

SUSTAINABLE MEDITERRANEAN

MEDITERRANEE DURABLE • ΒΙΩΣΙΜΗ ΜΕΣΟΓΕΙΟΣ • MEDITERRANEO SOSTENIBILE

المتوسطة المستدامة

**MIO-ECSDE MEDITERRANEAN ACTION DAY 2005:
CLIMATE CHANGE AND THE MEDITERRANEAN**

• • •

**LA JOURNÉE D'ACTION MÉDITERRANÉENNE 2005 DE MIO-ECSDE:
LES CHANGEMENTS CLIMATIQUES ET LA MÉDITERRANÉE**

Quarterly newsletter produced by the
Mediterranean Information Office
for **Environment, Culture** and
Sustainable Development,

the **European Environmental
Bureau** and
the **Arab NGO Network for
Environment and Development**

Issue no 40
December • Décembre 2005

This issue of Sustainable Mediterranean was
financed by **MIO-ECSDE** with the support of the
European Commission, the UNEP/MAP and
the **Italian Ministry for Environment and
Territory.**



EDITORIAL

The MEDITERRANEAN ACTION DAY is an annual initiative of MIO-ECSDE, funded in part by the European Commission (through its annual activity funding of MIO-ECSDE), for its member organisations. It is a joint, small/medium-scale action conducted in many Mediterranean countries during the last four months of the year. The objective of the activity is to give the opportunity to the MIO-ECSDE member organisations to take action in the field, locally or nationally and be more visible to their target populations while tackling a “hot” environmental issue of their municipality, region or country.

The Annual General Assembly of the Federation decides on the theme of each year’s Med Action Day. For the year 2005, it was dedicated to *Climate Change in the Mediterranean*.

Ten (10) events were organised by ten (10) Member NGOs of MIO-ECSDE in seven (7) different Mediterranean countries:

| | |
|-----------------|---|
| Egypt: | Arab Office for Youth and Environment (AOYE) |
| Greece: | Mediterranean SOS |
| Italy: | Legambiente - Circolo Festambiente, Istituto per l’Ambiente e l’Educazione Scholé Futuro |
| Jordan: | Land and Human to Advocate Progress (LHAP) |
| Spain: | Mediterrània CIE |
| Tunisia: | Association for the Protection of Nature & Environment – Kairouan (APNEK), l’Association de l’environnement de Kélibia, Association de Développement et Protection de l’Environnement de la Marsa |
| Turkey: | TEMA Foundation |

This issue of *Sustainable Mediterranean* provides a brief description of most of these events based on the reports and materials sent by the organising NGOs. It is a small tribute to the efforts of these NGOs and their capability and creativity in taking a small amount of *seed* money and organising events with a significant impact on their target groups.

La «JOURNÉE D’ACTION MEDITERRANÉENNE» est une initiative annuelle de MIO-ECSDE subventionnée en partie par la Commission Européenne (par le financement annuel des activités de MIO-ECSDE) et organisée pour ses organisations membres. Il

s’agit d’une action de petite/ moyenne échelle organisée en commun par un grand nombre de pays méditerranéens pendant les quatre derniers mois de l’année. L’objectif de cette activité est de d’offrir aux organisations membres de MIO-ECSDE d’agir sur le terrain, au niveau local ou national et d’accroître leur visibilité auprès des populations ciblées tout en traitant d’un thème environnemental particulièrement “brûlant” dans leur municipalité, région ou pays.

L’Assemblée générale annuelle de la Fédération choisit le sujet de la «Journée d’Action Méditerranéenne» de l’année. L’année 2005, la Journée fut dédiée aux *Changements climatiques en Méditerranée*.

Dix (10) organisations membres de MIO-ECSDE organisèrent dix (10) événements / manifestations dans sept (7) différents pays de la Méditerranée :

Ce numéro de *Méditerranée Durable* fournit une brève description de la plupart de ces événements / manifestations se fondant sur les rapports et documents envoyés par les ONG organisatrices. Il s’agit d’un petit tribut aux efforts fournis par ces ONG ainsi qu’à leur aptitude et leur créativité dont elles témoignent en organisant des événements / manifestations ayant un impact significatif sur leur audience cible tout en disposant d’un petit budget.



Mediterranean Action Day

CONTENTS

| | | | |
|--|---|--|---|
| ■ The Scope and Political Background of the Athens Conference for the Official Launching of the UN Decade of Education for Sustainable Development in the Mediterranean region | 4 | ■ ITALY: <i>ISTITUTO PER L'AMBIENTE E L'EDUCAZIONE SCHOLÉ FUTURO ONLUS</i> | 4 |
| ■ TUNISIA: <i>Association de l'environnement de Kélibia</i> | 4 | ■ JORDAN: <i>LAND AND HUMAN TO ADVOCATE PROGRESS</i> | 4 |
| ■ ITALY: <i>LEGAMBIENTE- CIRCOLO FESTAMBIENTE</i> | 4 | ■ TUNISIA: <i>ASSOCIATION FOR THE PROTECTION OF NATURE & ENVIRONMENT, KAIROUAN</i> | 4 |
| ■ TURKEY: <i>TEMA Foundation</i> | 4 | ■ EGYPT: <i>ARAB OFFICE FOR YOUTH AND ENVIRONMENT</i> | 4 |
| ■ SPAIN: <i>Mediterrània CIE</i> | 4 | MISCELLANEOUS MEDITERRANEAN NEWS | |
| ■ GREECE: <i>SOS MEDITERRANEAN</i> | 4 | Bleak future forecast for the Mediterranean region | |
| | | Un avenir méditerranéen lourd de menaces | |

The views and opinions expressed in Sustainable Mediterranean by individual contributors do not necessarily reflect those of MIO-ECSDE or those of our sponsors.

TITRE :

Changements Climatiques et leurs conséquences sur l'Environnement



L'environnement terrestre a subi au cours des derniers siècles, une dégradation sans précédent dans son histoire. L'homme, qui est l'acteur principal de ces bouleversements, doit en subir les conséquences. En effet, les écosystèmes terrestres, aujourd'hui largement anthropisés, remaniés par l'homme, sont mis en péril à travers ses pratiques culturelles, l'urbanisation galopante, l'industrialisation effrénée, ... Il va sans dire que cela risque de compromettre la durabilité du développement de nos sociétés et, plus grave encore, celles des générations futures.

Dans notre propos, nous nous focalisons sur l'un des aspects de ces écosystèmes, à savoir le système climatique.

Quels sont les changements menacent le climat de notre terre?

Comment se manifestent ces changements dans l'environnement méditerranéen? En Tunisie? et à Kélibia en particulier?

Quels risques pèsent-ils sur notre avenir?

Quels défis aurons nous à affronter dans l'avenir?

Quelles sont les solutions envisageables?

Quel est le rôle de la société civile et des ONG dans l'effort de la sensibilisation et de la prévention?

Certes, le climat « est un élément essentiel du maintien de la vie humaine sur la terre, car il a une influence profonde sur la sécurité alimentaire, la sécurité des personnes et des biens, les ressources en eau, les loisirs et le développement durable ». Ces répercussions sont aussi indéniables sur « l'humeur des gens, leur caractère et même leurs modes de pensée ou leur culture » [Message de l'OMM, 2003].

Or, depuis la révolution industrielle, le développement technologique, le changement des modes de production, de consommation et de vie, ont impliqué l'homme, en tant qu'acteur central, dans tous les changements que subit notre système climatique. Toutefois, il s'est avéré que l'intervention de l'homme est souvent plus destructive que constructive. Elle est étroitement liée à la tendance néo-libérale, qui fait de l'environnement une source de profit.

Le droit de l'homme à vivre dans un environnement sain, dans une atmosphère propre, est-il ainsi mis en question?

Devient-il sujet de chantages?

Les changements climatiques sont-ils devenus une affaire d'actualité, de litiges géopolitiques?

1. Les changements climatiques: quelles causes? quels indicateurs?

Les experts estiment que la température de la terre s'est élevée d'au moins 0,6°C au cours du 20^{ème} siècle et que la dernière décennie a été le plus chaude du siècle dernier. De nouveau records ne cessent d'être battus, en l'occurrence ceux de l'été 2003.

D'autres indicateurs témoignent d'un réchauffement sans précédent de la planète:

- ▲ régression de l'étendue des glaces d'environ 10% depuis 1960;
- ▲ Elévation du niveau moyen de la mer de 10 à 20 cm;
- ▲ Multiplication du nombre de catastrophes hydrométéorologiques;
- ▲ Accentuation des sécheresses climatiques dans certaines régions;
- ▲ Désertification de plus en plus poussée de terres jadis fertiles; ...

Les conséquences de ces phénomènes sont innombrables. On note par exemple que:

- ▲ près de 200 Millions de personnes sont annuellement touchées par des catastrophes naturelles;
- ▲ la canicule de l'été 2003 est responsable, en France seule, de près de 16000 décès;
- ▲ en décembre 1999, des tempêtes ont touché près de la moitié du territoire français, avec une force de vent supérieure à 140 km/heure.
- ▲ Apparition du trou d'ozone, dont les conséquences pathologiques peuvent être très graves pour l'humanité

En attendant des preuves scientifiques irrévocables, les changements climatiques, tels qu'ils sont perçus, suggèrent la vulnérabilité de l'environnement face à l'intervention de l'homme. En effet, les changements climatiques sont principalement attribués à la concentration des gaz à effet de serre. En l'occurrence, depuis le début de la révolution industrielle, la concentration du CO2 et



du méthane (CH₄) a augmenté, respectivement, de 30% et de 151%.

Compte tenu de tous ces aspects, pouvons nous affirmer que le seuil de catastrophe est encore loin d'être franchi? En l'absence d'une réponse exacte, nous sommes face à un défi unique: préserver ce qui reste et éviter de nouvelles altérations en vue d'assurer un développement durable pour les générations futures.

2. Le climat de demain: quels défis, quels paris?

A croire les scénarios mis en place par les modèles de simulation climatique, on prévoit que:

- ▲ la température de la surface de la terre risque d'augmenter de 1,4° à 5,8°C entre 1990-2100;
- ▲ en conséquence, la vapeur d'eau risque de se concentrer davantage dans l'atmosphère, ce qui provoquera des aléas hydrométéorologiques plus graves (fortes pluies, inondations, sécheresses répétées, ...)
- ▲ élévation du niveau de la mer de 9 à 88 cm entre 1990-2100, ce qui met en péril l'avenir de près de la moitié de la population vivant dans les régions côtières;
- ▲ modification de la flore et de la faune; ...

En somme, s'il est impossible d'énumérer tous les défis qui pèsent sur notre avenir climatique, les experts sont unanimes sur un pari unique: le devoir de chacun de protéger l'environnement actuel au profit des générations futures.

Mais, quelles sont les alternatives exécutoires pour aboutir à cette fin? et quelles peuvent être les conséquences sur les systèmes géopolitiques?

3. Que faire? Les changements climatiques et les défis géopolitiques: exemple du protocole de Kyoto:

Des changements climatiques de grande ampleur risquent, dans les régions touchées, de provoquer ou d'accélérer la rupture des équilibres géopolitiques locaux ou régionaux, déjà fragiles ou instables.

Par exemple, que feraient les 150 millions d'habitants si, à l'horizon de l'année 2100, le désert arrive à gagner les terres de l'Afrique du Nord? Vont ils migrer? Quelles seraient les régions d'accueil? ...

Qu'arriverait-il si le réchauffement produirait une élévation du niveau de la mer Méditerranée de quelques dizaines de centimètres? Quel serait le sort des Millions d'habitants peuplant les milliers de kilomètres carrés qui seront submergés?

Qu'arriverait-il si, un jour, la Sibérie deviendrait un paradis verdoyant et la Chine, même en partie, un désert? les frontières résisteraient-elles à un afflux en masse des chinois?

Si tous les pays du monde respecteraient les conventions en rapport avec la protection de l'environnement (comme la réduction de gaz à effet de serre) à l'exception de l'Etat le plus puissant, qui continuant à nuire au climat planétaire, avec méfiance, la communauté internationale resterait-elle longtemps muette, passive?

Depuis 1992, la convention cadre de Nations Unies sur les Changements Climatiques visait à freiner la dégradation inquiétante du système climatique, en stabilisant la concentration des gaz à effet de serre (G.E.S.) dans l'atmosphère.

Plus tard, en 1997, l'adoption du protocole de Kyoto visait à réduire les émissions de gaz à effet de serre (G.E.S.) vers 2008-2012 à raison de 5,2% par rapport à 1990.

Ce protocole prévoit plusieurs mesures d'accompagnement, tels que « les permis négociables d'émissions de G.E.S. », ou le mécanisme de « développement propre », réservé pour les pays en voie de développement.

Dans son fond, le protocole reconnaît « la dette environnementale » des pays industrialisés à l'égard des pays en voie de développement. Il instaure aussi une sorte de solidarité inter-générationnelles.

Le débat sur les changements de l'environnement climatique de notre planète reste donc à l'ordre du jour. Les menaces incessantes en font toujours un sujet d'actualité, même si les thèmes, les risques, les soucis, changent de facette. A chaque individu, quel que soit son

domicile, quelle que soit sa responsabilité dans la société civile, quelle que soit sa couleur, sa religion, sa lign

Objectifs:

1. sensibiliser les citoyens, surtout les jeunes, les acteurs économiques, les décideurs,... de la vulnérabilité de l'environnement climatique régional de la Méditerranée de la Tunisie face à un changement climatique déjà entamé;
2. sensibiliser ce même public des risques potentiels que peut poser un changement climatique sur l'environnement local, à l'échelle de la sous-région de Kélibia même, comme en témoignent les dernières observations climatiques;
3. impliquer une élite de jeunes dans une prise de conscience directe de la vulnérabilité climatique et bioclimatique de la région méditerranéenne par des activités de terrain;
4. avertir le public, toutes catégories confondues, des risques encourus par la santé des individus mêmes dans le contexte d'un changement climatique (multiplication des épidémies, des maladies, des décès, ...)
5. sensibiliser le public des possibilités et des moyens de lutter, freiner, ou réduire les risques des changements climatiques en Méditerranée;
6. mettre en exergue la responsabilité des autorités, de la société civile, des ONG et de chaque individu dans cet effort de lutte contre les agents responsables des changements climatiques.

Conclusion

Au terme des deux journées de sensibilisation sur les changements climatiques en Méditerranée, le bilan s'avère très positif à maints égards:

- ▲ d'abord, la manifestation consacrée à la participation des adultes a été illustrée par des documents audiovisuels, des affiches et des posters préparés spécialement pour meubler l'évènement. L'objectif de vulgarisation du thème, mais aussi d'en fournir des informations scientifiques pointues par le conférencier animateur, spécialiste en la matière, a été largement réussi. Les exemples pris en Tunisie et du climat local de Kélibia a largement contribué à retenir l'attention du public et à l'avertir des risques potentiels d'un changement climatique imminent.
- ▲ Ensuite, la qualité de l'assistance ciblée, représentative d'un large éventail de la société locale (industriels, agriculteurs, enseignants, médecins, pharmaciens, étudiants, hommes de culture, administrateurs de l'autorité locale, ...), a permis un débat très riche sur le thème des changements climatiques et les problèmes annexes.



Ouverture de la Colloque par le Président de l'Association en présence de Mr. Le Délégué de Kélibia et Mr. Le Président de la Commune (le 5 Novembre 2005)

- ▲ Enfin, la deuxième journée de sensibilisation organisée en faveur du public scolaire (élèves du primaire et du secondaire), accompagnés de leurs enseignants et de quelques parents a été aussi riche et fortifiée. La satisfaction exprimée par l'assistance, le niveau du débat et des questions exprimées par les élèves mêmes témoignent d'un succès très encourageant.

En somme, la manifestation organisée en deux étapes a permis une prise de conscience sans précédent, tel que l'ont exprimée la plupart des participants, en matière des changements climatiques et les problèmes environnementaux qui en sont à l'origine ou qui en sont la conséquence.

Notre Association, jusqu'ici satisfaite de cette activité, compte poursuivre des actions sur le même thème. Un réseau de stations de mesure des paramètres climatiques sera mis en place, géré et exploité par une élite des élèves participants. Ce noyau contribuera certainement à diffuser la culture préventive des risques des changements climatiques, dont la responsabilité revient aux citoyens, aux ONG et à l'ensemble des acteurs de la société civile.

Le thème mérite en fait une lutte effrénée et un débat constamment ouvert.

Conférencier animateur:

Dr Habib Ben BOUBAKER, géographe climatologue, enseignant-chercheur à la faculté des Lettres, des Arts et des Humanités de Manouba., **Contact:** Habib.Boubaker@flm.rnu.tn
Tel: 16.98.274.641

TITLE :

Mediterraneo Amico Mio



Brief description of the implemented activities

The event has taken place in the National Centre for the Sustainable Development of Legambiente, Rispescia – Italy.

Workshops

We involved 6 children operators who developed 4 different workshops addressed to 60 children of primary school level grouped in three different working-groups. Each group rotated and was thus involved in all four workshops. The operators developed the following workshops:

1. Workshop on renewable energy

Children were invited to build prototypes by using renewable energy systems in small scale (for example the creation of small aeolian systems with solar panels, helicopters made of paper and working thanks to small solar panels, etc.);

2. Workshop on alien species in the Mediterranean Sea due to warming effects on climate

Three workshops concerning this issue were organised.

- a) The first one focused on the presence of invasive species in the Mediterranean Sea related to climate changes and on the negative effects of planetary warming due to climate changes. Students were encouraged by the operators to recognize the marine species (marine flora) and to identify and distinguish the real ones from the artificial ones (plastic items, etc.). In order to reproduce the natural environment, the items were displayed on a bed of sand, 3 x 2 meters.
- b) The second one was developed by two young experts of the public Aquarium of the Municipality of Grosseto. They projected an environmental video and explained to the children the meaning of climate change and the negative effect on the Mediterranean marine species and the importance of renewable energy systems.
- c) A third workshop focused on handcraft items, made by the children. We prepared all the necessary

things in order to allow them to build frames, small pots, ashtrays, etc. assembling natural materials as leaves, stones, etc.

Visit and explanation of the Everyday Ecology exhibition

Everyday Ecology includes 20 banners with drawings and slogans on how to save energy, water and heating during winter and aims to teach an environmentally friendly behaviour in order to improve our behavior at home. The aim of this didactic journey is to make familiar the importance of daily actions in order to reduce green house emissions and to save energy. The aim of this visit was to teach students through dynamic environmental education methods, how traditional energy production systems can be replaced by renewable, cleaner and sustainable sources.

Public event

We organised a public event: “The Mediterranean Region: a focus on climate changes”. Citizens of the Grosseto province, public bodies, private companies and secondary schools were invited. The meeting was held in the National Centre for Sustainable Development of Legambiente.



Who attended the meeting:

- A representative of ISES (International Solar Energy Society) , **Mr. Daniele Villorresi**;
- **Mr. Fabio Becherini**, a representative of the BCC Maremma, a local bank which, according to Legambiente, offers financings with a special rate of interest to citizens who want to install renewable energy systems;
- **Mr. Fabrizio Serena**, responsible of the sea sector of ARPAT (Tuscany Agency for the Environment Protection);
- **Mrs. Lucia Venturi**, responsible of the Scientific Sector of Legambiente;
- **Mr. Angelo Gentili**, Legambiente National Board.

Around 40 people participated in the event.

Visit and explanation of the Intelligent Energy exhibition

During the event the students of secondary school level were invited to visit an exhibition on renewable energy systems. The exhibition is called *Intelligent Energy*: 15 prototypes, which show the different energy systems (aeolian, solar, wind system, etc.). It also focuses on energy saving systems. An expert of Legambiente guided the students to discover the different renewable energy systems.

Communication

A poster (cm 33 x cm 48) was designed and printed. Two press conferences were also organized.

Name of person in charge: ROMINA BICOCCHI
Address: LOC. ENAOLI, 58010 RISPESCIA – GROSSETO – ITALY
Tel.: +39 0564 48771
Fax: +39 0564 487740
e-mail: mediterraneo3@festambiente.it
web-site: www.legambiente.com - www.festambiente.it

TURKEY: TEMA Foundation **November 25th 2005**

TITLE :

Seminar on Global Warming and Climate Change in the Mediterranean

Aim: In order to ensure a sustainable environment, build awareness among primary school students about environmental issues, especially soil erosion which TEMA Foundation considers one of the most important dangers the world faces.



The seminar on Climate Change in Mediterranean and Global Warming organized in the framework of the MIO-ECSDE Mediterranean Action Day was the follow-up of a previous related congress. TEMA Foundation makes an agreement with selected schools to implement an annual plan throughout the year which consists of trainings about soil erosion and other environmental problems, planting ceremonies, congresses, camps and various other activities. One of these activities was a congress held in Ankara with the participation of Child TEMA teams at schools with their teachers from all over Turkey. The students had prepared projects about “Climate Change” and did workshops in Ankara about what are the causes of climate change, the effects of it and the results. After the workshops, they announced a final declaration.

As a first step, we had a meeting with Prof. Dr. Mikdat Kadioglu who is the lecturer of one of the most reputable universities in Turkey, ITU. He had attended the congress held in Ankara in May, 2005 about Climate Change. We re-

requested him to give a seminar about “Global Warming and Climate Change in the Mediterranean” to the children. He gladly accepted our offer. As a second step we prepared a poster.

We announced the event to the 33 schools where we have Child TEMA volunteer teams. The schools sent us their participants lists with an accompanying teacher each. We also delivered posters to these schools.

The poster was disseminated to other schools in Istanbul too and to the representatives of the foundation in each city in Turkey where we have offices.

Folders were prepared for the participating children, which included the final declaration of the Ankara congress on Climate Change and Global Warming, a poster and a paper rosette in shape of leaf.

The press was also invited to the seminar.

The seminar on “Global Warming and Climate Change in the Mediterranean” with Prof. Doc. Mikdat Kadioglu, took place in the Karamanci Holding Cultural Centre on the 25th of November, 2005. The total number of participants was 292 people. After the seminar Prof. Mikdat Kadioglu answered the children’s questions. Many students invited the professor to their schools for a detailed seminar at a later date.

The founder of the foundation Hayrettin Karaca and Nihat Gökyi_it attended the seminar and made a short speech at the end about how important it is for children



to be aware of the dangers of climate change and to take proper action about it.

We sent faxes to the schools which participated in the event to thank them. The feedback we got was important as at some of these schools, the students who were at the seminar, presented to the other students of their school what they had learned about Climate Change at the seminar.

Ms. BELMA KILIC
Child TEMA Coordinator
Belma.kilic@tema.org.tr
0212 283 78 16 ext:126

SPAIN: Mediterrània CIE

December 1st and 2nd 2005

TITLE :

THE CLIMATE CHANGE GAME

A student game for Sustainable Development



Introduction

For the celebration of MIO-ECSDE’s Mediterranean Action Day “Climate Change in the Mediterranean” initiative, Mediterrània CIE carried out, during 1st and 2nd of December 2005, the “Climate Change Game” in different schools.

This activity was offered as a special event within the Mediterrània-CIE Environmental Education Programme to schools, emphasizing the role of MIO-ECSDE, the Mediterranean Action Day and the European Union. Special media diffusion was also made to promote this activity.

Description of the Climate Change Game

The “Climate Change Game” consists of: a large board, a big cube (dice), question cards and two big markers. The board is linear and the starting point is just in the middle, in one direction you move forward towards a sustainable world, and on the other direction you move towards a depleted and degraded world.

First of all, the framework of the activity is explained, i.e. about MIO-ECSDE, the Mediterranean Action Day and the European Union. Afterwards, a brief presentation on climate change is made, in order to define the knowledge level of the students and to clarify concepts.



Principal climate change mechanisms, causes and consequences are explained. Emphasis is made on possible solutions and personal actions to limit climate change.

The students are divided into two groups. They start throwing the dice, and they have to pass the different challenges. If they give the correct answer or they “pass” the challenge, they move towards the sustainable world. If they fail, they move towards the depleted world. The student that throws the cube (one of each of the two groups elected at random and different every time) is the one who has to carry out the challenge/activity.

The activities/challenges included in the cube/dice are: the *hangman* game, questions, definitions, yes or no game and drawing.

In the *hangman* game the scholar has to draw on the blackboard the lines corresponding to the letters of a word and of course the hangman. His/her teammates have to guess the different letters and the final word. All the words are related to climate change, like deforestation, CO₂, solar energy, etc.

In the *questions* activity, the student that has thrown the dice has the first try to guess the correct answer of the question. Once he/she has answered, the team has the opportunity to give its opinion. All the questions are related to climate change.

In the *definitions* activity, a definition is read and the scholar has to guess the concept. As in the question game, the first try is made by the student and the second by the team.

The *yes or no game* consists of guessing a concept by addressing questions to the rest of the teammates. In other words, the student that has thrown the dice has to figure out a concept by asking questions to his/her companions. They can only answer *yes* or *no*. All the concepts are related to climate change.

Finally, the *drawing* activity consists of drawing a concept related to climate change. The student has to draw and his/her teammates have to guess what it is.

They have got one minute time for each activity/challenge.

Objectives

- ✎ To celebrate the MIO-ECSDE Mediterranean Action Day.
- ✎ To improve students knowledge through a didactic, interactive and fun way.
- ✎ To sensitize students on the issue of climate change.
- ✎ To promote group work among students.
- ✎ To elaborate educational materials, which will be used afterwards as well.

Results

- ✎ About 180 students were sensitized on the issue of climate change.
- ✎ The local media responded well and there was considerable diffusion of the event.
- ✎ A new educational activity on climate change was included in the Mediterranean-CIE Education Programme. It is also offered for use by other NGOs.

Andrea Lorente. Ambientologist

Rosalía Anglès. Biologist, naturaleza@mediterrania-cie.org

Cristina Viudez. Biologist

| School | Municipality | Class | Students | Age (years old) |
|---|---|---------|----------|-----------------|
| CES Sant Salvador (Secondary School) | Tarragona (Catalunya-Spain) | 1-A ESO | 20 | 12-13 |
| | | 1-B ESO | 25 | 12-13 |
| | | 1-C ESO | 25 | 12-13 |
| IES Berenguer d'Entença (Secondary School) | Hospitalet de l'Infant (Catalunya-Spain) | 1-A ESO | 20 | 12-13 |
| | | 1-B ESO | 25 | 12-13 |
| | | 2-A ESO | | |
| | | 2-B ESO | 45 | 13-14 |
| | | 2-C ESO | 20 | 13-14 |
| TOTAL | | | 180 | |



TITLE :
“DON’T CHANGE THE CLIMATE-CHANGE POLICY”

On Saturday, the 3rd of December 2005 the MEDITERRANEAN SOS Network organized a public event in the framework of the MIO-ECSDE MEDITERRANEAN ACTION DAY on climate change.

The event took place on this date as it coincided with the 11th Conference of Parties of the Framework Convention on Climate Change and the first meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol that take place in Montreal on November 28th to December 9th 2005.

The event took place in Thission square, a very central busy place in Athens. The place was selected because it is a passage for many people especially on weekend mornings and because the relaxed atmosphere of the area would allow people to stay longer in the place of the event and hear the information given to them.

Mr. Nikos Touliatos and the music band of IHODRASI participated voluntarily to assist us in our aim to inform and sensitize people on this very important issue, climate change. Dressed in black the musicians gave the rhythm and attracted people close to the stall. There MEDITERRANEAN SOS Network staff approached them with informative leaflets and talked to them for the issue, the negotiations in Montreal and the actions that

they can do in order to prevent catastrophic climate change. The interest was big and many people were interested to learn more. Many volunteers participated in the action and helped in painting placards.

The leaflet that MEDSOS produced especially for this day was written in simple language, so that it would be understandable from people of any background. It explained briefly the causes and impacts of climate change, and the actions that should be taken from the policy makers but also from citizens themselves as well in order to prevent a bigger impact on the climate and consequently on earth’s natural systems.

A big banner was hung behind the musicians, stating “DON’T CHANGE THE CLIMATE-CHANGE POLICY”. Smaller placards were spread around the square giving various messages about renewable energy, public transport, and responsible consumption.

MEDITERRANEAN SOS Network

Mamai 3, 10440, Athens, GR

Tel./Fax: 210 822 8795

Email: medsos@medsos.gr

Website: www.medsos.gr





Monday 12 December, at the school Umberto I of Torino, there was a meeting about climate change in the Mediterranean, organized by Istituto per l'Ambiente e l'Educazione Scholé Futuro – Pianeta Azzurro Project as part of the MIO-ECSDE initiative for Mediterranean Action Day 2005.

Throughout the world we are seeing tsunamis, hurricanes, floods, droughts, but the Mediterranean area is also undergoing important transformations because of climate change. Fish from the Red Sea are now habitual guests in our sea; the glaciers in the Alps are melting faster than ever before; just a few hours of rain are enough to cause flooding and inconvenience all over the nation. The consequences of climate change, therefore, are closer to us and more “daily” than one would imagine by merely looking at the most extreme calamities.

The first step to take is **to inform students** of these changes, their causes and the main guidelines to follow to reduce climate-altering emissions. Thus, starting from the youngest citizens, we can start up best practices and begin to ask institutions to curb the worsening of current conditions.

Reversing the usual order of “speaker intervention-questions from the public”, the meeting opened with questions from the young journalists of “**13 Born in Rio**”; the 10 youths who make up the editorial staff of the on-line newspaper specialized in environmental education, which uses the method of peer education (the environment explained to kids by other kids).

The main climate changes in the Mediterranean area were presented precisely by starting from the questions and the curiosity of these young people.

New technologies are used in various ways to stimulate discussion. Not only with Internet (where the articles written by the kids of “13 Born in Rio” will be collected), but also with a **cartoon** about river pollution and respect for the environment, presented for the first time in Torino.

The attendees had a long debate, showing slides and answering the public about the main consequences for

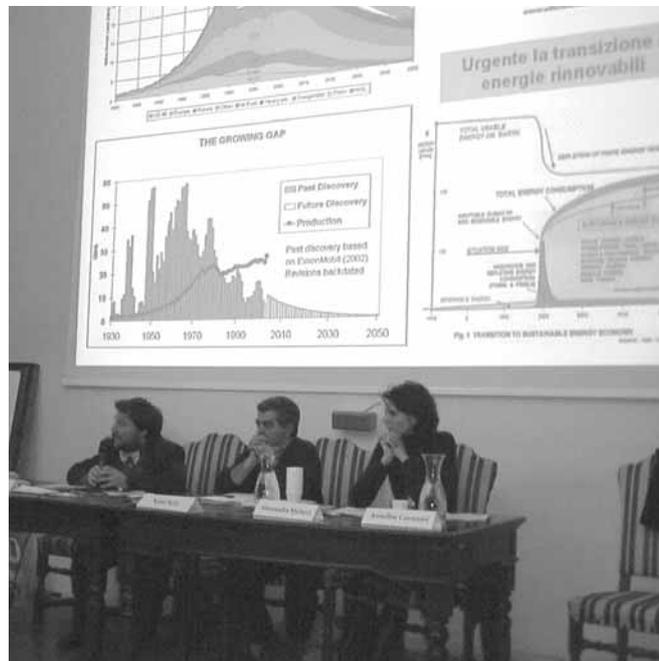
climate changes in our area and in Europe (from the Gulf Stream to the lack of ice in the Alps, from water pollution to the waste of energy and renewable energy).

The meeting was presented to the **mass media**. Before the event a press release was prepared and disseminated so as to inform about the meeting. The local weekly magazine “TorinoSette” published the news and also the monthly magazine “eco, l'educazione sostenibile”, the first Italian environmental education magazine, which will in January present an article on that issue.

A lot of stakeholders were contacted by e-mail: especially students, NGOs, local associations and civil society.

During the meeting we distributed papers about the WWF campaign on climate change (the Italian WWF was a partnership in this event). We also prepared and distributed other materials to inform students and

teachers about the issue. The attendees of the meeting included **Luca Mercalli**, President of the Italian Meteorological Society, **Nanni Salio**, spokesperson for Kyoto dal Basso (energy-saving campaign) – Sereno Regis Study Center, **Alessandra Melucci**, spokesperson for the Italian Center for the River Care, **Stefano Moretto**, Istituto per l'Ambiente e l'Educazione Scholé Futuro onlus – Pianeta Azzurro.



ISTITUTO PER L'AMBIENTE E L'EDUCAZIONE SCHOLÉ FUTURO ONLUS

Via Bligny, 15 – 10122 Torino Tel./Fax: 011/4366522 (r.a.)
e-mail: schole@schole.it, www.schole.it

TITLE :
Climate Change and Human Rights



The energy consumption of Mediterranean countries, which are highly dependent on fossil fuels, has more than doubled over the past 30 years. Many Mediterranean countries have established pricing and tax structures that are not conducive to energy saving. Moreover, there is insufficient encouragement for renewable sources of energy. Should this trend continue, the Mediterranean contribution to total global greenhouse gas emissions could rise from 7% to 9%. In addition, the region's energy dependence could greatly increase. This situation will put the region in a more regrettable position as the Mediterranean is an eco-region that is particularly vulnerable to climate change, while having a significant potential for renewable energy from natural sources (sun, wind, etc.) and able to derive substantial savings from the rational use of energy. Policies which follow these orientations would encourage technological progress, create employment opportunities and increase productivity. Decisive implementation of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and of its Kyoto Protocol by the countries that have or will have ratified it would also provide short and long-term local and global benefits, in particular by strengthening the regional cooperation and funding sustainable development projects in Mediterranean developing countries.

As there is a direct proportional link between environmental degradation, in this case the damages caused by

climate change and human rights violations, and knowing that Land and Human to Advocate Progress (LHAP) is implementing a national program on human rights and democratization principles addressing young generations between 10-16 years of age, LHAP decided with the approval of the Mediterranean Information Office for Environment, Culture and Sustainable Development (MIO-ECSDE) to consider the theme "Climate Change and Human Rights" for its Mediterranean Action Day (MAD) activity for the year 2005. LHAP proposed to launch a school competition in the form of drawings and essay writing on the link between human rights and climate change for the sake of educating students about climate change, human rights, rational use of energy, potentials of renewable energy; control, stabilize or reduce, as appropriate, emissions of greenhouse gasses and mainstream measures for adaptation to climate change in national development plans.

The school competition considered all the 130 schools located within the Northern East Badiya of Jordan where the human rights and democratization project is operating. Students were asked to describe what climate change means, describe its impacts and propose solutions and links to human rights. The competition included article writing and drawings.

The following activities were implemented during the celebration of the Mediterranean Action Day (MAD) activity as follows:

- A memo from LHAP was sent to the Directorate of Education in the Northern East Badiya for dissemination to 130 schools located within the area explaining the competition theme.
- 74 pieces of art were delivered by students: 24 drawings and 50 essays.
- A committee was formed to decide on the winners. Two females in drawings and two males in writing articles were identified.
- LHAP in collaboration with Jerash Private University, Adaleh Center for Human Rights Studies and Center for Democracy Support organized a multipurpose event which included:





- ✎ Celebrating the 10th of December, the International Human Rights Declaration Day.
- ✎ Awarding competition winners and LHAP supporters
- ✎ Organizing an exhibition where drawings were displayed.
- ✎ A School Parliament Regional meeting took place for the 9 involved schools.
- ✎ Students performed three plays: Women's Participation in the Municipality Election and School Parliament.
- ✎ Some of the essays and drawings will be published in the Human Rights Watch Quarterly Newsletters produced by the 9 schools.

- 200 students representing the 9 school parliaments attended the ceremony including some from other schools
- Many partners were involved in the activity: Private Jerash University, Adaleh Center for Human Rights Studies, Center for Democracy Support, MIO-ECSDE / MAD, LHAP, Badia Revival and Environment Protection Society, Badia Forum for Culture and Development and the Ministry of Education.
- Many distinguished guests attended the activity: One Lower House member representing the Badia, one upper house member representing the Badia, Jerash President, Dean of School of Law and many supporters of LHAP and Badia.
- Designing and printing 1000 copies of a poster documenting the drawing competition.

The results of the Mediterranean Action Day Competition were demonstrated in a Private Jerash University Exhibition Hall. All artwork drawn by students was displayed.

Land and Human to Advocate Progress (LHAP)
 TF++962 6 5519756, P.O.Box 340636, Amman 11134 Jordan,
 Lhap@index.com.jo

TUNISIA: ASSOCIATION FOR THE PROTECTION OF NATURE & ENVIRONMENT, KAIROUAN

December 25th 2005

TITLE : Understanding Climate and Climate Change



APNEK celebrated the MIO-ECSDE MedActionDay 2005 in Kairouan. 70 pupils, students and university graduates from APNEK volunteers took part in an outing baptized the *Climate Change Caravan* that led them both to the *Jouamiya* village and to understand the (natural and human-caused) climate and climate change phenomena. Although the event was local, it enjoyed popularity and enthusiasm not only from numerous people in Kairouan, but also from a couple of doctors (in Geology, Geography and Medicine) from the capital, Tunis, who also participated. It also enjoyed considerable media coverage, as it was announced in the French-speaking daily 'Le

Temps' as a news *Flash* and Arab daily 'Al-Horria' before a late announcement in the State's 'La Presse'.

APNEK's Steering Board appointed Ms Afef Zadem, Secretary-General and Executive Director, as executive and supervisor of the *Caravan*, and Dr Youssef Nouri (Geographer) and Dr Messaoud Yamoun (Geologist) as resource persons, along with similar services from Mr Salim Jouini, executive of the Climate Change Unit at the National Agency for Renewable Energy (ANER).

The caravan made a first stop at the *Chrichira* natural site where the 70 participants had the opportunity to find out about some Roman ruins with the remains of an



aqueduct crossing long overexploited and recently reforested hills and valleys.

Their next stop was the *Jouamiya* rural primary school where the 70 ‘travelers’ and some 50 pupils from the school accompanied by 30 of their parents had, in seminar, facts and explanations from specialists on climate change as a natural phenomenon with satellite picture illustrations and as human-caused fact through a ‘Power-point’ presentation.

The pupils were provided with pencils, paint brushes, paints and a long paper roll which was unfolded on the ground of the school courtyard and a ‘Draw and Paint’ workshop took place which consolidated their on-site ecological acquisitions.

After an open-air lunch, the caravan moved to the *Jouamiya millennia geological site* to witness the relics and fossils telling of a wet climate of eras past that recently (on a geological scale) turned semi-arid.

During the bus ride the pupils and students were also briefed on what the MIO-ECSDE MedActionDay tra-

dition was and what Climate Change issues were at stake.

The event was supported by a(n Arabic) pedagogic leaflet on the Climate Change phenomena as a ‘MedActionDay publication’, which was handed out to participants, but which will also serve school and lyceum learners seeking information on the subject for a while, as well as by a CD-Rom and a booklet offered by ANER.

The event proved to be significantly successful both as a learning experience and in its outreach. In fact, it earned a place in national media, it mobilized APNEK’s steering board and executive team, as well as people from both Kairouan and Tunis, and participants felt enriched and acquainted with a current environmental topic that was dealt with for the first time in Kairouan in such an informal and yet practical way by no less than 150 interested participants from all walks of life.

Ameur JERIDI (M^F), President, *APNEK-Tunisia*,
jeriapnek@yahoo.com, apnektunisie@yahoo.fr

EGYPT: ARAB OFFICE FOR YOUTH AND ENVIRONMENT December 28th 2005

The Arab Office for Youth and Environment (AOYE) celebrated once again the annual MIO-ECSDE Med Action Day. It is one of the most important celebrations which the Arab Office for Youth and Environment is interested to celebrate every year in cooperation with both MIO-ECSDE and the European Commission.

The event was a festival that took place at the Academy of Scientific Research in Cairo, Egypt and was attended by more than 200 participants from all concerned parties, governmental representatives, environmental experts, university students and private sector repre-



sentatives. The celebration was held under the auspices and attendance of Dr. Fathi Saad, Governor of Giza. Furthermore, media representatives also participated.

The festival focused on the cultural aspects of Climate Change and apart from presentations and discussion on the global and local dimensions of the problem it also included an arts and drawing competition combined with a competition on writing scientific articles on the issue. The first three winners were awarded with prizes by the Governor and other participating officials.

Bleak future forecast for the Mediterranean region

“Up to 2025, the main risk for the Mediterranean is the prospect of increased social, economic and environmental disparity between the two shores”. This is a main conclusion of the Blue Plan’s just published book.

The population of the Mediterranean countries will increase by 100 million up till 2025, almost exclusively on the South and East, where unemployment of the young – on average 30%, is amongst the highest in the world.

By 2025, there is a risk of depletion of water resources especially in countries where withdrawal is approaching the limit level of available resources, whereas 63 million Mediterranean people would suffer from water shortage – less than 500 m³ per capita per year. In many developing countries, rural economies, vulnerable to free trade, would register increased poverty, desertification and rural-urban migration. On the coasts, built-up areas already cover nearly 40% of the 46,000 km of coastline: natural areas, coastal agricultural plains and island landscapes are doomed to vanish forever at the present rate of consumption of coastal space by urban sprawl, roads, tourism and harbours. As for the sea, 80% of marine pollution is due to land-based sources, 60% of urban wastewater is rejected into the sea without any treatment, and half of the coastal towns with more than 100,000 inhabitants still lack treatment units.

The Blue Plan’s book shows how far we are from ecological and sustainable development issues being a priority in the region. Only deep changes in public policies and behaviour could reverse the current trends. On the basis of experiences already implemented at the national or local level in the riparian countries, the Blue Plan identifies alternatives for action that can favour both the environment and development, in the North and the South, mainly: i) *Eco-efficiency* for redirecting all policies (water, agriculture, energy, transport, tourism, fisheries and aquaculture, waste) and consumption and production patterns; ii) *Territorial approaches to development* (urban regeneration, rural renewal, protection/enhancement of coastal areas) in order to enhance the natural and cultural heritage and the living environment, and re-energize local economies.

Such changes are first and foremost the countries’ responsibility. However, the Euro-Mediterranean responses are too weak to face the environmental degradation and the increasing North-South gap in the region. The Blue Plan argues in favour of strengthening regional cooperation and official assistance towards sustainable development targets.

Benoit Guillaume, Comeau Aline (eds.)

A Sustainable Future for the Mediterranean. The Blue Plan’s Environment and Development Outlook. Earthscan, 2005. 464p.
Méditerranée. Les perspectives du Plan Bleu sur l’environnement et le développement. Éditions de l’Aube, 2005. 432 p.

Un avenir méditerranéen lourd de menaces

«Le risque pour la Méditerranée de 2025 est d’abord la perspective d’une fracture sociale, économique et environnementale accrue entre les deux rives». Telle est la conclusion du nouvel ouvrage du Plan Bleu.

D’ici 2025, la population des pays méditerranéens va s’accroître de 100 millions quasi exclusivement au Sud et à l’Est, là où le chômage des jeunes, en moyenne de 30 %, est parmi les plus élevés au monde.

En matière d’eau, il y a risque d’épuisement des ressources surtout dans les pays où les prélèvements approchent le niveau limite des ressources disponibles, et risque de pénurie (moins de 500 m³/hab/an) pour 63 millions de Méditerranéens. Les économies rurales de nombreux pays en développement, fragiles face à la libéralisation des échanges, connaîtront une pauvreté et désertification accrues, tandis que l’exode rural continuerait à engorger des villes qui peinent à maîtriser leur croissance. Sur le littoral, 40 % des 46 000 kilomètres du linéaire côtier sont déjà « artificialisés » ; espaces naturels, terres agricoles des plaines côtières et paysages insulaires sont condamnés à disparaître au rythme actuel de consommation d’espace par l’étalement urbain, les routes, le tourisme et les ports. Côté mer, 80 % des pollutions sont d’origine terrestre, 60 % des eaux usées urbaines sont rejetées en mer sans traitement et la moitié des villes de plus de 100 000 habitants n’est pas dotée de stations d’épuration.

L’ouvrage du Plan Bleu montre combien les questions écologiques et de développement durable ne sont pas prioritaires dans la région. Seuls des changements majeurs des politiques publiques et des comportements permettraient d’infléchir les évolutions. En se fondant sur des expériences déjà mises en œuvre aux niveaux national ou local dans les pays riverains, le Plan Bleu identifie des alternatives favorables à l’environnement et au développement à la fois, au Nord et au Sud, notamment : i) *l’eco-efficience* pour réorienter les politiques (eau, agriculture, énergie, transports, tourisme, pêche et aquaculture, déchets) et les modes de consommation et production ; ii) *des démarches territoriales de développement* (régénération urbaine, renouveau rural, protection/valorisation du littoral) pour valoriser le patrimoine naturel et culturel et le cadre de vie, et redynamiser le développement local.

Si les changements nécessaires sont d’abord l’affaire des pays, les réponses euroméditerranéennes sont trop faibles devant les dégradations de l’environnement et l’aggravation de la fracture Nord-Sud. Le Plan Bleu plaide pour un renforcement de la coopération régionale et de l’aide sur des objectifs ciblés de développement durable.

Benoit Guillaume, Comeau Aline (dirs.)

Méditerranée. Les perspectives du Plan Bleu sur l’environnement et le développement. Éditions de l’Aube, 2005. 432 p.
A Sustainable Future for the Mediterranean. The Blue Plan’s Environment and Development Outlook. Earthscan, 2005. 464 p.

Comité de Suivi Position Paper on the “Horizon-2020” initiative (to de-pollute the Mediterranean by 2020)

The environmental NGO coalition – the Comité de Suivi (CdS)- an alliance of seven regional NGO networks has been working together on the Euro-Mediterranean partnership since 1997. We welcome this opportunity to participate in this high-level environment meeting here in Barcelona and contribute to the discussion on the so-called “Horizon-2020” initiative to depollute the Mediterranean.

The Comité de Suivi- welcomed in its recent press statement on the 10th Anniversary Summit, the EuroMed partnership’s commitment to implement the Mediterranean Strategy for Sustainable Development (MSSD), which NGOs have supported. The Comité de Suivi has also welcomed the commitment to work with UNEP’s Mediterranean Action Plan in developing a roadmap to launch the new “Horizon-2020” depollution initiative. We environmental NGOs will actively contribute to this initiative.

In our recent review of 10 years of the EuroMed partnership the Comité de Suivi states that concerning sustainable development and particularly its environmental pillar, not enough attention has been paid, nor adequate action taken to reverse the unsustainable development patterns witnessed in this period. A number of important ministerial commitments have been made, but have failed to materialise in practical implementation measures. For example, and in particular the EuroMed Environmental Integration Strategy adopted by the 2nd Conference of Euro-Mediterranean Ministers of the Environment in Athens in June 2002 and endorsed by subsequent EuroMed Foreign Ministers’ conferences needs to be energetically implemented. Formally implementing this EuroMed Environmental Integration Strategy into priority economic sectoral Euro-Mediterranean Partnership programmes and activities such as energy, transport, industry, water, and agriculture (to be periodically reviewed by the Foreign Minister’s conferences) has to become a reality for substantive progress in making sustainable development the guiding principle of the EuroMed partnership.

The Comité de Suivi congratulates DG Environment for ensuring the highest-level political support for the initiative to depollute the Mediterranean by 2020. The cleaning up of the Mediterranean is an important piece of the jigsaw that we need to piece together to deliver sustainable development in the region. It should also help to deliver some important goals of the thematic fields of action of the Mediterranean Strategy for Sustainable Development (MSSD), which was recognised by Mediterranean Heads of State and Government as an important vehicle for mainstreaming sustainable development throughout

the Partnership. The Comité de Suivi has advocated and continues to do so, that any Commission proposals for Mediterranean de-pollution should not lead to a separate Euromed initiative on Mediterranean de-pollution but support, enhance and complement relevant actions already agreed within the framework of the Barcelona Convention and its Protocols and be in line with the objectives of the Mediterranean Strategy For Sustainable Development.

There is therefore an obvious need to identify clearly and express the coherent links between the commitment to depollute the Mediterranean by 2020 and the implementation of the Mediterranean Strategy For Sustainable Development and notably its related SAP MED, based on National Action Plans elaborated by its 21 Contracting Parties. In the implementation of the National Action Plans the role of the NGOs has to be central, supported by the Euro-Mediterranean Partnership mechanism. We should ensure that “Horizon-2020” stakeholders are committed to one set of objectives, actions and time-bound targets and programmes, coherent with those of the Mediterranean Strategy For Sustainable Development. A first step in aligning the 2020 initiative with the Mediterranean Strategy For Sustainable Development is to recognise the extensive ongoing and agreed future depollution activities within the framework of the Barcelona Convention and its Protocols, managed by UNEP/MAP’s, MEDPOL and other Regional Activity Centres. With this in mind, we warmly welcome the cooperation agreement signed recently between the European Commission and MAP.

At the same time the 2020 initiative has to be coherent with the recently launched EU Marine Environment Thematic Strategy. That strategy aims at the protection and enhancement of the ecological quality and biodiversity of the marine environment and defines common qualitative protection objectives. The goal of course should be to tackle all the major sources of pollution including industrial emissions, municipal waste and particularly urban wastewater. The goal should also be to conserve and restore pollution abatement functions of ecosystems such as water basins and coastal wetlands. We NGOs also firmly believe that it would be both logical and pertinent that the 2020 initiative be operationally linked also with the National Strategies for Sustainable Development of the Mediterranean countries and relevant work of the IMO. A precise “Horizon-2020” roadmap planning the implementation of the horizon initiative needs to be formulated, establishing clear links with existing mechanisms, policies and strategies, clearly defining stakeholder processes, institutional responsibilities, as well as stating precise objectives, targets, deadlines and means.

We also need a clear definition of the depollution initiative – so that we are all talking about the same thing and we are working in the same direction. However we define the initiative, it must be ambitious and achievable. We already clearly have the highest political support for “Horizon-2020”, so we need to ensure that the financial resources match our ambitions. In this respect the proposed European Neighbourhood and partnership Instrument will have an important role to play as well as the European Investment Bank and eventually other bodies. The financial implications of depolluting the Mediterranean are formidable, so a clear strategy needs to be in place to mobilise the necessary funds. European overseas development agencies need to take up this challenge and we NGOs are particularly anxious to hear from the Commission a clear analysis of how the European Neighbourhood And Partnership Instrument can best be used to implement the 2020 initiative, what limitations we can expect in this regard and what provisions are in place to remove obstacles. We do have some concerns in this regard. The Comité de Suivi believes the disbursement of European Neighbourhood And Partnership Instrument funds for EuroMed partner countries national and regional development plans, must be dependent on the incorporation of clear and measurable environmental and sustainable development criteria in their preparation. It is crucial for the Comité de Suivi to understand how the 2020 initiative will be combined with the future European Neighbourhood Policy regional programme on the environment. We expect this regional programme to ensure continuity with the current Euromed environmental programme, SMAP, in supporting issues such as freshwater or biodiversity. We also expect the European Commission to play its part by promoting the 2020 initiative in European Neighbourhood Policy action plans and by providing more funding towards promotion of sustainable development nationally. In this regard the Commission should support pilot-national projects in the South and Eastern Mediterranean countries and NGO activities that contribute to Mediterranean depollution.

On the issue of participation and contributions to the 2020 initiative, we NGOs wish to repeat our opinion that effective implementation requires the active participation of all stakeholders and actors. All the actors in the Mediterranean should recognise their common but differentiated responsibility vis _ vis the “Horizon-2020” initiative. The environmental NGO community, active in a wide range of sustainable development, environmental policies and action-oriented initiatives, is eager and willing to play its role in the planning and implementation of the 2020 initiative provided that the legal framework(s) and the necessary funds are in place. At the same time we call on all the other actors and in particular the EuroMediterranean partners to demonstrate in word and deed their commitment to achieving depollution of the Mediterranean by

2020. Each stakeholder needs to assume responsibility for contributing to the successful implementation of the initiative. This could be in the form of:

- The completion of ratification procedures and enforcement of the Barcelona convention and its protocols.
- Financial support to MAP regional activity centres for undertaking 2020 initiative tasks;
- _ Secondment and twinning of professionals to MAP regional activity centres, the European Environment Agency, and relevant national and local authorities etc;
- Key stakeholders taking direct responsibility for leading and carrying out the tasks related to priority area of actions or crosscutting issues;
- The organisation of thematic working sessions and capacity building workshops on the “Horizon-2020” initiative.

It is a process that requires new ideas and impetus, high visibility and greater local ownership. The “Horizon-2020” initiative will need to devote substantial resources to mobilising and building the capacity of all pertinent actors: be they Governments, local authorities, the private sector and civil society to ensure their full participation. In particular, NGOs will require support to perform our important watchdog and visionary role. The adequate engagement of all key actors and the public in general, informed and educated from an early age, will generate the necessary shared political will and sense of ownership for the 2020 initiative to be successfully implemented in the Mediterranean. In this respect we want to reiterate the resolution of the recent Conference for the Launching of the UN Decade of Education for Sustainable Development (DESD) in the Mediterranean region calling upon the Euro-Mediterranean Partnership to support initiatives and projects on Education for Sustainable Development in the region.

As development and environmental NGOs, through our regional and international organisations, we have demonstrated again and again that we are in an excellent position to be able to mobilise national and local grassroots organisations in benefit of the “Horizon-2020” initiative. National and local environmental NGOs are in turn able to engage other categories of actors at the national and local levels to develop a greater understanding of the complexities of implementing the 2020 initiative locally and nationally in the Mediterranean basin.

A participatory approach in the planning and implementation of the 2020 depollution initiative based on good governance principles requires a series of mechanisms and processes to guarantee timely, transparent and full consultation with all parties. NGOs consider that the following proposals will facilitate all actors’ participation:

- Electronic surveys and questionnaires
- Interactive Commission and MAP websites, allowing for online consultation, information access and transparent discussion contributing to “Horizon-2020” planning.
- Various regional consultative meetings
- Using the international meetings circuit, in particular the meetings of the SMAP and MAP focal points, the Mediterranean Commission for Sustainable Development, the conferences of the Barcelona Contracting Parties to have *ad hoc* face-to-face consultations and debriefings.
- Establishing stakeholder forum groups (NGOs, focal points, Parliamentarians etc)
- Through Discussion papers

However, the inexistence of appropriate consultation mechanisms between NGOs and their respective government officials at the country level is currently a handicap to the implementation of the “Horizon-2020” initiative nationally.

Environmental problems in the Mediterranean region are serious. They are depleting its natural resources and affecting the quality of life of its inhabitants. The depollution initiative can make a difference, and it should. We call upon governments, the European Commission, in-

ternational organisations and all other actors to make this work, for the benefit of the peoples of this region! We as environmental NGOs are ready to engage ourselves!

This paper has been produced by the “Comite de Suivi”

- Arab Network for Environment and Development (RAED)
- Environment and Development Action in the Third World (ENDA)
- European Environmental Bureau (EEB)
- Friends of the Earth (FoE/MedNet Programme)
- Mediterranean NGO Network for Ecology and Sustainable Development (MEDForum)
- Mediterranean Information Office for Environment, Culture and Sustainable Development (MIO-ECSDE)
- World Wide Fund for Nature Mediterranean Programme (WWF/MEDPO)

in addition, the following organisations present in Barcelona were involved:

- Legambiente, Italy
- Nature Trust, Malta
- IUCN Mediterranean
- Hellenic Marine Environment Protection Association

4th COMPSUD Meeting and 4th Regional Dialogue

The 4th Meeting of the Circle of Mediterranean Parliamentarians for Sustainable Development (COMPSUD) and the 4th Regional Dialogue of Parliamentarians, NGOs and other Stakeholders on the Protection of the Mediterranean Environment and Prospects for the Sustainable Development of the Region took place at the UN ESCWA Headquarters in Beirut, Lebanon, on 15 November 2005. The meetings were organized in the framework of the Beirut Water Week (14-17 November 2005) and with the support of the Lebanese Ministry for Energy and Water, the Mediterranean Information Office for Environment, Culture and Sustainable Development (MIO-ECSDE), the Global Water Partnership – Mediterranean (GWP-Med) and the Lebanese NGO AMWAJ of the Environment.

The 4th Meeting of COMPSUD was attended by twenty three (23) Members of National Parliaments and Politicians from ten (10) different Mediterranean countries (EU and non-EU) while in the Dialogue participated additionally twelve (12) representatives of NGOs from eight (8) different Mediterranean countries and six (6) jour-

nalists from a correspondent number of Mediterranean countries. For more details:

Outcomes of COMPSUD 4:

English: http://www.mio-ecsde.org/filemgmt_data/files/Conclusions_COMPSUD4_EN.pdf

French: http://www.mio-ecsde.org/filemgmt_data/files/ConclusionsCOMPSUD4_FR.pdf

Outcomes of the 4th COMPSUD Dialogue:

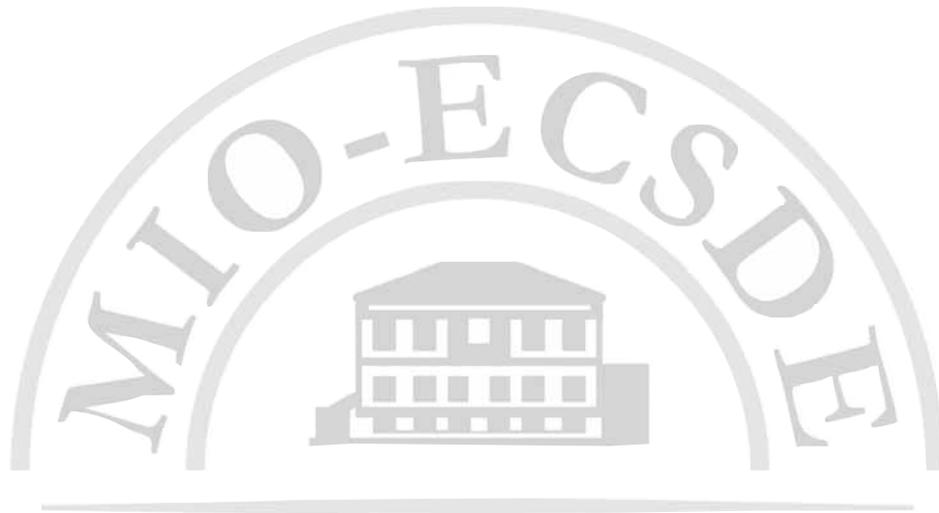
English: http://www.mio-ecsde.org/filemgmt_data/files/Conclusions_DIALOGUE4_EN.pdf

French: http://www.mio-ecsde.org/filemgmt_data/files/COMPSUD4Dialogue_FR.pdf

Resolution of COMPSUD 4:

English: http://www.mio-ecsde.org/filemgmt_data/files/Resolution%20of%20the%20COMPSUD%20Annual%20General%20Assembly.pdf

French: http://www.mio-ecsde.org/filemgmt_data/files/Resolution%20du%20COMPSUD_Dialogue4_FR_fin.pdf



MIO-ECSDE Profile

The Mediterranean Information Office for Environment, Culture and Sustainable Development, is a Federation of Mediterranean Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) for the Environment and Development. MIO-ECSDE acts as a technical and political platform for the intervention of NGOs in the Mediterranean scene. In cooperation with Governments, International Organizations and other socio-economic partners, MIO-ECSDE plays an active role for the protection of the environment and the sustainable development of the Mediterranean Region.

Background

MIO-ECSDE became a federation of Mediterranean NGOs in March 1996. Its roots go back to the early 80s, when the expanding Mediterranean membership of the European Community encouraged the European Environmental Bureau (EEB) to form its Mediterranean Committee supported by Elliniki Etairia (The Hellenic Society for the Protection of the Environment and the Cultural Heritage). The Mediterranean Information Office (MIO) was established in 1990 as a network of NGOs, under a joint project of EEB and Elliniki Etairia and in close collaboration with the Arab Network of Environment and Development (RAED). The continuous expansion of MIO-ECSDE's Mediterranean NGO network and the increasing request for their representation in Mediterranean and International Fora, led to the transformation of MIO-ECSDE to its current NGO Federation status. Today it has a membership of 101 NGOs from 24 Mediterranean countries.

Our Mission

Our mission is to protect the Natural Environment (flora and fauna, biotopes, forests, coasts, natural resources, climate) and the Cultural Heritage (archaeological monuments, and traditional settlements, cities, etc.) of the Mediterranean Region. The ultimate goal of MIO-ECSDE is to promote Sustainable Development in a peaceful Mediterranean.

Major tools and methods

Major tools and methods used by MIO-ECSDE in order to achieve its objectives are the following:

- Promotion of the understanding and collaboration among the people of the Mediterranean, especially through their NGOs, between NGOs and Governments, Parliaments, Local Authorities, International Organizations and socio-economic actors of the Mediterranean Region.
- Assistance for the establishment, strengthening, co-operation and co-ordination of Mediterranean NGOs and facilitation of their efforts by ensuring the flow of information among relevant bodies.
- Promotion of education, research and study on Mediterranean issues, by facilitating collaboration between NGOs and Scientific and Academic Institutions.
- Raising of public awareness on crucial Mediterranean environmental issues, through campaigns, publications, exhibitions, public presentations, etc.

Contact Information

POSTAL ADDRESS: Kyrristou 12, 10556 Athens, Greece
T: +30210 3247267, 3247490 • F: +30210 3317127
E: mio-ee-env@ath.forthnet.gr • W: www.mio-ecsde.org