



RISE

Research Centre on **Interactive Media**
Smart Systems and **Emerging** Technologies

Mobilisation of H2020 and ESIF resources
Local and International actors to create a local growth pole in Cyprus

PROJECT PARTNERS



Overview

- Nicosia Restarted – A vision
 - Integrated Sustainable Urban Development Strategy
 - RISE – Research Centre on Interactive Media, Smart Systems and Emerging Technologies
- Synergistic Resource Utilisation
 - ESIF + H2020 + National funds

- **Synergies**

- **Success due to urban development strategy**

- Municipality strategy
 - Directorate-General for European Programmes, Coordination and Development (EPCD)

- **Widening - Topic 2**

- **Encouraging science-business cooperation**

Nicosia Restarted – A vision

- **Grand Vision:**
 - Turn Nicosia into a regional Innovation, Technology and Creativity Hub
- **Instruments for realizing this vision:**
 - Instrument 1: Integrated Sustainable Urban Development Strategy
 - Instrument 2: RISE – Research Centre of Excellence
- **Goals:**
 - boost competitiveness, sustainability and cohesion
 - connectivity and accessibility
 - Long term economic rejuvenation
 - foster **innovation and technology transfer** activities in Cyprus
 - **fuel entrepreneurship and start-up culture in Cyprus**

Instrument 1

Integrated Sustainable Urban Development Strategy

Integrated Sustainable Urban Development Strategy



- Facing more than 40 years of division – the “buffer zone” runs from East to West through its historic and cultural heart
- A champion in city diplomacy
- A pioneer at a national level in:
 - **Local Planning** (before legislation enforcement)
 - **Heritage and culture – led regeneration**
 - **Local transport** services and pedestrianization schemes
 - City-wide **environmental infrastructure** (sewage system)
 - Multi-level services promoting **social inclusion**
 - **Collaborative initiatives** involving multiple actors and stakeholders

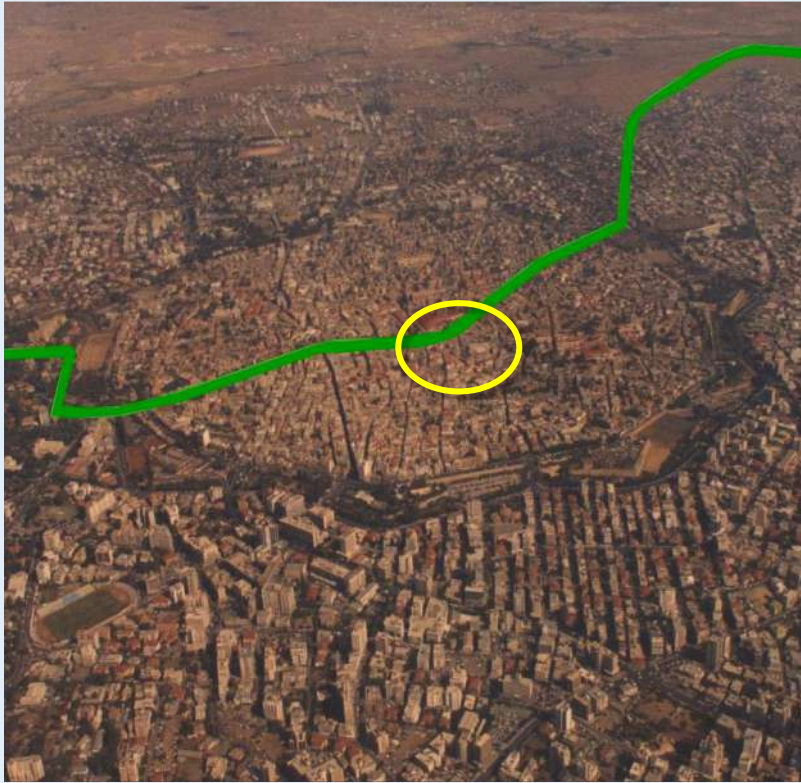
Integrated Sustainable Urban Development Strategy

REHABILITATION OF THE WALLED CITY



- Strategy concerns a series of infrastructure & rejuvenation projects.
 - Projects worth around 100m euro
- Quarter of Creative Industries (QCI)
 - Old Municipal Market renovation
 - Buildings' renovation along the Green Line
 - Rejuvenation of other QCI areas
 - Creative and urban entrepreneurship

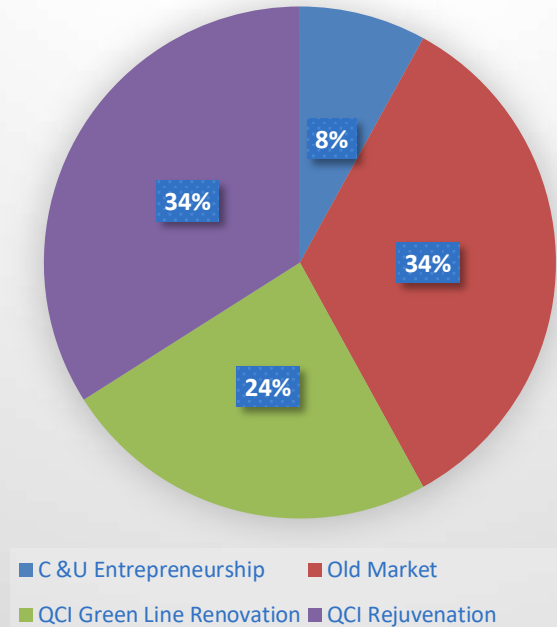
Quarter for Creative Industries (QCI)



ESIF Funds

- Quarter of Creative Industries (QCI)
 - Old Municipal Market renovation (~34%)
 - Buildings' renovation along the Green Line (~24%)
 - Rejuvenation of other QCI areas (~34%)
 - Creative and urban entrepreneurship (~8%)

ESIF Utilisation by Nicosia Municipality



Instrument 2

Research Centre on Interactive Media,
Smart Systems and
Emerging Technologies

RISE a brief overview

- Well-planned Centre of Excellence
 - brings Research, Technology & Innovation under one roof
- Align with the Smart Specialization Areas of Cyprus
 - Tourism, Energy, Agriculture–Food Industry, Construction Industry, Transportation, Health
- Conduct primarily applied research + invest in promising basis research
- To support around 25 multidisciplinary research teams (120 staff)
- Work directly with industry
 - special focus on entrepreneurs
 - create and/or support startups & SMEs

RISE – What's different?

- Invest in Bottom-Up Innovation
 - Mainly use ideas from the bowels of the ecosystem
- Provide technical & scientific know-how
 - not just high-level innovation services
 - invest in capability-building internally
- Fulfil an important social mission of culture change
 - Turn ideas/research into products & services
 - Fuel and encourage business creation
- Become an Innovation Testbed
 - Test locally -> Deploy globally

Key Ingredients

- Location
- Expert Partners
- Synergistic Funding Utilisation

Key Location

REHABILITATION OF THE WALLED CITY



Green Line

T/C Innovative Entrepreneurship

QCI Enterprises

STOA

RISE



Key Ingredients: Expert Partners

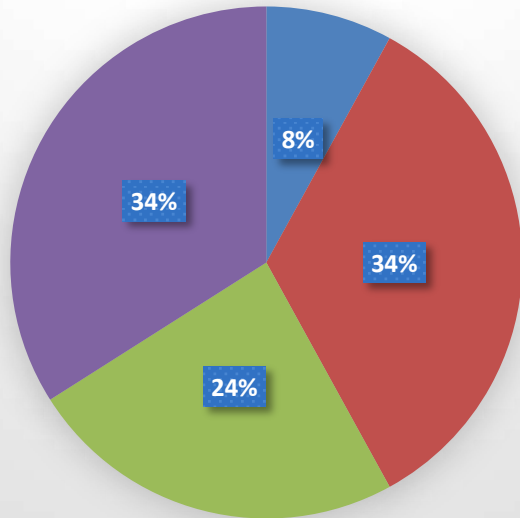
- Expert Partners
 - International (Advanced) Partners: Max Planck / University College London
 - Local Experts: University of Cyprus, Cyprus University of Technology, Open University Cyprus
- Advanced Partners:
 - Excellent in Research – Excellent in Innovation!
 - Tight Collaboration: staff exchanges, mobility, know-how transfer
 - Hire talent through their network
- Local Partners:
 - Best human capital: Faculty, Researchers, Students
 - Best expertise, reputation, know-how, infrastructure

Key Ingredients: Synergistic Funding Utilisation

- Funding from H2020 Widening - Teaming Phase 2 (15m)
- Co-funding by the Government (~15m)
- Partners (~10m)
 - Cash (~3m)
 - ESIF Synergistic Utilisation (~7m+)
- Third-party commitments (~10m)
 - Cash + services

ESIF + H2020 Synergies

ESIF Utilisation by Nicosia Municipality

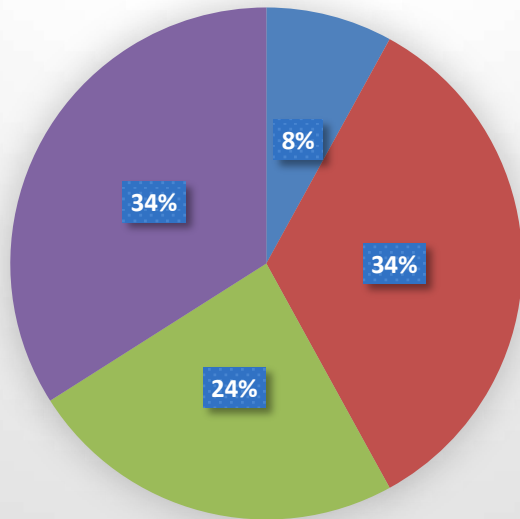


■ C & U Entrepreneurship ■ Old Market
■ QCI Green Line Renovation ■ QCI Rejuvenation

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ESIF + H2020 Synergies

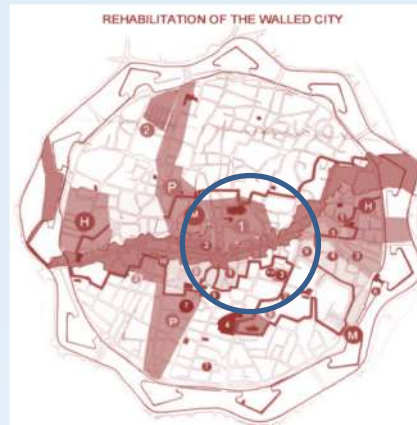
ESIF Utilisation by Nicosia Municipality



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- RISE in the QCI
 1. Premises -> Old Municipal Market
 2. Supported SMEs -> Offices along Green Line
 3. Collaborating SMEs + tech. deployments -> Other QCI areas
 4. Innovation Services -> Creative and urban entrepreneurship

RISE – Important Mission

- Instigate innovation-driven culture across Nicosia
 - Support a Cluster of Innovative SMEs
 - Work with the Turkish Cypriot Community
 - Innovative Entrepreneurship - 2018 Aid Programme for T/C



Thank you!
Questions?