

PRESS RELEASE – LIFE PROGRAMME

The Department of Environment and the LIFE Cyclamen Project team organized a press event on the 29th of March 2018 at the University of Cyprus. The purpose of the event was to inform journalists about the LIFE programme – the EU’s most important financial instrument for environment and climate change.

The main purpose of the LIFE programme is to finance and assist in the implementation of community environmental policy and legislation. It targets organisations, research centres, private and government agencies, businesses, non-governmental organisations and local authorities.

In addition to providing general information about the Programme, the team also presented a LIFE project which was successfully funded and completed, namely Smart-PV. This project aimed at reducing the cost of electricity for consumers, and reducing the need for electricity generation through ‘smart’ systems.

In the framework of this project, photovoltaic and smart metres were applied on a pilot basis in homes in various regions of Cyprus. In addition, all home owners were trained with the purpose of improving their energy profile. The result was that they were able to reduce their electricity consumption and, of course, reduce the electricity bill they are required to pay every two months. The benefit to the environment is immediate, since less consumption means a reduction in carbon dioxide emissions.

All know-how developed through the Smart-PV project can now be used to implement future smart grids that will be available to all consumers. The coordinator of this project was the Photovoltaic Technology Laboratory of the University of Cyprus.

The Department of Environment currently runs its own LIFE Project, LIFE Cyclamen, which aims to support and assist Cypriot applicants and help increase the success rate of Cypriot proposals while making use of these EU funds to improve our environment.

To find out more about the LIFE Programme visit www.lifecyclamen.com.cy

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