

**SPAIN AND THE REGION OF MURCIA AS LEADERS
OF SUSTAINABLE WATER MANAGEMENT IN THE
MEDITERRANEAN:
*NEW EUROPEAN CALLS FOR PROPOSALS
FOR TERRITORIAL COOPERATION***

Murcia

14th January 2025

9:30-14.00

Salón de Actos del Museo Arqueológico de Murcia
Avenida Alfonso X el Sabio, 7
30008 Murcia

INTRODUCTION

In a context where droughts are becoming more extreme and efficient water management is becoming more crucial, the Region of Murcia is emerging as a talent hub where innovative solutions in this field are being developed. Meanwhile, **the European Union has launched several territorial cooperation programmes** that open calls for proposals to fund projects in efficient water management.

To address these challenges, **the Region of Murcia is organising a conference on 14 January 2025** with three main purposes:

1. Get to know these programmes, their calls for proposals and the opportunities they offer.
2. Give voice to those technicians, researchers and entities from the Region of Murcia that work in water management, so that they can share their competences and experience in these European projects.
3. Serve as a meeting platform for all those attending the meeting - in person or online - to exchange ideas and establish partnerships for the new call for green transition projects of the Interreg NEXT MED Programme and other European territorial cooperation programmes inside Interreg.

The conference is hybrid: *physically in Spanish and online in English* with simultaneous interpretation, the online version is exclusively aimed at registered participants from the different countries included in the Mediterranean area of the European programmes to be covered.

AGENDA

Moderator, Alejandro Lafarga, Interreg NEXT MED Programme.

9.00 – 9.30 Registration.

9.30 – 10.00 Institutional Welcome.

- **Ricardo Sánchez-Blanco Codorníu**, Deputy Director General for EU External Relations and Trade, Secretary of State for the European Union. Ministry of Foreign Affairs, European Union and Cooperation.
- **Adrián Zittelli**, Director General of the European Union of the Region of Murcia.
- **José Sandoval**, Director General of Water of the Region of Murcia.
- **Raquel Aguado**. Director-General for Representation to the European Union of the Valencia Region

10:00 – 10:30 Water challenges in the Mediterranean and most urgent steps to move towards a more sustainable water management. **Pedro Simón**, Sanitation and Depuration Entity of the Region of Murcia –ESAMUR.

10:30 – 10.50 Interreg NEXT MED Programme: opportunities in the framework of the call for projects for green transition - **Vincent Ernoux**, Coordinator Branch Office for the Water Mediterranean Interreg NEXT MED Programme.

10.50 – 11.10 Other European territorial cooperation programmes and initiatives financing water-related actions in the Mediterranean

- Interreg Programmes: **Elena Barrios Barcia**, Senior Technical Advisor. DG for European Funds. Ministry of Finance.
- PRIMA programme: **Marco Orlando**, Project Manager, Water.

11.10 – 11.40 Coffee break

11.40 -13.50 Mediterranean Exchanges: Presentation of examples of projects led or in which entities from the Region of Murcia and Spain have participated, as well as other countries of the Mediterranean, reactions from the on-line audience. Exchanges of ideas, contact among possible future partners, project proposals and the introduction of the BlueMissionMed Project (Horizon Europe CSA) by Francesco Camonita, Policy and Project officer at the CPMR CPRM-CIM.

Moderated by INTERREG NEXT MED.

13.50 -14.00 Closing Representative of the Region of Murcia.