EXCELLEND Centre for Sustainable Energy

DEMOKRITOS

Funded by the European Union

NEWSLETTER

ISSUE 2

Mar 2026 - July 2026

NEW INDUSTRIAL COLLABORATION WITH SOLARSTEAM INC

July 2026

A new industrial research project officially started in July 2026 through a collaboration with the innovative Canadian company SolarSteam Inc. The partnership was formalized in May 2026 between Apostol Radev, CEO of SolarSteam Inc., and George Kosmadakis, EXCELLEND Project Coordinator, within the framework of NATO DIANA (Defence Innovation Accelerator for the North Atlantic) TEVV activities. This collaboration leverages the research and testing infrastructures at NCSR Demokritos, which have been significantly enhanced through the EXCELLEND project. **Read More**

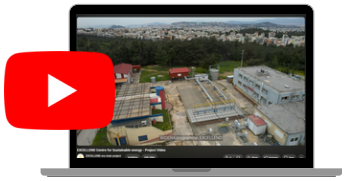
BUILDING A STRONG TEAM FOR SUSTAINABLE ENERGY RESEARCH

As the EXCELLEND project continues, one of our main priorities has been building a strong, multidisciplinary team capable of driving our ambitious research agenda forward. We are delighted to share that, over the past few months, our team has grown to fifteen professionals, significantly strengthening our capacity and expertise.

The researchers are integrated across five research groups, creating strong links between the Centre's energy-related laboratories and fostering interdisciplinary collaboration. By bringing together complementary expertise, this structure enhances NCSRD's research capacity and supports the development of innovative, sustainable energy solutions.

1ST EXCELLEND VIDEO

Our first project video is now online, offering an engaging introduction to the EXCELLEND project.
To learn more about the project and meet the people behind it, we invite you to visit our YouTube channel.



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PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS

NEW OPEN DATASET

24 June 2026

As part of our commitment to Open Science, EXCELLEND has published a new open-access dataset on Zenodo, making valuable research data available to the wider scientific community. **The dataset brings together measurements from laboratory tests of an advanced heat pump designed to use a more environmentally friendly refrigerant with a lower environmental impact.**

The experiments explored how different, operating conditions, such as temperature and system setting affect the heat pump's performance and energy efficiency and the measurements were collected under carefully controlled conditions to ensure reliable and high-quality results. The data are suitable for scientific research, model validation, and reproducibility studies in the fields of refrigeration, heat pumps, and thermal energy systems.

Download Now

EXCELLEND AT THE 39TH ECOS CONFERENCE

28 June-03 July 2026

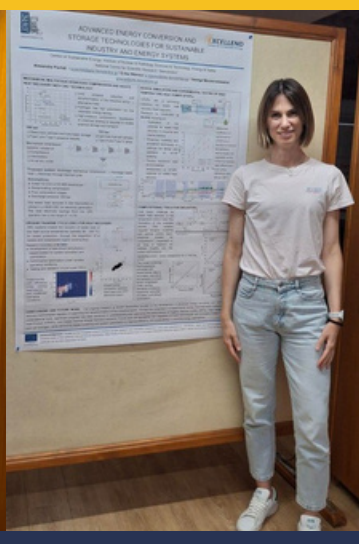
Prof. George Tsatsaronis and research assistant Alexandra Pavlidi represented EXCELLEND at the 39th ECOS Conference in Constanta, Romania. Prof. Tsatsaronis delivered a keynote lecture on the key developments in energy engineering over the past 50 years. Alexandra Pavlidi presented her research on hydrogen compression and waste heat recovery using Organic Rankine Cycle (ORC) technology, contributing to discussions on the development of more efficient hydrogen energy systems. Read more on our website

PROJECT TEAM AT THE 61ST DEMOKRITOS SUMMER SCHOOL

11 July 2025

As part of the 2026 Demokritos Summer School, Prof. George Tsatsaronis, ERA Chair of the EXCELLEND project, delivered a lecture on the challenges of decarbonizing the energy sector, highlighting the technical, economic and societal aspects of the global energy transition.

EXCELLEND researchers also presented their work through two scientific posters focusing on advanced energy conversion and storage technologies, as well as the application of artificial intelligence in energy systems, engaging participants in discussions on innovative approaches for sustainable energy solutions. More details



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EXCELLEND DRIVES STRUCTURAL CHANGE AT NSCR DEMOKRITOS THROUGH THE CREATION OF THE FUNDRAISING UNIT

One of EXCELLEND's most significant institutional achievements, up to now, has been its contribution to the establishment of the Fundraising Unit at NSCRD, marking an important step towards strengthening the research support services within Demokritos.

Established in October 2025, the Unit addresses the need for more coordinated support in proposal development and EU project management, replacing a previously fragmented support landscape with a centralized service for researchers.

In less than a year, the Unit has already demonstrated its value by supporting more than 200 researchers and contributing to the support of over 40 research proposals submitted by groups across all NCSRD Institutes.

To further strengthen research support at NCSRD, the Fundraising Unit also launched in June 2026 a dedicated workshop series covering all stages of the research funding lifecycle, open to Demokritos researchers.

The workshops included sessions on proposal writing, funding opportunities, consortium building, budgeting, project implementation, financial management, intellectual property, exploitation of research results, and communication.

Learn more about the unit and it's services

A Visit Focused on Energy Innovation

14 May 2026

The EXCELLEND team welcomed Christopher Schifflechner from the Technical University of Munich for a valuable exchange on emerging energy technologies and future research opportunities.
Read more on our LinkedIn page

Meeting with the Centre for Renewable Energy Sources and Saving (CRES)

07 March 2026

Researchers from CRES met with Excellend team for an interinstitutional exchange on renewable energy research, exploring collaboration opportunities and synergies within the EXCELLEND project.
Read more

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