

EVENT: Concept & Agenda

PRIMA PROGRAMME EVENT:

**CELEBRATING ACHIEVEMENTS AND
ADVANCEMENTS FOR ITS EXTENSION
NEGOTIATIONS IN 2025-2027 WITHIN
HORIZON EUROPE FRAMEWORK
PROGRAMME**

Date: January 25th, 2023

Time: 12:15 AM to 2:45 PM (including cocktail buffet)

Location: CSIC Offices - Rue du Trône, 62, 1050, Brussels.



EVENT: Concept and Agenda for PRIMA Programme Event - Celebrating Achievements and Advancements for its Extension Negotiations in 2025-2027 within Horizon Europe Framework Programme

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Registration link : <https://app.smartsheet.com/b/form/6e12bfc41ebe4dfa8362b1f516c96415>

The Partnership for Research and Innovation in the Mediterranean Area (PRIMA) is hosting a special event celebrating its remarkable achievements and the successful interinstitutional negotiations for its extension within Horizon Europe. The event also marks the launch of the CSA FUTURE4PRIMA project, funded under Horizon Europe's 2023 Wide European Research Area (ERA) calls.

Background

The Partnership for Research and Innovation in the Mediterranean Area (PRIMA), was established with the aim of addressing significant challenges in the Mediterranean region. Its inception followed an EC proposal in October 2016, which was officially ratified on July 4, 2017. PRIMA operates under Article 185 TFEU and functions as a public-public partnership. Its primary goal is to leverage the knowledge and financial resources of the European Union (EU) and participating states to foster research endeavors, enhance capabilities, and devise innovative solutions. These solutions are specifically targeted at creating sustainable and resilient water and food systems in the Mediterranean area.

PRIMA boasts a broad membership, encompassing 20 participating states. These include 12 EU member states, such as Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, France, Germany, Greece, Italy, Luxembourg, Malta, Portugal, Slovenia, and Spain. Additionally, there are three countries associated with Horizon 2020, namely Israel, Tunisia, and Turkey, and five third countries: Algeria, Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon, and Morocco. The latter five countries joined PRIMA through bilateral international agreements signed with the EU. In terms of financing, PRIMA has been allocated a total budget of €494 million for the period from 2017 to 2028. This budget is divided, with €220 million contributed by Horizon 2020 and €274 million coming from the participating states.

Since its inception in 2018, PRIMA has evolved into a pivotal instrument for fostering scientific cooperation between the EU, North Africa, and the Middle East. It effectively responds to the major challenges faced by the Mediterranean region, including enhancing climate resilience, improving efficiency, promoting cost-effectiveness, and ensuring environmental and social sustainability in the provision of water and food systems.

Initially, PRIMA's activities were scheduled to run until December 31, 2028, under the Horizon 2020 framework. However, there is a strong interest among Participating states to extend PRIMA's role beyond 2024. A provisional agreement has been successfully negotiated between the Council and the Parliament, paving the way for the extension of the EU's involvement in PRIMA under Horizon Europe for the period 2025-2027. This extension will maintain the partnership's scope and align with Horizon Europe's framework program.

Looking ahead, PRIMA Participating States are preparing for a renewed partnership, envisioning potential extensions in thematic areas and geographical scope for the next framework program. To facilitate this process, several PRIMA Participating States are actively contributing to the FUTURE4PRIMA project. This initiative is designed to lay out all the necessary steps four-year Horizon Europe project that will set the foundations for co-creating and co-implementing a renewed partnership in the next EU Framework Program.

Agenda (12:15 PM to 2:30 PM)

12:15 PM: Arrival and welcome

12:30 PM: Welcome and Opening

Ms. Elena Domínguez Cañas, *Coordinator institutional / Head of Brussels Office, CSIC*

Prof. Angelo Riccaboni, *Chair of the PRIMA Foundation*

Mr. Giuseppe Provenzano, *Project Manager, Union for the Mediterranean*

12:40 PM: EU Council Presidencies

H.E Mr. Raúl Santiago Fuentes Milani, *Ambassador, Deputy Permanent Representative of Spain to the European Union*

Ms. Alison Morton, *Attachée, Permanent Representation of Belgium to the European Union*

12:50 PM: European Commission

Ms. Maria Cristina Russo, *Director for Global Approach & International Partnerships at the Directorate-General for Research and Innovation of the European Commission (DG RTD)*

1:00 PM : Members of the European Parliament (MEPs)

Mr. Paolo Borchia, *Rapporteur, Committee on Industry, Research and Energy (ITRE)*

Mr. Jordi Solé i Ferrando, *Rapporteur, Committee on Industry, Research and Energy (ITRE)*

Mr. Herbert Dorfmann, *Rapporteur, Committee on Agriculture and Rural Development (AGRI)*

1:15 PM: Intervention from the Countries

H.E Mr. Badr Abdelatty, *Ambassador, Head of the Mission of the Arab Republic of Egypt to the European Union*

H.E Ms. Saja Majali, *Ambassador of Jordan in Brussels*

Mr Mohamed Jebrane Kensouss, *Councillor in charge of Education, Research and Energy at the Mission of the Kingdom of Morocco to the EU and NATO*

Free interventions by Member States, including Permanent Representatives and representatives of PRIMA Participating States)

1:40 Concluding remarks

Prof. Mohamed El Shinawi, *Co-chair of the PRIMA Foundation*

**1:45 PM - 2:30PM:
Cocktail Reception**

In collaboration with the EU Funded **FUTURE4PRIMA** project, led by PRIMA



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