



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

In the framework of
25 YEARS 1995 - 2020
BARCELONA
PROCESS
Union for the Mediterranean

UfM Grant Scheme for employment promotion

Regional response to the COVID-19 pandemic

Call for Proposals

With the financial support of GIZ, on behalf of
the **Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation
and Development of Germany (BMZ)**



The UfM Secretariat
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The Union for the Mediterranean

The Union for the Mediterranean (UfM) is an intergovernmental Euro-Mediterranean organization which brings together all countries of the European Union and 15 countries of the Southern and Eastern Mediterranean. Its mission is to enhance regional cooperation, dialogue and the implementation of projects and initiatives with tangible impact on our citizens, with an emphasis on young people and women, in order to address the three strategic objectives of the region: stability, human development and integration. On the field of economic development, it is engaged in the implementation of specific projects and initiatives focused on the economic development, employment opportunities and employability skills.

The economic consequences of the COVID-19 pandemic are enormous and have led to unprecedented economic shocks that are directly felt by households worldwide. According to the ILO, ca. 94 % of the worldwide labour force lives and works in countries that are affected by company closures.

The economic crisis will account for a loss of working hours equivalent to 305 million full-time employees.

In the Southern and Eastern Mediterranean, the economic consequences of the COVID-19 pandemic threaten to undo years of economic

development. With the Mediterranean citizens at risk of losing their employment and livelihood, they are forced to adapt to a new world of work and economic activity. People already more vulnerable to economic shocks and restricted mobility, such as informal workers, blue-collar workers, youth and women, are specially affected.

At the same time, the crisis can also be the starting point to develop new ways of working as well as new forms of training and education.

Goal

With the UfM Grant Scheme for employment promotion - Regional response to the COVID-19 pandemic, the UfM is actively supporting non-profit organizations in the Mediterranean that work to give people opportunities in view of the COVID-19-induced economic crisis. It focuses on projects that enable people to find jobs, continue to gain a living and improve their work and living conditions. At the same time, we seek to support projects that encourage entrepreneurship and improve the business climate for Micro-, Small and Medium-sized enterprises (MSMEs) as crucial providers of employment in the Mediterranean region.

Priorities and added value



Priority 1: Improving the economic resilience of citizens, especially vulnerable demographic groups, through employment-related capacity development.



Priority 2: Promoting new channels of training and skills attainment in order to foster employability and economic activity.



Priority 3: Supporting entrepreneurial activity and building the capacities of MSMEs to enable income generation and job creation.

Submitted projects have to address at least one of the priorities of the Call for Proposals in order to be eligible:

In addition, projects that provide for the following additional objectives will be preferred:

Innovation

Does your proposal consider state of the art methods, techniques, international best practices and leads to innovative solutions in the Southern and Eastern Mediterranean?

Complementarity

Do you take into account international, national and regional policies and other projects working in your field of action?

Impact

Can you present a medium-and long-term assumption of your project's impact, did you include milestones and indicators?

Sustainability

Are the outputs your initiative produces sustainable, institutionally and financially?

Response to crisis

Does the initiative tackle the economic consequences of the COVID-19 pandemic? How has the pandemic affected your target group and how will your idea help to alleviate their situation?

Experience

Do you have a proven track record of working in the proposed field of action, either through individual expertise and experience, previous projects, or partnerships with experienced stakeholders?

Target groups

Does your Initiative have a special focus on vulnerable target groups such as women, people living in rural areas, young people struggling to enter the labour market and people with disabilities?

Local context and Regional added value

Is your initiative strongly connected to local communities and accounts for local conditions? Does your proposal demonstrate a need for regional, Mediterranean cooperation?



Who can apply?

In order to apply for a grant, your organization has to be:

- a legal person (non-governmental organization, public sector operator, local authority)
- non-profit
- be established in the UfM Region
- be directly responsible for the preparation and management of the action, not acting as an intermediary

Enterprises and for-profit entities cannot apply under the Grant Scheme. Funds cannot be forwarded to other entities.

Grant benefits



You can apply for funds between 100.000 and 300.000 Euro.

For any grant requested under this call for proposals for an amount between EUR 100.000 and EUR 149.999: The grant can account for between 50% and 90% of the total eligible costs of the action.

For any grant requested under this call for proposals for an amount between EUR 150.000 and EUR 300.000: The grant can account for between 50% and 80% of the total eligible costs of the action.



Additionally, becoming a grantee gives you access to the UfM's technical expertise, networking opportunities and visibility.



Initiative runtime and target countries

- Your initiative has to be implemented between December 2020 - November 2021.
- Because of the limited time frame, you should be able to start the implementation immediately after receiving the grant.
- The geographical scope of each action must encompass at least one MENA country of the UfM region (Algeria, Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon, Mauritania, Morocco, Palestine and Tunisia). Priority will be given to regional actions (i.e. involving at least 3 of the UfM Member States).

All these criteria are mandatory and **need to be met for your proposal to be eligible.**



How to apply?

Dates and Process:

Indicative timetable	Date
Deadline for requesting any clarifications from the contracting authority	08/10/2020
Last date on which clarifications are issued by the contracting authority	16/10/2020, 11h
Deadline for submission of applications.....	29/10/2020, 15h
Information to lead applicants on opening, administrative checks and concept note evaluation [Step 1]	12/11/2020
Information to lead applicants on the evaluation of the full applications [Step 2]	26/11/2020
Notification of award (after the eligibility check) [Step 3]	10/12/2020
Contract signature	18/12/2020



Documents you have to submit



Annex A
Grant application form
(MS Word format)



Annex B
Budget (Excel format)



Annex C
Logical framework
Excel format)



Annex D
Legal entity
sheet



Annex E
Financial identification
form



Annex F
Registration form



Annex G
Standard Grant
Contract



Annex H
Declaration
of Honour



How do we evaluate?

In a first step, the applications will be evaluated according to their relevance and design. After this pre-selection, the proposals will be selected according to these criteria:

1. Financial and operational capacity

- 1.1 Does the applicants have sufficient in-house experience of project management?
.....
- 1.2 Do the applicants have sufficient in-house technical expertise? (especially knowledge of the issues to be addressed)
.....
- 1.3 Do the applicants have sufficient in-house management capacity? (Including staff, equipment and ability to handle the budget for the action)?
.....
- 1.4 Does the lead applicant have stable and sufficient sources of finance?
.....

2. Relevance

- 2.1 How relevant is the proposal to the objectives and priorities of the call for proposals?
.....
- 2.2 How relevant is the proposal to the particular needs and constraints of the target country(ies), region(s) and/or relevant sectors (including synergy with other development initiatives and avoidance of duplication)?
.....
- 2.3 How clearly defined and strategically chosen are the target groups?
.....
- 2.4 Does the proposal contain particular added-value elements listed above (Innovation, Complementarity, Impact, Sustainability, Response to crisis, Experience, Target groups, Local context, Regional added value)?
.....

3. Design of the action

- 3.1 How coherent is the overall design of the action?
.....
- 3.2 Does the design reflect a robust analysis of the problems involved, and the capacities of the relevant stakeholders?
.....
- 3.3 Does the design take into account external factors (risks and assumptions)?
.....

4. Implementation approach

- 4.1 Is the action plan for implementing the action clear and feasible? Is the timeline realistic?
.....
- 4.2 Does the proposal include an effective and efficient monitoring system? Is there an evaluation planned?
.....
- 4.3 Is the co-applicant(s)'s and affiliated entity(ies)'s level of involvement and participation in the action satisfactory?
.....

5. Sustainability of the action

- 5.1 Is the action likely to have a tangible impact on its target groups?
.....
- 5.2 Is the action likely to have multiplier effects, including scope for replication, extension, capitalisation on experience and knowledge sharing?
.....
- 5.3 Are the expected results of the proposed action sustainable?:
 - Financially
 - Institutionally
 - At policy level
 - Environmentally

6. Budget and cost-effectiveness of the action

- 6.1 Are the activities appropriately reflected in the budget?
.....
- 6.2 Is the ratio between the estimated costs and the results satisfactory?
.....

*Please consult the UfM webpage for
the complete document of the Call for Proposals*

www.ufmsecretariat.org/grant-scheme-2020

grants@ufmsecretariat.org

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