

# Rainwater Harvesting Programme in the Greek Islands

**2<sup>nd</sup>**  
PLACE

• 7th WORLD WATER FORUM •  
WATER SHOWCASE  
GLOBAL FINAL

AMORGOS  
ANAFI  
ANDROS  
ANTIKYTHIRA  
ANTIPAROS  
ASTIPALEA  
CHALKI  
FOLEGANDROS  
IOS  
IRAKLIA  
KASTELORIZO  
KEA  
KOS  
KOUFONISSIA  
KYTHIRA  
KYTHNOS  
LEROS  
LIPSI  
MILOS  
NAXOS  
PAROS  
PATMOS  
RODOS  
SANTORINI  
SERIFOS  
SIFNOS  
SIKINOS  
SYMI  
SYROS  
TILOS  
TINOS

**31**  
ISLANDS

**76,660**  
BENEFICIARIES  
IN ISLAND  
COMMUNITIES

**220**  
TECHNICIANS  
TRAINED

**3,200**  
TEACHERS  
TRAINED

**3**  
POTABLE WATER  
PRODUCTION UNITS  
INSTALLED AND  
UPGRADED  
**1**

**2,400**  
DOMESTIC  
WATER SAVING KITS  
DISSEMINATED

**60**  
RAINWATER HARVESTING  
SYSTEMS INSTALLED  
& REINSTATED

**14,715**  
STUDENTS  
EDUCATED

**310**  
MILLION LITRES  
OF WATER ANNUALLY  
COLLECTED AND USED

**1**  
GREYWATER RECYCLING  
SYSTEM INSTALLED

The Rainwater Harvesting (RWH) Programme started in 2008 and has been implemented in 29 Greek islands. It is designed and implemented by the regional organisation Global Water Partnership - Mediterranean (GWP-Med) and the Environmental Programme "Mission Water" of the Coca-Cola System in Greece (Coca-Cola Hellenic Bottling Company & Coca-Cola Hellas), in collaboration with the islands' local authorities and the Mediterranean Information Office for Environment, Culture and Sustainable Development (MIO-ECSDE). The Programme is financially supported by the Coca-Cola Foundation and the Coca-Cola System in Greece.

 **Global Water  
Partnership**  
Mediterranean



## The background

The majority of the Cycladic and the Dodecanese islands encounter significant water scarcity issues, due to their limited fresh water resources, climate change impacts, as well as the pressure from the steadily rising demand for water. To address these issues, it is critical to showcase and promote sustainable water management practices, as well as alternative ways for water enhancement at local level, while cultivating a new water culture among citizens.

Working towards this direction, the RWH Programme promotes rainwater harvesting and reuse for secondary uses, as a simple, cost-effective and sustainable solution. It revives a wise, millennial practice by reinstating traditional cisterns and demonstrates modern and innovative rainwater harvesting technologies. In parallel, it informs, trains and raises awareness among the educational and technical communities, as well as the wider public at local level, towards a more responsible attitude with regards to water saving.

## The objectives

The Programme has a holistic approach towards non conventional water resources management, aiming to:

- 1 PROMOTE** rainwater harvesting as a useful tool for local water security and climate change adaptation, through the application of appropriate technologies.
- 2 CULTIVATE** among students and general public a new culture of sustainable water use and utilisation of non conventional water resources, especially of rainwater harvesting, through education for sustainable development.
- 3 SHARE** knowledge and experiences on non conventional water resources' management and rainwater harvesting in specific, as a good practice with replication potential in water scarce areas.

## The activities

### Infrastructure works

for the collection and utilisation of rainwater

that demonstrate innovative technologies, appropriate to the specific conditions and needs of each insular community.

### Awareness raising and dissemination

- Awareness raising events and dissemination of domestic water saving kits to households in the islands, to encourage a change of attitude on water consumption and saving
- Presentation of the Programme in international fora, and distinction as the second best case at global level, at the 7<sup>th</sup> World Water Forum's Water Showcase Global Final (2015)
- Transfer of knowledge and sharing of experiences with other water scarce regions, creating the basis for a wider non conventional water resources management paradigm

### Education and training

- Development, based on the principles of Education for Sustainable Development, of teachers' resource educational material "The Gift of Rain" for the islands, as well as the special edition "The Gift of Rain in the City", focusing on rainwater harvesting in urban environment
- Educational activities in schools to raise awareness and inform students on rainwater harvesting as well as on water saving
- Teacher training seminars under the auspices of the Ministry of Education, in cooperation with the Heads of Environmental Education
- Training seminars for technicians to enhance the local know-how on the implementation of rainwater harvesting systems

### Dialogue at national and regional level

for the promotion of non conventional water resources management in the Mediterranean countries.



#### MORE INFORMATION:

##### Global Water Partnership – Mediterranean (GWP-Med)

- ♦ [www.gwpmed.org](http://www.gwpmed.org)
- ♦ [www.gwpmed.org/NCWR](http://www.gwpmed.org/NCWR)
- e-mail [secretariat@gwpmed.org](mailto:secretariat@gwpmed.org)
- Facebook: [GWPMed](#)
- Facebook: [NCWRProgramme](#)
- Twitter: [@GWPMed](#)

##### "MISSION WATER" Environmental Programme

- ♦ <http://gr.coca-colahellenic.com/gr/etairiki-ipeftthinotita/csr-programmata/eksikonomisi-nerou/>
- e-mail [info@line@cchellenic.com](mailto:info@line@cchellenic.com)

IN COLLABORATION WITH:

