


COUNTRY		
CASE STUDY CODE		
MAIN INFORMATION		
Title	<input type="text" value="Islands of Hope"/>	
Location	<input type="text" value="Island of Samothrace"/>	
Responsible Authority	<input type="text" value="MitOst and Sofia Platform"/>	
Link	<input type="text" value="https://islandsofhope.gr/"/>	
Keywords	<input type="text" value="Participatory planning, islands, local development"/>	

IDENTIFICATION

Type	Case (plan, program, project etc.)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Stakeholders involved	Public institutions	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Method / Tool	<input type="checkbox"/>		Private sector	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Organisation	<input type="checkbox"/>		Civil society organisations	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Legal framework	<input type="checkbox"/>		Knowledge institutions	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Other <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		Public or grassroots movements	<input type="checkbox"/>
			Other	<input type="text" value="NGO"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Policy field	Urban planning	<input type="checkbox"/>	Timeline	Start date	<input type="text" value="Feb. 2021"/>
	Mobility	<input type="checkbox"/>		End date	<input type="text" value="Oct. 2021"/>
	Tourism	<input type="checkbox"/>		On going	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Other <input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		Completed	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Spatial level	National	<input type="checkbox"/>	Limited	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
	Regional	<input type="checkbox"/>	Repeated overtime	<input type="checkbox"/>	
	Local	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			



CONTENT AND RESULTS

Purpose and context

Islands of Hope is a project that aims to support the people of Samothrace to collectively express their challenges and desires and formulate a proposal for a hopeful and sustainable future for their island. The program attempted to challenge the prevailing logic and to emphasize the importance of approaching small islands on their own terms. Also, It tried to highlight insularity as a unique opportunity to look for alternative development paths based on criteria of sustainability and social well-being.

Problems and challenges

The problems and challenges identified included:

- The development course of small islands is not decided on by their inhabitants.
- The absence of culture for structured dialogue creates problems in public consultation.
- The institutional ambiguity and complexity often lead to resignation from participation.

Organizing, Supporting and Funding Entities

Islands of Hope is part of the Civic Europe programme, which supports local ventures, organizations, and individual initiatives, aimed at social cohesion and the active participation of citizens in democratic tical processes, in central, eastern and southern Europe. The Civic Europe program is implemented by the organizations MitOst and Sofia Platform and funded by the Stiftung Mercator. In Samothraki, the Islands of Hope program was organized by the European Village, in collaboration with the Sustainable Samothrace association.

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

- The process that was followed in Samothrace included:
- Operation of a social meeting place
 - Training in innovative communication techniques
 - Establishment of specific days of collective action
 - Conducting an opinion survey by electronic means
 - Participatory mapping
 - Decentralized actions throughout the region of the island
 - Children's interactive workshop in the Primary School building

Outcomes, Effects and Lessons Learned

At the end of the Island of Hopes Programme a number of very useful findings were identified:

- The physiognomy of Samothrace today.
- How the residents of Samothraki see their island today.
- How the residents see the future of tourism in Samothraki.
- What are the projects that they believe would improve their lives.
- Their view on the proposed wind farm and alternative energy sources.

Bibliography



Co-funded by
the European Union



Varvarousis, A., Petridis, P. (2023) Participatory Planning Toolkit for Small Islands. Notes from Samothraki and other Greek Islands. Thessaloniki: Heinrich Böll Stiftung (In Greek)



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