

# Economic impact of hybrid systems

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# Agenda

Greek background and context

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Framework for economic analysis

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Summary and outlook

# Greece has 32 electrical island complexes with 1.6 GW of diesel generator capacity



- Overall subsidy for electricity on the islands amounted to € 720 mill. In 2016
- Cost of electricity generation on the islands is linked to the oil price and ranged from € 75 – 365 / MWh in 2017

Source:  
HEDNO (DEDDIE) production data 2017, Hatzigiorgiou N. et al., Non-interconnected Island Systems: The Greek Case, IEEE Electrification Magazine, 2017

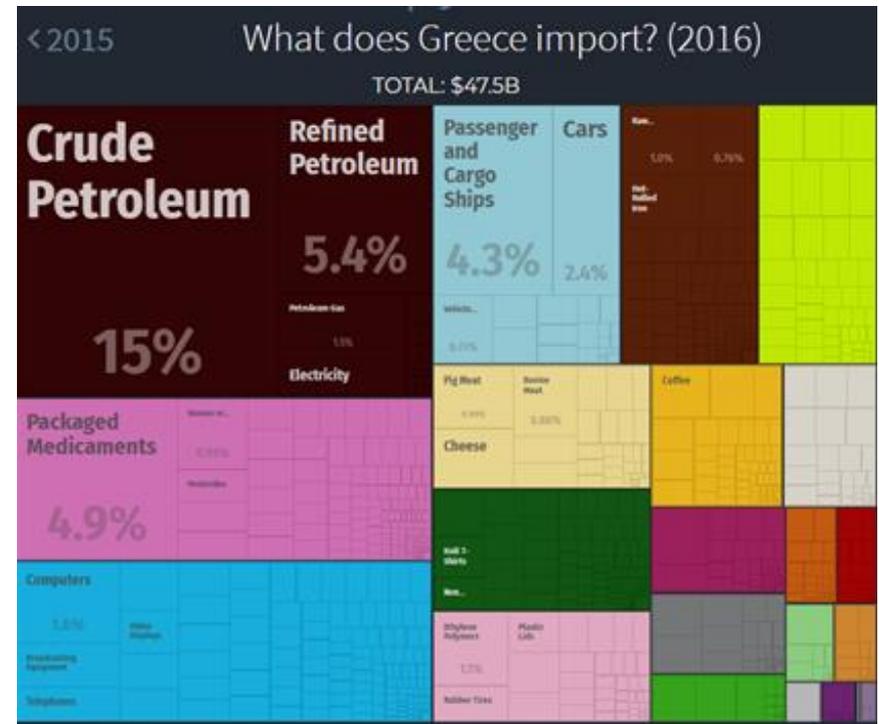
# The Greek economy has contracted significantly and oil imports account for a large share of trade deficit

## Gross domestic product and unemployment

- Greece has suffered the most severe economic crises of any EU country since WWII
- GDP reduction of 45%:
  - US\$ 354.5 bn in '08 vs. US\$ 196.6 bn in '16
- Unemployment levels in 2017:
  - >20% overall
  - >45% for the youth

## Trade deficit

- US\$ 19.7 bn in 2015
- Of US\$ 47.5 bn imported goods, crude and refined petroleum account for 20.4%, which equals US\$ 9.5 bn,



**7% of petroleum imports related to electricity generation and negatively impact Greek GDP**

Source: Trading Economics, OECD Data, MIT Media Lab Macro Connections Group

# Greece is a first mover for RE on islands and is building experience since 1982

## Expertise and first mover advantage in Greece: Example Kythnos, Cycladic islands



- 1982: 100 first windfarm in Europe (100 kW)
- 1983: 100 kW PV farm with storage added
- 2000: Automated hybrid (500 kW wind/battery each)
- 2001: Microgrid - 12 homes with load control
- 2003: Adv. control for high RES penetration (Crete)

## Knowledge-hub around Greek universities

- Built significant expertise in hybrid systems for islands collaborating with the local utility & DSO
- Established as leading hybrid research institutions



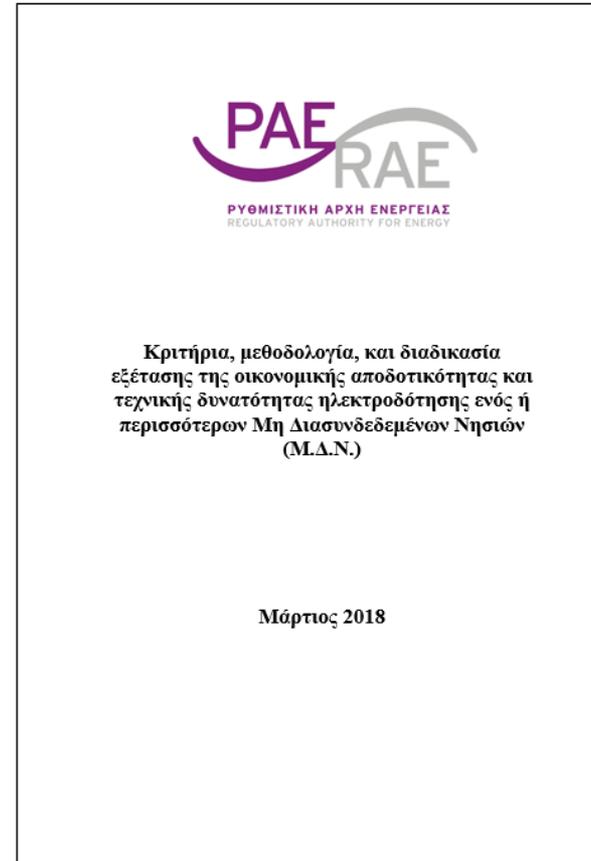
# RAE, the Greek regulatory authority, suggested a framework for the evaluation of island connection & hybrids

## Suggested framework for economic impact evaluation

- Centered on the interconnection of an island to the mainland Hellenic Electricity Transmission System (HETS)
- Benchmark for any hybrid considerations

## Key criteria considered

- Electricity production cost, consisting of
  - energy demand
  - fuel prices
  - regulatory framework
  - national targets for renewable energy sources (RES)



# The framework focuses mainly on quantitative factors, but also considers qualitative aspects

## Quantitative factors considered

- Security of supply
  - Expected losses of load in MWh
- Socio-economic welfare
  - Reduction in energy cost / redispatch cost
- RES integration cost
  - Avoided RES curtailment in MWh
- Power loss difference before and after
  - Long distance transmission losses in MWh
- CO<sub>2</sub> emissions difference
  - Reduction in CO<sub>2</sub> emissions before and after

## Qualitative factors considered

- Technical resilience
  - i.e. scenario: cable loss during maintenance
- Flexibility
  - Option to modify or adapt system in the future
- Environmental impact
  - Effect of construction, etc.
- Social impact
  - Effect on local community

# The project evaluation tries to take all factors into account, but ultimately focuses on the ENPV as deciding indicator

## Project evaluation

- Economic Net Present Value (ENPV), based on the estimated cost savings compared to the total cost consisting of
  - capital costs for engineering, procurement, installation and commissioning, financing costs, costs for temporary solutions
  - environmental costs, equipment replacement costs, decommissioning costs etc.
  - operation and maintenance
- Economic Internal Rate of Return (EIRR) expresses the socio-economic attractiveness
- Economic Benefit / Cost ratio (EB/C)

$$ENPV = \sum_{t=0}^{t=T} \frac{R_t - C_t}{(1+i)^{(t-n)}}$$

## ENPV is the main deciding indicator

- The two complementary indicators serve for comparative analysis

# Many islands, particularly smaller one's, are fragile economic systems with declining populations

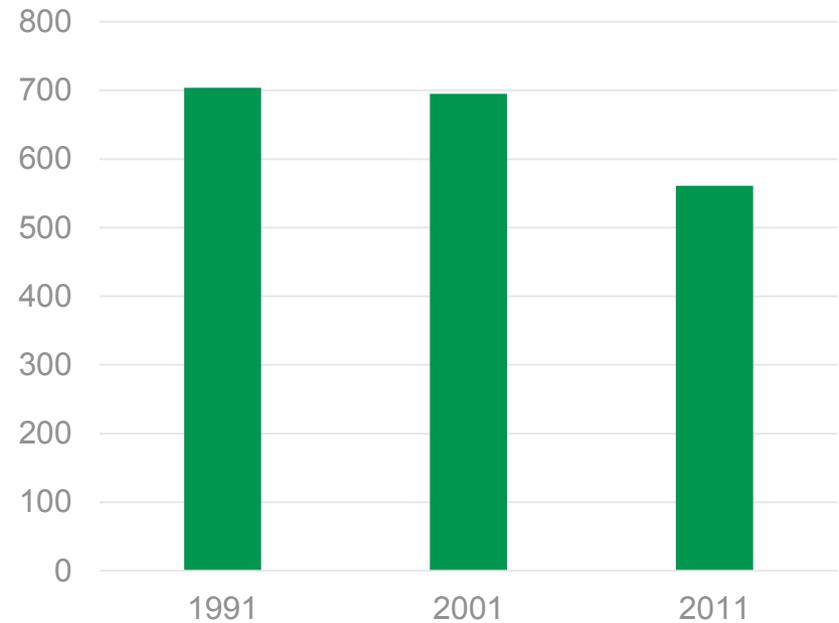
## Economic situation on the islands

- Islands, particularly, when small are fragile economic systems
- Tourism is a major source of income
- Very seasonal in nature and does not provide income year round

## Shrinking populations

- Example of Kythnos, Cycladic islands
- 20% reduction in permanent population from 1991 to 2011

## Permanent employment, Kythnos, 1991 - 2011



**Any measures with a direct impact on permanent employment on the islands should be considered**

# Impact of electrification scenarios differ by islands with smaller islands typically experiencing a stronger effect

## Large islands

### *Operation and maintenance*

High RE

- Increase in employment

Connection

- Reduction in employment/same with high RE

### *Fuel transport to the island*

High RE

- Same employment

Connection

- Significantly reduced employment

### *Construction, installation & upgrades*

High RE

- Temporary increase in employment

Connection

- Temporary increase in employment

## Small islands

### *Operation and maintenance*

- Increase in employment – diesel O&M stays

- Reduction in employment

### *Fuel transport to the island*

- Same employment

- Significantly reduced employment

*Island specific*

### *Construction, installation & upgrades*

- Temporary increase in employment

- Temporary increase in employment

*Island specific*

**Depending on specific island situation, with smaller islands more likely to be negatively impacted**

# Effects on the trade deficit, of export opportunities and economies of scope should also be taken into account

## Impact on trade deficit

- Dependent on the local value creation of RE project implementation and mainland grid connection
- Components for solar plants make up approx. 50% of value, for wind projects probably more
- Sourcing other critical project features such as project development and financing could be local or external

## Export of services and expertise

- Once expertise is established, it can be exported to other markets (e.g. PV knowledge to Middle East)
- Globally > 65 mill. people live on islands with less than 1 mill. inhabitants
- There are approx. 2,000 islands with between 1,000 and 100,000 inhabitants => island mini-grids

## Effect of a pipeline of larger projects

- Economies of scale would exist if a larger pipeline of projects would be executed in parallel
- Reduction in component, installation and financing cost would lead to significant cost reductions

# Electrification scenarios can have a significant economic impact and should be studied case by case

## Economic Net Present Value

- RAE suggests ENPV as main deciding factor
- Potential savings are certainly very important

## Case by case analysis

- Each island case, each RE expansion and each mainland grid connection scenario is different
- Hence, individual cases should be analysed in order to obtain a full picture

## Impact on local employment

- Impact on local employment is not considered
- For overall evaluation, it should play a significant part

## Large vs. small islands

- The size of the island plays a significant role in determining the economic impact
- Large islands with a more stable local economy are more likely to be able to compensate job losses
- Smaller islands have fewer permanent jobs and are suffering from a reduction in population

**The impact on local employment should be seriously considered for different electrification scenarios, particularly for smaller islands where permanent local jobs are scarce.**

# Our Vision

Driving unsubsidised renewable energy generation for isolated grids.

