

Green Business Innovation Challenge

Empowering Local Governance for Sustainable Economic Growth through a network of Green Business Innovation Hubs

Date: March 27, 2026

Time: 09:00 - 15:30

Location: Elias Beach Hotel, Limassol

SPEAKERS



Dr. Georgia Sakka is an Assistant Professor of Marketing, Corporate Social Responsibility and Sustainability at the University of Limassol, Vice Chair of the Department of Management, and Director of the Master's Program "Green Transition and Sustainable Development." Her academic and research activities focus on the strategic integration of sustainability into organizations, responsible leadership, the role of communication in the sustainable transition, and the development of green skills. She has published in prestigious international scientific journals and actively participates in European research projects and initiatives that promote green skills, sustainable entrepreneurship, and organizational transformation toward sustainability.



Ioanna Panayiotou is a Biologist and graduate of the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki. She holds an MBA and a degree in Theology. She is a Certified Management Consultant, a Certified Vocational Education and Training Trainer, and holds the Chief Sustainability Officer Professional certification. She currently serves as Chief Operating and Sustainability Officer at the UoL. From 2013 to 2019, she served as Commissioner for the Environment of the Republic of Cyprus. Between 1988 and 2019, she owned and operated a winery in Agios Amvrosios, Limassol, where she established the first organically cultivated vineyard in Cyprus, producing the first certified organic Cypriot wine. She is a member of the Leadership Council of SDSN Cyprus, a member of the Board of Directors of the Cyprus Institute of Certified Management Consultants, and an honorary member of the Cyprus Organic Association.



Dr. Afxentis Afxentiou is Director of the Research Center at the University of Limassol, where he leads the identification of funding opportunities and supports the strategic development of research activity across the University. His work focuses on strengthening research capacity, fostering international collaborations, and supporting the development of competitive research and innovation projects.

He has extensive experience in the design, preparation, and implementation of research and innovation projects, with particular expertise in European funding programmes. He has served as Principal Investigator on several EU-funded projects under programmes such as Erasmus+, AMIF, COSME, CERV, and Horizon Europe, and has supported the development of numerous competitive proposals across different thematic areas. His work includes advising researchers on project design, consortium building, proposal writing, and compliance with funding requirements.

AGENDA

09:00 - 09:15

Welcome - Participant check-in

09:15 - 09:45

SUSTAINET driving sustainable change:
Why does this challenge matter!
Project purpose and objectives
Speaker: Georgia Sakka-Vronti

9:45 - 10:30

Interactive Working Session Part 1
Green Business Innovation, Problems and Challenges
Speaker: Georgia Sakka-Vronti

10:30 - 11:00

Experts Talk
Sustainability and Strategic Planning
Βιωσιμότητα και Στρατηγικός Σχεδιασμός
Speaker: Ioanna Panayiotou

11:00 - 11:30

Experts Talk
Corporate Social Responsibility and Sustainability as a Strategic Advantage for Modern Businesses
Εταιρική Κοινωνική Ευθύνη και Βιωσιμότητα ως Στρατηγικό Πλεονέκτημα για τις Σύγχρονες Επιχειρήσεις
Speaker: Georgia Sakka-Vronti

11:30 - 12:00

Experts Talk
Financing the Green Transition
Funding opportunities session
Χρηματοδότηση της Πράσινης Μετάβασης
Ευκαιρίες Χρηματοδότησης
Speaker: Afxentis Afxentiou

12:00 - 13:00

Lunch break and Networking

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Stella Komodromou is an environmental management consultant specializing in the assessment and mitigation of environmental and social impacts resulting from the construction and operation of projects and businesses. She also writes and manages competitive and co-funded programs in the fields of green entrepreneurship, the circular economy, and civic engagement. Company: ENGINEER 4U CONSULTANTS L.L.C.

AGENDA

13:00 - 13:40

Experts Talk

Environmental Sustainability as a Competitive Advantage

Η περιβαλλοντική βιωσιμότητα ως ανταγωνιστικό πλεονέκτημα

Speaker: Stella Komodromou

13:40 - 14:30

Mentoring for a Greener Market Edge

Mentoring session

Speakers: Business experts

14:30 - 15:20

Interactive Working Session Part 2

Green Business Innovation, Solutions, Vision and Impact

Speaker: Georgia Sakka-Vronti

15:20 - 15:30

Evaluation and Closing

Speaker: Georgia Sakka-Vronti



Registration is required using this [link](#)