



WES-BCA

**Water and Environment Support -
Biodiversity and Climate Action**
in the Neighbourhood South region



WES-BCA
Water and Environment Support -
Biodiversity and Climate Action
in the Neighbourhood South region



**Funded by
the European Union**





Meeting Objectives and Progress Overview with Emphasis on Regional Activities

Presented by:
Professor Michael SCOULLOS
Team Leader, WES-BCA

WES-BCA in a snapshot



- WES-BCA aims to improve the protection of the environment, the restoration of biodiversity and the management of scarce water resources, while enhancing the resilience to climate change in the Mediterranean region, strengthening the formulation and enforcement of the relevant policies of the Partner Countries and the two regional political frameworks, namely the Union for the Mediterranean (UfM) and the Barcelona Convention.
- It strives to enhance the capacity of relevant stakeholders in order to support them in formulating and or implementing policies in the issues mentioned above.
- It is meant to raise awareness, increase knowledge and improve public understanding, stimulating behavioural changes needed for appropriate climate action and environmental protection.
- WES-BCA is the continuation of the WES project and therefore capitalises on the experience of previous successful EU funded regional projects (SWIM-Horizon2020 SM, SWIM SM; Horizon 2020 CB/MEP).

WES-BCA Identity



Partner Countries:

8 Countries in North Africa and the Middle East



Duration: November 2024 – November 2027



Budget: 7.000.000 Euros



Team Leader: Professor Michael Scoulllos, scoulllos@wes-med.eu

Environment K Expert: Mr Anis Ismail, a.ismail@wes-med.eu

Water K Expert: Ms Suzan Taha, taha@wes-med.eu

Communication K Expert: Ms Lisa Papadogeorgaki, lpa@ldk.gr

Stakeholder Engagement and Impact Assessment NK Expert: Dr. Emad Adly, wes.gc@raednetwork.org

WES-BCA Consortium



LDK CONSULTANTS S.A. (Leader)



Arab Network for Environment and Development (RAED)



Association of Cities and Regions for Sustainable Resource Management (ACR+)



CIHEAM – Mediterranean Agronomic Institute of Bari (CIHEAM Bari)



Mediterranean Information Office for Environment, Culture and Sustainable Development (MIO-ECSDE)



MedWaves, the Regional Activity Centre of UNEP/Map for Sustainable Consumption and Production

Principles and steps of the workplan development



- Building on WES achievements enhancing consolidation and implementation of its follow-up actions, securing synergies while promoting cooperation and avoiding overlap with other regional and national programs.
- Linking regional and national activities and the 2 project Components, whenever possible, ensuring that national outcomes inform regional activities and *vice versa*.
- Promoting holistic approaches (e.g. provided by the WEF E Nexus in the Source-to-Sea (S2S) Mediterranean Continuum) and connecting topics (e.g. in the Outreach on Climate Change with the Mediterranean “Champions” on Plastic Prevention to enhance lasting impact).
- Consulting with FPs, ministerial departments and EU Delegations.
- Drafting of the Terms of Reference (ToRs), submitting deliverables, quality assessment, etc.

COMPONENT 1: Topics addressed at Regional and National level



- Topic 1: Prevention & reduction of pollution (urban and industrial solid waste)
- Topic 2: Curbing Plastic Pollution & Marine Litter
- Topic 3: Promoting the Water-Energy-Food-Ecosystems (WEFE) Nexus approach
- Topic 4: Water Efficiency
- Topic 5: Climate Change mitigation and adaptation actions

COMPONENT 2: Addressing a series of target groups

Raising awareness and stimulating appropriate behaviours towards improved climate action and effective environmental protection (regional and national levels).

Progress overview - Regional & Horizontal activities (COMPONENT 1)

	May-October '25	November '25 - April '26	May-October '26	November '26- April '27	May-October '27
Component 1: Water, Biodiversity and Environment					
Regional Activities					
C1_REG-1 Strengthening regional regulatory frameworks for plastics and Circular Economy alignment (online)			●		
C1_REG/ST-2 Study Tour- Regional event on advancing Green, Blue, and Circular Economies in the Mediterranean through multi-sector collaboration (Sustainable Tourism)				●	
C1_REG/ST-3 Study Tour-Fostering regional collaboration and circular economy solutions to address land-based plastic pollution and marine litter in the Mediterranean: policy guidance on tackling riverine plastic pollution				●	
C1_REG-4 Contribution to the Mediterranean monitoring and reporting programs for marine litter prevention and mitigation (online) (near completion)		● ●			
C1_REG/ST-5 WEFE Nexus best practices in agriculture - Learning from practical approaches of Northern Mediterranean countries			●		
C1_REG/ST-6 Adaptation measures for floods and storms management (near completion)		●			
C1_REG-7 Assess Best Available Technologies for wastewater treatment (WWT) for reuse also involving the evaluation of the feasibility of integrating different renewable energy options with various WWT technologies and providing guidelines for integrating renewable energy with wastewater treatment plants				●	
C1_REG-8 Climate-resilient planning and practices in agriculture including efficient water management techniques in order to help equip irrigation managers/extension officers/WUAs with the knowledge and skills to adapt to Climate Change impacts					●
Horizontal Activities					
C1_HOR-1 Demonstrating the implementation of the WEFE strategy at national level (completed) ✓	●	●			
C1_HOR-2 Climate Change adaptation in the Mediterranean coastal area: catalysing financing/the role of the private sector			● ●		
C1_HOR-3 Support for WES-BCA PCs in preparing their 7 th National Biodiversity Reports under the Convention on Biological Diversity (UNCBD) (completed) ✓		●			

Marine litter & Plastic related WES-BCA Regional Activities



Marine litter and plastic pollution in general, including Single Use Plastics (SUPs), have been a central topic for WES-BCA. A large number of related activities were implemented under WES and its predecessor projects.

Within the current phase, a cluster of related issues, including **technical, regulatory, monitoring and reporting aspects**, have been designed and are being implemented at regional and national levels.

- C1_REG-4 Contribution to the Mediterranean monitoring and reporting programs for marine litter prevention and mitigation (**nearly completed**).
A Regional Webinar was successfully organized on the 3rd of February 2026, supporting Mediterranean PCs in enhancing the implementation of harmonised marine litter monitoring Programmes for all matrixes and to contribute to more effective reporting and mitigation measures aligned with UNEP/MAP's Regional Plan on Marine Litter Management.
A Regional Assessment Report on Marine Litter Monitoring and reporting, including recommendations, is under finalisation and will be disseminated.



Adaptation measures for floods and storms management



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Within the current phase, a regional cluster of activities addressing technical, planning, implementation and capacity-building aspects related to flood- and stormwater-adaptation approaches has been designed and implemented.

- C1_REG/ST-6 Adaptation Measures for Floods and Stormwater Management (nearly completed).

A 4-day Regional Training and Study Tour was successfully organised in Nice, France in April 2026, to strengthen the capacities of the PCs on flood and stormwater adaptation planning, analytical approaches, and implementation practices under Mediterranean conditions.

Programme combined training sessions, practical exercises and study-tour visits showcasing representative engineering, Nature-Based and hybrid approaches, including river renaturation (Cagnes and Brague rivers), floodplain restoration, sponge approaches (Nice Metropolitan Area) and decision-support systems for flood-risk and water management (AQUAZUR).

A Desk Study and Technical Review and Guidelines on Best Practices and Implementation Techniques were prepared and are currently under validation and will be disseminated through the WES-BCA platform once finalised.



Upcoming ML & Plastics related WES-BCA Regional Activities



- **C1_REG-1 Strengthening regional regulatory frameworks for plastics and Circular Economy alignment scheduled for July 2026.**
Webinar for knowledge-sharing on plastic pollution focusing on aligning frameworks with the Global Plastics Treaty (INC-5), and regional priorities, including UfM, UNEP/MAP, LAS, and the EU strategies.
- **C1_REG/ST-2 Study Tour - Regional event on advancing Green, Blue, and Circular Economies in the Mediterranean through multi-sector collaboration on Sustainable Tourism - scheduled for December 2026.**
The issue of single-use plastics will be addressed as an important issue for tourism.
- **C1_REG/ST-3 Study Tour - Fostering regional collaboration and circular economy solutions to address land-based plastic pollution and marine litter in the Mediterranean: policy guidance on tackling riverine plastic pollution - scheduled for April 2027.**

Horizontal Activity directly concerning Biodiversity

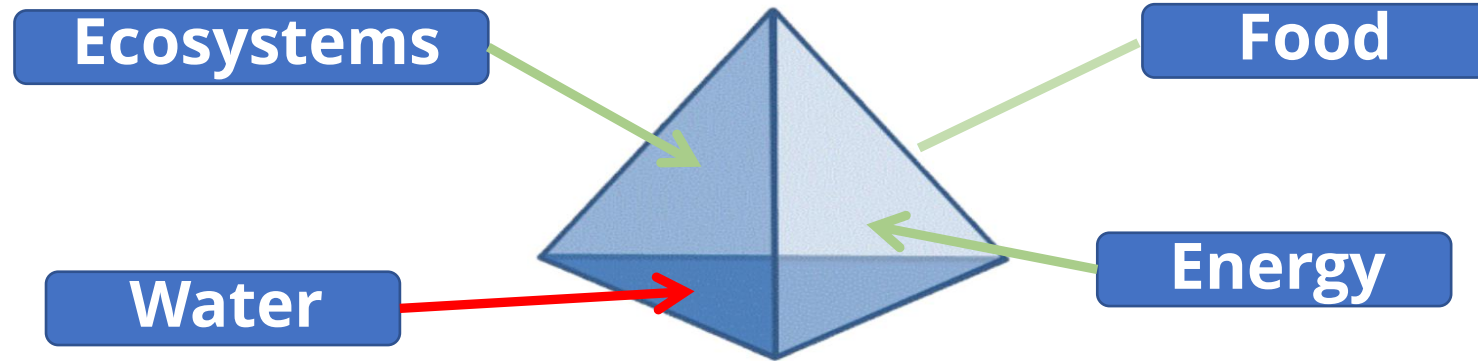


Support for the Preparation of the 7th National Biodiversity Reports under the Convention on Biological Diversity

Horizontal Activity (completed)

- WES-BCA together with the **UfM**, supported Mediterranean Partner Countries in preparing their **7th National Reports (7NRs)** under the Convention on Biological Diversity (UN CBD).
- Careful preparations were carried out in consultation with the EC, DG MENA and DG Environment, the UfM and the UN CBD Secretariat for defining the scope and programme and for preparing a comprehensive background documentation.
- The activity strengthened technical and institutional capacities and aligned national efforts with the **Kunming–Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework** and other regional/Mediterranean and EU biodiversity commitments.
- WES-BCA support, apart from the **webinar** on reporting structures and indicators (21 January 2026), included also targeted one-to-one **coaching sessions**, for Algeria, Tunisia and Palestine (for the latter there was also a related National activity).
- The webinar gathered **71 participants**, including representatives from Partner Countries, the **Union for the Mediterranean, the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity**, and several other key regional and international organisations.

Water-Energy-Food-Ecosystem (WEFE) Nexus R & H activities



WES and **WES-BCA** is a key facilitator together with **GWP-Med** and the **PRIMA** Project for the conceptualization, design, discussion and promotion of the **WEFE Nexus Strategy in the Mediterranean Source to Sea (S2S) Continuum**, under the political guidance of the **European Union**, the **Union for the Mediterranean (UfM)**, and the **Barcelona Convention/UNEP MAP**.

The process was started with significant WES contributions back in June 2023, and continues for the drafting and implementation of the Strategy's **Action Plan**.

25 activities & meetings already carried out on this by WES-BCA - at least another 5 in the pipeline.

Water-Energy-Food-Ecosystem (WEFE) Nexus R & H activities



The process began in June 2023 with significant WES & WES-BCA contributions within the UfM & Barcelona Convention Frameworks:

2023	1 st Regional WEFE Nexus Roundtable		6-7 June 2023		📍 Rabat
	13 th Meeting of the UfM Water Expert Group		7-8 June 2023		📍 Rabat
	20 th UNEP/MAP MCSD Meeting		14-16 June 2023		📍 Marseilles
	7 th Meeting of the UfM Task Force on Environment		15-16 November 2023		📍 Brussels
	23 rd COP of the Barcelona Convention		5-8 December 2023		📍 Portoroz
2024	2 nd Regional WEFE Nexus Roundtable		5 February 2024		📍 Tunis
2025	MCSD Meeting		12-13 February 2025		📍 Istanbul
	MedProgramme Third Annual Stocktaking Meeting		8-10 April 2025		📍 Istanbul
	UfM Med Green Week		15 May 2025		📍 Istanbul
	MCSD Meeting		24-26 June 2025		📍 Corinth
	Barcelona Convention Focal Points Meeting		16-19 September 2025		📍 Athens
	15 th UfM Meeting of the Regional Platform for Water		5-7 November 2025		📍 Barcelona
	24 th COP of the Barcelona Convention during which the Strategy was ADOPTED WITHIN THE MSSD 2026-2035 as stated in the MINISTERIAL DECLARATION [Article 33]		2-5 December 2025		📍 Cairo

Water-Energy-Food-Ecosystem (WEFE) Nexus R & H activities



WEFE Nexus related Regional Interventions implemented by WES & WES-BCA:

■ Cairo Water Week 2023, Annual Conference on Water Finance and Investment on WEFE	 29 October – 2 November 2023	 Cairo, Egypt
■ World Water Day/WEFE Nexus Expert Voices, Commemorating the 50th Anniversary of UNESCO-IHP	 29 April 2025	 University of Balamand, Lebanon
■ UNOC-3 WEFE Side Event	 8-13 June 2025	 Nice, France
■ COP24 WEFE Side Events	 2-5 December 2025	 Cairo, Egypt
■ Training Workshop on Financing for Water-Energy-Food-Ecosystems (WEFE) Nexus Projects in the Mediterranean, with particular focus on the European Fund for Sustainable Development+ (EFSD+) and other Neighbourhood, Development and International Cooperation Instruments (NDICI)	 8 December 2025	 Chania, Greece
■ Advancing WEFE Nexus integration in the Mediterranean: Towards a framework for action. Activity Code: C1_HOR-1	 19 January 2026	 Online
■ WES-BCA Horizontal Training/Webinar on “Demonstrating the implementation of the WEFE Strategy at national level” (Jordan, Lebanon, Morocco), C1_HOR-1	 September 2025 & January 2026	 Online
■ Regional Conference on Water-Energy-Food-Ecosystems Nexus in the Mediterranean Source to Sea Continuum: From Strategy to Action	 24-26 February 2026	 Nicosia, Cyprus
■ Working Party of the 2030 European Council Agenda for Sustainable Development	 5 March 2026	 Online
■ WES-BCA Regional Training & Study Tour “Adaptation measures for flood and storm water management”	 21-24 April 2026	 Nice, France

Upcoming WEF Nexus WES-BCA Regional Activities

- WES-BCA contribution to the next UfM Water Security Ministerial Meeting (planned for September 2026, Rome, Italy)
- WES-BCA Horizontal Activity/two regional hybrid consultation events on “Climate Change Adaptation in Mediterranean Coastal Areas: Catalyzing Financing the Role of the Private Sector” *(in synergy with UNEP MAP, GWP-Med and Plan Bleu, in cooperation with the UfM and the EU Delegation in Egypt, as well as PRIMA)*:
 - In the framework of the Annual Stocktaking Meeting of the GEF UNEP/MAP MedProgramme, 25 June 2026, Tunis, Tunisia,
 - Side Event within the Cairo Water Week, 25-29 October 2026, Egypt

In order to facilitate validation and broader support for the proposed Action Plans addressing selected priority recommendations related to private-sector engagement in climate adaptation financing, contributing therefore, to the finalization of the Action Framework of the WEF Nexus Strategy, as well as the endorsement of the proposed thematic Framework of the Community of Practice on WEF Nexus financing for climate adaptation and resilience.
- WES-BCA Regional Training & Study Tour “WEFE Nexus best practices in agriculture - Learning from practical approaches of Northern Mediterranean countries”, C1_REG/ST-5, October 2026

Lessons learned, policy and technical adaptations and applicability of northern Mediterranean approaches in the southern Mediterranean.
- WES-BCA Regional webinar on “Climate-resilient planning and practices in agriculture including efficient water management techniques in order to help equip irrigation managers/extension officers/WUAs with the knowledge and skills to adapt to Climate Change impacts” (online), C1_REG-8, June 2027

To identify priority actions and frameworks to enhance climate resilient agriculture (on 2 levels: farming; and policy & strategy development). Accompanied with training on tools and skills for implementing resilient practices and developing resilience plans.



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Thank you for your attention!





Progress Overview – Achievements and Progress

Part 1 (Component I – Environment)



National activities | Emphasis on plastics/marine pollution

Presented by:

Mr Anis ISMAIL

Environment Key Expert, WES-BCA

Component 1: Topics 1 & 2:

Pollution Prevention and Curbing Plastic Pollution



Topic 1: Prevention & reduction of pollution

Focus on mitigating urban and industrial solid waste through targeted waste management and pollution control actions

Topic 2: Curbing Plastic Pollution & Marine Litter

Focuses on addressing the entire lifecycle of plastic waste, from production to disposal

13: Activities

24: Planned Workshops & Consultations

33: Experts mobilized

Component 1: Topics 1 & 2:

Pollution Prevention: Focus on Plastic and Marine Pollution



Specific areas of intervention

-  **Align Policies:** Consolidate national frameworks and Harmonize with the global and regional commitments (Tunisia, Jordan, Morocco, Lebanon)
-  **Reduce SUPs:** Phase out single-use plastics and promote sustainable alternatives (Tunisia, Morocco, Egypt, Lebanon, Israel)
-  **Boost Circular Solutions:** Scale up reduction, reuse, recycling, and upcycling (i.e in tourism sector) (Lebanon, Jordan, Egypt)
-  **Engage Producers:** Advance Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) and cost-recovery mechanisms (Lebanon, Algeria, Morocco)
-  **Mobilize Stakeholders:** Activate private sector, local authorities, and civil society (All PCs)
-  **Protect Coasts & Seas:** Strengthen ICZM, monitoring, and action on marine & riverine plastic pollution (All PCs)

Component 1: Topics 1 & 2:

Pollution Prevention: Focus on Plastic and Marine Pollution



Progress of National activities

May 2025 – May 2026

General planning

- Activities launched in 6 countries; one approved by PC pending final EU approval, and one awaiting partner confirmation (ToRs prepared).
- Most activities are progressing as planned. Minor delays (1–2 months) remain within expected margins, mainly due to external constraints and are monitored with FPs.
- WES-BCA continues to rely on strong expertise, with national experts playing a key role.

			2025									2026											
Country	Activity	Progress	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	
Algeria	Advancing Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) and action planning for plastic waste reduction in Algeria	TOR Pending partner approval																					
Egypt	Sustainable plastic waste management focusing on SUPs in the tourism sector	Ongoing																					
Israel	Prohibiting the free distribution of single-use items	Activity just approved																					
Jordan	Pre-conceptualization and support to establish a Plastic Waste Recycling/Upcycling Hub	Ongoing																					
Lebanon	Advancing Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) and action planning for plastic waste reduction in Lebanon	Ongoing																					
Morocco	Financial impact assessment and economic implications of the proposed EPR model	ToRs under final approval																					
Palestine	Support for EQA in preparing the Palestine 7th National Report to the Convention on Biological Diversity (UNCBD)	Ongoing																					
Tunisia	Enforcement of political and legal measures for the reduction and eventual prohibition of certain types of shopping plastic bags	Ongoing																					

Component 1: Topics 1 & 2:

Pollution Prevention: Focus on Plastic and Marine Pollution



Progress of National activities

May 2025 – May 2026

Cooperation with Partner Countries and other programs

- Coordination with the Focal Points and designated contacts at national level is ongoing and effective.
- Strong linkages exist between regional and national activities, with further reinforcement planned for (green/circular economy, plastic pollution and SUPs, EPR, biodiversity and marine litter, sustainable tourism).
- Cooperation with other regional and national initiatives (EU, UfM-labelled projects, UNEP and its RACs, World Bank, GIZ, etc.) is in place and can be further enhanced.
- WES-BCA will further promote synergies and experience sharing among partner countries, particularly on SUPs, EPR, and marine litter.

			2025										2026											
Country	Activity	Progress	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec		
Algeria	Advancing Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) and action planning for plastic waste reduction in Algeria	TOR Pending partner approval																						
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Palestine	Support for EQA in preparing the Palestine 7th National Report to the Convention on Biological Diversity (UNCBD)	Ongoing																						
Tunisia	Enforcement of political and legal measures for the reduction and eventual prohibition of certain types of shopping plastic bags	Ongoing																						

Component 1: Topics 1 & 2:

Pollution Prevention: Focus on Plastic and Marine Pollution



Progress of National activities

May 2025 – May 2026

Policy Alignment and Harmonization

- Alignment with the UNEA INC-5 process on a legally binding global instrument to end plastic pollution
- Contribution to the UN Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) targets
 - Support to the League of Arab States (LAS) environmental agendas,
 - Communication on the EU Green Deal and Circular Economy Action Plan
 - Convergence with the UfM GreenerMed 2030 Agenda (Thematic Axes 1 & 2)
- Alignment with the UNEP/MAP Barcelona Convention and its Regional Plan on Marine Litter Management

			2025										2026											
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Jordan	Pre-conceptualization and support to establish a Plastic Waste Recycling/Upcycling Hub	Ongoing																						
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Component 1: Topics 1 & 2:

Pollution Prevention: Focus on Plastic and Marine Pollution



Progress of National activities

May 2025 – May 2026

Ownership and consolidation of activities

- Acknowledged contribution and expertise in developing and implementing national strategies, action plans, and policy measures (tackling plastic pollution and SUPs, circular economy, GPP, etc.).
- Several regional and national activities have already informed policy development and decision-making.
- Activities will build on lessons learned from former WES phase and other initiatives. Future work will focus on ownership, consolidation, and wider dissemination of results.

			2025									2026											
Country	Activity	Progress	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	
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Tunisia	Enforcement of political and legal measures for the reduction and eventual prohibition of certain types of shopping plastic bags	Ongoing																					



**Progress Overview –
Achievements and Progress
Part 1 (Component I – Environment)**

**Hearing from the Partner Countries
Tour de Table**



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Thank you for your attention!

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Progress Overview

Achievements and Progress

Part 2 (Component I – Water and WEFE Nexus)

**National activities | Emphasis on IWRM,
WEFE Nexus and Climate adaptation**
Presented by:
Ms Suzan TAHA
Water Key Expert, WES-BCA

Component 1: Topics 3,4 & 5

Water, WEFE Nexus & Climate Resilience

Topic 3: Promoting the WEFE Nexus approach

Focus on addressing the interconnected challenges of water scarcity, energy dependency, food security, and ecosystem degradation in the PCs through an integrated and holistic framework

Topic 4: Water Efficiency

Focus on addressing water scarcity challenges in the South Mediterranean region through enhancing efficiency across all sectors

Topic 5: Climate Change mitigation and adaptation actions

Focus on CC mitigation and adaptation actions with priorities on water scarcity and biodiversity protection in the SMCs

14 Activities

21: Planned Workshops & Consultations

28: Experts mobilized

Component 1: Topics 3,4 & 5

Water, WEFE Nexus & Climate Resilience



Specific areas of intervention

 **Strengthen Governance & Planning:** Enhance regulatory, institutional and planning frameworks for integrated water management, WEFE Nexus, and climate resilience (Egypt, Israel, Jordan, Palestine)

 **Improve Water Efficiency & Performance:** Reduce water losses, optimize system performance, and promote efficient water use across sectors (Algeria, Morocco)

 **Promote Water Reuse & NCWR:** Advance treated wastewater and drainage water reuse, and non-conventional water resources with appropriate safeguards (Egypt, Palestine)

 **Develop & Apply NBS and enable NBS Integration:** Design and assess Nature-Based Solutions for water management and ecosystem enhancement and support enabling regulatory frameworks for their integration in water management and CC adaptation (Lebanon, Jordan)

Component 1: Topics 3,4 & 5

Water, WEFE Nexus & Climate Resilience



Specific areas of intervention



Strengthen Data & Monitoring Systems: Strengthen data collection, assessment approaches, and technical capacities for evidence-based decision-making (Algeria)



Build Technical Capacities: Enhance knowledge and skills for climate-resilient water and agricultural practices (Tunisia)



Mobilize Stakeholders & Cross-Sector Coordination: Engage institutions, private sector, and local actors while fostering cross-sectoral collaboration under the WEFE Nexus and Climate resilience (Israel, Jordan, Lebanon, Tunisia)

Water, WEFE Nexus & Climate Resilience



Progress of National activities

May 2025 – May 2026

General planning

- Activities are ongoing in 6 countries
- Two TORs remain to be approved by the countries.
- Three activities are progressing as planned.
- Significant delay in 2 activities (to date 4-5 months) and moderate delay in one activity (3 months), due to operational constraints and political situation.
- WES-BCA continues to rely on strong expertise, with national experts playing a key role

Country	Activity	Progress	2025														2026							
			May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec		
Algeria	Low-Cost measures for enhanced water efficiency and NRW reduction: follow-up to the WES action plan	Ongoing																						
Egypt	Regulatory and Institutional frameworks for climate-resilient agricultural drainage water reuse	TOR Pending Partner approval									X													
Israel	National Master Plan for Water Sector – facing the Nexuses – Food Security, Energy and Finance				X																			
Jordan	Recommendations for the development of regulations in support of NBS implementation	Ongoing																						
Lebanon	Design of NBS in a Pilot area in Lebanon																							
Morocco	Introduce practices to reduce evaporation, conserving water resources, and minimizing water losses in open water systems																							
Palestine	Update/Draft standards for Treated Wastewater Reuse and Blended Water Use and conduct stakeholder consultations to ensure broad support and compliance.																							
Tunisia	Capacity building and knowledge development on climate-resilient agricultural practices and water management: orientation to strategic crops in Tunisia (cereals and olive trees).																							

Component 1: Topics 3,4 & 5

Water, WEFE Nexus & Climate Resilience



Progress of National activities

May 2025 – May 2026

Cooperation with Partner Countries and other programs

- Continued smooth & effective coordination with FPs & national Partners **(All)**.
- Complementarity across activity levels → regional capacity building, horizontal work on governance and financing, and strong linkages to national activities enabling mutual feedback and knowledge exchange **(All)**.
- Alignment with relevant international references and national processes, including EU frameworks, FAO/WHO guidance, UNEP/MAP references, & follow-up to previous WES activities is promoted **(EG, JO, PS with explicit references to broader regional F/W. Remaining PCs indirect references)**.
- Promotion of knowledge and experience exchange among PCs through regional activities, study tours, and consultations supporting integrated approaches, strengthening resilience, and promoting innovative water management solutions (NBS, NCWR/reuse, BATs, efficient irrigation, flood/stormwater management, GIS/NRW tools, climate-resilient practices) **(All)**.

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Water, WEFE Nexus & Climate Resilience

Progress of National activities

May 2025 – May 2026

Policy Alignment and Harmonization



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- Alignment with national WEFE Nexus, climate adaptation, and water management priorities (EG, IL, JO, LB, MO, PS, TN)
- Reference to EU frameworks and approaches related to flood management, biodiversity, and Nature-Based Solutions(EG, JO, LB, TN)
- Use of FAO, WHO, and UNEP/MAP references for water reuse and climate-resilient water management Contribution to integrated WEFE Nexus and climate resilience approaches across sectors (EG, PS)
- Follow-up and operationalization of previous WES recommendations and action plans (DZ)

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Component 1: Topics 3,4 & 5

Water, WEFE Nexus & Climate Resilience



Progress of National activities

May 2025 – May 2026

Ownership and consolidation of activities

Support provided for regulatory, technical, and planning processes related to climate resilience, water reuse, Nature-Based Solutions, and water efficiency (ALL).

- Several regional and national activities contribute to policy discussions, technical/operational planning, and decision-making processes across water, agriculture, environment, and climate adaptation sectors (DZ, EG, IL, JO, PS, TN) .
- Activities build on earlier WES work & lessons learned from WES-BCA & former WES phase and other initiatives with continued focus on ownership, consolidation, and dissemination of results and practices (DZ, EG, JO, PS).

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Progress Overview – Achievements and Progress Part 2 (Component I – Water and WEFE Nexus)

Hearing from the Partner Countries Tour de Table



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Thank you for your attention!



Communication and Visibility Plan for Component I

Presented by:
Ms Lisa PAPADOGEORGAKI,
Communication Key Expert, WES-BCA

Communication Target Groups



Database of 1.700 stakeholders' & media contacts from 23 countries

- Media;
- Ministries;
- Government Authorities;
- Local Authorities;
- Private Sector;
- Universities;
- NGOs and CSOs;
- Associations of youth, women.

Comms Tools/Results May 2025 – April 2026

1 Info Bulletin	11 Announcements	5 Press Releases	150 Posts
1 Newsletter	7 Comms ToRs	5 Comms PPTs	1 FB Promo
1 Report	100 Hats, USBs	1 Comms Synergy	50 Photos
	40 Deliverables Published	90 Press Clippings from 8 Countries	

Press Clippings



WES-BCA launches water efficiency project in Algeria to cut non-revenue water

Monday - 22-9-2025 - 2:37 PM



Jordan Daily - The WES-BCA project organised an online kick-off meeting of the water activity "Low-Cost measures for enhanced water efficiency and NRW reduction: follow-up to the WES action plan" in Algeria, on September 22, 2025.

This WES-BCA activity is to strengthen the technical and organizational capacities of the ADE Unit of Boumerdes to improve the management of Non-Revenue Water, by coupling the GIS operation, the reliability of field data, the establishment of a new comparative hydraulic balance sheet, and the optimization of monitoring tools and practices, WES said in a statement received by Jordan Daily.

The activity is prepared with the collaboration of the Ministry of Hydraulics of Algeria.

During the meeting, the team of WES-BCA water experts presented the activity's action plan and discussed the issues raised with key stakeholders.



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Environment Quality Authority
سلطة جودة البيئة

The Environment Quality Authority Launches the Process of Preparing the Seventh National Report on Biodiversity in Palestine

10
Sep

Al-Birah - The Environment Quality Authority launched today, Wednesday, the process of preparing the Seventh National Report on Biodiversity in Palestine, through the project "Water and Environment Support - Biodiversity and Climate Action (WES-BCA)", funded by the European Union and implemented in a number of Mediterranean countries.

The launch of the preparation process of the report took place via videoconference, with the participation of the Deputy Chairman of the Environment Quality Authority, Engineer Ahmad Abu Zaher, and a specialized staff from the Authority, in addition to a representative of the European Union, the project director Professor Michael Skoula, and international experts.

The participants affirmed the importance of the report in strengthening national efforts aimed at protecting biodiversity, and in fulfilling the international commitments of the State of Palestine in this field, in line with the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework and the related Mediterranean commitments.

The Environment Quality Authority clarified that a team of international and local experts will provide the necessary technical support for the preparation of the report, in a way that enables Palestine to submit it to the competent international bodies, in fulfillment of the requirements of the Convention on Biological Diversity, which the State of Palestine acceded to in 2016.

The project also aims, in its other component, to support the protection of ecosystems in the Mediterranean Basin, to enhance the sustainable management of natural resources, and to reduce the use of plastics, especially single-use plastics.

The Seventh National Report on Biodiversity is expected to be completed by February 2026.

WES-BCA Project

The project "Water and Environment Support - Biodiversity and Climate Action (WES-BCA)" is implemented in the Southern Neighbourhood countries with EU Union, as a continuation of the previous WES project. The project aims to enhance environmental protection, restore biodiversity, and improve the management in addition to strengthening the capacity to adapt to climate change in the Mediterranean region. It also aims to support the formulation and enforcement of red measures, as well as to strengthen the two national nature frameworks: the Union for the Mediterranean (UfM) and the Barcelona Convention.



الدورة الاقتصادية مجلة اقتصادية عربية

الرئيسية مصارف مؤامرات مقالات استثمار طاقة تكنولوجيا مجامع نقل بلا قيود تحميل

تصانيف أخيرة فاشر

FIND US ON FACEBOOK



اختتام الدورة التدريبية والجولة الدراسية الإقليميتين لمشروع WES-BCA حول تدابير التكيف لإدارة الفيضانات والعواصف في المتوسط فرنسا

هل أت على دراية بما يسمى "عذارة البحر الأبيض المتوسط؟"

في خلال السنوات الأخيرة، عانت بلدان حوض المتوسط وشرفه جراء تعرضها بشكل خاص للاستعدادات المناخية لموجات الحفاف والفيضانات، بسبب مزيج من درجات الحرارة المرتفعة، وهطول الأمطار، وهطول الأمطار الغزيرة والعمدة المحدودة على التكيف، ما تسبب بخسائر بشرية ومالية واقتصادية فادحة.

إن بذرة المياه محمية بزيادة تواتر الفيضانات لظلالها مياه العواصف، وتجربتها وتسببها أولوية رئيسة للتكيف، ومن شأن جمع هذه الخبرات الاقتصادية مع الحكومات المحلية، والبلديات، والقطاع الخاص، والقطاع الأكاديمي، والقطاع العام، أن يساهم في تعزيز القدرة على التكيف مع التغيرات المناخية.



The UNEP/MAP Newsletter

WES-BCA: WEBINAR ON THE 7TH NATIONAL BIODIVERSITY REPORT

On 21 January, the WES-BCA project organized an online webinar titled "Reporting Structures and Indicators for the 7th National Report under the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD)." The event was co-organized with the Union for the Mediterranean (UfM), in collaboration with the CBD Secretariat, the Directorate-General for the Middle East, North Africa and Gulf (DG-MENA), and the Directorate-General for Environment (DG ENV) of the European Commission. The webinar provided support to Partner Countries by offering guidance on reporting structures and indicators, in line with the CBD, the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework, and other regional and international biodiversity commitments.



WES-BCA.EU

Towards a sustainable Mediterranean

News

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WES Project



The online 2nd Steering Committee Meeting of the WES-BCA project is to be held on 12/05/2026

The online 2nd Steering Committee Meeting of the WES-BCA project is to be held on 12/05/2026.

During the meeting, the progress of the project, national and regional activities and outreach campaigns related to Plastic Pollution, Water-Energy-Food-Ecosystems (WEFE) Nexus, Biodiversity and Water Scarcity, to be delivered in the Mediterranean East and South, since the previous SCM (May 2025), will be presented and discussed. Stay tuned for the latest news! [...]

[Read More >](#)



The WES-BCA Regional Training and Study Tour on Adaptation Measures for Floods and Storms Management in the Mediterranean were concluded in Nice, France

Are you familiar with the so-called "Mediterranean paradox"?

During recent years, the Southern and Eastern Mediterranean countries have been particularly vulnerable to the simultaneous intensification of droughts and floods, due to the combination of higher temperatures, longer dry periods, and heavier rainfall and limited adaptive capacity, causing significant human, environmental and economic losses. [...]

WES-BCA Social Pages



@sustainablemediterranean



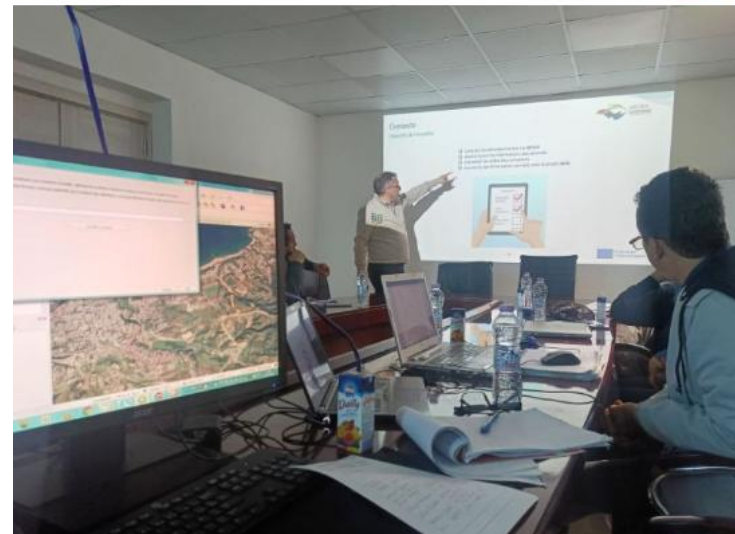
This is a special day for WES-BCA project, as its Water Activities are underway: 8 National and 2 Regional in the MENA countries. Keep up with our latest news for a Sustainable Mediterranean! www.wes-bca.eu



@wes-medproject



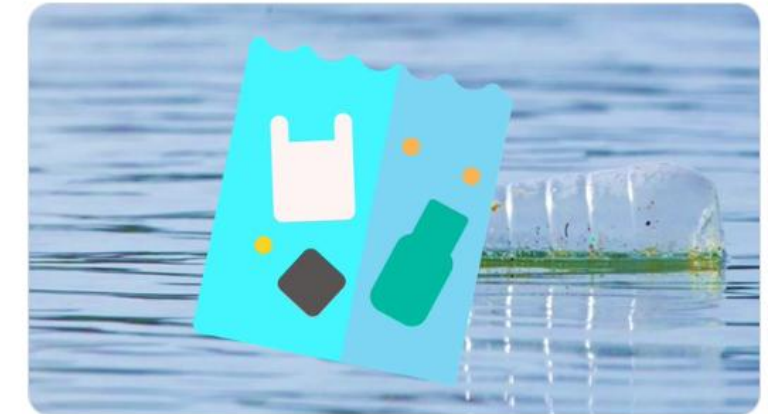
بومرداس، الجزائر: 15 و 16/02/2026
عودة بالصور إلى الدورات التكوينية التي ننشطها خبيرانا السيد المحفوظ ستخلفاسي (نظم المعلومات الجغرافية) والسيد سليم جنكال (ENF)، والمختصة للتحقيق الميداني لدى المشتركين واستعمال تطبيق QField، التطبيق المحمول المرتبط ببرنامج QGIS. وقد نُظمت هذه الدورات في إطار حملة جمع البيانات الخاصة بمشتركي وحدة الجزائرية للمياه - بومرداس (المنطقة النموذجية). وعقب انتهاء التكوين، تم إطلاق الحملة الميدانية رسميًا تحت إشراف خبراء WES-BCA، قصد ضمان جمع وتحسين بيانات المشتركين على مستوى منطقة الدراسة علي ليقويا. تندرج هذه العملية ضمن المهمة رقم 1 من النشاط C1_N-DZ-2: «إجراءات منخفضة التكلفة لتحسين كفاءة استخدام المياه وتقليل الفواقد: متابعة مخطط عمل WES تساهم هذه العملية في تعزيز جودة البيانات، وتحسين متابعة المشتركين، والحد من ضياع المياه، وتحسين تسيير شبكة التوزيع. <https://lnkd.in/d9H7QZ8T> WESBCAproject #watermanagement #NRW #sustainability #Bourmedes #Algeria# #survey



@WesMed19



Le WES-BCA a organisé, le 3 février 2026, son webinaire régional consacré aux programmes méditerranéens de surveillance et de rapportage pour la prévention et l'atténuation des déchets marins. wes-bca.eu/fr/activity/c1...



WES-BCA Newsletter & Information Bulletin



Editorial

This is the **first E-Newsletter** of the new phase of WES, Water and Environment Support – Biodiversity and Climate Action (WES-BCA) project. The addition of “BCA” was indeed appropriate because it stimulated Partner Countries (PCs) and institutional partners to introduce, elaborate and integrate necessary elements in nearly all the selected activities, in order to address, directly or indirectly these key issues.

Within the first year of the project implementation, an extended consultation took place with all PCs, in order to finalize their preferences on project activities and organize Kick-off and Inception Meetings in the countries and important Horizontal and Regional activities closely linked to fundamental regional issues, namely the:

- promotion of the Water-Food-Energy-Ecosystems (WEFE) Nexus in the Source to Sea (S2S) Mediterranean Continuum;
- facilitation of proper monitoring and reporting for Marine Litter;
- protection of Biodiversity through helping PCs in their reporting to the UN Biodiversity Convention.

For **WEFE**, WES-BCA continued its essential contribution to the work of the Union for the Mediterranean (UfM) and the Barcelona Convention together with the Global Water Partnership-Mediterranean (GWP-Med) and the PRIMA project in promoting WEFE, working systematically both at country and at regional level, being present in all preparatory meetings and working groups.

The result was excellent: the Strategy was formally adopted on the 4th of December 2025 in Cairo, by the COP24 of the Barcelona Convention with specific reference also in the Ministerial Declaration.

The same text has been approved by the UfM Regional Platform of Water and is expected to be endorsed by the UfM Water Ministers in March 2026 in Rome.

The first webinar of the relevant WES-BCA Horizontal activity, was carried out on 03/09/2025, focusing on three “Champion” PCs (Jordan, Lebanon and Morocco). A second webinar for all WES-BCA countries is scheduled for the 19th of January 2026. (more info below)

The Regional activity “Contribution to the Mediterranean countries and regional programmes for marine litter prevention and mitigation (REG-4) took place on 12/11/2025 and it will be followed by a major capacity building webinar, scheduled for the 3rd of February 2026. (more info below)

The WES-BCA contribution of **Biodiversity** was triggered by the National activity in Palestine, requesting a “support for EQA”, in preparing the Palestine 7th National Report (7NR), which was kicked-off on 10/09/2025. Now the relevant regional activity involves all PCs, and a major capacity building webinar will be carried out on the 21st of February 2026, in close cooperation with the Secretariat of the CBD, the UfM and the European Commission. (more info below)

The **WES-BCA work plan of the new year 2026** is indeed “very rich” with many national, regional and horizontal activities but also due to its important contribution to the entire environmental scene of the region, where it plays a constructive role as facilitator, capitalizing on the trust and appreciation it enjoys by the PCs and all other partners.

We wish you a Happy and Prosperous New Year!

Prof. Michael Scoullas
WES-BCA Team Leader



LDK CONSULTANTS S.A.



تونس النشاط البيئي

يشكل النشاط البيئي لمشروع WES-BCA بعنوان “إنفاذ التدابير السياسية والقانونية للحد من استخدام أنواع معينة من أكياس التسوق البلاستيكية وحظرها في نهاية المطاف” في الواقع استمراراً للنشاط WES الذي وُضع في فترة 2022-2024.

ويهدف هذا النشاط إلى دعم الحكومة التونسية في مراجعة الإطار التنظيمي الذي يحكم حظر الأكياس البلاستيكية الأحادية الاستخدام وتحسينه (المرسوم رقم 32 بتاريخ 2020/01/16). ويسر هذا النهج إلى تكيف النواحي لترميز تخطيطها، وإزالة المشاتل المحددة واقتراح الآليات القانونية والمالية لتسهيل الانتقال البيئي للمصنّمين في قطاع البلاستيك نحو البائلات المستدامة. في موازاة ذلك، يهدف النشاط إلى تحسين خارطة الطريق لتوسيع نطاق التدابير من أجل الحد من المبيعات البلاستيكية الأحادية الاستخدام الأخرى في تونس وحظرها إن أمكن.

في خلال الاجتماع التمهيدي عبر الإنترنت (2025/07/03)، تم اتخاذ الخطوات الأولى نحو تحقيق الأهداف الرئيسة للنشاط، من أجل تونس خالية من البلاستيك.

[المزيد من المعلومات](#)



تونس النشاط المائي

تعد الزراعة ركيزة أساسية للاقتصاد التونسي، حيث يستند إليها الأمن الغذائي، وسبل العيش الريفية والاستدامة الطويلة الأمد. وفي مواجهة ندرة المياه المتزايدة وتقلب المناخ، أصبح تعزيز الممارسات الزراعية المقاومة للمناخ وتحسين الإدارة المستدامة لموارد المياه والتربة من الأولويات الأساسية.

يهدف النشاط المائي بعنوان “بناء القدرات وتنويع المعارف حول الممارسات الزراعية الفائزة على التكيف مع تغير المناخ وحول إدارة المياه: الفوائد نحو المحاصيل الاستراتيجية في تونس (الحبوب وأشجار الزيتون)”. الذي انطلق في تشرين الثاني/نوفمبر الماضي في الاجتماع التمهيدي عبر الإنترنت في 18/11/2025، إلى الإسهام في تحسين قدرة النظم الزراعية على التكيف مع تغير المناخ في منطقة تجريبية، من خلال وضع استراتيجيات تكيفية مبنية على محاصيل الحبوب وأشجار الزيتون، بالارتكاز على نقاط الضعف المحددة، والموارد المحلية المتاحة والمعارف القائمة، وتدريب الجهات الفاعلة الفنية لدعم التنفيذ.

[المزيد من المعلومات](#)



WES-BCA
Water and Environment Support -
Biodiversity and Climate Action
in the Neighbourhood South region



BULLETIN D'INFO WES-BCA

ACTIVITÉ HORIZONTALE « SOUTIEN AUX PAYS PARTENAIRES WES-BCA DANS LA PRÉPARATION DE LEUR 7E RAPPORT NATIONAL SUR LA BIODIVERSITÉ (7NR) DANS LE CADRE DE LA CONVENTION SUR LA DIVERSITÉ BIOLOGIQUE (UNCBD) »

avril 2026



Funded by
the European Union

WES-BCA Synergy with EU Neighbours South News Platform

Partner of EU EyesOnLife Award for Civil Society and Eco Innovators



WES-BCA supported EU EyesOnLife Award for Civil Society and Eco Innovators and its organising team of EU the Neighbours South News Platform in multiple ways:

- A WES-BCA expert was a member of the jury;
- All news items were shared via the WES-BCA website and social pages.

As a result:

- ✓ The related information was disseminated to stakeholders and entrepreneurs in the MENA countries;
- ✓ WES-BCA project was presented/promoted to a larger public.



WES-BCA Synergy EU MedBridge News Platform

Presentation of WES-BCA on World Water Day March 2026



WES-BCA

Water and Environment Support - Biodiversity and Climate Action in the Neighbourhood South region

The EU-funded Water and Environment Support-Biodiversity and Climate Action (WES-BCA) works across environment protection, biodiversity restoration and water resources management to enhance climate change resilience in the Mediterranean region and strengthen the implementation of related policies.

EU MedBridge
24 March at 18:16 · 🌐

From policy to action. 💧

Across the Mediterranean, 🇪🇺 EU-funded projects are protecting water resources, restoring ecosystems, and building climate resilience.

From biodiversity to innovative urban solutions, real impact is happening.

👉 Swipe to explore the projects.

من السياسات إلى التنفيذ
في مختلف أنحاء البحر الأبيض المتوسط، تساهم مشاريع ممولة من الاتحاد الأوروبي في حماية الموارد المائية واستعادة النظم البيئية وتعزيز القدرة على مواجهة تغير المناخ.
من التنوع البيولوجي إلى الحلول المبتكرة في المدن، هناك أثر حقيقي يتحقق. 👉 تصفحوا للتعرف على هذه المشاريع.

#WorldWaterDay #WaterDay
Interreg NEXT MED Programme Wes bca project SPA RAC
Union européenne en Algérie الجزائر الاتحاد الأوروبي في ليبيا / European Union in Egypt European Union in Jordan European Union in Lebanon European Union in Libya / Union الإتحاد الأوروبي في ليبيا / Union européenne au Maroc European Union and the Palestinians EUinSyria Union européenne en Tunisie European External Action Service - EEAS

See translation

How does the EU contribute to *water preservation* in the region?

The EU-funded Water and Environment Support-Biodiversity and Climate Action (WES-BCA) works across environment protection, biodiversity restoration and water resources management to enhance climate change resilience in the Mediterranean region and strengthen the implementation of related policies.

Communication Plan for 2026-2027

- ❑ **The Communication Action Plan is to follow the Communications Strategy**, with minor changes to be made if needed, to maximise the dissemination of the information on all WES-BCA activities.
- ❑ Every latest development on the project's activities will be communicated to the stakeholders and media with various **news items (press releases, announcements, posts)**
- ❑ Emphasis will be given on challenging issues and raising awareness.
- ❑ In accordance with the tailored communication plans for each activity, specific **visibility and promotional material (newsletter, information bulletins etc.)** will be produced in order to inform the stakeholders according to the target groups identified. If needed, special informational material, or campaigns, will be prepared for WES-BCA activities and other events, to ensure the dissemination of information and the visibility of the project and EU.
- ❑ All related news items and **deliverables (presentations etc.)** will be sent out via email and published via the WES-BCA website and social pages.
- ❑ By the end of the project, a **WES-BCA Review** will be designed and published. The highlights of WES-BCA activities, will be presented. The **results** and the '**lessons learnt**' from the activities will be highlighted. Key stakeholders, the EU and institutional partners will be able to use this accumulative, valuable reference, and to access and capitalise on the project's deliverables (links to the WES-BCA website), advancing the Mediterranean's progress towards a more sustainable development.



WES-BCA
Water and Environment Support -
Biodiversity and Climate Action
in the Neighbourhood South region

**Thank you for your attention
and keep up with our latest news!**

WES-BCA.EU





OUR CLIMATE- OUR COMMUNITY

What climate change really means for life
around the Mediterranean – and what we can
do about it, together

Progress overview
Achievements and progress
Part 3



OUR CLIMATE- OUR COMMUNITY

What climate change really means for life
around the Mediterranean – and what we can
do about it, together



Component II Outreach Strategy on Environment and Climate Action

Presented by:

Ms Louise SARANT, Social Outreach Expert, WES-BCA
Ms Anastasia RONIOTES, Coordinator Component II,
WES-BCA

COMPONENT II: What we aim to achieve / status

“Awareness raising and better understanding by the general public (and specific segments of the society), including youth and women, are promoted, stimulating adoption of appropriate behaviours and attitudes towards improved climate action and effective environmental protection.”



Output 1: an outreach strategy focussed on environment and climate action is established; (by May 2025) (living document)



Output 2: communication and outreach actions/campaigns, with a gender sensitive approach, as defined in the approved strategy, are implemented; (from June 2025 – Oct 2027)



Output 3: the mobilisation of Civil Society, through a dedicated support to national/local CSOs and NGOs, and media, with special attention to women's organisations, is enhanced; (from June 2025 – Oct 2027)



Output 4: regional networks of climate change/environmental protection champions, promoting people-to-people outreach, are supported. (from June 2025 – Oct 2027)

Completed

Advanced/ongoing

Advanced/ongoing

Advanced/ongoing



In coordination with COMPONENT I, DG MENA (and other DGs), EUDs, WES-BCA FPs
In synergy with other projects, processes and stakeholders (at both regional and national levels)

Outreach Strategy on Environment and Climate Action



OUR CLIMATE
OUR COMMUNITY

Objective: Empower target groups and communities in the eight partner countries to take action to address the triple crisis, by:

- raising awareness
- enhancing understanding
- proposing/promoting action
- fostering solidarity
- building agency

Since the 1st SCM:

- **All national Outreach experts are in place**
- **Country Briefs** providing an overview of the proposed country campaigns, the links to the Component 1 activities and to the regional outreach campaigns, have been formulated since the 1st SCM and were shared with the FPs and EUDs for comments and feedback prior to their launching. These Country Briefs now complement the Outreach Strategy, completing the Annex with the national campaigns.

Production and dissemination of communication material

- ✓ a website (4 languages)
- ✓ graphic work and animations (subtitles)
- ✓ TV spots (tailored)
- ✓ radio announcements (localised)
- ✓ posters / how-to guides / quizzes (all languages)
- ✓ human stories / interviews
- ✓ social media posts and reels
- ✓ workshop modules and materials
- ✓ educational materials; access to resources
- ✓ etc., etc.



5 SIMPLE WAYS TO AVOID SINGLE-USE PLASTICS ON THE GO



1 SKIP THE BAGS

If you can, carry a tote or a backpack when heading out. When offered a plastic bag, feel free to politely decline it.



2 DRINK WITHOUT DISPOSABLES

Carry a refillable bottle or tumbler when you can. If you buy a coffee or fresh juice, skip the straw and the lid.



3 BRING YOUR OWN CUP

Use a mug or travel cup you already own when buying coffee or takeaway drinks.

4 CHOOSE UNPACKAGED WHEN YOU CAN

At the market or supermarket, pick loose fruits and vegetables instead of pre-packaged ones when there's a choice. Use your own net bags – just like our grandparents did.



5 SAY NO TO FREEBIES

When ordering food or drinks, skip the extras that come with them. No plastic straws, cutlery, stirrers, or sugar/sauce packets—if you won't use them.



**OUR CLIMATE
OUR COMMUNITY**

Preparation and implementation of specific awareness campaigns and outreach activities in the PCs

Regional level:

- ✓ Website and social media
- ✓ Civil Society strengthening (Cairo Forum)
- ✓ Regional networks' support

National level:

- EUDs and WES-BCA FPs were asked to provide feedback on their country profile
- Based on inputs and with the support of the Local Outreach NKEs, **specific awareness campaigns and outreach activities have been formulated** (**Country Briefs**) and were suggested to the FPs and EUDs in early 2026. Some actions/ campaigns focus on specific themes and stakeholder groups, while many target the general public at household and community levels. Links with Component 1 are established where relevant.





Strengthening climate communication capacity:

In almost each Partner Country, the first set of roundtables/workshops are under preparation to support national and local CSOs, NGOs, media in enhancing their climate and environmental outreach.

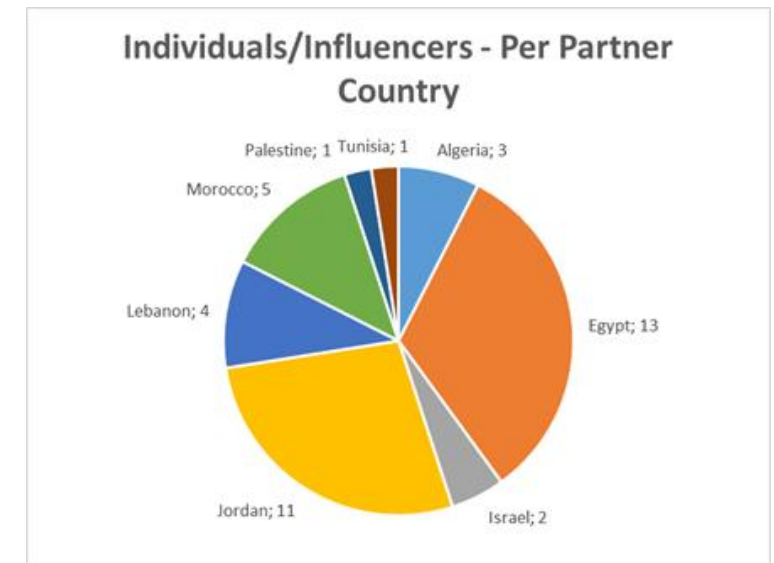
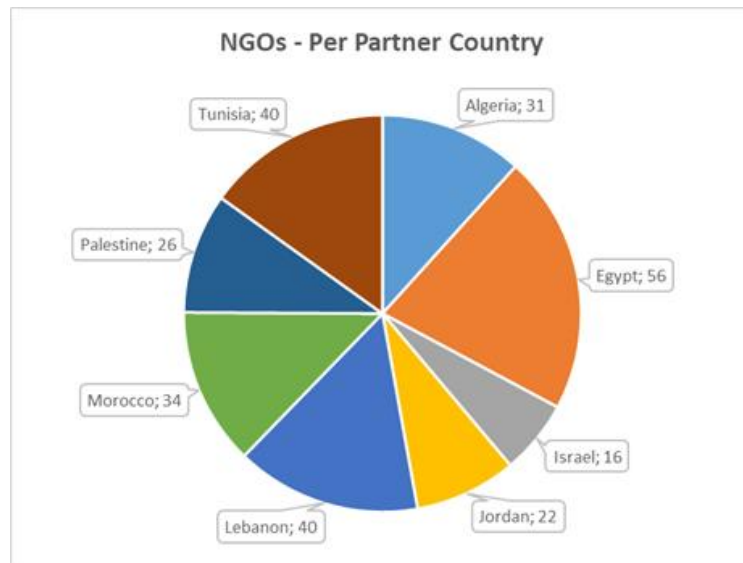
Building a community of action:

Through the roundtables/workshops in the PCs and the digital campaign, a voluntary call for expressions of interests invites CSOs, NGOs and other stakeholder groups to join the (WES-BCA) Mediterranean Community for Climate Action, with the campaign website as the heart of the community, a space for visibility, access to knowledge and outreach guidance. It was launched in October 2025 (Cairo Forum).

Setup / enhancement of regional networks

Review of existing networks:

More than 800 stakeholders, including relevant networks, to engage in one way or another in the various “Our Climate – Our Community” campaign activities and in the overall implementation of the WES-BCA Outreach Strategy approved in May 2025.



Setup / enhancement of regional networks

1st regional meeting:

- More than 170 people participated; gender balance close to 50% (45% male, 55% female); approximately 23% of the participants were youth; evaluation results: 92% satisfaction rate.
- Forum Outcomes** presented at COP24 of the Barcelona Convention and disseminated.



European Bank
for Reconstruction and Development



Mediterranean
Action Plan
Barcelona
Convention



WES-BCA
Water and Environment Support -
Biodiversity and Climate Action
in the Neighbourhood South region



Funded by
the European Union



راشد



ACR+



CIHEAM
BARI



BLDK
CONSULTANTS



MED-ECODE



MedWaves
the UNESCO Regional
Activity Centre for SGP

Mediterranean Stakeholder Forum on Environment and Climate Action

“Making the behavioural shift happen”

NGOs/CSOs, parliamentarians, journalists, women, youth and other actors meet in Cairo

21-23 October 2025



Union for the Mediterranean
Union pour la Méditerranée
الاتحاد من أجل المتوسط



Mediterranean
Action Plan
Barcelona
Convention



Setup / enhancement of regional networks

Tailored support to existing networks:

Provision of expert advice, knowledge sharing, enabling access to capacity building, partnership and cross-fertilization opportunities to the Mediterranean Youth Group (MSSD 2026-2035 Flagship Initiative); The Circle of Mediterranean Journalists for Environment and Sustainable Development (COMJESD); The Circle of Mediterranean Parliamentarians for Sustainable Development (COMPSUD); Sawsana platform (media), etc.

Establishing the WES-BCA Youth Climate Champions Network:

A strategic, low-cost and high-impact network that will ensure sustained youth engagement, strengthen project outreach efforts, and leave a legacy of well capacitated lifelong climate activists.



Campaign Progress at the virtual level



Our Climate - Our Community

- Strategy approved → now fully in motion
- Campaign identity and structure in place
- Two main pillars:
 - Social media campaigns
 - Campaign website
- Moving from setup → **active rollout**

Social Media Campaigns 1/3

Official launch: **October 2025**

Present on: **FB, Instagram, X, TikTok, LinkedIn**

14.2M views in under 3 weeks

5.4M people reached across the region

~70K engagements (likes, comments, shares)



Social Media Campaigns 2/3

3 campaign waves in 2026

1. Choose Reuse (Spring)

Reducing single-use plastics



2. Heat Is Here (Summer)

Living with rising temperatures



*Regional approach
Adapted nationally*

3. Holding on to Water (Autumn)

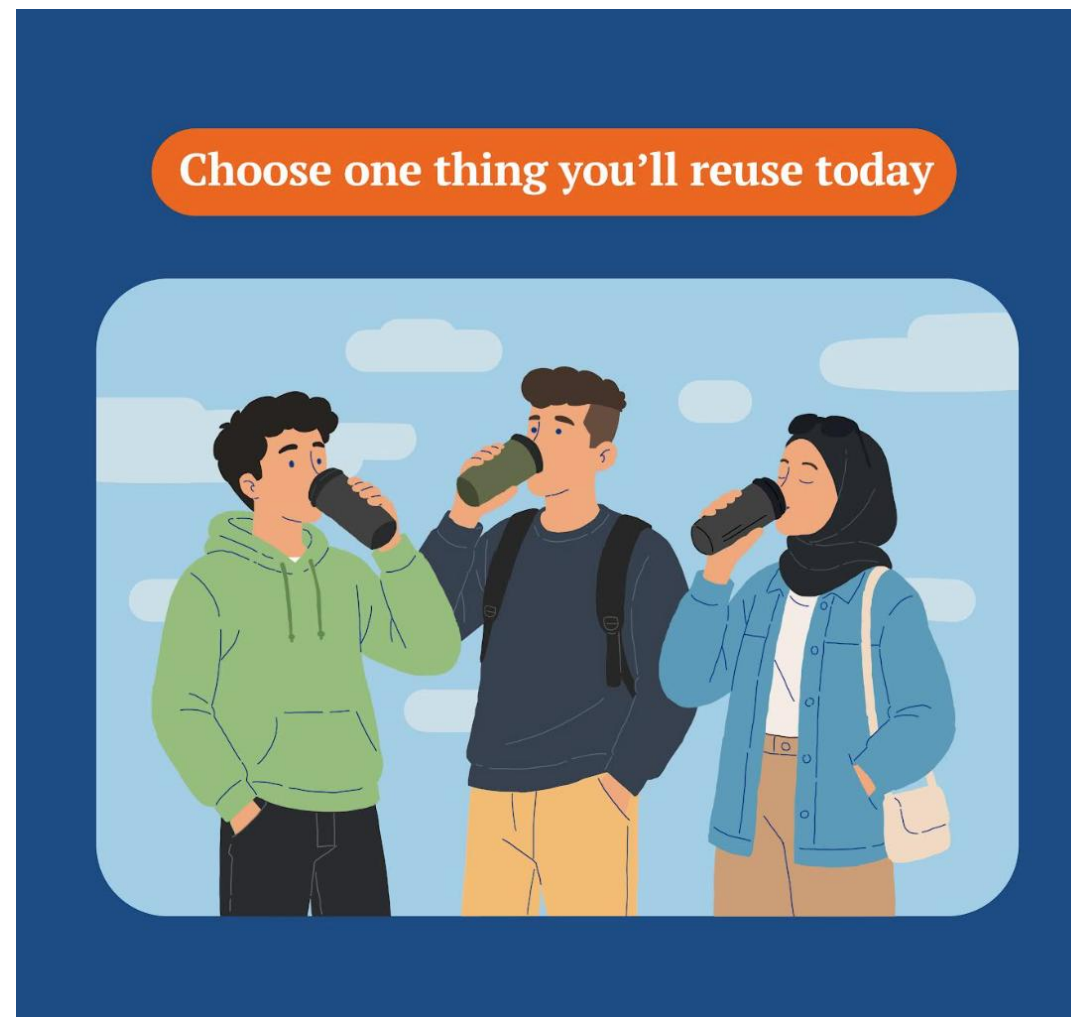
Water Scarcity and Use



Social Media Campaigns 3/3

Content and coordination

- Guidelines shared with all national comms experts in the countries
- First national content received (e.g. Algeria, Egypt, Jordan, Tunisia)
- Tone is coming through well: practical, simple, action-focused
- Ongoing coordination with national comms experts/social media expert/illustrator



Website Launch

Going live this week

- Central hub for the campaign
- Three entry points:
 - Understand
 - Take action
 - Engage others
- Multilingual, audience-focused
- Links directly with social media content



YOUTH LEADERS TRACK

Lead climate action in your community

You don't need to be an expert to make a difference. Start where you are - in your neighborhood, your school your city. Across the Mediterranean, young people are already taking action on climate challenges in their communities. With the right tools and support, you can too.

[Learn The Basics](#)[Start Taking Action](#)

UNDERSTAND

Understand climate change – and what it means for your daily life

Climate change is already affecting life across the Mediterranean – from water and food, and how we live every day. Understanding these changes is the first step to taking meaningful action

Climate Counts

Publishing Organization: UNDP
Brief Overview: A campaign by UNDP explaining climate change through numbers. Featuring 30 facts, the campaign aims to strengthen climate literacy and mobilize communities.

[UK](#) [FR](#) [Info Document](#) [Others](#)

Climate Change: Challenges and Responses

Publishing Organization: UNDP
Brief Overview: This publication aims to help the public better understand climate change. It provides facts, figures, policies, strategies, and links to credible sources of information.

[UK](#) [FR](#) [Info Document](#)

The Paris Agreement for Young People

Publishing Organization: UNICEF
Brief Overview: This document includes essential information about the Paris Agreement, its importance, and all its articles in youth-friendly language. The Paris Agreement, adopted in 2015 in Paris, France, changed the course of global climate action. In this document, you can learn about its articles and importance.

[UK](#) [FR](#) [Info Document](#)

The Climate Dictionary

Publishing Organization: UNDP
Brief Overview: The Climate Dictionary is an initiative designed to make climate change concepts accessible to the general public, bridging the gap between complex scientific jargon and diverse audiences.

[UK](#) [FR](#) [Info Document](#) [Others](#)

Meaningful Climate Action: Young People as Changemakers in the MENA Region

Publishing Organization: Save the Children
Brief Overview: This research study maps youth inclusion in climate policy and identifies ways to enhance their participation in climate action. The study aimed to educate and engage young people, highlighting their role in advancing climate education and meaningful participation in climate issues.

[UK](#) [FR](#) [Info Document](#)

Climate Science Basics

Publishing Organization: by Planet Nutshell
Brief Overview: This series by Planet Nutshell provides short, 2- to 3-minute animated videos that break down the carbon cycle and global warming into bite-sized pieces.

[UK](#) [YouTube Series](#)

Mediterranean Map - Animation





OUR CLIMATE
OUR COMMUNITY

Thank you for your attention!



Enhancing the impact of WES-BCA activities

Presented by:
Dr. Emad ADLY, Stakeholder Engagement and
Impact Assessment Expert, WES-BCA

- **Interlinked aspects:**

- ☐ Stakeholder engagement (involving the right people from the relevant institutions)

- ☐ Defining, monitoring and assessing expected impacts throughout the process on both personal and institutional levels

WES-BCA IMPACT ASSESSMENT METHODOLOGY (CI)



WES-BCA
Water and Environment Support -
Biodiversity and Climate Action
in the Neighbourhood South region



- Approval of Activities' ToRs (Relevant Stakeholders, Impacts and Indicators)
- Mobilizing candidates based on certain criteria to make sure the project serves the right target groups.
- Dynamic participatory activities involving quizzes, exercises etc.
- Evaluation immediately after the intervention.
- Follow-up and getting feedback (e-survey, interviews, capitalization questionnaires completed by FPs).

ENGAGING THE RIGHT STAKEHOLDERS IS KEY! (CI)



- ❑ Trainees from the government / ministries that can contribute to the decision-making process and in designing policies. From other stakeholder groups as well.
- ❑ WES-BCA to identify and invite relevant Mediterranean CSOs and NGOs from regional and national networks.
- ❑ Gender and Youth aspects are well integrated from the ToR development phase.

Regional Engagement



Regional Webinar on the
“Contribution to the
Mediterranean monitoring
and reporting programs for
marine litter prevention
and mitigation”
(C1_REG-4)
3 February 2026

Training and Study Tour (ST) on
“Flood and Stormwater
Adaptation Solutions”
(C1_REG/ST-6)

21-24 April 2026 – Nice, France

ENGAGING THE RIGHT STAKEHOLDERS IS KEY! (CII)

Under **Civil Society Mobilization** actions:

NGO/CSO Engagement



- Number of members in the *WES-BCA Communities for Climate Action* in each PC;
- Number of outreach activities implemented by participating CSOs/ NGOs

Synergies



- Amplification of impact via joint/coordinated efforts (regional, national, local)

Community Actions Taken



- Cases showcasing real-world, on-the-ground impact of the WES-BCA CII outreach actions.



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in the Neighbourhood South region

Thank you for your attention!





Presentation of the next year Workplan 2026-2027

Presented by:

Mr Anis ISMAIL, Environment Key Expert, WES-BCA

Ms Suzan TAHA, Water Key Expert, WES-BCA

Ms Evie LITOU, Coordinator Component I, WES-BCA

Ms Anastasia RONIOTES, Coordinator Component II, WES-BCA

Component 1: Topics 1 & 2:

Pollution Prevention: Focus on Plastic and Marine Pollution



Presentation of the next year Workplan (2026-2027)

National Activities

- All activities to be completed within the next year, with potential delays closely monitored jointly with FPs
- Two activities expected to kick off shortly (Morocco and Israel)
- Algeria activity pending; expected start by June, subject to progress in approval procedures
- Continued alignment and coordination of the national activities with UfM, UNEP, EU, LAS, and other relevant regional and global programmes
- Strong focus on ownership, consolidation, synergies, and replication across WES-BCA actions

		2026										2027							
Country	Activity	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct
Algeria	Advancing Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) and action planning for plastic waste reduction in Algeria																		
Egypt	Sustainable plastic waste management focusing on SUPs in the tourism sector																		
Israel	Prohibiting the free distribution of single-use items																		
Jordan	Pre-conceptualization and support to establish a Plastic Waste Recycling/Upcycling Hub near existing waste management infrastructure																		
Lebanon	Advancing Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) and action planning for plastic waste reduction in Lebanon																		
Morocco	Financial impact assessment and economic implications of the proposed EPR model																		
Palestine	Support for EQA in preparing the Palestine 7th National Report to the Convention on Biological Diversity (UNCBD)																		
Tunisia	Enforcement of political and legal measures for the reduction and eventual prohibition of certain types of shopping plastic bags																		

Component 1: Topics 1 & 2:

Pollution Prevention: Focus on Plastic and Marine Pollution



Presentation of the next year Workplan (2026-2027)

Regional Activities

- Four regional activities are planned to be completed within the next year.
- Continued and reinforced linkages between regional and national activities, particularly on green/circular economy, plastic pollution and SUPs, EPR, biodiversity and marine litter, and sustainable tourism.
- Close coordination and synergy ensured across all thematic areas and between both project Components.
- Continued alignment and coordination of the Regional activities with UfM, UNEP, EU, LAS, and other relevant regional and global programmes.

Regional Activities	2026									2027									
Activity	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	
C1_REG-1: Strengthening regional regulatory frameworks for plastics and Circular Economy alignment																			
C1_REG/ST-2: Study Tour- Regional event on advancing Green, Blue, and Circular Economies in the Mediterranean through multi-sector collaboration (Sustainable Tourism)																			
C1_REG/ST-3: Study Tour-Fostering regional collaboration and circular economy solutions to address land-based plastic pollution and marine litter in the Mediterranean: policy guidance on tackling riverine plastic pollution.																			
C1_REG-4: Contribution to the Mediterranean monitoring and reporting programs for marine litter prevention and mitigation (online)																			

Component 1: Topics 3,4 & 5

Water, WEF Nexus & Climate Resilience

Presentation of the next year Workplan (2026-2027)

National Activities



WES-BCA
Water and Environment Support -
Biodiversity and Climate Action

- Despite some delay in some national activities, activities at all levels will be completed within the next year.
- Any further delay in national activities to be monitored jointly with FPs and corrective action coordinated.
- Two remaining activities still pending (EG & IL)
- Continued linkages and complementarity between regional, horizontal, and national activities
- Continued coordination with WEF Nexus processes supporting synergies on climate adaptation financing, private sector engagement, and cross-sectoral cooperation (in synergy with UNEP MAP, GWP-Med and Plan Bleu, UfM, PRIMA WEF4Med, etc).
- Strong focus on ownership, consolidation, synergies, and replication across WES-BCA actions

National Activities

Country	Activity	2026								2027									
		May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct
Algeria	Low-Cost measures for enhanced water efficiency & NRW reduction: follow-up to the WES action plan																		
Egypt	Regulatory and Institutional frameworks for climate-resilient agricultural drainage water reuse																		
Israel	National Master Plan for Water Sector – facing the Nexuses – Food Security, Energy and Finance																		
Jordan	Recommendations for the development of regulations in support of NBS implementation																		
Lebanon	Design of NBS in a Pilot area in Lebanon																		
Morocco	Introduce practices to reduce evaporation, conserving water resources, and minimizing water losses in open water systems																		
Palestine	Update/Draft standards for Treated Wastewater Reuse and Blended Water Use and conduct stakeholder consultations to ensure broad support and compliance.																		
Tunisia	Capacity building and knowledge development on climate-resilient agricultural practices and water management: orientation to strategic crops in Tunisia (cereals and olive trees).																		

Component 1: Topics 3,4 & 5

Water, WEFE Nexus & Climate Resilience

Presentation of the next year Workplan (2026-2027)

Regional & Horizontal Activities



WES-BCA
Water and Environment Support -
Biodiversity and Climate Action

- Despite some delay in some national activities, activities at all levels will be completed within the next year.
- Any further delay in national activities to be monitored jointly with FPs and corrective action coordinated.
- Two remaining activities still pending (EG & IL)
- Continued linkages and complementarity between regional, horizontal, and national activities
- Continued coordination with WEFE Nexus processes supporting synergies on climate adaptation financing, private sector engagement, and cross-sectoral cooperation (in synergy with UNEP MAP, GWP-Med and Plan Bleu, UfM, PRIMA WEFE4Med, etc).
- Strong focus on ownership, consolidation, synergies, and replication across WES-BCA actions

Regional Activities																			
Code	Activity	2026								2027									
		May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct
C1_REG/ST-5	WEFE Nexus best practices in agriculture - Learning from practical approaches of Northern Mediterranean countries																		
C1_REG/ST-6	Adaptation measures for floods and storms management																		
C1_REG-7	Assess BAT for WWT for reuse also incl. feasibility of integrating different renewable energy options with various WWT technologies and providing guidelines for integrating RE with WWTPs																		
C1_REG-8	Climate-resilient planning and practices in agriculture including efficient water management techniques to equip PCS with the knowledge and skills to adapt to Climate Change impacts.																		
Horizontal Activities																			
C1_HOR-2	Climate Change adaptation in the Mediterranean coastal area: catalysing financing/the role of the private sector																		

Presentation of the next year Workplan (2026-2027)

	2026										2027									
	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct		
Component 1:Water, Biodiversity and Environment																				
Other Activities																				
Activity C1_0.4: Continue the momentum, organisation and grid of relationships																				
Activity C1_0.5: Support to UfM																				
Activity C1_0.6: Gender Mainstreaming																				
Activity C1_Com: Communication Strategy delivery (material, brochures, website, identity etc)																				
Activity IA_C1: Impact Assessment and communications																				
Activity 0.2: Updating the mapping key actors, stakeholders, IFIs, donors & baseline data (programmes, initiatives)																				
Activity 0.3: Develop the overall Work plan, Logframe and Inception Report																				
Activity 0.6: Organisation of the Final Conference/Wrap-up meeting																				
Activity 0.7: Steering Committee Meetings Preparations and Implementation (excluding the Final Conference)																				
Activity 0.8: Management Issues and progress report writing																				
End of project																				

Next Phase of the “Our Climate – Our Community” campaign



National level:

- Implementation of the 2026 activities of the **Country Briefs** in alignment with the FPs, EUDs and other partners / projects
- Building further the community of action: voluntary call to join the (WES-BCA) ‘Mediterranean Community for Climate Action’ launched since October 2025 (Cairo Forum).
- Continued country/stakeholder inputs to the three social media ‘waves’ **Choose Reuse, Heat Is Here, Holding on to Water**
- Preparation and implementation of the 2027 activities of the **Country Briefs**: roundtables / workshops on Climate Change Education and Education for Sustainable Development, some on better understanding the WEF E Nexus approach, and some on the principles of the Aarhus Convention on Access to Environmental Information, Public Participation, and Access to Justice on Environmental Issues – all of which are central to civil society’s mission.

Next Phase of the “Our Climate – Our Community” campaign

Regional level:

- At least three regional webinars will be co-organised till the end of the project:
 - one for **journalists/media** on Solutions Journalism;
 - one or two for **educators** on Climate Change Education (synergy with Erasmus+ project PARCCE on traditional and Augmented Reality climate change education; coincides with the celebration of World Environmental Education Day (14 October)).
 - one for the **WES/BCA FPs and other relevant target groups** on the European Digital Twin Ocean (EDITO), a public infrastructure platform enabling a digital representation of the ocean, designed to support the EU Mission Ocean & Waters goals. It provides high-quality data, AI, and computing resources to help policymakers analyze data, simulate scenarios and make evidence-based decisions for a sustainable blue economy.
- Organisation of the 2nd regional Civil Society meeting on Environment and Climate Action as a follow-up to the Cairo Forum.

Next Phase of the “Our Climate – Our Community” campaign



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in the Neighbourhood South region

Website and Social Media

A more visible phase

- Stronger editorial presence
- Regular content across platforms
- Social media driving traffic to website
- Focus on consistency and engagement





Final Discussion and Endorsement of the Workplan



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in the Neighbourhood South region

2nd Steering Committee Meeting EVALUATION FORM





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**Thank you for your attention
and keep up with our latest news!**

WES-BCA.EU

