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# Collaborative Digitization of Natural and Cultural Heritage, CD-ETA

*Sharing solutions  
for better regional policies*

Dept. of Environmental & Natural Resources  
Management, University of Patras



ΠΑΝΕΠΙΣΤΗΜΙΟ  
ΠΑΤΡΩΝ  
UNIVERSITY OF PATRAS

Prof. Vagelis Papadakis

Project Manager

Email: [vgpapadakis@upatras.gr](mailto:vgpapadakis@upatras.gr)



**University of Patras**  
**Dept. of Environmental and Natural Resources**  
**Management**



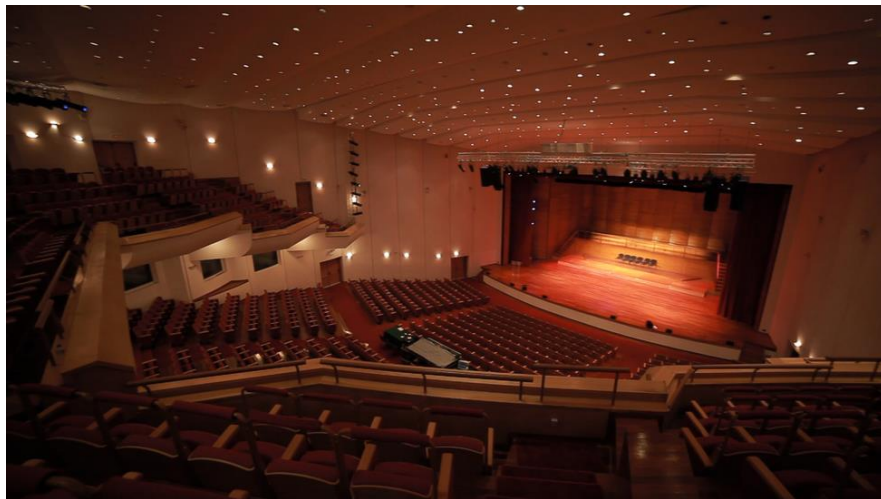
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UNIVERSITY OF PATRAS



# University of Patras [www.upatras.gr](http://www.upatras.gr)

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The University is a two-city campus, situated in both Patras and Agrinion. The campus in Patras is located in the suburb of Rion. It is a self-contained campus located at the foot of mount Panachaico with a view over the Gulf of Corinth and the mountains of Central Greece across the water.





# University of Patras

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The University of Patras was founded in the city of Patras on 1964 as a self-administered Academic Institution under the supervision of the Greek Government. The University was established primarily with the intention to concentrate on ***science, technology, economics, business administration and social sciences***. Presently, the University of Patras remains *one of the best well known Universities in Greece* with an excellent reputation amongst the International and European Scientific Community, which justifies the vision and mission for the establishment of the University of Patras.

The University consists of **five Schools, twenty-four Departments** with Undergraduate Study Programs leading to a specific Degree. Furthermore, the University of Patras offers thirty four of Postgraduate Study Programs



# Dept. of Environmental and Natural Resources Management

[www.env.upatras.gr](http://www.env.upatras.gr)

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The Department of Environmental and Natural Resources Management was founded in 1998 (Agrinio city). The Department currently has **22 faculty members**, who supervise the research of about 45 postgraduate students and about 8 postdoctoral workers with an annual output of more than 50 refereed publications in international journals.



# Dept. of Environmental and Natural Resources Management

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The aim of the Dept. is the **promotion of environmental science**, with particular emphasis on **management of the environment and natural resources**, the training of scientists capable of studying, to investigate (and applied academic teaching and research), to understand and to **apply modern methods to improve the protection and management of natural and man-made environment** and knowledge of **use of modern technologies** for addressing environmental problems.

UPatras, based on its *previous experience* and its *close collaboration with the regional authorities*, can guarantee the involvement of the responsible regional authority of the policy instrument. UPatras influences policies related to issues like research & innovation and can make recommendations for strategic fields which will promote the smart specialization of RWG.

# Dept. of Environmental and Natural Resources Management

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## The Research Team

The research team of project CD-ETA consists of experienced personnel in the design and implementation of EU funded projects with relevant background in cultural sector, IT and digitization technologies, economics, structure of Action Plans and policy recommendations towards the regional decision making organizations.

The Dept. is dealing with the application of modern technologies, in order to improve the protection and management of natural environment. This project gives the opportunity to the research team to gain experiences and knowledge and learn from the well developed regions in terms of digitization of heritage.





# Region of Western Greece



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# Region of Western Greece

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- Western Greece is one of the thirteen regions of Greece. It comprises the western part of continental Greece and the northwestern part of the Peloponnese.
- Main economic activities include **agriculture** and **tourism services**.
- Western Greece is quickly becoming one of the **top tourism destinations in Greece**. The emergence of new hotel units and new investments in the area have strengthened the local economy and are currently changing the overall profile of economic activity.
- As in many other Regions of Greece, production of wine and olive oil is significant. Dairy products are also important to the local economy as well as fish farming, unique to the area and a traditional source of income.





# Region of Western Greece

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<b>Area</b>	11.350 km <sup>2</sup> , covering 8,6 % of the total country area.
<b>Population</b>	679.796 people, accounting of 6,3% of the country total
<b>GDP</b>	4,6% of the national GDP
<b>Unemployment rate</b>	28% (2015)

## Dominant Sectors

**Tourism**

**Renewable Energy Sources**

**ICT and Life Science**

**Food and Beverage**

**Waste Management**





# Region of Western Greece

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The Region of Western Greece is privileged in terms of the natural environment. The region accommodates many, various and significantly sensitive ecosystems. It is characteristic, that from the eleven wetlands of international importance that exist in Greece and which have also joined in the Ramsar agreement\*, the three are located in Western Greece Region. Furthermore, the Region is characterized by the existence of protected aesthetic forests and monuments and vital places of great natural beauty.

## Natural and cultural Landmarks

- A Region of unspoilt natural beauty: **11 Ramsar areas and protected areas** like Mesolonghi lagoon, Amvrakikos Bay, Kotichi Bay, Echinades Islands complex.
- **Unique archaeological sites and historic places** of great importance: Olympia: The birthplace of the Olympic Games, Temple of Epicurean Apollo, Mesollonghi: The sacred town of the Greek War for Independence



# Region of Western Greece

## Major natural & cultural attractions



Achaia



Kalavrita ski resort , Winelands of Achaia, Rio Casino, Patras Carnival, the Archaeological Museum of Patras, Voraikos Gorge, Monastery of Agia Lavra, the Wall of Dymaeans -Prehistoric Acropolis

Ilia



Olympia Archaeological Site Ancient Ilida, Temple of Aphrodite, Temple of Epicurean Apollo, Ancient stadium of Olympia, Temple of Zeus at Olympia, 5 Museums, Kaiafas Thermal Spa, Lagoon of Kotychi, Strofilia Forest

Etoloakarnania



Cyclopes Cave , The Great Kleisoura Gorge, Lakes reflecting beauty, Voulkania Lake, Trichonis Lake, Lagoon of Messolonghi, Byzantine Castles, Monasteries





# Policy Tool





# Regional Operational Programme (ROP) 2014-2020: Investments in Growth and Jobs, Western Greece

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ROP's ambition is to achieve Europe 2020 targets for smart, sustainable & inclusive growth. Strategic Objectives:

- ✓ Strengthen regional competitiveness by developing innovation and ICT
- ✓ Protect the environment and sustainable development
- ✓ Enhance Transport Infrastructure
- ✓ Enhance educational, health and welfare infrastructure
- ✓ Human Resources Development, Social inclusion & fight discrimination

**Main concern:** protection of natural environment, maintenance of particular environmental & aesthetic value areas & exploitation of the rich natural & cultural resources of the area





# Regional Operational Programme (ROP) 2014-2020: Investments in Growth and Jobs, Western Greece

**Thematic Objective 6: “Preservation and protection of environment and promotion of resources efficiency”**

Particular emphasis: transformation of the tourism product through the upgrading of culture, which is a priority area of the regional smart specialization strategy. Tourism in conjunction with the culture can, with appropriate adjustments, perform as a driving force of the economy of Western Greece.

It provides great opportunities for *implementing integrated systems of combined technologies and allows the development of specialized activities based on knowledge*. Tourism requires a special kind of policy for innovation, which supports the ability to **generate knowledge and added value** in an industry that does not create the technology, but uses it.





# Regional Operational Programme (ROP) 2014-2020: Investments in Growth and Jobs, Western Greece

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Even though special attention has been given to the field of preservation of natural (including NATURA 2000 network) and cultural heritage, **the adaption of digitalization policies needs further improvement**, as it will guarantee its preservation and the development of the tourism product deriving from the cultural heritage.

Recently (December 2015), within the frames of the Regional Smart Specialization Strategy of Western Greece, representatives from the decision making authorities of the area organized the **entrepreneurial discovery process** for innovative applications and technologies in the sectors n culture and tourism and decided to proceed to ***digitization applications in landmarks on natural and cultural heritage***.







## Contribution in the project





# UPatras contribution in the project

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- Upatras will **engage the participation of all the related stakeholders** (representatives from the RWG, Patras Municipality, N.G.Os, culture specialists, tourism professionals etc) in order to form the **local stakeholder group**, which will participate in the sessions of good practices, study visits organized, interregional training workshops and the thematic seminars
- Organisation of stakeholder workshop, after the end of every thematic seminar, in order to discuss the knowledge & practices obtained from the last seminar and propose issues, practices, desired problem solutions for the following seminars.





# UPatras contribution in the project

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- Organisation of Thematic Seminar: “Digitization of historical sites” on Semester 5
- Creation of Newsletter after the end of the specific thematic seminar
- Creation Action Plan and presentation in the final Conference
- Contribution to the improvement of the policy instrument based on the created action plan and the knowledge acquired
- Dissemination activities according to the project’s guidelines

Performance Indicator: Approximately 900.000 people will visit the regional natural and cultural areas (in duration o five years)





**Thank you very much**

**Prof. Vagelis Papadakis**

Dept. of Environmental & Natural Resources Management

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Email: [vgpapadakis@upatras.gr](mailto:vgpapadakis@upatras.gr)