National Council for Scientific Research - Lebanon

MERID Final Conference
21/06/2018, Piran
A Networking and Discussion Platform
State of the Art – Obstacles and Recommendation

Beirut (Lebanon), December 1, 2016.

National Council for Scientific Research (CNRS) Lebanon hosted MERID regional event: *Towards enhancing framework conditions for cooperation between the European Union and the Middle East*. The aim of event was to address and discuss obstacles in cooperation in the field of science and research between the EU and Middle Eastern countries and capitalize on the already existing collaboration frameworks.

43 Participants: Slovenia, Germany, Belgium, Jordan, Greece, Spain, Egypt, Italy, Syria, Iraq, Iran, Lebanon
The need for increased and enhanced cooperation, building trust, boosting cooperation in areas where collaboration already exists and surpass the remaining obstacles that are hindering the cooperation.

EU and the Middle East are facing certain and common societal challenges. No major challenge can be solved without strong cooperation in science and research.

Horizon 2020 programme as an instrument that supports experts, policy makers and researchers to build upon new ideas and initiatives.

Many areas of cooperation between the EU and the Middle East, but still too many obstacles obstruct the exploitation of their full potential.
Discussions in Beirut Focused on:

- Acquiring Information on Potential Cooperation Opportunities (NCPs & Dissemination)
- Establishing Contacts with EU Researchers (Networking)
- Preparation and Management of Joint Research Activities (Capacity Building)
- Promotion of ME Research Capacity (Visibility & Outreach)

- Intellectual Property Rights, Open Access, and Visa Issues
EU funded projects have enabled scientists from Europe and the Middle East to work together, break barriers of mistrust, improve understanding the level of research skills people of the MENA region have, and how to find common grounds for joint projects.

Dr. Nesreen Ghaddar, AUB

I attended several MERID meetings that allowed me to better understand the H2020 processes. This helped me in promoting ideas, within my University and colleagues, and has kept my research activities relevant to the state of the art.

Dr. Chafic Mokbel, UoB
Project Coordination – Across Projects

Group of Senior Officials - GSO

And Beyond…
THANK YOU

Rula Atweh, CNRS-L Programme Officer
Mouïn Hamzé, CNRS-L Secretary General