PARTICIPANT WORKING GUIDE

MED READY

BUILD THE NETWORK BEFORE YOU NEED IT.

What one destination learns, the Mediterranean should not have to learn again.

BRAIN Think Tank | Thursday, 26 November 2026 | Hilton Malta

The purpose

Destinations face many of the same risks — yet too often prepare separately. MED READY will bring tourism operators, destination authorities, engineers, security professionals, emergency services and resilience specialists together to shape a permanent Mediterranean destination-preparedness network.

The aim of this session is to agree a practical project brief and development pathway for that network: what it should do, who should participate, what tools and training it should share, and how its members could cooperate before, during and after disruption. The Think Tank will not attempt to write a complete emergency plan for every destination in one afternoon.

Participation is open and evolving

This is an open, multidisciplinary Think Tank for people interested in tourism resilience, public safety, preparedness and business continuity. Participants and institutional representatives may change or increase as additional stakeholders join. No final participant list or facilitator names have yet been supplied for this guide; these should be added once confirmed.

At a glance

Date	**Thursday, 26 November 2026**
Networking lunch	13:00 — Spinola Foyer, Hilton Malta
Think Tank	14:30–17:00 — Hilton Malta
Format	Facilitated, multidisciplinary BRAIN discussion and project-design exercise
Intended output	Draft MED READY network project brief, proposed founding partners and phased action pathway

How BRAIN works

BRAIN values different perspectives and international networks. Operators bring practical business realities; emergency responders bring incident experience; engineers and destination authorities bring infrastructure and place-based knowledge; academics and specialists bring evidence and methods. Participants should share what has worked in their own countries, what failed, and who could help turn useful practices into a Mediterranean-wide resource.

Programme and working method

13:00–14:30	**Networking lunch and informal introductions**
14:30–14:45	Welcome, MED READY ambition and working principles
14:45–15:25	Part 1 — Shared risks, lessons learned and examples from destinations
15:25–16:10	Part 2 — Design the network: functions, partners, tools and activation
16:10–16:40	Group reporting and discussion
16:40–16:55	Agree priorities, founding partner prospects and first steps
16:55–17:00	Conclusions and next actions

Times and breakout arrangements are indicative and may be adjusted according to attendance.

Five proposed workstreams

01 DESTINATION RISK & EARLY WARNING

Crowding and public order; heat and extreme weather; flooding and wildfire; beach and maritime incidents; health emergencies; critical utilities and transport disruption. Identify useful indicators, alert pathways and proportionate preparedness measures.

02 TOURISM BUSINESS CONTINUITY

Practical continuity plans for hotels, restaurants, attractions and transport providers; incident communications; staff roles; supplier contingencies; recovery and reopening.

03 PUBLIC SAFETY & COORDINATION

Cooperation among destination authorities, police, civil protection, emergency medical services, local councils and operators; escalation protocols and joint exercises.

04 TRAINING, EXERCISES & SHARED TOOLS

Common checklists, scenario exercises, tabletop drills, destination playbooks, incident debrief templates, professional exchanges and shared training opportunities.

05 MEDITERRANEAN NETWORK & MUTUAL LEARNING

Membership and governance; a directory of expertise; cross-border peer support; a shared lessons-learned library; a clear mechanism to request advice and activate contacts during incidents.

Design principles

- Prepare together while respecting each country's legal responsibilities and operational command structures.
- Make tools practical for destinations and businesses of different sizes and capacities.
- Share lessons candidly, including near misses, while protecting sensitive operational information.
- Protect personal data, security-sensitive material and confidential business information.
- Put residents, employees and visitors at the centre of preparedness and response.
- Build trust through regular contact, exercises and clear points of responsibility — not only during crises.

Discussion prompts — shaping the project

Part 1 — What should MED READY solve?

- Which risks repeatedly affect Mediterranean tourism destinations, and where are the most important preparedness gaps?
- What examples of effective destination coordination, training or business continuity have you seen?
- Which lessons learned elsewhere should be easy for other destinations to access?
- What kinds of expertise or mutual assistance could be shared across borders without duplicating emergency-service responsibilities?

Part 2 — How should the network work?

- Who should be founding partners, national contact points and participating tourism operators?
- What should the first three shared products be: a checklist, training module, exercise, peer-support directory or other tool?
- How should members exchange lessons in routine periods and request expertise when incidents occur?
- What governance, confidentiality, funding, data protection and communication safeguards are needed?
- Which destination or business could pilot the approach, and what would success look like after six and twelve months?

What success looks like

By 17:00, the group should aim to outline a draft MED READY project brief: mission, target users, initial geographic scope, five priority functions, candidate founding partners, governance questions, first deliverables, a pilot approach and a named follow-up process to be agreed by organisers.

Frequently asked questions

Do I need to be an emergency-management expert?

No. Destination, hospitality, infrastructure, training, policy and community experience are all relevant.

Should I prepare a presentation?

No formal presentation is required. Bring examples, lessons, practical tools or contacts that could help.

Is this a replacement for national emergency authorities?

No. MED READY is proposed as a cooperation, learning and preparedness network; statutory emergency powers remain with the relevant authorities.

Will participants be asked to share confidential plans?

No. Share only material that you are authorised to disclose; operationally sensitive details should be handled through appropriate channels.

Is the participant list final?

No. Participation is open to interested stakeholders and the list may change or expand.

APPENDIX A — PARTICIPATION & PROFILES

The following names and roles are proposed and subject to confirmation. The group is open to other interested participants and may change or expand. Facilitators are not restricted to a single workstream. Titles and affiliations should be checked before external publication.

Joint facilitators: Dr Hamdi Chaker (MENAPS; AI and digital strategy) and Superintendent Joseph Busuttil (Community Police, Malta Police Force). Their complementary perspectives will guide discussion on technology-enabled preparedness and operational community safety.

Name	Country	Position / brief profile	Role
Dr Hamdi Chaker	France	Co-Founder, MENAPS; AI & Digital Strategist; FireEagle Innovator	Facilitator
Joseph Busuttil	Malta	Superintendent, Community Police, Malta Police Force	Facilitator
Alessandro Invernici	Not specified	CEO, Ragazzi On D Road	Participant
Luca Zanchi	Not specified	Ragazzi On D Road	Participant
Antonio Curnis	Italy	Associate Professor of Cardiology, University of Brescia	Participant
Edmund Bartlett, OJ, CD, MP, LLD (Hons)	Jamaica	Minister of Tourism	Participant
Inspector Dimitris Argyrou	Cyprus	Head of Crime Prevention Office, Cyprus Police	Participant
Lee Miles	United Kingdom	Professor of Crisis and Disaster Management; Associate Dean, Faculty of Business and Law	Participant
Richard Gordon MBE	United Kingdom	Director, Bournemouth University Disaster Management Centre	Participant
Louis Loke	Singapore	Director, Community Partnership Department, Singapore Police	Participant
Kelvin Chew	Singapore	Superintendent, Community Partnership Department, Singapore Police	Participant
Mario Sturla	Italy	Professor, Medical field	Participant
Patrick Farrugia	Malta	Mater Dei Hospital Emergency	Participant
Peter Paul Coleiro	Malta	Civil Protection Department (CPD)	Participant
Angelo Gafà	Malta	Police Commissioner	Participant
José Miguel Maia Pita dos Santos	Portugal	Subintendente, Polícia de Segurança Pública (PSP)	Participant
Kenneth Haber	Malta	DC (title to confirm)	Participant
Alfeetouri Ramadhan	Libya	Head, National Centre for Emergency, Crises and Disaster Management	Participant
Wout Steurs	Belgium	EU Business Enablement Project Manager, KPMG European Office, Brussels	Participant
Suliman Shanbr	Libya	Director, National Centre for Emergency, Crises and Disaster Management	Participant

Sandro Gatt	Malta	DC (title to confirm)	Participant

APPENDIX B — WORKING WORKSHEETS

Worksheet 1 — Lessons worth sharing

Destination / example	
Risk or disruption addressed	
What worked or failed?	
Transferable practice / tool	
Organisation or contact to approach	

Worksheet 2 — MED READY network design

Problem the network solves	
Who benefits / who participates?	
Three priority services or tools	
Governance and safeguarding needs	
Potential founding partners	

Worksheet 3 — Pilot and next steps

First pilot / demonstration	
First 90-day actions	
Six-month deliverables	
Success measures	
Lead / partner to confirm	
Open questions	

Facilitator consolidation sheet

Common themes across groups	
Three highest-	

priority network functions	
Potential founding partners	
Decisions and unresolved issues	
Next meeting / owner / date	