

Press Release



Communication Office
Promotion and
Development Sector

Telephone: 22894304
Email: prinfo@ucy.ac.cy
Website: www.ucy.ac.cy/pr

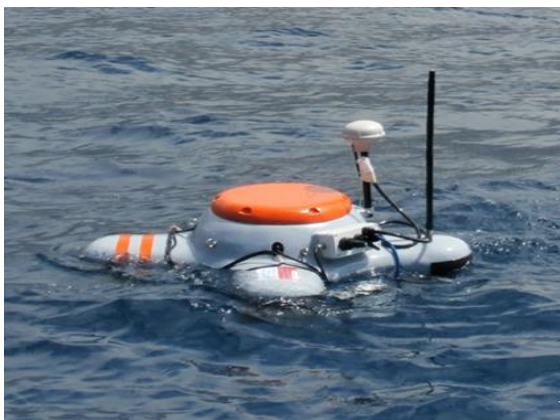


BY: ATHINA FRANGOULI SELIPA

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UCY OC HAS BEEN AWARDED NEW EU FUNDING FOR RESEARCH

Aims: Establishment of a Blue Career Centre in Cyprus & Enhancement of readiness in tackling oil spill impact on coastal areas



The Oceanography Centre University of Cyprus (UCY OC) is home of outstanding marine biology and ocean ecosystem researchers and experts. The Centre focuses on oil spill modelling, physical oceanography, operational oceanography, biological oceanography and data management and information, while its contribution in the field through the participation in a constantly increasing number of research programmes is significant. The Centre's research efforts in the

mentioned scientific directions are being given an additional boost thanks to the new funding awarded from the European Commission's Executive Agency for Small and Medium-sized Enterprises (EASME) for two new programmes.

The first UCY-led project selected to receive a total €689,762 funding (€113,848 allocated to UCY OC), with the acronym MENTOR, is entitled "**Blue Career Centre of Eastern Mediterranean and Black Sea**". The Blue Career Centre for the Eastern Mediterranean Sea (EM) and Black Sea (BS) that has been proposed to be created in the region aims to attract young people and experienced workers and fill existing skills' gaps by supporting activities that will increase employability in key Blue sectors of the region (maritime transport,

cruise and nautical tourism, aquaculture and offshore oil and gas). The partners are Maritime Institute of Eastern Mediterranean (MAR.IN.E.M), Cyprus Chamber of Commerce & Industry (CCCI), National Technical University of Athens (NTUA), Agricultural University of Athens (AUA), Marine Cluster Bulgaria (MCB), Universitatea Maritima Din Constanta (CMU) and University of Cyprus (UCY) as coordinator.

The second project is entitled “**Expanded Underwater Robotics Ready for Oil Spill (e-URready4OS)**” and its objective is the enhancement of readiness in tackling oil spill impact on coastal areas by improving the fleet of autonomous underwater robotic vehicles used to detect and monitor oil spills and leakages. The total funding secured for the 2-year programme by the eleven (11) partner entities is €798,106 (€43,355 allocated to UCY OC)



and the countries that have joined their forces are Estonia, England, Spain, Croatia, Norway, Portugal and Cyprus. The project is being coordinated by Technical University of Cartagena (TUC).

For more information regarding the programmes, contact Prof. Georgios Georgiou (georgios@ucy.ac.cy) and visit the website of the Centre (<http://www.ucy.ac.cy/oceanography/el> & <http://www.ucy.ac.cy/oceanography/en/general-information/>).

End of announcement

