

Event:
Date:
Place:

ENERGY in BUILDINGS 2018
Saturday November 3, 2018
Athens, Hellas



#	Dr. Christos Vlachokostas Mechanical Engineer	
Title:	- Board Member Technical Chamber of Greece / Region of Central Macedonia - Former Vice President of the General Assembly of Technical Chamber Greece - School of Mechanical Engineering, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki - Adjunct Professor, Climate Change and Energy Strategies, MSc Sustainable Development, International Hellenic University	
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Presentation title:	Motives and Tools to Enable Citizens to Become “Smart Consumers”: A “Socially-Oriented” Approach Towards Smart Energy Consumption In Buildings.	
Buildings exert significant environmental load attributed to energy consumption (heating, cooling, lighting, cooking). Although key areas for improvement are well known and promoted in the building sector, energy efficiency and rationalization of the use of energy are still the core of the problem. Both “Smart Buildings” and “Smart Consumers” is all about “Smart Citizens”, who are concerned about increasing the quality of life of their fellow-citizens and about protecting their environment. Research into the determinants of environmental behavior has shown that an improvement of the <u>individual and collective behavior</u> can be obtained if consumers/citizens are more exposed to information and engaged as part of a community. In order to promote energy efficiency and rational use of energy in buildings, the combination of networks of people, knowledge and sensors is necessary. This is usually addressed separately, with a top-down approach (from policy-makers & authorities) and not in a holistic way. Accomplishing this challenge, provision of motives, incentives and smart tools for citizens are required in order to change their lifestyles and behavior in a more sustainable way. ICT tools are critical, to put forward a “socially-oriented” hybrid approach. Hybrid in terms of combining a top-down (from authorities to consumers) and a bottom-up approach (from consumers to authorities). Collective awareness for a hybrid participatory effort is the basis to effectively improve energy efficiency and promote rational use of energy in the building sector. A Collaborative Awareness Platform (CAP), can facilitate decision-making by providing increased transparency as well as opportunities for citizens’ empowerment in order to fully collaborate and promote better informed decision-making processes. A CAP is an ICT approach that empowers consumers, through participation and interaction to adopt more sustainable individual and collective behaviors and lifestyles in order to improve energy efficiency and rational use of energy in buildings.		

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CV:

Dr. Christos Vlachokostas graduated from the School of Engineering, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki (AUT), with a degree in Mechanical Engineering, where he also continued his studies with the MSc in Industrial Engineering in 2002, giving emphasis in the thematic areas of Decision Support Systems, Business Strategic Management, Operations Research, Optimization and Statistical Analysis. In 2009, he received his PhD, a multi-disciplinary study in the fields of Environmental Management, Environmental Economics, Externalities and Pollution Control from the School of Engineering, AUT. His PhD study was awarded with the Environmental Sensitivity Prize «OIKOPOLIS 2009» from the largest Hellenic non-profit environmental organization ECOCITY.

He has been involved in numerous EU research projects dealing with Policies for Sustainability, Environmental Assessment and Management Systems, Environmental Engineering, Environmental Monitoring and Informatics, Sustainability Indicators, Integrated Assessment, Cost-Benefit Analysis, Urban Air Pollution, Human Exposure, Environmental Impact Assessment, Multi-Criteria Decision Analysis and Energy Systems. He is also a senior researcher (group leader) of the Laboratory of Heat Transfer and Environmental Engineering, which belongs to the Energy Sector of the Mechanical Engineering Department (AUT). He belongs to the Teaching and Laboratory Staff at the same Department, with main subject appointed "Environmental Management and Policies for Sustainability". He is also a teaching assistant for the Heat Transfer lectures (core course – 5th semester), Introduction to Environmental Engineering and Air Pollution lectures (2 core courses in the specialisation cycle: «Environment and Pollution Control Technology») of the Mechanical Engineering Department. He has supervised more than of 45 Diploma Thesis and 13 Student project works.

Dr. Vlachokostas is a Visiting Lecturer, Climate Change and Energy Strategies, MSc Environmental Management and Sustainability Development, International Hellenic University. He is the author of more than 100 scientific publications, including more than 40 papers in peer-reviewed high impact factor journals (average impact factor 10/2018 = 2.65, 1138 citations, h-factor 17). He is also a peer reviewer for 22 international scientific environmental journals. He is the Deputy Secretary for Organizational Evaluation and Training of the New Democracy Party and was the Vice-President of the General Assembly of the Technical Chamber of Greece (2014 – 2017). Among others, he has been a member of the administrative board of the Institute of Adult Continuing Education, General Secretariat of Continuing Education, Ministry of National Education and Religious Affairs (April 2009 – April 2010), the General Secretary of the Economic and Social Council of Thessaloniki Prefecture (May 2007 – August 2009) and the Treasurer of the Hellenic Association of Mechanical and Electrical Engineers (May 2006 – May 2008).