

European Territorial Cooperation Programmes (ETCP), GREECE-ITALY 2007-2013  
Efficient Irrigation Management Tools for Agricultural Cultivations and Urban Landscapes  
**IRMA**

Subsidy Contract No: I3.11.06 I MIS 902056



IRMA Timer | The monthly newsletter of IRMA project, Issue 20 | February 2015



[www.irrigation-management.eu](http://www.irrigation-management.eu)

LP-TEIEP | P2-AEPDE | P3-INEA | P4-ISPA/CNR | P5-ROP | P6-ROEDM



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All the previous issues of IRMA Timer are available at:  
<http://www.irrigation-management.eu/communication/newsletter>

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## Intro

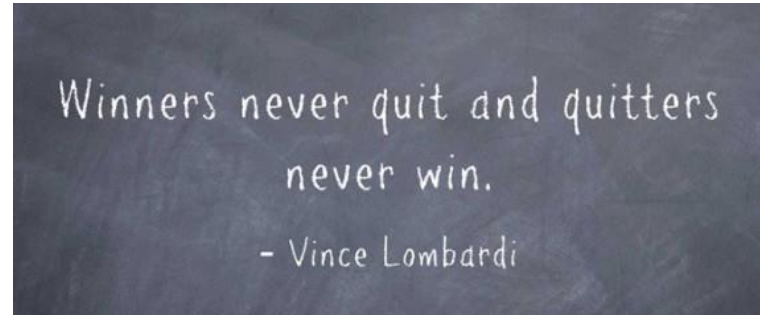
The IRMA project aims to develop efficient irrigation management tools for agricultural cultivations and urban landscapes. It is funded by the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) and National Funds of Greece and Italy in the framework of the European Territorial Cooperation Programme Greece - Italy 2007 - 2013 ([www.greece-italy.eu](http://www.greece-italy.eu)). The project's total budget is 1.398.874,50€ and the implementation period is 30 months (initially it was 24), starting from April 2013.

The current newsletter presents the progress of the project's actions during the 23<sup>rd</sup> month of the implementation period (February 2015).

**The project is in its final phase it will be completed at the end of September 2015 with IrriMED 2015 at Bari.**

The project manager

Dr. Tsirogiannis Yannis



## Progress of WP1 Management & Coordination

The extension of IRMA has been approved and the project will be completed at the end of September 2015. This extension is primarily linked to the organisation of Irrimed 2015, the closing event of the project.

The 7<sup>th</sup> progress report has been also approved by the JTS.

## Progress of WP2 Information & Publicity

### IRLA2014 Proceedings



The review process of the manuscripts has been completed and 51 papers have been sent to ELSEVIER B.V. for the preparation of the proceedings.

The proceedings will be published in the framework of [PROCEDIA Agriculture](#) series.

The contributions have been categorised in two types: core and satellite; based on the degree of relevance to the main theme of IRLA2014.

### Irrimed 2015 Bari, Italy

The closing event of IRMA will be the International Conference on “Modern technologies, strategies and tools for sustainable irrigation management and governance in Mediterranean agriculture” (Irrimed 2015). It is scheduled for 23-25 of September 2015 and will be held in Bari (Italy).

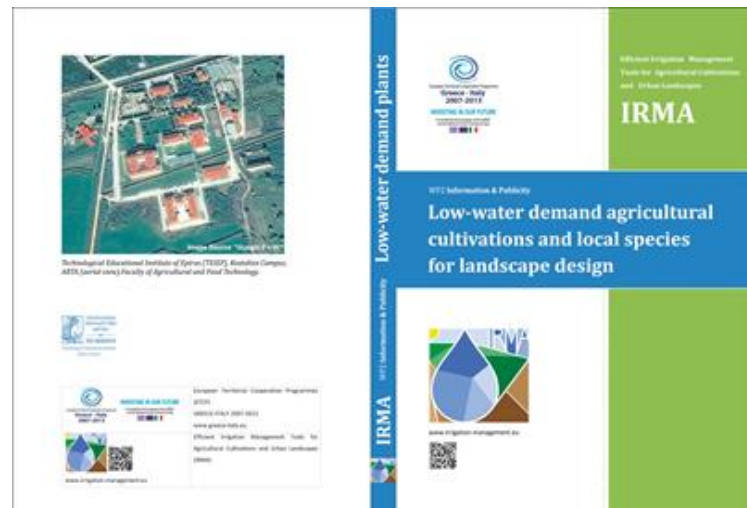


Bari

The web-site of the conference (<http://irrimed2015.irrigation-management.eu/>) will be soon completed and will contain all the necessary information and updates.

To communicate with the organizing committee, send email to: [angelo.parente@ispa.cnr.it](mailto:angelo.parente@ispa.cnr.it)

### Guide for low water needs plants for landscaping projects and agricultural cultivation



This deliverable of IRMA will be available in e-book form before March 15<sup>th</sup>. You will find it at: <http://www.irrigation-management.eu/tools/facts-guides>

### Presentation of IRMA at Kipotechnika2015

IRMA's project manager presented at Kipotechnika2015, the main Greek exhibition of landscaping industry (5-8/2/2015), the activity of TEIEP Dept.

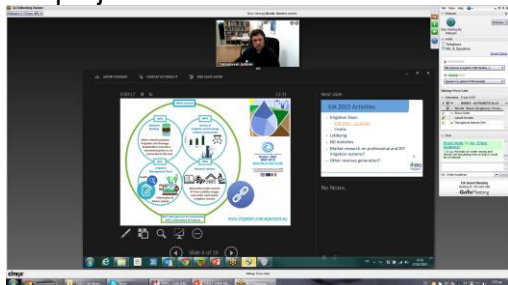


of Agricultural Technology. Among them IRMA has a significant role and an analytical reference was made to the project and its progress.



### **Presentation of IRMA at the European Irrigation Association Board Meeting**

IRMA's project manager was invited from EIA to present IRMA and other activities of TEIEP Dept. of Agricultural Technology at the association's board meeting that was held at Frankfurt on Feb 17. The presentation stimulated the interest of EIA for the outcomes of the project.



The European Irrigation Association, is a non-profit European organisation, which aims is to improve the products, practices and services used to manage water resources and to contribute to the global improvement of the environment. EIA



informs and collaborates with European Agriculture, Turf and Golf industries to promote the conservation, distribution and recovery of water resources for economical needs.

### **Progress of WP3 Network building**

The networking platform of the project includes:

- forum
- pages at selected social media networks
- repository and stakeholders database
- special means like the monthly newsletter IRMATimer; training and dissemination events and mass media presentations.



You are all invited to actively participate by visiting:  
<http://www.irrigation-management.eu/network/stakeholders>

### **Progress of WP4 Survey of irrigation practice**

The survey for Apulia has been completed regarding the field activities and now the relevant data are analyzed. The relevant report is expected to be available within the next month.

In Greece, the survey is progressing for the Region of Epirus, while the 2<sup>nd</sup> call for interest for the relevant work in the Region of Western Greece is expected to be released before March



15. It will be published at P2 web site:  
<http://www.aepde.gr/index.php/news/2012-01-28-17-33-06>

## Progress of WP5 Irrigation management tools

### Irrigation audits

In Greece, LP has completed the data analysis and the relevant report will be available before the end of March.

Partners P4 (ISPA/CNR) and P6 (ROP) started the preparation of the auditing procedures in Italy.

### Web irrigation advices system

90% completed. The irrigation data and advices system for the same area is under it is almost completed and will be available for evaluation during 2015 irrigation period.

**National Observatory of Athens - Collaborator of IRMA project regarding meteorological issues and weather forecasts**




*The historical building of the institute at Penteli mountain*

 **IRrigationMANagement** ETCP PROJECT

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Agricultural IRrigation Advisor



using [OpenMeteo.org](http://OpenMeteo.org) measurements, [Pthelma](http://Pthelma) Models, [NOA](http://NOA) forecast.

Field Name: Γεντροπιας

Crop Type: Olives (40 to 60% ground coverage by canopy)

Root Depth(max): 1.45  
 kc: 0.55  
 Crop Coeff: 0.85  
 Rd\_factor: 1000  
 Field Capacity: 0.3  
 Theta\_s: 0.5  
 WP: 0.1

Irrigation System Type: Surface irrigation  
 Irrigation efficiency factor: 0.8

Detailed Calculations

Irrigation Advice: No need to irrigate from Feb. 27, 2015, midnight to March 2, 2015, midnight.

Date	Precipitation (mm)	ETe (mm)	Depletion (mm)	Soil moisture (%)	Irrigate ?	Irrigation Water Amount (mm)
27/02/2015 12:02:00	0.00	-0.01	-139.62	0.42	NO	0.00

*Screenshot from the irrigation advice application*

The placement of the meteorological stations at the plain of Arta has been

The Institute for Environmental Research and Sustainable Development (IERSD) is one of three Institutes of the National Observatory of Athens, the first Research Centre in Greece and the Balkans. Initially named as Meteorological Institute (MI), it was established in 1846 while the first meteorological observations began in 1858. IERSD holds the longest and most complete climatological records in Greece, spanning a 150-yr period. It constituted the first official Meteorological Service of Greece, operating almost all meteorological stations of the existing network until 1931, when the National Meteorological Service was founded. Dr. Lagouvardos K., Research Director, is the link between IRMA project and IERSD. The institute provides expert counseling regarding meteorological issues to IRMA team,

as well as weather forecast data for the irrigation advices system.

### ITIA Research team - Collaborator of IRMA project for the development of the irrigation data and advices system

[ITIA](#) is a research team of the National Technical University of Athens, working on the fields of hydrology, hydrosystems management, hydroinformatics and hydroclimatic stochastics.

The team consists of 20 members; the scientific leader is Nikos Mamas and the former leader Professor Demetris Koutsyioannis.



ITIA collaborates with IRMA project for the development of the irrigation data and advices system.

### Progress of WP6 Specialized research actions

Most of the experimental work has been completed and now all involved partners are in the phase of writing the relevant technical reports from which research papers are expected to result.

### Other interesting stuff

#### Policy issues

During the first two weeks of March, the European Commission will publish a Communication on “The Water Framework Directive and the Floods Directive: Actions towards the ‘good status’ of EU Water and to reduce flood risks”.

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#### Funding programs

According to EIP Water the [European Commission's Investment Plan](#) will unlock public and private investments of at least € 315 billion, addressing the 2030 climate and energy framework and reducing barriers to knowledge transfer and innovation.

#### Relevant Projects

#### Knowledge systems for farmers in the EU

The project called Prospects for Farmers' Support: Advisory Services in European AKIS (PRO-AKIS) has recently compiled an inventory of European Agricultural Knowledge and Information Systems (AKIS) and in particular advisory services.



It has produced a useful set of reports and posters per EU country, as well as a searchable database and online map showing the many different systems that EU farmers are involved in.

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## Networking

### Kipotechnika 2015 - A successful come back

Kipotechnika 2015 (Kipos means garden in Greek), was very successful and brought back optimism in Greek landscaping professionals. EXPOCOM, the organizer company, found the participation to be above expectations and received very good messages regarding the future of the sector.



During the exhibition, the Greek Association of Agriculturalists, Landscaping Contractors ([PEEGEP](#)) presented its plan for the development of a quality certification system: GREEN QUALIFIED MEMBER. The system contains rules that are expected to maintain high quality services regarding all dimensions of landscaping projects, including irrigation.



### INNEON - Network for Eco-Innovation Investment



Network for  
Eco-Innovation  
Investment

Innovators and investors are invited to join the Network for Eco-Innovation Investment - INNEON - that provides access to a platform for match making, events and support to improve the quality of deals.





### **Education - Training - Studying**

#### **Micro Irrigation Systems Market Expected to grow significantly to 2020**

According to a new market report "Micro Irrigation Systems Market - Global Industry Analysis, Size, Share, Growth, Trends and Forecast, 2014 - 2020," the market is expected to get almost 3 times bigger by 2020. North America was the largest contributor to the global micro irrigation systems market in 2013 and is expected to keep dominate the market. The high acceptance of micro irrigation systems in irrigating different crop types is the most significant factor for this growth. However, with rising water scarcity, Asia Pacific is expected to be the fastest growing market for micro irrigation systems.

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#### **Changes to Earth's freshwater - natural and anthropogenic drivers**

Check out this interesting presentation by Dr. Georgia Destouni of the Stockholm University.

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#### **UNESCO-IHE publishes booklet regarding innovations for water**



UNESCO-IHE recently published a booklet containing 50 innovative solutions in the field of water & development. The innovations were created with its global partnership network to develop, implement and validate novel solutions that ultimately aim to improve the quality of life on our planet.

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