

## PRESS RELEASE

AUGUST 2024

### ePLANET: Capacity Building Activities in Crete Region

As part of the ePLANET project, a comprehensive Capacity Building Programme was designed and implemented on Crete Island, Greece, to address the region's specific needs. This press release summarizes the extensive capacity building activities conducted in the pilot region of Crete.



The ePLANET project - funded under the Horizon 2020 programme of the European Commission - aims to develop and promote new tools and strategies to **enhance the governance of the energy transition in the public sector**.

## Capacity Building Programme

The capacity building programme for Crete comprised a series of activities designed to inform, train, and engage a diverse audience. These activities included:

- One informative session
- Five technical training sessions on the ePLANET platform
- Three content-focused sessions
- One webinar on innovative financing
- Two awareness-raising sessions on Climate Change

In total, 11 sessions were organized in Greek, involving 350 participants from various backgrounds. The image below summarizes the activities deployed:

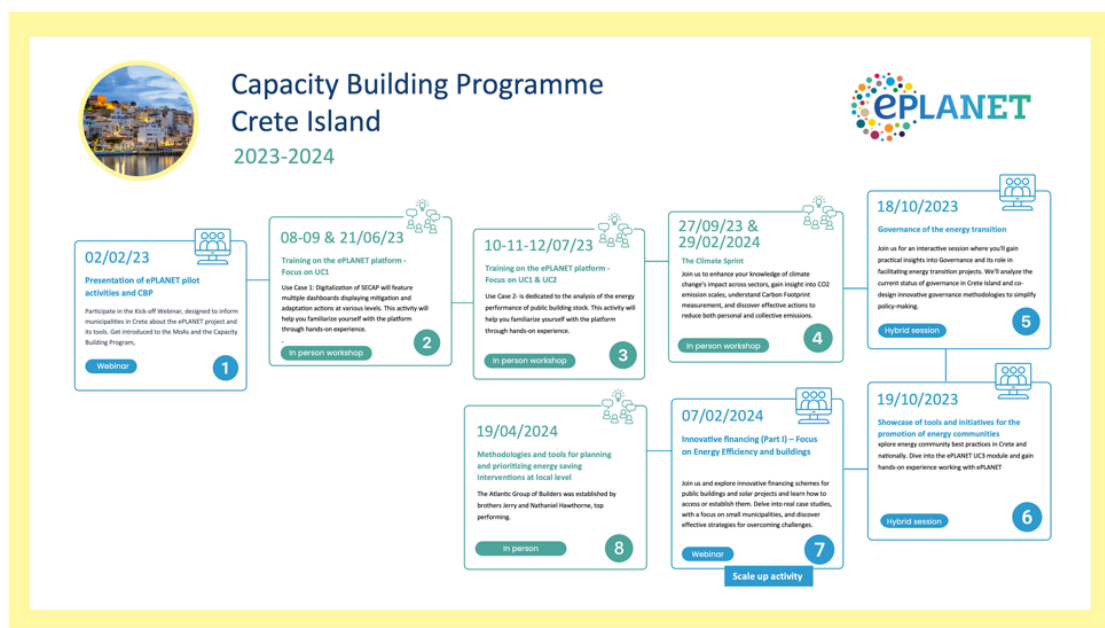


Figure 1: ePLANET Capacity Building Programme Activities deployed in Crete Island

### Trainings on the ePLANET Platform - Focus on UC1 and UC2

**When & Where?** 8-9/6/2023 and 21/06/2023 @Chania (Crete)  
21/6/2023 @Heraklion, Crete  
10-11-12/07/2023 @ Ierapetra

Capacity building activities were conducted with technical staff from more than ten municipalities in Crete. These in-person trainings focused on different modules of the ePLANET platform, particularly:

- Use Case 1: Digitization and management of Energy Transition plans
- Use Case 2: Analysis of the energy performance of public buildings

Participants had the opportunity to explore the fully deployed tool and test it with data corresponding to the Crete pilot region.

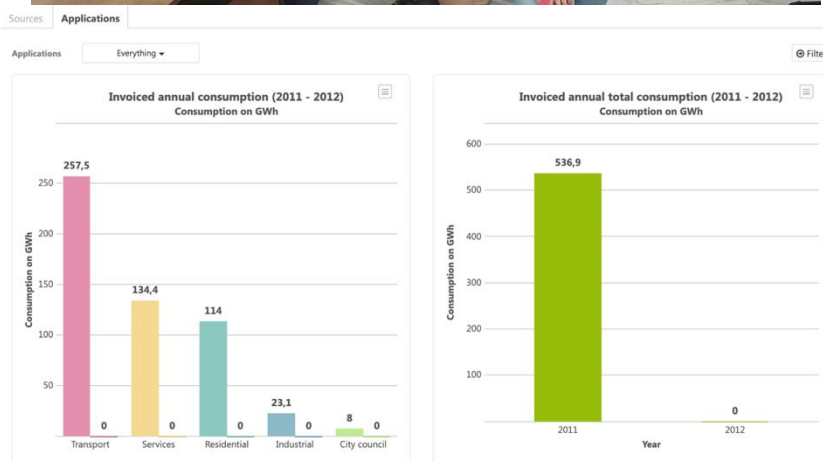


Figure 2: ePLANET Technical trainings with Cretan municipalities

## The Climate Sprint

*When & Where?* 27/9/2023 @Hellenic Mediterranean University  
29/2/2024 and 6/3/2024 @ Rethymnon, 2nd chance school for adults

Climate Change is a complex issue affecting all of us. Our analysis revealed that it is poorly understood in the pilot areas and among the general population. The Climate Sprint aimed to bridge this gap by enhancing stakeholders' understanding of climate change and encouraging constructive action.

We organized three sessions:

1. One session with postgraduate students of the Hellenic Mediterranean University, Heraklion, Crete
2. Two sessions with adults from the Rethymnon Crete, Second Chance School

Each workshop lasted three hours, actively engaging participants to recognize the interlinkages between various dimensions and sectors associated with climate change. Activities included:



- Gaining a better understanding of climate change and its sector-specific consequences
- Clarifying technical questions based on scientific data (IPPC reports)
- Learning about CO2 emissions and their magnitudes
- Familiarizing participants with the concept of Carbon Footprint and its measurement
- Identifying impactful actions to reduce individual emissions



Figure 3: Calculating Individual Footprints during the Climate Sprint

## Conference session to showcase of tools and initiatives for the promotion of energy communities

*When & Where? 19/10/2023 @Heraklion Crete, Capsis Hotel*

This webinar addressed one of the capacity-building needs identified in the project: financing mechanisms for energy efficiency projects. It primarily targeted representatives of regions, municipalities, and other public bodies involved in the planning, implementation, and financing of energy transition plans and energy-saving projects for public buildings.

- Attendance: 38 participants from municipalities, regional authorities, universities, companies, and EU organizations.

The learning objectives included gaining an understanding of various financing mechanisms for energy efficiency projects, such as Energy Performance Contracts and EU best practices demonstrated by projects like REFINE. Participants explored case studies from EU-funded projects PRODESA and SMAFIN/SMAFIN Expanded to grasp the outcomes and prospects of energy-saving initiatives in buildings, particularly municipal structures. Additionally, the course aimed to equip learners with insights into capacity-building programs like PROSPECT+ designed to empower public authorities in financing sustainable energy plans.



## Webinar on Innovative Financing including National Stakeholders

When & Where? 7/2/2024 @online

This webinar addressed one of the capacity-building needs identified in the project: financing mechanisms for energy efficiency projects. It primarily targeted representatives of regions, municipalities, and other public bodies involved in the planning, implementation, and financing of energy transition plans and energy-saving projects for public buildings.

- Attendance: 38 participants from municipalities, regional authorities, universities, companies, and EU organizations.



 ΚΑΠΕ ΚΕΝΤΡΟ ΑΝΑΕΞΕΣΜΩΝ ΠΗΓΩΝ ΚΑΙ ΕΞΟΙΚΟΝΟΜΗΣΗΣ ΕΝΕΡΓΕΙΑΣ  
 ePLANET  
 PROSPECT+

**ΔΙΑΔΙΚΤΥΑΚΟ ΣΕΜΙΝΑΡΙΟ:  
 ΚΑΙΝΟΤΟΜΟΙ ΜΗΧΑΝΙΣΜΟΙ  
 ΧΡΗΜΑΤΟΔΟΤΗΣΗΣ ΓΙΑ ΕΡΓΑ  
 ΕΞΟΙΚΟΝΟΜΗΣΗΣ  
 ΕΝΕΡΓΕΙΑΣ ΣΕ ΚΤΙΡΙΑ**

**ΤΕΤΑΡΤΗ**  
 07 Φεβρουαρίου 2024

**ΩΡΑ**  
 13:00 - 15:00  
 ώρα Ελλάδος

**ΕΓΓΡΑΦΗ**  


 Funded by the European Union

Figure 4: Webinar on Innovative Financing

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## Final In person event : Methodologies and tools for planning and prioritising energy saving interventions at local level

*When & Where? 19/4/2024 @Philippos Hotel, Athens*

CRES, in collaboration with SYMPRAXIS Team and another EU-funded project re-MODULEES, organized an open event in the heart of Athens. The event aimed to address the energy upgrade of buildings in alignment with energy transition objectives. It was divided into two parts:

1. Familiarizing citizens and stakeholders with existing tools and services that provide useful recommendations and assistance for upgrading buildings and residences.
2. Centering on the ePLANET project and how the ePLANET platform can support municipalities in achieving energy efficiency in public buildings and harmonizing existing energy data.

**Attendance:** 21 people, including local and national stakeholders, industry experts, and citizens.

This event brought together a wide range of stakeholders, including government officials, industry experts, and concerned citizens, to discuss and promote the energy transition and building upgrade initiatives. It was also an exceptional opportunity to explore new initiatives, address the current challenges confronting local stakeholders, and foster collaboration among the public, private sector, and citizens.



Figure 5: ePLANET final in person event in Athens

The capacity building activities on Crete have significantly contributed to raise awareness, enhancing skills, and promoting proactive measures towards the energy transition and climate action in the region. A big thanks to all participants and experts that have contributed to this success!

## ePLANET project

The project started in September 2021 and will end this August 2024. The consortium is composed of 10 partners from 6 countries (Catalonia, Czech Republic, Greece, Germany, Belgium and France).



## ePLANET Joint Agreement

If you are interested in the ePLANET developments, don't forget to read and sign our Joint Agreement. You can find more information in our website [www.eplaneth2020.eu](http://www.eplaneth2020.eu)

[Sign the Joint Agreement](#)

## More information

[www.eplaneth2020.eu](http://www.eplaneth2020.eu)

<https://www.linkedin.com/company/eplaneth2020>

<https://twitter.com/eplaneth2020>

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#EUMayors #CoM #EnergyEfficiency #RenewableEnergies

