



Toolkit - Resources for trainers

# Good Practice - SDG Nr. 13

## Greece Looking to Achieve Carbon Neutral Tourism

The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), also known as the Global Goals, were adopted by the United Nations in 2015 as a universal call to action to end poverty, protect the planet, and ensure that by 2030 all people enjoy peace and prosperity.

Goal number 13 relates to "Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts by regulating emissions and promoting developments in renewable energy"

### Social Goals

Deputy Rural Development Minister Kostas Skrekas recently announced that very small, small, and medium-sized enterprises will be able to tap into 1 billion euros in green upgrade actions aimed at making the sector more sustainable.

The minister said the program will be open to all tourism SMEs in Greece as well as medium-sized hotel units and accommodation facilities with the goal to slash their environmental footprint and their costs. According to the minister, the government wants to promote a "carbon neutral tourism".

### What need does it cover?

Eligibility will be considered for upgrades in the following areas: energy upgrades for building infrastructure; heating/cooling systems; use of renewable energy sources; energy storage systems; and installation of intelligent energy management, water-saving and waste-management systems.



<p><b>How was it founded?</b></p>	<p>The 1 billion euros in funding will be made available in the coming period through the EU's National Strategic Reference Framework (ESPA) and recovery fund resources for projects to be implemented over the next two-three years, according to the minister.</p>
<p><b>How does it relate to SDGs</b></p>	<p>The directly relates to the SDG and the Paris Agreement adopted in 2015, since climate change is affecting every country on every continent. It is disrupting national economies and affecting lives. Weather patterns are changing, sea levels are rising, and weather events are becoming more extreme and especially when carbon dioxide (CO2) levels and other greenhouse gases in the atmosphere rose to new records in 2019.</p>
<p><b>Good practices</b></p>	<p>Through cooperation with sponsors (Volkswagen) this is being applied to small islands in an effort to make them a low-carbon living environment. Donated electric cars for public services will be used, low-cost electrical cars will be sold to the 1200 local citizens in the island of Astypalea and will build a hybrid solar and wind power plant to replace a cluster of polluting diesel generator</p>

**How to work on it**

Learn how interconnected the different targets of the SDG goal are and how they feed into each other, promoting their aims. The inclusion project can learn by the support provided to businesses to reach national goals (support, training, funding opportunities, social entrepreneurship, etc...)

