

BEYOND
PLASTIC
MED

OPEN CALL FOR MICRO-INITIATIVES

Reducing plastic pollution in the Mediterranean Sea

Apply before January 6th, 2025 - www.beyondplasticmed.org

BeMed

A COMMITMENT FOR A PLASTIC-FREE MEDITERRANEAN SEA

Call for micro-initiatives (AMI)

GUIDELINES 2024

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1 PRESENTATION OF THE CALL FOR MICRO-INITIATIVES (CMI)

Beyond Plastic Med was launched in Monaco on 10th March 2015 during the international conference "Plastic in the Mediterranean: beyond observation, what are the solutions?". During the conference, the speakers endeavoured to go beyond mere observations concerning marine plastic pollution in order to identify real solutions and the courses of action to limit it.

To address the challenge of a Mediterranean with no plastic, the Prince Albert II of Monaco Foundation joined forces with the Tara Ocean Foundation, Surfrider Foundation Europe, IUCN and the Mava Foundation to give life to the *Beyond Plastic Med* (BeMed) initiative that became a Monegasque association in 2019.

The aim of BeMed is to support innovative socially responsible solutions for a healthy Mediterranean, in cooperation with the public and private sectors, NGOs and the scientific community.

Creating local impetus to address a regional issue is one of the key focus areas of Beyond Plastic Med. To reach this first goal, BeMed is launching its eighth call for micro-initiatives (CMI) aimed at all Mediterranean countries on the 4th of October 2023.

Initiatives given support will be selected for their exemplarity.

This call participates to the development of a network of local Mediterranean stakeholders who will work in the field to combat plastic pollution by adapting to local socio-economic conditions.

2 OBJECTIVES OF THE CALL FOR MICRO-INITIATIVES (CMI)

Through support to micro-initiatives implemented by local stakeholders committed to combating plastic pollution, BeMed aims to achieve the following goals:

- Changings in social behaviour with regard to the unsustainable use of plastics,
- Reinforcement of capacities of local stakeholders and of their actions' impact,
- To disseminate good practices, on the reduction of the use of plastic, the implementation of alternative products, and plastic waste management,
- To progressively establish a Mediterranean network of local stakeholders committed to combating plastic pollution.

3 ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

3.1 Eligible countries

- The CMI concerns every country in the Mediterranean region.
- However please note that funding will be allocated as a priority to the following countries: Albania, Algeria, Egypt, Lebanon, Morocco, Montenegro, Tunisia, Turkey.

Applicants are invited to inform BeMed in the event of administrative obstacles and/or financial obstacles in their country that would prevent them to apply to this call.

3.2 Eligible applicant organisations

Applicant organisations need to meet the following criteria:

- Organizations that have already been supported twice by previous BeMed Calls for micro-initiatives cannot be supported again.
- Organizations that have an ongoing project supported by BeMed are not eligibles.
- An organisation may submit only one application to this call.
- To develop activities mainly focused on awareness, nature protection, environmental lobbying, societal change, research, and innovation.
- To belong to one of the following categories: NGO, association, territorial authority, municipality, companies under 20 employees, scientific institution.
- To have a legal status enabling them to receive grants.
- To have their head office registered in the country benefitting from the grant.
- Applications from institutions that have not received financial support from BeMed will be given priority.

3.3 Eligible topics

Actions presented should comply with one or several of the topics listed in the table below. Any action not connected to one of the following topics will not be eligible.

ELIGIBLE TOPICS
Reduce, reuse and find alternatives to plastics Eliminate single use, give second life to plastic and develop alternatives to limit the production and/or use of plastic
Spread the word Raising awareness of both the public and institutions concerning the sources and consequences of plastic pollution
Recommendations and new regulations Support for the implementation of regulations concerning plastic
Experimentation and data collection Data collection and studies concerning the source of plastics and their impacts Socio-economic studies on plastic dependency
Assemble allies and mobilize Activities generating synergy between the various stakeholders (including private sector) involved in plastic in order to facilitate the implementation of concrete solutions to combat plastic pollution
Improved systems to collect and process plastic wastes

4 TYPES OF INTERVENTION SOUGHT

The replication or adaptation of success stories in other regions or countries are encouraged.

For your information, BeMed has developed a turnkey method to guide the hotel sector in their efforts to reduce single-use plastics : [available on the website](#). If this method is relevant in your project, do not hesitate to use it and/or contact us.

Initiatives should include as many concrete activities as possible.

Studies (socio-economic, scientific...) may be considered but should be limited in time. They should lead to concrete action in the field, as early as the period of support from BeMed commences.

Initiatives should demonstrate the added value they provide.

Projects that have not been selected in previous editions of the CMI and whose applications have not been adjusted to take account of the evaluators' comments will not be eligible.

5 FUNDING MECHANISMS FOR INITIATIVES

Each initiative should have an overall budget of **30,000 Euros maximum**.

BeMed's contribution:

- shall not exceed **70%** of the overall cost of the initiative, and
- shall not exceed **10,000 Euros**.

Additional support over and above the financial contribution of BeMed is therefore mandatory. This may take the form of self-financing by the project management or co-financing by local or international financial partners.

All amounts are expressed including all taxes.

The duration of the initiative is to be between **12 and 18 months maximum**. In all cases, initiatives should concern activities implemented as from the **1st of June 2024** and should be completed by the **30th of November 2025** at the latest.

It is important to note that the process of preparing and signing the financial agreement may take several months after the selection of the project. It is therefore recommended to plan the budget necessary to start the project without BeMed support or to plan the project start date accordingly.

6 SELECTION PROCEDURE

The selection process is organised in four phases:

	Phase 1: Eligibility	Phase 2: Pre-Selection	Phase 3: Final selection	Phase 4: Validation
Who?	BeMed Team.	BeMed and its network of experts if necessary.	Selection committee appointed by BeMed.	BeMed and funders.
What?	First appraisal of applications based on eligibility criteria. If the application file of an initiative is incomplete, it will be eliminated.	Appraisal of eligible applications based on a scoring grid. Project managers may be asked to provide additional details. Preselected initiatives may be submitted for the opinion of a network of experts.	Final selection of the initiatives based on BeMed's scoring grid and the opinion of the selection committee.	Validation of the list of selected initiatives.
Results	Sorting of initiatives in accordance with eligibility criteria.	All initiatives are scored and those with the best scores are preselected.	Final selection of initiatives.	Confirmation of selection.

During the entire duration of the selection process, applicants may be invited to provide further information.

Responses informing of the results of the call for micro-initiatives are not to be expected before the **mid-March 2025**.

Scoring system

Applications will be selected using a criteria grid which will result in an overall score out of 85 points being given to the initiative.

Initiatives will be scored based on the five following criteria:

1. Project content (25 points):

Are the project and its objectives relevant to reducing plastic pollution in the Mediterranean? Are the stakeholders targeted by the project actions impactful in reducing plastic pollution? Are the proposed actions coherent and effective in relation to the country context? What is the ambition and the impact of the project ? Does the activities carried out present a negative impact transfer risk ?

2. Internal coherence of the initiative (35 points):

Are the proposed organisation and methodology effective in achieving the objectives? Is the project well-constructed (coherent actions) and are the risks well identified? Are the potential partners are correctly identified ?

Are the resources (human, material and financial) implemented to deploy the methodology sufficient? Is the timetable consistent with the proposed actions?

Is the applicant organisation legitimate to carry out the project, are the teams experienced?

3. Potential for sustainability (15 points):

Does the impact of the project go beyond the end of the project? Will the actions continue after the BeMed funding?

4. Network added value (10 points):

Does the project promote dialogue within the laureates' network? Is the replication of activities particularly interesting at the Mediterranean basin level?

7 IMPLEMENTATION OF MICRO-INITIATIVES

BeMed is responsible for monitoring the micro-initiatives.

Beneficiaries will sign a Financing Agreement with the BeMed association.

BeMed may cancel the Financing Agreement for an initiative if the project activities do not begin in a timely manner (3 months maximum) following the signature of the agreement. The project manager will then be required to refund the entirety of the first instalment paid by BeMed which may choose to allocate the grant to another initiative.

All initiatives will systematically be subject to an interim assessment and a final assessment. BeMed will provide a template for technical and financial interim and final reports and will directly monitor the progress made for each initiative. When an assessment or visit of the sites concerned by the initiative is made by BeMed, the beneficiary agrees to make available to BeMed or the person appointed by the latter, all documentation and information allowing the assessment to be carried out successfully.

All expenses must be justified. Financial receipt will be asked in interim and final reports and the beneficiary guarantees its conservation for 10 years length.

The grant for each initiative will be paid in 2 instalments: 70% of the funding on the signing of the Agreement and the balance of 30% once the final completion report has been submitted to and approved by BeMed. Changes to this schedule shall be at the discretion of BeMed.

8 PROCEDURE FOR THE SUBMISSION OF INITIATIVES

The application file for a grant can be downloaded from the BeMed website at the following address :

<https://www.beyondplasticmed.org/en/call-to-micro-initiatives/>

It consists of two components available in English and in French:

- A Word format file: "Application form BeMed 2024"
- An Excel format file: "Application BeMed_Provisional Budget"

Only grant application files completed in French or in English and in strict accordance with the templates will be considered.

All the appendices listed in the "BeMed application file" should be provided.

The file should be sent by electronic mail to the following address:
ami@beyondplasticmed.org

Grant application files sent in a paper version or outside the stipulated period to the members of BeMed will not be examined.

Call for micro initiatives timeframe :

Opening of the submission of applications: 7th of October 2024

Any questions concerning the application file to be sent before 20th of December 2024

to ami@beyondplasticmed.org

Closing date for applications : **6th of January 2025 – 11PM (CET)**