



## PRESS INVITATION: 'FROM RESILIENCE TO DEVELOPMENT', A HIGH LEVEL STAKEHOLDER CONFERENCE ON THE SYRIAN REFUGEE CRISIS

The Center for Mediterranean Integration, cordially invites you to a High Level Stakeholder Conference on the Syrian Refugee Crisis 'From Resilience to Development'.

- **Date:** Monday 7<sup>th</sup> of September, 2015, from 9:00am to 6:00pm.
- **Address:** Center for Mediterranean Integration, Villa Valmer, 271 Corniche Kennedy, 13007, Marseille France
- **Kindly send your media representative to cover the conference.**
- **The event is open to the press as follows:**
  - **8:30 am to 11:30 am: Opening, session 1 and coffee break**
  - **5:45 pm to 8 pm: Concluding remarks and Reception**
- **Interviews with participants are possible across the event depending on availability of participants.**
- **Online interviews can be facilitated with participants (depending on availability) for media outlets that cannot attend the event.**
- **Media Contact:** (Ms) Zein Nahas, Communication Officer at the Center for Mediterranean Integration, (cell) 00 33 6 04677242, [znahas@worldbank.org](mailto:znahas@worldbank.org)

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The conflict in Syria has entered its fifth year and its impact both in Syria and in neighboring countries has had disastrous humanitarian, social and economic consequences. Syria is facing important human losses and physical infrastructure damages, neighboring countries also have to cope with an immense pressure. The surge in populations places an unprecedented burden on host countries and communities, threatening peace and stability in the region and probable impediment to long term development.

To respond to this unprecedented situation, the high level stakeholders meeting will be organized in order to build awareness of the growing needs of hosting countries in the Mashreq due to the refugee crisis. It aims to provide a space for an exchange of experience among hosting countries to discuss appropriate shift in policies and to gather support to the idea of providing them with access to concessional funding to mitigate the crisis.

The event is co-organized by the World Bank, the United Nations agencies (UNHCR, UNDP, UNESCWA), and the French Development Agency (AFD) and the Center for Mediterranean Integration. It will bring together 50 government officials from Syrian refugee hosting countries, development partners and potential donors, financial and development experts and practitioners familiar with fragility contexts.

More details:

- Agenda of the conference. Sessions that are open to the press are marked in yellow
- List of confirmed participants

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*The Center for Mediterranean Integration (CMI) is a space where development agencies, Governments, local authorities and civil society from around the Mediterranean convene in order to exchange knowledge, discuss public policies, and identify the solutions needed to address key challenges facing the Mediterranean region. Members of CMI are Egypt, France, Italy, Jordan, Lebanon, Morocco, Palestinian Authority, Tunisia, the City of Marseille, Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur Region, the European Investment Bank and the World Bank Group.*

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