



**GREEN FORWARD: ENHANCING BUSINESS NETWORKS IN THE  
MEDITERRANEAN**

<b>Project Description</b>	
<i>Title of Action</i>	Green Forward: Enhancing Business Networks in the Mediterranean
<i>Geographical Scope</i>	Regional <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Middle East : Jordan, Lebanon, Palestine</li><li>• North Africa : Tunisia, Egypt, Libya, Morocco</li></ul>
<i>Key Objectives</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Strengthened local and regional networks of actors involved in the promotion of an inclusive green economy.</li><li>• Increased stakeholders' and BSOs' awareness and capacity to promote green and circular economy practices in the region.</li></ul>
<i>Budget</i>	5,000,000.00 EUR
<i>Duration</i>	36 Months
<i>Start Date</i>	01/03/2024
<i>Donor</i>	The European Union
<i>Name of the MS Implementing Agency</i>	Stichting SPARK
<i>Team Location/s</i>	Tunisia (Tunis), Jordan (Amman) and Egypt (Cairo)



## Overview

The European Union, through DG NEAR, is launching the "**Green and Circular Economy in the Southern Neighbourhood**" programme to foster the green and circular economy (GCE) in the Mediterranean. The overall objective of this action is to support the green and circular economy in the Southern Neighbourhood region focusing on three levels of intervention: macro, meso and micro levels.

SPARK Ignite has been entrusted with implementing **Component 2 (meso level) focusing on Business Support Organisations**.

This 36-month project, with a budget of €5 million, aims to advance the cause of the green and circular economy (GCE) in the Southern Neighbourhood, fostering job creation, economic opportunities, and aligning with the principles of the European Green Deal.

## Objectives

The overall objective of the proposed action is to strengthen business support organisations' capacity to act as ecosystem enablers, therefore bridging the gap between policy (macro) and SME (micro) levels in the Southern Neighbourhood in the transition to an inclusive green economy. This action is part of an overall green economy package composed of three components: policy (macro level), BSOs (meso level – this action) and SME (micro level).

In line with the specific objectives and expected outputs of planned activities described below, the action will lead to two main **outcomes**:

- 1) **Outcome 1:** strengthened local and regional networks of actors involved in the promotion of an inclusive green economy; and
- 2) **Outcome 2:** increased stakeholders' and BSOs' awareness and capacity to promote green and circular economy practices in the region, at micro, meso and macro levels.

The **Outputs** to be delivered by this action contributing to the corresponding SO are:

1. *Contributing to Specific Objective 1*
  - a. **Output 1.1:** *Enhancing the networking capacity of business support organisations on green economy transition and opportunities.*
  - b. **Output 1.2:** *Workshops to encourage peer learning and partnerships.*
  - c. **Output 1.3:** *Training programme for BSOs and innovation enablers.*
2. *Contributing to Specific Objective 2*
  - a. **Output 2.1:** *Green Business Training Academy for BSOs.*
  - b. **Output 2.2:** *Practicing toolbox with 10 SMEs per each.*
  - c. **Output 2.3:** *Awareness raising campaign.*
  - d. **Output 2.4:** *Digital eco-innovation platform.*
  - e. **Output 2.5:** *Establishing partner working groups between micro and macro ecosystem actors.*



### Context

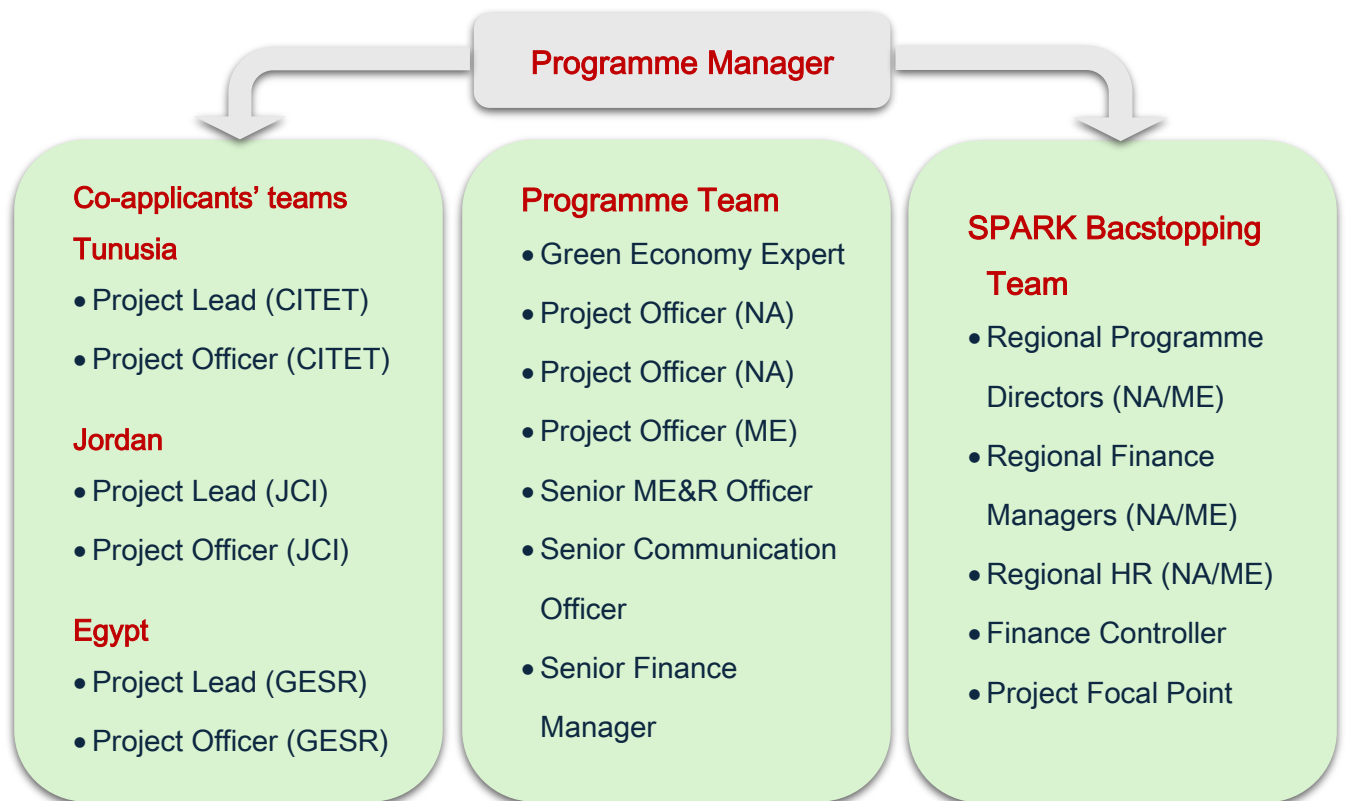
The programme aims to strengthen business support organisations to act as ecosystem enablers, bridging the gap between policy and Small and medium enterprises toward a green and inclusive economy.

The action supports innovative green business models and building collaboration between stakeholders to enable the transition to sustainability.

### Presentation of SPARK

SPARK’s mission is to create impactful jobs for youth in growth sectors, support ambitious and innovative entrepreneurs and grow businesses. SPARK is operational in ME & NA regions since 2011 and achieved +10,000 youth trained; +7,000 MSMEs supported with growth; +23,000 youth employed. SPARK has an expertise support enabling environments, strong relations with BSOs, SMEs, and the broader entrepreneurial and private sector ecosystem, facilitator for private sector development with an emphasis on inclusive economic development and, demonstrated success in reaching youth, marginalized populations, entrepreneurs, and businesses. For more information: <https://spark.ngo/>

### Project Team



### Contact

For more information, please feel free to contact us:

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