

Topic 1.4.1-2026 (CSA): Institutionalising and scaling the Mediterranean WEF Nexus Community of Practice for cross-sectoral governance and policy uptake

TABLE 9. CALL GENERAL CONDITIONS

NEXUS THEME	
Topic 1.4.1 (CSA) –2026	Institutionalising and Scaling the Mediterranean WEF Nexus Community of Practice for Cross-Sectoral Governance and Policy Uptake
Contribution to SRIA	OO3 – Water Governance Systems OO4 – Smart and Sustainable Farming Systems OO7 – Reduce Losses and Wastes OO8 – New Agro-Food Business Models Alignment with SRIA Cross-Cutting Themes Soil Sustainability, Socio-Economic Research & Stakeholder Involvement, Digital Revolution, Capacity Building
Contribution to EU Policies	European Green Deal EU Adaptation Strategy Water Framework Directive European Ocean Pact European Water Resilience Strategy Renewable Energy Directive (RED II as amended by RED III) REPowerEU Plan EU Soil Monitoring Law Nature restoration regulation
SDGs	All SDGs
Admissibility conditions	The conditions are described in General Annex A for Section 1 of the PRIMA Annual Work Programme 2026
Eligibility conditions	The conditions are described in General Annex B for Section 1 of the PRIMA Annual Work Programme 2026
Financial and operational capacity and exclusion	The criteria are described in General Annex C for Section 1 of the PRIMA Annual Work Programme 2026
Award criteria	The criteria are described in General Annex D for Section 1 of the PRIMA Annual Work Programme 2026
Documents	The documents are described in General Annex E for Section 1 of the PRIMA Annual Work Programme 2026
Procedure	The procedure is described in General Annex F for Section 1 of the PRIMA Annual Work Programme 2026
Legal and financial set-up of the Grant Agreements	The rules are described in General Annex G for Section 1 of the PRIMA Annual Work Programme 2026
Expected EU contribution per project	PRIMA estimates that a contribution of around EUR 1.05 million would allow these outcomes to be addressed appropriately. Nonetheless, this does not preclude submission and selection of a proposal requesting different amounts.

Indicative budget	The total indicative budget for the topic is EUR 1.05 million .
Duration	PRIMA considers that proposals with a duration of 36 months would allow these outcomes to be addressed appropriately. Nonetheless, this does not preclude submitting and selecting proposals with different durations
Type of Action	Coordination and Support Action (CSA)

Expected Outcomes

This Coordination and Support Action (CSA), aims to consolidate, institutionalise and scale the Mediterranean WEFE Nexus Community of Practice (NCoP) initiated under the PRIMA [WEFE4MED project](#). The action will support more coherent and coordinated governance of natural resources across the land–water–energy–food–ecosystems continuum, including the sea–to–land interface, by facilitating cross-sectoral dialogue, strengthening joint planning processes and promoting the integration of Nexus principles into territorial and sectoral strategies.

In doing so, the action will contribute to the objectives of the [European Water Resilience Strategy](#) and the [European Ocean Pact](#), support the protection and restoration of soil functions in line with the [EU Soil Monitoring Law](#), and align with the policy orientations set out in the [Vision for Agriculture and Food](#).

Through the networking of existing and newly identified WEFE Nexus demonstration cases, and by strengthening knowledge-sharing and capacity-building processes, the NCoP will consolidate and systematise lessons emerging from real-world implementations, while laying the foundations for long-term sustainability and institutional anchoring beyond the duration of this CSA.

Expected Short-to-Medium Term Outcomes:

- A consolidated and functional Mediterranean WEFE NCoP, with a clear shared purpose, strengthened governance and sustained facilitation.
- A curated set of WEFE Best Management Practices (BMPs) from demonstration cases, documented using transparent criteria (technical/financial feasibility, stakeholder ownership, policy alignment, modularity).
- Practical guidance and decision-support tools (e.g., replication frameworks, practice briefs, policy notes) enabling the integration of Nexus principles into planning and resource management.
- Structured peer-learning and capacity-building, fostering continuous exchange and co-development among basin agencies, ministries, municipalities, cooperatives, SMEs, civil society, youth and women networks.

Expected Longer-Term Impacts (5–10 years):

- Progressive uptake of WEFE Nexus approaches in national, sub-national and basin-level planning and governance processes.
- Institutional anchoring of the NCoP within Mediterranean cooperation frameworks, supported by a sustainability and long-term resource mobilisation strategy.

- Mobilisation of international and blended finance to replicate and scale validated Nexus Best Management Practices across diverse Mediterranean contexts.

Scope: Building on the foundations laid under the PRIMA-funded WEF4MED project, this action will consolidate and expand the Mediterranean WEF4MED NCoP, fostering cross-sectoral cooperation and strengthening linkages to policy and investment agendas. The NCoP will operate as a structured and sustained mechanism for collaborative learning, cross-sectoral dialogue and the progressive uptake of Nexus approaches across the Mediterranean, including in contexts where land, water, energy, food and ecosystems interact along the land–water–coastal continuum.

The CSA will network, document, and draw lessons from existing and newly identified WEF4MED Nexus demonstration cases across the Mediterranean. Selected cases must exhibit (i) financial and operational feasibility, (ii) strong stakeholder ownership, (iii) alignment with regulatory and governance contexts and (iv) modular, adaptable design suitable for replication in diverse territorial and socio-economic settings. The CSA will support their identification, methodological strengthening, visibility and use as reference points for peer learning and policy uptake.

The action will reinforce the Community of Practice in line with the [Etienne Wenger model](#), by:

- Strengthening the shared domain (a common Nexus framing and problem space),
- Enabling an active community (facilitated, recurring, structured engagement), and
- Developing a shared practice (transferable tools, methods and validated Best Management Practices).

Projects are expected to address all of the following activities:

- Formalise and strengthen the governance and facilitation model of the NCoP, including clear roles, membership mechanisms, thematic working groups and engagement protocols, to ensure coordinated and sustained community animation.
- Design and deliver structured peer-learning and capacity-building programmes, such as practitioner exchanges and moderated community dialogues, to build shared understanding, skills and problem-solving capacity across sectors and governance levels.
- Synthesize lessons from demonstration cases into practical, transferable guidance, including replication frameworks, methodological notes, practice briefs and targeted policy recommendations, to enable adaptation and uptake in new contexts.
- Enhance and maintain a digital knowledge and interaction hub that supports ongoing knowledge and data exchange, collaborative development of materials and access to curated resources, ensuring the NCoP functions as a living, continuously-learning community
- Support selected public authorities and basin/coastal organisations in applying Nexus principles in planning and policy processes, through contextualised advisory support and facilitated multi-stakeholder dialogue, enabling real-world operational and governance improvements.
- Co-develop investment and partnership pathways for replication and scaling, including finance-ready concept notes and engagement with regional, EU and international funding mechanisms, to position validated Nexus practices for future deployment and financing.

Sustainability and Long-Term Continuity.

During the CSA, the project consortium will act as the coordination and facilitation team of the NCoP. The action should develop a realistic sustainability and institutional anchoring roadmap, identifying potential long-term hosts or co-hosts (e.g., PRIMA Secretariat or regional cooperation platforms), membership frameworks and resource mobilisation strategies to ensure the NCoP continues to operate beyond the duration of EU funding.

Consortium Profile.

Applicants should demonstrate proven experience in building and facilitating Communities of Practice and in managing science–policy interfaces and participatory processes. Consortia should be small and agile (3–4 partners), with the capacity to convene diverse actors and animate the NCoP through structured peer-learning, field exchanges and regional engagement activities.