



Mediterranean Climate Summit

28-29 September 2026, Muğla, Türkiye
Türkan Saylan Contemporary Life Center, Menteşe



PROGRAM

28 September 2026, Monday

09.30-10.00	Registration
10.00-10.10	Introductory Video
10.10-11.10	Opening Speeches
	Gonca Köksal Aras , <i>Mayor of Menteşe, Muğla</i> Mohamed Sefiani , <i>Mayor of Chefchaouen & Vice President of ICLEI</i> Feridun Ulutaş , <i>Deputy Secretary General, Union of Municipalities of Türkiye</i> Samed Ağırbaş , <i>COP31 High-Level Climate Champion, President of the Zero Waste Foundation</i> Dr. Babatunde Ahonsi , <i>United Nations Resident Coordinator in Türkiye</i> Ahmet Aras , <i>Mayor of Muğla Metropolitan Municipality & President of the Coastal Municipalities Union</i> Dr. İdris Akbıyık , <i>Governor of Muğla</i>
11.10-11.30	Coffee Break
11.30-13.00	High - Level Panel Session: A Resilient Mediterranean: Connecting Local Leadership and Regional Cooperation Moderator: Gökşen Şahin Licha , <i>Policy and Advocacy Lead, ICLEI Europe</i>
	Panel 1: A Mediterranean in Transition: Climate Change and the Challenges Facing Cities Speakers: Yusef Zuhair Hamed Aljabari , <i>Mayor of Hebron, President of UCLG-MEWA (Palestine)</i> Samir Avdić , <i>Mayor of Sarajevo (Bosnia and Herzegovina)</i> Clare Hart , <i>Vice-President of Montpellier Méditerranée Métropole & Acting President of MedCities (France)</i> Lâl Denizli , <i>Mayor of Çeşme Municipality (Türkiye)</i> Zeydan Karalar , <i>Mayor of Adana Metropolitan Municipality (Türkiye)</i>
13.00-14.00	Lunch
14.00-15.00	High - Level Panel Session: A Resilient Mediterranean: Connecting Local Leadership and Regional Cooperation Moderator: Gökşen Şahin Licha , <i>Policy and Advocacy Lead, ICLEI Europe</i>
	Panel 2: From Shared Challenges to Regional Action: Strengthening Mediterranean Cooperation Speakers: Mark Hidson , <i>Deputy Regional Executive Director, ICLEI Europe</i> Dr. Mehmet Duman , <i>Secretary General, UCLG-MEWA</i> Jean-Baptiste Buffet , <i>Manager for Global Policy and Advocacy, UCLG World Secretariat</i> Prof. Dr. Pınar Okyay , <i>Deputy Secretary General, İzmir Metropolitan Municipality</i>
15.00-15.15	Coffee Break
15.15-16.30	Thematic Session: Building Urban Resilience Moderators: Stefan Koderisch , <i>Senior Expert in Resilience and Climate Adaptation, ICLEI Europe</i> Gamze Çelikyılmaz , <i>Climate Policy Expert, Climate Academy Global</i>



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	Speakers: Buket Akay, <i>Climate Policy Expert, Directorate of Climate Change affiliated with the Ministry of Environment, Urbanization and Climate Change (Türkiye)</i> Obada Taradeh, <i>Head of Planning and Zoning Department, Taffouh Municipality (Palestine)</i> Dr. Baran Bozoğlu, <i>Chair of the Climate Change Policy and Research Association (Türkiye)</i> Assoc. Prof. Dr. Mehmet Rifat Kahyaoğlu, <i>Secretary of Muğla Provincial Coordination Board, Union of Chambers of Turkish Engineers and Architects (Türkiye)</i>
16.30-16.45	Q&A
16.45-17.00	Coffee Break
17.00-18.00	Launch of the “Muğla Declaration for Climate-Resilient and Just Mediterranean Cities”: Fireside Chat, Symbolic Signing Ceremony and Family Photo Moderator: Mark Hidson, <i>Deputy Regional Executive Director, ICLEI Europe</i> Presentation of the Declaration: Ahmet Aras, <i>Mayor of Muğla Metropolitan Municipality and President of the Coastal Municipalities Union</i> Fireside Chat: Ahmet Aras, <i>Mayor of Muğla Metropolitan Municipality and President of the Coastal Municipalities Union</i> Mohamed Sefiani, <i>Mayor of Chefchaouen and Vice-President of ICLEI</i> Symbolic Signing Ceremony and Family Photo: <i>Moderator will invite mayors and representatives of city networks wishing to endorse the Declaration to join him on stage for the signing ceremony and a joint photo.</i>



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29 September 2026, Tuesday

09.30-10.00	Muğla Water Project Loan and Guarantee Agreements Signing Ceremony: <i>European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD), Muğla Metropolitan Municipality, Directorate General of Muğla Water and Sewerage Administration (MUSKİ)</i> <u>Main Hall</u>	
10.00-11.00	<u>Parallel Session:</u> Advancing the Mediterranean Energy Transition <u>Main Hall</u> Moderator: Prof. Dr. Mustafa Kemal Bayırbağ, <i>Muğla Planning Agency (MUPA)</i>	<u>Parallel Session (Turkish):</u> Mediterranean Coastal and Sea Management <u>Conference Hall</u> Moderator: Prof. Dr. Tuncay Kuleli, <i>Muğla Sıtkı Koçman University (MSKU)</i>
	Speakers: Özgün Özdeş, <i>Climate and Energy Officer, World Wildlife Fund (WWF - Türkiye)</i> Onur Akgül, <i>Researcher, Istanbul Policy Center, Sabancı University</i> Gamze Çelikyılmaz, <i>Climate Policy Expert, Climate Academy Global</i> Egemen Balaban, <i>Spokesperson for Muğla City Councils Union & President of Menteşe City Council</i> Zehra Berna Dalaman, <i>Muğla Provincial Representative, Turkish Foundation for Combating Soil Erosion, for Reforestation and the Protection of Natural Habitats (TEMA)</i> Neşe Tuncer, <i>Activist, Muğla Environment Platform (MUÇEP)</i> Atty. Arif Ali Cangı, <i>Aegean Environment and Culture Association (EGEÇEP)</i>	Speakers: Ethem Usluoğlu, <i>Head of Information Technology Department, Muğla Metropolitan Municipality</i> Ali Cem Deniz, <i>Project Specialist, UNDP Türkiye</i> H. Caner Bayrak, <i>Mediterranean Conservation Society</i> Dr. Mert Gökalp, <i>Ecolgacy Mediterranean</i> Dr. İ. Destan Öztürk, <i>Turkish Marine Research Foundation (TUDAV)</i> Ebru Çelik, <i>Nature Conservation Specialist, World Wildlife Fund (WWF - Türkiye)</i> Tuna Altunkaya, <i>President of the Board, Bodrum Mariners' Association</i> İhsan Bozan, <i>President of the Board, Muğla Fish Farmers Association</i>
11.00-11.15	Closing Remarks <u>Main Hall</u> Prof. Dr. Mustafa Kemal Bayırbağ, <i>Muğla Planning Agency (MUPA)</i>	Closing Remarks <u>Conference Hall</u> Dr. Cihan Dündar, <i>Head of Climate Change and Zero Waste Department, Muğla Metropolitan Municipality</i>