

2024 Ocean Decade Conference

Science – the key to unlocking change

12 April 2024

*How cooperation delivers the science we need for
the ocean we want?*

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UNEP/MAP Coordinator



**Mediterranean
Action Plan**
Barcelona
Convention



SciNMeet: The Mediterranean Ocean Decade Programme



The **Science We Need** for
the **Mediterranean Sea We Want**

2021 United Nations Decade
2030 of Ocean Science
for Sustainable Development

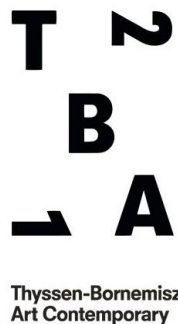
20 Organizations promoting the
co-design of the Mediterranean
Programme

145 Subscribing partners
27 countries

The **Science We Need for the Mediterranean Sea We Want** (SciNMeet) Programme will address **major Mediterranean challenges** and **gaps in scientific knowledge** with the aim to better understand and manage impacts of climate change, pollution, overexploitation of resources, and marine hazards on the marine environment to contribute to maintenance of ecosystems' functioning and the sustainability of relevant economic operations. **Increasing education, awareness and international collaboration, by mobilizing the scientific community, policy-makers, private sector and society at large**, the Programme will address the Ocean Decade's seven outcomes and contribute to the implementation of the Agenda 2030.

[Proposal available at <https://cloud.cnr.it/owncloud/index.php/s/DMIJtylNTchnKDB>]

20 Organizations promoting the co-design of SciNMEET



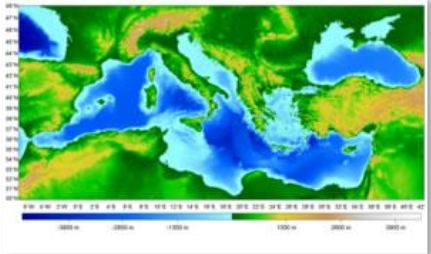
Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

General Fisheries Commission for the Mediterranean Commission générale des pêches pour la Méditerranée

What makes the Mediterranean Sea unique?



2021 United Nations Decade
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- The Mediterranean Sea is a semi-enclosed Seas
- MED covers only 0.82 % of the world's ocean surface, but experience dynamical processes
- MED is surrounded by 22 countries
- > 450 million people live in coastal areas of the Mediterranean, living across three continents: Africa, Asia and Europe
- basin has a long history, and an extremely rich natural and cultural heritage.
- 30% of global maritime traffic, via the Suez Canal.
- bout 60 offshore oil rigs for exploration and exploitation of hydrocarbons
- the world's largest tourist region, attracting about 30% of international tourism.
- Mediterranean marine ecosystems are under significant pressure.
- **Climate Change effect seems to be amplified in Mediterranean Region**



High-level Objectives

1.

Enhancing cooperation opportunities towards optimal partnerships by elaborating a shared regional strategic roadmap for the Mediterranean Decade and beyond

2.

Promoting the co-design and co-production of solutions to the problems caused by climate change, pollution and marine hazard faced by the basin

3.

Keeping the marine space under permanent review and ensuring reliable data on the state of marine environment and the use of the sea

4.

Providing an integrated, long-term, in situ and satellite observations systems modelling reanalysis and predictions

5.

Promoting regional and national initiative(s) to fill the gap of sustained in situ observations of Essential Ocean Variables (EOVs)

6.

Fostering the generation of dedicated research and innovation also to contribute to marine pollution/hazards alert and management and to improve preparedness to emergencies

7.

Facilitating access to data and equipment, know-how transfer, and unlocking potentials for blue capacity-development including the promotion of equal opportunities

8.

Increasing Mediterranean society's awareness and knowledge about the crucial importance of a healthy Mediterranean Sea by enhancing regional capacity building and Ocean Literacy

9.

Narrowing the gaps between the North and South Mediterranean shores reinforcing partnerships and transboundary cooperation and contributing to reduce inequalities

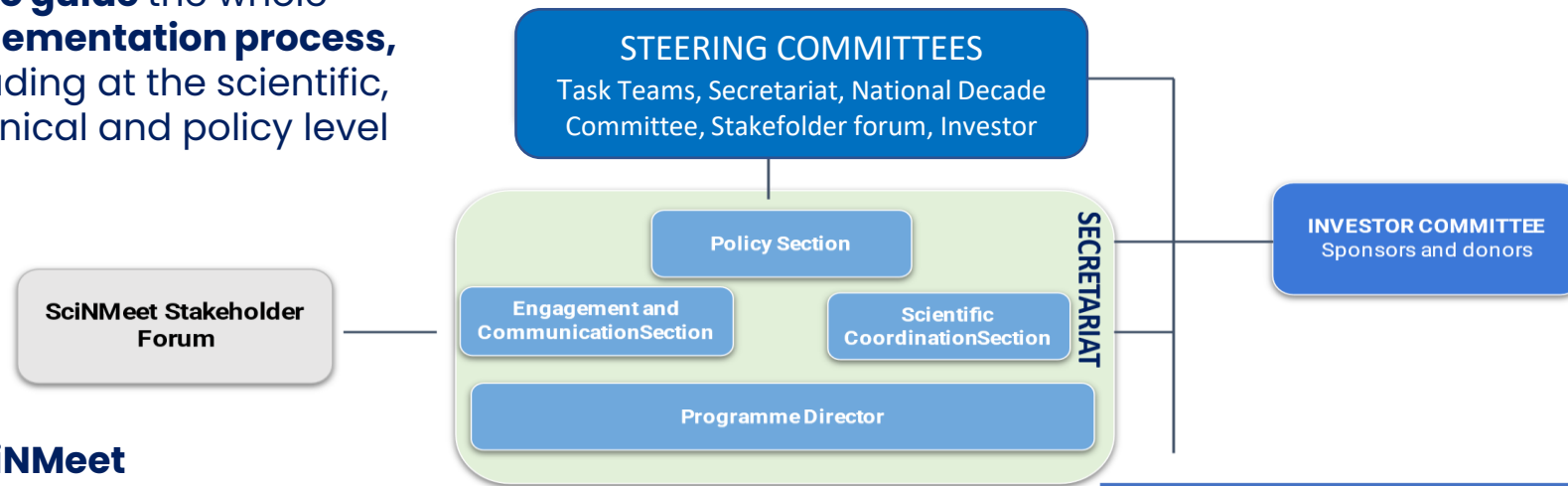
SciNMeet governing structure and bodies

The SciNMeet programme needs to establish a **flexible and functional governance** system
The governance system will guarantee shared decision making, exploration of/awareness on funding opportunities, and reporting by the various parts of the Programme.

SC: to guide the whole **implementation process**, including at the scientific, technical and policy level

Secretariat:

- **Policy Section**, hosted by UNEP-MAP
- **Scientific Section** hosted by the Italian Oceanographic Commission
- **Communication and Engagement Section** hosted by IOC UNESCO-Venice



SciNMeet Stakeholder Forum: regional mirror group of the Decade Global Stakeholders' Forum

Programme Coordinator/Director in charge of managing the Programme with the support of the Secretariat on a daily basis

Task Teams
Climate Change
Marine Pollution
Marine Hazards
Ocean Literacy
Ocean Observing & Prediction
Data Sharing
Knowledge Transfer/Capacity Building

Task Teams will enable the operationalization of the Programme, ensuring the due achievement of planned results.

2023 MED QSR:

UNEP/MAP a regional cooperation node to advance use of data and information

- Data reported on eutrophication and contaminants (biota and sediment); bathing water quality; beach, seafloor marine litter, and floating microplastics as reported by the CPs in the IMAP IS
- Occurrence of spills reported through MEDGIS-MAR
- Satellite-derived data for Chla (e.g. COPERNICUS, ARGANS, SMED algorithm)
- Mercator Ocean Data (temperature, wave height, salinity, pH)
- Lloyds (Occurrence of spills) and CleanSeaNet data (smaller spills, minor incidents or illicit discharges)
- Copernicus Land Monitoring – Coastal zones service, OpenStreetMap, World Database on Protected Areas
- FABDEM global elevation map and Studies on biomarkers in the Mediterranean Sea
- Studies on Seafood safety and quality in the Mediterranean Sea
- ACCOBAMS: low- and mid-frequency data reported in the International Noise Register for the Mediterranean Sea (INR-MED) region and continuous low frequency sound data obtained from the NETCCOBAMS Platform
- EMODnet data points to complement IMAP in situ data regarding assessment criteria calculation



Thank you!

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<https://www.unep.org/unepmap/>