

PART 2

Annexes

**INITIAL REVIEW OF THE PROGRESS
IN THE IMPLEMENTATION AT REGIONAL LEVEL
OF
THE UFM MINISTERIAL DECLARATION ON
ENVIRONMENT AND CLIMATE CHANGE
*(Athens, May 2014)***

ANNEX 1

Implementation of the UfM Declaration on ENV and CC as far as regards the H2020 Initiative for a Cleaner Mediterranean (or “for the De-Pollution of the Mediterranean”)

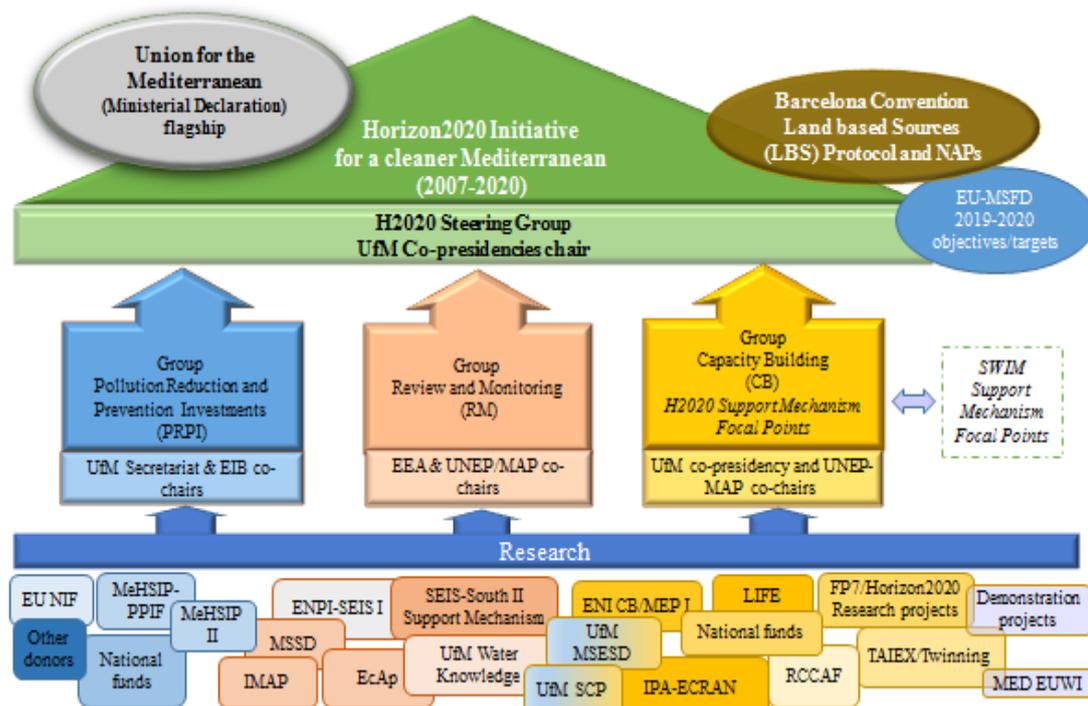
Reference to the topic as per Ministerial Declaration:

Ministers

- *renew their support for the Horizon 2020 Initiative, reaffirming the continued relevance of its four components and the three sectors targeted (waste water, solid waste and industrial emissions); and agree to strengthen its pollution prevention dimension and to pay attention to emerging and related issues, such as hazardous waste and marine litter;*
- *call for further strengthening of synergies with the Barcelona Convention, between the key regional actors, and other regional initiatives, including those aiming to accelerate the shift towards Sustainable Consumption and Production (SCP);*
- *undertake to take firm steps to ensure the full implementation and enforcement of policies supporting the H2020 Initiative goals, in line with the Ecosystem Approach (ECAP) and the priorities included in the NAPs, and, when required, with the support of the capacity building component; iv) undertake to address data needs by applying the principles of Shared Environment Information Systems (SEIS) in line with the commitments under the ECAP Decisions of the Barcelona Convention, also contributing to its regional integrated monitoring programme; v) undertake to take steps to accelerate the necessary reforms to create a favorable and sustainable investment environment, and to ensure adequate project preparation and implementation;*
- *undertake to take into account the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities between Euro-Mediterranean partners and develop the necessary incentives for increasing knowledge and technology transfer. In this context, call for intensifying the efforts to transfer research results into policy decision-making;*
- *reaffirm their commitment to support the elaboration of a pipeline of relevant projects and welcome MeSHIP II, the project preparation facility; and invite all relevant actors to continue the collaborative work to develop criteria for sustainable investments prioritization, building amongst others on the results of the study delivered by the Secretariat of the Union for the Mediterranean (UfM Secretariat), and aligning as appropriate with the NAPs revision process currently undertaken by UNEP/MAP;*
- *emphasize the need to revamp the H2020 Pollution Reduction sub-group, and call in particular for the full involvement of the UfM Secretariat;*
- *mandate the H2020 Initiative Steering Committee, including the UfM Secretariat and UNEP/MAP, to develop a work programme for the second phase by December 2014 on the basis of the guidance provided in this and previous declarations; and request it to regularly report on its progress to Senior Officials.*

Ministers call for cooperation between the Secretariats of the UfM and the Barcelona Convention through the implementation of the 2013 Memorandum of Understanding; and call for exploring ways to streamline MAP and H2020 Initiative focal points and related meetings.

Overall governance structure of the H2020 Initiative



Reference to the topic as per Ministerial Declaration

Ministers renew their support for the Horizon 2020 Initiative, reaffirming the continued relevance of its four components

Horizon 2020 - Overall

The Horizon 2020 initiative aims to improve the quality of life of more than 420 million citizens living in the 25 countries bordering the Mediterranean Sea. It is an umbrella programme drawing together all the policies, strategies and action plans for enhancing environmental protection. It aims to contribute to a cleaner Mediterranean by the year 2020 by tackling the sources of pollution that account for around 80% of the overall pollution of the Mediterranean Sea: municipal waste, urban waste water and industrial pollution.

Hosted by the Co-presidency of the Union for the Mediterranean — the European Union and the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan — and with support from the UfM Secretariat, a meeting was organized in Barcelona on December 17th 2014 as a direct follow-up of the recommendations outlined in the Ministerial Declaration on Environment and Climate Change held in Athens on 13 May 2014 to draft and adopt a Work Programme for the H2020 Initiative's second phase (2015-2020). With a clear indication from the Ministers to step up efforts, the unanimously-adopted document recognizes the need to reinforce investment activities in pollution reduction, with a wider thematic scope, information sharing and closer cooperation and synergies.

The document adopted was the result of collaborative work between the Co-Chairs of the Horizon 2020 Steering Mechanism and Sub Groups that cover the Initiative's thematic areas¹, i.e. the UfM Co-Presidency, the UfM Secretariat, UNEP/MAP, the European Environment Agency and the European Investment Bank (EIB). It was the culmination of a participatory process that involved consultation with all partner countries within the various H2020 groups. It lists specific activities under each H2020 component and specifies the responsible stakeholders for each activity, the expected output, possible financing, indicator of progress and milestone (year of completion). It was inspired and guided by a series of more concrete H2020-related commitments mentioned in the Ministerial Declaration.

See the 2015-2020 Work Programme of the Horizon 2020 Initiative in English, French and Arabic here: <http://www.h2020.net/resources/meeting-documents/viewcategory/380.html>

The focus of the Work Programme is that each partner country strengthens its policy and regulatory framework, by improving its comprehensiveness, and the implementation and degree of enforcement, including ratification of Barcelona Convention Protocols. This would require that the main legislative/institutional gaps, as well as, the inspection capacity needs of the partner countries are identified. The conclusions and priorities included in the revised NAPs serve as the reference point to identify and prioritise those gaps. In addition to the National Action Plans (NAPs), for the EU Member States, the conclusions included in the *Communication on improving the delivery of benefits from EU environment measures: building confidence through better knowledge and responsiveness* should also be considered.

Extracted from [Horizon 2020 Mediterranean report - Toward shared environmental information systems](#), published 30/03/2015

- Sanitation has improved steadily in the region over the last decade. Between 2003 and 2011 the proportion of the population with access to sanitation increased from 87.5 to 92 %. There are still 17.6 million people in the region without sanitation, a third of them living in urban areas.
- There is great potential to reuse wastewater in the region. Currently only around 1% of wastewater is reused, so it is possible to make better use of this resource instead of discharging it into the sea.
- Progress in urban wastewater management is difficult to assess as the data available do not provide sound evidence on trends at the regional level.
- While solid waste generated in the region is still approximately half the per capita level in the EU, waste generation in the southern Mediterranean region has grown approximately 15% over the last decade, mostly due to a growing population and increased consumption.
- Waste management needs significant improvement. Around three quarters of waste is collected, but most of this is still disposed of in open dumps, which can have health impacts and find its way into the sea leading to environmental problems. Less than 10% of the waste collected in the region is recycled.
- Industrial emissions have a heavy impact on the Mediterranean. While pollution from heavy metals in seawater has decreased in recent years, local marine pollution from cities, industry and tourist resorts is still leading to pollution of seas and beaches.

¹ The UfM Ministerial Declaration reaffirmed the continued relevance of the four components of the Horizon 2020 Initiative (capacity building, pollution reduction and prevention investments, monitoring and review, and research) working on municipal waste, urban wastewater and industrial pollution

Horizon 2020 - Capacity Building

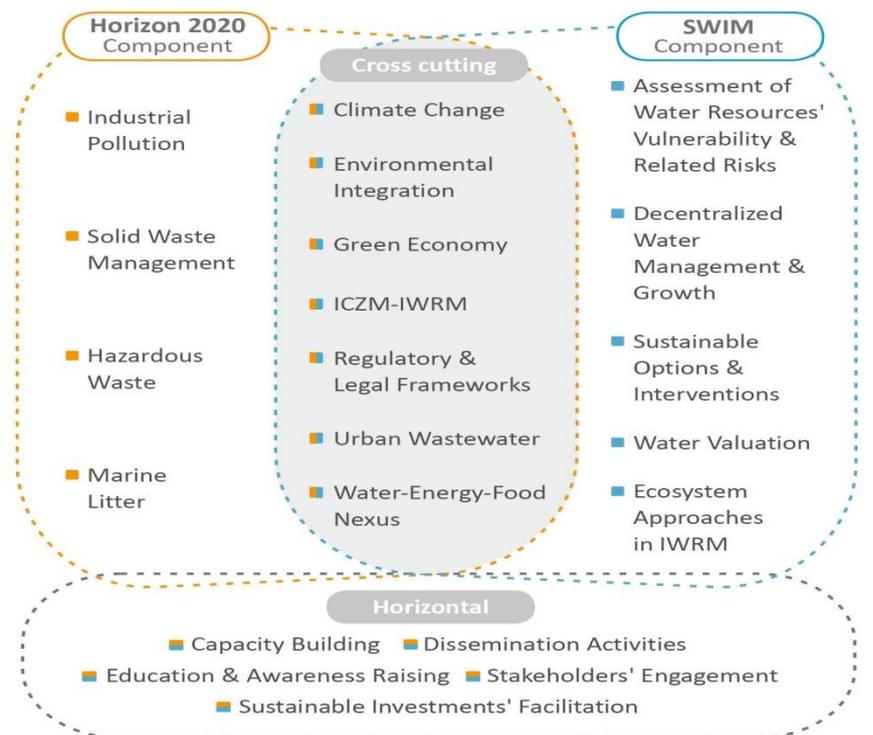
After completion of the EU-funded Capacity Building Mediterranean Environment Programme (CB/MEP) in late 2014², Horizon 2020 capacity building activities were continued till December 2015 through the EU funded Sustainable Water Integrated Management – Support Mechanism project (SWIM-SM) with funds specially earmarked to this purpose. They mostly focused on supporting the Mediterranean countries to conclude the revision of their NAPs developed under UNEP/MAP.

Since February 2016 (and till January 2019) the EU funded Sustainable Water Integrated Management – Horizon 2020 Support Mechanism (SWIM-H2020 SM) (6.286.000 Euros) has been launched with the aim to support the implementation of the Horizon 2020 Work Programme (capacity building component) and the sustainable use of scarce water resources in the Mediterranean Region.

To be able to deliver the expected results of the project, a carefully planned Methodology for the Inception and the other phases of the SWIM-H2020 SM was designed and followed to generate the best possible Workplan, fulfilling, to the maximum, the mission and objectives of both Horizon 2020 and SWIM SM. The methodology met the target set in the proposal: to design a demand-driven mechanism to respond quickly and efficiently to the needs of the Partner Countries and effectively coordinate and implement their needs for progressing towards their goals in relation to reduced marine pollution and sustainable use of scarce water resources, enhancing the resilience of the region to direct and indirect environmental pressures.

The Workplan of the “Sustainable Water Integrated Management and Horizon 2020 Support Mechanism” (SWIM-H2020 SM) was presented and endorsed during the Project’s 1st Steering Committee Meeting in Brussels in September 2016. The project’s interventions will be provided through the so called "Expert Facility" (**Table 2**), geared to tailor-made assistance to the Partner Countries and a rich programme of regional activities including not only trainings, study tours and webinars but also "peer to peer" capacity building, where experts, administrators and relevant stakeholders share experiences with their peers and colleagues from other countries in an on-going process facilitated by the Experts of the Support Mechanism. In all, 50 "in depth" interventions are foreseen to be delivered till January 2019. These interventions include the following thematic areas:

² 130 activities, 3583 trainees (attendances), 385 trainers/lecturers from 2010-2014 (<http://www.h2020.net/resources/training-materials.html>)



Several of the activities directly or indirectly contribute to strengthening the capacities of the Partner Countries to implement the Programmes of Measure of their NAPs. At regional level, SWIM-H2020 SM is co-organising with MEDPOL (UNEP/MAP) a policy and capacity building meeting on the lessons learned and the way forward in the implementation of the NAPs (Marseille, 17-18 October 2016).

SWIM-H2020 Support Mechanism will also support Partner Countries in managing two of their most polluting industries by conducting BATs, BREFs, and BEPs screening process for olive oil mill waste management and the cement industry (more specific to its waste-to-energy function). By mid-2017 recommendations for the implementation of the BATs, BEPs and circular economy measures in these two industries will be available.

SWIM-H2020 SM supports regional processes and the agendas of the relevant Horizon 2020 Initiative's and SWIM institutional partners (UfM and UNEP/MAP) and enhances synergy with the other components of the Horizon 2020 Initiative (MeHSIP, SEIS and the Research Horizon2020), the SWIM Demos, relevant UfM labelled projects such as the *BlueGreen Med-CS*, the *Plastic-Busters for a Mediterranean free from litter*, the *Governance & Financing for the Mediterranean Water Sector* and other regional projects such as *SwitchMed*, etc.

Furthermore, the Support Mechanism provides technical support to the UfM Water Expert Group (WEG) meetings. So far, the project has provided (jointly with GWP-Med) logistical and technical support to the 3 meetings of the WEG Drafting Group that have already taken place in April, July and September 2016.

Recommendations if any, including reinforcement of the action (how and why) and/or proposed corrective measures

- extension of SWIM-Horizon2020 Support Mechanism till 2020 to be aligned with the end of the Horizon 2020 Work Programme (2015-2020)
- further enhancing the SWIM-Horizon2020 Support Mechanism to be able to support the Horizon 2020 Coordination Mechanism among all Horizon 2020 components and overall

communication and visibility of the Initiative's progress (as was the case during the first phase).

Contacts, relevant websites: Stefano Dotto and Roxana Toran Villarroya, DGNear, European Commission, DG for Neighbourhood and Enlargement Negotiations, Unit B2 – Regional Programmes Neighbourhood South, Roxana. TORAN-VILLARROYA@ec.europa.eu, Prof. Michael Scoullou, SWIM-H2020 SM Team Leader, scoullou@swim-h2020.eu
www.h2020.net; http://ec.europa.eu/environment/enlarg/med/horizon_2020_en.htm
www.swim-h2020.eu

SWIM-H2020 Support Mechanism Work Plan

Table 1: Brief Description of the themes covered under SWIM-H2020 SM

1. HORIZON 2020	
Industrial Pollution	This theme covers industrial pollution abatement and mitigation in general. Industrial solid waste and wastewater management and treatment; physical chemical processes; sludge management and treatment; environmental impact assessment and sectoral approaches (e.g. on food and agriculture, including olive oil; manufacturing including iron and steel; tourism; construction, etc.) will be tackled.
Solid Waste Management	This theme includes the implementation of policy development, technical assistance and capacity building activities on several municipal solid waste aspects including: institutional, policy, financial, legislative issues, communication and PPP arrangements. This activity is also intended to enlighten the state of the art in technology, organizational and practices of handling solid wastes, waste collection and transport, moving from low to high levels of recovery and recycling of waste with the involvement, also, of the informal sector, treatment and disposal technologies including organic waste management and energy recovery.
Hazardous Waste	This theme was introduced under the new SWIM-H2020 SM and is intended to assist countries to implement their commitments under the Hazardous Wastes Protocol and address some emerging issues on hazardous waste including Toxic Chemicals (e.g. POPs) prevention and phase out. Activities cover technical assistance, guidance and training on strengthening the legal frameworks, reforming local taxation, authorization and monitoring, development and implementation of National Hazardous Waste Management Master Plans and National Special Waste Treatment and Disposal Centres, etc.
Marine Litter	This theme is among the recently emerged ones and includes activities aiming the enhancements of coordination on marine litter management and related aspects from monitoring and assessment approaches to prevention and mitigation measures. It is also intended to support countries in the implementation of the Regional Plan on Marine Litter Management of UNEP/MAP (e.g. on extended producer responsibility) and to build the necessary synergies in order to address the transboundary aspects of marine litter in a coordinated and harmonized manner.
2. SWIM	
Assessment of Water Resources' Vulnerability and Related Risks	This theme groups all activities related to the assessment of the water resources, both the quantitative and chemical/ecological status. Multiple scales will be covered (e.g. RB, region, nationwide, etc.), and the possibility for using various data sources and tools will be presented (in-situ, satellite, models, etc.). Issues of vulnerability and risk connected to meteorological hazards are also covered.
Decentralized Water Management &	This theme includes activities aiming at the promotion and strengthening of

Growth	decentralized water management, the regional (subnational) integration and cooperation, the development of adequate institutional setting, and the identification, examination and facilitation of growth opportunities
Sustainable Options & Interventions	This theme groups all activities related to the options and interventions for increasing water efficiency, water supply reliability and mitigating risks. The cost-benefit analysis and the investigation of different measures/options (either on the demand reduction or on the increase of supply) are included here. These options vary from technological, to economic and policy instruments, etc. having as an overall objective the introduction of a smart and sustainable adaptation tackling drivers and pressures.
Water Valuation	This theme includes activities related to the valuation of water resources, and the investigation of cost-recovery mechanisms and options
Ecosystem Approaches in IWRM	This theme groups activities that could enhance the quality and quantity of water to satisfy the needs of the ecosystem, communities and economies relying upon the aquatic ecosystems and its associated resources. Under this theme, activities related to stream/river rehabilitation and restoration, preservation of the groundwater, protection of the water resources and aquatic environments are included.
3. CROSS CUTTING/ SWIM-H2020	
Environmental Integration	This includes technical assistance and facilitation of institutional reforms, inter-sectorial approaches and actions pushing for the consideration of environmental aspects in decision making and activities of other sectors to move towards sustainable development.
ICZM – IWRM	This new theme supports the integrated management of coastal zones (ICZM) in combination with IWRM, through the application of the Integrative Methodological Framework (IMF), aiming also at enhancing the implementation of the ICZM Protocol of the Barcelona Convention and of the related activities under NAPs;
Regulatory & Legal Frameworks	Under this theme a series of activities are included, related to the development, re-design and consolidation of regulatory and legal frameworks. The latter could facilitate appropriate environmental governance and mainstreaming including better application of IWRM and provision of improved sustainable water supply and sanitation services.
Urban Wastewater	This theme includes many important activities related to wastewater management; sludge treatment; leachate treatment; development of technical skills in operation and maintenance of wastewater treatment plants; cheaper and best available technological solutions for wastewater treatment; treated wastewater reuse /water recycling; and the use of bio-solids.
Water-Energy-Food Nexus	This new theme includes activities that enhance sustainability and security, cutting-across the domains of water, energy and food production, supply, distribution and use, taking into account also the optimal utilization of ecosystem services.
Climate Change	Within the context of SWIM & H2020 SM, activities not covered by other relevant projects may be included, with a focus on integrating adaptation dimensions of climate change in the water and environment sectors.
Green Economy	Through this theme facilitation and promotion of green options (circular economy, cleaner production, eco-efficiency, etc.) related to the various technical approaches employed, will be supported contributing also to the implementation of the Sustainable Consumption and Production Med Action Plan.
4. HORIZONTAL	
Capacity Building	Under this generic theme most of the activities mentioned in the Work Plan are included. Furthermore, within this theme provisions are made for setting up a

	Repository of Best Practices on IWRM and several other activities including also for empowering women.
Education and Awareness Raising	This theme includes activities involving the development of novel awareness-raising and education tools (incl. outreach to schools and specific target groups) and support for the finalization of the Action Plan and implementation of the UfM Med Strategy on Education for Sustainable Development (MSESD), prepared under H2020 CB/MEP, endorsed by the Ministers of the Environment in May 2014 (Athens).
Stakeholders' Engagement	This generic theme includes activities that cut-across the domains of most of the themes using participatory approaches for improving water and environmental governance. Under this theme the annual national stakeholder meetings will be organized in all PCs.
Sustainable Investments' Facilitation	This theme may include activities that facilitate procurement, elaboration, review, etc., of feasibility studies and assessments of investments, including those under urgency conditions (e.g. refugee crisis).
Communication, Dissemination and Administrative Operations	Under this theme all the communication administrative and other operations necessary for the running of the SWIM –H2020 SM Project are clustered, including the organization of administrative (Steering Committee, Consortium, WEG, etc.) meetings.

All the activities selected and proposed in the Work Plan, correspond to the aforementioned themes, focusing on various aspects of these themes according to the priorities/direct interest of the Partner Countries. The clustering of them was based on an effort to obtain the optimum balance between: (a) the support to Countries/Stakeholders through institutional strengthening and enhancing capacities on themes identified by them and (b) the effort to achieve maximum synergy among countries and region-wide initiatives and programmes. Such initiatives/programmes may be either already running for some time (stemming from the previous phases of H2020 and SWIM or other EU and even non-EU supported ones) or are new emerging initiatives. Most prominent cases of on-going regional initiatives are: (a) the process for obtaining a Mediterranean Water Strategy/Action Plan, under the UfM and (b) the promotion and implementation of Protocols and Initiatives of the Barcelona Convention/UNEP-MAP, related to the reduction of the pollution in the Mediterranean. The Mediterranean Strategy for Sustainable Development (2016-2025); the Regional Action Plan on Sustainable Consumption and Production for the Mediterranean and its Roadmap for implementation, adopted by the 19th COP of the Barcelona Convention, and the Action Plan of the Mediterranean Strategy on ESD. Most the activities proposed contribute directly to the above mentioned regional initiatives.

All the regional/sub-regional activities have been requested by all or several countries and are closely linked with the related activities under the Expert Facility and supplement them by bringing national experts, members of administrations and other stakeholders together in bigger or smaller groups, facilitated by the Consortium Experts, in order to share their experiences, learn from each other and develop or further enhance collaboration among countries, governments and stakeholders at institutional and expert level.

The fifteen on-site trainings (regional or sub-regional) comprise: one on Marine Litter; one on industrial Pollution (food/olive oil industry); two on a series of regulatory and organizational aspects of Decentralized Water Management; two on the technical and regulatory aspects of Drought Risk Management; one on Treated Waste-water Reuse; one on desalination, examining new emerging aspects such as the Water-Energy-Food Nexus and the impacts on micro-biota connected with large volume input/abstraction; one on Water Regulatory and Legal Frameworks with focus on the implementation and enforcement of legislation; two on Green Economy, one focusing on the support

on SCP for SMEs with emphasis on whole life cycle services and products and another one on the role of private banks in supporting water investment projects.

Six study tours are planned as follows: one on Decentralized Water Management and one on the Assessment of Water Resources Vulnerability and Related Risks; three are on solid waste, sludge and hazardous waste management and one on ICZM-IWRM.

As concerns the peer-to-peer activities and webinars the following will be conducted: three peer-to-peer and one webinar on solid wastes of all types, including marine litter; two peer-to-peer and one webinar on industrial pollution; one peer-to-peer and one webinar on drought risk management mainstreaming; one webinar on ICZM-IWRM; one peer-to-peer on green economy approaches (circular economy and private banking, etc.), one peer-to-peer on treated wastewater reuse, with emphasis on regulatory/legal aspects, while there are two peer-to-peer on decentralized water management.

Four interventions will cover the horizontal regional on-site training activities: one on public participation/stakeholders dialogue including Parliamentarians, Representatives of Media and of CSOs; one on public awareness and education for sustainable development contributing, also, to the follow-up of the Ministerial Conference on the Action Plan of the Mediterranean Strategy for Education on Sustainable Development (MSESD), foreseen for December 2016; one in support of the implementation of the updated UNEP/MAP NAPs, focusing on lessons learned and the way forward, including the possibilities for investment; and one sub-regional on-site training on fast track project design, connected with an important rapidly evolving issue (on Refugees Emergencies).

Table 2: Expert Facility

Country	Component	SWIM-H2020 Themes	Related Country Requests	Expert Days	Link with the regional activities	Relevance to the Country's Strategic Framework
Algeria	Water	Sustainable options & interventions	<p>EFS-DZ-1: Support the reuse of treated wastewater in agriculture, through sensibilisation, and awareness raising:</p> <p>EFS- DZ-1.1: Support ONID in awareness raising and sensibilisation on treated wastewater reuse. Capitalization on the experience in the context of the SWIM program in the region Hennaya</p> <p>EFS- DZ-1.2: Provide technical assistance for the development of a communication & awareness plan on treated wastewater reuse</p>	20	Treated Waste Water Reuse	Algeria, in its National Strategy/ Plan for Water (PN Eau), aims <i>inter alia</i> at: increasing and securing the mobilization of non-conventional water resources; ... and supporting the food security strategy with the expansion of irrigated areas. Accordingly, reuse of treated wastewater in irrigation is currently one of the strategic directions in the water and environment sectors, as clearly reflected in the water law 05-12 and the associated regulatory texts. In addition, there is the National Plan for Wastewater Treatment, which also addresses treated wastewater reuse. However, a lot of in-depth work was identified as necessary in terms of awareness raising and communication about the proper treatment and health aspects of treated wastewater reuse in order to bridge the gap between the declared policies/legislations (a relevant regulatory text on treated wastewater exists) and their implementation. The expected result of the intervention is the enhancement of the implementation of related treated waste water reuse policies/plans.
		Sustainable options & interventions	<p>EFS-DZ-2: Identification of Non-Revenue Water (NRW) and intervention for leakage reduction:</p> <p>EFS-DZ-2.1: Support the water sector in the implementation of water savings based on two types of interventions aiming to reduce physical losses in the production and distribution network through the introduction of management systems and new technologies in detecting and repairing leaks</p> <p>EFS-DZ-2.2: Implement a pilot case and</p>	80	N/A	One of the main principles of IWRM adopted in Algeria's national water policy is related to water economy through the fight against leaks and water wastage, with goals based on systematic metering, rehabilitation of networks, and increased users' awareness. This is supported by the water law 05-12, which also sets amongst its objectives the protection of water against waste and overuse. However, despite the existing regulatory and policy framework, there are serious problems in the implementation of these policies. Improving technical and management capacity for efficiently reducing water leaks through the use of adequate technologies and management systems and measures contribute to addressing this gap. The expected result of the intervention is to support the country in implementing its Water Efficiency Policies with respect to minimizing physical losses in the hydraulic system (as one of the main elements in non-revenue water reduction); also contributing to improved service provision and increased cost recovery.

Country	Component	SWIM-H2020 Themes	Related Country Requests	Expert Days	Link with the regional activities	Relevance to the Country's Strategic Framework
			training			<i>Algeria was a focus country for a study undertaken within SWIM-SM phase 1 on documentation of best practices in nonrevenue water</i>
		Sustainable options & interventions	EFS-DZ-3: Water Resources Protection against pollution: Assist in the implementation of perimeters of water protection zones by supporting task allocation and stakeholders' engagement.	20		A study exists that has defined the water quality protection perimeter in Algiers well field (Champ de Captage). Furthermore, the implementation of the regulatory text is lacking and support is needed to help identify/allocate responsibilities for the above and engage the stakeholders. The expected result of this activity will reinforce the water security management plan (Plan de Gestion du Sécurité sanitaire (PGSS) following the regulations (water law - Decree and Circular on protection areas) and WHO guidelines.
	Environment	Environmental Integration	EFH-DZ-1: Development and use of governance models and implementation of PNAEDD actions	58	Support for the implementation of NAPs	<p>Algeria has a good institutional and legal framework in the environment and solid waste sectors including the "Plan National d' Action pour l'Environnement et Développement Durable (PNAEDD) which was updated for the period of (2016-2020), while the National Integrated Municipal Waste Management Program (PROGDEM) is targeting zero waste by the year 2030. PNAEDD includes among others, the updating, development and implementation of master plans. Algeria has implemented a policy to improve the management of special and hazardous waste by the enactment of the 01-19 law of 12 December 2001, which is based primarily on the implementation of waste management tools including (National Plan for the management of Special wastes - PNAGDES) PNAGDES phase 1 is actually under evaluation before the preparation in the near future of the PNAGDES phase 2. Algeria has also prepared its first national implementation plan for the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants and now working on the second national implementation plan in preparation for the Conference of the Parties of the convention scheduled for mid-2017.</p> <p>Most coastal cities have developed and validated their communal schemes (master plans) for the management of municipal waste since 2012 but this process is still new and needs further support. In general, little progress has been made on the ground. Capacity enforcement is needed to achieve proper implementation of the policies and legislations.</p>
		Environmental Integration	EFH-DZ-2: Awareness and education about non-conventional water resources	10	Awareness, Education for Sustainable Development	In Algeria several programmes of environmental education in primary and secondary schools and public awareness campaigns have been carried out in a rather <i>ad hoc</i> way. ESD has not yet been introduced systematically in the schooling system and it has been even less used in public awareness raising as a

Country	Component	SWIM-H2020 Themes	Related Country Requests	Expert Days	Link with the regional activities	Relevance to the Country's Strategic Framework
						<p>"management tool" for creating the enabling environment for the introduction and effective implementation of policies. This activity is intended as a 'demonstration' one and is expected to serve the following interlinked objectives: a) to provide a concrete example of design and application of an ESD programme supporting the implementation and use of non-conventional water resources, and b) to help the country to systematically use the Mediterranean Strategy on Education for Sustainable Development (MSESD) and the Action Plan (expected to be approved in December 2016) to adapt accordingly its educational agenda.</p>
		<p>Environmental protection through enhancement of Green Economy</p>	<p>EFH-DZ-3: Support to the development of a package of measures to increase businesses competitiveness through the implementation of eco-efficiency in production and consumption processes.</p> <p>This activity includes the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - To provide support for the adoption of standards "quality at the production process to achieve a good level of competitiveness and introduction of cleaner production processes"; - To provide support for the transfer of clean production technology (Generalization of the activities of the national action plan arising from Switch-Med program); - To provide support for the development of the communications plan and awareness for the green economy development program in Algeria (including through advocacy). 	25	<p>Green economy, circular economy, SCP, CSR, green banking</p>	<p>Algeria has commitments in the field of green economy. This is confirmed in the country's 2015-2019 five-year program. Algeria considers the green economy as a strong tool for environmental protection and as a pivot of development and technological progress. Some sectors are identified as "priority" by the Algerian government (renewable energy, waste management, water treatment, introducing energy efficiency in buildings) but the implementation of policies still lags behind. Also, the implementation of interlinked strategies such as the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals, the National Sustainable Development Strategy and the National Development Plan for renewable energy and energy efficiency will be enhanced.</p>
		<p>Marine litter</p>	<p>EFH-DZ-4: Characterization of marine and coastal litter on fourteen (14)</p>	10	<p>Marine litter and plastic waste</p>	<p>These activities will support the implementation in Algeria of the obligations and measures relevant to the Regional Plan for Marine Litter Management in</p>

Country	Component	SWIM-H2020 Themes	Related Country Requests	Expert Days	Link with the regional activities	Relevance to the Country's Strategic Framework
			coastal wilaya			
		Marine litter	EFH-DZ-5: Support for the development of a national management plan for coastal waste and marine litter	15	Marine litter and plastic waste	the Mediterranean of the Barcelona Convention and will contribute to the national strategy for Integrated Coastal Zone Management (ICZM) adopted in 2015 in the Framework of the implementation of the regional ICZM Protocol of the Barcelona Convention. This Strategy defines the priority intervention axes including monitoring and environmental assessment.
Egypt	Water	Decentralized water management and Growth	EFS-EG-1: Improve Watershed Management (decentralized level), local governance and capacity building:	60	Decentralized water management (including management plans)	The National Water Resources Plan of Egypt 2005-2017 is currently under updating for the period 2017-2037 (a relevant EU support programme is currently under implementation and will conclude in 2017) It is obvious that a well-informed new National Strategic Plan (2017-2037) will be needed and the proposed activity will assist in the elaboration of this important policy document.
			EFS-EG-1.1: Provide technical assistance for the National Water Resources Plan at the planning sector			IWRM interventions defined by Egypt in its IWRM plan of 2005-2017 consider watershed / trans-boundary cooperation as a prime objective. This activity will strengthen the capacity of the country in the technical and eventually hydro-political aspects of watershed management and will facilitate its implementation. Currently, WRM is implemented with a top-down approach (Ministerial level to decentralized level). At the decentralized level 26 Governorates exist, 5 of which are in the stage of developing Governorate Water Resources Management Plans (assisted by the EU support programme mentioned previously). SWIM-H2020 can support on technical aspects (e.g. hydrological aspects, water balance, indicators, etc.), as well as in supporting their replication to additional Governorates.
			EFS-EG-1.2: Capacity Building on Watershed Management			
			EFS-EG-1.3: Support (i) the analysis of water uses' characteristics, calculate domestic water budget and (ii) the analysis of the hydrological cycle			The analysis of water uses' characteristics would inform the decision makers on the prevailing water use patterns (applied in this case on the domestic sector) and would help prioritise water demand management efforts (also considered as part of the national water policy as a measure to conserve water). In addition, it will help design adequate interventions and awareness campaigns that target high domestic consumers, and/or focuses on the type of domestic use(s) that require most of the water, while the analysis of the hydrological cycle would provide reliable and validated information needed for water resources planning, sector allocations, assessing the impact of climate change, etc. The result of this activity would also provide informed input to the planned support in drafting the Water Resources Plan proposed under activity (EFS-EG-

Country	Component	SWIM-H2020 Themes	Related Country Requests	Expert Days	Link with the regional activities	Relevance to the Country's Strategic Framework
			EFS-EG-1.4: Capacity Building for the Governorates on planning and infrastructure development (i.e. how to take a decision on investing in infrastructures/ water works and interventions) and on the application of governance concepts and decentralization			1.1) for Egypt (see above). It is also closely linked to activity EFS-EG-2 (see below). The EU 300 million eur investment on water in Egypt requires a coherent water planning and infrastructure development strategy open to inputs from the governorates and stakeholders. The proposed capacity building activity will contribute to the shaping of such a strategy. This will complement the Water Sector Reform Program (WSRP) funded by the EU (2011-2015) in which provisions for decentralization are included.
		Assessment of water resources' vulnerability and related risks	<p>EFS-EG-2: Drought and Water Scarcity Risk Management:</p> <p>EFS-EG-2.1: Capacity building on methods of water conservation</p> <p>EFS-EG-2.2: Raise awareness on the per capita consumption rates (based on the results of activity EFS-EG-1.3.:(i) for Egypt)</p> <p>EFS-EG-2.2: Explore further measures and incentives for Water Demand Management - WDM (e.g. water tariffs, etc.) including new ways to save water and increase efficiency, on the basis of water needs per sector (including households and hotels)</p>	60	Drought and Flood Risk Management	Limited water supply in Egypt is exacerbated by climate change and the fact that the country shares more than 90% of its resources (the Nile River) with ten other countries; all located in the upstream stretches of the River. In order to implement the water demand management which is promoted by the NWRP 2005-2017, the water sector has to (1) be aware of the different types of water losses including losses as a result of water pollution and deteriorating water quality, (2) develop knowledge on water conservation methods and water demand management (WDM) tools (economic, technical, legislative and awareness-raising) as they are applied in the different sectors (irrigation, domestic, touristic), and (3) be informed on the prevailing water use patterns (applied in this case on the domestic sector) and possible reduction in water uses through the application of WDM.
	Environment	Municipal Solid Waste	EFH-EG-1: Capacity building of the new Solid Waste Agency	30	Solid Waste Management	The "Integrated Solid Waste Management Sector (ISWMS)" is a new sector institution under the umbrella of MSEA. It has the mission to develop the new policy of the SWM sector, update the national strategy for SWM, draft the new waste management legislation, lead the investment programs in the waste sector at the National and Governorate level in Egypt, coupled with enhanced professional capacity, and an investment pipeline for implementation of sectoral projects at the regional and local level. This new Solid Waste Agency is

Country	Component	SWIM-H2020 Themes	Related Country Requests	Expert Days	Link with the regional activities	Relevance to the Country's Strategic Framework
						intended to take charge of the solid waste sector and to implement the National Solid Waste Management Programme (NSWMP) by adapting a "Decentralized system" and community participation functioning with roles and responsibilities clearly identified to each stakeholder. The proposed activity will support the newly established Agency and facilitate its first steps.
		Industrial Pollution	EFH-EG-2: Support for an Action Plan to deal with the pollution of the Nile River	58	Hazardous and Industrial Waste	<p>Industrial effluents including toxic substances, agricultural runoff with high concentrations of agrochemicals, and untreated or inadequately treated municipal sewage are being recklessly dumped into the Nile River, frequently combined. These have negative impact on the quality of the river water and human health.</p> <p>Egypt has requested support for the development of an Action Plan to deal with the above problems.</p> <p>Details need to be elaborated with the FP of Egypt.</p>
		Marine litter	EFH-EG-3: Marine litter management	30	Marine litter and plastic waste	<p>This action will support the implementation in Egypt of the obligations and measures relevant to the Regional Plan for Marine Litter Management in the Mediterranean of the Barcelona Convention and will contribute to Integrated Coastal Zone Management (ICZM) within the framework of the implementation of the regional ICZM Protocol of the Barcelona Convention.</p>
Israel	Water	Ecosystem approaches in IWRM	EFH-IL-1: Support stream rehabilitation, river restoration: definition of ecological flows, definition of regulation/ criteria to determine good chemical and ecological status, and related methods	40	Decentralized water management (including management plans)	<p>One of the "Main Policy Points" of the Long Term Master Plan for the National Water Sector (LT-MP NWS) under the "Management of the Natural Water System" refers to "rehabilitation and preservation of the resources as a national strategic asset". The activity will support Israel in implementing this policy with respect to river/stream rehabilitation/restoration as a basic approach to long term management of natural water sources, and introducing methods and tools for calculating ecological flows, and for determining good chemical and ecological status of water. Currently, efforts of restoring part of the original flow are implemented in the Jordan and Yarkon rivers, by releasing in these rivers a mix of groundwater with tertiary treated water which has also undergone through wetland treatment. Depending on data availability, SWIM-H2020 can either coordinate and provide technical guidance to assist the country in applying relevant methodologies, defining suitable indicators and thresholds, etc., and/or demonstrate the application of such methodologies in</p>

Country	Component	SWIM-H2020 Themes	Related Country Requests	Expert Days	Link with the regional activities	Relevance to the Country's Strategic Framework
						a selected river/ streams.
		Regulatory & legal frameworks	EFS-IL-2: Development of Environmental Impact Assessments in Water Policy: Assist in structuring environmental impact assessments of water policies (ex-ante, ex-post)	40	Governance, implementation and enforcement. Regulatory reform and incentives	There is no reference to Regulatory Impact Assessment in the LT-MP NWS. However, Israel has requested support in this field following the best practice currently applied in the EU. Through this activity, SWIM-H2020 will assist Israel in structuring and supporting the development of its water related policies with due consideration to their likely environmental impacts. Depending on the country's interest, a guiding document for conducting Regulatory Impact Assessments (RIA) or the so called Sustainability Impact Assessment (SIA) (referring to RIA that includes environmental impact assessment) can be an output of this activity, as well as the drafting of guidelines and criteria on which policy decisions (and decisions on measures) would be subject to an EIA and how to implement an EIA in these cases. Drafting of relevant bylaws is also relevant.
		Regulatory & legal frameworks	EFS-IL-3: Enforcement and regulation: Shifting from regulatory (quotas) to more economic incentives (smart regulations), consolidating existing regulations and by-laws and making them more implementable (for various topics: water tariffs (all sectors)), create incentives. EU contribution (models, approaches) on this issue is very welcome	40	Governance, implementation and enforcement. Regulatory reform and incentives	The implementation of this activity will support more than one policy recommendation within the LT-MP NWS for the incorporation of environmental principles in water system infrastructures and providing incentives for reducing pollutant emissions, reducing losses and cutting on water consumption, and moving from regulatory to more economic incentives. Currently there is a water allocation model and cross-subsidies. The domestic water tariff is the same across Israel, and a levee is used to lower the tariff. In agriculture two different schemas exist, depending on the water supplier: if the water is supplied from NICOROT, the tariff is around 70 cents; if the supply comes from treated wastewater, then each facility has its own tariff (~30 cents). The farmers' affordability is estimated to be around 40 cents. SWIM-H2020 can support the investigation of options towards a reform in tariffs so that the governmental subsidized part is reduced.
	Environment	Green Economy	EFH-IL-1: Sectorial Green Public Procurement : Aiding the local industry to plan for shifting to green production for the local market	20	Green economy, circular economy, SCP, CSR, green banking	There is a clear government policy in Israel to support environmental policies by using various economic instruments in order to speed up the shift to green products and services. Some previous work with regard to Green Public Procurement has been done in Israel but more support is still needed. Green Public Procurement has been applied on purchases related to government budgets but in order to extend this practice efficiently to municipalities, producers should be capacitated to shift from traditional to green products that also meet the standards of the procurements.

Country	Component	SWIM-H2020 Themes	Related Country Requests	Expert Days	Link with the regional activities	Relevance to the Country's Strategic Framework
		Industrial Pollution	EFH-IL-2: Support on olive oil mills waste –Regulation and methods (continue previous H2020 CB/MEP program)	20	Sustainable management of waste from olive oil mills	The problem of the unsustainable management of the Olive Oil Industry waste is an important issue for Israel and the MENA region in general. Potential synergies with neighboring and EU countries (e.g. Cyprus and Greece) were indicated during the inception mission and sharing of experience is needed especially for the treatment and disposal of olive oil mill waste. This activity will facilitate the streamlining of regulatory and methodological approaches for the treatment of olive oil mills waste.
		Solid Waste Management	EFH-IL-3: Support for plastic waste management and recycling: EFH-IL-3.1: Assessment of environmental, technical and economic aspects and problems of plastic waste management and recycling EFH-IL-3.2: Quantitative and qualitative assessment of existing best practice on plastic waste recycling schemes. EFH-IL-3.3: Identification and evaluation of national measures to improve the recycling of plastic waste and contribution (guidelines) for the introduction of a national plastic waste recycling strategy.	28	Solid Waste Management	Currently, only a fraction of Israel's plastic waste is being recycled although it is considered a substantial recycling stream. Worldwide reductions in oil and commodity polymer prices have undermined market confidence in the plastic recycling industry. The MoEP is interested in identifying key drivers and economic tools to achieve a sustainable and economic future for the plastics recycling sector. These activities may result with the introduction of a national plastic waste recycling strategy. These proposed interlinked activities (the exact content of which will be finalized with the FP) will directly contribute to the enforcement of the new law on plastic bags recently adopted and to be implemented starting in January 2017, which will end the distribution of free plastic bags in supermarkets.
		Solid Waste Management	EFH-IL-4: Support for the identification of best practice and assessment of the technical and economic aspects for glass waste sorting and recycling	15	Solid Waste Management	This activity will contribute to the development of the National Waste Management Strategy and Policy.
		Solid Waste Management	EFH-IL-5: Support for Construction and Demolition (C & D) waste management, e.g. on: EFH-IL-5.1: Regulation and enforcement EFH-IL-5.2: Collection systems operated by local authorities	35	Solid Waste Management	The proposed activity will inform the forthcoming adaptation of the Cleanliness Law of Israel, to include Construction and Demolition waste which is not adequately addressed in the current Cleanliness Law. Some 4 thousand out of the 11 thousand tons of waste produced in Israel each year are construction and demolition waste. Recent years have seen a growth in the recycling rate of this waste due to the operation of some dedicated recycling facilities for this waste, but there is still a need to further support this process especially with

Country	Component	SWIM-H2020 Themes	Related Country Requests	Expert Days	Link with the regional activities	Relevance to the Country's Strategic Framework
			<p>EFH-IL-5.3: Incentives for the reuse and recycling of materials (C & D)</p> <p>EFH-IL-5.4: Integration of recycling facilities and infrastructure in active quarries</p> <p>EFH-IL-5.5: Recycling facilities in city centers – infrastructure, management and health/well-being</p>			regard to the enforcement and incentives. Also, local authorities have to be involved and provided with the tools and capacity to deal with the issue.
Jordan	Water		Addressing extreme water scarcity			The overall SWIM SM activities in Jordan will focus on the issue of extreme water scarcity that the country faces. This includes: natural root causes, namely droughts, and anthropogenically induced ones, namely unsustainable groundwater abstraction and inefficient water use practices.
		Sustainable options & interventions	<p>EFS-JO-1: Mainstreaming Drought Risk Management, with a focus on proactive measures:</p> <p>EFS-JO-1.1: Identify and support the design of proactive measures to alleviate effects of Droughts (including early warning systems, awareness-raising on the use of non-conventional water resources and promotion of the efficient use of the available water resources (in collaboration with GIZ-ACC project)).</p> <p>EFS-JO-1.2: Mainstream drought management issues in other sectors.</p> <p>EFS-JO-1.3: Provide training on the WEAP (Water Evaluation and Planning System) as a tool for supporting drought management</p>	85	Drought and Flood Risk Management	<p>Jordan has prepared a National Water Sector Strategy (NWSS) (2016-2025) which refers to the need to address drought management and adaptation to climate change through proper policies and regulations. Furthermore, the Water Reallocation Policy calls for launching awareness campaigns addressing the importance of issues such as water harvesting, conserving and protecting resources, while the Water Substitution and Reuse Policy proposes the reuse of treated wastewater in irrigation in order to enable freeing fresh water to be utilized for municipal uses. It also provides for using the treated wastewater in other economic activities, avoiding negative impacts on water and soil quality.</p> <p>The proposed actions are to support the country in enhancing preparedness and response to drought-related natural disasters and boost the resilience in the water sector through a series of interrelated activities that could contribute to:</p> <p>(a) the subsequent development of drought management policies and regulations as well as measures to address the problems.</p> <p>(b) develop cross sectorial links and provisions to ensure that sectorial policies do not counter their intended purposes of drought mitigation and preparedness-related efforts.</p> <p>(c) build the necessary critical mass of experts and officers able to support technically and operationally the drought management policies and their implementation.</p>

Country	Component	SWIM-H2020 Themes	Related Country Requests	Expert Days	Link with the regional activities	Relevance to the Country's Strategic Framework
		Assessment of water resources' vulnerability and related risks	EFS-JO-2: Socio-Economic Impact Assessments of Groundwater Over-Abstractions	30	Governance, implementation and enforcement. Regulatory reform and incentives.	This activity will support the implementation of Jordan's Water Substitution and Reuse Policy which aims to reduce groundwater abstractions in the highland aquifers to sustainable levels in order to reserve the resource for urban supply and preserve the ability of the aquifer as a buffer against drought-induced surface water shortfalls.
	Environment	Environmental Integration	EFH-JO-1: Support the Project Management Units, targeting the local level	38	Public participation/ Multi stakeholder dialogue	Through discussions during the fact finding mission with the official counterparts, the EUD and supporting partners in Jordan, it was concluded that H2020 SM should reinforce the capacities of the Project Management Units of the Ministry of Environment (MoE) and also enhance synergies with the Ministry of Municipal Affairs (MoMA) in order to achieve more effective assessment, guidance and implementation of projects.
		Environmental Integration	EFH-JO-2: Strengthening of public awareness and Education for Sustainable Development in view of promoting: a shift away from the use of plastic bags; and/or the use of non-conventional water resources	20	Awareness and Education for Sustainable Development	Jordan has encouraged programmes on environmental education in primary and secondary schools while public awareness campaigns on thematic issues have been carried out by many public and private bodies. Nevertheless, ESD has not yet been introduced systematically in the schooling system. The proposed activity is intended as a 'demonstration' one and is expected to serve the following interlinked objectives: a) to provide a concrete example of design and application of an ESD programme supporting the replacement of plastic bags in super markets and/or the use of non-conventional water resources, and b) to help the country to systematically use the MSES and the Action Plan (expected to be approved in December 2016) to adapt accordingly its educational agenda.
		Green Economy	EFH-JO-3: Capacity building for preventing pollution through shifting towards Green Economy and Sustainable Consumption & Production (legal and economic instruments and incentives to promote circular economy and SCP)	60	Green economy, circular economy, SCP, CSR, green banking	The Sustainable Consumption and Production Action Plan and the Strategy on Green Economy of Jordan have been integrated in one document to be considered as important for the design of further assistance/capacity building. Also, as part of the draft Regional and Local Development (PDRL) the Jordanian Government has developed a National Strategy for solid waste management. The waste strategy, approved by the Cabinet in September 2015, sets a planning for waste management over the next 20 years which includes actions towards the development of green economy in this sector.

Country	Component	SWIM-H2020 Themes	Related Country Requests	Expert Days	Link with the regional activities	Relevance to the Country's Strategic Framework
						This action will support the MoE in promoting the implementation of the above mentioned strategies and will include a number of activities (to be finalized with the FP), related to green economy including the development of legal and economic instruments and incentives to implement circular economy, SCP to prevent pollution, enabling the emergence of green jobs and businesses, new business models, integration of the informal sector, etc.
Lebanon	Water	Decentralized water management and Growth	<p>EFS-LB-1: IWRM at the river basin scale, with a focus on capacity building and implementation aspects:</p> <p>EFS-LB-1.1: Training of managers for applying IWRM at basin level within the context of climate change</p> <p>EFS-LB-1.2: Support the translation of WEAP model outputs into policy relevant targets and subsequent programme of measures to achieve these targets (i.e. from information and models into concrete measures)</p> <p>EFS-LB-1.3: Capacity building for efficient functioning of River Basin organizations (structure, administration, operation)</p>	80	Decentralized water management (including management plans)	<p>This activity will support the implementation of the new draft Law / Water Code, prepared and approved by the Ministry of Energy and Water, in enhancing IWRM at the river basin level and providing the basis for improved knowledge on climate change and its implications on water resources and their vulnerability, in compliance with the National Water Sector Strategy (NWSS) (2010-2020).</p> <p>The Ministry of Energy and Water Resources has developed water balance models in four river basins using the WEAP model. The outputs of the models need to be assessed and translated into policy relevant targets and further support the design of programme of measures to achieve these targets.</p> <p>The new water law and the signing of the Paris Pact which commits Lebanon to strengthen IWRM at the basin level, necessitate the enhancement of the internal operations management of the water authorities (River Basin Organisations (RBOs), Water Establishments (WEs)). The proposed activity will help in improving the RBOs and WEs operations as important components of a successful implementation.</p>
			<p>EFS-LB-2: Private Sector involvement in water infrastructure with emphasis on wastewater treatment plants:</p>			30

Country	Component	SWIM-H2020 Themes	Related Country Requests	Expert Days	Link with the regional activities	Relevance to the Country's Strategic Framework
			<p>EFS-LB-2.1: Identify the necessary incentives and expand the environmental account fund in the banks of Lebanon to promote the use of non-conventional water resources (and/or water saving devices) in the water-related sectors (agriculture, industry, domestic, tourism). Cooperate with the relevant stakeholders to enable the establishment and/or expansion of existing technical board for evaluation and approval of the applications, and the development of the technical criteria for the evaluation of applications.</p> <p>EFS-LB-2.2: Support the MOEW and stakeholders on the interaction between the private and public sector in outsourcing wastewater plants' construction, operation and maintenance (including contracting between Water Establishments and the private sector)</p>			<p>as well as SMAP) to involve Central/National and Commercial Banks in financing small and medium size environmental and water projects, in which IFIs are usually not interested. Several partners, such as GWP-Med, SIDA and USAID which have been involved in this initiative are still working actively in this area and considerable progress has been achieved, mostly for funding renewable energy projects in Lebanon, with the involvement of the Central Bank of Lebanon. Activity EFS-LB-2.1 will expand the initiative to include the use of non-conventional water resources in tourism, aquaculture and eventually public water uses by municipalities. Combination of innovative water projects with use of renewable energy options could be favoured.</p> <p>Although Law 221 (article 4) also gives over the Water Establishments (WEs) the responsibility to plan, build, operate and maintain sewage treatment plants and networks, the WEs still focus their activities on drinking water. To date, the WEs lack the capacity to operate and maintain WWTPs and have accordingly been outsourcing these functions. Activity EFS-LB-2.2 will support the management of the relationship between the WEs and the private sector</p>
	Environment	Industrial Pollution	<p>EFH-LB-1: Develop a national module for the abatement of industrial pollution:</p> <p>EFH-LB-1.1: Design, develop and implement a national module on permitting, inspection and enforcement of the industrial sector</p> <p>EFH-LB-1.2: Organize a national training of trainers (ToT) workshop</p> <p>EFH-LB-1.3: Develop Guidelines on</p>	85	<p>Governance, implementation and enforcement. Regulatory reform and incentives</p> <p>and</p> <p>Hazardous and Industrial Waste</p>	<p>The legal framework addressing industrial discharges in Lebanon is general and weakly structured. Hazardous waste management is addressed in Law number 64/88 on the protection of the Environment from pollution generated from hazardous waste. Nevertheless, this law is old and does not reflect the new approach. Economic instruments were introduced through law 444/2002 to promote such compliance. The MoE is also working on finalizing the draft Decree for classification and management of hazardous waste. An Action Plan addressing management of industrial effluents was prepared by the MoE (published in 2013) in consultation with different stakeholders. A compliance decree for the industrial and classified establishments was issued in 2012 and became mandatory in 2016. Compliance deadlines were set for different classes of establishments. There are some national standards on</p>

Country	Component	SWIM-H2020 Themes	Related Country Requests	Expert Days	Link with the regional activities	Relevance to the Country's Strategic Framework
			selected industrial sectors (e.g. poultry, paint and coating sector, printing presses, sand washing industry, gas stations)			<p>environmental quality and provisions for risk management related to industrial pollution. It is however essential to note that, in the absence of a well-defined an enforced legislation, guidelines and stringent controls, industrial and hazardous wastes management is inefficient and industrial wastes are discharged together with municipal wastes. From a strategic point of view, industries could join efforts to create industrial waste treatment facilities, an action which could be supported by the central government.</p> <p>Through the first activity (EFH-LB-1.1), the central government, and particularly the MoE, will be supported/facilitated in undertaking initiatives for raising awareness and enforcing the implementation of pollution abatement measures at the level of industries.</p> <p>Through the second activity (EFH-LB-1.2), several important stakeholders of the sector will be trained on different aspects of the implementation of the legislation related to industrial pollution.</p> <p>With the third activity (EFH-LB-1.3) the competent authorities will be assisted in the development through a participatory way of Guidelines for a number of industrial activities</p>
		Solid Waste Management	EFH-LB-2: Training on available technologies for the treatment of leachate	25	Solid Waste Management, Hazardous and Industrial Waste	Municipal wastewater treatment plants are often not capable of processing the high organic and nitrogen loads in the leachate. The composition of the leachate in the MENA Region and especially in Lebanon plays a decisive role in selecting the appropriate technology. This training will introduce selected technologies that have predominantly been employed for landfill leachate treatment and the ways to adapt the proposed technology to the context of the Lebanon.
		Environmental integration	EFH-LB-3: Training workshop on the cost of environmental degradation (TOT)	8	Governance, implementation and enforcement. Regulatory reform and incentives	Cost of Environmental Degradation (COED) measures the lost welfare of a nation due to environmental degradation which can be specified in categories such as Agricultural land, Forests, Water, Air quality, Waste and Coastal zone. The objective of the COED is to quantify the degradations of the environment and provide a monetary value on these damages. The objective of the Training of Trainers course is to familiarize the trainees with the COED tool and to present case studies for the economical representation of environmental degradations from the region.
Morocco	Water	Decentralized water management (including	EFS-MO-1: Improve River Basin Management (supporting decentralization), local governance and	90	Decentralized water management	The proposed interlinked activities will support the implementation of the new water law of 2015 "Law 36-15" (currently at the Parliament) for integrated and decentralized management of water resources with respect to one of its

Country	Component	SWIM-H2020 Themes	Related Country Requests	Expert Days	Link with the regional activities	Relevance to the Country's Strategic Framework
		management plans)	<p>participatory approaches in ways compatible to the WFD, through interlinked activities:</p> <p>EFS-MO-1.1: Support the definition of a new institutional setting (including local utilities, etc.) for the River Basin Authorities Council Boards (RBACB), promoting in parallel the involvement of the civil society and the water users.</p> <p>EFS-MO-1.2: Support the formulation of decrees and operational guidelines for the application of the revised water legislation (Law 36-15), and the transposition of its provisions into operational actions, streamlining of the water legislation towards the WFD.</p> <p>EFS-MO-1.3: Support the Twinning Projects (FR-ES-RO-MA) with capacity building (e.g. for the ABH and the RBACB to undertake their newly assigned tasks, for increasing awareness and knowledge on the Ecosystem' Approach, etc.) and TA (e.g. for implementing monitoring according to the WFD standards, for developing executive texts and guidance documents).</p>		(including management plans)	<p>fundamental principles “water management under good governance practices” that includes consultation and participation of the various relevant parties.</p> <p>There is an on-going project between FR-ES-RO-MA on making the national water legislation compatible with the WFD. The activities will provide supplementary expert input and will be in coherence with the National Regulatory Convergence Program (NRCP) developed to align Morocco's economy with Europe's, also on issues related to the water sector. The activities will be informed with examples from European and international experience and knowledge transfer.</p>
		Regulatory and legal frameworks	EFS-MO-2: Support the reuse of treated wastewater, through strengthening of the institutions, development of PPPs, participatory approaches, awareness-raising, and incentives:	30	Treated WW reuse	Chapter V of the new water law of 2015, “Law 36-15” (currently approved) on “Valorisation and use of non-conventional water resources”, section on “reuse of treated wastewater and sludge”, lays down the regulatory framework for reuse and specifies the areas which require the development of further supporting regulations and texts. Meanwhile, Phase I of the National Sanitation

Country	Component	SWIM-H2020 Themes	Related Country Requests	Expert Days	Link with the regional activities	Relevance to the Country's Strategic Framework
			<p>EFS-MO-2.1: Strengthen the institutional setup by providing assistance in relation to wastewater reuse governance, clarifying the roles of co-responsible bodies (MoW, MoE, MoI, MoA) and defining standards</p> <p>EFS-MO-2.2: Support the development of Private-Public Partnership (PPP) Contracts on wastewater reuse, with a focus on participatory approaches with end-users and awareness-raising among the stakeholders</p> <p>EFS-MO-2.3: Provide incentives for using treated wastewater (to minimize illegal abstractions)</p>			<p>Plan (PNA) which runs up to the year 2019, will be followed by Phase II (in the pipeline) which will focus on treated wastewater reuse in rural areas/communities. It is noteworthy that the Wastewater Reuse Plan (WWRP) envisages the reuse of 325 million cubic meters of treated wastewater by the year 2030, targeting irrigation as well as industries, golf courses, etc. These interrelated activities will assist in preparing the supporting documents/executive texts, clarifying the necessary competences and responsibilities of the involved authorities.</p> <p>Support is needed in furthering the development of Private-Public Partnership (PPP) Contracts for wastewater reuse (between the end-users/ recipients and the operators of the plants) and in promoting acceptability by end-users and the wide public which has been identified as a barrier for reuse. To overcome this barrier participatory approaches and awareness-raising actions will be carried out based on success stories from other parts of the Mediterranean and beyond.</p> <p>The activities will also support the implementation of the WWRP by reviewing and updating the related standards on reuse.</p> <p>These activities are also important for alleviating the pressure from illegal abstractions which are very common, and in supporting the current measures proposed by the new law to mitigate the pressure on groundwater resources (Chapter VIII on water preservation and conservation).</p>
	Environment	Climate Change	EFH-MO-1: Support to the COP22: Provision of experts and facilitators to a side event of COP22	5	Climate change issues and COP22 in Morocco	<p>The COP22 on Climate Change is an important international and regional event with great national involvement and impact. Morocco is the first Arab country and the second African country to submit its contribution in the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions, as part of the new international climate agreement. In this context, the national goal of reducing emissions of greenhouse gas is 13% in 2030, compared to a scenario constant (2010) and could rise up to 32% subject to international financial support. With its commitment, Morocco has been selected to host the COP22 climate in 2016. Morocco continues to improve its performance in the fight against climate change, notably through the efforts on energy transition. The Higher Commissariat of Forest and the Ministry of Environment (MoE) are in charge of the organization of the event and the preparation of several side events. The EUD and the MoE have requested the support of SWIM-H2020 SM to the COP22 through the provision of experts and facilitators for the organization of side event(s). Details of the</p>

Country	Component	SWIM-H2020 Themes	Related Country Requests	Expert Days	Link with the regional activities	Relevance to the Country's Strategic Framework
		Industrial Pollution	EFH-MO-2: Support on the development and implementation of the authorization of the hazardous waste management system	35	Hazardous and Industrial Waste	<p>support will be elaborated together with the FP in Morocco.</p> <p>Morocco has undertaken a series of actions to address the issues of industrial and hazardous waste management by strengthening the legal framework and developing the National Hazardous Waste Management Master Plan (PDNGDD), established in 2011, and adopted in 2013. A Decree (No. 2-14-85 of 20 January 2015) on the management of hazardous waste was recently adopted and plans are now in place to establish a National Special Waste Treatment and Disposal Center (CNEDS) which will significantly improve the situation.</p> <p>The proposed activity responds to the request of the Ministry of Environment which is responsible for the planning and supervision of industrial waste management, in order to support the development and implementation of a management system for the authorization of the hazardous waste, in the framework of the PDNGDD.</p>
		Green Economy	EFH-MO-3: Support in the development of sound green economy models focusing on knowledge management and innovation	20	Green economy, circular economy, SCP, CSR, green banking	<p>For Morocco, the green economy is a priority issue. The National Charter of Regional Development (2015-2030) and the National Planning Program recommended urgent interventions on this topic. Morocco adopted in 2015 a 30-project plan on "green investments" to obtain private financing and promote state-private partnerships. The budget needed to transition Morocco to a "green economy" will be approximately US \$25 billion over 15 years. This activity (to be further defined with the FP) will focus on strengthening the MoE in using green economy models for addressing key Horizon 2020 priority areas not dealt with by SwitchMed or other relevant projects.</p>
		Marine litter	EFH-MO-4: Strengthening participatory coastal management for the reduction of marine litter in the regions of Tangier-Tetouan and Oriental.	30	Marine litter and plastic waste	<p>The activities EFH-MO-4 and EFH-MO-5 are intended to support Morocco in complying with the commitments to the Barcelona Convention (the related Regional Plan on Marine Litter Management and the ICZM Protocol), specifically in the regions of Tangier-Tetouan and Oriental, identified as hotspots by the NAP (2005). These activities will strengthen the participatory process involving all stakeholders (fishing, tourism, urban development, industry, water, etc. sectors) for effective coastal and marine litter management and will contribute to the development of an integrated management plan, building a common vision for the development and protection of the environment of the area.</p>
		ICZM	EFH-MO-5: Contribution to the development of an integrated management plan for the coastal areas for the region Tangier-Tetouan and Oriental	28	Support for the implementation of NAPs	

Country	Component	SWIM-H2020 Themes	Related Country Requests	Expert Days	Link with the regional activities	Relevance to the Country's Strategic Framework
Palestine	Water	Assessment of water resources' vulnerability and related risks	<p>EFS-PS-1: Mainstreaming Drought Risk Management:</p> <p>EFS-PS-1.1: Mapping of groundwater resources vulnerability and risk with respect to the reduction of groundwater recharge (as a direct impact of reduced rainfall/drought and urbanization/reduction of open spaces and land use change)</p> <p>EFS-PS-1.2: Support aspects of mainstreaming drought/water scarcity into the legal framework on Disaster Risk Management (currently under development) and provide capacity building to water service providers and stakeholders</p> <p>EFS-PS-1.3: Training on the cost of environmental degradation</p>	100	Drought and Flood Risk Management	<p>The National Water Policy and Strategy (NWPS) (June 2013) addresses drought under the "Alleviation of Climate Change and Flood Risks" and stipulates the necessity to formulate reliable water protection zones based on detailed and advanced vulnerability assessment for all major water resources. The point 18.3 of the NWPS recommends that an annual assessment of the water budget is carried out. In addition this is a requirement in the Water Sector Plan 2017-2022:</p> <p>The first and second interrelated activities (EFS-PS-1.1 and EFS-PS-1.2): will support national and local authorities of Palestine in the development of the drought regulatory framework as an essential element in drought management and will help in formulating water protection zones. They will provide capacity building on the legal framework developed with emphasis on the local level.</p> <p>The third activity (EFS-PS-1.3) will build the capacity of the relevant staff, such as planning officials and high-level staff with regards to the methodologies used for assessing the cost of environmental degradation.</p>
		IWRM	<p>EFS-PS-2: Support the Conference planned on IWRM, water rights, etc. by bringing experts for the Conference (scheduled for March 2017, the exact date tbc)</p>	20	ICZM-IWRM	Request by the government to enhance the visibility of the environmental policies and the necessity of the country to be connected to the international environmental agendas (to be further defined with the EUD and the FPs).
	Environment	Environmental Integration	<p>EFH-PS-1: Enhancing environmental awareness including of the media and support for implementing Education for Sustainable Development</p>	30	Awareness, Education for Sustainable Development	Public awareness campaigns on specific environmental issues have been carried out in Palestine, while a number of environmental education programmes have run in primary and secondary schools. However, the involvement of the media is both of the above has been limited and the MoE and other ministries have requested support in better engaging the media in these efforts. Meanwhile, ESD has not been introduced systematically in the schooling system.

Country	Component	SWIM-H2020 Themes	Related Country Requests	Expert Days	Link with the regional activities	Relevance to the Country's Strategic Framework
						The proposed activity is intended as a 'demonstration' on how this can be done, and is expected to serve the following interlinked objectives: a) to provide a concrete example of design and application of a campaign and/or an ESD programme supporting solid waste management and recycling or the use of non-conventional water resources, and b) to help the country to systematically use the MSED and the Action Plan (expected to be approved in December 2016) to adapt accordingly its educational agenda.
		Environmental Integration	EFH-PS-2: Support in environmental inspection and enforcement of environmental legislation	28	Governance, implementation and enforcement. Regulatory reform and incentives.	Institutions in Palestine need support and technical assistance in the inspection process and enforcement of environmental legislation. This activity will address the use of environmental enforcement and will facilitate the relevant national and local institutions in enforcing national and international standards and laws, applying the EIA policy, and inspection of facilities and setting out the conditions needed to regulate the treatment and disposal of solid and liquid waste.
		Industrial Pollution	EFH-PS-3: Provide technical assistance for addressing industrial pollution focusing on specific industries	30	Hazardous and Industrial Waste or Green economy, circular economy, SCP, CSR	The National Strategy and SWM Plan of Palestine was initially foreseen for the period 2010-2014. Now there is a process for preparing the 2016-2022 National Plan and Strategy which is expected to include provisions for dealing with industrial waste. The proposed activity will focus on capacity building in dealing with specific issues (e.g. PRTR, rehabilitation of polluted areas, design and implementation of environmental management plans, development of guidelines and tools on pollution reduction and prevention) for selected types of such waste in key industrial sectors, such as tanning, dairy, tahina and olive mills.
		Hazardous waste	EFH-PS-4: Support for hazardous waste management	30	Hazardous and Industrial Waste	Palestine has an urgent need for support on the issue of hazardous waste. The problem is that most of them are disposed of together with industrial, agricultural and municipal wastes. A Master Plan for hazardous waste management was developed in February 2010 but never approved. This activity may promote the approval of the MP and will support its implementation and enforcement on the ground in terms of separation, handling, storage, treatment and disposal of hazardous waste including also the introduction of standards for acceptable levels of hazardous substances in the disposed waste. Activities includes:

Country	Component	SWIM-H2020 Themes	Related Country Requests	Expert Days	Link with the regional activities	Relevance to the Country's Strategic Framework
						<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Support separation, handling, storage, treatment and disposal of hazardous waste including also the introduction of standards for acceptable levels of hazardous substances in the disposed waste. 2. Introduce best practice pilots to safe disposal of hazardous waste (both solid and liquid) 3. Introduce best practices in developing the institutional structure for hazardous waste management.
Tunisia	Water	Decentralized water management and growth	<p>EFS-TN-1:Support the development of good governance practices at the local level (decentralized water management):</p> <p>EFS-TN- 1.1: Modernization of existing institutional settings with engagement of the civil society and establishment of participatory approaches. Support aspects related to the transition of the BIRH (Bureau des Inventaires et Ressources Hydrauliques) to an independent EPNA (e.g. functioning, process of licensing, monitoring, enforcement, etc.). Bring experiences on the development and functioning of 'Water Police'.</p>	30	Decentralized water management (including management plans)	<p>The New Water Code (awaiting approval) takes into consideration the implementation of the new constitution which points at new features of water governance including decentralization and public participation.</p> <p>Activity EFS-TN- 1.1 includes the analysis of stakeholders/actors and their responsibilities as well as modes of participation based on lessons learned from similar experiences in water police.</p>
		Sustainable options and interventions	EFS-TN-2: Assist in the development of a Rural Sanitation Strategy	40	N.A.	<p>To date, there is no rural sanitation strategy in place in Tunisia. Subsequently, the development of sanitation in rural areas has been lacking significantly when compared with the urban environment. This is due to the lack of (a) a clear institutional framework for sanitation in rural areas, (a) a national plan for rural sanitation, (c) definition of the types of technical interventions required, (d) incentives and funding means (grants, soft loans etc .) that allow to catch up with the delay (e) information, (f) users' participation, etc. This activity will support Tunisia in the development of a strategy that addresses all such gaps.</p>

Country	Component	SWIM-H2020 Themes	Related Country Requests	Expert Days	Link with the regional activities	Relevance to the Country's Strategic Framework
		Assessment of water resources' vulnerability and related risks	<p>EFS-TN-3: Strengthen groundwater management to reduce over-exploitation and pollution of groundwater resources, also related to drought risk management:</p> <p>EFS-TN-3.1: Introduce and develop a zoning approach as best practice in groundwater resources' protection: conditions and criteria for the development of groundwater protection zones (include desalination aspects)</p>	40	Decentralized water management (including management plans) & Drought and Floods Risk Management	<p>The Strategic Study "Hydraulic system for Tunisia with a view to horizon 2030" (Chapter III on groundwater exploitation) mentions that in the last 30 years groundwater exploitation increased from 710 Mm³ to 2.133 Mm³, while the number of wells has significantly increased, and several aquifers are now over-exploited. Drought conditions have further impacted the groundwater resources (aquifers of Cap Bon, du Sisseb, de Kairouan, de Sidi Bouzaid, ref. Chapter XI).</p> <p>The proposed activity will help in introducing and developing a zoning scheme based on the vulnerabilities of local groundwater system(s). The zoning approach will initially be applied in a chosen "hot-spot" (to be determined, e.g. Grombalia).</p>
	Environment	Solid Waste Management	EFH-TN-1: Capacity building for recovery and recycling of a variety of wastes with focus on rural areas	20	Solid Waste Management	<p>Tunisia has a good legal framework for the development of SWM streams (dating back to the 2007 Sustainable Integrated National Waste Management Program - PRONGIDD) including the decree 2005-3395 of 26/12/2005: fixing the conditions and procedures for collecting used batteries and accumulators (Eco-batteries), the decree N°2002-693 of 1/4/2002: on terms and conditions of recovery of lubricating oil and used oil filters and their management (Eco-zit and Eco-filter) and the decree 2001-843 of 14/4/2001: amending Decree No. 97-1102 of 2 June 1997 on the conditions and procedures for recovery and management of packaging bags and used packaging.</p> <p>The proposed activity will cover not only the enforcement of the above legislation and policies, but also the evaluation and the introduction of adjustment measures to specific SWM streams including packaging waste, plastics, E-Waste, tires, lubricating oils, used batteries, etc. and the reinforcement and extension of these practices to rural areas, following recent developments in Tunisia, pushing for decentralization and a more strengthened local governance.</p>
		Environmental Integration	EFH-TN-2: Support in the implementation of Education for Sustainable Development	15	Awareness, Education for Sustainable Development	<p>Several programmes of environmental education in schools have been carried out in Tunisia. ESD has not yet been introduced systematically in the schooling system as a "management tool" for creating the enabling environment for the introduction and effective implementation of policies. This activity is intended</p>

Country	Component	SWIM-H2020 Themes	Related Country Requests	Expert Days	Link with the regional activities	Relevance to the Country's Strategic Framework
						as a 'demonstration' one and is expected to serve the following interlinked objectives: a) to promote the minimization of packaging waste and in particular the use of plastic bags, and b) to help the country to use the Mediterranean Strategy on Education for Sustainable Development (MSESD) and the Action Plan (expected to be approved in December 2016) to adapt accordingly its educational system.
		Green Economy	EFH-TN-3: Institutional and technological support for accelerating the transition towards Sustainable Consumption and Production	53	Green economy, circular economy, SCP, CSR, green banking	<p>Significant progress has been made in incorporating environmental constraints and climate change impacts in some sectoral strategies and policies in Tunisia, but these efforts remain fragmented and poorly integrated. The green economy is at the heart of the NSDS (2014-2020). Tunisia has also set a short term goal to integrate Green Jobs in the new National Strategy for Employment (2014-2017) while a Green Economy Strategy (2016-2036) is under validation. The country considers that the green economy must develop in the context of a multi-dimensional integrated vision that takes into account limited natural resources, potential for sustainable job creation, competitiveness, improvements in industry, and poverty reduction.</p> <p>The proposed activity will support through the demonstration of case studies and best practices, eco-innovation within companies as a trigger element for the country's transition to a green and inclusive economy, which must meet needs in terms of skills development, innovation, and access to finance and technologies, in order to encourage private initiatives, and particularly those of SMEs.</p>
		Industrial Pollution	EFH-TN-4: Technical assistance in the development of a National Manual for the evaluation of dredged material	15	Hazardous and Industrial Waste	The Ministry of Environment has undertaken the development of several waste management plans (or guidelines and manuals), including on hazardous wastes. The list of hazardous waste was published through a Decree (no 2000-2339 of 10/10/2000) and the waste management plans (ex: for dredged material especially if it contains hydrocarbon residues), usually include sectoral studies which present the institutional and legal situation related to the specific waste and suggest technological solutions and treatment options. The Ministry of Environment has asked for technical assistance for the development of a National Manual for the evaluation of dredged material which will be in line with the above mentioned strategy on SWM.
		Industrial Pollution	EFH-TN-5: Technical assistance for the sustainability and replication of Lake Bizerte governance process	15	Public participation/ Multi stakeholder	This programme is labelled by the Union for the Mediterranean and is part of the European Union's Horizon 2020 Initiative, which aims to de-pollute the Mediterranean by the year 2020. Bizerte Lake UGPO was established in June

Country	Component	SWIM-H2020 Themes	Related Country Requests	Expert Days	Link with the regional activities	Relevance to the Country's Strategic Framework
					dialogue	<p>12, 2015. The representative of the Lake Bizerte Project confirmed that there is a problem of environmental governance in the area of the Bizerte Basin and there is a need for assistance in this regard.</p> <p>The option of the establishment of a local Advisory Committee could be considered for this unique case. The activity includes assistance for the consolidation of the Lac of Bizerte governance structures and for replication of this experience in other depollution projects.</p>

Draft

Table 2 (Peer to Peer/Webinars and Training Activities/Study Tours)

Themes	Workplan for Training Activities including Study Tours (WP3)		Workplan for Peer to Peer Experience Sharing and Dialogues including Webinars (WP2)	
	Regional On site trainings	Study Tours	Peer to Peer	Webinars
Solid Waste Management (1)		ST-1: Visit to different types of state-of-the-art Solid Waste Management Facilities	P2P-1: New tendencies in dealing with Municipal Solid Waste Management including regulatory aspects	
Solid Waste Management (1)		ST-2: Visit to different types of state-of-the-art Sludge Management Systems	P2P-2: Sludge Management focusing on possibilities and conditions for utilization/different applications.	
ICZM / IWRM (3)		ST-3: Visit to a site where combined ICZM – IWRM (including groundwater) is applied		WEB-1
Marine Litter (3)	REG-1: Overview of the developments in Europe and the Mediterranean (see relevant protocol) on Marine Litter monitoring. Correlations with policies dealing with the use of plastics (particularly plastic bags)		P2P-3: Management of Marine Litter with emphasis on related provisions/regulatory frameworks on plastic waste	WEB-2
Green Economy (3)	REG-2: Promoting the role of green banking in supporting investments in the water sector, particularly with the involvement of private banks		P2P-4: Green economy approaches; green banking for support of water projects in the middle (Sub-regional)	
Industrial Pollution (1)	REG-3: In depth examination of the management schemes for wastes from food industry, particularly olive oil mills		P2P-5: Sustainable management of waste from olive oil mills	WEB-3

Themes	Workplan for Training Activities including Study Tours (WP3)		Workplan for Peer to Peer Experience Sharing and Dialogues including Webinars (WP2)	
	Regional On site trainings	Study Tours	Peer to Peer	Webinars
Industrial Pollution and Hazardous Waste (1)		ST-4: Visit to different types of state-of-the-art facilities dealing with industrial and hazardous wastes	P2P-6: Management of industrial waste to address the acute problem of hazardous substances disposal	
Decentralized Water Management and Growth (2)	REG-4/ REG-5: (2) Regulatory and organizational issues of decentralized water management, dealing also with drafting and implementation of management plans at sub-national level	ST-5: Regulatory and organizational issues of decentralized water management, dealing also with drafting and implementation of management plans at sub-national level	P2P-7/ P2P-8: (2) Decentralized water management; regulatory and organizational issues with emphasis on drafting, agreeing and implementing management plans	
Assessment of water Resources Vulnerability and Related Risks (2)	REG-6/ REG-7 : (2) Different technical and regulatory aspects of Drought Risk Management	ST-6: Different technical and regulatory aspects of Drought Risk Management	P2P-9: Drought Risk Management Mainstreaming	WEB-4
Sustainable Options and Interventions (2)	REG-8: Technical, Regulatory Legal and Cultural Aspects of Treated Wastewater Reuse		P2P-10: Treated Wastewater Reuse, with emphasis on regulatory/legal aspects	
Green Economy (3)	REG-9: Green economy focusing on technical support on SCP for SMEs with emphasis on whole life cycle of services and products (circular economy, eco-design, eco innovation)			
Education and Awareness Raising (4)	REG-10: This event on Awareness raising and Education for Sustainable Development will examine the Action Plan of the MSES and will substantially			

Themes	Workplan for Training Activities including Study Tours (WP3)		Workplan for Peer to Peer Experience Sharing and Dialogues including Webinars (WP2)	
	Regional On site trainings	Study Tours	Peer to Peer	Webinars
	contribute to the preparation of the relevant Ministerial foreseen for the end of 2016			
Regulatory and Legal Frameworks (3)	REG-11: Reviewing good water governance schemes with emphasis on the implementation and enforcement of legislation, needed regulatory reforms and introduction of appropriate incentives			
Stakeholders Engagement (4)	REG-12: The event will focus on Public participation/ Multi stakeholder dialogue involving Parliamentarians, Representatives of Media and CSOs			
Sustainable Options and Interventions (2) / Water –Energy- Food Nexus (3)	REG-13: The Nexus Aspects of Desalination including impacts on marine ecosystems (emphasis on micro-biota from high volume abstraction)			
Sustainable Investment Facilitation (4)	REG-14: Refugee Emergency: Fast track projects design on water, waste water and solid waste			
Communication, Dissemination and Administrative Operations (4)	REG-15: Support for the implementation of the PCs' updated UNEP/MAP NAPs, with emphasis on lessons learned and way forward (policy component and investment component – from PoM to project fiches)			

Draft

H2020 Initiative – Review and Monitoring

Reference to the topic as per Ministerial Declaration

Ministers ...

- *agree to strengthen its pollution prevention dimension and to pay attention to emerging and related issues, such as hazardous waste and marine litter”*
- *call for further strengthening of synergies with the Barcelona Convention [...] accelerate the shift towards Sustainable Consumption and Production (SCP)”;*
- *undertake to take firm steps to ensure the full implementation and enforcement of policies supporting the H2020 Initiative goals, in line with the Ecosystem Approach (ECAP) and the priorities included in the NAPs, and, when required, with the support of the capacity building component”;*
undertake to address data needs by applying the principles of Shared Environment Information Systems (SEIS) in line with the commitments under the ECAP Decisions of the Barcelona Convention, also contributing to its regional integrated monitoring programme;
- *mandate to develop a work programme for the second phase by December 2014 on the basis of the guidance provided in this and previous declarations; and request it to regularly report on its progress to Senior Officials*

As of February 2016 the next phase of SEIS cooperation with the countries in the southern Mediterranean area (Implementation of the Shared Environmental Information System (SEIS) principles and practices in the ENP South region – SEIS Support Mechanism (ENI SEIS II South)) has started. The 4-year project (February 2016 – January 2020) funded by the EU European Neighbourhood Initiative (ENI) is jointly implemented by EEA and UNEP/MAP and is the main tool for operationalising the H2020 Review and Monitoring (RM) work in the 2016-2020 period, in close cooperation with other H2020 components and relevant regional initiatives.

Reference within the Ministerial Declaration, May 2014 as per table below

Extracts from the UfM Ministerial Declaration On ENV and CC	Action/process	Progress
<p>“to strengthen its pollution prevention dimension and to pay attention to emerging and related issues, such as hazardous waste and marine litter”</p>	<p>Reflected into the RM work programme 2015-2020 - the objective 2 specifically addressed new priorities such as hazardous waste and marine litter with the aim to propose indicators (Actions 5, 6) and enhance the corresponding data production (Action 1).</p> <p>To be implemented via ENI SEIS Thematic Cluster 2 on Waste and regional activities on indicators & assessment, data and statistics</p> <p>UN environment MAP Marine litter coordination platform</p>	<p>Review of indicators started with the ENI SEIS project based on available documentation. Most of the methodological work (Indicators development) to be carry out in 2017.</p>
<p>“further strengthening of synergies with the Barcelona Convention [...] accelerate the shift towards Sustainable Consumption and Production (SCP)”;</p>	<p>Synergies strengthened through signature of EEA-UNEP/MAP Joint Work Plan 2016/2021 in May 2016; EEA-UNEP/MAP Partnership agreement to implement ENI SEIS Support Mechanism project (signed September 2016)</p> <p>RM Group co-chaired by EEA & UNEP/MAP, mandate of the RM group revised, 2 representatives per countries – MED POL and SEIS</p> <p>Focus on sustainability of governance setup reflected into the RM work programme (Action 9, 10, 11)</p> <p>Knowledge base on SCP (data, statistics, monitoring of progress, assessments) to be enhanced under ENI SEIS Thematic Cluster 2 (Waste) and 4 (cross-cutting issues) to keep comprehensive picture of H2020 in a larger context and address pollution issue in a more integrated way.</p>	<p>Regular coordination with Barcelona Convention, participation to meetings, WG (Blue Economy project, SCP indicators).</p> <p>Organise back to back meetings, participation of SEIS network to MED POL related meetings and vice versa</p> <p>Merge 1st SEIS Steering Committee meeting with the 7th RM group meeting to ensure effective synergies and complementarities</p> <p>ENI SEIS Thematic work (regional and national actions, capacity building) to start Q2 2017</p>
<p>“To take firm steps to ensure the full implementation and enforcement of policies supporting the H2020 Initiative goals, in line with the Ecosystem Approach (EcAP) and the priorities included in the NAPs, and, when required, with the support of the capacity building component”;</p>	<p>EcAP and NAPs update fully reflected into the RM work programme (Action 5, 6, 7, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13), with a particular focus on ensuring proper coordination efforts at national level on monitoring, data production, indicators, data exchange and information systems</p> <p>ENI SEIS to support setting up of national networking structure to coordinate and facilitate knowledge management to support H2020 goals as well as EcAP and NAPs priorities. ENI SEIS to ensure support to the development and implementation of SEIS National Work Plans ensuring integrated approach of H2020 issues. Support to countries to be covered by UNEP/MAP through Small Scale Financial Agreement (SSFA) under the SEIS EEA-UNEP/MAP</p>	<p>H2020 indicators fully embedded into NAP implementation indicators</p> <p>SEIS national teams to be formalised in 2017</p> <p>Draft SEIS National Work Plans produced and presented during SEIS Steering Committee in December 2016</p> <p>SSFA with partner countries to be signed Q1 2017</p>

	partnership agreement.	
<p>“To address data needs by applying the principles of Shared Environment Information Systems (SEIS) in line with the commitments under the ECAP Decisions of the Barcelona Convention, also contributing to its regional integrated monitoring programme”</p>	<p>Reflected into the RM work programme (Action 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7), to be implemented by ENI SEIS II WP 1, 2, 3, 4 – WP1 specifically addressed national needs to build-up national SEIS</p> <p>Specific effort to support UNEP/MAP action to operationalise regional information system (InfoMAP) and promote integrated environmental approaches</p>	<p>National needs identified (autumn 2016), preparation of effective action plan ongoing (National Work Plan to be finalised Q1 2017)</p> <p>Detailed work plan for regional activities (data production, data exchange, indicator production & assessment) under development.</p>
<p>“To develop a work programme for the second phase by December 2014 based on the guidance provided in this and previous declarations; and request it to regularly report on its progress to Senior Officials”.</p>	<p>Co-chairs prepared RM Work Programme 2015-2020 proposal in close consultation with RM group.</p>	<p>Work Plan adopted by RM group in December 2014 (5th RM group meeting) to be included into the final H2020 Work Programme 2015-2020.</p> <p>First review of progress during the 6th RM group meeting in June 2015 in Malta. Important delays with implementation mainly linked to the late start of the support project (ENI SEIS II) being in place latter than expected.</p> <p>No delivery yet under objectives 1 and 2 of the RM work plan, but institutional arrangements are in place and methodological and infrastructure work started.</p> <p>7th RM group meeting took place in December 2016 with 88% of attendance from South MPC (Algeria missing) + IT, TR, AL, ME ((Objective 3)</p> <p>Limited visibility of H2020 outcomes in national documentation (Objective 4)</p>

Context and description of the related action (processes, initiatives, programmes, projects, activities, etc.)

The main issues of the Ministerial Declaration have been discussed over the period May – November 2014 by the Review and Monitoring Group and reflected in operational terms in the Review and Monitoring section of the Horizon 2020 Work Programme 2015-2020. Based on the work plan proposed by the co-chairs, countries and partners agreed on the set of objectives and actions needed to tackle the key challenges identified for the second phase. The 4 objectives are:

- To enhance optimal national information systems allowing for systemic production of indicator-based reporting and sharing of data;
- To expand the existing H2020 priorities with a focus on water, solid waste and industrial emissions, identify and address additional priority areas;
- To ensure the sustainability of the governance setup of the H2020 review processes;
- To encourage the integration of outcome of the H2020 review in the policy making process at regional and national level.

The general objective and mandate of the Review and Monitoring Group has been adjusted to better reflect the renewed institutional and thematic setting. The objective of the RM group for the period 2015-2020 is “to ensure the availability, quality, accessibility and sustainability of monitoring data and information needed for the knowledge base supporting regular H2020 assessment”.

The main tasks of the H2020 RM Group are to support projects and activities that develop a coherent indicator-based reporting process for Horizon 2020, as well as to coordinate activities of the EEA, Eurostat, UNEP/MAP and other relevant institutions that improve knowledge on the Mediterranean environment and help to prepare the State of the Mediterranean Environment report. Each country designates two representatives who act as a Focal Point for Review and Monitoring (MEDPOL Focal Point or its representative together with the person in charge of the national State of the Environment reporting process).

The effective implementation of the RM Work Programme has been mainly supported by the EU-funded project ENPI-SEIS South until June 2015, then by the ENI SEIS II Support Mechanism since February 2016, as well as through coordinated efforts of the co-chairs EEA and UNEP/MAP.

The ENI SEIS II Support Mechanism jointly implemented by EEA and UNEP/MAP aims is to improve the availability of and access to relevant environmental information to the benefit of effective and knowledge-based policy-making in the ENP South region.

Among the expected results is the refinement and consolidation of the Horizon 2020 indicator set, such that it can serve multiple purposes, ensure that the progress towards achieving Horizon 2020 objectives is properly measured and contribute to assessing compliance with commitments under the Barcelona Convention. The preparation of indicator-based reports and assessments is envisaged to be done in line with good practice examples from the EU region, and based on the Eionet’s experience of working with the EEA.

This will be achieved through specific regional and country-level activities that aim to support regional reporting through established and regular national data flows based on common requirements; ensure coherence and harmonisation of methodologies; and guaranteeing the policy relevance and uptake of the information reported in support of better environmental governance.

State of advancement; outcomes/results achieved so far; final expected results, including timing where applicable

Despite commitment from partner countries in enhancing systemic production and sharing of quality assessed data, indicators and information relevant to Horizon 2020, the effective work on the production (monitoring, data, indicator, assessment and knowledge) highly rely on project support and effective regional coordination. Activities over the period 2014-2016 focused on securing appropriate and coordinated project support (ENI SEIS South Support mechanism project description, partnership agreement between EEA and UNEP/MAP for the implementation of the ENI SEIS South activities, development of a joint EEA-UNEP/MAP work plan covering the period 2016-2021 providing an overarching collaborative framework between the two organisations within which the activities described under the specific agreement would be implemented), setting-up the network (nomination process of SEIS focal points, enhancing collaboration between SEIS Focal Points, MED POL and H2020 Focal points) and to anchor the necessary synergies and cooperation needed to support an integrated approach to regional environmental indicators and assessments.

The main outcome over the period 2014-2016 is that the network is in place and active, supporting projects and contracts are in place and operational, national needs are identified and initial national work plan have been prepared (presented during the 1st ENI SEIS South Support Mechanism Steering Committee and 7th H2020 Review & Monitoring Group held, 12-14 December 2016 in Athens).

All planned ENI SEIS activities (national or regional) support the implementation of the RM work plan and more specifically the regular delivery and sharing of harmonised datasets (delivery expected Q2/Q3 2017 then yearly), production of updated factsheets for H2020 indicators (2017, 2018), and the production by mid-2019 of the 2nd indicator-based H2020 assessment report.

Meetings held during the period:

- 5th meeting of the H2020 Review & Monitoring Group, 12/11/2014, Athens
- 6th meeting of the H2020 Review & Monitoring Group, 16/06/2015, Malta – back to back with MED POL Focal Point meeting
- 1st ENI SEIS South Support Mechanism Steering Committee and 7th H2020 Review & Monitoring Group, 12-14 December 2016, Athens

Recommendations if any, including reinforcement of the action (how and why) and/or proposed corrective measures

- Further enhancing the Horizon 2020 Coordination Mechanism among all Horizon 2020 components and overall communication and visibility of the Initiative's progress. Propose to hold at least 4 meetings/year of the H2020 coordination Group.
- The RM action will gain from a higher representation of all partners' countries to regional meetings and activities. It's appears difficult to involve and get participation from countries not covered by a project funding (e.g. EU countries) which hampered the regional dimension of the discussions, it's integration and opportunities for exchange of experiences. Formally only ENI, West Balkans countries and Turkey have nominated focal points for the RM group (linked to their participation to RM group meeting). In order to minimise this and keep the EU countries in the process, efforts have been deployed by EEA to use the opportunity of the regular EIONET meetings to inform the EU MED countries about the H2020 activities and encourage them to coordinate with their MED POL and H2020 counterparts. Up to now their practical involvement and contribution to the RM work remains very limited. Mechanisms to ensure participation of all H2020 countries should be identified and discussed by the H2020 coordination group and then proposed to the Steering Group for adoption.

- While the RM Group and ENI SEIS contributes to enhance capacities for systemic production of indicator-based reporting, there is still important efforts to ensure appropriate integration of all various assessment-based projects and initiatives to build-up coherent regional knowledge base necessary to properly informed on the current and upcoming challenges the region faces – this requiring broader coordination mechanisms (outside H2020) to be further explored.

Contacts; relevant websites

RM Co-Chairs

- Tatiana Hema, Deputy Coordinator, UN environment Mediterranean Action Plan
- David Stanners, Head of Programme, EEA
- Cécile Roddier-Quefelec ENI SEIS South Support Mechanism Coordinator, cecile.roddier-quefelec@eea.europa.eu
- <http://eni-seis.eionet.europa.eu/south>

Upcoming events:

- RM ad hoc Working Group on Indicators – Indicators workshop in May or June 2017 (back to back with MED POL FP meeting or MCSD meeting) and mid-September 2017
- 2nd ENI SEIS South Support Mechanism Steering Committee, 8th H2020 Review & Monitoring Group meeting, 16-18 October 2017 (TBC)

Annex:

2015-2020 Work Programme of the Horizon 2020 Initiative in English, French and Arabic available here: <http://www.h2020.net/resources/meeting-documents/viewcategory/380.html>

ENI SEIS Description of Action (<http://eni-seis.eionet.europa.eu/south/governance/project-documents/description-of-action-for-seis-support-mechanism-south-1/view>)

EEA-UNEP/MAP Joint Work Plan 2016-2021 (<http://eni-seis.eionet.europa.eu/south/governance/eea-unep-map-partnership/eea-unep-map-joint-work-plan-2016-2021/view>)

Key Trends extracted from the "[Horizon 2020 Mediterranean report - Toward shared environmental information systems](#) - EEA-UNEP/MAP joint report, 30/3/2015

Among the report key findings are as follows:

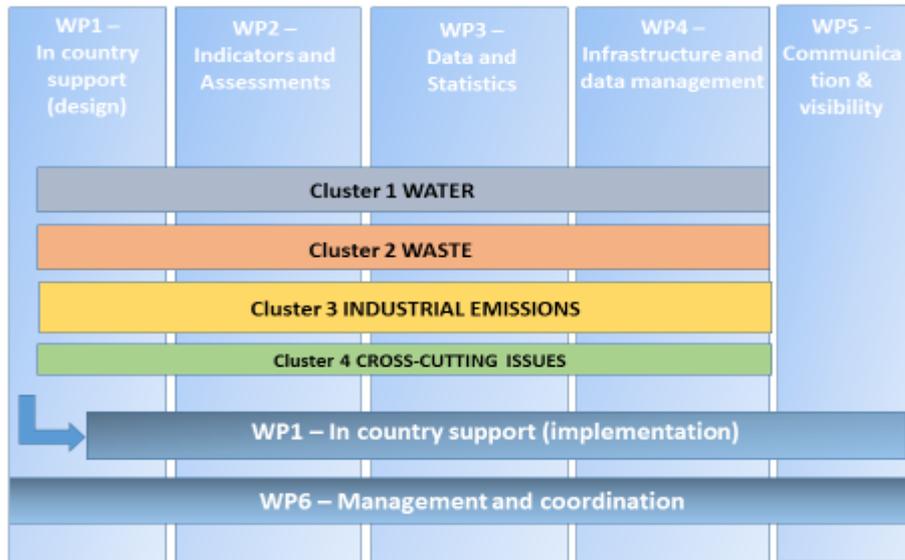
- Sanitation has improved steadily in the region over the last decade. Between 2003 and 2011 the proportion of the population with access to sanitation increased from 87.5 to 92 %. There are still 17.6 million people in the region without sanitation, a third of them living in urban areas.
- There is great potential to reuse wastewater in the region. Currently only around 1% of wastewater is reused, so it is possible to make better use of this resource instead of discharging it into the sea.
- Progress in urban wastewater management is difficult to assess as the data available do not provide sound evidence on trends at the regional level.
- While solid waste generated in the region is still approximately half the per capita level in the EU, waste generation in the southern Mediterranean region has grown approximately 15% over the last decade, mostly due to a growing population and increased consumption.
- Waste management needs significant improvement. Around three quarters of waste is collected, but most of this is still disposed of in open dumps, which can have health impacts and find its way into the sea leading to environmental problems. Less than 10% of the waste collected in the region is recycled.
- Industrial emissions have a heavy impact on the Mediterranean. While pollution from heavy metals in seawater has decreased in recent years, local marine pollution from cities, industry and tourist resorts is still leading to pollution of seas and beaches.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Implementation of the Shared Environmental Information System (SEIS) principles and practices in the ENP South region – SEIS Support Mechanism

<http://eni-seis.eionet.europa.eu/south>

Conceptual framework for SEIS Support Mechanism - South



H2020 Initiative - Research

Reference to the topic as per Ministerial Declaration:

Ministers call for intensifying the efforts to transfer research results into policy decision-making...

(Extracted from the H2020 CB component)

It is stressed that no mechanism has been set in place neither for effectively screening the results of research projects in the region, nor for feeding these results back into the Horizon 2020 Initiative or national decision-making processes.

To address this gap, the SWIM-H2020 Support Mechanism will contribute to the enhancement of the useful interaction between, on the one hand, the efforts to depollute the Mediterranean and obtain a more efficient integrated management of water resources and the coastal zone in this region and, on the other, important outcomes of the relevant research projects that are funded by the EU. A relevant report will be prepared by mid-2017 intended to inform about new and innovative environment and water management options based on research findings.

H2020 Initiative – Pollution Reduction and Prevention Investments

1. Ministerial Declarations

1.1. 3rd Euro-Mediterranean Ministerial Conference on the Environment (2007)

Ministers:

- *Seek to ensure appropriate involvement of other governmental bodies, local and regional authorities, intergovernmental organisations, nongovernmental organisations, international financial institutions, bilateral donors, business sector and other relevant actors to meet the commitments of the initiative. (...)*
- *Call for the mobilisation on a predictable and sustainable basis of the necessary financial resources to support environmental protection and urge all actors on the national, regional, and international level to work together to maximise assistance and its impact as well as exploiting opportunities for technology transfer contributing to the achievement of Horizon 2020 and other components of the environmental strategy for the Mediterranean.*
- *Recognise that the continuing cooperation between the World Bank and the European Investment Bank and within the context of the METAP will provide support to the Horizon 2020 initiative.*

1.2. UfM Ministerial Conference on Environment and Water (2014)

Ministers:

- *As tangible outcomes of the meeting, the Ministers agreed to launch the second phase of the Horizon 2020 Initiative for the depollution of the Mediterranean Sea, with the full involvement of the UfM Secretariat.*
- *Welcome the mid-term review of the H2020 Initiative, as the leading element of the UfM flagship De-pollution of the Mediterranean Sea Initiative, take note of the conclusions and recommendations of the various studies, as presented in the synthesis report, and welcome the progress in its components (capacity building, review and monitoring, research, and pollution reduction). In particular, welcome the significant achievements in moving forward investments in critical infrastructures, in building human capital, and in mainstreaming environment into other policies, and stress the strategic focus provided by UNEP/MAP hotspots list and National Action Plans (NAPs). However, recognise that progress, in some cases, has been delayed by insufficient implementation of national policies and measures providing for the sustainable financing and management of the infrastructures, that new priorities are emerging, and also that challenges remain to have an accurate picture of the state of the Mediterranean Sea.*
- *Stress that unless the efforts to de-pollute the Mediterranean Sea by 2020 are considerably intensified, the goal will not be fully met.*
- *undertake to take steps to accelerate the necessary reforms to create a favourable and sustainable investment environment, and to ensure adequate project preparation and implementation;*

- *Reaffirm their commitment to support the elaboration of a pipeline of relevant projects and welcome MeSHIP II, the project preparation facility; and invite all relevant actors to continue the collaborative work to develop criteria for sustainable investments prioritisation, building amongst others on the results of the study delivered by the Secretariat of the Union for the Mediterranean (UfM Secretariat), and aligning as appropriate with the NAPs revision process currently undertaken by UNEP/MAP;*
- *Emphasise the need to revamp the H2020 Pollution Reduction sub-group, and call in particular for the full involvement of the UfM Secretariat;*
- *Mandate the H2020 Initiative Steering Committee, including the UfM Secretariat and UNEP/MAP, to develop a work programme for the second phase by December 2014 on the basis of the guidance provided in this and previous declarations; and request it to regularly report on its progress to Senior Officials. Ministers call for cooperation between the Secretariats of the UfM and the Barcelona Convention through the implementation of the 2013 Memorandum of Understanding; and call for exploring ways to streamline MAP and H2020 Initiative focal points and related meetings.*

2. Context and description of the related action (processes, initiatives, programs, projects, activities, etc.)

2.1. First Phase of H2020:

The 3rd Euro-Mediterranean Ministerial Conference on the Environment highlighted the identification of key investment needs in the 21 countries bordering the Mediterranean Sea plus Jordan, the Ministerial Meeting recognized, the concrete framework provided by the H2020 Initiative in depolluting the Mediterranean Sea and the need for financial resources and investment in particular in order to achieve the ambitious goal. To that end it was concluded that technical criteria for selecting priority investments and sustainable financial mechanisms were needed to be agreed and supported. The cooperation and coordination among financial institutions and donors active in the region was identified as key. The Coordination of the investment component of H2020 was attributed to the European Investment Bank along with the oversight of the Mediterranean Hot Spots Investment Programme (MeHSIP PPIF) in order to identify priority projects and support implementation. MeHSIP worked to prepare a joint 'Horizon 2020 Projects' to establish a common reference point for pollution reduction projects in the southern Mediterranean region. Four priority demonstration projects were prepared with feasibility studies and ESIA's completed; one of the projects, which is fully funded, is expected to remove the pollution Hot-Spot of Lake Bizerte in Tunisia and it has been labelled by the UfM since recognised as a flagship project.

UfMS presented a study with a methodology to evaluate environmental impact of each project through pollutants' loads estimation.

2.2. Second Phase of H2020:

Following the recommendations of the Mid-term review, countries gave a clear indication on the need to step up efforts and recognised the need to reinforce activities in the fields of investments on pollution reduction, a wider thematic scope, information sharing and closer cooperation and

synergies during the UfM Ministerial Conference on Environment and Water. The Work Programme of the second phase of H2020 (2015-2020) was adopted on 17-12-2014.

The Pollution Reduction and Prevention Investment (PRPI) sub-group constituted by major donors and international financial institutions, now co-chaired by 'MeHSIP and UfM, agreed to identify, and support the preparation of the priority H2020 investment projects. A further horizontal objective would be to ensure synergies within other components of the H2020 programme, notably through knowledge management and transfer of information and/or technology related to investments between the PRPI and the Capacity Building, the Review and Monitoring and the Research components. During its second phase the PRPI group has succeeded to attract additional partners and consolidated the cooperation with existing ones (in particular the GEF, AfD, EBRD etc.).

3. State of advancement; outcomes/results achieved so far; final expected results, including timing where applicable

Since the Ministerial Meeting on Environment and Climate Change in 2014, the PRPI Group has met three times: once in 2014 (December), once in 2015 (November) and two times in 2016 (NAP Roundtable Discussion in June, and in December). During the November meeting in 2015, a two-year Roadmap was drafted and agreed among the present institutions. The document set out to increase the number of meetings (bi-annual meetings) and thematic workshops on priority topics. UNEP-MAP is closely associated to the process in order to link up with the NAP process of identification of national priorities on the national level.

The following was agreed:

1. **NAP process and evaluation** (flagship projects) through the organization of an Assessment roundtable for NAPs and projects through country dialogues with involved stakeholders
 - a) (translated into Workshop n. 1 for translation of NAP measures in projects proposals held on 7 June in Athens) and;
 - b) on sharing of best practices (institutional and policy framework for project implementation) for increased efficiency).
2. **Buy-in of Ministries of Finance** (or international cooperation as appropriate) through
 - a) Workshop n.2 how to make the business case for financiers on the pipeline of projects with a specific session on PPPs (held on December 2016, and organized together with GWP back to back to 2nd Regional Conference of the Union for the Mediterranean (UfM) labelled project Governance & Financing for the Mediterranean Water Sector). During this workshop, several Business cases were presented with focus on the socio-economic benefits of the environmental projects.
 - b) Meetings on country-level to discuss concrete projects (including cost of environmental degradation, cost-benefit analysis); (through IFIs at the national level)
3. **Strengthening of the preparatory phase** of projects through the definition of options for mobilization of financial resources for preparatory TA for priority projects in the pipeline and financing arrangements;
4. **Involvement of local authorities** through the organization of a Workshop (2017).

It will be key to remove boundaries for countries to prepare and invest in Pollution reduction and prevention projects

The EIB (through MeHSIP) and UfMS jointly chair the Pollution Reduction and Prevention Investment Sub-Group (“PRPI”) of H2020. During the first half of 2016, a PRPI meeting was held in Athens on 7th June. This meeting was focused on the results of the 2015 National Action Plans (NAPs) to depollute the Mediterranean Sea, prepared by the countries surrounding the Mediterranean Sea plus Jordan. During this meeting, MeHSIP presented an analysis of the 2015 NAPs related to investment projects for the countries under MeHSIP scope.

Cooperation with other IFIs, and with other H2020 components continues at several levels. MeHSIP Experts have held discussions with staff from many other IFIs, a.o. AFD, AfDB, EBRD, KfW, JICA, WB and UNIDO to exchange project information and is sharing the projects under preparation in the PRPI meetings to increase visibility and funding possibilities. Close cooperation also exists with the EU Delegations in the countries.

MeHSIP II is managing two project pipelines – one of projects contributing to the Horizon 2020 pollution reduction in the Mediterranean and one covering the remaining sub-sectoral scope. Such an approach will allow for an easier tracking and reporting on the H2020 Initiative and the Mediterranean pollution hot spots.

The H2020 pipeline is anchored in the National Action Plans (NAPs) for depollution of the Mediterranean under the Land-based Sources and Activities Protocol of the Barcelona Convention. The NAPs are one of the primary sources of priority depollution projects that MeHSIP should be targeting as they represent the result of a process of review and prioritization validated by each Mediterranean country’s government. UNEP/MAP is currently overseeing a process to update the NAPs, which are due for submission by each Mediterranean country in early 2016 and should include a final selection of priority depollution investment measures.

The second pipeline refers to MeHSIP’s extended thematic and geographical scope and will include projects developing value-added activities aimed at optimizing water and natural resource efficiency, climate adaptation and mitigation and sustainable growth and job creation. These projects can be located in areas within the MeHSIP countries that do not drain directly into the Mediterranean. The MeHSIP Team will identify projects of these types where appropriate and propose them to the Steering Committee for support.

MeHSIP coordinated closely with the SWIM-H2020 experts to ensure that they could meet with MeHSIP permanent experts in Morocco, Tunisia, Egypt and Jordan in occasion of their first round of missions in the beneficiary countries. These provided additional opportunity for sharing ideas and identify synergies between MeHSIP and the SWIM-H2020 project. In this context, MeHSIP also shared with SWIM-H2020 experts an analysis of the capacity building elements that could be of relevance (upstream or accompanying implementation) to the investment projects MeHSIP has included in its programme.

5. Recommendations if any, including reinforcement of the action (how and why) and/or proposed corrective measures

In order for the work of the group to be efficient, full involvement from partner institutions is to be ensured, funding for preparatory TA mobilized, private sector involvement in investments promoted and the role of H2020 in the new Economic Resilience Initiative of the EC agreed. The co-chairs encourage IFIs to actively contribute to the process and objectives agreed for the work

within the PRPI group; to this end additional relevant donors will be approached to expand and consolidate the group and its objectives.

In order to respond to the objectives set out by UfM Member countries, UNEP-MAP is considered a vital partner in this process; the main challenge for the upcoming year is to align the NAP priorities with the existing facilities for project development and financing.

6. Relevant websites

N/A - communication of the activities is ensured through the established channels of the involved institutions/H2020 website.

Draft

PRPI Group – November 2015 Agreed Road Map

Topic discussed	Actions to be taken	Leading organisation/involved	Timeline
1. Interest in keeping H2020 PRPI pipeline alive and up-to-date (mapping)	Identifying sources of information, identifying target users and maintenance procedures	UfMS	Continuous – tbc
2. NAP process and evaluation (flagship projects)	Assessment roundtable for NAPs and projects	PRPI group	When first phase of NAPs is ready
	Country dialogue with involved stakeholders	MeHSIP for Southern Med Balkans and Turkey - leader to be identified	As soon as NAPs are ready (January-May) May/June 2016
	Workshop n. 1 for translation of NAP measures in projects proposals and on sharing of best practices (institutional and policy framework for project implementation) for increased efficiency	UNEP-MAP/MeHSIP (EIB)	
3. Buy-in of Ministries of Finance (or international cooperation as appropriate)	Meetings on country-level to discuss concrete projects (including cost of environmental degradation, cost-benefit analysis)	Country offices of WB, AfD, EBRD, EIB and EC	2016
	Workshop n.2 how to make the business case for financiers on the pipeline of projects with a specific session on PPPs	MeHSIP/ EBRD on PPPs	2016
4. Strengthening of the preparatory phase of projects	Define options for mobilisation of financial resources for TA for priority projects in the pipeline and financing arrangements	all	June and end of 2016
5. Local authorities	Workshop	AfD with CMI/World Bank	Tbc

Developments/Milestones of the H2020 Pollution Reduction and Prevention Investment component since May 2014 (time-line)

2014: Ministerial Declaration, Restructuring of the PRPI group:

The UfM Ministerial Meeting on Environment and Climate Change was held on 13 May 2014 in Athens. The declaration was unanimously adopted by UfM Members. The Ministerial Declaration on environment and climate change endorsed the second phase of H2020.

In preparation of the Ministerial 4 complementary technical assessments (conducted by UNEP-MAP, EIB, EEA and UfMS) had been carried out for the H2020 Mid-term review. Countries asked to develop criteria for sustainable investments' prioritization, and aligning as appropriate with the National Action Plans revision process undertaken by UNEP/MAP.

Countries called for the elaboration of the work program for the second phase, and for UfMS and EIB to co-chair the H2020 Pollution Reduction sub-group. A first PRPI meeting was held in November.

2016: Concretizing pipelines and technical workshops

The revision process of National Action Plans (NAPs) under the framework of the Barcelona Convention was preliminary finalized in April 2016 with the finalization of a number preliminary documents.

- June: In line with the approved roadmap of the Depollution Investment Coordination Group (Pollution Reduction and Prevention Investments – PRPI) presented during the last Steering Committee of H2020 and Work Plan adopted in 2014, a round-table discussion was organized in Athens on 6th June under the auspices of UNEP-MAP and chaired by UfM Secretariat and MehSIP with the aim to discuss the identified project ideas and prioritized outlined by the countries of the Barcelona Convention as well as Jordan throughout the NAP (National Action Plan) Process and explore potential funding possibilities and cooperation for collaboration. The key conclusion of the NAP analysis as presented in the PRPI meeting on 7th June in Athens are summarised below:
 - Multiple pollution sources were investigated, e.g. industries, agriculture, municipalities
 - The scoring of priority measures not always reflects real government priorities, sometimes other Ministries than the Ministry of Environment were not involved.
 - Often a mix of measures is presented ranging from:
 - Preliminary studies
 - Policy / regulatory changes
 - Capacity Building / TA
 - Investment projects
 - Not all investment projects have been elaborated in project fiches
 - Many aspects fall outside the influence of (well meaning) donors, international organisations etc.
 - A reality check is sometimes necessary
 - Upstream preparation work is still required for many identified investment projects

- There is synergy between the different programmes/initiatives working on the ground
- Assess available tools and funds
- Determine competence/responsibilities along the project cycle
- Analyse needs project by project
- Structure interventions (with a long-term view)
- Further MehSIP Steering Committee Meetings were held on 15th June, 25th November.
- November: on 1 November, 2016, the Bizerte project – first project of the MehSIP pipeline and UfM-labelled was launched in the presence of Youssef Chahed, Head of Government of Tunisia, Federica Mogherini, High Representative of the European Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy and Vice-President of the European Commission, and Mr. Fathallah Sijilmassi, Secretary General of the Union for the Mediterranean (UfM). With a total budget of more than €90 million over a 5-year period, the programme will contribute towards cleaning up Lake Bizerte in northern Tunisia, improving the living conditions of the surrounding populations and reducing the main sources of pollution impacting the entire Mediterranean Sea.

The UfM Secretariat also launched a consultancy during the first half of 2016 to support the process. A methodological support to select priority investment projects for H2020 will be one of the results to be shared and approved together with the core partners of the initiative. This methodology was extensively discussed IFIs, particularly EIB, EBRD and KfW, in order to validate its value added for flagship project identification and will be presented as well to the PRPI group of H2020.

ANNEX 2

Implementation of the UfM Ministerial Declaration on ENV and CC as far as regards “sustainable consumption and production”

Reference to the topic as per Ministerial Declaration

Ministers acknowledge that shifting towards sustainable consumption and production patterns is essential to reduce pollution and waste, as well as to increase resource and energy efficiency and hence the prevention of climate change impacts. This transition to a green and low- emissions economy will provide real opportunities for preserving natural resources, job creation, improvement of the quality of life for all and ensure a sustainable future. Ministers take note of the SCP Decision under the Barcelona Convention, and support the development of a Regional SCP Action Plan and Roadmap in line with this Decision;

With this in mind, Ministers

- *will endeavour to initiate policy reforms required to provide the appropriate incentives and signals to accelerate the shift towards sustainable consumption and production patterns, while paying attention to the unequal economic development and social disparities among Mediterranean countries;*
- *express their support for green and low-emission economy and the required innovations, and technology transfer in the area of sustainable products and services and new sustainable business models, as well as tools such as eco-design. In addition, acknowledge the potential for sustainable blue growth and note the necessity to promote the development of innovative and sustainable marine and maritime activities. In this context, Ministers welcome the various platforms for the development and dissemination of best practices that demonstrate the economic benefits and technical solutions for making production processes and consumption patterns more efficient and environmentally friendly;*
- *undertake to develop activities to ensure the full coverage of the region;*
- *strongly support the complementary efforts of the European Union and of the UfM Secretariat on SCP. In this context, welcome the initiation of the SWITCH-Med programme with the support from the European Union and the labelling of the UfM project Mediterranean ReSCP. These programmes are recognized to be an important support to the transition to sustainable consumption and production and to the implementation of the Barcelona Convention and its protocols.*

Since the adoption of the UfM Declaration on Environment and Climate change in May 2014, the Regional Activity Center on Sustainable Consumption and Production (SCP/RAC) of the United Nations Environment Programme Mediterranean Action Plan (UNEP/MAP) has developed and implemented a number of initiatives, programmes and projects aimed at shifting towards SCP patterns and Green/Circular Economy in the Mediterranean.

Main initiatives involving SCP/RAC in the implementation of the SCP actions include:

- SwitchMed Initiative
- Med ReSCP Project
- H2020 (De-pollution of the Mediterranean Sea) – SCP capacity building
- Other SCP activities

The Southern Mediterranean region is greatly affected by water scarcity, population growth and rapid urbanization in coastal areas, growing waste generation, climate change and massive tourism. During the last few years, the region has experienced dramatic social and political changes. It has struggled during the economic crisis and governance remains a significant challenge. Despite these challenges, this historical turning point presents opportunities to introduce and promote sustainable consumption and production practices which can in turn support the development of a green economy.

The SwitchMed is a key action carried out under the EU-funded regional cooperation with the Mediterranean region implemented through collaborative efforts by the EU, UNIDO, UNEP/MAP-SCP/RAC and UNEP-DTIE³. The Initiative aims at facilitating the shift toward Sustainable Consumption and Production - SCP - in the Southern Mediterranean region. It targets at changing the way goods and services are produced and consumed, so that human development and satisfaction of human needs is decoupled from environmental degradation. It supports industry, emerging green entrepreneurs, civil society and policy makers through policy development, demonstration activities and networking. The SwitchMed Initiative is made up of three interlinked components: a policy component, a demonstration component, and a networking component.

➤ POLICY COMPONENT

The SwitchMed Policy Component operates on the regional and national level. The regional policy component targets the Barcelona Convention and its member countries, as well as Jordan and Palestine. The main outputs from this component includes the submission to and adoption by the Contracting Parties of the Barcelona Convention of a Regional Action Plan for the integration of SCP in the Mediterranean policy & governance framework, and an SCP Road Map for the Mediterranean. The SwitchMed national component targets the 8 ENPI South beneficiary countries (Morocco, Algeria, Tunisia, Egypt, Jordan, Israel, Palestinian Occupied Territories and Lebanon) and supports them in the process of development and approval of their SCP National Action Plans. Sub-regional SCP capacity building, exchanges of experience and policy convergence is encouraged during this process and feeds back into the regional governance and policy framework of the UNEP/MAP- Barcelona Convention

SCP/RAC has been in charge of the preparation process of the Regional Action Plan on SCP which included a large consultation process with Governments and regional organizations. The [SCP Action Plan](#) was adopted by the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention in Feb 2016, during the COP19. The SCP Action Plan includes 12 operational objectives and 51 specific actions. It constitutes a forward-looking framework to move towards a circular economy in the Region. The document is structured around 4 key economic sectors for the region having an impact on the environmental degradation: (i) Food, Fisheries and Agriculture, (ii) Tourism, (iii) Goods manufacturing as well as (iv) Housing and Construction. In addition to the adoption of the SCP Action Plan, SCP has been also identified as cross-cutting theme of the MAP Mid-term strategy 2016-2022 and specific actions are included in the MAP Programme of Work 2016-2017.

³ UNEP Division of Technology, Industry and Economics

Likewise SCP/RAC has produced the [SCP Toolkit](#) for policy makers focusing on key economic sector. The Toolkit was published, printed and distributed in both English and French versions and trainings materials were prepared.

The development of activities supporting the implementation of the Action Plan has started with the development of a set of SCP indicators to monitor the progress on SCP and the development of pilot activities. SCP/RAC is currently working on the identification of a suite of existing SCP Indicators for future use in monitoring national and regional progresses against the SCP Action Plan and will map their current availability in the Mediterranean countries. The current draft list of SCP indicators consists of about 50 indicators, selected to track both the sectors and the transversal thematic areas⁴ identified in the Med SCP Action Plan. The list of SCP indicators is expected to be finalized by mid-February 2017. Results of this work will be presented at various meetings of the MAP governance process in 2017 (e.g., SCP focal point meeting, 17th Meeting of the MCSDD and UNEP/MAP focal point meeting) before final consideration at the Barcelona Convention COP to be held in Tirana, Albania on December 5-8, 2017.

Work on the **dissemination of the Action Plan continues**, in particular a specific workshop was organized during the MedCOP on Climate Change, organized in Tanger in July 2016 and during the COP on Climate Change in Marrakech, at the end of 2016.

SwitchMed National Policy component: Development and implementation on Sustainable Consumption and Production National Action Plans.

Context and description of the related action: The European Union funded multi-component SwitchMed programme assists eight countries of the southern Mediterranean (Algeria, Egypt, Israel, Jordan, Lebanon, Morocco, Palestine and Tunisia) to develop and implement policies to Switch to sustainable pattern of consumption and production promoting Sustainable Consumption and Production among consumers, small and medium-sized enterprises and Mediterranean policy-makers. UN Environment's Economy Division is coordinating the development of **Sustainable Consumption and Production National Action Plans in the eight project countries and implement demonstration activities in Egypt, Israel, Jordan and Palestine.**

State of advancement; outcomes/results achieved so far:

A) Sustainable Consumption and Production assessments:

- Seven assessments have been developed in Algeria, Egypt, Israel, Lebanon, Morocco, Palestine and Tunisia in multi-stakeholder processes (government, civil society, private sector, media, academia, international community) and validated during technical national workshops;
- Jordan and Egypt used their national Green Economy report/assessments – elaborated with UN Environment assistance - as the basis for developing National Action Plan and hence addressing the national priorities that were identified in this study in a coherent approach, avoiding duplication and repetition of work load;

B) Sustainable Consumption and Production National Action Plans:

- Eight Sustainable Consumption and Production National Action Plans have been developed;
- More than 25 multi-stakeholder national workshops and roundtables organized with over 1500 participants from different ministries, public and private sector, civil society, academia, media, international organizations and bi-lateral partners;

⁴ The transversal themes in the SCP action plan are: 1) land use, 2) Water efficiency, 3) resource efficiency, 4) energy efficiency, 5) pollution (by wastewater, chemicals and solid waste), 6) transport & mobility, 7) consumer behavior sectors.

C) Demonstration projects:

Demonstration activities based on the nationally approved action plans will be implemented in the in Egypt, Israel, Jordan and Palestine (on-going). First outputs are expected by end of 2017. The following priorities have been selected for the demonstration projects:

- Egypt: Public Procurement and plastic bag/waste management;
- Israel: Consumer Behavior, Public Procurement, behavioural economics methods, aimed at reducing negative environmental impacts of consumers and/or producers; Reliable Footprint Label;
- Jordan: Waste management in the tourism sector and National Solid Waste Management Training Program;
- Palestine: Eco-tourism and Agriculture (tbc).

D) Linkages with international processes:

- Sustainable Development Goal 12; Developing Sustainable Consumption and Production National Action Plans is the indicator for target 12.1;
- Sustainable Consumption and Production-National Action Plans touch upon several Sustainable Development Goals, according to the national priorities that are being selected;
- UNEA Resolution 2/8 Sustainable Consumption and Production;
- Declaration, Union for the Mediterranean Ministerial Meeting on Environment and Climate Change, May 13th, 2014;
- In-line with 10 Year Framework of Programmes on Sustainable Consumption and Production;

National priorities of the Sustainable Consumption and Production-National Action Plans:

- **Algeria:** Governance framework; Energy transition and energy efficiency; Waste and emission management;
- **Egypt:** Policy Instruments Programme; Integrated Community Development; Sustainable Agriculture; Sustainable Water Management; Sustainable and Renewable Energy Applications; Solid Waste Management (<http://www.switchmed.eu/en/news/news-1/the-scp-national-action-plan-of-egyptlaunched-at-the-african-ministerialconference-on-the-environment>)
- **Israel:** Sustainable Production Initiatives that give emphasis to the supply side; Sustainable Consumption Initiatives that give emphasis to the demand side; Connecting the Dots: Initiatives that are positioned in the interface (<http://www.switchmed.eu/en/news/news-1/israel-towards-more-sustainableconsumption-and-production-patterns>)
- **Jordan:** Agriculture and Food Industry; Transport Sector; Waste Management Sector; (<http://www.switchmed.eu/en/news/news-1/national-strategy-and-action-plan-forsustainable-consumption-and-productionin-jordan-2016-2025>)
- **Lebanon:** Introduce Sustainable Consumption and Production approaches related to the industrial sector in the policy and institutional frameworks; Educate and raise awareness of consumers in the industrial sector (<http://www.switchmed.eu/en/news/news-1/full-report-sustainable-consumption-andproduction-action-plan-for-the-industrialsector-in-lebanon>)
- **Morocco:** Agriculture and agri-food; Eco-construction and sustainable buildings; (<http://www.switchmed.eu/en/news/news-1/le-maroc-National%20Framework-Planon-SCP>)
- **Palestine:** Tourism; Housing and Construction; Food and Agriculture; (<http://www.switchmed.eu/en/news/news-1/a-milestone-for-palestine-assessmentreport-on-scp-policies-now-ready>).

➤ DEMONSTRATION COMPONENT (DC)

The DC is divided into 3 subcomponents:

- *Sustainable Production - MED TEST II*
- *Green Entrepreneurship and Civil Society empowerment*
- *Operationalizing SCP National Action Plans*

MED TEST II - Transfer of Environmentally Sound Technology (TEST)

Building on UNIDO experience and programme on RECP, the **Transfer of Environmentally Sound Technology (TEST)** to the industry is key in stimulating more sustainable patterns of Sustainable Consumption and Production (SCP). UNIDO has developed an integrated methodology (TEST) to assist industries along this improvement path, which incorporates tools such as **Cleaner Production Assessment (CPA), Material Flow Cost Accounting (MFCA), Environmental Management System (EMS) and Energy Management System (EnMS)**. The MED TEST II component of SwitchMed has the threefold objectives of i) building the capacity of national service providers to offer qualified RECP services to industries; ii) stimulate the industry market-based demand for resources efficiency services through successful demonstration projects; iii) raise awareness of national governments to put in place ad hoc policy instruments for incentivizing adoption of SCP in their countries. To date, almost 160 professionals, from 60 organizations and private sector service providers have been trained by UNIDO under the MED TEST II training programme, strengthening the local capacities in providing local services for SCP. By end of 2017 RECP business case will have been demonstrated in a pool of 130 industries belonging to 5 different industrial sectors (food, chemical, textile, leather and mechanical). This will result in a RECP investment pipeline bringing economic and environmental benefits to the companies: the results of the demonstration will be widely disseminated throughout the channels and networks of industrial associations. Finally, a set of policy instruments proposal for mainstreaming RECP into national business environment, will have been drafted along with a scaling up strategy to sustain MED TEST II after its completion.

GREEN ENTREPRENEURSHIP (GE) and CIVIL SOCIETY (CS) empowerment sub-component

Implemented by SCP/RAC, the GE and CS empowerment sub-component aims at: i) boosting **Green Entrepreneurship in the Mediterranean Region**; ii) empowering **Mediterranean Civil Society Organizations (CSOs)** to facilitate their shift towards more sustainable lifestyles, and iii) supporting collaborative initiatives between **Green Entrepreneurs and CSOs** in the Mediterranean region. A Training and Support Programme for Green Entrepreneurs and CSOs is at the core of the sub-component. Green Entrepreneurs & CSOs are provided with a set of innovative training materials (handbook and workbook) developed by the SwitchMed, trained by the international/national trainers and given support in accessing technical assistance and financial support in order to help them to start their own green companies, grassroots innovations or joint ventures, by upscaling both the supply and demand of sustainably oriented products and services. These services are delivered during the incubation and acceleration phases of the GE support programme.

Progress:

- An innovative [Training Methodology](#) to support **Green Entrepreneurs** in developing their green business models has been developed

- 123 Local Trainers have been identified and trained in the use of the methodology in 8 MENA countries
- 76 workshops of the Green Entrepreneurship Programme have been implemented in the 8 countries
- 3,827 people have submitted their applications and 1,446 Green Entrepreneurs have been selected and trained
- 138 Green Entrepreneurs out of 1,446 trained have been selected and received individual coaching to improve their Green Business Models
- 18 Green Entrepreneurs have been selected by an international “High Level Jury” and will be supported during the incubation phase
- 74 selected Civil Society ecological innovation initiatives have been trained in Tunisia, Lebanon, Algeria and Morocco. A training methodology, a Handbook (provides essential concepts linked to SCP and social and eco-innovation) and a Facilitation Guide (intended to guide trainers) are developed
- 8 Civil Society ecological innovation initiatives have been selected in a first group of countries (Morocco, Algeria, Tunisia and Lebanon) and the support phase is ongoing. The selection of Local Partners and Local Trainers for the Civil Society Programme is ongoing in a second group of countries: Egypt, Jordan, Israel and Palestine.
- The Switchers, the web platform collecting stories from ecological and social innovative solutions in the Mediterranean (www.theswitchers.eu), has been launched and improved and 100 success stories of Green Entrepreneurs and Civil Society initiatives have been identified and selected. 3 videos – GEs stories have been developed of selected Switchers.
- A [study on crowdfunding platforms](#) and a [Crowdfunding Guide for Eco-Entrepreneurs and Social Initiatives for Ecological Innovation](#) on how to make use of crowdfunding as an alternative financing option are now available in English and French.
- 3 Synergy Workshops have been organised, in Lebanon, Tunisia and Morocco, involving more than 220 stakeholders and identifying main challenges and opportunities for Green Entrepreneurship and Eco-innovation.
- GREEN IMPACT INVESTING NETWORK

Access to finance is one of the top priority factors to be addressed in the ecosystem of green entrepreneurs. To respond to that need SCP/RAC is working on the establishment of [Green Impact Investing Network \(GIIN\)](#) in partnership with the [European Federation of Ethical and Alternative Banks \(FEBEA\)](#). The aim of the Network is to create a group of interested international and national financing institutions that can invest in green start-ups in four SwitchMed Northern African countries.

Progress: *(as described under Component 1 of the MedReSCP project below)*

Operationalizing SCP National Action Plans sub-component

This sub-component, executed by UNEP-DTIE and SCP/RAC UNEP/MAP, implements demonstration activities on **SCP National Action Plans (NAPs)** within the SwitchMed policy umbrella of the multi-component SWITCH Programme. Next a summary of the progress referred to the pilot activities being developed by SCP/RAC is provided:

Progress:

- In 2014, SCP/RAC was commissioned to develop pilot projects in Algeria, Lebanon, Morocco and Tunisia to demonstrate how national SCP policies can be made operational. A portfolio

of 15 SCP pilot activities on the key economic sectors was developed and submitted to review of the target countries to facilitate the selection process of the project. Additional call for pilot project candidates have been developed.

- Pilot Activities that were finally selected by the target countries and have been already launched target the food and agriculture, goods manufacturing and tourism sectors of the SCP Action Plan. The food and agriculture activities include the support to innovative projects having a great replication potential in the region: giving value to co products of organic olive oil production, developing solution for onsite biogas production in farms and cooperatives, giving value to downgraded dates and co-products of date production, develop composting process of organic material from the wine industry.
- The tourism activities aim at consolidating an ecotourism site as well as an ecotourism tour operator.
- Finally, the activities addressing the goods manufacturing sector are particularly addressing the issue plastic packaging and toxic substances included in plastic ending up in the marine environment. The current activities are consisting in the identification of innovative solutions to prevent the generation of plastics ending up as marine litter and solutions to prevent the use of toxic chemicals in consumer products. 2 pilot projects aiming at implementing a couple of those solutions (1 for plastic and 1 for toxic chemical) will be developed.

➤ NETWORKING FACILITY (NF)

The NF, leaded by SCP/RAC-UNEP/MAP with active participation of all partners, contributes to the visibility, effectiveness, long-term sustainability and impact of the components of the SwitchMed Programme. It aims at facilitating regular exchange among all key stakeholders and harvesting lessons learned for scaling-up demo activities. In addition, internationalization of start-ups and SMEs, as well as enhanced access to finance for Green Entrepreneurs and development of a Green Impact Investment Network, is supported through closer cooperation between business support organizations and impact investors from the EU and enabling infrastructure players, financial institutions and entrepreneurs from four Southern Mediterranean countries (Egypt, Lebanon, Tunisia, and Morocco).

Progress:

- The Mediterranean SCP Hub (www.switchmed.eu) has been created in collaboration with the teams of the demo sub-components and is being constantly updated. Such features as “Country hubs”, offering country specific stories on SCP and thematic corners (Policy, Industry & Intermediaries, GE&CS Impact Investors, etc.) are available allowing flawless exchange of information and best practices;
- An [Action Network](#) (a professional social network for all SCP actors to share information and knowledge) integrated within the Mediterranean SCP Hub web platform has exponentially grown reaching more than 1100 members representing a wide range of stakeholders;
- 8 National Stakeholder communities were established to enable sharing and exchange of information regarding the activities of each demo sub-component at the country level.
- SwitchMed Programme activities were presented in 50+ side events that took place in various parts of the region and over 10 strategic partnerships were sealed;
- The first and second editions of the SwitchMed Connect (<http://www.switchmedconnect.com/>) took place in Barcelona in October 2015 and in October 2016 respectively. The 1st edition, featuring 18 sessions over two days,

attracted 400+ participants (all summaries are available at this link <http://www.switchmed.eu/en/switchmed-connect/switchmed-connect-2015>) and the second edition which offered 36 sessions over a three day event gathered 350+ participants from a wide range of stakeholder groups (all summaries are available at this link <http://www.switchmed.eu/en/switchmed-connect/switchmed-connect-2016> and event video is available at this link <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dcRBqdNJDvw&t=57s>). Over 50 Switchers stories were presented and the Switchers exhibitions were organized. 85% of the participants stated that they have established new connections for enhancing their businesses and project development;

- Social media outreach boosted: [SwitchMed Facebook](#) (3000+ Followers); [Twitter](#) (1000+ Followers); [SwitchMed You Tube](#) (21 videos); [SwitchMed Flickr](#); [LinkedIn](#) (400+ members);
- Informative materials were developed: *SwitchMed Connect Newspaper* [Edition 1](#) and [2](#), [The Faces: Who is behind the SwitchMed Programme](#), [SwitchMed Notebook](#). For more see [e-library](#) and [media sections](#).

UFM LABELLED PROJECT: "MEDITERRANEAN RESCP POST-RIO+20: PROMOTION OF SUSTAINABLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION, WITH EMPHASIS ON RESOURCE EFFICIENCY, IN THE MEDITERRANEAN REGION" (Med ReSCP)

The overall objective of the Med ReSCP project is to promote the adoption of sustainable consumption and production patterns in the Mediterranean region through a comprehensive regional approach addressing different realities and challenges faced by countries. Through its two components the project aims to:

- provide **financing access for Small and Medium Enterprises** (SMEs) adopting Sustainable Consumption and Production (SCP) models in Egypt, Jordan, Morocco and Tunisia (Component 1)
- stimulate the **development of green industries and entrepreneurship in the Western Balkans and Turkey** through technical assistance and pilot projects. (Component 2)

Med ReSCP - jointly led by UNIDO, EBRD and UNEP-MAP SCP/RAC - integrates and complements the EU funded SWITCH MED programme, thus ensuring coordinated efforts towards the overall shift of the Mediterranean region towards sustainable consumption and production patterns (www.switchmed.eu). SCP/RAC and UNIDO, which are also implementing agencies of the EU funded SwitchMed Programme, ensure regular links and exchanges between the two programs.

Within Components 1 of the Med ReSCP, SCP/RAC, in partnership with the Federation of European Ethical and Alternative Banks (FEBEA), advanced in engaging investment networks and creating platforms with local financiers for enhancing access to finance for Green Entrepreneurs (GEs) in the Mediterranean and developing a Green Impact Investing Network (GIIN), as well as exploring and identifying services that could be offered by the GIIN to GEs and green start-ups within/outside the framework of the project.

The Implementation strategy and progress consisted of:

- Seminars with International Investment Networks:
 - Missions in Europe (Missions in Paris, Brussels and Marseille, attendance at the CoopMed Social Impact Fund Launch - March 2016, attendance at the impact investing conference in Luxembourg May 2016) / SWOT for the European market.

More info at <http://www.switchmed.eu/en/corners/impact-investors/actions/actions/Touring-Europe>

- SwitchMed Connect 2015 sessions on A2F. More Info: <http://switchmedconnect.com/> and <http://www.switchmed.eu/en/switchmed-connect/switchmed-connect-2015>
- SwitchMed Connect 2016 sessions on a) how to increase collaboration among between financing institutions in the Mediterranean that could facilitate access to finance for green entrepreneurs (for the results of this session see this link http://www.switchmed.eu/en/switchmed-connect/switchmed-connect-2016/Finance_Track_2_closed_participation) and b) building a Green Impact Investing Network (for the results of this session see this link http://www.switchmed.eu/en/switchmed-connect/switchmed-connect-2016/Finance_Track_2). More Info: For the full agenda of the SwitchMed Connect 2016 and the speaker profiles see <http://switchmedconnect.com/>)
- Meet-Ups and Seminars with National Financial Sector and SWOT analyses: Missions to Egypt (August 2015), Morocco (May 2016), Tunisia (June 2016) and Lebanon (November 2016). The country reports are available on the GIIN community of the SwitchMed Action Network <http://www.switchmed.eu/en/news/news-1/latest-from-the-green-impact-investing-network>
- Development of Innovative Financial Instruments for Green Young Entrepreneurship in the Mediterranean: Business report (under preparation, upcoming in 2017)
- Component 2 on *Upscaling the SCP/RE enabling and demo activities for green industries, businesses and local stakeholders* in Albania, Bosnia & Herzegovina, Montenegro and Turkey will benefit from projects under an Austrian grant program DRIVE (Delivering Resource efficiency InVEstments).

Delivering Resource efficiency InVEstments: DRIVE Fund

The DRIVE Fund was established at the EBRD by the Austrian Federal Ministry of Finance in September 2015 to support sustainable resource investments in the Western Balkans and Turkey. The Fund has EUR 5 million **to support projects in line with the Mediterranean Resource Efficiency and Sustainable Consumption and Production (MED RESCP) programme** – a UfM-labelled joint initiative by the EBRD, UNIDO⁵, and UNEP/MAP⁶. MedReScp's specific objectives are (1) **to identify investment opportunities in cleaner and more resource-efficient technologies** (water, energy, raw materials and waste minimization), and (2) to provide **technical assistance** in this field.

Within the EBRD, the DRIVE Fund is a response to the acknowledgement that delivering effective investments, technical assistance and policy dialogue activities requires complementary donor funding in markets where water and materials efficiency are almost non-existent, such as in the Western Balkans and Turkey. This is also in line with the Green Economy Transition (GET) Approach adopted in September 2015. GET and DRIVE are in line with MedReScp's specific objectives to (1) identify investment opportunities in cleaner and more resource efficient (water, energy, raw materials and waste minimization) manufacturing technology, and (2) to provide technical assistance in this field. During the first operational year of the fund, EUR 1 million were allocated to projects in Turkey and Albania:

- *Turkey*: Eco-design and Eco-innovation Capacity Building for Local Banks, implemented in cooperation with UNEP-MAP/SCP RAC. The project includes a training module prepared explicitly

⁵ United Nations Industrial Development Organisation

⁶ United Nations Environment Programme Mediterranean Action Plan, Regional Activity Centre for Sustainable Consumption and Production

for local banks, to enhance corporate capacity on eco-design and eco-innovation - key strategic approaches to achieve competitive advantage and growth, bring savings, thanks to increasing resource efficiency and productivity, reduce risks related to raw materials' scarcity, attract investors' interest and stay ahead of future environmental legislation. Preparatory works are underway, training is scheduled for Q1 2017.

- *Turkey*: Environmental and social due diligence (ESDD) for Bak Ambalaj Sanayi ve Ticaret A.Ş. The purpose of this project is to help the company reduce its solvent emissions by recapturing and recycling its solvents, as a result of which it will meet the requirements under the industrial emission regulation in Turkey and comply with the EU Solvent Directive. The findings of the ESDD are integrated in the company's Environmental and Social Action Plan.
- *Turkey*: Materials Marketplace. Under the umbrella of the EBRD Near-Zero Waste Programme, a dedicated online platform will be set up, through which companies can exchange underutilized materials, turning one company's waste into raw material for the other.
- *Turkey*: Climate Resilience in the Power Sector: Risk Assessment and Investment Needs. This assignment aims to understand and quantify the potential effects of climate change on the power generation and transmission assets in Turkey, as well as to provide an initial assessment of the most technically-robust and economically-viable solutions for mitigating the effects.
- *Albania*: Tirana Green City Action Plan. The EBRD has recently launched its Green Cities Initiative as a response to address environmental urban issues in a more systematic way. A core part of this initiative is the development of Green City Action Plans. Tirana is the first city on the Western Balkans to benefit from this innovative approach.

SCP in HORIZON 2020 – Capacity building

SCP/RAC is one of the members of the Consortium of organizations led by the *Kapodistrian University of Athens to implement the H2020 Capacity Building / Mediterranean Environment programme*. In the performance of its task as member of the Consortium SCP/RAC has developed capacity-building activities based on SCP and pollution prevention and control to increase the knowledge of representatives from the public sector, business and civil society across the Mediterranean region.

During 2014, SCP/RAC organized the following capacity-building activities on **Sub-regional level** involving **150+** of delegates coming from various stakeholder organizations: ministries, producers and research centers, academia, NGOs, financial sector, etc.:

- [sub-regional workshop on Green Finance](#) (Jan 2014), Amman, Jordan / [sub-regional training on Sustainable Olive Oil](#) (Feb 2014), Amman, Jordan / [sub-regional workshop on Sustainable Industrial Areas](#) (May 2014), Beirut, Lebanon / Regional training course on Sustainable Food Production (Nov 2014), Barcelona, Spain.

and the following on the National level involving 125 participants from the private and public sector, industries and producers, NGOs and research institutions:

- [national training session on Industrial Management and Environmental Governance](#), (Feb 2014), Tunis, Tunisia / [national training on Sustainable Stone and Marble Industry](#) (Mar 2014), Ramallah, Palestine / [national training on Green Economy and SCP](#) (Mar 2014), Amman, Jordan / [national training on Eco-innovation, Industrial Ecology and Clean Production](#) (May 2014), Alger, Algeria.

During the next years, SCP/RAC will continue supporting the countries in building their capacities on SCP, green economy and circular economy as it is a member of the consortium of the new H2020 SWIM Supporting Mechanisms project. In that framework, several countries requested

institutional and technological support for accelerating the transition towards Sustainable Consumption and Production and for implementing their SCP NAPs.

OTHER REGIONAL ACTIVITIES ON SCP

SCP through Eco-design / Eco-innovation for businesses and GEs

- **New green business opportunities on alternatives to hazardous chemicals in the Mediterranean** - SCP/RAC prepared and implemented the [Supporting Green Entrepreneurs for a POPs-free Mediterranean, Project](#) [selected by the Stockholm Convention under the 'Small Grant Programme' call. The project aimed to support new companies from Algeria to phase out POPs and the use of toxic chemicals in the design and production stages of their products. The Centre produced a special [training module on Green Entrepreneurship & Hazardous Chemicals Substitution Process](#) on possible actions to phase out POPs. Based on that training material, SCP/RAC organized a [seminar 'Green chemistry and eco-entrepreneurship'](#) in November 2014 in Algiers (Algeria) to provide support to 40 green entrepreneurs for a POPs-free Mediterranean.
- **SCP in the sustainable management of coastal areas (SMCA)** – in the field of SMCA, the SCP/RAC implemented the Coastal Areas Management Programme (CAMP) of Montenegro. The [Workshop 'Ecotourism as an opportunity for Sustainable Development'](#) aimed to share best practices, obtain a SWOT analysis and define actions and strategies to boost ecotourism, thus contributing to the creation of the National Strategy for Integrated Coastal Zone Management of Montenegro, was organized in Jan 2014 in Boka Kotorska, Kotor (Montenegro). Within the project, SPA/RAC produced and published the [Feasibility Study on 'Ecotourism for local development in Boka Kotorska'](#) which analysed the tourism and ecotourism sector in Boka Kotorska and assessed the potential of ecotourism entrepreneurship and businesses in Kotor.

Recommendations if any, including reinforcement of the action (how and why) and/or proposed corrective measures

SWITCHMED PROGRAMME

Recommendations

SwitchMed implementing partners and national institutions have invested significant efforts in incubating local capacities to support the move toward SCP models. These efforts need to be sustained, catching up the momentum that was generated by the project, capitalizing on project's results and experience gained. The potential for up-taking SCP in the Southern Mediterranean Region remain significant and a large extend not yet exploited: the international community and UN agencies can play a pivotal role in accelerating this transition.

Focus on reinforcing and expanding specific actions could be put on:

- Upscale industry demonstrations on TEST/RECP targeting additional industrial sectors and commercial sectors, to reach a sizable number of applications and reference cases;
- Develop demonstration projects applying TEST approach within industrial parks (industrial symbiosis), industrial clusters or supply chains within a circular economy model;

- Consolidate cooperation with the financial institutions (national/international) in the region to link TEST technical assistance to financing instruments (partnership with national banks and IFIs) for RECP investments;
- Expand Business promotion activities matchmaking eco-innovative solution for circular economy between EU and MENA business/financial actors;
- Incentives (policy instruments) are key during the transition from linear to circular economy models as also demonstrated by the new package of instruments and policies for circular economy that the EU is currently discussing. Along the same line, it will be essential to continue the dialogue SwitchMed has initiated with national governments to promote policy instrument proposals for resource efficiency as they have been outlined within MED TEST II component, for further development and adoption
- Scale up and upgrade the Green Entrepreneurship Training and Incubation Programme by optimising the training methodology and increasing the number of mentors (based on the results of the scaling up study) leading to even higher quality support for entrepreneurs and more green entrepreneurs supported
- Intensify the activities for enabling access to finance such as increasing the number of meet-ups between financing institutions and entrepreneurs in partnership with local incubators and continuous update of the financing instruments catalogue (make this a service of the Green Impact Investing Network)
- Develop and implement support services for the Switchers and Green Entrepreneurs that are in the early stage and growth stage (beyond ideation stage) based on the results of the needs survey and the results of the scaling up study (upcoming in 2017). These services might include customised mentoring, access to markets, access to finance, visibility and marketing support;
- Increase the number of Switchers supported leading to a solid market of green entrepreneurs and creating an institutional set up such as 'Association of the Switchers' for their collective representation
- Continue with knowledge and experience exchanges among 300+ participants from the North and South Mediterranean at the annual gathering SwitchMed Connect and intensify facilitation and brokerage of new business connections as it was done at the last edition (85% of the participants reported that they made new business connections);
- Sustain the Mediterranean SCP Hub (www.switchmed.eu) as a regional information tool – one stop shop - on eco and social innovations in the Mediterranean - and the Action Network as a professional social network for all SCP actors to share information and knowledge
- Continue and scale up training and support for eco-innovation CS initiatives by increasing the number of national training and synergy workshops, as well as selected initiatives
- Continue further development of activities supporting the implementation of the Regional Action Plan and National Action Plans on SCP
- Further support pilot activities that have been already launched targeting food and agriculture, goods manufacturing and tourism sectors of the SCP Action Plan and secure additional funding to increase the number or/and replication of pilot projects which are technical support actions for existing SMEs for implementation of the SCP NAPs

Recommendations on the SCP National Action Plans

- The Sustainable Consumption and Production National Action Plans process has fostered interest by countries (including in the Mediterranean) to collaborate with UN Environment in developing country specific programs;
- Replication of SwitchMed methodology in other countries is planned;
- Sustainable Consumption and Production-National Action Plans is a key instrument to bring different Sustainable Consumption and Production/Green Economy/UN Environment projects and initiatives together, both in the development and implementation phase;
- Developing of Sustainable Consumption and Production National Action Plan is only effective at country level if followed by implementation;
- Support countries in mobilizing funding through different available mechanism for implementing Sustainable Consumption and Production programs and projects at country level;
- Developing national Sustainable Production and Consumption National Action Plans contributes to poverty alleviation, environmental sustainability and the development of a green economy.

UFM LABELLED MED RESCP PROJECT

- Upscale of the on-going “Capacity building on eco-innovation/eco-design for local banks in Turkey” project after the finalization of the pilot, and replicate the project for SMEs and/or financial sector in Western Balkans involving a broad range of beneficiaries (FIs, Industry and entrepreneurship consultants, national SME development and Export promotion/Investments attraction agencies, etc.)
- Develop and support a number of demonstration projects applying eco-innovation approach and eco-design tools in Turkey
- Diversify the geographical scope of implemented projects under DRIVE Fund toward the Western Balkan countries.
- Expand the mapping of financial instruments for green entrepreneurs to 4 other countries of the current SwitchMed Programme, West Balkan countries and Turkey. Implement the concept of the ‘Fund’ i.e. Innovative Financial Instruments for Green Young Entrepreneurship in the Mediterranean and expand its scope to West Balkans and Turkey.

Contacts, relevant websites

- Organization’s website: www.unido.org; www.scprac.org ; www.ebrd.org
- Main projects’ websites: www.switchmed.eu / <http://www.theswitchers.eu>
- Regional Action Plan on Sustainable Consumption and Production in the Mediterranean
- *(Please, click [here](#) to download it)*
- UNIDO: Stephan Sicars, Roberta de Palma, Carolina Gonzales
- SCPRAC: Enrique De Villamore, Burcu Tuncer; Giorgio Mosangini, Magali Outters
- EBRD: Ana Bachurova (BachuroA@ebrd.com)
- Un Environment: Luc Reuter, Project Coordination, SwitchMed National Policy Coordinator
- Email: luc.reuter@unep.org; (1 rue Miollis, Building VII - 75015 Paris, France; Tel. (+33) 144 37 19 87; Website: www.unep.org / www.switchmed.eu

2014

- Preparation of the “*Mediterranean Sustainable Consumption and Production Action Plan (Med SCP Action Plan)*” and corresponding *Road Map*;
- Ongoing implementation of the EU funded SWITCH MED Programme
- Labeling of the UfM project *Med ReSCP: post Rio +20 Supporting the adoption of Sustainable Consumption and Production (SCP) and Resource Efficiency (RE) models in the Mediterranean Region*

2015

- Establishment of the DRIVE Fund at the EBRD to support sustainable resource investments in the Western Balkans and Turkey;
- First edition of the SwitchMed Connect organized featuring 18 sessions over two days and attracting 400+ participants.

2016

- Adoption of the Mediterranean Sustainable Consumption and Production Action Plan (Med SCP Action Plan) and corresponding Road Map by the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention;
- SCP Indicators for monitoring national and regional progresses against the SCP National Action Plans under development;
- Finalization and operationalization of SCP National Action Plans through demonstration activities;
- Within the Demonstration Component of the SwitchMed Programme, the sub-component “Green Entrepreneurship and Civil Society empowerment” presented;
- Ongoing facilitation of regular exchange among all key stakeholders and harvesting lessons learned for scaling-up demo activities by the Networking Facility component of the SwitchMed Programme;
- Development of a Green Impact Investment Network in four Southern Mediterranean countries (Egypt, Lebanon, Tunisia, and Morocco);
- Second edition of the SwitchMed Connect organized;
- SwitchMed Facebook page followers number reached 2700+.

ANNEX 3

Implementation of the UfM Ministerial Declaration on ENV and CC climate change as far as regards “climate change”

1. CONTEXT SINCE THE ADOPTION OF THE MINISTERIAL DECLARATION

Since the adoption of the UfM Ministerial Declaration on Environment and Climate Change in Athens on 13 May 2014, important progress has been made regarding climate change internationally and within the Euro-Mediterranean region.

International context

Reference to the topic as per Ministerial Declaration

Ministers reiterate their full determination to work together towards the adoption of a global, ambitious, fair and legally binding international agreement in Paris in 2015, as agreed in Durban. Ministers recall the need to intensify domestic preparations for "intended nationally determined contributions" to be submitted well in advance of Paris, and in the first quarter of 2015 for those ready to do so, as agreed in Warsaw, as well as the importance of adaptation and climate finance, in the context of the 2015 agreement; Ministers agree to further work together to explore ways and means to enhance support (notably capacity building) for domestic preparations;

On 4th November 2016, the Paris Agreement has officially entered into force. In line with the commitment expressed in the UfM Ministerial Declaration on Environment and Climate Change, all UfM Member States have actively taken part in the process leading to the adoption of the Paris Agreement on 12 December 2015.

All UfM Member States have submitted, before the 21st Conference of Parties (COP21) to the United Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), their intended national determined contributions. All UfM Member States have signed the Paris Agreement. Moreover, on 31st December 2016, 2/3 of the UfM Member States have ratified the Paris Agreement and the rest are in the process of ratification.

Implementation of nationally determined contribution in the Euro-Mediterranean region have now started. Actions taken by UfM Member States very in particular strongly showcased during the 22nd Conference of Parties (COP22) to the UNFCCC, which took place in Marrakech in November 2016.

Strong commitments have also been taken regarding the Mediterranean Sea. In line with the position expressed by the UfM Ministerial Declaration, the UfM strongly supported the adoption of the UNEP/MAP Regional Adaptation Framework during the 19th Conference of Parties (COP19) of the Barcelona Convention.

Reference to the topic as per Ministerial Declaration

Ministers underline the importance of the regional vulnerability assessment to determine climate change hotspots and support the regional climate change adaptation framework under the development by UNEP-MAP

Moreover, non-governmental actors have been actively mobilised to achieve a low carbon transition of the Mediterranean regarding climate change. The MedCOP21 in Marseille in June 2015, organised by the Region of Provence Alpes-Cote-d'Azur in France, and the MedCOP Climat 2016 in Tangier, organised by the Region of Tangier-Tetouan-Al Hoceima in Morocco, have gathered several representatives of local authorities, civil societies, private sectors and international and intergovernmental organisation of the Euro-Mediterranean region regarding climate change.

Furthermore, in Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development, adopted by the UN General Assembly on 27 July 2015, the Heads of State and Government and High Representatives welcomed, among others, *“continued efforts to improve the quality, impact and effectiveness of development cooperation and other international efforts in public finance, including adherence to agreed development cooperation effectiveness principles.”* Moreover, in accordance with article 9 of the Paris Agreement adopted in December 2015, Parties of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) have to provide financial resources to assist developing countries and shall communicate on biannual basis on this support. Other Parties can also do so on a voluntary basis. IFIs and donors will therefore be requested to provide clear information to Parties on their climate related actions.

The UfM Secretariat has therefore established a **Regional Finance Cooperation Committee for Climate Action (RFCCCA)** gathering major international financial institutions active in climate finance in the Euro-Mediterranean region. The first meeting of the RFCCCA, which took place in Barcelona on 10th of March 2016, initiated the cooperation through sharing information among IFIs and donors active on climate finance in the Mediterranean region. Two other meetings took place on the 12th of May 2016 and on the 18th of July 2016. However, tangible outputs are still weak and use of such committee could be improved in relation with the UfM Climate Change Expert Group.

UfM Framework

Three UfM Energy Platforms have been officially endorsed by the UfM Ministerial Declaration on Energy on 1st December 2016 in Rome. The UfM Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency Platform, the UfM Gas Platform and the UfM Electricity Market Platform have adopted work programs which will contribute to the decarbonisation of the energy sector in the Euro-Mediterranean.

Moreover, on 17 November 2015, the UfM Ministerial Conference on Blue Economy took place in Brussels. The Ministerial Declaration recognizes the need to support sustainable maritime and marine sectors. Blue economy is built on the fact that clean and healthy seas are drivers and enablers for national and regional economies, and that there is a need to improve maritime governance in order to tackle human activities depending on the sea and/or underpinned by land-sea interactions in the context of sustainable development, and notably including industrial and service sectors such as aquaculture, fisheries, blue biotechnologies, coastal and maritime tourism, shipping, ship-building/repair, ports, ocean energy and marine renewable energy, including offshore wind. All these issues will have climate impacts.

Furthermore, in its roadmap adopted in Barcelona on 24 January 2017, UfM Ministers of Foreign Affairs made a clear commitment to use the UfM framework *“to better highlight the Euro-Mediterranean region’s contributions to the global agenda and interlink Mediterranean regional action with the Global Sustainable Development Goals, taking fully into account as well the contribution that this work can make in addressing the current global challenges facing the region. The transversality of global issues such as climate change, environment and water and urban development will continue to be addressed by the UFM, based on a cross sectoral inclusive approach.”* The roadmap therefore reiterates the synergies between the new Sustainable Development Goals, which for the record we adopted during the United Nations Sustainable Development Summit 2015

on 25-27 September 2015 in New York (USA) and climate policies, as expressed in the UfM Ministerial on Environment and Climate Change.

Reference to the topic as per Ministerial Declaration

Ministers underline the importance of intensifying efforts to further support the development of low-emission, and climate-resilient economies, consistent with national circumstances and priorities, poverty eradication and sustainable development objectives

The roadmap also recall the key role of the UfM Framework to address climate issues in relation to the global agenda. In this context, the 22nd Conference of Parties to the UNFCCC granted the UNFCCC observer status to the UfM Secretariat, allowing the UfM Secretariat to represent the UfM within the official negotiation meetings of the UNFCCC. Moreover, since August 2015, France has seconded an expert to the UfM Secretariat to support the follow-up and the implementation of the climate change issues of the UfM Ministerial Declaration on Environment and Climate Change.

2. OUTCOMES/RESULTS ACHIEVED SO FAR

General issues

The UfM Ministerial Declaration on Environment and Climate change requested specific action to be undertaken within the UfM framework.

A. Strengthening the general cooperation of UfM Members States to address the challenges of the low carbon development

Reference to the topic as per Ministerial Declaration

...Water availability and quality have been significantly impacted, thereby negatively affecting related economic sectors in the Mediterranean region, particularly in the most vulnerable Southern countries. Rising sea levels and their coastal impacts, as well as desertification are also a matter of concern. They recognise the growing need for the region and its future prosperity to enhance its resilience to climate change, notably in key sectors of the economy, such as agriculture, water, also with respect to food security. While recognising the challenges arising from the transition towards sustainable low-emission development economies, Ministers also point at the benefits and opportunities, including for growth and job creation, arising from such a transformation and express their readiness to enhance their cooperation in that regard;

In line with the UfM Ministerial Declaration, the UfM Member States have significantly enhanced their cooperation by contributing on actions under the two pillars of the general UfM mandate: regional dialogue and project promotion.

⇒ Regional Dialogue

In addition to the UfM Climate Change Expert Group mentioned hereafter, the UfM organised two conferences contributing to the objectives expressed in the UfM Ministerial Declaration.

The **Private Sector Forum on Food Security in the Southern and Eastern Mediterranean Region**, organized by the UFMS, EBRD and FAO, took place on 4 and 5 May 2015. The forum concluded that it is essential to advance the transition to resource “smart” food systems in SEMED. Globally, FAO estimates that by 2050 a 70% increase in food availability over the 2005-2007 levels will be necessary, which will increase demand for energy and water by 40%. This is particularly relevant for the Mediterranean region, which is highly dependent on the availability and efficient use of energy and natural resources. Governments should create conditions for the private sector to invest in energy and resource efficient technologies. Increased awareness about available best practices and technologies combined with technical assistance as well as public-private dialogue to support implementation of an appropriate policy mix can contribute to technology development and adoption in individual countries.

The **High-level Conference on Fostering Participation of Women in Economic life in the Euro-Mediterranean region** took place in May 2015 and dedicated a workshop to “Green Economy for Women Empowerment”. Among the main conclusions and recommendations were the encouragement to produce statistical data on women in green economy; the opportunity for women to access the market through green-tech or clean-tech entrepreneurship; the development of forestry linked activities and the eco-tourism with the development and promotion of local products.

⇒ **Project promotion**

Since the adoption of the ministerial declaration, the UfM has been actively involved in fostering projects of regional interest. More precisely, an assessment conducted for the COP22 demonstrated that out of the 47 projects and initiatives labelled by the UfM, 12 have a climate dimension. The overall budget of these 12 projects and initiatives are accounting for more than 2.6 billion Euros.

In the area of urban development, the UfM has labelled four projects under the Urban Projects Finance Initiative (UPFI). UPFI promotes sustainable and innovative urban development projects that offer bottom-up, regionally replicable solutions to the major urban development challenges in the region as a result of the important demographic shifts from rural to urban areas, as foreseen in the UfM Ministerial Declaration on sustainable urban development held in Strasbourg on November 10th, 2011.

For example, **UPFI Development Project for Phase 3 of the Bouregreg Valley Development Plan** (labelled in 2015) consists on the urbanization of the Bouregreg Valley between the cities of Rabat and Salé in Morocco; it will enable the recovery of the Bouregreg riverbanks and will provide the agglomeration with a high quality urban area. The Bouregreg Valley was threatened by of huge risks of flooding due to climate change. The specific objectives of the project in terms of climate action are the preservation of cultivated land, the creation of natural ecological spaces, reforestation actions and the recovery of water courses that present a risk of gully erosion and landslides. The project will, inter alia, result on the promotion of an urban development that is sustainable and respectful of the environment.

In the field of energy, also 3 projects having impacts on climate change have been labelled since the adoption of the Ministerial Declaration.

The **Tafila Wind Farm** project (labelled in April 2014 and launched in 2015) is the first and largest private investment in renewable energy in Jordan. Once fully developed, Tafila Wind Farm will provide almost 10% of Jordan’s wind energy target by 2020 and will cover 3% of the national electricity demand. Besides, Tafila has a high trans-boundary demonstrative effect on growing business and investment opportunities in the region for the private sector.

The **UfM Energy University by Schneider Electric** (labelled in 2015 and launched during the MedCOP Climat 2016 in July 2016) offers more than 200 free online courses (on renewable energy and energy efficiency) for energy engineers and professionals from UfM members of different business sectors, in accordance with the priorities identified by the UfM Energy Platforms.

The **EBRD SEmed Private Renewable Energy Framework (SPREF)** (labelled in 2016 and launched during the COP22), aims at breaking down barriers preventing the development of the private renewable energy markets in Morocco, Tunisia, Egypt and Jordan; providing efficient financing mechanisms and technical cooperation support by private sector for the realisation of renewable energy projects in the region. This project is expected to avoid 780,000 tons of CO2 emissions annually in the region.

In the field of transport, the UfM is supporting an optimal combination of various modes in implementing the Trans-Mediterranean Transport Network, such as co-modality within the transport chains, and a shift towards the most sustainable, energy efficient and least polluting modes of transport. In this regard, the **UfM Motorways of the Sea Initiative** (under which the first project was labelled in 2016 and several other are ready to be labelled) should produce environmental benefits both by modal shift from road to sea, transferring an important part of road traffic to maritime traffic, generating relevant savings in congestion, air pollution and road safety. Special attention will be also given to the port infrastructures adaptation. Indeed, ports are expected to be particularly impacted by climate change, due mostly to the long-life time and high value of their key infrastructural assets, their exposed location and concentration of economic activities.

Regarding the fields of higher education and research, the UfM also works to raise awareness on climate action through different education and research projects and activities. The **Euro-Mediterranean University of Fes** (labelled in 2012 and launched in 2014) aims at educating committed and highly-competent students with a unique Euro-Mediterranean profile who will contribute towards transforming the region. In November 2014, the UEMF launched its first Master Degree in Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency and Doctorate Programmes on Renewable Energy. In September 2015, a Master Degree in Environmental Energy was launched. During this course 2015-2016, 36 students are enrolled in both master degrees.

Furthermore, several environmental projects, especially regarding water have a strong climate dimension, especially regarding adaptation to climate change. For example, the **Integrated Programme for the Protection of the Lake Bizerte against Pollution** (labelled in 2013 and launched on 1st November 2016) is performed considering adaptation challenges (for example through the preservation of wetlands).

The **Desalinization Facility for the Gaza Strip Project** (labelled in 2011) aims to provide more than 1.7 million Palestinians living in the Gaza Strip with fresh water for domestic consumption and to decrease over-pumping and contribute to the regeneration of the coastal aquifer. The project will not only secure water supply of the Gaza strip, but also provide a desalinisation facility relying on renewable energy. The project therefore tackle both climate adaptation and mitigation issues.

Moreover, regarding growth and job creation, the UfM supports the shift towards sustainable consumption and production patterns. In this regard, the project **MedReSCP: Post Rio +20 - Supporting the adoption of sustainable consumption and production patterns** (SCP), in particular resource efficiency (RE), in the Mediterranean region (labelled in April 2014 and launched in 2015) aims at providing access to financing for companies adopting SCP / RE models in Egypt, Jordan, Morocco, and Tunisia; and at stimulating the development of green industries and entrepreneurship in the Western Balkans and Turkey through the implementation of technical assistance and pilot

projects. More information can be found in the section dealing with Sustainable Consumption and Production

B. Enhancing the support for domestic preparation

Reference to the topic as per Ministerial Declaration

Ministers agree to further work together to explore ways and means to enhance support (notably capacity building) for domestic preparations;

The UfM Secretariat has been exploring possible measures and initiatives to support the domestic preparation of UfM Member States. In this respect, early 2015, the UfM Secretariat has been contacted by the CITEPA, a non-profit association in charge of French GHG inventories on the behalf of the French Ministry for Ecology, Energy and the Sea.

The CITEPA proposed to establish an initiative aiming at enhancing capacity of governments in preparing their nationally-determined contribution (NDCs). More precisely, this initiative is designed in such way that the capacity building will be performed by Southern Mediterranean countries in other Southern Mediterranean countries, with, when necessary, the support of Northern Mediterranean countries. If relevant, Southern Mediterranean countries could also provide support to African countries.

On 31st December 2016, France, Tunisia, Croatia and Greece have expressed interest to join the initiative. Initiative is still open to interested UfM Member States willing to join the cluster. However, the CITEPA, with the support of the FAO, is currently preparing a request for GEF funding and the initiative is aiming to start by the end of 2017.

The initiative proposed would be complementary to several initiatives, such as the NDC Partnership. Indeed, this initiative does not aim to focus on the implementation of NDC, but on their preparation by ensuring a sound capacity of involved countries in doing their own GHG inventories, their own projections and their own assessment of policies and measures.

C. Assessing the regional vulnerability

Reference to the topic as per Ministerial Declaration

Ministers underline the importance of the regional vulnerability assessment to determine climate change hotspots (...)

When discussing with scientists, civil society and various stakeholders, it appears that the scientific knowledge of the impact of climate change in the Euro-Mediterranean region is already available. However, this scientific knowledge is lacking vulgarisation and, consequently, of appropriation by policy makers.

In 2015, during the MedCOP21 in Marseille, a group of Mediterranean scientists decided to prepare a comprehensive assessment report of the climate impacts in the Mediterranean ecosystem and therefore started an initiative called MedECC. MedECC was presented during the 3rd UfM Climate Change Expert Group in 2015 and, during 2016, with the support of several regional institutions, especially the UNEP/MAP and the UfM enhanced its network by gathering now approximatively 200

scientists from both shores of the Mediterranean. MedECC also organised a workshop in October 2016 to shape the structure of the forthcoming assessment report. The objective is to deliver this assessment report by the end of 2018.

The assessment report will be elaborated in close cooperation with the interested UfM Member States. In this respect, if appropriate, MedECC will liaise with the UfM Climate Change Expert Group.

It should be stressed that the UfM region encompasses several biomes. Out of these biomes, the Mediterranean ecosystem is a key one for the region. However, to have a comprehensive regional vulnerability assessment, other biomes of the UfM region should be considered, such as arid or semi-arid deserts. Therefore, the UfM Secretariat remains open to any initiative covering specific macro-ecosystems of the UfM region.

D. Developing synergies with existing initiatives and mechanisms

Reference to the topic as per Ministerial Declaration

Ministers underline the potential to fully exploit existing initiatives and mechanisms, such as in particular the EU's Neighbourhood Investment Facility, the Low Emissions Capacity Building Programme, the Partnership for Market Readiness, the Integration of climatic variability and change into national strategies to implement the Integrated Coastal Zone Management (ICZM) protocol in the Mediterranean, the Technology Needs Assessment, the Green Technology Transfer, the Global Climate Change Alliance, as well as regional projects specifically targeting technical assistance and capacity building on climate change (namely CLIMA South and ECRAN);

Synergies have been sought with regional projects targeting technical assistance and capacity building. More precisely, regular contacts have been established with CLIMA South and, to a less extend, with ECRAN. In particular, representatives of these projects have regularly attended the UfM Climate Change Expert Group. Moreover, CLIMA South organised a dedicated workshop on climate finance in the UfM Secretariat premises in March 2016.

Contacts have also been established with the Climate Technology Centre and Network (CTCN) managed by the UNEP-DTIE. However, other potential partnerships mentioned in the UfM Ministerial Declaration remains to be fully exploited.

The UfM Climate Change Expert Group

The core element of the UfM Ministerial Declaration regarding climate change is the establishment of the UfM Climate Change Expert Group (UfMCCEG).

Reference to the topic as per Ministerial Declaration

Ministers establish a "UfM Climate Change Expert Group" and agree its first meeting to take place by October 2014; request the Expert Group to meet at least once a year and bring together governments, agencies, civil society, relevant international institutions including international donors,

private sector representatives and other experts, as appropriate, from the Union for the Mediterranean region on a regular basis in order to

- *promote better knowledge about common climate change challenges across the region, in order to address regional, national, local concerns;*
- *provide, as appropriate, multilateral and multi-stakeholder exchanges on cross-border and regional cooperation on climate change, including exchange of information and best practices;*
- *stimulate and advance discussion on climate change priority actions on adaptation and mitigation including but not limited to low-emission and climate-resilient development in the region and related costs, co-benefits, and feasibility;*
- *catalyse the identification, development and support of concrete projects and initiatives related to low-emission and climate-resilient development, including green growth/green economy with key stakeholders and potential public and private donors and investors; namely foster the elaboration of Low Emission Development Strategies (LEDS) including basic supporting tools (e.g., monitoring, reporting and verification systems), Nationally Appropriate Mitigation Actions (NAMAs), National Adaptation Plans (NAPs) and adaptation policies, including scenario development and impact assessments, and, where relevant, in close synergies with disaster risk management actions;*
- *support and further stimulate climate-relevant work of local and regional authorities, as well as civil society and the private sector, including the Covenant of Mayors or sustainable cities initiatives;*

The Expert Group will be co-chaired by the UfM co-Presidencies. The UfM Secretariat will act as secretariat to the group; Ministers request a follow-up on this Declaration and invite the Expert Group to report on its progress in the second semester of 2015 at senior officials level.

The first UfMCCEG meeting in Barcelona on 13 and 14 October 2014 identified areas of work of the expert group. These areas are provided in Annex I. The first UfMCCEG meeting also adopted the operational modalities of the expert group, as well as the first work program.

In regard of the operational modalities, a key element was the designation of national focal points being able to interact with experts in the respective UfM Member States. According to the operational modalities adopted, *“UfM CCEG national contact point is a technical senior official with comprehensive overview of national climate change policy; the contact point would ideally be associated with chairing national climate change committees (where applicable) or able to coordinate across sectors with various stakeholders in climate change policy at national level. The national contact point will act as the focal point for all communication concerning the UfMCCEG.”*

On 31st December 2016, national focal points have been officially designated (i.e. for which the UfM Secretariat officially received a letter from the respective Ministry for Foreign Affairs or from the respective Ministry in charge of climate change).

Two meetings of the UfMCCEG took place in 2015. An UfMCCEG meeting (2nd UfMCCEG meeting), hosted by the Kingdom of Morocco, took place in Skhirat on 6-7 May 2015, followed by an informal UfM High Level Meeting on Climate Change. Another UfMCCEG meeting (3rd UfMCCEG meeting) took place in Barcelona on 1-2 October 2015.

During the 2nd UfMCCEG meeting, Intended Nationally Determined Contributions (INDCs) to the

UNFCCC were discussed. The UfM Secretariat was mandated to further develop the UfM NAMA Initiative based on the draft concept note circulated prior to the meeting and to present it to the UfM Senior Officials for endorsement. The UfMCCEG reiterated its willingness to have a UfM Climate and Energy Business Forum organised. The UNEP initiatives (e.g. En.lighten and 1 Gigaton Coalition), UNEP/MAP Regional Adaptation Framework, as well as the involvement of civil society in the group, received positive feedback from participants.

During the 3rd UfMCCEG meeting, a state of play of the international negotiations was provided, including in regard of INDC submission. In this regard, the co-presidency stressed the importance of having an adequate follow up of the national contributions after Paris. Information was also provided on the UfM NAMA Initiative, including on the EIB Study, on the Climate Technology Center and Network (CTCN) and on the UNEP/MAP regional adaptation framework.

Several initiatives regarding actions by local authorities were presented. UfM CCEG Members clearly stated supporting local authorities' action on climate change. In this regard, the European Commission supported the establishment of a Mediterranean Covenant of Mayors in and expressed its strong interest in cooperating with the UfMS for the design and endorsement of this initiative at regional level. A focus was also made on the water-food-energy nexus and many UfM CCEG Members pointed out the need to take action in this field. The idea of enhancing evaluation of climate impact in the Mediterranean region was also discussed and it was agreed to set up an informal network in this regard. Regarding disaster risk reduction, civil protection and human displacements, the UfM Secretariat was mandated to explore possible initiative, in particular in cooperation with the OSCE, to better assessment risks in the Mediterranean region. Finally, the UfM CCEG discussed the 2016 work program.

Regarding the UfM NAMA Initiative, the initiative was developed in 2015 in cooperation among the UfM, the European Commission and the EIB, in line with the needs expressed by the UfM Climate Change Expert Group. It should allow bringing together technical assistance resources to identify and prepare climate relevant projects in UfM Member countries to facilitate better access to available climate financing instruments. This initiative currently encompasses two elements: the EIB NAMA Study and the Regional Facility for Climate Change and Integrated Maritime Policy funded by the European Commission. Due to administrative reasons, the EIB NAMA Study, which constitutes the first step of the Initiative, will only be finalised in 2017. Moreover, the Paris Agreement significantly reshaped the global climate agenda. In this context, an evolution of the UfM NAMA Initiative should be subject to discussion with UfM Climate Change Expert Group Members.

The 4th meeting of the UfM Climate Change Expert group took place in Paris on May 12th, 2016. This meeting was an opportunity for debriefing after the COP21 and the adoption of the Paris Agreement. In particular, a discussion took place on the nationally-determined contributions and to inform the participants on the expectations for the COP22. Three other issues were also addressed: the public private partnership, action towards local authorities and capacity building. Some initiatives, like the ITF action Decarbonisation of transport or the Cluster Med on transparency, were presented.

3. RECOMMENDATIONS AND NEXT STEPS

The UfM Climate Change Expert Group

In the view of the assessment of the UfM Ministerial Declaration and in line with the work program of the platform, the UfM Secretariat, on the behalf of the UfM Co-Presidencies, initiated, in October 2016, a consultation of UfM CCEG Members on the possible evolutions of the UfM Climate Change Expert Group. Only one reply was received clearly stressing the key role of the UfM Climate Change

Expert Group in the regional dialogue on climate change.

Nevertheless, if UfM Climate Change Expert Group members agree, the following recommendations could be implemented to deepen the overall mandate of the UfM Climate Change Expert Group.

A. Streamlining the operational objectives of the UfM Climate Change Expert Group

The UfM Climate Change Expert Group encompasses 3 dimensions:

- A policy dialogue aiming at
 - o Expressing a common view among UfM Member States on key climate-related challenges of the region as whole and the way to tackle them,
 - o Ensuring a good understanding among UfM Member States on the respective national climate-related challenges and the way to tackle them.
- A technical dialogue aiming at supporting the policy dialogue by reliable technical information on specific issues, such as climate finance, science, etc.
- An informative dialogue on projects and initiative developed under the UfM framework.

All these dimensions are currently embedded in UfM CCEG meetings. To streamline the operational objectives of the UfM Climate Change Expert Group, it is recommended to set up dedicated groups, reporting to the UfM CCEG, focusing on each key issue. More precisely:

- A committee on regional climate issues could identify the specificity of the Euro-Mediterranean region regarding climate change to ensure that this specificity is properly addressed in the international forum, especially in the UNFCCC;
- A committee on national climate policies could conduct peer reviews of domestic climate policies;
- Several technical committees could be set up, pending on the orientations provided by UfM CCEG. In particular, the Regional Finance Cooperation Committee for Climate Action (RFCCCA) and a committee dedicated to science (interacting with MedECC) could be considered as technical committees of the UfM CCEG.
- The UfM Climate Change Expert Group would meet once a year and act a steering committee of UfM Climate Action. More precisely, the UfM CCEG could:
 - o Take note of the reports/conclusions provided by the abovementioned committee and provide them with orientations,
 - o Provide recommendations on projects under development within the UfM Framework.

B. Align the UfM Climate Change Expert Group members profile with operational objectives

As a preamble, it is highly recommended that all UfM Member States appoint national contact points to ensure that all issues of the region are properly addressed.

In the UfM Ministerial declaration, Ministers “*request the Expert Group (...) to bring together governments, agencies, civil society, relevant international institutions including international donors, private sector representatives and other experts, as appropriate, from the Union for the Mediterranean region.*” Moreover, according to the operational modalities adopted, “*UfM CCEG national contact point is a technical senior official with comprehensive overview of national climate change policy; the contact point would ideally be associated with chairing national climate change committees (where applicable) or able to coordinate across sectors with various stakeholders in climate change policy at national level.*”

The profile of the UfM CCEG national contact point remains valid to attend UfM CCEG meetings. However, on the specific committees mentioned above some specific profile could be seek. More precisely:

- On the committee on regional climate issues, the head of negotiation team to UNFCCC could be members to ensure proper linkage with international negotiations issues
- On the committee on national climate policies, experts from respective field of competence addressed by the committee (e.g. climate-related agriculture, transport or energy policies) could take part of the meeting.
- The technical committee would gather technical experts in the respective field of competency addressed by the committee. For example, the RFCCCA should gather international financial institutions and other international donors.

Regarding observers, according to the operational modalities approved, *“At the first meeting of the UfMCCEG, a list of observers and their possible roles in the UfMCCEG will be submitted for discussion and approval. The UfM Secretariat will be responsible for contact with variety of stakeholders, including a development of a comprehensive communication channel.”*

There are currently no rules of procedures regarding the appointment of new observers and/or possible restrictions applied to observers regarding their involvement in sessions of the UfM Climate Change Expert Group meetings. Such rules of procedures could be elaborated by the UfM Secretariat, on the behalf of the Co-Presidencies to be approved by UfM CCEG Members.

Implementation of the recommendations

If UfM Climate Change Expert Group Members agree, these changes could be implemented through a revision of the Operational Modalities of the UfM CCEG and through the UfM CCEG work program.

ANNEX 4

Implementation of the UfM Ministerial Declaration on ENV and CC as far as regards “other environmental issues”

Integrated Maritime Policy/Blue Economy

Reference to the topic as per Ministerial Declaration

Ministers call for the application of the cross-cutting policy tools available under Integrated Maritime Policy, such as marine spatial planning, to integrate environment and climate change concerns into relevant horizontal policies...

On the 17th November 2015 in Brussels, the 43 Member Countries of the Union for the Mediterranean have stepped forward and jointly adopted the **first UfM Ministerial Declaration on Blue Economy**. The Declaration is attached in Annex.

The Ministerial Conference, getting together all 43 Union for the Mediterranean partners, has brought the political mandate to improve maritime governance and provided guidance to create an environment conducive to job creation, innovation and knowledge-based business opportunities through the development of key maritime sectors in the Mediterranean.

The Declaration highlights the **importance of clean and healthy seas as drivers for sustainable development of national and regional economies**, underlining that maritime sectors must be developed in a coordinated manner, bearing in mind the impacts of uneven economic development, disparities in research and innovation capacity, skills mismatch of the labour force, slow uptake of clustering and networking and limited access to finance. All parties commit to strengthen coordination inside their countries, between countries and the Commission.

The Declaration builds on the work carried out by other UfM Ministerial meetings, more directly the UfM Ministerial Declaration on Environment and Climate Change as per reference above, but it links also with other UfM declarations on research and innovation, transport, industrial cooperation, employment etc. It builds as well with the framework of work of other regional organizations and actors active in the Mediterranean region such as the United Nations Environment Programme/ Mediterranean Action Plan for the Barcelona Convention (UNEP/ MAP); the General Fisheries Commission for the Mediterranean (GFCM) the European Investment Bank; the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development).

The Declaration endorsed:

- **the establishment of a UfM Forum on Blue Economy**⁷, which would annually bring together the Mediterranean countries to exchange information, views and best practices; create synergies among current initiatives; provide input to future actions and possible sea basin approaches/maritime strategies, without duplicating existing initiatives and bodies. This Forum should follow-up on this Declaration and assess the progress made. The Forum will be co-chaired by the UfM co-presidencies and the UfM Secretariat will act as its secretariat;

and assigned specific tasks to the UfM Secretariat as follows:

⁷ By building on and replacing the existing Working Group on Integrated Maritime Policy (IMP) in the Mediterranean.

- *tasking* the Union for the Mediterranean Secretariat with the **promotion of the regional dialogue on sustainable blue economy and cross-sectorial coordination of maritime policies**, through the below agreed Forum on Blue Economy and the other existing relevant UfM frameworks of dialogue, together with the support of the new ENI project on supporting regional policy dialogue on integrated maritime policy and blue economy, and in cooperation with relevant regional organisations, such as UNEP/MAP, General Fisheries Commission for the Mediterranean (GFCM) and others;
- *stressing* the importance of **establishing appropriate networking mechanisms for blue economy stakeholders around the Mediterranean** and tasking the UfM Secretariat to develop further the **Virtual Knowledge Centre on marine and maritime affairs** based on the guidance and supervision of the above forum and stressing as well the need to provide appropriate resources;
- *call* on the **UfM Secretariat and the UfM to continue identifying and promoting projects in line with the relevant regional priorities** and, in close cooperation with all relevant actors, to further enhance visibility, ownership and access to finance, including through financial tools (such as blending grants and soft loans mechanisms) and recommend relevant IFIs and donors, to take into due consideration such projects when programming and establishing their pipelines;
- *call* on the UfM Secretariat to report on the annual UfM Forum on Blue Economy to the UfM Senior Official Meeting

Following the adoption of the first UfM Ministerial Declaration on Blue Economy on the 17th November 2015 in Brussels, the 1st “Blue Economy MED Working Group” (BE MED WG) was held in Turku, Finland, back to back to the European Maritime Day. The BE MED WG was convened as successor of the former EU sponsored Working Group on Integrated Maritime Policy in the Mediterranean (*run under the EU financed IMP MED – Integrated Maritime Policy Facility*), with the participation of the officially designated representatives of the UfM Member countries.

The BE MED WG helped to set up the basis for launching the UfM work on BE, starting with a **re-shaped UfM Forum on Blue Economy**, agreed to become a broader integrated and coordinated process (not just a single event) *“to exchange information, views and best practices; create synergies among current initiatives; provide input to future actions and possible sea basin approaches/maritime strategies, without duplicating existing initiatives and bodies. This Forum should follow-up on this Declaration and assesses the progress made”*. In particular, the Turku Blue Economy Working Group agreed that the *“...UfM forum is a process made up of four components:*

The UfM Blue Economy Working Group

This technical group is composed of representatives designated by the UfM countries and is co-chaired by the two co-Presidencies. The Secretariat will co-assist with its preparation and organization (co-preparation of the agenda, invitation, contents and minutes).

The BE WG will meet at least once a year, possibly back to back with other relevant BE events. The UfM WG MED on BE will focus on the implementation of the Ministerial Declaration on BE, therefore on:

- Further shaping the regional BE agenda based on the Ministerial recommendations;
- Exchanging information, views and best practices between countries as well as stakeholders;
- Creating synergies among initiatives;
- Providing input to future actions and possible sea basin approaches/maritime strategies, without duplicating existing initiatives and bodies;
- Tackling emerging priorities.

UNEP-MAP, GFCM, EIB, EBRD, International Maritime Organisation (IMO), ARLEM, Conference of Peripheral Maritime Regions (CPMR), League of Arab States (LAS), the Managing Authorities for the

MED and ENI-CBC-MED co-operation programmes will be invited as permanent observers of the Blue Economy Working Group; CPRM, the Conference of Peripheral Maritime Regions; and a representative of the BlueMed–Coordinated Support Action (see below). Additional participants can/will also be invited on an ad hoc basis or as observers, depending on the agenda and to ensure appropriate coordination with other relevant initiatives.

Two meetings of the Blue Economy Working Group were held in Turku, Finland in May 2016 and in Brussels, Belgium, in November 2016.

The Regional Technical Seminars

The Regional Technical Seminars are capacity building tools to deepen knowledge on specific topics. They are envisaged and covered by the EU funded and run (DG NEAR/DG MARE) IMP MED Facility. Specific topics/themes will be selected after scoping mission and consultation with the beneficiary ENPI countries. The regional technical seminar will be open for participation also to Albania, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Montenegro, Mauritania, and Turkey. The Regional Technical Trainings will be running continuously as of 2016 (till January 2019; 36 months) starting from September 2016. A first Regional seminar is already scheduled in October 2016.

The UfM Stakeholder Conference

Stakeholders involvement and participation is considered key to the entire BE dossier. The UfM Stakeholders Conference is expected to take place every two years and to involve countries and BE stakeholders in a “wrap up event”, presenting the status of implementation of the Ministerial Declaration, the major advancements and the pending challenges.

The UfM Stakeholders Conference will indeed be based on the outcomes and achievements of the previous steps and meetings (namely the main relevant outputs of the BE-MED WGs and the support tools including regional technical workshops, TA at national level, regional initiatives and projects etc.). To increase ownership of the Forum, the conference might host workshops organized by the stakeholders, stands as well as business-to-business session or "picking investors" session.

The Conference is tentatively planned for the 2nd semester of 2017. It will be co-chaired by the two UfM Co-Presidencies (possibly at the level of the UfM Co-Presidency, namely EU Commissioner responsible for Maritime Affairs and the Jordanian Minister for Transport) and linked also to the UfM ministerial conference process. Another UfM Ministerial Meeting on Blue Economy is tentatively planned for 2018. Similarly, to the 1st UfM Ministerial on BE of 2015, stakeholders' consultations are expected to take place. The dialogue with the stakeholders will also be ensured through the Virtual Knowledge Center. The first Regional Seminar took place in Brussels on the 7th November 2016.

The Virtual Knowledge Center as a Stakeholder Register and Networking Platform

The Virtual Knowledge Centre is a support tool to ensure links and dialogue among countries and stakeholders. It is currently under development through a specific project of DG MARE; its transfer to the UfM Sec is expected for the last quarter of 2016. Based on its status at hand over, the UfM Secretariat will fine tune this IT tool through dedicated technical assistance and ensure its functioning as Stakeholders Register and Networking Platform on marine and maritime affairs.

The agenda and calendar of events/actions, making up the Blue Economy Forum process, is currently being drafted in close co-ordination with the UfM Co-Presidency. It includes links to other activities/events of relevance to Blue Economy (ex. Potential link with SwitchMed Connect,

Med4Jobs etc.). The tentative calendar on Blue Economy main events, as agreed so far for 2016, is attached herewith. Such a calendar will be progressively updated.

Initiatives under Development

Maritime Initiative for the Western Mediterranean (so called *the Sustainable Development of the blue economy in the Western Mediterranean*; website of the WestMED: <http://www.westmed-initiative.eu/>)

Amongst various deliverables envisaged in the Declaration, Ministers have acknowledged *"the need to strengthening coordination and cooperation in maritime affairs to improve maritime governance and for exploring the added value and feasibility of maritime appropriate strategies, including at sub-regional level (notably building on existing multilateral processes such as 5+5 dialogue...)"*.

To this aim, the European Commission recently signed a contract with a consultancy to support the assessment of the added value and the preparation of a maritime initiative for the Western Mediterranean. Under its initial consultation phase, four focus groups have been organized. The Focus Group on *"Governance and means for a better implementation at sub-regional level"* was hosted by the UfM Secretariat.

In March, September and December 2016, consultation meetings were organised with the Western MED countries; countries indicated their willingness to advance the initiative further and called for a deeper involvement of the UfM Secretariat.

On the 1st February 2017 a meeting among western med countries discussed the governance of the Initiative, back to back to the UfM Stakeholders Conference on Blue Economy on the strategic topics of relevance indicated by Western Mediterranean countries, held on the 2nd of February 2017.

- **Supporting a possible network of maritime training academies and institutes in the Mediterranean Sea-basin**

In the framework of the EU Blue Growth Strategy, DG MARE launched a study to provide an assessment of the feasibility, added value and available options related to the launch/enforcement of a possible network of maritime training academies and institutes in the Mediterranean Sea-basin.

This final workshop before completion of the study brought together representatives from higher education and vocational training institutions and enterprises from Cyprus, Egypt, Greece, Italy, Jordan, Malta, Spain and Tunisia, as well as UNIMED and CPRM representatives, in addition to DG MARE and its consultancy, with the aim to validate the findings of the study, discuss its major recommendations and define next steps to be transmitted to decision-makers. Such work links with the UfM Ministerial Declaration on BE and with the UfM Sec as:

- Follow-up of the UfM Ministerial Conference on Blue Economy (BE), with regards to the recommendation for *"the UfM Secretariat to promote the networking between maritime education and training institutions"* in view of developing new curricula, answering the needs of marine and maritime professions, boosting skills and employability. This issue was also presented at the UfM Working Group on the Blue Economy in Turku on the 17th May 2016.

- Link with the work on higher education of the UfM Sec, in particular the objective to build a coordinated regional platform for Mediterranean higher education and youth mobility in the marine and maritime sectors
- Link with the UfM labelled Initiative Med4Jobs.

During 2016, a specific Blue career call for proposal was launched; it is now in final stage of evaluation. The possible network of maritime training academies and institutes in the Mediterranean Sea-basin will be also fostered under the initiative the Sustainable Development of the blue economy in the Western Mediterranean.

- **The extension of the "BLUEMED Initiative" - Research and Innovation Initiative for Blue Jobs and Growth in the Mediterranean Area" to other Southern and Eastern UfM countries, which are willing to join on a voluntary basis.**

The BLUEMED Initiative offers a shared strategic framework for working towards a healthy, productive and resilient Mediterranean Sea that is better known and valued. It is designed to tap the full potential of the marine and maritime sectors, structuring transnational cooperation to create new 'blue' jobs and to promote and improve social wellbeing, sustainable prosperity and the environmental status of the region and its surroundings.

It will be touching on a variety of issues including marine bio-resources, ecosystem-based management of Mediterranean aquaculture and fisheries, Sustainable tourism in the Mediterranean, Maritime clusters in the Mediterranean, Maritime Spatial Planning and Integrated Coastal Zone Management in the Mediterranean Research, etc.

The Ministerial Declaration agreed to open for participation the (initial EU) BlueMED Initiative to all Mediterranean countries willing to join.

As per conclusions of the UfM Blue Economy Working Group in Turku, countries willing to join are invited to express their interest to the UfM Secretariat, which will liaise with the BlueMED implementing body (the BlueMed Coordinated Support Action CSA) to facilitate their involvement and participation in the initiative. The kick off meeting of the BlueMed CSA launched by DGRTD to support the Initiative, took place in Rimini in November 2016.

Other processes

Within the Blue Economy dossier, the work on **maritime clusters** is advancing through dedicated EU call for proposals, open also to partners from the south. The work on **Marine/Maritime Spatial Planning and Integrated Coastal Zone Management** is tackled through partner organisations; projects are under preparation.

Blue Economy Projects

Since the adoption of the Ministerial Declaration, three projects of strategic relevance for the Blue Economy Agenda were labelled by the UfMS, namely:

- **Plastic Busters for a Mediterranean Free from Litter;**
- Design and implementation of "**Motorway of Sea**" services between the ports of Izmir (Turkey), ports of Bari, Brindisi and Taranto (Italy) and the ports of La Goulette and Rades (Tunisia) (MoS Turkey-Tunisia-Italy). Snapshost of the two projects are available on the web page of the UfM Secretariat;

- **Optimed**, aiming at optimizing and strengthening trade connections among the ports of the Mediterranean area by means of improvements to commercial connections.

More projects, programs and initiatives are currently being tracked and followed up for possible UfM labelling. Investment projects are also part of the UfM portfolio. For such projects, the UfM Sec counts on the support of the IFIs representatives seconded to the UfM Secretariat, namely from the EIB and EBRD. Any other project considered of interest - even if not labelled, could be recorded – or duly (web) linked – to the Virtual Knowledge Centre (as described in WP3).

Recommendations if any, including reinforcement of the action (how and why) and/or proposed corrective measures

- Overall Ministerial Declaration under implementation; preparation of the 2nd UfM Ministerial Meeting on Blue Economy, tentatively scheduled in 2018;
- Official launch of the Initiative for the *Sustainable Development of the blue economy in the Western Mediterranean*, and related EU Communication under preparation; UfM Stakeholders Conference for the Western Med held in February 2017 in Barcelona;
- Launch of the 2017 EU support programme to further support the work on maritime training academies;
- Close partnership between the UfMS with and the Coordinated Support Action of the *BlueMed Initiative for Blue Growth and Blue jobs* to have it expanded to the UfM countries interested in joining the initiative;
- Preparation of the UfM Regional Stakeholders Conference on Blue Economy;
- VKC to be fully fed with information and activated as Networking Platform and Stakeholders Register. Ensure coordination and flow of information;
- Further support the development of the UfM Blue Economy portfolio of projects.

Milestones

2014/2015

- Preparation and Adoption of the UfM Ministerial declaration on Blue Economy.

2016

- Launch of the implementation of the Ministerial Declaration, in particular through the Blue Economy Forum made up of four components:
 - o The UfM Blue Economy Working Group (2 WGs held in Turku, Finland and in Brussels in May and November respectively);
 - o The Regional Technical Seminars (one in 2016; one under preparation for 2017);
 - o The UfM Regional Stakeholder Conference, planned for the 2nd half of 2017;
 - o The Virtual Knowledge Center as a stakeholder register and networking platform (ongoing; under preparation).

- Agreement on the launch of the Sustainable Development of the blue economy in the Western Mediterranean.

TENTATIVE CALENDAR 2016-2017 - Blue Economy in the MED

Event	Date	Venue	Key outputs
2016 IMP related main events			
1st West MED Working Group workshop	22 March	Brussels	Setting up the West MED initiative, presentation of the 1 st draft Report and draft discussion paper and roadmap
Study on Networking Maritime Academies- Validation meeting	21-22 April	Rome	Discussion on study's finding and drafting possible way ahead
1st EUSAIR annual Forum	12-13 May	Dubrovnik	Dubrovnik Ministerial Declaration
1st BE Working Group	17-18 May	Turku	Setting up of the UfM BE Forum as integrated process
Mediterranean Coast Day 2016	27 September	San Pau, Barcelona	Organised by (PAP/RAC-UNEPMAP) and (SCP/RAC-UNEPMAP), focused on blue economy
2 nd West MED Working Group workshop	29 September	Brussels	Draft agenda for Stakeholder Conference Discussion paper Report on added value
EU Strategy for the Adriatic and ionian Region (EUSAIR)	05-07 October	Greece	

Member States Expert Group on IMP	13 October	Brussels	West Med and Coast Guard cooperation update
UfM SOM	14 October	Brussels	Update on the UfM BE Forum, frameworks of operation and activities carried since the adoption of the Ministerial
European parliament IMP event	14 October	Limasol, Cyprus	Conference (follow up to the Limasol Declaration on IMP)
Regional Dialogue on Cruise Tourism for the Baltic Sea/Event on Tourism in the Baltic	18 October	Copenhagen	Conference Roundtable discussion with stakeholders Possible conclusions/agreement document
EU Strategy for the Adriatic and Ionian Region (transport workshop)	25-26 October	Brussels	Project selection and labelling criteria
SwitchMedConnect	18-20 October	Barcelona	SwitchMed Connect is an annual gathering of Mediterranean stakeholders to build synergies, exchange knowledge, and scale up eco and social innovations
November 2016			
UfM Regional seminar on Blue Economy (more topics, including research)	07 November	Brussels	
2 nd UfM BE WG	08 November	Brussels	Including WestMED update
Meeting between the EUSAIR Pillar Coordinators and the members of the BlueMED Strategic Board	10 November	Rimini	

EU Strategy for the Adriatic and Ionian Region TSG1 and TSG3 meetings	15-16-17 Nov	Crete	The Region of Crete will host the meeting.
European Tourism Day	29 November	Brussels	Commissioner Vella will be opening the annual conference by the Commission on Tourism.
2nd Forum of Marine Protected Areas in the Mediterranean	28 November-01 December	Tangier	
December 2016			
3 th WestMED Workshop	01 December	Brussels	Draft Report on Action Plan and Final Report on Impact assessment
January 2017			
UfM Annual Regional Forum /UfM SOM	23 January	Barcelona	
Ad Hoc SOM on Water (one or two ad Hoc, tbc)	30 January	Brussels	Preparation for a potential Ministerial on Water
UfM Senior Officials/Anna Lindh Foundation BOG	27/26 January	Malta	
February 2017			
WestMED Stakeholder Conference	2 nd February	Barcelona	
March 2017			
2 nd ed. Pan European Dialogue for Cruise Tourism	March/April (during the European Shipping Week 2017, date tbc)	Brussels	Conference with dedicated workshops Roundtable discussion with stakeholders Possible conclusions/agreement document
1 st UfM Working Group on Environment and Climate Change	14-15 March		Assess the progress of the Ministerial on Environment and Climate Change; associated processes; emerging priorities
April 2017			
UfM Ministerial Meeting on Water	27 April	Malta	Ministerial Declaration by countries (Ministers)

BlueMED Technical Meeting	19 April	Malta	
Blue Economy HLC	20 April	Malta	
May 2017			
HLC (EU-MED Ministerial conference) on R&I in the MED	03-04 May	Malta	
Regional Seminar	3-4 (tbc) May	Barcelona	Thematic seminar
2 nd EUSAIR Annual Forum	tbd	Greece	
June 2017			
FoP Meeting on the EUMSS AP	tbd	Brussels	Second implementation report to be presented (tbc)
July 2017			
BE Working Group	3-4 July (tbc)	Brussels	Assessment of BE overall progresses
September 2017			
2 nd Conference on Clusters for Coastal and Maritime Tourism	tbd	Brussels	Conference
October 2017			
EP IMP event	14 October	Cyprus	Conference (follow up to the Limassol Declaration on IMP) CE or CTH
November 2017			
UfM Stakeholder Conference on BE	8 November (tbc)	tbc	
Marine litter	tbd	tbd	Official launch of Plastic Buster

Blue Economy is also part of the UNEPMAP Multiannual Programme; for more information, please refer to www.unepmap.org

On 27 September 2016, the celebration of the Coast Day, took place in Barcelona under the theme “A blue economy for a healthy Mediterranean”. The event was co-organised this year by the Priority Actions Programme Regional Activity Centre (PAP/RAC), SCP/RAC and Plan Bleu, and co-sponsored by the MAVA foundation, an environmental philanthropic organization from Switzerland, and count with the participation of eco-union, a Barcelona-based NGO active in the field of green and blue economy. More information is available at <http://www.cprac.org/en/news-archive/general/the-mediterranean-celebrates-coast-day-blue-economy-for-a-healthy-mediterranean>

Marine Protected Areas

Reference to the topic as per Ministerial Declaration

Ministers

- *reaffirm the fundamental **value of biological diversity**, in particular the marine and coastal ecosystems that provide goods and services essential for sustaining the livelihoods of people across the Mediterranean region;*
- *in this context, reaffirm their **commitment to achieve the Aichi Targets** of the Convention on Biological Diversity and the commitments under the Barcelona Convention, in particular relating to **marine protected areas, the ecosystem approach, and the action plan on ICZM**. In this context, **Ministers welcome the creation by Monaco, France and Tunisia of a Trust Fund for Marine Protected Areas in the Mediterranean, open to all parties.***

1- MAPAMED database of Mediterranean Marine Protected Areas and Status Report

In 2008, a first Status of the Mediterranean MPAs was published (Abdulla et al., 2008) as part of the Interreg I IIC MedPAN project. In 2010 and based on the conclusions of this first study, a partnership approach was launched at the Mediterranean scale. Led by MedPAN and RAC/SPA, it aimed to develop a common database on Marine Protected Areas in the Mediterranean, called MAPAMED. This database is built on the collection of geographic information about the contours of Mediterranean MPAs (provided by national focal points for Protected Areas) and the collection of data on the management of the MPAs (provided by MPA managers).

In 2012, a new inventory of the MPA system in the Mediterranean was led by MedPAN and the RAC/SPA, based on MAPAMED, to assess the progress made on CBD targets since 2008. In 2016, the Status Report was updated in line with the analyses carried out in other regional seas in Europe. This 2016 Status was prepared in accordance with the update of the MAPAMED database conducted in 2015.

To date there are 1,231 MPAs and OECMs in the Mediterranean Sea, covering 179,798 km² which places a surface of 7.14% under a legal designation. For the majority of sites, little is known on whether management measures are implemented, and if they are, whether these measures are effective to reach the site's conservation targets. These sites are established at national level, at regional level (European or Mediterranean scale) or at international level under a wide variety of designations.

Regarding areas that are proposed to become MPAs or OECMs, over 100 sites have been identified or are in project in 12 countries. There are 186 sites designated at national level which cover 1.60% or 40,327 km² of the Mediterranean Sea. The surface covered by nationally designated sites has close to double since 2012, with the creation of 6 new sites, some of which being very large (more than 1,000 km²).

Of these nationally designated sites, 76 have at least one no-go, no-take or no-fishing zone that are known of. They cover 0.04% of the Mediterranean Sea (976 km²)¹. To our knowledge, no-go, no-take or no-fishing zones are only found in nationally designated sites and at least 10 countries have designation(s) that allow the creation of such zones. Most no-go, no-take or no-fishing zones are smaller than 5 km², only 18 MPAs have such zones covering over 10 km² and only 2 cover more than 100 km². Trends in the creation of MPAs that contain no-go, no-take or no-fishing zone(s) have slowed down since the late 1990s. Little is known as to whether these no-go, no-take or no-fishing zones are implemented and effectively managed. Of those MPAs that are known to implement such zones, most show multiple positive benefits.

Fisheries regulations outside MPAs also bring ancillary conservation benefits. Among the national Fisheries Restricted Areas (nFRA) reported by the General Fisheries Commission for the Mediterranean (GFCM) Contracting Parties, 29 sites are closed all year round to fishing activities which represent approximately 594 km² of the Mediterranean (0.02%). 6 of these sites are larger than 10 km² of which 3 are larger than 100 km². These regulations can clearly bring ancillary benefits to the conservation of biodiversity and so can other sectoral regulations such as those related to mooring and boating activities, maritime traffic or effluents.

At regional level, the marine Natura 2000 network of European sites contributes vastly to the global figure of designated sites with 898 sites that cover 2.37% of the Mediterranean Sea or 59,701 km². Since 2012, a large number of Natura 2000 sites have been designated (especially in Croatia) and the surface covered has greatly increased (especially in Spain).

There are currently 7 Fisheries Restricted Areas (FRAs) established by the GFCM in the high seas, 3 of which clearly contribute, on a permanent basis, to the conservation of unique sea bottom biodiversity features thanks to the implementation of a set of regulations that prohibit fishing with bottom trawlers. These 3 FRAs cover 0.62% of the Mediterranean Sea, corresponding to 15,688 km². The 4 other FRAs, where there are also specific regulations that manage fishing activities, were essentially established to protect fish stocks and can also bring ancillary benefits. In addition, a wider FRA was established below the depth of 1,000 m prohibiting all activities using towed dredges and trawl nets at depths greater than 1,000 m in the whole region. It covers 1,468,190 km² or 58.33% of the Mediterranean.

34 Specially Protected Areas of Mediterranean Importance (SPAMIs) proposed by 10 countries have been adopted by the Barcelona Convention since 2001, including 1 site of international designation (the Pelagos Sanctuary for marine mammals, a tripartite international agreement). SPAMIs confirm existing designations that cover about 3.57% (or 89,856 km²) of the Mediterranean. The SPAMI designation intends to secure the shared responsibility of all contracting parties to the Barcelona Convention to implement regulations in these areas.

The International Marine Park of the Strait of Bonifacio was created in 2012 as a European Grouping of Territorial Cooperation between France and Italy, covering 1,855 km² or 0.07% of the Mediterranean.

The 2016 status now comprises more designations including Ramsar sites, UNESCO Biosphere reserves and UNESCO World Heritage Sites that contain coastal lagoons permanently linked to the sea and marine waters. These sites cover respectively 0.13%, 0.06%, and 0.01%. In addition, 1 Particularly Sensitive Sea Area (PSSA) was created by the International Maritime Organisation in the Strait of Bonifacio and covers an area of 10,956 km² (0.44% of the Mediterranean).

Recommendations if any, including reinforcement of the action (how and why) and/or proposed corrective measures

Until 2020, new data regarding regulations per zoning inside each MPA will be collected. To reach the 10% quantitative part of the Aichi Target, an additional 71,900 km² (2.86 % of the Mediterranean) would need to be placed under strong protection designations that also target currently under-represented features. Creation of new MPAs especially in the open seas is needed. Improving knowledge on socio-economic benefits of MPAs on their adjacent territories. Looking at the qualitative aspects of the current system of MPAs and OECMs, many sites are not actually implemented and there are no regulations in place to curb existing pressures or enough means to enforce them. Little is also known about the management measures in place and if they are effective at maintaining or restoring the biodiversity they aim to protect. It appears that the human and financial means allocated to management are much too low thereby compromising successful conservation. Effective MPA management requires national political will that ensures the establishment of a clear institutional framework and proper planning, as well as adequate human, technical and financial resources. Good management thus

requires the development of integrated and coordinated policies, the clarification of responsibilities and legal, institutional and administrative frameworks.

Considering the high pressures exerted on the Mediterranean marine environment with growing trends, it is crystal clear that willingness to invest in marine conservation needs to be boosted up.

Contacts, relevant websites

Chloë Webster and Bruno Meola, MedPAN ; Dhia Guezguez, RACSPA

<http://www.mapamed.org>

<http://www.medpan.org/en/mediterranean-mpa-status>

2- Mediterranean MPA Forum and 2020 Roadmap

During the Mediterranean MPA Forum held in Antalya in November 2012, key actors (MPA managers, policy-makers, socio-economic actors, civil society and the scientific community) identified the necessary actions in order to establish an ecological network of MPAs that is effectively and sustainably managed. They elaborated a Roadmap calling for urgent action to achieve the 2020 targets set by international, European and Mediterranean commitments.

The Roadmap determines the steps that Mediterranean countries, relevant organizations and actors might individually and/or jointly undertake to achieve by 2020 the targets set for MPAs. The activities proposed by the Roadmap concern all the stakeholders and all the levels of intervention.

The Roadmap was formally adopted by the Parties to the Barcelona Convention early 2016 to strengthen the Regional Working Program for Coastal and Marine Protected Areas approved by the Barcelona Convention in 2009. This Mediterranean Roadmap was taken as an example by the CBD at international level to inspire other regional seas for a collaborative development process.

In 2016, a 2nd edition of the Mediterranean MPA Forum will be organized by MedPAN, the RAC/SPA and the Haut Commissariat aux Eaux et Forêts et à la Lutte Contre la Désertification from November 28th to December 1st in Tangier in Morocco. This meeting was an opportunity to assess the progress made since 2012, and to make commitments to protect and sustainably manage at least 10% of the Mediterranean for the benefit of its territories and its communities. Beyond the CBD targets, the 2016 Forum has the ambition to consider other challenges faced by MPAs - including climate change - and therefore will also echo the COP22 of Marrakech.

Before the 2016 Forum, an assessment of the Roadmap implementation was conducted through a process involving all the organizations targeted by the Roadmap at local, national, European, Mediterranean levels. The results of this evaluation were shared during the Forum. The recommendations of this assessment were the subject of the Tangier Declaration. The Roadmap was also updated regarding new global challenges such as climate change (recommendations from COP22 to come regarding oceans) and UN SDG 14.

Recommendations if any, including reinforcement of the action (how and why) and/or proposed corrective measures

- A system of permanent assessment of the Roadmap implementation must be set-up;
- Key operational and action-oriented steps, will also be considered, to improve and help achieve the Roadmap objectives by 2020:

- The coverage and implementation of no-entry, no-take and no-fishing zones, within either existing or future MPAs, needs to be increased from the current coverage of 0.04% of the Mediterranean Sea to reach at least 2% of no-take zones, especially in key functional areas.
 - All MPA sites currently established should benefit from the necessary support for effective, equitable and efficient management by 2020.
 - Exchange of experience, best practices and knowledge among MPA managers, should be strengthened.
 - Win-win relationships of MPAs with decision-makers, donors and private sector need to be created in order to respond to pressures beyond MPA borders, while considering MPAs as a natural capital and a management instrument to reach sustainability targets.
 - The Trust Fund for Mediterranean MPAs, an innovative financial mechanism, is supported.
 - The crucial role of regional and inter-regional cooperation among human networks working on MPAs, Regional Seas Conventions and relevant regional organizations is recognized.
- Sustainable financing mechanisms to set-up at local, national and regional levels;
 - A Joint Cooperation Strategy on Spatial-based Protection and Management Measures for Marine Biodiversity has been launched among ACCOBAMS, GFCM, IUCN-Med, UNEP/MAP through SPA/RAC and in collaboration with MedPAN. It must be supported in terms of implementation;
 - Support to effective management of the marine Natura 2000 network in the Mediterranean through the EU biogeographic approach.

Contacts, relevant websites

Marie Romani, Purificacio Canals, MedPAN

Souha El Asmi, Khalil Attia, RAC/SPA-UNEP/MPA

Zouhair AMHAOUCH, Haut Commissariat aux Eaux et Forêts et à la Lutte Contre la Désertification

<http://www.medmpaforum.org/en/node/5391>

3- Sustainable financing for MPAs in the Mediterranean

A study regarding Mediterranean MPA financing situation has been produced in 2015 lead by MedPAN, the RAC/SPA and WWF Mediterranean. Guide on sustainable financing mechanisms for MPAs has been produced and a regional training organized.

The initiative to set up a sustainable financing mechanism for Mediterranean Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) was initiated during the 2012 Mediterranean MPA Forum and was launched jointly by France, Monaco and Tunisia in October 2013 in Ajaccio, during the high-level session of the International Marine Protected Areas Congress (IMPAC3). It received political support from the countries bordering the Mediterranean, in the framework of the Union for the Mediterranean and the Barcelona Convention.

An association for the sustainable financing of Mediterranean MPAs has been created in 2015. The Association is a cooperation platform that aims to set up a trust-fund-type mechanism that should help to sustainably develop and improve the management of Mediterranean MPAs. It is open to States that have confirmed their commitment to implementing an ambitious policy to support MPAs and explicitly shown their support for the initiative (to date, Albania, Croatia, France, Monaco, Morocco and Tunisia) and to regional organizations involved in the conservation of Mediterranean marine and coastal ecosystems (RAC/SPA, MedPAN, WWF Mediterranean, IUCN-Med, Initiative PIM, etc.). Pilot phase was in 2016 launched to support 2 MPAs in pilot countries (Tunisia and Morocco).

Recommendations if any, including reinforcement of the action (how and why) and/or proposed corrective measures

- Lessons learned from other well-established regional conservation trust fund delivering conservation to marine areas around the world;
- More in-depth study related to MPAs financing needs and resources is necessary.

Contacts, relevant websites

Raphaël Cuvelier, Prince Albert II of Monaco Foundation

Romain Dissaux, French Ministry of Ecology

<http://www.medpan.org/en/mpa-financing>

4- Mediterranean MPAs networking

MedPAN network brings together Mediterranean MPA managers and supports them in their management activities.

As of today, MedPAN brings together more than 60 members - mainly management entities of Marine Protected Areas from the Mediterranean basin - and 39 partners willing to contribute to the creation and management of MPAs in 18 countries. These actors manage more than 100 Marine Protected Areas. The network exists since 1990 and is run since 2009 by MedPAN, a permanent structure with dedicated funds created in late 2008.

The 2013-2017 MedPAN strategy is built around 3 strategic axes:

- Be a network for knowledge, information, anticipation and synthesis
- Reinforce the vitality of the network, the exchanges between its members and their capacity to effectively manage their MPAs together with local stakeholders
- Reinforce the sustainability, prominence, governance and resources of the MedPAN network

MedPAN works with its members and partners as well as with local, national, regional and international governmental and non-governmental organisations to develop its activities.

Future strategy 2018-2022 will be developed in 2017.

A joint mobilization with other regional MPA networks in the world (Caribbean, West Africa...) to be launched to work in particular on climate change.

Recommendations if any, including reinforcement of the action (how and why) and/or proposed corrective measures

- Financing issue to support long-term networking (especially link with the Mediterranean Trust Fund above);
- Support to sub-regional networks (Adriapan) development;
- Future permanent training mechanism for MPA managers to be set-up.

Contacts, relevant websites

Marie Romani, Purificacio Canals, MedPAN

www.medpan.org

5- MPAs and climate change

IUCN-Med in the framework of the past European MedPAN North project (2010-2013) in cooperation with the Regional Activity Centre for Specially Protected Areas (RAC/SPA) and MedPAN, has focused part of its work to give some guidance to MPA managers on how to measure the impact of climate change on the marine biodiversity of protected areas and how to improve the planning for the mitigation of this important threat. The elaborated guide provides a suite of key indicators that can facilitate monitoring in MPAs and lead to an understanding of the impact of climate change on their biodiversity. MedPAN and its partners organized a regional training workshop in 2014 in Cadaques to train MPA managers to use this guide. A brochure to better understand impacts of climate change in MPAs has also been produced. A strategy to monitor and manage invasive species in Mediterranean MPAs has also been developed thank to support from IUCN Med and MedPAN ; an alert system related to invasive species monitored by MPAs has been set-up (MedMIS).

Originally developed by the Scandola Nature Reserve team, accompanied by the Institute Ciències del Mar in Barcelona, T-MedNet is a collaborative platform that can manage and explore temperature data acquired by different sites and compare them (in the form of figures and analysis reports). This tool provides the opportunity for MPA managers to monitor the impact of climate change by recording and analyzing long series of sea water temperature at a depth of 0 to 40 meters. The sites equipped serve as "sentinels" where management strategies can be developed to adapt to these negative effects. Blue Carbon Initiative has been launched at international level by IUCN, UNESCO and Conservation International. In the Mediterranean, IUCN Med is working with Junta de Andalucía on a LIFE Blue Natura project to quantify blue carbon and protect coastal habitats in Andalusia. The Paris COP21 Agreement take into account oceans; thanks in particular to the initiative launched by some governments and partners "Because the Ocean". Recently, the IUCN World Conservation Congress (Sept 2016, Hawaii) adopted a motion to take greater account of the ocean in climate regime. During COP22 in Marrakech, some Mediterranean actors (RAC/SPA, IUCN, MedPAN, Conservatoire du Littoral, Plan Bleu...) involved in nature-based solutions will launch a joint mobilization to define some joint action plan for the future to progress on climate change integration in protected areas management. This initiative is based on a first brainstorming session organized during the MEDCOP22 in Tangier. Joint action plan regarding nature-based solutions towards climate change challenges in the Mediterranean.

Recommendations if any, including reinforcement of the action (how and why) and/or proposed corrective measures

In-depth studies related to Blue Carbon in the Mediterranean.

- Strengthening the Mediterranean MPA network in the role of sentinel sites regarding climate change; improving management plans of Mediterranean MPAs to take into account climate change.
- Update Mediterranean MPA Roadmap regarding climate change challenges.

Contacts, relevant websites

Dorothe Herr, IUCN Blue carbon initiative

Maria del Mar Otero, IUCN Med

Joaquim Garrabou, CSIC

Chloë Webster, MedPAN

<http://www.medpan.org/en/climate-change>

<http://thebluecarboninitiative.org/>

<http://www.t-mednet.org/>

<https://www.iucn.org/content/life-blue-natura>

<http://www.iucn-medmis.org/>

<http://medwet.org/wp->

[content/uploads/2016/11/Natural areas in Med efficient solutions to face climate change 2016.pdf](http://medwet.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/11/Natural_areas_in_Med_efficient_solutions_to_face_climate_change_2016.pdf)

6- Blue economy

At European level, Blue Growth is the long-term strategy to support sustainable growth in the marine and maritime sectors as a whole. It's cross-cutting policy considered under the EU Integrated maritime policy.

UNEP/MAP has reviewed its Mediterranean Sustainable Development Strategy.

MedPAN, the network of Marine Protected Area managers in the Mediterranean, in collaboration with about fifteen partners, organised on 23/24 June 2015 in Marseille a conference on the benefits of coastal and marine protected spaces in the Mediterranean. The objective of this conference was to highlight the importance of coastal and marine protected spaces for the sustainable development of the territories. Some concrete case studies have been identified.

Plan Bleu has developed a large study on economic value of sustainable benefits rendered by Mediterranean marine ecosystems. Plan Bleu has also lead an economic study of the impact of marine and coastal protected areas in the Mediterranean.

A new project funded by DG Europaid, coordinated by UNEP/MAP with implementing partners that are the RAC/SPA, WWF Mediterranean and MedPAN, will in particular support 3 pilot sites to work on this topic in the 2 next years.

Recommendations if any, including reinforcement of the action (how and why) and/or proposed corrective measures

- A large project could be developed regarding socio economic benefits of protected coastal and marine spaces and their impact for the sustainable development of territories.
- When speaking about Blue Growth, protection of natural and cultural heritage must be the basis to develop some sustainable economic activities. « Healthy » Sea as driver for economies. « Nature » as basis of the attractivity.

Contacts; relevant websites

Chloe Webster, MedPAN

Didier Sauzade, Plan Bleu

<http://www.medpan.org/en/conference-benefices-socio-eco>

<http://www.medpan.org/en/benefits#etude2>

https://planbleu.org/sites/default/files/upload/files/Cahier8_marin_EN.pdf

https://planbleu.org/sites/default/files/publications/cahier_13_amp_en.pdf

7- Maritime Spatial Planning and Integrated Coastal Zone Management

At UNEP/MAP level, ICZM Protocol entered into force in 2011. In 2008, the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention also adopted the Ecosystem Approach and agreed upon a road map for its implementation. Thus, the EcAp becomes a specific process under the UNEP/ MAP Barcelona Convention, as its Contracting Parties have committed to implement it in the Mediterranean with the ultimate objective of achieving the Good Environmental Status (GES) of the Mediterranean Sea. Synergy and coherence with the implementation of the European Union (EU) Marine Strategy Framework Directive (MSFD) are ensured. At EU level, some macro

regional strategies are developed: EUSAIR for the Adriatic and Ionian Region, as well as for the Western Mediterranean. The European MSP Platform has been created.

Recommendations if any, including reinforcement of the action (how and why) and/or proposed corrective measures

- MSP 1st objective must be to designating new MPAs in areas which require special protection (especially in the open sea) and to enlarge the network of MPAs so that it can be representative and connected, with systematic conservation planning as basis.
- MSP can support existing system of MPAs (thus contributing to the Aichi target), by i) dealing with pressures beyond their borders and bring back political will for effective MPAs
- Reinforce training of maritime institutions regarding important of healthy Seas as economies drivers.

Contacts; relevant websites

<http://msp-platform.eu/events/msp-worldwide-conference-documentation-online>

<http://www.westmedstrategy.eu/shift-in-focus/>

<http://www.adriatic-ionian.eu/>

www.pap-thecoastcentre.org/

In 2008, a first Status of the Mediterranean MPAs was published (Abdulla et al., 2008) as part of the Interreg IIC MedPAN project.

In 2010 and based on the conclusions of this first study, a partnership approach was launched at the Mediterranean scale. Led by MedPAN and RAC/SPA, it aimed to develop a common database on Marine Protected Areas in the Mediterranean, called MAPAMED. This database is built on the collection of geographic information about the contours of Mediterranean MPAs (provided by national focal points for Protected Areas) and the collection of data on the management of the MPAs (provided by MPA managers).

In 2012, a new inventory of the MPA system in the Mediterranean was led by MedPAN and the RAC/SPA, based on MAPAMED, to assess the progress made on CBD targets since 2008.

In 2016, most sections of the Status Report will be updated in line with the analyses carried out in other regional seas in Europe. New analyses will also be conducted in 2016 in particular regarding the pressures, which will help to better target the recommendations and define a typology of MPAs with regard to pressures. This 2016 Status is prepared in accordance with the update of the MAPAMED database conducted in 2015.

From a regional perspective, the current MPA system is not representative of the Mediterranean's habitat and ecosystem diversity. Most Mediterranean MPAs are currently coastal. 85% of the currently protected coastal sites are along the northern coasts of the Mediterranean basin.

Currently, the preservation of deep sea ecosystems and the creation of MPAs in the open sea (high seas) are topics of growing importance due to the presence of key habitats and species which are little known and should be protected.

Several MPAs are not managed effectively and could be designated as being "parks on paper". Indeed, only 50% of Mediterranean MPAs have a management plan and clear objectives. Resources, be them human, material or financial, are often inadequate; Mediterranean MPA managers rarely have the necessary basic requirements in terms of qualifications and financial resources to put in place a proper management of the sites they are in

charge of. Poor surveillance, lack of control, lack of law and regulation enforcement are persistent problems and some of the great weaknesses of MPAs in this region.

The 2016 Status Report that will be published beginning of 2017 will provide detailed information on progress of the Mediterranean MPA system towards achieving the Aichi target 11.

Recommendations if any, including reinforcement of the action (how and why) and/or proposed corrective measures

- Until 2020, new data regarding regulations per zoning inside each MPA will be collected.
- Creation of new MPAs especially in the open seas is needed.
- Improving knowledge on socio-economic benefits of MPAs on their adjacent territories.

Effective MPA management requires national political will that ensures the establishment of a clear institutional framework and proper planning, as well as adequate human, technical and financial resources. Good management thus requires the development of integrated and coordinated policies, the clarification of responsibilities and legal, institutional and administrative frameworks

Contacts, relevant websites: Bruno Meola, MedPAN ; Dhia Guezguez, RACSPA

<http://www.mapamed.org>

<http://www.medpan.org/en/mediterranean-mpa-status>

Tangier Declaration - http://www.medmpaforum.org/sites/default/files/tangier_declaration.pdf

Integrated Coastal Zone Management

Reference to the topic as per Ministerial Declaration

Ministers reaffirm their commitment to the commitments under the Barcelona Convention, in particular relating to (..)action plan on ICZM

- Information on the advancements on ICZM under the Barcelona Convention can be found at
 - o www.unepmap.gr
 - o <http://www.pap-thecoastcentre.org/>

- PAPRAC in charge of the regional plan
- Ecosystem Approach – UNEPMAP in charge
- UfM Ministerial declaration on Blue Economy

- Within the UfMS, Integrated Coastal Zone Management and Maritime Spatial Planning are dealt within the Blue Economy dossier, Annex 4;
 - o Information on ICZM/MSP in connection to MPA is dealt under MPA in Annex 4

Avi-fauna

Reference to the topic as per Ministerial Declaration

Ministers underline the importance of a rich avifauna and welcome recommendations under the Bern Convention, in particular the Larnaka and Tunis action plans as well as initiatives under the African Eurasian Waterfowl Agreement;

The 1st Meeting of the Intergovernmental Task Force on Illegal Killing, Taking and Trade (IKB) of Migratory Birds in the Mediterranean was organised by the CMS Secretariat and hosted by the Egyptian Government. The establishment of this Task Force was decided in the CMS COP11 and the Commission is providing funding for its first three years (covering e.g. the costs of the full-time coordinator and the first meeting). The meeting was chaired by Dr Moustafa M. Fouda who is the advisor for the Egyptian Minister of Environment (and the focal point of Egypt to CMS). Mr. Sergei Golovkin from Malta was elected as vice-chair. The Minister of Environment also had a couple of minutes' visit to the meeting but the opening speech was given by the CEO of the Egyptian Protected Areas Agency. There were about 45 participants. France, Croatia, Germany (observer) and Malta were present but unfortunately no representatives from Cyprus, Greece, Italy, Spain and Slovenia although representatives were nominated in advance (Italy's absence is probably linked to the recent killing of an Italian student in Egypt).

Birdlife, FACE, CITES, NABU, European Network of Prosecutors for the Environment (Angus Innes), Raptors MoU, CABS, IUCN, RAC/SPA UNEP (Tunisia) had representatives. Algeria, Egypt, Morocco, Lebanon (non-Party) and Tunisia were the only non-EU countries present. There were several persons from the EG Ministry of Environment, the EG Hunters Organisation and Nature Conservation Egypt.

The meeting was well organized in terms of meeting place and facilities. However, the agenda was very ambitious and already after the first day there was a serious delay. Mr. Borja Heredia from the CMS Secretariat stressed that they don't want to duplicate the work under the Tunis Action Plan and the added value of this Task Force (TF) comes from the fact that all Mediterranean countries are involved. To avoid too many meetings on the same topic, there are plans to organize the next TF meeting back to back with the Tunis Action Plan meeting (so called Special Focal Points meeting). In fact, it remains to be seen whether the latter is no longer needed in a long run. The TF has a Modus Operandi which was agreed in the meeting.

Birdlife presented the results of its study on IKB in the Mediterranean. France repeated its disagreement on the methods used by Birdlife. The Ministry of Environment of Lebanon was unhappy that the Lebanese authorities were not consulted before Birdlife published the results. It was mentioned many times that although we need to be cautious with the figures, this study certainly has raised public awareness on IKB. CABS informed that it prepared a study in 2005 on legal killing of birds in Europe (available on their website, it was told) and it should be updated by end of this year. This was a response to a question that IKB studies should also include figures on legal killing (hunting).

Secretariat of the Raptors MoU had a presentation on illegal killing of birds of prey using the Birdlife data. Top10 countries are: Spain, Serbia, Turkey, Croatia, Lebanon, Italy, Portugal, Tunisia, Malta and France. Most of the killing (53%) takes place in Southern EU despite of the Birds Directive.

Malta had a presentation on its implementation of the Tunis Action Plan. Although many colleagues agreed that Malta has made a good progress with its enforcement activities, voices were raised that some Maltese hunters go elsewhere (e.g. to Lake Nasser in Egypt). EU representative presented the EU Roadmap towards eliminating IKB and an update on the EU Action Plan on wildlife trafficking. It was recognized that *"Commission is carrying out many activities to fight against IKB"*. Also, the scoreboard development under the EU Action plan on wildlife trafficking seems to have provided inspiration to develop something similar for this TF.

Interesting reports are available on socio-economic aspects of hunting and illegal killing of birds in coast of Egypt and on the Egypt's national legislation and enforcement mechanism <http://www.cms.int/en/meeting/1st-meeting-intergovernmental-task-force-illegal-killing-taking-and-trade-migratory-birds>. It seems that the legislation is in place but clearly there is a big problem with the enforcement. It was curious to learn that trammel nets (those long nets along the Egyptian coast of 800 km) are legal if under 3 m high and not within 500 m from the coastline but the use of calling devices is illegal. Main target species are Quail and Turtle Dove, and fishermen are the main occupation group hunting/taking these birds. There are commercial, subsistence and cultural/recreational hunters. Dr Fouda confirmed that the Egyptian government recognizes the problem. The Egyptian Minister of Environment in his short intervention said that IKB has increased recently involving also more sophisticated methods. He referred to a need to promote captive breeding of birds in Egypt instead of large scale taking of wild birds. It was worrying to hear that taking of falcons is also increasing as high prices are paid in Gulf countries.

One of the main targets of this meeting was to draft the work program for the TF. As the agenda was so charged, there was in the end too little time left for the plenary session to discuss the different proposals coming from the working groups and the work program was not fully finished. The work program was pretty much changed from the first proposal. It was proposed that the informal Consultative Group which is part of the Modus Operandi would be involved in coming months to finalize the work program.

The "Cairo Declaration" was agreed in the meeting as well (not yet available electronically). The draft was provided by the CMS Secretariat during the meeting. The discussions on the draft went smoothly. The agenda indicated also a discussion on a new resolution on IKB for the CMS COP12. However, it was questioned whether this is really needed as the CMS Resolution 11.16 is still valid and it is more important to show the progress in the next COP meeting. Finally, there was no further discussion.

Malta was very active in this meeting and promoted its enforcement activities. On the other hand, Mr. S. Golovkin is the chair of the Special Focal Points on IKB under the Tunis Action Plan, so he has a role to promote this plan (which he did well). He was also actively promoting the idea that a scoreboard on IKB, ranking countries' progress in fight against IKB, would be needed to gain better political support at national level. The coordinator of the TF will work further on the scoreboard.

It was disappointing that many countries were missing from the meeting, especially Cyprus, Greece, Italy, Spain. We made lot of effort that Cyprus and Greece nominated a representative to this meeting. It was also surprising that there was no representative from the Bern Convention although the idea to this Task Force originates from the Tunis Action Plan on IKB under the Bern Convention, and Tunis Action Plan was constantly quoted when the work program was drafted.

Eco-cities

Reference to the topic as per Ministerial Declaration

Ministers recognise that the Mediterranean region is becoming increasingly urbanised. While the region's cities concentrate environment and climate challenges, they also provide the opportunity for focused and effective solutions, which will improve the quality of life of their citizens. Initiatives such as the Eco-Cities of the Mediterranean launched by Jordan, or the UfM, EU, Barcelona Convention and Covenant of Mayors initiatives on sustainable cities are recognised as important vehicles for advancing action and sharing engagement

UfM Ministerial Conference on Sustainable Urban Development

The UfMS is working to build consensus towards a **Second UfM Ministerial Conference on Sustainable Urban Development** to be held in Egypt in the spring of 2017, will serve to promote on-going UfM activities on sustainable urban development and to establish a new roadmap in view of the challenges facing Mediterranean cities not only today, but also in future, in-line with the New Urban Agenda raised from Habitat III, the United Nations conference on Sustainable Urban Development, and the Pact of Amsterdam agreed at the Informal Meeting of EU Ministers Responsible for Urban Matters in Amsterdam in May 2016, and the First Arab Ministerial Forum on the "Arab Urbanization – Present Challenges and Future Prospects" held in Cairo in December 2015.

Jordan - Eco Cities Forum

Eco Cities Forum is a biennial 2-day regional event and expo that aims to create momentum in addressing environmental challenges and green sustainable opportunities for cities promoting both economic growth and social responsibility. The Forum is a powerful platform where international, regional, and local decision makers from the private and public sectors converge to meet, exchange views and inform themselves about what policies, technologies and business opportunities work or don't leading to cleaner, safer and vibrant sustainable cities.

The Forum is a Jordanian initiative launched in 2008 in partnership with UNEA, UNIDO, UFM, Ministry of Environment, Ministry of Municipal Affairs, and Greater Amman Municipality.

Main Organizer: Jordan Green Building Council. The organizers have convened the Forum three times since its launch in 2008 and are expecting to organize it again in 2017.

The Union for the Mediterranean Ministerial Meeting on Environment and Climate Change convened in Athens on the 13th of May 2014 recognized this initiative as an opportunity for City managers to focus on effective solutions aimed at improving the quality of their citizens.

Ministerial Declaration text under "other environmental issues" stated the following:

"Recognise that Mediterranean region is becoming increasingly urbanised. While the region's cities concentrate the environment and climate challenges, they also provide the opportunity for focused and effective solutions, which will improve the quality of life of their citizens. Initiatives **such as the Eco-Cities of the Mediterranean** launched by Jordan, or UfM, EU, Barcelona Convention and the **Covenant of Mayors** initiatives on sustainable cities are recognised as important vehicles for advancing action and sharing engagement."

Context and description of the related action (processes, initiatives, programs, projects, activities, etc.)

The Forum was successfully organized three times since its launch in 2008. Approximately 300 to 600 participants attended the Forum including representatives from Ministries, municipalities, private companies and NGOs. The thematic areas of focus for each event was carefully identified and coordinated by the Jordan Green Building Council, the Forum organizer, based on the partners' priorities and interests.

State of advancement; outcomes/results achieved so far; final expected results, including timing where applicable

- Recommendations of the 1st forum Eco-cities of the Mediterranean 2008 report.
- Summary Report Eco-cities of the Mediterranean 2011.
- Recommendations of the 4th Eco-cities forum 2014.

Contacts; relevant websites

Mr. Abdallah Bder, Chairman, Jordan Green Building Council
optimasun@yahoo.com

Regional Recommendations from the Eco-Cities Conference, October 18-20, 2014, Dead Sea, Jordan

The Eco cities Forum is a powerful platform where international, regional, and local decision makers from the private and public sectors converge to meet, exchange views and inform themselves about what policies, technologies and business opportunities work or don't as regards the green metropolitan transformational process that will lead to cleaner, safer and vibrant sustainable cities.

The 2014 Eco-Cities Conference concluded with the following:

On Green Economy and Sustainable Development

- The progress towards a Greener economy must take a holistic and integrated approach. This approach must include integrating all sectors and elements. These elements are all present in all our cities and as such Cities are an excellent starting point.
- Cities are renowned for being major consumers of everything from energy, water, materials and emitters of waste and GHG. Every city should implement sustainable consumption and production policies in sectors such as waste management, sustainable buildings, transportation, water demand and green urban planning amongst others. Each city is unique therefore, city resources should be managed sustainably and population movement from rural to urban areas should be integrated into this form of sustainable management.
- Education on green concepts and sustainable development is a powerful motivator for change, especially for youth, and is a critical stepping-stone in preserving and protecting the environment. The youth need to be empowered to increase entrepreneurship levels in the green economy.
- Cooperation between the public and private sectors is key in human capacity development. Cooperation on suitable training programs is one way this can be achieved. Chambers of Commerce and Industry, professional unions and NGOs should all be well informed of new green concepts and ideas and work together to complement one another.
- Government policy must be stable, consistent, and focused on long-term public interests.
- Insuring minimum requirements for local labour improves the competitiveness of local business

sectors and creates decent and sustainable jobs and markets for human capital development.

- Governments and donors can only provide certain amounts of funding. Private sector investments are considered paramount for driving the green economy and is crucial for sustainability purposes.
- Getting local banks involved is crucially important for promoting the smooth and effective development of the green economy. Banks should consider providing incentivized financing for green projects.
- Suitable and effective fiscal and financial public sector policies and funds need to be developed for funding green projects.
- Switching to SCP and integrating SCP policies into national development policies is key to moving towards a green economy.

On Solid Waste Management

- City managers spend almost 80% of their budgets on waste management. Cities should seek to develop integrated waste management solutions starting with 'green points' where household waste can be collected.
- Households need to undergo a behavioural change. Combining "carrot and stick" methods, offering rewards for good behaviours and punishments for bad behaviours, can improve good behavioural shifts.
- Recycled materials need to be made cost effective and government legislation is important in supporting this effort.

On Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency

- Municipal electricity tariff needs to be developed so the true cost of electricity is reflected in what individuals pay for and produce.
- Where lacking, energy efficiency policy and legislation needs to be developed and enforced.
- Where lacking, city electricity grids and infrastructure need to be upgraded and smart grid systems implemented to support the new green policies.
- Development of permanent and integrated energy monitoring systems is key to improving efficient energy usage in practice.
- Creative energy saving incentive schemes can help create more favourable conditions for lower income households.

On Building Green

- More than 20% energy savings can be achieved through implementing green building concepts during and after the construction of buildings. In order to accomplish this, rating standards need to first focus on developing green building national standards. Markets without rating standards need to first focus on developing national standards.
- Making cities greener can help make them more beautiful. Planting trees, creating green areas, and other projects can make a city more healthy and desirable to live in.
- The execution and enforcement of building codes/regulations is currently insufficient in many countries of the region. These guidelines must be enforced and organizations, such as Green Building Councils, can play a key role in ensuring their enforcement.
- Civil engagement is the key to successful metropolis retrofitting projects. Retrofitting the metropolis requires integrated solutions.
- Green housing should use efficient appliances as part of an integrated green building system. The development of national energy efficiency labels is essential to achieving this goal.
- In remote areas, using locally available materials will improve the economic viability of green, low cost and biodegradable buildings.
- Optimization of water use needs to be a key priority and water demand management technologies will help make this goal possible.

- It is important to learn from the past while simultaneously employing modern techniques when building green. Using indigenous techniques helps create buildings that are sustained by the people's culture and identity.
- There is a need for innovative solutions that bring indigenous techniques back to the market.

On Green Infrastructure:

- Cities should seek to minimize the need for mobility for city inhabitants as much as possible. Reliable and safe public transport networks are also an integral part of this process.
- Working to develop green infrastructure from the beginning will be more economical than retrofitting. We need to learn from the mistakes of other cities, saving us time and money.

- **Housing and Construction** is one of the four priority economic sector tackled by the *Mediterranean Regional Plan on Sustainable Consumption and Production*; for more information, please refer to www.switchmed.eu; http://www.switchmed.eu/en/documents/toolkit-switchmed_2014-eng.pdf;

Regarding other climate issues

The UfM Secretariat has supported the participation of all actors in the definition of a common Mediterranean climate agenda. In particular, the UfM Secretariat has actively contributed to the **MedCOP Climat 2016**, organised in Tangier in July 2016 by the Region of Tangier-Tetouan-Al Hoceima and gathering several Mediterranean actors.

The UfM Secretariat also worked actively for the emergence of a **Mediterranean Youth Climate Network**, gathering youth associations of the Euro-Mediterranean region. This network was initiated during the Mediterranean Youth Climate Forum, organised by the Region of Tangier-Tetouan-Al Hoceima, back to back with the MedCOP Climat 2016.

Furthermore, for those countries where structures make it relevant and who are willing to, the UfM Secretariat is working, in cooperation with the European Union, on the strengthening of cooperation among local authorities in the Mediterranean region, especially through the establishment of a **Mediterranean Covenant of Mayors**. The Mediterranean Covenant of Mayors will support local and regional authorities, voluntarily committing to increase energy efficiency and the use of renewable energy.

For information on green cities under the Barcelona Convention, please refer to www.unepmap.gr

ANNEX 5

Implementation of the UfM Ministerial Declaration on ENV and CC as far as regards “environmental and climate change governance and stakeholder involvement”

Reference to the topic as per Ministerial Declaration

Ministers endeavour to take appropriate measures to ensure environment and climate change are mainstreamed into sectoral policies and institutional structures, promoting and reinforcing the cooperation between ministries, agencies, local and regional authorities, and the private and public sector; Ministers stress the significant role that civil society, including recognised and registered NGOs, academic, financial and research institutions, local and regional authorities, the private sector, and other stakeholders can play in achieving environmental and climate-related objectives. Ministers recognise that steps are necessary to enhance the opportunities and capacity for them to participate in decision-making processes.

National reporting is needed on advancements on environmental and climate change governance and stakeholder involvement according to H2020 Mid Term review of 2014, setting as specific objectives for the period 2014-2020:

- *To improve the ability of national policies and legislation to support pollution reduction and prevention by reviewing, updating and completing the national environmental policy and legislative framework (including by promoting the use, where relevant, of economic instruments) and by making the necessary legislative reforms to create a favourable and sustainable investment environment;*
- *To improve the capacity of partner countries to implement and enforce national environmental legislation and the private sector's compliance capacity, including by facilitating knowledge and technology transfer and by promoting regional cooperation as well as North-to-South and South-to-South exchanges;*
- *To enhance environmental mainstreaming in key sectors policy frameworks and the public and private sectors' practice, including by strengthening the institutional framework and increasing the public and private sectors' capacity;*
- *To enable key national and regional stakeholders/actors to actively participate in decision making process and to contribute to the implementation of environmental objectives.*

Participatory approaches and multi-stakeholder involvement are systematically part of all the main ongoing regional programmes. The involvement of local authorities has been strengthened through its respective representative organisation (ex. within Blue Economy through the CPRM – Conference of Peripheral Maritime regions, Inter-Mediterranean Commission; within energy/CC through the Covenant of Mayors; etc.)

ANNEX 6

Implementation of the UfM Ministerial Declaration on ENV and CC as far as regards the need for “increased awareness and education”

Reference to the topic as per Ministerial Declaration

*Ministers recognize the importance of education and awareness as a prerequisite to address the environment and climate-related challenges and therefore endorse the **Mediterranean Strategy on Education for Sustainable Development** annexed to this Declaration, and encourage all countries, stakeholders and media in the region to implement it in the best way possible.*

The Mediterranean Strategy on Education for Sustainable Development (MSESD) was endorsed by the Union for the Mediterranean (UfM) Ministers of the Environment in Athens, on 13 May 2014. The Strategy was developed under the formal framework of the UfM, through a long participatory process involving international and national experts from universities, government departments, Non-Governmental Organizations and Civil Society Organizations from the North and the South of the region in several consultations, scientifically-technically coordinated by the University of Athens/UNESCO Chair on Sustainable Development Management and Education in the Mediterranean and supported by the Mediterranean Educational Initiative on Environment and Sustainability (MEDIES) of the Mediterranean Information Office for Environment, Culture and Sustainable Development (MIO-ECSDE), many of which were organized under the EU funded Horizon 2020 Capacity Building/Mediterranean Environment Programme.

The MSESD has been accepted as an integral part of the Mediterranean Strategy for Sustainable Development (MSSD), while a specific relevant indicator has been included among those which will demonstrate the progress of the MSSD's next phase of implementation (2016-2025).

A mandate to develop an Action Plan for the MSESD to guide its implementation and to promote regional and sub-regional activities on ESD comes from the MSESD's statement that “A 5-year Action Plan will be developed for the promotion of regional and sub-regional activities on ESD, including capacity building activities at national level, taking into account the Global Action Programme of ESD as a follow-up of DESD after 2014”. It will support the relevant to Public Awareness and Education part of the MSSD. The Action Plan has therefore been prepared accordingly, facilitated by the UoA UNESCO Chair on Management and Education for Sustainable Development in the Mediterranean, in collaboration with MEDIES of MIO-ECSDE. Apart from inputs by the countries, and stakeholders, it has also considered the outcomes of a region-wide youth survey. The final text of the Action Plan (see in Annex II the zero draft as sent by Cyprus to the Ministers of Education) is to be presented for adoption at the Ministerial Meeting of Ministers of Education in Cyprus, on 8-9 December 2016 hosted by the Government of Cyprus, under the High Patronage of the Republic of Cyprus.

The purpose of the Ministerial Meeting is to adopt a comprehensive and stimulating Action Plan for the implementation of the Mediterranean Strategy on Education Sustainable Development. The Action Plan is a “new generation” instrument, which could serve in an integrated way all major international commitments of the countries of the region related to ESD in a way easy to be followed by national administrations, reducing unnecessary overlaps and repetitions.

It is stressed that the Action Plan is directly related, on the one hand, to the two major relevant regional Mediterranean processes, namely: the Mediterranean Strategy on Education for Sustainable Development, under the UfM, and the Mediterranean Strategy for Sustainable Development (MSSD)

(2016-2025) of the Barcelona Convention, coordinated by UNEP/MAP, and on the other, on the promotion and achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), while it takes due consideration and integrates the other relevant provisions deriving from international conventions and important international developments that have occurred since May 2014. The Goal of the Action Plan is the facilitation of the implementation of the MSED by all the countries of the region through appropriate activities of governments and other competent stakeholders.

Furthermore, a Ministerial Declaration endorsed the Action Plan on Education Sustainable Development (ESD) in the Mediterranean, highlighting the role of ESD for the promotion of prosperity, cooperation and synergies throughout the region in addressing the current series of crises.

Contacts; relevant websites: Scientific Coordination of the overall process concerning the MSED and its Action Plan, MEDIES/MIO-ECSDE Secretariat: info@medies.net

Milestones

2014

- Approval of the MSED and its Action Plan as one of the Initiatives under the Global Action Programme (GAP) on ESD led by UNESCO;

2015

- National training in Beirut on: "Water in the framework of the Mediterranean Strategy on ESD: training of trainers on water issues";
- 1st UNESCO GAP Partner Network Meeting (Paris), during which, *inter alia*, MSED and its under preparation Action Plan was presented;
- At the International Conference on ESD in Russia, representatives from the Educational Sector of Russia expressed interest to promote a Strategy on ESD in Russia inspired by the MSED presented;
- A roundtable "From a Strategy for Education for Sustainable Development to an Action Plan" at the 8th World Environmental Education Congress;
- Special Session on the interaction between the MSED and the SDGs at the Mediterranean Parliamentarians for Sustainable Development (COMPSUD) in Athens

2016

- Special Session on the SDGs and the Regional Processes on SD/ESD (including the MSED)
- The MSED was accepted as an integral part of the updated Mediterranean Strategy for Sustainable Development (MSSD, 2016-2025);
- Based on the provisions of MSED (particularly paragraph 80) the Action Plan of the MSED is drafted;
- The MSED was recognized as an excellent example of synergy with the UNECE ESD Strategy;
- The Government of Cyprus invites the Euro-Mediterranean Ministers of Education to a Ministerial Meeting for the adoption of the Action Plan and a related Declaration;
- The consolidated draft of the Action Plan (see Annex II) was sent to the countries for their reflections and comments;
- Ministerial Meeting adopting the Action Plan.

Draft

ANNEX 7

Implementation of the UfM Ministerial Declaration on ENV and CC as far as regards ensuring implementation of required “environment and climate investments”

Reference to the topic as per Ministerial Declaration

Ministers recognise the need to ensure that the measures and policies required to address environment and climate challenges are clearly identified as priorities, fully integrated in their national development strategies and adequately resourced, and more importantly, detailed with clear and precise work plans. This will provide a clear message to international, regional and bilateral donors, International Financial Institutions (IFIs), the Green Climate Fund (which needs to be fully operationalised), and the private sector about the importance of their contribution, alongside national resources, to the implementation of the investments required. Ministers also recognise that increased resources will be required to address the challenges in the Mediterranean region identified amongst others in this declaration as well as a more strategic planning of environment and climate investments, and invite relevant IFIs and donors, including the Global Environment Facility (GEF) as well as private investors to consider providing the needed financial resources to support the priorities identified in this declaration; Ministers call for the UfM Secretariat and the UfM to continue the labelling of projects in line with the above recommendations and in close cooperation with all relevant actors, to further enhance visibility, ownership and access to financing, and recommend relevant IFIs and donors, including the GEF, to prioritise both existing and planned UfM-labelled projects for funding; Ministers acknowledge the EU-Twinning instrument as an important tool to establish administrative partnerships to strengthen national policies and capacities; Ministers stress the need to promote integrated approaches to project investments, highlighting the UfM-labelled Integrated Programme to protect the Lake Bizerte against pollution as a successful example, and invite IFIs to fully engage in existing sustainable project preparation facilities and to develop or strengthen other financial tools deemed necessary to incentivise such projects. Ministers invite high level experts and officials to meet regularly, at least every two years, and where appropriate in synergy with other regional meetings dealing with environment or climate issues, as long as such meetings remain relevant, in the form of a "UfM Working Group on environment and climate change" to follow-up on this Declaration and assess the progress made. The Working Group will be co-chaired by the UfM co-presidencies and the UfM Secretariat will act as a secretariat to the Working Group.

H2020 - Investment component

Please refer to Annex 1, with a dedicated section on H2020 investments.

SCP - Investment component

Please refer to Annex 2, Sustainable Consumption and Production (focusing, among others, on the links between pipeline of projects and existing credit lines).

In liaison with the UfM labelled project MedReSCP, a new EBRD Fund was opened, namely the DRIVE Fund as described here below

Delivering Resource efficiency InVEstments: DRIVE Fund

The DRIVE Fund was established by the Austrian Federal Ministry of Finance in September 2015 to support sustainable resource investments in the Western Balkans and Turkey. The Fund has EUR 5 million, and it is managed by EBRD. **The DRIVE Fund supports projects in line with the Mediterranean Resource Efficiency and Sustainable Consumption and Production (MED RESCP) programme** – a UfM-labelled joint initiative by the EBRD, UNIDO, and UNEP/MAP. MedReScp’s specific objectives are (1) **to identify investment opportunities in cleaner and more resource-efficient technologies** (water, energy, raw materials and waste minimization), and (2) to provide **technical assistance** in this field.

Within the EBRD, the DRIVE Fund is a response to the acknowledgement that delivering effective investments, technical assistance and policy dialogue activities requires complementary donor funding in markets where water and materials efficiency are almost non-existent, such as in the Western Balkans and Turkey. This is also in line with the Green Economy Transition (GET) Approach adopted in September 2015. GET and DRIVE are in line with MedReScp’s specific objectives to (1) identify investment opportunities in cleaner and more resource efficient (water, energy, raw materials and waste minimization) manufacturing technology, and (2) to provide technical assistance in this field. The DRIVE Fund has EUR 5 million, and during the first operational year of the fund, EUR 1 million were allocated to projects in Turkey and Albania.

<i>Project Name</i>	<i>Country</i>	<i>Objectives and activities</i>
Environmental and social due diligence (ESDD) for Bak Ambalaj Sanayi ve Ticaret A.Ş.	Turkey	The purpose of this project is to help the company reduce its solvent emissions by recapturing and recycling its solvents, as a result of which it will meet the requirements under the industrial emission regulation in Turkey and comply with the EU Solvent Directive. The findings of the ESDD are integrated in the company’s Environmental and Social Action Plan.
Materials Marketplace (MM)	Turkey	The MM is part of EBRD’s Near Zero Waste Programme. A dedicated platform will be set up for companies to exchange underutilized materials, turning one company’s waste into raw material for the other.
Climate Resilience in the Power Sector: Risk Assessment and Investment Needs	Turkey	This assignment aims to understand and quantify the potential effects of climate change on the power generation and transmission assets in Turkey, as well as provide an initial assessment of the most technically-robust and economically-viable solutions for mitigating the effects.
Eco-design and Eco-innovation Capacity Building for Local Banks	Turkey	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The programme aims to enhance corporate capacity on eco-design and eco-innovation. The training is targeted toward technical advisors of local commercial banks, who will in turn pass the knowledge to their clients and assist them in achieving competitive advantage, cost savings, risk reduction and in staying ahead of future environmental legislation. The project is implemented by UNEP SCP/RAC. - This initiative aims at executing a market assessment for eco-innovation and eco-design lending in Turkey, as well as providing a training program designed to enhance corporate capacity of local financial institutions (FI) and their clients on eco-innovation which is considered a key strategic approach to achieve competitive advantage and growth, bring

		<p>savings, reduce risks and stay ahead of future environmental legislation.</p> <p>Deliverables and progress:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Specific methodology and a set of training materials adapted to the knowledge and level of understanding of the trainees and/or the needs of the final beneficiaries (at the last stage of finalization). - To prepare and deliver a train of trainers (ToT) programme to the staff and technical advisors of local FIs who in turn will pass the knowledge to corporate clients and develop company-specific eco-design projects (upcoming in early 2017). Video module (as part of the training package) is finalized. - To execute a mapping exercise identifying Turkish companies implementing remarkable eco-design solutions and an assessment of the potential market for eco-design and eco-innovation lending. (under development).
Tirana Green City Action Plan (GCAP)	Albania	<p>A comprehensive action plan with prioritised measures, linked with short-to-medium-term viable investments, will be prepared for the sustainable development of Tirana. A methodology developed for the EBRD's Green Cities Initiative, together with OECD and ICLEI, will be applied to identify specific target areas of energy and resource efficiency, as well as other environmental concerns, and to propose concrete actions, while actively taking into consideration issues of bankability and feasibility.</p>

Contacts: EBRD Energy Efficiency and Climate Change Team, Ana Bachurova, bachuroa@ebrd.com

Regional Finance Cooperation Committee for Climate Action (RFCCCA)

Please refer to Annex 3 – Climate Change

The UfM Secretariat has therefore established a **Regional Finance Cooperation Committee for Climate Action (RFCCCA)** gathering major international financial institutions active in climate finance in the Euro-Mediterranean region. The first meeting of the RFCCCA, which took place in Barcelona on 10th of March 2016, initiated the cooperation through sharing information among IFIs and donors active on climate finance in the Mediterranean region. Two other meetings took place on the 12th of May 2016 and on the 18th of July 2016. However, tangible outputs are still weak and use of such committee could be improved in relation with the UfM Climate Change Expert Group.

UfM labelled Climate relevant investment projects

Please refer to Annex 3- Climate Change

Since the adoption of the ministerial declaration, the UfM has been actively involved in fostering projects of regional interest. More precisely, an assessment conducted for the COP22 demonstrated that out of the 47 projects and initiatives labelled by the UfM, 12 have a climate dimension. The overall budget of these 12 projects and initiatives are accounting for more than 2.6 billion Euros.

In the area of urban development, the UfM has labelled four projects under the Urban Projects Finance Initiative (UPFI). UPFI promotes sustainable and innovative urban development projects that

offer bottom-up, regionally replicable solutions to the major urban development challenges in the region as a result of the important demographic shifts from rural to urban areas. Bouregreg, Sfax Taparura and Imbaba are three examples.

UPFI Development Project for Phase 3 of the Bouregreg Valley Development Plan (labelled in 2015) consists on the urbanization of the Bouregreg Valley between the cities of Rabat and Salé in Morocco; it will enable the recovery of the Bouregreg riverbanks and will provide the agglomeration with a high quality urban area. The Bouregreg Valley was threatened by of huge risks of flooding due to climate change. The specific objectives of the project in terms of climate action are the preservation of cultivated land, the creation of natural ecological spaces, reforestation actions and the recovery of water courses that present a risk of gully erosion and landslides. The project will, inter alia, result on the promotion of an urban development that is sustainable and respectful of the environment.

UPFI Sfax Taparura Project: the Mediterranean city of Sfax (labelled in December 2014), second biggest city in Tunisia, suffered a significant amount of pollution due to its phosphate industry and slowed development. The project is divided into two phases. The first, namely the completion of the clean-up work and the restoration of Sfax's northern coastline, has already been completed. The second phase will initiate the modernization of the area and the development of a new urban centre and infrastructure designed in line with the highest sustainable standards to achieve inter alia GHG emissions reduction and resilience to climate change.

UPFI Imbaba Urban Upgrading Project (labelled in June 2014) aims to strengthen the integration of Imbaba with Cairo city by upgrading basic facilities. The project is expected to establish public and green spaces for leisure and to improve road and pedestrian roads connections.

UPFI Izmir Urban Integrated Waste Management Project (labelled in 2016) will bring significant environmental benefits for the city of Izmir by minimizing associated impacts of solid waste management, and will improve the living standards of the population. The project will support the efforts to reduce or prevent greenhouse gas emissions, decrease the release of pollutants, conserve resources and save energy, as well as contribute to waste recycling and energy production.

In the field of energy, also 3 projects having impacts on climate change have been labelled since the adoption of the Ministerial Declaration.

The **Tafila Wind Farm** project (labelled in April 2014 and launched in 2015) is the first and largest private investment in renewable energy in Jordan. Once fully developed, Tafila Wind Farm will provide almost 10% of Jordan's wind energy target by 2020 and will cover 3% of the national electricity demand. Besides, Tafila has a high trans-boundary demonstrative effect on growing business and investment opportunities in the region for the private sector.

The **EBRD SEmed Private Renewable Energy Framework (SPREF)** (labelled in 2016 and launched during the COP22), aims at breaking down barriers preventing the development of the private renewable energy markets in Morocco, Tunisia, Egypt and Jordan; providing efficient financing mechanisms and technical cooperation support by private sector for the realisation of renewable energy projects in the region. This project is expected to avoid 780,000 tons of CO2 emissions annually in the region.

In the field of transport, the UfM is supporting an optimal combination of various modes in implementing the Trans-Mediterranean Transport Network, such as co-modality within the transport chains, and a shift towards the most sustainable, energy efficient and least polluting modes of transport. In this regard, the **UfM Motorways of the Sea Initiative** (under which the first project was labelled in 2016 and several other are ready to be labelled) should produce environmental benefits

both by modal shift from road to sea, transferring an important part of road traffic to maritime traffic, generating relevant savings in congestion, air pollution and road safety. Special attention will be also given to the port infrastructures adaptation. Indeed, ports are expected to be particularly impacted by climate change, due mostly to the long-life time and high value of their key infrastructural assets, their exposed location and concentration of economic activities.

Moreover, as mentioned, the project **MedReSCP: Post Rio +20 - Supporting the adoption of sustainable consumption and production patterns** (SCP) has also an important climate dimension. Labelled in April 2014 and launched in 2015, the project aims at providing access to financing for companies adopting SCP/RE models in Egypt, Jordan, Morocco, and Tunisia; and at stimulating the development of green industries and entrepreneurship in the Western Balkans and Turkey through the implementation of technical assistance and pilot projects. More information on the project can be found in the section dealing with Sustainable Consumption and Production, in Annex 2.

Draft

ANNEX 8

Overview of UfMS activities carried out with UN Environment MAP (previously called UNEP MAP) in order to operationalize the signed and renewed MoU as well as the recommendations of the Ministerial Declaration on Environment and Climate Change in 2014

The H2020 Initiative - Pollution prevention and control of Mediterranean coastal and marine waters

- Adoption of the work programme agreeing to Phase II of the H2020 Initiative for the Depollution of the Med Sea and related newly endorsed governance and operational structure (Athens June 2014);
- UfMS co-chairing with EIB the H2020 Investment Group; ensuring active support for bringing priority investment projects to IFIs attention and appraisal (PRPI group meetings in 2014/2015/2016);
- Strong partnership and involvement of UNEP/MAP in the Investment Component meetings and activities in order to maximize synergies between the H2020 Investment Component/Pollution Prevention and Reduction Investment Group (PRPI) and the NAPs revision, including hosting by UNEP/MAP of the PRPI Group meeting in Athens in June 2016;
- Adoption by UfMS and IFIs of a joint biannual UfMS Road Map to facilitate H2020 investments in November 2015;
- Activation of a UfM technical assistance to support the H2020 Investment Component to identify/advance a core set of H2020 priority projects;
- Full financing of the UfM labelled Lake Bizerte Project (1st labelled H2020 investment project) by the Tunisian Government, EIB and ERBD; official launch of the project on 1st November 2016 in Tunis;
- UfM labelled BlueGreen project supporting the civil society component of the H2020 Capacity Building; part of the activities of the UfM labelled project Plastic Busters, to which UNEP/MAP is a partner, are integrated in the SWIM-H2020 Support Mechanism;
- Letter of exchange between EEA and UfM Sec under finalization, including partnership on H2020/ SEIS – Shared Environmental Information System;
- Participation of the UfM to the H2020 Core Groups and Sub-Group (CB; Investment; Monitoring and Reporting Coordination) held between 2014-2017;
- Participation to relevant UNEP/MAP meetings on the NAPs (CoP19 and technical meetings).

Marine and Coastal Ecosystems and Biodiversity Protection in the Mediterranean region

- Marine Protected Areas duly integrated in the Governance Focus Group organized at the UfM premises in Barcelona in March 2016 by DG/MARE to extract elements for the advancement of the Maritime Initiative on Blue Economy in the Western Med, currently called “Stakeholder conference on the sustainable development of the blue economy in the western Mediterranean”;
- UfM Sec attending the Marine Protected Areas Forum organized by MedPAN, SPA/RAC of UNEP/MAP and the Moroccan Government in November 2016;
- Marine and Coastal Ecosystems and Biodiversity Protection were integrated in the UfM Ministerial Declaration on Blue Economy, adopted in November 2015 (*..., taking into account land-sea interactions through an ecosystem based approach and the importance to*

accelerate efforts in taking necessary measures to develop a coherent and well-managed network of marine protected areas to meet the objectives of the Mediterranean Action Plan)

Integrated Coastal Zone Management (ICZM) and Marine Spatial Planning (MSP)

- Adoption of the UfM Ministerial Declaration on Blue Economy, “*promoting the application of cross-cutting policy tools, such as maritime spatial planning and integrated coastal zone management, taking into account land-sea interactions through an ecosystem based approach and the importance to accelerate efforts in taking necessary measures to develop a coherent and well-managed network of marine protected areas to meet the objectives of the Mediterranean Action Plan*”; first actions started through the EU funded Integrated Maritime Policy-MED project; UNEP/MAP attended as key observer and provided inputs;
- Setting up of the UfM Working Group on Blue Economy, addressing among other issues Integrated Coastal Zone management and Maritime Spatial Planning; UNEP/MAP is a permanent member; PAP/RAC attended specific meeting/s of mentioned Working Group;
- At the UfM/EC Blue Economy Meeting of 8 November 2016 in Brussels, UNEP/MAP and PAP/RAC contributed a presentation on the on-going preparation of the ICZM Regional Framework of direct relevance to the on-going Marine Spatial Planning debate, and on the relevant legally-binding instruments of the Barcelona Convention (most importantly the 2016-2025 Mediterranean Strategy on Sustainable Development) that provide context to the work on Blue Growth in the Mediterranean;
- UfM Sec participation to the Coast Day organized by UNEP/MAP – PAP/RAC and SCP/RAC in Barcelona, September 2016.

2016-2025 Mediterranean Strategy for Sustainable Development

- UfM contributed to the six discussion groups set up by UNEP/MAP to revise the Mediterranean Strategy on Sustainable Development during the course of 2015;
- Based on the Barcelona Convention CoP19 decisions, UfM has become a member of the Mediterranean Commission on Sustainable Development, for which UNEP/MAP functions as Secretariat.

Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency

- Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency issues associated to CC mitigation within the CC EGs (1st CC EG, held in October 2014; 2nd and 3rd CC EG meetings planned during the first and second semester of 2015)
(see under Climate Change)

Sustainable Consumption and Production (SCP)

- The EU funded Switch Med program and UfM labelled Post Rio+20 Med ReSCP (both involving SCP/RAC of UNEP/MAP as implementing agency/promoter) recognized by the UfM Ministerial Declaration on ENV and CC as key programmes/interventions; close coordination on the implementation of the two ongoing programmes; the activities of mentioned programmes are part of the Action Plan on Sustainable Consumption and Production in the Mediterranean (adopted at the Barcelona Convention CoP19 in February 2016);
- Sustainable Consumption and Production quoted in the UfM Ministerial Declaration on Blue Economy adopted in November 2015;

- UfM labelling of the Plastic Busters project on Marine Litter in 2016, involving SCP/RAC of UNEP/MAP as promoter;
- UfM contributed financially to support the communication activities of the SwitchMedConnect events organized within the EU funded SwitchMed programme by SCP/RAC of UNEP/MAP for both editions - 2015 and 2016.

Climate Change

- Implementation of the CC section of the UfM Ministerial Declaration on ENV and CC, including the support of the UNEP/MAP Regional Climate Change Adaption Framework adopted at CoP19;
- UfM involved UNEP/MAP in the UfM Climate Change Expert Group (5 meetings held since 2014), as well as in High-Level policy dialogue (Skhirat, Morocco, 7 May 2015).

UfMS and UNEP/MAP have ensured attendance of respective relevant meetings such as the Barcelona Convention CoP19; UfMS Ministerial Declaration on Blue Economy; the meetings of the MCSDD; MedCOP and related meetings in the UNFCCC COP22 in Marrakech, Morocco; technical meetings (SCP FPs meeting and SWITCHMED Steering Committee; MPAs Regional Forum; CC Working Group; the Coast Day; etc.). These events have provided the opportunity for frequent exchanges on cooperation and joint activities.

The existing MoU between UfMS and UNEP/MAP, which expired in December 2016, was extended upon mutual agreement by the two Parties for additional three years. Consultations are being held to update the implementation plan of the MoU, based on the respective mandates of the two Organizations.