

Environment in the Mediterranean

Context

- The Mediterranean Sea has a natural heritage of an exceptional diversity.
- In the North and in the South of the Mediterranean Sea, development is carried out in a way that depletes natural resources.
- Hence environmental risks are numerous in the mediterranean region: they concern water, the soil, the forests, the coast and the sea.
- In the long term, the environment could become an impediment to the economic development of the mediterranean region.

Impact of the free-trade zone

- Increased pressure on the environment due to the development of the economic, touristic and transport activities.
- On the other hand, the environment could become an element for differentiating the mediterranean world from the other large economic and touristic regions of the world.

Stakes and axes of co-operation

Stake 1 - To make the environment an essential component of the euro-mediterranean partnership

Axis 1.1 Implementation of a MEDA-Environment segment integrated into the economic segment of the partnership

Axis 2.2 Creation of a Mediterranean Programme within the European Environment Agency

Stake 2 - To pool the means of intervention, of investigation and of alarm to meet the polling of risks

Axis 2.1 Implementation of a transnational system of maritime protection and security.

Stake 3 - To promote an integrated approach for the regional strategies and policies

Axis 3.1 Creation of a network of land and maritime protected zones in the Mediterranean region

Axis 3.2 Protection and valorization of the mediterranean forest

Axis 3.3 Creation of an information system on the mediterranean environment.

Stake 4 - To valorize the environmental assets of the mediterranean region

Axis 4.1 Development of sustainable tourism

Stake 5 - To develop environmental co-operation with the South

Axis 5.1 Co-operation on the water resource issue.