

Mediterranean Science, Policy, Research & Innovation Gateway

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The Mediterranean Science, Policy, Research and Innovation Gateway (MED-SPRING) is a Coordination Action financed by the INCO-Net instrument under the FP7 - Capacities Programme. The aim of the Project is to contribute to the quality of the Euro-Mediterranean research area, with a particular focus on the bi-regional Euro-Mediterranean S&T cooperation, research and innovation, policy dialogue and cooperation monitoring.

Welcome to the 16th MED-SPRING E-Newsletter!

Dear readers, welcome to the sixteenth and last issue of the MED-SPRING E-Newsletter, which has the purpose of informing about our activities and involving researchers, stakeholders, policy makers and governmental officers in a renewed strategy for the Euro-Mediterranean partnership, with a particular focus on the Euro-Mediterranean Science and Technology Cooperation.

KEEP AN EYE ON: **AGORA MED-SPRING**

The main MED-SPRING past activities

• MED-SPRING Kick-off Meeting

On Monday, February 4th 2013, representatives of 18 Mediterranean countries gathered at CIHEAM Bari to launch MEDSPRING (Mediterranean Science, Policy, Research and Innovation Gateway) Project, an initiative based on dialogue on research and innovation on three key issues for the Mediterranean region: Water, Food, Energy. MEDSPRING project is coordinated by CIHEAM Bari Institute and financed by the European Commission - DG for Research and Innovation.

• First EMEG meeting

The first meeting of the EMEG experts group conveyed about 50 experts from Europe and South Mediterranean countries (Algeria, Egypt, Jordan, Israel,

Lebanon, Morocco, Palestine, Tunisia, Turkey) to discuss ways and means to increase uptake of research results and enhance a positive socio-economic impact on the civil society with regard to important challenges like water resources, food quality and security, energy.



• Euro-Mediterranean inter-institutional and training-awareness meeting

From 11th to 12th July 2013 the workshop "Inter-institutional Capacity Building & Awareness Workshop", organized by MEDSPRING in Beirut, conveyed senior officials and researchers of key organizations and main actors from Europe and South Mediterranean Countries to discuss prospects of Euro-Mediterranean cooperation on Science and Technology under a form of a more stable and sustainable cooperation.

- ***Training for Mediterranean NCPs on H2020***

From the 9th to 11th December 2013, MEDSPRING organised in Amman (Jordan), a three-day training activity (21 hours) hosted by HCST, in collaboration with DLR, UNIMED and CIHEAM-IAMB called Training on H2020 for Mediterranean NCPs. With the idea of carrying out a "Training for Trainers", the event aimed at providing Mediterranean-NCPs with fresh knowledge and insight of H2020, which would help them to organize training and coaching of local researchers and professionals in their own countries and get them acquainted with the structure of H2020.



- ***Policy, Societal Challenges and Cooperation Observatory - 1st Observatory Networking Meeting***

Internationalization and multi-polarization of research opens a critical avenue to observatories that describe the many aspects of global challenges, which need to be address with interdisciplinary teams and a long-term vision. The Mediterranean Observatories are now sufficiently numerous to create a diversified and heterogeneous institutional landscape. These differences need to be respected, and complementarities highlighted. They are both the result of thematic focus and institutional history.

- ***Deepening H2020 - Opportunities for Euro-Mediterranean cooperation to enhance research networking and partnerships***

In view of the H2020 Launch event "Meeting Euro-Med Common Challenges" foreseen on 9th February 2014, MEDSPRING organized a workshop aiming at facilitating participation and networking of researchers and other relevant actors in relation to H2020 call topics. Participants registered to the H2020 Launch event on 9th February are encouraged to participate.

- ***MEDSPRING project first annual meeting***

The 1st Annual Meeting of the General Assembly has been organised by MHESR (Deputy Co-ordinator) in Cairo, Egypt, from the 9th to 11th February 2014. The Annual Meeting has been the occasion to take stock of project activities and results, planning the future as well as having a constructive exchange with the External Advisory Board.



- ***First Euro-Mediterranean brokerage event on Research and Innovation***

Within the framework of MedSpring project, MHESR (Egypt), DLR (Germany), CIHEAM-IAMB (Italy), AN-IMA Investment Network (France) and MCST (Malta) organized from the 12th to 13th February 2013 in Cairo, Egypt, the first MedSpring Brokerage event on Research and Innovation. For two days, 15 Mediterranean young entrepreneurs and researchers gathered together to present their innovative ideas and had the opportunity to find away to concretize them by attracting financial, technical and networking support.



- ***Multistakeholder meeting on Societal challenges***

MED-SPRING organized the multistakeholder meeting "Societal challenges to reinforce the frame of Euro-Mediterranean cooperation on research and innovation" in Brussels last 28th April 2014.

- ***Awareness raising campaign on STI joint programming across the MPCs***

MEDSPRING organized last 10th June 2014 in Rabat the Awareness raising campaign on STI joint Programming across the MPCs. The aim of this event was to increase awareness at national level of the on-going efforts and activities to foster Euro-Mediterranean cooperation.

- **Training on H2020 for Mediterranean NCPs, research managers and researchers**

MEDSPRING organized the "Training on H2020 for Mediterranean NCPs, research managers and researchers" in Marrakesh, Morocco, from 11th to 13th June 2014. The event is the second one planned in the frame of the Capacity Building programme set by MedSpring on the new EU research framework programme Horizon2020.

- **Second Euro-Mediterranean inter-institutional meeting**

MEDSPRING organized in Bari, Italy, on 15th July 2015 the "Second Inter-institutional Meeting", which conveyed senior officials and researchers of key organizations and main actors from Europe and South Mediterranean Countries to discuss prospects of Euro-Mediterranean cooperation on Science and Technology under a form of a more stable and sustainable cooperation. Please find the event agenda.

- **Civil Society's Perspective on Food Security**

MEDSPRING organized a Digital Round Table on Civil Society Perspectives on Food Security on 17th September. With a view on establishing a more structured dialogue with civil society, on the one hand, and on substantiating the work of EMEG - Euro-Mediterranean Expert Group, which acts as a "think tank" of experts - the Digital Round Table focused on the theme food security.



- **Second EMEG meeting on Policy dialogue**

The 2nd EMEG meeting was organized in Sousse, Tunisia, from 22nd to 23rd September 2014 and focused on the Euro-Mediterranean policy dialogue on research and innovation, with the aim of identifying ways and means for policy and policy dialogue to ensure impact on the MedSpring thematic challenges in water, food and energy.



- **Awareness Campaign on STI joint programming across MPCs**

The Meeting on the Awareness Campaign on STI joint programming across MPCs will be held in Algiers, Algeria, next 19th November 2014 in the morning, from 9h to 13h. Please find the event agenda.

- **Meeting on supporting the EU-MPCs bilateral dialogue under current S&T Cooperation Agreements**

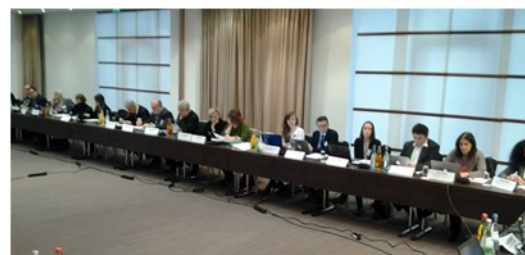
The Meeting on supporting the EU-MPCs bilateral dialogue under current S&T Cooperation Agreements will be held in Algiers, Algeria, next 19th November 2014 in the afternoon, from 15h to 19h. It is a meeting for the identification of common indicators for assessment of S&T Agreements. Please find the event agenda.

- **Euro-Mediterranean projects dialogue to enhance water-energy-food nexus meeting**

CSIC organized in Barcelona, Spain, last 21st and 22nd January 2015, the "Euro-Mediterranean projects dialogue to enhance water-energy-food nexus meeting".

- **Annual Meeting of the General Assembly**

From the 23th to 24th February 2015, MEDSPRING organized in Berlin (Germany), the two-days event, hosted by DLR, "Annual Meeting of the General Assembly".



- **MED-SPRING - 2nd Euro-Mediterranean Brokerage and Venturing Event on Research and Innovation**

From the 25th to 26th February 2015, MedSpring organized in Berlin (Germany), the two-days event, hosted by DLR, in collaboration with MHESR, MCST, ANIMA and CIHEAM-IAMB "2nd Euro-Mediterranean Brokerage and Venturing Event on Research and Innovation".



- **MED-SPRING multi-task event**

MED-SPRING and ERANETMED projects organize together a multi-task event in Beirut, Lebanon, from May 27th to 29th 2015.

- **1st MED-SPRING ScienceCafe - Cultural Heritage contribution to Euro-Mediterranean Cooperation**

Within the framework of the Egyptian-Italian Workshop on Bilateral Scientific Collaboration, MED-SPRING Project is organizing the 1st MED-SPRING ScienceCaf   to discuss about "Cultural Heritage contribution to Euro-Mediterranean Cooperation". The event will be held Tuesday 16 June 2015 at Circolo dei Lettori - Palazzo Garnieri (Turin, Italy).

- **Third EMEG meeting - A frame for a comprehensive understanding of water-energy-food nexus**

From 30 September to 2 October 2015, the MED-SPRING project organized in Malta the 3rd EMEG meeting, hosted by the Malta Council for Science and Technology (MCST), in collaboration with CIHEAM-IAMB and MHESR. The event focused on the development of a frame for a comprehensive understanding of water-food-energy nexus.

- **Training and capacity building on Horizon 2020 for Mediterranean and Middle East NCPs and Research Managers and Second MedSpring Science Cafe**

The INCONTACT2020 project, funded by the European Commission (DG Research and Innovation) under Capacities - INCO Programme of FP7, has supported Horizon 2020 awareness activities around the world by providing training and tools for capacity building and directly supporting the work of NCPs in third countries.

- **MED-SPRING Euro-Mediterranean Observatories meeting on Indicators**

On November 5th, 2015 MED-SPRING will organize the third meeting of Euro-Mediterranean Observatories, hosted by IRD - Marseille in collaboration with CNRS Lebanon. The aim of the event is to discuss and agree a possible set of 10 indicators of water quality monitoring (priority suggested by the participating observatories in their own field of action).

- **MED-SPRING training on Innovation**

MED-SPRING project organized a "Training on Innovation", scheduled from 25th to 27th November 2015. The Training on Innovation was organized in the frame of the EU funded project MED-SPRING in synergy with the capacity building initiatives of the EU funded project MERID, to support networking and cooperation in R&I in the Euro-Mediterranean area.

- **3rd Annual Meeting of the MED-SPRING General Assembly**

From the 18th to 19th February 2016, MED-SPRING organized in Tunis (Tunisia), the two-days event, hosted by the Tunisian Ministry for Research and Higher Education, "Annual Meeting of the General Assembly" and "Project External Advisory Board Meeting".

- **MED-SPRING Euro-Mediterranean NCP networking meeting**

MED-SPRING organizes in Brussels (Belgium) on 4th March 2016 a Networking meeting of National Contact Points from the European Union and Mediterranean Partner Countries. The main objective is to give the opportunity for an exchange between EU NCPs and our Mediterranean Partner Countries NCPs to strengthen Mediterranean NCPs and support a Euro-Med brokerage of NCPs that can facilitate the identification of H2020 calls for proposals and participation of researchers from Mediterranean Partner Countries.

- **MED-SPRING Third Inter-institutional meeting on mobility**

The third inter-institutional meeting of MED-SPRING "Towards an innovative Euro-Mediterranean mobility" was held in Bari on 27th April 2016. Building on the work carried out by MED-SPRING, which lead to the drafting of an "Action Plan for innovative mobility schemes in the Euro-Mediterranean region", the meeting gathered MPCs research ministries/institutions partners of MedSpring, EC representatives in charge for mobility programmes and coordinators of major mobility initiatives in the region.

- **MED-SPRING - 3rd Euro-Mediterranean Brokerage and Venturing Event on Research and Innovation**

From 26th to 27th May 2016, MED-SPRING organized in Valenzano (Italy), and hosted by CIHEAM-IAMB, in collaboration with MHESR, MCST, ANIMA and DLR, the event: "3rd Euro-Mediterranean Brokerage and Venturing Event on Research and Innovation".

- **2nd Training and capacity building on Innovation Systems**

MED-SPRING organized its "2nd Training on Innovation", hosted by the German Aerospace Centre (DLR) in Bonn, Germany and from 20th to 22nd September 2016. Overall, this was the sixth and last workshop on Capacity Building of the MED-SPRING project.



- **Science Cafe on Climate change**

According to the agreements of the 2016 MED-SPRING project Annual Meeting in Tunis, and within the framework of the 5th international symposium on "Environment and Sustainable Development", the Ministry of Higher Education, Scientific Research and Executive Training (MESRSFC) of Morocco organized a Scientific Coffee to discuss about Climate change, on scientific and societal challenges. The event was held on Monday 10 October 2016 at the Faculty of Sciences in Rabat.

- **Call for Innovators for the Euro-Med Hackaton - Ecoefficiency in the AgroFood chain**

The "1st Euro-MedHackathon: Eco-Efficiency in the Agro-Food Chain" will take place in Amman (Jordan) from 14th to 15th December 2016. The 2-day event has been organized by MedSpring and will be hosted by HCST, in collaboration with STRD-II programme, MH-ESR, and CIHEAM-IAMB.



- **4th Annual Meeting of the MED-SPRING General Assembly and Final Conference - The MedSpring legacy for Euro-Mediterranean Cooperation on R&I**

On July 6th and 7th 2017, MEDSPRING organized in Brussels (BE) a two-days event, hosted by the European Commission. The "Annual Meeting of the General Assembly" will be held on July 6th, while the Final Conference "The MedSpring legacy for Euro-Mediterranean Cooperation on R&I", will be held on July 7th.



Meet our Partners! The IAMB-CIHEAM

CIHEAM Bari is a Centre for post-graduate training, applied scientific research and design of in loco partnership actions within the framework of international research and cooperation programmes. The Mediterranean Agronomic Institute of Bari and the Institute of Montpellier were the first to be established by CIHEAM.

CIHEAM Bari enjoys the privileges of extra-territoriality granted to international organisations by the Republic of Italy through the Establishment agreement signed to the Italian Government in 1962, ratified in Italy with law N. 932 of 13 July 1965 and with the supplementary protocol to the Agreement ratified with law N. 159 of 26 May 2000. The building of CIHEAM Bari campus started in 1970 near Valenzano. The current headquarters were inaugurated on 27 October 1972.

In line with CIHEAM's Action Plan 2025 for the Mediterranean (CAPMED 2025), CIHEAM Bari is involved in a number of activities which provide a platform for institutions and organizations wishing to cooperate across the Mediterranean area. Furthermore, the experience gained may often be transferred to other regions of the world. Special attention is paid to the involvement of CIHEAM Bari Alumni, especially in their countries of origin.

Cooperation and research actions concern important issues such as food security, poverty alleviation, capacity building at institutional level, more efficient use of natural resources, improvement of agricultural production and productivity, promotion of organic farming, development of sustainable food systems, resilience to climate change,

integrated management of coastal areas, gender empowerment, fisheries and aquaculture, etc.

The networking activities conducted by CIHEAM Bari involve hundreds of institutions located in several countries, consolidating professional contacts, institutional and multi-stakeholder partnerships, country-to-country relationships and joint initiatives with the private sector. This paves the way to self-generating exchange of information, technical and professional expertise, publications, innovative research and educational activities, conferences and seminars, harmonization of methodological guidelines, etc. Maurizio Raeli is the Director of CIHEAM Bari since January 2017.

Read more: http://www.iamb.it/en/about/bari_institute.

Colophon: *This E-Newsletter has been developed within the framework of the MED-SPRING Project (FP7-INCO.Net 311780). For further information about the project please visit the official website: <http://www.medspring.eu>. Edited/Written by MED-SPRING WP3 Team and MED-SPRING Coordination team. Images by MED-SPRING.*