

## **Union for the Mediterranean**

Promoting regional dialogue and cooperation

#### <u>Presskit</u>

About Us Enhancing regional cooperation Policies in Action Voices from the Mediterranean Sectorial Factsheets



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

## About Us



#### What is the Union for the Mediterranean?

The Union for the Mediterranean (UfM) is the intergovernmental Euro-Mediterranean organisation that brings together all 28 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, in order to address the three strategic objectives of the region: stability, human development and integration.

#### 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

\*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

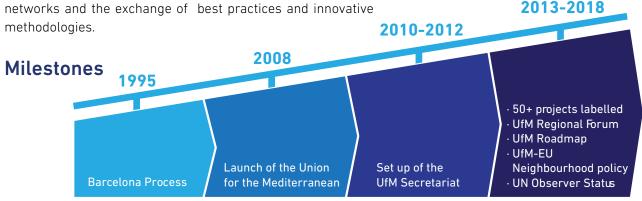
the Ministries of Foreign Affairs of the 43 UfM countries, EU institutions and the League of Arab States. The Senior Officials Meetings (SOM) provide the framework to discuss the current political context and coordinate the work of the UfM Secretariat.

#### 2 Co-Presidents

The EU and Jordan assume 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 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, the importance of regional frameworks such as the UfM is 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 and stability - by concentrating the 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, capitalizing 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 address effectively the challenges in the region.







## Enhancing regional cooperation to address the challenges in the Mediterranean

#### **Regional Integration and Stability**

#### Sustainable Development



Water, Environment & Blue Economy

**Energy & Climate** Action

**Transport & Urban** Development

## Policies in action

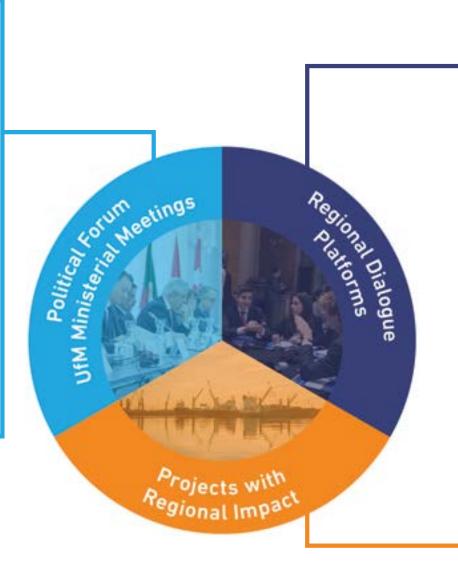


### **Building thematic** common agendas

Declarations adopted by consensus by the 43 Ministers define the scope and objectives of a common regional agenda by sectors.

**15+** 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





Mediterranean in action describes perfectly well the attitude driving our work inside the Union for the Mediterranean, which is concrete actions, deliverables for our people, and I believe the UfM is the right forum to concentrate on this positive agenda."

> Federica Mogherini, EU High Representative for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy and Vice-President of the European Commission



**66** The areas for us to cooperate are numerous. The Mediterranean is not a body of water that separates us, it is a bridge that has historically brought us together and it will continue to bring us together to serve our common interest of peace, justice, prosperity and stability"

> Ayman Safadi, Minister of Foreign Affairs and Expatriates of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan

### Fostering regional dialogue

Ministerial Declarations allow the UfM Secretariat to structure accordingly platforms for regional dialogue and cooperation.

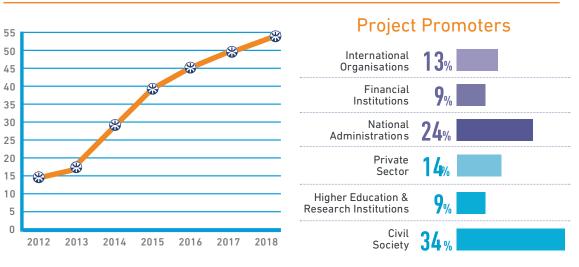
These regional platforms have involved a network of over **25,000** stakeholders through more than **300** Expert fora since 2012

# 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

#### **Labelled projects**





#### **UfM Stakeholders**

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

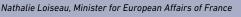
### Translating the policy dimension into concrete

cooperation projects valued at ove	r €5	bi	llion
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## Voices from the Mediterranean



**CC** By working to promote women empowerment, the UfM plays a fundamental role that resonates deeply with its purpose: to come together from all parts of the Mediterranean without exception, to unleash energy and to work together to make progress on concrete projects."



**C** This project gave us the opportunity to think as professional business developers, not as university students, and to put our first step on the right track. Also, it taught us how to work as a team and how to have a team work spirit."

> Luma Sukarieh, beneficiary of the "Young Women as Job Creators" project, Jordan



*G* The Lake Bizerte project is not only a model of industrial decontamination but a model of sustainable development which will have social impact on the local populations by improving their living and working conditions, and also on young people by creating new jobs."

> Najwa Bourawi, President of the Association for the Protection of the Environment and Sustainable Development of Bizerte (APEDDUB)



**G** The WOMED programme gave me the very good idea to launch training sessions for young journalists, especially women, including those who have never studied journalism. I hope this will give them the confidence to report on relevant and complex issues."

> Faten Hayed, beneficiary of the "WOMED Next Generation of Leaders" project and winner of the CNN MultiChoice African Journalist Award 2016, Algeria



**CC** The construction of a desalination plant responds to dire humanitarian need in Gaza, especially in the water sector, with reports indicating that, if we remain passive, this area will become unlivable by 2020. I thank the UfM for its contribution to dialogue and cooperation."

Mazen Ghunaim, Minister of Water of Palestine



Thanks to this two-year experience I have learnt a lot, become more open-minded and started seeing the world from a more critical point of view. Much of what I am now I owe it to my education at EMIS. Now, I am studying Economics and Business at Erasmus University Rotterdam. The course is tough, but, thanks to the skills that I acquired at EMIS, I am now able to handle it well."

> Emma Scandolo, former student at "Eastern Mediterranean International School (EMIS)", Italy



**CC** The establishment of this University has been carried out thanks to the support of the UfM. I highly doubt that we would have received significant contributions from the EC, the EIB and other donors without the technical assistance of the UfM. They have also helped us to build partnerships with renowned higher education and research institutions from across the region, which has been key to reinforce the regional dimension of the University while creating mobility opportunities for our students and staff."

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

**Upon completion of this internship in France** 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, Morocco









# SECTORIAL **FACTSHEETS**















### **Business Development & Employment**

Youth employability and inclusive growth



**80%** of jobs are created by SMEs in the Euro-Mediterranean region



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



#### €20+ billion by

**2018:** potential increase in the region's Gross Domestic Product if youth unemployment is cut in half

#### 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



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 socio-economic development. Therefore, concrete actions, tangible results on the ground and projects with a real impact on the citizens' wellbeing are paramount. For all these reasons, the UfM Secretariat is positioning itself as a trusted adviser and a credible knowledge broker."

Rachid Maaninou - Deputy Secretary General for Business Development - Morocco

#### **EXPERTS**

To interview the UfM experts, please contact us.



Hamed El Etreby Egypt



**Fawzi Dib** Algeria



Mohammed Elrazzaz Egypt

#### 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 visible private sector job creation projects in the Southern and Eastern Mediterranean region.

#### Key figures

- **2.8 million young people** enter the job market each year in the MENA region
- **30%** is the youth unemployment rate in the MENA region
- 80% of jobs are created by SMEs in the region

### YouMatch Toolbox Project

YouMatch aims to set up a **regional demand-driven toolbox for youthorientated 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

#### **REGIONAL DIALOGUE PLATFORMS**

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

- 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)

### **Social & Civil Affairs**

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



The MENA region could increase its GDP per capita nearly

**25%** by promoting women's economic empowerment

-
157
342
(NO) -

#### 13-15% of women

own and manage their businesses in the MENA region compared to the 31-38% worldwide rate

60% of the euro

Mediterranean population is currently under the age of 30, and the number of young people under the age of 15 is foreseen to

increase by over 18% by 2020

#### 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



The UfM is a regional platform to enhance human development especially through the empowerment of youth and women. It is a place to share ideas and good practices and to implement tangible projects. Youth and women are at the heart of the Mediterranean agenda because they can act as catalysts for economic growth and social welfare if the right environment is developed for them in the region."

Laurence Païs - Deputy Secretary General for Social and Civil Affairs - France

#### **EXPERTS**

To interview the UfM experts, please contact us.



Fatiha Hassouni Morocco



Juli Hernández Spain



Abdelkader El Khissassi Morocco

## 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.

#### Key figures

- 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 leade

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.

#### **REGIONAL DIALOGUE PLATFORMS**

- 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

#### **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)

#### 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 and Tunisia. 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

Young people not enrolled in education, employment or training ("NEETs") is a growing concern in the region, with national rates ranging from **15% to 32%** for the 15-24 age group



**25%** is the unemployment rate among higher education graduates in North Africa

#### **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





The UfM Secretariat is committed to deepen cooperation and integration in research and innovation among UfM countries and to consolidate the role of the UfM as a regional platform, facilitator and driving force of cooperation between Higher Education Institutions. Their contribution to counteracting radicalization, promoting a Euro-Mediterranean identity for new generations of students and equipping them with the skills needed in the region is central and needs to be further supported."

Emmanuelle Gardan - Head of sector on Higher Education and Research

#### **EXPERTS**

To interview the UfM experts, please contact us.



**Núria Jové** Spain



Giuseppe Provenzano

#### 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 crosssectorial Mediterranean Initiative for Jobs (Med4Jobs).

#### Key figures

- **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 Networl

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 young people who dropped out of school before obtaining a degree and unemployed graduates.

#### The project promotes internship

**HOMERe** 

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

#### **REGIONAL DIALOGUE PLATFORMS**

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

- 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)





### Transport & Urban Development

Promoting sustainable and innovative urban projects and faciliting transport and mobility over land and see



A **3.6%** growth in regional trade and a

**6.5%** growth in exports could result from on-going and future trade facilitations and transport infrastructure improvements



**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 Nearly **80%** of the Mediterranean countries' populations will be concentrated on

**10% of the land** – predominantly the coastline – by 2030

#### PRIORITIES

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- 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 dialogue, regional policy platforms and projects with a regional impact in transport and urban development sectors are key to fostering stability, sustainable development and integration in the Euro-Mediterranean region through a holistic and multi-stakeholder approach. UfM priorities include the development of a regional transport infrastructure network to improve mobility and regional trade exchanges, and the implementation of the New Urban Agenda as a new vision for the coming decades for central governments and local authorities in the region"

Ayse Asya - Deputy Secretary General for Transport and Urban Development - Turkey

#### EXPERTS

To interview the UfM experts, please contact us.



Francesc Carbonell Spain



Victoria Jiménez Spain

#### 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.

#### **Key figures**

- 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.

#### **REGIONAL DIALOGUE PLATFORMS**

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

#### **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)

#### Motorway of the Sea

The project seeks to develop a seamless intermodal goods transport service to bridge Turkey with the Maghreb area through Tunisia. MoS aims to optimize the freight transport, the logistics chain and the connection of the Mediterranean shores by offering a high frequency port-to-port Roll-on-Roll-off service, and thus contributing to the expansion of trade relations among UfM countries.

More projects at www.ufmsecretariat.org





### Water, Environment & Blue Economy Promoting water and environment projects for a sustainable

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



+2 million jobs could be unlocked by 2020 in the Euro-Mediterranean region by the blue economy



#### €630 million per year is the estimated cost of marine debris clean-ups across the EU



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

60 million face water stress

### 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 Mediterranean countries face growing challenges due to the increasing water scarcity and depletion of natural resources, further exacerbated by the climate pressure. With a view to contributing to the sustainable development agenda and goals, the UfM is uniquely placed as an intergovernmental organisation to address common threats to our environment and support the socio-economic development of the region."

Miguel García-Herraiz - Deputy Secretary General for Water and Environment - Spain

#### **EXPERTS**

To interview the UfM experts, please contact us.



Alessandra Sensi



**Almotaz Abadi** Palestine



Raffaele Mancini

## 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.

#### Key figures

- 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

The project seeks to tackle the issue of **marine litter** in the Mediterranean sea by **preventing and reducing** it through the implementation of concrete and specific measures

More projects at www.ufmsecretariat.org

#### **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)

- 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)





### **Energy & Climate Action**

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



A **98%** increase in energy demand is estimated in Southern Mediterranean countries by 2040



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

The implementation of renewable energy projects will increase by **365%** in 2020

#### 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



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. Thanks to its regional policy dialogue platforms as well as its flagships projects, the UfM offers a unique opportunity to support a comprehensive approach, including markets issues and national policies, towards the energy transition challenges."

Jorge Borrego - Senior Deputy Secretary General for Energy and Climate Action - Portugal

#### **EXPERTS**

To interview the UfM experts, please contact us.



**Olgu Okumuş** Turkey



Arnault Graves France



Ahmed Ibraheem Egypt

#### 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 CO<sub>2</sub> emissions.

#### Key figures

- 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 CO<sub>2</sub> 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.



More projects at www.ufmsecretariat.org

#### **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 (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.

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



Contact us:

Isabel Pardillos Communication & Media Officer

media@ufmsecretariat.org P. +34 935 214 198 / M. +34 692 975 676

#### Follow us on:



Palau de Pedralbes | Pere Duran Farell, 11 | 08034 Barcelona, Spain Phone: 0034 93 521 4100 | Fax: 00 34 93 521 4102

