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Press Release

On September 6, 7 & 8, 2017, the official launch / presentation of the Greek Sustainable Development Solutions Network of the United Nations (UN SDSN Greece) will be held in Athens along with the 3rd MED-SDSN Annual Conference.

The events will be actively attended by Professor Jeffrey D. Sachs, Columbia University Professor and Head of the United Nations Sustainable Development Solutions Network, the Rectors of Greek Universities, the Presidents of the Greater Research Institutions of the country and the Leadership Council of the Greek Network which brings together distinguished personalities from the public administration, business community and civil society.

The United Nations Sustainable Development Solutions Network (UN SDSN) was founded by the former UN Secretary-General **Ban Ki-moon** and has been operational since August 2012 to connect the academic community with actors and decision makers in the central government, business world and civil society from all over the world in their efforts towards Sustainable Development.

The director of the international network is Professor Jeffrey Sachs and members of the UN SDSN network are organized on national or regional networks to promote sustainable projects and solutions through the development of training material on sustainable development and the contribution to the definition of an action plan for 2015 on.

The Greek SDSN has been included in the SDSN network and is co-hosted by [ICRE8: International Center for Research on the Environment and the Economy](#) and the [Political Economy of Sustainable Development Lab](#). It is co-chaired by the undersigned [Prof. Phoebe Koundouri](#) and [Prof. Andreas Papandreou](#). It started operating in September 2015 and its main purpose is to include in the international network the country's university and research institutes engaged in sustainable development to coordinate efforts towards the achievement of the [17 Sustainable Development Goals](#) (SDGs).

The 3rd Annual Meeting of the Mediterranean Regional Network will provide a new opportunity for the Mediterranean region to coordinate and work on issues of common interest. The conference will provide a platform for discussion and exchange of views among stakeholders in the region, including network partners, policy makers and scholars.

On the first day of events (6 September), the official presentation of the SDSN Greece Leadership Council will take place; Professor Sachs as keynote speaker and distinguished representatives of the academic and business community, public administration and civil society. The first day of the conference (September 7th) will focus on the launch and operation of SDSN Greece and will include a discussion among all the participants and representatives of the institutions concerned on the [three thematic priorities](#) of SDSN Greece. During the second day of the conference (8 September), prominent speakers from Greece and the Mediterranean countries will present their ideas and will participate in a thorough and lively discussion with the conference participants on the SDGs in the Mediterranean, Renewable Energy Sources and the evolution of education and promotion of SDGs in the region.

The event is co-organised by [ICRE8: International Centre for Research on the Environment and the Economy](#) and the Political Economy of Sustainable Development Lab of the [Department of Economics, School of Law, Economics and Political Science](#) of the [National and Kapodistrian University of Athens](#), in collaboration with the [Research laboratory on Socio-Economic and Environmental Sustainability](#) (ReSEES) of [Athens University of Economics and Business](#) and the [ATHENA Research and Innovation Center](#). Media coverage will be provided by our event communications sponsor, SKAI TV.

Conference Website: <http://fleximeets.com/sdsngr17/>

Detailed Programme:

<http://fleximeets.com/sdsngr17/index.php?p=content&m=42&c=10&id=58>

More info on UN SDSN Greece: www.unsdsn.gr

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