



**MedSpring Project**  
Mediterranean Science, Policy, Research & Innovation Gateway

*Call for Innovators*  
**“ECO-EFFICIENCY IN THE AGRO-FOOD CHAIN”**

**Euro-MedHackathon**

(Amman, 14-15 December 2016)

The present **call for innovators**, supported by the EU funded project MedSpring and aimed at supporting the Euro-Mediterranean dialogue on Research and Innovation, has the objective of selecting **the best 30 innovators** on water-food-energy to be invited to the upcoming Euro-MedHackathon event, planned in Amman (Jordan) on **14-15 December 2016**.

The Euro-MedHackathon event is organized by MedSpring in close collaboration with the EU-Jordan SRTD II initiative ([www.srtd.hcst.gov.jo](http://www.srtd.hcst.gov.jo))

For further project information: [www.medspring.eu](http://www.medspring.eu), [www.agora.medspring.eu](http://www.agora.medspring.eu)

**Thematic objective of the call**

MedSpring is looking for novel ideas which could have a strategic impact in the Mediterranean region while being of interest to private industry and sponsors. **The main thematic objective of the call is “Eco-Efficiency in the agro-food chain”.**

In particular, the call aims at selecting innovative ideas addressing energy and/or water efficiency along the different phases of agro-food chain: production, transformation, distribution and consumption (farm to fork). When addressing system efficiency innovators should take into account for the contribution to agro-food chain sustainability both from socio-economic and environmental point of view, including sustainable use of food waste. Ideas should demonstrate a clear way towards already marketable products, process or prototypes, providing new ideas based on applications in ICT, engineering, natural and biological sciences or other disciplines. Moreover, ideas should also take into account impacts on local economies, improvement of life quality and reduction of GHG emissions while also engaging rural and coastal communities in bio-economy activities.

Best three ideas will be awarded a prize in the Euro-MedHackathon event in Jordan on 14-15 December 2016.

**Call prize**

Call prize is sponsored by private companies and given to the best three innovators teams, which will be ranked in the occasion of the Euro-MedHackathon in Jordan. The **prize** offered by private companies will consist of either:

- an in-house period financed by the sponsoring company/ies during which the winning team will be hosted to explore concrete implementation and commercialization of the innovative idea or
- the opportunity to be included by the sponsoring companies in international consortia applying to H2020 calls or other EU research and innovation funds related to the above mentioned challenge.
- the possibility to apply to Seeds and Chips, the Global Food Innovation Summit, scheduled in Milan (Italy) on May, 8-11 2017

The sponsoring companies are the following:

- Barilla Group (<http://www.barillagroup.com/en/>),
- SPRING (<http://www.clusterspring.it/home-en/>),
- Torino Wireless (<http://torinowireless.it/en/>), and
- Seeds & Chips (<http://www.seedsandchips.com/>).



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**From the call to the Euro-MedHackathon:**

One of the MedSpring objectives is to enhance innovation in the frame of Euro-Mediterranean cooperation and support young researchers and entrepreneurs in the region developing solutions to main challenges identified by society, stakeholders and industry in the region in the area of food, energy and water.

The ideal format of the event is an **Hackathon**: a marathon of young innovators, selected through the above call and divided into small teams during the event, for a 24h brainstorming resulting in an innovative product/process design.

Euro-MedHackathon is addressed to **30** young innovators (young researchers or young tech-driven entrepreneurs) coming from the Euro-Mediterranean region.

Ideas should respond to specific need requiring innovative solutions (prototype, application, industrial process). Such a need (the “challenge”) will be identified in coordination with private companies; the challenge identified reflects the thematic focus of the event and, consequently, defines the profiles of the young innovators that will be selected.

If you are a young researcher and/or a young entrepreneur from the Mediterranean, you are encouraged to respond to this call. An on-line form is available (hereafter referred to as the Call), which you are invited to fill in. Only applications using the attached format (<https://goo.gl/forms/Mi6A7mDZBMogM4V82>) will be accepted.

The deadline for applications submissions is **15 October 2016**. No late submissions will be accepted.

A panel composed by MedSpring partners and Private companies/funders (Evaluation Panel – EP) will shortlist up to 30 applications to participate in the Hackathon, to be held in Amman (JO) **on 14-15 December 2016**. The shortlist will be published on MedSpring and SRTD-II websites by mid-November 2016.

**The Euro-MedHackathon: where, when, how**

The event will take place in **Amman (Jordan), 14 – 15 December 2016**. MedSpring and SRTD II has selected Jordan to increase the synergies of local community between researchers and investors and enhance the Jordanian engagement in EU research area.

During the Hackathon, after the presentation of all the ideas, the audience will select the best 3 ideas and co-working groups of 3/4 innovators will be formed. Following the team work, they will present their product/process to a jury (composed by MedSpring/SRTD II partners and representatives of private companies acting as main sponsors). The jury will select and award the prize to the winning team at the end of the competition.

**Timeline**

**30 September 2016:** *Call for proposals for innovative ideas is published*

**31 October 2016:** *Deadline for submission of application*

**20 November 2016:** *Announcement of the 30 finalists which will participate to the event with the support of MedSpring*

**14-15 December 2016:** *Euro-MedHackathon in Amman (JO)*

**Further Information**

Follows us on MedSpring website: <http://www.medspring.eu/event/euro-med-hackaton> and on the Agora: <http://agora.medspring.eu/en/articles/euro-mediterranean-hackathon-jordan-1st-announcement>

Please contact ([brokerage@medspring.eu](mailto:brokerage@medspring.eu)) if your questions aren't answered here.

