



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



18th UfM Regional Platform on Sustainable Blue Economy
Brussels, 15-16 October 2025

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

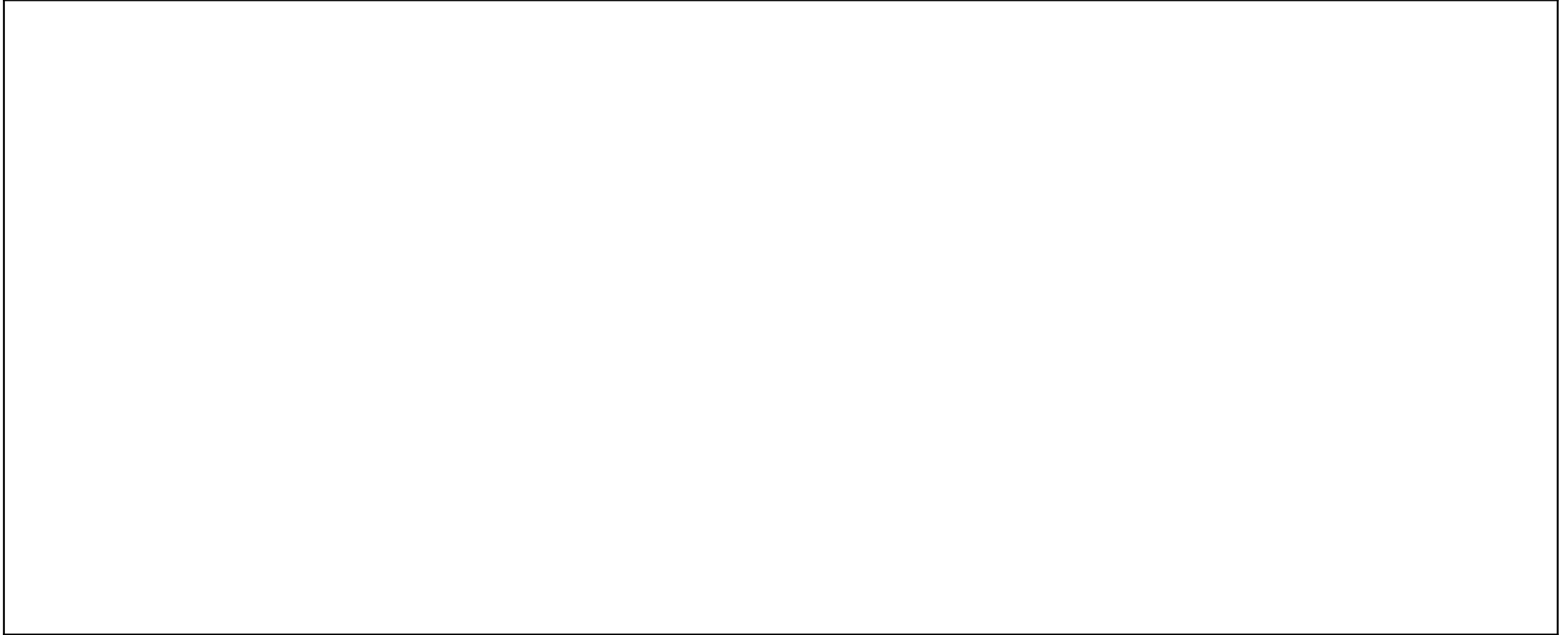
Country reporting template: aim and objectives

- This “country reporting template” has been created with the aim to collect 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 SBE) 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 analyze 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 for projects and one for initiatives, including different sections for 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 sections, a simple **table** should be completed by the countries.
- 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 07 October, end of day.**

Major updates on progress at national level on the implementation of the 2021 UfM Ministerial Declaration on SBE



Initiatives at national (and sub-national) level within the implementation of the 2021 UfM Ministerial Declaration on SBE

Ministerial Declaration Priorities	Initiatives at national/sub-national level
Food from sea: fisheries and aquaculture	Morocco enforces annual biological rest periods (fishing moratoriums), particularly on its southern coasts (Agadir to Cap Blanc), to protect fish stocks, most notably sardines , during their spawning season.
Sustainable, climate-neutral and zero-pollution transport and ports	-continuous engagement of Morocco in the Blue Ports initiative monitored by FAO. Though Morocco has not yet officially ratified Annex VI of the MARPOL Convention, which concerns the Prevention of Air Pollution from Ships (including sulfur limits), the country is engaged in activities towards the implementation of this constraining instrument(the entry into force on May 1, 2025 of a Sulphur Oxide Emission Control Area (SECA) in the Mediterranean sea.
Coastal and Maritime Tourism	The National Ports Agency (ANP) has launched studies to evaluate and improve services in high-potential segments, including pleasure boating. The objective is to optimize the quality of port services and strengthen competitiveness.
Marine Renewable Energies	Morocco has officially submitted its third Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC 3.0) to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), which sets out a path to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 53% by 2035 and commits the country to carbon neutrality by 2050.
Interactions between marine litter and the blue economy	-
Maritime safety and security of blue economy activities	-The Royal Navy continues to regularly host naval and bilateral exercises such as "FRONTIÈRE MER" as part of the 5+5 Defense Initiative or exercises with the US Navy and other partners aimed at improving interoperability and port security. - Morocco cooperates regularly with organizations such as the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), as part of the Global Maritime Crime Programme (GMCP), to strengthen maritime law enforcement (MLE) capabilities on the subject.
Marine research and innovation, skills, careers and employment	- Capitalizing on the momentum instigated by UNOC-3 , the third edition of the African Blue Summit took place in Tangier from 9 to 10 october 2025.



Projects at national (and sub-national) level within the implementation of the 2021 UfM Ministerial Declaration on SBE

Ministerial Declaration Priorities	Projects at national/sub-national level
Food from sea: fisheries and aquaculture	- Finalization of the project titled "Support for the Development of Aquaculture Professions in Morocco," which was funded by Norway and the Netherlands and executed by FAO in coordination with the Secretariat of State for Maritime Fisheries and the National Agency for the Development of Aquaculture. -The main goal of the project was to develop a skilled workforce and provide technical assistance to aquaculture. - Some of the main achievements of the project: - the establishment of two demonstration/training stations off the coast of Sidi Ifni (fish farming and shellfish farming) - a relevant training was delivered in favor of trainers - Inauguration of a new fishing port in Casablanca at a cost of 1.2 billion MDH(120 million USD), designed to improve safety, working conditions, and the marketing of seafood products.
Sustainable, climate-neutral and zero-pollution transport and ports	Inauguration of a ship repair yard in Casablanca for an approximate investment of 2.5 billion MDH (250 million USD), (to revitalize the shipbuilding and repair industry, including a 240-meter dry dock and a lifting platform.
Coastal and Maritime Tourism	Inauguration of a new cruise terminal in Casablanca with an annual capacity of 450,000 passengers, capable of accommodating cruise ships up to 350 meters long. Cost : 720 millions MDH (72 million USD).
Marine Renewable Energies	The Moroccan government preselected five investor consortia to develop six large-scale green hydrogen and derivative projects. Expected total investment: approximately MAD 319 billion (around \$32.8 billion). Scope of the projects: production of derivatives such as green ammonia, e-fuels, and green steel. Origin of investors: national and international companies from the US, Spain, Germany, UAE, China, and Saudi Arabia.
Interactions between marine litter and the blue economy	The project REMEDIES Anti-Litter Campaign: This campaign (May to August 2025 at the Saidia Demo Site)



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?**

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.**

3 - **What are the main challenges, issues or bottlenecks for the implementation of the SBE Ministerial Declaration in your country?**

