

Welcome!

CIRCLE is a European Networking project aiming at implementing a European Research Area (ERA) in the field of climate change and adaptation research. The aim of CIRCLE is to establish cooperation among national programmes of European countries in the field of climate change impacts and adaptation research. This will be done by promoting information exchange, alignment of research agenda's and the setting out of trans-national research calls.

In this issue...

The Newsletter provides information on the CIRCLE ERA-Net Mediterranean group (CIRCLE-MED) activities. This first issue is an introduction to CIRCLE-MED. Upcoming issues published approximately every three months, will provide information on the progress of activities, and will integrate articles by researchers or policy makers focusing on particular aspects of impacts and adaptation to climate change in the Mediterranean context.

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CIRCLE-MED Newsletter
Edition : Marie Mojaïsky
VERSeau Développement
859 rue Jean-François Breton
34093 Montpellier – France
mojaïsky@verseaudeveloppement.com
Tél. : +33 4 67 61 29 43

What is CIRCLE MED?

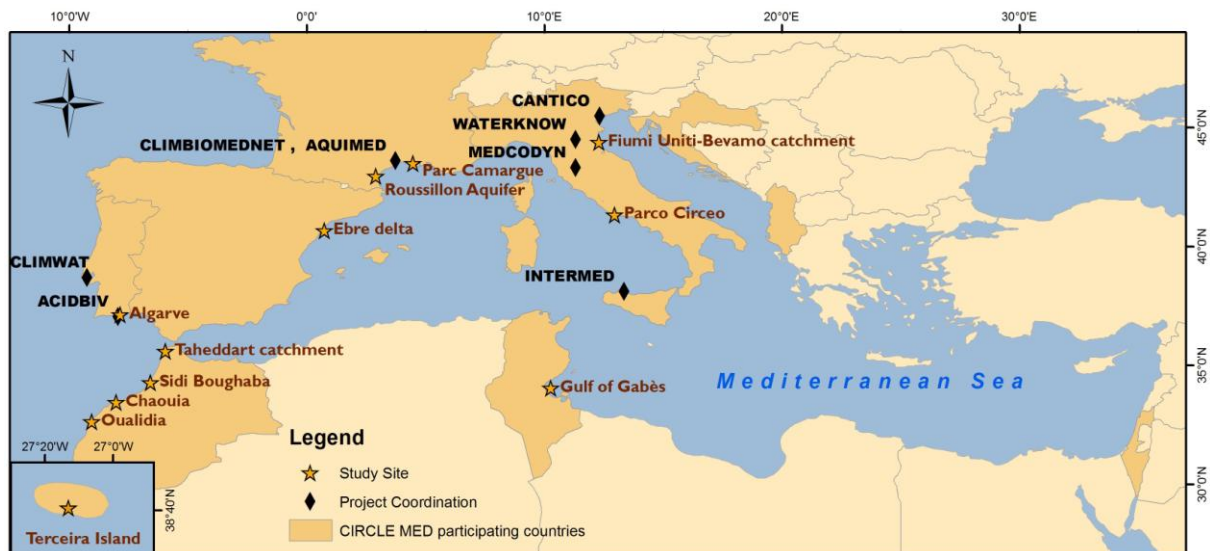
CIRCLE-MED is a geographical group in the frame of [CIRCLE ERA-Net](#). It addresses issues of common interest to the Mediterranean countries. It aims at creating a Mediterranean research community network through collaborative research projects on Climate Change Impact Research, with the objective to bring the results of this research to policy and decision-makers. The first CIRCLE-MED pilot joint call is dedicated to **integrated coastal zone management and water management**. ([see Call Text](#)). Eight projects were selected for a total budget of 1,65 M€ and associating research bodies from France, Italy, Portugal, Spain, Israel, Morocco, Tunisia, Croatia, and Albania.

The funding partners (Call Steering Committee) of this CIRCLE MED pilot joint call are:

France:	Ministry of Ecology, Energy, Sustainable Development and Territorial Planning
Spain (Galicia):	Regional Ministry of Innovation and Industry of the Galician Government
Israel:	Ministry of Environment Protection
Italy:	Italian Ministry for Environment, Land and Sea
Portugal:	Foundation for Science and Technology

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CIRCLE-MED projects



Note that not all projects have determined their study sites yet.

ACIDBIV:

The integrated impacts of marine acidification, temperature and precipitation changes on bivalve coastal biodiversity and fisheries: how to adapt?

Partners: **Centre of Marine Sciences of Algarve (Portugal)**; **Consejo Superior de Investigaciones Científicas (Spain)**; **Department of Biology - University of Padova (Italy)**; **Faculty of Science of Bizerta (Tunisia)**

Contact: Ichichar@ualg.pt

AQUIMED:

Participatory design of adaptive groundwater management strategies and instruments in Mediterranean coastal water scarce areas as a response to climate change.

Partners: **Cirad (France)**; **SOCIUS (Portugal)**; **BRGM (France)**; **Cemagref (France)**; **Ecole Nationale d'Agriculture (Morocco)**

Contact: faysse@cirad.fr

CANTICO:

Climate and local ANthro-pogenic drivers and impacts for the Tunisian COastal area.

Partners: **Centro Euro-Mediterraneo per i Cambiamenti Climatici (Italy)**; **Météo-France – CNRM (France)**; **Institut National des Sciences et Technologies de la Mer (Tunisia)**; **Israel Oceanographic & Limnological Research (Israel)**; **Istituto Nazionale di Oceanografia e Geofisica Sperimentale (Italy)**; **Institut Pierre Simon Laplace, CNRS (France)**

Contact: fsantoro@unive.it

CLIMBIOMEDNET:

Climate change influence on biodiversity, goods and services of Mediterranean lagoons.

Partners: **Laboratoire "Ecosystèmes lagunaires", Univ. of Montpellier (France)**; **Dip. Scienze e Tecnologia Biologiche ed Ambientali, Univ. of Salento (Italy)**; **Dep. De Ecología y Biología Animal, Univ. of Vigo**

(Spain); **Dept. of Biotechnologies, Tirana Univ. (Albania)**; **Lab. Ecosystèmes et Ressources Aquatiques, INA (Tunisia)**

Contact: mouillot@univ-montp2.fr

CLIMWAT:

Assessing and managing the impact of climate change on coastal groundwater resources and dependent ecosystems.

Partners: **CVRM/Geo Systems Centre, Instituto Superior Técnico (Portugal)**; **Fundação de Faculdade de Ciências e Tecnologia, Dept. de Ciências e Engenharia do Ambiente (Portugal)**; **Dept. de Technologia da Construção da Coruña (Spain)**; **Faculté des Sciences Semlalia, Université Cadi Ayyad (Morocco)**

Contact: luis.ribeiro@ist.utl.pt

INTERMED:

The impact of climate change on Mediterranean intertidal communities: losses in coastal ecosystem integrity and services.

Partners: **Animal Biology Dept., Univ. of Palermo (Italy)**; *Recanati Institute for Maritime Studies, Univ. of Haifa (Israel)*; *Dept. of Aquaculture, Univ. of Dubrovnik (Croatia)*
Contact: gsara@unipa.it

MEDCODYN:

Climate change impacts in transitional water systems in the Mediterranean.

Partners: **Dipt. Di Scienze e Technologie Chimiche e dei Bioistemi, Univ. of Siena (Italy)**; *Consiglio per la Ricerca e la Sperimentazione in Agricoltura, Laboratorio Centrale di Idrobiologia (Italy)*; *La Tour du Valat (France)*, *Univ. Aïn Chock of Casablanca (Morocco)*
Contact: rossi@unisi.it

WATERKNOW:

Integrated Water Management in Coastal Drainage Basins: challenges and adaptation strategies within

the framework of climate change.

Partners: **Alma Mater Studiorum, Univ. of Bologna, CIRSA (Italy)**; *Univ. des Sciences et Technologies de Lille, Labo. Territoire, Ville, Environnement, Sociétés (France)*; *Dept. de Ciencias Agrarias da Universidade dos Açores, (Portugal)*; *Ecole nationale Forestières d'Ingénieurs (Morocco)*
Contact: m.antonellini@unibo.it

CIRCLE MED Coordination

The French Ministry of Ecology, Energy, Sustainable Development and Territorial Planning, leader of the MED geographical group in CIRCLE ERA-Net, subcontracted the coordination of the Pilot Joint Call to the [Association VERSeau Développement](#).

The tasks of VERSeau are to facilitate the exchange of information between the projects themselves and between the projects and the policy makers, as well as to support the promotion of CIRCLE-MED.

Policy Issues: Climate Change Impact and Adaptation

Principal Climate Change Impact and Adaptation policy issues covered in a way or another by the projects will be used to provide guidance and inputs to policy makers. In the CIRCLE-MED projects the following climate change impact issues and climate change adaptation issues were identified:

Impact issues: Ecological Status of Water, Ecological Response to Climate Change, Socio-Economic Response to Climate Change; Adaptation issues: Integrated water management, regional planning, risks management/vulnerability assessment, stakeholders participation, coastal ecosystem management, water use efficiency in agriculture, aquaculture management.

Joint Call Kick-off Meeting

The kick off meeting of the CIRCLE MED joint call took place in the premises of the Italian Ministry for Environment, Land and Sea **in Rome on 13-14 November 2008**. The meeting gathered representatives from the eight selected projects, the funding partners' Call Steering Committee, the Scientific Advisory Board, CIRCLE ERA-Net, and the CIRCLE-MED Coordinating unit. The projects

presentations were followed by intensive discussions on possible synergies between some of the projects, and on issues and facilities of common interest such as the climate scenarios that should be used, indicators and databases development. Special sections will be dedicated to these issues in the CIRCLE MED website. ([Kick-off meeting presentations and minutes](#))

CIRCLE MED Website (www.circle-med.net)

The CIRCLE-MED website is online. This website is a major tool to build a CIRCLE-MED community, to share information between and with the projects on issues of common interest, and to provide policy makers relevant

information on the policy issues raised by the projects. It will also be a tool to follow the projects progresses and achievements. The first discussion on the website will be dedicated to the use of climate scenarios by the projects.

Calendar of Events

Calendar of CIRCLE MED events

5-6 March 2009, Lisbon, Portugal, CLIMWAT Kick off meeting,
9-10 March 2009, [INTERMED Workshop](#) and kick off meeting in Palermo, Italy: "The impact of climate change on Mediterranean intertidal communities: losses in coastal ecosystem integrity and services",
14-16 March 2009, Tanger, Morocco, WATERKNOW meeting to define issues in the Taheddart basin,
End of June 2009, Sidi Boughaba, Morocco, MEDCODYN project meeting,
31 Aug-1 Sept 2009, Ravenna, Italy, WATERKNOW project meeting,
9-10 Sept.2009, Vienna, Austria, CIRCLE ERA-Net Final Conference,
7-9 Oct.2009, Tunisia, CANTICO project Meeting,
Nov 2009, Portugal, CIRCLE MED Call Mid-Term Meeting (to be confirmed).

Other events

10-12 March 2009 Copenhagen, [International scientific congress -CLIMATE CHANGE - Global Risks, Challenges & Decisions](#) ,
12-13 March 2009, Brussels, [Conference on Climate Change Adaptation and Water](#),
16-22 March 2009, Istanbul, Turkey, [5th World Water Forum](#),
18-20 March 2009, Bologna, Italy, [CIRCE project](#), 2nd Year General Assembly,

25-27 March, 2009, Tübingen, Germany, [AQUATERRA project Final Conference](#),
19-24 April 2009, Vienna, Austria, European Geosciences Union, General Assembly, [EGU 2009](#),
20-21 May 2009, Norwich, UK, the Geological Society: [Ground Water Recharge Assessment](#),
28-29 May 2009, Brussels, Belgium, [Final STRIVER Conference: Integrated water resource management in theory and practice](#),
31 august – 4 Sept 2009, WMO, Geneva, Third World Climate Conference (WCC-3),
21-24 Sept 2009, Bratislava, Slovakia, [2nd International Conference Biohydrology 2009: A changing climate for biology and soil hydrology interactions](#),
29-30 Sept 2009, Lille, France, [The Water Framework Directive: emerging water management challenges](#),
10-12 Nov. 2009 – Hamburg, Germany, [Acqua Alta](#), Conference and exhibition on Consequences of Climate Change and Flood Protection,
12-14 Nov 2009, Agadir, Maroc, [The Integration of Sustainable Agriculture and Rural Development in the Context of Climate Change, the Energy Crisis and Food Insecurity](#)
16-20 Nov. 2009 – Final Symposium of [ENSEMBLES](#) FP6 project (climate change predictions),
30 Nov – 11 Dec 2009, [COP 15 Copenhagen](#)
14-18 Dec 2009, Montpellier, France, 4th European Conference on Coastal Lagoons Research.