

INTERREG V – A  
COOPERATION PROGRAMME GREECE – BULGARIA 2014-2020  
*“Policies for Enhancing Access to Health Services in Deprived Areas” –  
“The Healthy Municipality”*



# Del. 3.1: Population Socioeconomic Characteristics and Operating Health Infra structure – First Results

Krumovgrad, August 7, 2018

**Interreg**  
**Greece-Bulgaria**  
European Regional Development Fund



*Sakis Karamoschos*  
*Agency for Transnational Training and Development*

Sakis Karamoschos, Krumovgrad, August 07,  
2018

## Partners Involved in the Study

- PB 2, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, Dpt. Of Economics, Dr. Antonis Targoutzides
- PB 5, Agency for Transnational Development and Training

# Scope and Objectives of the Study

## The Scope

- Raising the health profile of the area along with its socio economic interdependence

## The Objectives

- outlining the socio-economic profile of the area
- examining and evaluating its health indicators
- identifying potential public health problems
- recording and evaluating available health services and
- Identifying arising needs and problems in the area.

# The Pilot Areas

Two studies resp. for the GR and the BG project areas

The study/ies apply on the four project pilot areas:

- GR: Municipalities of Arriana (2011, 16.577inh) and Iasmos (2011, 13.810inh) (GR)
- BG: Municipalities of Krumovgrad and Momchilgrad

## Partners involved in the Deliverable

- PB 2, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, Department of Economics and
- PB 5, Agency for Transnational Development and Training– TRANSCOOP
  - as for the Greek areas
- PB6, Regional Health Inspectorate of Haskovo,
  - as for the Bulgarian areas.

# Content of the Study

- Chapter 1: General Characteristics of the Area
- Chapter 2: The Socio-Economic Characteristics of the Area
- Chapter 3: The Population Health Characteristics
- Chapter 4: The Health and Welfare Services in the Area
- Chapter 5: Parameters Affecting the Public Health in the Area
- Chapter 6: Conclusions

# First Conclusions on the GR Areas

## General & Socio- economic characteristics

- Rural and sparsely populated areas, with a generally declining population.
- Arriana, mainly mountainous, lasmos mainly lowland area
- Municipalities with a Muslim majority
- Arriana: suffering from bad road network with long distances to health service providers

## First Conclusions on the GR Areas

- Very poor areas (GDP 2015: GR- €16.293,56, Rodopi Prefecture €9.532,58). while Iasmos little better than Arriana
- Poor housing conditions (outdoor toilette, main energy source - wood burning etc.)
- Low educational level and early school leavers
- Population decrease in both areas, notably of the economically active one

# First Conclusions on the GR Areas

## Population Health Characteristics

- Mortality rate in both areas close to country level, higher in the Municipality of Iasmos, with a large increase in the Municipality of Arriana
- Most important death causes: circulatory diseases, neoplasms, and respiratory diseases (as in the whole country)

The main causes of death are related to:

- Circulatory diseases and neoplasms along with diseases of the respiratory, the nervous and the urinary system at both municipalities

## Population Health Characteristics 2

- Infectious Diseases for the Municipality of Arriana
- Endocrine and digestive system diseases, congenital abnormalities and violent deaths for the Municipality of Iasmos
- Particularly high in the Municipality of Iasmos are the violent deaths, due to road accidents
- In the wider area, there is a higher incidence of hospitalizations for diseases related to the circulatory, urinary and nervous system
- The diagnostic exams of the peripheral clinics showed that most incidents referred to diseases related to the circulatory, endocrine and mental illnesses.

# Health and Welfare Services in the Area

- The ratio of physicians per 1.000inh, as well as the ratio of pharmacies, are very low in both municipalities (physicians /1000inh: country 5,34, Prefecture 3,08, Municipalities: 0 Arriana and 0,8 Iasmos)
- The Peripheral Clinics in the area are not adequately staffed and have deficiencies in equipment

# Health and Welfare Services in the Area 2

Some interesting initiatives carried out:

- Program "Help at Home", one of the most successful and important social programs with great impact on the local community and important contribution to health issues.
- Initiative carried out for breast cancer with the participation of many women. Often, due to problems of education and communication people of those areas do not easily address to health services for preventive examinations. This time, with the help of a team. which helped to translating from the Greek language and worked for days to sensitizing women, the result was impressive”.

# Parameters Affecting the Public Health

- The quality and quantity of the drinking water in both Municipalities is insufficient
- Not all settlements provide a sewage system
- There is a pollution of the surface and the groundwater from the untreated waste water of settlements and of livestock farms as well as from agricultural chemicals and fertilizers.

# The Study Timetable

- The data have been collected, many texts have already been written
- The conclusions by chapter as well as the overall conclusions are being written now
- The study will be completed by the end of August.

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Thank You for Your Attention!

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