



EMME-CARE

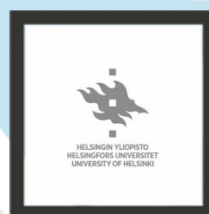
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D9.1 Consolidated and Upgraded Website for CoE

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Introduction

The new Center of Excellence (CoE) will build and capitalize on the relevant considerable experience and know-how already existing at The Cyprus Institute (Cyl), particularly in its previous “Atmosphere & Climate Division” (now respectively the Environmental Observations and Environmental Predictions Departments within the “CARE-C: Climate and Atmosphere Research Center” generated by EMME-CARE), as well as at the Advanced Teaming Partners of EMME-CARE, especially benefiting from the already established interaction and collaboration within the course of the “Teaming-Phase-I” EMME-CARE project (Grant No. 763699).

As it was also stated in the “Deliverable D2.3: **Report on Dissemination, Exploitation and Communication Plan for the Centre**”, from EMME-CARE Phase I (Grant No. 763699), upon the establishment of the CoE, there would be immediate actions for the creation of a dedicated CoE website. The website would be dynamic, with menus/links and sub-menus, to be able to manage content when required and ensure that it has the functionality necessary to reflect EMME-CARE’s development and meet its evolving needs through the project’s lifecycle.

Based on the above, this document refers to the **consolidation and upgrade of the website** created from the “Teaming Phase I” into the new “CARE-C” CoE website, along with the relevant functional social media; LinkedIn, Twitter, ResearchGate, and Facebook.

More specifically, this document refers to **Deliverable D9.1: Consolidated and Upgraded Website for CoE (led by Cyl)**, which addresses the processes for the **consolidation and upgrade** of the existing EMME-CARE website developed under Phase I, including **enhancing its features at front-end and back-end pages**, in addition to **content, monitoring and performance**. Furthermore, this Deliverable will also refer to changes implemented in the structure of the Cyl-Website to showcase information for the newly established CARE-C CoE, which has been established officially launched on 1st January 2020.

This task has been handled by the recently established RISO (Research and Innovation Support Operations Office) and performed with the great support of newly recruited (EMME-)CARE-C staff, and in particular our IT Officer (recruited in January 2020) for the entire technical reshaping of the EMME-CARE website (see below section 1).

The current version of the website has been designed to fulfil the needs of an internet platform fully operational in the first few months following the start of the project. It is clear to us that most of the contents currently available will be improved both in quality and quantity with 1) the continuous support of our IT officer (for the technical development of EMME-CARE webpages/sub-menus), 2) the contribution of our newly recruited communication coordinator (for the overall outlook and continuous inputs with new material), and 3) participation of CARE-C scientific/technical staff and Advanced Partners with the provision of new R&D features.

1. Consolidation and upgrading of EMME-CARE website from Teaming-Phase-I into CARE-C CoE

Over the preceding months, as per the Grant Agreement (GA), EMME-CARE has continued to evolve and refine its organizational structure and resourcing, expand its activities as per the project plan, and establish the Climate and Atmosphere Research Centre (CARE-C). The website of EMME-CARE (Phase I) has been consolidated and upgraded accordingly to reflect this evolution. As the virtual, public ‘storefront’ for EMME-CARE, our intention is to **continuously upgrade and refine the website, both in terms of its functionality and content**, to ensure it continues to best serve the needs of the project and the new CoE, and inform relevant audiences and stakeholders of the project’s and CoE’s purpose, its latest R&D activities, products, services and results.




The version of the website discussed in the following sections is fully operational and user-friendly, yet, given the above, we do not consider it to be ‘final’. It fulfils its purpose in presenting the world with an accurate, informative and visually appealing picture of where EMME-CARE is today, yet we intend to continue to develop its content and functionality in response to the project’s changing needs and development, in alignment to the ethos outlined above.









1.1. Updated and consolidated website content and structure

The content and structure of the EMME-CARE website has been refined and expanded to reflect the creation as of 1st January 2020 of CARE-C, its new, and the consolidation of existing, Research Departments and Research Infrastructure Units in the context of the CARE-C CoE, along with the creation of the Offices that have been established to support the CoE’s activities.

Accordingly, relevant content has been added under two new tabs: “**Offices**” and “**Departments**”. The “Offices” tab contains relevant information about the CoE’s “Director’s Office”, and “Research Innovation Support Operations (RISO)”, whilst the “Departments” tab provides relevant information for each of the CoE’s Research Departments, namely; the “Environmental Observations Department”, the “Environmental Predictions Department”, the “Impact & Policy Department” and the “Innovation Department”. Content under the “Infrastructure” tab has also been consolidated and expanded, with content on individual pages created for each of Research Infrastructure Units of the CoE. Content under a new Project Deliverables tab has also been added, whilst content has been updated and expanded throughout the rest of the website. Relevant “screenshots” for some of the aforementioned new content may be found in Annex I, for reference.

Appropriately, the sitemap of the EMME-CARE (Phase II – Grant No. 856612) website, accessed via <http://emme-care.cyi.ac.cy/>, has been updated as follows:

-  Main menu – Home Page
-  Homepage – Front Page
-  About
 - Vision and Context
 - Project Overview
 - Project Deliverables

-  Who We Are (to be updated twice per year)
 - People
 - Publications
 - Opportunities
 - Education & Training
 - Documentation
 - News
 - Links
-  Partners (to be checked once per year)
 - University of Helsinki (UHEL)
 - Commissariat à l'Energie Atomique (CEA)
 - Max Planck Institute for Chemistry (MPIC)
 - The Cyprus Institute (Cyl)
-  Networks (to be updated once per year)
-  Events (to be updated for any new event)
-  Offices
 - Care-C Director's Office
 - Research Innovation Support Operations (RISO)
-  Departments (to be updated once per year)
 - Environmental Observations Department
 - Environmental Predictions Department
 - Impact & Policy Department
 - Innovation Department
-  Infrastructure (to be updated once per year)
 - Cyprus Atmospheric Observatory (CAO)
 - Unmanned Systems Research Laboratory (USRL)
 - Instrumentation Laboratory (IL) & NanoLab Facility
 - Environmental Chemistry Laboratory (ECL)
 - Atmosphere and Climate Data Centre (DAC)
 - Environmental Chamber (EC)
 - Mobile Laboratory Unit (MoLa)
 - Cy-Tera
-  Contact Us

This structure will evolve during the lifetime of EMME-CARE and new sections will be created such as **“Products/Services”** to display the latest R&D developments of the Innovation Department and **“Atmospheric Data”** that will provide a meta-data repository that will illustrate the large number of new environmental observations relevant to the EMME region and produced through the EMME-CARE project. A **“Projects”** section (with past and ongoing R&D projects) will illustrate (and promote) the research activities (and performance) of EMME-CARE, which is critical for the credibility of the CoE for participating in new competitive research calls.

These new sections are expected to attract a large number of additional visitors who are interesting in collaborating with CARE-C. They will also contribute to increasing the overall visibility and reputation of the new CoE.

Relevant “screenshots” for some of the pages mentioned above may be found in Annex I, for reference.

1.2. Front-end improvements

To enable a more user-friendly navigation experience, a more minimalistic material design has now been adopted, with minimal invasive animations. The design of the website’s homepage, header, and footer have been significantly simplified in order to improve readability. Further, the main menu was optimized, and its elements were re-arranged to provide a short two-step path for all endpoints.

Additionally, the short auto-play video in the homepage’s header has been replaced with a new video, which has been specifically edited and designed to better reflect the CoE’s vision, whilst it has also minimised website loading times. The full **YouTube** version of the video is also available in a modal that appears by clicking “Watch our Video” frontpage button to provide the user with additional content and further enhance user experience.

Other immediately noticeable design improvements have been achieved by doing the following:

- The website’s “Sidebar” element was redesigned to better support the expansion of the website’s structure and content.
- In the “Contact us” page the map showing the Cyl’s location was resized and properly aligned.
- Several fixes were applied to JavaScript code in *js/dist/main.js* file in order to eliminate bugs in auto-resize and smooth-scroll functions.

Several less-visible improvements have also been applied to the website’s stylesheet to improve its appearance and provide a more user-friendly experience in both desktop and responsive layouts. These include the following:

- Sticky menu vertical alignment has been increased to 14px for proper alignment.
- Primary menu item padding was reduced to 15px to allow more items to show properly.
- The footer’s top padding was eliminated in responsive mode to make it more visually appealing.
- In the footer, navigation top padding was set to 40px and navigation bottom padding was set to 60px.
- The footer’s Copyright top padding was reduced to 20px in order to align properly with the other footer elements.
- Navigation design and hover actions for footers and sidebars were changed to in order to achieve an easier to the eye, “material” look.
- Margin for Image and Video element was set to auto, for better alignment on large desktop screens.
- The Research carousel’s height was set to 360px to make it more visually appealing and better fit in with the wider page design.
- In the “People” section’s personnel table, a complete desktop and responsive css code was written from scratch to achieve the best possible appearance in both cases.

1.3. Server-side upgrades

To improve the website's credibility and search engine ranking, the *php* version of the server is upgraded from 5.4 to 7.3, to improve website performance, and an *SSL encryption* is enabled. The same improvements will be performed for the different EMME-CARE Facilities (CAO, USRL, etc).

Further, the server's security is increased by *enabling automatic firewall rules* to block incoming traffic from hosts that had many failed login attempts.

1.4. Other improvements

Further to the improvements mentioned above, a number of other changes have been implemented to improve the website's design, functionality and ease of navigation.

This includes the implementation of content automatic imports as per below:

- In the “**Opportunities**” section, the available jobs are now loading automatically from the *jobboard.cyi.ac.cy RSS feed*. It will be completed with the Job Offers of the Advanced Partners.
- In “**Publications**”, the relevant data is now loading automatically from the respective section of the *cyi.ac.cy* website.
- The table under “CARE-C Team” title in the “**People**” section, is now loading automatically from the respective section of *cyi.ac.cy* website, which is updated on a monthly basis as a function of new arrivals/departures.
- The disclaimer for the acknowledgment of funding at the bottom of the “**Homepage**” has been updated to indicate both European as well as Governmental sources of funding.

Further, new **Google Analytics code** was installed to allow us to better monitor website traffic in order to better understand how users interact with the website, recognize patterns in navigation behaviours and adapt the website's content and functionality accordingly. This help us to better respond to the needs and interests of its visitors, and ultimately, to better support the communication and dissemination of CoE's purpose, activities and results. In response to this, a Cookies Policy has been added to the website's footer.

Finally, the website's back-end interface is being optimized to support the potential implementation of specific pages in Arabic and/or French to support more direct regional outreach in alignment with the CoE's evolving activities and needs in the EMME region. Embedded google translations support any immediate “translation” needs that arise in the area, in the interim of the optimization.

2. Links to social media channels

Links to the CoE's social media channels have been added to the website. These channels are:

- Twitter: [@EMMECARE](https://twitter.com/EMMECARE)
- LinkedIn: <https://www.linkedin.com/company/emme-care>
- Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/EMMECARE>
- ResearchGate.net: <https://www.researchgate.net/project/EMME-CARE-Eastern-Mediterranean-Middle-East-Climate-Atmosphere-Research-Centre>

Particular efforts will be put to ensure that a maximum number of CARE-C (and Advanced Partner) research staff follow EMME-CARE on social media.

In addition to informing website visitors of the CoE's social media channels, the signposting of these links is also meant to encourage the **creation of a modern, digital, multi-channel community** around the CoE and promote the two-way transfer of information and feedback relating to the CoE in a digital form, in addition to physical communication and interactions taking place during events and conferences.

3. New CoE section on the Cyl website

To reflect project developments mentioned above, a new dedicated section for CARE-C has been created on the Cyl-website, accessed via <https://www.cyi.ac.cy/index.php/care-c/about-the-center/care-c-center-overview.html>.

The content of the new CoE section reflects the new content added to the EMME-CARE website while the new section's structure is aligned to the CoE's research areas and activities whilst ensuring consistency in presentation with the wider Cyl website. The below sitemap will be enriched in due time with additional information about the new CoE, its projects and its activities.

The sitemap of the new CoE section on the Cyl website is as follows:

-  About CARE-C
 - Centre Overview
 - CARE-C Government structure
 - CARE-C People
 - Administrative & Research Support Offices
 - Research Infrastructure Units
-  Areas of Research
 - Environmental Observations
 - Environmental Predictions
 - Impact & Policy
 - Innovation
-  Research Information
 - Ongoing Projects
 - Completed projects
-  General Information

— Contact the Centre

Relevant “screenshots” for some of the pages mentioned above may be found in Annex II, for reference.

4. New features of the EMME-CARE website

In the forthcoming months major improvements will be brought to the EMME-CARE website. A few examples are listed below:

The **Cyprus Atmospheric Observatory (CAO)** webpage. This EMME-CARE flagship facility is a major selling point of CARE-C as it will provide new High-Quality environmental observations currently missing in the EMME region. This webpage will be completely re-organized following the structure of the USRL webpage (<https://usrl.cyi.ac.cy/>) with more multi-media contents and technical information. It will display at the front page, through an interactive Cyprus map, an exhaustive list of environmental observations (atmospheric parameters) and list of scientific instruments that will be purchased in EMME-CARE (Cyprus Governmental funds). This will inform the scientific community about our competitive research capacity and the relevance of our long-term monitoring strategy.

Additional multi-media features will be added such as “live webcam” that will display in real-time atmospheric (weather) conditions at the location of our environmental observations. Very few live webcams are available in Cyprus, making this webpage even more attractive. A “plug-in” of the live webcam will be proposed in major Cyprus websites (newspapers, TV channels, etc) with a direct link to the CARE-C webpage.

Environmental data webpage (new). Several attractive contents will be proposed at the front page such as a data visualization tool to display weather and air pollutant observations in close to real-time. Collaboration with the Department of Labour Inspection (Air Quality Stations Network) and Department of Environment (Weather Stations Network) will allow the fast and efficient implementation of the data visualisation applications. An “environmental data repository” will be created following the structure established with the EU-FP7 DARECLIMED webpage at the Cyprus Institute (<https://www.cyi.ac.cy/index.php/dareclimed-data-repository.html>).

Publications webpage. Efforts will be paid to create links towards “open-access pdf documents”. Several KPIs will be provided at the front page such as a visual of the accumulated (year-by-year) number of publications of CARE-C in peer-review scientific journals. The ‘acknowledgement statement’ for EMME-CARE funding (to be used for any scientific communication) will be made available in this section.

Products/services (new). This webpage is expected to receive a lot of interest from various stakeholder communities and, at the beginning of EMME-CARE, it was the main selling point of the technical developments and services of EMME-CARE, such as High-Quality Environmental analyses, UAV-sensor systems, etc.

ANNEX I – Indicative “Screenshots” from the upgraded and consolidated EMME-CARE website

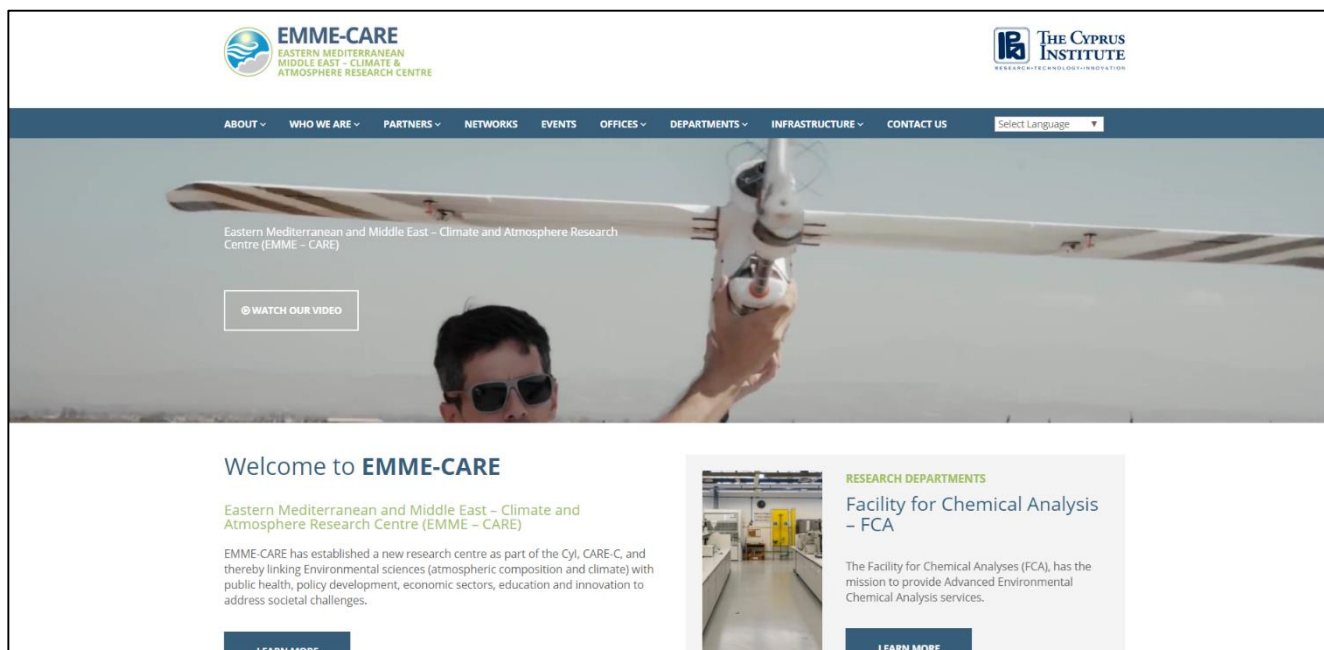


Figure 1: Screenshot of the “Homepage” of the EMME-CARE website
<https://emme-care.cyi.ac.cy/>



Figure 2: Screenshot of the new “Impact & Policy Department” page of the EMME-CARE website

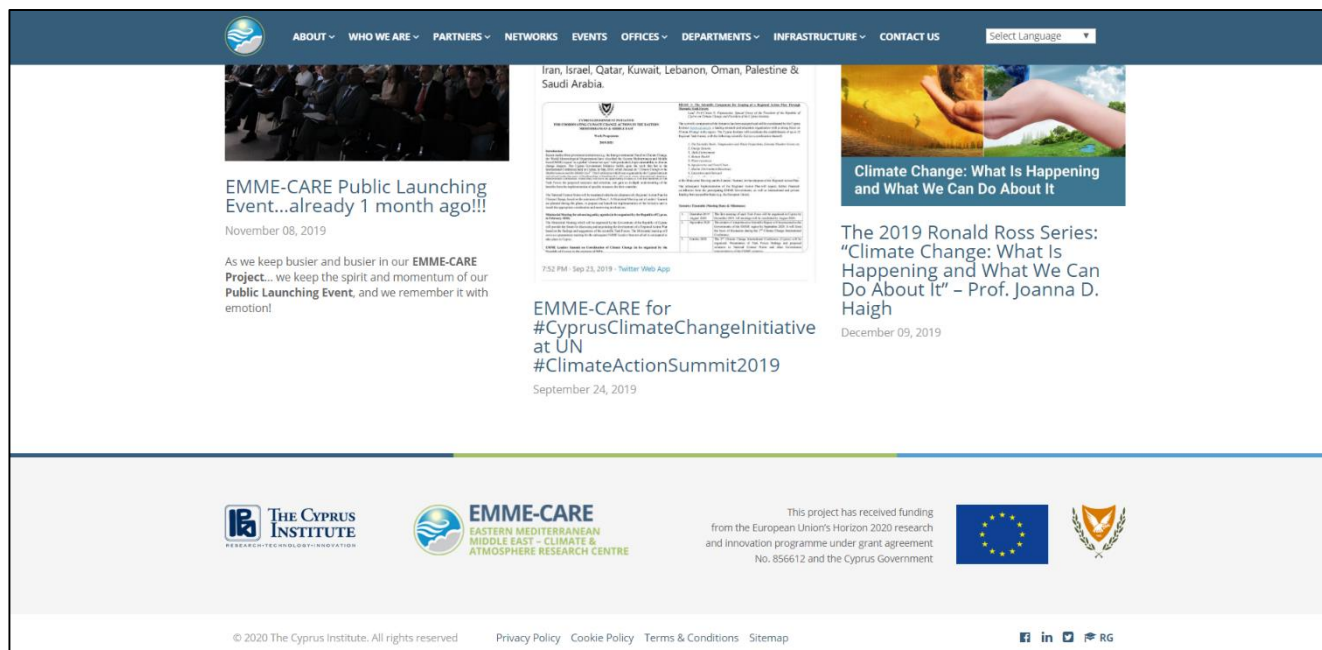


Figure 3: Screenshot of the addition of the links to social media and the updated disclaimer for the acknowledgment of funding at the bottom half of the “Homepage” of the EMME-CARE website

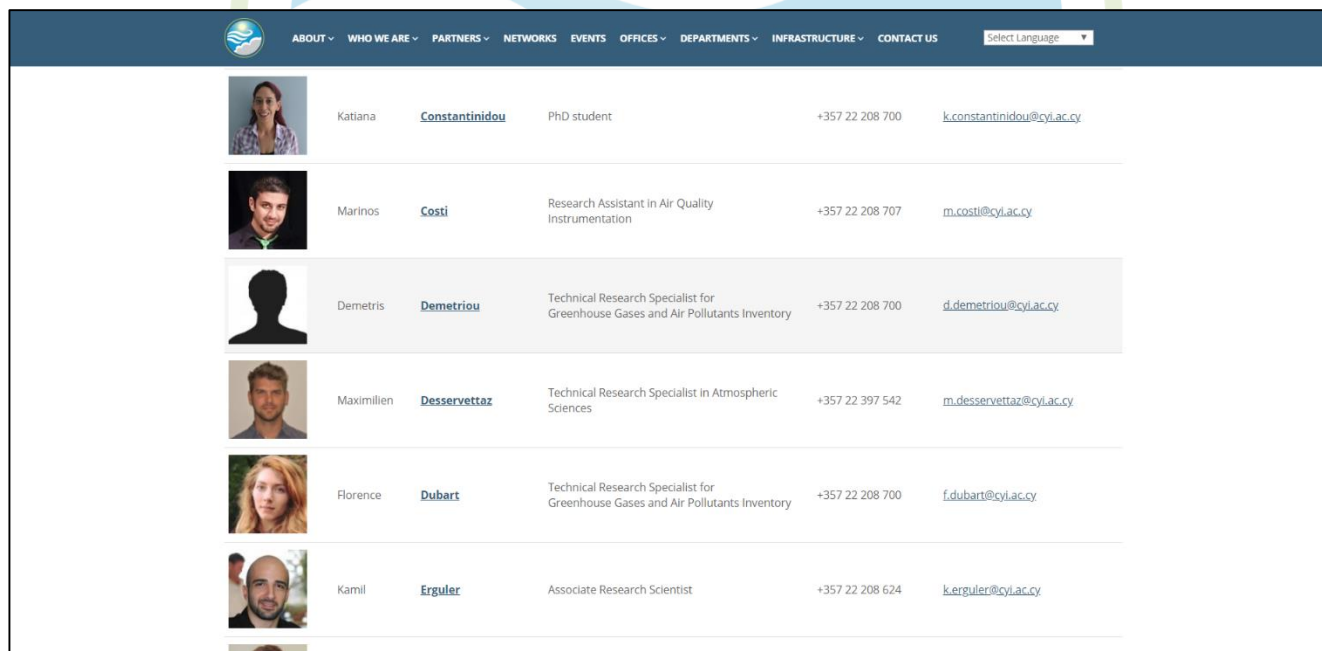


Figure 4: Screenshot of the upgraded “People” page of the EMME-CARE website

ANNEX II – Indicative “Screenshots” from the new CoE section on the Cyl website



Figure 5: Screenshot of the new CARE-C section of the Cyl website



Figure 6: Screenshot of the “Research Infrastructure Units” in the new CARE-C section of the Cyl website