



Natural  
heritage

Interreg  
Euro-MED



Co-funded by  
the European Union

# Natural Heritage Mission Annual Institutional Dialogue 2025

Barcelona, 25 - 27 November

## Draft Programme

**Organising partners:** [MedCities](#) and [CREAF](#)

**Supporting partners:** [Interreg Euro-MED Natural Heritage Mission](#).

Organised over a two to three-day activity every year, the **annual Institutional Dialogue event** aims to discuss policy challenges and promote solutions for key thematic issues relevant to the Mediterranean natural heritage. In addition, participants will discuss obstacles, new approaches, and opportunities to advocate for nature conservation in the region.

The Institutional Dialogue will take place on the occasion of the **10th UfM Regional Forum/30th anniversary of the Barcelona Process**, to be held in Barcelona on 28 November 2025.

Thirty years after the launch of the [Barcelona Process](#), initiated in 1995 to promote Euro-Mediterranean cooperation, the European Commission is renewing and launching a new strategy that affects its relation with the Mediterranean basin, such as **the Oceans Pact and the Pact for the Mediterranean**. These pacts will be their main political instrument to deepen strategic cooperation with their partners in the southern and eastern Mediterranean.

The **UNEP Mediterranean Action Plan (MAP)** and the [Barcelona Convention and its seven Protocols](#) (Convention for the Protection of the Marine Environment and the Coastal Region of the Mediterranean) have also turned 50 this year and motivated the revision of its **Mediterranean Strategy for Sustainable Development (MSSD)** and some of the Convention Protocols and Regional Plans. The Convention constitutes the principal regional legally binding Multilateral Environmental Agreement in the Mediterranean at basin level.

Moreover, the deployment of the **EU Nature Restoration Regulation** is underway. In June 2024, the Council of the EU approved the Nature Restoration Regulation, setting binding targets to restore degraded ecosystems, particularly those with the most potential to capture and store carbon and to prevent and reduce the

A project labelled by the UfM



Union for the Mediterranean  
Union pour la Méditerranée  
الاتحاد من أجل المتوسط



Natural  
heritage

Interreg  
Euro-MED



Co-funded by  
the European Union

impact of natural disasters. Each Member State will develop a national restoration plan, in synergy with other policies and key actors, setting out restoration needs and measures to fulfil the target obligations adapted to the national context and taking into account the diversity of different regions. This regulation has opened new opportunities for the NHM partners, who have become key stakeholders for public administration in order to work towards the fulfilment of this regulation.

This **policy momentum** sets the scene for the **NHM Annual Institutional Dialogue**, which will be rolling out in three different moments:

- On **25th November, the Institutional Dialogue** will explore the opportunities and limitations of the new Pacts and the renewed frameworks in terms of nature protection, restoration, and valorisation in the Mediterranean context as to their implications for or contribution from multilevel stakeholders and the Mission Natural Heritage Community. We will also hold a local and regional dialogue around the Nature Restoration Regulation between the different Spanish sub-state administrations and some partners leading local experiences under the Interreg Euro-MED Programme. This afternoon session will focus on terrestrial and freshwater ecosystems.
- On **26th November**, we will be fully engaged within our **Community of Practice**. We will first deal with a participatory dynamic to extend the Mission's Policy Recommendations on Coastal and Marine restoration to the terrestrial environment (including wetlands). Following, we will present a wide range of mentorship/adoption opportunities, including potential replication cases and new project initiation (NHM Amplification Room activities).
- On **27th November**, during the morning, we propose tailored **activities for transfer opportunities dedicated to the community members and key actors**.

The detailed draft programme is as follows.

*A project labelled by the UfM*



Union for the Mediterranean  
Union pour la Méditerranée  
الاتحاد من أجل المتوسط



**Natural  
heritage**

**Interreg  
Euro-MED**



Co-funded by  
the European Union

**Tuesday, 25 November 2025**

## **Transforming the Environmental Governance in the Mediterranean region**



Ateneu Barcelonès, [Carrer de la Canuda, 6, Ciutat Vella, 08002 Barcelona](#)  
Auditori Oriol Bohigas

Metro Catalunya L1 (Red line) Liceu L3 (Green line)

Time	Session
<b>09:30 – 10:00</b>	Welcoming and Registration
<b>10:00 – 10:45</b>	<b>Institutional Opening</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• MedCities Deputy President</li> <li>• EU Delegation in Catalonia</li> <li>• Catalan Government</li> <li>• Interreg EuroMed JS</li> </ul>
<b>10:45 – 13:00</b>	<b>Advancing Euro-Mediterranean Cooperation for transformative Environmental Governance</b> <p><b>The new Pacts</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• the follow up UNOC 3 and the Oceans' Pact (DG MARE)</li> <li>• the Pact for the Mediterranean (DG MENA),</li> </ul> <p><b>Their embedment in and upscaling by regional governance frameworks</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The the UfM GreenerMed Agenda and the Sustainable Blue Economy RoadMap</li> <li>• The Barcelona Convention and the revision of the Mediterranean Strategy for Sustainable Development.</li> </ul> <p><b>Multilevel governance implications and opportunities</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Views from the countries/Ministries</li> <li>• View from the regions</li> <li>• The local perspective</li> </ul> <p><b>The voice of the Mission Natural Heritage Community of</b></p>

*A project labelled by the UfM*



Union for the Mediterranean  
Union pour la Méditerranée  
الاتحاد من أجل المتوسط



**Natural  
heritage**

**Interreg  
Euro-MED**



Co-funded by  
the European Union

	<b>practice</b>  Moderated debate between MNH Community and the panelists
<b>13:00 – 14:30</b>	Lunch Break
<b>14:30 – 16:30</b>	<b>Natural Restoration Plans: Policy Territorial Solutions to Global Challenges</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• To showcase an example of the implementation of the NRP</li><li>• To explore how Spain is landing the NRP into the ground.</li><li>• To discuss how the Thematic Projects can contribute to the NRP implementation.</li></ul>
<b>16:30 – 17:00</b>	<b>Closing remarks and celebration of the 30th Anniversary of the Barcelona Process and the 50th Anniversary of UNEP/MAP and the Barcelona Convention</b>  Networking aperitive

A project labelled by the UfM



Union for the Mediterranean  
Union pour la Méditerranée  
الاتحاد من أجل المتوسط



**Natural  
heritage**

**Interreg  
Euro-MED**



Co-funded by  
the European Union

**Wednesday, 26 November 2025**

## **NHM Community of Practice activities**



Ateneu Barcelonès, [Carrer de la Canuda, 6, Ciutat Vella, 08002 Barcelona](#)  
Auditori Oriol Bohigas

Metro Catalunya L1 (Red line) Liceu L3 (Green line)

Time	Session
<b>09:00 – 09:30</b>	Welcoming and Registration
<b>09:30 – 11:00</b>	<b>Building on the Policy Recommendation Document:</b> Focusing on Terrestrial and Wetlands Ecosystems
<b>11:00 – 11:30</b>	Coffee Break
<b>11:30 – 13:00</b>	<b>Fostering adoption:</b> know first transferable solutions of the NHM Community of Projects and the new projects (part 1)
<b>13:00 – 14:30</b>	Lunch Break
<b>14:30 – 15:30</b>	<b>Fostering adoption:</b> know first transferable solutions of the NHM Community of Projects and the new projects (part 2)
<b>15:30 – 16:00</b>	#SolveTheChallenge2025 joint activity
<b>16:00 – 16:30</b>	<b>Nature Governance in the Med:</b> Coordination status and prospects among Euro-Mediterranean institutions
<b>16:30 – 17:00</b>	Final reflections and participants' feedback

*A project labelled by the UfM*



Union for the Mediterranean  
Union pour la Méditerranée  
الاتحاد من أجل المتوسط



Natural  
heritage

Interreg  
Euro-MED



Co-funded by  
the European Union

Thursday, 27 November 2025

## Tailored activities for transfer opportunities



Barcelona Provincial Council Headquarters, [Carrer Zamora 73](#), Barcelona

Metro Bogaltell L4 (Yellow line) Marina L1 (Red line)

Time	Session
09:00 – 09:30	Welcoming and Registration
09:30 – 11:00	<b>Tailored Transference Activities</b> Bilateral Meetings
11:00 – 11:30	Coffee break
11:30 – 13:00	<b>Tailored Transference Activities</b> Bilateral Meetings
Baggage locks available and reach the airport in 60'	

A project labelled by the UfM



Union for the Mediterranean  
Union pour la Méditerranée  
الاتحاد من أجل المتوسط