

International Conference

THE MEDITERRANEAN: SCIENTIFIC EXPERTISE FOR DECISION-MAKERS

Marseille,
France

2-4
September
2020



Climate and environmental research to support sustainable development goals

<https://med2020.sciencesconf.org/>



OBJECTIVES

The Mediterranean, one of the most sensitive area to climate change

The Mediterranean, cradle of our modern civilizations and subject to growing geopolitical issues, is also **one of the most sensitive area to pollution of all types and to ongoing climate change**. The most recent scientific results should be at the basis of a realistic policy of sustainable development to ensure the stability of the Mediterranean countries.

Since the adoption 40 years ago of the Mediterranean Action Plan (MAP) under the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), and the creation of the Union for the Mediterranean 10 years ago, **scientific research**, such as MISTRALS and MedCLIVAR, has been organized to understand the mechanisms involved in the climate and environmental changes in the Mediterranean and to provide answers to the questions of our societies. More recently, in 2015, a synthesis effort was initiated within a network of experts covering the whole of the Mediterranean (MedECC) to make these scientific results accessible and useful to decision-makers.

An ambitious conference for Mediterranean decision-makers

We are proud to organize a major three-day conference in 2020 for all decision-makers of the Mediterranean countries. Inspired by the achievements of science-policy interfaces such as the IPCC (Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change), from which it takes up several objectives, this conference will be an opportunity to review existing scientific knowledge and the issues that the Mediterranean environment has to face in the decades to come.

Discussing climate and environmental issues in the Mediterranean

The conference will cover a broad range of topics, including : evolution of the Mediterranean **climate** in the 21st century and its impacts on the environment, extreme events (floods, heat waves, marine submersions), **water resources** management and amplification of droughts, **links between pollution and health**, fluxes of contaminants from water, air and soil into living organisms, proliferation of invasive species on land and at sea and loss of **biodiversity**.

Strengthening the dialogue between decision-makers and scientists

On the occasion of the release of the **new Report on the state of the environment and development in the Mediterranean**, coordinated by the Plan Bleu as part of the Mediterranean Action Plan (MAP / UNEP), this conference will be the opportunity to review current knowledge available to stakeholders, and to open a **dialog between decision-makers and scientists** on climate and environmental issues in the Mediterranean.

Decision-makers and scientists will be able to discuss the importance and achievements of European (such as the Marine Strategy Framework Directive - DCSMM) and regional (such as the Barcelona Convention) agreements on the protection of the marine and coastal environment of the Mediterranean, as well as major international programs (PRIMA, BLUE-MED, etc.) aimed at the adoption of sustainable practices and the emergence of innovative technologies **for sustainable and harmonious development in the Mediterranean**.

CONTACT: med2020@sciencesconf.org

ORGANIZERS:

Elen Lemaitre-Curri, director of Plan Bleu

Joël Guiot and Wolfgang Cramer, coordinators of MedECC

Cyril Moulin, director of MISTRALS

ORGANIZERS

MISTRALS (Mediterranean Integrated Studies at Regional And Local Scales)



The main objective of the MISTRALS program, launched in 2010 for 10 years, is to unite the French scientific research and strengthen international collaborations in the Mediterranean. Coordinated by the CNRS, MISTRALS involves many research organizations participating in its management.

MISTRALS is organized into six programs and two transversal actions, which allow the deployment of multidisciplinary research to study the impacts of climate change and environmental changes on the livability of the Mediterranean basin in the 21st century.

This event is the final conference of MISTRALS and will be an opportunity to present a review of scientific advances achieved in 10 years and to discuss the legacy of this unprecedented program.

Website: <http://programmes.insu.cnrs.fr/mistrals/>

MedECC (Mediterranean Experts on Climate and environmental Change)



A network of more than 600 scientists from 35 countries, MedECC capitalizes scientific information for decision-makers on climate and environmental change, their impacts and their perspectives in the Mediterranean. The network brings together researchers in the natural, social sciences and humanities and covers all the sub-regions of the Basin. In 2016, it started preparing its first assessment report on the risks and impacts of climate and environmental changes in the Mediterranean, scheduled for publication in 2020. This report will be accompanied by a summary for decision-makers, discussed with stakeholders and authorities in the Basin. This conference will contribute to this dialogue.

Website: <http://www.medecc.org/>

Plan Bleu for the environment and development in the Mediterranean

Regional Activity Centre of Mediterranean Action Plan (MAP) of United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)



**Plan
Bleu**

As a Mediterranean observatory for the environment and sustainable development since 1977, Plan Bleu produces case studies and scenarios for the future, in order to raise awareness among Mediterranean stakeholders and decision-makers on environmental and sustainable development issues in the region. Its work program is validated every two years by the 21 countries of the Mediterranean Basin and the European Union, contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention, which finance, approve and use its work. Mid 2020, the Report on the State of the Environment and Development in the Mediterranean (SoED 2019) will be published, prepared with numerous scientific and technical partners, including MedECC, to provide decision-makers with structured and summary information on environmental and development issues and their interactions in the Mediterranean. This conference will be an opportunity to present and discuss this report.

Website: <http://planbleu.org/>

VENUE AND PROGRAMME

Venue

The **Maurice Toga amphitheater** of the Faculty of Medicine of Marseille (27 boulevard Jean Moulin, 13005 MARSEILLE) will host the event from **2 to 4 September 2020**.

Working language

The working language will be French. A simultaneous translation in English will be offered during the conference.



Programme

The conference will be organized around **seven major thematic sessions**:

- Climate, environment and societies
- Water cycle and extreme events
- Pollution and contaminants
- Ecological systems and biodiversity
- Impacts of climate change in the 21st century
- Sustainable development: Data and trends to support decisions in the Mediterranean
- What transition for the Mediterranean?

High-level political and civil society representatives will participate in the opening and closing sessions, as well as in round tables around the scientific sessions. In parallel to the conference, **exhibitions and an event for the public** will also be organized.

PARTNERS



ADEME



Agence de l'Environnement
et de la Maîtrise de l'Énergie



WITH THE SUPPORT OF:



Mediterranean Action Plan
Barcelona Convention

Established in 1975, the **Mediterranean Action Plan (MAP)** is the institutional framework for cooperation in addressing common challenges of marine environmental degradation. The overall mandate of the MAP Coordinating Unit is to promote and facilitate the implementation of the Barcelona Convention, its Protocols and Strategies, and of the Decisions and Recommendations of the Contracting Parties. www.unepmap.org



Initiated in 2003 during the assembly of the European Geophysical Society in Nice, **MedCLIVAR** is a scientific network promoting better communication between the different scientific disciplines and developing a multidisciplinary vision of the evolution of the Mediterranean climate. <http://www.medclivar.eu/>



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

Launched in 2008, the **UfM** is an intergovernmental Euro-Mediterranean organisation whose mission is to enhance regional cooperation, dialogue and the implementation of projects and initiatives with tangible impact in order to address the three strategic objectives of the region: stability, human development and integration. <https://ufmsecretariat.org/>