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# NEWSLETTER

**LIFE18 IPE/GR/000013 | LIFE-IP CEI-GREECE**

Circular Economy Implementation in Greece

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# NEWSLETTER

OCTOBER 2026 | No13

ΥΠΟΥΡΓΕΙΟ ΠΕΡΙΒΑΛΛΟΝΤΟΣ & ΕΝΕΡΓΕΙΑΣ

ΠΡΑΣΙΝΟ ΤΑΜΕΙΟ

The European project LIFE-IP CEI-Greece is co-funded by the EU LIFE Programme.
The European project LIFE-IP CEI-Greece is co-funded by the Green Fund.

# LIFE-IP CEI-GREECE IN WESTERN GREECE

**An Information Day** and a **Regional Circular Economy Workshop** in **Western Greece** are being co-organised by the Ministry of Environment and Energy, the Green Fund, the Region of Western Greece, the Achaia Solid Waste Management Association (SYDISA) and the Hellenic Recycling Agency (EOAN), on **21–23 October 2026**, in Patras (Agora Argyri, 12 Agiou Andreou St., 26221), as part of the **LIFE-IP CEI-Greece** project. The event is under the auspices of the Achaia Chamber of Commerce.

The Information Day is open to the public and will present LIFE-IP CEI-Greece, showcase successful **circular economy** practices and improve understanding of related issues. The workshop will feature discussions with guest speakers representing relevant organisations, presentations on circular economy topics, hands-on exercises and examples from project partners. The workshops aim to train all stakeholders involved in designing and implementing circular waste management solutions.

Learn more HERE.

# Greece establishes its own National Circular Economy Observatory

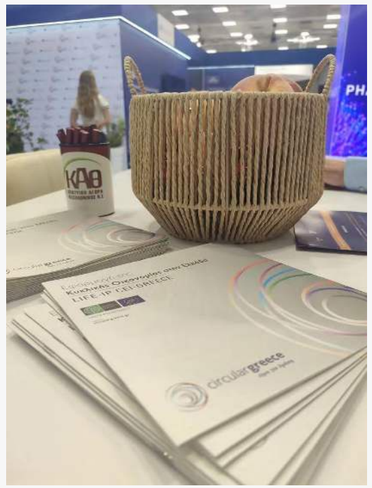
The **Natural Environment and Climate Change Agency (NECCA)**, with support from the **Ministry of Environment and Energy,** held an online workshop on 15 October entitled **"National Circular Economy Observatory: Monitoring National Circular Economy Indicators",** as part of the European project LIFE-IP CEI-Greece, "Circular Economy Implementation in Greece".

The workshop highlighted the importance of recording circular economy indicators in Greece, data collection methods and the role of the National Circular Economy Observatory. It also presented international observatories that monitor progress on these indicators in other European countries.

Learn more HERE

## A strong circular economy presence at the 90th Thessaloniki International Fair

The Ministry of Environment and Energy, coordinator of LIFE-IP CEI-Greece, and four partners (the Green Fund, Hellenic Recycling Agency, Municipality of Thessaloniki and Central Market of Thessaloniki) hosted a stand at the 90th Thessaloniki International Fair, on 5–13 September 2026. Visitors learned about the project's activities and results, as well as good practices demonstrating that the circular economy is already being implemented in practice. Learn more HERE.



# E-LEARNING on the Circular Economy

3 training cycles | More than 1,000 participants

The **programme** for **distance learning on the Circular Economy** has been successfully completed as part of the Capacity Building activities (C7) of LIFE-IP CEI-Greece.

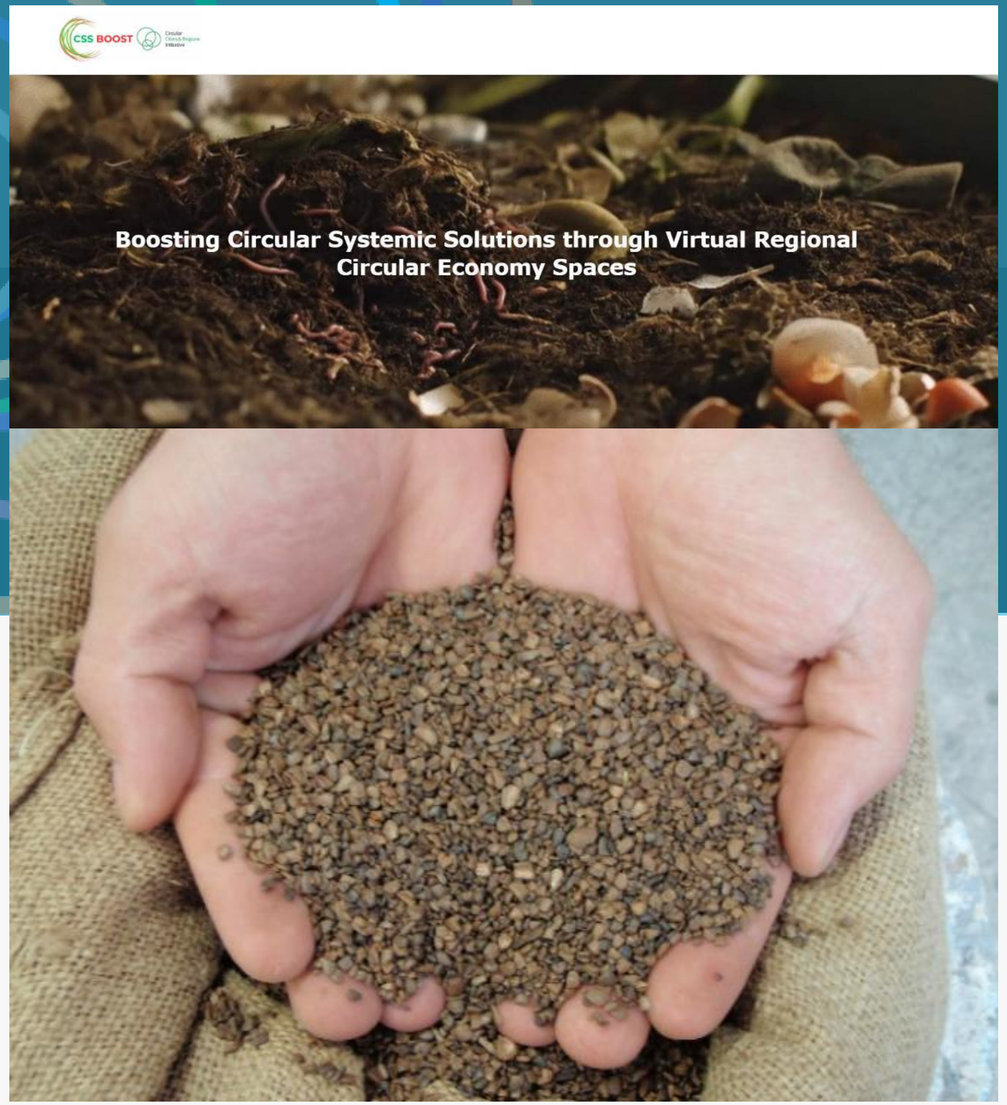
The programme was delivered by the **DAFNI Network of Sustainable Greek Islands, the Ministry of Environment and Energy, the Green Fund, Harokopio University, the Ecological Recycling Society, Terra Nova and the Hellenic Recycling Agency**, and included:

- **12 webinars**
- **21 specialised e-courses**

## The programme comprised three training cycles:

- **October–December 2025 | Circular Economy in Local Government**: Waste management, the legal framework, available tools and good practices, to strengthen the capacity of municipalities and regions to design and implement circular economy initiatives.
- **February–April 2026 | Circular Economy for Tourism Professionals**: Best practices in waste management and the circular economy for hospitality and catering, with practical tools and proposed solutions for more circular and sustainable businesses.
- **May–June 2026 | Circular Economy for Teachers:** Integrating the circular economy into teaching and school life through waste prevention, reuse and sound waste management activities.

➢ Learn more HERE.




# The power of alliances

## *New voluntary alliances in Crete*

LIFE-IP CEI-Greece continues to establish **voluntary alliances** with universities and businesses under **Action C5**, reflecting the parties' interest in strengthening the circular economy in Greece.

LIFE-IP CEI-Greece recently established two voluntary alliances in Crete. The first, with the Technical University of Crete, under the **CSSBoost** project, promotes knowledge exchange and explores circular economy solutions on the island. A second voluntary alliance was signed with Mills of Crete for the valorisation of agri-food waste.

Under the same action, the project previously established voluntary alliances with the Hellenic Biomass Association (HellaBiom) and Alpha Acoustiki S.A.

***More on the voluntary alliances and project activities:*** HERE.

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# THIRA & TINOS CIRCULAR BUSINESS

Under LIFE-IP CEI-Greece, the Municipalities of **Thira** and **Tinos**, with technical support from the **DAFNI Network of Sustainable Greek Islands**, implemented this year's "**Thira Circular Business**" and "**Tinos Circular Business**" initiatives, improving source separation and recycling in food service and catering businesses.

In **Kamari, Thira**, **64 businesses** joined an organised separate collection scheme with door-to-door pickups. Over three months, a substantial quantity of recyclables was collected and delivered to the Thira Materials Recovery Facility with support from ENACT.

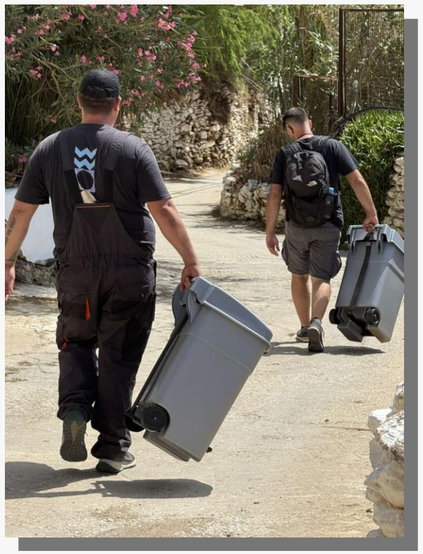
In **Tinos**, the pilot began in early August in **Kionia** and **Agios Fokas**, with **21 businesses** participating. An electric vehicle collects the materials, which are taken to the facilities of the "**Kalloni-Kellia**" Social Cooperative Enterprise for further management.

Both islands separately collect PET, glass, cardboard and aluminium packaging. **A total of 102 bins were distributed in Thira and 42 in Tinos**, along with information material. Staff received training, and the municipalities provide ongoing support.

Next tourist season, the initiatives will expand to Perissa in Thira and Chora in Tinos, aiming to involve more businesses.

THIRA CIRCULAR BUSINESS

TINOS CIRCULAR BUSINESS



# STOP! HAZARDOUS HOUSEHOLD WASTE
# DIADYMA – AWARENESS ACTIVITIES

**DIADYMA S.A. carried out two key awareness initiatives across Western Macedonia under LIFE-IP CEI-Greece between June and October 2026, both focusing on the proper management of hazardous household waste.**

**The "Plastic Bag Free Day" initiative took place at Olympic Flame Park in Kastoria, the central square of Kozani, Aimilianou Square in Grevena, the junction of Vasileos Konstantinou and Vasilissis Sofias streets in Ptolemaida, Tsistopoulou Square in Siatista, the pedestrian street in Argos Orestiko, the central square of Florina, Ethnomartyron Street in Servia, the Municipal Council Chamber in Velvento, outside the Church of Saints Constantine and Helen in Amyntaio, and Town Hall Square in Deskati.**

**The "Recycling and Reuse in Practice" initiative took place in the central squares of Stavropotamos in Kastoria, Amygdalies in Grevena, Tsotyli in Voio, Town Hall Square in Deskati and Dispilio in Kastoria.**

**At both initiatives, residents learned about the risks of placing hazardous household waste in the green bin and received guidance on its safe, responsible disposal in the designated bins and collection points available.**

επ!

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Απόβλητα

## TV SPOT

### Thessaloniki’s Experiential Park & Repair Cafe

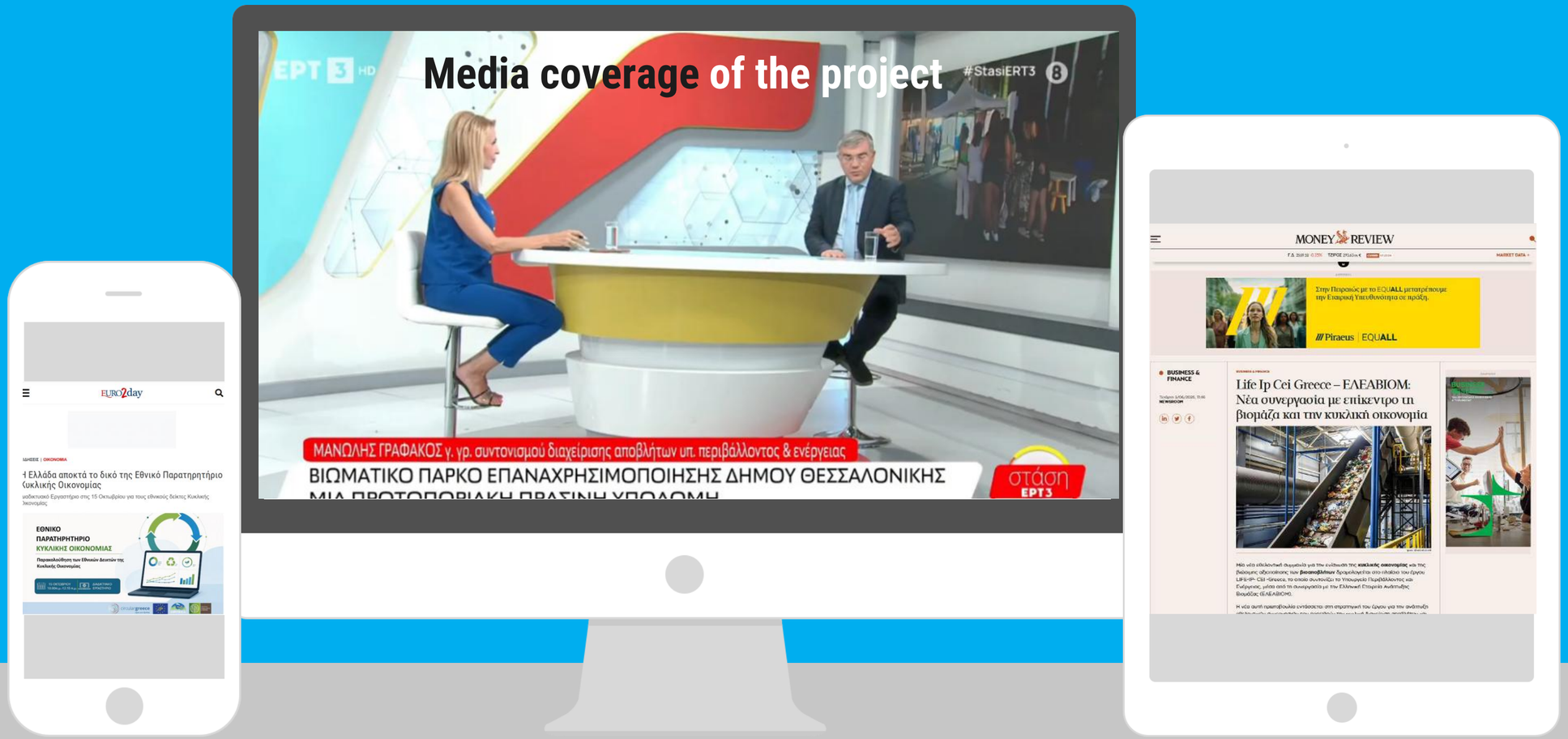
Watch the 6th **TV spot** of LIFE-IP CEI-Greece on Thessaloniki’s Experiential Park & Repair Cafe.

## RADIO SPOT

### Central Market of Thessaloniki and food waste reduction

Listen to the 4th **radio spot** of LIFE-IP CEI-Greece on Thessaloniki’s Experiential Park & Repair Cafe.

# Media coverage of the project




The project received more than 60 media mentions between June and October 2026, through press releases, interviews and articles featured in national and regional media.

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# Activities for awareness and networking

*The project regularly organises events to raise awareness of its aims and activities, or contributes talks and exhibition material to conferences, exhibitions, festivals and other events. Selected examples include:*

The LIFE-IP CEI-Greece Information Day on 30 May at Attica Green Expo 2026 was a success, confirming the growing interest in the circular economy and sustainable practices in Greece. Learn more here.

## Local Awareness Events (E1.8)

A public information event on “Circular Economy Implementation on the Island of Alonissos” took place on 19 June 2026. It presented activities already being implemented under the project by the Municipality of Alonissos, with support from the DAFNI Network of Sustainable Greek Islands. Learn more here.

To mark World Environment Day, the Municipality of Agia Paraskevi organised a major celebration of recycling, reuse and sustainable daily living, with the participation of LIFE-IP CEI-Greece, Greece’s largest circular economy project, coordinated by the Ministry of Environment and Energy. The celebration included a swap party.

## Dissemination and international project networking (E.2)

LIFE-IP CEI-Greece was presented at the conference of the Solid Waste Management Bodies (FODSA) on 3–4 July 2026. A comprehensive proposal for implementing Pay-As-You-Throw in Greek municipalities, drawing on LIFE-IP experience, was also presented at the Hellenic Solid Waste Management Association conference on 1–2 October.

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## Local Awareness Events (E1.8)

LIFE-IP CEI-Greece took part in the 4th Alfeios Eco Festival on 18–19 September 2026 at Eparcheio Hill in Pyrgos, Ilia, organising an evening event on “Circular Economy Applications through LIFE-IP CEI-Greece”. Learn more here.

## Dissemination and international project networking (E.2)

LIFE-IP CEI-Greece participated in the 6th International Conference RETASTE 2026 – Rethink Food Waste, held on 16–18 September at the House of Culture in Rethymno. Learn more here.

## Dissemination and international project networking (E.2)

- RIVCircular Open Call closes with strong Greek participation, reports the Green Fund. The European project’s Open Call closed on 17 September 2026 with 33 proposals, recording 168 participations by organisations from the seven participating European regions. Of these, 26 were from Greece, representing 15.5% of the total. **Learn more** HERE.
- A new funding call is coming soon! WaterWise Hub will soon launch an Open Call offering €600,000 in grants to support innovative pilot projects addressing key challenges in water and the circular economy. Selected proposals will receive **funding of €30,000–€60,000. Learn more** here.

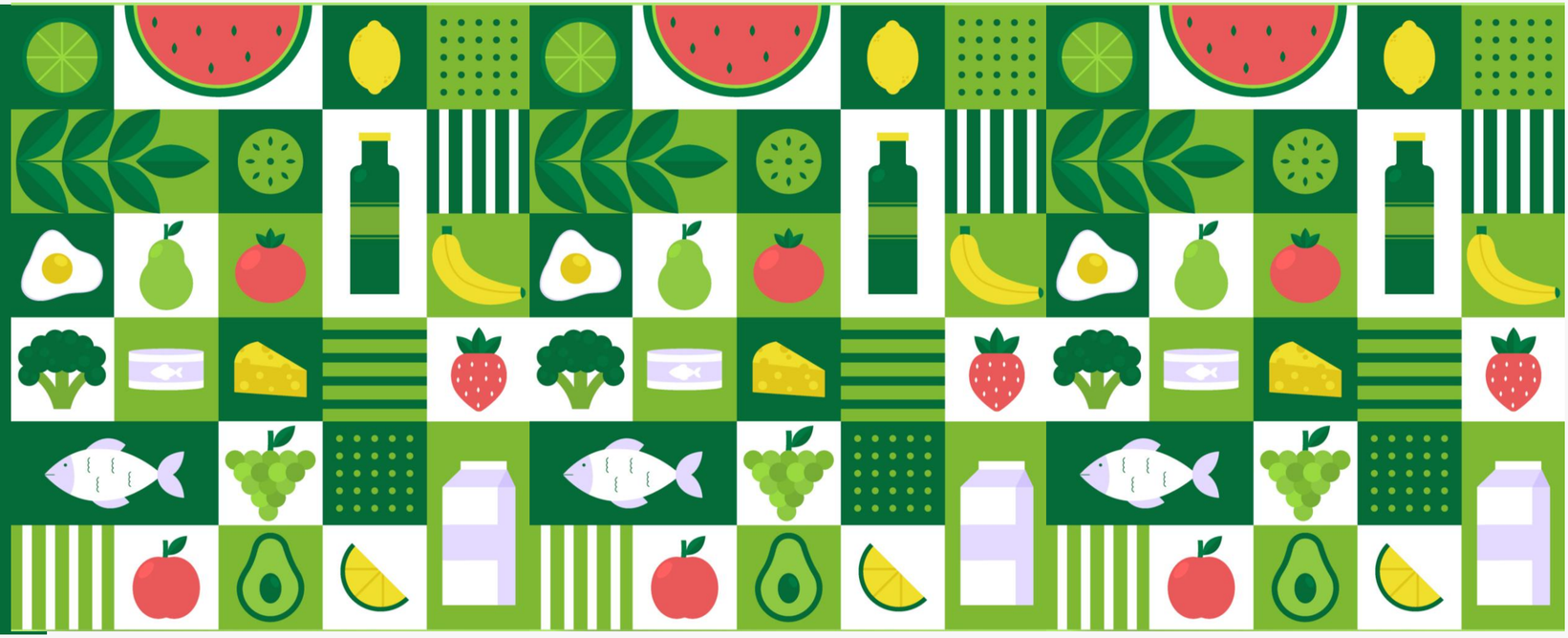
The **Green Fund** organised “Green Fund – Funding Tools and Circular Economy in Practice” on 8–9 October 2026 in Ilia. The two-day event covered circular economy topics and included hands-on exercises and a workshop on circular water management. Learn more **HERE**.

LIFE-IP CEI-Greece participated in the workshop “Advancing Circular Bioeconomy through Regional Innovation and Biomass Valorisation”, organised by the **Centre for Research and Technology Hellas** (CERTH) on 1 July in Thessaloniki, under the European **RIBES project**. Learn more here.

On Thursday 2 July 2026, **Harokopio University** hosted the 5th Food Waste Prevention Forum under LIFE-IP CEI-Greece, entitled “Food Waste Prevention: From the Production Line to the Shelf”. Learn more **here.**

# CENTRAL MARKET THESSALONIKI

## NEWSLETTER #10



**Find HERE the newsletter of the Central Market of Thessaloniki S.A., a partner in LIFE-IP CEI-Greece**

# PARTNERS

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# Contact us

Visit the circulargreece project: https://circulargreece.gr

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The LIFE-IP CEI-GREECE project (LIFE18 IPE/GR/000013) is co-funded by the European Union's LIFE Programme.

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