



PRIMA Joint Programme

**Partnership for Research and Innovation in
the Mediterranean**

Partnership for Research and Innovation in
the Mediterranean

Carolina Rodríguez
European Commission - DG RTD/I
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Background

PROPOSAL FOR A JOINT PROGRAMME: PARTNERSHIP FOR RESEARCH AND INNOVATION IN THE MEDITERRANEAN AREA (PRIMA)

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

Up to 2014:

Cypriot Presidency: commitment to establish a long-term structured partnership in R&I in the Mediterranean area (July 2013)

Euro-Mediterranean conference on Research and Innovation (Barcelona 2012)

5 December 2014:

In its conclusions, the Competitiveness Council "invites the Commission [...] to assess as soon as possible whether a participation of the Union in the PRIMA Joint Programme on the basis of Article 185 TFEU is justified by the scope of the objectives pursued and the scale of the resources required"

23 December 2014:

Submission of the Art. 185 PRIMA proposal by MS and third countries

2015:

Commissioner Moedas asks the EC services to initiate the procedure for an Art. 185 and launch of the Impact Assessment process

PRIMA – Objectives

Art. 185 TFEU - PRIMA, the Partnership for Research and Innovation in the Mediterranean Area, will

- *make integrated water management and agro-food systems in the Mediterranean Area more climate-resilient, efficient, cost-effective and sustainable*
 - *develop fully piloted and demonstrated joint innovative solutions by pooling know-how and financial resources*
 - *address up-stream problems such as water scarcity, food security, health, well-being and migration*
- **Goal:** *to achieve maximum integration at scientific, management and financial levels among all Participating States*
 - **Duration:** *10 years*
 - **Start of the initiative:** *2018*

PRIMA – Budget and Participation

Current number of Participating States: 19

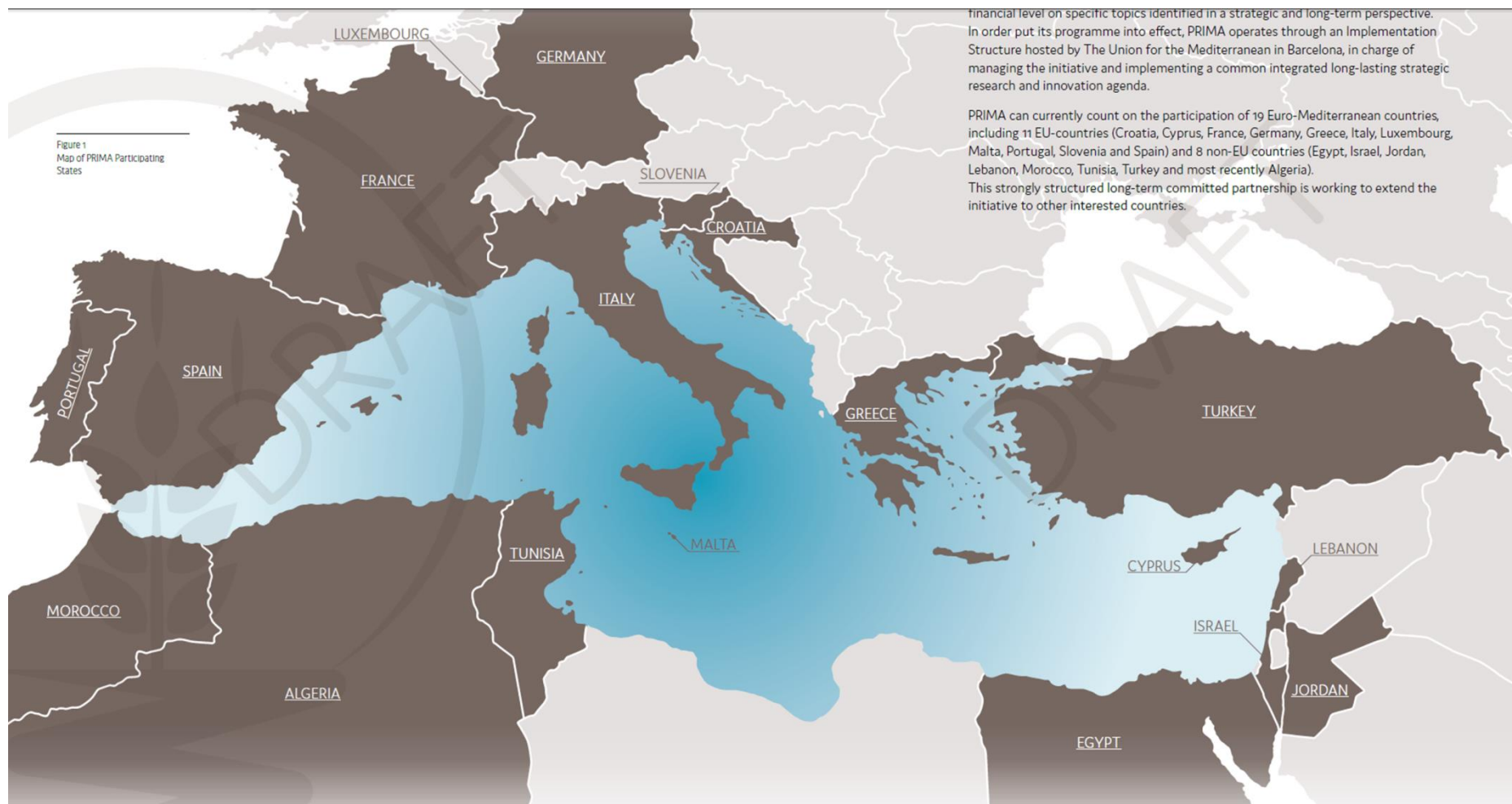
- 11 EU Member States: Cyprus, France, Germany, Portugal, Luxembourg, Greece, Italy, Malta, Spain, Croatia, Slovenia
- 3 Horizon 2020 Associated Third Countries: Israel, Tunisia, Turkey
- 5 Horizon 2020 non-Associated Third Countries: Egypt, Lebanon, Morocco, Jordan and Algeria

Current budget: EUR 489 million

- EU contribution: EUR 220 million
- National contributions: EUR 289 million
- In-kind contributions: EUR 121,5 million



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Commission Proposal

Budgetary Implications

EU contribution as part of Horizon 2020 approx.:

✓ **DG AGRI:**

- ✓ **Societal Challenge 2** "Research and innovation related to agriculture- Securing sufficient supplies of safe and high quality food"

✓ **DG R&I:**

- ✓ **Societal Challenge 2** "Food Security, Sustainable Agriculture and Forestry, Marine, Maritime and Inland Water Research and the Bio-economy"
- ✓ **Societal Challenge 5** "Climate Action, environment, Resource Efficiency and Raw Materials"
- ✓ **Industrial Leadership**

Legislative Framework

Evolution of the Basic Act:

- 18 October 2016: Adoption Commission proposal
- October 2016 – April 2017: EU Council and Parliament approve their preliminary positions
- 11 April 2017: preliminary agreement in Trilogue

Next steps:

- 26 April/30 May 2017: internal procedures Council/EP
- June 2017: formal adoption at Parliament
- End-June 2017: formal adoption at Council

Main Elements of PRIMA Basic Act

- **Architecture of PRIMA:** *2-pillar structure for the management of the financial contributions*
- **North-South balance in participation:** *a balanced Euro-Mediterranean cooperation will be ensured*
- **"Free-riders":** *on condition of an adequate financial contribution, other countries may take part in PRIMA*
- **Financial Guarantees:** *guarantees may be limited if certain criteria are met*
- **Technology Readiness Levels (TRLs):** *a wide range of TRLs in both pillars will be covered*

CSA 4PRIMA

- *Partners: Italy (Coordinator), Cyprus, Egypt, France, Germany, Greece, Slovenia, Jordan, Lebanon, Malta, Morocco, Portugal, Romania, Spain, Turkey, Tunisia*
- *elaborates PRIMA's Strategic Research and Innovation Agenda (SRIA)*
- *SRIA process started in May 2016*
 - *Public Consultation I: September 2016*
 - *Public Consultation II: 2 – 31 May 2017,*
link: <http://4prima.org/content/strategic-research-and-innovation-agenda-sria>

PRIMA – Strategic Research and Innovation Agenda (SRIA)

SRIA's strategic objectives are

- to formulate a comprehensive long-term R&I agenda to integrate national and regional R&I programmes from both North and South to start implementation from 2018*
- to address the region's complex, transnational, multi-sectorial and inter-connected challenges jointly, by both EU and non-EU Mediterranean countries, on an equal footing*

SRIA – 3 Thematic Areas



MANAGEMENT OF WATER

Integrated and sustainable management of water for arid and semi-arid Mediterranean areas



FARMING SYSTEMS

Sustainable farming systems under Mediterranean environmental constraints



AGRO-FOOD VALUE CHAIN

Sustainable Mediterranean agro-food value chain for regional and local development.

Area 1 – Management of Water

3 Priorities



1/ WATER- SAVING SOLUTIONS

To test and stimulate adoption of context-tailored water-saving solutions. In particular in agriculture



2/ LAND AND WATER SUSTAINABILITY

To improve land and water sustainability in arid and semi-arid watersheds



3/ WATER GOVERNANCE SYSTEM

To elaborate and stimulate adoption of new policies and protocols for the governance of water management system

Area 2 – Farming Systems

2 Priorities



4/ SMART AND SUSTAINABLE FARMING

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



5/ PESTS AND PATHOGENS IN FARMING

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

Area 3 – Agro-Food Value Chain

3 Priorities



6/ NUTRITION AND HEALTH

To innovate in the Mediterranean food products based on Mediterranean diet heritage and to enhance the links between nutrition, physical activity and health



7/ REDUCE LOSSES AND WASTES

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



8/ NEW AGRO-FOOD BUSINESS MODELS

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

Cross-cutting Themes

- *Soil Sustainability*
- *Food Security*
- *Digital Revolution*
- *Socio-Economic Research and Stakeholders Involvement*
- *Capacity Building*

Integrated Approach (I)

- *Long-term collaboration between Euro-Mediterranean countries*
- *Alignment between national programmes*
- *Alignment with European Research Area for the Neighbourhood*

Integrated Approach (II)

Expected Outcome:

-  **ADOPTION OF SOLUTIONS** The creation of value in the developing economies;
-  **COOPERATION** The improvement of living and work conditions making societies more inclusive and sustainable;
-  **INNOVATIVE POLICIES** The reinforcement of Research Euro-Mediterranean cooperation, with positive spillover effect on the European Neighborhood Policy;
-  **BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT** The strengthening and development of traditional and new businesses, through the uptake of innovation and knowledge;
-  **SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS (SDGS) IMPLEMENTATION** in the Mediterranean area according to the Agenda 2030.
-  **JOB OPPORTUNITIES** The creation of knowledge-based jobs and competences;
-  **TOOLS DATA MANAGEMENT** The spread of the use of a common set of tools concerning data management, data elaboration and research methods;

Expected Direct Impacts

- ***Integration of national R&I programmes and activities in the Mediterranean area***
- ***Common innovative and integrated solutions***
- ***Increased capacity to innovate***
- ***Making the water-food sector attractive for private investments***
- ***Greater opportunities for food industry and other SMEs and companies***

Expected Indirect Impacts

- ***Large-scale aggregate economic impacts***
- ***Improvement of working conditions***
- ***Political Stability and reduced migration***
- ***Soil quality restoration***
- ***Biodiversity conservation***
- ***Efficient use of resources and adaptation to climate change***

→ ***Indicators:*** to be selected in line with UN SDGs #2, 6, 15

Added Value of PRIMA

- ***Current national, bilateral, transnational programmes to improve R&I on water provision and food systems not sufficient to tackle cross-border issues***
- ***Added value of action at EU level:***
 - *Attaining scale and scope and achieving a critical mass of resources*
 - *Leverage effects and delivery on impacts and broader implications to the EU's external policies and migration*
 - *International leadership, global cooperation and the European Neighbourhood South*

For which third countries are international agreements needed?

(Bilateral) international agreement with the following **5 countries**:

- **Algeria;**
- **Egypt;**
- **Jordan;**
- **Lebanon;**
- **Morocco.**

** The third countries associated to H2020 **Israel, Tunisia and Turkey** are already allowed to participate according to the H2020 Association Agreement.*



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