

Building the leadership for Nature-based Solutions for Coastal and Marine Ecosystems



Beach Potami in island Samos in Greece _ Josef Bosak

Tuesday 6th June 2023, 16:15 – 18:00 CEST

Hybrid event held at the European Parliament (Room ASP 5G1) & online

Hosted by MEP Catherine Chabaud

**Co-Chair of the 'Ocean Governance WG' of the
European Parliament Intergroup on 'Climate Change, Biodiversity and Sustainable Development'**

Ecosystems, particularly coastal blue carbon systems, have great potential to mediate for Nature-based Solutions (NbS) to address social, cultural, economic, health and environmental challenges caused by climate change as they provide numerous ecosystem services. NbS can contribute towards a green recovery, one that is resilient and sustainable. Currently in the Mediterranean, many efforts are taking place to fill the missing gaps to promote the inclusion of blue carbon ecosystems in the climate finance mechanisms, encouraging and promoting the value of NbS from the coastal and marine environment to address climate challenges while conserving biodiversity.

The current European Commission has set up a high level of environmental ambition with the Green Deal, in relation with climate and on biodiversity. Nature-based solutions are a very helpful tool in this context, and they can have a high potential in the marine environment. Building on the momentum towards increasing efforts NbS for people, biodiversity and climate and to demonstrate the potential of NbS to address our global challenges, this event aims to discuss on the pathways for mainstreaming importance of blue carbon ecosystem and NbS into the current and future EU decision-making, policy processes, and climate finance mechanisms, as well as help to build a network of NbS practitioners and build leadership at the EU and Mediterranean regional levels.

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FINAL AGENDA:

*The event will be moderated by **Mercedes Muñoz Cañas**,
Marine Biodiversity and Blue Economy Programme Manager, IUCN Centre for Mediterranean Cooperation*

- 16:15 – 16:25** Opening remarks by **MEP Catherine Chabaud**
- 16:25 – 16:35** Presentation by **Yaprak Arda**, Marine Programme Officer, and **Diarmaid Ó Cuanacháin**, Junior Policy Officer, IUCN
- 16:35 – 17:10** Panel discussion with the participation of:
- **Humberto Delgado Rosa**, Director of Dir. D on 'Biodiversity', DG ENV, European Commission
 - **François Guerquin**, Director of Plan Bleu Regional Activity Centre (on behalf of UNEP/MAP Barcelona Convention)
 - **Maria Soledad**, Project Coordinator of LIFE - Blue Natura, Junta de Andalucía
 - **Imen Zribi**, Faculty of Sciences of Tunis and Tunisian Association of Taxonomy
- 17:10 – 17:50** Q&A session with the audience
- 17:50 – 18:00** Closing remarks by **MEP Catherine Chabaud**