

Source-to-Sea action for Healthy Rivers and a Clean and Healthy Ocean

16 April 2024, 15.00-15.50, Multifunctional Room 1

Co-organizers: Hellenic Ministry of Environment and Energy, Global Environment Facility (GEF), Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), UNESCO's Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC-UNESCO), Global Water Partnership (GWP), Stockholm International Water Institute (SIWI).

Source-to-sea management is an approach that assists in balancing social, environmental, and economic priorities by recognizing the linkages between land, freshwater, coastal and marine ecosystems, and bringing together upstream and downstream stakeholders across sectors to collaborate on managing healthy ecosystems. The need for integrated solutions across the source to sea continuum is getting growing recognition by countries and international organizations.

The Healthy Rivers Healthy Ocean Programme under the UN Water Action Agenda and the UN Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development aims to develop and implement systemic actions that take into account the freshwater-marine interdependencies.

The Clean and Healthy Ocean Integrated Program (CHO-IP) is a global initiative to address the growing threat of marine hypoxia. Working from the source -in land systems where the causes of marine pressures lie- to the sea, the Program aims to reduce nutrient pollution, restore degraded ecosystems, and promote sustainable practices to protect our oceans. With about USD 110.000.000 in GEF funding and USD 748.000.000 of associated co-financing, the CHO-IP represents a strong commitment by its Partners to address marine nutrient pollution and hypoxia.

This event will discuss opportunities and challenges to increase the political and financial investment in holistic source-to-sea management to address marine pollution caused by land-based sources, especially nutrient pollution that lead to extensive marine zones suffering from hypoxia. This event bridges the 2024 Our Ocean Conference with the UN 2023 Water Conference; the event builds on the outcomes and recommendations of the side event "Source-to-sea collaboration: A game changer for the whole water cycle" organized during the UN Water Conference in 2023 by a group of countries and stakeholders under the leadership of the Hellenic Ministry of Environment and Energy.



SIDE EVENT AGENDA

Moderator: Dimitris Faloutsos, Deputy Coordinator Transboundary water cooperation, Global Water Partnership

| | |
|---------------|--|
| 15.00 – 15.10 | <p>Welcome/Introductory points</p> <p>Petros Varelidis, Secretary General of Natural Environment and Waters, Hellenic Ministry of Environment and Energy</p> <p>Michael Scoullou, Chair GWP-Med/ Professor Emeritus of Environmental Chemistry and Oceanography, University of Athens</p> |
| 15.10 – 15.15 | <p>Announcement of a commitment</p> <p>Andrew Hume, Senior Environmental Specialist, International Waters Focal Area Coordinator, Global Environment Facility</p> |
| 15.15 – 15.40 | <p>Moderated panel discussion</p> <p>Andrew Hume, Senior Environmental Specialist, International Waters Focal Area Coordinator, Global Environment Facility</p> <p>Lorenzo Galbiati, International Waters Lead, GEF Unit, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations</p> <p>Konstantina Toli, Project Coordinator, Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission of UNESCO</p> |



| | |
|---------------|---|
| | José Pablo Murillo , Programme Officer, Stockholm International Water Institute |
| 15.40 – 15.50 | Audience Q&A Key takeaways Dimitris Faloutsos , Deputy Coordinator Transboundary water cooperation, Global Water Partnership |