



Union for the Mediterranean  
Union pour la Méditerranée  
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*Call for proposals*

# UfM Grant Scheme to Promote Employment and Entrepreneurship in the Green Economy

With the financial support of **GIZ**, on behalf of the **Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development of Germany (BMZ)** and the **Agencia Española de Cooperación Internacional para el Desarrollo (AECID)**.



The UfM Secretariat is co-funded by the **EUROPEAN UNION**



## The Union for the Mediterranean

The Union for the Mediterranean (UfM) is an intergovernmental organisation bringing together 43 Euro-Mediterranean countries, providing a unique platform to advance regional exchange and cooperation. As a platform for dialogue and knowledge sharing for policymakers, business leaders and civil societies, it also focuses on supporting the creation of decent job opportunities through trade and investment.



## Why a UfM Grant Scheme to Promote Employment and Entrepreneurship in the Green Economy?

The green economy, green skills and green jobs are poised to play a key role in a sustainable recovery of the Southern Mediterranean region in the aftermath of the COVID-19 pandemic. The post-crisis reconfiguration of economies is an opportunity to make use of the lessons learned during the pandemic, in particular with a view to advancing green transition, digitalization and value chain management.

With the **Grant Scheme to Promote Employment and Entrepreneurship in the Green Economy**, the UfM is actively supporting not-for-profit organisations that work to advance the green transition of economies in the Southern Mediterranean in an inclusive and socially just way. Building on the [previous UfM Grant Scheme](#), which supported employment promotion projects in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, this Grant Scheme focuses on sustainable approaches to job creation, skill acquisition and entrepreneurship in the green economy.

## Grant Scheme objectives

This Grant Scheme's overall objective is to support the green transformation of the Southern Mediterranean economies with a view to supporting employment promotion in the green economy. This call for proposals is especially targeted to benefit vulnerable groups, which are disproportionately affected by the consequences of climate change and the related changing socio-economic landscape.



## Specific objectives and priorities

The **specific objectives** and **priorities** of this call for proposals are:

| Specific Objectives  | Priorities   |
|--|--|
| Fostering skills, especially for young people and women, in order to enhance their chances to find employment in sectors related to the green economy transition | <b>Priority 1</b> Green skills development in the Southern Mediterranean             |
| Supporting entrepreneurial activity and the capacities of MSMEs with a view to enabling income generation and job creation in green and sustainable sectors      | <b>Priority 2</b> Supporting entrepreneurial activity and MSMEs in the green economy |
| Supporting the economic empowerment of women in the green economy, for example through skills training, awareness raising or capacity building initiatives       | <b>Priority 3</b> Empowering women as drivers of the green economy                   |

In addition, projects that provide for the following elements of added value, may obtain a higher score:

### Regional added value

Proposals demonstrate an actual need for the UfM region and address common regional needs by providing tangible benefits for the identified target groups.

### Innovation

Proposals consider state of the art methods, techniques, international best practices and lead to innovative solutions and results for the concerned territories.

### Complementarity

Proposals take into account international, national and/or regional policies and other projects, as well as other programmes in the cooperation area in order to exploit potential synergies and complementarities.

### Impact

Foreseen impact of proposals in a medium- and long-term perspective (beyond project duration) is based on quantifiable result indicators.

### Sustainability

The sustainability of project outputs and results will ensure territorial impact and long-term benefits.

### Response to climate change

The project needs to be related to the challenges of climate change and their relation to the Mediterranean economies and labour markets.

### Experience

The applicant should 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 Group

Projects with a special focus on vulnerable target groups are preferred, such as women, people living in rural areas, young people struggling to enter the labour market, migrants and people with disabilities.

### Local Context

The initiative should clearly account for the local conditions it is to be implemented in.



## Grant benefits



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

Any grant requested under this call for proposals must fall under a minimum amount of 150.000€ and a maximum amount of 300.000€.

Furthermore, any grant requested under this call for proposals must represent a minimum of 50% of the total eligible costs of the action and a maximum of 80% of the total eligible costs.

The balance (i.e., the difference between the total cost of the action and the amount requested from the contracting authority) must be financed from sources other than the Union for the Mediterranean.

## Duration and implementation

The initial planned duration of an action may not be lower than 6 months nor exceed 12 months.

Only applications in which the lead applicant or at least one co-applicant are based in one of the following UfM Member States will be considered: Algeria, Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon, Mauritania, Morocco, Palestine and Tunisia.

Actions can only take place in one or multiple of the following UfM Member States: Algeria, Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon, Mauritania, Morocco, Palestine and Tunisia.

**Priority will be given to regional actions, i.e., involving at least 3 of the aforementioned countries.**

## Who can apply?

In order to apply for a grant, the lead applicant must:

- be a legal person (non-governmental organisation);
- be non-profit-making
- be established in the UfM region
- be established in one of the following countries: *Algeria, Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon, Mauritania, Morocco, Palestine and Tunisia* **or** have at least one co-applicant established in one of the above-mentioned countries

*Government agencies, local authorities, public sector operators and international organisations are not eligible under this call*

It is important to note that **enterprises cannot apply directly for funding under the Grant Scheme, nor can funds be forwarded to for-profit entities.**

## How to apply?

The deadline for the submission of applications is the **29<sup>th</sup> of May 2023 at 15:00** (Barcelona, GMT+1), as evidenced by the date and time of email reception, or the date and time of delivery receipt.

Any application submitted after the deadline will automatically be rejected.



| Timeline  | Date                        |
|---|-----------------------------|
| Deadline for requesting any clarifications from the contracting authority                             | <b>08/05/2023</b>           |
| Last date on which clarifications are issued by the contracting authority                             | <b>18/05/2023<br/>11:00</b> |
| Deadline for submission of applications   | <b>29/05/2023<br/>15:00</b> |
| Information to lead applicants on opening, administrative checks and concept note evaluation (Step 1) | <b>15/09/2023</b>           |
| Information to lead applicants on the evaluation of the full applications (Step 2)                    | <b>31/10/2023</b>           |
| Notification of award (after the eligibility check) (Step 3)  | <b>27/11/2023</b>           |
| Contract signature  | <b>20/12/2023</b>           |

Documents to be submitted *(there is no Annex F)*:

|   |  |   |
|---|--|---|
| <br><b>Annex A</b><br>Grant application form (Word format) | <br><b>Annex B</b><br>Budget (Excel format)   | <br><b>Annex C</b><br>Logical framework (Excel format)   |
| <br><b>Annex D</b><br>Legal entity sheet                   | <br><b>Annex E</b><br>Financial identification form   | <br><b>Annex G</b><br>Standard grant contract  |
| <br><b>Annex H</b><br>Declaration on Honour                | <br><b>Annex I</b><br>Daily allowance rates (per diem), available at the <b>following address</b> | <br><b>Annex J</b><br>Information on the tax regime applicable to grant contracts signed under the call. |

## 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:

|   |  |
|---|--|
| <p><b>1. Financial and operational capacity</b></p> <p><b>1.1</b> Does the applicants have sufficient in-house experience of project management?</p> <p><b>1.2</b> Do the applicants have sufficient in-house technical expertise? (especially knowledge of the issues to be addressed)</p> <p><b>1.3</b> Do the applicants have sufficient in-house management capacity? (including staff, equipment and ability to handle the budget for the action)?</p> <p><b>1.4</b> Does the lead applicant have stable and sufficient sources of finance?</p>  | <p><b>4. Implementation approach</b></p> <p><b>4.1</b> Is the action plan for implementing the action clear and feasible? Is the timeline realistic?</p> <p><b>4.2</b> Does the proposal include an effective and efficient monitoring system? Is there and evaluation planned?</p> <p><b>4.3</b> Is the co-applicant(s) and affiliated entity(ies)'s level of involvement and participation in the action satisfactory?</p>   |
| <p><b>2. Relevance</b></p> <p><b>2.1</b> How relevant is the proposal to the objectives and priorities of the call for proposals?</p> <p><b>2.2</b> 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)?</p> <p><b>2.3</b> How clearly defined and strategically chosen are the target groups?</p> <p><b>2.4</b> 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)?</p> | <p><b>5. Sustainability of the action</b></p> <p><b>5.1</b> Is the action likely to have a tangible impact on its target groups?</p> <p><b>5.2</b> Is the action likely to have multiplier effects, including scope for replication, extension, capitalisation on experience and knowledge sharing?</p> <p><b>5.3</b> Are the expected results of the proposed action sustainable?:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Financially</li> <li>• Institutionally</li> <li>• At policy level</li> <li>• Environmentally</li> </ul> |
| <p><b>3. Design of the action</b></p> <p><b>3.1</b> How coherent is the overall design of the action?</p> <p><b>3.2</b> Does the design reflect a robust analysis of the problems involved, and the capacities of the relevant stakeholders?</p> <p><b>3.3</b> Does the design take into account external factors (risks and assumptions)?</p>  | <p><b>6. Budget and cost-effectiveness of the action</b></p> <p><b>6.1</b> Are the activities appropriately reflected in the budget?</p> <p><b>6.2</b> Is the ratio between the estimated costs and the results satisfactory?</p>  |



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[www.ufmsecretariat.org/grant-scheme-2023](http://www.ufmsecretariat.org/grant-scheme-2023)

[callforproposals@ufmsecretariat.org](mailto:callforproposals@ufmsecretariat.org)

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