

Promoting urban intégration of **G**Reen **I**Nfrastructure to improve climate governance in cities

LIFE17 GIC/GR/000029 – LIFE **GrIn**

BUDGET INFO:

Total amount: 1, 763,885 Euro

% EC Co-funding: 58.34% (1,015,505 Euro)

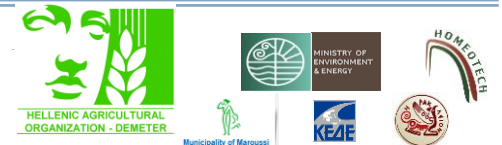
PROJECT'S IMPLEMENTORS:

Coordinating Beneficiary:

Hellenic Agricultural Organization-"DEMETER", Institute of Mediterranean Forest Ecosystems (IMFE)

Associated Beneficiaries:

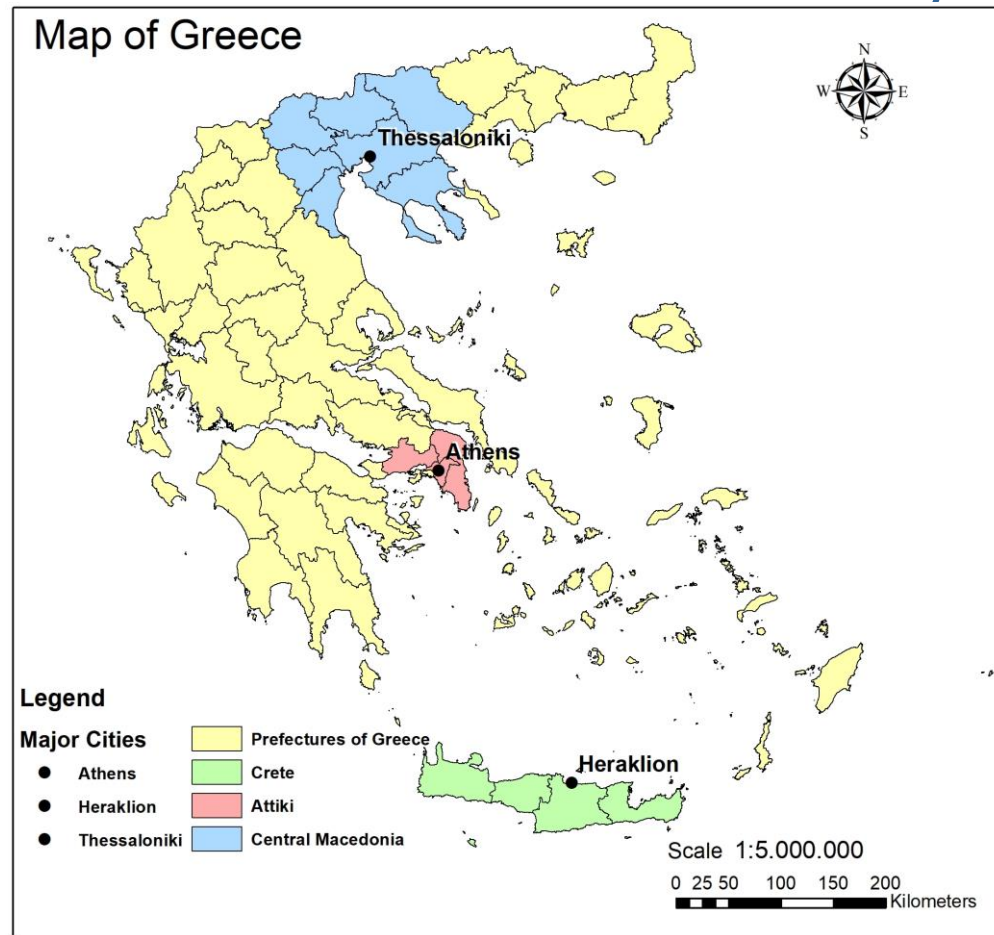
- Ministry of Environment and Energy
- "Homeotech Co"
- Central Union of Hellenic Municipalities
- Municipality of Amarousion
- Municipality of Heraklion



In **LIFE GrIn** project initial assessment of UGAs targeted at 2 pilot municipalities

a. of Amaroussion (Attiki) and **b.** Heraklion (Kriti).

The project started at 2018 and has a 3.5 year duration



The **LIFE GrIn** project

- will utilize all available tools and indicators at European level to assist in strategic planning and management of UGAs in the context of climate change adaptation and mitigation
- aims to incorporate the climate change adaptation and mitigation perspectives and green infrastructure management and conservation in local governance in cities, through the establishment of an integrated policy framework focusing on Urban Green Areas (UGAs).

OBJECTIVES & SCOPE

- Cities already face harsh climate, due to obvious anthropogenic impacts, responsible for the alteration of both natural surface and atmospheric conditions.
- UGAs are vital elements of the urban landscape that can contribute to climate change mitigation and adaptation but remain underutilized
- **LIFE GrIn** proposes a sustainable urban forest management framework combining participatory planning with climate change adaptation and mitigation oriented planning

In **LIFE GrIn** project initial assessment of UGAs targeted at pilot municipalities of Amaroussion and Heraklion (Figure 1) .

By performing several steps the team measured for UGAs:

- Biodiversity indicators of UGAs (Dr. A. Solomou)
- Bio meteorological indicators of UGAs (Dr. N.Proutsos)
- Insect variation of UGAs as an indicator (Dr. D. Avtzis)
- Phenotypic and biometric estimation of UGAs (Dr. Avramidou)

EXPECTED IMPACTS

- Assessment of the current climate related risks and threats in 2 municipalities & evaluation of the existing Green Infrastructure - Capacity building at municipal level
- Estimation of the current CO₂ sequestration by UGAs in the 2 partner cities
- Establishment of guidelines and indicators to incorporate climate into the management of UGAs and monitor their performance
- Establishment of cooperation platform: quantified data on GI, its contribution to climate change adaptation and mitigation, best practices and guidelines to support replication

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

Lack of climate governance and stakeholder participation mechanisms in planning/managing Green Infrastructure

- Regulatory act to incorporate climate change into the management framework of UGAs in Greece
- Best practices and awareness raising activities addressing adaptation needs
- Climate policy monitoring, assessment and ex-post evaluation
- Development and implementation of national 2030 climate and energy strategies and/or mid-century strategies (Paris agreement)

CONTINUATION (REPLICATION, TRANSFER, MARKET UPTAKE)

- Networking with other initiatives that share the same end goals in Greece and other European countries
- Communication of the objectives, results and outputs of the project to the Council of European Municipalities and Regions and to the Covenant of Mayors (KEDE) and to other Greek municipalities and districts (Action C5)
- Initiative platform developed in (Action C2) will be available to all Greek Municipalities through the Ministry of Environment and Energy (YPEN)