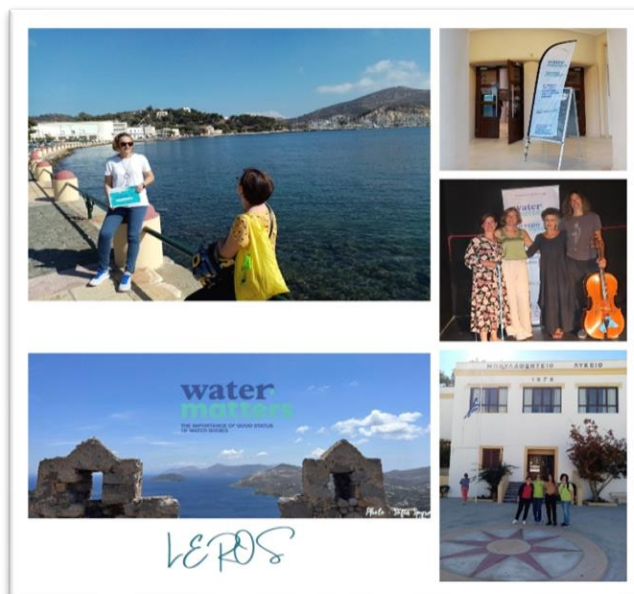


Press Release

Anavyssos, 30.10.2023

“Water Matters – Increasing knowledge on the importance of Good status of Water Bodies” campaign, funded by “Water Management” Program of the EEA Grants (European Economic Area of the Financial Mechanism 2014-2021) with the Ministry of Environment and Energy acting as Program Operator, have carried out the fifth awareness-raising action concerning the sustainable water management, **in Leros island, from 18 to 22 of October.**



Various experiential actions and learning activities were held from **18-20 October**, as part of the awareness campaign, targeting students and residents of the island. Students from the 1st primary school of Lakki, the 1st, 2nd and “Mpoulafentio” high schools together with the night school of Leros were informed on the results of the project and discussed the proper management of water, this precious natural resource for their island, which is under significant pressure due to increased tourism. In addition, students had the opportunity to observe freshwater organisms (benthic macroinvertebrates) and microscopic algae (Diatoms), using a stereoscope and a microscope respectively, and became familiar with these important organisms that are used as biomarkers to monitor the quality of freshwater surface waters. **In total, more than 350 students and teachers participated in the awareness actions.**



Additionally, on **October 20th** the results of the project were presented on a meeting, attended from more than **30 people** (teachers, students, stakeholders in tourism industry, residents) in the Municipal Cinema Hall, in Lakki.

Concluding the actions of “Water Matters” in Leros, on **Saturday October 21st**, a novel **storytelling performance “Voices of many waters”**, was held from Mrs. Agni



Stroumpouli and her partner Mr. Stavros Parginos, in the welcoming space of Leros Theater Workshop.

An audience of more than 40 people, had the opportunity to travel through stories and folk tales of fresh water in the Balkans, Japan and the Greece of our ancestors.

We would like to thank Mr. Diamantaras Lefteris, head of Leros Theater Workshop for an excellent cooperation on the realization of the performance, as well as the

Municipality of Leros, for the concession of the Municipal Cinema Hall.

For further information concerning the entire “Water Matters” campaign, as well as the awareness-raising actions held in Leros, you can visit the project’s website, <https://water-matters.hcmr.gr/>