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ADVANCE

Newsletter



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ADVANCE

Advancing Municipal Circular Economy

- ✓ Are you a HoReCa business or a Municipality?
- ✓ Do you want to become more sustainable and reduce food waste?
- ✓ Do you care for the environment?

If your answer is yes, you are at the right place, keep reading and welcome to the ADVANCE project!

welcome!



Innovations in the Circular Economy: Bridging the Gap between HoReCa and Municipalities

As we journey towards a more sustainable future, the Circular Economy has emerged as a beacon of hope, transforming the way we approach waste management and resource utilization. On one side, we have HoReCa businesses, bustling with delicious cuisines yet grappling with food waste challenges. On the other side, municipalities work diligently to create waste management frameworks. But gaps persist in their alignment.

ADVANCE – What is it about?

The Advance Project is set to bridge the divide between HoReCa businesses and municipalities, paving the way for a harmonious circular economy. By analyzing the existing gaps between these two vital entities, we aim to unlock innovative solutions that will revolutionize waste management practices. Together, we will work towards a shared vision of a greener, waste-free world!



The ADVANCE project will create an innovative framework that will aim to create a strategic educational, training and awareness alliance, aiming to achieve the ambitious target regarding food waste, between Municipalities and Small and Medium Enterprises so that both parties can implement smoothly and effectively the shift towards Circular Economy practices. A growing and active ADVANCE online community will be created, with main objective to enable HoReCa Businesses and Municipalities to become competent in the area of Circular Economy and Waste Management.



Results:

- ✓ **Baseline Assessment on Waste Management:** An Online baseline assessment which will be based on local surveys, in households and HORECA SMEs, that aim to characterize food waste behaviors, identify crucial links and quantify specific material streams.
- ✓ **Gap Analysis Methodology and Tool:** An online tool hosted in ADVANCE Online Platform that will be used as a mechanism in which target groups will be enabled to assess their overall competences, capability and skills on Circular Economy and Waste Management processes.
- ✓ **ADVANCE Roadmap:** Two different Roadmaps, one for municipalities and one for the SMEs in the HORECA sector in order to achieve the food waste targets set by the EU and the SDGs (Sustainable Development Goals).
- ✓ **ADVANCE Course:** A curriculum broken down into certain learning modules, covering areas of the whole spectrum of Municipal CE and will be suitable for the defined target groups.

The project is conducted by a consortium of 7 partners from 5 European countries: Greece, Cyprus, Serbia, Belgium and Croatia.

- Lead Partner: NATIONAL TECHNICAL UNIVERSITY OF ATHENS – NTUA (GR)
- Partner – P1: SIGMA BUSINESS NETWORK (GR)
- Partner – P2: D-WASTE LTD (GR)
- Partner – P3: E.G. EUGENE GLOBAL LTD (CY)
- Partner – P4: Grada Novog Sada (SR)
- Partner – P5: Horeca Partners (BE)
- Partner – P6: GRAD ZADAR (CR)

You can meet us on the next pages of the Newsletter.

Meet the Team - Greece

NATIONAL TECHNICAL UNIVERSITY OF ATHENS

www.ntua.gr



NTUA

The National Technical University of Athens (NTUA), founded in 1836, is the oldest and most prestigious educational institution of Greece in the field of technology. NTUA employs around 400 people as academic staff, 400 scientific assistants and 550 administrative and technical staff.

NTUA participates through the School of Mining and Metallurgical Engineering (SMME), and more specifically, with the Laboratory of Mining and Environmental Technology (LMET). LMET offers a number of undergraduate and postgraduate courses related to, among others, environmental management, industrial and urban management, and financial and cost benefit analysis, etc.

LMET has been involved in more than 75 research projects funded by both the private and public sector, along with research programs funded by the EC. An important part of this research effort is in the field of waste management, especially with regards to industrial and hazardous waste.

ADVANCE team members



Dimitris Damigos

Dimitris is the scientific coordinator of the ADVANCE project. He is a Professor at the School of Mining and Metallurgical Engineering of NTUA. He holds a PhD in Environmental Economics, and his research interests include environmental and energy economics, financial and cost-benefit analyses, mineral economics and environmental management and policy. He has participated in more than 65 research projects and has published more than 150 papers in the abovementioned fields.

Kostas Ekonomou

Kostas is a PhD candidate and a researcher in the LMET of the Mining and Metallurgical School of NTUA. He has worked in metal industries in Greece and abroad as a process engineer. He has participated in research projects related to circular economy and his current research focuses on topics related to mineral economics.



Meet the Team - Greece

SIGMA BUSINESS NETWORK

www.thesigmanet.com



SIGMA BUSINESS NETWORK

(TOURNIS SYMVOULEFTIKI EE) is a consulting firm covering essential business and one of our partners that needs in the areas of Business Resilience, Governance, Risk & Compliance Management, Incident & Crisis Management, Business Continuity Management, Information Security and Privacy Management.

SIGMA utilizes globally established Methodologies and Best Practices, customized to each Client's (and Project's) specific business & operational individualities and responding to the majority of international & national standards, regulations and legislations, or individual customer policies.

Based in European Union, SIGMA delivers its high-value services and solutions to Corporate and Government Organizations in Europe, the Balkans and the Middle East, covering all business sectors and industries such as Banks, Telecoms, Technology firms, Pharmaceuticals, Energy, Health, Insurance, Stock Exchanges, Lottery, Retail, Wholesales, Automotive Industries et al.

SIGMA is a proud business partner of world-leading organizations in the areas of its interests and is an active member in ongoing research and innovation programs of EU.

ADVANCE team members



Stamatis Tournis

Dr Stamatis Tournis is a Principal Consultant, in charge of our Consulting and Advisory Services. Proficient in Operational Risk Management, Business Continuity, Information Security & Crisis Management, he has a strong background in Management, Business & Operations Analysis, Information Technology utilization & Programme and Project Management in complex environments.

He has more than 35 years extensive experience with projects in Private and Government Organizations and in a large variety of business areas, as Banks, Telecoms, Technological, Pharmaceutical, Energy, Health, Insurance, Tobacco, Stock Exchanges, Lottery, Retail, Wholesales and Automotive Industries. He is a Fellow Member (FBCI) of The Business Continuity Institute (UK), a Certified Project Management Professional (PMP) by The Project Management Institute (USA), a Certified ISO27001 and ISO22301 Lead Auditor and Implementer by PECB, a Certified Information Systems Auditor (CISA) and a Certified Professional in Risk and Information Systems Control (CRISC) by ISACA (USA).

An experienced keynote speaker, presenter, seminar lecturer, trainer & writer with a lot of publications in international magazines and newspapers, he is also the Leader for Greece and Cyprus BCI Forum, Member of the Advisory Board of the Continuity & Resilience Review Journal and Member of the BCI European Awards Judging Panel for several years.

Anastasia Ntinou

Anastasia Ntinou is a Business Management Consultant in Organizational and Operational subjects, focusing mainly on Business Sustainability Management, Needs Analysis and development of related Strategies, Evaluation, Assessment and Management of Risks, working with clients in public and private sector.

In addition, her areas of specialization and responsibilities include her role as a Researcher and Project Manager in European and National projects.

Anastasia Ntinou holds a degree in Material Science from University of Patras, Greece.



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Meet the Team - Greece

D-WASTE

www.d-waste.gr



D-WASTE LTD, Greece, is an environmental consulting company specialized in waste management and food-waste solutions. D-Waste constitutes a global team of experts, with more than 20 years' experience in waste management. D-Waste has been involved in many private and public projects both in Greece and abroad regarding waste management, food waste prevention and management solutions, while it has participated in various innovative EU programs as well. D-Waste has worked in more than 20 countries, with different cultural, economic and social conditions providing fully customised, affordable and high quality waste management services to support its clients worldwide. D-Waste's philosophy and approach is to make waste management consulting easily accessible and affordable for all those who need it.

Meet the Team - Cyprus

EUGENE GLOBAL

www.eugeneglobal.eu



E.G. Eugene Global Ltd is an enterprise established in 2010, with a vision to develop and deliver trustworthy solutions, to provide high-quality consulting services and training, covering needs in business, operations, governance and Information technology areas. The company is based in Limassol Cyprus and provides its services and solutions in all types of organizations whether private and/or public.

We operate locally, in the region and at international level and typical clients include companies and organizations of all sizes from big corporations to SMEs, in Cyprus, Europe and the Middle East.

Eugene is constantly focusing on the value, professional development and welfare of its people. Our team includes specialized and certified professionals and experts, with a long experience and expertise in their areas. All our managers and senior experts have more than 20 years of field experience in local and international environments and utilize their background, soft skills and maturity to provide and build value for our clients.



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Meet the Team - Serbia

CITY OF NOVI SAD

www.novisad.rs/eng



Novi Sad is the administrative, economic, cultural, scientific and touristic centre of the Autonomous Province of Vojvodina and the second largest city in Serbia.

Geographically, Novi Sad is in a favourable position. It lies on important transit routes, which provides significant comparative assets.

Novi Sad is connected to the region with road and railway routes as well as waterways. It is in the centre of a highway network connecting Northeastern and Eastern Europe to the Middle and Far East, as well as Central and Northern Europe to the ports of the Adriatic Sea.

The city lies on the European Corridor 10 which connects eight countries on its main route from Salzburg to Thessaloniki, and another six countries with its side routes. The European Corridor 7, or the Danube River waterway, connects Western European countries to the Black Sea. Novi Sad is also connected with the Danube – Tisa – Danube canal system, which enables navigation from the Central Europe to the Black Sea. Novi Sad is located on 1,225th kilometre of the Danube flow. The river is wide here and it forms numerous islands, inlets and sandbanks.

According to the 2022 population Census, 368,967 inhabitants live in the City of Novi Sad, and 260,438 inhabitants live in Novi Sad settlement.

Nowadays, a widely recognizable symbol of the City is Exit Festival, while in the past, and even so today that place has been reserved for the Serbian cultural institutions: Matica srpska - the oldest cultural-scientific institution of Serbia, Serbian National Theatre, Sterijino pozorje Theatre Festival... Furthermore, our City, in contrast to many other European destinations, has the reputation, by full right, of a multinational, multicultural and multi-confessional metropolis in which all differences are seen as advantages. The witnesses to that are Novi Sad Theatre/Újvidéki Színház and University of Novi Sad with 14 faculties and specialized departments at which the lectures are held in languages of national minorities or were founded with that purpose. Still, there are so many other things that represent a daily, lively routine of Novi Sad.

ADVANCE Team Members

Mira Radenović Bojić



Member of the City Council in charge of Property and Property - Rights Relations, Environmental Protection, Sustainable Development and Energy Efficiency.

Graduated from the Faculty of Science and Mathematics in Novi Sad in 2010 - Department of Chemistry, Biochemistry and Environmental Protection, majoring in: Engineer for Quality Control and Environmental Management. She completed her master's studies in 2012 at the same faculty, majoring in Quality Control and Environmental Management Engineer. She enrolled in doctoral academic studies - environmental protection at the Faculty of Science and Mathematics in Novi Sad in 2015.

Member of the City Council for Urban Planning and Environmental Protection (2016-2020)

Member of the joint consultative board of the Committee of the Regions European Union-Republic of Serbia (2016-2020). She is the president of the inter-municipal working group for municipal waste management for the City of Novi Sad and the municipalities of Bačka Palanka, Bački Petrovac, Beočin, Vrbas, Žabalj and Srbobran (since 2018).

Jelena Moravski



Jelena Moravski is a master engineer in environmental protection. She completed her undergraduate and master's studies at the Faculty of Technical Sciences. In the city administration for environmental protection, she holds the position of Assistant Chief. With 14 years of experience in the Administration, she dealt with all segments of the Administration's scope of work. The biggest current focus of the work is directed towards projects with state and international institutions.

Nemanja Matrinović



Nemanja Matrinović is assistant chief of office City of Novi Sad - City Administration for Environmental Protection. Activities

Development of strategic plans and objectives for the environmental protection office, supervising staff, delegating tasks, and ensuring that the office functions efficiently and effectively.

Development and implementation of environmental policies and regulation.

Building partnerships, facilitating collaborations, and fostering positive relationships to promote environmental protection initiatives.

Responsible for budget planning and resource management within the environmental protection office.

Miroslava Joksimović



Miroslava Joksimović completed her master's studies in the field of environmental protection at the Faculty of Technical Sciences in Novi Sad.

In the City Administration for Environmental Protection, works in the position of executor for monitoring the state of the environment, maintaining the local register of sources of pollution, information and other professional tasks.

Meet the Team - Belgium



HORECA PARTNERS

www.horecapartners.be

Horeca Partners is a commercial organisation specialized as consultant in the field of hospitality, food, FMCG, tourism and leisure. Our experts help companies and public bodies in taking strategic decisions in terms of development, qualification and assessment of the knowledge, skills and competencies of their staff. Horeca Partners provides services both in the format of individual or team coaching, classroom training, project management and crisis management. We are also supporting general and strategic management, operational and organisational management, marketing, human resources and feasibility studies. Our clients are hotels, cities and municipalities, provinces, restaurants, wellness, b&b's, wineries, etc. Being the biggest organisation in the field of tourism and leisure industry consultancy in the Antwerp region we have many contacts in the Belgian tourism sector, in almost any part of the tourism industry and at many governmental levels.

ADVANCE team members



Filip Nicasi

In addition to being a director at Horeca Partners, Filip is an expert on acquisitions, feasibility studies and training. He started his career as an economist in the hotel sector and then went on to work as manager of a training seat for Quick Restaurants and then Kinapolis & Metropolis. He is comfortable with the economic and management aspects of the hospitality business and regularly gives training and advice on management and communication.



Steve Van Uytbergen

As a director, Steve is at the forefront of quality and strategic management within Horeca Partners. Thanks to his exceptionally strong academic background in Accountancy & Taxation, he is the expert in both the fiscal-legal side and in optimising the profitability of hospitality businesses. From his academic experience as campus dean, he adds a layer of science to our projects.



Veronique Loiselet

Veronique is so much more than the administrative support of the different services of Horeca Partners. Veronique manages projects as the best. With her expertise and experience in hospitality, real estate and legal matters, she is the perfect match for our back office and project support. On top of that she is a very strong desk researcher, an absolute plus in all of our projects.



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Meet the Team – Croatia

CITY OF ZADAR
www.zadar.hr



City of Zadar is a local self-government unit, determined by the Local self-government and Administration Act and Territories of Counties, Cities and Municipalities in the Republic of Croatia Act. It has 200 employees and 13 administrative departments and offices. The administrative area of the City of Zadar includes the city of Zadar, that counts around 75 000 people, four nearby settlements and seven islands.

Fields of competence, which are under the jurisdiction of this local public authority, are as follows: arrangement of city districts and housing, spatial and urban planning, municipal economy, child care, social welfare, primary health care, education and primary education, culture, physical culture and sport, consumer protection, protection and improvement of natural environment, fire and civil protection, traffic in its area, maintenance of public roads, construction, energy efficiency, issuance of physical planning and construction documents and other works in accordance with special laws.

The City of Zadar is active participant in the field of transnational and cross-border cooperation with a long tradition of cooperation with numerous foreign local governments and international organizations. The mission is a responsible and efficient management of public affairs as well as transparent work of the city government in accordance with interests and needs of its citizens. Furthermore, Zadar is the largest city and center of Zadar County, and thus has the biggest influence not only on its citizens but also on the citizens of the surrounding area.

ADVANCE Team Members



Josip Milić, Assistant to the head of Department for EU funds

Has a ten plus years experience in preparing and implementing EU funded projects in the field of development of business, culture, tourism, and sustainable mobility infrastructure, mobility and innovation, human resources development, energy efficiency & environment protection, cross-border and transnational cooperation, and projects concerning the improvement of quality of life and social standards in local communities.



Iris Čirjak

Iris works as Advisor for the implementation of the ITI mechanism in the Department for EU funds. Through the ITI mechanism there are possibilities for active implementation of activities of sustainable urban development in the wide area of the City of Zadar, which have an emphasized territorial dimension. Her previous work regarding climate change mitigation refers to the projects: ALTERENERGY - promotion of energy efficiency and use of renewable energy sources and LIFE SEC ADAPT - upgrading sustainable energy communities in mayor adapt initiative by planning climate change adaptation strategies.



Žana Klarić

Žana works as a Head of Sector for Environmental Protection in City of Zadar, in a field of environmental protection, especially on sustainable waste management issues and climate change mitigation and adaptation. She also participated on several EU projects related to climate changes and energy efficiency.



Barbara Burčul

Barbara Burčul works as Advisor in Sector for Environmental Protection in City of Zadar, on topics related to sustainable waste management. Her previous work includes nature protection, mainly regarding to species protection on the national and EU level.

Let's work towards a shared vision of a greener waste-free world!



WEB

www.advance-foodwaste.eu

FACEBOOK

www.facebook.com/AdvanceFoodWaste/

LINKEDIN

<https://www.linkedin.com/company/86036392/admin/feed/posts/>

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