INNFORMED

Innovation Foresight for MEDA Partners in the European Research Area

INCO/RoK Briefing
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Jennifer Cassingena Harper

EU INCO E Programme

- **FP6 INCO E Programme focuses on strategic projects to inform EU international cooperation policy in research and innovation**
- **Results of INCO E projects provide important inputs for FP7 cooperation with priority regions including MED**
- **Outcome may be policy orientation and/or follow-up research projects**

INCO-E INNFORMED Project

Innovation Foresight for MEDA partners in the ERA

- General objective : to increase the use of **participative foresight approaches** in support of joint efforts of the European Union and Mediterranean Partners in developing strategic approaches to the development of the innovation systems of partner countries and thus **opening up the European Research Area to the Mediterranean.**
- This two-year project will strengthen RTD and Innovation (RTDI) policy development processes in the non-EU MEDA partners through the strategic use of foresight for the integration of national RTDI systems with the ERA. The project is to be carried out in cooperation with **four** countries **(Tunisia, Morocco, Jordan and Egypt),** while ensuring that learning benefits are disseminated to other MEDA countries.

INNFORMED Specific Objectives

- To use a combination of Innovation Systems thinking and foresight approaches as the basis for developing a structured dialogue in R&I between EU and Mediterranean, thereby facilitating the opening up of the ERA to the Mediterranean.

- To embed in the non-EU MEDA partner countries innovation systems thinking and a broader-based foresight capability at the policy design and implementation levels by identifying and developing capabilities in a network of foresight and RTDI experts and key stakeholder organisations in the national RTDI system.

Capacity-building Objectives

- To identify and develop capabilities in a network of foresight and RTDI experts and key stakeholder organisations in the national RTDI system.

- To facilitate the work of local experts and stakeholders in pilot exercises for the development of success scenarios for exploiting and turning the country's current/potential strengths and investments in RTD into economic opportunities.

Building on Previous and Ongoing Projects

- European Foresight Monitoring Network
  http://www.efmn.info/kb/efmn-brief08.pdf
- Trendchart Report for MEDA countries
  http://trendchart.cordis.lu/tc_country_list2.cfm?ID=70
- SCOPE2015
  http://les.man.ac.uk/PREST/SCOPE/Maghreb_Mashreq.htm
- eFORESEE Mediterranean foresight conference
  http://www.eforesee.info/conferencesandevents/malta2003/background.shtml?s=C1BC2EFE-7D6624184558-43C8

European Project Partners

- Coordinator – CKA and Associates of Brussels –
  - lead Patrick Crehan
- University of Manchester
  - Lead Prof Luke Georghiou
- Malta Council for Science and Technology
  - lead Dr Jennifer Cassingena Harper

INNFORMED's Project Partners

Project in cooperation with :

Egypt: The Centre for Future Studies (ICFS)

Jordan: HCST (Higher Council for Science and Technology)

Morocco: IMIST (Institut Marocain de l'Information Scientifique et Technique)

Tunisia : Secretary of State of Science and Technology (SERST)

- Dissemination to other MEDA countries.
- It links up with ongoing INCO projects such as ESTIME.

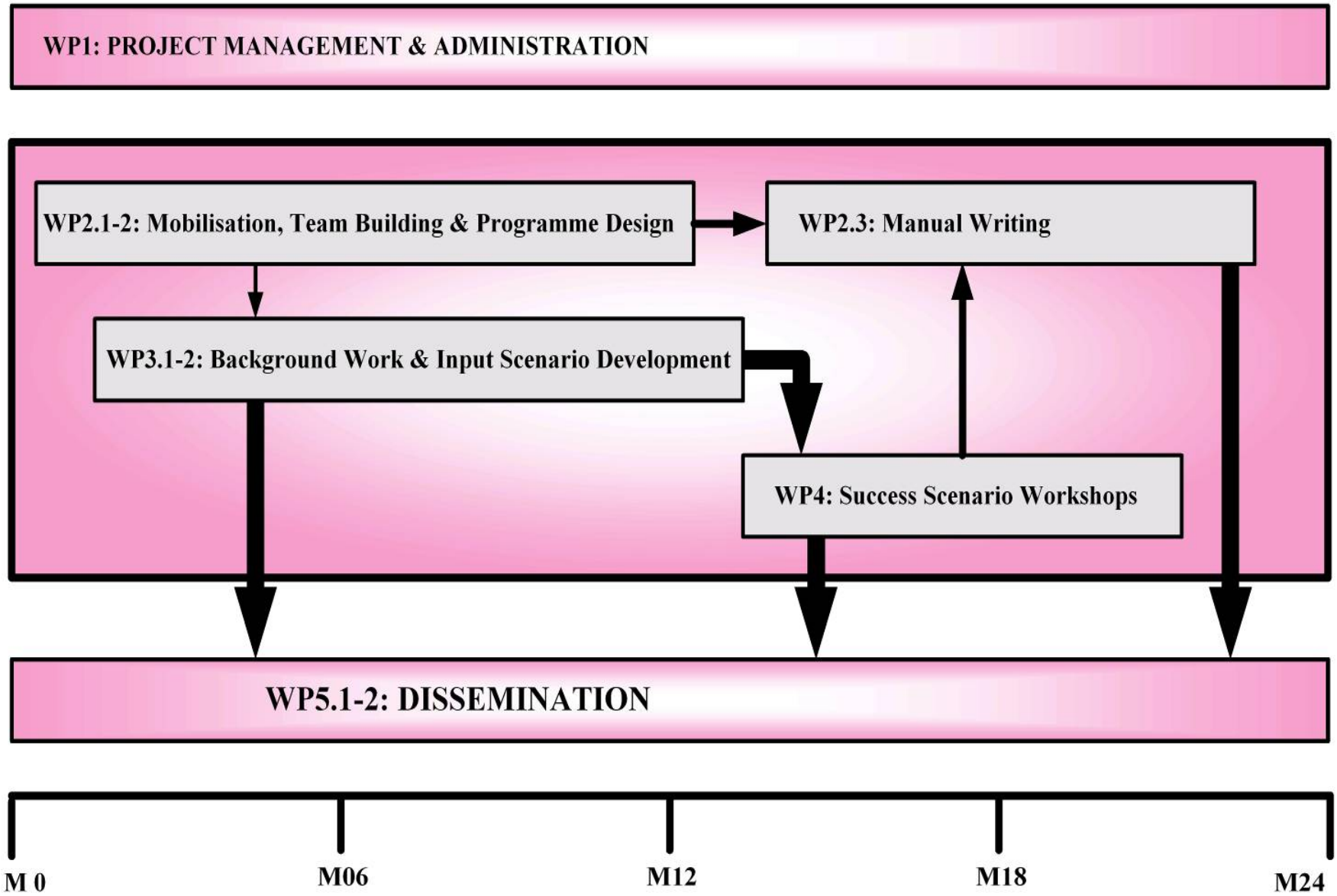
Consultation with MoCo

- Consultation with MoCo members in Phase 1 to advise on national cooperation and priority aspects of MEDA research and innovation systems suitable for development through foresight activities.

- Phase 2 will involve the design of pilot foresight programmes. These will be executed in Phase 3. This work involves development of input scenarios to support 'success scenario workshops' in Egypt, Jordan, Tunisia and Morocco.

- Dissemination will take the form of reports on the workshop outcomes and a manual to support the take-up of these techniques in the region. A dedicated mailing list and a dissemination event will provide a basis for further cooperation in the FP and the ERA.

INNFORMED - Gannt Chart



MEDA Partner tasks

Local partner's tasks are to:

- Assemble national team to take part
- Identify aspects of the NSI that would benefit from the application of foresight
- Participate in multinational foresight design workshop
- Prepare and implement national success scenario workshop
- Write up outputs
- Contribute to foresight manual for MEDA countries
- Take part in international dissemination event

Country Visits

- The first of the country visits was **to Egypt 2-3 May 2006**

The objectives of the mission were:

- To gain a more in-depth understanding from a high level of the key issues facing Egypt's research and innovation policy into the next decade
- To identify appropriate local players/key stakeholders and establish an effective partnership for the EU sponsored INNFORMED project which supports equitable future research cooperation

Meetings with key policy-makers

- The first day involved a sequence of three intensive meetings with senior policy-makers in science and technology.
- On the second day a meeting was held with a large number of staff from the National Research Centre (principally from the international cooperation department).
- In two of the meetings held on the first day, the host entity gave a powerpoint presentation of key developments in the research and innovation system.

Key questions discussed

- The planned success scenario workshop would address two themes:
  - A Key issue on research and innovation system (eg university-industry relations)
  - A Key sectoral issue (eg role of research in relation to sector such as water supply or tourism)
- To obtain opinions and feedback on suitable themes
- Strong enthusiasm was expressed for the project at all levels with possibility of extending it with national co-sponsorship

Key questions (2)

- Which organisation(s) in the country would find it useful to take part in this work as a partner?
  - Bearing in mind limited resources, by building on related ongoing or projected work
- How to build broader commitment/engagement in the activity?

Upcoming activities

- Further development of Innformed website and dedicated mailing list
- Planning of Design Workshop for mid-2007
- Links with Government agencies in Lebanon, Syria, Algeria and the PA interested in implementing foresight activities

For further information

Project coordinator: Patrick Crehan
email: patrick.crehan@cka.be

Foresight/IS expertise: Luke Georghiou
email: luke.georghiou@man.ac.uk

MoCo contact person: Jennifer Cassingena Harper
email: jennifer.harper@mcst.org.mt

Website: http://les.man.ac.uk/PREST/INNFORMED/