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The MedGeneration project has come to an end on 30 June 2016, after a **30 months** implementation period in Jordan, Lebanon and Palestine, **more than 1280 persons directly involved**, **49 operations** organised, a community of **300 Diaspora identified and mobilised**, more than **40 entrepreneurs coached** by 11 Diaspora talents etc.



MedGeneration
Mobilising Diasporas
for the economic
development of the
Mediterranean countries

This project is both an achievement and an important first step, since it enabled to deploy and test a wide range of actions to help mobilise these talents including: connecting with actors of the country of origin, business missions, training of young entrepreneurs in the country of origin, and policy advocacy missions. MedGeneration has also helped stakeholders in partner countries to organise themselves, to contact these talents in a coordinated manner, with concerted messages in line with the country's development strategy.



MedGeneration confirmed that the expatriate talents of the southern Mediterranean countries possess real leverage and skills and can be key players assisting in the acceleration of the Mediterranean economies. They constitute a potential valuable asset as opinion formers, business contacts, know-how providers, or even as investors.

Finally, the project enabled summarising in a white paper how much is left to be done to facilitate the involvement of the Diasporas. Issues of mobility, portability of statutes and rights, and the lack of dedicated funds and facilities to promote the Diasporas' projects remain impediments that we must tackle for years to come.

ANIMA wishes to thank all the partners for their commitment to this project, and all those who are interested in this pilot approach: the Union for the Mediterranean, the Parliamentary Assembly of the Mediterranean, and the World Bank.

Download the [project final brochure](#)



MedGeneration concludes with the 3rd High-Level Seminar for the economic Diasporas' mobilisation in the Mediterranean



The 3rd seminar on the mobilisation of economic Diasporas was held on 1 June 2016 in Beirut. Following the event, ANIMA publishes a White Paper on their contribution to the investment in the Mediterranean (to be released soon).

Organised by the CCIA-BML, in partnership with ANIMA, this event was the 3rd and final part of a high-level seminar series, whose first editions were held in Marseille (2014) and Aqaba (2015). This seminar aimed to capitalise on the results of the MedGeneration project and ensure the continuity of the advocacy that was carried out during 2 years with a goal of setting up a Euro-Mediterranean strategy that would mobilise the Diaspora's economic talents. The seminar brought together 100 participants, including funders, business networks, international organisations, NGOs, private sector support organisations and local authorities. Regional bodies of the region such as the [UfM](#) and the [PAM](#) were also present for this last advocacy seminar.

For MedGeneration, this last seminar provided an opportunity to submit a white paper to the local and regional authorities for the adoption of a Euro-Mediterranean strategy for the involvement of the economic Diasporas' talents by 2020; White Paper that the authorities in question have committed to promote within their bodies.

"MedGeneration Seminar was an eye opener of how we can utilize the diaspora power to solve the region's future and current challenges of unemployment and mass migration. We met with several ecosystem players including governments and entrepreneurship supporters and discussed how we can work together. We hope that the seminar recommendations will be taken into action especially when it comes to entrepreneurship as a solution."

Nidal Khoury, Mowgli JORDAN

"After attending such an important seminar, I felt the deep obligation to share and spread awareness about the huge importance and economical impact of Diaspora in Lebanon, and to help them invest their intelligences and talents in their country. This conference was a bench mark for all the economic and policy makers to take action for our Diaspora. I look forward to give my advice especially in creating awareness for the Diaspora in the field of intellectual property protection for those who might want to invest in Lebanon."

Lubna Kodeih, Ministry of Economy of Lebanon

[More information](#)

MedGeneration in Palestine: Master Class and Business Tour

Young Entrepreneurs Master Class - 17 May 2016

A Young Entrepreneur Master Class was held in Ramallah on 17 May 2016 at the Palestine Plaza Hotel, co-organised by PICTI and PIPA. **15 young Palestinian entrepreneurs** were locally selected by PICTI on the basis of their ability to internationalise. **7 coaches from the Palestinian Diaspora** came to work with them from Europe especially for the occasion.

3 collective training sessions were provided by the coaches on the themes of "Running a successful crowdfunding campaign", "Choosing partners" and "Conditions for international expansion". The young entrepreneurs ended the day discussing face to face with the Diaspora coaches the subject of internationalising start-ups during the speed-coaching sessions.



Business tour Palestine - 16, 18 & 19 May 2016



On the 16th, 18th and 19th of May 2016, PIPA and PICTI held a Business Tour for the Diaspora in Palestine. Coming from France, Hungary, Germany, Estonia, and Sweden, the 7 Business Tour participants were all entrepreneurs of the Palestinian Diaspora seeking to develop business dealings with Palestine. Organised over a 3 day period, this Diaspora Business Tour was structured around four distinct phases:

- A presentation was made to the Diaspora entrepreneurs on the investment framework in Palestine by the Palestine Investment Promotion Agency; then a panorama of the existing support programmes for entrepreneurship was provided; and an introduction to the business climate was given by business leaders, employer federations, local incubators, and investment funds;
- A project pitching session followed, where Diaspora entrepreneurs were invited to present their project to a roomful of local actors including private sector support organisations, the heads of companies, and investors;
- B2B type business meetings were held, with **22 individual meetings** between Diaspora entrepreneurs and local economic actors;
- Visits to particularly strategic economic sites were made in order to develop business in Palestine: Rawabi Tech City, Birzeit University, Paltel Business Centre, etc.



Success stories



Karim Attoui & Ibrahim Zahreddine
Beneficiaries of the MedGeneration Mentoring Programme



Upcoming events

Palestine

5th Palestinian Diaspora Annual Conference

Ramallah, Palestine - From 8/07/2016 to 16/07/2016 [\[Read+\]](#)

France

DiasporaLab Maghreb

Marseille, France - From 11/07/2016 to 12/07/2016 [\[Read+\]](#)

[View all events](#)

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The 2007-2013 ENPI CBC Mediterranean Sea Basin Programme is a multilateral Cross-Border Cooperation initiative funded by the European Neighbourhood and Partnership Instrument (ENPI). The Programme objective is to promote the sustainable and harmonious cooperation process at the Mediterranean Basin level by dealing with the common challenges and enhancing its endogenous potential. It finances cooperation projects as a contribution to the economic, social, environmental and cultural development of the Mediterranean region. The following 14 countries participate in the Programme: Cyprus, Egypt, France, Greece, Israel, Italy, Jordan, Lebanon, Malta, Palestine, Portugal, Spain, Syria (participation currently suspended), Tunisia. The Joint Managing Authority (JMA) is the Autonomous Region of Sardinia (Italy). Official Programme languages are Arabic, English and French (www.enpicbcm.ed.eu).

The European Union is made up of 28 Member States who have decided to gradually link together their know-how, resources and destinies. Together, during a period of enlargement of 50 years, they have built a zone of stability, democracy and sustainable development whilst maintaining cultural diversity, tolerance and individual freedoms. The European Union is committed to sharing its achievements and its values with countries and peoples beyond its borders.



