ONEWATER
EUROMEDITERRANEAN
WATER FORUM
ROME 29.09-02.10.2026

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

CISP, LVIA, HelpCode, ICU

Euro-Mediterranean Water Forum 2026 · 29 September – 2 October · La Nuvola, Rome

KEY INFORMATION

Date	29th September 2026
Time	16:30 – 18:00
Room	Rodano
Format	Workshop with Presentations and Q&A
Language(s)	Italian

SUMMARY

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.

AGENDA & SPEAKERS

16:00	Italo Rizzi – Strategic Director	LVIA	Introduction
16:10	Giordana Francia	CISP	Speaker: It's Global Education Time: from school curricula to youth actions for sustainable development
16:25	Italo Rizzi – Strategic Director	LVIA	Speaker: Water is Life 20 years of ECG and campaigning
16:40	Alessandro Bartoletti – Direttore progetti Italia	HELPCODE	Speaker: The Water Code: un progetto di educazione alla cittadinanza globale
17:00	Maurizio Casarci –Senior Advisor WEFE Nexus Dept	ICU	Speaker: Water Cannot Be Saved Through Technology Alone. Communication, Behaviour and Global Citizenship in ICU's Experience

17:15-18:00		All	Q&A and Conclusion

BACKGROUND & RATIONALE

The Euro-Mediterranean Water Forum represents an important opportunity to put water back at the heart of public policy, international cooperation and dialogue amongst Mediterranean societies, at a time when multilateralism is in crisis. As highlighted in the statement issued by Italian CSOs at the Forum, water security cannot be addressed as a purely technical issue: it is a matter of rights, justice, peace and democracy, in a region that is bearing the brunt of global warming, growing competition for this resource and structural inequalities.
Among the commitments called for by the CSO networks at the Forum is the explicit need for local education and capacity-building programmes on sustainable water management and preparedness for extreme events. On the other side is key the recognition that fostering effective awareness of the impact of climate change and a new water culture requires the integration of Global Citizenship Education into the school system and informal education mechanisms, accessible information and the promotion of local knowledge. This requires a structured approach which is promoted by different CSO's to innovate and fine-tuning tools and methods to involve and engage student, other stakeholders and the communities in the necessary change.

OBJECTIVES

- To highlight the role of global citizenship education as a means of fostering, particularly amongst the younger generations, an understanding of the impact of climate change and a cultural shift in water use, complementing infrastructure and governance measures.
- To present concrete examples of initiatives and projects by Italian civil society in the fields of education, awareness-raising and communication on water, demonstrating their quality, replicability and impact.
- Link the educational and communication dimension to the key themes of the CSO statement (water as a common good, climate justice, participatory governance, the water-energy-food-ecosystems nexus), highlighting how global citizenship education is an enabling factor.
- Initiate a dialogue between civil society, institutions and other Forum stakeholders on the role of active citizenship in sustainable water management.

TARGET AUDIENCE

Policymakers, utilities, financing institutions, civil society, youth, educational Institutions

EXPECTED OUTCOMES

Ideas and Recommendations for ECG and follow-up actions