

Project Number:	245807
Project Title:	N€uromed
Deliverable Type:	PU - Public

Deliverable Number:	D14- Report on Events activity
Contractual Date of Delivery to the CEC:	15/05/2011
Actual Date of Delivery to the EU:	11/07/2011
Work package contributing to the Deliverable:	WP4
Nature of the Deliverable:	Report
Editor:	UAE
Author(s):	UAE & Univmed
Abstract:	In this document we sum up all types of N€uromed events that have taken place since the beginning of the project.
Keyword List:	Event, workshop, lecture, training conference

Table of Content

1. Report on Events activity	3
1.1 Summary.....	3
1.2 N€UROMED Events in 2010.....	3
1.3 Summary of first year events:.....	5
1.4 N€UROMED Events in 2011	6
1.5 Events towards the large public.....	6
1.6 Plan for N€UROMED Events in 2012	7
Annex 1:Events (M0-M20)	8

1. Report on Events activity

1.1 Summary

WP4 gathers all types of events designed to allow the Consortium members to strengthen local networks and existing collaborations and to foster new collaborations. In line with the overall objective of the project, most events took place in Algeria, Egypt and Morocco, with the aim of helping research centers in these countries to build local networks, and acquire new techniques and know-how in the field of brain research.

The implementation of the work plan is successful, despite a slow down during 2011, due to the Arab Spring. Indeed, year one of the project (2010) has witnessed a high number of events (13). Year two (2011) shows a decrease of activities due to the Arab Spring, which has forced us to postpone several events planned in the 1st half of 2011. The situation is returning to normal in Morocco, Algeria and Egypt, and events are taking place without any major disturbances.

1.2 N€UROMED Events in 2010

As mentioned above, N€UROMED members were highly active in terms of organizing events in 2010 as 13 events took place as follows:

- Two N€UROMED workshops¹ (France and Morocco)
- Five Local workshops in MPC (one in Algeria, two in Egypt and two in Morocco)
- Four Lectures in MPC (two in Egypt and two in Morocco)
- One Training conference in Egypt
- Satellite event of the 3d Mediterranean Conference of Neuroscience in Egypt

N€UROMED Workshops (NW):

- The first N€UROMED Workshop was combined with the kick-off meeting in Marseille, France (Coordinator). It was divided into working group sessions, each working group focusing on one of the four themes of N€UROMED.

Theme 1: Neurodegenerative diseases, mental disease and neurotoxicity

Theme 2: Neuroplasticity, pain, development, learning and education

Theme 3: Adaptation to environmental stress

Theme 4: New technologies for neuroscience research

¹ We use the term of **N€UROMED workshop** in the sense of International workshop by opposition to **Local workshop**

As this was the first meeting in which gathers all the Consortium members, the format was effective in allowing each member to present their work and their lab's objectives, therefore creating opportunities for interactions and new scientific collaborations.

For more details, see **Deliverable n°14 A** for the minutes of each Working Group.

- The second N€UROMED Workshop occurred in Fez, Morocco on 10th and 11th June 2010.

The same pattern as the first one was followed and it enabled the Ps and APs to start twining between each other within collaborations.

For more details, see the Abstracts in **Deliverable n°14 B** or in "Frontiers in neuroscience": <http://www.frontiersin.org/Community/SearchEvent.aspx?cy=&ct=0&td=0&frd=&tod=&did=0&te=neuromed>

Local Workshops (LW):

- Neuroscience, nutrition and neurocognitive development: this first LW in Morocco was organized on the 23^d and 24th April 2010 in Kenitra by our AP, Prof. Ahmed AHAMI.
- Neuroplasticity and Neurorepair: this first LW in Egypt took place in Assiut on the 28th and 29th April 2010 thanks to our AP, Prof. Eman KHEDR
- Neuroimaging, neuronavigation and neuroprotection: was the first LW in Algeria on 25th May in Blida with our PI, Dr. Yazid CHERFA as the main organizer
- Neuro-informatics in Pain and Development: second Egyptian LW in Alexandria on 16th and 17th September 2010 (organizer: PI, Dr. Marie MOFTAH)
- Adaptative processes, stress : second Moroccan LW in Rabat from 15th to 17th December 2010 (organizer: AP, Prof. Nouria LAKHDAR GHAZAL)

Lectures:

- Protein-Protein interactions in neurons: methodological approaches and functional implications : first lecture delivered by Prof. Marc LANDRY (Université Victor Segalen, Bordeaux 2) who spent one week at Alexandria University providing training to the neuroplasticity team of the Zoology department. (16-21 October 2010)
- Computational models in Neuroscience: Why and how? : second lecture given by Prof. Gwendal Le Masson (CHU Pellegrin, Bordeaux) who also trained for a couple of days students from the faculty of Science at Alexandria University (8 -11 November 2010)
- The Brain orchestra : first lecture in Morocco. Prof. Marina Bentivoglio from University of Verona, Italy came to Rabat and Casablanca where she held conferences and trained

the students on “How to write a scientific paper” as well as “Funding and grant applications” (27th September to 2nd October 2010)

- Parkinson disease, mechanism of drug dependency: Prof. Micaela Morelli from the Department of Toxicology at the University of Cagliari, Italy gave a two-day lectures to the students of Abdelmalek Essaâdi University in Tetouan for its second N€UROMED lecture in Morocco (8th and 9th November 2010)

Training Conference (TC) :

- Neuroplasticity and neurorepair: the first N€UROMED School was organized in Alexandria, Egypt between the 13th and 17th December 2010.

Besides the theme on neuroplasticity and neurorepair, this TC focused on training students on how to write a scientific paper. Unlike other events, the selection of the students attending the TC was done through a call, then evaluated by the IAB.

Satellite event:

As N€UROMED started on 15th November 2009, one month later, the PI of each Partner gathered in Alexandria, Egypt to organize the first Strategic Management Committee (SMC) meeting as a side meeting of the 3d Mediterranean Conference of Neuroscience which took place at Bibliotheca Alexandrina. Adding to the SMC meeting, we also organized a satellite event “N€UROMED Social” to present the project to the participants and we had an exhibition stand with leaflets and poster of the project.

1.3 Summary of first year events:

From the information given above, we clearly notice that most of the events in 2010 dealt with theme n°2: Neuroplasticity, pain, development, learning and education as most of the Ps and APs worked in this area of neuroscience.

Moreover, we can note that Egypt and Morocco organized more events than Algeria. This is due to administrative delays in handling the Algerian budget.

Most of the events were fully funded by N€UROMED. In some cases, the organizers obtained additional funds from sponsors, especially in Egypt and Morocco (i.e. Egyptian pharmaceutical company, Egyptian Science & technology Developments Funds, Faculty of science of Moroccan universities...).

Regarding the Events budget in general, by the end of the first year, we realized that the allocated amounts for organizing these events were too low, thus, the SMC has decided to increase it in

accordance to the Grant Agreement and with the Project Officer's approval. (We are able to increase WP4 spending as others WPs are under spent).

It is also interesting to highlight that the number of participants varied between 40 and 150 for each event. Generally speaking, for local workshops, the number was close to 100 to 150 while lectures gathered about 40-50 people.

Finally, in most of the events, women's participation was much higher than men (usually around 60 %).

1.4 N€UROMED Events in 2011

As it was stated previously, the number of events decreased during the first half of the year 2011 due to the Arab revolutions.

However, by the time of writing this report, five events have taken place in MPC and Turkey and two others are confirmed for the second half of the year. Other events will be confirmed in the coming weeks.

- Neurochemical plasticity: this second Algerian LW was organized by AP, Dr. Latifa DORBANI MAMINE at USTHB in Algier, Algeria on 13th and 14th April 2011.
- Food intake regulation: Physiology and Physiopathology: this third Moroccan LW designed by Prof Mohamed NAJIMI had its venue in Beni Mellal on the 28th and 29th April 2011.
- Brain plasticity : new tools and technologies: from the 9th to 11th June at Yeditepe University in Istanbul organized by Prof Isil KURNAZ
- Computational Neuroscience: on the 2nd and 3^d July in Khmeissat with local organizer, Prof. Naceur ACHTAICH.

The events which have been confirmed so far:

- International Symposia on Learning, memory and cognitive function: venue in Valencia, Spain from 1st to 3rd December 2011. Together with the Catedra Santiago Grisolia, and other Spanish institutions and foundations, this event will be co-organised and co-funded by N€UROMED with our Spanish AP, Prof Vicente FELIJO from CIPF.
- the second N€UROMED Training Confernece should takeplace in Algeria between 20th and 24th November 2011 on "*Neuroglia, energy metabolism and brain imaging*".

1.5 Events towards the large public

- Brain awareness week

As this event is celebrated in many European, Moroccan and Turkish cities, we thought that as members of a neuroscience network, it would be a good idea to get involved in this type of events.

Therefore, both Prof. Mohamed NAJIMI from Moulay Slimane University in Beni Mellal, and Prof. Ahmed AHAMI from Ibn Tofail University in Kenitra, Morocco have invited Dr. Mireille BESSON (INCM, Marseille, France) to give a number of conferences to the general public between the 14th and 17th March 2011.

First, Dr. BESSON gave a conference on **“Language and music in the brain”** then she gave a course on **“Brain Imaging methods”** to Master students of Moulay Slimane University.

Secondly, she went to Kenitra where she gave a general talk on **“Dyslexia and music”** which was followed by long discussions with teachers and finally, she visited a primary school within which it would be possible to conduct some studies.

➤ Public lecture:

As a side event of the N€Uromed workshop organised in Fez, Morocco in June 2010, Prof. Omar BATTAS (PI of Hassan II University) gave a public lecture on “Psychiatric disorders today”

1.6 Plan for N€UROMED Events in 2012

Based on what has been done during the first 18 months of the project, we should be able to plan for 2012 as least the following:

1. One to two LW per MPC
2. One or two N€UROMED Workshop
3. One to two Lecture per MPC
4. One Training Conference in Morocco
5. One or two satellite events (ie: a satellite event of the MNS School in Turkey)

1. Annex 1:Events (M0-M20)ⁱ

DATE	TYPE OF EVENT	N€uromed theme	TITLE OF EVENT	Name of organiser(s)	Place: city & country
13-16 Dec 09	1st SMC	X	3rd Mediterranean Conference of Neuroscience	Marie Moftah	Alexandria, Egypt
14-16 Jan 2010	1st NW in France	The four themes	N€uromed kick-off meeting	Dr Boussaoud & J Sweiss	Marseille, France
23-24 April	1st LW in Morocco	N°3	Neurosciences, nutrition and Neurocognitive development	Ahmed Ahami	Kenitra, Morocco
28-29 April	1st LW in Egypt	N°2	Neuroplasticity and Neurorepair	Eman Khedr	Assiut, Egypt
25 May	1st LW in Algeria	N°4	Neuroimaging, Neuronavigation and Neuroprotection	Yazid Cherfa	Blida, Algeria
10-11 June	2nd NW in Morocco & 2nd SMC	The four themes	GDRI/ 2nd N€uromed International meeting	Rabia Magoul	Fez, Morocco
16-17 Sept	2nd LW in Egypt	N°2	Neuro-informatics in Pain and Development	Marie Moftah	Alexandria, Egypt
27 Sept-2 Oct	1st Lecture in Morocco	N°1 & N°2	The Brain orchestra	Nouria Lakhdar Ghazal	Rabat & Casablanca, Morocco
16-21 Oct	1st Lecture in Egypt	N°2	Protein-Protein Interactions In Neurons:Methodological Approaches and Functional Implications	Marie Moftah	Alexandria, Egypt
8-11 Nov	2nd Lecture in Egypt	N°4	Computational models in Neuroscience: Why and how?	Marie Moftah	Alexandria, Egypt
8-10 Nov	2nd Lecture in Morocco	N°1	Parkinson disease, mechanism of drug dependency	Mohamed Errami	Tetouan, Morocco
13-17 Dec	1st N€uromed Training conference & 3d SMC	N°2	Neuroplasticity and neurorepair	Marie Moftah	Alexandria, Egypt
15-17 Dec	2nd LW in Morocco	N°3	Adaptative processes, stress	Nouria Lakhdar Ghazal	Rabat, Morocco

13-14 April	2 nd LW in Algeria	N°2	Neurochemical plasticity	Latifa Dorbani & Yazid Cherfa	Algiers, Algeria
28-29 April	3 rd LW in Morocco	N°2	Food intake regulation: Physiology and Physiopathology	Mohammed Najimi	Beni Mellal, Morocco
9-10 June	LW in Turkey	N°2	Brain plasticity : new tools and technologies	Isil Kurnaz	Istanbul, Turkey
2-3 July	4 th LW in Morocco	N°4	Computational neuroscience	Naceur Achaich	Khemisset, Morocco

ⁱ This annex show the N€uromed events that have taken place