









23 November 2023, Thessaloniki

PRESS RELEASE

## THE "AMVRAKIKOS ALLIANCE" IS BORN

On November 14, <u>iSea</u>, the <u>Tethys Research Institute</u>, <u>Archelon- The Sea Turtle Protection</u> <u>Society of Greece</u>, the <u>Hellenic Ornithological Society</u>, the Department of Geology and <u>the</u> <u>Department of Fisheries and Aquaculture of the University of Patras</u>, together with the <u>Blue</u> <u>Marine Foundation</u>, endorsed their vision for a long-term collaboration and collective commitment with the aim of improving the management of the Amvrakikos Gulf by giving birth to the "Amvrakikos Alliance".

The Amvrakikos Gulf is one of the last megafauna sanctuaries in Greece, hosting important populations of dolphins, Dalmatian pelicans, sea turtles, as well as sharks and rays. This prompted the 7 organizations, at the beginning of the year, in collaboration with the Management Unit of Acheloos Valley and Amvrakikos Gulf Protected Areas of the Natural Environment and Climate Change Agency, to join forces within the framework of the project "**Contributing to the effective management of the Amvrakikos Gulf National Park**". As part of a series of actions aimed at creating the Alliance, all 7 agencies developed contacts with local stakeholders and developed together a common vision and actions for the coming years. While, ensuring the active involvement of the local community, the project partners carried out additional research actions in order to gather sound scientific data and cover any knowledge gaps for Amvrakikos.

The Amvrakikos Alliance's vision is to highlight the unique ecological value, the natural and cultural heritage of this area, for the most effective management, restoration and protection of its ecosystems and biodiversity, in collaboration with the local community!

From the very first day, the newly born "Amvrakikos Alliance" will continue its collective efforts to fulfill its goals and vision!

Find out more about the Amvrakikos Gulf, as well as the actions of the project "Contributing to the effective management of the Amvrakikos Gulf National Park" <u>here</u>.

For more information:

Ioannis Giovos,

Project Manager, iSea

+30 6945880415, ioannis.giovos@isea.com.gr