

Building resilience and sustainability

Read the complete UfM research and innovation roadmaps on climate change, renewable energies and health:



Solutions for a better future: enhancing the power of research and innovation

The current generation is facing some of the most pressing challenges that the modern world has seen. From the threat of climate change to the need for renewable energies and improvements in healthcare, we must act quickly and effectively to tackle these issues. That's where research and innovation policies come in.

Through cutting-edge research and innovative solutions, we can create a brighter future for ourselves and future generations. By investing in these policies, we can develop new technologies and practices that reduce our carbon footprint, transition to cleaner and more sustainable energy sources and improve our understanding and treatment of diseases.

It is against this background that a Ministerial conference on research and innovation was held for the first time under the Union for the Mediterranean framework in June 2022. Hosted by Sylvie Retailleau, Minister for Higher Education and Research of France, and under the co-presidency of the European Union, represented by Commissioner Mariya Gabriel and

In light of the climate emergency faced throughout the Euro-Mediterranean region, and the need to further build resilience and sustainable development to protect both the environment and the people, the UfM has built up its activities to promote existing and potential solutions to tackle current challenges and prepare for a better future.

Jordan with the participation of Minister Haifaa Najjar, the gathering aimed at promoting international cooperation on science and knowledge in the Euro-Mediterranean region.

In the face of ongoing and future challenges for the region, Ministers have adopted a declaration that paves the way to further strengthening scientific cooperation, fostering linkages on research, innovation and skills, as well as supporting capacity building, coordination and joint actions, including on sustainable development and employability.

Furthermore, the Member States' representatives acknowledged eight new research and innovation (R&I) roadmaps on climate change, renewable energies, and health that will act as a catalyst for future cooperation. Swift action is needed, and an implementation plan is being prepared by the UfM Regional Platform on Research and Innovation, which will transform the jointly agreed priorities into specific actions and review its progress while fostering synergies with existing instruments. Ensuring that the agreed roadmaps are implemented is crucial for the desired outcomes in the region, in line with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals and the 2030 Agenda. The roadmaps aim to engage actors in the region (NGOs, scientific institutions, researchers, networks of universities and citizens, the private sector and decision-makers), as well as international organisations, financial institutions and donors.

“ This very first Research and Innovation Ministers meeting under the umbrella of the UfM comes at a very timely moment. Today, we take political important steps forward in levelling up R&I cooperation in the Euro-Mediterranean region on climate change, renewable energy and health.

Sylvie Retailleau, Minister for Higher Education and Research of France

Discover initiatives and partners advancing research and innovation in the Mediterranean

Horizon Europe

Horizon Europe is the EU's funding programme for research and innovation with a budget of €95.5 billion. It tackles climate change, helps to achieve the UN's Sustainable Development Goals and boosts the EU's competitiveness and growth.

Learn more about the programme here:



Partnership for Research and Innovation in the Mediterranean (PRIMA)

PRIMA is a joint programme that is being undertaken in the frame of Euro-Mediterranean cooperation. By funding R&I through competitive calls, PRIMA focusses on building research and innovation capacities and developing knowledge and common innovative solutions for agro-food systems to make them sustainable, and for integrated water provision and management in the Mediterranean area.

Learn more about the programme here:



BlueSkills: Blue Jobs and Responsible Growth in the Mediterranean

Labelled by the UfM, the BlueSkills project promotes opportunities for "Blue" marine and maritime careers by developing skills, exchanging knowledge and valorising research for more sustainable Mediterranean Sea. Its aim is to develop new curricula and increase employability in the marine and maritime sectors.

Learn more about the project here:



MedECC – Mediterranean Experts on Climate and Environmental Change

An initiative supported by the UfM, MedECC is an open and independent international scientific expert network founded in 2015 and providing information to decision-makers and the general public on the basis of available scientific information and on-going research. MedECC prepares assessments and a comprehensive synthesis of global change knowledge in the Mediterranean region and their risks.

Learn more about the network and its key findings here:



Sustainable Food Systems – MED Platform

The SFS-MED Platform is a community to leverage the existing knowledge, experience and skills of food systems actors across the Mediterranean region. The SFS-MED Platform is led by the International Centre for Advanced Mediterranean Agronomic Studies (CIHEAM), the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and the UfM Secretariat, in collaboration with PRIMA, as an affiliated project of the One Planet Network's Sustainable Food Systems Programme.

Learn more about the platform here:



BlueMed Initiative

BlueMed is a political initiative aiming at advancing a shared vision for a more healthy, productive, resilient, better known and valued Mediterranean Sea, promoting the citizens' social well-being and prosperity, now and for future generations, and boosting economic growth and jobs. In 2021 the new Strategic Research and Innovation Agenda was developed, preparing the path for the implementation of the Mediterranean lighthouse of Horizon Europe Mission Restore our Ocean and Waters by 2030.

Learn more about the initiative here:

