



HELLENIC REPUBLIC
Ministry of Economy
and Finance

Clean energy for EU islands **FORUM 2024**

14-15 MAY 2024

PANTELLERIA, ITALY



European
Commission | #CE4EUislands



Ministry of Economy & Finance
General Secretariat of Public Investments & PA
DG Strategy, Planning and Implementation of PA
Special Service for the Coordination of Planning, Evaluation and
Implementation (EYSSAE)



Co-funded by
the European Union



GRecoISLANDS: the idea of a strategic initiative

The **energy transition** is a major and complex challenge for the island space,

but also a unique opportunity to **holistically address** specific challenges linked to their territorial specificities

that led to the decision to adopt the **strategic initiative "GReco Islands"** based on the logic of the integrated territorial approach



Co-funded by
the European Union



Partnership Agreement
2021-2027

GRecoISLANDS: Aim, objectives and expected impacts

- **Aim:** We envision the holistic and sustainable transformation of the development model of the Greek islands towards socio-economic prosperity and resilience as well as territorial cohesion, by achieving a multi-sectoral set of
- **Objectives** covering:
 - ✓ clean energy and climate neutrality (as a starting point and backbone of the initiative),
 - ✓ sustainable management of resources (circular economy),
 - ✓ protection of the natural and cultural environment,
 - ✓ sustainable mobility and green transport in general,
 - ✓ digital infrastructure and services,
 - ✓ green entrepreneurship and innovation,
 - ✓ empowerment of human resourcestaking into account the physical-spatial limitations of the islands (carrying capacity)
- **Reward:** Awarding the “GRecoISLAND” label after a relevant certification process (labelling)
- **Expected impacts:** Creating a new "identity/image" of the islands, thus increasing their attractiveness for living, working, business development and green tourism and exploiting more opportunities, rendering them more resilient.



Co-funded by
the European Union



GRecoISLANDS: Co-financing under Cohesion Policy Funds 2021-2027

- The “GReco Islands” initiative is being promoted under the EU Cohesion Policy Funds 2021-2027
- PEKA Program 2021-2027 with a reserved budget of €100 million for the "GReco Islands" initiative
- JDT Program with a budget of ~ €57 million reserved for islands included in the specific Territorial Just Transition Plan (TJTP)
- Regional Programmes of North Aegean, South Aegean and Ionian Islands are also expected to contribute to the GReco Islands initiative
- Contribution from other Programmes under PA 2021-2027 is also considered
- Other sources of funding outside the framework of the PA 2021-2027 are also considered (e.g. RRF)



Co-funded by
the European Union



GRecoISLANDS: Initiative planning

- The "GReco Islands" initiative involves many policy actors from various Ministries. It is coordinated by the General Secretariat of Public Investments & PA of the Ministry of Economy and Finance which is also responsible for the planning, management and co-financing of the PA 2021-2027 Programmes
- Common framework of strategic directions → **top-down** approach
- Detailed planning at territorial level → **bottom-up** approach
- A **first expertise** that serves as a basis for the strategic planning of the initiative is completed
- Establishment of a **Steering Committee** and a **Coordination Committee** supported by a **Secretariat**
- **First phase** (pilot) of the initiative on selected islands in the Regions of the North Aegean, South Aegean and Ionian Islands
- **First consultation** with representatives of all stakeholders involved
- Relevant **supporting expertise** assigned by EC (DG REGIO) focuses on energy and water sectors in the islands of Patmos and Nisyros



GRecoISLANDS: Current activities and next steps

Preparation and establishment of the GRecoISLANDS Charter

- Identification of the set of objectives in different sectors, as well as the different tiers for the GReco Islands labels
- System definition for the awarding of the “GReco Island” label (involved bodies, roles/responsibilities, standards, procedures)
- Description of the requirements and structure of the managing system that the label holders will be required to apply in order to comply with the Charter obligations
- Adoption of the Charter by Joint Ministerial Decision
- Assigned; to be completed in Q3 2024



Co-funded by
the European Union



GRecoISLANDS: Current activities and next steps

Preparation of a Master Plan for the GRecoISLANDS initiative

- Mapping the current situation of the islands in relation to the initiative's sectors
- Identification of the types of actions required by sector and by “GRecoISLAND” label tier
- Proposals for the appropriateness of available technological alternatives and innovations
- Techno-economic dimensioning of the proposed types of action and description of the overall potential financing scheme
- Identification of expected obstacles and difficulties in the implementation phase and making proposals to overcome them
- Examination and incorporation of best practices from other relevant initiatives
- Assigned; to be completed in Q3 2024

GRecoISLANDS: Current activities and next steps

Preparation of a Guide for the candidate GRecoISLANDS beneficiaries

- Guidelines, methodologies and specifications for the preparation of the detailed GReco Islands Action Plans, the consultation under the initiative of the local communities, etc.
- Assigned; to be completed in Q3 2024

Final step of the planning activities: Preparation of the detailed Local Action Plans by the candidate GReco Islands

- Detailed project descriptions with budget by funding source and implementation schedule
- Maturity report for the proposed projects
- Commitment Declaration by the beneficiaries for the implementation of the plan and the operation of the projects, documented through Memoranda of Cooperation/ Programmatic Agreements
- Expected to start in Q1 2025

GRecoISLANDS: Current activities and next steps

Communication, visibility, consultation and social dialogue actions (on-going)

- Critical factor for the successful outcome of the initiative

Strategic
Planning

Top-
Down

Information

- One-way flow of information; centrally coordinated during the preparation of the Charter, the Master Plan and the Guide
- Understanding the initiative's objectives, transition requirements and expected benefits, as well as ensuring transparency of the initiative's processes

Consultation

- Two-way flow of information; centrally coordinated during the preparation of the Charter, the Master Plan and the Guide
- Public awareness for the active participation of local actors in the initiative (active support for the planning, implementation and operation of the interventions) and for its acceptance by the local community

Cooperation

- Joint decision-making processes; locally coordinated and supported by the central and regional bodies (task force) during the preparation of the Local Action Plans
- Taking active action and responsibility by local bodies/socio-economic partners and the local community, gaining a sense of ownership
- Set-up of local consultation groups for planning and implementation, building partnerships in the context of multi-level governance, Memoranda of Cooperation/Programmatic Agreements

Local Action
Planning

Bottom-
up

Supported by a
multi-functional
digital platform



Co-funded by
the European Union



ΕΣΠΑ
2021-2027
Βιόσφιμη Ανάπτυξη για Όλους
Partnership Agreement
2021-2027



HELLENIC REPUBLIC
Ministry of Economy
and Finance

Thank you for your attention

GRECO
ISLANDS



Co-funded by
the European Union

