Rainwater Harvesting Programme 2008—2018



The Rainwater Harvesting (RWH) Programme started in 2008 and has been implemented in 33 Greek islands and 1 coastal city. 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.





The background

The majority of the Greek 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

- Installation and reinstatement of rainwater harvesting systems
- Refurbishment and upgrade of water supply systems
- Water efficiency applications
- Green-blue infrastructure, including parks and green walls

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 7th 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 educational material "The Gift of Rain" and "The Gift of Rain in the City"
- 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

Capacity Building

- Training seminars for technicians to enhance the local know-how on the implementation of rainwater harvesting systems
- Technical guide on technologies for non conventional water resources management

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
- **f** GWPMed
- www.gwpmed.org/NCWR
- MCWRProgramme
- e-mail secretariat@gwpmed.org
- @GWPMed

"MISSION WATER" Environmental Programme

 http://gr.coca-colahellenic.com/gr/etairiki-ipefthinotita/ csr-programmata/eksikonomisi-nerou/





