

5th newsletter

January - September 2024

INTELLIGENT MONITORING AND EFFICIENT WASTE REDUCTION IN CYPRUS ISLAND

LIFE-IP CYzero WASTE - LIFE20 IPE/CY/000011

Learn more about the networking activities and implemented actions of the LIFE-IP CYzero WASTE Project "Intelligent Monitoring and Efficient Waste Reduction in Cyprus", coordinated by the Department of Environment in collaboration with 17 strategic partners.



Starting a Partnership with Zero Waste Alliance Cyprus

The LIFE IP CYzero WASTE Project welcomed with great pleasure the start of a partnership with Zero Waste Alliance Cyprus, aiming to implement a series of actions, with a central focus on the Prevention of Food Waste Production.

The collaboration with the Zero Waste Alliance Cyprus was selected following the completion of all the necessary evaluation procedures for the participants, after an Open Call for proposals for demonstration actions aimed at preventing food waste and agricultural waste, within the framework of the project's sub-action C4.3 "Demonstration actions to prevent the production of food waste and agricultural waste."

Specifically, the Zero Waste Alliance Cyprus aims to implement a series of actions on the above topic, such as:

- Collection of unsold fruits and vegetables from the Local Market of «OXI», which takes place every Saturday, with the aim of redistributing those that are suitable for consumption to vulnerable groups and composting the inedible ones
- Purchase of additional equipment including a car trolley for efficient transportation of produce and foldable crates increasing thus collection capacity
- Installation of ten home composters
- Preparation of a Guide to Local Markets in collaboration with local producers to replicate the action taking place at the Market "OXI" and other local markets
- Education and training of local Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) to adopt food waste prevention practices
- Inform and raising awareness among the general public about food waste prevention practices.

A key criterion for the start of this partnership was the strengthening of existing good practices on food waste and agrowaste prevention, so that the project contributes to their consolidation and development.

See more [here](#).

The collected data of unsold fruit and vegetables obtained through donations from vendors at the "OXI" market in Nicosia Municipality, facilitated by the Zero Food Waste Cyprus initiative, are presented for the months [April](#), [May](#) and [June 2024](#).



FoodFlow TOOL

On Wednesday, 17th of April 2024, an informative meeting took place between the LIFE-IP CYzero WASTE project team and the development team of the FoodFlow tool. FoodFlow was developed as part of the Research and Innovation Foundation's Pre-Seed Programme, in collaboration with Frederick University, Grant Expert Consulting, the Cyprus Chefs Association and the Atlantica Aqua Blue Hotel. Its aim is to contribute to reducing food waste in the hospitality sector through data recording and monitoring waste production levels.

See more [here](#).



Fooderloo APP

On Friday, April 26, 2024, an online meeting between the LIFE IP CYzero WASTE Project and the creators of the Fooderloo app took place. Fooderloo is an app designed to fight food waste and help businesses and consumers save money. The platform connects restaurants, hotels, supermarkets, street markets, wholesalers and other operators, reducing the production of waste, with consumers who wish to buy completely edible products, which are approaching their expiry date at reduced prices. See more [here](#).



Final Event of the Project "Management of Hazardous waste produced by Households"

On April 26, 2024, an event was held at the Olympic Palace to present the final results of the Project "Management of Hazardous Waste Produced by Households".

The management of hazardous waste from households is one of the challenges of Cyprus, given the mandatory separate collection until January 1st, 2025.

During the implementation of the project, the four mobile units visited in total 135 local authorities, 71 communities and 26 municipalities, aiming to inform and raise public awareness.

Through them, more than 17,000 citizens were informed, of which 7,230 were pupils, while its worth noting that 1,681 kg of household hazardous waste were collected in the appropriately designed internal areas of the units.

See more [here](#).



1st Dialogue Forum "Building Synergies within the LIFE IP CYzero WASTE Project, towards an integrated management of municipal Solid waste in Cyprus"

On May 13, 2024, the 1st Dialogue Forum of the LIFE IP CYzero WASTE Project was held in Voroklini. The forum focused on "Building synergies within the LIFE IP CYzero WASTE Project, towards an integrated management of municipal solid waste in Cyprus." It was co-organized by the Department of the Environment and the National Technical University of Athens, aiming to enhance collaboration in municipal waste management practices across the island.

The primary aim of the forum was to foster interaction between the project's consortium and key stakeholders, ensuring that stakeholders are actively engaged and committed to participating in the implementation of project's initiatives. This collaboration is crucial in order to achieve the goals of the National Municipal Waste Management Plan 2022-2028 and the National Waste Prevention Program 2024-2030.

The event brought together representatives from the public and wider public sectors entities, Local Government Authorities, Development Agencies, the hospitality and catering sector, local businesses, Non-Governmental Organisations and Academic Institutions.

Attendees were provided with detailed information on the project's initiatives and potential opportunities for collaboration, while also presenting their own initiatives and actions, demonstrating how these could support or complement the project.

This exchange of information fostered a constructive environment for meaningful dialogue, facilitating the sharing of insights and expertise on municipal solid waste management, and establishing a strong foundation for future partnerships.

At the end of the Forum, it was announced that the Next Dialogue Forum will take place in April 2025. Find out more [here](#).



Information Day "Rational Management of Municipal Solid waste in Military Camps"

On Wednesday, May 15, 2024, an Information Day with theme "Rational Management of Municipal Solid Waste in Military Camps" was held, co-organized by the Environment and Energy Sector of the Technical Services Directorate of the Ministry of Defense and the Department of Environment of the Ministry of Agriculture, Rural Development and Environment.

During the event, the Department of Environment presented the ongoing projects regarding municipal solid waste management, while the Ministry of Defense provided information on both its Environmental Policy and the outcomes of implementing the Eco-Management and Audit Scheme (EMAS) in six army camps. The implementation of EMAS in these camps serves as a model to guide and support the adoption of effective waste management practices in other military camps of the island. The presentations conducted by both parties, served as a starting point for a constructive dialogue, which highlighted proposals for improving the existing waste management processes followed by the Ministry of Defense, thus creating a common ground for collaboration. All the information gathered is important material for the possibility of creating a special training workshop for soldiers, within the LIFE IP CYzero WASTE project.

See more [here](#).



Public Consultation on the unified waste Prevention and Management Agency

The Department of Environment, coordinator of the LIFE-IP CYzero WASTE project, put the draft bill titled “The Law on the Establishment and Operation of a Unified Agency for Waste Prevention and Management of 2024” out for public consultation from May 13, 2024, to June 11, 2024, on the electronic consultation platform e-consultation.gov.cy.

The purpose of this bill is to improve the efficiency of municipal solid waste management practices by enhancing coordination between the Department of Environment and Local Authorities (LAs).

The establishment and operation of the Unified Waste Prevention and Management Agency, as a reform within the Cyprus Recovery and Resilience Plan, will significantly contribute to achieving the goals adopted within the framework of the transition to a circular economy. Specifically, it aims to ensure the coordination of processes for the rational management of waste and to support the implementation of waste management policy, particularly for municipal solid waste.

In preparing the draft legislative framework for the Agency, results from a study on the establishment and operation of the Agency were considered. This study evaluated the current governance situation in waste management, gathered input from stakeholders, and assessed best practice examples from other countries. The goal was to define an effective and legally sound structure that ensures better coordination between the Central Government and Local Authorities, and generally establishes a functional agency aimed at the rational management of municipal solid waste in Cyprus.

“Rhodes 2024 11th International Conference on Sustainable Solid waste Management”

The Department of Environment, Project Coordinator of the LIFE-IP CYzero WASTE, participated at the 11th International Conference on Sustainable Solid Waste Management, held from June 19th to 22nd, 2024, in Rhodes.

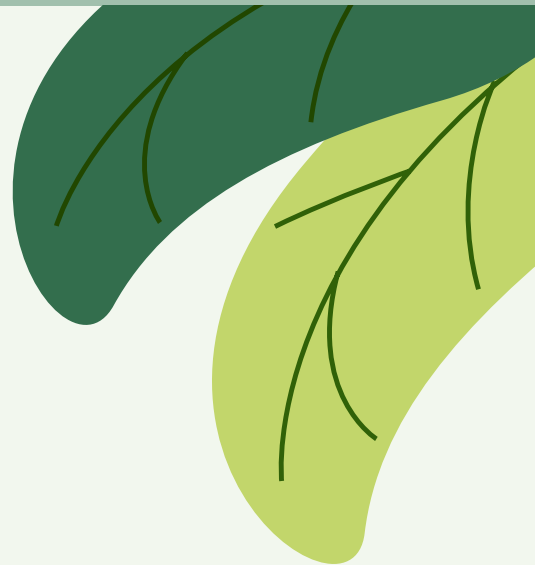
Representatives from the Department of Environment and the National Technical University of Athens presented: (a) the progress of the Project’s actions in conjunction with the established national goals, (b) the comprehensive waste management strategy in the newly established municipality of Aradippou, which includes the source separation of organic waste and the implementation of the “Pay-As-You-Throw (PAYT)” system utilizing prepaid bags (for households and small businesses) or bins (for large producers) along with a fixed fee, and (c) the existing waste management implemented at the Integrated Waste Management Facilities in Cyprus, analyzing the challenges faced.

The thematic sections of the Conference covered a very wide range from the European Union’s environmental policies, the United Nations’ sustainable development goals, the circular economy – bioeconomy and waste utilization, recycling, marine pollution and plastics, biological methods of waste treatment, biorefineries, energy recovery of waste, etc.

The agenda included 26 sessions, 550 oral presentations, 228 posters, 10 keynote speakers, 5 collaborating journals, 950 participants (with physical presence and online).

At the closing of the Conference, it was announced that the next Conference will be held in Cyprus from 25th to 28th of June 2025, as well as the Summer School, which will take place on 23rd and 24th of June 2025.

See more [here](#).





PAY AS YOU THROW

Implementation of the Pay as you Throw (PAYT) Scheme

With the voting of the Waste (Municipal Waste Management by Local Government Authorities) Regulations in July 2022, the foundations were laid for the rational management of municipal solid waste by local authorities. The Regulations introduced obligations for Local Authorities (LAs) to draw up Local Action Plans for the prevention of the generation and management of municipal solid waste by 31st of December 2023 and for the mandatory implementation of systems of sorting at source and separate collection of municipal waste and Pay As You Throw (PAYT) scheme with a prepaid bag until June 30th, 2024.

In accordance with the national objectives set in the National Waste Management Plan 2022-2028, through the project concerning the implementation of the Support Program for LAs for the promotion of sorting at the source and the separate collection of municipal solid waste, as well as the establishment of PAYT scheme with a prepaid bag, sorting at the source, separate collection, reuse, recycling and reduction of waste intended for landfill is sought.

For the establishment of the PAYT scheme, the LAs are invited to prepare a Sustainability Feasibility Study, lasting 6 months, as well as to procure the required equipment and implement a local communication strategy, with a total budget of €25.000.000, implemented within the framework of the Cohesion Policy Programme "THALIA 2021-2027" and funded from the EU.

According to the implementation timetable of the respective Agreement between Local Authorities and Environmental Consultants for the preparation of a Sustainability Feasibility Study for the establishment of a sorting system at the source and separate collection of recyclable and organic / biological waste and the implementation of a "Pay As You Throw (PAYT) scheme with a prepaid bag", based on the Framework Agreement 8/2021, within 150 days from the signing of the Agreement, the Final Sustainability Feasibility Study should be completed and within 30 days it is put up for public consultation.

To date, eighteen (18) Final Sustainability Feasibility Studies have been completed for the following Municipalities and Community Complexes (according to the Local Government reform):

1. Municipalities of Nicosia / Strovolos
2. Municipalities of Latsia - Geri / Lakatamia / Southern Nicosia - Idalion / Cluster A of Nicosia (Ag. Barbara)
3. Municipality of Paralimni
4. Municipality of Larnaca
5. Municipality of Aradippou
6. Municipality of Athienou
7. Municipality of Dromolaxia - Meneou
8. Municipality of Limassol
9. Municipality of Kourion (formerly Western Limassol)
10. Municipality of Amathus (formerly Eastern Limassol)
11. Municipality of Polemidia
12. Cluster of Communities D of Nicosia (Coordinator Askas)
13. Cluster of Communities C of Larnaca (Coordinator Pyrga)
14. Cluster of Communities D of Larnaca (Coordinator Kato Drys)
15. Cluster of Communities E of Larnaca (Coordinator Mari)
16. Cluster of Communities H of Limassol (Coordinator Kato Milos)
17. Cluster of Communities C of Paphos (Coordinator Tsada)
18. Cluster of Communities E of Paphos (Coordinator Anarita)

The Final Feasibility Studies have demonstrated, among other things, for each of the above municipalities and community clusters:

- The necessary equipment for the implementation of the PAYT System
- The investment and operational cost for the implementation of the PAYT System,
- The price of the prepaid bag for residual waste, in three (3) sizes of 10, 35, and 56 liters,
- The prices of prepaid bins for residual waste for large and special producers, in four (4) sizes of 120, 240, 360, and 1100 liters,
- The fixed fee (waste disposal fee),
- The local communication strategy, and
- The social policy for vulnerable population groups.

For more information visit: payasyouthrowcy.com



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ΕΠΡΟ
Zero Waste Cyprus
πολιτισμός διαχείρισης αποβλήτων



Δήμος Λευκωσίας
Nicosia Municipality



ΔΗΜΟΣ ΠΑΡΑΛΙΜΝΙΟΥ
PARALIMNI MUNICIPALITY



Αναπτυξιακή Εταιρεία
Πάφου Αφροδίτη



ΑΝΕΤ
τροόδους
ΑΝΑΠΤΥΞΙΑΚΗ ΕΤΑΙΡΕΙΑ
ΚΟΙΝΟΤΗΤΩΝ ΠΕΡΙΟΧΗΣ ΤΡΟΟΔΟΥΣ



ANEL
Nicosia Development Agency



CYPRUS
CHAMBER OF
COMMERCE AND
INDUSTRY



ΑΝΑΠΤΥΞΙΑΚΗ
ΛΑΡΝΑΚΑΣ & ΑΜΜΟΧΩΣΤΟΥ
LARNACA & FAMAGUSTA DISTRICTS DEVELOPMENT AGENCY



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της Ευρωπαϊκής Ένωσης

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The LIFE-IP CYzero WASTE (LIFE20 IPE/CY/000011) project is co-funded by EU LIFE Programme.