

# Intelligent monitoring and efficient waste reduction in Cyprus Island

LIFE-IP CYzero WASTE



PROJECT

# Zero Waste Cyprus

waste management culture



Co-funded by  
the European Union



Republic of Cyprus



DEPARTMENT OF  
ENVIRONMENT



## Project consortium

### Coordinating Beneficiary

Department of Environment,  
Ministry of Agriculture, Rural Development & Environment

### Associated Beneficiaries

- National Technical University of Athens
- Agricultural Research Institute
- Cyprus Chamber of Commerce and Industry
- Nicosia Municipality
- Limassol Municipality
- Larnaka Municipality
- Pafos Municipality
- Geroskipou Municipality
- Paralimni Municipality
- Agia Napa Municipality
- Aradippou Municipality
- Polis Chrysochous Municipality
- Nicosia Development Agency
- Development Agency of Lemesos
- Larnaca and Famagusta District Development Agency
- Pafos Development Company Aphrodite
- Troodos Development Company



<https://cyzerowaste.com/>



## The Project

### LIFE-IP CYzero WASTE | “Intelligent Monitoring and Efficient Waste Reduction in Cyprus Island”

The project aims primarily to support the implementation of the Municipal Waste Management Plan 2022-2028, as well as the National Waste Prevention Program 2025-2031. It aspires to promote the application of European and national legislation on waste management and the circular economy, while also addressing the gaps and challenges identified, as documented in the Environmental Implementation Review 2019 and the European Union’s Early Warning Report of 2018.

One of the main objectives of the Project is to promote a new perspective on waste management, based on the principles of **waste prevention** and **circular economy**. The project seeks to enhance the sustainable use of resources by promoting practices that favor waste reduction, extend product life-cycles, and convert waste into resources.

At the same time, special emphasis is placed on the effective implementation of the legislative framework for municipal waste. By changing mindsets and promoting practices that support sustainability, LIFE-IP Zero Waste Cyprus aims to lay the foundations for an environmentally responsible Cyprus by establishing the circular economy as a key pillar of development and environmental protection.



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Project duration  
**8 years**

(01/10/2021-30/09/2029)

Budget  
**€14.785.848**

(EU co-funding: 60%)

The project is coordinated by the Department of Environment of the Ministry of Agriculture, Rural Development and Environment and is implemented in collaboration with 17 strategic Partners. The project is co-financed by the European Union and the Partners’ own funds.

## LINEAR ECONOMY

Take  
↓  
Make  
↓  
Use  
↓  
Waste



## RECYCLING ECONOMY

Take  
↓  
Make  
↓  
Use  
↓  
Waste

Recycle



## CIRCULAR ECONOMY

Take  
↓  
Make  
↓  
Use  
↓  
Reuse  
↻  
Repair  
↻  
Recycle  
↻  
Make



# Project Objectives

Development of pilot actions in municipalities and communities to promote the practical implementation of waste prioritisation:

- Separate sorting at the source of bio-waste, recyclable materials and hazardous household waste
- Preparation for repair and reuse
- Collection of marine litter and discarded fishing equipment, including fishing boat mooring lines

Development of secondary material standards to support the implementation of the circular economy.

Mobilisation of additional financial resources to support the effective implementation of the Municipal Waste Management Plan and the Waste Prevention Programme Plan.

Implementation of specific waste management actions that will support, strengthen and maximise the implementation of waste prioritisation and separate collection of waste streams, to ensure the diversion of waste from landfills.

Strengthening of the use of financial instruments to support the circular economy.

Implementation of actions to promote the prevention of food and agricultural waste generation.

Raising of awareness among stakeholders and the general public about the concept of circular economy and its connection to the waste sector.

Introduction of institutional changes with the creation of a Waste Management Coordinating Body.

Dissemination of Project results and support for their implementation and reproduction in other areas of the island.

# Concrete Actions



## Biowaste source separation and management schemes

This action involves the installation of home and decentralized composters in mountainous and remote areas across all districts of Cyprus.

Diverting the biodegradable fraction of municipal solid waste from landfilling is a priority at both European and national levels, as it promotes efficient use of resources in line with the principles of the circular economy.

The installation of composters in these areas contributes to fulfilling the obligations set by the

Municipal Waste Management Regulations from Local Authorities.

At the same time, it reduces the transportation costs of organic waste, as processing is carried out within the boundaries of the municipalities and communities. Additionally, it enables the use of the produced compost as fertilizer, supporting its application at the local level.



## Installation and operation of Green Kiosks for dry recyclables

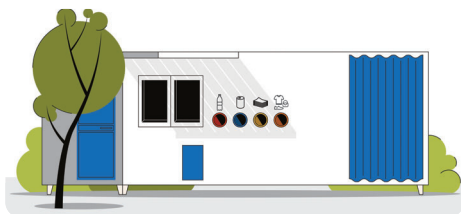
The installation and operation of Green Kiosks is planned for mountainous and remote areas across all districts of Cyprus.

The Green Kiosks will serve as small-scale sorting and collection centers for dry recyclable materials, specifically designed and adapted into specially modified containers.

The goal is to expand the network of separate collection of recyclable municipal waste streams to more areas in Cyprus.

At the Green Kiosks, recyclable materials such as paper/cardboard, plastic, metal, textiles, and other specific waste streams, such as small electrical appliances, batteries, light bulbs, and more, will be collected.

Citizens will be able to bring these materials to the Green Kiosks, where sorting and temporary storage will take place. Subsequently, all collected waste will be transferred to licensed management facilities by licensed collectors and transporters.





## Construction and operation of Repair and Reuse Centers and a network of second-hand stores in all cities

This action includes all the necessary processes and steps for the construction and operation of two (2) Repair and Reuse Centers, as well as the creation of a network of second-hand stores.

The centers will be strategically located to serve all regions of Cyprus and will function as collection and aggregation points for materials intended for reuse.

The goal of this action is to create organized spaces for the collection, sorting, repair, and reuse of materials such as furniture, electrical appliances, clothing, books, toys, etc. Additionally, a network of second-hand stores will be

established in urban areas, providing citizens with the opportunity to acquire items collected and redistributed through the Repair/Reuse Centers.



## Monitoring and Optimisation of the “Pay As You Throw” Scheme

The action aims to monitor the implementation of the “Pay As You Throw” (PAYT) scheme, with the goal of evaluating its effectiveness. Its objective is to support and improve the

implementation of the PAYT scheme, with the goal of continuously optimizing its performance and achieving a fair implementation of the new waste generation pricing system.

## Marine debris collection and management system

This action focuses on the:

- Development of a tool for mapping and monitoring marine litter.
- Creation of collection stations and implementation of a system for the collection and management of marine litter, including discarded fishing gear such as fishing boat mooring ropes.
- Utilization of collected marine litter in the market, contributing to the enhancement of the circular economy and the sustainability of marine ecosystems.

## Application of economic instruments

As part of this action, the implementation and demonstration of economic instruments will be carried out to support the implementation of the National Waste Management Plan and the National Waste Prevention Program through the following actions:

- Introduction and implementation of the landfill tax, aiming to reduce the amount of waste sent to landfill sites.
- Introduction and operation of the Waste Management Fund to finance recycling and waste management activities.
- Development of standards and technical specifications for secondary materials, to support their re-entry into the economy as new raw materials, strengthening the circular economy.



## Capacity building activities

The capacity-building actions focus on developing a high-quality mechanism for spreading the principles of the circular economy. These actions aim to "transfer" knowledge and skills to stakeholders and the general public.

Specifically, the following actions will be implemented:

- **Dialogue forum** for highlighting common challenges, showcasing best practices, and strengthening cooperation among the stakeholders in the sector.
- **Educational workshops** for knowledge transfer and skills enhancement, tailored to the needs of the participants.
- **Specialized seminars** for technical staff involved in the Project's pilot actions, aimed at training and preparing them for their implementation.
- **Distance training** for Local Authorities and stakeholders, including the broader public, regarding the use of the electronic platform for waste and material flows.

## Establishment of the Waste Management Coordinating Body

The aim of this action is to establish a Waste Management Coordinating Body, which will ensure the coordination of processes for the efficient municipal waste management in Cyprus.

The objective of this action is to bridge the gap between the Central

Government and Local Authorities, by providing a flexible and effective mechanism that will enhance waste management towards prevention and separate collection, strengthening their sustainable management and promoting the circular economy.



# Pilot Actions

# Pilot Areas

Municipalities

Communities

Fishing shelters

## Waste streams

Biowaste

Hazardous household waste

Recyclable waste

Marine waste & discarded fishing equipment

Food waste & agricultural waste

# Expected Results & Impact



## Expected Results

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### Green Kiosks

Operation of green kiosks in remote areas for the separate collection of recyclable materials.

### Decentralised and home composting units

Development and operation of decentralised and household composting units in remote, mountainous and semi-mountainous areas.

### Repair/reuse centers

Development and operation of two organized centers and organization of a network of second-hand stores.

### Hazardous Household Waste

Development and operation of mobile and permanent hazardous household waste collection units.

### “Pay As You Throw” Scheme

Review and evaluation of the “Pay As You Throw” scheme.

### Data Recording

Recording and monitoring the production of food waste and agricultural waste in Cyprus.

### Monitoring and prevention of waste production

Development of an electronic platform to monitor and manage the prevention of food and agricultural waste production.

### Mapping and monitoring of marine litters

Development of a tool for mapping and monitoring marine litter and establishment of collection stations.

### Standards for secondary materials

Development of standards for determining secondary materials.

### Informing citizens for waste management

Organisation of information days and campaigns for proper waste management based on the principles of the circular economy.

### Education

Organisation of targeted capacity building workshops for capacity building and skills development for waste management.

## Expected Impact

- Changing citizens' attitudes and creating a waste management culture by promoting the following practices:
  - Prevention of waste generation
  - Reuse of materials
  - Preparation for reuse
  - Recycling
  - Waste separation at the source
  - Separate collection of waste



- Improvement of waste management services provided by municipalities and communities.
- Promotion of food waste prevention.
- Improving the environmental performance of businesses/industries in the agri-food sector.
- Capacity building, means and synergies to strengthen the circular economy.
- Integration of circular economy principles into the funding criteria.
- Raising awareness of stakeholders for a smooth transition to the circular economy.
- Creation of new green jobs.



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Δήμος Λευκωσίας  
Nicosia Municipality



ΔΗΜΟΣ ΠΑΡΑΛΙΜΝΙΟΥ  
PARALIMNI MUNICIPALITY



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