

Dear Ms. Santa Vitucci,

I will be making an application to Interreg Next Med for the second call; "Green Transition Projects" on behalf of OYAK Cement Inc. from Turkiye.

The proposal aims to be a transnational consortium initiative to bring together industry leaders in their respective regions to utilize municipal sludge waste for refuse derived fuel (RDF) ensuring that pollution into the Mediterranean basin is minimised and GHG emissions mitigated to positively impact climate change.

Our proposed project has been under trial at our OYAK Cement factory site in Denizli, Turkiye for a number of years with very promising results and it is now time to expand the venture to our other Mediterranean neighbours in the basin to attain greater global impact in reducing the ecological footprint of industry in the global fight for climate change.

We are looking to collaborate with like-minded industry leaders in the Mediterranean Region to form a consortium and would greatly appreciate your input and guidance for your respective nation.

I would be more than happy to share detailed information about the proposal if you can connect me with serious interested parties in your region.

Much Regards,

Dr. Sinan Ogun

Managing Director,

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PROJECT SUMMARY :

Exponential population growth in the Mediterranean Basin, over the past 6 decades has significantly impacted agricultural production, tourism, urbanisation, sea transportation and industrial activities resulting in inadequate natural resource management and degradation of our environmental standards.

Pollution has emerged as the main culprit in deteriorating our soil, air and water quality with catchment runoff into the basin, turning the once pristine Mediterranean into a seriously polluted body of water.

In Türkiye's Western regions when sludge from treatment of urban and industrial wastewater is not treated or disposed of in accordance with appropriate environmental standards, they can cause serious water pollution in catchment areas and eventually end up in the Mediterranean Basin.

In recent years considerable deterioration in water quality in the Mediterranean has scientists concerned about long term water ecosystem decline, failing coastal fisheries through loss of productivity and healthy aquaculture supply chain coastal biodiversity management. Consumer demand for cleaner groundwater resources is also increasing on a daily basis as demand for irrigation is on the increase. This holds, in particular, for the Mediterranean region, where substantial changes in climate are expected throughout the 21st century.

In addition to the above waste management problem, GHG emissions from chimneys of industrial facilities and power generation plants is yet another serious factor continually adding to the global issue of climate change. One leading environmentally conscious company in Türkiye; OYAK Cement is committed to solving both of these issues with an innovative initiative using sewage sludge as RDF to produce energy in their cement production plant. With a unique approach to carbon capture, the company at the same time will be sequestering the flue gas carbon into an organic fertilizer processing unit as sticky carbon to be utilized for sustainable agricultural production. Aiming for transnational cooperation Oyak will partner with numerous Mediterranean neighbours to ensure that this unique process can be utilised with other cement producers through corporate collaboration.

Reducing pollution impacts on water resources and pursuing alternative energy sources are primary goals in the Mediterranean basin to combat climate change and create more resilient societies.