



Regional WES Training and P2P on the Promotion of the Aarhus Convention in the whole of the Mediterranean

14-15 November 2023, Athens, Greece

Act. no.: HE-4-REG/P2P



**Water and
Environment Support**
in the ENI Southern Neighbourhood region

The Mediterranean Accession Agenda to the Aarhus Convention (MAAAC)

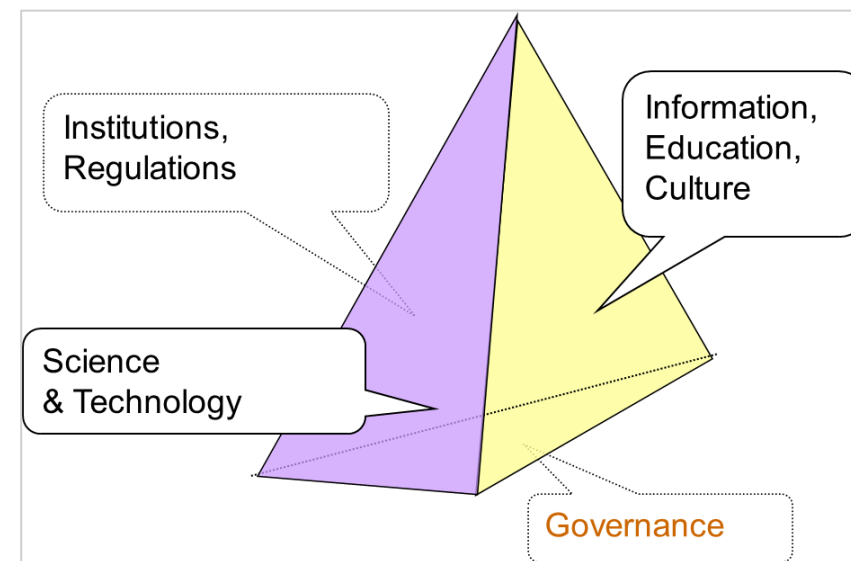
Presented by: Professor Michael Scoullas, WES Team Leader

WHY THIS WES REGIONAL ACTIVITY?

- To provide technical assistance and networking opportunities and strengthen the capacities of the WES Partner **Countries to be familiarised, able to effectively prepare and eventually (if they so wish) put in motion the mechanisms needed to accede to the Aarhus Convention.**
- The **overall aim** of this activity is to promote Environmental Governance in the region, encourage the accession to and implementation of the Aarhus Convention in the Mediterranean countries and promote stakeholder engagement.

This activity contributes to a joint effort of the EU through WES with the Secretariat of the UNEP/MAP Barcelona Convention Secretariat, the UNECE Aarhus Convention Secretariat, the Secretariat of the Union for the Mediterranean, the Circle of Mediterranean Parliamentarians for Sustainable Development, the UfM Parliamentary Assembly and the MEPIELAN Centre.

‘Tools’ of Governance





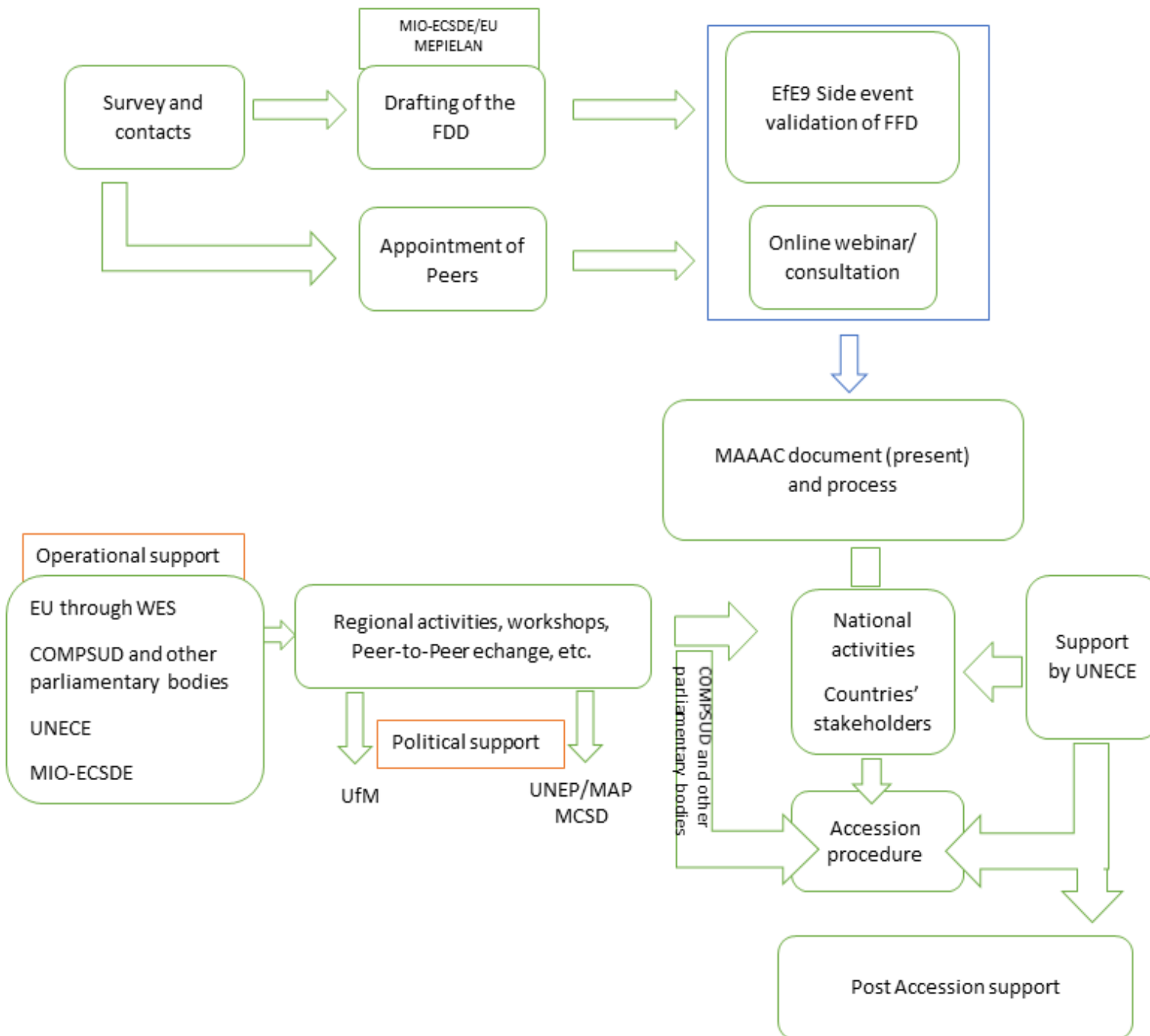
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PHASES OF THIS WES PEER TO PEER ACTIVITY

The activity is composed of the following phases where Peers/Experts from the MENA countries interact, share, and receive training and expert advice at different stages:

- 1st Peer to Peer (P2P) Meeting (on-line)
- Development of the “Mediterranean Accession Agenda” to the Aarhus Convention
- Regional Training (and 2nd meeting of Peers): 14-15 November 2023
- Post-training P2P process (till spring 2024)
- Part of the next phase of WES (2024-2027/28)





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GRAPHICAL DEPICTION OF THE PROCESS: “MEDITERRANEAN ACCESSION AGENDA” TO THE AARHUS CONVENTION (MAAAC)

The MAAAC is meant to be a major contribution to: the implementation of the relevant MSSD Flagship Initiative on Environmental Governance; to encouraging the accession to and implementation of the Aarhus Convention in the Mediterranean countries and promoting the engagement of relevant NGOs and Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) in advancing environmental governance.

- **Current status:** 12 out of the 22 Contracting Parties of the Barcelona Convention are already parties to the Aarhus Convention
- **Target:** by 2025 two-thirds of Mediterranean countries have acceded. So 5 more countries

- For a wide accession of Mediterranean countries to the Aarhus Convention more time will be needed.
- The MAAAC is a ‘living’ document/process



A COMMON VISION FOR A SUSTAINABLE MEDITERRANEAN
ACHIEVING SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND THE ROLE OF GOVERNANCE
THE NEED FOR AN INSTITUTIONAL FRAMEWORK
THE MOBILISATION FOR A MEDITERRANEAN ACCESSION AGENDA TO THE AARHUS CONVENTION (MAAAC)
THE WES PEER-TO-PEER (P2P) APPROACH; THE FUNCTIONS AND ROLE OF THE PEERS
THE (PROPOSED) PROVISIONS OF THE MAAAC
BENEFITS OF ACCESSION TO THE AARHUS CONVENTION AND THE PROTOCOL ON PRTRS
ANNEX
REFERENCES & LINKS





Thank you
for your attention
and keep up with
our latest news!

WES-MED.EU

