



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

Presskit



Building regional
cooperation together



The UfM Secretariat
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EUROPEAN UNION

About Us



What is the Union for the Mediterranean?

The Union for the Mediterranean (UfM) is an intergovernmental Euro-Mediterranean organisation that brings together all 27 countries of the European Union and 15 countries from the Southern and Eastern Mediterranean. The UfM provides a forum to enhance **regional**

cooperation, dialogue and the implementation of concrete projects and initiatives with tangible impact on our citizens, with an emphasis on young people. The UfM aims to address the three strategic objectives of the region: **stability, human development and integration**.

42 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

**Syria suspended its membership in December 2011 | Libya has an observer status*

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 42 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**.

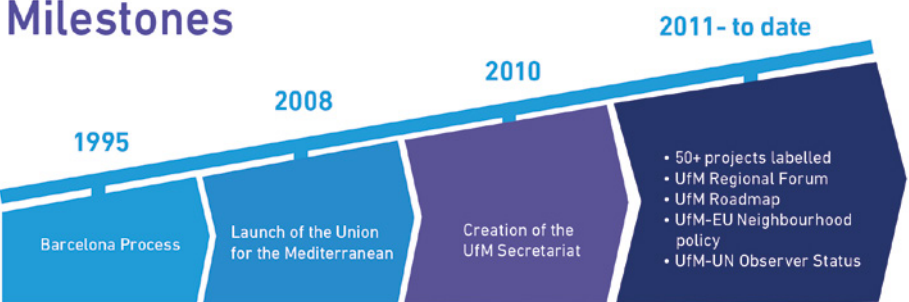


Nasser Kamel is the Secretary General of the Union for the Mediterranean

1 Secretariat

The Secretariat of the Union for the Mediterranean, based in Barcelona, is the first permanent structure dedicated to the intergovernmental Mediterranean partnership. It ensures operational follow-up of the regional priorities identified and promotes region-wide cooperation projects and initiatives. This is done in partnership with key international actors, to address the root causes of the current regional security and socio-economic challenges.

Milestones

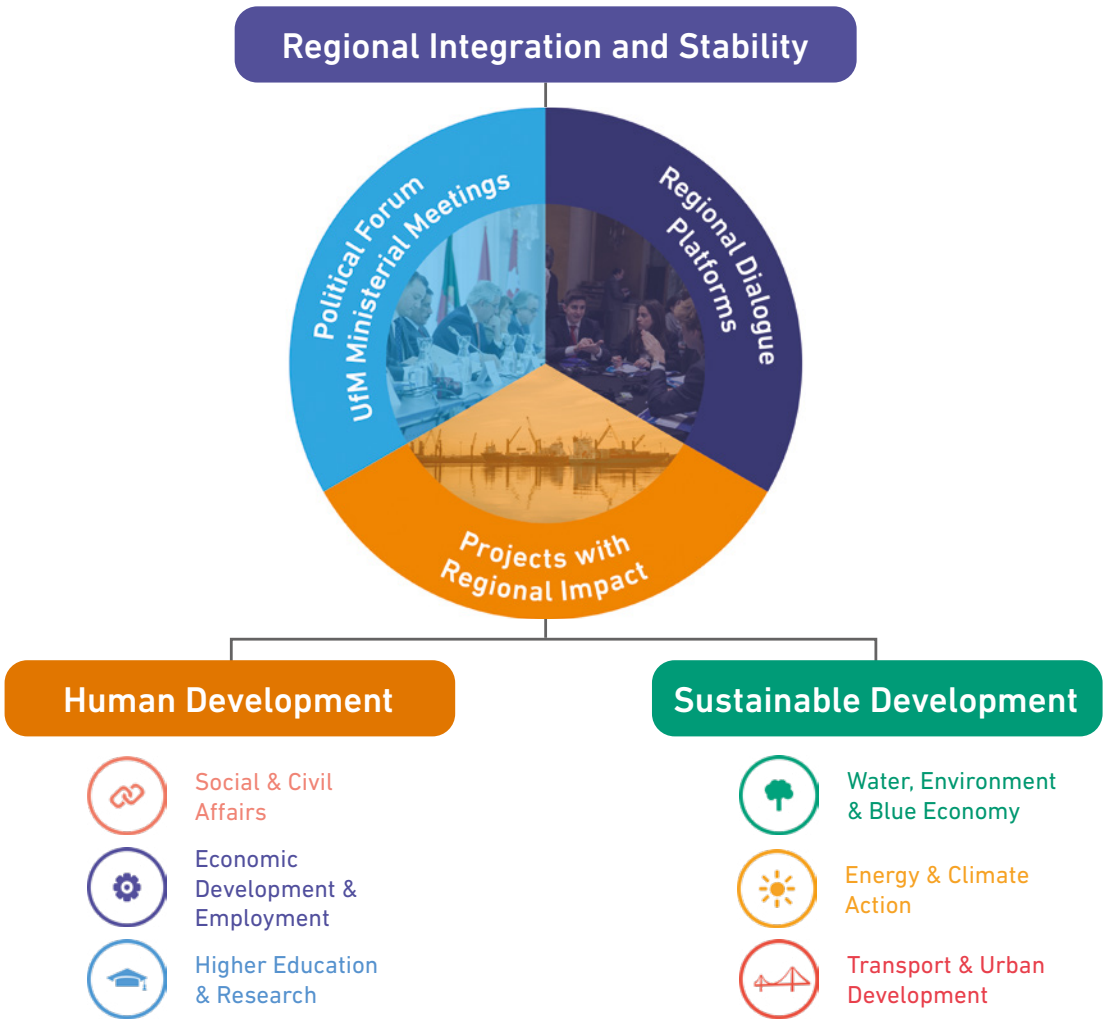


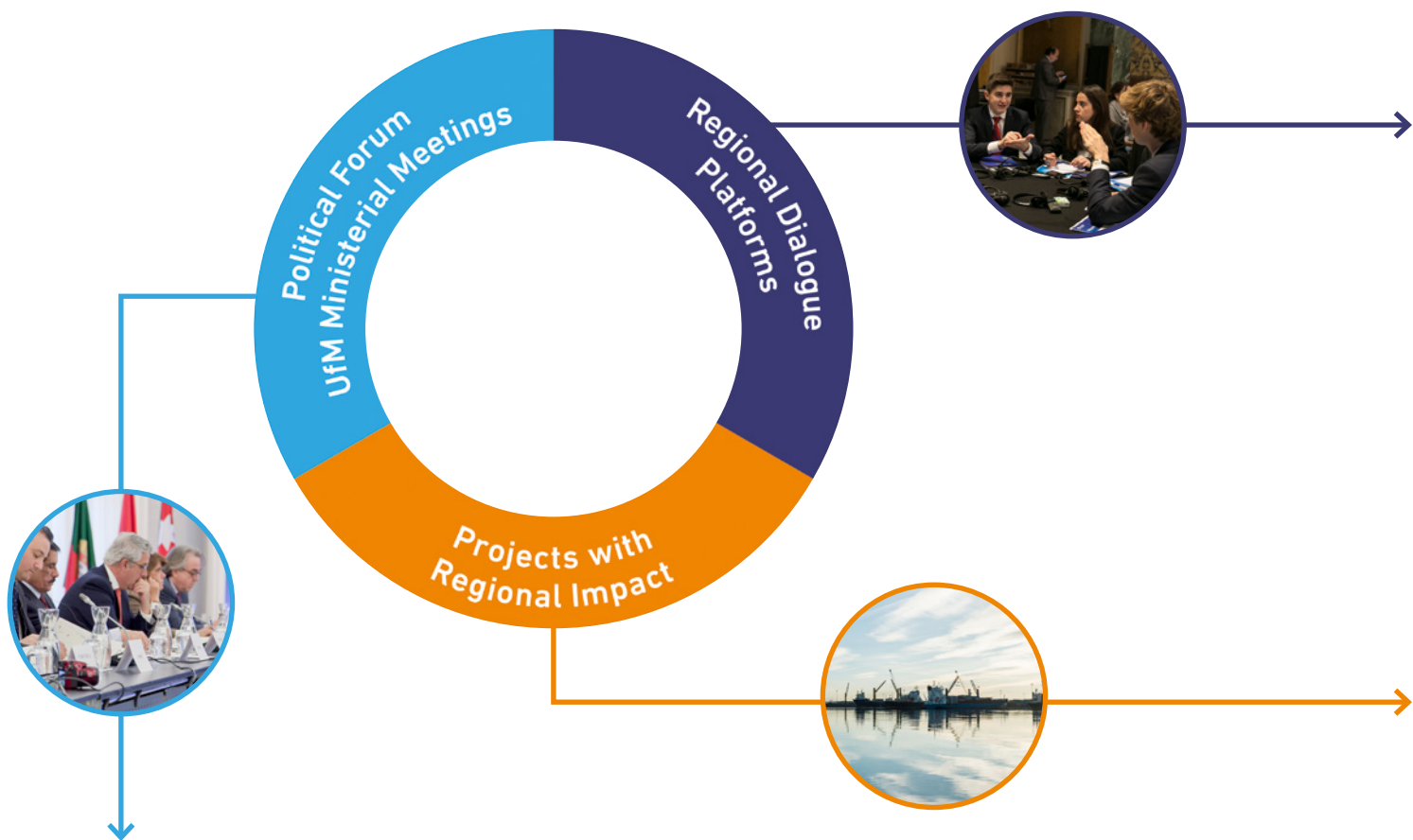
Enhancing regional cooperation to address the challenges in the Mediterranean

The scope and scale of the challenges faced by the **Euro-Mediterranean region** relating to security, radicalisation and terrorism, irregular migration, unemployment or climate change, have reached unprecedented levels and **require more than ever before to be addressed through a comprehensive, balanced and concerted approach**. In this regard, regional frameworks such as the **UfM** are becoming increasingly pivotal to foster effective cooperation, especially in one of the least integrated regions in the world.

UfM activities tackle the main strategic objectives of the region – regional integration, development and stability – by concentrating efforts on two main pillars of action: fostering human development and promoting regional sustainable development.

The Ministers of Foreign Affairs of UfM member countries and their representatives **adopted**, at the occasion of the 2nd UfM Regional Forum in Barcelona in 2017, a **Roadmap for action to strengthen regional cooperation in the Mediterranean and implement a positive agenda for the region**, capitalising on its immense untapped potential, and particularly its youth. This way forward, through the enhancement of political dialogue amongst its Member States, the contribution of its activities to **regional stability and human development**, the **strengthening of regional integration** and the consolidation of its capacity for action is essential to effectively address the challenges in the region.





Building thematic common agendas

Declarations adopted by consensus by the 42 Ministers define the scope and objectives of a common regional agenda by sectors.

20+ Ministerial meetings have taken place since 2012 on key areas.

- UfM Regional Forum: Ministers of Foreign Affairs • Women Empowerment • Transport • Energy • Industrial Cooperation • Environment and Climate Change • Digital Economy • Blue Economy • Regional Cooperation • Employment • Water • Sustainable Urban Development • Trade

Fostering regional dialogue

Based on the political guidelines set by the Member States, the UfM structures in-depth dialogue with all the actors involved in each sector of the regional cooperation.

UfM Stakeholders

- Governments
- International and regional organisations
- Local authorities
- International Financial Institutions and donors
- Experts
- Universities and Think Tanks
- Civil society
- Private sector

These regional platforms have involved a network of over

30,000 **STAKEHOLDERS**

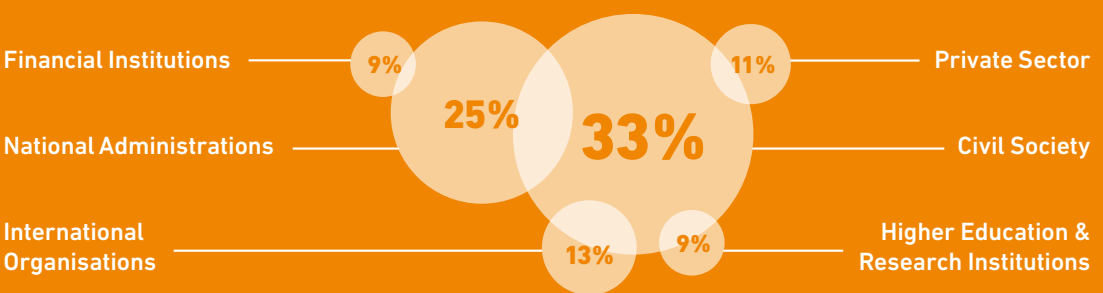


through more than **400 Expert fora** since its creation

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 **50 regional cooperation projects valued at over €5 billion.**

Promoters of UfM-labelled projects



10 Years, 10 Stories



TACKLING THE 731 TONNES OF PLASTIC THROWN INTO THE MEDITERRANEAN EVERY DAY

"The Mediterranean region is one of the areas most impacted by marine litter and plastic pollution in the world", explains Cristina Fossi, Professor of Ecology and Ecotoxicology at the University of Siena and leader of the UfM-labelled Plastic Busters project. Today, plastic represents 95% of the waste floating in the Mediterranean and lying on its beaches. Plastic Busters, which is promoted by the University of Siena and ISPRA, and funded by the EU Interreg Med Programme, monitors the effects of plastic waste on biodiversity in marine protected areas, and develops prevention and mitigation schemes. These include fishing for litter, removing derelict fishing gear and establishing recycling mechanisms. The project also aims to develop a Regional Plan on Marine Litter Management in the Mediterranean, that includes recommendations for policymaking.



TOWARDS THE BIGGEST INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECT IN GAZA

"The construction of a desalination plant responds to a dire humanitarian need in Gaza, where 2 million Palestinians live in unacceptable environmental and health conditions", highlights Mazen Ghunaim, Minister of Water of Palestine.

On 20 March 2018, international donors pledged €456 million (more than 80% of the total cost) to construct a desalination plant on the Gaza Strip. The plant, which is the first project labelled by the UfM, will supply drinking water to the inhabitants of the strip, who are experiencing a longstanding water shortage due to over 95% of the water being undrinkable. The project is promoted by the Government of Palestine, in partnership with the European Commission, the UfM, the EIB, the Islamic Development Bank and the World Bank.



A 320-HOUR PROGRAMME TO ADDRESS THE GENDER GAP

Fatima Al Annan is one of the 99 Lebanese women who took part in Skills for Success, a 320-hour programme labelled by the UfM which aims to develop transferrable skills to prepare young women for entry-level jobs, while raising their confidence.

A 25-year-old biology student, Fatima explains that many people didn't believe that the effort was worth it, but that *"the teachers told us we could do anything"*. Fatima was offered two jobs after the programme, and now works in public administration.

And she's not the only one. Nearly 300 women in Jordan, Lebanon and Morocco have completed the Skills for Success programme, promoted by the non-profit AMIDEAST. Many have since found jobs, started internships, or returned to school.



KNOWLEDGE SHARING TO DRIVE COMPETITIVE MARITIME SECTOR

"There is today a strong shared ambition among governments, local authorities and financial institutions to enhance connectivity in the Euro-Mediterranean region. Capacitybuilding and training are key in tackling this challenge, and I commend the UfM for putting them at the core of its transport strategy" explains Prof. Benabid Tahar, Director of the National School of Technology (Algeria).

The UfM-labelled TransLogMed project, promoted by the Escola Europea – Intermodal Transport, supports the implementation of efficient maritime transport solutions in five Euro-Mediterranean countries through more than 30 seminars and certified courses. Training activities have already started at various ports in Italy, Morocco, Spain and Tunisia, and will ultimately benefit 1,000 professionals.



A SECOND CHANCE FOR 26,000 YOUNG PEOPLE

"We try to help those who have left school without any qualifications to get a second chance and become more employable" explains Begoña Gasch, founder of El Llindar, a school that's a founder-partner of the Spanish Association of Second Chance Schools, part of the UfM-labelled Mediterranean New Chance (MedNC) network. In 2018, MedNC was composed of 100 partner centres in eight countries from both shores of the Mediterranean, working towards the social and professional integration of 26,000 young people who are not in education, employment or training (NEET).



A 1,000KM JOURNEY TO PROMOTE SUSTAINABLE MOBILITY

The Mediterranean Youth Climate Network (MYCN), a union of seven youth-led climate associations from both shores of the Mediterranean, was created to give young people a platform to address climate change in the region. Last year, they co-organised with the Mediterranean Intelligence and Public Affairs Institute (MIPAI) the 2nd Light Us Sustainable Relay, in which a group of young people travelled by train and electric car from Monaco to Katowice – where the COP24 was held – to promote sustainable mobility and youth climate action.



FROM 62 TO 12,000 EMPOWERED WOMEN: THE MULTIPLYING EFFECT OF TRAINING PROGRAMMES

Lina Khalifeh is among 62 women from the southern Mediterranean who took part in the UfM-labelled Women of the Mediterranean: The Next Generation of Leaders (WOMED) project, which provides training programmes in leadership and gender equality to women aged between 25-35.

Following her participation in the programme, Lina, a black-belt in Taekwondo, founded SheFighter, the first self-defence studio of its kind in the Middle East. Lina has so far empowered 12,000 women through martial arts training and has received many distinctions, including the United Nations Women in Business Award.



14 SCHOOLS WORKING TOGETHER FOR CITIZENSHIP EDUCATION

"It's all about turning schools into a tool [...] to teach young people how to live together", points out Amara Ben Romdhane, Director of the Social Development & Empowerment Centre of Tunisia, a partner organisation of the UfM-labelled Forming Responsible Citizens project. Launched in 2015 by Ideaborn, a Spain-based NGO, the project includes 14 schools in Tunisia, Morocco, Jordan and Lebanon, and aims to empower secondary teachers to impart civic education to their students, promoting respect for differences and dialogue as an alternative to violence.



INTERNSHIP MOBILITY ACROSS 9 MEDITERRANEAN COUNTRIES

Through international internships across the Mediterranean, the High Opportunity for Mediterranean Executive Recruitment (HOMERe) project aims to ease students' transition into entry-level jobs by equipping them with the soft skills they often lack. *"This programme really helps young people to change their attitude towards work",* notes HOMERe participant Youssef Berdoul, *"it was also a key accelerator of my early career development"*. The project connects students with transnational companies, who will also consider employment opportunities for the intern in their country of origin after successful participation.



ADDRESSING THE 62% INCREASE IN ENERGY DEMAND

The Mediterranean region is facing significant energy challenges, including a growing demand for energy, which will reach 62% by 2040, as well as a lack of adequate electricity infrastructure.

Regional cooperation is key to achieving a sustainable energy transition and addressing these challenges. The three UfM Energy Platforms aim to bring about such cooperation through the promotion of regional policy dialogue in fields such as the development of electricity and gas markets, and the promotion of renewable energies and energy efficiency.



Economic Development & Employment

Youth employability and inclusive growth

80% OF JOBS
ARE **CREATED BY**
SMEs IN THE **EURO-**
MEDITERRANEAN REGION



Source: ILO Report on SMEs and employment creation

BY 2050 MORE THAN **300 MILLION YOUNG PEOPLE** WILL BE ENTERING THE JOB MARKET IN MENA REGION



Source: World Bank, 2019

TRADE FLOW DISTRIBUTION IN THE EURO-MEDITERRANEAN REGION INDICATE THAT **90% HAPPEN WITHIN THE EU** WHILE ONLY **1% OF TRADE FLOWS ARE MADE AMONG THE SOUTHERN MEDITERRANEAN NEIGHBOURS**

Source: UfM Study

The Mediterranean region has one of the highest rates of unemployment in the world. In this context, the Union for the Mediterranean (UfM) is engaged in the implementation of specific projects and initiatives focused on the development of business, employment opportunities and employability skills.

There is a particular emphasis on youth and women, thus addressing cross-cutting issues such as the promotion of women's socio-economic empowerment and the enhancement of youth employability. Particular attention is devoted to Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs), vectors for innovation and economic growth in the Mediterranean region.

Priorities

- Foster job creation and support the development of SMEs through the UfM Mediterranean Initiative for Jobs (Med4Jobs)
- Support creative industries, digital economy and social and solidarity economy in the region
- Develop a strategy for private sector development, advancing industrial cooperation, trade and investments in the region

Political framework

- UfM Ministerial Conference on Employment and Labour (Cascais, 2-3 April 2019)
- UfM Ministerial Conference on Trade (Brussels, 19 March 2018)
- UfM Ministerial Conference on Employment and Labour (Jordan, 27 September 2016)
- UfM Ministerial Conference on Digital Economy (Brussels, 30 September 2014)
- UfM Ministerial Conference on Industrial Cooperation (Brussels, 19 February 2014)
- UfM Ministerial Conference on Employment and Labour (Brussels, 22 November 2010)
- UfM Ministerial Conference on Trade (Brussels, 11 November 2010)
- UfM Ministerial Conference on Employment and Labour (Marrakesh, 10 November 2008)

Regional dialogue platforms

- Med4Jobs Advisory Board
- UfM High Level Working Group (HLWG) on employment and labour
- Euro-Mediterranean Experts Technical Meeting on industrial cooperation
- Digital Economy and Internet Access Working Group
- Euromed Trade Senior Officials Working Group

Zoom on key projects & initiatives

* Mediterranean Initiative for Jobs – Med4Jobs

Med4Jobs is a UfM flagship initiative aiming 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**. Developed by the UfM Secretariat, Med4Jobs is a cross-sector initiative that aims to promote and replicate a number of successful private sector job creation projects in the Southern and Eastern Mediterranean region.

2.8 MILLION YOUNG PEOPLE enter the job market each year in the MENA region

→ **THE YOUTH** ←
UNEMPLOYMENT RATE in the MENA region reaches 30%

SMEs REPRESENT AROUND 35% of the Mediterranean region's GDP (OECD)

* YouMatch Toolbox Project

YouMatch aims to set up a **regional demand-driven toolbox for youth-orientated employment services** to assess existing labour market tools, enable peer learning and knowledge exchange on a regional and international level, and encourage innovation and transfer of promising approaches within and among the participating countries.

* EDILE

EDILE aims to formulate a regional approach to identify and **support investments** and best practices **with high local impact**, reinforce the capacities of national and local authorities involved in the regulation of investments and support enterprises through enhancing the social and economic impacts of their investment projects.

More projects at www.ufmsecretariat.org



Social & Civil Affairs

Fostering gender equality and youth empowerment: a strategic dimension for human development

CLOSING THE GENDER GAP IN THE REGION COULD POTENTIALLY ADD 47 PERCENT TO THE GDP GROWTH BY 2025



Source: Word Bank 2019

13-15% OF WOMEN OWN AND MANAGE THEIR BUSINESSES IN THE MENA REGION COMPARED TO THE 31-38% WORLDWIDE RATE



Source: Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH

50% OF THE POPULATION IN THE SOUTH MEDITERRANEAN COUNTRIES IS UNDER 25 YEARS OLD COMPARED TO —→ 27.8% IN THE EU

Source: Eurostat; CIA World Factbook

Youth and women constitute a huge resource as agent for change and the future of each country's development. They are and can be a catalyst for positive change and a source of creativity and innovation, if an enabling environment is provided to facilitate their full participation and engagement. Their role in creating jobs, preventing climate change, addressing community needs or providing mediation services is everywhere demonstrated.

The focus on human development, through youth and women empowerment, as a main contribution to addressing the root causes of the current challenges faced by the Euro-Mediterranean region is at the heart of the UfM strategy. This strategy has been progressively built and structured over the past years in close coordination with the UfM Member States and with the involvement of key stakeholders operating in the region, including local authorities, international organisations, donors, civil society and private sector.

Priorities

- Build and consolidate a regional common agenda to empower youth and women as main drivers for the region's development and stability
- Enhance economic, social and civic participation of women and youth, as a key human development asset to build more inclusive and sustainable societies

Political framework

- UfM Ministerial Conference on Strengthening the Role of Women in Society (Cairo, 27 November 2017)
- UfM Ministerial Conference on Strengthening the Role of Women in Society (Paris, 11-12 September 2013)

Regional dialogue platforms

- UfM Regional Dialogue: "Shared views on key issues in the Mediterranean"
- UfM Conferences on Women Empowerment
- Fostering Women's Participation in Economic Life
- Combating Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG)
- Enhancing the role of women and youth, including young women in preventing violence and extremism

Zoom on key projects & initiatives

* Promoting women empowerment for inclusive and sustainable industrial development in the MENA region

This project aims to enhance women's economic inclusion by harnessing the great potential of women entrepreneurs in Algeria, Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon, Morocco, Palestine and Tunisia and create the conditions for a sustainable and inclusive growth. Labelled by the UfM with a total budget of €4.5 million, the project is promoted by the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) and constitutes the first regional best practice with an integrated approach to support women entrepreneurship.

FACILITATE ACCESS TO INVESTMENT and finance for at least **500 PROMISING BUSINESSES OPPORTUNITIES**

CONTRIBUTE TO THE CREATION OF 800 NEW JOBS by the end of the project

TRAIN AND COUNSEL more than 2000 WOMEN ENTREPRENEURS on business development and business plan formulation

* WOMED: the "next generation of leaders"

The project strengthened the leadership skills of high-potential Southern Mediterranean young women aged from 25 to 35 years old through an intensive training programme with a focus on gender affairs. It also developed a Euro-Mediterranean network for the promotion of gender equality.

* Forming Responsible Citizens

The project aims to contribute to the prevention of violence against girls and women by implementing a renewed civic education curriculum in Morocco, Tunisia, Jordan and Lebanon. The project's long term goal is to influence policies and legislation in an effort to promote the principles of inclusive and sustainable development, women empowerment and gender equality.

More projects at www.ufmsecretariat.org



Higher Education & Research

Improving student mobility and employability through education

32% OF ENTERPRISES IN SOME SOUTHERN MEDITERRANEAN COUNTRIES HAVE IDENTIFIED SKILL SHORTAGES AS A MAJOR CONSTRAINT TO HIRING



UNDP "Arab Knowledge Report

YOUNG PEOPLE NOT ENROLLED IN EDUCATION, EMPLOYMENT OR TRAINING ("NEETS") IS A GROWING CONCERN IN THE REGION, WITH NATIONAL RATES RANGING FROM 14% TO 32% FOR THE 15-24 AGE GROUP

Source: Eurofound 2018

1/4 HIGHER EDUCATION GRADUATES IN NORTH AFRICA ARE UNEMPLOYED

Source: "The Future of Jobs and Skills in the Middle East and North Africa" (2017)

Higher education and research are shaping factors of a common and prosperous Mediterranean future.

Regional cooperation efforts in the fields of higher education, research and innovation as well as vocational training and mobility play an essential role in achieving a Positive agenda for the Youth in the Mediterranean because of their potential on increasing employability, promoting intercultural dialogue and preventing extremism.

The activities of the UfM in the area of Higher Education and Research also aim to contribute to the Global Development Agenda, particularly to the achievement of the the 2030 Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 4: Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all, the SDG 8-6: Reduce the proportion of youth not in employment, education or training (NEETs) and SDGs where research and innovation play a crucial role.

Priorities

- Contribute to regional dialogue fora on Higher Education, Internationalisation & Academic Mobility and on Vocational Education & Training
- Scale-up learning opportunities in a Euro-Mediterranean environment
- Foster regional initiatives and projects in the areas of school-to-work transition and vocational training
- Contribute to the implementation of the 2017 Ministerial Declaration on Strengthening Cooperation through Research and Innovation, in particular on PRIMA, BLUEMED and migration issues

Political framework

- 5+5 Dialogue of Ministers of Western Mediterranean countries on Higher Education and Scientific Research and Innovation (Rome, 10 June 2019)
- Ministerial Conference on Strengthening Euro-Mediterranean Cooperation through Research and Innovation (Valleta, 4 May 2017)
- 5+5 Dialogue of Ministers of Western Mediterranean countries on Higher Education and Scientific Research and Innovation (Tunis, 30-31 March 2017)
- 5+5 Dialogue of Ministers of Western Mediterranean countries on Higher Education and Scientific Research and Innovation (Madrid, 23-24 March 2015)
- 5+5 Dialogue of Ministers of Western Mediterranean countries on Vocational Education and Training (Marseille, 28 October 2014)
- 5+5 Dialogue of Ministers of Western Mediterranean countries on Higher Education and Scientific Research and Innovation (Rabat, 19-20 September 2013)
- First Euro-Mediterranean Ministerial Conference on Higher Education and Scientific Research (Cairo, 18 June 2007)

Regional dialogue platforms

- Regional dialogue process on "Higher Education Internationalisation and Academic Mobility in the Euro-Mediterranean region"

Zoom on key projects & initiatives

* The Euro-Mediterranean University of Fes

The Euro-Mediterranean University of Fes (UEMF), a flagship project of the UfM, aims at **contributing to stability and integration in the Euro-Mediterranean region** through the promotion of dialogue, intercultural exchange, sharing of knowledge and cooperation in the fields of higher education, research and innovation. Initiated by His Majesty Mohammed VI King of Morocco, the UEMF is framed within the UfM cross-sectorial **Mediterranean Initiative for Jobs (Med4Jobs)**.

7,000 STUDENTS from across the Euro-Mediterranean region and Sub-Saharan Africa **BY 2024**

650 HIGHLY QUALIFIED professors, researchers, administrative and technical personnel

80% OF STUDENTS participating in mobility experiences abroad

* New Chance Mediterranean Network

The project aims to promote a regional network of accredited orientation, training and **professional integration centres** to establish a shared and innovative teaching model with a view to **boosting the employability of unemployed graduates and young people who didn't finish school**.

* HOMERe

The project promotes **internship mobility experiences among Mediterranean countries** targeting high-profile students in their last year of study before graduation. The objective is to ease their transition from the academic environment to qualified entry-level roles in their own countries.

More projects at www.ufmsecretariat.org



Transport & Urban Development

Promoting sustainable and innovative urban projects and facilitating transport and mobility over land and sea

THE COST OF **TRADE BETWEEN NEIGHBOURS IS TWICE AS HIGH** **AMONG THE MENA ECONOMIES** COMPARED WITH THOSE OF WESTERN EUROPE.

Source: Word Bank, 2018

60% OF THE MEDITERRANEAN POPULATION IS LIVING IN URBAN AREAS, WHERE THE RAPID INCREASE IN URBAN POPULATION CONSTITUTES A MAJOR CHALLENGE FOR SUSTAINABLE URBAN DEVELOPMENT

Source: EIB 2017

NEARLY **80% OF THE MEDITERRANEAN COUNTRIES' POPULATIONS** WILL BE **CONCENTRATED ON 10% OF THE LAND** – PREDOMINANTLY THE COASTLINE – BY 2030

Source: EIB 2017

Easy and safe access to flows of goods and people over land and sea is essential for regional prosperity and integration. The UfM is actively engaged towards addressing the complex challenges facing the transport sector and developing an efficient, integrated, interoperable and sustainable transport infrastructure network through a holistic and integrated approach, with a view to improving transport connectivity in the Euro-Mediterranean region.

Sustainable urbanization is key to addressing climate change, and cities are potential drivers for sustainable development, economic growth and stability. With this in mind, the UfM works to implement the UfM Urban Agenda for the Mediterranean region following a cooperative approach that underscores the joint efforts of governments, local and regional authorities, developers, financiers and civil society, with the ultimate aim of improving the liveability of Mediterranean urban areas by ensuring that urban growth is turned into opportunities.

Priorities

- Develop a regional transport network fostering socio-economic development and regional integration
- Contribute to implementing the UfM Urban Agenda with a view to fostering inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable urban development
- Enhance regional dialogue through a multi-stakeholder framework bringing together UfM Member States and key stakeholders to share best practices and develop projects, providing them with technical support and mobilizing financing instruments, in particular from IFIs

Political framework

- Second UfM Ministerial Conference on Sustainable Urban Development (Cairo, 22 May 2017)
- UfM Ministerial Conference on Transport (Brussels, 14 November 2013)
- First UfM Ministerial Conference on Sustainable Urban Development (Strasbourg, 10 November 2011)

Regional dialogue platforms

- UfM Regional Platform on Transport Connectivity
- UfM Regional Platform on Sustainable Urban Development

Zoom on key projects & initiatives

* Imbaba Urban Upgrading Project

The main objective of the Imbaba Urban Upgrading Project is to strengthen the integration of Imbaba and al-Warraq, two of the most populated urban areas within the Giza Governorate, with the rest of Greater Cairo by providing their inhabitants with the basic facilities, infrastructure and services which are currently lacking.

The project will **POSITIVELY IMPACT THE LIVES OF AROUND 2 MILLION INHABITANTS** of the Imbaba and al-Warraq neighbourhoods **WITHIN THE GIZA GOVERNORATE**

A best practice example of **SUSTAINABLE URBAN REDEVELOPMENT OF 70 HECTARES OF LAND** with a view to **IMPROVING THE LIVING CONDITIONS OF THE RESIDENT POPULATIONS**

€100 MILLION total cost of the **UfM LABELLED PROJECT**



* LOGISMED Training Activities

The project aims to contribute to the creation of a **more competitive and efficient network of Euro-Mediterranean logistics platforms** by increasing the training offer and improving the level of qualifications of the logistics platforms' personnel.

* TransLogMED

Through capacity building activities pursuing enhanced professional performance, the project addresses the development of sustainable transport and door-to-door logistics. It targets the implementation of intermodal transport services to foster regional integration in the Mediterranean. Project beneficiaries include public administrations related to international trade and transport, operators, training centres, SMEs, as well as companies in the transport and logistics sectors.

More projects at www.ufmsecretariat.org



Water, Environment & Blue Economy

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

THE MEDITERRANEAN BASIN, EXTENDING OVER MORE THAN 2 MILLION SQUARE KILOMETRES, IS THE WORLD'S SECOND LARGEST BIODIVERSITY HOTSPOT

Source: FAO, 2018

THE COST OF MARINE DEBRIS CLEAN-UPS ACROSSTHE EU IS ESTIMATED AT €630 MILLION PER YEAR



Source: European Commission, 2018

MORE THAN 180 MILLION PEOPLE IN THE REGION ARE CONSIDERED WATER POOR AND AN ADDITIONAL 60 MILLION FACE WATER STRESS

Source: FAO, 2016

The Mediterranean region offers an immense potential for the sustainable, environmentally friendly development of its people. The UfM promotes regional cooperation to protect the Mediterranean Sea and the natural resources of the countries belonging to its area, and supports partnerships inspired by 'green/blue' circular economy principles.

Serious environmental threats, including water scarcity, put at risk this potential. Sustainable access, provision and use of water are key concerns. Particularly the areas along the southern and eastern shores of the region are among the world's most water-scarce, with more than 180 million people facing water stress as well as water pollution problems. The UfM supports the implementation of regional agendas on Water, Environment and Blue Economy through initiatives such as the H2020 initiative for a Cleaner Mediterranean, with the objective of tackling 80% of pollution sources by 2020.

Priorities

- Promote integrated water resources management and ensure access to water resources and affordable water services
- Protect the Mediterranean Sea and the environment, contributing to de-pollution and pollution prevention efforts in the region
- Promote the green and blue economies

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

Political framework

- UfM Ministerial Meeting on Water (Valetta, 27 April 2017)
- UfM Ministerial Conference on Blue Economy (Brussels, 17 November 2015)
- UfM Ministerial Conference on Environment and Climate Change (Athens, 13 May 2014)
- Ministerial Conference on Water (Barcelona, 13 April 2010)

Regional dialogue platforms

- UfM Working Group on Environment and Climate Change (H2020 Initiative for a Cleaner Mediterranean)
- UfM Working Group on Blue Economy
- UfM Water Expert Group (WEG)

Zoom on key projects & initiatives

* The integrated programme for the protection of the Lake Bizerte against pollution

Over the course of a 5-year period, the project will contribute majorly to the **depollution of the Lake of Bizerte**, in northern Tunisia, improving the living conditions of the surrounding populations and aquatic life as well as reducing indirect pollution impacting the Mediterranean Sea. The project will create **job opportunities for the local population** in the fields of sewage, waste management, fisheries and agriculture.

IMPROVED SANITARY AND ENVIRONMENTAL CONDITIONS FOR an estimated 400,000 INHABITANTS living close to the sources of pollution

Access to **SANITATION FOR 10,000 PEOPLE IN URBAN AREAS** and **26,000 PEOPLE IN RURAL AREAS**

€90 MILLION-BUDGET over a 5-year period



* Desalination Facility for the Gaza Strip

The project will contribute to **address the major water deficit** for an ever increasing population of currently **1.8 million people** living in the Gaza Strip, where 95% of the water is not drinkable.

* Plastic-Busters for a Mediterranean free from litter

Over a 4-year period, the project will address the entire management cycle of marine litter, from monitoring and assessment to prevention and mitigation, as well as actions to strengthen networking between pelagic and coastal marine protected areas located in Albania, Croatia, Greece, Italy, France and Spain.

More projects at www.ufmsecretariat.org



Energy & Climate Action

Boosting the development of renewable energy and energy efficiency and addressing the challenges of climate change in the region

A 62% INCREASE IN ENERGY DEMAND IS ESTIMATED IN SOUTHERN MEDITERRANEAN COUNTRIES BY 2040

Source: OME, 2017

FROM 2010 TO 2016, THE REGISTERED GROWTH IN RENEWABLE ENERGY CAPACITY IN THE UfM REGION IS OVER 60%

Source: IRENA

1.5C - THE RISE OF AVERAGE TEMPERATURE NOT TO BE SURPASSED AS AGREED THROUGH THE PARIS AGREEMENT IS ALREADY BEING EXCEEDED IN THE MEDITERRANEAN REGION

Source: IPCC, 2018

The Mediterranean countries face today common energy and climate challenges that require a high level of multilateral responses and collective actions. A reinforced cooperation in the energy and climate action fields is needed and represents an opportunity for both shores of the Mediterranean to achieve the ultimate goal of fostering the integration and the social and economic development in the region.

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 fields of Energy and Climate Action in order to deal with energy and climate change challenges in the region while advancing towards more secure and sustainable energy models.

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

Priorities

- Promote a Mediterranean agenda for energy and climate action linked to the global agenda and the international fora
- Reinforce and animate a structured regional dialogue on energy and climate action among the UfM Member States, regional organisations, financial institutions, civil society, private sector and experts
- Support the promotion of projects and initiatives as well as their implementation and replicability, in line with the priorities identified within the dialogue platforms

Political framework

- UfM Ministerial Meeting on Energy (Rome, 1 December 2016)
- UfM Ministerial Meeting on Environment and Climate Change (Athens, 13 May 2014)
- UfM Ministerial Meeting Energy (Brussels, 11 December 2013)

Regional dialogue platforms

The three **UfM Energy Platforms** aim to promote a multi-stakeholder regional dialogue on the development of renewable energies and energy efficiency, including the gas market, reliable supply transportation, the progressive deployment of renewable energies and energy efficiency measures as well as the progressive integration of the electricity market.

- UfM Regional Electricity Market Platform (UfM REM Platform)
- UfM Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency Platform (UfM REEE Platform)
- UfM Gas Platform

The **UfM Climate Change Expert Group** aims to enhance regional dialogue and catalyse the identification, support and development of specific projects and initiatives, both in mitigation and adaptation.

Zoom on key projects & initiatives

* The SEMed Private Renewable Energy Framework (SPREF)

Promoted in collaboration with the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD), SPREF aims to stimulate the **development of private renewable energy markets in Egypt, Jordan, Morocco and Tunisia**. SPREF provides efficient financing mechanisms and targeted technical cooperation support for the implementation of renewable energy projects in the region that help to meet renewable energy targets and prevent CO₂ emissions.

The **EBRD WILL PROVIDE FINANCING** and **MOBILISE FURTHER INVESTMENT** from third parties of **UP TO €834 MILLION**

The project is expected to **PREVENT 780,000 TONNES OF CO₂ EMISSIONS** annually

* UfM Energy University by Schneider Electric™

The project seeks to foster expertise in energy efficiency and renewable energies through **more than 200 online courses** offered to engineers and professionals in the energy sector in UfM countries.

* Tafila Wind Farm

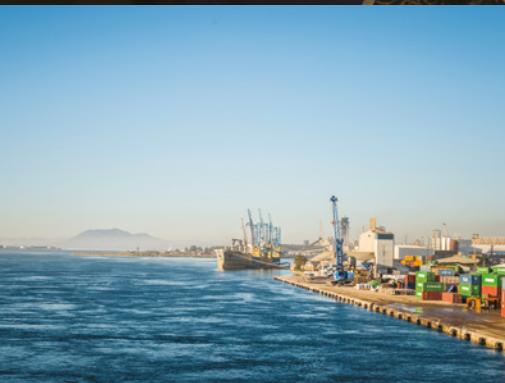
The project aims to **meet 3% of Jordan's national electricity demand** and constitutes a best practice model of public-private partnership.

More projects at www.ufmsecretariat.org

Notes







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