


Event:
Date:
Place:

Energy in Buildings Athens Conference 2023

Saturday November 11, 2023
Grand Hyatt Athens, Hellas



#	Constantinos A. Balaras Dr Mechanical Engineer, FASHRAE	
Title:	Research Director, Institute for Environmental Research & Sustainable Development, National Observatory of Athens, Greece	
email:	costas@noa.gr	•
Presentation title:	Sustainable Mediterranean Cities	
<p>Over the decades the EU has introduced and implemented numerous policies and supporting legislations to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, increase the use of renewables, improve energy efficiency, reduce energy import dependency and move towards a secure, competitive and sustainable energy system for serving people and protecting the environment. The buildings sector represents about 40% of the EU total final energy consumption and about a quarter of GHG emissions as a result of their operation. As a result, the increase of energy efficiency in new and existing buildings has attracted a lot of attention and is at the center stage of the EU energy policy framework. The focus is on setting similar minimum requirements for the major renovation of existing buildings and for developing long-term strategies for the decarbonisation of European buildings by 2050. This is going to be a very demanding process that will mandate proper financing instruments, and offer tremendous business opportunities for the buildings construction, related industries and professionals.</p> <p>The emerging challenge is to address sustainability. In this direction, buildings and the built environment in cities are seen as both a source of, and solution to, today's economic, environmental and social challenges. However, stakeholders often lack advanced knowledge on the sustainability issues involved and access to practical tools that match the local priorities to diagnose and evaluate the current state, analyse, assess and rank different scenarios, and monitor implementation and progress towards meeting sustainable development goals and local priorities. A transnational collaborative effort developed an assessment system that addresses the main sustainability issues (e.g., site and infrastructure, urban systems, energy and natural resources, emissions and environment, service quality, social aspects, economy) and can be used to support the decision-making process for rating the sustainability at building, neighbourhood and city scale, and facilitate professionals and public administrations to develop effective sustainability plans.</p>		
Short CV:	<p>Mechanical engineer, research director at the Institute for Environmental Research and Sustainable Development, in the National Observatory of Athens, Greece, a public research organization. Active in the areas of high performance sustainable buildings and decarbonization, sustainable cities, building energy audits & diagnosis, environmental impact of buildings. Participated in over 60 R&D and demonstration projects, with his research resulting in over 350 archival publications. ASHRAE Fellow and currently serving on ASHRAE Technology Council, Nominating Committee, SPC240P proposed standard for calculating GHG emissions, and TC 6.7 on Solar and Other Renewable Energies.</p>	

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CV:

Mechanical engineer, research director at the Institute for Environmental Research and Sustainable Development, in the National Observatory of Athens, Greece. Over 30 years of professional experience and R&D in the area of Renewable Energy Sources -Energy Conservation. Active in the areas of high performance sustainable buildings and decarbonization, sustainability assessment of buildings-neighborhoods-cities, thermal and solar applications, building energy audits-diagnosis and retrofitting, environmental impact of buildings, solar air-conditioning. Instrumental in the national EPBD transposition efforts. Current group activities focus on building typologies (TABULA & EPISCOPE) and Hellenic building stock analysis prioritizing refurbishment actions, collection of real energy consumption data from dwellings and behavioral role of occupants, sustainable neighborhoods and cities, decarbonization of buildings, operational and embodied energy/carbon intensities. Participated in over 60 R&D and demonstration projects financed by the European Commission, national ministries and organizations, and the private sector, with his research resulting in over 350 archival journal papers, books and conference proceedings. Served on ASHRAE Board of Directors as DAL (2007-10), Society Vice President (2011-13), and DRC Region XIV – Europe (2017-20), and serves on several Standards and Technical Committees. ASHRAE Fellow, recipient of ASHRAE Exceptional Service Award (ESA), ASHRAE John F. James International Award, ASHRAE Distinguished Service Award (DSA). Member of the Hellenic Technical Chamber as a Professional Engineer. Currently serving on ASHRAE Technology Council, Nominating Committee, SPC240P proposed standard for calculating GHG emissions, and TC 6.7 on Solar and Other Renewable Energies. More info: <https://groupenergyconservation.com/>
<https://www.facebook.com/GRoupEnergyConservation>
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