

13 AN INTERNATIONAL NETWORK WITH A LARGE BASE OF SUBSCRIBERS AND PARTNERS



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Since 2007, thanks to the support of its French founding members, IPEMED has been working to broaden and internationalise its base of subscribers and partners, along three priority lines:

- creating a base of members in compliance with the main work subjects of our think tank;
- getting closer to local issues;
- broadening thematic and geographic horizons.

This approach is in keeping with IPEMED's missions: being an international Institute that respects North-South parity in order to represent at best the interests of Northern, Southern and Eastern Mediterranean countries.

ENRICHMENT OF THE THINK TANK WORKS THANKS TO THE EXPERTISE OF ITS MEMBERS

As soon as it was created, IPEMED identified key sectors of Euro-Mediterranean economic integration. Several works were carried out

with original members (Engie for energy, Suez for water and sanitation, Air France and SNCF for transports, etc.) who helped operationalise reports and communicate them to regional policy makers. As this synergy with economic actors was rather efficient, IPEMED looked for new members working in current or emerging IPEMED field studies :

- Crédit agricole du Maroc and the Groupe April (Sofiproteol) for the agro-food sector;
- Orange for the digital sector;
- Macif and Crédit coopératif for social and solidarity economy;
- Sanofi and Unimed for the health sector;
- Bpifrance, Safran and Al Badr for coproduction.

This cooperation with founding members involved:

- **Reflection:** participation to thematic work groups;
- **Sharing of ideas:** organisation of joint restitution seminars and conferences ;

- **Promotion of the propositions to politicians:** bilateral encounters, debates during the annual IPEMED forums, collaboration with the Political Steering Committee.

LOCAL ACTIONS FOR GLOBAL AMBITION

In order to identify and answer the needs of local economic actors, IPEMED adopted a bottom-up approach which led to:

- The arrival of new founding members from Northern, Southern and Eastern Mediterranean countries (Spain, Lebanon, Morocco, Mauritania, Tunisia);
- Partnership agreements with several regional organisations (Regional Councils, CCIR and development agencies);
- Memorandums of understanding with groups of economic decision makers (EMA in Germany, RDCL in Lebanon, CGEM in Morocco and IACE in Tunisia).

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Conference "SMBs and the arab world", 2014

PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE FUTURE

In order to take into account the multiple Mediterranean exchanges, be they social, cultural or political, and to broaden its field of study, IPEMED signed a partnership with the Union for the Mediterranean, an inter-governmental organisation gathering 43 States providing a unique forum to improve regional cooperation and dialogue in the region. Besides, IPEMED is the Vice-president of the MED Confederation, an associa-

tion created by Caixa Bank, one of IPEMED founding members, which intends to boost socio-economic cooperation by gathering several multi-sectorial institutions such as IEMed and TEPAV.

The African continent is emerging and the Middle East is diversifying its economy. Therefore, the Mediterranean, which has been focused on Europe for too long, must become again a great central region at the crossroads between Africa, the

Middle East and Europe. In order to support this desirable and inevitable movement, IPEMED broadened its geographic field of study with the project La Verticale. It also diversified its partnerships, with the Club Efficienc, a reflection organisation gathering members of the Afro-French diaspora, and Arab Business Leaders, an independent organisation based in Dubai and created to promote economic relations between the Arab world and other regions in the world.



Union pour la Méditerranée
Union for the Mediterranean



FÉDÉRER - INNOVER - PARTAGER



EMA
Euro-Méditerrané-Arabischer Länderverein
المنظمة العربية الأورومتوسطية للتعاون الاقتصادي
Euro-Mediterranean-Arab Association