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### **Euro-Mediterranean policy dialogue on transport connectivity**

Historically an area of exchange and interconnection, the Euro-Mediterranean area holds enormous potential in terms of regional integration. Facilitating the movement of goods and individuals in the region could significantly contribute to unleashing this potential, leading to widespread increases in prosperity and socio-economic development.

With the current Regional Transport Action Plan for the Mediterranean Region (RTAP) coming to an end in 2020, the UfM Secretariat continued this past year to lay the groundwork for the next UfM Ministerial Conference on Transport, which will take stock of the implementation of the RTAP 2014-2020, and launch a new regional action plan.

Meetings between the UfM Regional Platform on Transport Connectivity and its four Working Groups, on Land, Air and Maritime Transport and Logistics, were held between 11-13 June 2019 in Barcelona, Spain, and on 7-8 November 2019 in Brussels, Belgium. They enabled the launch of preparatory work on deliverables for the next Ministerial Conference, namely the evaluation of the current RTAP, particularly in regards to the implementation at country level of transport activities, and the identification of strategic and evidence-based policy proposals for the next one.

In parallel, the UfM Secretariat continued to support the development of both existing and new transport projects with long-term regional

impact, to help improve transport and logistics connectivity in the region. The UfM-IFIs Transport Finance Committee convened in 2019 to overview the progress made in the implementation of the UfM-labelled regional projects as part of its efforts to develop the project pipeline under the new edition of the Regional Transport Action Plan.

### **Building bridges: promoting connectivity between the EU and Africa**

The UfM Secretariat participated in, and contributed, to the work of the Connectivity Cluster of the Task Force on Transport (TFT), created within the framework of the EU-Africa Alliance for Sustainable Investment and Jobs. The TFT Connectivity Cluster is a platform shared between the European Commission, the African Union Commission, as well as private sector actors, financing institutions and academia, and which counts on high-level engagement and support.

Covering land, maritime and inland waterway transport, the objective of this cluster is to develop policies, strategy and investment recommendations as well as reform proposals and collaborative projects.

*Read out more here:*

