



# CIRCIE 2019

## Challenges for the Islands in the era of the Circular Economy

### *Sustainable-Green City-Community*

*Ioanna Panayiotou*

*Commissioner for the Environment  
of the Republic of Cyprus*

Under the auspices of



## SMile 2019

### 6th Sustainable Mobility & Intelligent Transport conference





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## Challenge and Opportunity

- The Cyclical Economy, Green Development, Blue Development, the Implementation of the 17 SDGs and Clean Energy are Challenges and Opportunities for the Islands.
- An important prerequisite: the State, the Local Authorities, the Enterprise, the Scientific Society and the Civil Society look in the same direction and have the same ultimate goal that will be absolutely clear and contain individual measurable quantitative and qualitative goals; and timelines.
- Important Vehicle: Local Government.

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**The main pillar of policy and action of my Office (Commissioner for the Environment) is the adoption of sustainable development strategies in accordance to the state's policies and society's activities.**

- Therefore, in cooperation with Local Authorities, we have set up several pilot projects on specific issues related to sustainable development i.e. Green Neighbourhoods adapted to face climate change, sustainable park designs and others. At the same time we are working closely with a variety of businesses and agencies to channel financial and human resources (corporate volunteering) in the framework of their Corporate Social Responsibility by supporting actions and infrastructure of the Local Authorities.

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## **Green City / Green Community Award**

In cooperation with the Cyprus Centre for Environmental Research and Education (CY.CERE), the Union of Municipalities and the Union of Communities, we have created the "Green City / Community" Environmental Award, where Local Authorities participate in the following categories claiming the green flag:

- Atmospheric air
- Water resources management
- Sustainable Movement and Transport
- Sustainable Tourism
- Green areas - Urban biodiversity
- Sustainable Structured Environment
- Waste management
- Environmental Awareness-Education
- Sustainable Energy Consumption and RES
- Climate change
- Quiet City - Noise Levels
- Environmental Standards &
- eGovernment



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## **Cooperation with the Cyprus Certification Company (CCC - ΚΕΠ)**

By collaborating with ΚΕΠ and a team of scientific volunteers of different specialties, we have been working to create various applicable levels of the ISO 37101 (which is quite complex and difficult to apply to its entirety since it includes all 17 Sustainable Development Goals). This will enable each Local Authority that wishes to begin its gradual implementation – starting by an audit that reports the Community's actions in relation to the SDGs objectives - to be verified by the ΚΕΠ.

ISO 37101 was developed to help communities respond to the questions **"How can it be sustainable and what strategy should it take to succeed?"**

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## **ISO 37101**

The model was designed to help cities in guiding, measuring and evaluating urban sustainability management, including quality of service as well as quality of life in cities. Successful implementation of this Standard may improve the sustainability, intelligence and resilience of strategies, programs, projects, plans and services carried out under the direct responsibility of the cities or their administrative boundaries.

The Gradual Implementation of the ISO 37101 enables Municipalities and Communities to have an ultimate goal of becoming Sustainable (certified on the basis of an International Standard) which enables them to claim European programs and prizes that will eventually promote them substantially in the international spectrum of sustainable development.

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## Sustainable Parks

In addition, the cooperation with the Cyprus Certification Company (CCC) focuses on specific actions and developments such as the Sustainable Parks. We are working to create a Standards for Sustainable Parks by having developing specifications and criteria regarding the establishment and operation of the park and verified by a credible organization such as the CCC - ΚΕΠ.



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## Information / Education / Actions

My office organizes and develops on a daily basis:

- Informative Conferences
- education for sustainable development in cooperation with the Pedagogical Institute
- cooperation with non-governmental organizations and informal groups,
- participatory and dialogue actions with citizens

**Without information and participation of citizens no policy can be implemented successfully.**



# Thank you for your attention



[www.ec.gov.cy](http://www.ec.gov.cy)



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Thursday 28 - Friday 29 March 2019, Nicosia, Cyprus

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