

# Press Release



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## New Project TESTARE Launched: «Twinning for excellence in TEsting new generation PV: Long-term STAbility and field RELiability».



A new partnership that brings together four countries, Cyprus, Belgium, Germany and Israel has been launched for the implementation of a new project with the acronym «**TESTARE**» and entitled «**Twinning for excellence in TEsting new generation PV: Long-term STAbility and field RELiability**». The Coordinator is the DegradationLab, a new research strategic unit of the PV Technology Laboratory which is an integral part of the FOSS Research Centre for Sustainable Energy and the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering of the University of Cyprus.

The "TESTARE" project has been selected for funding by the European Commission in the context of the "**Twinning**" Topic of the "Widening participation and spreading excellence" component of the "Horizon Europe" Program. The total project funding is €1,499,996.25 and the funding for the University of Cyprus is €557,500.00. The project team comprises the University of Cyprus (UCY) and internationally-leading research institutions, namely the Interuniversity Microelectronics Centre (IMEC) - Belgium, the Fraunhofer Institute for Solar Energy Systems - Germany and the Ben-Gurion University of the Negev (BGU) - Israel.

In this project, the University of Cyprus will link effectively with the foreign organisations, aiming to stimulate excellence and innovation capacity at the DegradationLab of the PV Technology Laboratory in the field of long-term stability and field reliability testing of new and emerging photovoltaic (PV) technologies.

Key activities will include knowledge transfer, exchange of best practices between UCY and the leading partners, industrial networking and infrastructure sharing. The project will also focus on enhancing research management and administration capabilities at UCY to improve and make its research ecosystem

more sustainable whilst the leading partners will gain access to new markets in the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) region. An exploratory research project will also take place within “TESTARE” assessing the performance and lifetime of perovskite on silicon tandem modules, which are considered extremely promising for low-cost and highly flexible photovoltaics suitable for integration into the urban environment.

“TESTARE” is expected to lead to long-term ties between the partners which will enhance the Research & Innovation ecosystem of Cyprus.

The official launch date of “TESTARE” was the 1<sup>st</sup> of January 2023 and the project is scheduled to run for 36 months. The kick-off meeting was successfully held at the University of Cyprus on the 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> of February 2023.

The TESTARE project is funded by the European Union under Grant Agreement No. 101079488.

For more information, you may contact the project coordinator Dr. Maria Hadjipanayi (tel.: +357 22892287, email: [hadjipanayi.maria@ucy.ac.cy](mailto:hadjipanayi.maria@ucy.ac.cy)) or Professor George E. Georghiou (tel.: +357 22892272, email: [geg@ucy.ac.cy](mailto:geg@ucy.ac.cy)).

Stay tuned to learn more about this Horizon Europe Twinning project!



**End of announcement**