

Towards a green sustainable future in the Mediterranean on the horizon for 2030

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Economic development and climate change are closely interconnected in southern and eastern Mediterranean countries (SEMCs), putting energy and water systems under severe pressure. On the one hand, over the last decades all countries have relied largely on fossil fuel resources to produce electricity amidst poor energy-efficiency trends. On the other hand, the Mediterranean region appears to be the most vulnerable to climate warming, as growth in annual average temperatures is expected to outpace world average increases (of 2° and 3°C respectively in 2030 and 2050). Such trends will be detrimental to water availability and biodiversity.

Meanwhile the increase of population by 2030 and the related growth in working-age population will call for considerable efforts by authorities to address the job creation challenge in a region where unemployment continues to be high and even endemic. Absorbing newcomers into the labour market might require growth rates of 7% or more, thus exacerbating CO2 emissions and further depleting energy resources based on fossil fuels. In addition, the SEMCs' export patterns show substantial dependence on water-consuming agriculture and food exports, a sector that employs 20% of the labour force. Similarly, the tourism sector, which is vulnerable to climate change trends, is an important source of income, representing on average 20% of export earnings. Moreover, except for oil-exporting countries, the region is heavily dependent on energy imports, which will surge amidst growing energy demand - a trend that will continue undermining macroeconomic stability. The latter is further threatened by generalised energy (and food) subsidies. In the case of energy subsidies, not only are they costly in economic terms, but they also fail to reach their primary objective, since they tend to be poorly targeted and mostly benefit high-income individuals and households. Finally, climate change pressures have been aggravated by numerous policy inconsistencies and the lack of an integrated approach to environmental management. In the case of water, this translates into fewer resources available, as most countries in the region are below the 'water poverty line', a threshold estimated at 100 cubic metres per capita per annum, which is deemed necessary to meet basic needs.

The continuation of these trends is overtly alarming and unsustainable, as it would imperil social stability and eventually the very sustainability of the states, raising to dangerous levels the risks of conflict and civil strife. Indeed, as temperatures rise and resources become less available while populations grow, governments in the region will be confronted with the dilemma of supporting the economic growth necessary for job creation and social justice by making cheap energy largely available, while facing the constraints needed to reduce CO2 emissions in order to mitigate the adverse effects of climate warming and the subsequent loss of biodiversity. Subsidisation of food and energy will continue to exert pressures on fiscal deficits, increasing the probability of macroeconomic crises occurring. Warmer temperatures are likely to have a negative impact on agriculture through several channels. For example, there is a risk of dangerous decreases in crop yields, which would affect the agricultural labour force and related industries as well as raise the risk of agricultural disruptions and food insecurity. At the same time, preserving crop yields will require increasing water resources, which are already under immense stress. Also, as water becomes less available, intra-country migrations will rise, further

pressuring urban population growth and worsening climate change impacts. Less obvious effects are likely to be noticeable on the economic front, as a climate that is too hot not only endangers biodiversity but also diminishes a country's attractiveness for tourists, hence reducing arrivals and foreign currency receipts.



While climate warming and its negative consequences are concomitant with human activity and hence, to some extent unavoidable, governments in the region and the EU have a number of options to devise mutually beneficial policies elaborated upon the twin principles of mitigating climate warming and adaptation.

If policy responses depend on country-specific contexts, coping with climate change in the SEMCs will require a combination of hard and soft measures. Hard measures are mostly concerned with building new and upgrading existing energy and water infrastructure. In the field of electricity and power generation, investment in large as well as medium-/small-scale power generation stations, the development of grid interconnections among the SEMCs along with the EU and eventually the countries of the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) together with bold steps towards the development of renewable energy sources, will prove crucial for the region. As regards water, these measures comprise the construction of dams, reservoirs and desalinization facilities as well as the promotion of new irrigation techniques. On the side of soft measures, a reform of energy subsidies is of utmost importance, due to the current costs of such systems – sometimes around 30% of state budgets - and their inefficiency. So too is implementing tax incentives for more energy efficiency. Moving towards systems of water governance that ensure transparency and inclusiveness also needs to be a priority for the region's governments, along with measures for demand-side management, such as water tariffs and quotas. Finally yet importantly, agricultural practices and irrigation techniques will have to adapt to changing climate conditions, in order to minimise the negative impact of climate warming on crop yields and to prevent the waste of scarce water resources. While the implementation of these measures is costly, the long-term benefits will largely exceed them.

Several measures could be undertaken by the EU and the SEMCs to anchor sustainable patterns of development, such as defining a Euro-Mediterranean strategy for energy that would encompass the setting of common objectives, technical and financial assistance for energy sector reforms and upgrades to infrastructure, and energy market integration, to name a few. The exchange of experience and best practice in agriculture and water resource management could also be beneficial, as many northern Mediterranean countries have been coping with drought conditions and have developed innovative irrigation systems. In the same line of thought, experiences from specific EU regions in the field of tourism management could also be part of a common Euro-Mediterranean framework for environmental management. A proactive role by the EU and other partners, such as the GCC, is essential to supporting the southern Mediterranean in these endeavors towards a sustainable, green transition.



The urgent need for a "Euro-Mediterranean Energy Roadmap"





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Efforts for a more sustainable energy development in the MED-11 region could represent the key element for an EU foreign energy policy towards the countries emerging from the Arab Spring. This policy could provide important dividends both to the EU and to MED-11 countries, as far as energy security, sustainable development, economic growth and job creation are concerned. If the EU is committed to improve cooperation with MED-11 countries, it is important not to be perceived only as a hydrocarbon buyer but as a full-fledged partner, notably to foster regional cooperation as foreseen in the EuroMed action plan (2008-2013) adopted by the Energy ministers of the region in Limassol in 2007 and to be discussed and revised at the next ministerial meeting in Brussels in June 2013. In the framework of the European Neighbourhood policy, already a broad set of capacity building and technical assistance regional projects (MEDSTAT, MED-ENEC, MED-EMIP and PWMSP) have extensively contributed to energy cooperation and provided support to national and regional efforts.

The recent Arab uprisings could provide the EU with the opportunity to play a more meaningful role in the region in the future. Efforts towards assisting MED-11 countries in deploying energy efficiency, Demand Side Management, renewable energy and energy interconnections could represent the key elements of a EU foreign energy policy towards the region. To conclude, an integrated energy cooperation scheme designed to function as a catalyst for the reinforcement of the Euro-Mediterranean economic, political and social integration should rely on three main pillars:

a) Long-term socio-economic domestic development strategy based on robust institutional set-up, enhanced public governance, including for oil revenue management and poverty reduction strategy with targeted support instead of universal consumption price subsidies; Integrated energy and climate policy articulated in global energy strategy covering the following issues: energy security; energy access; regulatory reforms towards full cost-reflective energy prices; energy efficiency and renewable energy action plans in synergy with climate policies (carbon financing); Regional energy cooperation (intra-MED-11 and EU-MED-11) to focus on sustainable policy development with the Regional Centre for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency (RCREEE), which is the regional focal reference for both MED-11 and GCC countries on energy efficiency and renewable energy deployment. This regional energy cooperation should also focus on regulatory (tariff) and social reforms (targeted subsidies), infrastructure (e.g. power and gas interconnections) and markets (e.g. EU/MED-11 renewable electricity market), fostered by the Mediterranean Solar Plan and integrated inter-regional financing. In short, energy is a topic of key importance for both the EU and MED-11 countries. In view of their geographic proximity, a further market integration would be in the interest of both sides. MED-11 countries and the EU furthermore have many challenges in common in their market integration would be in the interest of both sides. MED-11 countries and the EU furthermore have many challenges in common in their endeavors to secure a sustainable energy transition for the overall Euro-Mediterranean region. Taking into consideration the past evolutions in the energy relations between the EU and the Russian Federation and also between the EU and the GCC, it is evident that the EU-MED11 energy cooperation could be enhanced and better developed by creating a new "Euro-Mediterranean Energy Roadmap".

Such a Roadmap, to be elaborated before the EuroMed ministerial meeting in Brussels in June 2013, should aim at designing a sustainable energy transition for the overall Euro-Mediterranean region, with the underlying idea that a wider framework of energy cooperation could greatly contribute not only to the economic development and environmental performance of the overall Euro-Mediterranean region, but also to its social and political stability.

What are prospects for carbon markets in the MED-11?

Dr. Noriko Fujiwara Head of Climate Change & Research Fellow, CEPS

Carbon markets are currently at the turning point, approaching the end of the 1st commitment period of the Kyoto Protocol



While the Doha outcome improved certainty about the Kyoto Protocol and associated market mechanisms, the key findings of the technical report on carbon market opportunities (No.8) remain valid. Like other middle-income countries, MED-11 have three challenges in relation to capturing the carbon market opportunities created by the EU on the horizon: the limited size of future demand for carbon offsets or credits; quantitative and qualitative restrictions on the use of certified emission reductions (CERs); and the lack of prompt preparation for the start of new market-based mechanisms. To date these countries have not fully tapped into the vast potential for CDM projects. There are a number of barriers to or bottlenecks in the development of CDM projects including the lack of capacity for operation and management, that of regional coordination and that of the private sector's engagement. Although they do not host a large number of projects, they have some interesting examples, especially in the area of renewable energy, which may be useful for other parties seeking to operationalise the concepts of new market-based mechanisms. The study highlights a number of possible options for the evolution of mechanisms with reference to existing activities both within and outside the CDM. At the same time, the MED-11 offers an interesting test case for an integrated approach to carbon markets: there is an institutional set-up (the UfM), a financial facility that could be sourced from the European Neighbourhood & Partnership Instrument (ENPI) and a region-wide initiative with substantial potential for energy-related greenhouse gas (GHG) emission reductions (the Mediterranean Solar Plan) that could fit into a new market-based mechanism.

Mechanisms and channels of relations between energy supply and demand policies and economic and social development

nomic Research (CASE, Poland)

Emmanuel Bergasse, Fellow, Center for Social and Eco-

One of the aims of MEDPRO research in WP4b is to identify, explain and detail the links and interactions in Southern and Eastern Mediterranean Countries (MED-11) between energy supply and demand and socio-economic development as well as the potential role of energy policies on both. Focus is on two issues of particular relevance and importance for the MED-11 region: the burden of universal energy subsidies and the oil syndrome.

With the goal to reduce energy poverty but also for political and populist reasons, MED-11 governments use universal energy consumption subsidies. However, only 20% of such price subsidies benefit all customers. Also, the subsidy schemes are increasingly heavy burdens for MED-11 state budgets especially since the 2007/2008 oil price surge. This growing pressure on state budgets appears unsustainable in particular in Egypt (12% of GDP), Jordan (23% of GDP in 2011) and Lebanon (35% of state budgetary expenses). Furthermore, by distorting price signals, universal price subsidies act as strong disincentives to more rational and efficient use of energy and investment in the energy sector including in renewable energy. Oil and gas exports account for a large share in the exports and public finances of Algeria and Libya. However, rent-seeking strategies systematically generate structural domestic imbalances that paradoxically harm socio-economic development and even lead to sub-development. This so-called "Paradox of Plenty" (or resource curse, Dutch disease or "oil syndrome") calls to define and implement proper management and strategies that are developed in the report. Thus, robust public policies are necessary to address those two vicious interactions between socio-economic processes and energy, the costly universal energy subsidies and the penalising oil syndrome. Such policies need to be well structured, systemic and cross-sectoral and be developed within overall integrated socio-economic development and energy/climate strategies.

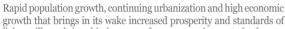




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Energy demand and supply scenarios for the MED-11 region

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living will result in a big increase of energy requirements in the 2030 horizon. The persistence of low energy prices due to extensive consumption subsidy schemes in many MED-11 countries tends to distort economic decisions and is an obstacle to the adoption of energy efficiency measures and Renewable Energy Sources (RES) technologies while posing heavy burdens on MED-11 state budgets. The reference case assumes a gradual process of price reform and the implementation, with some delays, of firm plans for RES development. By 2030 most countries experience deterioration in the energy balance of trade and CO2 emissions double from their present levels.

The evolution of the energy system will to a large extent depend on the international context within which the region may evolve and in particular the degree of cooperation between the countries themselves and their integration in the wider regional and global economic systems. In the case of strong cooperation and engagement in the EU climate and energy policies, both the MED-11 and the EU regions will derive mutual benefits; the EU will benefit from lower costs of reducing CO2 emissions and meeting RES targets by importing electricity from North Africa, while MED-11 will benefit from emission permit sales, increased investment and a more efficient energy system especially power generation.

The MED-11 countries can obtain even more benefits in the case that they individually undertake vigorous measures on many fronts in order to promote energy efficiency, acceleration of energy price reform and decentralized RES development, while at the same time their relations with the EU and other parts of the world deepen and as a consequence perceived risks are diminished thus encouraging foreign direct investment (FDI).

In both these cases lower hydrocarbon demand compared to the reference scenario, and combined with increased oil and gas supply result in higher exportable surpluses for hydrocarbon exporters and lower import dependence for importers. Investment costs for power generation will increase as RES technologies are more capital intensive than gas and oil based ones. Variable and especially fuel costs will however decrease substantially leading to lower total power generation costs.

On the other hand, the fragmentation of the MED-11 region, the failure of inter and intra-regional cooperation and the stalling of policy initiatives (including energy price reform) imply higher power generation costs and increased demand for hydrocarbons that together with delays in the development of resources result in increased import dependence or a drastic reduction in export capabilities. In this case, the MED-11 region viewed as a whole ends up by becoming a net importer of both oil and gas in 2030.

The Impact of Climate Change on Agricultural Practices

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The Agricultural sector in the Mediterranean countries is particularly vulnerable to the effects of climate change due to an increasing degradation of, and an increased demand on water resources.

With the aim of estimating climatic impacts on agriculture, monthly crop water requirements and net irrigation requirements as well as relative yield were calculated. Each MED11 country was represented by three locations with their soil and climatic conditions, and crop response to water was tested for 16 crops and different management strategies: full irrigation, deficit irrigation and rain-fed conditions. The potential consequences of a changing climate in the MED11 region was then provided, following the climate analogues approach by exploiting intra country variability through the comparison of crop yields and irrigation requirements in the most representative locations of current and future climatic conditions. The different locations in each country were selected according to climatic change projections of EU-CIRCE project. The sixteen crops (spring and winter durum wheat, barley, maize; citrus, grape, olives and peach; pepper, tomato, potato and water melon; sunflower, sugar beet, cotton and faba bean) examined were then aggregated per agricultural sector and geographic area (sub-region).

FAO climatic data-base (CLIMWAT 2.0) and Harmonized World Soil Data Base Viewer (2009) were used. The maximum yields were set up, based on the local productions and overall scientific experiences. Crop response to water was tested even in locations where, and under conditions they are not usually grown in order to consider any eventual introduction of new crops in some areas.

Results showed that moving from cooler to warmer climates, crop yields are expected to decrease especially for vegetables and fruits in Tunisia and wheat in Turkey and Morocco, while Egypt would experience little productivity gains.

All risks associated to climate change gain more importance under the reference scenario (Q I), where neither adaptation nor mitigation measures are foreseen. These risks would be possibly and to different extents alleviated under QII, QIII and QIV scenarios. In all three scenarios, options for adaptation at farm, system (irrigation or catchment level) and planning level (river basins and nations) can be defined and implemented. Overall, the strategies and policies identified include a combination of hard (technical measures requiring engineering or physical investment) and soft measures (policy or institutional measures) where hard measures are generally more expensive and largely dominant.



Climate change impacts in the MED11 countries: the MEDPRO

Francesco Bosello, WP4a leader, Fondazione Eni

point of view



Recent research confirms that the Mediterranean region is particularly exposed to climate change. Temperature increases will be higher compared to the global average, precipitations are projected to decline, and the probability of extreme drought to increase (IPCC 2007).

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Final vulnerability however, depends also on sensitivity and adaptive capacity which are highly country specific and differentiated particularly between the Northern and the Southern shore of the Mediterranean. Against a rather low vulnerability of Euro-Mediterranean countries, with losses ranging from the -0.25% to the -1.4% of GDP for temperature increases above the 4°C (Ciscar et al. 2011, Aaheim et al 2010), stands a much higher vulnerability of North African and Eastern-Mediterranean countries (on average the 2% of GDP by the mid of the century). Particularly concerning for the MED 11 are adverse impacts on crop production which are driven by an increasing water scarcity which worsens ongoing processes of overuse, pollution, salinisation in a context of increasing demand (IPCC, 2007; FAO, 2011). Another less obvious, but relevant channel of potential negative economic impacts in MED11 is the decreasing tourism attractiveness due to a climate becoming "too hot" in the summer or to the climate-induced loss of biodiversity.

One research stream of the MEDPRO project focuses specifically on these aspects. It confirms that water resources will be under increasing stress: albeit with country variability, water withdrawals in MED11 are projected to increase and water availability to decline. Until 2030 withdrawals would still remain below the total natural renewable water resources in most of the countries analyzed, however they are rapidly reaching that limit afterwards, especially in irrigation dependent agricultural economies, such as Egypt. Without proactive adaptation also agricultural production will be affected negatively, with countries like Tunisia and Turkey losing on average the 20% of potential yields by the mid century.

Other environmental services under threat with direct negative implications for welfare in the MED11 are those provided by ecosystems and biodiversity. In a context of policy inaction against pressures stemming from a changing climate and other anthropogenic drivers, ecosystem deterioration can induce an average decline of tourist arrivals in MED11 coastal areas of the 10% with a direct economic loss of the 0.2% of GDP in 2050.

All this calls for the implementation of an appropriated mix of adaptation measures. In the water sector hard (dams and reservoirs) and soft (management, quotas and tariffs) adaptation associated with: i) farsighted legislation and flexible systems of governance to adapt to unpredictable changes of natural systems; ii) realistic action plans; iii) genuine stakeholders participatory processes can effectively induce a sustainable water use, notwithstanding increasing population, GDP, and trade trends, reduce negative impacts on yields and secure social stability.

Even restricting the analysis to losses for the tourism industry, the benefits of ecosystem protection are shown to outweigh its cost in the majority of MED11 countries. When it is not so like in Egypt, Libya and Algeria, the picture can easily change once all the benefits entailed by healthy ecosystems, going well beyond simple attractiveness for tourists, are duly accounted for.



Forthcoming Events

On February 26th; MEDPRO Researchers, high level speakers from European and international Institutions, renowned academics will gather in Brussels at CEPS headquarters for **MEDPRO's Final Conference**. The event aims at presenting the project's research and policy recommendations to a wider audience. The meeting will be attended by high level officials from the European External Action Service (EEAS); the European Commission and the Union for the Mediterranean.

MEDPRO Events Reports

Tunis meeting. On the 5th and 6th of November, MEDPRO Researchers, high level government officials, and civil society representatives gathered in Tunis for a Stakeholders Engagement Meeting. Among other personalities, the meeting was attended by H.E. Ridha Saidi, Minister of Economic Affairs of Tunisia.

Cairo meeting. On January 12th-13th MEDPRO researchers gathered in Cairo for the second High Level Stakeholder workshop of the project. During the meeting, the research team presented and discussed MEDPRO's scenarios and policy recommendations with local authorities and civil society. MEDPRO Coordinator Dr. Rym Ayadi invited; H.E. Osama Kamal, Minister of Petroleum and Natural Resources of the Arab Republic of Egypt; Ambassador Gamal Bayoumi, Former Diplomat and President of the Federation of Arab Investors.

MEDPRO Dissemination

As part of the dissemination of MEDPRO research, MEDPRO coordinator Dr. Rym Ayadi gave a number of key-notes speeches on the future economic and financial developments in the Mediterranean, in a number of conferences, on 19 November, at the high level OECD-GMF high-level meeting in Naples, on 23-24 November, at the FEMISE Annual Conference in Marrakech; on the 24-25 January 2013 at the Final MIRA Conference in Marrakech and on 18-19 February at the ETC Final Conference in Tunis.

MEDPRO Expert on tourism, Robert Lanqar gave an interview on the challenges for the Tunisian tourism sector to L'Echo Touristique of February 1st 2013.

MEDPRO Publications

Papers published from September 2012 to February 2013

Free download at www.medpro-foresight.eu

Determinants of Financial Development across the Mediterranean

Technical report, Rym Ayadi, Emrah Arbak, Sami Ben Naceur, Willem Pieter De Groen

Economic Development, Trade and Investment in Southern and Eastern Mediterranean Countries: An Agenda towards a Sustainable Transition, Report, Marek Dabrowski, Luc De Wulf

What prospects for transport infrastructure and impacts on growth in southern and eastern Mediterranean countries?, Report, Economic integration, trade, investment and sectoral analyses Robin Carruthers

A New Euro-Mediterranean Energy Roadmap for a Sustainable Energy Transition in the Region Policy brief, Manfred Hafner, Simone Tagliapietra Adaptation to Climate Change in the Southern Mediterranean: A Theoretical Framework, a Foresight Analysis and Three Case Studies, Technical report, Daniel Osberghaus, Claudio Baccianti

The Relationship between Energy and Socio-Economic Development in the Southern and Eastern Mediterranean, Technical report, Emanuel Bergasse, Wojciech Paczynski, Marek Dabrowski, and Luc Dewulf

Economic Impacts of Climate Change in the Southern Mediterranean, Technical report, Francesco Bosello, Fabio Eboli

Economic and climate change pressures on biodiversity in southern Mediterranean coastal areas Technical report, Laura Onofri , Paulo A.L.D. Nunes , Francesco Bosello

Education and Social Protection Systems in Southern and Eastern Mediterranean Countries Technical report, Alia el Mahdi, Ola el Khawaga, Ashraf el Araby Energy Efficiency: Trends and Perspectives in the Southern Mediterranean, Technical report, Frédéric Blanc

Prospects for Energy Supply and Demand in the Southern Mediterranean: Scenarios for 2010–30

Technical report, Panagiotis Fragkos, Nikos Kouvaritakis, Pantelis Capros

Female Labour Force Participation and Economic Development in Southern Mediterranean Countries: What scenarios for 2030?, Technical report, Stella Tsani, Leonidas Paroussos, Costas Fragiadakis, Ioannis Charalambidis, Pantelis Capros

Inequality in the Southern Mediterranean: A survey of selected countries, Technical report, Heba El Laithy

Outlook for Oil and Gas in Southern and Eastern Mediterranean Countries

Technical report, Manfred Hafner, Simone Tagliapietra, El Habib El Elandaloussi

MEDPRO in a Nutshell

Title MEDPRO – Prospective analysis for the Mediterranean Region

Funding Scheme Collaborative Project (CP): small or medium-scale focused research project

Coordinator Dr. Rym Ayadi

Centre for European Policy Studies (CEPS)

Duration 1 April 2010 – 31March 2013 (36 months)

Contact e-mail medpro@ceps.eu

Short Description MEDPRO explores the challenges the countries in the South Mediterranean region, from Morocco to Turkey, will have to cope with in the coming decades. The project will undertake a foresight analysis to consider the interactions between development and Euro-

Mediterranean cooperation in the fields of geopolitics; demography; education; social protection; energy; climate change; trade and finance. The outcome of this exercise will be to provide the best scientific underpinning for future policy decisions to be taken at both domestic and EU level within the European Neighbourhood Policy (ENP) and Union for the Mediterranean frameworks (UfM).

Partners 16 (13 countries)

Consortium Centre for Europ

Centre for European Policy Studies, CEPS, Belgium; Center for Social and Economic Research, CASE, Poland; Cyprus Center for European and International Affairs, CCEIA, Cyprus; Fondazione Eni Enrico Mattei, FEEM, Italy; Forum Euro-Méditerranéen des Instituts de Sciences Economiques, FEMISE, France; Faculty of Economics and Political Sciences, FEPS, Egypt; Istituto Affari Internazionali, IAI, Italy; Institute of Communication and Computer Systems, ICCS/NTUA, Greece; Institut Europeu de la Mediterrania, IEMed, Spain; Institut Marocain des Relations Internationales, IMRI, Morocco; Istituto di Studi per l'Integrazione dei Sistemi, ISIS, Italy; Institut Tunisien de la Compétitivité et des Etudes Quantitatives, ITCEQ, Tunisia; Mediterranean Agronomic Institute of Bari, MAIB, Italy; Palestine Economic Policy Research Institute, MAS, Palestine; Netherlands Interdisciplinary Demographic Institute, NIDI, Netherlands; Universidad Politecnica de Madrid, UPM, Spain; Centre for European Economic Research, ZEW, Germany

Website www.medpro-foresight.eu

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