

Media Advisory

The Mediterranean region, a Climate Hotspot in the spotlight

COP 27 to host a first-ever Mediterranean Pavilion

Sharm el-Sheikh, Egypt - 6 to 18 November 2022

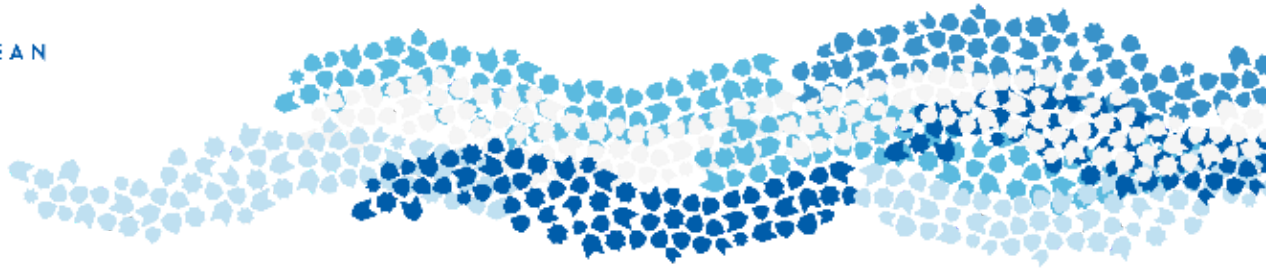
For the first time in COP's history, the 27th edition will host a Mediterranean Pavilion. The initiative is conceived to highlight both the urgent challenges the region is currently facing, and the innovative solutions already being developed throughout the Mediterranean, raising awareness on a region overlooked in the climate negotiations.

Located in the COP27 Blue zone, the Mediterranean Pavilion will host relevant events and working meetings and provide an exceptional opportunity to highlight these severe challenges as well as to illustrate, share, scale up and discuss the advanced initiatives applied and planned in the region.

The Mediterranean Pavilion is conceived as a space for all regional actors – public and private, scientific and academic, technical, policymaking, civil society, finance, and business – actively engaged in facing the climate crisis in and around the Mediterranean Sea. The initiative is led by the Union for the Mediterranean (UfM) together with United Nations Environment Programme - Mediterranean Action Plan (UNEP-MAP) and the PRIMA Foundation, along with a coalition of the most relevant organizations dealing with climate action in the region (see list below). In an innovative approach, the Mediterranean Pavilion will have the independent network of Mediterranean Experts on Environmental and Climate Change (MedECC) as a scientific council advising its activities. MedECC gathers over 600 scientists from 35 countries and published in 2019 the first-ever scientific [assessment report](#) on the impact of environmental and climate change in the Mediterranean region.

Following a summer dominated by climate and environmental emergencies across the region, and within the context of a global climate crisis, the Mediterranean area faces challenges of its own that can lead to regional instability: extremely severe and accelerated impact – **it is the planet's second-fastest warming region (warming 20% faster than the global average)**– overlapping with a dangerous socio-economic asymmetry and lack of integration. But the Mediterranean is also a hub for emerging solutions – public policies and private initiatives - that can serve as a blueprint for similar efforts to be scaled up globally.

An effective and rapid transition requires a joint effort by all the relevant actors. The Pavilion is meant to serve the region and will operate as a hub for activities and partnerships undertaken by regional public institutions, civil society organisations and private sector entities catalysing a sustainable transition through collective and scalable innovation. In this regard, the organisers are inviting organizations to host activities and participate in the Pavilion's discussions and negotiations (information on the call published here www.mediterraneanpavilion.com).



CIHEAM's ENGAGEMENT

The **International Center for Advanced Mediterranean Agronomic Studies (CIHEAM)** will be present at the [Mediterranean Pavilion](#) of the [COP27](#) to recall that no other sector is more dependent and impacted by the evolution of the environment, climate and access to water than agriculture.

Climate change and environmental crises are disrupting the life of societies and exacerbating existing tensions and disparities between and within countries.

Amid soaring food prices, the food security issue is today more central than ever, and tensions related to the use of water are strongly resurging. This context of crisis weighs heavily upon most fragile populations such as rural communities that depend on agriculture and fishing to make a living.

As it celebrates its [60th Anniversary](#), the CIHEAM will bring to the table the valuable expertise and know-how that it has been developing on the ground since its very inception and with its partners.

Deeply motivated to build more sustainable, responsible and inclusive agri-food systems, the CIHEAM takes part in the COP27 with the aim of fostering policy dialogues and international cooperation in its key fields of action -namely, protection of the planet, nutrition and food security, inclusive development, and crisis management and resilience- within the framework of the **2025 CAPMED Strategy** (*see below*).

Protect the Planet "by struggling against triple waste"

- Sharing knowledge and promoting traditional know-how
- Managing natural resources and energy (water, soil forests, energy, biodiversity, sea...)
- Reducing agricultural losses and food waste all along food chains

Crises and Resilience "by contributing to tensions management"

- Tackling the root causes of the rural exodus
- Fostering climate change prevention and adaptation
- Providing solutions concerning animal and plant health
- Contributing to a more transparent agricultural market



Food Security and Nutrition "by boosting sustainable agriculture and food"

- Promoting the "Mediterranean Diet"
- Enhancing agro-ecological practices
- Improving food safety and quality
- Increasing access to food

Inclusive Development "by investing in new generations and fragile territories"

- Contributing to youth socio-economic inclusion
- Supporting the sustainable development of rural and coastal regions
- Promoting gender equality and women empowerment
- Encouraging the emergence of smart rural territories and of innovative agro-fishing models



MEDIA ACCREDITATION

Journalists interested in receiving further upcoming information on the Pavilion's activities, announcements, press events or booking interviews with a Mediterranean Pavilion's representative, please contact: media@ufmsecretariat.org.

The information on the daily agenda and activities foreseen during the COP27 will be published soon on www.mediterraneanpavilion.com

Know the Mediterranean Pavilion's organisers

Organisers

- [Union for the Mediterranean \(UfM\)](#)
- [United Nations Environment Programme - Mediterranean Action Plan \(UNEP-MAP\)](#) and [Plan Bleu](#) and [MedWaves](#)
- [Partnership for Research and Innovation in the Mediterranean Foundation \(PRIMA\)](#)

Partners

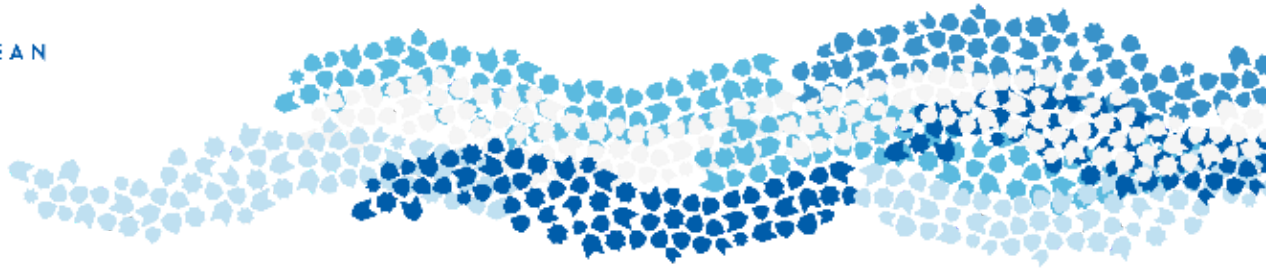
- [Copernicus Climate Change Service \(C3S\)](#) implemented by the [European Centre for Medium-Range Weather Forecasts](#)
- [Ecomondo](#)
- [ENI-CBC Med Programme](#)
- [Euro-Mediterranean Economists Association \(EMEA\)](#)
- [German Development Cooperation \(GIZ\)](#)
- [International Centre for Advanced Mediterranean Agronomic Studies \(CIHEAM\)](#)
- [Interreg MED Programme](#) and [UNIMED - Mediterranean Universities Union](#)
- [Med Energy Conference & Exhibition \(OMC\)](#)
- [Prince Albert II of Monaco Foundation \(PA2F\)](#)

Scientific Council

- [Mediterranean Experts Network on Climate and Environmental Change \(MedECC\)](#)

Background information

In June and October 2021, the 42 countries of the Union for the Mediterranean signed two UfM Ministerial Declarations to tackle [Energy](#) challenges and [Environment and Climate Change](#) in the region.



Ministers reaffirmed their commitment to lead by example and reflect the highest possible ambition by accelerating the transition towards fair, resilient, climate-neutral, and resource-efficient economies in an attempt to limit the average global temperature rise to 1.5°C, halt and reverse biodiversity's loss and reduce air pollution. The Mediterranean Pavilion's initiative reflects the commitment of the Euro-Mediterranean countries toward effectively tackling climate change.

The dire warnings of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) and the network of Mediterranean Experts on Climate and Environmental Change (MedECC) also drew attention to the Mediterranean as one of the world's hotspots of climate change. [Read the full study.](#)

Media accreditation for COP 27 in Sharm el-Sheikh is open

The sessions will be held from 6 to 18 November 2022 at the [Sharm El Sheikh International Convention Centre \(SHICC\)](#), El Salam Road, in Sharm El Sheikh, Egypt. Online Registration System: <https://onlinereg.unfccc.int/>. Further information on [media accreditation](#) and a list of [frequently asked questions \(FAQs\)](#) is available online