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11th International Conference on Remote Sensing and Geoinformation of the Environment (RSCy2025)

The 11th International Conference on Remote Sensing and Geoinformation of the Environment (RSCy2025) was held from 17 to 19 March in Paphos, Cyprus.

The event was organised by the ERATOSTHENES Centre of Excellence (CoE), the EXCELSIOR Project of the Cyprus University of Technology (CUT), and the Cyprus Remote Sensing Society, with valuable contributions and support from the Department of Electronic Communications of the Ministry of Research, Innovation, and Digital Policy, as well as the European Space Agency.



HIGHLIGHTS

11th International Conference on Remote Sensing and Geoinformation of the Environment (RSCy2025)

Delegates from 30 countries attended the Conference, which featured distinguished speakers presenting the latest advancements across more than 22 thematic areas. These included cutting-edge applications in satellite data, remote sensing, space technologies, Earth observation, geoinformation, and artificial intelligence (AI). The technologies were showcased across various domains, such as agriculture, atmospheric studies, cultural heritage protection, blue development, maritime safety, natural disaster management (e.g., floods, fires, earthquakes, landslides), meteorology, environmental protection, and climate change.

According to the Deputy Minister, Dr. Nicodemos Damianou, who delivered a welcome address, the ERATOSTHENES Centre of Excellence has made remarkable progress in the field of space technologies after years of dedicated effort. He also highlighted the Centre's ongoing collaboration with the European Space Agency (ESA), noting that Cyprus is now close to becoming a full member, having thus far held Associate Member status.



Highlights from the Award Ceremony during RSCy2025

Highlights from the Award Ceremony during RSCy2025

The final day of RSCy 2025 concluded with a celebratory closing ceremony, marking the conference's success and highlighting its key achievements. During the event, outstanding contributions were honoured through the presentation of awards, recognising excellence in both oral and poster presentations. The Best Presentation Awards were presented to three notable contributions: (*A Hybrid Edge-to-Cloud Architecture Towards Low-Code Development of Global Food-Security Applications: The Nostradamus Case* by Konstandinos Panayiotou; *High-Resolution and High-Frequency Thermal Infrared Monitoring of Sea Surface Temperature (SST) from the FOREST-Constellation* by Anastasia Sarelli; and *Spatio-Temporal Diffusion Model for Satellite Imagery* by Pathap Nagaraj Kashyap and Alireza Javanmardi).*

Equally commendable were the recipients of the Best Poster Awards. These included *Detection of Coseismic Displacement in the Region of the Cyclades* by Petia Angelova; *Assessment of Post-Fire Disturbances Based on Remotely Sensed Methods and Data* by Temenuzhka Spasova; and *Artificial Intelligence and Earth Observation Towards Disaster Risk Reduction: The AI-Observer's Research Exploratory Project* by M. Tzouvaras.



HIGHLIGHTS

ERATOSTHENES CoE Opens Its Doors in a Highly Successful Open Information Day

On 14 November 2024, the ERATOSTHENES Centre of Excellence proudly hosted a highly successful Open Information Day at the Cyprus University of Technology, welcoming over 200 students from seven schools across Cyprus, along with visitors from the local community.

The event offered students a unique opportunity to explore the Centre's cutting-edge Atmospheric and Solar Ground-Based Station, where they gained hands-on insights into advanced instrumentation and ERATOSTHENES CoE's leading role in research and innovation.

In parallel with student-focused activities, the wider public attended presentations showcasing the Centre's departments and research clusters. The vibrant atmosphere was further enriched by live broadcasts from Mix FM Radio, while attendees enjoyed a warm and welcoming environment complemented by catering services.

This successful event highlighted ERATOSTHENES CoE's commitment to inspiring curiosity, promoting scientific awareness, and strengthening its relationship with the broader community.



HIGHLIGHTS

Participation in the 4th "Experience the SEA – Meet Ship Navigation" festival at Limassol Pier

On 19 October 2024, team members from ERATOSTHENES CoE participated in the 4th "Experience the SEA – Meet Ship Navigation" Festival, held at the Limassol Pier.

Representing the Centre were Mrs. Athina Savva, Assistant Researcher at the Atmosphere Cluster, Environment & Climate Department; Mrs. Eleftheria Kalogirou, Assistant Researcher at the Marine Security & Safety Cluster, Resilient Society Department; and Mrs. Maria Poutli, Assistant Researcher at the Atmosphere Cluster, Environment & Climate Department.



Visitors had the opportunity to learn about the applications of remote sensing through a range of engaging activities, including interactive presentations and board games. These focused on topics such as climate change, maritime spatial planning, shipping, and the importance of healthy seas.

Find out more [here](#).



Gender equality in science event

On 20 November 2024, ERATOSTHENES CoE, in collaboration with the Cyprus University of Technology (CUT), hosted an event dedicated to gender issues in science, with a particular focus on Geoinformatics and Remote Sensing.

The event welcomed students, educators, and researchers, and featured opening remarks from representatives of the Ministry of Agriculture, the CUT Equality Committee, and the Technology Transfer Office.

Guest speakers included Dr. Chryssi Laspidou from the University of Thessaly, who discussed inclusion in geoinformatics; Mrs. Betty Charalampopoulou of Geosystems Hellas, who shared insights from her leadership experience in EARSC; Dr. Nikos Panagiotopoulos from the University of Athens, who addressed gendered career paths; and Mrs. Vassia Madesi of Yellow Window, who spoke about breaking academic barriers.

The event concluded with a panel discussion exploring the challenges faced by women in science and research.

Find out more [here](#).



Archaeological Excavation at the Medieval Church of Panagia Karmiotissa, Limassol

An exciting archaeological collaboration between ERATOSTHENES CoE, the EXCELSIOR Project, and the CNRS Archaeology Laboratory of France is currently uncovering layers of history at the medieval Church of Panagia Karmiotissa in Limassol.

Historical records indicate the presence of a Carmelite order at the site in the 13th century, while architectural studies date the existing structure to the 14th century.



These findings prompted the launch of a more extensive excavation in early October 2024, aimed at investigating the site's earlier origins. The initiative is conducted under the auspices of the Department of Antiquities Cyprus, which supervises all project activities.

This collaboration has fostered a strong partnership between ERATOSTHENES CoE, Aix-Marseille Université, and the Department of Antiquities Cyprus, bringing together diverse expertise in the preservation and study of this culturally significant site. The project exemplifies the value of interdisciplinary cooperation in advancing both archaeological research and digital heritage preservation.

Watch the YouTube video [here](#).



HR Excellence in Research Award

On 20 February 2025, ERATOSTHENES CoE was officially awarded the HR Excellence in Research Award (HRS4R) by the European Commission. This prestigious recognition highlights the Centre's long-standing commitment to cultivating a supportive, inclusive, and forward-thinking research environment.

By aligning with the principles of the European Charter for Researchers and the Code of Conduct for the Recruitment of Researchers, ERATOSTHENES CoE is dedicated to promoting fair recruitment practices, encouraging continuous professional development, and fostering a culture rooted in innovation, openness, and ethical research.



Find out more [here](#).

Contract signed for new Space Business Incubator Centre

On 17 March 2025, a major milestone was reached for the space innovation ecosystem in Cyprus, as ERATOSTHENES CoE was officially awarded the contract for the establishment, management, and operation of a Space Business Incubator Centre (BIC).



The official contract signing ceremony took place during the 11th International Conference on Remote Sensing and Geoinformation of the Environment (RSCy2025). The agreement was signed by Mr. Georgios Komodromos, Acting Permanent Secretary of the Deputy Ministry of Research, Innovation and Digital Policy of Cyprus, and Prof. Diofantos Hadjimitsis, Managing Director of the ERATOSTHENES CoE.

Find out more [here](#).



Latest News

Cyprus-UK bilateral cooperation on space innovation

ERATOSTHENES CoE participated in the Cyprus–UK Bilateral Cooperation event, hosted by His Excellency Mr. Michael Tatham CMG, British High Commissioner, from 26 to 28 March 2025.

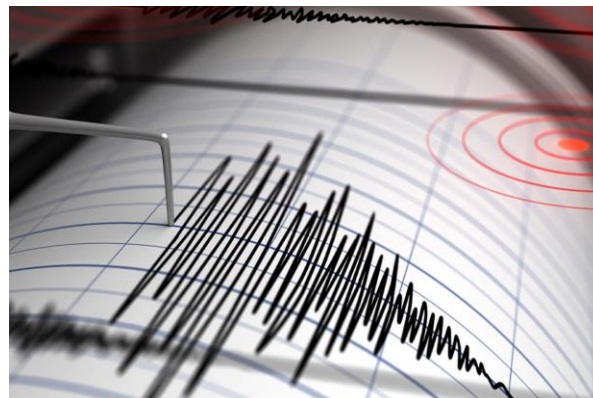
Held in the presence of representatives from the Department of Electronic Communications, the Deputy Ministry of Research, Innovation and Digital Policy, the European Space Agency (ESA), and the UK Space Agency, the event explored opportunities for collaboration in space innovation and Earth observation technologies.



Workshop on earthquake self-protection measures held in collaboration with Civil Defence

On 31 March 2025, ERATOSTHENES CoE, in collaboration with Civil Defence, organised an interactive workshop titled “Earthquake Self-Protection Measures.”

Participants received practical guidance on how to protect themselves during an earthquake through live demonstrations and hands-on activities. The session concluded with an open discussion, offering additional insights into best practices for safety and emergency preparedness.



10th ESA PECS Call Briefing 2024

The ERATOSTHENES CoE participated in the 10th ESA PECS Call Briefing, held on 8 October 2024 at the Cleopatra Hotel in Nicosia, Cyprus. Members of the Centre who represented the organisation were Dr. Marinos Eliades, Mr. Charalambos Theodorou, Mr. Christos Theocharides, Mrs. Maria Prodromou, and Mrs. Marina Doukanari.



Organised by the Department of Electronic Communications (DeC), in collaboration with the European Space Agency (ESA), the event provided detailed guidance on the proposal submission process for the 10th ESA PECS program. Key topics included eligibility requirements, the role of Technology Readiness Levels (TRLs), and best practices for improving proposal success.



Find out more [here](#).

3rd Teaming Club Conference in Novi Sad

Dr. Silas Michaelides, Chief Operating Manager of ERATOSTHENES CoE, represented the Centre at the 3rd Teaming Club Conference, held in Novi Sad, Serbia, from 9 to 11 October 2024.

This annual event brings together Centres of Excellence established under the European Union's Widening instrument to exchange best practices, share implementation experiences, and explore collaboration opportunities. The Conference serves as a dynamic platform for knowledge-sharing and strategic dialogue, supporting sustainability and long-term impact across the Teaming ecosystem.



Find out more [here](#).



EXCELSIOR H2020 updates presented at Teaming meeting

The EXCELSIOR H2020 Teaming Progress Meeting was held on 15 October 2024, bringing together the project consortium and the Advisory Board to review ongoing developments and achievements.

All consortium members actively participated, including ERATOSTHENES CoE, BEYOND EO Centre (NOA), the German Aerospace Center (DLR), Cyprus University of Technology (CUT), TROPOS, and the Department of Electronic Communications (DEC). During the meeting, ERATOSTHENES CoE presented its recent progress and contributions to the consortium's strategic goals.



Dr. Benjamin Koetz joins Advisory Board

We are pleased to welcome Dr. Benjamin Koetz as the newest member of the Advisory Board of the EXCELSIOR H2020 Teaming Project and ERATOSTHENES CoE.

Dr. Koetz serves as Head of the Long-Term Action Section, Climate Action, Sustainability and Science Department, within the Directorate of Earth Observation Programmes at the European Space Agency (ESA-ESRIN).



Visit from the Development Agency of Limassol

On 31 October 2024, ERATOSTHENES CoE hosted a visit from the Development Agency of Limassol at its premises. The meeting focused on exploring opportunities for collaboration and the development of future projects aimed at promoting innovation, regional growth, and sustainable progress. Both parties expressed a shared commitment to advancing the region through joint initiatives, aligning their efforts to achieve common goals.



Keynote presentation delivered at Yale University

ERATOSTHENES CoE participated in an academic event at Yale University on 6 November 2024, where Dr. Nektarios Chrysoulakis, Member of the Board of Directors of ERATOSTHENES CoE, delivered a keynote presentation.

The talk, titled *"How Satellites are Used in Research and the Development of Applications in the Fields of Urban Climate and Urban Resilience,"* was supported by the European Research Council, Horizon Europe (HaDEA, MissionCities), and the European Space Agency (ESA).




Earth Observations for Urban Climate Research and Advancing Urban Resilience

SPEAKER



Nektarios Chrysoulakis
Director of Research Unit
Knowledge for Research
and Technology - ITHAKA
GCR (2nd) & Hublight
Visiting Fellow at YSE

As cities strive to reduce emissions and enhance climate resilience, Earth Observation data is increasingly playing a crucial role in monitoring progress and guiding decision-making. Dr. Chrysoulakis will present innovations in Earth Observation methods from satellite sensors, combined with models and atmospheric, airborne, and ground-based observations. He will also discuss how data can be integrated to analyze urban energy balances, urban heat island effects, flooding, air quality, and greenhouse gas emissions.

4:00 - 5:00pm
Wednesday, November 6th

Kronos Hall, Room 321
100 Prospect Street
New Haven

Register at <https://epi.inec.org/2024/11/06/20241106>
or scan the QR code

Reception will follow
Open and free to all, both in-person and streaming online

Contribution to the 21st Panhellenic Phytopathological Conference

The 21st Panhellenic Phytopathological Conference was held with great success in Paphos, Cyprus, from 4 to 7 November 2024. ERATOSTHENES CoE participated through the active involvement of members from the Environment and Climate Department.

During the Conference, attendees had the opportunity to learn about the Centre's initiatives in the prevention and management of plant pathogens. The event served as a valuable platform for collaboration between scientists, researchers, and agricultural professionals from Greece and Cyprus, highlighting the importance of joint efforts to strengthen plant health and enhance agricultural productivity across the region.

Find out more [here](#).



Satellite Data Acquisition Station launched in Cyprus

Aiming to strengthen its research infrastructure, ERATOSTHENES CoE has launched a new Data Acquisition Station (DAS) in Cyprus. This state-of-the-art facility enables real-time satellite data reception, significantly enhancing the country's capacity to respond swiftly and effectively to critical events.

The DAS will support both research and operational activities related to search and rescue missions, environmental disasters, and emergency response, such as early-stage wildfire detection and oil spill identification offering improved speed and accuracy.

With this pioneering infrastructure, ERATOSTHENES CoE advances its mission not only to observe our planet but also to help safeguard its future.

Find out more [here](#).



GIS Day 2024 – "A World Connected: How GIS Transforms Data into Decisions"

The GIS Day 2024 workshop was successfully co-organized by the Department of Civil Engineering and Geomatics of the Cyprus University of Technology (CUT), the ERATOSTHENES CoE, and the Association of Surveyors of Cyprus (Syndesmos Topografon), on 21 November 2024.

Prof. Diofantos Hadjimitsis, Managing Director of the ERATOSTHENES CoE, extended a warm welcome to the guests.



Participation in the 3rd Monitoring Committees Session for Internal Affairs Funds

On 22 November 2024, members of ERATOSTHENES CoE participated as observers in the 3rd session of the Monitoring Committees for the Internal Affairs Funds of the 2021–2027 Programming Period. The Centre was represented by Dr. Christodoulos Mettas, Deputy Coordinator of the Resilient Society Department; Dr. Marios Tzouvaras, and Dr. Neophytos Stylianos, Researchers in the Disaster Reduction Cluster.



The session featured the participation of the Minister of Interior, Mr. Konstantinos Ioannou, and the Deputy Minister of Migration and International Protection, Dr. Nikolaos Ioannidis. During the event, ERATOSTHENES CoE representatives engaged in discussions with both officials regarding the Centre's ongoing work and opportunities for future collaboration.

Secondment to DLR focuses on maritime security collaboration

From 27 to 29 November 2024, members of ERATOSTHENES CoE visited the German Aerospace Center (DLR) in Neustrelitz as part of a secondment under the EXCELSIOR Project, focused on the development of maritime security applications and services. During the visit, the team reviewed software processing workflows, discussed the Data Acquisition Satellite Receiving Station (DAS) interface, and planned the next steps for implementing the DAS in Cyprus. This collaboration enabled ERATOSTHENES CoE experts to work closely with DLR specialists, exchanging valuable insights and addressing technical challenges. The DAS represents a significant advancement for the research community both locally and internationally, particularly within the EMMENA region.

Find out more [here](#).



Visualising Cyprus Water Management Strategies event

On 3 December 2024, ERATOSTHENES CoE was represented at the “*Visualising Cyprus Water Management Strategies*” event, organised by Chrysalis LEAP. Mr. Stelios Neophytides, Researcher at the Data Mining & Information Extraction Cluster (Big Earth Data Analytics Department), and Dr. Marinos Eliades, Lead Researcher at the Water Cluster (Environment and Climate Department), participated in the event and contributed to discussions on innovative approaches to water resource management in Cyprus. Find out more [here](#).



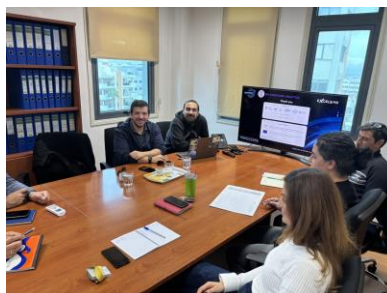
EXCELSIOR 2020 EU partners convene in Limassol for Reporting Period 4

On 10 December 2024, the partners of the EXCELSIOR H2020 EU Project gathered in Limassol for the Reporting Period 4 meeting. The session was held within the context of the EMMENA region and focused on reviewing project progress and engaging in strategic planning for the upcoming phase.



Meeting with CAPO to present AI capabilities in agriculture

On 18 December 2024, members of the ERATOSTHENES CoE met with the Cyprus Agricultural Payments Organisation (CAPO) to discuss the application of advanced digital technologies in the agricultural sector.



Strengthening Greece-Cyprus Space Cooperation: Meeting in Limassol

On 24 December 2024, Prof. Diofantos Hadjimitsis, Managing Director of ERATOSTHENES CoE, met with Prof. Karantzas, Secretary General at the Ministry of Digital Governance.

The meeting focused on exploring opportunities to strengthen bilateral cooperation between Greece and Cyprus in the fields of space technologies, Earth observation, and digital innovation.



Visit to BEYOND EO Centre in Athens

On 24 December 2024, Prof. Diofantos Hadjimitsis, Managing Director of ERATOSTHENES CoE, visited the BEYOND Earth Observation Centre at the National Observatory of Athens as part of ongoing collaboration within the EXCELSIOR framework. The visit included a review of project progress and highlighted BEYOND's strategic role in supporting the mission of ERATOSTHENES CoE.



Collaboration with Bogor Agriculture University (IPB) in Indonesia

On 8 January 2025, ERATOSTHENES CoE held a teleconference with Bogor Agricultural University (IPB) in Indonesia to initiate a new collaboration focused on Earth observation technologies for agriculture. The discussion aimed to promote scientific cooperation and explore practical applications of geospatial technologies in the agricultural sector in Southeast Asia.



Find out more [here](#).



ESA delegation visit to Cyprus

On 10 January 2025, members of the ERATOSTHENES CoE participated in the official visit of a European Space Agency (ESA) delegation to Cyprus. The delegation was welcomed by the Deputy Minister of Research, Innovation and Digital Policy of the Republic of Cyprus, Dr. Nicodemos Damianou, and led by Eric Morel de Westgaver, ESA's Director of Strategy, Legal and External Affairs.

The visit focused on strengthening cooperation and advancing the use of space technologies. Dr. Damianou expressed Cyprus' commitment to further collaboration with ESA and noted the country's readiness to take on a more prominent role in shaping Europe's space activities.



Dr. Konstantinos Panayiotou Presented Hybrid Lecture

Dr. Constantinos Panayiotou, Researcher at the Disaster Reduction Cluster, Resilient Society Department of ERATOSTHENES CoE, delivered a hybrid lecture titled *"Mapping the Feasibility of Artificial Groundwater Recharge through Recycled Water in the Free Territory of the Republic of Cyprus."*

The lecture was part of the 7th Cycle of the Lecture Series on Chemical Engineering Management and Environmental Engineering, co-organised by the Laboratory of Chemical Engineering and Sustainability Engineering and the Master's Programme in Environmental Sustainability Engineering at the Open University of Cyprus. It took place on 15 January 2025 at the School of Sciences and Applied Sciences Building at the University.



Dr. Kyriacos Themistocleous Visits Aristotle University of Thessaloniki for SLAM System Demonstration and Triquetra Project Meeting

Dr. Kyriacos Themistocleous, Director of External Affairs & Business Development at ERATOSTHENES CoE, visited the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki as part of the ongoing collaboration between the two institutions. During the visit, the Department of Surveying Engineering presented a demonstration of the SLAM wearable and handheld laser scanning system, showcasing its impressive 3 mm accuracy. The visit also included participation in a Triquetra project meeting.



Introducing the Cultural Heritage Cluster

ERATOSTHENES CoE has established the Cultural Heritage Cluster, a multidisciplinary team focused on the preservation, management, and study of cultural heritage. The Cluster currently includes 11 team members and reflects the Centre's success in securing competitive research funding and developing international collaborations. Its multicultural composition—featuring members from Cyprus, Italy, Greece, Poland, and Lebanon—brings together a diverse range of perspectives and expertise.



Cyprus Earth Observation Data Cube officially launched

On 17 January 2025, the Cyprus Earth Observation (EO) Data Cube was officially launched by the Big Earth Data Department of ERATOSTHENES CoE. Developed and funded under the framework of the EXCELSIOR Horizon 2020 project, the Cyprus EO Data Cube positions the country among a select group of nations maintaining a national EO Data Cube infrastructure.



Harvard students and faculty visit ERATOSTHENES CoE

On 21 January 2025, ERATOSTHENES CoE welcomed students from the MSc in Environmental Health programme at the Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health (Boston) to its premises in Limassol. The visit provided an opportunity to discuss potential collaboration in the fields of remote sensing and geoinformation for the environment—core areas of expertise at ERATOSTHENES CoE. Discussions focused on the role of geospatial technologies in addressing challenges related to environmental health.



Strategic meeting with Geosystems Hellas CEO

On 23 January 2025, ERATOSTHENES CoE hosted Mrs. Betty Charalampopoulou, CEO of Geosystems Hellas, at its premises at the Cyprus University of Technology (CUT). Geosystems Hellas is one of the strategic partners that provided a letter of commitment to the EXCELSIOR H2020 Teaming Project, and its support is integral to the Centre's vision.



Dr. Constantinos Panayiotou appointed co-leader of IAH Working Group

Dr. Constantinos Panayiotou, Researcher at the Disaster Reduction Cluster, Resilient Society Department at ERATOSTHENES CoE, has been appointed co-leader of the International Association of Hydrologists (IAH) Working Group titled "*Feasibility Mapping of Managed Aquifer Recharge.*" This prestigious appointment reflects Dr. Panayiotou's expertise in hydrology and groundwater management, and highlights ERATOSTHENES CoE's contribution to international efforts in sustainable water resource management.



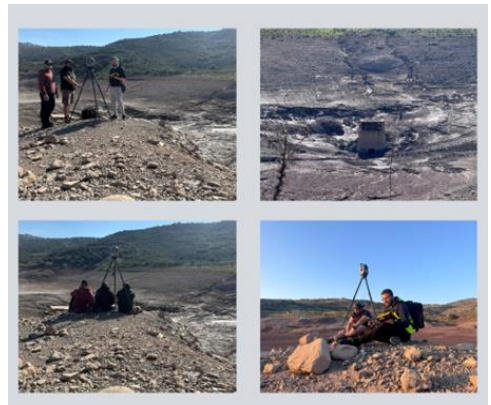
Internal workshop on new Vocational Training Centre

On 24 January 2025, Mr. Theofilos Antoniou, Human Resources Officer at ERATOSTHENES CoE, delivered an internal workshop focused on the opportunities offered by the newly established ERATOSTHENES CoE Vocational Training Centre.



Mavrokolympos Dam Assessment Using Earth Observation Technologies

On 31 January 2025, the ERATOSTHENES CoE team conducted a field assessment of the Mavrokolympos Dam using terrestrial laser scanning and UAV flights to evaluate the effects of the dam's rapid reservoir emptying. This fieldwork provides data for assessing environmental impacts and supporting water management strategies in Cyprus and beyond.



Find out more [here](#).



Meeting with the Director of the Research and Innovation Foundation

A meeting was held with Dr. Theodoros Loukaidis, Director of the Research and Innovation Foundation. On behalf of ERATOSTHENES CoE and the Cyprus University of Technology, Prof. Diofantos Hadjimitsis, Managing Director of ERATOSTHENES CoE, and Dr. Marinos Eliades, Lead Researcher at the Water Cluster, Environment & Climate Department, provided a detailed briefing on the progress of the Centre and the EXCELSIOR project.

The briefing highlighted key infrastructures, such as the satellite data acquisition station and the atmospheric remote sensing station, along with the applications being developed. A presentation of the PRECIRI application was also delivered, showcasing its approach to irrigation water saving using space and AI technologies



Project contract with Research and Innovation Foundation

Signing of the project "*PURGE: Impact of Dust Storms on Agriculture*" with Dr. Marinos Eliades, Lead Researcher at the Water Cluster, Environment & Climate Department at ERATOSTHENES CoE.

The project received funding from the Research and Innovation Foundation through Call POST/DOC/0524/0022 (€149,310 for 2 years).



International Day of Women and Girls in Science

On 11 February 2025, ERATOSTHENES CoE proudly celebrated the International Day of Women and Girls in Science.

The women of ERATOSTHENES CoE are spreading an important message: "Women in Science without Limits". This initiative highlights the Centre's ongoing commitment to gender inclusivity and equal opportunities in scientific research and development.



Enhancing cultural heritage in Latchi, Paphos through digital innovation

ERATOSTHENES CoE is playing a pivotal role in the cultural revitalisation of the Latchi area in Paphos, contributing its expertise in geospatial and digital technologies to preserve and showcase Cyprus's rich maritime heritage.

As part of the broader initiative titled *"Upgrading and Beautification of the Cyprus Ports Authority Warehouses in Latchi"*, ERATOSTHENES CoE is supporting the transformation of the former warehouse site into a Centre of Sea and Culture — a multi-functional space that will celebrate the coastal identity and history of the region.

One of the key contributions of ERATOSTHENES CoE to this ambitious project has been the digitisation of selected exhibits at the Paphos District Archaeological Museum. On 3 February 2025, the Centre's scientific team carried out high-resolution 3D scanning and digital modelling of ancient artefacts destined for future display. These digital replicas will be used in an interactive Augmented Reality (AR) application, bringing history to life for visitors through immersive storytelling and technology.

In a follow-up progress meeting on 5 February 2025, representatives from ERATOSTHENES CoE and the Municipality of Polis Chrysochous discussed the next phases of the project, which is expected to be completed by July 2025.

The collaboration showcases how cultural preservation, and innovation can go hand in hand, merging physical restoration with cutting-edge digital experiences. From digital exhibits to AR development, ERATOSTHENES CoE continues to redefine the way we experience heritage, offering new ways to engage the public, especially younger generations, in Cyprus's cultural legacy.

Find out more [here](#).



Exploring collaboration opportunities in disaster prevention and management

On 12 February 2025, a virtual meeting took place between Mr. Alfonso Laurent, Senior Advisor at Jordan Civil Defence and the Embassy of France, and members of ERATOSTHENES CoE. The discussion focused on the needs of Civil Defence, potential areas for future collaboration, and applications of common interest in disaster prevention, management and mitigation.



Participation in General Assembly III in Budapest

Mr. Stelios Neophytides, Researcher at the Data Mining & Information Extraction Cluster, Big Earth Data Analytics Department of ERATOSTHENES CoE, represented the Centre at the General Assembly III held in Budapest, Hungary. The event took place from 12 to 13 February 2025 and focused on the application of Trustworthy, Green, Human-Centric, and Adaptive AI across four sectors: Manufacturing, Energy, Healthcare, and Space.



Collaboration with EY Cyprus Innovation Hub: Advancing NADI-RISK Technology

On 13 February 2025, a meeting took place in Nicosia between Asst. Prof. Nicholas Kyriakides, Education Coordinator at ERATOSTHENES CoE, and Prof. Andreas Anayiotos, Technology Transfer Office (INECoE) Functional Areas Manager and Director at ERATOSTHENES CoE, along with representatives from the Ernst & Young Cyprus Innovation Hub. This meeting focused on strengthening collaboration and advancing work on the NADI-RISK technology.



Collaboration with Polish Joint Archaeological Expedition

On 17 February 2025, the Cultural Heritage Cluster of the ERATOSTHENES CoE met with Dr. Łukasz Misk and Dr. Paweł Lech of the Polish Joint Archaeological Expedition in Paphos. The meeting included an exchange of ideas on potential collaborations and joint projects between the two teams. Discussions will continue once the archaeological mission in Paphos resumes, with the aim of contributing to heritage protection and research efforts.



Kick-off event marks start of CCRSS project

On 17 February 2025, the kick-off event for the 4th Cycle of the Cyprus Seeds Programme took place at the PwC Experience Centre in Nicosia, bringing together key figures from the academic, business, and government sectors.

The Concrete Corrosion Remote Sensing System (CCRSS) by ERATOSTHENES CoE has been selected for participation in this cycle. Members of ERATOSTHENES CoE who participated at the event, Prof. Andreas Anayiotos, Technology Transfer Office (INECoE), Functional Areas Manager, Director at ERATOSTHENES CoE, Dr. Andreas Christofe, Administration Manager at ERATOSTHENES CoE, and Mrs. Marina Doukanari, Assistant Researcher at the Geo-informatics Cluster, Big Earth Data Analytics Department, at ERATOSTHENES CoE.

Find out more [here](#).



Designation as Cyprus Regional Support Office for UN-SPIDER

On 17 February 2025, ERATOSTHENES CoE was officially designated as the Cyprus Regional Support Office for the United Nations Office for Outer Space Affairs (UNOOSA) – UN Platform for Space-based Information for Disaster Management and Emergency Response (UN-SPIDER).

Dr. Marios Tzouvaras, Researcher at the Disaster Reduction Cluster, Resilient Society Department at ERATOSTHENES CoE, will serve as the Office Coordinator. This designation supports ongoing efforts to advance space-based solutions for disaster risk reduction and emergency response in the Eastern Mediterranean, Middle East, North Africa region, and beyond.

Find out more [here](#).



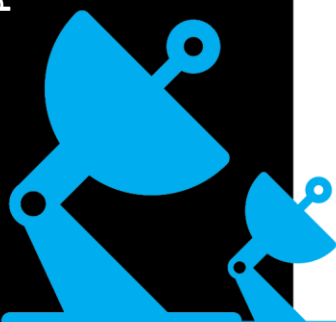
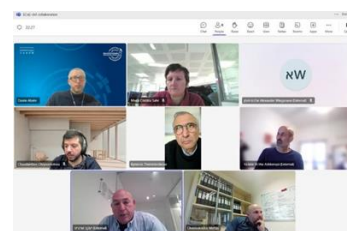
EXCELSIOR H2020 Teaming Project Progress Meeting

On 18 February 2025, members of ERATOSTHENES CoE held a progress meeting with Strategic Partners and Advisory Board Members to review recent developments and discuss upcoming plans. With Reporting Period 4 (RP4) concluding at the end of March, the meeting addressed key challenges and opportunities in preparation for Reporting Period 5 (RP5).



Meeting with Israeli Antiquities Authority on cultural heritage collaboration

The Cultural Heritage and Data Mining & Information Extraction Clusters of ERATOSTHENES CoE held a meeting with the Israeli Antiquities Authority to explore potential collaborative activities focused on the identification and protection of archaeological sites. Discussions centred on the innovative use of remote sensing technologies to support these efforts.



Collaborative efforts in Maritime Archaeology

On 21 February 2025, the Cultural Heritage Cluster of ERATOSTHENES CoE, the Association of Cypriot Archaeologists, and Dr. Lucy Blue, Maritime Archaeological Director of the Honor Frost Foundation, met to explore synergies in maritime archaeology. ERATOSTHENES CoE, and the Association of Cypriot Archaeologists formalised their collaboration through a Memorandum of Understanding signed in November 2024.



Appreciation Day: Celebrating Dedication and Excellence

On 27 February 2025, ERATOSTHENES CoE celebrated Appreciation Day, recognising outstanding achievements and the dedication of its community. Dr. Michalis Mavrovouniotis, Senior Researcher at the Big Earth Data Analytics Department, was honoured for receiving the "Man of the Year – Scientist" award, in recognition of his contributions and accomplishments.

Mr. Marcello Maranesi, member of the Advisory Board of the EXCELSIOR H2020 Teaming Project and ERATOSTHENES CoE, was also recognised for his ongoing support and guidance. During his visit to the Centre, Mr. Maranesi noted that he has been involved with ERATOSTHENES CoE since its early stages. Mr. Maranesi has been involved with the Centre since its inception, contributing to the initial thesis that laid the foundation for its development.

Reflecting on the journey, he noted how challenging it was to envision what the Centre would become. Today, he is deeply impressed by the progress made, highlighting the Centre's achievements and growing impact at the international level.



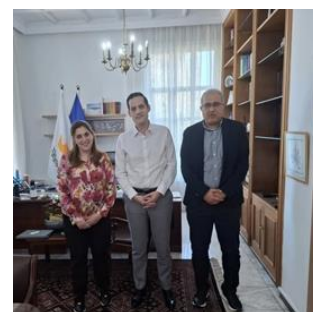
Exchange on research and innovation with the President of Cyprus

In February 2025, at the Gala Dinner of the Paphos Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Prof. Diofantos Hadjimitsis, Managing Director of the ERATOSTHENES Centre of Excellence, and Dr. Maria Anastasiadou, Lead Researcher at the Visual Exploration & Semantic Cluster of the Big Earth Data Analytics Department, met with the President of the Republic of Cyprus, Mr. Nikos Christodoulides. Their discussion focused on the Centre's progress and the pivotal role of research and innovation in shaping Cyprus's future.



Meeting at the Presidential Palace with Government Spokesperson

On 13 March 2025, Prof. Diofantos Hadjimitsis, Managing Director of ERATOSTHENES CoE, and Dr. Christiana Papoutsas, Deputy Coordinator at the Agriculture Cluster, Environment & Climate Department, met with the Government Spokesperson of the Republic of Cyprus, Mr. Konstantinos Letymbiotis, at the Presidential Palace. They presented an update on the development and ongoing activities of ERATOSTHENES CoE at the Cyprus University of Technology (CUT).



1st Annual Meeting of the Knowledge and Innovation System in the Agricultural Sector

On 13 March 2025, members of the ERATOSTHENES CoE, Prof. Diofantos Hadjimitsis, Managing Director, and Dr. Christiana Papoutsas, Deputy Coordinator of the Agriculture Cluster, Environment & Climate Department, at the 1st Annual Meeting of the Knowledge and Innovation System in the Agricultural Sector. Held at the Presidential Palace, the meeting aimed to promote a resilient and modern agricultural sector. Prof. Hadjimitsis delivered a 10-minute address during the first Agricultural Knowledge and Innovation Systems (AKIS) workshop, organised by the Ministry of Agriculture, Rural Development and Environment. His presentation outlined ERATOSTHENES CoE's activities in agriculture and AKIS, including existing collaborations across the Cyprus agricultural ecosystem.



Participation in Euro-Mediterranean Alliance Meeting

On 22 March 2025, members of the ERATOSTHENES CoE participated in an online meeting with members of the Euro-Mediterranean Alliance, a network comprising representatives from Egypt, Spain, Morocco, Algeria, Italy, Greece, Tunisia, and Libya.

During the session, the Centre presented its recent work and ongoing initiatives in Earth observation, environmental monitoring, and sustainable development. The meeting also included discussions on opportunities to strengthen collaboration and expand the network across the MENA region.



Career Open Day of the Cyprus University of Technology

On 26 March 2025, members of ERATOSTHENES CoE participated in the Career Open Day at the Cyprus University of Technology. Throughout the event, the ERATOSTHENES CoE team engaged with students and young professionals, answering their questions about career opportunities, internships, and research activities within the Centre. They also presented the Centre's mission, research areas in Earth observation and space technologies, and the skills required to join the team.



ERATOSTHENES CoE at the 25th Annual Career & Internship Fair of the European University

On 27 March 2025, members of ERATOSTHENES CoE participated in the 25th Annual Career and Internship Fair of the European University. During the event, members of the Centre engaged with attendees, answered their questions, and presented the organization's working environment along with its current recruitment needs.



Hyperspectral field measurements in Cyprus under the URBISPHERE project

ERATOSTHENES CoE at the Cyprus University of Technology (CUT), in collaboration with the Remote Sensing Laboratory of the Foundation for Research and Technology – Hellas (FORTH) in Heraklion, Crete, recently conducted hyperspectral field measurements across the broader regions of Limassol and Paphos.

Representing ERATOSTHENES CoE in the field campaign were Dr. Kyriakos Themistocleous, Director of External Affairs & Business Development; Dr. Mahmoud Mardini, Project Manager Assistant at the Cultural Heritage Cluster, Resilient Society Department; Dr. Evagoras Evagorou, Researcher at the Disaster Reduction Cluster, Resilient Society Department; and Nicoletta Papageorgiou, Research Assistant at CUT. FORTH participants included Yiannis Lantzanakis and Agathi Bantnetsouli.

Find out more [here](#).



Invited Talks

Invited Talk by Dr. Ali Nadir Arslan

On 27 January 2025, the EXCELSIOR H2020 project, the ERATOSTHENES CoE, and the Department of Civil Engineering and Geomatics of the Cyprus University of Technology organised an invited talk by Dr. Ali Nadir Arslan, titled *"Exploring Pathways for Transforming Research Initiatives into Operational Services that Drive Innovation and Business Opportunities."*

The invited talk is available [here](#).



Invited Talk by Dr. Nicola Masini

On 30 January 2025, the EXCELSIOR H2020 project, the ERATOSTHENES CoE, and the Department of Civil Engineering and Geomatics of the Cyprus University of Technology organised an invited talk by Dr. Nicola Masini, titled *"Earth Observation Based Approaches for Archaeological Interpretation and Cultural Heritage Protection and Conservation"*.

The invited talk is available [here](#).



Invited Talk by Prof. Corrado Alberto Sigfrido Camera

On 6 February 2025, the EXCELSIOR H2020 project, the ERATOSTHENES CoE, and the Department of Civil Engineering and Geomatics of the Cyprus University of Technology organised an invited talk by Prof. Corrado Alberto Sigfrido Camera, titled *"Integrating Data-Driven Models for Digital Soil Mapping & Landslide Susceptibility Assessment with Earth Observation"*.

The invited talk is available [here](#).



Invited Talks

Invited Talk by Dr. Martin Sudmanns

On 24 February 2025, the EXCELSIOR H2020 project, the ERATOSTHENES CoE, and the Department of Civil Engineering and Geomatics of the Cyprus University of Technology organised an invited talk by Dr. Martin Sudmanns, titled *"Semantic Earth Observation Data Cubes"*. The invited talk is available [here](#).



Invited Talk by Dr. Yiannis Proestos

On 27 February 2025, the EXCELSIOR H2020 project, the ERATOSTHENES CoE, and the Department of Civil Engineering and Geomatics of the Cyprus University of Technology organised a virtual invited talk by Dr. Yiannis Proestos, titled *"Climate Change Impacts: Projections of Heat-Related Mortality in the MENA Region and the Global Health Burden of Accelerating Effects of Non-Optimal Temperatures Compared to Air Pollution."* The invited talk is available [here](#).



Invited talk by Dr. Salvatore Stramondo

On 13 March 2025, the EXCELSIOR H2020 project, the ERATOSTHENES CoE, and the Department of Civil Engineering and Geomatics of the Cyprus University of Technology organised an invited talk by Dr. Salvatore Stramondo, titled *"Satellite EO for protecting infrastructures from hazards"*. The invited talk is available [here](#).



Invited Talk by Dr. Sven Gilliams

On 13 March 2025, the EXCELSIOR H2020 project, the ERATOSTHENES CoE, and the Department of Civil Engineering and Geomatics of the Cyprus University of Technology organised an invited talk by Dr. Sven Gilliams, titled: *"GEOGLAM: Global Earth Observation Based Agricultural Monitoring"*. The invited talk is available [here](#).



MoU Agreements

MoU Agreements of the ERATOSTHENES CoE

On 4 November 2024, a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed between the ERATOSTHENES CoE and the Association of Cypriot Archaeologists (ACA). On behalf of the ERATOSTHENES CoE, the protocol was signed by Prof. Diofantos Hadjimitsis, the Managing Director of ERATOSTHENES CoE, and on behalf of ACA, Dr. Maria Michael, President of ACA. The agreement aims to strengthen cooperation in the protection, conservation, and promotion of cultural heritage.



On 9 January 2025, an MoU was signed between ERATOSTHENES CoE and the Municipality of Paralimni- Deryneia. On behalf of ERATOSTHENES CoE, the protocol was signed by Prof. Diofantos Hadjimitsis, Managing Director at ERATOSTHENES CoE, and on behalf of the Municipality of Paralimni – Deryneia, the Mayor of Paralimni - Deryneia, Mr. George Nicolettos.



On 17 January 2025, an MoU was signed between ERATOSTHENES CoE and the Municipality of Hierokipia. A protocol of scientific, educational, and cultural cooperation was signed by the Mayor of Hierokipia, Mr Nikos Palios , and Prof. Diofantos Hadjimitsis, Managing Director of ERATOSTHENES CoE, in the presence of members of the Hierokipia Municipal Council.



On 22 January 2025, an MoU was signed between the ERATOSTHENES CoE and Interstellar Institute. On behalf of ERATOSTHENES CoE, the protocol was signed by Prof. Diofantos Hadjimitsis, Managing Director at ERATOSTHENES CoE, and on behalf of the Interstellar Institute Mr. Achilleas Kettonis, CEO of the Interstellar Institute.



MoU Agreements

MoU Agreements of the ERATOSTHENES CoE

On 27 January 2025, an MoU was signed between the ERATOSTHENES CoE and the Open University of Cyprus (OUC). On behalf of the ERATOSTHENES CoE, the protocol was signed by Prof. Diofantos Hadjimitsis, Managing Director at ERATOSTHENES CoE, and on behalf of the Open University of Cyprus (OUC), Prof. Stavros Stavrou, Vice-Rector, OUC.



On 5 February 2025, an MoU was signed between the ERATOSTHENES CoE and the UCLan University of Cyprus. On behalf of the ERATOSTHENES CoE, the protocol was signed by Prof. Diofantos Hadjimitsis, Managing Director at ERATOSTHENES CoE, and on behalf of the UCLan University Dr. Irini Polykarpou, Rector of UCLan University, Professor of Technology and Innovation in Education.



On 17 March 2025, an MoU was signed between the ERATOSTHENES CoE and the Ben-Gurion University of the Negev (BGU) in Israel. The agreement was signed by Prof. Diofantos Hadjimitsis, Managing Director at ERATOSTHENES CoE and Prof. Dan Blumberg, Vice-President for Research and Development at BGU.



In March 2025, the ERATOSTHENES CoE and SESAME (Synchrotron-light for Experimental Science and Applications in the Middle East) signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU), establishing a formal framework for scientific collaboration between the two institutions. This strategic partnership combines the advanced remote sensing and geospatial expertise of the ERATOSTHENES CoE with SESAME's world-class synchrotron facility—the first major international research centre in the Middle East.



Recent Publications

Journal Publications

A new joint publication with ERATOSTHENES CoE staff on coastal erosion, titled: *"Coastal Vulnerability Index (CVI) Assessment: Evaluating Risks Associated with Human-Made Activities along the Limassol Coastline, Cyprus,"* has been published on 3 October 2024.

You can access it online at: <https://www.mdpi.com/2072-4292/16/19/3688>

A new joint publication with ERATOSTHENES CoE staff, titled: *"A game-theoretic framework for sustainable water allocation in agriculture: Enhancing economic and water efficiency in Akrotiri district (Cyprus)"*, has been published on 25 February 2025. The research, led by Dr. Constantinos Panayiotou, in Science of the Total Environment (IF: 8.2) explores game-theoretic water allocation in Akrotiri, Cyprus. Key insights: Balances crop productivity & water use, Policy scenarios address loss, storage & quality, Climate projections show rising costs, A step toward smarter water management.

You can access it online at: <https://surl.li/nvnhoh>

A new joint publication with our advanced partners - BEYOND Centre, IAASARS, National Observatory of Athens, School of Forestry and Natural Environment, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, Department of Computer Science, University of Exeter, School of Rural and Surveying Engineering, National Technical University of Athens and Department of Civil Engineering and Geomatics, Faculty of Engineering and Technology, Cyprus University of Technology - titled: *"Exploring Sentinel-1 Radar Polarisation and Landsat Series Data to Detect Forest Disturbance from Dust Events: A Case Study of the Paphos Forest in Cyprus,"* has been published on 28 February 2025.

You can access it online at: <https://www.mdpi.com/2072-4292/17/5/876>

A new joint publication with our advanced partners - National Observatory of Athens, Operational Unit BEYOND Centre for Earth Observation Research and Satellite Remote Sensing (IAASARS/NOA), and Department of Civil Engineering and Geomatics, Faculty of Engineering and Technology, Cyprus University of Technology, titled: *"Integrated Coastal Vulnerability Index (ICVI) Assessment of Protaras Coast in Cyprus: Balancing Tourism and Coastal Risks,"* has been published on 10 March 2025. The study focuses on the coastal areas of Protaras, including Fig Tree Bay and Vrysoudia Beach. Results showed that 32% of the coastline demonstrated high to very high vulnerability, with human interventions potentially increasing long-term vulnerability despite short-term improvements. This research provides a framework for assessing coastal risks in tourist areas, helping to balance economic development with environmental conservation.

You can access it online at: <https://www.mdpi.com/2673-7086/5/1/12>



School / University visits

Lecture on Using Space Technology to Advance Agriculture and Climate Adaptation

On 5 March 2025, a public lecture titled *"Use of Space Technology in Agriculture"* was held at the School of Tourism Management, Hospitality, and Entrepreneurship, delivered by Dr. Christiana Papoutsas, Deputy Coordinator at the Agriculture Cluster, Environment & Climate Department at ERATOSTHENES CoE, and Dr. Menelaos Stavrinos, Leader at the Agriculture Cluster, Environment & Climate Department at ERATOSTHENES CoE. The event was organized by the ERATOSTHENES CoE at the Cyprus University of Technology, focusing on agricultural and environmental projects related to climate change adaptation.



SmartPLAIGO Project Presented at the 12th Student-Teacher Conference on Science

From 14 to 16 March 2025, the 12th Student-Teacher Conference on Science brought together students, educators, and researchers to explore advancements in science and technology. Dr. Maria Anastasiadou, Leader Researcher at the Visual Exploration & Semantic Cluster, Big Earth Data Analytics Department, at ERATOSTHENES CoE, presented the pioneering SmartPLAIGO project.



Visit at PASCAL Private Secondary School

On 20 March 2025, students from Year 5 and 6 IB, as well as Year 4 Computer Science pupils from PASCAL Private Secondary School, had the privilege of attending a captivating session on Artificial Intelligence, led by Dr. Michalis Mavrovouniotis, Senior Researcher at the Big Earth Data Analytics Department at ERATOSTHENES CoE, and Dr. Charalambos Chrysostomou, Researcher at the Data Mining & Information Extraction Cluster, Big Earth Data Analytics Department, at ERATOSTHENES CoE.



News from Funded Projects

ENGINEER Project: Innovation in Cultural Heritage Workshop

The event on "*Innovation in Cultural Heritage: Needs, Opportunities, and Future Collaborations*" was successfully held by the ERATOSTHENES CoE, on 3 October 2024, within the framework of the ENGINEER project. The event, attended by distinguished researchers and experts from the field of cultural heritage, focused on the innovative approaches for the protection and management of cultural heritage. Through a series of presentations and constructive discussions, various innovative proposals were highlighted.



Find out more [here](#).

ReSENSE Erasmus+ Workshop Brings Together Experts

The first workshop of the ReSENSE ERASMUS+ project, titled "*GEE/QGIS for UAV Multispectral Image Post-Processing*", took place on 10 October 2024. During the session, members of the ERATOSTHENES CoE - Mrs. Maria Prodromou, Researcher at the Disaster Reduction Cluster, Resilient Society Department at ERATOSTHENES CoE, and Mrs. Eleni Loulli, Researcher at the Agricultural Cluster, Environment & Climate Department at ERATOSTHENES CoE, provided valuable insights into the use of Google Earth Engine and QGIS, both open-source software tools.



They conducted a step-by-step workshop demonstrating how to use these tools for processing multispectral UAV images, focusing on spectral index calculations and statistical analysis. The workshop was attended by members of the Cyprus Agricultural Research Institute and the Ministry of Agriculture.



News from Funded Projects

Bringing Space EDUnity to Athens – ERASMUS+ Info Day

Scientists, local authorities, schools, citizens, and voluntary organizations joined forces to propose ways of building resilient communities against floods in the Mandra region. This collaboration was showcased during the Information Day organised by the BEYOND EO Center of NOA, as part of the European project Space EDUnity, on 17 October 2024.

ERATOSTHENES CoE was represented by Mrs. Eleni Loulli, Researcher at the Agriculture Cluster, Environment & Climate Department at ERATOSTHENES CoE, and Mrs. Marianna Hadjichristou, Assistant Researcher at the same cluster.



AI – Observer Project: Presentation on the European Union Artificial Intelligence Act

ERATOSTHENES CoE hosted a presentation on 30 October 2024 by Dr. Dimitris Sykas, focusing on the latest developments in the European Union Artificial Intelligence (AI) Act.

The session addressed regulatory requirements for AI systems, practical implications for organizations and researchers, and introduced a data quality compliance tool, within the framework of the AI-Observer project.



News from Funded Projects

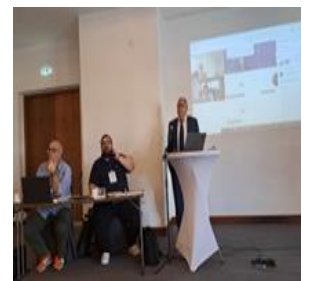
SmartPLAIGO Project meeting

A productive technical meeting for the SmartPLAIGO project was held on 7 November 2024, at the Centre, bringing together key team members and stakeholders. The session focused on reviewing the project's technical components and addressing essential organisational steps to support its progress. SmartPLAIGO remains committed to improving healthcare response times and operational efficiency across Cyprus and similar regions through innovative, data-driven solutions.



Kick-Off Meeting of the LANDSHIFT Project

From 12 to 13 November 2024, ERATOSTHENES CoE hosted the kick-off meeting of the newly funded LANDSHIFT project at the Aliathon Resort Hotel in Paphos, Cyprus. The project, officially titled *"Community-Led Creation of Living Spaces in Shifting Landscapes for Climate-Resilient Land Use Management and Supporting the New European Bauhaus,"* is coordinated by ERATOSTHENES CoE and brings together 26 partners.



The meeting included an invited talk by Mr. Ruslan Nimchynskyi, Ambassador of Ukraine to the Republic of Cyprus, and marked the beginning of a collaborative journey toward innovative, climate-resilient land use strategies across Europe.



News from Funded Projects

KICK-OFF MEETING BorderForce Project

ERATOSTHENES CoE members participated in the BorderForce Project, aimed at strengthening security and surveillance across the EU's external borders. The ERATOSTHENES CoE team, led by Dr. Michalis Mavrovouniotis, Deputy Coordinator of the Big Earth Data Analytics Department at ERATOSTHENES CoE, is contributing its expertise in advanced real-time surveillance using a swarm of drones. On the second day of the BorderForce project Kick-off meeting, funded by the European Union, Dr. Charalambos Chrysostomou, Leader of the Data Mining & Information Extraction Cluster, Big Earth Data Analytics Department, at ERATOSTHENES CoE. The kick-off meeting took place in Vienna from 12 to 14 November 2024, organised by the AIT Austrian Institute of Technology.



ERATOSTHENES CoE Coordination: CEOPS Project

The CEOPS project (Cyprus Earth Observation for Public Sector), recently launched in Limassol, Cyprus, marks the beginning of an exciting initiative under the coordination of the ERATOSTHENES CoE.



With the involvement of a skilled group of partners, CEOPS aims to enhance the use of Earth Observation technologies within the public sector. The project will deliver innovative tools and solutions to support data-driven decision-making, resource management, and improved public services. The successful kick-off meeting laid the groundwork for a collaborative and impactful journey ahead.

Find out more [here](#).



News from Funded Projects

AfroGrow Project Agreement

The ERATOSTHENES CoE is coordinating the AfroGrow Project, titled *"Informed Decision-Making for Agroforestry Systems in Africa through a Network of Living Labs,"* in collaboration with 25 partners. This initiative aims to establish Living Labs as real-life environments for co-creation and co-governance, enabling stakeholders to collaboratively design, test, and implement sustainable agroforestry solutions tailored to diverse ecological and socio-economic contexts. The project promotes participatory research, capacity building, and inclusive decision-making, while also strengthening the Africa-EU Partnership through shared innovation and a commitment to Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).




Find out more [here](#).

SmartPLAIGO: Transforming Emergency Healthcare with AI and GIS Innovations

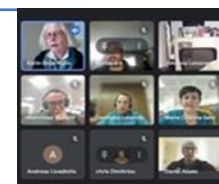
To strengthen its mission in the healthcare sector, the State Health Services Organization (OKYPY) signed three collaboration protocols with the Cyprus University of Technology (CUT) on 2 December 2024. During the ceremony, the groundbreaking AVARIS system was presented. Developed by CUT's eHealth Lab for the Ambulance Service Directorate, this system supports emergency and pre-hospital care.



Find out more [here](#).

Kick-off meeting of the SATCULT Project

The SATCULT Project, recently launched under the ERASMUS+ KA210-VET initiative, held its successful kick-off Meeting on 5 December 2024. In collaboration with project coordinator Media K GmbH (Germany) and CNR ISPC - Institute of Heritage Science (Italy), the ERATOSTHENES CoE joins this strategic partnership aiming to bridge the knowledge gap in cultural heritage preservation through specialized vocational training.



News from Funded Projects

World Soil Day 2024

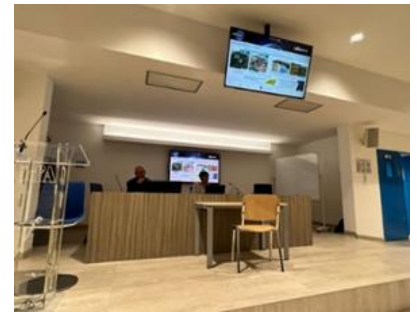
On 5 December 2024, World Soil Day was observed under the theme *"Caring for soils: measure, monitor, manage."* The day highlights the vital role of soil in sustaining life on Earth and the urgent need for sustainable soil management practices. ERATOSTHENES CoE actively contributes to this mission through key research initiatives, including CARBONICA, LandShift, Green Carbon CY, Nostradamus, and Afrogrow.



Participation in the LIP3D Project

On 10 December 2024, the ERATOSTHENES CoE participated in the LIP3D project – *"Living forever the past through a 3digital world"*, held at the Università degli Studi di Chieti-Pescara.

Representing the Cultural Heritage Cluster of ERATOSTHENES CoE, Dr. Maria Cristina Salvi, Researcher at the Cultural Heritage Cluster, Resilient Society Department at ERATOSTHENESCoE, joined partners from 16 institutions across Europe to discuss the project's vision and initial implementation.



ERATOSTHENES CoE Participates in 1st Agronomy Days for the CERBERUS Project in Spain

From 17 to 20 December 2024, the ERATOSTHENES CoE team participated in the 1st Agronomy Days for the CERBERUS Project, held in Jérica, Spain. The multi-day event brought together project partners, experts, and community members to exchange knowledge and showcase advancements in agricultural innovation.



News from Funded Projects

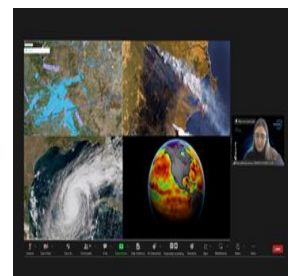
Seminar for Flood Mapping and the PROMETHEAS

Dr. Constantinos Panayiotou, Researcher at the Disaster Reduction Cluster, Resilient Society Department at ERATOSTHENES CoE, Dr. Marios Tzouvaras, Research at the Disaster Reduction Cluster, of the Resilient Society Department at ERATOSTHENES CoE, along with Asst. Prof. Nicholas Kyriakides, Education Coordinator at ERATOSTHENES CoE, took part in a seminar focused on flood mapping and the "PROMETHEAS" emergency response plan. This seminar took place on 14 January 2025, focusing on the '*Estimation of Spatial Distribution of Flood Hazards in Cyprus*'. Find out more [here](#).



ReSENSE Online Dissemination Event on Satellite Remote Sensing and GIS

A successful online dissemination event was held on 30 January 2025 as part of the ReSENSE programme, focusing on Satellite Remote Sensing and GIS technologies. Participants had the opportunity to gain valuable insights into the ReSENSE initiative, explore the latest advancements in remote sensing and GIS applications, and discover innovative tools developed within the project.



ENIGMA Project - Hybrid Workshop

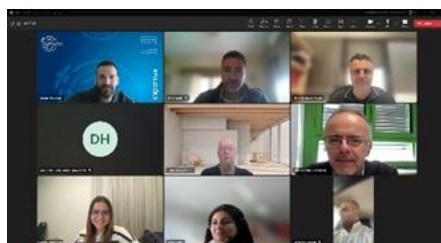
On 5 February 2025, members of the ERATOSTHENES CoE successfully participated in the Hybrid Workshop on Combating the Illicit Trafficking of Cultural Property, organized under the European ENIGMA Project. The workshop took place at the Archaeological Research Unit of the University of Cyprus in Nicosia, with dozens of participants from various European countries and the international community joining online through a dedicated teleconferencing platform. Find out more [here](#).



News from Funded Projects

AI-Observer Project Annual Meeting

On 11 February 2025, ERATOSTHENES CoE held its annual project meeting with partners Deutsches Forschungszentrum für Künstliche Intelligenz, Università di Roma Tor Vergata, and Cellock. During the meeting, the partners discussed the progress of project activities, the milestones achieved, next steps, the AI-Observer project platform, and the project's commercialisation aspects.



CARBONICA General Assembly and Field Visit

The CARBONICA General Assembly was marked by a field visit to the Experimental Station of the Agricultural Research Institute in Acheleia, Paphos, ERATOSTHENES CoE organised and hosted the assembly. Many farmers had the opportunity to participate, gaining first-hand insights into innovative carbon farming techniques and their practical applications. They also attended a live demonstration of the CARBONICA field diagnostic tool. The engagement and feedback from the farmers are invaluable in ensuring that CARBONICA delivers impactful and actionable solutions for the agricultural sector.



REVITALISER Twinning Project Launches

From 25 to 26 February 2025, the REVITALISER Twinning Project officially launched at the ERATOSTHENES CoE in Limassol, Cyprus. The event brought together leading experts from across Europe to advance archaeological heritage preservation, remote sensing, artificial intelligence, and digital humanities. Key participants included Prof. Donna Yates, Dr. Hector A. Orengo, Mrs. Maria Ferrer Bonet, Dr. Fabio Remondino, and Dr. Elisa Farella. As part of the program, participants also visited the Amathous archaeological site. Find out more [here](#).



News from Funded Projects

CEOPS Project at RSCy2025

On 18 March 2025, the CEOPS project participated in RSCy2025 – the 11th International Conference on Remote Sensing and Geoinformation of the Environment. As part of the event, CEOPS hosted a dedicated workshop titled: *"CEOPS: Mapping Public Sector Needs & Opportunities with Earth Observation in Cyprus."* The workshop explored how Earth Observation technologies can empower public services in Cyprus, aligning with the Cyprus Space Strategy 2022–2027.



ERATOSTHENES Hosts AI-Observer Workshop on Forest Fires

From 20 to 24 March 2025, a 3-day hands on workshop on forest fires using Earth Observation and artificial intelligence, was organised by Università di Roma Tor Vergata at ERATOSTHENES CoE premises. Feature extraction, future selection, and fuel map development were among the topics covered.



ERASMUS+ CHANGES Project Kick-Off Meeting

On 26 March 2025, the ERATOSTHENES CoE led the successful launch of the ERASMUS+ CHANGES project (Cultural Heritage and Archaeology for the study and dissemination of Natural, Geological, Environmental, and Social events due to climate changes in antiquity: learning from the past for a better awareness in the future).



EXCELSIOR Project in Media

ENGINEER Project: Interview with Mrs. Eliana Iliofotou

Mrs. Eliana Iliofotou, Head of Communication Event and Social Media, of the Administration Department at ERATOSTHENES CoE, spoke on Channel 6 on 3 October 2024 about the *"Innovation in Cultural Heritage: needs, opportunities and future synergies"*. This info day was organized under the framework of the ENGINEER project which aims to strengthen the research and innovation capabilities of the Department of Civil Engineering and Geoinformatics Engineering of the Cyprus University of Technology (CUT) through coordination and support actions provided by the Twinning call. The ERATOSTHENES CoE has undertaken the communication and interaction of the results of the ENGINEER Project with local industry, society and policymakers through the Centre's Digital Innovation Hub.



Listen to the full interview [here](#).

Archaeological Findings in Kato Polemidia

Significant archaeological discoveries dating back to the 13th and 14th centuries were brought to light during the second excavation season at Panagia Karmiotissa in Kato Polemidia, Limassol. The excavation revealed important insights into Cyprus' medieval past, enriching our understanding of the historical landscape of the region. The research is the result of a collaborative effort between the ERATOSTHENES CoE, the Department of Antiquities, and the CNRS Centre for Medieval and Modern Archaeology in the Mediterranean of Aix-Marseille University.



Watch the full video [here](#).



EXCELSIOR Project in Media

SmartPLAIGO: Interview with Dr. Maria Anastasiadou

Dr. Maria Anastasiadou was interviewed by ANT1 about the SmartPLAIGO project. The State Health Services Organization (OKYPY) signed three collaboration protocols with the Cyprus University of Technology (CUT). The project, supported by the ERATOSTHENES CoE, highlights a strategic alliance committed to digital transformation in healthcare, offering smart solutions for pre-hospital care and contributing to more resilient and efficient health systems.



Watch the full interview [here](#).

ERATOSTHENES CoE: Interview with Prof. Diofantos Hadjimitsis on Goals and Future Plans

In January 2025, Prof. Diofantos Hadjimitsis, Managing Director at ERATOSTHENES CoE, was interviewed on the program Morning Itinerary of the Third Program of RIK. The discussion focused on the mission, goals, and future prospects of the ERATOSTHENES CoE.



Listen to the full interview [here](#).

Water-Saving Technologies: Prof. Hadjimitsis on Agreement with Fasouri Farm

On 28 January 2025, Prof. Diofantos Hadjimitsis, Managing Director of ERATOSTHENES CoE, and Christos Tsimon, Managing Director of The Cyprus Phassouri Plantations, were interviewed on RIK News. The partnership focuses on water conservation through the use of space technology, artificial intelligence, and ground-based measurements.

Watch the full video [here](#).



Copernicus Satellite Data: Highlights from ERATOSTHENES CoE

In January 2025, the ERATOSTHENES CoE, through the Copernicus Programme, leveraged satellite data to support environmental monitoring, disaster management, and citizen protection across Europe. A report by RIK highlighted the Centre's work and its use of data from Copernicus, a leading European initiative that offers full, free, and open access to information about the planet and the environment. The report was prepared and presented by Sotiroula Christofidou, with contributions from Stavros Kyprianou and Stavriani Konstantinou.



Watch the full video [here](#).

Mavrokolimpos: Prof. Diofantos Hadjimitsis Shares Insights

On 5 February 2025, Prof. Diofantos Hadjimitsis, Managing Director at ERATOSTHENES CoE, was interviewed on the news at Sigma Channel. The discussion focused on the centre's innovative solutions for the monitoring and management of Cyprus' water resources, at Mavrokolimpos Reservoir.



Watch the full interview [here](#).

ENIGMA Project: Interview with Dr. Marios Tzouvaras on Innovative Technologies

Dr. Marios Tzouvaras, Principal Investigator of the ENIGMA EU Project and Leader of the Disaster Risk Reduction Cluster at the Resilient Society Department of ERATOSTHENES CoE, gave a live interview from the ERATOSTHENES CoE office in Limassol. During the interview, he discussed the main goals under the ENIGMA Project. The interview was conducted by journalist Sotiroula Christofidou on the show "Apo Mera se Mera" on RIK.



Watch the full interview [here](#).

Atmospheric Dust: Interview with Dr. Rodanthi Elisavet Mamouri

On 6 March 2025, Dr. Rodanthi Elisavet Mamouri, Leader at the Atmosphere Cluster, Environment & Climate Department at ERATOSTHENES CoE, gave an extensive interview on Channel 6 about the dust phenomenon affecting Cyprus in recent days, during the radio segment, part of the "Cyprus University of Technology in Action" series.



Listen to the full interview [here](#).

RSCy2025: Interview with Prof. Diofantos Hadjimitsis

On 17 March 2025, Prof. Diofantos Hadjimitsis, Managing Director of ERATOSTHENES CoE, was interviewed by journalist Panikos Evripidou during the morning program "Proti Enimerosi" on RIK.

The journalist visited the venue of the conference for an exclusive interview. The 11th International Conference on Remote Sensing and Geoinformation of the Environment, RSCy 2025 that took place from 17 to 19 March 2025 in Paphos.



Watch the full interview [here](#).

RSCy2025 Featured on RIK News

On 17 March 2025, distinguished guests attending RSCy2025 were interviewed and featured on RIK's "News at 8." The discussion focused on the highlights and significance of the RSCy2025 Conference.

Watch the full interview [here](#).



Distinctions

Academics and Researchers Ranked Among the World's Top Scientists

On 7 October 2024, 29 academics and researchers from the Cyprus University of Technology (CUT) were ranked among the world's top scientists according to the Stanford University rankings.

The lists feature the top 100,000 scientists globally from all scientific fields, as well as the top 2% of researchers in their specific subfields. Among those recognized are Prof. Diofantos Hadjimitsis, the Managing Director of the ERATOSTHENES CoE, and Dr. Kyriacos Themistocleous, the External Affairs and Business Development Director of ERATOSTHENES CoE. Both were included in these prestigious lists, with recognition for their academic careers as a whole, as well as for their notable contributions in 2023. These acknowledgments reflect the ongoing impact of ERATOSTHENES CoE at CUT in advancing research in fields such as Remote Sensing, Geoinformatics, and Space Technologies.

Find out more [here](#).



Michalis Mavrovouniotis Named Man of the Year "Researcher": ERATOSTHENES CoE

Dr. Michalis Mavrovouniotis, Senior Researcher at the Big Earth Data Analytics Department at ERATOSTHENES CoE, was awarded Scientist of the Year at the Bank of Cyprus Man of the Year Awards on 6 March 2025.

This distinction reflects his outstanding contributions to scientific research and innovation in the field of Earth observation and data analytics.



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