## **EnerCmed Newsletter - February 2025**

Welcome to the February edition of the EnerCMed newsletter! This month we are pleased to highlight two key partners whose work is essential for the success of our project: the University of Cyprus and the Municipality of Patras. Both partners bring valuable expertise and a strong commitment to promoting sustainable energy solutions in the Mediterranean region. Stay with us to discover their role in shaping a greener future

The EnerCmed Team

## Environmental Fluid Mechanics Laboratory at UCY: Contribution to the EnercMed Project

The University of Cyprus (UCY), through the Laboratory - Isle of Excellence of Environmental Fluid Mechanics (EFM-Lab), actively contributes to EnerCmed by integrating Renewable Energy Communities (RECs) with Nature-Based Solutions (NBS) to enhance urban resilience against climate challenges.

The lab specializes in urban microclimate analysis, computational fluid dynamics (CFD) modeling, and sustainable urban planning, focusing on mitigating the Urban Heat Island (UHI) effect and improving environmental conditions in port hinterlands.

Within the EnerCmed project, UCY has developed a comprehensive portfolio of small-scale NBS, proposing adaptable and scalable interventions for the pilot cities of Genova, Patras, Valencia, Pula, and Novigrad. These solutions aim to mitigate the UHI effect, enhance air quality, and create climate-resilient urban environments, thereby supporting the long-term sustainability of RECs in Mediterranean cities.

Beyond research and technical contributions, UCY is actively involved in capacity building and stakeholder engagement. The university will host the Steering Committee Meeting, which will include key activities to facilitate knowledge exchange among project partners, policymakers, and urban planners.





## **Municipality of Patras**

Patras, the third-largest city in Greece and a major economic and cultural hub, is playing a crucial role in the EnerCmed project. With a population of approximately 200,000 and a strategic location as a gateway between Greece and Western Europe, the city is embracing innovation to enhance energy sustainability across the Mediterranean.

As part of the EnerCmed initiative, Patras is implementing forward-thinking strategies to integrate renewable energy sources, improve energy efficiency in public buildings, and promote smart energy management. A key intervention is taking place at the 6th EPAL school complex, where significant steps are being taken to increase energy self-sufficiency, reduce its carbon footprint, and enhance resilience against climate change.

The project is being implemented through two main axes:

Installation of a Photovoltaic System (PV): A 50KW photovoltaic system will be installed at the school building, contributing to the city's Community of Renewable Energy Sources. The procurement process is at its final evaluation stage, with installation expected to begin in June, during the school holiday period.

Nature-Based Solutions (NBS): Patras is adopting cost-effective, environmentally friendly solutions that enhance resilience while providing social and economic benefits. These nature-inspired interventions will be integrated into the school's courtyard area, improving the urban environment and contributing to climate adaptation.

One of Patras' key strengths lies in its commitment to research and technology, hosting institutions such as the University of Patras, which plays a vital role in energy innovation. By leveraging local expertise and European partnerships, the city aims to reduce its carbon footprint while fostering a greener and more resilient urban environment.

Through its involvement in EnerCmed, Patras demonstrates how Mediterranean cities can drive meaningful change by adopting sustainable energy solutions. The city's efforts in renewable energy and climate resilience serve as a model for others in the region.

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