



BARCELONA CONVENTION  
**COP24**  
CAIRO 2025 القاهرة

# COP 24 · Cairo · Egypt

2 · 5 December 2025

#COP24Med



Mediterranean  
Action Plan  
Barcelona  
Convention





Plan Bleu participated in the COP24 of the Barcelona Convention, held from 2 to 5 December 2025 in Cairo. Present throughout the event, the organization attended several side events focusing on biodiversity, climate, the blue economy, and governance. Plan Bleu also took part in the celebration of the 50th anniversary of MAP/UNEP, marking a key moment of cooperation in the Mediterranean.

The updated Mediterranean Strategy for Sustainable Development (MSSD) for the period 2026–2035 supports regional public policies for climate change adaptation, the conservation of marine resources, and the financing of the transition toward more sustainable economies.

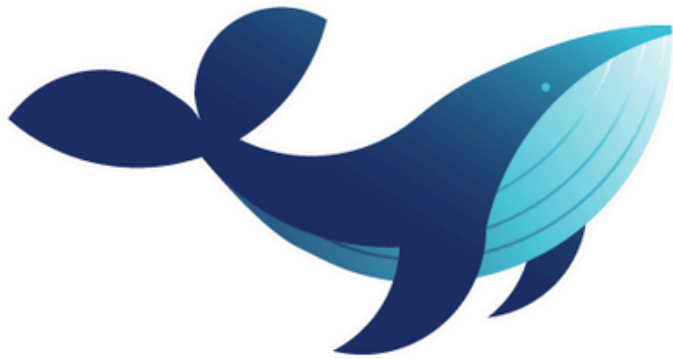
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## Celebration of the 50th Anniversary of the Barcelona Convention

COP24 celebrated half a century of Mediterranean cooperation for the protection of the sea and the coastline, bringing together Contracting Parties, institutional partners, and Regional Activity Centres in a powerful moment of recognition and mobilization.





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## Conservation of Sharks and Rays: Study on the Gulf of Sirte (Libya)

Plan Bleu presented the findings of a socio-economic study revealing significant interactions between fishers and protected species, paving the way for progressive conservation scenarios that reconcile species protection with the resilience of coastal communities.

Étude de l'impact socio-économique  
de la mise en œuvre de mesures de  
conservation des espèces  
cartilagineuses dans le golfe de Syrte,  
Libye







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## Scientific Coordination for the Global Biodiversity Framework

Plan Bleu took part in a side event dedicated to strengthening scientific support for the implementation of the Global Biodiversity Framework. The event highlighted the three new Technical and Scientific Support Centres (TSSCs), their areas of intervention, their level of operationalization, and the initial pathways for coordination in the Mediterranean.





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## Coastal Challenges & Sustainable Finance

Plan Bleu highlighted the role of economic tools and harmonized data in reducing pressures on coastal areas, particularly in light of the rising costs of invasive alien species and the erosion of coastal ecosystems.





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## **From Science to Action: Cooperation for Priority Species and Habitats**

This side event highlighted three major initiatives (ASI-II, LIFE MareNatura, and the Mediterranean Posidonia Network) aimed at expanding scientific knowledge and strengthening the restoration and protection of Mediterranean marine ecosystems.







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## Science, Education and Cooperation for the Environmental Transition

Plan Bleu reaffirmed its role as the science–policy interface within the UNEP/MAP system, transforming data and analyses into strategic recommendations to inform environmental decision-making in Mediterranean countries.





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## Implementation and Monitoring of the Mediterranean Strategy for Sustainable Development (2026–2035)

Plan Bleu presented the ten key sustainability indicators and the Mediterranean Observatory, essential tools to ensure regular monitoring of the revised Mediterranean Strategy for Sustainable Development.



[Learn more](#)



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## Flagship Initiative “Blue Tourism”

The MSSD “Blue Tourism” Initiative promotes a sustainable tourism model to address increasing pressures on Mediterranean coastal areas. It encourages innovative blue economy practices. Plan Bleu reiterated its key role in implementing this initiative, which is essential for translating the MSSD into concrete actions across the region.







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## Ministerial Session: Sustainable Blue Economy

High-level interventions emphasized the importance of developing resilient, inclusive maritime activities that are compatible with ecosystem protection, at the heart of the blue transition in the Mediterranean.

