

## 2023 INTPA-NEAR ENVIRONMENT AND CLIMATE WEEK

Session Block on “Water & Oceans” – 31/03/2023 – 9:00-12:30

### Concept Note and Annotated Agenda

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#### **Objectives:**

*[Please provide the main objectives of your session block in bullet point form.]*

- Introduce the synergies between actions in Water and Oceans
- Showcase the two sectors’ scientific updates, progress on the international and EU development scene, and opportunities for intervention (with a particular focus on NBS, CC, among others)
- Defend a cross-sectorial and integrated vision of Water & Oceans by exposing the positive impact the achievement of their respective SDGs (6,14) can have on sustainable development in partner countries
- Present the EUDs as leaders and focal points in promoting and facilitating coordination between water and ocean stakeholders in partner countries and their regions
- Exhibit the possible points of entry for an EU response to a Water or Ocean-related issues, including resources made available by DG INTPA, DG NEAR, other DGs and like-minded donors.
- Trigger conversation and exchanges regarding best practices, lessons learnt and means of access to financing frameworks among participating EUDs, in the Ocean and Water sectors.

#### **Background:**

##### Water:

There is an increasingly prevalent message from the international community: involve and implicate a broad range of actors linked to water, to participate in the decision making of water allocation and use. This is the UN Water directive when encouraging achievement of SDG 6, the underlying factor behind the WEF Nexus approach, the first step urged by high-level policy dialogues and technical roadmaps. There is a recurring theme of inclusion and multi-dimensionality defining the efforts towards water security. All projections alarm on the critical need to agree on the distribution of freshwater between sectors and people, and the imperative to do so by innovative means, whether digital and technical, financial or methodological. ***What are therefore the actions implemented by DG INTPA and DG NEAR, the European Commission, and its delegations, in line with this message?***

##### Ocean

Over 3 billion people depend on marine and coastal ecosystems for their livelihoods and food security. These ecosystems are also vital for climate change mitigation, adaptation, disaster risk reduction, etc. These ecosystems are disappearing globally at a very high rate, because they are particularly vulnerable to the impacts of climate change, pollution, coastal development, artificialisation, and overexploitation. Developing countries are particularly vulnerable to the consequences of this degradation, since the economy of many of them is based on marine and coastal-related sectors, such as fishing and tourism. At the same time, the ocean is also a vital source of sustainable economic opportunities, and it is critical that developing countries be in a position to turn new and emerging ocean-based sectors into catalysts for long-term, nature-positive, climate-sensitive and inclusive sustainable development. How can the EC and its Delegations better integrate marine and coastal nature-based solutions and sustainable blue economic activities in their actions?

#### **Moderation of Session Block:**

Plenary: Arnaud et Nadia

Breakout Session Water: Water Facility NKE  
 Breakout Session on Greening the Blue Economy : Nadia

**Draft Agenda:**

<b>Time</b>	<b>Session</b>	<b>Format</b>
<b>09:00-09:15</b>	<p><b><u>Opening and Session Introduction</u></b></p> <p>Welcoming remarks (INTPA F2 HoU, NEAR A3 (Mathieu Bousquet or Alessandra Sgobbi)</p> <p>Presentation of the Agenda (INTPA F2 Adv/ND)</p>	<b>Plenary presentation</b>
<b>09:15- 10:00</b>	<p><b><u>Latest Developments</u></b></p> <p><u>Water (15 min )</u></p> <p>Update on EU regulation and International (UN) developments (DG ENV Helge Zeitler)</p> <p><u>Oceans (15 mn )</u></p> <p>1/ Update on recent and ongoing international development in terms of international governance, Aurore Maillet, MARE B.1 (<i>BBNJ, and the link with CBD GBF, F2 and MARE B.1</i>)</p> <p>2/ Update on recent EU regulation development:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- New EU International Ocean governance agenda and Marine Action plan (MARE B.1),</li> <li>- New approach on Blue Economy/new communication, (Iglika Yakova and/or Manuel Pleguezuelo-Alons MARE A.3)</li> <li>- Ministerial Declaration on blue economy, (Iglika Yakova and/or Manuel Pleguezuelo-Alons, MARE A.3)</li> <li>- Blue Mediterranean Partnership launched last November during the COP 27,(Iglika Yakova and/or Manuel Pleguezuelo-Alons MARE A.3)</li> <li>- Marine aspects of the nature restoration Law (INTPA F2)</li> </ul> <p><u>Questions and Answers (15 min)</u></p>	<b>Plenary presentation</b>
<b>10:00-10:10</b>	<b>Presentation by Guillaume Néry – free diver (10 min on-line).</b>	<b>Plenary presentation</b>
<b>10:10-10:20</b>	<b>Water and Environment Support (WES) in the ENI Southern Neighbourhood: an example of the source to sea approach – Michael Scoullos, Team Leader, WES</b>	<b>Plenary presentation</b>
<b>10:20-10:30</b>	<b>Questions and Answers (10 min)</b>	<b>Plenary presentation</b>
<b>10:30-11:00</b>	<b><u>Coffee Break</u></b>	

<p><b>11:00-12:30</b></p> <p>11:00-11:40</p> <p>11:40-12:00</p> <p>12:00-12:30</p>	<p><b><u>MAKING WATER MANAGEMENT AN INTEGRATED PRACTICE</u></b></p> <p><b><u>1. Nexus approaches: Stakeholders and practices</u></b> The role of stakeholder engagement (10 min): How EUDs can play an active and legitimate role in gathering water stakeholders and assist deliberations (EUD Tajikistan – Giuseppe Aristei)</p> <p>New practices (20 min)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Water and energy nexus: <i>Project Prosperity Green and Blue</i> - Charles Raudot de Châtenay, Head of Section Economic Development, Water/Energy (West Bank &amp; Gaza Strip EUD) – 10 min</li> <li>- Water and food nexus – <i>Prima actions and showcases of the Mediterranean</i> - Dr Mohamed Wageih, Project Officer, Agro-food Value Chain, PRIMA Foundation – 10 min</li> </ul> <p>Questions and Answers (10 min)</p> <p><b><u>2. Integrated water management at transboundary levels (20min)</u></b></p> <p>Progress made in the Water Convention accession (UNECE Sonja Koepel )</p> <p>EUD recounts experience facilitating UNECE workshops (e.g. EUD the Gambia Evangelina Blanco-Gonzalez)</p> <p>Questions and Answers (5 min)</p> <p><b><u>3. Methodological tools (INTA F2 Water Facility) (30 min)</u></b></p> <p>Present step by step case studies of an EUD using the Water Facility (10 min)</p> <p>Questions and Answers (20 min)</p>	<p><b>WATER</b></p> <p><b>Breakout session</b></p>
<p><b>11:00-12:30</b></p> <p>11:00-11:50</p> <p>11:50-12:30</p>	<p><b><u>GREENING THE BLUE ECONOMY</u></b></p> <p><b><u>1/Presentations on previous, ongoing and developing projects</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- EUD Barbados - Quentin Peignault</li> <li>- EUD Philippines - Giovanni Serritella, remotely</li> <li>- Blue Med Partnership – EIB, Franck Jesus, Senior Department Climate Advisor, Blue Economy Coordinator</li> <li>- Overview of EUD Turkey approach on Blue Economy – Christian Ballero</li> <li>- SwitchMed circularity pilots in fish processing and aquaculture value chains- Jerome Stucki, Unit Chief of Circular Economy and Resource Efficiency Unit, SwitchMed</li> </ul> <p><b><u>2/Exchange/reflection on how to “translate” the greening of blue economy activities into programming</u></b></p>	<p><b>OCEAN</b></p> <p><b>Breakout session</b></p>

## **External Key Speakers**

### **Water:**

Michael Scoullos, Team Leader, Water Environment Support (plenary)

Dr Mohamed Wageih, Project Officer, Agro-food Value Chain, PRIMA Foundation (water break-out session)

### **Oceans:**

→ Franck Jesus, EIB

→ Jerome Stucki, SWITCHMED

## **Needs**

1 room for the Plenary (to be also used by one of the breakout sessions) +1 room for the other breakout session

Possibility of projecting a visual presentation remotely from EUD Philippines

For Guillaume Néry's intervention, need a connection through webex/equivalent platform