



Main features of strategic projects

A project can be considered as strategic when:

- it gathers the key actors of the relevant topic;
- it is consistent with the main strategies at local, national and transnational level;
- it leads to leverage effects and ensures sustainability of the achievements;
- it produces tangible effects that can be objectively measured and verified;
- it encourages the implementation of pilot actions;
- it promotes innovation, competitiveness and sharing of know-how and technologies.

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Any questions on the call for strategic projects?
Check the "Questions and Answers" section on the Programme website

Strategic topics

The Mediterranean area faces today common challenges that need joint solutions. Within the framework of the various initiatives implemented under the European Neighbourhood Policy, the Mediterranean Sea Basin Programme promotes cooperation as a contribution to economic, social, environmental and cultural development at cross-border level.

Following the strong interest drawn by the first call for standard projects - 600 proposals received - the Programme is now launching a call for strategic projects.

Based on the main features of the Mediterranean area, the call focuses on **6 topics** within Programme Priority 1 and 2.

Priority 1. Promotion of socio-economic development and enhancement of territories, including:

- **Agro-food industry**
- **Sustainable tourism**
- **Integrated coastal zone management**

Priority 2. Promotion of environmental sustainability at the basin level, featuring:

- **Water management**
- **Waste treatment and recycling**
- **Solar energy**



STRATEGIC PROJECTS

Cooperating for the Mediterranean



Rules for participation

Before submitting a proposal, interested actors are invited to consider the following rules:

- Applicants and partners must be located in the eligible regions of the 14 participating countries.
- Project duration shall be comprised between 24 and 36 months.
- An organisation can participate once as Applicant or twice as partner within the same topic.
- The same organisation cannot concentrate more than 30% of the project total budget.
- An Applicant may not be awarded more than 2 grants under this call.

The administrative and technical evaluation criteria can be consulted in the "Guidelines for Applicants".



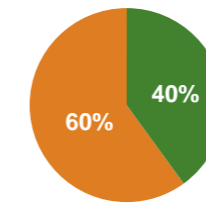
Budget

Resources available for this call are € 62,4 million. Project total eligible costs shall be comprised between € 2 and € 5 million.

Grants finance up to 90% of the total eligible costs while the remaining balance (at least 10%) has to be provided as co-financing at project level.

For encouraging a real co-ownership of the Programme, at least 50% of the project budget shall be dedicated to activities implemented in Mediterranean Partner Countries.

- 1 Priority 1: € 37.440.000 (60%)
- 2 Priority 2: € 24.960.000 (40%)



Building a partnership

The cross-border dimension of the projects is the specific feature of the Mediterranean Sea Basin Programme, representing a key driver for its effectiveness.

For strategic projects, partnerships shall represent a minimum of four countries and shall include at least one EU Mediterranean Country and one Mediterranean Partner Country.

Larger partnerships involving more participating countries are encouraged.

Looking for partners or ideas?

Check the "project ideas" on the Programme website

Presenting a project

The procedure to apply for a grant consists of two stages:

1. Submission of a Concept note.
2. Presentation of a Full application form (**only for preselected Concept notes**).

It is important to note that the following elements cannot be modified from the Concept note to the Full application form:

- The chosen specific objective
- The expected results
- The composition of the partnership



Selection criteria

Stage 1

Concept notes will be assessed according to the following criteria:

- Relevance
- Design

Stage 2

Full application forms will be evaluated according to the following criteria:

- Financial and operational capacity of the partnership
- Effectiveness and feasibility
- Sustainability
- Budget and cost-effectiveness