

Fact sheet IncoNet MIRA

status: August 2009



Project title: Mediterranean Innovation and Research Coordination Action - MIRA
Web page: www.miraproject.eu
Start of the project: 01.01.2008
Duration: 48 months
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Project partners

	Name	Acronym	Country
1	Consejo Superior de Investigaciones Científicas	CSIC	Spain
2	Direction de la Technologie. Ministère de la education Supérieure, de la Formation des Cadres et de la recherche Scientifique	DT-MENESFCRS	Morocco
3	Institut de Recherche pour le Développement	IRD	France
4	Direction General de Recherche	DGSRT	Tunisia
5	Ministry of Higher education and State for Scientific Research	MHESR	Egypt
6	International Bureau of the Federal Ministry of Education and Research at the Project Management Agency c/o German Aerospace Center (DLR)	PT-DLR	Germany
7	Consiglio Nazionale delle Ricerche	CNR	Italy
8	National Hellenic Research Foundation	NHRF	Greece
9	Direction de la Recherche Scientifique et du Développement Technologique	DRSDT	Algeria
10	Turkish Academy of Sciences	TUBA	Turkey
11	Malta Council for Science and Technology	MCST	Malta
12	Higher Council for Science and Technology	HCST	Jordan
13	CIHEAM-Istituto Agronomico Mediterraneo di Bari	CIHEAM	Italy
14	Euro-Mediterranean Universities Network	TETHYS	France
15	WIP GmbH und Co.	WIP	Germany
16	Centre de Développement des Energies Renouvelables	CDER	Algeria

	Name	Acronym	Country
17	Israel-Europe R&D Directorate	ISERD	Israel
18	Academy of Scientific Research & Technology	ASRT	Egypt
19	Conseil National de la Recherche Scientifique	CNRS	Lebanon
20	Autonomous Government of Madrid	MADRI+D	Spain
21	Arab Open University	AOU	Lebanon
22	The Scientific & Technological research Council of Turkey	TUBITAK	Turkey
23	Ministerio de Educación y Ciencia	MEC	Spain
24	Directorate General of Development & Scientific Research	DGDSC	Palestinian-administered areas
25	Observatoire National des Sciences et de la Technologie	ONST	Tunisia
26	National Centre for Scientific and Technological Research	CNRST	Morocco
27	British Council	BC	United Kingdom
28	Fundação para a Ciência e Tecnologia	FCT	Portugal

General information about IncoNet-Projects

Background: Strengthen the bi-regional Dialogue between countries of the European Research Area (ERA) and the target region.

Objectives:

INCO-Net projects are aimed at establishing *bi-regional dialogues* that will:

- Promote and structure the participation of third countries in the activities of FP7.
- Promote regional integration and will lead to the identification and the prioritisation of common research areas of mutual interest and benefit.
- Facilitate the uptake and use of common identified research areas and the monitoring of performance and impacts of international S&T cooperation across the Specific Programmes of FP7.

Activities:

- Dialogue:
 - Establish a Fora for active and constant exchange of views between European and non- European stakeholders

- Strengthen the synergies between international S&T dialogues and the objectives of the external relations actions
- Exchange of views with third country policy makers to focus on interdisciplinary issues with a real need for coordination of S&T policies and new rules that arise from the globalisation of research and S&T cooperation.
- Identify areas with potential for enhanced co-ordination with Member States and Associated States on the one hand, and the third countries covered by the INCO-NET on the other
- Implementation and Dissemination activities:
 - Setting up or strengthening platforms for strategic analysis and anticipation with a focus on connecting global trends and issues to regional specificities
 - Setting regional networks / fora with all relevant stakeholders
 - Increase awareness and dissemination of FP7 activities, their goal and tools
 - Disseminating results
- Monitoring and review:
Continuous monitoring and review of ongoing cooperation activities

Project Description

The objective of the MIRA project is the promotion of the dialogue in research and innovation between the EU and the MPC countries (Mediterranean Partner Countries). MIRA strives thus further deepening the regional cooperation within the framework of the EU Neighbourhood Policy and the Union for the Mediterranean. It is in line with the objectives of the Monitoring Committee for the Euro-Mediterranean S & T Cooperation in RTD "(MoCo).

For its implementation six Work Packages (WP) have been identified:

- WP1: Management of MIRA and Setting of the Technical Platform
- WP2: Observatory of the EU-MPC Cooperation in S&T
- WP3: Capacities building in the MPC for participation in the FP7 and support to the IP
- WP4: Enhancing the EU-MPC S&T Cooperation
- WP5: Integration of initiatives and support to the action of the MoCo
- WP6: Awareness and dissemination activities on the EU-MPC S&T Cooperation

Role of the IB

The IB is co-coordinator of WP 4 and within this WP responsible for the realisation of thematic workshops aiming at formulating SICAs (Specific International Cooperation Actions) within FP 7. In addition the IB is active player related to the discussion on shaping the Euro-Mediterranean Innovation Space and the design of technology transfer measures. Finally, the IB is active in WP 5.

Highlights

Since its launch in January 2008, MIRA has developed a comprehensive web site and users can find relevant information and upcoming events on the project's home page (<http://www.miraproject.eu/>). The kick-off meeting for the project was held in Carmona Spain (10.-11. January 2008).

Within WP 4 – under responsibility of the IB – a successful Screening Conference has been organised within the framework of the MIRA Coordination Action, held in Egypt on April 16 – 17, 2008. It sought to make the “state of the art” of the Euro-Mediterranean Cooperation in S&T by analysing past experiences of the Framework Programme and the MEDA actions, and building on these to identify new needs and the means of improving this cooperation. The identification of research priorities of common interest (SICAs) was one of the main objectives of the conference. Another important objective of the conference was to reach agreement on concrete measures to initiate the Euro-Mediterranean Innovation discussion platform.

Five thematic workshops for the formulation of SICAs within WP 4 have been carried out in 2009 on basis of the findings of the screening conference:

1. Environment (26.-27. January 2009 in Cairo)
2. Energy (23.-24. March 2009 in Cairo)
3. Health (4.-5. June 2009 auf Malta)
4. ICT (18.-19. June 2009 in Istanbul)
5. Food, agriculture, fisheries and biotechnology (13.-14. July 2008 in Bari/ Italy)

State of affairs and intermediate results

The management board of the MIRA project met in Rabat on 23 February 2008 and confirmed that the project is on time and fulfilled its expected deliverables. In the following an overview on the most important activities is given:

WP 3: „Capacity Building“ trainings

- 11.-12. May 2009: Training for Information Points in Tunis
- 18.-20. July 2009: Training for FP 7 Information Points form Egypt, Morocco, Lebanon, Tunisia, Algeria, Syria and Jordan

WP 2: Workshop on “Scientific Indicators and Cooperation Measures”, March 2009

WP 4:

- Realisation of the „Screening Conference“, April 2008
- Realisation of five thematic workshops for the formulation of SICAs (January-July 2009)
- Pilot action technology transfer activities (e.g. questionnaire)
- Design of activities related to the discussion of the „Euro-Mediterranean Innovation Space“

WP 5: Communication with MoCo

For further information please consult:

<http://www.miraproject.eu/public%20documents%20library>.

Planned activities 2009

The results of the thematic workshops will be evaluated, synthesised in a report and communicated to the MoCo for endorsement and to the EU-Commission. The report will be presented in September. Furthermore, the programming of the EMIS Discussion Platform is currently under processing. Through a task force the IB is actively involved in the further development of the EMIS conception in particular regarding the elements innovation and technology transfer.

„Capacity Building“ trainings within WP 3 will take place in October in Bari, Italy (6.-7. October 2009), for example.

Source: International Bureau of the Federal Ministry of Education and Research