

NEWSLETTER November 2019 – March 2020



Cluster of Institutions:

UN SDSN Greece @ PESD, National and Kapodestrian University of Athens and ICRE8

EIT Climate KIC Greece @ Athena Research Center

ReSEES @ Athens University of Economics and Business

Dear readers,

in this issue we present our latest news for the period from November 2019 to March 2020.

Our interdisciplinary team is committed to identify the best theoretical and practical solutions to problems arising from climate change.

It is a great pleasure for me to be the editor of this version. I had the honour to start my career in a great multidisciplinary research centre, widely involved in local and global sustainable development projects, Athena RC and ICRE8.



Fiorella Puopolo
Research Trainee
at ICRE8



Lydia Papadaki
Manager UN SDSN
Greece & EIT
Climate-KIC Hub
Greece

Enjoy the reading!

Cluster Coordinators



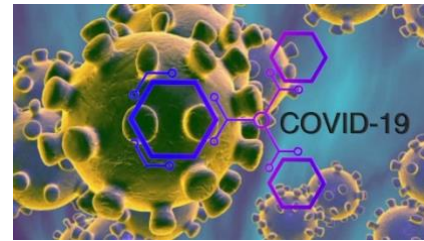
Prof. Phoebe Koundouri,
[Athens University of Economics and Business \(AUEB\), Greece](#)
Co-chair **[UN SDSN](#)** Greece,
Director **[EIT Climate KIC Greece, ATHENA RC](#)**, Greece
Director **[ReSEES, AUEB](#)**, Greece
Scientific Advisory Board Chair **[ICRE8](#)** Greece
Scientific Advisory Board Vice Chair **[European Forest Institute](#)**
Elected president of EAERE <https://www.eaere.org/>



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

FEATURED ARTICLE BY PROFESSOR PHOEBE KOUNDOURI:

Never Waste a Good Crisis: For a Sustainable Recovery from COVID-19



The pandemic of COVID-19 has clearly proven the ability of governments to take dramatic measures to mitigate an existential threat, as well as people’s ability, at least in the short run, to adapt to new restricted lifestyles imposed by these measures. A second message is that the timing of the enactment of measures is crucial for their effectiveness in saving lives. A third message is that the response to COVID-19 came from national states, while International Organizations lack in terms of explicit imminent response.

The measures that can help solve the health crisis can make the economic crisis worse and viceversa. The aim of health-related measures (mainly strict social-isolation) is to spread the pandemic out over time, to “flatten the curve of the pandemic”. Flattening this curve buys time for drastically raising the capacity of the health-care sector: more beds, more ventilators, more facemasks, more tests, more health-care professionals, more vaccine funding, more testing, more tracking. Flattening the infection curve, however, inevitably steepens the macroeconomic recession curve and puts in danger all supply chains, including those crucial for human survival (food and medicine). A modern socio-economy is a complex web of interconnected stakeholders and supply chains: workers, businesses, suppliers, consumers, technology providers, civil society, financial institutions, policymakers, politicians. Strict isolation measures lead to the shutdown of this complex web and threaten to destroy the linkages that allow the socio-economy to function.

How can we avoid the pandemic turn into a major economic and financial crisis that will long outlast the health crisis? The first economic priority should be to ensure that the work force remains employed even if quarantined or forced to stay home. Second, governments should channel financial support to public and private institutions that support vulnerable citizen groups. Third SMEs should be safeguarded against bankruptcy (the need for taxpayer money to support large nonfinancial corporations is much less obvious). Fourth, policies will be needed to support the financial system as nonperforming loans mount. Fifth, fiscal packages, comparable to the crisis related loss of GDP, will have to be financed by national debt.

Should we worry about the level of the debt?

Read the article at: <https://www.unsdsn.org/never-waste-a-good-crisis-for-a-sustainable-recovery-from-covid-19>

OUR LATEST NEWS

PROFESSOR PHOEBE KOUNDOURI TO LEAD THE UN SDSN GREEN DEAL SENIOR WORKING GROUP FOR ENERGY TRANSITION: Six Transformations to Achieve the SDGs and Support for the European Green Deal



SDSN EU Green Deal Senior Working Group for the Energy Transition

This group will support the implementation of the European Green Deal (EGD) and facilitate participation of national stakeholders and local experts through SDSN's European networks to advise and provide support to the European Commission.

Objectives of the Group:

1. Identify and promote pathways to decarbonization within and across EU Member States.
2. Identify and promote adaptation pathways within and across EU Member States.
3. Provide strategic recommendations and mobilize experts for the ongoing implementation of the European Green Deal through SDSN networks.
4. Mobilize experts to “rethink policies for clean energy supply and climate adaptation projects, across the economy, industry, production and consumption, large-scale infrastructure, transport, food and agriculture, construction, taxation and social benefits”.
5. Mobilize stakeholders in partnership with the SDSN European networks to guarantee local engagement and support for these policies.

PROFESSOR PHOEBE KOUNDOURI MEMBER OF THE CENTER FOR ECONOMIC POLICY RESEARCH, THE RPN ON CLIMATE CHANGE



Centre for Economic
Policy Research
Research Excellence, Policy Relevance

The [RPN on Climate Change](#), established in January 2020 for an initial four year term, is led by Professor Christian Gollier. Professor Gollier is the Director of the Toulouse School of Economics (TSE), which he founded with Jean Tirole in 2007. Prof. Koundouri is member of RPN on Climate Change, alone

with: Estelle Cantillo, Carlo Carraro, Simone Borghesi, Ottmar Edenhofer, Meredith Fowlie, Michael Greenstone, Geoffrey Heal, Phoebe Koundouri, Derek Lemoine, Gilbert Metcalf, Mar Reguant, Eswaran Somanathan, Robert Stavins, Thomas Sterner, Jean Tirole, Christian Traeger, Rick van der Ploeg.



Climate change has the potential to eliminate humankind from the Earth if our generation refuses to confront its responsibilities towards Humanity. In recent years, the crucial question has shifted from the nature of the climate problem to the shaping of the optimal societal answer. How should one adapt Society to address this question optimally? This CEPR network is aimed at addressing this crucial question. This initiative will generate, coordinate and disseminate academic research related to this existential issue. The network seeks to foster a dialogue among academics and policy makers about the optimal policies to deal with fighting climate change, both in terms of mitigation and adaptation.

PROFESSOR PHOEBE KOUNDOURI MEMBER OF THE MINISTERIAL COMMITTEE ON CLIMATE CHANGE

A new *Ministerial Committee on Climate Change* created by the Hellenic Ministry of Environment and Energy has been established by the Greek Government by Law 4638/2019. Among its members is **Prof. Phoebe Koundouri**, AUEB. The Committee aims to produce scientific documentation on measures to be taken to counteract the effects of climate change. The subject of discussion was the development of the national economy by co-creating policies to protect the environment, such as the implementation of a national plan for reforestation, reducing the use of disposable plastic and promoting energy-saving measures. National Representative on Climate Change has already been nominated the **Academician Christos Zerefos** and President of this Committee is the **Academician Konstantinos Synolakis**.



Read more at:

<https://ecozen.gr/2020/01/epitropi-to-klima-programmatismos-draseis-tin-klimatiki-allagi/>

PROFESSOR PHOEBE KOUNDOURI MEMBER OF THE 10-YEAR DEVELOPMENT PLAN OF THE GREEK ECONOMY COMMITTEE

Among the members of the Committee that will draw up the new Development Plan for the Greek economy is **Phobe Koundouri**, who together with other economists brings scientific expertise, international experience to plan a new national policy. The Commission is chaired by **Christoforos Pissaridis** (Professor of the LSE and the University of Cyprus, Nobel Prize for Finance 2010) and its Vice President is **Nikos Vettas** (Professor at AUEB and Director of IOBE). The committee will revise all plans enabling Greece to eliminate the effects of the crisis started ten years ago. The Committee has undertaken to present a provisional plan by April 2020 which will include the main direction and central axes, while in nine months it will provide the final detailed development plan.



Read more at:

<https://www.tovima.gr/2020/01/16/finance/nomplelistas-epikefalis-tis-epitropis-gia-to-neo-sxedio-anaptyksis-tis-oikonomias/>

EIT CLIMATE-KIC Hub Greece ACCELERATOR 2019-2020 SUCCESS STORIES



[Enaleia](#) is a social enterprise aiming to make the marine ecosystem sustainable. The aim was not just to train young people into the fishing sector, create new jobs and make sure that the professional fishing will survive in the future but, at the

same time, to provide a high-quality, eco-friendly and ethical education.

Milestones succeeded:

- Enaleia was named in 2019, **one of the top 5 initiatives in Europe** for its positive impact on the environment by UNEP “Young Champions of the Earth”
- We launched our new project "**Mediterranean Cleanup**" and through our expanded network of fishermen, we currently remove 40,000 kg of marine plastic per year, with 35 trawler fishing boats from 5 ports around Greece, which we integrate in the circular economy through recycling and product creation
- More than 40 people have enrolled in our [e-learning courses](#) for sustainable fishing, which we offer free for the next month due to covid-19
- In the last 9 months we visited 10 Greek islands for our project "**Fish Smarter**" and trained 92 fishermen in fishing tourism.



Transport applications are responsible for almost 25% of Greenhouse Gases Emissions in Europe. Hydrogen is the most efficient clean energy carrier in this sector. CYRUS PC manufactures **hydrogen compressors**, which are ideal for

Hydrogen Refuelling Stations (HRS) in residential areas due to their zero noise levels (no moving parts). In addition, they are flexible and modular and present low O&M costs, high availability and reliability. They can be driven by 100% renewable energy and they present a low environmental impact.

- Technological disruption on **clean energy transport** (hydrogen) applications
- **Pre-commercial prototype has already been developed**
- **Pre-seed financing for the implementation of go-to-market strategies** and helping build the foundations of the entrepreneurial ecosystem; external investment from a Venture Capital already in place.



[Citipost](#) is committed to providing integrated green solutions through the application of state-of-the-art technologies.

Innovative Mobile green point (MGP): A vehicle specially designed for separate collection of Metals, Plastics, Paper, Glass, Tetra-pack, small sized Electrical Equipment, oils and used Clothes, able to perform circular economy activation actions via rewarding participants with the use of smart weighting and a Citizens Loyalty Recycling Card.

Milestones succeeded:

- A. Implementation of a **pilot project** concerning the operation of Mobile Green Point in **Municipality of Vari-Voula-Vouliagmeni**. In 6 months, 1200 citizens participated to the project and obtained the Citizens Loyalty Recycling Card.
- B. Several networking activities took place and the prototype MGP was presented in workshops and conferences.

SELECTED PRECENCE ON MEDIA:

PHOEBE KOUNDOURI: THESE ARE THE ACTION LINES AND INVESTMENTS TO TACKLE CLIMATE CHANGE



“The target of 1.5C set by the Paris Agreement in 2015, will be achieved by implementing immediately technological and social innovations that contribute to the creation of a prosperous, inclusive and resilient to climate-change society based on circular economy and aiming at net zero carbon emissions.”

Read more at: <https://worldenergynews.gr/index.php?id=39155>

ZEREFOS – KOUNDOURI: THE MONUMENTS NEED FOR PROTECTION FROM THE ADVERSE EFFECTS OF CLIMATE CHANGE

“Extreme weather events and the adverse impacts caused by climate change in the long run can potentially damage the cultural and natural heritage. If we do not act immediately, the damage can be irreversible.”



Read more at: <https://worldenergynews.gr/index.php?id=42749>

On **SKAI TV**, interviewed by Katerina Christofilidou, **Prof. Phoebe Koundouri**, spoke about the need of **Financing the Sustainability Transition, the European Green Deal and the Just Transition Fund. (January, 2020)**



EVENTS & CONFERENCES

COASTAL (H2020) WORKSHOP, Athens, Greece

ICRE8 had the pleasure to welcome Work Package (WP) leaders and MALs leaders in Athens on the **18th and 19th of February**. As the COASTAL project will soon reach its mid-term, the consortium partners decided to meet in order to agree on the strategy of the next year as the project approaches a critical phase: the integration of qualitative analysis and quantitative analysis from the different WPs as well as closer interactions between WPs and with the MALs. The meeting was an opportunity to present the generic coastal-rural scenarios and transition pathways (TP) developed as part as WP5 by Icre8 and Green Bridge and how to implement the downscaling of the scenarios and TPs at the case study level.



GREEK PARLIAMENT: MEETING WITH MP OF THE ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE, Athens, Greece



On **26th February 2020** Prof. Phoebe Koundouri gave a speech at the Greek Parliament updating the members of the parliament of the Environment committee on the results of the COP25 (UN Conference on Climate Change).



DEEP DEMONSTRATION MARITIME HUBS INTENT WORKSHOP PORT OF PIRAEUS, Athens, Greece

On Friday **14th February** the ‘Deep Demonstration workshop’ was held at the Port of Piraeus, hosted by the Piraeus Port Authority. After an introduction made by the representatives of EIT Climate-KIC, a participatory session was held to develop a collaborative road map for the future of the Piraeus Port. Two groups of experts and researchers



brought their vision of a safer and less polluted port, developing project ideas together with Piraeus Port Authority and Municipality of Piraeus representatives. Given the strategic role that ports have taken on over time, they are the focus of great attention for the transition to sustainability. In particular, EIT Climate-KIC will work with the port authorities of Valencia (Spain), Piraeus (Greece) and Cyprus to decarbonize the corresponding ports.



FINANCING THE TRANSITION TO A LOW CARBON ECONOMY AND THE CHALLENGES IN FINANCING CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION, Athens, Greece



On 13th February 2020 Prof. Phoebe Koundouri acting as a European Commission expert for the Economic and Social Committee, DG Region, was invited at NAT/778 : "Financing the Transition to a Low carbon Economy and the Challenges in Financing Climate Change Adaptation". The meeting was composed of major stakeholders:



European Investment Bank, DG CLIMA and various other DGs, European Environmental Agency, European Employers Union, European Banking Union, European Trade Unions, SME United, European Parliament Members. Prof. Koundouri is now working on a second opinion for the European Economic and Social Committee, DG Regio. European Commission, Climate Pact. The opinion will be concluded early summer.

CLIMATE CHANGE: AN URGENT PARAMETER OF THE NEW DEVELOPMENT MODEL, Athens, Greece



On 4th February an event organized by Circle of Ideas for National Reconstruction and Konrad Adenauer Stiftung and hosted by King George Hotel focused on the climate change and regulation on energy, transport, shipping and



tourism sectors and its impacts on the society, institution and European Integration. Prof. Koundouri, AUEB was among the speakers pointing out the importance of the European Green Deal for the future of Europe. Find more [here](#).

SNF DIALOGUES: CLIMATE CHANGE: REALITY, USE AND ABUSE OF THE TERM, Athens, Greece

On 29th January 2020, an initiative by Stavros Niarchos Foundation entitled: 'Climate change: Reality, use and abuse of the term' took place at Goulandris Natural History Museum.



Among the speakers were: Eleni Andreadi, writer, Evangelos Gerasopoulos, Research Director at National Observatory of Athens, Phoebe Koundouri Professor at AUEB and Assoc.



Prof. **Iosef Botetzagias**, University of Aegean. Scientific evidence, the roles of technology and education, activism and the international political agenda.



The #SNFDialogues discussed #ClimateChange and how it affects us. The DIALOGUES are curated and moderated by Anna-Kynthia Bousdoukou. Watch the discussion <https://b.snf.org/2t8ORpa>.

20th HIGH-LEVEL MEETING ON “CLIMATE CHANGE AND ITS IMPACT ON THE LIFE AND CULTURAL HERITAGE OF THE MEDITERRANEAN”, Athens, Greece



On **22nd January** the 20th High-Level Meeting on "Climate change and its impact on the life and cultural heritage of the Mediterranean" organized by Marianna Vardinoyannis Foundation and Nizami Ganjavi International Center was hosted by

Athens Plaza. During the lunch, a panel session on European Green Deal: *Challenges and Opportunities* was moderated by **Prof. Phoebe Koundouri**, Athens University of Economics and Business, President-Elect European AERE, Director Climate-KIC Greece and co-Chair SDSN Greece, while among the panelists were: **Prof. Konstantin Aravosis**, General Secretary Greek of the Ministry of Environment and Energy (also Prof. at the National Technical University of Athens), **Prof. Yannis Ioannidis**, Athens



University and President of Athena Research and Innovation Center, **Prof. Andreas Papandreou**, Athens University and co-Chair SDSN Greece and **Prof. Katerina Pramataris**, Uni.Fund and Athens University of Economics and Business.

WORKSHOP ON COASTAL PROJECT, *Brussels, Belgium*

Following an internal 2 days workshops in Brussels from **21st to 23rd January**, where the team further developed and exchange on the local system models, trying to capture land-sea interactions, COASTAL Project Core Group was invited by the European Commission for a full day to discuss the progress of the project during the First Reporting Period (May 2018 – October 2019) and planned work. The team received very positive feedback from the evaluators and Commission officers on the primary results and current progress. It is now time for the team to work on the core of the project objectives with the challenging task of integrating the different WPs with qualitative and quantitative data.



6th SYMPOSIUM OF MARKETING OF FOOD AND BEVERAGE ON SUSTAINABLE ENTREPRENEURSHIP, *Agrinio, Greece*



On Saturday **18th January**, the '*6th Symposium of Marketing of Food and Beverages on Sustainable Entrepreneurship*' organized by University of Patra and ENA Association took place in Agrinio, Greece. UN SDSN Greece and EIT Climate-KIC Hub Greece presented their work during the first panel on Sustainable Development and Entrepreneurship connecting via skype.

INNOVATION IN GREECE AND ITS SUPPORTING INSTITUTIONS, *Athens, Greece*

On Saturday **18th January** an event on Innovation in Greece and its supporting institutions, co-organised by NBG Business Seeds and ACEin, Athens University of Economics and Business. **Lydia Papadaki**, manager EIT Climate-KIC Hub Greece presented Hub's work at the panel on innovation in vertical axes, where other EITs of Greece were also part of.



A DISCUSSION ON WORKPLACE EQUALITY, *Athens, Greece*

On **18th December 2019**, an event organized by UN SDSN Greece youth was hosted by Organisation Earth, aiming at bringing light at the workplace equality, which is directly related to SDG 5 “Gender equality” and SDG 10 “reduced inequalities”, with **Prof. Koundouri** giving a speech on the SDGs and their implementation.



THE SOCIOLOGICAL PERSPECTIVE FOR A SOCIETY OF SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT, *Athens, Greece*

On **December 16th and 17th 2019**, a conference on “*The Sociological Perspective for a Society of Sustainable Development*”, was organized by the Laboratory of Sociology of Culture and Civilization of the Department of Sociology of Panteion University of Social and Political Sciences, in cooperation with Sustainable Development Solutions Network



Greece, was hosted by the Panteion University of Social and Political Sciences and attended by a significant audience. The conference aimed to develop further the scientific field of sociology of sustainable development, through the dialogue among the related scientific



fields of economics and political science. **Prof. Charalambos Meletiadis**, Director of Laboratory of Sociology of Culture and Civilization presented the Sociological aspects of Sustainable Development, **Prof. Phoebe Koundouri**, co-chair of UNSDSN Greece presented how Sustainability Transition happened fast enough and **Prof. Andreas Papandreou**, co-chair of UN SDSN

Greece, presented the political economy of climate change.

REGIONAL CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION FORUM, Nicosia, Cyprus

On **16-17 December 2019** a launch workshop was hosted by the Cyprus Institute to discuss aiming to establish a regional climate change adaptation forum, with the intention to promote climate initiatives focusing on collaborative, participatory, social innovations that include civil society,



scientific research institutions and policy makers. Participants from Cyprus, Greece, Turkey, Jordan, the Palestinian Authority and Israel composed the workshop, with **Prof. Koundouri** presenting best practices and on going research taking place in Greece.

EIT CLIMATE-KIC WORKSHOP ON CLIMATE INNOVATION IN SOUTHERN EUROPEAN WATERS (BL.UE CLIMATE), Athens, Greece

On **13th December 2019**, the Workshop on "Climate innovation in Southern European Waters (BL.EU Climate)" by EIT Climate-KIC Hub Greece hosted by ATHENA RC. The aim of the workshop was to present the findings of the BL.EU. Climate project, based on which a discussion on the potential solutions to prevent, reduce and collect marine litter, focusing on plastic, took place. The participants were composed of stakeholders from both the public and private sector.



AXION HELLAS MISSION, Meganisi, Greece

From **5th to 8th December 2019**, SDSN Greece and EIT Climate-KIC Hub Greece joined Axion Hellas mission at Meganisi, co-organizing together with Goulandris Natural History Museum and WWF Greece an educational workshop on the environment and the oceans for young people.



The educational program has been developed on the dissemination of the exceptional universal value that the cultural and natural heritage of the Aegean has. The educational process aims to educate the entire local population and teach them practices aimed at protecting the environment. The transition to a sustainable social and economic dimension of the islands will only be possible through widespread education and participation. **Prof. Apostolaki**, DERE, and **Lydia Papadaki** represented SDSN Greece and EIT Climate-KIC Hub Greece.



COP25: UN SDSN LAUNCHES THE GLOBAL ROUNDTABLE FOR SUSTAINABLE SHIPPING AND PORTS, Madrid, Spain



Held in Madrid at [COP25](#), from 2 to 13 December, the international conference on climate change had as its central subject of discussion the need to reduce carbon emissions, the redefinition of Article 6 of the *Paris Agreements*, in order to better regulate the carbon market. The purpose of the conference was to verify the alignment of countries with international regulations on carbon management and to listen to plans and solutions proposed by the various personalities called upon to intervene. More than 25,000 people, including heads of state, environmentalists, scientists, representatives of organizations.



The [Global Roundtable for Sustainable Shipping](#) was launched at a COP25 site conference organized by UN SDSN on "[Low Emissions Solutions](#)", where **Prof. Phoebe Koundouri** presented this global initiative, which focuses on safety, energy efficiency, climate resistance and the need to decarbonize the maritime transport sector. In particular, *"Battery-powered and fuel-cell electric vessels for coastal, short sea and river travel. Renewable liquid hydrogen and ammonia for medium to long distances"* will be required. The initiative will collaborate with EIT Climate-KIC LOOPs Ports project, working with more than 450 ports aiming to facilitate the transition of European ports to the circular economy model. **Prof. Jeffrey Sachs** (Columbia University, UN SDSN Global Director) opened the COP25 site event with a keynote speech focused on Energy Transition.

COP21 OF THE BARCELONA CONVENTION, Naples, Italy

On the 6th of December 2019 took place in Naples the Barcelona Convention COP21, the side-event on Climate Action in the Mediterranean area. The main topic discussed was the water-food-energy nexus in a changing environment.



CONFERENCE ON CLIMATE CHANGE – NATURAL DISASTERS: PREVENTION AND RESPONSE

Athens, Greece



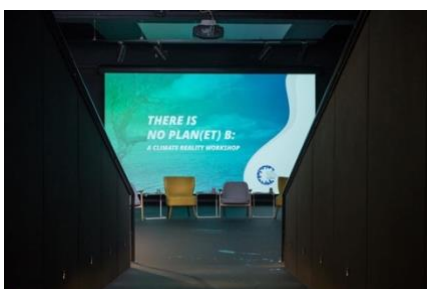
On 3rd December 2019, a [conference](#) organised by the Hellenic Association of Insurance Companies was held in Royal Olympic Hotel. **Prof. Koundouri** gave a speech on climate change mitigation aiming at providing answer on how climate change should be tackled in order to minimise its adverse effects on the natural capital.

THE SOCIETY FOR BENEFIT – COST ANALYSIS: EUROPEAN CONFERENCE 2019, Toulouse, France

On occasion of 'The Society for Benefit-Cost Analysis: European Conference 2019', held in Toulouse on 26th and 27th November 2019, the importance of the BCA and its implementation in any sector (policy, health, transport etc.) have been the main topics of discussion. Analysing the costs and benefits of any type of operation facilitates the decision-making process while also ensuring adequate knowledge of the externalities, social impact and financial risks of any choice. Present at the conference was **Prof. Phoebe Koundouri**, as a member of the scientific committee of the same conference where she spoke about big science infrastructures.



THERE IS NO PLAN(ET) B: A CLIMATE WORKSHOP IN ATEHNS, Athens, Greece



On 21st November 2019 a conference called "There is no Plan(et) B: A climate reality workshop" was held, joined by institutional members, companies and activists. **Prof. Phoebe Koundouri** was invited to join the debate about climate change solutions. The meeting underlined the importance of acting individually to protect our planet

from the unstoppable effects of climate change. It was an interactive and very participatory event. At the same time, parallel events took place around the world as part of the “24-hour reality initiative”, in order to support Al Gore, an environmentalist and former vice-president of the United States. In addition, the international initiative *One Tree Planted* will plant trees in green areas for every participant, an initiative also welcomed by the Greek association *We4All*.



PRIMA WORKSHOP ON SYNERGIES WITH EU & INTERNATIONAL INITIATIVES, Athens, Greece

[PRIMA \(Partnership for Research and Innovation in the Mediterranean Area\) workshop](#), held from **21st to 22nd November**, brought together economists and representatives of important international organizations to discuss innovative measures to be implemented in the countries of the Mediterranean area. During the workshop, PRIMA's synergies and its initiatives in Europe and abroad were made known. PRIMA's overall objective is to promote and fund research and development activities to intensify the relations between different companies and organizations in order to make the Mediterranean area more sustainable from an agri-food and water point of view. The workshop continued with reflections on the need to share infrastructures and knowledge, in order to save resources and apply the best available techniques. Among the participants **Prof. Phoebe Koundouri**, representing the SDSN Greece, who spoke during the session on dissemination, knowledge transfer and development skills, explained what and how the research center she chairs works in order to increase its partnerships and presenting the most relevant initiatives.

EIT CLIMATE-KIC PIONEERS INTO PRACTISE FINAL WORKSHOP, Athens, Greece

On **21st and 22nd November 2019**, the final workshop of Pioneers into Practice program by EIT Climate-KIC took place in ATHENA RC shut down the PIP program after 6 months of active learning



and experiencing. The training focused on honing down the lessons learned as individuals and group and on paving the way for further actions to be taken on. The pioneers after presenting their group projects, they shared their placement experiences and new collaborations.



MARITIME SPATIAL PLANNING FORUM: GLOBAL MEETS REGIONAL, *Riga, Latvia*

From 19th to 21th November 2019 the conference entitled “Maritime Spatial Planning Forum: Global Meets Regional” was held in Riga. Organised in collaboration with the UNESCO Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission and Pan Baltic Scope, the central theme of the meeting, which was attended by participants from all over the world, was maritime spatial planning. The aim was to promote cross-border cooperation through a joint effort between local and regional authorities. Many proposals were also made by young professionals. Our researcher **Alice Guittard** also spoke about the need for an innovative approach to attract stakeholders and facilitate the achievement of sustainable development objective number 14, concerning the conservation and sustainability of our seas and oceans.



30 YEARS OF ATHENA’S HISTORY – INVENTING THE FUTURE, *Athens, Greece*

On 18th November, on the occasion of the 30th anniversary of the multidisciplinary research center Athena Research Center, a celebratory event was held at the Benaki Museum in Athens



organized by ATHENA RC, during which the work carried out by the center and future challenges were listed. The overall framework for action will

always focus on the areas of scientific, economic and social research. Among the speakers, was **Prof. Phoebe Koundouri**, AUEB, Director of the EIT Climate-KIC Hub Greece, which is led by ATHENA RC.



CLIMATE LAUNCHPAD 2019, *Amsterdam, Netherlands*

We won’t be around the bush. Jumping right into the eye of an innovative ideas storm, Climate Launchpad had begun. Workshops, pitches, innovators and investors, pioneers and slackers, mingled in a frenzy of discussion and debate. The final pitches were inspiring and a great motivator to continue endeavours to promote action against climate change; without which our Earth is sure to perish. **Ioanna Gkolemi** and **Stella Vogia**, both successful pioneers, joined the Climate Launchpad.



EIT Climate-KIC Pioneers International Workshop 2019, *Amsterdam, Netherlands*

On **13th November 2019**, the Pioneers International Workshop in Amsterdam. 90 people participated from Pioneers and Hosts to Group project challenge owners from past and present. The theme of the workshop was around agency, moving from individual to collective and in the afternoon, they worked on system mapping the Maritime Deep Demonstration. Two successful Greek pioneers for 2019, **Ioanna Gkolemi** and **Stella Vogia**, following two exciting and fulfilling placements, in Romania and Portugal respectively, represented the Greek team.



CLIMATE CHANGE AND ENERGY TRANSITION Conference Credit Suisse, *Zurich, Switzerland*



Held in Zurich on **11th November 2019**, the annual meeting promoted by Credit Suisse bank to discuss climate change and its economic implications. The Bank is very interested in granting loans to support actions aimed at making transport, mobility and urban planning more sustainable. Energy consumption and the reduction of plastic consumption, particularly in the use of packaging, were also discussed. Economists and environmentalists gathered at the CRSI conference entitled "*Climate Change and Energy Transition*" presented the new technologies available and explained the possible methods to reduce carbon consumption in the mobility sector, analyzing everything in a macroeconomic and geopolitical framework. **Prof. Phoebe Koundouri** also took part in the conference, following her words: "*We must get out of the rotation of self-destruction to move to sustainable rotation*".

CIRCULAR THINKING IN COMPANIES: OPPORTUNITIES FOR INNOVATION IN BUSINESS MODELS, *Genga, Italy*

On 8th November 2019, an event on circular thinking organized by Università Politecnica delle Marche was hosted by Hotel Terme di Frasassi in Genga, Italy. The event was composed by a number of Italian industries representatives and researchers working on circular thinking. Circular Learning Hub project was presented with most of its partners being there. Among them ATHENA RC represented by **Lydia Papadaki**, EIT Climate-KIC Hub Greece manager.



CIRCULAR LEARNING HUB, KICK-OFF MEETING, *Ancona, Italy*

On 7th November 2019, the kick-off meeting of the Circular Learning Hub project supported by EIT Climate-KIC took place in Ancona at *Università Politecnica delle Marche*. There all partners reviewed the goals of the project launching officially the beginning of the project.



CIRCULAR ECONOMY IN THE INDUSTRIAL AND FINANCIAL PERSPECTIVE: INNOVATIVE SOLUTIONS TO ENGAGE FIRMS AND INVESTORS IN THE CIRCULAR THINKING, *Ancona, Italy*



On 7th November 2019, an open event hosted by *Università Politecnica delle Marche* shared the main goals and challenges of the Circular Learning Hub project with the wider University community and interested stakeholders. **Lydia Papadaki**, ATHENA RC, presented innovation related projects of ATHENA RC and the main obstacles and tools in engaging firms in the circular thinking.



THE LAUNCH OF THE SCIENCE AND ETHICS FOR HAPPINESS AND WELL-BEING (SEH), THE PONTIFICAL ACADEMIES OF SCIENCES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE UN SDSN AND COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY, *The Vatican, Italy.*

On **November 4-5** the Pontifical Academies of Sciences and Social Sciences, in partnership with the UN Sustainable Development Solutions Network (SDSN), and Columbia University launched the Science and Ethics for Happiness and Well-being (SEH) Project. SEH is an initiative hosted and managed by Monsignor Marcelo Sánchez Sorondo, Chancellor of. Monsignor Sorondo, Jeffrey Sachs, Owen Flanagan, and Alejandro Adler will lead a series of meetings at the Pontifical Academies over the next two years to explore ways of leveraging the synergies of Science, Ethics, and Faith for Happiness, Well-being, and Sustainable Development (in short, Science and Ethics for Happiness and Well-being, or “SEH”). The objective is an actionable synthesis based on scientific findings, philosophical wisdom, and theological teachings. The expected outcomes are research collaborations, academic publications, policy reports, and active policy work with governments. The SEH program will build upon and augment the happiness and well-being programs already well established at the SDSN, including the World Happiness Report, supported by the Ernesto Illy Foundation, and the Global Happiness and Well-being Council, initiated and supported by the United Arab Emirates, now collaborating with the OECD.



Prof. Phoebe Koundouri and **Prof. Andreas Papandreou**, were invited as contributing senior researchers in this project and presented their relevant work during the meeting at the Vatican.

GLOBAL INITIATIVES

GLOBAL ROUNDTABLE FOR SUSTAINABLE SHIPPING



The IPCC warned of unprecedented changes if we exceed 1.5 degrees of warming. Maritime transport emits around 940 million tonnes of CO₂ annually and is responsible for about 2.5% of global greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions (3rd IMO GHG study). These emissions are expected to increase significantly if mitigation measures are not implemented quickly. According to the

3rd IMO GHG study, shipping emissions could, in a business-as-usual scenario, increase between 50% and 250% by 2050, undermining the objectives of the Paris Agreement. The Global Roundtable for Sustainable Shipping aims at bringing together shipowners, shipbuilders, technology developers and researchers, ports and policy makers, on innovation related to zero emissions shipping, from across the globe, to target net-zero emissions by 2050. It was launched at a specific session on the zero-carbon ocean shipping at the two-day COP 25 in Madrid, Spain hosted by SDSN on December 9th & 10th 2019.

THE UN SDSN 4-SEAS INITIATIVE



The UN SDSN 4-Seas is a Euro-Asian Initiative that aims to mobilize science for sustainable blue growth in the Mediterranean Sea, the Black Sea, the Caspian Sea and the Aral Sea, in order to protect the future state of global seas and oceans through a Blue Sustainability Transition Plan “from rivers to oceans”. The initiative is led by SDSN Greece and SDSN Black Sea, established leaders on research for the implementation of SDGs in rivers and wetlands, coastal areas, seas and oceans, shipping, maritime transport, offshore energy production, fishing, aquaculture, marine litter and related education and training.

PUBLICATIONS

SPECIAL ISSUES

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

SCIENTIFIC ARTICLES

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

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

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

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

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

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

Stella Apostolaki, Phoebe Koundouri, Nikitas Pittis. **Using a systemic approach to address the requirement for Integrated Water Resource Management within the Water Framework Directive**. Science of the Total Environment, 2019. doi.org/10.1016/j.scitotenv.2019.05.077

Stella Apostolaki, Stella Tsani, Phoebe Koundouri. **Policies and prices for achieving full water cost recovery: An overview of Adige, Ebro and Evrotas Rivers**. Resources, Special Issue Natural Resources Policy and Economics for Sustainable Development: Theory and Application, 2019, forthcoming.

Stella Apostolaki, Ebum Akinsete, Stella Tsani, Phoebe Koundouri, Nikittas Pittis and Eleftherios Levantis. **Assessing the Effectiveness of the WFD as a Tool to Address Different Levels of Water Scarcity Based on Two Case Studies of the Mediterranean Region.** Water, Special Issue Economics of Water Resources Management, 2019, doi: 10.3390/w11040840

ARTICLES IN HANDBOOK

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

EDUCATION & TRAINING

Towards Sustainable Development: "Implementation of International Agreements and Financing"

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

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

Stay tuned for the open call for applications!

More info at: <https://www.dept.aueb.gr/en/ReSEES/content/training-courses-seminars>



MOOC ON SOCIAL INNOVATION IN RURAL AREAS

The SIMRA MOOC (Massive Online Open Course), titled "Social Innovation in Rural Areas" is going to start running on 30 March. The MOOC was developed by [SIMRA: Social Innovation in Marginalised Rural Areas](#), a project funded by the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme. SIMRA seeks to advance understanding of social innovation and innovative governance in agriculture, forestry and rural development, and how to boost them, particularly in marginalised rural areas across Europe, with a focus on the Mediterranean region (including non-EU) where there is limited evidence of outcomes and supporting conditions. The MOOC is hosted in Future Learn, a global platform offering online courses from many reputed institutions on hundreds of different topics.

The course can be accessed through:

<https://www.futurelearn.com/courses/social-innovation-in-rural-areas>



Massive open online courses and educational materials from the world's leading experts on sustainable development and the Sustainable Development Goals.

More info: <https://sdgacademy.org/>



Join **FREE ONLINE COURSE** on:

NATURAL RESOURCES FOR

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT



Produced by the SDG Academy, the Natural Resource Governance Institute, the Columbia Center on Sustainable Investment, and the World Bank.

You will learn about efforts to sustainably manage extractive industry investments, understand the complex and interwoven aspects of natural resource governance, and become part of a global movement of citizens and practitioners committed to harnessing the transformational impacts of our natural resources.

More info: <https://www.edx.org/course/natural-resources-for-sustainable-development>

SUSTAINABLE FOOD SYSTEMS: A MEDITERRANEAN PERSPECTIVE

Produced by the SDG Academy, among the lecturers Prof. Phoebe Koundouri

You will learn how do we produce more, better quality, and safer food while simultaneously achieving social and environmental goals.

More info:

<https://sdgacademy.org/course/sustainable-food-systems-a-mediterranean-perspective/>

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

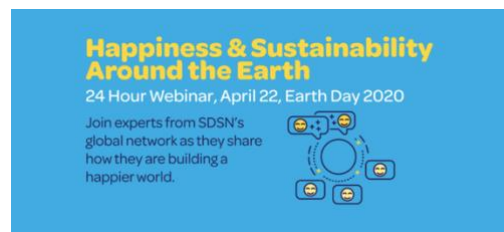
The aim of this program is the scientific training and application of knowledge in current economic, political and legal issues characterizing modern energy markets at international and European level.



UPCOMING EVENTS & WEBINARS

24-HOUR WEBINAR ON HAPPINESS & SUSTAINABILITY AROUND THE EARTH

UN SDSN invites you to join our networks around the world, around the clock for a 24-hour webinar event on **April 22nd**, the 50th Anniversary of Earth Day. We are exploring the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) through the lens of well-being and happiness. Learn about solutions being developed in your region, engage with experts around the globe, and celebrate happiness and well-being with your fellow global citizens. SDSN Greece will lead a session chaired by [Prof. Koundouri](#), including panellists such as [Prof. Papanderou](#), [Prof. Pittis](#), [Prof. Pagoulatos](#), [Prof. Virvidakis](#) and [Prof. Kindi](#).



Wednesday 22nd April, online

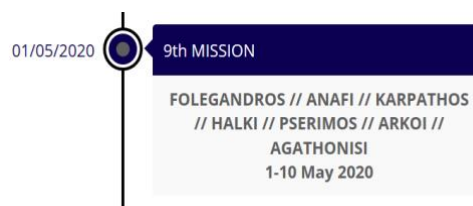
Register & Learn More: https://www.unsdsn.org/24hour-webinar?mc_cid=3dafeb9b50&mc_eid=%5BUNIQID%5D

AXION HELLAS 9TH MISSION

The purpose of **Axion Hellas** is to support society, and especially vulnerable groups living in remote and inaccessible areas of Greek islands and the mainland.

1-10 May, Aegean islands, Greece

More info at: <http://www.axionhellas.gr/missions/>



DELPHI ECONOMIC FORUM V

a non-profit nonpartisan organization working in close cooperation with civil society, public organizations, businesses and individuals. It engages business, political, academic, and other top experts in an effort to address emerging challenges, influence the national and regional agendas and promote sustainable and socially

responsible growth policies for Greece, Europe and the wider Eastern Mediterranean region. Prof. Koundouri will be chairing a session on Sustainable Shipping and Ports and will participate in a session on The Effects of Climate Change on Cultural and Natural Heritage.



Thursday 11th to Sunday 14th June, Delphi, Greece

Register & Learn More: <http://www.delphiforum.gr/>

NATIONAL SUMMIT ON THE EUROPEAN GREEN DEAL

organized by the [EIT Climate KIC hub Greece](#), [ATHENA Research Center](#), [Athens University of Economics and Business](#), [UN SDSN Greece](#), [Goulandris Natural History Museum](#), [ICRE8](#) and [Blue Growth](#). The aim of the Meeting is to bring research and innovation close to the country's financial and political institutions in an effort to accelerate the necessary transition to sustainability.



Tuesday 16th June, Goulandris Natural History Museum, Athens, Greece

Learn More: <https://www.athena-innovation.gr/el/events/eu-green-deal-event-2020>

8TH ICSD

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



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

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

MAR TECH 20

The **Maritime Technology, Innovation & Sustainability Summit** is a collaborative meeting of global industry leaders, thought leaders and entrepreneurs focused on the cultivation of shipping, maritime and ocean solutions.



Autumn 2020, Stavros Niarchos Foundation Cultural Center, Athens, Greece

More info at: <https://www.martech20.org/>

COP26

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



November 2020, Glasgow, UK

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

FUNDED RESEARCH PROJECTS



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

And we're off! The #FarmingbySatellite Prize 2020 launches today with €10k cash up for grabs. Show us how you're using satellite technologies to improve #agriculture and reduce environmental impact for your chance to win. Apply now! <http://farmingbysatellite.eu/>



LIFE-IP AdaptInGR: Boosting the implementation of adaptation policy across Greece (LIFE17 IPC/GR/000006). The overall goal of the **LIFE-IP AdaptInGR** project is to support the implementation of the national adaptation strategy in Greece. To this end it will build national and regional capacity for coordinating, prioritizing, monitoring and mainstreaming adaptation policy actions. Pilot projects will be developed in priority sectors for 3 regions and 5 municipalities. Our cluster contributions to the project are supported via our collaboration with the Bank of Greece. (**Prof. Phoebe Koundouri** acts as the external reviewer of this project)
Duration: 2019-2026 (8 years)



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



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

[Read GLOBAQUA latest newsletter](#)



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

THIS IS HOW YOU CAN IMPROVE THE MARKET READINESS OF YOUR INNOVATION
with the BRIGAID Business development approach!

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

BRIGAID support includes:

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



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



[DAFNE H2020 European Commission Project](#): Decision Analytic Framework to explore the water-energy-food nexus in complex transboundary water resource systems of fast developing countries. The overall objective of DAFNE is to establish a decision-analytic framework (DAF) for **[Participatory and Integrated Planning \(PIP\)](#)**.

[Read DAFNE latest newsletter](#)



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



[OpenAIRE-Connect H2020 European Commission](#)

Project: OpenAIRE-Connect aims to provide technological and social bridges, and deliver services

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



COASTAL H2020 European Commission Project: is a

unique research and innovation project, a multi-actor collaboration between entrepreneurs, administrations, stakeholders and experts in coastal

and rural natural and social sciences and sciences to formulate and evaluate business solutions and policy recommendations to improve coastal-rural synergy to promote rural and coastal development while preserving the environment. [Read COASTAL latest newsletter](#)



AMARe - Actions for Marine Protected Areas, INTERREG MED Project.

This project aims to develop concrete pilot actions and coordinated strategies in selected Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) to resolve conflict hotspots affecting

marine biodiversity and the services it provides. The general goal is to adopt an ecosystem-based approach considering the goals of the [Marine Strategy Framework Directive \(MSFD\)](#) across MPAs. [Find AMARe new flyer](#)



BlueBRIDGE H2020 European Commission

project. Building Research environments fostering Innovation, Decision making, Governance and Education to support Blue growth supports capacity building in interdisciplinary research communities actively involved in increasing

scientific knowledge about resource overexploitation, degraded environment and ecosystem with the aim of providing a more solid ground for informed advice to competent authorities and to enlarge the spectrum of growth opportunities as addressed by the Blue Growth Societal Challenge.

EIT CLIMATE-KIC PROJECTS:



- **Deep Demonstration of maritime systems innovation in Piraeus:** Ports are places where multiple systems collide – shipping, energy, waste, tourism and other transport for example. They are emissions hotspots in themselves, but also hubs with the potential to effect enormous change. In a phased way, EIT Climate-KIC will work with a small cohort of high-ambition port authorities in Valencia (Spain), Piraeus (Greece), and Cyprus to demonstrate how ambitious maritime hubs can be catalysts for reversing the fast-growing emissions from international shipping and trade hotspots.
- **CL-Hub: Circular Learning Hub:** This project works on an awareness-intention-action path fostering problem-owners in the ecosystem to a deeper understanding of circular thinking. On the basis of a debiasing experiment, the co-creation of innovative learning and nudging initiatives on circular thinking and investing will be carried out in 2020.
- **BL.EU. Climate: Climate innovation in Southern European Waters:** This project addresses the challenge of plastic marine littering in southern European waters by building capacity for innovation to address the issue at the very beginning of its life cycle, on the prevention side and on avoiding production of plastic materials (and plastic waste) thus avoiding carbon emissions at the first place in Greece, Portugal and Croatia.
- **CE in S3: Circular Economy Transition in Smart Specialization Strategy in RIS countries:** This project aims at aligning Circular Economy (CE) strategy adaptation in Greece and Bulgaria with its strategic documents and identified sectoral strengths and needs, set in the individual country's Smart Specialization Strategies (S3).
- **CE Beacons: Western Balkan Circular and Climate Innovation Beacons:** The goal of this project is to build an eco-system for circular, climate-related innovation that catalyses systems transition in sequences from experiment through collaboration to implementation. Such a cross-national ecosystem currently does not exist in the Balkan region, but it is demanded by Chambers of Commerce, Ministries and the business sector.
- **MEDFreeSUP: Single-use plastic free systemic local applications along the Mediterranean east coast, path for a common set of protocols through experiments in Italy, Croatia and Greece:** The objective of the project is to set replicable protocols for free single-use plastics food packaging adoption enforced at city level, for several types of food service operators (cafes, restaurants, foods stores, hotel, beach facilities).

ABOUT US

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

SDSN GREECE hosted by ICRE8 & PESD



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



Prof. Phoebe Koundouri founded the **Research laboratory on Socio-Economic and Environmental Sustainability (ReSEES)** in June 2016. The ReSEES laboratory is the outcome of the evolution of the Research Team on Socio-Economic and Environmental Sustainability. **ReSEES** does policy relevant interdisciplinary research on environmental, natural resources and energy issues. The overarching goal of ReSEES theoretical and empirical research is to support the understanding and implementation of Sustainable Development. Central to ReSEES laboratory mission is the pursuit of excellence in the conduct and presentation of research and a commitment to explore relevant environmental, natural resources and energy issues for a variety of circumstances and stakeholders and across different temporal and spatial scales. Research tools include financial analysis, socio-economic and econometric analysis, environmental valuation, political and institutional analysis, integrated environmental-economic modeling, life cycle analysis, risk analysis, geographical information systems, game theory, information technology decision making tool development.

EIT CLIMATE-KIC HUB GREECE



The **EIT Regional Innovation Scheme** accelerates climate innovation across Europe. EIT RIS

facilitates connections into our established innovation hubs, now in 12 countries in the centre, east and south of Europe, securing **EIT Climate-KIC**'s pan-European reach, boosting climate innovation capacity across the continent. The newly established **EIT Climate KIC** Greece Hub is coordinated by **Prof. Phoebe Koundouri** and is composed by a consortium of various organisations across the knowledge triangle partners of:

- **Athena Research and Innovation Center (ATHENA RC), Prof. Phoebe Koundouri;**
- **Academy of Athens (AA) - Research Centre for Atmospheric Physics and Climatology, Prof. Christos Zerefos;**
- **European Regional Framework for Co-operation (ERFC), Nikolas Petropoulos;**
- **Uni.Fund, Assoc. Prof. Katerina Pramadari;**
- the **EIT Climate KIC** Greece is supported by the associate Partners:
 - **United Nations Sustainable Development Solutions Network Greece, hosted by ICRE8: International Center for Research on the Economy and the Environment), Prof. Andreas Papandreu**
 - **Foundation for Economic and Industrial Research (IOBE), Prof. Nikos Vettas;**
 - **Eunice Energy Group, Zisimos Mantas.**

The hub is a focal point for organisations from across business and entrepreneurship, higher education, research, technology, supporting knowledge sharing and integration and accelerating the journey of solutions from the lab through to market. In particular, the **EIT Climate KIC** Hub is bringing to surface the potential of Greece for innovative solutions in CleanTech, WaterTech, Circular Economy & innovative financing schemes. In 2018 the Hub focused on engagement and networking activities with local actors as well as raising awareness on the new Hub and co-creation of initiatives.

*Address: **Athena Research and Innovation Center (ATHENA RC)***

*c/o **EIT Climate-KIC** Hub Greece, Artemidos 6 & Epidavrou, Maroussi, Attica Region – 15125, Greece - Website: **www.athena-innovation.gr**. Contact: **info@athena-innovation.gr**.*

RUNNING PROGRAMS:

- [1. Accelerator](#)**
- [2. Pioneers into Practice](#)**
- [3. Climathon](#)**
- [4. Launchpad Competition](#)**

OUR GREECE-BASED TEAM

ADJUNT PROFESSORS



[Prof. Phoebe Koundouri](#)



[Prof. Andreas Papandreou](#)



[Prof. Nikitas Pittis](#)



[Prof. Christos Zerefos](#)



[Prof. Katerina Pramataris](#)



[Prof. Nikos Theodosiou](#)



[Prof. Nikos Vettas](#)



[Prof. Lena Tsipouri](#)



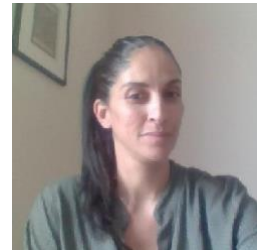
[Prof. Yannis Ioannidis](#)



[Prof. Athanasios Giannakopoulos](#)



[Prof. Michael Rauscher](#)



[Adj. Prof. Stella Apostolaki](#)



[Assoc. Prof. Nikolaos Kourogenis](#)



[Assoc. Prof. Stefanos Xenarios](#)



[Asst. Prof. Achilleas Vassilopoulos](#)



[Asst. prof. Nikolaos Egglezos](#)

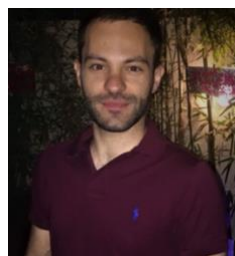
RESEARCHERS



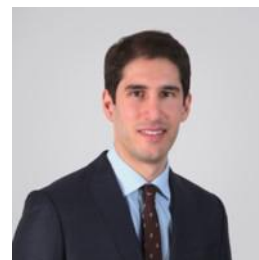
[Dr. Eburn Akinsete](#)



[Dr. Stella Tsani](#)



[Dr. Nikos
Chatzistamoulou](#)



[Dr. Panagiotis
Samartzis](#)



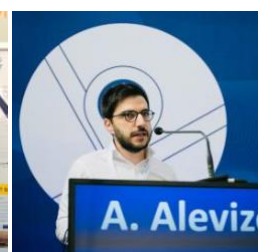
[Alice Guittard](#)



[Lydia Papadaki](#)



[Lydia
Stergiopoulou,](#)



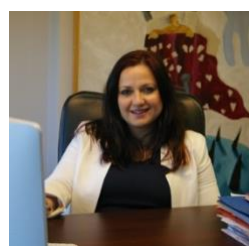
[Antonios Alevizos](#)



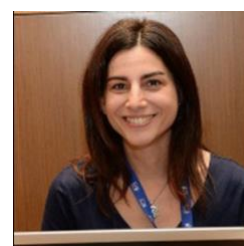
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[Nikos
Mavrogiannakis](#)



[Efi Tritopoulou](#)



[Evita Mailli](#)

...and many PhD students.

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