

smart
blue city

4th Euro-Mediterranean
Conference-Exhibition

9-10 October, 2020
Athens, Greece
Royal Olympic Hotel



National Technical University of Athens,
School of Rural and Surveying Engineering,
Dept. of Geography and Regional Planning

smart cities

Mediterranean

Smart Cities Mediterranean Cluster

VISIONING MED 2020+

Mediterranean in Transition:
Preserving the Past
Preparing for the Future

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VISIONING MED 2020+

Mediterranean in Transition: Preserving the Past - Preparing for the Future



About the Conference

Our planet is nowadays confronted with major challenges, such as the severe climate change impacts, the escalating urbanization rates, the loss of biodiversity, the intensifying resource scarcity, the upsurge in migratory flows, the current health crisis and its unpredictable human and economic losses, to name a few. The **Mediterranean Region** constitutes a hotspot in most of the aforementioned respects, with unpredicted repercussions with regard to its future sustainability perspective. Undesirable trends and related risks call for trend-breaking endeavors targeting sustainability, i.e. decrease of the ecological footprint of the Mediterranean settlements, reverse of economic recession and pursuance of resilient, livable, healthy and prosperous MED localities for the current and future generations.

The **Vision** of the Mid-Term Strategy (MTS) 2016-2021 of the UNEP Mediterranean Action Plan (UNEP/MAP) is ... [UNEP(DEPI)/MED IG.22/28, p. 114] ...

“A healthy Mediterranean with marine and coastal ecosystems that are productive and biologically diverse contributing to sustainable development for the benefit of present and future generations”.



But how can this be accomplished within a decision environment that is currently characterized by critical threats and risks that are primarily associated with Climate Change (CC) and its remarkable and aggravating climate-related vulnerabilities of the Mediterranean land and maritime spatial entities? How can the impacts of the rapidly escalating urbanization, especially of the coastal Mediterranean part; the political instability and tensions due to conflicting geopolitical interests; the migration surge and population redistribution as well as the respective huge burden exerted on insular communities; the severe biodiversity loss, further deteriorating owing to the CC impacts; the economic recession and respective rates of unemployment; etc. be handled in an effective and efficient way? How well prepared are we for coping with disastrous health events such as COVID-19? How can the objectives of smart, sustainable, safe, healthy, resilient and carbon-neutral cities and communities in the Mediterranean be best served? Or stated differently, how can the Mediterranean Region preserve its precious, multidimensional and multicultural past and render this the “vehicle” for envisioning a fruitful and prosperous, healthy and safe for its population future and getting prepared for this to happen?

The above issues lie at the heart of the

4th SmartBlueCity Conference-Exhibition to be held in Athens, Greece, October 9-10, 2020

The main goal of the 4th SmartBlueCity Conference-Exhibition is to continue the efforts of the Smart Cities Mediterranean Cluster for: strengthening inter- and cross-disciplinary interaction among various actors (policy makers, stakeholders and citizens' communities, scientists, etc.) around common objectives, research topics and policy concerns; and gathering glocal (global-local) intelligence in order to best inform policy decisions towards smart, sustainable, resilient, safe and carbon-neutral futures of the Mediterranean territories.

About the Conference

The Euro-Mediterranean Conference-Exhibition is organized annually since 2016 with the help of many partners and supporters.

The Conference consists of three strongly interwoven parts, namely the:

Academic part, in which contemporary and emerging challenges, faced by small and medium-sized cities and insular communities in the Mediterranean, are discussed, in conjunction with new policy concerns and directions; globally reconsidered urban and regional goal settings and aspirations; evolving urban/regional planning approaches and tools for human-centric, culture-driven as well as problem- and place-based decision-making; supportive smart technologies and products; etc.

Policy part that elaborates on the currently challenge-led, mission-oriented, and societal problem-solving Research & Innovation policy orientation of the European Union for Horizon Europe. The focus will be on the New Green Deal Strategy of EU and the Mission on Climate-neutral and Smart Cities, in an effort to address technological, institutional, environmental and societal innovations as critical factors for serving the multiple EU objectives for smart urban innovation-led growth, sustainability, resilience and inclusion.

Industry part, which offers industries and SMEs the opportunity to present and promote technological solutions and products that are capable of coping with current and emergent challenges and threats confronted by the MED communities on the one hand; and listen to concerns and needs of the academic and policy community for properly orienting their efforts on the other.

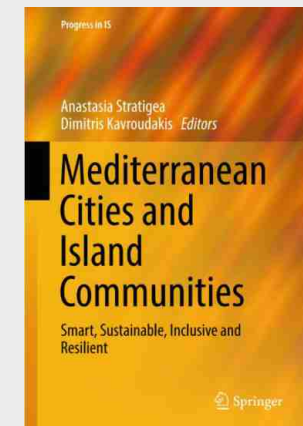
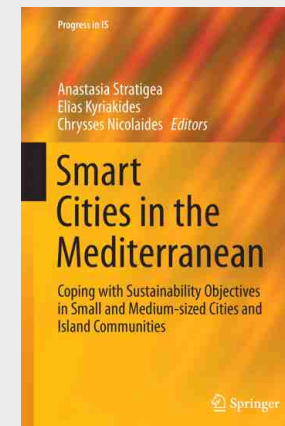


PUBLICATION OPTIONS

Abstracts submitted to the Conference will be reviewed by members of the Scientific Committee. Accepted abstracts will be grouped and presented in relevant Conference Sessions.

Papers presented will be considered for publication as Chapters in Edited Volumes by well established Publishing Companies and/or papers in Special Issues of Indexed Journals, following respective peer review and journal-specific procedures.

A number of publication options will be explored by the organizers, as soon as the deadline of abstracts' submission expires. Participants will be invited to submit the full versions of their papers after the end of the Conference.



Theme 1

The Future of Urban and Insular Communities under CC Conditions - Smart Developments for Empowering Planning Endeavors

- Smart People - Neighborhoods
- Smart Governance
- Smart Buildings
- Smart Environment
- Smart Waste Management
- Smart Water Management
- Smart Energy
- Smart Mobility
- Smart Health Systems – Smart Care
- Smart Port Management
- Smart Tourism
- Digital Learning Systems / Technologies
- Innovation and Entrepreneurship in Smart Environments
- Open Data
- Big Data Analytics and Data Science – Datafication of Urban and Regional Environments
- Internet of Things (IoT)
- Augmented Reality (AR) Technology
- Drones and Unmanned Aerial Vehicles (UAVs) in Urban and Regional Planning

Theme 2

Evolving Planning Challenges - Approaches, Tools, Technologies and Emerging Thematic Areas

- e-Planning, e-Participation, e-democracy
- e-Inclusive Cities
- (e-)Participatory Spatial Planning
- Community Empowerment for e-Engagement
- Crowdsourcing – Volunteered Geographic Information (VGI)
- Smart Data Management and COVID-19
- Web-based Citizens' Engagement in Urban and Regional Planning
- Public Participation GIS (PPGIS)
- Spatial Data Infrastructures and Data Mining in Urban and Regional Planning
- Ontologies for Spatial Analysis and Planning
- Urban/Regional Planning and Social Media/Networks
- Public – Private – People Partnerships (PPPP) for Smart Urban/Regional Development
- Data Privacy and Ethics in e-Planning
- Insularity and Smartness – Smart Island Communities
- Circular Economy – A New Green Growth Opportunity for MED regions
- Blue Growth – Coastal Cities and Insular Communities – Challenges, Risks and Policy Reaction
- Marine Spatial Planning and Integrated Coastal Zone Management



Theme 3

Smart Cultural Heritage (CH) Management

- Heritage Narrative Creation/Communication in the Era of Social Media
- Heritage Governance
- Heritage Tourism
- Digital Technologies for Documentation, Preservation and Sustainable Exploitation of Land and Underwater Cultural Heritage [(U)CH]
- ICT, Cultural Resources and Marketing/Branding of Places
- Datafication of Cultural Heritage, Activities and Services
- Gamification – Serious Games in (U)CH
- (U)CH and 3D Modeling
- Coastal and Insular Communities – Heritage, Tourism & ICT's Potential for Local Development
- Maritime Cultural Heritage
- Heritage-led Development and Cultural Resilience
- Building Cultural Identity and Awareness – Co-creation of Heritage-led Local Development Trails

Theme 4

MED in Transition - Strengthening Resilience to Chronic Stresses and Unexpected Events

- Coastal/Insular Communities and Climate Change – Smart Mitigation and Adaptation Policies
- Strengthening Social, Cultural, Economic and Environmental Resilience of Urban and Insular Communities in the MED
- Coping with Migratory Waves in the MED
- Natural Hazards Management – Disaster Risk Reduction
- Coping with COVID-19 social and economic impacts



Proposals for **Conference Sessions** on specific or combination of the above themes are welcome by participants.

Important dates

- 15 June 2020:** Abstract submission
- 30 June 2020:** Notification of acceptance to authors
- 15 July 2020:** Deadline for early-bird registration
- 30 August 2020:** Deadline for late registration

Conference Chairs



Anastasia Stratigea,
Professor, National Technical University of Athens (NTUA), School of Rural and Surveying Engineering, Dept. of Geography and Regional Planning, Greece, Founding member/ Advisor Smart Cities Mediterranean Cluster (SMART-MED), GREECE.
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Chrysses Nicolaides,
Member EU Mission Board for Climate Neutral and Smart Cities, Founder Smart Cities Mediterranean Cluster (SMART-MED), Managing partner CNE Business Development Ltd, CYPRUS.
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'SmartBlueCity' is established as an important Conference, following the successful organization of the:

- **Limassol-Cyprus Conference, 2016**, on “Smart Urban Development and Blue Growth Opportunities for Cities, Communities and Islands in the Mediterranean Basin”.
- **Heraklion-Greece Conference, 2017**, on “Smart, Inclusive and Resilient Small and Medium-sized Cities and Island Communities in the Mediterranean: Exploring Current Research Paths and Experience-based Evidence”.
- **Larnaca-Cyprus Conference, 2018**, on “Featuring Territorial Intelligence of Small and Medium-sized Cities and Insular Communities in the Mediterranean Scenery - Building Bridges between Local Endeavors and Global Developments”.



Support



The 3rd SmartBlueCity Conference was under the auspices of the:

- Cyprus Ministry of Transport, Communication & Works,
- Cyprus Ministry of Education & Culture,
- Larnaca Municipality,
- Embassy of the Kingdom of Netherlands in Cyprus,
- Larnaka Chamber of Commerce and Industry,
- Library of Alexandria (BA),
- Alexandria & Mediterranean Research Center of Bibliotheca Alexandrina (Alex Med)



The 2nd SmartBlueCity Conference was under the auspices of the:

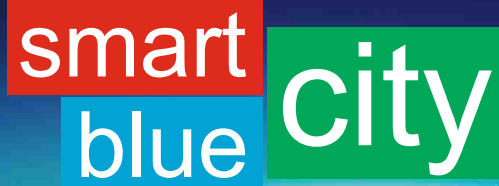
- Greek Ministry of Environment & Energy,
- National Technical University of Athens,
- University of the Aegean,
- Municipality of Heraklion and the Region of Crete,
- Technical Chamber of Greece (TEE)
- Technical Chamber of Greece - Section of Eastern Crete.



The 1st SmartBlueCity Conference was under the auspices of the:

- President of the Republic of Cyprus Nicos Anastasiades,
- Municipality of Limassol,
- Cyprus Ministry of Energy, Commerce, Industry and Tourism,
- Greek Ministry of the Environment and Energy,
- Limassol Chamber of Commerce and Industry,
- Greek Tourism Organization
- National Technical University of Athens.





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