

Workshop 3 Climate Change and Agriculture

The workshop 3 of the AdaptNET training series was held from 3rd February to 8th February 2020 at Costa Navarino, Greece. The workshop was attended, along with twenty-nine Indian teachers/scientists, by 15 graduate students from Greece. Hence, this workshop provided a culturally diverse and stimulating learning environment for AdaptNET trainees. The training was organized by Dr. John Kapsomenakis and Prof. Panagiotis Nastos. This training programme dealt with the impact of Climate change on Agriculture.

The lectures related to Paleoclimate observations, modelling, projections made in climate changes were covered by eminent scientists. Prof. Nastos provided detailed information on the characteristics of climate including wind, clouds, precipitation, cyclones, etc. The current climate changes and factors affecting the climate characteristics were discussed in detail. Global and regional climate models were explained. They also provided information on projections of climate changes till 2100 and stimulated a discussion on possible approaches to mitigation of the effects of climate change.

Alongside, trainees had hands-on training on digital tools and softwares utilized for climate projections and predictions. The climatic parameters that affect the plant physiological parameters were also discussed. The effects of drought, high temperature stresses on plant growth and productivity were discussed in detail. The impact of current and future climate changes on crop cultivation and animal production were also analyzed. The International coordinator of the AdaptNET project, Prof. Andreas Voloudakis, provided information on the breeding approaches that can be utilized in alleviating the impacts of climate change in agriculture. He emphasized the need to breed for climate smart crops and climate smart agriculture for the future.

There was a practical demonstration of digital agriculture technologies including usage of drones, remote sensing, GIS, UAV, and mobile applications for digital agriculture, by Dr. Kalivas. The trainees also enjoyed a lively cultural life, also visiting the Navarino Environmental Observatory (NEO), Museum, the Fort of Pylos city and local beaches. The workshop was successfully completed with the enthusiastic support from Prof. Nastos and Dr. John Kapsomenakis, along with several Greek students.