

Parallel session 8

Coordination of Research and Innovation Programmes and Funding Instruments

Barcelona, 2 & 3 April 2012

Most important issues to focus on:

- **BACKGROUND: The political landscape and the State of Play**
- Optimizing the use of programmes and funding instruments covering the Research and Innovation Chain
- Coordination and synergies of bilateral programmes
- **Toward a regional programme for Research and Innovation**
Definition of the medium and long term Agenda of
Euro/Mediterranean Partnership in Research and Innovation

Main challenges to be addressed:

- Science cannot ignore the society changes and challenges in both sides of the Mediterranean. Crisis are also opportunities to change established situation and promote better use of resources, particularly knowledge use.
- Making **use of the existing results** of science, technology and products to address the societal and economic challenges. Create an Innovation driven culture. Clearly identified where the industry interest is.
- Passing from **cooperation to full partnership** between the EU and the MPC!
=> regulations, institutional building, etc.
- Facilitate the Uptake of knowledge by the industries in a common academia\industry endeavour => **The RDI Programs as a reference in shortening the gap between research and industry up-take**

Priorities for action – key next steps:

- **New funding perspectives should follow an scheme similar to the Africa Plan, identifying key sector for co-development and targeting common benefits.**
- **Support a Bi-Regional Program of Research, Innovation and Higher Education, with full co-design, co-evaluation, co-management, co-appropriation and co-funding. Construct a medium-long terms Research Agenda focused on a few challenges of common interest.**
- **Create a common legal structure that could act as facilitator of partnership, shared property of results and mobilizers of resources**