



**EUI peer review
Coimbra, 28-29 November 2023**

**Association for the Development of
West Athens (ASDA)**

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Plenary session

3 cities under review, 3 strategies

In this plenary, each city under review will present their strategy in a 5 min presentation and then answer Q&A from the audience.

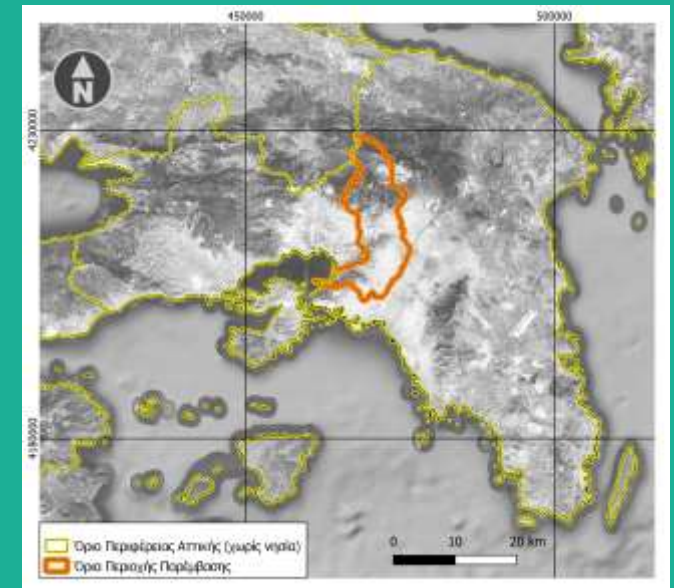
Strategy of West Athens 2021-2027

- Title of the strategy: **Intermunicipal Partnership for the Development of West Athens with the utilization of ITI/SUD**
- Country: **Greece**
- Territorial focus: **Functional Urban Area of West Athens**
- Targeted population : **The population of the nine municipalities that constitute ASDA (aprox. 600.000)**
- Funding type : **ERDF, ESF**
- Amount: **76.000.000,00 € + 30% overcommitment**
- Policy objectives : **Metropolitan West Athens - Local West Athens - West Athens that Cares - Developing West Athens**

National map



Regional map



Strategy of West Athens 2021-2027

- **Territorial delivery mechanism:** ITI/SUD
- **Main theme of the strategy:** implementation tool of a targeted Strategy for Sustainable Urban Development and Revitalization of the Functional Urban Area (FUA) of West Athens, taking into account the expansion of the Intervention Area to the north and south.

Update of the Spatial and Development Strategy of the ITI/SUD 2014-2021, completing the "mix" of the Main Spatial Strategic Options of the SUD Strategy of West Athens

- **Strategic context:** The combination of urban degradation, abandonment of productive units, economic hardship at the business and family level and phenomena of extreme poverty highlights in West Athens the existence of a series of **"pockets" of negative social phenomena**, in which a mixture of interventions is required to reverse the trapping of these areas in a permanent decline and the transition to developmental performance and ensuring



06/23 Call for proposals - Attica Region

06-07/23 Public Consultation on the new Strategy - ASDA

07/23 Decisions of Municipal Councils approving strategy – Beneficiaries

07/23 Submission of proposal for West Athens – ASDA

12/23 Approval – Attica Region

12/23 Invitation to Beneficiaries to submit an Action Plan IMB

02/24 Submission of Action Plan / Decisions of Municipal Councils – Beneficiaries

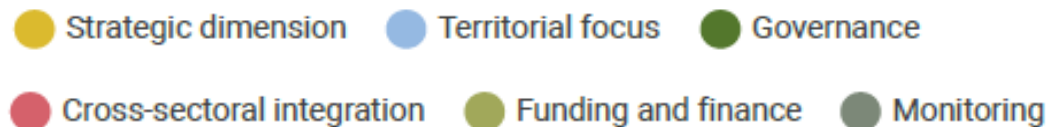
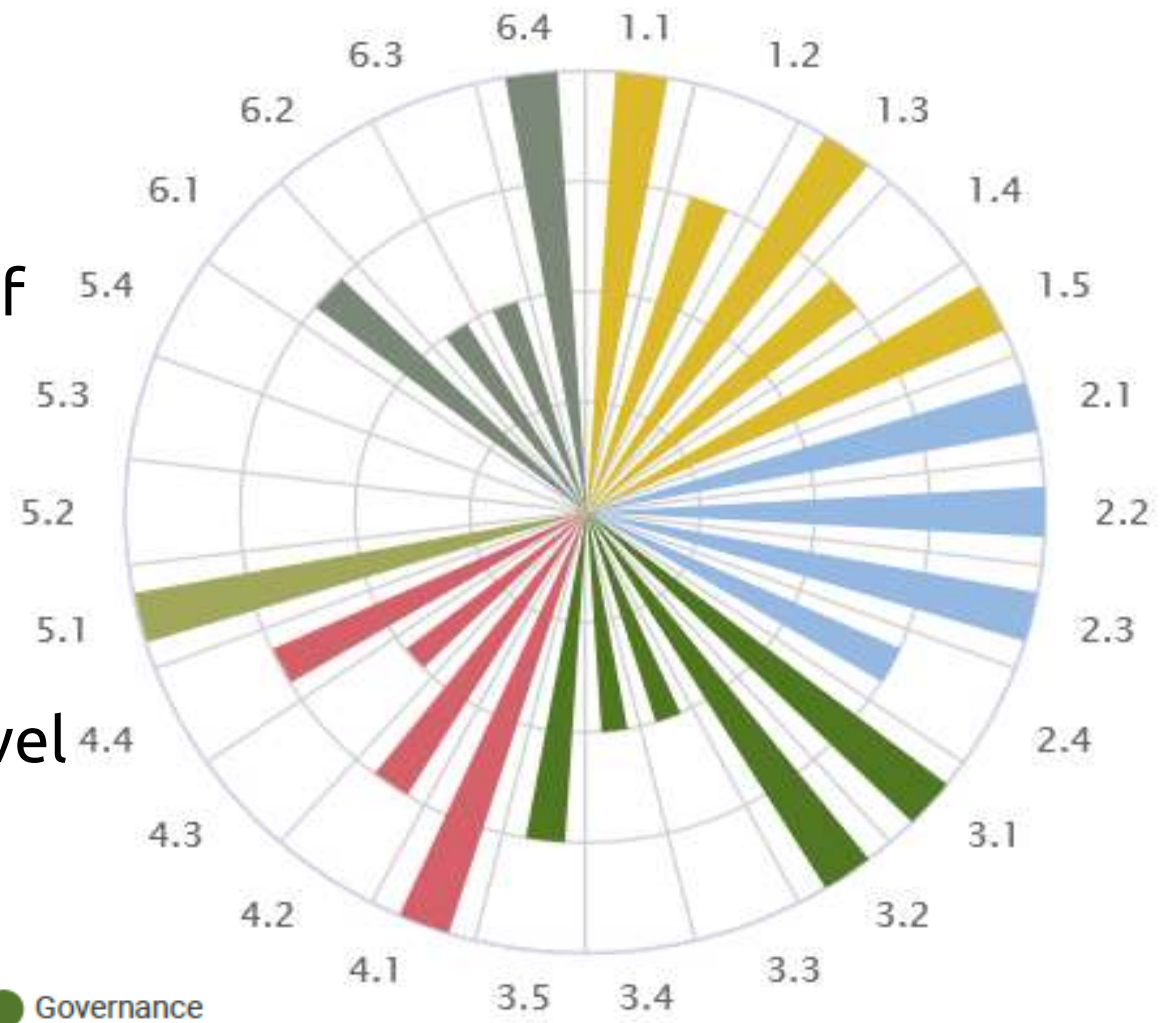
03/24 Approval of Action Plans - IMB

03/24 Inclusion of transferred projects in the new Programming Period - IMB

03/24 Initiation of selection procedure for new projects – Region of Attica, IMB, Beneficiaries

Strategy of West Athens SAT4SUD Results

- 3.3 Great difficulty in mobilizing business – professional stakeholders
- 3.4 No active participation of citizens at an intermunicipal level
- 4.3 Good municipal participation, lack of other stakeholders
- 6.2 Lack of data at a local level
- 6.3 Gaps in the monitoring system





Strategy of

The three questions we would like to discuss

Question 1

How can we ensure that the metropolitan fringes, where most Athenians live, equally benefit from the EU / National Investments?

Question 2

How can we better interest all relevant stakeholders from different multi-level governance contexts in the planning and implementation of our inter-municipal strategy?

Question 3

How can we rebalance our tourism infrastructure to encourage more visitors to spend time exploring the cultural assets of Western Athens?

Break-out session(s)

Guiding questions 1 and 2

Each guiding question will be presented with a similar structure. The presentation of the guiding questions should not last more than 10 minutes each. Please populate the 5 slides for each question, based on the final slides of the preparatory webinar PPT.

QUESTION 1



State of play

Please shortly explain the issue you are facing and how you identified it

How can we ensure that the metropolitan fringes, where most Athenians live, equally benefit from the EU / National Investments?

Please explain the stakeholders involved in the issue

EU, National Organisations – Ministries, EIB



Why is this an important question?

Please explain why this is an important question, by detailing the current & future impacts on the design / implementation of your strategy.

As the resources available through ITIs/SUDs for the Fringe Areas are not sufficient, there is an urgent need to increase the resources available from EU Programs, the Sectoral Programs and the National Public Investment Program

Does this issue threaten the delivery of your strategy or of its objectives?

Reduces the effectiveness of actions

Does it threaten the way the strategy is supposed to be implemented?

It makes it difficult to fully implement the strategy



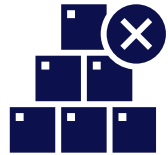
What has been done & worked?

*Please provide references to maximum 3 key actions that helped.
Please explain why they were helpful & successful.*

Submission of an integrated funding framework for complementary ITI/SUD actions in Sectoral Programs

It was accepted to a small extent at the end of the programming period, due to low absorption of funds from the Sectoral Programs

Intermunicipal Cooperation ITI/SUD



What has been done but should be improved?

*Please provide references to maximum 3 key actions that did not work.
Please explain why they failed or did not deliver expected results.*

Submission of proposals to national calls

The intermunicipal body was not eligible, but only each municipality alone, so intermunicipal problems could not be addressed

Intermunicipal Cooperation

The existence of intermunicipal cooperation is not assessed in the calls, with the result that fragmentary proposals are often selected

QUESTION 2



State of play

Please shortly explain the issue you are facing and how you identified it.

How can we rebalance our tourism infrastructure to encourage more visitors to spend time exploring the cultural assets of Western Athens?

Please explain the stakeholders involved in the issue.

Municipalities, Regional Authorities, Government agencies – Ministries, Private Investors



Why is this an important question?

Please explain why this is an important question, by detailing the current & future impacts on the design / implementation of your strategy.

Athens remains the main hub for tourism in Greece. It has and represents an unique and invaluable world heritage. Also, tourism is one of countries' major service industries. However, because of the connectivity issues we have described and lack of a tourism offer that can include the West Athens sites, tourism is a non-existent activity in the area.

Does this issue threaten the delivery of your strategy or of its objectives?

It can hinder the effectiveness of planned actions

Does it threaten the way the strategy is supposed to be implemented?

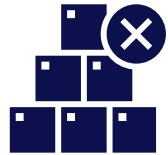
While not a direct threat, it can create serious delays



What has been done & worked?

*Please provide references to maximum 3 key actions that helped.
Please explain why they were helpful & successful.*

Development of a regional leisure pole
Great attendance at the beginning



What has been done but should be improved?

*Please provide references to maximum 3 key actions that did not work.
Please explain why they failed or did not deliver expected results.*

Small local advertising campaigns

They were ignored by both the Greek National Tourism Organization and the tourist agencies

Attempt to revive a wine festival in Dafni

The necessary resources were not found

Development of a regional leisure pole

As there was no overall planning, over time the area deteriorated

Thank you!

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Moschos Diamantopoulos,