ONEWATER
EUROMEDITERRANEAN
WATER FORUM
ROME 29.09-02.10.2026

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 Balamand

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

KEY INFORMATION

Date	1st of October 2026
Time	14:30 – 16:00 PM
Room	Giordano
Format	Panel discussion
Language(s)	English

SUMMARY

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.

AGENDA & SPEAKERS

Time	Speaker Name & Title	Organization	Role / Topic
14:30 – 14:40	Prof. Stavros Malas, President	The Cyprus Institute	Speaker/ Opening remarks
	Prof. Elias Warrak, President	University of Balamand	Speaker/ Opening remarks
	Prof. Alain Meyssonnier, President	Institut Méditerranéen de l'Eau (IME)	Speaker/ Opening remarks
14:40 – 14:50	Prof. Costas N. Papanicolas, Scientific Director	The Cyprus Institute	Speaker/ Presentation: From Scientific Assessment to Regional Solutions: The next phase of the EMME-CCI
14:50 – 15:00	Prof. Fadi Comair, Coordinator, Water Task Force, EMME-CCI	The Cyprus Institute & University of Balamand	Speaker/ Island Water Management and Sub-Zone Water Priorities for Extreme Events Presentation: EMME-CCI Water Task Force: From

Time	Speaker Name & Title	Organization	Role / Topic
			Regional Climate Risk to Cross-Border Solutions
15:00 – 15:20	Prof. Fadi Comair, Coordinator, Water Task Force, EMME-CCI	The Cyprus Institute & University of Balamand	Moderator/ From Science to Cross Border Solutions
	H.E. Mrs. Charafat Afilal, Former Minister	Former Minister Delegate to the Minister of Energy, Mines, Water and Environment, in charge of Water, Morocco	Panelist/ From Science to Cross Border Solutions
	Prof. Angelo Riccaboni, Chair	PRIMA	Panelist/ From Science to Cross Border Solutions
	Prof. Michael Scoullos, Prof. Emeritus & Founder of the Laboratory of Environmental Chemistry and Oceanography	University of Athens	Panelist/ From Science to Cross Border Solutions
	Prof. Walid Abderrahman, Vice President	Arab Water Council	Panelist/ From Science to Cross Border Solutions
	Mr. Frédéric de Dinechin, Senior Policy Advisor	Union for the Mediterranean	Panelist/ From Science to Cross Border Solutions
	Mr. Ali Rhouma, Project Officer	PRIMA	Panelist/ From Science to Cross Border Solutions
	Mr. Vangelis Constantianos, Executive Secretary & Regional Coordinator	Global Water Partnership - Mediterranean	Panelist/ From Science to Cross Border Solutions
15:20 – 15:35	H.E. Mrs. Charafat Afilal, Former Minister	Former Minister Delegate to the Minister of Energy, Mines, Water and Environment, in charge of Water, Morocco	Moderator/ Open-floor Discussion: What can we implement together?
	Prof. Alain Meyssonnier, President	Institut Méditerranéen de l'Eau (IME)	Participant/ Open-floor discussion
	Ms. Antonella Autino, Project Coordinator	PRIMA	Participant/ Open-floor discussion
	Mr. Jauad Eklharraz, CEO	Water-Energy-Climate Network (WECEN)	Participant/ Open-floor discussion
	Mrs. Eleni Sophocleous, Associate Vice President	Institute Affairs Directorate, The Cyprus Institute	Participant/ Open-floor discussion
15:35 – 15:50	Prof. Stavros Malas, President	The Cyprus Institute	Speaker/ Presentation: Regional Scientific Alliance for Climate Change Signature Ceremony with the Arab Water Council
15:50 – 16:00	Prof. Stavros Malas, President	The Cyprus Institute	Speaker/ Closing remarks

Time	Speaker Name & Title	Organization	Role / Topic
	Prof. Elias Warrak, President	University of Balamand	Speaker/ Closing remarks

BACKGROUND & RATIONALE

The EMME region faces growing climate and water challenges that require stronger links between scientific knowledge, policy and regional cooperation. The side event will focus on translating the EMME-CCI's scientific assessments into feasible cross-border projects, financing opportunities and practical implementation.

OBJECTIVES

Objective 1 – Translate scientific knowledge into practical regional water and climate solutions.
Objective 2 – Identify feasible cross-border projects and financing opportunities.
Objective 3 – Strengthen regional scientific cooperation on Climate Change.

TARGET AUDIENCE

scientists, researchers, policymakers, financing institutions, technical experts.

EXPECTED OUTCOMES

1. Renewed mandate and positioning of the EMME-CCI Water Task Force.
2. Engagement with potential financing and implementation partners.