



1st UfM WG on Environment and Climate Change

14-15 March 2017 / Palau de Pedralbes, Barcelona
Draft Agenda

Tuesday 14th March

9:00 - 9:30 Registration

9:30 - 10:00 Welcome Addresses

- Jordan - UfM Co-presidency
- European Commission - UfM Co-presidency (*DG ENV/DG Clima/DG Near*)
- UfM Secretariat (*DSG Miguel Garcia Herraiz and DSG Jorge Borrego*)

10:00 – 10:45 Plenary session I

- Recall of the context of the UfM Ministerial Declaration on Environment and Climate Change and joint priorities for action; other relevant UfM processes
By *Patrick Wegerdt (DG Environment) and Matthieu Ballu (DG Clima)*
- Objective and structure of the meeting
By *Alessandra Sensi and Nicolas Debaisieux (UfM Secretariat)*

10:45 – 11:00 Coffee break

11:15 – 13:00 Parallel sessions (Presentations and discussion)

- Environment issues
 - “Horizon 2020 fora Cleaner Mediterranean” (previously called “Horizon 2020 for the De-pollution of the Mediterranean”)
 - *H2020 - Capacity Building*
By *MIO-ECSDE and the European Commission*
 - *H2020 – Review and Monitoring*
By *the European Environment Agency and UN Environment/MAP*



- *H2020 – Pollution Reduction and Prevention Investment
By the UfM Secretariat and the EIB (tbc)*

Points of discussion at the WG

H2020 INITIATIVE – OVERALL

Short term/up to 2020

- Explore and propose to the H2020 Steering Group mechanisms to ensure **full involvement and participation of all H2020 countries** (not only countries covered by a project funding) in the implementation of the H2020 programme of work;
- **Reintroduction** of the ‘**Horizon 2020 Coordination Mechanism**’, including specification of the needed annual meetings/coordination activities of the H2020 coordination Group;
- Enhancement of the **overall communication (through internal and external channels) and visibility of the H2020 Initiative**, with emphasis 1) on the overall joint efforts and progress of the H2020 components, and 2) H2020 activities and impacts at national level;
- Overall reflection on the **opportunity/capacity to re-launch/ implement the planned actions of the H2020 research component** within 2020;
- **Synchronization of the work plan of the relevant EU funded programs timeframes with the overall timeframe of the H2020 initiative;**
- **Activate further synergies** in order to ensure that new, relevant regional programs channel their support towards the successful implementation of the H2020 Initiative;
- Explore broader **coordination mechanisms** (within and outside H2020) able to ensure **appropriate integration of all various assessment-based projects and initiatives** (e.g. 2nd H2020 Indicator-based assessment, UNEP MAP State of the Environment and development, etc.) to build-up a coherent regional knowledge base;

Post 2020

- **Consolidate the results so far of the overall H2020 Initiative**, and **assess the achievements versus the initial target** (*...aims to de-pollute the 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...*).
- **Initial reflection on the post H2020 Initiative**, namely how to tailor/readjust the approach, mechanisms and operational modalities of the H2020 Initiative based on the results accomplished so far;
- **Grab the opportunity to further strengthen the Mediterranean green/circular economy/low emission agenda**; make the best out of the existing mechanisms, complementarities and structured linkages among countries, organizations and programs; in line with the relevant SDGs, **emphasize, or better integrate, socio-economic themes** with emphasis on **job creation dimension, youth, women**;
- Build on the governance set-put in place over the last years.



H2020 Initiative – Capacity building

- **Alignment of the SWIM-Horizon2020 Support Mechanism timing with the end of the Horizon 2020 Work Programme (2015-2020);**
- While considering the **reintroduction of the ‘Horizon 2020 Coordination Mechanism**, take into consideration the **successful management of the ‘H2020 Coordination Mechanism’ by the previous Horizon 2020 Capacity Building/ Mediterranean Environment Programme (H2020 CB/MEP) during Phase 1.**

H2020 Initiative - Review and monitoring

- **Finalisation of the SEIS national work plans; and of the overall SEIS workplan;**
- Further support the **operationalisation of an effective regional information system based on solid national information system** and promote integrated environmental approaches;
- Ensure **appropriate integration of all various assessment-based projects and initiatives to build-up coherent regional knowledge base** necessary to properly inform on the current and upcoming challenges the region faces; this requiring stronger and broader coordination mechanisms.

H2020 Initiative – Research

- Rethink the opportunity/capacity to address **science-policy/practice interface** under H2020 within the current setting
- **Better link as well with other initiatives** (H2020 R+I, Bluemed, PRIMA....)

H2020 Initiative - Pollution Reduction and Prevention Investments

- Promote the **long-term development of the existing Road Map with IFIs**; Ensure the full involvement of partner institutions for the work of the PRPI group to be efficient; Approach additional relevant donors to expand and consolidate the PRPI group and its objectives;
- **Alignment of the MeHSIP timing with the end of the Horizon 2020 Work Programme (2015-2020);**
- Agreement on the **criteria for H2020 flagship investment projects**; support in **advancing/launching/operationalising the H2020 investment flagship projects.**
- Promote as much as possible the **alignment of existing facilities with the revised NAPs priorities** for project development and financing

- *Sustainable Consumption and Production
Presentations by UNIDO, EBRD, SCPRAC, UN Environment Economics*



- Climate Change issues
 - *Presentation of the report on the implementation of the UfM Ministerial Declaration
By Nicolas Debaisieux, UfM Secretariat*
 - *Update on the UNEP-MAP Regional Climate Change Adaptation Framework (RCCAF)
By the UNEP-MAP*
 - *Tour de table on national implementation of the UfM Ministerial Declaration (**Update on
the progress of the Ministerial Declaration by each country**)*

13:00-14:00 Lunch break

14:00 – 16:00 Parallel sessions (continued) (Presentations and discussion)

- Environment issues
 - *Sustainable Consumption and Production
Discussion*

Points of discussion at the WG

- Ensure the **full implementation of the Regional Action Plan on Sustainable Consumption and Production** and of the **National Action Plans** in countries that have already adopted them; promote the elaboration and adoption of National Action Plans in the remaining countries;
- Building on the successful results of the ongoing regional programmes, **ensure as matter of urgency adequate financial resources beyond 2018 to keep up the momentum created at regional level by the SwitchMed Programme; scale up thematically and geographically the existing efforts into a longer term set of expanded actions, including access to financing and facilitation of SCP/RE related investments, so as to consolidate the critical mass of regional and local capacities** necessary to support the move toward SCP and green/circular economy models;
- **Accelerate implementation of activities** under the DRIVE Fund in the **Western Balkans; Promote establishment of new, similar donor funds** to facilitate access to financing for SMEs and green entrepreneurs adopting SCP practices in the entire Med

- *Other environmental issues*
 - ✓ *Ecosystem protection/MPAs, including the Trust Fund for Mediterranean MPAs (MEDPAN/RACSPA)*



- ✓ *Rich avifauna/Recommendations under the Bern Convention (DGENV)*
- ✓ *Integrated Maritime Policy/Blue Economy, including Integrated Coastal Zone Management/Maritime Spatial Planning (Jordan/DGMARE/UfMS, CPRM)*

Points of discussion at the WG

Marine Protected Areas (MPAs)

- Promote the **creation of new MPAs, including in the open seas**, to reach the established Aichi target 11¹;
- Support to **more effective, equitable and efficient management of existing MPAs by 2020 through more financial and human means** available for MPAs as well as long-term capacity-building and networking at Mediterranean level;
- Create **win-win relationships of MPAs with decision-makers, donors and private sector** in order to respond to pressures beyond MPA borders, while considering MPAs as a natural capital and a management instrument to reach sustainability targets.
- Further **support the establishment of the MPAs Trust Fund**, building on the lessons learned from other well-established regional conservation trust fund delivering conservation to marine areas around the world;
- Strengthen and develop the **role of MPAs as a marine spatial management tool in supporting ecosystem-based adaptation and mitigation to climate change**.

Bern Convention in particular Larnaka and Tunis Action Plan

- Ensure adequate country representation within the established intergovernmental task force on illegal killing.

Integrated Maritime Policy/Blue Economy

- Set the path towards the **2nd Ministerial Meeting on Blue Economy**, tentatively planned in 2018, based on the final outcomes and outputs of the activities launched so far;
- Optimize and fully operationalize the existing **Virtual Knowledge Center** as a **stakeholder register and networking platform**;
- **Officially launch the Initiative Sustainable Development of the Blue Economy in the Western Mediterranean Initiative** and consider UfM labelling;
- Promote the **regional network of maritime training institutes**;
- **Expand the Bluemed Initiative** to other Southern and Eastern Mediterranean countries willing to join;
- Further promote **maritime spatial planning /integrated coastal zone management as governance and management tool** (ensuring sea land interaction);
- Maximize the **involvement of relevant stakeholders**

¹Target 11: By 2020, at least 17 per cent of terrestrial and inland water, and 10 per cent of coastal and marine areas, especially areas of particular importance for biodiversity and ecosystem services, are conserved through effectively and equitably managed, ecologically representative and well connected systems of protected areas and other effective area-based conservation measures, and integrated into the wider landscapes and seascapes



- Climate Change issues
- *Presentation of the recommendations to strengthen UfM climate action
By the UfM Co-presidency*
- *Tour de table on the implementation of recommendations*

Points of discussion at the WG

- **Revision of the structure and mechanisms** - reshaped along the lines of the Paris Agreement, following CoPs and regional meetings - **of the climate change expert group**;
- Consolidate through the **new work programme** the definition of a regional climate change agenda and action plan in line with the Paris Agreement and related COP outcomes and agreements;

16:00 – 16:30 Coffee break

16:30-18:00 Parallel sessions (continued)

- Environment issues
- *Tour de table on national implementation of the UfM Ministerial Declaration (**Update on the progress of the Ministerial Declaration by each country**)*
- *Discussion on **key findings/highlights and suggestions on the way forward** (by group)*
- Climate Change issues (for UfM Member States only)
- *Informal discussion on a possible project on climate related environmental threats*

18:00 Cocktail

Wednesday 15th March

09:00 - 09:15 Wrap-up of the parallel sessions



09:15 - 10:30 Plenary session II - Joint issues (*Presentations*)

- *Eco-cities (Jordan)*
Presentation by Jordan

Points of discussion at the WG

Eco-cities

- Consolidate a **common conceptual agreement on the definition of “eco-cities, smart cities, green cities, etc.”**; and build synergies among the existing regional processes and initiatives;
- Welcome and support the **2nd UfM Ministerial Conference on Sustainable Urban Development in 2017**;
- **Promote the upcoming edition of the Jordan-led Eco Cities Forum** as 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 may help to lead to cleaner, safer and vibrant sustainable cities

- *Tour de table on environmental and climate change governance and stakeholder involvement*;
By countries and stakeholders

Points of discussion at the WG

- **Progress from countries on ‘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’**; and steps taken ‘to enhance the opportunities and capacity of civil society, including recognized and registered NGOs, academic, financial and research institutions, local and regional authorities, the private sector, and other stakeholders to participate in decision-making processes’
- **At regional level**, progress on the adoption of **multi stakeholders/participatory approaches (NGOs, academia, private sector, etc.)**, progressively extending to **local authorities**;
- **Increased coordination among funding programs** around common/shared priorities (e.g. environment and climate funding; cooperation among EU funding programs; etc)

- *Science policy interface*
By Nicolas Debaisieux, UfM Secretariat and Joel Giuot, MedECC

Points of discussion at the WG

- **Update on the science-policy interface** developed under the UfM Climate Change Expert Group and way forward, taking into account other environmental changes



- *Increased awareness and education - Mediterranean Strategy on Education for Sustainable Development*
By MIO-ECSDE

Points of discussion at the WG

- **Implementation of the Action Plan on Mediterranean Strategy for Sustainable Development**

- *Implementation of required environment and climate investments*
By Guy Fleuret, UfM Secretariat

Points of discussion at the WG

- Better **integrate newly established IFIs green and climate funds to serve environmental de-pollution and pollution prevention investments;**
- Activate the newly established **UfM Regional Finance Cooperation Committee for Climate Action (RFCCA)**
- Address environment and climate investments through the closer **involvement of all concerned national authorities**, including the Ministries of Finance/Economy/Planning

10:30-10:45 Coffee break

10:45 - 12:15 Plenary session II - Joint issues (continued)

- *Tour de table and discussion on key findings/highlights and suggestions on the way forward*

12:15 - 13:00 Plenary session IV – Emerging dossiers (Presentations and discussion)

- *Mediterranean forests and Sustainable Land Management*
By Nicolas Picard, FAO; Inazio Martinez de Arano, EFI
- *The Bologna Charter and the Co-Evolve project (Interreg-Med)*
By Roberto Montanari, Emilia-Romagna Region, Coast Area – EU Projects Coordinator



Points of discussion at the WG

- Integration/association of the overall **Mediterranean Forestry/Silva Mediterranean frameworks of work and activities** into the wider implementation measures related to environment and climate change of the 2014 Ministerial Declaration to address **desertification, water quantity/quality, biodiversity, climate mitigation/adaptation** as well as contribute to promoting SCP business models, job creation and green investments;
- **Closer involvement of the local and regional coastal administrations through the Bologna Charter**, namely the charter of the Regions for the promotion of a common framework for strategic actions aimed at the protection and sustainable development of the Mediterranean coastal areas. The Bologna Charter is open to more Southern & Eastern coastal administrations of the Mediterranean to join on a voluntary basis. Presentation of Co-Evolve as example to foster further partnership and specific actions on local coastal territories.

13:00-14:00 Lunch break

14:00 - 16:00 Closing session

- **Agreed conclusions/suggestions on the way forward**
By the UfM Co-Presidency
- Closure by the UfM Co-Presidencies and the UfM Secretariat