LA REFERENCE
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كلية العلوم القانونية والاقتصادية والاجتماعية – مراكش
FACULTÉ DES SCIENCES JURIDIQUES, ÉCONOMIQUES ET SOCIALES – MARRAKECH
جامعة القاضي عياض UNIVERSITÉ CADI AYYAD

LIREMET
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مختبر الجيومرفولوجيا، البيئة والمجتمع

Call for Papers

The Research Laboratory in Energy, Finance, International and Behavioral Economics, Environment and Entrepreneurship
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The Laboratory of Geomorphology, Environment and Society (LGES)
of
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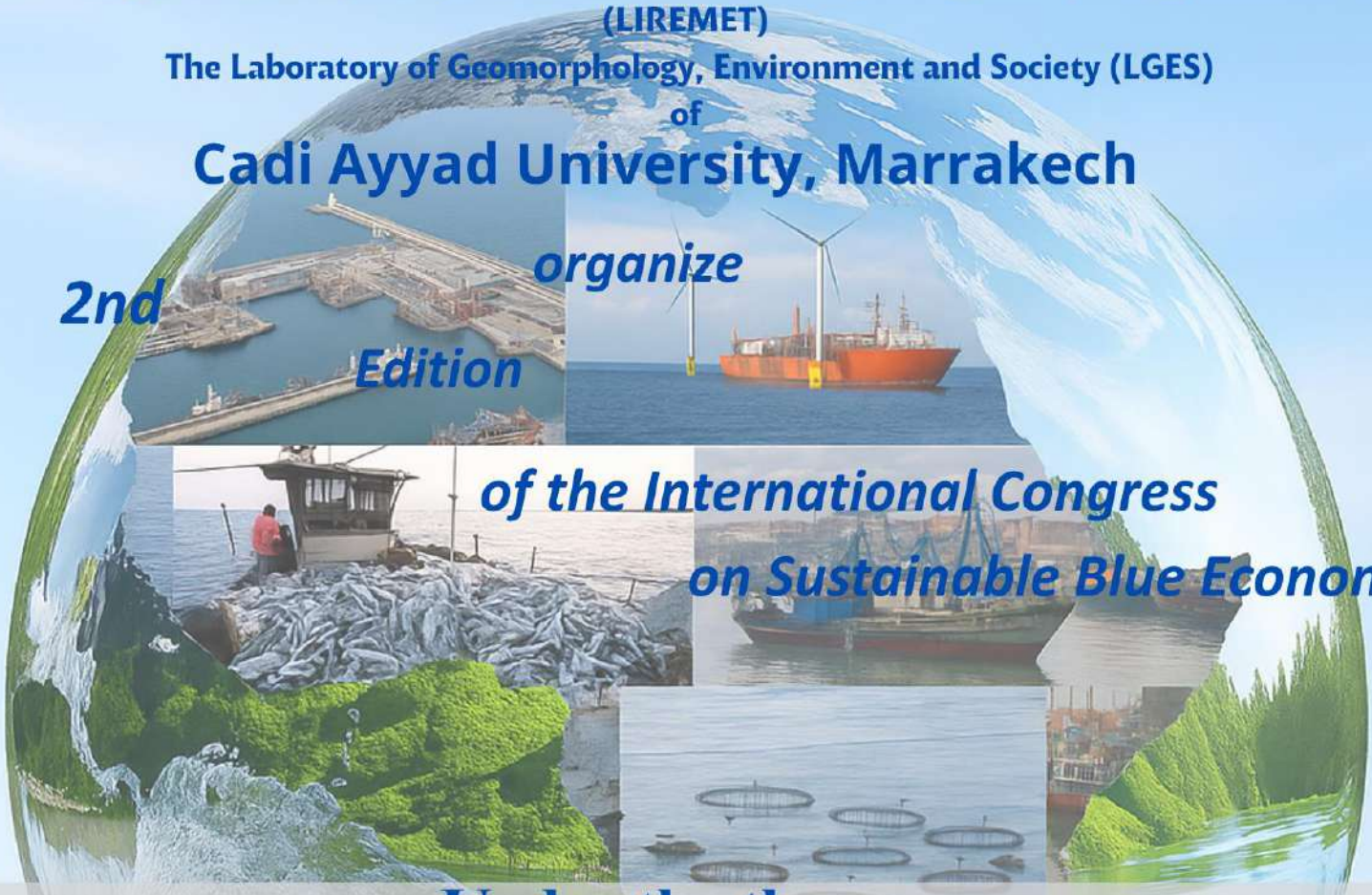

organize

2nd Edition

of the International Congress on Sustainable Blue Economy

Under the theme

Towards a Regenerative and Inclusive Blue Economy

Under the Honorary Presidency of:
Mr. Laurent ANSELMI
President of the Academy of the Sea, Monaco

May 12–14, 2026 — **Marrakech- Morocco**

1. Context

Oceans and seas play a central role in maintaining the planet's ecological balance. They are a major source of economic growth, food security, and climate regulation. However, anthropogenic pressures - such as overexploitation of fishery resources, plastic and chemical pollution, and the impacts of climate change - are undermining the resilience of marine ecosystems and the livelihoods of the communities that depend on them. In response to these challenges, the concept of a sustainable blue economy is emerging as a paradigm capable of reconciling economic development with the preservation of ecosystems.

The blue economy encompasses several complementary dimensions. Sustainability is based on the principle of conserving marine resources for future generations; the regenerative economy aims to restore and strengthen degraded environments; and the inclusive blue economy seeks to ensure equitable participation of all stakeholders, particularly coastal communities, women, and youth. The integration of these three dimensions forms the scientific and normative foundation of the 2nd Edition of the International Congress, which adopts an interdisciplinary approach combining economic, legal, social, and marine sciences with innovative technologies.

The African continent possesses major assets - exceptional marine biodiversity, a young demographic structure, and a strategic geopolitical position - yet it continues to face complex challenges such as the vulnerability of coastal ecosystems, anthropogenic pressures, institutional fragility, and economic dependence. The African Atlantic space thus stands as a pivotal area between North and South, tradition and innovation, port heritage and ecological transitions.

In this context, Morocco, with its dual maritime façade and strategic position between Europe and Africa, emerges as a key actor in the transition toward a regenerative and inclusive blue economy. The country has already undertaken significant initiatives in areas such as fisheries, aquaculture, seawater desalination, ports and maritime transport, coastal ecosystem conservation, and Atlantic governance.

Organized in the wake of the 3rd United Nations Ocean Conference (Nice, France, 2025) and major international advances of the same year - notably the adoption of the BBNJ Agreement and other global ocean initiatives - the International Scientific Congress on Regenerative and Inclusive Blue Economy, to be held in Morocco in 2026, aims to extend these global dynamics and adapt them to the specific challenges of the African Atlantic region.

At a time when many African countries are still in the process of formulating or implementing their national blue economy strategies, this congress aspires to serve as a regional reference platform for scientific dialogue, experience sharing, and the co-construction of marine and coastal policies tailored to African socio-economic contexts.

Beyond its scientific dimension, the event is part of the Atlantic geostrategic dynamic driven by Morocco through the Royal Initiatives for the Atlantic and the creation of an Atlantic Blue Belt. These initiatives aim to make the Atlantic a space of peace, solidarity, innovation, and sustainable co-development by strengthening cooperation between African coastal nations and their international partners.

In this perspective, the Congress seeks to connect the scientific, economic, social, and geopolitical dimensions of the blue economy by linking global commitments stemming from United Nations conferences with regional African and Atlantic dynamics. The objective is to explore how science, governance, and international cooperation can converge to build a sustainable, regenerative, and inclusive blue economy — one capable of preserving marine resources, restoring degraded ecosystems, and ensuring an equitable distribution of benefits in support of the sustainable development of the African continent and the Atlantic space.

2. Themes

Theme 1- Law of the Sea and Ocean Governance

1. Integrated governance of oceans and coastal zones
2. International law of the sea and maritime sovereignty
3. Sectoral legislation and regulation
4. Regional cooperation, blue diplomacy, and maritime geostrategy
5. Management of user conflicts and maritime spatial planning
6. Sustainable management of marine resources and stakeholder engagement
7. Assessment and strengthening of maritime institutions

Theme 2 - Blue Economic Growth and Territorial Development

1. Circular and sustainable economic models applied to maritime sectors
2. Development of local value chains, clusters, and maritime innovation ecosystems
3. Responsible investments and public-private partnerships in blue sectors
4. Sustainable planning of coastal areas and economic resilience
5. Social inclusion, blue entrepreneurship, and the role of women and youth
6. Desalination, water security, and innovative approaches for marine resources

Theme 3 - Marine Sciences and Ecosystem Regeneration

1. Preservation and restoration of marine and coastal ecosystems
2. Sustainable management of fisheries and aquaculture
3. Marine protected areas and biodiversity conservation
4. Marine pollution : prevention, remediation, and sustainable solutions
5. Climate change and coastal resilience
6. Oceanographic observation, monitoring, and modeling
7. Nature-based solutions for coastal protection

Theme 4 - Engineering, Technologies, and Sustainable Infrastructures

1. Resilient coastal infrastructures and ecological engineering
2. Clean technologies for maritime and port transport
3. Desalination and sustainable water management
4. Robotics, sensors, and automated monitoring
5. Digitalization and artificial intelligence for ocean sustainability
6. Energy optimization, emission reduction, and eco-design of equipment and sustainable ships

Theme 5 - Marine Renewable Energies and Energy Transition

1. Development and integration of marine renewable energies
2. Energy optimization and storage of ocean energies
3. Emission reduction and low-carbon infrastructure
4. Technological innovation for the blue energy transition
5. Collaborative research and science-industry innovation

Theme 6 - Ports, Maritime Transport, and Sustainable Logistics

1. Green ports and low-carbon infrastructure
2. Digitalization and smart ports for sustainable logistics
3. Resilience of port infrastructures to climate change
4. Sustainable supply chains and intermodality
5. Port governance and integrated coastal-port planning
6. Socio-economic impacts and inclusion of local communities

Theme 7 - Social, Cultural, and Inclusive Approaches

1. Participatory governance, inclusion, and well-being of coastal communities
2. Role of women and youth in the blue economy

3. Social justice and equity in the distribution of economic benefits
4. Preservation and valorization of cultural heritage and transmission of traditional knowledge
5. Sustainable and responsible maritime and coastal tourism
6. Ocean literacy, civic engagement, and intercultural dialogue

Theme 8 - Health, Safety, and Resilience

1. Public health and its connection to the quality of marine ecosystems
2. Food security and nutrition from fishery resources
3. Management of risks related to pollution and oil spills
4. Health and working conditions of coastal and maritime populations
5. Integrated One Health – One Ocean approaches
6. Policies for prevention and protection of vulnerable populations

Theme 9 - Marine Biotechnology and Bioeconomy

1. Valorization of marine molecules (pharmaceutical, nutraceutical, cosmetic)
2. Algae and microalgae: food, biofuels, and biomaterials
3. Bioremediation and innovative pollution cleanup
4. Sustainable aquaculture and responsible genetic improvement
5. Biosurveillance and molecular tools for biodiversity
6. Circular bioeconomy, co-product valorization, and technology transfer

Theme 10 - Blue Finance and Innovative Economic Instruments

1. Concepts, frameworks, and international principles of sustainable blue finance
2. Innovative financial instruments: Blue bonds, carbon credits, blue microfinance
3. Mobilization of funding for marine regeneration and climate resilience
4. Integration of ESG criteria in maritime investments
5. Public-private partnerships and the role of financial institutions
6. Assessment of the economic, social, and environmental impacts of blue projects

3. Important Dates

- Deadline for Submission of Communication Proposals: **January 4, 2026**
- Notification of Scientific Committee Decision to Authors: **January 17, 2026**
- Deadline for Submission of Full Communications: **March 21, 2026**
- Dates of the Congress: **May 12–14, 2026, in Marrakech- Morocco**

4. Submission Guidelines

- Interested authors are invited to initially submit their communication proposals of up to two pages.
- Communications (in Arabic, French, or English) should include:
  - The thematic axis and relevant sub-theme;
  - The title of the communication;
  - The author(s) and their affiliated institution(s);
  - The research problem, methodology, analytical framework, and results;
  - Key bibliographic references and keywords.
- Communication proposals should be submitted by email to the following address: **icsbe2026@gmail.com**

5. Coordinators

El hourmi Mohamed, Cadi Ayyad University, Morocco

El kalay Khalid, Cadi Ayyad University, Morocco

Khalil Karima, Cadi Ayyad University, Morocco

Mansoum Mohamed, Cadi Ayyad University, Morocco

Zahir Mustapha, Cadi Ayyad University, Morocco

6. Organizing Committee

Professors

Aâbi T. (Cadi Ayyad U., Morocco), Ait hbibi A. (Cadi Ayyad U., Morocco), Benchekroun M. (PhD in Public Law, Morocco), Belimam D. (U. Cadi Ayyad, Maroc), Benalla O. (U. Cadi Ayyad, Maroc), Berrada A. (Cadi Ayyad U., Morocco), Bonnin M. (Research Institute for Development, France), Chaibi M. (Cadi Ayyad U., Morocco), Chalkha A. (Cadi Ayyad U., Morocco), Dahbi A. (Cadi Ayyad U., Morocco), Damsiri Z. (Cadi Ayyad U., Morocco), El mansouri M. (Cadi Ayyad U., Morocco), Elfengour A. (Cadi Ayyad U., Morocco), Elhadiri K. (Cadi Ayyad U., Morocco), Elmajidi A. (Cadi Ayyad U., Morocco), Elmazoudi J. (Cadi Ayyad U., Morocco), Elmimouni A. (Cadi Ayyad U., Morocco), Elouarari Z. (Cadi Ayyad U., Morocco), Elouafdi A. (Cadi Ayyad U., Morocco), Erraki M. (Cadi Ayyad U., Morocco), Hadach M. (Cadi Ayyad U., Morocco), Jaouy B. (Cadi Ayyad U., Morocco), Jeddi S. (Cadi Ayyad U., Morocco), Kahime K. (Cadi Ayyad U., Morocco), Khalil K. (Cadi Ayyad U., Morocco), Maarouf M. (Cadi Ayyad U., Morocco), Malzi M. J. (Cadi Ayyad U., Morocco), Mansoum M. (Cadi Ayyad U., Morocco), Maraoui C. (Cadi Ayyad U., Morocco), Margoum M. A. (Cadi Ayyad U., Morocco), Ouali A. (Cadi Ayyad U., Morocco), Oukacha A. (Cadi Ayyad U., Morocco), Rhanoui S. (Cadi Ayyad U., Morocco), Rida O. (Cadi Ayyad U., Morocco).

PhD students

Aboussalam S. (Cadi Ayyad U., Morocco), Aguelal H. (Cadi Ayyad U., Morocco), Azzamouk A. (Cadi Ayyad U., Morocco), Benchanaa O. (Cadi Ayyad U., Morocco), Benslimane L. (Cadi Ayyad U., Morocco), Bougadir H. (Cadi Ayyad U., Morocco), Bouyzourane K. (Cadi Ayyad U., Morocco), Chardi S. (Cadi Ayyad U., Morocco), Derhy G. (Cadi Ayyad U., Morocco), Elbarbori A. (Cadi Ayyad U., Morocco), Elboubkri Y. (Cadi Ayyad U., Morocco), El akkari I. (Cadi Ayyad U., Morocco), El Firaa S. (Cadi Ayyad U., Morocco), El hachimi Z. (Cadi Ayyad U., Morocco), Elaider A. (Cadi Ayyad U., Morocco), Elfouh F. (Cadi Ayyad U., Morocco), Elidrissi F. (Cadi Ayyad U., Morocco), Elouzi Z. (Cadi Ayyad U., Morocco), Elouzi Z. (Cadi Ayyad U., Morocco), Elqamar Y. (Hassan II U., Marocco), Ennaimi H. (Cadi Ayyad U., Morocco), Essalhi K. (Cadi Ayyad U., Morocco), Hajhouj H. (Cadi Ayyad U., Morocco), Harakat C. (Cadi Ayyad U., Morocco), Kebdani Y. (Cadi Ayyad U., Morocco), Moussane A. B. (Cadi Ayyad U., Morocco), Ouhinou M. A. (Cadi Ayyad U., Morocco), Ouissoule I. (Cadi Ayyad U., Morocco), Saanane A. F. (Mohamed V U., Marocco), Zineddine T. (Cadi Ayyad U., Morocco).

7. Scientific Committee

Aalioua A. (Cadi Ayyad U., Morocco), Aba oubida M. A. (Cadi Ayyad U., Morocco), Abbassi A. (Cadi Ayyad U., Morocco), Achtak H. (Cadi Ayyad U., Morocco), Agoujgal K. (Cadi Ayyad U., Morocco), Ait Babram M. (Cadi Ayyad U., Morocco), Ait balagh F. E. (Cadi Ayyad U., Morocco), Ait Daoud L. (Cadi Ayyad U., Morocco), Ait malek H. (Cadi Ayyad U., Morocco), Amaghouss J. (Cadi Ayyad U., Morocco), Amara R. (U. of Littoral Côte d'Opale, France), Arib F. (Cadi Ayyad U., Morocco), Assi D. (Cadi Ayyad U., Morocco), Balambo M. A. (Cadi Ayyad U., Morocco), Belokda W. (Higher Nursing and Health Technology Professions, Morocco) Benyounes A. (National Institute of Fisheries Research, Marocco), Bougroum M. (Cadi Ayyad U., Morocco), Chaibi M. (Cadi Ayyad U., Morocco), Chaouti A. (Chouaib Doukkali U., Marocco), Charif A. (Cadi Ayyad U., Morocco), Chatoui H. (Higher Nnursing and Health Technology Professions, Marocco), Cherkaoui R. (Cadi Ayyad U., Morocco), Chougrani E. (Cadi Ayyad U., Morocco), Dahbi A. (Cadi Ayyad U., Morocco), Dahraji Y. (Cadi Ayyad U., Morocco), Damsiri Z. (Cadi Ayyad U., Morocco), El ayoubi S. (National Institute of Fisheries Research, Marocco), El azyzy Y. (Cadi Ayyad U., Morocco), El bouazizi N. (Cadi Ayyad U., Morocco), El foutayeni Y. (Cadi Ayyad U., Morocco), El ghezaoui M. (Cadi Ayyad U., Morocco), El hourmi M. (Cadi Ayyad U., Morocco), El housni K. (Cadi Ayyad U., Morocco), El kalay K. (Cadi Ayyad U., Morocco), El khader A. (Cadi Ayyad U., Morocco), El morchid B. (Cadi Ayyad U., Morocco), El youssoufi L. (Cadi Ayyad U., Morocco), Elkhider A. (Cadi Ayyad U., Morocco), Elmazoudi E. (Cadi Ayyad U., Morocco), Elmimouni A. (Cadi Ayyad U., Morocco), Emoussaoui A. (Mercator, France), Errhif A. (Hassan II U., Marocco), Erzini K. (U. de l'Algarve, Portugal), Essardi M. O. (Cadi Ayyad U., Morocco), Ettahiri O. (National Institute of Fisheries Research, Marocco), Faiz M. (Cadi Ayyad U., Morocco), Frangoulis C. (Hellenic Centre for Marine Research, Greece), Hamdaoui M. (Cadi Ayyad U., Morocco), Ghazal H. (National Center for Scientific and Technical Research, Marocco), Gheris M. (Cadi Ayyad U., Morocco), Hettabi E. (Cadi Ayyad U., Morocco), Hilmi K. (National Institute of Fisheries Research, Marocco), Ibourk A. (Cadi Ayyad U., Morocco), Idllalene S. (Cadi Ayyad U., Morocco), Jordan F. (U. of Parma, Italy), Kahime K. (Cadi Ayyad U., Morocco), Kartobi S. E. (Cadi Ayyad U., Morocco), Khalil K. (Cadi Ayyad U., Morocco), Kouali H. (Cadi Ayyad U., Morocco), Larbi S. (Cadi Ayyad U., Morocco), Lissaneddine A. (Cadi Ayyad U., Morocco), Mansoum M. (Cadi Ayyad U., Morocco), Mansouri B. (Cadi Ayyad U., Morocco), Mazzaourou A. (Cadi Ayyad U., Morocco), Merzouki M. (Sultan Moulay Slimane U., Marocco) Messaoudi A. (Cadi Ayyad U., Morocco), Moungang Ndjomini A. D. (U. of Yaoundé II, Cameroon), Nait Lachgar T. (Cadi Ayyad U., Morocco), Najimi M. (Catholic University of Louvain, Belgium), Natij L. (Hassan II U., Marocco), Omerani D. (Cadi Ayyad U., Morocco), Ouchchikh R. (Cadi Ayyad U., Morocco), Rabih C. (Nantes U., France), Sabri M. (Cadi Ayyad U., Morocco), Taha S. (Cadi Ayyad U., Morocco), Tarbalouti E. (Cadi Ayyad U., Morocco), Smouni R. (Hassan II U., Marocco), Touriki F. E. (Cadi Ayyad U., Morocco), Zahid A. (Cadi Ayyad U., Morocco), Zahir M. (Cadi Ayyad U., Morocco), Zahrane T. (Cadi Ayyad U., Morocco), Zaid M. (Cadi Ayyad U., Morocco), Ziki M. (Cadi Ayyad U., Morocco).