



# Union for the Mediterranean

Promoting regional dialogue and cooperation

## Presskit

- About us
- Main priorities
- Policies in Action
- How UfM projects work
- Voices from the Mediterranean
- Sectorial Factsheets



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## About Us

### What is the Union for the Mediterranean?

The Union for the Mediterranean (UfM) is the intergovernmental organisation bringing together 43 countries: 28 EU members and 15 Southern and Eastern Mediterranean countries. It provides a unique forum to enhance regional cooperation, dialogue and implementation of projects and initiatives with tangible impact on our citizens, mainly our youth, in order to address the three interrelated priorities of the Euro-Mediterranean region: regional stability, regional human development, and regional integration through sustainable development and interconnectivity.

### 43 Members

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 • Luxemburg • Malta • Mauritania • Monaco • Montenegro • Morocco • Netherlands • Palestine • Poland • Portugal • Romania • Slovakia • Slovenia • Spain • Sweden • Syria • Tunisia • Turkey • United Kingdom

The members of the Union for the Mediterranean meet on a regular basis at the level of Senior Officials from the Ministries of Foreign Affairs of the 43 UfM countries, EU institutions and the League of Arab States. The Senior Officials Meetings (SOM) provide the framework to discuss the current political context and coordinate the work of the UfM Secretariat.

### 2 Co-Presidents

The EU and Jordan have assumed the Northern and Southern co-presidency since 2012, embodying the UfM principle of co-ownership.

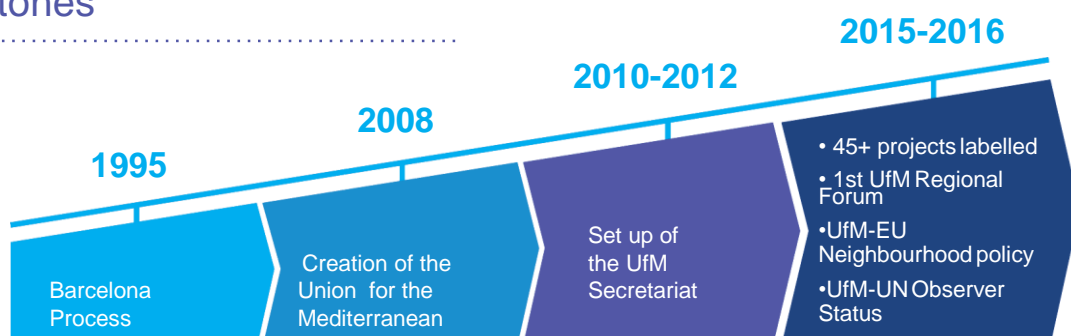
### 1 Secretariat

The Secretariat of the Union for the Mediterranean is the platform to operationalise decisions taken by the Member States, implementing strategic regional projects through a specific methodology based on dynamic multi-partner networks and the exchange of best practices and innovative methodologies.



The UfM Co-Presidents, Mr Nasser Judeh, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs and Expatriates of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan and Ms Federica Mogherini, High Representative of the EU and Vice-President of the European Commission, with the UfM Secretary General, Fathallah Sijilmassi, at the UfM Conference: Towards a Common Development Agenda for the Mediterranean.

### Milestones





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## Main priorities

The UfM activities address three key interrelated priorities of the region: regional stability, regional human development and regional integration, specifically targeting three main areas, Youth Employability & Inclusive Growth, Women's Empowerment and Sustainable Development & Infrastructures.



These areas are addressed through projects and initiatives in 6 sectors mandated by the UfM members:



*“It is important to encourage a global and balanced approach in the Euro-Mediterranean partnership encompassing both the security and developmental dimensions. Growing security and socio-economic challenges make regional dialogue and cooperation more important than ever.”*

**UfM Secretary General - Fathallah Sijilmassi**

@FSijilmassi



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## Policies in Action

### Building thematic common agendas

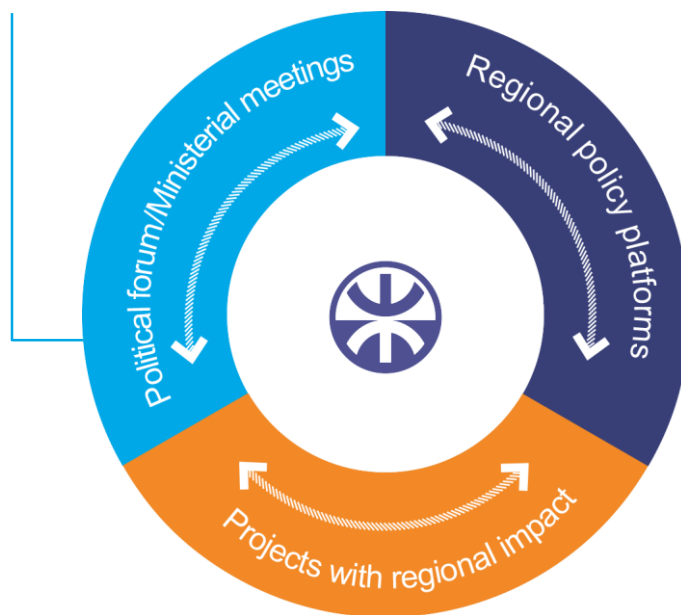
The Sectorial Ministerial Meetings complement the political dialogue by addressing key strategic priorities in the region. Declarations adopted by consensus by the 43 Ministers define the scope and objectives of a common regional agenda by sectors to foster cooperation and integration in the Mediterranean.

**10+** Ministerial meetings have taken place in the last 3 years on key areas: Strengthening the role of Women in society • Transport • Energy • Industrial Cooperation • Environment and Climate Change • Digital Economy • Blue Economy • Regional Cooperation • Employment.

More than **20** Senior Official Meetings have been held gathering the **43 UfM** country representatives since **2012**.

### Fostering regional dialogue

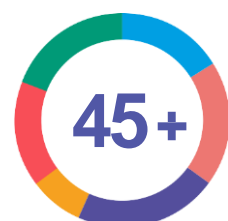
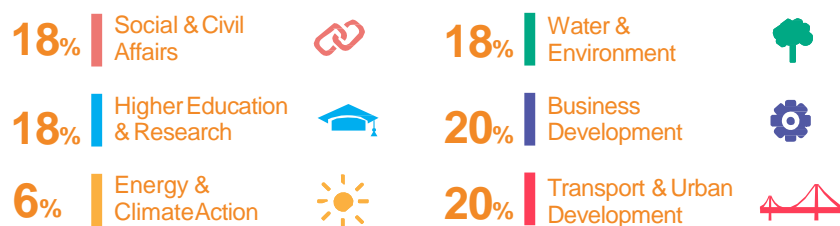
Ministerial Declarations allow the UfM Secretariat to structure accordingly platforms for regional dialogue and cooperation. These regional platforms have involved a cooperative network of over **10,000** stakeholders including governments and members of parliament, international organisations, financial institutions, the private sector, civil society, universities and international experts through more than **120** Expert fora.



### Translating the policy dimension into concrete projects

The added value of the UfM lies in the interrelation created between the policy dimension and its operational translation into concrete projects on the ground. The UfM Secretariat is currently promoting the implementation of more than **45** regional cooperation projects valued at over **€5** billion.

#### Labelled projects





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# How UfM projects work

As a regional platform, the UfM is a catalyst accompanying project promoters throughout the project lifecycle. The UfM Secretariat mentors project promoters with proposal finalisation, financial planning and fund-raising, as well as technical assistance, project launching and monitoring and providing access to a large network of stakeholders.



Identification of projects



Appraisal of project proposals



UfM labelling of projects



Implementation and impact of projects

## 1- PROMOTING REGIONAL DIALOGUE



UfM promotes regional dialogue to create the synergies for partnerships. National, regional, public and private entities with proven experience in implementing projects apply to become project promoters within the 3 UfM strategic thematic areas.

### UfM Project Promoters:

14% |  International Organizations

10% |  Financial Institution

16% |  National Administration

14% |  Private Sector

16% |  Higher Education & Research Institution

30% |  Civil Society

## 2- ENGAGING IN OPERATIONAL RESPONSES



The key characteristics of a UfM project are:



A regional, sub-regional or transnational scope to enhance regional integration and encourage North-South and South-South cooperation



A clear, independent financial perspective



Addressing key regional challenges in one of the UfM mandated areas

## 3 -SECURING POLITICAL ENDORSEMENT



43 UfM country representatives gather every 3 months to endorse projects and initiatives by unanimous decision.

Once awarded, UfM labelling provides:



Solutions for complex regional projects with a wide network of technical and financial partners



Strong political commitment from 43 countries



Regional recognition and visibility at the highest level



Potential replication and best practice sharing of successful projects

## 4- DELIVERING RESULTS WITH A DIRECT IMPACT ON CITIZENS



Inclusive growth and youth employability  
**15+** projects labelled  
**100,000** beneficiaries



Women's empowerment  
**8** projects labelled  
**50,000+** beneficiaries



Sustainable development  
**20+** projects labelled  
Investments of more than **€4bn**



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## Voices from the Mediterranean

Looking for human interest stories? Do not hesitate to contact us! Let's give a voice to inspiring experiences happening in the Mediterranean.



“ I'm currently working as a young entrepreneur in my own country. I've just set up my own company, with the aim of building a private school to provide pre-school, primary, junior and secondary education in a rural area of Morocco.”

**Soukeina El Bouj - Beneficiary of the Young Women as Job Creators project**



“ The value of the UfM is that they create platforms, events where you meet people from the North and the South, and where companies and countries in the South can work together. I think it is very important as well that the inter-regional relations in the MENA region are encouraged and in some ways optimised.”

**Rainier Ptok - Head of Foreign Relations at German SME association BVMW**



“ Since 2009 our company has recycled more than 395 tonnes of electronic waste, avoiding its introduction into landfill sites. This activity allows us to reduce CO2 emissions and greenhouse gases on our planet. The technical support of the Union for the Mediterranean can help us to better export hazardous wastes.”

**Ines Temmi-Covi - General Manager Collectun d3e Recyclage, Beneficiary of the SwitchMed Programme**



“ Before I joined the programme, I was missing practical skills. I lacked self-confidence and was afraid to make the leap into business ... I have learned a lot in these last weeks. I will leave better equipped to join the labour market.”

**Salma Mustapha - Participant in the New Chance Mediterranean Network**



“ Upon completion of this internship and my return to Morocco, I will have the chance to continue working in the same company, but this time as an employee.”

**Youssef Barghane - Beneficiary of the HOMERe: High Opportunity for Mediterranean Executive Recruitment project**



“ The effects of climate change and the phenomenal shift towards urbanisation – 6 out of every 10 people in the world are expected to reside in urban areas by 2030 – are already being felt and are bound to intensify in the coming years. There is thus a need to mobilise all actors to ensure the growth of cities is turned into opportunities. The UfM has a central role in furthering these goals in the Mediterranean region”

**Joan Clos - UN-Habitat Executive Director**



“ This initiative has been carried out thanks to the support of the UfM. I highly doubt that we would have received these contributions from the European Commission, the EIB and other donors without the support of the UfM. They have helped us to create numerous partnerships with important institutions in the Euro-Mediterranean region, which has been key for research and technical assistance purposes, ensuring at the same time mobility and the regional dimension.”

**Prof. Mostapha Bousmina, President of the Euro-Mediterranean University of Fes**





# Business Development

Stimulating employment and supporting SMEs



Youth  
Employability  
& Inclusive  
Growth

Women's  
Empowerment

## POLICY FRAMEWORK

- 👉 UfM Ministerial Conference on Labour and Employment (Jordan, 27 September 2016);
- 👉 Ministerial Conference on Digital Economy (Brussels, 30 September 2014);
- 👉 UfM Ministerial Conference on Industrial Cooperation (Brussels, 19 February 2014).

## UNION FOR THE MEDITERRANEAN PRIORITIES

- ⚙️ Foster job creation and support the development of SMEs through the UfM Mediterranean Initiative for Jobs (Med4Jobs);
- ⚙️ Develop a strategy for private sector development;
- ⚙️ Advance the digital economy and support creative industries in the region.



*The development of the private sector, the fostering of job creation, the fair distribution of economic benefits as well as the strengthening of regional cooperation and integration are key factors contributing to national economic development. Therefore a concrete action, tangible results on the ground, projects with a real impact on the citizens' wellbeing are paramount. For all these reasons, the UfM Secretariat through its Business Development division is positioning itself as a partner of choice; a trusted adviser and a credible knowledgebroker."*

**Sudqi Al-Omouh - Deputy Secretary General for Business Development**



In the Southern Mediterranean countries **70%** of the working-age population is under **30 years old**



**80%** of jobs are created by SMEs



**\$25 billion by 2018:** The potential increase in the region's Gross Domestic Product if youth unemployment is cut in half



# ZOOM ON AN INITIATIVE

## Mediterranean Initiative for Jobs– Med4Jobs



- Job Orientation
- ① a change in the mindset of the Society + the extended family.
  - ② Job orientations to start in school right before they choose their Uni Specialization
  - ③ Lack of role models, or anyone that kids can look up to.
  - ④ Lack of Specialization "Jack of all trades, Master of none"
  - ⑤ the private sector to be more involved in Youth Career

### OBJECTIVES

**Med4Jobs** is a cross-sector initiative driven by the need for an integrated regional initiative in the area of job creation. It has been developed by the UfM Secretariat to help increase the employability of youth and women, close the gap between labour demand and supply, and foster a culture of entrepreneurship and private sector development. It covers both the supply and demand sides of the labour market, with an approach built on three pillars of action:

- ✿ **Employability:** enhancing the employability of priority sections of society – women, young people – by identifying and up-scaling successful training experiences across the region, which address the mismatch between skills and labour market needs.
- ✿ **Job intermediation:** improving information flows between job seekers and employers by replicating successful job facilitation and intermediation experiences.
- ✿ **Business-enabling infrastructure:** providing coaching to start-ups and SMEs through the development of business enabling infrastructures (incubators, coaching programmes, etc.).

**Med4Jobs** also serves as a regional platform for dialogue on employment, sharing of best practices, stakeholder interaction and collaboration.

### EXPECTED RESULTS

- ✿ Increased number of private sector job creation projects
- ✿ Creation of new job opportunities and enhanced regional development
- ✿ Positive impact on the unemployment rate among young people and women

**EXPERTS** To interview the UfM experts, please contact us at [media@ufmsecretariat.org](mailto:media@ufmsecretariat.org) / +34 935 214 198



**Sherif Younis**  
Financial Advisor  
Egypt



**Fawzi Dib**  
Advisor  
Algeria



**Kevin Bortz**  
Managing Director for  
Financial Operations  
UK

Seconded from  
EBRD

### Med4Jobs PROJECTS

- ✿ **Generation Entrepreneur** - Sustaining an environment of entrepreneurship by providing business skills training to youth
- ✿ **Maharat Med** - Developing youth employability & entrepreneurial skills to transform job seekers into job creators
- ✿ **MedNC-New Chance Mediterranean Network** - Promoting exchange of best practices among centres working for the socio-professional integration of young people
- ✿ **HOMERe** High Opportunity for Mediterranean Executive Recruitment - Using internship mobility to combat the skills mismatch
- ✿ **Mediterranean Entrepreneurship Network** - Mentoring and support for new-business starters
- ✿ **Young Women as Job Creators** - Promoting entrepreneurship among young women about to graduate from university
- ✿ **Euro-Mediterranean University of Fes** - New regional centre of excellence for higher education, research and innovation
- ✿ **Skills for Success** - Employability skills focusing on disadvantaged and unemployed women
- ✿ **Promoting women empowerment for inclusive and sustainable industrial development** in the MENA region
- ✿ **CEED GROW** - Growing and scaling SMEs with a particular focus on women
- ✿ **YouMatch - Toolbox Project** / Knowledge-share platform to improve sustainable job matching for young people.
- ✿ **Regional Platform for the Development of Cultural and Creative Industries and Clusters**



# Transport and Urban Development

Facilitating transport and mobility over land & sea  
Promoting sustainable and innovative urban projects



## POLICY FRAMEWORK

- ☞ UfM Ministerial Conference on Transport (Brussels, 14 November 2013);
- ☞ Ministerial Conference on Sustainable Urban Development (Strasbourg, 10 November 2011).

## UNION FOR THE MEDITERRANEAN PRIORITIES

- ⊗ Propel the Trans-Mediterranean Transport Network by providing permanent technical support and mobilising available funds;
- ⊗ Promote regional projects contributing to foster long-term growth and regional integration;
- ⊗ Advance the Euro-Mediterranean Sustainable Urban Development Strategy;
- ⊗ Identify and promote innovative urban projects along with UfM institutional partners under the framework of the Urban Projects Finance Initiative (UPFI).



*The improvement of the living conditions in our region, where urban growth is rapidly increasing due to demographic and environmental pressure, is key to sustainable development. Optimizing trade routes over land and sea and facilitating closer cooperation among Member States are crucial for fostering long-term sustainable economic growth. The promotion of flagship initiatives in the field of transport, especially in maritime transport, as well as of sustainable and innovative urban projects, which serve as best practice examples, remains as one of the main priorities on the UfM agenda”*

**Amb. Ihab Fahmy - Deputy Secretary General for Transport and Urban Development**



Insufficient logistics can cause a loss estimated at **6%** per year in trade volume between countries



The low-level economic integration in the Maghreb region has been estimated to result in a loss of **2-3%** of the annual **GDP**



**€60 million** investment in urban infrastructures is the estimated amount the region will need in the next **20 years**



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# ZOOM ON AN INITIATIVE

The Sfax Taparura  
Project for the Urban  
Project  
Finance Initiative  
(UPFI)



## OBJECTIVES

Following the clean-up of the northern coast of Sfax, Tunisia's second biggest city, the project plans to restore its beaches and create 420 hectares of land to increase the size of the metropolitan area, for the benefit of its inhabitants and those of Greater Sfax.

The Sfax Taparura project is the second flagship project to be carried out within the scope of the Urban Projects Finance Initiative (UPFI). The Initiative aims to promote and develop sustainable and innovative urban projects in the Euro-Mediterranean region that serve as best practice examples and are potentially replicable.

## EXPECTED RESULTS

- ⌘ Upgrading of the area and development of a new urban centre with basic facilities and infrastructure to integrate it with the rest of the city of Sfax.
- ⌘ Building of new housing, commercial activities and services, green spaces, areas of public facilities and hotels will take place, allowing it to receive about 50 000 residents and create employment opportunities upon completion of the project.
- ⌘ Establishing the coexistence between the natural environment and economic development, by providing a sustainable development dynamic that enhances the area's economic appeal.

**EXPERTS** To interview the UfM experts, please contact us at [media@ufmsecretariat.org](mailto:media@ufmsecretariat.org) / +34 935 214 198



**Guy Fleuret**  
Managing Director  
Transport & Urban  
Development  
Seconded from Caisse  
de Dépôts et  
Consignation (CDC)



**Francesc Carbonell**  
Project Manager  
Spain



**Victoria Jimenez**  
Project Manager  
Spain



**Pakize Adalioglu**  
Advisor  
Turkey

## OTHER PROJECTS AND INITIATIVES

- ⌘ **Logismed-Training Activities** Reinforcing Mediterranean transport and logistics and improving the qualifications of logistics personnel
- ⌘ **Trans-Maghreb Motorway Axis** Improving regional integration and socio-economic development with a motorway corridor between Agadir in Morocco to Ras Jedir in Libya
- ⌘ **"Motorway of Sea" services between Turkey**, Tunisia and Italy Intermodal connectivity of the Mediterranean region
- ⌘ **UPFI Imbaba** Sustainable and innovative urbanisation in Egypt
- ⌘ **UPFI Bouregreg Valley** An integrated approach to territorial cohesion in Morocco





## Social & Civil Affairs

Fostering gender equality and women's socio-economic empowerment



Employability & Inclusive Growth

Women's Empowerment

### POLICY FRAMEWORK

☞ UfM Ministerial Conference on Strengthening the Role of Women in Society (Paris, 11-12 September 2013).

### UNION FOR THE MEDITERRANEAN PRIORITIES

- ☼ Advance the regional agenda on gender equality and develop a Euro-Mediterranean women's empowerment initiative;
- ☼ Enhance women's access to the labour market and entrepreneurial networks;
- ☼ Mainstream a gender approach in UfM projects and initiatives.



“Working in the multi-cultural environment of the UfM Secretariat is an extremely enriching and stimulating experience. I feel honored to contribute to the UfM's ambition to move forward, in collaboration with all concerned stakeholders, regional cooperation, cohesion and inclusive socio-economic growth in the Euro-Mediterranean region. Responding to youth's need, developing women's empowerment and gender equality and enhancing civil society participation are the main priorities of the Social and Civil affairs division, which aims at putting the human being and the people's welfare at the heart of its mission”

**Amb. Delphine Borione - Senior Deputy Secretary General for Social and Civil Affairs**



The **MENA** region could increase its **GDP** per capita nearly **25%** by promoting women's economic empowerment



Companies with the highest percentages of women board directors obtain **66%** higher Return on Invested capital



Only **1.2 %** of managers in the MENA region are women, compared to the worldwide average of **18.6 %**



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## ZOOM ON AN INITIATIVE

### Young Women as Job Creators



## OBJECTIVES

To promote self-employment and entrepreneurship among young female university students who are interested in starting their own businesses.

Students will participate in Women Entrepreneurship Days, a series of seminars hosted by local universities, faculties and higher education centres offering coaching, advice and tools to set up a company. They will also receive specific business mentoring through programmes provided by national businesswomen associations.

## BENEFICIARIES

Young female university students who are about to graduate from one of the participating universities, faculties or higher education centres.

## RESULTS

- ⌘ Approximately 2,000 young female students are expected to participate in Women Entrepreneurship Days.
- ⌘ A minimum of 70 young women are expected to successfully start their business projects by the end of the programme.

**EXPERTS** To interview the UfM experts, please contact us at [media@ufmsecretariat.org](mailto:media@ufmsecretariat.org) / +34 935 214 198



**Fatiha Hassouni**  
Programme Manager  
Morocco



**Meriem El Hilali**  
Diplomatic Advisor  
Morocco

## OTHER PROJECTS AND INITIATIVES

- ⌘ **Skills for Success – Employability Skills for Women** focusing on disadvantaged, unemployed and secondary-level educated women
- ⌘ **Developing Women Empowerment** - strategic, long-term approach to foster gender equality in the region
- ⌘ **Forming Responsible Citizens** – Promoting citizenship education to prevent school violence, particularly against girls
- ⌘ **CEED Grow** – Growing and scaling Small and Medium sized businesses
- ⌘ **WOMED** – Next generation of leaders
- ⌘ **Women's Economic Empowerment** in the MENA Region



# Higher Education & Research

Improving student mobility and employability through education



Youth  
Employability  
& Inclusive  
Growth

Women's  
Empowerment

## POLICY FRAMEWORK

- ☞ Euro-Mediterranean Conference on Research and Innovation (Barcelona, 2 April 2012);
- ☞ First Euro-Mediterranean Ministerial Conference on Higher Education and Scientific Research (Cairo, 18 June 2007).

## UNION FOR THE MEDITERRANEAN PRIORITIES

- ⊗ Empower the two regional centres for Euro-Mediterranean Higher Education: the Euro-Mediterranean University of Fes and the EMUNI University;
- ⊗ Facilitate coordination and provide a platform for Mediterranean higher education and youth mobility;
- ⊗ Improve the quality of vocational training and higher education in the region in view of increasing the student employability;
- ⊗ Facilitate North-South dialogue within Mediterranean scientific research frameworks;
- ⊗ Advance the digital economy and support creative industries in the region.

“In our Division we are dealing with all the aspects related to education, from vocational training to Higher Education and Research to increase student mobility and employability of youth. The added value is to increase the potential for regional integration among Euro-Mediterranean countries through concrete projects in education with a positive impact on socio-economic development.”

**Emmanuelle Gardan - Programme Manager for Higher Education and Research**



40% of employers in the MENA region identify **skills shortages** as a major constraint to their business operations and growth



Young people not enrolled in education, employment or training (“NEETs”) is a growing concern in the region, with national rates ranging from **15% to 31%** for the **15-29** age group



By **2030** gross enrolment rates in higher education are expected to rise up to **40%**



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# ZOOM ON AN INITIATIVE

Euro-Mediterranean  
University of Fes



Youth  
Employability  
& Inclusive  
Growth

Women's  
Empowerment

## OBJECTIVES

The project, which falls under the Med4Jobs Initiative, aims to establish the new Euro-Mediterranean University of Fes as a unique regional centre of higher education, research and innovation focusing on subjects that will have a major impact on the integrated development of the region:

- ✿ Mediterranean History, Civilisations and Heritage
- ✿ Law, Economics and Political Science
- ✿ Environmental and Renewable Energy Engineering

The project's specific objectives include the following:

- ✿ Deliver a high standard of multilingual education and research programmes at all university levels (Bachelor, Master and Doctorate) within an international environment.
- ✿ Foster international student and researcher mobility and implement joint, double and multiple degrees in partnership with other well-known higher education institutions.
- ✿ Increase student employability and business incubation through the stimulation of research, innovation, knowledge and technology transfer.

## RESULTS

- ✿ 6,600 students from throughout the Euro-Mediterranean region, Africa and the Middle East will be enrolled.
- ✿ 583 staff members will be employed.
- ✿ 80% of students will be entitled to participate in mobility programmes abroad.
- ✿ 20% of students will receive full scholarships.
- ✿ 10% of students will receive a scholarship covering partial tuition fees.
- ✿ All PhD students will receive full scholarships and a grant for living costs.

**EXPERTS** To interview the UfM experts, please contact us at [media@ufmsecretariat.org](mailto:media@ufmsecretariat.org) / +34 935 214 198



**Emmanuelle Gardan**  
Programme Manager  
France



**Núria Jové**  
Project Analyst  
Spain

## OTHER PROJECTS AND INITIATIVES

- ✿ Higher Education on **Food Security and Rural Development**
- ✿ **MedNC-New Chance Mediterranean Network** Promoting exchange of best practices among centres working for the socio-professional integration of young people
- ✿ **HOMERe** High Opportunity for Mediterranean Executive Recruitment Using internship mobility to combat the skills mismatch
- ✿ **Euro-Mediterranean Master and PhD programmes (EMUNI)**





## Water & Environment

Promoting water and environment projects for a sustainable future in the Mediterranean



### POLICY FRAMEWORK

- ☞ UfM Ministerial Conference on Blue Economy (Brussels, 17 November 2015).
- ☞ UfM Ministerial Conference on Environment and Climate Change (Athens, 13 May 2014).
- ☞ Horizon 2020 Initiative for a Cleaner Mediterranean (previously called H2020 Initiative for the De-pollution of the Mediterranean Sea).
- ☞ United Nations Environment Programme – Mediterranean Action Plan (UNEP-MAP).

### UNION FOR THE MEDITERRANEAN PRIORITIES

- ⚙️ Promote access to water resources and water management;
- ⚙️ Protect the Mediterranean Sea and environment, and promote overall sustainable development;
- ⚙️ Contribute to de-pollution and pollution prevention efforts in the region.



“Mediterranean countries face growing challenges due to the increasing water scarcity and depletion of natural resources, further exacerbated by climate pressures. With a view to contributing to the sustainable development agenda and goals, the Union for the Mediterranean is uniquely placed as an intergovernmental organization to address common threats to our environment and to support the socio-economic development of the region. Along with the policy recommendations and lines of action agreed by the 43 UfM countries, the UfM Secretariat will work towards a reinforced partnership to promote access and sustainable management of water resources, support efforts for a cleaner Mediterranean, as well as to promote a healthy and sustainable model of growth for the whole region tapping on the potential offered by blue and green economy”

**Miguel Garcia-Herraiz - Deputy Secretary General of Water and Environment**



#### **Marine debris :**

The estimated cost for coastal and beach clean-ups across the EU is of approx. **€630 million** per year



More than **180 million** people in the region are considered water poor and an additional **60 million** face water stress



Countries in the Southern Mediterranean receive only **10%** of the total annual rainfall average



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# ZOOM ON AN INITIATIVE

Programme for  
Protection of Lake  
Bizerte against  
Pollution



## OBJECTIVES

Through an integrated approach tackling all main sources of pollution, the project aims to rehabilitate the environment and water quality of Lake Bizerte through depollution efforts and improving aquatic life as well as living conditions for the surrounding populations.

## RESULTS

- ✿ The project will help to eliminate the main sources of pollution contaminating the lake and affecting the bordering communities to guarantee a healthy environment and allow for a better quality of life and for the development of sustainable urban and economic activities, such as agriculture, industry, tourism, aquaculture and fisheries.

## BENEFICIARIES

- ✿ Improved sanitary and environmental conditions for an estimated 400,000 inhabitants living close to the sources of pollution (531,000 in the entire Governorate)
- ✿ Improved conditions for sustainable industrial production for three large state-owned and more than 20 public and private companies
- ✿ Access to sanitation for 10,000 people in urban areas and 26,000 in rural areas
- ✿ Development of activities and local employment opportunities in the fields of sewage, waste management, fisheries and agriculture
- ✿ Strengthened know-how of actors as well as potential for initiatives from local NGOs

**EXPERTS** To interview the UfM experts, please contact us at [media@ufmsecretariat.org](mailto:media@ufmsecretariat.org) / +34 935 214 198



**Almotaz Abadi**  
Expert  
Palestine



**Alessandra Sensi**  
Senior Programme Manager  
Italy

## OTHER PROJECTS AND INITIATIVES

- ✿ **Desalinisation Facility** for the Gaza Strip
- ✿ **Governance and Financing in the Mediterranean Water Sector**
- ✿ **Mediterranean Knowledge Platform for Water**
- ✿ **Mediterranean Post Rio+20** - supporting the adoption of resource efficiency and sustainable consumption and production
- ✿ **Blue Green Networking Civil Society** in the Mediterranean through environment and water issues
- ✿ **Capacity Building Programme on Water Integrity** in the Middle East and North Africa



## Energy & Climate Action

Boosting the development of sustainable energy market. Addressing challenges of climate change



### POLICY FRAMEWORK

- ☞ UfM Ministerial Meeting on Energy (Rome, 1 December 2016);
- ☞ Energy Regional Cooperation, UfM Senior Officials Decision (Brussels, 31 March 2015);
- ☞ UfM Ministerial Conference on Environment and Climate Change (Athens, 13 May 2014);
- ☞ UfM Ministerial Meeting Energy (Brussels, 11 December 2013).

### UNION FOR THE MEDITERRANEAN PRIORITIES

- ☼ Reinforcing structured regional dialogue on energy and climate change between member states, regional organisations, financial institutions, industry and experts;
- ☼ Supporting project promotion from identification of priorities until implementation with appropriate resources;
- ☼ Promote projects and their replicability in the region.



“Renewable energies and energy efficiency offer a unique opportunity for countries to reduce their vulnerability in terms of energy security – which is at the top of the international political agenda-, building climate resilience in our societies and fostering the transition to new sustainable development models”

**Jorge Borrego - Deputy Secretary General Energy and Climate Action**



**23.3 million:**  
The number of people without access to electricity in the MENA region



Over the next **30** years, the total estimated investment on energy needed in the **MENA** region will be over **\$30 billion** per year



The implementation of renewable energy projects will increase its production by **365% in 2020** based on national targets



Union for the Mediterranean  
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الإتحاد من أجل المتوسط

# ZOOM ON AN INITIATIVE

## Tafila Wind Farm



### OBJECTIVES

- ✳ Reduce energy import dependency
- ✳ Reinforce reliability of supply and energy security
- ✳ Contribute to Jordan's national strategy for energy as well as to regional targets in the field of clean energy (EU 20-20-20 targets, League of Arab States targets)
- ✳ Reduce greenhouse gas emissions
- ✳ Provide a best practice model with demonstrable effect

### RESULTS

- ✳ Once fully developed, provision of almost 10% of Jordan's wind energy target by 2020 (1,200 MW)
- ✳ Coverage of 3% of the national electricity demand

### BENEFICIARIES

- ✳ End users of housing units, commercial and industrial facilities
- ✳ Local residents (job creation)
- ✳ Local farmers and livestock owners (improved access & infrastructure)

**EXPERTS** To interview the UfM experts, please contact us at [media@ufmsecretariat.org](mailto:media@ufmsecretariat.org) / +34 935 214 198



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France



**Olgu Okumus**  
Project Manager  
Turkey

### OTHER PROJECTS AND INITIATIVES

- ✳ UfM Climate Change Expert Group
- ✳ UfM Regional Platforms on Gas, Electricity Market and Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency
- ✳ UfM Energy University by Schneider Electric 200 free online course for professionals
- ✳ **SEMed Private Renewable Energy Framework (SPREF)** - provides efficient financing mechanisms and targeted technical cooperation support for the implementation of renewable energy projects in the region





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