



2021  
2030 United Nations Decade  
of Ocean Science  
for Sustainable Development

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## UN-DECADE OF OCEAN SCIENCE, MEDITERRANEAN REGION WORKSHOP

# THE VISION FOR THE DECADE - THE MEDITERRANEAN SEA WE NEED FOR THE FUTURE WE WANT

21-22-23 January 2020  
IOU-UNESCO Venice building

The workshop, targeting specifically the Mediterranean region, will deliver through the work of 6 specific working groups will aim to identify concrete deliverables and partnerships to meet the Decade's six societal objectives interpreted by declining them in the perspective of the Mediterranean Sea uniqueness:

### WG I: A clean Mediterranean Sea

*A clean ocean whereby sources of pollution are identified, quantified and reduced and pollutants removed from the ocean.*

Fostering new ideas for integrated research to assess the human and environmental risks of ongoing and future types of pollution in the Mediterranean Sea. Generate innovative approaches to understand the fate of pollutants and provide innovative knowledge base for mitigation and remediation. Address impacts on key economy drivers in the Mediterranean Area.

### WG II: A healthy & resilient Mediterranean Sea

*A healthy and resilient ocean whereby marine ecosystems are mapped and protected, multiple impacts, including climate change, are measured and reduced, and provision of ocean ecosystem services is maintained.*

Generate useful knowledge of the Mediterranean system physical, biogeochemical and biodiversity dynamics on climate time scales. Understand the effect of long-term cumulative stressors in order to define the Basin vulnerability and support sustainable and effective Mediterranean Sea planning and management.

### WG III: A predicted Mediterranean Sea

*A predicted ocean whereby society has the capacity to understand current and future ocean conditions, forecast their change and impact on human well-being and livelihoods.*

How to keep the Mediterranean Sea environment under review, including its complexity and non-linearities. Provide integrated in situ and satellite observation and modelling systems by harmonizing and enhancing the current systems state on the basis of new knowledge and technological developments in observational and modelling tools, to enhance predictability.

#### **WG IV: A safe Mediterranean Sea**

**A safe ocean** whereby human communities are protected from ocean hazards and where the safety of operations at sea and on the coast is ensured.

Marine hazards such as storm surges, tsunamis, harmful algal blooms, or coastline erosion can be devastating for coastal communities. Foster the generation of dedicated research towards the definition of integrated multi-hazard early warning systems, to improve preparedness to emergencies, supporting plans for adaptation and mitigation to climate change in the Region thus reducing the coastal risks, safeguarding population and activities at sea.

#### **WG V: A sustainable (harvested and) productive Mediterranean Sea**

**A sustainably harvested and productive ocean** ensuring the provision of food supply and alternative livelihoods.

Define science-based safe and sustainable thresholds for economic operations in the Mediterranean Sea driving the sustainable exploitation of non-renewable resources and the resources based on the Mediterranean Sea natural and cultural heritage, in the framework of effective Mediterranean spatial planning. Encompass sustainable food production and the links between tourism and the environment in the perspective of the circular and inclusive blue economy.

#### **WG VI: A transparent & accessible Mediterranean Sea**

**A transparent and accessible ocean** whereby all nations, stakeholders and citizens have access to ocean data and information, technologies and have the capacities to inform their decisions.

Maximize the sharing of knowledge about the health, evolution and functioning of Mediterranean marine environment; understand the future links with economy and societal needs by ensuring the complete openness of scientific knowledge in order to support the formulation of environmental policy and management plans, unlocking ideas and innovation. Improve the "Mediterranean Sea literacy" and participatory research.

