



EURO-MEDITERRANEAN
NETWORK FOR ECONOMIC STUDIES
الشبكة الأورو-متوسطية للدراسات الاقتصادية

EURO-MEDITERRANEAN NETWORK FOR ECONOMIC STUDIES

A Renewed Vision for
Socio-Economic Development

Activity Report 2015-2019

Co-funded by
the European Union



The Euro-Mediterranean Network for Economic Studies - EMNES aims to provide a renewed vision for socio-economic development in the Mediterranean region.

EMNES is co-funded by the European Union – under Grant Contract N° ENPI/2014/354-488 and the EMNES Partners and Associates.

ABOUT US

Our History, Vision, & Mission



The Euro-Mediterranean Network for Economic Studies (EMNES) is a collaborative and innovative regional network of economic and policy research institutions and think tanks from 19 countries of the Mediterranean and beyond working towards a renewed vision for socio-economic development in the Mediterranean, mainly focusing on sustainable development, employment creation and social inclusion. EMNES is built on four core principles: independence, excellence, policy relevance and expertise.

EMNES Partners :

- Centre for European Policy Studies (CEPS) (Belgium)
- Euro-Mediterranean Economists Association (EMEA) (Spain)
- University of Cairo - Faculty of Economics and Political Science (FEPS) (Egypt)
- Institut des Hautes Etudes Commerciales (IHEC) (Tunisia)
- Euro-Mediterranean University of Fes (UEMF) (Morocco)
- Yarmouk University (YU) (Jordan)
- Euro-Mediterranean University (EMUNI) (Slovenia)
- Free University of Berlin (FUB) (Germany)
- Institut Tunisien de la Compétitivité et des Etudes Quantitatives (ITCEQ) (Tunisia)
- Institut Agronomique et Vétérinaire Hassan II (IAV) (Morocco)
- Institute of Computers and Communications Systems - E³MLab, National Technical University of Athens (ICCS) (Greece)
- Istanbul Policy Center - Sabanci University (IPC) (Turkey)
- Institute of Studies for the Integration of Systems (ISINNOVA) (Italy)
- University of Barcelona Regional Quantitative Analysis Group (UB-AQR) (Spain)
- Centre International de Hautes Etudes Agronomiques Méditerranéennes - Istituto Agronomico Mediterraneo di Bari (CIHEAM) (Italy)
- Forum for Euro-Mediterranean Innovation in Action (FEMIA) (France)
- Fondazione Eni Enrico Mattei (FEEM) (Italy)
- Bureau for Economic Theory and Application at University of Strasbourg (BETA) (France)
- Research Center in Applied Economics for Development (CREAD) (Algeria)
- Tunis Business School (TBS) (Tunisia)
- Université Internationale de Rabat (UIR) (Morocco)
- Palestine Economic Policy Research Institute (MAS) (Palestine)
- Barcelona Centre for International Affairs (CIDOB) (Spain)
- Jordan Strategy Forum (JSF) (Jordan)
- Centre for Banking Research (CBR) (United Kingdom)
- European Institute of the Mediterranean (IEMed) (Spain)
- Libera Università Maria SS. Assunta (LUMSA) (Italy)
- Università degli Studi di Firenze (UNIFI) (Italy)
- Policy Centre for the New South (PCNS) (Morocco)
- German Jordanian University (GJU) (Jordan)

A WORD FROM THE DIRECTOR



RYM AYADI

EMNES Director

"The Euro-Mediterranean Network for Economic Studies (EMNES) has evolved as a collaborative and innovative regional network of economics and policy research institutions from both shores of the Mediterranean. EMNES allows a younger generation of economists and policy experts to contribute to the socio-economic policies of the Euro-Mediterranean region. EMNES produces policy research, surveys, policy papers and notes that contribute to a renewed vision and models for socio-economic development in the Mediterranean region inspired by the Blue Transition Scenario anchored in a multi-dimensional and differentiated regional integration approach and a Transparent, Responsible, Inclusive and Sustainable (TRIS) model for socio-economic development."

LANDMARKS

2015

- EMNES established

2016

- First phase research completed
- First EMNES Annual Conference in Tunis, Tunisia
- Launch of the Tunisia Economic Policy Group 2017

2017

- Launch of EMNES working papers, studies and policy papers
- Joint EMNES-EMEA-IEMED study on Youth Employment and Regional Integration in the Euro-Mediterranean region
- Second phase of research completed
- Second EMNES Annual conference in Cairo, Egypt
- EMNES welcomes new members from Algeria and Tunisia

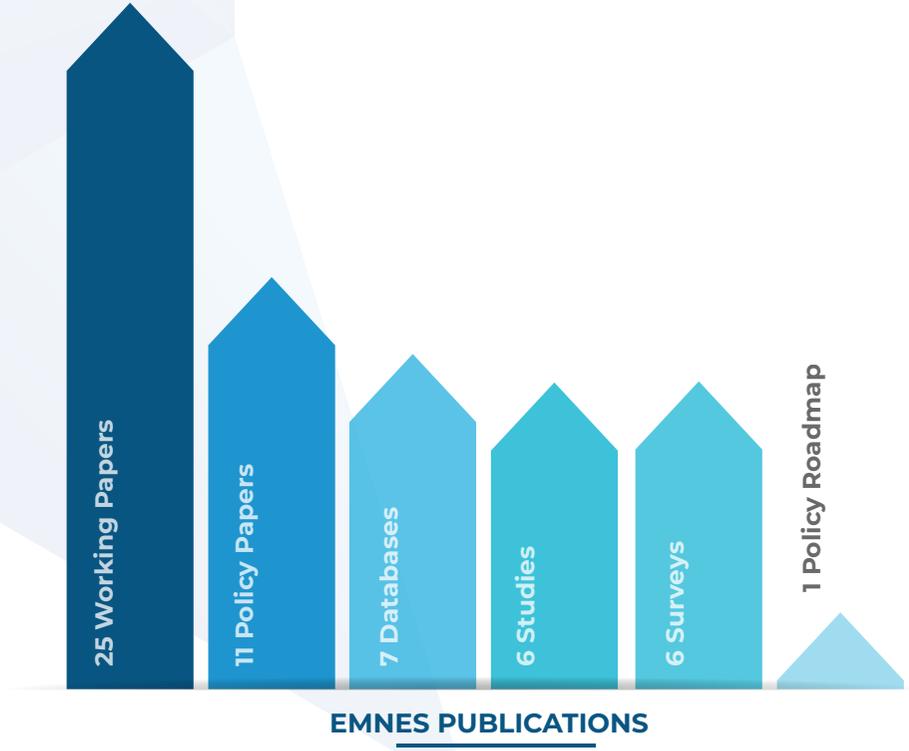
2018

- Publication of two studies and 18 working papers
- First EMNES Policy Conference in Amman, Jordan
- EMNES Summer Policy Workshop, Brussels, Belgium
- EMNES Autumn Policy Workshop, Piran, Slovenia

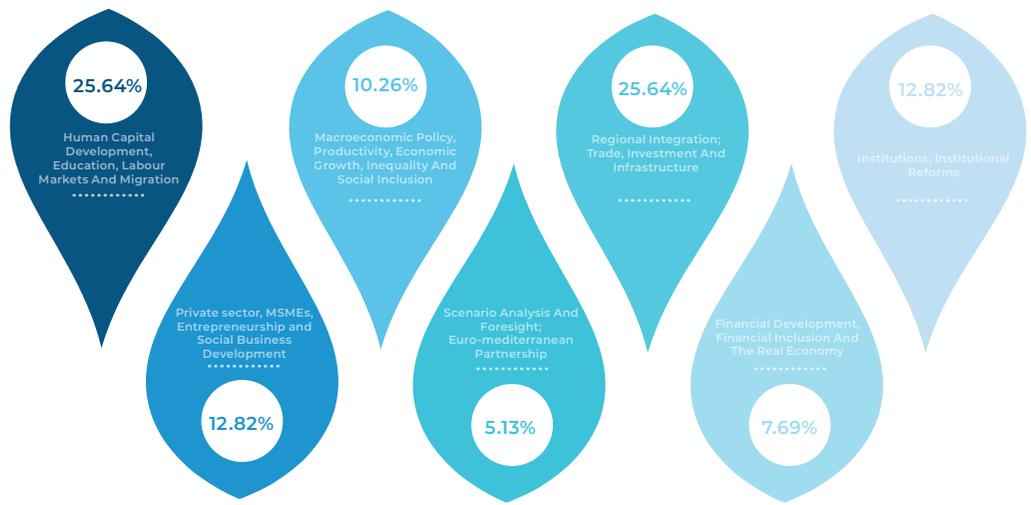
2019

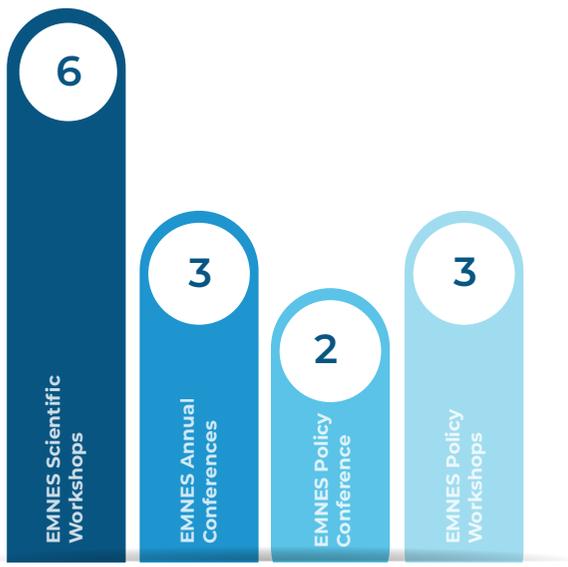
- EMNES Strategy Seminar at CEPS Ideas Lab in Brussels, Belgium
- EMNES welcomes new members from Palestine, Jordan, Spain, UK and Morocco
- Third EMNES Annual Conference in Brussels, Belgium

EMNES IN FIGURES



EMNES Publications Per Research Area



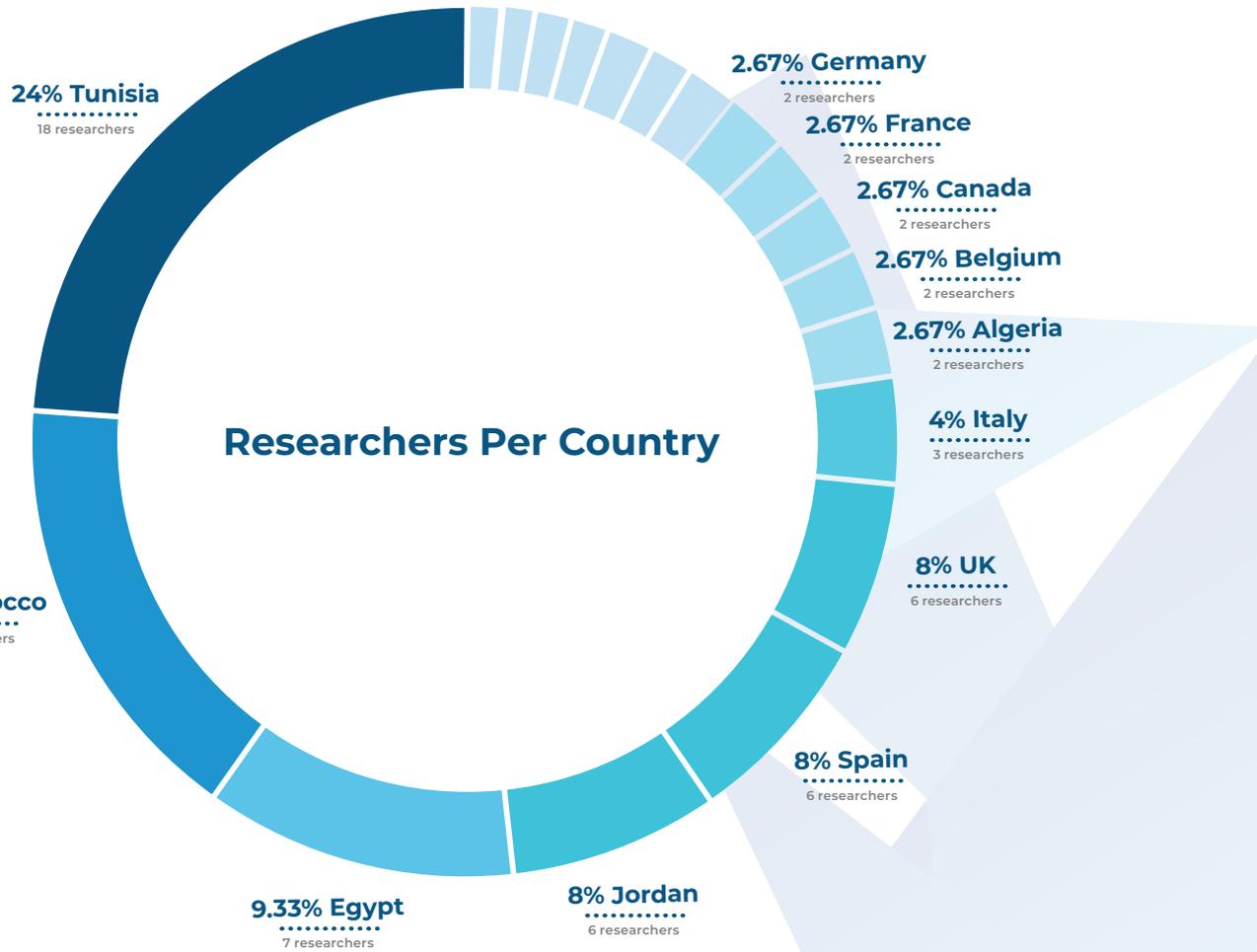


EMNES EVENTS

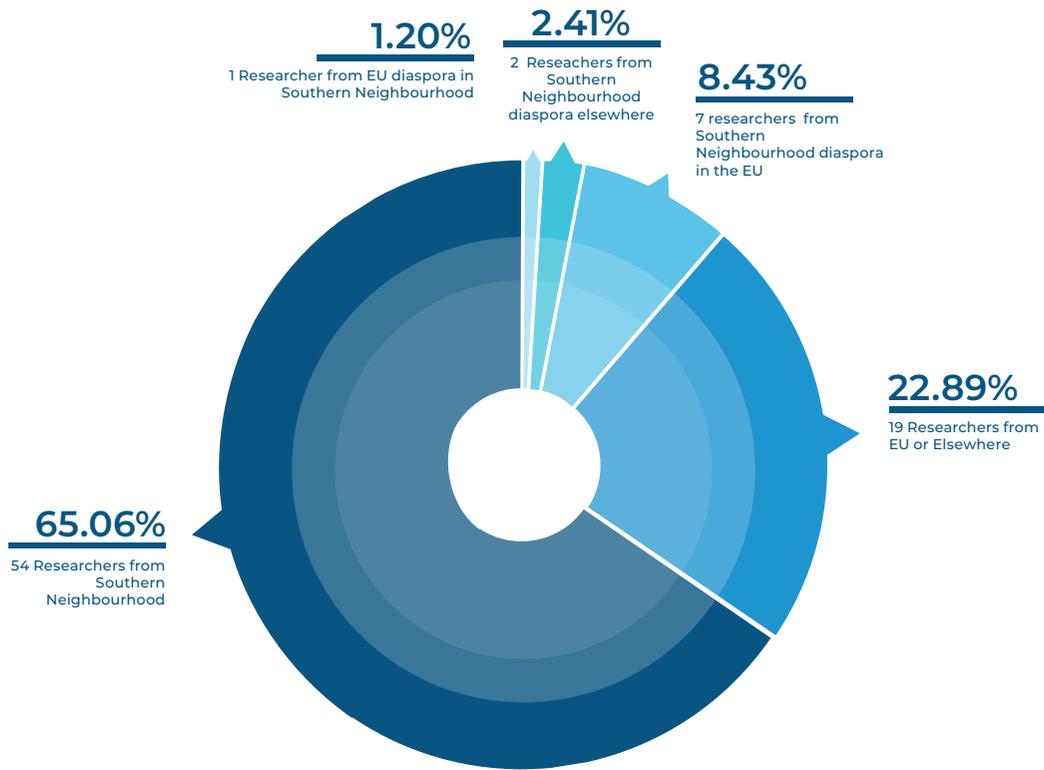


Policy-Research Dialogue: Key Actors

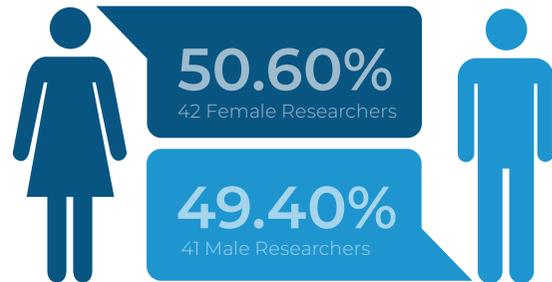
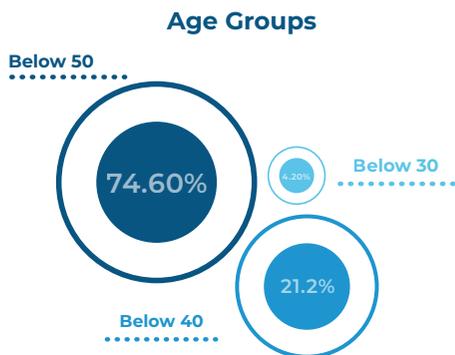
1.33% Turkey (1 researcher) | 1.33% Slovenia (1 researcher) | 1.33% S.Korea (1 researcher) | 1.33% Palestine (1 researcher) | 1.33% Kuwait (1 researcher) | 1.33% Greece (1 researcher) | 1.33% USA (1 researcher)



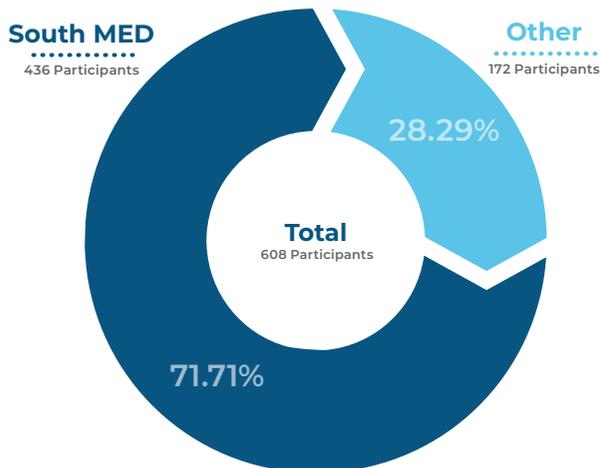
Researchers Per Country



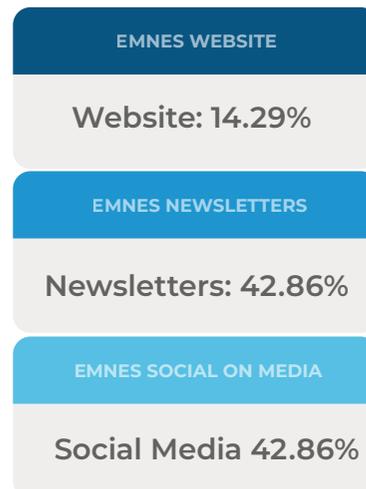
Origin of EMNES Researchers



Share of Female and Male Researchers



Share of South MED Participants at Events



Communication Intensity

TESTIMONIALS FROM EMNES COLLEAGUES



Hala H. Elsaid

Minister of Planning, Monitoring and Administrative Reform of Egypt

The Euro-Mediterranean Network of Economic Studies - EMNES is a very important network tackling policy relevant issues for the region.



Chahir Zaki

EMNES Researcher Associate Professor of Economics, Faculty of Economics and Political Science, Cairo University

EMNES for me is not just the Euro-Mediterranean Network for Economic Studies but it is more about: Embracing innovative approaches in research, Monitoring economic policies, Networking with a brilliantly diversified team, Empowering young economists and Strengthening research capacities. I am really lucky to be part of this network and I do really hope it will last as long as we are able to produce sound and policy-relevant research.



Fathallah Sijilmassi

EMNES Advisory Board member, Former Secretary General, Union for the Mediterranean

EMNES has a very innovative and forward looking approach to Euro-Mediterranean key challenges. It promotes inclusiveness and broader ownership with a large and growing number of talented young economists and researchers from Southern Mediterranean countries as well as from Europe. EMNES also succeeds in finding the right balance between long term strategy analysis, prospective new trends and patterns, policy recommendations and field studies.



Nooh Alshyab

EMNES Researcher Assistant Professor, Yarmouk University, Jordan

The think tank Euro Mediterranean Network for Economic Studies, EMNES, is a great cooperative effort to pave the way to sustainable and equitable development in the Southern Mediterranean countries. EMNES cares for the future of the Southern Mediterranean, it builds on the capacity of the region and aims at suggesting new models of development and ways ahead.



Cinzia Alcidi

EMNES Administrative Coordinator, Head of the Economic Policy Unit, Centre for European Policy Studies (CEPS)

EMNES is a network of researchers committed to fact-based analysis to address economic and social issues in the Euro-Med region. But above all, EMNES is people! Men and women open to debate and dialogue, eager to learn and engaged in shaping a better future for the region.



Racha Ramadan

EMNES Researcher, Assistant Professor - Faculty of Economics and Political Science - Cairo University

Euro Mediterranean Network for Economic Studies is not only a network that provides high quality policy relevant research, it is a tool for empowering young multi-disciplinary researchers in the Mediterranean region, especially females.



Roger Albinyana

EMNES Advisory Board member, Director of Mediterranean Regional Policies and Human Development, IEMed

EMNES stems from a very innovative approach to research and policy formulation, which is very much needed in the Euro-Mediterranean region nowadays. We live in troubled times, where reality based on evidence is confronted with fake information that hinders collective progress. EMNES can greatly contribute to offering solutions at the academic level.



Emanuele Sessa

EMNES Assistant Scientific Coordinator

EMNES genuinely brings together senior and junior researchers from countries on both shores of the Mediterranean, after having entailed a number of challenges in the process of building the network, which now provides an opportunity of the utmost importance in a region where youths have been all too often excluded from the formulation and implementation of policies which, in turn, only proved to be mutually beneficial for the countries involved to a certain extent.



Heba Zaki

EMNES Researcher, Assistant Professor of Socio-Computing, Faculty of Economics and Political Science, Cairo University
Founder & CEO, FEPS Business Incubator

The diversification of the academic and cultural background of the researchers has made EMNES a very unique experience for me on an academic and personal level.



Sandra Challita

EMNES Researcher, Assistant Professor, ESDES Lyon Catholic University

As a young researcher, EMNES is for me much more than a research network. It is a unique opportunity to learn, interact and share knowledge and ideas with other researchers, policy makers, and key actors. Working with "the EMNES family" makes me feel that my theoretical work can have a positive contribution towards a better future in the region.



Rim Mouelhi

Professor, LEFA HEC Carthage, Tunisia

EMNES is a forum of independent researchers sharing experiences and engaged in developing innovative ideas and suggestions for a more inclusive socio-economic model in the Euro-Med area.



Aya Elewa

EMNES Fellow Researcher, Economics PhD

The Euro-Mediterranean Network of Economic Studies - EMNES provides an effective and dynamic network for researchers and economists in the region. It plays an important role in drawing policy implications for the region.



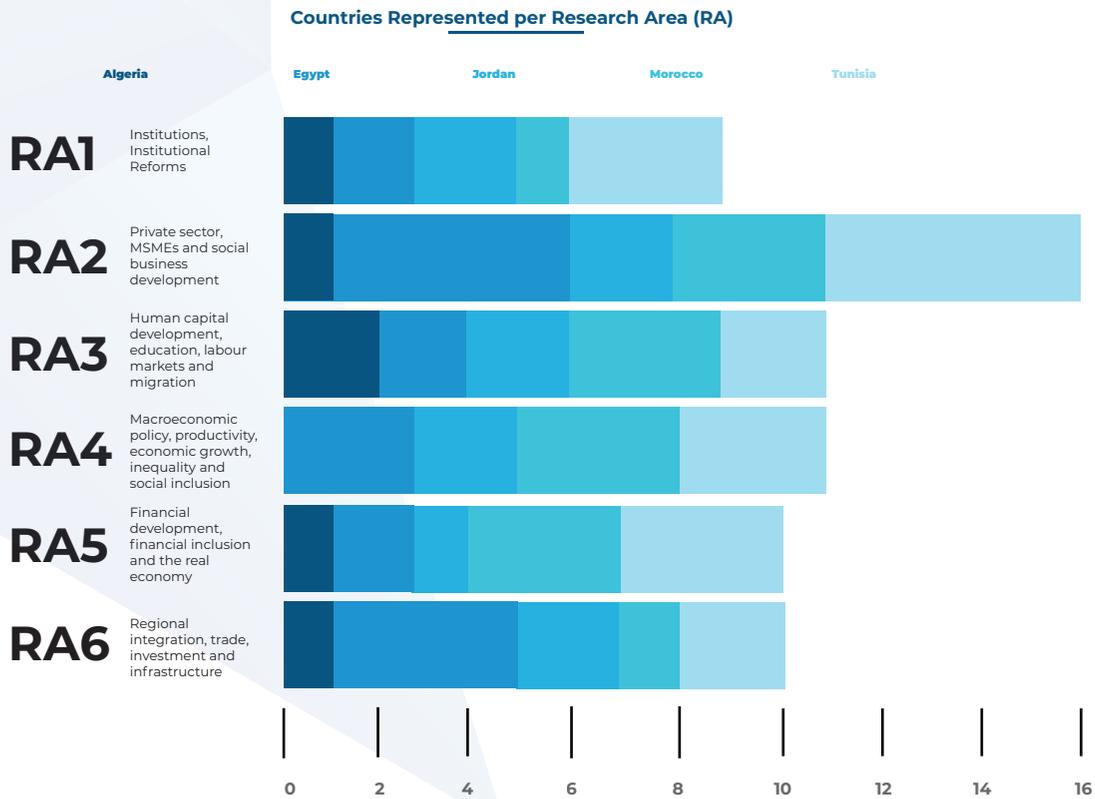
Serena Sandri

EMNES Researcher, Assistant Professor, German Jordanian University, Jordan

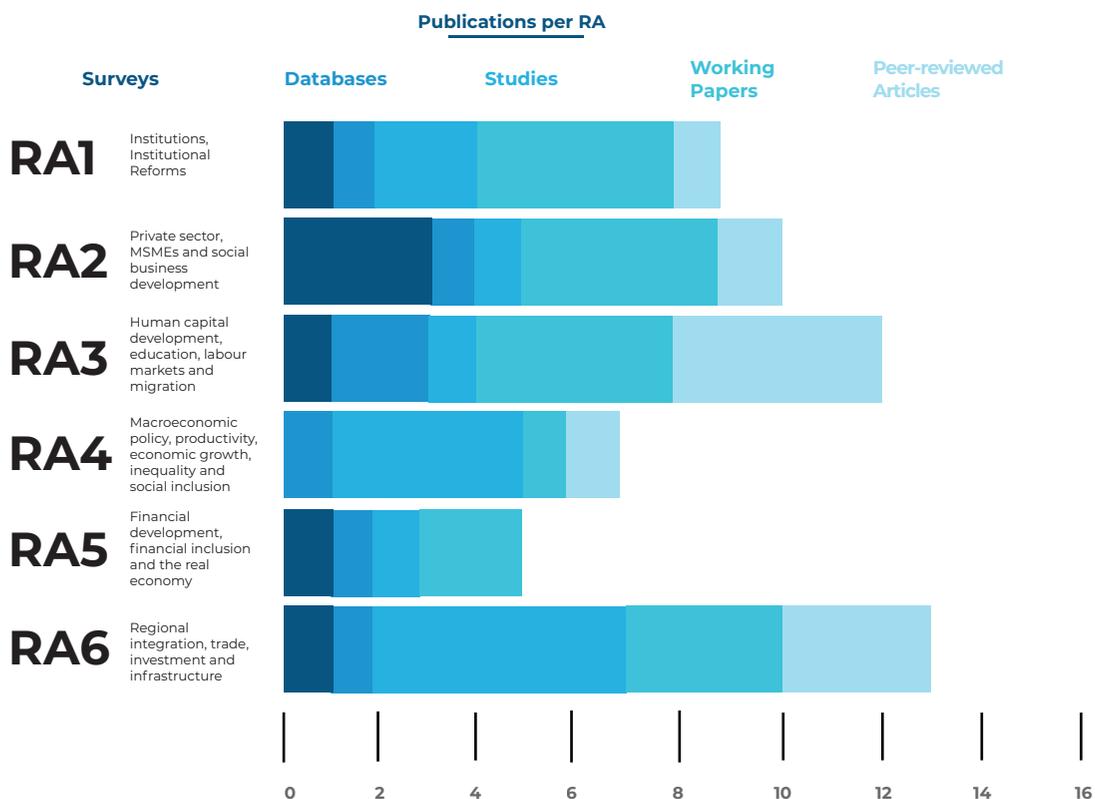
The Euro Mediterranean Network for Economic Studies, EMNES, aims at making the difference in suggesting models of development, policies, and ideas to unveil the potential of the Southern Mediterranean. It reminds us that we live in an interconnected world and that the wellbeing of Europe is deeply linked to sustainable development and equity in the countries of the Southern Mediterranean, of the Middle East, and North Africa. This message is now more important than ever.

EMNES RESEARCH AREAS

Southern Neighbourhood countries were actively engaged in the first phase of EMNES:



As a result of this phase a number of studies, working papers and peer-reviewed articles were published:



EMNES RESEARCH RESULTS

Surveys on:

- Institutional uncertainty
- Entrepreneurship and innovation
- Social business and Informality
- Financial inclusion

Databases on:

- Institutional uncertainty
- Entrepreneurship
- ALMP and MISMES
- Financial inclusion

Studies on:

- Institutions and labour market in South MED
- Trade and Investment in South MED
- MSMEs – Structure, Obstacles and Policies
- Human Capital, labour market friction and migration in South MED
- Financial development and inclusion in South MED
- Youth employment and regional integration in EUROMED

Working Papers

Institutions, Institutional Reforms

- Do Institutions Matter for Informal Employment in Jordan, Egypt and Tunisia?
- The Effects of Institutions and Natural Resources in Heterogenous Growth Regimes with Endogeneity
- Employment Diagnostic Demand Side Analysis: Application for Tunisia
- The Impact of Institutional Uncertainty on Employment Generation Perspectives of Firms in Jordan

Private sector, MSMEs and social business development

- Growth of Micro, Small and Medium enterprises (MSMEs) in MENA countries: constraints and success factors
- Innovative Nascent and Early Stage Entrepreneurship in the Southern Mediterranean – Evidence on Jordan and Morocco
- Descriptive Analysis of the Entrepreneurship Ecosystem in Egypt from a Start-up Perspective

Human capital development, education, labour markets and migration

- Job Search Intensity and the Role of Social Networks in Finding a Job in Arab Countries: A Case Study of Algeria and Jordan
- Economic Analysis of Supply Functions, Private Returns to Investment in Education and Skill Mismatch in Egypt
- Skills Mismatch and Returns to Education in Jordan
- Youth unemployment in Algeria and discouraged workers effects
- Over Education in The Tunisian Labour Market: Characteristics and Determinants

Macroeconomic policy, productivity, economic growth, inequality and social inclusion

- On Modelling the Determinants of TFP in the MENA Region: A Macro-Micro Firm-Level Evidence
- Asset Inequality in MENA – The Missing Dimension?
- Gender Wage Disparities in Egypt: Evidence from ELMPS 2006 and 2012
- Employment Intensity and Sectoral Output Growth: A Comparative Analysis for MENA Economies

Financial development, financial inclusion and the real economy

- Banking Competition, Convergence and Growth across Macro-Regions of MENA
- Financial development and employment: new evidence

Regional integration, trade, investment and infrastructure

- Regional integration in the Euro-Mediterranean
- Do Environment Regulations Matter for EU-MENA Trade?
- Mixed market structure, competition and market size - How does product mix respond?
- Do Exports and Innovation Matter for the Demand of Skilled Labour? Evidence from MENA Countries
- How Do Technical Barriers to Trade Affect Exports? Evidence from Egyptian Firm-Level Data
- Impact of Foreign Direct Investment on Economic Growth in Morocco
- The Tunisian integration into Global Value Chains

POLICY PAPERS

Twelve policy papers with proposed measures covering seven inter-linked policy-making areas have been delivered by EMNES:

Inclusive and sustainable socio-economic model in the Mediterranean:

- Blue Transition Policy Roadmap: Towards a Transparent, Responsible, Inclusive and Sustainable Mediterranean by 2050

Institutions and Institutional Reforms:

- Institutions and Economic Performance in the Southern Mediterranean Partner Countries: A Renewed Policy Agenda to Tackle Institutional Failure

Regional integration, trade investment and infrastructure:

- Youth Employment in the Mediterranean region: Is Further Regional Integration the Way Forward for Job Creation?

- Unleashing Trade Potential in SEMCs: How Do Non-Tariff Measures Matter?

- Global Value Chains in the Euro-Mediterranean: Becoming the Pillar for Regional Integration?

Financial development, financial inclusion and the real economy:

- Policy Agenda for Inclusive, Job-creating Financial Development in the Southern and Eastern Mediterranean

Human capital development, education, labour markets and migration:

- Female Labour Force Participation and Entrepreneurship: The Missing Pillar for Inclusive and Sustainable Economic Development in MENA?

- Policies for Labour Matching within and between Countries in the Mediterranean Region

- Legal Migration Pathways across The Mediterranean: Achievements, Obstacles and the Way Forward

- Labour Supply, Education and Migration in South Mediterranean Countries: Policy Challenges and Options

Private sector, micro, small and medium sized enterprises, entrepreneurship and social business development

- Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises in The Mediterranean: A Policy Roadmap to Untap the Potential for Job Creation

Science, technology and innovation:

- Science, Technology and Innovation as Drivers for Economic Development in the Southern and Eastern Mediterranean Countries: What Role for the EU?

EMNES EVENTS



First EMNES Annual Conference “Towards inclusive, sustainable and employment driven socio-economic models in the Mediterranean: What roles for institutions, micro-small and medium sized enterprises and finance?” (15 December 2016, Tunis, Tunisia)

4 Expert Panels Debated On:

- Challenges and opportunities in the region
- Institutions, economic growth, social welfare and labour market
- Private sector development, MSMEs and employment creation
- Finance, regulation and the real economy

1 Policy Panel On:

- Challenges and scenarios for inclusive socio-economic development in the region

Presentation of the study “How regional integration leads to youth employment in the Euro-Mediterranean region” (20 July 2017, Barcelona, Spain)

Presentation of the study available at: <https://emnes.org/publications/>

Key issues debated at the event:

- Adequate policies are needed in all member countries of the UfM to manage displacement of workers in transition phases
- Policies preparing the economies to engage in regional integration can help to maintain employment levels in transition phases
- Untapped potential for investment in the region to be considered to address the issue of increasing trade deficits
- In countries not well protected, abolition of tariff and non-tariff barriers to trade can lead to loss of employment in the short run but competitiveness gains are likely to improve employment situation in the long run
- Construction and the financial sectors are expected to benefit the most from regional integration in terms of youth employment
- The optimistic scenario, whereby 5m million jobs for youths are created, requires new regional integration and industrial policies
- The pessimistic scenario suggests that current policies will lead to unsustainable outcomes in terms of employment levels



Second EMNES Annual Conference “Towards an inclusive, sustainable and employment driven socio-economic models in the Mediterranean: What roles for institutions, micro-small and medium sized enterprises and finance?” (6-7 December 2017, Cairo, Egypt)

The output from the second year of EMNES research was presented to high-level policy makers, EU delegation representatives, academia and representatives of research organisations, think tanks, international organisations, financial institutions, etc.

Two policy panels debated on:

- Inclusive growth and economic reforms in the Mediterranean region
- Private sector dynamics and social business

Six academic sessions presented:

- 2 papers on “Institutions, growth and employment”
- 3 papers on “Firm productivity and job creation”
- 4 papers on “Human capital, skills mismatches and migration”
- 3 papers on “Micro, small and medium firms and entrepreneurship”
- 2 papers on “Financial development, growth, employment and inequality”
- 2 papers on “Economic integration and employment creation”

First EMNES Policy Conference “Job Creation in the Southern Mediterranean – Perspectives and Challenges” (9-10 May 2018, Amman, Jordan)

This conference was organised as a platform for discussion on the socio-economic roots of unemployment in the region and on the perspectives and challenges for job creation for developing a policy roadmap to solve the problem of unemployment. It brought together influential stakeholders such as policy makers, experts from the region and beyond, investors and private sector decision makers.

EMNES participation to the Conference “Rethinking the Euro-Mediterranean cultural partnership” (16-18 November 2018, Tunis, Tunisia)

The EMNES booth was visited by a large number of participants in the event, including journalists, young entrepreneurs and students. EMNES representatives explained the vision and aims of the Network, but also listened to the problems and issues that the young people of the region have to face.



EMNES panel discussion at the IdeasLab organised by CEPS: Panel: A new role for the EU in the Mediterranean? (21-22 February 2019, Brussels, Belgium)

Ideas Lab is the most high-profile annual event on EU policies. It is a forum that brings together Europe’s top decision makers and thinkers to discuss the major issues confronting the EU and to explore innovative solutions. In 2019, the theme was “Europe’s Choice” and took place in Brussels, 21-22 February 2019.

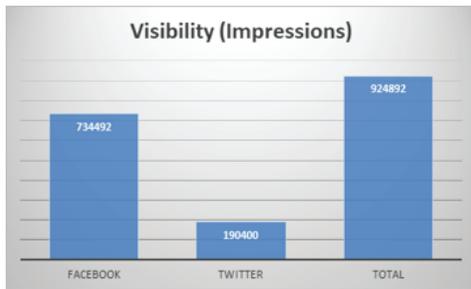
Third EMNES Annual Conference “Towards a Regional Integration and Employment Driven Socio-Economic Model in the Mediterranean: A Comprehensive Policy Roadmap” (27-28 June 2019, Brussels, Belgium)

The two-day conference has a two-fold objective:

- Discussion of the EMNES Blue Transition Scenario 2050 and the Comprehensive Policy Roadmap towards new models of regional integration and employment creation in the Mediterranean;
- Discussion and dissemination of the results and conclusions of the research work under EMNES policy research



ONLINE PRESENCE OF EMNES

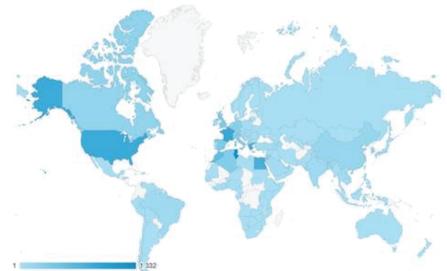


Overall visibility since July 2017

Total visibility of EMNES actions in the online community from July 2017 until May 2019 was over 900,000 impressions.

EMNES Website Reach

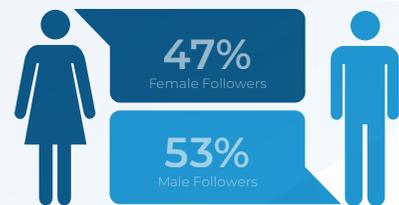
EMNES website had visitors from almost all countries in the world. Most visitors came from Tunisia, Egypt, France, Morocco, Greece, the UK and the US.



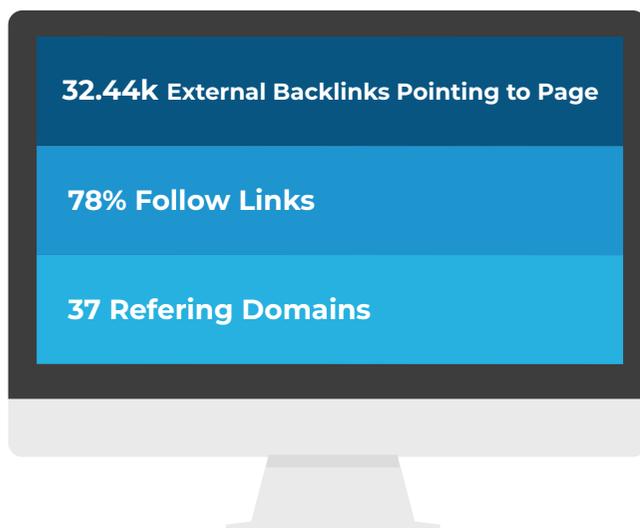
EMNES Overall Reach

EMNES communication strategy focused on social media, promoting publication links so that viewers could download them directly from the website. Over 5,000 people visited the EMNES document repository to download papers.

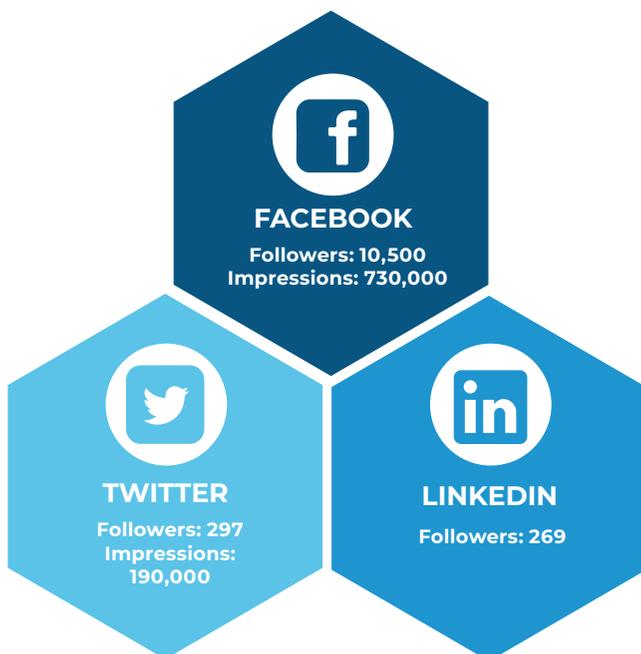
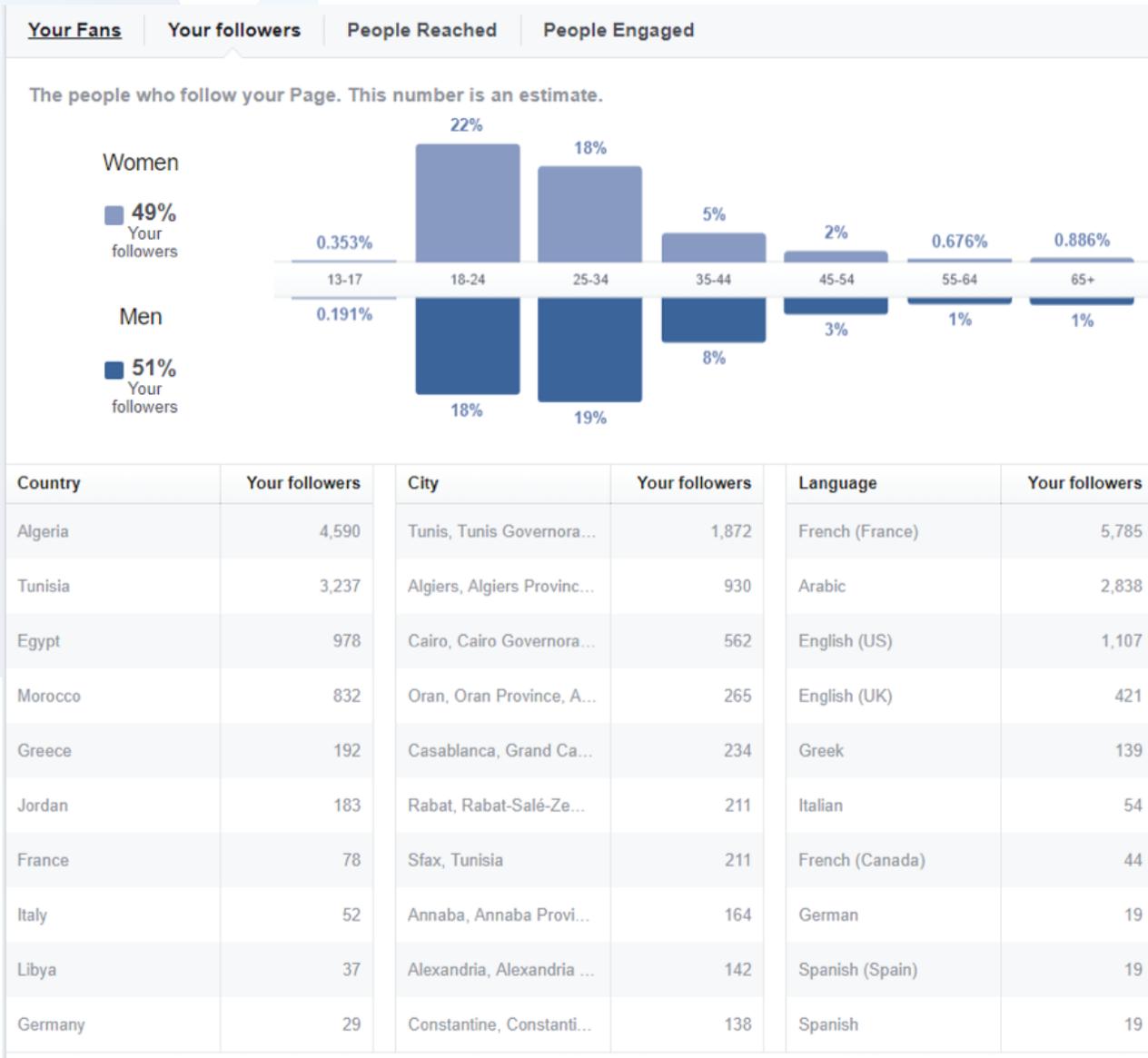
This number is in addition to the direct dissemination of EMNES publications to the 235 subscribers of the EMNES mailing list. Many of the mailing list members are also representatives/researchers of the 30 EMNES partner organisations who circulate the publications to their respective institution, colleagues and students.



Gender of followers:



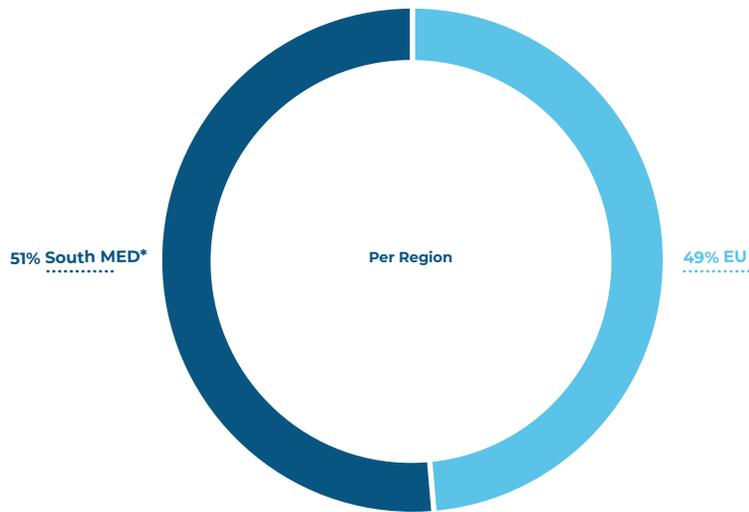
Newsletter editions:



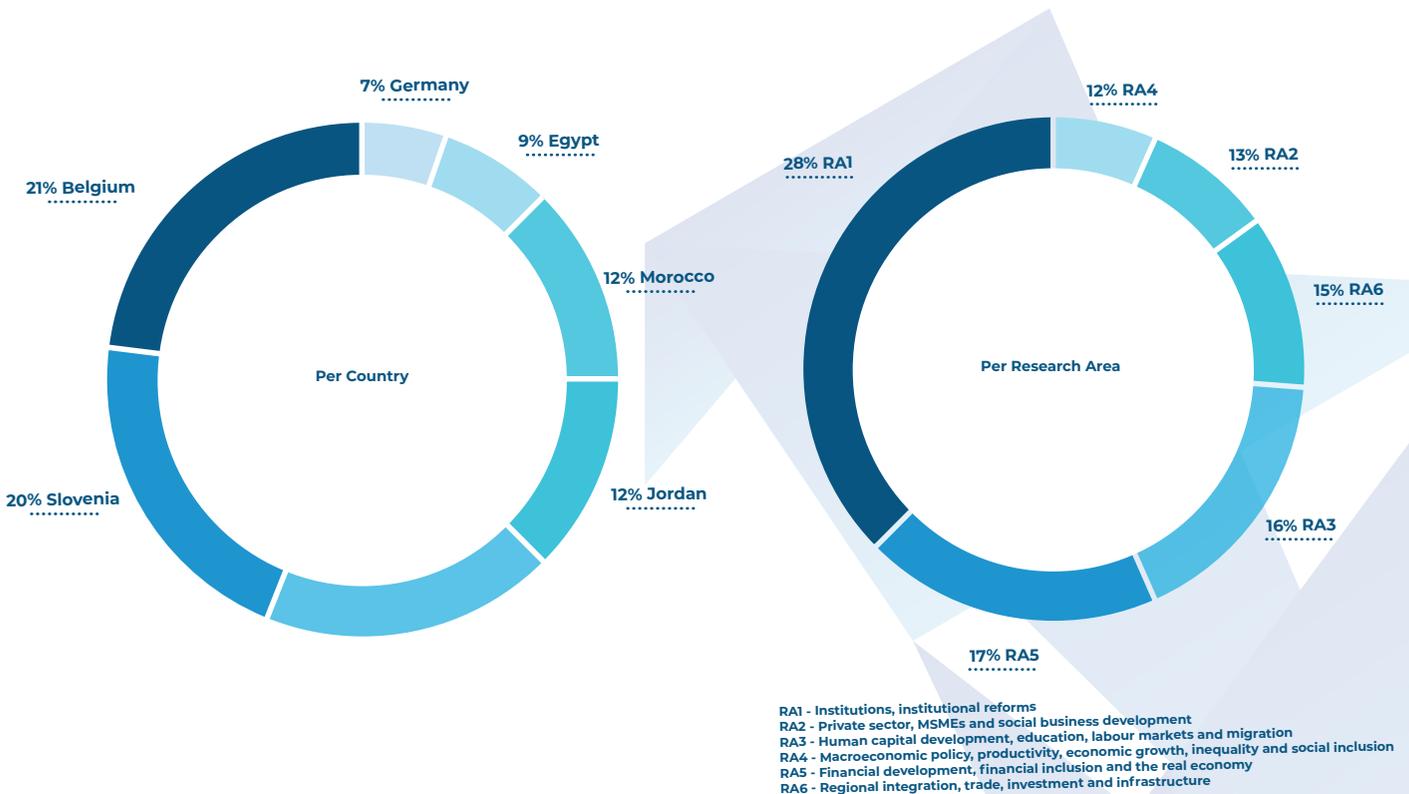
EMNES has received a total of 730,000 impressions on Facebook. EMNES Facebook audience comes mainly from South Mediterranean Countries.

EMNES has received a total of 190,000 impressions on Twitter. EMNES Twitter audience comes mainly from Europe.

EMNES BUDGET DISTRIBUTION



*EMNES budget covers research activities conducted in the following South MED countries: Egypt, Jordan, Morocco and Tunisia



Disclaimer: EMNES is co-funded by the European Union and the EMNES Partners and Associates.



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