



# UPFI

Urban  
Projects  
Finance  
Initiative

**Imagine the southern Mediterranean tomorrow... 245 million people** living in urban areas – it's a huge challenge for this region of the world.



The Union for the Mediterranean, the European Union, the French Development Agency and the European Investment Bank have joined forces to build a successful transition towards sustainable Mediterranean cities.

The Urban Projects Finance Initiative (UPFI) supports public project promoters in the southern and eastern Mediterranean, helping them to prepare and finance ambitious and innovative urban development projects, which aim to create jobs, reduce poverty and upgrade the urban fabric.

## UPFI in figures

On 30/05/2018

**245**   
million urban dwellers  
in the region by 2025

**9**   
beneficiary  
countries

**AROUND 30**   
projects identified

**9**   
project undergoing  
feasibility  
studies

**4**   
projects financed by UPFI  
donor partners and  
beneficiary states

**2 billion**   
in potential global  
investment

**7**   
international  
institutions  
involved

## The UfM label

The UfM label is attributed by the unanimous endorsement of the Senior Officials representatives of the 43 UfM countries, to the UPFI projects with the highest potential, giving through their political endorsement greater visibility to the projects as well as recognition at regional level.



The southern Mediterranean region is going through a real **'urban demographic explosion'**: by 2025, almost 245 million people will be living in urban areas. In order **to respond to the growing needs of these populations**, urban development must follow an integrated and multi-sectoral approach, ensuring a balanced population distribution, with efficient infrastructure and facilities. This is a major challenge for the region, requiring not only strengthened capacities in project management and the mobilisation of supplementary expertise, but also significant financial support.

The UPFI initiative **assists sustainable and integrated urban development projects** selected in the countries of the southern Mediterranean by providing the necessary technical assistance and financial solutions, permitting projects to pool existing synergies between the funding provided by European donors. The UPFI grew out of a partnership initiated and placed under the aegis of the Union for the Mediterranean (UfM) since 2011, when urban development was included among the UfM's priority areas for intervention. The UfM called on the French Development Agency (AFD) and the European Investment Bank (EIB) to pilot the UPFI initiative, funded by the European Union. **Nine countries are currently beneficiaries of the UPFI: Algeria, Egypt, Israel, Jordan, Lebanon, Morocco, Palestine, Tunisia and Turkey.**

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The UPFI is an innovative tool coordinating the actions of financial institutions by pooling complementary technical and financial tools in order to achieve a common objective: to set a benchmark for sustainable cities in the Mediterranean.

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The UPFI unfolds in three stages:

**1 – Identification of projects**

according to integrated urban development criteria (level of integrated approach, economic, social and environmental impact, degree of innovation, potential for replicability in the Mediterranean region, etc.).

**2 – Preparation of the projects**

identified, through feasibility studies and capacity building for project promoters.

**3 – Financing and monitoring of projects**

by international financial institutions, mainly the EIB, AFD, EBRD and KfW.

**A first identification phase** conducted by the AFD and the EIB led to the pre-selection of some fifteen projects, either concerned with major urban projects for the (re)development of urban areas (run-down neighbourhoods, large areas and seafronts), or focused on sectors with a strong economic or social impact, or even national territorial development programmes. Around 15 new projects meeting the identification criteria have

recently been identified, some of which will receive UPFI technical support.

In 2018, **thirteen projects** are benefitting or have benefited from the **second phase of project preparation**. Since 2014, specific technical assistance services have been launched using UPFI funds in order to analyse the feasibility of these projects by mobilising local and international expertise. This second phase should allow the selected projects to reach the final phase of financing and implementation. On this basis, four projects to date have been financed by UPFI donor partners and/or beneficiary states in Palestine, Tunisia and Egypt, thanks to technical support from the UPFI.

# OUR PROJECTS

These projects have benefited or are benefiting from UPFI support to complete technical, institutional and financial feasibility studies and assist local project promoters in preparing planned investments or to prefigure projects.

## LOCALIZATION OF OUR PROJECTS



Note:

Not all the projects identified are marked on this map.

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### AGADIR

MOROCCO

Project for the creation of a Bus Rapid Transit system in Agadir

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### AQABA

JORDAN

Urban development project in Aqaba

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### HISTORIC CENTRES

TUNISIA

Intervention programme in old cities and urban fabrics in Tunisia

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### OUED MARTIL

MOROCCO

Oued Martil Valley Development Project in Tetouan

**p.7**

## **ALEXANDRIA**

EGYPT

Project for the rehabilitation of Alexandria's old cotton district and its surrounding area (Minat Al Bassal and Kafr Ashry)

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## **COLLABORATIVE URBAN WORKSHOPS**

ALGERIA

Collaborative workshops in Algiers and identification of urban projects

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## **BOUREGREG**

MOROCCO



Development of the Bouregreg Valley in Rabat (zone 3)

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## **GIZA NORTH**

EGYPT



Urban development project in Northern Giza in Cairo (popular district of Kawmeya - Imbaba and Al Warrak)

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## **JERICOH**

PALESTINE



Multi-site urban regeneration project in Jericho

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## **MUNICIPALITIES**

LEBANON

Multi-city urban development programme

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## **MUNICIPALITIES**

JORDAN

National multi-city regional and local development plan (phase 2)

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## **PRIQH 2**

TUNISIA

Programme for the Rehabilitation and Integration of Residential Areas

**p.18**

## **SFAX**

TUNISIA



Taparura seafront development project in Sfax

# PROJECT FOR THE CREATION OF A BUS RAPID TRANSIT SYSTEM IN GREATER AGADIR



## THE PROJECT

**Agadir is modernising its public transport system to strengthen its economic and tourism attractiveness**

Greater Agadir, which is responsible for urban mobility for nine municipalities, is upgrading its public transport network. This modernisation rests on the creation of a Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) line, which will be efficient and environmentally friendly, and the creation of a Local Development Corporation responsible for the management of urban mobility.

This 15-km BRT line, running from the port of Agadir to Tikiouine, will amongst others connect the souk and the universities. Transit hubs will be created along this first BRT line to be built in Morocco in order to regenerate nearby public spaces.

With the creation of a Local Development Corporation for urban mobility, the strategic planning of mobility and the inter-municipal nature of the initiative, the Agadir BRT is a truly innovative project.

**15 km**

OF EFFICIENT AND ENVIRONMENTALLY FRIENDLY BUS LINE

**60,000**

BENEFICIARIES PER DAY

**9 MUNICIPALITIES**

**1 MILLION INHABITANTS, BROUGHT TOGETHER TO CARRY THE PROJECT**

## DETAILS

### Project progress



© IBF for AFD

### GREATER AGADIR

With one million inhabitants, Greater Agadir is the main coastal resort of Morocco, with a flourishing economy and tourism. Created in 2015, the inter-communal establishment of the Greater Agadir Urban Cluster brings together nine municipalities: Agadir, Inezgane, Dcheira, Ait Melloul, Lqiaaa, Dragua, Tamsia, Taghazout and Aourir.



### Project promoter

Greater Agadir Urban Cluster

# PROJECT FOR THE REHABILITATION OF ALEXANDRIA'S COTTON DISTRICT AND ITS SURROUNDING AREA



## THE PROJECT

### A new life for brownfield sites from 19<sup>th</sup> century Alexandria

Minat Al Bassal, the old 19th century industrial cotton district, is a unique site of modern Egyptian heritage, whose rehabilitation would provide an opportunity for local economic redevelopment. This restoration of industrial heritage would also stimulate the rehabilitation of the neighbouring district of Kafr Ashry, located in the central part of Alexandria.

This project, promoted by the Governorate of Alexandria, aims to develop synergies and complementarities between the two neighbourhoods, and consists in restoring the industrial warehouses of Minat al Bassal through an adaptive urban reuse, to improve public spaces and the area around the Mahmoudieh canal, to carry out small public works with high labour intensity for public spaces and facades in Kafr Ashry and to improve its accessibility. This project will promote industrial culture and heritage to the citizens of Alexandria, and will also develop a new urban hub, creating opportunities and jobs for its inhabitants.

2

NEIGHBOURHOODS  
RESTORED

8

URBAN  
HERITAGE  
BUILDINGS  
COVERED

SOME 20

EGYPTIAN AND  
INTERNATIONAL  
STAKEHOLDERS  
INVOLVED

## ALEXANDRIA

Alexandria is Egypt's biggest port and the country's second largest city. With 4.5 million inhabitants and a total area of 300 km<sup>2</sup>, population density is high, especially in Minat Al Bassal and Kafr Ashry, in the central part of Alexandria.



## DETAILS

### Project progress



© INTA for AFD

### Project promoter

Governorate of Alexandria

Cotton Holding

Egyptian banks

# COLLABORATIVE WORKSHOPS IN ALGIERS AND IDENTIFICATION OF URBAN PROJECTS



## THE PROJET

**Leading a collective reflection on urban issues, favouring the exchange of experience and identifying new projects**

In December 2017, the UPFI Steering Committee, the Algerian Ministry of Housing and Urban Development, the Ministry of Transport and their respective operators validated the organisation of two collaborative workshops on the rehabilitation of old urban fabrics and on heritage enhancement of old urban railway infrastructures in Algeria. These workshops will lead to a technical follow-up on these themes with the Algerian beneficiary ministries, to identify new related projects that can benefit from technical preparation and financing under the UPFI.

The workshops aim to strengthen cooperation and technical dialogues between Algerian authorities, and operators, and their European counterparts around these urban issues, and may contribute to the design of concrete investment projects (exchange hubs, neighbourhoods under renovation).

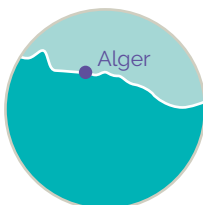
The 1<sup>st</sup> workshop on the development of railway brownfield sites and the creation of multimodal exchange centres was held in Algiers in April 2018, and brought together teams from the Ministry of Transport and its operators the EMA (*Entreprise du Métro d'Alger* – Algiers Metro Company) and SNTF (*Société Nationale des Transports Ferroviaires* – National Rail Transport Company), European experts and representatives of the AFD. The 2<sup>nd</sup> workshop dedicated to the renewal of existing urban fabrics will take place in the second half of 2018.

**2 COLLABORATIVE WORKSHOPS BASED ON DIALOGUE AND CO-CONSTRUCTION**

**4 PILOT SITES IDENTIFIED IN ALGIERS TO NOURISH THE COLLABORATIVE REFLECTION OF THE WORKSHOPS**

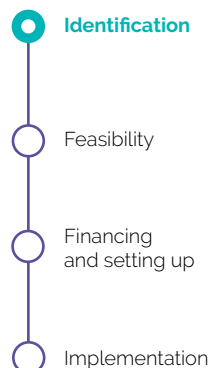
## GREATER ALGIERS AND ALGERIAN TOWN PLANNING POLICY

The Greater Algiers Strategic Development Plan (2015–2035) and the government policy on housing, town planning and the city (2015–2019) devote an important place to issues of renovation, renewal and upgrading of major urban sectors, themes which the two UPFI workshops address.



## DETAILS

### Project progress



© ID&S for AFD

### Project Promoter

Algerian Ministry of Public Works and Transport, and its operators (EMA, SNTF); Algerian Ministry of Housing and Urban Development



# URBAN DEVELOPMENT PROJECT IN AQABA



©INTA for AFD

## THE PROJECT

### Modernisation and rehabilitation of Aqaba through integrated urban development

The city of Aqaba is launching an urban development programme to revitalise several neighbourhoods by developing their public spaces while improving public transport and waste management.

This development programme, led by the Aqaba Special Economic Zone Authority (ASEZA), focuses on the rehabilitation and revitalisation of Aqaba city centre and the strengthening of links between the different parts of the city: the city centre, its souk, the old town, the fishing harbour, residential areas, the hotel sectors and the cruise terminal.

The aim of this UPFI project is to ensure a balanced urban expansion and structured development planning in order to establish a coherent framework that can absorb the city's future economic and population growth. This urban upgrade strategy will ultimately enhance the touristic and economic appeal of Aqaba and improve quality of life for its residents.

**120,000**

INHABITANTS IN 2010

**280,000**

POTENTIAL PROJECT BENEFICIARIES

THE PROJECT COVERS 375 KM<sup>2</sup> OF THE AQABA STRATEGIC ZONE

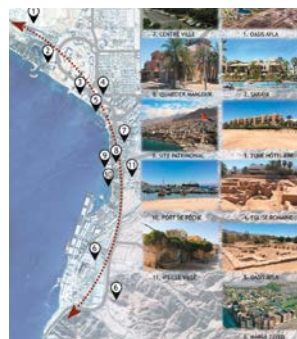
## AQABA

The main gateway to international trade and a major industrial centre of Jordan, Aqaba is also one of the top tourist destinations in the country thanks to its location on the banks of the Red Sea and its proximity to Petra and Wadi Rum.



## DETAILS

### Project progress



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### Project promoter

Aqaba Special Economic Zone Authority (ASEZA)

# PROJECT FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE BOUREGREG VALLEY IN RABAT (ZONE 3)



© AAVB

## THE PROJECT

### Integrated and sustainable development of the Bouregreg Valley

Since 2006, the Bouregreg Valley Development Agency (AAVB) has been working for the development of the Bouregreg Valley in order to provide, within the Rabat-Salé-Témara metropolitan area, a new space for living, working and recreation. Based on an integrated urban development model, this creation of an eco-city rests on four principles: protecting the environment of the valley, promoting a social and civic approach, preserving and rehabilitating heritage, and improving the living environment of the population.

The UPFI is supporting the AAVB in the development of zone 3 of this project, which is broken up into 6 zones. When it is completed, zone 3 – which covers the largest surface area – will see the construction of mixed-use facilities (residential buildings, offices, retail spaces, public areas, hospital, university, etc.). The project will also see the restoration of the Chellah, a Marinid necropolis designated as a UNESCO world heritage site and the development of peri-urban agriculture. The project's vision of creating a benchmark eco-city in Morocco earned zone 3 the UfM label, which was given in May 2015.

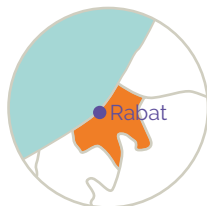
**6,000**  
HECTARES OF  
ECO-CITY

**6** ZONES  
DEVELOPED

**3,200,000 M<sup>2</sup>**  
OF BUILT AREA  
OVER ZONE 3 OF  
THE PROJECT

### RABAT-SALÉ-TÉMARA METROPOLITAN AREA

With 2 million inhabitants, Rabat-Salé-Témara is the second most important urban area in Morocco, both in size and economic importance, as well as the political centre of Morocco, home to Rabat, the capital of the Kingdom. The metropolitan area is divided by the Valley of the Bouregreg River.



## DETAILS

### Project progress



© AAVB

### Project promoter

Bouregreg Valley  
Development Agency (AAVB)

# URBAN DEVELOPMENT PROJECT IN NORTHERN GIZA IN CAIRO

(KAWMEYA – IMBABA AND AL WARRAK)



© Pierre-Arnaud BARTHÉLÉMY

## THE PROJECT

### Kawmeya, a model of sustainable urban redevelopment in a poor neighbourhood

Since the 1990s, the Governorate of Giza has launched an integrated urban redevelopment project for the 950,000 inhabitants of the neighbourhoods of Imbaba and Al Warrak. Following the transformation of the old Imbaba airport site into a mixed-use urban zone, plans are now underway for the development of the Kawmeya sector. This urban redevelopment project will provide new basic public facilities, job and revenue-creating activities and public spaces. Two public service centres will thus be created in Kawmeya and neighbouring zones will be developed through restoration of buildings, improved roads and upgrading of essential services (water, energy, sanitation, etc.). The project is also exploring the feasibility of a development plan for the urban zone to the west of the ring road, which has been strongly impacted by the expansion of irregular settlements.

This project for the development of a precarious neighbourhood received the UfM label in 2014. The Kawmeya project has been included in the national budget of the Egyptian government.

**70**

HECTARES OF  
THE KAWMEYA  
DISTRICT  
REDEVELOPED

**50,000**

BENEFICIARIES OF  
THE PROJECT IN  
KAWMEYA

**250,000**

POTENTIAL USERS OF  
THE NEW KAWMEYA  
PUBLIC SERVICES  
AND FACILITIES

### GIZA NORTH SECTOR

Giza North is mainly made up of the neighbourhoods of Imbaba and Al Warrak; in 2006 it concentrated nearly 878,000 inhabitants over 1,319 hectares. This undeveloped urban area, the most densely inhabited in Egypt, suffers from increased urbanisation.



## DETAILS

### Project progress



© ARTELIA for AFD

### Project promoter

Governorate of Giza  
Egyptian Ministry of  
Housing, Utilities and  
Urban Development

# INTERVENTION PROGRAMME IN OLD CITIES AND URBAN FABRICS IN TUNISIA



## THE PROJECT

**Supporting the Tunisian authorities in the design and implementation of a rehabilitation programme for historic centres, a form of popular neighbourhood with a strong cultural and socio-economic potential**

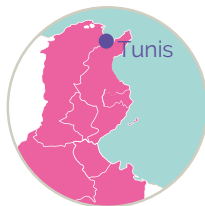
The AFD and EIB have integrated the regeneration of historic centres into their strategy for supporting sustainable cities in the Mediterranean. The EIB published a prospective study, 'Medinas 2030: Scenarios and Strategies' (2010). The AFD supported 4 pilot projects for the rehabilitation of touristic routes in the medinas of Tunis, Sousse, Sfax and Kairouan, delivered in 2016–2017. Capitalising on these past experiences, the UPFI supports the design of a rehabilitation programme for historic centres in 2018. This programme would make it possible to build an intervention framework specific to the regeneration of the Tunisian *old city* and to favour the adaptation of these urban areas to the economic, social and cultural evolution of the country. In the long term, the rehabilitation of these historic centres will improve the living conditions of residents, functionally reintegrate the old city into its urban area, safeguard and enhance urban and cultural heritage, boost the economy, tourism, job creation and income generation, and allow the return of the public and private sectors to these urban areas. The UPFI partners are moving forward in the design of this programme and the definition of technical support needs that could be provided in 2018.

A **MULTI-COMPONENT PROGRAMME** TO IMPROVE ACCESS TO **INFRASTRUCTURE AND SERVICES** AND **UNLEASH THE SOCIO-ECONOMIC AND CULTURAL POTENTIAL** OF HISTORIC CENTRES.

SOME **30 HISTORIC CENTRES** ACROSS TUNISIA.

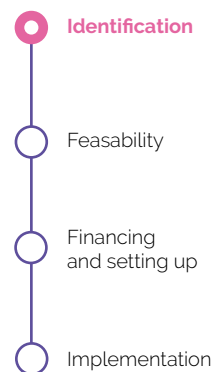
## TUNISIAN HISTORIC CENTRES

There are various types of historic centre, as the medina and the historic European neighbourhoods of the 18th, 19th and 20th centuries for instance. They are a type of popular neighbourhood marked by urban and socio-economic exclusion and degradation of heritage buildings.



## DETAILS

### Project progress



### Project promoter

Tunisian Ministry of Equipment, Housing, Territorial Development and Sustainable Development

# MULTI-SITE URBAN REGENERATION PROJECT IN JERICO



©UPFI/PMU for AFD

## THE PROJECT

### Jericho: an urban regeneration project with many benefits for its inhabitants and its economy

In order to boost economic development, the UPFI is working with the Jericho Municipality to restore strategic installations connected to agricultural activities and tourism, the drivers of the local economy.

The relocation of facilities with a high urban nuisance factor into less residential zones will allow the development of municipal land in the city centre in order to expand public spaces open to all.

- A new abattoir meeting health and environmental international standards
- A new municipal garage
- Enlarging the Spanish Gardens; new green spaces open to all

This UPFI project was given the UfM label in June 2016 by the UfM and its 43 member states.

Works contracts are being assigned. The main infrastructure will be delivered by the end of 2019. The component of strengthening capacities of the sector's players will be conducted in parallel.

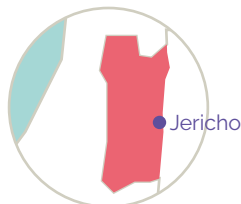
**3**  
REHABILITATED  
SITES

**50,000**  
BENEFICIARY  
INHABITANTS

IMPROVEMENT  
OF **MUNICIPAL  
FACILITIES**  
AND CREATION OF  
**PUBLIC SPACES**

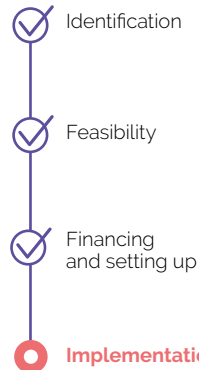
## JERICO

The city of Jericho is the main hub of the region located on the west bank of the River Jordan in Palestine, and plays a vital role in the economic development of the Jericho Governorate. The city faces a number of urban challenges due to the fact that it is the only city of the governorate.



## DETAILS

### Project progress



© INTA for AFD

### Project promoter

Jericho Municipality

# MULTI-CITY URBAN DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME



## THE PROJECT

### Strengthening the resilience of Lebanese cities and promoting integrated urban development

The Syrian crisis has had a major impact on the management capacities of Lebanese cities, exerting considerable pressure on services and infrastructure. The influx of refugees, coupled with a history of spiralling and scarcely controlled urbanisation, magnifies the urban problems faced by municipalities and affects access to basic urban services for both migrants and Lebanese host populations. To meet the needs of the ever-increasing urban population, the Lebanese authorities are stepping up their intervention in favour of integrated urban development that can also act as a lever for local socio-economic development.

The UPFI supports the CDR in the design and implementation of an urban development programme. This programme will include beneficiary cities of different sizes and several projects addressing various urban issues: integrated urban regeneration; controlled urban expansion and housing; urban planning, tourism and coastal protection; urban services and respect for the environment; and many more.

**90%**  
OF THE  
LEBANESE  
POPULATION  
LIVE IN  
URBAN AREAS

**+1.5 MILLION**  
REFUGEES HAVE  
ARRIVED IN  
LEBANON SINCE  
THE BEGINNING OF  
THE SYRIAN CRISIS

A MULTI-CITY  
URBAN DEVELOPMENT  
PROGRAMME  
WORTH AROUND  
**€100 MILLION**  
IN THE COURSE OF  
DEVELOPMENT

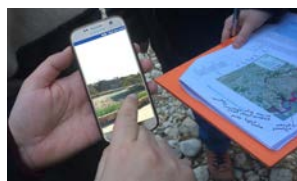
## URBANISATION IN LEBANON

Lebanon has experienced rapid urbanisation, with minimal oversight from the authorities. There are many urban challenges: overcrowding, sprawl, informal habitats, vulnerability of heritage, lack of infrastructure and services. All this at time when urban development is crucial to meeting the economic and social needs of Lebanon.



## DETAILS

### Project progress



© Pierre-Arnaud BARTHEL, AFD

### Project promoter

Council for  
Development and  
Reconstruction (CDR)



# NATIONAL MULTI-CITY REGIONAL AND LOCAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME (PHASE 2)



## THE PROJECT

### Strengthening the technical and financial resources of Jordanian municipalities

With proper organisation, municipalities are the best level to identify and meet the needs of local people. Following an initial programme, the Jordanian Ministry of Municipal Affairs and its partners in the UPFI initiative want to launch a second Regional and Local Development Programme (RLDP) to build up capacities and investments in Jordanian municipalities.

Composed of a programme of investments identified for each beneficiary municipality and a support-advice component, RLDP 2 will support Jordanian local authorities in setting up, implementing and managing their urban development projects.

The ultimate goal is to help municipalities to provide their populations with a better urban framework and a more efficient, higher quality service in the operational implementation of urban projects, while strengthening the territorial balance of the country.

A « SECONDARY CITIES » PROGRAM TARGETING

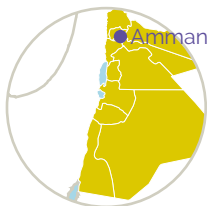
**8 INTERMEDIARY CITIES** OF JORDAN

**QUALITY OF LIFE** IMPROVED FOR THE POPULATION OF THE CITIES

**SUPPORTING** LOCAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

### LOCAL AUTHORITIES IN JORDAN

Local authorities in Jordan need to be strengthened, as their remit has a vital role to play in people's quality of life, through waste collection, urban planning, management of public spaces, public facilities, etc. Local authorities also play a key role in local economic development.



## DETAILS

### Project progress



© IBF for AFD

### Project promoter

Jordanian Ministry of Municipal Affairs

# OUED MARTIL VALLEY DEVELOPMENT PROJECT IN TETOUAN



## THE PROJECT

### Development of the Oued Martil valley: Integrated urban development and resilience to natural disasters

Since 2014, the Kingdom of Morocco, the wilaya of Tangier-Tetouan-Al Hoceima and the communes of Tetouan and Martil have been working together on the development of the Oued Martil valley. This vast integrated and sustainable urban project aims to reconcile the inhabitants of the plain and the once flood-prone wadi, which is of major ecological value, in order to develop the valley into an urban centre that meets the needs of the population of Greater Tetouan (development of new urban areas, renovation of existing neighbourhoods, improvement of mobility), and to attract private investment and thus promote local economic development. In order to meet these objectives, the valley will be divided into 11 urban sectors structured into hubs: residential, economic, cultural, commercial, ecological and touristic hubs. As the start of this ambitious project, work to clean up pollution of the Oued Martil valley and protect it against flooding began in 2015.

Given the urban and environmental potential of this project, the UPFI is supporting central and local authorities in Morocco, as well as STAVOM, in the operational and financial set-up of the project.

1600

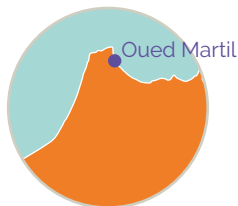
HECTARES WITH  
DEVELOPMENT POTENTIAL.

11

URBAN SECTORS  
SPREAD OVER 18.5 KM  
OF OUED MARTIL.

## OUED MARTIL VALLEY

The Oued Martil valley is located in the Tangier-Tetouan-Al Hoceima wilaya at the north-westernmost point of Morocco. The development project is located on the territory of the city of Tetouan and the communes of Martil and Azlaa. The Tetouan agglomeration, which is crossed by the wadi, has a population of about 380,000.



## DETAILS

### Project progress



© STAVOM

### Project Promoter

STAVOM (*Société d'Aménagement de la Vallée de Oued Martil* – Oued Martil Valley Development Company)



# PROGRAMME FOR THE REHABILITATION AND INTEGRATION OF RESIDENTIAL AREAS



©ARRU

## THE PROJECT

### Meeting the needs of Tunisian informal settlements in infrastructure, services and facilities

'Popular' neighbourhoods have developed spontaneously in the urban periphery in Tunisia. Suffering from a lack of access to basic services and facilities, these neighbourhoods are an illustration of the strong social and territorial inequalities in Tunisia. The Tunisian State has decided to strengthen its activities to improve these working-class neighbourhoods and prevent the formation of informal settlements. The UPFI's partners are working alongside the Tunisian authorities and the ARRU, supporting the Second Programme for the Rehabilitation and Integration of Residential Areas (PRIQH 2).

Building on the achievements of PRIQH 1 and with a view to integrated urban development, the objective is to intervene in basic infrastructure and to strengthen access to social and community facilities (for cultural, sporting and youth activities) in the beneficiary districts, as well as support the establishment of industrial facilities, driving local socio-economic development. The interventions under PRIQH 2 will be based on an approach that respects the environmental and social contexts of the neighbourhoods. Project donor financing has been released by AFD, EIB and EU for the implementation of PRIQH 2. Funding also covers a component for the rehabilitation of historic centres.

**2/3**

OF THE  
TUNISIAN  
POPULATION  
LIVING IN  
URBAN AREAS

ALMOST

**€250** MILLION

IN TUNISIAN AND  
EUROPEAN FUNDING  
FOR PRIQH 1

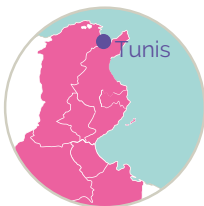
MORE THAN

**270**

POPULAR  
NEIGHBOURHOODS  
TARGETED BY  
PRIQH 1 AND 2

### URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND INFORMAL HOUSING IN TUNISIA

Tunisia has experienced rapid urbanisation over the past thirty years. This phenomenon has led to the creation of poor neighbourhoods, mostly on the outskirts of towns. These informal settlements face problems of access to basic services and facilities.



## DETAILS

### Project progress



©ARRU

### Project promoter

The Tunisian Urban Rehabilitation and Renewal Agency (ARRU)

# PROJECT FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE TAPARURA SEAFRONT IN SFAX



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## THE PROJECT

### Creating a new mixed-use urban neighbourhood and reconnecting Sfax to its coastline

Sfax has launched a planning project for a new neighbourhood based on the principle of sustainable development. Taparura, 'rising from the waters of the Mediterranean', is an ambitious integrated urban development project that aims to make the port city of Sfax more attractive.

The aim of this development project is to create a mixed-use neighbourhood that is integrated within the existing urban fabric, taking advantage of the coastal nature of the site. One of the major challenges of this project is also structuring of the planning agency, the SEACNVS, which will pilot the implementation of this major urban project.

The major potential of this urban project has been recognised by the Union for the Mediterranean and its 43 member states, which gave it the UfM label in December 2014.

420

HECTARES OF SUSTAINABLE  
URBAN DEVELOPMENT  
RECLAIMED FROM THE SEA

50,000  
to 70,000

POTENTIAL NEW  
RESIDENTS FOR THE  
TAPARURA SITE

### SFAX

Located in the east of Tunisia near the Gulf of Gabès, and with more than 500,000 inhabitants, Greater Sfax is the country's second largest city and the second economic hub, thanks to the export of agricultural produce such as olive oil and fish.



## DETAILS

### Project progress



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### Project promoter

Company for the Study and Planning of the North Coasts of the City of Sfax (SEACNVS)

## PARTNER INSTITUTIONS



Rapid and growing urbanisation raises issues of territorial equity, access to jobs and social justice, which the countries of the Southern and Eastern Mediterranean need to face. The AFD, which has a long experience in the area of urban development, and has at its disposal a variety of means of intervention, is the co-founder and manager of the UPFI European initiative. The UPFI is an innovative initiative, which aims to facilitate the emergence and the funding of urban projects that can contribute, across the region, to the reduction of social and economic inequalities and to making territories more attractive".

**M. Rémy RIOUX,**  
**Director General of the AFD**



Fostering regional cooperation in the field of sustainable urban development is paramount to effectively advance regional integration, stability and human development. The Urban Projects Finance Initiative represents a clear opportunity to actively promote a regional and collaborative approach for the urban development of the Mediterranean and for the creation of job opportunities especially for our youth, which is the main asset for the future of our region".

**M. Fathallah SIJILMASSI,**  
**Secretary General of the UfM**



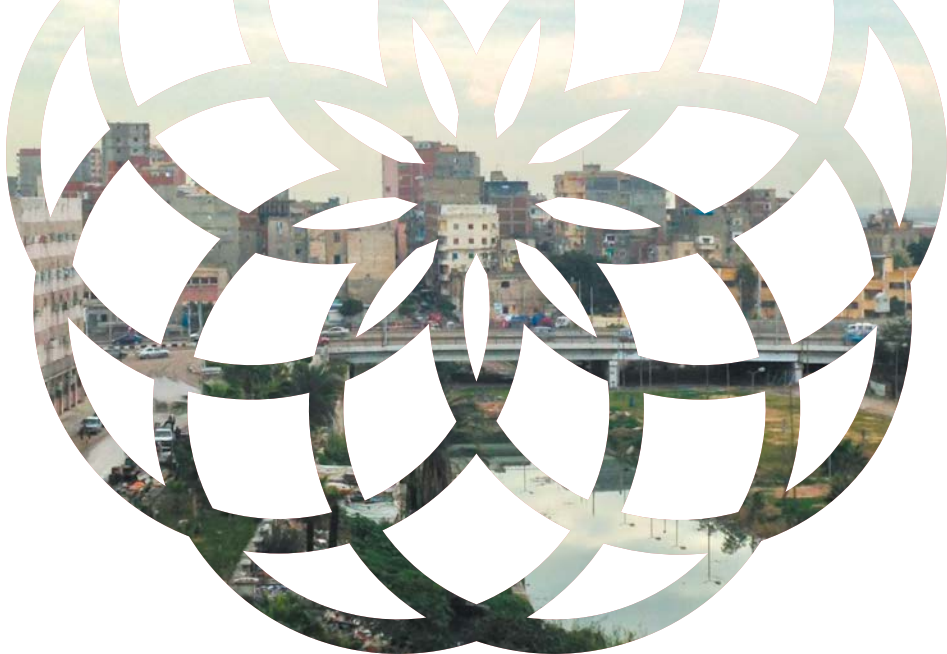
Financing of integrated urban development is a key priority for the EIB, and we play an important role in delivering the EU Urban Agenda through our lending, grant-loan blending and advisory work. As a co-founder of the UPFI, we see this initiative as a way to prepare innovative high quality urban projects which bring tangible environmental, economic and social benefits to citizens of the Mediterranean region, leading to sustainable communities. Working with our partners, especially the European Commission, the Union for the Mediterranean and the Agence Française de Développement, we can ensure close coordination bringing both technical expert support, the UfM label of quality, and long-term financing".

**M. Jan VAPAAVUORI,**  
**Vice-president of the EIB**



The cities of the future will be different from the ones we live in today. That is why planners will have to take decisions now to shape the way cities will look like. UPFI serves this purpose by assisting them in selecting strategic projects that will help make cities more sustainable".

**M. Christian DANIELSSON,**  
**Director General, Directorate-General for Neighbourhood and Enlargement Negotiations (DG NEAR)**



Find more on all our projects at  
[www.upfi-med.com](http://www.upfi-med.com)



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