

# The Mediterranean a biodiversity hotspot

**SoED**  
2020

State of the Environment and  
Development in the Mediterranean

**Rich biodiversity under threat**

The Mediterranean hosts up to

**18%**

of the marine species known in  
the world and 17,000 marine species  
in just 0.3% of the ocean volume.

Highest rate of endemism in the world:  
20-30% of marine species are endemic



The emblematic *Posidonia oceanica* has  
experienced a 30% decline over a period of  
50 years and its functional extinction is likely  
by 2100 (no-action scenario)

**30%**



At least **78** marine species  
and **168** coastal  
endangered  
species



**1,000**

non-indigenous marine  
species in the Mediterranean,  
10% of which are invasive



**41%**

decrease in marine predators  
(including mammals)



**9%**

Only  
of the marine area is officially  
protected and only 10% of these  
sites implement management plans

**48%**

of wetland habitats have  
disappeared since 1970

**78%**

of assessed fish stocks  
are overexploited



## Loss of biodiversity

means loss of services rendered  
by ecosystems: protection against  
erosion, water purification, flood  
and drought mitigation, food supply,  
pollination, carbon storage, cultural  
and recreational services,...



**#SustainableMED**

To consult the full report on the State of the Environment and Development in the Mediterranean and its information sources : [www.planbleu.org/soed](http://www.planbleu.org/soed)