



Project funded by the
EUROPEAN UNION



**ENPI
CBCMED**
CROSS-BORDER COOPERATION
IN THE MEDITERRANEAN



A fresh lymph for GREAT Med Project: new expertise from two scientific centers of excellence

With the arrival of the New Year and the signing of the Addendum to the Grant Contract, two new partners have officially joined the GREAT Med project: the National Council for Scientific Research-Lebanon (CNRS), whose referent is the researcher Carla Khater, and the American University of Beirut (AUB), represented by Prof. Mutassem El Fadel.

The inclusion of these two new partners was necessary to replace the 2 Egyptian partners who gave up their participation for complications due to internal governmental policy. The official withdrawal of the 2 Egyptian institutions i.e. Arab Foundation for Marine Environment and from the Coastal Research Institute from the project GREAT Med was received on March 17, 2014. .

Several potential candidates were then considered, taking into account the balance between North and South shores of the Mediterranean basin and the scientific skills needed to maintain the objectives of the project unchanged and an appropriate know-how that will allow the project to continue perfectly its activities.

The National Council for Scientific Research-Lebanon (CNRS) will be responsible of ensuring that all planned capitalization activities are implemented coherently and effectively. CNRS will take over the establishment of a collaborative Network and support AUB in hazard analysis, and will deal with ecological mapping and conservation of biodiversity.

The American University of Beirut (AUB) will coordinate all partner activities to develop a common strategy to analyze hazards and human impacts on the study areas. Based on its expertise in environmental engineering, marine pollution monitoring, physical oceanography, risk and hazard analyses, with a special focus on coastal areas, it will coordinate all partners and processes concerning hazard indices and thematic map elaboration.
