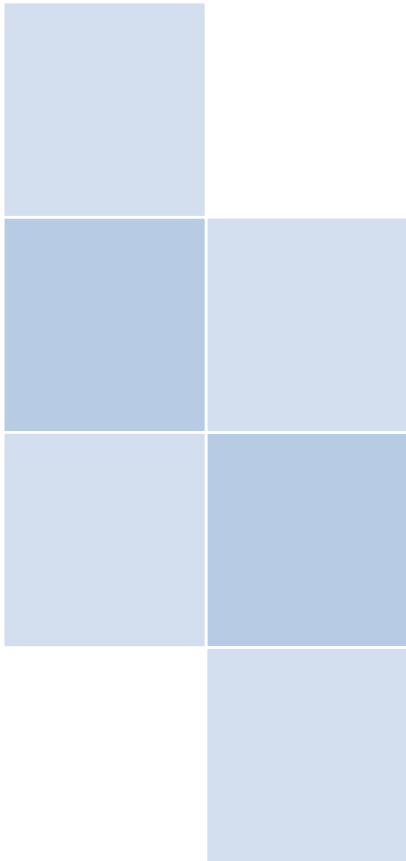




MEDITERRANEAN INFORMATION OFFICE
FOR ENVIRONMENT, CULTURE AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT
THE MEDITERRANEAN NGO FEDERATION



REPORT OF ACTIVITIES

January - December 2012

(English)



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Overall supervision by **Michael Scoullios**, Chairman of MIO-ECSDE

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Executive Summary

The **Mediterranean Information Office for Environment, Culture and Sustainable Development (MIO-ECSDE)**, is the Federation of the wider existing spectrum of environmental, cultural and development NGOs active in the Mediterranean. It includes the major NGO Federation of the North, namely the European Environmental Bureau (EEB), and of the South, namely the Arab NGO Network for Environment and Development (RAED), which are *ex officio* members in its Executive Bureau.

MIO-ECSDE has as its guiding operational philosophy and strategy to be actively involved and contribute in the formulation of environmental and environment friendly policies within the framework of sustainable development for the Mediterranean with emphasis on the relevant EU policies. It advocates participatory decision making through appropriate institutions and instruments in the entire sphere of the environment (natural, cultural and socio-economic) in the Mediterranean and Euro-Mediterranean region. It actively promotes environmental awareness of the wider public and Education for Sustainable Development (ESD) and contributes to the increase of capacity of the weaker national NGOs as well as of other important groups (e.g. educators, journalists, etc.) of the Mediterranean region. Apart from being internationally recognised as being the most significant Mediterranean Network of Environmental, Cultural and Development NGOs, MIO-ECSDE has also been recognised as a key international player in skilfully bringing together Mediterranean stakeholders on issues crucial for the sustainable future of the region and beyond.

The MIO-ECSDE activities of 2012 were mainly threefold:

- Expansion of actions, combining action in specific thematic areas and background work in the fields and events MIO-ECSDE wants to be particularly active in 2012 (e.g. Rio+20, ESD, Blue Economy, etc.) and the next few years;
- Continued implementation of on-going commitments and activities from previous years, formulation of project proposals, collection and dissemination of information, contacts and advocacy, alongside the (co)organisation of important meetings of varying scale;
- Upgrading and strengthening its organizational basis, in light of regional and global socio-economic developments, to remain effective and better service its sub-networks.

Some activities of 2012 to be highlighted would be MIO-ECSDE's work in:

- Securing a **strong Mediterranean Dimension in International Environmental Policies and Processes**, especially at the EU policy level. In 2012, MIO-ECSDE was particularly active in the preparations for **Rio+20** assisting in the promotion of key messages as well as in the drafting of several relevant EU, UN and Mediterranean documents submitted to the Summit. It also supported numerous actions and activities which directly or indirectly strengthened the Mediterranean stakes. MIO-ECSDE also organized in Rio the only Mediterranean official Side Event which brought together distinguished personalities as well as over one hundred major institutions and stakeholders from European, Middle East and North African countries.
- Its role as a key partner in **UNEP/MAP**, both in its expert groups (e.g. on the application of the ecosystem approach) and as a partner in the UNEP/MAP-GEF Strategic Partnership for the Mediterranean Large Marine Ecosystem (or **MedPartnership**). The 17th Ordinary Meeting of the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention for the Protection of the Marine Environment and the Coastal Region of the Mediterranean and its Protocols, which took place in Paris on 8-10 February, 2012 where MIO-ECSDE was an important proponent.
- Strengthening **the environmental component of the Euro-Mediterranean political process** (since November 2008 the "**Union for the Mediterranean**"), **the European Neighborhood Policy and its financial instrument** and civil society participation; contribution to the **HORIZON 2020 Initiative** to de-pollute the Mediterranean and specifically through its role as a key partner in the **ENPI Capacity Building/Mediterranean Environment Programme (CB/MEP)**; contribution to

efforts for integration of environment and sustainability concerns in all other policies of the Euro-Med Partnership-Mediterranean Union.

- Promoting **Integrated Water Resources Management**, where, as the NGO partner of GWP-Med, MIO-ECSDE significantly contributes towards implementation of: IWRM in the Mediterranean region and Southeast Europe; the Mediterranean Component of the EU Water Initiative; actions and activities to strengthen **capacities of NGOs** in Southeastern Europe to effectively participate in **transboundary river and lake basin management plans (e.g. the Drin River)**.
- Promoting **Education for Sustainable Development (ESD), Public Awareness, Public Participation and Access to Information** at regional and national levels. Specifically, the MEDIES e-network on ESD has carried out several activities to support educators and students of the Mediterranean, through its targeted projects or the general supporting services provided by the MEDIES secretariat.
- Developing capacities for **sustainable Urban Waste Management** in the region.
- Promoting **Integrated Coastal Zone Management**.
- Promoting the **Cultural dimension for the Sustainable Development of the region**.
- Contributing to and strengthening **Diplomacy for Environment and Sustainable Development in the Mediterranean and Europe**.

Furthermore, MIO-ECSDE

- continued to **host the Chair and Secretariat of GWP-Med** (on the Board of which the following networks participate: Blue Plan, CEDARE, CIHEAM, IME, Medcities, MedWet, MENBO, MWN and MIO-ECSDE);
- co-organised international conferences, workshops and seminars.

The already well-established networking and information communication activities of MIO-ECSDE were continued. Information on Mediterranean issues, announcements of conferences, MIO-ECSDE publications, etc., were circulated to the Members of the Federation, as well as to the network's subscribers. The MIO-ECSDE web-site was regularly updated with the information concerning MIO-ECSDE activities and positions and the Mediterranean scene in general.

Many projects in which MIO-ECSDE is involved, were followed-up and are in the state of advancement, completion or dissemination of their results. Drafting of new project proposals to secure the continuity of initiatives and activities was also a significant part of MIO-ECSDE work throughout 2012.

Preamble

The present report describes the progress and development of MIO-ECSDE's main activities, projects and achievements for the period January - December 2012.

The activities carried out followed the priorities described in the MIO-ECSDE Annual Programme decided during the 16th AGM in Athens, Greece (December 2011).

Continuing to seek opportunities for the formulation of common NGO positions, it has organised and supported more than 40 relevant meetings increasing the co-operation, mutual understanding and solidarity among the various stakeholders in the Mediterranean region and also among its members. Members of its Executive Bureau and Secretariat have participated actively in all major meetings concerning the Mediterranean, reflecting the NGO thinking and views and effectively contributing to the formulation of more progressive and effective environmental policies in the region.

It also continues and reinforces the flow of information and communication among NGOs and between them and governmental and international bodies, etc. Its well-known newsletter *Sustainable Mediterranean* contributes considerably in the NGO work through information exchange, articles and positions on a variety of key issues. The newsletter has a very wide circulation. The *Internal Information Bulletin* of MIO-ECSDE and the MEDIES e-newsletter (distributed by e-mail) were continued and our web site continued to provide service to its members and the wider public.

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A. INSTITUTIONAL DEVELOPMENTS OF MIO-ECSDE

A.1. Structure

The Federation consists of Full and Corresponding Members who share the same benefits and rights, except for the right to vote at the Annual General Meeting (AGM), which is reserved only for Full Members. MIO-ECSDE is headed by an Executive Bureau, which in 2012 consisted of eighteen (18) Members. Eight members are from the EU Mediterranean countries, seven are from the non-EU Mediterranean countries, and three are *ex officio* members representing the two founders EEB and Elliniki Etairia and a co-opted member RAED. The Annual General Meeting (AGM) of the Member Organisations remains the main institution constituting the basis of the Federation. The AGM is convened once a year. The Federation's Secretariat is based in Athens, in the old and historic district of Plaka. The Secretariat was relocated in a newly restored building in the same (Plaka) area in January 2005.



MIO-ECSDE Premises in Plaka, Athens

The communication and co-operation of MIO-ECSDE with its founder organisations (EEB and Elliniki Etairia) as well as RAED was very harmonious throughout 2012 as it has been since its establishment. The same is true for all other NGO networks and bodies, with which MIO-ECSDE has developed close collaboration and an excellent working relationship.

A.2. Executive Bureau

MIO-ECSDE's Executive Bureau (EB) for the 2011- 2012 period consisted of:

Chairman:	Prof. Michael Scoullos (Greece)
Co-Chairman:	Prof. Mohammed Ftouhi (Morocco)
Members:	Dr. Emad Adly (RAED)
	Mr. Gerasimos Arapis (Elliniki Etairia)
	Mr. G. Cingal (EEB)
	Ms. Yesim Erkan (replaced by Serdar Sarigul) (Turkey)
	Mr. Riad Nacer Bendaoud (Algeria)
	Ms. Antonia Theodosiou (Cyprus)
	Mr. Jean-Valère Jeronimi (France)
	Ms. Patrizia Bonelli and Ms. Romina Biccocchi (Italy)
	Mr. Ziyad Alawneh (Jordan)
	Mr. Malek Ghandour (Lebanon)
	Mr. Vincent Attard (Malta)
	Mr. Imad Attrash (Palestine)
	Mr. Mario Alves (Portugal)
	Mr. Milan Vogrin (Slovenia)
	Mr. Angel Huarez (Spain)
	Mr. Mr. Ameer Hamrouni (Tunisia)

A formal Executive Bureau Meeting – EBM (52nd) took place on the 29th of July 2012, while the 53rd and 54th EBMs took place back-to-back with the 17th Annual General Meeting of MIO-ECSDE in October (21st of October and 22nd of October respectively).

A.3. The 17th Annual General Assembly (AGM) of MIO-ECSDE, Athens, 21 October 2012

Thirty six (36) NGO members of MIO-ECSDE from twenty (20) countries around the Mediterranean travelled to Athens, Greece in order to participate in the 17th AGM of MIO-ECSDE, held on the 21st of October 2012. All of the assembled members approved the Report of Activities of the Secretariat as well as its Financial Report for 2011, and contributed with their ideas and inputs to the drafting of the Work Programme and Budget for 2013.



Photo: Milan Vogrin

Furthermore, five (5) new members became part of the MIO-ECSDE family (see below).

The meeting was organized back-to-back with an ENPI Horizon 2020 CB/MEP workshop on “How Members of Parliament can better contribute to the effective depollution of the Mediterranean” that succeeded to gather more than 120 Members of Parliament, journalists and NGOs from 22 Mediterranean countries.

For further details the minutes of the 17th AGM are included in Annex I.

A.4. Membership

At the 17th AGM five new organisations were approved as shown in the table below, bringing the MIO-ECSDE Membership to 126 member organizations (see also Annex II).

	Name of organisation	Type	Country	Membership
1	EcoOcean	NGO	Israel	Full
2	Human Environmental Association for Development (HEAD)	NGO	Lebanon	Full
3	Fondation Mohammed VI pour la Protection de l'Environnement	NGO	Morocco	Full
4	Terra Cypria	NGO	Cyprus	Full
5	Association pour la Protection de l'Environnement et le Développement Durable de Bizerte (APEDDUB)	NGO	Tunisia	Full

A.5. MIO-ECSDE Secretariat Staff

During 2012 the status of the Secretariat staff was as follows:

Ms. Anastasia Roniotes continued working, full-time, with main fields of responsibility the submission of project proposals and administrative matters relevant to the Annual Work Programme, the Executive Bureau and the AGM, policy formulation and monitoring, representation, co-ordination of the edition of the *Bulletin* and newsletter *Sustainable Mediterranean*, etc.

Ms. Bessie Mantzara was also substantially involved in the MIO-ECSDE Secretariat, mainly responsible for financial/administrative matters and *ad hoc* contributions in conferences and projects.

Ms. Thomais Vlachogianni is handling many thematic and horizontal tasks in the Secretariat mainly on policy area and project basis. She also manages ICT issues, including the MIO-ECSDE web-sites, workshop and conference support, etc.

Ms. Iro Alampeï continued as full-time member of the staff supporting mainly the educational projects of MIO-ECSDE through MEDIES Secretariat.

Ms. Vicky Malotidi continued as full-time member of the staff supporting mainly the educational projects of MIO-ECSDE through MEDIES Secretariat.

Ms. Varvara Vasilaki, as a full-time member of the staff supporting mainly the Horizon 2020 CB/MEP and the French communication.

Ms. Eleana Tsakiri, as a full-time member of the staff supporting communication issues mostly in the framework of the MedPartnership project but also for other MIO-ECSDE activities.

Ms. Elsa Stournara, recruited in 2012, has been supporting mostly the H2020 CB/MEP.

Ms. Olga Papathanasopoulou (full time) provided the secretarial support.
Mr. Kostas Drakopoulos as part-time Official Accountant of MIO-ECSDE.

The Chairman, **Prof. M. Scoullou**, is responsible for the supervision of the work and the management, the development, direction of policies and projects and a large part of the representations of the MIO-ECSDE organisation. The Secretariat also works closely with various experts. During 2012 a number of initiatives and representations of the organisation were carried out also by the Co-Chairman Prof. Ftouhi, EB Members Dr. Adly, Ms. Bonelli, Mr. Vogrin, Mr. Attrash, Mr. Jeronimi, Ms. Theodosiou, as well as by other members of the EB.

A.6. Audit report for the year 2011

The annual budget for 2011 was audited by the most competitive bidder amongst the certified external official registered auditors that responded to our call. Moore Stephens and Grant Thornton made considerably higher offers, so in the end the Secretariat went with PKF which proved to be equally professional and collaborative. Audited reports provide additional transparency and an added indicator of good governance, but also facilitate proposal submissions as it is a standard prerequisite of the European Commission and other funding institutions. Audit costs, which are considerable, are a justifiable expense in most budget lines. The 2011 annual budget was audited and the report is available for reference.

A.7. Audit report for the year 2012

The EC Annual Grant for 2012 was audited by Grant Thornton and was submitted to the EC as part of the reporting process. The overall audited financial report of MIO-ECSDE for 2012 will be completed in May 2013.

A.8. ISO 9001 'quality management system' certification of MIO-ECSDE and the INGO accountability charter

MIO-ECSDE staff maintains the ISO related requirements and continually identifies any significant improvements that strengthen the management of the organization's processes. The MIO-ECSDE Secretariat has been awarded the **ISO 9001 (2008)**. ISO 9001 is the globally implemented standard for providing assurance about the ability of the certified organisation to satisfy quality requirements and to enhance service satisfaction. It provides a tried and tested framework for taking a systematic approach to managing the organization's processes.

In October 2012 the annual inspection for the implementation of ISO 9001 took place. According to the inspector MIO-ECSDE fulfils all ISO related requirements and has made significant improvements in terms of managing the organization's processes.

Meanwhile, MIO-ECSDE is also a signatory of the Greek adaptation of the **International NGO Accountability Charter** which sets out core values and operating principles for International NGOs and is applicable for all NGOs. These include good governance and management, fundraising and multi-stakeholder engagement. It also makes specific reference to respect for universal principles (such as the Universal Declaration of Human Rights), independence, responsible advocacy, effective programs, non-discrimination, transparency and ethical fundraising (<http://www.ingoaccountabilitycharter.org/>). MIO-ECSDE is ready and waiting to pass the accreditation process.

The Secretariat is exploring ways to facilitate and capacitate its members in also applying the above principles and practices.

A.9. Capacity building of MIO-ECSDE staff

MIO-ECSDE member of staff, Ms. Bessie Mantzara was trained on accounting principles, through an e-learning module facilitated by the University of Athens. Also, she followed an e-learning course on the reasons behind the Greek financial crisis so as to better facilitate MIO-ECSDE's economic and financial adaptability and manoeuvrability.

MIO-ECSDE member of staff, Ms. Iro Alampei participated and successfully completed the 40 hrs long online course on "Global Education: The Intercultural Dimension" organised by the Network University and the North South Centre.

B. CONTINUATION AND ENHANCEMENT OF ACTIVITIES RELATED TO NETWORKING: EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION AND STRENGTHENING OF CO-OPERATION AMONG NGOs AS WELL AS BETWEEN NGOs AND OTHER STAKEHOLDERS

B.1. Networking with the MIO-ECSDE Members and its wider NGO Network

Considerable time was devoted throughout the year to strengthen and consolidate the effective functioning of the Federation. Networking with and among the Member Organisations is focussed on two main components:

1. Efficient exchange and dissemination of information
2. Strengthening of co-operation and promoting the 'team-spirit' among NGOs

B.1.1. Exchange and Dissemination of Information

The dissemination of information is steadily facilitated by:

(i) The 'MIO-ECSDE Internal Information Bulletin'

4 issues of the Internal Information Bulletin were distributed in 2012 in English and French, mainly to Member Organisations and the wider MIO-ECSDE network of contacts, by e-mail. The Bulletin highlights up-to-date information mostly related to:

- (a) the activities of the Secretariat, such as the submission for funding and progress of projects, the participation in meetings and basic information on their outcomes, etc.;
- (b) the Executive Bureau Meetings;
- (c) funding opportunities for NGOs;
- (d) events having to do with important Mediterranean issues; and
- (e) activities performed by Member Organisations;

(ii) The Newsletter 'Sustainable Mediterranean'

The publication and dissemination of the newsletter *Sustainable Mediterranean* continued in 2012. The following issues have been produced:

Issue 66: "Sustainable Production & Consumption with links to the marine and coastal environment" (a tribute to Members' activities under MED Action Day 2011).

Issue 67: "Rio+20: The Mediterranean in focus".

Issue No 68 & 69: "Biodiversity management and education for sustainable development in protected areas"(dedicated to the Proceedings of the Grundtvig Seminar held in Greece in March and April of 2012).

Apart from the dossiers the newsletter hosts significant news relating to the Mediterranean Region, MIO-ECSDE activities, presentations of Mediterranean initiatives by NGOs and other institutions, conference reports and announcements, publications, etc.

Each issue of *Sustainable Mediterranean* is distributed to around 2000 recipients including NGOs, international organisations, research centres, governmental bodies, libraries, etc. while a number of copies are available for our members and others on request, e.g. for conferences, etc. (free of charge) and of course they are also on-line on our web site.



Front page of *Sustainable Mediterranean* N° 67

(iii) The webpage and the e-bulletin of MEDIES (Read more under D.3)

The MEDIES website www.medies.net is regularly updated with ESD news, announcements, outcomes of major fora, competitions, etc. of Euro-Mediterranean interest (74 e-articles published between 01/01/2012 – 31/12/2012). The newly launched social media page of MEDIES is also regularly updated and starts to build a dynamic (60 members as of 31/12/2012)

The information Bulletin of MEDIES circulated to its members is distributed on a quarterly basis. Read here the latest bulletins: <http://www.medies.net/articles.asp?cID=18>

(v) Other activities related to Exchange of Information and Networking

In the framework of the networking activities and exchange of information, the Secretariat, immediately forwards incoming useful information to its membership and to the wider network it collaborates with (around 2000 NGOs, Ministries, Universities, Institutes, personalities, etc.).

Apart from this, the Secretariat continuously receives requests for information on specific issues, to which it responds accordingly. Furthermore, many letters of interest for further co-operation in various fields of activities arrive, creating interesting new potential for specific collaborations.

In addition, in the framework of the MedPartnership project MIO-ECSDE continued its efforts in enhancing the effective participation of NGOs in the project activities.

The **MIO-ECSDE web-site** <http://mio-ecsde.org> has been regularly updated in 2012.

U Marinu successfully organised again this year the two on-board ESD events: the 14th Med'Educ on "Volunteering for Sustainable Development in the Mediterranean: The commitments of civil society" (port of Marseille), 30th May 2012, and the 19th Mer en Fete Festival, 31 May-1 June, which brought together, for 3 days, schools and organizations from France and other Mediterranean countries to discover how to protect and manage the Mediterranean basin (ports of Ajaccio, Marseille and Bastia).

Read more: <http://www.medies.net/articles.asp?cID=27&aID=621&ereg=>

B.1.2. Capacity building, strengthening of co-operation and promoting the 'team-spirit' among NGOs

Serving one of the initial scopes since its establishment, which is contributing to the capacity building of Mediterranean NGOs and within the framework of the follow-up action in the various priority fields of the Federation, MIO-ECSDE, (co)organised a number of actions in 2012.

- A number of regional MIO-ECSDE projects are running with the active partnership of member NGOs (see D).
- The "Keep the Mediterranean Litter-free" campaign was continued in 2012 through the distribution of the brochure/poster.
- MIO-ECSDE's Med Action Day 2012 events took place in 8 countries by 10 member organisations (see C.3.1.).
- The key role of the Chairman of MIO-ECSDE, Prof. Michael Scoullas, as Chairman of the H2020 Sub-Group on capacity building, as well as MIO-ECSDE and RAED's participation in the H2020 Capacity Building/Mediterranean Environment Programme were of significant importance in 2012 (see C.1.2.4.).

For the direct benefit of its membership, MIO-ECSDE is a main partner of the *Strategic Partnership for the Mediterranean Sea Large Marine Ecosystem (the 'MedPartnership')*. Within the framework of the programme MIO-ECSDE is responsible for the effective participation of the region's NGOs and since November 2010 has been leading the communication activities of the project (see C.1.1.).

B.2. MIO-ECSDE as facilitator of Mediterranean Networks

At the moment the MIO-ECSDE Secretariat is facilitating the following networks:

- **The network of Parliamentarians and other Politicians for Sustainable Development in the Mediterranean (COMPSUD)**

The 9th Meeting of COMPSUD took place at the central building of the University of Athens, following the wrap-up session of the H2020 regional training “How Can Members of Parliament Better Contribute to the Effective Depollution of the Mediterranean?”. The session was chaired by the outgoing Chair Ms. Panariti and the General Secretary of COMPSUD Prof. Michael Scoullos. The session commenced with the acceptance of 22 new members.

Apart from renewing the commitment to the Circle’s ideals and objectives, the members discussed about the development of a Circle of Emeriti, an informal structure, for members who are no longer MPs but still want to contribute to the efforts of COMPSUD from their current role and position. The need for organizing national trainings, as well as additional funding for the Circle were also discussed.

Following the discussions the Circle moved to the Election of its new Board, which is:

- Ms. Dionusia – Theodora Avgerinopoulou, Greece (Chair)
- Mr. Antonio Ramos Preto, Portugal (Vice Chair)
- Mr. Mohammed Ameur, Morocco (Vice Chair)



Mr. Ramos Preto, new Vice Chair, Ms. Avgerinopoulou, new Chair, Ms. Panariti, Former Chair, Prof. Scoullos, General Secretary of COMPSUD, Mr. Ameur, new Vice Chair

Prof. Michael Scoullos remains the General Secretary of the Circle.

Participating COMPSUD members were from the following countries: Albania, Algeria, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Egypt, Greece, Jordan, Montenegro, Morocco, occupied Palestinian territory, Portugal, Syria and Tunisia.

- **The network of Mediterranean Educators working on Environment and Sustainability / MEDIES** (see C.2.6. and D.3.)
- **The network of Mediterranean Journalists and Communication Professionals working on Environmental issues / COMJESD**

The Network aims to be an active forum through which the regular exchange of information and views about crucial Mediterranean environmental and sustainable development issues, the promotion of capacity building of media professionals and the organization of joint and concerted actions can be promoted so that information and communication experts will be strengthened in their capacity of sensitizing and informing Mediterranean societies, improving democratic and participatory processes and in directing more effectively the flow of information produced by scientists, NGOs, etc. to the decision-makers. At present the core of the Network is composed of 52 Journalists from the following countries: Tunisia, Morocco, Lebanon, Greece, Egypt, Malta, Croatia, Jordan, Portugal, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Italy, Serbia and Montenegro, Israel, Albania, Slovenia and France.

- **Other networks**

Since 2007 MIO-ECSDE is trying to initiate **a network of Mediterranean women’s organisations working on environment and sustainable development issues**. It will be facilitated jointly also with GWP-Med as the point of focus of the circle in its inception phase will be water. There have not been significant developments so far.

MIO-ECSDE has always had a very strong scientific background. Many members of its Executive Bureau are distinguished members of the Mediterranean Academia. Eventually, the Secretariat will establish a pool of scientists from various mainly Mediterranean countries that MIO-ECSDE works closely with, in order to facilitate (a) strengthening their contribution to MIO-ECSDE activities, (b) interaction among these scientists, (c) access to this pool of scientists for the MIO-ECSDE Membership and wider network, etc. MIO-ECSDE aims to gradually establish its **Mediterranean Scientific Advisory Council** based on this pool of scientific expertise. Within this wider framework, in 2008 MIO-ECSDE established the **Mediterranean Universities Network for Education for Sustainable Development**. The general aim of the Network is to promote Education for Sustainable Development (ESD) in Mediterranean Universities and higher education institutions by jointly establishing a post-graduate course (Master course) on ESD (see D.3.)

B.3. MIO-ECSDE contribution in and collaboration with important Networks, International Organisations, Institutes, etc.

MIO/ECSDE has contributed in the following Networks/Institutes/etc.:

- (a) The Global Water Partnership - Mediterranean (GWP-Med)
- (b) The H2020 Steering Group
- (c) The EuroMed NG Platform
- (d) Various EU and UN expert working groups

Furthermore, an important part of MIO-ECSDE activities have been carried out in collaboration with international institutes, networks and groups such as:

- the European Commission and particularly DGs Environment, DEVCO, MARE, etc. of the Commission
- the European Parliament
- European Environment Agency (EEA)
- MAP/UNEP, RAC/SPA, RAC/ERS, RAC/CP, Blue Plan, etc.
- UNEP (Nairobi), UNEP/ROE, UNEP/IETC, etc.
- Global Environment Facility (GEF)
- the Mediterranean Commission on Sustainable Development (MSCD)
- UNESCO, MAB/UNESCO, UNESCO BRESCE
- UNDP
- UN ECE
- UNCSD
- Global Footprint Network
- IFAD
- World Bank, former METAP
- EIB
- Anna Lindh Foundation
- IEMED
- IMED
- Centre des Regions Euromediterraneennes pour l' Environnement (CREE)
- scientific community of the Mediterranean (represented by CIESM, the Mediterranean University, etc.)
- various secretariats of Conventions (Desertification, Ramsar, etc.)
- regional initiatives with Commercial and Industrial Chambers
- European Environmental Bureau (EEB)
- ICLEI
- WWC
- Stakeholder Forum
- Eco Forum
- IME
- MARE and other Mediterranean Youth Groups

- MEDCOAST
- MESAEP
- MWN
- Arab Network for Environment and Development (RAED)
- IUCN
- WWF International (and its European and Mediterranean offices)
- FoE (Europe, Med-net, Middle East and national branches)
- Greenpeace (International and national branches)
- ENDA
- CEDARE
- regional, sub-regional and national educational institutions
- Mediterranean and international nature conservation networks (such as MEDWET-wetlands, MEDMARAVIS-birds, MEDPAN-protected areas, MEDASSET-turtles, etc.)
- NATO and its Parliamentary Assembly
- European Seas Environmental Cooperation - ESEC (a collaboration between MIO-ECSDE, Seas at Risk, the Coalition Clean Baltic and the NGO Forum for the Black Sea)
- Asia-Europe Environmental Technology Centre
- Prince Albert II of Monaco Foundation
- The Onassis Foundation
- etc.

Contacts with the above organisations and with Governments for mutual exchange of information on activities, initiatives and opportunities of collaboration, remain a substantial part of MIO-ECSDE networking and advocacy activities.

MIO-ECSDE has also continued to increasingly build on creating channels of communication and beneficial mutual support schemes (guidelines for integrating the environmental component, expertise, funds, etc.) with the private sector.

The exchange of information on Mediterranean environmental and development issues, the promotion of Mediterranean issues in non-Mediterranean fora and the exchange of Mediterranean NGO views during the formulation of policies remain three of the main MIO-ECSDE activities related both to networking and promotion of policies.

C. ACTIVITIES RELATED TO MIO-ECSDE'S ROLE AS PROMOTER OF COMMON NGO POLICIES AND THE COLLECTIVE VOICE OF MEDITERRANEAN ENVIRONMENT AND DEVELOPMENT NGOs AT INTERNATIONAL FORA, CONVENTIONS, etc. AND THROUGH THE ORGANISATION OF MEETINGS, JOINT ACTIONS, etc.

C.1. Monitoring of and Contribution to the Formulation of Policies Relevant to the Mediterranean Region and Involvement in Important Mediterranean Processes

Monitoring the Mediterranean, EU and international environmental policies as well as policies concerning and/or affecting the Mediterranean environment and the sustainable development of the region directly or indirectly, is an integral part of MIO-ECSDE's work since its establishment. Provision of comments, especially during the European Commission's proposals for the drafting of White Papers or Directives, is a stage where NGOs can really make a contribution in policy formulation.

Drafting of common Mediterranean NGO position papers, declarations and agreed positions, particularly on issues related to the environment and sustainable development of the region discussed during international meetings has always been and will continue to be an important part of MIO-ECSDE's activities.

C.1.1. Collaboration and Representation in the Work of UNEP, MAP/UNEP and MCSDE

MIO-ECSDE has kept the traditionally close contacts with UNEP, including Nairobi, and the Athens based Co-ordinating Unit of MAP/UNEP. The Federation has been invited to attend and contribute in most meetings of MAP/UNEP and of its RACs (Regional Activity Centres).

MIO-ECSDE participated in the 17th Ordinary Meeting of the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention for the Protection of the Marine Environment and the Coastal Region of the Mediterranean and its Protocols, organized by the UNEP/MAP Secretariat in Paris on 8-10 February, 2012. The overall aim of MIO-ECSDE's presence was to actively promote civil society participation in all levels of implementation of the Convention and its protocols. A long list of important decisions for the operation of MAP, including the biennium work programme and its budget, was adopted. At the meeting, MIO-ECSDE organized two exhibitions, one on marine litter and one featuring the MedPartnership and its achievements. (<http://www.mio-ecsde.org/articles.asp?cMC=&clD=1&aID=276>)

Within the 'Strategic Partnership for the Mediterranean Sea Large Marine Ecosystem' also known as 'MedPartnership', MIO-ECSDE in its role to design and implement the project's communication activities and to involve NGOs in the project activities participated in the 3rd Steering Committee Meeting of the MedPartnership (15-17 May 2012 in Istanbul, Turkey). At the meeting, MIO-ECSDE presented its main achievements from the year 2011 aiming to strengthen public awareness (with particular emphasis on NGO networks) and to support NGO participation in the implementation of the project. A big part of the meeting was dedicated to the progress of the implementation of the Communication and Information Strategies. MIO-ECSDE has been leading the project's communication and information dissemination activities since November 2010. All participants warmly congratulated MIO-ECSDE for the outstanding progress achieved so far and the communication outputs developed (project website, collaboration portal, iPad application, video, etc.).

(<http://www.themedpartnership.org/med/pfpublish/p/doc/103066519f84292a051e060ca380b409>)

The MIO-ECSDE Communication contract expired in March 2012 and a follow-up contract for the whole duration of the project (end of project: August 2014) was signed in October 2012. Within the framework of the new contract MIO-ECSDE has undertaken the implementation of selected activities, such as the development on e-learning modules, the drafting of a brochure with lessons learned, etc.

MIO-ECSDE's collaboration with MEDPOL (the Mediterranean Pollution Assessment and Control Programme of UNEP/MAP) is particularly close as both of us are partners in the two major regional projects in the Mediterranean: the 'UNEP/MAP-GEF Strategic Partnership for the Mediterranean Sea Large Marine Ecosystem' also known as 'MedPartnership' and the ENPI Horizon 2020 Capacity Building/Mediterranean

Environment Programme (H2020 CB/MEP). Particularly in the latter many activities will be co-organised with MIO-ECSDE (see D.6.1).

C.1.2. Securing the Mediterranean Dimension in International Policies and Processes

C.1.2.1. EU Policy

A top priority for MIO-ECSDE is achieving integration of environment and sustainability concerns in relevant other policies of the EU as well as the Euro-Med Partnership/Union for the Mediterranean. Some specific EU policy issues which are undoubtedly of vital importance for the Mediterranean region and that MIO-ECSDE streamlined into its programme for 2012 (following up on groundwork done during previous years) by way of written contributions to communications and calls for comments, advocacy, papers, statements /declarations/position papers, meetings, etc. were:

- Horizon 2020
- European Neighbourhood Policy and its Financial Instrument (ENPI)
- European Marine Framework Strategy Directive (MSFD)
- Water (WFD, EU Water Initiative)
- Climate Change
- Chemicals (REACH, EDCs)
- Nanotechnologies
- Biodiversity (Natura 2000, LIFE+, etc.)
- Resource efficiency
- Sustainable Development
- Education for Sustainable Development
- Access to Information, Access to Justice, etc.
- Tourism
- Intercultural Dialogue
- Gender mainstreaming
- Energy
- Waste, Production and Consumption
- Agriculture
- ICZM
- Transport
- etc.

To enhance efficiency in some of the above, MIO-ECSDE may need to increase in-house expertise while for others, further contacts and collaboration with expert groups and thematic networks may be needed.

Specific EU consultations that MIO-ECSDE participated in:

Advocating for the proper implementation of the Marine Framework Strategy Directive: MIO-ECSDE in collaboration with the Black Sea NGO Network, the Coalition Clean Baltic and Seas At Risk have developed a Guidance Paper on the implementation of the Marine Framework Strategy Directive (MSFD), to assist NGOs in their advocacy and policy formulation efforts at regional, national and local level. In particular, this paper has been drafted on the occasion of the national consultations on the MSFD and presents a set of recommendations to guide and assist NGOs in their contributions to these consultation processes.

The Guidance Paper was presented by MIO-ECSDE at a workshop organized by Seas at Risk on 14-15 of March 2012, and was finalized after receiving the input of the approximately 20 European NGO attendees. The workshop was a unique opportunity for European NGOs to exchange their views on the implementation of the MSFD and to coordinate their efforts to effectively participate in the MSFD related process. The meeting led to the development of several factsheets focusing on different descriptors: fisheries (Descriptor 3), contaminants (Descriptor 8 & 9), marine litter (Descriptor 10) and noise (Descriptor 11). All these documents have been compiled in a publication and have been widely diffused. (www.mio-ecsde.org/articles.asp?cID=10&aID=289)

Optimizing the opportunities to influence policies through the national consultations in EU countries, MIO-ECSDE contributed comments, views and concerns on the national report for the implementation of the MSFD in Greece in September 2012, and actively participated in the national MSFD workshop organized by the Hellenic Ministry of Environment, Energy and Climate Change and the Special Secretariat for Water in Athens, 12 December 2012. Apart from several technical recommendations, MIO-ECSDE expressed its views for: a consistent, integrated and harmonized approach in marine regions/sub-regions towards an MSFD Common Implementation Strategy; the importance of having a proper vision of what represents Good Environmental Status and setting 'ambitious' targets; and the challenges and opportunities that the MSFD poses to the national environmental NGOs when it comes to their involvement in the consultation process. (<http://marinestrategy.opengov.gr/%CE%B1%CE%BD%CF%84%CE%B9%CE%BA%CE%B5%CE%B9%CE%BC%CE%B5%CE%BD%CE%BF/>)

Response to the European Commission's Consultation on Challenges and Opportunities for Maritime and Coastal Tourism in the EU: In the period of 14.05.2012 to 06.08.2012, the European Commission launched a Public Consultation to gather views and additional information on the multiple challenges for coastal and maritime tourism. The European Commission has been developing elements for a Strategy for coastal and maritime tourism based on the implementation of the Communication "Europe, the world's No. 1 tourist destination - a new political framework for tourism in Europe" (2010) and as part of its strategy on Integrated Maritime Policy (Communication "An Integrated Maritime Policy for the European Union", 2007). In the context of the Europe 2020 Strategy, and in particular the Blue Growth concept (sustainable growth from oceans, seas and coasts), coastal and maritime tourism will have an important role to play, requiring a thorough analysis and involvement of all interested parties.

MIO-ECSDE welcomed the participatory approach followed by the European Commission and submitted its main views based on the Mediterranean, concerns, and considerations through the online questionnaire.

One of the main concerns of MIO-ECSDE is, at least in some cases, that the expansion of the tourist period - what seems to be one of the most common recommendations - is favored uncritically. However, the "low season" is an interval where both nature and local society recover. In this respect, the necessary "regeneration", "restoration" or "renewal" periods of a tourist destination should be taken into account, as well as its carrying capacity when developing sustainable tourism plans and strategies.

(<http://www.mio-ecsde.org/articles.asp?cMC=&cID=10&aID=301>)

Response to the European Commission's consultation on the draft Implementation Plan for the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs): In the period of 02.08.2012 to 25.10.2012, the European Commission launched a public consultation to gather views and comments on the draft Implementation Plan for the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs).

This working document presents a draft of the second European Union Implementation Plan (UIP) on Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs). The first European Community Implementation Plan was developed in 2007. The review and update of the first Implementation Plan has become necessary to address: the inclusion of a number of new POPs into the Stockholm Convention and the UNECE Convention on Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution POP Protocol; the technical and legislative progress made in the area; the findings of the Commission Report COM (2010) 514 on the application of the POP Regulation (EC Regulation 850/2004).

The new Plan is divided into two parts: Part I - Party Baseline presents the Union's baseline and includes an overview on key EU legislation related to the implementation of obligations in the mentioned international frameworks; related EU strategies and programmes; financial instruments to support the implementation; research activities and the efforts undertaken by the Union to raise awareness and enhance communication. Part II - Implementation Plan presents the proposed actions to be carried out by the EU to meet its international obligations.

MIO-ECSDE's comments on the Party Baseline related part of the Plan focus on the need for further elaboration on paras 2.5. Information Exchange, Public information, awareness and 3.4. Information on the state of knowledge on stockpiles and contaminated sites.

As far as the proposed actions are concerned, MIO-ECSDE recommends the refinement of Action 21 related to Public information, awareness and education in order to reflect the need for coordinated information campaigns on POPs at EU level and intensified efforts towards that direction. (<http://www.mio-ecsde.org/articles.asp?cID=10&aID=310>)

Reaction to the European Commission’s Communication on Blue Growth: A joint position paper has been prepared and signed by 19 environmental NGOs as a reaction to the recent European Commission’s Communication on Blue Growth, which ‘drives forward the Commission’s Integrated Maritime Policy (IMP) and launches a process which will place the blue economy firmly on the agenda of Member States, regions, enterprise and civil society.

The position paper adopted on October 2012 was signed by: MIO-ECSDE and its members DPPVN, MEDSOS, U MARINU, MEDITERRANEA, MEDASSET, EEB and MEDSOS, and other European NGOs such as SEAS AT RISK, COALITION CLEAN BALTIC, BLACK SEA NGO NETWORK, OCEANA, BIRD LIFE INTERNATIONAL, FRIENDS OF THE EARTH EUROPE, THE NORTH SEA FOUNDATION, LEVENDE HAV, MARINE CONSERVATION SOCIETY, SEA FIRST and ECOVITAE. With this position paper, the NGOs wish to express their concerns regarding some of the priorities set in the Blue Growth strategy and to contribute alternative ideas in shaping a truly sustainable blue economy. They called in particular upon Ministers and policy makers to fully enshrine Good Environmental Status by 2020 and the precautionary principle as prerequisites for the Integrated Maritime Policy and a blue growth agenda in the Limassol Declaration, and to recognize the Marine Strategy Framework Directive (MSFD) as the overarching framework for future development. (<http://www.mio-ecsde.org/articles.asp?CID=10&aID=313>)

Taking stock of NGO experiences in the Marine Strategy Framework Directive (MSFD) related public consultations and advocating for their meaningful involvement in the process: In November 2012, MIO-ECSDE within the framework of the European Seas Environmental Coalition (ESEC), was involved in the development of a report summarizing the main findings of an on-line survey aiming to (a) take stock of NGO experiences in the MSFD related public consultation process and (b) to get a first idea of the quality of the Member State reports. Several MIO-ECSDE members participated in the survey, which yielded 31 responses from NGOs from 16 EU countries. The results from this survey were presented in the Marine Strategy Coordination Group (MSCG) meeting held in Brussels on 13-14 November 2012. MIO-ECSDE is a member of the MSCG and constructively participated in the meeting where it advocated for a truly enabling environment for NGO involvement in the MSFD process.

Advocating for the sustainable and responsible governance of nanotechnologies and nanomaterials: The ongoing discussions in Europe, involving different stakeholders including MIO-ECSDE and its members, the growing insight in potential hazardous properties of nanomaterials and the persistent inadequacy of information supply to the public advocated for the elaboration of MIO-ECSDE’s updated position paper on the nanotechnologies and nanomaterials. The position paper brings forward the consensus view and perspective of the Mediterranean civil society on emerging nanotechnology issues, many of which might have a significant influence on the sustainable development of the region. Key elements of this position paper are the operationalization of the Precautionary Principle, taking into account the full life-cycle of nano-enabled products; the adoption of an unambiguous definition of nanomaterials; the promotion of a transparent communication about the use of manufactured nanomaterials; the adaptation of the regulatory system(s) to the specific properties of nanomaterials, and the assurance that nanotechnological developments are driven by goals compatible to social and sustainable development demands.

C.1.2.2. Following up Rio+20, Johannesburg WSSD, Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and other global and regional processes (UN CSD, UNECE, etc.)

MIO-ECSDE follows up on the leading role that it played in promoting the Mediterranean region at Rio+20, the WSSD in Johannesburg, etc.

MIO-ECSDE achieved the concerted representation of the Mediterranean eco-region at the Rio+20 Summit (June 2012). MIO-ECSDE submitted an application for an official (and only) side event for the Mediterranean, following the tradition of Rio and WSSD. It was successful and thus, the Mediterranean region marked its presence at the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20) on 19 June, in Rio de Janeiro, as it had done in Johannesburg 10 years ago and Rio de Janeiro 20 years ago. MIO-ECSDE co-organized together with UNEP/MAP, the European Commission, the Union for the Mediterranean, the Fondation Prince Albert II de Monaco, RAED and GWP-Med the official (and only) Mediterranean side event of the summit entitled “**Challenges and Opportunities for a Mediterranean Green Growth**”. More than 100 governments, inter-governmental and non-governmental organizations and other stakeholders met and renewed their

commitment to overcome difficulties and work in solidarity for green growth and sustainable development in the region. HSH Prince Albert II of Monaco and other eminent personalities participated in the Panel, chaired by Prof. Michael Scoullos and expressed their appreciation and support to the efforts of preserving the wealth of the Mediterranean Sea and reversing current trends of degradation. (<http://www.mio-ecsde.org/articles.asp?cMC=&cID=1&aID=300>)

During 2012 MIO-ECSDE took into consideration in all its thematic priorities and activities the outcomes of the various global summits and the priorities of various fora (UN CSD, UNECE, etc.). A few of the areas where MIO-ECSDE is involved in are:

- directly, and through facilitation of member organisations, to remind and alert the governments of the region that the targets adopted in Rio+20 (as well as key messages of WSSD) urgently require concerted and coordinated action;
- co-ordinator of the MEdIES Type II Initiative (www.medies.net see D.3.);
- active role in the Mediterranean Component of the EU Water Initiative which is a key contribution to the Plan of Implementation of the WSSD particularly in order to help achieve water related MDGs;
- active proponent of the UN Decade for Education for Sustainable Development (UN DESD 2005-2014) (see below C.1.2.3);
- work relating to the Aarhus Convention: MIO-ECSDE steadily (and in cooperation with the Brussels-based NGO Networks) follows developments concerning the three pieces of EU legislation underpinning the implementation of the Aarhus convention and when appropriate tries to bring Mediterranean concerns into the forefront. Furthermore, MIO-ECSDE continued its efforts at the regional and international fora it attended to commit Mediterranean countries to adhere to Principle 10 of Agenda 21 and consider acceding also to the Aarhus Convention establishing domestic regimes which provide for public access to environmental information, participation in decision-making and access to justice.
- active proponent of Education for Sustainable Consumption (SCP): The issue of Sustainable Consumption and Production is addressed at international level through the so called "Marrakech Process", launched in 2003 as a response to the Johannesburg recommendations. The link between education and consumption originates from the consideration that behaviour changes and the acquisition of critical awareness represent key elements in the path towards new sustainable production and consumption patterns. In this respect, and following the successful implementation of the youthXchange project in Greece (2008), MIO-ECSDE has coordinated the youthXchange in the Mediterranean in 2009-2011 (see D.3.1).

C.1.2.3. Education for Sustainable Development (ESD) in UNECE and UNESCO

UNECE Steering Committee on ESD: The Chairman, Prof. Michael Scoullos, participates in the meetings of the Bureau of the UNECE Steering Committee on ESD as Assistant to the Chair, deputy General Secretary of the Hellenic Ministry of Education. The Bureau serves as an intermediate implementing body between the Committee's meetings and reports on its work to the Steering Committee. The Chairman, Prof. Michael Scoullos actively participated in the 7th meeting of the Steering Committee on Education for Sustainable Development of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe, which took place on 1-2 March 2012 in Geneva, Switzerland. He also participated in a number of relevant Rio+20 sessions and side events e.g. by the Government of Georgia for Tbilisi +35, UNESCO, etc. when in Rio in June 2012. During the preparatory phase leading to Rio+20, MIO-ECSDE joined the initiative "People's Sustainability Treaty on Higher Education", in which more than 30 bodies from around the world signed the treaty to strengthen the role of Higher Education in the Sustainable Development Agenda. Read more:

<http://insight.glos.ac.uk/sustainability/Education/Pages/People%27sSustainabilityTreatyonHigherEducation.aspx>

The Chairman, Prof. Michael Scoullos participated very substantially in the **Intergovernmental Conference "Tbilisi+35: Environmental Education (EE) for Sustainable Development" in Tbilisi (Georgia)**, that took place on 6-7 September. Tbilisi+35 brought together more than 60 Ministers and Vice-Ministers and more than 300 participants including high-ranking officials of intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and key experts in the field of EE and ESD, to commemorate the **1977 Tbilisi Declaration** and 35 years of global educational efforts. Prof Scoullos contributed very actively in the Conference's discussions and processes, and contributed particularly in the drafting and formulation of the Conference's *Communiqué* that outlines a new

global EE agenda beyond 2015 to meet current needs and future challenges. Prof Scoullos represented also the Hellenic Ministry of Education.

In regards with the **UNESCO Chair on Sustainable Development Management and Education in the Mediterranean**, which was recently established at the University of Athens (UoA), the Rector of UoA, Prof. Pelegrinis officially nominated Prof. Scoullos as the Chairholder and UNESCO HQ approved the nomination. Furthermore, the formal processes have started for the creation of the Chair's own logo.

The educational material 'ESD in UNESCO/MAB Biosphere Reserves and other Designated Areas' is very close to its publication. It will be a UNESCO publication (© UNESCO, 2012) with clear acknowledgement of MIO-ECSDE contribution (see also D.3.4). MIO-ECSDE submitted a proposal (via the Greek National Commission) on the continuation of the youthXchange series in Greece, namely the production and dissemination of the 2nd guidebook entitled "YXC: Climate change and lifestyles".

C.1.2.4.Active participation in the Euro-Mediterranean policy area: Union for the Mediterranean and the European Neighbourhood Policy (ENP) Meetings/Processes

The MIO-ECSDE Secretariat has further strengthened its close relationship with the relevant to the Mediterranean Unit of DG Environment and DG Development and Cooperation while following up on the European Neighbourhood Policy and its financial instrument. It has continued to inform its membership and wider network of developments and initiatives and has addressed related queries, input, etc.

Union for the Mediterranean (UfM), HORIZON 2020 and the ENP: The Secretariat has continued to closely monitor the developments of the UfM and maintained its close relationship with the Secretariat. The process, although re-launched in July 2009 after a period of stagnation, has not progressed much at higher political level. There have not been any high level Summits in the first half of 2012 nor any Ministerial Meetings for Environment or Water. Efforts are being made to facilitate the elaboration of the Action Plan for the implementation of the Long-Term Strategy for Water in the Mediterranean (SWM) that was not adopted for reasons unrelated to the Strategy itself and is still pending. MIO-ECSDE is following these developments closely. Meanwhile, MIO-ECSDE is also participating actively in the meetings that the UfM is organizing with other regionally active environmental NGOs such as WWF, RAED, etc. in order to develop a platform/follow-up mechanism of the Comité de Suivi. With the Arab Spring, the transitions taking place in several Southern Mediterranean countries and the socio-economic crisis in the region and worldwide, the group is exploring with the UfM Secretariat possible modalities to ensure civil society participation in the environmental components of the Union. One of the objectives of this group is to also formulate and submit to the UfM funding mechanism a project for civil society enhancement on environment and water issues in current realities.

MIO-ECSDE participated in the 5th Steering Group Meeting of the Horizon 2020 Initiative (Barcelona, 19 April 2012). It also participated in the third meeting of the H2020 Capacity Building Sub-Group (18 April 2012) which assessed the implementation of its work programme so far and took decisions for the next steps to be taken till 2014. MIO-ECSDE Chairs this sub-group.

MIO-ECSDE involvement in H2020 implementation is very high also through the consortium it participates in which is led by the University of Athens and which is responsible for the capacity building required for proper implementation of the H2020 initiative (see D.6.1). It is one of the major partners of the consortium providing important logistical and thematic support.

The EuroMed NG Platform: MIO-ECSDE continued to be an active member of the Platform, represented by Project Officer Barbara Tomassini. Executive Bureau Members Ziyad Alawneh also follows the process. MIO-ECSDE staff participated in a workshop on "Freedom of Expression, Right to Information, Knowledge and Culture, and the role of media and culture in the democratic transition" on 30 November & 1 December 2012, in Barcelona. But the problems of the Platform, which are mainly financial but also linked to poor governance issues, are not getting any better.

C.1.3. MIO-ECSDE and the Comité de Suivi (CdS)

Since June 2011 there is not really a functioning CdS in place, the reason being that the UfM is a different structure than the EuroMed Partnership, which the CdS was created and shaped to address. Coupled with the

Arab Spring, the transitions taking place in several Southern Mediterranean countries and the socio-economic crisis in the region and worldwide, MIO-ECSDE, along with RAED and other international NGOs in the Mediterranean are exploring with the UfM Secretariat about possible modalities to ensure civil society participation in the environmental components of the Union.

C.1.4. MIO-ECSDE activities as partner in the GWP-Med

MIO-ECSDE acts as Host Institute of the GWP-Med Secretariat and continues its fruitful collaboration with it. As a member of the GWP-Med network, MIO-ECSDE promotes a specific number of outputs for 2012 which are integral to both the GWP-Med and MIO-ECSDE agenda:

- co-organisation of many meetings and seminars (see C.2.);
- submissions of joint project proposals;
- facilitation of the Circle of the Parliamentarians (COMPSUD), facilitation of the Circle of Media/Journalists (COMJESD);
- partners in the 'Petersberg Africa' project;
- collaboration with the Mediterranean Education Initiative for Environment and Sustainability (MEdIES, see D3);
- The HYDRIA project on water management techniques of the past (see D.3.1);
- The Rain Water Harvesting in the Cyclades and the Non Conventional Water Resources Management in Malta, particularly its educational components (see D.3.2 and D.3.3 respectively);
- administrative support as it concerns the Mediterranean Component of the EU Water Initiative;
- the Drin Dialogue;
- etc.

C.2. (Co-) Organisation of Meetings at Mediterranean or national level

C.2.1. "Building Bridges - ESD for MAB BRs and other Designated Areas"

MIO-ECSDE/MEdIES with the support of the UNESCO Venice Office organized within the framework of the EC Lifelong Learning Programme – Grundtvig through the IKY Foundation workshops, a workshop entitled "Building Bridges - Education for Sustainable Development (ESD) for MAB Biosphere Reserves (BRs) and other Designated Areas", held from 30 March to 5 April 2012.

The target group of the workshop comprised of Educators/Environmental Guides/ Environmental Interpreters that use, bring schools or groups to BRs, and equally, all staff of 'designated areas' with an interest in education and sensitization activities performed within areas such as MAB BRs, Natura 2000, Ramsar, etc. sites, SPAs, etc. at formal or non-formal level. The event's main aim was to build the capacities of the target group on integrating ESD in the activities designed for visitors to their Reserves or Parks (i.e. schools, adult groups, individual visitors, etc.).

The workshop addressed the theme in an integrated way. The theory, history, and philosophy of ESD in any protected area were presented and emphasis was given to the role of BRs and/or Natura 2000 sites and other protected areas, as Learning Sites or "Laboratories" of ESD. The event provided the opportunity to participants from different countries (Austria, Belarus, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, France, Greece, Italy, Malta, Moldova, Portugal, Romania, Scotland, Slovenia, Spain and Turkey) to exchange experiences and views on good practices related to ESD, through round tables and group discussions.

Co-organizers of this event were the University of Athens / UNESCO Chair & Network on Management and ESD in the Mediterranean, the Greek MAB /UNESCO Committee, the Centre of Environmental Education, Lavrion, and the Centre of Environmental Education, Amfissa.

One of the main training materials of the workshop was the recently developed UNESCO/MEdIES publication on “ESD in MAB BRs and other designated areas in SE Europe and the Mediterranean”. The overall approach of the training material is based on the principles of ESD and is in line with the scope and philosophy of the 2010 Conclusions of the Council of the European Union on Education for Sustainable Development, the UN Decade for ESD (2005-2014), the Habitats Directive, etc.

C.2.2. Co-organization of meetings in the framework of the Drin Dialogue

MIO-ECSDE jointly with GWP-Med and UNECE has co-organized a series of consultations and six (6) Core Group meetings within the framework of the Drin Dialogue. The Drin Dialogue is a structured consultation process launched on December 1st, 2009 which aims at establishing a Shared Vision for the management of the extended Drin River Basin.

MIO-ECSDE’s dynamic promotion of transboundary dialogues continued in the framework of the Drin Dialogue where it participates as an Observer. In 2012, MIO-ECSDE participated at the 6th Drin Core Group Meeting which took place in Ohrid, FYROM, 30 May 2012.

(<http://www.mio-ecsde.org/articles.asp?cMC=&clD=1&aID=306>).

A year after the signature of the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) in favour of the sustainable management of the extended Drin Basin, the institutional basis for its implementation has been set up, including the establishment of three Expert Working Groups: (a) Water Framework Directive implementation, (b) monitoring and information exchange and (c) biodiversity. MIO-ECSDE’s dynamic promotion of transboundary dialogues continued in the framework of the Drin Dialogue where it participates as an Observer. MIO-ECSDE attended the Expert Working Group meetings on 30-31 October and 1st November as well as the Drin Core Group (DCG) in Tirana on 20 November 2012. The DCG met in Tirana as the official body for the coordination of the actions of the Parties involved in the implementation of the MoU. During this meeting, a positive development was the approval of MIO-ECSDE’s official request to participate as an Observer in all three expert groups. The meeting was organized with the support and collaboration of UNECE, and GWP-Med. Back-to-back with the DCG meeting, MIO-ECSDE and its member NGOs PPNEA and EDEN Center participated in a two-day training on the implementation of the EU Water Framework Directive (EU WFD), organized by UNECE and GWP-Med. The main objective of the course was to enhance trainees’ knowledge regarding the preparation and implementation of a River Basin Management Plan in accordance to the EU WFD. (<http://mio-ecsde.org/articles.asp?cMC=&clD=1&aID=319>)

Back-to-back with the Drin Expert Working Group meetings MIO-ECSDE organized 3 networking meetings with SEE NGOs on the implementation of the Shared Vision for the Management of the “Extended” Drin River Basin. The meetings were held at Tirana, 31 October 2012; Shkodra, 1 November 2012; Podgorica, 2 November 2012 respectively where MIO-ECSDE met with 20 NGO representatives. The main aim of these meetings was to keep NGOs motivated and engaged in transboundary water recourse management related processes. To that end MIO-ECSDE piloted this year an activity involving NGOs from Albania and Montenegro (as well as other Drin Riparian Countries). MIO-ECSDE launched a fact finding exercise aiming to develop jointly with 11 NGOs from the region a brochure with information on the Drin River Basin, its key features, threats, etc. as a concrete display of commitment and solidarity among environmental NGOs of the region to protect the Drin River Basin. A very first draft of the brochure has been developed in collaboration with MIO-ECSDE’s member and other collaborating NGOs in the region, namely PPNEA, Albaforest, EDEN, Pro Geo – Albania, Rainbow Environment Association, Green Home, INCA, Biosfera, Environmental Movement Ozon and ProGeo – Kosovo.

The impact of the collective work that MIO-ECSDE has done over the last few years in transboundary water dialogues was recognized at the 6th session of the Meeting of the Parties to the Convention of the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes (UNECE Water Convention), in Rome, Italy, on 28-30 November 2012. More than 330 high-level participants attended the session. MIO-ECSDE was highlighted as an exemplary regional network for its successful experiences in transboundary water dialogues. MIO-ECSDE took the opportunity to reconfirm the organization’s commitment to continue and strengthen its fruitful collaboration with UNECE for the promotion of the Convention and the fulfillment of its related tasks

and shared its experiences and lessons-learned on the issue of NGO involvement in transboundary water resources management during a session examining stakeholder engagement in facilitating transboundary cooperation and ways to strengthen their capacity. (<http://mio-ecsde.org/articles.asp?cMC=&clD=1&aID=320>)

Executive Bureau Member Milan Vogrin is also actively involved in the Drin Dialogue activities of MIO-ECSDE.

C.2.3. The Mediterranean official side event at the Rio+20 Summit

MIO-ECSDE together with all major actors in the Mediterranean environmental scene, held the only Mediterranean official Side Event within the framework of the UN Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20) in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. The event "Challenges and Opportunities for a Mediterranean Green Growth", took place on 19 June 2012 (15:30 - 17:00 Room T-3 RioCentro) and was co-organized with UNEP/MAP, the European Commission, the Union for the Mediterranean, Fondation Prince Albert II de Monaco, the Arab Network for Environment and Development, GWP-Med, etc.



Snapshot from the side event organized by MIO-ECSDE at the Rio+20 Summit

This side event, chaired by the MIO-ECSDE chairman, brought together the major institutions and stakeholders from European, Western Asian and North African countries to provide an overview of the joint efforts of strengthened cooperation, common vision and shared strategies towards achieving sustainable development. Under the light of a growing financial volatility, the new realities following the Arab Spring, and taking into consideration the emerging challenges, the event renewed the political commitment on a realistic basis in an eco-region located at the North-South interface, facing serious demographic, economic, environmental, technological and socio-cultural problems.

The event was supported by several Mediterranean countries (Croatia, France, Greece, Lebanon, Monaco, Morocco) and institutions such as the Fondation Mohamed VI pour la protection de l'Environnement. Furthermore, the event supported the objectives of the 'MedPartnership' and the Mediterranean Component of the EU Water Initiative (MED EUWI), as well as those of the EU projects Horizon 2020 Capacity Building Programme (CB/MEP), Sustainable Water Integrated Management (SWIM) and the recently launched SWITCH-MED which will promote sustainable consumption and production and resource efficiency in the Mediterranean. (<http://www.mio-ecsde.org/articles.asp?cMC=&clD=1&aID=300>)

C.2.4. Capacity building events within the framework of H2020 CB/MEP

In the framework of the EU funded Horizon 2020 Capacity Building /Mediterranean Environment Programme, MIO-ECSDE in collaboration with the project's partners has contributed to the very successful organization of a considerable number of workshops in the first half of the year across the Mediterranean and beyond (e.g. Sweden), on the H2020 priority thematic areas. In all these activities MIO-ECSDE has ensured the participation and involvement of its members to the maximum extent possible. Some indicative trainings that MIO-ECSDE has co-organized:

- Éducation en vue du Développement Durable axée sur les domaines thématiques d'H2020, Alger, Algérie 20-21 Mars 2012. (national)
- Boosting eco innovation and resource efficiency to go towards a green economy in Israel, Tel Aviv, Israel, 25-26 March 2012. (national)
- Boosting the creation of Green Jobs to reduce sources of pollution in the Mediterranean, Athens, Greece, 3-5 April 2012. (regional)
- Vers une meilleure gouvernance environnementale dans le secteur bancaire en Tunisie : Introduction à la finance verte (ou « Green Banking »), Tunis, Tunisia, 24-25 Avril 2012. (national)
- Minimizing Marine Litter in the Mediterranean, Gothenburg, Sweden, 21-23 May 2012. (regional)
- Vers une économie verte au Maroc, Rabat, Maroc, 6-7 June 2012. (national)

- Éducation en vue du Développement Durable axée sur les domaines thématiques d'H2020, Tunis, Tunisie, 11-12 Juin 2012. (national)
- Vers une gestion intégrée du Lac de Bizerte Lac de Bizerte, Bizerte, Tunisie, 7-8 June 2012. (national)
- "How Members of Parliament can better contribute to the effective depollution of the Mediterranean", Athens, Greece, 22-23 October 2012. (regional)
- Interlinkages between IWRM and ICZM, Algiers, Algeria, 30 October -1 November 2012.
- Préparation du Pacte National de Développement Durable avec les entreprises économiques - le rôle de la RSE, Tunis, Tunisie, 5-6 Décembre 2012.

C.2.5. Working or Consultation meetings organized by the MEDIES Secretariat

6th Meeting of the Greek Pedagogical Group (PG) of MEDIES, 27 September 2012 at the premises of MIO-ECSDE. The Greek PG focused on the network's activities for the current ESD school year, dedicated to "Manmade environment & Sustainable management". A meeting for educational staff of Attica region was organized on November 13, at the MIO-ECSDE premises, which provided an opportunity to share knowledge and experience on the sustainable management approaches in regards to the manmade environment, including the built environment, landscape architecture/management, open public spaces, the management of cultural/archaeological sites. The meeting was attended by 45 participants and at the end selected bibliography and relevant material was given to the participants.

C.2.6. Meetings and trainings of MEDIES in Greece (read more under D.3)

Training Activities for Rain Water Harvesting (RWH) in the Cyclades project: Within the educational component of the RWH project of the Cyclades, MEDIES, during April-October 2012, for the fourth year undertook a series of school visits and trainings in the five islands that participated in the project, namely Paros, Antiparos, Andros, Kea and Kythnos.

During the trainings for teachers the participants were informed on how to use in their classes the educational material "the Gift of Rain" that was handed out to them. In total 140 teachers were trained this year. Read more <http://www.medies.net/articles.asp?CID=8&aID=630>

Seminars on "ESD Year on Health and Production processes (thematic year 2011-2012)": MEDIES Secretariat coorganised two seminars in 2012 to support educators, in the context of the UN DESD, 2005-14, for the thematic year 2012 that was devoted to Health and Production Processes. (Read more on all MEDIES related activities in D.3.7 and here <http://www.medies.net/staticpages.asp?aID=571&overrideCategory=1>).

C.2.7. The 17th AGM of MIO-ECSDE, Athens, Greece

The 17th AGM of MIO-ECSDE took place in Athens, Greece, on October 21st 2012. The meeting was combined with the 9th COMPSUD Meeting and a major regional EU funded Horizon 2020 CB/MEP workshop: "How Members of Parliament can better contribute to the effective depollution of the Mediterranean", Athens, Greece, 22-23 October 2012. Apart from the usual annual documents, the AGM has also discussed the proposed Communication Strategy of MIO-ECSDE.

C.2.8. The 9th Meeting of COMPSUD, Athens, Greece

The Circle of Mediterranean Parliamentarians for Sustainable Development (COMPSUD) held its 9th Meeting, organised by its joint Secretariat, MIO-ECSDE and GWP/Med, on the afternoon of 23 October at the University of Athens. The attending COMPSUD Members, including its former President Ms. Elena Panariti, renewed their engagement in favour of the Environment and Sustainable Development and welcomed more than 20 new members that demonstrated their willingness and expressed their commitment to put Environment and Sustainability issues as a top priority in their political agendas.

During the elections for the new term of the Board of COMPSUD, Ms. Dionusia – Theodora Avgerinopoulou, President of the Special Permanent Committee on Environmental Protection of the Hellenic Parliament, was

elected as the new COMPSUD President. Also, Mr. Antonio Ramos Preto, President of the Environment Committee of the Portuguese Parliament and Mr. Mohammed Ameer, Member of the Moroccan Parliament and former Minister, were elected as the new COMPSUD Vice Chairs.

Participating COMPSUD members were from the following countries: Albania, Algeria, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Egypt, Greece, Jordan, Montenegro, Morocco, occupied Palestinian territory, Portugal, Syria and Tunisia.

The 9th COMPSUD Meeting was combined with a major regional H2020 workshop entitled “How Members of Parliament can better contribute to the effective depollution of the Mediterranean”, Athens, Greece, 22-23 October 2012. It was a high level meeting targeting Members of Parliament from all Mediterranean countries, who are active in promoting environmental protection and sustainable development, as well as representatives of Ministries of Environment, NGOs and journalists working on Horizon 2020 priority areas. The Hellenic Parliament has hosted one of the sessions of the workshop.



More than 120 participants from 22 Mediterranean countries were brought together and pledged to accelerate their efforts towards a depolluted Mediterranean by the year 2020. It constituted the

first international meeting of Mediterranean Members of Parliament after the events of the Arab Spring.

The overall objective of the workshop was to inform participants about the Horizon 2020 Initiative to depollute the Mediterranean by the year 2020 and the existing regional fora and platforms which currently facilitate Members of Parliament to make an impact on environmental issues and in promoting commonly agreed priorities for the region. The workshop has also provided the opportunity for the exchange of experiences and ideas on how Members of Parliament can enhance their involvement in the implementation of the H2020 priorities at regional and national levels (identification of the needed modalities, synergies, etc.).

Implemented in a truly participatory mode, more than 70 participants from all the 22 participating countries took the floor to present their national efforts regarding the priorities of Horizon 2020, to express their views and actively participate in the dialogue. Throughout the meeting participants expressed the need for increased training within the framework of Horizon 2020 in order to further enable themselves to act more effectively towards the protection of the Mediterranean environment.

C.3. Joint Mediterranean Actions/Campaigns

C.3.1. Mediterranean Action Day 2012

Ten (10) Member NGOs organised events within the framework of Mediterranean Action Day 2012:

Country	Member NGO
Albania	EDEN
Algeria	AEB
France	Association U Marinu
France	MerTerre
Italy	Legambiente/Festambiente
Jordan	LHAP
Lebanon	WINDOW TO ENVIRONMENT
Lebanon	Makhzoumui Foundation
Morocco	CMED
Tunisia	ADPE La Marsa

Applications to organize an MAD 2012 event were received also by MEDASSET and Biosfera but they were withdrawn and/or cancelled.

MAD 2012 was dedicated to ***Marine Litter in the Mediterranean***, ideally entailing activities of data collection & monitoring. The MAD 2012 activities were directly linked with the Marine Strategy Framework Directive (which introduces the requirement to develop integrated strategies for the EU regional seas with the aim of achieving "good environmental status" by 2020), the UNEP/MAP Regional Action Plan for Marine Litter in the Mediterranean and the Ecosystem Approach. In addition, they complemented and/or were a follow-up of previous and ongoing activities of several of our members as well as of MIO-ECSDE activities to tackle the growing challenge of marine litter in the Mediterranean ("Keep the Mediterranean Litter Free" campaign, the YouthXChange in the Mediterranean: A project to challenge our consumption behaviors and inspire responsible consumer choices", the Horizon 2020 Capacity Building / Mediterranean Environment Programme, the Pilot Project on the plastic recycling cycle and its loopholes in the four European regional seas, and the newly launched FP7 project MARine Litter in Europe Seas: Social Awareness and CO-Responsibility (MARLISCO)).

This year's activities were financially supported by the European Commission (through its annual activity funding of MIO-ECSDE) and TITAN CEMENT S.A. The Synthesis report of Med Action Day 2012 is available at <http://www.mio-ecsde.org/articles.asp?cMC=&cID=6&aID=38>. One issue of *Sustainable Mediterranean* will be dedicated to this.

C.3.2. The Mediterranean Honorific Award

Every June, for the past 12 years (except for 2011), Mediterrània - Centre d'Iniciatives Ecològiques (CIE) and MIO-ECSDE have been awarding organizations working for the improvement and protection of the Mediterranean environment with the MEDITERRANEAN HONORIFIC AWARD, as recognition of its exceptional achievements.

The Mediterranean Honorific Award was launched in 2001 and it is open to all those organisations in the Mediterranean region working on innovative, successful projects relating to the environment and sustainable development. This year's (2012) focus was given to ongoing actions combining culture/gender issues linked with environment and sustainable development.

The winner of the 2012 award was Land and Human to Advocate Progress (LHAP) and its project on "CSOs and Youth in Defence of and Promotion of Women's Rights". Within the framework of the project students from 30 Universities of Jordan, 375 CSOs from all over the country, the community at large and policy makers were involved in activities promoting gender equity and women's empowerment not only as human rights, but also because they are pathways to achieving sustainable development.

(<http://www.mio-ecsde.org/articles.asp?cMC=&cID=1&aID=299>)

C.3.3. Water in the Mediterranean

It is clear throughout this report that Water in the Mediterranean was a top priority for the MIO-ECSDE Secretariat and its collaborating experts also in 2012. Water is a cross cutting issue that permeates MIO-ECSDE activities both at policy level and for activities in situ.

Following-up on all previous MIO-ECSDE efforts, the Secretariat did the following throughout this year:

- Played a role in the Mediterranean Component (MED EUWI) which is an integral part of the EU WI and shares its overall objectives. MED EU WI was announced in WSSD and gives particular emphasis to Mediterranean and South-eastern Europe priorities, according to needs and strategies defined in partnership with governments, the EU Commission and major stakeholders. MED EUWI is led by the government of Greece. The Secretariat of the Component has been undertaken by the GWP-Med Secretariat. The main objectives of the MED EUWI are to create a higher efficiency of water-related development by providing a platform to co-ordinate and streamline existing and future EU activities related to water in the region. MIO-ECSDE contributes substantially in North-South interfacing and also is active under Objective 8 (Education) of the MED EU WI.
- Co-organized important events relating to water (see C.2.).

- Continued to promote the Educational Material on “Water in the Mediterranean” which is available to download in many Mediterranean languages [here](#) (see E) and the “Media Kit on Freshwater in the Mediterranean” for journalists and information professionals.
- In parallel, MIO-ECSDE in collaboration with GWP-Med continued to promote the Mediterranean Dialogue on Effective Water Governance (Egypt, Lebanon, Palestine, etc.). Many of the countries in the region are at various stages of revising their water laws and policies and of carrying out institutional reforms. This offers interesting opportunities for adopting and implementing IWRM principles with the involvement of NGOs and for the development of national and regional frameworks for action in many cases in combination with the implementation of the provisions of the EU WFD.
- Rain Water Harvesting (RWH) in the Cyclades: The fourth year of implementation of the rainwater harvesting project was conducted in a different set of islands in the Cyclades, Greece, in 2012. The overall RWH project is coordinated by GWP-Med having as main tasks the following:
 - Installation of water harvesting systems in selected public buildings of water-scarce islands.
 - Enhancement of related technical skills through training of local workers.
 - Implementation of related education activities in schools in the Cyclades, using appropriate educational material (Undertaken by MIO-ECSDE/MEDIES, read more at D.3.3).

This overall RWH project, funded by Coca Cola Hellas constitutes a model-best practice and from 2012 is being replicated in Malta (read more at D.3.2).

C.3.4. Biodiversity, Climate Change and Desertification and in the Mediterranean

The MIO-ECSDE efforts to activate Mediterranean NGOs, governments, etc. on issues directly or indirectly related to biodiversity, climate change and desertification and continued in 2012 mainly through advocacy during all major international and regional meetings attended by the Chairman, members of the EB and Secretariat and by collaborating experts, with emphasis on the impact of climate change on desertification, strengthening the use of renewable energy resources (see below), emphasising the urgent need to safeguard the integrity of the water cycle, the need to halt further loss of wetlands and minimise undesirable effects on biodiversity, etc.

Of particular importance was the updating and finalization of MIO-ECSDE’s position paper on “Biodiversity in the Mediterranean region” on the occasion of the UN Decade of Biodiversity and the regrettably poor results in achieving the objectives previously set to preserve biodiversity at International, European and Mediterranean level (<http://www.mio-ecsde.org/articles.asp?cMC=7&cid=43>). In addition, MIO-ECSDE developed a Framework Paper on Sustainable Tourism & Biodiversity: Opportunities and Threats and an information leaflet on Invasive Alien Species in the Mediterranean. Executive Bureau Member Milan Vogrin was also actively involved in the above mentioned activities.

The MIO-ECSDE Secretariat continued its efforts in trying to increase mobilisation of the social and political will to promote more effective implementation and adaptation strategies that will reduce climate-associated vulnerability at the regional, national and community levels, and also in making very clear what the role of NGOs and civil society in general should be.

C.3.5. Marine and Coastal issues

Throughout the first half of 2012, MIO-ECSDE followed closely the progress of the Marine Strategy Framework Directive (MSFD) and continued to be a member of the Working Group on Good Environmental Status (WG GES) and the Marine Strategic Coordination Group (MSCG). Furthermore, the Chairman and Programme Officer Thomais Vlachogianni have been actively contributing to the work of the EU /MSFD Good Environmental Status (GES) Technical Subgroup on Marine Litter. More specifically, the upcoming milestone of the Technical Sub-Group is to develop a new publication on Marine Litter Technical Recommendations for the Implementation of MSFD Requirements. MIO-ECSDE is co-leading the task related to the development of common marine litter monitoring strategies. MIO-ECSDE also actively participated at the Sub-Group meeting that took place in Ljubljana, Slovenia on the 13th-15th of June, 2012 and was congratulated for its efforts related to marine litter. In the last two months of 2012 MIO-ECSDE intensified its efforts to contribute to the work of the EU/MSFD

Good Environmental Status (GES) Technical Subgroup on Marine Litter. More specifically, the upcoming milestone of the Technical Sub-Group is to develop a new publication on Marine Litter Technical Recommendations for the Implementation of MSFD Requirements. MIO-ECSDE is co-leading the task related to the development of common marine litter monitoring strategies and is involved in a number of other tasks. MIO-ECSDE actively participated in the Sub-Group meeting that took place in Bucharest, Romania on 5-7 of December 2012, where the progress made so far was presented and the next steps were defined.

MIO-ECSDE as a member of the European Seas Environmental Coalition (ESEC) - which is a cooperation between the Black Sea NGO Network, the Coalition Clean Baltic, the Mediterranean Information Office for Environment, Culture and Sustainable Development and Seas At Risk – participated in a workshop on 14-15 of March 2012 in order to present a Guidance Paper on the implementation of the MSFD. The meeting was attended by 25 European and Mediterranean NGOs. With their input the Guidance Paper was finalized and widely diffused. In addition, several factsheets focusing on the different descriptors were developed. A common target of 50% reduction of marine litter in the European Seas was agreed and NGOs have been coordinating their efforts to advocate for an ambitious marine litter related target. In that respect a letter has been developed and co-signed also by several MIO-ECSDE members such as Nature Trust, DPPVN, MEDDASSET, Legambiente and MEDSOS (see also C.1.2.1).

Furthermore, a successful regional training (Minimizing Marine Litter in the Mediterranean) and a side event (Reducing marine litter for the sake of the environment... and blue growth?) on marine litter were organized by MIO-ECSDE and other organizations within the framework of the European Maritime Day and the H2020 CB/MEP in Gothenburg, 21-23 May 2012. MIO-ECSDE supported, through its Annual EU Operating Grant, the participation of 8 representatives of its EU Member NGOs namely U Marindu, MEDASSET, Legambiente, MAREVIVO, Scholè Futuro, Nature Trust Malta and Eco-Union in these events. Many more members from non-EU countries also participated through H2020 CB/MEP, namely ECAT, EDEN, AEB, Balady Port Said Association, SPNI, TURMEPA. (<http://www.mio-ecsde.org/articles.asp?cID=1&aID=295>)

In September 2012, MIO-ECSDE in collaboration with the Black Sea NGO Network, the Coalition Clean Baltic and Seas At Risk launched an on-line questionnaire aiming to take stock of NGO experiences in the MSFD related public consultation process, to get a first idea of the quality of the Member State reports and to find out whether the above mentioned guidance documents were useful. In November 2012, MIO was involved in the development of a report summarizing the main findings of the on-line survey which yielded 31 responses from NGOs from 16 EU countries. The results from this survey were presented in the Marine Strategy Coordination Group (MSCG) meeting held in Brussels on 13-14 November 2012. MIO-ECSDE is a member of the MSCG and constructively participated in the meeting where it advocated for a truly enabling environment for NGO involvement in the MSFD process.

Maintaining close ties and contributing to the joint work of the ESEC, MIO-ECSDE participated in the networking meeting of ESEC organized in Brussels on 11-12 December, 2012. The main aim of the meeting was to exchange information and experiences on the implementation of the MSFD, to develop a 2013 Work Plan and discuss a long term vision for cooperation among ESEC members. This event was held back-to-back with two meetings: (a) with DG ENV marine unit representatives to explore how the ESEC 2013 Work Plan on the MSFD can be better aligned with the timelines for Article 12 review and the development of monitoring plans and how public participation can be strengthened and enhanced; (b) with DG MARE representatives to express concerns and comments, exchange views and contribute alternative ideas in shaping a truly sustainable Blue Economy.

C.3.6. Culture and Sustainability in the Mediterranean

Among the main objectives of MIO-ECSDE is the protection of the cultural heritage of the Mediterranean region (see also D.4). It proposes that on the one hand cultural values and assets should be used to preserve biodiversity in the Mediterranean and promote sustainable development, and on the other to obtain for many sites in the Mediterranean simultaneous protection of cultural and natural diversity and goods. To this purpose MIO-ECSDE seeks to make the best use of its network of Mediterranean NGOs (as well as of the other sub-networks it facilitates i.e. COMPSUD, educators, journalists, etc.).

Within this overall framework, during 2012:

- The enrichment of the interactive HYDRIA website (www.hydraproject.net) – previously acknowledged as an outstanding example of work bridging ESD and Cultural practices (see [here](#)) was submitted to an ALF Call for Proposals and was approved. Read more about HYDRIA in D.3.1
- MIO-ECSDE promoted the educational package “Mediterranean Food: Historical, Environmental, Health & Cultural dimensions” which has been produced in five Mediterranean languages (find it here <http://www.medies.net/staticpages.asp?aID=371&overRideCategory=1>).
- Pursued funding for various related projects particularly on Cultural diversity and Biodiversity including proposal submissions.
- Supported member organisations’ and other initiatives where possible.
- etc.

D. DRAFTING, RUNNING, COMPLETION AND/OR FOLLOW-UP OF PROJECTS

D.1. Annual EC Funding 2012

After last year's unfortunate developments relating to MIO-ECSDE finances, this year's evaluation results of the application for the EU Annual Operating Grant for environmental NGOs were expected with great anticipation. This year's application was indeed successful and therefore, MIO-ECSDE was able to continue its activities in support of the membership.

The annual EC funding grant for 2012 was announced to the MIO-ECSDE Secretariat in March 2012 with a 9,9% decrease which was applied to all applicants. The Work Programme and budget (615.627 EUR overall with EC contribution 406,319 EUR) was resubmitted maintaining a 66% support from the EC and deleting/postponing/adjusting very few activities which did not have secured co-financing. The contract was signed in June 2012. The first payment was also deposited in the MIO-ECSDE account in June.

D.2. Annual EC Funding 2013

The deadline for submitting the 2013 Annual Funding under the LIFE+ Instrument was the 31st of October 2012. It took into consideration the AGM outcomes. The decision will be taken by the EC in February-March 2013.

D.3. The MEDIES Secretariat

MEDIES (Mediterranean Education Initiative for Environment & Sustainability), is a WSSD Type II Initiative on Education for Environment and Sustainability. It is led by MIO-ECSDE, the Greek Government, UNESCO, and UNEP/MAP and closely collaborates with GWP-Med in water issues. There are many confirmed partners to the initiative such as Governments (through Ministries), NGOs active in the Mediterranean region, etc. (see them all [here](#)).

MEDIES is actually an e-network of Educators and Schools in countries around the Mediterranean basin that implement integrated educational programmes on cross-cutting themes, such as water, waste, cultural & biological diversity, sustainable consumption, protected areas, etc. as a vehicle to ESD.

MEDIES has been selected in a pan-European inventory of innovative practices on ESD by the European Commission - DG Education and Culture (DG EAC). MEDIES was selected among 40 good ESD practice examples across all EU Member States illustrating how the concept of SD has been used and implemented in educational practices

In 2012 the following horizontal activities of the secretariat are underway or have been fulfilled:

- Facilitating the e-network through the webpage: www.medies.net is updated on a weekly basis with ESD news, competitions, announcements, outcomes of major fora, etc. of Euro-Mediterranean interest (65 e-articles have been published between 01/01/2012 - 01/10/2012). Also the e- Bulletin of MEDIES circulated to its members is distributed on a quarterly basis. Find here the latest [MEDIES bulletins](#).
- The targeted ESD trainings for educators in various Mediterranean countries are presented in C.2.1 and C.2.5 while for Greece they are presented in C.2.6.
- The targeted activities with students, particularly for Greece. In total, through the various projects MEDIES reached ~ 2.500 school children in 2012.
- Following the UN Decade on ESD, and particularly the DESD thematic year devoted on "Health and Production issues" (2012) by the Greek Ministry of Education as well as preparation activities for the thematic year 2013 devoted to "Manmade environment and Sustainable management" (see C.2.6.).
- Links with UNESCO have been strengthened through strategic meetings that the Chairman of MIO-ECSDE has had throughout the year with various UNESCO departments and divisions.
- The Mediterranean Universities Network for Education for Sustainable Development (MedUnESD) continues to be facilitated by the Secretariat.

D.3.1. The HYDRIA project coordinated by MEDIES

The project entitled 'HYDRIA' - *collection, storage & distribution of water in antiquity: linking ancient wisdom to modern needs* was initiated in 2008 as a web tool (www.hydraproject.net) targeting youths, teachers, potential visitors and other audiences. The overall objective of HYDRIA is to unfold and present a small part of the diverse, yet common tangible and intangible Mediterranean Cultural Heritage using as a vehicle, selected cases of the most representative ancient water management works, concepts and techniques. The website includes texts photos and animations to present the cases and is fully functioning in the English and Arabic language.

During Phase I (Nov 2008 – Dec 2009) HYDRIA included 14 cases from 6 Mediterranean countries (Greece, Cyprus, Italy, Egypt, Jordan, and Morocco). Phase I was supported by MIO-ECSDE (through the EU annual funding), GWP-Med and the UNESCO Participation Programme.

During Phase II (Nov 2010 - Dec 2011) the site expanded to include 5 more cases from Mediterranean countries (Cyprus, Algeria, Tunisia, Italy, and Greece) and was transformed to a form of CMS that can be managed and enriched by the MEDIES Secretariat, without the need of an IT expert. This gives great possibilities for enrichment of the HYDRIA website in the future. The new fully functioning HYDRIA webpage was launched in January 2012.

Two project submissions have been made to expand/enrich HYDRIA (Phase III). One to the ENPI-CBC (concept note) and one to the Anna Lindh Foundation. The latter was approved in early July 2012, in the framework of which the HYDRIA webpage is going to be enriched with 18+1 new cases studies! The MEDIES Secretariat was also invited to present HYDRIA in related Conferences (Rome, March 2012; Attica, June, 2012).

D.3.2. The educational component of the RWH in the Cyclades project coordinated by MEDIES

The role of MIO-ECSDE and specifically MEDIES in the Rain Water Harvesting (RWH) project is to support the awareness and education component, targeting students, teachers as well as the wider public.

The overall project is coordinated by GWP-Med having as its main tasks to install rain water harvesting systems in selected public buildings of water-scarce islands; enhance the related technical skills of local workers; implement educational and awareness raising activities in schools. The main partner and donor of the project is the "Mission Water" environmental program of Coca-Cola Hellenic Bottling Company & Coca-Cola Hellas. This project is considered a model of best practice to be replicated in other local communities in Greece and other EU and non-EU Mediterranean countries.

This is the fourth year of the application of the overall project, including its educational component, that has been running since 2008 (Phase I: Syros, Tinos, Naxos; Phase II: Anafi, Santorini, Ios, Naxos, Iraklia, Koufonisia; Phase III: Serifos, Sifnos, Milos, Folegandros, Sikinos, Syros), entailing the production of educational material, school interventions for children, and teacher trainings. In 2012 the target islands are Paros, Antiparos, Kythnos, Kea, and Andros. The MEDIES activities for 2012 are the following:

- Reproduction of part of the existing **educational poster** for students in 3.000 copies, and wide dissemination in the Cyclades.
- **Educational interventions in schools.** The purpose of the educational interventions in schools was to inform and sensitize students on the issue of water saving, particularly through the revival of the practice of collecting rainwater in cisterns. This year 1302 students have been reached.
- A series of **teacher trainings** also took place, during which the trainees were informed on how to use in their classes the educational material "the Gift of Rain" as well as the water saving poster. In total 164 teachers participated in this year' training activities.

D.3.3. The educational component of the NCWRM in Malta project coordinated by MEDIES

This is the second year of the project implemented (also known as *Alter Aqua*) by GWP-Med in partnership with: the Ministry for Gozo; the Eco-Gozo project; the Coca-Cola System in Malta (Coca-Cola Malta and General

Soft Drinks); in collaboration with MIO-ECSDE/MEdIES (leading the educational component); Nature Trust Malta (NTM) and the EkoSkola programme.

The overarching aim of the project is to advance the use of non conventional water resources, such as rainwater harvesting, grey water and treated wastewater reuse, as a sustainable way of providing access to water in the water scarce communities of the Maltese Islands. *Alter Aqua* focuses particularly on rainwater harvesting as a promising alternative for supplying freshwater, by installing modern innovative rainwater harvesting systems in public buildings and areas and by training technicians on new techniques and materials available. The project aims also to raise awareness of students and teachers on NCWRs and sustainable water use and to enhance the capacity of local and regional councils on non conventional water resources management.

MEdIES coordinates the educational component of the project. Within 2012 its educational activities were the following:

- The poster “Alter Aqua” produced in April 2012 in 2500 copies (English and Maltese) including water saving tips related to all NCWRs.
- The development, design and production of the new educational material “Alter Aqua”. This new material focuses not only on rainwater harvesting, but on the broader NCWRM concept. It was published in June 2012.
- The development and shipping of a series of “hands-on” material that is needed to carry out the educational interventions in the schools of Gozo (performed by NTM).
- The school interventions in Gozo (performed already by NTM, April – October 2012)
- The Teacher Training by MEdIES staff to educators of Gozo, held on 09 - 11 July, as part of their in-service training, where 62 primary and secondary school teachers participated. Read more about the meeting here: <http://www.medies.net/articles.asp?cID=8&aID=641>

D.3.4. Educational material “ESD in UNESCO MAB Biosphere Reserves and other Designated Areas”

The UNESCO Office in the Venice-Regional Bureau for Science and Culture in Europe (UNESCO-BRESCE) continues its support and collaboration with the MIO-ECSDE/MEdIES Secretariat in the development of the respective training material. The training material on ESD was actually “adopted” by UNESCO in 2011, and was printed by UNESCO and used as a blue print for the entire Euro-Mediterranean region. The material is expected to be printed by the end of the year, in 600 “demonstration” copies. Of these, 300 copies are intended for UNESCO and 300 for MIO-ECSDE (see also C.2.1).

D.3.5. MEdIES as partner in the RUCAS-EU Tempus project

The RUCAS (Reorient University Curricula to Address Sustainability) is an EU TEMPUS project led by the Dpt. of Primary Education of the University of Crete that was launched on October 2010 with a 3-year duration. The main goal of RUCAS is to support the development of ESD in the Higher Education sector in developing countries (Egypt, Jordan and Lebanon) with the help of developed countries (Greece, France, Ireland, Italy, Sweden).

MEdIES is a partner in the project. MEdIES was represented in the second regional training workshop on ESD, held by the Heliopolis and Suez Canal Universities and hosted at the Sekem farm in the outskirts of Cairo, Egypt, on 7 - 9 January 2012. MEdIES officer Iro Alampei represented also the University of Athens, as the aim of the meeting was to re-orient the syllabi of the partner Universities towards sustainability. During the workshop two syllabi of the UoA (Department of Chemistry) were re-visited. (<http://www.medies.net/staticpages.asp?aID=567&overrideCategory=1>).

So far, 4 syllabi from the UoA have been revised: 2 from the Dpt of Chemistry and 2 from the Faculty of Childhood Education. These are being implemented already (spring semester of 2012).

D.3.6. MEdIES targeted activities for the DESD year on Health and Production Processes

MIO-ECSDE, under the MEdIES Initiative, and in collaboration with its Greek pedagogical team undertook a series of activities to support educators, in the context of the UN Decade for ESD, 2005-2014, where the school year 2012, according to the Hellenic Ministry of Education is devoted to Health and Production Processes.

These include the organisation of two training seminars for educators: on 20-21 January, in Messolongi, where 60 teachers attended from both primary and secondary schools, in cooperation with the Centre for Environmental Education of Messolongi, and, on 3-4 February where 75 teachers participated in Molaoi, in cooperation with the Center for Environmental Education of Molaoi.

Read more in Greek here: <http://www.medies.net/staticpages.asp?aID=571&overrideCategory=1>

D.3.7. Network of Mediterranean Universities

MIO-ECSDE together with the University of Athens have co-organized the 4th Meeting of the Network of Mediterranean Universities for Sustainable Development focusing on Education for Sustainable Development, Athens, 3- 4 December 2012. The meeting was facilitated by MIO-ECSDE that holds the Coordinating Secretariat of the Network and the National and Kapodistrian University of Athens (UoA) that holds the Academic Secretariat. Participants coming from the different Universities of the Network have got together to share their latest experiences and to renew their commitment to enhance the Mediterranean dimension in Higher Education.

D.3.8. Online Learning Course of ESD

This course was the first in a series of e-learning courses of the UNESCO publication: “Education for Sustainable Development in Biospheres Reserves and other Designated Areas: A Resource Book for Educators in South-Eastern Europe and the Mediterranean”.

MIO-ECSDE /MEDIES carried out an e-learning course aiming to provide a basic training to adult learners on applying the UNESCO resource book “Management of MAB Biosphere Reserves (BRs) and other designated areas”. The course was targeted at people working mainly with ESD in MAB BRs and other designated areas, Environment Centres, Nature Parks, Eco-museums, NGOs etc and is been developed by MIO-ECSDE/MEDIES in partnership with the University of Athens (UNESCO Chair on ESD and Management in the Mediterranean) with the support of the UNESCO-BRESCE Venice Office, the Greek National MAB/UNESCO Committee and the European Commission (DG ENV).

D.4. Cultural Diversity and Biodiversity

Throughout 2012 MIO-ECSDE continued efforts to strengthen partnerships (UNESCO, national support, private sources, etc.) and secure financial commitment so that activities in this field can expand (see also C.3.5.). The main activities of MIO-ECSDE on Cultural Diversity and Biodiversity in 2012 were:

- See the HYDRIA project above (D.3.2)
- See the ESD training material on Designated Areas by UNESCO-BRESCE (D.3.5)
- Etc.

D.5. Coastal and Marine Actions

In 2012 MIO-ECSDE has advocated for a strengthened Marine Strategy Framework Directive (MSFD) as far as Mediterranean concerns are fully reflected and Mediterranean States are adequately involved as well as the interlinkages with the ICZM Protocol, which came into force in March 2011. The links with coastal area preparedness for climate change has been stressed. Read more under C.1.2.1 and C.3.5.

D.6. Other projects

D.6.1. Horizon 2020 Capacity Building/Mediterranean Environment Programme (H2020 CB/MEP)

MIO-ECSDE is a key partner in the Consortium that is responsible for the implementation of the EU funded Horizon 2020 Capacity Building/Mediterranean Environment Programme (H2020 CB/MEP). The project started in November 2009, and its first phase was till the end of October 2012. The Consortium is led by the University of Athens.

The main objective of this project is to support the implementation of H2020 with a special focus on environmental mainstreaming. It aims to address the following problems: low political priority given to the environment; insufficient integration of environment in the different sector policies (agriculture, tourism, transport or energy) and lack of inclusion of the different actors from local to international level; insufficient capacities and resources at institutional and civil society level. More specifically, the purpose is to support the implementation of the Horizon 2020 Initiative Road Map and Work Plan through capacity building and awareness raising activities in the thematic areas of urban solid waste, urban waste water and industrial emissions, and to promote integration of environment issues in other sectors policies (agriculture, tourism, etc.). See full description of the Initiative and its projects at www.h2020.net

In April 2012 at the H2020 Steering Group Meeting, the EC announced that due to the success of the project and the unanimous support of the beneficiary countries, a follow-up phase of 2 more years has been decided. Indeed this was officially communicated to us and an addendum for the contract extension was completed before the end of 2012.

D.6.2. The Strategic Partnership for the Mediterranean Large Sea Marine Ecosystem (MedPartnership)

The MedPartnership is a collective effort of leading organizations (regional, international, nongovernmental, etc.) and countries sharing the Mediterranean Sea towards the protection of the marine and coastal environment of the Mediterranean. The MedPartnership is being led by UNEP/MAP and is financially supported by the Global Environment Facility (GEF) and other donors, including the EU and all participating countries.

Within the framework of the project, MIO-ECSDE's activities aim to strengthen public awareness (with particular emphasis on NGO networks) and support NGO participation in the implementation of the project. More, specifically the aim is to ensure effective NGO involvement in the project and feeding into and complementing the Communication Strategy. Furthermore, since December 2010 MIO-ECSDE has been leading the communication and information dissemination activities of the project. The contract expired in March 2011 and a follow-up contract for the whole duration of the project (end of project: August 2014) is on the way. Read more at www.themedpartnership.org and see C.1.1.

D.6.3. FP7 project: MARine Litter in Europe Seas: Social Awareness and CO-Responsibility (MARLISCO)

Together with eighteen other organizations from the EU, MIO-ECSDE is a partner in the FP7 project entitled MARLISCO "MARine Litter in Europe Seas: Social Awareness and CO-Responsibility". The 36-month long project is led by Provincia di Teramo, Italy and officially started in June 2012 (signing of contracts) while the kick-off meeting was organized on 26-27 July 2012.

The main objective of the MARLISCO project is to increase the awareness of the consequences of societal behaviour in relation to waste production and management on marine socio-ecological systems, to promote co-responsibility among the different actors and to define a more sustainable collective vision through concerted actions. The main focus is to provide and evaluate mechanisms to enable society to perceive the impact of litter on the marine environment, to identify the land-based activities that are involved and collectively arrive at solutions to reduce that impact – in particular solutions that can be implemented locally but have a regional effect.

The main elements described above are addressed through six work packages: Information about marine litter trends in Europe's Seas was gathered (WP1), together with an evaluation of the relevant policy background. Examples of good practices were identified (WP2) and this will help to identify and inform the stakeholders from a wide range of industrial, commercial and civil sectors in a structured dialogue (WP4). A web portal is providing information about the findings of the project (WP3). A challenge will be issued to the younger elements of society in the form of a video competition (WP5) to raise societal awareness and potentially suggest innovative solutions. A range of educational and other materials will be generated to inform and engage the various stakeholder groups, and disseminate the results of MARLISCO to the widest possible audience (WP6).

MIO-ECSDE, given its long-standing experience at policy/advocacy/awareness raising level and Education for Sustainable Development is involved in almost all working packages and has undertaken the role of leading the Med Node and the educational component of the project. MIO-ECSDE member organization MerTerre (France) is also a partner.

D.6.4. EU Pilot Project on the plastic recycling cycle and its loopholes in the four European regional seas

Together with six other organizations, namely ARCADIS, MILIEU, Coastal and Marine Union (EUCC), Baltic Environmental Forum (BEF), REC-Bulgaria, Green Partners, MIO-ECSDE was a key partner in the pilot project launched in 2012 on the plastic recycling cycle and marine environmental impact. It was a 9-month EU project aiming to identify the loopholes in the local or regional plastic cycle in the 4 marine regions of the EU and develop proposals for measures to fill the identified gaps in the plastic cycle. More specifically, the main tasks of the project included: (a) data collection and identification of possible sources of marine litter in the four study areas; (b) description of loopholes and gaps found in the plastic cycles; (c) identification of measures to fill loopholes and gaps; (d) assessment of the feasibility of possible measures based on a set of criteria; (e) recommendation of a feasible, affordable mixture of measures per case study.

D.7. Proposals submitted for funding in 2012

In 2012 MIO-ECSDE submitted the following proposals for funding:

Proposal Title	Submitted to:	Project budget (EURO)	Submission date	Notes	Status
Promoting Democratisation with respect to environment in Southern Mediterranean countries	ENPI Non State Actors and Local Authorities in Development and Neighborhood Civil Society Facility	1.000.000	1 February 2012	Promoting the Aarhus Convention to the Med Countries who are not signatory parties	Rejected (June 2012) - Applicant: EEB
LCM4MED project on Life Cycle Management for Greening Events in the Mediterranean	ENPI CBCMED	866.864	27 February 2012	Promoting a cross-border cooperation on Life Cycle Management (LCM) in the Mediterranean Basin as a way to effectively mitigate climate change, throughout the improvement of the energy efficiency of products and services and the reduction of their GHGs emissions.	Pending Applicant: UNESCO Chair in Life Cycle & Climate Change (ESCI) - pending
Applying Governance Principles to Mediterranean Protected Areas	ENPI CBCMED	1.500.000	29 February 2012	The overarching objective is the promotion of dialogue and improvement of "good governance" processes in	Pending Applicant: University of Thessaly

				the Protected Areas (PAs) of the Mediterranean region, in order to accelerate action and lead to a greater success in PA establishment and management around the Mediterranean.	
MedPartnership: implementation of the Communication Strategy	UNEP/MAP & GEF	300.000	13 February 2012	The workplan of the project includes the maintenance of the ongoing communication activities	It has been revised several times. Last revision early July 2012 – Successful !
Adult and Elderly people Sustainable Development Education Alliance (ASEA)	EU project/ GRUNDTVIG Learning Partnerships/ Lifelong Learning Programme	16.000	21 Feb 2012	A. To introduce a new institution in Europe, the “European Concert and Festival Sustainability Label”, B. To create an Agenda on Adult and Elderly Life Long Education on Sustainable Development, and C. To organize a series of training courses for adults and aged people on the same topic	The application was found eligible, but is still on the table runner up programs Applicant: MIO-ECSDE
ICT Intergation in Primary Education	EU COMENIUS REGIO PARTNERSHIPS /LLP	31.535	21 February 2012	Pupils aged 4-12 yrs attend the official curriculum nationwide with the programs of local interest (theatrical education , environmental education). All these are supported through ICTs and networks between schools in different countries, European Projects etc).	Successful! (Starting in 29/08/2012) Applicant: Directorate of Primary Education of Kavala
LCM4MED project on Life Cycle Management for Greening Events in the Mediterranean	ENPI CBCMED	866.864	27 February 2012	Promoting a cross-border cooperation on Life Cycle Management (LCM) in the Mediterranean Basin as a way to effectively mitigate climate change, throughout the improvement of the energy efficiency of products and services and the reduction of their greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions.	Applicant: UNESCO Chair in Life Cycle & Climate Change (ESCI) - pending
Applying Governance Principles to Mediterranean Protected Areas	ENPI CBCMED	1.500.000	29 February 2012	The overarching objective of the project is the promotion of dialogue and improvement of “good governance” processes in the Protected Areas (PAs) of the Mediterranean region, in order to accelerate action and lead to a greater success in PA establishment and management around the Mediterranean.	Applicant: University of Thessaly - pending
Hydria - Discover the wealth of Mediterranean water heritage	ENPI CBCMED	1.500.000	29 February 2012	Aims to build on HYDRIA, through reviving some representative water management visions, concepts and techniques of the distant and recent past that could be applicable and coping with today's needs	REJECTED, 20/12/12 Applicant: MIO-ECSDE

				and challenges	
YouthXChange II: Production of the kit in Greek	UNESCO Participation Programme	41.000 USD	28 February 2012	Aims to produce in Greek Language and widely disseminate the YXC kit on Climate Change, that focuses on Climate Change and Lifestyles	Applicant: MIO-ECSDE
YouthXChange for Climate: An initiative connecting climate change and lifestyles of youth in the Mediterranean	ENPI CBCMED	1.500.000	29 February 2012	Aims to promote applications that exploit renewable energy or increase energy efficiency in seven Mediterranean countries, by means of small scale infrastructures in sites of public use, combined with a solid awareness raising component for young people on climate change and lifestyles.	REJECTED 20/12/12 Applicant: MIO-ECSDE
HYDRIA WEBSITE (ALF)	Anna Lindh Foundation (ALF)	42.400 EUR	18 April 2012	Aims to expand the website www.hydraproject.net in terms of sites (countries). The project is 1-yr long, it is led by MIO and involves 18 Partners from Mediterranean countries (+Malta).	Successful! (July 2012) Applicant: MIO-ECSDE
Fishing For Litter IN Europe (oFFLINE)	Marine Litter Recovery – Pilot Project Fishing for Litter ENV.D.2/SER/2012/0039	900.000	10 September 2012	This pilot project deals with litter which already is in the marine environment. The project aims at assisting EU Member States in reaching the objective laid out in the Marine Strategy Framework Directive (2008/56/EC) (MSFD) of achieving 'good environmental status' (GES) for EU marine waters by 2020 with respect to marine litter through applying an innovative collection/recovery system.	Rejected (October 2012) Applicant: Centre for Environment, Fisheries & Aquaculture Science (Cefas)
WOMEN & ESD CONFERENCE	UNESCO GR	62.600 - 95.600 50.000 in CORE, 2012	28/9/2012	The Chairman was asked by UNESCO GREECE to draft a summary proposal and a budget for a Conference that will be jointly organised by MIO-ECSDE and UNESCO GR in 2013 (?)	Status: Pending
The Joint Ministerial Conference for adopting the Mediterranean Strategy on ESD	Prince Albert II Foundation / Monaco		20/7/2012	To adopt and launch the Mediterranean Strategy on ESD	Approved to take place on 21 st October 2013

E. PUBLICATIONS & WEB-APPLICATIONS

- The following issues of **Sustainable Mediterranean** have been developed in 2012:
- “Sustainable Production & Consumption with links to the marine and coastal environment” (a tribute to Members’ activities under the MED Action Day 2011) (printed)
 - “Rio+20: The Mediterranean in focus” (printed)
 - “Biodiversity management and education for sustainable development in protected areas” (Double issue - dedicated to the Proceedings of the Grundtvig Seminar held in Greece in March and April of 2012) (in e-form)
- (<http://www.mio-ecsde.org/articles.asp?cMC=7&cID=44>)
- Four **Internal MIO-ECSDE bulletins** were distributed to the Membership and beyond, in English and French:
- Internal Information Bulletin No 93 (January -April 2012)
 - Internal Information Bulletin No 94 (May - July 2012)
 - Internal Information Bulletin No 95 (Aug - Oct 2012)
 - Internal Information Bulletin No 96 (Nov-Dec 2012)
- (<http://www.mio-ecsde.org/articles.asp?cMC=7&cID=45>)
- A publication on ‘**Aliens in the Mediterranean**’ developed in English, French and Arabic. It is the first of its kind on the issue of invasive alien species addressing the wider public but also containing more advanced information on the issue which could be used by MIO-ECSDE membership to formulate their positions on how to address the matter. (<http://www.mio-ecsde.org/articles.asp?cMC=7&cID=46>)
- A publication on ‘**Endocrine Disrupting Chemicals: a lurking threat**’. It is a 32-page leaflet providing basic information on EDCs aiming for a deeper understanding of the implications when it comes to health or the environment and establishing the links with the EU efforts to address all relevant issues. The brochure was developed in English and French. (<http://www.mio-ecsde.org/articles.asp?cMC=7&cID=46>)
- The UNESCO/MEdIES publication on “**Education for Sustainable Development in Biosphere Reserves and other Designated Areas: A Resource Book for Educators in South-Eastern Europe and the Mediterranean**” (has been printed by UNESCO).
(http://www.unesco.org/ulis/cgi-bin/ulis.pl?catno=219946&set=51593347_0_346&gp=1&lin=1&ll=1)
- The **Alter Aqua** educational material on Non Conventional Water Resources was completed and published in 400 copies in late June 2012 (see D.3.3). The poster “*Alter Aqua*” was produced in April 2012 in 2500 copies (English and Maltese) including water saving tips related to all NCWRs.
- A **Joint Guidance Paper on the implementation of the MSFD**, including a factsheet of the different descriptors was developed. The paper was printed on the occasion of the side event on marine litter co-organized by MIO-ECSDE within the framework of the European Maritime Day (see also C.1.2.1 and C.3.5) (http://www.mio-ecsde.org/uploaded_files/article_file_304_7ZF5DG6QLAHJ7.pdf)
- MIO-ECSDE’s web-based application on Nanotechnologies **NanoVirtualium** was updated. The English version of the application was updated to reflect recent scientific/regulatory developments. The updating process was realized in close cooperation with IVAM. The layout of the application was redesigned in order to make the application more attractive and easy to read and improved ICT formats were used in order to ensure that the application can be viewed by different types of devices (including tablets and phones) (<http://www.mio-ecsde.org/nanovirtualium/index.html>).
- Four (4) position/issue papers were developed with the collective input of MIO-ECSDE’s members:
- MIO-ECSDE’s Position Paper on ‘**Biodiversity in the Mediterranean**’ developed in English, French, Arabic and Greek). The existing position paper on Biodiversity (developed in 2010) was updated and revised in order to reflect the post-Nagoya policy and scientific developments at EU and international level, while taking into account the important lessons learned. Links and concerns relevant to EU policy areas were included.

- MIO-ECSDE's Issue Paper on '**Sustainable Tourism & Biodiversity: Opportunities and Threats**' was developed in French and Arabic. This Issue Paper addresses the key issues regarding tourism and biodiversity in the region and presents MIO-ECSDE's collective views and concerns to be taken into account by decision makers, local authorities and communities, when promoting sustainable tourism and ecotourism as vehicles for a sustainable economy in order to position tourism development on a truly responsible path, as opposed to many current trends. This paper was developed on the occasion of the European Commission's Initiative on Blue Growth, which aims to drive forward the Commission's Integrated Maritime Policy (IMP) and launches a process placing the blue economy firmly on the agenda of Member States, regions, enterprises and civil society.
- MIO-ECSDE's paper on '**Nanotechnologies and Nanomaterials: Recommendations to safeguard their sustainable and responsible governance**' updated to reflect recent developments and advances in the field of nanoapplications and nano-enabled products.
- A Joint NGO Position Paper on the '**Limits to Blue Growth**' developed as a reaction to the European Commission's Communication on Blue Growth and the Limassol Declaration, a milestone for the future development of the EU Integrated Maritime Policy including the Blue Growth priorities.

F. MEETINGS AND REPRESENTATIONS

1. The MIO-ECSDE member of staff, Ms. Iro Alampei, participated in a workshop organized within the TEMPUS RUCAS project on 7-9 January 2012 in Cairo, Egypt.
2. The MIO-ECSDE members of staff and MEdIES Secretariat Ms Vicky Malotidi and Mr Vassilis Psalidas were trainers of the Seminar “ESD Year on Health and Production processes” on 20-21 January 2012 ,in the Centre of Environmental Education Thermou-Messologgiou, Greece
3. Prof. Michael Scoullos actively participated in the 2nd UfM meeting with regional Mediterranean NGOs which took place on 3 February 2012, in Barcelona, Spain.
4. Prof. Michael Scoullos actively participated in the 17th Ordinary Meeting of the Contracting Parties to the Convention for the Protection of the Marine Environment and the Coastal Region of the Mediterranean and its Protocols organized by UNEP/MAP on 8-10 February 2012, in Paris, France. Prof. Michael Scoullos was accompanied by the MIO-ECSDE members of staff Ms. Thomais Vlachogianni and Ms. Eleana Tsakiri.
5. The MIO-ECSDE member of staff, Ms. Thomais Vlachogianni, participated in a meeting on “Maritime Affairs in the Adriatic Ionian Macro-Region”, which was held on 14 February 2012, in Athens, Greece.
6. Prof. Michael Scoullos actively participated in the 7th meeting of the Steering Committee on Education for Sustainable Development of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe of the and the Executive Bureau of the, which took place on 1-2 March 2012 in Geneva, Switzerland.
7. Prof. Michael Scoullos gave a 3 hour lecture at the EMUNI University in Portoroz, Slovenia, in the Framework of the Euromed Courses 2012, under the title “The Euro Mediterranean Environment: Pressures – State – Responses –Policies”.
8. Prof. Michael Scoullos actively participated in the event «RIO +20 - Commission of the European Centre for Environmental Research and Training +10, Assessing the past – moving towards the future” which was organized by and held in the Premises of Panteion University, Athens on 9 March 2012.
9. The MIO-ECSDE member of staff Ms. Thomais Vlachogianni participated in *a series of meetings* (workshop on the MSFD and meeting on the plastic loopholes related project), which took place on 12-15 March 2012 in Brussels, Belgium. She presented the draft Guidance Paper on the implementation of the MSFD and coordinated its finalization.
10. Prof. Michael Scoullos actively participated and chaired the event organized by the Rotary Club, 2470 District, which was held in the Athens War Museum on 18 March 2012. Prof. Michael Scoullos made a presentation entitled: “The Seas of the World & the Mediterranean: Environmental problems, challenges and development perspectives”. Ms. Thomais Vlachogianni also participated and made a presentation on the threats of marine litter to marine environment.
11. Prof. Michael Scoullos actively participated in the “Euro-Mediterranean Conference on Research and Innovation”, which took place in Barcelona on 2-3 April 2012, in Barcelona, Spain. Prof. Michael Scoullos made a presentation entitled: “Water availability and management”.
12. Prof. Michael Scoullos actively participated in the 3rd meeting of the Horizon 2020 Capacity Building Sub Group, which was held on 18 April 2012, in Barcelona, Spain, back to back with the 5th meeting of the Horizon 2020 Steering Group, held on 19 April 2012.
13. The MIO-ECSDE members of staff and MEdIES Secretariat Ms Iro Alampei, Ms Vicky Malotidi, Mr Vassilis Psalidas, animated the Activities in Schools and were the trainers of the Teachers’ Seminars that organized within the “RWH in Cyclades Programme”. The activities took place on 23 – 26 April 2012 in Paros, Greece (Iro Alampei, Ms Vicky Malotidi, Mr Vassilis Psalidas) & 27 April in Antiparos (Ms Iro Alampei, Mr Vassilis Psalidas).
14. The MIO-ECSDE members of staff MEdIES Secretariat Ms Iro Alampei, Ms Vicky Malotidi, Mr Vassilis Psalidas, animated the Activities in Schools and were the trainers of the Teachers’ Seminars that organized within the “RWH in Cyclades Programme” that took place on 7 – 11 May 2012 in Andros, Greece.
15. The MIO-ECSDE member of staff Ms. Thomais Vlachogianni, actively participated in a series of meetings, organized by the EEB and TerraCypria, in Cyprus on 10-11 May 2012. The meetings were organized in view of the upcoming Cypriot Presidency.

16. Prof. Michael Scoullos actively participated in the Third Steering Committee meeting of the Strategic Partnership for the Mediterranean Sea Large Marine Ecosystem (MedPartnership), organized by UNEP/MAP which took place on 15-17 May 2012, in Istanbul, Turkey. Prof. Scoullos was accompanied by Ms. Thomais Vlachogianni.
17. Prof. Scoullos during the European Maritime Day facilitated a side event entitled “Reducing marine litter for the sake of the environment...and blue growth”. Ms. Thomais Vlachogianni was also involved in the organization of the side event, organized by MIO-ECSDE on behalf of the H2020 CB/MEP in the framework of the European Maritime Day, on 22 May 2012.
18. Prof. Michael Scoullos actively participated on the 24th of May 2012 in the 2012 Green Week session 2.6 “What’s in the pipeline for Rio+20?” which was organized on 22-25 May 2012 in Brussels, Belgium.
19. The MIO-ECSDE member of staff Ms Vicky Malotidi represented MIO-ECSDE in the “Meeting with the major Greek Environmental NGOs” that was held in the premises of the Ministry for Environment, Energy and Climate Change on 24 May 2012, Athens where a discussion about a series of Greek environmental issues took place.
20. Prof. Michael Scoullos on 25 May 2012 met with the Commissioner on Maritime Affairs and Fisheries, Ms. Maria Damanaki, at the Premises of the European Commission Representation in Athens, Greece and discussed a number of issues of mutual interest.
21. MIO-ECSDE member of staff Ms. Thomais Vlachogianni actively participated in the 6th Drin Core Group Meeting which took place on 29 May 2012 in Ohrid, FYROM.
22. The MIO-ECSDE members of staff and MEDIES Secretariat Ms Iro Alampeï, Ms Vicky Malotidi, Mr Vassilis Psalidas, animated the Sensitization activities on Water with school children on 30 – 31 May 2012 at the Environmental Sensitization Park “Antonis Tritsis”, Attiki (Greece) & 1 June (Ms Iro Alampeï, Mr Vassilis Psalidas).
23. Prof. Scoullos attended the event “World Environment Day 2012, Well being and happiness: our contribution to Rio +20”, held on 5 June 2012 at the EEA premises. He contributed with a presentation entitled “Towards an Inclusive Green Economy”. This event was followed by the Generation ’92 Video Award Ceremony.
24. The MIO-ECSDE member of staff Ms. Thomais Vlachogianni actively participated in the EU /MSFD Good Environmental Status (GES) Technical Subgroup on Marine Litter meeting, which has held on 13-15 June 2012, in Ljubljana, Slovenia.
25. Prof. Michael Scoullos coordinated MIO-ECSDE’s side event at Rio+20 United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development “Challenges and Opportunities for a Mediterranean Green Growth” which has held on 19 June 2012 in Rio Centro Room T-3, Rio De Janeiro, Brasil. Prof. Scoullos participated in a series of meetings organised during the Rio+ 20 Earth Summit. Prof. Scoullos was accompanied by Thomais Vlachogianni.
26. Prof. Michael Scoullos, during the Summer School Courses held on 3-7 July 2012, in Primosten, Croatia actively participated and gave a keynote lecture entitled “Educating for Sustainable Mediterranean”.
27. Prof. Michael Scoullos, actively participated in the RAMSAR 11th Meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Wetlands, “Wetlands: home and destination”, which took place on 6-13 July 2012, in Bucharest, Romania. Prof. Scoullos ,made a presentation entitled: “Water security and the importance of wetlands as natural infrastructure in water resource management”
28. Prof. Michael Scoullos actively participated, as representative of the Greek Ministry of Education, Lifelong Learning and Religious Affairs, in the “Tbilisi+35: Environmental Education for Sustainable Development”, which was held on 5-8 September 2012, in Tbilisi, Georgia.
29. Prof. Michael Scoullos actively participated in the Global Footprint Network/UNESCO/MAVA Foundation events, which were held on 1-2 October 2012, in the UNESCO Venice Premises.
30. Prof. Michael Scoullos actively participated in the UNESCO Chairs in ESD Workshop, which took place on 4-5 October 2012 in Paris, France. Prof. Scoullos made a presentation entitled “The UNESCO chair and Network on SD Management and Education in the Mediterranean: components, projects, synergies”.

31. Prof. Michael Scoullos actively participated in the Ceremony for the Signature of the Lake Bizerte Charter, which took place on 16 October 2012 in Tunis, Tunisia.
32. The MIO-ECSDE staff member Ms. Eleana Tsakiri represented the organization at Quality Net's event "Bravo Awards- Sustainability Dialogues" which took place on 20 November 2012, in Athens, Greece.
33. The MIO-ECSDE staff member Ms. Eleana Tsakiri represented the organization at an event organized by International Transparency Greece entitled "State & Corruption: Institutions – From the Fall to the Rise", which took place on 28 November 2012, in Athens, Greece.
34. The MIO-ECSDE staff member Ms. Varvara Vasilaki participated in the seminar organized by IEMed: "Freedom of Expression, Right to Information, Knowledge and Culture, and the role of media and culture in the democratic transition" within the framework of the EU funded Program "Civil Society", 30 November & 1 December 2012, in Barcelona. On 30 November, Ms. Vasilaki also participated in the meeting held for the creation of a new Euro-Med platform on culture & environment.
35. Ms. Thomais Vlachogianni, MIO-ECSDE Programme Officer participated in the three Expert Working Group Meetings (Water Framework Directive implementation, Monitoring and Information exchange, Biodiversity), that were held on 30 October 2012– 1 November 2012, Tirana, Albania. Ms. Thomais Vlachogianni organized on 1 November 2012 in Tirana a networking meeting with local and national NGOs. Another networking meeting with local NGOs was organized on 2 November 2012 in Shkodra, Albania and a third one on 3 November 2012 in Podgorica Montenegro.
36. Ms. Thomais Vlachogianni, MIO-ECSDE Programme Officer constructively participated in the discussions of the Marine Strategy Coordination Group (MSCG) meeting, held on 13-14 November 2012 in Brussels, Belgium. In the evening of the 14th Ms. Vlachogianni participated also in the launching event of the EC LIFE+ PISCES project guide to implementing sustainable marine management.
37. Ms. Thomais Vlachogianni, MIO-ECSDE Programme Officer constructively participated the Drin Core Group meeting, held on 20 November 2012 in Tirana, Albania. She made a presentation on MIO-ECSDE's activities to support/strengthen the implementation of the River Basin Management Plan.
38. The MIO-ECSDE staff member Ms. Thomais Vlachogianni participated in a two-day training organized by UNECE and GWP-Med on the implementation of the EU Water Framework Directive. The training was held on 21-22 November 2012, Tirana, Albania.
39. Prof. Michael Scoullos, Ms. Bessie Mantzara and Ms. Thomais Vlachogianni participated at the International Roundtable on Transboundary Water Resources Management in the Southern Mediterranean, which took place on 26-27 November 2012 in Rome, Italy. On the 27th of November Programme Officer Thomais Vlachogianni made a presentation entitled "NGO involvement in transboundary water resources management".
40. Ms. Thomais Vlachogianni participated at the GWP-Med Partnership Council Meeting representing MIO-ECSDE, which was held on 28-29 November 2012 in Rome, Italy.
41. Ms. Thomais Vlachogianni, MIO-ECSDE Programme Officer constructively participated in the EU /MSFD Good Environmental Status (GES) Technical Subgroup on Marine Litter meeting, which has held on 5-7 December 2012, in Bucharest, Romania.
42. Prof. Michael Scoullos actively participated in the Seminar organised by the EU Delegation in Albania "Promoting Environment and Sustainable Development through participatory processes" which took place on 6-7 December 2012 in Tirana, Albania. Prof. Scoullos made two presentations entitled: "Enabling frameworks for effective civil society participation in Mediterranean Countries" and "The case of the *Drin Dialogue*: how national and local NGOs can benefit from regional best practice".
43. Ms. Thomais Vlachogianni, MIO-ECSDE Programme Officer constructively participated in a series of meetings related to marine policy issues organized on 11-12 December 2012, in Brussels, Belgium. These included: (a) the networking meeting of the European Seas Environmental Coalition (ESEC); (b) a meeting with DG ENV marine unit representatives; (c) a meeting with DG MARE representatives.
44. Ms. Thomais Vlachogianni, MIO-ECSDE Programme Officer constructively participated in the national workshop on the implementation of the MSFD, held on 13 December 2012, in Athens, Greece.

45. Prof. Michael Scoullos actively participated in the event organised by the Hellenic Chapter of the Club of Rome entitled “Biopolicy and Biodiplomacy for International Water Cooperation” which took place on 21 December 2012 in Athens, Greece. Prof. Scoullos made a presentation entitled: “Latest developments in International and Mediterranean Transboundary Water Issues”.



17TH MIO-ECSDE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Athens, 21 October 2012

15:00 – 20:00

Divani Acropolis Hotel

(draft) MINUTES

The 17th Annual General Meeting (AGM) of MIO-ECSDE took place in Athens, Greece at the Divani Acropolis Hotel, on 21 October 2012. The meeting was organized back-to-back with an ENPI Horizon 2020 CB/MEP workshop on “How Members of Parliament can better contribute to the effective depollution of the Mediterranean” that succeeded to gather more than 120 Members of Parliament, journalists and NGOs from 22 Mediterranean countries. The meeting was organised by MIO-ECSDE, who is member of the H2020 CB/MEP Consortium led by the National and Kapodistrian University of Athens (UoA).

Thirty six (36) NGO members of MIO-ECSDE from twenty (20) Mediterranean countries travelled to Athens, Greece in order to participate in the 17th AGM of MIO-ECSDE

The Chairman, Prof. M. Scoullos and the Co-Chairman Prof. Mohamed Ftouhi chaired the meeting. From the MIO-ECSDE Secretariat, Finance and Administration Officer Ms. Bessie Mantzara presented the agenda items relating to the MIO-ECSDE financial management and Programme Officer Ms. Thomais Vlachogianni kept the minutes of the meeting. In his opening address, the Chairman welcomed the participants to Athens and the 17th AGM and highlighted that MIO-ECSDE and its Membership have successfully undertaken over 20 years of joint action. He also stressed that it is important to remember from where we have started and Prof. Ftouhi complemented his thought by saying that the two main values that are at stake these days, are embedded since the very beginning in the network and these are cooperation and solidarity for the benefit of the Mediterranean Environment.

Agenda Item 1: Approval of the Agenda

The Chairman presented the Agenda items and the corresponding attachments. The Agenda (attachment 1) was unanimously approved without amendments.

Agenda Item 2: Approval of the Minutes of the 16th AGM

The Chairman went through the minutes page by page. The minutes of the 16th AGM of MIO-ECSDE (attachment 2) were unanimously approved without amendments.

Agenda Item 3: Report by the Executive Bureau of MIO-ECSDE

a. Report of Activities 2012

The Chairman, Members of the Executive Bureau, MIO-ECSDE staff and Member organizations involved in specific activities of the Work Programme, presented highlights from the various sections of the 2012 Report of Activities. The pre-circulated Report itself had been previously approved by the Executive Bureau.

After the discussion of the Report, where many positive comments were made by the membership, the Chairman thanked the members of the Federation and the members of the Executive Bureau as well as the staff of the organization for their contribution in the successful implementation of the programme.

b. Financial Report 2011

Ms. Bessie Mantzara presented the financial report of 2011, which has been audited also by Independent External Auditors (PFK). This was the first time they audited MIO-ECSDE and proved to be equally professional and collaborative as the previous ones.

She also referred to the significance of transparency and accountability in the finances of MIO-ECSDE which is under the scrutiny of several financial authorities (Greek, independent auditors, EU and GWP audits/assessments/evaluations, etc.).

The members thanked the Executive Bureau and the Secretariat for the proper monitoring and good governance in the funds management of MIO-ECSDE as well as for the amount and quality of work achieved with the budget.

c. Estimated Financial Report 2012

The Estimated Financial Report for 2012 was also presented by Ms. Bessie Mantzara. A comparative table of the running and forecast budgets was presented and some of the terms used were explained.

It was concluded that, despite general austerity measures in Greece and the EU, in general the finances of the organisation are sound, provided that we continue to obtain the Commission's support for the core budget.

The Chairman informed of the continued commitment of the Secretariat, under his supervision, to increase the "non-core" budget to have flexibility and allow for activities also in non-EU countries.

Agenda Item 4: The MIO-ECSDE Communication Strategy

The MIO-ECSDE Communication Strategy developed by the Secretariat and a working group formed by members of the Executive Bureau was presented by the Chairman. He stressed that this is a living document to be revisited every few years. After a brief discussion, MIO-ECSDE members expressed their appreciation for the work done and committed themselves to contribute to the appropriate 'differentiation' of MIO-ECSDE's key messages to meet the needs of the target groups they directly address, as well as to widely disseminate them at national level and beyond. In addition, a request was made to MIO-ECSDE to repeat the exercise, carried out in the past, of collecting all Member NGOs' profiles and post them on the website.

Agenda Item 5: Approval of the Reports under Agenda Item 3

The Report of Activities for 2012, the Financial Report for 2011 and the Estimated Financial Report 2012 were approved unanimously, one by one, by the Plenary.

Agenda Item 6a and 6b: Presentation of the Provisional Work Programme and Budget for 2013

The Chairman presented the foreseen activities for 2013 as approved by the Executive Bureau. Most of the proposals made by the Members during the discussion have actually already been considered under the various projects either running or submitted (minor amendments were incorporated).

The Chairman underlined that MIO-ECSDE's visibility should be increased in Brussels.

Agenda Item 7: Approval of Reports under Agenda Item 5

The Provisional Work Programme for 2013 as well as the Provisional Budget for 2013 were unanimously approved one by one by the Plenary.

Agenda Item 8: Membership Affairs

a. New applications

The Chairman informed the AGM that during 2012 the Secretariat received five (5) valid new applications for Membership (see table below). The Executive Bureau (EB) proposals to the 17th AGM for these applications are as follows:

	Name of organisation	Type	Country	Membership
1	EcoOcean	NGO	Israel	Full
2	Human Environmental Association for Development (HEAD)	NGO	Lebanon	Full
3	Fondation Mohammed VI pour la Protection de l'Environnement	NGO	Morocco	Full
4	Terra Cypria	NGO	Cyprus	Full
5	Association pour la Protection de l'Environnement et le Développement Durable de Bizerte (APEDDUB)	NGO	Tunisia	Full

b. Approval of new Members

The proposals made by the Executive Bureau on the new applicants for membership were unanimously approved, one by one for each applicant by the AGM.

Agenda Item 9: Elections for Members of the Executive Bureau

The Chairman explained the system followed for the elections of the Members of the Executive Bureau (EB). Half of the Members are renewed every year with a two-year term of office each. The number of new members should equal the number of outgoing members of the Board.

The following proposals and decisions were made for the NGO seats from EU countries:

For *Greece*: Prof. Michael Scoullos was nominated who was unanimously elected.

For *France*: Mr. Jean Valere Geronimi was nominated and unanimously elected.

For *Italy*: Ms. Patricia Bonelli sharing with Ms. Romina Bicocchi, were nominated and unanimously elected.

For *Malta*: Mr. Vincent Attard was nominated *in absentia* and unanimously elected.

For *Slovenia*: Mr. Milan Vogrin was nominated and unanimously elected.

The following proposals and decisions were made for the three NGO seats from non EU Countries:

Mr. Riad Nacer Bendaoud from *Algeria* was nominated and unanimously elected.

Mr. Ziyad Alawneh from *Jordan* was nominated and unanimously elected

Mr. Habib Ben Boubaker from *Tunisia* was nominated and unanimously elected.

For the *ad hoc* members:

Prof. Gerasimos Arapis has been nominated as alternate to Prof. Scoullos who is appointed by the Elliniki Etaireia as its representative. So for this term Prof. Arapis will represent Elliniki Etaireia.

The EEB appointed its President Mr. Mikael Karlsson to represent it in the Executive Bureau of MIO-ECSDE. His alternate will be Mr. Serdar Sarigul who is also on the Board of the EEB. The AGM agreed with these arrangements.

The AGM confirmed Mr. Vincent Attard as Treasurer of MIO-ECSDE.

The AGM approved the appointees and replacements and welcomed them for their new term.

From the newly elected Executive Bureau Prof. Michael Scoullos was nominated and unanimously elected as Chairman and Prof. Mohammed Ftouhi was nominated and unanimously elected as Co-Chairman.

It was confirmed that PFK will continue to be our external Auditors for 2013.

Therefore, the MIO-ECSDE Executive Bureau is as follows:

Chairman: Prof. M. Scoullos (Greece/EE)

Co-Chairman: Prof. M. Ftouhi (Morocco)

Members (in alphabetical order):

Prof. G. Arapis	Elliniki Etairia
Dr. E. Adly	RAED
Mr. Z. Alawneh	Jordan
Mr. M. Alves	Portugal
Mr. V. Attard	Malta
Mr. I. Attrash	Palestine
Mr. H. Ben Boubaker	Tunisia
Mr. RN Bendaoud	Algeria
Ms. P. Bonelli sharing with R. Bicocchci	Italy
Mr. J-V Geronimi	France
Mr. M. Ghandour	Lebanon
Mr. A. Juarez	Spain
Mr. M. Karlsson	EEB
Mr. S. Sarigul	Turkey
Ms. A. Theodosiou	Cyprus
Mr. M. Vogrin	Slovenia

Its term is valid till the 31st of December 2013 and to be renewed by the AGM of 2013.

The Chairman thanked the members for their renewed confidence and support and promised to continue the efforts for the organization and its cause. He also congratulated the new Members of the Executive Bureau.

Agenda Item 10: Any other business

No issue was raised for discussion under this agenda item

Closure of the 17th MIO-ECSDE AGM: The AGM was closed by the Chairman and Co-Chairman who thanked the Members for their commitment, support and collaboration and the Secretariat for its dedication and hard work. On behalf of the Board they assured the Members that the Secretariat will try to perform even better.

MIO-ECSDE Member Organizations as of the 17th AGM (December 2012)

No	Country	Organisation	Abbreviation	Address	Status
1.	International (Based in BELGIUM)	European Environmental Bureau	EEB	34, Blvd de Waterloo, 1000 Brussels	Full
2.	International (Based in EGYPT)	Arab Network for Environment and Development	RAED	P.O.Box: 2 Magless El-Shaab, Cairo	Full
3.	International (Based in GREECE)	Mediterranean Scientific Association of Environmental Protection	MESAEP	Organization of the Master Plan & Environmental Protection of Thessaloniki, 105 Vas. Olgas Str., 54643 Thessaloniki	Full
4.	International (Based in ISRAEL)	Friends of the Earth Middle East	FoEME	8 Hanegev Str., Tel Aviv 66186,	Full
5.	International (Based in FRANCE)	Centre International de Droit Compare de l'Environnement	CIDCE	32, rue Turgot, F-87000 LIMOGES	Full
6.	International (Based in LIBYA)	International Energy Foundation	IEF	1st September Street, P.O.Box 83617, Tripoli	Corresponding
7.	International (Based in MOROCCO)	Alliance Maghreb Machrek pour l'Eau	ALMAE	53, Rond Point Mers Sultan, 21100 CASABLANCA	Full
8.	International (Based in UK)	Mediterranean Association to Save the Sea Turtles - GREECE	MEDASSET		Full
9.	ALBANIA	Environmental Center for Administration and Technology	ECAT	Rr. A. Frasheri, Pall.16/ Shk.6/ Ap.53, Tirana	Corresponding
10.	ALBANIA	Environmental centre for Development, Education and Networking	EDEN centre	Rr. "Luigj Gurakuqi" Nd. 33 H. 2 Ap.13, Njësia Bashkiake Nr.2, Kodi Postar 1017 Tirana , Albania	Full
11.	ALBANIA	Protection and Preservation of the Natural Environment in Albania	PPNEA	Rr. "Mujo Ulqinaku" 25 / 1 / 5 , Tirana, Albania	Full
12.	ALGERIA	Association de Volontariat TOUIZA de la wilaya d'Alger	TOUIZA	Bp 304 Alger Gare Algérie 16000	Full
13.	ALGERIA	Association Ecologique de Boumerdes	AEB	02 rue Fouzia Mouileh, Rostomia, Delly Ibrahim 16 000	Full
14.	ALGERIA	Association Memoire de SETIF	SETIF	BP 310, 19600 El Eulma, Setif	Full

15.	CROATIA	Eko Kvarner Organisation		Primorska 10, 51512 Njivice, Croatia	Full
16.	CROATIA	Euromediterranean Forum	EMEF	Mihanoviceva 36 C, 21000, Split	Corresponding
17.	CYPRUS	Federation of Environmental & Ecological Organisations of Cyprus	FEEO	5 Kalymnou Street, Flat 02, 2002 Strovolos, Nicosia, Cyprus	Full
18.	CYPRUS	Friends of Akamas	FOA	P.O Box: 25204,1307 Nicosia	Full
19.	CYPRUS	Terra Cypria		POB 50257, Limassol 3602, Cyprus	Full
20.	EGYPT	Balady Association, Port Said Branch		El-Sharq District Building - Tareh ElBaher and Salah Salem Street - Seventh Floor, Portsaid , P.O.Box 85,	Full
21.	EGYPT	Nature Friends Association	NFA	Dpt. of Horticulture, Faculty of Agriculture, Al Azhar University, Nasr City, Cairo	Full
22.	FRANCE	Association MerTerre		11 Bd Tellene, 13007, Marseille	Corresponding
23.	FRANCE	Association U. MARINU		Logis de Montesoro (Batiment I), B.P. 154 20292 Bastia Cedex	Full
24.	FRANCE	Ecomed 21		5, rue des Immeubles industriels, 75011 Paris	Corresponding
25.	FRANCE	France Nature Environnement	FNE	81-83 bd Port-Royal, 75013, Paris	Full
26.	FRANCE	Languedoc Roussillon Nature Environment	LRNE	474, allée Henri II de Montmorency, 34 000 MONTPELLIER	Full
27.	FRANCE	Société de Protection de la Nature de AGDE		Domaine du Grand Chavelet, Maison de la Reserve, 34300 AGDE	Full
28.	EGYPT	Arab Media Forum for Environment and Development	AMFED	2/11B, El Hedaya Str., Embassies District, Nasr City, Cairo, Egypt	Corresponding
29.	EGYPT	The Arab Office for Youth and Environment	AOYE	P.O. Box 2, Magles El Shaab, Cairo	Full
30.	FRANCE	Union Régionale pour la Sauvegarde de la Vie, de la Nature et de l' Environnement	URVN	Maison de la Vie Associative - «Le Ligoures», Place Romee de Villeneuve - Encagnane - 13090 Aix-en-Provence	Full
31.	FYROM	BIOSFERA-Centre for Education, Environment and Nature Protection	BIOSFERA	Dimo Hadzi Dimov Str., No.3, 7000 Bitola Republic of Macedonia (FY),	Corresponding
32.	GREECE	Athens Environmental Foundation	AEF	Megalou Spilaiou 17-19, 11522, Abelokipoi	Full

33.	GREECE	Athens Network of Collaborating Experts	ANCE	15A Miaouli Str., 10554, Athens	Full
34.	GREECE	ELLINIKI ETAIRIA (Society for the Environment and Cultural Heritage)	ELLINIKI ETAIRIA	28, Tripodon street, 105 58 - PLAKA	Full
35.	GREECE	Hellenic Association of Educators for Environmental Education	HAEEE	3 Bouboulinas str., 16451, Athens	Full
36.	GREECE	Hellenic Institute of Environment, Water Reuse and Preservation	HIEWRP	Trapezountos 25, Koridallos, 181 21 Athens	Corresponding
37.	GREECE	Hellenic Ornithological Society	EOE	Vas. Irakleiou 24, 10682 Athens	Full
38.	GREECE	Hellenic Society for the Protection of Nature	HSPN	20, Nikis Str., 105 57 Athens	Full
39.	GREECE	Interdisciplinary Institute for Environmental Research	INIER	65, Charilaou Trikoupi 106 82 Athens	Full
40.	GREECE	Mediterranean Association to Save the Sea Turtles - GREECE	MEDASSET	1c Licavitou Street, 106 72 Athens	Full
41.	GREECE	Mediterranean SOS Network	MEDSOS	Mamai 3, 104 40 Athens	Full
42.	GREECE	New Ecology Society	NES	Mavromichali 39, 10680, Athens	Full
43.	GREECE	Society for the Environment and Sustainability on Earth	SENSE	3, Leontariou Str., 14235, Nea Ionia, Athens	Corresponding
44.	GREECE	SOLON for synthesis and ecological civilization on 21st century	SOLON	18, Miaouli Str., 35011, Makri, Fthiotida	Corresponding
45.	GREECE	World Wide Fund for Nature - Hellas	WWF-HELLAS	Fillelinon 26, 105 58 Athens	Full
46.	GREECE	ECOCITY		9, Kefallinias str.151 25 Marousi Athens Greece	Full
47.	ISRAEL	Israel Society for Ecology and Environmental Quality Sciences		Division of Environmental Water and Agricultural Engineering Faculty of Civil Engineering, Technion, Israel Institute of Technology, Haifa 32000	Full
48.	ISRAEL	Sustainable Development for the Negev		.O. B.: 125, Dafna 4, 84965, Omer , Israel	Full
49.	ISRAEL	The Society for the Protection of Nature in Israel	SPNI	Hashfela 4, Tel Aviv 44183	Full
50.	ISRAEL	EcoOcean		Kibutz Sdot Yam, 37804, Israel	Full

51.	ITALY	Centro Regionale d' Intervento per la Cooperazione	CRIC	Via Monsolini 12, 89121 Reggio Calabria	Full
52.	ITALY	Coordinamento delle Organizzazioni non governative per la Cooperazione Internazionale allo Sviluppo	COCIS	via Tacito, 10, 00193, Roma	Full
53.	ITALY	Forum per la Laguna		Calle Vitturi, 2923 - San Marco 30124 Venezia	Corresponding
54.	ITALY	House of Social Rights FOCUS / Casa dei Diritti Sociali FOCUS		Via dei Mille, n.6 , 00185 Rome	Full
55.	ITALY	Istituto per l'Ambiente e l'Educazione Scholé Futuro	Schol�	Via Bligny, 15 – 10122 Torino	Full
56.	ITALY	Italia Nostra		Viale Liegi, 33 00198 Roma	Full
57.	ITALY	LEGAMBIENTE		Via Salaria 403, 00199 Roma	Full
58.	ITALY	MAREVIVO Associazione Ambientalista		Lungotevere A. Da Brescia, Scalo de Pinedo, 00196 Roma	Full
59.	JORDAN	Arab Network for Environment and Development		P.O. Box 4600, Amman	Corresponding
60.	JORDAN	Aqaba International Laboratories (Ben hayyan)	AIL	PO Box: 2565 Aqaba, 77110, Jordan	Corresponding
61.	JORDAN	Jordan Environment Society	JES	P. O. Box 922821, 11192, Amman	Full
62.	JORDAN	Land and Human to Advocate Progress	LHAP	P.O.Box 340636 Amman 111 34	Full
63.	JORDAN	The Jordanian Society for Desertification Control and Badia Development	JSDC	P.O.Box 910994 Amman 11191 Jordan	Full
64.	LEBANON	AMWAJ of the Environment	AMWAJ	Verdun str. - Jaber bldg. 4th fl. Beirut	Full
65.	LEBANON	Association Liban Nature Environnement	LINE	No address available	Full
66.	LEBANON	Association Libanaise pour la Ma�trise de l'Energie et de l'Environnement	ALMEE	Po.box. 50184, Furn El Chebback, Beirut	Full
67.	LEBANON	Lebanese Environmental Forum	LEF	P.O. BOX 11-5665, Beirut	Full
68.	LEBANON	Makhzoumi Foundation	MF	Ras - Beirut, Al - Kalaa Str., Al - Kalaa Tower, 1st Fl., Beirut	Corresponding

69.	LEBANON	The Union of Northern Associations for Sustainable Development	UNASD	P.O. Box Jounieh 63	Full
70.	LEBANON	Window to Environment Association	WEA	Ain Baida, Hassoun Ward Str, Beirut	Corresponding
71.	LEBANON	Human Environmental Association for Development	HEAD	Edde Jbeil Main Road Bldg Youssef Merhej, P.O Box 2532/116, Palais de Justice, Beirut, Lebanon	Full
72.	MALTA	Birdlife Malta	MOS	57/28, Triq Rigord, Ta' Xbiex MSD 12 Malta	Full
73.	MALTA	Nature Trust Malta		P.O. BOX 9 Valleta VLT 1000,	Full
74.	MAURITANIA	Association pour le Développement Durable	ADD	BP. : 1268, Nouakchott - Mauritanie	Corresponding
75.	MAURITANIA	Club des amis de la nature et la protection de l'environnement	CANPE	Nouakchott – Immeuble BBCIS appart n°1 – République Islamique de Mauritanie – B.P. 4830	Corresponding
76.	MONTENEGRO	NGO Greens of Montenegro		Ivangradska bb (Zgrada Mjesne zajednice Tološi), 81 000 Podgorica	Corresponding
77.	MOROCCO	Association Femmes et Jeunesse dans l' Environnement Maghrebin (AFJEM)	AFJEM	9, Lotissement, Hassania, Hay Nahdas, Rabat/ 8, Rue Khawarizmi, 90000 Tanger Maroc	Corresponding
78.	MOROCCO	Association Marocaine pour la Protection de l' Environnement - Moroccan Association for Environment Protection (MAEP)	ASMAPE	B.P. 6331 Rabat - Instituts	Full
79.	MOROCCO	Club Marocain pour l'Environnement et le Développement	CMED	B.P. 1072, Rabat	Full
80.	MOROCCO	Maison de l'Environnement-Association Atlas Saïs		Imb 48 (NADA) rue Lalla Fatimazohra, AV. Allal ben Abdellah - Fes	Corresponding
81.	MOROCCO	National Drought Observatory of Morocco/Observatoire National de la Secheresse		IAV HassanII, BP 6202, Rabat-Instituts, Rabat	Corresponding
82.	MOROCCO	Société Protectrice des Animaux et de la Nature	SPANNA	41 Résidence Zohra, Harhoura 12000, Témara	Full
83.	MOROCCO	Fondation Mohammed VI pour la Protection de l'Environnement	FM6E	Km 3,2 – Route des Zaers, Avenue Mohamed VI, Rue El Madani Ibn Houssaini, B.P. 5679, Rabat	Full
84.	PAKISTAN	SWAT YOUTH FRONT	SYF	Opposite GPS, Haji Baba, Mingora, Swat NWFP, Pakistan	Corresponding

85.	PALESTINE	Palestinian Hydrology Group for Water and Environmental Resources Development	PHG	Shuf'fat-Jerusalem, P.O. Box 25220	Full
86.	PALESTINE	Palestine Wildlife Society	PWS	Beit Sahour P.O.Box 89, Palestine	Full
87.	PORTUGAL	Amigos da terra		Rua do Poco dos Negros, 68-1 B - 1200-340 Lisboa	Full
88.	PORTUGAL	ETNIA -CULTURA E DESENVOLVIMENTO	ETNIA	Rua do Poco dos Negros, 68-'I B - 1200-340 Lisboa	Full
89.	PORTUGAL	Liga para a Proteccao da Natureza	LPN	Estrada do Calhariz de Benfica, 187 1500-124 Lisboa	Full
90.	SLOVENIA	DPPVN - Society of bird research and nature concervation	DPPVN	Ptujska c. 91, SI23237 Slovenia	Full
91.	SPAIN	Amigos del Mediterraneo		C/Sierra Bermeja 40, 8D 28018 Madrid	Full
92.	SPAIN	Asociacion Malaguena para la Protection de la Vida Silvestre	SILVEMA	21, Calle Mariblanca, 29012 Málaga	Full
93.	SPAIN	Centro Mediterraneo de Estudios para el Uso y Concervacion de las Costas-Centro Mediterraneo EUCC-EUCC Mediterranean Centre	EUCC Mediterranea n Centre	C. Escar 6-8 Modulo 10A, 08039 Barcelona	Full
94.	SPAIN	Consejo Iberico para la Defensa de la Naturaleza	CIDN	c/Moreto, 7.5 dcha, E-28014 Madrid	Full
95.	SPAIN	Eco-union		c/Roser 95, 08004 Barcelona , Spain	Full
96.	SPAIN	Fundacion Iberoamerica-Europa (Centro de Investigacion, Promocion y Cooperacion Internacional-CIPIE)	FUNDACION CIPIE	Hermanos Bécquer, 6 - 1ºC, 28006 Madrid	Full
97.	SPAIN	Itaca Asociacion defensa Naturaleza y Medio Ambiente	ITACA	C/. DOCTOR ARRUGA 8, 4º B CP 11407 JEREZ DE LA FRONTERA	Full
98.	SPAIN	MEDITERRANIA, Centre d' Initiatives Ecologiques		C/Francoli 56-58, 43006 Tarragona	Full
99.	SYRIA	Syrian Coast Society for Environmental Protection	SCSEP	P.O Box 3258, Lattakia	Full
100.	TUNISIA	Alliance Femme et Environnement	AFE	56 boulevard Bab Bnet Tunis	Corresponding

101.	TUNISIA	APENA	APENA	5, Av. H. Thameur, 2080, Ariana	Full
102.	TUNISIA	Association de Developpement et de Protection de l'Environnement- La Marsa	ADPE La MARSa	15 bis rue Fadhel Ben Achour , 2078 , La Marsa	Full
103.	TUNISIA	Association de l'Environnement de Kelibia		Rue du Nil, No 1 cité erriadh, 8090 Kelibia	Full
104.	TUNISIA	Association de Sauvegarde de la Medina et du Patrimoine de Kelibia	A.S.M.K	Espace Raouf GARA, Port de Kélibia. 8090 Kélibia. Tunisia	Full
105.	TUNISIA	Association des Amis du Belvedere	AAB	BP 349 Tunis Belvédère 1002	Full
106.	TUNISIA	Association des Habitants d'El Mourouj II		Adresse de la correspondance : BP 1220 – 1045 Tunis RP / Adresse du local : 22 Rue de la Cannelle El Mourouj 2	Corresponding
107.	TUNISIA	Association du Reseau Mediterranee Pour le Developpement Durable	AREMEDD	CITET, BOULEVARD YASSER ARAFAT, 1080 TUNIS	Full
108.	TUNISIA	Association for Sustainable Development	ADD	Local de la municipalité de Sidi Thabet Avenue Habib Bourguiba - Sidi Thabet	Full
109.	TUNISIA	Association for the Protection of Nature and Environment - Kairouan	APNEK	Cite Commerciale 2, Kairouan, B.P. 197, Kairouan 3100	Full
110.	TUNISIA	Association 'Les Amis des Oiseaux'	AAO	Bureau des Projets Avenue 18 janvier 1952, Center – Bureau C 208/209, 2080 Ariana	Full
111.	TUNISIA	Association Nationale Tunisienne de la Protection de la Faune Sauvage	ANTPFS	building November 7, 43-45 avenue habib bourguiba 3rd floor suite 331	Full
112.	TUNISIA	Association pour la Protection de l'Environnement et la Nature du Gouvernorat de Bizerte	APENB	87, Place du 13.1.1952, 7000 Bizerte	Full
113.	TUNISIA	Association pour la Sauvegarde de la Médina de Gafsa	ASM Gafsa	Dar Loungo. Avenue Ahmed Zaïech. 2100 Gafsa Tunisie	Full
114.	TUNISIA	Association Tunisienne pour la Protection de la Nature et de l'Environnement	ATPNE	12, rue Tantaoui, El Jawhari, El Omrane 1005 - Tunis	Full
115.	TUNISIA	ATMT ENVIRONNEMENT		c/o Ami international Avenue Mohamed V - 8000 Nabeul	Full
116.	TUNISIA	Centre de Recherches, d'Etudes, de Documentation et d'Information sur la Femme	CREDIF	Avenue Roi Abdelaziz Al Saoud, Rue Rue (Chahid) Farhat Ben Afiya El Manar II 7131, 2092 Tunis	Full

117.	TUNISIA	Conservation de la Nature - Développement	Tenmya 21	B.P. 328, Publiposte, Av. Taieb M'hiri, 2080 Ariana	Full
118.	TUNISIA	Femmes pour le Développement Durable / Women for Sustainable Development	FDD/WSD	B.P. 377, 7 rue Remada, 2000 Le Bardo	Full
119.	TUNISIA	Youth and Science Club of Hammam-Lif		B.P. 95, 2050 Hammam - Lif	Corresponding
120.	TUNISIA	Association pour la Protection de l'Environnement et le Développement Durable de Bizerte	APEDDUB	Avenue Habib Bougatfa, OTELA BP 62, 7000 Bizerte	Full
121.	TURKEY	Green Steps for Environmental Literacy		Cami Meydani Sok. 8/2 Deniz Apt. Visnezade, Besiktas, Istanbul	Full
122.	TURKEY	Legacy		Mustafa Kemal Cad., No: 155/19, Bornova – Izmir / Turkey	Corresponding
123.	TURKEY	The Turkish Foundation for Combating Soil Erosion, for Reforestation and the Protection of Natural Habitats	TEMA	Cayir Cimen Sokak Emlak Kredi Bloklari A2/8Levent/Istanbul	Full
124.	TURKEY	Turkish Association for the Conservation of Nature	TTKD	Menekse 2 Sokak No. 29/4, Kúzólay - 06440 Ankara	Full
125.	TURKEY	Turkish Marine Environment Protection Association	TURMEPA	Nakkaştepe, Aziz Bey Sokak No:1 34674 Kuzguncuk - İstanbul	Full
126.	USA	A World Institute for a Sustainable Humanity - Hellas	A WISH-HELLAS	1301 Taylor Avenue, Bellingham, WA 98225 USA	Full



MIO-ECSDE Profile

The **Mediterranean Information Office for Environment, Culture and Sustainable Development**, is a Federation of Mediterranean Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs) for Environment and Development. MIO-ECSDE acts as a technical and political platform for the presentation of views and intervention of NGOs in the Mediterranean scene. In co-operation with governments, international organisations and other socio-economic partners, MIO-ECSDE plays an active role for the protection of the environment and the promotion of the sustainable development of the Mediterranean region and its countries.

ITS MAIN OBJECTIVES ARE ...

To protect the **Natural Environment** (flora and fauna, biotopes, forests, coasts, natural resources, climate) and the **Cultural Heritage** (archaeological monuments 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 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 organisations and socio-economic actors of the Mediterranean region at all levels.
- Assistance for the establishment, strengthening, co-operation and co-ordination of Mediterranean NGOs and facilitation of their efforts by ensuring the flow of appropriate information among relevant bodies.
- Promotion of education, research and study on Mediterranean issues, by stimulating collaboration between NGOs and scientific and/or academic institutions.
- Raising of public awareness on crucial Mediterranean environmental and social issues, through campaigns, publications, exhibitions, presentations, etc.

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