CENTER FOR MEDITERRANEAN INTEGRATION
PROVIDING REGIONAL PUBLIC GOODS
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WHAT WE ARE: A MULTI-PARTNER PLATFORM
The Center for Mediterranean Integration (CMI) is a space where development agencies, Governments, local authorities and civil society from around the Mediterranean convene in order to exchange knowledge, discuss public policies, and identify the solutions needed to address key challenges facing the Mediterranean region.

OUR GOAL: AN ECONOMICALLY VIBRANT AND POLITICALLY STABLE REGION
Through innovative solutions, the CMI aims to help countries achieve transformative reforms and enhance integration in the Mediterranean region.

“...The Center for Mediterranean Integration represents a unique space and a catalyst for cooperation and development in the Mediterranean...”
Jean-Marie Paugam & Sami Haddad, Independent Assessment Report, 2014

OUR ESSENCE: STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIPS
The capacity to build partnerships between a wide spectrum of development actors from the South and the North of the Mediterranean is unique to the CMI.

Members:
Governments: Egypt, France, Italy, Jordan, Lebanon, Morocco, Palestinian Authority, Tunisia.
Local authorities: City of Marseille, Provence-Alpes-Côte d’Azur Region.
International financial institutions: European Investment Bank (EIB), the World Bank Group (WB).

Partners:
The CMI nurtures strong partnerships with more than sixty institutions, among which: Agence Française de Développement (AFD), Caisse des Dépôts et Consignations (CDC), Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ), Union for the Mediterranean (UFM), Arab Urban Development Institute (AUDI), Association of Arab Universities, Islamic Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization (ISESCO), and others.

Partnerships at the heart of the CMI

Governance: Member institutions are represented in the Center’s Oversight Committee which, in accordance with the Memorandum of Understanding, oversees processes, pays strong attention to strategy, programs, partnerships, overall orientation and use of the Multi-Donor Trust Fund. The Oversight Committee meets regularly and gathers once a year for the Center’s Annual Meeting.

Financing: The CMI’s budget has three main components:
- A Multi-Donor Trust Fund, which collects contributions from members and partner institutions.
- Direct contributions from CMI’s partners for specific programs and for general support.
- Financing from the World Bank.

Staffing: The CMI has a core team of World Bank staff and hosts secondees from member and partner institutions, who act as members of the greater CMI team and ensure connection to their institution of origin. Since its creation in 2009, the Center hosted representatives from AFD, CDC, City of Marseille, EIB, GIZ, WB, as well as focal points seconded by the French Ministry of Environment. Starting 2015, the CMI will also host secondees from member countries in the South.
Over the next decade, the exchange and application of knowledge will constitute an essential ingredient in the transition process of Southern Mediterranean countries.

Mourad Ezzine, CMI Manager

**OUR STRATEGIC RELEVANCE: CHAMPIONING COLLECTIVE ACTION TO ADDRESS REGIONAL AND GLOBAL CHALLENGES**

The Middle East and North Africa (MENA) region is in turmoil:
- Civil strife with spillovers of refugees, trade interruptions and economic hardship in many countries. Palestinians are reeling from deadly attacks and blockades.
- Terrorist groups and sectarian factions spread violence, threaten governments’ ability to perform basic functions, and call into question borders laid a century ago.
- Countries undergoing political transitions are facing deep divisions in society that impede consensus on policies promoting prosperity and inclusion.
- Slowing down of private investment and economic growth in all countries, while unemployment—especially of women and young people—remains the highest in the developing world.

This turmoil in MENA does not just affect the Arab world. The whole world is affected by its spillovers: problems of terrorism, refugee migration and oil price volatility.

The diffuse nature of these spillovers makes it difficult for any one of the affected countries to address the problem unilaterally. Only a concerted effort by the group of countries, supported by the international community, could go a long way in mitigating the effects, if not solving the problems.

With the diverse composition of its stakeholders, its multi-country approach, and its neutrality and flexibility, the CMI is uniquely placed to champion such efforts.

**OUR FOCUS: PROVIDING REGIONAL PUBLIC GOODS**

The CMI focuses its work on providing the regional public goods that are needed to address the problems of the region and help it achieve its potential:
- Economic integration: trade, finance, investment, public-private partnerships, diasporas.
- Inclusion: skills, employment, social protection, international labor mobility, youth and gender.
- Environment and climate change: water and energy efficiency, cities management and resilience to risks.

- Knowledge economy: innovation, education, science and technology.

By providing these regional public goods, the CMI contributes to building economic and social cohesion, peace preparation, cross-border trade and investment, as well as scientific and cultural exchanges.

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**CMI IN NUMBERS**

Since its creation in 2009 the CMI has:

- Engaged with 26 countries
- Supported 29 multi-partner programs
- Organized 273 conferences and workshops in 37 cities
- Welcomed 2365 participants
- Issued 55 publications of which 9 major reports

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Mourad Ezzine, CMI Manager
**OUR APPROACH: THREE BUSINESS AREAS FOCUSING ON SOLUTIONS**

The CMI focuses on identifying and disseminating solutions and acts as a comprehensive service platform built around three complementary business areas:

- **MULTI-PARTNER PROGRAMS**
  - Producing analysis and strategies
  - Developing pilots and innovative tools

- **DIALOGUE FORUM**
  - Building consensus and networks

- **KNOWLEDGE PLATFORM**
  - Disseminating and mainstreaming

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- **Multi-partner programs** encourage development stakeholders to work together towards informing policy, operationalizing concepts, building capacity and developing innovative analytical tools, concepts and solutions.

- **The Mediterranean dialogue forum** promotes new ideas and weaves together the political, social and economic dimensions of reforms. The dialogue forum contributes to building consensus and reinforcing cooperation across countries, sectors and stakeholders.

- **The Mediterranean knowledge platform** aims at brokering and disseminating relevant knowledge products from its partners. The CMI adds value to knowledge through further customization, dissemination and “activation”.

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**ECONOMICALLY VIBRANT AND POLITICALLY STABLE REGION**
SELECTED RESULTS

CREATING INNOVATIVE APPROACHES AND SOLUTIONS

- The University Governance Screening Card benchmarking tool enabled 100 universities to compare themselves to international standards, define their own set of goals, and monitor progress in achieving them.
- Middle East North Africa Innovation Scoreboard tool allows countries to benchmark and improve their innovation performance and policies.

INFORMING POLICY AND STRATEGY

- 27 action plans and city development strategies produced through in-depth diagnosis and strategic policy advice on urban development challenges.
- CMI policy analysis informed formal agreements on international labor intermediation systems.

CONVENING REGIONAL DIALOGUES

- “Economic Transition in the Mediterranean” discussion series gathered 23 experts over a year and provided concrete recommendations to the Presidency of the European Union.
- Multi-partner event on tourism gathered 35 panelists and 350 participants who exchanged on the role of public policies in developing tourism.

DISSEMINATING KNOWLEDGE AND BUILDING CAPACITY

- The Urbanization Knowledge Platform regional event on city resilience, gathering 70 mayors as well as risk management practitioners from 15 cities, discussed international best practices and strengthened implementation capacity of participants.
- Training for Leaders in Urban Transport Planning developed the decision-making and networking capacity of 50 Mediterranean participants over the past four years.

INFORMING OPERATIONAL PROJECT PREPARATION AND IDENTIFYING FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

- The European Investment Bank Medinas 2030 initiative supported identification and preparation of new projects under the Urban Project Finance Initiative (UPFI) in Tunisia, Morocco, and Egypt.
- “National Urban Transport Days” workshops and road map for improving public transport prepared for the Agence Française de Développement/ European Union project on railway transport in the Greater Tunis Area Network and Bus Rapid Transit in Agadir.
- Analytical work on decentralization for Tunisia informed the preparation of World Bank Urban Development and Local Governance lending operation under the Program for Result instrument (300 million USD).