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May 27-29, 2026 - Island of KOS, Greece

#	<div>Constantinos A. Balaras</div> <div>Dr Mechanical Engineer, FASHRAE</div>	
Title:	Research Director, Institute for Environmental Research & Sustainable Development, National Observatory of Athens, Greece	
email:	costas@noa.gr	
Presentation title:	Decarbonizing Hospital Buildings	
<p>This presentation will present an overview of the new ASHRAE Guide on decarbonization for hospital facility managers, capital planners, hospital architectural and engineering teams, sustainability leaders, contractors and other building stakeholders. The Guide is part of the ASHRAE series on decarbonization that specifically shows how to reduce GHG emissions in hospital buildings. Hospitals have one of the largest carbon use intensities (CUI) of all building types that is documented with relevant European and Hellenic data. The challenges for decarbonizing healthcare buildings are much more complex than those for other buildings because of their unique needs in terms of the number and complexity of systems, infection prevention needs, regulatory environment, abundance of technology to deliver healthcare services, and needs for resilience. The Guide has been developed by ASHRAE and American Society for Health Care Engineering (ASHE).</p>		
Short CV:		
<p>Mechanical engineer, research director at the Institute for Environmental Research and Sustainable Development, in the National Observatory of Athens, Greece, a public research organization. Active in the areas of high performance sustainable buildings and decarbonization, sustainable cities, building energy audits & diagnosis, environmental impact of buildings. ASHRAE Fellow and currently serving on ASHRAE Foundation, ASHRAE Society Rules Committee, SPC240P proposed standard for calculating GHG emissions, and TC 6.7 on Solar and Other Renewable Energies. Have published over 350 archival journal papers, books and conference proceedings.</p>		

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CV:

Mechanical engineer, research director at the Institute for Environmental Research and Sustainable Development, in the National Observatory of Athens, Greece. Over 30 years of professional experience and R&D in the area of Renewable Energy Sources -Energy Conservation. Active in the areas of high performance sustainable buildings and decarbonization, sustainability assessment of buildings-neighborhoods-cities, thermal and solar applications, building energy audits-diagnosis and retrofitting, environmental impact of buildings, solar air-conditioning. Instrumental in the national EPBD transposition efforts. Current group activities focus on building typologies (TABULA & EPISCOPE) and Hellenic building stock analysis prioritizing refurbishment actions, collection of real energy consumption data from dwellings and behavioral role of occupants, sustainable neighborhoods and cities, decarbonization of buildings, operational and embodied energy/carbon intensities. Participated in over 60 R&D and demonstration projects financed by the European Commission, national ministries and organizations, and the private sector, with his research resulting in over 350 archival journal papers, books and conference proceedings. Served on ASHRAE Board of Directors as DAL (2007-10), Society Vice President (2011-13), and DRC Region XIV – Europe (2017-20), and serves on several Standards and Technical Committees. ASHRAE Fellow, recipient of ASHRAE Exceptional Service Award (ESA), ASHRAE John F. James International Award, ASHRAE Distinguished Service Award (DSA). Member of the Hellenic Technical Chamber as a Professional Engineer. Currently serving on ASHRAE Technology Council, Nominating Committee, SPC240P proposed standard for calculating GHG emissions, and TC 6.7 on Solar and Other Renewable Energies. More info: <https://groupenergyconservation.com/>
<https://www.facebook.com/GRoupEnergyConservation>
<https://www.linkedin.com/in/costasbalaras/>
<https://www.researchgate.net/profile/Constantinos-Balaras>