Interreg NEXT MED
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RESt4GREEN

Concept Note & Draft Agenda

1st Multi-Programme Projects Dialogue on Energy in Tunisia

13 May 2026



Promoting energy efficiency

Supported by:

Interreg NEXT MED
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Concept Note

Diverse target audience: Mediterranean institutions, Local & Regional authorities, research centres, and National & EU policy actors.

🌐 Interpretation in FR/EN

Background

The Mediterranean region is entering a **decisive moment for cooperation and cohesion**. Energy transition, environmental degradation and geopolitical pressures are reshaping the economic and social landscape of the basin. At the same time, **European cooperation frameworks are evolving**. The upcoming **Pact for the Mediterranean** will redefine the partnership between the European Union and its Southern neighbours, while preparations for the **EU Multiannual Financial Framework (MFF) 2028–2034** are underway. These developments will influence the future architecture of **Interreg programmes, regional partnerships and territorial cooperation mechanisms**.

Over the past years, Mediterranean cooperation programmes **Interreg Euro-MED, Interreg NEXT MED, Interreg Italy-Tunisia,** together with broader research, development and innovation programmes such as **Interreg IPA ADRION and Horizon Europe** have supported a wide range of initiatives addressing energy transition, climate resilience, lans and marine sustainability, adaptive governance, and innovation ecosystems and maritime sustainability. They serve as projects represent **valuable laboratories of policy experimentation**, generating tools, governance models and solutions that can inform future cooperation strategies in the region.

This event, inspired by the strong cooperation among the programmes through the **Mediterranean Multi-Programme Mechanism (MMM)**, the collaborative platform established in 2022 to unify 8+ Interreg programs across the Mediterranean. It aims to **connect project experiences with emerging policy frameworks**, offering space for dialogue among **policy actors, researchers, project leaders and local authorities**. By highlighting experiences and lessons learned, the event helps shaping a **more cohesive, resilient and sustainable cooperation landscape across the Mediterranean**.

Agenda

09:00 – 09:30 Registration and Welcome Coffee

Arrival of participants and networking

09:30 – 10:30 Opening Session - Mediterranean Cooperation at a Turning Point

Objective: Frame the event within the evolving Mediterranean cooperation landscape.

Key themes

- The **Pact for the Mediterranean**
- The upcoming **EU Multiannual Financial Framework (2028-2034)**
- Strengthening **EU–Southern Mediterranean partnerships**
- The role of cooperation programmes in advancing **territorial resilience**

Sonia Torkhani, Event Moderator

Opening remarks

- **Nada LACHAAL,** CEO of Management Company of Technopark Borj Cedria
- **Dario TROMBETTA**, Energy Programme Officer, Delegation of the European Union in Tunisia
- **Alejandro LAFARGA**, Programme Officer, NEXT MED Programme
- **Sophie SCARVELI**, Project Unit Manager, Interreg Euro-MED Programme
- **Fethi BEN MIMOUN**, Ministry of Economy and Planning, National Authority Interreg Next MED/Interreg Next Italy-Tunisia
- **M. Ouael CHOUCHENE,** Secretary of Tunisian State in charge of Energy Transition

10:30 – 11:30 Session 1 Governance and Policy Frameworks for Mediterranean Energy and Climate Transition

Objective: Explore governance structures, policy tools and institutional cooperation mechanisms supporting the green transition in Mediterranean territories.

Speakers

Bernard MASSABO, *Nice Metropolitan Area – Dialogue4LivingAreas (Interreg Euro-MED)*
From Dialogue to Impact: Shaping the Energy Transition Together

Francesco FILIPPI, *Musol Foundation– LOGREENER (Interreg Euro-MED)*
"Integral toolkit to support Local Authorities to plan local energy transition"

Federica GIARDINA, *MedCities*
"Connecting Cities, Driving Change: The role of a Mediterranean network of local authorities in Energy Transition"

Josep Maria GRANOLLES, *Catalan Institute for Energy – RESt4GREEN (Interreg NEXT MED)*
"Energy Efficiency in the Mediterranean: Policies, Strategies, and Governance"

Miljenko SEDLAR, *North-West Croatia Regional Energy and Climate Agency – AdaptationHubs / NECPlatform / NetZeroCities (LIFE/H2020)*
"Strengthening Multilevel Governance for Climate Policies in Europe"

Yorgos STEPHANEDES, *University of Patras – RESt4GREEN (Interreg NEXT MED) & Efficient Buildings & SEACAP4SDG completed projects (Euro-MED & ENI CBC MED Programmes respectively)*
"Scaling Mediterranean Climate Action through Energy-Efficient Public Buildings"

Amina LAMOUCHI, *Management Company of Technopark Borj Cedria - GreenBuilding (ENI CBC MED Programme)*
"GreenBuilding Impact on the Mohamed Kassab Orthopaedic Institute: Next Steps and Transferability Potential"

Discussion topics

- Multilevel governance for climate and energy transition
- Role of local authorities in Mediterranean climate policies
- Aligning regional initiatives with EU strategies

11:30 – 12:00 Coffee Break

12:00 – 12:30 Session 2 From Innovation to Implementation: Financing and Delivering the Energy Transition
Objective: Present tools and methodologies enabling the transformation of climate strategies into concrete projects and investments.

Speakers

Hrvoje MARAS, *North-West Croatia Regional Energy and Climate Agency – INFIRE (Interreg Euro-MED)*
"Socioeconomic and financial evaluation tools / Innovative financing models"

Souha FERCHICHI, *Mediterranean Renewable Energy Centre – MAENA (Interreg NEXT MED) & completed projects: Med-EcoSuRe & SEACAP4SDG (ENI CBC MED Programmes), ICAPT, REFAT & EAUSIRIS (MEDREC Programmes)*
"Best practices and strategic solutions for Energy Projects in the Mediterranean"

Maher BEN CHIEKH, *University of Monastir – OpenMod4Africa (Horizon Europe)*
"Optimizing Tunisia's Renewable Energy Transition Pathways: An Integrated Modeling Analysis"

Ahmed Said NOURI, *Energie renouvelable – FLOTTANT (Interreg NEXT Italy-Tunisia)*
"Energy Efficiency Solutions Using Transducers and Advanced Technologies for the Next Generation of Hybrid Energy Harvesters and Marine Energy Conversion"

Discussion themes

- Financing mechanisms for energy transition
- Climate investment readiness
- Role of modelling and decision-support tools

12:30 – 13:15 Session 3 Innovation for Sustainable Mediterranean Systems Cities, Circular Economy, Waste Governance and Coastal Transitions

Objective: Present innovative solutions addressing urban sustainability, resource management and coastal ecosystems.

Speakers

Hanene AKROUT, *Centre of water research and technologies, wastewater and Environment Laboratory – MATRIX (Interreg NEXT MED)*
"From Linear to Circular: Innovation for a Sustainable Mediterranean"

Lamia SAYAHI, *International Center for Environmental Technologies of Tunis – Gov4GreenMed (Interreg NEXT MED)*
"Development of local governance models and measures on municipal solid waste management and food waste policies in Mediterranean territories"

Takoua MRABET, *BUSINESSMED – SMARTMED (Interreg NEXT MED)*
"Smart Solutions for Resilient Mediterranean Cities with highlighting SMARTMED's vision to promote resilience, efficiency and sound governance in Mediterranean cities"

Mary KRIMNIANIOTI, *Region of Western Greece – Community4LivingAreas, Green Living Areas Mission (Interreg Euro-MED)*
"Ecosystemic Transition Hub to support local authorities in planning and implementing the green transition in their territories"

Alberto COZZI, *Port Network Authority of the Eastern Adriatic Sea – Ports of Trieste and Monfalcone – RENEWPORT (Interreg Euro-MED) & ADRIREC (Interreg IPA ADRION)*
"Renewable Energy Planning in Ports & Energy Communities for Ports"

Asma BEN ABDA, *General Directorate of Fisheries and Aquaculture – GREENMEDPORTS (Interreg NEXT MED)*
"Integrating small-scale fishing ports into energy transition frameworks and inclusive decarbonisation strategies in Mediterranean port ecosystems"

Discussion themes

- Smart urban sustainability solutions
- Circular economy approaches
- Decarbonisation of maritime and coastal systems
- Renewable energy communities

13:15 – 14:00 Networking Lunch

14:00 – 14:30 Session 4 Climate Adaptation, Environmental Governance and Citizen Engagement

Objective: Address climate resilience challenges and inclusive governance approaches.

Speakers

Hamdi AOUINTI, *National Research Institution for Rural Eng. Water and Forestry – MedFireWise (Interreg NEXT MED)*
"Enhancing Governance and Stakeholder Engagement for Integrated Wildfire Risk Management"

Mohamed OUAHEBI, *The international Institute of Debate-iiDebate – YouthCare4Planet (Interreg NEXT MED)*

"Youth Participation as a Driver for More Inclusive Environmental Governance: Insights from Practice"

Francesco FILIPPI, *Musol Foundation– NUDGES (Interreg Euro-MED)*
"Behavioural Approaches for Climate-Resilient Mediterranean Societies"

Essia ZNOUDA, *National Engineering School of Tunis – REINTEGRATE (Horizon Europe)*
"Integrating Sustainability into Mediterranean Systems"

Discussion themes

- Climate adaptation strategies
- Stakeholder engagement and governance
- Behavioural approaches to climate action

14:30 – 15:00 Interactive Session: How you envision the Future of Mediterranean Cooperation
Objective: Reflect on how project experiences can inform future Mediterranean cooperation frameworks.

Q&A Representatives of Mediterranean programmes, policy institutions, and project leaders.

15:00 Closing Remarks and Networking

VENUE OF THE EVENT

📌 **Sheraton Hotel**, B.P. 345, Av. de la Ligue des Etats Arabes, Tunis 1080, Tunisia