



### **T12 - Dr. Pavlos DIMITRIOU, Research Scientist, Greek AIST Fukushima Renewable Energy Research Institute**

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#### **My research project:**

The Fukushima prefecture, after the disastrous nuclear power accident in 2011, has adopted a strategy of promoting renewable energy with a goal of 100% by 2040. The transition to a fully renewable economy is a challenging mission and efforts are required for the development of highly efficient renewable energy generation and conversion methods. The Fukushima Renewable Energy Institute (FREA) of AIST develops innovative technologies for promoting renewable energy. The Institute acts as an international research and development hub targeting at industry promotion and revitalization of the disaster-affected areas. My role as a Research Scientist is to perform advanced experimental and simulation investigations on hydrogen-fuelled internal combustion (IC) engines and energy regeneration systems for reducing greenhouse emissions towards a green economy.

#### **My career path:**

I obtained my Master and PhD in Mechanical Engineering from the University of Sussex in the UK. My PhD course was fully-funded by the EU through the INTERREG IV 2 Seas Programme. During my time at the University of Sussex, I was also involved as a Research Officer in an EU funded cluster for the dissemination of results from eight European projects to industry and society. Before moving to Japan, I had a two year and a half employment as a researcher at the University of Bath (UK). In May 2016, I had a visiting research fellowship at Waseda University. Although I have been in Japan for a short time only, I already noticed some significant differences on how individual and teamwork activities are performed. For the following years, I am willing to stay in Japan, and would be very interested in getting some industrial experience. However, I am aware that the hardest obstacle to overcome is the Japanese language fluency required by most companies.

#### **My relation to Europe:**

I am currently awaiting the results of two applications I submitted as a principal investigator (Daiwa Anglo-Japanese Foundation – 1.5M JPY, Great Britain Sasakawa Foundation – 1M JPY) for research funds to support the establishment of an international network of collaboration between AIST and the University of Bath. The aim of the network is to support research activities for the promotion of renewable hydrogen as a fuel for IC engines. This collaboration aims at reducing Japan`s and global dependency on fossil fuels and mitigating the climate-changing greenhouse emissions. Moreover, I am currently in discussion with companies and universities in Europe targeting at building an international network of connections for further enhancing the recognition and reputation of my work.