



Union pour la Méditerranée
Union for the Mediterranean
الإتحاد من أجل المتوسط



Press Release

UfM and AFAEMME celebrate the International Women's Day

The Union for the Mediterranean is celebrating the International Women's Day together with the Association of Organisations of Mediterranean Businesswomen (AFAEMME).

Barcelona, 8 March, 2013. The prominent role that numerous brave women have played during the events that have recently swept across parts of the Southern Mediterranean demonstrates the longing of women in the region to decide on their future. The new societies have now been given a historic opportunity to use the strong social capital of women and put it to the service of major development goals. The amount and speed at which women's social, political, economic and cultural integration in the region has taken place, will inevitably determine the level of the region's prosperity and wellbeing in the years and decades to come.

The International Women's Day is a symbolic and unique opportunity for the UfM to launch a call to join forces in an effort to achieve women's stronger involvement in the region's developmental agenda. The UfM has successfully developed collaboration with numerous civil society and non-governmental organizations, governments, various public authorities as well as academic and scientific communities, aimed at advancing women's rights in the region via concrete and tangible projects. Together with AFAEMME, as one of its key institutional partners in promoting women empowerment, the UfM is strongly committed to contributing to the region's inclusive growth, based on gender equality and a strengthened economic and entrepreneurial role for women in that process.

To that end, the UfM will launch, in the coming months, the first project entitled "Young Women as Job Creators" which will be promoted by AFAEMME. The project aim is to develop self-employment and entrepreneurship among young female university students who are about to graduate in Jordan, Morocco, Palestine and Spain, with an interest in starting their own business. The project's focus is the organization of Women Entrepreneurship Days (WEDs), consisting of seminars which will provide the participants with free advice to create new businesses.

The project's promoter is the Association of Mediterranean Businesswomen, AFAEMME, a European and Mediterranean platform of projects, working on gender equality and business, promoting equality at work and lobbying to enhance women's legal, social and professional status.



Union pour la Méditerranée
Union for the Mediterranean
الإتحاد من أجل المتوسط



More information about the project [here](#).

About the UfM

The Union for the Mediterranean (UfM) is a unique Mediterranean institution bringing together 43 countries (27 EU member states and 16 Southern & Eastern Mediterranean countries). It constitutes a platform for coordination and consensus building among its partners.

The Union for the Mediterranean operates from the UfM Secretariat, established in Barcelona in March 2010, and focuses on delivering concrete regional cooperation projects in six priority areas: Higher education, civil & social affairs, transport & urban development, water & environment, energy and business development. As a catalyst of projects, the UfM assists the projects promoters in all the aspects of development and implementation, from project structuring to technical assistance, including financial planning and fund-raising.

Media UfM

Isabel Pardillos
isabel.pardillos@ufmsecretariat.org
T. +34 935 214 198
www.ufmsecretariat.org

About AFAEMME

The Association of Organisations of Mediterranean Businesswomen (AFAEMME) is a federation of businesswomen organisations bringing together 41 member associations from 22 Mediterranean countries. It constitutes a platform for business and gender projects, ground-breaking research and networking.

AFAEMME's main goals are to promote the principle of equal opportunities in the labour market; to improve the socioeconomic conditions of women by eliminating gender discrimination; to support the development of relations among women entrepreneurs of the region by promoting business and training opportunities; to contribute to the access of women to decision-making positions in the economy by enhancing their business and management abilities and by supporting them in achieving their professional goals; to exercise influence on the public opinion through events, campaigns and lobbying to authorities in order to strengthen the legal, social and economic conditions of women.

Contact

afaemme@afaemme.org
T. +34 932 005 851
www.afaemme.org