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From: Institut de la Méditerranée and CeSPI

To: RIM partners of the MEDOVERNANCE project

Purpose: questionnaire for stakeholder interview

Step 1 - General awareness and information available on the concept of macro-region

Have you ever heard of the concept of macro-region?

What are the main information about it?

What are your perceptions about it? Why?

Are macro-regional an interesting instrument for the future of territorial cooperation?

Step 2 – Towards a Mediterranean macro-region?

What is your vision and perspective on the future of Mediterranean cooperation?

What are the shortcoming of the governance framework in the Mediterranean?

What is your opinion on the opportunity to prepare a macro-regional approach?

Step 3 - Fields of tension

Identification and discussion on the potential fields of tensions for the elaboration of macro-region

- 1) **A thematic tension** due to the multitudinous and often partly overlapping policy agendas and objectives of the involved stakeholders in respect of developing the macro-regional strategy.
- 2) **An institutional tension** due to the multiplicity of existing stakeholders/associations etc., in a macro-region.
- 3) **A coordinating tension** since it seems that the EU wants to be the key player, though it remains to be seen whether other stakeholders are ready to enter the field and engage in fruitful collaboration or whether (at least) some of them try to defend their specific area of responsibility (or the area in which they feel that they are the key player).



- 4) **An instrumental tension** based on the diversity of instruments, policy tools and finally resources/programmes which leads to the question of who are the donors and who are the recipients/addressees of the macro-regional strategy.
- 5) **A tension of power** covering both the ownership and the implementation (here legal, financial and communicative power) of the macro-regional strategy as well as the question of whether macro-regional strategies are better developed top-down or bottom-up.
- 6) **A tension in view of other superior EU goals** relating, for instance, to improving transnational cooperation and ‘Territorial Cohesion’.
- 7) **A tension related to the external dimension**, Southern Mediterranean countries should participate in the macro-region but conflicts can stall the process.
- 8) **A tension about the scale** of the Mediterranean macro-region, the high number of countries surrounding the Mediterranean can jeopardize the setting up of the macro-region. The macro-region concept is based on a functional rationale that it is not easy to apply in the Mediterranean scenario.

Step 4 – Scenarios: scale, projects and governance

The results of the previous discussion on fields of tension should facilitate the identification of hypothetical scenarios on the macro-region.

What would be the appropriate scale and which relations with Southern territories? The inclusion of Southern and Eastern Mediterranean issue is a complex one. For instance, the Baltic issue is to date a EU internal strategy; as stated by a Swedish minister: “*Since eight of the nine Baltic Sea states are members of the EU, EU regulations can be used to meet these challenges*”. Such position cannot be transposed a priori to the Mediterranean region.

Preparation governance framework and “flagship projects” identification process: different governance systems have already been experienced in the Mediterranean in order to identify priorities and so-called strategic process: in-door selection process (with experts and consultants); interministerial agreements; public consultation process...

Governance: a related challenge concerns the governance of the strategy once adopted. A key topic has to do with the absence (or not) of specific funding allocated for the strategy. Another topic is the type of coordination of policies and fundings at various levels of actions (regional, national, European): each scenario could here propose different tools and options...

Step 5 – Involvement in the MEDGOVERNANCE activities

The process of contacting and interviewing stakeholders also aims at involving them within the MEDGOVERNANCE activities.

The next steps of the MEDGOVERNANCE working programme (Master Classes and Thematic Seminars) should be presented to the stakeholders and **participation to these activities should be proposed to the stakeholders.**