Innovative actions related to energy issues in our Holy Metropolis

The Holy Church of Saint Nikiphoros the Leper in Sirikari-Kisamos is the first case of a church – building in Greece to be energetically totally autonomous and where modern technology is utilized in order to improve its energy footprint. This practical action of the local Church is perfectly in accordance with the initiatives for the environment taken by the Ecumenical Patriarchate in furtherance of the awareness for the protection of the natural environment.

To be more precise, it is about the installation and use of a system of a total of 12,94kW power, consisting of photovoltaics, electrical accumulators (batteries) and a small conventional electromotive pair (H/Z) as a backup. This hybrid system will fully support the autonomous function of the Holy Church and will be accompanied by power saving technology for the established equipment as well as technology for remote observance and control (Micro SCADA).

For the successful implementation of the hybrid station, the companies NARADA Co (donation of the batteries) and EDF EN HELLAS A.E. (donation of the photovoltaic systems) co-operated with the Holy Metropolis of Kisamos and Selinon. The installation and co-ordination regarding the correct function of the system was made by the companies ΗΛΙΟΑΙΟΛΙΣ Ε.Ε. and GEOMETRIS Ltd.

Lastly, the Laboratory for “Photovoltaics and Energy Systems” of the Department of Electrical Engineering of the TEI Crete will supervise the function of this hybrid system, as it will constitute an important contribution to research, for example for the development and implementation of an advanced computational simulation tool for micro-networks, but also for the further development and dissemination of comprehensive solutions for energy storage with accumulators. Moreover, it will be an education-center for teachers, students and pupils, who deal with issues of Environmental Education.

The Holy Metropolis of Kisamos and Selinon would like to thank all those who have contributed to this endeavour and innovatory action (companies and TEI Crete). The Holy Church is going to be inaugurated on Tuesday, 2 October, 2018, at 5 p.m. by His All Holiness the Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomaios, with the participation of His Beatitude the Patriarch of Jerusalem Theofilos, the Beatitudes Archbishops of Cyprus Chrysostomos and Albania Anastasios, of the Holy Provincial Synod of the Church of Crete, representatives of the Patriarchate of Romania as well as the Holy Churches of Greece and Poland. His Excellency the President of the Greek State Mr Prokopios Pavlopoulos will also attend at the festive act.