



## **PRESS INFORMATION**

### **The Blue Plan is publishing a new document on “Mediterranean agriculture: toward adaptation to climate change”**

**Sophia-Antipolis, August 31th, 2009 - the Blue Plan announces the publication of a new « Blue Plan Notes » that reflects the current state of play of the Mediterranean agriculture and its adaptation to climate change.**

The Mediterranean basin is one of the most vulnerable regions to the foreseen impacts of climate change. Agriculture will be one of the most seriously affected economic sectors, the countries of the Southern and Eastern rims of the Mediterranean are likely to be the most severely hit. On local level, the environment's and populations' capacity for resilience seems to be the keyword of the medium-term adaptive solutions. On regional level, the increasing food dependence and the disintegration of agricultural societies and economies are two challenges which call for a further strengthening of Mediterranean cooperation around the agricultural issue.

This new Blue Plan « 4 pages » focuses on the growing environmental pressure being exerted as well as on trends and the solutions and adaptations to the forecasted climate change. It concludes on the importance of policies' implementation including, for instance, national strategies of adaptation.

The **Blue Plan Notes** are 4 page documents which briefly sum up the state of play on a given issue, thus allowing the reader to rapidly form an opinion. The notes are available in paper form in both English and French, but can also be accessed on the Blue Plan website. [www.planbleu.org](http://www.planbleu.org)

#### **About the Blue Plan**

The Blue Plan, a think-tank and Mediterranean Observatory for the Environment and Sustainable Development, is one of the Regional Activity Centres for the United Nations Environment Programme/Mediterranean Action Plan (UNEP/MAP). It was set up and is funded and led by the riparian states and the European Community. Its aim as defined by the inter-governmental conference held in Split in 1977, is to develop regional cooperation in order to set up and make available a fund of knowledge intended to facilitate the implementation of sustained environmentally- friendly development. The Blue Plan produces prospective analyses of the environment and development, acts as a Mediterranean observatory for sustainable development, and is the main support centre for the Mediterranean Commission on Sustainable Development (MCSD).

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