

# What about the WASP Tool project?

The WASP Tool project has been developed in order to investigate, demonstrate and optimise the **waste prevention potential** at the Local Authorities level, in Greece (GR) and Cyprus (CY).

## The project aims at:

- ▶ the development of a waste prevention **support tool** for Local Authorities,
- ▶ the implementation of the WASP Tool in three **participating Local Authorities**,
- ▶ the implementation, monitoring and evaluation of four waste prevention actions in each participating Local Authority,
- ▶ the **communication and dissemination** of the project results and the best waste prevention practices.

The content of this leaflet does not necessarily express the views of the Commission.

# The project beneficiaries are:

- ▶ Harokopio University of Athens (coordinator), GR
- ▶ Trans-Municipality Company for Solid Waste Management (DEDISA), GR
- ▶ United Association of Solid Waste Management in Crete (ESDAK), GR
- ▶ Environmental Planning, Engineering & Management S.A. (EPEM), GR
- ▶ Environmental Technology Ltd (ENVITECH), CY
- ▶ Municipality of Paralimni, CY



*Development and Demonstration of a Waste Prevention Support Tool for Local Authorities*

## The WASP Tool project (LIFE10 ENV/GR/622)

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# What can we do?

## What is waste prevention?

**Waste prevention** includes all

the actions we could take in order to reduce:

- ▶ the quantity of waste,
- ▶ the adverse impacts of waste on the environment and human health,
- ▶ the content of harmful substances in materials and products.

These actions should be taken before a product becomes waste (Waste Framework Directive).

The OECD notes that waste prevention **is distinct** from recycling and other waste management efforts which are applied only when products and materials are recognized as waste.

## Why does it matter?

**Preventing waste generation, we:**

- ▶ manage the natural resources sustainably
- ▶ lower our ecological footprint, and
- ▶ reduce the cost of waste management.

The WASP Tool project promotes waste prevention through helping local authorities to prevent waste generation.

## Eliminate packaging waste

- ▶ Opt for bulk or concentrated products when you can.
- ▶ Reuse wrap paper and “bubble” wrap.
- ▶ Use storage containers/ jars instead of plastic bags, plastic wrap and foil.
- ▶ Select products with the least unnecessary packaging.
- ▶ Carry your own reusable bag while shopping.

## Select reusable products

- ▶ Use cloth napkins rather than paper ones.
- ▶ Save a paper or plastic cup every time you have a cup of coffee at work by using your own reusable mug.
- ▶ Use a reusable drinking straw at home.
- ▶ Select personal care products in refillable containers.
- ▶ Purchase rechargeable batteries.



## Reduce food waste

- ▶ Purchase only the amount of food that is needed.
- ▶ Make a shopping list, before going to the super market, and stick to it.
- ▶ Cook or prepare the portions that are appropriate to your needs.
- ▶ Spot the right place to store food in order to keep it fresh for longer (e.g. bread in the breadbin, potatoes in dark and cool cupboards).
- ▶ Use the left-overs as ingredients for delicious recipes.

## Use paper sustainably

- ▶ Rethink before you print a document file.
- ▶ Pay your bills through an e-billing programme
- ▶ Set your printer to make double-sided pages.
- ▶ Say no to junk mail and leaflets, by putting a sticker on the entrance.
- ▶ Use the back of torn envelopes and scrap paper for keeping notes.