



ARIMNet

Coordination of Agricultural Research in the Mediterranean Area

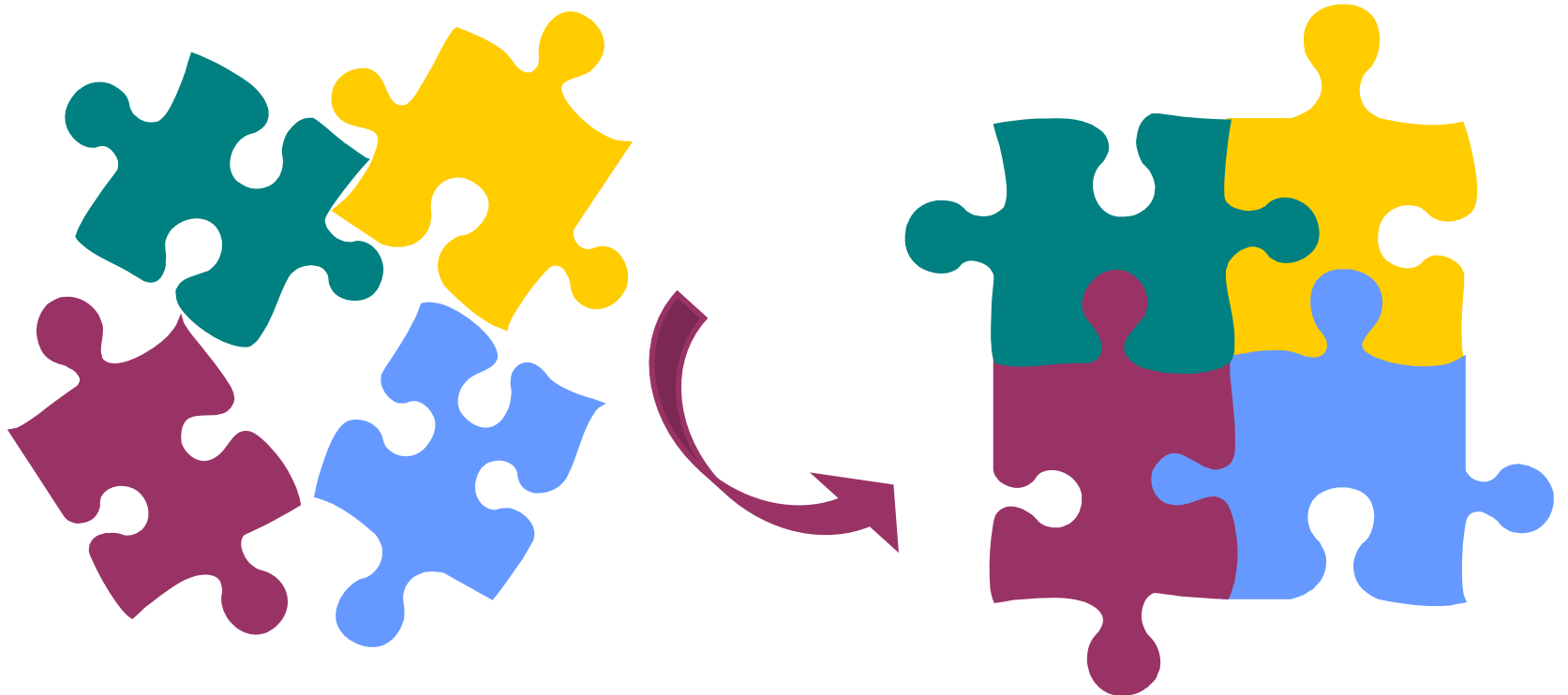


1

**ARIMNet,
An ERA-Net
action supported
by the EU FP7**

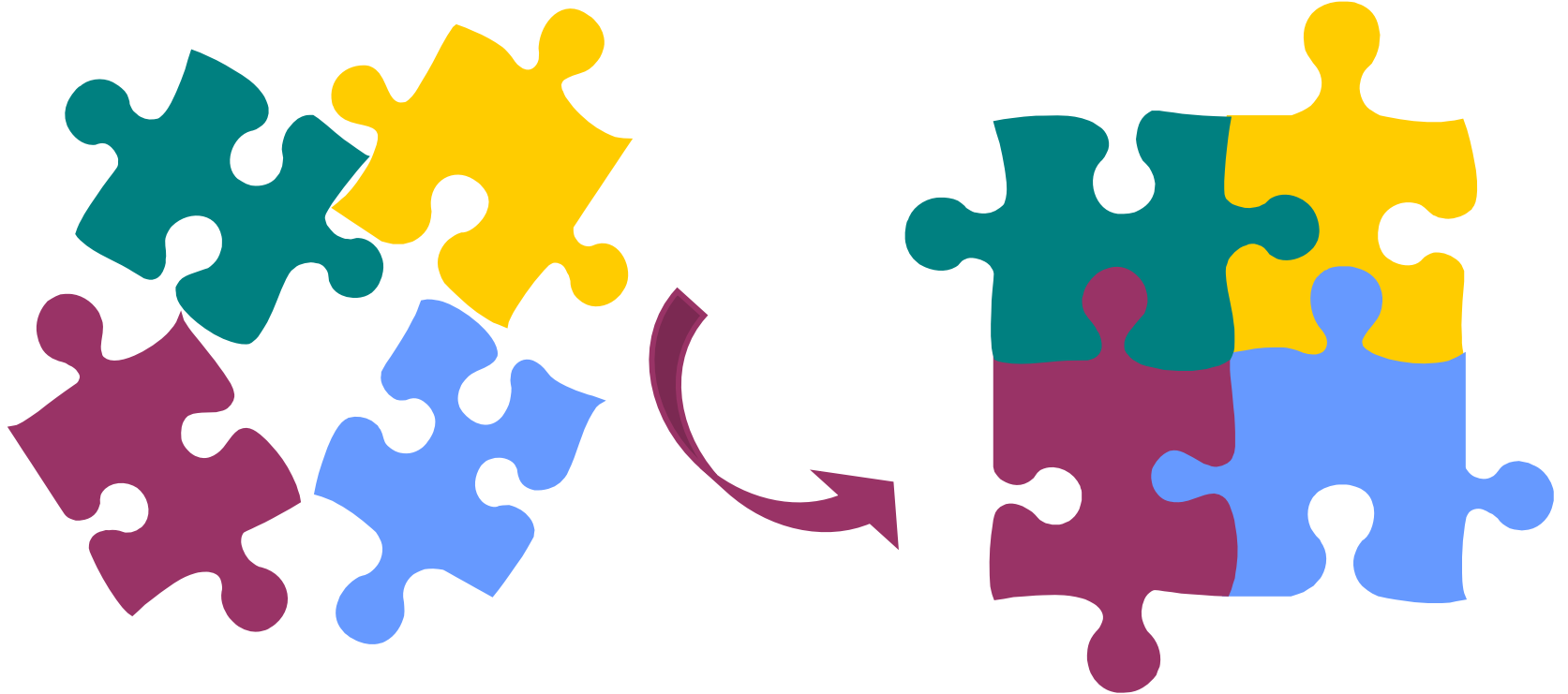
ARIMNet Project

- An **ERA-Net** (2008-2012) supported by the European Commission to enhance cooperation between 12 countries of the Mediterranean area



ARIMNet Project

- Why ?
- How ?



Mediterranean Agriculture

- Agriculture is a major component of the economic and social activity in the Mediterranean area

While the contribution of agriculture is rather low in the Mediterranean EU member states (2% to 3% of the GDP-Gross Domestic Product), the economic growth in some countries of the Mediterranean area relies more importantly on agricultural production which contributes from 10% to 15% of the GDP.

Agricultural and agro-food products have an important share in trade: 5% to 20% of the imports and 15% to 25% of the exports.



Mediterranean agriculture's specificities

- The Mediterranean countries share in common three specificities, which are important for agriculture and food production:
 - their climate
 - their vegetation
 - and their unique biodiversity.

Mediterranean Rural Population

- The average rate of people working in agriculture in EU is around 7%
- The part of rural population in the Mediterranean is high and represents 36% of the total population (there is a great variety: from 57% in Egypt to low percentages in France).

Scientific research in the Mediterranean area

- Scientific research plays a central role in the building of solutions in agriculture
- In the Mediterranean area, problems are global but agricultural research systems to address those problems are local

Scientific research in the Mediterranean area

- The weakness in coordination at the European level as well as scattered cooperation policies are minimizing the impact of research programmes
- To have a stronger impact of research on the development of the whole area a mechanism was necessary to be created

Scientific research in the Mediterranean area

- Mediterranean cooperation in agricultural research has been growing step by step from the FP4 to the FP7
- In the field of research, 1992 can be considered as the starting point of the EU-Mediterranean partnership with activities set up through continuous dialogue
- .

ARIMNet:

- The first Euro-Mediterranean Ministerial Conference on Higher Education and Scientific Research held on Cairo, 18 June 2007 has resulted in a declaration which calls upon fostering the research technological development and innovation (RTDI) with Mediterranean countries.
- Among other statements the Euromed ministers suggested the creation of a EuroMed Research Area

COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES

ARIMNET

Coordination of Agricultural Research in the Mediterranean

ARIMNEt-Partners

- 6 EU members (Italy, Portugal, Spain, Greece, Cyprus and France- Coord.)
- 2 associated countries (Turkey and Israel)
- 4 Mediterranean Partner Countries (Egypt, Tunisia, Morocco and Algeria)
- CIHEAM and ICARDA are associated to the project to benefit by their expertise and better coordinate the activities in the Mediterranean area.

Partners

| Name | Short name | Country |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------|----------------------|
| Institut National de la Recherche Agronomique | INRA | France (FR) |
| Centre de Coopération Internationale en Recherche Agronomique pour le Développement | CIRAD | France (FR) |
| Ministero delle Politiche Agricole Alimentari e Forestali | MIPAAF | Italy (IT) |
| Institut National de la Recherche Agronomique d'Algérie | INRAA | Algeria (DZ) |
| Instituto Nacional de Investigación y Tecnología Agraria y Alimentaria | INIA | Spain (ES) |
| General Directorate of Agricultural Research, Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Affairs | GDAR | Turkey (TR) |
| Agricultural Research Centre | ARC | Egypt (EG) |
| Fundação para a Ciência e a Tecnologia | FCT | Portugal (PT) |
| Hassan II Institute of Agronomy and Veterinary Medicine | IAV | Morocco (MA) |
| National Agricultural Research Foundation | NAGREF | Greece (EL) |
| Institution of Agricultural Research and Higher Education | IRESA | Tunisia (TN) |
| Agricultural Research Institute | ARI | Cyprus (CY) |
| Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development | MOARD | Israel (IL) |

ARIMNEt -Objectives

- reinforce the scientific cooperation between countries of the Mediterranean area, creating a research community through the coordination of national programmes in agricultural research;
- address jointly the common key issues for Mediterranean agriculture such as: sustainable development, management of natural resources and mitigation of threats resulting from global change;
- better fulfil the expectations of decision makers, stakeholders and Mediterranean populations.

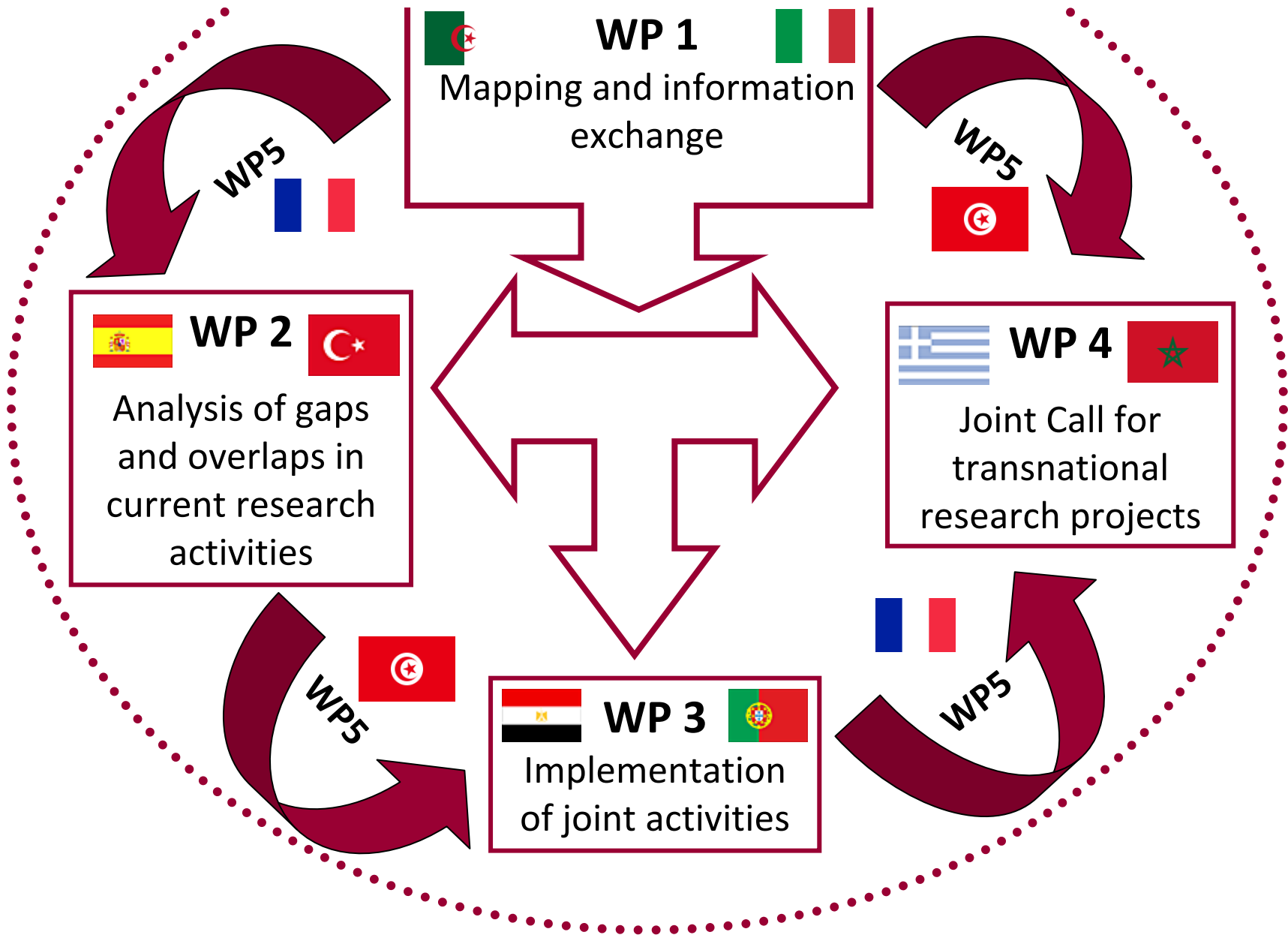
ARIMNet-Structure

- **Coordinator**
- **Steering Committee:** One representative from each country
- **Management Committee:** The Leaders from each Workpackage
- **Evaluation Committee**
- **Call Board**

ARIMNet: Main priorities

- animal production and health,
- crop production and protection,
- food quality,
- natural resources management,
- socio-economics and farming systems, agriculture policy,
- sustainable management of the agricultural production systems and environment conservation

The ARIMNet Work plan



The ARIMNet Work plan



WP 4



Joint Call for
transnational
research projects

2

Call 2011

WP4-Joint Call

for Transnational Research Proposals

- Steering and Management Committee Meetings : Montpellier-Algiers-Rome-Athens-Paris
Stakeholders conference (Palma) → **defining common scientific priorities**
- A call **focused on major challenges faced by Mediterranean Agriculture**
 - Production systems and their components, developing sustainable agricultural production in a context of increasing ecological and climatic stresses
 - Food chain from production to distribution: Enhancing the advantages of Mediterranean agriculture in developing products with high added value
 - Landscape and resources uses for agricultural and environmental purposes: Sustainable management of land and natural resources
- → **Virtual Common Pot of around 6 million euros**

WP4-Joint Call for Transnational Research Proposals

| COUNTRIES | FUNDING AGENCIES |
|------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| France | Agence National de la Recherche |
| Italy | Ministero delle Politiche Agricole Alimentari e Forestali, MIPAAF |
| Algeria | DGSRTD-Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research |
| Spain | Instituto Nacional de Investigacion y Tecnologia Agraria y Alimentaria, INIA |
| Turkey | General Directorate of Agricultural Research, Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Affairs, GDAR |
| Egypt | Agricultural Research Center / Ministry of Agriculture and Land Reclamation |
| Morocco | MENESFCRS- Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research |
| Greece | National Agricultural Research Foundation |
| Tunisia | Institut de la Recherche et de l'Enseignement Supérieur Agricoles |
| Cyprus | Ministry of Agriculture, Natural Ressources and Envirt |
| Israel | Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development, MOARD |

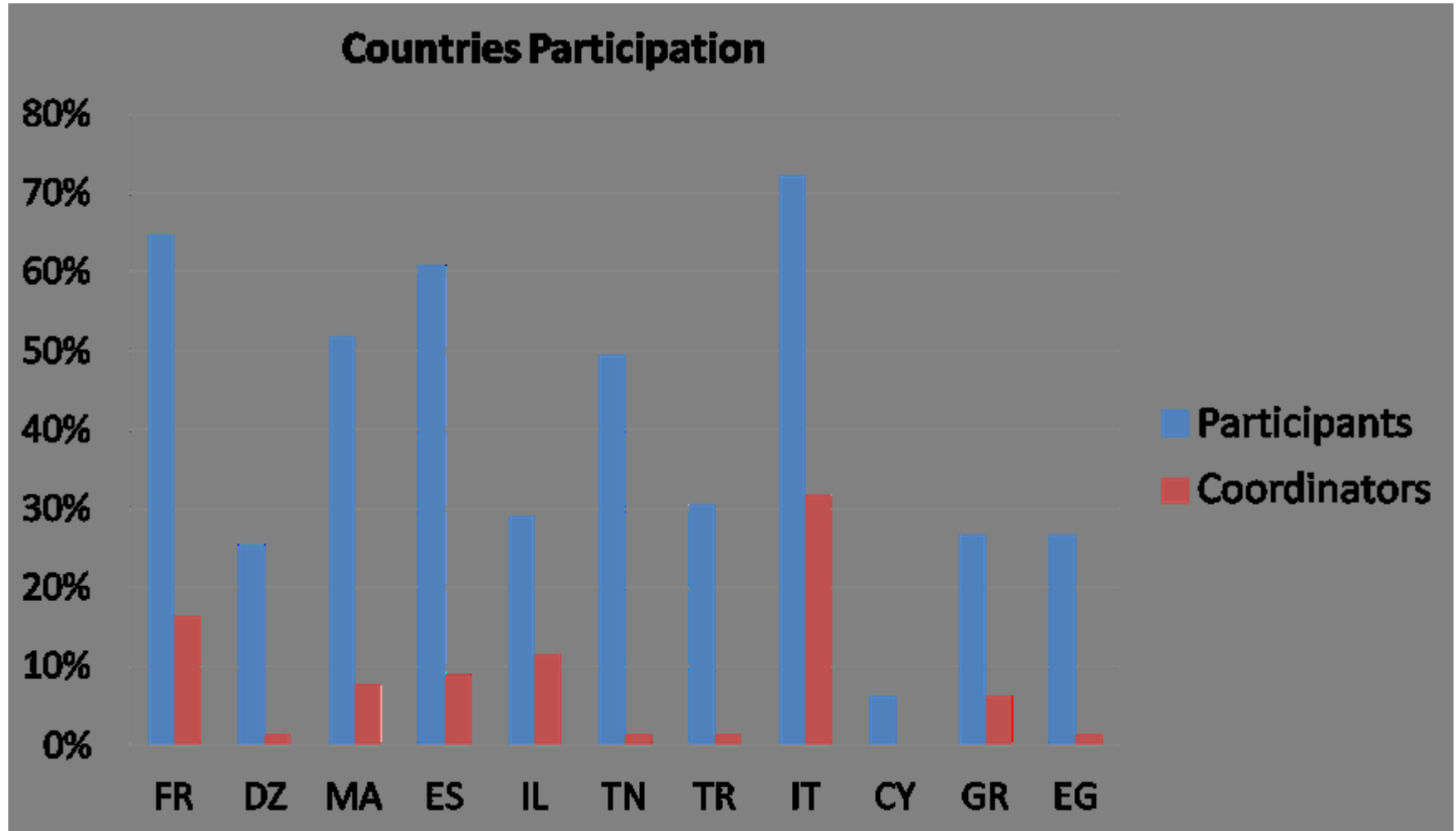
WP4-Joint Call for Transnational Research Proposals

| Action | Scheduled |
|-------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Pre-announcement of the Call | 06.05.2011 |
| Launching the Call and guidelines on website | 20.06.2011 |
| Deadline for submission of Letter of Intent | 12.07.2011 |
| Deadline for submission of proposals | 25.09.2011 |
| Eligibility check | 26-28.09.2011 |
| First Meeting of the Evaluation Committee | 05/10/2011 |
| Scientific peer review | 05.10-15.12.2011 |
| Meeting of the Evaluation Committee | 19-20.12.2011 |
| Meeting of the Call Board and funding decisions | 21.12.2011 |
| Contract negotiation | First quarter of 2012 |
| Expected start of projects | 01.04.2012 |
| Interim reports | October 2013 |
| Final project reports | Within two months following the end of the projects (Spring 2015) |

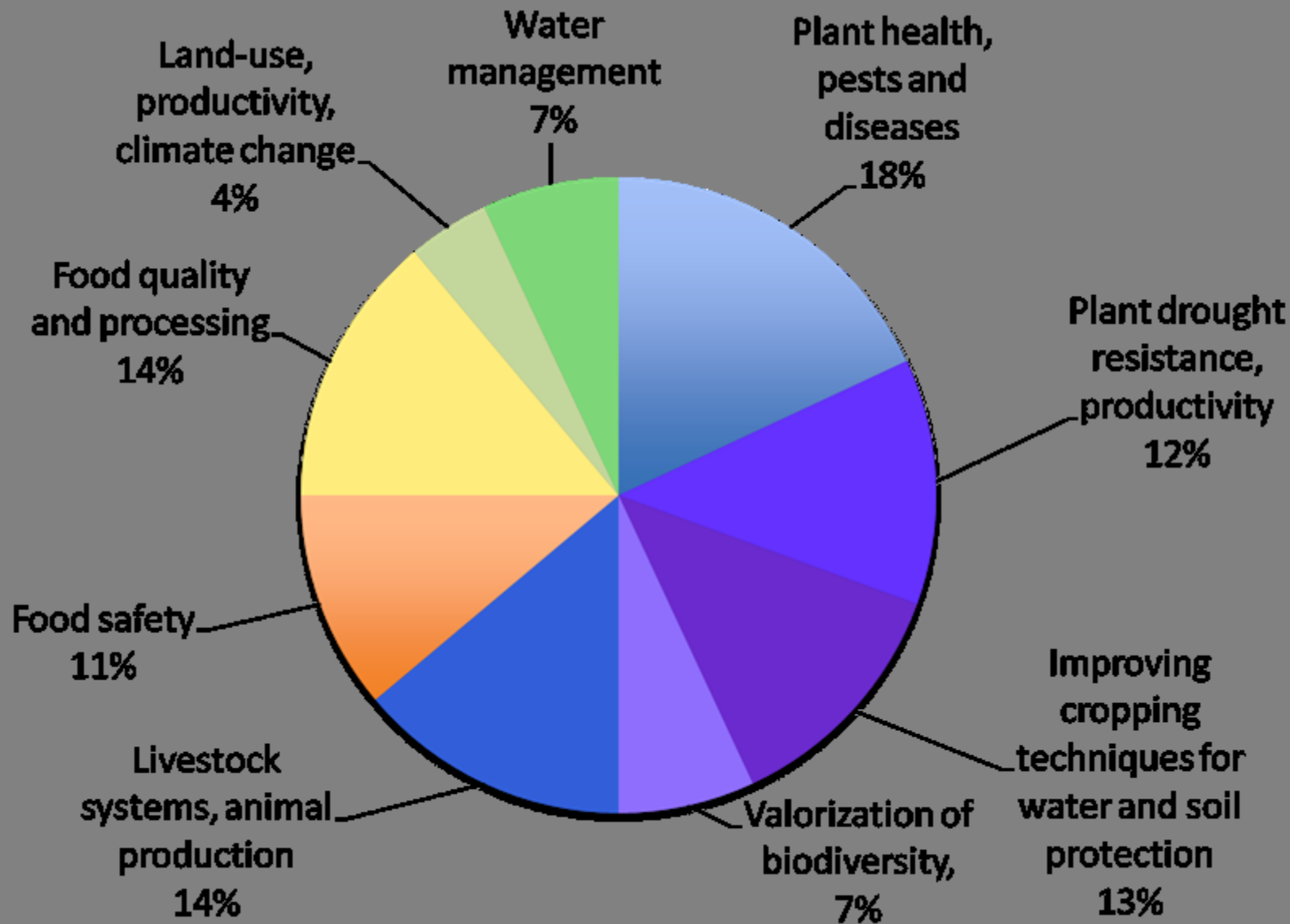
Call results

- **86 research proposals** have been submitted for funding. Among them 79 have been declared eligible and submitted to evaluation.
- The evaluation has been done by an **international committee of 12 Mediterranean scientists** from different disciplines and **2 external referees per each proposal**.
- Finally **10 projects have been selected** for funding (1 is still on a waiting list).

Call results – 79 proposals



Call results – 79 proposals



3

**Funded
projects**

Selected projects

- **APMed** : Apple and Peach in Mediterranean orchards – Integrating tree water status and irrigation management for coping with water scarcity and aphid control (**FR**, IL, IT, MA, SP)
- **ARIDWASTE** : Development of specific agricultural practices with the use of recycled wastes suitable for intensively cultivated Mediterranean areas under degradation risk (**GR**, IL, IT, SP)
- **CLIMED** : The future of Mediterranean Livestock Farming Systems: Opportunity and efficiency of Crops – Livestock Integration (**FR**, MA, EG)
- **DOMESTIC** : Mediterranean biodiversity as a tool for the sustainable development of the small ruminant sector: from traditional knowledge to innovation (**GR**, FR, CY, MA)
- **MEDILEG** : Breeding, agronomic and biotechnological approaches for reintegration and revalorization of legumes in Mediterranean agriculture (**SP**, MA, FR, IT, TN, PT, EG, DZ)

Selected projects

- **PESTOLIVE** : Contribution of olive history for the management of soil-borne parasites in the Mediterranean Basin (**FR**, GR, MA, SP, TN, TR)
- **POHMED** : Potato Health - Managed for Efficiency and Durability (**FR**, DZ, MA, EG)
- **REFORMA** : Resilient, water- and energy-Efficient FORage and feed crops for Mediterranean Agricultural systems(**IT**, FR,MA, TN, USA)
- **SAFEMED** : Food safety regulations, market access and international competition (**FR**, IT, MA, TN, SP, DZ)
- **SWIPE** : Predicting whitefly population outbreaks in changing environments (**IL**, FR, SP, GR, IT, TR, CH , USA)

Follow-up of the funded projects

■ **Contacts**

Florence JACQUET, ARIMNet coordinator (INRA, FR)

Marie OLLAGNON, Coordination assistant (INRA, FR)

■ **Schedule :**

- Reports : M6, M18, M36 (to be sent to the Call Office)
- Common meetings : common launching in mid-november (Rome, Italy), mid-term and final meetings

■ **Common communication tools : website, flyer**

Reports

■ Financial reporting

2 levels :

- Each team to its national funder (according to national regulation)
- Common report to the ARIMNet Call office (M18 & M36)

■ Scientific reporting

- Common reports : M6, M18, M36 (to be sent to the Call Office)

Any legal, financial, scientific changes occurring during the project have to be declared to the Call office



Thanks for your attention!

