





CLUSTER FOR SUSTAINABILITY TRANSITION

UN SDSN Greece Hosting Institutions: PESD, @National and Kapodestrian University of Athens and ICRE8
EIT Climate KIC Hub Greece @ Athena Research Center
ReSEES @ Athens University of Economics and Business

NEWSLETTER April 2020 – August 2020

Dear readers,

In this issue we present the latest news for the period from April 2020 to August 2020 for our Cluster on Sustainability Transition.

Our vision is to influence policies and contribute with our interdisciplinary research team to explore the best theoretical and practical solutions to Climate Emergency and Carbon Neutrality – 2050.

From now on we will inform you for our latest news with a monthly short newsletter and an annual report with all items.

It is a great pleasure for me to be a co- editor of this version. All together, we can reach our sustainable transition targets! Enjoy the reading!

Prof. Phoebe Koundouri,

Institute



Maria Lentoudi
Communications
Officer, Cluster of
Institutions on
Sustainability
Transition, PhD
Candidate, Panteion
University



Lydia Papadaki
Manager UN SDSN
Greece & EIT
Climate-KIC Hub
Greece, PhD
Candidate, AUEB

Co- chairs



Athens University of Economics and Business
(AUEB), Greece
Elected president of EAERE
https://www.eaere.org/
Director Cluster of Sustainability Transition
ReSEES @ Athens University of Economics and
Business, EIT Climate KIC Hub Greece @
ATHENA RC
Co-chair & Coordinator UN SDSN Greece
Scientific Advisory Board Chair ICRE8
Scientific Advisory Board Chair European Forest



Prof. Andreas Papandreou,
National and Kapodistrian University of
Athens (NKUA)
Co-chair UN SDSN Greece,
Director Political Economy of
Sustainable Development Lab (PESD),
(NKUA), Greece

SDSN Greece Global Initiatives



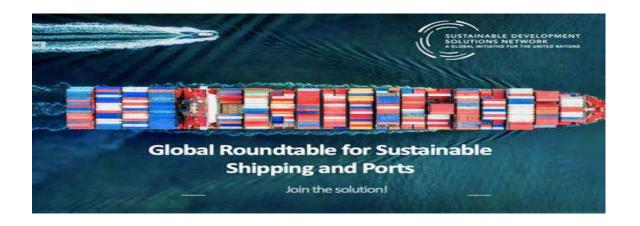
UN SDSN Senior Working Group for the Energy Transition

Six Transformations to Achieve the SDGs and Support for the European Green Deal



European Green Deal Working Group for the energy transition (EGD WG) led by Prof. Phoebe Koundouri, Athens University of Economics and Business and President-Elect of the European Association of Environmental and Resource Economists, cochair UN SDSN Greece and Prof. Jeffrey Sachs, Columbia University and Global Director of UN SDSN is a Working Group built by leading Academics in Environmental, Natural Resource and Climate Change Economics, aspires to highlight the correlation between SDGs and EGD Policies, and to introduce pathways that should be reflected to the EU Member States National Programs and EU MFF 2021-2027. This initiative also aims to investigate how Recovery Fund and EGD could create an investment portfolio, capable to implement SDG agenda and the Main (6) Transformation Pathways based on the latest EU Initiatives for the new Recovery Fund, which has a major mission to compensate for economic, social, environmental and humanitarian damage in the post-COVID era. PhD Students are also mobilized to analyse all relevant parameters from several sectors (energy, production, infrastructure, economy, social benefits and legislation), to develop the necessary methodology and to contribute to outlining solutions and recommendations.

Find more at http://www.unsdsn.gr/pathways-to-achieve-the-european-green-deal-senior



The Global Roundtable for Sustainable Shipping and Ports led by Prof. Phoebe Koundouri, Prof. Andreas Papandreou, National Kapodistrian University of Athens, co-chair UN SDSN Greece and Prof. Jeffrey Sachs was launched at the COP25 in December 2019 in Madrid, Spain. This initiative aims at bringing together researchers and technology developers, shipbuilders, shipowners, ports, policymakers and politicians, from around the globe, to work on technological and policy innovations seeking net-zero emissions in the maritime sector by 2050. The Initiative will be composed of a monthly participatory workshop, seeking to co-design a sustainable future vision and to identify technological and financial means of achieving low carbon pathways. SDSN Greece draws on more than 10-year experience in Living Labs and roundtables organisation to implement a Systems Innovation approach. The first meeting took place on Friday 31st July 2020.

Find more at http://www.unsdsn.gr/global-roundtable-for-sustainable-shipping-2

The **4-seas Euro-Asian Initiative** was launched at the Third Sustainability Summit for South-East Europe and the Mediterranean in October 2019 in Athens, Greece. It is led by <u>Prof. Phoebe Koundouri</u>, <u>Prof. Andreas Papandreou</u>, <u>Prof. Yannis Ioannidis</u>, National Kapodistrian University of

Athens, President ATHENA RC, <u>Prof. Nikos Theodossiou</u>, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, chair UN SDSN Black Sea and <u>Prof. Jeffrey Sachs</u>. It will build on research and demonstration projects following a 'source-to-sea' approach starting from river basins and continuing to coastal and marine ecosystems, as well as the societies whose livelihoods depend on these ecosystems. The initiative aims to establish Euro-Asian Transformation Pathways towards Sustainable Blue Growth, that will be supported by technically and socially innovative solutions. The aim is to engage all relevant stakeholders in codesigning a systems innovation pathway for the transition to socially, culturally, economically, environmentally and geopolitically sustainable development in the Euro-Asia Region embracing the 4-seas. The objectives of the Initiative include:

- 1. RESEARCH: Development of Sustainable Blue Growth Transformation Pathways up to 2050
- 2. EDUCATION: Educational programs with an emphasis on SDGs
- 3. DATA MANAGEMENT: Development and support of open access databases and tools
- 4. INNOVATION: Incubate and accelerate technological and social innovation for the sustainability transition in the region
- 5. POLICY: Policy recommendations for the support of sustainable blue growth

Find more at: http://www.unsdsn.gr/un-sdsn-4-seas-initiative-mobilizing-science-drive



Professor Phoebe Koundouri is member of Lancet Commission on COVID- 19 and Green Recovery Task Force co-chair. which is directed by UN SDSN and Columbia Sustainable Development Institute.

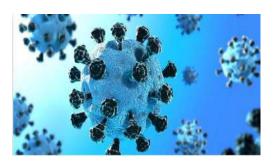
<u>UN SDSN Greece</u> participates at the **New Lancet Commission on COVID-19** under the leadership of the Lancet, Earth Institute of Columbia University, UN SDSN. The New Lancet Commission on COVID-19 engages global leaders, experts in public health, virology, economics, finance business, civil society from all regions of the world to promote best practices in the control of the pandemic, the social protection of basic needs and the recovery of the global economy. <u>Prof. Phoebe Koundouri</u>, President-elect of European Association of Environmental and Resource Economists, <u>Dr Ismail Serageldin</u>, Founding Director of the Bibliotheca Alexandrina, Former World Bank Vice President and <u>Min Zhu</u>, Deputy Managing Director of the International Monetary Fund lead the Green Recovery Task Force scoping out how to create green jobs based on the global recovery and to cooperate on a green infrastructure investment strategy.

Find more at:

https://www.thelancet.com/pdfs/journals/lancet/PIIS0140-6736(20)31494-X.pdf

Read Lancet COVID-19 Commission Statement on the occasion of the 75th session of the UN General Assembly, by Jeffrey Sachs, the Lancet COVID-19 Commissioners, Task Force Chairs, and Commission Secretariat.

Published: September 14, 2020DOI: DOI: https://doi.org/10.1016/S0140-6736(20)31927-9



Our latest news

Introducing Q Open

Developed by Oxford University Press, the European Agricultural and **Applied** Economics Publications Foundation, and the European Association for Agricultural Economics, Q Open is a new open-access journal, publishing across agricultural, climate, environmental, food, resource, and rural development economics. Q Open's editors are lain Fraser, Erwin Bulte, Vincenzina Caputo, Phoebe Koundouri, and David Lewis, supported by a team of associate editors who handle papers in their speciality, including several specialists in environmental and resource economics.

Read more: http://www.unsdsn.gr/introducing-q-open



New Professional course Towards Sustainable Development "Implementation of International Agreements and Financing"

UN SDSN Global New collaborates with Athens University of Economics and Business for a New Professional Training Course on Sustainability

In partnership with <u>United Nations</u>
<u>Sustainable Development Solutions Network</u>
<u>Global</u>, the Athens University of Economics
and Business is launching a new professional seminar on Sustainability transition. The seminar is based on the <u>six transformations</u> to achieve the SDGs and support the implementation of the European Green Deal. The seminar is targeted for sustainability executives and practitioners with <u>Prof. Phoebe</u>
<u>Koundouri</u> leading the course and 16 top national experts from different sectors: energy, maritime, circular economy, transport, innovation and start-ups, finance, law and CSR contributing with individual lectures.

(Deadline: 15 October)

This is the only professional program in Greece accredited not only by a top national University but also by UN SDSN Global!

More info at https://www.dept.aueb.gr/en/ReSEES/cont ent/training-courses-seminars

Prof. Phoebe Koundouri is an expert at European Commission DG Regio

She participates in the following two Draft Opinions, as an expert of DG Regio:

NAT/785, European Climate Pact, DRAFT OPINION, Section for Agriculture, Rural Development and the Environment and NAT/778, Financing the Transition to a Low-Carbon Economy and the Challenges in Financing Climate Change Adaptation, DRAFT OPINION, Section for Agriculture, Rural Development and the Environment

ECO/527 Recovery and Resilience Facility and Technical Support Instrument

Our Research & Deep demonstration projects



<u>DESIRA H2020 European Commission project</u>. This project aims to improve the capacity of society and political bodies to respond to the challenges and opportunities that digitalisation generates in rural areas, agriculture and forestry. DESIRA will develop the concept of Socio-Cyber-Physical Systems to advance understanding of the impact of digitisation in rural areas, linking analysis directly to the United Nation's Sustainable Development Goals.



The project is part of the PRIMA (Partnership for Research and Innovation in the Mediterranean Area) Programme supported by the European Union and involves several partners of excellence: Politecnico di Milano, Athens University of Economics and Business, Yezreel Valley College, University of Haifa, Agrimatic Farms, RWTH University of Achen and Fondazione Eni Enrico Mattei.

The main objective of AWESOME is developing a decision-analytic platform based on a multi-level, integrated WEF model to better understand multi-sectoral WEF trade-offs and to capitalize on potential synergies, also exploring the interdependencies and feedbacks across a hierarchy of spatial scales, from the macroeconomic development of the Mediterranean region and national scale, to regional planning at the river basin scale, downscaling until the single farm. The project framework will allow simulating the impacts of alternative WEF planning portfolios composed of regional policies, river-basin strategic planning options, and innovative technological solutions demonstrated at the local scale, to generate shared economic, environmental, and societal benefits.

Learn more at: http://icre8.eu/awesome-project-officially-started latest news:

KICK -OFF meeting H2020 PRIMA AWESOME project

On 22nd May 2020, the Kick-off Meeting of H2020 PRIMA AWESOME project: MANAGING WATER, ECOSYSTEMS AND FOOD ACROSS SECTORS AND SCALES IN THE SOUTH MEDITERRANEAN (PRIMA Call 2019 Section 1 Farming RIA), took place online. The project has a 42 months duration, and budget 1,8 million EUR. AWESOME is developing a decision-analytic platform based on a multi-level, integrated WEF model to better understand multi-sectoral WEF trade-offs and to capitalize on potential synergies, also exploring the interdependencies and feedbacks across a hierarchy of spatial scales, from the macroeconomic development of the Mediterranean region and national scale. AUEB is a partner in this project.

Learn more at: http://unsdsn.gr/kickoff-meeting-h2020-prima-awesome-project



The <u>Nexus Project Cluster</u> is a group of independent research initiatives who team up for increased and more impacting communication and dissemination of the Nexus. The Nexus includes sectors like water, energy, food, land and climate, as well as important societal challenges like public health and rural-urban development. Prof. Phoebe Koundouri is member of the steering committee of Nexus Project Cluster.

adaptivgreece

<u>LIFE-IP AdaptInGR</u>: Boosting the implementation of adaptation policy across Greece (LIFE17 IPC/GR/00006). The overall goal of the **LIFE-IP AdaptInGR** project is to support the implementation of the national adaptation strategy in Greece. To this end it will build national and regional capacity for coordinating, prioritizing, monitoring and mainstreaming adaptation policy actions. Pilot projects will be developed in priority sectors for 3 regions and 5 municipalities. Our cluster contributions to the project are supported via our collaboration with the Bank of Greece. (**Prof. Phoebe Koundouri** acts as the external reviewer of this project)

Duration: 2019-2026 (8 years)



Regional cooperation for the transnational ecosystem sustainable development (RECONNECT) project aims to develop strategies for sustainable management of Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) and Natura 2000 sites. The overall objective of the project is to promote efficient management of natural systems which will enhance the competence of local management authorities through the development of a multidisciplinary Decision Support System (DSS). Read RECONNECT latest news



<u>GLOBAQUA FP7 European Commission Project</u>: is an EU-funded project aiming to identify the prevalence of, and interaction between, stressors under water scarcity in order to improve knowledge of relationships between multiple stressors and to improve water management practices and policies.

Read GLOBAQUA latest newsletter



BRIGAID H2020 European Commission Project: is a 4-year project (2016-2020) under EU Horizon 2020 aimed to effectively bridge the gap between innovators and end-users in resilience to floods, droughts and extreme weather. The objective of BRIGAID is to provide innovators with guidance to develop testing plans which increase the TRL of an innovation and its potential for market uptake. Read BRIGAID latest newsletter

BRIGAID trains innovators to turn their technologies into marketable products and services.

BRIGAID support includes:

- 1. In-person business workshops and consultation
- 2. Online collaboration through the market-analysis framework (maf+)
- 3. Finding sustainable funding and customers through business plans

Check our information: https://bit.ly/2UqWiDn

Latest news:

 BRIGAID project final conference on Climate Disaster Resilience and Innovation, with the participation of ICRE8, took place on 25 June 2020. ICRE8 is a founding member of "BRIGAID Connect" the follow up initiative of BRIGAID project.

In this interactive online conference, innovations from the Netherlands, Belgium, Spain, Germany, Israel, Romania, Albania and Italy that reduce the impact of climate related disasters such as extreme weather, drought and floods, were presented. Tools and methods that are now available to support innovations and attend the first public presentation of the follow-up initiative "BRIGAID Connect", were also presented!



Project: Decision Analytic Framework to explore the water-energy-food nexus in complex transboundary water resource systems of fast developing countries. The overall objective of DAFNE is to establish a decision-analytic framework (DAF) for Participatory and Integrated Planning (PIP).

Read DAFNE latest newsletter

Latest news: On the 9-10.07.2020, the third and final Negotiation Simulation Lab (NSL) in the Zambezi River Basin took place online. Over 20 stakeholders from Zambia and Mozambique have attended the event, including government officials, representatives of intergovernmental bodies, researchers, and other actors interested in the Water-Energy-Food nexus. Learn more here.

BRIGAID CONNECT VIDEO



<u>SIMRA H2020 European Commission Project</u>: is a project funded by the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme. SIMRA seeks to advance understanding of social innovation and innovative governance in agriculture, forestry and rural development, and how to boost them, particularly in marginalised rural areas across Europe, with a focus on the Mediterranean region (including non-EU). <u>Read SIMRA latest newsletter</u>



H2020 COASTAL project

As for many other projects and conferences, the mid-tem general assembly of the H2020 COASTAL project planned in the French case study (Rochefort – Charente-Maritime) has been postponed to September. Nevertheless the team is kept busy as the project is entering the critical phase of combining quantitate data (system-dynamic modeling of land-sea system) with qualitative data (local stakeholders inputs on challenges, opportunities and visions for sustainable coastal-rural areas). Following the development of generic sustainable coastal-rural scenarios, ICRE8 team is now working hard in developing business roadmaps and policy guidelines for land-sea synergies, in close collaboration with the local teams in Belgium, Sweden, Greece, France, Spain and Romania. Stay tunes! https://h2020-coastal.eu/newsletter



<u>OpenAire-Connect H2020 European Commission Project:</u> OpenAIRE-Connect aims to provide technological and social bridges, and deliver services enabling uniform exchange of research artefacts (literature, data, methods),

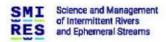
with semantic links between them, across research communities and content providers in scientific communication. It will introduce and implement the concept of Open Science as a Service (OSaaS) on top of the existing OpenAIRE infrastructure, delivering out-of-the-box, ondemand deployable tools. Read OpenAIRE Connect latest newsletter



<u>AMARe - Actions for Marine Protected Areas, INTERREG MED Project</u>. This project aims to develop concrete pilot actions and coordinated strategies in selected Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) to resolve conflict hotspots affecting marine biodiversity and the services it provides. The general goal is to adopt an ecosystem-based approach considering the goals of the <u>Marine Strategy Framework Directive (MSFD)</u> across MPAs. Find AMARe new flyer



BlueBRIDGE H2020 European Commission project. Building Research environments fostering Innovation, Decision making, Governance and Education to support Blue growth supports capacity building in interdisciplinary research communities actively involved in increasing scientific knowledge about resource overexploitation, degraded environment and ecosystem with the aim of providing a more solid ground for informed advice to competent authorities and to enlarge the spectrum of growth opportunities as addressed by the Blue Growth Societal Challenge.



<u>SMIRES (H2020)</u>. This Action will bring together hydrologists, biogeochemists, ecologists, environmental economists, social researchers and stakeholders from 14 different countries to develop a research network for synthesising the fragmented and recent knowledge on IRES, improving our understanding of IRES ecology, and translating this into science-based, sustainable management of river networks.



BLUEMED is the research and innovation Initiative for promoting the blue economy in the Mediterranean Basin through cooperation. It is the strategy of reference for the Mediterranean countries to work together for a healthy, safe and productive Mediterranean Sea. The BLUEMED Initiative will contribute to the creation of new 'blue' jobs, social wellbeing and a sustainable growth in the marine and maritime sectors through the implementation of its Strategic Research and Innovation Agenda, the BLUEMED SRIA.

BlueMed Platforms: Public dialogue with concerned national stakeholders is essential for implementing the objectives of the BLUEMED Initiative and in particular for the monitoring and the update process of the SRIA. As a tool to ensure constant consultation, four thematic Platforms at Mediterranean level will be created.

The BLUEMED Coordination and Support Action (CSA) has been funded by the European Commission within the H2020 framework programme and it aims at supporting the implementation of the BLUEMED Initiative.

Latest news:

SEALINES: Results from the BlueMed Start-up Action WEBINAR

On 17th June 2020, Prof. Phoebe Koundouri participated at the international scale network, which represented an innovative way of working in defying methods, common standards and best practices for maintenance, monitoring and re-purposing of the sealines contemplating a circular economy perspective and aiming at implementing a sensible management of the seafloor and its biological resources. The webinar focused on the Start-up Action main result: the proposal for a feasibility study to test a renewable integrated energy system on an inactive platform, and its infrastructures.



EIT CLIMATE-KIC HUB GREECE





<u>EIT Climate-KIC Accelerator</u> is the only EU acceleration programme focused on climate impact by cleantech commercialisation. In three stages, our program brings you the knowledge, resources, tools and the coaching a cleantech start-up needs for success. Technology start-ups seldom fail on technology, they fail on commercialisation. Join us and we'll let you in on all the secrets of achieving global domination in your market niche!





<u>Pioneers into Practice</u> is a programme seeking to connect climate change organizations & professionals from all different backgrounds, levels of experience & skill sets to learn practical skills in systems innovation. A space to experiment, from June through to December participants take part in e-learning, workshops, group project challenges and a 4-6 week placement.

In 2020, seven pioneers have been selected in Greece and matched with placements in Hungary, Cyprus, Romania, Germany, Poland and Czech Republic.





<u>Climathon</u> is a city-based programme that offers a clear pathway to action and interaction - an opportunity for cities and citizens to co-create local ideas to shared climate challenges. At the core of the programme is an ideathon powered by local organisers; the people who know their cities and climate challenges the best.

When? 13th November 2020

Think you could organise a Climathon in your community? Apply now

Successful start-ups 2020:











EIT CLIMATE-KIC PROJECTS

Deep Demonstration of maritime systems innovation in Piraeus: Ports are places where multiple systems collide – shipping, energy, waste, tourism and other transport for example. They are emissions hotspots in themselves, but also hubs with the potential to effect enormous change. In a phased way, EIT Climate-KIC will work with a small cohort of high-ambition port authorities in Valencia (Spain), Piraeus (Greece), and Cyprus to demonstrate how ambitious maritime hubs can be catalysts for reversing the fast-growing emissions from international shipping and trade hotspots.

Latest news:

EIT Climate-KIC Deep Demonstration, Sensemaking workshop (online)

On Monday **27**th **April**, a Sensemaking workshop was organized by EIT Climate-KIC, where all 'Challenge Owners' (Port of Valencia, Port of Piraeus, Cyprus Deputy Ministry of Shipping) shared experiences and feedback on the decarbonization path that needs to be followed.

Find out more about Deep Demonstrations at: https://www.climate-kic.org/programmes/deep-demonstrations/

<u>CL-Hub: Circular Learning Hub</u>: This project works on an awareness-intention-action path fostering problem-owners in the ecosystem to a deeper understanding of circular thinking. On the basis of a debiasing experiment, the co-creation of innovative learning and nudging initiatives on circular thinking and investing will be carried out in 2020.

Latest news:

• On 19th of June the **2nd project meeting** for **Circular Learning Hub project**, which is funded by EIT Climate-KIC took place online. On **26th of June** the public workshop took place online. The workshop devoted to the CE learning motivation (in English) and then local tables in which we can possibly involve local stakeholders in Italy, Greece and Bulgaria who can collaborate to CL-Hub results (local trainings promotion, discussion and test of possible financial participation mechanisms and so on).

You can find more information about Circular Learning Hub (CL-hub): A learning hub for the engagement and ecosystem transition towards circular thinking in the <u>website</u>.

- BL.EU. Climate: Climate innovation in Southern European Waters: This project addresses the challenge of plastic marine littering in southern European waters by building capacity for innovation to address the issue at the very beginning of its life cycle, on the prevention side and on avoiding production of plastic materials (and plastic waste) thus avoiding carbon emissions at the first place in Greece, Portugal and Croatia.
- <u>CE in S3: Circular Economy Transition in Smart Specialization Strategy in RIS countries:</u> This project aims at aligning Circular Economy (CE) strategy adaptation in Greece and Bulgaria with its strategic documents and identified sectoral strengths and needs, set in the individual country's Smart Specialization Strategies (S3).
- MEDFreeSUP: Single-use plastic free systemic local applications along the Mediterranean east coast, path for a common set of protocols through experiments in Italy, Croatia and Greece: The objective of the project is to set replicable protocols for free single-use plastics food packaging adoption enforced at city level, for several types of food service operators (cafes, restaurants, foods stores, hotel, beach facilities).
- SysMa 4 Transition: System Mapping as a Service for post-COVID Regional Transition EIT Climate-KIC funded project: activates communities spread across 10 most vulnerable countries in Southern Europe in the recovery phase to set system mapping as a strategic knowledge intensive service, aimed to provide new indicators and understanding of system and, thereby, supporting local authorities in the needed post-COVID 19 transition and related strategic planning challenges. Through orchestrated co- creations process, a diverse cohort of partners and non-traditional partners from private bodies and civil society, will work with stakeholders & decision makers to generate practice-based knowledge and strategies.

CE Beacons: Western Balkan Circular and Climate Innovation Beacons: The goal of this project is to build an eco-system for circular, climate-related innovation that catalyses systems transition in sequences from experiment through collaboration to implementation. Such a cross-national ecosystem currently does not exist in the Balkan region, but it is demanded by Chambers of Commerce, Ministries and the business sector. The objective for 2020 is to implement a resilient, regionally fit implementation framework for circular sustainable solutions into business, while directly connecting experiences from 6 Balkan countries and 2 other European countries.

Read the latest newsletter <u>here</u>

Latest news:

 On 29 June the Kick-off Project Meeting of the CE Beacons: Western Balkan Circular and Climate Innovation Beacons, took place online.

The goal of this project is to build an eco-system for circular, climate-related innovation that catalyses systems transition in sequences from experiment through collaboration to implementation. Such a cross-national ecosystem currently does not exist in the Balkan region, but it is demanded by Chambers of Commerce, Ministries and the business sector.

You can find more information here.

• on 9 July the webinar "Circular Economy in Balkan countries" took place, organised by our CE BEACONS project.

The main goal of this webinar was to enact cooperation and showcase the current state of affairs in circular business in 4 countries of the region: Romania, Serbia, Bulgaria and Greece, in conformity with the purpose of the project to develop a CE ecosystem and services that will enable the transition to CE in the Western Balkans.

Cross-KIC Water Scarcity Activities (EIT Climate-KIC): The main overall objective of EU water policy is ensuring access to good quality water, sufficient quantity for all Europeans, and ensuring the good status of all water bodies across Europe. This Cross-KIC RIS project, lead by EIT Food, and involving Climate-KIC, EIT Manufacturing and Raw Materials will enable the involved KICs to work together and with external relevant actors across RIS countries to build a stronger framework to tackle water scarcity in innovation, education and policy in Southern Europe region.

Latest news:

• Four of EIT's Innovation communities decided to join forces to collaborate in finding innovative solutions to water scarcity. This collaborative initiative, **Water Academy organized in Spain, Italy, Greece** is led by EIT Food, cooperating with EIT Climate, EIT Manufacturing, EIT Raw Materials. So far, the initiative has conducted a series of workshops with experts to identify the most urgent water scarcity challenges with dedicated "challenge labs" to look closer at some of the innovative solutions for sustainable and efficient water management: http://eitmanufacturing.eu/activities/30-innovative-ideas-to-fight-water-scarcity/

• Water Scarcity Project workshop

The 3rd Workshop entitled "Body of Knowledge" in the framework of Water Scarcity Project took place online on 30-1 July. The workshop was organised mainly by EIT Food, EIT Climate-KIC, EIT Manufacturing and EIT Raw Materials, and supported by BioAzul, Athena RC, Facilitation by Arakua.



Pioneers into Practice: Connecting climate change organizations & professionals from all different backgrounds, levels of experience & skill sets to learn practical skills in systems innovation. A space to experiment, from June through to December participants take part in e-learning, workshops, group project challenges and a 4-6 week placement.

Latest news:

Introductory workshop of Pioneers into Practice

From 9 - 12 June, the introductory workshop of Pioneers into Practice took place online. This year Cyprus and Greece join forces, with EIT Climate-KIC Hub Cyprus, represented by Cyprus Energy Agency, which is directed by Savvas Vlachos and EIT Climate-KIC Hub Greece, led by ATHENA RC and directed by Professor Phoebe Koundouri co-organising the programme. In total 13 pioneers have been identified in both locations and started their journey in systems innovation approach, networking, knowledge exchange and many more

just

started!

Learn more at: https:/pioneers.climate-kic.org/

EIT Climate-KIC Hub Greece Vision Workshop

On **27th May**, EIT Climate-KIC Hub Greece representatives revised the vision of the Hub seeking the alignment of their efforts towards the same direction. The workshop was coorganised by EIT Climate-KIC, ATHENA RC and UN SDSN Greece. The values identified in the workshop were **complementarity** and the need to build on existing relationships and expand them, meeting the **needs of the society** and fighting climate change, create **intelligence** and actions based on scientific results, **inclusivity**, **openness and trust** between partners and everyone involved in the process, awareness building and knowledge transfer. Finally, ERFC, who didn't make it at the workshop, added that Greece plays a key role in the development of the neighbouring countries and the creation of potential collaborations.



Global News

Sustainable Development Report 2020

The Sustainable Development Report 2020 (SDR2020), which includes the SDG Index and Dashboards, is launched electronically!

The report is co-produced by the SDSN and Bertelsmann Stiftung and is published this year for the first time by Cambridge University Press. The report includes an assessment of countries' early response to Covid-19, the impact of Covid-19 on the SDGs, and shows how the SDGs and Six Transformations can help build back better.

It also includes the global SDG Index for all UN member states.

Download the report here: http://unsdsn.gr/sustainable-development-report-

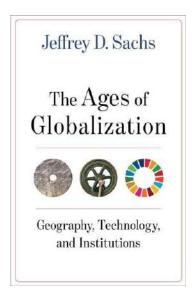
2020-sdr2020

The Ages of Globalization

Jeffrey D. Sachs Columbia University Press
A new book (June 2020) from Jeffrey D. Sachs, University
Professor, director of the Center for Sustainable
Development at Columbia University and director of the
United Nations Sustainable Development Solutions
Network.

https://cup.columbia.edu/book/the-ages-of-globalization/9780231193740





The Role of Sustainable Development Solutions Networks (SDSNs) in the protection of the environment

SDSN operates with 35 National and Regional Networks across the globe, which join forces to research feasible sustainable solutions on a national or international level.

The 8 Millennium Development Goals & the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Learn more at: https://www.unsdsn.org/the-role-of-sustainable-development-solutions-networks-sdsns-in-the-protection-of-the-environment







SDGs Today: The Global Hub for Real-Time SDG Data

In partnership with Esri and National Geographic, SDGs Today: The Global Hub for Real-Time SDG Data is an open-access data platform developed by SDSN. The hub provides a virtual space where key stakeholders from around the world can access and engage with timely data (updated annually or in more frequent intervals) on the SDGs and learn how to use the data effectively to push Agenda 2030 forward.

Learn more: http://www.unsdsn.gr/-sdgs-today-the-global-hub-for-real-time-sdg-data



World Happiness Report 2020

On 20 March, SDSN released the <u>World Happiness Report 2020</u> through the first installment of the new <u>Tracking National Progress Webinar series</u>. The webinar highlighted how the report can serve as a learning tool to navigate happiness amidst the COVID-19 crisis and beyond. Authors also described lessons from top-ranked countries and cities in the report.

A recording is available <u>here</u>.



Measuring Sustainable Development

Measuring Sustainable Development discusses the value of measuring progress on the SDGs and presents the Sustainable Development Report (an annual report produced by the Sustainable Development Solutions Network and Bertelsmann Stiftung) and its SDG Index and Dashboards as a tool for helping policymakers and other stakeholders make important decisions about their development priorities.

Learn more about the course: https://www.edx.org/course/measuring-austainable_douale.neant

sustainable-development



Η αειφορία στο νέο αναπτυξιακό μοντέλο της Ελλάδας

επακόλουθη οικονομική όφεση και η κλιματική κρίση, είναι οι τρέχουσες μεγάλες κρίσεις παγκοσμίως, με την τελευταία να έχει δυνητικά πιο ολέθριες και μη αναστρέψιμες συνέπειες από τις πρώτες.

Η Ευρωπαϊκή Πράσινη Συμφωνία (Δεκέμβριος 2019) αποτελεί τη νέα αναπτυξιακή στρατηγική της ΕΕ και αναπτύσσεται σε τέσσερις άξονες: Κλιματική ουδετερότητα μέχρι το 2050, Προστασία της Υγείας Ανθρώπου και Περιβάλλοντος, Πρωτοπορία της Ευρώπης στην Πράσινη Τεχνολογία και Δίκαιη Μετάβοση.

Στο πλαίσιο αυτό, απαιτούνται ση-



μαντικές επενδύσεις στην Ελάδα, που αφορούν τον ενεργειακό μετασχηματισμό και την αποτελεσματικότητα στη χρήση των φυσικών πόρων, οι οποίες θα δημιουργήσουν σημαντικό αριθμό νέων θέσεων εργασίας.

Ως Επιτροπή Πισσαρίδη στο Σχέδιο Ανάπτυξης για την Ελληνική Οικονομία, προτείνουμε τις εξής δράσεις: α) Δίκαια μετάβοσα λιγνιτικών περιοχών μέσω αναπτυξιακού σχεδιασμού και κατάλληλης χρηματοδότησης.

β) Εμφαση στην ανάπτυξη Συστημάτων Κυκλικής Οικονομίας καθώς και Υποδομών για την Περιβαλλοντική Αναβάθμιση και Διαχείριση Αποβλήτων με τη βοήθεια Δημοσίων Επενδύσεων και Μόχλευσης από τον Ιδιωτικό Τομέα.

γ) Εξασφάλιση ρευστότητας και αποτελεσματική εποπτεία μιας ανταγωνιστικής Αγοράς Ηλεκτρισμού και Αερίου. δ) Υλοποίηση έργων στα δίκτυα μεταφοράς, διανομής, διεθνών διασυνδέσεων, ψηφιοποίησης και αποθήκευσης / μετατροπής / ευελιξίας ηλεκτρικής ενέργειας /αερίων.

ε) Παροχή οικονομικών κινήτρων για ρυθμιζόμενες (μη ανταγωνιστικές) χρεώσεις ενεργειακών δικτύων, με βιώσιμο μηχανισμό λειτουργικής ενίσχυσης μονάδων ΑΠΕ και ταυτόχρονη προστασία καταναλωτών έναντι ενεργειακής φτώκειας.

στ) Προώθηση της περαπέρω ενεργειακής απόδοσης και εξοικονόμησης δημόσιων και ιδιωτικών κτιρίων και Τριτογενούς Τομέα, συνδυαστικά με την ανάπτυξη Εταιρειών Εξοικονόμησης (ESCO) και αντίστοιχων έξυπνων Συμβάσεων.

πανδημία COVID-19, η ζ) Ανάπτυξη καινοτόρων τεχνολογιών για Εξυπνα Δίκτυα, αποθήκευση Ενέργειος, εξοικονόμηση, χρήση ΑΙΙΕ για θερμικές και ψυκτικές ανάγκες κτιρίων, Τριτογενούς Τομέα και συνδυασμούς (π.χ. Τηλε-Θέρμανση, Τηλε-Ψύξη).

η) Περαιτέρω ενίσχυση της αυτονομίας της ΡΑΕ, μέσα από αυξημένη διοικητική ευελιξία.

Επίσης εξετάζουμε προτάσεις σχετικά με επενδύσεις που αφορούν την κλιματική προσαρμογή, καθώς και επενδύσεις και πολιτικές για την υποστήριξη της αειφόρου μετάβασης και ανάπτυξης του αγροτικού τομέα, της ναυτιλίας και των λιμένων της χώρας.

Χρήσιμες προτάσεις στην ίδια κατεύθυνση αναμένεται να προκύψουν από την Ομάδα Εργασίας του Δικτύου Λύσεων για τη Βιώσιμη Ανάπτυξη των Ηνωμένων Εθνών (UN-SDSN) για την εφαρμογή της Ευρωπαϊκής Πράσινης Συμφωνίας και των 17 Στόχων Βιώσιμης Ανάπτυξης στις 27 χώρες-μέλη της ΕΕ, της οποίας ηγούμαστε από κοινού με τον καθηγητή Dr. Jeffrey Sachs (Columbia University, USA) και στελεχώνεται από διεθνώς διακεκριμένους ακαδημαϊκούς, στελέχη θεσμών και πολυεθνικών εταιρειών ενέργειας, καθώς και ερευνητές των 27 κέντρων του δικτύου UN-SDSN

Η Ομάδα φιλοδοξεί να παρουσιάσει ένα ενιαίο πλαίσιο βιώσιμης ανάπτυξης, ενταγμένο τόσο στο Πολυετές Δημοσιονομικό Ευρωπαϊκό Πρόγραμμα (MFF 2021-2027), λαμβάνοντας υπόψη τις προτεραιότητες του Νέου Ταμείου Ανάκαμψης (EU-Recovery Fund), τα Εθνικά Προγράμματα των μελών της ΕΕ, καθώς και τα Εθνικά Σχέδια για την Ενέργεια και το Κλίμα. Το πρώτο παραδοτέο, που θα αφορά την Ελλάδα, αναμένεται να είναι έτοιμο στο τέ-

Γ α παραπάνω αποτελέσματα θα υποστηριχθούν επίσης από την Emrpouri The Lancet COVID-19 Commission που δημιουργήθηκε σε πνεύμα παγκόσμιας συνεργασίας ως αρωγός της επιτάχυνσης δίκαιων, βιώσιμων και διαχρονικών λύσεων στα προβλήματα της πρόσφατης πανδημίας και της οποίας την Ομάδα Εργασίας «Ξαναχτίζοντας ένα δίκαιο και βιώσιμο κόσμο» συντονίζω.

Υποψήφιοι διδάκτορες που υποστηρίζουν την Ομάδα: Δεββές Στάθης, Μανταφούνη Σοφία, Πλατανιώτης Αγγελος, Πλιάκου Τατιάνα.

Οικονομικό Πανεπιστήμιο Αθηνών, εκλεγμένη πρόεδρος της Ευρωπαϊκής Επατημονικής Ενωοτις Οικονομολόγων Περιθαλλοντος και Φυα-

MASS MEDIA INTERACTION

A piece by Phoebe Koundouri In the Greek newspaper "TA NEA", 18/08/2020: Sustainability in the New Development Plan of Greece. She discusses the allocation of the Recovery Fund, the European Green Deal Budget and the new MFF.

"The COVID- 19 pandemic, the ensuing economic downturn and the climate crisis, are the current major global crises, with the latter having potentially more devastating and irreversible consequences than the former.

The European Green Agreement (December 2019) is the EU's new development strategy and is developed in four areas: climate neutrality by 2050, protection of Human Health and the Environment, Europe's lead in green technology and a fair transition.

In this context, significant investments are required in Greece, concerning energy transformation and efficiency in the use of natural resources, which will create a significant number of new jobs."

National TV ERT1 – "EPILOGES" – 11 July 2020

Prof. Phoebe Koundouri is speaking on National TV — ERT1, about the need for a Sustainable Recovery from COVID-19 pandemic. Invest in Renewable Energy, Circular Economy, Digitilization, Blue Growth, Clean Innovation and "Leave Non-One Behind".



Prof. Phoebe Koundouri presence on occasion of Environment Day, in ERT, Friday 5 June 2020, 12-1

"I exercise my rights, I fulfill my obligations, in Europe tomorrow "

On Friday, 5th June from 12 to 1 p.m, with Pericles Vassilopoulos' show "I exercise my rights, I fulfill my obligations, in the Europe of tomorrow" on the First Program (91,6 and 105,8 FM), hosted by journalist Antonis Papagiannidis.

Prof. Phoebe Kountouri, was a guest talking about the critical opportunity for Sustainable Development after the Covid-19 pandemic.

Live Streaming: webradio.ert.gr/proto

Facebook: www.facebook.com/protopr

ogramma.ert

Prof. Phoebe Koundouri presence on Eco News, Environment Day, 5 June 2020, discussing the New Generation EU recovery plan.

<u>Christofilidou</u>) Environment Day,
Prof. <u>Phoebe</u>
Koundouri participated to Econews,

discussing the New Generation EU recovery plan.

Main pillars: European Green Deal & Digitilization for a fair sustainability transition that will leave no one behind!



TEDxAUEB 2020 Prof. Koundouri interview on Climate Change, Causes, Effects, Solutions...

Mobilizing the Sustainability Transition, Contributing to Increasing the ambition for a Climate Neutral World



EVENTS & CONFERENCES

WEB-CONFERENCE ON GLOBAL EMPLOYMENT CHALLENGE

Prof. Phoebe Koundouri participated in the Web-conference on Global Employment Challenge initiative of World Academy of Art and Science, Yunus Centre and Nizami Ganjavi International Center.

Nizami Ganjavi International Center continues its webinar series on vital global issues in partnership with Yunus Centre, the World Academy of Art and Science and its special project with the United Nations Office at Geneva on Global Leadership in the 21st Century. In search of global scale solutions, catalytic initiatives and transformative strategies, NGIC and WAAS are conducting special virtual sessions on Employment on **Monday, Aug 24th,** and on Food

on Tuesday, Aug 26th. The special focus meetings will gather leading thinkers and practitioners, scientists and policy makers, investors and initiative leaders to discuss scalable solutions, test ideas and propose strategies for meeting humanity's needs and supporting human development in the context of increasing global pressures of climate change, health crisis and economic distress. In the midst of such overwhelming challenges, we are witnessing the rise of global awareness and solidarity that can activate social leadership to meet the challenges and make significant progress on the realization of the Sustainable Development Goals as humanity's priorities.



5TH WORLD CONFERENCE OF SPEAKERS OF PARLIAMENT

On the **19th of August**, **Professor Phoebe Koundouri** (Athens University of Economics and Business, President EAERE) was a keynote speaker at the opening interactive panel on the nexus between health, climate and the economy – alongside **Professor Sarah Gilbert** (Oxford University, Head of COVID-19 Oxford vaccine team) and **Professor Jeffrey Sachs** (Columbia University), at the **World Conference of Speakers of Parliament**, organized by the Inter-Parliamentary Union, in close cooperation with the Austrian Parliament and the United Nations.

The Conference, which brought together Speakers of parliament from across the world, was a unique forum for dialogue and engagement between parliaments at the highest level.

They asked the three panelists at #5WCSP what MPs should do to deal with the health, climate and economic crises. Here's what they said.

Sara Gilbert: Strengthen #publichealth, support health care workers, train more scientists, and plan a vaccine rollout.

Phoebe Koundouri: Strengthen economic social, environmental and health systems. Engage all stakeholders to create fair, inclusive and sustainable societies that are resilient, both in terms of climate and health.

Jeffrey Sachs: Hold governments accountable for public health and humanitarian strategies. Involve epidemiologists and scientists. And push for a multilateral approach. We need true multilateralism.

Learn more: http://www.unsdsn.gr/5th-world-conference-of-speakers-of-parliament



WEBINAR - UNDERSTANDING THE CIRCULAR ECONOMY AT SYSTEM LEVEL FOR BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT

The Webinar entitled "Understanding the Circular Economy at system level for business development", took place online on August 17, 2020.

This topic was determined by the recommendations received from the participants who have registered for our first webinar and identified his as their main interest point.

In accordance with these recommendations, this webinar's main goal is to dive in the concept of Circular economy and its basic principles, which are designing out waste and pollution, keeping products and materials in use, and regenerating natural systems.

The event was organized by Chamber of Commerce Industry and Agriculture Timis within the **Project Western Balkan Circular and Climate Innovation Beacons** "**CE Beacons**", in collaboration with project partners: Wuppertal Institute of Climate, Environment and Energy- Germany, Cleantech Bulgaria, Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Serbia, Athena Research And Innovation Center In Information, Communication And Knowledge Technologies-Greece and Center for circular economy development CirEkon- Serbia.

Learn more: http://www.unsdsn.gr/webinar-understanding-the-circular-economy-at-syst



WEBINAR FOR PARLIAMENTARIANS: COVID-19 AND CLIMATE CHANGE

Prof. Phoebe Koundouri participated in the third in a series of four webinars on COVID-19 response and the SDGs designed for and with Parliamentarians around the world on August 4th, 2020. As we recover from COVID-19 and restart the global economy, what can we do to leverage this catastrophe and the resulting economic stimulus packages to build back better? Past recovery packages, such as those passed in the wake of the 2008 financial collapse, have supported business-as-usual and resulted in ever-increasing greenhouse gas emissions. However, today policymakers are looking to recovery packages as a means to spur green development. A recent example of this is the €1.8 trillion recovery package recently approved by European governments, which includes more than €500 billion for electric cars and renewable energy resources.

A number of policymakers and experts have made science-based recommendations on these critical issues, and there is a growing body of policy evidence on effective responses. To ensure that good practices from leading countries as well as experts are shared with a wide array of policymakers, the Sustainable Development Solutions Network and Parliamentarians for the Global Goals have come together to organize a high-level dialogue. This event will present current trends and foster conversations between Parliamentarians and experts on solutions, with a look as to how addressing the COVID-19 crisis can have long-lasting impacts to support the achievement of the Paris Climate Agreement and SDG 13.

More info at: http://www.unsdsn.gr/webinar-for-parliamentarians-covid-19-and-climate-

KICK-OFF MEETING OF THE MEDFREESUP PROJECT (FUNDED BY EIT CLIMATE-KIC), 4TH AUGUST (ONLINE)

The project will focus on design and setting innovative experiments at the city level to test the application of incentives to replace SUP products with a proven and monitorable environmental impact, and implementing integrated models of stakeholders' engagement in three countries along the Mediterranean coast, in:

- Italy, cities of Emilia-Romagna region, located along the Adriatic coast and of touristic relevance
- Croatia, Cres (County Primorsko-goranska) and Zlarin islands, County Šibenik-Knin

Greece, the island of Corfu, in the Ionian seas and in the Aegean Sea, the island of Ikaria and the municipality of Syros island, part of the very touristy Cyclades islands. The objective of the project is to set replicable protocols voluntary for free single-use plastics food packaging adoption enforced at the city level, for several types of foodservice operators (FO) (cafes, restaurants, foods stores, hotel, beach facilities). The project will provide FO with an inventory of innovative solutions based at environmental and financial levels. FO and cities will promote the protocol and innovation solutions adopted through a platform to engage consumers in proactive behaviours contributing to the solutions replication.

More info at: http://www.unsdsn.gr/kick-off-meeting-medfreesup-project-funded-by-eit-



University Sector Support to UN Secretary-General's Call for a Decade of Action on the SDGs - 9 and 10 July 2020

On 9 and 10 July 2020, a meeting of Presidents of Universities took place. Participants discussed the role of universities in actively supporting the decade of action for the implementation of Agenda 2030 and the Paris Agreement, including:

- 1) Mainstreaming the SDGs into university curricula and operations
- 2) Conducting SDG research
- 3) Facilitating evidence-based stakeholder dialogues on SDG implementation



- Empower understanding of problems and enables engagement in the development of solutions
- Shape the Potential of the Work Force by providing Analytical and Technical Skills
- Shape Technological and Social Innovation and enables progress



The Way Forward:

- · Values Based Education (personal, social, eternal)
- Equality of Access to Education and Research and Strong International Collaboration (use the potential of Digital Revolution)
- · Inter-Multi Disciplinary Education and Research
- Holistic Integration of Major Contemporary Challenges (like CC) in Research and Education
- · Linkage Education and Research to the market
- Outreach and Leadership: engage civil society, innovation acceleration, business, policy-making, politicians

Implementation of Sustainable Development Goals in Greece after the pandemic,

Webinar, 7 July 2020, organized by Hellenic Foundation for European & Foreign Policy

On 7 July, Prof. Phoebe Koundouri participated to the Online public discussion: "Implementation of Sustainable Development Goals in Greece after the pandemic", organised by the Hellenic Foundation for European & Foreign Policy

Speakers:

Costas Cartalis, Professor, University of Athens/ Member, U.N. body for the implementation of the Climate Agreement and the Paris Agreement

Phoebe Koundouri, Professor, Athens University of Economics and Business/ President, European Association of Environmental and Natural Resource Economists/ Co-chair, United Nations Sustainable Solutions Network – Greece/ Director, EIT Climate KIC HUB Greece Giorgos Kostakos, Executive Director, Foundation for Global Governance and Sustainability (FOGGS)/ Co-director, Hellenic Forum for Sustainable Development (ELFOVA)/ former United Nations staff member

Giorgos Lialios, Journalist, Kathimerini newspaper

<u>Moderator:</u> **Emmanuella Doussis**, Associate Professor, University of Athens/ Director of the Institute of European Integration and Policy



8th Regional Growth Conference 2-3 July Achaia Clauss, Patra

Prof. Phoebe Koundouri participated to two panels in the framework of this conference. The second panel GREEN AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT was organised under the Auspices of: "Research Laboratory in Socio-Economic and Environmental

Sustainability", Athens University of Economics and Business.

<u>1rst panel:</u> 2 July, at 17.30 SESSION | HALL A, EUROPEAN FUNDING: THE GREAT MOMENT, with Moderator: Giannis Christakos, Journalist, "MEGA CHANNEL"

<u>2nd panel:</u> 3 July, at 11:00 DIGITAL SESSION | ONLINE, GREEN AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT, with Moderator Katerina Christofilidou, Journalist, "SKAI" TV channel



European Semester e-Conference on Greece – 2020

Online, **1 & 2 July 2020**, Organised by: The European Commission in collaboration with The Foundation for Economic & Industrial Research – IOBE.

Stimulating a resilient recovery through investments, digital transformation and green economy. Prof. Koundouri participated to European Semester e-Conference, and presented the SDGs, EGD and Recovery Fund, in the European Semester Process.



Nizami Ganjavi International Center web conference on 2 July

On **2** July, Prof. Koundouri participated to the web conference entitled "The Changing World Order and its implications for Multilateralism" organised by the <u>Nizami Ganjavi International Center</u> along with the WorldAcademy.

Moderator: Garry Jacobs, President and CEO, World Academy of Art & Science

<u>Video Message</u>: Sefik Dzaferovic - Chairman of the Presidency of Bosnia&Herzegovina

Participants:

David Chikvaidze, Head of the Secretariat of the Director-General of the UN Office in Geneva; Vice President, Swiss Forum for International Affairs

Jan Fischer, Prime Minister of the Czech Republic 2009-2010 Ameenah Gurib-Fakim, President of Mauritius 2015-2018 Ivo Josipovic, President of Croatia 2010-2015

Phoebe Koundouri, Professor, Athens University of Economics and Business; President, European AERE; Co-chair, SDSN Greece; Director, EIT Climate KIC Greece

Alexander Likhotal, Former President of the Green Cross International

Rovshan Muradov, Secretary-General NGIC Petre Roman, Prime Minister of Romania 1989-1991



EESC DG Regio Opinion on Climate Pact - 29 June 2020

On **29 June 2020**, this online meeting took place. EESC DG Regio Opinion on Climate Pact: The EESC DG Regio supports the call for the European Union to commit to achieving carbon neutrality by 2050, and accordingly adjust its greenhouse gas reduction target for 2030. The UN Environment Programme (UNEP) Emissions Gap Report 2019 indicates that global emissions need to be cut by 7.6% per year between 2020 and 2030, starting now, in order to limit global warming to 1.5°C. . Calculated, this means a global reduction target of at least 68% by 2030.

President: Yves Somville. Rapporteur: Dimitris Dimitriadis. Co-rapporteur: Peter Schmidt. Expert: **Prof. Phoebe Koundouri**.



Annual Conference of the European Association of Environmental and Resource Economists

Prof. Phoebe Koundouri, Athens
University of Economics and Business,
President-Elect, European Association
of Environmental and Resource
Economists, participated at Annual
Conference of the European Association
of Environmental and Resource
Economists, in the Opening Ceremony
and Plenary Keynote on The European
Green Deal, on 26 June, 2020 at 10:00
CET, and also in the panel: THE
EUROPEAN GREEN DEAL: PROSPECTS
AND CHALLENGES FOR THE FUTURE —
KEYNOTE PLENARY AT EAERE2020 at
10:45-12:15.

The session organized by the EAERE Policy Outreach Committee (POC) as part of the EAERE Plenary intends to discuss the features of the European Green Deal in the framework of the post-Covid policies.

Business towards Circular Economy

On 26th June 2020, the webinar on Business towards Circular Economy took place. Together with stakeholders from Bulgaria, Greece and Italy, the project partners discussed the prioritization of circular economy in the EU context, as well as on the attractiveness on circular approaches to the business and regional specifics.



EIT Climate-KIC RIS Sensemaking workshop, 24 - 26 June 2020

In a 3-day workshop, RIS representatives shared the challenges of their countries aiming at learning from each other and identifying common fields of collaboration. UN SDSN Greece was represented by Prof. Phoebe Koundouri, AUEB, co-chair UN SDSN Greece and Lydia Papadaki, Manager UN SDSN Greece.



1st Connectivity Forum

On **23 June 2020**, at 17.00 CET the workshop entitled "Sustainability, transformation, from Minoan water, management systems to today's need for a New Economic Model, took place online.

Speekers:

Professor Phoebe Koundouri, Chair of Sustainable Development at Athens University of Economics and Business - Οικονομικό Παν. Αθηνών co-chair at UN Sustainable Development Solutions Network Greece, Director @EIT Climate KIC Hub Greece. She is also chair of the UN Sustainable Development Solutions Network Global Senior Working Group for the Energy Transition "Six Transformations to Achieve the SDGs and Support for the European Green Deal". Professor David S Blakeslee, assistant professor of Economics New York University Abu Dhabi New York University, he holds a PH.D. from Columbia University in the City of New York his research spans a variety of topics pertaining to rural development. He has authored papers on household adaptation to water access, and the effects of growth in the non-agricultural sector on the livelihood strategies of agricultural household. His research also covers topics in political economy, including the effects of political ideology on policy outcomes, and the economic and noneconomic drivers of crime in low-income countries. Emeric **Challier** Entrepreneur expert on data and analysis.



Online discussion on Circular Economy in Greece

On **22 June 2020**, Enabling Project and CORE Innovation organised an online discussion on Circular Economy in Greece.

The event explored the current status of Circular Economy in rural and non-rural areas in Greece and the required next steps for a sustainable greener future. To discuss and analyse this evolving topic, four women researchers: Prof. Phoebe Koundouri, Dr. Efi Tritopoulou, Eleni Toli and Lydia Papadaki, discussed and presented their work on the field and exchange ideas on sustainability matters.



Global Leadership in the 21st Century

Prof. Phoebe Koundouri participated at the e-Conference: Global Leadership in the 21st for Century, **Strategies** Transformative Global Leadership, June 15-19, 2020. An Invitation to Collaborate. WANTED: Practical Solutions and Catalytic Strategies. 1rst session 18th June 05:00 PM -07:00 PM CET - New Growth Model and Economic Policy Platform., and 2nd session 19th: 04:00 PM - 06:00 PM CET Human Security.

The e-conference was organised by: World Academy of Arts and Sciences, in collaboration with United Nations.



Nizami WEBINAR - The role of academia in the implementation of the SDGs through the COVID-19 crisis

On **3 June 2020**, 6pm EEST, the Nizami Ganjavi International Center Zoom Meeting took place online.

Prof. Phoebe Koundouri, as a Moderator, in company with Heads of States from 3 continents and world class scientists. discussed "The role of academia in the implementation of the SDGs through the COVID-19 crisis". Participants: Emil Constantinescu, President of Romania 1996-2000, Ameenah Gurib-Fakim, President of Mauritius 2015-2018, Bujar Nishani, President of Albania 2012-2017, Rosalia Artega Serrano, President of Ecuador 1997, Garry Jacobs, President & CEO, World Academy of Art & Science, Laszlo Borbely, State Counselor for the Department for Sustainable, Development, Romania; President of the 19th Session of the UN Commission for Sustainable Development 2010-2011, Winston Nagan, Chairman, Board of Trustees, World Academy of Art & Science; Director, Institute for Human Rights, Peace and Development, University of Florida, Nikolaos Theodossiou, Prof. Chair, SDSN Black Sea.

Learn more at: http://unsdsn.gr/nizami-webinar-3-june-2020

Commission DG Regio Meeting - 29 May 2020

On **29 May 2020**, **Prof. Phoebe Koundouri** participated as expert at European Commission DG Regio. NAT/785: European Climate Pact - 2nd Study Group Meeting, virtual conference. She is one of the experts that co-authored this opinion.

The opinion was Adopted at plenary on 15/07/2020 and the main points of the opinion were:

- The need to engage with civil society and citizens on climate
- Learning from existing practices on civil society and citizen engagement
- Learning from business responses
- Information sharing and public understanding of climate action
- Creating real and virtual spaces for exchange on climate
- Building capacity to facilitate grassroots initiatives
- Setting up a European Climate Pact Stakeholder Platform

Learn more:

https://www.eesc.europa.eu/en/ourwork/opinions-informationreports/opinions/european-climatepact/timeline International FDP (OE4BW) UNESCO Project, on Environment and Sustainability for 614 faculty from India

On 26 May 2020

Prof. Koundouri participated to International FDP (OE4BW) UNESCO Project, on Environment and Sustainability for 614 faculty from India.

The topic of her speech was "COVID 19 & Energy: The need for a Sustainable Recovery".

You can watch the video of her speech here:

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1EGk3W 6zZPEE6F8p3yAP7MFiSVN6tokl8/view



Innovation Shipping Cluster workshop

On **25th May 2020**, **Prof. Phoebe Koundouri** of AUEB participated to 1st Academia & Institutions Pillar Live Session. Innovation Shipping Cluster workshop.

A new Shipping Innovation Cluster in the making and Prof. Phoebe Koundouri is part of it #5PillarsStrong initiative being driven by Optima-X and Fathom World.

https://platform.100mentors.com/.../ .../5ebd273cf9ac405fce1e341d

COVID-19, global climate policy and carbon markets: expected impacts and possible solutions

On 7 May 2020, FSR Climate, in collaboration with the Policy Outreach Committee of EAERE (European Association of Environmental and Resource Economists), organised this online event to promote a more integrated dialogue between academia and policy world, providing advice and support to EU policy makers and institutions in designing policy interventions, which is particularly needed and urgent in these difficult times. Prof. Phoebe Koundouri was an invited speaker in this event.

The event builds upon the successful experience of policy debates organized by FSR Climate at State of the Union since 2018 and intends to continue the policy dialogue carried out by FSR Climate under the ongoing LIFE DICET (Deepening International Cooperation on Emissions Trading) project. The project, co-funded by the LIFE Programme of the European Union, focuses on the international carbon market cooperation between the EC and the regulators of other major Emission Trading Systems, namely, California-Quebec, China, Switzerland and New Zealand and intends to support EU and Member State policymakers in deepening international cooperation for the development and possible integration of carbon markets at the world level.

Learn more and watch the video of the event: http://unsdsn.gr/covid-19-global-climate-policy-and-carbon-markets-

85th Thessaloniki International Fair

New technologies, innovative ideas, and ambitious entrepreneurial ventures were the stars of the 85th TIF, organised from 5 to 13 September 2020 at the Thessaloniki International Exhibition Centre. At the 85th edition of TIF, 19 countries were officially represented, while 17 more, like the UK, the USA, France, Spain, China, Norway, Polland, Sweden etc, participated through their Greek representative companies. Germany waw the event's Honoured Country, and preparations for its participation have reached fever pitch, thus highlighting the trust of Europe's largest economy in September's Fair.

<u>Prof. Phoebe Koundouri</u> moderated a session on "Sustainable operations of ports" on Monday 7th September 2020 from 2 pm to 4 pm.

Find more at https://www.thessalonikifair.gr/en





COVID-19 Webinar Series: Session 2, 27th April 2020

The COVID-19 global health pandemic is rapidly changing the ways we live and work. In the age of sustainable development and at a time when the world is working towards achieving the SDGs, this disease is complicating SDG implementation efforts as well as posing a real risk to achieving targets on communicable disease, education, life expectancy, and decent work. This second virtual conference examined the implications of COVID-19 for public health and the SDGs, as well as make recommendations on science-based responses and also discussed successful public health interventions, how to ensure responses, promote health equity and reduce inequality, and look at different scenarios for ending isolation and returning to normal.

Prof. Phoebe Koundouri participated with a speech about the "Global Impact on Energy Transition" and she called on participants to see the crisis as an opportunity to scale up investments in renewable energy as part of post-COVID-19 economic stimulus packages. She cautioned that recovery from the 2008 financial crisis was energy and carbon intensive, and that we should learn from this past and chart a new path as the economy recovers from this current challenge.

Learn more and watch the event online at: https://www.unsdsn.org/outcomes-from-implications-of-covid-19-for-public-health-and-the-sdgs

24-HOUR WEBINAR ON HAPPINESS & SUSTAINABILITY AROUND THE EARTH

UN SDSN invited everyone to join our networks around the world for a 24-hour webinar event on **April 22nd**, the 50th Anniversary of Earth Day. We explored the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) through the lens of well-being and happiness. Learn about solutions being developed in your region, engage with experts around the globe, and celebrate happiness and well-being with your fellow global citizens.

SDSN Greece led a session with the topic "Inclusive and sustainable economic growth and human well-being" chaired by Prof. Koundouri, including panellists such as Prof. Papanderou, Prof. Pittis, Prof. Pagoulatos, Prof. Virvidakis and Prof. Kindi.

Learn more at: https://www.unsdsn.org/24hour-webinar?mc_cid=3dafeb9b50&mc_eid=%5BUNIQID%5D



Education and Training

Towards Sustainable Development: "Agenda 2030, the Paris Agreement on Climate Change and the European Green Agreement"

In partnership with <u>United Nations Sustainable Development</u>
<u>Solutions Network Global</u>, the **Athens University of Economics and Business** is launching a new professional seminar on Sustainability transition.

The seminar is based on the <u>six transformations</u> to achieve the SDGs and support the implementation of the European Green Deal. The seminar is targeted for sustainability executives and practitioners with **Prof. Phoebe Koundouri** leading the course and 16 top national experts from different sectors: energy, maritime, circular economy, transport, innovation and start-ups, finance, law and CSR contributing with individual lectures.

This is the only professional program in Greece accredited not only by a top national University, but also by UN SDSN Global!

A Certification of successful attendance by AUEB and UN SDSN Global will be given to participants.

Apply for an early registration!

Learn more at:

https://dz.aueb.gr/el/normal/Program/10045/ViewProgram



MSc in Energy Economics and Law, School of Economics, Athens University of Economics and Business, Greece



The program aims at the scientific training and application of students' knowledge and skills in current economic, political and legal issues that characterize the modern energy markets in the international and European environment.

More specifically, the following fields of knowledge are covered:

- a) European and International Energy Economics
- b) European and International Energy Law

Learn more at:

https://www.dept.aueb.gr/el/lawecon/content/applications
More info at: https://www.dept.aueb.gr/en/lawecon

H2020 DAFNE project e-Summer School – August 2020

The DAFNE e-summer school will provide know-how transfer about methodological aspects required for the investigation of the Water-Energy-Food (WEF) Nexus and the identification of sustainable WEF management strategies in the context of transboundary water resources systems. While the value and the applicability of the methodological approach presented is fairly general, its application is illustrated by means of two exemplary case studies, the Zambezi River Basin (ZRB) and the Omo-Turkana Basin (OTB).

During the e-summer school you will:

- learn about DAFNE's decision analytical framework and model based WEF nexus assessment
- discuss drivers and indicators of environmental change and governance issues
- experience innovative knowledge sharing and decision aid tools for the WEF assessment.

Learn more about the program at : http://www.dafne-project.eu/summerschool/

Upcoming events and Webinars

8TH ANNUAL INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

The Global Association of Master's in Development Practice Programs (MDP), in collaboration with the Sustainable Development Solutions Network (SDSN), will hold the **Eighth Annual International Conference on Sustainable Development (ICSD)**, where **Prof. Phoebe Koundouri** is coordinating the sustainable Shipping and Ports Section of the conference.

21-22 September, New York, U.S.A.

More info at: https://ic-sd.org/events/icsd-2020/



THE FOURTH SUSTAINABILITY SUMMIT FOR SOUTH-EAST EUROPE AND THE MEDITERRANEAN

The fourth sustainability Summit for South-East Europe and the Mediterranean will be held on 1 & 2 October 2020, in Divani Apollon Palace & Thalasso, Athens, organised by SDSN Greece and the Economist events.

This annual gathering in Athens will once feature leading thinkers and cutting-edge insights from around the world. Prominent international business and finance leaders along with cabinet ministers, academics and Nobel laureates from around the world will engage in an open dialogue on climate change, biodiversity aspects and **sustainability goals** as we tackle one of th most crucial issues in the global agenda.

Learn more: https://events.economist.com/events-conferences/emea/the-fourth-sustainability-summit-for-south-east-europe-and-the-mediterranean/



2020 GSPP CONFERENCE on Sustainable development goals in Central Asia and the challenges of COVID- 19



Prof. Phoebe Koundouri is an Advisory Board member at the 2020 GSPP CONFERENCE on "Sustainable Development Goals in Central Asia and the Challenges of Covid- 19", organised by the Graduate School of Public Policy of Nazarbayev University (GSPP), in **October 15-17, 2020**.

The conference aims at:

- Encouraging research and discussion on the challenges of sustainable development and SDGs in Central Asia after the Covid-19 situation;
- · Creating a network with scholars and practitioners on sustainable development challenges in Central Asia and other regions;
- · Providing a platform for young researchers to present their work on sustainability and the implementation of SDGs in Central Asia and lessons learnt from other regions.

Learn more about the GSPP Conference at: https://gspp.nu.edu.kz/.../2020-gspp-conference-on-sustainab.../

COP₂₆

The climate talks will be the biggest international summit the UK has ever hosted; bringing together over 30,000 delegates including heads of state, climate experts and campaigners to agree coordinated action to tackle climate change.

November 2020, Glasgow, UK

More info at: https://www.ukcop26.org

PUBLICATIONS

SPECIAL ISSUES

INVITED GUEST EDITOR OF SPECIAL ISSUE "The Transition to Sustainable Shipping and Ports" journal Sustainability (ISSN 2071-1050) https://www.mdpi.com/journal/sustainability/special_issues/Transition_Sustainable_Shipping_Ports?fbclid=IwAR2fZyIK54xEKuE0Pgze8vI7FmampJrhfy0Ru0dX9WsXzE91SLnjn06U5uI

INVITED GUEST EDITOR OF SPECIAL ISSUE "The Climate Action: Mathematics, Informatics and the Socio-Economics Accelerating the Sustainability" co guest editor Sobah Abbas Petersen (NTNU), ERCIM News No. 121 (April 2020) https://ercim-news.ercim.eu/call

Koundouri and Petersen: Special Issue Theme: "The Climate Action: Mathematics, Informatics and I am Socio-Economics Accelerating the Sustainability.", forthcoming, 2020.

BOOKS

Phoebe Koundouri (contributing author), Magand, C., Alves, M. H., Calleja, E., Datry, T., Dörflinger, G., England, J., Gallart, F., Gómez, R., Jorda-Capdevila, D., Marti, E., Munne, A., Pastor, V. A., Stubbington, R., Tziortzis, I. and Von Schiller, D., 2020, Intermittent Rivers and Ephemeral Streams: What water managers need to know, Science and Management of Intermittent Rivers and Ephemeral Streams (SMIRES), Technical report – Cost ACTION CA 15113. 10.5281/zenodo.3888474

SCIENTIFIC ARTICLES

Chatzistamoulou, N., & Koundouri, Ph. (2020). "Exploring the patterns of Eco-Innovation index and Competitiveness index in Europe". Technical Report, Action II Research Program, School of Economics, Athens University of Economics and Business, accessible at: http://wpa.deos.aueb.gr/wpa_show_paper.php?handle=2011

Chatzistamoulou, N., & Koundouri, Ph. (2020). "Exploring Feedback Loops between Performance Measures. Energy and Environmental Efficiency under heterogeneous Eco-Innovation groups". Discussion Paper, Action II Research Program, School of Economics, Athens University of Economics and Business, accessible at: http://wpa.deos.aueb.gr/wpa_show_paper.php?handle=2012

Chatzistamoulou, N., & Koundouri, Ph. (2020). "Environmental Efficiency, Productive Performance and Spillover Effects under heterogeneous Environmental Awareness Regimes". Discussion Paper, Action II Research Program, School of Economics, Athens University of Economics and Business, accessible at: http://wpa.deos.aueb.gr/wpa show paper.php?handle=2013

Tsani, S., Indra Overland. **Sovereign Wealth Funds and public financing for climate action**. Encyclopedia of the UN Sustainable Development Goals. Climate Action. Springer, 2020.

Vassilopoulos, A., Avgeraki, N. & Klonaris, S. **Social desirability and the WTP–WTA disparity in common goods**. Environ Dev Sustain (2019). https://doi.org/10.1007/s10668-019-00490-6

Roger Cremades, Phoebe Koundouri et al. **Ten Principles to Integrate the Water-Energy-Land Nexus with Climate Services for Co-Producing Local and Regional Integrated Assessments**. Science of the Total Environment, forthcoming (under final review)

ARTICLES IN HANDBOOK

Dr. Nikos *Chatzistamoulou, Prof. Phoebe Koundouri.* **FROM THEORY TO PRACTICE. SDGs PATTERNS ACROSS THE GLOBE,**" Encyclopedia of the UN Sustainable Development

Goals. Decent Work and Economic Growth, 2020.

Koundouri Phoebe and Papadaki Lydia: "Transforming cities toward Sustainability transition." In the Handbook Cities of the Future, 2020.

Koundouri Phoebe and Papadaki Lydia: "Integrating Water-Food-Energy Nexus with Climate Services: Modelling and Assessment for a case study in Africa." In the Handbook Sustainability Concept In Developing Countries, IntechOpen, 2020.

Amélie Truchy, Antonio Castro, Clara Mendoza-Lera, Cristina Quintas-Soriano, Daniel Bruno-Collado, Daniel von Schiller, Dídac Jorda-Capdevila, Elisa Tizzoni, Esther Kelemen, Ivana Logar, Jiri Jakubinsky, Joana Mendes, Heli Saarikoski, Luís Loures, Maria Ilhéu, Mathias Brummer, Pau Fortuño, Phoebe Koundouri, Rachel Stubbington, Rui Alexandre Castanho, Stella Tsani, Tatiana Kaletová and Tim Sykes. Hand. Handbook for Managers of Water Related Ecosystem Services. Chapter 6. Ecosystem services and social perception. Forthcoming, 2020

Paolo Burlando, Andrea Castelletti, Phoebe Koundouri and Jasminko Novak, Integrated assessment methods in transboundary river basins in the **Handbook on the Water-Energy-Food Nexus**, Edward Elgar Publishing, forthcoming, 2020

Phoebe Koundouri, Stella Apostolaki, Ebun Akinsete, Panagiotis Samartzis, Freshwater: The Importance of Freshwater for Providing Ecosystem Services in the *Handbook Earth Systems and Environmental Sciences*, forthcoming, 2020.

Phoebe Koundouri and Stella Tsani, Ecosystem services and social perception in the *Handbook for Managers of Intermittent Rivers & Ephemeral Streams*, forthcoming, 2020.

Phoebe Koundouri and Stella Tsani, Environmental flows: assessment and implementation in Iterninent Rivers and ES. *Handbook for Managers of Handbook for Managers of Intermittent Rivers & Ephemeral Streams,* forthcoming, 2020.

Paolo Burlando, Andrea Castelletti, Phoebe Koundouri and Jasminko Novak, Integrated assessment methods in transboundary river basins. *Handbook on the Water-Energy-Food Nexus*, Edwards Elgar Publishing, forthcoming, 2020.

Koundouri, P., Akinsete, E., Apostolaki, S. (2019). Freshwater: The importance of freshwater for providing ecosystem services" *Encyclopedia of World's Biomes*, forthcoming, 2020.

About us







UN SDSN Greece, EIT Climate-KIC Hub Greece (ATHENA RC) and ReSEES (AUEB) are clustering their activities towards the common aim of facilitating the implementation of the urgently needed sustainability transition.

The United Nations Sustainable Development Solutions Network (UN SDSN) mobilizes global scientific and technological expertise to promote practical solutions for sustainable development. The Greek chapter, SDSN-Greece, works closely with other United Nations agencies, multilateral financing institutions, the private sector and civil society implement the Sustainable to Development Goals (SDGs) and the Paris Climate Agreement in Greece. It is co-hosted by the International Centre for Research on the Environment and the Economy (ICRE8), a nonfor-profit private Research Centre dedicated to interdisciplinary research on the Environment, Energy, Economy, Eco-innovations and by the Political Economy of Sustainable Development Lab (PESD), dedicated to researching the political economy dimension of sustainable development as well as promoting teaching and student involvement in these matters.

Prof. Phoebe Koundouri founded the Research laboratory on Socio-**Economic and Environmental** Sustainability (ReSEES) in June 2016. The ReSEES laboratory is the outcome of the evolution of the Research Team on Socio-**Economic and Environmental** Sustainability. ReSEES does policy relevant interdisciplinary research on environmental, natural resources and energy issues. The overarching goal of ReSEES theoretical and empirical research is to support the understanding and implementation of Sustainable Development. Research tools include financial analysis, socio-economic and econometric analysis, environmental valuation, political and institutional analysis, integrated environmentaleconomic modeling, life cycle analysis, risk analysis, geographical information systems, game theory, information technology decision making tool development.

The <u>EIT Regional Innovation Scheme</u> accelerates climate innovation ecosystems building across Europe. EIT RIS facilitates connections into our established innovation Hubs, now in 14 countries in the centre, east and south of Europe, securing EIT Climate-KIC's Pan-European reach, boosting climate innovation capacity across the continent/.

The Climate-KIC Greece, EIT Hub established September 2018, Prof. coordinated by Phoebe Koundouriand led by ATHENA RC and is composed by a consortium of various organisations knowledge across the triangle:















OUR GREECE-BASED TEAM



Prof. Phoebe Koundouri



Prof.Andreas Papandreou



Asst. Prof. Achilleas Vassilopoulos



Alice Guittard



Dr.Angelos Alamanos



Angelos Plataniotis



Antonios Alevizos



Prof. Aris Moussoulides



Prof.Athanasios Giannakopoulos



Prof.Christos Zerefos



Dr. Ebun Akinsete



Dr. Efi Tritopoulou



Eleni Petra



Elias Demian



<u>DrElias</u> <u>Grammatikogiannis</u>



Ermina Sokou



Evita Mailli



Prof.Katerina Pramatari



Dr. Lemonia Ragia



Prof. Lena Tsipouri



Lydia Papadaki



Lydia Stergiopoulou,



Maria Lentoudi



Prof.Michael Rauscher



Asst. prof. Nikolaos Egglezos



Assoc.Prof.Nikolaos Kourogenis



<u>Dr.Nikos</u> <u>Chatzistamoulou</u>



Nikos Mavrogiannakis



Prof.Nikos Theodosiou



Prof. Nikos Vettas



Prof. Nikitas Pittis



Dr. Panagiotis
Samartzis



Dr Panayiotis Sophronides



Petros Xepapadeas



Sofia Mantafouni



Stahis Devves



Stamatis Kalogirou



Adj.Prof.Stella Apostolaki



Dr. Stella Tsani



Assoc. Prof. Stefanos Xenarios



Tatiana Pliakou



<u>Dr Thomas</u> <u>Hatzichristos</u>



Dr Vassiliki Manoussi



Alexandropoulou



<u>Dr. Xanthi-Isidora</u> <u>Kartala</u>



Prof. Yannis Ioannidis

...and many PhD students.

Follow us on FB



UN SDSN EIT Climate KIC ReSEES ICRE8