



CENTER for MEDITERRANEAN
INTEGRATION | CENTRE pour
l'INTEGRATION en MÉDITERRANÉE
مركز التكامل المتوسطي

BROCHURE 2021

PARTNERSHIPS FOR KNOWLEDGE.
KNOWLEDGE FOR ACTION.



MEMBERS



PARTNERS





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THE CENTER FOR MEDITERRANEAN INTEGRATION

PARTNERSHIPS FOR KNOWLEDGE. KNOWLEDGE FOR ACTION.

“Never before was Mediterranean integration more needed than it is now. The region faces a unique opportunity to fulfill its historical mandate in bringing closer its peoples, cultures, resources, and assets. Enhancing Mediterranean integration would mean going beyond trade and addressing critical regional blockages in areas such as human capital mobility, education, energy, and water, which would also help recover from COVID 19. Many actors are involved. Many lives will benefit from such integration. Now is the time to push forward.”

Blanca Moreno-Dodson, Manager

THE MEDITERRANEAN CONTEXT CALLS FOR COLLECTIVE ACTION

Mediterranean integration promotes stability and prosperity for the region and worldwide.

- **Turmoil, poor growth performance, and environmental challenges:** Conflicts in the Middle East (Palestine, Iraq, Syria, Libya) result in forced displacements and instability in the area. On the socioeconomic front, slow economic growth and social inequalities translate into lack of job opportunities, especially for women and youth. In addition, climate change is affecting the region disproportionately, aggravating pre-existing challenges, such as water scarcity and territorial unbalances, while also creating opportunities to transition to lower-carbon energy sources.

Promoting inclusive and sustainable growth while building greater resilience to conflict and climate change would have positive spillovers in the region and beyond.

- **Great potential:** Southern Mediterranean countries offer a large young population, abundant renewable energy, promising economic and political transitions, and strategic positioning as a crossroads between Europe, Africa, and Asia.

Unlocking this potential through regional integration along different dimensions, such as trade of goods and services, population mobility, and joint investments across northern and southern Mediterranean countries, would have positive ripple effects leading to more stability in neighboring regions as well.

- **A new emphasis on human capital mobility is needed:** Of all dimensions of Mediterranean integration, human capital mobility is the least advanced. Migration has been associated with political opposed views, preventing the formulation of proactive policies. Yet if well managed, labor mobility and regularized migration can provide great opportunities and foster youth inclusion in society. The region is in dire need of harmonized labor market policies, circular migration, greater employability of prospective migrants through, for example, quality education and vocational training programs, as well as diaspora engagement.

Over a decade of partnerships for knowledge and influence

2009: Foundation of CMI in Marseille (2009-2012)

2012: Members sign second Memorandum of Understanding (2012-2015)

2015: Members sign third Memorandum of Understanding (2015-2018)

2018: Members sign fourth Memorandum of Understanding (2018-2021)

2019: CMI marked its 10-year anniversary

Such an investment in human capital, including reforms in education and mobility policies, would encourage social inclusion of women and youth in the region, as well as making progress towards a more integrated Euro-Mediterranean labor market.

THE CENTER FOR MEDITERRANEAN INTEGRATION IS ALL ABOUT PARTNERSHIPS

A MULTIPARTNER PLATFORM

The Center for Mediterranean Integration (CMI) is a multipartner knowledge exchange platform where development agencies, governments, local authorities, and civil society from around the Mediterranean convene to exchange ideas, discuss public policies, and identify regional solutions to address regional challenges in the Mediterranean.

MEMBERS



PARTNERS



THE CMI CREATES A NEUTRAL SPACE FOR DIALOGUE AND INFLUENCE

- **Governance:** Members jointly decide on strategic orientations and actions.
- **Financing:** Financial contributions from the World Bank, as well as France, the European Investment Bank, and other members and partners through a multidonor trust fund, are channeled to deliver the Center's programs and activities. In addition, numerous partners provide additional in-kind contributions in connection with specific thematic activities.
- **Staffing:** The CMI team includes staff from the World Bank and detached from other institutions.
- **Knowledge for action:** Technical reports and policy briefs, thematic hubs and communities of practitioners supported by the Center generate common frameworks and peer-to-peer learning, which reinforce the capacities of participants to undertake reforms and influence decision-making.

The CMI has partnerships at its core. It is a unique institution gathering governments, international development institutions, local authorities, and civil society. Such an alliance is critical for policy reforms and the development transformation of the Mediterranean region.

- **Project incubation:** Through technical assistance, capacity building, and a digital platform, the CMI facilitates the preparation and implementation of regional projects with the potential to transform the region by going beyond the country-by-country approach.

THE CMI WORKS ONLY AT THE REGIONAL LEVEL

By acting as a knowledge sharing center that links ideas to policy making and reforms, the CMI benefits from the technical support of the World Bank and the other member countries and institutions. By focusing on integration beyond national borders, under a development perspective, the CMI's agenda complements the work of the European Commission and the Union for the Mediterranean, as well as that of Mediterranean research institutes, think tanks, and other regional partners.

THE CMI ADDS UNIQUE VALUE

- The CMI is the only Mediterranean institution bringing together governments, international financial institutions, local authorities, and civil society.
- The CMI fosters synergies between development lenders, governments, technical partners, and citizens.
- The CMI leverages technical expertise, financial resources, and networks.
- The CMI offers a neutral platform for dialogue using its multipartner model.
- The CMI aims at promoting regional development through Mediterranean integration, on the basis of inclusive growth and decreasing disparities between member countries.
- The CMI promotes scaling-up of successful experiences at the local, country, and regional level.

THE CMI IN 2018-2021: TECHNICAL DEPTH TO SUPPORT MEDITERRANEAN INTEGRATION

THE STRATEGIC VISION

For its fourth phase (2018-2021), the CMI adopted a new strategy aiming at playing a highly influential role through the expertise and technical rigor it brings to Mediterranean dialogues. By building synergies among Mediterranean stakeholders (governments, funding institutions, private entrepreneurs, civil society), the CMI's program is expected to have a transformational effect in the region.

STRATEGIC THEMES

Mediterranean integration will continue to be the CMI's overarching goal. Given the realities of Mediterranean countries and the dynamics of the region, the CMI selectively focuses on two pillars, socioeconomic transformation (co-development, integration, and human capital mobility) and resilience (mitigation and adaptation to external shocks, mainly climate change and conflict causing forced displacement), with youth and gender as cross-cutting themes.

FIVE BUSINESS LINES

The CMI's actions will revolve around five business lines:

- Knowledge exchanges
- Technical communities of practice and hubs
- Analytical and advisory products
- Targeted capacity building
- Incubation of operations

SOCIO-ECONOMIC TRANSFORMATION

CO-DEVELOPMENT & INTEGRATION

Analytical and advisory products

- On the occasion of the 25th anniversary of the Barcelona Process, *Enhancing Mediterranean Integration* report examines the various dimensions of Mediterranean integration in today's context and provides policy recommendations to pursue Mediterranean integration goals, beyond trade agreements.
- Joint CMI–World Bank Middle East and North Africa Economic Update on *Reviving Trade Integration in a Post-COVID Era*.
- Joint CMI–Euro-Mediterranean Forum of Institutes of Economic Sciences (FEMISE) COVID-19 Policy Brief Series.

HUMAN CAPITAL & MOBILITY

Knowledge exchanges

- The Center makes technical contributions to regional events for shaping the Mediterranean agenda: *Mediterranean Economic Week*, *Mediterranean of the Future*, and *Dialogue of the Two Shores*.

Technical communities of practice and hubs

- The *Tertiary Education Learning Network* includes 160 universities from 12 countries who regularly exchange on best practice to improve access and quality of education.

Analytical and advisory products

- Joint CMI–World Bank report on *Internationalization of Tertiary Education in the Middle East and North Africa*, is the first MENA regionwide report on the subject, aimed at launching a regional policy dialogue on the topic.
- Joint CMI–World Bank flagship report, *Mobility in the Mediterranean: Migration, Forced Displacement, and Human Capital* (forthcoming)
- The “Cycle Economique” discussion series has resulted in policy recommendations on economic transitions (2014), preventing violent extremism (2017), and youth, education, and mobility (2020).
- An initiative on Employability through Vocational Training and Skills Enhancement in the Mediterranean has been proposed to increase the quality, pertinence, and recognition of training and skills delivered across the Mediterranean.

Targeted capacity building

- The *University Governance Screening Card* tool was developed, allowing Mediterranean universities to benchmark themselves against international standards.

Targeted capacity building

- A series of technical workshops on education, including 50 representatives from education ministries, aiming at reinforcing the capacity of participants to conduct education reforms.

RESILIENCE

CONFLICT: FORCED DISPLACEMENT

Technical communities of practice and hubs

- *Mediterranean Host Municipalities Learning Network* gathers 170 municipalities hosting forcibly displaced people from several countries in the Middle East and North Africa.
- Five cross-country intercity twinning agreements for cooperation have been established between Jordanian, Lebanese, and Palestinian local authorities who continue to learn together about promoting local economic development.
- First-time-ever local economic development strategies in municipalities hosting refugees were developed.

Analytical and advisory products

- Under the *Global Compact for Refugees*, CMI in partnership with UN agencies have developed a guidance document with a chapter on local economic development for local inclusion of refugees.

Targeted capacity building

- CMI-designed curricula (webinars, workshops, and two compendia of good practices) have increased the capacities of municipalities and regional governments to overcome their joint challenges.

Incubation of operations

- CMI works on reinforcing the capacities of local governments hosting forcibly displaced populations.

CLIMATE CHANGE

WATER

Knowledge exchanges

- Technical contributions to high-level events for shaping the Mediterranean water agenda (Mediterranean Climate Conference (MedCOP 21), World Water Week 2018, 2019, and 2020)

Technical communities of practice and hubs

- *Mediterranean Youth for Water*, the region's first water youth network, with 200 researchers, entrepreneurs, and activists from 12 countries, 60% of whom are females.

Analytical and advisory products

- With the support of the UK Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office, *the water-security nexus study in North Africa: catalyzing regional coordination on climate change, migration, and resilience* gives decision-makers insight into the challenges associated with water and food security, climate change, and migration

Targeted capacity building

- Annual CMI World Water Days trained 120 young Mediterranean water professionals on water scarcity and water & migration
- Young writers paired up with senior mentoring staff to produce working papers

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ENERGY

Knowledge exchanges

- The CMI has made technical contributions to high-level events for shaping the Mediterranean energy agenda (MedCOP21, 2015 United Nations Climate Change Conference).

Technical communities of practice and hubs

- The *Mediterranean Forum on Energy and Climate Change* is composed of governments, international organizations, regulators, and electricity companies, who regularly exchange on new policies and their implications for the energy transition in the region.

Analytical and advisory products

- Joint CMI-EU report on the *European Union "Clean Energy for All Europeans" Package for the Use of Southern and Eastern Mediterranean Countries* explores options for greater North-South cooperation and the creation of a Euro-Med energy market.

TERRITORIAL RESILIENCE

Technical communities of practice and hubs

- *Mediterranean Youth for Climate Action Network* (MedYCA) gathers 148 members from 17 countries, 60% of whom are females.

Analytical and advisory products

- *Climate Change and Migration: Inspiring Practices from the Mediterranean* disseminates local solutions on how to address the challenges of climate change and its effects at the territorial level on migration.

Targeted capacity building

- A metropolitan immersive workshop series including 75 urban practitioners.

- Training for leaders in urban transport planning that developed the decision-making and networking capacity of 200 Mediterranean participants.

DIALOGUE OF THE TWO SHORES OF THE MEDITERRANEAN

Incubation of operations

- CMI digital platform for matching projects with donors and multilateral institutions: at the initiative of French Minister of Foreign Affairs Mr. Jean-Yves Le Drian, the 5+5 group of countries have entrusted the CMI with hosting a digital platform for facilitating and monitoring the implementation of the projects emerging from the Summit of the Two Shores and the Declaration of Marseille 2019.
- A dedicated website promotes the projects led by the civil society by connecting leaders of the selected civil society projects with current and potential financial actors.

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