

Regional Development Fund / Region of Western Macedonia, Greece



**Western Macedonia and
EPICAH project**



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**REGION OF WESTERN MACEDONIA,
GREECE**



Location of our Region



- ✓ North-West part of Greece, bordering with the Regions of Central Macedonia, Thessaly & Epirus
- ✓ External borders with FYROM and Albania

Some **critical** Characteristics

- 82% of total surface is **mountainous and semi-mountainous areas** and ... 65% of **country's surface waters** are in Western Macedonia
- Our Region is the **energy heart** of Greece as here is produced around 50% of electricity energy out of coil



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Kozani



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Main Economic Characteristics

- Primary Sector: saffron, apples, cereal, legume
 - Secondary Sector: mining activities, fur/leather sector, marble production , food products / wine
 - Tertiary Sector: financial & insurance agencies, transport and storage facilities, tourism



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Kastoria



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Regional Development Fund

- main responsibilities among others is the implementation of EU programs on behalf of the Region
- is a 100% public body and its board consists mainly of elected regional counselors



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Grevena



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Regional Operational Program 2014-2020

The main objective of our ROP–Investment
priority 6.c
is to focus on the regional heritage policy with
supporting actions
on economic & social dimensions,
Including tourism actions in the cross border
areas with Albania & FYROM....



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RWM needs to follow **alternative development models** since it faces many difficulties coming out of the remaining financial crisis, the market globalization & the environmental problems, because of the mining activities of the Greek PPC in the region since 1950.



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RWM with the assistance of ERDF & its ROP Managing Authority

envisages the improvement of the selected policy instrument along with the project outcomes and **will focus on the tourism sector,** as a tool for an efficient protection and development of natural & cultural heritage.



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A key Factor ...

Cross border natural & heritage related aspects connected with agrotourism consist increasingly a key factor for sustained economic development for cross border parts of RWM



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Policy Instrument

RWM as the main strategic stakeholder would like to create a specific Regional Plan through the project, as an added value tool for the structural funds she manages related with nature and cultural heritage ...



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*Thank
You*

*Don
HERGENEAS*



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