



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



UfM Climate Action

Enhancing climate action through regional dialogue
and cooperation in the Mediterranean



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The UfM Climate Action in context

The **Mediterranean region** has been identified as **one of the main climate change hotspots in the world**. It faces huge climate-related vulnerabilities, such as extreme weather events, an increase of desert areas and the rise of sea level. These phenomena are impacting the quality of the air we breathe, the access to freshwater resources, the land availability for agriculture and livestock, urban infrastructures and tourism.

In this context, the **Union for the Mediterranean** acts as a unique platform to facilitate and promote regional dialogue and cooperation as well as concrete projects and initiatives in the field of **Climate Action** in order to deal with the climate change challenges affecting the region.



UfM-labelled project Tafila Wind Farm

“Climate change affects the most vulnerable, who are often women and the children they care for.”

Patricia Espinosa, Executive Secretary of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)

1.5°C

THE RISE OF AVERAGE TEMPERATURE NO TO BE SURPASSED AS AGREED THROUGH THE PARIS AGREEMENT IS ALREADY BEING **EXCEEDED IN THE MEDITERRANEAN REGION.**

Source: IPCC

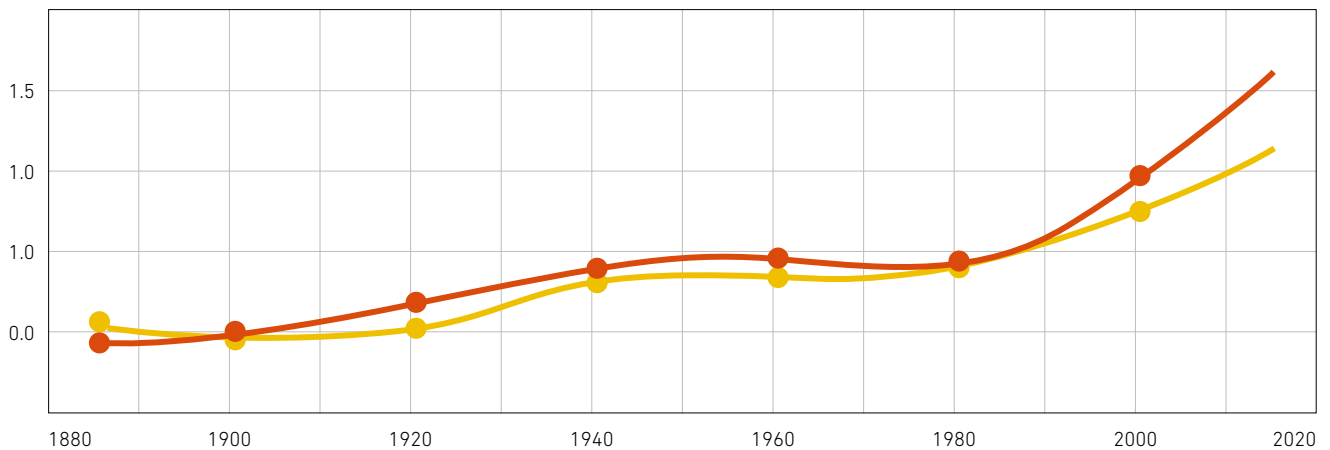
OVER **250** MILLION PEOPLE ARE PROJECTED TO BE CONSIDERED **— WATER POOR —** WITHIN 20 YEARS (COMPARED TO 180 MILLION IN 2013)

Source: MedECC

FLOOD RISK MAY INCREASE BY **50%** AND **EROSION RISK BY 13%** ACROSS THE REGION UNTIL 2100

Source: MedECC

● Global mean temperature ● Regional mean temperature (Mediterranean)



The Mediterranean region warms 20% faster than the globe

Source: MedECC

UfM climate axes of action

Assessing the state of play of Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) implementation

The UfM Secretariat works with its member countries to support them to prepare and revise their Nationally Determined Contributions. In this sense, the UfM Secretariat **assesses the state of play of the NDCs implementation** in the UfM SEMed countries, in order to provide an understanding of the regional context as well as of potential synergies and complementarities among national policies and measures.

Enhancing climate finance access in the Mediterranean

Following the UfM Ministerial Declaration's call for **greater assistance and international cooperation with regards to finance**, the UfM Secretariat produces annually a **study on climate finance** in the SEMed countries with the aim of obtaining an overview of climate finance committed to the region. Regarding International Public Climate Finance, USD 8.3 billion were committed to the SEMed region in 2016, i. e., 13% of the USD 54.8 billion mobilised worldwide.

Supporting a Mediterranean Science-Policy Interface

In order to address the current gap between the science and the policy making spheres, the UfM Secretariat supports the network of **Mediterranean Experts on Climate and Environmental Change (MedECC)**, a community of scientific experts studying the effects of climate and environmental changes in the region. The result of this collaboration is the first scientific report dedicated to the Mediterranean basin on the impacts of climate and environmental changes.

Fostering the potential of the Mediterranean youth in climate action

In line with the launch of a Positive Agenda for the Youth in the Mediterranean reflected in the UfM Roadmap, the UfM backed the creation and supports the activities of the **Mediterranean Youth Climate Network (MYCN)**, a network of youth associations of the Mediterranean region deeply concerned about the effects of climate change and strongly engaged to take action.

Supporting Local Authorities in their efforts towards energy transition

Aware that local actors play a primary and essential role to develop climate actions and to raise awareness among citizens, the UfM Secretariat has launched the **Energy Transition @ Local Initiative**, aiming to support local authorities in their efforts in energy efficiency, renewable energy, and climate action in the age of ultra-urbanization.

EXPERTS' CORNER

Check the [UfM website](#) for the UfM climate-related publications on different areas, including:

- Nationally Determined Contributions
- Climate finance
- Impact of climate and environmental changes
- Tourism
- Agriculture
- Ecosystems and biodiversity
- Blue economy

ufmsecretariat.org/info-center/publications/

Projects and initiatives currently supported by the UfM



Clima-Med

Acting for Climate in
South Mediterranean

Clima-Med – Acting for Climate in South Mediterranean

The objective of the EU-promoted project Clima-Med is to contribute to more stable, efficient, competitive and climate-resilient socioeconomic contexts in Algeria, Egypt, Israel, Jordan, Lebanon, Morocco, Palestine, and Tunisia, both at national and local levels.



The SEMed Private Renewable Energy Framework (SPREF)

The SPREF aims to break down barriers preventing the development of private renewable energy markets in Morocco, Tunisia, Egypt and Jordan. SPREF supports the implementation of renewable energy projects in the region, contributing to meet renewable energy targets and avoid CO2 emissions.



Integrated Programme for Protection of the Lake Bizerte against Pollution

This project aims to rehabilitate the environment and water quality of Lake Bizerte through depollution efforts and improvement of aquatic life as well as living conditions for the surrounding populations, securing a level of quality of life and sustainable urban and economic activities, such as agriculture, industry, tourism, aquaculture, or fisheries.



MedCoast4BG

The aim of the Med Coasts for Blue Growth project is to analyse and promote the co-evolution of human activities and natural systems in coastal areas particularly or potentially devoted to tourism, taking into consideration climate change effects, and the sustainable development of tourism activities.

More information on UfM projects can be found at <https://ufmsecretariat.org/what-we-do/projects/>

A UfM Ministerial Mandate

The Declaration of the **UfM Ministerial Meeting on Environment and Climate Change** held in Athens on 13 May 2014 included climate change as a priority area of cooperation for the UfM. This Ministerial Declaration underlined the **urgency to address climate change** due to its close connection with other major regional concerns, such as access to sustainable energy, water scarcity, overpopulation and resilience to extreme weather events. In this context, the UfM set up the **UfM Climate Change Expert Group (UfM CCEG)**, created to act as the main climate policy dialogue platform in the Mediterranean.



2nd UfM Working Group on Environment and Climate Change

The UfM CCEG meets annually during the **UfM Climate Week**, an event gathering representatives of the UfM Member States, as well as scientists, civil society, international organisations, international financial institutions, and private sector active on climate action in the Euro-Mediterranean region. As climate action is a cross-cutting concern, there are relevant synergies with other UfM regional dialogue platforms, namely dedicated to renewable energy, energy efficiency, urban development, water, transport and environment.

The Declaration of the UfM Ministerial Meeting on Environment and Climate Change also marked the set-up of the **UfM Working Group on Environment and Climate Change**. The WG focuses on the following three axes:

- The H2020 Initiative for the **depollution of the Mediterranean sea**
- **Sustainable consumption and production** and green/circular economy
- **Climate change adaptation and mitigation**

Bringing the voice of the Mediterranean to the global agenda

The UfM climate action activities are in line with and contribute to the global agenda and the **United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)**, namely SDG 7; SDG 11; SDG 13; SDG 17.

The UfM has observer status at the **United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)** and the **United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD)**.



Signature of the MoU between the UfM and UNFCCC



UfM in short

Mission

To enhance regional cooperation and dialogue through the implementation of concrete projects and initiatives addressing human development, stability and integration.



43 Members

28 EU members and 15 Southern and Eastern Mediterranean countries. Their Senior Officials meet regularly to oversee and coordinate the activities of the UfM.

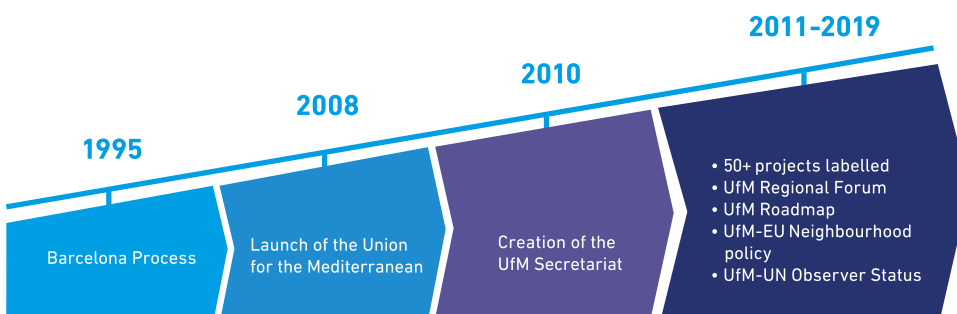
2 Co-Presidents

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

1 Secretariat

Based in Barcelona, the Secretariat is the operational platform of the UfM.




Milestones



www.ufmsecretariat.org

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