

ACTION PROJECT FOR AWARENESS RAISING ON ENVIRONMENTAL & SOCIAL EXCLUSION ISSUES



Partners

- ISTANCE-Andreas Papandreou
- Greek Ministry of Employment and Social Protection. General Secretary for European funds management.
- Special Service in applying co-funded actions for the European Social Fund.
- European Social Fund/ European Commission.

Objectives

In the Municipality of Athens and in the city of Salonika the ulterior purpose of the Action Project was to confront citizens with the rising immigration reality and the modern forms of social exclusion while turning the cultural capital to advantage through social inclusion. In the city of Kozani the Project intended to demonstrate the economic and social consequences of production restructuring. In the municipality of Filis and the city of Volos the Project aimed at upgrading the quality of life of citizens through the proper function of environmental infrastructure and awareness raising and activation of the society for the protection of the environment.

Expected results

Greater aspiration of the projects was bringing citizens and local authorities into action through acquainting them with the problems of their region and provide them with plausible solutions in their effort to adapt to the developing reality in their region.

Context/short summary:

Regional development and social cohesion constitute major challenges in the European environment. Unbalanced human activity, immigration and environmental degradation accentuate regional disparities causing high levels of unemployment, social inequalities and unrest along with far-reaching repercussions in the quality of the inhabitants life. In Greece certain regions are encumbered with particular problems which are aggravated by low awareness and involvement of the citizens. Under the aegis of the "Employment and Professional Vocation Programme of the Greek Ministry of Employment and Social Protection which aims at increasing employment through active participation of NGO's, ISTANCE conducted Action Projects in two phases targeting two municipalities of Athens and three big cities of Greece in an effort to raise public awareness and familiarization with the regional issues at stake, namely environmental, immigration and social exclusion issues.

Europe: Europe: Greece (Athens, Salonica, Kozani, Volos)

Activities

In the first phase open event-debate took place in each municipality and city which involved speeches from distinguished experts on the specific fields and dialogue with the citizens. In the second phase the feedback from interaction with the citizens was used in order to draw conclusions and shape the agenda of the second event which included presentations and speeches from well-known academics and members of the society.

Target group

Citizens and local authorities seeking to improve their living conditions, their social interaction and solidarity.

Final beneficiaries

The whole society which is expected to make progress towards harmonious cohabitation and with respect to environment.



Funding

The project is co-funded by 80% from the European Social Fund and by 20% from the Greek Ministry of Employment and Social Protection.

Website

<http://www.istame.gr/page/default.asp?id=1609>

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