

5 CITIES DEMONSTRATORS



PALMA

Zero food waste/ use of local ecological products, distribution of the usable food waste among the vulnerable population and compost production from the non-usable fraction



LARNACA

Sustainable mobility/ creation of bicycle routes to connect different cultural and natural attractions



HIMARA

Sustainable mobility/ creation of a network of bicycle lanes and bike stations connecting different beaches



RETHYMNO

Sustainable mobility & Energy efficiency/ installation of solar carport, e-bike and e-car charging stations in the city



GOZO

Water management/ construction of a water reservoir to gather and reuse rainwater runoff near a touristic area

5 REGIONS / NATIONS

Albania, Malta, Region of Crete, Larnaca and Famagusta District, Region of Balearic Islands



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Project Partners:



Associated Partners:

Ministry for Energy and Water Management of Malta
Association of Albanian Municipalities
Conference of Peripheral Maritime Regions of Europe (CPMR)
Inter-Municipal Company for Solid Waste Management S.A (DEDISA)
Association of Solid Waste Management of Crete (ESDAK)

INCIRCLE PROJECT



Support INSular and low density areas in the transition towards a more CIRCULAR tourism Economy



APPLYING CIRCULAR ECONOMY PRINCIPLES FOR SUSTAINABLE TOURISM



PROCESS

INCIRCLE is a Multi-module Interreg MED project (Testing & Capitalising Type). This means that it capitalises on existing knowledge for Circular Tourism and proposes replicable tools and strategies, after testing them in the project territories.

Circular Tourism is addressed through four main pillars: sustainable mobility, energy efficiency, water management, waste management.

Specifically, INCIRCLE:

- › Builds on already existing knowledge
- › Tests and adapts already developed solutions
- › Adopts a common set of circularity indicators
- › Strengthens capacity of policy-makers and tourism stakeholders
- › Transfers and capitalises gained knowledge in new MED regions

CHALLENGE

Tourism is among the most important economic drivers for the MED area. However, in the MED vulnerable touristic destinations such as the islands and scarcely inhabited territories, the natural resources are at stake due to the seasonal massive tourist flows, depleting its environmental capital, which is being used more quickly than it can be renewed. A wide range of negative impacts and externalities affect the quality and availability of natural resources as well as the areas' attractiveness.

The environmental footprint of tourism activities is reflected on increased environmental pollution, excessive water and energy use and waste production.



-  **WATER**
-  **WASTE**
-  **ENERGY**
-  **MOBILITY**

PROJECT

INCIRCLE aims to support insular and scarcely inhabited MED areas to meet the increasing environmental challenges caused by tourist activities by promoting the application of Circular Economy (CE) principles in the tourism sector.

Its mission is to “Enhance the sustainability and attractiveness of MED touristic insular and low-density areas through Circular Tourism, preserving the quality and availability of natural resources as well as improving the quality of life of residents & tourists.”

It is an Interreg MED project co-financed by the European Regional Development Fund.

Duration: November 2019 – June 2022

Budget: €3.3 million

MAIN OUTPUTS

- › **Development of the online INCIRCLE Knowledge Platform**, aiming to gather and exchange already available CE solutions and knowledge to support the development of CE policies and practices in the tourism sector.
- › **Development of the INCIRCLE set of circular tourism indicators**, allowing for benchmarking and monitoring of the progress made regarding tourism circularity in tourist destinations.
- › **Pilot testing activities in 5 cities** (Palma, Himara, Gozo, Larnaca, Rethymno), focusing on different CE solutions and their results.
- › **5 Regional/ National Strategies** aiming at the transition towards a more circular regional tourism model in their areas.
- › **6 MED regional territories** re-testing the INCIRCLE methodological approach and developing their own circular tourism strategies.