



## **WP13.5 - Sustainable strategies for the Mediterranean Region**

### ***Responsible***

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### ***Total project description***

The objectives of this Work Package are to provide actor-oriented synthesis of CIRCE results and outcomes; and policy recommendations on the threats and opportunities related to climate change in the Mediterranean region. This WP will explore integrated approaches that emphasise the use of information on climate risks and opportunities in decision making. This integrated approach acknowledges that future socio-economic dynamics and development may act in synergy or challenge climate change-driven policies. Accordingly, the vulnerability assessment and management developed in this WP will integrate from the outset the relevant socio-economic dynamics studied in RL12 with the *scenario* of climate change impacts developed in other CIRCE research lines. Recommendations for action will be based on the “adaptive capacity” of public and private actors encompassing the simultaneous assessment of :

1. The resilience to climate changes of fundamental trends shaping development;
2. The impact of development dynamics for reducing or increasing the vulnerability to climate changes;
3. The implementation of necessary additional adaptation measures where climate change impacts can not be smoothed and vulnerability can not be reduced.

The combination of the 3 above dimensions of the integrated assessment provide the framework for developing sustainability criteria related to climate change. This approach is a generalization of the one developed in WP13.4 for touristic coastal areas through the adaptation of Tourism Carrying Capacity to climate change issues. Specific attention will be brought to irreversibility thresholds for ecosystems or activities which can be affected by climate impacts.

This WP will provide the conceptual framework for implementing this “sustainability criteria”. This framework will provide concepts and approaches to:

1. To identify how the threats and opportunities related to climate change might affect planning for existing or future development policies and dynamics in the Mediterranean region;
2. Build up actor-oriented integrated responses addressing threats and harnessing opportunities.

This framework approach will be implemented in a 3 steps process to:

- Treat on a hierarchical basis the sustainability issues related to climate change identified by the CIRCE project for different region, sectors and land-use;
- Develop strategies and development *scenario* addressing the highest priority issues;
- Discuss, improve and disseminate these strategies with relevant stakeholders and decision makers to improve their relevance for decision making.

Induced recommendations will in particular be drawn for policies related to agriculture sector, health, urban development and management of natural ecosystems. They will be developed in parallel with

stakeholder dialogues involving researchers and relevant stakeholders and decision-makers from the whole Mediterranean area.