

Open Public Online Consultation: PRIMA (Partnership for Research and Innovation in the Mediterranean Area) in Horizon 2020

Fields marked with * are mandatory.

On 22 December 2014, nine Member States of the European Union (EU) – Croatia, Cyprus, France, Greece, Italy, Malta, Portugal, Slovenia and Spain – submitted a proposal for the participation of the EU in a joint research and innovation programme focused on the development and application of innovative solutions for food systems and water resources in the Mediterranean basin. This would be through an Article 185 TFEU initiative under Horizon 2020.

The proposal has been named "PRIMA", which stands for "Partnership for Research and Innovation in the Mediterranean Area". The following seven non-EU countries are also taking part in PRIMA: Algeria, Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon, Morocco, Tunisia and Turkey. A total of two hundred million euros have been committed for this initiative over a 10-year period starting in 2018. This figure includes the contribution from the Czech Republic and Luxembourg, which joined PRIMA at a later stage.

According to the proposal, the general objective of PRIMA is to reinforce cooperation in Research and Innovation (R&I) between Mediterranean countries in order to contribute to the challenges of sustainable food production and water resources management in the Mediterranean region.

In line with the indications provided in the Better Regulation Guidelines, the European Commission services are now performing an Impact

Assessment of the PRIMA initiative. The purpose of this process is to analyse the need and opportunity for an EU action in this domain and the potential economic, social and environmental impacts of the alternative policy options.

The present consultation gives the opportunities to provide your view on the scope, objectives, and expected impacts of the PRIMA initiative. It specifically seeks input in relation to the preparation of a potential EU contribution to PRIMA.

Overall this consultation consists of 7 sections. Depending on the detail of your answers, you may want to reserve 15 minutes for completing the questionnaire.

1. Respondent profile

★ 1a. Please enter your organisation's name or your personal name (for individuals):

Text of 1 to 200 characters will be accepted

1b. Please enter your address:

Text of 1 to 200 characters will be accepted

1c. Please enter your e-mail address:

Text of 1 to 200 characters will be accepted

★ 1d. Your contribution together with your identity may be published on the Commission's website. Do you agree to your contribution being published under your name?

- ☐ My contribution can be published under the name indicated
- ☐ My contribution can be published anonymously
- ☐ I do not agree that my contribution is published

★ 1e. Please enter the country where your organisation is based or your country of residence if you are an individual citizen:

- ☐ Afghanistan
- ☐ American Samoa
- ☐ Anguilla
- ☐ Argentina
- ☐ Australia
- ☐ Bahamas
- ☐ Barbados
- ☐ Belize
- ☐ Bhutan
- ☐ Botswana
- ☐ British Indian Ocean Territory
- ☐ Burkina Faso
- ☐ Cameroon
- ☐ Cayman Islands
- ☐ Chile
- ☐ Cocos (Keeling) Islands
- ☐ Congo
- ☐ Costa Rica
- ☐ Cyprus
- ☐ Denmark
- ☐ Dominican Republic
- ☐ Egypt
- ☐ Eritrea
- ☐ Faeroe Islands
- ☐ Finland
- ☐ French Polynesia
- ☐ Georgia
- ☐ Gibraltar
- ☐ Grenada
- ☐ Guatemala
- ☐ Guyana
- ☐ Holy See (Vatican City State)
- ☐ Hungary
- ☐ Indonesia
- ☐ Ireland
- ☐ Jamaica
- ☐ Kazakhstan
- ☐ Korea, Democratic People's Republic of
- ☐ Kyrgyzstan
- ☐ Lebanon
- ☐ Albania
- ☐ Andorra
- ☐ Antarctica
- ☐ Armenia
- ☐ Austria
- ☐ Bahrain
- ☐ Belarus
- ☐ Benin
- ☐ Bolivia
- ☐ Bouvet Island
- ☐ Brunei Darussalam
- ☐ Burundi
- ☐ Canada
- ☐ Central African Republic
- ☐ China
- ☐ Colombia
- ☐ Congo, Democratic Republic of the
- ☐ Croatia
- ☐ Czech Republic
- ☐ Djibouti
- ☐ East Timor
- ☐ El Salvador
- ☐ Estonia
- ☐ Falkland Islands (Malvinas)
- ☐ France
- ☐ Gabon
- ☐ Germany
- ☐ Greece
- ☐ Guadeloupe
- ☐ Guinea
- ☐ Haiti
- ☐ Honduras
- ☐ Iceland
- ☐ Iran, Islamic Republic of
- ☐ Israel
- ☐ Japan
- ☐ Kenya
- ☐ Korea, Republic of
- ☐ Lao People's Democratic Republic
- ☐ Lesotho
- ☐ Algeria
- ☐ Angola
- ☐ Antigua and Barbuda
- ☐ Aruba
- ☐ Azerbaijan
- ☐ Bangladesh
- ☐ Belgium
- ☐ Bermuda
- ☐ Bosnia and Herzegovina
- ☐ Brazil
- ☐ Bulgaria
- ☐ Cambodia
- ☐ Cape Verde
- ☐ Chad
- ☐ Christmas Island
- ☐ Comoros
- ☐ Cook Islands
- ☐ Cuba
- ☐ Côte d'Ivoire
- ☐ Dominica
- ☐ Ecuador
- ☐ Equatorial Guinea
- ☐ Ethiopia
- ☐ Fiji
- ☐ French Guiana
- ☐ Gambia
- ☐ Ghana
- ☐ Greenland
- ☐ Guam
- ☐ Guinea-Bissau
- ☐ Heard and McDonald Islands
- ☐ Hong Kong
- ☐ India
- ☐ Iraq
- ☐ Italy
- ☐ Jordan
- ☐ Kiribati
- ☐ Kuwait
- ☐ Latvia
- ☐ Liberia

- ☐ Libyan Arab Jamahiriya
- ☐ Luxembourg
- ☐ Malawi
- ☐ Mali
- ☐ Martinique
- ☐ Mayotte
- ☐ Moldova, Republic of
- ☐ Montenegro
- ☐ Mozambique
- ☐ Nauru
- ☐ Netherlands, Kingdom of the
- ☐ Nicaragua
- ☐ Niue
- ☐ Norway
- ☐ Pakistan
- ☐ Papua New Guinea
- ☐ Philippines
- ☐ Portugal
- ☐ Romania
- ☐ Réunion
- ☐ Saint Lucia
- ☐ Samoa
- ☐ Saudi Arabia
- ☐ Seychelles
- ☐ Slovakia
- ☐ Somalia
- ☐ Spain
- ☐ Sudan
- ☐ Swaziland
- ☐ Syrian Arab Republic
- ☐ Tanzania, United Republic of
- ☐ Tokelau
- ☐ Tunisia
- ☐ Turks and Caicos Islands
- ☐ Ukraine
- ☐ United States of America
- ☐ Vanuatu
- ☐ Virgin Islands (Great Britian)
- ☐ Western Sahara
- ☐ Liechtenstein
- ☐ Macedonia, The former Yugoslav Republic of
- ☐ Malaysia
- ☐ Malta
- ☐ Mauritania
- ☐ Mexico
- ☐ Monaco
- ☐ Montserrat
- ☐ Myanmar
- ☐ Nepal
- ☐ New Caledonia
- ☐ Niger
- ☐ Norfolk Island
- ☐ Oman
- ☐ Palau
- ☐ Paraguay
- ☐ Pitcairn
- ☐ Puerto Rico
- ☐ Russian Federation
- ☐ Saint Helena
- ☐ Saint Pierre and Miquelon
- ☐ San Marino
- ☐ Senegal
- ☐ Sierra Leone
- ☐ Slovenia
- ☐ South Africa
- ☐ Sri Lanka
- ☐ Suriname
- ☐ Sweden
- ☐ Taiwan
- ☐ Thailand
- ☐ Tonga
- ☐ Turkey
- ☐ Tuvalu
- ☐ United Arab Emirates
- ☐ Uruguay
- ☐ Venezuela
- ☐ Virgin Islands (United States)
- ☐ Yemen
- ☐ Lithuania
- ☐ Madagascar
- ☐ Maldives
- ☐ Marshall Islands
- ☐ Mauritius
- ☐ Micronesia, Federated States of
- ☐ Mongolia
- ☐ Morocco
- ☐ Namibia
- ☐ Netherlands Antilles
- ☐ New Zealand
- ☐ Nigeria
- ☐ Northern Mariana Islands
- ☐ Other
- ☐ Panama
- ☐ Peru
- ☐ Poland
- ☐ Qatar
- ☐ Rwanda
- ☐ Saint Kitts and Nevis
- ☐ Saint Vincent and the Grenadines
- ☐ Sao Tome and Principe
- ☐ Serbia
- ☐ Singapore
- ☐ Solomon Islands
- ☐ South Georgia and the South Sandwich Isl.
- ☐ Stateless
- ☐ Svalbard and Jan Mayen Islands
- ☐ Switzerland
- ☐ Tajikistan
- ☐ Togo
- ☐ Trinidad and Tobago
- ☐ Turkmenistan
- ☐ Uganda
- ☐ United Kingdom
- ☐ Uzbekistan
- ☐ Viet Nam
- ☐ Wallis and Futuna Islands
- ☐ Zambia

☐ Zimbabwe

* Please specify:

Text of 1 to 50 characters will be accepted

* 1f. Whom do you represent?

- ☐ Research organisation
- ☐ Association of research organisations
- ☐ University
- ☐ Association of universities
- ☐ Public authority (including regional and local administrations)
- ☐ Local community
- ☐ Large business
- ☐ Small or medium-sized enterprise (SME, less than 250 employees)
- ☐ Business association (including farmer associations)
- ☐ Inter-governmental organisation
- ☐ Non-governmental organisation (NGOs)
- ☐ Individual citizen
- ☐ Other

* Please specify:

Text of 1 to 100 characters will be accepted

* 1g. Has your organisation already been involved in any FP7 and/or Horizon 2020 project?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No
- ☐ Not applicable
- ☐ I do not know

* 1h. Are you familiar with the Partnership for Research and Innovation in the Mediterranean Area (PRIMA)?

- ☐ Very familiar
- ☐ Familiar
- ☐ Moderately familiar
- ☐ Not familiar at all
- ☐ No opinion

2. Problem definition

* 2. In your view, which are the most relevant problem statements for R&I challenges in the field of sustainable food production and water resources management in the Mediterranean area (you can

select up to 5 statements):

between 1 and 5 choices

- ☐ Insufficient investments in R&I
- ☐ Insufficient development of innovative solutions
- ☐ Insufficient implementation of innovative solutions
- ☐ Insufficient expertise of private companies in R&I
- ☐ Inadequate R&I governance structures and processes to address common and inter-related problems
- ☐ Lack of coordination and cooperation between countries and research organisations and duplication of research efforts
- ☐ Weak inter-disciplinary research practices
- ☐ Lack of cooperation between academic and non-academic actors (public authorities, local communities and farmer associations, companies, civil society)
- ☐ Unattractive environment for private sector investments in the Mediterranean area
- ☐ Insufficient knowledge exchange between Mediterranean countries

Optional: reasons behind your choice.

Text of 1 to 500 characters will be accepted

Please describe any additional problem statement that you consider relevant and indicate the reasons for doing so.

Text of 1 to 500 characters will be accepted

3. Core objectives

Do you consider the following objectives relevant for a Partnership for Research and Innovation geared towards improving the efficiency and sustainability of food production and processing and water resources management in the Mediterranean basin:

	very relevant	relevant	moderately relevant	irrelevant	no opinion
*to support the development and application of innovative solutions in the field of sustainable food production and water resources management in the region	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
*to reinforce Euro-Mediterranean cooperation within the framework of the European Neighbourhood Policy, in the					

specific fields of sustainable food production and water resources management, thus contributing to supporting overall stability and socio-economic development in the region	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
*to facilitate the creation of knowledge-based jobs and competences and strengthen research capacity in the specific fields of sustainable food production and water resources management in the region	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

4. R&I priorities

Do you consider the following R&I priorities relevant for a Partnership for Research and Innovation geared towards improving the efficiency and sustainability of food production and processing and water resources management in the Mediterranean basin:

	very relevant	relevant	moderately relevant	irrelevant	no opinion
*to find context-adapted solutions capable of increasing food and water chain efficiency and reducing losses and waste in the region	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
*to support the common development of smart and sustainable farming systems capable of maintaining natural resources and increasing production efficiency in the region	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
*to test and stimulate the application of context-tailored water-saving solutions, particularly in agriculture in the region	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

*to improve land and water sustainability in arid and semi-arid environments in the region	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
*to elaborate and implement new policies and protocols for sustainable water management in the region	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
*to design and implement innovative business models in the agro-food sector attracting further investments and thus stimulating growth and jobs in the region	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
*to develop innovative food products based on Mediterranean diet heritage that enhance the links between nutrition and health	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Please list any additional priority that you consider relevant for a Partnership for Research and Innovation in the Mediterranean Area and state the reasons for doing so.

Text of 1 to 500 characters will be accepted

5. Actions

In your opinion, how relevant are the following actions to ensure that PRIMA will achieve its objectives:

	very relevant	relevant	moderately relevant	irrelevant	no opinion
*public sector's direct investments in R&I	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
*public sector facilitating private sector's investments in R&I	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
*private sector's investments in R&I	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
*public sector's investments in areas other than R&I (e.g.,					

agriculture, education, health, transport, etc.)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
*development of pilot projects	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
*networking and coordination/cooperation activities	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
*training for researchers and career development	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
*information and communication activities	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Please list any additional action that you consider relevant for a Partnership for Research and Innovation in the Mediterranean Area.

Text of 1 to 500 characters will be accepted

6. Impacts

In your opinion, how relevant are the following impacts for a Partnership for Research and Innovation in the Mediterranean Area in order to improve the efficiency and sustainability of food production and processing and water resources management in the region:

	very relevant	relevant	moderately relevant	irrelevant	no opinion
*support to economic growth through job creation	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
*improvement of the competitiveness of SMEs established in the region	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
*introduction and dissemination of innovative products, technologies and production methods adapted to the specific socio-economic conditions of the region	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
*identification of current barriers and obstacles to	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

innovation and design of solutions how to overcome such obstacles					
*more effective, sustainable and responsible production, use of food and water resources and consumption patterns in the region					
*new training and skill development opportunities for researchers and innovators in the Mediterranean Area					
*simplified and more supportive administrative procedures and processes for researchers and investors					
*new trade opportunities with and within the Mediterranean Area					
*contribute to the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)					
*contribute to mitigating migration through improved living and economic conditions					

Optional: reasons behind your choice.

Text of 1 to 500 characters will be accepted

Please list any additional impact that you consider relevant for a Partnership for Research and Innovation in the Mediterranean Area and for what reason.

Text of 1 to 500 characters will be accepted

7. Policy Options

* Please indicate whether you consider that existing national and EU-level R&I actions in the field of water resources management and food systems in the Mediterranean Area adequately address the problem drivers you identified in section 2:

- ☐ Yes
☐ No
☐ No opinion

* Which policy option would you prefer to address the problem drivers that you identified in section 2?

- ☐ Co-fund action *(A financial contribution is provided through a five-year (2018-2022) Programme Co-fund action to support PRIMA objectives through the funding in form of grants of individual transnational collaborative research projects or programmes with complementary activities of networking and coordination between programmes in different countries. In addition national research policies and programmes continue to run in parallel.)*
- ☐ Creation of a permanent, dedicated structure (Article 185 TFEU) *(A decision authorising the EU participation and financial contribution to PRIMA is adopted. The EU contributes financially to the implementation of PRIMA on a multiannual basis supporting the integration of national research policies and programmes in the Mediterranean region beyond the funding of individual projects.)*
- ☐ Other policy option

Optional: reasons behind your choice.

Text of 1 to 500 characters will be accepted

If you consider another policy option to be relevant for a Partnership for Research and Innovation in the Mediterranean Area, please describe such option and explain why it is to be preferred over a) and b) and how it would be implemented.

Text of 1 to 500 characters will be accepted