



Secretariat of the Union for the Mediterranean
Secrétariat de l'Union pour la Méditerranée

Secretariat of the Union for the Mediterranean

Summary of the Project Guideline Process

Rather than Clash and Conflict between Euro-Mediterranean States, Empires & Civilizations...



UfM aims to achieve Cooperation and Development through Positive Dialogue, Constructive Discourse and Common Projects



Background: UfM Mandate

In the Joint Declaration of the Paris Summit for the Mediterranean, the Heads of State and Government (13 July 2008) defined the role of the Secretariat of the UfM as:

“The **Secretariat** will give a new impulse to this process in terms of identification, follow-up, promotion of the projects and the search for partners.”

Background: UfM Mandate

The Final Statement of Foreign Affairs Ministerial (Marseille, 4 November 2008) elaborated on the role of the Secretariat asserting that the Secretariat will:

- *Gather, within the project priorities, **regional, sub-regional or transnational project initiatives** (from various sources such as sector ministerial meetings, national or regional authorities, regional groupings, private sector, civil society);*
- *Examine project initiatives and inform on their implementation to Senior Officials after close coordination with concerned States and funding partners;*
- *Once approved, work on the basis of the guidelines to be set by Senior Officials;*
- *The decision making bodies (Summit, Foreign Affairs or sector ministerial conferences, and Senior Officials meetings) will instruct the Secretariat to propose the necessary follow-up in terms of initiating the promotion of projects and the search of partners for their implementation;*
- *The funding and implementation of projects will be pursued on a case-by-case basis by the various interested partners according to their own procedures and by ad-hoc sub-groups, if necessary, with the assistance of the Secretariat;*
- *The Secretariat will lead on monitoring and evaluation of project implementation.*

Project Guidelines

In April 2011, UfM Senior Officials elaborated the process the Secretariat will follow in order to fulfill its mandate:

- Stage 1 – Project Stimulation & Gathering
- Stage 2 – Registration
- Stage 3 – Appraisal & Assessment
- Stage 4 – Labeling
- Stage 5 – Promotion Assistance
- Stage 6 – Project Monitoring

Stage 1: Stimulation and Gathering

Secretariat proactively gathers initiatives for regional, sub-regional, transnational projects (or national projects in the framework of regional strategies or initiatives).

Secretariat envisages projects that:

- fall within project priority areas identified by Heads of State/Government in the Paris Declaration or those covered by its approved Work Plan;
- are consistent with UfM general political and development criteria;
- contribute to implementation of regional strategies or initiatives.

Stage 2: Registration

Secretariat will establish efficient and transparent system for receiving and registering project proposals

In order to be registered and accepted for assessment by Secretariat, a project submitted should meet 3 pre-conditions:

- presented and duly signed by its promoters;
- includes sufficiently informative description; and
- includes a financial undertaking from the promoters to cover part of initial development cost (preliminary feasibility, market research etc.) and participate in funding subsequent implementation costs.

Projects Submitted to the Secretariat must:

- uphold the principle of sustainable development;
- strive to contribute to stability and peace in the whole Euro-Mediterranean region;
- not jeopardize the legitimate interest of any member of the UfM;
- respect the principles and rules of international law;
- take account of the principle of variable geometry;
- respect the decision of member countries involved in an ongoing project when it is subject to further development;
- and be regional, sub-regional, or transnational projects.

Stage 3: Appraisal and Assessment

Secretariat will carry out a proper assessment of project proposal, requesting further information if needed, on the basis of evaluation criteria drawn from general or specific references (See Project Criteria); and

Without applying unduly strict or restrictive criteria, especially since the final responsibility for deciding on the certification of a proposal rests with the UfM Senior Officials.

Stage 4: Labeling

Following completion of project assessment, Secretariat submits to UfM Senior Officials, on the basis of collegial decision by Secretary General and Deputies, the project(s) recommended to be labeled by UfM.

The UfM Senior Officials takes the final decision on the Secretariat's proposal.

Stage 5: Promotion Assistance

Once the UfM Senior Officials endorses the labeling of a project, Secretariat works to facilitate its promotion, especially its financing needs, in collaboration and agreement with project's promoters.

This requires Secretariat contacting/ discussing with funding banks and institutions, whether public or private, as well as assisting in removal of obstacles or impediments.

Stage 6: Monitoring

Once financing arrangements have been finalised and project launched, Secretariat monitors progress in its implementation, ensuring at the same time that criteria required for obtaining and keeping the UfM “project label” are being met.

Progress and status reports will be regularly submitted to the UfM Senior Officials by the Secretariat.

Fast-Tracking

In certain cases, Secretariat may follow a fast-track for some projects and omit some of the stages described above if the project has been already approved by Sectoral Ministerial or other senior officials' meetings of the UfM member entities.



THANK YOU