

Research and Innovation Matchmaking Event 2026

8 and 9 June 2026, Athens, Greece



*EEN Cyprus, Greece and Czechia join forces to unlock
research and innovation and business opportunities*

International matchmaking event connects research, industry and SMEs
to explore EU funding and build strategic partnerships

AGENDA

Latest update:
Friday, 5 June 2026

EEN CYPRUS



EEN HELLAS



NATIONAL DOCUMENTATION CENTRE



EEN CZECHIA



Introduction

The Research and Innovation Matchmaking Event 2026, taking place on 8 and 9 June 2026 in Athens, Greece, is an international networking and collaboration initiative jointly organised by members of the Enterprise Europe Network from Cyprus ([EEN Cyprus](#)) and Greece ([EEN Hellas](#)), with the support of the [EEN Czechia](#). Bringing together research organisations, universities, SMEs, start-ups, industry representatives, innovation agencies, clusters, public authorities, funding experts and policy stakeholders, the event aims to transform ideas, expertise and technological solutions into concrete cross-border partnerships.

The event takes place at a particularly important moment for European research, innovation and industrial competitiveness. The European Commission's proposal for the European Competitiveness Fund, within the next long-term EU budget, places renewed emphasis on strategic technologies, simplified access to EU funding, stronger links between research and market deployment, and increased support for SMEs, start-ups, scale-ups and research institutions. Against this evolving policy background, the event provides a timely platform for participants to understand emerging EU priorities, position their organisations within future funding opportunities, and build partnerships capable of contributing to Europe's competitiveness, resilience and technological leadership.

The Enterprise Europe Network plays a central role in this process. As the world's largest support network for SMEs with international ambitions, EEN helps businesses innovate, grow and connect with partners across Europe and beyond. Through this event, EEN Cyprus, EEN Hellas and EEN Czechia act not only as organisers, but also as facilitators of collaboration between research and business communities. The programme is designed to help participants identify relevant partners, explore project ideas, prepare for EU funding opportunities and make effective use of the **EEN Partnering Opportunities Platform** to support consortium building and follow-up cooperation.

The programme combines high-level policy input, practical funding guidance and targeted matchmaking. It includes opening remarks from EEN and diplomatic representatives, a keynote session on the European Competitiveness Fund proposal, an open discussion on future EU funding directions, a session on the role of Horizon Europe National Contact Points, and a dedicated presentation on maximising R&D collaboration opportunities through the EEN Partnering Platform. These sessions are complemented by thematic pitching activities, bilateral meetings, networking moments and information points, creating a practical environment for both strategic discussion and hands-on partnership development.

The thematic focus of the event reflects key European priorities and emerging research and innovation domains, including AI, data and advanced digital technologies; agriculture and soil; blue economy, water and coastal resilience; digital health; clean energy, storage and climate neutrality; smart cities, sustainable mobility and the built environment; widening participation and spreading excellence; and the New European Bauhaus Facility. Across these areas, participants are invited to present project concepts, research capacities, technology solutions, innovation needs, partnership offers and collaboration interests linked to Horizon Europe, Digital Europe, Erasmus+, Creative Europe, CERV, AMIF, the New European Bauhaus Facility and other relevant EU initiatives.

The structure of the event is deliberately interactive. Pitching sessions are followed by dedicated matchmaking and B2B networking activities, enabling participants to move from presentation to dialogue, from dialogue to partner identification, and from partner identification to future project development. This approach reflects the practical value of EEN as a bridge between research, innovation and the market, supporting organisations to connect across borders, strengthen their European networks and develop more competitive consortia.

With more than 180 participants already registered from Cyprus, Greece, Czechia and other European countries, the Research and Innovation Matchmaking Event 2026 has attracted strong international interest. The agenda brings together a diverse mix of research excellence, entrepreneurial innovation, technological expertise and funding knowledge. As additional speakers, presentations and matchmaking opportunities continue to be

added, the event is expected to serve as a dynamic platform for building the partnerships, capacities and project ideas needed for the next generation of European research and innovation cooperation.

This agenda represents the latest available version of the programme and may be further updated with new presentations, keynote contributions, networking sessions and thematic activities prior to the event.

More information, participant profiles and programme updates are available at:

Research & Innovation Matchmaking Event Website - <https://research-innovation.eu/>

Monday, 8 June 2026

TIME			Syggrou Tower, Ifigenia Room	
13:00 – 13:15	REGISTRATION & INFORMATION	COFFEE STATIONS		
13:15 – 13:30				
13:30 – 13:45			Opening addresses and welcome remarks - Stalo Demosthenous, Director, Department of Services, Trade and Digitalisation, Cyprus Chamber of Commerce and Industry, EEN Cyprus By EEN Hellas (representative to be confirmed) Martina Dočkalová, Deputy Head of Mission, Embassy of the Czech Republic in Athens Iosif Kypraios, Commercial Counsellor, Cyprus Embassy Trade Center Athens, Embassy of Cyprus in Athens	
13:45 – 14:00			GENERAL SESSION AI, DATA AND ADVANCED DIGITAL TECHNOLOGIES F 1. Towards an Interoperable Data Framework for Biodiversity and Environmental Monitoring, by <i>Roman HRUBÝ</i>, Research Manager, Charles University, Faculty of Science, Czechia	

14:00 – 14:15	REGISTRATION & INFORMATION	COFFEE STATIONS	AI, DATA AND ADVANCED DIGITAL TECHNOLOGIES F 2. SKILLFLOW: Building Portable Industrial Competence and Knowledge for the Workforce of the Future, by <i>Christos Papadakis</i>, CEO, Lioncode, Greece	
14:15 – 14:30			AI, DATA AND ADVANCED DIGITAL TECHNOLOGIES F 3. SMART-MAINTAIN: AI-Driven Predictive Maintenance and Digital Skills Platform for Heavy-Duty Industrial, Construction and Marine Fleets, by <i>Socratis Nicolaou</i>, Business Development Manager, NI & ST TRADING CO. LTD, Cyprus 37. From Connectivity to Intelligence: Teleglobal IoT Applications, by <i>Christianna Sakka</i>, Project Manager, Teleglobal Telecommunications LP, Greece	
14:30 – 14:45				MATCHMAKING ACTIVITY – GENERAL SESSION⁵ The presenters of the “GENERAL SESSION” will be available for B2B Meetings
14:45 – 15:00			Break and networking time	
15:00 – 15:15			Keynote speech: European Competitiveness Fund proposal – In a nutshell” Achilleas Barlas, Coordinator of Enterprise Europe Network-Hellas, Coordinator of Innovation in SMEs Unit, PRAXI Network, Greece Anastasia Sarchosoglou, Coordinator of Enterprise Europe Network-Hellas, Project Manager, National Documentation Centre, Greece	

15:15 – 15:30	INFORMATION	COFFEE STATIONS	Open Discussion on the European Competitiveness Fund Moderator: Stalo Demosthenous, Director, Department of Services, Trade and Digitalisation, Cyprus Chamber of Commerce and Industry, EEN Cyprus	
15:30 – 15:45			The Role of National Contact Points of Horizon Europe, <i>by Henry Scott, National Contact Point for Horizon Europe, National Documentation Centre, Greece and Maria Mikroni, National Contact Point for Horizon Europe, PRAXI Network, Greece</i>	
15:45 – 16:00				
16:00 – 16:15			Maximising R&D Collaboration Opportunities through the EEN Partnering Platform, <i>by Elpida P. Christou, Director of Operations Strategy and Projects, European Office of Cyprus, EEN Senior Advisor, EEN Cyprus</i>	
16:15 – 16:30			This session will present the Enterprise Europe Network (EEN) Partnering Opportunities Platform and demonstrate how participants can use it to identify partners, schedule matchmaking meetings and support consortium building for future European projects and EU funding opportunities.	

16:30 – 16:45			Light afternoon meal and networking session	
16:45 – 17:00				
17:00 – 17:15				
17:15 – 17:30				
17:30 – 17:45				

Tuesday, 9 June 2026						
TIME			Syggrou Tower, Ifigenia Room		Beekeeping Museum, 1 st floor	
09:00 – 09:05	REGISTRATION & INFORMATION	COFFEE STATIONS				
09:05 – 09:15					 Smart Cities, Sustainable Mobility and Built Environment 8. RAPIDX: Unleashing AI to Redefine Material Sensing in Real-Time , by <i>Constantinos Loizou, CEO, EMBIO Diagnostics, Cyprus</i>	
09:15 – 09:30			 Agriculture and Soil 4. SOIL4SECURITY: Joint Demonstration of Soil Solutions for Climate Adaptation, Food Stability and Resilient Soil Systems Under Extreme Climate Events , by <i>Elias Matsaridis, Learning and Knowledge Development, Agrotech Innovations Ltd, Cyprus</i>		9. Energy efficient AI data processing , by <i>Christoforos Kachris, Assistant Professor, University of West Attica, Greece</i>	
09:30 – 09:45			5. AI Decision Engine for Climate-Resilient Irrigation in Tree Crops , by <i>Ioannis Safarikas, CEO & AI Irrigation Systems Researcher, Terra MIND, Greece</i>		10. e-CODOMH Networks & STARtrack Tools to advance sustainable, human-centered innovations and construction solutions across regional value chains , by <i>Constantina-Dia ANDREOULI, Innovation Manager & Secretary General BoD, e-CODOMH cluster, Greece</i>	
09:45 – 10:00			6. From Observations to Action: Collaborative Solutions for Biodiversity, NBS, and Doctoral Training , by <i>Laura Mickova, Senior Research Manager, Czech University of Life Sciences Prague (CZU), Czechia</i>		11. Humanity has failed at driving. And the system keeps rewarding it , by <i>Balazs Mezos, CEO, MIERT studio, Hungary</i>	
			7. Closing the Loop on Nature: Biodiversity & Circularity Partnerships for Horizon Europe , by <i>Markus Dettenhofer, Senior Researcher, Czech University of Life Sciences Prague (CZU), Czechia</i>		23. ReSourceSmart: Transforming Urban Resource Collection through AI and Smart Infrastructure , by <i>Panagiotis Menegatos, Founder, ReSourceSmart, Greece</i>	

10:00 – 10:15	REGISTRATION & INFORMATION	COFFEE STATIONS		MATCHMAKING ACTIVITY Agriculture and Soil		MATCHMAKING ACTIVITY Smart Cities, Sustainable Mobility and Built Environment
10:15 – 10:30			 Widening participation and Spreading excellence 12. European Thesis-to-Innovation Network , by <i>Efthymios Tsatsaris, Founder and CEO, eThesis P.C., Greece</i> 13. Three Opportunities from the Faculty of Science, Charles University: Talent Ecosystems, ERA Chair in Demography and ERA Research Manager for CoE Biocentrum Albertov , by <i>Kateřina Chmelíková, Head of the Department of International Projects, Faculty of Science, Charles University, Czechia</i>		 Blue Economy, Water and Coastal Resilience 16. Rabid Environmental Assessment of Air and Water Quality under Climate and Environmental Risk Conditions , by <i>Alexandros Papagiannis, Professor and Director of Laser Remote Sensing Unit (LRSU), Athanassios Kontos, Professor and Director of Advanced Materials and Micro/Nano Devices, and Nikolaos Alexis, Educator & Consultant in Research, Innovation & Educational Development, National Technical University of Athens, Greece</i>	
10:30 – 10:45			14. Bringing science to people across Europe: Two HEU WIDERA opportunities coordinated by the Faculty of Science, Charles University , by <i>Martina Holíková, Research grant specialist (pre-award), Faculty of Science, Charles University, Czechia</i>		17. Water Intelligence for Climate-Resilient Agricultural Cooperatives: AI, Satellite Observation and ESG Documentation , by <i>Panagiotis (Panos) Katsikaris, Founder & Managing Director, MediTaste – The Greek Food Export Lab, Greece</i>	
10:45 – 11:00			15. Widening Participation through Creative Technologies, AI and Interdisciplinary Research		 Digital Health 18. 4 in 1: the Research and Clinical Expertise of the European Institute of the Study of the Family - Avenues for Collaboration , by <i>Dr Kleanthis Neophytou, European</i>	

11:00 – 11:15	REGISTRATION & INFORMATION	COFFEE STATIONS	Excellence , by Styliani Petroudi, Innovation Director, CYENS Centre of Excellence, Cyprus		Institute for the Study of the Family: A Social Innovation, Cyprus 19. Building the Future of AI-Supported Speech Therapy and Early Intervention , by Kalliopi Arletou, Founder, Logotherapy Pro, Greece 38. THERMOS: Thermal Exposure and Hypertension Risk Omics System , by Dr Kyriakos Varnava, Senior Research Project Manager, biobank.cy – Centre of Excellence in Biobanking and Biomedical Research, University of Cyprus, Cyprus	
11:15 – 11:30				MATCHMAKING ACTIVITY Widening participation and Spreading excellence		
11:30 – 11:45			 New European Bauhaus Facility 20. Sensing the "Invisible" Well-being of Neighborhoods , by Monika Snitila, Research Manager, Faculty of Science, Department of International Projects, Charles University, Czechia 21. in.mat-Lab Business Accelerator-Research & Innovation , by Antonia Ekonomakou, General Manager, in.mat-Lab SMPC, Greece		 AI, Data and Advanced Digital Technologies 24. SENTECH: Trusted Partner in European Defence R&D — From Radar/EW Simulation to AI-Driven Target Recognition , by Michelle Russo, Tech Director, Sentech Srl, Italy	MATCHMAKING ACTIVITY Blue Economy, Water and Coastal Resilience Digital Health
11:45 – 12:00			22. How to address the New European Bauhaus Calls Requirements , by Panos Chatzimathios, Visual Communication Expert and Georgia Nikolakopoulou,		25. Volumetric Video Capture and Replay for Performance Arts , by Anastasios Gkaravelis, CTO, Phasmatic, Greece 26. EMPEDUS: Europe's Trusted Operationalisation Partner , by Panagiotis Tzortzis, Head, EU Funded	

12:00 – 12:15	REGISTRATION & INFORMATION	COFFEE STATIONS	Communication and Dissemination Strategist and Future Needs, Cyprus (1 pitching slot available)		Research Projects, EMPEDUS (QUALCO GROUP), Greece 27. Unifying Enterprise Systems with Sovereign, AI-Ready Portals by <i>Andreas Bougiouklis, CEO, PaperTrail, Greece</i>	
12:15 – 12:30						
12:30 – 12:45						
12:45 – 13:00			 Clean Energy, Storage and Climate Neutrality 28. Quantum-Enhanced AI Decision Layer for Energy Storage, Flexibility and Multi-Market Optimisation, by <i>Nikos Douros, CEO and Co-Founder, Quantum Optima I.K.E., Greece</i>	MATCHMAKING ACTIVITY New European Bauhaus Facility	 Digital Health 30. GMP-Compliant Stem Cell and 4D-Printed Scaffold Platform for Musculoskeletal Tissue Regeneration, by <i>Aristeidis Kritis, Director, Stem Cell and Regenerative Medicine Centre, Greece</i>	MATCHMAKING ACTIVITY AI, Data and Advanced Digital Technologies
13:00 – 13:15			29. One hub, nine spokes: NEST brings together and coordinates the most important partners among universities, research centres, and companies to drive		31. LGAD-Based Detector Technologies for Ion Imaging and Proton Therapy Verification, by <i>Theodoros Alexopoulos, Professor, Director of Laboratory of Experimental High Energy Physics & Instrumentation,</i>	

13:15 – 13:30			Italy's energy transition, <i>by Tania Sanna, Grant Manager for NEST Foundation, The Hive Bureau, Italy</i>		<i>School of Applied Mathematical and Physical Sciences (SEMFE), Ioannis Kopsalis, Professor, and Nikolaos Alexis, Educator & Consultant in Research, Innovation & Educational Development, National Technical University of Athens, Greece</i>	
13:30 – 13:45			35. PROTEAS: A strategic hub for Renewable Energy Testing and Innovation , <i>by Marios C. Georgiou, Head of PROTEAS Facility, The Cyprus Institute, Cyprus</i> (1 pitching slot available)		32. TeleNurse Plus: A Cross-Border Digital Nursing Model for Remote Patient Monitoring and Continuity of Care in the EU , <i>by Ioannis Petropoulos, CEO, TeleNurse plus, Greece</i>	
13:45 – 14:00	COFFEE STATIONS			MATCHMAKING ACTIVITY Clean Energy, Storage and Climate Neutrality 	33. Raman Spectroscopy and AI-Assisted Biomedical Characterisation for Digital Health Applications , <i>by Athanassios Kontos, Professor and Director of Advanced Materials and Micro/Nano Devices, and Nikolaos Alexis, Educator & Consultant in Research, Innovation & Educational Development, National Technical University of Athens, Greece</i>	
14:00 – 14:15						MATCHMAKING ACTIVITY Digital Health 
14:00 – 14:30						