



08:00 – 08:45 Registration and Welcome Coffee

08:45 – 09:30 **Welcome words**

by **Ulrich H. Brunnhuber**, Head of Policy and Institutional Affairs, Operations in EU Neighbouring Countries, European Investment Bank (EIB)

Opening Speeches

[film on EIB projects]

Mr Dario Scannapieco, Vice-President, EIB

H.E. Ms Dr Sahar Nasr, Minister of Investment and International Cooperation, Republic of Egypt

H. E. Mr Adel Afioni, State Minister for Technology and Investment, Lebanese Republic

Ms Ouided Bouchamaoui, Member of the Tunisian National Dialogue Quartet, Peace Nobel Prize 2015, Chef de File Sommet des Deux Rives

Mr Marcin Przydacz, Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs, Republic of Poland

H.E. Mr Ralph Tarraf, Head of the EU Delegation to Lebanon

09:30 – 10:00 Setting the scene - **Bringing resilience to the region: the key challenges**

Review and debate of recent economic developments in the region and the necessary responses to these challenges.

Moderator: **Omar Christidis**, Founder, Arabnet

- **Youssef el Khalil**, Executive Director, Central Bank of Lebanon
- **Debora Revoltella**, Chief Economist, European Investment Bank

10:00 – 11:00 **Panel I – Investing in a sustainable and resilient Mediterranean Region**

[film on EIB projects]

Sustainable infrastructure is essential for businesses to develop, create jobs and thus generate growth in the region. Besides conventional sectors, EIB is also supporting more innovative infrastructures that enable emerging countries to accelerate their development. The session will highlight how investments in strategic sectors can boost ecosystems to achieve growth and economic resilience.

Moderator: **Andrew Collingwood**, Director, Expectation State

- **Stephanie Abi Abdallah**, Programs Director, Beirut Digital District
- **Benoît Denis**, Senior Economist Digital Infrastructure, EIB
- **Sami Mimita**, Head of UGP, Ministry of Education, Tunisia
- **Mohammad Mustafa**, Chairman, Palestine Investment Fund
- **Eric Scotto**, President and Founder, Akuo Energy, France



11:00 – 11:10	Project video “Modernisation of school buildings” (Tunisia) <i>presented by</i> Mongji Mabrouk , Director General, Ministry of Education, Tunisia
11:10 – 11:30	Coffee break
11:30 – 11:45	<p>Fireside chat - Investing in local entrepreneurship</p> <p>The role of entrepreneurs: Wael and Emilie will give insights on why and how to support start-ups and SMEs in the region.</p> <p><i>Moderator:</i> Shirin Wheeler, Head of Social Media Unit and Senior International Press Officer, EIB</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Wael Amin, Partner, Sawari Ventures, Egypt ▪ Emile Cubeisy, Founder and Managing Director, Silicon Badia, Jordan
11:45 – 12:30	<p>Pitches</p> <p>Companies from the MENA region will present their innovative and disruptive business in front of the conference audience. The winners – selected by the participants via online-voting – will be awarded a prize</p>
12:30 – 13:30	<p>Panel II – Financing in innovative companies to foster growth and employment <i>[film on EIB projects]</i></p> <p>Innovation is a key driver to create jobs and to develop an inclusive and sustainable business environment. The panellists will look into renewed ways of providing access to finance for innovative companies, start-ups and SMEs alike, through local banks, international institutions and investment funds.</p> <p><i>Moderator:</i> Marion Hoenicke, Head of Banks Division, EIB</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Omar Ezziyati, Head of Strategic scanning, Innovation and Influence, BMCE Bank of Africa, Morocco ▪ Lamia Fourati, Chief Strategy Officer, OneTech ▪ Romen Mathieu, Co-Founder and Managing Partner, Euromena ▪ Fadi Nassar, Deputy General Manager, Head of Groups Commercial Banking, Byblos Bank ▪ Mohamed Zmandar, Director General, Enda Tamweel
13:30 – 13:45	<p>Prize giving ceremony with Dario Scannapieco, Vice-President, EIB and Ouided Bouchamaoui, Member of the Tunisian National Dialogue Quartet, Peace Nobel Prize 2015, Chef de File Sommet des Deux Rives <i>Group photo</i></p>
13:45 – 14:00	<p>Closing remarks</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Flavia Palanza, Director, Lending Operations in EU Neighbouring Countries, EIB
14:00	Networking lunch