SCHOOLS AS LIVING LABS

SALL

PROTECTION OF SOLITARY BEES

CYPRUS STUDENTS AGED FROM 16 TO 17 **BIODIVERSITY** NATURE PROTECTION

THE SCHOOL

- Emporiki Sholi Mitsi Lemythou
- A school built at 1200 meters altitude and gathering students coming from mountain communities
- Long experience in environmental projects

Familiarity with the open schooling approach before joining the SALL project

Beginner — Experienced

AHA MOMENTS

Shared by the teacher: "For 4 years I have been moved by the zeal of the students. So much excitement! The previous students of the program impart their knowledge and experience to the new students and make them enthusiastic. They are internally motivated, they want to pursue it, to work at it."

By students: The students are excited about the turn their project has taken as they may discover a previously unrecognized species.

THE LIVING LAB PROJECT

THE PROBLEM(S)

This living lab project addressed the need to protect important pollinators in the area, which had not yet been studied. Students, in cooperation with a university researcher and their biology teacher, decided to contribute to the protection and preservation of solitary bees in the villages near their school.

THE COMMUNITY

- A university researcher helped students to collect and analyse samples
- A design and technology teacher contributed in building a bee hotel
- Residents of the area were informed and contributed with protective measures

THE SOLUTION

- Investigate the factors that reduce bee biodiversity in the area
- Collect samples of bees, classify them and find the best conditions for their reproduction
- Create alternative to lost habitat
- Raise awareness within the local communities

THE PROTOTYPE

- A bee hotel installed in the school area
- Classification of solitary bees
- Bee samples in falcoms for future study

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