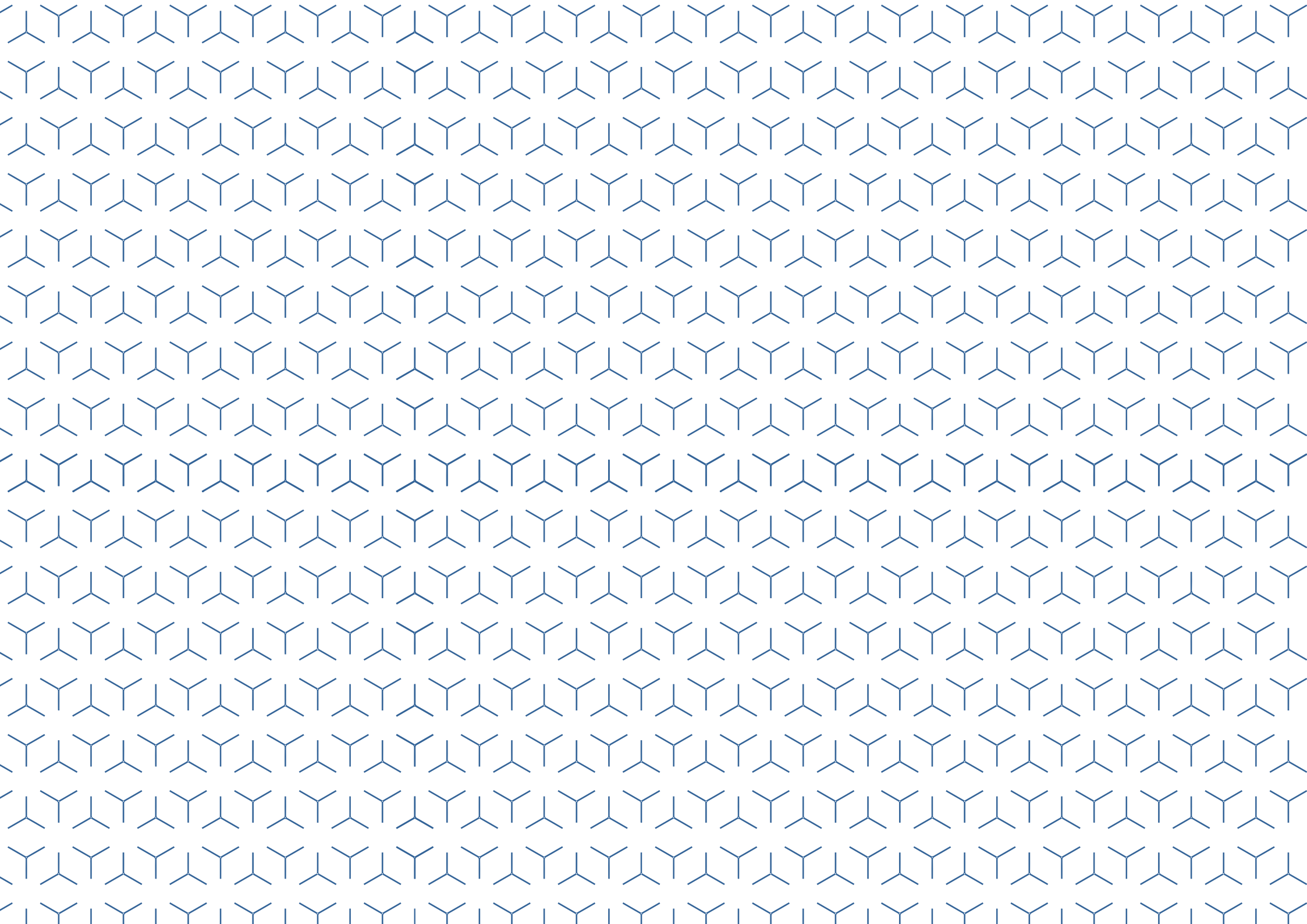
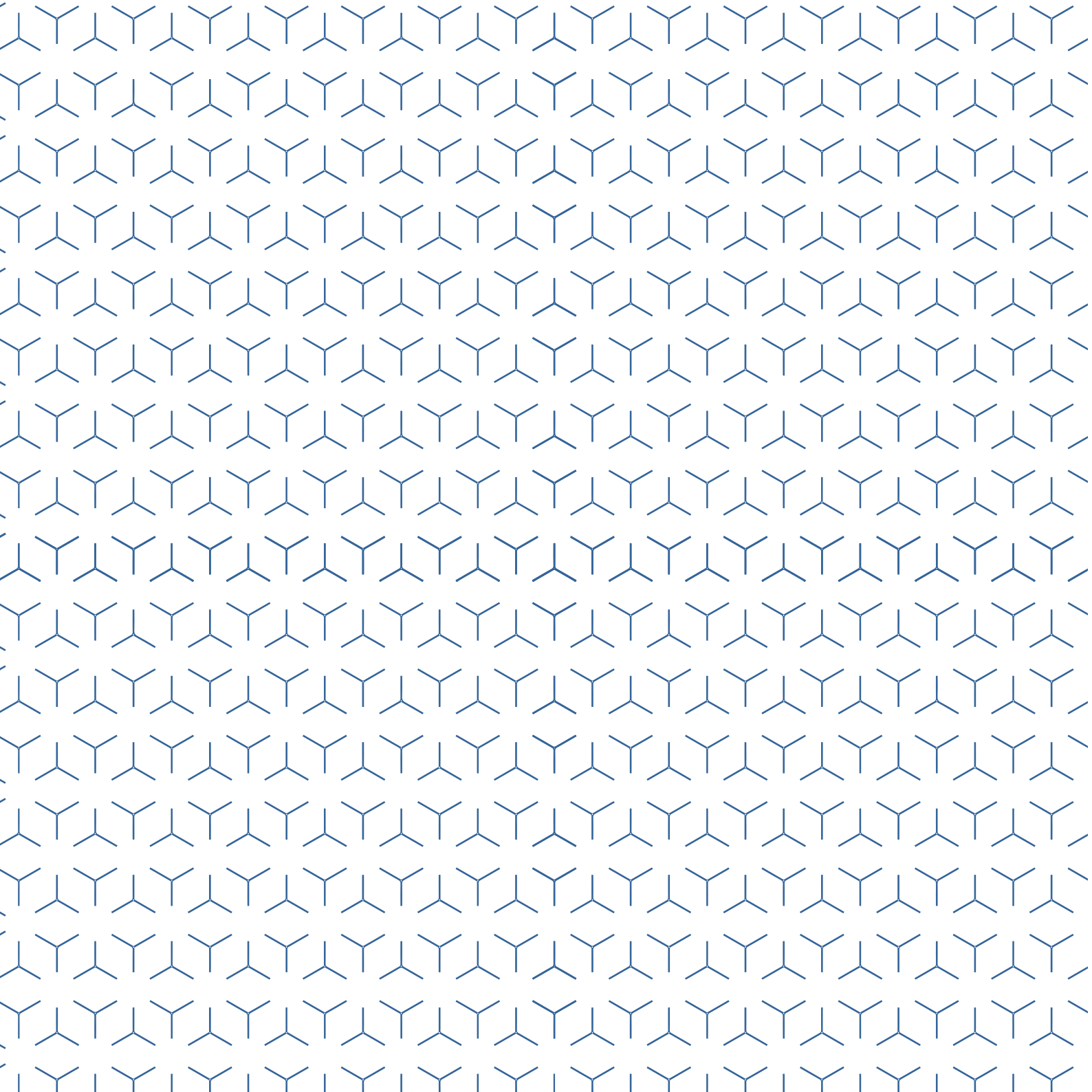
European Office Cyprus

success stories

of the members of the
European Office of Cyprus

Programming Period 2014 - 2020



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Forewards

A few words on our Success Journey

The European Office of Cyprus (EOC) is a non-profit, non-governmental organisation based in Nicosia, Cyprus with representation offices in Brussels, Belgium and Athens, Greece. The organisation aims at providing its members with timely, reliable, and comprehensive information and effective support in relation to the EU and national funding programmes and policies. EOC numbers 29 members including, inter alia, universities, research institutes and municipalities and it is the largest network of universities and research organisations in the fields of research and innovation in Cyprus and Greece.

The present publication is focused on providing an assessment 1) of the 2014-2020 programming period in relation to research, innovation, and education on a European and national level and 2) of what is expected in the new programming period of 2021-2027. It also features successfully completed projects, or promising current ones, that EOC members have taken part in, either as partners or as coordinators. These projects may serve as examples of how the members of the organisation, and in extent the society, have substantially benefited from the EU and national funding programmes in research, innovation and education.

EOC has played (during the 2014-2020 programming period) and will continue to play in the current programming period an important part in bringing together actors from all pillars of the EU funding quadruple helix in Cyprus and beyond. Through its thriving activities, the organisation has enabled its members and stakeholders of the wider research and innovation ecosystem to become more actively engaged in the process of grant application of EU funding programmes.

Furthermore, the EOC's vital presence in Brussels, has enabled its members to build bridges with other EU centres of decision-making and policy-shaping. At the same time, the EOC through its Brussels' office, offers to its members the unique opportunity to connect with other organisations on a European and international level (e.g., many Brussels based networks which consist of 250 EU-wide regional representation offices and 140 universities).

In the years to come, EOC aims to remain at the forefront of supporting its existing and new members to gain a deep and experience-based knowledge about EU funding and policies by capitalising on the success that its members enjoyed during the 2014-2020 programming period. Additionally, the organisation will continue being a strong catalyst in setting up the solid foundations for many productive collaborations and successes amongst its members and EU institutions in a range of EU funding programmes. The overall objective of this tremendous effort is to further enhance the presence and performance of its members and especially Cypriot organisations in research and innovation activities, to improve the quality of lives of Cypriot citizens, and to achieve concrete goals with large societal impact.

Prof. Constantinos Phellas
President of the European Office of Cyprus Administrative Council
Senior Vice-Rector, University of Nicosia

Beyond the Horizon

This is a very particular moment. We sit at a crossroad between Horizon 2020 and Horizon Europe, but also in the midst of the deepest economic and health crisis since the war. The Union is mustering all its strength and instruments to lead Europe on the path of a sustainable and resilient recovery, in line with its political objectives of becoming a climate-neutral, clean and circular economy.

Horizon 2020 is an extremely modern research and innovation investment programme, designed and implemented to address societal challenges, support excellent science and increase the competitiveness of our industry and economy. But as the global environment continues to evolve and the challenges we face become more acute and urgent, the lessons learnt from Horizon 2020 led to reviewing some of its features and to the formulation of Horizon Europe. The best term to depict this could be 'evolution in excellence'!

Horizon Europe will indeed bring many key novelties, such as a new focus on breakthrough innovation through the European Innovation Council; strengthened international cooperation through an extension of association possibilities to advanced and likeminded third countries; or a rationalised funding landscape through a new approach to European partnerships. But I would like here to briefly highlight three particular aspects that best capture 'evolution in excellence'.

First, there is Open Science.
Horizon Europe will build on the experience and pilots of Horizon 2020 to mainstream Open Science practices across the programme. Research results, including data, should be openly accessible and shared as early as possible to accelerate the discovery process, facilitate collaboration across disciplines and borders and ensure a better replicability. Europe is building the European Open Science Cloud (EOSC) to support this new way of doing science, federating data repositories and services across the continent to make most research data open and FAIR (Findable, Accessible, Interoperable and Reusable). In Horizon Europe, all projects will be requested to ensure open access to their results, manage their research data in line with the FAIR principles and where indicated to adhere to other open science practices. We will encourage all projects to use EOSC to fulfil their obligations, making Horizon Europe the first 'Open Science' R&I funding programme.

Second, there is impact-orientation and strategic planning.

For the first time, annual work programmes will implement strategic orientations established in a Strategic Plan. This will help structure work programmes around a limited set of expected impacts linking research topics to EU policy priorities, such as the European Green Deal or a Europe Fit for the Digital Age. This strategic planning process involved all the services of the Commission and thousands of stakeholders. In the case of Pillar II of Horizon Europe, the Strategic Plan for 2021-2024 defines about 30 expected impacts reflected in the first work programme in separate destinations. Our ambition to achieve more impact in line with citizens' expectations is also at the core of the five missions that will aim to launch in the areas of cancer, climate change, waters, soils and cities. They will engage all relevant actors in Europe in the pursuit of specific and ambitious targets, to bring concrete and visible benefits to society. All this will contribute to making Horizon Europe the most impact-driven R&I funding programme, with a novel and robust "Key Impact Pathways" framework to monitor progress and achievements.

Third and not the least, there is spreading excellence and closing the innovation divide in Europe.

Horizon Europe will be the strongest response so far to a situation that we know is not sustainable: the fact that a large part of Europe, situated in the South and in the East, does not fully participate yet to the knowledge-creation and valorisation networks that underpin the European economy. This is reflected both in the innovation performance indicators – such as the European Innovation Scoreboard – and in the level of participation in EU research and innovation programmes. This needs to change both for the benefit of individual Member States and for the benefit of the whole of Europe, as we can only successfully address global challenges and face global competitors if all of Europe generates and valorises top-range knowledge and innovations. Horizon Europe is therefore going to devote 3.3% of its budget to actions supporting the spreading of excellence in Europe, upgrading and stimulating research institutions from the countries and regions that are lagging behind. This will take a variety of forms, from the teaming, twining and ERA chairs actions already introduced in Horizon Europe, to new activities to support the networking of knowledge and innovation ecosystems and the transformation of universities. This will notably include a new 'hop on' scheme allowing entities from so-called 'widening countries' to join consortia that have been selected for funding.

If I could choose only a few words to summarise this 'evolution in excellence' from Horizon 2020 to Horizon Europe, I would say: a better science, which is open and accessible to all; a more impact research, to address our pressing challenges and the expectations of our citizens; and a more inclusive innovation system, to ensure that all Europeans benefit from Horizon Europe and that Horizon Europe benefits from all the scientific capacities in Europe.

Anna Panagopoulou
Director for Common Implementation Centre (CIC) and Acting Director for Research & Innovation Outreach – European Commission, Directorate General for Research and Innovation

Looking ahead

The Erasmus+ flagship EU programme represents one of the Europe's most tangible achievements: uniting people and creating a European sense of belonging and solidarity, through life-changing learning experiences. An "Erasmus generation" of 10 million people has benefited since 1987.

The 2014-2020 Erasmus+ programme has been the most popular since its creation, exceeding our target of 4 million learning experiences abroad. Over the past seven years, Erasmus+ has helped students, learners and young people to broaden their horizons, boost their awareness of Europe, and increase their chances on the job market through study, traineeships, apprenticeships, youth exchanges, teaching and sports activities all over Europe and beyond.

The programme also supported thousands of bottom-up education and training projects and kick-started new initiatives by establishing 41 European University Alliances and 12 Centres of Vocational Excellence. Erasmus+ also demonstrated great agility during the COVID-19 crisis and helped participants and organisations adapt to extraordinary circumstances and develop digital skills.

During the 2014-2020 period, we are also proud to support our artists and creative sector with the Creative Europe programme. The programme played a direct role in addressing the challenges facing the cultural and creative sectors, funding more than 10,000 transnational partnerships. It has funded 1,131 culture projects since 2014, including 614 cooperation projects, which have contributed to developing new audiences, strengthening the capacity of organisations from the cultural and creative sectors and promoting transnational mobility. It also supported the European Capitals of Culture, the European Heritage label and the organisation of four European prizes in the areas of music, literature, architecture and cultural heritage.

Looking ahead, a reinforced Erasmus+ programme for 2021-2027, with a budget of €26 billion, will expand learning mobility to school pupils and adult learners. It will provide opportunities for millions of participants to acquire the competences and skills to deal with education and work challenges. It will be a true lifelong learning programme that will look to the future and aim for a systemic impact. It will be more inclusive with measures ranging from dedicated financial arrangements for participants, to targeted communication, awareness raising activities and easier-to-access activity formats, such as small-scale projects, blended learning and digital education. The programme will underpin the implementation of a very ambitious policy agenda, helping to make the European Education Area a reality by 2025 and to reorient the European Union's economic model towards sustainability. The new programme will support the digital readiness of education and training systems.

As regards the new Creative Europe, the programme with a budget of €2.4 billion for 2021-2027 will continue to promote cultural and linguistic diversity and help the cultural and creative sectors adapt to the green and digital transition. It will empower cultural and creative organisations and professionals to co-create and cooperate across borders and reach wider audiences, tackling current societal questions and supporting emerging artists. The substantial increase in the budget reflects the programme's success during the period 2014-2020 and the Commission's willingness to further promote the cultural and creative sectors as key to our future. For the first time, the programme will support individual cross-border mobility for artists and cultural professionals. It will also make it possible to introduce a sectoral approach to addressing the specific needs of some key cultural and creative sectors, such as music, books and publishing, architecture and cultural heritage.

As the 2014-2021 programmes came to an end and as we leave behind us two very difficult years, I look forward to a new start with two modern, greener and more inclusive programmes, ready for the digital age. We count on the support of partners, like the European Office of Cyprus, to help us disseminate these opportunities to as many young people, artists, researchers, athletes and learners as possible.

Themis Christophidou
Director-General for Education, Youth, Sport and Culture of the European Commission

Horizon Cyprus

Reviewing what happened in the past seven years, it is evident that we have witnessed a major success story for Cyprus. This success story is about the exceptional performance of Cyprus in terms of securing EU funding during the period 2014-2020. The emphasis in this introduction to our publication will be on the funding scheme where the performance of Cyprus was outstanding, that is, the European Union Framework Programme for Research and Innovation (R&I) for the period 2014-2020, Horizon 2020.

Horizon 2020 and its successor programme, Horizon Europe, are of utmost importance for the EU Member States to achieve robust, knowledge-based and sustainable economic development and to counter the negative consequences of recent crises such as the financial crisis and the COVID pandemic. Cyprus has been a high performer in Horizon 2020 with remarkable achievements. The whole R&I ecosystem has worked in sync to achieve the most out of the opportunities offered by Horizon 2020 (H2020) and the final results speak for the size of this success:

- Nearly €320 million of secured funding in the programme, more than 3 times the amount secured in the predecessor programme FP7 (€97,1 million)
- Success rate of securing funding of 13,4% compared to the EU average of 12%
- Cyprus has secured in funding over 3 times the amount it has contributed to the H2020 budget
- 6 Teaming Centres of Research Excellence secured by Cypriot institutions, more than any of the other Widening countries
- A Cypriot institution ranked 1st out of all institutions from the Widening countries in secured H2020 funding with over €75 million
- Cypriot Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) account for 40% of participation in H2020 and over 10 Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) are included in the top 20 institutions from Cyprus in terms of secured H2020 funding.

The new programming period, 2021-2027 for EU funding schemes, is already underway and even though the success in the period 2014-2020 is outstanding for Cyprus, there is even more room for improvement. Coupled with the Recovery and Resilience Plan of Cyprus (Cyprus - tomorrow) and the corresponding European Structural and Investment Funds national programme, there are still many structural changes that can take place in both the R&I and the EU funding ecosystem in Cyprus that will further boost the performance of the country:

- Increase R&I spending to converge to the levels of both the more advanced EU member states and other developed countries
- Engage the relevant stakeholders and the general public in a process of co-design and co-creation of R&I policies to tackle societal challenges and work towards a better quality of life
- Enhance multidisciplinary and intersectoral R&I activities
- Create conditions to tackle uncertainty in R&I employment with the introduction of new national funding schemes that can attract and maintain R&I excellence and encourage and complement EU funding successes
- Improve the legislative framework providing more autonomy to public universities and boosting the creation of knowledge-intensive spin-offs from these institutions
- Transform the economic growth model of Cyprus with both direct and horizontal actions into a model based on R&I, green and sustainable development and digital transformation
- Cultivate R&I in all the layers of the Cypriot socioeconomic web, starting early on from primary education and developing the foundations for a more promising future for the next generations

The present publication of the European Office of Cyprus constitutes an excellent reflection of this success and shows the way forward for the current programming period. The projects included therein are samples of true inspiration of how a small country can fully exploit its highly educated human capital and through a concerted effort to excel in knowledge-intensive activities and projects. The members of the European Office of Cyprus have played the leading role in this success. Located both in Cyprus and in Greece, the EOC members have attracted over €450 million of funding from Horizon 2020 and demonstrated similar performance for the other EU funding schemes.

Dr Marios Demetriades
Executive Director of European Office of Cyprus
Director of the Research Support Service,
University of Cyprus

On the path of achieving a fundamental transformation

In the post-Covid era and amidst a fast-changing global setting, research and innovation (R&I) are integral and important contributors in achieving effective and quick recovery that leads to vibrant, sustainable and competitive economies and greener, more inclusive and more resilient societies. Our mission as a new Ministry is to enable and accelerate Cyprus' digital transformation, while leveraging technology and innovation to stimulate growth and economic activity and help solve the numerous pressing challenges of our time. This is a most complex endeavour that needs proper orchestration, talent management, supporting policies and efficient measures and -the most challenging task of all- a cultural and mind shifting journey across all levels of society.

Cyprus enjoys an impressive and fast-growing R&I ecosystem, featuring high quality academic and research institutions, six (6) Centres of Excellence (CoEs) and a flourishing start-up community of more than 200 enterprises and 4000 entrepreneurs. Further developing this dynamic ecosystem and unlocking its full potential as a driver of growth is a demanding and complex multifaceted task, and definitely one whose implementation extends beyond the short-term horizon. Cyprus is gradually making notable progress in its development towards a knowledge-based economy, recording year-on-year improvement in relevant EU and global indices related both to digital maturity, such as the DESI 2020 and the IMD World Digital Competitiveness Report, and R&I performance, such as the European Innovation Scoreboard and the Global Innovation Index 2020 which included Cyprus in the top 3 innovation economies in the region of Northern Africa and Western Asia.

A lot has been achieved, but there is still a long way to go to achieve a fundamental transformation of our economy and society, leveraging digital technologies and capitalising on a well-tuned, powerful R&I ecosystem. Our policies and programmes are based on the notion that transformation benefits significantly from a holistic approach, touching upon different aspects and needs of our ecosystem. We are currently drafting a comprehensive National Strategy for R&I and updating our Smart Specialisation Strategy, putting forward a number of reforms to support cutting-edge R&I activity and direct it towards fields of particular economic and societal importance. To this end, conducive institutional and regulatory framework conditions, effective interactions between the main stakeholders of the ecosystem, well-designed and targeted programmes and incentives to set up and expand R&I activity and attract investments, and a strong entrepreneurial culture are crucial. Our efforts are focused on enabling researchers, entrepreneurs and all creative minds to gain access to resources that include state-of-the art research infrastructure and facilities, knowledge, finance and human capital, and build innovative enterprises that are able to enter the international market with innovative products and services and thrive.

Access to funding is amongst our highest priorities. Available financial instruments include tax incentives for investment in innovative companies, a €20 million state-funded Equity Fund to facilitate access to finance for SMEs and start-ups, as well as programmes launched by the Research and Innovation Foundation (RIF), which serves as the executive arm of the government in these key domains. As regards the 2014-2020 programming period, RIF has announced schemes and funding programmes of around €130m, under the RESTART 2016-2020 National Framework Programme. The results have been impressive: 594 projects received funding - leveraging another €16.5m of private

funding, 152 research-industry collaborations were formed, 985 new jobs created, and 426 businesses supported to carry out R&I activity. €21m have been allocated for innovation programmes during the last 12 months, through 9 competitive calls for innovative projects, including 3 calls addressing Covid19-induced challenges.

Our RIF, the Ministry's execution arm for its R&I policies, is currently in the design phase of the new National Framework Programme for 2021-2027, focused on supporting quality basic and applied research conducted within our universities, research organisations and CoEs, strengthening collaboration between academia and business in order to facilitate the commercialisation of research outputs and supporting the creation and development of innovative startups, providing an exciting opportunity for local enterprises to start, grow and internationalise innovative products and services. These programmes require businesses to leverage private/own funds in conjunction with public funding (provided by the RIF) thus contributing to the overall increase of national R&D investment. Priority areas also include mission-based programmes in support of a fast, fair and efficient green and digital transition, in fields such as energy and climate change, waste and water management, biodiversity, wildlife and environment protection, as well as the promotion of circular economy.

In addition, in order to increase the appeal and competitiveness of our country, the Ministry is redesigning the provisions of the Startup Visa scheme and designing a new scheme for science and technology professionals. A new holistic framework for establishing Cyprus as a regional Sciences, High tech and Startups hub is underway, touching upon aspects such as the institutional environment, talent pool availability, tech and telecommunications infrastructure as well as business and market sophistication, and promoting reforms that create attractive investment and career opportunities and promote digitally- and innovation-intensive industries.

There is also a growing need for enhancing support and guidance services provided to all actors within the R&I ecosystem. Existing support structures include the "Innovation Factory" operated by the RIF under the auspices of the Chief Scientist for Research and Innovation, services offered by the RIF through the Enterprise Europe Network Cyprus Project (EEN-Cy) and the Knowledge Transfer Office being currently set up within the RIF. There is a variety of private structures, such as business incubators, accelerators, and co-working spaces, which can provide integrated support services that include office space, coaching, mentoring, international networking, pre-seed and seed funding and access to high-quality professional services on various topic. In addition, the Ministry is designing a targeted support mechanism for CoEs, in order to help them establish appropriate governance, management and accountability systems, build local capacity and capability, and promote broad commercialisation of their research results in order to ensure the sustainability of their future operations.

The development of EU Framework Programmes for Research and Innovation is crucial to our efforts. Cyprus had an outstanding performance in Horizon 2020, ranking first on per capita absorption across the EU and securing a total of around €290m for the period 2014-2020, almost 40% of which went to SMEs. In a small country, with a traditional economic model, this is a major achievement and bears witness to the professionalism and research excellence of our scientists and entrepreneurs. Horizon 2020 also allowed for the creation of six (6) CoEs in Cyprus, which secured a total of €90m of funding under the "Teaming" action and an additional €15m state funding for each.

Heading now to Horizon Europe, with a total budget of almost €95,5bn and capitalising on the broad array of new European initiatives aimed at spurring innovation, technological advancement and entrepreneurship - including Digital Europe, the first-ever digitally-focused funding initiative of €9.2 bn and the Recovery and Resilience Fund featuring the green and digital transitions prominently, we aim for even greater heights. Horizon Europe offers a wide range of opportunities, as well as new instruments, such as European Partnerships and Mission-oriented research and innovation, while the launch of the European Innovation Council (EIC) is expected to accelerate innovations based on breakthrough technologies and scale up Europe's most promising start ups and SMEs into a new generation of world leading enterprises.

The establishment of the Deputy Ministry is evidencing the strong political commitment and sponsorship in support of a new, diversified economic model, driven by research, innovation and technological advancement, as key drivers of growth, prosperity and competitiveness. Through strengthening our knowledge base, fostering our innovation capacity, promoting the extroversion of our R&I ecosystem and building bridges of collaboration with other ecosystems at European and global level, we are determined to maximise the impact of innovation on our economies and societies and pave the way for sustainable development.

Kyriacos Kokkinos
Deputy Minister of Research, Innovation and Digital Policy


European
Commission
HORIZON 2020

Horizon 2020

Description

Horizon 2020 was the EU's Research and Innovation programme for the programming period 2014-2020 with nearly €80 billion of funding available over 7 years, in addition to the private investment that this money attracted.
Horizon 2020 was the EU's biggest ever Research and Innovation Programme prior to the launch of Horizon Europe in 2021.
The programme's main goal was to ensure Europe produces world-class science, removes barriers to innovation and makes it easier for the public and private sectors to work together in delivering innovation.
In total more than 35 200 grant agreements were signed under Horizon 2020 while more than 173 700 organisations were involved in Horizon 2020 projects.
In Cyprus, 720 grant agreements with a total EU net contribution € 312 500 000 were signed under the Programme and more than 950 organisations were involved in Horizon 2020 projects. At the same time the success rate of proposals submitted by Cypriot organisations was 13.40% which is above the average from the overall EU success rate average of 11.97%.

Innovative compact HYbrid electrical/thermal storage systems for low energy BUILDings

Description

The HYBUILD project is funded by the European Union through the Horizon 2020 programme and it focuses on the development of two innovative compact hybrid electrical/thermal storage systems for stand-alone and district connected buildings. HYBUILD will develop an innovative hybrid storage concept for cooling and heating energy provision, as well as for domestic hot water production, suitable for both the Mediterranean and the Continental climate. These configurations will allow for energy savings, ranging from 20% to 40% on an annual basis in both Mediterranean and Continental climates.
The HYBUILD systems combine thermal (sorption, latent and sensible) and electric storages in one system. Solar energy can be stored in the sorption storage (Mediterranean concept) as well as in an electric storage (both concepts). The electric power within the systems is provided by a DC-bus system, which is more efficient than a state-of-the-art AC based system.
The DC architecture is expected to reduce the volume of conversion and distribution by 1/3 as compared to an AC architecture while a long-term reduction of the costs by about 20% is realistic.
HYBUILD's hybrid storage systems will be used to upgrade facilities in existing buildings in three different demo sites. One of the project applications will be implemented by the Municipality of Aglantzia in cooperation with the FOSS Research Centre for Sustainable Energy of the University of Cyprus and other partners. The proposed system will be installed on a vernacular dwelling located in the historic core of Aglantzia, which will be used as a Renewable Energy and Smart Solutions Centre by the municipality with the support of the University of Cyprus. Particular emphasis will be placed on the preservation of the building's cultural heritage values and on the assessment of innovative technologies' contribution to the rehabilitation of historic buildings and settlements.
This project will use a 48-month work programme and 9 work packages to integrate the diverse sectors, skills, and capabilities of the consortium in a coherent evolution of the planned work that will lead to the successful completion of the project's objectives. The project is led by the Spanish group COMSA Corporación and associates 21 partners from 9 countries.

EU Programme	EEB
Consortium | Partner	Coordinator: COMSA SAU (Spain) Partners: Universidad de Lleida (Spain), Consiglio Nazionale delle Ricerche (Italy), AIT Austrian Institute of Technology GmbH (Austria), NOBATEK INEF 4 (France), CSEM Centre Suisse d' Electronique et de Microtechnique SA – Recherche et Developmment (Switzerland), Accademia European di Bolzano (Italy), Fahrenheit GmbH (Germany), Mikrometal s.r.o. (Czechia), Sviluppo Tecnologie e Ricerca per l'Edilizia Sismicamente Sicura ed ecoSostenibile - STRESS SCARL (Italy), National Technical University of Athens (Greece), Fresnex GmbH (Austria), Engineering Ingegneria Informatica S.p.A. (Italy), DAIKIN Airconditioning Hellas SA (Greece), OCHSNER Wärmepumpen GmbH (Austria), University of Cyprus (Cyprus), Ajuntament Almatret (Spain), AKG Verwaltungsgesellschaft MBH (Germany), R2M Solution (France), Municipality of Aglantzia (Cyprus), Pink GmbH Energie und Speichertechnik (Austria), COMSA Corporacion de Infraestructuras Sl. (Spain)
Total Budget	€ 5.995.840
EU Funding	€ 5.995.840
Duration	48 months
Project Website	http://www.hybuild.eu

aRTIFICIAL iNTELLIGENCE for the Deaf

Description

The aiD project, funded under Horizon 2020 - Marie Skłodowska-Curie RISE, aims to address the challenge of deaf people communication and their social integration by leveraging the latest advances in ML, HCI and AR. Specifically, speech-to-text/text-to-speech algorithms have currently reached high performance, as a product of the latest breakthrough advances in the field of deep learning (DL). However, the commercially available systems cannot be readily integrated into a solution targeted to the communication between deaf and hearing people. On the other hand, existing research efforts to tackle the problem of transcribing SL video or generating synthetic SL footage (SL avatar) from text have failed to generate a satisfactory outcome.

aiD addresses both these problems. Speech-to-text/text-to-speech modules tailored to the requirements of a system addressing the communication of the deaf are developed. Most importantly, the project systematically addresses the core technological challenge of SL transcription and generation in an AR environment. The project's vision is to exploit and advance the state-of-the-art in DL to solve these problems with ground-breaking accuracy, in a fashion amenable to commodity mobile hardware. This will be in stark contrast to existing systems which either depend on sophisticated costly equipment (multiple vision sensors, gloves and wristbands), or are lab-only systems limited to fingerspelling as opposed to the official SL that deaf people actually use. Indeed, the current state-of-the-art requires expensive devices and operates on a word-by-word basis, thus missing the syntactic context. Finally, these solutions are not amenable to commodity mobile devices. The vision of the project is to resolve these staggering inadequacies so as to offer a concrete solution that addresses real time interaction between deaf and hearing people. The core innovation lies in the development of new algorithms and techniques that enable the real-time translation of SL video to text or speech and vice-versa (SL avatar generation from speech/text in an AR environment), with satisfactory accuracy, in a fashion amenable to commodity mobile devices such as smartphones and tablets.

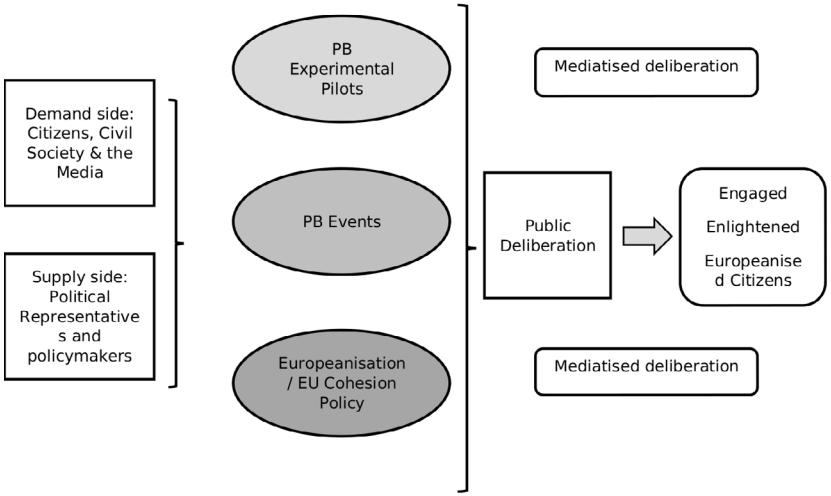
The project addresses the multifaceted challenge of enabling deaf people to effectively communicate, interact, and eventually participate in social life and brings about a major breakthrough to the lives of hundreds of thousands of European citizens. Inspired from the deep understanding of the deaf community needs as well as of the capacity of modern machine learning (ML) and augmented reality (AR) technologies, the overarching goal of aiD is to pursue cross-disciplinary breakthrough innovation that builds and extends upon the latest academic research advances to offer a comprehensive suite of solutions catering to deaf people communication needs. Specifically, the following pilots are targeted: a) ease of communication by means of translation from and to SL (SL) amenable to commodity mobile devices, b) novel educational solutions for deaf children, c) intelligent relay services for deaf people, including emergency services.

The full pipeline of communication which entails technological development on multiple technological frontiers is considered: signal processing, signal perception and generation via advanced ML, creation of virtual SL signals in an AR environment, usability issues, and scalability of the developed technologies on commodity mobile devices, accessible to the vast majority of potential users.

EU Programme	**MSCA RISE**
Consortium | Partner	Coordinator: Cyprus University of Technology (Cyprus) Partners: AI Cyprus Ethical Novelties Ltd (Cyprus), Anontec Infosystems Ltd (Cyprus), National and Kapodistrian University of Athens (Greece), HandsUp Agency IKE (Greece), Modus SA (Greece), Hellenic Federation of the Deaf (Greece), University of Kent (United Kingdom), Impact Tech Ltd (Cyprus), Hostdrop OÜ (Estonia), European Union of the Deaf, Georgia Institute of Technology (United States)
Total Budget	**€ 1.587.000**
EU Funding	**€ 1.587.000**
Duration	**48 months**
Project Website	**https://aideaf.eu**

Democratising Territorial Cohesion:

Experimenting with deliberative citizen engagement and participatory budgeting in European regional and urban policies



EU Programme	Governance
Consortium | Partner	Coordinator: Cyprus University of Technology (Cyprus) Partners: University of Strathclyde (United Kingdom), Politechnika Wroclawska (Poland), Universitatea Babes Bolyai (Romania), The Democratic Society (Belgium), Erasmus Universiteit Rotterdam (Netherlands), Euractiv Media Network B.V. (Belgium)
Total Budget	**€ 2.827.546,25**
EU Funding	**€ 2.827.546,25**
Duration	**36 months**
Project Website	**https://demotec-project.eu**

Description

The DEMOTEC project, funded under Horizon 2020 – Societal Challenges - Inclusive Societies, investigates the role of participatory budgeting in fostering greater and more informed citizen participation in policy-making and in engaging citizens that feel disconnected from political and policy processes. DEMOTEC focuses on citizen engagement in European regional and urban policies, combining in-depth research on participatory budgeting and mediated deliberation in the public sphere with real-world experiments.

The project involves a multidisciplinary methodological approach, applying innovative methods including experiments, computational text analysis of big data, representative surveys, framing and discourse analysis, and case studies in seven urban communities across Europe: Cyprus, Greece, Ireland, the Netherlands, Poland, Romania, and Scotland.

The DEMOTEC project will essentially assess how and to what extent the democratic innovation of participatory budgeting can lead to greater and more informed citizen participation in policy-making and engage citizens that feel disconnected from political and policy processes. In particular, the project aims to provide novel theoretical and empirical findings on participatory budgeting and democratic decision-making, develop practical tools and capacity for practitioners, and produce timely policy recommendations at different government scales.

The research design conceptualises participatory budgeting as both an independent variable, impacting on the level and quality of citizen deliberation and engagement, as well as a dependent variable to be explained. Assessing the degree to which participatory budgeting impacts on engagement, the underlying causal mechanisms and the intervening variables mediating the relationship between participatory budgeting and deliberative exercises are the core research tasks for DEMOTEC.

DEMOTEC consists of an interdisciplinary and well-integrated consortium of academic, media and citizen engagement partners with expertise in political science, regional and urban studies, sociology, psychology, media and communication studies, and computer science. The Consortium places strong emphasis on the co-creation of democratic innovation and knowledge with policymakers and communication with a variety of stakeholders throughout the project, including public authorities at all territorial levels, journalists, civil society organisations and the general public.

Smart Data ProcESsing and SysTems of Deep INsIght

Description

The DESTINI project, funded under Horizon 2020 - Spreading Excellence and Widening Participation – Twinning, proposes a series of coordination and support actions for promoting research in the area of Smart Data. It brings together two internationally recognised scientific groups from the Netherlands (Tilburg University) and Italy (Sapienza Universita di Roma) that collaborate with the Cyprus University of Technology (CUT) so as to strengthen the CUT's research and scientific profile in the relevant area.

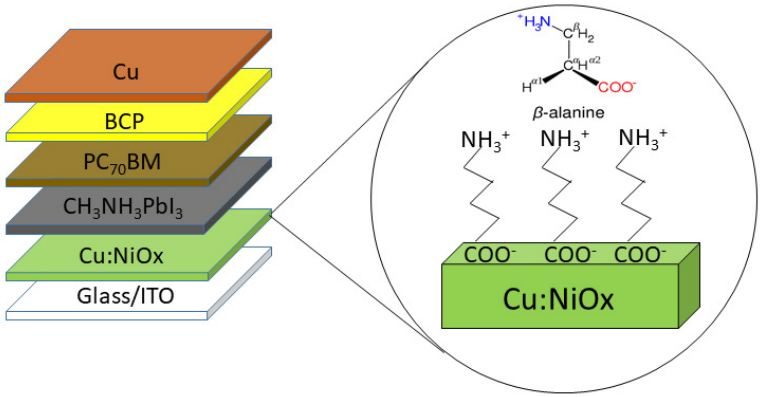
The aim of DESTINI is to facilitate transfer of scientific knowledge and expertise, as well as of best research practices from the leading institutions to CUT. The ultimate goal is that the research group of CUT increases its research capacity and prowess, by investigating a number of significant and hot topics in the field of Smart Data Processing and Systems of Deep Insight. The research pillars of DESTINI are Smart Data Processing Systems, Systems of Deep Insight and Methodology for Smart Data-centric Services Applications. It is envisaged that a number of high-quality research results may be produced during and after the duration of the project.

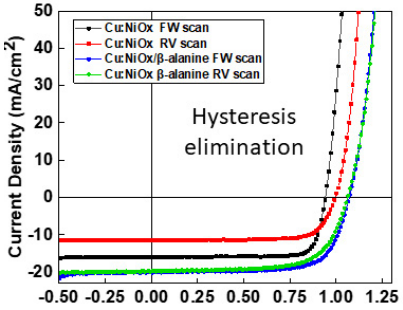
This will enable CUT to significantly increase its international standing in the research community, by both achieving related publications in top-tier scientific journals and conferences of the related research area, as well as by producing new tools that will benefit industrial and business stakeholders.

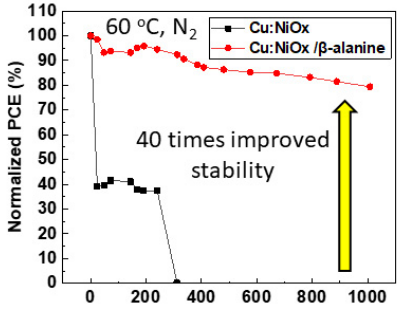
Close cooperation between the partners of DESTINI will take the form of knowledge acquisition and transfer through personnel exchanges, expert visits, organisation of workshops and summer schools, with lectures delivered from the leading institutions, participation in international scientific conferences/workshops, development of joint training sessions and mobility programmes for early-stage researchers, and establishment of strong links with the market/industry.

EU Programme	Twinning
Consortium | Partner	Coordinator: Cyprus University of Technology (Cyprus) Partners: Tilburg University and Jheronymous Academy of Data Science (The Netherlands), Sapienza Universita di Roma (Italy)
Total Budget	€ 799.267,50
EU Funding	€ 799.267,50
Duration	36 months
Project Website	https://destini2020.eu

Solution Processed Next Generation Photovoltaics







EU Programme	**ERC Consolidator Grant**
Consortium | Partner	Cyprus University of Technology (Principal Investigator: Prof. Stelios Choulis)
Total Budget	**€ 1.839.847,47**
EU Funding	**€ 1.839.847,47**
Duration	**60 months**
Project Website	**http://web.cut.ac.cy/mep**

Description

The ERC-funded Solution Processed Next Generation Photovoltaics (Sol-Pro) project sets out to identify and resolve critical printed photovoltaics (PVs) research and development targets and to advance the inverted photovoltaic materials and device structure closer to the printed photovoltaic technology production requirements.

The profound advantages of PVs, such as their light weight, mechanical flexibility in addition to the small energy demand, and low-cost equipment requirements for roll-to-roll printing mass production, characterise them as a candidate source for future electrical power. Over the last few years, the discovery of novel solution processed electronic materials and device structures boosted PV power conversion efficiency values. Despite that, power conversion efficiency is not a 'stand-alone' product development target for next generation PVs. Lifetime, cost, flexibility and non-toxicity have to be equally considered, regarding the technological progress of solution processed PVs.

The ambit of the Sol-Pro research programme is to re-design solution processed PV components relevant to the above product development targets. Based on this, processing specifications as a function of the electronic material properties will be established and provide valuable input for flexible PV applications. Adjusting the material characteristics and device design is crucial to achieve the proposed high performance PV targets. As a consequence, a number of high-level objectives concerning processing/ materials/electrodes/interfaces, relevant to product development targets of next generation solution processed PVs, are aimed for within the proposed ERC programme.

The Sol-Pro project performed research work and published 16 open access scientific papers on electronic materials and device structures that are relevant to the product development targets of next generation printed PVs and contributed on their technological advancement. The developed new electrode materials and devices components with improved reliability and lifetime performance contribute to the future development of low-cost and large-area printing manufacturing technologies for energy generation. Electronic materials chemical companies, printing equipment manufacturers, and printed PV modules producers will benefit from this research. Importantly, the Sol-Pro project introduced the following concepts for improving the stability of printed PVs a) Incorporation of diffusion blocking layers and b) Development of intimate interfaces. Indicating the impact of diffusion mechanisms, chemical stability, reduced charge traps interfacial densities relevant to lifetime performance and highlighted the importance of diffusion blocking layers and intimate interfaces for the development of long-lived next generation printed PVs.

Advanced VR, iMmersive serious games and Augmented REality as tools to raise awareness and access to European underwater CULTURal heritagE.

Description

The scope of the iMARECULTURE project, funded under Horizon 2020 – Societal Challenges – Reflective Societies, was to raise public awareness of European identity by focusing on maritime cultural heritage, which by default bridges different civilisations.

In particular, iMARECULTURE aimed at bringing inherently unreachable underwater cultural heritage within the digital reach of the wider public by implementing virtual visits, serious games with immersive technologies and underwater augmented reality. The objective of the project was to design, analyse, develop and validate pioneer applications and systems in the context of Virtual Museums through collaborative and innovative research from a diverse group of scientists, researchers, archaeologists, experts and museums.

The iMARECULTURE project contributed fully to the H2020 Framework and the Digital Agenda for Europe, an H2020 initiative for New Skills and Jobs. In addition, this project abided by the EU's strategy to become a smart, sustainable and inclusive economy by implementing the knowledge triangle by connecting Education, Research and Industry by supporting and boosting innovative enterprises to develop their technological breakthroughs into viable products in the area of Virtual Museums and Digital Heritage, with real commercial potential.

iMARECULTURE focused on raising European identity awareness using maritime and underwater cultural interaction and exchange in the Mediterranean Sea area. Commercial ship routes joining Europe with other cultures are vivid examples of cultural interaction, while shipwrecks and submerged sites, unreachable to the wider public are perfect examples that can benefit from immersive technologies, augmented and virtual reality.

iMARECULTURE brought inherently unreachable underwater cultural heritage within the digital reach of the wider public using virtual visits and immersive technologies. Apart from reusing existing 3D data of underwater shipwrecks and sites, with respect to ethics, rights and licensing, to provide a personalised dry visit to a museum visitor or augmented reality to the diver, the project also emphasised on developing a pre- and after- encounter to the digital visitor. The former was implemented by exploiting geospatial enabled technologies for developing a serious game of sailing over the ancient Mediterranean and the latter for an underwater shipwreck excavation game. Both games were released through social media, in order to facilitate information exchange among users.

iMARECULTURE supported dry visits by providing immersive experience through a VR Cave and 3D info kiosks in museums or through the web. Additionally, it aimed at significantly enhancing the experience of the diver, visitor or scholar, using underwater augmented reality in a tablet and an underwater housing.

EU Programme	**SC6-CULT-COOP**
Consortium | Partner	Coordinator: Cyprus University of Technology (Cyprus) Partners: Masarykova Univerzita (Czechia), Concordia University (Canada), Univerzitet u Sarajevu (Bosnia and Herzegovina), Universite d'Aix Marseille (France), University of Cyprus (Cyprus), 3D Research s.r.l. (Italy), Universidade Nova de Lisboa (Portugal), Holografika Hologrameloallito Fejleszto es Forgalmazo KFT (Hungary), Ministero per l Beni e le Attivita Culturali e per il Turismo (Italy), Pierides Foundation (Cyprus)
Total Budget	**€ 2.644.025**
EU Funding	**€ 2.370.275**
Duration	**39 months**
Project Website	**http://www.imareculture.eu**

ERA Chair in Digital Cultural Heritage

Description

Mnemosyne is a unique project for a single-stage Coordination and Support Action submitted under Horizon 2020 - Spreading Excellence and Widening Participation - ERA Chairs.

Cultural Heritage is a strategic resource for Europe with high cultural, social, environmental and economic value. The era of Digital Cultural Heritage (DCH) is now well underway and the European research resource for DCH has grown significantly in recent years. But the visible contribution of the Widening countries to this effort remains relatively weak. The Digital Heritage Research Laboratory (DHRLab) at the Cyprus University of Technology has been an exception in this respect, becoming a beacon in the Eastern Mediterranean and for Europe in general, in particular through its leadership of key initiatives in DCH research training and in policy co-ordination and support.

While the Cypriot economy gradually recovers, in order to maintain and expand its leading role in DCH research, the DHRLab needs further investment. This project is an ideal opportunity to ensure this by means of a well-designed and iterative process of strengthening its research capacity and restructuring of its role. Mnemosyne will proceed from the appointment of an outstanding researcher and research manager

as ERA Chair holder in 2018 who will attract, direct and maintain high quality human resources and negotiate and implement the necessary structural changes to achieve excellence on a sustainable basis.

The project started in 2019 and will be carried out over a period of 5 years. Following the recruitment of the ERA Chair Research Team, a three-phase research programme centred on the holistic documentation of the DCH lifecycle in support of existing and potential user needs will be carried out and extensively evaluated, with strong attention paid to exploitation. Communication activities will be strategically planned and refined from the outset of the work and will last throughout the project's duration.

The research topic "pipeline" under consideration includes:

- Digital Cultural Heritage data acquisition;
- DCH data processing;
- DCH data modelling;
- DCH knowledge management (interpretation);
- DCH preservation; and
- DHC use and Re-use.

EU Programme	ERA Chairs
Consortium | Partner	Cyprus University of Technology (Cyprus)
Total Budget	**€ 2.495.375**
EU Funding	**€ 2.495.375**
Duration	**60 months**
Project Website	**https://digitalheritagelab.eu/era-chair**

Network for sOcial compuTing REsearch

EU Programme	**Twinning**
Consortium | Partner	Coordinator: Cyprus University of Technology (Cyprus) Partners: Foundation for Research and Technology (Greece), Fundacion IMDEA Networks (Spain), Universite de Geneve (Switzerland), Universität Düsseldorf (Germany)
Total Budget	**€ 1.000.000**
EU Funding	**€ 1.000.000**
Duration	**36 months**
Project Website	**https://notre.socialcomputing.eu**

Description

The vision of the NOTRE project, funded under Horizon 2020 - Spreading Excellence and Widening Participation – Twinning, was to develop a network that would strengthen and enhance the potential of the newly established Social Computing Research Centre (SCRC) at the Cyprus University of Technology (CUT) for stimulating scientific excellence and innovation capacity in the area of social aspects of computing. NOTRE proposed an interdisciplinary approach towards the close network collaboration between the SCRC of CUT, a research active university in a low-performing member state, and four internationally-leading counterparts specialising in:

- online social networks and their analysis;
- entertainment, games, virtual reality and educational technologies;
- social computing for social inclusion; and
- social computing and social change.

SCRC through the successful NOTRE proposal did not only manage to access the core research groups of the leading counterparts, and their collaborators, but also contributed to recognising the multidisciplinarity of the field and established itself as an intermediate between them. The NOTRE network followed a series of interlinked activities, such as short-term staff exchanges, expert visits and short-term on-site training, workshops, conference attendance, organisation of joint summer school type activities, and dissemination and outreach activities.

The conducted activities with the world-renowned EU partners (IMDEA; MIRALab of Universite de Geneve; Institute of Computer Science of the Foundation for Research and Technology Hellas -FORTH-ICS; and the Department of Political Science of the University of Dusseldorf -UDUS), were instrumental for significantly strengthening SCRC's research efforts, enhancing the network's innovation capacity and research profile, and stimulating scientific excellence in the emerging multidisciplinary field of Social Computing.

During the full project duration, NOTRE has managed to facilitate numerous collaborations, ensured the presence of SCRC in various networking events and allowed for valuable training sessions between the SCRC and the international-leading partners that have hosted NOTRE meetings. These collaborations happened in the format of joint paper publications and conference presentations (co-authored by SCRC and widening institution academics), workshops at international conferences and submissions of funding applications either where SCRC has been the applicant/coordinator and one or more widening institutions have been partners or where a partner has been the coordinator and SCRC has been invited as a partner.

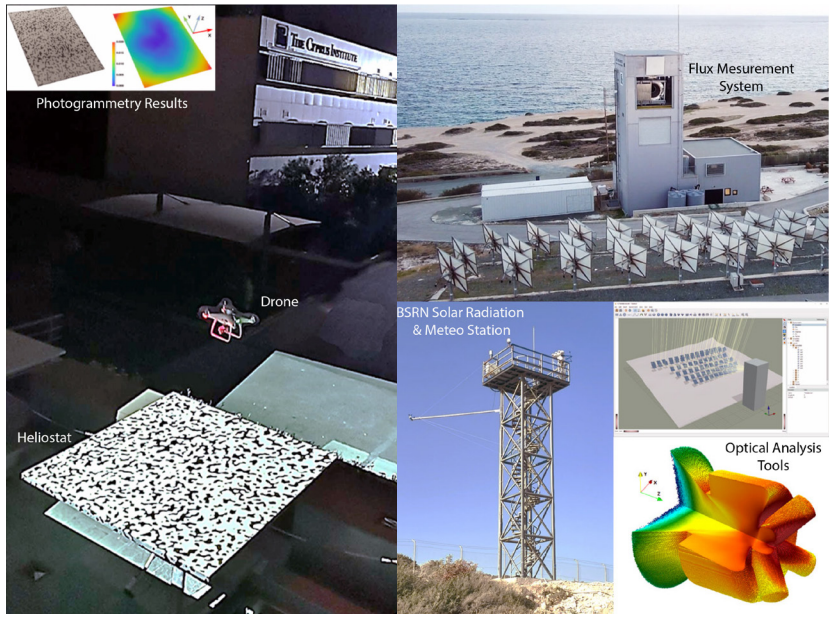
Cyprus Solar Thermal Energy Chair for the Eastern Mediterranean

Description

The Horizon 2020 European Research Area (ERA) Chair in Solar Thermal Technologies for the Eastern Mediterranean is an ERA Chair project awarded by the European Commission to the Cyprus Institute. The project started on 1 June 2015 and it was scheduled to finish on 31 June 2020. However, because of the COVID-19 pandemic, it was extended until 31 December 2020.

The overall goal of the project was to consolidate and upgrade the already substantial activity at the Cyprus Institute in solar energy, by attracting and installing a cluster of outstanding researchers, led by a professor of international stature, maximally utilise and upgrade the existing facilities, and pursue a programme of excellence in Cyprus with local and regional focus in the region of the Eastern Mediterranean and the Middle East (EMME). This has been fully achieved. The project has been a complete success. Among many other things, the ERA Chair CySTEM project has been instrumental in:

- bringing to the Cyprus Institute, as the ERA Chair holder and a full tenured Professor, one of the most international renowned experts in concentrating solar thermal technologies, as well as several young researchers with outstanding credentials and skills in optics, thermal and mechanical engineering, scientific computing, and solar thermal technologies;
- securing more than € 800,000 in external funding;
- positioning, for the first time, the PROTEAS infrastructure within one of the H2020 SFERA Project, with the rest of the elite research groups and infrastructures on Concentrating Solar Thermal (CST) technologies of Europe (CIEMAT-PSA, DLR, ENEA, etc.);
- improving the testing capabilities of the Solar Energy and Desalination (SED) Group, by enhancing the capacities and capabilities of the group to measure:
  - the solar radiation and the rest of meteorological variables which are relevant to the performance of CST systems; including the Group's meteorological station within the prestigious Baseline Surface Radiation Network (BSRN) of the World Meteorological Organisation (WMO).
  - the reflectivity and the flux distribution of the PROTEAS heliostat field.
  - improving the modelling capabilities of the SED Group by:
  - developing state-of-the-art open-source programmes to model the optical behaviour of solar concentrators.
- developing modelica models particularly adapted to model novel CST systems and the Cyprus Institute's Concentrating Solar Power and Desalination (CSP-DSW) proof-of-concept.
- boosting the scientific production of the SED Group multiplying it by more than three times during the five years duration of the project compared with the previous five years;
- substantially increasing the international network of the group and its standing at the international level;
- generating several patents about disruptive technologies in the field of continuous monitoring of solar fields using drones.



EU Programme	**ERA Chairs**
Consortium | Partner	The Cyprus Institute
Total Budget	**€ 3.499.375**
EU Funding	**€ 2.500.000**
Duration	**66 months**
Project Website	**https://www.cyi.ac.cy/index.php/eewrc/research-information/ongoing-research-projects/cystem.html**

Eastern Mediterranean and Middle East – Climate and Atmosphere Research Centre

EU Programme	Teaming
Consortium | Partner	Coordinator: The Cyprus Institute (Cyprus), Partners: Max Planck Institute for Chemistry (Germany), French Alternative Energies and Atomic Energy Commission (France), University of Helsinki (Finland)
Total Budget	€ 45.000.000
EU Funding	€ 15.000.000
Duration	84 months
Project Website	https://emme-care.cyi.ac.cy

Description

EMME-CARE, funded under Horizon 2020 - Spreading Excellence and Widening Participation - Teaming and by the Cyprus Government, has been established with a view of creating a regional Centre of Excellence (CoE) for climate and atmosphere research in the Eastern Mediterranean and Middle East (EMME) region, which has been identified as a global climate change "hot spot".

A population of about 400 million is affected by dust storms, dryness, heat extremes and unparalleled air pollution in the EMME region, with severe environmental, health and socio-economic effects. Identified as a global climate change hotspot, the region is already facing adverse impacts ranging from extreme weather events to poor air quality, which are only due to intensify in the coming decades. If no action is taken, these harmful effects could soon lead to intolerable environmental conditions in the region, ultimately compromising human habitability and forcing mass migration.

EMME-CARE has set out to address these challenges through the establishment of a regional knowledge hub for environmental and climate change research, and sustainable solutions. Accordingly, EMME-CARE upgraded the Atmosphere and Climate Division of the Cyprus Institute to create a new CoE – the Climate and Atmosphere Research Centre (CARE-C). CARE-C was officially launched in January 2020 and it operates as part of the Cyprus Institute.

In establishing CARE-C, the Cyprus Institute joined forces with world-leading institutes in the field of climate and environmental research that are acting as its Advanced Partners: the Max Planck Institute for Chemistry (MPIC) in Germany, the French Alternative Energies and Atomic Energy Commission (CEA) and the University of Helsinki (UHEL). CARE-C has set out to address the risks associated with air pollution and climate change in the EMME through a combination of research, innovation and education activities with a regional focus and capitalising on the strategic geopolitical location of Cyprus to create a link between Europe and the Middle East.

Specifically, CARE-C focuses on:

- Science and Research on Climate Change and Air Pollution over the Eastern Mediterranean and the Middle East (EMME) region.
- Innovation and Entrepreneurship focusing on identifying promising commercial research applications that contribute to the sustainable economic growth of Cyprus in a highly

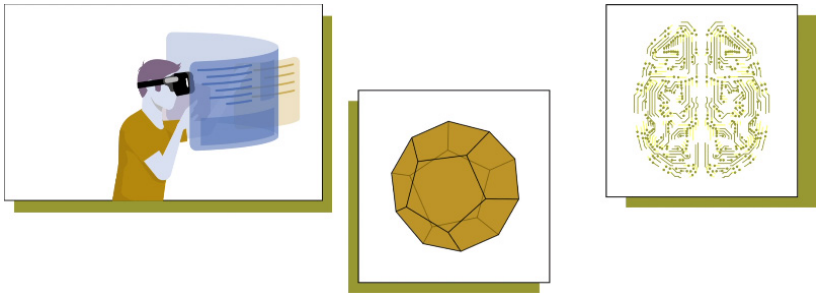
competitive international environment.

• Education and Training with post-graduate degree courses on meteorology and atmospheric sciences, trainings on climate change and weather forecasting, and hands-on practice and knowledge transfer on atmospheric instrumentation.

Through furthering scientific leadership and excellence in climate and atmosphere research and promoting its applications in the context of public policy and sustainable economic growth, CARE-C aims to contribute to a healthier planet, and the shaping of a safer, more prosperous future for the citizens of the EMME region.

CARE-C works in close collaboration with its Advanced Partners as well as many national institutions and organisations in Cyprus and the region. The work and collaborations focus on societally relevant issues related to the environment, atmosphere and climate, and natural resources. Further, relevant research activities have been nationally embedded in Cyprus through strong collaborations with the Departments and Units of the Ministry of Agriculture, Rural Development and Environment, the Ministry of Labour, Welfare and Social Insurance, the Ministry of Defence, and the Ministry of Health.

National Competence Centres in the framework of EuroHPC



Description

The EuroCC activity, funded under the Horizon 2020 – EuroHPC, will bring together the necessary expertise to set up a network of National Competence Centres in High Performance Computing (HPC) across Europe in 33 participating, member and associated states, to provide a broad service portfolio tailored to the respective national needs of industry, academia and public administrations. All of this to support and increase strongly the national strengths of HPC competences as well as High Performance Data Analytics (HPDA) and Artificial Intelligence (AI) capabilities and to close existing gaps to increase usability of these technologies in the different states and thus provide a European excellence baseline.

The Computation-based Science and Technology Research Centre (CaSToRC) of the Cyprus Institute will be the sole partner of the HPC national competence centre (NCC). It will act as the designated hub in Cyprus engaging with all stakeholders in the country.

An HPC innovation hub will also be created during the course of the project leveraging innovation developments on the Institute level. The hub will directly connect businesses to research in order to enhance technology development, promote the technology readiness level, and bring research results closer to the market. The hub will be able to:

- foster technology transfer and assist in co-development with businesses in an Innovation Value Chain process;
- provide services and develop partnerships with the private sector and governmental agencies;
- encourage entrepreneurship and provide support to start-ups and spin-offs;
- raise revenue for further supporting the development of services and tools for businesses;
- run an industrial and entrepreneurship programme;
- connect local companies within the European eco-system.

A Services and User Support team of technical experts will deploy tools and services for data management, secure transfer and extreme computing and data analytics. They will engage with the user communities, provide computing support, and work with a High-Level Support Team (HLST) staff to introduce innovative computers and associated services to the users, including the industry. Dedicated HLST staff and technical experts will offer services on a contracted basis and eventually be sustained from revenues.

EU Programme	**EuroHPC**
Consortium | Partner	Coordinator: University of Stuttgart – The High-Performance Computing Center (Germany), Partners: Gauss Centre for Supercomputing (Germany), Institute of Information and Communication Technologies at Bulgarian Academy of Sciences (Bulgaria), Universität Wien (Austria), University of Zagreb - University Computing Centre (Croatia), Computation-based Science and Technology Research Center, The Cyprus Institute (Cyprus), IT4Innovations National Supercomputing Center, VSB – Technical University of Ostrava (Czechia), Technical University of Denmark (Denmark), University of Tartu HPC Center (Estonia), CSC – IT Center for Science Ltd (Finland), National Infrastructures for Research and Technology S.A. (Greece), Kormányzati Informatikai Fejlesztési Ügynökség (KIFÜ) (Hungary), National University of Ireland, Galway – Irish Centre for High-End Computing (Ireland), CINECA – Consorzio Interuniversitario (Italy), Vilnius University (Lithuania), Riga Technical University (Latvia), UNINETT Sigma2 AS (Norway), Norwegian Research Centre AS (Norway), SINTEF AS (Norway), Academic Computer Centre Cyfronet AGH (Poland), Fundação para a Ciência e a Tecnologia (Portugal), National Institute for Research-Development in Informatics – ICI Bucharest (Romania), Academic and Research Network of Slovenia (Slovenia), Barcelona Supercomputing Center – Centro Nacional de Supercomputación (Spain), Uppsala University (Sweden), Eidgenössische Technische Hochschule Zürich (Switzerland), The Scientific and Technological Research Council of Turkey (Turkey), The University of Edinburgh (United Kingdom), TERATEC (France), SURFSARA BV (Netherlands), Centre de recherche en aéronautique ASBL (Belgium), Luxinnovation GIE (Luxembourg), Center of Operations of the Slovak Academy of Sciences (Slovakia), University of Ss. Cyril and Methodius, Faculty of computer science and engineering (Republic of North Macedonia), Háskóli Íslands – University of Iceland (Iceland), University of Donja Gorica (Montenegro)
Total Budget	**€ 56.341.819,25**
EU Funding	**€ 28.170.909,63**
Duration	**24 months**
Project Website	**https://www.eurocc-access.eu/**

PlaCe

Training the next generation of archaeological scientists:
Interdisciplinary studies of pre-modern Plasters and Ceramics from the eastern Mediterranean

Description

PlaCe is an Innovative Training Network, funded under Horizon 2020 – Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions, for the training of early-stage researchers, i.e., the next generation of archaeological scientists, in the interdisciplinary study of premodern ceramics and plasters.
Archaeological ceramics are one of the most abundant categories of material culture found at archaeological sites. They play a central role in our understanding of past societies, increasingly through their interdisciplinary study using science-based methods. Plasters (a term denoting all pasty compositions, whether made of clays or marls, gypsum or lime, used for static, protective and/or decorative purposes including architectural structures, statues, mosaics and wall paintings), though of similar importance and versatility, are much less valued, and their information potential in archaeology remains under-explored.
PlaCe will exploit this huge potential in the fields of archaeological sciences and cultural heritage. It focuses on these first synthetic materials produced by humankind, particularly the technology, know-how, raw materials and tools developed and employed for their production, in the eastern Mediterranean from prehistory to the post-medieval period/18th c. AD. Being the most frequently found materials in almost every archaeological context, their analytical study can provide a largely untapped wealth of information related to past human action, technological and societal evolution, and the development and spread of traditions and styles. With the same range of scientific methods applied to their study, combining the two provides a stable basis for an innovative and wide-ranging training agenda that will bring the recruited early-stage researchers to the forefront of archaeological and cultural studies.
PlaCe is highly interdisciplinary and intersectoral; it is a collaboration among 8 beneficiaries and a further 12 partner organisations with diverse and complementary approaches and fields of expertise but sharing common objectives and focusing on the same research themes in a culturally coherent macro-region. In PlaCe, traditional archaeological practices, including typological, stylistic and contextual analyses will be integrated with physicochemical, mineralogical and microstructural analytical methods deriving from disciplines including geology, geochemistry and physics, and advanced spatial and statistical data interrogation.
Plasters and ceramics share important similarities, as they both are synthetic compounds deriving from naturally occurring earthy materials; therefore, many aspects of their composition and technology can be studied with the same analytical techniques.
The PlaCe network will provide a rich training agenda, including analytical techniques such as optical microscopy, scanning electron microscopy, X-ray fluorescence analysis, X-ray diffraction, material testing and simulation of thermo-mechanical performance, as well as the statistical analysis and spatial projection of the mineralogical and elemental data, with the use of state-of-the-art statistical and modelling software and geographical information systems.
Considering the widespread function of ceramics as containers (e.g. transport and storage vessels, cooking pots, etc), the early-stage researchers will also be introduced to organic residue analysis, particularly to the analysis of lipids and proteins, so that the study of pottery can become truly comprehensive, touching upon all dimensions of their function, always associated with the corresponding cultural milieu.
This wide range of analytical methods will be combined for a comprehensive study of plaster and ceramic assemblages, with final inferences becoming transferable from samples to material populations, and from sites to regions. Ultimately, PlaCe aims at contributing to our enhanced understanding of the evolution of plaster and ceramic premodern technologies, and their adoption in differing social settings, contributing to the history and archaeology of Europe and the eastern Mediterranean.

EU Programme	MSCA ITN
Consortium | Partner	Coordinator: The Cyprus Institute (Cyprus), Partners: Katholieke Universiteit Leuven (Belgium), University College London (United Kingdom), University of Cyprus (Cyprus), National Centre for Scientific Research “Demokritos” (Greece), British School at Athens (Greece), University of Cambridge (United Kingdom), Institute of Theoretical and Applied Mechanics of the Czech Academy of Sciences (Czechia)
Total Budget	**€ 3.868.438,32**
EU Funding	**€ 3.868.438,32**
Duration	**48 months**
Project Website	**https://place-itn.cyi.ac.cy**

Promoting Archaeological Science in the eastern Mediterranean

Description

Promised, funded under Horizon 2020 - Spreading Excellence and Widening Participation – Twinning, aims to significantly strengthening research and graduate education in Archaeological Science, rendering The Cyprus Institute an excellence hub in this field in the eastern Mediterranean.

The Archaeological Science research teams at the University of Cambridge and KU Leuven were chosen as recognised leaders in both areas, with complementary strengths in their disciplinary coverage, scientific expertise, and the nature of their doctoral programmes, being based in the Humanities and Natural Sciences, respectively.

The aims are being achieved through a carefully developed programme of actions linking experienced researchers, administrative and technical staff at the advanced institutions with their counterparts at the Cyprus Institute, through exchange visits, secondments, and joint activities. All relevant initiatives consciously take account of the unique geopolitical position of Cyprus as the gateway between Europe and the Middle East, and the research and educational challenges and opportunities this poses compared to western educational and research facilities.

The scientific training and mentoring of the Cyprus Institute staff and students will follow the Community of Practice philosophy, while also working towards a canonisation of best practice in Archaeological Science. The combination of formal research skills courses at the Graduate School with research-led training, will include field-based summer schools and lab-based workshops addressing specific themes. The input received from the advanced partners throughout the duration of the project will be taken up by the Cyprus Institute's researchers and staff, and is expected to result in ongoing financially sustainable best-practice dissemination events reaching out to the wider region of the Eastern Mediterranean and Middle East region and the Balkans.

EU Programme	**Twinning**
Consortium | Partner	Coordinator: The Cyprus Institute (Cyprus), Partners: University of Cambridge (United Kingdom), Katholieke Universiteit Leuven (Belgium)
Total Budget	**€ 991.550**
EU Funding	**€ 991.550**
Duration	**36 months**
Project Website	**https://promisedtwinning.cyi.ac.cy**

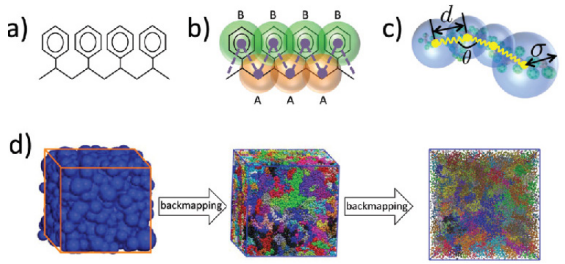
ERA Chair in Modelling and Simulation for Engineering Applications

Description

The project Modelling and Simulation for Engineering Applications - SimEA, funded under Horizon 2020 - Spreading Excellence and Widening Participation – ERA Chairs, responds to the challenges and opportunities arising when advanced computing and data science are utilised to solve engineering problems. The project is coordinated by CaSToRC of The Cyprus Institute.

The SimEA ERA Chair will, expand the research portfolio of CaSToRC to include Computation-Based Engineering, collaborate with other research groups in Cyprus, Eastern Mediterranean and internationally, enrich the educational programmes of CaSToRC and the Cyprus Institute and set the appropriate mechanisms to forge collaborations with industry partners. The project is developing a research team of outstanding researchers, led by Professor V. Harmandaris, who is appointed as the SimEA ERA Chair.

The research team will work on the development of mathematical and computational methodologies for complex molecular systems, with important applications in nano/bio technology. The ultimate goal is the “computer design of materials and processes” via novel algorithmic approaches and computational tools; i.e. computer engineering of complex materials. The team will pursue a programme of research excellence and innovation by applying and developing mathematical and computational methods, including multiscale modelling, physics-based and/or data-driven molecular models, uncertainty quantification, and machine learning methods, integrated with High-Performance Computing, for tackling challenging problems in different application areas related to Computational Science and Engineering. Examples include a broad range of systems/ materials of great scientific and technological interest, such as nanocomposites, polymers, graphene-based nanostructured materials, proteins, and biomolecular systems.



EU Programme	**ERA Chairs**
Consortium | Partner	The Cyprus Institute (Cyprus)
Total Budget	**€ 2.499.250**
EU Funding	**€ 2.499.250**
Duration	**69 months** (9 months extension approved by the EU)
Project Website	**https://simea.eu**

SimulaTIon in MUltiscaLe physicAl and biological sysTEms

Description

The STIMULATE project is funded under Horizon 2020 – Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions Innovative Training Networks.
Simulation alongside theory and experimentation is nowadays considered an integral part of scientific discovery. As computation speeds up and new technologies and instruments improve, data generation in all fields of science is rapidly increasing. As a consequence, researchers face new challenges: Data collection exceeds by far the capacity to validate, analyse, visualise, store, and curate the information contained. Additionally, traditional, single-scale, macroscopic physical models are becoming inadequate for the accuracy requirements of modern physical, biological and engineering applications that involve multiscale phenomena occurring over vastly different scales.
Tackling these challenges will transform our approach to research potentially leading to unprecedented data-driven scientific discoveries. The overall goal of the STIMULATE project is to deliver an innovative interdisciplinary educational and research programme in simulation and data science, which educates students to best address the challenges posed by exascale computing and intensive data applications, producing computational science professionals tactically positioned to become leaders in both academia and industry. The project proposes a rigorous network-wide training programme and research projects that combine mathematical modelling and algorithms for exascale simulations and data-intensive science with applications in the fields of Computational Fluid Dynamics, Computational Biology and Particle and Nuclear Physics with focus in lattice Quantum Chromodynamics. Students will be seconded to industrial partners that will complement expertise in computer technologies, mathematical modelling and data analytics with hands-on training. Experts from eight degree-awarding institutions, three research centres and three companies are engaged in the project. Each of the fifteen fellows of the programme will obtain a single joint Ph.D. degree from three academic institutions.
STIMULATE builds on interdisciplinarity and multi-institutional engagement to deliver innovative research projects that utilise simulation and data methodologies, which potentially can lead to breakthroughs in its areas of focus. It addresses the challenges of future computers with emerging exascale architectures, which will not simply be a thousand times faster as compared to today's petascale architectures, but it will also require a disruptive change in the computing methodologies. The ability to produce and process vast amounts of data, complemented by the development of technologies like data analytics and machine learning, have so far not been fully exploited in scientific and engineering applications. The aim of the project is to integrate new data methodologies within the novel High-Performance Computing technologies in the scientific domains of focus, exploiting synergies among them.
It is of paramount importance, in making progress in many disciplinary domains and in enabling a new era in simulation-based analysis and design, to develop new approaches to modelling that integrate our current modelling tools and introduce high performance data analytics (HPDA) benefiting from advancements in machine learning/data science. An original aspect of this project is that it will stimulate transfer and cross-fertilisation via interdisciplinary projects and advanced training of data-driven approaches that are already playing an important role in fields like the life sciences.

EU Programme	MSCA ITN
Consortium | Partner	Coordinator: The Cyprus Institute (Cyprus), Partners: Bergische Universität Wuppertal (Germany), Rheinisch-Westfälische Technische Hochschule Aachen (Germany), Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin (Germany), Hebrew University of Jerusalem (Israel), University of Cyprus (Cyprus), Università degli Studi di Ferrara (Italy), Universita degli Studi di Roma Tor Vergata (Italy), Stiftung Deutsches Elektronen Synchrotron (Germany), The Cyprus Institute of Neurology and Genetics (Cyprus), Forschungszentrum Jülich (Germany), MAGWEL N.V. (Belgium), IBM Research GmbH (Switzerland), NVIDIA GmbH (DEU)
Total Budget	€ 3.755.601
EU Funding	€ 3.755.601
Duration	48 months
Project Website	http://www.stimulate-ejd.eu

Next-generation equipment tools and mission-critical strategies for First Responders

Description

The RESPOND-A project is funded under Horizon 2020 – Societal Challenges - Secure societies - Protecting freedom and security of Europe and its citizens.

With the evolving threat of climate change and the consequences of industrial accidents to becoming more severe, there is an increasing need for First Responders to access reliable and agile information management systems that offer higher situational awareness and a better common operational picture.

To match with current trends, the RESPOND-A project aims at developing holistic and easy-to-use solutions for First Responders by bringing together the complementary strengths of its investigators in 5G wireless communications, augmented and virtual reality, autonomous robot and unmanned aerial vehicle coordination, intelligent wearable sensors and smart monitoring, geo-visual analytics and immersive geospatial data analysis, passive and active localisation and tracking, and interactive multi-view 360o video streaming.

The synergy of such cutting-edge technological advancements is likely to provide high-end and continuous flows of data, voice and video information to First Responders and their command & control centres for predicting and assessing the various incidents readily and reliably, and saving lives more efficiently and effectively, while maximising the safeguarding of themselves, before, during and after disasters.

To this end, RESPOND-A envisions at exercising First Responders for getting familiar with the project technological outcomes, and demonstrating their real-world performance and effectiveness in the classified training facilities of responder partners under hydrometeorological, geophysical and technological disaster scenarios.

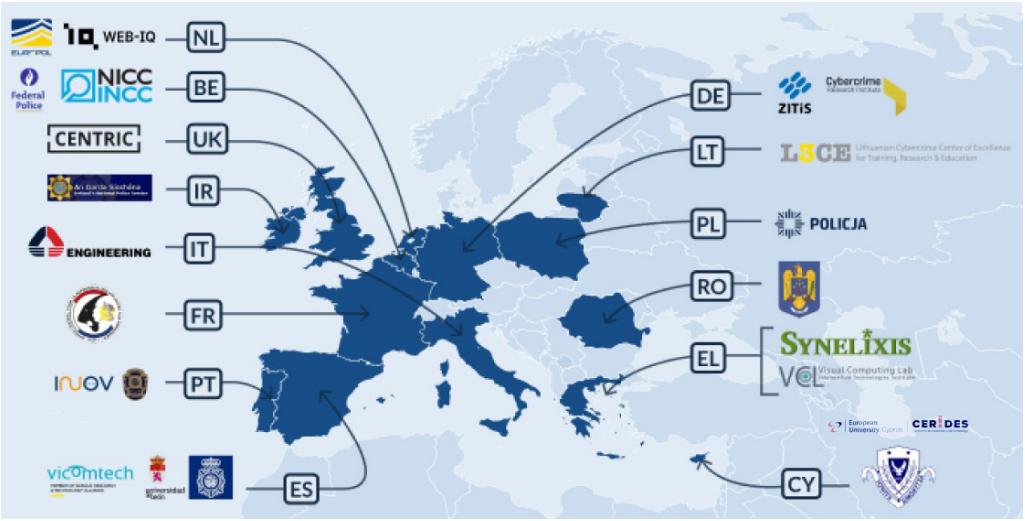
EU Programme	**Horizon 2020**
Consortium | Partner	Coordinator: European University Cyprus | Cerides Excellence in Innovation and Technology (Cyprus), Partners: Airbus DS SLC (France), Safran Passenger Innovations Gemrnay GmbH (Germany), National Centre for Scientific Research “DEMOKRITOS” (Greece), Fundacion Centro de Tecnologias de Interaccion Visual y Comunicaciones Vicomtech (Spain), Fundacio Privada I2CAT, Internet I Innovacio Digital a Catalunya (Spain), Atmosphere GmbH (Germany), PROBOTEK Ltd (United Kingdom), Robotnik Automation S.L.L. (Spain), Athonet s.r.l. (Italy), Sokratis Nifakos (Sweden), 0 Infinity Ltd (United Kingdom), Hellenic Instrument IKE (Greece), Promotech B.V. (Netherlands), Eight Bells Ltd (Cyprus), SIDROCO Holdings Ltd (Cyprus), CyberLens B.V. (Netherlands), Vallfirest Tecnologias Forestales S.L. (Spain), CSI Center for Social Innovation Ltd (Cyprus), Fundacio d’Ecologia del Foc I Gestio d’Incendis Pau Costa Alcubierre (Spain), Fundacion de la Comunidad Valenciana para la Investigacion, Promocion y Estudios Comerciales de Valenciaport (Spain), Public Safety Communication Europe Forum AISBL (Belgium), Ayuntamiento de Valencia (Spain), Cyprus Police (Cyprus), Egaleo Municipality (Dimos Egaleo) (Greece), Institut po Otbrana (Bulgaria), Smartex s.r.l. (Italy), Uprava Pomorske Sigurnosti I Upravljanja Lukama (Montenegro), Ministry of National Defence of Greece (Greece), Ministério da Justiça (Portugal), Universitetska Mnogoprofilna Bolnitsa za Aktivno Lechenie “Sveti Georgi” - University Multi-profile Hospital for Active Treatment “Saint George” (Bulgaria), Software Company EOOD (Bulgaria), Innovative Energy and Information Technologies Ltd (Bulgaria), IANUS Consulting Ltd (Cyprus)
Total Budget	**€ 7.666.225**
EU Funding	**€ 7.666.225**
Duration	**36 months**
Project Website	**https://respond-a-project.eu**

Global Response Against Child Exploitation

Description

The GRACE project is funded under Horizon 2020 – Societal Challenges - Secure societies - Protecting freedom and security of Europe and its citizens.
The use of the internet to distribute Child Sexual Exploitation Material (CSEM) is an abhorrent crime. Referrals from Online Service Providers (OSP) are key to fighting CSEM. OSPs, detection technologies and users reporting suspicious material are improving. However, this leads to an increase in the sheer volume of referrals coupled with the increase in the distribution of CSEM online that is pushing Member States' Law Enforcement Agencies (LEAs) to their limits and affecting their capacity to prevent harm to infants and children, to rescue those in immediate danger, and investigate and prosecute perpetrators.

The National Centre for Missing and Exploited Children (NCMEC) process has improved LEA capability. But, a typical CSE case contains 1-3 TBs of video, 1–10 million images. Limited human resources, manual analysis and the 4,000% increase in referrals since 2014 obligates a new approach.
GRACE will apply proven techniques in machine learning to the referral and analysis process while embracing the very technical, ethical and legal challenges unique to fighting CSE. GRACE will leverage resources already in place at EUROPOL and its 9 Member States' LEAs and attempt to provide results early, frequently and flexibly, prioritising easy wins in the research plan (e.g. deduplication).
By applying a Federated Learning approach to the challenge of optimising analysis and information flow, GRACE will enable cooperation between LEAs in improving their own capabilities and harness experiential knowledge. The results of GRACE will be handed back to EUROPOL and Member States' LEAs for unrestricted use in their missions, helping to ensure their future technological autonomy.



EU Programme	**H2020-EU.3.7.1.**
Consortium | Partner	Coordinator: Fundacion Centro de Tecnologias de Interaccion Visual Y Comunicaciones Vicomtech (Spain), Partners: An Garda Síochána (Ireland), Police Federale Belge (Belgium), Sheffield Hallam University (United Kingdom), Centre for Research and Technology Hellas (Greece), Ministerio del Interior (Spain), Cybercrime Research Institute GmbH (Germany), Cyprus Police (Cyprus), Ministère de l'Intérieur (France), Zentrale Stelle für Informationstechnik im Sicherheitsbereich (Germany), Enigneering – Ingegneria Informatica Spa (Italy), European University Cyprus (Cyprus), European Union Agency for Law Enforcement Cooperation (EUROPOL) (Netherlands), Inspectoratil General Politiel Romane (Romania), Inov Inesc Inocavao – Instituto de Novas Technologias (Portugal), Komenda Glowna Policji (Poland), Lietuvos Kibernetiniu Nusikaltimu Kompetenciju Ir Tyrimu Centras (Lithuania), National Instituut voor Criminalistiek en Criminology – Institute National de Criminalistique et de Criminology (Belgium), Ministerio da Justica (Portugal), Synelixis S.A. (Greece), Universidad de Leon (Spain), Web-IQ B.V. (Netherlands)
Total Budget	**€ 6.823.512,50**
EU Funding	**€ 6.823.512,50**
Duration	**36 months**
Project Website	**http://www.grace-fct.eu**

Interdisciplinary connectivity: Understanding and managing complex systems using connectivity science

EU Programme	**MSCA - ITN**
Consortium | Partner	Coordinator: University of Durham (United Kingdom), Partners: Jacobs University (Germany), AAI Scientific Cultural Services Limited (AAISCS) (Cyprus), European University Cyprus (Cyprus), University of Vienna (Austria), Universitaet Fuer Bodenkultur Wien (Boku Vienna) (Austria), Masaryk University (Czechia), Aix-Marseille University (France), Modul University Vienna GmbH (Austria), University of Groningen (Netherlands), University of Sheffield (United Kingdom), Environment Agency (United Kingdom), International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis (IIASA) (Austria)
Total Budget	**€ 4.030.279,92**
EU Funding	**€ 4.030.279,92**
Duration	**48 months**
Project Website	**https://iconn.network**

Description

i-CONN is a Marie Skłodowska-Curie Innovative Training Network (ITN) project funded under the Horizon 2020 programme. The network consists of 10 Universities and three partner organisations across Europe, and brings together scientists from Astrophysics, Computer Science, Ecology, Geomorphology, Hydrology, Neuroscience, Systems Biology and Social Science.

The goal of this ITN is to train a new cohort of researchers specialised in the developing field of connectivity science who will be capable of developing interdisciplinary approaches to connectivity across a range of disciplines and real-life applications in the next 5 to 10 years.

The overarching aim is to overcome barriers to progress in using connectivity science to understand and manage complex systems by learning from transdisciplinary perspectives to produce new insights into the behaviour of complex systems across diverse disciplines (Astrophysics, Computer Science, Ecology, Geomorphology, Hydrology, Neuroscience, Systems Biology and Social Science), and synthesise them into a common set of theories and approaches. To realise this goal, i-CONN will recruit and train 15 young early-stage Researchers (ESRs) to become experts with a unique skill set that includes interdisciplinary scientific techniques, through bespoke training courses and through a series of secondments to partner institutions across the EU.

Three research objectives are defined, each of which focuses on a specific challenge in developing connectivity on which ESRs will work on:

- Objective 1 - Developing the theoretical underpinning of connectivity science for applications in complex systems;
- Objective 2 - Development of a unified framework of methods and approaches that can be applied across disciplines;
- Objective 3 - Exploring applications of connectivity science to understand, adapt to and manage complex systems.

A dedicated work package has been created for each research objective, and each one involves the key activities of the network: research, training, and knowledge and expertise dissemination.

The training of ESRs will include:

- A network-wide training course in transferable skills specially developed and delivered by D-CAD (Centre for Academic Development at Durham), an award-winning programme supporting Early Career Researchers.
- A bespoke series of five advanced training courses and a datathon.
- Secondments between academic, private- and public-sector partners.
- Online training courses and seminars and a network conference.

Training the next generation of integrated fire management experts

Description

The PyroLife project is funded under Horizon 2020 - Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions – Innovative Training Networks.

The World Wildlife Fund (WWF) has warned Europe that climate change conditions – heatwave and droughts – are already resulting in stronger and faster-spreading fires.

From 2017 to 2018, super fires fanned by gale force winds left behind 225 dead in the EU Member States - Greece, Portugal, and Spain.
The EU-funded PyroLife project will train a new generation of experts in integrated wildfire management. Bringing together knowledge from different countries, scientific disciplines and practices, the project will provide 15 early-stage researchers the in-depth, interdisciplinary, integrated and transferable knowledge and skills required to complete their research and maximise future employability. This is the first large and integrated doctoral training programme on handling wildfires management globally.

EU Programme	**MSCA - ITN**
Consortium | Partner	Coordinator: Wageningen University (Netherlands), Partners: The University of Birmingham (United Kingdom), Imperial College of Science Technology and Medicine (United Kingdom), European Forest Institute (Finland), Fundacio per a la Universitat Oberta de Catalunya (Spain), European University Cyprus (Cyprus), Universidade de Tras-os-Montes e Alto Douro (Portugal), Institut National de Recherche pour l'Agriculture, l'Alimentation et l'Environnement (France), Tecnosylva SL (Spain), Fundacio d'Ecologia del Foc I Gestio d'Incendis Pau Costa Alcubierre (Spain)
Total Budget	**€ 3.946.980,96**
EU Funding	**€ 3.946.980,96**
Duration	**48 months**
Project Website	**https://pyrolife.lessonsonfire.eu**

Ears, Eyes and Mind: The ‘SENSE-Cog Project’ to improve mental well-being for elderly Europeans with sensory impairment

EU Programme	Horizon 2020
Consortium | Partner	Coordinator: The Provost, Fellows, Foundation Scholars & the Other Members of Board, Of the College of the Holy & Undivided Trinity of Queen Elizabeth Near Dublin (Ireland), Partners: European University Cyprus (Cyprus), University of Cyprus (Cyprus), Starkey Laboratories Inc. (United States), Dementia Pal Ltd (United Kingdom), University of Bordeaux (France), Université Côte d’Azur (France), Catholic University of Applied Sciences Freiburg (Germany), National and Kapodistrian University of Athens (Greece), ARRTIC (France), Erasmus Universitair Medisch Centrum Rotterdam (Netherlands), HorTech (Germany), Universitetet I Tromsoe - Norges Arktiske Universitet (Norway), Centre Hospitalier Universitaire de Nice (France), The University of Manchester (United Kingdom), Essilor International (France), ARTTIC Innovation GmbH (Germany)
Total Budget	**€ 6.868.286,25**
EU Funding	**€ 6.541.591,25**
Duration	**78 months**
Project Website	**https://www.sense-cog.eu**

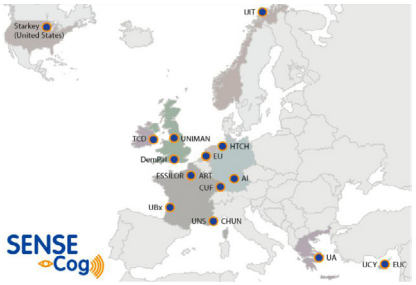
Description

The SENSE-Cog project, funded under Horizon 2020 – Societal Challenges - Health, demographic change and well-being, focuses on the combined impact of dementia, age-related hearing and vision impairment.
Mental, cognitive, vision and hearing health problems in elderly people are amongst the top 10 public health challenges in Europe. They frequently occur co-concurrently and have an additive negative effect on quality of life and mental well-being. To address this negative impact, and promote mental well-being, particularly from a gender and minority community perspective, SENSE-Cog’s aim is to:

- understand the inter-relationship of sensory impairments and cognitive and mental health functioning;
- ``identify novel means of screening/detection for diagnostic and therapeutic purposes; and
- translate this knowledge into clinical applications for the mental well-being of EU citizens.

SENSE-Cog will use a ‘mixed methods’ approach with a trans-EU, UK-led, multidisciplinary collaboration of 7 EU countries with academics, SMEs, city government and ‘patient-public voice’ members. Under the project there are Work Packages (WPs) reflecting the following themes:

- exploration: an epidemiological analysis of 5 large EU longitudinal databases to detect risk profiles for good and poor mental health outcomes;
- assessment: the adaptation/validation of assessment tools for cognition and sensory



impairment for vulnerable populations, including the development of a composite e-screen for sensory, cognitive and mental functioning;

- intervention: a clinical trial of a newly developed ‘sensory support’ intervention;
- participation: an EU ‘patient and public voice’ and innovative public engagement network to inform the WPs and communicate findings;
- valuation: health economic and cost effectiveness analyses;
- management, governance/ethics.

SENSE-Cog will promote earlier detection of sensory, cognitive and mental impairments to enable swift interventions, prevent deterioration and limit negative impacts.
The SENSE-Cog consortium consists of partners from academia and industry from eight countries, under the coordination of the University of Manchester, Prof. Iracema Leroi (Honorary Professor at University of Manchester and since April 2019 Professor at Global Brain Health Institute, Trinity College Dublin).

Promoting Energy efficiency & Developing Innovative Approaches in schools

Description

PEDIA is the first project that approaches the overall needs of the public school buildings in Cyprus, in order to transform them into nearly-zero energy buildings (NZEBs), while seeking to address chronic and long-standing issues like inadequate heating, cooling, lighting and ventilation. The project is funded under the Horizon 2020 programme.

The PEDIA project was conceived specifically to create a framework which will enable the Cyprus Ministry of Education, Culture, Sport and Youth (MoECSY) to improve the energy efficiency and indoor comfort levels of schools, using the technical help provided by the Project Development Assistance (PDA) through the Horizon 2020 programme, and building on previous results from the Interreg MED TEESCHOOLS project.

It is very important that the project is implemented during a time when the effects of climate change become more and more evident, and the creation of green, energy efficient, and sustainable constructions, is one of the core demands of the European Green Deal. Thus, PEDIA connects a wide range of actions aiming to bring change through the transition from fragmented, temporary and isolated solutions, to long-term, holistic and permanent approaches, where the school buildings, besides becoming zero-energy buildings, will constitute an integral part of the educational, pedagogical and social functions of the school.

More specifically, PEDIA, offers a complete methodology tool which includes environmental, energy and socioeconomic criteria, designed exclusively for the Cypriot public school building stock, where the interventions that need to be implemented are tailored for each school, so that they become energy efficient while ensuring the ideal conditions for the education process.

Twenty-five schools of all educational levels, will be thoroughly studied through the project, to meet the NZEB level, creating a solid long-term energy renovation strategy for a collective change for all public school buildings, as part of the official policy of the MoECSY. This will be achieved through interventions that will include thermal insulation for roofs and walls, window replacement, installation of shading, ventilation, LED lighting and photovoltaic systems, the adoption of efficient solutions for cooling, and the creation of green roofs.

Overall, PEDIA is a strategic project, which is estimated to bring 7.5 million euros in investments and aims to expand to 100 additional schools in the next years, with shared investments from national and European fund.

EU Programme	**Horizon 2020**
Consortium | Partner	Coordinator: Cyprus Energy Agency (Cyprus), Partner: Cyprus Pedagogical Institute, Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports and Youth (Cyprus)
Total Budget	**€ 500.000**
EU Funding	**€ 500.000**
Duration	**60 months**
Project Website	**https://www.cea.org.cy/pedia** **https://cordis.europa.eu/project/id/893938**

Hubs of innovation and Entrepreneurship for the Transformation of Historical Urban Areas

EU Programme	Horizon 2020
Consortium | Partner	Coordinator: Lisboa E-Nova - Agência de Energia-Ambiente de Lisboa (Portugal), Partners: CrowdfundingHub BV (Netherlands), Cyprus Energy Agency (Cyprus), Infrastrutture Recupero Energia Agenzia Regionale Ligure - I.R.E. SPA (Italy), Grand Angouleme (France), E-Zavod, Zavod za Projektno Svetovanje, Raziskovanje in Razvoj Celovitih Resitev (Slovenia), Universidade Nova de Lisboa (Portugal), Universiteit Utrecht (Netherlands), Energy Cities/ Energie-Cites Association (France), European Association of Historic Towns and Regions Limited (United Kingdom), Comune di Genova (Italy), Future Cities Catapult Limited (United Kingdom), Belfast City Council (United Kingdom), Lefkosia Municipality (Cyprus), Agentia Pentru Managementul Energiei si Protectia Mediului Brasov (Romania), Camara Municipal De Lisboa (Portugal), Gemeente Utrecht (Netherlands), Obcina Slovenska Bistrica (Slovenia)
Total Budget	**€ 8.135.105,12**
EU Funding	**€ 7.998.797,50**
Duration	**48 months**
Project Website	**https://energy-cities.eu/project/hub-in**

Description

The HUB-IN project (Hubs of Innovation and Entrepreneurship for the Transformation of Historic Urban Areas) aims to promote innovation and entrepreneurship in the Historic Urban Areas (HUA), while preserving the unique identity of the historic sites regarding their natural, cultural and social values.

HUB-IN adopts the innovation and entrepreneurship as the main drivers of urban regeneration in HUAs and it is fully aligned with the International agendas for Cultural Sustainable Development (UNESCO) and Cultural Heritage Strategy (Council Europe). HUB-IN will have two main stages. In the first stage, a network of Hubs of innovation and entrepreneurship (Hubs) will be developed in the HUAs of eight city partners and in the second stage, the resulting methods and tools will be upscaled to a global network of HUAs of follower cities.

The Hubs of Innovation and Entrepreneurship (Hubs) will test, demonstrate and pilot activities of co-creation and co-design in three meaningful clusters with potential for sustainable transformation of HUA:

- Cultural and creative industries including cultural heritage, activities such as craftwork, fashion design, visual arts, music, museums, film and video, video games, performing arts, festivals, fairs landscape design, architectural services etc
- New lifestyles including activities based on digital technologies, circular economy, social innovation, sharing economy and sustainability
- Endogenous Natural & Social Resources including reuse and readapt natural resources and social dynamics.

HUB-IN defines 12 specific goals, that will be achieved by the following methodology:

- Building an ecosystem of interconnected Hubs to accelerate urban regeneration in eight HUAs,
- Creating value in pilot Hubs, piloting social innovation and accelerating sustainable entrepreneurship in HUAs,
- Packaging, upscaling and exploiting the results and create collaborative global network of Hubs of innovation and entrepreneurship in HUA,
- reating a HUB-IN digital space.

HUB-IN is expected to help reverse the trend of abandonment and neglect of the historic heritage in a systematic way, which may lead to the creation of new sustainable opportunities for local traditional businesses and the development of new creative skills and jobs.

Urban strategies for Waste Management in Tourist Cities

Description

Europe's cities are some of the world's greatest tourism destinations. The socio-economic impact of tourism is extraordinary in cities, but it brings at the same time a range of negative externalities, including high levels of unsustainable resource consumption and waste production. In comparison with other cities, tourist cities have to face additional challenges related to waste prevention and management due to their geographical and climatic conditions, the seasonality of tourism flow and the specificity of the tourism industry and of tourists as waste producers.

The URBAN-WASTE project, funded under Horizon 2020, supported policy makers in answering these challenges and in developing strategies that aim at reducing the amount of municipal waste production and at further supporting the re-use, recycle, collection and disposing of waste in tourist cities. While doing so, URBAN-WASTE adopted and applied the urban metabolism approach to support the switch to a circular model where waste is considered as resource and reintegrated in the urban flow. URBAN-WASTE performed an analysis leading to a state of art of urban metabolism in 11 pilot urban areas.

The cities and regions which supported the project and acted as pilot cases ranged from islands and island cities, coastal touristic cities, coastal highly urbanised cities and inland touristic destinations. The cities and regions participating in the project are Florence (IT), Nice (FR), Lisbon (PT), Syracuse (IT), Copenhagen (DK), Kavala (GR), Santander (ES), Nicosia (CY), Ponta Delgada (PT), Dubrovnik – Neretva county (HR), Tenerife (ES). Parallel to the support, a participatory process involving all the relevant stakeholders was set up through a mobilisation and mutual learning action plan. These inputs were integrated in the strategies along with a review of the most innovative existing technologies and practices in the field of waste management and prevention. The strategies were implemented in the 11 pilot cases and the results were monitored and disseminated facilitating the transfer and adaptation of the project outcomes in other cases.

The EU project UrBAN-WASTE (Urban strategies for Waste Management in Tourist Cities) has developed eco-innovative and gender-sensitive waste prevention and management strategies in 11 pilot cities with high levels of tourism to reduce waste production and improve municipal waste management.

EU Programme	Horizon 2020
Consortium | Partner	Coordinator: Gobierno de Canarias (Spain), Partners: Technische Universiteit Delft (Netherlands), Association des Villes et Regions pour la Gestion Durable des Ressources (Belgium), Aarhus Universitet (Denmark), Ayuntamiento de Santander (Spain), Universität für Bodenkultur Wien (Austria), Kobenhavns Kommune (Denmark), Cabildo Insular de Tenerife (Spain), Waste Management Company DIAAMATH (Greece), Kobenhavns Universitet (Denmark), Comune di Siracusa (Italy), Institut d'Amenagement et d'Urbanisme de la Region d'Ile De France (France), BIOAZUL, SL (Spain), Sveriges Lantbruksuniversitet (Sweden), DUNEA doo za Regionalni Razvoj I Poslovne Usluge (Croatia), Consulta Europa Projects and Innovation SL (Spain), Agence Observat Amenage Habitat Reunion (France), Camara Municipal de Lisboa (Portugal), Universidad de Las Palmas de Gran Canaria (Spain), Ambiente Italia s.r.l. (Italy), Asociacion Hotelera y Extrahotelera de Tenerife La Palma La Gomera y El Hierro (Spain), Metropole Nice Cote d'Azur (France), Region of Epirus (Greece), Fundo Regional para a Ciencia e Tecnologia (Portugal), Linnéuniversitetet (Sweden), Lefkosia Municipality (Cyprus), Regione Toscana (Italy)
Total Budget	**€ 4.248.782,50**
EU Funding	**€ 4.248.782,50**
Duration	**36 months**
Project Website	**http://www.urban-waste.eu**

Research Centre on Interactive Media, Smart System and Emerging Technologies (RISE)

EU Programme	Teaming
Consortium | Partner	Coordinator: Lefkosia Municipality (Cyprus), Partners: Max-Planck-Gesellschaft zur Förderung der Wissenschaften e. V (Germany), University College London (United Kingdom), University of Cyprus (Cyprus), Cyprus University of Technology (Cyprus), Open University of Cyprus (Cyprus), Research Centre on Interactive Media, Smart Systems and Emerging Technologies – RISE Limited (Cyprus)
Total Budget	**€ 14.999.791,25**
EU Funding	**€ 14.999.791,25**
Duration	**84 months**
Project Website	**https://www.rise.org.cy/en-gb**

Description

The Research and Innovation Centre on Interactive Media, Smart System and Emerging Technologies – RISE, empowers knowledge and technology transfer in the region. RISE is supported by the European Commission, the Republic of Cyprus and its founding Partners, the Municipality of Nicosia, the Max Planck Institute for Informatics (MPI), University College London, the University of Cyprus, the Cyprus University of Technology and the Open University of Cyprus.

RISE, as a Centre of Excellence, cultivates a culture of innovation and creativity in an inspiring environment filled with academics, researchers, creative and onward-looking people, innovators, entrepreneurs, and practitioners. The Centre operates under the moto “Inspired by Humans Designed for Humans” with the vision to produce world class research that drives innovation towards social and economic benefit while conducting excellent, internationally competitive scientific research in the areas of visual sciences, human factors and design, communication, and artificial intelligence. It sets out to meet the challenge with a total potential funding of more than 30 million Euros for the first 7 years, from a Horizon 2020 Teaming Action and multiple other sources, and a business plan for long-term sustainability and growth.

Hosting RISE at the heart of the designated Creative Industries and Technology Quarter is part of the Municipality’s strategy to foster the development of an inclusive innovation hub and

vibrant creativity ecosystem. RISE mobilises significant knowledge networks and social capital to provide a solid scientific base that encourages the development and application of new technologies and innovative entrepreneurship that can support start-ups and established innovation companies.

RISE, through its Maker Space, a multifunction creative space open to the public; with cutting edge equipment and knowledgeable tutors and mentors, deploys scientific methodologies and state-of-the-art techniques into the research and product development pipelines of entities in Cyprus while minimising their risks and costs. The RISE Maker Space aims to offer researchers, entrepreneurs, students and self-made makers, opportunities to transform, share, test and perfect their ideas. The Co-working space is a space where start-ups and spin-offs; created by the researchers at RISE or by collaborating groups will have a place to work. Collaborating groups or diverse groups of independent creative professionals and individuals will be able to work in a shared setting. The RISE Co-working space aims to help those with common values develop potential synergies.

RISE adds to the pool of experts and innovators that exist locally by actively participating in pan European initiatives aiming to connect professional researchers across the world and through leading European partners, MPI and UCL. Utilising, in this manner, the resources of RISE results in the creation of multiple synergies increasing the opportunities for international entities to collaborate with Cyprus.

Finally, RISE aims to appeal to local youth, our next generation of innovators, and cultivate their interest in emerging technologies and STEAM-led education and equip them with skills, ambitions and networks to exploit opportunities that can transform the economy. These steps enable RISE to fulfil its mission, vision and objective.

Cyprus Center for Algorithmic Transparency

EU Programme	**Twinning**
Consortium | Partner	Coordinator: Open University of Cyprus (Cyprus), Partners: University of Sheffield (United Kingdom), University of Edinburgh (United Kingdom), University of Haifa (Israel), University of Trento (Italy)
Total Budget	**€ 999.965**
EU Funding	**€ 999.965**
Duration	**34 months**
Project Website	**http://www.cycat.io**

Description

Despite strong indications that Cyprus is now in stable economic recovery, and that the island boasts one of the highest rates of tertiary educational attainment in Europe, the picture painted regarding the level of digital skills among citizens is a dismal one.

In the 2017 Digital Economy and Society Index, Cyprus ranked 22nd within the EU, and belongs to the cluster of low performing countries. These findings are particularly worrying in light of the rapid changes taking place in the information landscape, such as the global consolidation of networked information services, and the rise of proprietary algorithmic processes that mediate citizens' access to information and opportunities.

The project, funded under Horizon 2020 - Spreading Excellence and Widening Participation – Twinning, will establish a network of researchers with key expertise in the areas of

informatics and algorithmic biases, enhancing the Cyprus Center for Algorithmic Transparency (CyCAT), a research centre at the Open University of Cyprus (OUC).

CyCAT will become the regional expert in issues of information access in light of algorithmic gatekeeping, working with local authorities, librarians and educators to promote algorithmic transparency and enhanced digital literacy skills.

Expected outcomes are:

- raising the international profile of the OUC researchers as evidenced by invitations to serve on committees, editorial boards, invited talks;
- increasing output in terms of number and quality of publications of OUC researchers;
- attraction of additional external research funds to sustain CyCAT.

Expected broader impacts include the creation of:

- digital artifacts through showcase projects that are relevant to Cypriots' information needs and that can help raise awareness of algorithmic bias in the systems they routinely use;
- educational materials based on CyCAT scientific outputs, that can be used by librarians and teachers;
- increased opportunities for young researchers engaged with CyCAT;
- increased dialogue on the importance of digital skills.

Advanced Cyber-security Simulation Platform for Preparedness Training in Aviation, Naval and Power-grid environments

EU Programme	Security
Consortium | Partner	Coordinator: Center for Security Studies (Greece), Partners: European Dynamics Luxembourg SA (Luxembourg), Center for Research and Technology CERTH (Greece), Cybercrime Research Institute GmbH (Germany), inCITES Consulting SA (Luxembourg), Sheffield Hallam University (United Kingdom), University of Peloponnese (Greece), MINDS & SPARKS GmbH (Germany), The University Court of Abertay University (United Kingdom), Airbus Cybersecurity SAS (France), University of Plymouth (United Kingdom), Open University of Cyprus (Cyprus), Ecole Navale (France), CybExer Technologies (Estonia), Athens International Airport S.A. (Greece), Thales (France), Darzhavna Agentsiya Elektronno Upravlenie - State e-Government Agency (Bulgaria), Institut po Otbrana (Bulgaria), Innovative Energy and Information Technologies Ltd (Bulgaria), Elektroenergien Sistemen Operator EAD (Bulgaria), CEZ Distribution Bulgaria AD (Bulgaria), University of Strathclyde (United Kingdom), University of Portsmouth Higher Education Corporation (United Kingdom)
Total Budget	**€ 7.292.435**
EU Funding	**€ 5.997.018,50**
Duration	**36 months**
Project Website	**https://foresight-h2020.eu**

Description

The FORESIGHT project, funded under Horizon 2020, aims to develop a federated cyber-range solution to enhance the preparedness of cybersecurity professionals at all levels and advance their skills towards preventing, detecting, reacting and mitigating sophisticated cyber-attacks. This is achieved by delivering an ecosystem of networked realistic training and simulation platforms that collaboratively bring unique cyber-security aspects from the aviation, smart grid and naval domains.
The proposed platform will extend the capabilities of existing cyber-ranges and will allow the creation of complex, cross-domain/ hybrid, scenarios to be built jointly with the IoT domain. Emphasis is given on the design and implementation of realistic and dynamic scenarios that are based on identified and forecasted trends of cyberattacks and vulnerabilities extracted from cyber-threat intelligence gathered from the dark web; this will enable cybersecurity professionals to rapidly adapt to an evolving threat landscape.
The development of advanced risk analysis and econometric models will prove to be valuable in estimating the impact of cyber-risks, selecting the most appropriate and affordable security measures, and minimising the cost and time to recover from cyber-attacks. Innovative training curricula, guiding cyber-security professionals to implement and combine security measures using new technologies and established learning methodologies, will be created and employed for training needs; they will be linked to professional certification programmes and be supported by learning platforms. Aside from the development of skills, the project aims at a holistic approach to cyber-threat management with the ultimate goal of cultivating a strong security culture. As such, the project puts considerable emphasis on research and development (i.e. research on cyber-threats, development of novel ideas, etc) as the key to increasing training dynamics and awareness methods for exceeding the rate of evolution of cyber-attackers.

An innovative people localisation system for safe evacuation of large passenger ships

Description

Safe and efficient passenger evacuation in case of an emergency is a hot topic in the IMO (International Maritime Organisation) today following the aftermath of recent cruise ship and ferry tragedies that received a significant amount of public attention. Even though the causes of these tragedies were different, they all highlighted in the most dramatic way the urgent need of robust technologies for efficient safe evacuation management.

The Lynceus2Market project, funded under Horizon 2020, meets this imperative need by introducing a number of technology products for safe and timely evacuation of large passenger ships. These products aim to fulfil the following two objectives, which would enable immediate response and action from the crew, and real-time situation monitoring and assessment by the officers:

- On-board passenger and crew localisation/ tracking during emergency evacuation from a ship.

Lynceus2Market products allow the ship's command to locate and track the passengers in real time in case of an emergency and provide this information to a centralised control system for an efficient assessment of the situation.

- Passenger and crew localisation after abandoning the ship, for search and rescue.

Lynceus2Market provides an operationally validated solution to search and rescue through the development of an innovative system consisting of products and processes that build upon pioneering wireless communications, wearable sensor networks, low power embedded electronics, localisation algorithms and decision support system technologies.

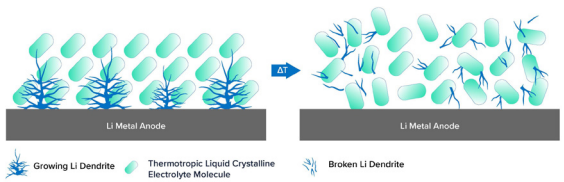
Lynceus2Market has successfully demonstrated and validated its products through large scale demonstrations, and has equipped the involved partners' cruise ships with innovative technology in the form of an integrated safe evacuation management system consisting of different technologies such as localisable life-jackets, bracelets and cabin key cards, smart smoke detector gateways, UAV and rescue-boat-mounted people localisation radars, people counting hand-held devices and intelligent decision support systems, providing a powerful solution for both on-board and overboard people localisation and tracking.

Piloting and demonstration activities during this project have produced a large-scale deployment of the onboard and overboard systems, over a period that spanned for more than a calendar year, providing feedback and insight on the system capabilities, user-acceptance, and market penetration capacity.

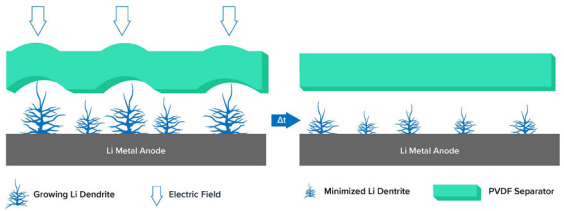
Market replication activities involved reports by market-driver players and associations within the consortium, dissemination activities promoted the project results, and standardisation activities have initiated an ISO standard for onboard people localisation.

EU Programme	**MG-4.2-2014**
Consortium | Partner	Coordinator: RTD Talos Ltd (Cyprus), Partners: Lloyd's Register EMEA IPS (United Kingdom), RCL Cruises Ltd (United Kingdom), Autronica Fire and Security AS (Norway), Celestyal Ship Management Ltd (Cyprus), SignalGeneriX Ltd (Cyprus), Foro Marítimo Vasco (Spain), Maritime Institute of Eastern Mediterranean (Cyprus), Asociacion de Empresarios Textiles de la Region Valenciana (Spain), Technische Universitaet Dresden (Germany), Safe Marine s.r.l. (Italy), CSEM Centre Suisse d'Electronique et de Microtechnique SA – Recherche et Developpement (Switzerland), G.G. Dedalos Technology Services Ltd (Cyprus), I. Panaretou – Char. Kostopoulos OE (Greece), Canepa & Campi s.r.l. (Italy), Ministry of Communications and Works of the Republic of Cyprus (Cyprus)
Total Budget	**€ 10.155.002,50**
EU Funding	**€ 7.260.975**
Duration	**42 months**
Project Website	**https://www.facebook.com/LynceusProject**

Hindering Dendrite Growth in Lithium Metal Batteries



Utilizing a liquid crystalline elecyrolyte and a piezoelectric separator to hinder dendrite growth in Li-metal batteries



EU Programme	**H2020-LC-BAT-2020-3**
Consortium | Partner	Coordinator: Teknologian tutkimuskeskus VTT Oy (Finland), Partners: Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique CNRS (France), CSEM Centre Suisse d'Electronique et de Microtechnique SA – Recherche et Developpement (Switzerland), Berner Fachhochschule (Switzerland), Belenos Clean Power Holding AG (Switzerland), Specific Polymers (France), RTD Talos Ltd (Cyprus)
Total Budget	**€ 3.993.476,25**
EU Funding	**€ 3.993.476,25**
Duration	**36 months**
Project Website	**https://www.hidden-project.eu**

Description

The HIDDEN project, funded under Horizon 2020, develops self-healing processes to enhance the lifetime and to increase the energy density of Li-metal batteries by 50% above the current level achievable with current Li-ion batteries.

The HIDDEN consortium develops materials and their processes to functional battery layers as scalable, industry compatible, manufacturing technologies enabling sustainable energy storage technology with longer battery lifetime and higher energy storage capacity for more efficient utilisation of sustainable, carbon free energy production technologies. HIDDEN will develop novel self-healing thermotropic liquid crystalline electrolytes and piezoelectric separator technologies, investigate both technologies with protective additives, and apply multiscale modelling means for electrolyte design and analysis algorithm to monitor the dendrite growth. Technologies will be upscaled from laboratory to industrial manufacturing processes, tested and finally demonstrated by assembling battery cells with battery layers and the temperature control system.

The project brings together a strong interdisciplinary consortium of seven partners, providing balance between industry and research, with state-of-the-art background in battery chemistry and physics, materials modelling and analysis, upscaling of novel technologies by printing and coating, as well as in industrial assembling of battery cells. This is complemented by an external advisory board with representation of key industry end-users.

Integrated cascades of PROcesses for the extraction and valorisation of proteins and bioactive molecules from Legumes, Fungi and Coffee agro-industrial side streams

Description

Agro-industrial residual biomass, side streams and food production by-products such as legumes, fungi and coffee are likely to constitute rich sources of valuable ingredients. Their potential is yet to be fully realised.
The PROLIFIC project, funded under Horizon 2020, will apply a range of processing technologies to agro-industrial residues of legumes, fungi and coffee in order to recover significant amounts of proteins/peptides, fibres and other value-added compounds.
Once extracted by economically and environmentally sustainable protocols, the outputs will undergo enzymatic modification and conditioning techniques in an upscaled, industrially-relevant environment. Ultimately, this will provide viable amounts of the compounds and fractions necessary to produce 16 prototypes for the food, feed, packaging and cosmetic sectors.
The PROLIFIC project's research, development and innovation activities and partners are streamlined around a core innovation cycle, principally driven by industrial end-users that know precisely what their customers need and the what are the technical and industrial demands of their sector.
The overall objective of the PROLIFIC project is to apply, validate and scale up an integrated array of processes for recovering significant amounts of proteins/peptides and other value-added compounds from the agro-industrial residues of legumes (seeds of peas, beans and chickpeas), fungi (cuttings and mycelia of different species) and coffee (silver skin and non-compliant roasted seeds). The PROLIFIC project will pursue the following specific objectives:

- map the availability and sustainability of the chosen feedstocks (legumes, fungi and coffee residues) during and after the project;
- define the specifications and compliance of residue-derived compounds with existing regulations;
- biorefinery extraction protocols for isolating proteins and bioactive compounds from plant residues;
- convert extracted fractions into valuable ingredients tailored to the specific final applications of industrial end-users;
- select, validate and demonstrate the use of extracted/converted fractions as ingredients in the food, animal feed, cosmetic and packaging sectors.

The overall impact of the PROLIFIC project is to address specific challenges posed by the valorisation of untapped biomass streams. Specifically, these include:

- addressing the present European food policy for the provision of safe, nutritious, high quality and affordable food to European consumers by valorising the increasing amounts of side-streams from the processing of legumes, fungi and coffee;
- becoming the leading solutions' provider for ingredients/additive alternatives or complementary to those currently available;
- contributing to meet the increasing demand for bio-based, active, and biodegradable molecules and polymers to be used for polymer formulations and applications;
- introducing and validating bio-polymers and green additives in packaging applications;
- growing the bio-plastics sector and thus mitigating climate change;
- contributing to produce new generation of functional feed products also aiming at reducing the dependency from antibiotics;
- contributing to produce innovative cosmetic products using more sustainable bio-based ingredients.

EU Programme	BBI.2017.R4
Consortium | Partner	Coordinator: Fachhochschule Nordwestschweiz (Switzerland), Partners: Università di Bologna (Italy), Innovacio I Recerca Industrial I Sostenible SL (Spain), Università degli Studi di Parma (Italy), Stazione Sperimentale per l'Industria delle Conserve Alimentari (Italy), Celabor SCRL (Belgium), IGV Institut für Getreideverarbeitung GmbH (Germany), Stolzenberger Reiner Erich (Germany), Bio Base Europe Pilot Plant VZW (Belgium), Conserves France (France), RTD Talos Ltd (Cyprus), Cosmetic - Tsatsos Georgios (Greece), Illycaffe S.p.A. (Italy), Nutrition Sciences NV (Belgium), Pleurette (France), Femto Engineering s.r.l. (Italy), Innovacoop S.r.l. (Italy), Università di Pisa (Italy)
Total Budget	€ 5.362.470,45
EU Funding	€ 4.672.383
Duration	48 months
Project Website	http://www.prolific-project.eu

Citizen and Multiactor Consultation on Horizon 2020

Description

The CIMULACT project, funded under Horizon 2020, had as a main objective to engage citizens and stakeholders in the co-creation of European research agendas based on real, validated and shared visions, needs and demands.
Our societies are changing rapidly as a consequence of a new conjunction of societal developments, such as globalisation, new technologies, multi-cultural societies, media developments, environmental and climate changes, new energy futures, etc. Solutions considered efficient to overcome these challenges twenty years ago, no longer seem adequate if we are to witness the future we dream of. A different paradigm is emerging, in which knowledge, visions and the power of creating action draws upon all relevant actors in participatory, co-creative and democratic processes able to handle the complex challenges that our societies are facing.
STI – Science, Technology and Innovation – is seen as one of the most promising paths for the EU to exit the current crisis, create jobs and improve the quality of life in Europe. The everyday life of the European citizen is thus greatly affected by the advances in Research and Innovation (RI). This calls for an enhanced cooperation with science and society in order to combine scientific excellence with social awareness and responsibility.
CIMULACT aimed to contribute to this development by establishing and improving a genuine dialogue between citizens, stakeholders, scientists, and policymakers where visions and scenarios for a desirable and sustainable future could be developed, debated and transformed into recommendations and suggestions for research and innovation policies and topics.

EU Programme	**ISSI-2-2014**
Consortium | Partner	Coordinator: Fonden Teknologiradet (Denmark), Partners: Fraunhofer Gesellschaft zur Forderung der Angewandten Forschung EV (Germany), Oesterreichische Akademie der Wissenschaften (Austria), Missions Publiques sarl (France), Strategic Design Scenarios SPRL (Belgium), Technologicke Centrum Akademie Ved Ceske Republiky (Chechia), Asociatia Institutul de Prospectiva (Romania), Applied Research and Communications Fund (Bulgaria), Greendependent Intézet Nonprofit Közhasznú Korlátolt Felelősségű Társaság (Hungary), Politecnico di Milano (Italy), The Association for Science and Discovery Centres (United Kingdom), Fundacio Catalana per a la Recerca I la Innovacio (Spain), Akademien der Wissenschaften Schweiz Verein (Switzerland), Helsingin Yliopisto (Finland), Teknologiradet - The Norwegian Board of Technology (Norway), Instytut Technologii Eksploatacji-Panstwowy Instytut Badawczy (Poland), Asociacija Ziniu Ekonomixos Forumas (Lithuania), Sia Baltijas Konsultacijas (Latvia), University College Cork, National University of Ireland, Cork (Ireland), Stichting Wageningen Research (Netherlands), Mediatedomain LDA (Portugal), Universita ta Malta (Malta), Slovenska Akademia Vied (Slovakia), Slovenian Business & Research Association (SBRA) (Slovenia/Belgium), RTD Talos Ltd (Cyprus), 4Motion ASBL (Luxemburg), Odraz - Odrzivi Razvoj Zajednice (Croatia), Statens Geotekniska Institut (Sweden), Atlantis Consulting SA (Greece)
Total Budget	**€ 3.414.383,08**
EU Funding	**€ 3.299.701,83**
Duration	**34 months**
Project Website	**http://www.cimulact.eu/**

Evidence and Opportunities for Responsible Innovation in SMEs

Description

The challenge of the COMPASS project, funded under Horizon 2020, was to collect and deploy evidence on how Responsible Research and Innovation (RRI) can be meaningfully integrated into extant innovation systems in European industry.

COMPASS pursued three overarching objectives by providing evidence for better uptake of RRI in industrial Research, Development and Innovation (R&D&I), fostering collaboration in three key innovation fields (healthcare, nanotechnology, ICT) and promoting responsible and sustainable R&D&I governance of highly innovative businesses.

To achieve these objectives, COMPASS built upon previous research and best practice cases on RRI, Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) and sustainable business models. It involved industry, research and civil society in co-creation processes from very early on in order to ensure usefulness, feasibility and ownership of results among the target communities. The ultimate aim of the project was to develop, pilot test and finalise an interactive online platform, the Responsible Innovation Compass. The platform deployed RRI visions and roadmaps for the three innovation fields, a Responsible Innovation Self-Check Tool for SMEs as well as audio-visual training materials and tutorials, short thematic guides, additional resources and promotional materials. It provided guidance and orientation tailored to the needs of innovative enterprises, particularly SMEs.

EU Programme	GARRI-2015-1
Consortium | Partner	Coordinator: WU Institute for Managing Sustainability (Austria), Partners: De Montfort University (United Kingdom), UCLan Cyprus (Cyprus), 'la Caixa' Banking Foundation (Spain), Strategic Design Scenarios (Belgium), European Business and Innovation Centre Network (Belgium), B Lab Europe (Netherlands)
Total Budget	**€ 1.505.945,63**
EU Funding	**€ 1.499.945,63**
Duration	**36 months**
Project Website	**https://innovation-compass.eu**

Shaping the ethical dimensions of smart information systems (SIS)–a European perspective

EU Programme	**Swafs**
Consortium | Partner	Coordinator: De Montfort University (United Kingdom), Partners: Universiteit Twente (Netherlands), EUREC Office (Germany), UCLan Cyprus (Cyprus), Trilateral Research Ltd (United Kingdom), Stichting Koninklijk Nederlands Normalisatie Instituut (Netherlands), Mutual Shoots Ltd (United Kingdom), N.A. Aequitas Ltd (Cyprus), F-SECURE OYJ (Finland), European Business Summit Network (Belgium), Schep Jan (Netherlands)
Total Budget	**€ 2.865.947,50**
EU Funding	**€ 2.865.947,50**
Duration	**42 months**
Project Website	**https://www.project-sherpa.eu**

Description

SHERPA, a project funded under Horizon 2020, is an interdisciplinary project, which investigates, analyses and synthesises our understanding of the ways AI and big data analytics impact ethics and human rights.

The project started in May 2018 and its consortium consists of 11 partners from six European countries representing academia, industry, civil society, standards bodies, ethics committees and art.

In dialogue with stakeholders, the project plans to develop novel ways of understanding SIS challenges, evaluate with stakeholders, and advocate the most desirable and sustainable solutions including technical and regulatory options (e.g., terms of reference for a regulator), as well as promote and implement the most promising solutions through targeted dissemination and communication activities.

Scientific Large Infrastructure for Computing/Communication Experimental Studies - Design Study

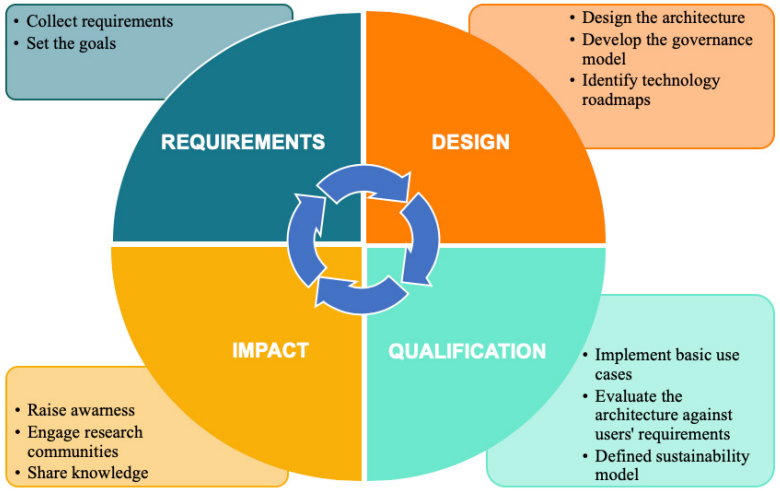
Description

Strengthening innovation capacity in digital infrastructure design.
The digital transformation of our societies is enabled by the design, deployment and operation of continuously evolving, complex digital infrastructures. The research community needs a test platform to address significant challenges related to their efficiency, reliability, availability, range, end-to-end latency, security and privacy.

The project SLICES-DS, funded under Horizon 2020, will design SLICES, a Europe-wide test-platform, to support large-scale, experimental research that will provide advanced compute, storage and network components, interconnected by dedicated high-speed links. The main aim of SLICES will be to strengthen the research excellence and innovation capacity of European researchers and scientists in the design and operation of future digital infrastructures.

Digital Infrastructures as the future Internet, constitutes the cornerstone of the digital transformation of our society. As such, innovation in this domain represents an industrial need, a sovereignty concern and a security threat. Without Digital Infrastructure, none of the advanced services envisaged for our society is feasible. They are both highly sophisticated and diverse physical systems but at the same time, they form even more complex, evolving and massive virtual systems. Their design, deployment and operation are critical. In order to research and master Digital infrastructures, the research community needs to address significant challenges regarding their efficiency, trust, availability, reliability, range, end-to-end latency, security and privacy. Although some important work has been done on these topics, the stringent need for a scientific instrument, a test platform to support the research in this domain is an urgent concern. SLICES ambitions to provide a European-wide test-platform, providing advanced compute, storage and network components, interconnected by dedicated high-speed links. This will be the main experimental collaborative instrument for researchers at the European level, to explore and push further, the envelope of the future Internet. A strong, although fragmented expertise, exists in Europe and could be leveraged to build it. SLICES is our answer to this need. It is ambitious, practical but overall timely and necessary.

The main objective of SLICES-DS is to adequately design SLICES in order to strengthen research excellence and innovation capacity of European researchers and scientists in the design and operation of Digital Infrastructures. The SLICES Design study will build upon the experience of the existing core group of partners, to prepare in details the conceptual and technical design of the new leading-edge SLICES-RI for the next phases of the RI's lifecycle.



EU Programme	**EU.1.4.1.1.**
Consortium | Partner	Coordinator: Sorbonne Université (France), Partners: Institut National de Recherche en Informatique et en Automatique (France), University of Thessaly (Greece), Mandat International, International Cooperation Foundation (Switzerland), Instytut Chemii Bioorganicznej PAN PCSS (Poland), Universidad Carlos III de Madrid (Spain), UCLan Cyprus (Cyprus), Consiglio Nazionale delle Ricerche (Italy), Interuniversitair Micro-Electronica Centrum (Belgium), University of Amsterdam (Netherlands)
Total Budget	**€ 2.914.175**
EU Funding	**€ 2.914.175**
Duration	**24 months**
Project Website	**https://slices-ds.eu**

CuDiCy

Power through Attraction: British, Greek and Turkish Cultural Diplomacy in Cyprus, 1945-1974

EU Programme	**Widening Fellowships**
Consortium | Partner	University of Nicosia
Total Budget	**€ 157.941,12**
EU Funding	**€ 157.941,12**
Duration	**24 months**
Project Website	**https://www.facebook.com/CuDiCy**

Description

The project “Power through Attraction: British, Greek and Turkish Cultural Diplomacy in Cyprus, 1945-1974” (CuDiCy), funded under Horizon 2020 - Widening Fellowships, investigates the cultural diplomacy of three states: the United Kingdom, Greece and Turkey, as it was practiced in Cyprus between 1945 and 1974.

Timely and relevant, CuDiCy aspires to set a new paradigm in the growing field of cultural diplomacy, by becoming the “study model” for an innovative approach towards the exploration of external cultural influence in countries which, historically and/or currently, accommodate ethnically diverse populations, for example Syria, Lebanon and the Balkans. The project contributes to the discussion about the conceptualisation of power, politics, authority and governance and, on the formation and transformation of identity. CuDiCy achieves this by tracing and analysing the ways state and non-state cultural actors influenced the progress of events in Cyprus, at a time when British colonial authority was being challenged locally and internationally, and during the emergence of Greek and Turkish nationalism. CuDiCy begins with Cyprus’s last fifteen years as a British colony (1945-60) which include a violent anti-colonial revolt (1955-59), it follows with the first years of the Republic (1960-74) and the first inter-communal conflicts between Greek and Turkish Cypriots (1963-64) and concludes with Turkey’s 1974 invasion.

Comparative and transnational in its approach, CuDiCy conducts novel historical research with present-day implications. It is original and innovative in the field, as it is the only research project attempting to retrace a historical network of cultural agents (British, Greek and Turkish) and their actions toward a specific target people, Cypriots, using a specific tool, cultural diplomacy. A distinct aspect of CuDiCy is that no less than three major national cultural forces (and more minor ones e.g. Maronite and Armenian Cypriots, French) coexisted on an island of half a million people. What also makes Cyprus an original case is that cultural diplomacy was not exclusively employed by foreign nations on foreign people (e.g. British and French targeting Cypriots) but more interestingly, cultural diplomacy was also conducted by Greece and Turkey, the accepted “mother-countries” of the Greek and Turkish Cypriots, to reinforce the existing cultural bonds between “mother” and “child”.

CuDiCy reshapes the discussion around what constitutes cultural diplomacy and who performs it (e.g. “mother countries”). It furthers the knowledge frontier in the growing field of global cultural diplomacy research by adding Greece and Turkey to the discussion, and expands the pool of knowledge on developed areas of focus such as the UK’s cultural diplomacy while being an empire. Furthermore, CuDiCy adds to the literature on the conduct of cultural diplomacy by competing ex-colonial European powers, such as the British and the French in the Middle/Near East regions at a time of competitive and overlapping national interests.

Dr Maria Hadjiathanasiou is based at the Department of Politics and Governance, School of Law, University of Nicosia. Her supervisor is Hubert Faustmann, Professor of History and Political Science.

User-oriented, secure, trustful & decentralised social media

Description

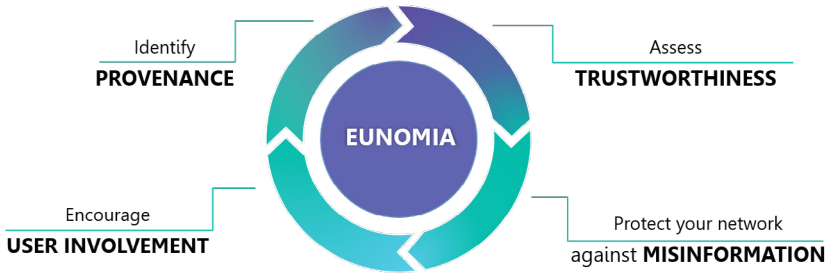
The EUNOMIA project, funded under Horizon 2020, provides a fully decentralised, intermediary-free and open-source solution for addressing three key challenges:

- which social media user is the original source of a piece of information;
- how this information has spread and been modified in an information cascade; and
- how likely it is to be trustworthy.

Although its innovations are applicable across any social network, its design philosophy makes it ideal for evaluation on similarly open, decentralised and federated new social media networks, thus contributing against accumulation of power in the large social media intermediaries located outside Europe.

EUNOMIA actively encourages democratic citizen participation in content verification by allowing voting on content trustworthiness and influencing the reputation of content generators and sharers. It combines information cascade verification with information trustworthiness scoring, benefitting from blockchain technology to ensure transparency of the scoring process and that information has not been modified in a cascade. It also places emphasis on ensuring that trustworthiness information is communicated transparently and accessibly. A General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) compliant and ethically responsible digital companion running as a local app on the user's device encourages the involvement of each user, while also carrying out the background processing for scoring and verifying content, and crucially for visualising to the user.

EUNOMIA uses social-science based co-design methodologies acknowledging and integrating users' experiences of social media, specifically in how they use and trust the information they interact with. EUNOMIA's versatility will be evaluated with large communities in social journalism and traditional media, as well as the largest user community of the most popular decentralised social media networks.



EU Programme	**EU.2.1.1.**
Consortium | Partner	Coordinator: University of Greenwich (United Kingdom), Partners: IT Hub s.r.l. (Italy), Trilateral Research Ltd (Ireland), SYNYO GmbH (Austria), INOV – Instituto de Engenharia de Sistemas e Computadores Inovação (Portugal), University of West Attica (Greece), University of Nicosia – EDEX Corporation (Cyprus), Österreichischer Rundfunk (Austria), Rochko Eugen (Germany), Software Imagination & Vision s.r.l. (Romania)
Total Budget	**€ 2.942.780,21**
EU Funding	**€ 2.454.799,65**
Duration	**36 months**
Project Website	**https://eunomia.social**

Tailored IoT & BigData Sandboxes and Testbeds for Smart, Autonomous and Personalized Services in the European Finance and Insurance Services Ecosystem

EU Programme	**Horizon 2020**
Consortium | Partner	Coordinator: GFT Italia s.r.l. (Italy), Partners: Atos Spain S.A. (Spain), IBM Israel - Science and Technology Ltd (Israel), Fujitsu Technology Solutions (France), Hewlett Packard Italiana s.r.l. (Italy), Singularlogic S.A. (Greece), Engineering Ingegneria Informatica S.p.A. (Italy), Innovation Sprint (Belgium), SIA S.p.A (Italy), Liberbank S.A. (Spain), National Bank of Greece S.A. (Greece), Aktifbank A.S. (Turkey), Bank of Slovenia (Slovenia), Poste Italiane - Società per Azioni (Italy), Banking and Payments Federation Ireland (Ireland), DYNAMIS AEGA (Greece), Genillard & Co GmbH (Germany), JRC Capital Management Consultancy & Research GmbH (Germany), Privé Services Europe GmbH (Austria), Crowdpolicy Private Capital Company (Greece), Wenalyze SL (Spain), Paris Europlace - Finance Innovation (France), Copenhagen FinTech (Denmark), Reportbrain Limited (United Kingdom), LeanXScale SL (Spain), Ubitech Limited (Greece), Innov-Acts Ltd (Cyprus), Unparallel Innovation Lda (Portugal), Roessingh Research and Development B.V. (Netherlands), Fondazione Bruno Kessler (Italy), National University of Ireland Galway – INSIGHT Centre (Ireland), UNINOVA - Instituto de Desenvolvimento de Novas Tecnologias (Portugal), Bogazici Universitesi (Turkey), Institut “Jožef Stefan” (Slovenia), University of Nicosia - EDEX Educational Excellence Corp. Ltd. (Cyprus), University of Glasgow (United Kingdom), Fundación para la Promoción de la Innovación, Investigación y Desarrollo Tecnológico en la Industria de Automoción de Galicia (Spain), Fundación Centro Tecnolóxico de Telecomunicacións de Galicia (Spain), DWF Germany Rechtsanwaltsgesellschaft mbH (Germany)
Total Budget	**€ 21.080.482,50**
EU Funding	**€ 15.870.480,63**
Duration	**39 months**
Project Website	**https://infinitech-h2020.eu**

Description

The INFINITECH project, funded under Horizon 2020, aims to provide the technological capabilities, the experimentation facilities (testbeds & sandboxes) and the business models needed to enable European financial organisations, insurance enterprises and FinTech/ InsuranceTech innovators to fully leverage the benefits of BigData, IoT and AI technologies. The latter benefits include a shift towards autonomous (i.e. automated and intelligent) processes, that are dynamically adaptable and personalised to end-users’ needs, while being compliant to the sector’s complex regulatory environment.
Big data, artificial intelligence (AI) and Internet-of-Things (IoT) are essential in our data-driven environment – in all facets of daily life. However, many financial or insurance institutions still face difficulties using big data technology due to complicated regulations and the lack of testbed resources. The INFINITECH project will essentially undertake an innovative effort to boost regulatory compliance and enhance directed investments. Leaders in finance and ICT will aim to provide novel Big Data/IoT/AI technologies for managing and querying all kinds of data along with data governance capabilities. These disruptive tools will enhance innovations in business sectors and support nine novelty testbeds and sandboxes to offer open application programming interfaces (APIs).

Advanced Personalised, Multi-Scale Computer Models Preventing Osteoarthritis

Description

The OActive project, funded under Horizon 2020, intends to make a significant leap forward, adopting a multi-scale holistic analysis where patient-specific information from various levels, including molecular (e.g. biochemical/inflammatory biomarkers), cell, tissue and whole body, were integrated and combined with information from other sources such as, environmental, behavioural and social risk factors to generate robust predictors for new personalised interventions for delaying onset and/or slowing down progression of osteoarthritis (OA).

OActive targeted patient-specific OA prediction and interventions by using a combination of mechanistic computational models, simulations and big data analytics. Once constructed, these models were used to simulate and predict optimal treatments, better diagnostics, and improve patient outcomes, overcoming the limitation of the current treatment interventions, Augmented Reality (AR) empowered interventions were developed in a personalised framework allowing patients to experience the treatment as more enjoyable, resulting in greater motivation, engagement, and training adherence. The AR element was also helpful for the therapists for validating the patients' progress and allowed them a more adaptive rehabilitation therapy in terms of flexible interactive content.

The main focus of the OActive was on knee OA (KOA) because this is the joint where OA symptoms most frequently cause significant loss of function and mobility.

More specifically the project objectives include:

- Mechanistic modelling framework of the musculoskeletal system which included the development of personalised neuromusculoskeletal models that could be used to predict knee OA onset and improve treatment. The development of novel calibration pipelines for the transformation of generic musculoskeletal models to personalised models by scaling anatomic geometry, kinematics and muscle kinetics and activation parameters. Equally important was the development of organ and tissue level models for the incorporation of detailed bone and cartilage models capable of predicting tissue responses following estimation of forces from the rigid body musculoskeletal models.

- Systemic health and inflammation modelling framework involved the development of a system of prognostic biomarkers of bone and cartilage degradation and synthesis as well as of inflammatory prognostic biomarkers for OA monitoring. At the same time, a behavioural, social, environmental modelling framework was created which assessed the physical activity of users though platforms of wearable body sensors as well as the effect of the socio-economical risk factors.

- Hypermodelling framework empowered by big data was developed which included data management mechanisms, data pre-processing algorithms, data mining techniques, ICT deep learning infrastructure and the design and implementation of personalised predictive Decision Support (DS) models.

- Ontology-based framework for data /models reusability and sharing aimed to employ model and data encoding and exchange standards for multiscale modelling, employ semantic web technology to make knowledge interpretable by web agents, develop modular approaches to ensure that self-contained models could be developed and validated independently before being incorporated into a hierarchy of imported models and ensure a certain k-anonymity using pseudo-anonymisation techniques.

- Personalised interventions using Augmented Reality (AR) which includes the development, analysis and validation of an AR gaming concept which provides personalised interventions to knee OA patients.

- Technology Validation tested the OActive system though clinical studies in human populations, in vitro clinical trials and in large data registries.

EU Programme	**SC1-PM-17-2017**
Consortium | Partner	Coordinator: University of Nicosia – EDEX Education Excellence Corporation Ltd (Cyprus), Partners: Centre for Research and Technology Hellas (Greece), Liverpool John Moores University (United KIngdom), University of Patras (Greece), Smartex s.r.l. (Italy), Katholieke Universiteit Leuven (Belgium), Center for Technology Research and Innovation (Cyprus), Leitat Technological Center (Spain), Fondazione Ri.Med (Italy), Time.Lex (Belgium), Axia Innovation UG (Germany), ANIMUS Recovery & Rehabilitation Centre (Greece), Fundacion Para La Investigacion Del Hospital Universitario La Fe De La Comunidad Valenciana (Spain)
Total Budget	**€ 4.984.033,75**
EU Funding	**€ 4.984.033,75**
Duration	**42 months** (6 months extension due to COVID-19)
Project Website	**https://www.oactive.eu**

APOLLO

Advanced Signal Processing Technologies for Wireless Powered Communications

EU Programme	**ERC Consolidator**
Consortium | Partner	University of Cyprus
Total Budget	**€ 1.930.625**
EU Funding	**€ 1.930.625**
Duration	**60 months**
Project Website	**N/A**

Description

The APOLLO project is funded under the Horizon 2020 - ERC Consolidator Grants.
Wireless power transfer (WPT), pioneered by Tesla, is an idea at least as old as radio communications. However, on the one hand, due to health concerns and the large antenna dimensions required for transmission of high energy levels, until recently WPT has been limited mostly to very short distance applications. On the other hand, recent advances in silicon technology have significantly reduced the energy needs of electronic systems, making WPT over radio waves a potential source of energy for low power devices. Although WPT through radio waves has already found various short-range applications (such as the radio-frequency identification technology, healthcare monitoring etc.), its integration as a building block in the operation of wireless communications systems is still unexploited. In addition, conventional radio wave-based information and energy transmissions have largely been designed separately. However, many applications can benefit from simultaneous wireless information and power transfer (SWIPT).

The overall objective of the APOLLO project is to study the integration of WPT/SWIPT technology into future wireless communication systems. Compared to past and current research efforts in this area, the project's technical approach is deeply interdisciplinary and more comprehensive, combining the expertise of wireless communications, control theory, information theory, optimisation, and electronics/ microwave engineering.

The key outcomes of the project include:
- a rigorous and complete mathematical theory for WPT/SWIPT via information/communication/ control theoretic studies;
- new physical and cross-layer mechanisms that will enable the integration of WPT/SWIPT into future communication systems
- new network architectures that will fully exploit potential benefits of WPT/SWIPT; and
- development of a proof-of-concept by implementing highly-efficient and multi-band metamaterial energy harvesting sensors for SWIPT.

ComPAS

Commercial Patterns Across the Sea: The interdisciplinary study of Maritime Transport Containers from Cyprus and the elucidation of Mediterranean

Description

The ComPAS project, funded under Horizon 2020 – ERC Starting Grants, aims at a clearer understanding of the seaborne commercial networks and interregional contacts among the Eastern Mediterranean communities of the 2nd and 1st millennia BC. Dr Artemis Georgiou and her team will undertake the comprehensive study of transport containers produced in the Syro-Palestinian coast, Egypt and the Aegean, which were imported to Cyprus in antiquity.

By means of a series of interdisciplinary analyses and the implementation of innovative methodological approaches for the study of ancient remains, the proposed research aspires to answer a number of critical questions: what was the origin of the transport vessels found deposited in the archaeological layers of Cyprus? What were their contents? How were these vessels constructed and what were the marking strategies involved?

The implementation of the proposed interdisciplinary research will provide a clearer understanding of the commercial contacts maintained by the ancient Cypriots with the communities in the Syro-Palestinian coast, Egypt and the Aegean, as well as the products traded but also the complex mechanisms associated with the production, transport and consumption of these vessels and their contents.
The ultimate goal of the research project “ComPAS” is to elucidate the intricate character of interregional commerce in the Mediterranean during the 2nd and 1st millennia BC and of the role of Cyprus within this complex network.

EU Programme	ERC Starting Grant
Consortium | Partner	University of Cyprus
Total Budget	**€ 1.254.300**
EU Funding	**€ 1.254.300**
Duration	**60 months**
Project Website	**N/A**

Biobanking and the Cyprus Human Genome Project

EU Programme	**Teaming**
Consortium | Partner	Coordinator: University of Cyprus (Cyprus), Partners: Medizinische Universitat Graz (Austria), Biobanks and Biomolecular Resources Research Infrastructure Consortium (BBMRI-ERIC) (Austria), RTD Talos Ltd (Cyprus)
Total Budget	**€ 14.999.975**
EU Funding	**€ 14.999.975**
Duration	**84 months**
Project Website	**https://www.biobank.cy**

Description

The term biobank first appeared in the literature in the 1990s. Since then, the number of biobanks worldwide has grown tremendously. These repositories of biological samples and data are associated with hospitals, research institutions, pharmaceutical companies and even patient organisations. They are playing an increasingly important role in healthcare research and delivery, particularly in personalised medicine. Genetically similar populations benefit from having their own repositories but Cyprus, as the last EU-member country to establish a biobank, is limited in its current patient samples and data. The CY-BIOBANK project, funded under Horizon 2020 - Spreading Excellence and Widening Participation - Teaming, is helping Cyprus significantly enhance its repository and promote research to benefit its citizens and their healthcare delivery by supporting the Cyprus Human Genome Project. The genetic investigation of diseases and eHealth are a

priority of the Smart Specialisation Strategy of Cyprus. The strategy can best be served by creating a Centre of Excellence (CoE) with two pillars:

- A contemporary Biobank research infrastructure that incorporates eHealth;
- A state-of-the-art research facility to support the Cyprus Human Genome Project and drive translational research, focused on genetic diseases, thus enhancing the European Research Area.

Biobanks are organised collections of medical records and biospecimens, aimed to support biomedical research, serving as repositories and distribution centres. Biobanking and genomics infrastructures in Cyprus are lagging behind of European levels, thus limiting the prospects for research and innovation potential.

The CY-Biobank shall upgrade the existing infrastructure, implementing high standard procedures and quality management systems for safeguarding data and material of the highest trustworthiness, for downstream investigations.

The CoE will embrace the entire research community of Cyprus and serve as an incubator for innovative ideas and as a tertiary medical and educational institute for the rare monogenic and frequent complex disorders, aimed at better patient care and precision medicine.

The CY-Biobank will adopt a patient-centric approach showing respect to sensitive ethical, legal and social issues, with the involvement of all stakeholders in the medical and patients' communities. The CoE aspires also to play a broader role by forming the MediEuro Network with countries in the Mediterranean and the Middle East, thus complementing efforts for bridging EU to this part of the world.

The Advanced Partners are the Medical University of Graz that coordinated the preparatory phase of the project for Biobanking & BioMolecular resources Research Infrastructure (BBMRI) and its subsequent European Research Infrastructure Consortium, BBMRI-ERIC, which represents the largest family of Biobanks in Europe.

Next-generation theranostics of brain pathologies with autonomous externally controllable nanonetworks: a trans-disciplinary approach with bio-nanodevice interfaces

EU Programme	**FET**
Consortium | Partner	Coordinator: University of Cyprus (Cyprus), Partners: Oulun Yliopisto (Finland), Fraunhofer Gesellschaft zur Foerderung der Angewandten Forschung E.V. (Germany), Waterford Institute of Technology (Ireland), Norges Teknisk-Naturvitenskapelige Universitet NTNU (Norway), Osaka University (Japan), E.P.O.S. IASIS Research and Development Ltd (Cyprus)
Total Budget	**€ 6.122.255**
EU Funding	**€ 5.982.255**
Duration	**48 months**
Project Website	**https://www.fet-gladiator.eu**

Description

The GLADIATOR project, funded under Horizon 2020 - FET-Open Challenging Current Thinking, envisions to establish a radical long-term vision leading to a drastic change in cancer monitoring and therapy. It will usher a paradigm shift in Oncology, with the introduction of “bio-nano-machine diagnostics”, and stimulate the implementation of the “Internet of Nano-bio-things”, leading to technological and clinical developments with high socioeconomic impact.

Brain pathologies are highly complex disorders. Despite recent progress, their prognosis is grim, defining a high societal challenge. Bridging life sciences, bio-nanotechnology, engineering and ICT, GLADIATOR promises a vanguard and comprehensive theranostic (therapeutic+diagnostic) solution for brain malignancies.

Through a multi-faceted breakthrough, GLADIATOR will provide, for the first time, a working prototype of a complete, autonomous and clinically applicable, nanonetwork-based, Molecular Communications system based on the conceptual framework of Externally Controllable Molecular Communications (ECMC). Using Glioblastoma Multiforme tumours, the most detrimental brain pathologies, as a proof-of-concept case, GLADIATOR will implement a platform of cell-based and electronic components.

High Performance Computing in Life Science, Engineering and Physics

Description

HPC-LEAP, funded under Horizon 2020 - Marie Skłodowska-Curie Innovative Training Networks, is a highly interdisciplinary joint doctorate programme realised by bringing together world-leading experts in applied mathematics, high performance computing technologies, particle and nuclear physics, fluid dynamics and life sciences to appropriately train researchers in Europe to exploit high performance computing, advance science and promote innovation.
Students will be trained in mathematical and computational concepts underpinning current and future numerical simulations in turbulent flows, computational biology and lattice Quantum Chromodynamics.
The research projects are designed to enhance collaborations and interactions across these disciplines, integrating non-academic partners, and to develop methodologies that efficiently use large-scale numerical simulations on future high performance computer systems. Students who complete this training program will be able to undertake highly interdisciplinary projects, well positioned to embark on a successful career in academia or the industrial sector.

EU Programme	MSCA ITN
Consortium | Partner	Coordinator: The Cyprus Institute (Cyprus), Partners: Bergische Universitaet Wuppertal (Germany), Rheinisch-Westfaelische Technische Hochschule Aachen (Germany), Technische Universiteit Eindhoven (Netherlands), University of Cyprus (Cyprus), Universita Degli Studi di Ferrara (Italy), Universita Degli Studi di Roma Tor Vergata (Italy), Stiftung Deutsches Elektronen-Synchrotron DESY (Germany), Imperial College of Science Technology and Medicine (United Kingdom), Forschungszentrum Julich GmbH (Germany), National Center for Scientific Research “Demokritos” (Greece), The Provost, Fellows, Foundation Scholars & the Other Members of Board of the College of the Holy & Undivided Trinity of Queen Elizabeth near Dublin (Ireland), The Chancellor, Masters and Scholars of the University of Cambridge (United Kingdom), Eurotech SpA (Italy), IBM Research GmbH (Switzerland), NVIDIA ARC GmbH (Germany), OakLabs GmbH (Germany)
Total Budget	**€ 3.667.663,72**
EU Funding	**€ 3.667.663,72**
Duration	**48 months**
Project Website	**http://www.hpcleap.eu**

Immuno-Predictor

Mechanical biomarkers for prediction of cancer Immunotherapy

EU Programme	**ERC Consolidator**
Consortium | Partner	University of Cyprus
Total Budget	**€ 2.000.000**
EU Funding	**€ 2.000.000**
Duration	**60 months**
Project Website	**N/A**

Description

Cancer immunotherapy causes severe toxicities in some cases, underscoring the importance of biomarkers that can predict non-responders in a timely manner. To address this issue, the Immuno-Predictor project, funded under Horizon 2020 – ERC Consolidator Grants, is working under the hypothesis that certain biomechanical aspects of the tumour microenvironment, such as tumour stiffness, solid stress, perfusion and hypoxia, are responsible for the resistance to immunotherapy.

Systemic administration of immunotherapy requires a well-perfused vascular system, and that is often not the case in stiff and hypoxic tumours. Using clinically applied, ultrasound-based methods and computational biomechanical modelling in tumour-bearing mice and cancer patients, Immuno-Predictor scientists will identify biomechanical biomarkers to predict immunotherapy outcome.

Immunotherapy has revolutionised the treatment of multiple cancers and has already become a standard of care for some tumour types. However, a majority of patients do not benefit from current immunotherapeutics and many develop severe toxicities. Therefore, the identification of biomarkers to classify patients as likely responders or nonresponders to immunotherapy is a timely and of tremendous impact task. The hypothesis is that biomechanical aspects of the tumour microenvironment mediate resistance to immunotherapy. Specifically, many tumours stiffen as they grow and also, tumour growth within the host tissue generates mechanical forces, termed solid stress. Tumour stiffening and solid stress are distinct mechanical abnormalities that compress intratumoural blood vessels, causing hypo-perfusion and hypoxia. Systemic administration of immunotherapeutics requires a well-perfused vasculature, whereas hypo-perfusion and hypoxia promote immunosuppression, helping cancer cells to evade immune responses.

The objective of the proposed research is the identification of novel Mechanical Biomarkers related to tumour stiffness, solid stress, perfusion and hypoxia for prediction of immunotherapy. Tumour-bearing mice will be developed and treated with immunotherapeutic drugs and clinically used methods will be combined with computational biomechanical modelling for measuring the Mechanical Biomarkers, making the research transferable to the clinic. The biomarkers will be benchmarked against tumour normalisation strategies aiming to restore/normalise mechanical abnormalities and optimise immunotherapy.

Finally, the clinical utility of the selected biomarkers will be evaluated in human tumours. Only few tumour-specific biomarkers are used in the clinic - based mainly on genomic analysis. This project is expected to lead to the first biomarkers for immunotherapy prediction exploiting tumour mechanics. `

MUTE | Soundscapes of Trauma: Music, Sound and the Ethics of Witnessing

Description

The MUTE project, funded under Horizon 2020 – ERC Consolidator Grants, investigates for the first time empirically and theoretically the use of music and sound in situations of confinement and displacement from the Cold War to contemporary times. It explores their weaponisation in light of transnational developments in technologies of terror. At the same time, it carefully attends to how music/sound can become a valuable tool of survival, even in the same setting in which they are weaponised. It also explores ethical and methodological challenges of research and music programmes for prisoners and refugees, providing alternative models.

Going beyond the simplistic dichotomy of negative and positive and the fragmented nature of case studies in existing scholarship, MUTE innovates through a theoretical framework that focuses on the ethics of sound and of witnessing, and of responding to trauma testimony in scholarly and artistic practice. Its historicised and comparative approach extends to colonial and post-colonial Cyprus, Greece, Germany, Soviet Union and contemporary Russia, Iraq, Argentina, Chile, Uruguay, Paraguay.

The team will consist of the Principal Investigator (PI), five collaborative researchers, four postdoctoral fellows, two PhD candidates, an MA student, a Research Assistant, a Project co-ordinator and a Technical Assistant. It will produce four international scholarly events (conference, symposium, workshops), two research meetings, an exhibition, podcasts, a journal and a website.

The PI will write a monograph that brings together all strands of MUTE, strongly focused on acoustic violence, human rights, community building and ethics. Also, four monographs (post-doctoral fellows), two edited volumes, an exhibition catalogue, 13 articles, and two PhD thesis will be produced. MUTE's multidisciplinary approach will contribute decisively and shape this emerging field of study, producing a work that maps, contextualises, historicises and theorises this complex phenomenon, changing current perceptions about music's social function.

EU Programme	ERC Consolidator
Consortium | Partner	University of Cyprusv
Total Budget	**€ 1.899.588**
EU Funding	**€ 1.899.588**
Duration	**60 months**
Project Website	**N/A**

KIOS Research and Innovation Centre of Excellence

EU Programme	**Teaming**
Consortium | Partner	Coordinator: University of Cyprus (Cyprus), Partner: Imperial College of Science Technology and Medicine (United Kingdom)
Total Budget	**€ 15.000.000**
EU Funding	**€ 15.000.000**
Duration	**84 months**
Project Website	**https://www.kios.ucy.ac.cy**

Description

The KIOS Centre of Excellence (KIOS CoE) project, funded under Horizon 2020 - Spreading Excellence and Widening Participation – Teaming, involves its significant upgrade from a research centre at the University of Cyprus into a world-class Centre of Excellence in Cyprus. The project involves the teaming with Imperial College London an institution with advanced research and innovation capabilities.
The project is a significant and an exceptional opportunity to establish a flagship research and innovation Centre of Excellence capable of stimulating the creation and growth of a regional industrial ecosystem with major economic and societal benefits for Cyprus and Europe. In the next few years, KIOS will employ 150-200 researchers, will develop significant infrastructure, develop new research activities, establish collaborations with industry and will capture new opportunities for innovation and entrepreneurship.

The project will help create a Centre of Excellence capable of boosting performance in research and innovation in Cyprus and most importantly provide employment opportunities for young researchers. The vision is to develop excellent interdisciplinary research on a global scale and produce new knowledge and important tools that can be applied to solve real-life problems by conducting cutting-edge multidisciplinary research and innovation in the area with emphasis on the Monitoring, Control, Security and Management of Critical Infrastructure Systems (e.g. power and energy systems, water networks, transportation networks, telecommunication networks and emergency management and response).
The KIOS CoE involves the development of a critical mass of highly qualified researchers to address challenges that are at the forefront of technology, both at the research and innovation levels. Moreover, the project is helping to establish significant infrastructure to support the development of innovative research and in turn enable KIOS to secure further research funding and to become sustainable in the long term.
The strategic objectives of KIOS include:

- Grow and enhance the human resources capacity of the KIOS CoE;
- Build the infrastructure capacity of the KIOS CoE;
- Expand the scope of research excellence in monitoring, control, management and security of critical infrastructure systems;
- Pioneer high-impact innovation and entrepreneurship in Critical Infrastructure Systems applications;
- Achieve long-term sustainability of the KIOS CoE;
- Contribute towards the transformation of the research and innovation culture of Cyprus;
- Establish an expanded and versatile organisational structure to support the KIOS CoE activities.

Neurodevelopmental Optimal - Predictor, Risk factors, and Intervention from a Systems approach to Maladjustment Children

EU Programme	MSCA ITN
Consortium | Partner	Coordinator: University of Cyprus (Cyprus), Partners: Jyvaskylan Yliopisto (Finland), Termeszettudomanyi Kutatokozpont (Hungary), Universite Catholique de Louvain (France), The University of Edinburgh (United Kingdom), University of Crete (Greece), National and Kapodistrian University of Athens (Greece), Silversky3D VR Technologies Ltd (Cyprus), Niilo Maki –Saatio (Finland), Regionaal Instituut voor Dyslexie BV (Netherlands), Pannon Egyetem (Hungary), Universiteit van Amsterdam (Netherlands), Cyprus Psychology Association (Cyprus), SUVAG Polyclinic for the Rehabilitation of Listening and Speech (Croatia), Mind's Eye Research Ltd (United Kingdom), Brain Products GmbH Soft- Und Hardware fur Neurophysiologische Forschungsanwendungen (Germany), The Research Institute at Nationwide Children's Hospital Corporation (United States of America)
Total Budget	**€ 4.102.768,08**
EU Funding	**€ 3.837.148,20**
Duration	**48 months**
Project Website	**http://www.neoprismc.org**

Description

The Neo-PRISM-C project, funded under Horizon 2020 - Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions - Innovative Training Networks, aims to study neurodevelopmental disorders (NDD), which emerge early in development and result in long-term disability, compromising the quality of life of millions of Europeans.

The purpose of the Neo-PRISM-C European Training Network is to train Early-Stage Researchers (ESRs) from multiple disciplines (psychology, neuroscience, data science) in applying the Research Domain Criteria approach, a novel framework for understanding psychopathology, to the study of the mechanisms of NDD, in order to inform and begin to test appropriate treatments.

Neo-PRISM-C is expected to further understanding of NDD and improve the competitiveness of EU health professionals and scholars, providing the market with highly-skilled researchers and clinicians.

ERA-Chair in Science and Innovation Policy and Studies

Description

The University of Cyprus (UCY) aims to acquire a world-class science and innovation research facility on campus via the SInnoPSis project, funded under Horizon 2020 – Widespread - ERA Chairs. It will fund the creation of the university's own ERA Chair in Science and Innovation Policy & Studies (SIPS).

The project's main goal is to attract and retain top scientists who will staff the new multidisciplinary research unit and ensure the maximum exploitation of the school's research capacity. The focus will be on science and innovation, particularly in economics and management, social and political sciences, philosophy, and information and technology. The Chair will serve as the Research Director of the foreseen SIPS research unit.

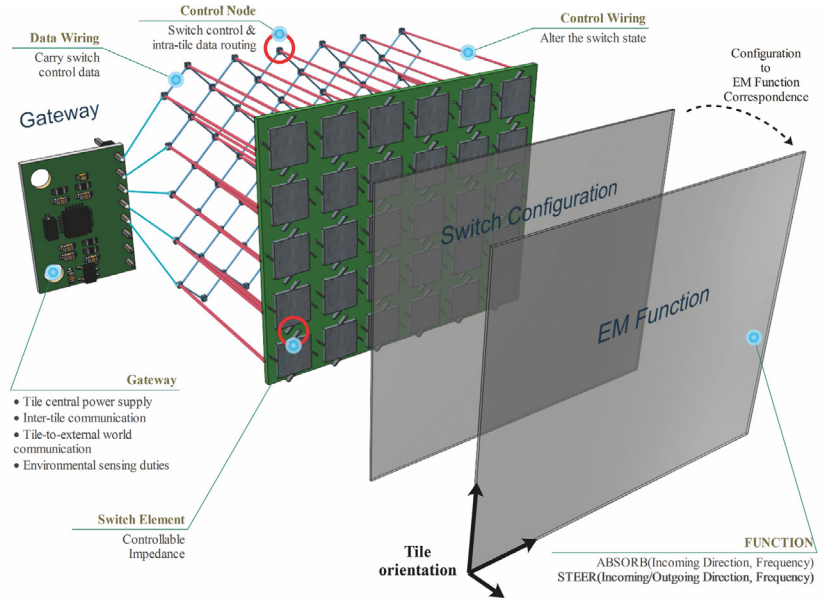
The ERA Chair in Science and Innovation Policy & Studies (SInnoPSis) aims to attract a high calibre academic in order to bring together excellent academics from the linked scientific departments and consolidate all related research activities at UCY. This vision will be realised by attracting and maintaining an international calibre professor accompanied by a group of exceptional scientists in the field of Science and Innovation Policy and Studies (SIPS), coupled with the establishment of a multidisciplinary research unit which will allow optimal exploitation of the existing research capacity and infrastructures of UCY and facilitate the gradual upgrade of the research activities in the field.

The principal thematic focus will be on the SIPS field, including all connected fields with emphasis on Economics & Management and secondarily, Social and Political Sciences, Philosophy and Information Technology. The Chair will be the Research Director of the foreseen SIPS research unit having full autonomy in carrying out a research programme formulated by them a few months after their recruitment. This will enable the ERA-Chair team alongside scientists from linked departments of UCY whose expertise ranges in these fields to produce cutting-edge multidisciplinary research output and innovative educational and training programmes.
The Chair will also create significant impact in Cyprus, by contributing with the expertise and research results of their group in advocating the Chief Scientist, the National Council of Research and Innovation and the Research Promotion Foundation in significant issues related to SIPS and the implementation of research and innovation policies in Cyprus.

UCY will make all necessary arrangements and institutional changes needed to attract top scientists for the ERA Chair position and facilitate their scientific autonomy and optimal impact of their research.

EU Programme	**ERA Chairs**
Consortium | Partner	University of Cyprus
Total Budget	**€ 2.500.000**
EU Funding	**€ 2.500.000**
Duration	**60 months**
Project Website	**http://www.ucy.ac.cy/sinnopsis**

A Hardware Platform for Software-driven Fuctional Metasurfaces



EU Programme	**FET**
Consortium | Partner	Coordinator: Foundation for Research and Technology – Hellas (Greece), Partners: University of Cyprus (Cyprus), Fraunhofer Gesellschaft zur Foerderung der Angewandten Forschung E.V. (Germany), SignalGeneriX Ltd (Cyprus), Universitat Politecnica de Catalunya (Spain), Aalto Korkeakoulusaatio SR (Finland)
Total Budget	**€ 5.748.000**
EU Funding	**€ 5.748.000**
Duration	**48 months**
Project Website	**http://www.visorsurf.eu/**

Description

Metasurfaces, thin film planar, artificial structures, have recently enabled the realisation of novel electromagnetic (EM) and optical components with engineered functionalities. These include total EM radiation absorption, filtering and steering of light and sound, as well as nano-antennas for sensors and implantable devices. Nonetheless, metasurfaces are presently non-adaptive and non-reusable, restricting their applicability to a single, static functionality per structure (e.g., steering light towards a fixed direction). Moreover, designing a metasurface remains a task for specialised researchers, limiting their accessibility from the broad engineering field.

The VisorSurf project, funded under Horizon 2020 - FET-Open, proposed a hardware platform-the HyperSurface-that can host metasurface functionalities described in software. The HyperSurface essentially merges existing metasurfaces with nanonetworks, acting as a reconfigurable metasurface whose properties can be changed via a software interface. This control is achieved by a network of miniaturised controllers, incorporated into the structure of the metasurface. The controllers receive programmatic directives and perform simple alterations on the metasurface structure, adjusting its EM behaviour. The required end-functionality is described in well-defined, reusable software modules, adding the potential for hosting multiple functionalities concurrently and adaptively.
VisorSurf studied in depth the novel and unexplored theoretical capabilities of the HyperSurface concept. In this context, two experimental prototypes were implemented:

- a switch-based fabric array as the control medium; and
- a Graphene based, making use of its exquisite properties to provide finer control.

A real pilot-application demonstrated the HyperSurface potential to adapt to changes in their environment, to interconnect to smart control loops and make use of Information Technology (IT) programming concepts and algorithms in crafting the EM behaviour of materials.

Water-Futures

Smart Water Futures: designing the next generation of urban drinking water systems

Description

The Water-Futures project, funded under Horizon 2020 – ERC Synergy Grants, aims to develop a theoretical basis for designing smart water systems, which can provide a framework for the allocation and development decisions on drinking water infrastructure systems, so that they are socially equitable, economically efficient and environmentally resilient, in line with the Sustainable Development Goals of the United Nations Agenda 2030.

The results of the “Water-Futures” project will provide the theoretical and practical basis to enable various stakeholders, policy makers and administrators of these systems to make socially acceptable and fair decisions, which will balance short-term decisions taken algorithmically in real time, together with long-term decisions concerning the transition and planning of new infrastructure for the evolution of urban water distribution systems.

In addition, the new scientific results will be applied to three exemplary studies presenting different types of systems: a mature and relatively stable system in the Netherlands, a mature and rapidly growing system in Cyprus and a relatively recent supply system in Mexico with high growth and specific challenges, which contain limited resources, intermittent supply and significant water loss due to leaks.

EU Programme	ERC Synergy
Consortium | Partner	Project Team: University of Cyprus – Prof. Marios Polycarpou (Cyprus), Bielefeld University – Prof. Barbara Hammer (Germany), Athens University of Business and Economics-Research Centre – Prof. Phoebe Koundouri (Greece), KWR Water Research Institute – Prof. Dragan Savić (Netherlands)
Total Budget	**€ 9.982.320**
EU Funding	**€ 9.982.320**
Duration	**72 months**
Project Website	**https://waterfutures.eu**


Erasmus+

Erasmus+

Description

Erasmus+ is the EU's programme which supports education, training, youth and sport in Europe and between 2014-2020 the programme's budget of € 14.7 billion provided opportunities for over 4 million Europeans to study, train, gain experience, and volunteer abroad.

The aim of Erasmus+ for the 2014-2020 period was to contribute to the Europe 2020 strategy for growth, jobs, social equity and inclusion, as well as the aims of ET2020, the EU's strategic framework for education and training. In 2014-2020, Erasmus+ also aimed to promote the sustainable development of its partners in the field of higher education, and contribute to achieving the objectives of the EU Youth Strategy.

Specific issues tackled by the programme included:

- reducing unemployment, especially among young people;
- promoting adult learning, especially for new skills and skills required by the labour market;
- encouraging young people to take part in European democracy;
- supporting innovation, cooperation and reform;
- reducing early school leaving;
- Promoting cooperation and mobility with the EU's partner countries.

The Erasmus+ programme for 2014-2020 implemented the following actions in order to achieve its objectives:

- Key Action 1 - Learning Mobility of Individuals
- Key Action 2 - Co-operation for Innovation and Exchange of Good Practices
- Key Action 3 - Support for Policy Reform
- Jean Monnet Activities
- Sport

Developing Strategies for Adult Education Providers and Adult Educators

Description

DIMA 2.0 – Developing Strategies for Adult Education Providers', is a project, funded under Key Action 2 - Strategic Partnerships for Adult Education of the Erasmus+ programme, that serves two important needs:

i) to improve the quality of adult education provided across Europe and raise the participation rates; and
ii) to better monitor effectiveness of adult learning policies and strategies.

DIMA 2.0 builds on the existing knowledge developed by the consortium partners and aims at supporting the professional development of adult education providers to improve and extend the supply of high-quality learning opportunities tailored to the needs of low-skilled/low qualified individuals.
The primary target groups for this project include, adult education providers, adult educators working with low-skilled/low qualified adult learners, and adult learners.
The project objectives are fully aligned with the EU priorities and are the following:
i) Support adult education providers to design, implement, and monitor effective strategies for reaching out to low skilled adults and facilitate their access to up-skilling pathways.
ii) Build the competences of adult education providers and adult educators to design more effective programmes for low-skilled or low-qualified adults.
iii) Improve the supply of high-quality learning opportunities tailored to the needs of low-skilled or low qualified adults.
iv) Improve the digital competencies of adult educators to better serve adult learners.
v) Enhance synergies and complementarities among adult education providers, public authorities and the labour market.
The outputs of the project are the following:

- IO1 - Toolkit for developing and monitoring strategies for adult education providers;
- IO2 – Curriculum; an
- IO3 - eLearning space and OERs.

The DIMA 2.0 consortium includes 6 partner organisations, which are experts in the field of adult education, from 4 countries. By cooperating in a transnational adult education oriented participatory context, project partners will be able to develop innovative outputs and exchange practices and ideas to expand the adult education providers' knowledge and practice and to improve and extend the supply of high-quality learning opportunities tailored to the needs of low-skilled or low-qualified individuals.
The DIMA 2.0 project is expected to reach directly and indirectly at least 2000 adult educators through the project's outputs, implementation and dissemination activities (news on social media pages, e-learning space, websites). Additionally, at least 2,000 low-qualified and/or low skilled-adults will be reached directly or indirectly through the project's activities and implementation, and via online means. At the same time, 1000 relevant stakeholders (public authorities, educational institutes, ministries) in all partner countries will be reached through communication via media and through cooperation in the development of project's resources, and contact in relevant activities.

EU Programme	**KA2 Strategic Partnerships for Adult Education**
Consortium | Partner	Coordinator: Centre for Advancement of Research and Development in Educational Technology Ltd - CARDET (Cyprus), Partners: Ministry of Education and Culture (Cyprus), European Association for the Education of Adults (Belgium), Fundacion Coremsa (Spain), Innovade LI Ltd (Cyprus), Future in Perspective Limited (Ireland)
Total Budget	**€ 190.562**
EU Funding	**€ 190.562**
Duration	**24 months**
Project Website	**http://www.dima-project.eu**

Safety Toolkit for Consumer and Personal Data Protection for the Elderly during Internet Use

Description

The e-Protect project, funded under Key Action 2 – Strategic Partnerships for Adult Education of the Erasmus+ programme, addresses the consumer and data protection needs during internet use of the elderly people through their familiarisation with the use of ICT tools, by providing them tailored training opportunities. Elderly people often feel security anxiety captured by internet safety perception and have doubts, such as the fear of misuse of credit cards when entering data online. They do not know safety processes that need to be followed in relation to giving out personal and credit card information over email and the internet, and they are not aware of how to gain advice about information security and virus protection. In general, not knowing what and whom to trust is a significant downside of computer use for some of the older users.

The primary target group of the e-Protect project which is elderly people (people older than 65 years) will be empowered to develop their self-confidence when using the internet and thus support their improved integration in the labour market and the society. Adult educators will also be the project's target group as it is expected during the project to enhance their capacity for quality implementation of innovations in the field of adult learning, especially while working with the elderly population, by using digital tools and services.

The e-Protect project will offer rich informational material which will be freely available online for everyone interested in learning more about internet safety for the elderly and will include the following:

- research data and guides for the mapping of competences on internet safety for the elderly;
- competency scale for consumer and data protection;
- e-Protect curricula for internet safety for the elderly;
- e-Protect train-the-trainer toolkit for adult educators;
- five national reports on the e-Protect pilot programme implementations for the elderly;
- transnational report on the e-Protect pilot programme implementations for the elderly.

The long-term benefits for the elderly are, healthy aging as a construct related to well-being, higher quality of life, and adaptation to the technological changes of EU societies. The empowerment of the elderly is of benefit to the wider society, as project partners believe that it is extremely important to support elderly people to become acquainted with digital technologies and actively engage in the EU Digital Single Market. At the same time, adult educators will increase their capacity and professionalism with regards to training elderly people for consumer and data protection during online activities; use the e-Protect Competency Scale for consumer and data protection, Curricula and Train-the-Trainer Toolkit during educational actions in order to create a positive and productive environment that supports learning.

The project will reach more than 2000 individuals and organisations in France, Greece, Ireland, Cyprus and generally across the EU. It is expected that various stakeholders will benefit from all the project's outputs, informational and educational resources, which they can freely utilise and incorporate in their activities.

EU Programme	**KA2 Strategic Partnerships for Adult Education**
Consortium | Partner	Coordinator: Centre for Advancement of Research and Development in Educational Technology Ltd - CARDET (Cyprus), Partners: Innovade LI Ltd (Cyprus), The Rural Hub CLG (Ireland), KMOP - Family & Childcare Centre (Greece), e-Seniors: Initiation des Seniors aux NTIC Association (France)
Total Budget	**€ 198.425**
EU Funding	**€ 198.425**
Duration	**24 months**
Project Website	**https://www.eprotect-project.eu**

The Science of Sexuality Education and Youth Work

EU Programme	KA2 Strategic Partnerships for Youth
Consortium | Partner	Coordinator: Centre for Advancement of Research and Development in Educational Technology Ltd - CARDET (Cyprus), Partners: Cyprus Family Planning Association (Cyprus), KMOP - Family & Childcare Centre (Greece), Europese Confederatie van Organisaties voor Jeugdcentra ECYC Vereniging (Belgium), The Rural Hub CLG (Ireland), Motion Digital s.r.o (Czechia)
Total Budget	€ 162.766
EU Funding	€ 162.766
Duration	24 months
Project Website	https://www.safeyouth.eu

Description

The SAFE YOUTH project, funded under Key Action 2 – Strategic Partnerships for Youth of the Erasmus+ programme, focuses on supporting and empowering youth workers combating the social obstacles young people face nowadays, because of their gender, sexual orientation and mental health status and help youth to build resilience and improve their well-being.
The project's objectives, which are also in line with the European Youth Strategy 2019 - 2027 and the ERASMUS+ Guide 2020 in the field of Youth, are to:

i) educate and support youth workers and trainers' acquisition of sexuality education, mental health, resilience and well- being competences by developing learning resources and innovative tools using non-formal education;

ii) empower the development of attitudes of self-respect and self-value of youth target groups by developing a visual online space where all the open education resources & gamified learning resources produced will be available (learning kit, visual storytelling, digital escape rooms);

iii) increase knowledge and awareness of youth workers and young people, regarding social inclusion, sexuality education, mental health, resilience and well-being issues building on European values through the implementations and study visits which will take place during the project;

iv) stimulate youth workers to connect, engage and empower youth to challenge the social taboos and stereotypes building more inclusive social environments; and

v) contribute to practice policy development regarding sexuality education and validation and recognition of youth work at national and EU level.
To achieve the above, the involvement and expertise of organisations of different types is needed (NGOs dedicated to youth, civil society organisations, technical partners) to highlight their needs and to bring in experience and expertise to support youth that is applied in different European countries (Cyprus, Belgium, Czechia, Greece, Ireland).
SAFE YOUTH aims to reach 10,000 individuals during its lifecycle and more than 50,000 people in the long-term. Specifically, more than 2000 young people, with a special focus on marginalised youth who seek of support, 2000 youth workers, 200 policy decision makers, and more than 100 other stakeholders will be reached directly and indirectly with various means.
Through innovative learning modules that will be developed in the learning kit of the project touching sensitive issues, an online visual space which also includes visual storytelling/ narratives, digital escape rooms in the form of challenge-based learning activities, and a policy and practice report, SAFE YOUTH will raise awareness, educate, and support key stakeholders, youth workers and youth, including marginalised youth, throughout Europe regarding the importance of sexuality education, mental health and well- being of youth. The active involvement of youth workers will empower the field of youth work and lead young people to a more socially inclusive environment.

Building School-Wide Inclusive, Positive and Equitable Learning Environments Through a Systems-Change Approach

Description

The SWPBS project, funded under Key Action 3 – Policy experimentations of the Erasmus+ programme, aims to establish an inclusive non-discriminatory social culture and necessary socio-emotional and behavioural support for all children in a school across four EU countries (Cyprus, Finland, Greece and Romania). The SWPBS project is based on Positive Behaviour Support (PBS), a scientific approach that provides the organisational framework to school staff to act preventively with the support of external coaches. Attention is placed on creating and sustaining Tier 1 (universal), Tier 2 (targeted group), and Tier 3 (individual) systems of support.

The SWPBS project aims to promote the problem-solving model, where school administration and staff try to identify their school needs, design and execute an action plan and assess its implementation. Instead of "fixing individuals' problem behaviours", the SWPBS project aims to redesign the context and give a more prominent role to the active involvement of the stakeholders in a context. The SWPBS problem-solving framework provides teachers with evidence-based instructional practices and classroom management skills to create inclusive, positive classroom environments for all students. Furthermore, the project follows a systems-change approach, which means that the biggest impact is on improving student behavioural and academic outcomes, and school climate and teacher work satisfaction will come as a result after working with the entire school. In addition, the school becomes the "host environment" for preventing severe behavioural issues by training and coaching school staff to adopt and use evidence-based practices.

For primary prevention (Tier 1), a group of 92 primary schools were targeted in Cyprus, Greece and Romania to participate in the SWPBS project over a two-year period. The rationale for focusing at the primary level is that it allows public authorities to investigate the SWPBS systems-change approach more carefully with smaller-sized schools, so that any future steps of expanding SWPBS to middle and/or high-school level will be carefully planned. Utilising a randomised wait-list control design, half of the schools received intervention (i.e., primary prevention) in Year 1 and the remaining schools are now participating in primary prevention in Year 2. All primary schools implement elements of primary prevention over an 8-month intervention period each year. External coaches were trained to support primary schools and the main measures include student and teacher perceptions on classroom behavioural climate and problem behaviours in school, as well as fidelity assessment.

For secondary (Tier 2) and tertiary (Tier 3) prevention, a series of quantitative experimental single-case research designs will be conducted to examine the effects of additional intervention support (i.e., CICO, CICO+) on students who would not respond to primary prevention in Finland.

EU Programme	KA3 Policy experimentations
Consortium | Partner	Coordinator: Centre for Advancement of Research and Development in Educational Technology Ltd - CARDET (Cyprus), Partners: Cyprus Pedagogical Institute (Cyprus), Innovade LI Ltd (Cyprus), Jyvaskylan Yliopisto (Finland), Kontiolahden Kunta (Finland), City of Varkaus (Finland), Lappeenrannan Kaupunki (Finland), Aristotelio University of Thessaloniki (Greece), PDPDE - Regional Directorate of Primary and Secondary Education (Greece), Universitea din Pitesti (Romania), Inspectoratul Scolar Judetean Arges (Romania)
Total Budget	**€ 2.265.916**
EU Funding	**€ 1.669.435**
Duration	**36 months**
Project Website	**https://www.pbiseurope.org**

European Centre of Vocational Excellence in Microelectronics

EU Programme	European Centre of Vocational Excellence
Consortium | Partner	Coordinator: Technical University of Sofia (Bulgaria), Partners: MASHO EOOD (Bulgaria), J-ArtEck Jugendbildungsstätte e.V. (Germany), SEMI EUROPE GMBH (Germany), Technical University Berlin (Germany), EXOLAUNCH GMBH (Germany), IAL Innovazione Apprendimento Lavoro Friuli Venezia Giulia srl (Italy), Romit Ltd (Bulgaria), Associazione CIMEA (Centro di informazione sulla mobilità e le equivalenze accademiche) (Italy), Institut National d'Energie Solaire, INES-Formation (France), Pôle SCS (France), Asociación Nacional de Centros de Formación con Certificado de Profesionalidad (Spain), Confederación Española de la Pequeña y Mediana Empresa CEPYME (Spain), Universidad Nacional de Educacion a Distancia (Spain), Cyprus Productivity Centre (Cyprus), Cyprus Chamber of Commerce and Industry (Cyprus), European Association of Career Guidance (Cyprus), European Centre for Women and Technology (ECWT) (Norway), Student Computer Art Society (SCAS) (Bulgaria), Bulgarian Industrial Association (Bulgaria), COMET SCRL (Italy)
Total Budget	€ 4.988.113
EU Funding	€ 3.990.321
Duration	48 months
Project Website	https://www.ecovem.eu

Description

The ECoVEM project, funded under Erasmus+, brings together VET centres, polytechnics, industrial associations, social partners to establish European Cooperation platform of Vocational Excellence in Microelectronics to tackle the challenges of digitalization, artificial intelligence, green technologies, gender equality and technology, integration of migrants. ECoVEM builds on and complements the strengths of national VET systems in countries with more-advanced VET and supports the not so advanced regions to achieve VET excellence. ECoVEM implements innovative instructional approaches towards life-long capacity to self-regulate learning, hard skills and soft skills using the ecosystems-based theoretical models and performance support systems. ECoVEM contributes to the sustainable VET governance at national and EU levels through involvement of policy makers in VET and employment, social partners, industrial associations and companies for:

- lifelong teacher training and stimuli for raised teacher's qualification
- implementing the advanced countries' best practices and approaches to excellence in VET into less advanced regions
- efficient financial models for VET including work
- based and apprenticeship and for investment in VET and applied research
- rising the role of VET in Smart Specialisation Strategies.

ECoVEM embodies excellence in VET with 21 partners from 7 countries representing CoVEs for EQF 3-8, industry with national and EU industry associations, regulatory bodies in accreditation and certification and social organisations of women in technology and immigrants.

Strategic Thinking on Diversity Management and Inclusion in the Workplace

Description

The DIMAIN project, funded under Key Action 2 - Strategic Partnerships for Vocational Education and Training of the Erasmus+ programme, aimed to promote social inclusion and ensure equal opportunities for all people in working environments through fostering diversity thinking and implementation of inclusive practices in companies and organisations.

Effective Diversity Management is proven to produce significant benefits in terms of recruitment and staff retention, creativity, problem-solving and customer engagement. Not only companies can increase their profit margins through efficiency savings and innovation, but the employed individuals also benefit, resulting in increased levels of job satisfaction and employee loyalty.

The outcomes of the project were to:

- launch, host, and manage the National Diversity Charter in partner countries, which creates awareness, goes a long way towards managing diversity, and promotes inclusion;
- develop and disseminate a Practical Guide, approaches, and activities that will support inclusion and diversity and ultimately reduce discrimination and social inequality within the workplace and the wider society;
- provide training and professional development to managers, HR, personnel specialists, and adult educators, equipping them with the necessary knowledge, attitudes and competences to successfully manage and support diversity and inclusion at the workplace; and
- provide an OER platform that enables the target group and stakeholders to develop networks of practitioners who implement diversity management and inclusion practices, measures and/or policies.

EU Programme	**KA2 Strategic Partnerships for Vocational Education and Training**
Consortium | Partner	Coordinator: VSI Diversity Development Group (Lithuania), Partners: SOPA (Lithuania), Personalo Valdymo Profesionalų Asociacija (Lithuania), Open Centre (Latvia), Cell of Alternative Youth Activities (Kyttaro Enallaktikon Anazitiseon Neon) (Greece), Center for Social Innovation Ltd (Cyprus)
Total Budget	**€ 124.766**
EU Funding	**€ 124.766**
Duration	**24 months**
Project Website	**http://www.dimain.eu**

Fighting gENder bias and Contributing in gender Equity

EU Programme	**KA2 Strategic Partnerships for Adult Education**
Consortium | Partner	Coordinator: DACORUM Council for Voluntary Service (United Kingdom), Partners: Programma Integra for Voluntary Service (Italy), Xenios Polis. Culture, Science and Action (Greece), CSI Center for Social Innovation Ltd (Cyprus), Asociacion Instituto Europeo De Estudios Para la Formacion y el Desarrollo, DOCUMENTA, (Spain), INOVA Consultancy (United Kingdom), SC Gripen Europe s.r.l (Romania)
Total Budget	**€ 271.240**
EU Funding	**€ 271.240**
Duration	**24 months**
Project Website	**https://www.fence-project.eu**

Description

The idea of the project FENCE, funded under Key Action 2 - Strategic Partnerships for Adult Education of the Erasmus+ programme, derives from the discussion around gender stereotyping which limits the development of the natural talents and abilities of women and men, as well as their educational and professional experiences and life opportunities in general. Stereotypes and bias about gender can cause unequal and unfair treatment and cause personal or social perception and reflections concerning for example, personality traits, domestic behaviours, occupation and physical appearance, with all the discrimination and inequality they can cause against women. This realty demands for continuous and coordinated actions and training tools as a process to make different key-actors 'gender empowered' and 'gender sensitive'.

The project aims at gender bias practical mitigation through equality awareness and gender competence. Essentially, it addresses empowerment and capacity building actions for individuals primarily for public servants in local authorities and public bodies, social affairs services, and NGOs and CSOs members, leaders, representatives working in the field of gender equality or human rights promotion.

The objectives of the project are to:

- make specific key-actors (individuals) empowered on gender bias fighting through gender equality issues awareness, gender competence building, gender equality goals promotion;
- create and deliver innovative products and training tools- as tailored needs learning resources – based on differentiation methodologies and adult education approaches; and
- empower individuals by taking advantage of the opportunities offered by ICT and digitising the quality of learning content.

BlUe growth connects European Seas

Description

The BLUES Project was funded under Key Action 2 – Strategic Partnerships for Vocational Education and Training of the Erasmus + Programme. The main target groups of the project were SMEs professionals working in the blue economy sectors, VET participants, unemployed people and students searching for education in the areas of the blue economy field.

The overall objective of the BLUES project was to promote the development of blue economy in the partner countries, strengthening cooperation between industry and education, to fill the skills gap in this sector.

The BLUES project aimed to improve the skills and competences to professionals who are working in the field of blue economy. It aimed at training a new generation of students, scientists, professionals, technicians and entrepreneurs to equip them with the right skills for the needs of the labour market and the industry. The aim of the one-stop-shop portal was to develop a common area with concrete actions to facilitate communication and offer country specific information on new skills and competences in the blue economy sector, new career demand trends and training opportunities. It also aimed to:

- improve professionals' income;
- improve the position of the target group in the labour market;
- strengthen the occupational / career profiles of job seekers and young professionals;
- foster longer-lasting employment in the blue economy industry and sector;
- increase market opportunities;
- increase investment with direct economic and employment effects which allows maritime and coastal tourism businesses to modernise their offer, upgrade their facilities and reduce energy costs, with increased opportunities for employment and profitability for the businesses involved;
- increase satisfaction of tourists resulting in additional tourist's flows within those parts of the business which have been upgraded as a result of skills development initiatives.

EU Programme	**KA 2 Strategic Partnerships for Vocational Education and Training**
Consortium | Partner	Coordinator: Municipality of Piraeus (Greece), Partners: ENOROS Consulting Ltd (Cyprus), Latvian Maritime Academy (Latvia), Barcelona Clúster Nàutic (Spain), Marine Cluster Bulgaria (Bulgaria)
Total Budget	**€ 189.557**
EU Funding	**€ 189.557**
Duration	**27 months**
Project Website	**https://www.facebook.com/BluesGrowth**

Skills Advancement in Education - Leadership, Empowerment, Management Skills for Teachers and Teacher-leaders

EU Programme	**KA 2 Strategic Partnerships for School Education**
Consortium | Partner	Coordinator: Create Partnership Trust (United Kingdom), Partners: ENOROS Consulting Ltd (Cyprus), Progetto Marconi (Italy), ONAGEB. Spain (Spain), PontoPR (PONTOPR) (Portugal)
Total Budget	**€ 234.859**
EU Funding	**€ 234.859**
Duration	**27 months**
Project Website	**https://www.skillaed.com**

Description

The overall aim of the project, funded under Key Action 2 - Strategic Partnerships for School Education of the Erasmus+ programme, was to offer a programme to help aspiring teacher-leaders, in developing more sophisticated management-orientated skills, increase their preparation and readiness to manage their workload, while learning how to sustain and empower others and how to lead teams for the benefit of their schools.

The extent to which teacher leaders adopt additional responsibilities varies in degree and description based on the size, the country, the location and the conditions of the institution. Aspiring leaders or middle leaders in an education setting need to develop more sophisticated management-oriented skills and collaborative practices to increase their preparation and readiness to manage their workload, sustain others in their professional growth and lead teams to work on school improvement and development.

Due to the difficult tasks assigned, two-fifths of new teachers cited increased workloads, stress and pay cuts as reasons for considering leaving. A shortage of senior teachers is also adding pressure to many middle leaders, including teachers with additional responsibilities, such as assistant or deputy heads in primary schools, and heads of year and departments in secondary institutions. This middle tier is taking on greater responsibility for the day-to-day running of their schools, while trying to juggle team management and a teaching timetable.

The consortium's overall aim was to produce and test a programme to help aspiring teacher-leaders, in developing more sophisticated management-oriented skills, increase their preparation and readiness to manage their workload, while learn how to sustain and empower others and how to lead teams for the benefit of their schools.

The programme is completed with guidelines to assess the aspiring teacher-leaders to evaluate (using different methods: peer evaluation, panel and quizzes) if the professionals developed the required set of skills, as planned at the beginning of the program; and a training program that trainers, school-leaders, directors can use to replicate the Skill-AED program after the end of the present project.

Tools 4 Trainers to Empower NEETS

Description

The T4TEMP project, funded under Key Action 2 - Strategic Partnerships for Adult Education of the Erasmus+ programme, aimed to increase participation of people “Not in Education, Employment, or Training” (NEETs) into the labour market and in education through up-skilling educators, career counsellors, youth workers in effective engagement methodologies. A secondary aim was to raise awareness of the heterogeneity of the NEET population across member states so that adaptations can accommodate diversity in the NEETs profile.

Specifically, the project aimed to give the possibility to educators, youth workers, trainers and counsellors for better and more targeted provision of services through the use of tools which was implemented under the project. To achieve the above aims the project implemented the following objectives:

- Identification of Best Practices and Techniques for Trainers dealing with NEETs.
- Development of an on-line e-Learning Toolkit. The use of specific tools enables, in general, the target group to allocate their time with each one of the people who are in need of their services in a more constructive and effective way, via mobilising internet technologies.
- Development and implementation of targeted courses, which enable trainers to understand, support and improve their skills in order to become more supportive to NEETs.

EU Programme	**KA 2 Strategic Partnerships for Adult Education**
Consortium | Partner	Coordinator: KG Education and Training Centre Osilia (Estonia), Partners: ENOROS Consulting Ltd (Cyprus), Chatzi A.-Roupa E.O.E. (Greece), Lancaster and Morecambe College (United Kingdom), Istituto Formazione Operatori Aziendali (Italy), Asociación Cazalla Intercultural (Spain)
Total Budget	**€ 157.949**
EU Funding	**€ 157.949**
Duration	**24 months**
Project Website	**https://t4temp.wordpress.com**

ICT-enabled In-service Training of Teachers to Address Education for Sustainability

Description

The ICTeEfS project is funded under Key Action 2 - Capacity Building in Higher Education of the Erasmus+ programme.

One of the most visible side-effects of Asia's rapid growth has been environmental damage. Recent climate-related disasters in the region show that Asian policy makers must act now to protect their citizens and mitigate and reverse the impacts of climate change to secure sustainable growth for the future. A way to rise to these challenges is through education for sustainability (EfS). While there is commitment of Asian leaders for EfS along with their concern for the implementation of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), the real change makers are the teachers in the classroom.

Malaysia, Indonesia and Vietnam are among the Asian countries whose teaching personnel needs training to address the challenges posed by Information and Communication Technologies (ICTs), climate change and other environmental threats. On one hand, faculties of education need to reconstruct their study programs by integrating ICT-enabled Education for Sustainability (ICTeEfS) and, on the other hand, they have to capitalise on the potential of such technologies in advancing EfS to all subject in-service teachers. ICT literacy and rapidly growing availability of ICT infrastructure makes the integration of ICT in the curriculum of teacher education programmes and in-service training inevitable. However, integration of ICT does not merely mean an addition of ICT as a subject or tool. It implies changes in teaching and learning and requires comprehensive and integrative planning of the ICT-enabled EfS in teacher education.

Analysis indicates that there is need for:

- a shift of the current teaching/ learning, mostly focusing on transmissive pedagogies to more constructivist and transformative pedagogies; and
- an alternative in-service teacher professional development programme enabled by blended learning, taking into consideration all these gaps, barriers and neglected issues.

The main objectives of the ICTeEfS project are to:

- support the development of the faculties of education in partner universities to align curriculum, teaching, learning and research with the area of education for sustainability;
- build the capacity of academic staff at the faculties of education that will turn them able to contribute to the development, implementation and evaluation of a wide ICT-enabled in-service teachers training programme on education for sustainability;
- develop an efficient, cost-effective, decentralised, multiplier and innovative in-service teacher professional development programme enabled by blended learning, focusing on the integration of education for sustainability across school curricula;
- develop innovative teaching, learning and curriculum materials in the form of a multilingual e-Toolkit addressing the integration of education for sustainability in teaching, learning and curriculum;
- develop a Euro-Asian Network of ICT-enabled Education for Sustainability to strengthen cooperation in the field of ICTeEfS and replicability of produced outputs and outcomes.

EU Programme	**KA 2 Capacity Building in Higher Education**
Consortium | Partner	Coordinator: Frederick University (Cyprus), Partners: University of Crete (Greece), Regional Center of Expertise on ESD (Greece), Gadjah Mada University (Indonesia), Truong Dai Hoc Quoc Te (Vietnam), Universiti Sains Malaysia (Malaysia), University of Social Sciences and Humanities Ho Chi Minh City (Vietnam), Unitem Sdn. Bhd. (Malaysia), Universiti Teknologi Malaysia (Malaysia), Universitas Pendidikan Indonesia (Indonesia)
Total Budget	**€ 991.711**
EU Funding	**€ 991.711**
Duration	**36 months**
Project Website	**http://icteefs.frederick.ac.cy**

Supply of High Quality Learning Opportunities for Migrant People and Enhance Social Inclusion

Description

The project HOPE, funded under Key Action 2, Strategic Partnerships for adult education of the Erasmus+ programme, will open a dialogue among stakeholders and organisations in the field of migration, aiming to develop and exchange good practices and methodologies in the education and training of migrants.

As part of the project, 6 trainings from the staff of the participating organisations will be hosted in the 6 countries of the project, from November 2019 until August 2021, when the project will be completed. The aim of the trainings is to exchange good practices between the participating organisations, in order to strengthen their methods and knowledge in the field of education and training of migrants. During the trainings, the participants will have the opportunity to visit stakeholders, governmental and non-governmental, that implement similar projects, in order to be informed about their practices and to expand their network of cooperation.

EU Programme	**KA 2 Strategic Partnerships for Adult Education**
Consortium | Partner	Coordinator: Centrum fur Innovation und Technologie GmbH (Germany), Partners: Metropolitan College (Greece), Euro-Net (Italy), BSC, Poslovno Podporni Center d.o.o. (Slovenia), Foundation for Shelter and Support to Migrants (Malta), IMH C.S.C Limited (Cyprus)
Total Budget	**€ 151.285**
EU Funding	**€ 151.285**
Duration	**19 months**
Project Website	**N/A**

Assessment of Transversal Skills 2020

Description

The project, funded under KA 3 - Support for policy reform, Policy experimentations of the Erasmus+ Programme, proposed a comprehensive learning model to enhance student transversal, 21st century indispensable, skills, within the diverse EU national curricula, including providing teachers with modern approaches and innovative tools for the assessment of these skills.

The ATS2020 partnership extended and fleshed-up existing models combining process and product: a web of learning activities leading to learning outcomes; technological and scaffolding tools evaluated, extended and redesigned. Evidence of learning has been gathered using an ePortfolio three-level developmental process (repository, workspace and showcase) with an embedded continuous reflection cycle of “my learning”. Teachers and students at a sufficiently large and diverse, for valid conclusions, scale have been actively involved; they collaborated and made evidence-based decisions while (re) designing instruction and learning.
ATS2020 explored the impact of the intervention through valid and reliable mixed-method evaluation, collected data from 10 countries, in a range of classrooms from more than 200 schools, involving more than 800 teachers and 10,000 learners. Transferability and scalability across Europe were the main issues of the experimentation results analysis.

Through extensive dissemination activities, the project contributed to the growing discussion around the development and assessment of transversal skills within upper primary and lower second level education. This evidence aimed to help Ministries of Education and the European Commission to formulate informed policies and implementation strategies for the development and assessment of transversal competences across Europe.
In summary, the main outcomes of the project were:

- A validated model for student learning and transversal skills assessment based on: Age-suitable transversal competences; National curricula; Student-centred approaches for learning; Scaffolding tools for innovative instruction and assessment; Digital Environments and tools to tap technology affordances (e.g. ePortfolio, learning analytics, social networks, assessment rubrics).
- Over 1,000 teachers experienced in implementing the model.
- Continuing Professional Development programme ready for deployment beyond the pilot schools.
- Sound impact evaluation and subsequent policy recommendations at the National and EU levels.
- Scalability models for policy makers at regional, national and EU levels.

EU Programme	KA 3 Support for Policy Reform
Consortium | Partner	Coordinator: Cyprus Pedagogical Institute (Cyprus), Partners: Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports and Youth (Cyprus), Centre for Educational Research and Evaluation (Cyprus), Danube University Krems (Austria), CVO Antwerpen (Belgium), Croatian Academic and Research Network (Croatia), Foundation of INNOVE (Estonia), University of Tampere (Finland), Computer Technology Institute & Press “Diophantus” (Greece), Monaghan Education Centre, (Junior Cycle for Teachers) (Ireland), H2 Learning Limited (Ireland), Centre of Information Technologies in Education (Lithuania), National Examinations Centre (Slovenia), Ministry of Education, Science and Sport (Slovenia), Educational Research Institute (Slovenia), National Education Institute Slovenia (Slovenia), Dirección Xeral de Educación, Formación Profesional e Innovación Educativa (Spain)
Total Budget	€ 2.600.600
EU Funding	€ 1.950.000
Duration	36 months
Project Website	http://www.ats2020.eu

Creative Primary School Partnerships with Visual Artists

Description

Creative school Partnerships with Visual Artists (CREARTE), was a project, funded under KA2 - Strategic Partnerships for school education of the Erasmus+ Programme, for experimenting pedagogies based on contemporary art practices in primary schools.

CREARTE aspired to promote creative spaces in education that spark young pupils' active participation, willingness to experiment, cooperate, imagine, think and learn in new attractive, stimulating and efficient ways.

CREARTE focused on offering in-service teachers' training that promotes visual arts and the cooperation with visual artists so as to transform and enrich young children's school lives.

Through the project, educational resources and materials were produced to support the design and implementation of school visual arts projects so as to:

- enhance pupils' collaboration with professional adults;
- connect school life with the real world of creative professionals that could serve as role models and inspire young pupils;
- promote networking of schools with the creative community as well as collaborative approaches to teaching through visual arts;
- engage pupils from all backgrounds (minorities, lower socio-economic backgrounds, high academic spectrum) and with various abilities to collaborative research work with creative professionals as well as their fellow pupils and their teachers; and
- provide alternative and creative spaces in the school programmes, so as to make teaching and learning more attractive, efficient and achieve the development of basic and transversal skills.

Contemporary Art Practice: The visual arts curricula of the project partners' countries encouraged the focus on teaching and learning about local and international artists and recognise artists' contribution in the birth, development and realisation of visual ideas in response to their experiences of the world. Furthermore, utilising contemporary visual arts in art education is a curriculum strategy that enables pupils to actively be engaged with current issues, dialogue and debate about their experiences of the real out-of-school world and to comprehend that visual arts are linked to important issues, such as personal and cultural identity, family, community and nationality. It also aims to promote cultural understanding through the various social issues that many contemporary artists investigate in their artwork.

Pedagogical Advocacy: For the utilisation of the visual arts projects at the involved countries CREARTE suggested child-centred pedagogies that focused on experiential learning and explorative approaches and emphasised the exploitation of the interests and experiences of pupils in real authentic situations. The multimodal expression and creation was emphasised, as well as the in-depth exploration of materials and ideas; the acceptance of subjectivity; multiple interpretations and diverse ways of learning; the advancement of critical thinking and research.

Diversity of Approach: CREARTE encouraged diversity and flexibility in designing and delivering the art projects. Important questions that needed to be answered were when, where and how pupils could be engaged in learning procedures. Various teaching strategies were utilised such as play, dialogue, investigation of materials and ideas, experimentation, visual research, debate, interaction with authentic situations/artefacts/people, reflection, dissemination of ideas.

CREARTE's outcomes

Implemented pedagogical projects:

- explored potential systemic and interpersonal collaborative challenges that artists and schools had to overcome;
- designed and delivered teaching strategies that corresponded to the needs of contemporary schools and societies and their complexities;
- provided teachers with methods, tools and resources, so as to be able to design collaborative and authentic projects that met the needs of school units and the particularities of pupils;
- strengthened the leadership and research role of primary teachers, so as to design their own visual arts curricula, in accordance with the context of their work space and place;
- addressed the increasingly diverse needs of contemporary schools and societies that are invited to enhance intercultural cooperation and dialogue, intergenerational relations and active citizenship.

EU Programme	KA 2 Strategic Partnerships for School Education
Consortium | Partner	Coordinator: Faculty of Fine Arts - University of Porto (PT), Partners: Ministry of Education, Culture, Sport and Youth (CY), Cyprus Pedagogical Institute (CY), University of Jaen (ES), Stichting the European Regional Council of INSEA (Netherlands), Goldsmiths' College (UK), BUFF Film Festival (SE)
Total Budget	**€ 304.508**
EU Funding	**€ 262.038**
Duration	**24 months**
Project Website	**http://crearte.up.pt**

Promoting Cultural Heritage as a Generator of Sustainable Development

EU Programme	**KA 2 Strategic Partnerships for Adult Education**
Consortium | Partner	Coordinator: School of Architecture, Technical University of Crete (Greece), Partners: National and Kapodistrian University of Athens (Greece), Public Benefit Enterprise Policy and Environment of the Municipality of Chania - Center for Mediterranean Architecture (Greece), Fondazione Flaminia (Italy), Middlesex University Higher Education Corporation (United Kingdom), Maniatakeion Foundation-Gift of Dimitris and Eleni Maniataki (Greece), Neapolis University Paphos (Cyprus)
Total Budget	**€ 445.919**
EU Funding	**€ 445.919**
Duration	**36 months**
Project Website	**https://www.inherit.tuc.gr/en/home**

Description

InHERiT was a three-years project funded under KA2 - Strategic Partnerships for adult education of the Erasmus+ programme aiming at raising awareness about the economic value of architectural heritage and its crucial role in creating local and regional development, contributing, thus, to building a “smart, sustainable and inclusive economy” in Europe with high levels of employment, productivity and social cohesion.

Engineer for the Future

Description

Engine4F was a three-years project, funded under Key Action 2 - Strategic Partnerships for school education of the Erasmus+ Programme, aiming at exposing high school students, and especially girls, to new careers in engineering. The project was run simultaneously with a public school in the town of Paphos and it aimed in the promotion of STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics).

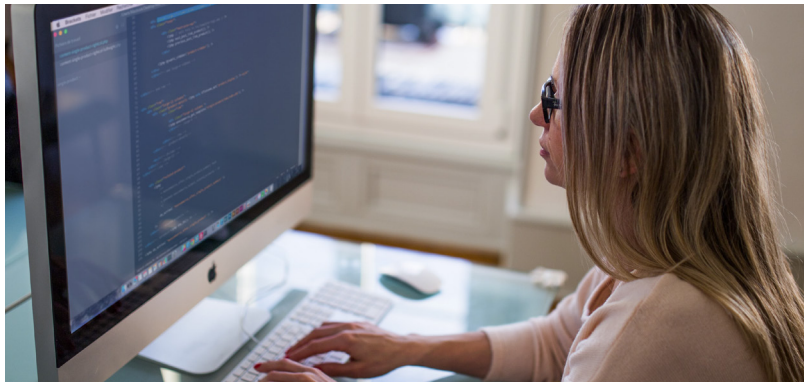
The ENGINE4F project intends to do a pioneer work by changing general views regarding engineering and technical areas (among female students but also among other students, teachers and families), by promoting a better knowledge of the opportunities and work done within these professions.

By supplying information collected in this peer-to-peer learning tool, it wants to deconstruct biased preconceived ideas that support stereotyped visions about male and female career areas and to succeed in increasing female students' predisposition to core scientific areas, such as STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics).

ENGINE4F has supported an "Awareness Action Plan" methodology in the first two years and the study of the impact in the third year of its application, followed by the development of a set of activities related to STEM subjects and to be implemented in Sciences, Maths, Chemistry and Physics classes, as a way to complement them and to enhance student's motivation and predisposition for learning.

Activities within this methodology has resulted in an 'e-manual' of different activities.

The project has also comprised the creation of a Virtual Learning Environment (VLE) for the upload and download of the above mentioned activities and material, which has acted as a portal giving information on career areas, curiosities on engineering careers, tutorials, examples of career opportunities within each area, professional profiles, etc.



EU Programme	**KA 2 Strategic Partnerships for School Education**
Consortium | Partner	Coordinator: AEVA - Associação para a Educação e Valorização da Região de Aveiro (Portugal), Partners: Universidade de Aveiro (Portugal), Tallinna Polütehnikum (Estonia), Ordem dos Engenheiros (Portugal), ITIS "E. Mattei" (Italy), Pragma Engineering s.r.l. (Italy), Politeknika Ikastegia Txorierri S.Coop (Spain), Neapolis University Paphos (Cyprus), Greek Women's Engineering Association (Greece), APOPSI (Greece)
Total Budget	**€ 247.960**
EU Funding	**€ 247.960**
Duration	**36 months**
Project Website	**http://www.pragmaeng.it/engine4f**

Evaluation of School Leadership and Teaching Practices

EU Programme	**KA 2 Strategic Partnerships for School Education**
Consortium | Partner	Coordinator: Department of Education, Language Policy and Culture, the Basque Country (Spain), Partners: School Inspectorate of Portugal (Portugal), Deutsches Bildungsressort, Bozen Sudtirol, Provincia Autonoma di Bolzano (Italy), Kaunas Region Municipality (Lithuania), Inspactoratul Scolar Judetean Prahova (Romania), Open University of Cyprus (Cyprus), University of Cumbria (United Kingdom)
Total Budget	**€ 165.719**
EU Funding	**€ 115.795**
Duration	**24 months**
Project Website	**https://basque-inspectorate-erasmusplus.hez-kuntza.net/en/inicio**

Description

The project “Evaluation of School Leadership and Teaching Practice” (EOSLAPT) is funded under Key Action 2 - Strategic Partnerships for school education of the Erasmus+ Programme.
The two-year project started in September 2015 and aimed to promote school leadership and teaching practice assessment in order to improve quality in the various European educational systems. Under this project school, leaders’ and teachers’ evaluation processes in several European countries will be revealed, whilst the ultimate goal of the project is to create a Moodle course on the evaluation of the teaching practice.

The specific objectives of the project were to:

- identify dimensions, criteria, indicators, strategies, sources of evidence and good practices related to School Leaders and Teachers assessment;
- provide inspectorate bodies and staff related to teachers’ assessment with tools and strategies for better assessment of School Leaders and Teachers, containing common good practices with a European Dimension;
- offer open on-line tools to train teachers for external and self-assessment in order to improve their professional practice, to be used by Inspectorate bodies or other staff related to teachers’ assessment;
- provide to Teachers Training Centers and Universities with data for designing training programs;
- promote European Dimension of all actions and initiatives related to this project and to disseminate its outputs, conclusions and proposals.

The Law of Financial and Economic Governance in the EU

Description

FEcoGov, a Jean Monnet Module, consists of teaching, research and debating activities taking place in Cyprus in the field of EU financial and economic governance in times of crisis, run to the immediate benefit of the LLM/research students at the School of Law of UCLan Cyprus and in the rest of Europe, but also in the interest of professionals and the wider society through its various activities and its online platform open to the public. It was also selected as “success story” and “good practice” by the European Commission upon its completion in 2018.

It was the first time that a Jean Monnet Module was offered by a law school in Cyprus. The Module aims at developing a specialised and unique focus in EU law, within the framework of the LLM curriculum delivered by the School of Law. This focus is based primarily upon research-informed teaching on the multiple aspects of the law and governance of finance and economic policy in the EU, in the global and multidimensional context of the financial and sovereign debt crisis in the EU and beyond, and promotes an interdisciplinary approach. New technologies are used throughout and include a whole range of online support tools available on campus and remotely. The Module also gives the opportunity to students, professionals and the wider public to take part in expert seminars, guest lectures, roundtable discussions and other research and debating activities, including through the worldwide Jean Monnet Community, as well as to contribute to an open access online platform, created and supported by the Module. Didactic materials have been created as well as a UCLan Cyprus Law School Jean Monnet Module Working Paper Series. Events, research and debating activities primarily take place in Cyprus and include lectures by eminent guests from the academic world and the legal profession in Europe, round tables with expert academics and policy-makers in the field and presentations by research scholars within the framework of the Module (including at seminars with public authorities such as the Central Bank of Cyprus), sponsored events with the industry and research scholar workshops. Final activities include various publications, a student competition in the field of banking and financial services law organised by the Central Bank of Cyprus (February 2017) and a closing conference bringing together academics, NGOs, civic societies, students and the general public on the protection of socio-economic rights in times of crisis (July 2017).

EU Programme	**Jean Monnet**
Consortium | Partner	UCLan Cyprus
Total Budget	**€ 41.700**
EU Funding	**€ 30.000**
Duration	**36 months**
Project Website	**https://www.uclancyprus.ac.cy/research/jean-monnet-module/**

Succession Planning and Regeneration In Family Businesses for New Growth through an innovative training programme

EU Programme	**KA 2 Cooperation for innovation and the exchange of good practices - Knowledge Alliances**
Consortium | Partner	Coordinator: University of Palermo (Italy), Partners: GrantXpert Consulting (Cyprus); EDHEC Business School (France); University of Valencia (Spain); UCLan Cyprus (Cyprus); University of Beira Interior (Portugal); William Battle Learning Limited (United Kingdom); ABB Training Center (Germany); KEDIA International Ltd (Malta); European Family Businesses, GEIE (Belgium); CYBAN Cyprus Business Angels Network Ltd (Cyprus)
Total Budget	**€ 999.874**
EU Funding	**€ 999.874**
Duration	**36 months**
Project Website	**https://www.euspring.eu**

Description

SPRING, a project funded under KA2 - Cooperation for innovation and the exchange of good practices - Knowledge Alliances of the Erasmus+ Programme, aims to help EU family businesses to fulfil their potential, by offering them a complete package with the necessary training, mentoring, support and guidance in the areas of:

- smooth succession and business continuity, accounting for multi-dimensional factors (leadership, management, governance ownership, legal issues), through failed and successful cases;

- strategy for growth and internationalisation, built on innovation and regeneration;

- development of entrepreneurship, intrapreneurship and interpreneurship across generations, converging the entrepreneurship and family business training content, promoting a start-up culture and innovation-based growth mindset within family businesses, while considering other strategies besides succession (exit strategies, external investors coming in, etc.);

- inclusive and responsible family business acts to ensure they adopt not only Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) practices but the full cycle, to maximise value creation for all involved stakeholders, promoting inclusive entrepreneurship among the next generation members and female leaders.

The main activities and outputs include the design and pilot of an innovative and practical SPRING Training and Consultancy programme, jointly offered by renowned EU universities and adult training and consulting companies.

Curriculum Development using VR technology to enhance empathetic communication skills in future health care professionals

Description

The project Empathy in Health Care is funded under Key Action 2 - Strategic Partnerships for higher education of the Erasmus+ Programme.

Empathy is key to effective communication between patients and health care practitioners and has been shown to positively affect health outcomes and patient satisfaction as well as to improve patient safety. Communicating with patients is the most frequent practice by health care providers, however communications skills training in undergraduate health care programmes is variable and the assessment of interpersonal competencies is often neither reliable nor consistent. Empathetic communication is also very important for patients receiving home care. It is therefore important to enhance empathetic communication in curricula for undergraduate health care programmes and for Vocational Educational and Training (VET) home care programmes.

In addition, it is crucial that new technologies are introduced in teaching in order to build new competencies. Virtual Reality (VR) is currently applied in many fields of healthcare education including clinical and interpersonal skills training. Empathy In Health Care aims to develop a curriculum and associated materials on empathetic skills, certified with ISO, that will be based on current research evidence and patient participation through their own personal experiences, ideas and expectations (for VET and Higher Education). Empathy In Health will develop high acuity scenarios in the areas of empathetic communication which:

- provide a consistent clinical communication experience;
- enhance student confidence in developing new skills by allowing them to practice in a safe environment; and
- provide students the opportunity to develop empathetic skills and competences.

Based on the above scenarios the project will develop virtual reality videos (sector specific), educational videos (sector specific) and role plays (sector specific) all aiming to develop the empathetic competence. Finally, the project aims to support tutors and trainers to integrate Virtual Reality in their teaching /training through the development of their skills as far as virtual reality is concerned. The project provides the tools and techniques for this integration to the higher education and VET providers in the consortium thus supporting tutors in delivering the training. At the same time the results of the project will be available to other higher education institutions and other VET providers.

The main objectives of the project are to:
- develop an empathetic skills curriculum and materials, certified with ISO that will be based on current research evidence and patient participation through their own personal experiences, ideas and expectations (for Vocational Training and Higher Education);
- use this curriculum to develop high acuity virtual scenarios in the areas of empathetic communication which will:
  - provide a consistent clinical communication experience;
  - enhance student confidence in developing new skills by allowing them to practice in a safe environment; and
  - provide student feedback on areas of strength and further improvement.
- develop VR videos and educational videos (sector specific) to develop the empathetic competence;
- support tutors and trainers to integrate VR in their teaching /training through the development of their skills as far as virtual reality is concerned.

EU Programme	KA 2 Strategic Partnerships for Higher Education
Consortium | Partner	Coordinator: M.M.C Management Center Ltd (Cyprus), Partners: C.C.C.-Cyprus Certification Company (Cyprus), University of Nicosia (Cyprus), Vrije Universiteit Brussel (Belgium), Evangelische Hochschule Berlin (EHB) (Germany), University of Thessaly (Greece), Omega-Theofanis Alexandridis & SIA EE (Greece).
Total Budget	€ 338.318
EU Funding	€ 338.318
Duration	36 months
Project Website	https://empathy.projectsgallery.eu


AMIF

AMIF

Description

The Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund (AMIF) was set up for the period 2014-2020, with a budget of €3.137 billion for the seven years. The aim of AMIF for the period 2014-2020 was to promote the efficient management of migration flows and the implementation, strengthening and development of a common Union approach to asylum and immigration. The objective of AMIF was to contribute to the achievement of the following four specific objectives:

- Asylum: strengthening and developing the Common European Asylum System by ensuring that EU legislation in this field is efficiently and uniformly applied;
- Legal migration and integration: supporting legal migration to EU member-states in line with the labour market needs and promoting the effective integration of non-EU nationals;
- Return: enhancing fair and effective return strategies, which contribute to combating irregular migration, with an emphasis on sustainability and effectiveness of the return process;
- Solidarity: making sure that EU member-states which are most affected by migration and asylum flows can count on solidarity from other EU member-states.

Communication of Local AuthoRities for INtegration in European Towns

EU Programme	**Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund (AMIF)**
Consortium | Partner	Coordinator: Comune di Lampedusa e Linosa (Italy), Partners: Africa e Mediterraneo (Italy), Sudwind (Austria), ISCOMET (Slovenia), Agios Athanasios Municipality (Cyprus), Novapolis Association-Center of Analysis and Initiatives for Development (Romania), Municipality of Constanta (Romania), Obshtina Burgas (Bulgaria), Fondatsiya Rabotilnitsa ZA Grazhdanski Initsiativi (Bulgaria), Cromo Alapítvány (Hungary), Siklósnagyfalu Önkormányzat (Hungary), Amref Health Africa Onlus (Italy), Stadtgemeinde Traiskirchen (Austria), Association pour la Biennale de Jeunes Createurs de l'Europe et de la Mediterranee AISBL (Belgium), CSI Center for Social Innovation (Cyprus), Vocational Training Centre of the Region Unit of Lesvos SA (Kentro Epaggelmatikis Katartisis tis Perifereiakis Enotitas Lesvou AE) (Greece), Europäische Städtekoalition gegen Rassismus (Germany), Regional Development Funds of the North Aegean Region (Greece), Municipality of Crnomelj (Slovenia), Lai Momo (Italy)
Total Budget	**€ 1.000.000**
EU Funding	**€ 900.000**
Duration	**36 months**
Project Website	**https://www.clarinetproject.eu**

Description

The general objective of the CLARINET project, funded under the Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund (AMIF), was to raise awareness, among EU citizens, on the migrants' positive contribution to EU societies. The CLARINET project was led by the Municipality of Lampedusa and Linosa, which collaborated with a multi stakeholder partnership composed by 7 other Local Authorities located in border areas (border LAs), 9 Civil Society Organisations (CSOs) based in 8 EU countries, and 2 international networks.

The project targeted border LAs and their residents, EU citizens and third country nationals (TCNs) as short-term beneficiaries, other EU LAs as medium beneficiaries and residents in other EU LAs (EU citizens and TCNs) as long-term beneficiaries. As a first step, the project identified local authorities' good practices in public communication campaigns on migration and integration through the implementation of the "Award for the best LA public communication campaigns promoting positive narratives on migration and integration in the EU" and the production of the CLARINET Positive Storytelling Kit on Migration for Local Authorities.

As a second step, the project empowered border local authorities to implement successful evidence-based public communication campaigns on migration and integration, through on-the-job training and on-demand support provided by migration and communication experts to border LAs staff. As a result, LAs implemented public communication campaigns

involving TCNs and EU citizens testimonies, thanks to the collaboration with artists involved in local residencies.

The project also promoted on an EU level, good practices of LAs communication campaigns on migration and integration. To do so, the CLARINET web-platform was developed in 8 languages, featuring an online map of good practices and to that end, a social media campaign was implemented in 8 EU countries. The project results were promoted through a final event and the dissemination of the project's results on an EU level was ensured by the European Coalition of Cities Against Racism.

ALL UNIQUE,
ALL EQUAL,
ALL TOGETHER!

Migrants' Integration through Volunteering Activities

Description

The objective of MIVA project, funded under the Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund, is to promote the implementation of interactive activities to enhance the integration of Third Country Nationals through their participation in the social and cultural life of the host community, and to foster capacity-building of local communities for on successful integration through volunteering and cultural actions.

The specific objectives of the MIVA-project are to:

- promote the development and implementation of innovative actions to increase third country nationals' engagement in the volunteering sector, as active members of the local community;
- foster knowledge and experience sharing, as well as implementing a capacity building programme focusing on third country nationals' integration, stakeholders and local citizens from the targeted communities;
- support the empowerment of refugees and increase their participation in local community life;
- develop partnerships and cooperation among stakeholders and all actors involved in promoting integration at a community and transnational level.

The project's main target groups are Third Country Nationals, local citizens, officers form Lead Resident Assistants (LRAs), volunteers, trainers and social workers engaged in the field of asylum, migration and integration.

The main outputs of the project are the:

- deployment of Indigo application and NGO platform in participating countries;
- co-development of a cross-cultural activities programme with the aim to promote community cohesion and cultural awareness including:
  - organisation of cookery courses and production of a booklet with multicultural recipes;
  - organisation of Intercultural Festivals;
  - host of Futsal/Football matches;
  - arrange walking tours '' Explore your city cultural paths'' within the hosting city to familiarise with the local history and culture;
  - create "Documentaries" which include experiences from festivals, futsal/football matches and walking tours.
- implementation of Capacity Building Workshops aimed at developing the host communities' intercultural competences.

EU Programme	Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund (AMIF)
Consortium | Partner	Coordinator: Municipality of Piraeus (Greece), Partners: ENOROS Consulting Ltd (Cyprus), Organisation Earth (Greece), Indigo Cooperative (France), PRISM – Promozione Internazionale Sicilia – Mondo (Italy), Foundation for Somalia (Poland), Aar Social Development Association (ASDA) ry (Finland)
Total Budget	€ 1.049.370
EU Funding	€ 944.433
Duration	36 months
Project Website	https://www.mivaproject.eu

Integration Programmes by Local Authorities

EU Programme	**Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund (AMIF)**
Consortium | Partner	Coordinator: Aglantzia Municipality (Cyprus), Partners: Strovolos Municipality (Cyprus), Latsia Municipality (Cyprus), Idalion Municipality (Cyprus), Nicosia Development Agency – ANEL (Cyprus), Opinion & Action Services Ltd (Cyprus), Strovolos Municipal Multi-Functional Foundation (Cyprus)
Total Budget	**€ 150.000**
EU Funding	**€ 135.000**
Duration	**05/01/2013 - 30/06/2013 15/01/2014 - 30/06/2014 23/12/2015 - 31/12/2016**
Project Website	**https://www.facebook.com/colourfulsocieties**

Description

The “Colourful Societies” project, funded under the Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund and by the Republic of Cyprus, has been designed by local authorities to enhance the interactive process of integrating immigrants into the Cypriot society. It was based on European practices for the most effective integration in a multicultural environment.

The main objective of the project was the involvement and active participation of the municipalities of Nicosia district towards the exploitation and use of socio-cultural services already offered, to their citizens, by third country nationals (TCNs). This would create social integration opportunities for the TCNs to the local context and provide them with interaction with the local communities.

The project ran various activities for TCNs, including, amongst others, first aid courses, computer lessons, various trainings, leisure activities and intercultural festivals.


2016-2020
START
SEARCH
ΠΡΟΓΡΑΜΜΑΤΑ ΕΡΕΥΝΑΣ, ΤΕΧΝΟΛΟΓΙΚΗΣ ΑΝΑΠΤΥΞΗΣ ΚΑΙ ΚΑΙΝΟΤΟΜΙΑΣ

RESTART

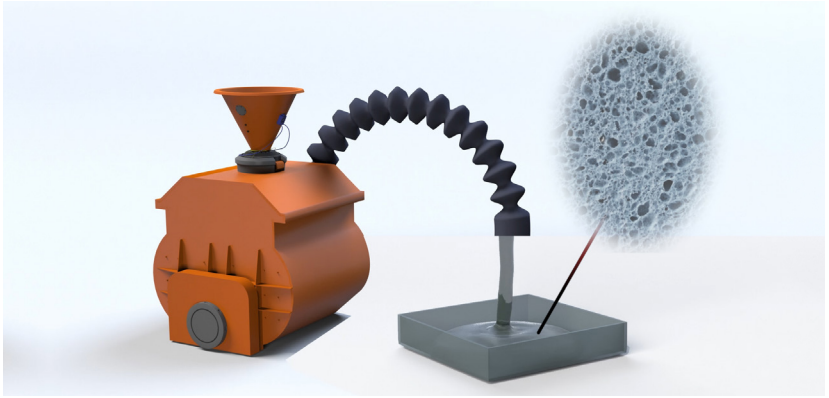
Description

RESTART 2016-2020 Programmes are a multi-annual development framework of Programmes for the support of Research, Technological Development and Innovation in Cyprus, which is co-funded by national and European resources and is implemented in conjunction with other national initiatives and Programmes.
The Programme is divided into the following Pillars:

- Pillar I – Smart Growth
- Pillar II – Sustainable RTDI System
- Pillar III – Transformation of RTDI system

The total budget of RESTART 2016-2020 Programmes is € 99.140.000.

Development of an Innovative Insulation Fire Resistant Façade from the Construction and Demolition Waste



EU Programme	**INTEGRATED**
Consortium | Partner	Coordinator: Frederick Research Center (Cyprus), Partners: University of Cyprus (Cyprus), Katholieke University of Leuven (Belgium), S.Netiates & H.Xenis Epixeiriseis Ltd (Cyprus), Latomia Pharmakas PLC (Cyprus), RECS Civil Engineers & Partners LLC (Cyprus), Stratagem Energy Ltd (Cyprus), Cyprus Ministry of Transport (Cyprus), Communications and Works - Public Works Department (Cyprus), Ministry of Agriculture, Rural Development and Environment of Cyprus - Department of Environment (Cyprus), Federation of the Building Contractors Association of Cyprus (Cyprus)
Total Budget	**€ 1.098.880**
EU Funding	**€ 937.981**
Duration	**36 months**
Project Website	**http://defeat.frederick.ac.cy**

Description

The general objective of the DEFEAT project, funded under Restart 2016-2020 – Integrated, is the transformation of Construction and Demolition Wastes (CDW) into an innovative insulation and fire-resistant facade.

In Cyprus, the recycling of construction waste is a critical issue, considering that at the present time recycling of waste materials is practically inexistent and the fact that landfill sites are becoming increasingly difficult to come by, due to the small size of the island. At the same time, resource supply or feed material can be guaranteed in Cyprus where replacement of infrastructure is occurring, natural aggregate resources are limited, and environmental regulations encourage recycling.

The DEFEAT project aims to develop on a pilot scale, and through detailed experimental study, an innovative composite material from CDW, which will gain low thermal conductivity, satisfactory mechanical properties, and at the same time, will be fire resistant. A novel method based on machine learning techniques and image processing will be utilised for the optimisation of the separation of the CDW, in order to receive “Clean” materials after their collection. The products from the innovative separation will be used:

- as raw material for the development of the thermal and fire insulation composite façade; and
- for delivering recycled concrete aggregates with washing methods.

After receiving the raw material, the technology of geopolymerisation will be used for the development of the composite insulation and fire-resistant material. Two methods of production will be applied, i.e. a conventional precast method and by utilising 3D-printing technology. The final products will be evaluated in terms of their thermal, mechanical and fire resistance properties, as well as their financial cost, to allow for their full market potential and uptake. Finally, an attempt will be carried out by the public entities of the consortium to develop a framework for utilising CDW as a raw material in the building industry.

ENhancing Tourist ExpeRience in CYprus

Description

The EnterCY project, funded under Restart 2016-2020 – Integrated, aims at developing an integrated virtual and augmented reality platform utilising cutting-edge Information and Communication Technologies (ICT) for promoting Cyprus as an attractive destination.

According to the Smart Specialisation Strategy for Cyprus (S3CY), the Tourism sector is considered as the “spearhead” for the economic development of Cyprus having a significant contribution to the national Gross Domestic Product (GDP). A major role in the significance of this contribution is attributed to its positive indirect effect to other productive sectors increasing their income, investment and employment. S3CY experts, however, pointed out that the traditional “Sea and Sun” tourism development model is obsolete and there is an urgent need for new strategic models for attracting new forms of tourism. They have also argued that it is important to direct the focus from quantitative tourism to qualitative and consequently sustainable tourism. One step towards this direction is the promotion of alternative tourism in Cyprus by educating and informing potential tourists about Cyprus’ Mediterranean flavour that combines nature, history, culture, a variety of activities and leisure, as well as the enhancement of tourists’ experience and satisfaction, before, during and after their visit in a variety of modalities (virtual, augmented and immersive reality).

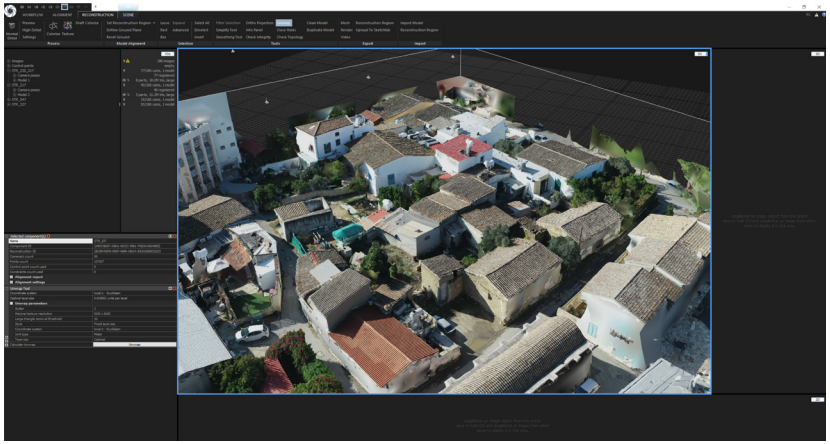
The project will achieve its aim by:

- informing and educating potential visitors about the rich cultural heritage, variety of activities and wealth of sightseeing locations of Cyprus through a spatio-temporal virtual (VR) exploration before their visit;
- enhancing tourists experience and satisfaction by providing visual and audio guidance, navigation, as well as entertaining and learning by story-telling through augmented reality (AR) with location-awareness during their visit in both indoor and outdoor sites;
- offering an after-visit experience through immersive reality (IR) technologies, by providing tourists with a personal 360° video of their on-site tour after their visit as a memento; and
- allowing tourists to share their experience in real-time through the platform integration with social media. In all stages of the EnterCY platform, personalisation will be employed for presenting the tourists with information and suggestions tailored to their personal interests and needs.

The EnterCY project will essentially bring together VR/AR technologies and machine learning in order to create a mixed reality environment where the tourists/users can have an interactive personalised experience with attractions such as cultural heritage sites and their artefacts as well as other activities before, during and after their visit. The combination of elements from machine learning, VR and AR is in itself a novel approach towards engaging the viewer and offering a unique interactive experience in the tourism sector. This will be further combined with novel technologies from the areas of immersive reality, mobile location-awareness, transmedia storytelling and will be supported by a well-structured and well-designed big-data ready knowledge base. Therefore, the EnterCY platform’s technological breakthroughs will be a proper tool for promoting the enhancement of the competitiveness of Cyprus in the tourism sector and thus stimulate economic growth.

EU Programme	INTEGRATED
Consortium | Partner	Coordinator: Frederick Research Center (Cyprus), Partners: University of Cyprus (Cyprus), CY.R.I.C Cyprus Research and Innovation Center Ltd (Cyprus), Silversky3d VR Technologies Ltd (Cyprus), IMH C.S.C Limited (Cyprus), Cyprus Tourist Guides Association (Cyprus), Association of Cyprus Travel Agents (Cyprus), Ministry of Transport, Communications and Works (Cyprus), Deputy Ministry of Tourism (Cyprus)
Total Budget	**€ 1.230.159**
EU Funding	**€ 998.107**
Duration	**36 months**
Project Website	**https://www.entercyprus.com**

Portal for heritage buildings integration into the contemporary built environment



EU Programme	**RESTART 2016-2020**
Consortium | Partner	Coordinator: The Cyprus Institute (Cyprus), Partners: Cyprus University of Technology (Cyprus), Frederick Research Center (Cyprus), Fondazione Bruno Kessler (Italy), University of Catania (Italy), Ministry of Interior - Town Planning and Housing Department (Cyprus) Limassol Municipality (Cyprus), Strovolos Municipality (Cyprus), HIT Hypertech Innovation (Cyprus), NetU Consultants Ltd (Cyprus), RTD Talos Ltd (Cyprus)
Total Budget	**€ 1.104.500,80**
EU Funding	**€ 994.050,72**
Duration	**48 months**
Project Website	**https://uperiscope.cyi.ac.cy/?fbclid=IwAR1Y-fsfFnGSCH-hAfoJg837VcUvquRQA1capfGJ-2zW_jAH6P_DzRnCNtok4**

Description

In an era of rapid technological improvements, state-of-the-art methodologies and tools dedicated to the protection and promotion of our cultural heritage should be developed and extensively employed in the modern built environment and lifestyle. At the same time, sustainability principles underline the importance of the continuous use of historic or vernacular buildings as part of the building stock of our society. The adoption of a holistic, integrated, multi-disciplinary strategy can bridge technological innovation with the conservation and restoration of heritage buildings.

The project “Portal for heritage buildings integration into the contemporary built environment” (PERIsCOPE), funded under the Restart 2016-2020 Programme aims to design and develop an innovative platform for the identification, classification, documentation and renovation of heritage buildings which can be exploited by a variety of stakeholders related to the conservation and retrofit activities. PERIsCOPE will enable the exploitation of state-of-the-art techniques in the scientific fields of Building Information Modelling (BIM), remote sensing, terrestrial and aerial 3D modelling techniques, and non-destructive onsite testing, pursued by the leading research and academic institutions of Cyprus in these fields. The PERIsCOPE platform is targeted to specific stakeholders to impact culturally and economically the society of Cyprus, including public authorities and policy makers (Town Planning and Housing Department, Department of Antiquities, Municipalities) and professionals (archaeologists, engineers, architects and chartered surveyors).

The implementation of PERIsCOPE in practice involves the pilot application of the proposed holistic integrated methodology on 20 heritage buildings in Nicosia and Limassol (including examples located in both Greek Cypriot and Turkish Cypriot neighbourhoods), with regards to their location in the contemporary fabric of the city, as well as their current structural condition. This pilot application will enable the generation of an integrated database, from which information and data will be extracted, in order to be used for the development of the methodology with feedback collected from the stakeholders engaged in the project. The development of the platform and associated tools will bring added value and benefits to the Public Authorities and Cultural Operators participating, and to the Consortium as a whole.

The platform will be used for the monitoring of the urban growth and the evaluation of urban plans by authorities, the documentation and valuation of heritage buildings and the update of existing catalogues, the introduction of incentives required for the buildings’ structural and energy retrofitting.

PERIsCOPE aspires to deliver novel tools that will incorporate holistic, integrated, inter-disciplinary solutions for the conservation, restoration and protection of heritage buildings. The results of the project will significantly enhance the competitiveness of the construction industry.


Life

LIFE

Description

Created in 1992, the LIFE programme is the EU's funding instrument for the environment and climate action, which has co-financed more than 5,000 projects helping Europe to become greener.

The LIFE programme's main goals are to:

- help make the shift towards a more sustainable, circular, energy-efficient, renewable energy-based, climate-neutral and -resilient economy.
- protect, restore and enhance the environment.
- halt and reverse biodiversity loss.
- stop the degradation of ecosystems by managing and enhancing the Natura 2000 network, thereby boosting sustainable development.
- encourage and support green ideas from both large and small companies, NGOs, public authorities, citizen groups and academia, amongst others.

For the period 2014-2020, the LIFE programme, having a budget of € 3,456.7 billion, was divided into two sub-programmes: one for the environment and another for climate action. The two sub-programmes were each then divided into three categories:

Environment sub-programme

- Environment and Resource Efficiency
- Nature and Biodiversity
- Environmental Governance and Information

Climate Action sub-programme

- Climate Change Mitigation
- Climate Change Adaptation
- Climate Change Governance and Information

Troodos National Forest Park: Promoting natural values and Ecosystem Services

Description

The project 'Troodos National Forest Park: Promoting natural values and Ecosystem Services' was implemented within the framework of the LIFE programme of the European Union. The project aimed to increase public awareness on the natural values and the Ecosystem Services of Troodos National Forest Park (Natura 2000 area "Ethniko Dasiko Parko Troodous" - CY5000004). Through a well-structured and detailed awareness and information campaign (which included advertisements in all media, such as: broadcasts of TV and radio spots, broadcasts of animation cartoons in cinema halls, publication of press releases, articles and advertisements in newspapers and magazines, TV and radio presentations, production and distribution of leaflets and newsletters, outdoor advertising in highways connecting main cities and on public transport means, advertising in Google display network and Facebook, workshops, etc.), the project reached 93.78% of Cypriots and 27% of tourists visiting Cyprus and met the targets set by the project objectives. Specifically, the project:

- increased awareness towards the need for the protection of Natura 2000 network of the inhabitants of Cyprus by 57%, youth by 60% and children by 50%;
- increased awareness on natural values for which the Troodos National Forest Park was included in the Natura 2000 Network of visitors/ tourists by 60%; and
- changed negative attitudes of the inhabitants of Cyprus by 57% and local communities and local authorities by 70% regarding Natura 2000 network.

iLIFE-TROODOS achievements are summarised below:

- Ecosystem services assessment was carried out for the Troodos National Forest Park, where its results were used for the needs of the information campaign.
- A comprehensive information campaign was launched for the first time in order to raise awareness on the importance of the natural values and ecosystem services of a site of the Natura 2000 Network.
- A significant contribution was achieved to alter the attitude of the public towards the Natura 2000 Network. Specifically, the number of people who:
  - know about the Network has increased.
  - believe that the Network contributes to the preservation of the natural environment has increased.
  - believe that the Network positively affects the financial interests of landowners has increased.
  - believe that the local community of Cyprus can benefit from the Network has increased.
  - know what "ecosystem services" are has increased.
- Visitors' information points were constructed for the first time in a site of the Natura 2000 Network in Cyprus, which include touch screens that offer information to the visitors 24 hours per day.
- For the first time, facilities for people with visual impairments are provided in natural areas.
- For the first time, applications for smart devices were created exclusively for a Natura 2000 Network site [application "Troodos National Forest Park (iLIFE-TROODOS)" and application "iLIFE-TROODOS Treasure hunt"]
- A photo contest with the subject "Troodos, It's in Our Nature!" was successfully implemented. Selected photographs were presented in the context of a photo exhibition that travelled for about a year to popular places in Cyprus.
- A documentary about Troodos National Forest Park was produced presenting the natural values and ecosystem services it provides with special reference to the villages of the area and the stone-built settlements.
- A mascot was created to reach children: 'Dentris' is a little elf, the "spirit of the forest", who with a narration like a fairy tale explains to young children the benefits of the Troodos forest.

EU Programme	**LIFE**
Consortium | Partner	Coordinator: Department of Forests (Cyprus), Partners: Frederick University (Cyprus), Department of Environment (Cyprus), Contact Advertising Agency Ltd (Cyprus)
Total Budget	**€ 1.237.771,74**
EU Funding	**€ 708.769,74**
Duration	**36 months**
Project Website	**https://www.ilifetroodos.eu**

Climate proofing Urban Municipalities

Description

The Life UrbanProof project, funded under the LIFE Programme, proposes a holistic and highly automated approach for supporting municipalities to assess climate change related vulnerabilities and risks, to explore and evaluate the available adaptation options and to develop adaptation strategies, as well as monitor climate change, vulnerabilities and adaptation.

In the framework of this project the proposed methodology is being applied in four municipalities in Cyprus, Greece and Italy, where vulnerability assessments were conducted and adaptation strategies were developed.

The project developed and demonstrated an innovative decision support tool (UrbanProof toolkit) for adaptation planning in the urban environment which will provide local decision makers, stakeholders and target groups with access to visual information on climate change, vulnerability and adaptation in the form of maps and graphs.

EU Programme	**LIFE**
Consortium | Partner	Coordinator: Ministry of Agriculture, Rural Development and Environment - Department of Environment (Cyprus), Partners: Strovolos Municipality (Cyprus), National Technical University of Athens (Greece), National Observatory of Athens (Greece), Lakatamia Municipality (Cyprus), University IUAV of Venice (Italy), Municipality of Reggio Emilia (Italy), Municipality of Peristeri (Greece)
Total Budget	**€ 1.841.003**
EU Funding	**€ 1.104.601,80**
Duration	**55 months**
Project Website	**https://www.urbanproof.eu**

Life IP Physis

Managing the Natura 2000 Network in Cyprus and Shaping a Sustainable Future

EU Programme	Integrated projects
Consortium | Partner	Coordinator: Department of Environment, Ministry of Agriculture, Rural Development and Environment (Cyprus), Partners: Department of For-ests, Ministry of Agriculture, Rural Development and Environment (Cy-prus), Department of Fisheries and Marine Research, Ministry of Agricul-ture, Rural Development and Environment (Cyprus), Game and Fauna Service, Ministry of Interior (Cyprus), Terra Cypria Foundation (Cyprus), BirdLife Cyprus (Cyprus), Open University of Cyprus (Cyprus), Freder-ick University (Cyprus), Cyprus Wildlife Society (Cyprus), Federation of Environmental Organisations of Cyprus (Cyprus), ACC Perivallon kai Kainotomia Ltd (Cyprus), I.A.CO. Environmental & Water Consultants Ltd (Cyprus), National and Kapodistrian University of Athens (Greece), Cyprus University of Technology (Cyprus), AP Marine Environmental Consultancy Ltd (Cyprus)
Total Budget	**€ 16.999.279**
EU Funding	**€ 10.199.035**
Duration	**120 months**
Project Website	**https://www.physis.cy/**

Description

The project LIFE IP-Physis, funded under the Life + Programme 2014 – 2020 - Integrated Projects, aims directly at the improvement of the conservation status of species and habitats of community interest through actions in the whole Natura 2000 (N2K) network in Cyprus for the areas under effective government control.

The project includes actions affecting the whole network and other actions affecting certain species and habitats in specific N2K sites. The horizontal actions are considered to be of vital importance for the sustainable management of the network.

The N2K network in Cyprus has a total of 63 sites, covering 1,789 km2 including marine and terrestrial areas. Cyprus ranks among the top five EU countries in terms of percentage of land area covered by the N2K network (28.82%). The network includes 40 SCIs/SACs designated under the Habitats Directive (HD) 92/43/EEC, covering a terrestrial area of 752 km2 (13.49% of area of Cyprus – EU average is 12.3%) and 131 km² of marine waters, and 30 Special Protection Areas (SPAs) designated under Birds Directive (BD) 2009/147/EC, covering a terrestrial area of 1,534 km2 (26.7% of area of Cyprus, compared to an EU average of 18.1%) and 110 km² of marine waters. Seven sites are both Sites of Community Importance (SCIs) and SPA (185 km2) with overlapping designation areas. A total of 29 SCIs have been designated as Special Areas of Conservation and 7 are still pending designation. A large proportion (60%) of the N2K area (75% of SCIs) is located within State.

The terrestrial part of the network is mostly complete; insufficiencies are expected to be amended with the update of the Standard Data Form Database which is currently underway by the expansion of existing sites (Pafos Forest – merging 4 SCIs and Rizoelia National Forest Park-expansion) and the designation of a new one (Liopetri National Forest Park).

Management plans for the achievement of the conservation objectives have been drafted for all sites, however, a significant number of them has been conducted at the very early stages of the establishment of the network therefore an update is necessary. Conservation objectives have been established for all 29 SACs designated to date. The legal coverage for the implementation of the management measures is provided by the adoption of Decrees which are under preparation and will include, inter alia, restrictive provisions. Management plans have also been prepared for all 30 SPAs; these plans include conservation objectives, propose management measures and set Favourable Reference Values (FRVs) for targeted bird species in each site.


Interreg

Interreg

Description

European Territorial Cooperation (ETC), better known as Interreg, is one of the two goals of Cohesion Policy and provides a framework for the implementation of joint actions and policy exchanges between national, regional and local actors from different Member States.
The overarching objective of European Territorial Cooperation (ETC) is to promote a harmonious economic, social and territorial development of the Union as a whole. Interreg is built around three strands of cooperation: cross-border (Interreg A), transnational (Interreg B) and interregional (Interreg C).
In accordance with the new design of the European Cohesion Policy 2014-2020 and the targets set out in Europe 2020, Interreg had significantly been reshaped to achieve greater impact and an even more effective use of the investments.
The fifth programming period of Interreg (2014-2020) had a budget of EUR 10.1 billion invested in over 100 cooperation programmes between regions and territorial, social and economic partners.

Interreg
Balkan-Mediterranean
INNOVENTER

Innovative Vocational Social Entrepreneurial Training

EU Programme	**Interreg Balkan-Med**
Consortium | Partner	Coordinator: National Federation of Employers of Disabled People (Bulgaria), Partners: University of Ruse (Bulgaria), Marie Curie Association (Bulgaria), Albania Community Assist (Albania), Cyprus Chamber of Commerce and Industry (Cyprus), DYEKO – Support Network for Entrepreneurship and Social Economy (Greece), Management Consulting Association (North Macedonia)
Total Budget	**€ 833.110,76**
EU Funding	**€ 708.144,15**
Duration	**28 months**
Project Website	**https://www.innoventer.eu**

Description

The INNOVENTER project, funded under the Interreg Balkan-Med programme, aimed to establish VET oriented social entrepreneurship training for SME entrepreneurs so that they innovate themselves, while at the same time engage disadvantaged people as employees.

The project embedded concepts of Social Business Initiative (Social Economy and Entrepreneurship) with commercial entrepreneurship, embracing characteristics of a social enterprise and attempted to stimulate companies to be managed in a more open and responsible manner.

Investing in sustainable blue growth and competitiveness through 3-pillar business model

Description

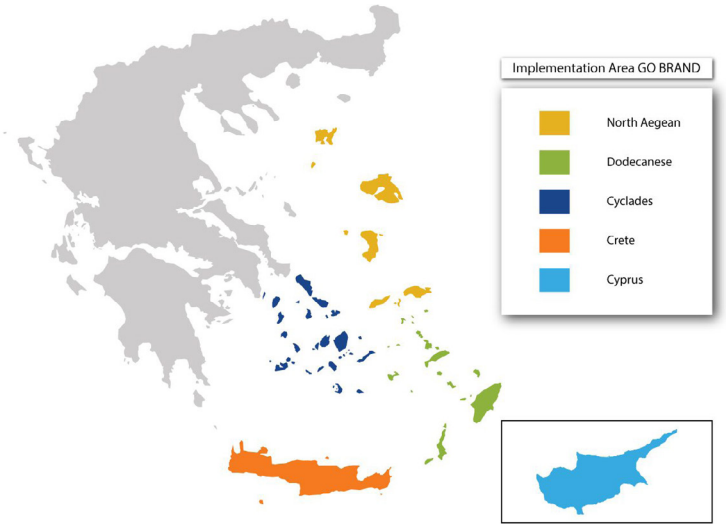
The iBlue project, funded under Interreg MED 2014-2020, contributed to the sustainable relaunch of yachting sector (shipbuilding, nautical services, tourism) creating a Mediaterranean transnational network to help the economic upturn by sharing business models which integrate the 3 pillars of sustainability (environmental, social, economic), developing the 3-PBM methodology.
Specifically, the main objective of the iBlue project was is to improve the Mediterranean area yachting sector competitiveness by:

- creating an integrated and transnational network of yachting sector of the Mediterranean area;
- developing and applying a methodology for BMI of its actors, based the 3 -pillars of sustainability (economic, social and environmental);
- providing a critical mass of knowledge about the sector.

Through an integrated approach, the partners involved actors of the whole nautical supply chain, from the production SMEs to the nautical service providers and the maritime sector tourists. Furthermore, the cluster merged competences of research experts, SMEs and local authorities, creating a critical mass of knowledge that was able to influence policy makers through an impact indicator system.

EU Programme	**Interreg MED**
Consortium | Partner	Coordinator: University of Udine (Italy), Partners: Step Ri Science and Technology Park of the University of Rijeka (Croatia), KEDGE Business School (France), Official Chamber of Commerce, Industry, Services and Shipping of Seville (Spain), Cyprus Chamber of Commerce and Industry (Cyprus), Lasithi Chamber of Commerce and Industry (Greece), University of Primorska (Slovenia), RCDI - Development and Innovation Network (Portugal), Durres Chamber of Commerce and Industry (Albania)
Total Budget	**€ 2.252.855**
EU Funding	**€ 1.774.676,75**
Duration	**36 months**
Project Website	**https://iblue.interreg-med.eu/**

Actions for the promotion, support and enhancement of the brand name of eligible products and / or services of Greece and Cyprus in the cross-border area



EU Programme	**Interreg Greece-Cyprus**
Consortium | Partner	Coordinator: Cyprus Chamber of Commerce and Industry (Cyprus), Partners: Lasithi Olive Oil Producers (Greece), Lasithi Chamber of Commerce and Industry (Greece), Association for the Development and Progress of the Dodecanese – DETAP (Greece), Cyclades Progress & Development Organization – ETAP (Greece), Chios Chamber of Commerce (Greece), Foundation for Research and Technology-Hellas –FORTH (Greece)
Total Budget	**€ 1.083.408**
EU Funding	**€ 920.897**
Duration	**29 months**
Project Website	**http://www.gobrand.gr/en**

Description

The GO BRAND project, funded under the Interreg Greece-Cyprus programme, supported and promoted very small, small and medium-sized enterprises in the sectors of tourism and local traditional products, so that through synergies and actions of networking, promotion, promotion and the use of innovation services they:

- increased their quantitative and qualitative target markets, as well as their end-users, through specialised / targeted actions to promote and strengthen the brand of eligible products and / or services of each participating region,
- achieved economies of scale and saved human and material resources through networking in clusters or cooperative partnerships
- increased their competitiveness by incorporating innovative (technological and non-technological) practices through personalized coaching

The outcome of the project is improved access to target markets (particularly abroad) and the expansion of the customer base of the participating businesses, by using joint promotion techniques, in particular in the tourism and food sector.

BalkanMed Real Time Severe Weather Service

Description

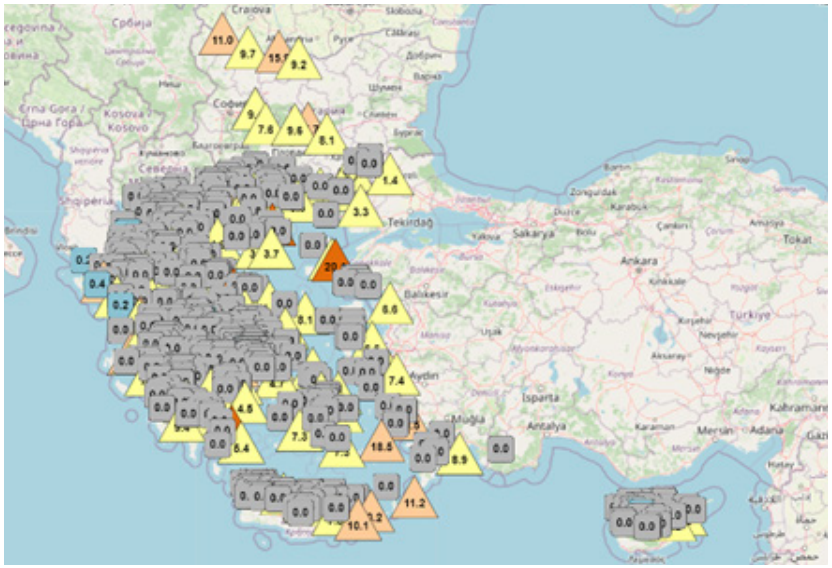
The BeRTISS project is funded under the European Territorial Cooperation Programme “Interreg V-B Balkan-Mediterranean 2014-2020”. Abrupt and heavy precipitation events occur more frequently and are more intensified than they used to be due to climate change which is a scientifically accepted fact. Therefore, the application of technological systems to monitor and provide forecasting and early warning of such events, particularly in the short term and over small spatial scales, is crucial to a wide spectrum of societal sectors. Poorly forecasted weather (especially of abrupt and extreme events in the form of hail, floods and landslides) causes loss of lives, destruction of infrastructure and billions of euros in missed revenue and lost profits.

BeRTISS is a pilot transnational severe weather service by exploiting Global Navigation Satellite Systems (GNSS) tropospheric products to enhance the safety, the quality of life and environmental protection in the Balkan-Mediterranean region. The system provides timely information and warning regarding severe weather events, as well as long-term monitoring of weather and climate change in the region, through the mapping and visualisation of water vapor (the most abundant greenhouse gas that accounts for ~70% of global warming and most critical meteorological parameter for accurate weather prediction by forecasting models).

This information augmented by measured meteorological parameters on a local scale, can significantly enhance our forecasting capability to detect in advance severe precipitation with higher accuracy, speed and precision. In particular, water vapor as a direct indicator of extreme precipitation events can be used to detect rapid moisture increases at intervals between the prediction model updates. This has been proven to be a valuable data source for high resolution limited area Numerical Weather Prediction (NWP) models contributing significantly to the issuance of timely flood watches and warnings for flash floods, debris flows, and related road closures.

Through BeRTISS, the expansion of the existing GNSS network of tropospheric products in one of the Europe’s most remote regions and vulnerable to severe weather and climate change, is realised. All derived products are displayed in real time on a dedicated web-platform to provide prompt uninterruptable information and early warnings of forthcoming severe weather events.

The results of the project contribute to the improvement of relevant European and regional strategic policies for the protection of lives, climate, environment, biodiversity and natural resources in the region.



EU Programme	**Interreg Balkan-Med**
Consortium | Partner	Coordinator: Frederick Research Center (Cyprus), Partners: Hail Suppression Agency (Bulgaria), Sofia University “St. Kliment Ohridski”, Faculty of Physics, Department of Meteorology and Geophysics (Bulgaria), Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, School of Rural and Surveying Engineering (Greece), Cyprus Department of Meteorology (Cyprus), National Observatory of Athens (Greece)
Total Budget	**€ 1.063.941,03**
EU Funding	**€ 904.350**
Duration	**30 months**
Project Website	**http://app.bertiss.eu/home**

Innovations in Sustainable Urban Mobility Plans for low-carbon urban transport

EU Programme	**Interreg Europe**
Consortium | Partner	Lead Partner: Nicosia Municipality (Cyprus), Partners: Municipalities of Prague, Devon County Council, Municipality of Ravenna, Municipality of Kordelios-Evosmos, Municipality of Viseu, Municipality of IASI, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, Vilnius Transport Authority
Total Budget	**€ 363.000 for Nicosia Municipality**
EU Funding	**€ 1.698.000**
Duration	**48 months**
Project Website	**https://www.interregeurope.eu/innovasump**

Description

The InnovaSUMP project stands for Innovations in Sustainable Urban Mobility Plans for low carbon urban transport. The objective of InnovaSUMP project is to facilitate the take up of innovative Sustainable Urban Mobility Plans by:

- Strengthening the knowledge and capacities of local authorities
- Providing a lasting framework for exchanges of experience
- Introducing specific innovations in all steps of the planning cycle for SUMPs
- Addressing financial options and establish alternative funding procedures
- Promoting efficient policies and effective measures that would ensure investments and successful implementation of sustainable mobility solutions
- Facilitating innovative strategic policies and provide links with policies and best practices on sustainable development

InnovaSUMP project aims at introducing:

- New innovations, enhancements and advances in preparation, elaboration, consultation, adoption, implementation, evaluation and monitoring of Sustainable Urban Mobility Plans (SUMPs), based on the EU established methodology (Clean transport, Urban transport; Eltis), for sustainable low-carbon urban transport and mobility policies and measures promotion, funding, implementation and enhancement.
- Policies and measures that promote the use of and investments in sustainable mobility solutions, can be included in SUMPs, i.e.: high quality PT systems, alternative/clean fuels, electric vehicles, smart ticketing, urban freight logistics, active modes of cycling and walking, new forms of car ownership and use, access control, congestion charging, fair and efficient pricing, ICT mobile applications, ITS transport telematics infrastructure, FTS/DRT, Intermodality improvements for 'seamless' travel, links with Smart Cities mobility initiatives, etc; including stakeholder engagement, public participation, consultation procedures, social media applications, policy formulation and adoption by city and transport authorities, polycentric SUMP approach for regional and district authorities (PolySUMP). These measures are some examples that can be implemented by cities.
- Policy and institutional implications for advances in implementing and funding innovative sustainable mobility solutions.
- Contribution of SUMP process innovations to: urban regeneration, social inclusion, equity considerations, economy, competitiveness, effective PPPs, citizen society empowerment, cohesion, links with the 'Urban Mobility Package 2013', links with SEAP, mid-term review of White paper and Europe2020 targets.
- Enhancements to SUMP Methodology: Promotion of low-carbon mobility solutions, Travel behaviour research and potential user response analyses, Integrating pricing and financing measures, Planning for visitors at tourism destinations, campaigns, assessments, ITS and ICT Applications.

InnovaSUMP main activities:
Thematic Interregional Workshops / study tours/ Staff exchanges / Set up of Local Stakeholder Groups / Establishment of Linkages and Synergies

Towards farms with zero carbon-, waste- and water-footprint. Roadmap for sustainable management strategies for Balkan agricultural sector

Description

The Balkan agricultural sector faces strong challenges in terms of unsustainable resources management and greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions. Although some countries show positive development indicators, the continuous economic crisis, the low level of participatory/ initiatives undertaken by local/ regional authorities and the lower capacity and educational level of Balkan farmers in comparison to other European farmers, inhibit the adoption of innovative approaches and conformation of Balkan agriculture to EU policies, mainly at farm/ local level.

The project, funded under, the Interreg Balkan Mediterranean Programme 2014-2020, conception shares deeply the willingness of the farmers to protect the environment, but also their deep concern to develop their skills, modernise and increase the profitability of their enterprises by reaching EU and international markets.

Hence, the BalkanRoad project provides tools and policies for economic development, through the adoption of environment protective practices, which is a strong motivation for farmers to adopt and implement the project's outcomes.

BalkanRoad has two orientations, which combined and integrated into a Balkan Roadmap and are anticipated to open new trade horizons for Balkan agricultural products, boosting also local and national economies; namely, to:

- improve the Balkan agricultural environment by developing strategies, methodologies and technologies for natural resources conservation (soil, water, air), reduction of GHGs, reduction of waste generation/disposal and increase recycling/ reuse ratio in farm systems;
- develop a common Balkan Protocol for the production of eco-labeled agricultural products, by putting in force sustainable practices throughout the entire production line (i.e from the field to the market) so that the final products will have measurable, comparable and ultimately the lowest possible environmental footprint. A fully automated, robust but also flexible system (the ROAD tool) for recording, calculating and reporting the environmental footprint of the marketable products will be tested and demonstrated in 3 agricultural pilot enterprises in Greece, Bulgaria and North Macedonia.

The proposed tool https://roadtool.balkanroad.eu/ is freely accessible from anyone who indents to calculate their environmental footprint and can be used by any Cypriot company (and abroad). The tool takes into consideration the emission factors from Cyprus as those were calculated by the competent Cyprus Ministry. Moreover, through this tool, the emissions from the production line of any product can be assessed, while it is also offered for monitoring the emissions of a specific product between different producers.

EU Programme	**Interreg Balkan-Med**
Consortium | Partner	Coordinator: Benaki Phytopathological Institute (Greece), Partners: FORTH, Institute for Mediterranean Studies (Greece), American Farm School Post-Secondary Educational and Training Association (Greece), Open University of Cyprus (Cyprus), Association of Agri- Environmental Farmers (Bulgaria), Agricultural University of Tirana (Albania), Macedonian Organic Producers Federation (North Macedonia)
Total Budget	**€ 1.284.723,15**
EU Funding	**€ 1.092.014**
Duration	**36 months**
Project Website	**https://www.balkanroad.eu**

Digitalisation, Accessibility and Cultural Content Diffusion (Audiovisual, Printed and Musical Content)

EU Programme	**Interreg Greece-Cyprus**
Consortium | Partner	Coordinator: Cyprus Broadcasting Corporation (Cyprus), Partners: Press and Information Office of the Republic of Cyprus (Cyprus), Public Central Library of Rhodes (Greece)
Total Budget	**€ 1.004.016**
EU Funding	**€ 853.413**
Duration	**29 months**
Project Website	**https://www.digital-herodotus.eu**

Description

The objective of the project “Psifiakos Irodotos II “, funded under Interreg Greece - Cyprus, was the rescue and digitisation of material of historical value and uniqueness, in which a large part of society, not only in Cyprus and Greece, but also abroad, is an integral part.
Within the framework of the project, 450 hours of audiovisual material (of the period 1955-1990), 50 hours of previously unpublished music material (1955-1974), 500,000 pages of the Cyprus Press of the period 1878-today, as well as the newspapers of the island of Rhodes, which are related to Cyprus and cover the period 1915-2006 were digitised and diffused to the public.

Generating SME product and process innovation with a new tourism mobility model

Description

The INNOViMENTOR project, funded under the Interreg Balkan Med Programme, supports businesses in remote, peripheral and sparsely populated areas to grow in regional, national and international markets and engage in innovation processes in the tourism sector.
To prevent brain-drain and effectively address the skills-job mismatch tourism businesses are facing in the Balkan-Med region, skills needs and supply-demands trends are mapped. To achieve cross-sector-cooperation, INNOViMENTOR is reforming and reshaping the supply-demand pattern addressing stakeholder fragmentation, fully in accordance with the EU2020 Grand Societal Challenges/New Narrative for Europe.
Among the project's outputs are an experience-based Tourism Route with 80 geolocations in the project area; 8 Augmented Reality Heritage Games for e- and onsite visitors, 8 Heritage Games & iCLOUD Museum as well as an iBook for iOS and Android devices.

EU Programme	**Interreg Balkan-Med**
Consortium | Partner	Coordinator: University of the Aegean (Greece), Partners: Balkania - Balkan Association for Alternative Tourism (North Macedonia), Center for Heritage Interpretation (Bulgaria), CulturePolis (Greece), Institution of Prefect in Gjirokastra Region (Albania), Strovolos Municipality (Cyprus), Regional Centre for Development and Cooperation (Greece), Union of Bulgarian Black Sea Local Authorities (Bulgaria)
Total Budget	**€ 989.949**
EU Funding	**€ 946.772,80**
Duration	**24 months**
Project Website	**https://www.facebook.com/INNOViMENTOR**


CEF
programme

CEF

Description

The Connecting Europe Facility (CEF), is a key EU funding instrument to promote growth, jobs and competitiveness through targeted infrastructure investment at European level. For the period 2014-2020, having a budget of € 29,904.3 billion, it supported the development of high performing, sustainable and efficiently interconnected trans-European networks in the fields of transport, energy and digital services. The CEF benefits people across all Member States, as it makes travel easier and more sustainable, it enhances Europe's energy security while enabling wider use of renewables, and it facilitates cross-border interaction between public administrations, businesses and citizens. In addition to grants, the CEF offers financial support to projects through innovative financial instruments such as guarantees and project bonds. These instruments create significant leverage in their use of EU budget and act as a catalyst to attract further funding from the private sector and other public sector actors.

CYberSafety - Safer Internet Centre of Cyprus

EU Programme	**CYberSafety II: CEF -TC-2018-1** **CYberSafety I: CEF -TC-2015-1**
Consortium | Partner	Coordinator: Cyprus Pedagogical Institute, Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports and Youth (Cyprus), Partners: Digital Security Authority (Cyprus), University of Cyprus (Cyprus), Cyprus University of Technology (Cyprus), Pancyprian School for Parents (Cyprus), Cyprus Neuroscience and Technology Institute (Cyprus), Cyprus Telecommunications Authority (Cyprus), Epic/MTN Ltd (Cyprus)
Total Budget	**CYberSafety II = € 1.118.662** **CYberSafety I = € 989.726**
EU Funding	**CYberSafety II = € 559.331** **CYberSafety I = € 494.863**
Duration	**CYberSafety II: 36 months** **CYberSafety I: 30 months**
Project Website	**https://www.cybersafety.cy**

Description

The Cyprus Safer Internet Centre – CyberSafety, building on European funding as part of the Better Internet for Kids project, aimes to strengthen efforts for the creative and safe use of the internet in Cyprus. Focusing on the new and increasing needs, which constantly rise, at national and European level, regarding internet technology, the Centre promotes cooperation between national stakeholders, aiming to create a cybersecurity culture. It has also developed and promoted the National Strategy for Better Internet for Kids in Cyprus.

The need to educate children in the creative, responsible, and safe use of the internet is evident. CYberSafety II continues the successful work of the Cyprus Safer Internet Centre - CYberSafety I (www.cybersafety.cy). Focusing on the new and increasing needs, which constantly rise, at national and European level, regarding internet technology, the Centre promotes cooperation between major national stakeholders, to promote a safe internet culture and empower creative, innovative and critical citizens in the digital society.

An Awareness Centre supports the work of the Centre, by developing rich educational/ information material, resources and tools, as well as organised campaigns to empower children, young people, parents, carers and teachers with skills and knowledge on how to be safe online and benefit from the advantages that the digital environment can offer. Furthermore, the Awareness Centre works closely with children and young people allowing them to actively share their experiences, ideas and views, reinforcing them to formulate suggestions and actions regarding the creative and safe use of digital technologies and the internet. CYberSafety Youth Panel members act as ambassadors of best practices and actions, aiming to create innovative resources and disseminate messages about the safe use of the internet to their peers and other involved groups.

Helpline and Hotline also support the work of the Centre. The operation of the Helpline aims to ensure that all users will receive expert advice and support on issues related to the use of digital technologies and the internet. More specifically, Helpline provides information, advice and assistance to children, young people and/ or parents, teachers, and professionals, on how to deal with harmful content, contact (such as grooming) and conduct (such as cyberbullying or sexting). The operation of the Hotline offers a direct, easily accessible, and responsible point of contact for users to report illegal content or actions related to illegal child sexual abuse material.

At the same time, CYberSafety contributes towards a European approach and provides qualitative and quantitative feedback at European level, through its core service platform.

Cy e-Invoicing for Local Authorities

Description

The main objectives of the project “Cy e-Invoicing Local Authorities”, funded the Connecting Europe Facility, was to map the procedures and needs of local government organisations in Cyprus (Municipalities and Communities) to comply with the requirements of European Commission Directive 55/2014 which requires these organisations to be technically ready to receive electronic invoices by 18/04/2020.
After the mapping of the needs was completed, a pilot implementation of the whole operation (sending, handling, receipt and management of invoices) was carried out in the Municipality of Nicosia, in collaboration with a supplier of the Municipality of Nicosia.

The eInvoicing platform was customised and tested to suit the needs of the Municipality of Nicosia. In addition, the action undertook information gathering and analysis of existing ERPs (Enterprise Resource Planning) used by the Regional and Local Authorities (i.e. communities and municipalities) in Cyprus in order to streamline and ease the adoption of eInvoicing by the local and regional authorities e.g. by preparing the analysis document for a centralised ERP.

Electronic Invoicing is defined as the exchange of electronic invoices between the supplier and the customer in electronic form without any human intervention in any phase of the issuance, distribution, delivery, receipt and management of the invoice. “Electronic” means the invoice issued, transmitted and received in a structured electronic form (not just a PDF file), which allows its automatic and electronic further processing, exactly as defined in Directive 2014/55 / EU.

EU Programme	CEF
Consortium | Partner	Coordinator: Ministry of Interior – Nicosia District Administration Office (Cyprus) Partners: Lefkosia Municipality (Cyprus), Union of Cyprus Municipalities (Cyprus), ENOSI Koinotiton Kyprou (Cyprus), Ministry of Finance - Tax Department (Cyprus), Boomertel Ltd (Cyprus), RTD Talos Ltd (Cyprus), AC Goldman Ltd (Cyprus)
Total Budget	**€ 1.069.512**
EU Funding	**€ 802.134**
Duration	**12 months**
Project Website	**http://www.moi.gov.cy/moi/e-invoicingla.nsf/home_gr/home_gr?opendocument**

Byzantine Art and Archaeology Thematic Channel

EU Programme	CEF
Consortium | Partner	Coordinator: University of Bologna (Italy), Partners: Ionian University/Research Committe (Greece), Open University of Cyprus (Cyprus), Aristotle University of Thessaloniki -Special Account for Research Funds (Greece), Bulgarian Academy of Sciences, Institute of Art Studies (Bulgaria), National Hellenic Research Foundation - Institute of Historical Research (Greece), Museo d'Arte della città di Ravenna - International Centre for Documentation of Mosaic (Italy)
Total Budget	€ 851.564
EU Funding	€ 425.857
Duration	19 months
Project Website	https://www.byzart.eu

Description

The "BYZART - Byzantine Art and Archaeology Thematic Channel" action, funded under the Connecting Europe Facility, aims at making about 75,000 cultural and artistic multimedia contents accessible online through the Europeana platform (Europeana).

The contents that will be made available to Europeana include collections of digitised photos, video and audio contents, as well as 3D surveys and reconstructions of Byzantine history and culture. The digital objects will be available at the best possible quality and according to the Europeana Right Statements (ERS). Moreover, the action will enhance Europeana accessibility and visibility, by rationalising and classifying the items already uploaded on the platform. By the end of the action, the number of the digital items related to Byzantine art and archaeology on the Europeana platform will reach about 115,500.
As part of the action, a rich media experience will be offered to the users.

Other Programmes

UNESCO Chair of Digital Cultural Heritage

Description

The main objectives of the newly established unique UNESCO Chair on Digital Cultural Heritage at the Department of Electrical Engineering, Computer Engineering and Informatics at the Cyprus University of Technology over the next years are to:

• Carry out a wide-reaching program of awareness raising and knowledge-sharing programmes on the role of Digital Cultural Heritage (DCH) in the Eastern Mediterranean region and beyond, utilising conferences and events, web and social media channels, academic exchanges and all possible media publicity vehicles.
• Introduce model DCH curricula ('Cultural Informatics') at vocational, undergraduate and postgraduate levels and extend course availability, teaching and study facilities to students internationally through state-of-the-art e-Learning.
• Define, extend and carry out a programme of research in digital heritage which will further UNESCO's cultural heritage agenda in the region and to impact its key objectives.
• Extend to communities across the region usable and affordable systems for telling the stories of their own heritage and expressing their identity online, in a context of inter-communal cooperation.

EU Programme	UNESCO CHAIR/UNITWIN NETWORK
Consortium | Partner	Cyprus University of Technology
Total Budget	**N/A**
EU Funding	**N/A**
Duration	**N/A**
Project Website	**https://www.digitalheritagelab.eu**

The Chair will introduce and extend through e-Learning, higher education programmes (BSc, MSc) in Cultural Informatics, needed to enable DCH to work effectively. This will lead to a substantial body of PhD and post-doctoral research in key aspects of DCH, including digitisation, data acquisition, processing, modelling, archiving, visualisation, preservation and protection, analysis, interpretation, storytelling, use/re-use.

Topics of emphasis will include: documentation (metadata, ontologies, semantics, linked data) and the applications of 3D/4D, Virtual, Augmented and Mixed Reality, cognitive computing, artificial intelligence, cloud computing and crowdsourcing/Citizen Science. The needs of audiences such as cultural organisations (archives, libraries, museums, monuments and sites) and the communities they serve, will be a primary focus, alongside those of people working in the field of Digital Humanities, including the issues of multilingualism that impact them.

The work proposed for the Chair corresponds closely with UNESCO Strategic Objective 7 (2014-2025): Protecting, promoting and transmitting heritage by working to ensure transmission of heritage assets of all kinds – natural and cultural, tangible and intangible, movable and immovable, as well as documentary – to future generations because of their social value and the way in which they embody identity and belonging and using them to promote social stability, peace building, recovery from crisis situations and sustainable development strategies. It is also closely relevant to other Strategic Objectives such as SO1 (education systems to foster high quality and inclusive lifelong learning for all) and SO4 (strengthening science, technology and innovation systems).
DHRLab with its education, research innovation and policy making, is trying to establish the breach of communication and cooperation between the European Commission and the UNESCO. The high level of involvement of the lab in EU projects is enabling the achievement of this very important goal. Moreover, the DHRLab is promoting the social and educational potential of heritage, enthusing individuals and communities throughout Cyprus to contribute and describe digital objects reflecting their heritage and local stories. The Chair will extend this in support of inter-communal understanding to all Cypriots and other countries of the region wishing to develop expressions of regional, community and family history, echoing UNESCO's acknowledgement of the natural and cultural diversity of the world and its recognition that all cultures and civilisations can contribute to and are crucial enablers of sustainable development.

Developing capacities together: European CSO-university networks for global learning on migration, security and sustainable development in an interdependent world

Description

InterCAP, a three-year project, funded by EuropAid, worked towards the establishment of networks between European Civil Society Organisations (CSOs) and universities in a bid to build the capacities of education actors and promote an elevated conception and knowledge on migration, security and sustainable development, as they unfold in an interdependent world. The overarching objective of the project was to address emerging concerns as to the shifting public perceptions with regards to security and risk, influence stances and understanding on migration and sustainable development.

To that end, InterCap brought together a consortium comprised by an experienced and influential project team which included CSOs, universities and research institutions with extensive expertise in the field. Through the workings and actions of the project, the implementing partners utilised a wide array of tools and methods, pursuing a blend of actions and initiatives to promote global learning on migration, security and sustainable development. The said actions were being carried out both on a national and transnational level.

The overall objective of the InterCap project was to enhance critical understanding of migration and sustainable development, in the context of the Sustainable Development Goals, amongst those in teacher education, and to increase the comprehension of the relationship between countries and societies in an interdependent world.

The specific objectives of the project were to:

- ensure coherence and consistency in the delivery of development education on migration, sustainable development, and the interdependencies across local and global contexts;
- elevate development education competencies amongst CSOs' and university teacher trainers;
- increase the availability of quality content and critical development education pedagogies in teacher training;
- explore and strengthen the link between quality development education and attitudes towards migration and development, building on evidence-based practices;
- identify and put forward good practices on the field and establish multidisciplinary and multi-sector synergies.

InterCap organised and undertook international trainings and conferences, established "Communities of Practice" and mentoring structures. It has also developed and made available through its website a full-suite of learning resources. Additionally, the project team offered extensive training opportunities - beyond the formal education context for teachers (from CSOs and universities) and pre-service teachers, placements/internships (work-based learning). This work was complemented by Communal Practice Orientated Projects that were being carried out in collaboration with CSOs, local administrations, universities and schools.

EU Programme	EuropeAid
Consortium | Partner	Coordinator: Centre for Advancement of Research and Development in Educational Technology Ltd - CARDET (Cyprus), Partners: Oxfam Italia Intercultural (Italy), Diversity Development Group (Lithuania), University of Split (Hungary), Instituto per la Cooperazione Universitaria Onlus (Italy), KMOP - Family & Childcare Centre (Greece), KOPIN (Malta), LIiverpool World Centre (United Kingdom), Towarzystwo Edukacji Antydyskpryminacyjnej (Poland), Euro-Training (Bulgaria), WUSAT (Austria), World University Service (Denmark), Zavod Global (Slovenia)
Total Budget	€ 1.589.833
EU Funding	€ 1.414.952
Duration	36 months
Project Website	http://www.developtogether.eu

Walk the Global Walk

EU Programme	EuropeAid
Consortium | Partner	Coordinator: Regione Toscana (Italy), Partners: Municipality of Fushë-Arrëz (Albania), City of Mostar (Bosnia and Herzegovina), The Psychological Support Center “Sensus” (Bosnia and Herzegovina), Municipality of Sofia (Bulgaria), Region of Istria – Department for International Cooperation and European Affairs (Croatia), Strovolos Municipality (Cyprus), CARDET, Center for the Advancement of Research & Development in Educational Technology (Cyprus), Normandy Regional Council (France), International Institute for Human Rights and Peace (France), Municipality of Fyli (Greece), ActionAid Hellas (Greece), Oxfam Italia Intercultura (Italy), Municipality of Vila Franca de Xira (Portugal), AIDGLOBAL (Portugal), Municipality of Bucharest (Romania), Assistance and Programs for Sustainable Development – Agenda 21” (Romania), Glasgow City Council (United Kingdom), University of Glasgow (United Kingdom), Carmarthenshire County Council Department of Education (United Kingdom), Dolen Cymru (United Kingdom)
Total Budget	**€ 3.180.038**
EU Funding	**€ 2.703.032,30**
Duration	**36 months**
Project Website	**https://www.walktheglobalwalk.eu**

Description

Walk the Global Walk, funded under the EuropeAID Programme, mobilises young people as catalysts for transformational change, localises the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and produces an innovative educational model addressing complexities of the current global agenda through Global Citizenship Education (GCE). The transferrable and pioneering model, capable of integrating a new understanding of global issues related to migration, climate change and gender equality, will be adapted to the formal education curricula of secondary schools.

Promoted by Tuscany Region and Oxfam Italia Intercultura, and co-funded by the European Union, the Walk the Global Walk project, connects local authorities, and regional and local communities (school communities and civil society organisations) from 11 European countries: Italy, France, Croatia, Cyprus, UK (Wales and Scotland), Portugal, Greece, Romania, Bulgaria, Bosnia and Herzegovina, and Albania.

Sustainable Cities and Communities (SDG11), Climate Action (SDG 13), Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions (SDG 16) are the three SDGs to be addressed over the course of this project as they were considered burning issues relevant to young people but ones with which they were not well-acquainted.

Walk the Global Walk strives to enhance European partnerships between local authorities and communities by creating a common

educational framework within the formal education system that can support and promote awareness of the Sustainable Development Goals. The project’s objectives are to open up the space where young people can engage in issues related to global citizenship and sustainable development. To promote a culture of peace, respect for human rights and co-responsibility on a global scale.

Educational Responses to Extremism

Description

The EDURAD project, funded under the Internal Security Fund Police Programme, aims to build on existing research and practices in order to develop a multi-actor, effective and comprehensive educational approach to address both the radicalisation process and the violence associated with it.

The priority area the project focuses on is the education sector and essentially adopting a broad perspective that includes formal, informal and non-formal education. This broad lens is intentional as it ensures that the impact is far-reaching, more effective and sustainable and involves both macro-level policy actors and grassroots local community actors taking into account cultural, religious and social sensitivities.

The approach on Preventing Violent Extremism through Education (PVE-E) is two-pronged. First, it involves the creation of interdisciplinary, local and inter-sectorial networks called 'PVE-E hubs' to produce new knowledge, enhance awareness and build the capacity of teachers, parents, youth and community NGOs and faith leaders. Second, it involves the development of pedagogical 'PVE-E tools' in the form of online modules that can be taught in history, politics or civics lessons, and trainings with educators on how to use them successfully.

EU Programme	Internal Security Fund Police Programme
Consortium | Partner	Coordinator: University of Linz (Austria), Partners: National University of Ireland Maynooth (Ireland), CSI Center for Social Innovation Ltd (Cyprus), Stichting VU (Netherlands), Frankfurt University of Applied Sciences (Germany)
Total Budget	**€ 740.440**
EU Funding	**€ 666.396**
Duration	**24 months**
Project Website	**https://www.edurad.eu**

Preventing and combating violence against women and girls through gender equality awareness violence against women in Cyprus

Description

The project Circle of Change, funded under the Rights, Equality and Citizenship Programme, aimed to develop a curriculum implemented in specialised training to front-line professionals in order to prevent and respond more effectively to violence against women (VAW) in Cyprus. This was achieved through the implementation of specialised and in-depth training to front-line professionals so as to acquire the necessary skills and competences to the needs of victims as foreseen by the Victims' Rights Directive and the provisions of the Istanbul Convention.

EU Programme	REC
Consortium | Partner	Coordinator: Cyprus Police (Cyprus), Partners: ENOROS Consulting Ltd (Cyprus), Association for the Prevention and Handling of Violence in the Family (Cyprus), Mediterranean Institute of Gender Studies (Cyprus)
Total Budget	**€ 220.172,17**
EU Funding	**€ 175.921,30**
Duration	**24 months**
Project Website	**https://www.facebook.com/CircleOfChange4**

Studies have shown that victims feel safe when they are treated in a kind, understanding, reassuring and informative way, and the provision of sufficient personnel with proper skills and commitment will encourage the victims to report to the Police. Therefore, the project aimed to provide the required specialisation to professionals for handling cases of VAW so as to better meet the needs of victims and to encourage them to seek support and help from the competent services.

The project also targeted adolescents in order to prevent them from being victims or perpetrators of intimate partner violence (IPV) or sexual violence (SV) or who are at risk of becoming victims or perpetrators in the future. Children witnessing IPV at home or among their peers also benefited from the project.

The proposed GEAR against IPV approach has been pilot-tested and evaluated during a previous project, DAPHNE. It is child-centred as teens are not taught but, instead, guided to explore their own attitudes/beliefs, their impact on their lives and to "discover" and exercise life skills enabling the development of violent-free intimate relationships. The proposed intervention has shown to bring substantial change in teens' attitudes, knowledge and life skills. The innovation of the GEAR against IPV material is that it combines gender stereotypes/inequality with IPV/SV in one package, reflecting that IPV can only be eliminated with the elimination of gender inequality.

The media campaign spread a clear message of zero tolerance to VAW (IPV/SV). On the one hand, the campaign addressed underreporting by informing women and girls about their rights to a life free of violence, and the victim support services available nationwide. Simultaneously the media campaign aims to eliminate gender stereotypes and challenge socio-cultural attitudes that render violent behaviour acceptable.

All the above-mentioned activities addressed the needs of three main target groups: Font-line professionals, teachers, adolescents, victims of VAW, and the wider public. Essentially, the project increased the capacity of front-line professionals to effectively respond to VAW, while raising awareness on the dynamics of VAW and addressing under-reporting on the other.

The innovation of the project lied within the wide institutional collaboration in the project consortium (involving governmental departments and NGOs) and its holistic/circular approach, that it followed, in enhancing awareness raising, primary and secondary prevention of IPV/SV in different interlinked levels: teenage relationships, font-line professionals, victims and potential victims, and the wider-public.

Breaking the Mould - Promoting Gender Equality in Cyprus

Description

The project “Breaking the Mould: Promoting Gender Equality in Cyprus” was implemented for a period of two years and was funded by the Rights, Equality and Citizenship – Justice Programme.

The project’s objectives include the promotion of flexible working arrangements for men in Cyprus, and encouraging companies and particularly SMEs to implement simple, family-friendly measures. Moreover, the project aimed to change the stereotype that domestic work does not fit the traditional image of masculinity. During the project a special research on mapping the current situation for working arrangements for both men and women in SMEs has been implemented. Based on that, the project implemented three awareness raising campaigns:

- the first targeted men and encouraged them to allow some time from their work schedules in order to support domestic work;
- the second promoted the potential benefits for companies and their employees when offering family-friendly measures; and
- the third offered an educational programme for primary school students breaking down the stereotypes of masculinity and femininity roles in domestic work.

The campaigns included TV adverts, publications, social media campaigns and videos.

EU Programme	REC – Justice Programme
Consortium | Partner	Coordinator: Ministry of Justice and Public Order (Cyprus), Partners: National Machinery for Women’s Rights (Cyprus), Office of the Commissioner for Gender Equality (Cyprus), Ministry of Education and Culture (Cyprus), Mediterranean Institute of Gender Studies (Cyprus), and IMH C.S.C Limited (Cyprus)
Total Budget	**€ 314.498,31**
EU Funding	**€ 247.146,33**
Duration	**24 months**
Project Website	**https://www.breakingthemouldcy.com**

Information and Awareness for Cohesion Policy via Media

EU Programme	**European Commission | Cohesion Policy**
Consortium | Partner	Coordinator: IMH C.S.C Limited (Cyprus), Partners: European Office of Cyprus (Cyprus), Open University Cyprus (Cyprus), Frederick University (Cyprus), Enoros Consulting Ltd (Cyprus), Neapolis University Paphos (Cyprus), University of Nicosia (Cyprus), Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports and Youth (Cyprus)
Total Budget	**€ 281.499,40**
EU Funding	**€ 225.199,51**
Duration	**15 months**
Project Website	**N/A**

Description

The project “In4COHESION – Information and Awareness for Cohesion Policy via Media”, funded under the Cohesion Policy framework, came forward to enable an informed debate about future priorities for the EU and ensure more transparency on how the EU’s Funds are being utilised and how the results are being implemented within the EU countries.

Through the project, citizens acquired better knowledge and their awareness was raised regarding the impact the EU Cohesion Policy has on a national and regional level in Cyprus and on the individual lives of citizens.

CAPture the Future Generation

Description

The project “CAPture the Future Generation”, funded under the Information Measures in relation to the Common Agricultural Policy, focuses on the challenge of the ageing farming population. The project aims through its activities to spread awareness amongst the young generation on the benefits of the Common Agricultural Policy so as to motivate young people to become involved in the agricultural sector by creating and developing new economic activity.

Each project activity address different target groups that have been identified, such as: youth (university and high school students, young people in rural areas), teachers and school children, farmers and other rural actors as stakeholders and the general public.

The project innovative activities include the organisation and implementation of a national “Young Agripreneurs Project” which happens for the first time in Cyprus and aims to:

- promote entrepreneurship in the agricultural sector among university and high school students while helping them to develop their own business;
- the development of an online educational toolkit addressed to teachers and therefore school children;
- the implementation of an agricultural start-up conference with the participation of stakeholders; and
- the implementation of an information campaign with the use of most of the media with a special focus on digital and online tools.

EU Programme	**IMCAP**
Consortium | Partner	Coordinator: IMH C.S.C Limited (Cyprus) Partner: Opinion & Action Services Ltd (Cyprus), Subcontractor: Com2GO (Cyprus)
Total Budget	**€ 74.814,40**
EU Funding	**€ 44.888,64**
Duration	**12 months**
Project Website	**http://www.capgeneration.com.cy**

HOMEE Heritage Opportunities/threats within Mega-Events in Europe: Changing environments, new challenges and possible solutions for preservation in mega events embedded in heritage rich European cities

A Place for Youth in Mediterranean EEA: Resilient and Sharing Economies for NEETs

EU Programme	**P2P/JPICH_HCE/0917/008**
Consortium | Partner	Lead Partner: Politecnico di Milano – Department of Architecture and Urban Studies (Italy), Partners: University of Hull (United Kingdom), Neapolis University Paphos (Cyprus), International Cultural Center
Total Budget	**€ 771.564,34**
EU Funding	**€ 552.497,92**
Duration	**48 months**
Project Website	**http://www.tau-lab.polimi.it/research/homee/**

Description

The project HOMEE was funded under the European call “JPICH Heritage in Changing Environments”. In the past, many cities used mega-events to support capital and revenue investments and boost tourism while harnessing their competitiveness on a global scale. Until recently, the emphasis has been placed on the creation of new infrastructural components, new stadiums and other public facilities to host events. In many instances today, on the contrary, mega-event organisers have opted for the re-use of existing facilities, the conversion of inner-city areas and the regeneration of neighbourhoods.

For heritage-rich European cities, this shift in paradigm - driven in part by contraction in public budgets and by the reduced pace of expansion of cities - represents both an opportunity and a threat.

How can we bring mega-events back into the urban historic fabric while fostering positive synergies with urban heritage and cultural landscapes? What are the common issues and main trade-offs to be addressed in European cities? How to improve urban and cultural planning tools for mega-events in heritage-rich cities? The HOMEE project brings together leading research centres working in the fields of cultural heritage preservation and mega-event planning, in close contact with key institutions and policy officers who have already had or will have direct responsibility for planning and implementing mega-events in Europe. In order to answer to the abovementioned questions, the HOMEE project will critically assess four recently completed mega-events and address the derived issues and opportunities through a Living Lab organised during the Matera European Capital of Culture 2019 event. Finally, the project will generate guidance and policy recommendations to support heritage preservation policy and mega-event planning in future host cities in Europe (in the HOMEE Charter).

YouthSHARE

Developing capacities together: European CSO-university networks for global learning on migration, security and sustainable development in an interdependent world

Description

The YOUTHShare project, funded under the EEA and Norway Grants, aims at reducing youth unemployment in coastal and island regions of Mediterranean EEA by advancing skills of young people not in education, employment or training (NEETs) in trans-locally resilient agri-food production and the pertinent circular economies. By boosting the potential of those sectors through social entrepreneurship and sharing economy platforms, it will reduce economic disparities in the target area.

The project will deliver a transnational Research Network and an Employment Centre, leading to informed institutional engagement for NEETs. Knowledge transfer will deliver toolkits for counselling and training, thus, enhancing employability. Finally, work-based training on social entrepreneurship and start-up empowerment by sharing platforms will boost entrepreneurship.

The direct target groups are the, usually ignored, between 25-29, inactive low-skilled women and migrants, the latter selected from Reception Centers (RICs) of the area, while the end beneficiaries are regional-scale non-traditional actors, supporting youth employability.
The project's transnational approach that builds on path-dependent Mediterranean linkages will engraft the traditional cooperation with shared international experience, tools, best practices, social economy start-ups and platforms, leading to transnational bottom-up sharing-based upgrade.

The successful implementation and scalability of the project will be measured through an integrated methodology of evaluation and replication of its main results. In addition to their profitable activity, the platforms, new social enterprises and the other outputs will last long, based on either direct funding from various stakeholders or through co-applying for subsidies and grants.

EU Programme	EEA 2017-1-345
Consortium | Partner	Lead Partner: University of the Aegean, Partners: Neapolis University Paphos (Cyprus), Catholic University of Murcia (Spain), Sistema Turismo (Italy), Network for Employment and Social Care (Greece), Centre for the Advancement of Research and Development in Educational Technology LTD (CARDET) (Cyprus), GAL La Cittadella del Sapere s.r.l. (Italy), Educational association for integration and equality (Spain), Authority for Cooperative Societies (Cyprus), Territorial Association Communita Montana Alto Bassento (Italy), Fafo, Institute for Labour and Social Research (Norway)
Total Budget	**€ 2.125.185,35**
EU Funding	**€ 1.912.624,19**
Duration	**60 months**
Project Website	**http://www.youthshare-project.org**

Establishment of Eastern Mediterranean Regional Network: Pooling, Sharing, Development of Innovative Face-to-Face and Digital Training/Mentoring Tools for the Maritime Sector

EU Programme	**European Maritime and Fisheries Fund**
Consortium | Partner	Coordinator: National Technical University of Athens (Greece), Partners: Apopsi (Greece), University of Cyprus (Cyprus), Cyprus Chamber of Commerce and Industry (Cyprus), CMMI Cyprus Marine and Maritime Institute (Cyprus), Evalion (Greece)
Total Budget	**€ 935.007,73**
EU Funding	**€ 748.006**
Duration	**36 months**
Project Website	**https://www.seaofexperience.org**

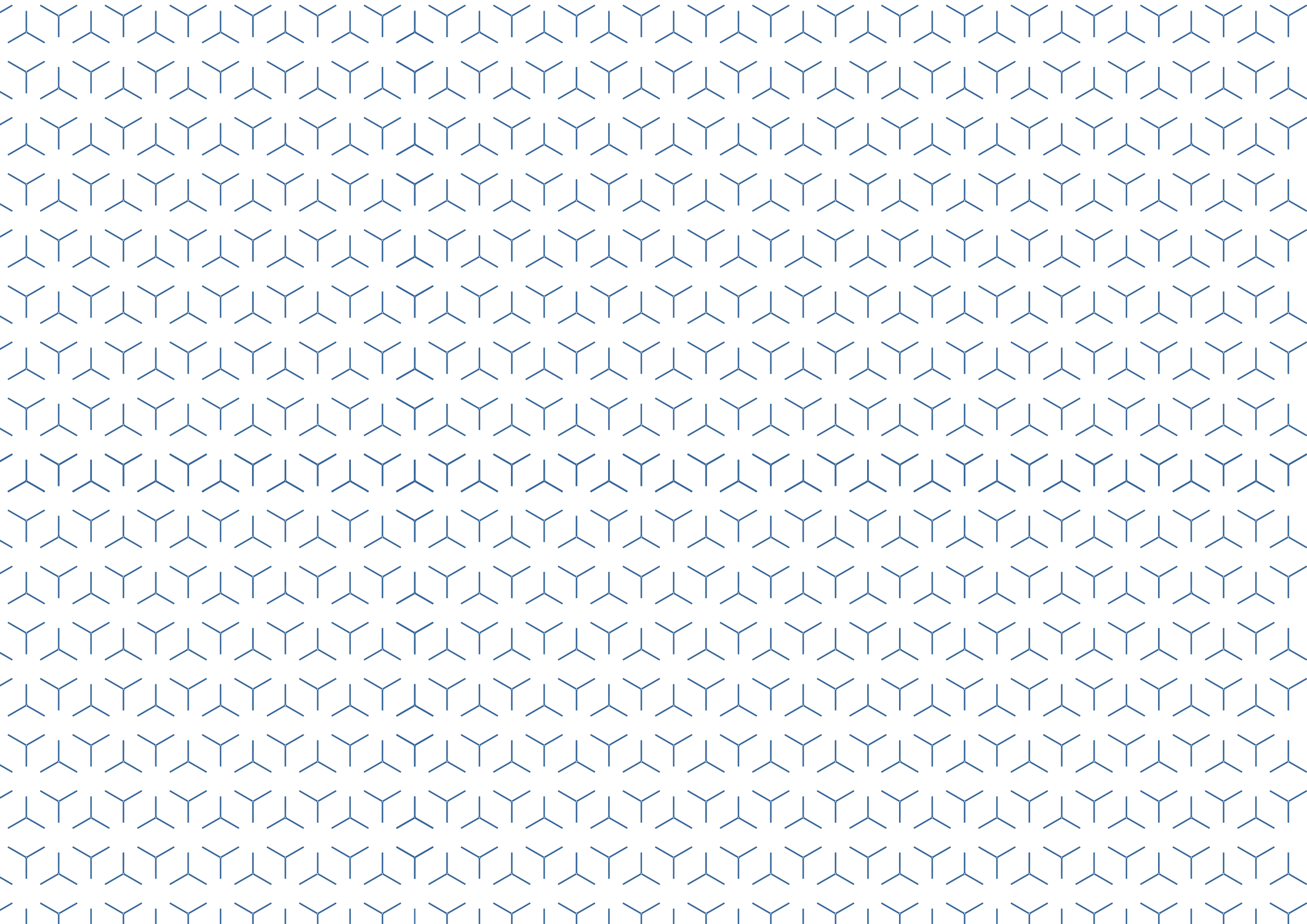
Description

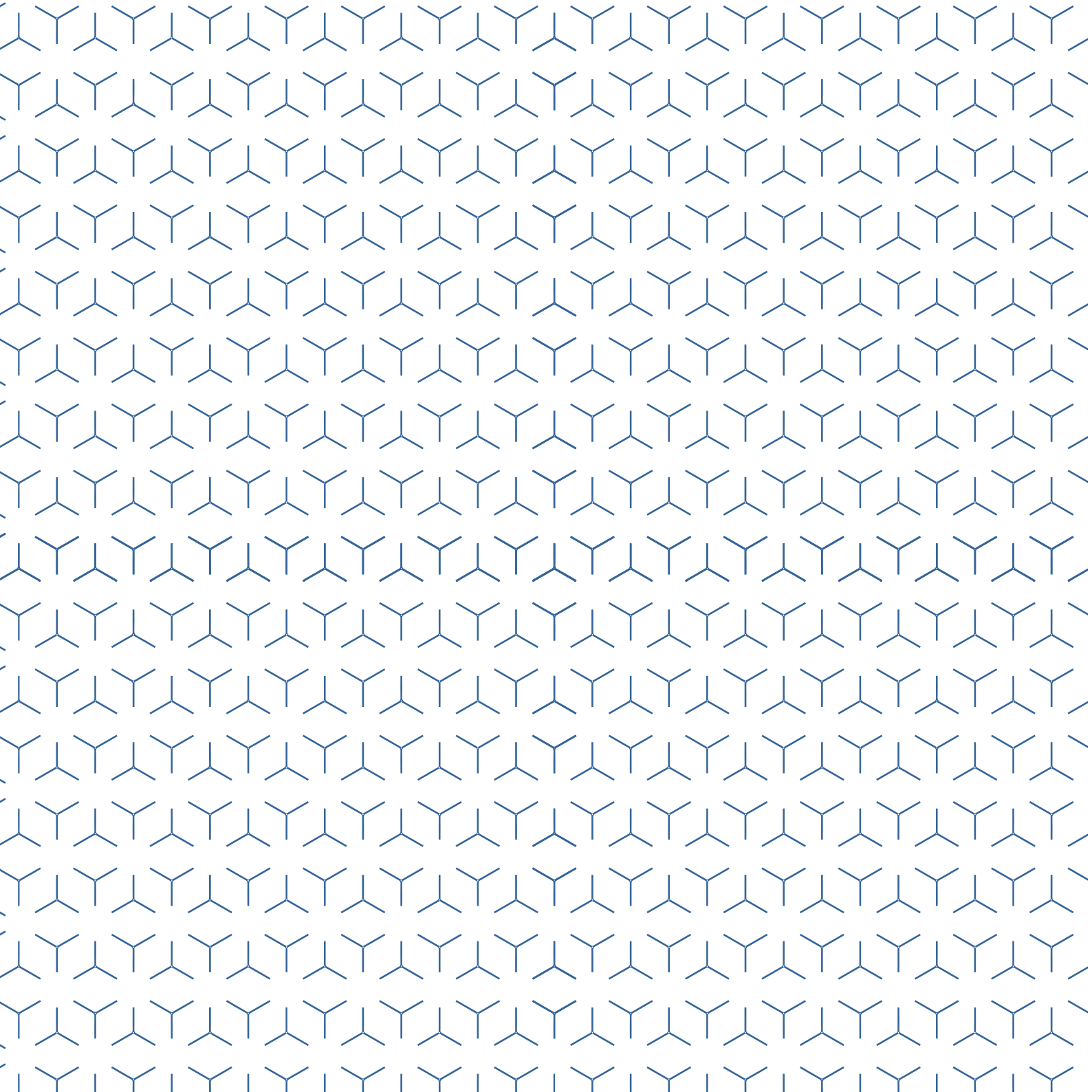
SoE, funded under the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund, is a regionally –oriented project that aims at establishing a training/ mentoring network; the Eastern Mediterranean Regional Network (EMReN) for professionals and youngsters relate to maritime transport, shipbuilding and ship repair, ports and the cruise industry.

It also targets to bridge the skills gap between education offer and labour market needs, especially with regards to technological developments and innovation, strengthen cooperation between industry, academia and public authorities, encourage mobility of students, teachers and professionals, raise societal awareness and provide guidance and advance knowledge about blue professions.

The consortium will implement a wide spectrum of actions to achieve the overall objectives. More specifically, four common training programs, one for each selected blue sector will be formulated to tackle with the emerging skill shortage of the maritime domain.

These educational items will consist of the cornerstone for the development of innovative face-to-face (e.g. summer schools, apprentices) and digital (e.g. Virtual Reality videos, digital competitions) training tools. Finally, a digital platform (the sharing-pooling e-platform) will be developed for hosting this novel toolkit.





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