



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



## Mediterranean water forum, Tunis, 5-7 February 2024 *Kick off meeting, Valencia, Spain, 18 October 2023*

### CONCEPT NOTE

## SESSION 3 « ADAPTING TO CLIMATE CHANGE IN THE WATER SECTOR IN THE MEDITERRANEAN BASIN »

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### Objectives of the Mediterranean Water Institute

The aim is to bring to the next Mediterranean Water Forum (Tunis, February 5-7, 2024) and then to the World Water Forum in Bali, recommendations from the Mediterranean Basin concerning actions planned by water stakeholders to adapt to climate change.

Given the specific situation of the Mediterranean rim, this will particularly concern the situation of droughts and rapid flooding. This in the new climatic context of the coming decades. These topics should be included in the World Forum's third theme, "Disaster risk reduction and management".

### Delineating the scope of reflection

The discussion will focus on the analysis of experiences developed around the Mediterranean, in Europe, North Africa or the Eastern Mediterranean.

Priority will be given to operations that are both innovative and operational. We will be looking for guidelines that can be applied on a large scale in the field of adaptation to extreme phenomena linked to climate change.

Initiatives will focus on solutions to cope with extreme events such as severe flooding or prolonged drought.

The solutions sought concern both soft and hard solutions (warning systems, planning, changes in practices, nature-based solutions, etc.).

Initiatives can be taken at local or global level.

### Planned activities

To achieve the above objectives, the IME is organizing a workshop to launch the 5th Mediterranean Water Forum in Valence on October 18, 2023, to exchange ideas and take stock of the situation on the subject, and to highlight its strengths and weaknesses in relation to the state of the art in the field. The preparatory work involved professionals and IME members in each country of the Basin.

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### Kick-off workshop for the 5th Valencia Mediterranean Water Forum

#### **Progress**

The workshop will be held on October 18, 2023 in Valencia at the invitation of the CHJ. The IME, coordinator of the regional Mediterranean process for the 10th World Water Forum, Bali 2024, is organizing the thematic sessions according to the following schedule: broad invitation to the network of members and partners, duration of 1 hour with presentation of the issues and exchanges with the audience, followed by questions and answers, simultaneous translation into French and English, slideshows made available at a later date.

In view of the diversity of situations and issues encountered in the Mediterranean region, the following topics will be explored in greater depth:

- Methodology for adapting to climate change in the water sector
- Adaptation to drought
- Adaptation to flash floods
- Data, information systems and tools required for these adaptations

#### **Expected results**

The workshop will initiate the structuring of the Mediterranean contribution to Bali, which will be finalised at the Tunis Forum.

This contribution will present :

- Some elements of the diagnosis of the situation
- Experiences in reducing the consequences of climate change
- Quantified factual information on the progress achieved
- Factual elements on the resources used for these operations
- An opinion on the maturity of these initiatives
- Summary of the situation as regards the duplication of these operations, opinions on their originality, their strengths or weaknesses, the need to look ahead, and proposals for development.

The work will continue after Valencia to prepare the preliminary note for the Tunis Forum and identify the innovative solutions and good practices that the Mediterranean countries have put in place.

The results of this work will be used to formalise a response by the Mediterranean Basin to the problem of the risks of extreme events amplified by climate change.

### Tunis Forum, 5-7 February 2024

At the 5th Mediterranean Water Forum, a round table will present the results of the working group, backed up by presentations of operations to illustrate the contribution.

The deliverable from this round table will formalise "the Mediterranean contribution on the subject of adaptation to climate change in terms of climate risk management" for the World Water Forum in Bali.

#### **Support for the working group**

IME will mobilise resources through the session leader to help prepare the discussions and the subsequent analyses and dissemination, so as to reduce the amount of work to be done by the group's participants, while of course allowing it to express its expert vision. The session leader will supervise their work in such a way as

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to ensure the technical and scientific level required by both the teaching establishment and the conference audience.

Contributions to the themes of the Mediterranean Water Forum and the World Water Forum  
The aim of the working group is to contribute to theme 3 of the Forum, "Disaster risk reduction and management", with proposals for potential speakers and innovative content based on a synthesis of successful experiences and strong points presented during the preparatory work.

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