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2nd 2025 WORKING GROUPS WEBINAR

CONCEPT NOTE

Date and Time: October 29th, 2025 | 10:00 - 13:00 CET

Format: The webinar will be held in an online format (Zoom)

Organisers

- **Organising Partners:** Plan Bleu, Marine Institute, MedCities, IUCN Centre for Mediterranean Cooperation, Region of Crete, Autonomous Region of Sardinia, and the Ministry of Ecology, Sustainable Development and Northern Region Development from Montenegro
- **Supporting:** Community4Nature partners

Framework

The end of 2025 is marked by several key political moments for the Mediterranean region, offering strategic opportunities to strengthen advocacy on ecosystem restoration

- In the framework of the New Pact for the Mediterranean from the European Commission, the **Union for the Mediterranean** will organise its 10th **Regional Forum** which will take place in Barcelona on November 28, coinciding with the Day of the Mediterranean. It will gather the Foreign Ministers from all 43 UfM Member States, bringing together EU members and Mediterranean partner countries to address regional cooperation priorities. On this occasion, the UfM will present its way forward, anchored in the New UfM Vision 2026–2030.
- The **24th Conference of the Parties** (COP24) to the Barcelona Convention will be held from 2 to 5 December 2025 in Egypt, bringing environment ministry representatives and national focal points of the contracting parties. The Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention will formally adopt the revised Mediterranean Strategy for Sustainable Development (MSSD) 2026-2035, the main strategic framework for action in the region.

In this context, this year's Annual Institutional Dialogue will take place just prior to the UfM Regional Forum, from November 25th to 26th in Barcelona. It will maintain its focus on ecosystem restoration, framed by the recent adoption of the EU Nature Restoration Law (NRR) and the ongoing development of National Restoration Plans. Building on the [2024 edition](#), which focused on marine and coastal ecosystems, this year's dialogue will address terrestrial ecosystem restoration, with a particular emphasis on forests and wetlands including freshwater ecosystems.

This webinar is organised as a preparatory and capacity-building moment. Its objective is to identify and consolidate key messages and recommendations on terrestrial ecosystem restoration emerging from the Mission's projects. These insights will contribute to shaping the Mission's collective voice and supporting advocacy efforts during the upcoming political events.

Description and main objectives

The webinar will take place entirely in a plenary format, bringing together all participants in a shared space for learning and exchange.

Main webinar sessions:



- Introduction presentation of the upcoming Institutional Dialogue Event, UfM Regional Forum agenda, COP24 agenda, participants & representation of the mission there. Key UfM messages
- Mission representation to policy event & side events
- Legal Instruments and Policies - Daniela Addis & Emanuela Manca
- Gathering policy recommendations from TPs for terrestrial and wetlands restoration with thematic projects such as WE GO COOP, Wetlands4Change, StrategyMedFor and Locall4Flood on priority recommendations and key policies to focus on for terrestrial and freshwater ecosystems including inputs from the upcoming Strategy for Sustainable Forest Management in the Mediterranean (SSFMM))

Webinar Structure

Time	Agenda item	Description	Speaker(s)
10:00-10:10 (10')	Opening	- Introduction of webinar agenda, speakers and objectives	- Doha Zamel - Marilena Mochianaki, Region of Crete (Dialogue4Nature Lead partner) - Caterina Praticò, CoNISMA (Community4Nature Lead Partner)
10:10-10:50 (40')	Presentation of upcoming Institutional Dialogue event and key international events	- Introduction presentation of the upcoming Institutional Dialogue Event, 10th UfM Regional Forum, COP24 agenda, participants & representation of the mission there. (10') - Discussion around the NHM key messages for the UfM Regional Forum. (10') - Advancing Regional Governance for Sustainability in the Mediterranean: Building on Dialogue for Nature, GreenerMed, and the EU Nature Restoration Regulation(10')	Facilitation: Doha Zamel - Arnaud Terrisse (Plan Bleu) or Alba Guitard (MedCities) - Alessandra Sensi (UfM)
10:50-11:40 (50')	Presentation of a study on Legal Instruments and Policies in the Mediterranean	- Presentation of the links between legislative processes at different governance levels affecting the adoption of nature conservation policies in the Mediterranean - Focus on key findings and policy implications for the NHM work - Q&A session	Facilitation: Doha Zamel - Emanuela Manca (Region of Sardinia) - Daniela Addis (Addis Law Firm Environment & Sea)
11:40-12:50 (70')	Building policy recommendations from the Community of Practice	- Presentation of key policy-oriented outputs from TPs (StrategyMedFor, WE GO COOP, Wetlands4Change, and Locall4flood) - Discussion with TPs on priority recommendations and key policies to focus on for terrestrial and freshwater ecosystems	Facilitation: Doha Zamel, Arnaud Terrisse, Alice Wittevrongel (Plan Bleu) - Dania Abdul Malak, ETC-UMA Director (StrategyMedFor Lead Partner), - Giancarlo Gusmaroli, WE GO COOP (tbc) - Wetlands4Change (tbc) - Locall4Flood (tbc)
12:50-13:00 (10')	Conclusion	- Wrap up and next steps	- Doha Zamel - Marilena Mochianaki, Region of Crete)



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