Boosting young Mediterranean researchers’ leadership in innovation, research and development projects

Why does ARIMNet2 strongly support young researchers?

- Enthusiastic and inspired young researchers come up with new ideas, paradigms and innovations.
- They make up a strong, motivated and flexible labour force.

Supporting young researchers is key to unlock their potential and provide what agriculture needs to meet the food demand while preserving natural resources.

Encouraging the right attitude to face a challenging environment

- Engage in collaborative research embracing the diversity of cultures, perceptions, approaches and competences.
- Stay rigorous all along the research process and keep an open, curious and critical mind.
- Be proactive, reactive, optimistic and sociable.
- Prefer holistic, integrated and prospective approaches.
- Cope with risk and uncertainty, inherent in research.

Supporting multidisciplinary and multiscale capacity-building for research and interpersonal skills development

- Preparation and management of competitive and innovative multi-stakeholder projects.
- Participatory techniques to effectively engage stakeholders.
- Instrumentation, bioinformatics, data analysis...
- Science communication/dissemination, advocacy, lobbying.
- Innovation, Intellectual property, marketing, value chain...
- Field work/visits to boost cohesion, share views among scientists/stakeholders and identify new research questions.

Promoting networking among researchers and stakeholders from the public and private sectors

- To boost intergenerational/interdisciplinary exchanges among scientists from the Mediterranean, EU and world.
- To strengthen the cooperation between researchers and other public and private stakeholders.
- To develop hubs of networks linking businesses with the research base and wider innovation environment.

Fitting research funding to young researchers’ needs

- Less demanding calls adapted to age/experience.
- “Maturation calls” to develop products/services until marketing.
- Capitalisation calls to valorise and build upon existing knowledge.
- Funding for training, networking, access to equipment/infrastructure.

Facilitating young researchers’ access to funding is key to harness their productivity and develop a more innovative and impacting Mediterranean research.

Innovation relies on new ideas springing up from multidisciplinary research teams involving young researchers and stakeholders who jointly identify and address relevant research questions and real-life challenges.

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