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**MUNICIPAL ENTERPISE**  
**OF WATER SUPPLY**  
**& SEWERAGE OF ORAIOKASTRO**  
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**Project title: Construction and Improvement of Drainage and Waste Water Networks**

**Project acronym :DRAINAGE**

## **PARTNER**

<b>LP (P1)</b>	Municipal Enterprise of Water Supply & Sewerage of Oraiokastro	GREECE
<b>P2</b>	Municipality of Thermi	GREECE
<b>P3</b>	Municipality of Smolyan	BULGARIA
<b>P4</b>	Municipality of Mineralni bani	BULGARIA

## Budget Per Partner

Project Partner No	Country	Eligible Programme area				Total (3)=(1)+(2)
		ERDF (1)	%	National Co-financing (2)	%	
<b>LP (P1)</b>	GREECE	3.455.024,02 €	85	609.710,12 €	15	4.064.734,14 €
<b>P2</b>	GREECE	1.316.512,34 €	85	232.325,71 €	15	1.548.838,05 €
<b>P3</b>	BULGARIA	2.495.908,98 €	85	440.454,53 €	15	2.936.363,51 €
<b>P4</b>	BULGARIA	1.568.261,93 €	85	276.752,10 €	15	1.845.014,03 €
<b>TOTALS</b>		<b>8.835.707,27 €</b>	<b>85</b>	<b>1.559.242,46 €</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>10.394.949,73 €</b>

## **Brief History of the Project**

The proposed project reflects the jointly identified need to strengthen the collaboration between the competent authorities of the two countries, with the aim to promote the construction and the improvement of the drainage and water supply infrastructure as strategic energy sources for environmental protection in Greece and Bulgaria. This common need for sustainable management and promotion of the environmental resources was identified by the Municipal Enterprise of Water Supply & Sewerage of Oraikastro (LP) and by the Municipality of Smolyan (P3) who jointly initiated the development of the current project proposal, in agreement with the context set by the Renewable Environment Directive 2009. Both aforementioned partners, who have been involved in relevant actions over the past years within their respective territories, have initiated since a long time a consultation procedure with the aim to develop a partnership suitable for taking action towards the achievement of the specific goals identified. This consultation procedure and the relevant efforts resulted in the development of a partnership that eventually also included the Municipality of Thermi and the Municipality of Mineralni Bani. Participating partners jointly shaped the specific project idea and contributed to the project's detailed design through meetings and efforts. These efforts resulted in creating communication channels and in developing this Project Proposal through joint coordinated efforts.

The project will contribute to the reduction of the pollution of waters and soils in the settlements, to the improvement of the environment and limitation of the population health risks there.

## **Background of the project (problems/target groups/challenges to be addressed)**

The above mentioned are the main challenges that the participating partners have to face. The need to implement the proposed project appears to be imperative, as the heavy pressure on the water resources and the lack of investments on drainage networks construction has caused many problems that the proposed project tries to face

and solve. In addition the devalorisation of ecosystems by exhausting and irrational use of resources and the water supply problems enable the implementation of new infrastructure projects necessary. Thus, the project aspires to stimulate joint actions that will aim at preserving the natural resources for future generations, manage environmental resources for present exploitation and future growth, always taking into consideration the EU policies regarding environmental protection issues. The project actions have been developed and will be implemented by partnering organizations. Partnership is one of the significant characteristics of the stable development, which is of main priority to the EU. Partnership unites the efforts for the implementation of the action for achieving stable development. One of the principles, guiding the stable development is the cooperation between countries and regions in protecting the environment and improving the quality of life. With the action implementation, additional outer water will be constructed. That will result in the reconstruction and sanitation of the whole region and the provision of a favorable and healthy environment for the population. The DRAINAGE project, through the cooperation of administration authorities from both countries, is aiming to fill this gap and satisfy the demand for such a transboundary mechanism that will support the sustainable use of water resources and drainage systems in Greece and Bulgaria, through:

1. The construction of Drainage and Waste Water Pipeline transportation
2. The construction of domestic sewage systems
3. The building of water-supply systems
4. The building of a mixed type sewerage systems

### **Objectives of the Project**

The proposed project aims to improve the quality of life and to enhance the quality of drinking water in areas that face problems with drinking water supply. The main objective is to promote and increase the attractiveness of the

region through improving the living environment social integration through the support of actions which, with the help of new technological tools, will identify the environmental disparities of the area and will provide specific solutions. The project, also, aims to the local growth through, the improvement and increase of employment in the regions of participating partners. The abovementioned objectives completely correspond to the priorities of the program and directly contribute to the achieving of the overall objective of the program, namely to promote the Cross-Border Area by ensuring regional cohesion and enhancing competitiveness. The general goal that arises from the implementation of project actions, is the support of cross-border cooperations, between the two participating countries, having as ultimate goal to improve the quality of life for the local population.

More specifically the main objectives of the project are:

- improving the quality of the main public services
- protecting public health;
- improving the environmental quality;
- strengthening cross border partnership through development of partnerships for overcoming the common problems and encouraging joint regional initiatives for improvement in the quality of the water-mains and sewerage infrastructure.

### **Expected Results (direct and immediate effects resulting from the project)**

The added value offered by the cross-border approach comes from the reality of the participating countries which share common problems as like common developing perspectives. The project partners will share human and natural resources, competences and know-how, experiences and best practices in order to achieve the optimum results. With the implementation of the project, part of the most important elements of the infrastructure and the

ecology of the Partners will be built, namely: sewerage and water-main network.

The expected results from project's implementation could be described as follows:

1. Improved quality of the water and sewerage systems, brought in line with the European directives for the drinking water
2. Provided security of the water supply
3. Reduction of functioning costs through diminishing the loss of drinking water.
4. Diminished pollution of the river waters
5. Diminished pollution of the underground waters and the inner layers of the soils.
6. The exchange of best practices