

Apiary School

Empowering women through apiculture



Women in Djurdjura mountains of Algeria learning the methods and techniques related to beekeeping.

TASSADIT CHIBANI
EL WATAN, ALGIERS

An Apiary School project has been set up in the Djurdjura mountains of Algeria, inspired by the Association for the Promotion of Mountain Apiculture (APMA). Based in Ain el Hammam, forty-five kilometres to the southeast of Tizi Ouzou, Algeria, the association has been organising regular beekeeping training courses since 2010, with the support of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the NGO ASMED (Association for Solidarity, Migration and Exchanges for Development). The training courses are aimed at enthusiasts for this line of work, especially women from rural areas. No less than eighteen women –

from Ain el Hammam along with other areas in the Tizi Ouzouwilaya – have taken part in different training courses led by beekeeping professionals, including specialists from France. Support from the UNPD and ASMED has even led to hives being provided for women wanting to take up beekeeping. The ambitious project aims to promote apiculture in the mountains and at the same time guarantee high quality organic products. APMA has widened its scope of activity by offering other regular training courses in different areas of agriculture, a development that has now been integrated into its new name: the Association for the Promotion of Mountain Agriculture.

lerucherecoledudjurdjura.blogspot.fr/

The FoodCloud concept spreads its wings

CATHERINE CLEARY
THE IRISH TIMES, DUBLIN

A college project devised by two students to redistribute food for sale in retail outlets close to its sell-by date has become a remarkable success in Ireland, so much so the concept is catching on in Britain with the potential to be adopted throughout the world.

Aoibheann O'Brien still remembers the first box of food five years ago. She and co-founder Iseult Ward picked it up at a farmers' market and dropped it off to a youth services centre in Dublin.

The delivery was a dummy run for their college project FoodCloud. It became a tech start-up which connected businesses that had surplus food with charities that needed food. Five years on 8,300 tonnes of food, more than 18

million meals, have been diverted from landfills. FoodCloud employs 30 people tackling food waste from almost 2,000 businesses in Ireland and the UK.

Until late 2016, FoodCloud transactions involved small consignments of food collected by individual charities from the delivery bays of supermarkets and shops to serve the most disadvantaged people.

Their new headquarters, a large warehouse near Dublin, is a food redistribution hub and call centre. In the UK, more than 1,600 branches of Tesco and three Waitrose stores are now posting donations of food.

"There's a lot of energy and loads of people behind it," adds Aoibheann O'Brien. "People felt intuitively that this was a really good thing to do."

<https://food.cloud/>



Co-founders Iseult Ward and Aoibheann O'Brien.

COURTESY: FOODCLOUD

Driving on a wheelchair

JANA KLÍMOVÁ, MAGDALÉNA FAJTOVÁ
RESPEKT, PRAGUE

Many men have boyhood dreams of building their own car. The vast majority grow out of the idea. But Ladislav Brázdil and his two sons made sure their dreams came true: Elbee Mobility, their family business in the small town of Loštice in the Olomouc district of North Moravia, the Czech Republic, is now manufacturing its own cars. The Elbee vehicle opens from the front, and you don't climb in, but ride straight into it with a wheelchair.

The front-end opening of the car is an innovation that enables a new kind of independence for wheelchair users travelling by car.

Ordinary vehicles adapted for wheelchair users simply do not resolve the problem of what to do with the wheelchair. If wheelchair users don't have enough strength to stow their wheelchairs themselves, they need someone to help. A major

advantage of front-end opening is that wheelchair users can park the car face-on to the curb and can ride out of the car safely among pedestrians on the sidewalk, instead of onto the roadway.

The current price is CZK 600,000 (almost USD 25,000), and although the effective purchase price can be cut by two-thirds thanks to various subsidies and reliefs, it is still cheaper for wheelchair users to modify a normal car. Indeed many have already drawn on all the available subsidies to do this. Despite this, dozens of Elbee cars are now on the roads of Europe.

The Elbee automobile marks a major breakthrough in travel for the disabled. According to Ladislav Brázdil Jr, "We've had reactions from people saying that thanks to the Elbee they're now learning to drive and they are regaining strength and ability. In our small way, we're restoring their lives."

<http://www.elbeemobility.com/>



An elderly gentleman celebrating the purchase of his Elbee mobility vehicle.

COURTESY: ELBEE MOBILITY