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

Cassa Depositi e Prestiti (CDP)

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

KEY INFORMATION

Date	30 September 2026
Time	14:00 – 16:00
Room	Tirreno Room
Format	Roundtable
Language(s)	English only. No simultaneous interpretation will be provided.

SUMMARY

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

AGENDA & SPEAKERS

Speaker Name & Title	Organization	Role / Topic
Mr. Enrico Petrocelli, Head of International Institutional Relations	Cassa Depositi e Prestiti (CDP)	Moderator
Mr. Saroj Kumar Jha, Global Director, Water Global Department	World Bank Group (WBG)	Speaker
Ms. Gelsomina Vigliotti, Vice President	European Invesment Bank (EIB)	Speaker
Mr. Lutz-Christian Funke, Secretary General	Kreditanstalt für Wiederaufbau (KfW)	Speaker
Mr. Gianpiero Nacci, Managing Director, Climate Strategy and Delivery	European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD)	Speaker

Speaker Name & Title	Organization	Role / Topic
Ms. Federica Diamanti, Vice President	International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD)	Speaker
Mr. Bensassi Belgacem, Chief Water and Sanitation Engineer	African Development Bank (AfDB)	Speaker
Ms. Claudia Falavolti, Head of Sovereign and Sub-Sovereign Financing – Development Cooperation	Cassa Depositi e Prestiti (CDP)	Speaker
Mr. Lifeng Li, Director of the Land and Water Division (NSL)	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)	Speaker
Mr. Nizar Zaied, Manager, Agriculture, Water Resources and Rural Development	Islamic Development Bank (IsDB)	Speaker
Mr. Philippe Blanchot, Director of Institutional, International and European Relations	Caisse des Dépôts et Consignation (CDC France)	Speaker
Mr. Taoufiq Marzouki Zerouali, Deputy General Director	Caisse de Dépôt et de Gestion Développement (CDG Morocco)	Speaker
Ms. Mika Uchino, Chief Rappresentative in Paris	Japan Bank for International Cooperation (JBIC)	Speaker
Ms. Ismini Papakirillou, Chief Executive Officer	Hellenic Development Bank (HDB)	Speaker
Mr. Silvio Pedrazzi, Chief Executive Officer*	Albanian Development Bank (ADB)	Speaker
Mr. Sébastien Valleur, Deputy Head of Water and Sanitation Division	Agence Française de Développement (AFD)	Speaker
Mr. Mohamed Ben Neji, Director of the Cooperation, Marketing and Communication Department	Caisse des Dépôts et Consignations (CDC Tunisia)	Speaker
Ms. Natalia Gullón Muñoz-Repiso, Technical Director of the Cooperation Fund for Water and Sanitation	Agencia Española de Cooperación Internacional para el Desarrollo (AECID)	Speaker

BACKGROUND & RATIONALE

The Mediterranean region is one of the world's most vulnerable climate hotspots, facing increasing water stress. While water security and climate resilience are gaining prominence in international development and climate finance agendas, the water finance landscape remains fragmented across institutions, sectors and financing instruments. The session addresses the need for stronger coordination among financial institutions, public actors and implementation partners to mobilize and scale up investments in resilient and sustainable water infrastructure in the Mediterranean region.

OBJECTIVES

1. Explore existing financing strategies, instruments and coordination mechanisms that strengthen water resilience investments in the Mediterranean, while identifying key gaps and financing needs across the regional water finance landscape.
2. Promote dialogue among public development banks policymakers, utilities and strategic partners on implementation challenges and the enabling conditions for water investments.

3. Connect existing and emerging initiatives, identify complementarities among institutions and financing platforms, and explore opportunities for enhanced operational cooperation in the Euro-Mediterranean space.

TARGET AUDIENCE

Public Development Banks, Multilateral Development Banks, Development Finance Institutions, International Organizations, policymakers and public authorities, water utilities, and private-sector stakeholders involved in water and climate finance.

EXPECTED OUTCOMES

- Identification of key priorities and recommendations for strengthening water finance and cooperation in the Mediterranean;
- Promotion of coordinated and action-oriented approach to water finance in the Mediterranean;
- New or strengthened partnerships and operational cooperation opportunities among participating organizations;
- Follow-up dialogues and output document.