



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

Western Mediterranean Water Strategy

5+5 meeting Valencia

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PROJECTS FOR PROGRESS



The UfM Secretariat
is co-funded by the
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UfM welcomes the Algeria & Spain initiative towards a Western Mediterranean Strategy on Water



- ▶ The UfM is an “association” of 43 countries working on the principles of unanimity and variable geometry, so an initiative of 5+5=10 countries is important
- ▶ The UfM is “project-oriented” but has to identify, select and support projects of exemplary nature, which implies “frameworks for action”
- ▶ The concept note submitted to this meeting by Algeria & Spain includes several objectives which are part of the UfM objectives


UfM objectives = projects

Therefore, frameworks for action are needed

Enhance cooperation and sustainable development in the Mediterranean through the implementation of concrete projects

- ▶ **Either regional, sub regional or transnational projects**
- ▶ **Or, especially in the field of environment & water, projects under the framework of a regional or sub regional strategy or initiative**

UfM projects delivery and added value



- Support of 43 countries**

Through the UfM label, the project promoter gains the support of 43 countries, this awareness and visibility helps him to further raise support and mobilise partners.
- Facilitate access to finance**

The UfM Secretariat acts as a one stop shop through which project promoters gain access to a strong network of donors and financial institutions, from the Mediterranean region and beyond.
- Broker solution for complex regional projects**

The UfM Secretariat's mandate allows it to overcome difficulties in regional initiatives and mobilise governments and stakeholders towards a project's success.
- Make a project idea become a reality**

The Secretariat's network of Euro-Mediterranean partners as well as its in-house & external expertise help a project idea become a reality on the ground.

UfM projects | Example of a labelled project



Desalination Facility for the Gaza Strip

Promoter	National Authority of Water, Palestine
Result	> 55 Million m³/year (MCM) of drinking water <ul style="list-style-type: none">• North-South water conveyance system• Non-revenue water reduction programme
Beneficiaries	1.7 million Gaza inhabitants
Duration	2014-2017
Partners	-European Investment Bank -Islamic Development Bank -World Bank -European Commission
Budget	EUR 310 m

Various possible types of frameworks for UfM actions

- **“classical” planning approach: strategy + action plan (“top-down”)**

Example: UNEP/MAP planning processes and documents leading to the Mediterranean Strategy for Sustainable Development (approved 2006) or to regional and national depollution action plans

- **“pragmatic” approach: projects + best practices -> regional criteria and guidelines (“bottom-up”)**

Example: criteria and guidelines for the labeling of projects by the UfM in the field of water and water resources

- **“operational” approach: a cluster of planning documents (either classical or pragmatic) + project preparation facility & financial mechanisms + replication of best practices & decentralized cooperation**

Example: UfM Sustainable Urban Development Strategy ; H2020 initiative

Example of an “operational” framework for action: the UfM Sustainable Urban Strategy

UfM Euro-Med Sustainable Urban Strategy

1. A guidance framework for sustainable Euro-Mediterranean cities and territories

2. A Project Preparation Facility

3. Preliminary study for the Urban Agency for the Mediterranean

4. An award for urban innovations to identify and promote best practices



Existing regional frameworks for actions to consider towards a sub regional strategy on Water

- **Approved UN strategies for the Mediterranean region:**
 - UN Millenium Development Goals (to be revised 2015)
 - UNEP/MAP Mediterranean Strategy for Sustainable Development (2006)
 - UNEP/MAP depollution Strategic Action Plan (2003)
 - UNECE convention on transboundary water resources (1992)
 - UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (1992)
 - UNEP/MAP protocol on Integrated Coastal Zones Management (2009)
- **Approved strategies for the Arab region**
 - Strategy for Water Security (2011)
- **EU acquis**
 - Water Framework Directive (2000) + Blueprint initiative (2012)
 - Marine Strategy Framework Directive (2008)
 - Flood directive (2007)
- **UfM attempts**
 - Draft Water Strategy (2010)
 - Mediterranean process of World Water Forum (2012)
 - Draft criteria & guidelines for projects in water & water resources (2013)

Classical approach: building on the 2010 draft Mediterranean Water Strategy

Several participants would like to build on the UfM draft, provided that new ideas or themes are incorporated :

Principle of management at the level of water resource's territory (river basin or groundwater bodies) with various actors concerned involved in the same dialogue

Clear reference to UN goals (access to water and sanitation services, and - after 2015 - sustainable development goals)

Giving the same attention to pollution and water quality issues as to water scarcity and quantitative issues

Considering hydro morphological issues and ecological needs; in particular, conflicts between hydro power and other uses

Economic instruments (Tariffs / Taxes / Transfers)

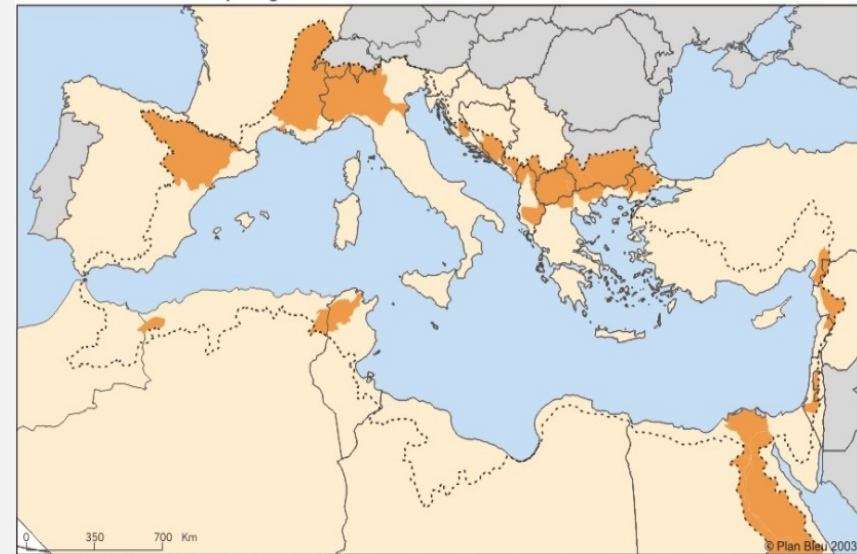
Pragmatic approach: UfM criteria and guidelines for water and water resources (draft 2013)

5 structured areas of intervention with:
Background, objectives, rationale, priority actions, location, expected benefits

- ▶ Integrated water resources management and Climate Change planning
- ▶ Quantitative water management
- ▶ Management of water quality
- ▶ Management of natural environments
- ▶ Cross-cutting actions

Trans boundary water resources as a priority areas (example of river basins – Plan Bleu)

Bassins méditerranéens partagés



Operational approach: replication of best practices already in place in some countries

The round tables showed a lot of success stories such as:

- ▶ Dialogue on Water resource's territory as mentioned by Morocco, France, Tunisia, Portugal among others
- ▶ Trans boundary water management (Algeria + Tunisia + Libya; Portugal + Spain , Mauritania etc.)
- ▶ Water demand management including ecological needs as well as hydro morphological issues (Malta, Spain, France etc.) or non conventional water resources (Morocco, Algeria, Tunisia, Spain)
- ▶ Depollution and water quality issues (Libya, Portugal, Spain ...)
- ▶ Flood prevention and adaptation to CC (France, Portugal etc.)
- ▶ Access to water & sanitation (Algeria, Mauritania, Portugal etc.)
- ▶ Economic instruments , cost recovery, social tariffs (Algeria, France, Portugal etc.)

Operational approach: project preparation facility & financial mechanisms

- ▶ **EU programs such as SWIM 2 or CBC 2 could be more focused on the preparation of projects**
- ▶ **H2020 2nd phase: a new project preparation facility is needed**
- ▶ **Increasing self-financing and sustainable maintenance through water & sanitation tariffs, economic instruments**

Possible contribution of the UfM

Through UfM Projects

- ▶ **Desalination Facility for the Gaza Strip**
- ▶ **Governance & Financing for the Mediterranean Water Sector**
- ▶ **Integrated Programme for the protection of Lake Bizerte from pollution**
- ▶ **Towards a Mediterranean Knowledge Platform on Water**
- ▶ **Managing the North Western Sahara Aquifer System in a sustainable manner**
- ▶ **Sustainable consumption and production**
- ▶ **Support to environmental NGOs; MED Water Training**

Possible contribution of the UfM

Through a working group

- ▶ **Representative among the countries members of the 5 + 5**
- ▶ **Relevant regional entities represented here: MENBO, Plan Bleu & UNEP/MAP, IME, UICN, EMWIS, ...**



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