



UNFCCC COP 27

Sharm El-Sheikh, Egypt

Energy Day, Nov 15th

Session title

Role of R&I to address climate change in the Mediterranean – The case of PRIMA

Lead organisation – PRIMA

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Background -

The Mediterranean is one of the hotspots for CC. Its temperature increase is 20% higher than the world average. CC has severe consequences such as a rainfall decrease, an increase in water demand, a sea level increase, heavy storms, and wildfires, to mention just a few. It impacts agriculture, food security, health, social unrest and migrations.

To cope with these challenges, it is essential to understand how they are produced and which strategies work best in mitigation and adaptation. These strategies imply very often a change in individual and collective behaviour and therefore to understand the incentives which work better and at the same time are feasible. It is also very relevant to predict when and where extreme events will occur with as much anticipation as possible.

Knowledge is thus essential and the basis for all mitigation and adaptation measures. It means developing robust systems of R&I without which measures and policies to mitigate and adapt to CC will not work. R&I have to encompass the biophysics of CC and also its socioeconomic impacts. Sectorial approaches are very limited because systems are complex and interrelated. Solutions to cope with CC must be intersectional across different disciplines and stakeholders.

These challenges are common to all the region's countries, and certainly, no one can cope with them on its own. Countries around the Mediterranean are very diverse, with huge differences in per capita GDP, population and scientific development, but CC threatens them all. Cooperation among them is crucial not only to reach critical mass but also to test whether problems and solutions are similar or need to be adapted to different settings

The EC and the UfM have developed an R&I Roadmap of three pillars CC, renewable energy and health. R&I on CC is certainly the core, but renewable energy is closely related to CC, and the region has a huge potential to develop it. Health will also be affected by CC, even if less directly. It is a priority to develop and implement this roadmap in the next years.

PRIMA is an R&I program of 19 participating states around the Mediterranean, 11 from the EU and 8 non-EU, which has been working since 2018. So far, it has funded 170 projects involving around 1700 teams from all the participating states. Its main areas are water, agriculture, food,



and their relations and links. CC is a transversal issue for most projects, especially when developing sustainable solutions.

PRIMA has shown to be a good broker allowing the cooperation of scientists and innovators from all participating states, and has developed strong scientific networks around the Mediterranean.

Understanding CC and its implications and developing complex and difficult solutions are essential. PRIMA can contribute to this difficult endeavour.

Type of event carried on - Panel debate

Session format – Hybrid

Speakers & Show Flow

Time	Activity	Speaker
10 minutes	Welcoming remarks	Omar Amawi , Deputy Director PRIMA and moderator
40 minutes	Panel	Speaker Clara De la Torre , Deputy Director-General of European Commission, Directorate-General for Climate Action
		Speaker Alvaro Albacete , Deputy Secretary General for Water, Environment and Blue Economy
		Speaker Rym Ayadi , President EMEA
		Wolfgang Cramer , Co-chair of the Mediterranean Experts on Climate and Environmental Change, MedECC
10 minutes	Q/A session	Moderator, panellists and audience
5 minutes	Final remarks	Omar Amawi , Deputy Director PRIMA and moderator

Please note that all events/slots will have a strictly 1h maximum duration and ensure gender balance