

NORTH CORFU MUNICIPALITY



Sustainable and Social Inclusion: Empowering Women in Mountainous Regions through Mobility and Gender Equality"

Deputy Mayor: Chariton Koutsouris

From North Corfu Mountains to Vaongo Valleys

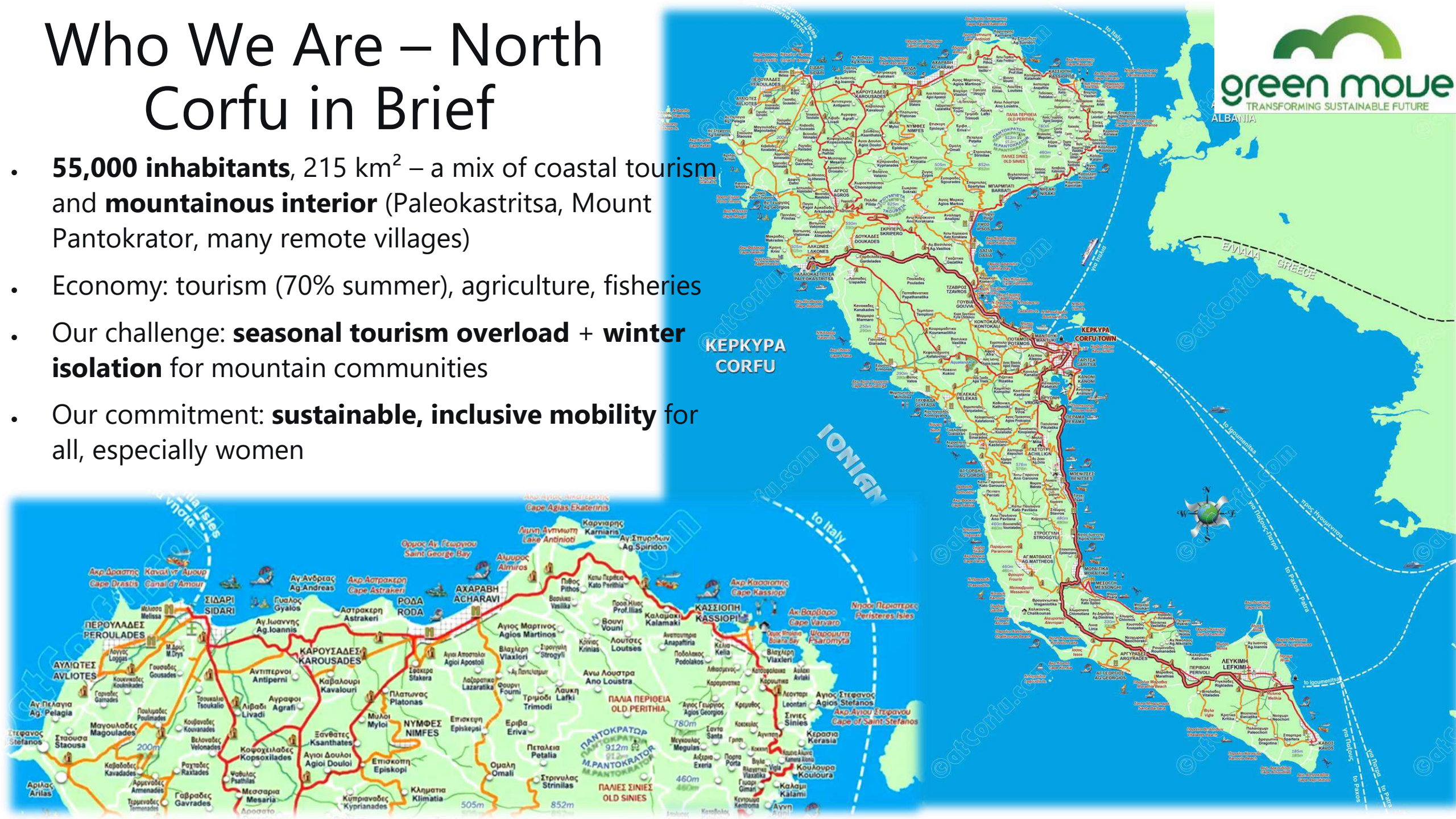
The Beauty of Networking:



A Local Perspective on Gender Equal Mobility

Who We Are – North Corfu in Brief

- **55,000 inhabitants**, 215 km² – a mix of coastal tourism and **mountainous interior** (Paleokastritsa, Mount Pantokrator, many remote villages)
- Economy: tourism (70% summer), agriculture, fisheries
- Our challenge: **seasonal tourism overload + winter isolation** for mountain communities
- Our commitment: **sustainable, inclusive mobility** for all, especially women



Why the Valongo Theme Matters to North Corfu

- The theme “Empowering Women in Mountainous Regions” is not abstract – it is our daily reality
- Women in our mountain villages face:
 - Lack of safe after dark transport (no street lighting on many rural roads)
 - Care burden (school runs, elder transport) made harder by infrequent bus schedules
 - Economic exclusion (limited access to jobs in coastal towns)
- Valongo’s thematic focus, through **GreenMove** is exactly what we need to tackle



Do you remember??



Within GreenMove:

- Established Citizen Science groups in three mountain villages (Agios Markos, Spartylas, Strinilas)
- Trained 6 female Community citizens to collect mobility data
- Piloted a demand-responsive shuttle-bus connecting mountain villages to the main bus line (first results: 68% of users were women)

Created a “Mountain Mobility Map” – participatory mapping of unsafe spots, missing bus stops, and steep footpaths

These are valuable pilots. But they remain fragmented. We need integration.



The Gender Gap in Our Mobility Data (North Corfu Scorecard)

Indicator	Current situation	Target (by end of 2026)
Women feeling safe on public transport at night	34%	≥ 65%
Women's share of mobility- related proposals adopted	12%	≥ 40%
Mountain villages with accessible weekly transport to health centre	2 out of 7	7 out of 7
Women employed in local tourism commuting by public transport	18%	≥ 50%



This is precisely where GREENMOVE becomes essential.



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Our Contribution to the Valongo Workshop – “Lessons from Corfu’s Mountains”

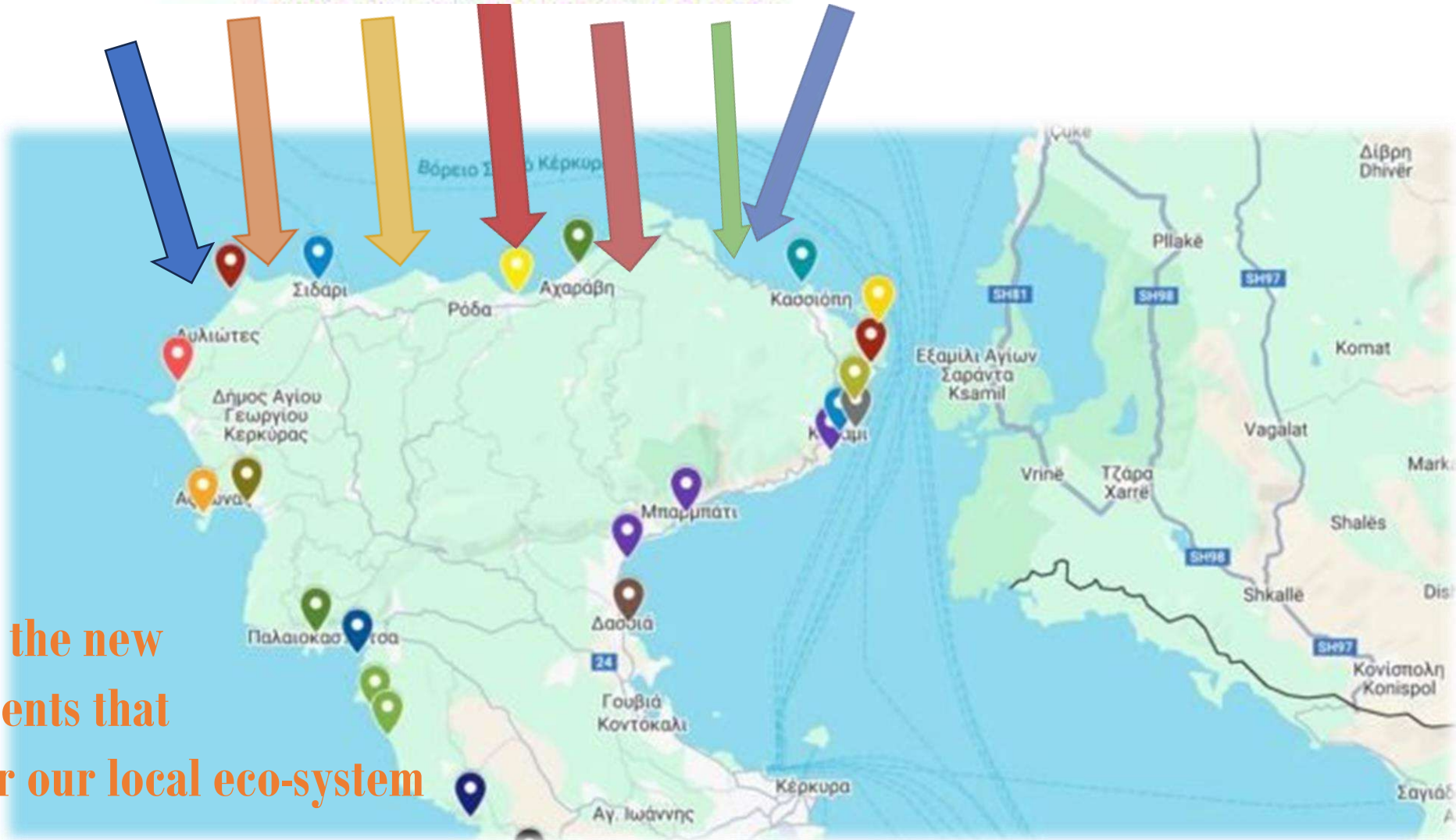
As Coordinator, We harvest knowledge from Every Partner:

- **Workshop input:** How to run **participatory safety audits** on mountain roads – our experience with women-led night-time walking audits
- **Tool we will share:** A simple “**Mobility & Care**” **diary** – tracking women’s unpaid care trips (school, groceries, elder care) to identify gaps
- **Commitment:** Adapt Valongo’s outcomes to our own **Local Action Plan for Women’s Mobility** (to be adopted by North Corfu Council in July 2026)

Every exchange becomes a tool we can adapt for North Corfu.



GreenMove partners bringing knowledge, expertise, and inspiration



We, “absorb” all the new GreenMove elements that can be useful, for our local eco-system

- **Safe bus shelters** in three mountain villages (lighting, seating, emergency phone) – co-designed by women’s groups
- **On-demand e-shuttle buss** for early morning school runs and afternoon medical appointments – women-only booking line
- **“Women on the Move” walking trails** – marked routes connecting villages with historical sites, safe even in winter
- All funded by **national + EU grants** (Interreg, LIFE – now also cross-shared via GreenMove Digital Toolbox)

This is our roadmap.

GREENMOVE provides the compass.



Challenges We Still Face – To Discuss in Valongo

- . **Resistance to change:** Some village elders still see “women staying at home” as normal – need awareness campaigns
- . **Funding fragmentation:** Small mountain municipalities struggle to write complex EU applications – we need a **shared technical support pool**
- . **Data continuity:** Our Scorecard data is good, but we need **permanent citizen science structures** (not project-based) – hoping Valongo’s legacy model (through the presentations) will solve this.

Every method is adapted from learning within our network.

What We Expect from the Valongo Meeting (Concrete Goals)

- **Sign a Joint Declaration of Continuity** – a non-binding but symbolic commitment to keep the network alive (no legal obligations, but shared goodwill).
- **Identify 2-3 concrete pilot actions** for post-project cooperation (e.g., a joint webinar series, a shared data workshop, or a small-scale exchange visit between North Corfu and Valongo).
- **Secure agreement on a light governance structure** – e.g., a rotating informal coordinator and an annual virtual check-in, rather than a heavy permanent association (more realistic for volunteer capacity).
- **Learn one practical tool from Valongo** (through the presentations) – e.g., how the gender integration is been taking place in a limited budget, which we can adapt to North Corfu within 6 months.
- **Leave with clear next steps** – a one-page “Valongo Action Sheet” assigning who does what, by when, with minimal bureaucracy.

Our Legacy – After Valongo, What Happens in North Corfu?

- Annual Mountain Women’s Mobility Forum – starting at the early 2027, open to all villagers
- Permanent Citizen Science Observatory (embedded in our Development Department)
- Use the GreenMove Chapter 6 (through the Web) as a training manual for our transport planners



*From North Corfu's peaks (2024) to
Valongo's hills (2026) - women's mobility
is Europe's future.*

Thank you for your attention!!



**#GreenMoveFinale #NorthCorfu
#WomenInTheMountains #Valongo2026**