

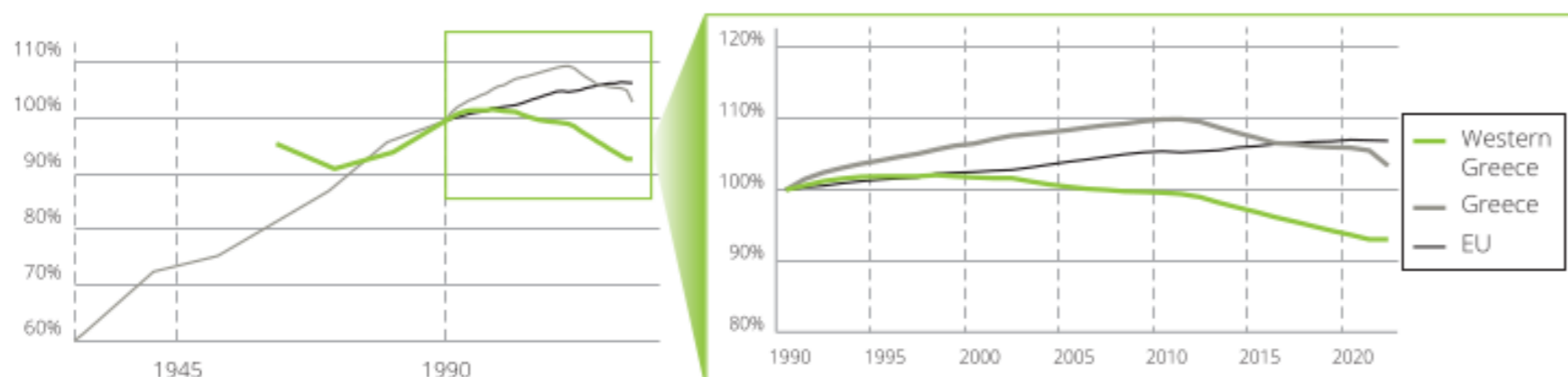
University of Patras

Regional Report Year 1

Environmental risks related with depopulation and ageing population in rural areas

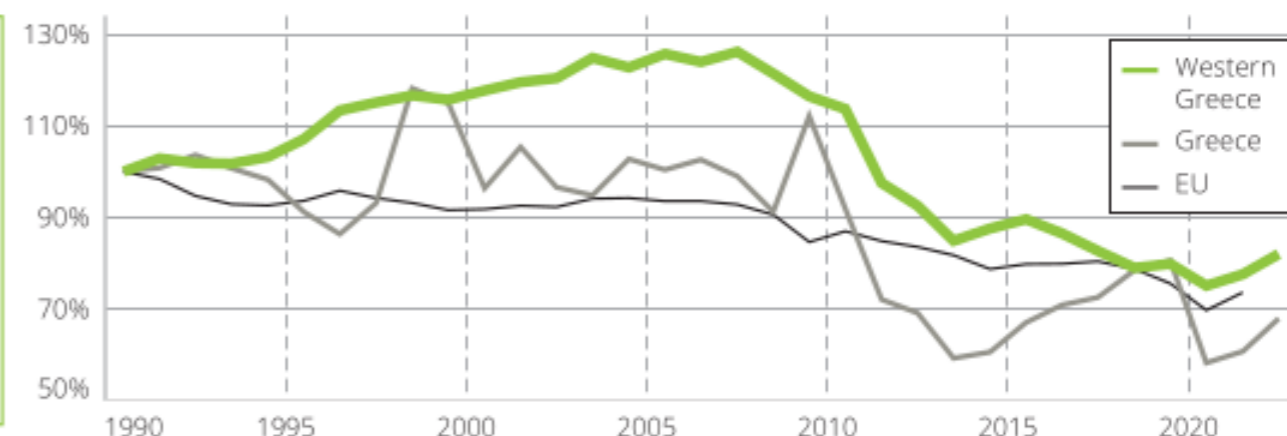
Demographic trends

Source: Population statistics of Eastern Europe & former USSR (T. Bespyatov 2023) & EUROSTAT



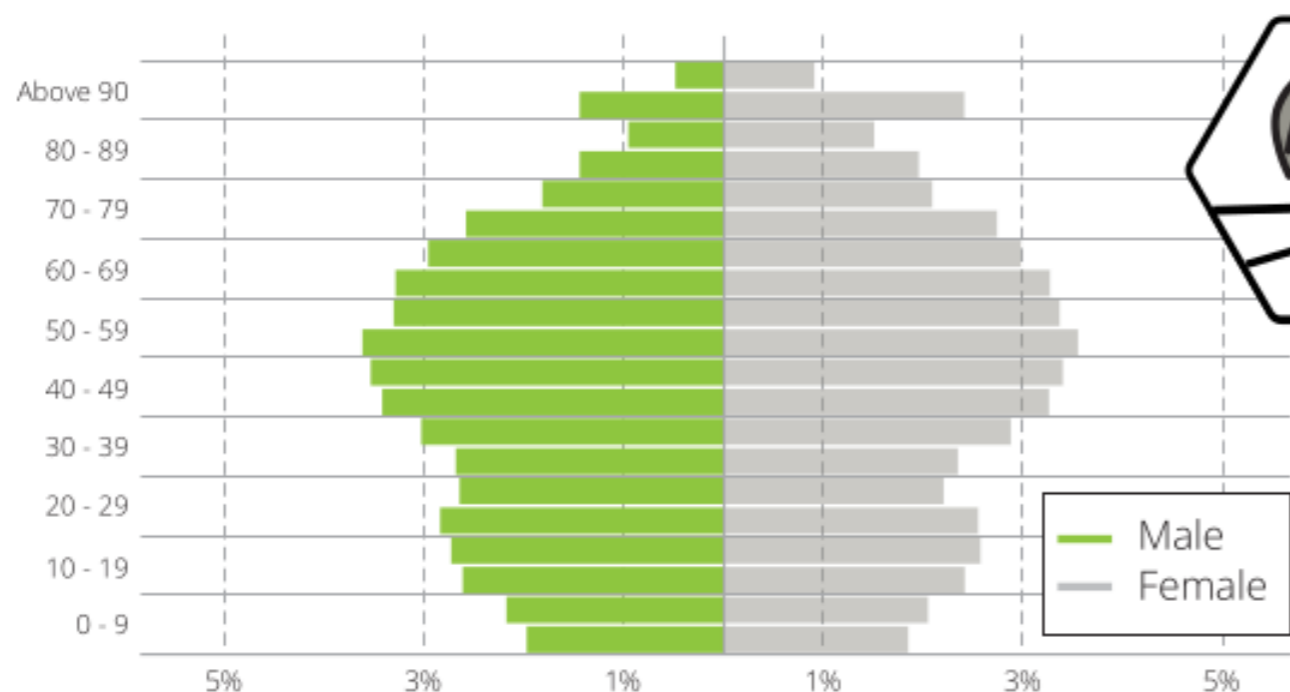
Regional GHG emissions

Source: Emissions Database for Global Atmospheric Research (EDGAR v.08)

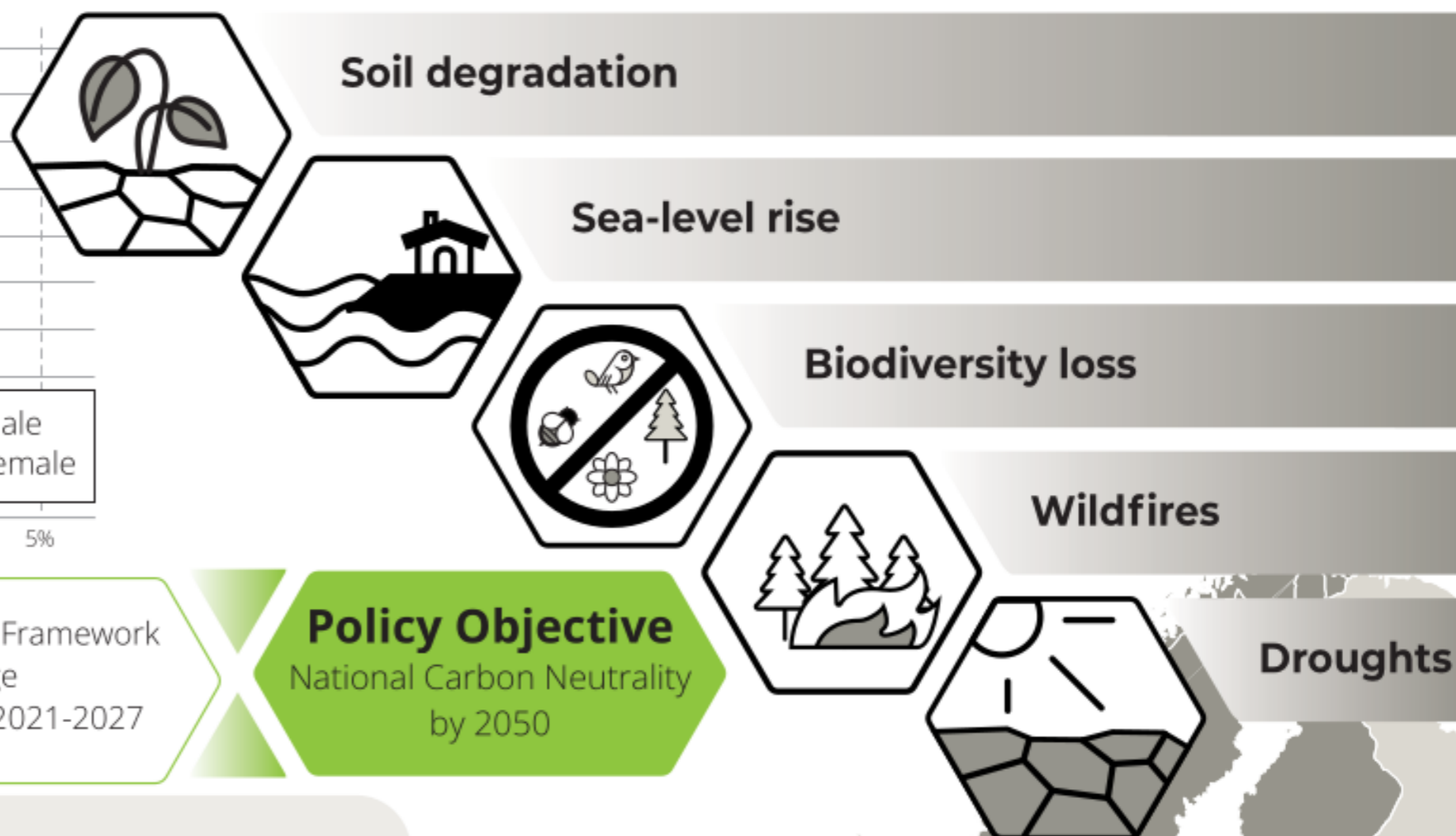


Population Pyramid

Total population: 672.591 inhabitants (EUROSTAT 2022)



Environmental risks and effects of climate change



2016: Regional Spatial Planning and Sustainable Development Framework
2019: Regional Plan for Adaptation to Climate Change
2023: Regional Operational Programme for Western Greece 2021-2027

Strengths

- Natural capital providing ecosystem services
- Cultural capital (heritage sites)
- Human capital
- Research institutions
- Unique traditions and product brands
- Mountain and winter tourism resorts

Weaknesses

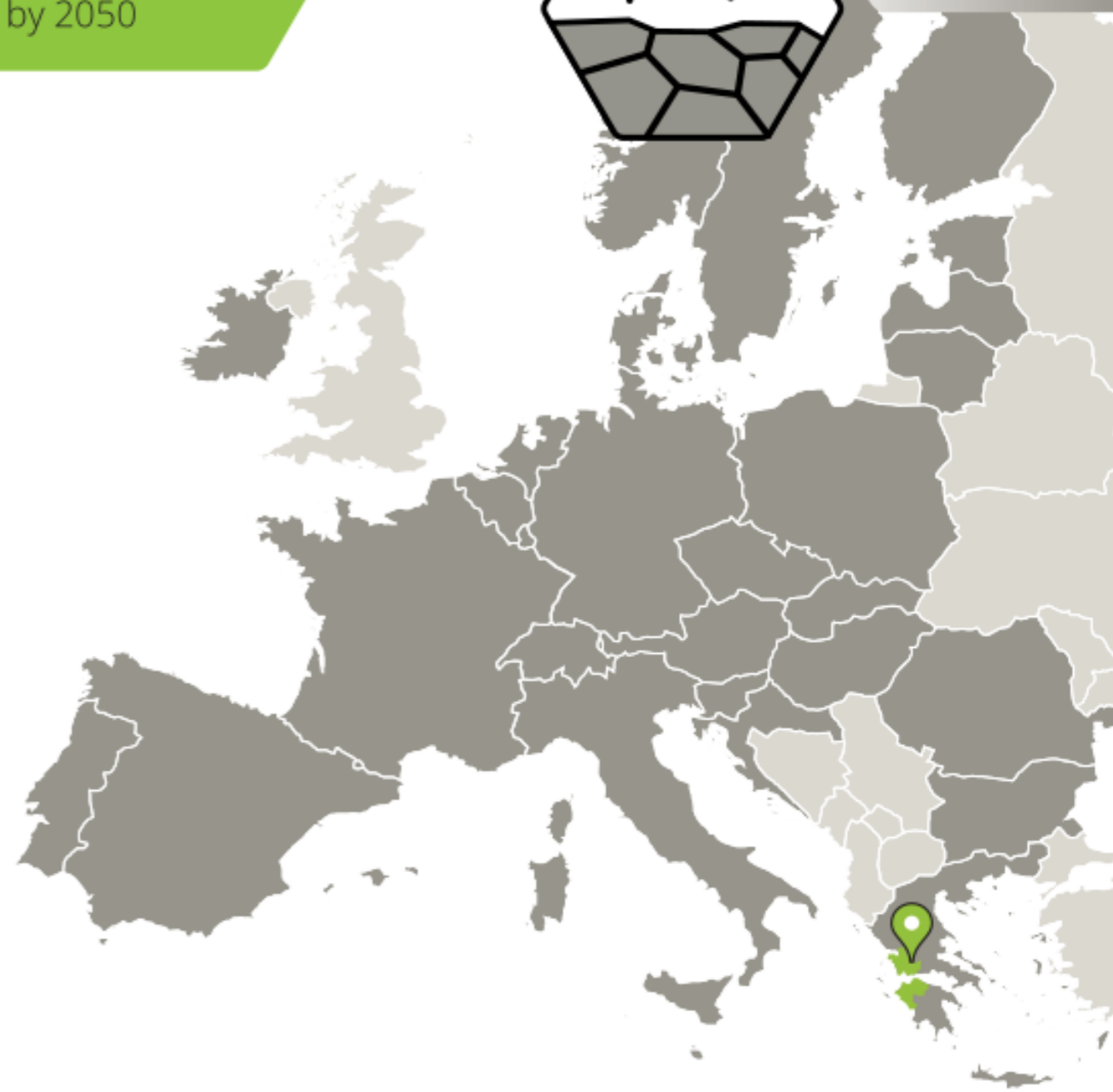
- Weak planning and environmental management norms
- Bureaucracy
- Rural exodus and ageing farmers
- Social disadvantage and poverty in rural areas
- Lack of recovery from past disaster events
- Shortage of staff in local government

Opportunities

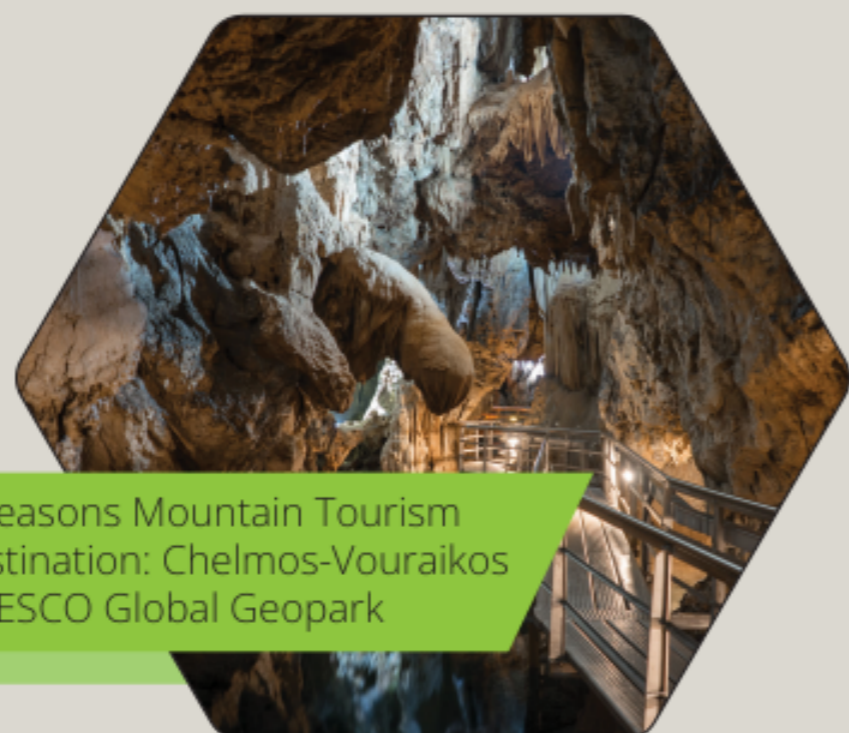
- Funding available
- Policy attention to disaster risk management
- Technological advances
- Open access of spatial data
- Year-long tourism

Threats

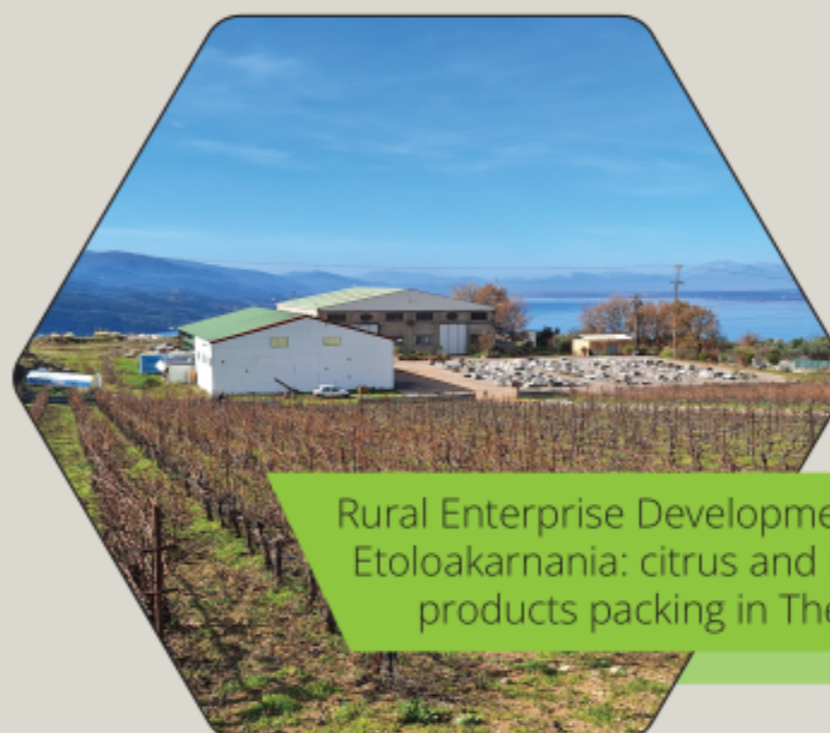
- Biodiversity and environmental degradation
- Cultural loss
- Price inflation of goods and raw material in rural areas



Cases that address ageing, depopulation and related environmental risks



4-Seasons Mountain Tourism Destination: Chelmos-Vouraikos UNESCO Global Geopark



Rural Enterprise Development in Etoloakarnania: citrus and meat products packing in Thermo

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