

Press Release

HSBC

Cycling Tour from Evros to Athens by HSBC

The **Cycling Tour from Evros to Athens** in 7 days was successfully completed on 9 October by **HSBC**, the cause being to provide financial support to “**Theotokos**” **Foundation**.

Through this special event, HSBC aims to support the “Theotokos” Foundation so that it can provide children and youths suffering from mental retardation and other developmental disabilities the greatest possible scientific, social, financial and moral support.

For the second consecutive year the Bank’s Management backed the idea of the cycling tour by covering all the implementation expenses. HSBC’s motto for this action is “**dreams on wheels**”, which has a double meaning and combines the effort of cyclists with the children’s dream of having a better quality of life. Mr. **Dimitris Politis**, Managing Director & Head of Global Banking, HSBC Greece, and Mr. **Panagiotis Kartsanis**, HSS Settlements Officer Local Clients, HSBC Greece, participated in the Cycling Tour from Evros to Athens, covering **856 km**. It is noteworthy that 25 HSBC employees participated in the final route from Kalamos to Avlida, covering a distance of 35 km, thus supporting the cause of the cycling tour.

One of the cyclists, Mr. **Dimitris Politis**, who is also the man behind the idea of the cycling tour, stated the following: *“I am greatly pleased that this idea continues to receive a favourable response and still has a pull on us all. Judging from last year’s cooperation with the Association of Friends of Children with Chronic Rheumatic Diseases, this can only lead to truly great results”*.

According to Ms. **Tonia Petrovits**, Public Affairs & Communications Manager, HSBC Greece, *“The hope and wish of all participants is that this action will become an established event, not only for HSBC Greece but also at a European level, wherever HSBC is present, the aim being to select a different country each year to hold the cycling tour”*.

The President of “Theotokos” Foundation, Ms. **Domini Sarri**, wrote a letter to thank and congratulate HSBC’s cyclists for this great act of love for children and youths suffering from mental retardation and other developmental disabilities, in which she stated: *“Social solidarity is not only a government affair; it is also the concern of citizens. Initiatives such as the Cycling Tour from Evros to Athens, which aim to support a worthy endeavour, can set an example for other entities whose daily contact with people can guarantee success”*.