

**3rd Steering Committee of the ENI SEIS II South
Support Mechanism project / 9th meeting of the
H2020 Review and Monitoring (RM) Group**

**6-7 November 2018
IMLAUER Hotel
Rotensterngasse 10 – 12A-1020 Vienna, Austria**

Background note

This note provides information on the meeting's objectives, structure and focus of the sessions. It also outlines some guiding questions for the countries' interventions.

I Objectives of the meeting

- I. To take stock of the progress achieved in 2018 and capture relevant developments linked to the key priority areas and governance structure(s) at national level in the context of SEIS/H2020 and the H2020 Review and Monitoring sub-group.
- II. To present and endorse the regional plan of activities of the ENI SEIS South Support Mechanism until 2020 with focus on the project activities in 2019.
- III. To identify synergies/actions for joint implementation in the coming period with relevant projects, partners and other existing initiatives in the context of the H2020 work programme and the H2020 RM mandate.

II Meeting structure

This is a joint meeting of the 3rd Steering Committee of the ENI SEIS II South Support Mechanism project and the 9th meeting of the Horizon2020 Review and Monitoring (RM) Group, in line with the model adopted in December 2016.

Participants are country representatives (i.e. the two SEIS National Focal Points and one MED POL Focal Point or their representatives) for the nine ENI partner countries, two representatives for the West Balkan region and Turkey, as well as European Commission (DG NEAR, DG ENV, Eurostat) and UfM representatives, relevant regional partners/initiatives, other H2020 components and EU Member States.

The meeting (1, 5 day) is structured as plenary sessions only. Each session will be co-chaired by the representatives of the EEA, UNEP/MAP, European Commission, partner countries and/or regional organisations.

Bilateral meetings with country representatives will take place on Monday, 5 November afternoon and Wednesday, 7 November afternoon specifically to address administration of the InCountry support, technical discussions on thematic areas and infrastructure development.



Session 1. Political context for regional environmental cooperation

- In the framework of the European Neighbourhood Policy and the implementation of the UfM Ministerial Declaration, get an overview of the latest and developments in terms of content, administration and governance – relevant to environmental cooperation and SEIS/H2020 objectives
- Present and discuss the current and future EU support programmes (Green Med III programme) and how SEIS/H2020 networks may impact strategic orientation and synergies
- Present and discuss Mediterranean efforts and actions to streamline environmental reporting and assessment, role of the EEA and UN environment Mediterranean Action Plan relevant to SEIS cooperation in the region
- Mediterranean in the period up to 2020. Relevant developments and achievements from the UNEP/MAP programme of work will be also presented. This session will be co-chaired by EEA and UNEP/MAP.

Session 2. Impact of ENI SEIS II South / H2020, building up Mediterranean information and analytical capacity

- Review the progress achieved in the SEIS Support Mechanism activities and the H2020 Review and Monitoring work and discuss how SEIS efforts support H2020 priorities;
- Understand how this effort is operationalise and anchor at national level to support effective delivery of H2020 indicators and assessment;
- **Delivery reports by the countries** on project implementation (see point 3 below for guiding questions). Achievements the past year and the vision, strategies and approaches to:
 - reach the project's expected results;
 - connect the different lines of work and networks to ensure sustainable links between actors, projects and initiatives that impact the successful implementation of SEIS at national level.

Session 3. Regional plan of activities of the ENI SEIS South Support Mechanism in 2020 perspective

- Present and endorse the regional work plan of activities of the SEIS Support Mechanism project enabling full mobilisation of resources and effective delivery under H2020,
- Synergies, roles of partners, and main milestones and events;
- Endorse an approach to reach higher visibility of the cooperation – actions, products and options.

Session 4: Conclusions and wrap-up

- Elaborate and agree upon an Action List from the Steering Committee/H2020 RM group;
- Any other business



III Preparation of the country interventions

In order to prepare for the country interventions in Session 2, country representatives are kindly asked to reflect on the following questions, and prepare 1-2 slide(s) per question (preferably in English) in advance of the meeting using the **template provided**. **Only 1 intervention per country** of approx. 15 minutes followed by a short period (approx. 5-10 minutes) for questions and answers. Please note that the overview of events at national and regional level held in the project framework in 2018 would be provided in setting the scene for this session.

The country presentations will be run in alphabetical order unless another order is agreed beforehand with the Chairs, starting from the ENI South partners (Algeria, Egypt, Israel, Jordan, Lebanon, Libya, Morocco, Palestine, Tunisia), followed by the West Balkan representatives (Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Montenegro) and Turkey. Representatives from EU member states will be invited to complement with their own experiences as well.

1) **Progress towards the expected project results**¹:

Provide an overview of the country situation as regard development of H2020 indicator sets and related assessment, the setting-up of national processes for data sharing, use of infrastructure for reporting. Please explain briefly, by giving examples, how aspects of environmental reporting have improved or changed in your country over the past year due to a better understanding and implementation of SEIS? Try to specify key factors that have impacted change (e.g. better coordination, infrastructure developments, improved methodologies, etc).

2) **SEIS in support of H2020 review process**: Environmental assessments require good traceability of data and information and good analytical capacities to integrate information. Can you give examples of recent cases (or good practice examples) that demonstrate the “integration” of environmental information? Integration can be of sectorial nature (data and information from different sectors), or ways to streamline common tools and approaches for analysis (e.g. use of indicators).

3) **Sustainability and connectivity**: Please provide some reflections on how different lines of work and networks addressed through the ENI SEIS II South support mechanisms / H2020 Review and Monitoring group project will be sustained in the future and linked to other on-going and new projects and initiatives implemented in your country.

¹ For your consideration, kindly note that the project logframe (attached herewith as Annex) should be used for connecting the key points of your presentation to the project deliverables and expected project results.

