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One step closer to the creation of an innovative marine protected area in Gyaros by the Consortium of Stakeholders of Gyaros

The 4th meeting of the Consortium of Stakeholders of Gyaros took place at Ermoupolis Syros on Thursday the 6th of April 2017. The aim of the meeting was the discussion and agreement on the proposals relating to the zones of protection and sustainable measures of Gyaros, both on its terrestrial and marine environment, from the Consortium's members.

During the meeting, the Consortium's Secretariat presented its proposal for Gyaros' zone as well as the conservation and sustainable development measures of the terrestrial and the marine part of the island. The Secretariat developed its proposals based on those proposals that had been put forward by the Consortium's members during the 3rd meeting, the proposals made by specific stakeholders and side meetings, the scientific facts for the natural environment of Gyaros as well as the existing legal framework.

The Plenary decided in unison on three terrestrial and four marine zones, with specific boundaries, actions and suggested conservation measures and actions for the sustainable development of Gyaros. The rationale of the final proposal is the escalation of protection of the island and is is based on the member's shared intention of allowing sustainable fisheries in Gyaros as well as their common vision for the creation of a unique marine protected area on the island that will function with respect for the natural environment and humans. This proposal will be the official proposal that will be included in the Special Environmental Study that will be submitted to the Ministry of Environment and Energy.

Notes for journalists:

You can find out more on the CYCLADES LIFE project here.

You can find out more <u>here</u> on the 3rd meeting of the Consortium.

More information:

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The CYCLADES LIFE project is being implemented by WWF Greece together with the Ministry of Environment and Energy, the Decentralized Administrative Authority of the Aegean, the Development Corporation of the Cyclades SA, the Harokopio University of Athens, MOm/Hellenic Society for the Protection of the Monk Seal and the Italian Institute Tethys.

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