

IRIS Task 3.4, D3.7 Update, Two-pager case description

-Financing Instruments used by IRIS Cities and Follower Cities

Owner of the investment

Municipality of Alexandroupolis.

Name of the project/investment:

Geothermal district heating network of Antheia-Aristino

Geographic location:

Alexandroupolis, Greece

Time-span of funding process:

2017-2019

Time -plan for the investment:

September 2020 – September 2021

Interviewer:

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Respondent:

Eleni Intzependidou

Vice-Mayor

Municipality of Alexandroupolis

Investment corresponding to IRIS Transition track nr	
2	<div style="display: flex; align-items: center; gap: 10px;"> <div style="background-color: #f96; padding: 5px; border-radius: 5px;"> <p>Transition track #2.3 Flexible energy management and storage</p> </div> <div style="text-align: center;">  <p>Flexible electricity grids</p> </div> <div style="text-align: center;">  <p>Multi-sourced district heating</p> </div> <div style="text-align: center;">  <p>2nd life batteries</p> </div> </div>

Background

The low-enthalpy geothermal field of Antheia-Aristino is considered as one of the most important geothermal fields located in North Greece, mainly due to the availability of geothermal fluid of more than 90°C temperature and its potential for exploitation. The exploitation of this low-enthalpy geothermal field is considered as the most important objective of Alexandroupolis' strategic plan towards a resilient low-carbon local economy.

Following a long and bureaucratic procedure, the Municipality of Alexandroupolis leased the exploitation of the geothermal field. The exploitation project includes the development of a geothermal district heating network that will provide heat for municipal buildings, social housing and greenhouses with a total thermal power estimated at 10 MW.

Total investment:

The investment for the construction of geothermal DHN amounted to 6.2 million Euro. The project was eligible for funding by the ERDF Regional Operational Programme 2014-2020 of

Region of East Macedonia and Thrace, thematic objective 04 (support of transition to a low carbon economy to all sectors) and therefore, the Municipality applied for funding in 2017

Sources of funding/Financial Instruments used:

The investment is financed by 95,31% by the ERDF Regional Operational Programme 2014-2020 of Region of East Macedonia and Thrace (5.6 million €) and by 4,69% by Municipality's own capital.

Category of technology providers, system providers, suppliers etc.:

The investment involves Geothermal drilling and District Heating service and technology providers, construction companies, land contractors and contractors within automation and electricity.

Lessons learned

The used funding tool requires the full development of the project, that is to say, completed detailed studies, and completed licensing procedure, which is time-consuming. A required license is the distribution of thermal energy license that is issue by the Regulatory Authority for Energy of Greece. It concluded to be significantly hard to acquire this license due to the fact it required proof of available funding.

Useful links:

N.A