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no time to waste

LIFE18 IPE/GR/000013

LIFE-IP CEI-GREECE

Circular Economy
Implementation in Greece





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NEWSLETTER

27/05/2021 | No2





Introductory note

LIFE-IP CEI-Greece during the pandemic

The project LIFE-IP CEI-Greece “Circular Economy Implementation in Greece” launched during the COVID-19 pandemic, facing from its very early days unprecedented daily conditions and continuous challenges.

The project is evolving according to plan, utilizing the new communication opportunities offered by digital technologies and carefully dealing with all rising needs through the fruitful collaboration between partners.

The 2nd Newsletter is an overview of the progress of LIFE-IP CEI-Greece so far, including recent news and activities.



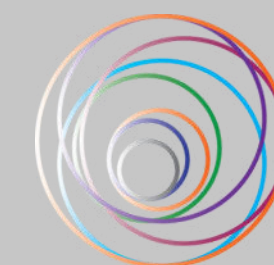
Preparatory Actions LIFE-IP CEI-Greece



A1, Baseline assessments and inception studies at national scale & Stakeholder mapping

A2 , Preparatory Technical & Economic Studies for Circular Economy Demonstration projects

A3, Inception study and assessment of potential for implementing Circular Economy in Key sectors



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REVIEW OF THE NWMP 2015-2020

Given that the objectives of action A1.1, as described in the initial proposal of the project, were covered by the revision of the National Waste Management Plan (NWMP) 2015-2020, the Central Coordination Board of LIFE-IP CEI-Greece approved a proposal initiated by the MEEN to update the action as follows:

- **Authoring a Special Programme for Food Waste Prevention**, an obligation of the country according to the Directive for Waste, modified with the Directive 2018/851/EU, being implemented by the foreseen measure (ΑΣΑ 8) in the National Plan for the Reduction of Food Waste of the new NWMP.
- **Recording of the waste recovery units at national level** utilizing data from the national registers and other sources of information. This recording is a complementary action to the NWMP 2015-2020 update and supports the implementation of the foreseen measure (ΑΣΑ10) “Upgrading the quality and reliability of the qualitative and quantitative data with regard to waste management”.

National survey for circular economy

A1.2 “Stakeholder engagement and needs assessment”.

Public Administration



Waste Management Bodies



Scientific & Academic
Community



Producers



Social & Economic Bodies



In the context of this action a national survey on circular economy was completed, addressed to all stakeholders that could contribute to the transition of the country towards the circular economy.



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National survey for **circular economy**

The conducting of this research was based on the mapping of public entities and all stakeholders directly involved in waste management, as well as bodies of the production/supply chain and the social and economic cycle in general. The research was conducted nationally, with the following objectives:

- 1 **Understanding the needs for information and training** of all stakeholders involved in circular economy matters in their field of expertise,
- 2 **The prevailing perception of stakeholders** with regard to priority products, challenges and overall priorities, means of promotion and sectors with growth potential for the implementation of circular economy,
- 3 **Their views on specific subjects of interest of LIFE-IP CEI-Greece**, such as the implementation of the new legal framework of the European Union for Waste and the formulation of standards/technical specifications for secondary materials.

The survey results will be published on circulargreece.gr



Capacity Building

The **circular economy survey** took place through a suitably designed e-questionnaire addressing all stakeholders that could potentially contribute towards the implementation of circular economy in Greece (public administration, waste management bodies, producers, social & economic entities, research and academic community), including sections of questions with special topics, targeted to specific categories of bodies/entities.

The survey results will be utilized when designing the capacity building actions, that will be implemented in the context of Action C7, throughout the duration of the project .



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Secondary materials

A1.4 “Review of standards and technical specifications for the use of secondary materials”.

Discussions on the use of secondary materials.

A very successful on-line working meeting was held on December 17, 2020 regarding «Standards for recycling» in the context of action A1.4 «Review of Standards and technical specifications for the use of secondary materials» of LIFE-IP CEI-Greece. [Find out more](#)



✓The Hellenic Recycling Organization (HRA), in collaboration with the Hellenic Standardization Organization (ELOT), completed a study for the review of existing standards, technical specifications and standardization developments in the EU and internationally, with regard to the management of secondary materials deriving from the sorting of the waste stream of packaging.



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Inception study & assessment of potential for implementing CE in key sectors.

Action A3, Sub-actions A3.1 “Agro-food waste processing waste valorization”.

Collection of agro-food waste data

A3 M1

Data collection for waste from the agro-food sector at national, regional & local level has been completed with regard to the project pilot areas: the islands of Tinos, Thira, Paros and Antiparos and the municipality of Nafpaktos.

The collection of data came as a result of the following actions:

- On site investigation in the pilot areas
- Interviews with public institutions and services
- Data recovery from the Electronic Waste Register
- Data research in available studies and deliverables of other projects

Collection of information on agro-food waste management best practices and innovative R&D results A3 M2

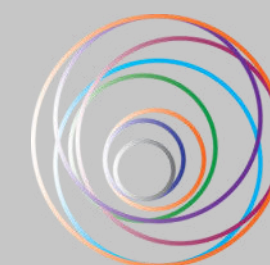
At the same time a number of best practice examples for agro-food waste management emerged, from the bibliography, traditional local practices and innovative projects in Greece and Europe, that can trigger content for the relevant Guide that will be prepared shortly by the LIFE-IP CEI-Greece team.





Concrete Actions LIFE-IP CEI-Greece

C4, Food waste prevention



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Food waste

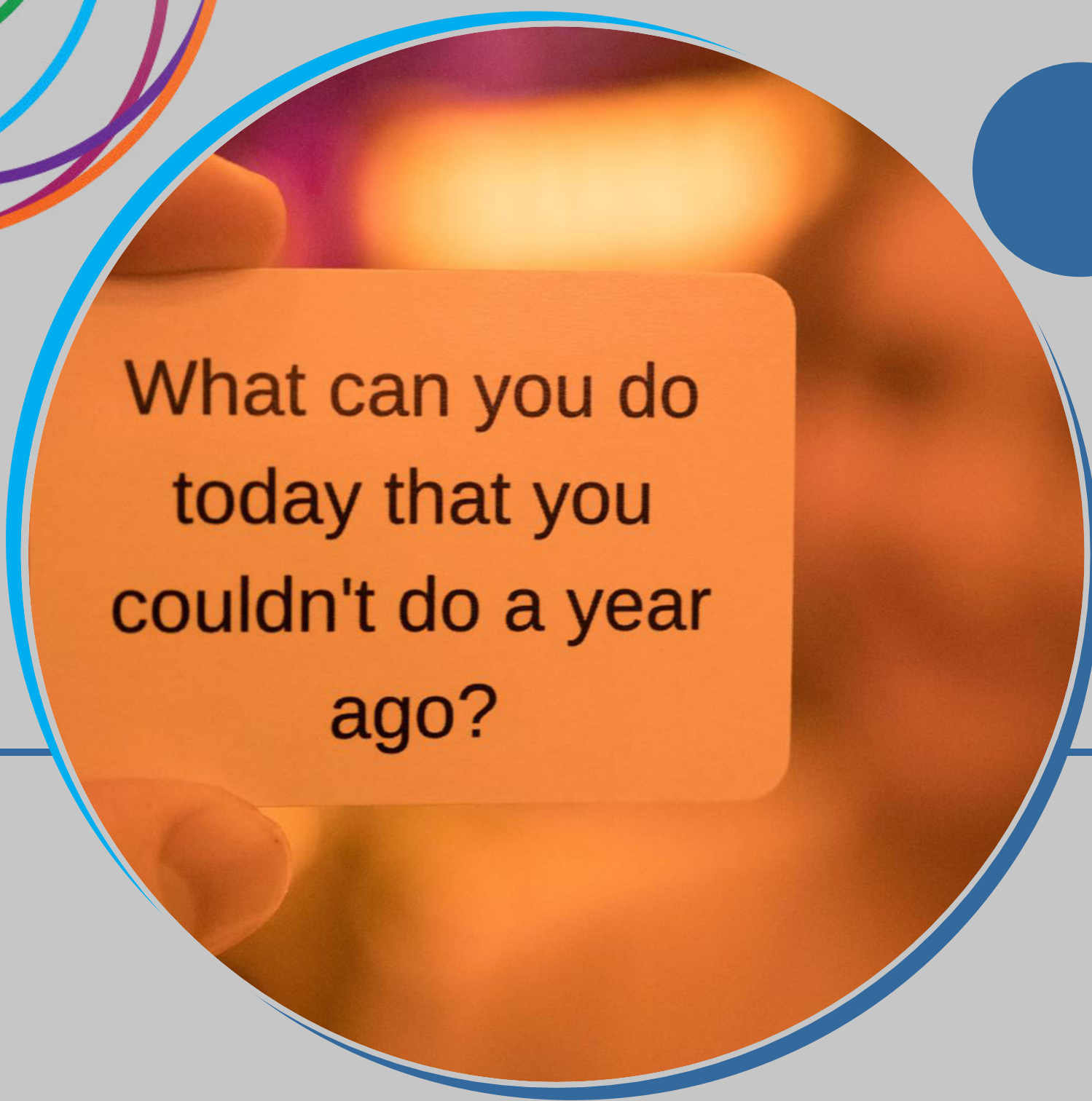

A methodological tool for decision making

Milestone C4 M1, Detailed determination / adaptation of the appropriate methodology for the assessment of food waste generation for each sector, based on the relevant EU methodology (expected, as to Directive 2018/851, article 9(8)) (M 12)

The report C4.M1 (milestone C4.M1) was recently completed by the Harokopian University of Athens. It comprises a thorough guide, in line with the established legal framework and the EU strategy, addressed to all stakeholders interested in the quantification of food waste in all stages of the food supply chain, from production, processing, transportation, trade and finally consumption (catering, hospitality and households). The report includes references to the most accepted methodological approaches at international level, their selection criteria and their advantages and limitations.

The ultimate goal is the compilation of reliable and comparable data for the generation of food waste and food losses.





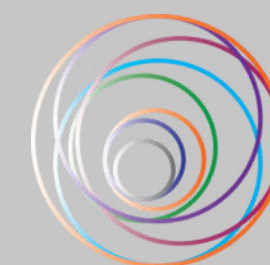
What can you do
today that you
couldn't do a year
ago?

Awareness & Dissemination Actions LIFE-IP CEI-Greece



E1, Public awareness, involvement and dissemination.

E2, EU-level and international dissemination
and networking.



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Communication Strategy & dissemination of results

The central narrative of LIFE-IP CEI-Greece can be promoted at the following 3 levels:

The deliverable E1.D1 “**Communication strategy and dissemination of results**”, is a guide for all project partners that describes the context of communication actions and their objectives in the project.

Businesses

- Financial Benefits
- Innovation – Business Opportunities
- Competitive Advantage
- Corporate Social Responsibility
- New skills – Training

Citizens - Households

- Information – Awareness
- Personal Responsibility, Social Standards
- Consumer Behavior & standards
- Protection of the Environment

Policy Institutions

- Education and Training
- Strategic Planning
- Legal Framework
- Protection of Public Goods

The communication actions aim to achieve broader information & awareness for all stakeholders. An ultimate goal of communication, is that everyone that will get involved in the project, will become better qualified in order to develop new policies and apply new technologies and models towards the implementation of Circular Economy...





... In the long run this will improve performance towards the saving of natural resources, business innovation, green growth and the consequent creation of new sustainable and fairly paid jobs. Another prime objective is the best practices that will be developed in the context of LIFE-IP CEI-Greece to be broadly disseminated in Greece and the EU.

Thematic topics around the benefits of Circular Economy:

Central Narrative of the Project>
Improvement of the attitude and/or change in the behavior of institutions, professionals, citizens.

We change our behavior >
We Reuse-Repair -Recycle.
In the circular economy nothing goes to waste and everything has value.

No time to waste.

Improve our quality of life.

Protect & respect the environment.

Create added value for the economy.

Support innovation and sustainable development.



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Creation of an Experiential Park (RRR *) in Thessaloniki

Action E1.3



The Ecological Recycling Society recently completed the deliverable E1.D4 “Report describing the detailed design of the Recycling-Reuse-Repair (RRR) Experiential Park”

Through the RRR the cultivation of environmental awareness is sought on the one hand, for targeted groups, primarily the student population in the Municipality of Thessaloniki at school level (primary target group), and on the other hand, the dissemination of the project results to the general public. Bearing in mind that the RRR is addressed primarily to children, its main activities will combine the dissemination of theoretical knowledge for contemporary environmental issues; putting emphasis upon the management of municipal solid waste, with experiential learning activities, through which, school age children in Thessaloniki will have the opportunity to understand in real time and in practice, a number of ways to transform waste into secondary and recycled raw materials, for the production of new objects.

* Repair, reuse, recycle



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Reuse Repair Recycle



Examples of Creative Recycling with the conversion of objects.

Towards this direction, one of the main activities of the RRR, the dissemination of theoretical knowledge, will take place through presentations, information and briefings for environmental awareness, and their practical application and demonstrations through experiential recycling workshops. The experiential recycling workshops work as an applied utilization of targeted materials, deriving from municipal solid waste and comprise of 4 distinct units that aim to teach children practices and methods of creative recycling, paper and plastics recycling, as well as home composting.

At the same time and bearing in mind that the RRR will also address an adult audience, the active citizens of the municipality of Thessaloniki, another main activity will be included regarding demonstration actions for reuse and repair, through the operation of Repair Cafes.

Information audiovisual material development

Actions E1.5



1st TV spot (Green Fund)

The 1st TV and the 1st Radio spot of LIFE-IP CEI-Greece address the general public, explaining in simple, understandable terms what is Circular Economy and what are the benefits from its adoption. More spots will be developed focusing in the pilot actions of

1st Radio spot (HRA)



LIFE-IP CEI-Greece and highlighting the multifaceted character of Circular Economy. The spots aim to inform about the actions of Circular Economy implementation and explain the potential benefit for the business world, organizations and citizens.

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Εναρκτήριο Συνέδριο Έργου “ΕΦΑΡΜΟΓΗ ΤΗΣ ΚΥΚΛΙΚΗΣ ΟΙΚΟΝΟΜΙΑΣ ΣΤΗΝ ΕΛΛΑΔΑ”

Πέμπτη, 21 Ιανουαρίου 2021

10:00 – 13:30

Online



Action E1.9, Project Conferences

Website: circulargreece.gr

Social media: **Circular Greece**



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Inaugural Conference

At the inaugural conference greeting speeches were addressed by:



Konstantinos Aravossis

Secretary General for Natural
Environment & Water, MEEN



Manolis Grafakos

Secretary General for Waste
Management & Coordination, MEEN



Eustathios Stathopoulos

President of the Green Fund



Pavlos Doikos

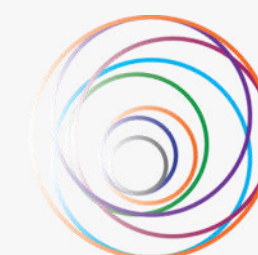
Thematic Coordinator for the
Environment, NEEMO EEIG



Anastasia Arfanakou

Head of the Waste Management
Directorate, MEEN

The inaugural conference of the project was very successful and addressed all stakeholders, involved in the transition of the country towards the Circular Economy. The conference was attended by approximately 300 people. When completed the audience congratulated repeatedly and with great enthusiasm the organizers for its successful completion, something that proved the success of the 1st public event of the project.



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Inaugural Conference

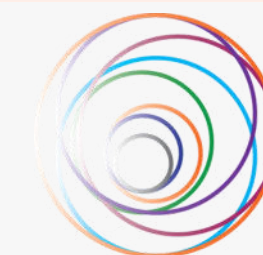
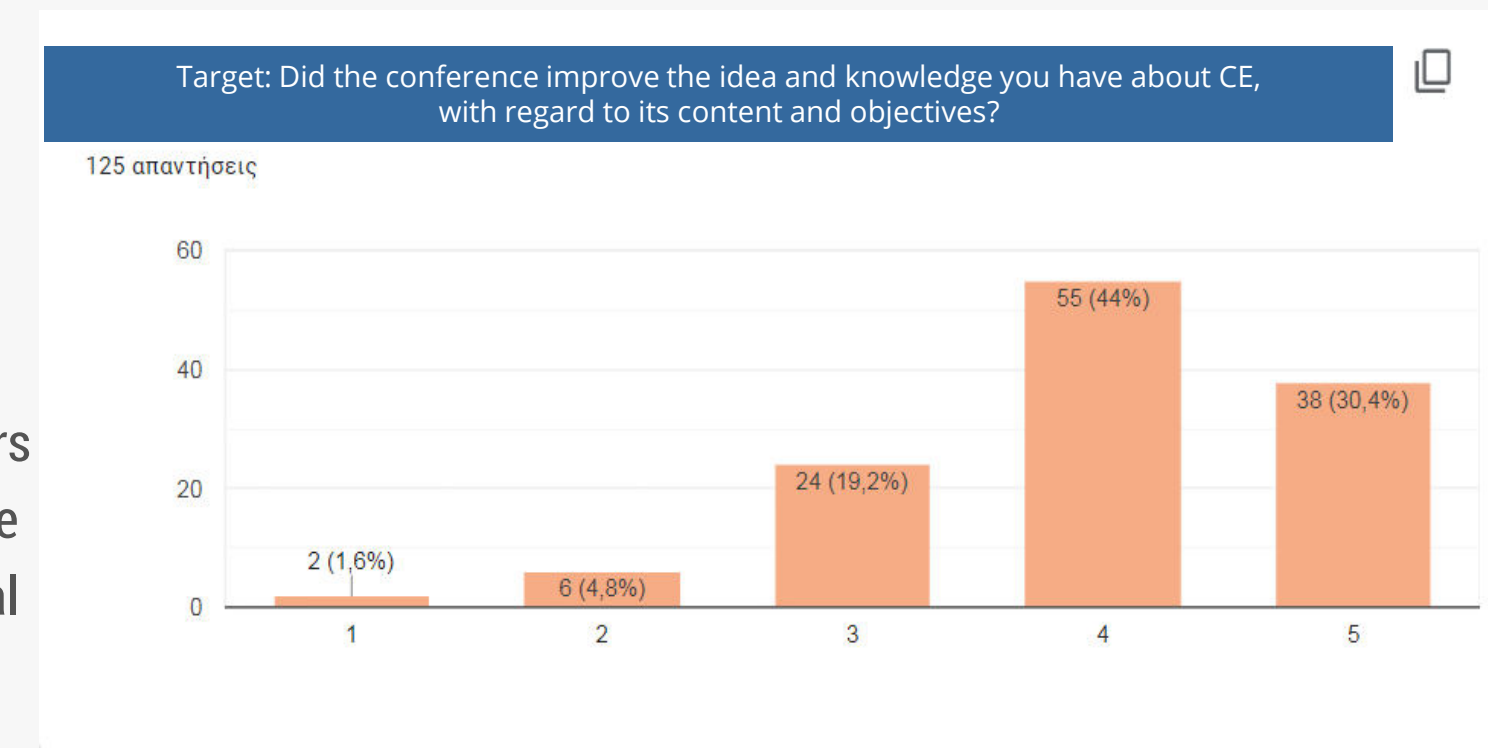
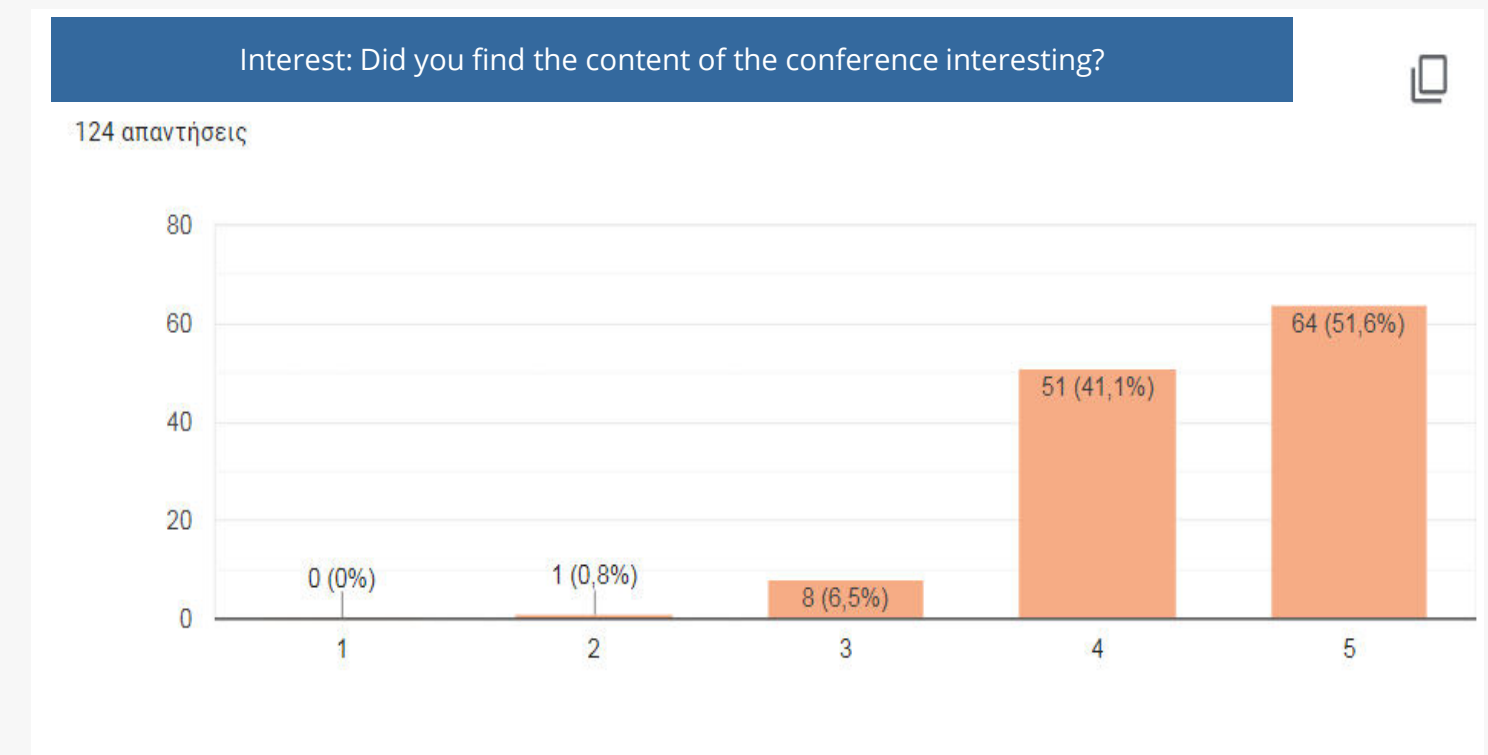
Conference Programme

Some characteristics of the impact of the inaugural conference are:

1. The number of people that filled in the evaluation questionnaire (graph 1).
2. The high level of satisfaction from the content of the presentations and the following dialogue
3. The practical benefit for the attendees, bearing in mind that the Conference improved their knowledge on Circular Economy (graph 2).

The answers regarding the quality of the presentations and the understanding of the expressed views were also very positive.

Finally in an open ended question for the submission of proposals for future conferences 50 answers were submitted including: more interaction with the audience, broadening of the speakers i.e. with active workers of the sector, involvement of other Ministries for a holistic approach to the transition towards CE, involvement of businesses active in CE, a detailed presentation of the legal framework, funding sources for CE, sustainable development, climate change, energy saving, electro-mobility etc.



EU level & international dissemination & networking.

Action E2

LIFE REWEEE, Greece

18.11.2020

Presentation of LIFE-IP CEI-Greece in the project results presentation day.

LIFE CIRCWASTE, Finland

29.01.2021

Introductory networking meeting.

GIZ Conference, 26.02.2021

Presentation of LIFE-IP CEI-Greece in the conference “Follow the stream. Rethink – recycle! Redesigning the management of municipal solid waste - from waste to resources”.

Polyeco Contemporary Arts Initiative, 03.03.2021

Introductory networking meeting.

LIFE PROWHIBIT, Greece

07.05.2021

Introductory networking meeting,
Memorandum of Cooperation.

etc.

Email contact between LIFE-IP CEI-Greece and other projects, conference attendance (i.e. LIFE –IP Smart Waste, LIFE Turn e-circular, RETASTE Conference etc.)



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EU level & international dissemination & networking.

Action E2



Athens Circular Forum

MAY 31 - JUNE 1

Participation of the LIFE-IP CEI-Greece at the Athens Circular Forum II in the context of the European Green Week (2021)

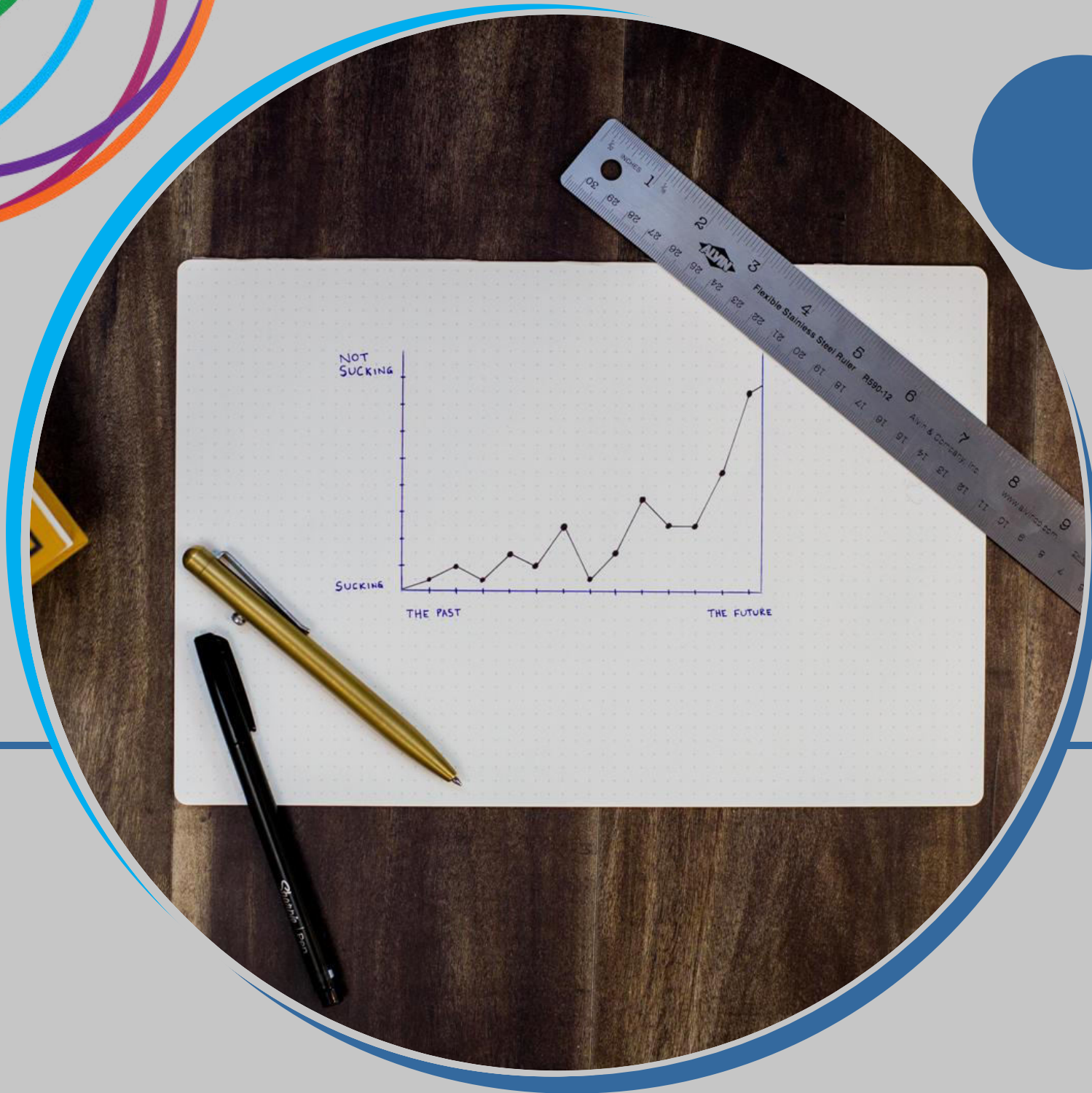
The Athens Circular Forum is organized by the most active players of the Green transition in Greece. In the context of ACF, discussions of high caliber will take place with distinguished guests speakers, as well as best examples from the market showing how the Circular Transition will influence everyday life. During the two day conference institutional representatives of high-ranking will take part and on behalf of the Ministry of Environment & Energy the Minister, Mr. Kostas Skrekas will participate.

[Further Information](#)

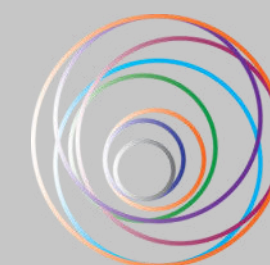


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Project management actions & monitoring the progress of LIFE-IP CEI-Greece



F1, Overall project management & monitoring of project progress.



Overall project management & monitoring of project progress.

The following deliverables of Action F1 have been completed:



F1.D1

✓Project Coordination and Management Protocol.



F1.D2

✓Operational Plan for the Pilots Coordination Group.



F1.D3

✓Operational Plan for the Dissemination and Communication Strategy Group.



F1.D4

✓Green Procurement Guide



Reduction (of purchases/needs): prevention strategy for reducing the numbers of purchased products

Reuse: of the same products by others

Recycle: of materials and use of products made from recycled materials

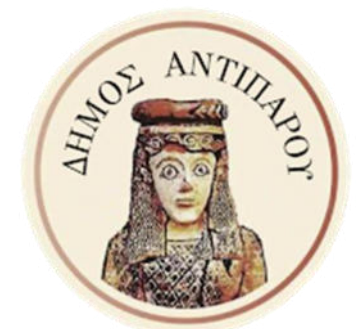
Recovery: conversion of materials into new products

Green Procurement Guide (GPG) Deliverable F1 D4

The GP Guide is complete and was developed in the context of LIFE-IP CEI-Greece in order to facilitate all beneficiaries towards the implementation of Green Public Procurement criteria, in all the purchases of the project. The deliverable presents all the relevant legal framework, the required steps for the completion of a Green Procurement and all related concepts for a better understanding of the process from the contracting authorities. The guide will soon be available on the project website and accessible to all.

Hierarchy for Supplies – Based on the waste Hierarchy and the *Public Procurement for a Circular Economy*, European Commission, 2017.

ΕΤΑΙΡΟΙ



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Get in touch



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