

SDSN Cyprus



With SDSN, NGOs, Academic Institutions and Civic Leaders Join Forces to Promote the UN Sustainable Development Goals

On 12th of June 2020, close to 800 participants attended the online official launching ceremony of the Cyprus branch of the UN Sustainable Development Solutions Network (SDSN Cyprus¹), in the presence of H.E. The President of the Republic of Cyprus, **Mr. Nicos Anastasiades**, leading economist, **Prof. Jeffrey Sachs** from Columbia University (Director of UN SDSN) and Member of the Cyl BoT, and the Honourable Minister of Agriculture, Rural Development and Environment, **Dr. Costas Kadis**.

As the board has been informed in several previous sessions, SDSN Cyprus is hosted by the **Cyprus Research and Educational Foundation (CREF)**², facilitated by the Cyprus Institute, and co-chaired by **Dr. Erato Kozakou-Marcoullis**, and **Prof. Costas N. Papanicolas**. The network managers are **Dr. Nicolas Jarraud** (Assistant-Vice-President for Institute Affairs at Cyl) and **Dr. Constantinos Kounnamas**, head of the Nature Conservation Unit at Frederick University. The event was also attended by **Prof. Angelo Riccaboni**, Chairman of SDSN Mediterranean, and **Mr. Markos Kyprianou**, former Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic and Member of the SDSN Cyprus Leadership Council.

The Leadership Council of SDSN Cyprus currently has 17 members, from five universities/ research organisations (Frederick University, Neapolis University Paphos, Cyprus University of Technology, University of Nicosia and the Cyprus Institute), 3 NGOs (Birdlife Cyprus, CYMEPA, AKTI) and 10 representatives from the public and private sectors in Cyprus. The aim is that by the end of 2020, all the universities in the Republic of Cyprus will have joined as members.

Globally, SDSN Cyprus promotes the implementation of the **2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development**, which was adopted by all U.N. Member States in 2015. The Agenda provides a shared blueprint for peace and prosperity for people and the planet, now and into the future. At its heart are the 17 SDGs, which are an urgent call for action by all countries - developed and developing - in a global partnership. They recognize that ending poverty and other deprivations must go hand-in-hand with strategies that improve health and education, reduce inequality, and spur economic growth – all while tackling climate change and working to preserve our oceans and forests. It is headed and coordinated our CREF trustee Prof. **J. Sachs**.

The global [SDSN](#) network was set up in 2012 under the auspices of the UN Secretary-General. SDSN mobilizes global scientific and technological expertise to promote practical solutions for sustainable development, including the implementation of the SDGs and the Paris Climate Agreement. It works closely with UN agencies, multilateral financing institutions, the private sector, and civil society. SDSN Cyprus will work with all sectors of society to improve the country's performance in implementing the SDGs, collecting and disseminating best practices, raising awareness, promoting sustainable development education, engaging with youth, and assisting the authorities, the private sector and civil society organisations in mainstreaming the SDGs into their daily operations.

For more information about SDSN Cyprus, please visit the SDSN Cyprus [Facebook Page](#) or send an e-mail to sdsn.cyprus@cyi.ac.cy.

¹ Which was actually endorsed by SDSN as a national network in November 2019

² The host is typically a University or Higher Education Institution, which provides the Chair, the Network Manager, the Youth Network Manager, and the necessary administrative backstopping and a physical location for the local SDSN network. CREF, through CYI, provides all of this.