

ANNUAL REPORT 2023

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About The Green Tank

The Green Tank is an independent, non-profit think tank developing policy solutions for a sustainable future.

Our work relates to the three pillars of sustainable development: environment - society - economy, with emphasis on the following:

- mitigation of and adaptation to climate change, independence from fossil fuels, and shifting towards renewable energy sources, energy efficiency and savings,
- biodiversity conservation and restoration, and sustainable management of natural resources and ecosystems,
- just transition of the lignite regions and the entire country, promoting the participation of local communities in the formation of a new and sustainable energy and production model,
- sustainable development that places climate and environmental protection at the heart of social and economic life.

Aiming at contributing to the protection of the environment, addressing climate change and promoting sustainable development, we:

- monitor and study the scientific, policy and legal developments, basing our work on documentation and data analysis,
- formulate well-versed recommendations and develop alternative options
- partake in public consultations,
- foster interaction and collaboration with key actors and organizations,
- strengthen public debate.

The Green Tank actively participates in networks, coalitions, campaigns, and collaborations with Civil Society Organizations at national and European level.



The Green Tank celebrates 5 years

In 2023, The Green Tank celebrated five years as an independent think tank, developing policy solutions for a sustainable future. Over these years we have seen our vision become a reality, our actions make an impact, our scope of interest and activity broaden, and our team grow.

We are motivated by the urgent need to accelerate the green transformation of the economy and society, so as to address the climate and ecological crisis we are facing. Thus, we are formulating ideas, to be converted -optimistically yet realistically- into actions aimed at ensuring that the decisions made today lay the foundations for a green and just future.

We analyze data and monitor scientific, technological and political developments, in order to formulate informed policy recommendations on climate, energy, biodiversity and just transition. Moreover, we participate in national and special committees, public consultations and institutional processes, seeking to enrich the public debate through our positions. We exchange good practices and lessons learned from our experience and develop joint actions with different bodies and organizations both in Greece and abroad.

Over the past five years, we fought numerous battles to support decoupling from fossil fuels, the just transition of lignite areas, the conservation of biodiversity and the restoration of nature, both in Greece and across Europe. Some we won, some we lost; in any case, we learned a lot and are proud of our contribution.

Our collaborations with different institutions and organizations, along with the valuable support of our donors, have been vital to our growth and have amplified the impact of our actions.

Strengthened by the knowledge gained throughout our first five years, and with analysis, documentation, dialogue and collaboration in our quiver, we commit to intensifying our efforts; our goal is to extend realistic solutions to the major challenges that arise on the path towards climate neutrality and nature restoration.

Ioli Christopoulou

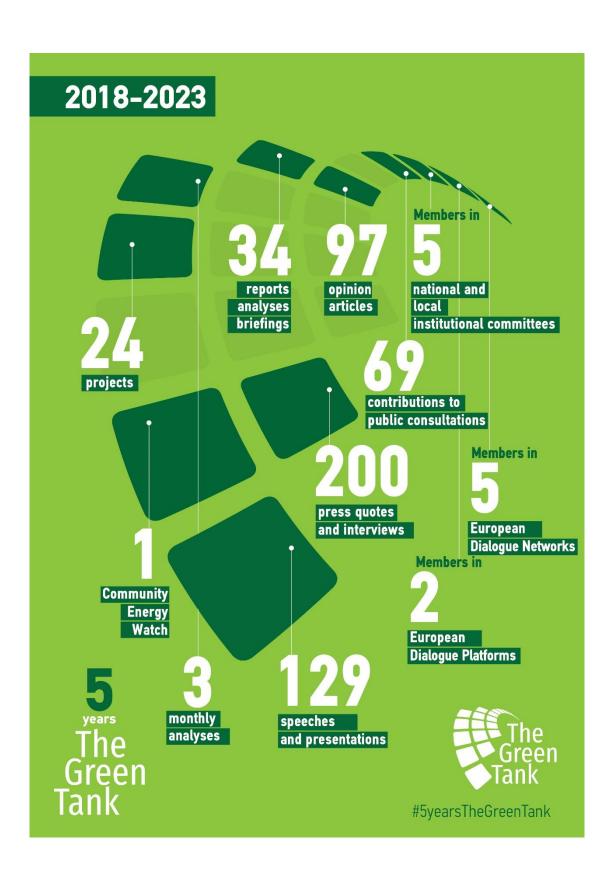
Co-founder and Policy Director

X pieroveissay -

Nikos Mantzaris

Co-founder and Senior Policy Analyst







Climate and Energy

According to the EU's Copernicus agency, 2023 was the warmest year recorded in the planet's history. Indeed, Greece faced multiple natural disasters instigated by extended fires and floods. These phenomena demonstrate the imperative need to accelerate climate crisis mitigation measures and implement adaptation measures, both of which have been insufficient to date.

In 2023, the progress made in mitigating the climate crisis was noteworthy. Several EU-27 Member States, including Greece, responded to the energy crisis that started in mid-2021 by increasing the penetration of renewable energy sources (RES) and reducing fossil fuel consumption. These initiatives, together, resulted in a carbon footprint reduction and a gradual decline in energy prices. Through its analyses and interventions, The Green Tank systematically recorded developments, thus, both highlighting the potential of the green transition and identifying problematic trends.

Specifically, The Green Tank monitored and analyzed Greece's performance with regard to the measures taken in 2022 by the EU to address the unprecedented energy

crisis; in particular, the EU had set three mandatory targets for reducing both fossil gas and electricity consumption. Drawing on data from our "Trends in Fossil Gas Consumption & Imports" and "Trends in Electricity Production" monthly analyses, we published two briefing notes. The first indicated that, midway, Greece was on track to fulfilling its obligations; nevertheless, the second revealed that the country ultimately met 2 of the 3 targets. Studying Greece's allocation of financial resources in response to the crisis, we found



that the vast majority was channeled to fossil fuel subsidies rather than to projects that would address the root of the problem, namely, to initiatives that would contribute to households' and businesses' permanent decoupling from fossil fuels.

In an effort to address this discouraging finding, during 2023, **The Green Tank** and the <u>Facets</u> consulting company collaborated on a computational analysis to identify the optimal mix of measures and policies that will minimize both the carbon footprint and energy bills of households. The results of the study are expected to be presented in 2024.

In addition, on the occasion of the four-year anniversary of the decision to phase out lignite, The Green Tank <u>studied</u> the evolution of Greece's electricity production mix compared to the other EU Member States. The results revealed that Greece is a frontrunner in reducing the use of lignite, while also restricting the use of fossil gas. This success can be mainly attributed to the exponential penetration of renewables in recent years, but also to a reduction in consumption. It is worth mentioning that, for the first time in 2023, clean energy met more than half of electricity demand. This progress, along with future challenges, were presented in articles and interviews



in several different media, including the Heinrich Böll Stiftung podcast series "The Future of Energy".

Greece's climate progress, which has been particularly marked in recent years, was reflected in our annual report: "Trends in the Emissions Trading System in the European Union and Greece, 2005-2022". Our analysis showed that, by 2022, Greece had reduced emissions from ETS sectors by 57.1% compared to 2005, ranking 6th among the EU-27. To further study the sector that accounts for the lion's share of

ETS emissions, we launched the "carbon footprint of electricity production" watch; the latter presents a record of monthly emissions per fuel (lignite, fossil gas or oil) from all thermal plants in the country.

Nonetheless, despite this progress, the national energy plan still embraces new fossil gas infrastructure. As a member of the National Energy and Climate Plan (NECP) Review Committee, The Green Tank submitted well-founded objections and counter-proposals to this planning that endangers both the country's



path to climate neutrality and the national economy. Through our comments, we criticized the unambitious energy saving targets and policies included in the current plan, as well as the insistence on exploiting domestic hydrocarbon deposits. Furthermore, we underlined the need to promote self-production projects by individual households and energy communities. Finally, we raised concerns regarding the national strategies for the development of green hydrogen value chains and carbon capture and storage (CCS) systems.

On the European front, the revision of the EU Emissions Trading System was completed in 2023, to include an extension of the LIFE ETX project. Through its actions, this project aims to shape an ETS that will benefit both the climate and citizens; it is coordinated by Carbon Market Watch and implemented by 10 partners. During 2023, The Green Tank participated in the design and implementation of a campaign that ran in different EU-27 countries, aiming at presenting the social benefits generated by ETS revenues, while highlighting the need for measures to ensure that these resources have a visible impact on citizens' daily lives. In particular, we contributed to the production of a short documentary, entitled "Just Transition and youth participation in Greece's lignite areas through ETS resources".

A milestone of the ETS revision is the creation of a distinct Emissions Trading System for buildings and road transport (ETS-2); from 2027 onwards, the latter will render the use of fossil fuels in these two sectors more expensive, thus burdening households and businesses still dependent on fossil fuels. To mitigate the expected social impacts following ETS-2 implementation, the EU established the Social Fund for Climate, which is expected to disburse at least €86.7 billion over the period 2026-2032. With the public debate on the ETS-2 already underway, Nikos Mantzaris participated in the <u>roundtable discussion</u> organized by the Institute of Alternative



Policies (ENA), commenting, inter alia, on the sufficiency and effective distribution of the aforementioned resources.

Finally, maintaining its long-standing cooperation with pan-European coalitions of environmental organizations and think tanks, such as the Climate Action Network (CAN Europe), Beyond Fossil Fuels (BFF), CEE Bankwatch, Balkan Coal Network and Think Sustainable Europe (TSE), The Green Tank participated in a number of joint actions. Indicatively, we contributed to the drafting of a report entitled "Whathappened to coal power amidst Europe's winter crisis?" that was published by BFF in April 2023.



Biodiversity and Natural Resources

In 2023, Greece became the first EU member state to <u>ratify</u> the new global and European biodiversity targets. This feat was accomplished while the new European Nature Restoration Law was being drafted.

Despite being avidly received when presented by the European Commission in 2022, the **Nature Restoration Law** was suddenly caught up in a campaign of misinformation, mainly by the European People's Party (EPP), under the pretext of the consequences it would have on agricultural production and food safety. Thus,

the European Parliament finally passed a watered-down Law by a <u>narrow majority</u>. Notwithstanding the positive attitude of the Member States at Council level, obstacles persisted during tripartite negotiations; in late 2023; the latter resulted in an agreement, which has yet to be definitively adopted.

The Green Tank closely monitored developments, intervening publicly to stress the need for adopting the new law. We joined 6000 scientists to dispel EPP's allegations, participated in the #RestoreNature campaign,



repeatedly invoked <u>Greek MEPs</u> to vote for the Law, while calling attention to this issue through <u>articles</u> and <u>interviews</u>.

In 2023, Europe was also mobilized for the protection of the wolf, expressing opposition to the European Commission's proposal to amend its protection status. The Green Tank joined nearly 300 civil society organizations across the EU in a <u>letter</u> addressed to Ursula von der Leyen, President of the European Commission. In addition, we united our voice with several organizations across Greece in <u>relevant</u> <u>letters</u> to the Minister of Environment and Energy.

A milestone year for the protection of the Aoos/Vjosa River in Greece and Albania, 2023 saw the enduring efforts of civil society organizations and partners of the "Saving Europe's last free-flowing wild river - Vjosa/ Aoos" international coalition bear fruit. In March, the Albanian part of Aoos (Vjosa) was declared a National Park, while, in November, part of Aoos in Greece was designated as a Protected Natural Formation and Protected Landscape. The Green Tank, MedINA, Pindos Perivallontiki and IUCN had long and persistently demanded the designation of the area expanding from the boundaries of the North Pindos National Park to the Greek-Albanian border, which was thus far unprotected. Our actions will continue until the adoption of a further decision imposing special conditions and restrictions on activities in the area.

At the same time, The Green Tank submitted <u>comments</u> to the public consultation on the Special Environmental Study regarding the Natura 2000 sites of the Aoos area.



Our contributions highlighted the need for an upgraded protection status of the river and its tributaries; moreover, we recommended the creation of a single protection scheme for the entire Aoos River, by extending the boundaries of the North Pindos National Park to reach those of Albania's Vjosa National Park.

During the past year, we maintained our **collaboration with OceanCare**, which offers **the innovative** <u>SAVE Whales</u> **system**, to be used by Greek authorities. This system was created to prevent the collision of sperm whales with passing ships, namely, to address the main threat to the declining sperm whale population in the Eastern Mediterranean. In the coming year, it is expected that these efforts will improve competent authorities' commitment.

In 2023, we embarked on two new long-term partnerships for the protection of the marine environment. The <u>LIFE MareNatura</u> project -launched in 2023 and expected to be completed in 2029- aims to effectively protect nine threatened species of Greek marine fauna through the designation of new marine protected areas. It is coordinated by the Hellenic Centre for Marine Research (HCMR) and comprises a broad consortium of entities. The Green Tank -in collaboration with MEDASSET and NCC Environmental Consultancy, which are partners in the project- serves as a policy expert.

The second collaboration ensued from the approval of the Interreg ARTEMIS project; the latter aims to restore the Posidonia oceanica seagrass meadows in the Mediterranean, as well as to study their ecosystem services. The project is coordinated by Plan Blue and draws together partners across the Mediterranean; members from Greece are the Hellenic Centre for Marine Research (HCMR) and The Green Tank, while the Region of Crete acts as collaborating partner.



Just Transition

In the aftermath of the energy crisis, certain EU Member States were inclined to shift back towards lignite. Nonetheless, in the past year, the implementation of Just Transition policies advanced. In Greece, in particular, the implementation of the 2021-2027 Just Transition Development Program (JTDP) was intensified, unhindered even by the country's national and regional/local elections.

The Green Tank closely monitored policy implementation, both in Greece and Europe. Our policy paper entitled "National Resources for the Just Transition" highlighted the delays in resource absorption and revealed that the prioritization of resource allocation does not reflect the urgent challenges faced by Greece's lignite

areas. Furthermore, as a voting member of the JTDP 2021-2027 Monitoring Committee, The Green Tank tendered comments recommendations in each written process regarding action specification. We endorsed the first programs to support energy communities and install heat pumps, albeit submitting a recommendation to extend both programs to additional beneficiaries; we also approved and, through our recommendations, strove to improve the entrepreneurship programs for micro, small, and medium enterprises, as well as for small-medium enterprises (SMEs) and



<u>large enterprises</u>. In addition, our think tank welcomed the <u>first targeted action for youth in lignite areas</u>, but voted against the <u>Evaluation Plan of the JTDP</u>, recommending a revision of the evaluation process and the participation of all stakeholders. Also, as a member of the "Beyond Fossil Fuels" network and in the context of regular meetings with DG Regio, we continued our interventions on the transition in Greece and Europe.

In order to bring the Just Transition to the focus of public discourse prior to Greece's local elections, The Green Tank reached out to all candidates in Greece's lignite regions through an open letter and a briefing note; the latter recorded the progress of the Just Transition thus far, while underlining the challenges of the next period.

At the same time, placing emphasis on disseminating knowledge, we exchanged lessons learned from Greece in a roundtable discussion on the <u>Just Transition in the Western Balkans</u> at the annual meeting of the 'Initiative for Coal Regions in Transition in the Western Balkans and Ukraine'.

During 2023, The Green tank maintained its focus on lignite regions and, particularly, on the **importance of youth participation in the transition**. In cooperation with the Association of Active Youths of Florina (OENEF), we organized a "Youth Empowerment Workshop for the Just Transition" to strengthen youth participation in the governance of the Just Transition. Moreover, aiming to support the initiatives of young people in Kozani, we highlighted civil society actions' potential with regard to the Just



Transition at the "<u>The Just Transition of Kozani: An Open Book</u>" event, which was organized in the context of the EUTeens4Green project.

Nonetheless, the challenge of the Just Transition does not only concern Greece's lignite regions. Local communities are now dynamically asserting their role in a just, clean and sustainable energy system, through the installation of decentralized RES systems to meet their energy needs, either individually or through energy communities.

A milestone year for self-production overall, 2023 was particularly advantageous for energy communities, with the relevant European Directives being incorporated into Greek legislation and a new institutional framework for their operation being enacted. Our think tank <u>actively contributed</u> to the public debate, submitting comments and recommendations aimed at improving the legislation.

Furthermore, in an effort to facilitate access to information on energy communities for citizens, stakeholders and policy makers, The Green Tank launched the Energy Communities Watch portal. This distinct online space serves as a hub for information on energy communities, delineating the current institutional framework; presenting recent quantitative data on energy communities and their projects; listing available funding sources; and providing step-by-step instructions to set up an energy community. Last but not least, this hub also puts forward our policy recommendations to strengthen the institution.

Following-up on formulating policy recommendations regarding energy communities and self-production based on the quantitative analysis of publicly available data, during 2023, we published Review #4 and Review #5. Both reviews document citizens' increased interest, while reaffirming the asymmetry that persists in the development of energy community commercial vs. self-production projects, as well as the evergrowing saturation of the grid.

Addressing the latter, namely the grid's inability to meet the electricity needs of domestic consumers, is highly significant. In that direction, The Green Tank, in collaboration with Stelios Psomas, energy and environment consultant, prepared a study that highlights energy communities' potential to overcome this obstacle by combining photovoltaics and battery storage systems.

During 2023, we regularly presented the Energy Communities Watch data and our studies' findings -while promoting the role of citizens in a just energy transition-through relevant articles, interviews and actions; for instance, we took part in the Heinrich Böll Stiftung <u>podcast</u> series on the future of energy, as well as in a webinar by CEE Bankwatch, titled "<u>Navigating the just transition: role of energy communities</u>". In addition, The Green Tank highlighted the importance of strengthening the institution of energy communities to ensure a Just Transition in Greece's lignite regions in a discussion held at the <u>Annual Political Dialogue of the EU Initiative for Coal Regions in Transition (CRiT)</u>.



Furthermore, in order to promote energy communities as an institution, we joined the national "Energy Communities Network" -still being set up- and the European Community Power Coalition.

Finally, in <u>July</u> and <u>December</u> 2023, we published two newsletters recording all Just Transition developments.



Sustainable Development

The overarching goal of sustainable development is fundamental in addressing the major global challenges. From 2019 onwards, the European Green Deal constitutes the EU's central strategy towards a sustainable future, to be achieved via the green and just transformation of the European economy.

In 2023, together with other members of the Think Sustainable Europe network and other stakeholders, The Green Tank contributed to the third European Green Deal Barometer by the Institute for European Environmental Policy (IEEP). The Barometer records the opinion of sustainability experts on the implementation of the European Green Deal. The Green Tank contributed to the presentation of the Barometer's preliminary results during a special session on 'the future of the European Green Deal beyond 2024' during the 'Think 2030 Dialogue' meeting held in Stockholm, as well as in the publication of a policy paper. The final presentation of the Barometer took place in Brussels in June 2023.

Early 2023 saw the completion of the "Alliance for Sustainable Local Development - SymATA" project, implemented under the Active citizens fund by MedINA and its partner, The Green Tank. Aiming at revitalizing rural areas through their own communities, the project contributed to the networking of twelve (12) organizations from different regions across Greece; this "Members Network" was, in turn, supported by an "Initiative Team", consisting of six (6) national entities, including The Green Tank. Having already contributed to the mapping of actions and needs of SymATA members and offered the latter advocacy training, during the last stage of the project, we actively took part in designing the roadmap and, ultimately, the strategic framework of SymATA for the coming years.

The implementation of the "Learn-Participate-Protect the Environment" project under the Active Citizens Fund -with iSea as implementing agency and The Green Tank as partner- continued in 2023. This project mainly aims at promoting, strengthening and safeguarding citizen participation in processes related to the formulation and implementation of environmental policies in Greece. June saw the conclusion of the second round of training seminars on policy developments regarding the project's three thematic areas: climate change, biodiversity loss, and pollution, mainly from plastics; moreover, the second round of webinars on media and the value of volunteering was completed. At the same time, the project's Facebook page and all relevant information material was being regularly updated. Furthermore, in 2023, we proceeded with our research on environmental public consultations, namely, we examined the manner in which consultations are conducted and data are processed through the country's central public consultation portal, OpenGov.gr. Finally, the first part of a targeted youth opinion survey on public consultations was designed and implemented. The project has been extended with a broader scope; its completion and the publication of findings are both expected within 2024.



During 2023, The Green Tank intervened on various events regarding sustainable development. At the <u>Regional Growth Conference 2023</u>, we took part in the panel on "Green growth as a prerequisite for sustainable development", which examined the new EU Taxonomy and the available European and national financial tools aimed at ensuring sustainable investments. Furthermore, during the <u>21st Corporate Responsibility Conference</u>, organized by the American-Hellenic Chamber of Commerce, we underlined the need for the business community to acknowledge the multiple benefits of nature protection and restoration.



Partnerships - Coalitions

The following list includes the main national and European bodies with which we collaborated in 2023; our long-standing coalitions - networks; as well as the institutional committees, in which The Green Tank participates.

Institutional Committees

- Scientific Committee on Climate Change
- National Energy and Climate Plan Committee
- Natura 2000 Committee
- The Natural Environment and Climate Change Agency's (NECCA) Management Unit of Parnitha and Schinias National Parks and Protected Areas of Saronikos Gulf
- 2021-2027 Just Transition Development Program (JTDP) Monitoring Committee

Networks

- Balkan Coal Network
- Beyond Fossil Fuels BFF
- CAN (Climate Action Network) Europe
- Community Power Coalition
- Think Sustainable Europe
- Energy Community Network, Greece

Campaigns - Joint Actions

- #RestoreNature
- Save the Blue Heart of Europe
- Joint action for the protection of the wolf



Partners in Projects

- ARCHELON, The Sea Turtle Protection Society of Greece
- AirClim
- Association of International Affairs (AMO)
- Bax Innovation Consulting
- Bond Beter Leefmilieu
- Carbon Market Watch
- CEE Bankwatch
- Client Earth
- Monfalcone Municipality, Ιταλία
- ECOACSA
- National Observatory of Athens
- Hellenic Ornithological Society
- Hellenic Centre for Marine Research (HCMR)
- Hellenic Society for the Study and Protection of the Monk Seal (MOm)
- Nature Conservation Consultants - NCC
- Eco Albania
- Euronatur
- EY Denkstatt
- Facets
- Foundation for Research and Technology
- Pelagos Cetacean Research Institute
- Institute for European Environmental Policy (IEEP)

- International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN)
- Italian Institute for Environmental Protection and Research (ISPRA)
- iSea
- GermanWatch
- Mediterranean Institute for Nature and Anthropos (MedINA)
- MEDASSET
- MEDSEA
- University of the Aegean
- Natural history Museum of Crete - University of Crete
- Swedish Society for Nature Conservation (SSNC)
- OBSAM
- Association of Active Youths of Florina (OENEF)
- Natural Environment and Climate Change Agency (NECCA)
- OceanCare
- Pindos Perivallontiki
- Planet
- Plan Bleu
- Polish Green Network
- Riverwatch
- Tour du Valat
- WISE
- ZERO Associação Sistema Terrestre Sustentável
- Waterproof B.V



The Green Tank Team

The Green Tank builds on its co-founders' extensive knowledge on environmental, climate and energy policy issues; our think tank is further enriched by a dynamic team, eager to participate in the effort for a successful transition to a sustainable future:

- Ioli Christopoulou, Co-founder and Policy Director
- Nikos Mantzaris, Co-founder and Senior Policy Analyst
- Ioanna Theodosiou, Policy Associate
- Aria Tzamalikou, Climate and Energy Policy Associate
- Ioanna Souka, Data Analyst
- Elena Psyllakou, Communications Officer
- Angeliki Zouganeli Jaeschke, Administrative Assistant & Financial Manager

Tasos Hadjieleftheriou contributed to The Green Tank projects in 2023 as an Energy Policy Associate.

The Green Tank is supported by an Advisory Committee, which brings together experienced professionals from diverse backgrounds that are relevant to our organization's scope and efficient operation. Advisory Committee members contribute in shaping our strategic direction and priorities.

- Emmanuella Doussis, Professor at the National and Kapodistrian University of Athens; UNESCO Chair on Climate Diplomacy
- Tasos Krommydas, Senior Program Officer at Global Water Partnership Mediterranean (GWP-Med)
- Marita Panteri, Senior Communications Strategist for EU Affairs at SCOPE
- Michalis Petrakos, Secretary General of the Municipality of Prespes



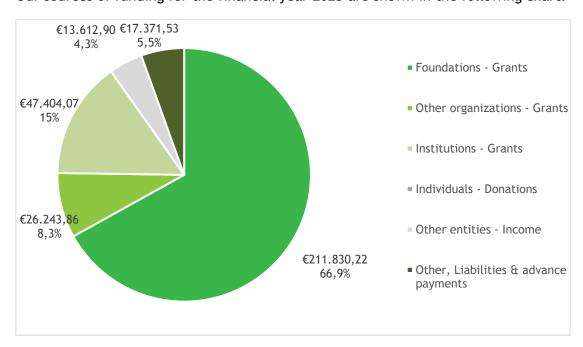
Financial Information

In 2023, The Green Tank developed its activities based on funding approved during the previous year, as well as on new partnerships and grants secured. At year's end, The Green Tank was standing strong, ready to explore new thematic areas of work and further expand its team.

The Green Tank's funding sources for 2023, in detail:

Foundations - Grants	211,830.22
European Climate Foundation	191,162.76
European Climate Foundation (LIFE ETX)	20,667.46
Other organizations - Grants	26,243.86
ClientEarth	6,114.82
MEDINA	4,000.00
OceanCare	16,129.04
Institutions - Grants	47,404.07
European Commission (LIFE ETX)	30,312.26
EEA Grants - Active Citizens Fund Greece (Learn-Participate-	17,091.81
Protect the Environment & SymATA)	17,071.01
Individuals - Donations	i
Other entities - Income	13,612.90
Association of Active Youths of Florina (OENEF)	1,612.90
Embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands in Athens	2,000.00
PLANET S.A.	10,000.00
Other (partner fees, reimbursements, interest, etc.)	1,835.51
Liabilities & advance payments	15,536.01
Funds Available (1/1/2023)	118,401.14
Total	434,863.71

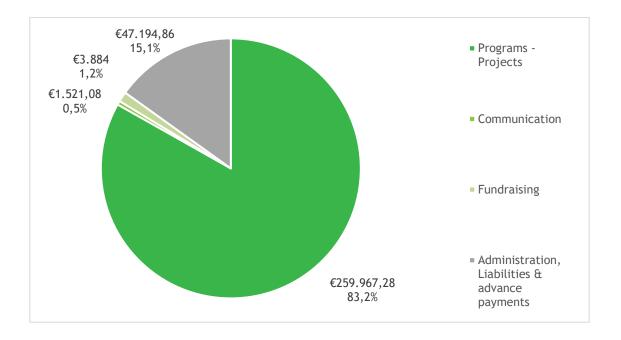
Our sources of funding for the financial year 2023 are shown in the following chart:





With regard to expenditure, most expenses relate to the implementation of The Green Tank's projects and actions. Our expenses are presented in more detail in the following table and graph:

Programs - Projects	259,967.28
Communication	1,521.08
Administration	38,484.82
Liabilities and Advance Payments	12,594.04
Funds Available (31/12/2023)	122,296.49
Total	434,863.71





ANNEX

The Green Tank Actions 2023

Reports - Analyses - Briefings

- 1. Trends in electricity production Monthly analysis
- 2. Trends in fossil gas consumption & imports Monthly analysis
- 3. The carbon footprint of electricity production Monthly analysis
- 4. Energy Communities in Greece and in its lignite areas Review of developments #3, 26.01.2023
- 5. Addressing the energy crisis: A halfway assessment of Greece's performance on its European obligations, 08.02.2023
- 6. National Resources for the Just Transition, Policy Brief, 04.05.2023
- 7. Addressing the energy crisis: Greece's performance and the utilization of funds, Briefing Note, 08.06.2023
- 8. <u>Greece on track to reduce its emissions in the ETS sectors, Annual Analysis,</u> Annual analysis, 19.06.2023
- Supporting Citizen Energy Communities in the Lignite Areas Via a Combination of <u>Photovoltaics and Battery Energy Storage Systems</u>, Report in collaboration with Stelios Psomas, 14.09.2023
- 10. <u>Focus on the Just Transition ahead of Greece's local government elections</u>, Briefing Note and Open Letter, 21.09.2023
- 11. <u>Greece and the European Union 4 years after the decision to phase out lignite</u>, Analysis, 22.09.2023
- 12. Energy Communities in Greece and in its lignite areas Review of developments #4, 31.10.2023

Public consultation

- 1. The 3 new actions of the Just Development Transition Development Program worth €418 million lack provisions for energy communities, climate neutrality and the youth, 06.02.2023
- 2. Comments by The Green Tank in the public consultation on the draft bill of the Ministry of the Interior "Innovation System in the public sector Provisions for General Secretariat of Human Resources of the Public Sector Provisions for the operation of the first and second degree local authorities and decentralized administrations and for the welfare of pets Other urgent provisions of the Ministry of the Interior", 14.02.2023
- 3. Positive steps in the new bill by the Ministry of Environment and Energy Improvements deemed necessary to enhance citizens' participation in the energy transition, Comments by The Green Tank in the public consultation on the draft bill of the Ministry of Environment and Energy "Modernization of the legislation on the use and production of electricity from Renewable Energy



- Sources Transposition of the EU Directives 2018/2001 and 2019/944", 23.02.2023
- 4. Regulations for Energy and provisions for the Protection of the Natural
 Environment in a new bill by the Greek Ministry of Environment and Energy Amendments deemed necessary, Comments and recommendations on the draft
 bill by the Greek Ministry of Environment and Energy "Provisions for renewable
 energy sources and the protection of the natural and spatial environment",
 28.02.2023
- 5. The Green Tank's comments and recommendations in the public hearing on the new bill by the Ministry of Environment and Energy, "Renaming of the Regulatory Authority of Energy to Waste, Energy and Water Regulatory Authority and broadening its scope with responsibilities for water services and urban waste management, strengthening of water policy Modernization of the legislation on the use and production of electricity from renewable energy sources through the transposition of the EU Directives 2018/2001 and 2019/944 Special Provisions for renewable energy sources and the protection of the environment", 07.03.2023
- 6. <u>A single protection scheme for Aoos</u>, Participation in the public consultation on the Special Environmental Study 11a for the Natura 2000 sites of the Regional Units of Thesprotia, Ioannina and Grevena on the designation of the Northern Pindos National Park, 03.04.2023
- 7. The Green Tank votes against the Evaluation Plan of the Just Transition <u>Development Program -The inclusion of local communities is needed</u>. As a member of the Monitoring Committee of the Just Transition Development Program, The Green Tank voted against the draft Evaluation Plan and provided comments and recommendations, 06.07.2023
- 8. YES but with asterisks by the Green Tank to the plans of supporting energy communities and installing heat pumps in transition regions. The Green Tank participated with comments in the 3rd written process of the Just Development Transition Program (JDTP) 2021-2027 as a member of the Monitoring Committee of this program with the right to vote. 07.08.2023
- 9. The Green Tank on the programs to support local entrepreneurship in the country's lignite regions, Comments and proposals regarding the two actions to strengthen local enterprises in the country's lignite regions announced by the Special Service for Just Development Transition (EYDAM) as a member of the Monitoring Committee of the Just Development Transition Program (PDAM) 2021-27, 23.08.2023
- 10. The Green Tank's comments on the NECP draft submitted to the NECP Committee as part of a closed public consultation procedure, 24.08.2023
- 11. <u>The Green Tank's comments at the 2nd meeting of the Monitoring Committee of</u> the Just Development Transition Program, 05.12.2023

Joint actions and contributions

1. <u>Poland's minimum distance law for onshore wind turbines sabotages energy transition goals</u>, 10.02.2023



- 2. What happened to coal power amidst Europe's winter crisis?, Contribution to the briefing by Beyond Fossil Fuels, 27.04.2023
- 3. <u>Nature Conservation in Europe: the case of Greece</u>, contribution to the edited volume titled "Nature Conservation in Europe: approaches and lessons" with a chapter on Greece (ed. Graham Trucker, Cambridge University Press, May 2023)
- 4. <u>Financing tracker for Energy Communities</u>, Contribution to the work by REScoop, May 2023
- 5. Contribution to the third annual European Green Deal Barometer by the Institute for European Environmental Policy (IEEP) in collaboration with members of the Think Sustainable Europe network, 2023
- 6. <u>Nature Restoration Law: 200 civil society organizations ask for a solid legislative</u> framework, 03.10.2023
- 7. The entire Aoos River in Greece and its tributaries are now protected!, 28.11.2023
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