PRESS RELEASE

"Escape the Waste": Students in Prespes Become Heroes of the Circular Economy

23 October 2026 | Primary School of Agios Germanos, Prespes, Greece

Can a school be transformed into a large environmental escape game? Can students, by solving riddles, working together and searching for solutions, discover in practice how waste can be given a second life?

On **Friday, 23 October 2026**, the **Interreg IPA Greece–North Macedonia 2021–2027 Programme** will organise the educational activity **"Escape the Waste"** at the **Primary School of Agios Germanos, Prespes**, as part of the **Interreg Cooperation Day 2026**.

Under the central message **"Escape and Become a Hero of the Circular Economy"**, the **46 students of the Primary School of Agios Germanos** will take part in an interactive educational experience, during which they will be invited to solve riddles, work in teams and make decisions on everyday issues related to the environment and the sustainable management of resources.

The themes will include **home composting**, **source separation of biowaste**, **school meals without food waste**, the use of **agricultural and livestock residues**, as well as the use of **compost as a valuable natural resource for the soil**.

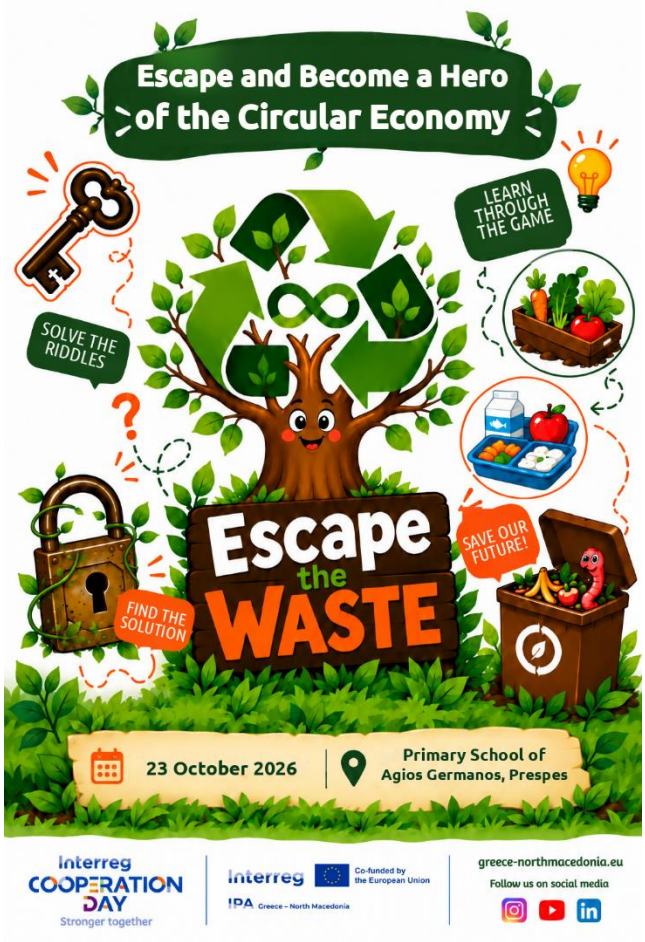
The educational experience will conclude with the **"Cross-Border Tree of the Circular Economy"**, through which the school community will express its own environmental commitment, while conveying the message that protecting the environment is a shared responsibility and a common challenge for communities on both sides of the border.

"Escape the Waste" aims to bring students closer to the principles of the circular economy, while highlighting the importance of cooperation, responsible management of natural resources and the active involvement of the younger generation in shaping a more sustainable future.

Interreg Cooperation Day is a pan-European initiative that, for the past 15 years, has highlighted the importance and tangible results of cooperation between regions,

organisations and local communities across borders. Every year, Interreg Programmes throughout Europe organise activities and events that bring citizens closer to European Territorial Cooperation and demonstrate, in a direct and engaging way, how co-funded projects contribute to addressing shared challenges and improving the everyday lives of local communities.

The activity will be implemented with the support of Waste Management of Western Macedonia - DIADYMA S.A. and the Municipality of Prespes.

Date: 23 October 2026
Venue: Primary School of Agios Germanos, Prespes
Event: Escape the Waste – Interreg Cooperation Day 2026
Website: greece-northmacedonia.eu

Event Poster