

COUNTRY PROFILE
Information on National Sustainable Development Strategy (NSDS)
or its equivalent

Country	Greece
Strategy Title	"National Strategy towards Sustainable Development- Greece" (2002) as well as "Revised National Strategy towards Sustainable Development- Greece" (2007) currently under finalisation
NSDS Website	http://www.minenv.gr/4/41/000/nssd-english-final.pdf
Coordinating Body (Name& Website)	Department of International Relations and EU Affairs, Hellenic Ministry for the Environment, Physical Planning and Public Works http://www.minenv.gr
Strategy Status	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NSDS being implemented <input type="checkbox"/> Under development <input type="checkbox"/> No NSDS
Date Approved	May 2002, currently (2007) under revision (see Attachment Addendum to this Annex/Questionnaire)
NSDS Contact Point	The focal point for the Revised NSSD is the Deputy Minister for the Environment, Physical Planning and Public Works of Greece, Mr Stavros Kaloyannis (grammateia@gryf.minenv.gr) whereas the contact point in the Ministry is: Name: Yorgos KLIDONAS (Mr) Title: Senior Official Institution: Ministry of Environment, Physical Planning and Public Works - Department of International Relations and EU Affairs Address: Amaliados street 15, 115 23 Athens Phone: +30 210 6435220, +30 210 6465762 Fax: +30 210 6434470 Email: y.klidonas@dpers.minenv.gr
Additional Information	A revision of the 2002 NSSD of Greece is currently under finalisation. The revised NSSD encompasses the same priorities (7 challenges and 2 cross cutting issues) as the Renewed EU Strategy for S.D. (2006) plus four additional priorities of national interest, i.e. Culture, Tourism, Agriculture and Physical Planning. Information on the revision process of the NSSD is made available on our Ministry's website (in greek) (http://www.minenv.gr). For further information, please refer to the Attached Addendum to this Annex/Questionnaire.

Addendum – Explanatory Note on the current Status of the NSSD of Greece

In May 2002, the *Hellenic Ministry for the Environment, Physical Planning and Public Works (MEPPPW)* and in particular its *National Centre for the Environment and Sustainable Development (NCESD)*, drew up the *Greek National Strategy for Sustainable Development*, that was approved by the National Ministerial Council, in June same year. The 2002 Strategy was prepared through collaboration with the “*National Coordination Committee of the Government Policy in the field of Spatial Planning and Sustainable Development*” that was at the time also acting as the National Preparatory Committee of Greece in view of the Johannesburg World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD, 2002), encompassing representatives from various competent Ministries and the NCESD, while representatives from Local Authorities, employer and trade unions, research institutes and NGOs also participated in the preparation process, directly through thematic working groups or through participation in wider Workshops.

The main aim of the *2002 NSSD* was the achievement of economic development, while safeguarding social cohesion and environmental quality. The main sectors of action were climate change abatement; reduction of air pollutants; reduction and rational management of solid waste; water resources management; combating desertification; protection of biodiversity and natural ecosystems; and sustainable management of forests. Social and economic sectors for the promotion of relevant activities included the sectors of energy, transport, agriculture, industry, tourism, spatial planning and employment

For the coordination and the better implementation of the *NSSD*, the “*National Council for Physical Planning and Sustainable Development*” was operationalised, in which representatives from MEPPPW, Local Authorities, employer and trade unions, research institutes and NGOs participated. Inter-Ministerial coordination proven to be rather weak in the beginning, was strengthened for the drafting of the National Strategic Reference Framework (2007-2013) where the principles of the *2002 NSSD* were encompassed to a large extent.

Currently the *2002 NSSD* is under revision, which is to be finalized very shortly, within 2007. Almost all Ministries and Society groups are involved in this Revision process since its very initial preparatory stages. Prior to the drafting of the Revised NSSD’s first draft, an open invitation was uploaded on the MEPPPW website to all groups and entities to be involved in a Dialogue process, in the context of a public consultation.

The first draft of the *Revised NSSD* has taken into account the proposals submitted by Ministries and the results of the consultation procedure, also taking into account the general Government planning as well as the sectoral priorities and strategies.

The second round of the public consultation followed and the text of the *Revised NSSD* was compiled, taking into account views and comments expressed by Ministries and other public entities during this second round.

The *Revised NSSD* contains all the priorities of the *EU Sustainable Development Strategy (EU SSD)* adapted to the Greek context, with the addition of four chapters of national priority namely: Culture, Tourism, Agriculture and Physical Planning.

For the regular review and monitoring of the *Revised NSSD*, the “*National Council for Physical Planning and Sustainable Development*” is being activated in order to follow up on the implementation of the *Revised NSSD*, in collaboration with the NCESD, by issuing biennial progress reports of its implementation, also contributing to the reporting requirements to the EU Commission regarding the progress achieved in implementing the Renewed (2006) EU SSD. A new updated list of national sustainable development indicators currently under preparation will assist greatly the monitoring of the implementation of the NSSD, building on the “*Environmental Signals – a report on sustainability indicators, Greece*” (2003), prepared by NCESD while encompassing current national political priorities and particularities as well as the sustainable development indicators to be used for the monitoring of the implementation of the Renewed EU SSD.