

MEDITERRANEAN OBSERVATORY OF CLIMATE CHANGE



**A Space for Cooperation,
Innovation and Regional
Resilience**



INAUGURAL CONFERENCE

December 2 and 3, 2024
Ecole Polytechnique de Tunisie

Promoting entities



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Barcelona



Conference and Official Inauguration in Tunisia

Date: December 2 and 3, 2024

Place: Ecole Polytechnique de Tunisie

Title: Inauguration of the Mediterranean Observatory of Climate Change: A Space for Cooperation, Innovation, and Regional Resilience

Event description: The inaugural conference in Tunisia, which coincides with the official inauguration of the Observatory, marks the second major event of the platform. This event will provide a space to deepen strategies for climate change adaptation, with a strong focus on international collaboration, the use of technology, and sustainable natural resource management.

Conference Program in Tunisia (2 days):

Day 1 (02/12/2024): Official Inauguration and Presentations

09:00- 09:30 | Registration and Accreditations

09:30- 10:00 | Welcome and Official Inauguration

Speakers:

Prof. Nadia Mzoughi, President of the University of Carthage (UCAR)

Prof. Maria Teresa Sauras Yera, Vice-Rector for Sustainability and Climate Change (UB)

Mr. Ra'fat Khndqji, President of the Palestinian Farmers Union (PFU)

Mr. David Llistar, Director of the Cooperation Department of the Barcelona City Council

Tentatively:

Representatives from the Ministry of Environment of Tunis

Spanish Ambassador in Tunis

Palestinian Ambassador in Tunis

Content: Official inauguration of the Mediterranean Observatory of Climate Change and the Conference.

10:00 - 11:00 | **Panel 1:** The Mediterranean as an Epicentre of Climate Change

Speakers: Abbas Mihelm (PFU), Elyes Hamza (SPA/RAC), Shifa Mathbout (European University Cyprus)

Panel Coordinator: Franco Gómez (Catalan Association for Peace (ACP))

Content: Discussion on the effects of climate change in the Mediterranean, focusing on biodiversity and water resources.

11:00 - 11:30 | Coffee Break

11:30 - 13:00 | **Panel 2:** Climate Adaptation and Sustainable Agriculture

Speakers: Basel Natsheh (Palestine Technical University - Kadoorie (PTUK)), Giuseppe Cirelli (Université de Catania), Lamia Bouziri (REACT), Zohra Lili Chabaane (UCAR-INAT)

Panel Coordinator: Wafa Masoud (PTUK)

Content: Agricultural innovation and water management in response to climate change.

13:00 - 14:00 | Lunch



14:00 - 15:30 | Workshop/Think Tank 1: Defining the Objective of the Observatory

Objective: Establish a consensus on the goals of the observatory by identifying members' priorities. Identify common needs and define strategic lines (SWOT?).

15:30 - 17:00 | Workshop/Think Tank 2: Identifying Priorities and Concrete Action Plans

Objectives: Identify common priorities and establish strategic lines of action.

Day 2 (03/12/2024): Networks, Innovation, and Action Plans

09:00 - 10:30 | Panel 3: Biodiversity Conservation, Sustainable Hydric Resource Management, and Nature-Based Solutions

Speakers: Antoni Alarcon (Barcelona Zoo), Saed Khayat (An-Najah National University), Mehdi Ben Mimoun (UCAR-INAT), Rosina Gironès (Global Sustainability Hub UB)

Panel Coordinator: Antonina Torrens (UB)

Content: Biodiversity conservation and resource management as climate solutions.

10:30 - 11:00 | Break

11:00 - 12:30 | Panel 4: The Role of NGOs, Civil Society, and Administrations in Climate Change Adaptation

Speakers: Sagar Malé (ACP), David Llistar (Barcelona City Council), Sihem Benabdallah (REACT), Abbas Milhelm (PFU)

Panel Coordinator: Consuelo Tome Virseda, representative from Technical Cooperation Office of Spain in Tunis (AECID)

Content: The importance of different actors in climate change adaptation.

12:30 - 13:00 | Remarks and Closing

Speakers: Representatives from the UCAR, PFU, ACP and FSUB

Session Coordinator: General coordinator of the Observatory (M. Abbas Mihelm (PFU))

13:00 - 14:00 | Lunch

14:00 - 16:00 | Workshop/Think Tank 3: Defining Working Groups and Roles + Next Steps

Objective: Establish an operational working network with defined roles for participating members. Create a coordination and follow-up body.

[#ShowYourStripes](#) The Warming Band graphics were created by Professor Ed Hawkins to start conversations about global warming and the risks of climate change.

Graph - Palestine - period 1857-2023 - data source Berkeley Earth & ERA5-Land - creator Ed Hawkins - University of Reading

