



ACTING TOGETHER FOR THE MEDITERRANEAN

ANALYSIS AND PERSPECTIVES
OF CROSS-BORDER COOPERATION



Programme
funded by the
EUROPEAN UNION



**ENPI
CBCMED**
CROSS-BORDER COOPERATION
IN THE MEDITERRANEAN



REGIONE AUTÒNOMA
DE SARDIGNA
REGIONE AUTONOMA
DELLA SARDEGNA

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LIST OF ACRONYMS

BO	Programme Branch Offices based in Aqaba and Valencia
CBC	Cross-Border Cooperation
ICZM	Integrated Coastal Zone Management
EC	European Commission
ENI	European Neighbourhood Instrument
ENP	European Neighbourhood Policy
ENPI	European Neighbourhood and Partnership Instrument
EU	European Union
EUMC	European Union Mediterranean Countries
JOP	Joint Operational Programme
JMC	Joint Monitoring Committee
JPC	Joint Programming Committee
JTS	Joint Technical Secretariat
MA	Managing Authority
MED	Mediterranean
MPC	Mediterranean Partner Countries
MSMEs	Micro, Small, Medium Enterprises
NEET	Not in Education, Employment or Training
NGOs	Non-Governmental Organisations
SMEs	Small and Medium Enterprises

INTRODUCTION: OVERVIEW OF THE REPORT

FOREWORD

Dear readers,



This report provides an overview of selected cross-border results achieved by the 95 projects funded by the ENPI CBC MED Programme 2007-2013, as well as a collection of valuable project outcomes suitable for additional support at regional and national level. Drawing on the experience of the Joint Managing Authority (JMA), the Joint Technical Secretariat (JTS) and the Branch Offices (BOs), it is intended to inform not only the 13 national delegations directly involved in the Programme, but it also offers a contribution to all stake-

holders interested in supporting new policies, enlarged networks and pilot initiatives at Mediterranean level. It is thus open to a wide range of actors, and it is expected to clearly convey the message of the added value of cross-border cooperation, within and beyond the Mediterranean area.

Based on the same core values of co-ownership, partnership and common benefits and with its financial envelope of €209 million, the new CBC Mediterranean Sea Basin Programme 2014-2020 remains the largest cross-border cooperation initiative from a financial point of view, out of 16 other Programmes to be implemented with Partner Countries to the East and South of the EU's external borders under the European Neighbourhood Policy. As the strategic framework of the new Programme still pivots around the general objective of fostering fair, equitable and sustainable economic, social and territorial development, which may advance cross-border integration and enhance participating countries' territories and values, evaluating its first results and lessons learnt is key to enhance the potential of cross-border cooperation.

The report reviews the Programme implementation, main challenges and its perspectives taking stock of the experience of more than 700 public and private actors from 13 countries involved in 95 projects. Although it was the first full cycle of multiannual programming period for cross-border cooperation and external circumstances in EU Member States as well as in Mediterranean Partner Countries caused several delays, all partnerships successfully closed their projects by December 2016. They very often exceeded their expectations in terms of outcomes, partnership and stakeholders' commitment with only a few shortcomings worth learning about and carefully considering. Thus, in addition to some lessons learnt, the report describes some of the most valuable good practices and their future potential within the new Programming period and at country level.

This approach allows to shade light on selected achievements, their perspectives and possible continuity with the new programming period on different territorial scales. In fact, while part 1 summarizes the methodology, main results at cluster level as well as key challenges, lessons learnt and potential for further actions under the new thematic objectives, part 2 includes an analysis at country level integrating a deeper national perspective for follow-up. In brief, selected project outcomes at cluster level are complemented with the analysis of additional promising cross-border results by thematic objectives and potential national follow-up to be further developed and enhanced.

In particular, part 1 reflects on the main challenges addressed by the Programme and by all funded projects in their continuous effort to adapt to changing circumstances. It provides an overview of the priorities set in the Joint Operational Programme (JOP) 2007-2013 and key results achieved with reference to the following 4 thematic clusters: human capital; cultural heritage and sustainable tourism; economic growth and territorial development; environmental sustainability.

Delivering high-quality results was a top priority for the ENPI CBC MED 2007-2013 funded projects and all Programme bodies supporting their implementation. As the project activities are no longer being funded, an extended network of stakeholders operating at regional and national level should now ensure the continuity of the positive outcomes achieved by most of the projects within the new Programme. Consequently, some valuable good practices have been selected and grouped according to the thematic objectives of the 2014-2020 period along with some hints on opportunities for follow-up actions which may also lead to future synergies with other Programmes/initiatives to leverage additional tailored investments.

Finally, now that some key figures of selected results, outputs and performance indicators and these first analysis of promising good practices are available, they should be used for open discussions among Programme's stakeholders, also at national level. Indeed, part 2 deals with the outcomes of the 2007-2013 Programme at country level detailing national actors' participation, projects performance, and selected short-term results which may be considered to monitor and support long-term sustainability by identifying national complementary initiatives.

An important aim of this report is to highlight the specific added value of cross-border cooperation in the Mediterranean.

This added value is linked to the fact that cross-border cooperation has allowed and will continue to allow a wide range of actors from both shores of the Mediterranean to jointly achieve tangible results for the development of all concerned territories, exchanging good practices for the improvement of public policies, involving civil society and establishing a sense of mutual trust.

In the framework of the debates on the European Union's long-term budget after 2020, the cross-border cooperation component of the European Neighbourhood Policy deserves to be secured and further developed.

I hope that you will find this report useful and inspiring.

Anna Catta

General Director, Managing Authority
ENPI/ENI CBC Med Programmes



METHODOLOGY

The present report is based on the Programme related main sources of information: the Joint Operational Programmes (JOP) 2007-2013 and 2014-2020, all statistics related to the three calls for proposals and projects reports and analysis. Data collection and qualitative investigations are taken into account as regards to the 95 funded projects, accounting for a total ENPI contribution of approximately €180 million (90% of projects budget). These sources show the Programme was implemented and highlight its key achievements in view of strengthening the cooperation platform supported by the 13 participating countries.

As main focus, this report considers a selection of Programme/projects results and their indicators - at Programme, cluster and project level - defined as measurable changes involving skills, abilities and capacities of individuals or organisations. The following typologies of result indicators were considered: outcomes (short-term results) indicators which measure changes in ability, knowledge, skills, behaviours or practices and outputs indicators which are a description of what was produced or delivered by the projects.

On the one hand, it must be noted that long-term results and impact indicators were not included in the Joint Operational Programme 2007-2013, and, therefore, they cannot be reviewed. As they measure changes in a given population, they reflect on policies, organisational structure, political, economic, legal, environmental, technological or societal conditions. Given their broader scope, these indicators are generally those over which small international projects - like those funded under the ENPI CBC MED Programme - have almost no measurable influence, especially in a short-term timeframe. On the other hand, short-term outcomes can be directly linked to the intervention and they can be already reviewed at this stage. In fact, short-term outcomes can be measured at the end of the project or soon after the project has completed its activities. They refer to changes in awareness, knowledge, attitude, behaviours, skills, opinions, aspirations, and motivations of the target audience and can be best used to provide valuable hints for the decision-makers in order to consider additional actions.

In order to better understand key results achieved and capture the contribution to shared (long-term) objectives - also from a quantitative perspective - the Joint Monitoring Committee (JMC) decided in 2015 to integrate the list of indicators by including the possibility for all projects to report on additional indicators as well as on an estimation of the population covered by new or improved services supported by them. Moreover, a self-assessment grid was included in the final report package to collect valuable inputs from all partners on project relevance, effectiveness, efficiency and sustainability. Finally, it must be noted that the assessment grids filled in by the Joint Technical Secretariat (JTS) and related scores on project performances - available on the Programme monitoring system - provide a deeper analysis and a common methodology for project evaluation and additional (verifiable) sources of information.

These pieces of information and data were integrated with the Branch Offices (BOs) analysis at country level and allow a wider coverage of the Programme tangible and long-lasting contribution to its general objective of fostering a fair and equitable development of both shores of the Mediterranean.

This report is open to contribution from all key stakeholders supporting the day-to-day implementation of cooperation projects in the Mediterranean. In particular, the ENPI CBC MED projects selected by clusters and thematic objectives are meant as a starting point for improving synergies and complementarities with other Programmes and initiatives while supporting

long-term sustainability of results achieved.

Indeed, the new Joint Operational Programme 2014-2020 - approved in December 2015 after an extensive consultation process with all national delegations and key stakeholders - provides a comprehensive socio-economic and environmental analysis as well as thematic objectives to address the sustainability of the best performing ENPI projects, which may be closely linked to future ENI projects as well as to complementary and synergic programmes and initiatives implemented in the Mediterranean area. Indeed, the selection of the good practices listed by thematic objective was performed by introducing some of most important challenges of the cooperation area focusing on the most valuable project outcomes, outputs, lessons learnt and hints for decision-makers.

OVERVIEW OF SELECTED PROJECTS

Thematic clusters 2007-2013

The ENPI CBC MED projects reported below were shortlisted taking into account their results as well as their overall performance, including management and communication issues. They can be considered as valuable projects for further capitalization activities at regional level.

Human development: investing in our most precious resource, the people

RUWOMED: Supporting and connecting rural women's traditional know how in the Mediterranean through the promotion of fair trade products

MEDGENERATION: Mobilising economic diasporas for the development of Mediterranean countries

Cultural heritage and sustainable tourism: the Mediterranean beyond sun, sand and sea

I AM: International Augmented MED

MEET: Mediterranean Experience of Eco-Tourism

F.O.P: Future of Our Past

Economic growth and territorial development: doing business in the Mediterranean

LACTIMED: Local agro-clusters for typical and innovative Mediterranean dairy products

E.H.P.P.C - MED: Enhancing Horticultural Perishable Products Circulation among the Mediterranean territories

Environmental sustainability: together, fighting against climate change

Water-DROP: WATER Development Resources Opportunity Policies for the water management in semi-arid areas

SCOW: Selective collection of the organic waste in tourist areas and valorization in farm composting plants

STS-MED: Small-scale thermal solar district units for Mediterranean communities

MED-JELLYRISK: Integrated monitoring of jellyfish outbreaks under anthropogenic and climatic impacts in the Mediterranean sea: trophic and socio-economic risks

Thematic objectives 2014-2020

The following lists includes the ENPI CBC MED projects which remained slightly below those included in the above-mentioned clusters as far as their overall performance is concerned. However, their outputs are still suitable for follow-up actions at regional level and they are particularly relevant for the new ENI CBC MED thematic objectives.

Business and SMEs development

MedDiet: Mediterranean Diet and enhancement of traditional foodstuff

Tex-Med Clusters: Innovative cross-border approaches for Textile and Clothing Clusters co-development in the Mediterranean basin

SUSTEXTNET: Sustainable textile Mediterranean network

EDILE: Economic Development through Inclusive Local Empowerment

Support to education, research, technological development and innovation

Bio-Xplore: Bio Exploration – Novel methodology for the Identification of Valuable Natural Products Derived from Mediterranean Flora

NETKITE: Cross-border NETwork to foster Knowledge-intensive business Incubation and TEchnology transfer

Promotion of social inclusion and fight against poverty

EGREJOB: Euro-Mediterranean green jobs

SIDIG-MED: Social and Intercultural Dialogue through Governance for Local development: Mediterranean Urban and Peri-urban Agriculture (UPA)

Environmental protection, climate change adaptation and mitigation

AQUAKNIGHT: AQUA KNowledge and Innovation transfer for water savinG in the mediTerranean basin

GMI: The Green Med Initiative

MED-DESIRE: MEDiterranean DEvelopment of Support schemes for solar Initiatives and Renewable Energies

MESP: Managing the Environmental Sustainability of Ports for a durable development

SELECTED PROJECTS FOR FOLLOW-UP AT NATIONAL LEVEL

Besides their cross-border added value, some projects demonstrated potential for tailored follow-up so that valuable outcomes can be further supported at national level.

CYPRUS

MEDOLICO - LOCAL-SATS - MEDALGAE

EGYPT

NETKITE - ShMILE2 - GMI

FRANCE

LACTIMED - GOUV'AIRNANCE

GREECE

FruitFlyNet - MEDNETA

ISRAEL

FruitFlyNet - SCOW - BIO-XPLORE

ITALY

AQUAKNIGHT - STS-MED - SIDIG-MED - EGREJOB

JORDAN

MEDOLICO - Water-DROP - ENSIAP - DIDSOLIT-PB

LEBANON

LACTIMED - GMI - UMAYYAD

MALTA

MEDJELLYRISK - HELAND

PALESTINE

MED-SOLAR - F.O.P - RUWOMED - Promoting sustainable groundwater resources

PORTUGAL

Ca.Bu.Re.Ra - UMAYYAD

SPAIN

SCOW - DIDSOLIT-PB - OPENWIND

TUNISIA

LACTIMED - USUDS - AQUAKNIGHT

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS AWARDED TO PROJECTS

The quality of some of the funded projects have been highlighted through prizes and labels promoted by national, regional and international organisations. Awards contribute to capitalize on the good practices implemented by projects, create new networks and increase their visibility with potential donors for additional fund-raising opportunities besides the Programme financial support. Below is a list of prizes awarded to ENPI CBC Med projects.



An important distinction came from the labelling of two projects by the Union for the Mediterranean (UfM). The endorsement of **EDILE** (inclusive economic growth) and **OPTIMED** (optimization and strengthening of the trade connections among the ports of the Mediterranean area) by the senior officials of the 43 UfM's Member States is a key step to mainstream the results achieved by these projects, further their expand activities to additional countries and potentially

receive new funds granted by donors and financial institutions. Furthermore, the award of the UfM's label is a strong institutional support to these projects, giving them access to a wide network of stakeholders and technical experts, increasing their visibility and that of cross-border cooperation at Euro-Mediterranean level.

Furthermore, the **R.E.A.D.Y. MED FISH** project was included in the Union for the Mediterranean's publication on "Blue Economy in the Mediterranean" as an example of good practice in the field of sustainable fisheries and aquaculture. The project focused on the diversification of business and employment opportunities for young fishermen in Egypt, Italy, Lebanon and Tunisia. Following the adoption of the UfM's Ministerial Declaration on Blue Economy in 2015 and various UfM's regional stakeholder conferences on the Blue Economy, the recognition of the project may lead to increased links of the Programme with the blue economy initiatives in the Mediterranean area implemented under the UfM.



The **SIDIG-MED** project, particularly the pilot action carried out in Rome, was recognized as a European best practice by URBACT, the EU programme aiming to foster sustainable integrated urban development in cities across Europe. The project, which uses urban agriculture for social inclusion, integration, fight against poverty and urban regeneration, "contributes to the improvement of the governance processes by connecting different competencies and municipal of-

fices such as social, environment, urban planning and innovation departments" according to the URBACT website. SIDIG-MED was showcased during the URBACT City Festival which took place in Tallinn (Estonia) from 3 to 5 October 2017.



The **MED-ALGAE** and **LANDCAREMED** projects, respectively addressing the production of clean fuels and waste management in rural areas, were awarded the National Energy Globe Award in 2016, an international distinction which aims to recognize projects that make careful and economical use of resources and employ alternative energy sources. The jury is headed by Maneka Gandhi, member of the Indian Parliament and former Minister for Envi-

ronment.

The **STS-Med** project won the 2017 Emirates Energy Award. This distinction, presented by the Dubai Supreme Council of Energy, aims at highlighting the best practices and pioneering work in energy efficiency, alternative energy, sustainability and protecting the environment.



Finally, a documentary produced under the **JOUSSOUR** project was distinguished during the 65th edition of "Prix Italia" (2013), one of the oldest and most prestigious international competitions dedicated to TV, radio and web programmes. The special prize "Expo Milano 2015 - Feeding the plant, energy for life" was awarded to the documentary "Blasted flies in the Jordan Valley". Directed by Woroud Al-Khazali of JRTV (Jordanian Radio-Television) with the

executive production of RAI Educational (Italian national broadcaster), this short movie describes the environmental problems related to the use of organic fertilizers in the Jordan valley, highlighting the fight of local institutions to cope with this issue.

WHAT THEY SAID ABOUT THE PROGRAMME



“The Programme is an important tool to stimulate projects that can provide common solutions to the Mediterranean region’s needs. Cross-border cooperation is a source of inspiration for relations in the Mediterranean area.”

H.E. Johannes Hahn, Commissioner for European Neighbourhood Policy and Enlargement Negotiations

“Cross-border cooperation can really contribute to the development of the 9 Egyptian governorates involved in the Programme, especially for youth and women’s empowerment.”

H.E. Dr. Sahar Nasr, Minister of Investment and International Cooperation of Egypt



“In light of the results achieved by the Programme during the period 2007-2013, the Italian government wishes that cross-border cooperation will continue to provide a decisive added value to the European Neighbourhood Policy, contributing to the creation of an area of peace, prosperity and security in the Mediterranean. Given the geographical proximity among the countries of both shores, it is essential that public administrations, universities, companies and civil society organisations find in cross-border cooperation a meeting point to develop shared and effective planning to address together the major challenges that characterize the Euro-Mediterranean area in the fields of socio-economic development and fight against climate change.”

H.E. Claudio de Vincenti, Italian Minister for Territorial Cohesion



“Jordan firmly believes that the Programme offers a unique opportunity for all partners and participating countries to widen their cooperation through creating real partnerships and implementing effective projects that contribute to addressing common challenges the region faces. The projects implemented in Jordan are in line with the Government of Jordan’s policies and strategies in different sectors such as renewable energy, water, agriculture, solid waste management, tourism, environment, sustainable development and investment.”

H.E Imad N. Fakhoury, Minister of Planning and International Cooperation of Jordan

“The enthusiasm of Tunisia for the Programme stems from its openness to regions, local authorities, associations, universities and research centres, and the various local and regional actors, thus giving greater proximity of projects with local populations in the regions and territories concerned and greater visibility of results.”

H.E. Mohamed Fadhel Abdelkefi, former Minister of Development, Investment and International Cooperation of the Tunisia



“Thanks to the Programme, public and private organisations can share best practices, success stories and knowledge. We have one objective together: make the Mediterranean the most vibrant region in the world.”

Hon. Dr. Aaron Farrugia, Parliamentary Secretary for European Funds and Social Dialogue of Malta





“Palestine seeks to engage in global efforts to promote prosperity and sustainability. The ENPI CBC MED Programme has provided a balanced platform for dialogue and multilateral cooperation in the Mediterranean area. We achieved remarkable success in the first phase of the project 2007-2013. 35 Palestinian actors participated in the implementation of vital projects in different sectors including: sustainable tourism, micro-financing, and small and medium enterprises (SMEs) development, as well as environmental sustainability. These projects have undoubtedly assisted in achieving national priorities, serving many of our development needs, and creating job opportunities.”

H.E. Dr. Saed Al-Koni, Chief of Staff, Office of the Palestinian Prime Minister

“The Programme is unique since it allows equal partnerships and joint work between organisations coming from both sides of the Mediterranean.”

H.E. Ambassador Rodica Radian-Gordon, Director General at the Israeli Ministry of Foreign Affairs



“The ENPI CBC MED Programme is the only European programme to promote multilateral north-south cooperation in the Mediterranean area. It brings an indispensable contribution to the major issues that characterize the Mediterranean, such as the future of youth, economic progress and the fight against climate change.”

Agnès Rampal, President of the Euro-Mediterranean Commission, Region of Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur; Deputy Mayor of the City of Nice in charge of Euro-Mediterranean affairs

“Cross-border cooperation is an essential programme for Lebanon and a key element of our policy towards the European Union. Lebanon participated in 59 projects funded under the ENPI CBC MED Programme 2007-2013 for a budget of 24 million euros. Such a remarkable participation is a clear indication of Lebanon’s commitment to sustainable development and our determination to strengthen our cooperation with the European Union.”

Mr. Fouad Fleifel, Secretary General, Presidency of the Council of Ministers, Lebanon



“With the Programme, we will not change the world, but we can certainly show that we can change something, making opportunities overcome problems. During the 2014-2020 period, the Autonomous Region of Sardinia in its capacity of Managing Authority will continue to work with determination to enhance cooperation and mutual trust among Mediterranean people and territories. Let’s help each other to grow together!”

Prof. Francesco Pigliaru, President of the Autonomous Region of Sardinia.

1

**ANALYSIS OF THE RESULTS ACHIEVED BY THE
2007-2013 ENPI CBC MED PROGRAMME**

ENPI CBC MED AND ITS CHALLENGES IN A NUTSHELL

The 2007-2013 ENPI CBC Mediterranean Sea Basin Programme is a multilateral Cross-Border Cooperation (CBC) initiative funded by the European Neighbourhood and Partnership Instrument (ENPI). The latter aims at strengthening the relations of the European Union with its neighbours to develop a common area of peace, security and prosperity, complementing the efforts exerted within the framework of the Euro-Mediterranean Partnership. Among all Mediterranean eligible countries and regions under the ENPI Regulation (reported in the map below), 76 regions from 13 EU Member States and Mediterranean Partner Countries placed along the shores of the Mediterranean Sea were involved under the 2007-2013 Programme.



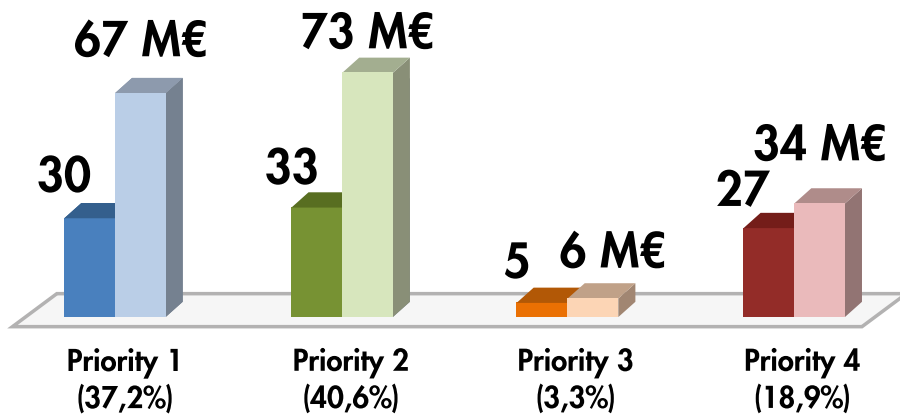
The following EU Mediterranean Countries took part in the ENPI CBC MED Programme - Cyprus, France, Greece, Italy, Malta, Portugal, Spain - while the Mediterranean Partner Countries (those having signed the Financing Agreement with the European Commission by 31 December 2009) were: Egypt, Israel, Jordan, Lebanon, Palestine and Tunisia. The main beneficiaries of the Programme included regional and local public authorities, NGOs, associations, development agencies, international organizations, universities, research institutes, chambers of commerce as well as SMEs and actors from the private sector. The official Programme languages are Arabic, English and French. The Joint Managing Authority was the Autonomous Region of Sardinia, confirmed for the new programming period 2014-2020.

The general objective of the Programme was to contribute to promoting the sustainable and harmonious cooperation process at the Mediterranean Sea Basin level by dealing with common challenges and enhancing its endogenous potential. Based on the ENPI CBC Strategy Paper, the participating countries jointly defined 4 Priorities, funded with a total budget of around €180 million as EU contribution, including additional funds committed by the European Commission in 2012. The financial resources of the Programme came from the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) and the Heading 4 - EU as global partner - of the EU budget.

The Programme financed joint Euro-Mediterranean projects selected through calls for proposals and proved to be a unique tool for cooperation. Overall, 3 calls for proposals were launched and successfully completed with the approval of 95 projects between 2010 and 2013. The initial funds allocation (percentages) by Programme Priorities was as follows:

Priority 1	Promotion of socio-economic development and enhancement of territories (40% of the Programme budget)
Priority 2	Promotion of environmental sustainability at the basin level (30%)
Priority 3	Promotion of better conditions and modalities for ensuring the mobility of persons, goods and capital (10%)
Priority 4	Promotion of cultural dialogue and local governance (20%)

As a result of the selection procedures implemented within the 3 calls for proposals, the following **projects per Priority and ENPI funds allocation** were finally approved by the JMC. The graph also shows the percentage breakdown by Priority:



The CBC Med Programme has faced during its first phase some delays and difficulties in the implementation of projects due to political developments in the Mediterranean region. Moreover, the delayed delivery of visas reduced opportunities to achieve a smooth commitment of representatives from different stakeholders of MPCs.

Despite the above-mentioned challenges, the recorded values in relation to the impact indicator “population covered by improved (or new) services resulting from the implementation of the CBC projects” prove the effectiveness of the Programme and its contribution to promoting sustainable and harmonious cooperation processes in the Mediterranean area.

The 95 funded projects managed to create new services and improve the existing ones reaching a population of **more than 10,000,000 people** in the cooperation area. Detailed information on the achieved results and targeted sectors are provided in this report at cluster and national level.

Overall, more than **2,100 events** organized with the Programme support totalling almost **230,000 participants** in conferences, workshops, seminars and **35,000** in technical trainings demonstrate the wide opportunities created by the partnerships in developing new skills and fostering people-to-people cooperation. A specific role was played by women who were

actively involved in project activities.

It is also worth mentioning over **1,000 new publications** which contributed to enrich scientific, technical knowledge and develop joint scientific cooperation at Mediterranean level.

By all means, the performance of funded projects was well above the expectations. Despite a challenging context, the assessment made by the JTS officers on the final reports show an excellent performance, with only 5 out of the 95 funded projects having reported significant deficiencies. Therefore, almost all partnerships managed to satisfactorily complete all activities and achieve expected results. This assessment is based on the JTS analysis of the activities planned, outcomes reported along with the deliverables submitted. All officers included their comments and a score for each work package (ranging from 1 – serious deficiencies – to 4 – very good). The average score is then reported as synthetic information on the project performance¹. As far as the colour code and the scores are concerned, the following approach has been adopted.

GREEN - Very Good

Average score of implemented work packages ranging from 3.26 to 4

The project was in line with planned activities and achieved all expected results, or even further beyond. It might be considered for the good practice(s) implemented either in terms of results achieved or use of financial resources. Impact and potential sustainability are of high quality. Only minor deficiencies/problems were detected.

YELLOW - Good

Average score of implemented work packages ranging from 2.51 to 3.25

Overall, the project performed well. Even if no good practice(s) are detected, all activities were jointly implemented, and the expected results were achieved. Notwithstanding minor problems/delays or planned corrective measures (minor or even major changes), the project was clearly focused on its outcomes and smoothly implemented.

ORANGE - Problems

Average score of implemented work packages ranging from 1.76 to 2.50

Although all main expected results were achieved, some of them may not be satisfactory or should be reconsidered. Serious issues were reported and have called for corrective measures. On-the-spot visits and/or bilateral meetings were organised and adjustments required during the implementation phase.

RED - Serious deficiencies

Average score of implemented work packages ranging from 1 to 1.75

The project faced such serious difficulties that the risk of not reaching any of the expected results was very high. The contribution from Programme bodies such as the JTS, the BOs and the National Contact Points was needed to tackle specific issues and address the identified deficiencies within the shortest possible delays.

¹Further details on the methodology were agreed by the JMC and applied within annual monitoring plans.

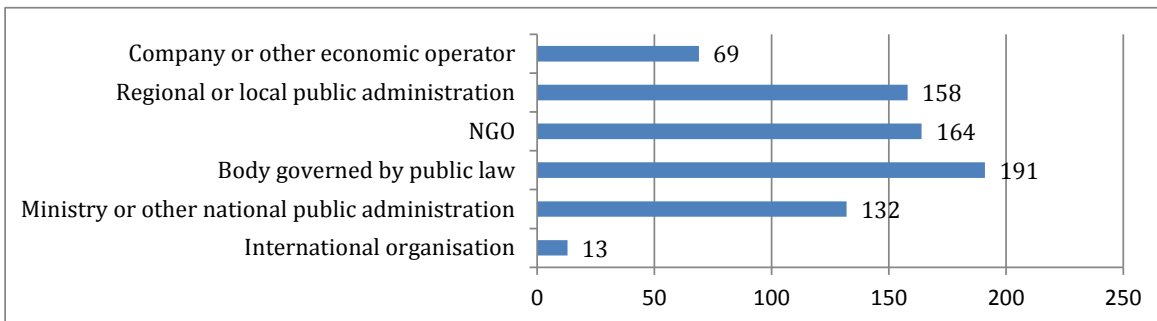
Despite the different selection procedures adopted for the three calls for proposals, no major impact on projects performance can be detected. As demonstrated, a higher success rate - expressed as the sum of the projects scored green and yellow - for the projects approved under the call for strategic projects (89.5 %), followed by those funded under the first call for standard projects (78,4 %) and, finally, those approved under the third call for proposals (74.4%).

Call 1 - 37 standard projects **Call 2** - 19 strategic projects **Call 3** - 39 standard projects



It is worth mentioning that 29 projects - mostly financed within the second and third call for proposals - benefited from a project extension beyond December 2015. This opportunity allowed the full implementation of all scheduled activities.

The partnership composition is amongst the most important factors for the success of cross-border cooperation projects. As shown by the graph below, one of the unique added value of the Programme is its capacity to foster cooperation among organisations from different levels (national and local) and having different types of competences (Ministries, NGOs, etc.).



This unique mix of actors² provided a sound basis for innovative and shared solutions. However, the management of multilevel partnerships was one of the main issues reported by the projects, with challenges posed by the necessary integration between different levels of governance and competences.

²In the graph, the same organization participating in more than one project is counted more than once.

SELECTED OUTPUT INDICATORS: QUANTIFIED PROGRAMME ACHIEVEMENTS

As for the outputs indicators, achieved values are largely exceeding the target values set at the beginning of the Programme in almost all cases. Below is an overview of the main Programme achievements at Priority level together with a short analysis.

PRIORITY 1

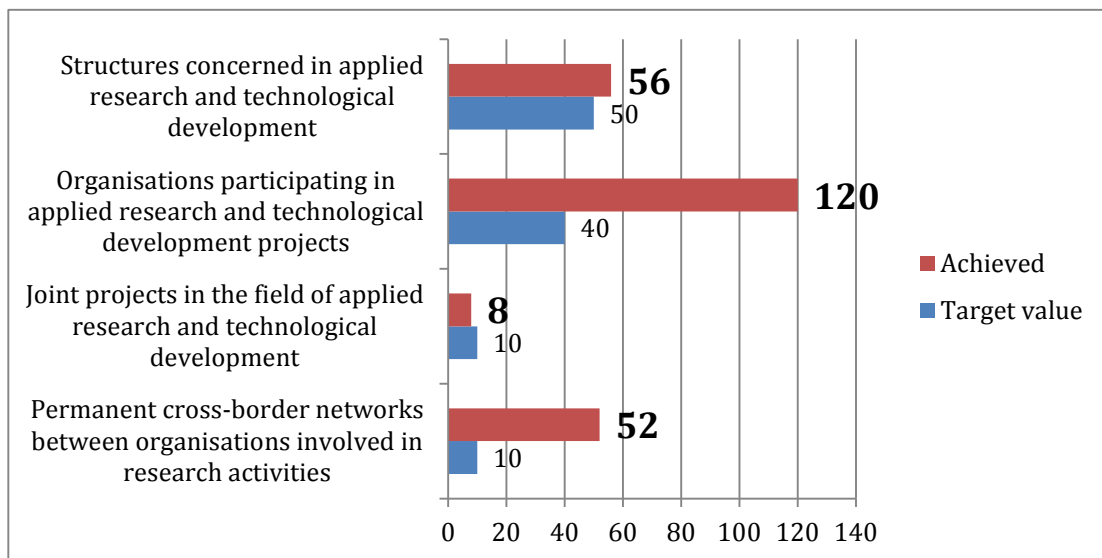
PROMOTION OF SOCIO-ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND ENHANCEMENT OF TERRITORIES

Priority 1 was designed to foster a balanced and sustainable socio-economic development of eligible territories in light of global competition, through the promotion of entrepreneurship and the reinforcement of innovation and research capacities of both public and private actors.

Innovation is meant to support the modernisation of local economic systems and the diversification of activities (production of goods and services), giving priority to those with a strong added value. This means working to make innovation available to "mature" productive sectors, frequently the most subject to competitiveness at a global level, but also to promote economic activities based on natural and cultural specificities of territories and on the know-how of their population, as well as responding to new demands mainly emerging in the service sector.

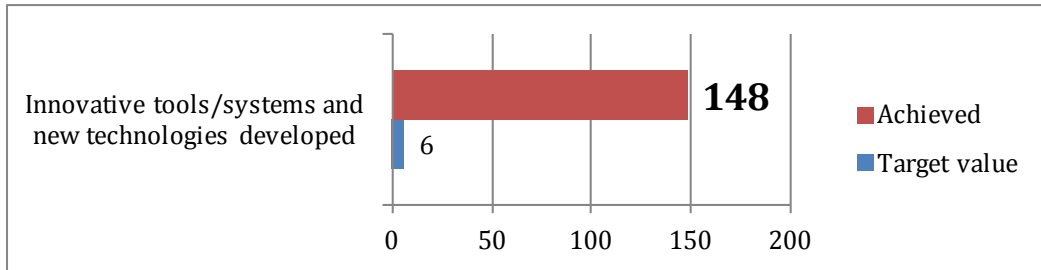
Another objective pursued by Priority 1 was the better integration of economic clusters from both sides of the Mediterranean in order to support the development of Euro-Mediterranean productive chains which are more competitive on the global market, in particular thanks to the increased quality of products and services, the specialization in sectors with a strong growth potential, and human capital training.

Finally, Priority 1 also sought to foster a multi-level governance of sustainable territorial planning, allowing concerned public and private actors to exchange experiences and build together good practices in terms of efficient territorial planning and delivery of public services.

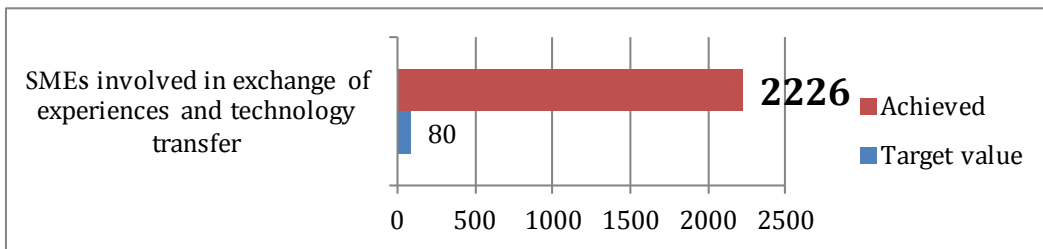


As per the achievements highlighted in the graph above, it should be noted that the Programme proved to be a relevant platform for disseminating the results of research: even with less projects

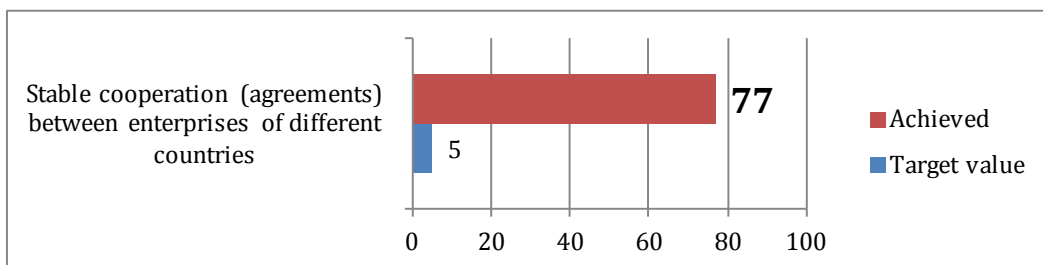
than those initially foreseen in the field of applied research and technological development (8 against 10), a higher number of organisations (120 against 40) than those foreseen were involved in projects dealing with the application of research and technological development. The outputs of these projects were transferred to and used by 56 organisations. One of the most interesting data is the potential long-term sustainability of the actions implemented under the Programme: as per the information provided by the projects, 52 cross-border networks specialized in applied research and technological development were created.



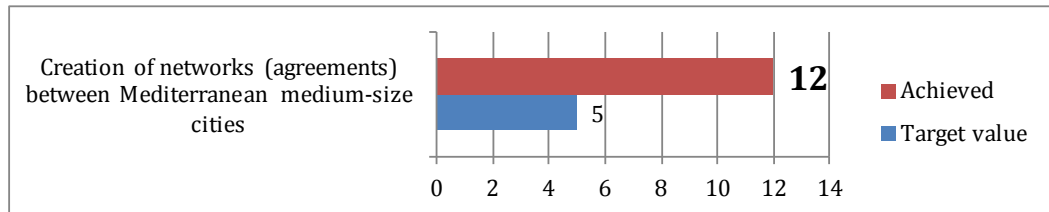
The outcomes of the projects in the fields of innovation and applied research are significant with 148 new tools, systems and technologies developed. This highlights the real added value of cross-border cooperation: by linking research units, laboratories, universities, innovation centres from different countries, the results went above all expectations. This is a proof of how cross-border cooperation can have multiplier effects by bringing all the needed expertise, that would normally not be available at national level, into single projects which gather capacities and knowledge coming from several regions of the Mediterranean area.



The results of research/technological development activities mainly benefitted to SMEs. Again, the achieved number was by far higher than that expected at the time the Joint Operational Programme was approved: a total of 2,226 SMEs was exposed to innovation processes and technological transfer, eventually enriching their wealth of expertise to better address global competition and offer upgraded services/products.



Another valuable trend made possible by cross-border cooperation processes is the potential creation of new value chains among SMEs from different countries of the Mediterranean area towards a deeper economic integration. Projects were able to foster networking and exchange of expertise, eventually leading to the establishment of 77 cooperation agreements among SMEs.



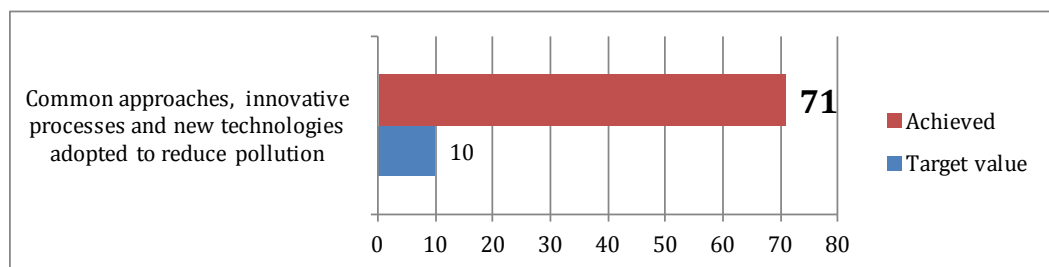
Finally, the Programme demonstrated to have a pivotal role in boosting exchange of good practices among cities to improve their capacities in terms of territorial planning: as a result, 12 permanent networks of cities were created with a view to consolidating joint approaches and common actions on how to best plan territorial development and the delivery of public services to populations.

PRIORITY 2

PROMOTION OF ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY AT THE BASIN LEVEL

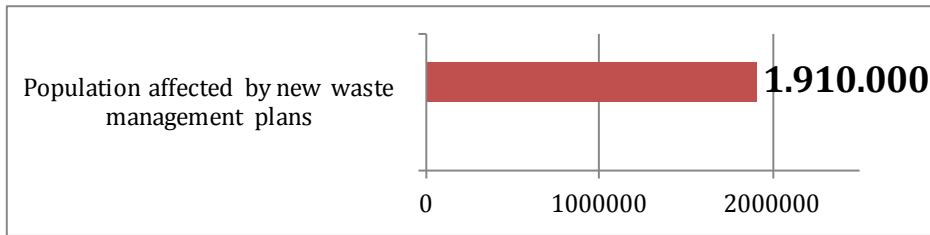
The effects of climate change represent a shared concern considering their relevant impact on social and economic life across borders in the Mediterranean area. By nature, issues related to the environment have a cross-border dimension, calling for a joint response at different levels, which entails the cooperation among policy-makers, research centres and academia, private sector and the civil society.

The main sectors addressed by the funded projects are related to the mitigation of climate change, the reduction of pollution and the protection of biodiversity and natural habitats through the promotion of sustainable joint approaches that have the ambition to represent pilot models to be replicated across the Mediterranean. Better management of water resources, increased treatment and recycling of waste, promotion of renewable energy and energy efficiency, and integrated coastal zone management were the main challenges addressed under Priority 2.

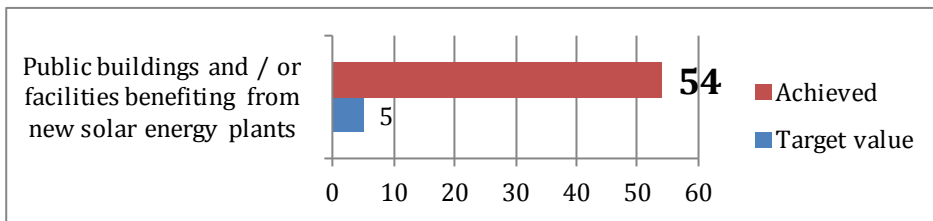


One of the most significant outcomes of Priority 2 is certainly the number of tools, technologies developed to reduce and combat pollution. As most of these new approaches were tested in different countries and contexts (urban, rural, coastal areas), they represent a valuable source of knowledge and expertise for local and national actors that need to be further enhanced and disseminated to be made available to a wider group of stakeholders than those directly reached

by the Programme.

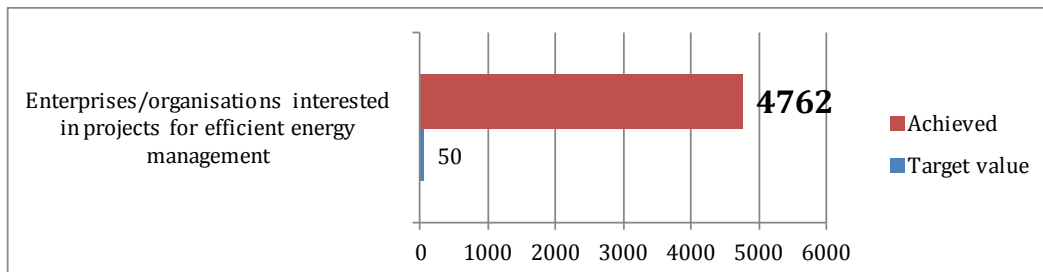


Although no specific target value was set for the output indicator “Population affected by new waste management plans”, the final result achieved, i.e. 1,910,000 people, demonstrates how cities and municipalities have been able to develop, in collaboration with the private sector and local communities, new models for the safe collection, disposal and reuse of refuse. Poor management of waste being one of the main causes of pollution in the Mediterranean area, the funded projects have a strong potential to become models that can inspire other municipalities to formulate appropriate strategies and implement adequate technical solutions towards waste minimization, recycling and reuse.

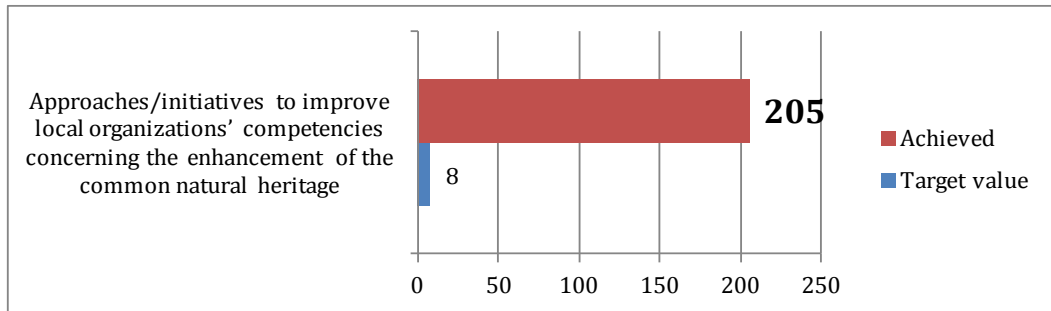


The promotion of renewable energies as an alternative to fossil fuels has been a major focus of funded projects, especially under the strategic call. The improvement of the energy performance in 54 public buildings and facilities (hospitals, schools, etc.) is a proof of how cooperation, through the exchange of know-how and technological transfer, can act as a catalyst for accelerating the exploitation of solar energy across the Mediterranean area. Overall, it is estimated that 1,169,000 kWh of clean energy was produced using solar applications.

Another interesting data is the number of companies/organisations, i.e. 4,792, involved in energy efficiency related projects. This underlines that the Programme was able to foster the creation of local value chains, also meaning that energy experts, engineers and SMEs are now available locally with the adequate know-how and skills to develop new energy efficiency projects.



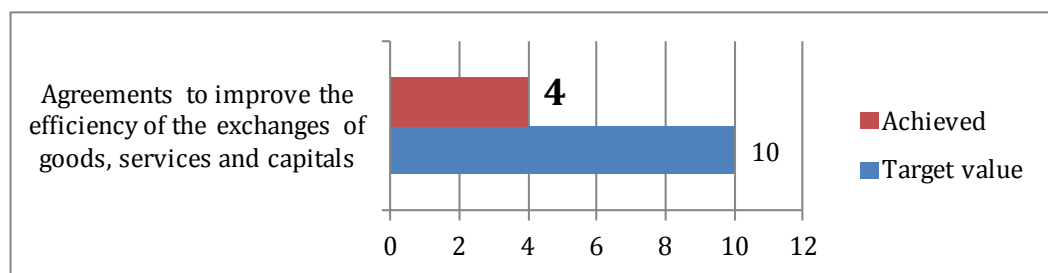
Finally, it is worth mentioning that the skills of local organisations, including public administrations and NGOs, were strengthened in the management and enhancement of natural heritage thanks to the design of 205 common approaches: this development of competencies has the potential to halt the degradation of the unique, rich land and maritime biodiversity at local level.



PRIORITY 3

PROMOTION OF BETTER CONDITIONS AND MODALITIES FOR ENSURING THE MOBILITY OF PERSONS, GOODS AND CAPITAL

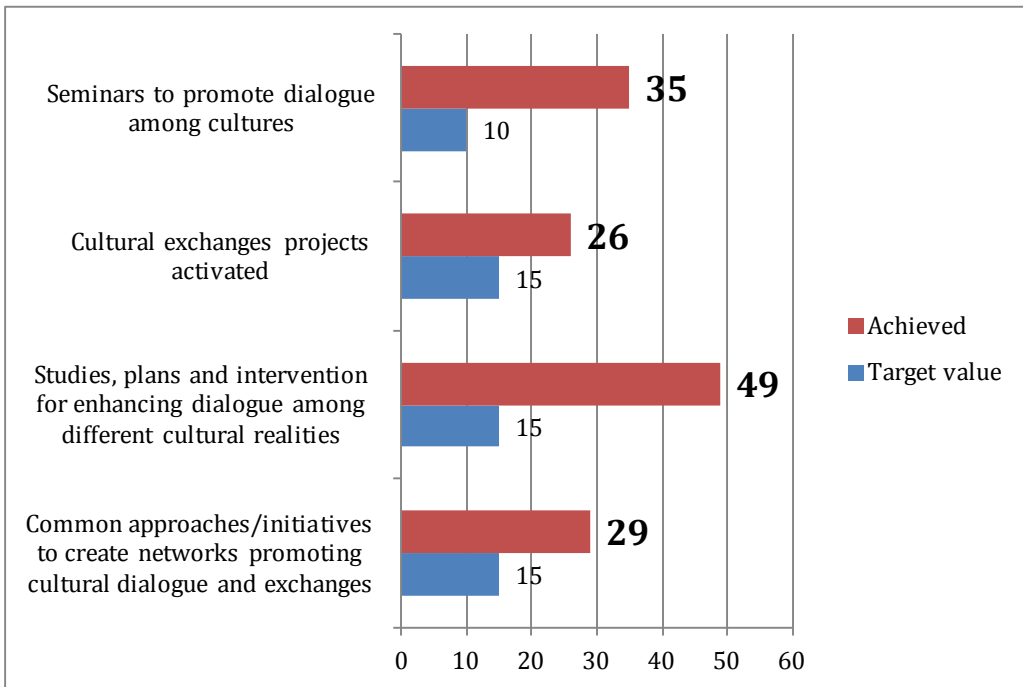
It must be noted that the actual achievements under Priority 3 remained below their expected contribution to the improvement of conditions and modalities of circulation of goods and capitals among the territories, with only 4 funded projects. Indeed, Priority 3 was flawed by the missing participation of Egypt and Tunisia. Moreover, notwithstanding 4 agreements to improve mechanisms and procedures ensuring the efficiency and quality of the exchanges of goods, services and capitals reported by the funded projects, this field of cooperation remained below expectations. It cannot be considered among the most fruitful thematic areas for cross-border cooperation mainly due to the role of national and international institutions and limited involvement of key decision-makers in project implementation. Therefore, project actors had limited or no possibility to play a decisive role towards relevant changes.



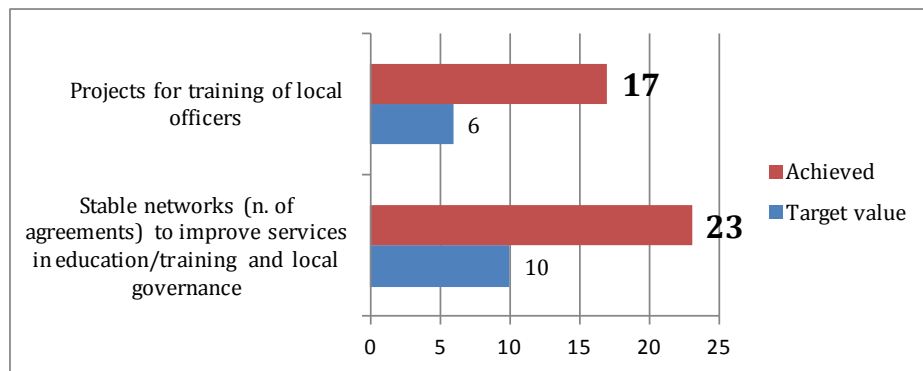
PRIORITY 4

PROMOTION OF CULTURAL DIALOGUE AND LOCAL GOVERNANCE

Cooperation among communities is particularly effective to contribute in making the Mediterranean an area of peace, dialogue, stability, cohesion, and shared prosperity. In fact, relations among communities allow the sharing of the respective cultural and social dimensions and the overcoming of prejudices and discrimination often due to a lack of information. In addition, they favour the movement of people that could contribute not only to individual enrichment but also to the introduction of innovative elements which have real and sustainable impacts on local systems in an economic, cultural and social dimension. As shown by the graph below, the Programme was successful in encouraging cross-border cultural exchanges, especially among young people, through over 100 initiatives aiming at promoting reinforced networking among organisations from the civil society.



Another significant result of Priority 4 is related to the improvement of the governance processes at local level. The consolidation of territorial institutions and organisations, following decentralisation and administrative reform processes, has high priority for improving the processes for planning local development strategies. The reinforcement of local capacities through training and capacity-building activities focused on different types of actors (elected officials, public administrators, NGOs and non-profit associations operators, representatives of professional associations and organisations, trade unions, etc.), as a contribution to good governance which can lead to more efficiency.



A CLUSTER-BASED APPROACH: MAIN RESULTS

Since 2013, the Programme has adopted a thematic cluster-based approach aiming at identifying the main fields of intervention of the approved projects, supporting their implementation by organising joint events and facilitating exchange of expertise. Four thematic clusters were defined as follows:



HUMAN DEVELOPMENT

This cluster aims at encouraging professional qualification and supporting people in finding jobs, in addition to assisting them in rural areas or in marginalized communities.



CULTURAL HERITAGE AND SUSTAINABLE TOURISM

This group of projects focuses on better stewardship, appreciation and sustainable exploitation of the rich and diverse Mediterranean heritage.



ECONOMIC GROWTH AND TERRITORIAL DEVELOPMENT

The objective of this cluster is to support business development, create a favourable environment for investment and improve the efficiency of local governments in delivering public services.



ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

This cluster is focused on the conservation of natural resources, water management, waste treatment and recycling, energy efficiency and integrated coastal zone management.

HUMAN DEVELOPMENT: INVESTING IN OUR MOST PRECIOUS RESOURCE, THE PEOPLE

- Youth unemployment rate is 3 times higher in Mediterranean countries than adult unemployment
- 21%: average percentage of NEETS in Mediterranean countries
- 37,5%: average rate of women in the economy in Mediterranean countries

"I see a lot of young people who are just looking for ways to get involved, to get the education they aspire to, the job they deserve, to do something good with their life and for the community. We have a responsibility to create new pathways for young people to get involved. This is crucial in Europe and even more crucial on the other side of the Mediterranean."

Federica Mogherini, High Representative and Vice-President of the European Commission



The availability of sufficient, decent jobs is key to build inclusive societies and development. In all Mediterranean countries, unemployment has reached alarming record levels, with youth struggling to find quality jobs. This is due to high school dropout rates, low level of education and a difficult transition from education to work. Despite the quality and quantity of public policies implemented, youth unemployment remains mostly structural in the Mediterranean region.

The situation is even worse for women: their access to education systems, the job market and contribution to economic development is still limited by social, cultural and political considerations. Reducing gender inequality is a top priority if we want to strengthen the participation of women in economic, social and political life.

OUR PROJECTS

11 projects - 78 actors - Investment: €19.5 million

The 11 projects included in the “Human capital” cluster concerned the following topics:

- **Support to employment and professionalization (6)**

Ca.Bu.Re.Ra, DAEDALUS, EGREJOB, **MEDGENERATION**, MED-MOBIL, PRIME

- **Social inclusion (5)**

FISHINMED, **RUWOMED**, SIDIG-MED, R.E.A.D.Y. MED FISH, USUDS

In response to the challenges described above, the projects have implemented cooperation actions in the following fields.

EMPLOYMENT AND PROFESSIONALIZATION

Developing professional skills is key to ensure that young people are adequately trained to meet the expectations of the labour market. When jobs are simply lacking, it is also important to help those willing to create their own business. Below is a synthesis of the main issues addressed by funded projects.

- The creation of new employment opportunities in promising sectors such as the green economy, design, handicrafts. Through dedicated training schemes, mentoring activities and job placements, a significant number of young people has received the kind of support that makes them more competitive and ready to find the job they aspire to. Matching demand and supply of jobs was also reinforced by the development of online platforms which allow young job seekers to connect with employers from across the Mediterranean area.
- Starting a business is exciting for many young people but it comes with many challenges for ensuring long-term survival and get through the paths of global competition. Some projects have supported talented young people not only in creating their own startup but also in overcoming the challenges faced by new entrepreneurs.
- Most of these projects included a mobility component, allowing hundreds of students and young professionals to live abroad, experience a different culture, meet new people and learn a foreign language.

SOCIAL INCLUSION

The related projects sought to help the most vulnerable people to achieve decent living standards and find a place in the community. Small-scale agriculture or diversification of fishing activities was used by projects to promote new economic opportunities for those marginalized and foster social inclusion.

MAIN RESULTS ACHIEVED

- 3,098 young people and women involved in professional development trainings
- 72 initiatives implemented to foster cultural dialogue
- 365 people engaged in mobility actions
- 344 aspiring entrepreneurs supported in the start-up phase of their companies

FOCUS ON

RUWOMED: WOMEN IN RURAL COMMUNITIES BECOME INDEPENDENT THROUGH SMALL-SCALE AGRICULTURE



In a deteriorated socio-economic environment, more and more women in Palestine and Lebanon are entering the labour force to achieve decent livelihood for their family. However, women face limited employment opportunities in rural areas and specific challenges “in relation to the access, control over and ownership of assets, including finance” (source: UN Women for Palestine). Moreover, the perception of women’s income as supportive or secondary is an

additional burden for the inclusion of women in economic life.

RUWOMED has worked on the issue of the economic empowerment of women from Palestine, and Palestinian women living in refugee camps in Lebanon: this cross-border cooperation initiative has supported hundreds of women in the development of small businesses in the agro-food sector, so they can work and contribute to the income of their family.

ACTIVITIES IMPLEMENTED

- Training sessions on agriculture techniques, business management, accountability, marketing, quality standards, fair trade certifications
- Provision of equipment, raw materials and supplies to support the start-up of small-scale agricultural activities
- Study visits organized in Spain for Palestinian women to establish contacts with fair trade companies and participate in fair trade fairs
- Production of typical agro-food products (honey, couscous, spices, etc.) sold on local and international markets (Spain, Germany)

CROSS-BORDER IMPACT

- Exchange of experience between women cooperatives from Spain, Palestine and Lebanon
- Products made by women in Palestine and Lebanon distributed in fair trade retail chains in Spain and Germany

THE PROJECT BY THE NUMBERS

- 1,316 hours of training
- 8,954 women involved
- 150 SMEs and women cooperatives supported through the provision of equipment, raw materials and supplies
- 75 tons of food-related products produced, packaged and labelled by women entrepreneurs

PARTNERSHIP

Beneficiary: Assembly of Cooperation for Peace (Spain) - Partners: Palestinian Agricultural Relief Committees (Palestine); Collective for Research and Training on Development - Action (Lebanon)

BUDGET

€1.9 million (ENPI contribution: €1.7 million)

WEBSITE

<https://www.acpp.com/ruwomed/>



"I learnt about how to cultivate the land, and how to take care of live-stock. A very important aspect of the training was about commercial relationships and marketing. Things in my home have changed a lot. I am very happy. I have enough income to cover the cost of public transportation for my daughters to go to the university. My sons are glad and proud of me. Thank God, I am so happy with this project."

Fathiyya Jabora Aurori, Palestine

FOCUS ON

MEDGENERATION: ENABLING DIASPORA ENTREPRENEURS TO INVEST IN THEIR COUNTRIES OF ORIGIN



According to a study conducted by the TalentRepublic recruitment agency, 54% of students from Arab countries who study abroad do not return to their countries of origin, and 100,000 scientists, doctors, and engineers each year leave Southern Mediterranean countries to settle elsewhere.

Although economic diasporas have a privileged relationship with their countries of origin, they are rarely encouraged to play a positive role in terms of job

creation and economic growth in their native lands. At a time when new investment opportunities are essential to boost economic development in the Mediterranean area and fight unemployment, diasporas entrepreneurship constitutes a precious resource to foster business development, job creation, competition, innovation, and the creation of transnational business networks.

In this context, the MEDGENERATION project has implemented a comprehensive set of actions aiming at connecting diaspora entrepreneurs with their countries of origin (Jordan, Lebanon and Palestine) by helping them to scout potential business ventures and fostering the creation of a positive, stable business environment.

ACTIVITIES IMPLEMENTED

- Production of studies on the legal, business environment and related investment opportunities for diaspora entrepreneurs in Jordan, Lebanon and Palestine
- Organization of study tours in Jordan, Lebanon and Palestine in order to foster networking and business development among entrepreneurs from the diaspora and local companies
- Implementation of a mentoring programme (training and coaching) delivered by senior entrepreneurs of the diaspora to local young entrepreneurs in the countries of origin
- Technical assistance missions to support public stakeholders in the definition of strategies to boost investments from the diasporas

CROSS-BORDER IMPACT

- Connections established between Jordan, Lebanese and Palestinian business communities in Europe (France, Germany, United Kingdom, Romania, Estonia) and local entrepreneurs
- A comprehensive Mediterranean strategy to mobilize and attract business communities from the diasporas in Europe

THE PROJECT BY THE NUMBERS

- 300+ "talents" of the Jordanian, Lebanese and Palestinian diasporas identified in Europe
- 54 individual interviews conducted with the talents of the Jordanian, Lebanese and Palestinian diasporas in Europe
- 40+ local entrepreneurs coached by 11 diaspora business people
- 3 country guides on investment opportunities and business environment in Jordan, Lebanon and Palestine
- 6 policy recommendations contained in a White Paper to attract diasporas investments in the Mediterranean area

PARTNERSHIP

Beneficiary: ANIMA Investment Network (France) - Partners: Chamber of Commerce, Industry and Agriculture of Beirut and Mount Lebanon (Lebanon); Palestinian Information and Communication Technology Incubator - PICTI (Palestine); Palestinian Investment Promotion Agency - PIPA (Palestine); Jordan Investment Commission (Jordan)

BUDGET

€1.9 million (ENPI contribution: €1.7 million)

WEBSITE

<https://www.acpp.com/medgeneration.eu>



"The participation to the MEDGENERATION business tour in Palestine allowed me to become a member of a network of like-minded people who might become referral or strategic partners, and who might provide business consultation or become advisors and want to support each other in growing their businesses. It was also a good way to build connections with talented designers, engineers who are looking for job opportunities."

Lama Mansour, Palestinian national and co-founder of BOLD Gadgets, a hardware startup located in Estonia

CULTURAL HERITAGE AND SUSTAINABLE TOURISM: THE MEDITERRANEAN BEYOND SUN, SAND AND SEA

- 12% of UNESCO World Heritage sites found in the Programme area
- 20 million jobs connected to the tourism industry in the Mediterranean
- 11%: average contribution in percentage of the tourism industry to the GDP of Mediterranean region (source: Plan Bleu)

"Sustainable tourism takes full account of its current and future economic, social and environmental impacts, addressing the needs of visitors, the industry, the environment and host communities."

World Tourism Organization



With its stunning landscapes, pristine beaches, rich fauna and flora, and millenary cultural heritage sites, the Mediterranean is one of the most visited regions in the world, accounting for one in three international tourist arrivals worldwide, over a quarter of total international tourism receipts, and almost 20% of the global cruise market (source: World Tourism Organization).

But this popularity comes at a price: extreme concentration in time and space of tourism flows, as well as considerable pressures on natural resources and biodiversity. If the Mediterranean wants to continue to preserve its position as top tourism destination in the world on the long-run, a shift towards a more sustainable model, which enhances less-visited, year-round destinations and focuses on the development of local communities, must be made.

Mixing assets such as natural attractions, intangible and tangible cultural heritage, history, food, arts, the funded projects have developed new tourism products which have the potential to diversify what the Mediterranean has to offer to a demanding international clientele in search of alternatives to the traditional pattern based on sun, sand and sea.

OUR PROJECTS

22 projects - 182 actors - Investment: €44.2 million

The 22 projects belonging to the “Cultural heritage and sustainable tourism” are divided into the following areas:

- Culture (10)

ArcheoMED, JOUSSOUR, DAC, NOSTOI, CulMe-WeOnCT, MEDINA, **I AM**, ARCHE-OMEDSITES, SLOWMED, MEDNETA

- Tourism (12)

NEWCIMED, Newper, HELAND, MED-Route, ShMILE2, **MEET**, S&T MED, UMAYYAD, Live your tour, **F.O.P**, GOALS, ONMEST 2

In response to the challenges described above, the projects have implemented cooperation actions in the following fields.

ENHANCEMENT OF CULTURAL HERITAGE

The Mediterranean region has more heritage than anywhere else in the world. If we want our heritage to be alive and inspire younger generations, we need to find new, innovative ways to preserve and enhance it. This is the focus of several ENPI CBC Med projects through the type of actions described below.

- Use of cutting-edge technologies - video mapping, augmented reality, 3D reconstructions, mobile apps - to increase access, interaction, knowledge sharing and bring new generations closer to their history and culture.
- Promotion of creativity, arts, design, handicrafts, traditions to regenerate urban historical centers and make them attractive and vibrant places to develop new income generating activities.
- Improvement of management capacities related to ancient archaeological sites through participatory planning which involves both institutional stakeholders and civil society organisations.
- Awareness-raising campaigns to re-connect local populations with the surrounding heritage.

DEVELOPMENT OF SUSTAINABLE TOURISM

Contributing to the attractiveness of lesser-visited locations by drawing people away from overcrowded tourism centres and encouraging them to visit in the off-season is the core objective of some of the funded projects. Main actions implemented concern:

- The creation of new itineraries and tourism products which focus on the enhancement of tangible - nature, archaeological sites - and intangible - food, arts, music - heritage.
- Capacity-building activities dedicated to public and private stakeholders to improve the way tourism destinations are managed, especially regarding sustainability aspects, and marketed.
- The reduction of the environmental footprint of tourism activities, in particular that of accommodations, through the diffusion of ecological labels.
- The engagement of local communities so that they benefit from sustainable tourism through economic development and job creation.

MAIN RESULTS ACHIEVED

- 215 heritage sites (including cities and areas) studied, promoted or valorized
- 111 new tourism packages and itineraries created
- 144 tour operators involved
- 67,019 participants in public events organized by funded projects

FOCUS ON

I AM: HERITAGE MEETS TECHNOLOGY



Imagine you can see an ancient Greek amphitheatre or a broken Roman amphora just like they were thousands of years ago. Imagine you can stroll virtually through the streets of a Mediterranean old city and visit the attractions, monuments from your home. Upgrading the way we see and interact with our heritage, thanks to the introduction of cutting-edge technologies, was the objective of the I AM project.

The project allowed to develop a cross-sector system capable of providing innovative services for the enhancement of the historical, cultural and natural heritage, in particular through the use of Augmented Reality (AR), interactive and multimedia techniques, encouraging continuous and consolidated cooperation between public bodies, universities, museums, archaeological sites and companies/professionals in the field of new technologies. Among the most significant results of the project is the organisation of augmented reality festivals in the territories involved that attracted thousands of residents and tourists, presenting a millennial heritage with the most modern technologies.

The I AM project developed a ready-to-use package of technologies that can be implemented on any heritage site of the Mediterranean, also thanks to the availability of fully trained professionals.

ACTIVITIES IMPLEMENTED

- Technological development of new applications (mobile apps, video-mappings, etc.) to enhance the cultural and natural heritage
- Organization of heritage festivals showcasing developed technologies to the public
- Participation in major tourism fairs (Barcelona, Tunis, Milano, Munich)
- Mainstreaming actions to include innovative technologies in heritage conservation/tourism strategies implemented by national authorities

CROSS-BORDER IMPACT

- App developers, architects, designers from different Mediterranean countries worked together to create new innovative products that enhance heritage sites
- Training of a pool of experts in innovative management of heritage across the Mediterranean region

THE PROJECT BY THE NUMBERS

- 6 heritage festivals held in Lebanon, Italy, Spain and Egypt with over 10,000 viewers
- 312 young people trained in the use of digital technologies applied to heritage conservation and enhancement
- 18 new technological products created to enhance heritage, among augmented reality applications for mobile devices, 3D reconstructions, virtual visits and video mapping shows

PARTNERSHIP

Beneficiary: Municipality of Alghero (Italy) - Partners: University of Genoa (Italy); Ministry of Culture - Government of Catalonia (Spain); Kòniclab Association - Contemporary Creations & New Technologies (Spain); i2CAT Foundation - Internet and digital innovation in Catalonia (Spain); Bibliotheca Alexandrina (Egypt); Municipality of Jbeil-Byblos (Lebanon); American University of Beirut (Lebanon); Ministry of Tourism and Antiquities, Department of Antiquities - Umm-Qais Antiquities Office (Jordan); Jordan University of Science and Technology (Jordan);

Municipality of Al Taybeh (Palestine); RIWAQ (Palestine); ONTT - Regional Commissariat for Tourism of Nabeul-Hammamet (Tunisia)

BUDGET

€3 million (ENPI contribution: €2.7 million)



"We applied to a call launched by the I AM project and our idea was selected. Thanks to the support received, we developed an app and a website which make the St. Hilarion Monastery, one of the most important archaeological sites in Gaza, accessible to anyone in the world to visit it virtually. Reaching the world even virtually is very important since Palestine, and especially Gaza, suffers from limited tourism despite our rich heritage."

Nesma Naseem Al-Sallaq, owner of the Kaanan company and sub-grantee of the I AM project

FOCUS ON

MEET: NATURE TO GIVE NEW MOMENTUM TO TOURISM IN THE MEDITERRANEAN



Ecotourism in the Mediterranean has significant untapped potential. The high diversity of flora, fauna, landscapes and ecosystems, and rich heritage are invaluable assets for the development of ecotourism.

The MEET project was implemented to support ecotourism experiences that foster authentic exchanges among visitors, local people, and nature, in what is traditionally a mass-tourism “sun, sand and sea” vacation region. But MEET was about more than just

creating a better holiday; the project offers a range of itineraries which were designed to harness tourism to contribute to the critical conservation of both protected areas and local cultures in the Mediterranean region. One of the main results of MEET is the creation of a catalogue of 19 new ecotourism packages across 25 natural areas of the Mediterranean which provides visitors with a true experience of nature, culture and history and generates economic benefits for the local communities and businesses, in accordance with the principles of the European Charter for Sustainable Tourism in Protected Areas.

ACTIVITIES IMPLEMENTED

- Production of reports, analyses, case studies on the state of the art of ecotourism in the Mediterranean, highlighting best practices
- Implementation of pilot actions to develop the ecotourism potential of the selected natural areas
- Organisation of familiarisation trips, performed by ecotourism experts and tour operators, to test and fine tune the developed ecotourism packages
- Structural interventions in selected natural areas to upgrade existing facilities and enhance the experience of tourists (improvement of walking trails, renovation of visitor centres or accommodation facilities, installation of informative billboards, purchase of sustainable transportation vehicles)
- Design of an e-learning platform to connect managers, ecotourism agencies and protected areas stakeholders
- Presentation of the project as a success case study during the International Union of Conservation of Nature’s World Congress in Hawaii (September 2016) and the World Parks Congress in Sydney (November 2014)
- Agreements with tour operators to market the developed ecotourism packages in the Mediterranean and internationally (UK, Canada, Japan, USA)
- Establishment of a Mediterranean Ecotourism secretariat and network in Malaga to capitalize on the project results and foster long-term sustainability

CROSS-BORDER IMPACT

- A harmonized Mediterranean model to develop ecotourism destinations was developed based on common criteria
- 25 natural areas across the Mediterranean area are linked through a common tourism package

THE PROJECT BY THE NUMBERS

- 25 protected areas involved across 8 Mediterranean countries
- 60 international best practices in ecotourism identified
- 1 manual with key recommendations to develop ecotourism products
- 19 new ecotourism packages created

PARTNERSHIP

Beneficiary: Italian Parks Federation - Europarc Italy (Italy); Latium Region (Italy); National Parks of France (France); MedPAN - Network of managers of marine protected areas in the Med (France); Cataluña Region (Spain); IUCN Med - Centre for Mediterranean Cooperation (Spain); Royal Society for the Conservation of Nature (Jordan); IUCN, Regional Office for West Asia - IUCN ROWA (Jordan); Al-Shouf Cedar Society (Lebanon);

BUDGET

€4.9 million (ENPI contribution: €4.5 million)

WEBSITE

<http://www.medecotourism.org/>



"The beauty of the desert didn't stop at the door of the lodge but invited its way in through the Bedouin bread that was served at mealtimes, the handmade clay pots that held fresh water in every room, and the bars of locally made olive soap in the bathroom. It's a place to see the stars, do yoga on the rooftop, and sit with a book and a cup of sweet tea and it was there that I truly realised the beauty of Dana."

Travel blogger Jo Fraser following a visit to the Dana Biosphere Reserve in Jordan, one of the 25 natural areas part of the MEET project

FOCUS ON

F.O.P: TOURISTS CAN LIVE LIKE LOCAL INHABITANTS IN MEDITERRANEAN HISTORIC CITIES



More and more travellers are looking for authentic experiences: they are eager to escape big hotel chains and immerse themselves in local culture, food and attractions. The “Future of Our Past” (F.O.P) project worked to make holidays different and inspiring, designing a new model of sustainable tourism which encourages visitors to come outside the peak season in less-trendy destinations.

This was made possible through the creation of innovative tourism plans focusing on history, art, culture and traditions. These plans foster interactions with local populations who play a central role in the provision of services to tourists.

One of the most interesting examples of the community-based model developed by the F.O.P project is the Ad Dar hotel created in Bethlehem. Based on the Italian approach of “albergo diffuso” (scattered hotel), the Ad Dar hotel is made of privately-owned rooms and apartments spread through the old city of Bethlehem. Check-in and check-out services are centrally managed by an accommodation centre which provides visitors with all relevant information about activities and attractions in Bethlehem and Palestine. In addition to planning trips, the accommodation centre offers assistance on things to do in Palestine, including the possibility to book cooking lessons.

The F.O.P project has demonstrated that community-based tourism, with local populations offering services such as accommodation, traditional gastronomy and cultural activities, has a promising future in the Mediterranean and addresses the increasing need of tourists to have more contacts with the hosting communities.

ACTIVITIES IMPLEMENTED

- Mapping of cultural attractions and analysis of tourism trends in the project target areas
- Review of private/public financial instruments to support the development of scattered hotels
- Training courses dedicated to tourism operators
- Production of sustainable tourism development plans in the concerned areas
- Organization of educational tours involving tour operators, journalists, photographers
- Selection of rooms/apartments to be part of the Ad Dar community hotel of Bethlehem following a public call, signature of agreements with owners and refurbishment works if needed
- Creation of an online platform to book rooms and apartments at the Ad Dar community hotel

CROSS-BORDER IMPACT

- A common model for the implementation of community-based tourism, that can be replicated and adapted to different contexts of the Mediterranean area, was designed
- Interest shown by other cities of the Mediterranean to apply the model of community-based accommodation and develop their own scattered hotels

THE PROJECT BY THE NUMBERS

- 60+ members among municipalities, associations, universities and business part of cross-border Mediterranean network to share knowledge and best practices in the field of sustainable tourism
- 1 mobile app offering information on the main attractions and things to do in Valletta (Mal-

ta), Byblos (Lebanon), Bethlehem (Palestine), Cordoba (Spain), Alexandria (Egypt), Matera (Italy), Mahdia (Tunisia) and the Amalfi coast (Italy)

- 26 privately-owned rooms and apartments part of the community hotel in the old city of Bethlehem with a capacity of 70 beds

PARTNERSHIP

Beneficiary: Italian Geographical Society (Italy) - Partners: Mediterranean Universities Union - UNIMED (Italy); European University Centre for Cultural Heritage (Italy); Temi Zammit Foundation (Malta); Quality Program (Italy); Dar Al-Kalima College (Palestine); Consorcio provincial de desarrollo economico (Spain); The Lebanese University (Lebanon); Mahdia Municipality (Tunisia)

BUDGET

€1.8 million (ENPI contribution: €1.6 million)

WEBSITE

<http://www.futureourpast.eu/>



"It's a wonderful place to stay. The hosts have been very nice. It is a great location: you can wander around the old city and see the architecture, get known by the shopkeepers. I will definitely come back."

Words of Clark, an American tourist from North Carolina who spent 7 weeks in one of the apartments refurbished by the F.O.P project in Bethlehem

ECONOMIC GROWTH AND TERRITORIAL DEVELOPMENT: DOING BUSINESS IN THE MEDITERRANEAN

- 50% of the total workforce in the Euro-Mediterranean region is employed by MSMEs
- 80% of the region's MSMEs have no access to financing
- 90% of trade in the Mediterranean region happens between EU countries
- 1/3 of maritime world trade transits through the Mediterranean Sea

"Egypt is currently focusing on projects that will help achieve sustainable and inclusive economic growth. We are really after jobs, that's critical especially for youth and women. Hence our priority areas are improving the business environment, promoting investments and supporting the development of SMEs. The Programme can really contribute to achieve these goals."

H.E. Dr. Sahar Nasr, Minister of Investment and International Cooperation of Egypt



If there is something all economists agree upon is that a vibrant private sector is a key component towards achieving more inclusive growth with opportunities for sustainable and quality employment, especially for young people and women. The dynamism of the private sector is even more important in the Mediterranean to *"raise living standards, underpin political stability and offer an alternative to economic migration out of the region."* (European Investment Bank³)

With 90% of companies being micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs) in the Mediter-

³Source: http://www.eib.org/attachments/efs/econ_mena_enterprise_survey_executive_summary_en.pdf

anean, these latter play a vital role in lowering unemployment - 50% of the total workforce is employed by MSMEs – reducing inequalities and boosting innovation.

If we want to unlock the full potential of MSMEs as key drivers for economic growth in the Mediterranean, several structural issues need to be tackled:

- Per nature, MSMEs suffer from their small dimension when it comes to expanding business on global markets. Operating beyond borders for usually family-owned business is a major challenge and it is no secret that many studies show that exporting is a precursor of strong growth.
- Another factor for ensuring MSMEs growth is adequate financing along each stage of their life cycle. Meanwhile, access to finance, particularly for micro and small firms, is difficult. In Mediterranean Partner Countries, higher collateral requirements, higher cost of capital in general, as well as high rejection rates, hamper access to credit and, indeed, only about 20% of the region's MSMEs have access to financing. This limits their possibility of growth and expansion.
- Innovation and technological upgrading, qualified human resources and a conducive business environment with adequate development services are yet other factors to support MSMEs growth and competitiveness.

The public sector has an important role to play in facilitating business development and ensuring favorable conditions so that MSMEs receive the support they need and grow. That's why working on the efficiency of local governments is essential so that they can help business and citizens.

Finally, with only 9% of trade in the Mediterranean region happening between the EU and its Southern Neighbours, much remains to be done to achieve deeper economic integration between both shores of the Mediterranean. While there is a geographical proximity among Mediterranean countries, developing maritime transport through better port logistics, more efficient customs procedures and innovative solutions are paramount to increase the volume and value of intra-Mediterranean commercial exchanges, potentially favoured by natural short distances.

OUR PROJECTS

24 projects - 169 actors - Investment: €44.9 million

The 24 projects belonging to the “Economic growth and territorial development” are divided into the following areas:

- **Economic growth and innovation processes (11)**
BRAMA, Bio-Xplore, CoMeD Pro, EDILE, **LACTIMED**, MARAKANDA, MedDiet, NETKITE, Project Wealth, SUSTEXNET, TEX-MED Clusters
- **Maritime transport (4)**
CUSTOM MED, **E.H.P.P.C. – Med**, MED-PORTS, OPTIMED
- **Territorial development and local governance (9)**
ILE, LOCAL-SATS, MEDeGOV, MIDEMP, OPENWIND, PROCAMED, RAMUD, T-NET, VILLAGES

In response to the challenges described above, the projects have implemented cooperation actions in the following fields.

ECONOMIC GROWTH AND INNOVATION PROCESSES

The Mediterranean is home to many traditional and typical business sectors including agro-food, textile and handicrafts. Keeping these sectors profitable against a fierce international competition requires engaging in new forms of innovation, developing skills, methods, managerial competences and providing specialized support services so that traditional businesses can continue to grow, and new entrepreneurial ideas can thrive. This is the focus of several ENPI CBC Med projects with focus on the type of actions described below.

- The introduction of a cluster-based approach to the agro-food and textile sectors, linking all actors - from production to distribution - along stronger and more competitive economic value chains.
- The establishment of business alliances, which gather businesses from different Mediterranean countries.
- The development of new commercial ventures, through the exploitation of innovative ideas and their transformation into valuable economic realities.
- The creation of support services to businesses, especially startup, so they can better address the challenging steps of their life cycle.

MARITIME TRANSPORT

An estimated 220,000 merchant vessels of the 100-ton-or-more class cross the Mediterranean each year, carrying one third of the world’s total merchant shipping. Of course, this activity is vital to the economy, and more shipping means more business. And yet obstacles to better functioning ports, and certain customs regimes, make it harder for some countries in the Mediterranean Basin to trade freely. The projects funded by the ENPI CBC Med under the maritime transport sector have implemented the following type of actions so that goods can move easier and faster in the Mediterranean:

- Simplification and approximation of customs procedures and regulations.
- Improvement of the efficiency in port operations and maritime logistics.

TERRITORIAL DEVELOPMENT AND LOCAL GOVERNANCE

More capable, transparent and interactive governance can do a lot to strengthen the economy and local communities. This is why several projects sought to increase the overall efficiency of public authorities in delivering services to populations and businesses through the following type of actions:

- The implementation of modalities for the involvement of citizens in the public sphere, increasing their participation in decision-making processes through participatory processes.
- The development of e-government with ICT tools for delivering government services to businesses and citizens.

MAIN RESULTS ACHIEVED

- 727 SMEs with increased access to innovation and technology transfer processes
- 190 cooperation/partnership agreements signed among companies from different countries of the Programme area
- 21 innovative tools to help public authorities better plan local development
- 9 major Mediterranean ports concerned by initiatives aiming at increasing efficiency in logistics and customs procedures

FOCUS ON

LACTIMED: LINKING MEMBERS OF LOCAL DAIRY CHAINS INTO CLUSTERS THAT CAN BUILD BUSINESS



The Mediterranean area is a paradise for cheese lovers. Some products – like Greek “feta”, Italian “Parmigiano” or Spanish “Manchego” – are internationally renowned while other types of cheese found in Tunisia, Egypt or Lebanon, for instance, struggle to get a decent market share, limiting the possibility of long-term growth for the producers.

According to the LACTIMED project, the factors which hinder the development of new dairy products are re-

lated to the small dimension of SMEs, low productivity of livestock, hygiene and food safety issues, limited access to financing and lack of visibility.

Through a cluster-based approach, aiming at linking all stakeholders of the dairy sector chain at local level – including milk producers, collectors, cheese makers, buyers and distributors, business support organisations, universities, public authorities and financial institutions – the LACTIMED project has facilitated the creation of a Mediterranean network of dairy clusters for the commercial development of typical cheeses, with a focus on quality, innovation and promotion on national and international markets.

ACTIVITIES IMPLEMENTED

- In-depth analysis of the structure and actors of local dairy chains in regions of Lebanon (Beqaa valley and Baalbeck-Hermel), Egypt (Alexandria and El-Beheira), Greece (Thessaly), Italy (Sicily) and Tunisia (Béja and Bizerte)
- Creation of 8 local clusters gathering suppliers, livestock farmers, collectors, processors, distributors, research laboratories, training centres and business support organisations into a single network
- Participation in agro-food fairs, organization of taste workshops, local events, cooking shows to promote the different types of typical cheese identified by the project
- Launching of a business idea competition worth €100,000 and selection of 10 innovative dairy projects supported through technical, financial and business assistance
- Definition of a cross-border tourism itinerary based on the cheese heritage found in the regions concerned by the project
- Drafting a white paper containing recommendations for decision-makers to strengthen typical dairy products
- Creation of tailored-made financial tools for facilitating access to credit for small cheese producers in Tunisia, in association with the National Agricultural Bank

CROSS-BORDER IMPACT

- Typical dairy products from Egypt, Italy, Lebanon and Tunisia jointly promoted during national and international fairs
- Business ventures between cheese makers from different countries established with partnerships for joint cheese production
- A set of common policy recommendations designed to support the development of value chains of typical dairy products in the Mediterranean

THE PROJECT BY THE NUMBERS

- 60 typical dairy products identified and promoted
- 1,308 business meetings between 104 cheese producers and 150 international and national buyers
- 28 “tasty” stops along the “Route of Mediterranean Dairy products”, a unique culinary tourism itinerary across regions of Egypt, Greece, Italy, Lebanon and Tunisia
- 4,000+ persons directly involved among milk/cheese producers, collectors, buyers, stakeholders of the agro-food industry, representatives of public authorities and universities

PARTNERSHIP

Beneficiary: ANIMA Investment Network (France) - Partners: CIHEAM-IAMM, Mediterranean Agronomic Institute of Montpellier (France); ASTER (Italy); Chamber of Commerce, Industry and Agriculture of Zahle and Bekaa (Lebanon); Italian Chamber of Commerce for France of Marseille (France); German-Arab Chamber of Commerce and Industry (Egypt); Competitiveness Cluster of Bizerte (Tunisia); Slow Food Italy (Italy); Union of Hellenic Chambers of Commerce (Greece); University of Thessaly (Greece); General Authority for Investment, GAFI (Egypt); College of International Transport and Logistics - Arab Academy for Science, Technology and Maritime Transport (Egypt)

BUDGET

€4.8 million (ENPI contribution: €4.3 million)

WEBSITE

<http://www.lactimed.eu/>



“Thanks to the LACTIMED project, I have improved the quality of the feta I produce, selling it at a higher price on the market. I have also established a joint venture with an Egyptian company to expand my business abroad.”

Dimitris Kissas, feta producer from the region of Thessaly in Greece

FOCUS ON

E.H.P.P.C. - MED: MOVING PERISHABLE HORTICULTURAL PRODUCTS FASTER IN THE MEDITERRANEAN



Sales of fresh products play a vital role in the Mediterranean basin's economy, and they offer the possibility of exponential expansion in trade. But this potential growth is being stunted at borders: export of perishable horticultural products is still handled with outdated, inefficient procedures. Automated processes could help reduce the unnecessary paperwork that keeps fresh produce from moving efficiently around the basin.

E.H.P.P.C. - MED is a project that focused on eliminating these barriers with the introduction of an information and communication technology-based tool. Using this e-platform, the project's partners also encouraged harmonised procedures that make it easy for producers and exporters to quickly obtain and transmit the documentation necessary for shipping fresh products.

ACTIVITIES IMPLEMENTED

- Drafting of guidelines for improving the control methods for quality and origin of fresh fruits and vegetables in accordance with relevant EU Regulations to foster the export of fresh produce from the Middle East to the European market
- Implementation of quality controls on fresh fruits and vegetable in two laboratories set up in Jordan and Lebanon so they respond to EU standards
- Setting up and implementation of an ICT tool for modernizing the administrative and technical operations related to horticultural products circulation
- Signing of an inter-Ministerial technical agreement among Italy, Jordan and Lebanon to improve fresh fruits and vegetable trade in the Mediterranean area

CROSS-BORDER IMPACT

- A set of procedures and tools designed and implemented to facilitate the circulation of perishable horticultural products across the countries of the Mediterranean area

THE PROJECT BY THE NUMBERS

- 184 enterprises (among import-export companies, terminals, maritime carriers, forwarders and shipping agencies) trained in the simplification and harmonization of trade procedures
- 1 e-platform to facilitate import-export processes of horticultural perishable products

PARTNERSHIP

Beneficiary: Mediterranean Agronomic Institute of Bari - CIHEAM-MAIB (Italy) - Partners: Livorno Port Authority (Italy); Region of Puglia, Policies Area for Rural Development (Italy); Ministry of Agriculture (Lebanon); Ministry of Agriculture - Phytosanitary and Biosecurity Department (Jordan); Jordanian Exporters and Producers Association for Fruit & Vegetables (Jordan)

BUDGET

€1.4 million (ENPI contribution: €1.2 million)

WEBSITE

<http://www.ehppcmed.org/>



“Lebanon has a qualified production of fresh fruits and vegetables and is looking for increasing its exports to Jordan and open a new market in Europe. This project helped all partners to unify their regulations related to agricultural trade, preserve the quality of perishable products and reduce the costs for their release at border points.”

Rania el Hayek, Head of import/export and plant quarantine service, Ministry of Agriculture, Lebanon

ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY: TOGETHER, FIGHTING AGAINST CLIMATE CHANGE

- 60% of the world's population living in 'water poverty' – less than 1000 m³ of water available per capita per year – is found in the Mediterranean⁴
- Less than 10% of the waste collected in the Mediterranean region is currently recycled⁵
- 88,5% average dependency rate on fossil fuels in the countries of the Programme area
- 76% of total population in the Programme area live within 100 kilometres from the sea⁶
- 19% of animal species in the Mediterranean are threatened with extinction⁷

"Climate change is a threat multiplier for stability and security in the Mediterranean, one of the most vulnerable regions in terms of climate change impacts. Enhanced regional cooperation to face this common challenge is therefore needed."

Jorge Borrego, Union for the Mediterranean's Deputy Secretary General for Energy



The environment in the Mediterranean knows no borders: when a river is heavily polluted in one country, the water discharges in the sea can affect larger coastal areas, especially in the case of a land-locked sea such as the Mediterranean. When waste is illegally dumped, this causes risks to human health due to soil, water and air pollution with consequences that go well beyond the illegal dumping sites. When a city is impacted by air pollution, air movements can displace toxic particles and induce people to breathe dangerous levels of CO₂. When natural habitats and coastal ecosystems are degraded, damaged or even destroyed, they will stop providing the many

⁴Source: <http://www.gwp.org/globalassets/global/toolbox/publications/technical-focus-papers/01-water-demand-management-the-mediterranean-experience-2012-english.pdf>

⁵Source: <https://www.eea.europa.eu/soer-2015/countries/mediterranean>

⁶Source: <http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/documents/3217494/5728589/KS-HA-11-001-13-EN.PDF/c0dd33ed-0db2-4d8b-ae03-26d9bf3e57fc?version=1.0> - <http://www.afedonline.org/afedreport09/english/Char4.pdf>

⁷Source: <http://www.rac-spa.org/biodiversity>

and varied benefits that humans freely gain from properly-functioning ecosystems.

The protection of the environment is by nature a regional issue: this is why cooperation, coordination but also solidarity at all levels - local, regional, national and international - amongst the countries bordering the Mediterranean is essential if we want to protect fragile and vulnerable ecosystems, reach the objectives set by the Paris climate agreement and ensure a sustainable future to young generations.

Yet, the Mediterranean, a unique hotspot for diversity, is at a crossroads if we want to adapt to and mitigate the adverse effects of climate change and improve the resilience of societies. In this regard, cooperation has an inestimable value since it allows local communities, governments at all levels, businesses and environmental stakeholders from across borders to exchange good practices and act together.

OUR PROJECTS

38 projects - 300 actors - Investment: €96.3 million

The 38 environmental sustainability projects funded under the ENPI CBC Med Programme are divided into the following areas:

- **Water management (8 projects)**
AQUAKNIGHT, SWMED, ENSIAP, MEDOLICO, NANOWAT, Promoting sustainable groundwater, ACCBAT, **Water-DROP**
- **Waste treatment and recycling (6 projects)**
Local Agenda 21, GMI, MED-3R, **SCOW**, LANDCARE MED, SMOT
- **Renewable energies and energy efficiency (9 projects)**
RELS, MED-ALGAE, **STS-Med**, MED-DESIRE, MED-Solar, DIDSOLIT-PB, SHAAMS, FOSTER in MED, GR.ENE.CO
- **Protection of the environment and natural resources (5 projects)**
GOUVAIR'ANCE, ECOPLANTMED, FruitFlyNet, MEDSCAPES, RAOP-MED
- **Integrated coastal zone management (10 projects)**
MAPMED, MESP, MARE NOSTRUM, **MED-JELLYRISK**, M3-HABs, MED-PHARES, MEDSEATIES, GREAT Med, MEDSANDCOAST, ECOSAFIMED

In response to the challenges described above, the ENPI CBC MED projects have implemented cooperation actions in the sector listed below.

WATER MANAGEMENT

As the limited supply of good water is taxed by increasing environmental pressure, it is essential for regions around the basin to improve the way they handle water. This is the focus of several ENPI CBC Med projects through the implementation of the following actions:

- The introduction of new techniques in agriculture to reduce the volume of water used by farmers for irrigation purposes.
- The treatment of toxic water effluents from olive oil extraction and their reuse in agriculture.
- The use of nanotechnologies for water purification and filtering.
- The reduction of water losses in distribution networks at urban level.
- The improvement of water governance by linking up all concerned stakeholders in view of elaborating new management plans that take into account the value of water.

WASTE TREATMENT AND RECYCLING

As populations grow and become more concentrated in urban areas, the need to reduce and reuse our refuse grows greater. Meanwhile, more intensive farming can produce potentially harmful organic waste. Related projects encourage better management and treatment of waste, or reuse and recycling focusing on the following issues:

- The design and implementation of comprehensive management plans based on the 3R approach (reduce, recycle, reuse waste) that tackle different types of waste (plastic, organic, electronic waste, etc.) from different contexts (urban/rural areas, old towns, islands, isolated territories).
- Capacity-building actions, training and transfer of knowledge to reinforce the competen-

cies of citizens, young people, local administrators and business owners.

RENEWABLE ENERGIES AND ENERGY EFFICIENCY

Fossil fuels are expensive, limited in supply and burning them contributes to greenhouse gas emissions (GHG) that cause climate change: countries of the Mediterranean are still significantly dependent on fossil fuels and this dependency means a high energy bill. Meanwhile, the Mediterranean climate is well suited to produce renewable energy with ideal conditions regarding sun, wind and even more promising sources like the waves. However, this potential has not been yet fully exploited. Through the pilot actions mentioned below, several funded projects have demonstrated that efficient and sustainable solutions exist and that we have no excuses not to boost the energy transition and achieve low-carbon societies.

- Research on the development of sustainable biofuels.
- Refurbishment of housing units to increase their overall energy performance.
- Implementation of solar energy applications on public buildings and community facilities (schools, hospitals, etc.).
- Policy development to overcome the administrative barriers that prevent the full deployment of renewable energy.
- Training for policy-makers, local administrators, students, installers, engineers.

PROTECTION OF THE ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES

The unique habitats of the Mediterranean Basin shelter one of the most biologically diverse collections of fauna and flora in the world, but this natural heritage is under constant pressure from human activity. Several projects focused on developing means to protect the environment and natural resources through the following activities:

- Use of native Mediterranean plants for environmental restoration of degraded natural habitats.
- Implementation of innovative, sustainable techniques to rationalize the use of insecticides.
- Monitoring of air quality in Mediterranean cities.
- Development of risk management plans to increase preparedness in case of oil spills.

INTEGRATED COASTAL ZONE MANAGEMENT

As a direct and positive contribution to the Protocol to the Barcelona Convention on Integrated Coastal Zone Management, projects worked in the understanding that the environment must be central to any intervention taking place in coastal areas, some of the most vulnerable ecosystems to climate change and human activities. As a result, the following types of activities were implemented:

- Survey and mapping of the threats and pressures in coastal areas (pollution, overdevelopment, mass tourism, erosion, etc.).
- Reduction of air, water and noise pollution in Mediterranean ports.
- Implementation of strategies and action plans to conserve and protect coastal/marine habitats.

MAIN RESULTS ACHIEVED

- 10+ millions of cubic meters of water saved/treated by projects
- 118 hectares irrigated with modern, efficient devices
- 1.9 million people positively affected by new waste management plans
- 1,169,000 kWh generated by new solar energy applications implemented
- 54 building/facilities fitted with solar applications
- 76 coastal areas concerned with studies and coastal protection measures
- 18 policy tools incorporating the ICZM principles adopted by competent authorities

FOCUS ON

Water-DROP: ENGAGING A WIDE SPECTRUM OF MULTI-LEVEL STAKEHOLDERS TO IMPROVE WATER MANAGEMENT



Population growth and general development in the Mediterranean Basin are fueling more intensive urbanisation, industrialisation, agricultural activity and tourism, all of which are putting stress on the water supply and causing shortages. The situation could be greatly improved with well-coordinated water management. The Water-DROP project was designed with the understanding that there is insufficient water management in the Mediterranean Basin, and that existing

policies are not well integrated. Based on this statement, Water-DROP partners - from Italy, Cyprus, Spain, Lebanon, Palestine and Jordan - sought to improve the technical abilities, knowledge and coordination of the different stakeholders involved in water management.

ACTIVITIES IMPLEMENTED

- Survey of the regulatory contexts and mapping of the relevant stakeholders in water management in the countries covered by the project
- Production of guidelines on the integrated water resources management in the Mediterranean
- Design of a GIS system to support water governance
- Implementation of 4 pilot actions: monitoring campaigns and pollution control of rivers water quality in Lebanon; feasibility study on the interface freshwater/seawater in the area of Torre Flavia near Rome; rain harvesting in Jordan; treatment of wastewater and reuse for irrigation of olive trees in Palestine

CROSS-BORDER IMPACT

- A common Mediterranean approach for water policy strategic planning

THE PROJECT BY THE NUMBERS

- 500 people benefit from the 31 water harvesting systems installed on roof tops in Jordan (5 schools and 26 houses)
- 594 people among teachers, students, farmers, technicians, local administrators trained in the sustainable use and management of water resources
- 1 Mediterranean Task Force for water management normative harmonization

PARTNERSHIP

Beneficiary: ENEA - National Agency for New Technologies, Energy and Sustainable Economic Development (Italy) - Partners: University of Nicosia (Cyprus); Region of Tuscany - DG Territorial Policies, Environment and Mobility (Italy); Union of Municipalities of Hermel, Planning and Development Agency (Lebanon); National Council for Scientific Research - CNRS (Lebanon); Palestinian Hydrology Group (Palestine); International Union for Conservation of Nature, Regional Office for West Asia (Jordan); Haliéus - Organization for cooperation on fishery, aquaculture, research, development and environment (Italy); Assembly of Cooperation for Peace (Spain); ARCS-ARCI Culture and Development (Italy)

BUDGET

€1.9 million (ENPI contribution: €1.7 million)

WEBSITE

<http://water-drop.enea.it/>



"Here in Lebanon, the activities of Water-DROP were welcomed by the local authorities and even the Ministry. Considering the fragile security conditions in which the Middle East is involved, the resilience of the local communities in dealing with problems that currently the National State would inevitably overshadow, is seen by the latter as an important source of support."

Jalal Mahfouz from the Planning and Development Agency of Hermel, Lebanon

FOCUS ON

SCOW: MAKING ORGANIC WASTE A USEFUL RESOURCE FOR LOCAL COMMUNITIES



The people of the Mediterranean now produce more waste than ever before. Efforts to control it, and if possible reuse, and a sound management are essential for maintaining vital resources, increasing the attractiveness of tourism areas and of course preserving the environment.

The SCOW project was implemented in this perspective, supporting municipalities and local communities from Israel, Palestine, Spain, Italy, Malta, France in

the development of a low-cost, low-technology model to collect bio-waste, treat it locally in decentralized small-scale composting plants, and make it a valuable resource that can be used for soil fertilization.

ACTIVITIES IMPLEMENTED

- Comprehensive analysis of the way waste is managed in the concerned project areas
- Creation of a database of good practices related to the decentralized management of organic waste
- Implementation of door-to-door collection schemes of organic waste involving businesses, households, schools, catering establishments, hotels and food industry
- Building of 14 organic waste treatment facilities with a total annual capacity of 4,000 tons
- Signing of 90 public-private partnership agreements to facilitate organic waste collection and treatment
- Organization of 94 training sessions dedicated to citizens, local administrators and businesses

CROSS-BORDER IMPACT

- Establishment of Mediterranean Compost Network (<http://www.medcompost.net/>) designed to share technical information, expertise and gather a wide range of stakeholders from the waste sector
- 50 municipalities from Israel, Palestine, Spain, Italy, Malta and France worked together, exchanged good practices and developed a common model for organic waste collection, treatment and reuse that could be replicated in other areas across the Mediterranean

THE PROJECT BY THE NUMBERS

- 14 organic waste collection systems and composting plants commissioned
- 2,000 tons of compost produced according to quality European standards and used by farmers for fertilising 150 hectares of agricultural land
- 29 new jobs created by the project for the collection, transport and treatment processes of organic waste

PARTNERSHIP

Beneficiary: Urban Ecology Agency of Barcelona (Spain) - Partners: Development Agency Gal Genovese (Italy); Local Councils' Association (Malta); House of Water and Environment (Palestine); Upper Galilee Regional Council (Israel); MIGAL - Galilee Technology Center (Israel); SYVADEC (France); Environment Park SpA (Italy)

BUDGET

€4.9 million (ENPI contribution: €4.5 million)

WEBSITE

<http://www.biowaste-scow.eu/>



"We have no choice. Separation of waste at source has implications for our culture and the way children and families relate to the environment in all its facets. Society, environment and education go together, and they cannot be separated."

Words of Amir Peretz, member of the Knesset and former Israeli Minister of Environmental Protection, during a conference of the SCOW project in Galilee (12 June 2014)

FOCUS ON

STS-MED: FROM BIG TO SMALL PLANTS, DEMONSTRATING THE POTENTIAL OF CONCENTRATED SOLAR TECHNOLOGY TO PRODUCE ENERGY



As Mediterranean regions seek to wean themselves from unsustainable and expensive fossil fuels, a logical source of energy is the sun. With sunlight time ranging from 2,650 to 3,400 hours per year with average radiation going up to 3,200 kWh/m² per year, the Mediterranean offers some exceptional weather conditions. However, the full potential of solar energy has yet to be exploited if we want to break free from polluting energy sources.

One of the most promising way to use sun on a massive scale is the concentrated solar (CS) technology, which employs mirrors or lenses to focus sunlight onto a small area, thereby increasing the power that can be obtained from that light. Yet, very few plants of this type are commercially operated in the Mediterranean and they are usually big and expensive infrastructures which require large areas of land to be implemented.

STS-Med worked on a technological downscale of the CS technology, demonstrating the possibility to integrate small concentrated solar plants in buildings and contribute to their energy needs. In addition, the project focused on the creation of a commercial value chain (involving SMEs, engineers, architects, installers) around CS, one of the most cutting-edge applications in the solar sector.

ACTIVITIES IMPLEMENTED

- Market studies on CS systems demand in the Mediterranean countries involved
- Design and modelling of a CS toolbox to help decision-makers/technical managers plan CS solar plants
- Policy action plans for CS multigenerative systems adoption and development in the Mediterranean area
- Training courses on CS technology for solar sector professionals, students and buildings owners with a total of 1,850 people trained
- Commissioning of 4 demonstration plants in Italy, Jordan, Egypt and Cyprus

CROSS-BORDER IMPACT

- A new Euro-Mediterranean supply chain of 40 SMEs and 950 professionals qualified in CS technology

THE PROJECT BY THE NUMBERS

- 80 energy audits conducted on buildings to assess their energy performance and possible improvement measures
- 20,000 end users served by the 4 demonstration plants commissioned in Italy, Jordan, Egypt and Cyprus
- 460 Kilowatt-thermal (KWth) of power installed

PARTNERSHIP

Beneficiary: ARCA Consortium (Italy) - Partners: The Cyprus Institute (Cyprus); Cyprus Chamber of Commerce and Industry (Cyprus); Academy for Scientific Research and Technology (Egypt); New and Renewable Energy Authority (Egypt); Elsewedy Electric (Egypt); French Alternative Energies and Atomic Energy Commission (France); CEEI Provence - Innovation busi-

ness support (France); University of Athens, Institute of Accelerating Systems and Application (Greece); Al-Balqa Applied University (Jordan); Ministry of Energy and Mineral Resources (Jordan); Millenium Energy Industries (Jordan); ENEA - National Agency for New Technologies, Energy and Sustainable Economic Development (Italy); Sicily Region - Department of Production Activities (Italy)

BUDGET

€4.9 million (ENPI contribution: €4.5 million)

WEBSITE

<http://www.stsmed.eu>



“These kinds of innovative projects linking science and business are visible proofs of how we can promote growth inside Europe and bridge disparities between North and South.”

Words of Corina Cretu, European Commissioner for Regional Policy, during a visit to the STS-Med pilot plant in Palermo (24 April 2015)

FOCUS ON

MED-JELLYRISK: UNDERSTANDING, MITIGATING AND REDUCING THE THREAT POSED BY THE “JELLIFICATION” OF THE MEDITERRANEAN SEA



Growing numbers of jellyfish are turning up on Mediterranean beaches, which is a worry for bathers as it can ruin their swims, but also for fishermen and tourism operators as this can ruin their business. Another impact of jellyfish proliferation is the high costs of basic first aid treatments for the national health services with 2 million beachgoers affected every summer by jellyfish stings. Increased jellyfish outbreaks are also a sign that the Mediterranean Sea is in very poor

conditions, which is why integrated surveillance, prevention and socio-economic impact assessment systems need to be put in place.

Thanks to MED-JELLYRISK, local authorities, citizens and the scientific community can now better understand and fight back the threat posed by jellyfish with innovative tools, protocols and best practices produced by the project team. This initiative has received worldwide attention with media coverage including the Guardian, National Geographic, Scientific American and Al-Jazeera.

ACTIVITIES IMPLEMENTED

- Assessment of the socio-economic impact of jellyfish through questionnaires filled in by 1,200 people among beach users, fishermen, business owners, tourism operators
- Production of scientific papers and surveys on jellyfish proliferation and mitigation in the Mediterranean
- Installation of informative multi-language panels, anti-jellyfish nets and distribution of first-aid kits against jellyfish stings in 10 key tourism hotspots coastal areas located in Italy, Spain, Tunisia and Malta
- Organization of training courses for coastal zones operators for different categories of stakeholders (life guards, hotel operators, marine protected areas technicians, environmental agency staff, red cross volunteers) and of 2 summer schools for students on “Jellyfish blooms in the Mediterranean sea: causes, consequences and countermeasures”
- Implementation of a decision-support system for coastal managers by providing an early warning system of the occurrence of high jellyfish densities based on a jellyfish dispersion model

CROSS-BORDER IMPACT

- A comprehensive research effort to model and forecast jellyfish blooms across the Mediterranean Sea
- Protocols developed by the project to mitigate jellyfish blooms adopted in Greece, Turkey, Croatia and Cyprus

THE PROJECT BY THE NUMBERS

- 10 pilot coastal areas concerned by the project
- 20 safe bathing areas created through the deployment of 2km nets to protect beachgoers from jellyfish stings
- 1 mobile app to provide citizens with real-time information on jellyfish proliferations in selected Mediterranean coastal areas and share pictures of “jellyfish sight”

PARTNERSHIP

Beneficiary: National Interuniversity Consortium for Marine Sciences (Italy); Spanish Research Council - Institute of Marine Sciences (Spain); University of Malta (Malta); Faculty of Sciences of Bizerte (Tunisia); Tunisian National Institute of Agronomy (Tunisia)

BUDGET

€2.5 million (ENPI contribution: €2.3 million)

WEBSITE

<http://jellyrisk.eu>



"The information collected under MED-JELLYRISK provides a snapshot of the changes in the marine biodiversity as a response to human activities and climate change. The long-term sustainability of the project results is strongly supported by the coordination activities and transnational adoption of protocols and methodologies. More countries in the Mediterranean Basin are now interested in addressing the jellyfish issue and our protocols are being adopted by colleagues in Greece, Turkey, Croatia and Cyprus."

Stefano Piraino, project coordinator

2

ANALYSIS OF GOOD PRACTICES AND OPPORTUNITIES FOR FOLLOW-UP ACTIONS

This section provides detailed information on projects outcomes which may still be supported at regional level by re-launching tailored activities in countries already involved and/or by involving other countries where activities were not implemented.

They are reported considering all thematic objectives of the 2014-2020 ENI CBC Med Programme and concern also projects having faced some problems and delays during their implementation.

This approach is meant to open up a concrete, wide and long-lasting range of opportunities for potential synergies and complementarities for future actions taking advantage of valuable results as well as a set of lessons learnt on key selected topics/areas of intervention to be further exploited within the 2014-2020 programming period.

BUSINESS AND SMEs DEVELOPMENT

KEY CHALLENGES

- Heterogeneous business supporting policies, fiscal legislation, standards and trade regulations.
- In Mediterranean Partner Countries (MPCs), large employers (public and private) have tended to dominate product markets and enjoy privileged access to banking systems.
- Uneven presence of innovative SMEs across the countries of the Mediterranean.
- MSMEs losing ground in terms of competitiveness and leading to a predominance of necessity-driven, "survivalist enterprises".
- Unbalanced level of "culture of entrepreneurship" among countries of the area.
- Skill mismatches between qualification and labour market requirements.

One of the biggest challenges in the Programme area is to create opportunities and jobs to reduce the high rates of unemployment, especially among youth, and absorb the huge number of new entrants into the labour market, especially in the MPCs. Responding adequately to the job challenge is even more pressing in this phase of political and economic transformation.

Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) are key drivers of development, as they can generate jobs and stimulate innovation processes (both technological innovation and innovation in operations and management). Despite the differences in their definition, MSMEs constitute a significant economic and employment driver, representing more than 50% of total workforce and over 90% of overall enterprises in the region, and accounting for a significant portion of export and GDP.

Among the most important factors leading to innovation and entrepreneurial performance are education and training. Several studies have found a positive correlation between these two factors. Even if the educational gap between the two shores of the Mediterranean is gradually narrowing, skill shortages are still a major constraint.

Additional options to strengthen the positive outcomes of some ENPI CBC Med projects having as target groups MSMEs have been found for the following projects: **MedDiet**, **Tex-MED Clusters**, **SUSTEXNET** and **EDILE**.

MedDiet: Mediterranean Diet and enhancement of traditional foodstuff

<http://www.med-diet.eu/>

COUNTRIES ALREADY INVOLVED

EGYPT, GREECE, ITALY, LEBANON, SPAIN, TUNISIA

SELECTED RESULTS ACHIEVED

- The launching of the MedDiet quality label for restaurants and the training of owners and staff resulted in 270 SMEs across the Mediterranean offering a real Mediterranean diet menu and committed to promote the Mediterranean diet.
- Many restaurants, all over the world, are asking for the MedDiet trademark (i.e. Barilla for its restaurants).
- Further to the training of teachers and school directors and the pilot initiatives within the project, many schools have developed their own actions on the Mediterranean Diet, including taste laboratories, visits to farms and factories, and development of school gardens.

LESSONS LEARNT

Access to finance, particularly for micro and small firms, is difficult. In MPCs, higher collateral requirements, higher costs of capital in general, as well as high rejection rates hamper access to credit and, indeed, only about 20% of the region's MSMEs have access to financing. As reported in the final MedDiet report, the mission of the partnership is "to promote the dissemination of the Mediterranean diet throughout the world, based on the true values contained in the System of MedDiet Knowledge and bearing the registered trademark MedDiet®". This option may lead to valuable opportunities for MSMEs if they have adequate financing along each stage of their life cycle, including marketing, labelling and market access. The trademark MedDiet® may pave the way for a wide range of commercial activities.

HIGHLIGHTS FOR DECISION-MAKERS

The partnership is currently defining the best organisation model (association, foundation, network, etc.) for implementing the potential additional activities as listed below:

- Nutrition educational programmes on the Mediterranean diet addressed to teachers of primary and secondary schools.
- Release of the MedDiet® accreditation to trainers and training agencies.
- Production of educational material on Mediterranean diet.
- Issuing of the MedDiet® certification to restaurants.
- MedDiet® training for restaurant owners and restaurant staff.
- As already done during the implementation of MedDiet in Lebanon and Spain where some schools decided to modify the menu of their canteens by including healthier local products. This practice could be further promoted, based on the experience of schools involved in the MedDiet project.
- Since food and cooking, especially when it comes to traditional products, are often linked to women, the project follow-up should focus on women.
- From an environmental point of view, the increase in the consumption of local foodstuff helps reinforcing environmental sustainability.

Tex-MED Clusters: Innovative cross-border approaches for Textile and Clothing Clusters co-development in the Mediterranean basin

www.texmedclusters.eu

SUSTEXNET: Sustainable textile Mediterranean network

<http://www.enpicbcmmed.eu/sites/default/files/sustexnet.pdf>

COUNTRIES ALREADY INVOLVED

EGYPT, GREECE, JORDAN, ITALY, LEBANON, PALESTINE, SPAIN, TUNISIA

SELECTED RESULTS ACHIEVED

- Detailed territorial and cluster based studies, analysis and trainings combined with B2B in Monastir, Athens, Dead Sea, Prato. Innovation days, guided visits to the international fairs. Market analysis for the EuroMed Raw Material Virtual Platform (Tex-MED Clusters).
- 8 clusters and 4 permanent agreements to ensure the exploitation of results and sustainability of successful initiatives after the project's conclusion on: Mediterranean desks, innovation days, leftovers/stocks management and EU programmes for innovation (Tex-MED Clusters).
- 64 diagnoses (16 per country); 25 best practices collected and 16 proposals of improvements delivered to textile companies (SUSTEXNET).

LESSONS LEARNT

Despite of the increasingly fierce global competition, textile continues to be an important industrial sector, with an annual turnover of more than €210 billion and total workforce of 2.3 million. The Mediterranean textile industry has a longstanding tradition of leadership in terms of innovation, fashion, design and creativity. In 24 months, Tex-MED Clusters organised 48 business initiatives and 350 B2B meetings leading to 180 Memoranda of Understanding signed among SMEs. In total, over 1,700 people participated in project events/conferences. Among other results, some valuable achievements highlighting the added value of cross-border cooperation in the textile sector are: 4 Spanish companies have now direct access to the US market via a cooperation with Jordan SMEs; in the framework of the cooperation between Tunisian and Italian companies, a new machine has been designed to better use the recycled cotton yarn from denim.

HIGHLIGHTS FOR DECISION-MAKERS

- A cluster-based approach leads to supporting local brands in setting up their own collections and becoming producers/retailers (instead of subcontractors). Based on the experience of Tex-MED Clusters, new markets might be addressed by selecting additional MSMEs during B2B events.
- Innovation processes are becoming increasingly open to different stakeholders able to access high quality trainings and researches. The EuroMed Raw Material Virtual Platform developed by Tex-MED Clusters (i.e. feasibility study) might be a concrete reference for developing new joint projects targeting MSMEs with training and research activities.

EDILE: Economic Development through Inclusive and Local Empowerment

<http://www.edile-initiative.org/en>

COUNTRIES ALREADY INVOLVED

FRANCE, ITALY, LEBANON, PALESTINE, SPAIN, TUNISIA

SELECTED RESULTS ACHIEVED

- Methodological guide to support the organisations responsible for the regulation and implementation of investment projects so that they can generate a positive local impact, particularly in terms of employment, subcontracting and preservation of the environment.
- People trained were 288 (+68% in comparison with the target set) and the total number of people involved in EDILE events was 1,462 (more than three times the target set, mainly thanks to the additional dissemination activities organised in Marseille and in Morocco).

LESSONS LEARNT

Public authorities are crucial actors in investment regulation, but they often lack necessary expertise. As a consequence, sound procedures and effective tools for investment projects evaluation are hardly developed. EDILE was able to create a common rating methodology that is now available for free to all private and public stakeholders to assess investment projects that can be now certified (EDILE label) to testify their impact on local economies and social inclusiveness. Initially conceived as a capacity-building operation for Lebanon, Tunisia and Palestine to support public organisations in investment projects evaluation, during the project lifetime, EDILE moved to a broader concept where private donors were actively involved. Nowadays, as reported by the beneficiary (ANIMA), positive results on the longer run rely on political and institutional factors: the development of an evaluation culture will not occur unless it is included in the political agenda at highest level and the effective launch of the EDILE label will depend on the quality of the public private dialogue at national level.

HIGHLIGHTS FOR DECISION-MAKERS

- Quality jobs are those expected to benefit local population, take advantage of partnership, co-contracting and subcontracting opportunities with local companies, encourage the development of complementary activities such as recycling, strengthen the industrial fabric and integrate the regional chain value to the maximum. This clear approach to local development was deeply analyzed by EDILE and resulted in a comprehensive methodology to assess investment projects now available for all interested organisations in the Mediterranean.
- Supporting the EDILE Label (endorsed by the Union for the Mediterranean and acknowledged as a best practice by the United Nations Environment Programme - UNEP) may be an opportunity to promote and bring together a community of businesses actors investing for local impact throughout the Euro-Mediterranean region. This label is an effective way to foster public-private dialogue aiming at improving governance processes regarding investment regulations.

SUPPORT TO EDUCATION, RESEARCH, TECHNOLOGICAL DEVELOPMENT AND INNOVATION

KEY CHALLENGES

- Expenditure on research and development in terms of GDP percentage is generally low, both in Southern and Northern Mediterranean countries.
- There is an uneven level of innovation culture across the Programme countries.
- Number of researchers is still low in MPCs.
- Scientific publications are produced by a small number of universities in MPCs.
- Skilled workforce for upgrading the industrial sector is limited.
- Around 90% of spending on research and development comes from the public sector in the MPCs, against around one third in European countries. In the MPCs, the private sector is scarcely involved in funding research centres and technological parks.
- The financing system for innovative activities (venture capital) needs to be developed in the Mediterranean area.

Economies grow as a result of companies' expansion or new investments that occur through the adoption of new technologies (process upgrading) or the introduction of new products in the markets (product upgrading). The concept of innovation that we refer to herewith is, therefore, a broader one that goes beyond theoretical/fundamental research and scientific publications to encompass social innovations and business model innovations as well. As the Oslo Manual, jointly developed by the EU and the OECD, states, *"an innovation is the implementation of a new or significantly improved product (good or service), a new process, a new marketing method, or a new organizational method in business practices, workplace organization, or external relations, available to markets, governments and society."*

Innovation is also among the priorities of the European Neighbourhood Policy (ENP) and research is one of the focus areas of the Union for the Mediterranean. Association Agreements between the EU and its Mediterranean Partner Countries attribute a significant role to research and development and the EU has concluded with a number of MPCs ad hoc Science and Technology cooperation agreements to strengthen the bilateral policy dialogues and promote cooperation in science and technology.

The recently launched Partnership for Research and Innovation in the Mediterranean Area (PRI-MA) is an additional proof of the importance of innovation and research topics in the cooperation between the EU and Mediterranean Partners Countries.

Opportunities to strengthen the positive outcomes of the ENPI CBC MED projects focusing on education, research, technological development and innovation have been found for **Bio-Xplore** and **NETKITE**.

Bio-Xplore: Novel methodology for the Identification of Valuable Natural Products Derived from Mediterranean Flora

<http://www.bio-xplore.org/>

COUNTRIES ALREADY INVOLVED

GREECE, ISRAEL, PALESTINE, SPAIN

SELECTED RESULTS ACHIEVED

- Training programmes and workshops allowed scientists and students to be trained in the methodologies and techniques for bio exploration. These students are continuing to carry out post graduate research in this sector.
- The student exchange programme led to further collaboration which is continuing beyond the project lifetime. To secure additional funding for this research, three joint grant proposals were submitted. One proposal has already been accepted for funding.
- The Bio-Xplore database represents a huge opportunity to develop new natural pharmaceutical and cosmetic products in bio-exploration centres, which proved successful and economically feasible.

LESSONS LEARNT

The joint set-up of research and innovation programmes combining transfer of knowledge, capacity-building, training of staff and students can lead to successful discoveries of valuable endemic flora, able to raise awareness of citizens, researchers, students, and stakeholders regarding the value of local resources.

As economic growth can be stimulated by more knowledge-intensive industries and higher technology exports, based on the technology developed by the Global Institute for Bio-Exploration (GIBEX - <http://www.gibex.org/>), the Bio-Xplore project can further enlarge the Mediterranean Hub of GIBEX (GIBEX-MED). GIBEX has been endorsed by the World Health Organization as a unique model for scientific collaborations and cross-border partnerships and its experience and network of partners can support the Bio-Xplore endeavour in the future. If mobility issues are duly considered and qualified mobility exchanges reinforced, this sector may offer concrete potential for biotechnology business opportunities in all Mediterranean countries.

HIGHLIGHTS FOR DECISION-MAKERS

- The discovery of a number of unknown biomaterials in the many plants studied may have a long-term impact on the development of new products for the pharmaceutical and cosmetic industry. It is reported that many plants with anti-microbial activities were identified and that this will stimulate stakeholders and allow for the development of new products. The project database is very extensive with a large number of leads that can be followed up.
- Bio-Xplore still has potential for supporting innovation as major driver for competitiveness and productivity gains. Identifying commercially valuable compounds in nature can in turn stimulate long-run endogenous economic growth. However, a skilled workforce is essential to boost the competitiveness of this industry either through innovation in operation processes and/or products. Innovation continuously requires learning new techniques and developing new skills.

NETKITE: Cross-border NETWORK to foster Knowledge intensive business Incubation and TEchnology transfer.

<http://www.netkite.eu/>

COUNTRIES ALREADY INVOLVED

ITALY, FRANCE, CYPRUS, JORDAN, PALESTINE, TUNISIA, EGYPT

SELECTED RESULTS ACHIEVED

- The NETKITE project has fostered an innovative web-community for the development of startups based on transfer of research and technological results achieved in the academic system. It proved the existence of high-quality educational institutions and well acknowledged research centres in the Mediterranean Partner Countries, which stand out for their scientific production and innovation capacity.
- The NETKITE Open Innovation Platform is a tool that can be used by any organisations: it is as an open service working in different countries where the network of research labs is included together with successful entrepreneurial stories. It needs to be promoted towards already existing (national and/or regional) networks in order to increase the number of users.

LESSONS LEARNT

Access to venture capital is still very low in the Mediterranean. Firms, in particular micro, small and medium-sized enterprises (MSMEs), face great difficulties in tapping external sources of funding to support their innovation investments. Further efforts are needed to develop the systemic dimension of innovation, improving the linkages between the various innovation players, notably the science system and higher education, the government, the private sector, and the not-for-profit sector. Despite the heterogeneous situation of each country in the Mediterranean, a knowledge-based development is expected to be built around innovations and technologies suitable to the Mediterranean context and compatible with strengths and vocations of its territories. Furthermore, mobility schemes should be reinforced.

NETKITE promoted open innovation to create spin-off companies for the local economy and new pathways for introducing and managing innovation into mature productive sectors, creating new professional positions.

HIGHLIGHTS FOR DECISION-MAKERS

- As stated in the new 2014-2020 JOP, *"It is understood that the Programme can already rely upon well-educated labour forces and a tradition of scientific research that represents a potential competitive advantage upon which the area should build."* The open innovation platform created by NETKITE has not to be duplicated. Instead, it should be more intensively used to allow new startups create their cross-border network. This network will facilitate the creation and consolidation of micro and small creative enterprises, assisting their start-up phase and supporting, locally and transnationally, the consolidation of new businesses.
- A valuable option for regional follow-up, can be the combination of the NETKITE platform with initiatives involving mobility programmes that exist and can be better promoted through embassies, relevant national authorities, civil society organisations, universities and schools. In particular, all the initiatives that promote Euro-Mediterranean exchange schemes with a special focus on vocational training should be considered (see EuroMed+ *"Euro-Mediterranean exchanges in the vocational education training field"*: <http://www.euromed.fr>).

PROMOTION OF SOCIAL INCLUSION AND FIGHT AGAINST POVERTY

KEY CHALLENGES

- There is a growing portion of population at risk of poverty in the Programme area.
- Unemployment rate is rising steadily, especially among youth.
- Market rigidities, skill mismatches are among the main drivers of youth unemployment.
- Access to services is limited, especially in rural areas.
- A rising portion of young people is entering the NEETs (young people Not in Employment, Education and Training) category.
- European systems of welfare are in crisis, exacerbated by the economic situation.
- In the MPCs, 'income support' measures are often used and implemented through food and fuel subsidies, rather than social protection schemes.

The concept of social exclusion is the effect of a range of difficulties that act as barriers to life opportunities and happens when someone is left out of mainstream society, deprived from fully participating in society. The conditions that prevent people from fully participating in society may include economic poverty, poor health, disabilities, poor education or skills and discriminatory or inequitable treatment. As Sen (2000) and Silver (2007) defined it, social exclusion is *"a multi-dimensional process of progressive social rupture, detaching groups and individuals from social relations and institutions and preventing them from full participation in the normal, normatively prescribed activities of the society in which they live"*.

Women are often more disadvantaged with limited access to education, healthcare and considerable restrictions on their personal mobility. Poverty is concentrated among vulnerable groups which are the last ones to benefit from growth (illiterate, rural dwellers, large families with many dependants) and, therefore poverty is impacted only by rapid economic growth (World Bank estimations). The World Bank notes that the Mediterranean area is experiencing a steady increase in inequality - with serious implications for poverty reduction - which *"is mainly due to asymmetry of poverty changes, with respect to positive and negative growth in that recessions have a larger effect on poverty than economic booms. This is explained by changes in distribution detrimental to the poor during the recessions. Inequality continues to increase even after periods of turmoil – due to unequal distribution of gains from growth."*

Additional options to strengthen some positive outcomes of the ENPI CBC MED projects focusing on social inclusion and poverty alleviation have been found for the following projects: **EGREJOB** and **SIDIG-MED**.

EGREJOB: Euro-Mediterranean GREen JOBs

<http://www.egrejob.eu/>

COUNTRIES ALREADY INVOLVED

ITALY, LEBANON, SPAIN, TUNISIA

SELECTED RESULTS ACHIEVED

- The most comprehensive result reached by EGREJOB is the signature of the Green Job Chart. 26 organisations have already signed the Chart, which is now open to any organization willing to join. Being the first declaration of intents conceived and formalized at Euro-Mediterranean level on Green Jobs, the Charter has an unquestionable institutional relevance and it represents a fundamental step towards project's sustainability.
- 150 "green collars" were trained as regards the skills needed in the green economy sector. More than 100 local meetings involving thousands of participants acted as multipliers.
- The report on "Skills for a green economy in Euro-Mediterranean countries fostering inclusive and decent green jobs" dated from June 2016, drafted by the International Training Centre of the International Labour Organization (ITC/ILCO), provides relevant information and in-depth surveys on the green economy potential conducted in the EGREJOB participating regions. This quality report could be used beyond the project.
- Seven territorial analysis coordinated by the International Training Centre of the ILO were issued to better understand the potential of job creation related to the green economy.

LESSONS LEARNT

According to the International Labour Organization (ILO), evidence of past crises indicates that, even after economic growth returns, employment only recovers to pre-crisis levels with a lag of four to five years. When jobs are not available, demand for social protection increases significantly and prolonged employment crises carry major risks for social and political stability. "Green jobs" can be a decisive contribution to job creation, especially for young people. The crises and political uncertainty hit them more than any other age group. In fact, young people have the highest at risk-of-poverty rate and, particularly vulnerable among youth, are the so-called NEETS, young people who are 'Not in Employment, Education and Training'.

Among other priorities, a special attention should be paid by public institutions to developing effective and targeted education and skills policies to support employability for existing labour market conditions as well as jobs for the future, including green jobs and new technology services. Capacity-building actions are key to provide stakeholders with new opportunities to understand green jobs concepts, approaches, existing tools and best practices.

HIGHLIGHTS FOR DECISION-MAKERS

- Generating job opportunities for the younger is of uttermost importance, and it can be achieved by expanding aid to youth entrepreneurship but also by supporting social and solidarity economy (e.g. child and elder care are important labour-intensive sectors that could absorb young workers, etc.). Moreover, the green economy can provide a wide range of opportunities. The United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and other partners launched the Green Economy initiative to communicate a global plan for a green industrial revolution supported

by strong empirical evidence of the potential for income generation, decent work and poverty reduction.

- EGREJOB main aim was to create dedicated training paths for young people in green jobs and complete a skill certification scheme at Euro-Mediterranean level. Over 100 young people were trained in relevant areas considering market needs related to green jobs. As for the trainings, the project was a success. However, the partnership did not manage to create a Euro-Mediterranean certification for these trainings. It was probably too ambitious but can still represent a valuable opportunity for the future.

- A dedicated web portal could promote the potential of green jobs in the sectors addressed by the EGREJOB project: ecosystems and environmental infrastructures; clean and efficient technologies; renewable energy; biodiversity products and services; chemical waste management and mitigation technologies; “green cities” – ecologically friendly buildings, construction and transport systems.

SIDIG-MED: Social and Intercultural Dialogue through Governance for Local development: Mediterranean Urban and Peri-urban Agriculture

COUNTRIES ALREADY INVOLVED

JORDAN, ITALY, SPAIN, TUNISIA

SELECTED RESULTS ACHIEVED

- New concepts on urban gardening were introduced targeting people at risk of social exclusion. Local communities learned new methods to produce food without chemicals, using natural extract and biological methods to control insects. The project introduced new skills for women like milk processing, wool making, planting home garden, solar drying, composting unit and many other techniques for sustainable production. Terraces building, rainfall harvesting practices, soil bed preparation, intercropping and mud building are also part of the new skills acquired.

- Thousands of citizens (through associations, local committees, schools, and single citizens) were involved in the participatory process to define the governance model of urban agriculture. As a result, 4 committees were established for each city district (i.e. Roma, Barcelona, Tal Al-Rumman, Mahdia) where the pilot actions were implemented, in order to follow and monitor all activities.

LESSONS LEARNT

The combination of urban and agriculture development can pave the way for social inclusion provided that there is a strong co operation between local administrations, exchanging experiences and best practices and finding new solutions to common challenges. This is where the Programme can make a difference. Indeed, institutions, policies and norms are important factors that can influence the state of social exclusion risk, represented by people belonging to certain categories (being unemployed, being uneducated, being disabled, etc.). A strong link with local and national initiatives shall be granted to maximize impact and sustainability of establish actions. SIDIG-MED managed to establish effective synergies with other EU-funded projects with similar objectives, such as Gardenizser and Transmango, through events coordinated with concerned organisations and institutions (i.e., in the specific case of Italy, ISPRA and Coldiretti). These results may contribute to the sustainability of the project after its end and fuel

the future actions. Additional obstacles are the limited knowledge of farming by the beneficiaries which are often unemployed persons previously working in sectors such as metallurgy and construction. A special attention shall be paid to the demand for secure tenancy of the land by the farmers and the possible lack of structured farmers' markets.

HIGHLIGHTS FOR DECISION-MAKERS

- According to FAO, a paradigm shift in both urban and agriculture development, planning and policy formulation is required to ensure access to urban food security, improved environmental management and enhanced rural-urban linkages. Although recognized as a major lever of eco-innovation for metropolis' sustainability and competitiveness, metropolitan and peri-urban agriculture still suffers from a mainstreaming gap, remaining overlooked by policy-makers, academic research and the public. As a result, the environmental price of food is a major burden for cities. Projects like SIDIG-MED can decisively improve the overall situation.
- Replicating projects like SIDIG-MED not only contributes to food security, but it can also guarantee an income for marginalized citizens by regenerating urban areas for productive and sustainable use. It may foster self-esteem and social integration of specific marginalized groups. Better visibility should be given at Mediterranean level to these practices.

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION, CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION AND MITIGATION

WATER MANAGEMENT

KEY CHALLENGES

- Many local authorities in the Mediterranean have weak planning, managerial and operational capacities with respect to water management.
- Weak multi-level governance and law enforcement still affect the effectiveness of water policies.
- Over 20 million inhabitants still have no access to adequate water services.
- The final draft of the Strategy for Water in the Mediterranean has not yet been approved, due to political reasons.

Water availability in the Mediterranean basin is limited – mainly dependent on runoff from mountain areas – and, therefore, the region is one of the most vulnerable to the “water crisis”. Resources are unevenly distributed across countries: nearly two-thirds (1.2% of the world’s renewable water resources, i.e. approximately 550km³ per year) are concentrated in the Northern rim countries, while most countries on the Southern and Eastern shores of the Mediterranean are in “water stress”⁸, with less than 1,000 m³/capita/year. Some of these countries (Malta, Jordan, Palestine, Israel, Tunisia and Algeria, with a total population of around 80 million people) are in ‘structural shortage’ with less than 500 m³/capita/year. Another challenge for the sector is represented by the lack of efficient water management systems. Setting proper fiscal and pricing systems and encourage investment in water-demand management could help improving overall efficiency. In this respect, cooperation among cities of the Programme area to find managerial solutions or exchange experiences on technical aspects would benefit the whole Mediterranean area⁹. Nevertheless, as the Union for the Mediterranean (UfM) is already working in this direction and city-to-city cooperation is among its main lines of action, it is important to coordinate with UfM to understand their actual and future interventions in this specific field.

Additional options to strengthen the positive outcomes of the ENPI CBC MED projects have been found for **AQUAKNIGHT**.

⁸The Falkenmark water stress indicator is based on the calculation of water resources per capita per year, in Water Demand Management: The Mediterranean Experience, TECHNICAL FOCUS PAPER 1, Blue Plan and Global Water Partnership, 2012.

⁹It is important to recall that the trend in both Southern and Northern Mediterranean countries is that water supply and sanitation is managed closer to its delivery locations. The central government generally has a predominant role in resource management while local authorities have gradually gained some control over services management (water and sanitation).

AQUAKNIGHT: AQUA KNOWLEDGE and Innovation transfer for water saving in the Mediterranean basin

<http://www.gisig.eu/aquaknight/best-practices/>

COUNTRIES ALREADY INVOLVED

CYPRUS, EGYPT, GREECE, JORDAN, ITALY, TUNISIA

SELECTED RESULTS ACHIEVED

- Water losses recovered are: Limassol: 49%, District Metered Area (DMA) with 106 users covered; Genoa: 75%, DMA with 85 users covered; Aqaba: 76%, DMA with 325 users covered; Alexandria: no leaks found, DMA with 6,720 users covered; Tunis 4%, DMA with 6,830 users covered.
- 10 training courses implemented (88 persons trained) and 2 exchange visits for water operators organized in Italy and Cyprus to showcase the best available technologies and methodologies for non-revenue water management.
- Manual of best practices for reducing commercial losses. The manual contains relevant information to support water utilities in the management of their water system, by providing a summary of good practices for evaluation and reduction of apparent/commercial losses.

LESSONS LEARNT

Both FAO and Plan Bleu stress that improving irrigation efficiency is key to effective water-demand management, since the main quantitative opportunity for savings concerns the agricultural sector. Some progress has already been achieved in almost all countries of the Programme area with respect to overall water-use efficiency (domestic and irrigation), but many challenges remain.

AQUAKNIGHT fostered the active involvement of water operators that intend to sustain its results in the long run and build on the experience to reduce Non-Revenue Water and implement Water Demand Management. Additionally, the participation of national bodies such as SONEDE (Tunisia) helped to increase project visibility. Also, technology providers can strive to sustain the project results since it offers opportunities for expanding collaboration actors of the Mediterranean area.

HIGHLIGHTS FOR DECISION-MAKERS

- AQUAKNIGHT has identified the sustainability parameters as regards market, financial, management and innovation. Moreover, short and long-term sustainability goals as well as recommendations for the future are also available.
- International financing institutions such as the European Investment Bank, the World Bank, the EC, the African Development Bank, etc. were informed about the project and synergies with other relevant initiatives are expected. The institutional sustainability of AQUAKNIGHT should be secured through the participation in the project of national institutions as associates. Replicating the training courses implemented can strengthen this component.
- The project dissemination focused on informing national bodies so that they can promote future activities. In some areas like Tunis, the water management network requires significant improvement. Overall, Tunisia is water short, and supplies are highly variable from year to year due to low precipitations in recent years. Along with training courses for public officers in water management, additional resources should be committed to identify specific interventions

needed to recover water losses.

WASTE MANAGEMENT

KEY CHALLENGES

- Implementing effective waste management is more challenging in areas where institutional capacities are weak.
- Uneven level of development between the Northern and Southern shores of the Mediterranean in terms of applied technologies, infrastructure and management systems.
- Municipal waste generation in the MPCs is still increasing.
- Waste products are not sufficiently valorised as economic resources both by the public and businesses to the extent that they could and should be.
- Intentional oil pollution (caused by ships) occurs in the Mediterranean.

Municipal solid waste generation in Europe has experienced a constant increase from 1995 to 2002, and has then slowed down (with economic growth rate much higher than that of municipal waste generation, the latter registering an average increase of 0.2 %) and stabilised at about 520 kg/capita/year after 2002 and further reducing at 500 kg/capita/year (corresponding to 1.36 kg/capita/day) in 2011. EU Mediterranean Countries have room to further reduce waste generation to align with EU countries average (500 kg/capita/year); this particularly refers to countries such as Malta, Cyprus, Italy, and Spain. In Mediterranean Partner Countries, estimates indicate a significant increase in municipal waste generation rate from 1998 to 2010. However, statistics and data on quantities of solid waste in most Arab countries are not available. Moreover, different laws and regulations do not allow for a comprehensive analysis.

With the exception of Malta, Cyprus and Greece, which still rely on landfills, EUMCs handle municipal waste with a quite varied mix of technologies. Anyhow, EUMCs still have to reduce the use of landfill with respect to other European countries. MPCs need to significantly improve their performance in the management of waste, as they suffer from low collection coverage and unsound disposal. The need of consistency in quality and quantity of the different waste management options suggest that integrated waste management systems should be organised on large scale, such as regional basis. It is well accepted that the optimal size where to implement an integrated waste management system scheme should be an area containing no less than 500,000 inhabitants. In many cases, this does not correspond to the scale on which waste management is administrated (small islands, for instance). The main limiting factor resides in the difficulty in achieving efficient cooperation among different local authorities.

Additional options to strengthen the positive outcomes of the projects funded in this sector have been found for the **GMI** project.

GMI: The Green MED Initiative

<http://gmiproject.eu/>

COUNTRIES ALREADY INVOLVED

EGYPT, FRANCE, ITALY, LEBANON, SPAIN, TUNISIA

SELECTED RESULTS ACHIEVED

- More than one million empties were returned, resulting in more than 27 tons of empties collected and recycled. A reduction of 164 tons in CO2 emissions was achieved.
- 162 Reverse Vending Machines (RVMs) installed for recycling plastic empties and 33 Memoranda of Understanding were signed among public and private entities.
- 63 schools and 5 universities were actively involved in the project, with more than 100,000 students participating in the recycling activities.

LESSONS LEARNT

With respect to waste other than municipal (e.g. industrial and agricultural; mining and quarrying; healthcare, etc.), public institutional actors are mainly involved in the definition of waste management standards, as well as related enforcement, monitoring and inspection activities. Their actions as regards municipal waste shall be further supported with innovative initiatives able to involve key stakeholders and commit them as much as possible.

The “Green Med Initiative” has been widely recognized as a valuable option to support recycling in the Mediterranean. The RVMs offer a modern and automated deposit system for collecting, sorting, and handling the return of used beverage containers for recycling or reuse. However, it remains a challenge to prove that the efforts carried out so far can lead to a greater institutional participation and an effective use of the RVMs in the future. In fact, out of the 162 RVMs installed and despite all agreements signed, only 27 are currently working.

A re-launched institutional commitment shall guarantee a proper support to the network created, especially in Lebanon and Egypt.

HIGHLIGHTS FOR DECISION-MAKERS

- GMI succeeded in implementing an innovative Mediterranean-wide practice for recycling, supported by awareness and incentive based campaigns and by involving the public & private sectors in the implementation and collection. Moreover, educational institutions fully ensured their commitment by involving students and staff. New awareness campaigns should be launched using the available materials and reaching out new schools.
- 162 RVMs are available in 5 Mediterranean countries, but only 27 are currently operational. New public initiatives are expected shortly in Egypt. The ownership of both educational programmes and RVMs management was transferred to the schools, and the schools are now supposed to take the lead - in partnership with competent authorities - towards subcontracting for recycling, and reward program. This process is proving to be very challenging.

SOLAR ENERGY

KEY CHALLENGES

- Renewable energies (REs) account for a limited share of the region's primary energy supply.
- Solar electricity in most markets is not yet able to compete without specific incentives.
- The development of interconnected grids remains a big challenge.
- There is poor knowledge of renewable energy sources and their potential by the private sector and the general public, especially in the MPCs.
- The average energy consumption of the building sector has increased by around 1% per year since 1990.
- Few countries so far have elaborated comprehensive policy frameworks for encouraging the development of renewable energy.

A development and growth model based exclusively on fossil fuels is considered unsustainable: as a matter of fact, non-renewable stocks, scarcity risks and volatile prices, combined with impacts on climate through greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, are pushing governments to move away from fossil fuels.

GHG emissions due to CO₂ connected with energy use are over 70% in the Mediterranean (accounting for around 7% of the world's total CO₂ emissions). If today energy demand is higher in the EUMCs (more than two-thirds), the trend is going to reverse in 2030 driven by population growth, combined with a rapid urbanization rate and important socio-economic development needs in the MPCs.

The countries across the Mediterranean region have different legal and regulatory frameworks relating to renewable energy. The EUMCs are committed to quite stringent policy objectives through the European Union: the 2009 Directive on renewable energy has set targets for all Member States, such that the EU will reach a 20% share of energy from renewable sources by 2020 and a 10% share of renewable energy specifically in the transport sector.

At Euro-Mediterranean level, the Union for the Mediterranean has launched a Solar Plan in 2008, which has two complementary targets: developing 20 GW of new renewable energy production capacities, and achieving significant energy savings around the Mediterranean by 2020, thus addressing both supply and demand. Several South Mediterranean countries have defined their own renewable energy plans with a view to achieving energy diversification. Algeria, Israel and Tunisia issued legislation and created agencies focused on energy efficiency as early as in the mid-80s. However, failures to implement financial incentives for renewable energies and disproportionately high subsidies to fossil fuels have so far been the main obstacles to create an internal market for renewable energies in MPCs. Some promising results able to support additional positive changes in this sector have been found for the **MED-DESIRE** project.

MED-DESIRE: MEDiterranean DEvelopment of Support schemes for solar Initiatives and Renewable Energies

www.med-desire.eu

COUNTRIES ALREADY INVOLVED

EGYPT, ITALY, LEBANON, SPAIN, TUNISIA

SELECTED RESULTS ACHIEVED

- Funding mechanisms dedicated to medium-size photovoltaic installations in Tunisia, to solar water heaters in the domestic sector in Egypt and to a technology-neutral incentive in Lebanon.
- 3 solar ordinances were designed for municipalities in Tunisia (Hammam-Sousse), Lebanon (Tyre) and Egypt (through the New Urban Communities Authority - NUCA).
- Training activities to ensure the quality of components and installations according to certifications and standard rules reached 300 participants.
- Studies on "Distributed Renewable Energy Generation and Energy Efficiency in Mediterranean Countries: Opportunities and Barriers", "Guidelines to improve public-private partnerships in innovative solar energy and energy efficiency", "RES and EE Sustainable trends and scenarios: key elements to stimulate market development and effective investment strategies in Mediterranean Countries".

LESSONS LEARNT

Solar energy, i.e. solar photovoltaic (PV), concentrating solar power (CSP) and solar heating, is exhibiting the fastest growth of any energy technology in the last ten years, although from a very low basis. Due to a drop in costs, it is expected to reach competitiveness on a large scale in less than ten years, but today solar electricity in most markets is not yet able to compete without specific incentives.

The buildings sector represents approximately one third of total energy consumption in MPCs and 40% of the European Union's total energy consumption. In this respect, Europe has issued an ad hoc Directive on the Energy Performance of Buildings and MPCs have recently adopted regulations in this area (Algeria, Egypt, Turkey, Tunisia, Jordan, Palestine, Syria and Lebanon), to set parameters for energy efficiency in new buildings and have launched pilot projects.

HIGHLIGHTS FOR DECISION-MAKERS

- The cross-border cooperation within the project has been very intense with regard to the joint elaboration of new financial support mechanisms and proposals for solar ordinances, as well as to the transfer of know-how and the development of new skills in the field of solar components and quality systems to comply with common standards. Ordinances adopted in pilot municipalities need to be monitored in the long run to collect data on their impact.
- The project created better conditions for the diffusion of distributed solar energy technologies and energy efficiency practices. At country level, there are new projects that might be considered for increasing synergies and complementarities needed for multilevel governance (i.e. "Creating a Strategy and Paving the way for the Deployment of Distributed Renewable Energy Technologies in Egypt" funded by the Mediterranean Investment Facility - MIF Egypt).

INTEGRATED COASTAL ZONE MANAGEMENT

KEY CHALLENGES

- National sectoral jurisdictions and decision-making framework are fragmented, with a multiplicity of actors.
- The Protocol on Integrated Coastal Zone Management (ICZM), entered into force in 2011, but it has been ratified by a limited number of countries.
- The complex interactions among the different competing uses and sectors of coastal lands and sea would require applying an integrated planning, inspired by the principle of ecosystem. However, the approach to ICZM is still sectoral.
- Uncontrolled tourism development and urban sprawl impact severely coastal environment; unplanned tourism, maritime transport and overfishing represent other potential threats to the marine environment.
- Despite efforts already undertaken, marine litter - mainly a by-product of land-based actions such as urbanization and increased industrial activity - still represents a serious issue for Mediterranean coastal areas.
- Some of the poorest regions of the Mediterranean are increasingly dependent on natural resources and local ecosystem services and the loss of terrestrial or marine biodiversity could pose a serious risk for their economic growth and particularly for the long-term sustainability of local communities.

One third of the total population of the Programme area lives in a narrow strip of coastal land which is less than 12% of the available surface. According to Plan Bleu/UNEP, 69% of the Mediterranean coastal cities of more than 10,000 inhabitants are connected to waste water treatment plants, while 40% of the cities with a population between 2,000 to 10,000 inhabitants are not connected to any waste water treatment plants.

Overfishing is another major problem. However, the prevalence of artisanal fisheries and small-scale operators (over 85% of the Mediterranean fishing fleet is involved in small-scale fisheries), who rely on less impacting fishing methods and equipment compared to industrial large-scale fisheries, represents an important advantage in terms of sustainability.

Additional options to contribute to some of the challenges described above have been found as regards the **MESP** project.

MESP: Managing the Environmental Sustainability of Ports for a durable development

<http://www.mesp.org/>

COUNTRIES ALREADY INVOLVED

ITALY, JORDAN, LEBANON, SPAIN, TUNISIA

SELECTED RESULTS ACHIEVED

- MESP prevented and reduced risk factors for the safeguard of the natural environment and the improvement of urban life quality in port areas of the four harbors (Aqaba, La Spezia, Patras and Tripoli). The reduction of pollution sources, in ports and nearby areas for air, noise and water sectors had direct (positive) effects on more than 260,000 citizens living in port nearby areas together with 1,700,000 tourists and more than 4,000 harbor workers. Moreover, MESP staff trained more than 370 people on port environmental pollution abatement.
- The equipment purchased through MESP project is currently being used in environmental engineering laboratory classes, or environment classes, where students will be trained on the use of equipment, testing procedures and field measurements. The data collected by MESP will be made available to students along with detailed analysis.

LESSONS LEARNT

The concentration of population and of economic activities in coastal zones, the associated urban sprawl and uncontrolled expansion of both residential and service-built areas, ways and nodes of communication, the proliferation of marinas and tourist infrastructures as well as industry installations, impact on local environment cause fragmentation, degradation and loss of habitats and landscapes.

With reference to the local impact on the territories, some partners faced barriers on working and collaborating with local public administrations.

Specifically, the Greek partner faced difficulties in getting permission from the Patras Port Authority for the implementation of measures and pilot actions. Moreover, the Port Authority of Tripoli (OEPT) faced strong delays in activities due to the long bureaucracy authorization process by the national Ministry of Finance.

HIGHLIGHTS FOR DECISION-MAKERS

- Simulation of the actual state of environment in the vicinity of the ports could be realized using different software developed within the MESP project: this would allow the prediction of noise levels depending on different parameters and activities carried in the port and in its vicinity. A limited set of common parallel activities can be extended to a wider number of ports to create a Mediterranean network.
- Students can be further involved in the data analysis and promote advocacy campaigns to increase local authorities' awareness and coordinate actions at local and international level.

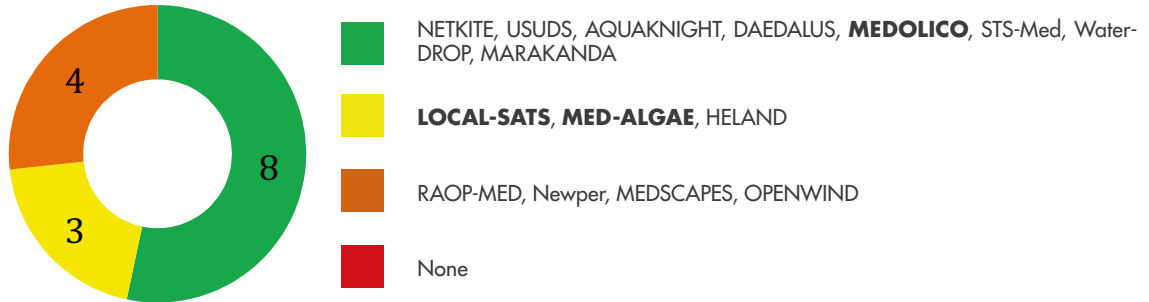
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COUNTRY REPORTS

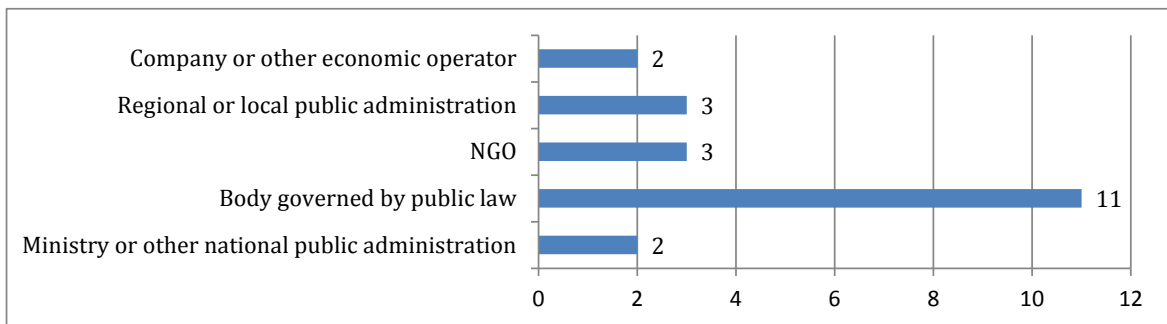
CYPRUS

In the framework of the ENPI CBC Med Programme, 21 organisations from Cyprus participated in 15 projects with a total budget of €4.3 million (ENPI contribution: €3.9 million). Examples of successful projects are described below.

Overview



Type of actors involved



Project	LOCAL-SATS - Improving the local governance processes through exchange of good practices, pilots and training in geospatial technologies
Call reference	Call 2 Standard
Key topic	Territorial development and local governance
Project duration	December 2013 - December 2015
Brief description	The rapid pace of urbanization in the Mediterranean area over the last decades have raised a series of issues mostly related to air quality, energy efficiency, waste recycling, pressure on natural resources, pollution and social welfare of urban inhabitants. While cities population will continue to grow in the next years, it is of fundamental importance to ensure the transition from spontaneous to carefully planned urban development. To contribute to this challenge, LOCAL-SATS supported the design and implementation of policies which optimize sustainable urban development processes. The project targeted local administrations by providing them with flexible tools and geospatial applications in order to improve territorial management.
Contact details	Michalis Zanos (Larnaca District Development Agency - ANETEL; mzanos@anetel.com - anetel@cytanet.com.cy)
Potential national follow-up	The local public administrations involved in the project have had the possibility to improve their geographic information management (Decision-Support System tool) and so the possibility in the long-run to improve the services addressed to citizens and at the same time improve governance processes. The developed tool has been used/adopted by 22 public administrations. Further actions need to be assessed along with the improvement of territorial management in the participating regions. At Cyprus level, the use of Geographical Information System (DSS-GIS) could be enhanced as a contribution to policy design, progress and impact assessment.

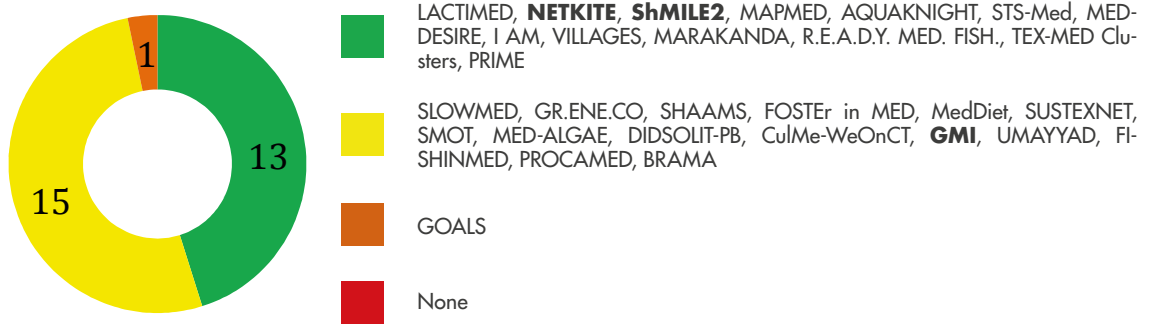
Project	MEDOLICO - Mediterranean Cooperation in the Treatment and Valorisation of Olive Mill Wastewater (OMW)
Call reference	Call 1 Standard
Key topic	Water management
Project duration	November 2011 - August 2015
Brief description	The Mediterranean region accounts for 97% of the world's olive production. About 11 million tons of olives are produced each year out of which nearly 2 million tons of olive oil is extracted. The estimated waste generated annually by olive oil processing is 9 million tons: this can potentially cause serious environmental harm if not disposed properly. MEDOLICO specifically targeted the issue of olive oil mill wastewater (OMW), which is highly resistant to biodegradation. Provided that the treatment of OMW has only been partially addressed through isolated studies, there is a need for a harmonized and basin-wide effort that significantly reduces the environmental impact of wastewater generated by olive mills.
Contact details	Dr. Despo Fatta-Kassinos (University of Cyprus, NIREAS - International Water Research Center; dfatta@ucy.ac.cy). Website: www.medolico.com
Potential national follow-up	Since entering the European Union in 2004, olive oil production in Cyprus has sharply increased and so the need for innovative solutions related to Olive Mill Wastewater (OMW). This waste belongs to the category of agro-industrial waste and is one of the most difficult wastewater flows to manage. During the implementation of MEDOLICO, the University of Cyprus developed a wide range of promising treatments which can be further developed/implemented (i.e. coagulation/flocculation; Biological treatment through the JACTO reactor; Membrane treatment using Micro filtration/Reverse osmosis (MF/RO) or Ultra Filtration/Reverse Osmosis). The report on the valorization of byproducts can be further promoted along with the analysis of the results achieved so far by the reactors on pilot scale for the technologies implemented in Cyprus, Israel and Jordan.

Project	MED-ALGAE - Production of biodiesel from Algae in selected Mediterranean Countries
Call reference	Call 1 Standard
Key topic	Renewable energies and energy efficiency
Project duration	December 2011 - June 2015
Brief description	The potential of producing bio-fuel from microalgae has been recognized as an alternative to fossil fuels, especially under the form of liquid fuel (diesel, ethanol), which can be used in the transport sector. The use of microalgae as a biomass resource for production of biodiesel has drawn a lot of attention from researchers, governments and the private sector. To foster the development of microalgae as alternative fuel, the MED-ALGAE project has worked on the establishment of a new value chain to produce renewable energy based on microalgae which can secure sufficient quantity and quality of biodiesel. Microalgae by-products and related new business opportunities have also been identified by the project.
Contact details	Polycarpou Polycarpou (Agricultural Research Institute; p.polycarpou@arinet.ari.gov.cy). Website: www.med-algae.eu
Potential national follow-up	Through the MED-ALGAE project, the Agricultural Research Institute of Cyprus has developed an in-depth and unique expertise at Mediterranean level on the potential of alternative fuels. First, scientific reports about the current state of the art concerning growth systems for the production of micro-algae were drafted. Moreover, a pilot plant for the production of micro-algae (race-way ponds and photo bio-reactors) was installed at the ARI facilities to cultivate, under local climatic conditions, mixed local populations of marine phytoplankton collected from near-shore locations, in intensive conditions. ARI was successful in developing several blooms of mixed local populations of phytoplankton producing biomass for biodiesel experiments and analyses for co-products. Reported results showed that biomass production of blooms was as successful as the reference uni-algal culture. A report about the constraints, barriers and potential for local and regional development of bio-diesel production of micro-algae was drafted (legal framework; current literature concerning the GHG emissions throughout the whole micro-algal biodiesel production system). As highlighted in the project conclusions, additional investigations are needed to enhance the potential application of micro-algae as a secure and efficient source of bio-diesel. As suggested by the project, an algal bio-refinery concept could support the further development of algae as sustainable source to produce bio-diesel.

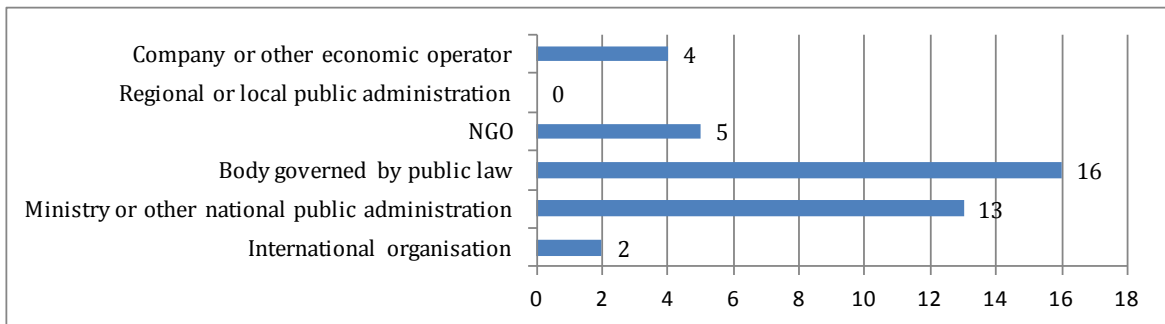
EGYPT

In the framework of the ENPI CBC Med Programme, 38 organisations from Egypt and 2 international organisations based in Egypt participated in 29 projects with a total budget of €11.8 million (ENPI contribution: €10.6 million). Examples of successful projects are described below.

Overview



Type of actors involved



Project	NETKITE - Cross-border NETWORK to foster Knowledge-intensive business Incubation and TEchnology transfer
Call reference	Call 2 Standard
Key topic	Economic growth and innovation processes
Project duration	December 2013 - December 2015
Brief description	An open innovation approach, interacting with geographically distant markets, may match smart local specialization with wider platforms of know-how and relations with global markets. NETKITE project, inspired by the Open Innovation philosophy and using the Living Labs approach, was designed to support innovation transfer in order to make it functional to the growth and modernization of local economic systems and to the creation of new, qualified and sustainable jobs. More specifically, the project conveyed innovation from research labs into the industrial sector and promoted mutual exchange between startups and mature enterprises.
Contact details	Amr Radwan (Academy of Scientific Research and Technology; radwan.amro@gmail.com). Website: www.netkite.eu
Potential national follow-up	The project is a promising good practice in supporting the development of new business ideas and turn them into viable startups through the "Open Innovation" approach. An Egyptian young entrepreneur, Nader Ahmed Mohamed Abdelmalek, was awarded a prize under the project for its business idea, 4D Filament. 4D-filament is an under-construction company which is specialized in producing the raw material of 3D-printers by using the recycled plastics in the process. This idea fits within a huge market and could receive further attention at national level to foster its technological and commercial potential.

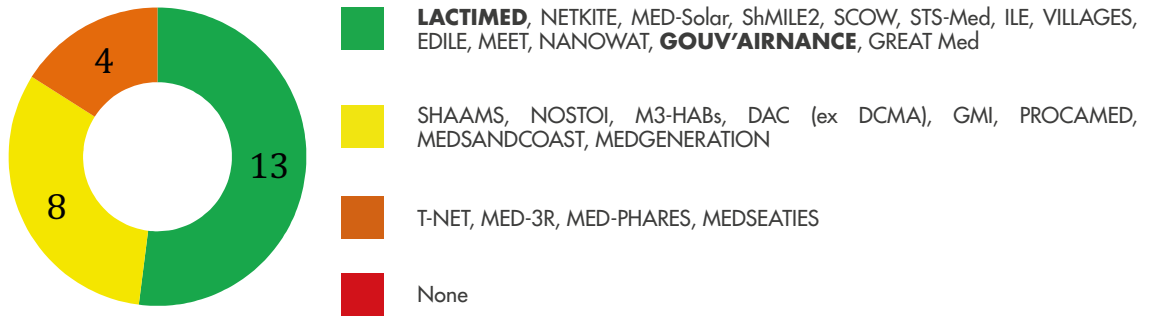
Project	ShMILE2 - From the experimentation to the dissemination of the Ecolabel in the Mediterranean
Call reference	Call 1 Standard
Key topic	Sustainable tourism
Project duration	January 2012 - April 2014
Brief description	<p>The protection of the environment in the tourism field is now a priority for all Mediterranean countries. In order to promote the evolution of the demand for a tourism that takes into account, in a better way, the challenges of sustainable development, the European Union and Tunisia have set up environmental quality labels for tourist accommodation services ("eco-labels") which are complementary tools to the legislation, designed for companies to improve their environmental performance especially in the areas of energy and water consumption, waste management or the use of renewable energy sources. Assuming that the tourism sector in the Mediterranean would benefit from structuring a strong regional cooperation in order to offer a common guarantee of environmental quality, the ShMILE2 project promoted the European eco-label and environmental management with tourist accommodation services in the Mediterranean Basin. The project informed, raised awareness and guided tourism professionals in an environmental certification process. As a result, 106 structures were supported and 65 pre-audits were carried out. Egypt hosted an international conference in March 2013 in Alexandria with the objective of sharing of experiences among south-Mediterranean countries on eco-labels for hotels. The conference aimed at highlighting good practices in the sustainable management of tourist accommodation in Egypt, Jordan and Tunisia.</p>
Contact details	Nadia Makram Ebeid (Centre for Environment and Development for the Arab Region and Europe; email@cedare.int). Website: www.shmile2.eu
Potential national follow-up	<p>CEDARE, the Egyptian partner of the project, carried out a capacity-building programme to provide technical assistance to touristic accommodation establishments towards qualifying for application to the EU Ecolabel certification, through providing training to professionals in the tourism sector. The training courses aimed at introducing the principles of environmental management, necessary for certification, based on EMAS and ISO criteria. One of the direct consequences of the project was the signing of a protocol between the Ministry of Tourism and CEDARE to boost the implementation of eco-labels in Egyptian hotels and foster the approximation with European standards. Finally, CEDARE supported selected hotels in the Alexandria area, for instance the Hilton Alexandria Green Plaza. As a growing number of international clients are looking for eco-friendly hotels, the development of eco-labels based on the knowledge and experience developed under the ShMILE2 project could attract a new clientele in Egypt interested in accommodations which cope with environmental standards.</p>

Project	GMI - The Green MED Initiative
Call reference	Strategic call
Key topic	Waste management
Project duration	December 2012 - September 2016
Brief description	<p>Due to increasing population, urbanization and consumption, the waste being generated may double over the next twenty years. This trend is worst in Southern Mediterranean countries whose urban areas are growing at a faster pace posing significant challenges. In this context, the GMI project successfully completed all scheduled activities and achieved almost all results needed to deliver a sustainable cross-border, incentive-based, recycling system to promote long-term practices at grassroots level - mainly schools and universities - using a state of the art technology platform supported by awareness campaigns. In fact, 63 schools and 5 universities were actively involved in the project totalling more than 100,000 students participating in the recycling programme. 162 Reverse Vending Machines (RVMs) were installed for recycling plastic empties and 33 Memorandum of Understanding were signed among public and private entities. 17 RVMs were installed in Spain (Barcelona); 16 RVMs in Italy (Cagliari); 52 RVMs in Lebanon (Beirut, Mount Lebanon and South); 41 RVMs in Egypt (Alexandria); 36 RVMs in Tunisia (Tunis). Over one million empties were returned, resulting in more than 27 tons of empties collected and recycled.</p>
Contact details	Alaa Ezz (Confederation of Egyptian European Business Associations; ezztips@link.net). Website: http://gmiproject.eu/
Potential national follow-up	<p>Due to time consuming custom procedures, the 41 RVMs in Egypt became operational at a later stage. A cooperation agreement between the chamber of commerce of Alexandria (owner of the RVMs), CEEBA (funding partner); AEEC (funding partner), GreenTech Co. (implementing partner) was finalized to install the RVMs in the identified schools and universities. Monitoring the implementation of this agreement is key. Indeed, it has been agreed that GreenTech Co. will manage and operate RVMs using its own resources. In particular, Green Tech Co. should provide technical support to operate and maintain the machines; manage points change system; participate in the awareness campaigns; coordinate with the project partners for the project website. Therefore, the company will deal with site management operations to install, operate, maintain and collect points of the machines; coordinate with all governmental stakeholders to implement the project through the chamber of commerce of Alexandria. Finally, the Egyptian partner, utilizing its own resources, should implement a major re-launch event.</p>

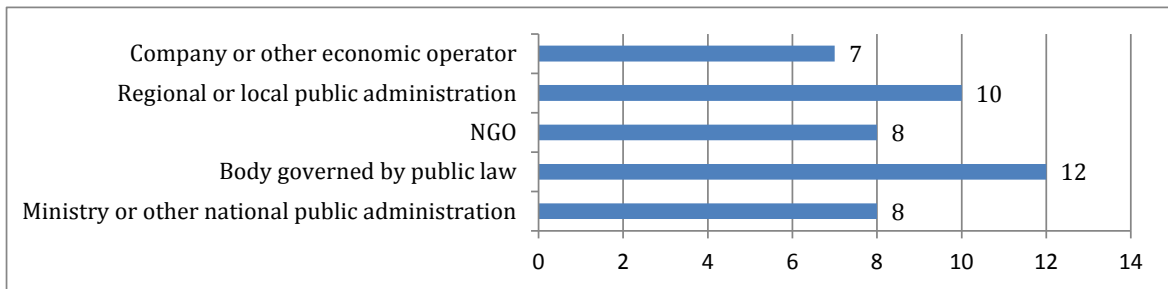
FRANCE

In the framework of the ENPI CBC Med Programme, 45 organisations from France participated in 25 projects with a total budget of €12.4 million (ENPI contribution: €11.1 million). Examples of successful projects are described below.

Overview



Type of actors involved



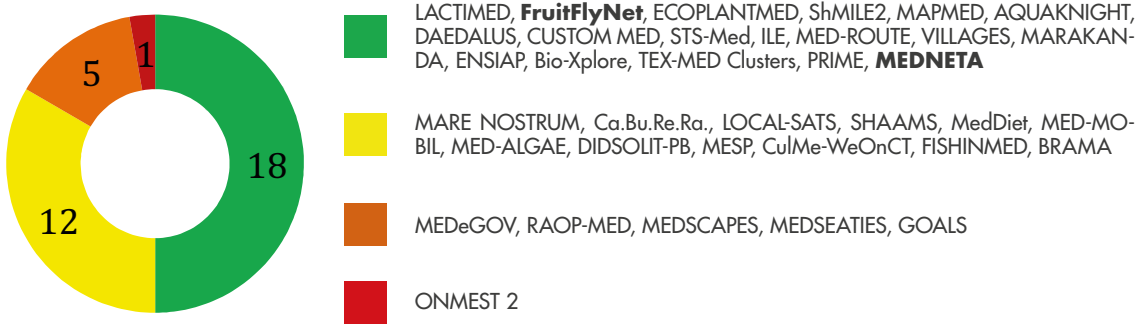
Project	LACTIMED - Local agro-clusters for typical and innovative Mediterranean dairy products
Call reference	Strategic call
Key topic	Economic growth and innovation processes
Project duration	November 2012 - December 2015
Brief description	The agricultural policies implemented during the last decades in the Mediterranean area have led to a strong dependence of the countries of the region on imports and to instable international markets. Adding to that strong demographic growth of certain Mediterranean countries as well as the changes in consumption patterns, can help to better understand why the agro-food sector has become a central element in the development of the Mediterranean area. LACTIMED project proposed a new approach focused on the dairy market. Under the project, over 100 actions were implemented in Alexandria (Egypt), Bekaa (Lebanon), Bizerte (Tunisia), Sicily (Italy) and Thessaly (Greece) to strengthen the production and distribution of traditional and innovative dairy products through the organization of local value chains, the support to producers and the promotion of their products on local and international markets.
Contact details	Aurélien Baudoin (ANIMA Investment Network; aurelien.baudoin@anima.coop). Website: http://www.lactimed.eu
Potential national follow-up	LACTIMED is among the best projects funded by the Programme. Although no activities were directly implemented in France, the technical and scientific support provided by the French partners was paramount to the success of the project. The methodology developed for linking the actors of the value chain (from dairy producers to distributors and policy-makers), understand the opportunities and constraints of each territory, promote typical cheese introducing at the same time innovation in the production processes and enhance their commercial value is a good practice that should be extended to additional areas of the Mediterranean region or to other sectors such as the textile industry.

Project	GOUV'AIRNANCE - Governance of air quality in the Mediterranean cities
Call reference	Call 1 Standard
Key topic	Protection of the environment and natural resources
Project duration	January 2012 - December 2015
Brief description	Mediterranean cities are experiencing an increased average of pollutants emissions, which affect the environment and human health: ozone, fine particulate matter, benzene, carbon monoxide, carbon dioxide, nitrogen dioxide, etc. To deal with this situation, governments have significant difficulties to develop appropriate governance models. Monitoring tools, information and regulatory mechanisms applying to air quality do not exist or are insufficient. This problem is aggravated by the lack of integrated management of air quality. In this context, the GOUV'AIRNANCE project put in place an integrated territorial governance system of air quality in order to reduce emissions of air pollutants and ensure a higher protection of populations, especially the most sensitive ones. Specifically, the project aimed at promoting the integration of the provisions for emission reduction as an essential dimension of planning documents dealing with sustainable urban development.
Contact details	Léonard Lévêque (AVITEM; l.leveque@avitem.org)
Potential national follow-up	One of the most significant achievements of the project at French level is the implementation of Air Marseille (http://www.air-marseille.eu/), an online platform which monitors air quality on a daily basis in the city of Marseille, provides short-term forecast as well as information to citizens on practical actions which can improve air quality. Such platform is a great tool to engage citizens in combating air pollution and this experience could inspire other cities of the Mediterranean region which are affected by air pollution to adopt similar approaches.

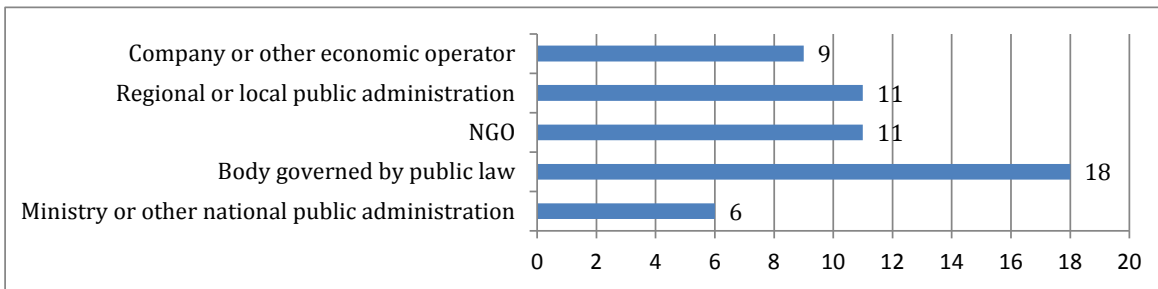
GREECE

In the framework of the ENPI CBC Med Programme, 55 organisations from Greece participated in 36 projects with a total budget of €12.1 million (ENPI contribution: €10.9 million). Examples of successful projects are described below.

Overview



Type of actors involved



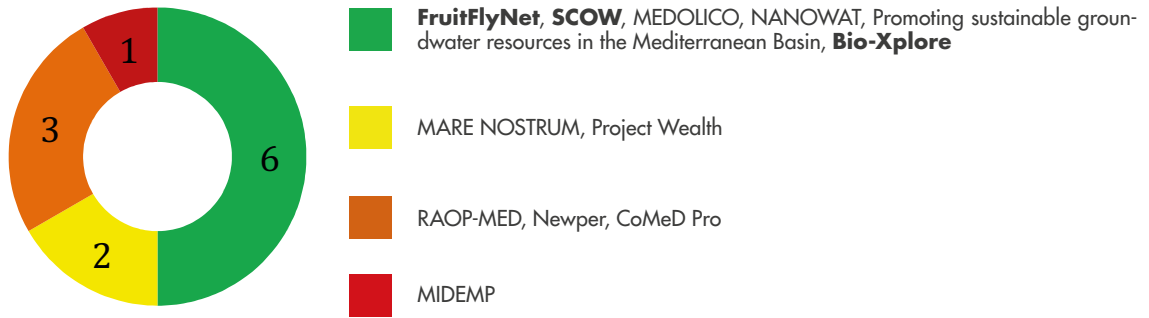
Project	FruitFlyNet - A Location-aware System for Fruit Fly e-Monitoring and Pest Management Control
Call reference	Call 2 Standard
Key topic	Protection of the environment and natural resources
Project duration	December 2013 - December 2015
Brief description	The Mediterranean, olive, cherry and peach fruit flies are invasive insects which were accidentally introduced in the Mediterranean area in the past, constituting a constant economic burden for the agriculture sector. Besides qualitative losses and quantitative degradations of crop production, adverse environmental and economic impacts through the increase of insecticidal applications are direct consequences of key pests. Climate change has also strongly affected the traditional geographic distribution of fruit flies which includes now new areas which were not considered suitable for insects' colonization. FruitFlyNet project implemented environmentally effective monitoring and ground spraying control solutions for specific key pests already established in the Mediterranean area. This initiative proved to be a valuable tool for an alert quarantine-based system in countries where invasive fruit flies are not yet settled, providing the necessary platform for early detection and targeted eradication measures.
Contact details	Theodore Tsiligiridis (Agricultural University of Athens; tsili@aua.gr)
Potential national follow-up	The key outcomes of FruitFlyNet project suitable for future follow-up actions are: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The e-traps as a wireless Real-time Trapping and Insect Counting (ReTIC) device allowing the early detection of fruit flies in the field; - The real-time Wireless Multimedia Sensor Network (WMSN) is able to acquire and transmit scalar data and images from the field to a remote host station; - A semi-automatic trapping and insect counting warning system, based on existing traps, for the remote detection of invasive species; - A flexible architecture adopted for integration of a WMSN to the Cloud for multimedia sensor data collection and sharing using Web services.

Project	MEDNETA - Mediterranean cultural network to promote creativity in the arts, crafts and design for communities' regeneration in historical cities
Call reference	Call 2 Standard
Key topic	Cultural heritage
Project duration	December 2013 - December 2015
Brief description	<p>Arts, Crafts and Design (ACDs) are traditionally rooted in trading and harbour cities of the Mediterranean area. Historically, the production and sale of such goods were particularly vibrant in these cities and, besides inhabitants, concerned visitors came to shop for what they could not find in their place of residence. This commercial network kept alive and dynamic the crafts in Mediterranean cities for a long period of time, but the industrial revolution and then the globalization brought an end to it. The economy of the cities began to decline, and they could no longer compete with larger ports and more advanced economies. In the belief that the economic improvement and the urban liveliness should insist on the creative industries revitalization and on the valorisation of traditional heritage, MEDNETA project supported creativity in ACDs (i.e. ceramics, goldsmiths, cloth, tapestry, fashion and jewellery) as a means for the regeneration of the communities living in historical districts. The project activities took place in five different Mediterranean cities including Athens (Greece), Florence (Italy), Valencia (Spain), the medina of Tunis (Tunisia), Beirut (Lebanon) and Hebron (Palestine) which have all been selected for the challenges faced by the creative sector based on its geographical context and level of economic development.</p>
Contact details	Sofia Avgerinou-Kolonia (National technical University of Athens; skolonia@arch.ntua.gr). Website: https://medneta.eu/
Potential national follow-up	<p>The project was successful in creating 6 urban strategies integrated in one broad joint strategy to enhance the potential of ACDs in empowering the local communities cross-border cultural exchanges. New forms of cross collaboration and networking were tested through 12 pilot products and 12 funding schemes to improve the entrepreneurial and commercial opportunities of local designers and artisans. The Mediterranean ACDs Lab network was secured via the signature of a memorandum of understanding. Among the other achievements of particular value are the applied pilot conservation and rehabilitation actions that used the Non-Destructive Testing Techniques (NDTs). The rotating exhibition "Weaving the Sea-Craftsmen and Designers from across the Mediterranean" was also a valuable output. Some of the teams created are still working with new interesting artistic ventures. This testifies that the cooperation is still in place even after the end of the project and it can still be supported with tailored initiatives.</p>

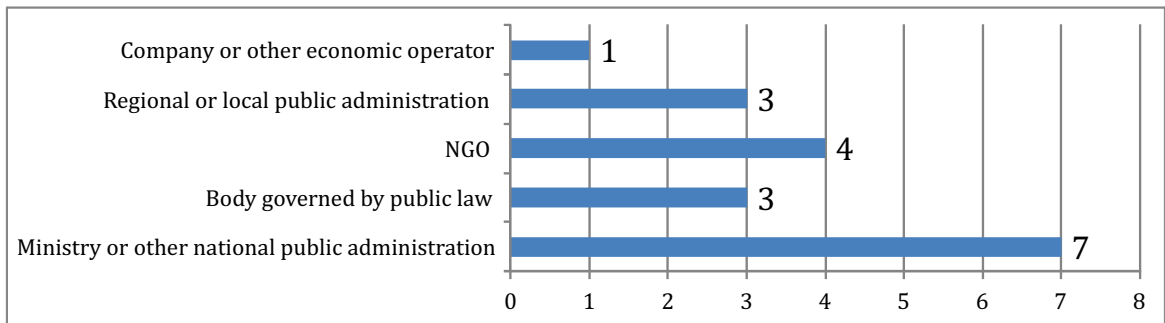
ISRAEL

In the framework of the ENPI CBC Med Programme, 18 organisations from Israel participated in 12 projects with a total budget of €9.4 million (ENPI contribution: €8.4 million). Examples of successful projects are described below.

Overview



Type of actors involved



Project	FruitFlyNet - A Location-aware System for Fruit Fly e-Monitoring and Pest Management Control
Call reference	Call 2 Standard
Key topic	Protection of the environment and natural resources
Project duration	December 2013 - December 2015
Brief description	The Mediterranean, olive, cherry and peach fruit flies are invasive insects which were accidentally introduced in the Mediterranean area in the past, constituting a constant economic burden for the agriculture sector: besides qualitative losses and quantitative degradations of crop production, adverse environmental and economic impacts through the increase of insecticidal applications are direct consequences of key pests. Climate change has also strongly affected the traditional geographic distribution of fruit flies which includes now new areas which were not considered suitable for insects' colonization. FruitFlyNet project implemented environmentally effective monitoring and ground spraying control solutions for specific key pests already established in the Mediterranean area. This initiative proved to be a valuable tool for an alert quarantine-based system in countries where invasive fruit flies are not yet settled, providing the necessary platform for early detection and targeted eradication measures.
Contact details	David Nestel (Agricultural Research Organization; nestel@agri.gov.il)
Potential national follow-up	The key outcomes of FruitFlyNet suitable for follow-up are: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The e-traps as a wireless Real-time Trapping and Insect Counting (ReTIC) device allowing the early detection of fruit flies in the field; - The real-time Wireless Multimedia Sensor Network (WMSN) is able to acquire and transmit scalar data and images from the field to a remote host station; - A semi-automatic trapping and insect counting warning system, based on existing traps, for the remote detection of invasive species; - A flexible architecture adopted for integration of a WMSN to the Cloud for multimedia sensor data collection and sharing using Web services.

Project	Bio-Xplore - Bio Exploration - Novel methodology for the Identification of Valuable Natural Products Derived from Mediterranean Flora
Call reference	Call 1 Standard
Key topic	Economic growth and innovation processes
Project duration	October 2011 - December 2014
Brief description	The Mediterranean area with its unique geology and climate is one of the world's major centres of plant diversity housing approximately 25,000 species, about half of which are endemic to the region. Over centuries, the local population has been using natural materials as medicines for the treatment of many diseases. The natural products sector, including herbal medicines, teas, cosmetics and perfumes, has become a fast-growing industry worldwide. Considering that less than 1% of plants in the region have been scientifically studied and that 17% of Mediterranean plants are classified as endangered species, the Bio-Xplore project focused on the identification of commercially valuable natural compounds derived from the Mediterranean flora, with the final aim of protecting the natural resources while creating new sources for local industrial development and job opportunities.
Contact details	Prof. Bertold Fridlender (Hadassah College Jerusalem; bifri2002@yahoo.com). Website: http://www.bio-xplore.org/
Potential national follow-up	The project set up a research and innovation programme, which included transfer of knowledge, capacity-building, and training of staff and students. It led to successful discovery of valuable endemic flora in each area, which raised awareness of citizens, researchers, students, and stakeholders regarding the value of local resources and offered concrete potential for biotechnology business opportunities in each involved country. As the project mainly focused on identification and investigation of valuable endemic flora, a phase 2 could focus on the commercial exploitation of valuable plants. It is worth highlighting that the Israeli Ministry of Agriculture has evaluated positively the project and granted the Hadassah College Jerusalem with a separate budget to investigate medicinal plant activities over a period of three years.

Project	SCOW - Selective collection of the organic waste in tourist areas and valorisation in farm composting plants
Call reference	Strategic call
Key topic	Waste treatment and recycling
Project duration	January 2013 - December 2015
Brief description	The generation of organic solid waste is rising significantly everywhere in the Mediterranean region due to population's increase and industrial and agricultural sectors development. This situation causes growing pressure on groundwater, soil and air and calls for strategies allowing for sound waste management systems. In addition to the lack in some Mediterranean countries of separate collection of solid and organic waste, the implementation of integrated waste management plans at local level is still undermined by the high costs of transport and treatment. In this framework, SCOW project focused on the collection of organic waste in tourist areas with a view to valorising biowaste as compost for sustainable agriculture practices.
Contact details	Moshe Shalit (Upper Galilee Regional Council; moshes@galil-elion.org.il); Uri Marchaim (MIGAL - Galilee Technology Center; uri@migal.org.il). Website: http://www.biowaste-scow.eu/
Potential national follow-up	The impact of the project in the region of Upper Galilee was of significant relevance through the installation of 6 biowaste composting plants (total biowaste treatment capacity of 1,200 tons/year) and the implementation of door-to-door collection systems at community level. This model, which is based on a close cooperation between citizens, businesses, farmers and local authorities to make sure that biowaste is properly sorted, collected, treated and reused (compost) could be further extended to other areas of Israel as it proved to be efficient and cost-effective.

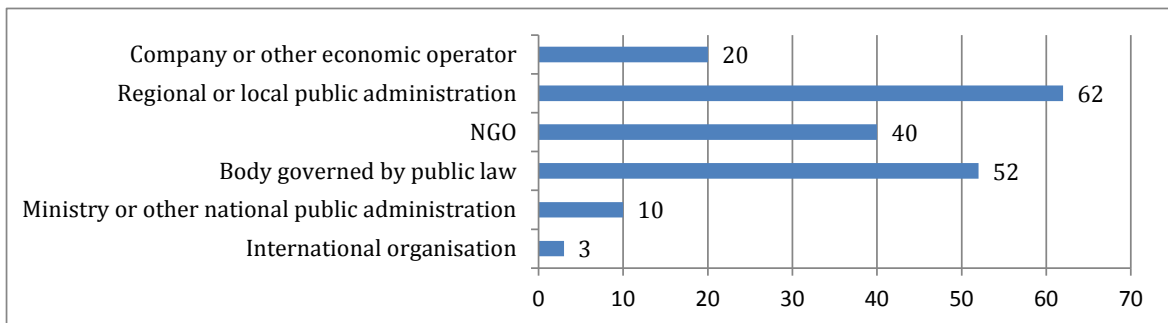
ITALY

In the framework of the ENPI CBC Med Programme, 184 organisations from Italy and 3 international organisations based in Italy participated in 79 projects with a total budget of €50.3 million (ENPI contribution: €44.7 million). Examples of successful projects are described below.

Overview



Type of actors involved



Project	AQUAKNIGHT - AQUA KNOWledge and Innovation transfer for water savinG in tHe mediTerranean basin
Call reference	Call 1 Standard
Key topic	Water management
Project duration	December 2011 - December 2014
Brief description	Water resources in the Mediterranean are under stress, especially in the Southern and Eastern shores. In Jordan, Lebanon and Tunisia, water demand constantly increases, while water use efficiency can still be considered as limited. These are the two most critical factors regarding the sustainability of the most elementary earth resource: water. Policies aiming at improving usage efficiency and at reducing losses and poor usage, are urgently needed. AQUAKNIGHT project focused on optimizing consumption and minimizing the Non-Revenue Water (water not metered or billed to consumers) through the implementation of five pilot projects in the cities of Limassol (Cyprus), Genoa (Italy), Alexandria (Egypt), Tunis (Tunisia) and Aqaba (Jordan).
Contact details	Nicola Bazzurro (IREN Acqua Gas S.p.A.; nicola.bazzurro@iride-acquagas.it)
Potential national follow-up	A water loss reduction was achieved at the end of the project in 4 out of the 5 pilot areas, with very significant reductions measured in Aqaba (76%) and in Genoa (75%). The capacity building component has been very relevant: a total of 88 officers participated in training activities on water management issues (10 trainings) and 48 participated in exchange visits (set target value was 20 participants). A network of around 200 stakeholders was created during the project lifetime and the project results and deliverables were timely shared with them. The active involvement of water operators is expected to sustain and disseminate the results in building on the positive experience to reduce Non-Revenue Water and implement Water Demand Management.

Project	STS-Med - Small scale thermal solar district units for Mediterranean communities
Call reference	Strategic call
Key topic	Renewable energies and energy efficiency
Project duration	November 2012 - October 2016
Brief description	In the Mediterranean area, a large share of energy is consumed by households and in buildings. In addition to the dependence on fossil fuel, oil and natural gas, the primary energy demand is growing at a regular pace. Increasing the share of solar energy sources in the overall energy mix is a crucial goal for the Mediterranean area, as the exploitation of a sustainable renewable energy source would contribute to climate change mitigation - an issue of concern for the region due to its impact on desertification, floods, coastal vulnerability - and to energy security. Although impressive improvements have been made in the recent years concerning the integration of solar energy systems into conventional heating technology and despite the availability of mature technologies, solar thermal energy is still used in a rather small percentage in buildings and generally, only for domestic hot water in private houses. To improve this situation, STS-Med project contributed to the diffusion and development of Concentrated Solar (CS) small-scale integrated systems, a high energy efficiency technology with a high potential for replication across the Mediterranean area.
Contact details	Fabio Maria Montagnino (Consorzio ARCA; fmontagnino@consorzioarca.it). Website: http://www.stsmed.eu/
Potential national follow-up	The project developed a toolbox including the basic components for the construction of CS multigenerative power plants (a high energy efficiency technology with a potential for replication across the Mediterranean area) in small/medium size systems to be integrated in public buildings. Through the construction of demonstrative plants, 4 public buildings in Italy, Cyprus, Jordan and Egypt have been equipped to host dissemination and training activities related to the project, as well as testing and monitoring actions during the plants operation. An e-learning platform integrated with the pilot plants was specifically developed and it is now available freely onto the project website (www.stsmed.eu). This component is suitable for further use of all results achieved.

Project	SIDIG-MED - Social and Intercultural Dialogue through Governance for Local development: Mediterranean Urban and Peri-urban Agriculture (UPA)
Call reference	Call 2 Standard
Key topic	Social inclusion
Project duration	November 2013 - December 2016
Brief description	The Mediterranean area is facing a significant increase in urban groups at risk of social exclusion, although no public campaign involves Urban and Peri-urban Agriculture (UPA) as a poverty and exclusion remedial tool. In addition, UPA is an activity which has been managed primarily by private citizens and it is only recently that local governments have started to seriously consider supporting UPA activities. In this context, SIDIG-MED project aimed to use Urban and Peri-urban Agriculture to improve governance processes for public authorities and to promote social and intercultural dialogue through cooperative organisations and associations fighting against social exclusion and poverty. Implemented in cities and territories characterized by vast agricultural areas (Rome, Al-Balga, Mahdia and Barcelona), the project adopted permaculture and organic farming concepts including innovative and energy-efficient techniques for water harvesting, composting to enrich the soil and beekeeping for income generation and pollination.
Contact details	Claudio Bordi (Rome Municipality; c.bordi@rpr-spa.it). Website: www.sidigmed.org
Potential national follow-up	In Rome, three new urban gardens were established. The benefits of the project are twofold: on the one hand, it helped social cohesion and poverty fighting by involving needy people, immigrants, elderly, disabled people, AIDS and Alzheimer's patients, prisoners in gardening activities; on the other hand, environmental sustainability and urban regeneration was fostered following the recovery of brownfield lands. The success of the project is based on a participatory approach with citizens which actively contributed to the reclamation of the project areas and the development of a new model of governance with the City of Rome. The urban gardening experience carried out by the SIDIG-MED project in Rome was selected as a good practice by URBACT, the EU programme which aims at fostering sustainable integrated urban development in cities across Europe. Deemed as a "tool for social inclusion and urban regeneration", the SIDIG-MED project "contributes to the improvement of the governance processes by connecting different competencies and municipal offices such as social, environment, urban planning and innovation departments", says the URBACT website. A concrete example of how the experience was capitalized on and mainstreamed in public policies is the approval of the Regulation of Urban Gardens in July 2015 (Resolution of the City Council of Rome, Delibera n°38 del 17.7.2015 "Regolamento degli orti urbani"). This new Regulation was in part inspired by the SIDIG-MED project. Such approach to urban gardening as a tool for inclusion and urban regeneration is certainly a good practice to be shared with other cities of the Mediterranean region.

Project	EGREJOB - Euro-Mediterranean GREen JOBs
Call reference	Call 2 Standard
Key topic	Support to employment and professionalization
Project duration	January 2014 - March 2016
Brief description	Unemployment has been rising sharply in the Mediterranean area over the last years, affecting in particular young people and women. At the same time, the transition to a green economy represents a huge potential for job creation which requires new professional skills. To seize the opportunities offered by business growth related to environmental sustainability in sectors such as renewable energy, energy efficiency, eco-housing or waste recycling, EGREJOB aimed at creating standard training process and skills certification scheme at Euro-Mediterranean level. The project eased the participation into the labour market of young people, especially women, with a specialization in the area of green jobs contributing to the competitiveness of the concerned territories.
Contact details	Livia Marinetto (Tuscany Region; livia.marinetto@regione.toscana.it). Website: http://www.egrejob.eu/
Potential national follow-up	The project aimed at implementing a common standard training process and skills certification scheme at Euro-Mediterranean level on green jobs. This was materialized through the Euro-Mediterranean Green Jobs Charter signed by over 20 organisations. Given the huge potential of green jobs, further support should be granted to the project to achieve a common certification of green jobs at Mediterranean level with certified training paths.

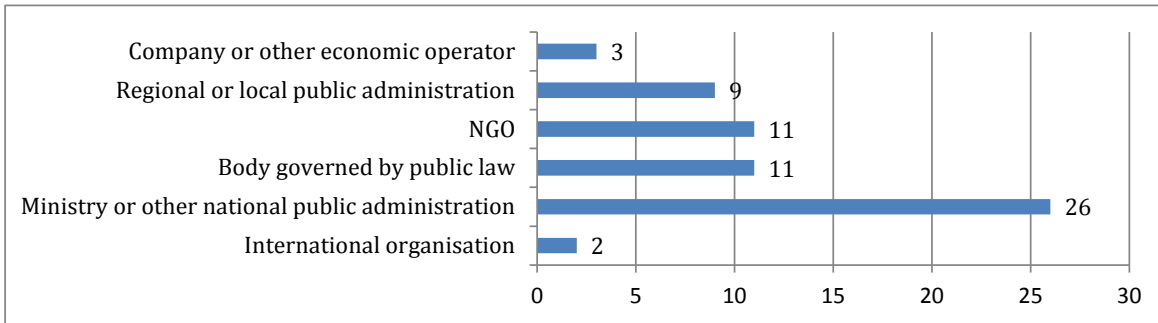
JORDAN

In the framework of the ENPI CBC Med Programme, 60 organisations from Jordan and 2 international organisations based in Jordan participated in 47 projects with a total budget of €17.6 million (ENPI contribution: €15.8 million). Examples of successful projects are described below.

Overview



Type of actors involved



Project	MEDOLICO - Mediterranean Cooperation in the Treatment and Valorisation of Olive Mill Wastewater (OMW)
Call reference	Call 1 Standard
Key topic	Water management
Project duration	November 2011 - August 2015
Brief description	The Mediterranean region accounts for 97% of the world's olive production. About 11 million tons of olives are produced each year out of which nearly 2 million tons of olive oil is extracted. The estimated waste generated annually by olive oil processing is 9 million tons: this can potentially cause serious environmental harm if not disposed properly. MEDOLICO project specifically targeted the issue of olive oil mill wastewater (OMW), which is highly resistant to biodegradation. Provided that the treatment of OMW has only been partially addressed through isolated studies, there is a need for a harmonized and basin-wide effort that significantly reduces the environmental impact of wastewater generated by olive mills.
Contact details	Munir Rusan (Jordan University of Science and Technology; mrusan@just.edu.jo). Website: https://www.medolico.com/
Potential national follow-up	Experimental warehouse for Oil Mill Wastewater (OMW) reuse in Jordan

Project	ENSIAP - Improving of Environmental Sustainability of Irrigated Agricultural Production in Lebanon and Jordan
Call reference	Call 1 Standard
Key topic	Water management
Project duration	November 2011 - August 2015
Brief description	<p>Both in Lebanon and Jordan, the increase in the domestic and industrial water demands has led to a significant reduction of water available for irrigation purposes. This is a key issue for such countries in which agriculture accounts for 80% of the water use although it is not the sole problem: the aquifers are overexploited, the use of environmental-friendly irrigation methods is still limited, and the water and soils are being polluted through inappropriate production methods with regard to fertilization and plant protection practices. Considering the need to strengthen policies at national and regional level, the ENSIAP project implemented a series of activities as a contribution to the reduction of the negative environmental impact of irrigated agriculture on natural resources and climate change. In particular, the project used an approach on three levels: at on-farm level, through introduction of innovative and resource conserving agricultural practices including the use of renewable energy sources (RES) supported by training activities; at institutional level, through capacity building in best agricultural practices and support to institutional networking on a regional basis with special focus on use of RES in irrigated agriculture; at civil society level, through public awareness raising activities on water and environmental issues, including the appropriate use of RES.</p>
Contact details	Mohammed Mudaber (NCARE - The National Centre for Agricultural Research and Extension; mmudaber@yahoo.com)
Potential national follow-up	<p>In Jordan, the project led to the installation of improved irrigation equipment in 20 pilot farms. The system implemented by ENSIAP allows for water savings thanks to the introduction of drip irrigation as well as agricultural efficiency/soil conservation based on a fertilization process directly through the irrigation water (known as "fertigation"). A simple photovoltaic solution, which consists of a solar panel, completes the system by providing the required energy for irrigation water pumping purposes. Furthermore, large attention was dedicated to training of extension agents and farmers on best agricultural practices and use of renewable energies. In a country like Jordan severely affected by water scarcity, the use of modern and efficient irrigation techniques can save large quantity of water and preserve supplies of fresh water: therefore, the approach developed by the ENSIAP project should be considered at national level and mainstreamed in relevant policies and regulations.</p>

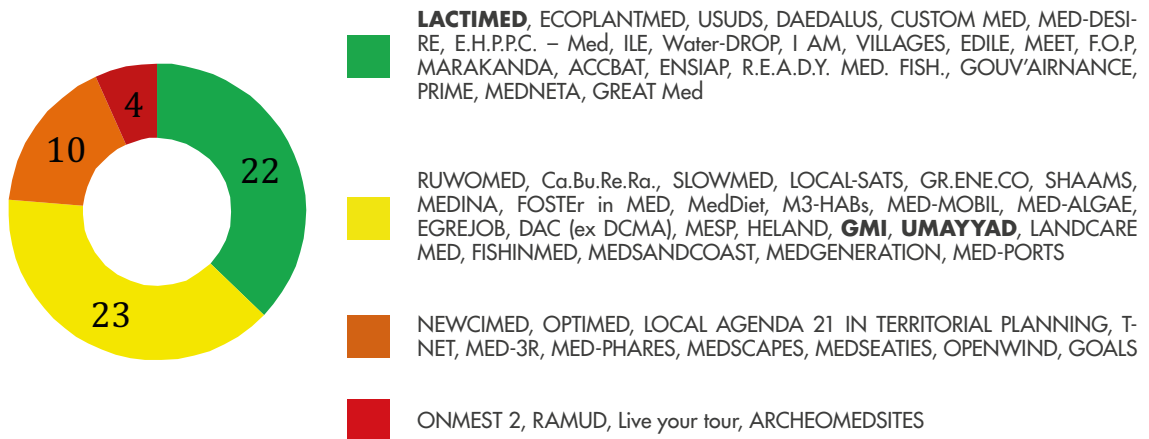
Project	Water-DROP - WATER Development Resources Opportunity Policies for the water management in semi-arid areas
Call reference	Call 2 Standard
Key topic	Water management
Project duration	December 2013 - October 2016
Brief description	Population growth, rapid urbanization and industrialization, the expansion of agriculture and tourism, as well as climate change are all factors which put water under huge stress. The scarcity of this vital resource for human and social development has placed water at the top of the agenda of many Mediterranean countries. Most of the water problems are due to the mismanagement of water resources and to the incoherency among different policies impacting water conservation. In addition, the dialogue between water stakeholders, users and central governments shall be fostered to ensure more integrated approaches to in developing and managing water resources. To address these challenges, the Water-DROP project tackled the main issues for efficient water management at three different levels: technical-methodological, capacity-building, and normative.
Contact details	Fadi Shraideh (IUCN, Regional Office for West Asia - IUCN ROWA; fadi.shraideh@iucn.org). Website: http://water-drop.enea.it/
Potential national follow-up	In Jordan, a total of 5 public schools and 20 households in the Balqa Governorate were chosen to benefit from practical solutions which improved access to water. Roofs of selected houses and schools were refurbished to be fitted with water collection systems connected to underground tanks. This pilot initiative has great potential in limiting freshwater abstraction for irrigation and livestock activities since 85% of rainwater in Jordan is wasted through either evaporation or runoff.

Project	DIDSOLIT-PB - Development and implementation of decentralised solar-energy-related innovative technologies for public buildings, in the Mediterranean Basin countries
Call reference	Strategic call
Key topic	Renewable energies and energy efficiency
Project duration	December 2012 - March 2016
Brief description	The rise in energy demand has aggravated the dependence on fossil fuels imports of in most of the Mediterranean countries. With a forecasted increase by 70% in energy consumption over the next 20 years, there is an urgent need to secure alternative energy sources especially for buildings - commercial and residential - which share of total energy used is higher than 40%, i.e. superior to the industrial or transport sector. Within this complex energy scenario, DIDSOLIT-PB project implemented small-scale solar systems for public premises including innovative solutions such as photovoltaic glass-substitute sheets, solar cooling or photovoltaic coverage of buildings roofs and car parks shady-covers.
Contact details	Mohammed Matouq (Al-Balqa' Applied University; matouq3@yahoo.com). Website: http://www.didsolit.eu/
Potential national follow-up	DIDSOLIT-PB project achieved all its expected results. The project managed to install 24 solar-powered applications in 20 public buildings in each of the 7 Mediterranean regions covered by the partnership, with a total installed power of 275,9 KW. The 24 solar applications are expected to generate about 435,210 KWh of renewable energy per year. Therefore, the total energy savings and CO ² emission reductions originated by the DIDSOLIT-PB initiative will be of 231 T per year and 5,147 T by the end of the solar applications' life span. Technology transfer best modalities and design of innovative dedicated financing instruments should be further considered and implemented within other programs/initiatives taking advantage of the experience of the "solar cluster" created with other ENPI funded projects. In Jordan, on the campus of the Al-Balqa Applied University, two solar systems were integrated to existing administrative and education buildings and provide up to 80% of the energy needs. DIDSOLIT-PB project is serving one of its main objectives: being an inspiration for other institutions in Jordan seeking to develop energy efficiency measures. The Al-Balqa Applied University recently signed a technical assistance with the Royal Court of Jordan to help implement a green energy policy. This is a practical example of capitalization of an ENPI project.

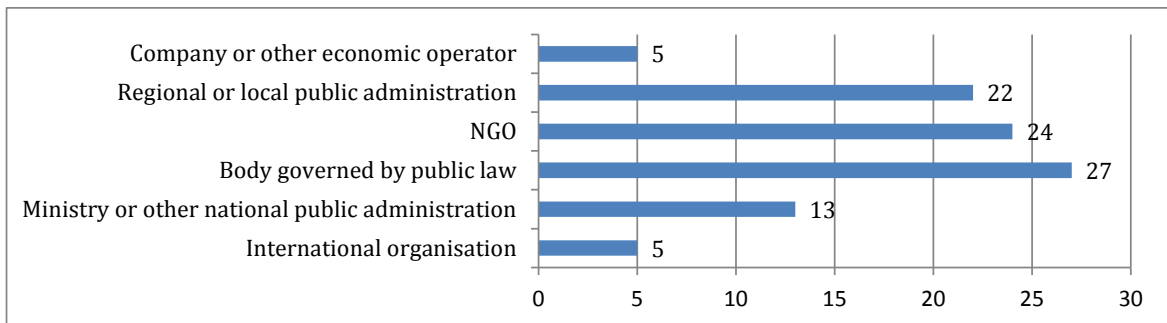
LEBANON

In the framework of the ENPI CBC Med Programme, 91 organisations from Lebanon and 5 international organisations based in Lebanon participated in 59 projects with a total budget of €28 million (ENPI contribution: €25.1 million). Examples of successful projects are described below.

Overview



Type of actors involved



Project	LACTIMED - Local agro-clusters for typical and innovative Mediterranean dairy products
Call reference	Strategic call
Key topic	Economic growth and innovation processes
Project duration	November 2012 - December 2015
Brief description	The agricultural policies implemented during the last decades in the Mediterranean area have led to a strong dependence of the countries of the region on imports and to instable international markets. Adding to that strong demographic growth of certain Mediterranean countries as well as the changes in consumption patterns, can help to better understand why the agro-food sector has become a central element in the development of the Mediterranean area. LACTIMED project proposed a new approach focused on the dairy market. Under the project, over 100 actions were implemented in Alexandria (Egypt), Bekaa (Lebanon), Bizerte (Tunisia), Sicily (Italy) and Thessaly (Greece) to strengthen the production and distribution of traditional and innovative dairy products through the organization of local value chains, the support to producers and the promotion of their products on local and international markets.
Contact details	Said Gedeon (Chamber of Commerce, Industry and Agriculture of Zahle and Bekaa; said@cciaz.org.lb). Website: http://www.lactimed.eu
Potential national follow-up	In Lebanon, collection and milk quality-related issues brought producers together to address common needs, especially in terms of structuring and organisation. A cluster was set up, mainly bringing together milk producers and processors. It addresses two specific needs: join forces to reduce the costs linked to milk collection and deliver to processors, and guarantee sufficient quantity of milk necessary to processing, to valorise part of the milk by producing typical products. In addition to the support process for marketing, organisational and technical aspects, LACTIMED approach also facilitated the acquisition of specific equipment. The cluster allowed to establish a fairest price of the milk in the Ayta Al Foukhar region. A purchase contract between 10 goat milk producers and the cooperative, with roughly 10% higher than the usual retail price, securing a constant supply. Such a cooperative approach could be extended to other areas in Lebanon or even to other sectors such as the textile industry.

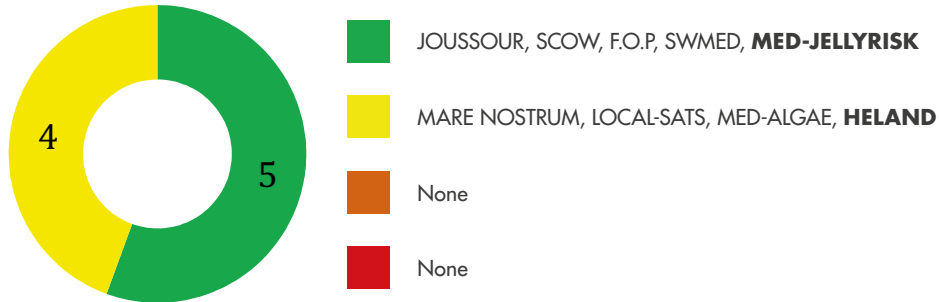
Project	GMI - The Green MED Initiative
Call reference	Strategic call
Key topic	Waste treatment and recycling
Project duration	December 2012 - September 2016
Brief description	The approach to waste management as well as the common values of the European Union and the Mediterranean Partner Countries are based on three principles: waste prevention, recycling and re-use, improvement of final disposal and waste monitoring. The success of this strategy is highly dependent on the effective implementation of unified actions at the Mediterranean level creating opportunities to exchange best practices, share knowledge and raise awareness on the importance of waste recycling. In addition, the move towards long-term environmental sustainability shall also be supported by legislative frameworks enforcing waste recycling. These were the aims of GMI project, which represents a pioneer effort of six Mediterranean countries to develop a cross-border incentive based recycling program and communication campaign targeting schools and universities.
Contact details	Diana Kobayter (Chamber of Commerce, Industry and Agriculture of Beirut & Mount Lebanon; projects@ccib.org.lb). Website: http://gmiproject.eu
Potential national follow-up	More than 27.3 tons of empties were collected and recycled thanks to a cross-border, incentive based, recycling system promoting environmentally sustainable practices at grassroots level – mainly schools and universities – using a state of the art technology platform and supported by an awareness campaign and a communication program. 63 schools and 5 universities were actively involved with 100,000 students taking part in the recycling programme. 162 Reverse Vending Machines were installed for recycling plastic empties and 33 Memorandum of Understanding were signed with public and private entities. Follow-up actions to ensure full functioning of all RVMs installed are expected in all involved countries, especially in Lebanon and Egypt. The ownership of the overall management of both educational programmers and RVMs was transferred to the schools, and the schools are now supposed to take the lead - in partnership with competent authorities - towards subcontracting for recycling, and reward programs. This process is proving to be the most challenging even if great attention has been paid to it by the project management team. The mid-long term sustainability of this initiative in all countries can only be guaranteed by additional agreements involving national stakeholders.

Project	UMAYYAD - Improvement of Mediterranean territorial cohesion through the setup of a tourist-cultural itinerary
Call reference	Strategic call
Key topic	Sustainable tourism
Project duration	December 2012 - December 2016
Brief description	<p>At Mediterranean level, tourism has often led many countries and regions to develop the industry in a competitive way rather than in a cooperative manner. For obvious climatic reasons but also due to the role played by tour operators, Mediterranean tourism destinations have based their growth essentially on a "sun and sea" vision and developed strategies aimed at maximizing short-term profits instead of addressing the needs and expectations of customers and residents.</p> <p>In this sense, there is a real need to adopt and introduce new consumer models translated into environmentally friendly tourism products, respecting natural resources and diversifying the seasonal nature of tourism demand. Umayyad project contributed to this objective by promoting sustainable tourism based on the synergies derived from the design of a cross-border itinerary between 6 countries sharing common history and cultural background.</p>
Contact details	Rana Bark (Municipality of Jbeil Byblos; rana.bark@hotmail.com). Website: http://umayyad.eu/
Potential national follow-up	Trainings in cultural tourism management were implemented focusing on the Umayyad route and actively involved policy-makers and private sectors. The policy-makers trained were 138 and the results of these trainings could be replicated. As Lebanon is home to a unique and rich Omayyad heritage, the project is a good starting point to enhance this heritage and make it a new asset for developing cultural tourism in Lebanon. The specific achievements of the project in Lebanon - i.e. a museum dedicated to the Omayyad civilization opened in Byblos and several steps along the Umayyad route (including Beirut, Anjar, Baalbek, Sidon, Tyre, Byblos and Tripoli) - could be promoted at national level to attract local and international visitors.

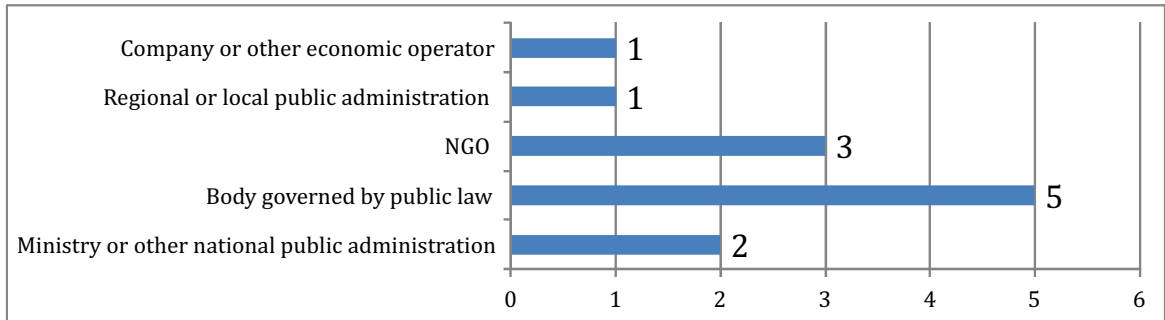
MALTA

In the framework of the ENPI CBC Med Programme, 12 organisations from Malta participated in 9 projects with a total budget of €2.5 million (ENPI contribution: €2.3 million). Examples of successful projects are described below.

Overview



Type of actors involved



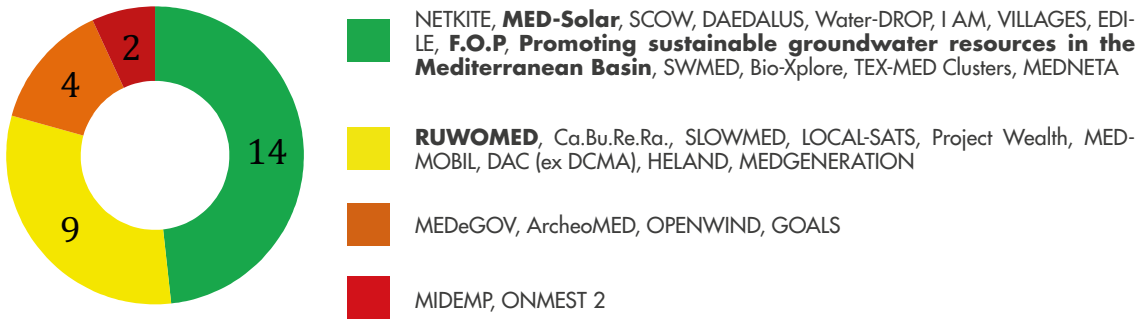
Project	MED-JELLYRISK - Integrated monitoring of jellyfish outbreaks under anthropogenic and climatic impacts in the Mediterranean sea: trophic and socio-economic risks
Call reference	Strategic call
Key topic	Integrated Coastal Zone Management (ICZM)
Project duration	December 2012 - December 2015
Brief description	The Mediterranean coasts are facing increasing jellyfish outbreaks resulting from a wide variety of human activities including maritime transport, exploitation of living resources, discharges together with the impact of climate change. Jellyfish proliferation represents a growing threat for human and coastal activities (mainly leisure and aquaculture). Every summer 2 million beachgoers are affected by jellyfish stings meaning high cost of basic first aid treatments for the national health services. The situation has worsened over the last years due to the apparition of new dangerous varieties. Against the threat posed by jellyfishes for tourism in the Mediterranean area, MED-JELLYRISK project was the first-ever attempt at cross-border level to assess the socio-economic impacts of jellyfish blooms and implement mitigation countermeasures.
Contact details	Alan Deidun (University of Malta; alan.deidun@gmail.com). Website: http://jellyrisk.eu
Potential national follow-up	Within the MED-JELLYRISK project, the University of Malta developed a wide range of tools that can help in predicting jellyfish proliferation and mitigate the effects on coastal activities (tourism, fisheries, etc.). These include the design of a mobile application to provide citizens with relevant information on jellyfish proliferation in coastal areas, installation of protection nets to secure swimming areas, the design of a dispersion model to track the forecasted pathway for four days of a jellyfish bloom, and the publication of numerous scientific papers. This knowledge and expertise are a valuable background to help Maltese public authorities in better fighting and mitigating the negative effects of jellyfish proliferation.

Project	HELAND - Promoting socio-economic sustainable development through innovative technological actions for Mediterranean tourism heritage and landscapes protection clusters
Call reference	Call 1 Standard
Key topic	Sustainable tourism
Project duration	August 2012 - December 2015
Brief description	Although it is still one of the foremost tourist areas in the world, the Mediterranean is progressively losing attractiveness. To regain competitiveness, Mediterranean countries need to modernise the management of touristic assets, investing in new technologies and innovative policies. HELAND project addressed the needs of public and private bodies active in the management of tourist sites with a view to strengthening their capacities in the field of sustainable tourism.
Contact details	Nadia Theuma (Univeristy of Malta, Department of Tourism Studies; nadia.theuma@um.edu.mt)
Potential national follow-up	Scientific papers and training courses developed may continue to support knowledge transfer among cultural heritage practitioners and academia and vice versa. The ICT tool implemented can be easily adapted to manage sustainably the fragile physical environment of the Mediterranean. Three of the pilot studies showed how ICT tools can assist in the management of mountainous communities, coastal areas and a biosphere. These outputs can be further developed to best support social inclusion and fight against poverty. Indeed, they can be replicated with a focus on the possible advantages for persons working and living in peripheral/marginalized areas.

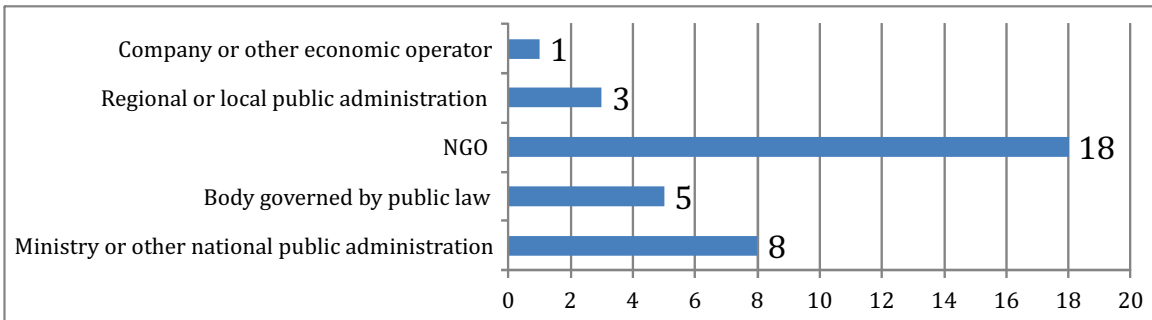
PALESTINE

In the framework of the ENPI CBC Med Programme, 35 organisations from Palestine participated in 29 projects with a total budget of €9.4 million (ENPI contribution: €8.4 million). Examples of successful projects are described below.

Overview



Type of actors involved



Project	MED-Solar - Machrek Energy Development
Call reference	Strategic call
Key topic	Renewable energies and energy efficiency
Project duration	January 2013 - June 2016
Brief description	<p>The countries of the Mediterranean area face the same specific energy reality: the increase in the energy price and the weakness of the electrical grid (impossibility of having increase in the power supply, interruptions, etc.). This reduces the security of supply in critical facilities such as hospital and schools as well as the proper development of the small and medium size industries. Such problems are common to the target countries of MED-Solar project (Lebanon, Jordan and Palestine) where all the population is connected to the grid, but with scarce quality and regular interruptions and cuts-off. Instead of using exclusively polluting and expensive fuel generators against electricity interruption, the project proposed to provide the generators with a solar photovoltaic system for energy backup. With the achievements of MED-Solar project, the energy situation in the three target countries will improve by through reducing energy costs, decreasing the dependence on imported fuel and improving the security of supply using clean energy resources.</p>
Contact details	Imad Ibrik (An-Najah University, Energy Research Center; iibrik@najah.edu)
Potential national follow-up	<p>The project improved the security of electricity supply in critical facilities (hospitals, schools, etc.) through the installation of hybrid PV systems with a transient storage associated to diesel generators. 7 pilot projects have been implemented in order to validate the prototypes of energy management system developed for grids connected with diesel back up PV systems. The project reached its final stage with almost 1,000 stakeholders involved from the science and technology community, research and development centres, universities, etc. Additional pilot projects could be identified and supported testing new financial schemes as access to secure clean independent sources of energy is crucial to Palestine.</p>

Project	Promoting sustainable groundwater resources in the Mediterranean Basin: improving technical and administrative skills in select Mediterranean Basin municipalities to alleviate pollution of groundwater
Call reference	Call 1 Standard
Key topic	Water management
Project duration	November 2011 - October 2014
Brief description	Groundwater is the world's most important source of freshwater, accounting for 97% of the earth's freshwater reserves. In many parts of the Mediterranean region, this resource is increasingly being polluted by human activities, causing the use of some aquifers to become endangered and undermining the role of groundwater in the hydrological cycle. While significant attention has been paid to national efforts to protect groundwater resources, the role of local authorities has received considerably less attention. Given the large role they play in overseeing industrial and other polluting activities in their jurisdictions, local governments can in fact become significant actors in efforts to protect shared groundwater resources. This project empowered a selection of Mediterranean municipalities with the technical and administrative skills to alleviate sources of groundwater pollution in their jurisdiction as well as enhancing cooperation across Mediterranean Basin municipalities to protect the common natural heritage.
Contact details	Nader el Khateeb (Water and Environmental Development Organisation; wedo@p-ol.com)
Potential national follow-up	The project trained municipal staff in matters related to groundwater protection, in the detection and control of pollutions hazards and environmental management with GIS tools. Fieldwork regarding the hydrogeological analysis was an important part of the effort of the participating municipalities. Through the project's conferences and study tours, participants learned that many of their environmental challenges are mutual, creating a good platform for dialogue, resulting in future plans for cooperation, especially in water treatment and safe reuse of wastewater. The produced outputs (groundwater vulnerability and risk mapping) have potential for transfer to the higher national level while the municipal action plans for preventive and corrective measures should be implemented through the adoption of dedicated municipal ordinances. This would surely help Palestinian municipalities to achieve a better management of scarce, yet precious, groundwater resources in a region facing water stress situation.

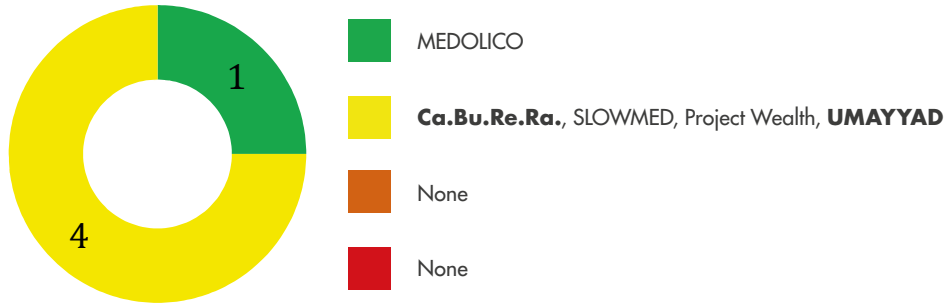
Project	F.O.P - Future of Our Past
Call reference	Call 2 Standard
Key topic	Sustainable tourism
Project duration	December 2013 - December 2016
Brief description	The extraordinary cultural heritage in the Mediterranean Basin with its fascinating cities rich in history, art, culture and traditions, offers an interesting background for the growth of tourism. Despite the leading role played by this sector, the model of governance developed in the area to date has mostly been focused on coastal resources while important historical centres situated in the inner territories still lack adequate promotion and enhancement. Strengthening and qualifying the potential of the involved areas and increasing their exploitation were the challenges that F.O.P project aimed to address by means of a model focused on innovative tourism plans for cultural and environmental heritage. Some selected sites in Italy (Lazio, Basilicata, Campania), Egypt (Alexandria), Spain (Córdoba), Malta (La Valletta), Palestine (Bethlehem), Tunisia (Monastir) and Lebanon (Beirut), became part of a cross-border network of historical centres to mutually strengthen their visibility in the tourism sector.
Contact details	Judy Bandak (Dar Al-Kalima College; jbandak@daralkalima.edu.ps). Website: http://www.futureourpast.eu/
Potential national follow-up	One of the main achievements of the F.O.P project in Palestine is the creation of the Ad Dar community hotel in Bethlehem. This hotel is made of privately-owned rooms and apartments scattered throughout the old city. The model is unique in Palestine as it offers full immersion within the local culture to the tourists while the owners of the rooms/apartments can run an income-generating activity. Moreover, such approach fosters direct contacts between tourists and residents. F.O.P approach is a very promising for tourism development in Palestine and the Ad Dar community hotel needs to be further promoted to attract tourists who are looking for a real and local experience in Palestine. As several municipalities have shown interest in developing similar community hotels, such interest shall be supported by dedicated financial incentives to allow refurbishment/renovation of traditional houses and apartments and turn them into accommodation for tourists.

Project	RUWOMED - Supporting and connecting rural women's traditional know how in the Mediterranean through the promotion of fair trade products
Call reference	Call 1 Standard
Key topic	Social inclusion
Project duration	November 2012 - December 2016
Brief description	Women's participation in employment is low in Lebanon and in Palestine, with approximately less than a quarter of total jobs held by women. The conflict situations have further deteriorated the opportunities of women for engaging in sustainable economic ventures, especially in rural areas. Under the circumstances outlined above, cooperative and micro-entrepreneurial activities in traditional sectors (agro-food, handicraft) can contribute to poverty alleviation and to women's economic and social empowerment. RUWOMED project improved income generating opportunities by setting up and strengthening existing SMEs and women cooperatives to become efficient, viable and sustainable economic entities and ensure a decent source of income for their households.
Contact details	Izzat Zidan (Agricultural Development Association - PARC; izzat@pal-arc.org). Website: https://www.acpp.com/ruwomed/?lang=en
Potential national follow-up	RUWOMED project offers a comprehensive framework of methodologies, training packages and approaches to support the creation of businesses owned by women in disadvantaged areas. Besides production techniques, the project also developed valuable tools to foster the distribution of products on international markets through fair trade networks. The project could be of great inspiration for the Palestinian government and be replicated on a national scale with a larger number of women throughout the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

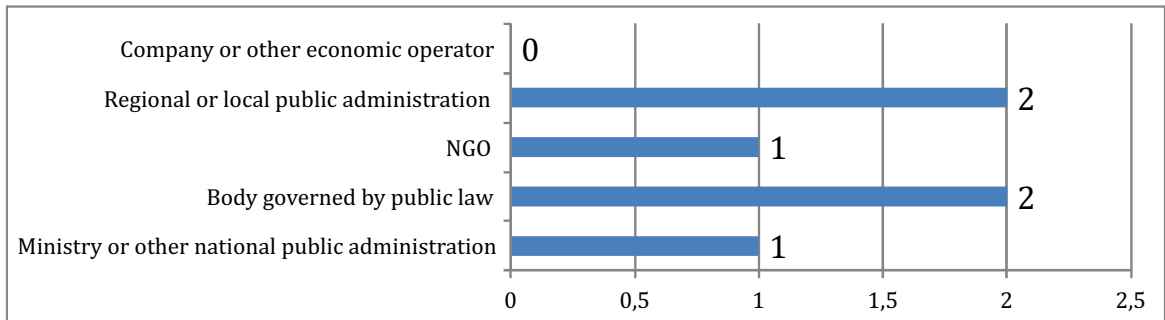
PORTUGAL

In the framework of the ENPI CBC Med Programme, 6 organisations from Portugal participated in 5 projects with a total budget of €1 million (ENPI contribution: €929,000). Examples of successful projects are described below.

Overview



Type of actors involved



Project	Ca.Bu.Re.Ra - Capacity Building Relay Race
Call reference	Call 2 Standard
Key topic	Support to employment and professionalization
Project duration	January 2014 - April 2016
Brief description	<p>Young people are driving forces for the social, economic and cultural development of the Euro-Mediterranean area. Nevertheless, the current situation in terms of unemployment coupled with skills mismatch, lack of work experience and barriers to mobility are often described as the main obstacles hampering the integration of young people into the labour market. Not only work experience can help young people to develop professional skills, but also boost their soft skills (i.e. team work, communication and social competences, adaptability, critical thinking) thus contributing to mutual understanding and intercultural dialogue between people. Ca.Bu.Re.Ra aimed at reducing youth unemployment in the Mediterranean area through the promotion of mobility and vocational education of young people, building their capacities in the sector of project management. The project provided 90 young people with the opportunity to live a 4-month period in a foreign country during which they acquired both professional skills and intercultural competences. CaBu-ReRa's ambition was to become a pilot project for the development of new strategies addressing the issue of youth transition from education to work in the Mediterranean area.</p>
Contact details	Rita Gonçalves (Portuguese Association for Young Entrepreneurs – ANJE; ritagoncalves@anje.pt); Website: www.caburera.org
Potential national follow-up	Ca.Bu.Re.Ra aimed at promoting the collaboration among Mediterranean territories by offering mobility and professional development opportunities as regards project design and management to young people. 6 local organizations and 21 centres have been involved during the project activities creating a strong network active at Euro-Mediterranean level. A total of 90 young people received certificates issued by UNIMED on the competences acquired during their experience within the project. This scheme can still be used for additional training activities.

Project	UMAYYAD - Improvement of Mediterranean territorial cohesion through the setup of a tourist-cultural itinerary
Call reference	Strategic call
Key topic	Sustainable tourism
Project duration	December 2012 - December 2016
Brief description	At Mediterranean level, tourism has often led many countries and regions to develop the industry in a competitive way rather than in a cooperative manner. For obvious climatic reasons but also due to the role played by tour operators, Mediterranean tourism destinations have based their growth essentially on a "sun and sea" vision and developed strategies aimed at maximizing short term profits instead of addressing the needs and expectations of customers and residents. In this sense, there is a real need to adopt and introduce new consumer models translated into environmentally friendly tourism products, respecting natural resources and diversifying the seasonal nature of tourism demand. Umayyad project contributed to this objective by promoting sustainable tourism based on the synergies derived from the design of a cross-border itinerary between 6 countries sharing common history and cultural background.
Contact details	Juan Manuel Cid Muñoz (Public Andalusian Foundation The Legacy of al-Andalus; jmcid@legadoandalusi.es). Website: http://umayyad.eu/
Potential national follow-up	Trainings on cultural tourism management were implemented focusing on the Umayyad route and actively involved policy-makers and private sectors. The policy-makers trained were 138 and the results of these trainings could be replicated. New Umayyad museums based on the model now open in Lebanon can also be implemented to reinforce this route.

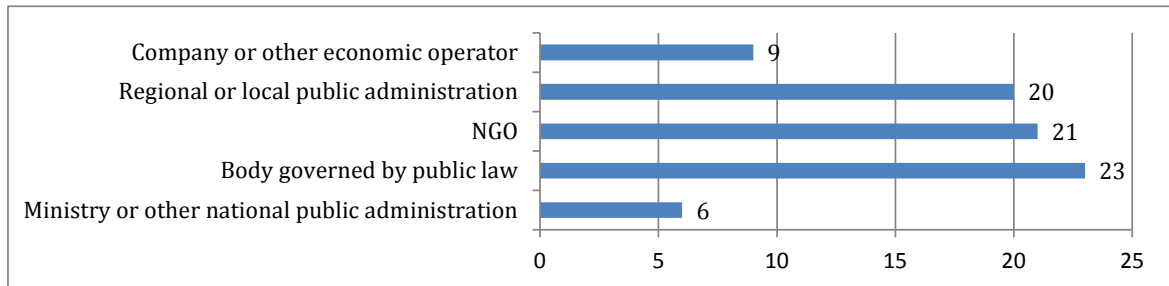
SPAIN

In the framework of the ENPI CBC Med Programme, 79 organisations from Spain participated in 51 projects with a total budget of €25 million (ENPI contribution: €21.7 million). Examples of successful projects are described below.

Overview



Type of actors involved



Project	OPENWIND - Open Government and ICTs for new models of governance in the Mediterranean
Call reference	Call 2 standard
Key topic	Territorial development and local governance
Project duration	December 2013 - October 2016
Brief description	As the Internet makes the world more accessible, people expect their governments to be better at communicating. Indeed, democracy can be enhanced by a government that is online and easy to find. Information and communication technologies have revolutionized the way governments interact with their citizens, allowing for more efficiency, more transparency and better services. With this in mind, the OPENWIND project has worked towards an increased use of eGovernance technologies as a way to make government information more accessible, thereby fostering digital transformation of public administrations. Eventually, through the implementation of 5 eGovernment pilot actions in Cyprus, Spain, Lebanon, Palestine and Tunisia, the efficiency and effectiveness in public services delivery was strengthened, bringing closer citizens closer to local administrations. 125 municipalities and organisations in Spain, Cyprus, Lebanon, Palestine and Tunisia were involved in pilot actions; 5 online platforms were implemented to facilitate the efficient delivery of public services to citizens; 20% increase in citizen participation in telematic administrative procedures was witnessed at the end of the project.
Contact details	Pablo Blas (Provincial government of Malaga; pblas@malaga.es). Website: http://www.openwind.eu/
Potential national follow-up	The common model of "New methods and techniques of Governance and Open Government" to foster the development of eGovernment across the Mediterranean can still be promoted in combination with pilot initiatives, to facilitate online administrative procedures such as tax/fine payment, request of documents/certificates, etc. Training of technical staff of the organisations involved and citizens on the use of electronic administration was also successful and it could be replicated.

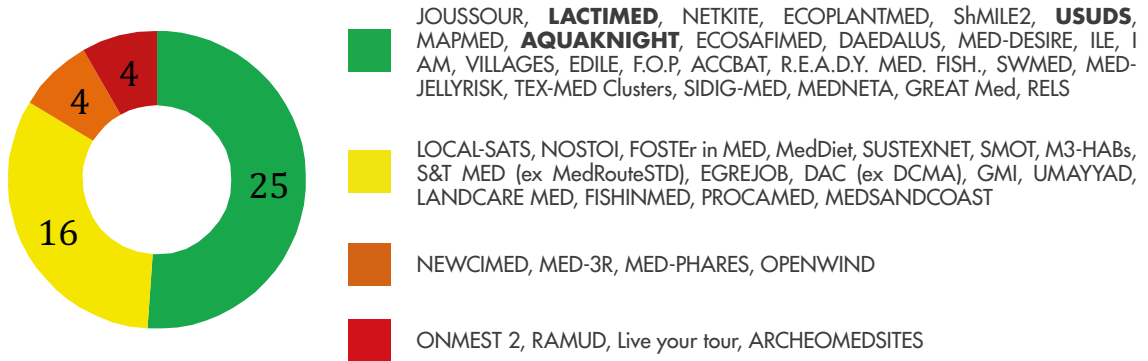
Project	SCOW - Selective collection of the organic waste in tourist areas and valorization in farm composting plants
Call reference	Strategic call
Key topic	Waste treatment and recycling
Project duration	January 2013 - December 2015
Brief description	The generation of organic solid waste is rising significantly everywhere in the Mediterranean region due to population's increase and the development of the industrial and agricultural sectors. This situation causes growing pressure on groundwater, soil and air and calls for strategies allowing for sound waste management systems. In addition to the lack in some Mediterranean countries of separate collection of solid and organic waste, the implementation of integrated waste management plans at local level is still undermined by the high costs of transport and treatment. In this framework, SCOW project focused on the collection of organic waste in tourist areas with a view to valorising biowaste as compost for sustainable agriculture practices.
Contact details	Marta Vila Gambao (Urban Ecology Agency of Barcelona; vila@bcnecologia.net). Website: http://www.biowaste-scow.eu/
Potential national follow-up	The impact of the project in the county of Pallars Sobirà (region of Catalonia) was of significant relevance with the installation of one large composting plant (total biowaste treatment capacity of 750 tons/year) and the implementation of door-to-door collection systems at community level. This model - which is based on a cooperation between citizens, businesses, farmers and local authorities to make sure that biowaste is properly sorted, collected, treated and reused (compost) - could be further extended to other areas of Spain as it proves to be efficient and cost-effective.

Project	DIDSOLIT-PB - Development and implementation of decentralised solar-energy-related innovative technologies for public buildings, in the Mediterranean Basin countries
Call reference	Strategic call
Key topic	Renewable energies and energy efficiency
Project duration	December 2012 - March 2016
Brief description	The rise in energy demand has aggravated the dependence on fossil fuels imports of most of the Mediterranean countries. With a forecasted increase by 70% in energy consumption over the next 20 years, there is an urgent need to secure alternative energy sources especially for buildings - commercial and residential - which share of total energy used is higher than 40%, i.e. superior to the industrial or transport sector. Within this complex energy scenario, DIDSOLIT-PB project implemented small-scale solar systems for public premises including innovative solutions such as photovoltaic glass-substitute sheets, solar cooling or photovoltaic coverage of buildings roofs and car parks shady-covers.
Contact details	Joaquim Vergés-Jaime (Autonomous University of Barcelona; joaquim.verges@uab.es). Website: www.didsolit.eu
Potential national follow-up	DIDSOLIT-PB project achieved all its expected results. The project managed to install 24 solar-power applications in 20 public buildings in each of the 7 Mediterranean Regions covered by the partnership, with a total installed power of 275.9 KW. The 24 solar applications are expected to generate about 435,210 KWh of renewable energy per year. Therefore, the total energy savings and CO2 emission reductions originated by the DIDSOLIT-PB initiative will be of 231 T per year and 5,147 T by the end of the solar applications' life span. Technology transfer best modalities and design of innovative dedicated financing instruments should be further considered and implemented within other programs/initiatives taking advantage of the experience of the "solar cluster" created with other ENPI funded projects.

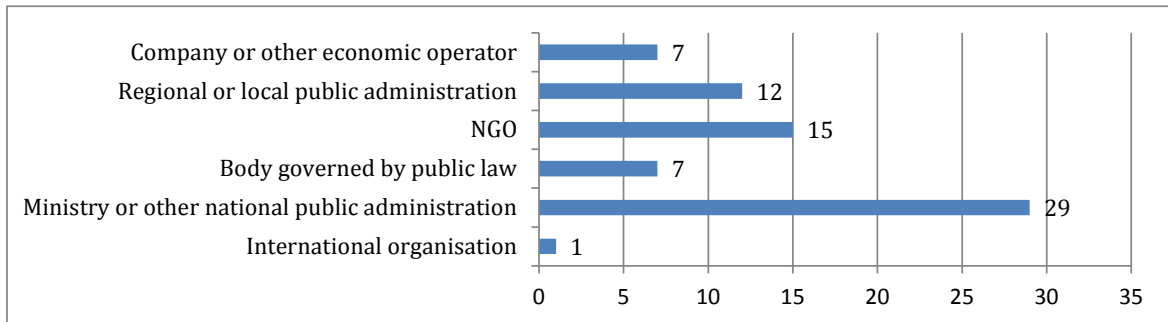
TUNISIA

In the framework of the ENPI CBC Med Programme, 70 organisations from Tunisia and 1 international organisation based in Tunisia participated in 49 projects with a total budget of €20.5 million (ENPI contribution: €18.2 million). Examples of successful projects are described below.

Overview



Type of actors involved



Project	LACTIMED - Local agro-clusters for typical and innovative Mediterranean dairy products
Call reference	Strategic call
Key topic	Economic growth and innovation processes
Project duration	November 2012 - December 2015
Brief description	The agricultural policies implemented during the last decades in the Mediterranean area have led to a strong dependence of the countries of the region on imports and to instable international markets. Adding to that strong demographic growth of certain Mediterranean countries as well as the changes in consumption patterns, can help to better understand why the agro-food sector has become a central element in the development of the Mediterranean area. LACTIMED project proposed a new approach focused on the dairy market. Under the project, over 100 actions were implemented in Alexandria (Egypt), Bekaa (Lebanon), Bizerte (Tunisia), Sicily (Italy) and Thessaly (Greece) to strengthen the production and distribution of traditional and innovative dairy products through the organization of local value chains, the support to producers and the promotion of their products on local and international markets.
Contact details	Mahjouba Zaiter (Pôle de Compétitivité de Bizerte; zmahjouba@voila.fr). Website: http://www.lactimed.eu
Potential national follow-up	In Tunisia, the dairy cattle and sheep sectors of Bizerte and Beja respectively face difficulties in milk supply, and the utmost need is to improve milk quality and optimise collection and access to finance. Two clusters were developed to jointly address these needs: in Bizerte for the cattle dairy sector, in Beja for the sheep dairy sector. The main purpose was to develop a pooled collection centre, encourage the processing of typical products and develop new products, pool specific equipment and services (veterinary assistance, technical assistance, and group purchase at advantageous prices), and help access training to preserve livestock farming methods and traditional management practices while fostering the growth of agro-tourism in the region. The participation of organisations supporting the dairy chain, financial institutions, federations and research institutes was an asset to further structure the dairy chain. The participation of the National Agricultural Bank the cluster helped to develop two innovative financial products which facilitated the financing of 153 breeders producing milk. Financing them through the cluster decreased the risk linked to their solvency and generated about 4.4 million dinars loans to acquire heifers (Tripartite loan) and to invest in their own farm (Interface loan). This initiative allowed small farmers generally excluded from financing to invest and increase or even double their herd, increasing their productivity and incomes. LACTIMED is a good practice that should be extended to other areas of Tunisia, in particular regarding the action facilitating access to finance for small dairy producers.

Project	AQUAKNIGHT - AQUA KNOWledge and Innovation transfer for water savinG in tHe mediTerranean basin
Call reference	Call 1 Standard
Key topic	Water management
Project duration	December 2011 - December 2014
Brief description	Mediterranean water resources are under stress, especially in the Southern and Eastern shores. In Jordan, Lebanon and Tunisia, water demand constantly increases, while water use efficiency can still be considered as imperfect. These are the two most critical factors regarding the sustainability of the most elementary earth resource: water. Under this concept, policies aiming at improving usage efficiency and at reducing losses and poor usage, are urgently needed. In this sense, AQUAKNIGHT project focused on optimizing consumption and minimizing the Non-Revenue Water (water not metered or billed to consumers) through the implementation of five pilot projects in the cities of Limassol (Cyprus), Genoa (Italy), Alexandria (Egypt), Tunis (Tunisia) and Aqaba (Jordan).
Contact details	Adnen Boubaker (SONEDE International; a.boubaker@sonede-inter.com)
Potential national follow-up	The participation of national bodies such as SONEDe and the project associates (HCWW, IMELS and WAJ) helped to increase the visibility of the project, therefore contributed in building financial, institutional and legal support for the sustainability of the project on a national basis. Also, the technology providers should make every effort to sustain the project results since they offer opportunities for expanding their collaboration with other Mediterranean countries.

Project	USUDS - Mediterranean Network for the promotion of Sustainable Urban Development Strategies and three new UDS
Call reference	Call 1 Standard
Key topic	Social inclusion
Project duration	October 2010 - October 2014
Brief description	Population and economic growth in the Mediterranean Sea Basin is nowadays mostly concentrated in urban areas. The improved quality of life of urban populations has become a determining factor for the development of the whole Mediterranean region. To support the development of the area, a system of socially and economically efficient cities should be fostered. USUDS project addressed the challenge of city development planning through the promotion of urban sustainable strategies and the exchange of knowledge. With that purpose in mind, the project focused on the implementation of three specific Urban Development Strategies (UDS) in the cities of Sousse, Saida and Laranca as well as on the creation of three Knowledge Transfer Centers in Málaga, Sfax and Al Fayhaa.
Contact details	Rafik Oualha (Sfax City Council; rafik.oualha@yahoo.fr). Website: http://www.usuds.org/
Potential national follow-up	In the city of Sousse, a participatory process was used for the design of the urban development strategy by involving key stakeholders, civil society and citizens in policy discussions and in the validation of the results, creating ownership of the proposed strategy and paving the way for the future governance of the plan. The main outcome of this participatory approach is the City Development Strategy under the title "Vision Sousse 2030 Inclusive, Attractive, Creative". Based on the 6 strategic objectives (an inclusive and egalitarian city, with balanced spatial development; heritage protection and support for certain cultural aspects; an attractive hub with sustainable and diverse tourism; an accessible city with a thoughtful and attractive design; a clean city with protected and valued resources; a model of local governance with an effective civil society sector). The development strategy of Sousse should receive further consideration and support in order to achieve its full implementation.



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