

## “Education for Sustainable Development (ESD) in the University: Theory and Practice” (a contribution to the Med Strategy on ESD)

Morocco (Rabat), 23–24 April 2013

### Horizon 2020 Capacity Building/Mediterranean Environment Programme (H2020 CB/MEP)

#### The Horizon 2020 Initiative

The “**Horizon 2020 Initiative**” was endorsed during an Environment Ministerial Conference held in Cairo in 2006 and is also a key initiative run under the Union for the Mediterranean (UfM). It aims to de-pollute the Mediterranean by the year 2020 by tackling the sources of pollution that account for around 80% of the overall pollution of the Mediterranean Sea: **municipal waste, urban wastewater and industrial pollution**.

The H2020 Initiative focuses on the following four pillars:

- Identification of *projects* to reduce the most significant sources of pollution.
- Identification of *capacity-building* measures to help neighbouring countries strengthen national administrations and stakeholders in developing and applying environmental laws.
- Use of the EC’s *research* budget to develop greater knowledge of environmental issues relevant to the Mediterranean and ensure this is shared.
- Develop indicators to *monitor* progress.

H2020 has three components with a project currently running under each one: (i) the **Investment** component with the Mediterranean Hot Spots Investment Programme – Project Preparation and Implementation Facility (MeHSIP-PPIF); (ii) the **Capacity Building** component with the H2020 Capacity Building/Mediterranean Environment Programme, and (iii) the **Review, Monitoring and Research** component with the ENPI Shared Environmental

#### The framework

The Horizon 2020 Capacity Building/Mediterranean Environment Programme (H2020 CB/MEP) is an EU funded project which runs under the H2020 Initiative and aims at enhancing the capacities to address pollution problems at institutional and society level.

Pollution in the Mediterranean is expected to be substantially reduced through the installation and proper functioning of major infrastructures (e.g. sewage treatment plants), of pollution reduction technologies in industries, etc. However, this won’t work if institutional and individual capacities are not in place. This is what the H2020 CB/MEP aims to enhance by operating within the existing and developing policy instruments, and supporting the implementation of the commitments undertaken in the framework of the European Neighbourhood Policy as well as other regional agreements such as the Barcelona Convention, while cooperating, coordinating and synergising with all relevant Mediterranean (EU and other) programmes.

#### Objectives

The main objective of the project is to address the problems of: low political priority given to the environment; insufficient integration of environment in the different sector policies (agriculture, tourism, transport or energy) and lack of inclusion of the different actors; insufficient capacities and resources at institutional and civil society level. This is achieved through capacity building and awareness raising activities and by promoting integration of environmental issues in other sectors policies.

During the first phase of the project (2009-2012), more than **1900 professionals** from ministries, local authorities, institutions, agencies, NGOs, industries, business organizations, chambers of commerce, universities and research institutes, as well as politicians, journalists, educators, etc. were trained in one or more of the eighty five (85) Horizon 2020 capacity building activities that took place.

#### Partners

This project is implemented by the National and Kapodistrian University of Athens (NKUA) in consortium with the: Mediterranean Action Plan of the United Nations Environment Programme and its Regional Activity Centres and Programmes (UNEP/MAP and its RACs), National Waste Management Agency (ANGed)/ Regional Solid Waste Exchange of Information and Expertise Network in Mashreq and Maghreb Countries (SWEEPNet), Umweltbundesamt GmbH – Austrian Environment Agency (AEA), Lebanese Ministry of Energy and Water - the General Directorate of Hydraulic and Electrical Resources (LMoEW), Hellenic Ministry for Environment, Energy and Climate Change, UNESCO-IHE Institute for Water Education (UNESCO-

IHE), Mediterranean Information Office for Environment, Culture and Sustainable Development (MIO-ECSDE), Arab Network for Environment and Development (RAED), WWF Mediterranean Programme Office (WWF MedPO), Association of Cities and Regions for Recycling and Sustainable Resource Management (ACR+), Arab Countries Water Utilities Association (ACWUA).

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## Course Description - “Education for Sustainable Development (ESD) in the University: Theory and Practice”

(a contribution to the Med Strategy on ESD)

### Introduction to the course

The workshop is organized within the framework of the Horizon 2020 CB/MEP project. The Mediterranean Information Office for Environment, Culture and Sustainable Development (MIO-ECSDE) and the University of Athens (NKUA) are in charge of this training with the support of the University Mohamed V Souissi (Rabat). Its duration is two full days. Around 40 participants from 14 Moroccan Universities of different regions of the country will benefit from the workshop.

### The background

Based on the analogy of the ‘pyramid’ which represents “Sustainable Development” (Thessaloniki, 1997) (top left) and the double pyramid which depicts “Education for Sustainable Development” (Scoullou, 2010) (bottom left), a **Sustainable University** can also be represented with a pyramid, having the following four facets / components:

1. Content & message of ESD in the Curriculum (themes covered: how SD is represented; official and hidden syllabus; developing students’ competence to address present and future SD challenges, etc.)
2. Educational Culture & Practice, Methodology (themes covered: Professors’ competences, training and lifelong learning, research and the educational techniques and methods used.
3. Internal Governance & external relationships with the society (themes covered: Composition and operation of the university community, decision making processes, democratic relations, operation & administration model followed, relationships between professors, professors and students, professors and Direction; Finance options in line with sustainability; Opening of the university to the society)
4. Applied environmental/ SD paradigm, infrastructures, premises (themes covered: Energy efficiency; passive solar architecture; ecological footprint; use of eco-friendly materials; recycling; Water economy & recycling; canteens, green spaces; transport within the campus, etc.)

### Learning objectives

The general aim of this national H2020 training is to build the capacities of the Moroccan academia (teachers, students, administrators and staff) on these abovementioned four pillars of the ‘Sustainable University’.

The specific objectives are:

- To present the Horizon2020 objectives and pillars and their links with ESD and the Mediterranean Strategy for ESD
- To identify the theoretical and practical foundations of ESD in higher education
- To introduce the concept of the sustainable/green university and its requirements
- To gain insights on the four facets/pillars of the Sustainable University
- To share experience and successful practices in the field of ESD

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### Target group

The capacity building activity is targeted to administrative and academic staff of Moroccan Universities.

The background level of the trainees is expected to be of intermediate/beginner level.

### Methodology and Structure

The workshop is intended to be participatory and interactive, making use of learning tools such as

- Pre-course assignment (tbc)
- Interactive presentations
- Group work
- Quizzes
- Site visits (tbc)
- Case studies

### Language

The working language will be English and French (with simultaneous interpretation)

#### The course will be a contribution to the

#### Mediterranean Strategy on Education for Sustainable Development

**SCOPE** This Strategy is a contribution to the achievement of Education for All Goals and of Quality Education and in line with the Framework for an Implementation Scheme for the UN Decade of Education for Sustainable Development developed by UNESCO. The Strategy was inspired by and has utilized the UNECE Strategy for ESD (2005) and is fully compatible with it, so that its philosophy and implementation does not present any inconsistencies to the countries which have already adopted the former.

The first draft of the Strategy was developed by the University of Athens/UNESCO Chair on Management and Education for Sustainable Development. During the Horizon 2020 Training “*Revisiting University Curricula: are the H2020 priority areas appropriately reflected?*” (Athens, 12 & 13 December 2011) this first draft was revised by university professors and ministries officers from 18 Mediterranean countries. The second draft that resulted was reviewed during the 4<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Network of the Mediterranean Universities for sustainable development focusing on ESD (December 2012), thus producing the third draft of the Strategy

**NEXT STEPS** A Horizon 2020 working meeting among international ESD experts is foreseen to take place in Croatia (June 2013) in order to review the third draft and prepare the fourth (and final) draft. The Ministerial meeting for the Strategy’s official presentation and adoption is going to be organized by the Prince Albert II of Monaco Foundation in Monaco, under the patronage of HSH Prince Albert II in October 2013.

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