

Outcomes
MSB STAKEHOLDER INFORMATION AND CONSULTATION – TEL AVIV

1. EVENT:

Information and Consultation Workshop, Mediterranean Sea Basin ENPI CBC Programme 2007 – 2013, Dan Panorama Hotel, Tel Aviv, Israel, Sunday 25 November 2007

2. OBJECTIVES OF THE EVENT

- o To introduce relevant stakeholders in Israel to the Mediterranean Sea Basin ENPI CBC programme and the opportunities it offers
- o To consult and inform relevant stakeholders on the development of the ENPI CBC programme for 2007-2013 in particular in regard to the common priorities, measures and activities

3. TARGET AUDIENCE:

Relevant national authorities, and regional and local authorities and other stakeholders from the ENPI CBC eligible regions in Israel including potential applicants. These include public bodies and local, regional and central administrations, companies and other private organisations, universities, non-governmental organisations, traders' associations and organisations representing economic and social interests in the eligible regions.

4. OUTCOMES

See Attachments 3 and 4

5. CONCLUSIONS/COMMENTS

1. This was a very successful event which involved more than 54 representatives from a range of Ministries, local authority bodies NGOs and academic and private organizations.
2. Participants got a good overview of the Mediterranean Sea Basin ENPI CBC Programme and the opportunities it offers and were able to express their views on the Programme regional analysis and priorities.
3. There was quite strong agreement with the SWOT with one or two exceptions and also with identified priorities and measures. There were some instances where the participants felt that the situation in Israel was different from that in other Mediterranean Partner Countries (MPC). For example where as for most MPC the large numbers of young people entering the job market is seen as a threat, Israel has a problem with an aging population.
4. As in the other MSB consultation, there was a strong interest in, and focus on, partners, projects and cross-border co-operation. A presentation by Karine Leroy on these topics, sparked considerable discussion (see Attachment 5).
5. The difficulty people from surrounding countries have in freely entering Israel was raised as a potential barrier to easy CBC. Israel Government representatives agreed that it was an issue that needed to be addressed.
6. It is clear that potential beneficiaries in Israel have good capacity for identifying and developing projects and already have quite a few project ideas (see Attachment 3)
7. The JMA said that results of the consultation will be circulated to the parties involved in the development of the programme. The SWOT additions and clarifications would be taken into account when the criteria for the calls for proposal are being prepared.

8. The Consultation had several benefits:

- It provided an excellent opportunity for the programme beneficiaries to learn about ENPI CBC and the MSB programme.
- The programme beneficiaries were able to clarify issues directly with the JMA and the JMA were able to hear the views and project ideas of the programme beneficiaries in Israel
- There is in general, an endorsement of the programme regional analysis and priorities and measures

6. ATTACHMENTS

1. Agenda
2. List of Participants
3. Consultation outcomes
4. Methods used
5. Presentations

Attachment 1:

**Information and Consultation Workshop
 Mediterranean Sea Basin ENPI CBC Programme 2007 – 2013
 Agenda**

Time	Item	Presenter/Moderator
09.30-10.00	Registration of participants / Coffee	
10.00-10.20	Welcome Mr Ramiro Cibrian-Uzal Head of the Delegation of the EC to Israel Mr Ravel Shmuel, ENPI CBC National Contact Point for Israel (to be confirmed) Ms Anna Maria Catte, JMA	Facilitated by RCBI
10.20-10.25	Presentation of the agenda and aims of the meeting	RCBI
10.25-10.40	Introduction/Expectations	Facilitated by RCBI
10.40-10.55	Introduction of ENPI CBC programmes in general	Mr Gianmatteo Arena, EC Delegation to Israel
10.55-11.25	Introduction of the Mediterranean Sea Basin Programme, the priorities and measures and the programming process including a brief outline of the SWOT	Mr Franco Zallio, JMA Expert
11.25-11.45	General Questions	Facilitated by RCBI
11.45-12.00	Coffee break	
12.00-13.00	Comments on the SWOT (small group work)	Facilitated by RCBI
13.00-14.00	Lunch	
14.00-15.00	Comments on priorities, measures and activities in relation to the SWOT (small group work)	Facilitated by RCBI
15.00-15.45	Eligible actors, regional cross border co-operation, finding partners (presentation and questions)	RCBI/JMA
15.45-16.00	Coffee break	
16.00-16.30	Possible projects that can best support the achievement of the priorities (brainstorm and feedback)	JMA
16.30-17.00	Conclusion Next steps in the programming process and how the input will be incorporated Evaluation of the event Closing remarks	JMA RCBI NCP Israel

Attachment 2: List of Participants

	Organisation	Name	e-mail	Tel. No
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Attachment 3: Outcomes

SWOT Exercise

The discussion in the groups, facilitated by RCBI moderators, focused on the importance and validity of each element of the SWOT.

Priorities Exercise

The aim of this exercise was to gain an overview of how strongly each of the measures under the 4 priorities are justified and underpinned by the SWOT analysis. Ideally, the priorities and measures should build on strengths, address weaknesses, take advantage of opportunities and minimise threats.

Details of the results from the SWOT and Priorities exercises are in Attachment 4

Possible projects

A brainstorm was held to encourage participants to think about possible projects that would fit within the framework of the Programme priorities. The following were put forward.

- Local authorities cooperation in facing emergencies: 'safer cities criteria'
- Coastal cities tourism and cultural heritage (ancient roads)
- Prevention of pollution from the Sea: role of local authorities and their cooperation
- Mediterranean forest: creation of green areas in cities ('fruits and shadow')
- Youth cooperation
- Developing joint curriculum (political sciences...)
- Improving governance (anti-corruption...)
- Monitoring of urban planning
- Cities strategic planning
- Monitoring of infrastructure financing
- Exchange of experience on decentralisation process
- Democratisation process: good practices
- Exchange of innovative practices between cities & Mayors
- Promote economic potential of historic and cultural heritage, and enhance their synergy
- Projects in fighting desertification
- Removing barriers to mobility: sharing experience with the EU
- Renewable energy, desalinisation, water management: synergy and dissemination between universities
- Exchange of experience on living in conflict situations: what can civil society do?
- ICT: collaboration between students in different countries to exchange and better understand one another
- How to involve more girls in scientific studies: exchange of experience
- Exchanges on urbanisation and immigration: integrating communities
- Cooperation on education and foreign languages

Issues related to project development

- Necessary to ensure coherence with other initiatives and projects in the same area
- How to ensure sustainability of results
- Need to achieve tangible outcomes (no 'NATO' = 'no action talk only')
- Importance of exchanging know-how

Attachment 4: Description of Group work and Results

SWOT Exercise

The participants were divided in 4 groups on a random basis. In addition, there were 4 different positions (“stations”) in the room, consisting of a number of square meters of wall-space where coloured cards will be used to visualise discussions. Each of the stations covered one of the aspects of the SWOT analysis: one station for Strengths, one for Weaknesses, one for Opportunities and one for Threats. The 4 groups rotated clockwise from station to station (the so-called Carrousel approach). This meant there were 4 rounds of discussion of 5-10 minutes each moderated by the RCBI team. The station-moderators did not rotate and stayed with their own station.

The discussion in the groups focused on the importance and validity of each of the individual elements (written down on individual coloured cards on the wall) listed under the particular SWOT category in the programme document associated with a particular station. An important principle was that the group needed to try and reach agreement among the members in terms of their assessment of the SWOT elements. The groups expressed their opinion on each of the elements by putting small coloured pieces of paper on the coloured cards representing SWOT elements indicating disagreement with the content; disagreement with the formulation; or agreement for the element.

Priorities Exercise

The SWOT elements were shown on the screen and each participant had the numbered list of agreed programme measures. The task of the group was to identify and note which measures were supported by that SWOT element. Participants reviewed the priorities and measures and then listed the number of the corresponding measure next to each SWOT element.

The result of this exercise was an overview of how strongly each of the measures under the 4 priorities are justified and underpinned by the SWOT analysis, according to the participants to the Consultation Event.

The combined results of the SWOT and Priorities Exercises are as follows:

Results – SWOT and Priorities - Israel :

	Strengths	Support	Do not support	Reformulate	Measures Supported
S1	Med.Sea as a resources for international and regional economic cooperation	1		...and know-how	1.2, 4.1
S2	Macro-economic equilibrium achieved and economic reforms implemented		1		
S3	Progress in Euro-Med FTA Implementation (incl. Agri and Services)	1	1		1.2
S4	Adoption of the Pan-Euro-Med Protocol on Cumulation of Origin, which favours South-South economic cooperation	1	1		1.2, 4.3
S5	Entry into force of the Agadir Agreement, which favours South-South economic cooperation			Israel be part of it	
S6	Increasing attractiveness for FDI	1			1.1
S7	Favourable ranking in the Innovation Capability index	1		(3 comments)	1.1
S8	Great attractiveness in tourism	2			4.2
S9	Cultural and historical heritage of great relevance	1			4.2
S10	Common natural resources to be valorised	2			2.1
S11	Mediterranean represents 30% of world sea transport	1			
S12	Relevant energy interdependence		1		2.2
S13	ICT				
S 14	Education				4.1
The coloured elements were added by the participants during the Group work					

	Weaknesses	Support	Do not support	Reformulate	Measures
W1	Major income gap between the two shores	1	1 : its is an opportunity		1.2, 1.3
W2	Signs of urban deterioration on both shores			(comment : not clear)	1.3, 4.3
W3	Industrial specialization too oriented towards traditional sectors, facing strong Asian competition		1 : in Israel industry oriented high tech		1.1
W4	Low income in rural areas, which increases pressure on urban and coastal areas	2		In rural peripheral areas only	3.1
W5	Limited high-tech exports		1	In certain MPC only	1.1
W6	Peripheral economic position vis-à-vis Central Europe and the Gulf				
W7	Growing complexity of trade regimes	2			1.2
W8	Limited trade cooperation among MPC	3			
W9	Low level of European FDI in MPC	1			
W10	Vulnerability of common natural resources, currently under various pressures (demography, economy, tourism)				
W11	Transport & logistical infrastructure still limited vis-à-vis a growing sea traffic	1			
W12	Low recourse to renewable energies	1			2.2
W13	Mismatch between qualifications and job market requirements	1			4.1
W14	Growing illegal migration flows	1			4.1
W15	Difficulties facing legal movement of persons and visa provisions				
W16	Strong differentials in terms of territorial development and decentralization			? among some sectors only? Opportunity?	
W17	Security challenges				

The coloured elements were added by the participants during the Group work

	Opportunities	Support	Do not support	Reformulate	Measures
O1	Demographic transition in MPC, offering opportunity for accelerated economic growth	2	2 (not relevant for Israel)		3.2
O2	Urban renewal programmes on both shores	4			1.3, 4.3
O3	Economic growth is picking up on both shores				3.2
O4	Future negotiations on the extensions of trade measures included in the Euro-Med Association Agreements	3			3.2
O5	Opportunity for MPC agro-industry exports to EU supported by new trade liberalization negotiations	1			
O6	Progress towards negotiations on rapprochement of regulatory regimes for trade	1	2 : not realistic in short term		
O7	Potentials for growing trade flows among MPC after new agreements	2			
O8	Growing FDI flows in MPC, especially from Gulf and European countries	4			
O9	Strong push on policies for innovation on both shores				
O10	Opportunities for sustainable development programmes in tourism and a greater role of cultural heritage	2	1	In EU there is no cooperation on this either	4.1
O11	Strong growth in freight flows forecast for the next 20 years				
O12	Intense regional cooperation on transports in the EMP context	3			
O13	Growing regional role of energy flows, greater role for the Mediterranean Sea in global oil market				2.2
O14	Opportunity for greater use of renewable energy sources				2.2
O15	Potential complementarity between demographic and labour trends on the two shores	2		Did not understand	4.1
O16	Intensified Euro-Med cooperation activities on migration	2	1		4.1, 4.3
O17	Positive impact of migratory flows on European economies				4.1
O18	Potential for greater young exchanges for educational development and cultural dialogue				4.1

Due to the relatively large numbers of opportunities, some groups did not manage to discuss all - This does not mean there is much less support for them than for the other opportunities

	Threats	Support	Do not support	Reformulate	Measures
T1	Strong negative impact of open or frozen conflicts in the region	4			4.1
T2	Difficult adjustment to globalisation in many traditional economic sectors	1		Not only for traditional sectors	1.2
T3	Risk of a EU-centred hub-and-spoke trade system				1.2, 1.3
T4	Problems in implementing regulatory regime rapprochement	1			4.3
T5	Risk of extinction of some major fish species due to overfishing				2.1
T6	Impact of tourism on the fragile natural and historical resources			Tourism is also an opportunity to increase local well-being and enhance historical resources	2.1
T7	Climate change and environment deterioration (desertification, floods, coastal vulnerability)	1			2.1
T8	Risk of a major environmental disaster in sea transport notwithstanding many regulatory progress	1			2.1
T9	A very large young population entering the job market is also a major challenge for MPC			For some MPC: for Israel the challenge is more an ageing population, level of active population, regional distribution of jobs	4.1
T10	Shortage in labour force in EUMC due to changes in demographic trends				4.1
T11	Growing role of transit migration in MPC				
T12	Cultural misunderstandings (history, religion, democratic practices)	3			4.1, 4.2
T13	Gap between the rich and the poor				
T 14	Terrorism (not only for Israel, but the whole Med Sea Basin)				

The coloured elements were added by the participants during the Group work