The Administration Building "Anastasios G. Leventis" of the University of Cyprus classified as «Gold» & «Very Good», according to the international standards of sustainability LEED and BREEAM.

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On May 2013, the energy efficiency certification of the University of Cyprus administration building "Anastasios G. Leventis" was completed. The certification was accomplished entirely from collaboration of University members. Apart from energy efficiency, which was determined using the Cypriot software iSBEM-cy that provides an analysis of a building's energy consumption, the sustainability factor inherent in the life cycle of the building was also evaluated in accordance with international standards BREEAM and LEED.

A detailed study was conducted by the graduate MSc student Ms. Eleftheria Polychronidou of the Department of Mechanical and Manufacturing Engineering within the fulfilling of her postgraduate thesis [1]. In order to be achieved a reliable result, the project was realized under the guidance of Mr. Constantinos Charalambous, mechanical engineer of the technical services of the university, who provided all the necessary information related to the building.

The results of the energy efficiency evaluation process according to iSBEM-cy, classified the building in the energy class "C" indicating an annual consumption of 341 KWh / m² per year. The elaborated analysis of the software results on building services and particularly on the HVAC systems, the contribution of renewable energy sources in the total energy consumption and finally the energy class of the building, had also led to proposals of improvements for the software iSBEM-cy.

The determination of the sustainability factor characterizing the building was the ultimate goal of the BREEAM and LEED certificate assessment. The creation and implementation of the certificates was made around the main pillars of sustainability, as they are were identified from the Brundland report[2] and the methodology «Cradle to Cradle» of William McDonough [3]. The results classified the building on the maximum scale of sustainability "Gold" and "Very Good" in the LEED and BREEAM certificates respectively (62 points in the LEED scale and 62.62 on the scale BREEAM).

The Administration building "Anastasios G. Leventis" combines classic systems with high-tech solutions, meeting many of the sustainability parameters that are described in the two certificates. As a result, the building represents a strong environmental character, laying the foundations for further improvement. A short-term action plan that will fend for the conservation of the surrounding area, promote alternative ways of transport, adopt a policy for
the optimal waste management and the integrate the use of renewable sources, will promote the building to the highest rank "Platinum" and “Excellent” in LEED and BREEAM scales (garnering 80 and 79.29 points respectively on the scales LEED and BREEAM).

The results of the certificates evaluation should spur the university to implement one of two international certificates. Fulfilling the prerequisites of these certifications, the University of Cyprus contributes to the promotion concept of sustainability in society and emits the environmentally friendly character of the campus through its buildings.

