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Executive Summary

This report presents the main relevant information developed in the first year of MED-SPRING, based on the project activities and other sources of information, in order to give contents to the project website.

Following the project background and objectives, this report aims at giving an overview of the EU-MPC Political landscape on R&I cooperation policies – where the project activities have been developed -, and then focus on the activities carried out in MED-SPRING during its first year, giving therefore the main content to the website.

It also describes the main sources of information feeding the contents of the website furthermore the MED-SPRING activities, coming from the National Activities of the Mediterranean Partner Countries and other activities on the MED-SPRING priorities.

Finally, it includes a summary of the Google Analytics report about the use and impact of the website.

1. Presentation and Background

EU-MPC cooperation was traditionally supported mainly by bilateral national agreements. However, the establishment of the **INCO-Med Programmes** in the EU RTD Framework Programmes for Research introduced a key element in this cooperation for the last 20 years. The dedicated calls for INCO were preceded by the work of teams of experts from the European Union Member States (EU MS) and the Mediterranean Partners Countries (MPC) to **identify** those topics of common interest. The experience shows that along these 20 years of EU-MPC cooperation in research, water management and environment, food production, energy, health, cultural heritage and ICT, are the key priorities for the MPC. However, other fields of cooperation, such as microelectronic or materials, have also been developed as shown by the analysis of EU-MPC co-publications in most of the scientific areas.

We are seeing that in most of the **political forums** dealing with EU-MPC cooperation in Scientific Research, such as the Monitoring Committee for Scientific Cooperation (MoCo) established as an outcome of the Barcelona process (1995), the Euro-Mediterranean Conference on Research and Innovation (Barcelona April 2012) organized by the European Commission, or the recent 5+5 Conference of States of the Western Mediterranean (Mauritania, Morocco, Algeria, Tunisia, Libya, Portugal, Spain, France, Italy and Malta) on Scientific Research, celebrated in Rabat the 19-20 September and Barcelona the 23rd October 2013, the cooperation priorities turn around the same critical, but not exclusive, issues of **Water and Environment, Food production and Energy**, which were key priorities in the INCO-Med Programmes, and were considered as mobilizing topics in the effort made by the two FP7 INCO.Net Projects, MIRA and MED-SPRING, to impulse EU-MPC cooperation in Innovation ([MIRA](#) Workshops on Water and Energy) through the training in research driven clusters to Mediterranean stakeholders in Germany and Italy in order to favor the setting of thematic bi-regional clusters, or by opening a Forum on the fine-tuning of the inter-domain (Food-Water-Energy) research priorities in EU-MPC cooperation for the future Horizon 2020 Framework Programme (MED-SPRING Euro-Mediterranean Expert Group Meeting ([EMEG](#)) in Lisbon July 2013).

2. EU-MPC Political landscape in the Research and Innovation cooperation policies

The Euro-Mediterranean Cooperation in Research and Innovation during 2013 has been marked by the influence of the **Euro-Mediterranean Conference on Research and Innovation**, held in Barcelona in April 2012, the agreement reach in high level informal Meetings during the **Cyprus Presidency** of the EU during the 2nd semester of 2012 about the need to move forward the application of Art. 185 of the EU Treaty to handle the Euro-Mediterranean cooperation in RTD, and the changing political scenario developed in the Mediterranean countries.

Relevant facts to be highlighted are the start of the activities of the FP7 INCO.Net MED-Spring and the Kick-Off of the FP7 ERA.Net Med, aimed at supporting the preparation of the Art. 185 initiatives and the launching of co-design co-financed and co-owned EU-MPC Joint Programming on jointly agreed topics of mutual interest.

Another important fact was the **Ad Hoc UfM Senior Officials Meeting on Energy** was held on 29-30 May 2013 in Jordan. The Jordanian Minister of Energy and Mineral Resources, HE Eng. Malek KABARITI, opened the meeting, which was co-organized and co-chaired by the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan and the European Union, Co-presidencies of the Union for the Mediterranean. The meeting was an important milestone for the Mediterranean Solar Plan (MSP) foreseen to be endorsed by the UfM Ministerial Meeting on Energy on 11 December 2013 in Brussels. The Senior Officials discussed the MSP Master Plan Draft prepared under the auspices of the UfM Secretariat. They also discussed the wider preparation of the UfM Ministerial Conference on Energy, notably regarding the agenda and key deliverables. The MSP was launched in July 2008 at the Paris Summit by the Heads of State and Government of the 27 EU Member States and 16 Southern and Eastern Mediterranean Countries. It aims to substantially increase power generation from renewable sources, mainly solar and wind, in the region, setting a target of 20 GW of installed capacity by 2020. It also aims to enhance the use of energy efficiency technologies.

Finally, in this context it is interesting to highlight the 5+5 (Mauritania, Morocco, Algeria, Tunis, Libya + Portugal, Spain, France, Italy and Malta) **Western Mediterranean Ministerial Conference on Research and Higher Education**, held in Rabat in September 2013 - and later on in Barcelona in October 2013 -, where the Ministers agreed the so-called "**Rabat Declaration**", where they lauded, among other initiatives, the "Partnership in Research and Innovation in the Mediterranean area ("**PRIMA**")", aimed to apply the Article 185 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union to the improvement of the Bi-regional cooperation in Research and Innovation, in order to create a stable long-term and sustainable frame of partnerships on specific topics on the basis of co-ownership, co-decision, and co-financing. They believed that an effective scientific cooperation is likely to encourage the exchange of experience in science and technology policies, improving the management of national research and innovation systems, and the development of centers of excellence at the national and sub-regional levels. They resolved to promote regional integration among the countries of the Maghreb Arab Union and the continuous deepening of relationships between the Maghreb and the European Union, the Union for the Mediterranean and Partner States, based on a shared vision of collective responsibility and participation, in addition to solidarity among the countries.

3. INCO.Net MED-SPRING Activities during 2013

After one year life, most of MEDSPRING work packages and tasks project are fully operative, with the overall objective to strengthen the cooperation on research and innovation in the Euro-Mediterranean area. The project challenges are increasing and commitments are intensifying, but the MEDSPRING project team with the support of the whole Consortium is continuing its journey, with dedication and enthusiasm.

MEDSPRING **Web site** is fully operational, as has created links with most of the relevant sources of information on Research and Innovation opportunities for the EU-MPC geographical space. It provides a window for information on calls, actions and news relevant to the objectives of MEDSPRING.

Concerning the Euro Mediterranean Agora, the **web community is still growing** and the project is managing a social hub through three popular social networks (Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn), with rising interest from the Mediterranean civil society.

Regarding the analysis of societal challenges to reinforce the frame of cooperation, more than **50 experts** from MS/AC and MPCs participated in the [1st EMEG \(Euro-Mediterranean Expert Group\) meeting](#), held in Lisbon from 20 to 21 June 2013 and organized by FCT (Portugal). EMEG experts' work was substantiated by the inputs of the successful **open consultation**, launched in April 2013 and collecting more than 100 questionnaire from the civil society (researchers, SMEs, NGOs, citizens...etc) and WEB communities. The Lisbon meeting was video-streamed through the Agora MedSpring WEB in order to allow the civil society to give feedbacks and comments on real time.

The open dialogue between EMEG experts and the web-Community has continued through the **on-line open discussion on the position paper**, available on-line at <http://agora.medspring.eu/en/content/emeg-position-paper>.

Regarding the capacity building in research, development and innovation (WP7), in order to design an effective training to exploit the results of research activities, UNIMED launched a survey across the training needs of researchers in public and private institutions, in order to investigate which factors are relevant for the Mediterranean research community and to jointly design an effective capacity building path. The survey is available on line at <http://bit.ly/medspring>

The [1st Meeting of the Euro-Mediterranean Observatories](#), held last September 2013 in Beirut (Lebanon) discussed possible ways of collaboration under the prospect of building a common frame of monitoring objectives, indicators and standards. After this meeting, the [MED-SPRING Survey on Euro-Mediterranean Observatories](#) was launched to elaborate the state of the art of the existing thematic observatories acting in the region, their functionalities and dynamics in order to understand their needs and role in the regional cooperation. Following this survey, it was organized the [MED-SPRING 1st Observatory Networking Meeting](#) last December 2013 in Paris.

With views to the next MED-SPRING Brokerage event, and aiming at creating new opportunities a [call for Innovative Ideas](#) was launched in November 2013, where [18 entrepreneurs](#) were selected and invited to present their ideas during the Brokerage Event.

Finally, last December was organized in Amman the [MED-SPRING Training on H2020 for Mediterranean NCPs](#), with the idea of carrying out a “Training for Trainers”.

Focusing on **WP3**, since already mentioned, the first version of the MED-SPRING website has been developed and managed by CSIC accounting the communication needs of the project. The website is available at the following link: <http://www.medspring.eu/>

For the implementation of the project portal, **different sections** dealing with the societal challenges addressed by the project have been created, as well as a **repository of information on cooperation experiences and project main activities**. The portal complements the activities of the [Euro-Mediterranean Agora](#) (WP4), however it mainly focuses on making visible the project activities and serves as repository of information concerning the project activities and deliverables. An updated website version with new functionalities is actually in progress.

The preparation of a comprehensive [project brochure](#) have been carried out. 1000 hard copies of the brochure have been produced, ready for use and circulation. A [first thematic pamphlet](#) have been created on specific societal challenges (description of the pathway from the open consultation to the position paper of EMEG group).

The electronic version of the brochure (.pdf version) and first thematic pamphlet (.pdf version) are available and downloadable online from the project website. The hard copies of the brochure have been distributed to the public during public events and project activities.

Three [quarterly e-Newsletters](#) on selected societal challenges have been created and produced by CSIC. Contents on the main project activities in progress, news and main outputs have been provided by the Lead partner, by CSIC and international experts.

The electronic version of the three newsletters (pdf and html version) are available and downloadable online from the project website. They have been placed sent out electronically to a long list of researchers, policy makers, stakeholders, governmental officers and international organizations.

A detailed [Dissemination Plan](#) has been prepared. The main objective of the Dissemination plan is to lay down the basis and tools to promote the work of all MED-SPRING partners, by ensuring both the internal communication to guarantee the optimal outcomes of the project activities, and the foundations for an effective communication of innovations and benefits.

List of MEDSPRING Activities developed in Year 1:

February 2013:

[MED-SPRING Kick Off Meeting](#), 4th February 2013, Bari (Italy). The 28 MED-SPRING partnering organizations met last February to launch the MED-SPRING project, a FP7 initiative based on the dialogue on research and innovation on three key issues for the Euro-Med: Water, Food and Energy.

April 2013:

[MED-SPRING Dissemination Plan](#)

[First MED-SPRING E-Newsletter](#)

June 2013:

[Open Consultation](#) to collect comments and opinions on the three societal challenges in order to will help to better assess and orient actions to be taken and to frame and orient the Euro-Mediterranean agenda. Some of the comments are summarized in an infographic prepared by [AGORAMEDSPRING](#).

[1st Euro-Mediterranean Expert Group \(EMEG\) Meeting](#), 20-21st June 2013, Lisbon (Portugal). 50 experts from the MPCs and the EU will discuss on how to increase the uptake of water resources, food quality and energy research results, and enhance a positive impact on the civil society.

July 2013:

[Euro-Mediterranean Inter-Institutional and training-awareness meeting](#) July 2013, El Gouna (Egypt). Senior officials and researchers from the MPCs and the EU will discuss on the prospects of Euro-Med Cooperation on Science and Technology for a more stable and sustainable cooperation.

September 2013:

[Designing an Effective Training](#): MED-SPRING invited through its AGORA to submit opinions and views on the role and impact of the research activities in the Euro-Mediterranean countries, regarding the three main societal challenges: Resource Efficiency, High Quality Affordable Food and Energy. Its purpose was to investigate which factors are relevant for the research community and to jointly design an effective capacity building path.

[1st Meeting of the Euro-Mediterranean Observatories](#), September 2013, Beirut (Lebanon). Coordinators of relevant observatories addressing policies and research on water, food and energy will convey to discuss possible ways of collaboration under the prospect of building a common frame of monitoring objectives, indicators and standards.

MED-SPRING invited to attend the [TRANSMED Meeting](#), 19 September 2013, Montpellier (France)

MED-SPRING invited to attend the [Final Workshop of EARN](#), 26 September 2013, Algiers (Algeria).

[Second MED-SPRING E-Newsletter](#)

November 2013

MED-SPRING invited to attend the [ERANETMED Kick Off Meeting](#). 4-5 November 2013, Istanbul (Turkey).

[MED-SPRING Survey on Euro-Mediterranean Observatories](#). The aim of this survey was to elaborate a state of the art of existing thematic observatories acting in the region, their functionalities and dynamics in order to understand their needs and role in the regional cooperation.

[Call for Innovative Ideas](#) – With views to the next MED-SPRING Brokerage event, and aiming at creating new opportunities, [18 entrepreneurs](#) have been selected and invited to present their ideas to potential investors and discuss further developments with other researchers and stakeholders during the brokerage event.

[MED-SPRING Brochure](#)

December 2013

[MED-SPRING Training on H2020 for Mediterranean NCPs](#). Amman, 9 – 11 December 2013. With the idea of carrying out a “Training for Trainers”, the event aimed at providing Mediterranean-NCPs with fresh knowledge and insight of H2020.

[MED-SPRING 1st Observatory Networking Meeting](#). Paris, 19th December 2013. The aim of this meeting was to support the development of collaborative links between Observatories of both sides of the Mediterranean; to develop a shared vision necessary in order to build a “platform” of Euro-Mediterranean Observatories; and to pave the way for future networking activities.

January 2014

[MED-SPRING 1st Thematic Pamphlet](#)

Section of MED-SPRING Deliverables available at <http://www.medspring.eu/deliverables>
[Third MED-SPRING E-Newsletter](#)

4. Current National Activities in the Mediterranean Countries

MED-SPRING has followed the next National Activities in the MPCs, identified as relevant to the MED-SPRING interests:

- The Government of Morocco launched a call for research projects on their national thematic priorities, opened to participants from other countries. <http://www.enssup.gov.ma/index.php/accueil>.
- In Turkey the Support Programme for Scientific and Technological Research Projects is also opened to integrate in the research teams participants from other countries but living in Turkey <http://www.tubitak.gov.tr/en/national-support-programmes/content-1001-the-support-program-for-scientific-and-technological-research-projects>

- In Algeria there is an open discussion on the Third National Programme on Research, to be launched soon, which target the creation of collaborative networks at national level on a selected number of priorities, namely, agriculture and aquaculture, health, RE, support to the industrial production by the use of new technologies, ICT of high added value and social sciences, promoting also the effort in fundamental sciences. <http://portail.cder.dz/spip.php?article3555>.
- Publication of **FINCOME** calls. Call for expressions of interest: Research and long-term training involving Moroccan Skills Abroad (MSA). The FINCOME Programme is aiming to enhance the participation of Moroccan Skills Abroad (MSA) to the development of training and scientific research of Moroccan institutions. Launched by the Moroccan CNSRT, this Programme supports the mobility of MSA to Moroccan host institution for a period of 6 to 12 months. The call requires a joint collaboration between the MSA and a Moroccan public institution dealing with higher education and research. The call deadline is 15 October 2013. <http://www.cnrst.ma/>
- ERA.Net ARIMNET financed Projects kick off. The project SAFEMED (food safety regulations, market access and international competition) held his kick off meeting in Morocco on 13/05/2013. The SAFEMED Project aims at analyzing the conditions for an international co-regulation of food safety between North and South Mediterranean sides. It consists in analyzing the structure of the competition between supply chains of both sides and examining the possibilities for a coordination of public and private food safety strategies. <http://www.safemedproject.org/>
- Also worth mention the EU-Palestine Workshop held in Ramallah (Palestine) on Research and Innovation in order to improve the Palestinian participation in EU-funded research projects, so far there are 18 projects with Palestinian participation in FP7, the impulse of the knowledge triangle to support the national plan of research in Palestine and, finally, to enhance the Palestinian participation in the coming Horizon 2020 Framework Programme. http://ec.europa.eu/research/iscp/pdf/eu_palestine_ri_workshop.pdf.

5. Thematic International Activities on MED-Spring Societal Challenges and Policies

MED-SPRING has followed other thematic international activities on the three Societal Challenges (Water, Energy, Food) and RTDI Policies.

5.1 Water

- **CMI – Marseille Center for Mediterranean Integration**

The [CMI](#) provides communities of practice focused on core development issues across the region with a space for joint learning that empowers them to tackle critical challenges, collectively find actionable solutions, and, in so doing, contribute to the prosperity of the region as a whole. Acting as a network among networks supporting transformational reforms and greater regional integration, the Center engages with Mediterranean countries in constructive dialogues where knowledge and experiences are shared and solutions to common problems are identified and discussed.

- November 20-23, 2011: 2nd Arab Water Forum “Living with Scarcity” with the Arab Water Council, Cairo, Egypt
http://www.arabwatercouncil.org/AWF/Downloads/2ND%20ARAB%20WATER%20FORUM_Final.pdf
- November 22-24, 2011: International Conference GID-Parmenides: "Water and sanitation: challenges and health risks in the Mediterranean", Rabat, Morocco
http://beta.cmimarseille.org/events/_src/EW_ConfAnnex_Nov2011.pdf
- December 19-20, 2011: 1st Mediterranean Water Forum, Marrakech, Morocco
<http://www.worldwaterforum6.org/en/news/single/article/first-mediterranean-water-forum/>

- **Union for the Mediterranean**

The [Union for the Mediterranean](#) is a multilateral partnership aiming at increasing the potential for regional integration and cohesion among Euro-Mediterranean countries. The Union for the Mediterranean is inspired by the shared political will to revitalize efforts to transform the Mediterranean into an area of peace, democracy, cooperation and prosperity.

- February, 2013: Launching workshop of the study for the “Update priority investment portfolio for protecting the Mediterranean Sea from pollution”.
<http://ufmsecretariat.org/22-02-2013-the-launching-workshop-of-the-study-for-the-update-priority-investment-portfolio-for-protecting-the-mediterranean-sea-from-pollution/>

- **[CIGR](#) (International Commission of Agricultural and Biosystems Engineering) and [CIHEAM IAMB](#) (Istituto Agronomico Mediterraneo Bari)**

The International Commission of Agricultural Engineering (CIGR, Commission Internationale du Génie Rural) is an international, non-governmental, non-profit organisation consisting of a network of Regional and National Societies of Agricultural Engineering as well as private and public companies and individuals worldwide. CIGR was created by a Constituent Assembly on the occasion of the

first International Congress of Agricultural Engineering, held in Liege, Belgium in 1930.

The Mediterranean Agronomic Institute of Bari (MAIB) is a Centre for post-graduate training, applied scientific research and design of in-loco partnership actions in the framework of the international cooperation programmes. It works in four thematic areas: "Land and water resources management", "Integrated pest management of Mediterranean fruit crops", "Mediterranean organic agriculture" and "Sustainable agriculture, food and rural development"

- September, 2013 : 1st CIGR Inter-Regional Conference on Land and Water Challenges, Bari. <http://www.landandwater2013.iamb.it/>

- **Other activities and events**

- The Secretariat of the Union for the Mediterranean (UfM) together with a wide range of partners were actively engaged in contributing to the issues of depollution and sustainable development in the Mediterranean at the focal points meetings of the [Programme for the Assessment and Control of Pollution of the Mediterranean](#) (MEDPOL) and [The Regional Activity Centre for Cleaner Production](#) (CP/RAC), held in Barcelona on 18-21 June 2013.

June, 2013 : Towards the Depollution of the Mediterranean Sea and Sustainable Consumption and Production, Barcelona
<http://ufmsecretariat.org/towards-the-depollution-of-the-mediterranean-sea-and-sustainable-consumption-and-production/>

- ["Governance & Financing for the Mediterranean Water Sector"](#) project aims to deliver a set of country analysis and a regional action plan to improve the public governance and attract investments to the water sector of the Mediterranean region.

May, 2013 : Launching Conference of the project "Governance & Financing for the Mediterranean Water sector", Barcelona. <http://ufmsecretariat.org/28-29-05-13-kick-off-conference-for-the-project-governance-financing-for-the-mediterranean-water-sector/>

- [The Planet Workshops](#) – Co-founded in 2007 by Eric Bazin and George J. Gendelman, [The Planetworkshops](#) are a think tank rich of six years of experience in bringing together stakeholders interested in the emerging challenges of sustainable development and geopolitics. By acquiring a strong recognition on the international scene, the Planetworkshops strive towards the ideal to gather and increase awareness amongst the majority of actors and opinion leaders in order to participate in a global change of our ways of life and governance. International think tank working for the transformation of societies towards new sustainable models of development, The Planetworkshops aim to nurture reflection on sustainable development in industrialized countries and emerging economies

October, 2013 : Water and Sea Workshops, Barcelona.
<http://www.planetworkshops.org/en/544/program/>

5.2 Energy

- **IPEMED – Institut de Prospective Économique du Monde Méditerranéen**

[IPEMED](#) was created in 2006 by Jean-Louis Guigou, supported by numerous figures from different political backgrounds, entrepreneurs and academics, from North and South of the Mediterranean. IPEMED aims to bring the two sides of the Mediterranean closer together using economics, and to make a concrete contribution to building an integrated, sustainable and socially responsible Euro-Mediterranean area.

- May, 2013: *Mediterranean Breakfast Meetings* - Towards a Euro-Mediterranean energy community <http://www.ipemed.coop/en/events-r18/mediterranean-breakfast-meetings-c53/>
- November, 2010: *Mediterranean Breakfast Meetings* - Solar projects in the Mediterranean: progress and questions <http://www.ipemed.coop/en/events-r18/mediterranean-breakfast-meetings-c53/>

- **FEMIP – Facility for Euro-Mediterranean Investment and Partnership**

The European Investment Bank work to assist the economic and social development of the Mediterranean Partner Countries is brought together under [FEMIP](#). The partnership supports growth and job creation in two priority areas: private sector support (small and medium-sized enterprises and the industrial sector); and creating an investment-friendly environment enabling the private sector to flourish by improving infrastructure in energy, transport and telecoms, environment, and human and social capital. To promote these areas, FEMIP has a range of financing options (loans, private equity and guarantees) and advisory services.

- December, 2013: 13th FEMIP Conference – Energy Efficiency in the Mediterranean region, Brussels. <http://www.eib.org/infocentre/events/all/13th-femip-conference-brussels.htm>

- **Union for the Mediterranean**

- May, 2013: Ad Hoc Senior Officials Meeting on Energy, Jordan. <http://ufmsecretariat.org/29-30052013-ad-hoc-senior-officials-meeting-on-energy/>

More information about the conclusions:

<http://ufmsecretariat.org/wp-content/uploads/2013/06/PRESS-RELEASE-Important-milestone-for-the-Mediterranean-Solar-Plan-MSP-takes-place-at-the-Dead-Sea.pdf>

- February, 2013 : Joint Committee of the Mediterranean Solar Plan (MSP) National Experts held together with the Regional Seminar of the EU funded project "Paving the Way for the MSP", Barcelona. <http://ufmsecretariat.org/19-02-2013-mediterranean-solar-plan-joint-committee-of-msp-national-experts/>

- **Other activities and events**

- **The Annual Desert Energy Conference.** The [Annual Desert Energy Conference](#) is a platform for high-level international representatives from the political as well as scientific communities, civil society and industry to take action towards building stronger renewable energy markets around the Mediterranean. As the potential economic benefits of renewable energy in North Africa and the Middle East are uncovered, the imperative for leaders from all sides to gather to find accord on actionable plans is as great as it ever has been.

October, 2013: 4th Dii Desert Energy Conference, Rabat. <http://www.dii-conference.com/> DESARROLLAR

5.3 Food

- **IPEMED – Institut de Prospective Économique du Monde Méditerranéen**

- April, 2013: How to achieve food security in the Mediterranean?, Meknes <http://www.ipemed.coop/en/events-r18/seminars-and-symposiums-c135/how-to-achieve-food-security-in-the-mediterranean-a1961.html>

- **Other activities and events**

- **SWUP-MED Project.** Funded by the 7th Framework Programme of the EC, the strategic objective of the [SWUP-MED project](#) is to improve food production by introducing climate-proof varieties in crop rotations of wheat, grain legumes and new crops (potentially high value food cash crops), in a rainfed system with supplemental deficit irrigation using marginal-quality water and harvested rainwater. This will accelerate adoption of improved agricultural practices supporting small farmers' livelihood and income levels

March, 2013: SWUP-MED Project Final Conference: "Sustainable water use for securing food production in the Mediterranean region under changing climate", Agadir. <http://www.emwis.net/thematicdirs/events/2013/03/swup-med-project-final-conference-sustainable-water-use-securing-food-production/>

- **The General Fisheries Commission for the Mediterranean (GFCM).** Consisting of 23 Member countries along with the European Union, the GFCM's objectives are to promote the development, conservation, rational management and best utilization of living marine resources, as well as the sustainable development of aquaculture in the Mediterranean, Black Sea and connecting waters. Membership

is open to both Mediterranean coastal states and regional economic organizations as well as to United Nations member states whose vessels engage in fishing in Mediterranean waters.

The Agreement for the establishment of the General Fisheries Commission for the Mediterranean (GFCM), under the provisions of Article XIV of the FAO constitution, was approved by the FAO Conference in 1949 and entered into force in 1952. Amendments to this Agreement were approved in 1963, 1976 and 1997. The latter amendments were related to the change in name of GFCM previously "General Fisheries Council for the Mediterranean" and to new obligations for the Contracting Parties including their contributions to an autonomous budget for the functioning of the Commission. These new obligations came into force on 29 April 2004.

November, 2013 : First Regional Symposium on Sustainable Small- Scale Fisheries in the Mediterranean and Black Sea, St. Julian's.

<http://www.ssf-symposium.org/SitePages/SteeringScientificCommittee.aspx>

5.4 RTDI Policies in the Mediterranean

- **CMI – Marseille Center for Mediterranean Integration:**

- November, 2013: National Innovation Systems: Input, Output and Impact, Amman. <http://beta.cmimarseille.org/highlights/national-innovation-systems-input-output-and-impact>
- November, 2013: Governance and Management of Science and Technology Parks in MENA Region, Casablanca. <http://beta.cmimarseille.org/highlights/governance-and-management-science-and-technology-parks>

The workshop objective will be to address the challenges that executives of STP in the region face in formulating adequate governance and management structures that accommodate the interest of different stakeholders involved. It will offer a platform to discuss experiences in finding appropriate STP models, and will present best practices but also failures to learn from.

- **IPEMED – Institut de Prospective Économique du Monde Méditerranéen**

- July, 2011: *Mediterranean Breakfast Meetings* - Mediterranean digital society : the role played by ICT in the Arab revolutions <http://www.ipemed.coop/en/events-r18/mediterranean-breakfast-meetings-c53/>

- **Other activities and events**

- **European Commission**

April, 2012: Euro-Mediterranean Conference on Research and Innovation, Barcelona. http://ec.europa.eu/research/conferences/2012/euro-mediterranean/index_en.cfm

- **The Western Mediterranean Forum.** Commonly referred to as 5+5 Dialogue, the [Western Mediterranean Forum](#) was officially launched in Rome in 1990 as an informal sub-regional forum which main aim was to foster relations between European countries and the newly born Arab Maghreb Union. The 5+5 Dialogue comprises Algeria, France, Italy, Libya, Malta, Mauritania, Morocco, Portugal, Spain and Tunisia.

As a trans-Mediterranean cooperation initiative, the rationale of the 5+5 Dialogue is to provide an informal forum in which the five EU member states and the five Maghreb countries have the chance to discuss subjects of topical interest for the region and to identify new areas for practical cooperation.

September 2013: 5+5 Conference of States of the Western Mediterranean (Mauritania, Morocco, Algeria, Tunisia, Libya, Portugal, Spain, France, Italy and Malta) on Scientific Research.

October 2013: First Economic Forum of the Western Mediterranean – 5+5 Dialogue, Barcelona.

<http://ufmsecretariat.org/the-economic-forum-of-the-western-mediterranean-dialogue-55/>

- **WBC INCO.Net Project**

November, 2013: International evaluation conference “New Horizons / New Challenges: evaluation of STI policies, instruments and organisations”, Vienna <http://wbc-inco.net/object/event/12093>

- **Anna Lindh Mediterranean Forum.** The [Anna Lindh Mediterranean Forum](#) is a unique gathering that brings together youth leaders and civil society organisations, in addition to influential policy-makers and intercultural experts from across the Euro-Mediterranean region.

April, 2013: Anna Lindh Mediterranean Forum, Marseille <http://www.annalindhforum.org/>

- **Agropolis International.** The [Association Agropolis International](#) was founded in Montpellier in 1986 by the research and higher education institutes working in the field of agriculture, food, biodiversity and environment, with the support of government and local authorities. This platform is open to the development of the mediterranean and tropical regions; it also gathers a large range of stakeholders and partners involved in economic development.

September, 2013 : Enjeux et perspectives des Recherches transméditerranéennes, Montpellier. <http://www.agropolis.fr/actualites/2013-journees-transmed.php>

6. Links to background reference documents for the EMEG Group

Among others, an important MED-Spring component is EMEG (Euro-Mediterranean Expert Group), which acts as a “think tank” and is constituted of [45 experts](#), grouped in three sub-theme respectively with resource efficiency (water), high quality affordable food and energy. Experts are coming from EU Member States (MS), Associated Countries (AC) and Southern Mediterranean Countries, having different background and representing different stakes: research, innovation, policy, private sector, socio-economics, gender issue and others.

EMEG is expected to report on the valorization of “Research results” and provide recommendations for actions targeted to EU institutions and programmes (particularly, Horizon 2020), policy makers and relevant research actors from the civil society in Europe and South Mediterranean countries.

EMEG met for the first time last June 2013 in Lisbon, where they discussed and produced a position paper¹ which presents the recommendations for the Euro-Mediterranean research agenda. This document, available in the project AGORA website, has been open to discussion² in interaction with the website visitors.

Furthermore the [rationale](#)³ prepared for the EMEG group, MED-SPRING has compiled the following repository of references for this group:

- **General information:** It has been uploaded the outcomes of the Open Consultation for [energy](#), [food](#) and [water](#), the [barriers](#) and the [positive factors](#), as well as a [brief overview of the activities](#) (call topics) targeted to the Mediterranean Partner Countries in the frame of FP7 (EU 7th Research Framework Programme), particularly in FP7-Cooperation Themes “Environment - ENV”, “Food, Agriculture and Fisheries and Biotechnology – KBBE”, “Non-nuclear energy – ENERGY”. The selection of these “Themes” was made taking into account the main societal challenges focused by MEDSPRING: “Resource efficiency, particularly water”, “Energy” and “High Quality Affordable Food”.
- Regarding the **EU reports on Research**, the following information is available:
 - [Beyond Scientific Publication: Strategies for Disseminating Research Findings.](#)
 - [Dissemination and implementation of environmental research.](#)

¹ Please click here to get the document <http://agora.medspring.eu/sites/default/files/uploads/emegpositionpaper.pdf>

² For further information please visit <http://agora.medspring.eu/en/content/emeg-position-paper>

³ This document will facilitate the preparation of recommendations for actions as well as the preparation of a report on the valorization of “Research results” targeted to the EU institutions, policy makers and relevant research actors from the civil society in Europe and South Mediterranean countries

- Green Paper - From Challenges to Opportunities Towards a Common Strategic Framework for EU.
 - Increasing Impact of the EU International S&T Cooperation for the Transition towards Sustainable Development - 2005.
 - Report on strategies for communication of scientific results in the food sector.
 - So much research evidence, so little dissemination and uptake - 2002.
 - Euromed-2030-Long term challenges for the Mediterranean area report.
- The **Euro-Mediterranean Conference on Research and Innovation** (held in Barcelona on 2-3 April 2012) delivered a number of key documents for the MED-SPRING challenges:
- Report on the Euro-Mediterranean Conference on Research and Innovation.
 - Euro-Mediterranean Conference on Research and Innovation - session energy.
 - Euro-Mediterranean Conference on Research and Innovation - session water.

Furthermore, MED-SPRING has identified several Euro-Mediterranean projects whose conclusions and results must be taken into account in the EMEG discussions:

- The **FP7 - MIRA project**:
- CRIA Synthetic Report on trends and future activities in S&T in the Euro-Mediterranean Space.
 - Minutes on the MIRA Energy Workshop.
 - MIRA Recommendations for SICA in Environment.
 - MIRA Report FAB workshop.
 - Synthetic report on the workshop on thematic priorities.
- The **ESTIME project**:
- For Algeria: Situation de la R&D dans l'industrie algérienne. Cas de trois entreprises publiques.
 - For Jordan: Science & Technology and Innovation Profile of Jordan. A report for evaluation of Scientific and Technological Capabilities in Mediterranean Countries (ESTIME).
 - For Lebanon: Evaluation of Scientific, Technology and Innovation Capabilities in Lebanon.
 - For Morocco: La production scientifique du Maroc 2008.
 - For Tunisia, there are three documents: Le systeme national de recherche en Tunisie, La dynamique de la recherche en Tunisie and Les usages de la recherche en Tunisie.

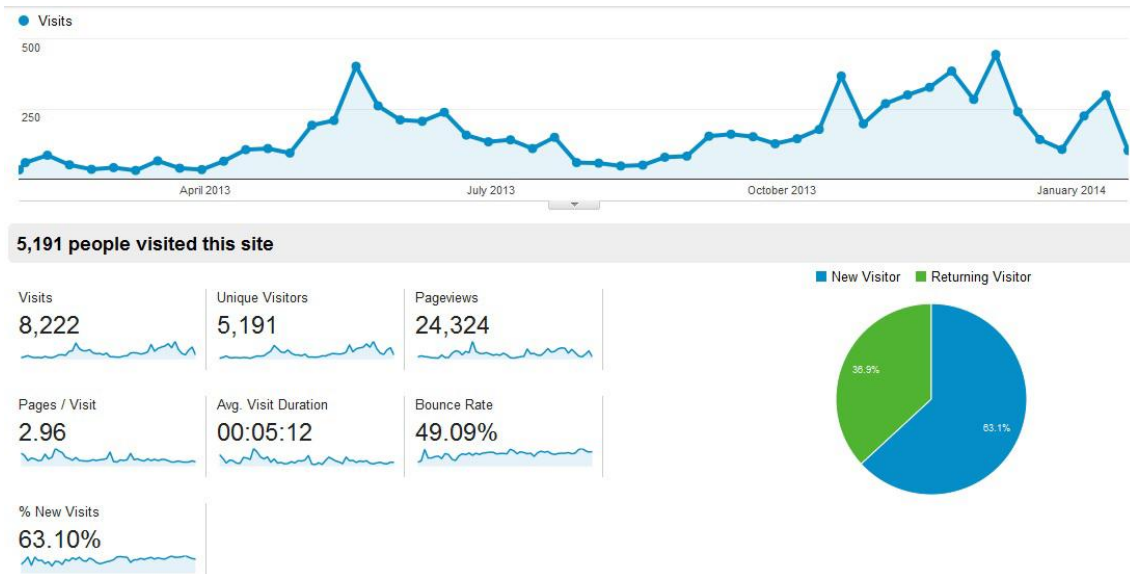
- You can also find the final report for ESTIME.
- The **FP7- CONSIDER project**, CSO participation in research governance:
 - Civil society organizations in designing Research Governance.
 - Framework for the Comparison of Theories and CSO Participation in Research Governance.

7. Google Analytics summary report

The first version of the MED-SPRING website has been developed and managed by CSIC accounting the communication needs of the project. The website is available at the following link: <http://www.medspring.eu/>

For the implementation of the project portal, different sections dealing with the societal challenges addressed by the project have been created, as well as a repository of information on cooperation experiences and project main activities. The portal complements the activities of the Euro-Mediterranean Agora (WP4), however it mainly focuses on making visible the project activities and serves as repository of information concerning the project activities and deliverables. The website has been enriched with quality multimedia content produced and elaborated in order to reach a wider public (articles, news, written interviews), both produced by the coordination team, and also provided by other project partners. The contents cover the activities of the project, other EU and non-EU-funded projects' activities and support scientific and non scientific outreaching and dissemination.

During this first year, from February 2013 to February 2014, around 5200 people (unique visitors) visited the MED-SPRING project website, generating around 8200 visits and around 24300 page views, as shown in the figure just below:



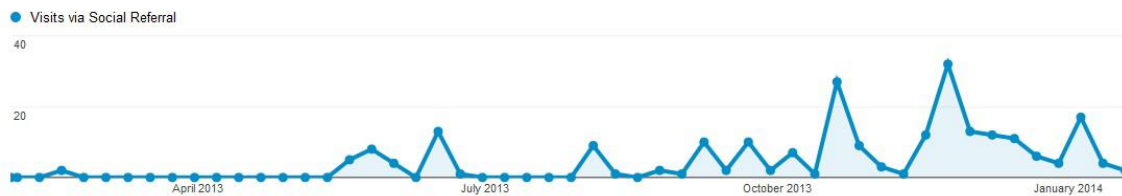
Google defines a “visit” as a group of interactions that take place on your website within a given time frame. For example a single visit can contain multiple pageviews, events, social interactions, custom variables, and e-commerce transactions. Please visit the link <https://support.google.com/analytics/answer/2731565?hl=en> for more information.

Google defines a “page view” as an instance of a page being loaded by a browser. The Pageviews metric is the total number of pages viewed; repeated views of a single page are also counted. You can find more information and the definition in the link: <https://support.google.com/analytics/answer/1006243?hl=en>.

Around 40% of the visitors came from search engines (the so called organic traffic), in particular from Google. Around 32% came directly to the site (by typing in the address or using bookmarks or email links), and the remaining came from links in other websites, which we list in the figure just below, being the important information the list on the left, and the numbers inside the red box:

	Source / Medium ?	Acquisition			Behavior		
		Visits ? ↓	% New Visits ?	New Visits ?	Bounce Rate ?	Pages / Visit ?	Avg. Visit Duration ?
		8,282 % of Total: 100.00% (8,282)	63.14% Site Avg: 63.09% (0.08%)	5,229 % of Total: 100.08% (5,225)	49.03% Site Avg: 49.03% (0.00%)	2.95 Site Avg: 2.95 (0.00%)	00:05:12 Site Avg: 00:05:12 (0.00%)
<input type="checkbox"/>	1. google / organic	3,524	65.52%	2,309	53.94%	2.40	00:03:22
<input type="checkbox"/>	2. (direct) / (none)	2,663	63.24%	1,684	44.24%	4.05	00:08:41
<input type="checkbox"/>	3. agora.medspring.eu / referral	476	31.72%	151	31.30%	3.22	00:04:36
<input type="checkbox"/>	4. iamb.it / referral	128	27.34%	35	27.34%	2.72	00:07:07
<input type="checkbox"/>	5. facebook.com / referral	118	64.41%	76	58.47%	2.06	00:05:46
<input type="checkbox"/>	6. fp7.org.tr / referral	98	90.82%	89	70.41%	1.35	00:03:00
<input type="checkbox"/>	7. enpi-info.eu / referral	92	76.09%	70	47.83%	2.90	00:03:39
<input type="checkbox"/>	8. euromedh2020.com / referral	86	56.98%	49	31.40%	2.88	00:05:00
<input type="checkbox"/>	9. bing / organic	79	37.97%	30	34.18%	2.59	00:04:48
<input type="checkbox"/>	10. ciheam.org / referral	77	62.34%	48	46.75%	2.32	00:05:02

As shown in the figure, the three highest referral sources were "agora.medspring.eu", "iamb.it" and facebook. In total, 231 visitors came directly from social media referrals, and its dynamics during the year come in the figure just below:

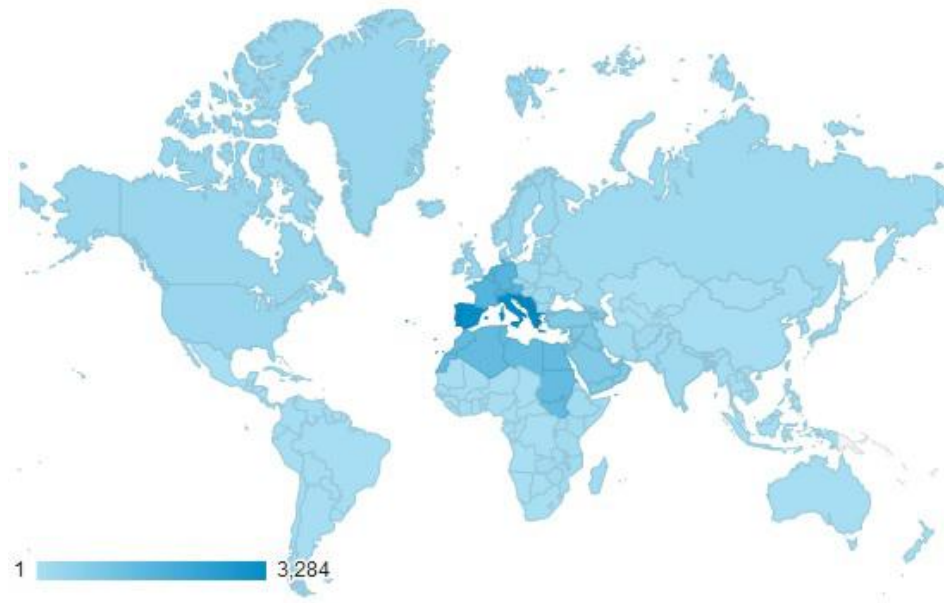


Please find also the data just below:

Primary Dimension: Social Network					
Secondary dimension					
Social Network ?					
	Visits ↓	Pageviews	Avg. Visit Duration	Pages / Visit	
1. Facebook	144	275	00:04:50	1.91	
2. Blogger	37	88	00:03:07	2.38	
3. LinkedIn	32	58	00:00:59	1.81	
4. Twitter	16	17	00:01:50	1.06	
5. Digg	1	1	00:00:26	1.00	
6. paper.li	1	1	00:00:00	1.00	

7610 visits came from a desktop PC, 415 visits came from mobile devices and 257 from tablet devices. We even have the information on everyone of the device models that visited the website, in particular we have 216 visits from Apple iPad and 128 from Apple iPhone.

Please find in the figure below the visits to the project website in a worldwide map, being the difference in the color related to the number of visits:



Find also below the numbers related to the map in the figure just above:

Sub Continent Region ?	Acquisition			Behavior		
	Visits ? ↓	% New Visits ?	New Visits ?	Bounce Rate ?	Pages / Visit ?	Avg. Visit Duration ?
	8,589 % of Total: 100.00% (8,589)	63.43% Site Avg: 63.38% (0.07%)	5,448 % of Total: 100.07% (5,444)	49.21% Site Avg: 49.21% (0.00%)	2.93 Site Avg: 2.93 (0.00%)	00:05:09 Site Avg: 00:05:09 (0.00%)
1. Southern Europe	3,258	47.64%	1,552	37.97%	4.30	00:08:27
2. Western Europe	1,640	67.87%	1,113	50.73%	2.32	00:02:51
3. Northern Africa	1,374	63.17%	868	47.16%	2.49	00:05:02
4. Western Asia	815	73.25%	597	52.52%	2.15	00:04:09
5. Northern America	322	94.10%	303	81.68%	1.45	00:01:17
6. Northern Europe	305	87.21%	266	59.02%	1.56	00:01:15
7. Eastern Europe	204	89.71%	183	61.76%	1.65	00:01:02
8. Southern Asia	188	97.87%	184	77.66%	1.43	00:00:43
9. Eastern Africa	141	43.97%	62	79.43%	1.21	00:01:47
10. (not set)	94	92.55%	87	74.47%	1.43	00:00:33

We can see that most of the visits came from southern Europe countries, but also from western Europe, northern Africa and western Asia.

Finally, search visitors came to the project website looking for the topics shown in the word cloud below, being the bigger the letter, more the times the word was searched:

