

## Sustainable Transformation of Greek Islands into Energy Neutral or Positive Islands. Problems and Prospects

March 2022 Heraklion Greece

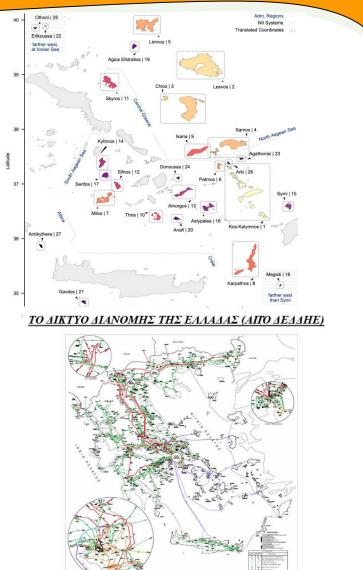
## Prof John K. Kaldellis

Soft Energy Applications & Environmental Protection Laboratory Vice Rector for Research, University of West Attica

## Introduction

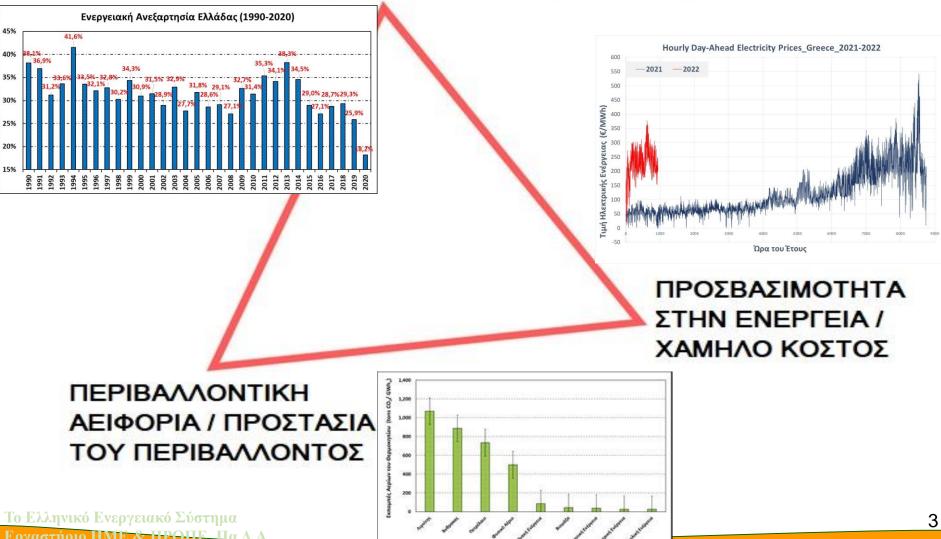
#### Energy Vulnerability Index

- Climate crisis affects strongly the islands, with small-scale islands perceived as the most vulnerable environments.
- Greece has a large number of islands of various sizes, with more than two hundred (≈227) being inhabited.
- Greek islands are divided in two large categories, i.e. the electrically interconnected to the mainland and the noninterconnected ones.
- Under the Territorial Just Transition Plan for the islands, a variety of actions is proposed for these islands including energy transition and climate neutrality, circular economy and efficient use of resources, sustainable urban mobility etc.



# Ενεργειακή Επιλογή-Ενεργειακό Τρίλημμα

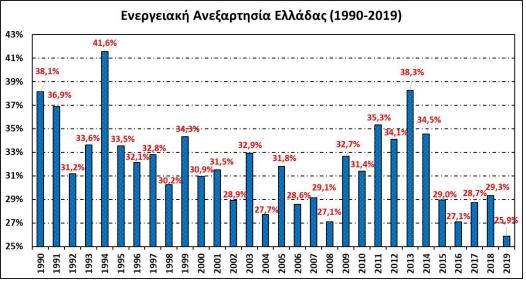
#### ΕΠΑΡΚΕΙΑ ΕΝΕΡΓΕΙΑΚΟΥ ΕΦΟΔΙΑΣΜΟΥ



Εργαστήριο ΗΜΕ & ΠΡΟΠΕ, Πα.Δ.Α

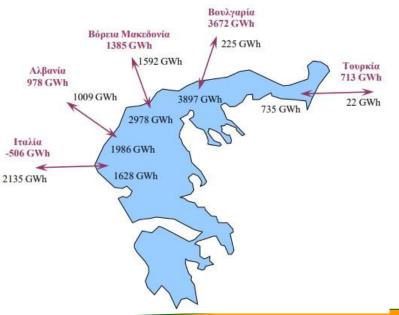
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## Ενεργειακή Επιλογή-Ενεργειακό Τρίλημμα





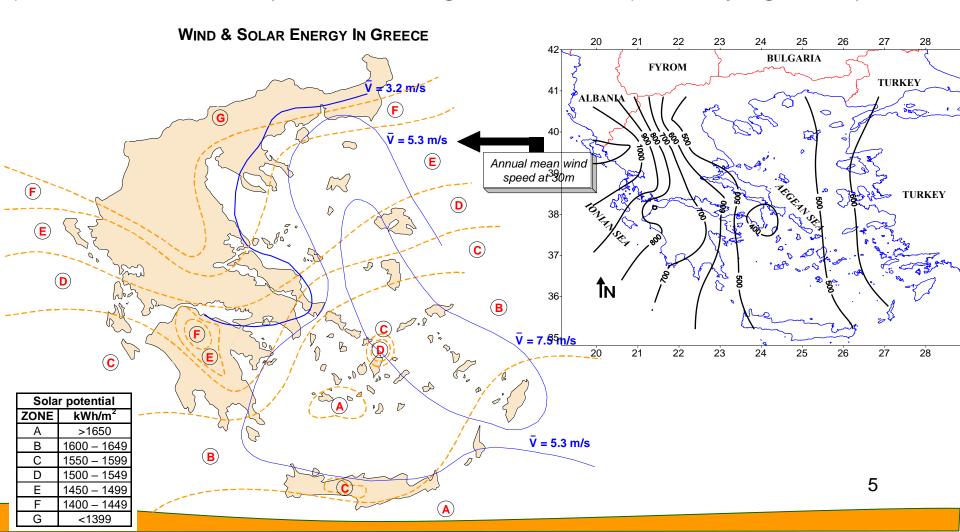




Εργαστήριο ΗΜΕ & ΠΡΟΠΕ

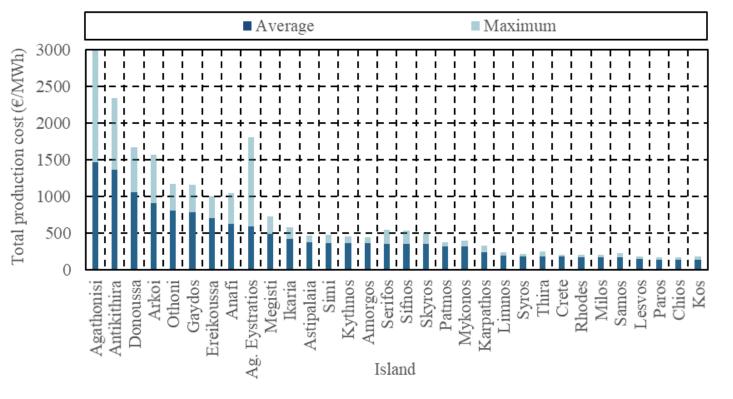
## Main Islands Characteristics

The majority of Aegean and Ionian Archipelagos islands have an excellent wind potential (the annual mean wind speed at 10m height exceeds 9m/s) and very high solar potential



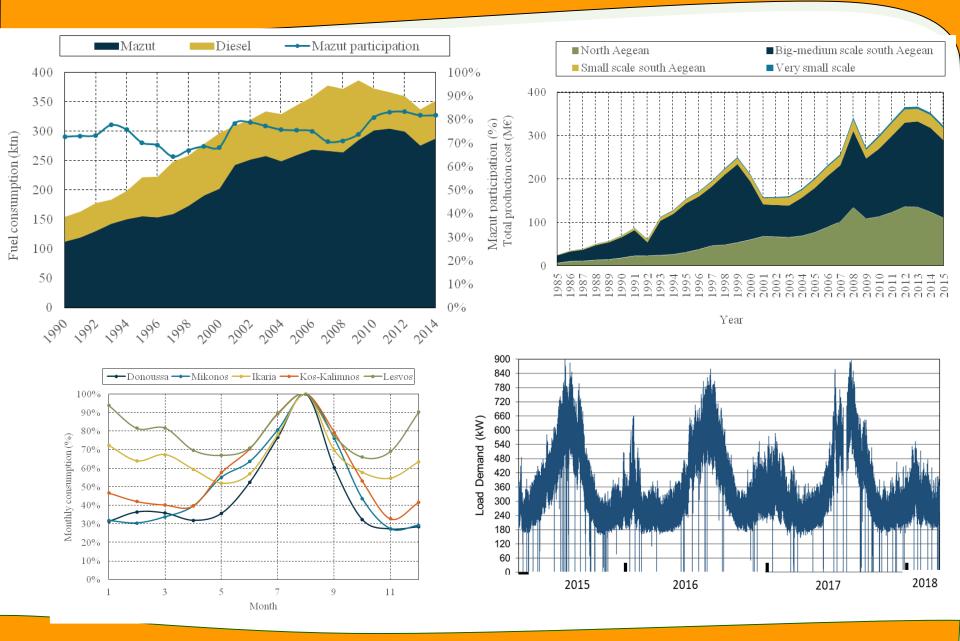
## **Current Situation-Electricity**

• Up to now, the electricity requirement has been hardly fulfilled by the existing outdated autonomous power stations, at very high fuel consumption values

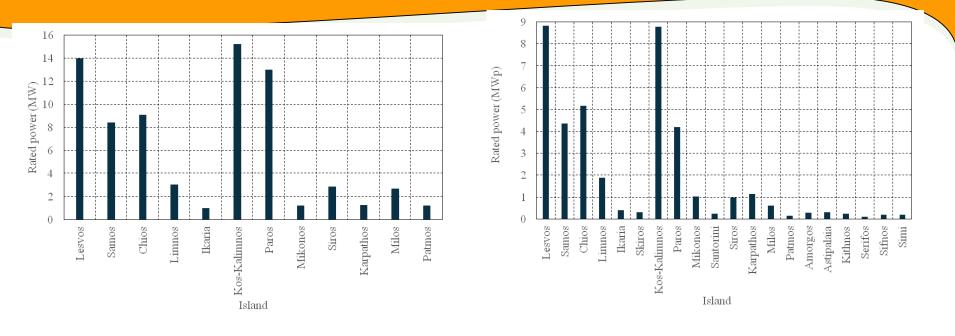


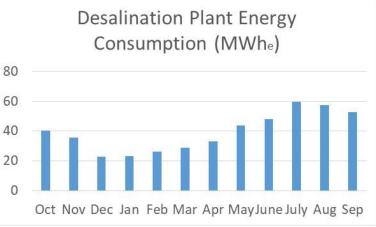
 For the near future, the establishment of new electricity production plants is an extremely urgent engagement

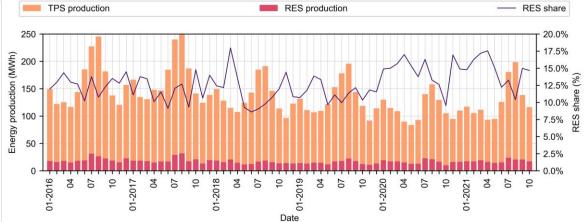
## **Current Situation-Electricity**



## **Current Situation-Electricity**

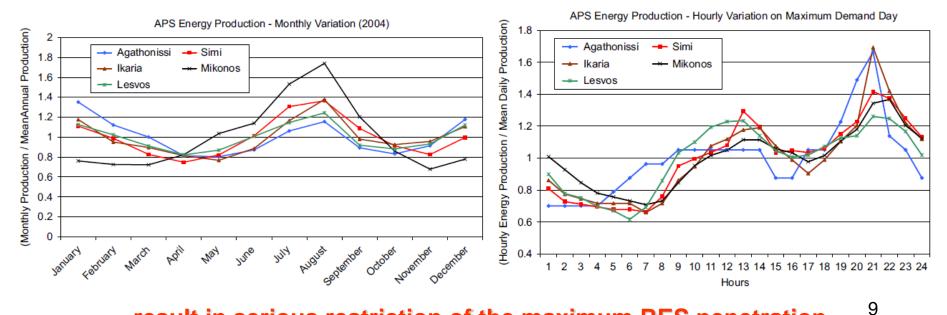






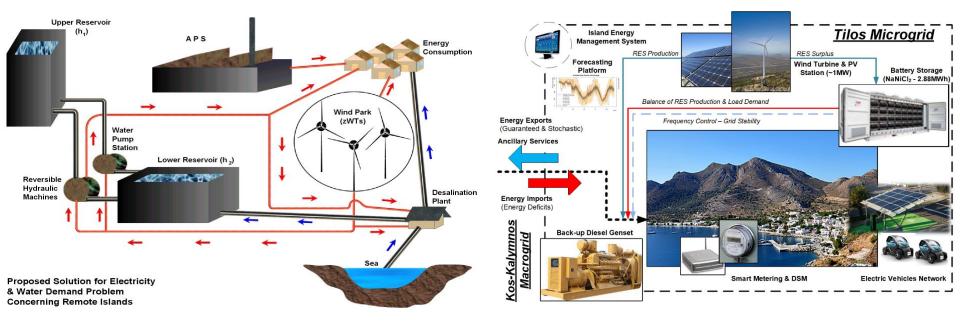
## Main Islands Characteristics

- The stochastic availability of wind energy and the limited availability of solar irradiance
- · The limited local electrical network capacity
- The daily and seasonal electricity demand fluctuations
- The electricity consumption during summer season (June-August) which in most islands represents more than 40% of the total annual consumption
- The corresponding peak load demand which is usually two or even five times greater than the mean annual electricity demand



result in serious restriction of the maximum RES penetration

### Ενίσχυση Αξιοποίησης των ΑΠΕ στα Νησιωτικά Δίκτυα



#### Μεγάλα & Μεσαία Νησιωτικά Δίκτυα

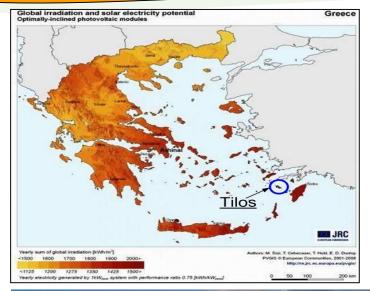
#### Μεσαία & Μικρά Νησιωτικά Δίκτυα

Το Ελληνικό Ενεργειακό Σύστημα Εργαστήριο ΗΜΕ & ΠΡΟΠΕ, Πα.Δ.Δ.

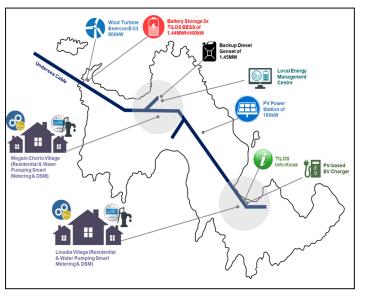
## **Existing Projects-Lessons to learn (1/5)**

- "TILOS" project. It was an innovative European demonstration project under the European funding Horizon 2020 program, with its main objective being the development of an integrated RES energy system supported by local-scale battery storage and advanced energy management.
- The pilot project "Ai Stratis Green Island" is included in the Operational Program "Competitiveness-Entrepreneurship-Innovation 2014-2020". The project aims 85% of the Agios Efstratios island's energy consumption to come from RES.
- The water- PHS station of Ikaria island has been developed by PPC Renewables.
  This hybrid power station is based on the operation of a small wind park of 3MW in collaboration with an appropriate pumped hydro storage installation.
- The ambitious partnership of the island of Astypalea with Volkswagen (to implement a model for smart, emission-free mobility) and the Green island project in Halki, supported by the Greek government are two new projects.
- Unfortunately, …

## **Existing Projects-Lessons to learn (2/5)**









## **Existing Projects-Lessons to learn (3/5)**





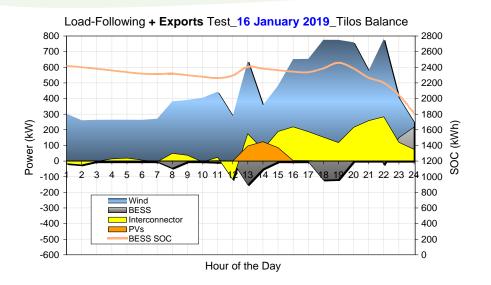


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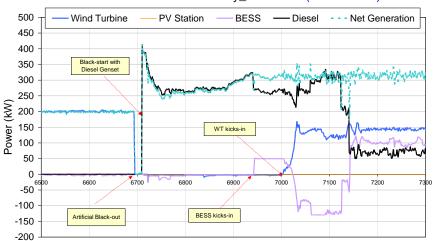


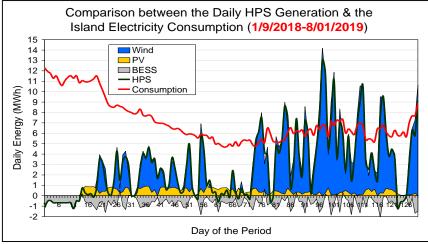
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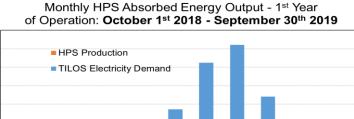
## Existing Projects-Lessons to learn (4/5)

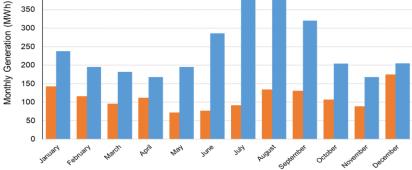


Island Tests - Tilos Recovery\_31012019 (11:00-11:15)









## **Existing Projects-Lessons to learn (5/5)**



## Greco-Islands Initiative (1/2)

- To address the above challenges related to local people status of living and the attraction of high quality touristic activity, radical changes are required in energy and water consumption, energy production, mobility and the available tourism infrastructure. For this reason, development of a holistic concept for sustainable tourism should be explored.
- A consensus has been reached that the opportunities offered by the ERDF and the Cohesion Fund, in combination with the significant budget made available through the Recovery and Resilience Facility, offer a unique opportunity for a considerable shift towards sustainable energy production and more efficient energy consumption.

## Greco-Islands Initiative (2/2)

- The concept of "GReco Islands" aims to make a number of tourism-dependent islands energy neutral or energy positive. In combination with decisive actions towards the greening of tourism, state of the art waste and water management and e-mobility, this would allow for the establishment of a circular economy profile that could also be used as part of the branding and destination management for these islands.
- The establishment of a Task Force on Green Islands has been agreed, with the following main objectives :
- Identify certain islands (small islands in particular at the beginning) in order for a holistic approach (energy / environment) to be implemented.
- Facilitate the project maturation process, so as to create a project pipeline ready for implementation.
- > Facilitate the attraction of investors in the field of energy and the environment.
- Prepare a realistic roadmap to be used in case that similar island cases. 17

## **Objectives**

The objectives of the entire project include the motivation of all Greek islands that are willing to take part in the GReco-islands initiative, under the condition that after the completion of the operations funded through the initiative, the selected islands will have achieved specific targets in all the predefined categories of actions.

After the implementation of the aforementioned actions, the specific islands will receive the label "GReco-island", to be used as an element to characterize the island as an ideal and special tourist destination.

For the successful implementation of the "GReco-islands" initiative three critical steps are identified:

- ✓ The need to obtain and maintain/sustain a true and long-term local ownership and commitment (Tilos style)
- ✓ The necessity for the agreement of a multi-annual investment strategy with pre-determined project deliverables/objectives
- ✓ The requirement for support during implementation

## **Conclusions**

The GReco-islands initiative is an optimum development occasion for the reviving of several remote medium and small size islands of Greece (and EU) scattered all around Aegean and Ionian Archipelagos.

In view of the GReco-islands concept, all these islands may obtain clean-green electricity on the basis of local RES potential, improving at the same time their water reserves. Moreover, the introduction of clean electro-mobility, optimum waste and water management and improved telecommunication services will strongly support the economic and touristic activities of the local communities.

The project under preparation targets to contribute in this entire GReco-islands initiative, minimizing the environmental impacts and inverting the climate change, via a close collaboration with EU and National authorities as well as in accordance with the choices of the local authorities, stakeholders and most importantly respecting the will of the local people.

## GReco-Islands Initiative Support by Prof J.K. Kaldellis

# Thank you very much for your time and your attention...

