

COUNTRY	Greece
CASE STUDY CODE	Greece_Good Practice_0.09_04
MAIN INFORMATION	
Title	Neighbourhood initiative Alexandrou Svolou
Location	Thessaloniki
Responsible Authority	-
Link	https://geitoniaalexandrousvolou.wordpress.com/ https://www.facebook.com/geitonia.svolou/
Keywords	Neighbourhood; Initiative; Public Participation



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 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"/>		Public or grassroots movements	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Policy field	Urban planning	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Timeline	Other	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Mobility	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		Start date	2013
	Tourism	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		End date	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Other	<input type="checkbox"/>		On going	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
				Completed	<input 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

- Enhance liveability and creativity in the neighbourhood
- Capitalize on collective knowledge and local capital
- Enhance neighbourhood identity and participatory culture
- Improve local quality of life and cultural expression
- Claim neighbourhood space and function
- Participate in decision making

Problems and challenges

The initiative started to support the neighbourhood and its residents and local business during the aftermath of the economic crisis. It should be noted that Alexandrou Svolou Street is a commercial street in the historical centre of Thessaloniki with numerous local shops and apartment buildings and the usual problems related to central urban areas and the degradation of the quality of life and the environment. is ongoing and progress is currently being made. The direction and structure of the platform is useful and guidance for the user is provided.

Organizing, Supporting and Funding Entities

Organisation and funding: Self-organised and self-funded on a voluntary basis

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

In a period of three years different thematic focus groups in various neighborhoods as well as open events, campaigns public consultation and online information and communication have been applied to integrate public participation into the development of strategies and policies for urban resilience

Outcomes, Effects and Lessons Learned

Outcomes:

- Development of a pocket park with the support of a student project from the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki



- Cooperative initiatives to support the neighbourhood during crises (economic crisis, pandemic)



- Street festivals, awareness events, open discussions, cultural events
- Development of the local Memory Bank (<https://www.facebook.com/groups/976031329226524>) in cooperation with the Centre of History of Thessaloniki (Kentro Istorias Thessalonikis)
- Participation in social movement initiatives

Effects and lessons learnt:

“A main lesson learnt is that social transformation requires patience and does not happen over a day. It is a constant and tiresome daily effort to contact people with whom you disagree or agree and to find common ground based on dialogue” (G. Hatzinakos, member of the Initiative, translated from Greek from: https://www.avgi.gr/koinonia/448707_ena-astiko-peirama-sto-kentro-tis-thessalonikis)

Bibliography

https://www.avgi.gr/koinonia/448707_ena-astiko-peirama-sto-kentro-tis-thessalonikis
<https://www.theopinion.gr/reportaz/deka-chronia-protovoylia-tis-geitonias-alexandroy-svoloy-deka-chronia-drasis-sto-dimosio-choro/>



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