



Municipality of Hersonissos

PROFILE DESCRIPTION

**MUNICIPALITY OF HERSONISSOS**

The Municipality of Hersonissos is located centrally at the North coast of Crete. The Municipality is adjacent to the Municipality of Heraklion, which is the capital of Crete, and lies proximal to the hub-airport Nikos Kazantzakis. The town population is approximately 25,000 people and is distributed between the towns of Hersonissos, Gouves, Mallia and Episkopi.

The Municipality comprises of the coastal area and the inland mountainous province. The main income source for people in the coastal area is tourism industry. Tourism infrastructure includes high quality hotels and accommodation businesses; blue flag awarded beaches and water parks, golf course, emergency medical centers and well equipped congress facilities. Main income source in the inland province is agriculture focusing on olive oil and wine production and animal husbandry.

Tourist attractions include intact landscape, picturesque villages, agricultural museums, animal farms, cultural tours, ancestral pathways and a number of historical monuments and sites. Main archaeological sites include the Minoan Palaces of Mallia and Amnissos (the summer Palace of King Minos) the Archaeological sites of Niros, Karfi (Minoan refuge) as well as ambiguous antiquities from the Classical, Hellenistic, Roman and Byzantine era. Visitors are able to enjoy extreme leisure activities such as paragliding, water sports, bungee jumping and mountain bike.

In relation to environmental policy, Hersonissos Municipality has been twice awarded the prize ECO-POLIS (2009, 2010) and the Town Council has put a great effort aiming at:

- high-quality life in Hersonissos
- protection of the environment
- eco-culture promotion
- promotion of good practices

Environmental preservation and sustainability is a central issue in the Municipal policies and this is perceived by residents and citizens and also by the thousands of tourists who visit the tourist resort, each year. The management and preservation of the

sensitive Mediterranean coastline of the Hersonissos Municipality, is of great importance and many beaches in the Municipality area have been awarded within the framework of the European Programme BLUE FLAGS OF EUROPE. The Municipality implements the European campaign LEGAMBIENTE that aims at cleaning of the Mediterranean coastline. The transnational AEM-MED project is focusing on marine environment protection and prevention of natural disasters. The Hersonissos Environmental Education Centre is operating as promoter of eco-culture to kids, young people and adults through environmental education programs. The Municipality is fostering the island of Dia within its area, which is a NATURA network spot, the wetlands of Aposelemis and Mallia and also coastal areas of and the Caretta-Caretta turtle. The Town Council promotes and supports the activities of NGOs that are working for the protection of the environment. The Municipality of Hersonissos hosts in its area the Greek Centre for Marine Research and the "CRETAQUARIUM". The Municipality authorized the Mayor to sign the "COVENANT of MAYORS" adhesion form, showing thus its commitment to significantly reduce carbon emissions and move towards sustainable development while respecting the environment.

Within the Municipality there are numerous Culture Centers that promote traditional and modern culture. The Municipality finances cultural educational activities such as music classes, traditional music classes, painting lessons for the elderly etc.

The Municipal sports center offers free fitness classes for women, children and the elderly and offers with no cost its' facilities to the various sport clubs of Hersonissos. The Center is experienced in organizing World, European, International and National tournaments in various sports.

The Social Policy office of Hersonissos Municipality is responsible for providing:

- Counseling Services
- Adult Education Services
- Education for Employment Opportunities (Vocational Training)
- Establishment of voluntary Health and Well-Being groups (training actions), Civil Protection.
- Establishment of Local Youth Council
- Migrants' education in Greek language
- Cooperation with the Elderly Care Center and Local Medical Centre
- Financial support for families in need

EU PROJECTS

A list of EU funding is attached in excel form

CONTACT NUMBERS

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CVs of KEY PERSONS

Zaharias Emm. Doxastakis - MAYOR

- Mayor Zaharias Emm. Doxastakis was born in Hersonissos in 1959 and is a graduate from the Panteion University, department of Political Sciences. He holds a degree from the Higher School of Tourism Enterprises and is currently a graduate student at the Law School, University of Athens.
- He was the President of “Port of Hersonissos” community between 1986 and 1998 and Mayor of Hersonissos between 1999 and 2002. Between 2003 and 2010 he was Board Member of the Hersonissos Town Council.
- He was the Olympic Games Operations Manager in the Olympic town of Heraklion, during the Athens 2004 Olympic Games.
- Consultant of the Heraklion Mayor, Mr. Kourakis Ioannis, between 2005 and 2010.
- Elected Board Member of the Central Union of Municipalities and Communities (KEDKE) between 1995 and 2006, President of the Standing Institutions’ Committee for KEDKE between 1995 and 2006 and KEDKE’s representative in the tri-lateral Tourism Committee in the Ministry of Tourism Development between 2004 and 2006.
- Elected Board Member and Deputy President, of the Local Union of Municipalities and Communities in Heraklion Prefecture between 1991 and 2006.
- Author on issues related to:
 - Organization and Function of Municipal Police
 - Administrative Legislation – Administrative Procedures – Urban Planning Legislation
 - Institutional and Financial Issues of Local Authorities and Touristic Development

Eleni Maragkaki – Twinning Projects Officer

- Eleni Maragkaki was born in 1977 and is a BSc graduate from the Hellenic Open University in European Culture Studies. Previous employers include the Hersonissos Community Development Agency and the Municipality of Hersonissos Development Agency (PEDIADA SA), where she was responsible for the European and National programmes, planning and development.
- Eleni Maragkaki has been an elected member of Hersonissos Town Council between 2003 to 2006, Member of the Municipal Port Authority, Member of the Municipal Elderly Care Centre and member to many Municipal standing committees such as “Gender Equality”, “Tourism & Public Relations”, “Education, Culture & Youth” etc.
- Eleni Maragkaki has shown extensive social activity as President of the “HERSONISSOS” cultural association, as member of the International Organisation of Folk Art IOV and member of “Kalipateira”. She has broad knowledge of the “Youth in Action” Programmes, as she has been a Project Manager in several such youth exchange projects.

Maria Symeonidou-Sideris – EU Projects Department

- Maria Symeonidou was born in 1968 and is a PhD graduate from the Imperial College at Wye – University of London. Previous job experiences include Hewitt Bacon & Woodrow Consultants in Epsom, UK and the Ohio State University in the US.
- Maria Sideris was the Operations Manager at the RITMO (MEDOCC) project (total budget 165.640,00 euros), Project Manager of LEND@HAND (total budget 23.703,00 euros) and Project Manager of SPIRE (total budget 45.626,00 euros).
- She has submitted 5 project proposals for the Prefecture of Heraklion, as Project Manager at the Interreg IIIB Archimed call of a total budget of 1.684.717, 00 euros, out of which 3 proposals were successful (with a total budget of 784.500 euros I-TRACE, Peoples, MeSFiDe).
- She has also worked as an External Associate for the Agro-Development and Forthnet S.A. for the 'YPAITHROS' project (Innovative Regions).
- Maria Symeonidou is the EU Projects Consultant for “Youthnet Hellas” (voluntary position), an NGO dealing with youth issues. She is the Project Manager for a Grundtvig project “The Threads that Connect Us” (total budget 12.000,00 euros) and a Youth in the World project “STEPS4NGOs”.

Emmanuel Michelekakis – EU Projects Department

- Emmanuel Michelekakis was born in 1976 and is a BA (Hons) graduate from the University of Staffordshire, UK in Business Administration. He holds an MSc in Marketing Management from the University of Aston, UK. He also holds an MSc from the University of Crete, School of Social Sciences. The second, MSc, is focusing on Public and European Policies.
- Previous employers include Aldermar SA Hotels as an Assistant Accountant, Hellenic Telecommunications Organisation as Deputy Officer of the Financial Department and Agricultural Cooperation of Peza Union, as Deputy Officer of the Human Resources Department.
- He holds a License of Accountant A' class and a License of Economist from the Greek Economic Chamber, where he is a member since 2005. He is, also, a member of the Hellenic Logistics Association and a volunteer of Youthnet Hellas-an N.G.O. dealing with youth related issues.

"CLOSED" PROJECTS					
EU COOPERATION PROGRAMME	NAME OF PROJECT	THEME	TOTAL BUDGET	EU FINANCING	COFINANCING/OWN FINANCING
MEDOCC	RITMO	MOBILITY IN ISLAND TOURIST DESTINATIONS	159.966,21	119.974,66	39.991,55
MEDOCC	AEM-MED	MEDITERRANEAN ELECTRONIC MARINE HIGHWAYS	366.500,00	274.875,00	91.625,00
"ENEA"	ELDERLY FLYERS	EU PROJECT ON COOPERATION AND EXCHANGE PROGRAMS TO IMPROVE THE MOVEMENT OF OLD PEOPLE	152.000,00	152.000,00	
RETURN (DIR. GEN. JUSTICE FREEDOM & SECURITY)	LEND@HAND	TRAFFICKING	23.703,00	16.592,00	7.111,00
DAPHNE (DIR. GEN. JUSTICE FREEDOM & SECURITY)	SPIRE	DOMESTIC VIOLENCE	37.188,50	26.768,50	10.420,00
TOTAL			739.357,71	590.210,16	149.147,55
RUNNING PROJECTS					
EU COOPERATION PROGRAMME	NAME OF PROJECT	THEME	TOTAL BUDGET	EU FINANCING	COFINANCING
MED	(MEMO)Mediterranean Electronic Marine Highways Observatory	MARITIME SAFETY	117.534,75	88.151,06	29.383,69
TOTAL			117.534,75	88.151,06	29.383,69
PENDING FOR APPROVAL					
EU COOPERATION PROGRAMME	NAME OF PROJECT	THEME	TOTAL BUDGET	EU FINANCING	COFINANCING/OWN FINANCING
INTERREG IVC	GREENSCAPES	EUROPEAN GREEN LANDSCAPE PERSPECTIVES	150.000,00	127.500,00	22.500,00
TOTAL			150.000,00	127.500,00	22.500,00