

CALL FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTENT

Want to be a Champion of plastic pollution prevention in the Mediterranean?

Propose your Plastic Pollution Prevention action or solution and if you deliver on your commitment by August 2024 gain the title!

The EU-funded “Water and Environment Support (WES) in the ENI Southern Neighbourhood Region” project announces a **Call for Expressions of Intent** for Mediterranean actors to propose **new actions and solutions** that prevent pollution from plastics in our region.

The exponentially increasing pollution of the Mediterranean Sea by plastics and particularly by Single-Use-Plastics (SUPs), creates an urgent need to implement sustainable resource management practices and strategies to prevent plastic waste from entering the environment.

The aim of the Call is to encourage voluntary actions and motivate advancement and commitment in combating pollution by plastics. Those who will deliver on their commitment will be awarded with the **honorary title of “Champion in addressing pollution by plastics”**.

Candidates must propose a new initiative (policy, measure, product, campaign, etc.) or an ongoing one which they intend (and commit) to take to the next level. The WES project will assess if, by August 2024, the intent/commitment has been fulfilled or has sufficiently advanced to justify being awarded.



Timeline

Submissions of Expressions of Intent: **May - July 2023**

Deadline for submissions: **31 July 2023** (12 midnight EET)

Evaluation: **August – September 2023**

Expected implementation of actions: **October 2023 – August 2024**

Awarding of the winning Champions: **Autumn of 2024**

What makes a “Champion in Plastic Pollution Prevention”?

The fundamental principle on which the “Champion” concept is based, is the voluntary response to the Call with a demonstrated commitment to a worthy action.

The Call is forward-looking, aiming to motivate pioneering organizations and individuals in promoting solutions to tackle plastics pollution in the Mediterranean through various ways.

WES will assess if, by August 2024, the intent/commitment has been fulfilled or if it has been sufficiently advanced, on the basis of which, the title “Mediterranean Champion for Plastic Pollution Prevention” will be awarded.

Accepted applicants will be part of a “Community of Practice in Plastic Pollution Prevention” (first level of recognition) while the awarded Champions will constitute the “Circle of Champions in Plastic Pollution Prevention”. Being a Champion will be an acknowledgement that will provide enhanced visibility and future opportunities for funding.

Who is eligible?

Eligible entities could be: an organization, consortium (partnership) or individual (e.g. private company or person).

More specifically, eligible applicants to the call are:

- **Local authorities** (e.g. plastic-free municipalities).
- **Civil society organizations** (for various initiatives including effective awareness raising).
- **Journalists** (e.g. for 'story-telling' with major impact in relation to plastic pollution/solutions).
- **Educators and educational institutions** of formal, non-formal, informal education (for successful educational activities at different educational levels).
- **Applied research and innovation institutions or individual scientists, young scientists**, etc.
- **Private sector** (e.g. companies that have introduced plastic recycling or sustainable replacement/alternative products or applied Extended Producer Responsibility schemes; tourist installations becoming SUPs-free; etc.)
- **National authorities/countries** may also participate (e.g. by committing to a sustainable radical measure). "Certificates of Excellence" will be awarded in this case.

Sponsors, foundations and corporations that financially support relevant activities may also be considered, provided that they can indicate/prove the positive result of their supportive activity(ies). Similarly, key persons, whose support was instrumental in catalyzing the success of a Champion can also be awarded.

Eligible applicants must implement their activities in the WES Project countries: Algeria, Egypt, Israel, Jordan, Lebanon, Libya, Morocco, Palestine, and Tunisia.

Already completed actions are not eligible.

Some examples of actions that are eligible

Actions proposed should fall under one of the below themes:

- **Governance that results in reduced use**, production and trade of (single-use) plastics, encourages effective recycling and helps the minimization of marine litter.
- **Design/production/introduction of innovative products and /or application of innovative methods** that restrict unsustainable use of plastics and enhances production and/or use of sustainable substitutes in various sectors (e.g. agriculture, tourism, food packaging, industrial packaging, hygiene products, etc.).
- **Improved waste collection systems**, that enable higher plastic waste collection and recycling rates.
- **Successful education and public awareness raising campaigns** to reduce/address plastic pollution at various levels.
- **Mobilization of synergies** between different stakeholders (including the private sector) involved in plastic in order to facilitate the implementation of concrete solutions to drastically reduce the use or regulations to combat plastic pollution.



Selection criteria (submission level)

All submissions will be evaluated according to the following criteria:

Criteria	Clarifications/comments
Relevance and effectiveness (in reduction of plastic pollution) 5 points	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ The proposed action has to be relevant to the urgency of reducing plastic pollution in the Mediterranean.▪ The action can be at the level of governance (policy/legislative/institutional reform) all the way to practices and products.▪ Only truly sustainable solutions will be considered. Plant-based plastics or other questionable substitutes of fossil-based plastics (biodegradable, compostable, etc.) are not encouraged.
Benefits (environmental, social, economic) 5 points	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ If possible, all facets of sustainability should be addressed: environmental, social, and economic.
Commitment being met has to be measurable 5 points	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ The submission has to show the difference that the action will make compared to the baseline situation. Example: from no policy/legislation/strategy/plan in place to formalised policy/legislation/strategy/plan in place. If your submitted application is approved, jointly agreed indicators of success in achieving the commitment will be defined, based on accountability and transparency principles.
Demonstrated prior engagement/experience 3 points	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ It is a strength if the applicant organization or individual has demonstrated experience in introducing or improving measures in effectively tackling the problem of plastic pollution. However, newcomers are welcome!
Novelty, innovation 5 points	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Primarily in relation to the local context rather than the global one.▪ The proposed action has to be coherent with the country or area's context.
Stakeholders involved 5 points	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ The more stakeholders engaged, the better (general public), but specific groups or sectors can be targeted: farmers, fishermen, other industries.▪ The needs of youth, women, and marginalized groups should be considered in the implementation of the activity.
Potential for continuity/ Sustainability 5 points	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Eventual risks should be identified.▪ It is encouraged to design actions, the impact of which will continue to resonate after 2024.
Potential for upscaling and transferability in the region 5 points	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ If the proposed activity is transferable to other areas and countries, it is a strength. The same applies if the replication of the proposed action is relevant to the Mediterranean as a whole.▪ Positive transboundary impacts of the proposed action are highly encouraged.

From a Candidate to a Champion

If your application is approved, an agreement will be signed with the WES project, that will include jointly agreed indicators for the success of the action. Once the action is completed, WES will assess if the indicators have been met. If indeed met, the Champion will become a member of the “Med Community of Champions on Plastic Pollution Prevention” and will be awarded by WES with the honorary title. There is no limit to the number of Champions that may be awarded.

How to apply

You can submit your application until July 31st 2023 by completing the form at the following link available in English, French and Arabic:

<https://bit.ly/3Hvejio>

For further information please contact:

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About WES

The EU funded Water and Environment Support project in the Southern Mediterranean Neighbourhood aims to protect the environment and improve the management of scarce water resources in the Mediterranean region. In close cooperation with the UfM and UNEP/MAP, WES tackles problems related to pollution prevention and water use efficiency. Addressing the challenge of pollution by plastics is one of the project’s key thematic areas. WES is a regional project with emphasis on the countries of North Africa and the Middle East (Algeria, Egypt, Israel, Jordan, Lebanon, Libya, Morocco, Palestine, and Tunisia).

Stay updated about WES via:

WES Web site: www.wes-med.eu

 WES Facebook page

 WES Twitter page

 WES LinkedIn page

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Data Protection

To process and evaluate applications, the WES project will need to collect Data. The company under the corporate name LDK Consultants Global EEIG, with registered address, Avenue A.J. Slegers, 397, BE - 1200 Brussels (the “Company”) will act as Data Controller of data submitted through the application form for the following purposes. The data submitted will be used by the Company only within the Project’s framework, namely processing and evaluation of your application, communication of the results of the evaluation, related communication activities and events, project progress reporting, communication updates, project statistics and impact assessment analysis, ensuring that your data is managed in compliance with The General Data Protection Regulation (EU) 2016/679 (GDPR) and any applicable national legislation.

By submitting your application, you provide your explicit consent for your personal data to be stored and used by the Company until the withdrawal of your consent or the fulfilment of the purposes aforementioned, and in any case, your personal data will only be retained until one year after the end of the WES project that is until November 2024.

Each applicant, by submitting their application, consents to the use of their data as described above.

Your legal rights in accordance with the General Data Protection Regulation (EU) 2016/679 (GDPR):

You have the right to obtain from the Company confirmation as to whether or not personal data concerning you are being processed and, if that is the case, you have the right to request access to your personal data and to information regarding their processing, such as the recipients of your personal data, the time period for which your personal data will be stored etc. You have the right to request a copy of your personal data under processing, to request the rectification of inaccurate personal data concerning you, to request the completion of incomplete personal data concerning you, to request the erasure of your personal data, to request the restriction of processing of your personal data, to receive the personal data concerning you in a structured, commonly used and machine-readable format, to transmit your personal data to another data controller, without hindrance from the Company, to request the direct transmission of your personal data from the Company to another data controller, where technically feasible, to lodge a complaint with the competent Data Protection Authority, to object at any time to the processing of your personal data, to object at any time to the processing of your personal data for direct marketing purposes, to withdraw your consent.

If you have any request or question regarding the processing of your personal data, please contact us at privacy@ldk.gr.

Disclaimer

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