



Dear building enthusiast,

Welcome to the 3rd edition of UPGREAT's newsletter!

With Europe's building stock being responsible for 40% of the energy consumption and 36% of the greenhouse gas emissions in the territory, action by member-states is imperative. The European Green Deal and through it, the European Energy Directive and the European Renovation Wave, promote as the main solutions the energy upgrade of existing buildings and the construction of new based on energy standards. To achieve a highly efficient building stock, however, and ensure that long-term renovation strategies deliver our targets, building professionals need to be sufficiently trained and up to date with modern standards. In other words, member-states must invest in training and upskilling those employed in the construction sector. **The UPGREAT project has been developed with this in mind!**

### The project

The UPGREAT [Upskilling Professionals for deep enerGy RENovations: A Tool for better schools] project was conceived to improve the readiness of Cyprus and Greece for energy efficient deep renovation of school buildings, through the

development and implementation of a Training Toolkit targeting professionals involved in all phases of building renovation processes, minimizing in this way the performance gap.



The project is coordinated by the [National and Kapodistrian University of Athens](#) [NKUA], with the support of the [Hellenic Passive House Institute](#) [HPHI], the [Cyprus Energy Agency](#) [CEA], and the German [Da-Di-Werk](#). It is part of the [European Climate Initiative](#) [EUKI] of the Federal Ministry of Economic Affairs and Climate Action, of the Federal Government of Germany. UPGREAT started its operations in October 2021 and is expected to be completed by this December.

[Click here to download our brochure](#)

[Click here to watch our video](#)

UPGREAT is currently running the 24th month of its lifetime - the 4th before its closure. Some of its milestones these last seven months have been the completion of its Training Toolkit, and the scheduling of its first training seminars based on the Toolkit. Its participation in more international and national third-party events, as well as its publications in the Press and online, that both contributed to its further dissemination and recognition, could also be considered milestones.

Our Toolkit focuses on school buildings, but can also be applied to other public and private buildings. Its aim is to train building professionals in the design and construction of Nearly Zero Energy Buildings, whilst enhancing their skills and knowledge on building physics and the correct application of materials and systems.

If you are a craftsman, engineer, or else employed in the construction sector, get in touch with us, so you can attend our training courses in Cyprus and Greece. If otherwise you represent a training organisation, institution, or center, contact us to learn how to get access to the Toolkit.

**For Cyprus:**

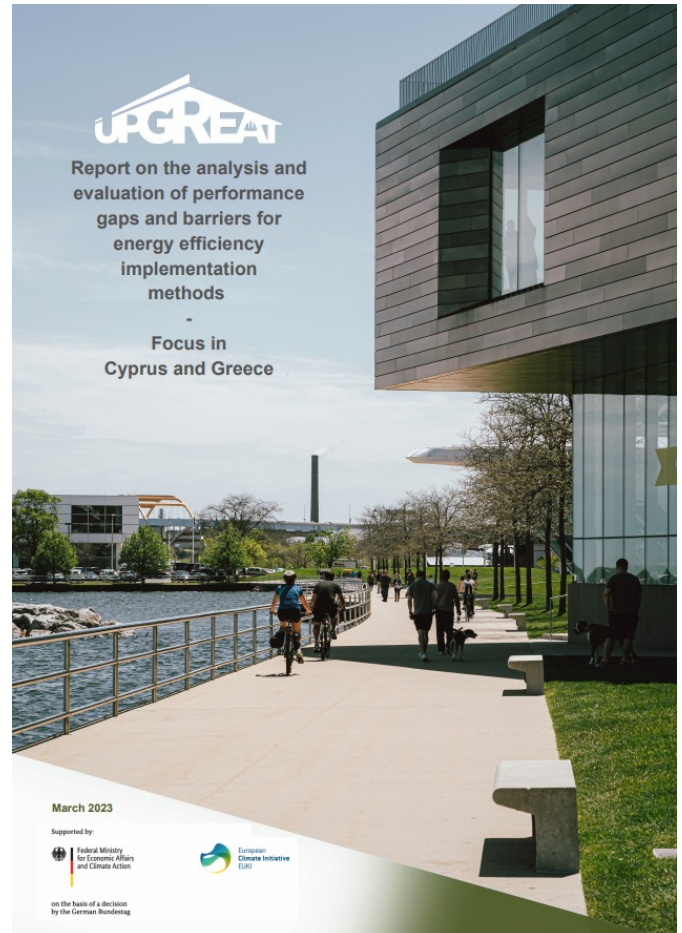
Cyprus Energy Agency - Christina Palochi - [christina.palochi@cea.org.cy](mailto:christina.palochi@cea.org.cy) - Tel. +357 22667848

**For Greece:**



## Our publications

Up-to-day, our consortium members have composed seven project-related articles that have been published on both [EUKI's platform](#) and [UPGREAT's website](#). All articles are written in English. A Press Release in German, a Scientific and a Technical Report in English, have also been published. Below are the most recent. Take a look!



**[Policy Gaps and Financial Barriers for Deep Energy Renovations in Cyprus and Greece – Insights from the International Conference on Economics and Social Sciences in Bucharest](#)**

*[Article by Vassilis Ntouros, Building Physicist at NKUA]*

**[Report on the analysis and evaluation of performance gaps and barriers for energy efficiency implementation methods - Focus in Cyprus and Greece](#)**

*[Report by Vassilis Ntouros, Building Physicist at NKUA]*

## Our events

Events are of a great importance for the dissemination of UPGREAT. So far, the project has participated in 12 third party events and attracted more than 7K people through them. Below are the most recent we participated in.



Participation in the 26th International Passive House Conference held in Wiesbaden Germany from March 10 to 12. HPHI and Da-Di-Werk represented the project with relevant presentations.



Participation in the 17th edition of the Energy Saving exhibition, SAVENERGY, held in Nicosia Cyprus from April 7 to 9. CEA presented the project at its booth, with a banner and flyers.



Participation with presentation of the project in the 6th International Conference on Economics & Social Sciences on *Geopolitical perspectives and technological challenges for sustainable growth in the 21st century*. The Conference was held in Romania from June 15 to 16, by the Bucharest University of Economic Studies.

Within the next months, our consortium will organise 2 open events in Cyprus and another 2 in Greece, aimed at highlighting the importance of skilled building professionals, hence also promoting our Toolkit and seminars.

The 1st training course based on UPGREAT's Toolkit is offered online by the HPHI since September 11. It is a series of trainings courses that ends with a final exam that certifies participants as Passive House Designers. Click [here](#) to learn more.

**Connect with us to be the first to know about our future events!**

**Connect with us!**

Connecting with us is so easy! UPGREAT is on Facebook, Twitter and LinkedIn, and maintains a website under the domain of CEA. Hit us a like or follow!

- [Website](#)
- [Facebook](#)
- [Twitter](#)
- [LinkedIn](#)

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