

**“Green Week 2024. Towards a water resilient Europe” 30 may 2024**

**Title: DROUGHT EMERGENCY**

**Subtitle: FROM GLOBAL POLICIES TO VIABLE SOLUTIONS IN WATER MANAGEMENT**

**Introduction:**

The map of current droughts in Europe from the European Drought Observatory shows alarming data throughout the Spanish Mediterranean coast. Access to water is a human right. It is also an indispensable resource for the economy – for food, energy and industry. Urgent global action is needed to turn this around. Are current policies working? Do we need other mechanisms?

**Explanation:**

This event is an opportunity to raise awareness, promote and discuss European environmental policy and its effects on the regions seriously affected by the risk of drought. The debate will be focus on the responsibility of the responsibility of public water managers and users.

This event will interest all the actors related with water management, such as authorities, citizens, farmers, companies, or other collectives.

The topics that will be addressed at the event will be European and local water policies, potential drought risk in Valencian region, and user’s practices to reduce water consumption.

**10:00 hr. SPEECH: European drought and water scarcity policies**

Claudia OLAZABAL, Head of Unit, Sustainable Freshwater Management D.G Enviroment European Comission (ENV.C.1). *(pending)*

**10:20 hr. PANEL Hydrological perspectives and analysis of drought risk in the Levante region**

Miguel Polo, president Jucar River Basin District.

Mario Andrés Urrea Mallebrera, President Segura River Basin District

**10:50 hr. PANEL: The economic impact of drought effects of in the Levante region**

Salvador Navarro, president CEV, Business Confederation of Valencia region

José Maria Albarracín, president CROEM, Business Confederation of Murcia region

Javier González de Lara, president CEA, Business Confederation of Andalucia region.

**11:30 hr. Coffee break**

**12.00 hr. PANEL: Overview of drought management policies in Spain and in Valencian Region**

Salomé Pradas, Counsellor of Environment, Water, Infrastructure, and Territory of the Valencian Regional Government.

Carmen Crespo, Counsellor of Agriculture, Fisheries, Water, and Rural Development of the Andalusian Regional Government.

Sara Rubira, Counsellor of Water, Agriculture, Stockbreeding, and Fisheries of the Region of Murcia.

M<sup>a</sup> Dolores Pascual, General Director of Water at the Ministry for Ecological Transition and Demographic Challenge.

**12:45 hr. PANEL: Measures adopted by users to reduce demand.**

Farmers

Citizens/municipalities

Industrial sector

Tourism sector

*The CEV has not yet contacted the participants or the panelists*