

PRIMA

The Partnership for Research and
Innovation in the Mediterranean Area

PRIMA: A partnership with a focus on the Mediterranean



Secretariat based
in Barcelona



Budget:
700M €



20 PSs members:
Algeria, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus,
Egypt, France, Germany, Greece,
Israel, Italy, Jordan, Lebanon,
Luxembourg, Malta, Morocco,
Portugal, Slovenia, Spain, Tunisia
and Türkiye;
with the active participation of
the European Union.



PRIMA is a partnership focused on the Mediterranean, uniting 20 **Participating States (PS)** from both the Northern and Southern shores and the European Union.

The partnership includes:

12 EU and 4 Horizon Europe associated countries and 4 third countries signing an international agreement for Science and Technology with the European Commission.

PRIMA offers a unique platform for strengthening cooperation between EU Member States and third countries, fostering joint projects to address common challenges in the region and beyond.

EU PS and non-EU PS work together on an equal basis, sharing decisions, funding, and management responsibilities.

Co-funded by the
European Union



VISION

“Inclusive, healthy and prosperous Mediterranean societies through innovative solutions in agro-food and water systems, contributing, by the end of the programme, to sustainable use of natural resources, economic growth and stability.”

PRIMA:

Deploying innovative solutions in the Mediterranean



PRIMA's goal is to bring Mediterranean countries together to work on research and innovation that improves water supply, farming, and food production in a region facing serious challenges from climate change.



With a budget of **EUR 700 million**, PRIMA implements the Programme mainly through calls for proposals.

From 2018 to 2025, PRIMA has funded 305 projects across the region.



PRIMA:

Deploying innovative solutions in the Mediterranean



PRIMA's projects deploy **innovative solutions** for inclusive, healthy and prosperous Mediterranean societies, increasing competitiveness at the local, sub-regional and regional levels.



These projects bring together diverse partners from different countries, including universities, research centres, businesses, public authorities, and civil society organisations, forming international consortia

Programme thematic focus

PRIMA breaks down barriers between different fields in the Mediterranean, to tackle the connected challenges of water, energy, food, and the environment.

PRIMA funds projects that not only create real benefits for communities but also promote gender equality and address important regional issues.

By focusing on the links between water, energy, food, and ecosystems (called the WEFE Nexus), PRIMA helps reduce environmental problems and resource shortages caused by climate change, while supporting economic growth in the region.



Water management

Integrated and sustainable management of water for arid and semi-arid Mediterranean areas.



Farming Systems

Sustainable farming systems under Mediterranean environmental constraints



Agri-food value chain

Sustainable Mediterranean agro-food value chain for regional and local development



WEFE Nexus

Water, Energy, Food and Ecosystems (WEFE) Nexus



PRIMA in numbers (2018 - 2025)

25.000+
of participating
entities

2900+
of total
Beneficiaries

305
of funded
projects



69 WATER
PROJECTS

129 FARMING
PROJECTS

95 AGRO-FOOD
PROJECTS

12 WEFEX NEXUS
PROJECTS

462M€
Total Budget
allocated

30%
MPC Total Budget
share
(Southern Mediterranean
Partner Countries)

20%
Budget share of
private sector

Inside a PRIMA Project

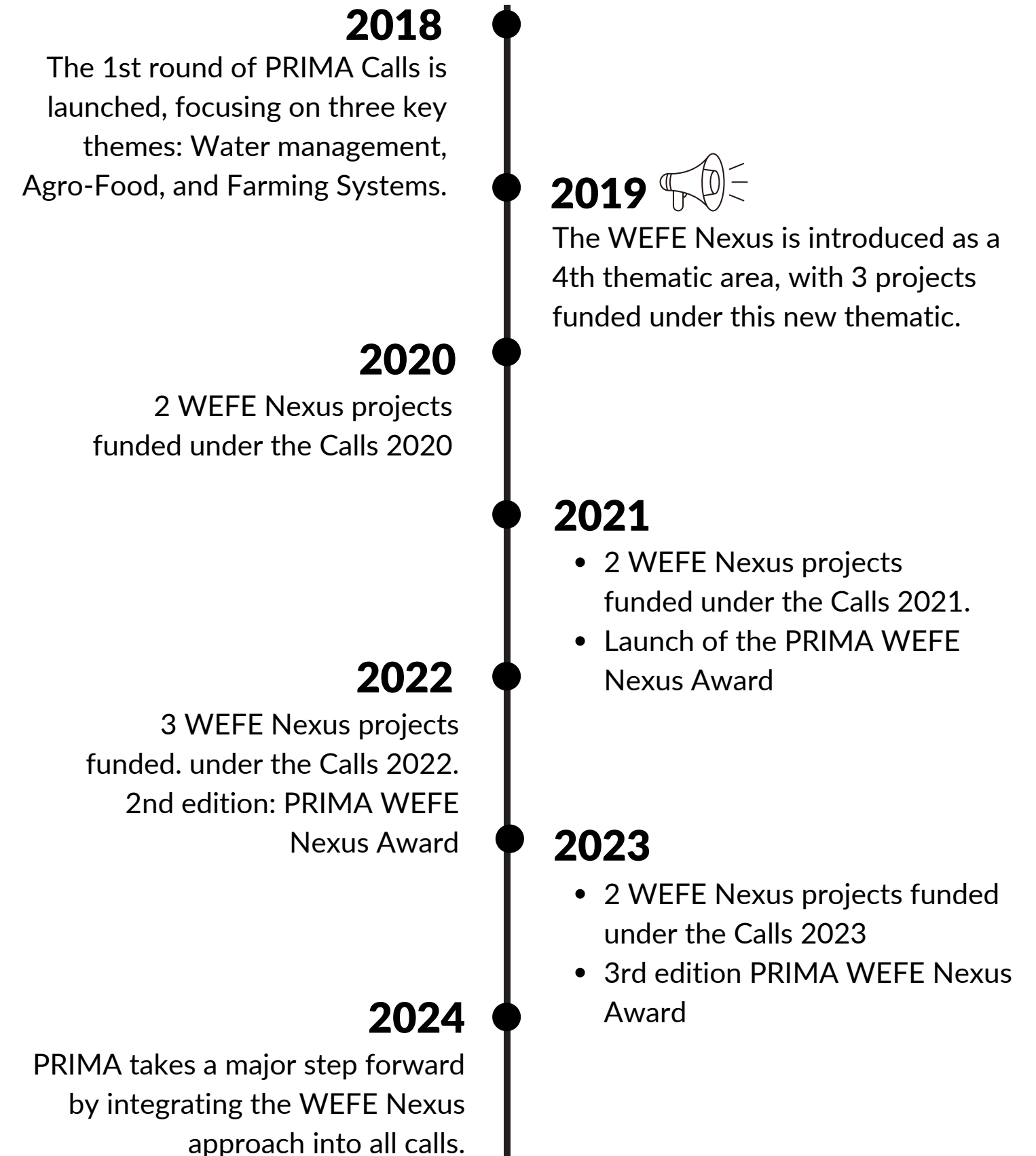
PRIMA: a pioneer for the WEFENexus

The WEFENexus Water, Energy, Food, and Ecosystems is an integrated approach that recognizes how these four systems are deeply interconnected.

In the Mediterranean, managing them together is essential to tackle climate change, resource scarcity, and environmental degradation.

The Nexus approach helps design smarter, more sustainable solutions by ensuring that actions in one sector (like agriculture) do not harm others (like water supply or ecosystems).

By breaking down silos, the WEFENexus promotes collaboration, efficiency, and resilience across sectors, making it a key pillar of PRIMA's strategy for sustainable development in the region.



AWARDS

Since 2021, PRIMA introduced two Prizes into its activities, to be funded with EU funds:

- the PRIMA WEFE Nexus Award (2021, 2022, 2023)
- the PRIMA Woman Greening Food Systems in the Mediterranean Award (2024).
- PRIMA Young Innovators Award 2026



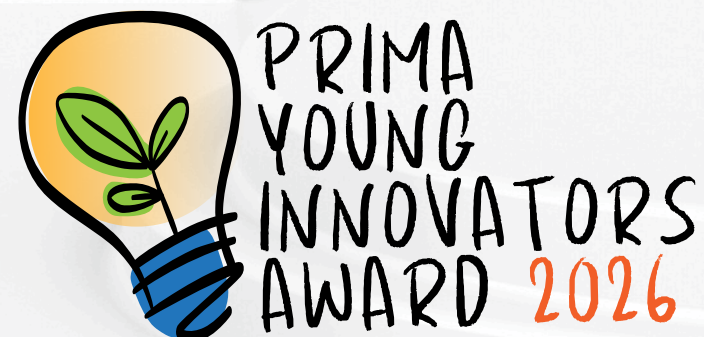
2021-2023

- 3 editions
- 6 winners (2 winners per edition)
- 10.000€ cash prize for each winner



2024-2025

- 2 editions
- first edition launched in 2024
- 4 winners in 2024 & 2 winners in 2025
- 20.000€ cash prize in total



2026

- first edition launched in 2026
- 2 winners to be awarded in 2026
- 10.000€ cash prize for each winner

Key successes in the region

SCIENCE DIPLOMACY

PRIMA has proven to be an instrument facilitating cooperation between teams from North/South and South/South countries.

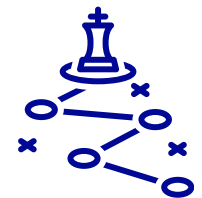
ALIGNING NATIONAL REGULATIONS

Aligning national regulations and administrative procedures: PRIMA effectively fostered collaboration among countries that had not previously worked together.

Conclusion



**Strong institutional support
& major geostrategic role in
the Mediterranean**

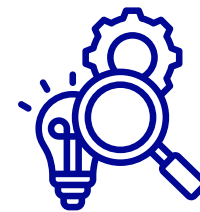


**A strategic R&I Agenda
coherent with global and
regional challenges**



Equal Footing

Based on equal footing, shared
interest and mutual benefit.



**PRIMA is a successful
example of R&I
cooperation and policy
alignment among States**



PRIMA: a solid instrument of Science Diplomacy

between Europe, Africa and Middle East



**A well balanced project
portfolio with 305
projects' results to be
capitalized**

PRIMA

The Partnership for Research and
Innovation in the Mediterranean Area

www.prima-med.org
[@PRIMAPartnership](https://twitter.com/PRIMAPartnership)