# MedCities

#### MedCities General Assembly MedCités Assemblée Géneral

Tanger / Tangier 28 November / novembre, 2024





# Agenda

- **1.** Confirmation of quorum and approval of the agenda.
- 2. Welcome remarks.
- 3. Approval of the minutes of the 2023 Ordinary General Assembly meeting
- 4. Presentation and approval of the 2023 Financial Report.
- 5. Presentation, discussion and approval of the 2024 Activity Report.
- 6. Follow up of the Agreement of General Assembly 2023 on fees.

Resolutions to be made according to the statutes.

- 7. Update and discussion of 2025 Action Plan.
- 8. Presentation, discussion and approval of the 2025 Budget.
- **10.** Declaration on the situation in Palestine and Lebanon.
- **11.** Declaration on human mobility.
- **12.** Charter of the EU Mission Restore Our Oceans.

13. Manifesto from the COP 16: "The close relationship with biodiversity in small and medium-sized cities".

14. Admission of new members and/or observer members.

15. Any other business.



# 1. Confirmation of quorum and approval of the agenda



# 2. Approval of the minutes of the 2023 Ordinary General Assembly meeting

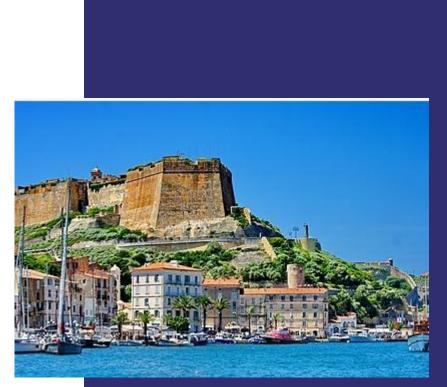


# Bonifacio

- On 13/11/2023 the **Municipality of Bonifacio (France)** submitted the adhesion to MedCities association, the approval of the Municipal Council will follow in the coming weeks.

#### Information about the candidate member:

Bonifacio is one of the oldest towns in the island of Corsica that counts with 3.000 inhabitants. However, every summer, they host more than 2 million visitors. In this sense, they are very active in international projects around sustainable tourism. It is located in the south of the island, in front of the Italian island of Sardinia.



# 3. Welcome remarks



# Mayor of Gaza, Mr. Yahya Al-Sarraj video message



# 4. Presentation and approval of the 2023 Financial Report



# 4. Presentation and approval of the 2023 Financial Report

| REVENUE   |                 |              |  |  |  |  |
|---|-----------------|--------------|--|--|--|--|
| ITEM  | BUDGET APPROVED | EXECUTION    |  |  |  |  |
| MEMBERSHIP FEES   | 172.700,00      | 176.000,00   |  |  |  |  |
| BARCELONA METROPOLITAN AREA - ANNUAL PROJECT                          | 240.000,00      | 239.907,17   |  |  |  |  |
| BARCELONA CITY COUNCIL - ANNUAL PROJECT                               | 120.000,00      | 117.604,20   |  |  |  |  |
| CATALAN AGENCY FOR DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION (ACCD) - TT-EMPLOI PROJECT | 100.000,00      | 25.252,48    |  |  |  |  |
| BARCELONA PROVINCIAL COUNCIL - LASERMED PROJECT                       | 114.784,50      | 112.659,08   |  |  |  |  |
| BARCELONA PROVINCIAL COUNCIL - 2023 PROJECT                           | 33.333,00       | 0,00         |  |  |  |  |
| EUROPEAN COMMISSION EUROPAID - A'SIMA TUNIS PROJECT                   | 486.704,81      | 234.482,31   |  |  |  |  |
| EUROPEAN COMMISSION EUROPAID - VALEUR GABES PROJECT                   | 150.675,75      | 129.917,33   |  |  |  |  |
| ENI CBC -ENSERES PROJECT  | 131.249,85      | 123.971,91   |  |  |  |  |
| ENI CBC - MED4WASTE PROJECT   | 151.025,32      | 147.330,45   |  |  |  |  |
| EUROPEAN COMMISSION EUROPAID - MAIS PROJECT                           | 60.892,96       | 28.295,55    |  |  |  |  |
| PRIMA - WEFE4MED PROJECT  | 55.501,00       | 23.832,25    |  |  |  |  |
| INTERREG EURO-MED - GREEN LIVING AREAS PROJECT                        | 65.425,00       | 65.388,47    |  |  |  |  |
| INTERREG EURO-MED - NATURAL HERITAGE PROJECT                          | 74.537,00       | 59.822,60    |  |  |  |  |
| HORIZON - BLUEMISSIONMED PROJECT                                      | 54.326,43       | 41.868,33    |  |  |  |  |
| HORIZON - ANERIS PROJECT  | 74.564,50       | 49.199,44    |  |  |  |  |
| UNEP-MAP - IST. AWARDS  | 0,00            | 35.400,00    |  |  |  |  |
| KONRAD ADENAUER STIFTUNG - 2023 PROJECT                               | 0,00            | 10.000,00    |  |  |  |  |
| BETA - SERVICES   | 0,00            | 7.585,00     |  |  |  |  |
| INTERNATIONAL CENTRE FOR MIGRATION POLICY DEVELOPMENT                 | 0,00            | 2.500,00     |  |  |  |  |
| 2022 CLOSED PROJECTS AUDIT  | 0,00            | 7.173,68     |  |  |  |  |
| TOTAL   | 2.085.720,12    | 1.638.190,24 |  |  |  |  |

# 4. Presentation and approval of the 2023 Financial Report

| EXPENDITURE                        |                        |                         |                        |              |  |  |  |  |
|------------------------------------|------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------|--------------|--|--|--|--|
| ITEM                               | <b>BUDGET APPROVED</b> | SUB-ITEM                | <b>BUDGET APPROVED</b> | EXECUTION    |  |  |  |  |
| EXTERNAL EXPERTISE                 | 1.110.577,46           | PROJECT SERVICES        | 1.110.577,46           | 704.903,56   |  |  |  |  |
| COMMUNICATION                      | 30.000,00              | -                       | 30.000,00              | 13.119,87    |  |  |  |  |
| TRANSLATIONS AND INTERPRETATION    | 20.000,00              | -                       | 20.000,00              | 12.842,64    |  |  |  |  |
| RUNNING COSTS GS                   | 35.721,81              | LABOR AND TAX           | 21.355,18              | 20.970,25    |  |  |  |  |
|                                    |                        | BANK SERVICES           | 7.000,00               | 1.760,69     |  |  |  |  |
|                                    |                        | <b>RISK PREVENTION</b>  | 1.500,00               | 0,00         |  |  |  |  |
|                                    |                        | IT                      | 3.000,00               |              |  |  |  |  |
|                                    |                        | AMORTISATIONS           | 2.866,63               | 2.866,63     |  |  |  |  |
| TRAVEL AND ACOMMODATION            | 226.464,95             | PROJECTS                | 194.464,95             | 130.459,26   |  |  |  |  |
|                                    |                        | GS + ASSEMBLY           | 32.000,00              | 21.409,52    |  |  |  |  |
| HUMAN RESOURCES                    | 662.955,90             | -                       | 662.955,90             | 651.499,46   |  |  |  |  |
| EMPLOYES SOCIAL BENEFITS           | 0,00                   | -                       | 0,00                   | 408,00       |  |  |  |  |
| UNFORESEEN EXPENSES                | 0,00                   | -                       | 0,00                   | 14.559,27    |  |  |  |  |
| LOSSES FOR UNPAID MEMBERSHIP FEES  | 0,00                   | -                       | 0,00                   | 45.600,00    |  |  |  |  |
| TOTAL                              | 2.085.720,12           |                         | 2.085.720,12           | 1.620.399,15 |  |  |  |  |
|                                    |                        | <b>PROFIT OR LOSSES</b> | +0,00                  | +17.791,09   |  |  |  |  |
|                                    |                        |                         |                        |              |  |  |  |  |
| ALL AMOUNTS ARE EXPRESSED IN EUROS |                        |                         |                        |              |  |  |  |  |

# 4. Presentation and approval of the 2023 Financial Report

| Balance Sheet at 31/12/2023                     |              |              |  |              |              |
|---|--------------|--------------|--|--------------|--------------|
| Assets  | 2023         | 2022         | Liabilities                                    | 2023         | 2022         |
| A) NON-CURRENT ASSETS                           | 3.450,33     | 6.316,96     | A) NET EQUITY                                  | 206.860,55   | 184.406,41   |
| II. Tangible assets                             | 3.450,33     | 6.316,96     | A-1) Share capital                             | 206.860,55   | 184.406,41   |
| B) CURRENT ASSETS                               | 2.007.157,02 | 1.084.764,29 | III. Reserves                                  | 35.065,87    | 35.065,87    |
| II. Trade debtors and other accounts receivable | 897.210,98   | 503.551,29   | 2. Other reserves (Contingency fund)           | 35.065,87    | 35.065,87    |
| 1. Trade receivables for sales and services     | 0            | 0            | V. Profit/loss from previous years             | 154.003,59   | 97.304,75    |
| b) Customers sales and services                 | 0            | 0            | VII. Profit/loss for the year                  | 17.791,09    | 52.035,79    |
| 3. Other debtors                                | 897.210,98   | 503.551,29   | C) CURRENT LIABILITIES                         | 1.803.746,80 | 906.674,84   |
| VI. Cash and cash equivalents                   | 1.109.946,04 | 581.213,00   | I. Short-term provisions                       | 0            | 0            |
| TOTAL ASSETS                                    | 2.010.607,35 | 1.091.081,25 | II. Short-term debts                           | 1.599.786,16 | 664.371,95   |
|   |              |              | 1. Debts with credit institutions              | 594,89       | 116.033,18   |
|   |              |              | 3. Other short-term debts                      | 1.599.191,27 | 548.338,77   |
|   |              |              | IV. Trade creditors and other accounts payable | 203.960,64   | 242.302,89   |
|   |              |              | TOTAL NET EQUITY AND LIABILITIES               | 2.010.607,35 | 1.091.081,25 |

# 5. Presentation, discussion and approval of the 2024 Activity Report







MedCities's actions are based on the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals – especially SDG n°17, "Partnerships for the goals".



Implementing urban

# development and

capacity-building projects

across the Mediterranean





C4LA

WEFE4MED PROCURAMED URWAN

Enhancing regional exchanges for local service provision in Libya EViMACC-Urban Adaptation to Climate Change

A'SIMA Tunis

Mediterranean Climate Change Adaptation-Metropolitan Initiatives D4N

ANERIS

BlueMissionMed

ValEUr Gabès

TT Emploi

LASERMed

SustainableStrategicUrbanPlanningServices

Environment and Biodiversity

Social Cohesion Economic Development

C4LA

## WEFE4MED PROCURAMED

URWAN

Enhancing regional exchanges for local service provision in Libya

## Sustainable Urban Services



#### PROCURAMED 2024-2026

ProcuraMED – Innovative and Green Procurement towards a sustainable economy in Mediterranean area

#### OBJECTIVES



years

ProcuraMED aims at supporting the transition towards competitive, innovative, sustainable and resilient ecosystems in the Mediterranean developing innovation capacities of enterprises and local authorities.

MedCities aims to build capacity and respond to local authorities' challenges in terms of sustainability. Green Public Procurement and Innovation procurement are pillars of an innovative sustainable economy.



3 CLIMATE

Survey for local administrations and SMEs on Green Public Procurement (GPP) and Public Procurement for Innovation (PPI).

999,992€ 8 euros partners MAIS C4LA WEFE4MED

PROCURAMED

Enhancing regional exchanges for local service provision in Libya

## Sustainable Urban Services



#### **URWAN** 2024-2026 URWAN – Urban Regenerative Water Avant-garde

#### **OBJECTIVES**

URWAN addresses the critical link between urban regeneration and resources, exploiting naturebased solutions' role in integrating water management and climate change adaptation. The URWAN Catalogue for final users will reach all the local players and support the co-design of the proper NBSs to face the challenges



Pre-implementation interviews of the 6 pilot cities, among which Larnaka, Roma and Sarajevo, to identify potential barriers to the implementation of Nature-based and water management solutions, in preparation of the first URWAN Living Lab in Ptuj, Slovenia, in December, during which we will collectively think about how to overcome them.

2 years million euros partners

#### C4LA

WEFE4MED PROCURAMED

URWAN

Enhancing regional exchanges for local service provision in Libya

## Sustainable Urban Services



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WEFE4MED 2022-2026

#### WEFE NEXUS Community of Practice: A solution for the Mediterranean future

#### OBJECTIVES

To foster the adoption of a Water-Energy-Food-Ecosystems Nexus approach in the Mediterranean through a Nexus Community of Practice (NCoP) to confront the climatic and environmental challenges facing societies and agro-ecological systems.



The official launch of the WEFE Nexus Community of Practice (NCoP) in Larnaca, Cyprus on September 25th. This event brought together 112 participants from 20 countries to foster collaboration on water, energy, food, and ecosystem management in the Mediterranean.



C4LA

WEFE4MED PROCURAMED

URWAN

Enhancing regional exchanges for local service provision in Libya

Sustainable Urban Services

### Enhancing regional exchanges for local service provision in Libya

Enhancing technical capacities of Libyan municipalities through interregional exchanges and digital capacity-building formats in waste management and green urban planning.

#### OBJECTIVES

The project, funded by **GIZ**, aims at enhancing the technical capacities of Libyan municipalities, through interregional exchanges and digital capacity building formats, in two selected areas of interest directly linked with municipal services and policies, namely waste management and green urban planning. Upcoming study visit to Barcelona on 9<sup>th</sup> December

years

102,757 €



C4LA

WEFE4MED PROCURAMED URWAN

Enhancing regional exchanges for local service provision in Libya

## Sustainable Urban Services



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## Community 4 Living Areas (C4LA) 2023-2030

Promote transformative governance towards greener and more liveable cities in the Mediterranean

#### OBJECTIVES

The Green Living Areas Mission aims to improve the lives of Mediterranean citizens by promoting the development of green living areas. As part of the Interreg Euro-MED Programme, the Mission undertakes projects that bring local communities to life with green development at their epicentre, reducing negative climate impacts on the region's ecosystems, and enhancing climate resilience.



Over 100 stakeholders gatered this year in Torino in the project's community event where MedCities led the session of the working group on Mobility and the discussions about the transferring of the community solutions on greener urban areas, mobility, renewable energy and community engagement.



C4LA

WEFE4MED PROCURAMED URWAN

Enhancing regional exchanges for local service provision in Libya

## Sustainable Urban Services



2022-2025

#### MAIS

#### **S** Active and Intelligent Mobility in Sfax

#### OBJECTIVES

MAIS project, funded by European Union, aims to work in the field of active and intelligent mobility in Sfax and it will do so through innovative actions that give support to the Municipality of Sfax in the preparation, implementation and monitoring of all project activities as well as the financial management.



The Environment World Day and the Day without Cars was celebrated in Sfax and Chihia with a successful mobilisation of citizens, children and famílies around the beneffits of cycling and walking.

4 5,1 3 LINE years million euros partners

#### **A'SIMA Tunis**

#### EVIMACC – Urban Adaptation to Climate Change

Metropolitan Initiatives to adapt to Climate Change

# Strategic Planning



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# **A'SIMA Tunis** 2020-2025

Strategic planning and multilevel governance for a resilient metropolitan

#### OBJECTIVES

ASIMA Tunis is funded by the **European Commission** in the framework of the call for proposals 'Local Authorities: Partnerships for Sustainable Cities' which aims to promote integrated urban development through partnerships.



**Launch** and implementation of 4 feasibility studies of the multi-purpose eco-centre for waste management in the Greater Tunis : Social impact study, technico-economic study, environmental impact study, institutional Study.

**Design** of the functionalities and construction details of the eco-centre. First phase of the centre to be constructed under A'SIMA Tunis project with a total budget of around 850.000€.





#### A'SIMA Tunis

EViMACC-Urban Adaptation to Climate Change

Mediterranean Climate Change Adaptation-Metropolitan Initiatives

# Strategic Planning

### EViMACC – Expertise Exchange of Maghreb Cities' on Urban Adaptation to Climate Change 2024-2026

#### OBJECTIVES

Within the framework of the **GIZ** project Urban adaptation to Climate Change in the Maghreb, EViMACC aims to capitalise and disseminate practical solutions to climate change adaptation in the Maghreb and favour knowledge exchange between cities. EViMACC aims to equip and train municipalities in the elaboration of climate change adaptation strategies, as well as in the design and implementation of concrete measures that will make the transition and adaptation operational.



MedCities has developed a tool to assess and facilitate the replication of interesting solutions for the adaptation of Med cities to the climate change. The table will be used in the future months and best practices will be made available for the network.

> 2 years

300,000 euros



#### A'SIMA Tunis

EVIMACC-Urban Adaptation to Climate Change

Mediterranean Climate Change Adaptation-Metropolitan Initiatives

# Strategic Planning

## Mediterranean Climate Change – Adaptation Metropolitan Initiatives 2024

"Make a move for adaptation to climate change"

#### OBJECTIVES

The objective of MERSIN is to prepare a Climate Change Adaptation Action Plan to improve adaptation to climate change in Mersin, to strengthen local actors' and decision makers' capacity on climate actions..



The objective of the "*Mediterranean Climate Change-Adaptation Metropolitan Initiatives Workshop*", coorganised with the **Barcelona Metropolitan Area (AMB)**, was to share experiences between MedCities members on planning climate change adaptation and mitigation strategies and articulating territorial stakeholders around them.

years

449,042 € Project budget







ANERIS

BlueMissionMed

ValEUr Gabès







## Dialogue 4 Nature (D4N) 2023-2030

Transition to a climate-neutral and resilient society taking into account the natural environment and heritage of the Mediterranean region

#### **OBJECTIVES**

D4N aims to contribute to the transition to a climate-neutral and resilient society. The Natural Heritage Mission of the Interreg Euro-MED Programme is focusing its efforts on addressing this exact challenge: protecting, restoring and valorizing the natural resources.



First in person meeting with all TPs in Croatia: policy mapping

Second Annual Institutional Dialogue in Málaga on Policy Solutions for Coastal and Marine Restoration in the Mediterranean. Presentation of draft Policy Document. Participation of Málaga and Genoa city councils.

7 3,2 7 years million euros partners



ANERIS

#### BlueMissionMed

ValEUr Gabès



**ANERIS** 

#### **OBJECTIVES**

ANERIS

ANERIS, funded by the **European Union**, creates, tests and implements the next generation of scientific tools and methods for marine life-sensing and monitoring, also through citizen science events and platform (MINKA).

2023-2026





years

Three citizen science workshops in Ancona, Mersin, and Genoa, culminating in the 2-day Posidonia Green Festival in Bogliasco, Italy, where participants of all ages actively contributed to marine biodiversity monitoring using the MINKA platform and engaged in interactive conservation events. Minka's network includes 8,455 users collaborating across 272 active projects.

Environment and Biodiversity

9,9 million euros

25 partners

operAtional seNsing lifE technologies for maRIne ecosystemS





#### ANERIS

# BlueMissionMed

#### ValEUr Gabès



## Environment and Biodiversity



BlueMissionMed 2023-2025

A holistic and coherent framework for developing a systemic approach to the depollution and regeneration of the basin hydrosphere striking need in the Mediterranean Sea

#### **OBJECTIVES**

The BlueMissionMed Coordination and Support Action (CSA) will design, structure and support a wellfunctioning basin-scale innovation ecosystem, ensuring fast progress towards the achievement of Mission "Restore Our Oceans and Waters by 2030" objectives and important impact on the society.



Engaging Mersin and Ancona in endorsing Mission Charter

Event dedicated to local authorities co-organised with EC at the UN Oceans Decade Conference in Barcelona (with Barcelona, Mersin and Ancona)

Launching of the online Catalogue of Innovative Transformative Solutions to abate marine pollution in the Mediterranean

Targeted dissemination to members of cascade funding opportunities of projects of the Mission



D4N

#### ANERIS

BlueMissionMed ValEUr Gabès







#### تثمين المياه العمرانية من خلال أعمال و أدوات مجددة Valorisation de l'eau urbaine à travers des actions et instruments innovateurs

#### ValEUr Gabès 2021-2024

#### OBJECTIVES

ValEUr Gabès project supports the Municipality of Gabès and Tunisian municipalities in the optimisation of urban rainwater management though the efficient planning of non-conventional water resources and the implementation of pilot projects. Led by the **Barcelona Metropolitan Area** and funded by the **European Union**.

Publication of the regional conference summary document of presentations, conclusions, and recommendations of the regional conference "Urban Efficient Water: Mainstreaming Integrated Planning and Management Approaches".

35 architects and civil technicians were trained on nature-based solutions for rainwater management in the region and water reuse in Tunisian buildings.

3 years 797,910 euros partners

ValEUr-Gabes:Enhance urban water through innovative actions and instruments



# Social Cohesion

#### **TT Emploi** 2023-2024

Promotion of local employment for young people and women & multi-level governance of employment in Tangier and Tetuan



#### OBJECTIVES

The main objective of the TT Emploi project, funded by the **Government of Catalonia** (through its **Development Cooperation Agency**) is to promote inter-institutional cooperation to guarantee the economic and social rights of women and young people in Morocco, as well as promote the operational role of the municipalities of **Tangier** and **Tétouan** in terms of the creation of employment, professional training & guidance and support for entrepreneurship at the local level, in line with the UN's 2030 Agenda and the MedCat 2030 Strategy.





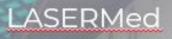
Launching a training course in sewing and soft skills in Tetouan and the celebration of the employement forum in Tanger.

2 years 250,000

euros

partners







#### LASERMed 2024

Local action for the socioeconomic recovery in the Mediterranean

#### **OBJECTIVES**

LASERMed (From local action to the impetus of the covenant of mayors in the Mediterranean) a **funded by the Barcelona Provincial Council** and led by MedCities in association with the municipalities of Zarqa (Jordan) and Agadir (Morocco), also involving the cities of the 1<sup>st</sup> edition of Lasermed: Zgharta-Ehden (Lebanon), Sousse (Tunisia), and As Salt (Jordan) aims to promote and strengthen the action of the municipalities of the Mediterranean region in favor of sustainable, inclusive, and resilient economic development with social groups with difficulties in finding professional opportunities, such as women and young people.



We implemented 2 pilot projects that have trained more than 100 women and youngsters and accompanied 31 entrepreneurship projects.

We developed and facilitated a community of practice about green socioeconomic promotion of vulnerable populations.

We launched a survey on Climate Plans initiative interests for all our members





Economic Development

# MedCities as a project platform: Accompanying our members in the preparation of international projects

#### Funding projects to which we have submitted applications

MedCities participated in several call as partner and associate:

- 15 new projects proposal (9 as lead partner or partner) funded by:
- Interreg Euro MED
- Interreg NEXT MED
- Interreg SUDOE
- Life
- Horizon Europe
- PRIMA

21 members engaged on those calls

# MedCities's team



Josep CANALS

Secretary General



#### Carolina PÉREZ

Head of Policy & Knowledge transfer



Konstantia NIKOPOULOU

Head of Programmes and Network Relations



#### Dario ROS

Head of Financial, Legal & Secretariat affairs



#### Mireia LÓPEZ BAETA

Communication Officer



**GISPERT** 

Administrative &

Accounting Officer



#### Florianne YVON

Project Assistant



Gemma TORRES

Project Officer



Laia VINYES Project Officer



**Noé VIEDMA** Project Officer



Alba GUITART Project Officer



Julia PIERRACCINI

Project Assistant



Coco GONZALEZ

Project Officer



Capacity building of elected officials and technicians of member cities:

- MedCities thematic working groups
- Barcelona Academy for
   Mediterranean Municipalities
   (BAMM)







Sustainable Urban Mobility

Greener and resilient cities

Coastal Cities Waste Management The main topics addressed in this working group include the planning instruments for the **promotion of sustainable mobility**, the management of sustainable mobility in tourist areas, and the promotion of active and electric mobility.





#### In 2024...

An enriching exchange visit was hosted by **Montpellier** and gathered 8 member cities of the group, while an online seminar on peak-demand mobility solutions gathered over 20 participants in November. The session of 11 december will address last mile delivery and logistics mobility.



Sustainable Urban Mobility This group seeks to establish a platform for cities to share transferable experiences in urban planning and climate resilience through participatory processes, enhancing green infrastructure, implementing Nature-based Solutions (NBS) for efficient water management and pollution reduction, and improving overall water and energy management





#### In 2024...

The group attended the webinar *"Greening Cities: the experience of Bethlehem, Jerash and Saida*", in which MedCities shared insights from the HERA and NATURMED projects, highlighting their achievements over the past two years.

The group did a 1<sup>st</sup> online meeting on Urban Cooling strategies and another one is foreseen for December.

# Greener and resilient cities

The working group aims in the medium-long term to share experiences about an array of land-sea interactions: Port authority-City Council, City-based sources of marine pollution, coastal adaptation (MPAs, participatory science...), or sustainable blue economy development.



#### In 2024...

The directorates of coasts and sustainable urban planning of the cities of **Bodrum, Dubrovnik, Málaga, and Tangier** met in **Barcelona** to learn first-hand about the integrated coastal management plan and beach management actions of **Barcelona City Council** and the **Barcelona Metropolitan Area (AMB)** and to learn about and explore the opportunities offered by citizen science for their cities.





This working group focuses its action on the development of municipal integrated waste management plans, prevention, reuse circuits & circular economy, intermunicipal cooperation, waste collection, treatment infrastructure and finances.





Two webinars were organised to discuss best practices, current challenges and innovative solutions to common concerns. The first webinar focused on waste treatment and disposal (selective waste collection, valorisation and recycling), finances (waste collection pricing and taxation systems) and optimisation of waste transfer. The second session focused on the development of Municipal Integrated Waste Management Plans.



#### Waste Management

### The Barcelona Academy for Mediterranean Municipalities



The Barcelona Academy for Mediterranean Municipalities (BAMM) took place from 15 to 18 October 2024, organised by **MedCities** and **Barcelona City Council**. This inaugural initiative aimed to empower Mediterranean cities to enhance their resilience and sustainability in the face of climate change.

The academy brough together 16 technical experts and mayors from 10 cities: Amman, Antalya, Barcelona, Bethlehem, Benghazi, Irbid, Malaga, Sarajevo, Tetouan, Tripoli (Lebanon).

The focus of this first edition was on developing **Green and Blue cities**, structured into three major blocks: Policies and Initiatives for Urban Resilience, Planning Resilient Cities, and Efficient Urban Water Management, concluding with a peer-to-peer session.







**AECID** 2024- 2026



2 years

NATURIncMed: Promoting Med cities' Naturalisation of Public Saces, Integrating Social Inclusion and Ecosistemic Services

The programme will support the implementation of effective solutions for socially inclusive green spaces in the Mediterranean, and will promote change by enhancing the capacities of local authorities in favour of greener and more inclusive cities. 300,000 euros

3 Beneficiary cities

### MedCities Climate Urban Capacity

MedCUC is a project **funded by the City Climate Finance Gap** Fund (Implemented by the World Bank (WB) and **European Investment Bank** (EIB), in partnership with the Deutsche Gesellschaft für internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) which objective is to leverage the capacity of MedCities in the Mediterranean area to offer to its members' needs-oriented and sustainable support to prepare climate resilient and low carbon urban projects.

The project will lead to the creation of the **MedCUC team, composed of 5 members of the General Secretary and 2 experts from the KTCs**. This team will develop MedCities' Climate Urban Capacity portfolio, consisting of (1) a project preparation pack including a compilation of tips and practical recommendations for City Promoters on how to prepare climate resilient and low carbon projects, (2) an assessment programme offering tailored technical support to selected Mediterranean cities (Call for Applications), (3) a new financing opportunities mapping and intelligence service with online "Financiers to Cities" matchmaking sessions, and (4) peer-to-peer exchange sessions on climate project preparation within the framework of MedCities working groups.

In total, it has been foreseen that no less than 30 cities from the Middle East (Jordan, Lebanon, Palestine), North Africa (Libya, Morocco, Tunisia, Algeria) and Europe (Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Montenegro, Türkiye) will benefit from MedCUC.

1,5 years

99,450 euros

30 Beneficiary cities Knowledge Transfer Platform: Exchanging good practices among Mediterranean cities:

- Working towards cohesive internal and external communication
- MedUrbanTools open resources platform





# Working towards cohesive internal and external communication

This year we have continued to promote events, meetings and exchange visits through:

- The **news** on our website
- Social media: X, Facebook, Linkedin, Youtube
- Newsletter: + 1200 receivers

We have count with a **communication and advertising agency** to reach:

- General media (newspaper, radio...)
- General and specialized public (social paid media campaigns)

Website:

- Internal User Area: password to access to relevant information

Josep Canals, secretario general de MedCities: "Nuestras ciudades no están preparadas para el clima extremo"

El ecólogo y experto en ordenación del territorio cree que ha llegado el momento de considerar "el desplazamiento de barrios enteros, como se hace en casos de derrumbamientos"





# MedUrbanTools: open resources platform

MedUrbanTools is one of the eleven flagship initiatives of the Mediterranean Strategy for Sustainable Development under the Barcelona Convention-Mediterranean Action Plan/UNEP system.

The cases section has been expanded to include projects from the Barcelona Metropolitan Area (AMB), showcasing diverse interventions such as water management, the implementation of the low emissions zone in Barcelona, and climate shelters with photovoltaic installations in the metropolitan area.

The working groups exchanging experiences have provided the platform with a lot of new information, such as new interviews.

The EViMACC project, funded by GiZ and Procuramed, with funding from the Interreg EURO-Med programme, will also produce some good practices to be included on a featured page within the MedUrbanTools platform.

Number of case studies: 370 Number of voices: 72 Number of tools: 88



# The Mediterranean voice to the World

- MedCities strategic Alliances

- Promote the interests of local authorities in local and international fora





### MedCities strategic Alliances

- **AECID:** MedCities initiated discussions with the Spanish Agency for International Development Cooperation (AECID in Spanish) in order to join forces in its ambitious new regional programme "Masar Al'an" for the Mediterranean.

- UNEP MAP: As a member of the steering committee, MedCities took part at the 25th Meeting of the Mediterranean Commission on Sustainable Development (MCSD) held in Athens.

- MEDITERRANEAN COOPERATION ALLIANCE: The MedCoopAlliance is a group of stakeholders who decided to coordinate their advocacy actions in support of stronger EU-backed policies to ensure sustainable development and enhance the quality of life of citizens in the Mediterranean member states, and to jointly advocate for the creation of a Macro-regional strategy for the Mediterranean.

- OCEAN CITIES NETWORK (OCNet) Programme: Endorsed by IOC-UNESCO under the UN Ocean Decade, promotes dialogue between public administrations and research centres with the support of civil society. MedCities engages especially with the Programme Leader, the Marine Science Institute in Barcelona and the City of Barcelona, in engaging member cities in adopting common positions on strategic issues





### MedCities strategic Alliances

- OCEAN AND CLIMATE PLATFORM: The OCP brings together more than 100 members research institutes, NGOs, aquariums, private sector, French institutions and international agencies, local authorities working together in order to spread the following message: "a healthy ocean for a protected climate".
- **CITY CLIMATE GAP FUND**: **MedCities** was approached by the City Climate Gap Fund, in order to identify opportunities for cooperation in the framework of its Capacity Development for Knowledge and Advocacy partners programme. The Gap Fund helps cities in developing and emerging countries realise their climate ambitions, turning low-carbon, climate-resilient ideas into strategies and finance-ready projects

Turning resilient lowcarbon ideas into strategies and financeready projects

City Climate Finance Gao Fund WHAT WE OFFER ELIGIBILITY STORIES NEWS & EVENTS FAQ KNOWLEDGE HUB CONTACT





#### **OCEAN & CLIMATE PLATFORM**

A healthy ocean, a protected climate

HOME WHOAREWE? Y ACTIONS Y PROJECTS Y RESOURCES Y NEWS

## Promote the interests of local authorities in local and international fora

- MedCatDays 2024: MedCat Days 2024 focused on the topic 'Tackling climate change in times of multiple crises in the Mediterranean'. MedCities contributed to the debate, specifically at the roundtable about 'Euro-Mediterranean Cooperative Responses to address climate change'

- Urban Agendas seminar: fostering dialogue about strategic urban planning among Mediterranean municipalities: This year MedCities supported the organisation of the "Mediterranean Urban Agendas Exchange Session" event hosted by the Department of Territory of the Autonomous Government of Catalonia as part of the MedCatDays: These include the Provincial Council of Barcelona, the Tangier-Tetuan-Al Hoceima Regional Council, the experience of Malaga City Council, the Greater Amman Municipality, and Strategic Department of the Izmir Metropolitan Municipality was also invited.

- IEMed: 'A New Urban Narrative on Migrations, the municipal level at the forefront': This year MedCities actively participated as an associate institution in the project "Migrations and urban governance: an agenda for cooperation (MigUrb)", led by Barcelona City Council and IEMed.







## Promote the interests of local authorities in local and international fora

- Towards the World Water Forum: MedCities' and its members' contribution: MedCities contributed to the World Water Forum that took place in Bali from 18 to 25 May, through its member, the **Barcelona** Metropolitan Area (AMB). Together with the Mediterranean Water Institute (IME), AVITEM, and Ps-EAU, MedCities co-organised an event dedicated to Mediterranean local authorities and the role they play in integrated water management in a context of climate change and water stress. Ms Clare Hart, Vice-President of Montpellier Méditerranée Métropole and acting President of MedCities, represented the association and underlined the work of MedCities on water management .

- UN-Habitat World Urban Forum WUF12, "cities and climate crisis" dialogue: MedCities joined forces with UN-Habitat, the Global Resilient Cities Network and Deltares to organise the session "Cities at the Forefront of Multi-level Governance for Urban Water Resilience. Insights from innovative municipal flood and drought risk management".





## Promote the interests of local authorities in local and international fora

- COP16 of the UN Conference of the Biological Diversity, in Cali: This COP16 put all its efforts into being for citizens, and was divided into different pavilions, from blue (the most official), to green or the EU Pavilion, where various meetings with a European slant took place. Once again, this activity served to highlight the importance of local authorities at international events where decisions are taken at a high level.

- **ARLEM:** The Secretary General was present at the commission meeting and contributed to the conference: 'Water, Europe and resilient communities - Towards a European Water Strategy: multilevel water management to fight the climate crisis'

- **Bizerte World Sea Forum:** It hosted the Second BlueMissionMed Annual Event, a project in which MedCities is a partner. The MedCities Secretary-General opened the session dedicated to the challenges and solutions in restoring biodiversity and tackling pollution in the Mediterranean





### MedCities engagement in policy processes

- Co-produced statements
- Endorsed initiatives





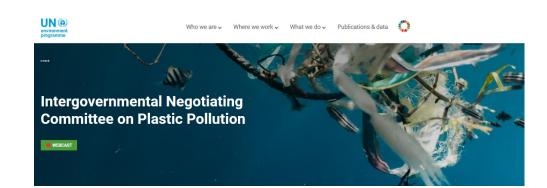
### **Co-produced statements**

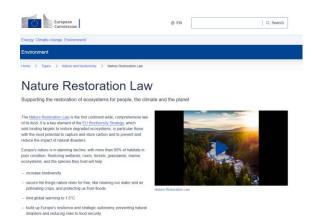
- Marseille Declaration: Commitments of the Decentralised Authorities of the Mediterranean.

- Ocean Cities Network Manifesto towards the UN Global Plastic Treaty (Presented at MARLICE International Forum on Marine Litter and Circular Economy in València)

- Ocean Cities Network **"Recommendations for urban coastal ecosystem restoration"** (Presented at the UN Ocean Decade Conference in Barcelona)

- Mission 4 Nature Policy brief on the **EU Nature Restoration Law** presented at **the Annual Dialogue of the Interreg Euro-Med Mission for Nature** in Málaga.





### Endorsed initiatives

- Statement by the Local and Subnational Governments Coalition to End Plastic Pollution, setting out the rationale for the voice of local and subnational governments to be included in the final instrument.

- EU Mission Ocean & Waters Charter as to the Mediterranean sea depollution targets

- Oceans & Climate Platform initiative "Ocean Rise & Coastal Resilience -Coalition for Cities & Regions"

- Closer relationship with **biodiversity within small and medium cities,** promoted by the Colombian government in the **COP16** framework.



What this mission is, how it will work, how it was chosen, meetings, news, events



## 6. Follow up of the **Agreement of General** Assembly 2023 on fees. **Resolutions to be made acco**



### Resolution adopted by the General Assembly 2023 upon fees payment status

The Board of Directors proposes to the General Assembly the adoption of the following agreements:

1) To give a deadline until June 30, 2024 for all members to be up to date with their membership fee payment obligations. After this period, the general secretariat will not take into account the members in debt in any project of new formulation. Debtor members who were current beneficiaries of projects at that time and who do not comply with the previous point will be authorized to continue until the end of the project.

Complied.

**2)** To fully applicate Article 26 of the statutes on the day and date of convening the 2024 MedCities General Assembly.

Complied. Proposal of resolution.

**3)** In cases of natural disasters, exceptional national situations or war conflicts, the Board of Directors may make exemptions in the payment of fees.

Exception created to Palestinian, Tunisian, Lebanese members plus Hatay and Gaziantep.

4) Members are invited to contribute with extraordinary donations according to their capabilities.

No extraordinary fees received.

**5)** To commission the secretary general with a new proposal for categories of fees and update of amounts that better adapts to the needs of an organization in continuous growth, based on the location and the population criteria

## Proposal of the BoD to the General Assembly:

- According to the resolution taken by the General Assembly in 2023

- According to Article 26 of the statutes\*
- According to the report issued by the secretary general

The Board of directors, on the session held on November the 27th, agreed:

1) The suspension of the affiliation of the following members

- Benghasi

- Chefchaouen

The suspension will be lifted when the secretary general certifies that article 26 of statutes is complied anytime during 2025 span.

The suspension will become proposal of termination if article 26 is not complied by the moment of convening of the 2025 General assembly.

2) The termination of the affiliation of the following members

-Martil -M'diq -F'nideq

-Union of municipalities M'diq + Fnideq

3) To bring this resolution to ratification of the General Assembly

### Proposal of resolution

- <u>The General Assembly</u>:

**1.** Ratify the agreement reached by the Board of Directors on the session of 27th of November 2024 upon this issue.

**2**. Notify a 30-days term to appeal the decision presenting their eventual claims to the Board of Directors to the members affected.

\*Article 26. Membership shall be revoked in the event of the following causes:

a) Through voluntary relinquishment, in written request to the Board of Directors.
b) Serious breach of the Association's payment obligations. Failure to pay three period fees shall be considered a serious breach.

The Board of Directors may agree the suspension or termination of the affiliation of any member who complies with the aforementioned points. The agreement must be ratified by the General Assembly by majority of the attending or represented members when positive votes surpass the negative ones. The suspension agreement and affiliation termination shall be notified to the interested party, who may appeal at the General Assembly by presenting claims to the Board of Directors within thirty (30) days after receiving the notification. The General Assembly shall ratify or revoke the agreement reached by the board taking into account the claims put forward by the affected party. The decision made by this body shall be binding.

| Member        | Exception | Pending fees |  |
|---------------|-----------|--------------|--|
| Al Fayhaa     | Yes       | 4            |  |
| Alexandria    | No        | 8            |  |
| Batroun       | Yes       | 5            |  |
| UM Batroun    | Yes       | 6            |  |
| Bengasi       | No        | 8            |  |
| Bizerta       | Yes       | 9            |  |
| Chefchauen    | No        | 9            |  |
| Dannieh       | Yes       | 3            |  |
| Djerba Midoun | Yes       | 9            |  |
| El Mina       | Yes       | 4            |  |
| Fnideq        | No        | 7            |  |
| Gabes         | Yes       | 9            |  |
| Gaza          | Yes       | 9            |  |
| Jbeil         | Yes       | 8            |  |
| Kairouan      | Yes       | 7            |  |
| Koura UM      | Yes       | 5            |  |
| Mirtil        | No        | 7            |  |
| M'diq         | No        | 7            |  |
| M'diq+Fniq    | No        | 7            |  |
| Mennieh       | Yes       | 6            |  |

| Member                       | Exception | Pending fees |
|------------------------------|-----------|--------------|
| Menzel Bourguiba             | Yes       | 7            |
| Monastir                     | Yes       | 9            |
| Oran                         | No        | 8            |
| Sidi Bou Said                | yes       | 6            |
| Tataouine                    | Yes       | 7            |
| Trípoli                      | Yes       | 5            |
| Tunis                        | Yes       | 3            |
| Zgharta/Ehden                | Yes       | 5            |
| Affected by the GA Agreement | 28        |              |

# 7. Update and discussion of 2025 Action Plan



#### The three strategic lines according to MedCities Strategic Plan 2030 are:

- MedCities: a leading network for cities throughout the Mediterranean. A specialist in management, strategic planning, urban projects, decentralisation, new local governance, and representative, participatory democracy. A conduit for knowledge transfers between local authorities.
- MedCities: a political representative of Mediterranean city councils before international organisations, and development and cooperation bodies.
- MedCities: an independent and diversely funded association of Mediterranean local governments, consolidated organisationally and working regionally.

1. MEDCITIES: A LEADING NETWORK FOR CITIES THROUGHOUT THE MEDITERRANEAN. A SPECIALIST IN MANAGEMENT, STRATEGIC PLANNING, URBAN PROJECTS, DECENTRALISATION, NEW LOCAL GOVERNANCE, AND REPRESENTATIVE, PARTICIPATORY DEMOCRACY. A CONDUIT FOR KNOWLEDGE TRANSFERS BETWEEN LOCAL AUTHORITIES.

#### PRIORITY INITIATIVES

- Identifying, formulating and implementing projects:
  - Implementation of ongoing projects:
  - 4 projects funded by the Interreg Euro-MED Programme:
    - Community for Green Living Areas, Thematic Community, regional project.
    - Dialogue for Natural Heritage, Institutional Project, regional project
    - URWAN (Urban Regenerative Water Avant-garde(N)) thematic project
    - ProcuraMed: Innovative and Green Procurement towards a Sustainable Economy in the Mediterranean area. Thematic project
  - o 3 projects financed by INTPA (former DEVCO)
    - A'SIMA Tunis in the city of Tunis (extended)
    - Valeur Gabès in the city of Gabès (extended)
    - Project MAIS, active mobility in Sfax (until 2026)
  - o 1 project funded by PRIMA FOUNDATION
    - WEFE4MED Water, Energy, Food Ecosystems, regional project.
  - 2 projects funded by HORIZON EUROPE:
    - BLUEMISSIONMED, Prevent marine pollution, regional project.
    - ANERIS, citizen science, regional project.

- Kick-off and start of implementation of projects acquired in 2024:
- 3 projects in collaboration with GIZ
  - Enhancing regional exchanges for local service provision in Libya
  - EVIMACC Expertise Exchange of Maghreb Cities on Urban Adaptation to Climate Change
  - MedCities Climate Urban Capacity Programme (City Climate Finance Gap Fund)
- 1 project funded by the Spanish Agency for Cooperation and Development (AECID)
  - Inclusive and green public space: running from October 2024 to October 2026)
- Projects under negotiation or evaluation:
- 4 direct cooperation projects: 1 annual project funded by the Government of Catalonia, 1 by Province of Barcelona, 1 by Barcelona Metropolitan Area and 1 by Barcelona City Council:
  - All under negotiation
- o 1 INTERREG SUDOE project in second phase of submission
- 4 INTERREG Euro-MED projects currently under evaluation:
- o 5 INTERREG Next Med projects currently under evaluation
- 1 Horizon Europe project currently under evaluation

These project proposals engage 21 member cities at different levels

1. MEDCITIES: A LEADING NETWORK FOR CITIES THROUGHOUT THE MEDITERRANEAN. A SPECIALIST IN MANAGEMENT, STRATEGIC PLANNING, URBAN PROJECTS, DECENTRALISATION, NEW LOCAL GOVERNANCE, AND REPRESENTATIVE, PARTICIPATORY DEMOCRACY. A CONDUIT FOR KNOWLEDGE TRANSFERS BETWEEN LOCAL AUTHORITIES.

- Search for financing for new projects
- New calls for projects from EU and International programmes and/or private donors
- Consolidate the potential of MedCities as a service provider.

#### Training and knowledge activities:

- Strengthen MedUrbanTools of the Barcelona Convention/Mediterranean Action Plan as a permanent platform for knowledge sharing on urban development in the Mediterranean.
- Consolidate the Barcelona Academy for Mediterranean Municipality after the 2024 first edition
- Continue implementing MedCities working groups in the following fields, which include a timeframe, budget and concrete actions:
  - Sustainable Urban Mobility
  - Coastal cities
  - Integrated Waste Management
  - Greener and resilient cities I

- Continued or new collaboration with international cooperation agencies for the implementation of actions with Mediterranean cities.
  - GIZ on North Africa municipal networking and Libya Programme.
  - Spanish Agency for Cooperation and Development (AECID): consolidate annual subsidy and define medium term strategy and projects.
  - Arab Urban Develpment Institute
  - Global Water Partnership Med
  - UN Habitat Latin America-CAF Biodivercities network.
  - UCLG secretariat

#### 2. MEDCITIES: A POLITICAL REPRESENTATIVE OF MEDITERRANEAN CITY GOVERNMENTS BEFORE INTERNATIONAL

#### **ORGANISATIONS, AND DEVELOPMENT AND COOPERATION BODIES.**

#### PRIORITY INITIATIVES

- Develop a Policy Incidence Action Plan
- Participate in major international events, acting as the Mediterranean Local Voice.
  - Participation in the Steering Committee of the Mediterranean Commission for Sustainable Development (MCSD) of the Barcelona Convention.
  - Participation in the Euro-Mediterranean Local and Regional Assembly (ARLEM)
  - o Participation at the United Nations Ocean Conference in Nice: UNOC25.
  - Co-organisation of a side event on resilient Mediterranean cities at the UNEP MAP COP24 in Egypt.
  - Active engagement in the celebrations for the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Barcelona Convention.
  - Participation at annual forums of the EU Mission Oceans & Waters and EU Mission for Climate-Neutral and Smart Cities.
  - Collaboration and participation in the Arab-European Cities Dialogue, 1st edition in 2025.
- Strengthen the role of the Mediterranean Cooperation Alliance. Increase efforts
  in developing the macro-regional strategy for the Mediterranean.
- Continue work in collaboration with the Union for the Mediterranean at the regional level.
  - Form part of sustainable water cycle policies, as members of the Water Experts group.
  - o Develop joint actions addressing local authorities in the region.
  - o Strengthen ties with the Urban Transition Mission

→ MEDITERRANEAN COMMISSION FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT (MCSD) OF THE BARCELONA CONVENTION

Mediterranean Strategy for Sustainable Development 2016-2025 FLAGSHIP INITIATIVES with MedCities engagement

MedUrbanTools (led by MedCities)



RETHINKING CITY DEVELOPMENT IN THE MEDITERRANEAN

- Istanbul Environment Friendly City Award (IEFCA) (co-lead by UNEP MAP and MedCities)
- Under process: Working Group of Net Zero Cities



### medurbantools 🚿

**MedUrbanTools** is a knowledge sharing platform on urban development. It consists in a regularly updated **database of open access resources** to support sustainable urban development - cases, voices and tools.

# +530

voices cases tools

French & English languages

**DISCOVER MORE** 

→ ISTANBUL ENVIRONMENT FRIENDLY CITY AWARD (IEFCA)

Istanbul Environment Friendly City Award (COP19 Decision IG.22/19)

- A flagship initiative of the Mediterranean Strategy for Sustainable Development
- Definition: "A coastal city in harmony with the sea, utilizing its resources efficiently, equitably and sustainably, reducing its impact on marine and coastal environment and climate change, and managing the environment for the benefit of current and future generations".

In an environment friendly Mediterranean coastal city, people enjoy a high quality of life and sustainable development takes place within the carrying capacity of healthy ecosystems.





#### → ISTANBUL ENVIRONMENT FRIENDLY CITY AWARD (IEFCA)

#### CALL FOR APPLICATIONS: TO BE LAUNCHED SOON

#### **IEFCA EGILIBILITY**

- Mediterranean coastal cities (small towns and metropolitan agglomerations)
- Demonstrate concrete steps taken and progress achieved to protect the environment, improve the quality of life, and promote sustainable development
- Strongly recommended: emphasize partnerships with civil society, the scientific community and the private sector



#### 4 editions, 3 MedCities members awarded: Izmir, Málaga and Genoa

#### → ARAB – EUROPEAN CITIES DIALOGUE

**Arab Urban Development Institut** (AUDI) is aiming to create a common ground for both Arab and European cities with mutual interest, to work together with the focus on inter-regional cooperation and networking. The **Arab-European Cities Dialogue is an annual event** that brings together mayors and practitioners from both regions, on thematic events. It is held interchangeably between Arab and European cities.

MedCities collaborates with AUDI and will participate in some actions in 2025

المعهــد العــربي لإنمــاء المــدن Arab Urban Development Inst.

2. MEDCITIES: A POLITICAL REPRESENTATIVE OF MEDITERRANEAN CITY GOVERNMENTS BEFORE INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATIONS, AND DEVELOPMENT AND COOPERATION BODIES.

- Continue cooperation with the Mediterranean Water Institute (IME) and other key actors from the water sector, looking ahead to the Euro-Mediterranean Water Forum in 2026.
- Collaborate with Barcelona Provincial Council on the organisation of an advocacy event around the Covenant of Mayors.
- Co-organisation with AVITEM and other key actors of a workshop on coastal risk and coastal realignment for adaptation to climate change, to draw up recommendations for UNOC25
- Deploy and explain the expertise of the MedCities network to other regions of the world
  - Within the Ocean Cities network.
  - Within the Ocean & Climate Platform Resilient Cities Network.
  - At the World Congress of United Cities and Local Governments (UCLG).
  - At the World Urban Forum of UN-Habitat 2026.
- Explore other stable partnerships with other institutions working around the Mediterranean at the local and regional level.

#### 3. MEDCITIES: AN INDEPENDENT AND DIVERSELY FUNDED ASSOCIATION OF MEDITERRANEAN LOCAL GOVERNMENTS, CONSOLIDATED ORGANISATIONALLY AND WORKING REGIONALLY.

#### PRIORITY INITIATIVES

- Strengthen the role of the Board of Directors
  - Integrate the members of the newly elected board of directors into the official representation of the association.
  - Establish periodic cooperation with BoD members to follow up on the activity of the organisation.
- Redefine and strengthen the role of KTCs as tools for relations with member cities, according to available funds.
  - Develop an action plan of initiatives for each KTC.
  - Enhance the capacity of the KTCs in identifying new funding opportunities and projects.
- Develop a long-term funding strategy to stabilise sources of funding.
  - Further develop the role of MedCities as service provider in actions compatible with its goal to serve MedCities members.
  - Promote long-lasting financial partnerships to ensure the future functioning of the organisation.
  - o Improve membership fee fulfilment among members.
  - Develop and implement the decision of 2023 General Assembly as to fees due.

- Further improve communication actions:
  - Continue implementing the private area for members on the MedCities website.
  - Develop the internal communication strategy, to improve targeted messages depending on themes, interests and roles.
  - Continue with an external communications agency to deploy the MedCities communications plan.

### 8. Presentation, discussion and approval of the 2025 Budget



## 8. Presentation, discussion and approval of the 2025 Budget

| REVENUE   |              |              |  |  |
|---|--------------|--------------|--|--|
| ITEM  | BUDGET 2025  | BUDGET 2024  |  |  |
| MEMBERSHIP FEES   | 159.500,00   | 180.900,00   |  |  |
| BARCELONA METROPOLITAN AREA - ANNUAL PROJECT                          | 192.816,00   | 200.000,00   |  |  |
| BARCELONA CITY COUNCIL - ANNUAL PROJECT                               | 120.000,00   | 120.000,00   |  |  |
| CATALAN AGENCY FOR DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION (ACCD) - 2023-2024 PROJECT | 11.160,00    | 167.428,86   |  |  |
| CATALAN AGENCY FOR DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION (ACCD) - ANNUAL PROJECT    | 100.000,00   | 0,00         |  |  |
| BARCELONA PROVINCIAL COUNCIL - ANNUAL PROJECT                         | 100.000,00   | 100.000,00   |  |  |
| EUROPEAN COMMISSION EUROPAID - A'SIMA TUNIS PROJECT                   | 94.482,32    | 443.253,60   |  |  |
| EUROPEAN COMMISSION EUROPAID - VALEUR GABES PROJECT                   | 46.395,14    | 46.821,93    |  |  |
| EUROPEAN COMMISSION EUROPAID - MAIS PROJECT                           | 118.116,35   | 164.381,51   |  |  |
| PRIMA - WEFE4MED PROJECT  | 33.810,28    | 33.810,28    |  |  |
| INTERREG EURO-MED - GREEN LIVING AREAS PROJECT (C4LA)                 | 92.771,92    | 80.771,92    |  |  |
| INTERREG EURO-MED - NATURAL HERITAGE PROJECT (D4N)                    | 66.215,43    | 65.325,39    |  |  |
| HORIZON - BLUEMISSIONMED PROJECT                                      | 55.665,01    | 71.290,01    |  |  |
| HORIZON - ANERIS PROJECT  | 95.448,30    | 94.181,51    |  |  |
| INTERREG EURO-MED - PROCURAMED PROJECT                                | 55.600,00    | 0,00         |  |  |
| INTERREG EURO-MED - URWAN PROJECT                                     | 64.937,08    | 0,00         |  |  |
| GIZ - URBA-CLIMA PROJECT  | 81.061,01    | 0,00         |  |  |
| GIZ - LYBIA PROJECT   | 75.549,46    | 0,00         |  |  |
| GIZ- MEDCUC PROJECT   | 70.417,39    | 0,00         |  |  |
| AECID   | 192.944,64   | 0,00         |  |  |
| UNEP-MAP - IEFCA 2025   | 42.043,43    | 0,00         |  |  |
| TOTAL   | 1.868.933,76 | 1.768.165,02 |  |  |

## 8. Presentation, discussion and approval of the 2025 Budget

| EXPENDITURE                        |              |                                  |              |              |
|------------------------------------|--------------|----------------------------------|--------------|--------------|
| ITEM                               | BUDGET 2025  | SUB-ITEM                         | BUDGET 2025  | BUDGET 2024  |
| EXTERNAL EXPERTISE                 | 765.196,15   | -                                | 765.196,15   | 729.833,03   |
| TRAVEL AND ACOMMODATION            | 251.854,77   | PROJECTS                         | 216.854,77   | 252.772,47   |
|                                    |              | GS + ASSEMBLY                    | 35.000,00    | 33.500,00    |
| HUMAN RESOURCES                    | 790.835,99   | -                                | 790.835,99   | 676.417,97   |
| COMMUNICATION                      | 25.000,00    | -                                | 25.000,00    | 29.787,52    |
| RUNNING COSTS GS                   | 36.046,85    | TRANSLATIONS AND INTERPRETATION  | 5.000,00     | 10.000,00    |
|                                    |              | LEGAL, TAX AND ACCOUNTING ADVICE | 22.500,00    | 22.500,00    |
|                                    |              | BANK SERVICES                    | 5.000,00     | 2.500,00     |
|                                    |              | PREVENTION OF OCCUPATIONAL RISKS | 1.500,00     | 1.500,00     |
|                                    |              | IT                               | 0,00         | 5.000,00     |
|                                    |              | EMPLOYES SOCIAL BENEFITS         | 1.500,00     | 1.500,00     |
|                                    |              | AMORTISATIONS                    | 546,85       | 2.854,03     |
| TOTAL                              | 1.868.933,76 |                                  | 1.868.933,76 | 1.768.165,02 |
|                                    |              |                                  |              |              |
| ALL AMOUNTS ARE EXPRESSED IN EUROS |              |                                  |              |              |

# **10. Declaration on the situation in Palestine and**

## Lebanon



## **11. Declaration on human mobility**



### Declaration on a dignified right to Human Mobility. Acknowledgment to organization saving lives at sea

#### **Decisions made**

•We call on men and women of goodwill to reject the inevitability of the humanitarian tragedy unfolding in the Mediterranean, where more than 40,000 people have lost their lives over the last ten years in repeated shipwrecks on what has become the world's deadliest migratory route.

•We call on the coastal states and ship captains to comply unconditionally with the obligation to provide assistance in accordance with the provisions of the international law of the sea.

•Lastly, we call for the establishment of a Euro-Mediterranean solidarity network bringing together cities, departments, regions and states, to promote and recognise sea rescue NGOs such SOS Mediterranée and Open Arms among others. MedCities endorsed the Lampesuda Charter for Dignified Human Mobility and Territorial Solidarity that was promoted by the mayor of Lampedusa with the support of UCLG and various MedCities members.

## 12. Charter of the EU Mission Restore Our Oceans



## Mission Charter



The Mission Charter calls for joining efforts to achieve the three objectives of the Mission Restore our Ocean and Waters by 20301 to:

- I. Protect and restore marine and freshwater ecosystems and biodiversity, in line with the EU Biodiversity Strategy 2030
- II. Prevent and eliminate pollution of our ocean, seas and waters, in line with the EU Action Plan Towards Zero Pollution for Air, Water and Soil
- III. Make the sustainable blue economy carbon-neutral and circular, in line with the proposed European Climate Law and the holistic vision enshrined in the Sustainable Blue Economy Strategy.

Endorsed member cities (you can also join!): Barcelona, Genoa, Ancona, Limassol, Izmir and Mersin

Actions include Mission Ocean and Waters related policies, programmes, initiatives and projects to support:

**a**. Research and innovation

**b**. Evidence-based knowledge and data and/or access provision to knowledge and data, in line with FAIR principles for the Mission Ocean and Waters Knowledge System

**c.** Upscaling, deployment and replication of solutions

**d.** Citizen engagement, citizensscience, youth-led initiatives, communities of practice, ocean and water literacy, outreach, awareness raising and participatory approaches

e. Education and training.

## 13. Manifesto from the COP16: "The close relationship with biodiversity in small and medium-sized cities"



### Manifest

## The close relationship with biodiversity in small and medium-sized cities

We propose:

**1.** That the small and intermediate cities are recognized as essential actors in the implementation of the Kunming Montreal Global Framework, so that from the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity, progress is made towards more sustainable, resilient and equitable urban-rural territories.

**2.** That an effective dialogue be promoted between public, private and community actors in small and medium-sized cities to consolidate fair and effective local governance and incorporate biodiversity and its benefits into urban-rural planning and planning.

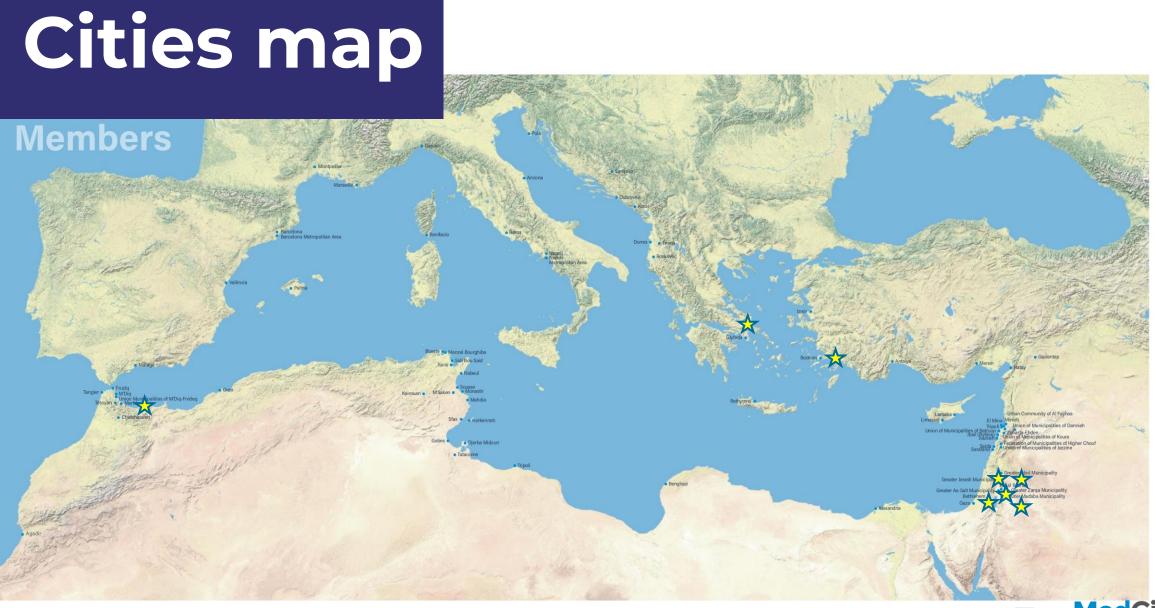
**3.** That the small and intermediate cities are integrated with greater relevance in the mechanisms of financing and international cooperation agreed at the COP 16 and subsequent Conferences of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity.

Small and medium-sized cities are essential for conservation, sustainable use of biodiversity and equitable distribution of its benefits. The role of small and intermediate cities is relevant as economic, social, cultural and ecological connectors in large territorial mosaics.

# 14. Admission of new members and/or observer

## members







## **Municipality of Al Mirad**

On 19/11/2023 the **Municipality of Al Mirad (Jordan)** submitted the municipal council decision to adhere to MedCities association.

#### Information about the candidate member:

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Situated atop the Ajloun Mountains to the east and falling under the jurisdiction of the Jerash Governorate, the Al-Mi'rad area holds agricultural classification, boasting abundant olive trees, almonds, and various vegetables. Most of its residents are engaged in governmental occupations. It has 75.000 inhabitants, in addition to 40.000 of a Palestinian refugee camp and 3.000 Syrian refugees.

## **Municipality of Al Karak**

 On 13/10/24 the Municipality of Al Karak (Jordan) submitted the adhesion to MedCities and the approval of the municipal council.

Information about the candidate member:

Al Karak is a Greater municipality located in the Karak province in Jordan at 140km at the south of Amman. Karak is one of the ancient cities, and it dates back to 8 thousand years BC. Currently it has a population of around 145.000 inhabitants.



## **Municipality of Bani Obeid**

 On 14/10/24 the Municipality of Bani Obeid (Jordan) submitted the adhesion to MedCities. The approval of local council will follow in the coming weeks.

Information about the candidate member:

Bani Obeid was recently created as an independent municipality in 2023. Located in the northern governorate of Irbid, it has a population of around 200.000 inhabitants.



## **Municipality of Bab Amman**

 On 11/11/24 the Municipality of Bab Amman (Jordan) submitted the adhesion to MedCities. The approval of local council will follow in the coming weeks.

Information about the candidate member:

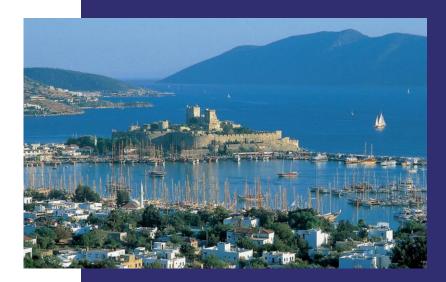
Bab Amman is a rural municipality located in the outskirts of Amman, with a population of around 20.000 inhabitants.

## **Mugla Metropolitan Municipality**

 On 03/09/2024 Mugla Metropolitan Municipality (Türkiye) submitted the adhesion to MedCities association, the approval of the Municipal Council will follow in the coming weeks.

#### Information about the candidate member:

Muğla is a city located in south-western Türkiye, in the southern part of the Aegean Region. Surrounded by the Aegean and the Mediterranean, the city is famous for its rich natural beauties, historical and cultural heritage. It hosts a population exceeding 1 million and its economy thrives on agriculture, tourism, and commerce.



## **Municipality of Agia Paraskevi**

 On 22/10/2024 the Municipality of Agia Paraskevi (Greece) submitted the adhesion to MedCities association, the approval of the Municipal Council will follow in the coming weeks.

#### Information about the candidate member:

Agia Paraskevi a suburb and a municipality in the north-eastern part of the Athens agglomeration, Greece. It currently counts with 62.147 inhabitants.



## **Municipality of Ramallah**

 On 26/11/24 the Municipality of Ramallah (Palestine) submitted the adhesion to MedCities. The approval of local council will follow in the coming weeks.

#### Information about the candidate member:

Ramallah is a Palestinian city in the central West Bank, that serves as the de facto administrative capital of the State of Palestine. It is situated on the Judaean Mountains, 10 km (6 miles) north of Jerusalem, at an average elevation of 872 meters (2,861 ft) above sea level, adjacent to al-Bireh. Ramallah Municipality was established in 1908 and has currently 42.122 inhabitants.



## **Municipality of Al Hoceima**

-On 27/11/2024 Municipality of Al Hoceima (Morocco) submitted the adhesion to MedCities. The approval of local council will follow in the coming weeks.

Information about candidate member:

The city of Al Hoceima is located in the north of Morocco, on the Mediterranean coast, bounded to the north and east by the sea, to the south by the Municipality of Ajdir and Ait Youssef, and to the west by the Municipality of Izamouren. The Al Hoceima sea also features many islands, such as the tiny islands of Sabadilla and Cala Iris and countless small rocky islets.

The town council is working to ensure a safe environment by improving the collection of household waste and waste resulting from various commercial or handcraft activities.

The city is a known tourist destination despite its small size. It has a population of about 56,716, according to the 2014 census.



## **15. Any other business**





#### COMMITMENTS OF THE AUTHORITIES DECENTRALIZED OF MEDITERRANEAN



LOGOS OF THE SIGNATORIES

- It is imperative to recognize that water, beyond being a resource, is a fundamental human right and a common good for all humanity.
- Urgent need for collective action across the region to protect and ensure equitable access to water for all, especially the most vulnerable communities
- In terms of public policies dedicated to water management, the territorial level confirms its legitimacy, its competence, its expertise and its capacity for action.
- Authorities are able to adopt a local, effective approach to meeting water demand at local and regional levels and implementing the necessary mitigation and adaptation measures in the face of internal and external changes.
- Their role as prescriber in terms of demand and supply management is essential through measurement systems, network improvements, adapted pricing and financial and fiscal instruments or incentives to adopt innovative systems.
- Water allocation choices call for local and inter-territorial solidarity, such as between urban and rural areas, in order to guarantee agricultural production and prevent rural exodus, or between regions with a water deficit and surplus, which only local authorities are able to negotiate.
- The actions undertaken mobilize beyond the field of water and affect other sectors: solid waste, energy, transport, biodiversity, etc. to invite real transversality, the strengthening of synergies between services, a holistic approach to strategic planning for resilient and active territories in the ecological, economic and social transition promoting the emergence of a water culture, shared practices between actors

#### COMMITMENTS OF THE AUTHORITIES DECENTRALIZED OF MEDITERRANEAN



LOGOS OF THE SIGNATORIES

- To do this, the Mediterranean decentralised authorities can rely on groups of local authorities such as AVITeM, MedCités or UCLG as well as on professional associative structures such as the IME.
- Let's not make the situation worse! Limiting the degradation of water resources.
- Optimize consumption based on real needs.
- The sanitation dimension should be integrated into local and regional planning.
- DIVERSIFICATION OF PRODUCTION:
- The creation of a Euro-Mediterranean Macro-Region at the level of the European Union could allow for significant progress in this area.
- Collective water governance at both local and international levels is essential.
- The implementation of innovative financial mechanisms and regulatory schemes facilitates access to direct financing for local and regional authorities, in order to meet the needs identified for local water and sanitation infrastructure, to meet the needs of all, particularly the poorest, and finally to enable adaptation to changes.
- In order to benefit from direct funding, local authorities must be able to demonstrate their financial autonomy in order to gain the trust of donors.
- Cooperation between territories and cities is a real lever for the future of a common Mediterranean. The idea is to place Mediterranean cooperation at the heart of adaptation policies because the more the management scale becomes a local scale, the more important the connections are.

#### COMMITMENTS OF THE AUTHORITIES DECENTRALIZED OF MEDITERRANEAN



LOGOS OF THE SIGNATORIES

• The decentralization process must continue in contexts where resource management is still often state-run and open up to local regulation of the water market.

#### IME -

Messages clés de la Méditerranée au Forum Mondial de l'Eau de BALI 2024

#### Gouvernance, coopération et hydro-diplomatie

Développer des actions d'hydro-diplomatie transfrontalière et appliquer la méthode aux solidarités inter-bassins d'un même pays ainsi qu'aux conflits d'usage entre secteurs d'activité d'un même sous-bassin.

#### Financement durable de l'eau

Création d'un « Fonds Mondial pour l'Eau » dans chaque région du monde et dynamisation des financements mixtes pour faire face à l'ODD6 grâce à la prise de conscience du « Risque Eau » par les grands consommateurs d'eau (empreintes eau).

#### **Connaissance et innovation**

Prioriser les innovations, les solutions technologiques et réglementaires, adaptées pour produire plus et consommer moins. Protection des ressources, Mix-hydrique, Sobriété et Performance.

## Update of application form for candidate members



**Gràcies!** Thank you! Merci! ۺ۠ػڔٲ **Te∫ekkürler!** 





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