

Having trouble viewing this email? [Click here](#)



Press release

First international meeting of Mediterranean Diasporas
in Marseille

« FOR NEW POLICIES IN FAVOR OF THE INVESTMENT OF
DIASPORAS IN THE MEDITERRANEAN »

High-level international Seminar
And official launch of the European project MedGeneration

June 24th & 25th 2014
Villa Méditerranée, Marseille

June 24th and 25th, ACIM and ANIMA bring together for the first time the representatives of Mediterranean Diasporas, entrepreneurs, international donors, associations and investment agencies, to discuss about their projects, to share their views in order to provide recommendations which will be the basis for new public policies. The Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur region is an immigration territory where Diasporas are present and active for many years. This seminar reflects the willingness to initiate a regional policy approach and to make Marseille and the PACA region become a platform for action, a reference for the actors involved in Diasporas issues.

Around 10 million migrants from southern and eastern shores of the Mediterranean are now settled abroad.

Diasporas are more and more diversified and skilled and their contributions are multiform: transfers of skills, of technology, organisation of transnational networks, contribution to local development. Diasporas are also important sources of remittances, especially in the MENA region (Middle East, North Africa) where **they represent more than twice the official development assistance.**

Emigration countries gradually become aware of the added value their Diasporas represent while Northern countries perceive the positive role these communities can play as economic links between the two shores of the Mediterranean.

This seminar is organised by ACIM and ANIMA Investment Network on June 24th and 25th 2014 in Marseille in the framework of the European project MedGeneration (launched on June 23th), with the support of PôleMED*, the Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur region and European Union.

Agenda:

Which public policies for the contribution of Diasporas to the economic development? Which support for the project holders? How can financial and technological transfers foster productive investment? How to improve the legal and regulatory framework and policies towards citizens abroad?

The seminar will conclude with specific recommendations and projects to improve the flows, to mark out the way for Diaspora entrepreneurs and to offer new services.

This high-level seminar will focus on Diasporas from Maghreb and a part of Mashrek (Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon and Palestine). It will bring together about fifty European and Mediterranean participants, including:

Bahia Hariri Former Minister of Education, Deputy PARLIAMENT OF LEBANON, President of HARIRI FOUNDATION SUSTAINABLE HUMAN DEVELOPMENT

Serge Telle Interministerial Delegate, INTERMINISTERIAL DELEGATION FOR THE MEDITERRANEAN

Sergio Piazzi Secretary General, PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY OF THE MEDITERRANEAN (PAM)

Jean-Baptiste Meyer Research Director, INSTITUTE FOR RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT, France

Mohamed-Seghir Babès President, NATIONAL ECONOMIC and SOCIAL COUNCIL, Algeria

Hassan Charraf Secretary General, FOUNDATION FOR BUSINESS CREATION - GROUP BANQUE POPULAIRE, Morocco

Rabih Sabra CEO, CHAMBER OF COMMERCE, INDUSTRY AND AGRICULTURE OF BEIRUT, Lebanon

David Munir Nabti President CEO, ALT CITY, Lebanon

Mariem Malouche Senior Economist, Mediterranean Region/MENA WORLD BANK

Thameur Hemdane Founder, ATUNSIL-MOWII, Morocco/Tunisia

Yousef M. Hamidaddin CEO OASIS 500, Jordan

*The seminar will be opened by **Michel Vauzelle**, President of the Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur region and by **Sergio Piazzi**, Secretary General of the PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY OF THE MEDITERRANEAN*

[Download the press invitation / complete programme](#)

Organisers: ACIM and ANIMA Investment Network.

Within the framework of its activities of entrepreneurship promotion in the Maghreb, **ACIM** has implemented since 2009 support activities to business creation for Diasporas. It supports nearly 200 business creators of Algerian, Moroccan and Tunisian origin and living in Europe in the implementation of their project in the Maghreb, has identified more than 300 networks, associations and Diaspora organisations on both sides of the Mediterranean. Its expertise is also solicited by national institutions in Morocco and Tunisia. In 2014, ACIM is the leader of the program Maghrib Entrepreneurs, implemented by a Franco-Moroccan consortium to support 100 business creations by Moroccan residents in France (Moroccan Ministry in charge of Moroccans living abroad, French Agency for Development). ACIM also coordinates the support mechanism for the Maghreb Diaspora in the DiaMed project (EuropeAid Program, European Union).

ANIMA Investment Network is a cooperation platform between for economic development. The network gathers 62 governmental and territorial agencies and international business, innovation and financing networks in 22 countries in Europe and the Mediterranean. ANIMA has been dealing with the issue of Diasporas since 2005, by training investment promotion agencies to develop strategies in this area. ANIMA has also produced several overviews about strategies implemented in southern countries and has identified in 2010 the 500 associations and networks of the Mediterranean Diaspora in the world. This work generated an action plan proposed within the MedDiasporas survey, implemented in the framework of the MedGeneration project, launched at the end of 2013. MedGeneration aims to mobilise economic Diasporas for the development of the Mediterranean countries, using different levers: political dialogue, opinion relays, business networks, investment, mentorship and entrepreneurship.

Furthermore, ACIM and ANIMA have jointly conducted a survey - whose results will be presented at the seminar - on the theme "*Diasporas and Entrepreneurship in the Maghreb*" with entrepreneurs from the Maghreb Diaspora living in Europe, to identify their needs, their profiles as well as their knowledge of the business environment in the Maghreb. This survey was conducted in the DiaMed project's framework (EuropeAid program, European Union).

June 23rd will be dedicated to MedGeneration project launch

MedGeneration project aims to mobilise economic Diasporas for the Mediterranean countries development. The project is conducted in partnership with the Chamber of Commerce, Industry and Agriculture of Beirut (CCIA- BML), the Palestine Information and Communications Technology Incubator (PICTI), the Palestine Investment Promotion Agency (PIPA) and the Jordan Investment Board (JIB).

Activities implemented in the project will allow representatives of the economic Diaspora and Jordanian, Lebanese and Palestinian governments to exchange and share their views on the necessary conditions for a stronger engagement of Diasporas for the development of Mediterranean territories. The project is funded for an amount of € 1.92 million, 90% financed by the European Union through the European Neighbourhood and Partnership Instrument. The project is coordinated by ANIMA, in partnership with the Chamber of Commerce, Industry and Agriculture of Beirut (CCIA-BML), the Palestine Information and Communications Technology Incubator (PICTI), the Palestine Investment Promotion Agency (PIPA) and the Jordan Investment Board (JIB).

*PôleMED is a program of economic cooperation in the Mediterranean initiated by the PACA Region as part of its Businesses Internationalisation Regional Plan.

Contacts:

Florence Juillard - florence.juillard@anima.coop Tel : +33 496 116 769 - +33 677 885 837

Véronique Manry - veronique.manry@agenceacim.com Tel : +33 491 026 269 - +33 643 92 85 91

Partenaire :



Avec le soutien de :



[Forward this email](#)



Ce courrier électronique a été envoyé à lydie.cornand@anima.coop

par florence.juillard@anima.coop |

[Mettre à jour le profil/le courriel](#) | Suppression immédiate à l'aide de [SafeUnsubscribe™](#) | [Politique de confidentialité](#).

ANIMA Investment Network | 11 b rue Saint Ferréol | Marseille | 13001 | France