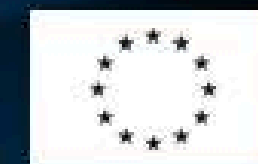




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REPORT

PRIMA's Participation in the 10th World Water Forum
Bali, Indonesia (18-25 May 2024)



INTRO



PRIMA at World Water Forum

The Partnership for Research and Innovation in the Mediterranean Area (PRIMA) actively participated in the 10th World Water Forum (WWF), held from 18-25 May 2024 in Bali, Indonesia. The event, renowned as the world's largest gathering on water issues, provided a significant platform for PRIMA to showcase its initiatives, exchange knowledge, and collaborate with global stakeholders.

The world's largest gathering in the water sector

With over 20,000 participants, the forum brought together 1,300 official delegations from 172 countries, 56 ministries, and 2,000 journalists. The Forum, which includes a comprehensive three-year cycle of preparation, event, and synthesis phases, attracts a diverse array of participants from politics, academia, civil society, and the private sector. Attendance has grown significantly over the years, now drawing tens of thousands of participants.

Objectives

The objective of PRIMA's participation is to:

- 1) highlight the importance of PRIMA-funded projects in sustainable water management and the WEFE Nexus in the Mediterranean, solidifying the program's authority and recognition as the leading research and innovation initiative between European and non-European countries
- 2) foster collaborations with international organizations and stakeholders
- 3) contribute to global discussions in regional processes and various side events, achieving visibility on both regional and global scales, positioning PRIMA as a prime example of successful cooperative research and innovation efforts.

PRIMA's contribution

PRIMA's presence at the World Water Forum in Bali featured multiple high-level panel interventions, participation in Mediterranean Regional processes, and a series of side events.

3 PRIMA projects were represented by partners: SURE NEXUS, CICLICA, and WATER4MED.



1 High Level Panel



2 of the 6 Mediterranean Regional Processes



8 side events



PRIMA's World Water Forum Calendar

Monday 20 May

Side event

SD-WISHES Workshop Extreme water events and indigenous peoples

Organized by:
SD-WISHES project

Side event

Ancestral Hydro Technologies: A Major Contributor to Climate Adaptation and Mitigation and Link to Nexus WEFE

Organized by:
UPC - UNESCO



Tuesday 21 May

Regional Process

RM1: WEFE Nexus

Organized by:
Mediterranean Water
Institute (IME)

Side event

Hidrotecnologías Ancestrales como Respuesta a la Emergencia Climática, Sanitaria y Alimentaria

Organized by: UPC,
UNESCO, STP CODIA
spanish



Wednesday 22 May

High Level Panel

HLP 10 Worldwide Observatory for Non-Conventional Water Resources & Renewable Energy

Organized by: IME,
AQUAFEED, FAO

Regional Process

RM6 Digitalization and new solutions for rational water use

Organized by: Aix
Marseilles University

Side event

SE 34 Charting the Future of Freshwater Ecosystems: Success Stories, Collaboration, and Financing for Conservation and Restoration

Organized by:
Foundation Prince Albert
II de Monaco

Side event

WEFE approach through Indigenous and Local Knowledge as a response for Climate and Food Emergencies

Organized by: UNESCO

Thursday 23 May

Side event

“Iniciativas para la aceleración del ODS 6 en el espacio iberoamericano”

Organized by: UNESCO

Side event

Advancing Scientific Research Solutions in Water Resources Management to Support Food Security in the Mediterranean Region: Challenges and Perspectives of Collaboration

Organized by: PRIMA
projects CICALICA and
Water4Med (Algerian
partners - Univ Khemis
Miliana)



Friday 24 May

Side event

SE28 Water-Food- Energy-Carbon Nexus for Sustainable Development

Organized by:
NCWU (North China
University of Water)

Side event

Australian Pavilion

PRIMA was invited to
share its experiences
with Australia, a region
facing similar
environmental and
edaphic conditions



**PRIMA projects
presented**

HIGH LEVEL PANEL 10: WORLDWIDE OBSERVATORY FOR NON-CONVENTIONAL WATER RESOURCES & RENEWABLE ENERGY

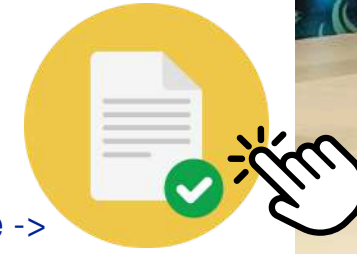
Organized by Institut Méditerranéen de l'Eau, AQUAFEED and FAO | 22 May

Attended by ~200 persons

Objective: Facilitate dialogue between ministers on non-conventional water resources and renewable energies, focusing on regional cooperation, necessary governance, and financial challenges. Outcomes include shared knowledge, potential regional cooperation, and guidance for the World Water Council's Task Force on an Observatory.

PRIMA's contribution: Presentation of PRIMA as funding programme, highlighting its role in the Mediterranean + sharing insights on the observatory

Concept note available ->



HE M. Hani Sewilam - Egyptian Minister of Water Resources and Irrigation



Mr. Loïc Fauchon - President of the World Water Council

RM1: Regional Mediterranean Process on the WEFE Nexus

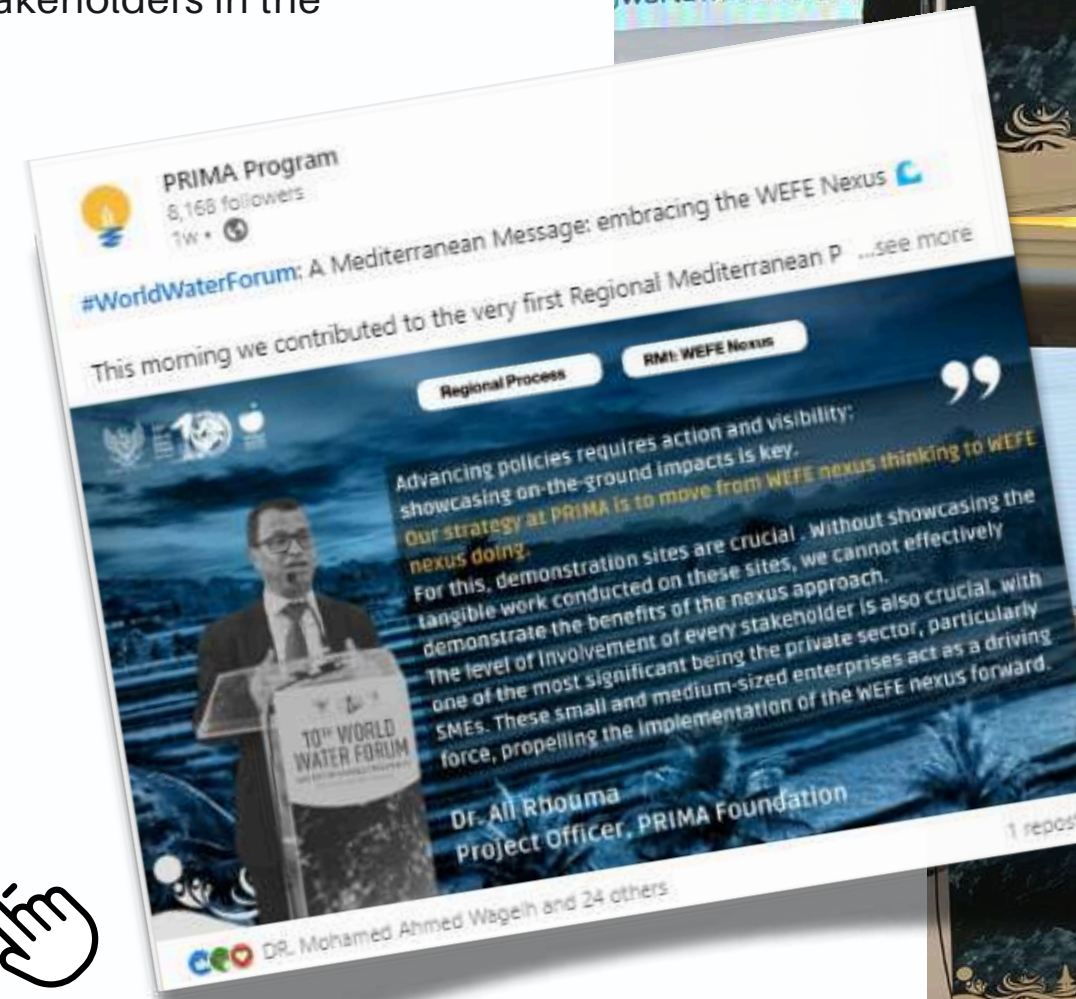
Organized by IME | 21 May

The objective of this regional process is to discuss how to scale up pilot projects and overcome existing obstacles—technological, regulatory, cultural, financial, etc.—in the Mediterranean. It aims to integrate the Water-Energy-Food-Ecosystems (WEFE) Nexus into sectoral planning and policies. PRIMA showcased the implementation of WEFE Nexus solutions, demonstrating their economic, social, and environmental benefits. This integration helps align policies and strategies. An essential component of the funded projects (12 funded projects, along with others addressing the Nexus approach in various thematic areas) is the active involvement of stakeholders in the demonstration sites.

PRIMA Key insights:

- 🌍 Showcasing on-the-ground impacts is key.
- 💡 PRIMA's strategy is to transition from WEFE nexus thinking to WEFE nexus doing.
- 📍 Demonstration sites are crucial for this transition.
- 🤝 The involvement of every stakeholder is crucial, especially the private sector.
- 🚀 SMEs are significant drivers in implementing the WEFE nexus.

Attended by ~100 persons (room for 160 persons)



RM6: Regional Mediterranean Process on Digitalization and New Solutions for Rational Water Use

Organized by Aix Marseilles University | 22 May

Focus on: Digitalization. How to prioritize innovations, technological and regulatory solutions.

PRIMA underscored the importance of innovative digital solutions implemented by its projects. PRIMA presented recommendations on leveraging these solutions for alert systems and highlighted the significance of digital twins in applying WEFE Nexus solutions.

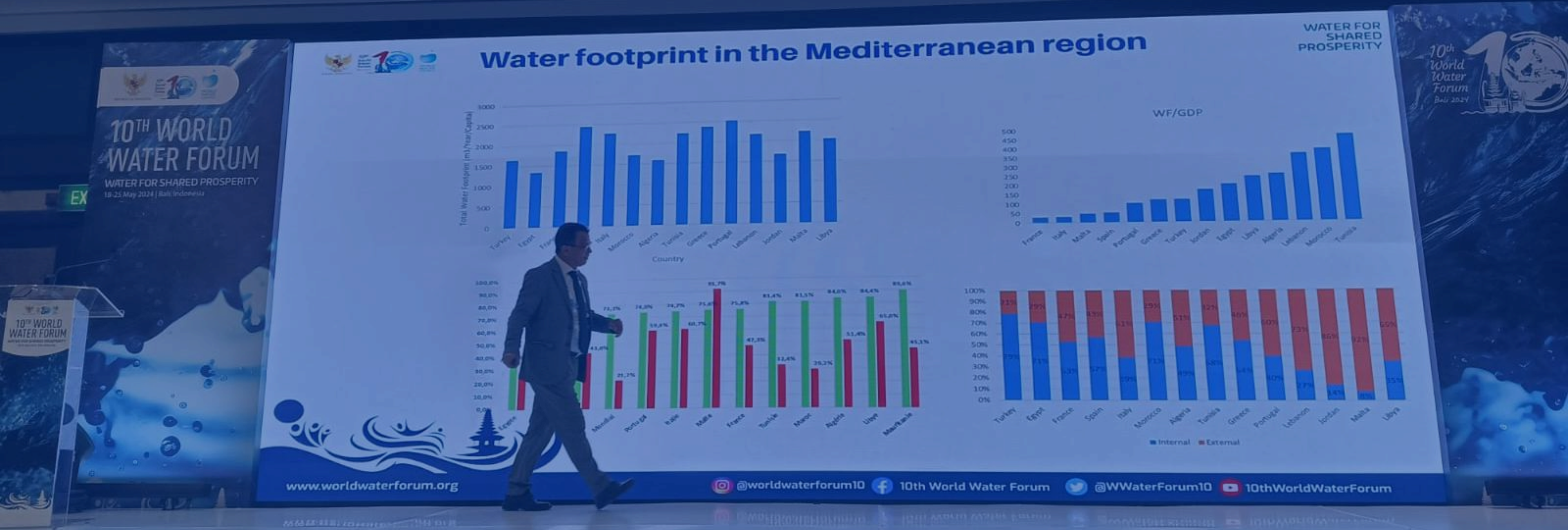
At PRIMA, we are deploying efforts in digitalization within Water and the WEFE Nexus, with 28 projects involving 262 partners, with a total budget of €49M.

Attended by ~100 persons (room for 160 persons)



SIDE EVENTS

PRIMA actively participated in eight side events organized in various pavilions and meeting rooms during the forum.





Monday 20 May

SD-WISHES Workshop
Extreme water events and indigenous peoples

WATER4ALL PAVILION

SD-WISHES workshop

Can Cultural Heritage and Nature-Based Solutions (NBS) pave the way for effective climate adaptation and mitigation?

Side event on Cultural Heritage and [#NatureBasedSolutions](#) (NBS), organized by the [EU Project SD-WISHEES](#) at the [Water4All - Partnership](#) pavilion.

As a partner in the SD-Wishes project, PRIMA presented examples of nature-based solutions and lessons learned from funded projects, demonstrating advanced innovation pathways.

SD-WISHEES, a consortium including PRIMA, collaborates with Research Funding Organisations in Europe and beyond to explore innovation pathways for climate adaptation and the barriers to new investment in this area.

Attended by ~25 persons



Ancestral Hydro Technologies: A Major Contributor to Climate Adaptation and Mitigation and Link to Nexus WEFEE

Can ancestral hydro technologies provide a viable solution for today's climate challenges and fit seamlessly into the modern WEFEE Nexus approach?

Organized by UNESCO | Italian Pavilion

During this session, PRIMA emphasized:

- The necessity of integrating ancestral hydrotechnologies into cross-sectoral policies.
- Coupling these nature-based solutions with new technologies.
- The potential of research and innovation to scale up these solutions and demonstrate their economic viability to investors through business models.

Attended by ~20 persons





Hidrotecnologías Ancestrales como Respuesta a la Emergencia Climática, Sanitaria y Alimentaria

Can ancestral hydro technologies provide a viable solution for today's climate challenges and fit seamlessly into the modern WEF Nexus approach?

Organized by UPC, UNESCO, STP CODIA | Spanish Pavilion

Session in Spanish

During this session, PRIMA emphasized:

- The necessity of integrating ancestral hydrotechnologies into cross-sectoral policies.
- Coupling these nature-based solutions with new technologies.
- The potential of research and innovation to scale up these solutions and demonstrate their economic viability to investors through business models.

Attended by ~20 persons





Charting the Future of Freshwater Ecosystems: Success Stories, Collaboration, and Financing for Conservation and Restoration

Organized by Foundation Prince Albert II de Monaco | Room Kintamami

PRIMA showcased its efforts in protecting freshwater ecosystems, particularly through projects aimed at preserving green water via agroecology practices. PRIMA also highlighted the importance of considering ecosystems as a crucial component in WEFE projects and presented two success stories from funded projects.

Attended by ~90 persons (room capacity 160 persons)





WEFE approach through Indigenous and Local Knowledge as a response for Climate and Food Emergencies

Organized by UNESCO | UNESCO Pavilion

Ali Rhouma presented: "The Water - Energy -Food - Ecosystem Nexus: Current Issues and Future Challenges", highlighting examples of nature-based solutions that could be combined with ancestral hydrotechnologies and indigenous practices. These solutions could be further valued by the WEFE Nexus community of practice.

Attended by ~15 persons





Iniciativas para la aceleración del ODS 6 en el espacio iberoamericano

Organized by UNESCO | Spanish Pavilion

Session in Spanish

Side event showcasing initiatives to accelerate SDG 6 in the **Ibero-American region**.

Representatives from the Conference of Ibero-American Water Directors (CODIA), whose Permanent Technical Secretariat is housed in MITECO, participated in the event.

PRIMA was asked to present its experience in the Mediterranean, challenges, and lessons learned as a program. Among the conclusions drawn were the following points:

- Mediterranean countries face common challenges and must find common solutions, acting alone does not resolve the problems.
- PRIMA has facilitated the expansion of a critical mass.
- For the program's success, it is essential to have a strict and well-structured evaluation process.
- Other important themes highlighted include SME involvement in all projects, interoperability of different systems (alignment of national regulations and policies), a multi-actor approach with stakeholder engagement, the importance of demonstration sites, gender mainstreaming, the WEFE Nexus concept, and the importance of dissemination and exploitation of project results/project clustering.

Attended by ~20 persons

Thursday 23 May

Success from the Mediterranean Region

Australian Pavilion

PRIMA showcased at the Australian Pavilion

PRIMA was recognized as a success story in the Mediterranean and was invited to share its experiences with Australia, a region facing similar environmental and edaphic conditions, including challenges such as water scarcity, water salinity, and desertification.

Objective: positioning PRIMA as a prime example of successful cooperative research and innovation efforts in the Mediterranean

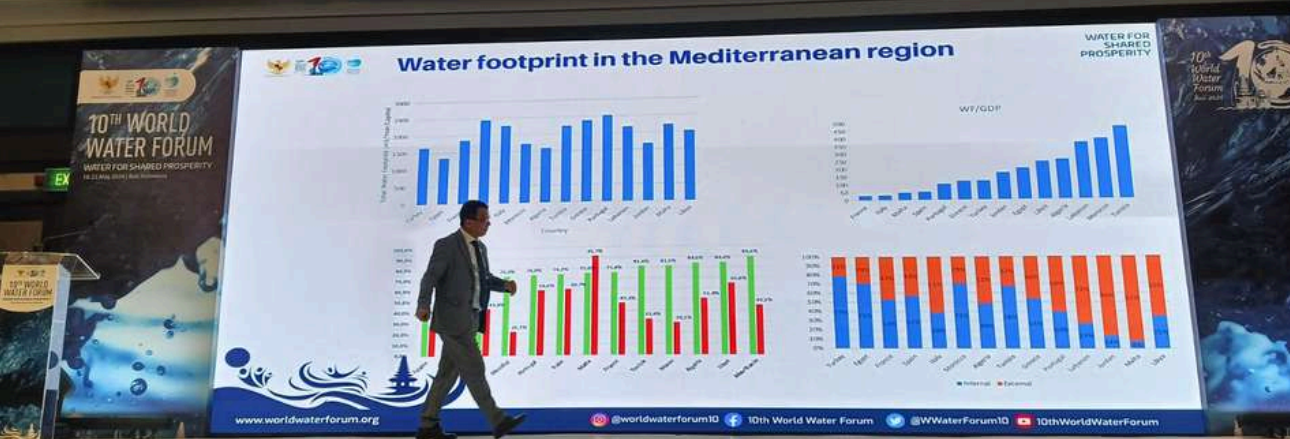
Water-Food-Energy-Carbon Nexus for Sustainable Development

Organized by North China University of Water Resources and Electric Power | Room BICC

PRIMA was invited by the university's president, Professor Liu Junguo. PRIMA presented the program and focused on the relationship between the water footprint and the WEFE Nexus.

When speaking about footprint, there is a debate between two opinions: water footprint VS Life Cycle Assessment (LCA) footprint, creating conflict/disagreement between them. Water footprint focuses on volume, while LCA considers environmental impact and multiple factors. The nexus can reconcile both perspectives. Ali showcased this challenge and explained the two concepts.

Attended by ~90 persons



EVENTS ORGANIZED BY PRIMA PROJECTS





PRIMA PROJECTS

PRIMA was invited to participate in two significant events organized by three of its notable projects: SureNexus, Ciclica, and WaterMed4.0.

These events provided a valuable platform for PRIMA to emphasize the critical importance of the pilot projects and demonstrations conducted in Mediterranean countries.

PRIMA highlighted that these projects serve as vital testbeds for innovative water management/WEFE Nexus solutions, showcasing their practical applications and benefits in real-world scenarios.

By focusing on the tangible outcomes and successes of these pilot projects, PRIMA underscored the necessity of replicating and scaling up these solutions across the broader Mediterranean region.

This approach is essential for maximizing the impact and effectiveness of these initiatives in addressing the region's unique and pressing water management challenges.

PRIMA's active participation and advocacy in these events reinforce the importance of collaborative efforts and knowledge sharing in advancing sustainable water management/WEFE Nexus practices.

This commitment to scalability and regional cooperation is pivotal in ensuring that innovative solutions can be adapted and implemented on a larger scale, thereby contributing to the overall sustainability and resilience of resources in the Mediterranean region.





**BILATERAL
MEETINGS**



During the forum, PRIMA engaged in bilateral meetings with ministries and international organizations to raise awareness about the program's accomplishments and the imperative for scaling up its initiatives. Among all the meetings:

In a meeting with the Minister of Agriculture of Tunisia

Discussions centered on highlighting the program's significance for Tunisia and the need to demonstrate the tangible benefits of the implemented solutions.

A meeting with the Hydraulic Resources and Irrigation Ministry of Algeria

Focused on enhancing Algerian team participation and fostering South-South collaboration.

Meeting with Hani Sewilam - Egyptian Minister of Water Resources and Irrigation

Dialogue with the Water4All team

primarily explored the synergy between the two programs and fostering networking among their respective funded projects.

A meeting with the Secretary-General of the Water Arab Council

aimed at fostering collaboration in implementing WEF Nexus solutions in the Arab region. Discussions also emphasized the role of the AWC in mainstreaming these solutions into cross-sectoral policies.

These meetings not only reinforced PRIMA's partnerships but also highlighted its commitment to fostering regional cooperation and addressing water management challenges across the Mediterranean basin.

PARTICIPATION IN THE ELABORATION OF THE RECOMMENDATION FOR THE REGIONAL PROCESS

PRIMA proposed several key recommendations, which were included in the synthesis session organized on May 23, 2024:

- Importance of Innovative Digital Solutions: Emphasizing the critical role of innovative digital solutions in water management and the implementation of WEF Nexus solutions.
- Consideration of Cybersecurity: Highlighting the need for robust cybersecurity measures in water management solutions to ensure data integrity and protection.
- Policy Translation and Water Footprint: Advocating for the translation of WEF Nexus solutions into actionable policies and the use of the water footprint as a tool to shape and inform these policies.

SYNTHESIS SESSION
Asia Pacific, Mediterranean
23 May 2024 | Bali, Indonesia

The background of the slide is a faded photograph of a man in a suit and glasses speaking into a microphone at a press event. To the left, there is a blue graphic overlay with the text 'PRIMA's main outcomes'. The graphic also includes a circular logo for the '10th World Water Forum' and a stylized globe. The text is in a bold, blue, sans-serif font.

PRIMA's main outcomes

PRIMA's participation in the 10th WWF was instrumental in advancing its mission to promote sustainable water management and WEFE Nexus in the Mediterranean.

By engaging with a diverse array of stakeholders, PRIMA not only showcased its achievements but also reinforced its commitment to addressing global water/WEFE Nexus challenges through innovation and collaboration.

PRIMA's participation in the 10th World Water Forum enhanced its visibility, highlighting its achievements in sustainable water management and WEFE Nexus implementation. It facilitated the establishment of new connections and reinforced existing partnerships with key stakeholders, while also enabling valuable knowledge exchange with international experts.

The recommendations included in the forum's declaration are set to feed into the topics of future calls to be launched by PRIMA, driving further innovation and collaboration in the field of sustainable water management and WEFE Nexus.

Main outcomes for the Mediterranean Region

- The announcement of the creation of the Observatory of Non-Conventional Water Resources and dedicated Renewable Energies.
- The announcement of the **6MWF in Rome**, extended to Europe in 2026.
- Several responses relating to the prevention of drought and flood risks, cross-border hydro-diplomacy to conflicts of use, the WEF E nexus with the presentation of the Provençal model, review the analysis of demand based on uses / water mix by 2050.
- The development of digital technologies and water-saving solutions and finally financing solutions extended to the private sector with a large water footprint which must face the "water risk" associated with:
- The creation of the alliance of donors to create a Global Fund for access to Water by Region of the World, with the Mediterranean offering to be a pilot.

Main outcomes of the World Water Forum

MINISTERIAL DECLARATION ON “WATER
FOR SHARED PROSPERITY”
THE 10th WORLD WATER FORUM
BALI, INDONESIA, 20-21 MAY 2024

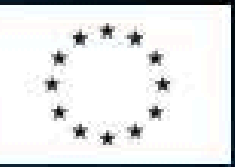
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COMPENDIUM OF CONCRETE
DELIVERABLES AND ACTIONS
MINISTERIAL DECLARATION 10TH
WORLD WATER FORUM
BALI, 21 MAY 2024

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THANK YOU

