

**STRUCTURE AND OPERATION
OF LOCAL AND REGIONAL
DEMOCRACY**
Greece, Situation in 2012

This report has been prepared and elaborated by the Ministry of Interior of the Hellenic Republic

Territorial Set Up

REGIONS of GREECE



Source: Hellenic Mapping and Cadastral Organisation

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1. LEGAL BASIS

1.1 Constitutional Provisions

The Constitution of the Hellenic Republic of 1975, as revised in 2001 and in 2008¹ mainly its articles 101 and 102, is the institutional basis of local government.

Article 101- Organization of the Administration

1. The administration of the State shall be organized according to the principle of decentralization.
2. The administrative division of the Country shall be based on geo-economic, social and transportation conditions.
3. Regional administrations of the State shall have general decisive authority on matters of their district. The central administrations of the State, in addition to special powers, shall have the general guidance, coordination and review of the legality of the acts of regional administrations, as specified by law.
4. The legislator and the Public Administration, when acting in their regulatory capacity, must take into consideration the special circumstances of the insular and mountainous areas caring for their development.

Article 102- Local authorities

1. The administration of local affairs shall be exercised by local authorities of first and second level. For the administration of local affairs, there is a presumption of competence in favour of local authorities. The range and categories of local affairs, as well as their allocation to each level, shall be specified by law. Law may assign to local authorities the exercise of competences constituting mission of the State.
2. Local authorities shall enjoy administrative and financial independence. Their authorities shall be elected by universal and secret ballot, as specified by law.
3. Law may provide for compulsory or voluntary associations of local authorities to execute works or render services or exercise competences belonging to local authorities; these shall be governed by elected administrations.
4. The State shall exercise the supervision of local authorities, which shall consist exclusively in the review of the legality and shall not be allowed to impede their initiative and freedom of action. The review of legality shall be exercised as specified by law. With the exception of cases involving *ipso jure* forfeiture of office or suspension, disciplinary sanctions to elected administrations of local authorities shall be imposed only with the concurrent opinion of a council composed in its majority of judges, as specified by law.
5. The State shall adopt the legislative, regulatory and fiscal measures required for ensuring the financial independence and the funds necessary to the fulfilment of the mission and exercise of the competences of local authorities, ensuring at the same time the transparency in the management of such funds. Matters pertaining to the attribution and allocation, among local authorities, of the taxes or duties provided in their favour and collected by the State shall be specified by law. Every transfer of competences from central or regional administrations of the State to local government also entails the transfer of the corresponding funds. Matters pertaining to the determination and collection of local revenues directly from local authorities shall be specified by law.

¹ There is no reference to the 1986 revision since local government is not affected.

1.2 Basic Legal Texts

Law 1850/1989 (OG A 114), with the reservation of articles 5, 7 (§2), 8 (§2) and 10 (§10) on the ratification of the “European Charter of local self government” is one of the key legislative texts on local government.

Other relevant texts are:

- The **PD 30/1996** (OG A 21) “Prefectural Administration Code” applicable for the new Regions of the State, set up by law 3852/2010.
- **Law 3463/2006** (OG 114 A) –“Ratification of the municipal and Communal Code” which encodes in a single text the current legislation on the functioning of municipalities and communities.
- **Law 3852/2010** (OG 87 A) –“New architecture of Decentralized Administration and Self government –the Kallikrates Programme” restructuring the administrative organization of the country at first and second level local government (municipalities and regions) and establishing seven Decentralized Administration Authorities as single decentralized state administration units, which automatically and without any further formality enjoy all the rights and responsibilities /obligations of the abolished regions.

2. STRUCTURE OF FIRST AND SECOND LEVEL LOCAL AUTHORITIES AND DECENTRALIZED ADMINISTRATION AUTHORITIES

Local Government in Greece has always been organized in two levels. Over the last years, the organizational structure has been reformed in order to increase the effectiveness, efficiency, accountability and transparency in both its operation and its provision of services to the citizens.

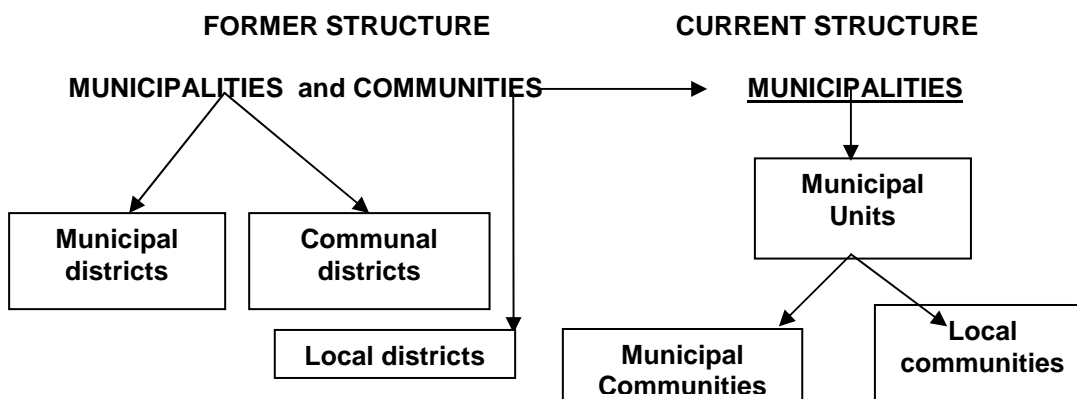
Valid since January 1, 2011, the **current administrative division²** of Greece has been formed on the basis of the Kallikrates program. First and second level local authorities have been regrouped into larger geographical units through the mergers of municipalities, communities and prefectural administrations respectively, resulting to the division of the country into **seven(7) Decentralized Administration Authorities, thirteen (13) Regions** (second level Local Authorities) **and 325 municipalities** (first level Local Authorities).

FORMER STRUCTURE		CURRENT STRUCTURE	
1034	MUNICIPALITIES- COMMUNITIES LOCAL AUTHORITIES OF FIRST LEVEL	→	325 MUNICIPALITIES Local authorities of first level
54	PREFECTURAL ADMINISTRATIONS Local authorities of second level	→	13 REGIONS Local authorities of second level
47	Simple Prefectural self- administrations		
3(7PA)	Expanded prefectural self- administrations		
19	Eparchies		
13	REGIONS	→	7 DECENTRALIZED ADMINISTRATION AUTHORITIES

2.1 Municipalities

Municipalities are self-governing territorial entities which form the first level of local authorities. Municipalities are responsible for the administration³ of local affairs.

The territorial areas of the new municipalities include the territorial areas of local authorities which have been merged. Municipalities and communities merged by law 2539/1997 form the local communities of the new municipalities established by law 3852/2010, if they have a population up to 2.000 inhabitants and the municipal communities of the new municipalities if they have a population of more than 2.000 inhabitants



² Annex Part 1

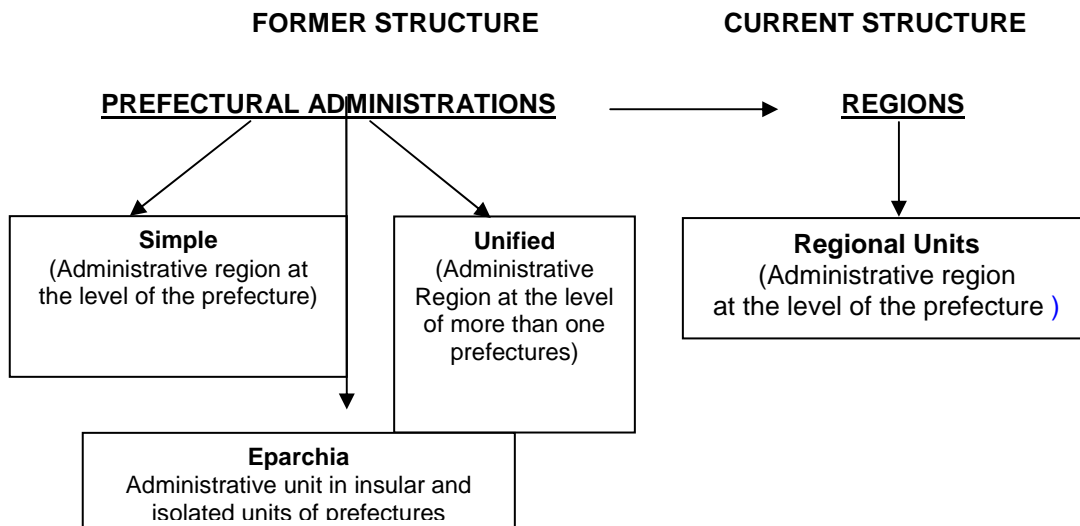
³ According to the above mentioned par 1 of article 102 of the Constitution and the provisions of the European Charter of Local self –government ratified by law 1850/1989.

2.2 Regions

Regions are self governing territorial legal entities which form the second level of local government. More than one prefecture may be included within the regional geographical boundaries. In each region, regional units are created, within the boundaries of the prefectures and the former insular eparchia; they play an important intra-regional decentralization role, being the seat of the former prefectural administrations' services and contributing to the unhindered service provision to citizens

The Regions are responsible to plan and implement regional policies in the context of their responsibilities according to the principles of sustainable development and social cohesion, taking into consideration both national and European policies.

In the context of the second level Local Government, additional metropolitan functions are undertaken associated with addressing supralocal problems and development needs with a view to better serving the two big urban centers of the country. In particular, the Region of Attiki is an entire metropolitan region, while in the Region of Kentriki Makedonia (Central Macedonia) metropolitan functions are exercised only in the Metropolitan Unit of Thessaloniki, namely within the boundaries of the urban complex.



There is not any hierarchical relationship and control between the two levels of local government. Collaboration is developed in accordance with the law, joint agreements and coordinated common action.

2.3 Decentralized Administration

The decentralized state administration is structured in seven (7) decentralized Administration Authorities, which are extended within the boundaries of one (Attiki, Kriti) or more regions. The decentralized Administration Authorities which enjoy both administrative and financial autonomy, exercise devolved state powers.

2.4 Main statistical data (population, size, etc)

The size and population of Greece figure in the following tables:

MINISTRY OF INTERIOR

Size and population per Decentralized Administration

Decentralised Administration Authority –(seat)	Size (sq.km)	Population
Attiki (Athina)	3.808	3.761.810
Thessalia- Sterea Ellada (Larisa)	29.586	1.359.217
Ipeiros- Dytiki Makedonia (Ioannina)	18.654	655.342
Peloponnisos-Dytiki Ellada and Ionio (Patra)	28.847	1.592.432
Aigaio(Peiraias)	9.122	508.807
Kriti (Irakleio)	8.336	601.131
Makedonia -Thraki (Thessaloniki)	32.968	2.483.019

Source: Hellenic Statistical Authority, Official 2001 census

Size and population per Region

Region	Size (sq.km)	Average size (sq.km)	Population (number of inhabitants)	Average population (number of inhabitants)	Number of Municipalities
Anatoliki Makedonia ⁴ – Thraki (Western Macedonia-- Thrace)	14.157	643,53	611.067	27.775,77	22
Kentriki Makedonia (Central Macedonia)	18.811	495,01	1.871.952	49.261,89	38
Dytiki Makedonia	9.451	787,63	301.522	25126,83	12
Ipeiros	9.203	511,29	353.820	19.656,67	18
Thessalia	14.037	561,47	753.888	301.55,52	25
Ionian Islands (Islands of Ionian Sea)	2.307	329,57	212.984	30.866,86	7
Dytiki Ellada(Western Greece)	11.350	597,38	740.506	38.974,00	19
Sterea Ellada (Mainland Greece)	15.549	621,97	605.329	24.213,16	25
Attiki (Attica)	3.808	57,70	3.761.810	56.997,12	66
Peloponnisos (Peloponnesus)	15.490	595,77	638.942	24.690,08	26
Northern Aegean (Voreio Aigaio)	3.836	426,20	206.121	23.989,11	9
Southern Aegean (Notio Aigaio)	5.286	155,56	302.686	8.902,53	34
Kriti (Crete)	8.336	347,33	601.131	25.024,63	24
Agion Oros (Mount Athos)	336				Self-governed
TOTAL	131.957	405,00	10.964.020	33.735,44	325

Source: Hellenic Statistical Authority, Official 2001 census

⁴ Phonological Transcription as pronounced within the national territory and translation within the parenthesis

Population of first and second level local authorities

Population	Regions	Municipalities
Maximum	3.761.810	745.514
Minimum	206.121	98
Average	843.171	33.727

Number of first level Local authorities

Population	LGA Number
Up to 5.000 inhabitants	45
5.001 - 10.000	26
10.001 - 50.000	192
50.001 - 100.000	49
Over 100.001 inhabitants	13
Total	325

2.5 Specific Regulations for particular areas- the legal status of Aghion Oros (Mount Athos)

Article 105 of the Constitution provides that the Athos Peninsula extending beyond Megali Vigla constitutes the region of Aghion Oros. In accordance with its ancient privileged status, this region is a self –governed part of the Greek State.

The powers of the state are exercised through a governor, whose duties and rights are determined by law. Likewise, the law determines the judicial powers exercised by the monastic authorities and the Holy Community as well as the customs and taxation privileges of Mount Athos.

The Common Declaration on Mount Athos attached to the Treaty of entry of Greece to the EEC (January1, 1981), as revised and made applicable, recognizes the special status of Mount Athos as defined in Article 105 of the Greek Constitution. Consequently, this special status as well as the customs and taxation privileges and the dwelling provisions are taken into consideration by the community law.

3. SELF GOVERNMENT AND DECENTRALIZED ADMINISTRATION BODIES

The governance system of Local authorities has been redesigned based on the local government bodies' collective functioning, the strengthening of intra-municipal decentralization and the institutionalized participation of local communities in the decision-making process. It aims at the widest possible consensus in the decision making, in the context of the enlarged mergers, with a view to ensuring transparency and effective implementation of the enlarged municipal and regional competences.

3.1 Municipalities

The Mayor, the Municipal Council, the Economic Committee, the quality of life Committee and the Executive Committee form the governing bodies of a municipality.

The President of the Municipal Community and the Council of the Municipal Community are the administrative bodies for Municipal Communities.

The President of the Local Community and the Council of the Local Community are the administrative bodies for Local Communities, while it should be noted that as for local Communities with up to three hundred (300) inhabitants the Local Community representative is the relevant administrative body.

In particular:

3.1.1 Municipal bodies

3.1.1.1 The Mayor

The mayor is responsible to defend local interests, head local development actions, ensure local society unity, implement the municipal council decisions and appoint the deputy mayors.

The deputy mayors who are appointed by the mayor are the councilors of the majority party. They assist the mayor in the exercise of sectorial and territorial competencies defined and allocated to them by his decision. Their number depends on the municipal population and the number of the municipal units; their term of office can not be shorter than two and a half years.

It should be noted that deputy mayors of municipal communities within the territorial boundaries of an island are provided with enlarged competencies.

3.1.1.2 The Municipal Council

The Municipal Council is responsible for all municipal affairs with the exception of those coming under the responsibility of the mayor or any other municipal body.

Municipal Population	Number of municipal council members
up to 2.000 inhabitants	13
2.001 - 5.000	17
5.001 - 10.000	21
10.001 - 30.000	27
30.001 - 60.000	33
60.001 - 100.000	41
100.001 - 150.000	45
150.001 - 500.000	49

3.1.1.3 The Executive Committee

The Executive Committee is a collective, executive and coordinating municipal body responsible to prepare and implement the municipal program. It is also responsible to monitor and implement municipal decisions. Executive Committees are set up in municipalities with more than one deputy mayors. They are presided by the mayor and composed of the deputy mayors.

3.1.1.4 The Economic Committee

The Economic Committee is responsible for the economic control and the regular monitoring of the municipal budget implementation; it makes proposals to the municipal council for the imposition of charges, fees and levies. It is composed of the mayor and a number of municipal counselors elected by the municipal council.

3.1.1.5 The quality of Life Committee

The Quality of Life Committee is set up in municipalities with a population of over 10.000 inhabitants. It consists of the Mayor and a number of municipal counselors elected by the municipal council. It has responsibilities in the areas of urban planning, land use planning, environment, business and shop licensing, in determining street market spaces and outdoor trade places. It also takes special care and action with a view to upgrading the quality of life in the municipality.

The number of the Economic Committee and the Quality of Life Committee members except for the mayor or the deputy mayor who is appointed by the mayor and heads the Committee is defined as following:

Municipal council members	Number of the Economic Committee and the Quality of Life Committee members
Up to 27	6
Up to 45	8
Over 45	10

Moreover, municipalities have the following advisory and mediation bodies:

- The Municipal Consultation Committee (MCC)
- The Council on Immigrant Integration
- The Municipal Ombudsman for citizens and businesses

3.1.2. Other bodies at first level Local Government

3.1.2.1 Municipal Communities

Municipal Community bodies are the council of the municipal community and the President of the Council. Based on the Municipal Community population, the councils are composed of:

- 5 members, for municipal communities with a population up to 10.000 inhabitants
- 11members, for municipal communities with a population from 10001 to 50.000 inhabitants
- 15 members, for municipal communities with a population over 50.001 inhabitants.

Elected among the members of the council, the President of the municipal community Council represents the council and cooperates with the Mayor and other competent municipal bodies in order to address municipal community issues.

It should be noted that presidents of municipal communities within the territorial boundaries of an island are provided with enlarged competencies.

3.1.2.2 Local Communities

The local community representative is the Local community body in local communities with a population up to (300) three hundred inhabitants.

In local communities with a population from 301 up to 2.000 inhabitants, a three member local community council, including the president, forms the local community body.

In general, municipal and local communities bodies express opinions and make suggestions to the municipal council and other municipal bodies in order to serve municipal and local community needs, respectively; they may participate in the municipal council having the right to vote when issues related to municipal or local communities are discussed.

3.1.3 Collective bodies

With a view to promoting an organized cooperation, common aims and enhancing municipal representation the following bodies are being established:

A) the Regional Unions of Municipalities , with the mandatory participation of all the municipalities which fall under the territorial competencies of the Regions, through their representatives, as members. Regional Unions for Municipalities have their head offices at the regional seats.

B) the Central Union of Municipalities of Greece , with the mandatory participation of all Regional Unions of Municipalities, through their representatives, as members.

The Central Union of Municipalities of Greece is a legal entity governed under private law seated in Athens and supervised by the Minister of Interior. The Union is responsible for formulating views on draft laws relating to municipalities

3.2. Regions

The Head of the Region, the Deputy Heads of the Region, the Regional Council, the Economic Committee, the Quality of Life Committee and the Executive Committee form the governing bodies of the region.

In particular:

3.2.1 Regional Bodies

3.2.1.1 The Head of the Region

The Head of the Region is responsible to defend the public interest, monitor the implementation of the regional development plan and perform regional duties based on the principles of transparency and efficiency.

3.2.1.2 Deputy Heads of the Region

The Deputy Heads of the Region who assist the Head of the Region are either elected or appointed by the Head of the Region. The Deputy Heads of the Region are elected in correspondence to the number of the regional units; they do not occupy any regional counsellor position. Moreover, the Head of the Region by his decision may appoint up to three deputy Heads, vested with specific powers. The deputy Heads of the Region perform sectoral duties as may be assigned to them by decision of the Head of the Region, with the exception of the issue related to cash payment orders.

3.2.1.3 The Regional Council

The Regional Council is responsible for all regional issues, with the exception of those assigned by provision of law to other regional bodies.

Regional Population	Number of Regional Council members
up to 300.000	41
300.001 -800.000	51
over 800.001	71
Attiki	101
Notio aigaio	51

3.2.1.4 The Executive Committee

The Executive Committee is a collective, executive and coordinating regional body which monitors the implementation of the regional policy as well as the implementation of the regional development plan. It is composed of the Head of the Region who heads the Committee and the Deputy Heads.

3.2.1.5 The Economic Committee

The **Economic Committee** is responsible to carry out the audit and monitor the implementation of the regional budget. It is composed of the Head of the Region or the Deputy Head of the Region appointed by the Head of the Region as president, of regional counselors elected by the regional council in order to participate in the Committee.

Moreover, regional advisory and mediation bodies are:

- The Regional Consultation Committee (MCC)
- The Regional Committee for Gender equality
- The Regional Ombudsman for citizens and businesses

3.2.2 Governing bodies of Regions with metropolitan powers

In exercising the metropolitan powers in the Region of Attiki, the Regional Council is assisted by up to four (4) metropolitan committees which prepare relevant local government issues and submit suggestions to the Regional Council. Each Committee is headed by a Deputy Head of the Region.

Composed of the Regional Council members, a metropolitan committee is set up to exercise the metropolitan powers of the metropolitan unit of Thessaloniki. The metropolitan committee is assigned the Regional Council responsibilities while the Deputy Head of the Region in Thessaloniki is responsible to coordinate the work.

3.2.3 Collective body

With a view to promoting an organized cooperation, common aims and enhancing regional representation, the Union of Regions of Greece is being established with the mandatory participation of all the regions through their representatives, as members. It is a legal entity governed under private law, seated in Athens and supervised by the Minister of Interior. The Union is responsible for formulating views on draft laws relating to regions.

3.3 Decentralized Administration Authorities

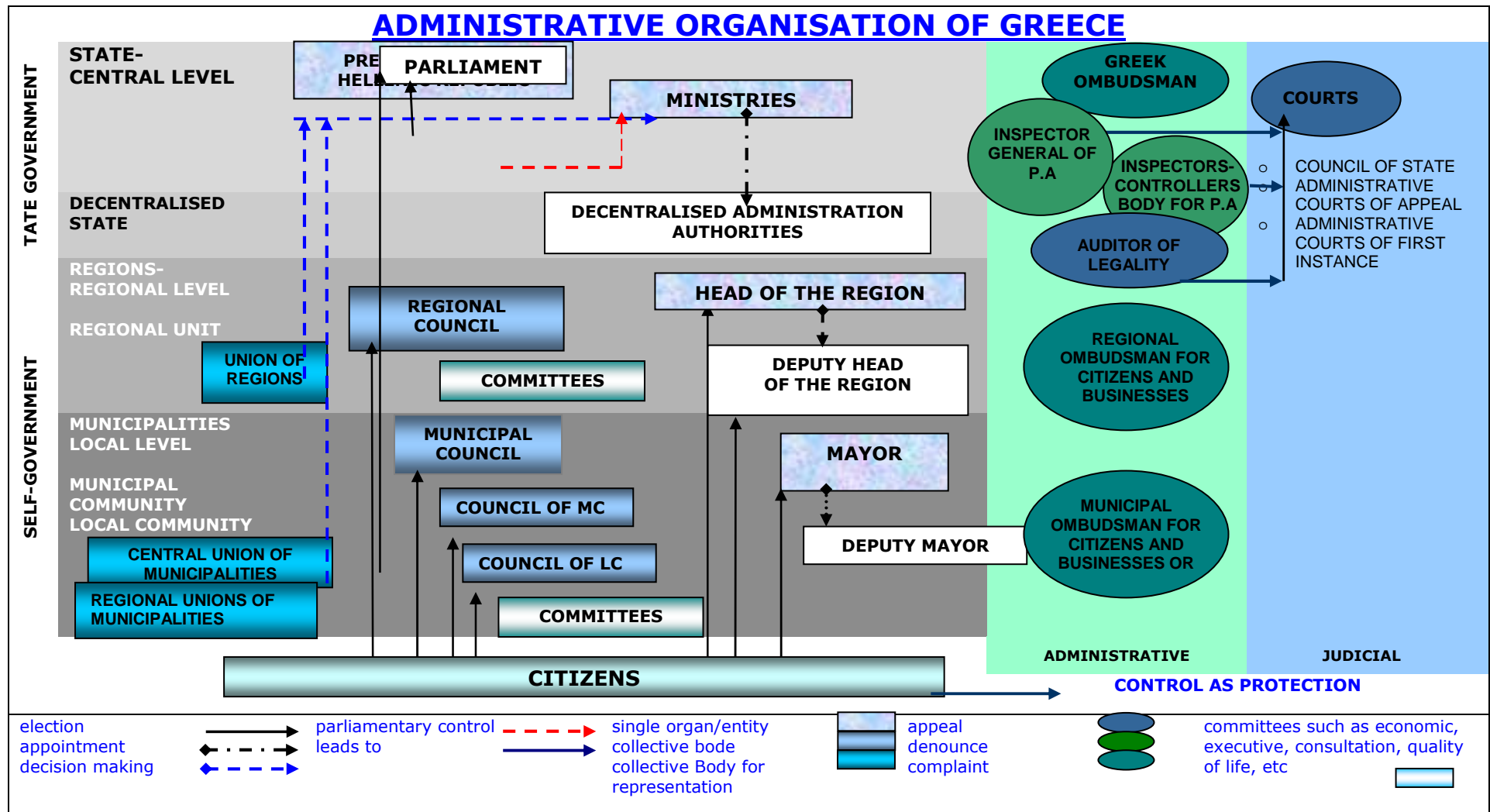
3.3.1 The Secretary General of the Decentralized Administration Authority

The Secretary General is appointed, dismissed or moved by Ministerial Council decision issued upon decision of the Minister of Interior.

- He is the Government representative, responsible to conduct government policy on decentralized administration issues.
- He supervises all decentralized administration departments as well as police, port and fire authorities falling under his jurisdiction.
- He coordinates, supervises and exercises control over the activities of the departments and the decentralized administration staff.
- He supervises public entities seated in the Decentralized Administration Authority which are not supervised by ministries, regional or municipal authorities.
- He exercises the powers conferred or delegated to the decentralized administration services as well as any other power provided or assigned to him by law.

The administrative structure of the Decentralized Administration Authorities presents the typical image of a vertical organizational structure, completed by autonomous organizational units per thematic unit under the Secretary General.

Despite the fact that all Decentralized Administration Authorities have the same organizational form, discrepancies may be observed based on the particular features of each region. The Decentralized Administration Authority of the Aegean Sea is strongly decentralized, because in addition to the executive services provided in the seat of the authority, there are organizational structures in the northern and Southern Aegean with equal distribution of their services, based on local conditions and according to the availability of the staff.



4. TRANSPARENCY AND CITIZENS' PARTICIPATION IN THE DECISION MAKING PROCESS

4.1 Local Referendums

Municipal authorities are provided for the possibility to hold local referendums on important municipal issues. Referendums can not be held in relation to national policy issues, issues falling under the competence of regions and the decentralized administration authorities as well as issues on the municipal budget and the imposition of fees. Referendum issues are arranged by presidential decrees issued upon proposal of the Minister of Interior. Municipal authorities are bound by the result of such referendums.

There is no provision for referendums to be held at regional level.

4.2 Citizen participation and transparency

Citizen participation takes place through a range of bodies:

4.2.1 Municipal Consultation Committee

Composed of local society representatives and municipal residents, the Municipal Consultation Committee is vested with consultative powers. The Consultation Committee expresses its opinion to the municipal council on critical issues, on ways of solving local problems and making use of the development possibilities of the municipalities, even through e –consultation with local citizens.

4.2.2 Regional Consultation Committee

The Regional Consultation Committee, analogous to the Municipal Consultation Committee, is set up in every region with a view to fostering social partners' and citizens' participation in the development policy of the region.

4.2.3 Local community residents meeting

The representative or the president of the Council in local communities may convene a meeting of inhabitants and local community entities at least once a year with a view to discussing local community issues and suggesting actions to be taken by the municipality.

4.2.4 Council on Immigrant integration

By decision of the municipal Council, a Council on Immigrant Integration is established within every municipality as an advisory municipal body aimed to strengthen the integration of immigrants into the local society. Municipal counselors, representatives of migrant associations, or representatives appointed by the immigrant community legally residing in the local municipality as well as social actors are allowed to participate.

4.2.5 Report on municipal activities undertaken

Municipal activities in terms of administration, implementation of the annual action plan and the municipality's financial situation are assessed in an annual special public meeting held by the municipal council. Participating bodies, inhabitants, taxpayers are entitled to comment and make remarks.

4.2.6 Publicity for meetings of collective bodies, reports, proposals, citizens' information

All collective bodies' meetings are public. Local actors and citizens are allowed to take part in the meetings.

Municipal inhabitants and unregistered municipal residents may, either individually or collectively, present reports or submit questions on municipal decisions. The Municipal Council must respond to questions raised within thirty (30) days.

Municipal inhabitants and unregistered municipal residents may submit proposals, in order to resolve issues under the municipal council jurisdiction. The obligation arises for the meeting participants to discuss such proposals if they are submitted by at least twenty five people. The Mayor informs all interested parties on the decision made.

The Municipal Council informs all municipal inhabitants on local problems, as well as on actions taken to address such problems.

Publicity and transparency are further ensured through the mandatory posting of all municipal and regional decisions and actions on the internet, as established by the the "DIAVGEIA" program.

5. STATUS OF LOCAL ELECTED REPRESENTATIVES

5.1 Election of Local Government Representatives

First and second level local authorities are elected by direct universal suffrage in a secret ballot every five (5) years⁵ concurrently with elections for the European Parliament at the same polling stations.

The regional and municipal council members are elected in electoral constituencies. 3/5 out of regional and municipal councils' total seats belong to the victorious electoral combination and 2/5 of the seats are distributed to other combinations depending on the number of valid ballots they received. A victorious electoral combination, in regions and municipalities regardless of their population, is the one that received more than 50% (50 + 1) of all valid ballots

5.2 Eligibility and term of office

Candidates for the office of Mayor must be Greek citizens who are registered municipal inhabitants, have the ability to vote and have reached 21 years of age by the election day. Candidates for the office of the municipal counselor may come among Greek citizens or citizens from the other 26 EU member states or foreign nationals of Greek origin or legally residing third country nationals who are registered municipal inhabitants, have the ability to vote and have reached 18 years of age by the election day.

Candidates for the office of the Head of the Region and the Deputy Head of the Region must be registered on the electoral roll of the Region, have the ability to vote and have reached 21 years of age by the election day. Candidates for the office of the regional counselor must have the ability to vote and have reached 18 years of age by the election day. A Regional counselor who has not completed 21 years of age can not be appointed deputy head of the region.

In order to safeguard public interests, judicial and religious functionaries, armed forces and security forces officers as well as all persons having any relation with the regional or municipal authorities, or debtors who owe debts to the municipality/ region can not stand for the offices of mayor, head of the region, deputy head of the region, deputy mayor or member of the regional or municipal council.

Standing for elections at both levels of local government is forbidden, while any election of the same person as an elected representative of the first and second level local government is precluded.

5.3 Duties and responsibilities of elected representatives

The Mayor implements the program of the municipal authority. He is responsible for the judicial and extrajudicial representation of the municipality. He guides the actions of the municipal services he heads, signs the cash payment orders, issues all licenses and certificates under his jurisdiction and signs the contracts concluded by the municipality. He executes the decisions made by the municipal council, the economic committee and the quality of life committee. He appoints the deputy mayors, he chairs the executive committee, he sets up working groups and working parties within the municipality, defining their organization and operation.

The Head of the Region is responsible for the implementation of the regional development plan, the issuance of all non regulatory instruments, for the judicial and extrajudicial representation of the Region. He is the head of the regional services and regional staff. He orders the revenue collection and decides on the allocation of budget and signs the

⁵ The term of office of municipal and regional representatives elected in the general municipal and regional elections of November 2010 will be shorter than usual (01/01/2011-31/08/2014)

contracts concluded by the region. He executes the decisions made by the regional council, the economic committee and the quality of life committee. He chairs the executive committee, he sets up working groups and working parties within the region, defining their organization and operation. He establishes collective bodies and he is responsible for the transfer of powers to the members of the regional council.

Mayors, Heads of the Region or their relatives whose private interests come into conflict with municipal or regional interests are required to abstain; in this case their powers are exercised by the deputy mayor or the deputy head of the region, respectively.

Mayors, deputy mayors, Heads of the Region, deputy Heads of the Region and the presidents of the municipal and regional councils who are employed as civil servants, public entities employees or state private legal entities or business employees take a mandatory special leave without pay throughout their term of office.

Mayors, deputy mayors, all members of the economic committee and the quality of life committee are required to submit an annual statement of their assets and post it on the municipal website.

5.4 Remuneration –monetary compensation

All mayors, deputy mayors, Heads of the Region, Deputy Heads of the Region and the Presidents of the municipal and regional councils receive remuneration which is paid by the municipality or the region, respectively.

A monetary compensation is provided for participants in the regional or municipal councils meetings, as well as in the meetings of the committees for the quality of life, or the regional administrative committees meetings, except for the mayors, the heads of the region, the deputy mayors and deputy heads of the region, the presidents of the municipal and regional councils who receive remuneration.

6. DISTRIBUTION OF POWERS AMONG THE LEVELS OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND THE DECENTRALIZED ADMINISTRATION AUTHORITIES

Municipalities and regions exercise their powers taking into account:

- The relevant national, regional and European policies
- The need for cooperation and coordination with other local or regional authorities and organizations
- The available resources to meet their responsibilities, and the need to ensure their beneficial, efficient use and equitable distribution
- The need for organizing services to ensure their adequacy, quality and effectiveness
- The need for sustainable development and protection of the cultural heritage

6.1 Municipalities

Municipal authorities manage and regulate all local affairs according to the principles of subsidiarity and proximity, aiming at protecting, developing and improving the quality of life as well as promoting local interests.

Municipal authorities exercise their powers according to the relevant legislation, regulations and management regulations adopted by them (local regulatory decisions).

Municipal responsibilities include (8) eight specific areas mainly comprising the fields of:

- A) Development
- B) Environment
- C) Quality of Life and proper functioning of cities and settlements
- D) Employment
- E) Social Protection and Solidarity
- F) Education, Culture and Sports
- G) Civil Protection
- H) Rural development- Livestock –Fisheries

With a view to providing better services, municipalities may also exercise state responsibilities at local level which have been assigned to them by law.

6.1.1 Areas with special features

6.1.1.1 Insular municipalities⁶

As provided by the constitution, insular municipalities may undertake additional responsibilities otherwise exercised by the regions, to better serve the populations of insular municipalities by providing services which are close to the place of residence. Special regulations are provided to support such responsibilities.

In particular:

Insular municipalities exercise additional powers in the areas of:

- Agriculture, Livestock and Fishery
- Natural resources, Energy and Industry
- Employment, Trade and Tourism
- Transports and Communications
- Works, Urban and spatial Planning and Environment

⁶ It concerns the regions of the Northern and Southern Aegean and of the Ionian Sea.

6.1.1.2 Mountain Municipalities

Distinct treatment is warranted by the Constitution in favor of the mountain municipalities; their prevailing specific conditions dictate a treatment similar to the one provided for insular municipalities. Therefore, a special mechanism of administrative support to be provided by the non mountain municipalities nearby is set up, structured in a similar way as the one provided for the insular municipalities.

The mountain regions exercise powers in the fields of:

- energy
- waters
- forestry
- agriculture and livestock
- support of local community and economy

6. 2 Regions

Regions design, plan and implement regional policies within the context of their competencies, according to the principles of transparency, effectiveness and efficiency.

Regions exercise their competences within the framework of the relevant laws and administrative regulations, in the fields of:

- A. Planning - Development
- B. Agriculture- Livestock- Fishery
- C. Natural resources- Energy-Industry (Water management, mineral wealth, energy, industry and manufacturing)
- D. Employment-Trade- Tourism
- E. Transports- Communications
- F. Works – Spatial planning – Environment
- G. Health,
- H. Education-Culture- Sports
- I. Civil protection - Logistics

6. 2.1 Metropolitan Region

Metropolitan functions in Attiki and Thessaloniki are organized and conducted, in the context of the second level of local government, by the Regions. Thus, supra-local problems are addressed in a uniform way aiming at a uniform planning and development in the wider area.

In particular, the metropolitan region of Attiki and the metropolitan unit of Thessaloniki (Region of Central Macedonia), in addition to their regional responsibilities, may exercise metropolitan responsibilities in the following areas:

- Environment and quality of life
- Spatial planning and urban regeneration
- Transports and communications
- Civil protection and security beyond the municipal administrative boundaries

Moreover, in relation to the solid waste management in the Metropolitan Region of Attiki a special association located in Athens is set up with the participation of the Metropolitan Region of Attiki and the compulsory participation of all municipalities of the prefecture of Attiki

6. 2.2 Areas with special features

6.2.2.1.1 Insular Regions⁷

Because of their geographic specificity, insular regions, in addition to their regional responsibilities, exercise responsibilities related to the planning, the approval and monitoring of intra- regional transport plans.

6.3 Decentralized Administration

The seven (7) Decentralized Administration Authorities exercise devolved state powers, in the town and urban planning, environmental policy, forest policy, migration policy, citizenship and energy policy.

. Executive powers in each Decentralized Administration Authority are exercised by relevant services located in the city where the Authority is seated. Services located at the regional units exercise executive powers for specific issues. In parallel, one- stop shops are provided for in order to serve aliens in relation to residence permit, citizenship, and social integration issues, offering the citizens the convenience of obtaining their needs in one stop.

6.4 Allocation of functions among the levels of government

Responsibilities among the central government and the two levels of local government are distributed as following:

⁷ It concerns the regions of the Northern and Southern Aegean and of the Ionian Sea.

MINISTRY OF INTERIOR

COMPETENCIES OF LOCAL, REGIONAL AND DECENTRALISED ADMINISTRATION AUTHORITIES												
FUNCTIONS-RESPONSIBILITIES	COMPETENT AUTHORITY			TYPE OF COMPETENCE⁸				EXERCISE OF COMPETENCE				REMARKS
	State	Regions	Municipalities	exclusive	shared	compulsory	discretionary	direct	indirect	in own right	for another authority	
General Administration												
Security, Police	•		• ⁹		•							
Fire service	•	•	•		•							
Civil defense	•	•	•	•								
Justice	•			•								
Population register - Male registry	•		•		•							
Registry Office	•		•		•							
Statistical Service	•			•								
Electoral lists	•		•		•							
Education												
Preschool education	•	• ¹⁰	•		•							
Primary and Secondary Education	•	•	•		•							
Vocational and technical education	•	•	•		•							
Higher education	•			•								
Adult education	•	•	•		•							
Other												
Health												
Hospitals	•		•		•							
Individual institutions	•	•	•		•							
Social Sector												

⁸ It should be stressed that dividing competencies into mandatory and optional competencies is not possible. This is because, while most of them are mandatory, there are a number of fields (social care, arts, and athletics) which comprise both mandatory and optional activities undertaken under the same competence.

⁹ Municipal police.

¹⁰ School closure, due to extraordinary circumstances or a epidemic disease.

MINISTRY OF INTERIOR

Care services for children			•	•								
Care services for families and youth	•	•	•		•							
Nursing homes, elderly centers	•	•	•		•							
Social security	•			•								
Other												
Urban planning , Street planning												
Urban planning	•	•	•		•							
Street planning	•	•	•		•							
Regional/ urban planning	•	•	•		•							
Environment & Public Health												
Water supply	•	•	•		•							
Waste collection		•	•		•							
Cemeteries			•	•								
Slaughterhouses			•	•								
Protection of the environment	•	•	•		•							
Consumer protection	•	•	•		•							
Arts, entertainment ,sport												
Theaters, music	•	•	•		•							
Museums, art galleries libraries	•	•	•		•							
Parks, recreation areas	•	•	•		•							
Sports, entertainment	•	•	•		•							

MINISTRY OF INTERIOR

Worship places, events	•			•								
Transports												
Highways	•	•			•							
Urban roads	•	•			•							
Urban transport	•	•		• ¹¹	•							
Trains												
Ports	•			•	•							
Airports	•											
Other												
Financial services												
Natural gas	•			•	•							
Independent heating				•	•							
Irrigation		•		•	•							
Crops, fishery	•	•		•	•							
Energy	•	•		• ¹²	•							
Trade	•	•		•	•							
Tourism	•	•		•	•							
Forests	•			• ¹³	•							
Other services												
Licenses to operate businesses, sanitary facilities, theaters, cinemas, playgrounds recreation activities etc		•		•	•							

¹¹ License for road transport of passengers and goods

¹² Protection and utilization of mild or renewable energy, electrification, expansion of electronic network capacity etc.

¹³ Use of municipal forests

7. LEGAL ENTITIES AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT COMPANIES

7.1 Municipalities

7.1.1 Public entities

Municipalities are entitled to have:

- a) Municipal establishments such as nurseries, orphanages, retirement homes, museums or other scientific institutions.
- b) Up to two public entities, one in the field of social protection, solidarity and education and a second one in the field of culture, sports and environment
- c) Up to two school committees, for the primary and secondary education school units, respectively
- d) One public entity for the administration and management of the port area
- e) one public entity as an independent autonomous entity, because of its widely recognized action or its long dedication to specific fields of action.
- f) one or more Municipal Associations of special purposes

7.1.2 Legal Entities governed by private law

Municipalities are entitled to have:

- a) a welfare company aimed to organize activities and provide municipal services in the fields of social protection, solidarity, education, sports, culture and environment,
- b) One Municipal enterprise of water supply and drainage,
- c) One special purpose company to operate a radio or TV station,
- d) One municipal limited company to make use of the municipal immovable property or exploit public spaces,
- e) Limited companies. It should be noted that limited companies of the same corporate category are compulsorily merged into one single limited company.
- f) Existing urban non- profit companies and existing inter-municipal companies,

7.2 Regions

7.2.1 Public entities

Regions are entitled to have:

- a) Institutions of the former prefectures, together with their staff, which automatically come under the control of the regions and operate as regional institutions.
- b) one or more inter-level associations of special purpose, set up by a region together with one or more municipalities which have their seats in the region
- c) A Regional Association- solid waste management body in the form of a limited society with the compulsory participation of the municipalities of the region. The body operates within the administrative boundaries of each region. It aims at the integrated solid waste management, especially at the temporary storage, transshipment, water transport, treatment and disposal of solid waste.

In particular, within the above mentioned context, a regional Association in the form of a public entity called «Special inter-collective Association of the Prefecture of Attiki (ESDNA)» is operating in the metropolitan region of Attiki with the participation of the metropolitan region of Attiki and the municipalities of the regional unit of Attiki for the integrated solid waste management.

7.2.2 Legal Entities governed by private law

Regions are entitled to have:

- a) one company in the form of a development limited company, responsible to 1) provide scientific and technical support to the Regions, the Union of Regions and other local government entities, 2) promote business, economic and sustainable development in the region, as well as, develop activities to protect the environment, 3) participate in

relevant programs or in the implementation of relevant policies at the interregional level or in the wider geographic area.

- b) limited companies of the former prefectural administrations
- c) The already existing urban non profit companies,
- d) A regional development Fund, operating in the seat of every region and supervised by the Ministry of Interior. Based on the regional council decisions, it is responsible for the management of credits from the public investment program, the management of the funding of public sector institutions and other legal entities, the management of funding from EU and other international organisations' programs, related to regional and special development programs within the Region.

8. PARTNERSHIPS AND OTHER FORMS OF RELATION BETWEEN FIRST AND SECOND LEVEL LOCAL AUTHORITIES

8.1 Networks

8.1.1 National Networks

Municipalities and regions wishing to advance their common purposes may set up and participate in national networks of municipal and regional authorities, aiming at the coordinated and targeted promotion of their objectives, the dynamic participation in respective foreign networks or programs and initiatives undertaken by international and European organizations in order to enhance their economic, social and territorial cohesion.

The networks are established by relevant municipal and regional decisions and operate pursuant to a declaration and a statute. Universities, research institutes and relevant social actors may also participate in order to better serve the purpose of the network.

8.1.2 International and European networks

Municipalities and regions wishing to advance their common purposes may set up and participate in international and European networks of local and regional authorities, aiming at the coordinated and targeted promotion of their objectives, the dynamic participation in programs and initiatives undertaken by international and European organizations in order to enhance their economic, social and territorial cohesion. International and European networks having their headquarters in Greece are set up as urban non profit companies.

8.2 Associations

By decision of their municipal councils, one or more municipalities may establish a special –purpose association for the implementation of projects or the provision of specific services or the exercise of their powers, as well as the planning and elaboration of programs and methods with a view to ensuring the development of their wider area. By decision of the Secretary General of the Decentralised Administration Authority, the compulsory participation in associations may be provided for municipalities, if the conditions laid down by law are met.

Moreover, in the frame of the above special development purposes, an association may be established by one or more municipalities including the region they are seated, by decision of their municipal and regional councils. This association is called an inter- level association. It should be noted that inter – level associations have been set up in metropolitan region, an example of which is the Regional Inter-level Association of ESDNA in Attiki.

8.3 International collaborations

First and second level Local authorities may implement international and European collaborations under the international, European Union and national law, according to the scope of their responsibilities and subject to the country's international obligations, as following:

a. Programs and initiatives of international and European organizations

Municipalities and regions collaborate with respective foreign authorities, at the European and international level, in order to facilitate and promote transnational, inter-regional, cross-border and territorial cooperation and participate in programs, activities and initiatives of European(EU,etc), international and regional organisations(Council of Europe, etc).

b. Twinning of cities

Municipalities and regions may proceed to twinning of cities with a view to promoting economic, cultural, educational and social relations and building and developing close and friendly relations.

c. European Groupings of Territorial Cooperation

Municipalities, regions and Greek public sector bodies, including the Decentralized Administration Authorities, may participate in a European Grouping of Territorial Cooperation in order to facilitate and promote cross-border, transnational and/or interregional cooperation with the exclusive aim of strengthening economic and social cohesion. A European Grouping of Territorial Cooperation seated in Greece is an urban non profit company.

d. Mission exchanges and organization of events

Municipalities and regions may organize cultural, artistic and sporting events and mission exchanges.

8. 4 Agreements

8.4.1 Intermunicipal Cooperation Agreements

Municipalities within the same region or adjacent municipalities, their legal entities governed by private law and associations of municipalities may conclude, among them, inter-municipal cooperation agreements in order to perform or support the exercise of powers on behalf of their members.

8.4.2 Inter-level cooperation agreements

Municipalities within the same region and the local region, legal entities and associations to which any of the contacting parties may participate, can conclude, among them, inter-level cooperation agreements in order to perform or support the exercise of powers on behalf of one or more contracting parties.

8.4.3 Contract Agreements

Municipalities, regions, associations of municipalities, the Regional Units of Municipalities, the Central Unit of Municipalities in Greece, the Union of Regions as well as all public entities, and legal entities governed by private law to which the above local government authorities participate, may conclude contract agreements with the public sector, among them or with public sector entities.

Contract agreements may be concluded for the purposes of carrying out development works, procurement of goods and services, cultural works and projects or projects related to municipal educational or athletics infrastructure or asserting and collecting fees, levies and fines.

The contract agreements which concern the design and implementation of projects and development plans as well as the provision of services are subject to a pre- contractual control of legality conducted by the Court of Auditors.

In particular, pre-contractual controls of legality are conducted over:

1. Contract agreements, with cost estimates of over one million (1.000.000) €
2. Co-funded contract agreements, with cost estimates of over five million (5.000.000) €
3. contracts agreements for the procurement of services concluded by local authorities and their legal entities , with cost estimates of over five hundred thousand (500.000) €

It should be noted that contract agreements with cost estimates of over two hundred thousand (200.000) € are subject to legality control; the control is conducted by the Commissioner of the Court of Auditors who is responsible for exercising a preventive control over the expenditure, before the contract process.

9. LOCAL GOVERNMENT FINANCE

9.1 *Municipal and Regional revenues*

Municipal and regional revenues are divided into **ordinary** and **extraordinary** revenues

The **ordinary** revenues derive from:

- Resources laid down for them; central autonomous funds,
- Income from movable and immovable property,
- Fees and charges ,
- Taxes, duties and levies ,
- Local potential fees, charges and levies.

The **extraordinary** revenues derive from:

- Loans, donations, bequests and legacies,
- Disposal, sale and use of assets ,
- Participation in business activities,
- Administrative fines and penalties ,
- Any other source.

9.1.1 *Central autonomous funds*

9.1.1.1 *Municipalities*

The central autonomous funds are sources annually granted by the state government to municipalities. They come from the following state budget resources:

- a) the income tax for individuals and legal entities (20% of the total tax receipts),
- b) The value added tax (12%of the total tax receipts),
- c) The property tax (50% of the total tax receipts).

2/3 of the revenue from the income tax for individuals and legal entities and the total revenue from the value added tax and the property tax are used to meet operational and general municipal costs. 1/3 of the revenue from the income tax for individuals and legal entities is intended to cover municipal investment costs.

Central autonomous funds are allocated, following suggestion of the Central Union of Municipalities of Greece, based on the demographic, geo-morphological, administrative, financial, social, environmental and cultural characteristics of the municipalities.

The administrative support provided by a municipality in order to assist other municipalities meet their operational needs and the permanent service provision to insular and mountain municipalities is taken into serious consideration.

9.1.1.2 *Regions*

The central autonomous funds are sources annually granted by the state government to the Regions. They come from the following state budget resources:

- a) the income tax for individuals and legal entities (2,40% of the total tax receipts),
- b) The value added tax (4%of the total tax receipts)

The percentage to meet the regional operational and investment expenses is determined by joint decision of the Ministers of Interior and Finance, following the opinion of the Union of Regions. Central autonomous funds are allocated, following suggestion of the Central Union of Regions of Greece, based on the demographic, geo-morphological, administrative, financial, social, environmental and cultural characteristics of the regions with a view to alleviating disparities.

9.1. 2 Local Government properties

9.1. 2.1 Municipal immovable properties

The immovable property is the set of properties owned by a municipality.
The immovable property is divided into:

- 1) Public (municipal) property
- 2) Private property
- 3) Pastures available to municipalities for exploitation and use for solely meeting livestock needs.

9.1.2.1.1 Public (municipal) property

The public immovable property of municipalities includes the properties which directly serve municipal interests; the property is divided into the property for public use and the property intended to serve municipal purposes.

9.1.2.1.1.1 Property for public use

Public (municipal) properties for public use indicatively include roads, squares, parks, gardens, playgrounds and recreation areas to adequately serve public needs. Public (municipal) properties for public use belong to municipalities, unless otherwise provided by law.

9.1. 2.1.1.2 Movable or immovable property serving municipal purposes

This category includes, among others, municipal stores, water supply and sewerage networks, waste management facilities, biological wastewater treatment facilities, buildings for cultural or artistic use, sports facilities, schools, cemeteries, cremation centres, municipal markets, slaughterhouses, social service buildings and facilities, seashore, beaches, shoreline and riparian zones of large lakes and navigable waters (their use has been allocated by the state government)

This municipal property can be used as an instrument to manage local affairs with a view to promoting development, protecting and improving the quality of life at the local level.

9.1. 2.1.2 Private immovable property

The municipal private property includes, among others, land, buildings, apartments and other residential real estate, agricultural parcels and buildings, mines, quarries, mineral springs, salt marshes, fish farms, forests and pastures. This private municipal property does not directly serve any public interest.

The distinction between public and private property relates to the provisions of public and private law applicable respectively. When making use of their property, local authorities are subject to substantive and procedural requirements mainly set by the Code of Municipalities and Communities. The substantive requirements relate to the purpose of use and disposal and the gains required, while procedural requirements relate either to the decision making of certain elected representatives (economic committee) or to the compliance with the auction process.

Subject to usucaption, the municipal private property may be expropriated.

9.1. 2.1.3 Management and use of Local Government immovable property

Municipalities are obliged to maintain, protect and appropriately manage their properties.

Special rules on the management and use of the municipal immovable property, which is the origin of revenues, mainly relate to:

- The sale of property, only when the sale results in gains for the local authority. The immovable property that can be sold relates to the private immovable property. The sale is done by auction and chartered valuers are required to estimate the market value.
- Sale of property by leasing
- Lease of property
- Lease of municipal farmland for agricultural or tree cultivation
- Direct grant of lease to quarries for production of inert materials and marble quarries
- Free allocation of ownership rights to the Roma population and foreign nationals of Greek origin who joined the state housing rehabilitation programs.

The provisions on the management and use of the municipal property also apply to the property of legal entities, with the exception of companies which operate as legal entities governed by private law, under the private sector rules.

Similar arrangements and rules on the protection of their property apply to the regions. The regional immovable property includes private immovable property (mainly buildings which host the regional services)

9.1.2.2 Local Government movable property

Cash in banks, securities, machinery and equipment are part of the municipal and regional movable property which is registered and managed according to the applicable provisions.

9.1. 2.3 Registration of municipal and regional property

All municipal movable and immovable property has to be registered. Municipalities, as well as the regions, must have a register of real estate. All municipalities are required to maintain a register of fixed assets to record and evaluate their fixed assets.

Respectively, the provisions on the implementation of the sectoral accounting plan for municipalities are applicable in relation to the double entry system of general and analytical accounting of the Regions since January 1, 2012.

9.1.3 Tax Revenues

The Constitution provides for the local government financial autonomy. Within this context, the state enacts legislation and provides for sources of revenue (taxes) in favour of Local authorities. In addition, they are given the possibility to establish regulatory acts and impose fees, contributions and entitlements. These revenues according to their legal status¹⁴ may be used by local authorities either to balance the costs of the services provided or for general municipal purposes.

For local authorities, making use of the sources of revenue through taxes can be either discretionary or mandatory.

9.1.3.1 Compensatory fees, local compensatory potential fees and entitlements

Fees imposed by first level local authorities to meet the costs of the services provided such as cleaning services, water consumption, irrigation, are called compensatory fees; they meet the costs of the services provided by local authorities for the benefits enjoyed by their citizens. Revenues generated by such fees are strictly earmarked for specific purposes.

Special categories of compensatory fees as specifically provided by law include:

¹⁴ Taxes, fees, entitlements and contributions

- Fees on water supply, irrigation and drainage,
- Cleaning and lighting services fees ,
- Fee on the use of public spaces, imposed on the permanent or temporary use of streets, pavements, squares etc
- parking fees for vehicles in controlled parking zones,
- entitlements on the use of municipal slaughterhouses ,
- entitlements on the use of a pasture ,
- entitlements or fees to cover operating expenses of cemeteries,
- fees on the value of crude industrial mineral quarrying.

Local authorities are entitled to impose local potential compensatory fees for services or local works which contribute to the improvement of the quality of life, the development of the local area and the provision of better services to citizens.

9.1.3.2 Taxes, fees, entitlements and contributions

Enacted taxes, fees and entitlements in favor of local authorities are:

- The real estate fee imposed on the immovable property within the municipal boundaries the amount of which is decided by a municipal council decision, as specified by law.
- The tax on electrified sites, a discretionary tax imposed on electrified sites
- Fees on publicity taking place within the municipal boundaries, the amount of which is determined by the municipalities.

Moreover, the following fees are imposed on a mandatory and in some cases discretionary basis:

- Residence fees at hotels imposed for all types of hotel accommodation (hotels, motels, campings, etc.)
- fees on the gross income of clubs, restaurants and stores
- fees on trading natural medicinal mineral drinking or non drinking waters_ which is a tax on transactions
- fees on the sale of aggregate and quarry products

For the sake of public interest, cash contributions are paid to the municipality by the owners of immovable property. These are earmarked contributions used for the elaboration of planning studies and the performance of basic public urban projects.

Taxes, fees, entitlements and contributions are mostly collected either by the local authorities themselves or by other legal entities (Public Electricity Company) on behalf of local government agencies. However, some of them after being collected by the state are allocated to the local authorities by ministerial decisions.

Such taxes and fees may include:

- publicity fees imposed on certain categories of publicity works (through diaries, presents, printed material, promotion of products at shops,happenings, etc),
- fees on performing entertaining games ,
- tax on beer_
- fees on decommissioned ships ,
- the immovable property tax (15% of which is collected through electricity bills)
- Fines for violating the highway conduct rules and fines for building violations.

9.2 Financial Management

9.2.1 Municipalities

In the context of modernizing local authorities' organization and operation, the law provides for the obligation of five years Operational Programs to be elaborated by the municipalities of the country, aimed to introduce permanent planning, monitoring and evaluation procedures of actions undertaken by first level local authorities, enhance transparency and improve municipal human and material resources management.

Each Operational program describes the municipal strategic, operational and financial planning for a period of five years. This planning requires an inter-municipal and inter-level cooperation, with the active participation of all municipal services and legal entities which is entered into consultation with the local society. The planning is structured in Annual Action Plans which include the annual budgets, the actions and projects to be implemented within the year as well as a detailed recording of funding resources. The draft plan, the budget and the consultation processes are completed by September 30 of each year.

In the context of the municipal financial management, the budget, the annual action plan, the report of the Economic Committee and the municipal council decisions concerning the imposition of taxes, fees duties and levies are submitted for audit to the Auditor of Legality.

The summary budget statement, as voted by the municipal council, has to be posted on the municipal website and published in at least one local daily or weekly newspaper. The quarterly report on the results of budget execution, which is submitted to the municipal council by the economic committee during the previous quarter, upon recommendation of the person in charge of the municipal financial services, is also posted on the municipal website.

The treasury function of municipalities is exercised by a special department which is part of the financial service and set up by the Internal Organization Service.

9.2.2 Regions

In the context of the middle term planning, the Regions have to prepare a five year operational program within the first nine months from their election. The five year Operational Program is structured in Annual Action Plans and Annual Budgets. The budget, the annual action plan, the report prepared by the regional committee and the regional council decisions related to the taxes and fees to be imposed are submitted to the Auditor of Legality.

An annex to the budget presents the actions related to the metropolitan functions of the region of Attiki, those of the metropolitan unit of Thessaloniki, within the region of Kentriki Makedonia (Central Macedonia).

A budget summary as voted by the regional council is posted on the regional website and published in at least one regional daily or weekly newspaper.

9.3 Transfer of powers and resources

Any transfer of powers from central or regional state entities to the local government presupposes the transfer of the corresponding funds.

The costing process of each power to be transferred to local authorities includes:

- a) defining the operating costs, together with the infrastructure and any kind of equipment used during the period of transfer,
- b) defining the overall cost of the power required when exercised by the municipalities or the regions.

9.4 Concluding loans

Municipalities and regions may enter into loan contacts with the state, accredited institutions, financial institutions in Greece or abroad as well as public entities and organizations.

Local authorities borrowing requirements should mainly meet the following:

- a) the proceeds of borrowing should be used for funding local authorities investments or debts
- b) The interests' repayments and the annual regular revenues ratio
- c) The total debt/ total annual revenues ratio

Also, transparency rules are set up on prepayments from the Central Autonomous Funds.

9.5 Special Consolidation Program

The Special Consolidation Program applies to municipalities and regions which have severe financial problems. Municipalities and regions may take part upon their request; only under particular circumstances municipalities or regions may exceptionally get into the special consolidation program, without prior request.

The following requirements should be met so that a municipality or a region can get into the consolidation program:

- a decision by qualified majority of the municipal/ regional council
- an assessment of the financial situation of the municipality / region by statutory auditors
- The elaboration by the municipality or the region, of a specific consolidation program including measures, actions and schedules

In this way, municipalities or regions express their desire to rebuild their financial situation, to plan and get involved in the relevant process and create favorable conditions for local and regional development.

Managed by the Audit Committee, the Special Consolidation Program is funded through the Central Autonomous Funds by an account of consolidation and local government solidarity created in the Deposit and Loans Fund.

It should be noted that, municipalities and regions that can not balance their budgets are offered the possibility, before entering into the Special Consolidation Program, to enter the amount related exclusively to debts which have arisen until 31.12.2011 on the revenue side related to loans, so that those debts can be paid off through loans from the Deposit and Loans Fund or other credit institutions.

9.6 Auditing of first and second level Local Authorities

9.6.1 Preventive control of revenue collection

Expenses incurred by all municipalities, regions and their legal entities, (except for the school committees), the public utilities enterprises, municipal enterprises of water supply and sewerage, and the municipal limited companies regardless of their population are subject to a preventive control undertaken by the Court of Auditors

The preventive control of expenses as well as that of debts, liabilities or penalties against third parties is conducted by the Commissioner of the Court of Auditors who is responsible for the preventive control of expenses. In case of uncollected revenues due to fault or gross negligence on the part of elected representatives or officials, prescribed procedures are used holding them accountable for the amount of the damage they caused.

9.6.2 Ex post audits

The Court of Auditors is responsible to perform ex post audits on the accounts of municipalities, regions and their public entities as well as on accounts of the public utilities enterprises, of the enterprises of water supply and sewerage and municipal limited companies. Audits conducted are annual random audits, unless cases are identified which require a more generalized audit which is conducted after completion of a financial activity. Audits performed can be extraordinary, general, special purpose or thematic audits related to the legality and regularity of the financial management procedures

The Commissioner who is responsible for the preventive control is responsible for the ex post audits, as well. The report prepared on the results of the ex post audits performed is transmitted to the Ministers of Interior and of Finance and the Institutions and Transparency Committee of the Parliament

10. CONTROL OVER ACTIONS AND BODIES OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT

10.1 Principles

The State exercises control over the actions of municipalities, regions, their legal entities and single and collective bodies, strictly consisting in a **legality control - not an expediency control - over local government actions** and in a **disciplinary control of elected representatives**

10.2 Control bodies

The Local Authorities' independent monitoring agency, the Auditor of Legality and the Council of Auditors of Legality are responsible to exercise a control of legality over municipal actions and a disciplinary control over elected representatives

This Agency is established and located in the seat of each Decentralized Administration Authority. It is responsible to exercise a control of legality over local government actions, a disciplinary control over elected bodies and treat appeals against single or collective local government bodies and legal entities. It is a decentralized service of the Ministry of Interior, under the Minister of Interior, issuing instructions in order to ensure the legality of municipal and regional actions. In parallel, it can proceed in on-site controls, where and when necessary.

Each Local Authorities' independent monitoring agency is headed by an Auditor of Legality, who is a senior official with a five year term. The Auditor of Legality is responsible to prepare an annual report suggesting legislative and other measures for the effective implementation of the legality control.

Presided by the Minister of Interior, the Council of the Auditors of Legality is composed of the Auditors of Legality. It is responsible to coordinate the independent Local Government Audit Services and address organizational and operational issues as well as issues related to the exercise of control over local government actions. It may refer to the State Legal Council concerning major issues related to the control exercised by the independent Local Government Audit Services and draw conclusions on the legality control exercised by the state over local government actions.

10.3 Control of Legality over the actions and disciplinary control of elected representatives

10.3. 1 Control over Local Government Actions-Obligatory and ex officio control

Indicative local government decisions provided for in the law according to their importance undergo an obligatory control by the Independent Local Government Audit Service and the Auditor of Legality within 15 days from the date of issuance. The Auditor of Legality decides on the legality of actions within 30 days. In the event of illegality, the action is declared void. In addition to the obligatory control, the law provides for an ex officio control, as well. In this context, the Auditor of Legality may ex officio cancel any decision made by the above bodies, for reasons of legality, within two months from the date of publication or issuance.

The Auditor of Legality decisions bind the parties affected by them.

10.3. 2 Control over elected representatives

The Auditor of Legality decision can place elected representatives on disciplinary suspension for up to a maximum of six months or impose the revocation of their term of office, if they have committed a serious breach of their duties or exceeded their jurisdiction

by fraud or gross negligence, with the consent of the Disciplinary Board, which is mainly composed of magistrates.

The penalty of dismissal on elected representatives or the dissolution of a municipal or regional council, only for serious reasons of public interest may be imposed by decision of the Minister of Interior based on the consent of the above mentioned Disciplinary Board and on a reasoned report of the Auditor of Legality.

Moreover, the law provides for administrative measures, such as the automatic suspension and withdrawal of duties to be imposed on elected representatives, under specific conditions related to specific offenses, prosecution procedures and irrevocable condemnation.

Municipal or regional bodies must pay compensation to local bodies and authorities for any actual damage caused to the detriment of their property, by fraud or gross negligence. The actual damage is attributed by a three member Audit Committee with the participation of the Auditor of Legality

11. CITIZENS PROTECTION AGAINST LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACTIONS

Citizens who have legitimate interest and /or are affected by local government acts or omissions may be protected either administratively or judicially in the following ways:

11.1 Administrative Protection

11.1.1 Appealing before the Auditor of Legality

It is an administrative local government control process which takes place at a decentralized state level.

Anyone who has a legitimate interest may bring special administrative proceedings before the Auditor of Legality against actions-decisions of single or collective municipal, regional bodies or entities; he can also bring proceedings against these bodies or entities for action which had to be taken within fifteen (15) days from the publication of posting on the site of any municipal or regional decision.

The Auditor of Legality must decide within two (2) months from the date the complaint is submitted; otherwise the complaint is considered to have been tacitly rejected. The Auditor of Legality may suspend the execution of an action upon request of the interested party, by invoking the well founded character of the appeal or claiming irreparable damage until the examination process is complete. This is the only time the immediate implementation of municipal and regional actions is suspended.

11.1.2 Submitting complaints to the Inspector General of Public Administration and/or to the Inspectors-Controllers Body for Public Administration

It is an administrative local government control process which takes place at a the central level.

Citizens may denounce mismanagement either to *the Inspector General of Public Administration* or to the Inspectors-Controllers Body for Public Administration.

The Inspector General of Public Administration who is responsible to ensure the smooth and effective functioning of public administration, including local government, to monitor and evaluate the work of Inspectors-Controllers Body for Public Administration and other public administration Monitoring and Control Bodies and Services (except for the Inspectorate within the Ministry of Finance) may order disciplinary proceedings or take other administrative measures, after a complaint has been submitted.

The Inspectors-Controllers Body for Public Administration is a body of public administration internal control, including first and second level local authorities and their legal entities. The body receives complaints and conducts inspections, audits and investigations, (including on site investigations) to identify phenomena of maladministration, inefficiency, low productivity and quality of the services provided. If held accountable, a disciplinary control is exercised over the offenders, and a criminal prosecution is conducted against them.

11.1.3 Submitting complaints to the Greek Ombudsman

It is an administrative local government control process which takes place at a central level in an independent administrative authority.

The Ombudsman is an independent administrative authority, not controlled by government institutions, operating under conditions of neutrality and independence from any political power and enjoying high prestige. The Greek Ombudsman handles complaints submitted by citizens, acting as an extra-judicial dispute resolution mechanism between citizens and

public and local government. The role of the Greek Ombudsman is that of a mediator since he does not have any normative power and he can not impose any sanctions

11.1.4 Submitting complaints to the Municipal Ombudsman for citizens and businesses or to the Regional Ombudsman for citizens and businesses

It is an internal administrative local government control process which takes place at the local level in the frame of a problem solving effort based on the principle of subsidiarity.

The Municipal or Regional Ombudsman receives complains from citizens and businesses affected by local government maladministration. The Ombudsman mediates so that the problems can be solved within local government services.

11.2 Judicial Protection

All citizens who have a legal interest or are affected by local government actions or omissions are entitled to appeal to the courts.

The appeal takes place at the administrative courts, either at the administrative courts of first instance or at the administrative courts of appeal, or even at the Council of State which is the higher administrative court.

It should be noted that the administrative control, mainly the appeal before the Auditor of Legality as well as the complaint to the Inspector General of Public Administration or to the Inspectors-Controllers Body for Public Administration may result in judicial control, in case a disciplinary penalty is imposed before the administrative courts.

In any case, administrative authorities are required to comply with judicial decisions within a reasonable time, as judicial decisions are binding.

12. LOCAL GOVERNMENT PERSONNEL

There are two categories of personnel in terms of their employment relationship. The permanent staff and the staff employed under private law open ended contracts. The law provides for the recruitment of temporary staff to meet any unpredictable, emergency or seasonal requirements that may arise.

Salaries of a first level local government staff are paid by local budgets.

The salaries of the second level local government staff (regions) are charged to the state budget during the implementation of the "Medium Term Financial Strategy Framework 2012-2015".

First and second level local government staff is recruited by the respective local bodies. In particular, the permanent staff is recruited after a call for recruitment and based on the list of successful candidates issued by the Supreme Court for Personnel Selection.

Local government staff can move from one local government agency to another or from local authorities to state services under certain conditions.

The total number of municipal and regional employees amounts to 76.638 and 14.943 respectively.

13. DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT

Provided in the context of the Kallikrates Program, the National Development Program for Local Government "ELL.A.D.A" aims at strengthening local and regional development and reducing regional disparities.

The purpose of this program is to create a new development model for local government which can:

- a) complete basic infrastructure works of local responsibility
- b) protect the environment
- c) support high level artistic interventions
- d) provide support to insular and mountain municipalities and municipalities with difficult access
- e) reward innovation and new ideas
- f) promote government –private sector partnerships and encourage entrepreneurship.

Moreover, in the context of providing support to local societies during the current financial situation, the law provides for the establishment of the program entitled "self-government-social cohesion – balanced development- A.K.S.I.A. ". The new development program aims at improving local economy conditions, promoting sustainable development, social cohesion and employment mainly by implementing works of local importance through direct labor processes while boosting employment and improving infrastructure

ANNEX

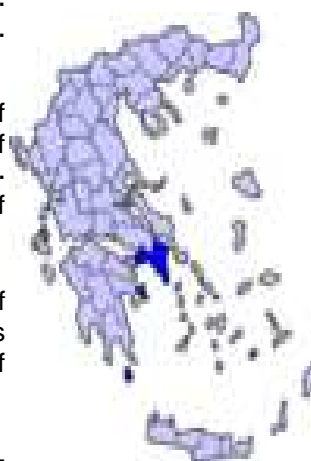
DETAILED TABLES OF DECENTRALISED ADMINISTRATION AUTHORITIES

Decentralised Administration Authority of Attiki -Seat: Athina (Athens)¹⁵ <1 region

Administrative Division of the Region of Attiki (Attica)

Size: 3.808 χμ² · Population: 3.761.810 (official census 2001), Seat: Athina (Athens)

Regional Unit of Kentrikos Tomeas Athinas/Central Sector of Athens	Municipality of Athina, Municipality of Vyronas, Municipality of Galatsi · Municipality of Dafni-Ymittos · Municipality of Zografou · Municipality of Ilioupoli · Municipality of Kaisariani · Municipality of Filadelfeia - Chalkidona
R.U of Voreios Tomeas Athinas/Northern Sector of Athens	Municipality of Agia Paraskevi · Municipality of Amarousio ·Municipality of Vrilissia · Municipality of Irakleio · Municipality of Kifisia · Municipality of Lykovrysi-Pefki · Municipality of Metamorfosi·Municipality of Nea Ionia · Municipality of Papagos-Cholargos · Municipality of Penteli · Municipality of Filothei - Psychiko · Municipality of Chalandri
R.U Dytikou Tomea Athinas/Western Sector of Athens	Municipality of Agia Varvara · Municipality of Agioi Anargyroi- Kamatero · Municipality of Aigaleo · Municipality of Ilio · Municipality of Peristeri · Municipality of Petroupoli · Municipality of Chaidari
R.U Notiou Tomea Athinas/Southern Sector of Athens	Municipality of Agios Dimitrios · Municipality of Alimos · Municipality of Glyfada · Municipality of Elliniko-Argyroupoli · Municipality of Kallithea · Municipality of Moschato-Tavros · Municipality of Nea Smyrni · Municipality of Palaio Faliro
R.U of Peiraias (Piraeus)	Municipality of Keratsini-Drapetsona · Municipality of Korydallos · Municipality of Nikaia - Agios Ioannis Rentis · Municipality of Peiraias · Municipality of Perama
R.U of Anatoliki Attiki (Eastern Attica)	Municipality of Acharnes · Municipality of Vari-Voula- Vouliagmeni · Municipality of Dionysos · Municipality of Kropia · Municipality of Lavreotiki · Municipality of Marathona · Municipality of Markopoulo · Municipality of Paiania · Municipality of Pallini · Municipality of Rafina - Pikermi · Municipality of Saronikos · Municipality of Spata-Artemida · Municipality of Oropos
R.U of Dytiki Attiki (West Attica)	Municipality of Aspropyrgos · Municipality of Elefsina · Municipality of Mandra-Eidyllia · Municipality of Megara · Municipality of Fyli
R.U. of Nisia/Islands	Municipality of Agkistri · Municipality of Aigina · Municipality of Kythira · Municipality of Poros · Municipality of Salamina · Municipality of Spetses · Municipality of Troizinia · Municipality of Ydra



Website: www.attiki.gov.gr

¹⁵ Phonological Transcription as pronounced within the national territory and translation within the parenthesis

Decentralised Administration Authority of Makedonia - Thraki - Seat: Thessaloniki <2 regions

**Administrative Division of the Region of Anatoliki Makedonia –Thraki
(Eastern Macedonia and Thrace)**

Size: 14.157 χμ² · Population : 611.067 (official census 2001) · Seat: Komotini

<u>R.U. of Drama</u>	Municipality of Doxato · Municipality of Drama · Municipality of Kato Nevrokopi · Municipality of Paranesti · Municipality of Prosotsani
<u>R.U. of Evros</u>	Municipality of Alexandroupoli · Municipality of Didymoteicho · Municipality of Orestiada · Municipality of Samothraki · Municipality of Soufli
<u>R.U. of Thasos</u>	Municipality of Thasos
<u>R.U. of Kavala</u>	Municipality of Kavala · Municipality of Nestos · Municipality of Pangaio
<u>R.U. of Xanthi</u>	Municipality of Avdira · Municipality of Mykis · Municipality of Xanthi · Municipality of Topeiros
<u>R.U. of Rodopi</u>	Municipality of Arriana · Municipality of Iasmos · Municipality of Komotini · Municipality of Maroneia-Sapes



Website: www.remth.gr

Administrative Division of the Region of Kentriki Makedonia (Central Macedonia)

Size: 18.811 χμ² · Population : 1.871.952 (official census 2001) · Seat: Thessaloniki


<u>R.U. of Imathia</u>	Municipality of Alexandreia · Municipality of Veroia · Municipality of Iroiki Poli Naousas
<u>R.U. of Thessaloniki</u>	Municipality of Ampelokipoi-Menemeni · Municipality of Volvi · Municipality of Delta · Municipality of Thermaikos · Municipality of Thessaloniki · Municipality of Kalamaria · Municipality of Kordelio-Evosmos · Municipality of Lagkadas · Municipality of Neapoli-Sykees · Municipality of Pavlos Melas · Municipality of Pylaia-Chortiatis · Municipality of Chalkidona · Municipality of Oraiokastro
<u>R.U. of Kilkis</u>	Municipality of Kilkis · Municipality of Municipality of Paionia
<u>R.U. of Pella</u>	Municipality of Almopia · Municipality of Edessa · Municipality of Pella · Municipality of Skydra
<u>R.U. of Pieria</u>	Municipality of Dia-Olympos · Municipality of Katerini · Municipality of Pydna-Kolindro
<u>R.U. of Serres</u>	Municipality of Amfipoli · Municipality of Visaltia · Municipality of Emmanouil Pappas · Municipality of Irakleia · Municipality of Nea Zichni · Municipality of Serres · Municipality of Sintiki
<u>R.U. of Chalkidiki</u>	Municipality of Aristotelis · Municipality of Kassandra · Municipality of Nea Propontida · Municipality of Polygyros · Municipality of Sithonia



Website: www.rcmth.gr

Decentralised Administration Authority of Peloponnisos, Dytiki Ellada and Ionio (Peloponnesus, Western Greece, Ionian Sea) - Seat: Patra <3 Regions


Administrative Division of the Region of Peloponnisos	
Size: 15.490 χμ ² · Population : 638.942 (official census 2001) · Seat: Tripoli	
<u>R.U. of Argolida</u>	Municipality of Argos-Mykines · Municipality of Epidavros · Municipality of Ermioni · Municipality of Nafplion
<u>R.U. of Arkadia</u>	Municipality of Voreia Kynouria · Municipality of Gortynia · Municipality of Megalopoli · Municipality of Notia Kynouria · Municipality of Tripoli
<u>R.U. of Korinthia</u>	Municipality of Velo-Vocha · Municipality of Xylokaastro-Evrostini · Municipality of Korinthos · Municipality of Loutraki - Agioi Theodoroi · Municipality of Nemea · Municipality of Sikyonies
<u>R.U. of Lakonia</u>	Municipality of Anatoliki Mani · Municipality of Elafonisos · Municipality of Monemvasia · Municipality of Evrotas · Municipality of Sparti
<u>R.U. of Messinia</u>	Municipality of Dytiki Mani · Municipality of Kalamata · Municipality of Messini · Municipality of Oichalia · Municipality of Pylos-Nestor · Municipality of Trifylia
Website: www.peloponnisos.gov.gr	



Administrative Division of the Region of Dytiki Ellada (West Greece)	
Size: 11.350 χμ ² · Population : 740.506 (official census 2001) · Seat: Patra	
<u>R.U. of Aitolokarnania</u>	Municipality of Agrinio · Municipality of Aktio-Vonitsa · Municipality of Amfilochia · Municipality of Thermo · Municipality of Ieri Poli Mesolongiou · Municipality of Xiromero · Municipality of Nafpaktia
<u>R.U. of Achaia</u>	Municipality of Aigialeia · Municipality of Dytiki Achaia · Municipality of Erymanthos · Municipality of Kalavryta · Municipality of Patra
<u>R.U. of Ileia</u>	Municipality of Andravida-Kyllini · Municipality of Andritsaina-Krestena · Municipality of Archaia Olympia · Municipality of Zacharo · Municipality of Ilida · Municipality of Pineios · Municipality of Pyrgos
Website: www.pde.gov.gr	



Administrative Division of the Region of Ionia Nisia (Islands of Ionian Sea)	
Size: 2.307 χμ ² · Population : 212.984 (official census 2001) · Seat: Kerkyra (Corfu)	
<u>R.U. of Zakynthos</u>	Municipality of Zakynthos
<u>R.U. of Kerkyra</u>	Municipality of Kerkyra · Municipality of Paxoi
<u>R.U. of Κεφαλληνίας Kefallinia</u>	Municipality of Kefallonia
<u>R.U. of Ithaki</u>	Municipality of Ithaki
<u>R.U. of Lefkada</u>	Municipality of Lefkada · Municipality of Meganisi
Website: www.ionianisia.gov.gr	



Decentralised Administration Authority of Ipeiros – Dytiki Makedonia- Seat: Ioannina
<2 Regions

Administrative Division of the Region of Ipeiros

Size: 9.203 χμ² · Population : 353.820 (official census 2001) · Seat: Ioannina

R.U of Arta

Municipality of Artas · Municipality of Georgios Karaiskakis · Municipality of Kentrika Tzoumerka · Municipality of Nikolaos Skoufas

R.U of Thesprotia

Municipality of Igoumenitsa · Municipality of Souli · Municipality of Filiates

R.U of Ioannina

Municipality of Voreia Tzoumerka · Municipality of Dodoni · Municipality of Zagori · Municipality of Zitsa · Municipality of Ioannina · Municipality of Konitsa · Municipality of Metsovo · Municipality of Pogoni

R.U of Preveza

Municipality of Ziros · Municipality of Parga · Municipality of Preveza



Website: www.php.gov.gr

Administrative Division of the Region of Dytiki Makedonia (Western Macedonia)

Size: 9.451 χμ² · Population : 301.522 (official census 2001) · Seat: Kozani

R.U of Grevena

Municipality of Grevena · Municipality of Deskati

R.U of Kastoria

Municipality of Kastoria · Municipality of Nestorio · Municipality of Orestida

R.U of Kozani

Municipality of Voio · Municipality of Eordaia · Municipality of Kozani · Municipality of Servia - Velventos

R.U of Florina

Municipality of Amyntaio · Municipality of Prespes · Municipality of Florina




Website: www.westernmacedonia.gr

Decentralised Administration Authority of Thessalia- Sterea ellada - Seat: Larisa <2 Regions

Administrative Division of the Region of Thessalia

Size: 14.037 χμ² · Population : 753.888 (official census. 2001) · Seat: Larisa

<u>R.U of Karditsa</u>	Municipality of Argithea · Municipality of Karditsa · Municipality of Limni Plastira · Municipality of Mouzaki · Municipality of Palamas · Municipality of Sofades	
<u>R.U of Larisa</u>	Municipality of Agia · Municipality of Elassona · Municipality of Kileleri · Municipality of Larisa · Municipality of Tempi · Municipality of Tyrnavos · Municipality of Farsala	
<u>R.U of Magnisia</u>	Municipality of Almyros · Municipality of Volos · Municipality of Zagoras - Mouresis · Municipality of Notis Pilio · Municipality of Rigas Feraios	
<u>R.U of Sporades</u>	Municipality of Alonnisos · Municipality of Skiathos · Municipality of Skopelos	
<u>R.U of Trikala</u>	Municipality of Kalampaka · Municipality of Pyli · Municipality of Trikala · Municipality of Farkadona	
<u>Website</u>: www.thessalia.gov.gr		

Administrative Division of the Region of Sterea Ellada (Mainland Greece)

Size: 15.549 χμ² · Population : 605.329 (official census 2001) · Seat: Lamia

<u>R.U of Voiotia</u>	Municipality of Aliartos · Municipality of Distomos-Arachovas-Antikyras · Municipality of Thivas · Municipality of Levadeias · Municipality of Orchomenos · Municipality of Tanagra	
<u>R.U of Evoia</u>	Municipality of Dirfys-Messapia · Municipality of Eretria · Municipality of Istiaia-Aidipsos · Municipality of Karystos · Municipality of Kymis-Aliveris · Municipality of Mantoudi-Limni-Ag.Anna · Municipality of Skyros · Municipality of Chalkida	
<u>R.U of Evrytania</u>	Municipality of Agrafa · Municipality of Karpenisi	
<u>R.U of Fthiotida</u>	Municipality of Amfikleia-Elateia · Municipality of Domokos · Municipality of Lamia · Municipality of Lokri · Municipality of Makrakomi · Municipality of Molos-Agios Konstantinos · Municipality of Stylida	
<u>R.U of Fokida</u>	Municipality of Delfoi · Municipality of Dorida	
<u>Website</u>: www.stereaellada.gov.gr		

Decentralised Administration Authority of Aigaio (Aegean Sea)– Seat: Peiraias (Piraeus) < 2 Regions

Administrative Division of the Region of Voreio Aigaio (North Aegean Sea)

Size: 3.836 χμ² · Population : 206.121 (official census 2001) · Seat: Mytilini

R.U of Ikaria

Municipality of Ikaria · Municipality of Fournoi -Korseon

R.U of Lesbos

Municipality of Lesbos

R.U of Limnos

Municipality of Agios Efstratios · Municipality of Limnos

R.U of Samos

Municipality of Samos

R.U of Chios

Municipality of Oinousses · Municipality of Chios ·
Municipality of Psara.



Website: www.northaegean.gr

Administrative Division of the Region of Notio Aigaio (South Aegean Sea)

Size: 5.286 χμ² · Population : 302.686 (official census 2001) · Seat: Ermoupoli

R.U of Andros

Municipality of Andros

R.U of Thira

Municipality of Anafi · Municipality of Thira ·
Municipality of Ios · Municipality of Sikinos ·
Municipality of Folegandros

R.U of Kalymnos

Municipality of Agathonisi · Municipality of
Astypalaia · Municipality of Kalymnos ·
Municipality of Leipsoi · Municipality of Leros ·
Municipality of Patmos

R.U of Karpathos

Municipality of Karpathos · Municipality of Kasos

**R.U of Kea -
Kythnos**

Municipality of Kea · Municipality of Kythnos

R.U of Kos

Municipality of Kos · Municipality of Nisyros

R.U of Milos

Municipality of Kimolos · Municipality of Milos ·
Municipality of Serifos · Municipality of Sifnos

R.U of Mykonos

Municipality of Mykonos

R.U of Naxos

Municipality of Amorgos · Municipality of Naxos &
Mikron Kyklades

R.U of Paros

Municipality of Antiparos · Municipality of Paros

R.U of Rodos

Municipality of Megisti · Municipality of Rodos ·
Municipality of Symi · Municipality of Tilos ·
Municipality of Chalki

R.U of Syros

Municipality of Syros-Ermoupoli

R.U of Tinos

Municipality of Tinos



Website: www.notioaigaio.gr

Decentralised Administration Authority of Kriti– Seat: Irakleio < 1 Region

Administrative Division of the Region of Kriti (Crete)

Size: 8.336 χμ² · Population : 601.131 (official census 2001) · Seat: Irakleio

R.U of Irakleio

Municipality of Archanes-Asterousioi ·
Municipality of Viannos · Municipality of
Gortyna · Municipality of Irakleio ·
Municipality of Malevizi · Municipality of
Minoa Pediada · Municipality of Faistos
· Municipality of Chersonisos

R.U of Lasithi

Municipality of Agios Nikolaos ·
Municipality of Ierapetra · Municipality of
Oropedi · Municipality of Siteia

R.U of Rethymno

Municipality of Agios Vasileios ·
Municipality of Amari · Municipality of
Anogeia · Municipality of Mylopotamos ·
Municipality of Rethymno

R.U of Chania

Municipality of Apokoronos ·
Municipality of Gavdos · Municipality of
Kantanos-Selinos · Municipality of
Kissamos · Municipality of Platanias ·
Municipality of Sfakia · Municipality of
Chania



Website: www.crete-region.gr