PRIMA Objectives Prioritization Survey

INTRODUCTION

The objective of this PRIMA Online Questionnaire is to collect the opinions of key actors on the research priorities to be addressed by the PRIMA initiative (www.prima4med.org), both in terms of objectives and topics, as well as suggesting which actions you would like the PRIMA Initiative will primarily develop within each of the three PRIMA thematic pillars.

The PRIMA Strategic Innovation and Research Agenda will promote a balanced mix of innovation actions that contribute to overcoming the main bottlenecks towards adoption of innovative solutions for improving efficiency and sustainability of food productions and water provision in the Med Area.

The actions to be carried out within PRIMA will boost the innovation potential of the Euro-Mediterranean agri-food chains by: addressing close to the market innovation activities; stimulating local entrepreneurship capacities; increasing participation of industry/SMEs.

The replies submitted to this survey will be analysed, aggregated and taken into consideration during the development of the PRIMA SRIA foreseen for May 2017.

INSTRUCTION FOR COMPLETING THE QUESTIONNAIRE

Please note that the questionnaire consists of 2 Sections .

Section 1 asks for information about the respondent. Answers to some questions are mandatory.
Section 2 is repeated for each of the 3 thematic pillars and asks you:
1. whether you consider the following objectives relevant for a Partnership for Research and Innovation actions geared towards improving the efficiency and sustainability of food production and processing and water resources management in the Mediterranean basin,
2. whether you consider the following topics relevant in order to pursue those objectives,
3. which, among the following actions, are the most appropriate in order to achieve PRIMA objectives.

The deadline for completion of the questionnaire is21 August 2016.

The survey will take approximately 10 minutes to complete.

THANK YOU VERY MUCH FOR YOUR TIME

Background Information on the PRIMA Initiative

Launched as an immediate follow-up to the 2012 Barcelona Euro-Mediterranean Conference by a group of EU Member States and Mediterranean Partnering Countries (MPCs), the PRIMA Initiative (Partnership for Research and Innovation in the Mediterranean Area) represents a programme whose aim is "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".

More than two hundred million euros have been already committed by participating PRIMA countries (Cyprus, Czech Republic, Egypt, France, Greece, Israel, Italy, Lebanon, Luxembourg, Malta, Morocco, Portugal, Spain and Tunisia) for the Initiative over a 10 years period as from 2018, whereas other countries (Germany, Croatia, Jordan, Romania, Slovenia, Turkey) are in the process of joining the initiative.

The PRIMA Initiative will advance existing knowledge and innovation for water management, food security, and food quality through a long-term, trans-national cooperation addressing the entire innovation chain. PRIMA will ensure their adoption to unlock the innovation potential of these economic sectors through end user-friendly and societally-affordable solutions.

The PRIMA initiative identified eight operational objectives clustered in three main thematic pillars. In the development of the PRIMA proposal, the Consortium identified a number of topics addressing the more relevant gaps and urgent needs in each of the three pillars, as depicted in the following scheme.

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

PRIMA OBJECTIVES

- To test and stimulate adoption of context-tailored water-saving solutions, in particular in agriculture
- To improve land and water sustainability in arid and semi-arid watersheds
- 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

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

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

PRIMA Objectives Prioritization Survey

Section 1

Information about the respondent

* 1. Are you responding to this questionnaire on behalf of/as:

* 2. Please enter your country of residence or where your organisation is based:

Organization name:

Name:

Surname:

Telephone:

Email:

* 3. Please indicate the type of organisation represented:

Other (Please specify)

* 4. Please enter your country of residence or where your organisation is based:

Other (Please specify)

PRIMA Objectives Prioritization Survey

Section 2

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

* 5. Please indicate the priority you assign to each objective in a scale from 1 (very low priority) to 5 (very high priority)

	Very low priority	Low priority	Medium priority	High priority	Very high priority
To test and stimulate adoption of context-tailored water-saving solutions, in particular in agriculture	○	○	○	○	○
To improve land and water sustainability in arid and semi-arid watersheds	○	○	○	○	○
To elaborate and stimulate adoption of new policies and protocols for the governance of water management systems	○	○	○	○	○

* 6. Please indicate the priority you assign to each topic in a scale from 1 (very low priority) to 5 (very high priority)

	Very low priority	Low priority	Medium priority	High priority	Very high priority
Understanding groundwater processes and link with surface water for catchment/basin balance	○	○	○	○	○
Soil, water and vegetation interactions	○	○	○	○	○
Water systems governance	○	○	○	○	○
Water reuse and water desalination for use in agriculture	○	○	○	○	○
Technical and social aspects of water saving and water management in agriculture	○	○	○	○	○
Technologies adapted to smallholders and to local conditions	○	○	○	○	○

Other topic (please specify)

* 7. Please choose among the following actions as the most appropriate for the PRIMA topic implementation: Research and Innovation Action (RIA), Innovation Action (IA), Coordinated and Support Action (CSA), Training and Mobility Action (TMA), SME Instrument (SME). See notes here below for explanation

	RIA	IA	CSA	TMA	SME
Understanding groundwater processes and link with surface water for catchment/basin balance	○	○	○	○	○
Soil, water and vegetation interactions	○	○	○	○	○
Water systems governance	○	○	○	○	○
Water reuse and water desalination for use in agriculture	○	○	○	○	○
Technical and social aspects of water saving and water management in agriculture	○	○	○	○	○
Technologies adapted to smallholders and to local conditions	○	○	○	○	○

Other action (please specify)

GLOSSARY:

RIA - Research and Innovation Action

Action primarily consisting of activities aiming to establish new knowledge and or to explore feasibility on a new improved technology, product, process, service or solution. In PRIMA, RIA cover actions with TRL from 3 to 5.

IA - Innovation Actions

Action primarily consisting of activities directly aiming at producing plans and arrangements of designs for new altered or improved products, processes of services. They may include prototyping, testing demonstrating, piloting large scale product validation and marked replication. IA actions may cover TRL 6-8.

CSA - Coordination and support actions

Actions consisting primarily of accompanying measures such as standardisation, dissemination, awareness-raising and communication, networking, coordination or support services, policy dialogues and mutual learning exercises and studies, including design studies for new infrastructure and may also include complementary activities of strategic planning, networking and coordination between programmes in different countries.

TMA - Training and mobility Actions

In PRIMA these are actions primarily consisting of both developing research /capacities of Researchers and innovation/competence broker & entrepreneurship skills, These actions promote also mobility of researchers, research staff and innovator brokers.

SME instrument

This instrument is aimed at highly innovative SMEs with the ambition to develop their growth potential. It offers lump sums for feasibility studies, grants for an innovation project's main phase (demonstration, prototyping, testing, application development...); lastly, the commercialisation phase is supported indirectly through facilitated access to debt and equity financial instruments. Only SMEs can participate. Either a single SME or a consortium of SMEs established in an EU or Associated Country.

TRL - Technology readiness levels *(From Annex G of H2020 Grant Agreement):*

TRL 1 – basic principles observed
TRL 2 – technology concept formulated
TRL 3 – experimental proof of concept
TRL 4 – technology validated in lab
TRL 5 – technology validated in relevant environment (industrially relevant environment in the case of key enabling technologies)
TRL 6 – technology demonstrated in relevant environment (industrially relevant environment in the case of key enabling technologies)
TRL 7 – system prototype demonstration in operational environment
TRL 8 – system complete and qualified
TRL 9 – actual system proven in operational environment (competitive manufacturing in the case of key enabling technologies; or in space)

PILLAR 2
Sustainable farming systems under Med environmental constraints

* 8. Please indicate the priority you assign to each objective in a scale from 1 (very low priority) to 5 (very high priority)

	Very low priority	Low priority	Medium priority	High priority	Very high priority
To develop smart and sustainable farming systems to maintain natural resources and to increase production efficiency	○	○	○	○	○
To design and promote the adoption of novel approaches to reduce the impact of pests and pathogens in farming systems	○	○	○	○	○

* 9. Please indicate the priority you assign to each topic in a scale from 1 (very low priority) to 5 (very high priority)

	Very low priority	Low priority	Medium priority	High priority	Very high priority
Crop and cropping systems resistance to drought and climatic stresses	○	○	○	○	○
Optimizing pesticides and fertilizers use in rainfed and irrigated agriculture	○	○	○	○	○
Use of local biodiversity in developing new crops and animal breed	○	○	○	○	○
Integration of natural regulation inside production systems, ecological intensification	○	○	○	○	○
Integrated animal and plant pest and disease management	○	○	○	○	○
Social aspects of adoption of innovation in farming systems	○	○	○	○	○

Other topic (please specify)

* 10. Please choose among the following actions as the most appropriate for the PRIMA topic implementation: Research and Innovation Action (RIA), Innovation Action (IA), Coordinated and Support Action (CSA), Training and Mobility Action (TMA), SME Instrument (SME). See notes here below for explanation

	RIA	IA	CSA	TMA	SME
Crop and cropping systems resistance to drought and climatic stresses	○	○	○	○	○
Optimizing pesticides and fertilizers use in rainfed and irrigated agriculture	○	○	○	○	○
Use of local biodiversity in developing new crops and animal breed	○	○	○	○	○
Integration of natural regulation inside production systems, ecological intensification	○	○	○	○	○
Integrated animal and plant pest and disease management	○	○	○	○	○
Social aspects of adoption of innovation in farming systems	○	○	○	○	○

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PILLAR 3
Mediterranean food value chain for regional and local development

* 11. Please indicate the priority you assign to each objective in a scale from 1 (very low priority) to 5 (very high priority)

	Very low priority	Low priority	Medium priority	High priority	Very high priority
To innovate in the Mediterranean food products based on Mediterranean diet heritage and to enhance the links between nutrition and health	○	○	○	○	○
To find context-adapted solutions to increase food and water chain efficiency, and reduce losses and wastes	○	○	○	○	○
To conceive and implement innovative, quality oriented models in agro-business as potential sources of new jobs and economic growth	○	○	○	○	○

* 12. Please indicate the priority you assign to each topic in a scale from 1 (very low priority) to 5 (very high priority)

	Very low priority	Low priority	Medium priority	High priority	Very high priority
Orienting youths and industry towards sustainable competitive business models	○	○	○	○	○
Valorising food products from traditional Mediterranean diet	○	○	○	○	○
Food safety in local food chains, health risk and hazards assessment	○	○	○	○	○
Organisation and coordination in the food chains for improving efficiency and waste valorisation	○	○	○	○	○
Integration of smallholders into formal supply chains	○	○	○	○	○
Health effects of the dietary shifts and promoting healthy diet for the Med populations	○	○	○	○	○
Technological and organizational innovation in the agri-food chain to promote suppliers and products with higher quality and sustainability level. Leadership role, solutions, competitivity analysis	○	○	○	○	○

Other topic (please specify)

* 13. Please choose among the following actions as the most appropriate for the PRIMA topic implementation: Research and Innovation Action (RIA), Innovation Action (IA), Coordinated and Support Action (CSA), Training and Mobility Action (TMA), SME Instrument (SME). See notes here below for explanation

	RIA	IA	CSA	TMA	SME
Orienting youths and industry towards sustainable competitive business models	○	○	○	○	○
Valorising food products from traditional Mediterranean diet	○	○	○	○	○
Food safety in local food chains, health risk and hazards assessment	○	○	○	○	○
Organisation and coordination in the food chains for improving efficiency and waste valorisation	○	○	○	○	○
Integration of smallholders into formal supply chains	○	○	○	○	○
Health effects of the dietary shifts and promoting healthy diet for the Med populations	○	○	○	○	○
Technological and organizational innovation in the agri-food chain to promote suppliers and products with higher quality and sustainability level . Leadership role , solutions , competitivity analysis	○	○	○	○	○

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