

Workshop WEFE Nexus Solutions & Tools

— Agenda





WEFE Nexus Solutions and Tools Workshop
Venue: Center For Mediterranean Architecture

[Link to Venue](#)

Location: Chania Crete, Greece

March 4-6, 2026

The objective of the workshop is to present the outcomes of WEFE Nexus related PRIMA, HORIZON and INTERREG projects and prepare a policy brief that will synthesize the results of these projects and propose a viable alternative for the operationalization and scaling up of the WEFE Nexus.

Framing Questions

1. Do we have the tools to assess all the components of the WEFE Nexus in an integrated way?
2. Does science provide innovative solutions to address the challenges of resource security, desertification and climate change impacts successfully?
3. Are the socio-ecological approaches effective in engaging stakeholders to adapt the solutions?
4. What are the inherent barriers in scaling up solutions and implementing policies that lead to resource security, environmental sustainability and improving the wellbeing of people?

Day 1 | Wednesday March 4th, 2026

Session 1 | WEFE Nexus Tools



9.00 - 9.05	Welcome - Nikos Nikolaidis (TUC)
9.05 - 9.10	Greetings - Nikolaos Xylouris, Deputy Governor for the Environment (Region of Crete)
9.10-9.20	Operationalizing the WEFE Nexus - Ali Rhouma (PRIMA Foundation) - Online
9.20-9.30	On the EU Water Resilience Strategy - Jann Martinsohn, (JRC) - Online
9.30 -9.40	Setting the Scene - Nikos Nikolaidis (TUC)

9.40-10.00	The role of integrated models in fostering transformative change in LTSER regions, <i>Veronika Gaube (IRISCC)</i> - Online
10.00-10.20	A water balance model using satellite data, <i>Jose Piqueras (NexusLabs)</i>
10.20 -10.40	Participatory System Dynamics Modelling as a tool for operationalizing the WEFE Nexus, <i>Virginia Rosa Coletta, Laura Selicato, Alessandro Pagano, and Raffaele Giordano (NexusLabs)</i>
10.40-11.10	Coffee Break
11.10 - 11.30	Soil Health Monitoring and Information Systems for Sustainable Soil Management in the Mediterranean Region, <i>Claudio Zucca (SOILS4MED)</i>
11.30 - 11.50	Application of the techno-agro-economic model MYWAS-VALUE in Israel and Palestine, <i>Ami Reznik, Iddo Kan, Anan Jayuosi, Shaddad Attili (EcoFuture)</i>
11.50 - 12.10	Solutions for Combating Land Degradation and Desertification, <i>Giovanna Seddaiu and Anna Crescenti (MONALISA)</i>

Day 1 | Wednesday March 4th, 2026

Session 2 | WEFE Nexus Solutions - Demonstration Pilots



12.10 - 12.30	Bridging policy silos: governance challenges and opportunities in the WEFE nexus of non-EU PRIMA partner countries, <i>Gertrud Buchenrieder</i> (FrontAgNexus) - Online	15.00 -15.20	The Asterousia Case study in Crete, Greece, <i>Afroditi Kardamaki, Ioannis Manakos, Xanthi Chantzistrountsiou, Lefteris Bitzilekis, Popi Baxevani, Alexandros Spyropoulos, Christos Xagoraris and Michalis Probonas</i> (MONALISA)
12.30 - 14.00	Lunch + Photo	15.20 - 15.50	Coffee Break
14.00 - 14.20	Designing a research infrastructure to facilitate place-based transformative change, <i>Daniel Orenstein</i> (eLTER-PLUS)	15.50 - 16.10	Scaling carbon farming solutions for a resilient Mediterranean, <i>Carlos Alberto Torres Guerrero, Roberta Farina, Tomaz Gorenc, Ricardo Beck, Ema Midzic, Nikolaos P. Nikolaidis, Joan Colon,</i> (INTERREG - CarbonFarming MED)
14.20 - 14.40	The challenge of implementing sponge measures at landscape scale for a climate resilient future, <i>Andreas Panagopoulos, Vassilios Pisinaras, Anna Chatzi, Thanos Giannakakis</i> (SPONGEWORKS)	16.10 - 16.30	Palestine Case Study: Stakeholder Engagement around the irrigation with treated wastewater for agriculture, <i>Aqeel Aqeel and Anna Crescenti</i> (MONALISA)
14.40 - 15.00	Dry-stone check dams in Paros Island: a traditional sponge measure to mitigate floods and droughts, <i>Thanos Giannakakis</i> (Spongescape)	16.30 - 16.50	Israeli pilot demonstrations in Kibbutz Nir David and Eden Farm Agricultural R&D Station, <i>David Lehrer, Jozsef Kadar, Shlomo Wald</i> (EcoFuture)

Day 2 | Thursday March 5th, 2026

Session 3 | WEFE Nexus Stakeholder Engagement Approaches

9.00 - 9.30	Keynote: Soil-based Business Models, Panos Panagos (Soil Mission, JRC) - Online
9.30 - 9.50	Towards Equitable and Multisectoral Water Management at the Edge, <i>Seifeddine Jomaa, Amir Rouhani, Michael Rode, Daniele Secci, Nadim K. Copty, George P. Karatzas, J. Jaime Gómez-Hernández (OurMED)</i>
9.50 - 10.10	Engaging Stakeholders in a Shared Commitment to Land Stewardship and the Restoration of Mediterranean Agro-Ecosystems, <i>Yiannis Daliakopoulos, - Irene Christoforidi (React4MED)</i>
10.10 - 10.30	Co-Designing Soil Carbon Services – Because Nobody Wants a Service Designed in a Bubble, <i>Mariana Salgado, Ville Kasurinen and Maiju Tiiri (IRISCC)</i>

10.30 - 11.00	Coffee Break
11.00 - 11.20	Living Labs as tools for advancing carbon-farming, <i>Ori Ben Herzal and Daniel Orenstein (Lilas4Soils)</i>
11.20 - 11.40	Beyond Sectoral Integration: Theoretical Foundations of the WEFE Nexus as a framework for Systemic Governance, <i>Georgios Kleftodimos, Georgios Vlontzos, Paolo Prospero, Seyed-Ali Hosseini-Yekani, Amelie Bourceret, Fadi Abdelradi, Matteo Formichi, Ghofrane Trabelsi, Hatem Belhouchette (DIONYSUS)</i>
11.40 - 12.00	A socio-ecological approach to combat desertification in Jordan valley – Strategic Planning for Jordan and Palestine, <i>Nikolaos Nikolaidis, Maria Lilli, Stelios Rozakis, Katerina Troullaki, Evelina Koukianaki, Abeer Albalawneh, Safa Aljaafreh, Maram al Naimat, Raha Al-Rkebat, Luma Hamdi, Suleiman Halasah, Anan Jayousi, Ashraf Ajrami, Shaddad Attili (EcoFuture)</i>
12.00 - 12.20	WEFE Nexus Demonstration Project at Tasarasi Village of Havran / Balıkesir, <i>Prof. Dr. Tanay Sidki Uyar, (FrontAgNexus)</i>

Day 2 | Thursday March 5th, 2026

Session 4 | Operationalizing the WEFE Nexus



12.20 - 14.00	Lunch
14.00 - 14.20	Operational WEFE Solution in the hand of stakeholders, <i>Anna Osann</i> , (NexusLabs)
14.20 - 15.50	Panel discussion <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>Anthi Brouma</i>, GWP-MED and co-coordinator of PRIMA WEFE4MED project• <i>Athanasios Markinos</i>, President of the Local Organization of Land Improvements of Tavropos, Karditsa & CEO of Thessaly Water Management Organization (ODYTH)• <i>Chrysoula Nikolarou</i>, Hellenic Ministry of Environment & Energy
15.50 - 16.10	Coffee Break
16.10 - 17.00	Summarizing outcomes



Day 3 | Friday March 6th, 2026 Field Trip



Field Trip to Koiliaris Critical Zone Observatory

- Meet up at 9:00am
- Visit Koiliaris river riparian forest and the Stylos springs
- Overview of critical zone science research
- Visit of avocado experimental farm
- Lunch at Samonas village
- Return to Chania by 4.00 pm



Participating Projects

