2ND MEDITERRANEAN GREEN WEEN CORSEEN WEEN CORSE CORSE











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OVERVIEW

The Euro-Mediterranean region is experiencing increasingly severe and unprecedented impacts from climate change, highlighting an urgent need for accelerated collective action towards climate-neutrality and green transition.

The establishment of the Mediterranean Green Week as a flagship initiative of the Union for the Mediterranean (UfM) underscores our commitment to supporting regional efforts toward a comprehensive and just green transition, reinforces our shared ambition for stronger regional cooperation to achieve low-carbon, resilient, and resource-efficient development in line with the Paris Agreement's 1.5°C goal, the 30x30 target of the Global Biodiversity framework; the Decade for Ecosystem Restoration; the UNCCD-IDRA approach; the WEFE Nexus, among others.

The second edition of Mediterranean Green Week aims to strengthen regional multilateralism and enhance collaborative dialogue among the 43 UfM Member States, with their key energy, environment, climate, water Focal Points, together with a broad range of stakeholders including civil society.

Its primary objectives are to effectively address the region's interconnected climate challenges by promoting innovative climate mitigation and adaptation strategies, energy efficiency solutions, and enhanced regional energy security; mainstream the WEFE Nexus, ensure a green, circular economy transition;

address pollution with a focus on prevention; reverse biodiversity loss and ensure ecosystem conservation and restoration; advocating for gender sensitive environmental and climate policies.

The Mediterranean Green Week will convene the 6th Meeting of the UfM Regional Platform on Environment and Climate Change, the UfM Working Group on Climate Action (previously named Climate Change Expert Group - CCEG), build on the outcomes of the 9th UfM Working Group on Environment held on 29th of January 2025, and the three UfM Energy Working Groups - on (i) Gas Emissions Abatement and Hydrogen, (ii) Regional Electricity Markets, and (iii) Mediterranean Platform for Energy Equitable transition.

This second edition of the MGW serves as annual meeting for UfM Member States and relevant stakeholders to discuss key topics, ongoing projects, new initiatives; and strategic directions to enhance UfM regional support.

Similarly to last year's edition, the agenda will feature different types of sessions to exchange knowledge, best practices, and policy updates.



2ND MEDITERRANEAN 24-GREEN WEEK BRUSS

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25 JUNE DAY 2

26 JUNE DAY 3

27 JUNE POST-EVENT

8:30 - 9:00 WELCOME COFFEE AND REGISTRATION

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9:00-9:30 High Level Opening **Auditorium**

9:30-10:30 Plenary Opening Session **Auditorium**

11:00-13:00

UfM Regional Platform on Environment and

Climate Action

Auditorium

09:00-11:00

Regional efforts for clean energy transition and energy integration Room 1

11:30-13:00

Science-Policy

Room 1

09:00-11:00

Capacity building workshop Gender. Environment and Climate Change Room 2

09:00-11:00 WG on Climate

(Closed session) Room 1

09:00-11:00 WG on ENRG

(Closed session) Room 2

09:00-11:00 **CBAM Training Auditorium**

10:30-11:00 COFFEE BREAK

11:30-13:00

Capacity building workshop Gender, Environment and Climate Change Room 2

11:30-13:00

NDCs/NAPs Room 1

11:30-13:00

WG on ENRG Room 2

10:30-11:00 COFFEE BREAK

11:30-13:00 **CBAM Training Auditorium**

13:00-14:00 LUNCH BREAK

13:00-14:00 LUNCH BREAK

14:00-15:30 UfM Regional Platform on Energy **Auditorium**

14:00-15:30

COP30 Mediterranean Pavilion Room 1

14:00-15:30

Capacity building workshop Gender, Environment and Climate Change Room 2

14:00-15:00

UfM Grant Schemes / UfM Progress Report on Regional Integration **Auditorium**

14:00-15:30 **CBAM Training Auditorium**

15:30-16:00 COFFEE BREAK

15:30-16:00 COFFEE BREAK

16.00-17.30

UfM platform on Environment and Climate Action and UfM Regional Platform on Energy **Auditorium**

16:00-17:30

Youth on Climate and Energy Room 1

16:00-17:30 **WEFE NEXUS** Room 2

15:30-17:30 Closing Remarks/Meetings' Outcomes

16:00-17:30 **CBAM Training Auditorium**

THE GREEN WEEK OBJECTIVES

- Policy Dialogue and regional cooperation: Providing a platform for Member States and stakeholders to exchange best practices, case studies, policy and regulatory frameworks at both national and regional levels on topics ranging from environmental protection and restoration, climate adaptation, mitigation, green energy transition, renewable energy infrastructure, and electricity interconnections within the region, the WEFE Nexus, among others.
- Structural Reform: Collaborating with key energy, environment, water and climate stakeholders to foster stronger synergies and partnerships within the regional platform on environment and climate change; the capacity building workshop on gender, environment, climate; energy and climate working groups, adopting results-driven approaches and methodologies.
- Innovative Solutions: Showcasing ideas and initiatives
 advancing various aspects of environment and climate adaptation; mitigation; infrastructure resilience preparedness;
 access to finance and means of implementation; effective
 green energy transition including integrated power systems, smart grid interconnectivities, robust supply chains
 to scale renewable energy deployment, production and
 interconnectivity as well as nature-based solutions.

- Science-policy interface: Enhancing awareness and ensuring that the inputs of the scientific community are taken into consideration by Member States. Presenting state-of the-art research and publications prepared by the independent network of Mediterranean Experts on Climate and Environmental Change (MedEEC) and ECMWF-Copernicus, namely the new ITTs on Energy and Agriculture that are currently being launched; the just released publication on Sustainable Blue Economy, as well as the upcoming policy papers on marine restoration and plastic litter.
- Capacity Building: Offering specialized training sessions on CBAM (Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism) and Gender-sensitive environmental and climate policies alongside presenting the new Grant Scheme dedicated to Green Jobs, under the leadership of the Economic, Development and Employment Division.

FORMAT OF EVENT

The Mediterranean Green Week activities will encompass diverse formats designed to enhance Member States' collaboration, including:



High-Level Panels: Presentations and interactive discussions among the 43 Member States' representatives/policymakers and stakeholders focused on advancing coordinated regional climate and environmental action, sustainable green energy transitions and harmonizing policy and regional regulatory frameworks.



Meetings of the Energy and Climate Action Working Groups: Closed-door dialogues for Member States representatives to evaluate ongoing national policies and projects and adopt the Interim Regional Action Plans for Energy and Climate. These meetings will also discuss the future steps for drafting new Ministerial Declarations for energy and climate.



Meeting of the UfM Regional Platform on Environment and Climate Action: Open door meetings for all stakeholders and Closed-door dialogues for Member States representatives

to evaluate ongoing national policies, projects and discuss the Interim Regional Action Plans for Climate. These meetings will also discuss the future steps for drafting new Ministerial Declarations for Environment and Climate Action.



Meeting of the UfM Regional Platform on Energy: set up by the UfM Ministerial Declaration on Energy in 2021, this Regional Platform is the main regional forum for exchanges between the UfM Energy Focal Points on issues of common interest pertaining regional efforts towards green energy transition, decarbonization and emissions abatement. This meeting will be open door and be extended to all the invited Focal Points, including water, environment and climate and gender ones.



Expert discussions: Gathering relevant external stakeholders, civil society and private sector experts to give insights on cutting edge solutions focused on the deployment of renewable energy, climate mitigation, nature-based solutions, gender sensitive and adaptation



measures in the region. A panel on the WEFE Nexus (day 2) will focus on turning theory into actions, leveraging finances for WEFE projects and showcasing the results of the 2025 Mediterranean Youth WEFE Entrepreneurship program.







Capacity Building workshop on Gender-sensitive environmental and climate policies, Environment and Climate: the workshop will aim at 1) sharing good practices on advocacy for gender-sensitive polices at regional and national level 2) identifying opportunities for gender-lens investments in the Climate and Green Finance and 3) stressing the nexus Climate and Women, Peace and Security Agenda. The workshops will involve max 50 participants including the members of the UfM Community of Practices on Gender, Env and Climate Change and Focal Points of the UfM regional Platforms on Environment and Climate Change.



EDE Side Event: (i) presentation of the UfM Grant Schemes, with a focus on the UfM Grant Scheme to promote employment and entrepreneurship in the green economy, and (ii) the key findings of the UfM Progress report on regional integration.



EXPECTED OUTCOMES

- Enhanced regional coordination within the UfM Regional Platform on Environment and Climate Action on joint priorities and related activities, in line with the 2030 GreenerMed Agenda and Climate Action Work Plan; UfM's Energy and Climate Working Groups by formulating a comprehensive and actionable plan for the period 2025-2027; laying groundwork for new political deliberations, in the form of Ministerial Declarations on Energy, Environment and Climate as appropriate.
- Promote the UfM's efforts in fostering regional cooperation in advancing green energy transition and climate resilience, including by interlinking climate change with the WEFE Nexus, boosting the gender-sensitive approach to environmental and climate policies identifying gaps within the region through a systematic, well-organized manner, and within reasonable timeframes.
- Provide Member States with latest updates on the ongoing EU-UfM led projects and initiatives in climate and environment action and the renewable energy sector, unlock new possibilities of financing green transition projects and energy interconnectivity infrastructure with a gender-lens, ensuring that member states are well-informed and equipped to participate in these transformative efforts.
- Consolidate the Mediterranean Green Week as an annual flagship event and a dedicated platform for UfM's divisions to showcase ongoing initiatives that promote green, circular transition, climate resilience and green/blue economy, sustainability and inclusivity in the Mediterranean region.

BACKGROUND CONTEXT

As nearly four years have passed since the <u>UfM Ministerial</u> <u>Declaration on Energy</u> and the <u>2021 UfM Ministerial Declaration on Environment and Climate Action</u>, this event represent a timely opportunity to evaluate progress and define next steps, preparing, among others and as appropriate, the groundwork for new political deliberations, including potential, upcoming UfM Ministerial Declarations estimated around 2026/7.

This process requires crucial engagement and renewed commitment from Member States. The state of the art is as follows:

As the current UfM roadmap on energy concluded in 2024, the UfM in close collaboration with the Co-Presidency, Member States, relevant partners and stakeholders is developing a new monitoring framework: "the Interim Regional Action Plan for Energy (2025-2027)". This tool will enhance the reporting and evaluation of collective regional actions in green energy transition and adaptation. A similar initiative is also underway to monitor climate action initiatives and implement a revised structure for the Climate Action Woking Group, in alignment with the commitments from previous UfM Ministerial Declarations. Therefore, a key outcome of the Mediterranean Green Week and associated UfM Platform Meetings will be the formal endorsement by Member States of these new initiatives. This endorsement is critical to establishing clear foundation for drafting the upcoming UfM Ministerial Declarations on Energy and Climate Action by 2027, reflecting the region's

- priorities and progress toward green energy transition, climate resilience, consistent with the Member States updated Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) to be presented at COP30 in Brazil later this year.
- The **2030 Greener Med Agenda** is under full implementation along its three axes (Support the transition towards a green, circular and socially inclusive economy based on sustainable consumption and production practices and nature-based solutions; Prevent and reduce pollution on land, air and sea; protect, preserve, manage and restore natural resources within an integrated ecosystem approach, including terrestrial, marine and coastal dimensions) and related priority actions, in line with the Theory of Change set up in 2021 and its result based monitoring, reporting and evaluation mechanism, already in place. It is fed by initiatives, processes and projects with the contribution of a wide range of stakeholders and measured through agreed indicators linked to the SDGs. Gender and youth aspects are fully embedded. An external evaluation of the environment component of the GreenerMed Agenda, as environmental arm of the 2021 UfM Ministerial declaration on Environment and Climate Action, is currently ongoing, complementing the daily monitoring by the UfM Secretariat and reporting by countries.
- The UfM, the European Commission and UNEP MAP with the technical support of GWP Med, WES and PRIMA have

drafted a "Strategy for the Water, energy, food and ecosystem (WEFE) Nexus in a Mediterranean Source to Sea Continuum" which has been commented on and will be formally endorsed by UfM Member States at the 15th UfM Regional Platform on Water in the autumn 2025 and will be a key contribution to the next Ministerial on Water scheduled in 2026. The aim of the strategy is to assist countries in enhancing integration of policies across sectors and to promote leveraging of necessary funding. The strategy has undergone broad consultations at several regional roundtables where regional and national players, representatives from local communities, financing institutions and academia have gathered to assess the added value of the WEFE nexus approach. The UfM also co-led MedECC Special Report titled "Interlinking climate change with the WEFE nexus in the Mediterranean Basin" published in November 2024.

 As highlighted in the UN Review and appraisal of the implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action (2025), Gender disparities in climate action and environmental governance remain deeply embedded due to structural barriers, particularly the male-dominated leadership in decision-making and limited economic opportunities for women in the green transition. The lack of gender-disaggregated data and insufficient funding for women's training in climate-related sectors hinder progress. Recognizing the urgency of this issue, the 5th UfM Ministerial Declaration on

Strengthening the Role of Women in Society (2022) and the UfM High-Level Conference on Women for the Mediterranean (2024) have highlighted the need for integrating women into climate decision-making. Addressing these challenges requires integrating women into decision-making processes and ensuring their roles in climate adaptation strategies in addition to investing in women-led businesses and initiatives that focus on sustainable practices can contribute to both economic empowerment and climate resilience. To further advance all these efforts, the Union for the Mediterranean (UfM) has launched the Community of Practice (CoP) on Gender and Climate Change in the Mediterranean Region. This initiative aims to establish a knowledge platform that empowers regional stakeholders—particularly women's business organizations and entrepreneurs—by bridging knowledge gaps, facilitating best practice exchange, and fostering multi-stakeholder collaboration. As part of the CoP, capacity-building workshops will take place during the Mediterranean Green Week, encouraging dialogue among national and regional stakeholders to promote gender-sensitive policies and investments. Relevant organizations such as UNDP, UN Women, RCREE, RenewMena, PRIMA, CIHEAM, FAO, CGIAR among others have expressed their interest in joining the CoP as well as the main women-business associations in the MENA Region. The initiative is funded by SIDA, and it is open to all the UfM Countries.



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Palau de Pedralbes | Pere Duran Farell, 11 Barcelona, Spain - 08034 Phone: 00 34 93 521 4100 | Fax: 00 34 93 521 4102

