



EUROPEAN  
COMMISSION

European  
Research Area

The "**Regional Aspect**"  
of the 7<sup>th</sup> **FRAMEWORK PROGRAMME**

# Research Potential

special call for:

**Mediterranean Partner Countries  
(MPCs)**

- to contribute to the **realisation of the FP7's International Dimension**
- to **promote closer S&T cooperation opportunities** between Europe and the MPCs

This activity will provide the opportunity for MPCs to **develop partnerships through twinning actions** with existing or emerging centres of excellence established in the EU's convergence and outermost regions and the MS and/or AS:

- to **improve scientific relationships**
- networking** and development of the S&T Human Potential
- exchanging of know-how and experience** between the countries concerned
- upgrading the S&T research capacities** of the highest quality and/or promising research entities in the MPCs.



# PARTICIPANTS

**3 research entities** from: \* convergence/outermost region  
\* MS or AS  
\* MPC

## TYPE OF ACTIVITIES

This activity will support an **Action Plan** defined by the selected research entities, which will be based on a **coherent set of twinning measures** for:

- **Exchange of know-how and experience** between the selected research entities through trans-national **two-way secondments** of research staff, with in-built obligatory return mechanisms. **Training** in Member States or Associated Countries for Ph.D. students and/or post-doctoral researchers
- **Recruitment by the MPC** selected research entities **of incoming experienced researchers**, for teaching, training and/or joint research activities; and **hiring of new young researchers** to reinforce the human potential of the Mediterranean Partner selected research entities;
- **Acquisition, development, maintenance, upgrading and/or renewal of S&T research equipment** for the selected MPC research entities;
- **Organisation of workshops and conferences** to facilitate knowledge transfer at national and international level; participation at international conferences or short term training events, for **knowledge sharing, network building** and to expose them to a more international environment;
- **Dissemination and promotional activities** to ensure increased visibility of the selected research entities and their activities.

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