



# **PROJECT NARRATIVE**

# <u>A joint project between AUB and Fondation Diane named Daskara:</u> an exceptional new app for nature and heritage exploration and conservation, begins to see the light

- What started as a participatory mapping research project dubbed "baldati bi'ati" in 2010 by the Nature Conservation Center (NCC) at the American University of Beirut (AUB), with the aim to better capture the social-cultural dimension embedded in nature conservation and the findings from 80 participating village communities in Lebanon by 2016, is currently undergoing a digital makeover and becoming an app called Daskara. The recent investment by Fondation Diane kick started the development process.
- NCC has an Mou with the ministry of Tourism since the beginning of this project.
- Designed and built as a free digital platform, Daskara will be available on iOS and Android devices and will feature a website version compatible with most browsers. The app will be for everyone interested in exploring local natural and cultural sites. It will also serve as a tool for everyone who wants to actively engage in conservation and sustainable development by donating to sustainable projects in their beloved hometowns and villages with the touch of a button from anywhere in the world.
- NCC believes Daskara will benefit a broad constituency of users including local residents and business owners, tourists, members of the diaspora, enthusiasts of outdoor natural and cultural activities, experts, and academics. The uniqueness of Daskara is its aim of defining and initiating competitive and sustainable nature related opportunities that draw on the cultural and natural heritage of Lebanon, as well as the team behind it that consists of experts in nature, culture, and rural and eco-tourism from the Nature and Conservation Center at AUB.
- Starting in Lebanon with an eye toward expanding globally, Daskara will become a venue for promoting and instilling unquestionable cultural, natural, and heritage value with the importance of preserving these assets for sustainable growth and for generations to come.
- With such a project and investment, both NCC and Fondation Diane with its green investment fund Viridis, are proving that eco-sustainability and profitability are compatible. On an academic level, the data collected will constitute the basis for multidisciplinary research spearheaded by NCC, starting with the research objective of investigating whether local participatory mapping of cultural ecosystem services (CES) helps build a sense of place, which is socially and locally constructed, giving meaning and attachment to a place.



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- With such a project, AUB-NCC proves that eco-sustainability and profitability are compatible.
- On an academic level, the data collected will constitute the basis for multidisciplinary research spearheaded by AUB-NCC, starting with the research objective of investigating whether local participatory mapping of cultural ecosystem services helps build a sense of place, which is socially and locally constructed, giving meaning and attachment to a place.

# **100** Mapped Villages

# 800

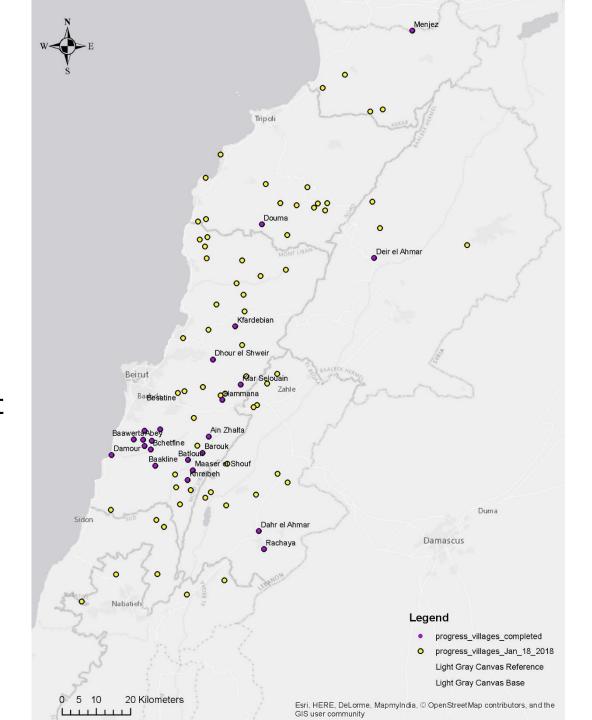
Authentic Connections With Local Constituencies

# 200

Potential Sustainable Fut ure Projects In 100 Villages

# 4000

Natural And Cultural Archived Landmarks And Activities

















Add the location's name

#### WHAT DO YOU KNOW ABOUT THIS LOCATION?

Provide an objective description about this location or activity. It can be about the local culture, history of site, History of family, context, visual info about landscape, what can we do in the site etc.

Provide an objective **story** 

Add the place contact information

Other than the gathered information found on Daskara,
Through **crowdsourcing**, Any user can add a missing location or activity.
It is only after Daskara's admins: **local communities and experts**, approve the submitted info that it becomes public



Place Contact Info

Take a **picture** that best shows the place

CATEGORY

SUBCATEGORY

SPECS

Select the category and subcategory

ORY SUBC



Eco Sites



Sports & Games

Food & Lodging



Nature Activities



Cultural Sites



Services

HIGHLIGHTS









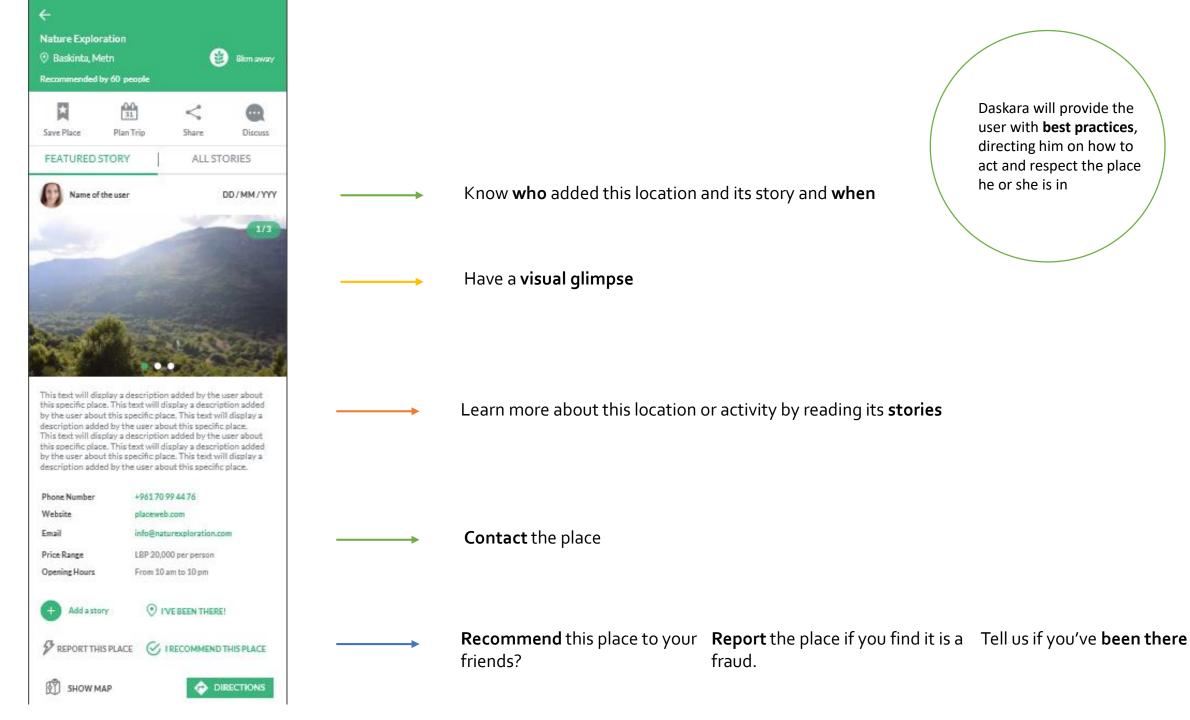


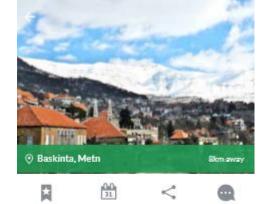
Fill its **specs** 

Select if its **Highlights**Pet allowed? Children friendly? Accessible by disabled? Wifi?
Free entrance?

SEARCH FEATURE







Have a visual glimpse

**Crowdfunding** through Daskara to future sustainable, ecofriendly, cultural and natural development Projects

# Baskinta, Metn

Save Place

This text will display the information to know about the selected village. This text will display the information to know about the selected village.

#### Origin of the Name

Definition of the name

Distance From Beirut Population Altitude 200,000 150 km

1400 m

### Landmarks in Baskinta



Sports & Games





Nature Activities

Discuss

## VIEW FUTURE PROJECTS

#### Places you can find there

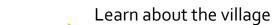












Know its **Population, distance from Beirut?** Altitude?

What are some of the village's landmarks?

**Donate** to future projects

The village can add its **media** here



## **Future Projects**

#### Mouneh Center

This text will display the information to know about the future project.

#### DONATE

#### Rock Bridge

This text will display the information to know about the future project.

## DONATE

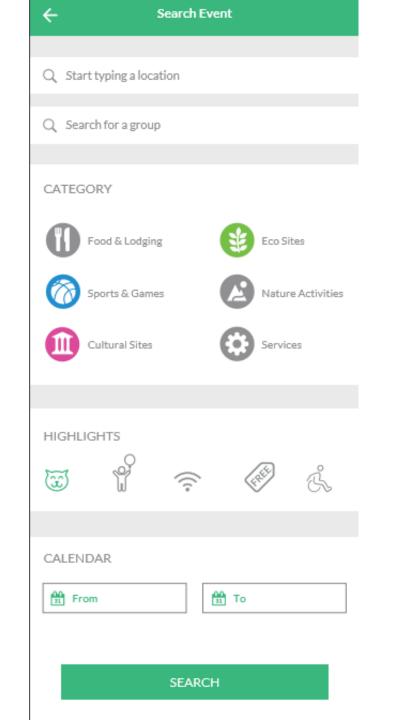
#### Health Center

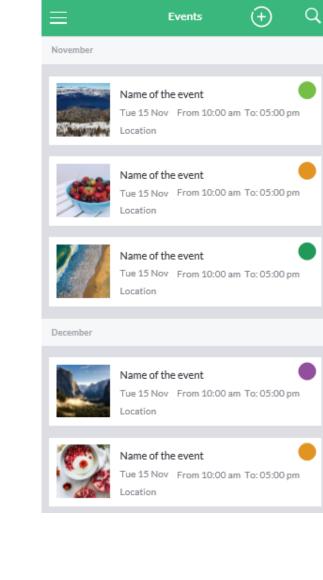
This text will display the information to know about the future project.

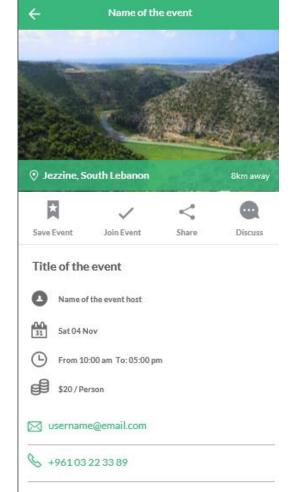
DONATE



**PROJECTS** 







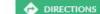
#### About the event

This text will display the information to know about the selected event. This text will display the information to know about the selected event. This text will display the information to know about the selected event. This text will display the information to know about the selected event.

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## Join A Community



Food & Lodging



Eco Sites



Sports & Games



Nature Activities



DASKARA'S COMMUNITIES FEATURE

Cultural Sites



Services



Communicate with Other Members of the Community



# **About Community Name**

This text will display the information to know about the group. This text will display the information to know about the group. This text will display the information to know about the group. This text will display the information to know about the group.

## Admins



Admin 1 Name



Admin 2 Name

## Groups



Group 1 Name



Group 2 Name



Group 3 Name



Group 4 Name



