

### **About**

INVESTMED is a project funded by the EU through the ENI CBC Med programme, designed to address both the economic and environmental challenges facing Micro, Small and Medium-sized Enterprises (MSMEs) in the Mediterranean.

The project aims to support MSMEs in improving their competitiveness, sustainability, internationalisation, and capacity to innovate, in order to create sustainable growth and economic development.

INVESTMED will support new, sustainable business opportunities for young people and women in three countries: Egypt, Lebanon and Tunisia, focusing on three key sectors:

#### Green economy

where the economic activities, infrastructures and assets of the sector enable the reduction of carbon emissions and pollution, improve energy and resource efficiency, and avoid the loss of biodiversity and ecosystem services.

#### Blue economy

related to oceans, seas, lakes, rivers and coasts to promote economic growth, social inclusion and the preservation or improvement of livelihoods, while avoiding environmental and ecosystem degradation.

#### Creative and cultural industries

enterprises engaged in the production or reproduction, promotion, distribution or marketing of goods, services and activities with content derived from cultural, artistic or heritage origins.

As part of achieving these goals, INVESTMED is awarding grants to Business Support Organisations (BSOs) in each of the three countries, to fund the development, launch and implementation of an incubation and acceleration programme to enable selected entrepreneurs to take a step further towards realising their business goals.



## What is involved?

If you receive an INVESTMED sub-grant, you will be expected to:

- 1. Participate in the jury of a pitch competition to select innovative and sustainable entrepreneurship initiatives to receive an MSME sub-grant.
- 2. Incubate selected MSMEs , projects and ventures by providing coaching and mentoring services which:
- a. Are tailored to the needs of MSMEs, start-ups and recently established enterprises operating in the blue economy, green economy, and/or cultural and creative industries.
- b. Prioritise the development of young people (24-35 years old) and women (all ages)
- c. Are sustainable and can be implemented throughout and beyond the duration of the project
- 3. Organise local business events that enhance collaboration between entrepreneurs and key players (investors, business angels, decision-makers etc.)

Selected BSOs will implement an incubation and acceleration programme to support at least 12 MSMEs and ventures including:

- startups or recently created enterprises
- MSMEs seeking to develop new products and services
- MSMEs seeking to internationalise their business
- MSMEs within the cultural and creative sector

# Why apply?

The support your BSO provides to these MSMEs and business ventures will help them to:

- Launch and develop business initiatives

- Grow market share and sign new commercial contracts

- Enter cross-border markets

- Launch new products and services



### **Sub-grants**

The INVESTMED project provides you with a maximum of €35,000 per BSO to carry out your incubation and acceleration programme for the entrepreneurial initiatives that you will help to select.

The sub-grant will take the form of a reimbursement of costs.

### **Eligibility**

In order to receive funding from INVESTMED, you must:

- Be a legal entity, non-profit making
- Be legally established at least 2 years prior to the application and with a proven track record in providing business coaching/incubation/acceleration services
- Act as a sole applicant and be directly responsible for the preparation and management of the action not acting as an intermediary.
- Be based in one of the following countries: Egypt, Lebanon and Tunisia. Important note:
  - In the case of Egypt, only applicants based in Marsa Matruh, Al-Iskandanyah, Al Buhayrah, Kafr ash Shaykh, Ad Daqahliyah, Dumyat, Ash Sharquiyah, Al Isma'iliyah and Bur Sa'id are eligible.
  - In the case of Tunisia, only applicants based in Medenine, Gabes, Sfax, Mahdia, Monastir, Sousse, Nabeul, Ben Arous, Tunis, Ariana, Bizerte, Beja, Jandouba are eligible.
- Include a co-financing of 10% of the cost of the action in your budget proposal.



## How To Apply

To download an application form and guidelines, visit

https://euromed-economists.org/investmed/investmed-call-sub-grants-bso

Please send completed application forms and supporting documents to:

#### investmed@iemed.org

The deadline for receiving applications is 23 December 2021.

Only applications in English or French will be accepted.



## **Timeline**

Deadline for requesting any clarifications from the Sub-grant Management Coordinator	10 December 2021	18:00 CET
Last date on which clarifications are issued by the project Lead Beneficiary / partner	17 December 2021	18:00 CET
Deadline for submission of applications	23 December 2021	18:00 CET
Information to applicants on the evaluation	23 February 2022	
Local Pitch Competition	March 2022	

## INVESTMED **Partners**





















INVESTMED has a duration of 30 months, with a total budget of €3.8 million, of which €3.4 million (90%) is funded by ENI CBC MED.

INVESTMED sub-granting is coordinated by the European Institute of the Mediterranean (IEMed) (ES), in cooperation with INVESTMED partners.