

UNECE



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

# Meeting on equitable access to water and sanitation in

**PAN- EUROPEAN Region**

**Almotaz Abadi**

Managing Director  
Water and  
Environment  
Union for the  
Mediterranean



Budapest 13-14  
September

*PROJECTS FOR PROGRESS*



## 1. BACKGROUND

- UfM Ministerial Meeting on Water, 27 April 2017: agreement on a new UfM Water Agenda
- Aim: enhance regional cooperation towards sustainable and integrated water management in the UfM region
- Medium/long term WEG Work Programme and biannual work plans
- UfM Water Agenda accompanied by a financial strategy
  - designed to support its implementation and prepared by UfM members
  - in consultation with financial actors and the private sector as well as relevant stakeholders



## 2. WHY THE FINANCIAL STRATEGY?

- Significant and growing financing needs of water sector
- To catalyse engagement by all partners (Countries, donors and international financing institutions, international organisations...) in creating enhanced conditions for water investments
- To harmonize and mobilize additional funding
- To contribute to the implementation of the UfM Water agenda



- Ensure ownership of all actors, by focusing on:
  - - Identifying the key countries development cooperation programs, other financial partners and the available financing instruments
  - Being more responsive to regional needs + ensure their linkages with the existing instruments

→ Ensure ownership of all actors, by focusing on:

- Capitalizing on the existing elements
- How to analyse the Volumes of Official Development Finance towards the Water Sector in the EURO-MED Region + highlighting the estimated required amounts for implementation
- Estimating the financing requirements for sustainability, relating to: existing infrastructure, investing in water security, climate change, water resource management...



### **3. OBJECTIVE OF THE FINANCIAL STRATEGY**

- Address water needs across the UfM countries
- More conducive environment for development of cooperation and investment
- Facilitate synergy between countries and with financial actors
- Mobilization of partners for enhanced and new engagements on water and climate change-related investment
- promoting novel funding instruments, tools and synergies



#### **4. CONTENTS OF THE FINANCIAL STRATEGY**

- Reflecting the priority thematic areas of the Ministerial Declaration
- Should outline, operationally how to:
  - Increase engagement of financial partners
  - Enhance coordination of regional financing instruments
  - Promote water in regional financing instruments not directly related to water
  - Enhance regional-to-national coordination
  - Promote novel financing approaches, including towards private sector
  - Assist enabling water prioritization in national budgets (through sharing of experiences)
  - Facilitate increasing capacities of the water-related country authorities at all levels
  - Improve attractiveness of water sector investments by national authorities
  - Reach out to and mobilize traditional and new financial partners



## 5. ELEMENTS FOR DEVELOPING THE FINANCIAL STRATEGY

- Establishing a Task Force comprised of financial partners and UfM countries that wish to contribute
- The Task Force should be mandated by the WEG  
→ to be able to interact with regional and global institutions, stakeholders and other partners specialized think tanks
- Task force could also seek the support by consultants  
→ to elaborate financial strategy and perform mappings in cooperation with the International Financing Institutions and Development cooperation agencies



## 6. SUGGESTED NEXT STEPS (1)

- Form a Task Force to draft Financial Strategy
- Prepare draft Terms of Reference of the Financial Strategy and brief Mapping of financial partners and current and emerging financing instruments
- Organize meeting of the first Task Force to launch and approve the skeleton of the financial strategy
- Complete Terms of Reference of the Financial Strategy + recruit external expert(s) + launch work
- Deliver the brief mapping of financial partners and current and emerging financing instruments
- Organize meeting of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Task Force to review the final draft of the mapping and the first draft of the Financial Strategy



## 6. SUGGESTED NEXT STEPS (2)

- Further elaborate the draft of Financial Strategy
- Organize Workshop of the financial partners and UfM countries (back-to-back with WEG Meeting)
- Discuss draft of the Financial Strategy at WEG Meeting
- Inform and receive guidance by the UfM SOM
- Deliver final draft of the Financial Strategy
- Agree on the Financial Strategy as part of the WEG Work Programme at WEG Meeting