



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



Smart Specialization for Sustainable Blue Economy
25th October 2022
Crete, 24th October 2022

The UfM at a glance



42 Members

27 EU members and 15 Southern and Eastern Mediterranean countries. Their Senior Officials meet regularly to oversee and coordinate the activities of the UfM.

2 Co-Presidents

The EU and Jordan have assumed the Northern and Southern co-presidency since 2012, embodying the UfM principle of co-ownership.

1 Secretariat

Based in Barcelona, the Secretariat is the operational platform of the UfM.

Mission to enhance cooperation, dialogue, integration, stability, and sustainable development at regional level through the implementation of concrete projects and initiatives with tangible impacts



UfM operates at different levels

- UfM Ministerial Declarations

Convergence around common agenda/s

- UfM Platforms of Dialogue/WG

Ownership

- Projects

Pooling of technical, human and financial resources around the joint priorities

Latest UfM Ministerial References of relevance to SBE



Sustainable Blue Economy (2015 and February 2021)



Energy (December 2016 and June 2021)



Environment and Climate Action (2014 and December 2021)



Research and Innovation (27 June 2022)



Employment and Labour (2019 and May 2022)



Partnership is key

**Multi-stakeholder approach and
collaboration**



Sustainable Blue Economy



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



Today, ministers of the UfM agreed to the transition to a truly sustainable blue economy, as part of our strategy to recover from the Covid-19 crisis and to tackle the serious impacts of climate change and environmental degradation.



Virginijus Sinkevičius

Commissioner for Environment,
Oceans and Fisheries



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

Ministerial priorities :

Governance & the future of sea basin strategies

Marine research, innovation, skills, careers & employment

Sustainable food from the sea: fisheries & aquaculture

Sustainable, climate-neutral & zero-pollution maritime transport & ports

Interactions between ML & the blue economy

Coastal & maritime tourism

MSP & ICZM

Marine Renewable Energies

Maritime safety & security of BE activities

Sustainable investment in the BE

Quoting.... On Innovation

2021 UfM Ministerial on Sustainable Blue Economy



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

Ministers reaffirm:

....

- a. that research and innovation investments at all levels are needed to address key challenges of the region, provide tailor-made solutions for society at large and create new and sustainable business opportunities in the blue economy;
- b. the importance of working closely with the private sector to promote innovation and identify and address skills gaps;

Ministers call for

- a. a. The uptake of the BLUEMED Implementation Plan and the continuation of the BLUEMED Initiative for Blue Jobs and Growth in the Mediterranean region under Horizon Europe, as a key element for an integrative implementation of the Research and Innovation Agenda for the Mediterranean through a coordinated multiprogramme effort;
- b. The promotion of the Startup Europe Mediterranean (SEMED) initiative, aiming, in partnership with BLUEMED, to connect all the actors of the innovation system in the Mediterranean area as well as other instruments and initiatives to support the sustainable development, job creation and competitiveness of Blue economy SMEs;

UfM Blue Economy Roadmap

Following the **2021 UfM Ministerial on SBE**, Co-Presidency, UfM Secretariat and UfM countries have agreed to elaborate a Roadmap for the implementation of the Ministerial

Overview and analysis of the **joint needs, gaps and opportunities for future support, funding, and implementation by thematic priority**

Sketching out of ongoing **initiatives, programmes and projects + potential avenues for future cooperation** (promising pathways, processes and actions) that can **be launched, scaled-up and promoted in the short, medium and longer term**

Easy to handle **monitoring system** of the implementation of the Roadmap



Groupings of initiatives to implement the Roadmap

Validated by the UfM WG on BE in March 2022

Cross-cutting support

Blue skills, careers, and jobs, training and capacity building
Twinning/Technical Assistance and Information Exchange (TAIEX)
Expand existing socio-economic observatories
Continuation of webinars (i.e. Ocean Literacy)
Maritime safety
(training/CB/exchange of information & expertise/TA)

Small ports and marinas diversification

- Transformative innovation for small-scale ports, linking to (i.e.) aquaculture, tourism, energy, marine litter facilities)
- Fostering ports as 'hubs' of clean and renewable energy
- Alternative fuels
- Foster ability of ports in adopting fully circular model

Innovation on local value chains

- Raise awareness on Sustainable Smart Specialisation Strategies
- Scale-up of good practices on sustainable food value-chains
- Financing tourism diversification/digitalisation
- Cluster alliance to address the sector and investors
- Scale-up innovation practices across the sea basin

MSP as blue economy enabler

- MSP for a proper planning of marine renewables zones/licensing
- Principal Areas (fisheries), Allocated Zones (aquaculture)
- Maritime Spatial Planning (MSP) multi-stakeholder working group

Grouping of initiatives for implementing the Roadmap

Overview of the overall planning and key milestones

Activities	September	October	November	December	January	February	March	
Small ports and marinas project idea development								
1.1	Development of a draft concept note							
1.2		Presentation of concept note during UfM BEWG						
1.3							Final concept note (containing a well structured project idea)	
Innovation ecosystems webinars								
2.1	Development of draft concept note							
2.2		Presentation of concept note to the UfM BEWG						
2.3				Webinar I: Discussing local financing opportunities for southern countries				
2.4						Webinar II: Raising awareness on Smart Specialisation and potentials for southern countries		
Marine Spatial Planning as "enabler"								
3.1		MSPMED Workshop: Towards the operationalization of a joint MSP Roadmap for the Mediterranean (26-28 September)						
3.2		Development of draft concept note						
3.3			Presentation of Technical Group proposal to the UfM BEWG					
3.4							Technical Group approval	
Project development support Training Session (25 October 22)								
4.1	Development of draft concept note							
4.2		Webinar: Training on project development and funding opportunities back-to-back to the UfM BEWG						
		UMA PRO328WEG-2021 Kick-off meeting						11



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



UfM Blue Finance Conference: Investing in a Sustainable Blue Economy in the Mediterranean

22nd of June 09:00-18:30

Activity of the Conference

- Give **access to finance and investments** in blue economy sectors; including EU, national and local funding, as well as private investors.
- Conduct **matchmaking sessions** between the countries and the Banks/Financial institutions, so that the participants could present specific proposals and discuss feedback ahead of their viability.



Initiatives in the making

BlueInvest Africa 2022



Mediterranean Investment Platform



BE Partnership for the Med Sea



SOS
2022 Sustainable
Ocean
Summit

OCEAN-CLIMATE-BIODIVERSITY
Synergies and Solutions for Ocean Sustainability

17-18 October

Barcelona

BlueFIN
2022 Global
Blue Finance
Summit

OCEAN INVESTING FOR OCEAN IMPACT

19 October

Barcelona

PARTNER EVENT



OCEANOvation

MEETUP SERIES X BARCELONA

20 October

Barcelona



The International Business Alliance
for Corporate Ocean Responsibility

Green Economy



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

THE 2ND UFM MINISTERIAL DECLARATION ON ENVIRONMENT AND CLIMATE CHANGE - CAIRO, 4TH OCTOBER 2021



- Ministers from the 42 Member countries of the Union for the Mediterranean (UfM) gathered today in Cairo at the 2nd UfM Ministerial Conference on Environment and Climate action under the Co-Presidency of Jordan and the European

Latest news

- A common agenda to acknowledge the urgency of taking action and reasserted a firm ambition to tackle climate and environmental challenges through the full implementation of the Paris Agreement and the Agenda 2030.
- Endorsement of the GREENER MED Agenda



TOWARDS 2030: AGENDA FOR A GREENER MED

Contributing to Achieving the Environmental SDGs in the Mediterranean

{2030GreenerMed}



GREENERMED AGENDA AND THE MAIN AXES



2030GreenerMed
AGENDA FOR A GREENER
MEDITERRANEAN



Support the transition towards a Green, Circular and Socially Inclusive Economy, based on sustainable consumption and production practices and nature-based solutions.

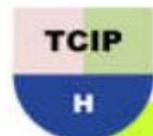


Prevent and reduce pollution on land, air, and sea.



Protect, preserve, manage, and restore natural resources in the Mediterranean region within an integrated ecosystem approach, including terrestrial, marine, and coastal dimensions.

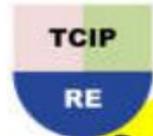
Three UfM Theories of Change & Impact Pathways including 8 Roadmaps



Health



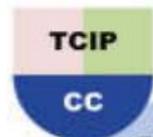
Healthy, resilient, inclusive and secure Euro-Mediterranean societies



Renewable
Energies



1. Overview of RE scenarios, harmonized RE smart database and communication within UfMC
2. Modernization of the electric power systems (Smart grid, smart cities and local RE generation)
3. Distribution system modernization (Energy loss management)
4. Advanced Technologies | Green hydrogen production, storage- and infrastructures implementation



Climate
Change



1. Impact of water scarcity and drought in Rural Areas
2. Sustainable agricultural production
3. Biodiversity in Changing Climate



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



Towards a Sustainable Blue Economy in the Mediterranean region
 2021 Edition



The UfM Secretariat is co-funded by the EUROPEAN UNION



Towards a Sustainable Blue Economy in the Mediterranean region
 2021 Edition



The UfM Secretariat is co-funded by the EUROPEAN UNION

Blue Economy Sectors

Cross-Cutting Themes

Introduction and context	4
Aquaculture and Fisheries	6
Transport and Ports	15
Coastal and Maritime Tourism	26
Marine Renewable Energies	37
Maritime Safety and Security	47
Marine Litter	55
Marine Research & Innovation	67
Maritime Skills, Careers and Employment	74
Sustainable Blue Economy as an opportunity: Financing sustainable returns	85
Governance and the future of sea basin strategies in the Mediterranean region	93



Mediterranean Blue Economy Stakeholder Platform

- About ▾
- Blue Economy Framework ▾
- Blue Economy Community ▾
- Funding Blue Economy ▾
- Resources ▾

- ▶ 🏠 Who we are
- ▶ 🌞 Our goals

Reports & Leaflets: "Towards a Sustainable Blue Economy in the Mediterranean (...)"

Check out the leaflets and full reports "Towards a Sustainable Blue Economy in the Mediterranean (...)" [Read more.](#)

➔ <https://medblueeconomyplatform.org/>



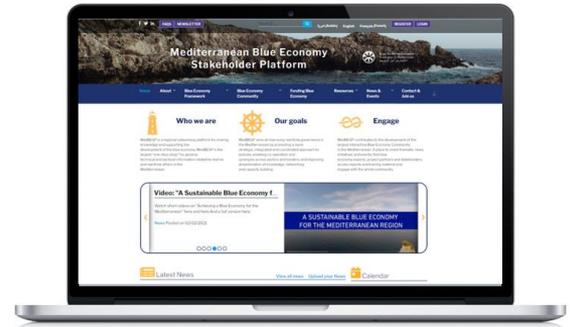
test News

- [View all news](#)
- [Upload your News](#)
- [Calendar](#)

Regional networking platform supporting the sustainable blue economy in the Med

“One-stop shop” dedicated to consolidating and sharing general, technical and sectoral knowledge & information on SBE in the Med

An interactive hub for a wide community of SBE stakeholders and actors





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

UFM at events relevant to Sustainable Blue Economy, November 2022:

- UfM Working Group on Sustainable Blue Economy, Aqaba
- UfM Environment Task Force, Barcelona
- Interreg MED Biodiversity Community
- IEMED - MedThink5+5 Thematic Seminar – Tapping the Potential of the Sustainable Blue Economy in the Western Mediterranean - Lisboa
- COP14 Ramsar – Mediterranean Wetlands
- COP 27 Climate Change – SBE side evento, Med Pavillion, Sharm-El-Sheik, Egypt
- DG MARE/IOC UNESCO, 3rd International Conference on MSP, 22-23 Nov, Barcelona
- UfM Regional Forum



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

An action-driven organization with a common ambition

Follow-us on:

@UfMSecretariat

www.facebook.com/ufmsecretariat

www.UfMSecretariat.org