

ACTIONS in European Union projects on entrepreneurship

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PROFILE

Regional Development Fund of Western Macedonia

Established: 1994

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PROFILE

The Regional Development Fund (RDF) of Western Macedonia, is a Private Body chaired by the Regional Governor.

RDF is the official Regional Paying Authority for the majority of the Regional Projects that are funded by the Public Investment Programme.

RDF is also a key player in forming policies, which the Regional Government of Western Macedonia, under approval of its Council, transforms into calls for funding through the Regional Operational Programme.



PROFILE

Moreover, RDF is the main authority for planning and implementing European Projects.

The Regional Development Fund has many years of expertise and experience in managing European programs and has participated in several transnational regional cooperation programs

Project title	EU programme	Thematic focus	
BIOCLUS	FP7	Biomass	
PROFOR BIOMED	MED	Biomass	
BIOENAREA	INTERREG IVC	Bioenergy	
SHARP	INTERREG IVC	Water management	
HISTCAPE	INTERREG IVC	Cultural Heritage	
EMPOWER	Intelligent Energy Europe	Smart ICT in Energy	
LOCFOOD	INTERREG IVC	Food sector SMES' and innovation	
DESUR	INTERREG IVC	SMEs' Corporate Social Responsibility	
DIFASS	INTERREG IVC	Alternative funding solutions for SME's	
SMART+	INTERREG IVB	SMES' and innovation	
SMARTinMED	MED	Innovation in Energy	
GABE	INTERREG IPA Greece - Albania	Bioenergy	
INACT	INTERREG	Cross border SMEs' internationalization	

Project title	EU programme	Thematic focus		
REBORN	INTERREG EUROPE	Embracing failure to encourage second chance entrepreneurship and competitiveness		
EPICAH	INTERREG EUROPE	Improvement of the policy instruments for crossborder natural and cultural heritage protection and development		
ECOWASTE4FOOD	INTERREG EUROPE	Supporting eco-innovation to reduce food waste and promote a better resource efficient economy		
FOREST ED	ERASMUS	Education for the sustainable development of mediterranean model forests		
GOALNZEBS	IPA Greece - Albania	Transforming public buildings into nearly zero energy buildings (nZEBs)		
CINTRAN	HORIZON	Carbon Intensive Regions in Transition, Coal phase-out, Decarbonization		
FINMED	INTERREG MED	Boosting the financing of innovation for green growth sectors through innovative clusters services in the MED area		

LOCFOOD

Title : Local food as engine for local business

Duration : 01/01/2012 - 31/12/2014

Partners : Nordland County Council

Marche Region

Intermunicipality Association from Chiva to Utiel

Development Centre Litija

Province of Rimini

Canton of Jura

Orebro Regional Development Council

Region of Western Macedonia

Business Support Centre, Kranj

Down District Council

Regional Council of Vasterbotten

Euro Perspectives Foundation

University of Ulster





LOCFOOD



The project concerned improvement of existing policies and regional strategies for both SMEs and entrepreneurship in the local food sector.

The SMEs in the local food sector are micro SMEs that have low involvement in clustering, cooperation and innovation.

Through improving policies, the participating regions emphasized on encouraging entrepreneurship and innovative actions concerning the use of local food.



Highlights of the project

- A very interesting and enlightening project
- An extended and to the point research ended in useful results for local food sector
- Good practices presented were about:
 - Cooperation and networks
 - Local/Regional support
 - Food and tourism
 - Company/product innovation

Overall **47** best practices uploaded on website

The Regional Implementation Plan

A regional Implementation Plan was elaborated including 2 proposals for action plans.

1. Regional Structure for Quality Certification of Local Products
2. The establishment of a local food industry cluster

Some time later the “**Agrifood Partnership of Western Macedonia**” was established

LOCFOOD - Recommendations



Recommendations for the local food sector

- Establishment of a **Regional Structure for the development of entrepreneurship - Entrepreneurship Observatory / RTDI**
- Establishment of a **Regional Business Centre** that will include an Exhibition Centre, a Regional Innovation Pole, a Business Incubator and a Conference Centre.

LOCFOOD - Recommendations



- Organized **promotion of local food**
Development of an **electronic ‘food basket’** of Western Macedonia
- Establishment of a **Regional Structure for the Quality Certification of local products.**
- Development of **food cluster**

LOCFOOD - Recommendations



- Development of a campaign to inform professionals in the **tourism sector**, to support the RWM product basket
- Creation of a **special ‘shelf’** in the Super Markets of Western Macedonia with local products.
- Creation of **exhibition showrooms** and outlets of local products in Service Areas – Rest Areas of the Egnatia Motorway.



ECOWASTE4FOOD



Title : Supporting eco-innovation to reduce food waste and promote a better resource efficient economy

Duration : 01/01/2017 - 31/12/2020

Budget : 1.465.703,00 €

Partners : International Centre for Advanced Mediterranean Agronomic Studies -
Mediterranean Agronomic Institute of Montpellier
Devon County Council,
Regional Council of Provence Alpes Côte d'Azur,
Regional Council of South Ostrobothnia,
Waste Agency of Catalonia (ARC),
Wielkopolska Region,
RDF



ECOWASTE4FOOD



The project brought together 7 local and regional authorities from 7 countries throughout Europe.

Its ambition was - to address the crucial issue of food waste,

- to stop an unacceptable situation which causes the loss of up to 50% of the agricultural production that keeps not consumed or is consumed in a wrong way regarding health concerns,
- to demonstrate that food waste could be at source of a resource efficient and environmentally friendly economy for the territories.

Local and regional authorities partners worked together, exchanging their experiences and learning from each other, to promote in their territories eco-innovation to reduce food waste, as a way to move toward a smart sustainable and inclusive growth.

These public authorities have committed themselves to improve their own policies

Also a group of local stakeholders was actively involved

ECOWASTE4FOOD

RESULTS

It was the **first time** that Food Waste was raised as an issue in regional level

Actions proposed included the **support of food enterprises in the implementation of innovative practices and / or research and development that result in the reduction of food waste.**



ECOWASTE4FOOD

Specifically **2 activities** were proposed:

- **ACTIVITY 1: Reducing food waste at the source:** innovative practices and development of new or existing production lines for the valorization of food waste or residues that are produced from the productive process.
- **ACTIVITY 2: Re-use of products which are considered today to be unusable or could not be sold:** Innovative practices for the valorization of food waste resulting from the development of new products.

thank
YOU
so
much

