

Press release

EU Thematic Workshop #1: Zero Waste Islands

*“Transforming island communities: going zero waste, growing sustainably”
Tuesday, 4 April 2023, 12.00-14.45 (GMT+2)*

Athens, 24 March 2023

An international workshop on the topic of “Zero Waste Islands” is organized by the [Network of Sustainable Greek Islands \(DAFNI\)](#) in collaboration with the [Hellenic Ministry of Environment and Energy](#), in the framework of the project LIFE-IP CEI-Greece, titled: [“Circular Economy Implementation in Greece”](#) (LIFE18 IPE/GR/000013)*.

The **form of the workshop is fully digital**, the **language is English**, with simultaneous interpretation in Greek, and the **attendance is free of charge** for the registered participants.

During this workshop, the potential of islands to become areas for the implementation of zero waste strategies will be explored, taking into account their particular geographical, economic and social challenges and capacities.

The intense seasonality of economic activities in the island area, given their focus on tourism, combined with increased transport costs, the inability to develop economies of scale but also often the conflict of land uses and the inability to siting critical infrastructure, are some of the aspects that make waste management on the islands a great challenge and increase the pressures on sensitive and unique island ecosystems.

The **aim** of this workshop is both **to inspire island municipalities to enhance the efficiency and effectiveness of waste management services, enabling their gradual transition to sustainable and circular communities**, and to **exchange good practices at European level**.

Representatives of European bodies such as the EU Conference of Peripheral Maritime Regions, and the European Networks, Zero Waste Europe and ACR+ will convey policy and funding developments, while waste experts, NGOs and authorities from advanced islands from Greece and across the EU will share their experiences, practices and strategies in waste management, as well as successful examples of project

implementation towards "zero waste". Participants will exchange views and learn how good practices can be transferred to their own region, context and needs.

To this direction, **government officials, municipality staff, waste management professionals, technology providers, consultants, NGOs active on environmental and circular economy topics** and **any other interested stakeholder from island areas** are highly encouraged and **invited to join this international event**.

You can register [here](#) and check the agenda [here](#).

More information:

Network of Sustainable Greek Islands (DAFNI)

Tel: 00302107220837

E-mail: dbakogianni@dafninetwork.gr

LIFE-IP CEI-Greece project website: www.circulargreece.gr

*Note: The integrated LIFE project 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.