

Sustainable Construction in Public and Private Works through IPP approach

Minutes of the 6th Meeting of SUSCON Partners held in Nicosia on Monday June 2, 2008



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1. Introduction

Within the context of implementing the SUSCON programme, the 6th meeting between the partners was held in Nicosia on Monday June 2, 2008.

The meeting was organised by CYBARCO PLC and took place at CYBARCO Head Offices in Nicosia. The main objectives of the meeting were to:

- · Review the work completed up-to-date,
- Assess the implementation progress,
- Discuss the problems encountered and foreseen,
- Plan future actions.

2. Participants

Partner	Participants				
National Technical University of Athens	Mr Konstantinos Moustakas				
(NTUA)	Mr Marios Maurogiannos				
EPTA Ltd	Ms Vasiliki Missa				
University of Cyprus (UCY)	Ms Margarita Vatyliotou				
CYBARCO	Mr Panikos Palochis				
EDRASIS	Ms Dionysia Nikolakopoulou				
EDRASIS	Mr Georgios Hatzoglou				
Cyprus Scientific and Technical Chamber					
(ETEK)	-				
Other Participants					
Dr. Christina Marouli – LIFE External Monitoring Team					





3. Meeting Agenda

9:15 – 9:30	Arrival of participants
9:30 – 9:45	Welcome Speech - Introduction Mr Panikos Palochis (CYBARCO) Dr. Chr. Marouli (LIFE external monitoring team)
9:45 – 10:00	Progress of the SUSCON project Mr K. Moustakas (NTUA)
10:00 – 10.30	Task 5: Application of the software tool in Cyprus – Work for the determination of default weight values for the basic criteria groups per building type Mr P. Palochis (CYBARCO)
10:30 – 11:00	Application of the software tool in Greece – Work for the determination of default weight values for the basic criteria groups per building type Ms D. Nikolakopoulou (EDRASIS)
11:00 – 11:15	Discussion
11:15 – 11.30	Coffee Break
11:30 – 11:50	Information Event in Greece (23 May 2008) – 2 nd Sustainable Construction Competition in Greece (for buildings) Ms V. Missa (EPTA)
11:50 – 12:15	Evaluation of the proposals submitted in the framework of the 1 st Sustainable Construction Competition in Cyprus - Ceremony for the prizes – Dissemination activities <i>Ms M. Vatyliotou (UCY)</i>
12:15 – 13:15	Discussion - Main Issues addressed: suggestions for institutional arrangements and corrective action plan conference organisation (determination of invited speakers, venue) suggestions for the improvement of the sustainable construction database dissemination activities
13:15 – 13:30	Closing
	Dr. Chr. Marouli (LIFE external monitoring team)
	All partners





4. Minutes of the meeting

The meeting started with the welcoming speech by **Mr Palochis (CYBARCO)**. Mr Palochis welcomed all the participants and especially Dr. Christina Marouli from the LIFE external monitoring team and outlined the importance of this meeting as the project is close to its end.

Mr Moustakas (NTUA) proceeded with a presentation on the progress of the SUSCON project. Mr Moustakas' presentation included the following:

- An introduction to the general aims and objectives of the SUSCON project,
- An overview of the project's Tasks and Actions and the project's results per action,
- A discussion on critical issues regarding the project management.

Specifically, Mr Moustakas referred to the following:

Task 1 – Management and Reporting to the EC: A reference was made to the previous project meetings. It was also noted that a reply was received in May 2008 on the revised interim report that was submitted early in January 2008 and that there was no EC feedback on the second progress report (submitted in February 2008) yet. The Final Report of the project has to be submitted in December 2008 at the latest, therefore, all the project partners were invited to report their entire project costs (within the project timeframe) and to prepare the relevant fields of the technical part.

In *Greece*, three *Advisory Board Meetings* were organised; the last one on March 28, 2008. Four *Advisory Board Meetings* have taken place *in Cyprus* the last one on April 3, 2008. The presentation of the developed tool was the main issue addressed during the last Advisory Board Meeting in Greece and Cyprus. In the Final Conference in Athens that will take place in September 2008, the Advisory Board Members will be invited and can make recommendations.

Task 2 - Analysis and Documentation of the Construction Sector in Greece, Cyprus and EU level: Two deliverables have been prepared for this TASK:

- An analysis of the construction sector in Greece and Cyprus,
- An Environmental Impact Assessment of the Construction Activities in Greece and Cyprus.

Task 3 - Life Cycle Analysis (LCA) in two construction activities. The deliverables of this task are:

- Report on best available practices,
- Life Cycle Assessment of an Office Building,





Life Cycle Assessment of Road Pavement.

The results of the two case studies for which an LCA was conducted were summarised.

Task 4 - Development of eco-design criteria: The ecodesign matrix and checklist for the construction industry has been developed and a relevant ecodesign criteria study has been conducted.

Task 5 - Application of eco-design criteria in construction: The software for the evaluation of the environmental performance of construction works was produced and both construction companies involved in the project, EDRASIS and CYBARCO applied this tool during February – March 2008 in order to evaluate the environmental performance of certain buildings (2 in Greece and 2 in Cyprus). The implementation results were presented during the 5th project meeting in Athens (April 2008). Following the implementation, the two construction companies suggested modifications improvement of the tool. Upon its revision, the tool will be distributed to a number of stakeholders in both the private and the public sectors. In addition, the tool was made available to a number of students and engineers in order to test its applicability and to suggest improvements. Regarding the recommendations for national institutional arrangements, a number of recommendations were suggested by the Advisory Board members in the last Advisory Board meetings in both Greece and Cyprus.

Task 6: Online Database for the Construction Industry: Dr. Marouli (LIFE External monitoring team) referred to the need of updating, and supplementing the EUpalinus Database with a number of relevant documents, legislations, studies and links (to the SUSCON website and a number of websites relevant to the field of sustainable construction). Ms Vatyliotou (UCY) suggested each partner could be responsible for updating each relevant sector of the database to which Mr Moustakas (NTUA) agreed. It was finally agreed that each partner could provide their feedback until the end of June on how the EUpalinus database could be further improved.

Task 7: Dissemination: The importance of disseminating the project results was highlighted and reference was made to the organisation of the Sustainable Construction Competition in both countries. **Mr Moustakas** (NTUA) highlighted the large number of articles and press releases in both countries. Reference was made to the one-day event in Athens entitled "Sustainable Construction in Greece: Successful case studies and practices" which took place on May 23, 2008 at the ECOTEC 08 – Environmental Technologies exhibition. Approximately 100 people attended this event which focused on sustainable construction building practices. Reference was also made to the Prize Award Ceremony of the 1st Cypriot Sustainable Construction Competition that would be held on June 3, 2008 and the final





conference on September 18, 2008, both expected to attract a significant number of stakeholders.

Mr Palochis (CYBARCO) presented the results obtained from the application of the software tool to:

- 1. Building Facilities of the Faculty of Economics and Management (University of Cyprus)
- 2. Building Facilities of the Faculty of Pure and Applied Sciences

Ms Nikolakopoulou (EDRASIS) presented the results obtained from the application of the software to:

- 1. Recreational and Trading Center with Underground Car Station, at 373-375 Acharnon str. and 1 Destouni str., Athens.
- 2. New Offices Building with Pilotis and Parking Areas and Storage Areas in the Basement in the Municipality of Nea Ionia Attikis.

Both Mr Palochis and Ms Nikolakopoulou's presentations were made in order to inform Dr. Christina Marouli from the LIFE external monitoring team of: (a) the relevant software (tool) development and (b) the comments suggested by the two partner construction companies to further improve the relevant tool and make it more flexible and functional.

Following her presentation, Ms Nikolakopoulou referred to a suggestion proposed by EDRASIS in order to indicate which of the parameters considered in the software tool are important according to the type and operation of the building. The different building types included to this reference were the following: Detached houses, apartments (buildings and houses), hospitals, offices and educational buildings, commercial buildings and cultural centres, industrial buildings, hotels and restaurants. The parameters on which particular emphasis could be given for each specific are type shown in detail in the SUSCON website: building http://www.uest.gr/suscon/Activities/activities.html.

Afterwards, **Ms Missa (EPTA)** presented the dissemination activities in Greece with emphasis on the first Sustainable Construction Competition. Ms Missa highlighted the importance of the first Sustainable Construction competition in Greece which was organised by the Greek Association of Environmental Protection Companies (PASEPPE). The competition commencement was announced in October 2007 and the submission period was extended until February 2008. This effort was integrated with the Greek Business Awards for the Environment, as part of the European Awards for the Environment. As a result of this effort, the idea for the potential creation of a new permanent category related to sustainable construction to the European Awards for the environment was discussed. For this first time in Greece the sustainable construction category was included to the permanent categories of the competition. Despite the wide dissemination of the competition there





was a very low response on behalf of the possible candidates (construction companies and end-users). The Greek partners decided to organise a second competition, the award ceremony of which will be combined with the Final Conference in September 2008. Ms Missa stated that the second competition, which would only refer to buildings, would be announced within June 2008 and that the submission deadline will be July 31, 2008. A number of architects and stakeholders were already informed on the organisation of this competition at the information event which took place on May 23, 2008 in Greece (ECOTEC 08 - Environmental Technologies exhibition).

Ms Vatyliotou (UCY) proceeded with a detailed presentation on the extensive dissemination activities in Cyprus since the commencement of the project. This included reference to the various press releases and publications in technical magazines, participation to events, presentations and radio interviews given. The presentation focused on the organisation of the Cypriot Sustainable Construction Competition:

- The competition was organised by the University of Cyprus in collaboration with the Scientific and Technical Chamber of Cyprus and CYBARCO PLC. It was announced on November 1, 2007 and the submission period was extended until the end of January, 2008.
- Reference was made to the wide dissemination of the competition and to the eight works submitted (four in the *Buildings* category and four in the *Infrastructure Works* category).
- All the construction works submitted were visited by the Assessment Committee at the end of February / beginning of March 2008 and the final decision (following the Assessment Committee members' evaluation) was taken on March 24, 2008. For the *Building Award* category it was decided that the second award will be given to the "Office Building of Electricity Authority of Cyprus", while for the *Infrastructure Works* category the second award will be given to both "Upgrading of Platres-Prodromos Roadworks" and "Upgrading of the Limassol By-Pass Agios Athanasios Roundabout" works. The infrastructure work entitled "Upgrading of Kalopanagiotis village centre" would be awarded the third prize.

In closing, Ms Vatyliotou referred to the dissemination activities planned by the Cypriot partners following the completion of the competition. It was mentioned that the results had already been included in the websites of the SUSCON project, UCY and ETEK and that the results were made available to the daily press and the relevant associations represented in the Assessment Committee for further publicity. Ms Vatyliotou also referred to the Prize Award Ceremony of the 1st Cypriot Sustainable Construction Competition that would be held on June 3, 2008. The ceremony would include a presentation for each work to be awarded, an exhibition of all the candidate works, presentations and welcoming addresses by the relevant Ministers' representatives.





After the completion of the presentations by the project partners, **a number of issues were discussed**. These included:

- 1. Applicability and elaboration of the tool: Ms Nikolakopoulou (EDRASIS) suggested assigning default weights to specific parameters of each building type. An indication of which parameters should be considered more important for specific building types was presented by Ms Nikolakopoulou and Mr Chatzoglou (EDRASIS). Mr Palochis (CYBARCO) mentioned that such a categorisation would prove useful as a different approach was evident by a number of people involved in the application of the tool. This depended on:
 - Direct or indirect involvement to the specific construction work,
 - Whether the person had an extensive knowledge on a number of technical issues and new construction methods and technologies,
 - The exact profession and position of the person applying the tool (i.e. whether an architect, a civil engineer, a mechanical engineer etc.).

Concerning the specific criteria used in the tool it was agreed that a number of them could be more general rather than specific so that the tool could be more widely applied (e.g. for a number of criteria in the Energy parameters). NTUA will be in close collaboration with the rest of the partners and especially CYBARCO and EDRASIS in order to further improve the "Building Design and Assessment Tool" until the completion of the project (September 2008).

- 2. Establishment of a Corrective Action Plan: Dr. Marouli (LIFE External monitoring team) suggested that EDRASIS should proceed with their recommendations in order to assign specific weighting to a number of parameters according to the building type. She also added that both CYBARCO and EDRASIS should proceed in establishing a Corrective Action Plan before the completion of the project as suggested in the project proposal. This plan could be implemented on a micro level by the two construction companies in order to be used by their employers before or after a specific construction work. This plan could also include applying the specific tool on a number of projects in order to assess their environmental performance prior to or after construction. The EDRASIS recommendations on the building categorisation could also be included in the Corrective Action Plan.
- 3. Drafting National Institutional Arrangements: Dr. Marouli made a number of recommendations related to Drafting National Institutional Arrangements. She mentioned that a number of recommendations should be prepared by the project partners including specific actions for enhancing sustainable construction practices and for assessing the environmental performance of construction works in both countries. These recommendations should be included in a relevant report and disseminated to the relevant stakeholders in both countries. Ms





Vatyliotou (UCY) and Mr Moustakas (NTUA) mentioned that a number of such recommendations had already been discussed with the stakeholders during the last Advisory Board meeting in both Cyprus and Greece, respectively. These recommendations were included in the minutes of the respective meetings and are available through the SUSCON website.

- 4. Lobbying log-book: **Dr. Marouli** highlighted that specific emphasis should be given to the presentation of the national institutional arrangements report to the relevant ministries and organisations and that these presentations (or epistles) along with the decisions taken should be registered in a lobbying log-book (deliverable) also including the relevant dates.
- 5. Second Sustainable Construction Competition in Greece: Ms Missa (EPTA) stated that the main focus of the Greek partners until the end of June would be the organisation of the Second Sustainable Construction Competition which would only refer to buildings. Ms Missa mentioned that due to the close collaboration with NTUA, a number of students will be assisting the interested stakeholders (involved engineers and construction companies) in completing the relevant application form in order to enter the competition. The competition will be announced within June and the deadline will be 31 July 2008. The Prize Award Ceremony for this competition will be combined with the organisation of the Final Conference that will take place on 18 September 2008 in Athens.
- 6. Final Conference in Greece: In view of the Final Conference that will be held on September 18 a number of possible speakers need to be invited. Mr Moustakas (NTUA) mentioned that a number of professors relevant to the field (e.g. bioclimatic design, energy consumption reduction practices, sustainable construction) will be invited by NTUA to participate. All the project partners were invited to express their views on possible invited speakers the latest by the end of July 2008.
- 7. Last SUSCON meeting in Athens: The last SUSCON meeting will take place on September 19, one day after the Conference in Athens. In view of the preparation of the Final Report, both Administrative and Financial Issues will be discussed in this meeting, therefore, the participation of all the project partners is considered critical. It was agreed that UCY could assist the rest of the Cypriot partners in preparing the relevant financial documents for the report.
- 8. EUpalinus Database for Sustainable Construction: **Dr. Marouli** expressed the need of updating the EUpalinus Database so that more relevant studies, legal documents and reports are included for each sector of the database (Integrated Product Policy, Ecodesign, Materials and Components, Construction, Use and Maintenance, Demolition, Supportive legislation, Case Strudies). Dr. Marouli stated that it is very important that contact details are provided in the database in order to be more interactive.





9. Dissemination Activities: Mr Moustakas (NTUA) mentioned that NTUA will further publicise the SUSCON results (especially the tool developed for the evaluation of the environmental performance of buildings) by submitting a number of relevant scientific articles. In addition to this, Ms Vatyliotou (UCY) mentioned that the publication of a number of articles in daily and technical press is expected following the Prize Award Ceremony for the first Sustainable Construction Competition in Cyprus.





5. Closing – Future Actions

On behalf of the project partners **Mr Palochis (CYBARCO)** thanked all the 6th meeting participants and especially Dr. Christina Marouli from the LIFE external monitoring team for her valuable feedback and recommendations for the smooth implementation of the project.

The timeframe for the future actions is the following:

Action	Responsibility	Date – Deadline	
Announcement of the Second Sustainable Construction Competition for buildings in Greece	EPTA, NTUA	June 2008	
All partners to suggest possible speakers for the Final Conference in September	NTUA, All partners	End of July 2008	
Organisation of the 7 th partners meeting	NTUA	Friday, September 19, 2008	
Further development of the "Building Design and Assessment Tool"	NTUA in close collaboration with CYBARCO and EDRASIS	End of September 2008	
Finalisation of EDRASIS suggestions on the importance of each parameter for each building type	EDRASIS	End of June 2008	
Preparation of a Corrective Action Plan for the two involved construction companies	EDRASIS, CYBARCO	September 2008	
Drafting National Institutional Arrangements	NTUA in close collaboration with all partners	September 2008	
Completion of the lobbying log book	NTUA in close collaboration with all partners	End of September 2008	
Feedback for the improvement of the EUpalinus database	All partners	End of June 2008	
Collaboration of partners in order to further improve each sector of the EUpalinus database	All partners	End of July 2008	
Further publications / other dissemination activities in Greece and Cyprus	All partners	September 2008	
Reporting of the project costs until the end of the SUSCON project and preparation of the technical part of the FINAL report	NTUA in close collaboration with all partners	October 2008	





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6. Contact Details of the meeting participants

	Name	Partner	Email	Tel. no	Involvement to the project	
1	Konstantinos Moustakas	NTUA	konmoust@central.ntua.gr	+302107723108	Members of the NTUA team	
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3	Vasiliki Missa	ЕРТА	vmissa@epta.gr	+302102224208 (ext.:114)	Members of the EPTA team	
4	Margarita Vatyliotou	UCY	mvatyl@ucy.ac.cy	+35722452486	Member of the UCY team	
5	Panikos Palochis	CYBARCO	ppalochis@cy.cybarco.com	+35722741321	Member of the CYBARCO team	
6	Dionysia Nikolakopoulou	EDRASIS	Nikolakopouloud@edrasis.gr	+302106680600	Members of the EDRASIS	
7	Georgios Hatzoglou	EDRASIS	hatzogloug@edrasis.gr	+302106680600	team	
8	Dr. Christina Marouli	LIFE External Monitoring Team	christina.marouli@astrale.org	+306932440874	Responsible for the external monitoring of the project implementation	



