

**Year of CfP: 2009**

**Project No 0901-019**

<b>Project title:</b> Organization of an international workshop on Mediterranean palms (MEDI-PALMS 2010)
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**Unit managing the project:** DIADE (Diversity, Adaptation and development of Plants) (IRD, UMII)

**Project leader:** James Tregear [james.tregear(a)ird.fr]

**Countries involved in the project:** Tunisia

**Research units from the Foundation's scientific network involved:** AGAP

**Subthematic axes:** IPB-1 (Integrative Plant Biology 1: *Genetics and genomics, plant breeding, ecophysiology*), IPB-2 (Integrative Plant Biology 2: *Plant pests and diseases, integrated crop protection, population ecology*)

**Objectives:**

The palms occupy a prominent position, not only in many natural ecosystems, but also in the economies of many tropical and sub-tropical countries. An understanding of their biology is critical to both the preservation of their biodiversity and the sustainable exploitation of their agronomic and ethnobotanic potential for the needs of human beings. A 3 day world conference entitled "Palms 2010: An International Symposium on the Biology of the Palm Family » is currently being organised by IRD and CIRAD researchers for 5-7 May 2010. The aim of this symposium is to bring together researchers from a wide range of disciplines carrying out research on the biology of palms (palm taxonomy, evolution, reproductive biology, genetics and genomics, palm biogeography, ethnobotany), so as to encourage the exchange of new knowledge and the development of multidisciplinary approaches.

Parallel sessions will be organised so as to accommodate a wide group of researchers. Within this framework, we wish to promote the participation of palm scientists from Southern Mediterranean countries and organise a workshop specifically covering palm species of Mediterranean regions.

**Total Agropolis Fondation funding:** €15,000 (travel expenses, room renting)

**Funding category(ies):** Agropolis Fondation small grants (support for the organisation of high-level scientific events (conferences, seminars))

**Project duration:** 15 July 2009 – 30 June 2011

**Keywords:** International – workshop – Mediterranean – palm