



Identification, Dissemination and Exchange of good practice in  
Local Employment development and promoting better governance

## **ERGANI CENTRE – Centre for the support of employment and entrepreneurship of women- GREECE**

### **General details**

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### **Details of activity**

Background to the case study	<p><b>Aims and objectives</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Women’s encouragement and support for the realization of new businesses.</li><li>• Support of unemployment women for the development of their skills and qualifications for better possibilities in the business market.</li><li>• Expansion of its educational tools and know-how in local, national and European level.</li><li>• Use of new technologies in its operation and services for the better position of women in business market.</li><li>• Conduct of surveys and issue of guidebooks related with women’s employment and entrepreneurship.</li></ul> <p><b>Brief rationale</b></p> <p>To implement European and national policies-priorities on gender equality, concerning employment and entrepreneurship</p> <p><b>Implementing organisation</b></p> <p>Ergani Centre (Centre for the support of female employment and entrepreneurship)</p> <p><b>Funders</b></p> <p>A part the funding is coming from Ergani’s partners, a part from fees for our services, and a part (the bigger) from national and European projects.</p>
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European Commission

	<p><b>When activity started / end date?</b> It started at 1991 and it has a permanent role and operation</p>
Description of activity	<p><b>Outline of programme / activities and approaches used</b> Provision of services, mainly information, counselling and training, for women in order to have better results trying to enter or re-enter to the labour market or to start (or improve) their own business.</p> <p><b>Origins – how it came about – bottom up / top down, grew from previous initiative (if so what)</b> Ergani Centre was established in 1991, as a consortium of organizations in order to implement a project under NOW Community Initiative</p> <p><b>Who was involved in the design, management and delivery of the programme</b> The member of the board of directors, who are the representing persons from the funders/partners</p> <p><b>Recognition – has the programme been recognised as good practice? If so, by whom?</b> Ergani Centre is one of the few organizations who provide this kind of services in Greece in a permanent base.</p>
Policy context within which the programme operates	<p><b>Is there an explicit relationship between policy priorities / local activities?</b> Yes, Ergani Centre activity corresponds directly to regional/national/European policy priorities: employability, adaptability, entrepreneurship and equal opportunities</p> <p><b>Is the policy context supportive / prohibitive?</b> Mainly it is supportive, as there are several funding tools for this kind of activities, in al the above mentioned level: regional/national/European</p> <p><b>Has the policy context changed during the life of the activity</b> It has been improved, and there is a continuous trend for being more supportive, as the priority of equal opportunities is more important within the years.</p> <p><b>Which came first – local activities or policy priorities (i.e. is activity leading or following policy priorities)?</b> The activity is following the policy priorities</p>



Geographical focus of the case study	It started as a local programme but we are operating in several regions of Greece and we support several other projects in different European countries
Impact	<p><b>Outputs – scale and scope of people reached through the programme</b></p> <p>We provided information to more than 15.000 women, we provided services to more than 4.000 women.</p> <p><b>Any impact at European level?</b></p> <p>Transfer of know-how in several countries (Moldova, Bulgaria, Slovakia)</p> <p>Participation in the formation of a new European Network: Women in Network – W.IN.NET.</p>
Partners' details	<p>Partners of Ergani Centre are local organizations, both private or public:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Municipality of Sykies</li> <li>• Professional Chamber of Thessaloniki</li> <li>• Exporters' Association of N. Greece</li> <li>• Anatoliki SA, Development Agency of Eastern Thessaloniki Area</li> <li>• SEVE-SVVE-TIF Training Centre</li> <li>• Network of Women Entrepreneurs of Ergani Center</li> <li>• Technological Educational Institution of Thessaloniki</li> </ul> <p>Partners provide resources: know-how, experts or money</p>

### Theme-Specific Questions

Who was targeted by the programme?	Unemployed women, women with a business idea, women entrepreneurs, young students (male-female)
Sustainability	<p>What achieved / how funded?</p> <p>After 10 years(1991-2001) of being a consortium of partners in order to implement series of projects in favour of women, Ergani Centre became an independent organization.</p>
Successes / lessons learned	<p><b>What contributed to the programme's success?</b></p> <p>The commitment of the people (staff-board of directors-women beneficiaries) to the aims/objectives and the real need of this kind of services to the different target groups</p>

