

# *Story Time about Turtles in Danger!*



Ana Alves - ECONAT Seminar - Vilnius - August 2014

# Biological Park of Gaia

Is a Center of Environmental Education and Nature Conservancy with a agro-forestry area of 35 ha, where hundreds of species of animals and plants live in the wild.

The objective of this Park is to improve the Visitors understanding of the Region's landscape, including all its components (flora, fauna, climate, rural architecture, customs, etc).





The captive animals belongs to European Fauna, mostly animals with not recovery injuries

11.000 visitors/year



Educational activities:

- Feeding animals;
- Agriculture initiation;
- Making traditional bread;
- Nocturnal visits to see fireflies.

# Life Trachemys Project(LIFE09NAT/ES/000529) – 2011/2013

Demonstrative strategies and techniques to eradicate invasive freshwater turtles in order to control the loss of biological diversity



## Iberian Freshwater turtles



Mediterranean turtle (*Mauremys leprosa*)

Conservancy status:

Not Threatened (Portugal)/ Vulnerable (Spain)



European pond turtle (*Emys orbicularis*)

Conservancy status:

In danger (Portugal)/ Vulnerable (Spain)

Talks about invasive turtles. Show animals (Yes/No?)



The challenge is passing information without showing animals (at least at first) and try to have the public attention



“Mauro and Emilia: Our turtles are in danger. Let us help them!” Is the story of Emilia, the first European Pond Turtle pregnant that was captured in the South of Portugal at a Life Trachemys Project area.



Educative draws



Mauro and Emilia adapted to a theater play





# A Puppet Play that goes to Primary Schools



After the story is time for other activities: draws, paintings...





Puzzles  
True or False Game  
Turtle shaped cookies



**Thanks for your  
attention!**

