





# Action Plan for the Region of Central Macedonia





#### General information

<u>Project</u>: "CityZen" – "Enhancing scalable innovations and new business models based on urban farming ecosystem values"

<u>Partner organisation concerned</u>: Regional Development Fund of Central Macedonia on behalf of the Region of Central Macedonia

Country: Greece

NUTS2 Region: Central Macedonia

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### **Policy context**

The Action Plan aims to impact:	<b>√</b>	Investment for Growth and Jobs programme
		European Territorial Cooperation programme
		Other regional development policy instrument

# Name of the policy instrument addressed: Regional Operational Programme (ROP) of RCM 2014-2020

The policy instrument covers activities in two of the main priorities of the ROP of RCM 2014-2020:

- 1. Thematic Priority Axis 3: Competitiveness and extroversion of the regional economy, where gaining a higher productivity for local companies contributes to more competitive positions in the global value chains, and
- 2. Thematic Priority Axis 6: Protecting the environment and resource efficiency with actions to improve urban environment, rebuild cities, revitalize and decontaminate degraded landscapes.

In Phase 1 and based on the CityZen interregional exchange, RDFCM achieved a policy change by resuming a call on green rooftops open for municipalities to apply with urban farming projects within the Thematic Priority 6, Investment Priority 6e, action 3. As a result, the project proposal on "Green roofs in municipal buildings of Neapoli-Sykies" was approved and launched in Phase 1 of CityZen.

In a nutshell the project Neapoli-Sykies aims to improve urban environments and conditions for use of buildings in densely populated area such as the Municipality of Neapoli-Sykies. The project covers activities for creating green roofs in four municipal buildings to result in new green spaces with a total area of 845 m2.

# ACTION: Monitoring the performance and the impact of the project "Green roofs in municipal buildings of Neapoli-Sykies"

## 1. Relevance to the project

The Action is driven by the policy change achieved on Phase 1, where the project "Green roofs in municipal buildings of Neapoli-Sykies" was approved under the resumed call for green rooftop municipal projects within IP 6e action 3. Additionally, more inspiration was taken by the good practice "Rooftop gardens. The social dimension of a horticulture project in Barcelona" presented in the CityZen 2nd Impact Workshop by the Municipal Institute for People with Disabilities, Barcelona City Council. Further experiences by the remaining staff exchanges upon the end of Phase 1 will be also used as valuable source of knowledge for the Action Plan (AP) implementation.

#### 2. Nature of the action

RDFCM will monitor the effect of the policy change and more specifically certain aspects from the implementation of the project "Green roofs in municipal buildings of Neapoli-Sykies", by applying the following indicators:

- % increase of the municipal area used for any UF forms of activities for the Municipality of Neapolis-Sykies
- Number of study visits to the project "Green roofs in municipal buildings of Neapoli-Sykies" (at least 3 study visits) In more detail, a study visit for Municipalities and other regional UF stakeholders of the Metropolitan area of Thessaloniki will be organized by RDFCM to get hands-on experiences on the green rooftop benefits and social effects on local communities (as in the success story of Barcelona rooftops). The study visit will also feature feedback by the RDFCM staff based on the CityZen staff



exchange activities remaining for the end of Phase 1. Additionally, the Municipality will organize at least 2 school visits for educational purposes.

Number of new project ideas submitted to the Region of Central Macedonia by the UF stakeholders participating in the study visit to get inspired by the successful green rooftop project Neapolis-Sykies. These ideas will be then forwarded by the Region of Central Macedonia to the Managing Authority in order to examine potentials for inclusion in the next Regional Operational Program (2021-2027). These ideas will be initiated by discussions during the study visit for UF stakeholders.

#### 3. Stakeholders involved

Main stakeholders that will be involved are as follows:

- ✓ Municipalities of the Metropolitan Area of Thessaloniki
- ✓ Social organizations and networks dealing with UF
- ✓ UF stakeholders of the Region (such as representatives of UF practices in the region)

Municipalities that have participated in the RSGs organized by RDFCM, including Municipality of Thessaloniki, Municipality of Delta and Municipality of Ampelokipi-Menemeni, have already indicated an interest to get involved in this action.

#### 4. Timeframe

Phase 2: 1 August 2022 - 31 July 2023

#### 5. Costs

Estimated cost: EUR 500 to organize study visit(s)

# 6. Funding sources

The monitoring process will be cost-effective by engaging collaborating stakeholders. The submission of the new project ideas by the regional UF stakeholders to RDFCM and consequently to the Managing Authority, will be covered by own sources.

Date: 07-06-2022

Name of the organisation: Regional Development Fund of Central Macedonia on behalf of the Region of Central Macedonia

Signatures of the relevant organisation: Mr. Apostolos Tzitzikostas

President of the Board of Directors

Governor of the Region of Central Macedonia