



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



15th UfM Regional Platform on Sustainable Blue Economy
Brussels - 27 June 2024

***Annual reporting by Ministerial priority:
Progress on the Roadmap for the implementation of the 2021 UfM Ministerial
Declaration on SBE – **Algeria*****

Country reporting template: aim and objectives

- This “country reporting template” has been created with the aim to gather data and information at national level to feed the **2021 UfM Ministerial on SBE Roadmap’s Monitoring, reporting and evaluation system**.
- As reflected in the “[Stand-alone document on the Monitoring system of the Roadmap / 2021 UfM Ministerial on SBE](#)” and its related Annex on “[Sector-specific indicators](#)”, the process kick-starts every year with the **delivery of presentations by the countries** (UfM Focal Points on Blue Economy) in the context of the **Regional Platform on SBE meetings**.
- By filling in this template, countries’ crucial inputs will feed current and future updates of the Roadmap and contribute to analyse progress over time in the implementation of the SBE Ministerial Declaration.
- Instructions to fill in this template are provided in the next slide.

How to fill in this template

- This template contains **one slide per each of the SBE Ministerial Declaration Priorities** and related progress. Three open questions have also been included at the end of the document.
- For each of the Ministerial Declaration priorities, a simple **table** should be completed by the countries, with the following information:
 - Policies, strategies and plans in place at national (and sub-national) level
 - Projects and initiatives at national in place at national (and sub-national) level
- Please fill in these tables to the best of your knowledge and feel free to enrich with **hyper-links** to key documents, publications, videos, etc. as needed.
- In case of questions, please don't hesitate to send an email to:
alessandra.sensi@ufmsecretariat.org and adriana.salazar@ufmsecretariat.org
- These presentations will be delivered orally by each Focal Point on the UfM Regional Platform Meeting, and should be submitted to the UfM Secretariat team **no later than June 19th, end of day.**

Marine research and innovation, skills, careers and employment

Ministerial Declaration related progress	Policies and strategies at national/regional level	Projects and initiatives at national/regional level
Development of socioeconomic observatories	National food security strategy, national health strategy and national energy strategy - National blue economy strategy SNEB 2030	Launch of national research programs (2021-2025) 150 projects per year
Clusters development	78 maisons de l'entrepreneuriat et 44 incubateurs au niveau national Establishment of thematic research agencies: 01- Thematic Research Agency in Health and Life Sciences 02- Thematic Research Agency in Science and Technology 03- Thematic Research Agency in Social and Human Sciences	Creation of thematic research network in desalination Support for the entrepreneurship/startup ecosystem (incubators and project leaders) Creation of 83 startups and innovative projects labeled in the fields of fishing, aquaculture and the marine environment, with 34 incubators including 14 private and 10 universities Launch of the SMARTPORT initiative (Support for improving port waste management; Support for the development of Pescatourism)
Training activities	National Training Program in Marine Sciences, maritime engineering and entrepreneurship	- Internship and training initiative in marine biotechnology, fishing and aquaculture, maritime engineering, marine environment, coastal development, tourism, navigation sciences and fishing technologies..... - Training to support the development of SMEs, startups, incubators and accelerators. Support for project leaders (fishing and aquaculture projects)
Other	- Maritime innovation support policy - National waste strategy	- Support program for young researchers and students through the blue economy support program - A national plan to reduce and recover waste, promote circularity

Sustainable food from the sea: fisheries and aquaculture

Ministerial Declaration related progress	Policies and strategies at national/regional level	Projects and initiatives at national/regional level
Establishment of Marine Protected Areas and Fisheries Restricted Areas	National Marine Conservation Plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Classification of three marine protected areas in the western zone (Cap Lindles, Iles Planne, îles Habibas). - project to classify four other marine protected areas in the east (Les monts Edough entre Skikda et Annaba, Gouraya à Bejaia et Taza à Jijel et le Massif de Collo à Skikda)
Tackling Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated fishing (IUU)	<p>Blue Economy Strategy: Specific objective 3: strengthening national control capacities in the fight against IUU fishing Legislative and regulatory measures to combat IUU fishing have been put in place.</p> <p>Contracting and cooperating member of the GFCM-FAO, in full compliance and classified in category 1</p>	VMS project underway with support from the EU Participation in the ICCAT international inspection plan in the Mediterranean Sea in the context of BFT fishing Strengthening the role of the flag State in specific fisheries outside national jurisdiction by boarding observer-controllers on board fishing vessels.
Support to Small-Scale Fisheries (SSF)	<p>Artisanal Fishing Support Program</p> <p>Multi-year training and capacity building plan;</p> <p>National information and outreach program on socio-economic and environmental aspects.</p>	Support program for the development of the artisanal fishing value chain, Organization of fishermen into cooperatives in accordance with the regulatory framework set out for this purpose; support for improving the working conditions of professional fishermen, prevention of risks and accidents, support for the development of a social protection mechanism for all artisanal fishing workers. Initial and continuing training program for seafarers. support for the development of craft or industrial processing of fishery products.
Other	Sustainable Development Strategy for Aquaculture	Identification of aquaculture activity zones and National research project for monitoring the quality of the environment of marine aquaculture farms installed in the activity zones

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

Ministerial Declaration related progress	Policies and strategies at national/regional level	Projects and initiatives at national/regional level
Setting up an Emission Control Area for Sulphur Oxides in the Mediterranean Sea	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A state policy on purpose-driven technological innovations that transform blue economy sectors such as ports and maritime transport into climate neutrality - Maritime emissions reduction policy 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - EMFAF POWER4MED project for the development of sustainable and cost-effective solutions for the construction, maintenance, reuse and design of green and smart ports and transport links - Several projects on the use of Biofuels
Development of alternative and transitional fuels	<p>renewable energy development program that aims for a diversified and balanced energy mix that plans to reach a 30% share of renewable energies by 2035;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - the National Strategy for the Development of Hydrogen in Algeria included in the roadmap for the development of renewable (green) and clean (blue) hydrogen in Algeria. 	<p>the deployment of the National Renewable Energy Program, aims for a capacity of 15,000 megawatts, of which 3,000 have already been launched,</p> <p>Algeria will soon quadruple its renewable energy capacity.</p> <p>Algeria is also strongly committed to international initiatives aimed at reducing greenhouse gas and methane emissions.- launch of an experimental project for the production of green hydrogen in Arzew (Oran) as part of bilateral cooperation with an EU country;</p> <p>Signing of a memorandum of understanding, within the framework of bilateral cooperation with an EU country, for the realization of a feasibility study for the development of an integrated project for the production of green hydrogen and its derivatives in Algeria.</p> <p>project for the realization of hydrogen transport pipelines across the Mediterranean Sea to EU countries.</p>
Digitalisation of the sector	National digitalization plan	Program to strengthen the digitalization of the sector currently being implemented.
Other	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Sustainable maritime transport and ports, under the national policy for modernizing port infrastructure. - National policy for the modernization of port infrastructure. - Significant voluntary investment plan to reduce flared gas and methane emissions. 	<p>The major project of the integrated port of El Hamdania in Cherchell (Tipasa), equipped with a mega industrial complex and a large logistics zone, which will provide thousands of blue-water jobs and increase trade between the countries of the northern and southern shores of the Mediterranean.</p> <p>-Project to modernize the port of Algiers, Oran, Mostaganem, Skikda, Bejaia, Annaba and Ghazaouet.</p> <p>- In addition to the green dam, Sonatrach is launching a project aimed at planting more than 420 million trees over a period of 10 years, to create a new forest ecosystem that will naturally promote carbon accumulation.</p>

Interactions between marine litter and the blue economy

Ministerial Declaration related progress	Policies and strategies at national/regional level	Projects and initiatives at national/regional level
Prevention measures and circular approaches	National Waste Management Strategy	Waste collection and recycling project at fishing ports, via the national waste agency (AND) and support for SMEs in waste recovery and recycling
Raising awareness and addressing marine litter including microplastics	Marine waste awareness program including microplastics with the participation of fishermen and environmental associations; Integration of the waste management theme into national education training programs	Campaign to clean beaches, ports and dams (blue port operation) Raising awareness and participation of children in activities linked to the fight, upstream and downstream, against marine waste
Other	Plastic Reduction Program	Rapport de Caracterisation des Dechets Cotiers 2019-2020, l'Agence Nationale des Dechets Single-Use Plastics Reduction Initiative



Coastal and maritime tourism

Ministerial Declaration related progress	Policies and strategies at national/regional level	Projects and initiatives at national/regional level
Eco-tourism, slow tourism and reduction of carbon emissions of the industry	<p>National tourism policy and strategy</p> <p>- Algeria Tourism Quality Plan (PQTA)</p>	<p>Identification of tourist activity zones. Creation of underwater trails and environmentally friendly artificial reefs and organization of educational dives, particularly for children. Ecotourism trails project in Jijel.</p> <p>- to unite all Algerian tourism professionals around a voluntary quality approach, attentive to the needs and satisfaction of national and international customers</p>
Promotion of the digitalisation of the sector	Tourism digitalization plan	Digital Platform Initiative for Tourism in Algeria
Other	UNCLOS, ODD, MARPOL , WestMED, UfM, Convention de Barcelone, IUNC, FAO, IMO, UNSECO, UNEP	Breakdown of recommendations and resolutions

Maritime Spatial Planning and Integrated Coastal Zone Management

Ministerial Declaration related progress	Policies and strategies at national/regional level	Projects and initiatives at national/regional level
Stakeholder engagement, consultations or establishment of MSP plans	<p>Coastal development plan</p> <p>Territorial development master plan</p> <p>Coastal Development Master Plan</p> <p>Regional Land Use Planning Schemes</p> <p>Blue economy program “fishing and aquaculture Algeria”.</p> <p>(Algerian National Strategy</p> <p>Blue economy program “Algeria fishing and aquaculture”.</p> <p>National strategy for integrated management of coastal zones "GIZC"</p>	Draft law on marine/maritime spatial planning currently being developed
Other	<p>Decree ZEE, Aquaculture Activity Zones, Tourist Activity Zones, MPAs, ZPRs, Artificial Reefs</p> <p>National strategy for integrated management of coastal zones "GIZC"</p>	Project with GIZ to strengthen the capacity of local actors within the framework of PEM and integrated management of coastal zones "GIZC"

Marine Renewable Energies

Ministerial Declaration related progress	Policies and strategies at national/regional level	Projects and initiatives at national/regional level
Research and innovation on MRE technologies	National Strategy for the Development of MRE	Organization of the First international workshop of the POWER4MED project February 11 and 12, 2024 during the International Fisheries and Aquaculture Exhibition, Jointly organized by the University of Sciences and Technologies of Oran-USTO (the Laboratory of Maritime Sciences and Engineering- LSIM), SDG4MED and the EU WESTMED initiative
Specification of licensing procedures	Scientific research strategy and support for startups	Administrative simplification initiative for EMR projects
Other	Projects under preparation under the INTERREG NEXT MED 2021-2027 program	Three project proposals as follows: 1. Green ports cluster for a sustainable maritime and transport ecosystem in the Mediterranean; 2. Control and management of atmospheric emissions in the Mediterranean basin, preparation of SECA and NECA zones; 3. A coastal governance project, aiming at the development of a global initiative focused on improving the environmental sustainability of coastal areas, fishing activities and industries linked to the blue economy on the Algerian coast

Maritime safety and security of blue economy activities

Ministerial Declaration related progress	Policies and strategies at national/regional level	Projects and initiatives at national/regional level
Development of training activities National	National maritime safety training strategy	Training program for maritime professionals: safety of fishermen, maritime safety certificates, professional scuba diving, navigation certificates, in accordance with the standards for training seafarers, issuing certificates and “STCW” watchkeeping
Exchange of information, expertise, technical assistance and best practices	International Cooperation Policy for multilateral and bilateral cooperation	<p>Various partnership projects in the areas of maritime security in the Mediterranean and within the framework of surveillance and rescue programs at sea.</p> <p>Capacity building program for fisheries inspectors with the European Fisheries Control Agency “EFCA”</p>
Other	Blue economy program “fishing and aquaculture Algeria”	Strengthening the technical skills of trainers. Maritime safety training equipment for the benefit of maritime training establishments



Open questions

1 – Related to the priority on Governance and the future of sea basin strategies in the Mediterranean region: **Is there any overarching blue economy strategy in your country? Or any process initiated leading to the elaboration of such a strategy?**

Yes, our country has initiated a process of developing a national strategy for the blue economy, which includes consultations with stakeholders and the development of specific action plans for each key sector. As part of the SNEB2030 and also the Blue Economy program “Fishing and Aquaculture Algeria, this process is structured around several key stages:

- Consultations and workshops with stakeholders: We organized a series of workshops and consultations with key stakeholders, including relevant ministries, local authorities, coastal communities, the private sector, research institutes. These consultations aim to gather opinions and contributions on the priorities and challenges of the blue economy.
- Development of sectoral diagnoses: Detailed studies have been carried out to analyze the current state of the different sectors of the blue economy, such as fishing, aquaculture, environment and renewable energies, tourism, maritime transport , higher education and scientific research. These diagnostics include an assessment of resources, existing capacities, and sustainable development opportunities.
- Development of a strategic framework: Based on consultations and diagnostics, a strategic framework was developed to guide the development of the blue economy in Algeria. This framework includes short, medium and long term objectives and priority actions.



- 2 – Related to the priority on Sustainable investments in the blue economy: **is there any national funding/financing scheme related to the blue economy (or any of its sectors) promoted by your country? If yes, please specify.**
- Yes, our country has established a national financing program to support sustainable investments in the blue economy. This program includes Algerian Startup Fund which being the first investment fund entirely dedicated to startups in Algeria, it constitutes one of the essential pillars for the emergence of an ecosystem adapted to the creation and development of startups which have the capacity to bring real added value to the Algerian economy. Added to this is the Blue Economy fishing and aquaculture program which aims to operationalize the national Blue economy strategy by 2030. This cooperation program with the EU was launched in December 2021 over a period which extends over 48 months.
- **3 - What are the main challenges, issues or bottlenecks for the implementation of the SBE Ministerial Declaration in your country?**
- Accelerating the implementation of the Ministerial Declaration on the Sustainable Blue Economy (SBE) in our country could be triggered by:
 - strengthening cross-sector coordination: The blue economy involves many different sectors (fisheries, aquaculture, tourism, maritime transport, renewable energy, environment, etc.) which require close coordination between different government agencies and stakeholders. a platform to facilitate this coordination and ensure an integrated approach could be an accelerating tool.
 - budgetary strengthening: Although financing programs exist, the financial resources available are often insufficient to support all the necessary projects at the same time, particularly projects that require the acquisition of equipment.
 - Strengthening institutional and technical capacities: It is essential to strengthen the capacities of national and local institutions to plan, implement and monitor initiatives related to the blue economy. However, there is a deficit of technical skills and specific knowledge in some sectors, which slows down implementation.
 - Stakeholder awareness and engagement: Public awareness and stakeholder engagement are still insufficient. It is necessary to strengthen communication, visibility and education on the benefits and sustainable practices of the blue economy to obtain better buy-in and active participation of all parties concerned.
 - Climate and environmental changes: The impacts of climate change, such as rising sea levels, more frequent and intense storms, and acidification of seas and oceans, represent major challenges for the sustainability of maritime economic activities . It is crucial to develop adaptation and resilience strategies and put in place regional programs to face these challenges.