

9 October 2023

ARLEM Activity Report

2023

With the change of mandate at the last plenary session at the end of 2022, the Euro-Mediterranean Regional and Local Assembly (ARLEM) started its work on its main priorities that were identified in the newly adopted ARLEM action plan 2023-2025. The desperate need for climate action in the Mediterranean, and the necessity of focusing on energy and food security, were once more brought into sharp relief by the devastating wildfires that ravaged the three shores of the Mediterranean in the summer of 2023.

1. Inclusive cities

- **4 May 2023, Zagreb, Croatia:** ARLEM rapporteur Abdelaziz Derouiche presented the main findings of ARLEM's draft report on *Urban health and sustainable urban mobility in the Mediterranean* at the UfM Ministerial meeting on urban development.
- **30 January 2023, online:** The ARLEM secretariat attended the meeting of the UfM Senior Official's (SOM) to prepare the third UfM ministerial meeting on urban development.
- **12 June 2023, Barcelona, Spain:** Enzo Bianco represented ARLEM at the Med Cat Days 2023: Revising the Euro-Mediterranean transformative agenda, together, organised by the Government of Catalonia and IE Med.

2. Climate action in the Mediterranean

- **22 September 2023, Marseille, France:** ARLEM alternate member Marie-Antoinette Maupertuis (EA/FR) and ARLEM members Fokion Zaimis (CPMR-CIM) and Omar Moro (president of the Tangier Tétouan Al-Hoceima Region, Morocco) participated as speakers during the first roundtable on "Advocacy for a Mediterranean Macroregion" at the 6th edition of the conference "Mediterrannée du Futur".

Other activities

- **March-September 2023:** The ARLEM secretariat worked with the UfM secretariat and the Anna Lindt Foundation on the preparation and launch of the First edition of the Mediterranean Capitals of Culture and Dialogue, which will take place in 2025. ARLEM was associated with the launch, in May 2023, of the first call for applications, being one of three institutions forming the MCCD's Advisory Committee (open until 30 September 2023). The two first Capitals of Culture and Dialogue will be announced during the 8th Regional Forum of the 43 UfM Foreign Ministers (27 November 2023). ARLEM, together with the UfM and the Anna Lindh Foundation, will support the two capitals through their respective communication teams.
- **22 June, Brussels, Belgium (hybrid):** The Evaluation Committee of the 2023 edition of the ARLEM Award – Young local entrepreneurship in the Mediterranean met to determine the shortlist after receiving 32 applications from eleven countries. The Evaluation Committee is composed of representatives from the European Commission, the UfM Secretariat, the European Training Foundation, the Joint Research Centre, the IMC-CPMR, MedCities, Eurochambres and ANIMA Invest (the NGO "Womenpreneur" was not represented this year) and is chaired by the CoR.
- **23 March 2023, Strasbourg, France:** ARLEM member Christophe Rouillon participated in the bureau and the Executive Committee of the Council of Europe's North-South Centre.

- **7 July, online:** ARLEM co-president Ahmad Al Khazali met representatives of the EEAS and of the European Commission's DG NEAR to discuss his role as ARLEM co-president, as well as EU projects and programmes in the Mediterranean.
- **30 November – 1 December, Brussels, Belgium:** ARLEM members participated in the Forum of Cities and Regions for International Partnerships.

ARLEM statutory meetings 2023

- **25 April, Rabat, Morocco:** 9th meeting of ARLEM's Commission for Sustainable Territorial Development
 - **23 October, Alghero, Italy:** 28th meeting of the ARLEM Bureau
 - **23-24 October, Alghero, Italy:** 14th ARLEM plenary session
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