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# INFO Exchange

## Editorial

By: Ioanna Leontaraki



In light of **World Environment Day**, which takes place on June 5<sup>th</sup> every year, I grasp the opportunity to bring forth the need for an increase in public awareness concerning the environment and the consequences that climate change has had and will have.

Climate change, unlike what most of us would like to believe, is a reality. It is highly significant that we all take action now so as to ensure for the future to come. The generations to come will be faced with problems that they did not create, while the poorer citizens of the world will greatly suffer from the most destructive effects, even though the richer nations are those creating the mass of greenhouse gases that are now locked into the Earth's atmosphere.

Climate change is now beginning to receive the attention it needs. Efforts have been placed towards the tackling of climate change, yet these efforts are still at a primary stage. The need for the reduction of emissions is immediate, while an incentive must be provided so as to ensure that this need will be met.

Climate change must be combated as a collective effort, of all nations and citizens. This is our chance to take action and make a difference. This is our chance to join forces. This is our chance to rise to the challenge and provide for the future generations to come.

## Combating Climate Change

Source:

[ec.europa.eu/publications/booklets/move/70/en.pdf](http://ec.europa.eu/publications/booklets/move/70/en.pdf)

The threat of climate change is a reality. According to research, and the publication by the European Commission, the damage and negative effects of climate change to the Earth will be permanent if temperature rises another 2° C over the pre-industrial levels. Great risk of countries disappearance off the face of the map is highly probable due to the rise in sea levels throughout the world.

The climate is changing due to a number of reasons, according to the publication, including the 'greenhouse effect' which is keeping the temperature of the Earth at such high levels, and the activities that human beings undertake on a daily basis (such as deforestation, landfills and pollution). It is imperative that the emissions be controlled and reduced so as to prevent from the escape of carbon dioxide into the atmosphere. For this reason, the EU has engaged an integrated energy and climate change policy in March 2007. This policy strives to change the way that industrial activity

## May - June 2008

takes place and to improve our use of energy, moving towards an environment-friendly approach.



The emissions of greenhouse gases have increased rapidly by 70%, from 1970 to 2004. This increase was 145% in the energy supply sector, 120% in the transport sector and 65% from industry. These figures are inconceivable and present with the need to take action.

As a result, leaders throughout the EU have decided on a number of initiatives and activities, including:

- 20% savings on energy consumption
- Increase renewable energies to 20% by 2020
- Increase the share of biofuels in petrol and diesel consumption by ten times by 2020

- Promote and develop low-emitting technologies
- Better integrate EU energy markets
- Better integrate EU energy policies with other policies that are in order
- Promote international collaboration so as to promote a common approach

There are many innovative methods to save energy, which can be undertaken in all industries and sectors, including agriculture, transport, industry and other such.

Technology has brought about great innovations in the energy sector and the EU promotes international cooperation so as to achieve such innovations and the implementation of alternative sources of energy and the promotion of environmentally-friendly activities.

Everyone can contribute individually by staying informed and making small changes.

Every individual can reduce their own carbon footprint by following a few steps that in the long-run can make a

great difference.

- Decrease the temperature of your heating at home by 1°C.
- Insulate central heating
- Move the refrigerator away from the oven or stove
- Turn off lights when not necessary
- Use appliances only when necessary
- Turn off appliances when not in use – do not use the stand by mode
- Do not leave the tap running
- Recycle
- Switch to 'green electricity'

## 4<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the EMC\_Pro Project



The 4<sup>th</sup> meeting of the EMC Project took place on May 5<sup>th</sup> -6<sup>th</sup> in Bologna, Italy, where the partners of the project discussed a number of items and issues that were on the agenda. A project update and a revision of all the activities and tasks undertaken until that point were discussed.

Such issues that were looked into were the advisory boards of all participating countries, the evaluation system of the participants' CVs, design of the final certificate and other such.

Further, the dissemination of the results was brought up and all partners contributed to the discussion of the development and finalization of the project website and the exploitation of the project results through the poten-

## General Assembly of ALDA – Electing the New Governing Board



The Institute of Entrepreneurship Development participated in the General Assembly of ALDA in Vienna on May 16, 2008 to elect the new Governing Board and its Bureau. A number of candidates from many countries throughout Europe placed candidature and actively participated.

The new Governing Board was appointed for the following four years and is composed of the President, Mr. Per Vinther (DK), two Vice Presidents, Mr. Dobrica Milovanovic (Serbia) and Mr. Bernardo Notarangelo (IT), a Treasurer, Mr. Roger Lawrence (UK) and the Secretary, Mrs. Imislawa Gorska (Poland).

tial commercialization of the results by each partner.

Careful examination of the pilot procedure and the on-line test also took place. The problems that were faced, such as language difficulties and difficulties with the use of the site by the participants, were also brought up.

However, all such difficulties were faced and taken care of. In terms of the pilot test, it was mentioned that out of the total 29 participants,

62% received a passing grade and will continue to the next phase, which is the presentation of a case study and will take place throughout May, 2008.

Finally, it must be mentioned that the next and last meeting of the EMC Project will take place in September 2008, as agreed upon during the meeting. The final date and place of meeting has not yet been finalized.

## 112 - single European Emergency Number

**When in danger within the European Union, remember to call the 112 for help**

**This number is the single European emergency call number and it can save your life !**

All EU member states, except for Bulgaria at the moment, which is in the process of introducing it, have put into effect a single European emergency number – 112 – that can be used for emergency services throughout the European Union.

The need for this number has been the result of increased travel of citizens throughout the European Union, either for business or pleasure, and the need for a single number so as to ensure that all individuals will remember the number no matter where they are.

It is important that all citizens are informed of the existence of this emergency number since it is available to all, free of charge and allows for the location of the caller, which is highly significant in emergency cases.

The European Commission and the Member States are still trying to perfect the line and improve the emergency services. However, the line is in effect and available to all.

**Call the 112 only in real life-threatening emergencies like:**

Serious medical problems (unconscious person, important injuries, chest pain, seizure, bleeding)

Any type of fire (house, car, business).

Life-threatening situations (crimes, fights, people with weapons, robbery in progress, etc)



## Calendar of Events and Conferences

01 July 2008

**Byron Bay, Australia**

Activating Human Rights and Peace

03 July 2008

**Islamabad, Pakistan**

National Research Conference on Entrepreneurship & Innovation, Management & Social Sciences

04 July 2008

**Reading, United Kingdom**

Cultural Institutions in Early Modern Italy

13 July 2008

**Madison, Wisconsin**

ISS2008 – Systems that Make a Difference

3-8 August 2008

**Mexico City, Latin America**

XVII International AIDS Conference

17 September 2008

**Orlando, Florida**

Global Academy of Business and Economic Research

The informative electronic newsletter is published by the Institute of Entrepreneurship Development and constitutes voluntary effort of its members, the opinions and the comments of which do not necessarily express the Institute's views.

We would like your suggestions for upcoming issues. You can send information, inquiries, proposals and general comments that could be published to the following address:

[newsletter@entre.gr](mailto:newsletter@entre.gr)

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[info@entre.gr](mailto:info@entre.gr);  
[newsletter@entre.gr](mailto:newsletter@entre.gr)

# PROJECT AFRICA



PROJECT AFRICA is a Non Profit organization which was established in 2006 in Sweden with a mission to empower women in rural Africa with skills and resources for sustainable enterprise development.

Since inception, the organization has been carrying out various development activities in East Africa especially in Kenya. By working with women Self help groups based in Kakamega, Mumias, Lungalunga and Athi River, PROJECT AFRICA has intervened in improving the skills of women in agriculture and food production while encouraging rural women majority of whom are farmers to increase their production for own consumption and for sale so that they can earn income.

In education, PROJECT AFRICA has encouraged communities to educate girls and train women in vocational skills that can generate income. Through such programs rural women the organization is empowering rural women to establish village industries in handicrafts production such in weaving baskets and making jewellery. Handicrafts produced are later sold in Sweden through exhibitions, open air markets and through the internet.

Later the profits earned are used to pay the women and create small loans

for other women to start their own entrepreneurial initiatives. In the past year, at least three orphaned girls were assisted with school fees for secondary education whereas 10 widows in Kenya received seed fund of totalling to Euro 1000. Project Africa also donated sewing machines and other equipment to individual women as part of resource empowerment.

Ahead of the goals of PROJECT AFRICA in 2008 is the need to open a Women's Vocational Training Centre in Kakamega and a high school for girls only in Lungalunga, Kenya. The Women Academy will be open for training to women between 18 and 60 years who desire to learn new skills whereas the High school in Lungalunga will give secondary school education to girls who risk being married off at an early age to earn income for their poor families.

We believe that education for women is a vital tool the fight against poverty, gender inequality and other social problems that is why we in PROJECT AFRICA call upon our partners to invest in educating women and training/mentoring them in entrepreneurial skills.

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## Cooperating Institutions



## Quote of the Issue

*“Human progress is neither automatic nor inevitable. We are faced now with the fact that tomorrow is today. We are confronted with the fierce urgency of now. In this unfolding conundrum of life and history there is such a thing as being too late... We may cry out desperately for time to pause in her passage, but time is deaf to every plea and rushes on. Over the bleached bones and jumbled residues of numerous civilizations are written the pathetic words: Too late.”*

Martin Luther King Jr. *‘Where do we go from here: chaos or community’*

## Useful Websites

- Investing in European Research: [http://ec.europa.eu/invest-in-research/index\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/invest-in-research/index_en.htm)
- EUROPA - Environment – European Commission: [http://ec.europa.eu/environment/index\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/environment/index_en.htm)
- You Control Climate Change: <http://ec.europa.eu/environment/climat/campaign/index.htm>
- World Health Organization – Regional Office for Europe: <http://www.euro.who.int>

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