, cycling, fishing, diving, etc) and <u>religious</u>.</p> <p>Importance of ecosystems (presence of scientific teams studying the area)</p> <p>Existence of traditional pensions and restaurants home made foods/meals, handicrafts activities. Existence of folkloric activities like festivals</p>	<p>heritage (signalization, poor organization of protected areas, weak maintenance & site development, lack of guiding).</p> <p>Insufficient infrastructure and difficult accessibility, (weak public transportation to/from the KA, feeder roads to natural and historical sites, etc.),</p> <p>Insufficient tourist oriented services/activities (seaside, green activities, paths, historical/natural tours, etc)</p> <p>Low professional qualification of tourism operators (foreign languages, service approach, quality standards, hygiene, etc).</p> <p>Lack of territorial marketing vision and activities (image construction, logo, web portal, information points, gadgets, etc.)</p>	<p>Natura 2000 project</p> <p>Strong interest from nature/eco foreign associations and tour operators that consider the region “new destination”</p> <p>Improved road connections from Girne and Ercan airport and marina construction</p> <p>Potential coordination with Bafra Tourism Committee to attract tourists for daily tours (boat/busses)</p> <p>Potential to create circuits with other areas of the northern part of Cyprus (NWA through Besparmak).</p> <p>Potential natural and rural cultural exchanges with other Mediterranean areas</p>	<p>Possible damages to landscape and natural resources in absence of a proper territorial plan and strict environmental regulations caused by the improvement of road connections and marina construction.</p>
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Strengths	Weaknesses	Opportunities	Threats
C- Agriculture and fisheries			
<p>High nature value agriculture</p> <p>Clean environment suitable for quality niche productions and organic agriculture.</p> <p>Strong territorial image of Karpaz (well renowned potato, carob, grape, hellim, melon & olives).</p> <p>Availability of qualified labour force for traditional productions.</p> <p>Turkish Cypriots (both in country and abroad) appreciate the quality of traditional Karpaz products (potato, olives and olive oil,</p>	<p>Water scarcity, fragmented small farms, obsolete technical means, low education, lack of capital => low incomes & migration</p> <p>Inappropriate animal breeding practices (poor feeding/low hygiene) & animal diseases</p> <p>Un-organised producers (no producer groups), no standards and weak marketing channels</p> <p>Poor processing, packing, storage</p>	<p>Potential demand increase for local and niche foods due to eco tourism and agro tourism initiatives, cultural events, fairs and festivals</p> <p>Green Line Trade agreement for potatoes and fish (and possibly more products in future)</p> <p>EU grants for the improvement of fish shelter</p> <p>Turkey' support for the improvement of fish shelter</p>	<p>Export trade limitations.</p> <p>Competition from lower cost imported agricultural products.</p> <p>Political uncertainties and land title issues discourage investment in the area.</p> <p>Exploitation from foreign fishing</p>

<p>carob pekmez, grape, sheep and goat meat, hellim, honey, etc).</p> <p>Large fishermen community and availability of shelters</p> <p>Long fishing season and high fishing potential (many local and migratory fish species)</p>	<p>& marketing capacity. Low entrepreneurship knowledge</p> <p>Poor conditions of fishing shelters, fleet and equipments</p>	<p>Tourist fishing potential (Bogáz)</p>	<p>vessels and illegal fishing => fish stocks reduction</p>
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Strengths	Weaknesses	Opportunities	Threats
D- Population and Governance			
<p>Local people's strong feeling of belonging to the area, willingness to work collectively, hospitality and cultural diversity</p> <p>Population's entrepreneurial attitude</p> <p>Local leaders and CSOs have a vision for eco and agro/rural tourism.</p>	<p>Weak legal arrangements and institutional control/enforcement (no environmental administration in Karpaz area)</p> <p>Lack of any building development and land use spatial planning.</p>	<p>Karpaz and Tatlisu Ordinances</p> <p>Bafra tourism committee</p> <p>Government programme to introduce physical planning in northern part of Cyprus.</p> <p>Muhtars advisory committees enforced by municipality law</p>	<p>Not well delineated responsibilities among central authorities.</p>

III. - Strategic Approach, Objectives and Measures

1 General Strategy

This Local Development Strategy for the Karpaz Area is framed under Axis 4 (*Improving Local Governance - setting up LEADER approach*) of the Rural Development Plan for the northern part of Cyprus⁵⁶.

The two measures⁵⁷ under Axis IV of the RDP are meant for the introduction of the LEADER approach in the northern part of Cyprus. LEADER is one of the key components of the EU rural development policy. It is a methodological approach aiming at increasing the local governance and improving the capacity of local actors in territorial management by setting up Local Development Strategies (LDS).

The basic principles of LEADER approach are the:

- Setting up, over a homogeneous territory with a clear identity and visibility, a coherent integrated and inter-sector local development strategy elaborated by local stakeholders on the basis of their perceived needs and the area's endogenous potential. The strategy, based on the analyses, the SWOT and the challenges is elaborated in operational measures all seeking to induce dynamic development having results in the short term and stimulating initiative within TCc local community.
- Involvement of partnerships⁵⁸ in each area while at the same time increasing the vertical dialogue with central TCc authorities. The involvement of the local actors in the development of their own territories contributes to launch virtuous economic, social and governance dynamics that are sustainable in the medium/long term and to the networking between actors of these areas in order to exchange experiences, stimulate leverage and synergies of projects having a wider strategic objective.

The overall rationale for the Local Development Strategy for Karpaz area, focused upon territorial-based rural development activity, is to link areas of socio-economic deprivation with contiguous areas of environmental and socio-economic opportunity, building-on existing activities and disseminating best practices as well as identifying new programs and projects.

Reflecting on the needs and opportunities established throughout the analysis of the area, the aim of the Strategy is:

To utilize the unrealized potential of the area's environment and historical/cultural heritages to stimulate local involvement and governance and to improve the area's economic performance and social sustainability

Development processes involve a different mix of relevant factors that are unique and typical of a particular geographical space and time and therefore should be conceived of at local level. Three priorities are proposed to implement this strategy:

- 1st Priority:** To support the competitiveness of the agricultural sector and to promote the diversification of activities, particularly in the sector of tourism and handicraft
- 2nd Priority:** To reinforce the image of the Karpaz area in enhancing its natural and historical assets
- 3rd Priority:** To reinforce the social cohesion of the area by improving the quality of life

LEADER will not tackle all the structural weaknesses of the area. Nevertheless as key principle, the Karpaz Area stakeholders want to use its LEADER programme to initiate the conditions of a local development by catalyzing the energies towards some key potential sectors.

⁵⁶ Rural Development Plan 2008-11 for the northern part of Cyprus (Second Update of May 2010).

⁵⁷ Measure 4.1, by which capacity building activities will be proposed to set up public-private partnerships and to drawing up the local development strategies and Measure 4.2, by which local action groups will implement local development strategies in the selected territories with a view to achieving the broad objectives of rural development policy as specified in the three axis of the northern part Cyprus RDP, according to the strategy drawn up at local level and materialized in projects individually made.

⁵⁸ These partnerships called "community-based development committees" or in the EU "Local Action Groups" include representatives of local authorities (municipalities, de-centralised offices of TCc authorities, banks and chambers as well as muhtars, civil society organizations, enterprises and individuals) representing the main local actors.

By a better mobilization and orientation of the local actors due to the LEADER bottom up approach the implementation of the LDS in the Karpaz Area constitutes a tool which will allow a better coordination between the different supporting programmes (EU, UNDP, USAID and Turkish aid).

1st Priority: To support the competitiveness of the agricultural sectors and to promote the diversification of activities, particularly in the sector of tourism and handicraft

The economy of the Karpaz area is mainly agriculture and tourism-oriented with a number of isolated and disorganised individual economic actors with few qualifications and offering limited variety and quality of outputs. These structural problems associated with the cyclical economic downturn make the economic landscape unattractive. In this particular context LEADER will encourage the cooperation among the stakeholders in order to increase the competitiveness of the local products and to create leverages allowing a reduction of production costs. Agro-processing activities and handicrafts should be supported too with a special attention to the marketing quality. All the projects aiming at developing a professional marketing including conditioning, branding and publicity, will be encouraged particularly those promoting a strong link between the product and the area.

To face these challenges, the leverage used will be to:

- Improve agriculture production, processing and marketing respecting food safety, quality, environmental requirements and conserving energy and water resources
- Foster the cooperation among economic operators by increasing their skills with special emphasis on territorial marketing of the local products
- Support the diversification of activities contributing to increase employment and the attractiveness of the rural area

2nd Priority: To reinforce the image of the Karpaz area by enhancing its natural and historical assets

The Karpaz area has the most renowned natural heritage of the northern part of Cyprus and some outstanding cultural assets. Nevertheless these valuable heritages are neglected and threatened. Even though LEADER can not be used to tackle the main structural problems of the area mentioned in the analysis, the programme should be used to create awareness among the population and the visitors about the exceptional surrounding environment of the area. Activities to be targeted within this priority are those related to the promotion of site, awareness activities and the setting up of small infrastructure facilities allowing a better welcome of the visitors. Some symbolic projects aiming at enhancing the key sites associated to the existing image of the area should be undertaken in order to reinforce the attractiveness of the area. These projects must be implemented inside of the three Natura 2000 areas or linked with the most outstanding historical sites of the Karpaz area, i.e: Kantara castle and/or Ayias Trias basilica.

To raise these challenges, the leverage used will be to:

- Improve the welcome of the visitors by setting up small infrastructure and facilities on the cultural and natural sites.
- Increase the awareness of the population and the visitors by improving the quality of the promotion and the visibility of the main natural and cultural assets

3rd Priority: To reinforce the social cohesion of the area by improving the quality of life

Due to its isolation, the municipalities of the Karpaz area are confronted with some important social/health related shortcomings as well as to a poor management of solid and water wastes. At the meantime, since 2008, like the other municipalities of the TCc area those of the Karpaz are obliged to assume new responsibilities towards their associated villages and population. This new situation requires an improvement of the local governance both among the local stakeholders but also between the local and the central authorities. Nevertheless, these new cooperations are not easy to set up particularly in the most remote areas of the Karpaz. In order to initiate awareness among the key local stakeholders about the necessity to increase their neighborhood relationship it is proposed to support within this priority only

projects aiming at increasing the quality of life and proposed in collaboration between municipalities and villages.

To raise these challenges, the leverage used will be:

- To improve the social and health conditions by encouraging cooperation between the local stakeholders
- To reinforce territorial coherence and synergies

Strategic objective	Priorities	Operational objective	Measures
Utilize the unrealized potential of the area's environment and historical/cultural heritages to stimulate local involvement and to governance and to improve the area's economic performance and social sustainability	<p>To support the competitiveness of the agricultural sector and to promote the diversification of activities, particularly in the sector of tourism and handicraft</p>	<p>To improve agriculture production, processing and marketing respecting food safety, quality, environmental requirements and conserving energy and water resources</p>	<p>Improving farming, breeding and processing</p>
		<p>To foster the cooperation among economic operators by increasing their skills with special emphasis on territorial marketing of the local products</p>	<p>Promote cooperation among economic operators</p>
		<p>To support the diversification of activities contributing to increase employment and the attractiveness of the rural area</p>	<p>Strengthen new and existing rural tourism enterprises</p>
	<p>To reinforce the image of the Karpaz area in enhancing its natural and historical assets</p>	<p>To improve the welcome of the visitors in setting up small infrastructures and facilities on the cultural and natural sites.</p> <p>To increase the awareness of the population and the visitors by improving the quality of the promotion and the visibility of the main natural and cultural assets</p>	<p>Promote the area & protect/valorise natural/cultural heritage</p>
	<p>To reinforce the social cohesion of the area by improving the quality of life</p>	<p>To improve the quality of life of local people and attractiveness of KA by encouraging cooperation between the local stakeholders</p>	<p>Improve area basic services for the economy and the rural population</p>
		<p>To reinforce the territorial coherence and synergies among the public stakeholders</p>	<p>Enhance the efficiency and empowerment of local administration</p>

1st Priority To support the competitiveness of the agricultural sectors and to promote the diversification of activities, particularly in the sector of tourism and handicraft		
Operational objective	Measures	Potential Projects
To improve agriculture production, processing and marketing respecting food safety, quality, environmental requirements and conserving energy and water resources	Improving farming, breeding and processing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Improve field machinery (planting, fertilizing, weeding & pest control, pruning, harvesting, hay making, loading) and installations ➤ Support extensive sheep and goat breeding by improved feeding, watering and milking machinery and equipment ➤ Support water saving water pumping systems and/or field irrigation systems. ➤ Improve farm level availability of renewable energies (wind and solar). ➤ Upgrade and develop post-harvest facilities and processing equipment including dairy.
To foster the cooperation among economic operators by increasing their skills with special emphasis on territorial marketing of the local products	Promote cooperation among economic operators	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Support the set up of new and/or upgrade the existing workshops and sale points for handicrafts, agro-products, services (equipments, renovation works, etc.). ➤ Encourage the establishment of farmer producers' organizations aimed at improving incomes of the members, compliance with quality standards (including of cottage/homemade processed goods if applicable), fostering cost reduction (inputs, machinery), and strengthening the territorial promotion /branding and marketing. ➤ Qualify the work force in different fields (rural/eco-tourism, agriculture/agro- processing & packaging, handicrafts, etc.) by organizing training courses in languages, accounting & management, marketing and technical skills etc... ➤ Support fishermen associations to set up artificial reefs (in order to restore fish stocks), and improve fishermen shelters (equipments for fish cold storage, etc) ➤ Foster the grouping/association/networking of the local rural/eco/nature tourism stakeholders and increasing their operational capacity. This can be done providing advisory services on standards/pricing, international promotion/marketing, management, networking and tourist circuits, preparation of territorial information materials, and provision of equipment for common tourist activities such as mini-busses, etc)
To support the diversification of activities contributing to increase employment and the attractiveness of the rural area	Strengthen new and existing rural tourism enterprises	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Support activities that strengthen the value and length of the tourism season by renovation of existing buildings and provision of new installations (kitchens, energy conservation and micro-generation, etc.) and by diversification of services and activities for the tourists (diving centre, sport-angling, horse-riding, biking, bird/flora/fauna watching, cultural heritage and oeno-gastronomic tours, etc.) ➤ Diversify fishermen's incomes by equipping artisanal fishing boats in terms of safety to embark tourists for angling or nets setting.

2nd Priority To reinforce the image of the Karpaz area in enhancing its natural and historical assets		
Operational objective	Measures	Potential Projects
<p>To improve the welcome of the visitors in setting up small infrastructures and facilities on the cultural and natural sites.</p> <p>To increase the awareness of the population and the visitors by improving the quality of the promotion and the visibility of the main natural and cultural assets</p>	<p>Promote the area & protect/valorise natural/cultural heritage</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Support the organization, information and integration of public/private transport from key tourist points of the northern part of Cyprus (including border points) to the KA with the aim of facilitating tourist inflow and improve transport facilities for residents. ➤ Support environmental awareness through education, information and demonstration activities such as cleaning campaigns, appropriate/warning signalization, pilot collection of reusable waste materials, pilot eco-friendly activities, etc. and support conservation projects aiming at preserving the biodiversity (turtles, seals, birds, etc.) including marine protected areas. ➤ Support public/private co financing of projects to protect and valorize historical sites such as provision of basic protection means (external fence, etc), new or improved tourist info points, provision of basic information materials, etc. ➤ Finance events like festivals, folk dancing shows, and special sport and cultural events coherently connected to the territorial assets: nature, culture and vocation (in terms of local products, handicrafts, traditions, etc). ➤ Promote the “territorial marketing” of KA through the preparation of a policy/plan aimed at promoting the image of a green Karpaz (traditional products, precious environment, historical/cultural heritage and human factor as well as their inter-relationships). ➤ Support initiatives designed to increase the visibility and networking within and outside the KA.

3rd Priority To reinforce the social cohesion of the area by improving the quality of life		
Operational objective	Measures	Potential Projects
To improve the quality of life of local people and attractiveness of KA by encouraging cooperation between the local stakeholders	Improve area basic services for the economy and the rural population	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Provision of life-saving equipped ambulances, better medical and laboratory equipments of the Health Centres ➤ Support community internet access in rural Karpaz (purchase of hardware for internet cafés and village halls, etc). ➤ Support needs assessments of municipalities in terms of garbage trucks and bins, and finances the purchase of such equipments. ➤ Support the damage assessment of village septic tanks, finance restoration/substitution of damaged tanks and support the establishment of a treatment plant for septic mud and agro-processing effluents. ➤ Finance the realization and improvement of small scale social buildings and the start up of social activities like "health, elderly and kindergarten centers". Provision of life-saving equipped ambulances, better medical and laboratory equipments of the Health Centres ➤ Provide training on social issues linked with kindergarten and elderly care activities ➤ Finance the realization and improvement of tourism-related infrastructure (such as access roads, info points, parking areas and tourist reception areas in important attraction sites, walking/biking trails, etc).
To reinforce the territorial coherence and synergies among the public stakeholders	Enhance the efficiency and empowerment of local administration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Provision of capacity improvement and external support to Municipalities and other stakeholders to improve participatory consultation and coordination mechanisms between central authorities, municipalities and other local stakeholders (Muhtars, civil society organizations and private sector operators, etc.) need to be improved and this will in turn improve the local governance of the area ➤ Support the establishment of a Karpaz area local development committee involving local public and private stakeholders with the aim of implementing and coordinating territorial development initiatives as spelled out in this Local Development Strategy, thus ensuring its sustainability ➤ Provision of training on planning and strategy preparation, prioritisation, project design and implementation, etc. municipality staff as well as of staff of other local development committees and CSOs through ➤ Setting up policies to provide shared responsibilities between central and local authorities aiming at improving land use planning as well as the decentralization of enforcement of zoning restrictions. Implement a solid spatial planning policy (Master Plan) in order to protect and valorize the fragile natural and cultural/historical heritages and prioritize related investments. ➤ Improve the law enforcement for all sectors by increasing the number and quality of controls/inspections on the territory (cultural heritage, construction sector, littering and illegal dumping, animal health, illegal fishing, etc

2 Action Plan

The overall objective of the KA Local Development Strategy is to enhance the natural, cultural and productive potential of the Karpaz Area by encouraging upgrading and diversification of the rural economy (development of sustainable agriculture and tourism and the potential for rural-based businesses) and maximizing the advantages offered by the natural/cultural environment.

The KA LDS is built around three priorities and six measures:

Priority 1: To support the competitiveness of the agricultural sector and to promote the diversification of activities, particularly in the sector of tourism and handicraft

Measure 1.1: Improving farming, breeding and processing

Measure 1.2: Promote cooperation among economic operators

Measure 1.3: Strengthen new and existing rural tourism enterprises

Priority 2: To reinforce the image of the Karpaz area in enhancing its natural and historical assets

Measure 2.1: Promote the area & protect/valorise natural/cultural heritage

Priority 3: To reinforce the social cohesion of the area by improving the quality of life

Measure 3.1: Improve area basic services for the economy and the rural population

Measure 3.2: Enhance the efficiency and empowerment of local administration

Measure 1.1 Improving farming, breeding and processing

Code of the measure:

1.1

Rationale for intervention

The economy of the Karpaz area is mainly agriculture and tourism-oriented with a number of isolated and not organized individual economic actors with few qualifications and offering limited variety and quality of outputs. These structural problems associated with the cyclical economic downturn makes the economic landscape unattractive.

Although production showed a declining trend in the last decades, agriculture is still the basic economic sector of Karpaz area. Main products are by far barley, milk and meat (both from sheep and goats) and in specific areas olive, potatoes, carob, grapes and honey.

The productivity is low due to the small size and fragmentation of farms and their low technological level. Other main constraints are the difficult markets access (especially export ones) and small scale processing characterised by low hygiene, lack of food standards and of brand names and proper packaging. These structural handicaps are compounded by water scarcity (recurrent drought and lack of irrigation), poor equipment and infrastructure and low commercial capacity/opportunities. This backward farming structure results in subsistence level incomes.

Agriculture, as the main economic activity, has a valuable contribution to bring to socio-economic development of the rural Karpaz. Farmers have to increase their competitiveness, efficiency in production and comply with EU hygiene and safety standards. Furthermore they must add value to their agricultural and animal breeding products by improving marketing and processing methods while ensuring, at the same time, safety and quality standards.

To meet the previous constraints this measure is designed to encourage the establishment of producers' organisations aimed at improving compliance with quality standards (including of cottage/homemade processed goods if applicable), fostering cost reduction (inputs, machinery), and strengthening the territorial promotion /branding and marketing.

Objectives

General objective

To improve agriculture production, processing and marketing respecting food safety, quality, environmental requirements and conserving energy and water resources

Specific objectives

The action (or project) proposed must address one or more of the following specific objectives:

- Improvement of the competitiveness of breeders;
- Improvement of the competitiveness of farms;
- Reduction irrigation water use;
- Upgrade the farm to meet work safety and/or environmental requirements;
- Upgrade the farm to meet food safety and/or products marketing quality;
- Reduce post harvest losses and increase the production added value.

Considering the actual low average size of farms in TCc and to improve the chances to meet the previous objectives, this measure favours the grouping of producer into producer groups.

Sectors addressed

- Livestock (sheeps and goats, bees)

- Annual crops (cereals, potatoes, other vegetables);
- Perennial crops (oliveyards, vineyards and other orchards)
- Post harvest

Type of actions to be supported

Types of action: All actions consistent with the specific objectives of the Measure 1.1 are eligible. Under the Measure 1.1 the items composing the actions are the following (not exhaustive list):

1 - Livestock

Purchase of equipment/machinery for:

- Milking (milking parlours, mobile milking units, etc.)
- Cold storage (milk cooling tanks)
- Automatic feeding, watering and climatizing
- Manure removal and in-field distribution
- Managing animals (electric fences)
- Honey production and processing
- Safety & Quality control (small laboratory equipment)

2 - Field and greenhouse machinery

Purchase of machinery⁵⁹ for:

- Planting
- Fertilizing, Weeding and & Pest Control
- Pruning
- Harvesting
- Hay making
- Loading

3 Irrigation systems

Improvement of existing water pumping systems⁶⁰ and/or existing irrigation systems. Purchase and installation of:

- Electric submerged pumps (bore-well) or electric surface pumps (water reservoir), reverse osmosis water treatment equipment, filters and fertilizer injectors, electricity panel and connection, solenoid valves and automatic control panels for activating the pump and solenoid valves
- In-field water saving irrigation systems (such as drip, micro-sprinkler, bubbler irrigation, etc)

Greenhouse irrigation systems (pumps, reverse osmosis water treatment equipment and water filters, ferti-irrigation units, water booms, pipes and laterals, etc)

4 Renewable energies

Purchase and installation of wind and solar energy production devices for farm level electricity needs.

5 Post-Harvest

Purchase and installation of reception, storage, weighing, cleaning, grading, sorting, conditioning, packaging, labelling, processing and cold storage of agricultural products.

⁵⁹ Tractors are not eligible.

⁶⁰ Drilling of new bore holes is not eligible.

Beneficiaries

Farmers and Breeders (natural or legal persons) or Producer Groups⁶¹ established or resident in the Karpaz Area.

Quantified targets for EU common indicators

Type of indicator	Indicator	Target
Output	Number of supported actions	
	Total volume of investment	
Result	Number of farmers benefiting from improved technology	
	Number of women benefiting from improved technology	
	Number of donum where improved irrigation systems have been installed	
	Number of associations involved in cooperation process through supported investments	
Impact	Net additional value expressed in PPS	
	Net additional full time equivalent jobs created	

Links with other Measures

The measure is linked to the measures 1.2 and 1.3.

⁶¹ As defined in the Rural Development plan 2008-2011 for the northern part of Cyprus

Measure 1.2 Promote cooperation among economic operators

Code of the measure:

1.2

Rationale for intervention

In KA the interdependencies between agriculture, natural resources, landscape and cultural heritage are stronger than in other parts of the island making of agriculture, fisheries and tourism the main, actual and future, economic sectors of the Area.

Agriculture is based on small individual farms with scattered plots, with little cooperation among them in terms of production, marketing and processing. The lack of organization weakens the access to markets (especially export ones), increases costs and has poor value added (little processing, low hygiene and lack of food standards as well as the lack of brand name and proper packaging).

Artisanal fishing is limited in the Karpaz. The shelters have very unsatisfactory infrastructure and equipment conditions. None of these has specific facilities for landing, storage and sale of fishery products, facilities for vessel maintenance, water, fuel and ice supply are also lacking. Fishermen are faced by a decrease in fish stocks.

Rural and eco-tourism offer doesn't match the tourist demand; the sector needs to increase the occupancy rate and to extend the tourist season in order to become economically viable. The rural tourist operators or potential ones of the Karpaz have serious deficiencies in language skills and internet knowledge, qualification of their product and marketing and promotion. The Karpaz tourist operators (accommodation, restaurants and tourist services) need a strong marketing plan.

Main constraints of agricultural, agro-processing, tourism and fishery sectors in KA could be profitably faced through collective activities aimed at improving compliance with quality standards, fostering cost reduction, introducing new more appropriate technologies and methodologies and creating the critical mass needed to strengthen territorial promotion and marketing. In order to achieve sustainable development at local level in KA it is therefore essential to:

- strengthen activities of existing producer groups and associations in different sectors (agriculture, fishery, rural tourism, etc) as well as to foster the cooperation among them;
- Encourage the establishment of new producer's organization.

These structures will increase the competitiveness of the local products and producers by allowing the reduction of production costs and moreover, will facilitate the diffusion of knowledge and training among their members.

Objectives of the measure 1.2

General objective

Improve economic activities and human potential fostering cooperation among economic operators.

Specific objectives

- Encourage the establishment of farmers/producers organizations aimed at improving incomes of the members, compliance with quality standards (including of cottage/homemade processed goods if applicable), fostering cost reduction (inputs, machinery), and strengthening the territorial promotion /branding and marketing;
- Foster the grouping/association/networking of the local rural/eco/nature tourism stakeholders and increase their operational capacity;
- Securing fishermen income

- Diversification of economic activities in agriculture and tourism
- Support initiatives designed to increase the visibility and networking outside the KA;
- Qualify the work force in different fields (rural/eco-tourism, agriculture/agro- processing & packaging, handicrafts, etc.);

Sectors addressed

- Agriculture/Husbandry
- Tourism/Handicraft
- Fishery

Type of actions to be supported

1. Agriculture/Husbandry

- Reinforcement of institutional and operative capacities of existing producer groups and associations;
- Set-up of new producer groups/associations
- Training in accounting & management, marketing and technical skills etc.

2. Tourism

- Training in languages, accounting & management, marketing and technical skills etc.;
- Advisory services on standards/pricing, international promotion/marketing, management, networking and tourist circuits. Information and guidance to diversify the offer by developing synergies and networks with other areas (such as the North-West Area)
- Preparation of territorial information materials;
- Provision of equipment for commonly managed tourist activities such as mini-buses, photovoltaic solar panels, etc.;

3. Fishery

- Training courses on technical issues;
- Establishment of artificial reefs;
- Provision and installation of jointly managed equipment.

Beneficiaries

Existing and new legally established Associations/Cooperatives and Producer Groups⁶² of Farmers/Breeders/Fishermen/Tourism operators, established in the Karpaz Area and grouping the minimum number of members indicated in note 1.

⁶² As defined in the Rural Development plan 2008-2011 for the northern part of Cyprus

1. A group of minimum 6 farmers (defined as above note n. 12) created for the purpose of adopting common production standards and jointly marketing their production outputs, including preparation for sale, processing and supply to buyers, and of establishing common rules for obtaining production information, with special reference to harvesting and stocks.

2. Producer groups shall have legal personality or sufficient legal capacity to exercise rights and take obligations under the laws in force. For the purpose of this measure the following legal forms are eligible: Cooperatives; Limited Liability Companies and Shareholding Companies. In order to guarantee democratic management of the producer group, no member of the producer group has more than 20% of the voting rights. Additionally, 20% of the members may not have more than 50% of the voting rights.

Quantified targets for EU common indicators

Type of indicator	Indicator	Target
Output	Number of producers organizations/ associations established	
	Number of supported actions	
	Total grant expenditure	
	Number of entrepreneurs addressed by project actions	
Result	Number of items purchased for joint management	
	N. of training courses organized	
	N. of training days delivered	
	N. of people trained	
	N. of artificial reefs installed	
	N. of shelters equipped	
	N. of boats equipped	
Impact	Net additional value created	
	Number of entrepreneurs adopting Quality codes/standards	
	Total number of tourist presences	

Links with other Measures

This measure is linked to measure 2.1. and to measures 1.1 and 1.2.

Measure 1.3 Strengthen new and existing rural tourism enterprises
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Code of the measure:

1.3

Rationale for intervention

This Measure recognises the need for the establishment and/or strengthening of new rural tourism enterprises particularly for developing new sources of employment, including community businesses and the social economy.

3.The group has a statute/by-law signed by all the members and has following minimum provisions: (a) Common rules of production, in particular related to product quality or use of Integrated Crop Management or Organic Farming practices; (b) The general assembly shall annually define the minimum quota of production that the members shall process/sell through the producer group; (c) Common rules of marketing based on the principle that the producer group sells on behalf of the producer; (d) Rules for the repartition of profit or losses of the producer group among members according to both shares and to the turnover generated by the members; (e) Rules of obtaining production information, with special reference to harvesting and stocks; (f) Rules for withdrawing from membership (minimum period of membership and notifications to the producer group), and; (g) Rules for acceptance of new members of the producer group.

The KA suffers from substantial unemployment in its rural zones. Traditional agricultural production does not generate sufficient income, thus it is very important to diversify economic activities in rural areas and villages; this can help to promote entrepreneurship and develop the economic structure of the KA, contributing to create new employment opportunities. The KA has recently seen a growing number of entrepreneurs and association established in the eco/rural tourism sector, and/or for a participative approach to local rural development. This represents a valuable base for building new initiatives, and also for setting-up stronger links among existing ones.

Enlarging and improving the range of tourism services offered on site, and innovative/ integrated marketing will prove highly beneficial for the eco/rural tourism sector. It will also benefit from the proper valorisation of the relevant and attractive resources that are available in the KA (beaches, SEPAs, historical and religious sites).

Other activities should be supported, such as developing micro business and crafts that can build on traditional, cultural and natural heritage, and training of young people to improve their skills required for the diversification of local economy; both helping to promote a stronger, unitary image of KA.

Objectives

General objective

To improve the competitiveness of rural/eco-tourism activities, by setting-up new enterprises and ameliorating the sustainable management of existing ones, contributing to increase employment and proper maintenance of rural areas.

Specific objectives

- Support activities that strengthen the value and length of the tourism season by renovation of existing buildings and provision of new installations (kitchens, energy conservation and micro-generation, etc.)
- Set-up of new services and leisure activities for tourists
- Valorisation of local foods and crafts in the rural/eco tourism offer
- Support the set-up of new and/or upgrade existing sale points/workshops for handicrafts, agro-produce, services
- Promote rural/eco tourism sector near relevant protected areas;
- Improvement of the management quality and sustainability of rural/eco-tourism activities (e.g. use of renewable energies, water saving, adoption of minimum quality chart, etc);
- Conservation and valorisation of traditional rural buildings;
- Improve local human resources and ease the participation of women/young people in the tourism sector

Sectors addressed:

- Rural/eco accommodation and catering
- Rural/eco tourism ancillary activities to complement the rural tourism offer
- Provision of services to the rural/eco-tourism sector
- Human resource development

Type of actions to be supported

- Renovation/upgrading, refurbishment and equipping⁶³ of existing farm/village buildings for tourist purposes⁶⁴

⁶³ Furniture, kitchens, solar photovoltaic and micro-wind generation, etc.

⁶⁴ Rural tourist pensions and small hotels (with a minimum of 5 and a maximum of 10 bedrooms), traditional restaurants, workshops and selling points for local products and handicrafts.

- Provision of specialised trainings and advisory assistance for managing/marketing tourism products (including foreign languages)
- Set-up of new tourism-related initiatives (diving centre, sport-angling, horse-riding, biking, bird/flora/fauna watching, cultural heritage and wine-gastronomic tours, etc.)
- Equipping artisanal fishing boats in terms of safety to embark tourists for angling/fishing)
- Restoring and/or furnishing traditional and cultural sites of interest for rural tourism purposes (old cellars, olive oil mills, carob houses, wine/ zivania tasting rooms, etc.)
- Renovation/Upgrade, refurbishment of existing farm/village buildings for tourist purposes.⁶⁵
- Construction of swimming pools for existing rural/eco tourism outfits, minimum 1 km from the seashore, with at least 5 bedrooms.
- Purchase of equipment for rural/eco tourism⁶⁶
- Purchase of storage/packaging/labelling/laboratory equipment for typical "niche" farm-produce (pomegranate, grapes, dates, citrus, walnuts, honey, etc), food (specialty products such as pekmez, macun, samarella, pastırma, zeytinli, hellimli), non-food products (soaps, creams, oils, etc), and handicrafts.
- Set up and marketing of integrated tourist packages (promoted by minimum 5 operators).⁶⁷
- Development/adoption of voluntary quality standards for accommodation and catering;

Beneficiaries

The beneficiaries for all the actions are:

Natural persons and legal persons (companies, partnerships and cooperatives, NGOs), exercising an economic/social activity in the rural tourism sector .

Quantified indicators

Type of indicator	Indicator	Target
Output	Number of supported actions	
	Total volume of investment	
Result	Number of enterprises benefiting from marketing actions	
	Total electric power installed on tourism units (solar panels and micro-wind turbines)	
	Number of new beds in rural areas created by projects	
	Number of trained entrepreneurs	
	Number of farms selling their products via the rural tourism sector	
Impact	Number of tourists hosted in the new tourism units	
	Number of entrepreneurs adopting logo/quality code	
	% of rural tourism employees that are either women or young (< 40 ys. old)	
	Net additional full time equivalent jobs created	

Links with other Measures:

This measure is linked to measure 2.1. and to measures 1.1 and 1.2.

⁶⁵ Rural tourist pensions and small hotels (with a minimum of 5 and a maximum of 10 bedrooms), traditional restaurants, workshops and selling points for local products and handicrafts.

⁶⁶ Furniture, kitchens, solar photovoltaic and micro-wind generation, etc.

⁶⁷ Accommodation, catering, guided and hiking tours, establishment of web-portal/agency to market rural tourist offer, and other ancillary activities.

Measure 2.1 Promote the area & protect/valorise natural/cultural heritage
--

Code of the measure:

2.1

Rationale for intervention

“Eco” and “rural” tourism are a major growth sector in the European countryside. The Karpaz Area is one of the most untouched parts of Cyprus, and it is well endowed with natural, historical & cultural heritage (especially churches and archaeological sites) which represent very important assets for the sustainable development of rural areas. Utilization of these assets can enhance the tourism, natural and cultural activities and help the attractiveness of the KA.

Therefore support should be provided to the protection and valorisation of natural, cultural and rural heritage. There are already several initiatives related to the tourist services (undertaken by private tourism operators and by grass-roots associations), but KA suffers from uneven offer quality, weak promotion, and lack of integrated efforts for branding/marketing initiatives at national and international level. In other words, KA has not yet been developed with an integrated “destination approach”, where proper valorisation of its natural and historical heritage can significantly boost rural tourism presence, by helping to diversify the array of services/ancillary activities available to them in the area.

The key rationale is therefore to increase the awareness of the population regarding high historical and natural value areas (also promoting concrete demonstration actions), with a particular attention in the enhancement of the public amenity value of Natura 2000 areas and of the unspoilt beaches. In addition, special efforts should be put in place to preserve and to increase attractiveness of the historical/cultural sites.

Objectives of the measure 2.1
General objective

To improve the overall level of attractiveness of KA for visitors, and to increase the awareness of the population and of visitors about the main natural and cultural assets that can be found in rural areas, promoting also ancillary leisure opportunities for tourists.

Specific objectives

- Support environmental awareness of local residents and visitors about key environmental issues at stake (littering of beaches, biodiversity protection, energy saving, etc)
- Contribute to the conservation and valorisation of high-value natural resources existing in the KA (Kyrenia mountain and Karpaz SEPAs)
- Support public/private efforts aiming at protecting and valorising historical and cultural sites located in the rural areas
- Promote the territorial marketing of KA through specific and professional tools, in order to promote the image of KA as an eco-tourism destination based on a direct contact with nature and sustainable management practices in the rural tourism sector
- Improve local human resources and public-private partnerships

Sectors addressed:

- Ancillary activities and services to the rural tourism sector
- Environmental awareness and education
- Rural and traditional/cultural heritage
- Enhancement of the countryside and of natural resources

- Territorial marketing and development of human resources

Type of actions to be supported

- Training of children at schools (primary and secondary) about environmental issues and cleaning activities;
- Organization of environmental campaigns (cleaning beaches, forests, etc., awareness campaign for protecting biological diversity, etc);
- Production of information/awareness materials and warning boards for environmental cleaning;
- Demonstration activities on sustainability issues and technologies and pilot projects for separate collection of reusable wastes, composting, recycling, etc;
- Support conservation projects aiming at preserving the biodiversity (turtles, seals, birds, etc.)
- Restoration of small historical rural assets ⁶⁸
- Conservation and protection of historical sites and monuments⁶⁹ through restoration and fencing and promotion of them;⁷⁰
- Protection and promotion of traditional local handicrafts.⁷¹
- Provision of garbage bins and separate waste collection containers for protected natural areas (SEPA/NATURA 2000, National Parks,);
- Increase attractiveness⁷² and accessibility⁷³ of tourism points;
- Development of promotion materials like web portal, brochures, fliers, documentaries, films etc;
- Improvement of events organization at territorial level (festivals, folkdance, sport and cultural, etc);
- Set up of interpretation signs in different languages;
- Study and adoption of an integrated logo and marketing plan for the LDS area
- Improve municipality staff capacities through provision of training on the protection and valorisation of the natural and cultural/historical heritages of the area.⁷⁴

Beneficiaries

The beneficiaries for the above mentioned activities are:

- legal persons (companies, partnerships and cooperatives, NGOs) exercising an economic/social activity at the time of the support application.
- Municipalities

Quantified indicators

Type of indicator	Indicator	Target
Output	Number of supported actions	
	Total number of participants to key project actions	
	Number of trained persons	

⁶⁸ Old traditional olive mills, carob warehouses, caves, flour mills, old traditional houses, etc.

⁶⁹ Mosques, churches, tombs, aqueducts, etc.

⁷⁰ Signalization, information boards, tourism reception points, information materials, etc.

⁷¹ Documenting, training, establishing local ethnographic museums, establishing selling points, etc.

⁷² Walking trails, biking paths, picnic areas, bird/flora/fauna watching points, etc

⁷³ Maintenance of trails, provision of small and unpaved parking, etc

⁷⁴ Theoretical and on-the-job training on planning and strategy preparation, prioritisation, project design and implementation, etc.

Result	Number of historical sites benefiting from project interventions	
	Total area interested by cleaning activities	
	Number of trained persons	
	Number of interpretation signs installed	
	Number of associations involved in cooperation process through supported investments	
Impact	Number of visitors to web site	
	Net additional full time equivalent jobs created	

Links with other Measures

This measure is linked to measures 1.1, 1.2, 1.3 and 3.1.

Measure 3.1 Improve area basic services for the economy and the rural population

Code of the measure:

3.1

Rationale for intervention

Due to the distance from the major urban centers in Cyprus, and the isolation of Karpaz, the local population's access to the social (especially health) and cultural facilities and services is limited. Where basic services are available, their poor quality appears as a major problem. Particularly important, due to the distances is the improvement of small health centres in rural areas. The lack of internet network limits the access of the local community to necessary information, particularly of the young people. The management of wastes (both solid and liquid) in the area is inadequate and creates environmental and public health problems particularly in the villages.

Another serious constraint is the lack of environmental awareness among local population. Furthermore, many towns and villages are run down, dirty and not attractive, and convey a poor image of the area.

These factors adversely affect the quality of life of local people (especially the elderly), push the young population to migrate to urban areas and decrease the attractiveness of the area for tourists and visitors.

The rationale of this is to increase the quality of life and attractiveness of rural areas by supporting the improvement of basic services. This will include the improvement of access to rural infrastructure, health services, recreational and cultural services, effective management of solid and water wastes, cooperation among local stakeholders, and environmental awareness.

ObjectivesGeneral objective

To improve the quality of life of local people and attractiveness of KA by encouraging cooperation between the local stakeholders

Specific objectives

- To improve the quality of health services through provision of life-saving equipped ambulances, better medical and laboratory equipments of the health centers
- To improve the accessibility to internet services in rural Karpaz (purchase of hardware for internet cafés and village halls, etc).
- To improve the sanitary conditions of the rural areas (waste and water management)
- To improve the social and cultural services especially for elderly, youth, and children
- To support the embellishment of rural settlements.

Sectors to be addressed

- Social services
- Culture
- Sanitation and Infrastructure
- Human resource development

Type of actions to be supported

- Improvement of medical infrastructure of health services in rural communities through providing medical equipments, laboratories and well-equipped ambulances,

- Setting up of computer rooms with internet connection in communal places such libraries, community centres, social clubs etc., and training of local people on using computer and internet,
- Preparation of need assessment studies for solid waste management systems of municipalities, and implementation of integrated projects for solid waste disposal,
- Preparation of need assessment studies of municipalities for village septic tanks, and restoration or replacement of damaged septic tanks, and establishment of treatment plants for septic mud and agro-processing effluents,
- Establishment of drinking water treatment,
- Establishment of social and cultural centres for elderly, young, women and children,
- Embellishment of village squares and main streets.

Beneficiaries

- Municipalities,
- Non-profit non-governmental organizations,
- Universities

Quantified targets for EU common indicators

Type of indicator	Indicator	Target
Output	Number of supported actions	
	Total volume of investment	
	Volume of investment related to village embellishment	
Result	Number of health centres equipped with medical equipments, laboratories and ambulances	
	Number of computer and internet centres established	
	Number of garbage trucks and bins	
	Number of septic tanks renovated or replaced	
	Number of houses served by treated drinking water	
	Number of social and cultural centres established	
	Number of villages in which embellishment works have been undertaken	
Impact	Number of people benefiting from health centres and ambulances	
	Number of people using internet rooms	
	Satisfaction level of people with solid waste and waste water management services of municipalities	
	Satisfaction level of people with drinking water	
	Number of people who uses the services of social and cultural centres	
	Rate of net migration	

Links with other Measures

This measure is linked to measures 2.1, 3.2, 1.1, 1.2 and 1.3.

Measure 3.2 Enhance the efficiency and empowerment of local administration

Code of the measure:

3.2

Rationale for intervention

Local administrations play a vital role for the rural development while implementation, success and future sustainability of LDS actions mostly depend on good governance linked to local stakeholders' ownership.

Therefore empowerment and capacity building of local administration are key pre-conditions for the effective implantation of LDS. KA has some fundamental problems in terms of governance;

- lack of sufficient law enforcement and land use (physical) planning, that affect adversely the protection and valorisation of natural and cultural heritage, unsustainable use of natural resources and food safety;
- unclear delineation of responsibilities and authorities and lack of coordination and cooperation between local and central stakeholders that prevents smooth operations of development actions in rural areas, synergies and local ownership.
- lack of sufficient technical capacity in local stakeholders.

Support should be provided to reinforce the territorial coherence and synergies among the local stakeholders. Creating local cooperation and partnerships which brings all forces together in the territory is regarded as a fundamental condition for the success of the LDS. Both the success in implementation of LDS and the sustainable development of KA depends on the solution of these problems.

ObjectivesGeneral objective

To reinforce the territorial coherence and synergies between the local stakeholders

Specific objectives

- To improve the institutional capacities of the local administrations
- To implement a solid spatial planning policy
- To improve the local governance in the KA area
- To improve the law enforcement for all sectors

Sectors to be addressed

- Governance
- Human resource development
- Local administrations

Type of actions to be supported

- Preparation of area-based master plans in order to protect and valorize the fragile natural and cultural/historical heritages and prioritize related investments
- Training of municipality staff on planning and strategy preparation, project design, management and implementation,

- Establishment of a KA local development committee involving local public and private stakeholders with the aim of implementing and coordinating territorial development initiatives as spelled out in this Local Development Strategy, thus ensuring its sustainability
- Defining and establishing coordination mechanisms between local and central authorities, (Muhtars, various civil society organizations, private sector operators, etc.) in order to increase local participation in territorial decision-making
- Capacity building for inspection/controls on the territory (construction sector, littering and illegal dumping, animal health, illegal fishing, etc)

Beneficiaries

Municipalities, central public authorities, non-profit and non-governmental organizations,

Quantified targets for EU common indicators

Type of indicator	Indicator	Target
Output	Number of supported actions	
	Total volume of investment	
Result	Number of master plans prepared	
	Number of municipality staff trained	
	Number of stakeholders involved in local development committee established	
	Number of committees for coordination between local and central authorities	
Impact	The number and size of illegal actions in terms of natural resource use and littering	
	The surface of natural protected areas and number of cultural/historical assets brought into proper management	

Links with other Measures

Measure 3.2 is a cross-cutting measure and success implementation of this measure would facilitate the smooth implementation of all other measures and ownership of KA LDS as a whole.

3 - Alignment with other strategies

This local development strategy for the Karpaz Area is in compliance with the local legislative framework for the different sectors and the orientations proposed by the key strategic documents prepared by the TCc central authorities⁷⁵.

The strategy foresees complementarities with national and international funding programmes in order to ensure that the development process within the KA is delivered effectively, aiming at making best use of the resources to support and achieve the objectives set out within this Local Development Strategy.

This document has been prepared in close collaboration with the following projects: Crop and Animal Husbandry Projects, NATURA 2000, SME Project – ONG Projects – Vocational training Project funded by the EU and the USAID funded EDGE-Kobi Centre

IV. - The partnership

The successful preparation of this LDS has seen the contribution and participation of a number of local public and private local stakeholders coming from different sectors (See Section V – Consultation Process).

These stakeholders have still not established a formal Local Development Committee (LDC) at the moment the LDS is brought to print.

V - The consultation process

The designing of the first draft of the Karpaz Strategy, completed in the period of January 2010 to September 2010, has been facilitated by a Rural Development Support Team. The methodology has been made in progressive steps:

Phase I – Awareness Campaign. Initially, due to the novelty of the LEADER approach, an awareness campaign was launched by the RDST, the main steps of which have been:

14 October 2009: Training on LEADER approach for municipalities in KA

Mayors of Iskele, Buyukkonuk, Mehmetcik, and Yenierenkoy municipalities, General Secretary of Union of Municipalities, and some staff from the municipalities in the area participated to the meeting, and a presentation on LEADER approach has been made to the participants. Totally 8 persons participated to the meeting.

05 November 2009: Consultation meetings with Kaymakams of Girne, Güzelyurt and Iskele

A consultation meeting for Leader concept and LDS process was organized with the participation of Central Kaymakam and Kaymakams of Girne, Guzelyurt, and Iskele. A presentation on LEADER approach and LDS preparation process for NWA and KA has been presented to the Kaymakams, and the process has been discussed with them.

06 February 2010: Awareness Seminar on LEADER approach and LDS processes for Karpaz Area

An awareness seminar on LEADER approach and LDS process for Karpaz area has been organized by RDST in collaboration with the TCc's agriculture authority. The minister of agriculture, some parliaments from the Iskele area, some representatives from the central authorities, mayors, muhtars, representatives from producer organizations and CSOs participated to the seminar. Totally about 39 persons attended to the seminar, and presentations on LEADER approach and LDS preparation processes for KA have been made by the RDST.

Results of phase I are the comprehensive understanding by key stakeholders of:

- The Leader Approach (objectives, expected results)
- The process and methodology for setting it up in the Karpaz Area

PHASE II - Data collection and consultation. This phase involved the collection of documents and statistics on the Karpaz Area by the RDST, as well as the identification of the stakeholders through field visits and the implementation of face-to-face interviews with key stakeholders

Result of Phase II is the analysis of data and documentation and the preparation for the sector SWOT meetings.

PHASE III – Area Analysis drafting process

The drafting process has involved the implementation of a number of Workshops and Consultation Meetings for the preparation of the profile of the Karpaz Area. The main steps have been:

07 April 2010: SWOT workshop on agriculture and fishery for Karpaz Area

34 representatives from the key stakeholders in the sector, from central organizations, municipalities, producer associations, CSOs and private sector have participated into the workshop. During the workshop, two PPT presentation on LEADER approach and situation of the sector will be made by the RDST, and strengths, weakness, opportunities and threats of the area in terms of the agriculture and fishery have been identified in small groups of stakeholders under the moderation of the RDST.

08 April 2010: SWOT workshop on environment and forestry for Karpaz Area

19 representatives from the key stakeholders in the sector, from central organizations, municipalities, CSOs and private sector have participated into the workshop. During the workshop, two PPT presentation on LEADER approach and situation of the sector will be made by the RDST, and strengths, weakness, opportunities and threats of the area in terms of the environment and forestry have been identified in small groups of stakeholders under the moderation of the RDST.

15 April 2010: SWOT workshop on tourism and culture for Karpaz Area

41 representatives from the key stakeholders in the sector, from central organizations, municipalities, CSOs and private sector have participated into the workshop. During the workshop, two PPT presentation on LEADER approach and situation of the sector will be made by the RDST, and strengths, weakness, opportunities and threats of the area in terms of the tourism and culture have been identified in small groups of stakeholders under the moderation of the RDST.

Results of phase III are

- The comprehensive understanding by stakeholders of the Leader Approach (objectives, expected results) and the process and methodology for setting it up in the Karpaz Area.
- The first contact among sector stakeholders & pre-identification of sector SWOT elements for Heritage, Tourism and Handicrafts, Environment and Forestry, Agriculture and Fishery and Population and Governance.
- Identification among the stakeholders, of the focus groups members (manageable groups of stakeholders willing to dedicate time and efforts to the proper identification of the sector priorities and activities).
- The drafted area analysis.

PHASE IV – Drafting of the Area profile, finalisation of the measures and of the Local Development Strategy

For the identification of the sector priorities & activities the following key meetings have been held

02 July 2010: Tourism & Culture Focus Group Meeting

A focus group meeting has been organized in order to identify the priorities and activities in tourism and culture sector of KA, and 12 stakeholders participated to the focus group meeting. In the meeting, the SWOT and proposed priorities and activities have been presented to the participant by the RDST, and the feedback of participants has been received.

06 July 2010: Agriculture & Fishery Focus Group Meeting

A focus group meeting has been organized in order to identify the priorities and activities in agriculture and fishery sector of KA, and 6 stakeholders participated to the focus group meeting. In the meeting, the SWOT and proposed priorities and activities have been presented to the participants by the RDST, and the feedback of participants has been received.

08 July 2010: Environment & Forestry Focus Group Meeting

A focus group meeting has been organized in order to identify the priorities and activities in environment and forestry sector of KA, and 13 stakeholders participated to the focus group meeting. In the meeting, the SWOT and proposed priorities and activities have been presented to the participant by the RDST, and the feedback of participants has been received.

Results of phase IV are

- Identified sector priorities & activities
- Drafted territorial profile
- Election of 3 members per each focus group as representatives to the Restricted Focus Group for the strategic workshop.

Consultation process with TCc authorities

The following central and local authorities have provided comments to the LDS

Tatlisu Municipality on 29/09/2010- Hayri Orçan (Mayor)

Mehmetçik Municipality on 29/09/2010- Beyazıt Adalier (Mayor), Cevdet Kertuğ, Meryem Onbaşı

Yenierenköy Municipality on 30/09/2010-Özay Öykün (Mayor), Ömür Demir, Sami Şarafat, Pınar Selengin, Altan Hürtaş

Büyükkonuk Municipality on 30/09/2010-Gülay Komili

Dipkarpaz Municipality on 01/10/2010-Mehmet Demirci (Mayor), Arzu Purzul

Iskele Municipality on 01/10/2010- Mehmet Erkul (advisor of the mayor), Birkan Bedensel, Tahir Kaya,

Central Kaymakam (Gursel Selengin), Iskele Kaymakam (Bunyamin Merhametsiz) on 20/10/2010

Head of Local Administration Department on 20/10/2010- Meriç Taydemir

Chamber of Commerce on 17/09/2010- Janel Burcan, Çiğdem Aksu

Chamber of Industry on 17/09/ 2010- Mustafa Gündüz, Gizem Menteş

Chamber of Artisans and Shopkeepers on 17/09/2010- Bahadır Mahmutoğlu (Coordinator of the International Affairs)

Department of Antiquities and Museums on 04/11/2010- Emine Pilli (Director), Elcin Kubilay (Archaeologist), Emine Sivri (Archaeologist), Mehmet Soforoglu (Archaeologist), Hasan Tekel (Archaeologist)

Department of Town Planning on 4/11/2010- Hulya Davulcu (architect, Nurhan Aremek (town planner), Layik Topcan Mesutoglu (Deputy Director), Lynda Thorn (Consultant)

YAGA on 4/11/10-Mehmet Yildirim (Deputy Director), Bengu Mindikoglu (Consultant)

Department of Culture on 22/11/2010-Candaş Yolga (Deputy Director), Bedia Kale, Yusuf Örs

Department of Telecommunication on 23/11/2010-Ali Ayrıl (Head of Transmission Department)

Department of Tourism Planning Department on 23/11/2010-Turgut Muslu (Head of Department), Yılbay Geceyatmaz, Efsun Salel

Department of Labor on 24/11/2010-Yusuf Önderol (Head of Department)

Department of Tourism Promotion and Marketing on 24/11/2010 - Derviş Gezer (Head of Department), Sanel Tagmac

State Planning Organization on 24/11/2010-Ali Korhan (Undersecretary)

Department for Agriculture and Natural Resources on 25/11/2010 - Nazım Ergene (Undersecretary), Mustafa Alkaravlı (Head of Geology and Mine Department), Guliz Kuset (Forestry Department), Ercan Akerzurumlu (Head of Agricultural Research Institute), Huseyin Ataben (Head of Veterinary Department), Huseyin Hurkal (Head of Animal Husbandry Department), Ersun Ulucam (Animal Husbandry Department), Ali Goksu (Head of Agriculture Department), Gonen Vurana (Agriculture Department), Samiye Kasap (Rural Development Unit), Niyazi Nizam (Rural Development Unit), Deniz Solyalı (Rural Development Unit)

Department of Environment protection on 30/11/2010- Behram Kamer (Head of Department), Hasibe Kusetogullari

Department of Highways on 01/12/2010- Mustafa Demircioglu (Head of Department)

PHASE V – Strategic workshop

A final Strategic Meeting has been organized on 10 December 2010 in order to present the final version of the Local Development Strategy to the local stakeholders. A total of 55 people participated in the meeting.

IN ANNEX 8 is the list of all local stakeholders that participated in the preparation of this Local Development Strategy .

ANNEXES

Annex 1: Karpaz population

Annex 2: Karpaz Labour Force

Annex 3: Karpaz Major historical heritage sites

Annex 4: Karpaz Festivals

Annex 5: Accommodation capacities in KARPAZ

Annex 6: Karpaz fishery shelters and boat

Annex 7: Links of the Strategy measures with the RDP

Annex 8: List of local stakeholders that participated in the consultation process of the Local Development Strategy

Annex 1: Karpaz population

İSKELE	7613	MEHMETÇİK	3381
İskele Center	3977	Mehmetçik Center	1484
Altinova	253	Bafra	662
Ardahan	359	Balalan	102
Aygün	373	Kumyali	710
Ağillar	176	Çayirova	423
Boğaziçi	470	BUYUKKONUK	2893
Ergazi	213	Büyükkonuk Ctr	1132
Kurtuluş	94	Kilitkaya	187
Kuzucuk	288	Kaplica	411
Sinirüstü	189	Mersinlik	166
Topçuköy	332	Yedikonuk	853
Turnalar	134	Zeybekköy	33
Yarköy	374	Sazlıköy	103
Ötüken	381	Kantara	8
DİPKARPAZ	2398	YENİERENKÖY	5693
Dipkarpaz Center	2026	Yenierenköy Center	1673
Kaleburnu	372	Adaçay	75
TATLISU	1379	Avtepe	156
		Boltaşlı	265
		Derince	509
		Esenköy	74
		Gelincik	449
		Kuruova	150
		Sipahi	681
		Taşlica	107
KARPAZ AREA TOTAL:	23357	Yeşilköy	818
		Ziyamet	736

Source : SPO, 2006 population census

Annex 2: Karpaz Labour Force

Age Group	Total Population						Labour Force										Not in Labour Force				Unknown					
							Total			Employment			Unemployed													
	T	M	W	T	M	W	T	M	W	T	M	W	T	M	W	T	M	W	T	M	W					
Total	16361	8502	7859	7179	5287	1892	5902	4675	1227	1277	612	665	612	665	8995	3100	5895	187	115	72						
15-19	1667	821	846	301	182	119	189	139	50	112	43	69	1343	624	719	23	15	8								
20-24	1850	1004	846	1041	724	317	776	589	187	265	135	130	790	264	526	19	16	3								
25-29	1957	1054	903	1310	916	394	1059	795	264	251	121	130	624	124	500	23	14	9								
30-34	1868	1030	838	1221	892	329	1023	795	228	198	97	101	634	132	502	13	6	7								
35-39	1434	815	619	932	724	208	814	667	147	118	57	61	493	85	408	9	6	3								
40-44	1522	834	688	937	721	216	811	660	151	126	61	65	572	102	470	13	11	2								
45-49	1207	631	576	631	500	131	556	460	96	75	40	35	568	126	442	8	5	3								
50-54	1125	585	540	418	343	75	371	315	56	47	28	19	695	239	456	12	3	9								
55-59	949	464	485	226	178	48	185	160	25	41	18	23	712	279	433	11	7	4								
60-64	694	336	358	85	66	19	70	60	10	15	6	9	601	264	337	8	6	2								
65 and over	2026	894	1132	68	35	33	43	33	10	25	2	23	1934	854	1080	24	5	19								
Unknown	62	34	28	9	6	3	5	2	3	4	4	0	29	7	22	24	21	3								

Unemployment Total:	17,8
Unemployment Man	11,6
Unemployment Women	35,1

Annex 3: Karpaz Major historical heritage sites

The List of Antiquities in the Karpaz Area

Karpaz Bölgesi'ndeki antik yerlerin listesi

İsim	Yer
Küçük Erenköy – Moulos Area	Küçük Erenköy
Kaplıca - Galounia Old City Remains	Kaplıca
Mersinlik (Flamoudi) Burial Site	Mersinlik
Ağıllar Village (Bluşa Monastery) - Panayia Tochniou monastery	Ağıllar Köyü
Büyükkonuk Rural Workshop	Büyükkonuk
Altınova – Bronze age settlement	Altınova
Ergazi (Lonya) Heritage Site	Ergazi
Kastros - Neolithic Settlement Area	Dipkarpaz
Kuzucuk Köyü – Well and Aqueducts	Kuzucuk Köyü
Kaynakköy Sihari - panayia Apsithiotissa monastery and church ruins	Kaynakköy
Dipkarpaz (Aphendrika) - Ay. Georgios church	Dipkarpaz
Yeni İskele - Panayia Theodoros Church	Yeni İskele
Yeni Erenköy - Prygos' Church Ruins close to Ay Thyrsos	Yeni Erenköy
Dipkarpaz - Ay. Synesios (Ay Georgios) Church	Dipkarpaz
Dipkarpaz - Panayia Eleousa Church	Dipkarpaz
Dipkarpaz Panayia Dafnonda Ruins Church	Dipkarpaz
Dipkarpaz- Agia Athanasia church	Dipkarpaz
Sipahi - Agia Trias Bazilikası and other buildings in Optomilia'	Sipahi
Kantara Castle – Ovgoroz	Kantara
Boltaşlı - Kanakaria Church	Boltaşlı
Ayios İakovas Church	İskele
Archangelos Church	Yeni Erenköy
Ay Mavro Church	Dipkarpaz
Panayia - tis Kyros Church	Sazlıköy
Dipkarpaz (Anaurysis area) Skuda panagyia Asphendrika church	Dipkarpaz
Mersinlik Carob Warehouse VI-40.E.2 P:1	Mersinlik
Tatlısu Carob Warehouse Pafta:VII-48.W1 Parsel:3+1/1+1/2	Mersinlik
Kaplıca Liman Carob Warehouse	Kaplıca
Kaplıca Carob Warehouse	Kaplıca
Agios Ioannis Antique Cemetary	Mersinlik
Agios Georgios Church	Kaplıca
Komikebir (Büyükkonuk Mosque)	Büyükkonuk
Agios Georgios (church)	Büyükkonuk
Agios Afxentios (Church)	Büyükkonuk
Agios Loukas (Church)	Büyükkonuk
Agios Vasileios (Church)	Büyükkonuk

Ay. Philon (church and remains)	Karpasia Protection Area
Ay. Philon (Antique harbor)	Karpasia Protection Area
Ayourka Area Remains	Karpasia Protection Area
Tsambers Burial Area Remains	Karpasia Protection Area
Tsiourka Burial Area Remains	Karpasia Koruma Alanı
Vrysi Burial Area Remains	Karpasia Koruma Alanı
Tatlısu-çiftlikdüzü(Akanthou) protection area	Tatlısu
Tatlısu-Pergamonitissa church	Tatlısu
Gastria Castle	Kalecik- İskele
Knidos Antique City	Çayırova
Kumyalı-ayias Protection Area	Kumyalı
Kumyalı-kyrgos/sophia/kaminiaprotection area Goddess ASTARTE Burial Area Remains	Kumyalı
Nitovikla Castle	Kuruova
Kaleburnu-King's Hills old residential area	Kaleburnu
Kaleburnu-Trachonas Antique City and Burial Area Remains	Kaleburnu
Karpasia Antique City	Dipkarpaz

Annex 4: Karpaz Festivals

- The Grape festival of Mehmetcik is one of oldest and best known festivals of the northern part of Cyprus. The festival occurs in August and provides selling opportunities to the villagers' local products. The festival has now expanded into a promotional event including the presentation of short documentary films.
- Eco-days festival in Büyükkonuk (twice a year). *The community of Büyükkonuk* has been supported over the last five years by USAID through the Economic Development and Growth for Enterprises (EDGE) in order to promote responsible tourism development and sound environmental management. The programme has been a success as results the setting up on biannual base of a well known eco tourism festival in the island and the positive side effect of this event on the Karpaz image. The eco-village of Büyükkonuk has an effective advertisement plan and is visible on different websites⁷⁶
- Iskele International Folk Dance Festival has been organised once a year for 42 years. The main theme of the festival is folk dances, and folk dance team of Iskele has been participating international folk dance competitions for 12 years.
- AvtepeTulip Festival (Avtepe) has been organised for 5 years in the month of March. The villagers and the whole community of Karpaz celebrate the growing of the Medos Tulips which are special to Cyprus. The festival is organised by the Green Peace Movement in Cyprus.
- Tatlısu Carob festival third week of September (one week festival 4500 visitors). Sale of local products, sport activities, concerts, folk dances, etc.

Festivals and special events (sports, cultural) can be an effective tourism catalyst (especially in the low tourism season) if they are coherently connected to the local nature and to the vocation of the area (in terms of local products, handicrafts, traditions, etc). Modern tourism is more interested in performing arts, sport events, rural thematic workshops and experiences rather than in general events that bundle together food and handicrafts with other non territory related issues.

⁷⁶ www.ecotourismcyprus.org/ ; facebook

Annex 5: Accommodation capacities in KARPAZ

No.	Classification	Name of Hotel	Number of Beds	Area
1	5*	Kaya Artemis	1468	Bafra
2	3*	Majestic Hotel	130	Boğaz
3	3*	Boğaz Hotel	120	Boğaz
4	3*	Exotic Hotel	44	Boğaz
5	3*	Malibu Hotel	103	Yenierenköy
6	3*	Theresa Hotel	50	Yenierenköy
7	2*	Hotel Mavi Kaplica	CLOSED 64	Büyükkonuk
8	Bung	Merit Cyprus garden	CLOSED 198	Iskele
9	Apart	Med View	162	Iskele
10	Bung	Long beach hotel	102	Iskele
11	2*	Nitovikla	30	Kumyalı
12	1*	Dipkarpaz View Hotel	26	Dipkarpaz
13	1*	Blue Sea Hotel	28	Dipkarpaz
		Total Hotel	2263	
14	Pension	Karpaz Arch Houses	24	Dipkarpaz
15	Pension	Kemerli Konak	14	Büyükkonuk
16	Pension	Galifes Guesthouse	8	Büyükkonuk
17	Pension	Aşut Pansiyon	10	Büyükkonuk
18	Pension	Ay Phodios Pansiyon	8	Büyükkonuk
19	Pension	Pine View	50	Büyükkonuk
20	Pension	Villa Lembos	12	Dipkarpaz
21	Pension	Karpaz Stone Houses	7	Dipkarpaz
22	Pension	Villa Karparis	12	Dipkarpaz
23	Pension	Çebiler Guesthouse	10	Dipkarpaz
24	Pension	Teko's Karpasia Nature House	20	Dipkarpaz
25	Pension	Cyprus Guesthouse	6	Dipkarpaz
26	Pension	Karpaz Çiftlik Pansiyon	8	Dipkarpaz
27	Pension	Revaklı Ev Guesthouse	8	Dipkarpaz
28	Pension	Rosagi Guesthouse	10	Mehmetçik
29	Pension	Marisote Guesthouse	8	Kumyalı
30	Bung	Burhan's Place	24	Dipkarpaz
31	Bung	Teko's Place	24	Dipkarpaz
32	Pension	Big Sand Beach	12	Dipkarpaz
33	Pension	Oasis	18	Dipkarpaz
34	Pension	Livana Hotel Restaurant	26	Dipkarpaz
35	Pension	Sinya gest house	10	Tatlisu
36	Pension	Bungalow of the municipality	47	Tatlisu
37	Bung	Turtle beach	20 + tent provided	Dipkarpaz
38	Bung	Balcı Plaza	36	Yenierenköy
		Total Pension	432	
		Grand Total	2695	

Annex 6: Karpaz fishery shelters and boats

Regions	Fishery Shelters	No. Of Registered Commercial Fishery Boats	Controlled		Total A+B
			Commercial Fishery Boats A	Amautor Boats B	
Total	Boğaz	38	34	24	58
	Kumyalı	26	23	3	26
	Taşlıca	2	2	2	4
	Balalan	4	4	4	8
	Yeni Erenköy	58	36	5	41
	Kaplıca	14	7	8	15
	Şelonez	19	15	2	17
	Dipkarpaz(Zafer Burnu)		10	2	12
	Efendiler		2	2	4
	Tatlısu	4	7	4	11
		165	140	56	196

Annex 7: Links of the Strategy measures with the RDP

The objectives of the Rural Development Plan

The rural development plan of the northern part of Cyprus, financed by the European Funds allocated under regulation (EC) 389/2006, provides support to the development of the agricultural and forestry sectors, to the preservation and the protection of natural resources and to the improvement of the quality of life in rural areas. The overall objectives of the rural development plan, that are fully compliant with Regulation no. (EC) 1698/2006, are to:

Axis 1	Improve the agri-market efficiency
Axis 2	Conserve and enhance the natural resources
Axis 3	Improve living conditions in rural areas
Axis 4	Improve local governance

Summary of Rural Development Plan Measure Codes

Axis I

Measures to improve the agri-market efficiency	
1.1	Vocational Training, Knowledge and Information
1.4	Farm and Fishery Modernization
1.5	Setting Up of Producer Groups

Axis III

Measures to improve living conditions in rural areas	
3.1	Diversification into Non-agricultural Activities
3.2	Basic Services for Rural Areas, Conservation of Rural Heritage

Axis IV

Measures to improve the local governance	
4.1	Skills acquisition and animation with a view to prepare and implement a local development strategy
4.2	Setting up Local Development Strategies and priority projects

Taking account of the specific objectives identified in chapter 1.3 and in the context of the RDP Axis listed above, the proposed application of overall activities to Karpaz area is shown below. Through the identified activities people life conditions will be dramatically improved, new and existing local interest groups will be developed and enhanced through the learning from the development of projects that directly contribute to the long term development of the Karpaz. To this end the set of activities identified has a strong component of networking and learning opportunities so that the long term impact of the programme is to create a legacy of informed and experienced community and business networks that can continue the development of the Karpaz area.

Hereafter a table, referred to the RDP, linking objectives, potential actions, RDP measures and other potential funding that can be utilized for financing.

Axis I

OBJECTIVE	Measures of the Strategy	RDP Measure	Other funding
Objective B: <u>Improve economic activities and human potential to address skills gaps</u>	<u>B-1) Facilitate the establishment of new enterprises and strengthen existing ones</u>	1.4	SME Project
	<u>B-2) Improve the human resource potential</u>	1.1	
	<u>B-3) Foster cooperation among economic operators with special emphasis on territorial</u>	1.5	

	marketing		
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Axis III

OBJECTIVE	Measures of the Strategy	RDP Measure	Other funding
Objective A: <u>Improve the quality of life in Karpaz</u>	<u>A-1) Improve area basic community services and infrastructures.</u>	3.2.1	
Objective C: <u>Protect and enhance the natural and cultural heritage</u>	<u>C-1) Promote/support natural & cultural heritage protection and valorisation projects.</u>	3.2.2	

Axis IV

OBJECTIVE	Measures of the Strategy	RDP Measure	Other funding
Objective B: <u>Improve economic activity rates and address skill gaps</u>	<u>B-2) Improve the human resource potential (Municipal staff)</u>	4.2	
Objective D: <u>Strengthen local governance</u>	<u>D-1) Enhance the efficiency and empowerment of local Administration</u>	4.2	

Annex 8. List of local stakeholders that participated in the consultation process of the Local Development Strategy

Name Surname	Institution
A.Hayri Orcan	Municipality of Tatlısu
Ahmet Aras	Constructor
Ahmet Dursun	Municipality of Büyükkonuk
Ahmet Güneş	Animal Husbandry Department
Ahmet Gürler	Forestry Department
Ahmet Minifoğlu	Agriculture
Ahmet Nurçin	Gelincik

Ahmet Tumbo	Kilitkaya
Ahmet Zeki Genç	Kaplıca Tourism Cons.Trad. Ltd. Comp.
Ahmet Zengin	Parliamentary of İskele
Ali beyi Parlan	Kuzucuk
Ali Gören	Derince Culture Ass.
Ali Kocaman	Taşlıca
Ali Mirillo	Exotic Hotel
Ali Yakuş	Karpaz Coop.Tobacco Sale
Alınza Ünlüer	Parliamentary
Arzu Çağın	EDGE Project
Ayda Akil	Res-Bir
Aydoğan Çuhadar	Villa carparis
Ayşe Dönmezer	YAGA (CTIDA)
Ayşe Maraşlı	Ministry of Agriculture R.D. Unit
Bahadır Mahmutoglu	Turkish Cypriot Chamber of Artisans and Shopkeepers
Bahar Seden	Hasder
Beser Oktay	EMU Faculty of Architecture
Betül Atasayan	EUCC
Beyazıt Adalier	Municipality of Mehmetcik
Burak Çelik	Famagusta Environmental Protection Department
Burcu Barın	EUCC
Burhan Kalın	Golden Beach
Bünyamin Merhametsiz	İskele District Office
Cemile Kocareis Çınarlılı	Kocareis Hotel
Cengiz Karaman	Ziyamet Veterinary Department/Vet. Surg.
Cevdet Korkuğ	Municipality of Mehmetcik
Çağan Coşkuner	Famagusta Environmental Protection Department
Damla Boğaç	EDGE Projesi
Deniz Güvence	Municipality of Mehmetcik
Deniz Solyalı	Ministry of Agriculture
Dr. Burak Ali Çiçek	EMU Underwater Research and Vis. Center
Dursun Çebri	Dipkarpaz
Elçin Kubilay	Famagusta Antiquities Dep.
Elif Karaca	Antiquities Department
Emin Güngör	Dipkarpaz
Emine Atasoylu	EMU- Industrial Engineer
Emine Sütçü	Journalist
Erol Özdemir	Çayırova
Fadıl Güleri	Çayırova
Fatma Akyüz	Housewife
Fatma Aydenk	Sipahi Village
Fatma Minifoğlu	Agriculture
Gizem Zorba	YAGA (TCIDA)

Gökhan Altuntaş	Agriculture-Beekeeping
Gülay Komili	Ay Phodios Village House- Municipality of Büyükkonuk
Hakan Bener	İskele Boğaz Fishermans Development and Solidarity
Halil Dede	Bis-Koop
Halil Orun	Municipality of İskele
Halime Akdeniz	Friends of KARPAZ
Hasan Aygün	Sipahi Village
Hasan Bilener	Boltaşlı
Hasan Çağlıoğlu	Hasder
Hasan Deprem	Forestry Department
Hasan Onbaşı	Ziyamet Oil Industry Ltd.
Hasan Özlü	Gelincik
Hasan Şirin	Çayırova
Hasan Tekel	Antiquities
Havva Altingüneş	Rozagi Guest House
Hülya Davulcu	Town Planning Department
Hüseyin Boylu	Kaleburnu
Hüseyin Diner	Karpaz zeytin yağı fb.Diner sanayi
Hüseyin Yorgancı	İskele Citizen Initiative
İrfan Tansel Demir	Yedikonuk
İsa Direk	Forestry Department
İsmail Beyoğlu	İskele Boğaz Fish. Ass.
İsmail Cemal	Büyükkonuk. Eco - Tourism Ass.
Kamil Sertoğlu	EUCC
Kemal Atakan	NCTFU
Kemal Çelebi	Çelebi Garden Hotel
Kemal Dirgen Tözer	EMU
Kemal Şoforoğlu	Animal Husbandry Department
Kıymey Alibey	Karpaz Friends Ass.
Kutret Balcı	Beekeeper
Lois Cemal	Delcraft
M.Alpay Kocareis	Kocareis Hotel
Maşallah Erkan	Oasis at Ayios Philion
Mazlum Kortaş	SPO
Mehmet Demirci	Dipkarpaz
Mehmet Erkul	Municipality of İskele
Mehmet Erülkü	Boğaz Hotel
Mehmet İskender	Animal husbandry-Farmer
Mehmet Poyraz	Muhtar of Kumyalı
Menderes Erkan	Dipkarpaz
Menderes Güneş	Farmer
Menteş Güneş	Crop Husbandry
Menteş Uyguner	Yeşilköy Coop.

Meryem Bayramoğlu	Municipality of Mehmetcik
Meryem Onbaşı	Municipality of Mehmetcik
Mesut Özbalıkçı	Y.Erenköy
Mukaddes Faslı	EMU Faculty of Architecture KENT_AG Member of Board of Directors
Murat Aydenk	Computer/Internet ISSD
Murat Çebi	Dipkarpaz Village
Murat İşlek	Forestry Dep.
Musa Doneci	Adaçay
Musa Özkol	Aygün
Mustafa Cihangir	EMU Faculty of Architecture
Mustafa Ertunalılar	Famagusta Antiquities
Mustafa Kaçar	Kaleburnu Coop. Secretary
Mustafa Özboltaşlı	Boltaşlı
Naciye Doratlı	EMU Faculty of Architecture
Nazmi Agcakoca	Artisans Union/Aluminum Carpentry-Shopkeeper
Necla Öykün	Yenierenköy Coop
Necmi Karakılıç	İskele District Office
Nihal Özkaynak	Famagusta Antiquities
Nokta Aydenk	Housewife
Nurhan Aremek	Town Planning Department
Nurten İbrahim	Poultry
Olgun Soyarı	Beekeeper
Osman Tuğsal	KEMA Foundation
Ödül Muhtaroglu	Economical Planning Dep. SPO
Ömür Demir	Municipality of Yenierenköy /Cons. Engineer
Özay Öyküm	Municipality of Yenierenköy
Özgür Dinçyürek	EMU Faculty of Architecture
Petar Kovachev	Eupso
Raif Münür Kimsesizer	Muhtar of Derince
Ramazan Çelik	Taşlıca
Resmiye A.Atun	EMU Faculty of Architecture
Sami Şarafat	Municipality of Y.erenköy
Samiye Kasap	Ministry of Agriculture R.D. Unit
Semih Arslan	Karpaz Friends Ass.
Semih Arslan	Karpaz Friends Ass.- Agr. Dep. Famagusta
Serap Uzun	Büyükkonuk Handicrafts
Serkan Arıkan	Kaya Artemis
Serra Şişman	AGRIKOBİ Agricultural Services Office
Sezai Sezen	Municipality of Büyükkonuk
Sezin Öykün	Municipality of Yeni Erenköy
Sıtkı Kırboğa	Dipkarpaz
Songül Nurçin	Dairy Products

Süleyman Altınbayrak	Aygün
Süleyman Göksel	Farmer
Şebnem Hoşkara	EMU Faculty of Architecture
Şerif Dolu	Yarköy
Tahir Kaya	Municipality of İskele
Temel Kınır	Restaurant Operators Union
Tolga Mehmet Sencer	Municipality of Yeni Erenköy / Veterinary Surg.
Turgay Öykün	Yeni Erenköy / Ziyamet Vet. Dep.
Turgut Özyöre	Ötüken
Türkan Kuş	Advertising
Uğur Sencer	Animal Husbandry Department
Yalçın Kömürcügil	Carob Prod. Enterprise
Yaşar Demir	NCTFU
Yıldırım Demir	Municipality of Büyükkonuk
Yunus İskender	Animal Husbandry
Yusuf Duman	Karpaz Eco-Tourism Union
Zalihe Hacımuratlar	Ziyamet Oil Industry Ltd.
Zekai Altan	Nitovikla



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