Agriculture and food systems in the Mediterranean basin face a number of common problems related to management of natural resources, in particular soil and water, animal and plant diseases and climate change impact to the security and sustainability of agricultural production and food systems. These issues need to be identified and addressed through stronger scientific cooperation between the EU Members and other countries of the Mediterranean area. **ARIMNet2**, a network of funding organizations and national research institutions continuing the efforts of ARIMNet1, plays a role in tackling these common problems by promoting coordination of national research programmes and building joint initiatives to fight fragmentation and exploit synergies in the field of Mediterranean agriculture and food systems.

ARIMNet2 is an ERA-Net supported and funded by the 7th Framework Programme from 2014 to 2017. It is the second phase of the ARIMNet project that began in 2008.
In 2008, 13 partners from 12 Northern, Southern and Eastern Mediterranean countries launched the ARIMNet initiative. In January 2014 the enlarged network ARIMNet2 brought together 24 national funding agencies and research institutions from 15 countries, among them 9 are members of the EU (Croatia, Cyprus, France, Greece, Italy, Malta, Portugal, Slovenia, and Spain), 2 are Associated Countries (Turkey, Israel), and 4 are Mediterranean Partner Countries (Algeria, Egypt, Morocco, and Tunisia).

Toward deeper cooperation among research institutions, researchers and stakeholders

The Network identifies scientific priorities and provides funding opportunities to support transnational research projects that address the challenges Mediterranean countries are facing today in the field of food, rural development, water and natural resources.

**ARIMNet2 has the following objectives:**

- Developing an integrated strategic research agenda (ISRA) setting up key priorities in the field of Mediterranean Agriculture Research and Innovation.
- Consolidating the cooperation mechanism initiated in ARIMNet through two novel joint calls for transnational research projects and a common follow-up of funded research projects and dissemination of their results.
- Implementing other pilot joint activities in order to develop scientific exchanges between researchers and capacity building in research activities.
- Fostering Agricultural Knowledge and Innovation Systems (AKIS) in the Mediterranean in order to ensure that the Agricultural Research will impact the stakeholders of the Mediterranean basin and support their economies.

Find out more about ARIMNet and its activities:
visit our webpage @www.arimnet2.net
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*ARIMNet is coordinated by Institut National de la Recherche Agronomique (INRA), France*