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## Welcome message

Education is a key driver of sustainability and changes in society. It provides the necessary skills for the development of humanity harmoniously and with respect for the environment.

Climate change is a major threat to our society and our planet. Understanding this threat is a prerequisite for combating it.



Each individual and the society as a whole can change behavior and take actions for sustainable development, preservation of the environment, mitigation and adaptation to climate change.

It is the young generation that will be the leaders in combating climate change and sustainable development of the society. In this respect, Teachers play a huge role in shaping the character of the youth.

CLIMADEMY has the ambition to build a dynamic Teacher's Network that will

- bring together all European Teacher's to discuss, support each other and develop new educational material and training approaches to learn about climate change
- educate on climate change drivers, impacts and adaptation and mitigation options
- facilitate and support Teacher's professional development within Europe

CLIMADEMY needs the active participation of all Teachers to the network. **Join us !**

*Maria Kanakidou*

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# What is CLIMADEMY?

The Erasmus+ Teacher Academies is a new flagship action of the 2021-2027 Erasmus+ programme that aims to create partnerships of teacher's education and training providers across Europe in order to develop the European and international dimensions of teacher's education, contributing to the achievement of the objectives of the European Education Area.

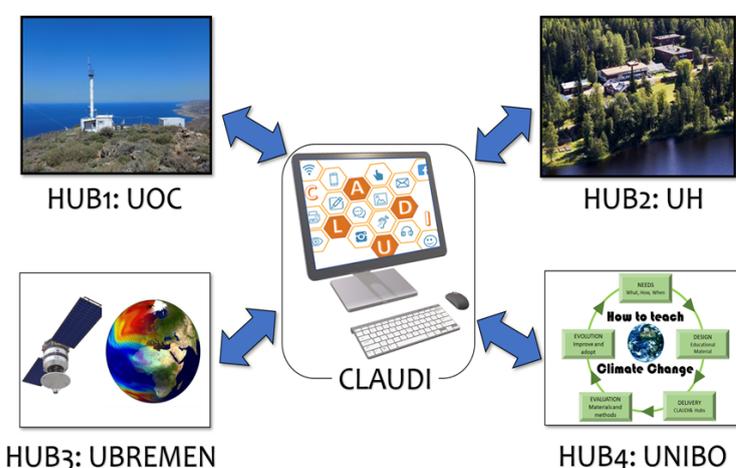
The first 11 Erasmus+ Teacher Academies have already been launched as of summer 2022 to support teachers with learning opportunities and to develop teacher's education. Among them, the CLIMATE change teachers' acaDEMY (CLIMADEMY) aims to create a European network to offer a comprehensive program where teachers will interact and learn how to educate the next generation of European citizens on climate change issues.



Climate change is unequivocally attributed to human activities and is already affecting Europe, leading to heat waves, extreme drought and flood events, forest fires, biodiversity loss, decreasing crop yields and affect human health. The European Parliament acknowledges that 'education for young people represents one of the most effective tools for compacting climate change'. However, climate change is not yet broadly incorporated in school science curricula.

CLIMADEMY aims to fill this gap by developing and establishing a network and community of practice to create innovative strategies and programs for preparatory and continuous professional development for serving and student teachers on climate change and its impacts. The consortium consists of four EU countries (Finland, Germany, Greece and Italy) and once operationally established, it will be open to new members.

Educational material focused on the drivers causing the human-induced climate perturbations, the impacts of climate change and the measures for sustainability, will be tailored for initial education and professional development and made openly available to all education institutions across Europe. Serving and student teachers will have a key role in the design and development of the material, acting both as trainees and co-designers. The material will be easily accessed, adopted and replicated, using modern educational practices and tools.



One common virtual Climate Auditorium (CLAUDI) will be the basis for the Teachers' Academy for climate change education and networking and will be connecting four hubs, one in each country, with specific foci driven by the regional particularities. These hubs will be established around two air pollution and climate change monitoring stations in two different regions of Europe that both experience exceptionally rapid climate changes when compared to the global mean trends: a close to the Arctic region in a boreal forest in Finland and a Mediterranean semi-arid subtropical region in Greece, while two more hubs will be established focusing on computer modeling and space-based

observations of the Earth system in Germany and the pedagogical foundations of environmental education in Italy. These hubs through physical, virtual (supported by CLAUDI) and blended training will provide informal learning settings that can aid teachers in thinking differently about the practice of school science with respect to climate change.

### **CLIMADEMY partners:**

PANEPISTIMIO KRITIS - UNIVERSITY OF CRETE (UOC- Greece-Coordinator),  
ALMA MATER STUDIORUM - UNIVERSITA DI BOLOGNA (UNIBO- Italy),  
UNIVERSITAET BREMEN (UBREMEN- Germany),  
REGIONAL DIRECTORATE OF PRIMARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION OF CRETE (RDPSEC-Greece),  
ELLINOGERMANIKI AGOGI SCHOLI PANAGEA SAVVA SA (EA-Greece),  
HELSINGIN YLIOPISTO (UH- Finland),  
FONDAZIONE GOLINELLI (FG-Italy)

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## CLIMADEMY kick-off event

The official kick-off event of the Erasmus+ CLIMADEMY project took place virtually on 20 June 2022. Representatives from all four countries and all partners participated and the aims and the scope of the project were presented. This was the first meeting of the CLIMADEMY consortium and it was decided that a follow up in-person meeting should be organized. The date and place were fixed, Agios Nikolaos, Crete on 15-16 September 2022.



The meeting took place at the municipality of Agios Nikolaos city council hall, which was generously provided by the local authorities to the CLIMADEMY consortium for the kick-off event. All partners of the consortium were represented and overall 30 attendants from the four countries were present and three more joined the meeting virtually. The meeting started with welcoming addresses from local authorities, stating their unequivocal support to the objectives and aspirations of the new project. During the two days of the meeting, decisions on the management of the project were taken, action points were defined and the overall work plan was discussed in detail.

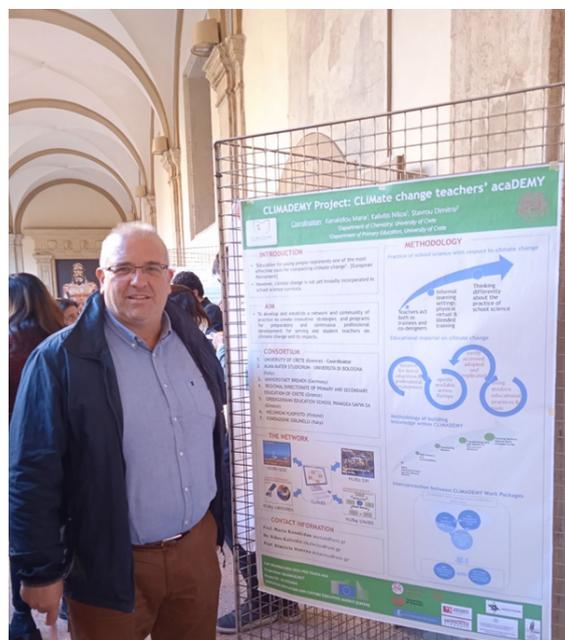
In parallel to the kick-off event, the teams visiting Crete were given a tour of the Ano Merabello location from the UoC personnel. This is the location where the Finokalia atmospheric research station of the UoC has been continuously operating since 1993, providing information about the atmosphere and the climate of the Eastern Mediterranean. In the same region of the Agios Nikolaos municipality, the Greek Hub of the CLIMADEMY will be established, at the old primary schools of the villages Finokalia and Nofalias.



The picturesque Cretan landscape, close and yet far away from the vast touristic development of the north coast of the island is ideal for initiating the dialogue concerning sustainability, fragility of ecosystems and climate change. The architecture of Ano Merabello was discussed and demonstrated as an example of adaptation and resilience of local societies to a demanding, resource scarce environment. The Greek Hub also welcomed its first international visitors, Professor Fatma Özturk and her group from Bolu Abant İzzet Baysal University, Turkey.

## Outreach activities

- An announcement has been issued in each of the four participating countries and in English, through traditional media and social networks, providing first information about CLIMADEMY.
- FG organized a national event for teachers in partnership with the Ministry of Education on 11 October 2022 and the CLIMADEMY project was presented to more than 330 attendees.
- The CLIMADEMY project was presented by Athina Ginoudi (RDPSEC) at the 3rd Hellenic Scientix conference for STEM Education in Athens, Greece, 23-25 September 2022.
- The Project Management Office of CLIMADEMY was invited to attend the Peer Learning Activity of the European Education Area Working Group on Schools: Learning for Sustainability that took place 16-18 November 2022 and it was organized by the Hungarian State Secretariat for Public Education. Nikos Kalivitis (UOC) attended the meeting and presented the project.
- CLIMADEMY was presented by Dimitris Stavrou (UOC) and the UNIBO team IDENTITIES partnership at the “Conference on Interdisciplinarity in STEM Education”, focused on preservice teacher education, in Bologna, Italy, 4 November 2022.
- The Hyytiälä (Finnish) Hub is already receiving school visits that are being informed about CLIMADEMY and its vision. During the period September-November 2022, 11 schools have visited Hyytiälä. Furthermore, 11 teachers have expressed interest to join as pilot teachers, five of them will be the final selection to join the project.
- The RDPSEC, organized for the 3rd consecutive year, an open event in the framework of the initiative “Erasmus Days 2022” on Friday, October 14, 2022 in Heraklion. The visitors had the opportunity to learn about the CLIMADEMY project that had a dedicated booth, with our banner and available leaflets.
- The RDPSEC has already selected the first 5 teachers to be co-designers at the Finokalia (Greek) Hub and had a first introductory discussion with them on zoom on CLIMADEMY aims and actions to be taken on 29 November 2022.
- An in-person visit of the first CLIMADEMY teachers at the Finokalia station is planned for January 2023 to be informed on climate research performed at the UOC and identify topics of further elaboration for training. A total of 25 teachers and schools are expected to visit the Hub the first semester of 2023.
- The UBREMEN scheduled its first meeting with teachers on 16 December 2022. The teachers will visit the German Hub at the University, will be introduced to the research activities of the Hub, the aim of CLIMADEMY and their role as co-designers of the educational material.





Climate change  
teacher's academy