



**Forum: Metrology – Trade Facilitator
Offer of support by:**



European Union – EuropeAid

European Union Funding Opportunities in the Mediterranean Region

What can be offered:

The European Union and its Member States have long been financing and co-financing numerous activities in the Mediterranean region. The activities financed through EU channels are either directly funded from the EU budget or the European Investment Bank's (EIB) own resources allocated by the EU Member States. A large part of the activities financed by the EU budget is managed by the European Commission's EuropeAid Co-operation Office. Other Directorate-Generals of the European Commission also provide some funding opportunities. In this respect, the funding opportunities in this information note are organised as follows:

EU activities financed from the EU budget and managed by EuropeAid – The MEDA Programme

The establishment of the Euro-Mediterranean Partnership between the EU Member States and 12 Mediterranean Partners⁽¹⁾ in 1995 provided a comprehensive and cohesive framework of co-operation for the activities supported by the European Union in the Mediterranean. The MEDA programme (budget line 19080201), as the main financial instrument of the Euro-Mediterranean Partnership, supports a set of measures and objectives set by the Barcelona Process aiming at supporting economic transition, developing a better socio-economic balance, and fostering regional integration for free trade by the year 2010 through a multi-sectoral approach. The MEDA programme, currently in its second programming period (2000-2006) with a budget of € 5 350 million, consists of bilateral co-operation and regional co-operation instruments.

A large part of the resources are channelled through bilateral funding to the eligible Partners: Algeria, Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon, Morocco, Syria, Tunisia and the Palestinian Authority. The rest of the resources are devoted to regional activities.

⁽¹⁾ Algeria, Cyprus, Egypt, Israel, Jordan, Lebanon, Malta, Morocco, Palestinian Authority, Syria, Tunisia, and Turkey.

What are the prerequisites and conditions:

Who might benefit from the MEDA projects?

Beneficiaries may include States and regions as well as local authorities, public agencies, local or traditional communities, organisations supporting business, private operators, co-operatives, mutual societies, universities, associations, foundations and non-governmental organisations.

How to benefit from the MEDA programme?

The European Commission, in collaboration with the Mediterranean Partners, defines the priorities for each country in the Country Strategy Papers and in the National and Regional Indicative Programmes. For the region as a whole, a Regional Strategy Paper and a Regional Indicative Programme is also established. In accordance with the priority areas, the list of projects financed each year is included in the yearly National Financing Plan for each Partner and the Regional Financing Plan.

These projects are then announced regularly and throughout the year on the European Commission's EuropeAid Co-operation Office's website. The criteria for participating in each call for tender or call for proposals are included in the relevant documentation, also available from EuropeAid's website. After the announcement, the projects are managed by the European Commission Delegations in the Mediterranean countries.

Whom to address:

Where to obtain additional information on this and other projects?

➤ **EuropeAid Co-operation in the Middle East and the Southern Mediterranean Region:**

http://europa.eu.int/comm/europeaid/projects/med/index_en.htm

➤ **Information on the EU's Middle East and Mediterranean Policy:**

http://www.europa.eu.int/comm/external_relations/med_mideast/intro/index.htm

➤ **Information on the MEDA Programme:**

http://europa.eu.int/comm/external_relations/euromed/MEDA.htm

This programme is mainly co-ordinated by the EuropeAid Co-operation Office, Directorate B Southern Mediterranean and the Middle East, Unit B1 Co-ordination for the Mediterranean Region. E-mail: europeaid-info@cec.eu.int