The regional phases or sub-phases reflect changes in the material culture (predominantly ceramics), and/or the level of urbanisation, and refer to the comparative stratigraphy of chronological benchmarks, at a regional and inter-regional level. Use of the same colour denotes the existence of strong cultural links or parallel phenomena between neighbouring regions.

The absolute dates are based on the harmonised radiocarbon data.


* EMI (Early Mesopotamian/Iranian) for WI, ** EA, EL, EM & EMI are labels proposed by M. Lebeau and adopted by the ARCANE community at the Bern final meeting, on December 8-11, 2011.