

MCESD: Mediterranean Committee on Education for Sustainable Development



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Venice Office
Regional Bureau for Science
and Culture in Europe



2nd Meeting of the Mediterranean Committee on Education for Sustainable Development (ESD)

Executive Meeting & Regional Workshop on ESD

Heraklion, Crete Greece, 24 – 26 June 2019

The Mediterranean Strategy on ESD & its Action Plan: A review of developments at the regional level (December 2017 – June 2019)

Prof Michael Scoullos UNESCO Chair on ESD in the
Mediterranean /University of Athens

Secretariat support &
scientific coordination

With the support of



The Mediterranean Strategy on Education for Sustainable Development (MSESD) & its Action Plan

Background

- Unanimously endorsed by the Ministers of Environment & Climate Change of the UfM (Athens 2014) to encourage the countries to develop and incorporate ESD into formal, non-formal and informal education.
- An integral part of the MSSD of the Barcelona Convention
- In December 2016 the Action Plan of the Strategy endorsed by the Ministries of Education in Nicosia to facilitate the implementation of the Strategy and as appropriate the provisions on ESD of all other relevant Conventions and International Bodies by the countries.
- The Action Plan: a Flagship Project of the UNESCO GAP (Global Action Programme) on ESD.
- In 2017: the 1st Meeting of the Mediterranean Committee on ESD.

December 2017 – June 2019

Review of activities by the Secretariat of the
Mediterranean ESD Committee
to promote the Action Plan /MSESD mainstreaming and
implementation
in a rapidly changing geopolitical landscape

Areas of Activities

- i. ESD academic context development
- ii. Training of Trainers
- iii. I“ESD in BRs with emphasis on natural & cultural assets”
- iv. International Synergies

I. ESD academic context development

- Collective ↔ Individual
- Protection of the environment ↔ Contribution to Sustainable Development
- Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) achievement ↔ ESD

I. ESD academic context development

- Cooperation with the University of Athens, UNESCO Chair & Network on Sustainable Development Management and Education in the Mediterranean, the Post-graduate **Course on ESD & related Research**



- **E-learning** courses within the University of Athens e-learning platform: "Mediterranean Food and Diet : A multidisciplinary Historic, Cultural, Environmental and Dietary Overview"
- UNECE **Indicators** on ESD application revision; Participation in the 4th Meeting of the UNECE SC on ESD (May 2019, Geneva); follow up; four WG (*Whole institution approach ; Quality education; Digital education/ICTs; Entrepreneurship, employment, innovation*)



II. Training of trainers

A very important objective of the AP is the Training of Trainers and education professionals and practitioners at all levels and types of ESD.

II. Training of trainers

5 national Trainings of Trainers organised in:

Jordan (13-14 September 2017)

Palestine (17-18 September 2017)

Tunisia (16-17, 19-20 October 2017)

Algeria (12-13 November 2017)

and

1 Regional in Cyprus (22-24 November 2017)

Overall approx. 450 trainees



*(supported by the EU funded
SWIM-H2020 SM)*

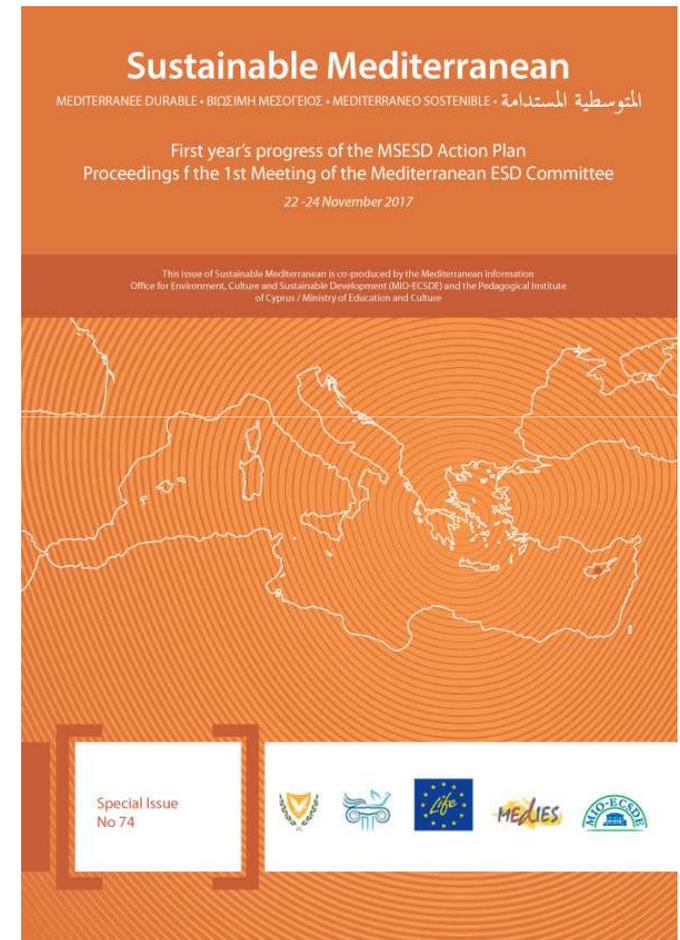
II. Training of trainers

Special Session for Parliamentarians, Ministries' Officials, Stakeholders & Educators at the House of Representatives of the Republic of Cyprus, chaired by the Vice President of the Parliament (Nicosia, 2017). The outcomes of the Special Session were shared with the Parliaments of the Mediterranean countries by the Parliament of Cyprus.



II. Training of trainers

In 2018: publication of the proceedings of the 1st Meeting of Med ESD Committee with the support of the Ministry of Education & Culture of Cyprus (*Sustainable Mediterranean special issue*).



II. Training of trainers

In 2018, with the support of SWIM-H2020 SM the Trainings-of-Trainers continued with **two trainings in Cairo** (Egypt) of Ministries officials, university professors and NGO/CSO staff.

An **inter-institutional meeting** discussing the ways to boost the proper implementation of MSES D through its Action Plan and to align with the Egyptian Strategy on Sustainable Development (2030).



III. “ESD in BRs with emphasis on natural & cultural assets”

- Summer Universities on Integrated Management, Sustainable Tourism and Promotion of Biosphere Reserves, with the support of UNESCO Regional Office in Venice and other partners (*Amfissa, 2014; Samothraki 2016; Sardinia, 2017*)
- July 2018: in Parnon Area (Greece) in cooperation with the local authorities and Development Agency of Parnon, 56 participants (professionals and post-graduate students) were introduced to the AP/MSESD and discussed the possibilities of integrating it within their working area and expertise.



III. “ESD in BRs with emphasis on natural & cultural assets”

- Preparations of the upcoming Summer University to take place **in Bulgaria, 21-28 July 2019**; more than 120 applications received and around 40 trainees have accepted.
- Meetings with UNESCO High-Level Officials in Paris: Ass. DG on Education, Ms Giannini; Chief of Staff Office of the DG, Mr Kassianidis; Dep. Director of Natural Sciences, Ms Nair-Bendouelle; and, Mr Godt, Acting Director, MAB Programme (May 2019) to promote ESD in BRs process and make a boost to relevant agendas.
- Sharm El Sheikh UN Biodiversity Conference (COP 14), Side Event on the nexus approach as a tool for safeguarding biodiversity (November 2018).

IV. International synergies



UNESCO/GAP and the post-GAP initiatives: *A dynamic interaction for ESD thinking of policies and activities*

- **Policy brief** on Regional Networks on ESD, emphasising their role in advancing SD/ESD policy produced in close cooperation with the GAP
- Participation in a series of **consultations** on the draft position paper on the Future of ESD, marking the ESD Agenda 2030, for facilitating the **implementation of the SDGs**, highlighting, also, the valuable feedback and experience provided by the Mediterranean region in advancing ESD policy through the Action Plan of the MSES.
- Participation in the **Technical Consultation** meeting on the future of Education for Sustainable Development, Bangkok, July 2018.
- Preparation for and participation in the **upcoming UNESCO Forum on ESD and Global Citizenship & GAP Partner Network** meeting (2-5 July, Hanoi, Viet Nam)



United Nations
Environment Programme



Mediterranean Action Plan
Barcelona Convention

IV. International synergies

- Co-authoring with the UN Environment/MAP of a **factsheet** presenting the essential information about the MSES; widely disseminated in the region.
- Authoring of the Chapter on “**Research, Innovation, Education for SD and Capacity Building**” of the State of the Environment and Development in the Mediterranean (SoED) 2019.
- Article for AFED News item.
- MIO-ECSDE has requested & it was accepted to introduce a specific dashboard indicator on ESD, based on the one included in the MSES, for the application of the MSSD.
- Through ESD activities the implementation of **the Regional Plan on Marine Litter Management** of MAP is greatly supported.
- MIO-ECSDE in cooperation with COMPSUD developed the concept notes for **two new flagship initiatives** under the MSSD (promoting the Aarhus Convention in the region; solid waste best practices). Both of them have as prerequisites the involvement of the public through public awareness / informal ESD.

IV. International Synergies



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- Close cooperation with the UfM in promoting the MSES provisions in the region.
- Cooperation within a project on **Education for Sustainable Production & Consumption** (responsible consumers).
- Inclusion of ESD, MSES / AP in the **UfM's Post 2020 Agenda** (potential UfM Ministerial Meeting on Environment & Climate Change in 2020).
- ESD in UfM labelled projects (**BlueGreen** civil society mechanism, Plastic Busters MPAs, etc.).

IV. International Synergies

Water Education in cooperation with the Energy & Water Agency of Malta

- **National Water Awareness Centre of Malta** to further strengthen the educational activities taking place at the Centre.
- MEdIES undertook to develop four experiential educational programmes and materials (booklets) about on the water cycle , responsible water use; water management in the past; water management and NCWRs; sustainable buildings.
- To complement the learning experience (video-educational games) offered already to the students who visit Ghajn regularly.
- In-service training course is foreseen for Maltese teachers (autumn 2019).



IV. International synergies

- An important objective of the MSED / AP is the promotion and protection of **cultural heritage**.
- Participation in the International Conference “**Climate Change impacts on Cultural heritage: facing the challenge**”, that took place on 21-22 June in Athens (Zappeion Megaron).
- The MSED Secretariat together with the UNESCO Office in Venice were key initiators and founders of the **World Water Museums Network (WAMUNET)**.

IV. International synergies

4 Thematic Focus Areas of UNESCO work on climate change

1) Climate change education and public awareness programmes and policies;

2) Climate knowledge and scientific cooperation;

3) Cultural diversity and cultural heritage safeguarding;

4) Inclusive social development, intercultural dialogue and ethical and gender equality principles

Strategy on WH and CC (2007)

Sharing knowledge (research, education, training, awareness-raising)

IV. International synergies

- The [HYDRIA Project](#) is one of WAMUNET members, accepted as a *'Virtual museum'*
- 11- 13/06/2019 a Training on Education was organised within the WAMUNET Conference in Valencia



You are visiting: [Network](#) / [Europe](#) / [HYDRIA Water Network](#)

HYDRIA Water Network

HYDRIA Project, Athens, Greece

Since 2008, MIO-ECSDE is coordinating the HYDRIA Project, serving as a virtual museum that unfolds the tangible and intangible Mediterranean water related heritage. The HYDRIA Project promotes digitization of water cultural heritage as a key factor for unlocking its potential assets for sustainable development. The HYDRIA online platform (in three languages: English, Arabic and Greek) has digitalized **36 cases** from countries of the Mediterranean on representative water cultural heritage including water monuments and hydraulic works and sites of the distant and more recent past, studying them in a systematic way.

Here the link to the project web-page: www.hydriaproject.info

Mobilization ~~of~~ Youth

Mobilization by Youth

The strength of pupils ([video](#))

Thank you for your attention!

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