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Session title: Climate Change and Security in the Mediterranean Region

Lead organization: Mediterranean Experts on Climate and environmental Change (MedECC)

Day and time slot: 12th November (Adaptation and Agriculture Day), 17h30-18h30 local time in Egypt, UTC+2.

Moderator: Veronica Fernandes (Rainews24)

Biographies of speakers Andrea DESSI





Scientific Director, New Med Research Network Head, Italian Foreign Policy programme, Istituto Affari Internazionali (IAI)

Andrea Dessì is Head of IAI's Mediterranean, Middle East and Africa programme. Andrea is also a Non-Resident Scholar at the Strategic Studies Implementation and Research Centre, Başkent University, Ankara. He has worked extensively on US and European foreign policy towards the Middle East with a particular focus on the diplomatic and military history of the Arab-Israeli conflict, US policy towards Israel and Washington's alliance frameworks in the Middle East. His research interests include security studies, the geopolitics of the Middle East and the intersection between global and regional trends and developments. Andrea holds a PhD in International Relations from the London School of Economics and Political Science (LSE) with a thesis on the US-Israel relationship during the 1980s. He has worked with IAI since 2011 and has contributed to a number of EU-funded projects and research tasks (FP7 & H2020).



Wolfgang CRAMER



CNRS, France, Coordinator of MedECC Lead of the cross-chapter paper on the Mediterranean Region of the IPCC AR6

Professor Dr Wolfgang Cramer, environmental geographer and global ecologist, is research director (CNRS) at the Mediterranean Institute for Biodiversity and Ecology (IMBE), in Aix-en-Provence (France). In 2017 he was elected associated member of the Académie d'Agriculture de France. He is a contributor in many roles to the IPCC, including leading the cross-chapter paper on the Mediterranean Region of the Sixth Assessment Report. With Joël Guiot and Fatima Driouech, he coordinates the Mediterranean Experts on Climate and Environmental Change, MedECC. <u>https://www.imbe.fr/wolfgang-cramer</u>, <u>https://twitter.com/wolfgangcramer</u>

Roula MAJDALANI



ICARDA-One CGIAR, Lebanon Coordinating Lead Author of the MedECC Special Report on environmental change, conflict and human migration

Roula Majdalani is the climate change advisor of the International Center for Agricultural Research in the Dry Areas (ICARDA). She is the former cluster leader on climate change and natural resources sustainability and the former director of the Sustainable Development Policies Division at the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA). Ms. Majdalani joined ESCWA in 1989 and has served as a Human Settlements Officer, First Economic Affairs Officer on water resources, and Chief of the Technical Cooperation Section. Ms. Majdalani holds a master's degree in Urban and Regional Planning from Syracuse University and previously worked with Dar Al-Handasah Consultants (London). She has publications on the green economy and integrated management of water resources, housing development and sustainable cities. She lectured on these topics in scientific, regional and international forums.



Silvia PARIENTE-DAVID



MedECC and consultant on energy and climate change

Silvia Pariente-David is a senior advisor and consultant on energy and climate change issues to several international organisations, governments, think tanks and energy companies. Previously, she was a Senior Energy Specialist at the World Bank, where she led the team arranging the financing of the Ouarzazate solar power plant in Morocco. Much of her work focuses on optimisation of renewable energy integration into the power systems and on regional energy market integration, in particular in the Mediterranean. She holds a PhD in Operations Research from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) and an Eng. Deg. in Applied Mathematics and Computer Science from Institut Polytechnique de Grenoble (ENSIMAG).

Mohamed BEHNASSI



Senior Environmentalist Expert, Economic Social & Environmental Council (ESEC) Director, Center for Environment, Human Security & Governance (CERES), Rabat, Morocco

Dr. Mohamed Behnassi is Director of the Center for Environment, Human Security and Governance (CERES) and senior environmentalist expert at Economic Social & Environmental Council (ESEC). His areas of expertise include international law and politics of environment, climate change and human security. He has published so far 15 books and 40 scientific papers, and made more than 50 oral presentations in international conferences. He served as expert for the IPBES, MedECC, and CNRST/Morocco, organized several international scientific meetings, and managed many research and expertise projects. Dr. Behnassi is also an independent CSR Senior Auditor. Links: <u>https://www.ceres-center.org</u>, <u>https://scholar.google.com/citations?user=9MyQWRMAAAAJ&hl=en</u>



Lina TODE



Deputy Director of Plan Bleu

Lina Tode is Deputy Director of Plan Bleu, Regional Activity Centre of the Mediterranean Action Plan of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP). She has been working on sustainable development issues in the Mediterranean region for more than 10 years. Environmental economist by training, Lina coordinated the recent report on the State of the Environment and Development in the Mediterranean, published in 2020. Lina has carried out several systemic and socio-economic assessment studies within Plan Bleu, particularly in relation to marine policy. Lina has been following Plan Bleu's activities in the field of foresight since 2016.