

# Standard Projects:

## State of Play and main Technical Implementation Challenges

Genova, 23/01/2012

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# First call - Standard Projects Selected



31 first round + 6 additional

## Contract signature status:

- First round (JMC Valencia in 2010):  
Contracts still to be signed: 2 out 31 (plus 4 facing Syrian Partners replacement)

**foreseen signature end of Jan– mid Feb 2012**

- Additional projects (JMC meeting Marseille 2011):  
Negotiation on going for 4 out of 6 (replacement of 2 Syrian Partners)

**foreseen signature end of Jan– mid Feb 2012**

## Negotiation process: Problems encountered



- Administrative/structural changes within the Applicants/Partners' organizations
- Withdrawal of some partners
- Projects (4) including Syrian partners
- Long internal procedures for signing the Partnership Agreement for certain categories of Applicants
- Difficulties in finding a final agreement on all requests from the JMA and/or between applicant and partners particularly on the budget

# Negotiation Process: Solutions found



... through

- Performance of eligibility check, budget checks and authorization of replacement;
- Detailed explanations/negotiations by email
- Phone meetings and
- Face to face meeting with Applicants

## Start up of projects: State of play



- Projects for which implementation period has started:

**22**

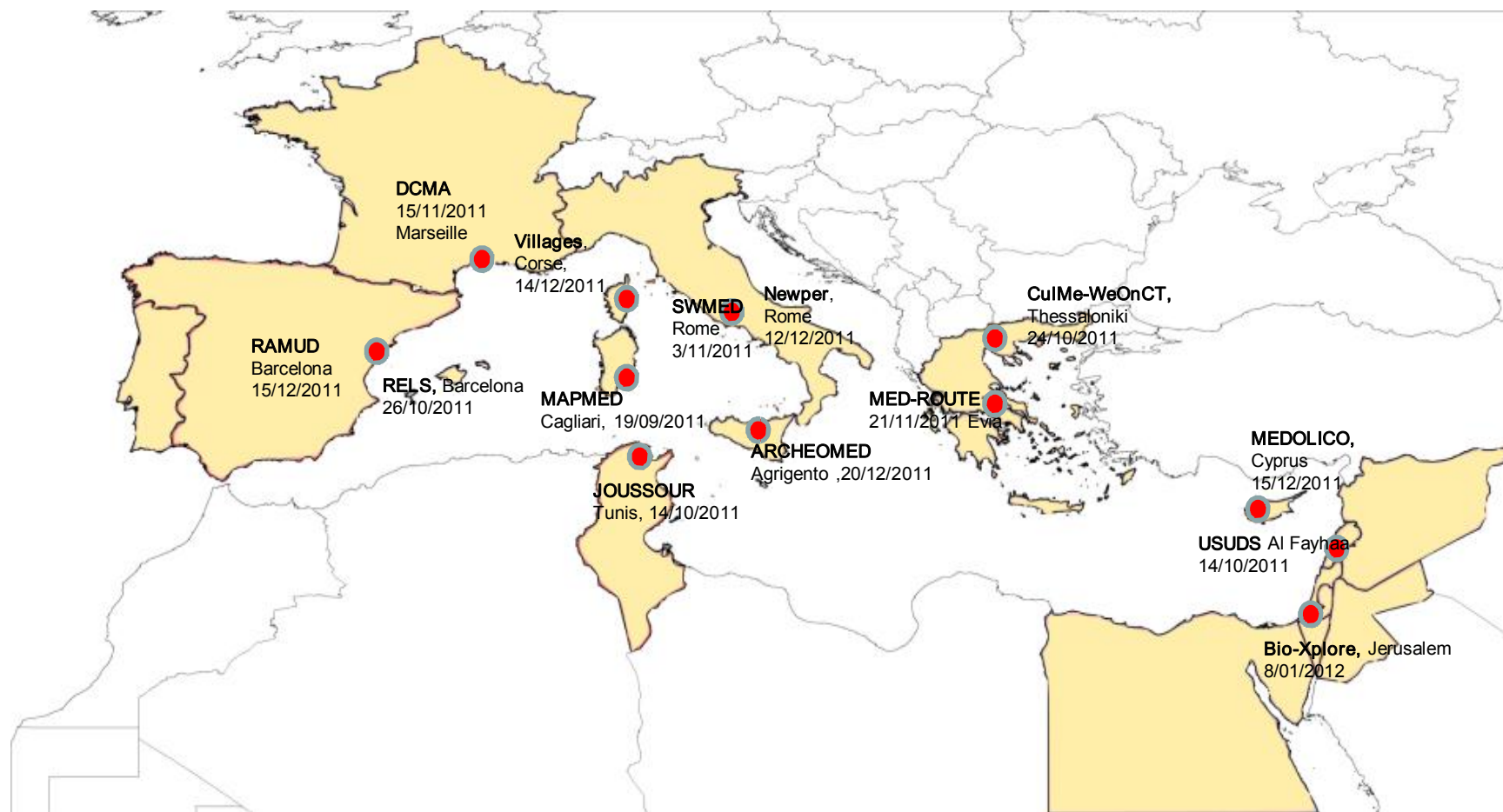
- Kick-off meetings

already held: **14**

scheduled (Jan/Feb) **6**

- Projects which have already received the pre-financing (upon communication of the appointment of the External Auditor): **8**

# Location of Kick-Off Meetings



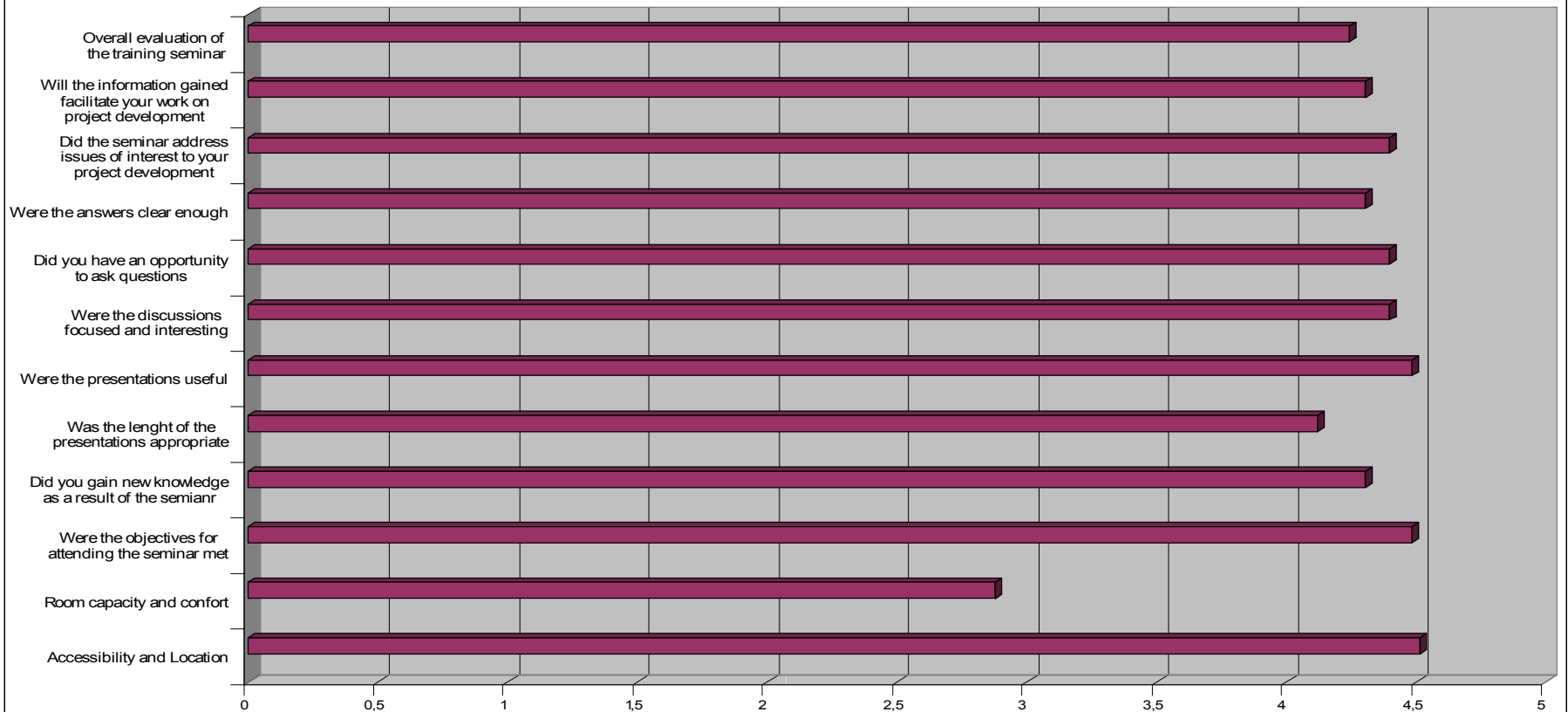
# Support to Project Implementation



- Implementation Manual (Fact Sheets) and Communication Guidelines for Projects:
  - drafting started in October
  - first version will be published in mid Feb 2012 at [www.enpicbcmed.eu](http://www.enpicbcmed.eu)
- Training to Beneficiaries (with RCBI):
  - 3 seminars in the 1<sup>st</sup> and the 3<sup>rd</sup> week of November
  - 26 projects and 7 NCPs
  - **4, 24 out of 5** is the Participants' Evaluation Average Score (see next slide)

# Quality Evaluation of the training

## The 12 Items of the Questionnaire





# Technical challenges on Projects Implementation



- Financial issues:
  - account opening for MPCs Beneficiaries and Partners
  - account in EURO for the Beneficiary
  - budget management in some MPCs
- Procurement procedures (National Rules vs. PraG)
- VAT exemption procedures for MPCs (see Financial Agreements)
- Preparation of the Project Communication Plan

# Facing Short Term challenges through NCP



- Selection of external auditors: support to the Beneficiary and Partners (specific Training on reporting in 1<sup>st</sup> quarter of 2012)
- VAT exemption: support to the partners by explaining and facilitating the required procedures to obtain VAT exemption (with the cooperation of Aqaba Branch Office)
- Support on procurement procedures to follow: cross check PraG vs national procedures (with the cooperation of Aqaba Branch Office)

# Facing medium term technical challenges



- Monitoring of the projects by participating in the project meetings (participation of NCPs)
- Sustainability: How to support projects' institutional, political, financial sustainability?

## Facing long term technical challenges....



- Recovery: possibly supporting the Beneficiary in recovery resource from project partners
- Capitalization at Project and Programme level as planned during the last Joint Managing Authority in Malta (November 2011)

# Final remarks



## Thank you for your attention !

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Financial Officer

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