

Project Overview & Related Information - Project "Olympus"

EFPRP (S2 2024)

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1. Project Title

- **Name of the Project:** “*Olympus Project*”
- **Project Reference:** EFPRP/EU/0929/HR45/2025/0972676226

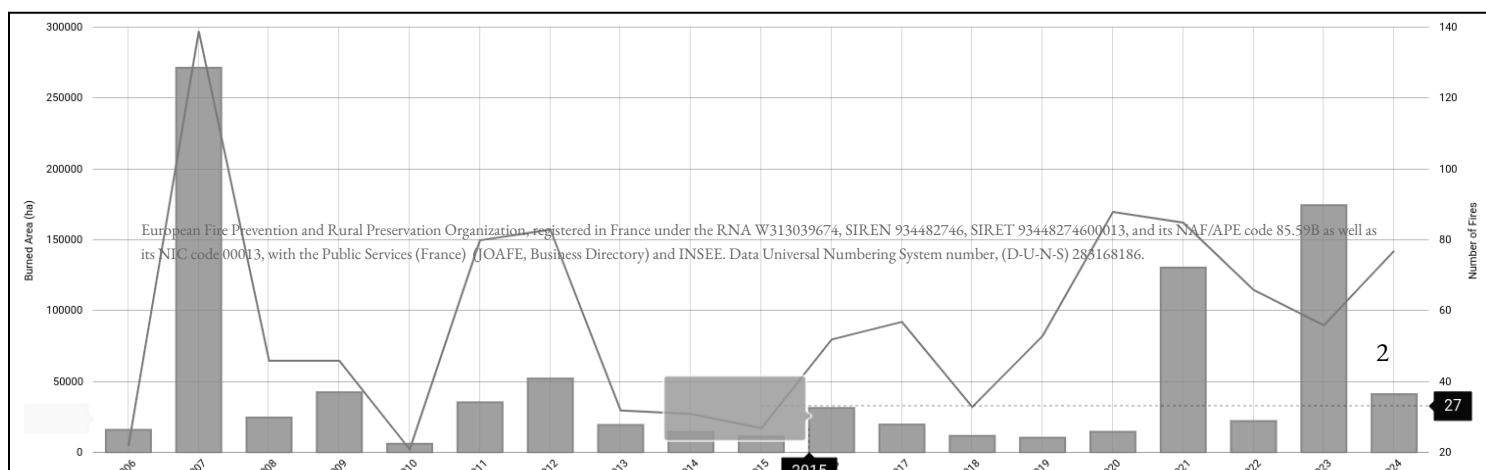
2. Mission Statement

- **Objective:** The objective of this project is to:
 1. **Donate**/give firefighting and safety equipment to the Hellenic Fire Corps firefighters, this equipment includes:
 - Smoke Protection Masks
 - New Radio-Communication devices
 - New basic emergency equipment tools (such as fire extinguishers, new hoses, electric chainsaws, strong flashlights, new and modern shovels, new and modern backpacks, emergency first aid kits, fire resistant “Fire Shelters”, thermal imaging equipment, new rescue fire helmets, automated external defibrillators (AEDs), emergency beacon communication systems)
 2. **Fund** restoration projects in Greece, specifically in the Peloponeese and Attica region, in specifically restoring:
 - Burnt structures by recent wildfires (\geq last 5 years)
 - Burnt or damaged public structures and unreplaced or missing road signs
 - If damaged; full restoration of canine/feline adoption centers for immediate full operation
 - Burnt forest areas (by providing a forest restoration campaign)

3. Project Background & Rationale

- **Context:** In Greece’s north region of Attica, only from the 5th of June 2024 to August 13th 2024, there was an estimated amount of **11,762 hectares** that were burnt, because of wildfires, according to the EFFIS (European Forest Fire Information System). This is equivalent to 21,980.05 football stadiums.

In Greece, in **2007**, an estimated **271,715 hectares** of forest were lost in wildfires. That was the worst year, followed by **2023** with **174,773 hectares**. We can clearly see that the number of fires are going up, and so are their burnt forest hectares. That’s why, to prepare better for this year’s wildfires (2025), we created **Project Olympus**.



EFFIS Annual Statistics for Greece Graphic |
<https://forest-fire.emergency.copernicus.eu/apps/effis.statistics/estimates>

4. Project Goals and Objectives

- **Primary Goal:** With this project, the primary goal is:
 - **Reinforce** the first response capabilities of the Hellenic Fire Corps by improving their overall equipment in the stated regions in the **Mission Statement** part.
 - **Start** the restoration efforts for damaged buildings and burnt forest areas.
 - **Specific Objectives:**
 - Emergency Services: **"Provide new, quality equipment to the Hellenic Fire Corps"**
 - Restoration: **"Start the restoration & replantation in affected areas of these regions"**
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5. Target Audience

- **Who will benefit from the project?**
This project will benefit several key groups, including:
 1. **Hellenic Fire Corps (Firefighters):** The primary beneficiaries are the firefighters of the Hellenic Fire Corps, who will receive updated and modern firefighting equipment, such as smoke protection masks, radio-communication devices, thermal imaging equipment, fire-resistant shelters, and other essential tools. This will enhance their safety, effectiveness, and efficiency in combating wildfires.
 2. **Residents and Communities in Affected Regions (Attica and Peloponnese):** The local populations in the regions most affected by wildfires, particularly Attica and Peloponnese, will see the restoration of public infrastructure, such as damaged structures, road signs, and animal adoption centers. The restoration of burnt forest areas will also help reduce the environmental and economic impact of the wildfires.
 3. **Environment and Ecosystems:** The forest restoration and replantation efforts will benefit the natural environment, promoting the recovery of damaged ecosystems, enhancing biodiversity, and contributing to long-term ecological stability in the affected regions.
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6. Project Activities and Timeline

- **Main Activities:**
 - **Activity 1: Donation of Firefighting Equipment**
Organize and distribute critical firefighting equipment to the Hellenic Fire Corps, including smoke protection masks, new radio-communication devices, thermal imaging tools, and fire-resistant

shelters.

- **Activity 2: Restoration of Damaged Structures and Forest Areas**

Begin restoration efforts in the affected regions of Attica and Peloponnese, including the rebuilding of burnt structures, restoration of public infrastructure like road signs, and replanting efforts in burned forest areas.

- **Timeline:**

- Phase 1 (Months 1-3): Planning and Procurement**

- Finalize partnerships with suppliers and manufacturers for firefighting and emergency response equipment.
 - Identify restoration sites and start outreach to local authorities and agencies.
 - Fundraising and securing initial resources.

- Phase 2 (Months 4-9): Equipment Distribution and Restoration**

- Begin delivering the new equipment to the Hellenic Fire Corps.
 - Start restoration work on key damaged structures and public infrastructure.
 - Launch forest restoration campaigns in the affected regions.

- Phase 3 (Months 10-12): Evaluation, Monitoring, and Reporting**

- Conduct evaluation of equipment impact on firefighting and first responder effectiveness.
 - Review restoration progress and environmental recovery.
 - Compile reports for stakeholders and future funding opportunities.

7. Expected Outcomes

Short-Term Outcomes:

- **Improved Firefighting Capabilities:**

"Hellenic Fire Corps will have access to modern, high-quality equipment, improving their ability to respond to wildfires effectively and safely."

- **Local Community Benefits:**

"Affected residents in Attica and Peloponnese will see the restoration of key infrastructure, such as public buildings and animal adoption centers, promoting community recovery."

- **Environmental Recovery:**

"The replantation of forested areas will begin, contributing to long-term environmental restoration and biodiversity recovery."

Long-Term Outcomes:

- **Strengthened Firefighting Infrastructure:**

"The Hellenic Fire Corps will continue using modern equipment to combat future wildfires, reducing disaster impacts."

- **Sustained Community Recovery:**
"The rebuilt structures and restored ecosystems in the affected regions will foster long-term resilience for local communities."
 - **Improved Environmental Stability:**
"Continued forest restoration efforts will lead to a thriving natural environment, enhancing biodiversity and stabilizing the ecosystem in the long run."
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8. Budget Overview

- **Estimated Total Cost: 156,980.05 €**
- **Funding Sources:** Donations, Memberships, State Subventions
Breakdown:
 - Equipment, Gear & Firefighting tools : 105 285.00 €
 - Restoration: 48,500€
 - Marketing & Outreach: 500€
 - EFPRP General Operating Funds*: 2 695.05€

** 2,695.05 euros have been allocated to the non-profit's general operating fund. This fund supports essential internal costs, such as administrative expenses, and allows the organization to explore and develop future projects.*

9. Project Team

- **Key Personnel:**
 - Project Manager: Alexios Elizalde Xirokosta, *Executive Director*
 - Project Coordinator: Rémi Baysang, *Co-Executive Director*
 - Project Outreach Strategy: Romain Brouat, *Communications Director*
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10. Monitoring and Evaluation

How will success be measured?

- **Response Time and Effectiveness:**
Success will be measured through the improved response time and effectiveness of the Hellenic Fire Corps in wildfire response operations.
- **Infrastructure and Environmental Restoration:**
Progress will be tracked based on the number of structures rebuilt, public infrastructure restored, and hectares of forest replanted.

Evaluation Tools:

- **Pre- and Post-Distribution Surveys:**
Surveys will be conducted with the Hellenic Fire Corps and to assess the effectiveness and usefulness of the new equipment.
 - **Quarterly Progress Reports:**
Regular reports will track restoration efforts and environmental recovery in the affected regions.
 - **Post-Project Review:**
Exit interviews with stakeholders, including local authorities and beneficiaries, to assess the long-term impact and areas for improvement.
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11. Sustainability and Impact

- **How will the project continue in the long term?**
 - **Continued Funding:**
The project will actively seek ongoing funding through individual donations, partnerships with local businesses, and potential grants from government or non-profit organizations.
 - **Peer Mentorship Program:**
A peer mentorship program will be established to share knowledge and best practices among firefighters and first responders. This will ensure the sustainability of the project's impact and facilitate continuous improvement.
 - **Community Engagement:**
The project will maintain strong ties with local communities, organizing workshops, awareness campaigns, and educational programs to promote fire safety and prevention. This will help build resilience and reduce the risk of future wildfires.
 - **Collaboration with Local Authorities:**
Close collaboration with local authorities will be crucial for long-term planning and coordination. This will ensure that the project aligns with regional and national wildfire management strategies.
 - **Data-Driven Approach:**
The project will continue to collect and analyze data on wildfire incidents, response times, and restoration efforts. This data-driven approach will help identify trends, evaluate the effectiveness of interventions, and inform future strategies.
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12. Conclusion

- **Summary:**
Project Olympus is a vital initiative aimed at enhancing Greece's resilience against wildfires. By providing critical firefighting equipment, empowering first responders, and restoring damaged landscapes, the project will significantly improve fire safety, community well-being, and environmental sustainability.

Through this project, Greece will be better equipped to respond to future wildfires, protect lives and property, and safeguard its natural heritage.

13. Our Statement

“We invite you to join us in this important endeavor. Your support, whether through donations, volunteer work, or spreading awareness, will significantly contribute to the success of Project Olympus. Together, we can build a more resilient future for Greece.”

“To learn more about Project Olympus or to donate, please visit our [website](#) or [contact us](#).

-Alexios ELIZALDE XIROKOSTA, Executive Director-





On behalf of the European Fire Prevention & Rural Preservation Organization
ELIZALDE XIROKOSTA Alexios
Executive Director, EFPRP

