Interreg
NEXT MED
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MAENA

MAENA project

Launch event: towards a new paradigm for water management

Date & time: November 26, 2025 | 09:00-13:00 (local time)

Venue: National Agronomic Institute of Tunisia (INAT)

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MAENA Project

Replenishing the sMall wAter cyclE towards a more resilieNt Agriculture

Project Overview

MAENA, funded by the European Union through the Interreg NEXT MED Programme and launched on September 16, 2025, is a three-year project focused on building capacities and supporting the adoption of Small Water Cycle (SWC) restoration practices to enhance on-farm water use efficiency in the Mediterranean region. Coordinated by the Mediterranean Renewable Energy Centre (MEDREC), MAENA unites 10 partners from Tunisia, Italy, Lebanon, Jordan, Malta, and Spain. These partners bring diverse expertise in agriculture, energy, water management, and environmental innovation.

The project employs a participatory approach, actively engaging farmers and local communities to implement SWC restoration techniques.

Five demonstration farms will provide proof of concept of SWC restoration that will be deployed in at least twenty farmers' lands in partner countries.

MAENA will provide a multifaceted training program to build the capacity of the targeted community on SWC restoration. This program will include hands-on training at project sites, online courses, and peer-to-peer exchanges, leveraging transnational collaboration to foster diverse learning experiences.

The project will also establish a core regional hub dedicated to fostering SWC restoration in the Mediterranean region. This hub will enable decision-makers to replicate and scale up successful project outcomes, promoting the adoption of this new paradigm for sustainable water management and resilient farming communities that support both people and the environment.

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Agenda: Draft

09:00-09:30	**Registration**
09:30 - 10:30	**Opening words** Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Water Resources (MARHP) Ministry of Economy and Planning - Interreg NEXT MED national contact point Italian Embassy in Tunisia EU delegation in Tunisia Interreg NEXT MED Programme Managing Authority Institution of Agricultural Research and Higher Education (IRESA) National Agronomic Institute of Tunisia (INAT) Mediterranean Renewable Energy Centre (MEDREC)
10:30 – 10:45	**Project overview** Mediterranean Renewable Energy Centre (MEDREC)
10:45: 11:15	Coffee break
11:15 - 12:15	**Presentation of the consortium & roles in the project** All partners (10 min each)
12:15 – 12:30	**Engaging local communities: a participatory approach for Small Water Cycle Restoration** National Agronomic Institute of Tunisia (INAT)
12:30– 12:45	**Training and Capacity Building for on farm efficient water use** Energy and Water Agency (EWA)
12:45– 13:00	**A Mediterranean HUB to carry forward the Small Water Cycle Restoration paradigm** Mediterranean Agronomic Institute Of Bari (CIHEAM IAMB)
13:00 – 13:10	**Closing** Mediterranean Renewable Energy Centre (MEDREC) National Agronomic Institute of Tunisia (INAT)