

**COP29 - UNFCCC**

11-22 November 2024, Baku, Azerbaijan

**EVENT CONCEPT NOTE****Building Green Skills: Equipping Mediterranean Talent for the Green Jobs Era**

16 November 2024

**1. Objectives**

Green jobs are an emerging trend of the labour markets and millions of green jobs will be creating in the upcoming decades to respond to the global need of ensuring the green transition of the economy. Green jobs are to be considered as those that have a positive benefit on the environment and climate change and it is then regarded as a wide concept. Green skills are the specific competences required by green jobs and can be both soft skills or hard skills. There is a general consensus among experts that a certain level of green skills gap exists between the needs of the market and the competences of the youth. Filling in this gap is necessary if we want the younger generations to take the maximum advantage and be ready for the green jobs era. The event will address this particular challenge at Mediterranean level featuring success stories as well as informing on Interreg NEXT MED unique opportunities to develop green skills among the Mediterranean youth through Green Transformation and Eco-Youth cooperation projects.

**2. Panel discussions / Event showflow**

- Overview of green jobs and green skills in the Mediterranean
- The Interreg NEXT MED Programme's Green skills projects success stories
- Interreg NEXT MED Programme, committed to the green transition of the Mediterranean region – Main features of the call for green transition with a focus on green skills
- Green capacity building activities in Arab countries

- **Wrap Up by**

Conclusions – Vincent Ernoux, Western Mediterranean Coordinator – Interreg NEXT MED Programme

**3. Date and Venue**

16 November 2024 | 11:30 – 12:30

The Mediterranean Pavilion, Blue Zone, F1B - COP 29

**4. Agenda**

Important to flag who will be online and/or using PPTs /Videos

**COP29 - UNFCCC**
*11-22 November 2024, Baku, Azerbaijan*

Time	
11:30 – 11:45	<p><b>Opening remarks</b></p> <p>Introduction and objectives of the event by the Moderator, <b>Vincent Ernoux</b>, Coordinator for the Western Mediterranean - <b>Interreg NEXT MED Programme</b>.</p> <p>Presenting the Union for the Mediterranean study on green skills and jobs in the Mediterranean region, <b>Giuseppe Provenzano</b>, Research, Innovation and Employability Manager, <b>Union for the Mediterranean</b></p>
11.45 – 11.55	<p>Overview of green jobs and green skills in the Mediterranean, <b>Rim Ayadi</b>, Founder and President of the Euro-Mediterranean Economists Association – <b>EMEA</b></p>
11:55 – 12:20	<p>The Interreg NEXT MED Programme’s Green skills projects success stories, <b>Alejandro Lafarga</b>, Programme Officer, <b>Interreg NEXT MED</b></p> <p>Interreg NEXT MED Programme, committed to the green transition of the Mediterranean region – Main features of the call for green transition with a focus on green skills, <b>Martin Heibel</b>, Communication Manager, <b>Interreg NEXT MED</b></p>
12:20 – 12:30	<p>Green capacity building activities in Arab countries, <b>Ghada Ahmadein</b>, Senior Manager, Arab Network for the Environment and Development - <b>RAED</b></p>
12:30	<p>Conclusions by the moderator, <b>Vincent Ernoux</b>, Interreg NEXT MED Programme</p>

## 5. Bios of speakers

Rym Ayadi (EMEA)

Professor Rym Ayadi is Founder and President of the Euro-Mediterranean Economists Association (EMEA), a Barcelona based regional Think Tank that serves as a leading independent and innovative policy research institution. Co-Founder of the Brain Capital Alliance, and founder and Director of the Euro-Mediterranean and African Network for Economic Studies (EMANES), Professor at the Bayes Business School (Former CASS) of the

**COP29 - UNFCCC**

*11-22 November 2024, Baku, Azerbaijan*

City University of London and Senior Advisor at the Centre for European Policy Studies (CEPS). For more information please visit [www.rymayadi.com](http://www.rymayadi.com)

Vincent Ernoux

Currently Coordinator of the Interreg NEXT MED Programme Branch Office for the Western Mediterranean, he has previously been working in other EU programs like INTERACT or the Interreg Spain-Portugal Cross Border Programme. Between 2014 and 2017, he was the EU and International Projects Manager at the Valenciaport Foundation. He holds master's degree in Business Administration, EU Affairs and Human Resources.

Martin Heibel

A French and Italian national, Martin Heibel has over 15 years of experience in the fields of communication and public relations of EU-funded cooperation programmes and projects, especially those implemented across the Mediterranean area.

Martin Heibel holds a B.A in Political Sciences and an M.A. in European Affairs from Sciences-Po Strasbourg as well as a M.Sc. in Space Studies from the International Space University.

Martin Heibel is currently the communication manager of Interreg NEXT MED, the largest EU-funded transnational cooperation programme in the Mediterranean region.

Alejandro Lafarga

A Spanish national, Alejandro Lafarga holds two master's degrees in Business Administration and Market Research, and has 15 years of experience managing different funding mechanisms of the European Union.

He is a passionate about innovation and technology, always up to date on the latest developments for the green transition, energy, transport, and greening cities. He has worked at the Valencia Port Foundation (Spain), the University of Limoges (France), the Valencia Region representation to the EU in Brussels, and the multinational SGS. He currently works as Programme Officer for the Interreg NEXT MED Programme.