



MedSpring Project

Mediterranean Science, Policy, Research and Innovation Gateway

Final Conference

The MedSpring legacy for Euro-Mediterranean Cooperation on R&I

Brussels, 7 July 2017

Venue: A. Borschette Congress Center (CCAB) – European Commission - Rue Froissart 36, Brussels

Concept and draft agenda

MedSpring is an EU funded “*IncoNeT*” support action, aimed at strengthening Research and Innovation networking, cooperation and dialogue on water, food and energy among EU and non-EU Mediterranean countries. The project, whose activities started in February 2013, has several interlinked objectives and is implemented through different types and levels of activities, ranging from management of a Euro-Mediterranean thematic think tank to the implementation of capacity building activities, training, stakeholder and institutional awareness raising, mobility of young innovative idea carriers through brokerage, networking and innovation events. The event aims at presenting the activities and results of the project considered as the main legacy of MedSpring. To better convey the concept that has characterised and supported Medspring throughout its implementation, MedSpring partners will be joined by testimonials- young innovators, researchers and cooperation actors- who can bear witness to the project positive impact and benefits while outlining remaining gaps and constraints. The members of the project External Advisory Board (senior and high level policy and research testimonials) will also intervene. The event intends to reach and engage in an open debate different people and stakeholders interested in Euro-Mediterranean cooperation on research & innovation: EU officers, Parliamentary members, research organisations, innovation actors, youths, private sector, public / governmental administrations, NGOs (including representatives of the civil society). The discussion will deliver a “reflection note” on new tools and actions needed to fill remaining gaps “after MedSpring” and capitalise / valorise the project legacy.

AGENDA

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| 09.00 | Registration |
| 09.30-10.00 | Welcome addresses: European Commission, MHESR – Egypt (Deputy Coordinator), CIHEAM – Bari (Co-ordinator) |
| 10.00-10.15 | The MedSpring narrative (Claudio Bogliotti, CIHEAM-Bari) |
| 10.15-11.45 | Meet MedSpring testimonials (Chair: Omar Amawi, Jordan) |
| | <i>This session aims at taking stock of MedSpring milestones related to the strengthening of science-policy-society dialogue and cooperation, through different testimonials involved in MedSpring EMEG, brokerage and Agorà: industry, innovation actors, researchers, young entrepreneurs, other projects / programmes:</i>
Ayman Rabi (Palestine); Latifa Bousselmi (Tunisia), Alessandro Stefani (Italy), Yossef Ben-Meir (Morocco), Pavlos Georgiadis (Greece), MedSpring Euro-Med Hackathon winner/s, Barilla (Italy), Seeds & Chips, 5TOI, 4PRIMA. |
| 11.45-12.15 | Coffee break |



12.15-13.15 Meet MedSpring actors (facilitator: CNRS, Lebanon)

This session aims at discussing the added value and impacts of MedSpring on the Euro-Mediterranean cooperation on R&I by bringing the voice of national research institutions involved in the project. The session will also address the limit of an action like MedSpring and discuss future prospects. European Commission - DG R&I will also intervene in the panel. Pannelists will share and discuss with all participants how to MedSpring has contributed to improve policy dialogue and what is needed to further improve it. The discussion will also help to identify themes and challenges outside the thematic frame of PRIMA, with the aim of supporting other needs and priorities in the region. EC-DG R&I, TESR-MESRS (Tunisia), MHESR (Egypt), MESRSFC (Morocco), CSIC (Spain), CNR (Italy), MCST (Malta).

13.15-14h15 Open discussion and delivery (chair: Claudio Bogliotti)

This session will engage all participants in an open discussion with the aim of delivering a comprehensive frame of recommendations to improve policy dialogue and increase impact of Euro-Mediterranean cooperation on R&I.

14.15-15.00 Networking lunch

Expected participants:

- European Commission (Cristina Russo, Christopher Gauci, H2020 thematic officers, DG NEAR)
- Members of European Parliament
- MedSpring partners
- Members of the External Advisory Board
- MedSpring Testimonials
- Other projects (5TOI, 4PRIMA)
- Industry
- Stakeholders
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