



WES-BCA

Regional Consultation

**Regional Dialogue on
Advancing Private Sector Engagement for Climate
Resilience through WEF E Nexus in the
Mediterranean Source to Sea Continuum**

15 September 2026

WES-BCA Regional Consultation

C1_HOR-2 Climate Change adaptation in the Mediterranean Source to Sea Continuum: the role of the private sector in a WEF Nexus approach

15 September 2026

Online

Objectives and overview of the activity

Presented by: Ms Suzan TAHA, Water Key Expert, WES-BCA



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

WES-BCA in a snapshot



- Improve environmental protection, biodiversity restoration, and sustainable water management.
- Enhance climate resilience in the Mediterranean region.
- Strengthen policies and their implementation in Partner Countries, in line with UfM and Barcelona Convention frameworks.
- Build the capacity of key stakeholders to develop and implement relevant policies.
- Raise awareness, increase knowledge, and promote behavioural change for climate action and environmental protection.

WES-BCA builds on the achievements and experience of previous EU-funded regional projects.

Introducing the Activity - Climate Change adaptation in the Mediterranean S2S Continuum: the role of the private sector in a WEF Nexus approach (C1_HOR-2)



- Horizontal Regional Activity under WES-BCA, under Topic 5: Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation Actions
- Direct follow-up to the 2024 WES Regional Assessment on Private Sector Engagement to Catalyse Financing for Climate Adaptation in the Mediterranean and the Regional Roundtable held in Athens on 2–3 December 2024, seeking to operationalise their recommendations
- Implemented in cooperation with GWP-Med and in synergy with other regional partners and processes, including those of the UfM and UNEP/MAP

Purpose and Objectives of the Activity



Overall objectives: Advance regional cooperation and institutional coordination on climate change adaptation financing in the Mediterranean, with emphasis on mobilising private-sector investments through a WEF E Nexus approach in the Mediterranean Source-to-Sea Continuum.

Specific objectives

- Operationalise the regional recommendations of the WES Regional Assessment and the 1st Regional Workshop on Climate Adaptation Financing through targeted Action Plans and partnerships for their implementation.
- Enhance regional cooperation and stakeholder coordination on climate adaptation financing through a Thematic Community within the Mediterranean WEF E Nexus Community of Practice, promoting peer learning, networking and sustained knowledge exchange.
- Facilitate collective validation and regional endorsement of the Action Plans and CoP framework through Regional Consultation Workshops.

Main Components of the Activity



Task 1 – Development of Action Plans for Priority Recommendations

- Select priority recommendations from the WES Regional Assessment
- Develop practical pathways from high-level recommendations to implementable actions
- Define key implementation steps, required resources, potential implementing partners and synergies

Task 2 – Thematic Community on Private Sector Engagement in WEF Nexus Financing for Climate Adaptation & Resilience

- Further map and engage relevant stakeholders
- Identify needs and priorities
- Develop the framework, thematic focus areas and modalities for knowledge exchange, peer learning and networking

Task 3 – Regional Consultation Workshops/Events

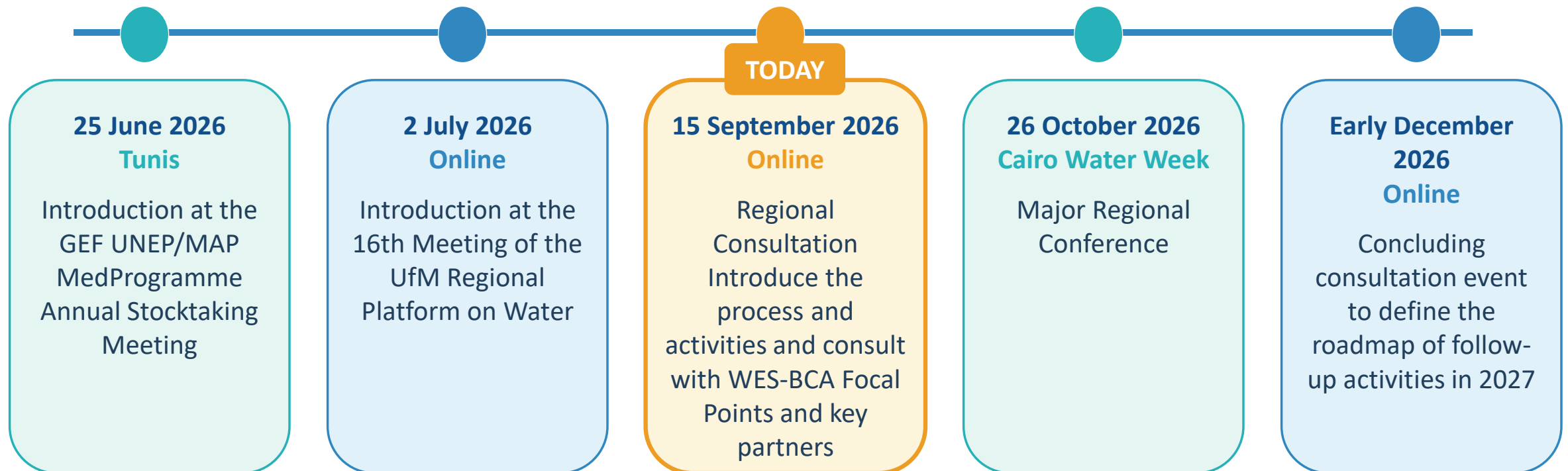
- Present and discuss the Action Plans/Frameworks and proposed Thematic Community
- Mobilise stakeholder engagement and commitments for action

Advancing the Regional Dialogue



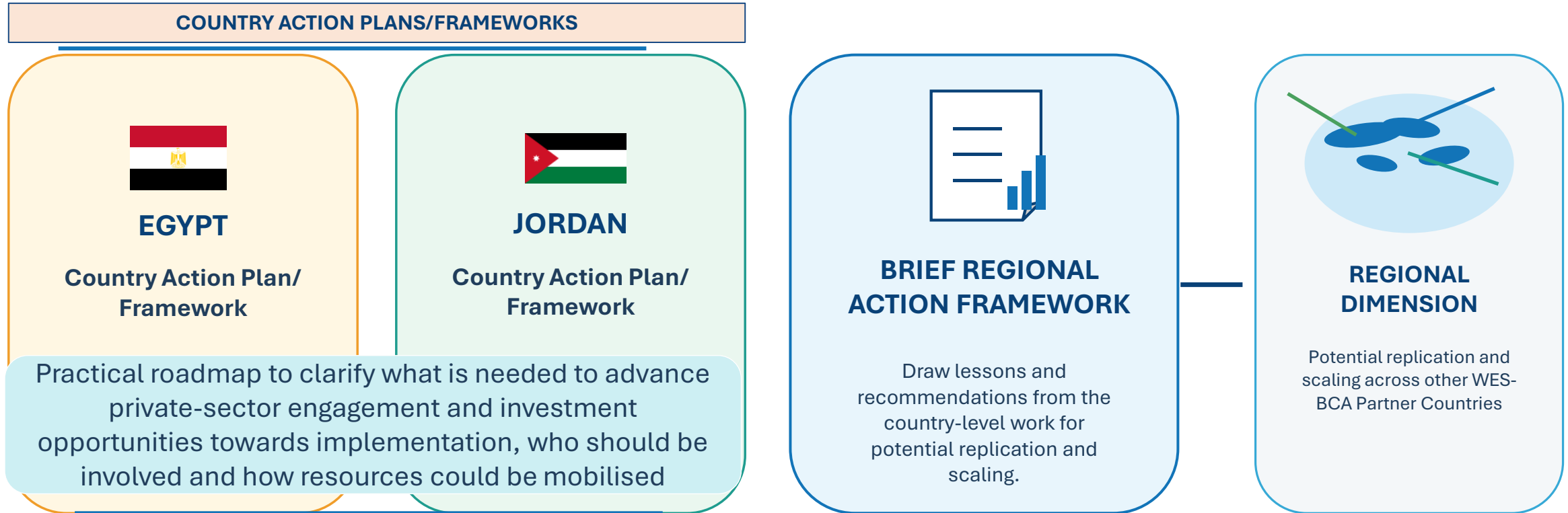
As part of its implementation, HOR-2 is advancing a regional dialogue on private-sector engagement for climate resilience through WEFE Nexus in the Mediterranean Source-to-Sea Continuum.

The dialogue is advanced in cooperation with GWP-Med and in synergy with other regional partners and processes, including those of the UfM and UNEP/MAP.



Proposed Action Plan/Framework Approach

Country-level analysis in Egypt and Jordan, complemented by a brief Regional Action Framework.



COUNTRY-LEVEL DEPTH + REGIONAL RELEVANCE

Grounding regional recommendations in country realities while generating lessons for wider replication and scaling.

Purpose of today's Consultation



- Present and discuss the proposed approach for the Egypt and Jordan Action Frameworks and the Regional Action Framework
- Present and discuss the proposed Thematic Community within the Mediterranean WEFN Nexus Community of Practice
- Discuss the proposed focus and expected outcomes of the Regional Event at Cairo Water Week 2026
- Obtain participants' input on the way forward and outline the next steps



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Thank you for your attention!



WES-BCA Regional Consultation

Updates on regional activities &
recent developments related to the
Regional Consultation

Vangelis Constantianos, GWP-Med

15 September 2026
11:00–13:00 CET
Online

Key regional policy processes linked with the Regional Consultation



- the Pact for the Mediterranean, including its Action Plan (April 2026)
- the Strategy for WEFE Nexus in the Mediterranean Source to Sea Continuum (aka Strategy, approved by UfM and Barcelona Convention at the end of 2025), and work towards preparing an Action Framework (see Nicosia Accord)
- the upcoming UfM ‘Rome initiative on Water’ linked to the 2nd UfM Water Conference (28/9/2026, Rome).
- the UfM Climate Action Plan (currently under preparation with the support of DG MENA, CLIMA and WES-BCA)

The WEFE Nexus Strategy in Med S2S



- **The Strategy aims to** enable the mainstreaming of system-thinking and the application of the WEFE Nexus approach in the Mediterranean Source to Sea continuum within improved and integrated governance structures at different levels.
- **The Strategy provides** a comprehensive strategic framework to support countries in strengthening policy and action integration across WEFE sectors and to promote leveraging of financial resources towards sustainability and climate-resilience objectives across borders.

- **Under the auspices of**
UfM, UNEP-MAP, and EU



- **Technical drafting led by**
GWP-Med, EU WES (BCA) Project, PRIMA



The WEFE Nexus Strategy in Med S2S



- The Strategy is structured around 3 Goals:
 1. Appropriate institutional arrangements, policies, and cooperation frameworks are established at country and regional levels
 2. Efficient and effective planning, financing and implementation of management and technical solutions
 3. Informed decision-making based on enhanced science-based knowledge, engagement of capacitated stakeholders, and increased public awareness
- In service of the 3 Goals, the Strategy unfolds in 8 Objectives and 40 Directions for Action

A Framework of Action for the Strategy operationalization: key principles



- Shift from 'Nexus thinking' to 'Nexus doing' in the Mediterranean
- Strengthen institutional capacities to improve project preparation and accelerate access to climate financing by supporting meaningful participation in regional WEFE initiatives
- Reflect countries' needs and priorities
- Link to goals of UfM and the Barcelona Convention
- Align regional processes, like Pact for the Mediterranean and EU Green Deal and Water Resilience Strategy
- Mobilise key partners, including PRIMA-supported WEFE Nexus Community of Practice (WEFE4Med)
- Enhance engagement of Agriculture and Energy sectors in a WEFE approach

Regional contributions to the Action Framework along four priorities

○ WEFE Nexus Governance:

- Rapid Assessment of WEFE Nexus in Med (13 countries) | GWP-Med in GEF MedProgramme
- Detailed Assessment for Jordan, Lebanon, Morocco (2025-2026, in synergy with EU WES-BCA, GWP-Med and PRIMA
- Online Course on WEFE Nexus for national policy-makers and experts | GWP-Med in GEF MedProgramme

○ WEFE Nexus Financing:

- WEFE Nexus and GCF financing : Regional Training with UfM, GCF, AWC, Egypt, June 2025)
- WEFE Nexus and EU financing: Regional Training with UfM, EU DG MENA, Sida, GWP-Med, Athens, Dec 2025)
- Regional consultation on WEFE Nexus Financing & Private Sector Engagement for Climate Resilience | WES-BCA, EU, GWP-Med, partners

○ WEFE Nexus & Non-Conventional (Desalination, Wastewater Treatment & Reuse):

- Regional Consultation (Nicosia, Nov 2025; EU JRC Assessment; follow ups) | EU JRC, PRIMA WEFE4Med, Cyl

○ WEFE Nexus & Digital Transformation:

- Regional Consultation (Lisbon, Jun 2024; Malta, Feb 2025) and online in 2025 and 2026 GWP-Med, UfM, IME
- 3 PRIMA/H2020 projects (led AQUAOUNT-CMCC),

The Action Framework: next steps



- Barcelona Convention and UfM RPW to provide light monitoring, assess progress and strategically orient towards further action for achieving the set goals
- UfM RPW to work with MSs and partners to elaborate framework of actions, engaging other sectors and promoting financing for WEF E investment and capacity building
- Be based on a Why-What-How approach
- Elaborate and finalize Action Framework : Describe context; purpose; technical contents; key partners and roles; timeframe; means of implementation; indicators; monitoring; learning
- Utilise opportunities for consultation and presentation in 2026: Euro-Med Water Forum in Rome, Cairo Water Week, UN Water Conference in Abu Dhabi
- Considered for comments and approval by UfM RPW and UNEP MAP MCSD in 2027

Key upcoming regional & international events



- UfM Ministerial Meeting on Water, 28 September 2026, Rome
- Euro-Med Water Forum, 29 September-2 October 2026, Rome
 - Workshop on WEF E Nexus Community of Practice (PRIMA WEF E4Med), 30 Sept, 09.30-11.00 CET
 - Workshop on the WEF E Nexus Strategy and Action Framework, 1 Oct, 16.30-18.00
- Cairo Water Week, 25-29 October 2026, Cairo
 - Conference on WEF E Nexus Financing & Private Sector Engagement for Climate Resilience (title to be announced), 26 Oct, full day – EU, UfM, WES-BCA, GWP-Med
 - UfM Task Force on Water Financing & focus on WEF E Nexus Blended Finance, 27 Oct, morning
- UN Water Conference, 8-10 December 2026, UAE
 - Side Event on the WEF E Nexus Strategy and Action Framework (tbc)



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Thank you for your attention!



WES-BCA

15 September 2025

Online

WEFE Nexus Action Frameworks — Egypt, Jordan & Regional Approach

Presented by:

Dr Ger Bergkamp

CEO ARCOWA

Climate Change Adaptation Financing Expert, WES-BCA

Towards bankable WEFE project pipelines



From assessments to bankable pilots : government-led steps to unlock blended finance

Aim: align ministries and EU/IFIs around time-bound actions to prepare bankable WEFE pilots across Egypt and Jordan, guided by regional learning.

Emphasis:

- engaging SMEs in service provision, technology and innovation and partners for large scale infrastructure (indicatively wastewater treatment and reuse, desalination, irrigation, agritech)
- mobilising [EFSD+/NDICI](#) financing and investment instruments, while other potential sources should be described (e.g. GCF, private funding, etc), including as co-financing options.
- applying a WEFE Nexus approach to such investments to generate multiple benefits for climate resilience, including as outlined in the 'WEFE Nexus screening tool' in the EU's Assessment on WEFE Nexus Financing.

Priority: Identifying existing / pipeline / potential projects and steps needed to advance project opportunities.

Focus: Egypt and Jordan as pilot countries. The country-level work will feed into the brief Regional Action Framework for potential replication and scaling across other WES-BCA Partner Countries.

Why WEFE & Country Priorities



Shared rationale: WEFE integration reduces climate risk, protects ecosystems, mobilises private finance via bankable, multi-benefit projects.

Egypt - indicative priorities:

- renewables-linked desalination pilots (coastal cities),
- wastewater reuse for agriculture (large-scale potential),
- irrigation modernisation + agritech.

Jordan - indicative priorities:

- aggregated irrigation modernisation & solar pumping;
- PV-powered tertiary reuse for industrial/agri users;
- medium-scale renewables-linked desalination.

Alignment: Stronger linkages to country plans, to Pact for the Mediterranean, NDCs, UfM initiatives to improve donor/IFI alignment and financing prospects.

Country Action Plans/Frameworks



Accelerating Private Sector Engagement in the Water Sector through WEF E Nexus approach for Climate Resilience :

- briefly summarise the climate adaptation and other sustainability-related challenges/opportunities to be addressed through a WEF E Nexus approach & the Mediterranean Source to Sea continuum;
- outline the current status of the enabling environment and suggest improvements, including in governance arrangements, that are needed for mobilizing private investment;
- identify the current status and opportunities for mobilising and de-risking investments, with emphasis on EFSD+/NDICI, while also considering other available financing and investment instruments in the countries;
- identify existing and pipeline/ potential projects which could be used as examples, or at least attempts, of progress towards the appropriate implementation of the WEF E Nexus approach
- outline key steps required for advancing further implementation opportunities (incl. use of EFSD+)
- identify required resources (e.g. TA, institutional support and capacity-building)
- identify potential implementing partners and their possible roles, including relevant synergies

Action Framework – Table of Content



1. Context and rationale
2. Opportunity & problem analysis: mobilizing private finance
3. Current status
4. Enabling environment: governance, policy and regulation
5. Financial instruments & mobilization pathways (incl. de-risking, EFSD+/NDICI)
6. Potential project pipeline
7. Private sector engagement and market development (key steps)
8. Indicative implementation plan (i.e. resources, partners)

Brief Regional Action Framework



Based on the Country Action Plans/Frameworks, a brief Regional Action Framework would:

- draw recommendations for the potential replication and scaling of relevant approaches and actions in other WES-BCA Mediterranean countries.
- suggest ways through which the proposed actions could support the implementation of relevant WEFE Nexus Strategy recommendations.
- suggest ways in which the proposed actions contribute to the operationalisation of the Pact for the Mediterranean.

Next steps

- Initial feedback during the online consultation Meeting, 15 September, 12.00-14.00 CET (This meeting)
- One to one consultations with country representatives (Egypt, Jordan) and EU delegations (Egypt, Jordan)
- Presentation of progress at WEFE Conference within the Cairo Water Week, Monday - 26 October 2026, organised by the EU, UfM, WES-BCA and GWP-Med.
- Finalization of Country Frameworks and brief Regional Action Framework (November 2026)



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15 September 2025

Online

Thematic Community on “Private Sector Engagement in WEFE Nexus Financing for Climate Adaptation & Resilience”
Catalysing Private-Sector Engagement and Investment in WEFE Nexus Solutions

Presented by: **Dr Ger Bergkamp**

CEO ARCOWA,

Climate Change Adaptation Financing Expert, WES-BCA

WEFE Nexus – Thematic Community of Practice (CoP)



- **Purpose:** create a focused CoP to convert WEFE pilots into bankable (potentially scaling) investments.
- **Problem:** unclear investment pipelines, weak transaction preparation and limited SME access to blended finance.
- **Target:** convene SMEs, large corporates, IFIs, national banks, investors and public agencies.
- **Focus:** strengthen transaction readiness and practical use of blended finance, guarantees, aggregation.
- **Role:** facilitative forum - linking instrument design, deal structuring and active pipeline development, connecting SMEs with TA and potential financiers

Background and Rationale



- **WEFE4MED hub:** established regional knowledge platform but limited pipeline-to-investment translation.
- **Market gaps:** fragmented market for large corporates; lack of streamlined entry points to find viable local projects.
- **SME constraints:** small transaction sizes, low investor readiness, limited access to guarantees/blended tools.
- **Public sector needs:** ministries and IFIs need clearer project pipelines and better transaction prep.
- **Urgent need:** an action-oriented forum to convert innovations into investable opportunities.
- **Added value:** combine knowledge sharing with hands-on transaction support and matchmaking.

Objective

Establish a thematic Community of Practice (CoP) on Private Sector Engagement in WEF Nexus Financing.

- **Aim:** accelerate private sector mobilisation for WEF projects across the Mediterranean.
- **Convene cross-sector actors:** SMEs, corporates, IFIs, national institutions, investors, public agencies.
- **Deliverable focus:** private sector mobilisation tools (e.g. project readiness, capacity building on blended finance).
- **Function:** facilitative space entrepreneurs meet entrepreneurs and potential support and financiers
- **Outcome:** increased capacity among SMEs to prepare investable WEF projects for consideration by financiers.

Scope and Activities

Activities to be further defined via stakeholder consultation during CoP design.

Potential activities could include:

- provide financing guidance on EU/IFI instruments (EFSD+/NDICI, EIB, EBRD)
- run bankability clinics and TA for SMEs/project developers
- maintain rolling inventory of WEFE opportunities and support SME aggregation models.
- support linkage to Project/Transaction Preparation Facilities (TPFs).
- organize pitch-days and matchmaking events linking potential project with financiers.

Operating Model



- **Governance:** small steering group with SME networks, corporates, investors, IFIs, public authorities, civil society.
- **Secretariat:** light, facilitative secretariat hosted within WEFE4MED to coordinate activities.
- **Membership:** open to Hub users with targeted outreach to SMEs, incubators, sector leads (desalination, agri-tech, energy), national banks.
- **Meetings:**
 - quarterly virtual plenaries,
 - monthly thematic working sessions, private portal for documents.
 - annual in-person convening aligned with regional event (e.g., Cairo Water Week) for pitching/matchmaking.
- **Seed funding options:** potential PRIMA support for secretariat, training and some activities (tbc)
- **Financial Sustainability:** explore modest fees for tailored TPF services and IFI co-funding for high-potential projects / transaction support

Beneficiaries



- **SMEs:** practical, low-barrier support to reach investor standards; access to aggregation pathways and introductions.
- **Large corporates:** improved pipeline visibility, standardized project information, lower sourcing costs.
- **IFIs & investors:** a pre-screened flow of investable projects and contextual intelligence on instruments.
- **Ministries & public authorities:** coordinated pipeline, diagnostic input on regulatory bottlenecks, clearer attraction mechanisms.
- **Local communities:** integrated WEF E outcomes, stronger resilience and improved social uptake.
- **Overall:** improved matchmaking between project proposers and finance providers.

Proposed Next Steps & Timeline

- **Immediate actions:**
 - identifying stakeholder groups
 - assessment of CoP needs
 - designing CoP framework
 - consulting stakeholders
- **Governance:**
 - finalise CoP framework
 - form steering group
 - mobilise initial core members.
- **Funding:** explore seed funding commitments (PRIMA, EU, donors)
- **Consultation:** coming 10 weeks consultations with key stakeholders



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Thank you for your attention!

Discussion and Participants' Input



- Proposed scope
- Action Framework
- Community of Practice
- Areas of analysis,
- Country priorities
- Participation

WES-BCA Regional Consultation

C1_HOR-2 Climate Change adaptation in the Mediterranean Source to Sea Continuum: the role of the private sector in a WEF Nexus approach

15 September 2026

Online

Cairo Water Week 2026 – Regional Consultation Event

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



Discussion and Participants' Input



- Q&A
- Discussion

Next Steps



- Country-level consultations
- Engagement with EU Delegations and relevant financing and implementing partners:

Final Remarks from Participants & Closing

