



Press Release

Athens, March 21, 2022

Alpha Bank gives a vote of confidence to Thessaly's growth prospects

Bank Executives under the CEO Vassilios Psaltis visited businesses and the Regional Administration

The Management of Alpha Bank, **led by the CEO Vassilios Psaltis**, accompanied by the **General Manager of Wholesale Banking Ioannis Emiris** and the Managers of the Bank's Commercial Banking, Business Centers and Branch Network Divisions, made a three-day tour of the Regional Units of Larissa and Magnesia.

At a particularly challenging juncture for the global and the Greek economy, the visit to Thessaly signals the **determination of Alpha Bank's Management to stand by the Greek businesses throughout Greece**, making available to them a wealth of options for financing their investment plans and for providing them with working capital.

The Alpha Bank team **met with the management of seven leading business groups** in the region, in the context of the implementation of its ambitious credit policy, aimed at the net **channelling of over Euro 8 billion of funds to the Greek economy over the next three years**.

Besides, Thessaly, apart from its leading role in the agri-food sector, has a business potential characterized by a high degree of innovation and extroversion in trade, tourism and industry. The mobilization of the financial resources of the Resilience and Recovery Fund (RRF), the Partnership Agreement for the Development Framework (PA) and the Development Law for Investment Incentives creates the conditions for the **implementation of investment projects of high added value** that will create new jobs and a dynamic growth for the local and national economy.

The CEO of the Alpha Bank Group, Vassilios Psaltis, made the following statement:

"The determination, the extroversion and the resilience of entrepreneurship in Thessaly and in the Greek regions in general, in the face of the difficult international environment, are a reason for optimism about the future of the Greek economy. At the same time, they are also a reason for us at Alpha Bank to reaffirm our commitment to supporting the Progress of businesses in our country – not only of large corporates but also of the Small and Medium-sized Enterprises which constitute the backbone of our economy.

Thessaly, a dynamic Region where large urban centers coexist with a developed agri-food sector, with Services, Education, Tourism and the manufacturing of industrial products for international markets, can play a leading role in this new page of growth for the Greek economy.

Having the privilege to remain at the side of Greek entrepreneurship over the years, at Alpha Bank we actively support businesses either in order for them to take advantage of the resources available from the European Funds and make the next decisive step for their growth, modernization and smooth transition to a sustainable, green growth model, or by providing them with working capital in order to meet the increased liquidity needs of the current period."



Alpha Bank assists the economic development of Thessaly

The Alpha Bank Group is consistently present in the efforts for the **economic and social development of Thessaly**, supporting financially the **development of infrastructure** as well as the **investment plans of companies** from all sectors of the economy.

Among other projects, in the last few years Alpha Bank has taken the lead in the **financing of the 238 km long Central Greece Motorway (E-65)**, which runs through the plain of Phthiotida and the Thessalian plain, crossing the Pineios river and passing near the cities of Karditsa, Trikala and Kalambaka to finally join the Egnatia Motorway in the Pindos National Park. The Bank also **participated in the financing of Aegean Motorway S.A.** for a section of the Patras-Athens-Thessaloniki (PATHE) motorway from Raches (in the Regional Unit of Phthiotida) to Kleidi (in the Regional Unit of Imathia) and for the section of the Old National Road from the Evangelismos level junction to the Leptokarya level junction, adding up to a **total length of 264 km**.

At the same time, Alpha Bank maintains **long-standing relationships with the leading business groups** in Thessaly, consistently supporting the development of their business plans across a wide range of activity sectors, such as retail trade, industry, primary production and the agri-food industry, the manufacture of industrial products, food exports and renewable energy sources.

Especially in the Regional Units of Larissa and Magnesia, the Bank's Branch Network serves approximately **168,000 Individuals and 1,100 Businesses**, covering their investment, housing, consumer and business needs, while in the above two areas the Bank in 2021 granted Euro 616 million in loans.

Practical support to Health Units in Thessaly through the program "Together, for better Health"

As part of the Alpha Bank Management's tour of the Region of Thessaly, **Vassilios Psaltis** had a meeting with the **Regional Governor of Thessaly, Konstantinos Agorastos**, during which it was agreed to include the Region of Thessaly in the program **"Together, for better Health"**, for covering health needs in **6 Health structures in the Regional Units of Larissa, Magnesia, Trikala and Karditsa**.

The Bank is already supporting the University General Hospital of Larissa and the "KOUTLIBANEIO & TRIANTAFYLLEIO" General Hospital of Larissa, the Health Center of Larissa and the General Hospital of Trikala, with donations for the renovation of building infrastructure and the provision of medical equipment, vehicles, consumables and equipment required to deal with the Covid-19 pandemic.

During his stay in Thessaly, **the Group CEO visited**, among others, **the Branch Network in Larissa and Volos and the Alpha Bank Business Center of Central Greece and Epirus**. He **also had a series of meetings with the Bank's Executives**, discussing the **conditions for accelerating growth** in the region, the **further strengthening of the Group's ties to the local community** as well as **the full utilization of the new banking tools** for providing high added value, personalized services to the Alpha Bank Customers.