PRIMA

Partnership for Research and Innovation in the Med Area

An integrated programme on food systems and water resources for the development of inclusive, sustainable and healthy Euro-Mediterranean societies

> Rome, February 16, 2016 UN SDSN Mediterranean General Assembly Prof. Angelo Riccaboni PRIMA Chair Rector of University of Siena

Mediterranean Area

Exploitation of natural resources, climate change, urbanisation

The sustainable production and provision of adequate quantity and quality of food and water

Socio-economic conditions, wellbeing and health of people, and the societal stability of the Region /the whole EU Recent years -> many cooperation networks/initiatives: bilateral (state-to-state and EU-single state) multilateral (framework programme or major regional programmes)

Interesting achievements

- INCONET: MIRA and MED SPRING to favor S&T policy dialogue and support with concrete actions the process towards an Art.185
- BILAT: EARN (DZ), EU-JORDAN Net II (JO), MOBILISE (MO)
- ERA-WIDEs
- ERANET with MPCs: ARIMNET 1 and 2 (Agri-food); FORESTERRA, SEAS-ERA, MARINERA; MARIFISH...
- ERANETMED (ERANET in the frame of INCO CAPACITY)
- other projects dealing with the Mediterranean area (es. Perseus)

An integrated approach is needed

Given the MED challenges and experience gained

EU countries and MPCs:

An integrated programme on food systems and water resources for the development of inclusive, sustainable and healthy Euro-Mediterranean societies

<u>Co-ownership</u>, mutual interest and shared benefit

<u>Co-financed</u> and <u>**Co-designed**</u>

- Long-term orientation
- Avoiding fragmentation and duplications in R&I
- Focused on Research, Innovation and Adoption of solutions

Towards an initiative under article 185 TFEU

2-3 April 2012, Barcelona

EuroMediterranean conference on R&I - Conclusions "initiative under article 185"

July 2012, Nicosia Informal meeting of the ministers in charge of research, creati on of an Open-end Core Group, transformed in General Assembly (9-14)

Meetings: Nicosia (7/2012), Paris (7/2012), Marrakech (1/2013), Rome (4/201 3) Beirut (7/2013), Istanbul (11/2013), Paris (12/2013), Rome (2/2014), Beirut (3/2014), Bari (7/2014), Brussels (9 and 10/2014)

13 May 2014, Athens Informal meeting of the Ministers in charge of research

26 May 2014, Brussels Competitiveness Council

5 December 2014, Brussels Competitiveness Council

22 December 2014

Submission of PRIMA Joint Programme Proposal to the Commission

Goal

To develop <u>innovative solutions</u> and promote their <u>adoption</u> for improving the efficiency and sustainability of food productions and water provision

in order to support an inclusive well-being and socioeconomic development in the Mediterranean Area

> within the framework of a reinforced Euro-Mediterranean co-operation

Specific OBJECTIVES

• To enhance knowledge and unlock its innovation potential for <u>food security and water availability</u>

• To advance existing knowledge and innovations for water and food quality and safety

Criticalities	Operational Objectives
Overexploitation of natural resources and unsustainable ways of farming	To develop <u>smart and sustainable</u> <u>farming systems</u> to maintain natural resources and to increase production efficiency
On-farm irrigation inefficiencies	To test and stimulate adoption of context-tailored <u>water-saving</u> <u>solutions</u> , in particular in agriculture
Changes in food demand and their consequences on food supply chains, nutrition and health	To innovate in <u>the Mediterranean food</u> <u>products based on Mediterranean diet</u> <u>heritage</u> and to enhance the links between nutrition and health
Food and water losses and wastes	To find context-adapted solutions <u>to</u> <u>increase food and water chain</u> <u>efficiency</u> , and reduce losses and wastes

Criticalities	Operational Objectives
Animal and plant diseases	To design and promote the adoption of novel approaches <u>to reduce the impact</u> of pests and pathogens in farming, including their consequences on human health
Business Food systems unable to create employment and economic growth	To conceive and <u>implement innovative</u> , <u>quality oriented models in agro-</u> <u>business</u> as potential sources of new jobs and economic growth
Erosion of soil and mismanagement of water cycle at the watershed level	To improve <u>land and water</u> <u>sustainability</u> in arid and semi-arid watersheds
Inequitable water allocation and un- sustainable water management	To elaborate and stimulate adoption of new models for the governance of <u>water management systems</u>

Objective 1 smart & sustainable farming natural resources increase production Objective 2 water-saving solutions agriculture

Enhance knowledge & unlock innovation potential for food security & water availability

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Advance existing knowledge & innovations for water & food quality & safety

Objective 7 improve land & water sustainability semi-arid watersheds

Objective 6 innovative models in agro-business new jobs economic growth Objective 3

solutions for agrofood industry nutritional Mediterranean heritage

Objective 4

solutions for food & water chain efficiency reduce losses & wastes

Objective 5

reduce pests & pathogens in farming human health

Objective 8

new governance models water management

PILLAR 1

Sustainable management of water arid and semi-arid Med areas

PILLAR 2

Sustainable farming systems under Med environmental constraints

PRIMA OBJECTIVES

2. To test and stimulate adoption of context-tailored water-saving solutions, in particular in agriculture 7. To improve land and water

sustainability in arid and semi-arid watersheds

doption of new policies and protoco or the governance of water nanagement systems

PRIMA OBJECTIVES

 To develop smart and sustainable farming systems to maintain natural resources and to increase production efficiency

 To design and promote the adoption of novel approaches to reduce the impact of pests and pathogens in farming, including their consequences on human health

PILLAR 3

Mediterranean food value chain for regional and local development

PRIMA OBJECTIVES

3. To innovate in the Mediterranean food products based on Mediterranean diet heritage and to enhance the links between nutrition and health

4. To find context-adapted solutions to increase food and water chain efficiency, and reduce losses and wastes

6. To conceive and implement innovative, quality oriented models in agro-business as potential sources of new jobs and economic growth

MAIN ACTIONS

networking, capacity building, adoption

technologies), social challenges

Research sub-themes / topics

towards sustainable and competitive

food models (i.e.: Mediterranean diet) and agro-business. • Social innovation and market potential through Med. food model/s.

 Development of low cost technologies for better affordability and sustainability

in relation to food quality

MAIN ACTIONS

Research, networking, capacity building, adoption of innovative sustainable technologies (in particular low-cost and low-inputs technologies)

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Research, demonstration, capacity building, adoption of innovative sustainable technologies (in particular low-cost and low-inputs technologies)

Research sub-themes / topics

 Crop productivity under water scarcity
IntegratedPest management
Adaptation of plants/production and resilience to climate variability and other natural hazards
Managing impact of human / industrial hazards on food production (management risk)
Integratedbioeconomysystems

8 PRIMA Objectives grouped in 3 Pillars

Research sub-themes / topics

 Governance of integrated water saving (measurements of crop water requirements, irrigation performance, precision agriculture, water productivity, irrigation-water Use Efficiency, water reuse, unconventional waters)
Biotechnologies and agrotechnologies for selection of climate-proof plants and for the

scarcity and associatedenvironmental and biotic

Groundwatermonitoring and control

Regional water balance
Innovation and social innovation

(agricultural water related) • Sustainable agriculture practice

 Sustainable agriculture practices (biodiversity conservation/valorization, climate resilient crops, organic farming)

Monitoring PRIMA impacts through SDG indicators

Appropriateness of an Art 185 TFEU initiative

An article 185 initiative is the most suitable instrument to tackle the global challenges of the Mediterranean region in an integrated way.

Scientific integration

Multi-annual **joint implementation** of a **common agenda** optimizing national R&I activities and programmes

Management integration

Joint management operated through an independent legal entity

the Dedicated Implementation Structure reduction of transaction costs; avoid duplications;
alignment of existing programmes

Financial integration

High level and solid multiannual financial commitments by participating states

Added Value

For European and MED citizens

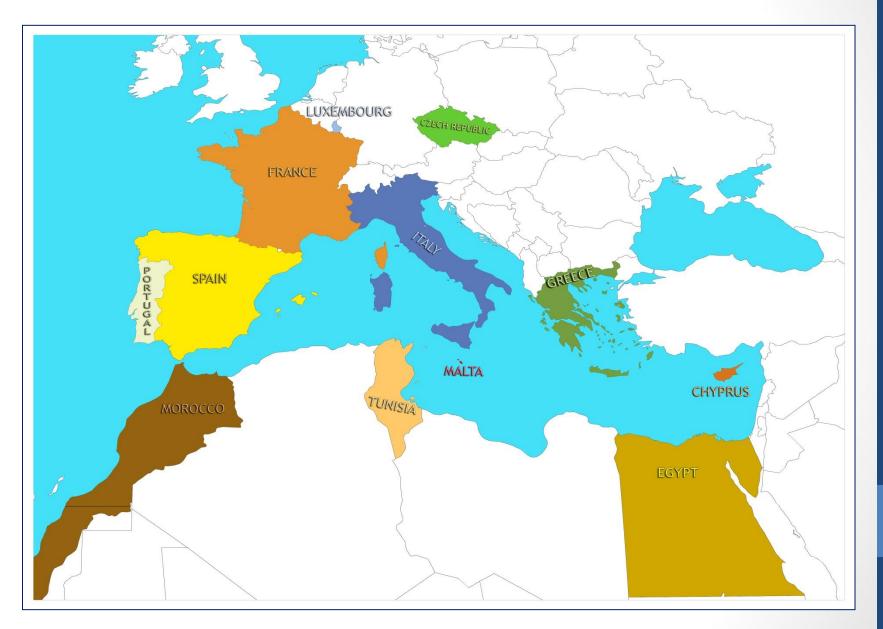
- MED opportunities for researchers and capacity building (training, mobility, research infrastructures)
- Competitiveness and job creation
- Development of inclusive, sustainable and healthy societies
- Stability

Scientific diplomacy

Dedicated Implementation Structure

- The UfM Secretariat as possible location of the PRIMA's dedicated implementation structure
 - ✓ its rules are based on the financial regulation applicable to the EC
 - ✓ all its activities and projects are based on the principle of variable geometry
- Both structures would stand as two autonomous but associated institutions

Financial Commitment Expressed



Dec 5 - Competiveness Council Meeting, Brussels

The Council invited the EC, in full respect of its right of initiative, to launch an Impact Assessment

Dec 22 - Submission of PRIMA Joint Programme proposal to the EC by Minister Giannini

Inviting the Commission to undertake the impact analysis to assess EU participation in the initiative, on the basis of Article 185 TFEU Feb 16, 2015 - Letter by Ministers of the Member States participating in PRIMA to Commissioner Moedas to urge early start of the impact assessment

Mar 19 - Commissioner Moedas announced that, convinced by the quality of the project, will start the procedures for the impact assessment as soon as possible, proposing a parallel accompanying measure

May 15 - Min Giannini: appreciation for having stressed political significance" of PRIMA and "role of science as a bridge between the two shores of the MED"

May 26 - Commissioner Moedas proposes a CSA and asks his services to liaise with PRIMA

Growing support of ministers for agriculture and foreign affairs.

Importance of the PRIMA reaffirmed by "5+5 Dialogue" held in Madrid in March 2015.

The science diplomacy nature of the PRIMA initiative is also clearly emerging.



Submitted to the EC on January 26, 2016

The 4PRIMA Coordination and Support Action:

- Activities aimed at supporting the establishment of a long-term, well-structured and integrated partnership for research and innovation (R&I) on food systems and water resources
- Strategic Research and Innovation Agenda (SRIA) and an associated implementation plan
- Extensive participatory process that will target a critical mass of key players at international level and all relevant stakeholders of the sectors



The 4PRIMA Coordination and Support Action:

- Wide portfolio of results and relationships generated in previous and on-going EU projects, seeking cooperation between EU and Mediterranean Partner Countries (MPCs)
- Exploration of avenues for awareness raising and development of strategic alliances with key stakeholders





Next steps

- set-up of an expert group (comprised of 9 members from 9 different countries);
- stakeholder consultation;
- finalisation of the impact assessment (IA) report;
- launch of a possible dedicated Coordination and Support Action (CSA);
- adoption of the proposal by the EC;
- final adoption of the proposal by the Council and the European Parliament in the first half of 2017 under the Malta Presidency.

If the impact assessment will be positive:

2016 Submission of EC Proposal to EU Council and EP

2017 Launch of the initiative under Maltese Presidency

PRIMA

Partnership for Research and Innovation in the Med Area

Co-ownership, mutual interest and shared benefit

Co-financed and Co-designed

Science a leading role in strengthening the partnership between the two shores of the Mediterranean