

ATILA URAS - Short bio

Atila Uras is a Senior Programme Officer (Scientific and Technical) with the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), serving at the Coordinating Unit of the Mediterranean Action Plan (MAP) / Barcelona Convention Secretariat in Athens, Greece. He brings over 25 years of international experience in environmental governance, sustainable development, and programme leadership across both development and crisis-affected contexts.

In his current role, he leads scientific and technical work on the implementation of the Ecosystem Approach in the Mediterranean, with a particular focus on pollution reduction, monitoring, and assessment. His work supports regional policy development and the delivery of integrated “source-to-sea” solutions, linking environmental protection with human well-being.

Prior to this, Mr. Uras headed UNEP’s Response and Recovery Unit within the Disasters and Conflicts Branch, where he led environmental assessments and recovery programmes in conflict-affected settings, including Sudan and Ukraine. He also served as UNEP Country Programme Manager in Sudan, overseeing initiatives on environmental resilience, natural resource management, and sustainable recovery.

Earlier in his career, he held senior roles with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) in Türkiye, including Assistant Resident Representative, and worked as a Governance Officer with UNEP/MAP in Athens. He has also held leadership positions with the World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF), managing marine and coastal conservation programmes across the Mediterranean.

Mr. Uras holds a Master’s degree in Coastal and Marine Engineering and has taught Integrated Coastal Zone Management at the Middle East Technical University in Ankara. His expertise spans pollution control, ecosystem-based management, climate change adaptation, and environmental recovery in complex settings.