

HANDBOOK GREEN ECONOMY AS A DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITY FOR EU ISLANDS











HANDBOOK

GREEN ECONOMY AS A DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUN FOR EU ISLANDS













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INTRODUCTION

INTRODUCTION

This Handbook is the work of the "Green Islands for sustainable cohesion policy" partnership composed by Sardinia, Balearic Islands, Corsica and Crete, established in 2018 with the aim of participating in the European Week of Region and Cities (EWRC 2018).

During the EWRC 2018 we organised two events in Brussels titled "Green Economy as a development opportunity for EU Islands" to reinforce the collaboration among Mediterranean Islands and foster the commitment on the sustainable development goals.

The brown economy model, based on unconditional exploitation of natural resources considered limitless, has already been replaced by the green economy approach, which recognises our planet ecological limits and encourages a new economic model built on sustainable use of resources, minimising the negative impacts on environment, our society and the quality of life.

It is essential to protect and enhance the natural capital and biodiversity, striking the right balance between natural heritage preservation and the fundamental socio-economic activities of islands such as agriculture, fishing, industry, tourism as well as the mobility of goods and people and urban sprawl.

Sustainability, together with enhancing the resilience of our territories, must be brought back to the heart of all policies and actions. This results in sustainable management of natural heritage, including protected areas, forests and coastal areas as well as adaptation and mitigation measures to tackle climate change. By promoting sustainable tourism and mobility, circular economy and clean energy it is possible to create new green jobs, social development and welfare in EU islands.

It is necessary to invest in tools of aggregation and cooperation capable of raising international awareness on the crucial role of sub-national governments to achieve the sustainable global targets.

A multilevel governance, with the involvement of national, regional, and local authorities is a key factor to shape effective policies and actions in these fields. It is also important to enhance horizontal coordination between different fields to avoid the silo thinking, working in conjunction with different policies in EU islands, such as territorial, landscape, environment, mobility, energy and productive.

Moreover, it is crucial to foster the cross-sectoral collaboration involving all actors in the process and creating a full inclusive and comprehensive governance. This approach has a great potential in spreading know-how and it also has the benefit to involve private and research sectors as well as citizens in this challenge.

These actions require an inclusive approach and need for sharing experiences and activities with all the stakeholders to create a "community" of local and regional partners and promote common participation. A public acceptance of the required strong changes in the ways we produce, consume and dispose of the waste need to be built, engaging with citizens and guiding them to play an active role in this transition.

Mediterranean Islands need to strengthen their collaboration. This can be achieved by increasing the participation in cooperation projects. EU islands do not have to confront European Union individually to face their specific issues. Instead, we must join our efforts and bring common positions and requests to the EU level.

During the European Week of Region and Cities 2018, we took the opportunity to share best practices among EU islands, connecting regions which are implementing similar initiatives. We collected good practices related to islands status on the following topics: climate change, renewable energy and energy efficiency, sustainable tourism, sustainable mobility and circular economy. We gathered all the best practices in this Handbook to foster projects replicability and enhance cooperation among islands on these topics.

Donatella Spano

Regional Minister of Sardinia Region for the Environment Protection Chair of Environment and Energy Commission of the Italian Conference of Regions

LIST OF THE PROJECTS

CLIMATE CHANGE

- LIFE MASTER ADAPT

MAinSTreaming Experiences at Regional and local level for ADAP-Tation to climate change (LIFE15 CCA/IT/000061)

- LIFE REUSING POSIDONIA
- LIFE12 ENV/ES/000079
- MAREGOT

MAnagement dei Rischi derivanti dell'Erosione costiera e azioni di GOvernace Transfrontaliera (Coastal erosion Risk Management and cross-border Governance actions)

- SOCLIMPACT

DownScaling CLImate imPACTs and decarbonisation pathways in EU islands and enhancing socioeconomic and nonmarket evaluation of Climate Change for Europe and for 2050 and beyond

- SheepToShip LIFE

Looking for an eco-sustainable sheep supply chain: environmental benefits and implications

RENEWABLE ENERGY AND ENERGY EFFICIENCY

- INTEGRAL MANAGEMENT

Integral management of street lighting and improvement of the energy efficiency of public infrastructures

- OTTANA THERMODYNAMIC Ottana Thermodynamic Solar pilot plant
- Nérée 2: Using the marine thermal energy OP ERDF-ESF 2014-2020

Priority axis 4 "Support the transition to a low-carbon society

- FOTEMPAR

Grants for the promotion of the implementation of photovoltaic installations in the public sector, SMEs and individuals

SUSTAINABLE TOURISM

INTENSE: Sustainable tourism & soft mobility
OP Interreg Maritimo 2014-2020
Thematic Objective 6 "Preserving and protecting the environment and encouraging a rational use of resources"

- EMbleMatiC

Emblematic Mediterranean Mountains as Coastal destinations of excellence

- BLUEISLANDS

Seasonal variation of waste as an effect of tourism

SUSTAINABLE MOBILITY

- Cycle Network in Sardinia
- OPEN GOVERNMENT
 - Open Government for Mobility
- CAPA Move Phase 2 : Digital tool for mobility OP ERDF-ESF 2014-2020 Priority axis 2 "Develop the information and communication society in the service of territorial cohesion and attractiveness"

CIRCULAR ECONOMY

- SCREEN

Synergic Circular Economy among European Regions

SUSTAINABLE MOBILITY







SUSTAINABLE MOBILITY

Cycle Network in Sardinia

Objectives

- Accord cycling equal dignity vis-a-vis other transport modes;

- Promote and encourage weekday (work/study) and weekend (sport, leisure and tourism) cycling;

- Enhance the appeal and enjoyment of the region by promoting off-peak tourism and diversifying the tourism offer;

- Ensure the safety, homogeneity and continuity of the cycle network throughout the region, overcoming administrative fragmentation; - Favour the adaptive reuse of disused buildings

and infrastructure, respecting the particular context and exploiting the sites' potential.



Sustainable development goals

11 – make cities inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable;

13- take urgent action to combat climate change;



Partners

Involved

Sponsor: Autonomous Region of Sardinia Public Works Dept;

Implementer: ARST Spa Sardinian Regional Transport Agency;

Scientific collaboration: CIREM, University of Cagliari.



description

Project

Sardinia offers a myriad of natural, historical and cultural attractions, and a favourable climate making it an ideal destination for active, sustainable holidays where soft mobility enables visitors to enjoy those regional assets they cannot explore otherwise.

In this sense, in 2015 the Sardinian government set about drawing up the regional plan for cycling mobility, a project that involves the entire island. The plan establishes a network of cycling and intermodal (bike+train) routes, with the reuse of the many disused minor roads and railways, along with new dedicated sections for soft mobility.

Connected by the island's gateways, it is proposed to include the network in the EuroVelo circuit, and in the Italian Bicitalia and SNCT networks. The plan envisages additional interventions such as bike stations at the intermodal nodes, cyclist assistance, special road signs for indicating the routes and cycle parks connected with the local network.



Achieved and expected results

- 2098 km of cycle routes plus 550 km of biketrain routes by 2030;
- 256 towns/villages covered;
- Access to 94 natural sites at the regional, national and international levels;
- € 100,324,090 direct benefits once completed (from 2032);
- € 60.194.454 indirect benefits once completed (from 2032);
- € 40.129.636 added value once completed (from 2032);



- 2.79 daily users per km once completed (from 2032);

- 1093 km included in the EuroVelo circuit;
- Increase the appeal of Sardinia for active tou-
- rism and extend the tourist season;
- Increase tourism flows to the island's interior.



Funding

€8 M RAS funding €7 M ROP-ERDF 2014/2020 €627,298 Italian Road Safety Plan - Olbia Municipality €246,524 State funding €5,053,500 Development & Cohesion Funds 2007/13 Sulcis Plan "Site enhancement"

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