



## **NETWORKING WORKSHOP - AGENDA**

### ***Energy and Sustainability in Cyprus and Israel***

**Date:** Monday 27<sup>th</sup> April 2026

**Institution Organizer/Host:** University of Cyprus and Ben Gurion University of the Negev

**Connect online** via TEAMS – Please register [here](#) to receive the connection details.

<b>EET</b>	<b>Duration</b>	<b>(Talk Duration: 15 min talks &amp; 5 min questions)</b>
<b>09:00</b>	<b>0:10</b>	<b>Welcome and TESTARE Project Overview</b> <i>Maria Hadjipanayi (University of Cyprus) - TESTARE Project Coordinator</i>
<b>Solar Energy and Emerging PV technologies (academic perspective)</b>		
<b>09:10</b>	<b>0:20</b>	<b>Deep learning for mapping solar panels and adoption rates in the Negev Beduin "pzura".</b> <i>Prof. Tal Svoray, (The Nitzan Moshe Center for Energy and Sustainability of Ben-Gurion University, Israel)</i>
<b>09:30</b>	<b>0:20</b>	<b>Engineering Interfaces and Functional Additives for Next-Generation Printed Solar Cells</b> <i>Dr. Apostolos Ioakeimidis (Cyprus University of Technology, Cyprus)</i>
<b>09:50</b>	<b>0:20</b>	<b>Halide composition controls phase Morphology toward high efficiency solar cells and safer perovskite processing</b> <i>Prof. Lioz Etgar (Hebrew University of Jerusalem, Israel)</i>
<b>10:10</b>	<b>0:20</b>	<b>Outdoor and indoor stability assessment of perovskite mini-modules</b> <i>Dr. Vasiliki Paraskeva (University of Cyprus, Cyprus)</i>
<b>10:30</b>	<b>0:15</b>	<b>Break</b>
<b>Sustainable technological applications (industrial perspective)</b>		
<b>10:45</b>	<b>0:20</b>	<b>From Perovskite Solar Cells to Scalable Industrial Indoor Energy Solutions</b> <i>Dr. Bat-El Cohen Wiesel (SOLRA-PV, Israel)</i>
<b>11:05</b>	<b>0:20</b>	<b>PV electronics by SolarEdge</b> <i>Rafael Fleicshman (Solar Edge, Israel)</i>
<b>11:25</b>	<b>0:20</b>	<b>Agrivoltaics in Cyprus combining energy and fruit production</b> <i>Dr. Charalambos Anastassiou (IQ3SOLAR, Cyprus)</i>
<b>11:45</b>	<b>0:20</b>	<b>Ministry of Energy's Initiatives in R&amp;D in Israel</b> <i>Dr. Yael Herman (Ministry of Energy, Israel)</i>





12:05	0:10	<b>Break</b>
12:15	0:20	<b>From Concept to Customer: Taking an IoT Solution to Market</b> <i>Dr. Matthew Norton (Hot Water Control Ltd., Cyprus)</i>
12:35	0:20	<b>Crop-Aware Solar Innovation: Greenhouse Agrivoltaics Research at Al-Qasemi Academic College</b> <i>Esther Magadley (Al-Qasemi Academic College, Israel)</i>
12:55	0:20	<b>Building Pathways from Research to Market: The Cyprus Seeds Approach</b> <i>Margarita Kyprianou (Cyprus Seeds, Cyprus)</i>
13:15	0:20	<b>Panel discussion</b> <i>Chairs: Dr. Maria Hadjipanayi (University of Cyprus, Cyprus) and Dr. Yousef Farraj (SOLRA-PV, Israel)</i>
13:35	1 hour	<b>Lunch break</b>
<b>Initiatives towards sustainable energy politics</b>		
14:35	0:20	<b>AgriPV Research in Israel: Challenges and Opportunities.</b> <i>Dr. Helena Vitoshkin (ARO, Volcani Center, Israel)</i>
14:55	0:20	<b>Green Hydrogen in Cyprus: Between Policy Ambition and Market Reality – The GreenH2CY Experience</b> <i>Dr. Chryso Sotiriou (Ideopsis, Cyprus)</i>
15:15	0:20	<b>The transition of national grids to renewable electricity: a multi-regional energy management framework</b> <i>Dr. Gur Mittelman (Afeka College of Engineering, Israel)</i>
15:35	0:20	<b>From Signals to Action: Unlocking Predictive PV O&amp;M with Weather and Performance Trends</b> <i>Dr. Spyros Theocharides (Univers AS)</i>
15:55	0:20	<b>How can solar energy emerge from its own success trap</b> <i>Gideon Friedman (Netzero, Israel)</i>
16:15	0:20	<b>Panel discussion</b> <i>Chair: Dr. Venizelos Efthymiou (EPL Technology Frontiers Ltd)</i>
16:35	0:05	<b>Closing remarks and end of workshop</b>

### Abstract

This online networking event organised by the TESTARE Project, serves as a strategic forum for initiating cross-border collaboration between Cyprus and Israel within the energy and sustainability sectors. By convening a diverse assembly of academics, R&D professionals, industry leaders, and governmental





stakeholders, the event facilitates high-level dialogue on sustainable innovation and emerging challenges within the energy sector.

The program is designed to promote interdisciplinary partnerships and collaborations. Through this event, participants will be able to explore potential joint initiatives and cross-industry synergies between the two countries aimed at accelerating the transition toward resilient, sustainable energy systems. This structured environment offers a unique opportunity for stakeholders for both countries and beyond to share expertise, bridge the gap between research and industry, and forge lasting professional alliances.

### **TESTARE Project Background**

[TESTARE](#) is a Horizon Europe project that aims to stimulate excellence at the University of Cyprus (UCY) in the topic of new-generation PV technologies from the perspective of long-term stability and field reliability testing. In particular, the project aims to improve the R&I capabilities of the DegradationLab, a new research strategic unit of UCY which focuses on the study of degradation of new and emerging PV devices. To this end, UCY links with internationally leading research institutions, namely Interuniversity Microelectronics Centre (imec), Fraunhofer Institute for Solar Energy Systems (Fraunhofer), and Ben-Gurion University of the Negev (BGU). The project targets to improve the R&I output of DegradationLab in the defined domain, boost its success rate in funding bids, enhance its reputation/visibility, develop long-term ties with the advanced partners, strengthen industry and MENA links, contribute to enhancing research management and administration capabilities at UCY towards making more sustainable its research ecosystem.

