



UfM PROJECT CRITERIA

UfM criteria originate from the Project Guidelines for UfM projects adopted by the UfM Senior Officials.

The general project criteria apply to all proposals submitted to the UfM Secretariat, in all its fields of action. They guide the selection process and allow the UfM Secretariat to select the proposals that are of a sufficient quality to be submitted to the SOM for possible labelling.

Additionally, sector-specific criteria might complement the general criteria to guide the intervention of the UfM Secretariat in given sectors or on specific topics. Sector-specific criteria are fully in line with UfM general project criteria.

Eligibility

To be submitted to the Secretariat, projects must¹:

- Contribute to the overall goal of enhancing cooperation, integration, peace and sustainable development in the Mediterranean region;
- Not jeopardise the legitimate interest of any member of the UfM;
- Comply with principles and rules of international law and development cooperation;
- Take account of the principle of variable geometry;

Furthermore, the Secretariat will only consider projects which:

- Fall within a UfM priority area identified by the Heads of State and Government, Euro-Mediterranean ministers or covered by the UfM Secretariat's Work Programme
- Are regional, sub-regional (involving at least three countries), transnational or national (implemented in one country) in the framework of a regional initiative.
- Demonstrate meaningful impact for the population of the region and contribute to progress in the region

Project Environment

Projects must:

- Demonstrate added value- and complementarity to existing efforts and initiatives and be coherent with local, national, and/or regional strategies.
- Include effective community engagement and stakeholders consultations and adequate participatory processes.
- Ensure partnership and synergies with relevant organisations and institutions working in related and associated programs, project or initiatives.

¹ As II. Project Criteria of UfM Project Guidelines



- Demonstrate full commitment from participating countries (in this respect, a letter of endorsement of the project from the lead administration – sector ministry(ies), regional council, mayor... - of each participating country is to be submitted by the project promoter).

Technical

Projects must:

- Provide required documentation with sufficient level of description and analysis
- Propose a clear and sound working methodology
- Include a realistic timeframe and calendar for implementation

Institutional

Project promoters must:

- Demonstrate appropriate records and experience in the fields and on the themes covered by the project.
- Demonstrate financial management capabilities, as well as high-level commitment to the project
- Demonstrate project managerial and monitoring capacities
- Dedicate the adequate personnel to the project implementation

Financing

Project proposals must:

- Be in line with the self-financing requirements of the UfM: In principle, a significant share of the budget will need to be covered (or secured from donor) by the promoter. As an indication, the share could be 10% for projects including an infrastructure component representing more than 50% of the budget and 20% for all other projects. If the promoter is not in a position to fulfil this requirement, a detailed justification should be submitted in the project template.
- Include an appropriate project budget (total cost and breakdown of expenses) and an initial funding plan

Obligations of the promoter

For all proposals receiving the UfM label, the promoter(s) has to sign a Memorandum of Understanding with the UfM Secretariat, detailing the respective roles and responsibilities in the implementation of the project, will need to report on project progress and display the UfM logo in all documentation and communication on the project.