

## European Territorial Cooperation Programme “Greece-Italy 2007-2013”

### Project CITIZEN CARE / Upgraded Health Structures in the Cross Border Area

Acronym:	CITIZEN CARE
Title:	Upgraded Health Structures in the Cross Border Area
Priority axis:	3. Improving the quality of life, protection of the environment and enhancement of Social and cultural cohesion
Specific Objective:	3.3: Protection of health
Lead Partner:	Ktiriakes Ypodomes S.A.
Partner 2:	University Hospital Consortium Corporation Polyclinic of Bari (UHCC_PoB)
Budget:	34.000.000 €
End:	30 October 2015
Description:	<p>In recent years there has been a constant movement of patients from rural to urban areas. Within this framework of healthcare disparity within regions, the project aims to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Create upgraded secondary care structures for citizens in the cross border area</li> <li>• Increase the quality of health service provision both to local and moving population (tourists, migrants etc).</li> <li>• Improve provided services</li> <li>• Eliminate the conditions excluding sensitive social groups by encouraging cross border healthcare cooperation among structures and their management.</li> </ul>

The distribution of health resources is unequal in Apulia and Epirus. There is a growing number of studies that underlie the growing regional disparity in healthcare provision not only in Italy but also in Greece that results in increased inhabitants mobility for medical examination and treatment. In particular the pattern observed in the cross border area is that of rural - urban area competition in favour of the latter in Greece and South-North rivalry against the former in Italy. To redress the balance and systematically increase citizen satisfaction with provided medical services CITIZEN CARE intends to upgrade 2 medical structures , A) the Filiates Medical Center (FMC) in Epirus and B) the Polyclinic of Bari (PoB).

The interventions in FMC and PoB are targeted to the extended number of Egnatia motorway passengers in the cross border area that pass south of the Filiates Municipality as well as to the increasing number of visitors that access Bari by port or airport. More importantly though, the refurbishment activities will be of added value for the local population as well. Finally the upgrading of these cross border medical structures will encourage research exchanges among medical practitioners.

In recent years there has been a constant movement of patients from rural to urban areas in the Region of Epirus overburdening the hospital in the capital city of Ioannina. Similarly many

southern patients in Apulia Region travel to the Centre and North for medical care. Within this framework of healthcare disparity within regions, the project aims to

- a) create upgraded secondary care structures for citizens in the cross border area via the targeted interventions in the FMC and PoB and
- b) increase the quality of health service provision both to local and moving population (tourists, migrants etc
- c) Improve provided services and eliminate the conditions excluding sensitive social groups by encouraging cross border healthcare cooperation among structures and their management.

As stipulated in the SWOT analysis of the program the border region should intensify its cooperation in order to achieve joint actions for solving problems in the health sector. This proposal thereby meets the objective3 of axis 3, entitled " Protection of health and promotion of social integration" of the European Territorial Cooperation Programme "Greece-Italy 2007-2013" .

The main project outputs relate to the upgrading of 2 healthcare structures in the corss border area. The interventions in the Filiates Medical Center (FMC) comprise

- a) a 6-storey building of 5941,57 m<sup>2</sup> as an extension to the Medical Center that becomes a General Hospital and
- b) 900 m<sup>2</sup> Refurbishment in areas of the existing FMC. In addition
- c) medical and hotel equipment will be purchased and installed for the FMC.

The interventions in the Polyclinic of Bari include:

- a) major maintenance works in Giovanni XXIII hospital, maintenance
- b) Works in the new ER surgery complex (NCCE) & in the ex-first aid ( hygiene direction offices and ambulances)
- c) Major maintenance in the General services' area (Pharmacy and Central Ecological Thermal Hospital Area)
- d) Various maintenance works across PoB Clinics and Institutes etc..

In addition, medical equipment is acquired for the PoB.

CITIZEN CARE giving emphasis on the upgrading of selected healthcare structures in the cross border area aspires to result in the following direct and immediate effects

- 1) Reduce the geographic and physical isolation of patients
- 2) Health condition improvement of the cross-border local population
- 3) Improvement of the quality of healthcare services provided to the local population
- 4) Upgraded medical equipment
- 5) The equipment installed as part of the project will strongly assist scientific medical research