

**FIND OUT IN  
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# 5 Years ERATOSTHENES CoE



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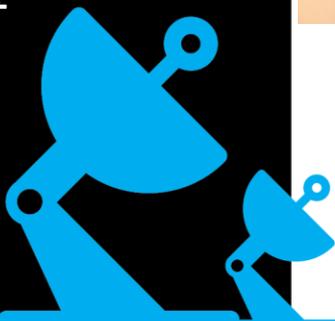
## 5-Year Anniversary of the ERATOSTHENES CoE

On 27 May 2025, the ERATOSTHENES CoE marked a major institutional milestone, celebrating the completion of its first five years of operation. The anniversary event brought together more than 220 partners, collaborators, supporters, and friends, reflecting the strength of the community that has grown around ERATOSTHENES and the shared sense of purpose that has guided its journey.

The evening was both a celebration and a moment of reflection. What began five years ago as a bold vision supported by a small founding team has evolved into a large, multidisciplinary research organisation with more than 120 members of personnel, including researchers, engineers, scientific staff, and administrative professionals. This rapid growth mirrors the expanding scope, ambition, and complexity of ERATOSTHENES' activities, as well as its steadily strengthening position within the European and international research landscape.

ERATOSTHENES was established as an independent Centre of Excellence through the EXCELSIOR H2020 Teaming Project, with the support of European Union and national funding. This strategic investment laid the foundation for building advanced research infrastructure, attracting high-level expertise, and positioning Cyprus as a regional hub in Earth Observation and space technologies.

Over this first five-year period, ERATOSTHENES has established itself as a national reference point in Earth Observation, Remote Sensing, Geoinformatics, and space-based applications. Through active participation in competitive European and international research programmes, and through strategic collaborations with leading institutions, ERATOSTHENES has demonstrated its role as a driver of scientific excellence, innovation, and societal impact. Its work reflects a clear commitment not only to high-level research, but also to translating scientific knowledge into meaningful outcomes for society, the environment, and public policy.

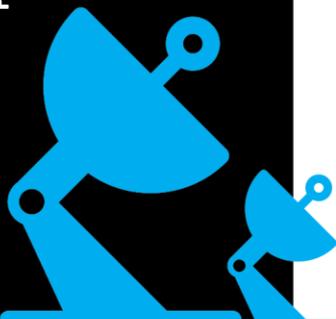


HIGHLIGHTS

## 5-Year Anniversary of the ERATOSTHENES CoE

The anniversary celebration highlighted the power of collaboration and collective effort. With more than 220 people present and the contribution of a team of over 120 passionate staff members, the event underscored that ERATOSTHENES' achievements are the result of shared vision, trust, and sustained cooperation. It was also a reaffirmation of readiness for the future.

Five years on, the ERATOSTHENES CoE stands firmly positioned as a key pillar of Cyprus' research and innovation ecosystem and as a trusted partner at regional and international level. The milestone served not as an endpoint, but as a foundation for what lies ahead. The future is open, and ERATOSTHENES is ready to move forward.

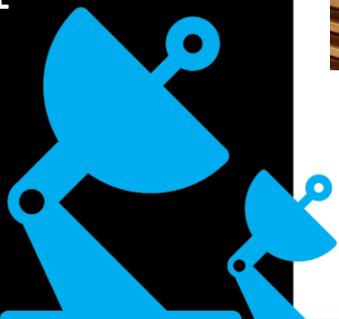


HIGHLIGHTS

## Signing of the Contract for the Construction of the ERATOSTHENES CoE Building

On September 2, 2025, a decisive step towards the long-term institutional consolidation of the ERATOSTHENES CoE was marked with the signing of the contract for the construction of its new, purpose-built facilities in the Vereggaria area of Limassol, within the campus of the Cyprus University of Technology (CUT).

The new building constitutes a landmark infrastructure project for ERATOSTHENES, addressing a long-standing strategic objective: the creation of a dedicated space capable of supporting its rapidly expanding research, innovation, and operational activities. Designed to host advanced laboratories, specialised research infrastructure, administrative services, and collaborative workspaces, the facility will significantly strengthen ERATOSTHENES' capacity in Earth Observation, Remote Sensing, Geoinformatics, and space-based applications.

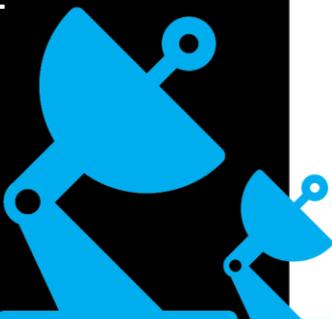


## Signing of the Contract for the Construction of the ERATOSTHENES CoE Building

The project also reflects the implementation of a core commitment undertaken by CUT within the framework of the EXCELSIOR H2020 Teaming Project, through which ERATOSTHENES was established as a Centre of Excellence. As hosting institution, CUT committed to providing the necessary infrastructure to ensure the Centre's long-term sustainability, and the construction of the new building fulfils this strategic obligation.

With a total budget exceeding €12 million, financed through a loan agreement with the European Investment Bank, the project has an implementation timeline of 18 months and represents the second major development by CUT in the Vereggaria area, following the construction of student residences already underway. Designed according to high energy-efficiency standards and principles of sustainable architecture, the building is expected to serve as a model for academic and research infrastructure in Cyprus.

For ERATOSTHENES CoE, the new facilities mark the realisation of a long-awaited vision: a permanent home for scientific excellence, innovation, and international collaboration, further positioning Cyprus on the global map of space technologies and environmental monitoring.



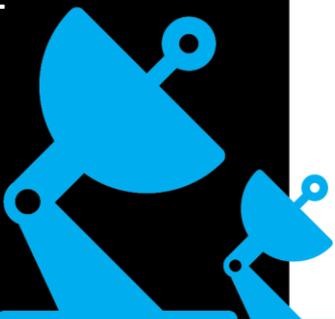
## Arrival of the Earth Observation Data Acquisition Station (DAS)

In June 2025, the Earth Observation Data Acquisition Station (DAS) arrived in Cyprus and was fully installed at the infrastructure of the Cyprus Telecommunications Authority (CYTA), completing a landmark investment of €3.9 million in strategic space infrastructure. The DAS was developed within the framework of the EXCELSIOR H2020 Teaming Project, with co-funding from the European Union and a significant financial commitment by the Republic of Cyprus, reflecting national support for strengthening space capabilities and research infrastructure.

The station includes a large, high-precision tracking antenna measuring approximately 11 metres in diameter, designed to receive vast volumes of satellite data with exceptional accuracy and reliability.

The DAS enables the simultaneous reception of data across three frequency bands from low-Earth-orbit satellites, supporting both current and future Earth Observation missions. With near real-time data acquisition, it significantly enhances capabilities in natural disaster response, maritime surveillance, environmental and climate monitoring, and civil protection, while also serving international organisations and partner institutions.

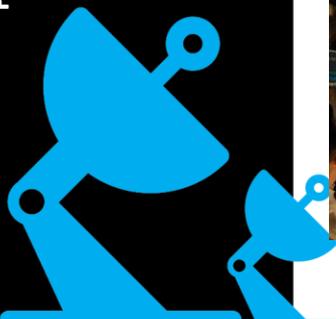
With its scale, technical sophistication, and regional coverage, the DAS strengthens scientific autonomy and positions Cyprus as a key operational hub for space-based Earth Observation in the Eastern Mediterranean and beyond.



**HIGHLIGHTS**

## Launch of Space BIC Cyprus by ERATOSTHENES CoE

An important milestone for innovation and entrepreneurship in Cyprus was marked on 23 September 2025 with the official launch of Space BIC Cyprus, hosted by the ERATOSTHENES CoE and supported by the Deputy Ministry of Research, Innovation and Digital Policy. The launch event gathered more than 100 participants, including senior government representatives, members of the European space ecosystem, mentors, innovators, entrepreneurs, and strategic partners, signalling the beginning of a new era for space-enabled entrepreneurship in Cyprus.

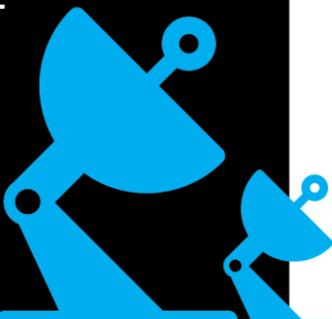


Space BIC Cyprus serves as a national incubation initiative dedicated to supporting start-ups and innovative companies that leverage satellite data and space technologies to develop commercially viable solutions. The programme operates in synergy with the broader objectives of the EXCELSIOR project and contributes to strengthening Cyprus' emerging space ecosystem through structured mentoring, technical support, and international networking.

The event featured key addresses by Prof. Diofantos Hadjimitsis, Managing Director of the ERATOSTHENES CoE, Mr. George Komodromos, Acting Secretary of the Deputy Ministry of Research, Innovation and Digital Policy (speaking on behalf of the Ministry), and Mr. Thorsten Rudolph, Managing Director of ESA BIC Bavaria and CEO of AZO – Space of Innovation, along with other distinguished guests who shared insights from Europe's established space incubation ecosystem.

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The event featured key addresses by Prof Diofantos Hadjimitsis, Managing Director of the ERATOSTHENES CoE, Mr. George Komodromos, Acting Secretary of the Deputy Ministry of Research, Innovation and Digital Policy (speaking on behalf of the Ministry), Mr. Thorsten Rudolph, Managing Director of ESA BIC Bavaria and CEO of AZO – Space of Innovation and more esteemed guests, who shared insights from Europe's established space incubation ecosystem.



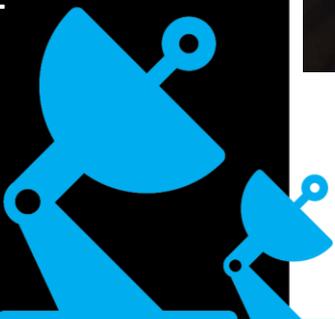
## Canada and Cyprus Sign MoU for Earth Observation and Space Cooperation

On 10 July 2025, the ERATOSTHENES CoE signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Canadian Commercial Corporation (CCC), the Government of Canada's Crown corporation for government-to-government contracting.

The agreement establishes a framework for cooperation in Earth Observation and space technologies, facilitating access to advanced Canadian mapping systems, analytics tools, and technical expertise. It supports ERATOSTHENES' strategic role as a regional hub for Earth Observation data and analytics in the Eastern Mediterranean, Middle East, and North Africa (EMMENA) region.

The MoU was signed in Nicosia by Her Excellency Ms Anna-Karine Asselin, High Commissioner of Canada to Cyprus, on behalf of CCC, and by Prof Diofantos Hadjimitsis, Managing Director of the ERATOSTHENES CoE, in the presence of Dr Nicodemos Damianou, Deputy Minister of Research, Innovation and Digital Policy of the Republic of Cyprus.

Dr Damianou noted that the agreement reflects a shared vision for innovation-driven collaboration between Cyprus and Canada in high-technology fields. Ms Asselin highlighted the strength of bilateral relations, particularly in innovation and sustainable development. Prof Hadjimitsis underlined that the MoU marks a new chapter in Cyprus–Canada cooperation, reinforcing Cyprus' position in Earth Observation and space-based innovation at regional and international level.



## Sea & Culture Museum Polis Latsi: From Vision to Landmark

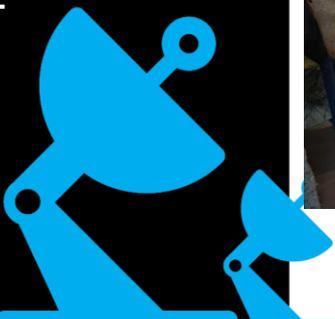
The Sea and Culture Museum of Polis Chrysochous has been officially delivered to the Municipality, marking the completion of a landmark cultural project for the region. Developed in close collaboration with the Municipality of Polis Chrysochous and Mayor, Mr. Yiotis Papachristofi, the project reflects a shared vision to highlight the area's rich maritime identity and cultural heritage through contemporary, technology-driven storytelling.

Under the leadership of Prof Diofantos Hadjimitsis, the ERATOSTHENES CoE played a pivotal role in the design and implementation of the museum. The project was realised through the coordinated work of the ERATOSTHENES team, including Dr. Christodoulos Mettas, Dr. Evagoras Evagorou, Dr. Neophytos Stylianou, and Mr. Demetris Christofi, who contributed across all stages of development.

Their work encompassed overall project planning and coordination, the development of immersive AR/VR applications, extensive photogrammetric and digital documentation of cultural and marine assets, the creation of the museum's official website and digital exhibits, and the production of short films showcased on the museum's 60 m<sup>2</sup> video walls.

Ahead of the official opening, trial guided tours were successfully conducted with invited groups, offering early access to the exhibition spaces and generating valuable feedback. The organisation and delivery of these pilot visits were also undertaken by the ERATOSTHENES team, marking the final phase of preparation before public launch.

The project culminated with the official inauguration of the Sea and Culture Cultural Hub on 5 September 2025, officiated by the President of the Republic of Cyprus, Mr. Nikos Christodoulides. Today, the museum stands as a modern educational and cultural centre, strengthening local cultural development while promoting Cyprus internationally through the meaningful integration of innovation, heritage, and scientific expertise.

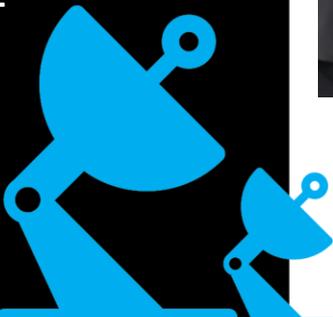


## COMECAP 2025: Advancing Climate Science and Policy in the Eastern Mediterranean

On 29 October until 1 November 2025, COMECAP returned to Cyprus, hosted in Nicosia by the ERATOSTHENES CoE, in collaboration with the Hellenic Meteorological Society, the Cyprus Department of Meteorology, and a wide network of academic and institutional partners from 29 September to 1 October 2025. The conference gathered scientists and experts from Cyprus, Greece, Europe, and international organisations, reaffirming Cyprus' role as a regional hub for climate research and cooperation in the Eastern Mediterranean.

A key highlight of COMECAP 2025 was the participation of the Minister of Agriculture, Rural Development and Environment, Dr Maria Panayiotou, who underlined that Cyprus and the wider Mediterranean are among the world's most climate-vulnerable hotspots, already experiencing hotter and drier summers, increased drought frequency, and growing pressure on water resources, agriculture, and biodiversity. She emphasised that Cyprus is responding decisively by investing in agrometeorological services, advanced technologies, and strong collaboration with the academic and research community, ensuring that scientific knowledge is translated into practical, policy-relevant solutions.

Beyond scientific exchange, COMECAP serves as a bridge between science, policy, and society, fostering dialogue on how atmospheric and climate research can directly support decision-making.



## European Researchers' Night 2025: Mission Possible at the Cyprus State Fair

European Researchers' Night 2025 once again transformed science into a shared experience for the public, with the ERATOSTHENES CoE taking an active role in this flagship European event. Held on 26 September 2025 at the Cyprus State Fair in Nicosia under the theme "Mission Possible," the event welcomed visitors of all ages.

The ERATOSTHENES CoE, in collaboration with the Cyprus University of Technology, hosted two interactive booths (47 & 48), inviting the public to explore how science and space technologies shape everyday life.

Through hands-on activities and engaging demonstrations, visitors were introduced to:

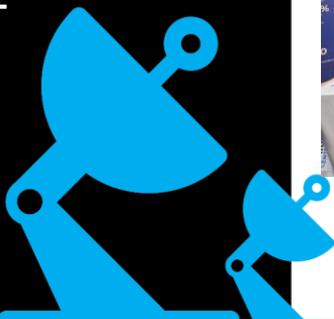
Play – Learn – Observe our Planet from Space, showcasing how Earth Observation and satellite data are used to monitor the environment, climate, and natural hazards.

Earth Explorers: ERATOSTHENES CoE in action, offering a closer look at the Centre's research, innovation, and real-world applications.

Participants also had the opportunity to learn about the impact of the EXCELSIOR H2020 Teaming Project and other major research initiatives of ERATOSTHENES CoE, and how these projects contribute to scientific excellence, technological innovation, and societal benefit at national and European level.

Families, students, and young learners interacted directly with researchers, asked questions, participated in activities, and discovered how space science supports sustainability, resilience, and informed decision-making.

The strong public interest and enthusiastic participation highlighted the importance of bringing research closer to society and inspiring the next generation of scientists.

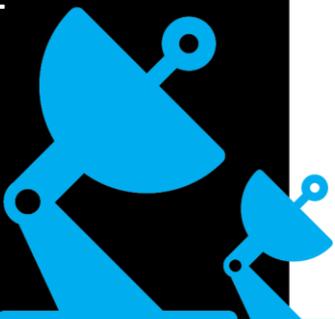


## Completion of the AI-OBSERVER Project

The ERATOSTHENES CoE successfully completed the AI-OBSERVER research project, a landmark initiative combining Artificial Intelligence and Earth Observation for disaster risk reduction and resilience building, which was coordinated by the ERATOSTHENES CoE.

Funded by the European Commission under the Horizon Europe Twinning programme, AI-OBSERVER addressed six critical natural hazards of national importance for Cyprus: earthquakes, landslides, coastal erosion, wildfires, floods and marine pollution. The project was implemented in collaboration with DFKI (Germany), the University of Rome Tor Vergata (Italy), and CELLOCK Ltd (Cyprus).

The final event brought together more than 40 representatives from academia, public authorities and the private sector, highlighting the project's potential for national-level implementation in early warning systems, risk mitigation, environmental protection and quality of life enhancement.



## Latest News

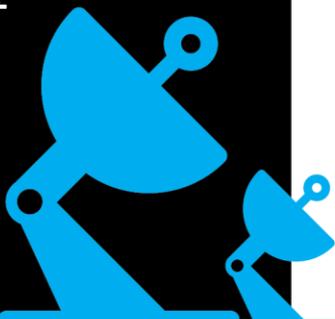
# ERATOSTHENES CoE at ISPRS Geospatial Week 2025, Dubai

From 8 to 12 April 2025, the ERATOSTHENES CoE actively participated in ISPRS Geospatial Week 2025, held in Dubai, presenting a strong portfolio of research in Earth Observation and Geospatial Technologies.

Researchers from ERATOSTHENES contributed with poster and oral presentations across key thematic areas, including aerosol–cloud interactions, shoreline change analysis, cultural heritage monitoring, multi-hazard risk assessment, oil spill detection using AI, forest management, and machine-learning applications in remote sensing.

ERATOSTHENES' contributions spanned multiple scientific tracks of the conference, highlighting its multidisciplinary expertise and active engagement in international scientific dialogue within the geospatial research community.

Participation in ISPRS Geospatial Week 2025 further strengthened ERATOSTHENES CoE's international visibility and collaborations, reaffirming its role as a regional hub for research excellence in Earth Observation and geospatial innovation.



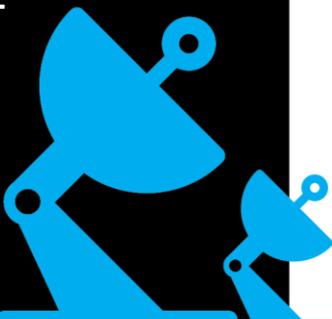
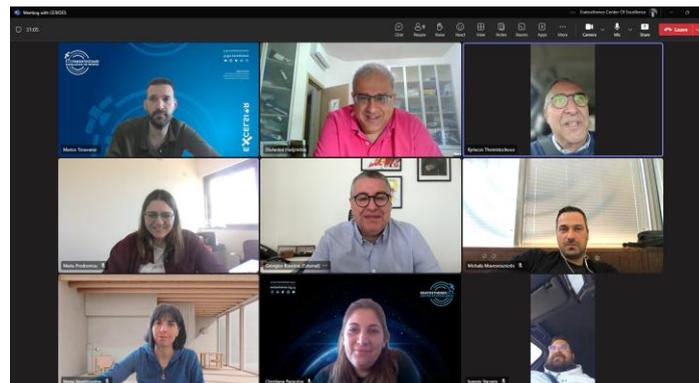
## Cooperation with Limassol Municipality

On 10 April 2025, the ERATOSTHENES CoE and the Municipality of Limassol reaffirmed their cooperation towards building a smarter, more resilient, and sustainable city. During the visit, the added value of ERATOSTHENES to the local community was highlighted, particularly through the attraction of scientific talent, the development of innovative solutions, and the effective use of scientific expertise for public benefit. Statements by Limassol Mayor Yiannis Armeftis and Prof Diofantos Hadjimitsis, Managing Director of ERATOSTHENES CoE, underlined the importance of knowledge, innovation, and collaboration in shaping the future of the city.



## Strengthening Collaboration in Risk & Decision Sciences

On 7 April 2025, representatives of the ERATOSTHENES CoE and the Cyprus University of Technology held a strategic meeting with Prof. George Boustras, Director of the Centre of Excellence in Risk & Decision Sciences (CERIDES) at the European University Cyprus. The meeting focused on exploring new collaborative opportunities within the framework of the Memorandum of Understanding signed between the ERATOSTHENES CoE and CERIDES. Discussions centred on joint research initiatives, knowledge exchange, and interdisciplinary cooperation in areas related to risk assessment, resilience, and decision sciences. This engagement further strengthens institutional collaboration at national level and supports the broader objectives of the EXCELSIOR project in promoting research excellence and strategic partnerships.



## ERATOSTHENES CoE at World Meteorological Day Celebrations

On 3 April 2025, the ERATOSTHENES CoE participated in the national event marking World Meteorological Day in Cyprus, organised by the Department of Meteorology of Cyprus.

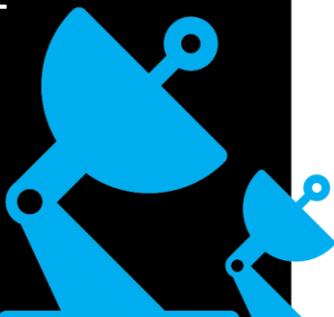
ERATOSTHENES was represented by Dr Silas Michaelides, Dr Maria Anastasiadou, Dr Rodanthi Mamouri, Dr Argyro Nisantzi, Dr Marinos Iliadis, and Dr Eleni Loulli. During the event, the new Agrometeorological Bulletin was presented, a significant innovation for the agricultural sector, developed through collaboration between the Department of Meteorology, the ERATOSTHENES CoE, and the Department of Agriculture.



## Full-Scale Digitisation of the Amathous Archaeological Site

The Cultural Heritage Cluster of the ERATOSTHENES CoE, with the support of the Department of Antiquities of Cyprus, officially launched the full-scale digitisation of the Amathous Archaeological Site, one of the island's most emblematic cultural landmarks.

The work was carried out within the framework of the LiP3D Project and followed a multimodal, multiscale 3D documentation approach, combining terrestrial laser scanning, aerial and terrestrial photogrammetry, and GPS-based georeferencing. The aim is to produce a high-resolution digital twin of the site, supporting scientific conservation, monitoring, and advanced visualisation of Cyprus's cultural heritage.



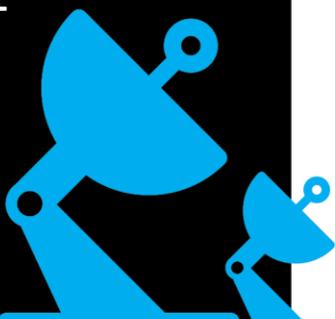
## Presentation at the European Geosciences Union (EGU) General Assembly

Dr Kyriacos Themistocleous delivered a presentation at the European Geosciences Union (EGU) General Assembly titled “Monitoring Climate Change in Cultural Heritage Sites Through Enhanced Visualisation Experiences and Crowdsourcing.” The presentation showcased advanced approaches to the protection and preservation of cultural heritage, focusing on systematic monitoring, innovative documentation methods, and citizen-driven data collection. Particular emphasis was placed on the use of novel visualisation tools and crowdsourcing techniques to identify and assess the impacts of climate change on heritage sites, highlighting the importance of public engagement and collaborative scientific practices.



## Secondment at the National Observatory of Athens (NOA)

From 1 April to 2 May 2025, Ms Josefina Kountouri participated in a secondment at the National Observatory of Athens, within the framework of the EXCELSIOR project and the ongoing collaboration between the flood research teams of NOA and the ERATOSTHENES CoE. The secondment focused on flood risk assessment and disaster management, including data collection in flood-prone areas, development of flood inventory maps, and exploration of tools for flood prediction and early warning systems, strengthening scientific exchange and joint capacity building.



HIGHLIGHTS

## ERATOSTHENES CoE in the EarthCARE Validation Campaign 2025

The ERATOSTHENES CoE participated in the EarthCARE validation campaign in Thessaloniki, Greece, from 22 April to 22 May 2025, supporting European efforts to validate satellite aerosol, cloud, and radiation products. The campaign included coordinated atmospheric observations across urban, semi-urban, and rural environments, aligned with EarthCARE satellite overpasses. ERATOSTHENES researchers deployed ground-based instruments, including a solar camera, pyranometer, and Microtops photometer, contributing to the analysis of aerosol–cloud–radiation interactions in collaboration with leading European research institutions and with support from Race ECV (SBFI Switzerland) and the Harmonia COST Action.

**EarthCARE Campaign**  
Thessaloniki, Greece  
22 April – 22 May 2025

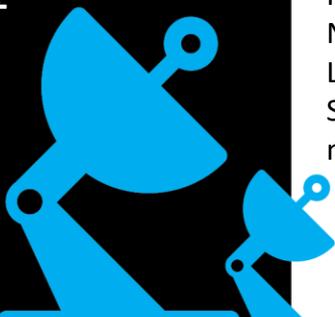
**Objectives of the Campaign**

- Direct EarthCARE validation
- Spatiotemporal variability of aerosol-cloud-radiation interactions
- Low-cost sensor intercalibration
- 3D cloud structures

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## Experiential Workshop on Earthquake Self-Protection

An experiential workshop titled “Self-Protection from Earthquakes” was jointly organised by the Civil Defence of Cyprus and the ERATOSTHENES CoE. Key presentations were delivered by Georgios A. Nikolaou, Assistant Director of Civil Defence Limassol, and Panagiotis Liasidis, Civil Defence Spokesperson, focusing on practical preparedness measures and public awareness.



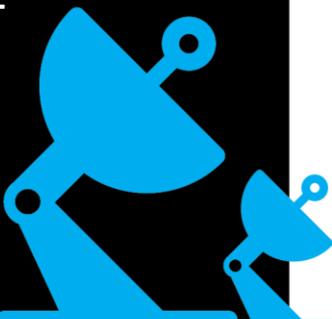
## Research Update: New Insights on the Asian Citrus Psyllid

On 8-9 May 2025, Dr. Menelaos Stavrinides, Leader of the Agriculture Cluster within the Environment & Climate Department at the ERATOSTHENES CoE, presented new research findings on the Asian Citrus Psyllid, a critical pest with significant implications for citrus production. The research contributes valuable scientific knowledge toward understanding pest dynamics and supports the development of more informed and sustainable agricultural management practices. Further analysis of the findings is expected to inform future strategies for crop protection and resilience in Mediterranean agro-ecosystems.



## ERATOSTHENES CoE at the Cyprus Diaspora Forum

On 8 May 2025, representatives of the ERATOSTHENES CoE participated in the Cyprus Diaspora Forum, engaging with members of the global Cypriot community. During the forum, the launch of Space BIC Cyprus was presented, highlighting its role in supporting space-related startups and entrepreneurship, with the first call opening on 17 June 2025. The event also provided a valuable opportunity for networking and for informing participants about the activities and initiatives of ERATOSTHENES.



## Research Update: New Insights on the Asian Citrus Psyllid

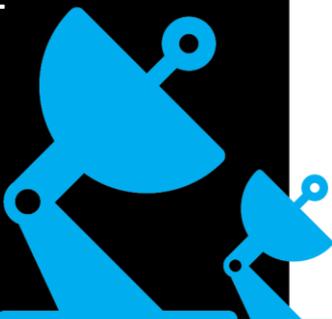
On 8–9 May 2025, Dr. Menelaos Stavrinos, Leader of the Agriculture activities within the Environment & Climate Department at the ERATOSTHENES CoE, presented new research findings on the Asian Citrus Psyllid in Cyprus, a pest with significant implications for citrus production. At the same event, additional ERATOSTHENES CoE research initiatives were presented, including the application of remote sensing methods for the automated detection of *Xylella fastidiosa* in olive groves (Coordinator: Christiana Papoutsas), risk assessment for Mediterranean fruit fly using satellite and ground monitoring (Coordinator: Christiana Papoutsas), carbon farming practices for sustainable soil management in citrus and potato cultivation (Coordinator: Dr. Marios Tzouvaras), and smart irrigation management using Earth Observation data and Artificial Intelligence at national scale (Coordinators: Stelios P. Neofytides and Marinos Eliades).

Together, the presentations demonstrated the Centre’s integrated approach to precision agriculture, climate resilience, and sustainable crop management through the use of satellite technologies and AI-driven tools.



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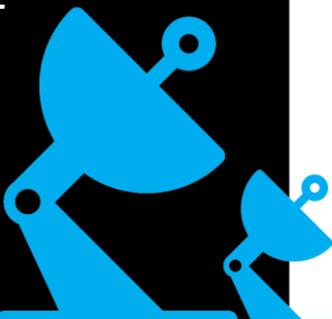
## ERATOSTHENES at the EcoReady International Conference on Biodiversity and Food Security

On 12 May 2025, the EcoReady International Conference on “Biodiversity, Food Security and Policy-Making” was held at the Municipal Cultural Center Panos Solomonides, with the participation of the ERATOSTHENES CoE. During the conference, Prof Diofantos Hadjimitsis delivered a keynote address, highlighting the role of sustainability and innovation in Earth Observation and the contribution of scientific knowledge to evidence-based policy-making in the fields of environment, agriculture, and food security.



## Participation in Europe Day Celebrations

On 10 May 2025, Europe Day celebrations were held on 28 October Square in Paphos, with the participation of the ERATOSTHENES CoE. ERATOSTHENES’ team presented its mission, activities, and achievements, as well as the progress of the EXCELSIOR Project, to the public. The ERATOSTHENES stand was visited by the Mayor of Paphos Mr Phaedonas Phaedonos, while the event concluded with cultural and musical performances organised by the European and local authorities.



## Participation in the “New Capabilities and Countries in European Space” Conference

From 14 to 15 May 2025, Dr Kyriacos Themistocleous, External Affairs & Business Development Director, and Mr Nicos Christoforou, DAS Engineer at the Crowdsourcing & Data Fusion, Big Earth Data Analytics Department, represented the ERATOSTHENES CoE at the “New Capabilities and Countries in European Space” Conference held at ESA/ESRIN in Frascati, Italy.

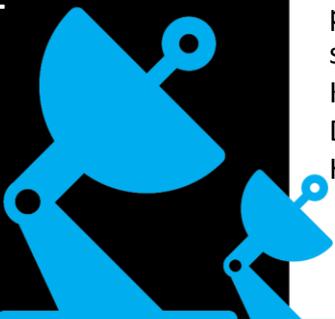
The conference, organised by the ESA Directorate of Commercialisation, Industry and Competitiveness, focused on strengthening international partnerships and fostering new collaboration opportunities across the European space sector, bringing together emerging and established space actors.



## Radiocarbon Dating for the Panagia Karmiotissa Excavation

Dr Kyriacos Themistocleous provided samples for radiocarbon dating to the Laboratoire d’archéologie médiévale et moderne en Méditerranée (LA3M) at Aix-Marseille University, with the approval of the Department of Antiquities of the Deputy Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Cyprus.

The samples were collected during the excavation of the *Panagia Karmiotissa* project, carried out in the area surrounding the church of Panagia Karmiotissa, under the direction of Dr Andreas Nikolaides and Dr Margot Hoffelt.



## ERATOSTHENES CoE to Lead New COST Action on Cultural Property Protection

In May 2025, ERATOSTHENES EcO was approved to lead the newly established COST Action “Cultural Property Protection for All (CPP4ALL)”, a four-year, pan-European initiative under the European Cooperation in Science and Technology (COST) framework. Selected with an exceptional score of 46/50, CPP4ALL ranked among only 70 approved actions out of more than 850 submissions.

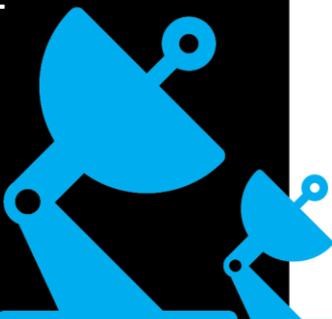
CPP4ALL is the first COST Action dedicated exclusively to cultural property protection, focusing on legislative frameworks, legal protection of antiquities, illegal excavations, and repatriation and restitution. The Action brings together 31 proposers from 20 countries and aims to foster interdisciplinary collaboration and innovative approaches to safeguarding cultural heritage across Europe.



## Secondment Strengthens Collaboration on Flood Risk Management

On 22 May 2025, Ms Stavroula Sigourou from the National Observatory of Athens visited ERATOSTHENES CoE as part of an ongoing secondment within the framework of collaboration between the flood risk teams of the two institutions. The secondment focused on strengthening cooperation in flood risk and disaster management.

During the visit, hydraulic models were installed and tested on ERATOSTHENES' server, establishing the necessary infrastructure for advanced simulations and model runs, and marking a further step towards enhanced scientific collaboration between the two teams.



## Successful PhD Completions at ERATOSTHENES CoE

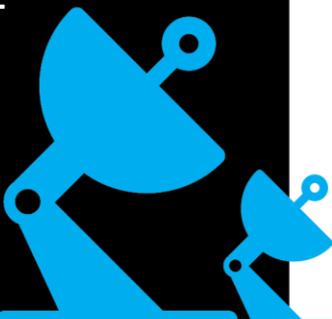
In May, Dr Eleni Loulli, Dr Maria Prodromou, and Dr Kyriaki Fotiou successfully passed their PhD viva and examinations at the Department of Civil Engineering and Geomatics of the Cyprus University of Technology.

The three researchers, affiliated with ERATOSTHENES and the EXCELSIOR H2020 TEAMING Project, completed doctoral research on advanced applications of Earth Observation and geospatial technologies, covering dynamic landslide monitoring, post-fire ecosystem management, and precipitation estimation through the integration of ground-based and satellite radar data.



## Participation in the Keros Archaeological Excavation

From 21 to 27 May 2025 members of the Cultural Heritage Cluster, Dr Dante Abate, Dr Konstantinos Roussos, and Dr Mahmoud Mardini, participated in the Keros archaeological excavation in the Cyclades, Greece. Their involvement took place within the framework of the Erasmus+ CHANGES project, offering the opportunity to contribute to and gain insight from a leading interdisciplinary archaeological research initiative aligned with the project's objectives.



## Successful Review Meeting of the EXCELSIOR H2020 Teaming Project

On 26–27 May 2025, the review meeting for the 4th Reporting Period of the EXCELSIOR H2020 Teaming Project was successfully held in Cyprus. The meeting brought together consortium members, the Board of Directors, the External Advisory Board, affiliated partners, and close collaborators, reflecting the strong cooperation and shared commitment across the project.

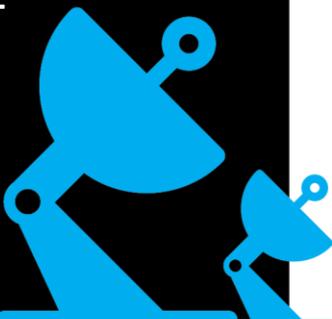
Valuable feedback was provided by the Project Officer and external reviewers, who acknowledged the significant milestones achieved and the continued impact of the project's implementation.



## ERATOSTHENES CoE at the CSDP Orientation Course

On 27 May 2025, the ERATOSTHENES CoE contributed to the Common Security and Defence Policy (CSDP) Orientation Course through a presentation of its capabilities in the field of international crisis management, delivered during the participants' visit to the Cyprus Joint Rescue Coordination Centre (JRCC).

The seminar was organised by the Cyprus Security and Defence Academy in cooperation with the Austrian National Defence Academy, under the auspices of the European Security and Defence College (ESDC), and was attended by more than 60 participants from EU Member States and third countries, including senior military officers, diplomats, and officials from European institutions.



## Strengthening Collaboration with Limassol Municipality

On 29 May 2025, a meeting was held at Limassol Town Hall between the Municipality of Limassol and ERATOSTHENES, focusing on the further consolidation of their collaboration. Discussions covered the progress of the GIS project for the municipalities of Limassol district, matters related to facilities, and the advancement of signage projects included in the OLA framework.

The meeting concluded in a positive and constructive spirit, with a shared vision for future synergies in the fields of geoinformatics and smart cities, in the presence of the Mayor of Limassol Mr Yiannis Armeftis and representatives from both sides.



## Meeting of Cyprus' Centres of Excellence with the President of the Republic of Cyprus

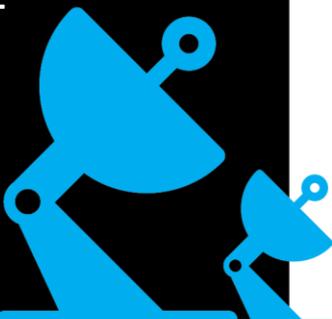
On 4 June 2025, the Directors of the seven Centres of Excellence established in Cyprus, ERATOSTHENES, biobank.cy, KIOS, CYENS, CMMI, CARE-C, and PHAETHON, met with President Nikos Christodoulides at the Presidential Palace.

Discussions highlighted the Centres' contribution to attracting and retaining scientific talent, supporting the government's Brain Gain strategy. The meeting was attended by Mr Makis Keravnos, Ms Irene Piki, and Dr Nicodemos Damianou.

ERATOSTHENES was represented by its Managing Director, Prof Diofantos Hadjimitsis.



More information [here](#).



## From Idea to Impact: Supporting the First Steps of Entrepreneurship

On 26 June 2025, the informative event “From Idea to Impact: How to Start Your Business Journey” was held at the Cyprus Chamber of Commerce and Industry (Nicosia). The event was organised by CCCI through the Enterprise Europe Network Cyprus (EEN), in collaboration with ERATOSTHENES, and focused on supporting entrepreneurs at the early stages of their business journey.



## Cyprus Atmospheric Remote Sensing Observatory (CARO) Fully Operational

On 7 June 2025, the Cyprus Atmospheric Remote Sensing Observatory (CARO) became fully operational, marking an important milestone in the Centre’s atmospheric monitoring and research activities. The observatory strengthens national and regional capacity in atmospheric observations, supporting advanced research on aerosols, clouds, and climate-related processes.

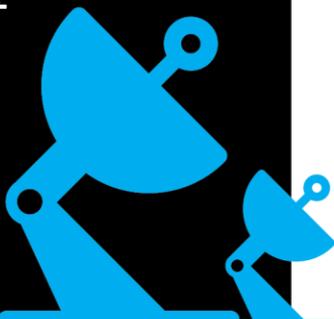
Watch the video [here](#).



## High-Level Meeting on AI and Supercomputing

On 6 June, a high-level meeting was held at the Presidential Palace following the President’s visit to Silicon Valley and discussions with NVIDIA on Artificial Intelligence and supercomputing. The meeting, led by the Chief Scientist for Research, Innovation and Technology Mr Demetris Skourides, brought together senior government officials, representatives of the Centres of Excellence, and Mr Giannis Iosifakis, Global VP of Sales and Business Development for HPC/Supercomputing at NVIDIA.

During the discussion, Prof Diofantos Hadjimitsis presented key research infrastructures and AI-driven applications, highlighting opportunities for collaboration in education, research, and innovation through advanced AI technologies.



## Meeting with the Ambassador of the State of Qatar

On 11 June 2025, a meeting was held at the Embassy of the State of Qatar in Nicosia with His Excellency Ambassador Yousef Sultan Laram, focusing on strengthening Qatar–Cyprus relations in the fields of education, technology, and business.

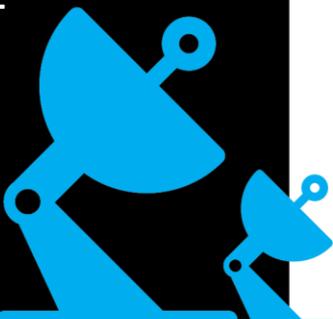
During the meeting, Prof Andreas Anayiotos and Mr Andreas Andreou presented ERATOSTHENES’ technological capabilities and results-driven approach, while discussions also explored opportunities for pilot initiatives, innovation exchange, and future collaboration.



## Mapping and Digitisation of Dry-Stone Heritage in Cyprus

On 12 June 2025, at the Strovolos Cultural Centre, Dr Kyriacos Themistocleous, Director of External Relations & Business Development at the ERATOSTHENES CoE, participated in the workshop “Prospects for Professional Training in Dry-Stone Construction”, presenting the project “Mapping and Digitisation of Dry-Stone Heritage in Cyprus”.

His presentation highlighted how geoinformatics and digital mapping technologies are being used by ERATOSTHENES CoE to document, preserve, and protect Cyprus’ dry-stone heritage, contributing to cultural conservation, education, and sustainable local development.



## Strengthening Collaboration on Water and Climate Research

On 13 June 2025, a meeting was held with the Water Research and Management Group of the Energy, Environment & Water Research Center (EEWRC) of The Cyprus Institute, focusing on strengthening collaboration in water-related research. The discussion took place at the Institute's premises, with thanks extended to Ms Adriana Bruggeman for the constructive exchange and insights shared.

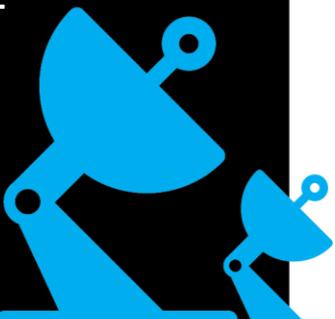


## PRECiRRI: Advancing Precision Irrigation through AI and Satellite Data

On 13 June 2025, the digital precision irrigation platform PRECiRRI, developed by the ERATOSTHENES CoE was presented in Nicosia in the context of the strategic collaboration with the Ministry of Agriculture, Rural Development and Environment. The platform combines Artificial Intelligence and satellite data to provide personalised irrigation recommendations, supporting the sustainable management of water resources during periods of drought.

The presentation took place in the presence of high-ranking government officials, highlighting the potential of PRECiRRI to reduce water consumption, increase productivity, and lower energy and fertiliser costs.

Read more [here](#).

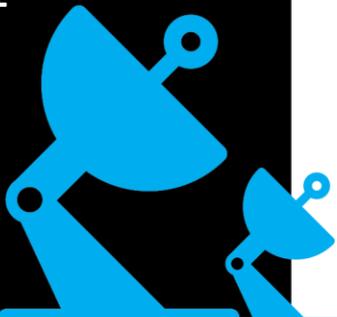
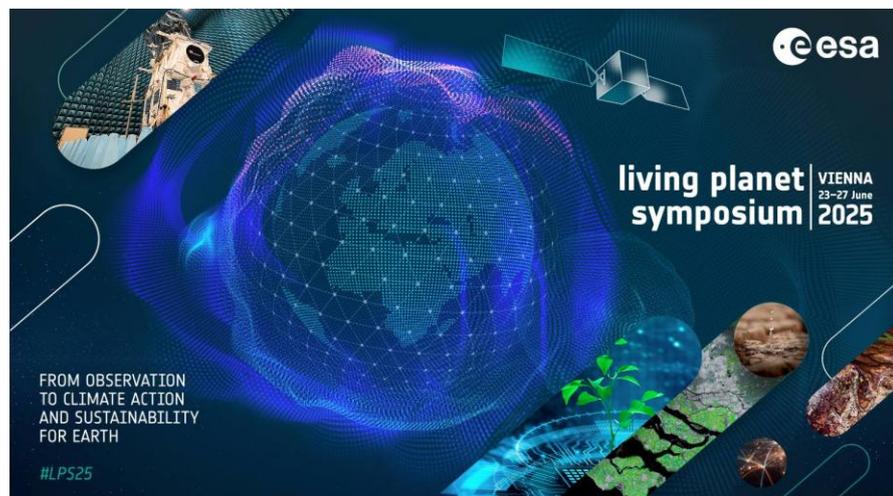


## ESA Living Planet Symposium 2025

From 23 to 27 June 2025, the ERATOSTHENES CoE participated in the ESA Living Planet Symposium 2025 in Vienna, contributing multiple scientific works that showcased ongoing research in Earth Observation and geospatial technologies.

Poster presentations included “Development and Optimization of a Machine Learning Fire Risk Prediction Model Using Multimodal Geospatial and Climate Data in Cyprus” by Dr Christodoulos Mettas and Dr Marios Tzouvaras; “Monitoring Atmospheric 3D Winds with the HALO Doppler Wind Lidar at the CARO National Facility in Limassol, Cyprus” and “Study of Aerosol–Cloud Interaction in the Eastern Mediterranean: Long-term Lidar Observations over Cyprus” by Dr Rodanthi Mamouri and Mr Constantinos Chrysostomou; as well as “Using Citizen Engagement through Crowdsourcing to Monitor Heritage at Risk” by Dr Kyriacos Themistocleous.

In addition, Dr Kyriacos Themistocleous chaired the session “Heritage at Risk: Innovative Tools for Assessing and Mitigating Climate Change and Natural Hazards” and delivered an oral presentation entitled “Analysis of Earthquake-Induced Landslide Scenarios under Changing Environmental Conditions: A Case Study of the Choirokoitia Cultural Heritage Site, Cyprus.” His contribution further supported discussions on climate resilience, disaster risk reduction, and cultural heritage protection.



## Academic Distinction in Geoinformatics & Earth Observation

In June, Mr Constantinos Chrysostomou, Researcher at ERATOSTHENES CoE, graduated from the MSc in Geoinformatics and Earth Observation at the Cyprus University of Technology. He was also awarded a prize in recognition of his excellent academic performance.



## Participation at the Panagrotikos Farmers Association Gala Dinner

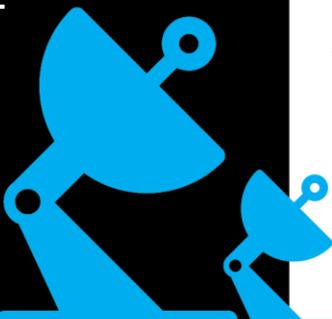


On 5 June the ERATOSTHENES CoE was honoured to attend the Gala Dinner organised by the Panagrotikos Farmers Association of Cyprus, following a kind invitation from the Association. ERATOSTHENES was represented by Professor Diofantos Hadjimitsis and Dr Christiana Papoutsas.

## Participation at the U.S. Independence Day Celebration – AmCham Cyprus

On 18 June 2025, the ERATOSTHENES CoE participated in a celebration hosted by the American Chamber of Commerce in Cyprus, in collaboration with the Cyprus Chamber of Commerce and Industry, at 360 Tower in Nicosia, marking the Independence Day of the United States.

The Centre was represented by Mr Andreas Andreou. The event highlighted the strong and evolving partnership between Cyprus and the United States, with a particular focus on diplomacy, sustainability, and innovation.

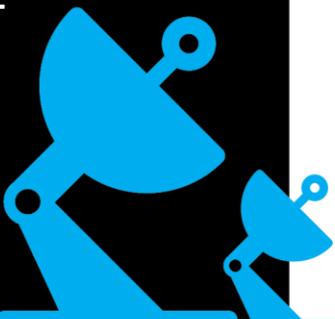


## Exploring Strategic Collaboration with the United Arab Emirates

On 25 June 2025, a high-level meeting was held with His Excellency Mr Mohammed Saif Al Shehhi, Ambassador of the United Arab Emirates to the Republic of Cyprus, marking the initiation of a structured dialogue on potential strategic collaboration in the fields of Earth Observation and space technologies.

The meeting provided an opportunity for an exchange of views on areas of mutual interest, focusing on the role of space-based data, geospatial analytics, and Earth Observation applications in supporting environmental monitoring, sustainability, and evidence-based decision-making. Particular emphasis was placed on exploring how advanced space technologies can contribute to addressing regional and global challenges.

This first engagement reflects a shared interest in strengthening bilateral cooperation between Cyprus and the United Arab Emirates in high-technology and innovation-driven sectors, while opening the door to future discussions on collaboration in research, technology, and space-enabled services.



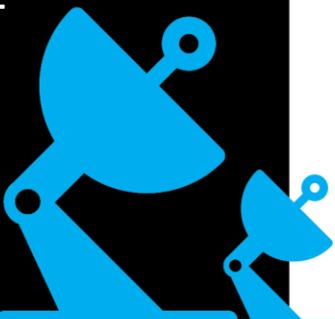
## Commercial Earth Observation and Policy Impact – ESPI & ISPRS Evening Debate

On 25 June, Dr Kyriacos Themistocleous attended the evening debate “Commercial Earth Observation for Boosting Policy Impact?” in Vienna, following an invitation from the European Space Policy Institute and the International Society for Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing. The event provided the opportunity for exchange with representatives from space agencies, government, and industry, including Tidiane Ouattara of the African Space Agency.



## Engaging with Cyprus’ Innovation Ecosystem through CCCI

On 26 June 2025, following an invitation from the Cyprus Chamber of Commerce and Industry, an informative workshop was held in Nicosia, offering a concise introduction to Cyprus’s innovation ecosystem and highlighting opportunities for academics and early-career researchers. The event provided an opportunity for participation by the Cultural Heritage Cluster within the framework of the ENGINEER project, as well as for the presentation of ongoing initiatives, including Space BIC Cyprus. Discussions also opened avenues for future collaboration through the EEN Cyprus office, with thanks extended to Mr Soti Christou and the EEN Cyprus team for coordinating the initiative.



## National Stakeholder Event on CAMS Services in Cyprus

On 26 June, the national stakeholder event “Atmosphere, Health, Environment: The CAMS NCP Services in Cyprus” was hosted as part of the CAMS-NCP initiative. The event presented practical, real-world applications of CAMS data and brought together nearly 40 stakeholders, fostering discussion on the use of satellite data in environmental management, civil protection, and public health.



## Strengthening Links in Sustainable Waste Management

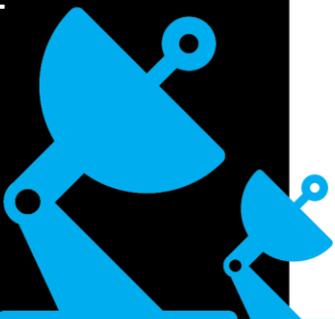
On 27 June 2025, the ERATOSTHENES CoE participated in the 12th International Conference on Sustainable Solid Waste Management, held in Paphos.

During the conference, Prof Diofantos Hadjimitsis, Managing Director of the ERATOSTHENES CoE, together with Centre representatives, held a meeting with Prof Maria Loizidou, Professor at the Department of Chemical Engineering of the National Technical University of Athens and Head of the Unit of Environmental Science and Technology.

The EXCELSIOR H2020 Teaming Project and recent activities of ERATOSTHENES were presented, followed by a constructive discussion on potential future collaboration in the fields of environmental science, sustainable development, and geospatial innovation.



12th International Conference on Sustainable Solid Waste Management in Paphos, Cyprus



## Canada–Cyprus Diplomatic Anniversary

On 11 July 2025, ERATOSTHENES attended the vin d'honneur hosted by H.E. Mrs Anna-Karine Asselin, High Commissioner of Canada to Cyprus, marking 65 years of diplomatic relations between Canada and the Republic of Cyprus. The Centre was represented by Ms Eliana Iliofotou, Mr Andreas Andreou, and Dr. Neophytos Stylianou.



Read more [here](#).

## Meeting with the University of Thessaly on Research and Innovation Collaboration

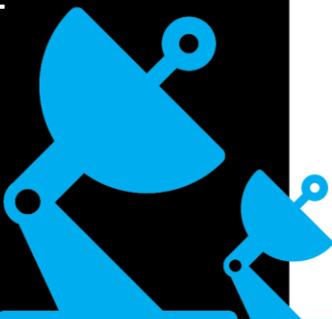
On 17 July 2025, Prof Diofantos Hadjimitsis met with the academic leadership of the University of Thessaly to discuss prospects for collaboration in Research and Innovation.

The meeting focused on potential synergies in space, Earth observation, geoinformatics and AI, with applications in climate change, natural hazards, agriculture, water resources and public health, as well as ERATOSTHENES' strategic research infrastructures.



## Smart AI Solutions for Water and Municipal Services

On 30 July 2025, a joint initiative between the Cyprus University of Technology (CUT) and the Limassol District Local Government Organisation (EOA) was presented, focusing on the application of Artificial Intelligence in water supply, sewerage, and financial management. The collaboration highlights how AI-driven tools and data analytics can support smarter, more efficient public services and promote sustainable urban management.



## Fieldwork in Erimi Following the Limassol Wildfire

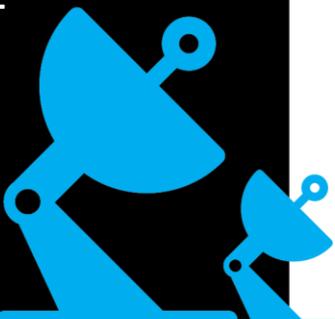
On 11–12 August 2025, members of the Cultural Heritage Cluster, Dr Mahmoud Mardini and Mr Andreas Livadiotis, carried out fieldwork in the hills around Erimi, supporting geologists Dr Ivano Rellini and Dr Sabina Ghislandi (University of Genova) in documenting potential archaeological structures in the landscape.

The work followed the recent wildfire in the Limassol district, which cleared vegetation and enabled improved access and visibility of the area’s cultural features. The team continues on site throughout the week, also contributing to excavations at the archaeological site of Erimi in collaboration with the University of Siena, under the direction of Dr Luca Bombardieri.



## Visit to the Erimi–Laonin tou Porakou Archaeological Excavation

Members of the Cultural Heritage Cluster visited the Italian-led archaeological excavation at Erimi–Laonin tou Porakou, directed by the University of Siena. Mr Andreas Livadiotis, Mr Christodoulos Dimitriou, Dr Maria Cristina Salvi, and Dr Konstantinos Roussos joined the site following recent fieldwork activities. The visit included an on-site discussion and guided tour by Dr Luca Bombardieri, offering valuable insight into the excavation’s progress and opening avenues for continued collaboration in the study and protection of cultural heritage.



## 9th CAMS General Assembly

On 3–5 September 2025, ERATOSTHENES CoE participated in the 9th Copernicus Atmosphere Monitoring Service (CAMS) General Assembly in Prague, together with Dr Silas Michaelides and Mr Orestis Livadiotis. Discussions focused on advances in atmospheric monitoring and air quality, including policies addressing particulate matter, new tools for emissions and greenhouse gas monitoring, and stronger links between CAMS services and health, energy, and climate policy.



## Training at ACTRIS on Cloud and Precipitation Research

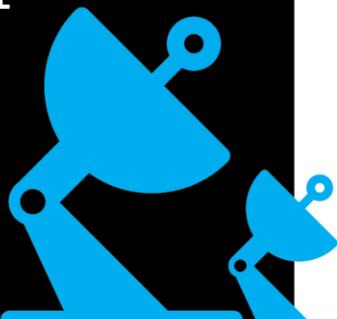
From 9–12 September 2025, PhD student Mr Constantinos Chrysostomou participated in the ACTRIS CCRES/CLU Training School at Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität München. The programme combined lectures and hands-on sessions on cloud and precipitation research, covering the operation and calibration of key atmospheric instruments, data processing, quality control, and calibration/validation activities linked to satellite missions such as EarthCARE. The training strengthened expertise relevant to the Cyprus Atmospheric Remote Sensing Observatory (CARO), supporting high-quality atmospheric monitoring and reinforcing ongoing contributions to the ACTRIS research infrastructure.



## Atmospheric Research at EAC 2025



From 31 August to 5 September 2025, researchers from the Cyprus Atmospheric Remote Sensing Observatory (CARO) took part in the European Aerosol Conference (EAC 2025) in Lecce, Italy. The team presented poster contributions by Dr Hossein Panahifar, Ms Athina Savva, and Mr Francesco Scarlatti, showcasing recent work on aerosol properties and atmospheric monitoring in Cyprus.



## Collaboration with the Municipality of Paralimni–Deryneia

On 15 September 2025, the strategic collaboration between the ERATOSTHENES CoE and the Municipality of Paralimni–Deryneia progressed to its next phase. During a joint meeting, both sides reaffirmed their commitment to using Earth Observation, Remote Sensing, GIS, and Artificial Intelligence in projects with direct benefits for the local community.

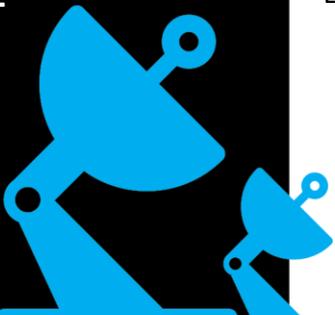
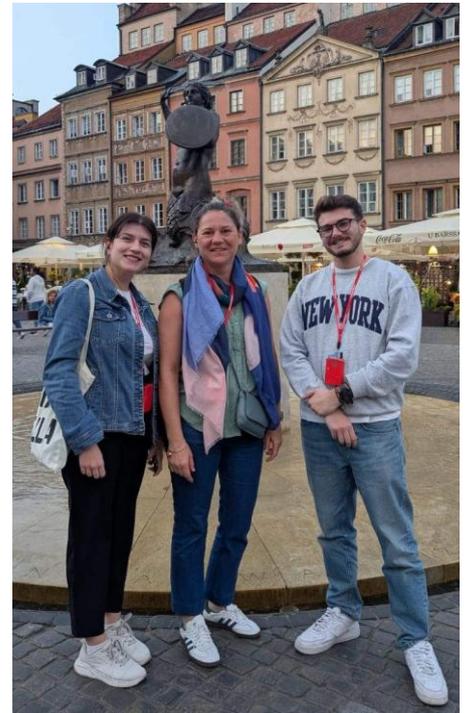
Read more [here](#).



## ELC 2025 Conference in Warsaw

From 10–12 September 2025, the Cyprus Atmospheric Remote Sensing Observatory (CARO) participated in the ELC 2025 Conference in Warsaw, hosted by the Faculty of Physics of the University of Warsaw.

Dr. Rodanthi-Elisavet Mamouri served as Chair of the session “Lidar synergy with other instruments”. CARO contributions included oral presentations by PhD candidates Mr Constantinos Chrysostomou and Ms Maria Poutli, as well as poster presentations by Dr. Rodanthi-Elisavet Mamouri and PhD candidate Ms Athina Savva, covering aerosol–cloud interactions, smoke and dust properties, and the role of the ERATOSTHENES CARO National Facility in the EMMENA region.



## Strengthening Greece–Cyprus Cooperation in Space and Earth Observation

In September 2025, a high-level meeting was held in Greece to strengthen strategic cooperation between Greece and Cyprus in the field of space and Earth observation. Prof Diofantos Hadjimitsis met with the Secretary General for Telecommunications and Posts of the Greek Ministry of Digital Governance, Prof Konstantinos Karantzalos, together with Dr. Haris Kontoes from the National Observatory of Athens. Discussions focused on bilateral cooperation in digital governance and space, Greece’s National Microsatellite Programme, the EXCELSIOR H2020 Teaming project, and existing and upcoming Earth observation infrastructures in both countries.

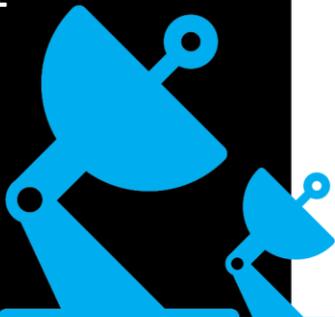


## Athens Space Safety Industry Briefing 2025



On 18 September 2025, the Athens Space Safety Industry Briefing 2025 was held by the European Space Agency at the Greek Ministry of Digital Governance.

Dr Harris Kontoes presented Greece’s activities in Space Situational Awareness on behalf of the Beyond EO Centre of the National Observatory of Athens, while Prof Diofantos Hadjimitsis participated in the workshop.



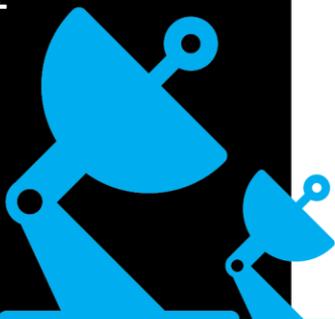
## Visit to the Beyond EO Centre at the National Observatory of Athens

On 18 September 2025, Prof. Diofantos Hadjimitsis visited the Beyond EO Centre of Excellence at the National Observatory of Athens in the framework of the EXCELSIOR project. The visit included discussions with Dr Haris Kontoes and the BEYOND team on ongoing collaboration and activities related to Earth observation research and infrastructure development.



## Meeting with the Cyprus National Commission for UNESCO

In September 2025, the ERATOSTHENES CoE held a productive meeting with the Cyprus National Commission for UNESCO to explore future cooperation. Discussions focused on Earth observation for cultural heritage, climate change impacts on monuments and landscapes, prevention of illicit trafficking through remote sensing, and joint educational and capacity-building initiatives.



## Meeting at the German Embassy on Space and Earth Observation Cooperation

A meeting held at the Embassy of Germany in Nicosia brought together representatives from the ERATOSTHENES CoE, the Embassy of Germany, and the Embassy of Hungary.

The meeting was hosted by Dr Dirk Roland Haupt, Chargé d’Affaires a.i. of the Embassy of Germany, and brought together Ms Réka Sarkadi, Trade Attachée of the Embassy of Hungary, with Mr Andreas Andreou and Prof. Andreas Anayiotos of the ERATOSTHENES CoE (with Prof. Anayiotos participating via video link).

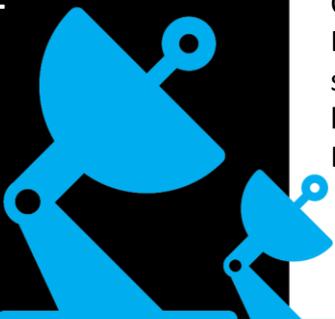
Discussions focused on strengthening collaboration in Earth Observation, geospatial analytics, cultural heritage monitoring, and space entrepreneurship, including initiatives linked to Space BIC Cyprus.



## Strategic Dialogue with India on Space and Earth Observation

On 2 September 2025, the ERATOSTHENES CoE welcomed the High Commissioner of India to Cyprus, Mr. Manish Manish, for an official meeting on opportunities for cooperation. Discussions focused on space technology and Earth observation applications, Cyprus’ role as a regional hub in the EMMENA area and strengthening scientific and technological collaboration between India and Cyprus.

Read more [here](#).

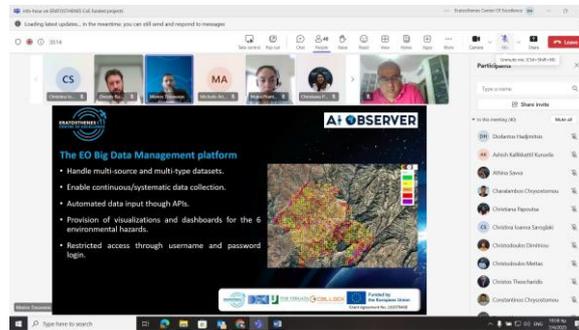




## News from Funded Projects

### Internal Info-Hour on Funded Projects

On 7 April 2025, the research staff of the ERATOSTHENES CoE took part in an internal info-hour dedicated to ongoing funded projects, aimed at strengthening interaction among researchers and fostering a cross-cluster and cross-departmental exchange culture. During the session, project overviews were presented for AI-Observer (Dr Marios Tzouvaras), CEOPS (Dr Eleni Loulli), Green-HIT (Dr Maria Prodromou), and Carbonica EU (Dr Christiana Papoutsas), encouraging knowledge sharing and internal collaboration across ERATOSTHENES.



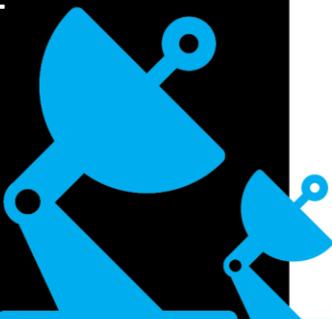
### Grant Agreement Signed for the MANIFESTO AI Project

The Grant Agreement for the MANIFESTO project, “Machine Learning for Intelligent Insect Monitoring,” was officially signed in June 2025. The project focuses on developing AI-driven solutions for intelligent insect monitoring, supporting precision agriculture and pest management. Coordinated by Dr. Michalis Mavrovouniotis,, MANIFESTO advances the use of Earth Observation and machine learning technologies towards more sustainable agricultural practices.

Read [more](#) [here](#).



ERATOSTHENES CoE Launches MANIFESTO Project



## News from Funded Projects

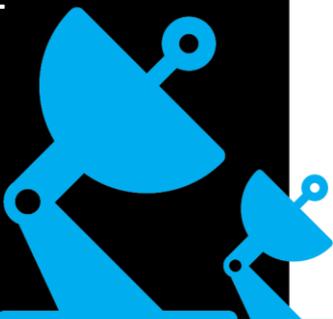
### Successful Completion of the GreenCarbonCY Project

The GreenCarbonCY research project, “Transition to green agriculture through the assessment and mitigation of carbon emissions from agricultural soils in Cyprus,” was successfully completed and presented at the ERATOSTHENES CoE. The project delivered scientifically grounded tools supporting the transition towards more sustainable and climate-resilient agricultural practices. The project was coordinated by Dr Marios Tzouvaras, with Dr Ioannis Varvaris serving as Project Manager, and implemented through a consortium of research and industry partners from Cyprus, Greece, and North Macedonia.



### Field Visit in Bulgaria within the BorderForce Project

As part of the BorderForce project, Mr Konstantinos Christofi of the ERATOSTHENES CoE participated in a field visit to Sofia in collaboration with the Bulgarian Defence Institute. The visit included on-site activities at Kalotina, along the Bulgarian–Serbian border, where operational challenges and potential sites for drone deployment were assessed, supporting technology-driven approaches to enhanced border surveillance and management.



## News from Funded Projects

### ERATOSTHENES at the Launch of the ECO-BEACHTECH Project



On 8–9 July 2025, the kick-off meeting of the ECO-BEACHTECH project took place in Mytilene, marking the official launch of the initiative. ERATOSTHENES was represented by Dr Christodoulos Mettas, Dr Neophytos Stylianou, and Ms Despoina Makri. The discussions set the foundation for coordinated and sustainable interventions in Lesvos, Lemnos, and Cyprus, strengthening collaboration in response to climate change impacts.

Read more [here](#).

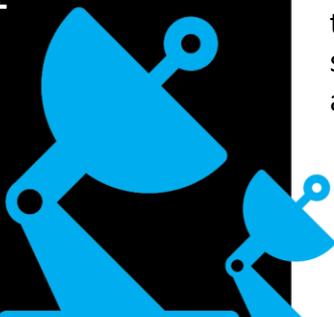
### CERBERUS: Citizen Science Advancing Crop Protection

During May and June 2025, the CERBERUS project launched its citizen science activities for large-scale pest monitoring. In collaboration with SFC and GVA, three intensive training events (bioblitzes) were organised, introducing non-professional participants to pest identification and monitoring techniques.

Through these half-day workshops, participants were trained to collect and report data via the CERBERUS cloud platform, contributing on a weekly basis to pest monitoring efforts and supporting crop protection and agricultural ecosystem health.



**Protecting  
our crops,  
together!**



## News from Funded Projects

### Final Information Event of the WATERLEAKS Project in Doros

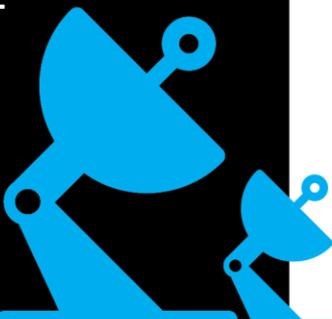
In September 2025, the final information event of the WATERLEAKS project was held at the Doros Community Council, marking the completion of an initiative funded by the Rural Development Programme 2014–2020. The project was implemented in collaboration with the Doros and Monagri Community Councils, with coordination by the ERATOSTHENES CoE.

During the event, researchers Dr Christiana Papoutsas and Mr Christos Theocharidis presented the project results, demonstrating how non-invasive technologies, including satellite and drone data, ground-penetrating radar, and acoustic sensors, were used to detect water losses in rural water supply networks. The discussion highlighted the tangible benefits of research and innovation for sustainable water management and their direct impact on local communities.



### Kick-off Meeting of the DigiFarm Erasmus+ Project

The DigiFarm Erasmus+ project officially launched with its kick-off meeting, coordinated by the ERATOSTHENES CoE together with partners from Greece, Italy, and Ireland. The project focuses on strengthening the digital skills of agricultural advisors through innovative training and open e-learning tools, supporting a smarter and more sustainable agricultural sector over the next 24 months.





## MoU Agreements

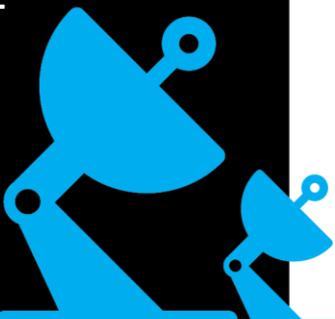
### MoU Signed with the Israel Antiquities Authority for Cultural Heritage Protection

In April 2025, the ERATOSTHENES CoE signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the Israel Antiquities Authority, establishing a framework for cooperation in cultural heritage protection across the EMMENA region. The MoU focuses on joint research, data exchange, capacity building, educational initiatives, and coordinated action against illicit trafficking of cultural heritage.



### MoU Activation with the Open University of Cyprus

On 13 June 2025, the ERATOSTHENES CoE met with Prof Georgios Deligiannakis of the Open University of Cyprus, within the framework of the signed Memorandum of Understanding. The meeting explored potential joint research and educational initiatives, opening pathways for interdisciplinary collaboration focused on the study, preservation, and promotion of Cyprus' cultural heritage.





## MoU Agreements

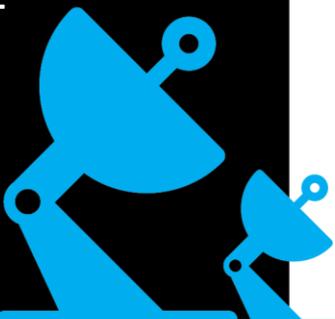
### MoU Signed with the Larnaca District Development Organization

On 10 April 2025, the ERATOSTHENES CoE signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the Larnaca District Development Organization, establishing a framework for cooperation on initiatives of public benefit. The MoU, signed by Prof Diofantos Hadjimitsis and Mr Angelos Hadjicharalambous, focuses on joint studies and projects, knowledge exchange, participation in European and national programmes, and the implementation of actions supporting innovation, improved services, and community development.



### MoU Signed with Skytrek Ltd.

On 25 June 2025, the ERATOSTHENES CoE signed a Memorandum of Understanding with Skytrek Ltd., establishing a framework for collaboration in space entrepreneurship, business innovation, and vocational training. The MoU, signed by Prof Diofantos Hadjimitsis and Mr Don Koulaouzos, focuses on training programmes, mentoring and outreach initiatives that support the growth of the space economy in Cyprus and the wider EMMENA region.





## MoU Agreements

### Cyprus–Canada Strategic Cooperation in Space and Earth Observation

On 10 July 2025, the ERATOSTHENES CoE signed a strategic MoU with the Canadian Commercial Corporation, strengthening Cyprus–Canada cooperation in Earth Observation and space technologies.

The agreement was signed by Prof Diofantos Hadjimitsis and H.E. Anna-Karine Asselin, in the presence of the Deputy Minister of Research, Innovation and Digital Policy, Dr. Nicodemos Damianou.



### MoU Signed with Neapolis University Pafos

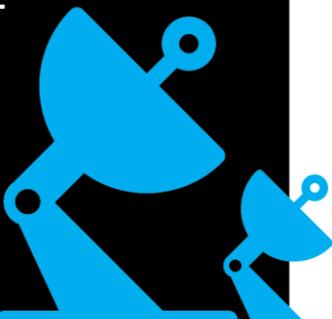


On 18 July 2025, Neapolis University Pafos and the ERATOSTHENES CoE signed a Memorandum of Understanding to strengthen academic and research collaboration.

The agreement, signed by Rector Prof. Pantelis Sklias and Managing Director Prof. Diofantos Hadjimitsis, establishes a framework for joint research, academic exchange, and future collaborative initiatives.

### ERATOSTHENES CoE & Romanian Space Agency Sign MoU

On 12 May 2025, the ERATOSTHENES CoE at the Cyprus University of Technology and the Romanian Space Agency (ROSA) signed a Memorandum of Understanding to strengthen research and academic collaboration in the fields of space, geoinformatics, and innovation. The MoU was signed online by Prof Diofantos Hadjimitsis and Dr Daniel-Eugeniu Crunțeanu in the context of SpaceFEST 2025, held in Bucharest.



## Recent Publications

### Post-Fire Restoration in Mediterranean Ecosystems

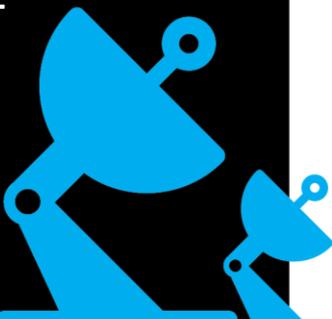
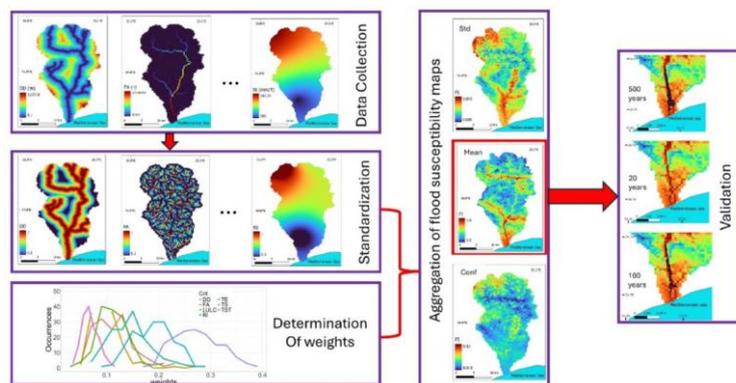
A new scientific publication in collaboration with Aristotle University of Thessaloniki and the Frederick Research Center, titled “Remote-Sensing-Based Prioritization of Post-Fire Restoration Actions in Mediterranean Ecosystems: A Case Study in Cyprus,” presents the GRESTO Index, a geospatial decision-support tool for prioritising post-fire restoration actions. Applied to the Solea wildfire in Cyprus, the model achieved an accuracy of 80.9% compared to previous restoration interventions. The study was funded by the Green HIT project under the EU Recovery and Resilience Plan (NextGenerationEU). Authors: Maria Prodromou, Ioannis Gitas, Christodoulos Mettas, Marios I. Neofytou, Kyriacos Themistocleous, Andreas Constantinides, Andreas Pamboris, Diofantos Hadjimitsis



### Flood Susceptibility Assessment

A new scientific paper titled “Probabilistic Assessment of Flood Susceptibility via a Coparticipative Multicriteria Decision Analysis” has been published in the Journal of Environmental Processes (Springer, IF: 3.7). The study was developed within the framework of the AGREEMAR PRIMA and EXCELSIOR H2020 Teaming projects and introduces a probabilistic, stakeholder-driven approach to flood susceptibility assessment, integrating Monte Carlo simulations and multicriteria decision analysis to deliver more robust and transparent results than deterministic methods.

Authors: Elissavet Feloni (University of West Attica), Kostas Aristeidou (Water Development Department of Cyprus), Marinos Eliades (ERATOSTHENES CoE)



## School / University visits

### Open Lab Days: Inspiring the Next Generation

On 5 June 2025, primary school students visited the premises of CARO and the Municipal University Library as part of the “Open Lab Days” initiative, organised by the Research and Innovation Foundation (RIF) within the EU-funded project “Mission Possible: Researchers on Board for an Inclusive and Sustainable Future”. The visits offered students hands-on exposure to research infrastructures and scientific activities.



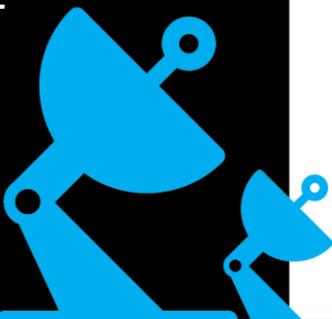
### World Oceans Day: Science Meets the Classroom

On the occasion of World Oceans Day (8 June 2025), a visit took place at the 14th Primary School of Mesa Geitonia in Limassol as part of the “Researchers in Schools” programme. Researcher Ms Despoina Makri engaged students in a discussion on the marine environment, Posidonia seagrass meadows, and the use of remote sensing and satellite data to map and protect sensitive marine ecosystems, inspiring strong interest and active participation from the pupils.



### ERATOSTHENES CoE at the CUT Summer Camp 2025

During the CUT Summer Camp 2025, members of the research team met with 80 children aged 5–13 and introduced them to the work of the Centre, remote sensing, and its role in protecting the environment and the atmosphere. Ms Mariana Chatzichristodoulou, Ms Maria Poutli, and Ms Despoina Makri engaged with young participants through discussions on science, Earth observation, and caring for our planet, inspiring curiosity and enthusiasm for environmental science.



## EXCELSIOR Project in Media

### Press Conference - New Agrometeorological Services in Cyprus

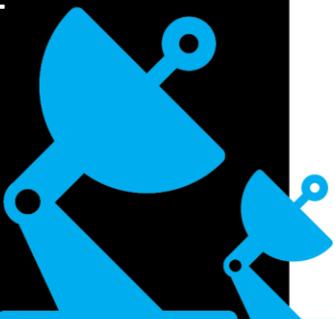
On 12 May 2025, a press conference on the presentation of upgraded Agrometeorological Services for Cyprus was held at the “Theofilos Georgiadis” Auditorium in Nicosia. The event was led by Dr Maria Panayiotou, Minister of Agriculture, Rural Development and Environment, and Dr Philippos Tymvios, Director of the Department of Meteorology, with the participation of the ERATOSTHENES CoE through the CAMS NCP project.

The initiative presented enhanced, data-driven tools supporting farmers’ decision-making by combining climate information with Earth Observation. On the sidelines of the event, discussions took place on strengthening collaboration in areas such as Artificial Intelligence, GIS, and Earth Observation technologies, with a focus on sustainable agriculture and environmental resilience.



### Recognition of Scientific Excellence

On 5 June 2025, a report aired on Cyprus Broadcasting Corporation (RIK)’s programme “Apo Mera se Mera”, highlighting the distinction of Prof Diofantos Hadjimitsis, who was ranked among the top 0.5% of scientists worldwide according to the latest ScholarGPS 2024 ranking. The feature recognised his research contribution in Civil and Environmental Engineering, Satellite Remote Sensing, and Cultural Heritage.



## EXCELSIOR Project in Media

### RIK Coverage of the 5-Year Anniversary

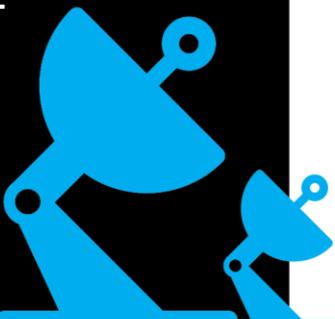
On 3 June 2025, Cyprus Broadcasting Corporation (RIK) aired a report on the anniversary event marking five years of operation of the ERATOSTHENES CoE, which took place on Tuesday, 27 May 2025, in Limassol. The coverage highlighted key moments from the celebratory ceremony and the Centre's achievements over its first five years. Watch more [here](#).



### CARBONICA Podcast: Prof Diofantos Hadjimitsis on Advancing Carbon Farming in Cyprus

On 27 June 2025, a new episode of the CARBONICA Podcast featured Prof Diofantos Hadjimitsis, discussing how carbon farming is being adapted to the specific needs of Cyprus and neighbouring regions through the CARBONICA project.

The discussion focused on addressing digital and infrastructure gaps, engaging local stakeholders, and empowering rural communities through the CARBONICA Academy, highlighting pathways towards climate-smart and resilient agricultural practices.



## EXCELSIOR Project in Media

### Professor Diofantos Hadjimitsis on RIK: Earth Observation Data Acquisition Station

On 2 July 2025, Prof Diofantos Hadjimitsis, Managing Director at the ERATOSTHENES CoE, was featured on the Cyprus Broadcasting Corporation (RIK) programme “Apo Mera se Mera”. He spoke about the installation of the Earth Observation Data Acquisition Station (DAS) and presented its capabilities, highlighting how the Station positions Cyprus within the space domain. Watch the segment [here](#).



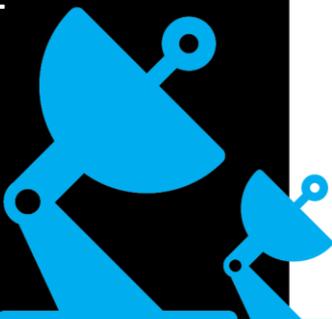
### RIK Coverage on the Earth Observation DAS Antenna

On 2 July 2025, RIK featured a news segment on the presentation of the Earth Observation Data Acquisition Station (DAS) antenna, a major investment by the ERATOSTHENES CoE. The report aired on the “8 o’Clock News” and highlighted Cyprus’ step forward in space technology and Earth observation.



### RIK Coverage of the Cyprus–Canada MoU

On 10 July 2025, RIK aired coverage of the signing of the Memorandum of Understanding between the ERATOSTHENES CoE and the Canadian Commercial Corporation, marking an important step in strengthening Cyprus–Canada cooperation in Earth Observation and space technologies. Watch [here](#).





## EXCELSIOR Project in Media

### Interview on RIK Third Programme (RIK)

On 19 July 2025, Prof Diofantos Hadjimitsis was interviewed on the RIK Third Programme, discussing recent developments at ERATOSTHENES. Key topics included the strategic MoU with the Canadian Commercial Corporation (CCC), the new academic collaboration with Neapolis University Pafos, and the installation of the advanced satellite data acquisition antenna in Cyprus, enabling near real-time Earth Observation data for disaster management, environmental monitoring, and maritime surveillance.



### CARBONICA Podcast on Brain Gain and Carbon Farming

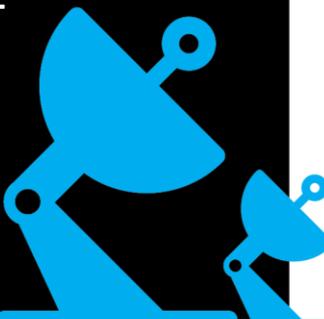
On 22 July 2025, the CARBONICA Podcast featured a discussion with Dr Marios Tzouvaras on reversing brain drain through innovation and science. The episode explored CARBONICA's brain gain strategy, the role of digital platforms such as the Carbonica Forum, and how validation and field testing support the scaling of carbon farming practices.



### New Satellite Data Reveal Scale of Limassol Wildfire



On 23 July 2025, OMEGA Channel featured new satellite analysis by the ERATOSTHENES CoE on the wildfire in mountainous Limassol. Using high-resolution PlanetScope data, the burned area was estimated at approximately 125 km<sup>2</sup>, with ESA WorldCover data showing the impact mainly on grassland, sclerophyllous and tree vegetation, and limited residential areas.





## EXCELSIOR Project in Media

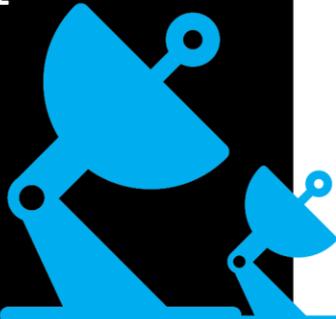
### Updated Satellite Assessment of the Limassol Wildfire

On 28 July 2025, Prof Diofantos Hadjimitsis spoke on RIK’s programme “Apo Mera se Mera” about the updated satellite-based assessment of the Limassol wildfire of 23 July 2025. Using high-resolution PlanetScope data, the burned area was estimated at 120.7 km<sup>2</sup>, around 1.3% of Cyprus’ total area. The analysis highlighted significant impacts on natural vegetation, including protected Natura 2000 areas, and underlined the role of Earth observation and atmospheric monitoring in assessing environmental impacts, supported by near real-time data from the Centre’s satellite acquisition antenna.



### Space BIC Cyprus Presented on Kanali 6

On 1 September 2025, Dr. Eleni Loulli spoke on Kanali 6 about Space BIC Cyprus, the first space-focused business incubation centre in Cyprus. The discussion highlighted the programme’s support for startups through funding of up to €50,000, mentoring from international experts, and access to global markets, strengthening innovation and entrepreneurship in the space sector.





## EXCELSIOR Project in Media

### Dr Loulli presented Space BIC on “Apo Mera se Mera”

On 26 September 2025, Dr Eleni Loulli, Coordinator of Space BIC by ERATOSTHENES CoE, was invited to speak on the RIK programme “Apo Mera se Mera”. During the interview, Dr Loulli presented Space BIC, the first space technology business incubator in Cyprus, and informed the public about the first open call for applications, highlighting opportunities for startups and innovators in the space sector.



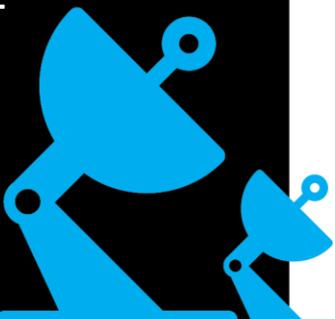
### ERATOSTHENES Centre of Excellence on Netcast Zone: From Research to Space Innovation

On 2 October 2025, Dr Eleni Loulli and Mr Andreas Andreou, guests of Mr Michalis Pitsillides, appeared on Netcast Zone to discuss the journey of the ERATOSTHENES Centre of Excellence, from its beginnings in 2007 as a small laboratory at the Cyprus University of Technology to its evolution into a Centre of Excellence in Earth Observation and Space Technologies.



### AI and Satellite Data for Disaster Preparedness

On 3 October 2025, Dr Marios Tzouvaras spoke on Kanali 6 about AI-OBSERVER, a landmark project of the ERATOSTHENES Centre of Excellence, highlighting how advanced Earth Observation technologies and AI are reshaping disaster preparedness and risk management.





## Awards and Distinctions

### Dr. Michalis Mavrovouniotis Appointed IEEE Task Force Chair

For the fourth consecutive year, Dr Michalis Mavrovouniotis, Deputy Coordinator of the Big Earth Data Analytics Department, has been appointed Chair of the IEEE Task Force on Evolutionary Computation in Dynamic and Uncertain Environments (ECiDUE). Operating under the IEEE Computational Intelligence Society, the ECiDUE Task Force brings together experts from academia and industry to advance research and innovation in evolutionary computation within dynamic and uncertain environments, a rapidly developing area of computational intelligence.



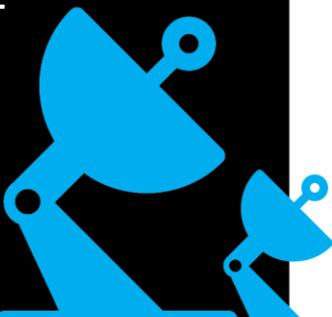
### Prof Diofantos Hadjimitsis, ranked among the top 0.5% of scientists worldwide



Prof Diofantos Hadjimitsis, Managing Director of ERATOSTHENES CoE, has been ranked among the top 0.5% of scientists worldwide by the internationally recognised ScholarGPS platform. This prestigious recognition highlights Prof. Hadjimitsis’ outstanding scientific contributions in the fields of Civil and Environmental Engineering, Remote Sensing, Satellite Imagery, and Cultural Heritage, reinforcing the Centre’s position as a hub of academic excellence. More information [here](#).

### Best Paper Award at EMCEI 2025

Ms Despoina Makri received the Best Paper Award in Track 08: Remote Sensing and GIS for Environmental Monitoring and Management at the Euro-Mediterranean Conference for Environmental Integration (EMCEI 2025). Her presentation, titled “Seagrass Mapping in Cyprus using Cloud Computing and Machine Learning”, focused on the use of Sentinel satellite data, Google Earth Engine, and classification algorithms to support environmental monitoring and the protection of coastal ecosystems.





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