



# PATH4MED



DEMONSTRATING INNOVATIVE PATHWAYS ADDRESSING  
WATER AND SOIL POLLUTION IN THE MEDITERRANEAN

## PROJECT ACTIVITIES

### What is Path4med?

Path4Med is a **collaborative, multidisciplinary, research and innovation project** tackling **water and soil pollution** in the **Mediterranean agro-hydro-system**. Bringing together **26 partners** from 11 EU and 5 non-EU countries, the project aims to achieve **near-zero** soil and water pollution through an innovative triple bottom line approach, ensuring economic, social, and environmental sustainability. Path4Med focuses on identifying pollution pathways from farm to sea and implementing both established and novel agricultural management technologies.

## KICK-OFF MEETING IN ATHENS, GREECE

PATH4MED project started with a kick-off meeting in Athens with the participation of 26 partners from 16 different European countries. This initial meeting between the various Partners was crucial in creating a collaborative and confidential work environment and in starting to plan the next activities of a project that will last 48 months! All project partners got to present themselves. Highlights from the activity also include contributions from the Officer of REA, European Research Executive Agency. Various demonstration sites were presented, including a visit to a live demonstration site in Greece, where the partners had the opportunity to closely analyze the situation and understand how the project can intervene and make a positive contribution.





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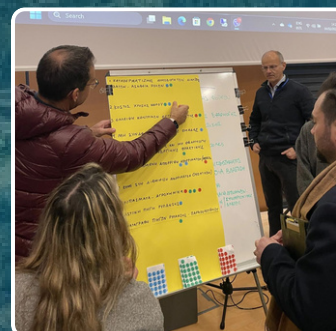
### PATH4MED MEETS SEACURE

At the end of October, Path4Med joined the Kick-off Meeting of **SeaCure**, our sister project under HorizonEurope. Together, we're tackling **nutrient pollution** in the *Mediterranean*. SeaCure brings innovative solutions such as *sustainable farming*, *advanced wastewater treatment*, and *nature-based restoration*. With activities in Spain, Italy, and Greece, this partnership amplifies our mission to **protect water, soil**, and **biodiversity** across the region.



### 1<sup>ST</sup> PARTICIPATORY WORKSHOP IN GREECE

The 1st Participatory Workshop of the Path4Med research project, coordinated by the **GIS Research Unit** of the Agricultural University of Athens (AUA), was successfully held on February 4, 2025, in **Lamia, Greece**. The event brought together 60 participants, including institutional representatives, agronomists, and farmers, united in the common goal of developing practical solutions to tackle water and soil pollution.



### EUROPEAN MISSION SOIL WEEK 2024

*Brussels, Belgium*

Path4Med was presented at the **European Mission Soil Week 2024** on November 12–13 in Brussels as part of **Horizon Europe**. Falling under both the **Ocean Water Mission** and **Soil Deal Mission**, Path4Med aims to achieve **zero pollution** in **Mediterranean** agro-hydroelectric systems through an innovative, principle-based approach. The event gathered experts and stakeholders to promote soil health, share project outcomes, and foster new collaborations across Europe.





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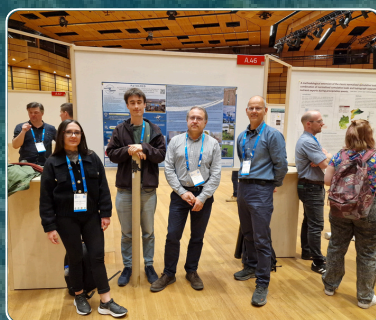


### AGRIFOOD FORUM 2024 IN LITHUANIA

Our partner Reframe Food presented Path4Med, highlighting our mission to combat nutrient pollution in the Mediterranean. The event focused on digital innovation in agriculture, sustainable and regenerative practices, and leadership and empowerment for women and rural communities.

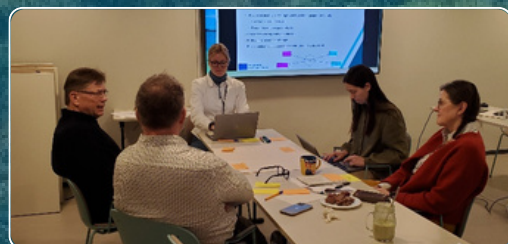
## EGU2025 VIENNA

PATH4MED had an inspiring time at the European Geosciences Union (EGU) 2025 General Assembly in Vienna, where jointly the Agricultural University of Athens and the Public University of Navarra to represent the Path4Med project. With over 18,000 participants from across the globe, the event was a great opportunity to present our strategies for tackling water and soil pollution in Mediterranean agro-hydro systems, connect with innovative projects, explore future collaborations, and share a preview of our upcoming Open Call launching this September.



## WORKSHOP IN NORWAY

PATH4MED team from Norwegian Institute of Bioeconomy Research (NIBIO) organized a dynamic workshop in Norway. Our group—Hanne, Franziska, Aibee, Elaine, Beatrice, and Rem—led a session at O43 to test and refine our stakeholder engagement protocol. 🌱🍷 Thanks to insightful contributions from experts at NMBU, NIBIO, Ard Innovasjon, Statsforvalteren, and Follo landbrukskontor, we gained valuable feedback and fresh ideas to strengthen our work. Grateful for the inspiring collaboration and vibrant exchange!



## NEW RESEARCH IN ACTION

### INTEGRATING THE MARINA MODELS TO TACKLE WATER POLLUTION

Our partner, Wageningen University, Netherlands has introduced the **MARINA water quality model**, now being integrated into Path4Med to assess nutrient and agrochemical pollution in the Sperchios River Basin, Greece. This advancement will improve our understanding of **agricultural impacts**, track pollutants from land to sea, and support smarter, more **sustainable water management solutions**.





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## SHOWCASING DEMONSTRATION SITES

### TURKISH DEMONSTRATION SITE

The Demonstrating Site in Turkey (TR-DS), located in the **Seyhan River Basin**, spans 9,500 hectares and has been irrigated for over 65 years. **Cukurova University**, PATH4MED partner, has installed an automatic water sampler and a water quality sensor at the catchment outlet, and set up a meteorological station to monitor key climatic variables. Soil moisture is tracked in irrigated and non-irrigated areas to assess drought impacts. Identification of cropping patterns through remotely sensed data is currently underway. Hydrologic and nutrient balance studies, along with sediment monitoring, are being conducted to support sustainable irrigation management alternatives for working out tangible solutions and to demonstrate pollution pathways in irrigation catchments.



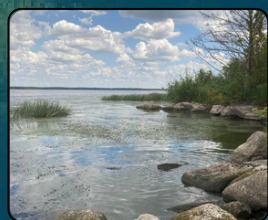
### FRENCH DEMONSTRATION SITE

The **Tang de l'Or watershed**, the French demo site for DG7 led by the **Mediterranean Agronomic Institute of Montpellier**, is located in southern France and spans 41,000 hectares across 32 municipalities. It hosts 140,000 residents year-round, rising to 240,000 in summer. Agriculture dominates the area, with 16,433 hectares of farmland and 1,255 active farms. The watershed includes a 3,000-hectare coastal lagoon, 2,000 hectares of wetlands, several rivers, and three aquifers.



### UKRAINIAN DEMONSTRATION SITE

The DG3 team from the **National University of Life and Environmental Sciences of Ukraine (NUBiP)** is leading efforts on "Future pathways for zero pollution in the **Dnipro Basin** under emerging challenges and threats." Two key achievements stand out: first, the completion of comprehensive water sampling across all four seasons along the Dnipro River, complemented by soil sampling, setting the stage for detailed water quality analysis; second, successful stakeholder mapping identifying key groups relevant to the project, with active efforts to connect and engage them. Additionally, DG3 was presented at the EGU 2025 conference. The enthusiastic team holds regular monthly meetings to track progress and plan next steps.





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## WHAT IS NEXT?

### • OPEN CALL- FINANCIAL SUPPORT FOR THIRD COUNTRIES

To enhance the impact of the Path4Med project and further the goals of reducing water and soil pollution across the Mediterranean and associated regions, Path4Med will launch an Open Call. **5 additional projects will be funded**, designed to accelerate the uptake of innovative nutrient management solutions, particularly in areas with ecosystems that can benefit from their implementation, application, use and/or less developed regions.

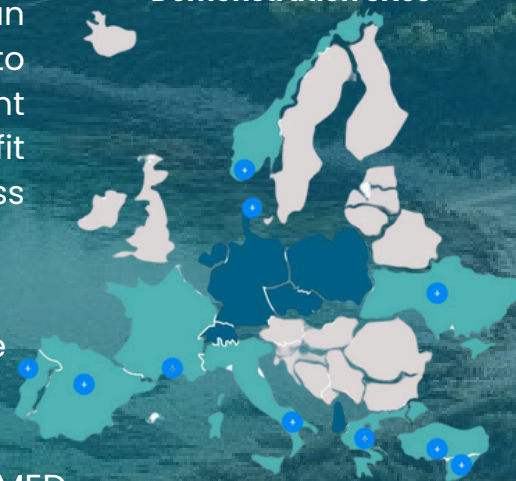
### • NEXT PARTNER MEETING IN ALBANIA

The next partner meeting of the Path4Med project will take place in Tirana, Albania!

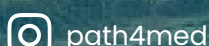
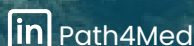
### • WORKSHOPS, VISITS, PUBLIC EVENTS

Research action and public activities in all PATH4MED demonstration sites

Demonstration Sites



Follow our journey online



[www.path4med.eu](http://www.path4med.eu)

**The Path4Med project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon Europe Research and Innovation Programme under grant agreement No 101156867.**

*Path4Med combines a multidisciplinary consortium of scientific excellence and innovative expertise across Europe, joined by a common vision for sustainable Mediterranean agriculture.*

