

# 1<sup>st</sup> Regional Roundtable on WEFE Nexus in the Mediterranean “Promoting innovations, investments and upscaling of solutions”

6-7 June 2023

To be held in hybrid format:  
Farah Rabat Hotel, Rabat, Morocco

Participants can also join the Roundtable remotely via the Zoom platform using this link:

[https://us06web.zoom.us/join/zoom/register/tZwod-mtrT4pEtN\\_TAVoaNTJRunWenSjCL\\_t](https://us06web.zoom.us/join/zoom/register/tZwod-mtrT4pEtN_TAVoaNTJRunWenSjCL_t)

## Final Agenda

Organised by:



In the framework of the following projects:



“Mediterranean Coastal Zones: Managing the Water-Energy-Food and Ecosystems Nexus”, led by GWP-Med and financed by GEF UNEP/MAP



Water and Environment Support mechanism (WES)  
led by LDK and financed by the European Neighborhood Instrument



MENA Water Matchmaker 2 Project  
led by GWP-Med, and financed by Sida/UfM



WEFE4MED Project  
led by Cyl and financed by PRIMA

# Agenda

## Some speakers & panelists to be confirmed

Day 1 of the Roundtable: Tuesday, 6 June 2023	
09:00-09:30	<p><b>Welcoming High-level session</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ H.E Leila Benali, Minister of Energy Transition &amp; Sustainable Development, Morocco (online)</li> <li>○ Tatjana Hema, Coordinator, UNEP/MAP, Barcelona Convention Secretariat (online)</li> <li>○ Almotaz Abadi, UfM Deputy Secretary General in charge of Water, Environment and Blue Economy</li> <li>○ Jean Christophe Filori, Head of Cooperation, EU Delegation to Morocco</li> <li>○ Omar Amawi, Deputy Director, PRIMA</li> <li>○ Michael Scoulllos, Team Leader, EU Water and Environment Support (WES) in the ENI Southern Neighbourhood region</li> </ul> <p>Purpose and overview of the Roundtable: Dimitris Faloutsos, Deputy Regional Coordinator, Global Water Partnership – Mediterranean (GWP-Med)</p>
09:30-10:45	<p><b>1. Setting the Stage: The added value of the WEFE Nexus approach for sustainable development in the Mediterranean</b></p> <p><b>Facilitator:</b> Dimitris Faloutsos, Deputy Regional Coordinator, GWP-Med</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Defining the WEFE Nexus concept <i>Michael Scoulllos, Team Leader, EU WES Project</i></li> <li>○ Strengthening the Science-to-Policy Interface of the WEFE Nexus in the Mediterranean: Advancing Knowledge Management and Policy Integration <i>Ali Rhouma, WEFE Nexus Project Officer, PRIMA Foundation</i></li> <li>○ The Nexus Gateway to the future of the Mediterranean: Water, energy, food and the environment <i>Bernd Gawlik, European Commission, DG Joint Research Centre (online)</i></li> <li>○ WEFE Nexus state of play in the Mediterranean: Rapid WEFE Nexus Assessment in Med countries, and WEFE Nexus &amp; Gender aspects <i>Tassos Krommydas, Senior Programme Officer, GWP-Med</i> <i>Anthi Brouma, Deputy Regional Coordinator, GWP-Med (online)</i></li> <li>○ Advancing WEFE Nexus technical solutions in MENA <i>Ghazi Abu Rumman, Coordinator of Technical Interventions of the Sida/UfM Matchmaker II Project, Head of Amman Operations, GWP-Med</i></li> </ul> <p>Plenary Q &amp; A</p>
10:45- 11:15	<b>Coffee break</b>
11:15-12:45	<p><b>2. Advancing implementation of the Nexus approach, at all levels, in the Mediterranean: Discussion panel by institutions and organisations</b></p> <p><i>What are the key lessons from implementing Nexus activities; How will we achieve Nexus policy integration? How will we consolidate Nexus action planning at national level? How will the Gender and Youth agendas be mainstreamed into Nexus advancements?</i></p> <p><b>Facilitator:</b> Vangelis Constantianos, Regional Coordinator, GWP-Med</p>

	<p><b>Panelists:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mohamed Al Dwairi, Assistant Secretary General for Strategic Planning, Ministry of Water &amp; Irrigation, Jordan</li> <li>• Mona Fakih, Director of Water, Ministry of Energy and Water, Lebanon (online)</li> <li>• Hassan Bahhar, Director, Regional Directorate for Environment, Region Tangier Tetouan Al Hoceima (DRE TTH) / Mohammed Amrani, Head, Regional Observatory for the Environment and Sustainable Development</li> <li>• Veronica Giradi, Environmental affairs officer, UNECE Water Convention</li> <li>• Jose Luis Martin-Bordes, Project Coordinator UNESCO-IHP</li> <li>• Daria Povh Skugor, Senior Programme Officer, UNEP/MAP, Priority Actions Programme Regional Activity Centre (PAP/RAC)</li> </ul> <p>Plenary Q &amp; A</p>
12:45-13:30	<p><b>3. The PRIMA-supported Mediterranean Nexus Community of Practice (WEFE4MED)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Antonella Autino, Project Coordinator (online) and Ali Rhouma, WEFE Nexus Project Officer, PRIMA Foundation</li> <li>• Jann Martinsohn, Head of Unit for Ocean and Water, EU DG Joint Research Center (online)</li> <li>• Adriana Bruggeman, Associate Professor, Hydrology and Water Management at the Energy, Environment and Water Research Center, Cyprus Institute</li> <li>• Charles Kleinermann, Research Team Leader, Capacity Development, International Center for Agricultural Research in the Dry Areas (ICARDA)</li> </ul> <p>Plenary Q &amp; A</p>
13:30-14:30	<b>Lunch break</b>
14:30-15:30	<p><b>4. Promoting Nexus technical solutions, innovation and entrepreneurship: Discussion panel– part 1</b>  <i>What do we need for upscaling Nexus pilots to mainstream applications? How will Nexus technical solutions reach the market?</i></p> <p><b>Facilitator:</b> Ghazi Abu Rumman, Coordinator of Technical Interventions of the Sida/UfM Matchmaker II Project, Head of Amman Jordan Operations, GWP-Med</p> <p><b>Panelists:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Manuel Sapiano, CEO, Energy and Water Agency, Malta (online)</li> <li>• Abdourahman Maki, Land and water officer, FAO Subregional office for North Africa (online)</li> <li>• Mohammad Al Hyari, Mayor of Salt, Jordan</li> <li>• Jauad El Kharraz, Executive Director, Regional Center for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency (RCREEE)</li> <li>• Eyad Yacob, Arab American University, Palestine</li> <li>• Ramy Boujawadeh, Chief Operating Officer, Berytech (online)</li> </ul> <p>Plenary Q &amp; A</p>
15:30-15:45	<b>Coffee break</b>
15:45-16:45	<p><b>5. Promoting Nexus technical solutions, innovation and entrepreneurship: Discussion panel – part 2</b>  <i>What do we need for upscaling Nexus pilots to mainstream applications? How will Nexus technical solutions reach the market?</i></p> <p><b>Facilitator:</b> Frédéric de Dinechin, Senior Policy Advisor for WEFE Nexus, UfM</p>

	<p><b>Panelists:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Khaled Abuzeid, Regional Water Resources Director, Center for Environment and Development in the Arab Region and Europe (CEDARE)</li> <li>• Gemma Torres Sallan, Project Officer, MedCities (online)</li> <li>• Nada Majdalani, Director, Ecopeace-Palestine</li> <li>• Rami El Akhras, Smart Desert Project</li> <li>• Gertud Buchenrider, Coordinator, PRIMA FrontAg NEXUS Project</li> </ul> <p>Plenary Q &amp; A</p>
16:45-17:30	<p><b>6. Mobilising financing &amp; investments for Nexus implementation: Discussion panel – part 1</b>  <i>How will we enhance financing and investments for upscaling and mainstreaming Nexus solutions: what are the obstacles? Where are the opportunities?</i></p> <p><b>Facilitator:</b> Frederic Fournet, Program Officer, EU DG NEAR B2</p> <p><b>Panelists:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Magnus Andre, Program Manager, MENA Sida office</li> <li>• Gianpiero Nacci, Director, Sustainable Business and Infra, European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (online)</li> <li>• Mohamed Miftah, Consultant Expert, European Investment Bank</li> <li>• Said Mourabit, Country Economist, Islamic Development Bank</li> <li>• Hussein El-Atfy, Secretary General, Arab Water Council, former Minister of Water Resources &amp; Irrigation of Egypt (online)</li> </ul> <p>Plenary Q &amp; A</p>
17:30	<p><b>Conclusions of Day 1</b></p> <p><b>Rapporteur:</b> Michael Scoullas, Team Leader, EU WES Project</p>
20.00	<b>Dinner</b>

**Day 2 of the Roundtable: Wednesday, 7 June 2023**

09:00-10:00	<p><b>7. Mobilising financing &amp; investments for Nexus implementation - Making the best use of public resources to finance Nexus implementation: Discussion panel – part 2</b>  <i>What is the scope for improving the coordination of public sectoral investment programmes to finance Nexus solutions: What are the obstacles? Where are the opportunities?</i>  <i>What is the scope for reforming harmful subsidies to finance Nexus solutions: what are the obstacles? Where are the opportunities?</i></p> <p><b>Facilitator:</b> Roberto Martin Hurtado, Senior Water Economics Advisor, UfM</p> <p><b>Panelists:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Abdeslam Jorio, Head of Division of Infrastructure Sectors, Ministry of Finance, Morocco</li> <li>• Timothy Hanlon, Programme Director, Inter-Islamic Network on Water Resources Development and Management (INWRDAM)</li> <li>• Alain Meyssonier, President, Mediterranean Water Institute (IME)</li> <li>• Shorouq Abdel Ghani, Director of Planning and Organizational Development, Jordan, Ministry of Energy and Mineral resources</li> </ul> <p>Plenary Q &amp; A</p>
10:00-11:00	<p><b>8. Looking ahead: Discussion panel</b>  <i>How will we enhance integration of Nexus sectors for impact at national and regional level?</i></p> <p><b>Facilitator:</b> Vangelis Constantianos, Regional Coordinator, GWP-Med</p> <p><b>Panelists:</b> <i>[some panelists to be confirmed]</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ylber Mirta, Head of Department of Waters, Ministry of Environment and Physical Planning, North Macedonia</li> <li>• Siham Laraichi, Head of Hydroclimatic Monitoring Service, Ministry of Equipment and Water, Morocco</li> <li>• Sanja Kapetina, Head of Department for Secondary Energy and Projects, Ministry of Foreign Trade and Economic Relations, Bosnia and Herzegovina</li> <li>• Samer Kalbouneh, Director, Environmental Quality Authority, Palestine</li> </ul>
11:00-11:20	<p><b>Coffee break</b></p>
11:20-12:00	<p><b>9. Tour de Table: Towards a Nexus strategy / action plan in the Mediterranean?</b>  Participants will exchange insights on the possible need for a Mediterranean Nexus strategy / Action Plan aiming at practically advancing and mainstreaming the Nexus agenda in the region and building on past/on-going/upcoming initiatives and actions: <i>What could such a regional document address? How could it link with existing regional policies/strategies/action plans, adding value and avoiding duplication? How could it be inclusively elaborated? How could it become operational, and monitored for impact?</i></p> <p><b>Facilitator:</b> Dimitris Faloutsos, Deputy Regional Coordinator, GWP-Med</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Olfat Hamdan, Programme Management Officer, UNEP/MAP</li> <li>• Almotaz Abadi, Deputy Secretary General in charge of Water, Environment and Blue Economy, UfM</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Frederic Fourtune, Program Officer, EU DG NEAR B2</li> </ul>
12:00-12:30	<p><b>10. Summary of conclusions and recommendations for next steps, and closing remarks</b></p> <p><b>Rapporteur:</b> <i>Michael Scoulllos, Team Leader, EU WES Project</i></p>
12:30-13:15	<b>Lunch</b>