



LIFE-IP CEI-Greece
Circular Economy
Implementation in Greece
LIFE18IPE/GR/000013



Action A3.1

Agrofood waste processing waste valorisation

DELIVERABLE A3.D1

Technical report on the current status of
agrofood waste management

Beneficiary Responsible: Green Fund
Beneficiaries Involved: DAFNI Network, Terra Nova,
Harokopio University

Summary

One of the main areas that the integrated project LIFE-IP CEI Greece "Implementation of the Circular Economy in Greece" (LIFE18 IPE/GR/000013) is focusing on is the agro-food sector and the improvement of waste management practices from the production and processing of food. Under the context of action A3.1 of the project, the *Technical report on the current status of agro-food waste management* was developed with the objective to capture and evaluate current waste management practices in the agro-food sector in Greece as well as to identify the potential environmental impacts. In addition, information is provided from currently applied best practices at national and international level, as well as innovative management practices resulted by Research & Development projects¹.

To this end, data were collected at regional and national level on the major activities of the primary sector and the related manufacturing activities of the secondary sector, with

¹ More information on these is provided in the deliverable A3.D2 «Guidelines Report for agro-food circular waste management» of the LIFE-IP CEI-Greece project.



regards to: the generation of waste, the relevant waste types and their quantities, the existing waste management practices and the consequent environmental impacts. Also, data from the pilot areas of the LIFE-IP CEI Greece project were used, as especially in the islands of Paros, Santorini and Tinos, where several agro-food enterprises are active. Additional information was gathered from stakeholders at local, regional and national levels to identify the challenges, barriers and environmental impacts associated with existing agro-food waste management practices. This analysis of the current state of waste in the agro-food sector is a valuable basis which can be used to:

- Understand the possibilities of introducing innovative technologies for the valorisation of this waste
- Explore options for reducing or mitigating environmental impacts from waste management at local, regional and national level
- Identify the potential for establishing local synergies between different activities and the opportunities for green sustainable development in the agro-food sector.

The *Technical report on the current status of agro-food waste management* first provides an introduction which gives the definition of the agro-food sector, identifies the relevant activities that are included in the sector and the generated waste types from each activity. The methodology chapter presents the way the data were collected for each category of waste, the way the local data were retrieved and how the quantities of waste were estimated for some waste categories.

The main chapters of the report include a detailed analysis of the current state of waste management (waste types, quantities, current management practices and potential environmental impacts) for the following categories of waste:

- Green waste (pruning) from tree crops (olive trees, vines and other crops)
- Plastic waste from farming (greenhouse plastic cover and mulch film)
- Pesticide / fertiliser packaging waste
- Cereal crop waste
- Livestock waste
- Fishing waste
- Fish farming waste
- Olive mill waste
- Waste from cheese and dairy industry
- Waste from meat processing and preservation facilities
- Waste from processing and preserving fish, crustaceans and mollusks
- Potato processing and preserving waste
- Juice industry waste
- Tomato industry waste
- Waste from other activities of fruits and vegetables processing and preserving
- Waste from the production of margarine and similar edible fats
- Flour mill waste
- Animal feed production waste
- Winery waste



- Waste from beer brewing and malt production
- Waste from the production of soft drinks
- Waste from the production of alcoholic beverages

Also, the agro-food sector of the islands of Tinos, Alonnisos, Antiparos, Paros and Thira are presented at the report, along with their estimated generated waste and the current management practices.

The report concludes with some observations about the current status of agro-food waste management and the great potential for improvement that there is by the adoption of circular economy practices, giving specific suggestions on ways that can support this shift.