



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

UfM Community of Practice on Monitoring

Employment and Labour



ufmsecretariat.org



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The Union for the Mediterranean

The **Union for the Mediterranean** (UfM) is an intergovernmental Euro-Mediterranean organisation that brings together all the countries of the European Union and 16 of the Southern and Eastern Mediterranean, in total **43 UfM Member States**. It serves as the operational institution that empowers regional dialogue among the UfM Member States and stakeholders, fostering synergies and coordination among them and promoting regional projects and initiatives with a direct impact on the lives of the citizens.



The Union for the Mediterranean Monitoring exercise

The **request for a framework for national monitoring** was made by the **Ministers of the UfM Member States during the 4th UfM Ministerial meeting on Employment and Labour, in 2019**. Two years later, after presenting the results of a pilot exercise launched in 2020, Ministers reiterated their commitment to the monitoring exercise in the **Marrakech Ministerial Declaration of May 2022**, in the context of the 5th Ministerial Meeting on Employment and Labour.

To date, **12 UfM Member States** are volunteering in the monitoring exercise: Algeria, Belgium (as from July 2024), France, Greece, Malta, Montenegro, Morocco, Palestine, Portugal, Spain, Tunisia, and Türkiye. A cross-country report on this monitoring exercise will be presented at the next UfM Ministerial on Employment and Labour to be held in 2025.

As a participatory process, all steps have been discussed and agreed upon by volunteering and non-volunteering countries, including the approach, the process, the monitoring framework, the indicators and the reporting tools and format.

An **online tracking tool** is being developed, to store and visualise collected information and trends both thematically (Declaration priorities or pillars) and geographically (by UfM Member States). The process is coordinated and led by a Task Force, whose members are the UfM Secretariat, the European Commission (Directorate General for Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion, DG EMPL) and the European Training Foundation (ETF).



Why being part of the monitoring exercise

The objective of this process is to foster a culture of monitoring and evidence-based policymaking to improve the efficiency of policy design and implementation. This process follows a policy learning approach, fostering sharing and peer learning. More concretely, the participation in the monitoring process is meant to:

- **Foster exchange**, peer learning as well as networking and co-operation among UfM Member States stakeholders and international organisations (within North-South and South-South cooperation);
- **Identify and gather reliable disaggregated data and statistics** while using relevant indicators and encouraging their harmonisation and sharing;
- **Contribute to improving national capacities for monitoring policies related to the labour market** and monitoring the impact on the labour market of other policies and cooperation initiatives, in areas such as industrial cooperation, trade and investment, blue economy, the transition to a low-carbon and circular economy, migration, education, and gender equality;
- **Identify financing sources** to support the dissemination of best practices and the effective integration of impact monitoring in actions directed towards employment and the labour market, including from the private sector or from public/private partnerships;
- **Incentivise UfM Member States to share their national monitoring reports** on a regular and voluntary basis on the main national trends in the field of employment and labour with the UfM Secretariat. This could be an opportunity to identify innovative and strategic operational programmes and initiatives that will contribute to countries' efforts and promote opportunities for the UfM Secretariat, European Commission, and the relevant EU agencies, particularly the ETF, to provide relevant expertise to this work and facilitate exchange of experiences, best practices, lessons learned and innovative approaches at the national and international levels.

