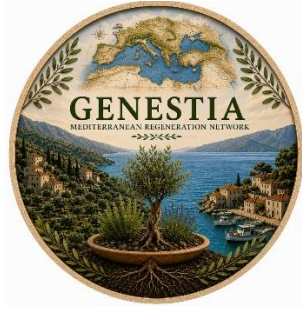




## From Corfu to a Euro-Mediterranean network of rural regeneration

An initiative of CulturePolis CSO  
July 2026

### What GENESTIA Is

GENESTIA is a network of living places that regenerate the countryside — not with plans in a drawer, but with people, spaces and actions on the ground. We are not a single building, but a network of complementary spaces that host activities throughout the year.

Each site is a hearth: a café rediscovering its voice, an olive grove, an eco-hub. Sites are linked into local chapters by place — the first is CorfuGEN in Corfu — and chapters into clusters spreading across the Ionian, the Mediterranean and beyond. An initiative of CulturePolis, with twenty years of experience in culture and sustainable development.

### THE HEARTH (HESTIA/Εστία) — Our Philosophy

In ancient Greece, Hestia was the goddess of the hearth — the sacred fire at the centre of every home and every city, one that was never allowed to go out. Our name joins two words: **GEN** — regeneration, root — and **HESTIA** — home, the centre. Every village, every farm, every abandoned public space still holds a hearth; a fire that has dimmed but not gone out. Our work is to relight it.

### Three Pillars + Education — One Vision

| Pillar         | What It Covers                                                                                                                                                    |
|----------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Culture        | Reviving the cultural life of rural villages: small open-air amphitheatres, events, talks, heritage protection, support for artists.                              |
| Sustainability | Model climate-adaptation solutions for islands: humidity & rainwater harvesting, regenerative agriculture, water management, renewable sources.                   |
| Innovation     | Digital skills & Artificial Intelligence (AI) for the rural economy: maker and robotics workshops, AI/STEM programmes, incubator for social/cultural enterprises. |
| Education      | A horizontal axis running through every pillar: master classes, digital-skills & AI seminars, student internships, certified programmes.                          |

# How It Works

| Level    | What It Is                                                                                                                                   |
|----------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Cluster  | A broader geographic area — the Ionian Islands, the Mediterranean. It unites several chapters under one shared horizon.                      |
| Chapter  | The local expression of the network, ending in –GEN: CorfuGEN, ZanteGEN, and so on. Each chapter manages its own sites.                      |
| Site     | A distinct, real space — a café, an olive grove, an eco-hub. Each site is a hearth. CorfuGEN starts with five.                               |
| Activity | Whatever brings each site to life: a seminar, an exhibition, a visit, a product, an event — the visitor's point of contact with the network. |

## GENESTIA × CorfuGen

### Κόμβοι του δικτύου στην Κέρκυρα

Πραγματική ακτογραμμή · 5 ενεργοί + 2 ενδεικτικοί κόμβοι



#### ΥΠΟΜΝΗΜΑ ΚΟΜΒΩΝ

##### Ενεργοί κόμβοι

- 1. Καφενείο Καμάρας
- 2. Ελαιώνας Καμάρας
- 3. Αγρόκτημα Καστελλάνων
- 4. Κοινοτικό Γραφείο Κοινοπιαστών
- 5. Οικο-Κόμβος Περιβολίου

##### Ενδεικτικοί κόμβοι

- 6. Αλυκές Λευκίμης — ΚΠΕ
- 7. Άγιος Γεώργιος Παγών

- Ενεργός κόμβος (σε λειτουργία)
- Ενδεικτικός / μελλοντικός κόμβος

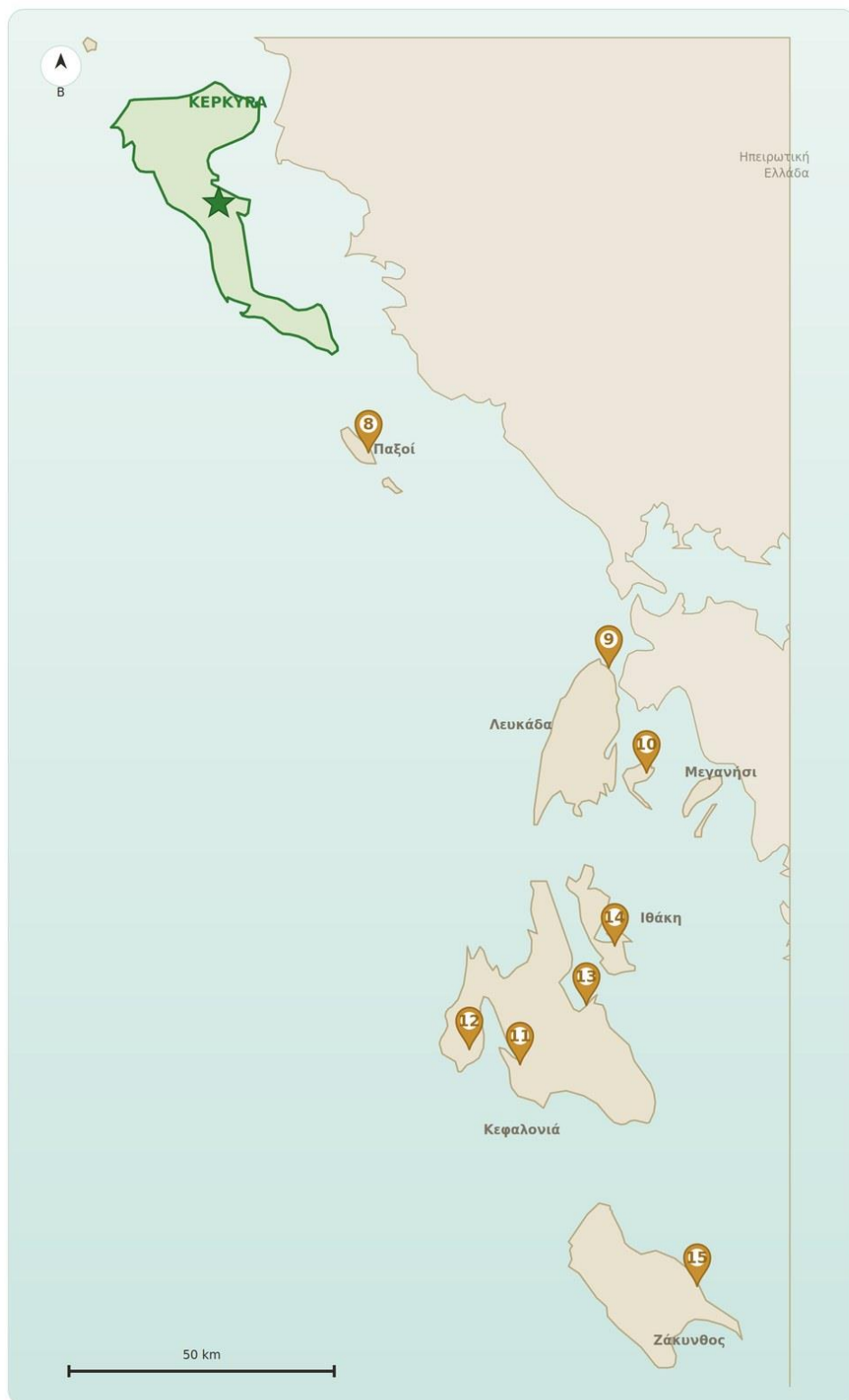
CulturePolis AMKE · GENESTIA / CorfuGen — Ακτογραμμή: Natural Earth (10m). Οι 4 κεντρικοί κόμβοι εμφανίζονται σε βεντάλια λόγω εγγύτητας.

GENESTIA × CorfuGen — Network nodes in Corfu · 5 active + 2 indicative / The Corfu network



## Δίκτυο κόμβων στα Ιόνια Νησιά

Βάση: Κέρκυρα · Ενδεικτική επέκταση στις έδρες των Δήμων των υπόλοιπων νησιών



### ΥΠΟΜΝΗΜΑ

#### Βάση δικτύου

★ Κέρκυρα — 5 ενεργοί + 2 ενδεικτικοί (βλ. χάρτη Κέρκυρας)

#### Ενδεικτικοί κόμβοι — λοιπά Ιόνια

- 8. Γάιος — Παξοί
- 9. Λευκάδα
- 10. Κατωμέρι — Μεγανήσι
- 11. Αργαστόλι — Κεφαλονιά
- 12. Ληξούρι — Κεφαλονιά
- 13. Σάμη — Κεφαλονιά
- 14. Βαθύ — Ιθάκη
- 15. Ζάκυνθος

★ Βάση δικτύου (Κέρκυρα)

📍 Ενδεικτικός / μελλοντικός κόμβος

# CorfuGEN — The First Chapter

Five distinct places across the Corfiot countryside, each with its own character and role. Three regenerative hubs in Middle & South Corfu — one living network.

|                          | Site                                                                                    | Identity                                                                                                            |
|--------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1.                       | Kafeneio Kamaras                                                                        | A cultural café & meeting point — the social heart of the village. Local products, heritage interpretation, events. |
| 2.                       | Kamara Olive Fields                                                                     | Centuries-old olive groves under care — regenerative-agriculture demonstrations & water-autonomy project.           |
| 3.                       | Perivoli–Maritses Eco-Hub                                                               | A living eco-cultural workshop & hub for heritage trails (Lake Korission).                                          |
| 4.                       | Kastellanoi Agrofarm *                                                                  | A rural & innovation campus with amphitheatre, live demonstrations, AI & innovation workshop.                       |
| 5.                       | Kynopiastes Community Office *                                                          | Central seat & administrative base, training rooms — the public space returned to the community.                    |
| Collaborating structures |                                                                                         |                                                                                                                     |
| 6.                       | Corfu Centre for Environmental Education and Sustainability (KEPEA), Lefkimmi Salt Pans | Activities held at the Corfu KPE premises in cooperation with the CorfuGen Perivoli Eco-Hub                         |
| 7.                       | Farm – Agios Georgios Pagon, Municipality of North Corfu                                | Under exploration                                                                                                   |

(\*) The granting of the municipal properties marked with an asterisk, owned by the Municipality of Central Corfu and Diapontia Islands, is in the final approval process.

## Corfu's Regeneration

A glimpse of the spaces of CorfuGen:

### Municipality of Central Corfu and Diapontia Islands

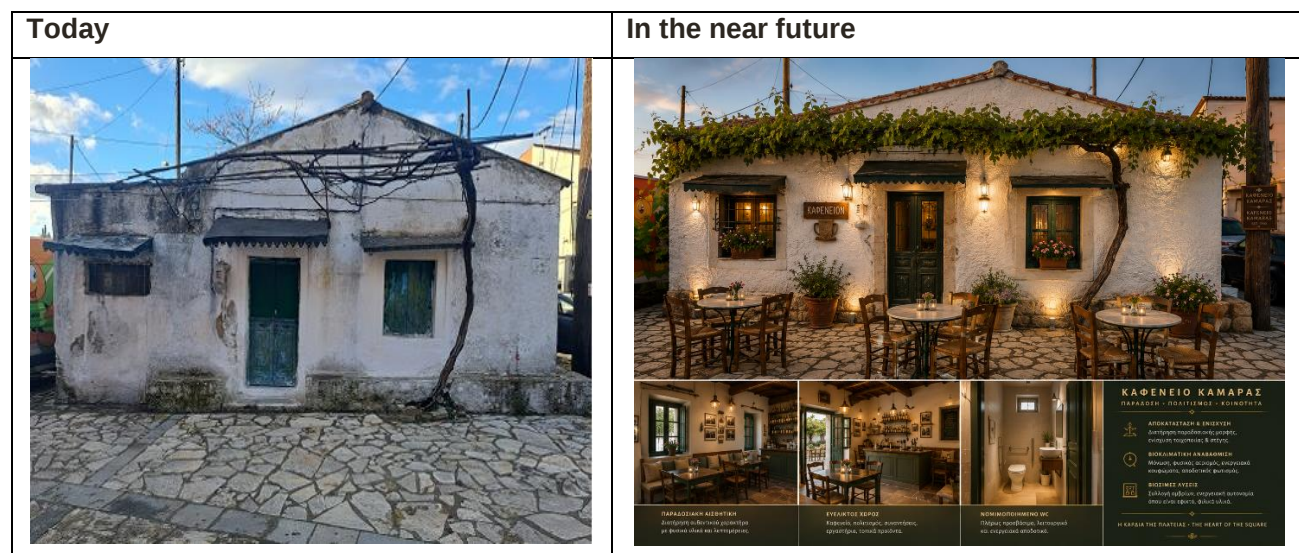
|                                                                                                                                       |                                                                                                                                                               |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Property 1: Kynopiastes Village</b><br>Ex Community Office<br>~ 40m2 – 1st floor room<br>Goal: Central Office & Information Centre | <b>Property 2: Kastellanoi Messis</b><br>Municipal Plot<br>~ 8.000m2 (out of 70.000m2) next to school complex<br>Goal: Central open door hub of Central Corfu |
|                                                    |                                                                           |

### Future development plan for the Kastellanoi farm

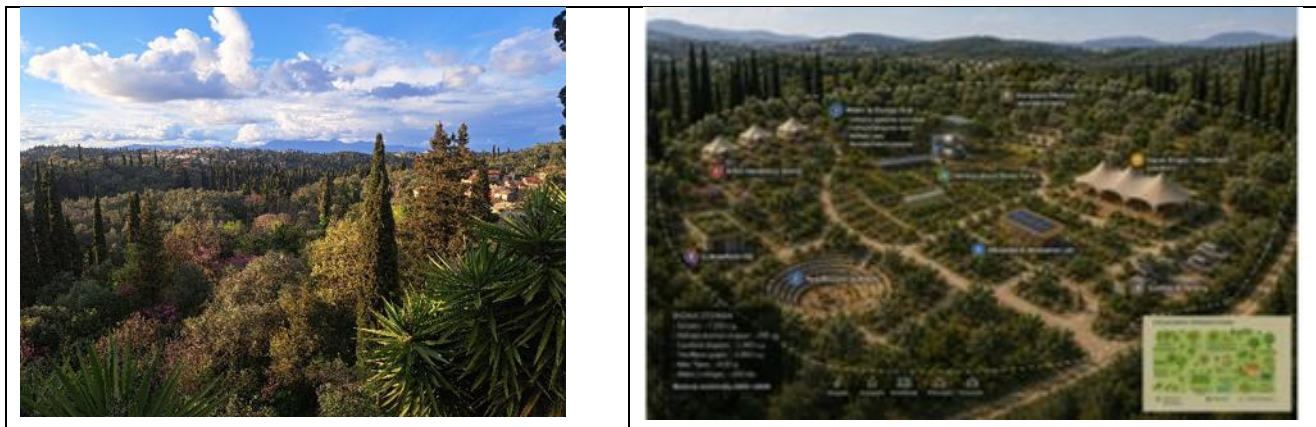


### Other locations in Corfu Island

## Old kafeneio Kamaras



## Oliveraie of Kamara



# Eco Hub Perivoli, South Corfu



## The Five Activity Streams

| Stream                              | Description                                                                                                    |
|-------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| I • Courses & Workshops             | Structured learning: AI for rural economies, regenerative agriculture, heritage documentation, digital skills. |
| II • On-Site Demonstrations         | Live demonstrations: water harvesting, permaculture, soil regeneration, sensors & precision agriculture.       |
| III • Discovery Experiences         | Four Heritage Trails + Van Tours linking the sites — the mini-bus as a Mobile Hub.                             |
| IV • Rural Experiences & Gastronomy | Hands-on rural experiences, seasonal harvest, olive-oil production, local-product tastings.                    |
| V • Welcoming Visitors & Groups     | School groups, students, Erasmus+, researchers, diaspora & cultural tourists — structured programmes per site. |

Sustainability targets: 80% water autonomy • 100% renewable energy

### Education for young people / professionals / the public — covering every pillar

Indicatively: AI Training Series — Four Core Courses

- AI Skills for Creative-Sector Professionals
- AI for Cultural Heritage Professionals
- AI for Sustainable Agriculture
- AI for Sustainable Rural Development

# Three pillars, five streams

**A deliberate choice:** in its early years CorfuGen will not offer accommodation, so as to support — rather than compete with — local hotels and Airbnbs. Five sites, one hospitality policy that respects the local economy.

|                                                                                                                                   |                                                                                                                                                       |                                                                                                                    |                                                                                                                                                  |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Culture</b><br>Reviving the cultural life of rural villages: small open-air amphitheatres, events, talks, heritage protection. | <b>Sustainability</b><br>Model climate-adaptation solutions for islands: humidity & rainwater harvesting, regenerative agriculture, water management. | <b>Innovation</b><br>Digital skills & AI for the rural economy: robotics workshops, equipment, AI/STEM programmes. | <b>General Infrastructure</b><br>Fitting out spaces & basic equipment, shelters & tents, and a mini-bus for a mobile info-point in the villages. |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

## Expansion Roadmap

| When                                                                                                     |                       | Where                                                                                          |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Jul–Sep 2026                                                                                             | CorfuGen              | Five sites in Middle & South Corfu, soon North Corfu too · CorfuGen Van Tour across 8 villages |
| 2027                                                                                                     | IonianGen             | Ionian Islands — Zakynthos, Paxos, Lefkada, Ithaca, Kefalonia.                                 |
| 2027–28                                                                                                  | EpirusGen             | Epirus & Western Greece — collaborating sites.                                                 |
| 2028 – Long term                                                                                         | GENESTIA / EuroMedGen | Euro-Mediterranean partner nodes (indicative) in Italy, France, Croatia, Cyprus, Lebanon.      |
| GENESTIA × CorfuGen — Network of nodes in the Ionian Islands · Base: Corfu / Indicative Ionian expansion |                       |                                                                                                |

## Openings & Events 2026

The first “hearth” is planned to be lit — even if only in part — during autumn 2026 at Kafeneio Kamaras, depending on the progress of funding and works (*activities are anticipated as part of **European Heritage Days**, 25–27 September 2026*):

- Event 1 — Kafeneio & Olive Fields of Kamara: café opening, olive-grove tour, permaculture workshop, community meal
- Event 2 — Perivoli Eco-Hub & Korission Wetlands Tour: masterplan presentation, Van Tour to the Salt Pans, heritage trail.
- Event 3 — Kastellanoi Farm & Open House Day: opening of the CorfuGen Seat, amphitheatre unveiling, rural exhibition.

## Become Part of GENESTIA and Help Revitalise the Countryside

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| Way                | How                                                                                               |
|--------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Become a Sponsor   | Support a site, an activity, or the whole network — and become part of a lasting story.           |
| Become a Volunteer | Offer time, knowledge or skills — in communications, at events, at the sites.                     |
| Partner With Us    | Foundations, universities, municipalities, agencies & businesses — joint projects and programmes. |
| Start a Chapter    | Want to bring GENESTIA to your own place? Talk to us.                                             |

## CONTACT

### *Get in touch*

Interested in GENESTIA, CorfuGen and our activities in your area?

Contact us and/or fill in the form below — we would be glad to hear from you.

#### **Dr Vasileios Laopodis**

Founder & President, CulturePolis CSO

EMAIL [secretariat@culturepolis.org](mailto:secretariat@culturepolis.org)

PHONE +30 698 082 4389 (+30 6944 726602)

WEB [www.culturepolis.org](http://www.culturepolis.org) / [genestia.org](http://genestia.org) / [corfugen.org](http://corfugen.org)

ADDRESS Donatou Dimoulitsa 19, Corfu, 49100, Ionian Islands, Greece

## GENESTIA

### Expression of Interest Form

Please fill in your details and how you would like to get involved:

FULL NAME

ORGANISATION (for organisation representatives) –

ORGANISATION NAME

ROLE (within the organisation)

HOME/CONTACT ADDRESS

EMAIL

PHONE (mobile)

I AM INTERESTED IN (multiple answers)

- |                                                                     |                                                |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Volunteering                               | <input type="checkbox"/> Sponsorship / Support |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Partnership proposal                       | <input type="checkbox"/> Site visits           |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Subscribing to the Newsletter              | <input type="checkbox"/> Proposal for events   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Starting a new GENESTIA chapter (location) | <input type="checkbox"/> Other                 |

MESSAGE / COMMENTS

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- ☐ I am attaching my full CV

Please fill in and send to [secretariat@culturepolis.org](mailto:secretariat@culturepolis.org) or hand it to a CorfuGen representative — we will get in touch with you.



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