

Maria Spiliotopoulou

Nationality: Greek, Canadian | **Phone:** (+32) 486041514 (Work), (+30) 6977069021 (Mobile) | **Email address:** maria@spiliotopoulou.eu
| **Website:** <https://spiliotopoulou.eu/> | **LinkedIn:** <https://www.linkedin.com/in/maria-spiliotopoulou/> | **Address:** Belgium (Home)

● ABOUT MYSELF

Project management, education (teaching & learning, instructional design), capacity building, and research for sustainable and just transitions, through interdisciplinary and systemic thinking.

20+ years of experience: cities, non-profits, universities, EU projects.

Dynamic systems thinker, strong interpersonal skills, multi-cultural experience, team player fostering equity and inclusion, results-oriented, well organised, lifelong learner.

- **On Reserve List of JRC/EC AD7 competition** (EPSO/AD/413/24-9 Scientific research administrators)
- **FGIII Laureate 4989353**
- FGIV Applicant 4890640

● WORK EXPERIENCE

22/09/2025 - CURRENT - BRUSSELS, BELGIUM

SUSTAINABILITY EDUCATION ADVISOR UNIVERSITÉ LIBRE DE BRUXELLES (ULB)

- [Centre d'Appui Pédagogique] Assessment of the university's initiatives in sustainability teaching and learning; university community consultations; best practices research; recommendations
- [Solvay Brussels School of Economics and Management] Evaluation and advancement of the Sustainability Learning Compass; member of the Sustainable Development Initiative and of ECARES (European Center for Advanced Research in Economics and Statistics)
- [Solvay Brussels School of Economics and Management] Teaching Assistant for a sustainable development course

26/05/2025 - 22/08/2025 - BRUSSELS, BELGIUM

PROGRAMS/ADMINISTRATION CANADIAN DELEGATION TO NATO

01/12/2023 - 31/03/2024 - CANADA

SUSTAINABILITY EXPERT UNIVERSITY OF WATERLOO

Municipal Net-Zero Action Research [Partnership](#) : Regional expertise; partners and stakeholders liaison; research, interviews; report and presentation

01/09/2014 - 02/01/2024 - CANADA

RESEARCHER/EDUCATOR/PORTFOLIO MANAGER SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY

- **Portfolio Manager, Sustainability education projects**, [SFU Sustainability](#) (01/09/2021-02/01/2024)

Inclusive stakeholder engagement (100s of people: focus groups, working groups; interviews); partnership building and coordination; foundational course design; climate literacy [library](#) ; capacity building; reporting with policy recommendations

- **Lead researcher, Sustainable Development Goals [framework](#)** for SFU International (14/06/2021-31/08/2021 and 15/06/2022-15/6/2023)

Inclusive stakeholder engagement, 20+ focus groups; advisor in developing a comprehensive SDGs-inspired framework

- **Researcher, Embedding Project**, SFU Beedie School of Business (07/01/2019-18/12/2019)

Community resilience and disaster management tools evaluation & local resilience guide, for corporate sustainability professionals

- **Educator, Community sustainability**, SFU's Sustainable Development Program (01/09/2014-30/4/2015, 01/09/2015-30/4/2017, 01/09/2017-30/4/2019, 02/01/2020-30/4/2020)

Instructional design and delivery of urban/local sustainability courses; learning and capacity building assessment

- **Expert researcher, Sustainability planning and assessment**, two Canadian cities (02/01/2017-20/12/2017 and 02/01/2018-30/09/2018)

Local sustainability transitions; foresight and backcasting with City Council, staff, community; customised monitoring/reporting tools with

KPIs; evidence-based reports; presentations with policy recommendations ([details](#))

- **Lead researcher / Project Manager, Sustainability teaching and learning** (seven projects: May-Dec 2015, May-Dec 2016, Jan-Dec 2017, Jan-Dec 2018)

Empirical research and evaluation: sustainability learning approaches and activities ([final reports](#))

01/09/2020 - 20/12/2021 - CANADA

RESEARCHER/EXPERT, URBAN SUSTAINABILITY PROJECT BCIT ECOCITIES CENTRE

Review and evaluation of urban sustainability/climate frameworks and metrics, and governance models in low-emission cities (SSHRC grant); [final report](#) and [academic article](#)

01/07/2021 - 30/11/2021 - UNITED STATES

CONSULTANT, URBAN SUSTAINABILITY PLANNING CITY OF SCOTTSDALE & ARIZONA STATE UNIVERSITY

Review and evaluation of urban sustainability plans; stakeholder interviews; report and presentation

01/04/2009 - 31/01/2013 - GREECE

CONSULTANT/EXPERT, ENVIRONMENTAL AND SUSTAINABILITY PROJECTS, WITH SYMPRAXIS TEAM SELF-EMPLOYED

- Consultant, Regional Climate Change Adaptation Strategies, Cyprus and France ([REGIOCLIMA](#))
- External Administrative Expert, EU SWITCH-ASIA Call, EPRD, Brussels
- Social media/project manager, [BUILD UP](#) (energy efficiency of buildings)
- Environmental education, trainings, awareness for schools and organisations (design, delivery, project management)
- Researcher and co-author of the initial City of Athens C40 Plan for Adaptation to Climate Change

01/07/2010 - 31/12/2012 - GREECE

RESEARCHER AND PROJECT MANAGER, EU-FUNDED ENVIRONMENTAL/SUSTAINABILITY PROJECTS ENGO ANIMA

Three projects (part-time): 1) background research and communication of scientific information to younger audiences; 2) team and project management and communication of scientific information to younger audiences; 3) research and drafting of a memorandum with policy recommendations for local government initiatives to better protect wildlife and habitats (submitted to all local governments in Greece).

10/09/2010 - 15/10/2010 - GREECE

RESEARCHER, LEGAL ADVISOR ENGO ARCTUROS

Researcher, legal advisor, and scientific supervisor for the wildlife advocacy project "Memorandum for the management of captive wild animals in Greece – Recommendations for legislation improvement and policy implementation to ensure the well-being of captive wild animals"; presented in a press conference and submitted to international NGOs and EU and national authorities.

02/01/2007 - 31/01/2010 - GREECE

PROJECT MANAGER, EU GRANTS & CSR PROJECTS ENGO ARCTUROS

Development & management of ESIF Interreg, LIFE+, YiA, CSR projects. Partnerships: local/national governments, foundations, corporations. EU & national wildlife policy analysis and policy recommendations

01/09/2004 - 31/08/2006 - GREECE

CEO'S EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT & ACCOUNT MANAGER SKORDILIS SA

Major accounts management, marketing/advertising support, recycling systems, CSR activities

01/03/2004 - 31/07/2004 - GREECE

INTERN/STAGIAIRE EUROPEAN COMMISSION REPRESENTATION IN GREECE, PRESS OFFICE

Newsletter, reports, articles, speeches, research, press releases, website updating (Blue Book # 258703)

02/05/2003 - 05/08/2003 - FRANCE

INTERN/STAGIAIRE FRENCH MINISTRY FOR THE ECOLOGICAL AND INCLUSIVE TRANSITION, LEGAL DEPARTMENT

Member of the team working for the French transposition of EU environmental directives

01/09/2000 - 30/06/2001 - GREECE

ENGLISH LANGUAGE INSTRUCTOR STAMATIOU-THEODOROPOULOU LANGUAGE SCHOOL

Design and delivery of English lessons to students aged 8-18

● **EDUCATION & TRAINING**

01/09/2014 - 24/06/2021 - VANCOUVER, CANADA

PHD, URBAN SUSTAINABILITY- SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY

Level in EQF: 8

01/09/2002 - 30/09/2003 - FRANCE

MA, ENVIRONMENTAL, TERRITORIAL PLANNING LAW- UNIVERSITY OF STRASBOURG

Level in EQF: 7

01/09/2001 - 30/06/2002 - FRANCE

DIPLOMA, EUROPEAN STUDIES, EU LAW- UNIVERSITY OF STRASBOURG

Level in EQF: 6

01/09/1995 - 30/09/2000 - GREECE

BA, INTERNATIONAL & EUROPEAN STUDIES / POLITICAL SCIENCE- PANTEION UNIVERSITY

Level in EQF: 6

● **LANGUAGE SKILLS**

Mother tongue(s): **GREEK**

	UNDERSTANDING		SPEAKING		WRITING
	Listening	Reading	Spoken production	Spoken interaction	
ENGLISH	C2	C2	C2	C2	C2
FRENCH	C2	C2	C1	C1	C1
ITALIAN	B1	B2	A2	A2	A2

● **SKILLS**

Full Office 365 | Evernote | SharePoint | Google Drive | WordPress | Zoom | NVivo | Zotero | Teams | QGIS | Slack | Webex | Asana | Tableau | Trello | Mendeley | Canva | LinkedIn | project management

● **DIGITAL SKILLS TEST RESULTS**

	Information and data literacy	ADVANCED	Level 6/6
	Communication and collaboration	ADVANCED	Level 6/6
	Digital content creation	ADVANCED	Level 6/6
	Safety	ADVANCED	Level 6/6
	Problem solving	ADVANCED	Level 6/6

Results from a [Self-assessment](#) Based on [The Digital Competence Framework 2.1.](#)

● **PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT**

03/2025 - 04/2025

Thought Leadership Course – Synergizing Disaster Risk Reduction & Climate Change Adaptation, United Nations System Staff College (UNSSC)

Links <https://spiliotopoulou.eu/wp-content/uploads/2025/04/Certificate-8268209317MS.pdf>

03/2025 - 04/2025

Sustainability Fundamentals (corporate, ESG/CSRD), Solvay Brussels School of Economics & Management, Belgium

31/01/2025 - 28/02/2025

The Corporate Sustainability Reporting Directive (CSRD), LinkedIn Learning

Links

spiliotopoulou.eu/wp-content/uploads/2025/04/CertificateOfCompletion_Understanding-the-Corporate-Sustainability-Reporting-Directive-CSRD.pdf

02/2025 - 03/2025

PM C1 - PM² Essentials, Project Management Methodology, EU Academy

Links https://academy.europa.eu/mod/customcert/verify_certificate.php?contextid=7372&code=Zpk4hkfd4G&qrcode=1

01/2025 - 03/2025

PM C1 - PM² Essentials, Project Management Methodology, EU Academy

Links https://academy.europa.eu/mod/customcert/verify_certificate.php?contextid=7372&code=Zpk4hkfd4G&qrcode=1

31/05/2023 - 31/05/2023

Curriculum Development: Piedmont/Ponderosa Model, Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education

02/2023 - 03/2023

Designing Resilient Regenerative Systems: Beyond Systems Thinking, ETH Zurich

11/2022 - 11/2022

Behavior-Centered Design for the Environment, AASHE

05/2022 - 08/2022

Designing Resilient Regenerative Systems: Worldviews, ETH Zurich

06/2022 - 06/2022

Equity-Centred Design For Climate Action training, SFU Sustainability and RADIUS

05/2022 - 05/2022

Rethinking Course Design: Workshop for Faculty, Simon Fraser University

09/2021 - 04/2022

Faculty program "Conversations Around Indigenizing Curriculum", Simon Fraser University

10/2021 - 11/2021

Reconciliation Through Indigenous Education, University of British Columbia and EdX

09/2021 - 11/2021

San'yas Indigenous Cultural Safety training, Provincial Health Services Authority

01/2018 - 04/2018

Certificate Program in University Teaching and Learning, Simon Fraser University

09/2016 - 11/2016

Visual Analytics Program, Vancouver Institute for Visual Analytics

2007 - 2008

EU project development & management, Energy & Environment, Europa Media, Hungary

● PUBLICATIONS

[Sustainability in Higher Education Across Canada – the SHEAC group](#) 2025

Pivnick, J., & Spiliotopoulou, M. (forthcoming, 2025). Sustainability in Higher Education Across Canada – the SHEAC group. New Directions For Teaching And Learning Special Issue "Pedagogies for a Sustainable and Resilient Future", Wiley Publications.

Toward Sustainable Communities, Solutions for Citizens and Their Governments, Fifth Edition 2023

Roseland, M., Stout, M., & Spiliotopoulou, M. (2023). Toward Sustainable Communities, Solutions for Citizens and Their Governments, Fifth Edition. Gabriola Island, B.C.: New Society Publishers. .

To what extent is sustainability addressed at urban scale and how aligned is it with Earth's productive capacity? 2023

Vigier, M., Ouellet-Plamondon, C. M., Spiliotopoulou, M., Moore, J., & Rees, W. E. (2023). To what extent is sustainability addressed at urban scale and how aligned is it with Earth's productive capacity?. Sustainable Cities and Society, 104655.

Sustainability planning, implementation, and assessment in cities: how can productivity enhance these processes? 2022

Spiliotopoulou, M., & Roseland, M. (2022). Sustainability planning, implementation, and assessment in cities: how can productivity enhance these processes?. Discover Sustainability, 3(1), 1-19. .

Achieving community happiness and well-being through community productivity. 2022

Spiliotopoulou, M., & Roseland, M. (2022). Achieving community happiness and well-being through community productivity. In Cloutier, S. (Ed), Linking Sustainability and Happiness: Theoretical and Applied Perspectives, Springer Nature. .

Urban Sustainability via Urban Productivity? A conceptual review and framework proposal. 2021

Spiliotopoulou, M., & Roseland, M. (2021). Urban Sustainability via Urban Productivity? A conceptual review and framework proposal. Local Environment, 1-20.

Making the SDGs Relevant for Cities: Using the Community Capital Tool in British Columbia. 2021

Spiliotopoulou, M., & Roseland, M. (2021). Making the SDGs Relevant for Cities: Using the Community Capital Tool in British Columbia. In King, L. O., & Iyer, S. (Eds), Promoting the SDGs in North American Cities. Springer Nature.

Urban Sustainability: From Theory Influences to Practical Agendas. 2020

Spiliotopoulou, M., & Roseland, M. (2020). Urban Sustainability: From Theory Influences to Practical Agendas. Sustainability, 12(18), 7245. .

Theories and concepts influencing sustainable community development: introducing the concept of community productivity. 2020

Spiliotopoulou, M., & Roseland, M. (2020). Theories and concepts influencing sustainable community development: introducing community productivity. In Phillips, R. (Ed), The Research Handbook on Community Development, Edward Elgar Publishing.

Sustainability in North America: the Canadian experience. 2018

Roseland, M., & Spiliotopoulou, M. (2018). Sustainability in North America: the Canadian experience. In Brinkmann, R., & Garren, S. (Eds), The Palgrave Handbook of Sustainability: Case studies and practical solutions. Switzerland: Palgrave Macmillan.

Sustainability planning and performance assessment in North Vancouver, BC. 2018

Spiliotopoulou, M. (2018). Sustainability planning and performance assessment in North Vancouver, BC. Final project report submitted to the District of North Vancouver.

Sustainability planning and performance assessment in Maple Ridge, BC. 2018

Spiliotopoulou, M. (2018). Sustainability planning and performance assessment in Maple Ridge, BC. Final project report submitted to the City of Maple Ridge.

Sustainable Community Planning and Development. 2017

[Updated in 2022]

Roseland, M., & Spiliotopoulou, M. (2017). Sustainable Community Planning and Development. In Abraham, M. (Ed.), Encyclopedia of Sustainable Technologies. Amsterdam, Oxford, Cambridge: Elsevier.

Converging urban agendas: Toward healthy and sustainable communities. 2016

Roseland, M., & Spiliotopoulou, M. (2016). Converging urban agendas: Toward healthy and sustainable communities. Social Sciences, 5(3), 28.

Tomorrow's City Today: prospects for standardising sustainable urban development. 2015
(contribution)

Joss, S., Cowley, R., De Jong, M., Müller, B., Park, B. S., Rees, W. E., Roseland, M., & Rydin, Y. (2015). Tomorrow's City Today: prospects for standardising sustainable urban development. London: University of Westminster. .

Policy papers on climate adaptation strategies for Cyprus and for PACA Region (Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur), France. 2011

Spiliotopoulou, M. (2011). Policy papers on climate adaptation strategies for Cyprus and for PACA Region (Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur), France. Athens: project REGIOCLIMA.

Memorandum on Wild Animals in Captivity in Greece: Legal framework & recommendations (Greece & EU). 2011

Georgiadis, L., Avgerinou, M., Spiliotopoulou, M., & Petridou, V. (2011). Memorandum on Wild Animals in Captivity in Greece: Legal framework & recommendations (Greece & EU). Thessaloniki: ARCTUROS.

Report on regional climate change adaptation Strategies – South Europe. 2010

Spiliotopoulou, M., & Deliyannis, A. (2010). Report on regional climate change adaptation Strategies – South Europe. Athens: project REGIOCLIMA.

Strategic Plan of the City of Athens against climate change (C40). 2009

Spiliotopoulou, M. (co-author) (2009). Strategic Plan of the City of Athens against climate change (C40).

Le droit communautaire de l'évaluation des incidences sur l'environnement: Le cas français. 2005

Spiliotopoulou, M. (2005). Le droit communautaire de l'évaluation des incidences sur l'environnement: Le cas français. Athènes-Bruxelles: Sakkoulas-Bruylant. .

● CONFERENCES & SEMINARS

07/2023 Portland, Oregon

Raising Our Game: Using the Community Capital Compass to Advance Sustainable Community Development. Community Development Society Conference. Presenter

05/2022 New Westminster Secondary School, B.C., Canada

Sustainability and Climate Action. Invited lecture and workshop. Presenter, workshop facilitator

03/2022 Seattle, Washington

The Climate Action Student Collaborative. Washington Oregon Cascadia Higher Education Sustainability Conference. Presenter

10/2021 (virtual)

Localizing the Sustainable Development Goals in British Columbia. Invited lecture, Universidade Federal do Rio Grande do Norte, Brazil. Presenter

31/08/2021 (virtual)

Localizing the SDGs in British Columbia, Canada. International Conference on Sustainable Development Presenter

09/2021 (virtual)

Urban sustainability via holistic urban productivity? International Conference on Sustainable Development. Presenter

11/2020 (virtual)

Making the SDGs Relevant for Cities: the Community Capital Tool in British Columbia. Association of Collegiate Schools of Planning Conference. Presenter

09/2019 Montreal QC, Canada

Sustainable Community Development through the conceptual lens of productivity. 4th ICPP/Public Policy International Conference. Presenter

06/2019 Montreal QC, Canada

Sustainability Communication which practices what it preaches. 4th ICPP/Public Policy International Conference. Presenter

06/2019 Vancouver B.C., Canada

Sustainable Community Development through the conceptual lens of productivity. Congress 2019. Presenter

09/2018 Burnaby B.C., Canada

Urban sustainability planning and performance assessment. Invited lecture, Simon Fraser University. Presenter

04/2018 Burnaby B.C., Canada.

Local sustainability planning and performance assessment. Faculty of Environment Graduate Research Day, Simon Fraser University Presenter

06/2017 Winnipeg, Canada

Sustainability planning and performance assessment in the City of Maple Ridge, BC. Community Indicators Consortium. Presenter

05/2017 Vancouver, Canada

Studying sustainability planning and performance assessment in Canadian communities. C2UExpo Presenter

06/2016 Athens, Greece

Sustainable Community Development through the lens of urban productivity. 6th Urban Studies & Planning International Conference. Presenter

05/2016 Burnaby B.C., Canada

How ready are students to use online educational material? SFU's 15th Annual Teaching and Learning Symposium. Presenter

10/2015 Vancouver B.C, Canada

Sustainable Community Development through the lens of urban productivity. Biennial Conference of the Canadian Society for Ecological Economics & United States Society for Ecological Economics Presenter

04/2015 Seoul, S. Korea

Eco-City Frameworks at a Crossroads: Developing Requirements for International Eco-City and Sustainable Neighbourhood Standards. 4th International Urban Research Symposium, ICLEI World Congress Organiser, facilitator, and presenter

02/2015 Vancouver B.C, Canada

Eco-City Frameworks at a Crossroads: Developing Requirements for International Eco-City and Sustainable Neighbourhood Standards. Leverhulme International Network's 3rd Vancouver Workshop Organiser and presenter

06/2012 Ljubljana, Slovenia

Training on the new portal BUILDUP SKILLS. 2nd European Exchange Meeting of the BUILD UP Skills project Co-organiser and presenter

12/2011 (virtual)

Recommendations to adapt the legislation of the PACA Region (Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur) to climate change impacts. Project REGIOCLIMA Presenter

06/2007 Athens, Greece

La situation de l'environnement en Grèce et le rôle des ONG. Greek-French Environmental Conference, House of Europe "Byron". Presenter

05/2000 Athens, Greece

The political refugees and other emigrants during and after the Greek Civil War. 31st EUROFOR conference. Presenter

05/1999 Granada, Spain

Circulation of immigrants in the Southern Balkans and causes of tension. Integration policies in Greece. 27th EUROFOR conference. Presenter

● VOLUNTEERING

01/2022 - 12/2023 Canada

Sustainability in Higer Education Across Canada working group, co-founder and co-facilitator

2015 - 2023 Vancouver, Canada

Regalia Assistance in Convocations at Simon Fraser University

01/2019 - 06/2021 Vancouver, Canada

Co-founder and Facilitator of the Community Planning and Development Lab, School of Resource and Environmental Management, Simon Fraser University

01/2017 - 12/2019 Vancouver, Canada

Organiser and coordinator of PhD Talks, SFU's School of Resource and Environmental Management

01/2012 - 12/2012 Athens, Greece

TEDx Athens: organisation of TEDx Athens Adventures

2018 - 2019 Vancouver, Canada

Faculty Chair, Social Innovation Seed Fund Adjudication Committee, RADIUS & EMBARK

2010 - 2013 Greece

Blue Flag-awarded beaches Inspector

2009 - 2014 Greece

Fundraising for the "Children Support Centre of Elefsis"