

Issue 4: February 2018



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The EIT is a body of the European Union 

New EIT HUB



Climate-KIC Hub
Malta

Following the work undertaken by Paragon Europe in 2017 we are pleased to announce the appointment of Paragon Europe as National co-ordinators for a new EIT HUB.

eit.europa.eu

Climate-KIC News



We are pleased to announce that Climate-KIC have launched an improved website based on feedback from RIS Partners such as Paragon Europe and stakeholders who have participated in the various projects throughout 2017. The new website reflects the innovative approach of Climate-KIC and contains new improved News and Educational content.

www.climate-kic.org

Covenant of Mayors:

A key instrument for the future EU budget

In its 10 year-existence, the European Covenant of Mayors has mobilised thousands of local governments to voluntarily implement and exceed EU climate and energy objectives. In order to further embed the initiative in EU policies, it has to become a key instrument for the future EU budget, write the local and regional leaders of the European Covenant of Mayors board.

The 9,000+ local and regional authorities that are part of the European Covenant of Mayors understand the added value of European funding. In the Italian Covenant region of Marche for example, regional development funds have laid the foundation for decarbonising urban transport by building new multimodal transport hubs for citizens to commute more efficiently by train, bus and bicycle.



Full Article:
www.euractiv.com/section/climate-environment/opinion/covenant-of-mayors-a-key-instrument-for-the-future-eu-budget

This year, Paragon Europe will once again be managing the following Climate-KIC programmes in Malta and in addition have joined The Journey programme.

Triggering a critical mass of sustainable investment: How can Europe do it?

Written by Kirsten Dunlop, CEO, EIT Climate-KIC. Originally published in EurActiv.

The European Commission's HLEG Working Group on Sustainable Finance released its long-awaited final report on 31 January. More than two years after the Paris Agreement and implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals, Europe looks ready to put finance to task, leveraging its structural potential in helping a green economy bloom.

The report proposals – including a taxonomy to provide market clarity on what 'sustainable' is; clarification of investor duties in considering sustainability in investment decisions; improvement in disclosure; and an EU-wide label for green investment funds – have been broadly welcomed in banking and policymaking circles.

Europe has done well at stimulating renewable energy infrastructure, and market opportunities that are vertical and aligned with traditional business perspectives seeking growth and return on investment. This model, however, does not incentivise financial flows to projects and actions vital to a low carbon development path, for example in retrofitting Europe's building stock or integrated energy-mobility-dwelling models.

To read the full article:
www.climate-kic.org/opinion/sustainable-investment

Pioneers into Practice

Applications from hosts and pioneers is now open on the portal.

www.pioneers.climate-kic.org

Accelerator

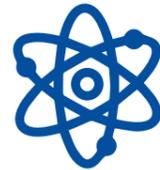
Applications from entrepreneurs and start-ups for all three stages of development are encouraged.

To apply click here
www.climate-kic.org/programmes/entrepreneurship/#accelerator

The Journey

Applications have now closed but there are other graduate programmes you can join.

www.climate-kic.org/programmes/education/#graduate-school



Europe's cities face more extreme weather than previously thought

New research, by Newcastle University, UK, has for the first time analysed changes in flooding, droughts and heatwaves for all European cities using all climate models.



Published today in the academic journal Environmental Research Letters, the study shows:

- a worsening of heatwaves for all 571 cities
- increasing drought conditions, particularly in southern Europe
- an increase in river flooding, especially in north-western European cities
- for the worst projections, increases in all hazards for most European cities
- Cork, Derry, Waterford, Wrexham, Carlisle, Glasgow, Chester and Aberdeen the worst hit cities in the British Isles for river flooding
- Even in the most optimistic case, 85% of UK cities with a river - including London - are predicted to face increased river flooding

Using projections from all available climate models (associated with the high emission scenario RCP8.5 which implies a 2.6°C to 4.8°C increase in global temperature), the team showed results for three possible futures which they called the low, medium and high impact scenarios.

Full Article:
www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2018/02/180220212029.htm



Innovation for System-wide Impact

Deadline for applications to all programmes: 2 March 2018

EIT Climate-KIC is looking to support ambitious initiatives with a clear pathway to positive climate impact, consistent with the Paris Agreement targets and our Climate Innovation Impact Goals.

Our common ambition is to create a prosperous, inclusive, climate-resilient society with a circular, zero-carbon economy, where our long-term impact is to achieve deep decarbonisation and strengthen climate resilience through innovation. The EIT Climate-KIC community is a pioneer in testing and delivering such innovative solutions and a movement for rapid change.

For more information please consult the latest version of all relevant call for proposal documents:

www.climate-kic.org/get-involved/research-innovation-opportunities



Matchmaking Event: Building Green, Resilient Cities

21st Mar 2018

EIT Climate-KIC invites all partners and external parties who are active in the field of Nature-Based Solutions (NBS) to take part in the Matchmaking Event 'Building Green, Resilient Cities' on 21 March in Utrecht.

Together we can increase the impact of nature-based solutions. The application of NBS remains limited and fragmented within cities. Grey infrastructure continues to dominate urban development. In order to explore how innovative NBS can make a contribution to creating more resilient cities, EIT Climate-KIC will bring together public authorities facing adaptation challenges with organisations developing and implementing NBS.

www.climate-kic.org/events/building-green-resilient-cities
Venue: Utrecht, the Netherlands



Sustainable Urban Solutions Conference

23rd May 2018

The Sustainable Urban Solutions Conference is part of the Nordic Clean Energy Week which takes place in Copenhagen and Malmö, 21-25 May.

Leading cities around the world are searching for innovative solutions to the major sustainability challenges they face, to achieve their goals and to meet the needs of their citizens. To solve these challenges, innovation is required in which the private and public sectors come together. At the Sustainable Urban Solutions Conference, in Copenhagen, 400 international guests meet with leading Nordic and global cities, and partners, to explore sustainable solutions.

www.climate-kic.org/events/sustainable-urban-solutions-conference
Venue: Odd Fellow Palace, Bredgade 28, 1260 Copenhagen, Denmark

Start-up Accelerator



Fast-track your cleantech startup
Apply to enter our accelerator programme in Malta!



Apply until 3 April 2018, 17:00 (CET)

EIT Regional Innovation Scheme (EIT RIS) Edition <http://www.climate-kic.org/ris/accelerator>

Climate-KIC is supported by the EIT, a body of the European Union



Daily Planet



EIT Climate-KIC innovators featured in Forbes 30 under 30 Europe List

Six EIT Climate-KIC innovators have been honoured in this year's prestigious Forbes 30 Under 30 Europe List.

In the last three years, the EIT Community has had over 30 ventures or entrepreneurs featured in the Forbes 30 under 30 Europe List across four categories. Choosing from the diverse, competitive fields of Science & Healthcare, Social Entrepreneurs, Industry and Finance, across more than 30 European countries, nine disrupters supported by EIT Climate-KIC and EIT Digital were selected by the team of Forbes reporters and high-level experts.

Tibor Navracsics, European Commissioner for Education, Culture, Youth and Sport and the Commissioner responsible for the EIT, said: "Another year, another wonderful success for the EIT Community. I am proud that this prestigious list acknowledges young entrepreneurs who have been supported by the EIT in boosting their competences and turning their ideas into innovations that benefit all of us. We must step up our efforts to enable young Europeans to develop entrepreneurial mindsets and make the most of their lives. This is key in building a resilient, competitive Europe for the future."

Martin Kern, EIT Interim Director, said: "It's great to receive news of Forbes' continued recognition of the EIT Community's entrepreneurs. I'm proud of our Innovation Communities and really pleased for the young innovators whose hard work and dedication leads them to such recognition. We need to increase our support to Europe's entrepreneurs so more have access to such opportunities."

EIT Climate-KIC has been instrumental in enabling the innovators' careers via its Accelerator programme by providing seed funding for their start-ups, training and bespoke coaching tailored to individual needs and access to wide-ranging networks. This support has meant they are better placed to validate their business models and put them on a path to commercial success.

Featured in the list are Estefania Tapias from ETH Zurich and at the Future Cities Laboratory in Singapore, Arnau Verdaguer who founded HPNow, Sympower founder Simon Bushell, Mulundu Sichone who created Pydro, Giovanni Anceschi who has been leading the technical development of Energy Way and Morten Bruun, co-founder of the Nordic fintech start-up Penstable.

Full Article: www.climate-kic.org/news/forbes-30-30-europe-list

International Conferences

Resilient Cities 2018

26 - 28 April 2018, Bonn, Germany

Resilient Cities 2018

26th – 28th April 2018

Resilient Cities - The Annual Global Forum on Urban Resilience and Adaptation - is the global platform for urban resilience and climate change adaptation, hosted in Bonn, Germany.

Resilient Cities was first launched in 2010 with the goal of connecting local government leaders and climate change adaptation experts to discuss adaptation challenges facing urban environments around the globe and forging partnerships that could have lasting impacts for cities. Eight successful editions have made this goal a reality. The 9th edition of the Resilient Cities congress series will take place on 26-28 April 2018.

Website: resilientcities2018.iclei.org

Venue: Bonn, Germany



World Summit on Climate Change And Global Warming

21st – 22nd June 2018

EuroSciCon warmly respects each one of the individuals and supporters from worldwide to attend "World Summit on Climate Change and Global Warming" amid June 21-22, 2018 in Paris, France. This Climate Change Conferences 2018 overwhelmingly emphasis on "New Emerging Drifts and Tactic to Challenge Climate changes and Global Warming".

Website: climate.euroscicon.com

Venue: Holiday Inn Paris - Marne La Vallee, Paris, France

European Climate Adaptation Platform

The European Climate Adaptation Platform (Climate-ADAPT) aims to support Europe in adapting to climate change. It is an initiative of the European Commission and helps users to access and share information on:

- Expected climate change in Europe
- Current and future vulnerability of regions and sectors
- National and transnational adaptation strategies
- Adaptation case studies and potential adaptation options
- Tools that support adaptation planning

Throughout 2018 there will be a number of events – these started on the 10th January – for the upcoming events calendar

www.climate-adapt.eea.europa.eu/more-events

Climate Change News



Germany's 'green' energy production up 1,000% since 1990

By Bartłomiej Derski | WysokieNapiecie.pl
Translated by Alexandra Brzozowski | EURACTIV.com

Since 1990, the production of "green" electricity in Germany has increased by 1,000% and export rates, according to preliminary data for 2017, just smashed another record. EURACTIV Poland's partner WysokieNapiecie.pl reports.

When Germany was reunified, three electricity sources reigned supreme: brown coal held 31% of the energy mix, hard coal 26% and nuclear energy 28%. Renewable energy, mostly hydroelectric, only supplied Germany with 20 TWh, less than 4% of all electricity production.

Green vs coal and nuclear energy

After 27 years the situation looks completely different, especially after the last decade of rapid transformation.

Germany's production of "green" electricity in 2017 amounted to almost 217 TWh, of which almost half (105 TWh) was supplied by wind farms, 46 TWh by biomass combustion, 40 TWh by solar panels and 7 TWh by biogas combustion.

Hydropower production remained unchanged, according to results from German organisation AGEB, which brings together German research institutes and industrial organisations.

The results mean that every third kilowatt-hour produced in Germany last year came from renewable energy sources.

By comparison, Poland's electricity production last year was less than 166 TWh, of which nearly 80% came from hard and brown coal, about 6% from gas, and a dozen or so percent from renewable energy sources.

Full Article:
www.euractiv.com/section/energy/news/germanys-green-energy-production-up-1000-since-1990

Commission to introduce rules to clarify 'green' investment in May

By Jorge Valero | EURACTIV.com

Following the action plan on sustainable finance to be published early next month, the European Commission will present legislation in May to define what represents 'green' investment, EURACTIV has learned.

For investors and a group of senior experts on finance, the priority must be to set the criteria to properly classify 'green investment' and avoid 'greenwashing'.

The Commission agrees this is the "main problem", officials have told this website.

For that reason, the institution prioritises setting up an EU taxonomy, a unified classification system to apply to all jurisdictions to define what is 'green' and what is not.

The EU action plan will be the first step toward this classification. However, the Commission needs more time to develop this taxonomy, officials explained.

To date, only the European Investment Bank uses indicators to assess how 'green' investment projects are. But Commission officials said it is not possible to copy/paste these criteria.

Full Article:
www.euractiv.com/section/energy-environment/news/commission-to-introduce-rules-to-clarify-green-investment-in-may



Valdis Dombrovskis
Commission
Vice-President

The Energy Water Nexus

Renata Mikalauskiene, Brian Azzopardi
Malta College of Arts, Science and Technology (MCAST) Energy

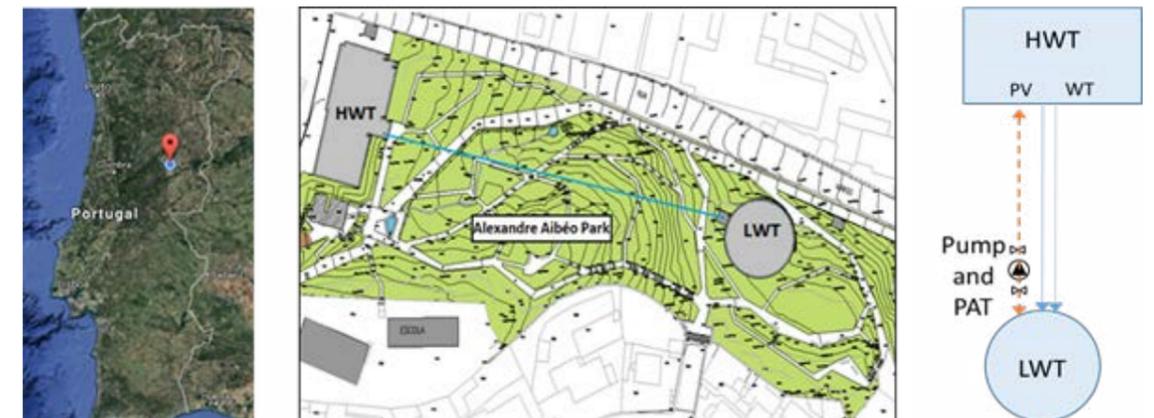
Energy and water are fundamental components of our 21st century life, but they can no longer be considered separately. Water and energy are intricately linked and should be managed as interrelated resources. Rising demand for energy has the potential to significantly increase water consumption. As energy producers and consumers seek to evaluate their energy options and developing policies that apply appropriate financial carrots and sticks to various technologies to encourage sustainable energy production, including cost, carbon, and security considerations. Energy and water nexus needs to be part of this debate, particularly how communities will manage

the trade-offs between water and energy at the local, national, and cross-border levels. Energy and water integration in a single and efficient system is the main topic of the EdgeWise (Energy and Water Systems Integration and Management) project. The basic idea is simple enough: water is energy intensive, and energy is water intensive, so addressing both in an integrated way should lead to innovative, more efficient solutions. Experimental pilot will be used to check the applicability and assess the socio-economic impact of the work developed by the research teams.

The general objective of the developed pilot is to transform solar

and wind energy to gravitational potential energy (GPE) by raising water to a level higher than its reference level. This kind of energy transformation is anticipated to be of interest to water and utility providers of mountain cities and towns. The public park located in Covilha (Portugal) city will be used to build a water-energy combined system to support the city's night demand of water and electricity to power its public lights. The height difference of the already existing water tanks will be used to store energy by elevating water from the bottom of the park to the top. The work that will be used to elevate the water will be supplied by solar and wind sources.

Water-energy nexus research has a number of benefits when comparing to traditional energy storage mechanisms using electro chemical approach. In this case, water storage offers no frequent replacement of system components, low maintenance, low cost, easily available components and environmental friendly.



Energy Water Nexus pilot implementation site – Alexandre Aibeo Park, Covilha, Portugal

A special session on Energy-Water Nexus will be held during this year 2nd MCAST Energy Day Conference on the 3rd of May 2018.

[Register now](#)

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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In the News



PRIMA

University of Malta Website
January 11, 2018

Today, 180 million people in the Mediterranean basin are considered 'water poor'. The lack of clean water and nutritious food has adverse effects on the health and stability of the populations.

The general objectives of PRIMA are to build research and innovation capacities and to develop knowledge and common innovative solutions for agro-food systems, to make them sustainable, and for integrated water provision and management in the Mediterranean area, to make those systems and that provision and management more climate resilient, efficient, cost-effective and environmentally and socially sustainable, and to contribute to solving water scarcity, food security, nutrition, health, well-being and migration problems upstream.

More about the EU initiative on PRIMA is available on the

- www.ec.europa.eu
- www.prima4med.org
- www.4prima.org

Marsaxlokk has been given a stern climate change warning for 2100

Rising sea levels will submerge proposed Marsaxlokk hotel's ground floor and car park by 2100

The Environmental Impact Statement for a new 113-room hotel being proposed instead of the Hunters Tower restaurant comes with a dire warning for the entire fishing village: Marsaxlokk is expected to be "severely impacted by rising sea levels".

The study conducted by EIA consultants AIS Environmental warns that by 2100, the mean sea level is expected to "rise significantly" submerging the new hotel's ground level and car-park.

The study refers to "projections" showing that the coastline is expected to expand "onto the terraced agricultural slopes lying to the east of the proposed hotel".

Full Article:
www.maltatoday.com.mt/environment/environment/84516/marsaxlokk_climate_change_warning_for_2100



'Big' nature park to be declared in the south, Environment Minister reveals

A 'big' nature park will be declared in the south of the island, Minister for the Environment Jose Herrera has disclosed to The Malta Independent.

In comments to the newspaper at a waste-related event, Minister Herrera revealed his plans for the new park, however he preferred not to provide more details until it is launched officially.

When asked whether Herrera would view the possibility of Zonqor Point not used by The American University of Malta a bonus, Herrera explained his belief that it is

Full Article:
www.independent.com.mt/articles/2018-01-20/local-news/Big-nature-park-to-be-declared-in-the-south-Environment-Minister-reveals-6736183816



important to regenerate the south, emphasized his effort to create Inwadar national park "to compensate", and noted that the land by the university is already "semi-developed" and that the government has refrained from using up ODZ land for further projects following the last elections.

Recognition of environmental and innovative projects in Malta

Parliamentary Secretary for European funds, Aaron Farrugia, presented certificates to 38 participants in projects under the Programme for Territorial Cooperation. The projects involve various ministries, agencies, educational institutions, private entities and non-government organisations.

The projects include, among others, waste management, energy efficiency, innovation, competitiveness for small and medium-sized enterprises, and also tourism, biodiversity, maritime protection and environmental heritage.

Parliament Secretary Farrugia said that benefits through participation in territorial cooperation projects is that one learns from other European countries' experience, while the projects serve as a base for bigger projects under other EU sources and funds.

Source:
www.tvn.com.mt/en/news/recognition-environmental-innovative-projects-malta



BE PART OF 89.7 BAY'S CAMPAIGN TO CLEAN UP MALTA

89.7 Bay's new campaign for 2018 is Making Malta Green and Clean.

The national push aims to urge listeners to take action to make Malta a cleaner and greener place.

89.7 Bay director Kevin DeCesare said the radio station aimed to increase awareness about the environment and recycling issues as well as helping to boost public pride in Malta and Gozo.

He added: 'Making Malta Green and Clean will encourage people to love where they live – and to take pride in their street, town or village by keeping it clean and tidy.





Programmes & Courses



FREE Training Courses



Renewable Energy Innovation

The Renewable Energy Innovation (REI) MOOC is an action-based learning resource designed for anyone with an interest in finding ways to use renewable energy to fight climate change. You might be an educator, a budding entrepreneur, a researcher, a school or university student, or just an interested member of the public.

At the heart of the MOOC is our REI Challenge: Can YOU help solve the most urgent problems that are a barrier to using renewable energy?

Visit the [webpage for further details:](http://www.learning.climate-kic.org/courses/rei-mooc)
www.learning.climate-kic.org/courses/rei-mooc

Pitch Training

The Countdown to a great pitch course provides a learning journey through which you can plan and develop your own great pitch or presentation – and then use peer feedback as you perfect and practise it.

You will find out:

- What makes a great pitch
- How to find the right words to put your message across
- Ways to structure your pitch to make it impactful and easy to follow
- Tips for practising and delivering your pitch to get your main points across.

In addition, you can learn about 'Science communication for researchers' and will be provided with templates, activities and assignments to help you on your way!

Visit the [webpage for further details:](http://www.learning.climate-kic.org/courses/pitch-training)
www.learning.climate-kic.org/courses/pitch-training



The Resolution Challenge

Take part in our worldwide challenge and entrepreneurial community to develop innovative and sustainable business ideas to improve our cities, how we produce things and the way we use our land.

Your challenge is to become one of those entrepreneurs who makes a difference in the world. Supported by our online course, you'll create and develop a sustainable business idea.

We look forward to working with you and seeing your ideas! The best ideas for more sustainable land use, production systems and cities will be rewarded and will receive expert coaching.

Visit the [webpage for further details:](http://www.learning.climate-kic.org/courses/i-e-mooc)
www.learning.climate-kic.org/courses/i-e-mooc

The E-Waste Challenge

Find out why Achim Steiner, Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme, thinks e-waste is the challenge of our century – and how, if we work together, we can turn this challenge into an opportunity to help mitigate climate change, create green jobs, and help countries kick-start a circular economy.

Visit the [webpage for further details:](http://www.learning.climate-kic.org/courses/e-waste-mooc)
www.learning.climate-kic.org/courses/e-waste-mooc



Ideating Climate Business

Your climate impact challenge. If you care about the planet and are looking for inspiration, Climate-KIC's Ideating Climate Business course is for you! Joining this course, you get the opportunity to become part of a dynamic global community to develop game-changing climate innovation.

Visit the [webpage for further details:](http://www.learning.climate-kic.org/courses/ideating-climate-business)
www.learning.climate-kic.org/courses/ideating-climate-business



Introduction to CO2 Re-use

Industry uses fossil fuels and other raw materials to generate the power and products that we all rely on. But at what cost? When we burn fossil fuels, we generate lots of CO2. Too much!

Where there is challenge, there is opportunity! First we must reduce the CO2 we produce, through efficient use of resources. What's next? Re-use: Let's capture the CO2 emissions and put them to work!

Visit the [webpage for further details:](http://www.learning.climate-kic.org/courses/enco2re)
www.learning.climate-kic.org/courses/enco2re





Malta Stakeholder Events

What's happening in Malta?

The following forthcoming local events are organized by the Chamber of Engineers (CoE) and Zaar.

The Annual Water Conference 2nd March 2018

This year's conference entitled 'The Science and Creativity in Water' has several keynote speakers discussing 'Towards a Net-Zero Impact Utility' and there will be presentations on projects such as BlueMed.

For further information please email water.centre@mcast.edu.mt

Or contact:
+356 2398 7801

To Register:
events.eventzilla.net/e/the-annual-water-conference--the-science-and-creativity-in-water-2138941443

Venue:
IAS Auditorium, MCAST – Paola

Malta Maritime Summit 1st-5th October 2018

MMS is intended to be different as its aim is to stimulate heated but constructive debates among speakers, panellists and delegates. Registration is not yet open.

More information:
www.maltamaritimesummit.com

Sharing the Legacy 24th-26th October 2018

Valletta 2018 Fifth International Conference.

More information:
conference.valletta2018.org

Venue:
Valletta, Malta

THE ANNUAL WATER CONFERENCE
The Science and Creativity in Water
2nd March 2018 (09:00 – 16:00)
IAS Auditorium, MCAST – Paola, Malta
water.centre@mcast.edu.mt

Logos: MBB, CIWEM, FowariM, MCAST, Water Research and Training Centre, WATER SERVICES CORPORATION, THE ENERGY & WATER AGENCY, European IPR Helpdesk