



الشبكة العربية للبيئة والتنمية "رائد"
Arab Network for Environment and Development



	<p>OFFICIAL COP22 SIDE-EVENT</p> <p>“The Mediterranean Strategy on Education for Sustainable Development: how to educate youth and local communities to effectively address climate change”</p> <p>14/11/2016, 11.00-12.30, Room: Sebou, Green Zone Marrakech</p>
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The context

The Mediterranean region, according to all models and predictions is globally one of the hot spots for climate variability and change. The effects are disturbing: temperature rise, rainfall disruption, droughts, loss of biodiversity, food insecurity, degradation of fragile ecosystems, changes in water mass circulation in the sea, population shifts and the infringement of human rights. The socioeconomic and even political implications of the effects of climate change directly impact the lives of Mediterranean citizens, and in turn, they are shaped by their individual and collective choices.

The proper understanding of the issues and active participation of citizens, especially young people and local communities, is a fundamental pillar in all measures of adaptation and mitigation to climate change. The role of Education for Sustainable Development, training and capacity building is a key component in mobilizing citizens and communities and making them able to effectively address climate change.

The Mediterranean Strategy on Education for Sustainable Development (MSESD) was endorsed by the Union for the Mediterranean Ministers responsible for Environment and Climate Change in Athens (May 2014). It was prepared with the active involvement of a network of Mediterranean scientists and NGOs (MIO-ECSDE, RAED, CMED and many more) and was coordinated by the UNESCO Chair on Sustainable Development Management and Education in the Mediterranean/University of Athens and the MEDIES network. Since then, significant developments have taken place, which amplify the role and expectations from ESD.

In chronological order:

- ❖ The adoption by UNESCO of the Global Action Programme (GAP) for the ESD after 2015, where climate change issues are highly visible.
- ❖ The adoption by all the UN Member States of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), which apart from the explicit recognition of the importance of ESD, confirm the need for addressing, also through awareness raising and education, a series of Global challenges including climate change.
- ❖ The important results of COP 21, the Paris Agreement and the commitments undertaken, among which are included those referring to appropriate education and awareness raising.

All the above need to be reflected in the Action Plan of the MSESD.

Currently an Action Plan is under preparation for the implementation of MSESD which is going to be discussed and hopefully agreed by the Mediterranean Ministers of Education in Cyprus foreseen for the 8-9 December 2016.

MSESD and its Action Plan emphasize the various challenges in achieving sustainable development including the issue of climate change and its environmental, social and economic implications.

The proposed side event seeks to share experiences and provide input to this initiative so that the Action Plan of the Education for Sustainable Development, communication and training could be an integrative tool to mobilize

communities in general, and youth in particular, in favor of a committed and clear action for the Sustainable Development of the Mediterranean region, where climate change adaptation and mitigation, are effectively promoted.

The objectives of the Side-Event

- Show how Education for Sustainable Development could contribute to the implementation of the Paris Agreement and the outcomes of Marrakech COP22.
- Sharing experiences on youth and community education on climate change that could be useful inputs to the relevant activities proposed by the MSED Action Plan.
- Ensure that the MSED Action Plan properly reflects the developments and needed components for effective adaptation and mitigation to climate change.

Agenda

- **Welcome and Introduction** *Prof. Mohamed Ftouhi* (CMED) & *Prof. Michael Scoullos* (MIO-ECSDE and UNESCO Chair on Sustainable Development Management and Education in the Mediterranean/ University of Athens) (15 min)
- **Panel 1: Sharing experiences** (20 min)
 - **Cyprus:** Good practices for applying ESD with emphasis on Climate Changes: The CLIMASP PROJECT and the Cyprus Curriculum for EE/ESD, *Dr. Aravella Zachariou*, Coordinator of Environmental Education/Education for Sustainable Development Unit, Cyprus Ministry of Education and Culture, Pedagogical Institute
 - **Morocco:** The role of Higher Education, *Prof. Driss Chehhou*, Directeur du Centre d'Etudes et de Recherches Géographiques (CERGéo) Université Mohamed V de Rabat & *Brahim Badidi*, FLSH Université Mohamed V de Rabat
 - Sub-regional:
 - **Fondation Mohammed VI pour la Protection de l'Environnement (FM6E):** Enabling youth and media to act on climate change challenges (speaker to be confirmed)
 - **RAED:** Community awareness on climate change adaptation, *Dr. Emad Adly*, President
- **Panel 2: Inputs from International Organisations** (15 min)
 - League of Arab States, *Dr. Djamel Djaballah*, Director of the Department of Environment, Water, Housing and Sustainable Development
 - UNESCO Rabat office (tbd)
- **Reflections session:**
 - Introductory reflection on whether the Action Plan properly reflects the needed components for effective adaptation and mitigation to climate change by *Dr. Daniella Tilbury*, University of Gibraltar, Rector (10 min)
 - Reflections from the floor (facilitated by *Prof. M. Scoullos*) (25 min)
- **Wrap up and closing** by *Prof. Mohamed Ftouhi* & *Prof. M Scoullos* (5 min)

Organisers

CMED: Club Marocain pour l'Environnement & le Développement

MIO-ECSDE: Mediterranean Information Office for Environment, Culture and Sustainable Development (MIO-ECSDE) www.mio-ecsde.org and the Mediterranean Education Initiative for Environment and Sustainability (MEdIES) www.medies.net

RAED: The Arab Network for Environment and Development www.raednetwork.org

CERGéo: Centre d'Etudes et de Recherches Géographiques, FLSH Université Mohamed V de Rabat

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