



PRESS INFORMATION

The Blue Plan publishes two new documents of its collection « Blue Plan Notes »

Sophia-Antipolis, 26 January 2009 –The Blue Plan announces the publication of two new « Blue Plan Notes » about impacts of climate change in the Mediterranean : *Strategies for integrated water and energy resources management to address climate change and Solutions hinge on energy efficiency and renewable forms of energy.*

Blue Plan Notes (4 pages) sums up in a nutshell the state of play on a given issue, allowing the reader to quickly form an opinion. These notes are uploaded but also printed. www.planbleu.org

The Mediterranean, especially its southern and eastern banks, will be particularly affected by climate change during the 21st century . The impact of higher temperatures, less rainfall, an increase in the number and intensity of extreme events and the possible rise in sea-levels are adding up and intensifying the pressures being exerted on the natural environment as a result of human activity. What will be the consequences and the measures to limit these impacts ? these questions have been approached in a study lead by the Blue Plan and European Investment Bank (EIB) about “climate change and energy in the Mediterranean”.

The two new notes published by the Blue Plan widely draw one’s inspiration from this study to document and focus on links between climate change effects, energy and water.

The first note focuses on water resources and their decrease. The projected decrease in water resources should lead to a fall in power production in the Southern and Eastern Mediterranean countries. At the same time, the energy needs for water should increase. In such a context, the "water-energy" systems of the Mediterranean countries will have to adapt. http://www.planbleu.org/publications/4p_eau_energieUK.pdf

The second note make a focus on energy and climate change. Energy lies at the very heart of the climate change issue. On the one hand, it is the sector with the highest greenhouse gas emissions, and on the other hand with an important increase of the demand from the need to adapt to the effects of climate change. Energy efficiency and renewables can provide a response to these constraints by diversifying the energy mix in favor of low carbon emission technologies. http://www.planbleu.org/publications/4p_energie_climUK.pdf

About the Blue Plan

The Blue Plan acts as a think tank and Mediterranean Observatory for the Environment and Sustainable Development and since 1977 has been a United Nations Environment Programme/Mediterranean Action Plan (UNEP/MAP) Regional Activity Centre, set up, financed and run by the twenty one riparian states and the European Community, which are all Parties to the Barcelona

Convention on the protection of the marine environment and coastal region of the Mediterranean. Its aim, as defined by the inter-governmental conference held in Split in 1977, is to develop regional cooperation in order to build up and make available a fund of knowledge intended to facilitate the implementation of sustained and environmentally friendly development. Under MAP's aegis, the Blue Plan produces prospective analyses on the environment and development, acts as a Mediterranean sustainable development observatory and is the main support centre for the Mediterranean Commission on Sustainable Development (MCSD).

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