



Institute for Sustainable  
Development and  
International Relations



## **Circe first stakeholder meeting Paris, 18-19 October 2007**

### **PLACE**

The meeting will take place at Sciences Po, Salle Goguel, 4th floor  
56, rue des Saints Pères  
75006 Paris  
Metro Saint-Germain-des-Prés, Line 4

### **AGENDA**

#### **Thursday 18 October**

**09:00 – 09:30 REGISTRATION OF PARTICIPANTS / WELCOME COFFEE**

**09:30 – 10:15 INTRODUCTION**

Welcome address and meeting introduction by Laurence Tubiana, IDDRI, co-chair of Circe Executive Board

The CIRCE project: origin, context, framework and objectives, by Antonio Navarra, INGV, co-chair of Circe Executive Board

**10:15 – 18:00 SESSION 1: BUSINESS MODELS, SECTOR-WIDE TRANSITIONS AND SOCIO-ECONOMIC IRREVERSIBILITIES: IS THERE ROOM FOR MANOEUVRE?**

This question will be examined in light of three sectors of activities that are widely recognized in the Mediterranean to be (i) key economic sectors; (ii) significant GHG emitters; (iii) potentially severely impacted by climate change; and (iv) characterized by a development path that has until now often contributed to reducing their own resilience as well as the whole society's. Beyond each sector's specificities, and in a context of limited water availability, discussions will address sustainability of prevailing business models, possible sector-wide transitions, socio-economic irreversibilities, room for manoeuvre and knowledge gaps.

**10:15 – 12:00 Subsession 1a: Agriculture and rural development**

Mediterranean agriculture, and the rural societies who directly depend on it, will in most cases be adversely affected by climate change. Water resources management is of particular concern, especially with the many unsustainable practices taking place in a scarcity context. Obviously, such practices not only depend on local patterns, but to a large extent on European markets and policies which represent major drivers and incentives. Does the sector actually have significant leeway to adapt? Or is it too constrained by competition among water

users and by socio-economic barriers, from the local to the international level? How could these be removed? What would be the social cost of such a transition? Can Mediterranean partners aim at an optimum allocation of productions based on needs, resources, etc.? Does research address such challenges appropriately?

Presentation: Laurence Tubiana, Director, IDDRI

Panel discussion: Ana Iglesias, Universidad Politecnica de Madrid  
Joseph Racapé, Movement for Agricultural and Rural Solidarity (MARS)  
Mordechai Shechter, University of Haifa

Discussion with the floor

#### **12:00 – 14:00 Lunch break**

#### **14:00 – 15:45 Subsession 1b: Energy**

A large share of Mediterranean countries energy production is “intrinsicly” unsustainable, firstly because it relies on limited fossil resources. In addition, climate change may affect the energy sector in the Mediterranean in at least three ways: (i) it can modify energy consumption patterns; (ii) it directly impacts most types of energy production (wind, solar, but also nuclear, etc.: lower river flow may affect energy production in dry seasons due to the inability to cool power plant); (iii) and mitigation objectives can only be achieved if the energy production model is changed. What are the associated threats and opportunities for access to and production of energy? What is needed to substantially improve the production of energy from renewable sources? How realistic is it to envision a new energy production model for the Mediterranean, including linking the south to the north coast with high voltage electric power lines? Under which conditions may social, economic and climate objectives be met at the same time?

Presentation: Houda Ben Jannet Allal, Deputy Director, Observatoire Méditerranéen de l’Energie

Panel discussion: Michel Colombier, IDDRI  
Stéphane Quefelec, Blue Plan  
Roberto Roson, Fondazione Eni Enrico Mattei  
Benoît Lebot, UNDP-GEF Arab States

Discussion with the floor

#### **15:45 – 16:15 Coffee break**

#### **16:15 – 18:00 Subsession 1c: Tourism**

Tourism has grown as a major activity for many of the 21 Mediterranean countries. However, it has developed on a resource-intensive “3-s model” (sea, sun and sand) that is clearly not sustainable. Today, tourism is one of the few activities that is extremely vulnerable and at the same time a major GHG emitter. With this in view, tourist destinations respective competitiveness will be reshuffled, driven by three factors: (i) the direct impact of climate change on tourists comfort; (ii) the indirect impact of resources availability, especially water; (iii) and the even more indirect impact of climate change mitigation policies that could heavily disrupt a sector based on mass coastal tourism and cheap air transport. Does such a sector

have opportunities to adapt? Under which conditions? Can better on-site environmental management (water, energy, ...) make a significant difference? Is the 3-s model bound to remain the prevailing segment in the medium to long term? Can tourism industry and destinations afford it? What is needed from research?

Presentation: Jean-Paul Céron, Professor, University of Limoges

Panel discussion: Etienne Pauchant, Mediterranean Travel Association  
Filio Triandafillidou, Greek Ministry of Tourism;

Discussion with the floor

**18:00 CIRCE Executive Board meeting**

**20:30 Dinner at “Les Editeurs”, 4 carrefour de l'Odéon**

## Friday 19 October

### 09:00 – 13:00 **SESSION 2: SUCCEEDING WHERE WE FAILED: CAN THE CLIMATE CHALLENGE BE TURNED INTO AN OPPORTUNITY?**

Applying this question to coastal and marine ecosystems protection on one hand, and to urban and regional planning on the other hand, this session discusses three overarching concerns: (i) How big a challenge climate change represents for these issues? To what extent are adaptation / vulnerability reduction technically possible? (ii) Can the challenge be translated into an opportunity to implement fundamental and long-needed changes that we have largely remained unable to implement over the last decades?

#### 09:00 – 10:45 **Subsession 2a: Coastal and terrestrial ecosystems**

Mediterranean coastal and terrestrial ecosystems are facing accelerated degradation trends. Fast economic development over the last few decades has placed increasing pressure on habitats and natural resources, while efforts to protect them have remained insufficient, achieving at best limited success at limited scales. Whereas climate change is usually considered an additional threat to Mediterranean ecosystems, it also reinforces the need for better management in order to improve their resilience and to sustain the provision of a number of critical ecosystem services. How can the threat be then turned into an opportunity? Can climate change, as a rising social-political concern, help advocate for nature protection and create the window of opportunity for efficient environmental policies to be – finally – implemented? What kind of research could support such a process?

Presentation: Margarita Astrálaga, Director, IUCN Centre for Mediterranean Cooperation

Panel discussion: Holger Hoff, Potsdam Institute for Climate Impact Research  
Jean Jalbert, Tour du Valat  
Christoph Stein, WWF Mediterranean Programme

Discussion with the floor

#### 10:45 – 11:15 **Coffee break**

#### 11:15 – 13:00 **Subsession 2b: Urban and regional planning**

Since the early 1960s, the littoralisation of populations and economic activities has been the most spectacular trend in Mediterranean urban and regional development. On top of the environmental issues such a trend generates, effects of climate change (e.g. sea-level rise) lead to reconsider whether this as an acceptable, or in any case irreversible, trend. Climate change also questions the way Mediterranean cities and buildings are designed. When the coastline moves backwards, do we have alternatives beyond dykes and resettlement? Can regional planning policies provide sustainable development options that are socially acceptable? How can adaptation efforts help manage disaster risk and reduce urban vulnerability while improving the balance of regional development?

Presentation: Lucien Chabason, President of Blue Plan and former Coordinator, Mediterranean Action Plan

Panel discussion: Christos Giannakopoulos, National Observatory of Athens  
Jacques Hayward, Veolia  
Farid Yaker, Enda-Europe

Discussion with the floor

**13:00 – 14:30 Lunch break**

**14:30 – 16:00 CONCLUSION**

*Panellists will subjectively synthesize the key points/messages with regard to their own position:*

Agnes Allansdottir, Professor, University of Siena: Public perception of science

Henry Marty-Gauquié, Director, Relations with International Organisations and Representative in Paris, European Investment Bank

Clare Goodess, Senior research Associate, University of East Anglia, and Hubert Kieken, Iddri, will conclude and explain how the discussions reinforce / challenge Circe and what they think would be an appropriate follow-up

