

Press Release
2nd meeting of the Phygital project

We design globally, build locally in Greece, Cyprus and Albania.

The Phygital project team was in **Ioannina and Northern Tzoumerka** for a two-day meeting on Thursday 13th and Friday 14th of September 2018. The meeting was organized by the [P2P Lab](#) in collaboration with the [Municipality of Northern Tzoumerka](#) and was the second one for the project, while it was the first one in which the new project partner, the Lakatamia Municipality from Cyprus, participated.

The project partners discussed the most crucial issues of the project for better coordination of the individual actions in the three areas in Greece, Cyprus and Albania. At the same time, they had the opportunity to visit the Makerspace in Kalentzi, in Northern Tzoumerka, which is currently under development, in order to familiarize themselves with the local area and the challenges that the Phygital project aims to address.

The Phygital project envisions the transition to a production model based on openness, and cooperation and the conjunction of a global digital commons of knowledge, stemming from various open source projects, with distributed manufacturing technologies. To this end, it seeks to develop spaces, tools and practices that can enable members of a society to use modern technologies to build practical solutions for their own needs, and to share this knowledge with others who have similar needs.

In the same way, they can connect with groups from around the world who work and create solutions to similar problems. Thus, global knowledge can become a public good for the benefit of the people who create and share it. Technological tools become part of the global commons in the hands of those who use them for their benefit but also for the public interest.

This is the vision of the motto "**design globally, manufacture local**": A realistic utopia towards a globally linked, locally conscious society of free knowledge, technology and culture.

The project was designed and is being implemented by seven organizations, institutions and communities from Greece, Cyprus and Albania, namely:

- [GFOSS - Open Technologies Alliance](#), as project coordinator and responsible for the development of the digital platform,
- [P2P Lab](#), a interdisciplinary research collective based in Ioannina, which will work with the [Municipality of Northern Tzoumerka](#) to support the primary sector in the wider region,
- [Hack66](#), an open community of hackers & makers in Nicosia, which, in collaboration with the [Lakatamia Municipality](#) and the [University of Nicosia Research Foundation](#), will launch an open participatory city planning process through practical social arts, and
- [Open Labs](#), a hackerspace based in Tirana, which will work with the [National Center of](#)

Folklore Activities to explore ways to promote local cultural heritage through open technologies.

The Phygital project is being implemented within the framework of the Interregional Cooperation Program **Interreg V-B "Balkan - Mediterranean 2014-2020"**, co-funded by the European Union and national funds of the participating countries. It aims to promote sustainable business practices with regard to local communities and the natural environment, by exploiting the world-wide available knowledge and open technologies to address local challenges. At the same time, through the creation of strong transnational cooperative ties, it seeks to support new and existing businesses and entrepreneurs by promoting the common sharing of knowledge, technology and ideas.

For more informations: <http://phygitalproject.eu> and <http://www.interreg-balkanmed.eu>.