

Environmental sustainability athens

Athens is the first city in Greece to develop an integrated Climate Action Plan for both mitigation and adaptation, following the example of other megacities around the world.

In the light of World Environment Day on June 5, Athens would like to highlight the ambition this plan sets: to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 40% by 2030 and help the city and its citizens adapt to climate change.

The climate action plan is part of the Athens Resilience Strategy that is to be presented in June. The Resilience Strategy, co-created with citizens and other stakeholders, prioritizes actions that help the city deal with crises, respond to citizens' needs, support sustainable development and in the long-term make Athens a livable, attractive and creative city.

"The Athens Climate Adaptation Plan is an important step in Athens journey to build resilience in the face of the myriad challenges of the 21st Century. Climate adaptation is a crucial part of urban resilience, and we're excited to see this impressive step by the city and our partners at C40. We look forward to working collaboratively to realize the goals of this plan and the city's forthcoming Resilience Strategy," said Michael Berkowitz, President, 100 Resilient Cities – Pioneered by The Rockefeller Foundation.

Athens now more than ever relies on the capacity of its staff, who worked hard to deliver this action plan. By getting assistance and support from the two networks and with continuous knowledge exchange with peers from other cities, the City has delivered a comprehensive integrated plan, which is also fully in line with the city's operational program, the plan for integrated urban interventions, the urban sustainability strategy, but also the Resilience Strategy of Athens.

Lenio Myrivili, City Councilor responsible for the Climate Change Portfolio in Athens, said: "The plan includes both short-term and long-term actions, some of them already being implemented; however, the successful implementation of the plan requires the joint effort of all sectors of the city".

The 161-page plan prepared by the Strategic Planning and Resilience Office of the City of Athens marks the first time a Greek city has systematically and scientifically described the impact of climate change and defined specific solutions.

The Climate Action Plan includes actions defined through many months of consultations between the City of Athens, academic institutions, representatives of resident groups, non-governmental organizations, climate experts and representatives of the private sector working in the field of environment.

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