Programme

La Nuvola Rome • 29.09 - 02.10.2026

Tuesday, 29 September

SESSION 1

9:00–10:30 **PLENARY** Auditorium Mare Nostrum

Opening Ceremony

OPENING REMARKS BY INSTITUTIONAL REPRESENTATIVES AND KEYNOTE SPEAKERS

- **Roberto Gualtieri,** *Mayor of Rome, Italy*
- **Antonio Tajani,** *Vice President of the Council of Ministers and Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, Italy*
- **Martin Selmayer,** *Head of EU Delegation to UN Organisations in Rome, Vatican and Malta*
- **Qu Dongyu,** *Director-General, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)*
- **Miguel Doria, Director,** *Water Sciences Division, UNESCO*
- **Fadi Hajali,** *Secretary-General Ad Interim, Union for the Mediterranean (UfM)*
- **Retno L.P. Marsudi,** United Nations Special Envoy on Water

CLOSING REMARKS

- **Gilberto Pichetto Fratin,** *Minister of Environment and Energy Security, Italy*

10:30–11:30 **PLENARY** Auditorium Mare Nostrum

Presentation of the Euromediterranean Water Forum

PANELISTS

- **Maria Spena,** *President, One Water Committee Italy, Italy*
- **Alain Meyssonnier,** *President, Mediterranean Water Institute (IME), France*
- **Joan Borrell,** *Deputy Secretary-General, Union for the Mediterranean (UfM)*
- **Biagio Di Terlizzi,** *Director, CIHEAM Bari, Italy*
- **Walid Abderrahman,** *Vice President of the Arab Water Councill*
- **Luca Dal Fabbro,** *President, Utilitalia, Italy*

Tuesday, 29 September

11:00 - 11:30 **PLENARY** Forum Floor

Inauguration of the Evolutio Exhibition

WEBUILD

with the participation of Antonio Tajani, Vice President of the Council of Ministers and Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, Gilberto Pichetto Fratin, Minister of Environment and Energy Security and Pietro Salini, Chief Executive Officer of Webuild

An exhibition by Webuild, dedicated to the role of large-scale water infrastructure — from dams to hydraulic works — in shaping the development of territories and communities. Drawing on Webuild's multimedia archive, the exhibition traces how major engineering projects have connected regions, improved access to resources, and generated lasting benefits for society, in a narrative designed for both specialists and the general public.

11:30–13:00 **HIGH LEVEL PANEL** Auditorium Mare Nostrum

From the Ministerial Meeting on Water to the UN Water Conference

One Water Committee Italy (OW), Mediterranean Water Institute (IME) & Union For The Mediterranean (UfM)

MODERATORS

- **Emilio Ciarlo,** *Director-General, One Water Committee Italy*
- **Frédéric De Dinechin,** *Senior Policy Advisor for Water, Union for the Mediterranean (UfM)*

PANELISTS

- **Mohamed CBC Diatta,** *Sherpa of Senegal for the 2026 United Nations Water Conference, Senegal*
- **Hani Sewilam,** *Chair Interactive Dialogue C, 2026 UN WC, Minister of Water Resources and Irrigation, Egypt*
- **Antti Rautavaara,** *Chair Interactive Dialogue D, 2026 UN WC, Special Envoy for Water, Finland*
- **Catherine Chabaud,** *Chair Interactive Dialogue F, 2026 UN WC, Minister of the Sea and Fishery, France*
- **Marco Rago,** *Legal Adviser to the Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation for Economic Diplomacy and Development, and Italian Special Envoy for International Water Policies*
- **Hugo Moran Fernandez,** *Chair Interactive Dialogue B, 2026 UN WC, Secretary of State for Environment, Ministry for the Ecological Transition and the Demographic Challenge, Spain*
- **Abdulaziz Alshaibani,** *Co-Chair World Water Forum, Deputy Minister for Water Resources, Ministry of Environment, Water and Agriculture, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia*

CLOSING REMARKS

- **Stefano Gatti,** *Director General for Development Cooperation, Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation*

Tuesday, 29 September

SESSION 2

11:00–13:00 **SPECIAL SESSION** • Festival dell'Acqua — Room Danubio

Future Scenarios and Crisis: Water Security in the Age of Artificial Intelligence and Geopolitical Crisis

UTILITALIA

Digital transition is transforming the water service, offering new tools to increase efficiency, security and capacity, including in response to global crises.

11:30–13:00 **WORKSHOP** — Room Rodano

Coastal wetlands: stories of balance between rivers, seas and people. Vulnerabilities and gentle mitigation strategies for today and tomorrow

Association of Mediterranean Deltas (Delta-Med) ETS

Coastal wetlands face erosion, salinization and flooding. The workshop seeks shared methods and sustainable actions to restore balance between human and natural processes.

11:30-13.00 **SPECIAL SESSION** — Room Giordano

Blue Economy in Lazio: strategies, innovation, value chains and projects to boost business, research, competitiveness and new development opportunities.

Regione Lazio - Lazio Innova

The Blue Economy is a strategic driver for sustainable growth, innovation and competitiveness in the Lazio Region. The session will present the regional ecosystem, its main value chains and development opportunities, highlighting regional policies and the role of Lazio Innova in supporting innovation, technology transfer and collaboration between research and business. It will also showcase innovative projects and foster new partnerships within the Blue Economy.

11:30-12.00 **SPECIAL SESSION** • Water for all People — Room Atlante

Past, Present and Future of Global Water Assessments 25 years of UNESCO World Water Assessment Programme

UNESCO WWAP

The event will reflect the programme's past, present and future, highlighting its flagship outcome-the United Nations World Water Development Report series—and its role in shaping international water discourse through the MDGs and SDGs. The chair of UN Water, Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and of Environment are invited to participate.

Tuesday, 29 September

12:00-13.00 | **SPECIAL SESSION** • Water for all People | Room Atlante

Shared prosperity and transboundary water cooperation – Examples from the Balkan Region

UNESCO WWAP

This session, co-organized with UNESCO IHP and the UNESCO Venice Office, will explore water diplomacy as a tool to strengthen water security, maximize shared benefits, and prevent or resolve conflicts over transboundary water resources, with a focus on the Balkans. Seven Balkan ministries are invited to join the high-level panel discussion.

11:30-13.00 | **SPECIAL SESSION** | Room Bosforo

Resilient Cities and Urban Water Systems: Advancing Urban Flood Risk Assessment and Disaster Resilience in the Mediterranean

UNESCO IHP

Bringing together advanced flood risk assessment methodologies (hydraulic modeling, monitoring, vulnerability mapping) with innovative solutions such as Nature-Based Solutions, SuDS, and smart technologies, this session explores how Mediterranean cities can build urban water resilience — transforming vulnerable zones into resilient ecosystems while embedding these strategies into national climate policies.

11:30-13.00 | **SPECIAL SESSION** | Room Itaca

The role of water management in supporting agricultural resilience and food security across the Mediterranean: Scientific evidence and results on the ground from MASAF investment policies, beyond water efficiency alone

Ministry of Agriculture, Food Sovereignty and Forests

At the Euro-Mediterranean Water Forum, the Ministry of Agriculture, Food Sovereignty and Forestry will present its long-term national strategy to modernise collective irrigation schemes, increase water availability and improve infrastructure and management efficiency. Addressing institutions, the research community, practitioners and stakeholders in water management and agriculture, the event will showcase scientific evidence from CREA and case studies on the direct and indirect benefits of irrigation investments. Taking a systemic perspective, it will consider benefits in terms of water-use efficiency, water quality and availability, aquifer recharge, biodiversity conservation, combating salinisation and the provision of ecosystem services.

11:30-13.00 | **WORKSHOP** | Room Circe

Water Credits - A Dialogue Among Front-Runners

HYPERCUBE

Representatives from industry, finance, non-profit organisations and institutions will exchange perspectives on successful use cases and practical applications of Water Credits. The discussion will explore how this emerging paradigm can combine locally measurable impact with global liquidity, mobilising non-debt financing for water resilience at scale.

Tuesday, 29 September

11:30-13.00 | **WORKSHOP** | Room Tirreno

Regional cooperation: sharing experiences of water management in the face of climate change

BRL INGÉNIERIE

What does water cooperation actually look like in the Mediterranean basin? In this session, we will review ongoing projects between France, Morocco, Tunisia, and Palestine, and share a first look at the new partnership between the Oum Er Rbia and Adour-Garonne basins (Morocco and France). The final part will be an open discussion where everyone can share their views on the real benefits and difficulties of cooperation between countries.

SESSION 3

14:30-16:00 | **HIGH LEVEL PANEL** | Auditorium Mare Nostrum

CEO Water Summit - The Value of Water (T2)
Session I

One Water Committee Italy (OW), Mediterranean Water Institute (IME) & Union For The Mediterranean (UfM)

Water is increasingly a strategic economic factor, not merely an environmental or utility issue —agriculture alone absorbs some 70% of freshwater withdrawals. The panel confronts a central paradox: no economy can function without water, yet it remains chronically undervalued. This session brings together utilities, constructors and financiers to discuss how to accelerateinvestment and modernise infrastructure at scale.

OPENING REMARKS

- **Retno L.P. Marsudi,** United Nations Special Envoy on Water

MODERATOR

- **Isidora Kosta,** *Head of Built Environment and Infrastructure Industry Agenda, World Economic Forum*

KEYNOTE

- **Marco Pastorello,** *Chief Transformation Officer, Acea*

PANELISTS

- **Jessika Roswall,** *Commissioner for the Environment, Water Resilience and a Competitive Circular Economy European Commission*
- **Bruno Hervet,** CEO Europe, Suez
- **Josè Diaz Caneja,** *Chairman, Acciona Agua, Acciona, Spain*
- **Charles Calestroupat,** *President, Microsoft Europe South*

Tuesday, 29 September

14:30-16:00 | **EUROMED TALK** | Room Nilo

Water Scarcity and Non-Conventional Water Resources (T1)

One Water Committee Italy (OW), Mediterranean Water Institute (IME) & Union For The Mediterranean (UfM)

Water scarcity is a defining challenge of our century: global demand is projected to rise 20-30% by 2050, with the Mediterranean among the world's most exposed basins.
The panel addresses non-conventional resources — reuse, desalination — as structural responses to structural scarcity. The EuroMed Talk revisits this same theme with a more technical and vertical lens, in dialogue with practitioners and sector experts.

MODERATOR

- **Attilio Toscano,** *OW STC Member; Professor of Agricultural Hydraulics, University of Bologna; Advisor to the Ministry of Infrastructure and Transport, Italy*

KEYNOTE

- **Massimo Gargano,** *Director General, ANBI, Italy*

PANELISTS

- **Conchita Marcuello,** *Ministry for the Ecological Transition and the Demographic Challenge, Spain*
- **Ramiro Martinez,** *General Coordinator, Mediterranean Network of Basin Organizations (MENBO), Spain*
- **Latifa Dhaouadi,** *Regional Centre for Research and Agriculture, Tunisia*
- **Sherif Mohamady Elsayed,** *President, NWRC – National Water Research Centre, Egypt*
- **Marwan Alraggad,** *CEO, INWRDAM – Inter-Islamic Network on Water Resources Development andManagement, Jordan*
- **Giulia Giuffré,** *Head of Sustainability and Member of the Board of Directors, Irritec, Italy*

15:00-18:00 | **SPECIAL SESSION** • Festival dell'Acqua | Room Danubio

One Health: Water Quality, Health and Emerging Contaminants

UTILITALIA

Origins and spread of contaminants (e.g. PFAS), the European and national regulatory framework, and implications for water service operators.

14:30-16:00 | **WORKSHOP** | Room Itaca

Advancing the operationalisation of the WEFE Nexus in the Mediterranean: Lessons learned from Funded Projects for Innovation, Governance and Finance

PRIMA Foundation

The session will explore how lessons learned from funded WEFE Nexus projects can support the transition from pilot initiatives to policy implementation and investment-ready scaling pathways in the Mediterranean. It will bring together actors to identify practical recommendations for scaling innovation, improving governance and mobilising finance for integrated water, energy, food and ecosystem resilience.

Tuesday, 29 September

14:30-16:00 | **WORKSHOP** | Room Circe

Financing Water Security in the Mediterranean: Mobilising Public Financial Institutions for Resilient Territories

Caisse des Dépôts (CDC)

This session will highlight the pivotal role that public financial institutions can play in financing water security across the Mediterranean, will showcase the experience of the DialMed initiative - a unique cooperation platform bringing together Mediterranean Deposit and Development Funds from both the Northern and Southern shores -, and demonstrate that water represents one of the most powerful drivers for regional cooperation.

14:30-16:00 | **SPECIAL SESSION** | Room Atlante

Beyond Borders: Cooperation and Innovation for the Sustainable Management of Transboundary Waters

Italian Agency for Development Cooperation (AICS)

Through the experiences shared by local authorities, UN Agencies, Academia, Research Institutions and private sector, the session, organized by the Italian Agency for Development Cooperation (AICS), aims at raising awareness on transboundary water governance, cooperation, and development finance, focusing on identifying actionable entry points for integrating water considerations into policy, planning, and investments.

14:00-17:30 | **SPECIAL SESSION** | Room Tirreno

39th General Assembly of WAREG – European Water Regulators

WAREG – European Water Regulators

The 39th General Assembly of WAREG – European Water Regulators brings together national and regional public authorities responsible for the economic regulation and oversight of drinking water and wastewater services across Europe. WAREG promotes cooperation, knowledge sharing and capacity-building among regulators and develops common analyses and positions on key regulatory challenges, including tariffs and affordability, service quality, investment and efficiency, consumer protection, water resilience and the implementation of European water legislation.
At its 39th General Assembly in Rome, WAREG Members will discuss regulatory responses to climate change and water scarcity, tariff frameworks, European regulatory developments and the integration of municipal waste regulation into WAREG's activities, while strengthening cooperation with European and international partners.

Private session – attendance by invitation only.

Tuesday, 29 September

14:30-16:00 | **WORKSHOP** | Room Giordano

Europe's First Earthquake-Resilient Aqueduct Engineering Water Security for Resilient Territories

CIIP Spa

A pioneering infrastructure project designed to ensure water security in one of Italy's most earthquake-prone regions. The system combines seismic resilience, advanced engineering and strategic network redundancy to protect water supply during major seismic events.
A new European benchmark for safer, smarter and more resilient water infrastructure.

13:00-14:30 | **WORKSHOP** | Room Rodano

Restoring water, regenerating territories

Agronetwork

How can Agri-food Companies turn water stewardship into a concrete investment in the resilience and regeneration of territories.

SESSION 4

16:30-18:00 | **HIGH LEVEL PANEL** | Auditorium Mare Nostrum

CEO Water Summit — The Value of Water (T2)
Session II

One Water Committee Italy (OW), Mediterranean Water Institute (IME) & Union For The Mediterranean (UfM)

Building on Session I, this panel widens the lens to industries where water is a critical but often overlooked dependency — from technology and finance to fashion, food and manufacturing. Corporate leaders discuss how water moves from a compliance issue to a boardroom priority.

MODERATOR

- **Alain Meyssonnier,** *President, IME, France*

PANELISTS

- **Marie-Claire Daveu,** *Chief Sustainability Officer, Kering Group*
- **Barbara Terenghi,** *Executive Vice President of Sustainability, Edison, Italy*
- **Matteo Buzzetti,** *CEO, Fisia Italimpianti*
- **Giulia Giuffré,** *Head of Sustainability and Member of the Board of Directors, Irritec, Italy*
- **Daniela Bernacchi,** *Executive Director, UN Global Compact Italia Network, Italy*
- **Maud Guerlain,** *Co-Founder, Water Wiser*

CLOSING REMARKS

- **Joan Borrell,** *Deputy Secretary General, UfM*

Tuesday, 29 September

16:30-18:00 | **HIGH LEVEL PANEL** | Room Nilo

Water Scarcity and Non-Conventional Water Resources (T1)

One Water Committee Italy (OW), Mediterranean Water Institute (IME) & Union For The Mediterranean (UfM)

Water scarcity is a defining challenge of our century: global demand is projected to rise 20-30% by 2050, with the Mediterranean among the world's most exposed basins. The panel addresses non-conventional resources — reuse, desalination — as structural responses to structural scarcity.

MODERATOR

- **Akiça Bahri,** *Former Minister of Agriculture and Water Resources, Tunisia*

KEYNOTE

- **Hani Sewilam,** *Minister of Water Resources and Irrigation, Egypt*

PANELISTS

- **Livia Peiser,** *Head of the Geospatial Unit, Land and Water Division, FAO*
- **Jean-Bernard Bolvin,** *Délégation Interministerielle à la Méditerranée*
- **Francesco Vincenzi,** *President, ANBI, Italy*
- **Josep Lluís Armenter Ferrando**, *Director, ACA – Catalan Water Agency, Spain*
- **Roula Khadra,** *Science Coordinator, CIHEAM Bari, Italy*
- **Tarik Hamane,** *CEO, ONEE – National Office of Electricity and Drinking Water, Morocco*
- **Patrizia Rutigliano,** *CEO, Suez Italia*
- **Eric Steinbecher,** *President Life Sciences & Environment (LS&E), Mann+Hummel*

16:30-18:00 | **WORKSHOP** | Room Itaca

Cooperating for Mediterranean Water Security: Capitalizing on EU Funds through the Interreg NEXT MED Programme

INTERREG NEXT MED PROGRAMME

This session will demonstrate how transnational cooperation effectively leverages EU funds to deploy scalable, real-world solutions on the ground. It will present success cases of entities cooperating across the Mediterranean to deploy diverse solutions to a common challenge. Join us to discover the best financial tools and innovative practices to cooperate for a water-smart Mediterranean future!

16:30-18:00 | **SPECIAL SESSION** | Room Giordano

Shaping the Future of Agriculture

One Water Committee Italy

This session explores the role of Italian agriculture in the sustainable management of water resources, amid growing pressure on irrigation systems and food production. It addresses the sector's path toward greater efficiency, innovation and long-term resilience.

MODERATOR

- **Fabrizio Stelluto,** Executive Vice President of UNARGA, Italy

Tuesday, 29 September

OPENING REMARKS

- **Francesco Lollobrigida,** *Minister of Agriculture, Food Sovereignty and Forestry, Italy (video message)*

PANELISTS

- **Maria Spena,** *President, One Water Committee, Italy*
- **Cristiano Fini,** *President, CIA – Italian Farmers Confederation, Italy*
- **Ettore Prandini,** *President, Coldiretti, Italy*
- **Alberto Statti,** *Member of the Executive Committee, Confagricoltura, Italy*
- **Cristian Maretti,** *President, Legacoop Alimentare, Italy*
- **Andrea Rocchi,** *President, CREA, Italy*
- **Monica Cairoli,** *National Councillor, National Council of the Order of Agronomists and Foresters, CONAF, Italy*

16:30-18:00 **SPECIAL SESSION** Room Atlante

Water and Gender: The Challenge of Equality in Accessing Water Resources

Italian Agency for Development Cooperation (AICS)

Through the experiences shared by local authorities, UN Agencies, NGOs and private sector, the session, organized by the Italian Agency for Development Cooperation (AICS), aims at stimulating the discussion on the issue of women's and girls' physical and economic access to water resources, especially in contexts of climate and social crises.

16:30-18:00 **SPECIAL SESSION** Room Rodano

Water as a common good and climate change: global citizenship education as a catalyst for change

CISP, LVIA, HelpCode, ICU

CSOs build water and climate change awareness by integrating Global Citizenship Education with the school system to engage Youth and Communities with innovative tools for the necessary change.

16:30-18:00 **WORKSHOP** Room Circe

From Digital Early Warning Systems to Climate Services for Water: Strengthening Tunisia's Resilience to Drought

Tunisian Ministry of Agriculture, Water Resources and Fisheries

This session will present the efforts of the Tunisian Government to improve drought forecasting and management through the development of a digital drought early warning system. The discussions will explore how digital early warning systems can evolve into comprehensive climate services for water, providing actionable information to policymakers, water managers, farmers, civil protection authorities, and other stakeholders.

Tuesday, 29 September

16:30-18:00 | **SPECIAL SESSION** | Room Bosforo

Monitoring together to advance in the digital governance of water resources

Ministry of Environment and Energy Security

The Integrated Monitoring and Forecasting System (SIM) aims to implement preventive measures for scheduled land maintenance and the maintenance or modernization of infrastructure, as well as to support continuous monitoring of the environment and territory at a national level in order to support interventions preventing climate change-related risks. It can make a valuable contribution to the Mediterranean Water Agenda, the multinational strategy for the sustainable management and protection of water resources in the Mediterranean basin. As a cutting-edge technological infrastructure unique in Europe, SIM perfectly aligns with the goals of climate resilience, cross-border cooperation, and digital transition promoted by the Mediterranean agenda, through the following operational pillars: Marine and Coastal Pollution Monitoring; Precision agriculture; Hydrogeological instability and water resources.

Wednesday, 30 September

SESSION 1

9:30-11:00 **HIGH LEVEL PANEL** Auditorium Mare Nostrum

The New European Water Vision (T3)

One Water Committee Italy (OW), Mediterranean Water Institute (IME) & Union For The Mediterranean (UfM)

Fifty years into European water policy, from the Water Framework Directive to today, the EU faces a convergence of climate, growth and pollution pressures. The panel builds on the Letta and Draghi reports, which place water security at the core of European competitiveness.

MODERATOR

- **Manuel Sapiano,** *Mediterranean Water Institute (IME), France*

KEYNOTE

- **Veronica Manfredi,** *Director for Zero Pollution, Water Resilience and Green Cities European Commission*

PANELISTS

- **João Manuel Esteves,** *Secretary of State for Environment, Portugal*
- **Sofjan Jaupaj**, *Minister of Environment, Albania*
- **Joan Borrell,** *Deputy Secretary General, UfM, Spain*
- **Marco Rago,** *Legal Adviser to the Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation for Economic Diplomacy and Development, and Italian Special Envoy for International Water Policies*
- **Marco Casini,** *Secretary General, Central Apennines River Basin District Authority, Italy*
- **Anna Maria Barrile,** *Director General, Utilitalia, Italy*
- **Hans Goossens,** *Past President, Water Europe*

9:30-11:00 **EUROMED TALK** Room Atlante

Blue Finance and Blue Investments for Water (T4)

One Water Committee Italy (OW), Mediterranean Water Institute (IME) & Union For The Mediterranean (UfM)

The Mediterranean faces a structural investment gap of USD 40-80 billion a year. The panel contrasts the EU shore's modernization needs — network losses, PFAS, digitalization — with the southern and eastern shore's expansion needs, and the blue finance tools able to bridge both. The Euro-Med Talk revisits this same theme with a more technical and vertical lens, in dialogue with practitioners and sector experts.

MODERATOR

- **Andrea Tinagli,** *Former EIB representative at the UfM, Italy*

KEYNOTE

- **Mauro Grassi,** *Co-founder One Water Committee, Italy*

PANELISTS

- **Edouard Perard,** *Head of the Water Division, European Investment Bank (EIB)*
- **Lionel Goujon,** *Head of Water & Sanitation division, Agence Française de Développement logo, France*
- **Natalia Gullón,** *Technical Director of the Spanish Fund for Water and Sanitation, AECID (Spanish Agencyfor International Development Cooperation), Spain*
- **Jean-Marc Philip,** *CEO, Ecoviso and IME expert, France*

Wednesday, 30 September

- **Lucia Silva,** *Chief Sustainability Officer, Generali Group, Italy*
- **Huriye İncecik Ceylan**, *Section Manager, Water Policy Branch, Water Law and Policy Departmen, General Directorate of Water Management, Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, Türkiye*
- **Paolo Ronco,** *Head of Research Innovation Viacqua and Coordinator of Life - Svolta Blu*

9:00-13:00 **SPECIAL SESSION** • Festival dell'Acqua — Room Danubio

A New Water Balance in the Age of Climate Change

Utilitalia

Impacts on the water system through climate scenarios, seasonal forecasts, indicators such as the WEI+, AI and satellite remote sensing.

9:00-13:00 **SPECIAL SESSION** • Festival dell'Acqua — Room Bosforo

The Value of Water Between Regulation and Economic Sustainability

Utilitalia

The role of regulation, tariffs and financial instruments in supporting the development and modernisation of water infrastructure.

9:30-11:00 **WORKSHOP** — Room Circe

The Mediterranean WEFE Nexus Community of Practice: A catalyst for integrated natural resources management and climate resilience

GWP-MED & Cyprus Institute

This session will serve as the concluding event of WEFE4MED project, bringing the reflection on lessons learned from WEFE Nexus implementation across the region and to discuss future pathways for scaling impact beyond individual projects and initiatives. It aims to catalyse a shift from 'Nexus thinking' to 'Nexus doing'.

9:30-11:00 **SPECIAL SESSION** — Room Itaca

Capacity Development at the Heart of Water Security: Investing in the Future of Mediterranean Societies

UNESCO-IHP

Capacity gaps – institutional, human, financial and technological – remain among the main constraints on progress towards SDG 6. Drawing on the UN-Water SDG 6 Capacity Development Initiative (CDI), co-coordinated by UNESCO and UN DESA and now deployed in nine pilot countries including Jordan, this session brings together UN agencies, donors, universities, water education institutes and training providers to discuss how Mediterranean countries can move from one-off training to nationally led capacity development and why it should be treated as a long-term investment in water security and in the future of Mediterranean societies.

Wednesday, 30 September

9:30-11:00 **SPECIAL SESSION** Room Giordano

Building a Water Smart Economy in the Euro-Mediterranean Area - The Role of Business

UN Global Compact Network Italia

Water is becoming an increasingly strategic issue for the resilience and competitiveness of economies across the Mediterranean. This session will present the findings of the research Building a Water Smart Economy in the Euro-Mediterranean Area: The Role of Business, exploring how businesses can contribute to sustainable water management and more resilient productive systems.

9:30-12:00 **SPECIAL SESSION** Room Tirreno

39th General Assembly of WAREG – European Water RegulatorsWAREG

WAREG – European Water Regulators

The 39th General Assembly of WAREG – European Water Regulators brings together national and regional public authorities responsible for the economic regulation and oversight of drinking water and wastewater services across Europe. WAREG promotes cooperation, knowledge sharing and capacity-building among regulators and develops common analyses and positions on key regulatory challenges, including tariffs and affordability, service quality, investment and efficiency, consumer protection, water resilience and the implementation of European water legislation. At its 39th General Assembly in Rome, WAREG Members will discuss regulatory responses to climate change and water scarcity, tariff frameworks, European regulatory developments and the integration of municipal waste regulation into WAREG's activities, while strengthening cooperation with European and international partners.

Private session – attendance by invitation only.

9:30-11:00 **SPECIAL SESSION** Room Nilo

One Water II: Turning Regional Dialogue into Collective Action

CIHEAM Bari

Consolidated outcomes from three years of regional consultation across the Maghreb, Mashreq and Western Balkans, translating shared priorities into policy dialogue, partnerships and investment for Mediterranean water security.

9:30-11:00 **SPECIAL SESSION** Room Rodano

The Arno Water Resilience Lab - A collective action for freshwater stewardship

Kering

The Arno Basin Water Resilience Lab is a cross-sector platform initiated by Kering and Conservation International alongside Etifor I Valuing Nature to address the river basin's vulnerability to droughts, floods, and pollution thanks to a nexus approach. Building from efforts already underway, the Lab is uniting businesses, public institutions, scientists, and local communities to advance an innovative framework for water management across the entire basin. The Lab is operating on four core pillars: science-based decision-making, cross-sector collaboration, targeted investments, and a joint public-private roadmap. At its operational core lies the deployment of Nature-based Solutions, such as wetland restoration. By combining these ecological measures with industrial innovation, public-private partnerships, and innovative financing models, the Lab aims to enhance territorial resilience against climate change - safeguarding both businesses and local communities.

Wednesday, 30 September

SESSION 2

11:30-13:00 **HIGH LEVEL PANEL** — Auditorium Mare Nostrum

Blue Finance and Blue Investments for Water (T4)

One Water Committee Italy (OW), Mediterranean Water Institute (IME) & Union For The Mediterranean (UfM)

The Mediterranean faces a structural investment gap of USD 40-80 billion a year.
The panel contrasts the EU shore's modernisation needs — network losses, PFAS, digitalisation — with the southern and eastern shore's expansion needs, and the blue finance tools able to bridge both.

MODERATOR

- **Henk Ovink,** *Professor Watercycle Diplomacy & Design, Delft University of Technology Executive Director Global Commission on the Economics of Water, Netherlands*

KEYNOTE

- **Giovanni Gorno Tempini,** *President, Cassa Depositi e Prestiti (CDP), Italy*

PANELISTS

- **Abdulla Ali AlSubousi,** *Ambassador, United Arab Emirates*
- **Gelsomina Vigliotti,** *Vice-President, European Investment Bank*
- **Saroj Kumar Jha**, *Director, Global Water Practice, World Bank*
- **Amgad El Mahdi,** *Regional Head, Green Climate Fund, MENA Region*
- **Emilio Ciarlo,** *Director General One Water, Italy*
- **Pietro Gorgazzini**, *Co-Founder and CEO Hypercube*

11:30-13:00 **EUROMED TALK** — Room Nilo

The New European Water Vision (T3)

One Water Committee Italy (OW), Mediterranean Water Institute (IME) & Union For The Mediterranean (UfM)

Fifty years into European water policy, from the Water Framework Directive to today, the EU faces a convergence of climate, growth and pollution pressures. The panel builds on the Letta and Draghi reports, which place water security at the core of European competitiveness. The EuroMed Talk revisits this same theme with a more technical and vertical lens, in dialoguewith practitioners and sector experts.

KEYNOTE

- **Alessandra Zampieri,** *Director, Directorate for Sustainable Resources, Joint Research Centre (JRC), European Commission*

PANELISTS

- **Dagmar Behrendt Kaljarikova,** *Policy Officer, European Commission, Directorate-General for Environment**
- **Barbara Marinali,** *Vice President, Utilitalia, Italy*
- **Hilda Hoti,** *Water Resources Management Agency (UfM Focal Point), Albania*
- **Alessandro Bratti,** *Member of the Advisory Board, ARERA*

Wednesday, 30 September

11:30-13:00 | **SPECIAL SESSION** • Coastal Aquifer and Groundwater | Room Itaca

Protecting Coastal Aquifers and Related Ecosystems for a Water-Secure Mediterranean through science and integrated management approaches

UNESCO Intergovernmental Hydrological Programme (UNESCO-IHP) in partnership with UNEP-MAP and IME

The special session will share solutions and lessons from UNESCO's MedProgramme work in five priority Mediterranean coastal aquifers. Participants will explore integrated responses to overexploitation, pollution, seawater intrusion, ecosystem degradation, and climate change.

11:30-13:00 | **SPECIAL SESSION** | Room Atlante

Water and innovation in the context of climate change: from PNRR Innovation Ecosystems to ZEPHYRUS National Hub

Tech4You, Bicocca Foundation, Mediterranean University of Reggio Calabria

11:30-13:00 | **WORKSHOP** | Room Rodano

Tackling and Adapting to Climate Change: What Challenges for Water Resource Management?

Hydroaid

How water resource management, innovative financing strategies, and international partnerships could contribute to climate-resilient societies?

11:30-13:00 | **WORKSHOP** | Room Circe

Towards Resilient and Innovative Groundwater Governance in the Mediterranean to Strengthen Water Security by 2050

Tunisian Ministry of Agriculture, Water Resources and Fisheries

This session will explore the conditions required to establish modern, resilient groundwater governance for long-term water security in the Mediterranean. Building on the Tunisian experience, it will foster a regional dialogue on the shared challenges faced by Mediterranean countries and explore the synergies between groundwater governance and other key pillars of water security. This Side Event will also identify practical pathways to shift from reactive crisis management to proactive aquifer governance.

11:30-13:00 | **SPECIAL SESSION** | Room Giordano

The Rome Initiative on Water: From Vision to Investment

CIHEAM Bari

The official launch of the Rome Initiative on Water, opening a call for proposals to translate its vision into concrete, fundable investment projects.

Wednesday, 30 September

SESSION 3

14:30-16:00 | **HIGH LEVEL PANEL** | Auditorium Mare Nostrum

Water-Energy-Food-Ecosystems Nexus (T5)

One Water Committee Italy (OW), Mediterranean Water Institute (IME) & Union For The Mediterranean (UfM)

Global crises — climate, demographic shifts, conflict — cannot be addressed through siloed sectoral approaches. The panel traces how Integrated Water Resources Management evolved into the Water-Energy-Food-Ecosystems Nexus, a governance framework for interdependent resource systems.

MODERATOR

- **Juan Ojeda,** *Director, Hydraulic Engineering Department, TYPSA, Spain*

PANELISTS

- **Orazio Schillaci,** *Minister of Health, Italy (video message)*
- **Vera Eirò,** *President, WAREG – European Water Regulators*
- **Hussein El-Atfy,** *Secretary General, Arab Water Council, Egypt*
- **Elisabeth Mas Asturias,** *Director of Water Supply, Catalan Water Agency, Spain*
- **Tatjana Hema,** *Coordinator, Mediterranean Action Plan, UN Environment Programme*
- **Frédéric de Dinechin,** *Senior Policy Advisor for Water, UfM*
- **Vangelis Constantianos,** *Executive Secretary and Regional Coordinator, GWP-Med*
- **Simone Nisi**, *Executive Vice President Institutional and Regulatory Affairs, Edison, Italy*

14:30-16:00 | **EUROMED TALK** | Room Atlante

Beyond Source2Sea Approach (T6)

One Water Committee Italy (OW), Mediterranean Water Institute (IME) & Union For The Mediterranean (UfM)

Coastal and island areas concentrate both vulnerability and opportunity — climate change, coastal erosion, groundwater salinisation and the growth of the blue economy. The panel promotes integrated governance connecting the sea, water resources and local communities beyond a river's mouth. The EuroMed Talk revisits this same theme with a more technical and vertical lens, in dialogue with practitioners and sector experts.

MODERATOR

Roberta Busatto, *Blue Economy Expert, Journalist and Strategic Advisor, Italy*

PANELISTS

- **Sen. Simona Petrucci,** *President of the Parliamentary Intergroup on the Blue Economy, Italy*
- **Silvia Paparella,** *President, Sogesid, Italy*
- **Alessandra Gallone**, *President, Institute for Environmental Protection and Research (ISPRA) National Environmental Protection System (SNPA), Italy*
- **Claudio Mazza,** *President, Foundation for Environmental Education FEE, Italy*
- **Claudia Brunori,** *Director of the Department for Sustainability, Circular Economy and Climate Change Adaptation of Production and Territorial Systems, ENEA, Italy*
- **Fabio Bruno,** *Co-Chair Zephyrus Project – Innovation Ecosystem Tech4you, Italy*

Wednesday, 30 September

15:00-18:00 **SPECIAL SESSION** • Festival dell'Acqua — Room Danubio

Water Driving the Economy and Productive Sectors

Utilitalia

Efficient resource management, productive uses in the manufacturing and energy sectors, and the water-energy relationship.

15:00-18:00 **SPECIAL SESSION** • Festival dell'Acqua — Room Bosforo

Circularity in Water Resource Management

Utilitalia

Treatment, reuse and integrated management of water cycles to reduce waste and increase system resilience.

14:30-16:00 **SPECIAL SESSION** — Room Circe

The Water-Energy Nexus: Dynamics, Challenges and Opportunities

ACEA

14:30-16:00 **SPECIAL SESSION** — Room Rodano

Telling the Story of Water through Ethics, Art and Theatre

One Water Committee Italy, Aqua Foundation, Euro-Mediterranean Center on Climate Change (CMCC)& Laudato Si' Centre

This session explores how art, theatre, storytelling and public dialogue can help raise awareness of water-related challenges and inspire collective responsibility.Bringing together representatives from institutions, science, faith, culture and the arts, the panel will reflect on new ways of communicating water issues beyond technical and policy frameworks. The discussion will be complemented by the presentation of IN HERE / OUT THERE, a video work by artist **Federica Belli**, inviting audiences to reconsider the relationship between land, sea and human perception.

14:00-15:00 **SPECIAL SESSION** • Water for all People — Room Itaca

Water for All People: Equal Rights and Opportunities 2026 UN World Water Development Report

UNESCO WWAP

The session will explore how gender-responsive policies and inclusive governance can advance water security in the Mediterranean, focusing on the UN WWDR 2026 findings, the links between gender equality, water security and climate resilience, and best practices promoting women's participation and leadership in water governance.

Wednesday, 30 September

15:30-16:30 | **SPECIAL SESSION** • Water for all People | Room Itaca

"Water and Health" - Advancing Sustainable Water Resources Management and Accelerating Progress towards SDG 6

UNESCO WWAP

The Roundtable aims to highlight the relevance of the theme of the forthcoming World Water Day 2027 and UN World Water Development Report and its implications for water and health policies and foster dialogue among policymakers, water practitioners, public health experts, researchers, civil society organizations, and international institutions.

14:30-16:00 | **SPECIAL SESSION** | Room Nilo

Advancing Blue Innovation: From UNIDO Projects to Global Solutions

UNIDO ITPO Italy

Exploring global cooperation, technology and innovation in the Blue Economy, with the UNIDO ITPO Network and the winners of the Global Call 2026.

14:30-16:00 | **WORKSHOP** | Room Giordano

Water Resilience in the Euro-Mediterranean Region: from Policy to Action

Plan Bleu

This session will provide a platform to exchange experiences, showcase innovative approaches, and discuss policy solutions supporting integrated freshwater governance and ecosystem resilience across Mediterranean territories, exploring cooperation between local, national and regional actors.

14:00-16:00 | **SPECIAL SESSION** | Room Tirreno

Financing Water Resilience in the Mediterranean: Fostering Investment through Public Development Banks and Strategic Partnerships

Cassa Depositi e Prestiti (CDP)

The session explores how public development banks, international financial institutions and strategic partners can work together to scale up investments in water resilience across the Mediterranean. The session will focus on financing solutions, partnerships and coordination mechanisms needed to address growing water challenges and support sustainable, climate-resilient infrastructure in the region.

Wednesday, 30 September

SESSION 4

16:30-18:00 | **HIGH LEVEL PANEL** | Auditorium Mare Nostrum

Beyond Source2Sea Approach (T6)

One Water Committee Italy (OW), Mediterranean Water Institute (IME) & Union For The Mediterranean (UfM)

Coastal and island areas concentrate both vulnerability and opportunity — climate change, coastal erosion, groundwater salinisation and the growth of the blue economy. The panel promotes integrated governance connecting the sea, water resources and local communities beyond a river's mouth.
At the end of the session, the UNIDO-WTCA Global Call 2026 Award Ceremony, promoted by UNIDO ITPO Italy and the World Trade Centers Association, will take place.

MODERATOR

- **Laurent Pacoud,** *IME (Mediterranean Water Institute), France*

KEYNOTES

- **Fatou Haidara,** *Deputy to the Director General and Director of Global Partnerships and External Relations, UNIDO*
- **Errico Stravato,** *CEO, Sogesid, Italy*

PANELISTS

- **Sarantuyaa Zandaryaa,** *Programme Specialist, Section of Hydrological Systems, Climate Change and Adaptation, UNESCO*
- **Vincenzo Leone,** *Inspector Admiral, Deputy Commandant General of the Italian Coast Guard (Harbour Master's Corps*

16:30-18:00 | **EUROMED TALK** | Room Nilo

Water-Energy-Food-Ecosystems Nexus (T5)

One Water Committee Italy (OW), Mediterranean Water Institute (IME) & Union For The Mediterranean (UfM)

Global crises — climate, demographic shifts, conflict — cannot be addressed through siloed sectoral approaches. The panel traces how Integrated Water Resources Management evolved into the Water-Energy-Food-Ecosystems Nexus, a governance framework for interdependent resource systems. The EuroMed Talk revisits this same theme with a more technical and vertical lens, in dialogue with practitioners and sector experts.

MODERATOR

- **Donatella Spano,** *Vice President, CMCC (EuroMediterranean Centre on Climate Change), Italy*

KEYNOTE

- **Li Lifeng,** *Director, Land and Water Division, FAO*

PANELISTS

- **Pietro Petrucco,** *Vice President, ANCE*
- **Olivier Marchand,** *Responsible of Haliotis Explotation at Régie Eau d'Azur, Nice, France*

Wednesday, 30 September

- **Houda Ben Jannet Allal,** *Director General, Mediterranean Energy and Climate Organisation (OMEC), France*
- **Lydia Vamvakeridou-Lyroudia,** *Director, Watershare Programme, KWR Water Research (Netherlands) and Centre for Water Systems, University of Exeter (UK)*
- **Anthi Brouma,** *Deputy Regional Coordinator, Global Water Partnership Mediterranean*
- **Ali Rhouma,** *Project Officer, WEFE Nexus, PRIMA Foundation EU**

17:00-18:00 **SPECIAL SESSION** • Water for all People — Room Itaca

Water Heritage and Innovations: an Italian perspective

UNESCO WWAP

The event will showcase Italian experiences, successful case studies, and innovative approaches that demonstrate how traditional knowledge, science, technology, and innovation can support water security and strengthen water governance.

16:30-18:00 **WORKSHOP** — Room Circe

The Performance Improvement Program for Drinking Water Networks in Southern Tunisia

SONEDE, KfW & EC

This session will present the Performance Improvement Program (PAP) for drinking water networks in southern Tunisia, a project that combines in-depth knowledge of the networks, sectorization, leak detection, metering, and remote monitoring to improve network efficiency and service continuity. It will illustrate how expertise and investment contribute to more sustainable water resource management.

16:30-18:00 **SPECIAL SESSION** — Room Atlante

From Policy to Practice: Scaling Nutrient Solutions across the Land-River-Sea Continuum

National Research Council (CNR)

A contribute to the European Water Resilience Strategy, the Ocean Pact and Mediterranean Policy Uptake.

16:30-18:00 **SPECIAL SESSION** — Room Tirreno

CEO Water Summit Roundtable

One Water Committee Italy (OW), Mediterranean Water Institute (IME) & Union For The Mediterranean (UfM)

Building on the two sessions held the previous day, over 50 CEOs and business leaders — drawn from sectors including water utilities, manufacturing, fashion, food and beverage, energy and telecommunications, and representing companies and organisations from across the Euro-Mediterranean region, including Europe, the Balkans, the Maghreb and the Mashreq — come together around a shared commitment to the sustainablemanagement of water resources.

Wednesday, 30 September

16:30-18:00 **WORKSHOP** Room Giordano

From Water Ethics to Governance: Action-research Models and Local Experiences

Sant'Anna School of Advanced Studies in collaboration with CAP Holding, Acqua Novara.VCO, ACEA spa

The workshop explores how ethical reflection on water can be translated into concrete practices of governance linking university research (Scuola Superiore Sant'Anna – Pisa) and the experience of leading Italian water utilities (ACEA s.p.a., ANVCO, CAP Holding). The event examines the values embedded in choices concerning allocation priorities, infrastructure, scarcity, water quality, sustainability, responsibility, and justice. Its aim is to show how making these values explicit can strengthen the transparency, legitimacy, and public justification of water-related decision-making.

16:30-18:00 **SPECIAL SESSION** Room Rodano

Bridging the Gap: From Drought Risk to Bankable Investment in the Mediterranean

EY, UNCCD

The session will explore the full investment pathway: from identifying where drought resilience investments are most needed, to developing bankable projects and deploying financial mechanisms capable of taking them to scale. The discussion will be anchored around UNCCD's Investment Targeting Platform, a tool to help identify and prioritize where investment can strengthen water resilience.

Thursday, 1 October

SESSION 1

9:30-11:00 **HIGH LEVEL PANEL** Room Nilo

Water Governance: Cities, Basin Authorities and Stakeholders Commitment (T9)

One Water Committee Italy (OW), Mediterranean Water Institute (IME) & Union For The Mediterranean (UfM)

The Mediterranean is heating roughly 20% faster than the global average, turning water governance into both a fault line and a strategic lever for stability. The panel addresses the fragmentation of responsibility across cities, basin authorities and levels of government.

MODERATOR

- **Tom Soo,** *Executive Director, IAHR*

KEYNOTE

- **Svetlana Celli,** *President of the Capitoline Assembly of Roma Capitale*

PANELISTS

- **Paolo Zangrillo,** *Minister for Public Administration, Italyx*
- **Francesco Petracchini,** *Director General, National Research Council (CNR), Italy*
- **Gaia Checcucci,** *Secretary General, Northern Apennines River Basin District Authority, Italy*
- **Maria Huerta,** *PhD, Head of Integrated Water Cycle Quality, Water Cycle Services, Area Metropolitana de Barcelona, Spain*
- **Alessandro Rivera,** *President, ACEA*
- **Nicolas Mourlon,** *Director General, Rhône-Méditerranée-Corse Water Agency, France*

9:30-11:00 **EUROMED TALK** Room Bosforo

Extreme Events and Climate Change: Prevention and Management (T7)

One Water Committee Italy (OW), Mediterranean Water Institute (IME) & Union For The Mediterranean (UfM)

The Mediterranean is warming faster than the global average, and the region faces the simultaneous experience of scarcity and excess: recurrent droughts alongside increasingly severe floods. The panel addresses integrated prevention and disaster-risk management across the Maghreb, Mashreq and Balkans. The EuroMed Talk revisits this same theme with a more technical and vertical lens, in dialogue with practitioners and sector experts.

MODERATOR

- **Alix Roumagnac,** *President, Predict Services (MétéoFrance), France*

KEYNOTE

- **Luigi Ferrara,** *Head of Department, Casa Italia, Presidency of the Council of Ministers, Italy*

Thursday, 1 October

PANELISTS

- **Francesco Corvaro,** *Special Envoy for Climate Change, Italy*
- **Frédéric de Dinechin,** Senior Policy Advisor for Water, UfM
- **Clara Estrela,** *Júcar River Basin Authority, Spain*
- **Marco Perosa,** *President of CIIP – Cicli Integrati Impianti Primari, Italy*
- **Antoine Gagliardi,** *Head of BU DT, Innovation & IoT, Officine Maccaferri, Italy*
- **Davide Pauletto,** *Building Division Director, FITT Group, Italy*

10:30-13:00 **SPECIAL SESSION** Auditorium Mare Nostrum

International Water Summit — Technology and Innovation for Resilience at the Service of Territories

National Association of Reclamation and Irrigation Consortia (ANBI)

The International Water Summit, organised by ANBI, brings together Italian institutions, private companies, research bodies and European agricultural associations to discuss technology and innovation for water resilience across territories.

9:30-11:00 **SPECIAL SESSION** Room Danubio

Water Awareness and Citizen Science Session I

Ministry for Public Administration

9:30-11:00 **SPECIAL SESSION** Room Atlante

Blue Knowledge for the Mediterranean. Research, Higher Education, Research Infrastructures and Scientific Diplomacy for Euro-Mediterranean Cooperation and Shared Prosperity

Ministry of University and Research

The session will explore how research, higher education, research infrastructures and scientific diplomacy can strengthen Euro-Mediterranean cooperation and contribute to water security and climate resilience.

9:30-11:00 **SPECIAL SESSION** Room Circe

Calabria's Water: A Unified Service for the Territory

SORICAL

Discussion among experts from the Integrated Water Service sector on the Calabria case and the key challenges shaping the development of water services in Southern Italy, including: fragmentation of service management, governance, the water divide, infrastructure gaps, climate change, service quality levels, investment needs, the economic and financial sustainability of start-up phases, and management models.

Thursday, 1 October

9:30-11:00 **WORKSHOP** Room Itaca

The Resilience Advantage: Leading Through Water Risk

Embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands

Climate risk is accelerating while resources to respond remain constrained. For water leaders, the challenge is no longer how to invest, but how to anticipate risk, prioritize action and build resilience before disruption strikes. If this happens, how to respond and recover as fast as possible.

This session brings senior Italian and Dutch water leaders together to explore what it takes to stay ahead and how to respond to an increasingly uncertain future.

9:30-11:00 **WORKSHOP** Room Giordano

Beyond Water: Operationalizing the Nexus within Planetary Boundaries

Euro-Mediterranean Center on Climate Change (CMCC)

Moving the Water-Energy-Food-Ecosystems Nexus from concept to operational practice within the framework of planetary boundaries.

9:30-13:00 **SPECIAL SESSION** Room Tirreno

Task Force on the Water-Food-Energy-Ecosystems Nexus under the Water Convention

Water Convention (UNECE), Union for the Mediterranean and Finland

The 10th meeting of the global Task Force on the Water-Food-Energy-Ecosystems (WFEE) Nexus under the Water Convention will bring together policymakers, experts, basin organizations and international partners to strengthen cross-sectoral cooperation on transboundary water resources.

Thursday, 1 October

SESSION 2

11:30-13:00 | **HIGH LEVEL PANEL** | Room Nilo

Extreme Events and Climate Change: Prevention and Management (T7)

One Water Committee Italy (OW), Mediterranean Water Institute (IME) & Union For The Mediterranean (UfM)

The Mediterranean is warming faster than the global average, and the region faces the simultaneous experience of scarcity and excess: recurrent droughts alongside increasingly severe floods. The panel addresses integrated prevention and disaster-risk management across the Maghreb, Mashreq and Balkans.

MODERATOR

- **Erasmo D'Angelis,** *Member and Co-Founder, One Water Committee; President, Earth and Water Agenda Foundation, Italy*

KEYNOTE

- **Paola Albrito,** *Special Representative, UN Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNDRR)*

PANELISTS

- **Angelica Catalano,** *Director General, Directorate General for Dams and Infrastructure, Ministry of Infrastructure and Transport, Italy*
- **Fabrizio Curcio,** *Special Commissioner for Post Earthquake Reconstruction, Italy*
- **Khalid El Ghomari,** *Director, Sebou Hydraulic Basin Agency, Morocco*

11:30-13:00 | **EUROMED TALK** | Room Bosforo

Water Governance: Cities, Basin Authorities and Stakeholders Commitment (T9)

One Water Committee Italy (OW), Mediterranean Water Institute (IME) & Union For The Mediterranean (UfM)

The Mediterranean is heating roughly 20% faster than the global average, turning water governance into both a fault line and a strategic lever for stability. The panel addresses the fragmentation of responsibility across cities, basin authorities and levels of government. The EuroMed Talk revisits this same theme with a more technical and vertical lens, in dialogue with practitioners and sector experts.

MODERATOR

- **Mauro Grassi,** *Co-founder One Water Committee, Italy*

PANELISTS

- **Alessio Tola,** *Director, CREA Research Centre for Agriculture and Policy-Bioeconomy, Italy*
- **Ornella Segnalini,** *Councillor for Infrastructure, Roma Capitale, Italy*
- **Seval Sozen,** *Member of the Board of Managment, ISKI – Istanbul Water and Sewerage Administration, Turkey*
- **Hadeel Faidi,** *Water Planning Projects Head at Palestinian Water Authority, Palestine*
- **Siham Laraichi**, *Advisor to the Secretary General, Ministry of Infrastructure and Water, Morocco*
- **Roberto Venneri,** *President, Acquedotto Pugliese, Italy*
- **Ivan Portoghese,** *Researcher at CNR-IRSA and Deputy Coordinator of the Working Group on "Drought, Water Scarcity and Water Crises"*

Thursday, 1 October

11:30-13:00 **SPECIAL SESSION** Room Danubio

Water Awareness and Citizen Science Session II

Ministry for Public Administration

11:30-13:00 **WORKSHOP** Room Rodano

From Data to Action: Digital Tools for Water-Related Ecosystem Governance, Management and Restoration in the Mediterranean

TOUR DU VALAT & PLAN BLEU

This session will showcase innovative digital tools and monitoring systems supporting water and wetland governance across the Mediterranean, including the Mediterranean Wetlands Geoportal developed by the Mediterranean Wetlands Observatory (MWO) and Plan Bleu's Observatory's tool MapX. It will demonstrate how data and knowledge can be transformed into concrete policies and restoration actions.

11:30-13:00 **SPECIAL SESSION** Room Atlante

Advancing EU Water Alignment - High-Level Ministerial Roundtable on the EU accession process and water resources governance in the Western Balkans

CIHEAM Bari

Renewed ministerial commitment to EU water acquis alignment across the Balkans, building on the ONE WATER II Balkan Regional Consultation and exploring a permanent regional water forum.

11:30-13:00 **SPECIAL SESSION** • Basin Day Room Itaca

Operationalizing IWRM: Shaping the High-Level Segment Dedicated to Basins and Watershed at the 11th World Water Forum

International Network of Basin Organizations (INBO)

Building on the outcomes of the INBO World Basin Summit 2026 in Rio de Janeiro and the 2nd Stakeholder Consultation Meeting for the 11th World Water Forum in Jeddah, this session translates prior technical and political commitments on basins and watersheds into a unified roadmap. It channels the Euro-Mediterranean region's perspective into the political process ahead of Riyadh 2027, while contributing to the momentum of the 2026 UN Water Conference.

11:30-13:00 **WORKSHOP** Room Giordano

Made in Europe for Water Security

MANN+HUMMEL

This session explores how water security, industrial resilience and technological innovation can strengthen Europe and the Mediterranean. It will examine desalination, water reuse, membrane technologies, manufacturing capacity and public-private cooperation as pillars of a resilient regional water ecosystem.

Thursday, 1 October

11:30-13:00 | **WORKSHOP** | Room Circe

Reuse of treated wastewater: a strategic lever for water security, in the context of climate change in the Mediterranean

Ministry of Agriculture, Water Resources and Fisheries, Tunisia

On the example of Tunisia, this Side Event takes an in-depth look at the political, institutional, regulatory and economic conditions that are essential for a successful change of scale, moving from programmes and pilot projects to widespread macroeconomic implementation.

SESSION 3

14:30-16:00 | **HIGH LEVEL PANEL** | Auditorium Mare Nostrum

One Health, One Water (T8)

One Water Committee Italy (OW), Mediterranean Water Institute (IME) & Union For The Mediterranean (UfM)

"One Health, One Water" recognises that human, animal, ecosystem and water health are functional mirrors of one another. The panel addresses how antimicrobial resistance, chemical contamination and ageing infrastructure compound today's water-related health threats.

MODERATOR

- **Teodoro Miano,** *Secretary General, CIHEAM, Paris*

PANELISTS

- **Miguel Doria,** *Director, Water Sciences Division UNESCO*
- **Salvatore De Meo,** *Chair of the Delegation for Relations with the NATO Parliamentary Assembly, European Parliament Italy*
- **Fabio Fatuzzo,** *Extraordinary Commissioner for Wastewater Treatment and Water Reuse, Italy*
- **Luca Lucentini,** *Director of the National Center for Water Safety, Italian National Institute of Health*
- **Fabrizio Penna, Director General, I***nstitute for Environmental Protection and Research (ISPRA) National Environmental Protection System (SNPA), Italy*

14:30-16:00 | **EUROMED TALK** | Room Nilo

A New Tech Blue Hope – Digital and AI: Water Innovation (T10)

One Water Committee Italy (OW), Mediterranean Water Institute (IME) & Union For The Mediterranean (UfM)

Digital tools and AI offer real opportunities to reduce leaks, optimise networks and anticipate droughts and floods — yet the digital sector is itself a fast-growing consumer of water and energy.
The panel confronts this structural paradox at the heart of the sector's technological promise. The EuroMed Talk revisits this same theme with a more technical and vertical lens, in dialogue with practitioners and sector experts.

Thursday, 1 October

MODERATOR

- **Gilles Brunschwig,** *President, Altereo, France*

KEYNOTE

- **Rifaat Abdelwahab,** *Holding Company for Water and Wastewater (HCWW), Egypt*

PANELISTS

- **Livia Peiser,** *Head of the Geospatial Unit, Land and Water Division, FAO*
- **Giovanni Cuomo,** *Director, SPERI, Italy*
- **Eric Mino,** *Director SEMIDE, France*
- **Alice Aureli**, *Vice President, International Water Resources Association*
- **Thomas Ferrero,** *CEO MEOSS, France*

14:30-16:00 **EUROMED TALK** Room Bosforo

Hydrodiplomacy: Advancing the Right to Water for Peace and Stability (T11)

Transboundary waters account for roughly 60% of the world's freshwater flows, with more than three billion people living in shared river and lake basins. The panel treats water as one of the few practical spaces where cooperation can continue even amid political tension. The EuroMed Talk revisits this same theme with a more technical and vertical lens, in dialogue with practitioners and sector experts.

MODERATOR

- **Tuğba Evrim Maden,** *Policy Development Coordinator, SUEN, Turkey*

KEYNOTE

- **Mabrouk Abdullah Mohamed,** *Ministry of Water Resources, Libya*

PANELISTS

- **Sonja Koeppel,** *Secretary, UNECE Water Convention, United Nations Economic Commission for Europe*
- **Stefano Lo Savio,** *Head of Unit for Finance for Development, Environment and Digital, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, Italy*
- **Birgit Vogel,** *Executive Secretary, International Commission for the protection of the Danube River (ICPDR)*
- **Diego Pozzoli,** *Water Management and Governance Officer IUCN Centre for Mediterranean Cooperation*
- **Maurizio Casarci,** *Senior Renewable Energy and Environment Expert, ICU*

14:30-16:00 **SPECIAL SESSION** Room Danubio

Water Awareness and Citizen Science Session III

Ministry for Public Administration

Thursday, 1 October

14:30-16:00 | **SPECIAL SESSION** | Room Atlante

Water Across Generations: Young Leaders and Senior Experts Shaping the Future of Mediterranean Water

CIHEAM Bari

Emerging approaches and voices shaping the future of water diplomacy across the Mediterranean region.

14:30-16:00 | **SPECIAL SESSION** • Basin Day | Room Itaca

Governance: A Key Role for Water Resilient River Basins

International Network of Basin Organizations (INBO)

As climate change accelerates extreme weather events across Europe, conventional water management approaches are no longer enough to secure our water future. This session brings together three European initiatives (Water4All, InnWater, and GOVAQUA) to showcase how innovative water governance, policy integration, and collaborative decision-making can build resilient river basins. Join us to explore practical tools, real-world examples, and actionable governance pathways driving robust river basin management in a changing world.

14:30-16:00 | **WORKSHOP** | Room Circe

Water Resources Management in Armenia: Ethical Perspectives – Policy-making Implications

My Step Foundation, in cooperation with Sant'Anna School of Advanced Studies

The workshop examines the challenges facing Armenia's water sector by bringing together university research and climate, engineering, governance, and ethical perspectives. A specific attention will be devoted to Armenia as technological and social laboratory of exclusive interest for the entire Euro-Mediterranean context. The ethical intergenerational perspective related to possible technical solution will be put in line with long-term policymaking decisions.

14:30-16:00 | **WORKSHOP** | Room Giordano

From Climate Science to Regional Water Action - Eastern Mediterranean and Middle East Climate Change Initiative (EMME-CCI) Water Task Force: From Scientific Assessment to Cross-Border Solutions, Hydro-Diplomacy and Climate Finance

EMME-CCI, The Cyprus Institute Climate Diplomacy and Sustainable Peace Hub, University of Balamandd

This event will present the main results of the Scientific Task Forces of the EMME-CCI, an initiative of the Cyprus Government, aiming to bridge science and policy and identify key cross-border projects to address the climate crisis across the EMME region. This event provides a platform to discuss cross-border projects and assess their feasibility and bankability, turning research into action.

Thursday, 1 October

14:30-16:00 | **SPECIAL SESSION** | Room Tirreno

Financing the Domestic Water Cycle: Italian Regions in Dialogue

One Water Committee Italy, in coordination with the Conferenza delle Regioni e delle Province Autonome

Special session on financing the domestic water cycle in Italy: Regions, ARERA, the EIB and Sogesid discuss governance constraints, investment gaps and the instruments available to turn territorial needs into bankable, executable projects — with a view to launching a PA-Blue Finance Working Table as a lasting legacy of the Forum.

14:30-16:00 | **WORKSHOP** | Room Rodano

Water Energy Food Ecosystem Nexus

TEHA Group

Water generates value well beyond the water sector itself, influencing industrial competitiveness, food security, the energy transition, and territorial protection. In this session, part of the journey of TEHA's eighth edition of the Valore Acqua Community, the new WEFE Integration Index will be presented: a measure of European countries' ability to preserve natural capital through the integrated and sustainable management of water, energy, food, and ecosystems.

SESSION 4

16:30-18:00 | **HIGH LEVEL PANEL** | Auditorium Mare Nostrum

A New Tech Blue Hope – Digital and AI: Water Innovation (T10)

One Water Committee Italy (OW), Mediterranean Water Institute (IME) & Union For The Mediterranean (UfM)

Digital tools and AI offer real opportunities to reduce leaks, optimise networks and anticipate droughts and floods — yet the digital sector is itself a fast-growing consumer of water and energy. The panel confronts this structural paradox at the heart of the sector's technological promise.

MODERATOR

- **Emanuele Bompan,** *Director, Renewable Matter, Italy*

KEYNOTE

- **Laura D'Aprile,** *Director, Department for Sustainable Development (DiSS), Ministry of the Environment and Energy Security, Italy*

PANELISTS

- **Marco Rago,** *Legal Adviser to the Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation for Economic Diplomacy and Development, and Italian Special Envoy for International Water Policies*
- **Walid Hakiki,** *Head of Planning Sector at Ministry of Water Resources and Irrigation (MWRI), Egypt*
- **Angelo Riccaboni,** *President, PRIMA Programme (Partnership for Research and Innovation in the Mediterranean Area), Italy*
- **Quang Ngo Dinh**, *CEO of Olivetti, a TIM Enterprise brand, and Head of Enterprise Plan & Execution at TIM*
- **Danilo Perrucci,** *Global Head of Bip. Verco*

Thursday, 1 October

16:30-18:00 | **EUROMED TALK** | Room Nilo

One Health, One Water (T8)

One Water Committee Italy (OW), Mediterranean Water Institute (IME) & Union For The Mediterranean (UfM)

"One Health, One Water" recognises that human, animal, ecosystem and water health are functional mirrors of one another. The panel addresses how antimicrobial resistance, chemical contamination and ageing infrastructure compound today's water-related health threats. The EuroMed Talk revisits this same theme with a more technical and vertical lens, in dialogue with practitioners and sector experts.

MODERATOR

- **Nicolas Roche**, *Professor AmU et UM6P, member of National Academy of Technologies and VP CST Mediterranean Water Institute, France*

KEYNOTE

- **Walid Abderrahmane,** *Vice President, Arab Water Council, Egypt*
- **Andrea Piccioli,** *Director General, National Institute of Health, Italy*

PANELISTS

- **Selmin Burak,** *Professor Emeritus, Istanbul University, Turkey*
- **Denis Snidaro,** *Deputy Technical Director, SUEZ Water France*
- **Massimo Caputi,** *President, Federturismo, Italy*

16:30-18:00 | **SPECIAL SESSION** | Room Danubio

Water Awareness and Citizen Science Session IV

Ministry for Public Administration

16:30-18:00 | **SPECIAL SESSION** | Room Bosforo

The Italian Art of Water

Association of Engineering, Architecture and Technical-Economic Consultancy Organizations (OICE)

Presentation of the international monograph on Italian water engineering, tracing the country's water heritage from Roman aqueducts to contemporary infrastructure and innovation.

16:30-18:00 | **SPECIAL SESSION** • Basin Day | Room Itaca

Up-Scaling and Mainstreaming Nature-Based Solutions at the Basin Level

SEMIDE, MedWet, International Network of Basin Organizations (INBO)

This session will explore how Nature-Based Solutions (NBS) can be scaled up and mainstreamed at the river basin level to address growing challenges of water scarcity, ecosystem degradation, biodiversity loss, and climate change across the Euro-Mediterranean region. Building on existing European, Mediterranean, and national policy frameworks, the discussion will highlight practical experiences from river basins and identify the policy, financial, and technical mechanisms needed to support prioritisation of NBS in policies and related implementation. The session will also promote regional cooperation and knowledge exchange, strengthening the integration of ecosystem-based approaches into sustainable water, climate, and biodiversity strategies.

Thursday, 1 October

16:30-18:00 **WORKSHOP** Room Circe

Italy's Partnership Actions and International Commitments under the WHO/UNECE Protocol on Water and Health

Istituto Superiore di Sanità (ISS) – National Centre for Water Safety (CeNSiA) in collaboration with WHO/Europe and UNECE

A multistakeholder dialogue on Italy's path from ratification to implementation of the Protocol on Water and Health, connecting governance, water safety, climate resilience and international cooperation.

16:30-18:00 **WORKSHOP** Room Atlante

Towards implementation of the Strategy on Water-Energy -Food-Ecosystem Nexus in the Mediterranean Source to Sea Continuum

Union for the Mediterranean (UfM), Global Water Partnership Mediterranean (GWP-Med), PRIMA Foundation, UNEP/MAP, EU & EU WES-BCA

This session will present the 'Strategy for WEFE Nexus in the Mediterranean S2S Continuum' & advancements with its Action Framework as a pioneering and transformative process for sustainable development in the Mediterranean and demonstrate practical benefits of the inter-disciplinary approach aiming at attracting partners' commitment for scalability, innovation and investments.

16:30-18:00 **WORKSHOP** Room Giordano

Water Security in the Mediterranean: Connecting Knowledge, Skills and Regional Cooperation

CIHEAM PARIS

The CIHEAM workshop will bring together the political, scientific and capacity-building dimensions related to water security. Building on the key messages drawn from CIHEAM's contributions throughout the Forum, the discussion will explore how knowledge, education and training, innovative approaches and regional partnerships can help translate shared priorities into concrete actions and strengthen water resilience across the Mediterranean.

16:30-18:00 **WORKSHOP** Room Rodano

Feasibility of a PPP to Deploy Treated Wastewater Reuse in Mediterranean Countries: Insights from the Southern Tunisia Study and Experience Sharing with Other Countries in the Region

Mediterranean Water Institute (IME)

This session will present the results of a feasibility study conducted across three governorates in Southern Tunisia, supporting a paradigm shift from wastewater disposal toward a circular water economy in which treated wastewater becomes a strategic asset for water security, climate resilience and sustainable development.

Friday, 2 October

9:00-10:30 | **HIGH LEVEL PANEL** | Auditorium Mare Nostrum

Hydrodiplomacy: Advancing the Right to Water for Peace and Stability (T11)

One Water Committee Italy (OW), Mediterranean Water Institute (IME) & Union For The Mediterranean (UfM)

Transboundary waters account for roughly 60% of the world's freshwater flows, with more than three billion people living in shared river and lake basins. The panel treats water as one of the few practical spaces where cooperation can continue even amid political tension.

MODERATOR

- **Emilio Ciarlo,** *Director General, One Water Committee, Italy*

KEYNOTE

- **Francesca Bernardini,** *Head, Transboundary Cooperation Section, UNECE, United Nations Economic Commission for Europe*

PANELISTS

- **Mary M. Mattews,** *UNDP Global Water Lead*
- **Pedro Arrojo-Agudo,** *UN Special Rapporteur on the Right to Water, Spain*
- **Fadi Comair,** *Vice President of IME, University of Balamand (CDSP-Hub), The Cyprus Institute, Blue Peace Middle East Policy Advisory Board*
- **Marco Riccardo Rusconi,** *Director, AICS (Italian Agency for Development Cooperation), Italy*
- **Marta Valdes García**, *Humanitarian Director, Oxfam International, Spain*

9:30-12:00 | **WORKSHOP** | Room Bosforo

Water, Land, and Infrastructure: Geologists and Engineers for Safety and Sustainability

Italian National Council of Geologists (CNG) & Italian National Council of Engineers (CNI)

This session examines the interactions between geology, engineering, and water resource management in the Mediterranean context, which is characterized by increasing climate and hydrogeological vulnerability. Technical, regulatory, and strategic solutions are presented to enhance territorial safety, protect groundwater resources, and adapt infrastructure to emerging climate scenarios.

Friday, 2 October

9:30-11:00 | **WORKSHOP** | Room Tirreno

Mediterranean Cooperation in Research and Education - Institutional Perspectives on Water Resilience: the Role of Training, Research and Cooperation Projects

Politecnico di Bari & MediCoRE

This session aims to foster a broad discussion on the role of joint research, innovation, and capacity-building initiatives in addressing Mediterranean climate challenges, while strengthening institutional engagement and promoting cross-border cooperation. It will provide a platform for discussing shared priorities, identifying opportunities for collaboration, and advancing coordinated solutions to enhance the resilience and sustainability of the Mediterranean region.

9:30-11:00 | **WORKSHOP** | Room Giordano

Digital Innovation for Public Infrastructure and Utility Services

We4Services

Digital platforms and secure technological infrastructure supporting innovation across utility and public sector services, with insights applicable to critical infrastructure sectors including water.

9:30-11:00 | **WORKSHOP** | Room Itaca

Resilient Territories: Governing Water, Designing Adaptation

MACCAFERRI

The workshop will explore the path from adaptation planning to concrete interventions on the ground, bringing together the different dimensions of this process: knowledge and monitoring, investment planning, water resource management and territorial protection, and infrastructure design and delivery. By engaging representatives from academia and research, public institutions and policymakers, planning and management bodies, and the engineering and infrastructure sectors, the workshop aims to stimulate a high-level debate on how to strengthen coordination across these areas and bridge the gap between adaptation strategies and their implementation.

9:30-11:00 | **WORKSHOP** | Room Circe

Water Education for Climate Resilience: Launching a Global Repository through Museums for Future Generations

UNESCO WWAP & One Water Committee Italy

The session brings together key institutional stakeholders—including representatives from the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Italian Agriculture Commission—alongside WAMU+NET experts and professionals. Together, they will discuss how building shared educational tools can foster regional and international resilience. Furthermore, this side event is deliberately designed as a strategic platform to seek new partners and secure financial resources, while serving as an open call for water museums and research institutions to join the WAMU+NET network and actively contribute to this shared global project.

Friday, 2 October

9:30-11:00 **WORKSHOP** Room Rodano

The role of Trenchless Technologies in the integrated water service in Italy: state of the art, barriers to their wider adoption, and future perspectives

Italian Association for Trenchless Technology (IATT)

The panel discussion aims to take the stock of the current status of Italy's integrated water and wastewater infrastructures, highlighting the contribution that trenchless technologies can provide to a sustainable and resilient development of market sector.
The panel will feature representatives from Italian water companies and industry in the sector to discuss current applications and key benefits of trenchless technologies.

9:30-11:00 **WORKSHOP** Room Atlante

Advancing Zero Pollution through water-smart Mediterranean territories
A ZeroPollution4Water Cluster and Water4All Water-Oriented Living Labs Network joint session

Water Europe

How can innovation help Mediterranean territories respond to water scarcity, pollution and climate pressures? Through the experiences of the EU-funded projects ToDrinQ and UNIVERSWATER, the Attica Water Lab and Axarquía Living Lab, both part of the Water4All Water-Oriented Living Labs Network, and alongside scientific and water utility perspectives, this session will explore how science, innovation and territorial collaboration can turn successful demonstrations into sustained implementation and replicable solutions across the Mediterranean.

Friday, 2 October

11:00–12:15 | **PLENARY** | Auditorium Mare Nostrum

CLOSING CEREMONY

Session I
EuroMediterranean Water Forum Wrap-Up Session

PANELISTS

- **Dubravka Šuica,** *UE Commissioner for the Mediterranean*
- **Alvaro Lario,** *President, International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) & Chair UN-Water*
- **Anna Maria Bernini,** *Minister of University and Research, Italy*
- **Andrea Lenzi,** *President, National Research Council (CNR), Italy*
- **Francesco Rocca,** *President of the Lazio Region, Italy*
- **Maria Spena,** *President, One Water Committee Italy, Italy*
- **Michele Amodeo,** *Director for Operations & Partnerships, Union for Mediterranean (UfM)*
- **Alain Meyssonnier,** *President, Mediterranean Water Institute (IME), France*

12:15-13:30 | **PLENARY** | Auditorium Mare Nostrum

CLOSING CEREMONY

Session II
From Vision to Action: The Mattei Plan

MODERATOR

- **Massimo Zaurrini,** *Director, Africa e Affari*

PANELISTS

- **Lorenzo Ortona,** *Counsellor of Embassy and Deputy Head of the Mission Structure for the Implementation of the Mattei Plan at the Presidency of the Council of Ministers, Italy*
- **Mohamed CBC Diatta,** *Sherpa of Senegal for the 2026 United Nations Water Conference, Senegal*
- **Agostino Inguscio,** *UNDP Representative in Italy and Coordinator of the UNDP Rome Centre for Climate Action and Energy Transition*
- **Pierfrancesco Latini,** *Chief Risk Management & Sustainability Officer & Chief International Officer, ACEA, Italy*
- **Biagio di Terlizzi,** *Director General, CIHEAM Bari, Italy*
- **Hussein El-Atfy,** *Secretary-General of the Arab Water Council*