EUROMEDITERRANEAN WATER FORUM ROMA 2026

In cooperation with:

Water Education for Climate Adaptation:

a Global Repository for Present & Future Generations

2 October 2026 (09:30 -10:30)

Euro-Mediterranean Water Forum, la Nuvola, Rome

As climate change accelerates, safeguarding water resources requires a fundamental shift not only in how we manage water, but crucially in how we educate for its better management. There is an urgent need to enhance the **sharing of educational tools** and make them genuinely accessible to everyone across every continent. While UNESCO is already deeply committed to its strategy for **Education for Sustainable Development** (ESD), there is an immediate demand for a range of ready-to-use resources, designed specifically for education professionals working in museums, the cultural heritage sector and schools around the world.

Organized by WAMU+NET within the framework of the Euro-Mediterranean Water Forum, this high-level institutional session explores how coordinated educational strategies can empower future communities. The event features the introduction of a new international initiative: **a comprehensive global digital repository** dedicated to water education. Developed through an ongoing reflection and collaborative effort across the Global Network of Water Museums (WAMU+NET), this platform will serve as **a shared toolkit of educational resources**, freely open-access and available at no cost to global communities, educators, researchers and policy-makers.

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.

The side event aims to:

- **Launch the Global Repository:** Present the project for an open-access platform to share water educational tools provided by museums across all continents.
- **Share Educational Tools:** Address the urgent need to provide practical, ready-to-use toolkits for educators as a contribution of WAMU+NET to UNESCO
- **Engage Partners & potential Funders:** Attract financial resources and new strategic partnerships for the multi-year development of the project.
- **Foster Institutional Dialogue at Euro-Mediterranean level:** Engage with various institutions at national and regional level to integrate diverse approaches to education, resilience, and climate policies.
- **Expand the Network:** Promote the membership of new museums and institutions to the WAMU+NET network to co-create shared contents for the educational platform 'Water Cloud'.

Agenda:**09:30 - 09:40 | Welcome and Institutional Opening (10 min)**

Maria Spena (President of One Water Committee Italy)

Abou Amani (Secretary, UNESCO-IHP) *(to be confirmed)*

Miguel Doria (Director, WWAP)

09:40 - 09:45 | Introduction to Climate Adaptation & Water Challenges (5 min)

Marco Merola (Journalist specialized in climate adaptation). Brief introduction on the urgent value of educating on water management in an era of climate crisis.

09:45 - 10:00 | Strategic Vision and Project Presentation (15 min)

Eriberto Eulisse (CEO, WAMU+NET). Presentation of the WAMU+NET network, the Global Repository project '*Water Cloud*' (an open-access educational platform), and the launch of the Open Call for new museums and institutions to join.

10:00 - 10:20 | Institutional & Policy Roundtable (20 min)

Discussion and interventions focusing on climate policies, resilience, and education.

Alessandro Corvaro (Special Envoy for Climate, Italian Government)

Nicola Caputo (Advisor to the Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation for Agri-Food Export and Internationalization)

Raffaella Pergamo (senior researcher, CREA)

10:20 - 10:25 | Open Discussion (5 min)

Interactive exchange, questions, and answers with the audience and participants

10:25 - 10:30 | Closing Remarks (5 min)

Philippe Pypaert (President, WAMU+NET). Conclusions and wrap-up.