



Conference on
 “Horizon 2020” and Private Investors’ Involvement
 22-23 October 2007, Athens, Greece

Draft Tentative Agenda

Brief overview/ background:

In November 2005, the partners to the Euro-Mediterranean process committed to "endorse a feasible timetable to de-pollute the Mediterranean Sea by 2020, while providing appropriate financial resources and technical support to implement it, using the Mediterranean Strategy for Sustainable Development and exploring possible areas for co-operation in this regard with UNEP".

Following-up on this commitment from all of the Euro-Mediterranean Partners, the European Commission launched the ‘Horizon 2020’ initiative (Cairo, November 2006) that aims to tackle the top sources of Mediterranean pollution by the year 2020.

The initiative is **open to all stakeholders** and calls for the mobilisation of the necessary **financial resources** and the provision of **technical support** from **all partners**. In this respect, the private sector, including **private investors**, has an important role to play. The role and ways to enhance involvement of private investors in Horizon 2020 will be discussed at the related Conference, **22 and 23 October 2007**, to be **held in Athens, Greece**.

Reference to the Conference has been made in the **Cairo Ministerial Declaration** (November 20th, 2006), where the Euro-Mediterranean Ministers of Environment notably “urge banks, other financial institutions and CleanTech Venture Capital Funds to participate in this endeavour”. Investments are in particular expected in the **waste water treatment** and **waste management** sectors, which are the most crucial for tackling land-based pollution in the Mediterranean.

Agenda provisional contents:

Monday, 22 October 2007

8.30-9.00 - Registration

9.00-10.45 - Opening Session

Welcome notes by:

- Representative of the Host Country
- Prof. Michael Scoullios, Chairman, MIO-ECSDE & GWP-Med
- Mr Raymond van Ermen, Director, EPE
- Mr Emilio Gabbrielli, Executive Secretary, Global Water Partnership (tbc)
- Mr Paul Mifsud, Coordinator, UNEP-MAP

Keynote speeches on:

- *The Mediterranean region in a global perspective: The role of venture capital, investment banks and foundations* - Mr Robert Rubinstein, Triple Bottom Line Investing (TBLI Group)
- *The cost of inaction* - Mr Sherif Arif, Expert, Former World Bank METAP Coordinator
- *De-polluting the Mediterranean: The Prospects* - Mr Francesco Saverio Civili, UNEP-MAP

10.45-11.00 - *Coffee break*



11.00-13.30 - Session 1: The 'Horizon 2020' initiative and financing the de-pollution of the Mediterranean

The session's purpose is to explain what the 'Horizon 2020' initiative is about and what the priorities for the achievement of the Mediterranean's de-pollution are. It will present the main activities of key players (the EU, international financial institutions, etc.) contributing to financing de-pollution of the Mediterranean as well as the needs for the joining in of private finance, thus allowing for a mapping of the situation (state-of-play) in the region.

Invited speakers:

- *The Horizon 2020 Initiative* - Mr Andrew Murphy, DG Environment, European Commission
- *Funding to be made available through the European Neighbourhood Policy* - Representative of DG External Relations, European Commission
- *The Facility for Euro-Mediterranean Investment and Partnership (FEMIP)* - Mr Stefan Kerpen, European Investment Bank
- *Related investments in South and East Mediterranean countries* - Representative of the Islamic Development Bank and/or the African Development Bank (tbc)
- *The role of the Mediterranean Component of the EU Water Initiative* - Representative of the Hellenic Government

Open discussion between conference participants

13.30-15.00 - Lunch break

15.00-17.30 - Session 2: How could private investors participate in the de-pollution of the Med?

This session will focus on the financing that could be provided by private investors (i.e. private banks, venture capitals, ethical funds, etc.) in support of Horizon 2020. Topics to be explored will be: the types of projects requiring financing - especially in the identified priority "hot spots"; the most suitable types of financial instruments for fostering eco-innovation/cleaner technologies in the Mediterranean (i.e. loans, guarantee mechanisms, venture capital, micro-credits, SRI funds, public-private partnerships, etc.); what role for Governments in encouraging private investments (i.e. institutional set up, regulatory incentives), etc. Case studies and good practices from all over the Mediterranean region will be presented.

Invited speakers:

- *Opportunities for investing in the de-pollution of the Mediterranean:*
 - § *National Action Plans & Priority hot spots* - Mr Fouad Abousamra, UNEP/MAP
 - § *The MeHSIP Programme* - Ms Christine Haffner-Sifakis, Consultant to the EIB
- *The point of view of Southern Mediterranean Governments* - Representative of a MENA country
- *Principles for Private Sector participation in infrastructure* - Ms Céline Kauffmann, Investment Division, OECD
- *Strategy to enhance engagement with the private sector* - Ms Emilia Battaglini, GEF (tbc)
- *Addressing sustainability through financial markets* - Mr Robin Edme, EUROSIF
- *Public-private partnerships for water and sanitation in cities and countries of the Mediterranean region* - Mr Pierre Van de Vyver, Institut de la Gestion Déléguée, France
- *Public financing and of the private sector for the protection of the environment and de-pollution: recent experiences of AFD and FFEM in the Mediterranean* - Mr Jean Pierre Barbier, FFEM/ AFD

Open discussion between conference participants

20.30 - Dinner

- *Paid watershed services: The case of New York* - Keynote speech by Mr Albert Appleton, Expert

Tuesday, 23 October 2007

9.00-11.00 - Session 3: What are private investors' pre-requisites and expectations?

Private investors do have a series of criteria when choosing projects, ventures, businesses, etc. to invest in, particularly focused on "pay back" times and "low risk". This session will focus on private financiers' pre-requisites and expectations with regard to "green" / cleaner technology investments in the Mediterranean region. Among the questions to be addressed are: What type of projects are financiers interested in? What guarantees would be needed? Which type and size of financial returns are expected? Which project return before tax should be foreseen? Which kind of quality control would be required?

Invited speakers:

- *Financing of environmental projects* - Mr Arnaud Berger, Groupe Banque Populaire
- *The criteria and opportunities for sustainable financing* - Mr Frans Cornelissen, Head of Sustainability Europe, ABN AMRO
- *Financing environmental projects in the Arab region* - Mr Nicolas Khairallah, Fransabank SAL, Lebanon
- *Financial Aspects of Sanitation and Private Sector Participation* - Mr Khalil Attia, Office National de l'Assainissement, Tunisia
- *Cost recovery in environmental services: Reconciling economic sustainability and political acceptability* - Mr Jacques Labre, Directeur Relations Institutionnelles, Suez Environnement
- *The point of view of Small and Medium Enterprises* - Mr Hicham Aboujaoude, Union of Mediterranean Confederations of Enterprises

Open discussion between conference participants

11.00-11.30 - Coffee break

11.30-13.00 - Session 4: Establishing a roadmap - creating synergies for a clean Mediterranean

How could synergies between partners for financing be best fostered? How could the follow up of 'Horizon 2020' be enhanced? What sustainable fund(s) could be developed by a regional bank? What could pension funds, investment banks do? Should we set up a "holding" to encourage private investments in support of the de-pollution of the Mediterranean? What about Private-Public Partnerships? This session will consist of a panel discussion between the main stakeholders involved with a view to establish a roadmap for the Mediterranean's de-pollution.

Discussion panel composed of representatives of private investors, beneficiaries, institutional investors, international/ regional organisations, etc. - i.e.:

- *Urban water governance and use and the expectations of private investors in the Southern Mediterranean* - Mr Hachmi Kennou, Institut Méditerranéen de l'Eau
- *The Green Danube Partnership* - Mr Tony Baynes, The Coca Cola Company - Hellenic Bottling Company Group
- *The point of view of local authorities/ municipalities as beneficiaries* - Mr Joan Parpal, MedCities
- *SRI, Pension or other funds* - (tbc)

13.00-13.30 - Closing session: Conclusions/ Recommendations

13.30 - End of the conference