

Sustainable Development Projects of the Municipality of Central Corfu and Diapontia Islands



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Summary

The purpose of this article is to present the projects in which the Municipality of Central Corfu and Diapontia Islands participate and are co-financed from European programs during the municipal period 2019 - 2023.

The main objective of all these projects is the reduction of the total environmental footprint and the sustainable development in general of the Municipality, in any relevant field it concerns.

«Green and Smart mobility»

«ERICA - Electric Car-sharing» from European Regional Development Fund»

Transport is one of the most polluting activities and the promotion of electric mobility has been recognized as an appropriate policy to reduce its environmental footprint. Going a step further, the combination of electrification with vehicle-sharing systems is an ideal and yet sustainable solution to serve the growing demand for urban mobility.

Driven by sustainability and innovation, we present to you **the ERICA project** which aims to develop and make available the Electric Car - Sharing service in the city of Corfu.

The following organizations participate in this project:

The Transport Institute IMET has the role of the research organization and scientific manager of the project

The IT Company “OneDealer” provides the application software and also has the role of Project Manager.

Avis Greece will participate by providing electric vehicles, charging stations and supporting the smooth operation of the service.

The Municipality of Central Corfu & Diapontia Islands as the testing area of the project.

For the needs of the project, a total amount of 10 charging stations will be installed in places such as the Port, the Airport, and the city center of Corfu and will cover a large area of the Municipality of Central Corfu and Diapontia Islands. These charging stations will remain as property of the Municipality even after the end of the project. Also, 6 electric cars will be made available, where for a period of at least 6 months they will serve the citizens of Corfu, as well as the tourists of the island, for movement within the Municipality through the use of a mobile phone application (mobile app). By applying a holistic approach and completing research and development technologies and business initiatives, such as that of Project Erica, we will

lead to sustainable solutions for the transportation needs of our citizens, while respecting the environment. This project places the Municipality of Central Corfu and Diapontia Islands among the pioneers of the country and can be the trigger for the expansion of the electric vehicle-sharing service throughout Greece.

In this context, we will invite all the citizens and visitors of the Municipality to try the service, to integrate it into their daily life by changing their habits even a little and they too contribute from their side to the common goal of a more sustainable future. This project has received funding from the **European Regional Development Fund (ERDF)** and more particularly by the **EPANEK**.

Sustainable Urban Development

«JUMP» from the programme INTERREG Greece - Italy 2014-2020

JUMP = Joint Urban Measures for creative Players

The overall project's objective is the enhancement, the requalification and reuse of disused urban areas represented by ex-slaughterhouse, in order to be transformed into creative workshops, with new services based on creativity in its different forms of artistic expression (music, theatre, painting, crafts, dance etc.).

In other words, the goal is to transform the unused urban places into active spaces for artistic shows; a social meeting place for exhibitions' arrangement, music and theatre performances, training in the world of arts particularly addressed to the young people.

In addition, the project aims to restore and to enhance a disuse urban heritage, such as the slaughterhouses, through the creative industry, by developing a management model of a creative hub,

already experienced from the Italian side, that will be transferred as best practice to the Greek side with the range of services, the artistic contents, and experiences.

The project aims at achieving the following objectives:

- Recovery, reuse, and enhancement of urban heritage.
- Implementation of a management and sustainable model of urban heritage.
- Creation of an experimental environment in order to encourage young creativity and their aggregation (Urban Lab in Greece linked to the urban labs in Puglia);
- Cross border dissemination of theatre and music culture.

This project has received funding from the **European Regional Development Fund (ERDF)** and more particularly by the **Cross-border Cooperation Programme INTERREG Greece - Italy 2014-2020**.

«Green and Smart energy»

«J.E.D.I. - Just clean energy transition of Diapontia Islands» - NESOI

The islands of Ereikoussa and Othonoi are non-interconnected to the mainland and their electricity production stations that use diesel to meet the demand, leading to high operating costs and big number of Green House Gas emissions.

The project concerns the clean energy transition of the Diapontia Islands and more specifically the development of 1 Hybrid Power Station (HPS) in each island, fully substituting the thermal station. The 2 HPS will consist of a wind turbine, a photovoltaic station, and a central battery energy storage system.

Mathraki, on the other hand, is interconnected to the mainland. The project's second objective is the transformation of the local port into a "smart marina". A part of the port will be upgraded to accommodate a small

electric boat, connecting Mathraki to the neighboring islands. The marina will include 25 new fully equipped berths for tourist boats with electricity and water supply pillars. New energy efficient lighting, a green waste collection point and small on-site desalination units will also be installed. EV and boat charging stations are envisaged. The electricity will be supplied through the development of a local microgrid including Photovoltaic, batteries and energy management software in the marina's premises.

The business plan also includes the creation of an Energy Community (EC) with the participation of the Municipality, the Public Power Corporation, local citizens and businesses. The Energy Community will be responsible for managing and operating the Hybrid Power Stations. In a second phase, the Energy Community will undertake the management of the rest of the islands' infrastructure (water, waste, transport) promoting extended sector coupling applications, turning them into zero-carbon islands, fully compatible with the "smart islands" initiative approach.

The final overall project is estimated to have primary energy savings up to 2.37 GWh/yr, while the GHG emissions avoided are around 1,800 tCO₂/yr. The total indicative capital cost for the whole project is around 3,34 M€ with an estimated PBP of 8 years. For this project, the Municipality of Central Corfu and Diapontia Islands, in its first participation in the "Best City Awards", was honored with the first place and the "GOLD" Award in the "Climate Change" category and is putting the Diapontia Islands on the map of "green" island destinations of Europe.

This project has received funding from the **European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme** and the **NESOI Platform**.

«Waste Management and Circular Economy»

«E-HORECA WANET» from the INTERREG Greece - Albania 2014-2020

The project is called "**Efficient Hotel Restaurant & Catering Waste Network**" with the acronym "**E-HORECA WANET**".

The overall objective of this project is to tackle the overwhelming solid waste management problem that the Cross Border areas of Corfu and Saranda face during the high summer touristic season and to set the ground for sustainable management practices in solid waste management in both areas.

The Municipality of Central Corfu and Diapontia Islands was provided with two new garbage trucks for the separate collection of bio-waste that are coming mostly from professionals and large waste producers - businesses of the HORECA sector and will help the most to the efforts that are done in order to improve the collection of the waste and provide better services to the citizens.

Moreover beyond the supply of garbage trucks, this program includes the supply of additional technological equipment and the development of a novel information system that will upgrade the key work that is carried out by the Cleaning Service by optimizing the frequency of the collection routes of organic waste of the dedicated collection network from the HORECA businesses, with the Ionian University as a direct scientific partner of the program.

This project has received funding from the **European Regional Development Fund (ERDF)** and more particularly by the **Cross-border Cooperation Programme INTERREG Greece - Albania 2014-2020**.