

SOCIOECONOMIC IMPACT OF CLIMATE CHANGE IN THE MEDITERRANEAN

13 December 2021 | 17h00 – 19h30 CET

Onsite and online meeting

Sala de Actes - IEMed
Carrer Girona 20, Barcelona, Spain

With English-Spanish simultaneous translation

INTRODUCTION

The Mediterranean is one of the main climate change hotspots in the world. Accelerated climate change effects have caused direct and already visible environmental challenges that, based on projections, are expected to worsen in the upcoming decades. These threats for the Mediterranean environment, as well as its drivers, have been well identified and understood over the last years (MAR1-MedECC). However, much remains to be done to assess the socioeconomic impacts of climate change on Mediterranean societies. The interlinkages of climate change with multiple and multidimensional relevant threats, the complex functioning of Mediterranean social-ecological systems, as well as the climate-biodiversity-society nexus, make this task particularly difficult. It notably requires a cross-cutting approach of climate-related phenomena, social, economic, and political processes. However difficult assessing the socioeconomic impacts of climate change in the Mediterranean may be, it is nonetheless crucial to connect the social and scientific agendas and inform the policymaking for the design of proactive mitigation and adaptation strategies in the region.

Against this background, the Policy Study **“Socioeconomic Impacts of Climate Change in the Mediterranean”** commissioned PRIMA Foundation and the European Institute of the Mediterranean (IEMed) aims at addressing the challenges in assessing the detrimental effects of climate change on Mediterranean societies by adopting multidisciplinary lenses. On the occasion of the celebration of the **Mediterranean Day**, this conference will present the study to the public and discuss its main findings with the different authors, in presence of policymakers and experts.

PROGRAMME

17.00

Welcoming words

Isidro González, Deputy Secretary General in charge of Water, Environment and Blue Economy, Union for the Mediterranean (UfM)

Gerard Figueras, Secretary for Foreign Action, Government of Catalonia

Senén Florensa, Executive President, European Institute of the Mediterranean (IEMed)

17.20

Keynote Speech

Francisco Doblas Reyes, Research Professor, Catalan Institution for Research and Advanced Studies (ICREA) and Director of the Earth Sciences Department, Barcelona Supercomputing Center (BSC)

Presentation of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) Report 2021

17.40

Panel discussion

Moderator

Clara Ferré Mercer, Journalist

Panellists

Climate change impacts on the Mediterranean basin: A social-ecological perspective

Victoria Reyes-García, Research Professor, Catalan Institution for Research and Advanced Studies (ICREA), Institute of Environmental Science and Technology, Autonomous University of Barcelona (UAB)

The Socioeconomic Impacts of Climate Change on Water, Agriculture and Food in the Countries of the Mediterranean Basin

Alain Safa, Founder and Manager, SKILL PARTNERS. President, CEMAFI International - via Videoconference

Challenges and shortcomings of assessing the socioeconomic impacts of climate change – the case of the Mediterranean

Elena Xoplaki, Akad. Rätin and Acting Head Climatology, Climate Dynamics and Climate Change, Department of Geography & Center for International Development and Environmental Research, Justus Liebig University Giessen, Giessen, Germany

Evidence, Perceptions and Decisions Concerning the Environmental Crisis in the Mediterranean

Joan Subirats, Professor of Political Science, Institute of Government and Public Policy, Autonomous University of Barcelona (UAB)

18.45

Q&A with the public

19.15

Closing

Octavi Quintana, Director, PRIMA Foundation

Roger Albinyana, Managing Director, European Institute of the Mediterranean (IEMed)