

COUNTRY CASE STUDY COI	Greece DE	
	MAIN INFORMATION	
Title	Bridges of participation	
Location	Ioannina	
Responsible Authority	Urbana	
Link	https://urbana.gr/en/portfolio/ioannina- bridges-of-participation/	ΙΩΑΝΝΙΝΆ ΓΕΦΥΡΈΣ ΣΥΜΜΕΤΟΧΗΣ
Keywords	Gender, urban planning, inclusion	

IDENTIFICATION

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Туре	Case (plan, program, project etc.)		х	Stakeholders	Public institutions		х
	Method / Tool			involved	Private sector		х
	Organisation				Civil society organisations		х
	Legal framework				Knowledge institutions		
	Other				Public or grassroots movements		
					Other		
Policy field	Urban planning		х				
	Mobility			Timeline	Start date	March 2023	
	Tourism				End date	Oct. 2023	
	Other						
					On going		
		_			Completed		х
Spatial level	National						
	Regional				Limited		х
	Local		х		Repeated overtime		





CONTENT AND RESULTS

Purpose and context

Adding a gender perspective to the urban development processes of the city of loannina is the subject of the project. The aim of the project is to raise awareness of the gender dimension of urban space among the city's residents and the staff of the Municipality of loannina. This means that there are more chances that urban planning in the future will take into account women - but also other minorities such as children, teenagers, the elderly, the disabled, so that all people can enjoy the city equally and the city meets the needs of all. The program was implemented with the support of the Heinrich Bell Foundation, in continuation of the actions of the Municipality of loannina for the social integration of sensitive social groups, the program aspires to strengthen these actions by making use of the specific tools and methodologies of participatory research and design.

Problems and challenges

Problems and challenges faced include:

- Having to tackle multiple objectives.
- The city of Ioannina has undergone a number of changes in the last years, with interventions that often left out vulnerable groups.
- The second phase of the project was not implemented, as there was no opportunity for cooperation with the local authorities.

Organizing, Supporting and Funding Entities

The project was implemented by Urbana, which is a Civil Non-Profit Partnership, consisting of architects, social scientists, political scientists, and educators, founded in 2019 in Athens, Greece.

Participants included residents of Ioannina city, and employees of the Municipality of Ioannina, which were informed on various issues concerning the project at the beginning of the project.

The project was implemented with the support of the Heinrich Böll Foundation – Thessaloniki Office, Greece.

Process (including participant recruitment & selection) and Interaction/Participation (including methods/tools) used

The project was planned to be carried out in 2 phases:

- A cycle of three experiential workshops with citizens (with an emphasis on the participation of women and LGBTQI+ persons) aiming at raising citizens' awareness of the gender perspective, highlighting people's everyday experiences in the city and how these are also influenced by their and, capturing residents' experiences, needs and desires for change through experiential mapping.
- A cycle of three workshops with the staff of the technical services of the Municipality of Ioannina in order to
 familiarize the employees on gender issues, inform the relevant departments of the Municipality on the
 results of the workshops, explore the possibilities of integrating a gender perspective in the work carried out
 by the employees of the technical departments of the Municipality and present equivalent actions by foreign
 institutions, discussing and exchanging experiences in a European context.

Outcomes, Effects and Lessons Learned

At the end of the activities, the publication "Feminist Mapping, The experience of the programme Ioannina – Bridges of Participation was written, which brings together the results of the project and proposals for implementation by the local authorities. On Monday, 30 October 2023, the open event of the project took place in Ioannina, with the aim of exploring the possibilities of using the proposals of the participants by the municipality. On this occasion, the publication and the results of the programme were presented, the participants of the workshops shared their experiences and testimonies from the programme, and finally, the Accessibility Unit of the University of Ioannina reported on the





accessibility difficulties faced by students with disabilities and the interventions implemented in the context of equal access to the university.

The publication of the "loannina – Bridges of Inclusion" project is the beginning of a broader demand for cities that are friendly to all. Already, groups of active citizens (especially women) are being informed and aware of the need for inclusion in the urban context. The next step is political action by (local) authorities and the active participation of women and other vulnerable social groups in decision-making centres.

Bibliography

- 1. Gregoriadou E. & Alexiou P. (2023) Feminist Mapping: The experience of the action Ioannina Bridges of Participation, Heinrich-Böll-Stiftung, Thessaloniki
- 2. https://gr.boell.org/el/2023/04/21/proseggizontas-tin-poli-apo-tin-optiki-toy-fyloy

