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ΙΝΣΤΙΤΟΥΤΟ ΣΥΝΕΤΑΙΡΙΣΤΙΚΩΝ ΕΡΕΥΝΩΝ

& ΜΕΛΕΤΩΝ (ΙΣΕΜ)

**Title of abstract: Community Supported Fishery. A case study from northern Greece**

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**Abstract :** (max. 300 words)

The contemporary industrialized model of fishery (overfishing, marine litter, reduction of fish stocks, etc.) threatens the economic survival of fishermen/women and especially those family farms that base their wellbeing on less expansive fishing methods taking in consideration the common resources. Could an alternative agro-food model embedded on the values of Social and Solidarity Economy be applied to fishery communities, supporting economic, social and environmental wellbeing? The bulk of the literature supports that Community-Supported Agriculture has proven in many cases beneficial. Can that model be applied to fishery farms and local communities providing solutions to contemporary challenges and volatile conditions? This work, starts on the above reflection and adopts as a theoretical framework the alternative agri-food systems. In so doing focuses on a case study of the fishermen/women located in the Municipality of Thermaikos in Northern Greece. The area is considered as periurban with the big city of Thessaloniki as a pool of potential consumers interested in participating in a social and solidarity economy project. Through the narratives of the participants both fishermen and potential consumers in the research, as well as the use of key-informants (experts) and through the lens of qualitative tools such as the Fishbone-technique and SWOT analysis an attempt is made to capture their experiences, views and perceptions, their intentions to join the project, as well as the possible challenges and threats it will encounter the implementation of the project. We examine incentives for participation and identify potential challenges and differences from- the more established in the literature and common practices- Community Supported Agriculture model. From their converging and divergent views and adopting the Greek and international scientific literature as a point of reference in the discussion on the findings, the possibilities for the success of such an endeavor are highlighted.

**Keywords:** CSA, wellbeing, ethical-trade, Fishbone-technique, fishery