



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

**Projects for Progress**

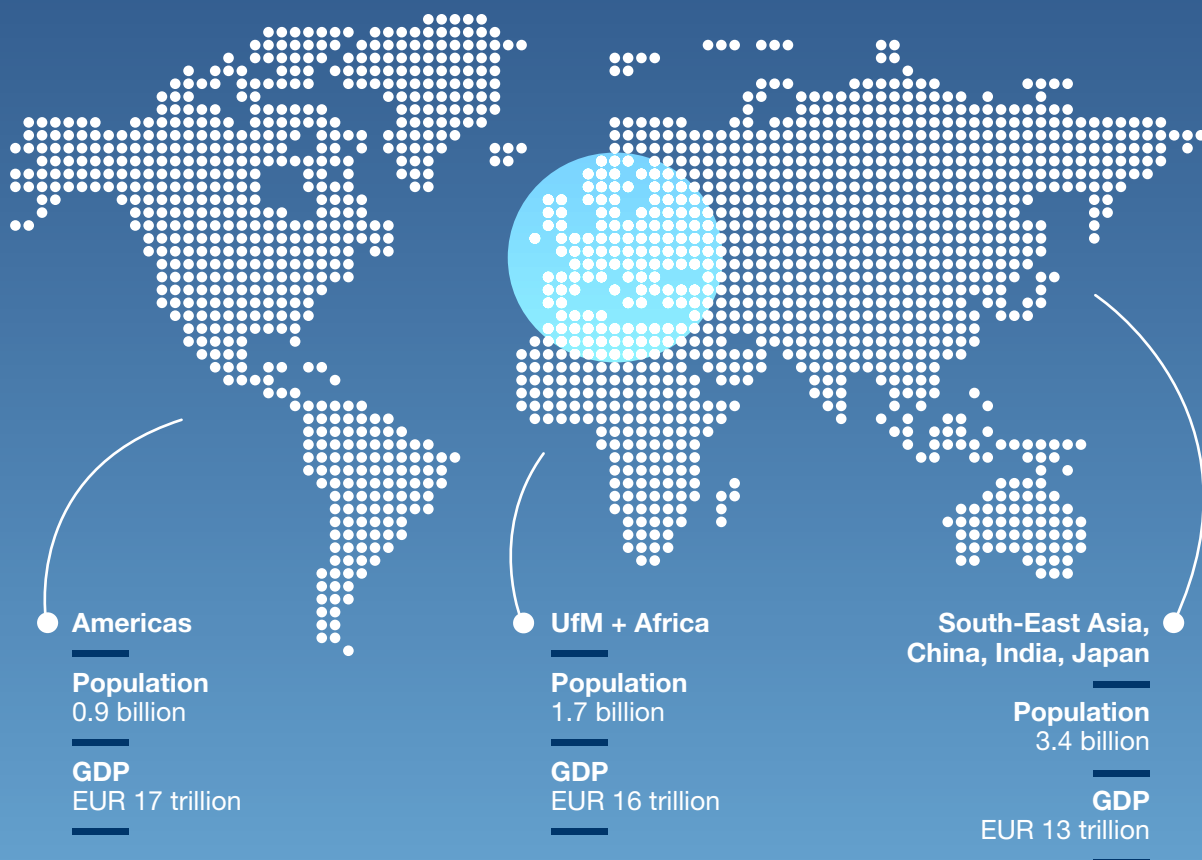


## • Union for the Mediterranean

**43**  
member states

**800 million**  
inhabitants

GDP  
**EUR 15 Trillion**



Sources: United Nations Population Division, World Bank



The Mediterranean Sea brings people together. It brings them together through ancient trading routes; it brings them together through the exchanges between its peoples; it brings them together through a common history, influenced by both ancient and modern cultures.

The Mediterranean is a young sea. Young by its demography; young by its wealth of talent and creative energy; young by the deep transitions it is experiencing; young because after millennia of civilisation, it is still a new idea and a horizon of opportunities.

The Mediterranean Sea is a promise for a better future; a shared future for both shores united by the longing for prosperity and development; it is the key to the future of its people; a key defined by unity, youth, and solidarity.

The Union for the Mediterranean is the fruit of a renewed political ambition that draws fresh impetus from developments in the region. It represents a unique framework by virtue of its scope, its pragmatic approach, and its power to mobilise and transform.

At the heart of this institution is the Secretariat, based in Barcelona and driven by the dedication and expertise of a team from over 20 countries and institutions. The Secretariat is instrumental in the implementation of forward-looking projects, supported by the 43 member states in the areas of energy, water, education, transport, business development and civil society. It drives powerful initiatives contributing to the social and economic development of the region and to the future of its youth.

## ● **Fathallah SIJILMASSI**

Secretary General  
Union for the Mediterranean





# REGIONAL CHALLENGES CALL FOR REGIONAL SOLUTIONS

Regional cooperation opens a wealth of opportunities for growth, employment and competitiveness.

Regional cooperation between Union for the Mediterranean countries is key in bringing 43 countries from 3 continents to work together on themes and challenges that concern them all: economic and social development (job creation, business development, etc.), interconnections (motorways, railways, ports, etc.), sustainable growth (energy, water and the environment), higher education and youth mobility.

## **Why regional cooperation?**

Regional cooperation complements bilateral cooperation. It brings all stakeholders together with a view to finding common solutions to common challenges.

Regional cooperation is a political necessity. It opens up economic opportunities for the countries involved and constitutes a vital mean of promoting dialogue and exchange between the different stakeholders in the Mediterranean.

## **The benefits of regional cooperation**

- Strengthening of regional integration, including South-South cooperation
- Tackling common economic, social and environmental challenges
- Promoting sharing of experiences and transfer of knowledge and expertise
- Spreading good practices
- Defining common strategies
- Implementing concrete projects of common interest
- Supporting networks of individuals and organisations
- Encouraging contributions from non-governmental actors
- Stimulating sustainable economic growth



## AN ORGANISATION PROMOTING REGIONAL COOPERATION IN THE MEDITERRANEAN

The Union for the Mediterranean (UfM) encompasses 43 countries: 15 countries from the Southern and Eastern shores of the Mediterranean, and 28 European Union member states. The UfM is chaired by a co-presidency. Since 2012, this co-presidency has been assumed by the European Union for the North and by Jordan for the South, taking over from France and Egypt.

At the political level, the 43 countries get together during summits and ministerial meetings, with senior officials meeting every two months, alternately in Barcelona and in Brussels.

At the heart of the UfM, the Secretariat oversees the implementation of forward-looking projects approved by the 43 member states in the areas of energy, environment, higher education, transport, business development and social affairs.

The Secretariat is a platform for coordination and regional cooperation. It works in close collaboration with governments and both bilateral and multi-

lateral funding agencies, in synergy with other international bodies that are active in the region.

The Secretariat is governed by the principle of **co-ownership** by which Northern and Southern countries work together on an equal footing while projects are implemented according to the principle of **variable geometry**.

### What is co-ownership?

One of the UfM's main developments since the Barcelona Process, 'co-ownership' institutes a co-presidency between North and South based on co-decision and shared responsibility between the two shores of the Mediterranean.

### What is variable geometry?

Variable geometry provides a degree of flexibility by which a smaller number of countries may decide, with the approval of all, to cooperate and participate in projects of common interest.

An **Innovative** governance promoting  
**economic and social development**  
in the region





# A PROJECT-BASED APPROACH

## A dedicated team

The Secretariat is organised around a Secretary General appointed by the 43 member states, and six Deputy Secretaries General, managing the Secretariat's six priority areas. They rely on a team of approximately fifty diplomats, project managers, experts and engineers from more than twenty countries and institutions (EU, EIB, EBRD, CDC), to oversee the development, implementation and follow-through of regional projects and initiatives.

## What is the UfM label?

The UfM label is attributed to a regional cooperation project by decision of the 43 member states. The label acts as leverage for funding and associating new partners.

## A pragmatic approach

The Secretariat acts as a mediator to facilitate complex regional initiatives and mobilise governments to ensure the success of each project.

The Secretariat identifies projects, provides promoters with technical assistance, funding sources through international financial institutions, bilateral and multilateral funding, and growing contributions from the private sector. Thanks to its network of partners, the Secretariat can transform an idea into a real project with direct benefits for the people.

The Secretariat is currently examining close to a hundred projects and initiatives, of which 14 have already obtained the **UfM label**.

# ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

**UfM projects foster an entrepreneurial culture among young people and promote the integration of women in the labour market.**



## Young women as job creators

### Promoter

AFAEMME | Association of Organisations of Mediterranean Businesswomen

### Objective

Promote self-employment and entrepreneurship among young female university students wishing to start their own business

### Launch

2013



## Employability skills for women

### Promoter

AMIDEAST | America-MidEast Educational and Training Services

### Objective

Provide young women with no university degree; the knowledge, skills and tools they need to enter the job market via English language training, computer & business skills and job-search tools

### Launch

2013



More information:  
[civilaffairs@ufmsecretariat.org](mailto:civilaffairs@ufmsecretariat.org)





Small and medium enterprises (SMEs) account for more than 95% of all businesses in the region. UfM projects create synergies between SMEs and facilitate access to resources that will enable them to develop.

## Euro-Mediterranean Development Centre for **small and medium enterprises**

### Promoter

PROMOS | Chamber of Commerce of Milan

### Objective

Create a non-profit network of Euro-Mediterranean public and private agencies and institutions supporting MSMEs in the Mediterranean, providing integrated, qualified and reliable business advisory services

### Launch date

2013



## Med4Jobs Mediterranean Initiative for Jobs

### Promoter

Secretariat of the Union for the Mediterranean

### Objective

Promote employment and private sector job creation in light of recent changes in the region, based on a three-fold pillar structure :

1. Employability
2. Job intermediation
3. Business-enabling infrastructure

### Launch date

2013



«The UfM is tasked to improve coordination among donors with a view to promoting projects on employment and social issues.»

2<sup>nd</sup> Euro-Mediterranean Ministerial Conference on Employment and Labour, 2010



More information:  
[business@ufmsecretariat.org](mailto:business@ufmsecretariat.org)

# SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

The economic and social impact of dwindling natural resources has made sustainable development one of the main challenges for the region.

## Desalination facility for the Gaza Strip

### Promoter

National Authority of Water, Palestine

### Objective

Supply 55 million m<sup>3</sup>/year of drinking water

### Beneficiaries

1.7 million Gaza inhabitants

- Multilateral partners
- European Commission
- European Investment Bank
- Islamic Development Bank
- World Bank

### Duration

2014-2017

### Budget

EUR 310 m

## Governance and Financing for the Mediterranean Water Sector

### Promoter

GWP-Med Global Water Partnership – Mediterranean OECD

### Objective

Facilitate access to clean water and sanitation. The project carries out reviews at country level then develops regional guidelines to promote public-private partnerships (PPPs) and attract investment in the sector

### Beneficiaries

Government and local authorities, private partners, NGOs and end-users

### Launch

2013



More information  
[water@ufmsecretariat.org](mailto:water@ufmsecretariat.org)



## Mediterranean Solar Plan

### Promoter

Secretariat of the Union for the Mediterranean

### Objective

Develop shared and adequate framework conditions allowing the deployment of renewable energy and energy efficiency in the Mediterranean region:

1. Develop renewable energies and improve energy efficiency
2. Attain 20GW of newly installed renewable energy by 2020 on the South and East shores of the Mediterranean
3. Create jobs and industrial capacities in Southern and Eastern Mediterranean countries
4. Supply the local market with the electricity produced

### Beneficiaries

Populations on both sides of the Mediterranean

«The UfM is tasked to explore the feasibility, development and creation of a Mediterranean Solar Plan»

Paris Summit  
July 13<sup>th</sup> 2008



More information:  
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# HIGHER EDUCATION AND MOBILITY

The UfM supports and develops programmes for higher education, research and student mobility in the Euro-Mediterranean region.

## Euro-Mediterranean University of Fes

### Promoter

Ministry of Higher Education, Scientific Research and Executive Training of the Kingdom of Morocco

### Objective

Create an international centre of higher education and research with a specific focus on Euro-Mediterranean issues and priorities

### Beneficiaries

Students in the Euro-Mediterranean region

### Launch

2015



## Higher Education on Food Security and Rural Development

### Promoter

CIHEAM | International Centre for Advanced Mediterranean Agronomic Studies

### Objective

Develop concrete actions to reinforce CIHEAM training programmes to:

1. Improve entrepreneurship and gender issues
2. Implement a Mediterranean Doctoral Platform
3. Develop e-learning
4. Enhance quality assurance systems
5. Strengthen degree recognition and internationalisation of MSc Degrees

### Beneficiaries

Students and researchers in the Euro-Mediterranean region

### Launch

2013



More information:  
[education@ufmsecretariat.org](mailto:education@ufmsecretariat.org)



# REGIONAL INTERCONNECTION

Improving the circulation of goods and people on land and by sea is vital to accelerate trade and regional development.

## LOGISMED TRAINING ACTIVITIES

### Objective

Create a more competitive and efficient network of Euro-Mediterranean Logistic Platforms through training

### Beneficiaries

Transport regulation authorities, freight forwarders, transport companies, customs, port authorities, border police, etc.

### Launch

2013

### Budget

EUR 6.6 m



## Completion of the Central Section of the Trans-Maghreb Motorway Axis

### Promoter

Technical Secretariat of the Group of Transport Ministers of the Western Mediterranean (GTMO 5+5)

### Objective

Complete the central section of the Trans-Maghreb motorway axis by building an 80-km section between Tunisia and Algeria, and a 22-km section between Morocco and Algeria, to create a continuous motorway link between the three Maghreb countries

### Beneficiaries

Over 80 million people

### Launch date

2015

### Budget

EUR 670 m



## Jordanian Railway Network

### Promoter

Jordanian Ministry of Transport

### Objective

Integrate the Jordan railway system with the regional network by establishing an effective rail connection with neighbouring countries, Gulf Cooperation Council countries and Europe

### Launch

2013

### Budget

EUR 2 bn



More information:  
[transport@ufmsecretariat.org](mailto:transport@ufmsecretariat.org)





## • Union for the Mediterranean Secretariat

**55** staff

**+ 20** nationalities  
and organisations

**43 countries**  
mobilised to strengthen regional  
cooperation in the  
Mediterranean

Albania • Algeria • Austria • Belgium • Bosnia and Herzegovina • Bulgaria • Croatia • Cyprus • Czech Republic • Denmark • Egypt • Estonia • Finland • France • Germany • Greece • Hungary • Ireland • Israel • Italy • Jordan • Latvia • Lebanon • Lithuania • Luxembourg • Malta • Mauritania • Monaco • Montenegro • Morocco • Netherlands • Palestine • Poland • Portugal • Romania • Slovakia • Slovenia • Spain • Sweden • Syria • Tunisia • Turkey • United Kingdom











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