

# Women in Blue economy in the Mediterranean

Wednesday 22 September 2021  
9.30 - 12.30



Organized by



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



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## CONTEXT

Sustainability and inclusiveness are at the heart of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, including the multiple sectors captured under the notion of blue economy. While Sustainable Development Goals promote strategies that place equality of access at the center of attention, efforts towards women inclusion need to be strengthened and prioritized. Women play a key role along the value chains of products, in organisation of processes and in leadership position. Their contribution should be valued and highlighted. Yet in many sectors and countries of the Euro-Mediterranean region, women have limited access to natural and financial resources, technology and opportunities. Structural (incl. decision-making factors), cultural and social factors, as well as lack of capacity building inhibit their full expression and efforts towards sustainability outcomes.

This webinar is dedicated to highlighting women contribution and engagement as fundamental vector in key blue economy sectors in the Mediterranean region as well as to discuss - within a solution-oriented approach - the challenges hindering the full expression of their opportunities.

The event will gather representatives of intergovernmental and regional organisations, national agencies, professional networks and academia. Interaction with speakers and discussion will be encouraged.

The event will be simultaneously translated in **English, French and Arabic**.

[Registration here](#)

# AGENDA

September 22 | 09:30-12:30 (CET)

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## 09:30 – 09:50 Welcome and introduction

*MODERATOR: Ms. Jerneja Penca, Head of Academic Affairs, Euro-Mediterranean University*

- **UfM EU and Jordan Co-presidency: Opening remarks**  
*Mr Christos Economou, Deputy Director and Head of Unit, DG MARE and Mr. Mohammad Al-Sakran, Executive Director, Transport and Logistics, Aqaba Development Corporation*
- **UfM Secretariat: Developments at UfM level**  
*UfM Environment and Blue Economy Division – Ms. Alessandra Sensi, Head of Sector*  
*UFM Social and Civil Affairs Division – Ms. Anna Dorangricchia, Project Manager*

## 09:50 – 10:00 Women in the Mediterranean economy

*MODERATOR: Ms. Alessandra Sensi, Head of Sector, Union for the Mediterranean*

- **United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) - A regional perspective: Women in Arab Region Economy**  
*Ms. Rania Tarazi, Gender Specialist, Regional Bureau for Arab States*  
*Mr. Vito Intini, Regional Chief Economist for the Arab Region*
- **Swedish Dialogue Institute for the Middle East and North Africa: Women economic empowerment in the Mena Region**  
*Ms. Charlotta Sparre, Director*

## 10:00 – 11:00 Women in blue economy in the Mediterranean

*MODERATOR: as above*

- **European Commission, DG MARE: Gender equality in the Blue Economy**  
*Ms. Pauline Caumont, Policy Assistant, Sustainable blue economy sectors*
- **International Maritime Organization (IMO): Empowering women in the maritime community**  
*Mr. Chris Trelawny, Chief Maritime Development*
- **World Tourism Organization (UNWTO): The position of women in tourism**  
*Ms. Alessandra Priante, Director, Regional Department for Europe*
- **Food and Agricultural Organisation of the UN (FAO)/General Fisheries Commission for the Mediterranean (GFCM): Strategic view and activities in the region**  
*Ms. Anna Carlson, FAO – GFCM Fishery Officer*
- **International Organisation for Women in the Seafood Industry: The roles and contributions of women in the seafood industry**  
*Ms. Camille Cherques, Head of programmes*

**11:00 – 11:10 Q&A and Discussion**

**11:10 – 11:15**

**Break**

**11:15 – 12:15 Good practices empowering women**

*MODERATOR: Ms. Anna Dorangricchia, Project Manager, Union for the Mediterranean*

- **National case study: Women in key blue economy sectors in Lebanon**  
*Ms. Vera Noon, Maritime Spatial Planning expert*
- **National case study: Jordanian Maritime Transport Initiative**  
*Ms. Hanifa Hamouri, Senior Specialist, Transport and Logistics, Aqaba Development Corporation*
- **University of Siena: Women and Research – the case of Marine Litter**  
*Ms. Cristina Fossi, Plastic Busters and Plastic Busters MPAs Scientific Coordinator*
- **AKTEA the European Network for Women in Fisheries and Aquaculture: Women contribution in EU Med fisheries: recognition and organization**  
*Ms. Katia Frangoudes, spokesperson*
- **Africa Blue Economy Forum (ABEF) and Women in Maritime Association in Tunisia (WIMATunisia): Women in Blue Economy: significance of data**  
*Ms. Leila Ben Hassen, Founder of ABEF and WIMATunisia*
- **WWF Spain: Out of the shadows – women in Mediterranean Small-scale fisheries**  
*Mr. Miguel Gomez, Senior Expert*
- **BusinessMed: The Mediterranean, an opportunity for gender empowerment**  
*Ms. Federica Bruni, Network and Development Manager*

**12:15 – 12:30 Discussion and conclusions**

**12:30**

**End of the webinar**