



PRESS RELEASE

Kick-off Meeting of project INVESTMENT Greece and Puglia are closer thanks to a Multimodal public Transportation System Patras, 4-5 July 2018

The kick-off meeting of the project INVESTMENT – INnovatiVe E-Services for booSting Tourist economy and Multimodal public Transportation, funded for 857.000 Euros by INTERREG V-A Greece-Italy Programme 2014 – 2020, will be held in Patras on 4-5 July 2018, at the Patras University Campus.

The Lead beneficiary is the University of Patras – Department of Computer Engineering & Informatics, while the project partners are: the Regional Development Fund of the Region of Western Greece, the Province of Taranto, Tecnopolis Science and Technology Park of Bari and the Municipality of Ostuni.

The project aims to deliver an e-platform as a unique point of reference for transport companies, agencies, public administration authorities, to create a network between the public transportation data (locations of public stops, timetables) in the Region of Western Greece and Puglia (Bari, Taranto, Ostuni).

Thanks to this project, it will be easier to travel for tourists, because the e-platform will support a multimodal tourist tour planner (web and mobile app) that allows to receive personalized recommendations for visiting the most important attractions, using public transport services to move from a location to another.

In addition, the citizens will enjoy improved public transit services with less bottlenecks and minimal waiting time, because the e-platform will develop a multimodal public transit route planner, computing and visualizing optimal end-to-end routes (from any point A to any point B, e.g., from Taranto to Olympia) using different modes of transportation (bus, train, ferry, walking).

Efficiency and interconnectivity at regional and crossborder level are the key words of the project that will help public transportation operators, planners and policy makers to make closer Greece and Puglia.

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Interreg V-A Greece-Italy Programme is an European Territorial Cooperation Programme that aims to help public institutions and local stakeholders to develop cross-border projects and pilot actions and to create new policy, products and services, with the final goal to improve the citizens' quality of life. Strategically, the programme will enhance innovation in a number of fields such as blue growth, tourism and culture, agro food and cultural and creative industries. Interreg V-A Greece-Italy Programme aims to get maximum return from EUR 123 million financed per 85% by European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) and per 15% by the 2 member states through a national co-financing.