

## Forum for Research Funders in Arab Countries Cairo, Egypt December 11 - 12 , 2014 Four Seasons (First residence) Hotel - Giza

organized by  
International Development Research Centre (IDRC) - Canada  
the American University of Beirut (AUB) - Lebanon  
Institut de recherche pour le développement (IRD) - France

This workshop gathers a select group of research professionals responsible for managing research as well as policy experts active in the Arab countries. Discussions will be stimulated by insights from a recent study of granting councils and funding agencies in six countries (a study funded by IDRC prepared specially for this event).

<b>Thursday 11: Acacia Room</b>		
9h – 9h30	Opening – Purpose, objectives and expectations	Bruce Currie-Alder Sari Hanafi
9h30 – 11h	<b>Setting the Scene</b> <i>Global Trends in Research Funding and the Experience of six Funding Agencies.</i> <i>Presentation of the Report on funding and first discussion: Rigas Arvanitis. Open discussion</i> <i>Main themes to follow-up in the meeting: comments by Khaled Makkouk</i>	Rigas Arvanitis Khaled Makkouk
11h – 11h30	Coffee Break	
11h30 – 13h	<b>SESSION 1: Role &amp; Function of Research Funders</b> <i>How do Arab funders shape the research landscape and the incentives that encourage researchers?</i> <i>Introducing the theme : Rafael Rodriguez</i> <i>Open Discussion</i> <i>Comments on the issues by Zeinab Al Sadr</i>	Rafael Rodriguez Zeinab Al Sadr
13h – 14h	Lunch	
14h - 15h30	<b>SESSION 2: Expected Impacts from Research</b> <i>What are the criteria used to assess and evaluate the work that is funded?</i> <i>Introducing the theme : Aurélie Pancera</i> <i>Open Discussion</i> <i>Comments on expected impacts and policy suggestions by Rachid Ghirir</i>	Aurélie Pancera Rachid Ghirir
15h30-18h30	Free time	

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<b>Thursday 11: Invited session with dinner, Aura Restaurant</b>		
18 h 30 – 20h30	<b>Social &amp; Natural Sciences: Responding to National Needs</b> What role does research play in addressing national priorities and the demands of society? How can funders encourage greater integration and dialogue between the social & natural sciences? Chair: Sari Hanafi	Sari Hanafi Kyriaki Papageorgiou Sayed Yassine Ahmad Zayed Amani Massoud Amr Hamzawi
<b>Friday 12: Acacia Room</b>		
9h – 9h30	Introducing the second day / Wrap-up of discussions of day one	
9h30 – 11h	<b>SESSION 3: Management of Funding Opportunities</b> <i>How do funders gather proposals, select recipients, and monitor projects?</i> <i>Introducing the theme: Jacques Gaillard</i> <i>Comments :Yasemin Koc and open discussion</i>	Jacques Gaillard  Yasemin Koc
11h – 11h30	Coffee Break	
11h30 – 13h	<b>Partnership and Collaboration</b> <i>Identify the potential to work together on common interests (e.g. joint calls or pooled funding)</i> <i>Introducing the theme : David O'Brien</i> <i>Open discussion</i> <i>Comments : Driss Aboutajdine</i>	David O'Brien  Driss Aboutajdine
13h – 13h30	<b>Moving Forward</b> Identify conclusions and sharing insights from other regions Theme introduction : Bruce Currie-Adler Final comments and suggestions Wrap-up : Adel Selmi	Bruce Currie-Alder  Adel Selmi

Please confirm your participation by email to Ms. Eman El-Rashidy ([erashidy@idrc.ca](mailto:erashidy@idrc.ca)).

Or contact IDRC Cairo office by phone: +202 3336 7051/2/3/4- ext. 7108

The organizers are available to clarify our expectations and answer any questions you may have.