



UNFCCC COP 27

Sharm El-Sheikh, Egypt

16th November 10:00-11:15 Egypt time zone

BIODIVERSITY DAY

Session title - Water-Energy-Food-Ecosystems Nexus approach: An adaptation Strategy to cope with climate change in the Mediterranean Area.

Lead organisation - PRIMA

Session coordinator - Antonella Autino (antonella.autino@prima-med.org; Ali Rhouma (ali.rhouma@prima-med.org)

Background - Climate change affects the Mediterranean region significantly more than the world average, endangering the sustainable provision of water, energy, food, and ecosystem services. The region is more vulnerable to climate change impacts than other regions. Water scarcity will likely increase in the next decades because of climate change. Moreover, agricultural practices aimed at increasing yields have led to enhanced water use for irrigation. Continued intensification of agricultural practices will result in adverse consequences for water resources, biodiversity, and landscape functioning. This is combined with enhanced disturbances of environmental integrity, overexploitation of ecosystem services and a growing tendency towards desertification.

Mediterranean countries face a difficult challenge in meeting the growing demands for food, water, and energy, further compounded by climate change. Effective adaptation to change requires the efficient use of land, water, energy, and other vital resources and coordinated efforts to minimise trade-offs and maximise synergies. However, the policy process generally follows a sectoral approach that does not consider the interconnections and interdependence among the different sectors. The role of the water-food-energy nexus in addressing the competing demands of - and facilitating - adaptation and development has not yet been fully recognised.

Sectoral adaptation strategies can increase vulnerability or undermine net resilience by decreasing capacity or increasing risks in another place or sector, resulting in maladaptation. Most adaptation plans, including the National Adaptation Plans (NAPs), have been prepared to meet sectoral goals. They generally focus on sectoral and project-



based activities without adequate consideration or coordination of cross-sectoral interactions among key climate-sensitive sectors such as water, energy, food, and ecosystem

Event objectives

Considering that effective adaptation to change requires the efficient use of land, water, energy, and other vital resources and coordinated efforts to minimise trade-offs and maximise synergies, this event will be an opportunity for countries to raise awareness among policymakers, scientists, and local communities that the adaptation is closely linked with the sustainable use and management of water, energy and food, all of which are vital for sustainable development.

The event, aims to:

- Recognise the importance of the interlinkages in the water, energy, and food nexus and the implications for sustainable development and adaptation.
- The potential synergies and complementarities among the sectors should be used to guide the formulation of effective adaptation options
- Shift in policy approaches from a sectoral focus, which can result in competing and counterproductive actions, to an integrated approach with policy coherence among the sectors that use knowledge of the interlinkages to maximise gain, optimise trade-offs, and avoid negative impacts
- Recognise the importance of policies coherence which are a key to advancing toward sustainability
- Facilitate the Integration of the Nexus WEFEE approach into National Adaptations Plans

Type of event carried on - Panel debate

Session format - Hybrid



Speakers & Show Flow

| Time | Activity | Speaker | |
|---|-----------------|---|--------|
| 10 minutes | Welcome | Mr Hani Sewilam Minister of Water Resources & Irrigation (Egypt) Ms Faten Khamassi Head Cabinet Ministry of Agriculture Tunisia | P P |
| | Panel | Moderator Octavi Quintana | P |
| 5 minutes | Panel | Speaker 1 Jann Th. Martinsohn Head of Unit – Water and Marine Resources Directorate-General Joint Research Centre | R |
| 5 minutes | | Speaker 2 Mr Jauad El Kharraz - RECREEE- Egypt - Executive director | P |
| 5 minutes | | Speaker 3: Ms Phoebe Koundouri Athens Univ. of Economic and Business | P |
| 5 minutes | | Speaker 4: Fernando Nardi University for Foreigners of Perugia | R |
| 5 minutes | | Speaker 5 Mr Rafik Aini - Ministry of Agriculture/Tunisia | P |
| 5 minutes | | Speaker 6 Rachid Tahiri - Direction of Climate Change, Biodiversity and Green Economy Ministry in charge of Sustainable Development Morocco | P |
| 5 Minutes | Closing remarks | Mr. Panagiotis BALABANIS Head of Sector Water European Commission, Directorate-General for Research and Innovation Circular Economy & Biobased Systems | R |
| PRIZE CEREMONY_ PRIMA WEFE Nexus Award/ Omar Amawi | | | |
| 5 minutes | Prize ceremony | Mr Atef Jaouani - ISSBAT/Tunisia- Prize of Nexus WEFE-2022 | P |
| 5 minutes | Prize Ceremony | Mr Hani Sewilam, Minister of Water Resources & Irrigation (Egypt) | P |

P: Physically, R: Remote