

GENERAL INFO ON THE CALL FOR CAPITALISATION PROJECT PROPOSALS

In the context of this call for proposals, capitalisation projects should capture the most promising short-term results (outputs) and long-term results outcomes (outcomes) of the projects and initiatives identified in the ToRs and aim as follows:

1. Transfer and exploitation of results

- Developing innovative approaches/methodologies which combine the knowledge, experience and results of the projects identified in the ToRs and reinforce their impact, reach and magnitude;
- Promoting the re-use and/or transfer of the knowledge and results produced by the projects, extending their impact and geographical scope.

2. Reinforcement of networks

- Building new and reinforce existing networks/clusters at national and regional level which associate the organisations coming from the different initiatives as described the ToRs in order to reinforce cross-border and cross-sector cooperation;
- Reaching and involving new target groups/type of stakeholders.

3. Strategic dissemination and awareness of policy-makers

- Making the knowledge and results generated by projects more accessible, thus turning data into knowledge;
- Raising awareness and improving communication of results with key sector stakeholders (considering different types of expertise - academic, technical, regulatory, policy, etc. - and geographic levels – including local, regional and national scale);
- Supporting policy-oriented innovations and development by fostering the mainstreaming of good practices into local, regional and national public policies.

Considering the current context marked by COVID-19 pandemic and in view of the global economic downturn, applicants are encouraged to support the development of new intervention models that can foster the socio-economic regeneration across the cooperation area.

In particular, project proposals should integrate innovative actions which focus on:

- The creation of jobs, businesses, startups, social enterprises;
- The transition to carbon-neutral economies in order to maximise the creation of green jobs, businesses and investments;
- The efficient delivery of social care services making most use of technology transfer, innovation and research in the fields of ICT;
- The support to the most vulnerable people, including youth, disabled, unemployed and elderly dependent.

Overarching Objective A: PROMOTING ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

Thematic Objective A.1: BUSINESS AND SME DEVELOPMENT

Priority A.1.1:

Support innovative start-ups and recently established enterprises, with a particular focus on young and women entrepreneurs, and facilitate the protection of their intellectual property rights and commercialisation where applicable

Priority A.1.1 focuses on innovative start-ups and recently established enterprises for their potentially strong contribution to MSMEs' competitiveness and for their capability to innovate and create new knowledge that is transmitted to other firms.

Technological, managerial and operational innovations pursued by start-ups and recently established firms that have the capabilities to engage in innovation may significantly contribute to improve the Mediterranean business ecosystem, as many MSMEs still operate in low-productivity sectors, driven more by needs and subsistence rather than from economic opportunities. Apart from firms that started-up during the new CBC-MED Programme, the Programme will also focus on those firms that have been established since the start of the Arab Spring changes (2011) but have encountered difficulties in continuing operation in the wake of further developments, new instability and an economic downturn. These businesses are important in the Mediterranean context, especially for their potential role as job creators.

Access to finance, particularly for micro and small firms, is difficult. This priority may include a variety of schemes and initiatives to support these types of enterprises. Another important aspect is related to Intellectual Property Rights (IPRs). Special attention is given to categories in the population that, based on the socio-economic context analysis, have suffered the most from the economic downturn and have difficulty in entering the work cycle: women and youth. Specifically, initiatives will target youths – preferably graduates – people in the age group 24-35. Preferential access is also to be granted to women entrepreneurs through, for instance, women-to-women support and mentorship programmes.

TABLE OF INDICATORS

<u>EXPECTED RESULTS</u>	<u>RESULT INDICATORS</u>	<u>INDICATIVE LIST OF OUTPUT</u>	<u>OUTPUT INDICATORS</u>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Innovative start-up enterprises having a cross border dimension managed by youths (graduates or equivalent between 24 and 35 years old) and/or women (all ages) sustainably grow their share in traditional and non-traditional sectors. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number of new jobs (contracts) created in knowledge intensive MSMEs for youths and women in the traditional and non-traditional economic sectors where innovative start-ups have entered. Value of sales in existing and new markets of new youth/women-led innovative start-up enterprises that are legally established, and continuously involving at least two Mediterranean countries that have a cross-border dimension. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Training, mentorship, tutorship provided to young entrepreneurs (24-35 years old) and women (all ages) through youth-to-youth and women-to-women support and mentor networks. Investment schemes with risk capital dedicated and accessible to the start-ups. Local hubs and accelerators created to train/coach and host talents in the creative sectors. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number of of trainings provided to youths (graduates 24-35 years old) and/or women (all ages). Number of entrepreneurial ideas identified in the scouting stage and supported. Volume of risk capital (of trainings provided to youths (graduates 24-35 years old) and/or women (all ages). Number of entrepreneurial ideas identified in the scouting stage and supported.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increased share of youths/women staff in managerial positions in companies recently established (since 2011) that access and develop innovative markets domestically and/or in other MED countries. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Enterprises, with youths/women staff in managerial positions, that have signed commercial contracts (domestic and for export) for the first time (Percentage out of the total number of the enterprises supported). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Specialized supporting services provided, such as in R&D services, sector specific product development services, scientific partner search etc that address especially needs of young/women staff in recently established 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number of youths and women participating in training activities and business meetings. Number of business development organisations receiving support for coaching and acceleration programmes.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number of new products and services sold on domestic and foreign markets. 	<p>enterprises.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> New products/services/tools for enterprises to foster distribution, retail and access of products to new customers. Open Data initiatives / websites or learning platforms launched/developed. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number of launched/developed and operational websites and/or operational online platforms.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increased capacity of public authorities to facilitate access to and protect Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) and commercial contracts of youths and women entrepreneurs. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number of public authority staff actively and directly involved in IPR and commercial cross-border projects. Number of products registered and protected under IPR Laws and regulations. IPR Laws and regulation reviewed and developed to reflect international best practice. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bilingual (Arabic/English) and (Arabic/French) simple guidebook for business development. IPR awareness campaigns designed and implemented. Existing “one-stop-shop” service providers specialized in support services for start-ups and recently established firms (e.g. for technology transfer and proof of concept projects) reinforced or newly established. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number of bilingual (Arabic/English) and (Arabic/French) guide books acquired by public authority staff and entrepreneurs. Number of trainings for public authorities and brokers (e.g. Technology transfer offices located at Universities) that are aimed at the development of new services (e.g. Support for Proof of concept projects)

ANALYSIS OF THE PRESENCE OF ITALIAN STAKEHOLDERS / PARTNERS WITHIN THE PROJECTS HIGHLIGHTED FOR CAPITALISATION

PROGRAMME	PROJECT TITLE	ITALIAN PARTNER	TERRITORIAL COLLOCATION	WEB REFERENCE
ENPI-2007-2013	MEDGENERATION	-----	-----	http://www.medgeneration.eu/en
ENI- CBC MED	GIMED	Fondazione di Comunità di Messina, ONLUS	SICILIA	http://www.enicbcmed.eu/projects/gimed
ENI- CBC MED	MEDSt@rts	Camera di Cooperazione Italo-Araba	LAZIO	http://www.enicbcmed.eu/projects/medstarts
		Fondazione di Sardegna	SARDEGNA	http://www.enicbcmed.eu/projects/medstarts
		Società Finanziaria Regione Sardegna - SpA	SARDEGNA	http://www.enicbcmed.eu/projects/medstarts
ENI- CBC MED	IPMED	F.I.L.S.E. SpA Finanziaria Ligure per lo Sviluppo	LIGURIA	http://www.enicbcmed.eu/projects/ipmed
UfM	Generation Entrepreneur	-----	-----	https://ufmsecretariat.org/project/entrepreneur-generation/

UfM	<p>Promoting women empowerment for inclusive and sustainable industrial development in the MENA region</p>	-----	-----	<p>https://ufmsecretariat.org/project/promoting-women-empowerment-for-inclusive-and-sustainable-industrial-development-in-the-mena-region/</p>
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