

Launching Ceremony
SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY & INNOVATION POLICY
Grand Serail, Beirut, April 27, 2006

The National Council for Scientific Research (CNRS) had a highly successful official launching of STIP on Thursday 27 April at the Grand Serail in Beirut, in the presence of HE Fuad Siniora Prime Minister of Lebanon and the Director General of UNESCO Mr. Koïshiro Matsuura. The ceremony was attended by more than 300 prominent personalities , including ministers, MPs, ex-ministers and ex-MPs,D.G. of various Lebanese administrative authorities and leading personalities from the private sector and the civil society.

The ceremony had a wide coverage in the Lebanese media, as you can see on the CNRS website.

HE the Prime Minister re-iterated his commitment and that of the government to the implementation and " financing" of STIP. In fact he already initiated dialogue with various Arab and international donors to that effect.

On his side, HE Mr. Matsuura re-iterated UNESCO commitment as well, starting with sponsoring the feasibility study to set up a Lebanese STI Observatory.

CNRS started practical steps to implement activities incorporated in the "Preparatory Year" (Y0) in STIP plan of action, including calling for workshops with various sectors/stakeholders.