The "Strategic and Maritime Spatial Planning and Sustainable Development" Laboratory of the Department of Economics and Regional development / School of Sciences of Economics and Public Governance of Panteion University of Social and Political Sciences was created in 2002 and was the ESPON Contact Point 2007-2013 in Greece, nominated until December 2014. Within this framework, the Lab provided consultation on all ESPON (www.espon.eu) issues to the Greek Ministry of Development and Competitiveness (2007-2014) and participated in several ESPON projects and TNAs (that will be mentioned hereafter).

The Team

The team is consisted of planners, geographers, engineers, architects, environmental scientists, informatics specialists, economists, sociologists, gendered economics experts, poverty and labour market analysts and political scientists, all having significant experience on their field and all being familiar with European projects and evidence. Director of the Lab is dr Stella Kyvelou, architect-engineer (NTUA), PhD and Post Doctoral studies in Geography and Spatial Planning (Paris I-Panthéon-Sorbonne), Associate professor and Vice-president of the Dpt of Economics and Regional Development of Panteion University specializing in "Spatial Planning and Sustainable Development". The Lab ensures interdisciplinary and holistic approach to planning issues and projects.

The Lab has always been open to innovative collaborations and synergies serving its targets, thus it brings together internal academic staff from the Economics and Regional Development Department and high-calibre external research staff and professional experts in territorial development, environmental/climate change and natural risks, sustainable development, maritime spatial planning, territorial dimensions of poverty and social exclusion and youth entrepreneurship disciplines, while it deploys web content development, e-learning and management tools.

The Projects

Several Laboratory members, including its Director Dr Stella Kyvelou, have been working for the ESPON Contact Point 2000-2006 as managers or scientific staff. During this 1st ESPON period, some of the research projects managed by the Lab's academics and researchers are: ESPON 3.1, ESPON 2.2.1, and ESPON 1.1.2 Projects, Greek Data Navigator and ESPON Web GIS, SEEP seminar
undertaken under the framework of ESPON2006 TNA activities in 2005. Other projects were HERMES (DG Enlargement), LIFE SB-MED project on sustainable building (LIFE-DG Environment), Interreg ARCHIMED and CADSES Projects, EQUAL etc.

During the 2nd ESPON period (2007-2013), the Lab participated in the ESPON INTERSTRAT Project, was Lead partner of the ESPONTrain Project and has participated as partner in the USESPON and ESPON-on-the-Road TNA projects. In the framework of the ESPONTrain in particular, the Laboratory, being Lead partner, designed, coordinated and implemented the ESPONTrain VLE (www.espontrain.eu) which was later extended within the USESPON Project, to a new USESPON VLE for the e-learning of ESPON Tools (NEXUS, URBAN BENCHMARKING and DELPHI).

The Lab's staff has a longstanding experience i. on territorial and urban development observation, reporting and planning, place-based development policies, environmental management systems, natural risks management, sustainable development and construction, innovative financial mechanisms in energy efficiency, maritime spatial planning, ecosystem-based management, GIS and ii. on the implementation of distance learning training programmes (VLEs) in order to raise awareness in environmental/sustainable development and planning issues and provide targeted information to territorial stakeholders. iii. International and transnational conferences on all the above subject matters. All Lab's academics are also teaching in the Postgraduate and Doctoral Studies Programme of the Economics and Regional development department of the School of Sciences of Economics and Public Governance of Panteion University. Antonios Rovolis is the Director and Stella Kyvelou, member of the Steering Committee of the Post-Graduate Cycle of the Department.

**Outstanding experience in organising international/transnational/national Conferences**

Furthermore, the Laboratory has an enormous and longstanding experience in organizing international workshops, conferences and Expos (ESPON workshops, seminars and meetings in Greece, for example: 2 INTERSTRAT interactive meetings in 2011, ESPONTrain Final Conference and other ESPONTrain meetings, USESPON Interactive meeting, transnational and national ESPONontheRoad events, International Conferences in 2004 and 2005 (LIFE SBMed and pre-Tokyo SB05), International SDMed meeting in 2007 on sustainable urban planning, International SDMed meeting in 2008 on "Mediterranean city facing climate change" (SB08MED), International SDMed Meeting on sustainable development and territorial cohesion in the Mediterranean in 2009, National meetings in 2012 and 2013 regarding “eco-neighborhoods” and “urban innovation with regard to the energy transition”, respectively. In 2013, the Lab was also involved in the organisation of ECHOPOLIS International 2013 (www.event2013.sd-med.org). In 2017 it organised also a Conference regarding maritime spatial planning and insular policy entitled
"The sea, a new horizon for Greece?" held recently at the Acropolis Museum, as part of an ongoing engagement strategy on MSP started, on its initiative, in 2014.

In 2014 it hosted a National Conference regarding territorial dimensions of poverty and social exclusion within the framework of an NSRF project about “regional indicators of poverty and social exclusion” and participated in the organisation of a national Conference entitled «Development of regional indicators of social exclusion and of methods of measurement of social inequality in Western Greece, Peloponnese and Ionian islands» in Nafpaktos, on 11 November 2011.

The Lab’s staff has besides participated in a collective Handbook entitled "Maritime spatial issues: territorial dimension of territorial cohesion, maritime spatial planning, sustainable blue growth" published in 2016 (http://kritiki.gr/product/thalassia-chorica-zitimata/), edited by Stella Kyvelou. A big part of this book is devoted to the MSP related ADRIPLAN Project (EUSAIR) and to the “inclusive blue growth” in the Greek islands.

To note that the team also possesses experience in social media management by posting and/or reposting data in order to inform and interact with the general public and targeted groups (FB, Twitter, Linkedin, web sites etc.). In addition to the e-Learning, Web educational activities and knowledge management, this well-developed department of our University implements communication/dissemination activities regarding its national and international events by using web tools and platforms (web page development, newsletters, wiziQ, live streaming, twitter and facebook posts etc.). Sustainable development, Green Infrastructure, Ecosystem services

The Lab’s staff speak at least three European languages (English, French and Greek—mother tongue) fluently. German, Spanish and Arabic languages are also spoken and written by several Lab members.

**Blue growth and MSP related activities Projects, Conferences, publications, interviews.**

**2013**
- French-Greek Conference about “blue growth” in the French Institute of Greece IFA, 2013 (St.Kyvelou)

**2014**
- ESPON Workshop on smart blue growth (led by Stella Kyvelou), Nafplion, 4 June 2014
- Transnational Conference ESPON-on-the-Road, November 2014, OLP, Piraeus National ESPON-on-the-Road Conference, November 2014, OLP, Piraeus
- Forum on Economic Impacts of the cruise industry, Olympia, Greece, may 2014

2015

- Participation in the Marinescape Forum Piraeus, 2015

2016

- Post-doctoral research/ Monograph on MSP at the Paris I-Sorbonne University.

2017

- National Conference entitled “The sea, new horizon for Greece?” at the Acropolis Museum, on the presence of the Vice-President of the Greek Government, February, 2017
- Interview of Stella Kyvelou on the Greek State Radio ERT about MSP in Greece
- Poster presentation on MSP related stakeholders’ engagement strategy in Greece during the 2nd MSP Forum held in Paris (DGMARE, UNESCO), March 2017
- 2nd Regional Seminar on Blue Economy, within the framework of the UfM Blue Economy Forum, 2017, Barcelona (DGMARE, DGNEAR), May 2017.
- Development of a Mediterranean MSP Platform to serve as a Training Tool for policy-makers in the Mediterranean with specific focus on transboundary MSP (The Platform is part of the ESPONTrain VLE and is currently ongoing)

Future international conference activities
- 2018 Conference on “Green and blue infrastructure: nature-based solutions for cities and territories” by SDMed – in collaboration with INSULEUR and under the aegis of the ministry of shipping and island policy.

MSP related Publications

Books and Book Chapters

- Kyvelou S., « From spatial planning to territorial management: the concepts of strategic spatial planning and territorial cohesion in Europe”, ed. KRITIKI,
Athens, 2010, (in greek)


**Articles in international/national journals, reviews and conference papers**

-Kyvelou S., Maritime spatial planning as evolving policy in Europe : attitudes, challenges and trends, European Quarterly of Political Attitudes and Mentalities – EQPAM, Volume 6, N.3, July 2017

-Papageorgiou M., Kyvelou S., Transnational aspects of marine spatial planning and governance: adapting to the transboundary nature of the sea, European Journal of Environmental Sciences, Special Issue, 2018 (on press)


-Kyvelou St., Active ageing and silver economy/tourism in Europe and in Greece of the crisis, 16th Scientific Symposium, The demographic and migration issue : economic, social, environmental aspects, 8-9 July 2017, Arghostoli, Cephalonia.
- Kyvelou St.,”Current attitudes and lessons learnt in Maritime Spatial Planning: a focus on conceptual and governance issues in Europe”, International Conference 3RD INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON “CHANGING CITIES “Spatial, Design, Landscape & Socio-economic Dimensions”, 26-30 June 2017, Syros


Ongoing projects


2017 Participation of Stella Kyvelou as Partner-Expert in the "Facility for blue growth in the Black Sea EASME/EMFF/2017/003"
New project proposals

2018 Submission of a research proposal on MSP and land-sea interaction methodologies in the framework of ELIDEK.

2018 Preparation of the SMART-on-SEA Project to be submitted in the framework of the ENI CBC Programme 2014-2020

2018 Preparation of an EMFF (European Maritime and Fisheries Fund) project proposal.