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# Sufficiency as a Systemic Leverage Point for Mediterranean Transformation

**Innovation Camp – Day 2**

September 17<sup>th</sup> 2026  
Marseille



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# Why transformative innovation policy align regional development and innovation and ISE Mission

- Complex and systemic challenges require **new forms of collective response**, based on new formulas of interregional cooperation between public administrations, companies, universities, research and technology centres, civil society associations and organisations, and citizens.
- Alignment of **local and regional** efforts and ISE Mission innovation projects to address sustainability challenges shared by diverse MED regions is a step in this direction.
- We need to ensure that the **outcomes of interregional cooperation** are relevant and useful to stakeholders **addressing place-based challenges**.
- Therefore, building those challenge-driven collaborative network requires developing **common frameworks and tools**.



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## Global trends / landscape

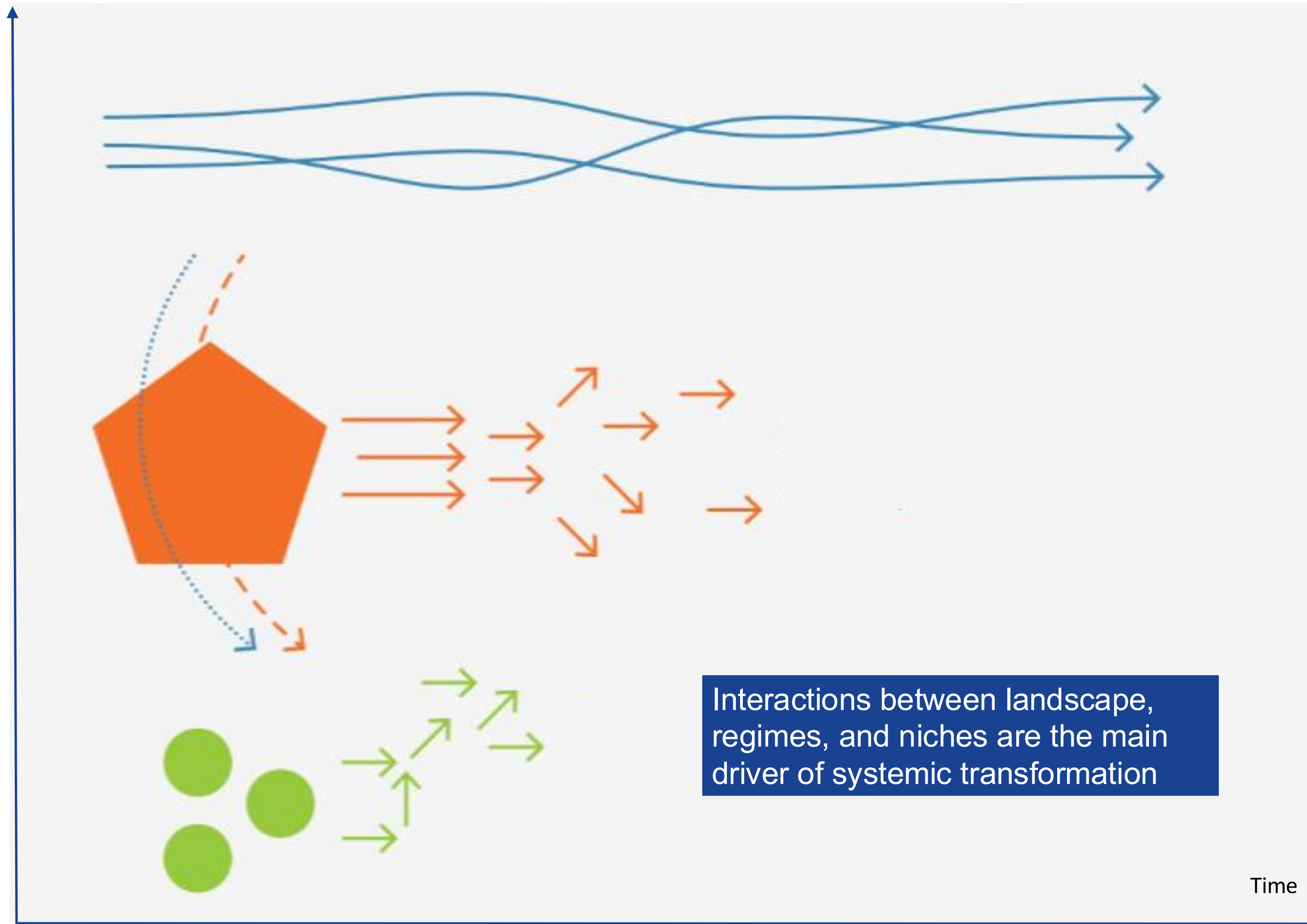
(aging of the population, climate change, digitalization, geopolitical tensions) generate pressure on the current dominant systems, destabilising them and opening windows of opportunity for alternative practices

## Current status

"Business as usual" (policies, technologies, markets, social values, infrastructures) adapts slowly to global changes becoming dysfunctional and not delivering the expected results

## Niches

Experimental spaces here multiple actors can test transformative practices alternative to the business as usual.



EU and MED innovation and cooperation projects can accelerate the development and adoption of more sustainable alternatives

*Multilevel perspective for transformative policy innovation.  
Based on F.Geels and J.Schot (2007)*



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# What is a TIPLab?

Transformative Innovation Policy Laboratories (TIPLabs) aim to connect **place-based actions** with wider **system dynamics**, integrate **regional** and **MED-level** perspectives, and **strengthen the contribution** of interregional cooperation projects and S3 to the Innovative Sustainable Economy Mission.



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# What is a TIPLab?

- **Place-based:** They are grounded in the realities of the territories where they operate.
- **Collaborative:** They engage with affected organisations and people, and work in partnership with universities, RTOs, and actors involved in ISE Mission projects.
- **Learning-focused:** The aim is to foster learning and participatory understanding of complex challenges.
- **Co-creation spaces:** They enable co-creation of transformative innovation actions to address localised challenges.



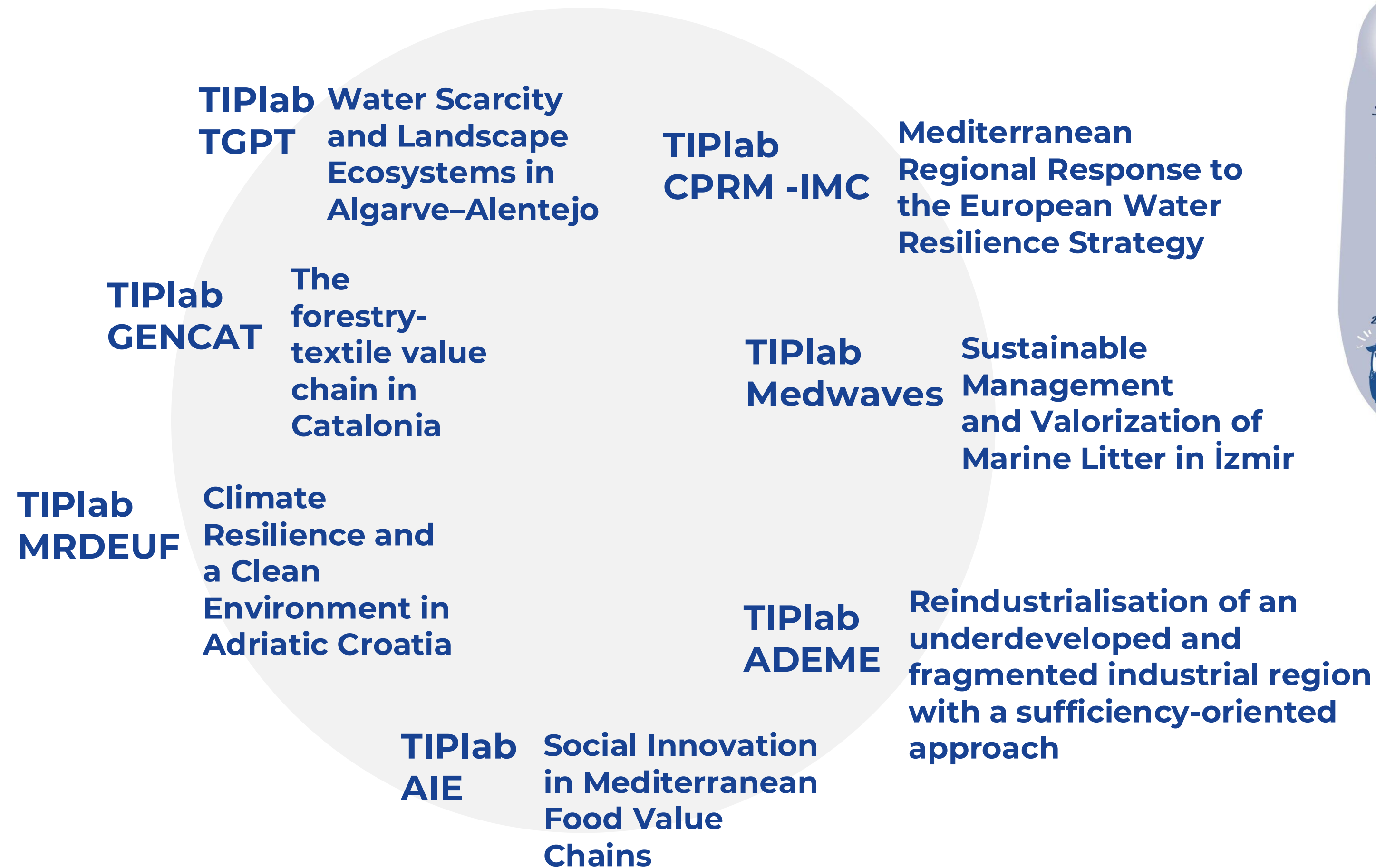
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# Transfer and mainstreaming



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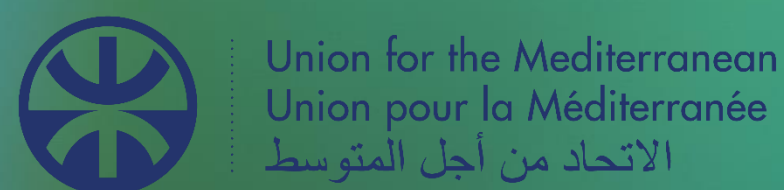


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# Agenda

- 09:30** Institutional welcome
- 09.50** Introduction of the working session
- 10.15** **Working session 1**
- 11:10 Coffee break
- 11.40** **Working session 2**
- 13.00 Lunch break
- 14.10** **Working session 3**
- 15.40 Wrap-up of working groups
- 16.10 Conclusion and next steps

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# Working session



Three working groups will examine sufficiency through challenges that are particularly critical for Mediterranean territories: water scarcity, resource extraction and biocapacity, and the protection of marine ecosystems in coastal areas.

Each group will define a shared long-term vision, identify the system conditions that enable or obstruct transformation, and consider how TIPLabs may contribute through experimentation, institutional change and territorial cooperation.

## **Working group 1:**

Sufficiency and Water  
Scarcity in the  
Mediterranean.

## **Working group 2:**

Sufficiency, resources  
extraction and Biocapacity  
in the Mediterranean

## **Working group 3:**

Sufficiency in Coastal Areas:  
Reducing Impacts on Marine  
Ecosystems



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# WG1 Sufficiency and water scarcity

Water scarcity is becoming a structural condition across much of the Mediterranean rather than an occasional emergency. Climate change is intensifying droughts, heatwaves and rainfall variability, while growing demand from agriculture, tourism, urban development, industry and energy production places additional pressure on limited water resources.

**How can Mediterranean territories meet essential social, economic and ecological water needs within the regenerative capacity of watersheds, aquifers and ecosystems?**

**How TIPLabs can contribute to ensure water resilience and ecosystem health in the Mediterranean?**

## Key TIPLabs

- Water Scarcity and Landscape Ecosystems Algarve and Alentejo (TGPT)
- The Mediterranean Regional Response to the European Water Resilience Strategy (CPRM)



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# WG2 Sufficiency, resource extraction and biocapacity

Europe's economic model remains heavily dependent on the continuous extraction and consumption of natural resources. Food, housing and mobility alone account for more than 80 per cent of the EU's total material footprint, while the circular material use rate remains comparatively low.

**How can Mediterranean societies meet material and social needs fairly while reducing total extraction and keeping demand within the regenerative capacity of ecosystems?**

**How TIPLabs can contribute to encourage alternative practices that enhance durable products, repair, reuse, shared use, and regenerative bio-based resources?**

## Key TIPLabs

- Reindustrialisation of an underdeveloped and fragmented industrial region with a sufficiency-oriented approach (ADEME)
- Social innovation in Mediterranean Food Value Chains. (AIE)
- The forestry-textile value chain in Catalonia. (GENCAT)



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# WG3 Sufficiency in coastal areas: Reducing Impacts on Marine Ecosystems

Marine ecosystems receive pressures generated both at sea and on land. Plastic waste, nutrients, chemicals, untreated wastewater and urban runoff accumulate in coastal waters, reducing ecosystem resilience. Coastal economy and blue economy activities depend directly on healthy marine systems.

**How much coastal development and maritime infrastructure can a territory sustain while allowing marine ecosystems to regenerate and continuing to support dignified local livelihoods?**

**How TIPLabs are contributing to reduce pressure to marine ecosystems?**

## Key TIPLabs

- Sustainable Management and Valorization of Marine Litter in İzmir (**Medwaves**)
- Finding opportunities for interregional collaboration to develop innovative products and solutions in Blue Growth Value Chain in line with EU strategic priorities in post2027. (**MRDEUF Croatia**)



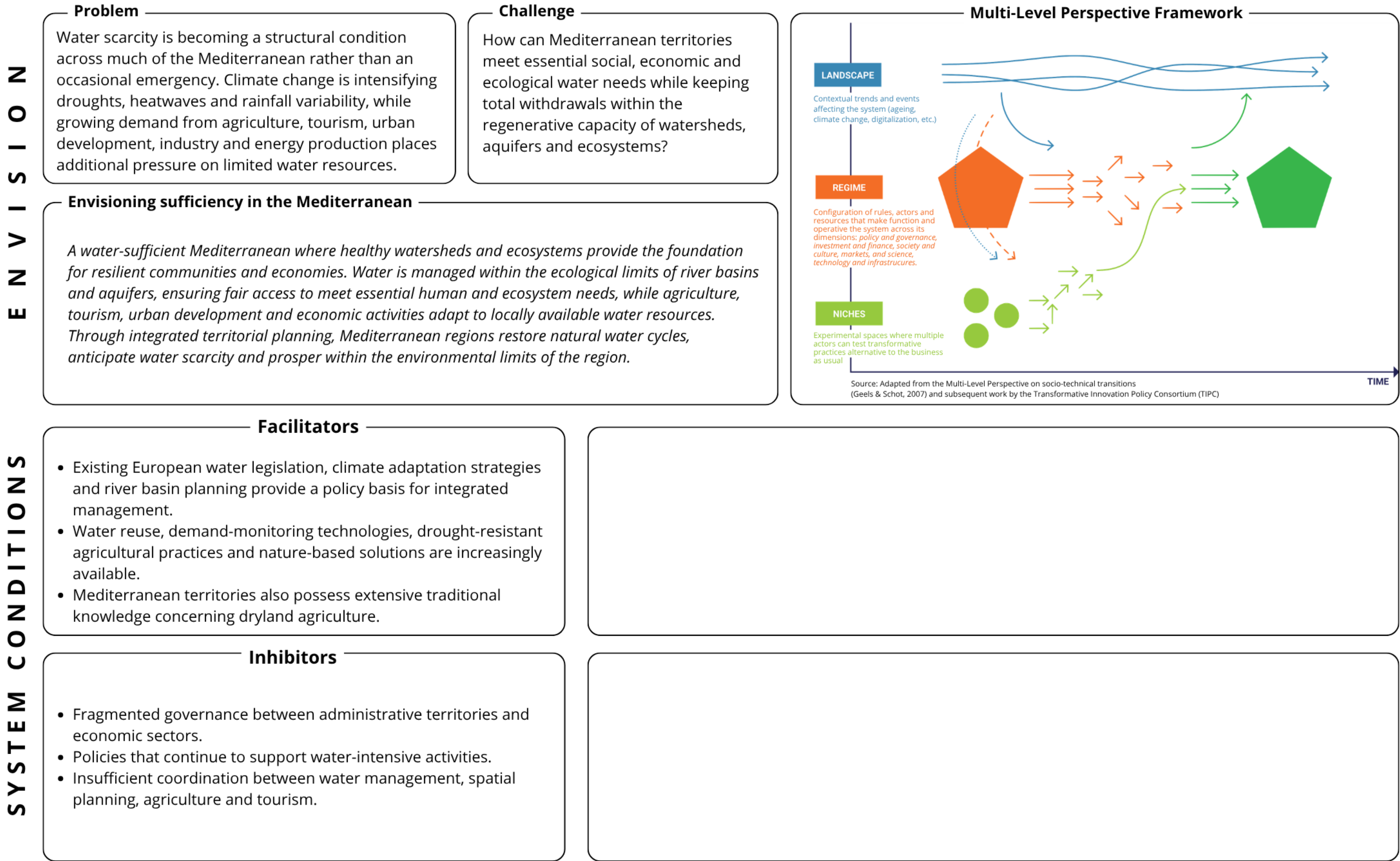
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Working session 1: Understanding sufficiency as a systemic leverage point



Working session 2: Analysing TIPLabs’ contribution to sufficiency

TIPLab Name:

Challenge:

Opportunities to  
unlock inhibitors

How this TIPLab could allow to unlock inhibitors for water  
sufficiency in the Mediterranean?

Opportunities to  
strengthen facilitators

How this TIPLab could allow to strengthen facilitators for water  
sufficiency in the Mediterranean?

TIPLab’s contribution to sufficiency

Which kind of actions enable advance towards sufficiency envisioning in marine protection in the Mediterranean?

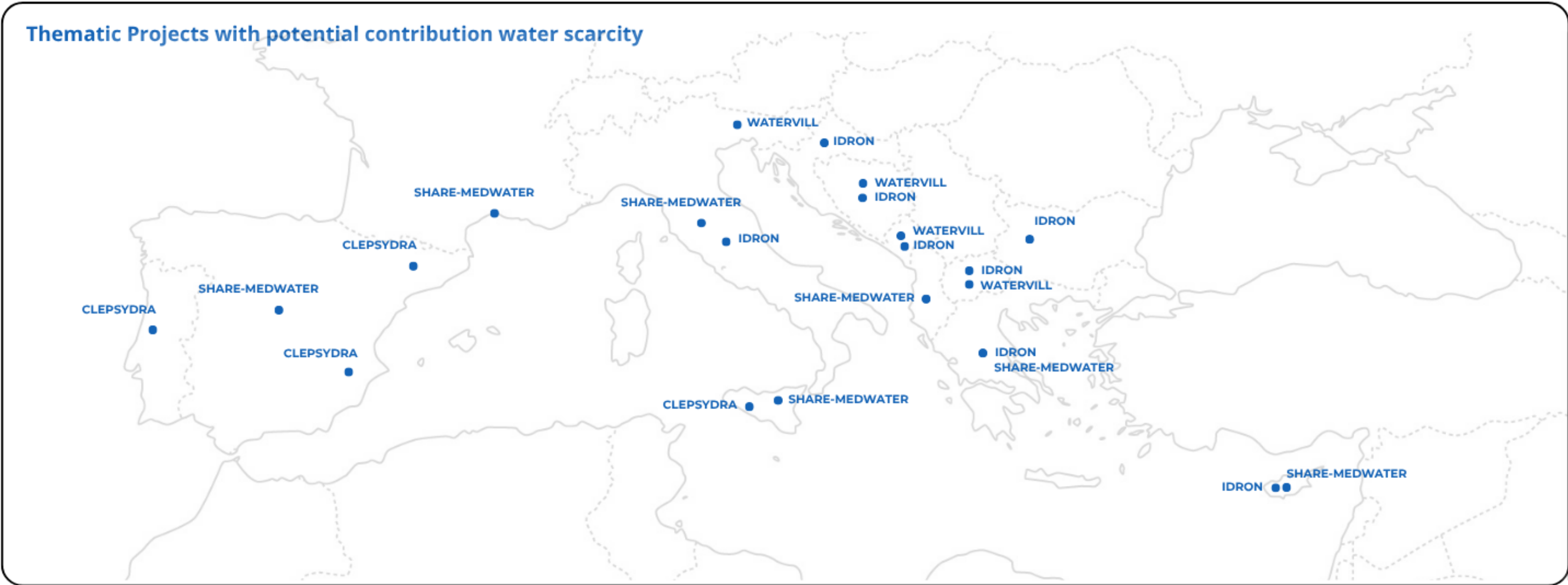
# Working session 3: Envisioning transfer and mainstreaming opportunities

Proposals for collaboration connecting TP solutions with TIPLabs' actions addressing sufficiency challenges.

**Proposal 1**

**Proposal 2**

**Proposal 3**



**Outcomes and final reflections**

# Thematic Projects



More information



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## Working group 1

Sufficiency and Water  
Scarcity in the  
Mediterranean.

**TIPLabs: CPRM, TGPT**

**ROOM 1**  
Cynthia Echave



## Working group 2

Sufficiency, resources  
extraction and Biocapacity  
in the Mediterranean

**TIPLabs: ADEME, AIE,  
Gencat**

**ROOM 2**  
Carla Oliva



## Working group 3

Sufficiency in Coastal Areas:  
Reducing Impacts on Marine  
Ecosystems

**TIPLabs: Medwaves, Croatia**

**ROOM 3**  
Elvira González



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# Working Session 1:

## Understanding sufficiency as a systemic leverage point

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# Coffee break 30 min

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# Working Session 2:

## Analysing TIPLabs' contributions to sufficiency

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# Lunch break 50 min

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# Working Session 3:

## Envisioning transfer and mainstreaming opportunities

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# Wrap-up of working groups

## 30 min

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# Thank you for your participation!



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