



Mediterranean Science, Policy, Research and Innovation Gateway

in cooperation with 

Training and capacity building on Horizon 2020 for Mediterranean NCPs, Research Managers and Researchers

Marrakech, Morocco, 11-13 June 2014

Rationale

MEDSPRING (www.medspring.eu) is an EU funded project with the objective to encourage and strengthen the Euro-Mediterranean Cooperation on Research and Innovation in relation to the following societal challenges: Resource efficiency (particularly Water), High Quality Affordable Food and Energy. It is a four-year (2013-2016) project funded by the 7th EU Research Framework Programme (CAPACITIES Programme – International Cooperation).

The event is the second one planned in the frame of the Capacity Building programme set by MEDSPRING on the new EU research framework programme Horizon2020 and is scheduled for 11-13 June in Marrakech, Morocco. The workshop draws on the training needs analysis, which was previously carried out by MedSpring and – most important – on inputs and suggestions provided by Mediterranean National Contact and Focal Points participating in the training workshop in Amman in December 2013 which was also dedicated to H2020. The training targets researchers and research managers/co-ordinators/administrators of public institutions in the MPCs as well as research affiliated entrepreneurs from the participating MPCs. The workshop deliberately wants to bring researchers and administrators together in order to increase awareness of their roles and interdependencies in securing reliable project participation and management.

The training is structured on a three days setting.

On Day 1, the plenary session of the workshop will familiarise participants with the overall programme design of H2020 and its novelties in comparison with FP7. It will also deepen the dimension “innovation” as well as call-topics which are most relevant for the Euro-Mediterranean cooperation. Day 2 will provide in-depth training on proposal writing and project management and project implementation for separate working groups. Day 3 will be dedicated to a fast-track brokerage via web, triggering match-making among researchers and enhancing partnership with EU researchers on topics of common interest.

The training will be both video streamed and recorded for registered participants, i.e. participants in previous workshops, respondents of MED-SPRING training needs and cluster analyses etc., other applicants in the MPCs who could not be considered for direct participation, researchers and research administrators in the MPCs, and EU researchers interested in cooperation with MED partners, especially on call topics within the three priority challenges.

For enhancing synergies among Euromediterranean cooperation projects, this training event will be organized in collaboration with the **INCONTACT 2020** project (www.ncp-incontact.eu), which promotes the international dimension of the European Research Policy towards Horizon 2020, aims at developing a platform for stimulating closer cooperation among Horizon 2020 NCPs and experts and disseminates information about Horizon 2020 funding opportunities.



Training on H2020 for Mediterranean NCPs

Marrakech, 11-13 June 2014

Venue: Palm Plaza Hotel

Programme

Wednesday 11 June – SESSION I

9h00 **Welcome** (MESFCRS, European Commission, MedSpring Coordinator, INCONTACT 2020)

9h20-9h30 **The role of MedSpring in supporting research cooperation**
Short outline of MedSpring key activities to support Euro-Mediterranean cooperation within H2020 and beyond

Speaker: Claudio Bogliotti, MedSpring Coordinator

9h30-10h30 **Introduction to Horizon 2020**
A general outline to introduce the new research programme, with a focus on the three main key objectives, the main new elements of the programme, the international cooperation dimension, innovation and SMEs. The presentation will last about 30 minutes and will be followed by open discussion.

Speaker: European Commission, DG Research and Innovation

10h30-11h00 *Coffee Break*

11h00 – 12h00 **Framing innovation in H2020 research**

This session aims at providing a comprehensive overview of how the innovation dimension should be successfully and effectively included in research proposals, particularly in those having a strong international connotation and addressing main societal challenges in the region (water, food, energy, health etc). Further, the issue of public-private partnerships, including SMEs, will be addressed and an envisaged project (Vallis Solaris) be presented.

Speakers: Sven Kreigenfeld, EPC, TU Dresden; Volker Wittwer, Fraunhofer Institute for Solar Energy



12h00 – 13h00 H2020 Web Portal

This session aims at getting familiar with the new research framework programme portal and at explicating its differences from CORDIS. The trainer will work with participants surfing the H2020 Portal, getting acquainted with the web-map, finding opportunities, reading and learning rules for participation, funding etc. The search of a specific call-topic and rules/guidelines will be simulated.

Speakers: Sabine Steiner-Lange, DLR / NCP Life Sciences

13:00-14:30 *Lunch break*

14h30-16h00 Deepening relevant call-topics 2015

This session will provide a detailed insight of call-topics relevant to Euro-Mediterranean research cooperation. Identified call-topics will be analysed and possibly used as a base for preparing a frame of interests expressed by Mediterranean researchers to be published on-line through the MedSpring AGORA and be visible to EU researchers. Outcomes will be used as a base for Day 3 activities. The presentation will be followed by open discussion and expression of interest in specific topics by participants.

Speakers: Claudio Bogliotti, CIHEAM-IAMB; Chiara Morini, CIHEAM-IAMB

16h00-16h20 *Coffee break*

16h20-16h30 INCONTACT 2020 project overview

Short presentation of the project key activities supporting the international cooperation in H2020.

Speaker: Elena Maffia, APRE

16h30-18h00 Have Your Say: Experiences & Expectations

An introduction to the Moroccan participation in previous EU-MED projects will be given and experiences of best practices and challenges shared. Participants from the host country as well as from other MED countries are invited to respond to the inputs and to add their own experiences with previous projects. The discussion should highlight success factors and lessons learned, which could be of interest for future projects. Thus, the audience is expected to play an active role by bringing their expectations regarding the new Framework Programme into the discussion.

Facilitator: Zeinab El-Sadr

Speaker: Mohammed Benboudia (MESFCRS)



Thursday 12 June - SESSION II

9h00- 13h00 **Training workshop on proposal writing**

This session aims at practical training/exercise on proposal writing for **two parallel working groups**. The workshop will familiarize participants with the main phases which a research partner should undertake when joining a proposal preparation. It will also reflect on requirements and standards of a proposal contribution under H2020. Finally, the session will include a fast-track exercise on proposal coordination by an MPC project participant, based on the stocktaking of H2020 call-topics presented in Day 1. Two trainers will support each working group, that will develop a case to be presented in plenary session.

Working group 1: Sabine Steiner-Lange, DLR + Moez Jebara, TESR

Working group 2: Sven Kreigenfeld, European Project Centre, TU Dresden + Zeinab el-Sadr, MHESR

13h00 – 14h30 *Lunch break*

14h30 – 17h30 **Training workshop on project management and implementation**

This session includes practical training/exercise on project negotiation and implementation for **two parallel groups**. The training will aim at successfully tackling the different issues and tasks to be addressed when negotiating as well as implementing the project, particularly partners management, Work Package management, task management, financial/resources management, reporting (technical and financial), dissemination and outreaching etc. (two trainers for each working group)

Working group 1: Raniero Chelli, UNIMED + Chiara Morini, CIHEAM

Working group 2: Elena Maffia, APRE / INCONTACT + Omar Amawi, HCST

17h30-18h30 **Presentation of work done by working groups (proposal making), discussion and wrap-up of the day**

Coffee breaks are scheduled for 10h30 and 16h00

20h00 (Bus departure) *Social dinner at restaurant “Chez Ali” on invitation of The Minister of Higher Education, Scientific Research and Training, Mr. Lahcen Daoudi*



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Friday 13 June – SESSION III

9h00-12h00 Fast-track brokerage on specific call topics

This session aims at encouraging bilateral/multilateral match-making among participants on H2020 call-topics which are relevant to Euro-Mediterranean Cooperation and in which participants expressed interest. The entire session is available on-line to the research web community, which will also have the opportunity to express interest in specific topics. Online participation of EU researchers of matching research interest will be encouraged and publicized by MedSpring Agora before the event.

9h00 Technical briefing of participants

9h30 Objective and scope of the event, introduction of people connected via WEB

9h45-10h45 On-line/streaming: participants express interest in call-topics 2015, describing expertise and inputs envisaged to projects and partnership

10h45-12h15 Training Room - WEB Community exchange Enhancing Euro-Mediterranean partnership

12h15-12h30 Summary and outline of follow-up measures