

Online EU Thematic Workshop #1:

4 April 2023
12.00 – 14.40 pm (EEST)

Zero Waste Islands

Transforming island communities: going zero waste, growing sustainably

Organized in cooperation with:

Network of Sustainable Greek Islands - DAFNI



Ministry of Environment & Energy - MEEN



In the framework of:



LIFE-IP CEI-Greece | Circular Economy Implementation in Greece
LIFE18 IPE/GR/000013

Co-funded by:



Aim of the workshop

This international workshop is organised in the framework of the project LIFE-IP CEI-Greece, titled: “Circular Economy Implementation in Greece” (LIFE18 IPE/GR/000013), the integrated LIFE project that aims to contribute towards the implementation of the National Waste Management Plan, the National Waste Prevention Plan and the National Strategy for Circular Economy in Greece. The LIFE-IP CEI-Greece project is coordinated by the Hellenic Ministry of Environment and Energy and is implemented in collaboration with 19 strategic partners.

Within this project, studies will be developed for the application of EU Circular Economy Package in five (5) Greek islands of different size i.e. Alonissos, Paros & Antiparos, Tinos and Santorini, through the pilot demonstration of circular management schemes for different waste streams.

This international workshop on the topic of “Zero Waste Islands” is organized by the Network of Sustainable Greek Islands (DAFNI) and the Hellenic Ministry of Environment and Energy, and is the first of a series of workshops, designed to be implemented as part of ACTION E.2: EU-level and international dissemination and networking, throughout the project’s lifetime. **The form of the workshop is fully digital and the language is English.**

During this workshop, the zero-waste concept in insular areas will be explored as an approach of particular interest, taking into consideration the geographic difficulties and vulnerabilities islands are experiencing. The scarcity of natural resources, the financial and demographic challenges, the energy intensive and waste producing industry of tourism, as main economic activity, the distance from administrative centres and treatment and recycling infrastructure are some critical aspects that put additional pressures to environmental and waste management issues.

The scope of this workshop is to inspire Greek island municipalities to improve their waste management services and facilitate their transition into sustainable and circular communities, as well as to exchange on good practices at European level.

High-level European stakeholders will communicate policy and funding developments, while waste experts, NGOs and advanced island authorities from Greece and across EU will share their experiences, practices and strategies in waste management and zero waste success stories. Participants will exchange views and learn how good practices can be transferred to their context, area and needs.

Transforming island communities: Going zero waste, growing sustainably!

Moderators: *Kostas Komninos | General Director, DAFNI Network*

Vasiliki Panaretou | Waste Management & Circular Economy Expert, DAFNI Network

Opening – Welcome speeches and Introduction

12:00-12:05 Purpose of the workshop and introduction to the agenda

Kostas Komninos | General Director, DAFNI Network

12:05-12:15 Welcome speech

Manolis Grafakos | General Secretary, Hellenic Ministry of Environment & Energy (MEEN)

Sophia Papageorgiou | Monitoring Expert, NEEMO EEIG - Prospect C&S

12:15-12:20 Overview of the LIFE IP CEI-Greece project

Maria Plati | Project Manager LIFE IP CEI-Greece, Hellenic Ministry of Environment & Energy (MEEN)

Policies and funding opportunities for sustainable islands

12:20-12:30 Towards an EU Islands Agenda: the CPMR vision to integrate an insular perspective and related territorial proofing in EU policies and funding,

Claudia Guzzon | Executive Secretary, Islands Commission, Conference of Peripheral Maritime Regions of Europe

12:30-12:40 National and EU financial mechanisms for the environment and climate action - Focusing on the Greek islands

Dimitris Banousis | Technical Expert, Green Fund

Zero waste success stories & good practices in Greece

12:40-12:50 Waste management and circular economy in the islands' area of Greece – the LIFE IP CEI-Greece actions on 5 island communities

Despina Bakogianni | Head of Waste Management & Circular Economy Department, DAFNI Network

12:50-13:00 Tilos just Go Zero

Stathis Kontos | Secretary General, Municipality of Tilos

13:00-13:25 The experiences of the civil society in Greece

Discussion moderated by DAFNI Network

Participants : *Aegean Rebreath | George Sarelakos, President*

AMORGORAMA | Michalis Krosman, President of the Professional Fishing Organization of Amorgos

Clean Blue Promise / Common Seas | Zana Kontomanoli, Project Lead

WhyWasteMe | Rosa Kardara, Founder & Coordinator

WWF Greece | Konstantinos Tsoukalas, Local Actions Manager

13:25-13:35 Break

Accelerating the transition towards zero waste and circular economy at the international level

13:35-13:50 The Balearic Islands: walking towards a zero waste model

Sebastià Sansó i Jaume | General Director of Waste management and Environmental Education of the Government of the Balearic Islands

Marisa Forcén Nuñez | Officer in charge of Waste management and Contaminated Soils of the Government of the Balearic Islands

13:50-14:00 Embracing circularity: challenges and advantages of islands in waste management

Francesco Lembo | Deputy Secretary General, ACR+

14:00-14:15 Zero Waste Cities - A methodology for adopting zero waste at local level

Kaisa Karjalainen | Head of Mission Zero Academy, Zero Waste Cities

Elena Oikonomou | Associate ECOREC/ ZWR mentor

14:15-14:25 Zero Waste Islands - A Zero Waste Cities approach to island waste management

Elena Oikonomou | Associate ECOREC/ ZWR mentor

14:25-14:40 Q&A session and closing remarks