



PARTNERSHIP FOR RESEARCH AND INNOVATION IN THE MEDITERRANEAN AREA

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The Mediterranean Area is united by several common challenges to deal jointly, such as:

Exploitation of natural resources, climate change, urbanisation



The sustainable production and provision of adequate quantity and quality of food and water



Socio-economic conditions, wellbeing and health of people, and the societal stability of the Region /the whole EU

In this context, in recent years our cooperation has been fruitful:

→ Many Research and Innovative cooperation initiatives/networks (such as MEDSPRING, ARIMNET, ERANETMED)

→ Bilateral (state-to-state and EU-single state)

→ Multilateral (framework programme or major regional programmes)

PRIMA

Partnership for Research and Mediterranean Cooperation

A Joint programme co-financed by European Commission (ex Art. 185 of TFUE), on food systems and water resources for the development of inclusive, sustainable and healthy Euro-Mediterranean societies

- PRIMA is the **most ambitious joint programme ever to be undertaken by both sides of the Mediterranean**
- PRIMA will be implemented on the basis of the **principles of co-ownership, mutual interest and shared benefits.**

PRIMA Main features and principles

➤ **Co-ownership**

Equal footing, mutual interest and shared benefits among all participating countries

➤ **Integration at different levels**

▪ ***Scientific level:***

Multi-annual joint implementation of a common MED-wide strategic agenda optimizing national R&I activities and programmes

▪ ***Management level:***

Joint management; reduction of transaction costs; avoid duplications; alignment of existing programmes

▪ ***Financial level:***

High level and solid financial commitments by participating states

➤ **Long-term orientation, continuity**

With a 10 year perspective of research cooperation, at least

➤ **Stakeholder involvement**

Institutional relationships with MED stakeholders (end users, communities, enterprises, governments)

PRIMA Participating Countries:

15 Countries

- **9 EU Member States:** Cyprus, France, Germany, Greece, Italy, Luxembourg, Malta, Portugal and Spain
- **4 Mediterranean Partner Countries:** Egypt, Lebanon, Morocco, Jordan
- **2 Associated Countries:** Israel and Tunisia

Budget of PRIMA: around €400 million (of which €210 million from Participating States and €200 million from the EU)

- Countries already participating to PRIMA activities include Czech Republic, Romania and Turkey
- The Consortium is also working in order to enlarge the Initiative to other interested Countries (Algeria, Croatia, Montenegro, Slovenia..)

To develop innovative solutions and promote their adoption for improving the efficiency and sustainability of food productions and water provision

in order to support an **inclusive well-being and socio-economic development** in the Mediterranean Area

within the framework of a **reinforced Euro-Mediterranean co-operation**

PRIMA Specific Objectives

- To enhance knowledge and unlock its innovation potential for **food security and water availability**
- To advance existing knowledge and innovations for **water and food quality and safety**

PRIMA Operational Objectives grouped in 3 pillars

PILLAR 1

Sustainable management of water for arid and semi-arid Med areas

PRIMA OBJECTIVES

- 2. To test and stimulate adoption of context-tailored water-saving solutions, in particular in agriculture
- 7. To improve land and water sustainability in arid and semi-arid watersheds
- 8. To elaborate and stimulate adoption of new policies and protocols for the governance of water management systems

PILLAR 2

Sustainable farming systems under Med environmental constraints

PRIMA OBJECTIVES

- 1. To develop smart and sustainable farming systems to maintain natural resources and to increase production efficiency
- 5. To design and promote the adoption of novel approaches to reduce the impact of pests and pathogens in farming

PILLAR 3

Mediterranean food value chain for regional and local development

PRIMA OBJECTIVES

- 3. To innovate in the Mediterranean food products based on Mediterranean diet heritage and to enhance the links between nutrition and health
- 4. To find context-adapted solutions to increase food and water chain efficiency, and reduce losses and wastes
- 6. To conceive and implement innovative, quality oriented models in agro-business as potential sources of new jobs and economic growth

Monitoring PRIMA impacts through SDGs



Pillar 1: Sustainable management of water for arid and semi-arid Med areas

Objectives

-Finding solutions to cope with increasing water demand and decreasing water availability through:

- *A better understanding of the biophysical processes affecting the water cycle*
- *The implementation of novel technical and water governance solutions*

-Securing water availability both in terms of quality and quantity for the environment and the economic growth within the area:

- *Water resources availability and quality within catchments and aquifers*
- *Integrated water management*
- *Irrigation technologies and practices*
- *Use of alternative water resources. Technologies and governance models*

Pillar 2: Sustainable farming systems under Mediterranean environmental constraints



Objectives

Increasing efficiency and sustainability of agriculture, aquaculture and fisheries:

- *Adaptation of agriculture to climate change*
- *Sustainable productive ecosystems*
- *Integrated animal and plant pest and disease management*

Finding solutions to improve farming systems capacity to intensify productivity:

- *Farming Systems able to create employment and territorial development*



Pillar 3: Mediterranean food value chain for regional and local development

Objectives

Valorising the nutritional aspects and properties of Mediterranean food by relying on Mediterranean biodiversity, traditional knowledge and cultural heritage

Addressing the need for:

- Solutions to enhance organisation and coordination in the food chains to improve efficiency and waste valorisation
- Greater involvement of rural and industrial stakeholders
- Organisational innovations (business models, planning and control systems, e-infrastructure for data sharing and integration, as well as performance measurement systems) to improve competitiveness of both food firms and value chains and promote jobs and regional economic development

4 PRIMA - CSA



PARTNERSHIP FOR RESEARCH AND INNOVATION IN THE MEDITERRANEAN AREA

4PRIMA will provide PRIMA initiative with the necessary support and preparatory actions needed in order to deliver a long term partnership with secured funding for R&I cooperation from the participating countries and leverage effect at regional and European level



In particular, the ***main outcome*** of the 4PRIMA project will be:

Definition of the PRIMA SRIA

- **research priorities** to be carried out in the short-medium term and in the long term
- **research actions and relative results to meet operational objectives** aiming to find innovative solutions to improve socio economic conditions and the level of integration of Mediterranean societies

Methodology - SRIA will be defined from the following sources:

A) Mapping of Research and Innovation Programmes/Instruments

B) Stakeholders opinion

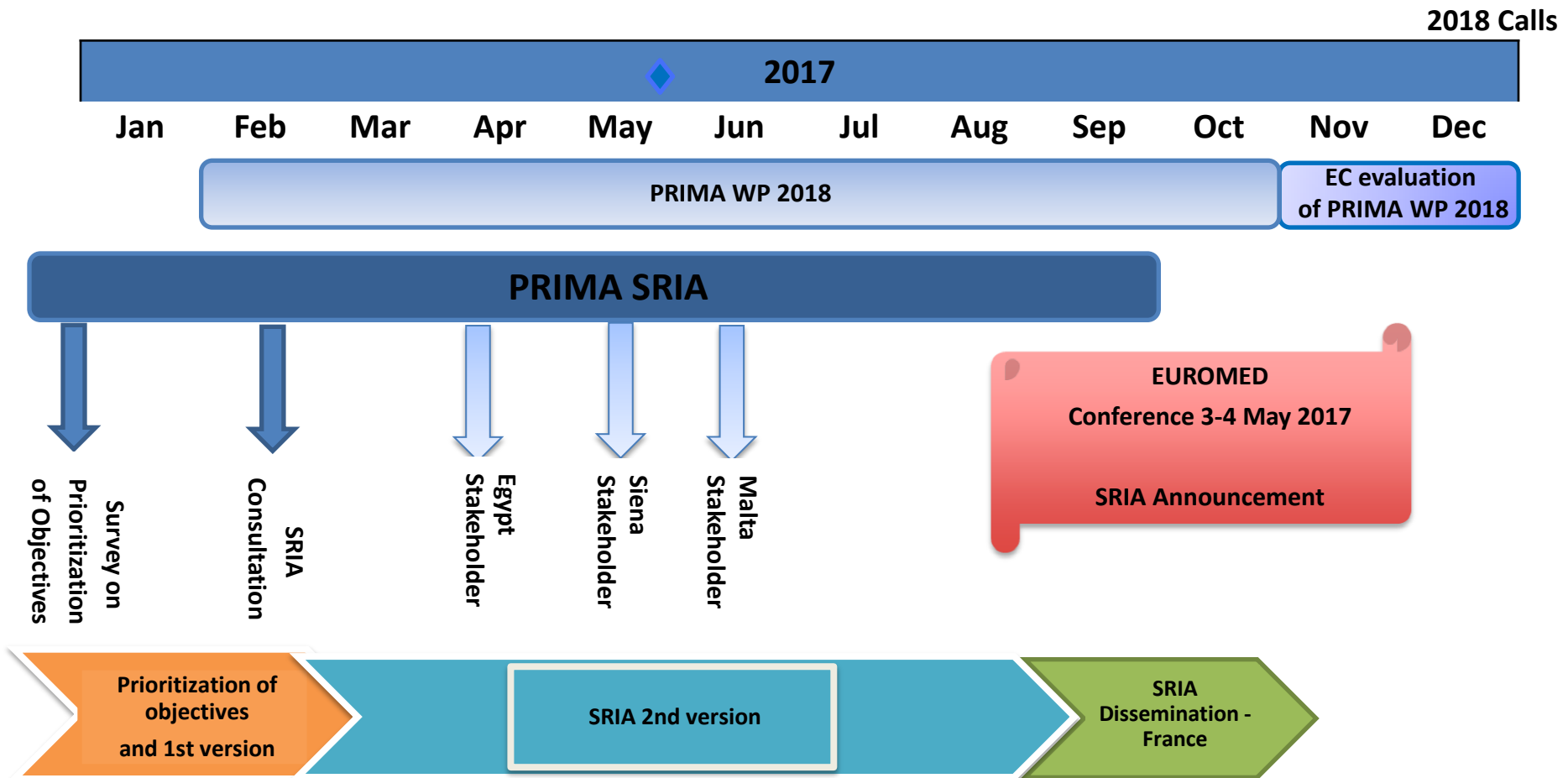
- face to face fora:
 - **Lebanon**
 - Tunisia
 - Egypt
 - Siena
 - Malta

- web based consultations:
 - Survey on Prioritization of Objectives
 - SRIA Consultation

C) Relevance with SDGs (Sustainable Development Goals)

Timeline

- ❖ **The core of the SRIA will be validated in Malta at the Stakeholder event.** Panel experts for the technical meeting in Malta (3 May, 2017)
- ❖ **The finalised SRIA will be released in September 2017 (Montpellier France)**



Stakeholders role

To identify and involve relevant Stakeholders that should be engaged in the activities on various levels is crucial, considering the objectives (general and specific ones) for PRIMA

The significant importance of the Stakeholders role is highlighted in:

- the foreseen **long-term commitment** through a well-structured and integrated partnership
- the **joint integrated scientific approach** that should be stimulated after the alignment process of research and innovation programmes on food systems and water use in the Euro–Mediterranean Area
- the **desired socio-economic impact**, through innovation on water management and food security between public and private actors within the Mediterranean area, which requires high level of synergy and awareness between various target groups

Stakeholders engagement fora

Geopolitical aspects related to the themes of food security and water management

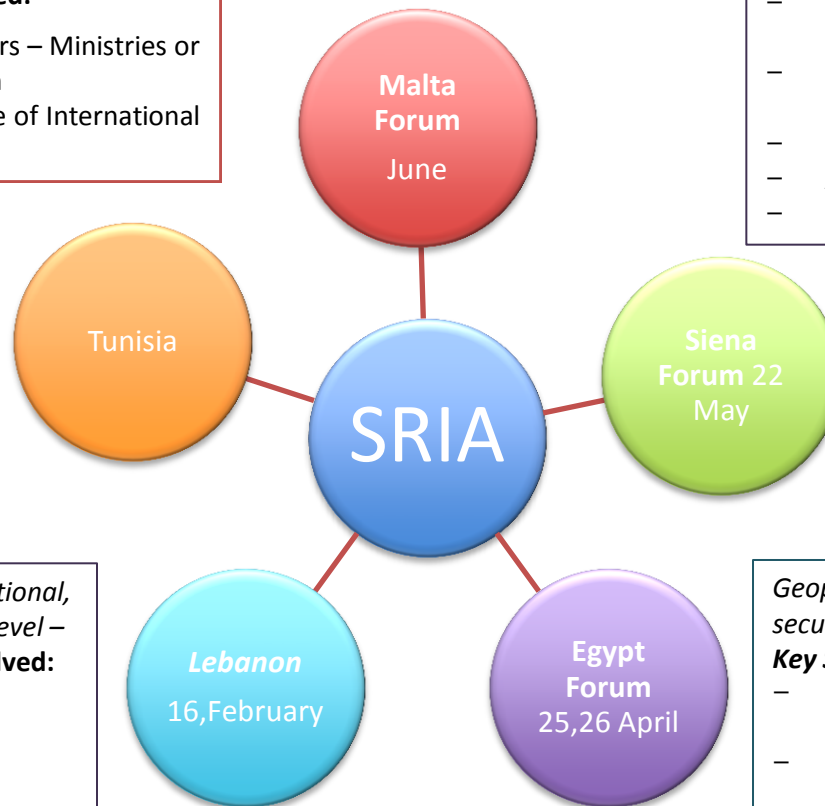
Key Stakeholders to be involved:

- Public Officials – Governors – Ministries or Ministries' representation
- The official representative of International Funding Organizations

Involvement of Agrifood Business Community

Key Stakeholders to be involved:

- Representatives of Businesses belonging to each of the Agrifood value chain phase
- Innovators and entrepreneurs especially young ones, and their representative associations
- Consumers and their representative associations
- Agrifood industrial policy makers
- Financial Institutions



Alignment of Research at National, European and International level –

Key Stakeholders to be involved:

- national R&I funding institutions, agencies & programme managers
- Representatives of countries contributing in international funding projects

Geopolitical aspects related to the themes of food security and water management

Key Stakeholders to be involved:

- Public Officials – Governors – Ministries or Ministries' representation
- The official representative of International Funding Organizations
- GSO

The proposed SRIA Structure

- **Foreword**

- **Executive Summary**

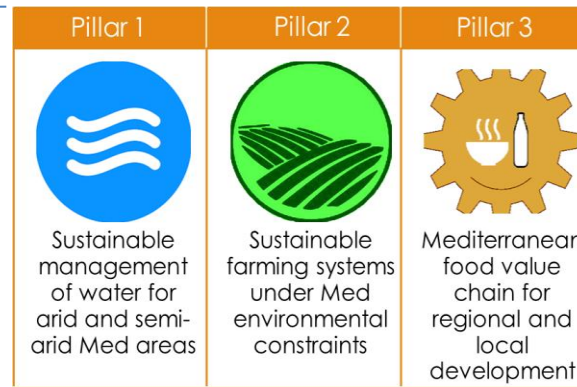
- **Vision and Objectives**

«A more inclusive, healthy and socio-economically developed Mediterranean area through greater efficiency and sustainability of food productions and water provisions»

- **Strategic Context**

- **Strategy**

- **Overall Impacts**



- Rationale
- Scope
- Research challenges & priorities to be addressed
- Expected outputs
- Main actions
- Expected impacts

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Scope of this Forum

Possible alignment of National research programmes with the PRIMA priorities

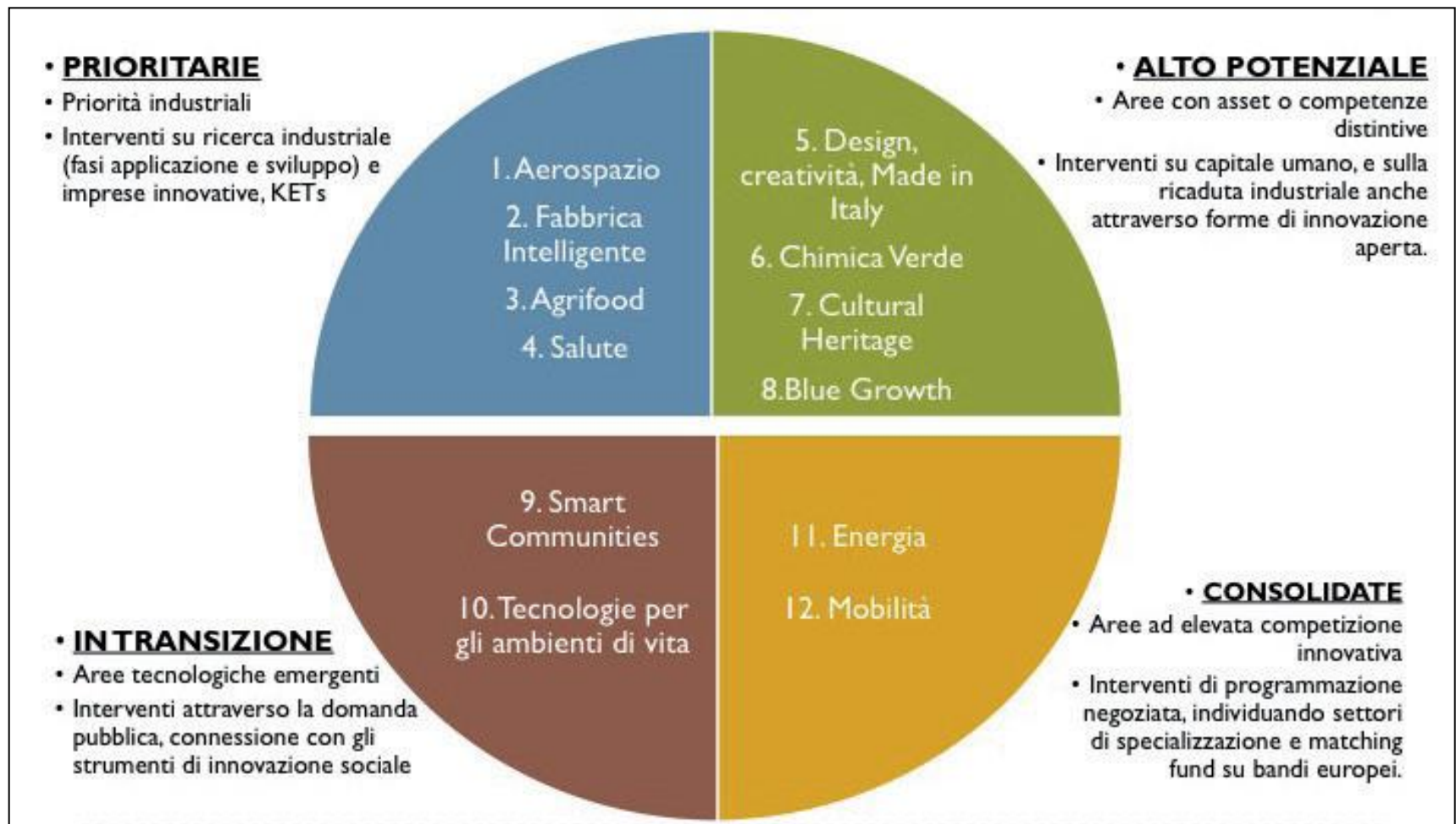
Italian Programmes/Instruments/Initiatives on food and water, which can be "flagged" as PRIMA:

❖ National Research Programme (PNR) 2015-2020

The program identifies **12 areas of specialization** in order to prioritize the most promising applied research initiatives. In particular, **Agrifood** represent one of the priority fields of specialization in applied research.

In this contest MIUR has encouraged the creation of specific **Technological Clusters**, as permanent dialogue platforms between the public research system and companies.

Alignment of National Programmes with PRIMA



Source: PNR 2015-2020

The National Agrifood Technology Cluster (CL.A.N)

Goals: create shared technology roadmaps, opportunities and technological prospective scenarios for the Italian industry on fields of agriculture, food and marine; more generally, provide the cognitive tools for supporting the development of informed policies and address of funds dedicated to industrial research.

The Cluster brings together the main actors of the food industry, integrating enterprises representatives of all the productive sectors and representatives of research at national level, in order to include the structures which allow the connection to the national economy. In particular:

- 87 companies (Large and Small / Medium Enterprises) of the agri-food sector
- 5 research centers with independent legal personality promoted by one or more of business entities
- 16 consortia and consortium companies with a majority private participation
- 4 scientific and technological parks
- 45 universities, research institutions and research bodies
- 17 Associations / Organizations

The National Agrifood Technology Cluster (CL.A.N)

4 main lines of intervention:

- *Nutrition and health*
- *Food safety*
- *Sustainability*
- *Food production* – which envisages also the management of the supply chain in the food industry

Projects financed:

Safe&Smart - *New enabling technologies for food safety and the integrity of the food chain in a global scenario and Training new professionals "smart" for the safety of food chains* - around 10M€

PROS.IT – *Promotion of consumer health: nutritional enhancement of food products of the Italian tradition and Highly qualified human capital formation experienced in the design of innovative foods* – around 9,8M€

THANK YOU!

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