

ENERGY and DEVELOPMENT COOPERATIVE of SIFNOS

"Sifnos Island Cooperative"



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RENEWABLE ENERGY COOPERATIVES

How they can be promoted, especially on the Greek Islands

Conference, Saturday 06/09/2014, 10.30- 14.30

Prokos Foundation Hall, Apollonia, Sifnos

The Energy and Development Cooperative of Sifnos, the European Federation of National Groups and Cooperatives of Citizens for Renewable Energy (RESCoop.eu), the European Sustainable Energy Youth Network and the green Heinrich-Böll-Foundation Greece, invite you to participate in the international conference for the promotion of renewable energy cooperatives on the Greek islands.

With participating speakers from Greece and the rest of Europe there will be a discussion on the necessities for the transition to an era without fossil fuels for environmental, energy, financial and social reasons. In particular, the experiences of European energy cooperatives will be presented and the challenges, the difficulties and the opportunities for their promotion in the European south and especially in the Greek islands will be analyzed. Also, the possibilities for financing the necessary investments of energy cooperatives through the use of innovative tools and through European programs will be examined. Finally, members of the Sustainable Energy Youth Network will present ways for the participation of youth in the promotion of cooperative practices.

Participation in the conference is free. Speeches will be in Greek and English with interpretation. You are kindly requested to register your participation, either by phone on (+30) 22840-31030 or by e-mail to: info@sifnosislandcoop.gr

Participants to the conference will cover their own expenses, but the Sifnos Island Cooperative can help with proposing suitable options for your stay on the island.

The workshop takes place in collaboration with the Cultural Association of Sifnos, who organizes on Sifnos the 8th Gastronomy Festival "N. Tselementes", from the 4th to the 6th of September, in which institutions and individuals from many islands participate. With this opportunity, many islanders will be able to participate in the international workshop on energy.



Program

10.00-10.30: **Registration**

10.30-10.40: **Opening - Introductory greetings**

Andreas Babounis, Mayor of Sifnos

Apostolos Dimopoulos, Chairman of Governing Board, Sifnos Island Cooperative

Chrysanthos Vlamis, Heinrich-Böll-Foundation Greece

10.45-12.15

European policy on energy and climate protection and the contribution of energy cooperatives to the economy, the environment and the local economy

Climate change and the transition to a low carbon economy. The role and the potential of RES in the European South,

Alkisti Florou, E.C. Program on Climate Policies, European Climate Foundation, Brussels

Common and public goods in the hands of citizens for the benefit of their communities,

Dirk Knapen, European Federation of National Groups and Cooperatives of Citizens for Renewable Energy [RESCoop.eu], Brussels

Experiences from the creation of energy cooperatives in Croatia and introduction to the “Civil Energy” program,

Robert Pasicko, U.N. Development Program “Energy and Environment”, Zagreb

Strengthening participation of youth in the sector of renewable energy,

Marina Petrovic, “Green Energy” Cooperative, Zagreb

Jamie Peters, Co-director of UK Youth Climate Coalition [UKYCC], Glasgow

Coordinator: Nikos Chrysogelos

12.15-12.30 Coffee brake

12.30 - 13.30

Experiences from programs on “sustainable energy” on islands

Energy Planning for Sifnos- Present Situation and Prospects,
Kostas Komninos, Network DAFNI

The plans of Sifnos Island Cooperative,
Apostolos Dimopoulos, Chairman of Governing Board of Sifnos Island Cooperative

The green energy (r)evolution and how citizens and communities could participate,
Nikos Chrysogelos, ex GREEN European Parliament Member

Good and bad examples of sustainable energy programs on islands,
Panos Korogiannakis, European Islands Network on Energy & Environment [ISLENET] and
Conference of Peripheral Maritime Regions [CPMR], Brussels office

Sustainable Location of RES Units on the islands,
Charis Tsoutsos, Associate Professor, Technical University of Crete, Head of Laboratory
of Renewable and Sustainable Energy Systems (connection through Skype)

Coordinator: Giannis Gyllis, member of Sifnos Island Cooperative

13.30 - 14.30 Questions - answers - comments - discussion.

Conclusions and closure

Coordinator: Apostolos Dimopoulos, Chrysanthos Vlamis

Contact persons:

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From the founding declaration of the Energy and Development Cooperative of Sifnos

“The saving of energy and the promotion of renewable energy resources for the benefit of the environment and the local community has a wide scope and symbolism, it is a tool to reduce family expenses but also to keep in Sifnos large amounts of money, millions of euros, that today we give away to import oil, so we can have electricity, heating and transportation. In that manner, we can strengthen the local economy, the employment and the prosperity of our island and develop a sustainable economy of Sifnians themselves, which will complement and connect with the other economic activities on the island. If it is us who make the choices, we will organize solutions and we will make choices that are compatible with the beauty and the characteristics of our environment.” Our cooperative is already enlisted on the map of the European Federation of RES citizen Cooperatives which you can see by clicking on the following link: www.rescoop.eu/rescoop-map

www.sifnosislandcoop.gr

The objectives of REScoop

REScoop 20-20-20 is an initiative launched by the Federation of groups and cooperatives of citizens for renewable energy in Europe with the support of the Intelligent Energy Europe Program (European Commission). Twelve organizations in seven countries have joined forces to increase the number of successful citizen-led renewable energy projects across Europe. To speed up local renewable energy projects in order to achieve the European 20-20-20 energy goals by increasing the involvement of citizens. Specifically, REScoop 20-20-20 aims to increase the social acceptance of new renewable energy installations by sharing practical knowledge about setting up and running local, citizen controlled Renewable Energy Sources cooperatives (or REScoops) across Europe. The overall goal is to speed up the creation of RES projects and related cooperatives in various Member States.

www.rescoop.eu

The Heinrich-Böll-Foundation Greece

The objective of the Heinrich-Böll-Foundation is to support individuals in their visions and actions aiming at the development of a sustainable, social-ecological form of economy which strengthens in the present as well as in the future social cohesion and offers to them an independent life which they will be able to support through their work. Such a form of development is possible also in Greece. Within the context of the Green New Deal, the Green Social Contract, which aims to a new economic-ecological industrial revolution, many new jobs can be created in sectors such as the sustainable energy production, the green transportations and the sustainable waste management. More and more citizen initiatives support and protect the public collective goods such as the clean air, the drinking water, the public space, the education and their health. The Heinrich-Böll-Foundation Greece supports the socio-ecological and participative spirit that is being developed for Greece's exit from the crisis through publications, movies, trainings, open discussions and conferences and by supporting the collaboration of the Municipalities with organizations and citizen's initiatives.

www.gr.boell.org