Review of developments of the Mediterranean Strategy on Education for Sustainable Development (MSESD)

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The Mediterranean Strategy on Education for Sustainable Development (MSESD)

Unanimously endorsed on 13/05/2014 by the Ministers of Environment & Climate Change of the Union for the Mediterranean (UfM) aiming to encourage the countries to develop and incorporate ESD into formal, non-formal and informal education.
Horizon 2020: a cleaner Mediterranean by 2020

The Mediterranean Strategy on Education for Sustainable Development

La Stratégie méditerranéenne pour l'éducation pour un développement durable

إستراتيجية البحر المتوسط للتعليم من أجل التنمية المستدامة
MEDITERRANEAN STRATEGY ON EDUCATION FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT (MSESD)

(as formulated in the framework of the Horizon 2020 Mediterranean Environment Programme)

Presentation of the MSESD in the UNESCO World Conference on ESD, Nagoya, November 2014; Officially acknowledged in the UNESCO Final Report for the Decade on ESD as an “example of a regional strategy on ESD”
The Mediterranean Strategy on ESD

The Action Plan of the MSESD

Endorsement by the Ministries of Education in the Mediterranean Conference on ESD in Nicosia, December 2016, organised by the Ministry of Education of Cyprus, MIO-ECSDE and the UNESCO Chair on ESD in the Mediterranean AIMING to facilitate the implementation of the MSESD and, as appropriate, the provisions on ESD of all other relevant Conventions and International Bodies by the countries of the region.
The Action Plan: A “new generation” document that integrates dynamic relations and initiatives “serviced” by it in order to help the countries in monitoring and reporting.
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<th>Year</th>
<th>Achievements</th>
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<td>2016</td>
<td>Launching of the <strong>Mediterranean ESD Committee</strong> including: League of the Arab States (LAS), UNESCO GAP, UN Environment MAP, UNECE, UfM. Chair: the Ministry of Education of Cyprus, Technical Secretariat: MIO-ECSDE</td>
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<td>2017</td>
<td><strong>Special Session for Parliamentarians, Ministry Officials, Stakeholders &amp; Educators</strong> hosted by the House of the Representatives of the Republic of Cyprus and chaired by the Vice President of the Parliament, Mr Adamou. The outcomes shared with the Parliaments of the Mediterranean countries by the Parliament of Cyprus. A back-to-back organisation of a <strong>Regional ESD Meeting</strong></td>
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<td>2017-18</td>
<td><strong>Seven National Training-of-Trainers</strong> on the AP of the MSESD, organised by the EU SWIM-H2020 SM Programme in Algeria, Egypt, Jordan, Palestine, Tunisia and one regional in Cyprus. Totally: <strong>450 trainers</strong></td>
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<td>2016-18</td>
<td>Summer Universities in Samothraki, Greece (2016), Sardenia, Italy (2017) and Parnon Area, Greece (2018), promoting the implementation of the Action Plan of the MSESD</td>
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Special Session for Parliamentarians, Ministry Officials, Stakeholders, Cyprus, 2017
Trainings & Meetings on Action Plan/MSESD
Algeria, Egypt, Jordan, Palestine, Tunisia
Most of the countries have already or are in the process of elaborating National Strategies or Plans on ESD in accordance to the provisions of the AP/MSESD; Opportunities to adapt and better fine-tune them with the AP/MSESD were identified.

A wealth of experiences, initiatives and projects and processes, exists in the countries on EE and ESD; The AP/MSESD provides an appropriate framework to complement-adapt-improve them.

The strengthening of adequate interdepartmental collaboration and coordination of the aforementioned ESD initiatives, supervised by different Ministries and various Agencies, was highlighted as an urgent need by all involved in the meetings in all countries. Concerted efforts towards this direction were made in all countries where the ToTs and inter-departmental meetings were organised.

The need of scaling up the training and re-training activities for various target groups and stakeholders engaged in ESD was highlighted in all countries, with main obstacle the lack of adequate means and overloaded programmes.
✓ The urgently needed **human and financial resources** for the promotion of ESD are still lacking at many levels; Joint efforts and targeted activities to secure funding should be intensified.

✓ It is critical for MSESD /AP to receive **more political support** and become better known among political decision makers, particularly as a **prerequisite** for enhancing the impact of Agendas, Strategies and Policies of sustainable development and the SDGs.

✓ A key message: **ESD is the most cost-effective intervention to achieve sustainable development.**

✓ A very promising development: the LAS has initiated a process utilizing the MSESD and its AP for stimulating Arab countries to develop ESD.
Way forward

- Second Meeting of the Mediterranean ESD Committee/Regional Workshop on ESD, in 24-26 June 2019.

- Continuation of the close collaboration with and contribution to the GAP of UNESCO and the post-GAP initiatives.

- Synergies at the regional level: UNECE, UfM Agendas, MCSD, UN Environment/MAP, etc.

- Need for ESD to be ‘elevated’ in the next Ministerial Meetings (UN Environment/MAP, UfM, ...) as a prerequisite for achieving the SDGs and SD.

- The Summer University 2019 will take place in the Central Balkan Biosphere Reserve
2nd Meeting of the Mediterranean ESD Committee-Regional Workshop on ESD, 24-26 June 2019 Crete, Greece

With the support of UfM, UN Environment MAP, UNESCO Venice, the Ministry of Education & Culture of Cyprus, MIO-ECSDE, the Regional Unit of Heraklion, Development Agency of Heraklion/Crete (Greece)

Objectives

- To review the progress made on the mainstreaming and application of the Action Plan of the MSESD
- To provide input to the major processes where MSESD is integrated - MSSD, MCSD, UfM, post-GAP UNESCO
- To present the results of the national capacity building activities on ESD supported by the EU funded SWIM-H2020 SM Programme
- To promote the major thematic priorities of the region within the lenses of ESD, and namely: Sustainable Consumption & Production (SCP), Combating Marine Litter, Biodiversity & Biosphere Reserves (BRs), Refugee issues
ESD Programmes contributing to the AP thematic priorities by MEdIES/MIO-ECSDE

1. Educational component of the NCWRs Programme in the Mediterranean

2. Marine Litter Programme
1. Non Conventional Water Resources Programme in the Mediterranean

- Malta (2011-2015)
- Greece: Cyclades & Dodecanese Islands, Alexandroupolis (2008-on)
- Cyprus (2013-2017)
- Italy, Sardinia (2016-2018)
1a. Aims and Objectives

- **Aims** at advancing the use of NCWR, mainly rainwater harvesting and greywater reuse in water scarce communities in the Mediterranean islands, as a cost-effective method to locally increase water availability and to adapt to climate change.

- The Program’s **objectives** are:
  - To demonstrate smart, innovative & cost-effective NCWR solutions
  - To educate students, teachers and the public on NCWRs.
  - To enhance local technical expertise on modern NCWR systems.

- While
  - Promoting multi-stakeholder partnerships
  - Providing a best practice for further replication
1b. Education / Awareness Raising Activities

- Country-specific **educational materials** (educational packages, video games, posters, etc.).
- **Teacher trainings** in cooperation with the Ministries of Education in the countries
- Targeted **school interventions** using a series of students’ hands-on material
- Trainings for **local technicians**
- Public events
- Communication materials: animated videos, infographics, Factsheets
1c. Overall NCWR Outcomes & Results in the Mediterranean, 2008-2018

- **33 islands** (29 Greek Islands, 2 Maltese islands, Cyprus, Sardinia)
- More than **95 NCWR systems** have been installed or reinstated
- About **35,000 students** and **6,500 teachers**
- More than **200,000 beneficiaries**
2.a The educational programme Know Feel Act! To stop marine litter within MARLISCO

To inform, sensitize and enable teachers and students to take action to tackle the issue of marine litter.

A joint product of the MARLISCO consortium (EU FP7, 2012-2015) produced and applied in the 15 partner countries and in Arabic, all available at www.marlisco.eu
Objectives for the learners & educators

• To be acquainted with the type and characteristics of marine litter

• To be informed about the causes and impacts of marine litter

• To be aware about the regional variations in regards to marine litter issues

• To be aware of current tools-policies to tackle with the issue of marine litter.

• To develop the skills of critical thinking, decision making and participation.

• To acquire a positive attitude against pollution and wise
Since 2014:

- More than 1000 educators trained on the issue of marine litter and the educational material
- 4 rounds of the e-course developed with more than 400 trainees
- An ERASMUS KA1 Training of trainers organised in 2018
- The mobile Exhibition on marine litter created within the programme has received some 30000 visitors
Thank you for your attention!

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