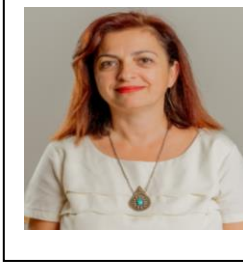


Sustainability and rural tourism in island condition



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ABSTRACT

TRNC Ministry of Economy and Tourism has kept the natural and cultural pattern of TRNC (Turkish Republic of North Cyprus) with projects since 2003 and aims to revitalize and preserve the traditional rural areas by means of eco-tourism. In this context, after the successful restoration of 5 old houses in Dipkarpaz village in 2003 as a guesthouse named Karpaz Arch Houses, a project has been developed in 2006 to promote guesthouse management in Karpaz Peninsula. The aim was to fulfill the vacancy of accommodation for tourists and to promote the local people with job possibilities. Most important characteristic of this project is that it encourages the restoration of useless traditional buildings and turn them into guest houses which saves both energy and material. Besides, the use of traditional construction materials in new buildings were also encouraged. As part of "Encouragement of Sustainable Building in Cyprus" project, and to increase people's consciousness in rural tourism, a guesthouse was built with earthen construction techniques in Büyükkonuk village.

KEY WORDS: Sustainability, rural tourism, Karpaz region, Arch Houses