

UNEP/MED WG.522/4

Mediterranean Coastal Zones: Managing the Water-Energy-Food and Ecosystems Nexus Child Project 2.2

Methodology



Mediterranean
Action Plan
Barcelona
Convention



2.2

Mediterranean Coastal Zones:
Managing the Water-Food-Energy
and Ecosystem NEXUS"

A System Thinking for Integrated Natural Resources Governance in the Source to Sea Continuum

The Water-Energy-Food-Ecosystems (WEFE) Nexus approach is essentially about moving beyond a traditional sectoral/fragmented thinking and adopting an integrated and coordinated approach across sectors for the management of natural resources by reconciling the potentially conflicting interests of different sectors and stakeholders that may even compete for the same resources. Moreover, the Nexus represents a promising vehicle for promoting considerations on cross-cutting issues e.g. gender, stakeholder engagement, rights, poverty, transboundary cooperation, etc.

In a “Source-to-Sea” context (spatial integration through identifying the causes and the solutions of interlinked challenges faced within and beyond the coastal zone) the project seeks to:

- understand the interlinkages among the Nexus sectors and related issues;
- identify solutions, as means to address selected issues fostering water-food-energy security, reduction of land-based nutrient pollution and other pressures, protection of coastal habitats and biodiversity and climate change resilience;
- test novel approaches for addressing management issues and work to upscale these.
- support development of Nexus Strategies and Action Plans as part of existing or upcoming plans and strategies e.g. ICZM plans and strategies
- develop bankable projects that respond to priority solutions/interventions addressing pressing issues identified.