



General Information


The ECOIL project is co-financed by the European Commission's environmental instrument, the LIFE programme.

The project has a duration of 24 months and the participating partners are listed below:

 Technical University of Crete –
Department of Production Engineering
and Management (beneficiary)

Municipality of Voukolies (Chania)

 Fundación LEIA C.D.T. (Spain) - Technological environmental and Agro Food Development Department

 University of Cyprus – Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering

This project's scope is the application of Life Cycle Assessment for the eco-production of olive oil, the determination of the parameters that cause major negative environmental impacts and the overall improvement of the olive oil production cycle.



LIFE 04/ENV/GR/000110

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I N F O R M A T I V E
L E A F L E T



USEFUL INFORMATION FOR THE PROJECT...

The production of olive oil consists one of the main traditional agricultural practices for many Mediterranean countries.

The total amount of olive oil production mounts approximately at 430.000 tones per year in Greece, 950.000 tones in Spain and 7.500 tones in Cyprus.

Olive oil is a valuable commodity with a high nourishing value; however its production techniques generate several negative environmental impacts mainly due to the production of waste, the excessive usage of energy and water etc.

The main objective of the project is the promotion of sustainable methods for the production of olive oil without affecting its high quality.



PROJECT OBJECTIVE

The principal objective of this project is the design and implementation of a **Life Cycle Assessment (LCA)** for the full cycle of olive oil production in three Mediterranean countries: Greece, Cyprus and Spain.

The existing situation will be recorded and assessed in order to develop the appropriate LCA methodology, so that certain coefficients for each stage of the process (e.g. olive trees cultivation practices, olive oil production process, olive oil mills waste management systems and olive oil marketing) will be developed. The implementation of the LCA will allow for the determination of the potential impacts to the final product, the environment, the public health, as well as to the operational cost.

The implementation of the above methodology allows for the assessment of the production stages that can be redesign and improved so that a more sustainable olive oil production can be achieved.



CURRENT STATUS

In the present phase the assessment of the existing status concerning the olive oil production in the three countries has been completed .

At the same time a methodology for a LCA is being developed .

For more information about the ECOIL project please visit our website:
www.ecoil.tuc.gr

Life Cycle Assessment (LCA)

Life Cycle Assessment is a methodology that fully examines the life cycle of a product or a service from the extraction of the raw materials until its final disposal. This methodology can be used as a decision support tool (DST) in regards with the adoption of suitable practices for olive oil culture and production in order to prevent and minimise waste from the productive process as well as to develop practices for their environmental friendly management.