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APPENDIX A
Eleven years after its founding and on the 25th anniversary of the Barcelona Declaration, the founding document of a project of cooperation between the European Union and the 12 countries on the southern shore of the Mediterranean, the mission of the Center for Mediterranean Integration (CMI), which consists of convening development agencies, governments, local authorities, and civil society to exchange ideas, discuss public policies, and identify regional solutions for the key challenges in the region, is more relevant than ever. From trade to human capital mobility, including migration, and resilience to climate change, Mediterranean integration includes several dimensions that are critical for the well-being of Mediterranean populations.

CMI’s method of operation, based on partnerships for knowledge and knowledge for policy action, is part of a regional initiative that works toward the implementation of Sustainable Development Goal 17, about partnerships.

CMI has established itself as a cornerstone of multilateral efforts to promote Mediterranean integration.

• It gathers central governments, international financial institutions, local authorities, and civil society organizations in the form of memberships and partnerships that are constantly expanded in search of new horizons and different perspectives.

• It has developed technical leadership on several critical challenges for the region, such as local economic development in municipalities hosting refugees, promotion of a Euro-Mediterranean energy market, and trade
integration to promote growth and rapid responses to crisis, with youth always at the heart of the agenda.

- It has established numerous networks of practitioners such as the Mediterranean Youth Network for Water (MedYWat), the University Governance Screening Card, and the Mediterranean Youth Forum on Climate Change (MedYCA).
- It has helped increase the capacities of municipalities and regional governments by working directly with stakeholders at subnational levels and promoting collaboration across territories.
- Recently, it was designated to host a digital platform and associated fiduciary fund in support of Mediterranean investment projects emanating from civil society in the context of the Dialogue of the Two Shores process.

Based on the growing involvement of its members and partners in its activities and the concrete results it has achieved, CMI has reached a degree of maturity that will enable it to expand its activities. It needs more independence to operate while remaining anchored in a secure multilateral structure. We are excited to help launch the next phase of CMI’s development with a transition to greater independence that will allow it to assume its new and expanding functions and responsibilities.

Since its foundation in 2009, CMI has been an integral part of the World Bank and is formally a department of the Middle East and North Africa Vice Presidency. Although CMI’s affiliation with the World Bank has been instrumental for its growth in its early stages, it must be allowed to perform more independently and expand its business, in accordance with its new responsibilities.

I would like to thank CMI’s members and partners for the continuous support and contributions they have provided over the years and encourage them to continue doing so. I am particularly grateful to the Oversight Committee for having selected Morocco to assume the role of Chair for the 2021 to 2024 cycle.

As a founding member and original chair of CMI, the World Bank is keen to continue enhancing the role of CMI in the region and plans to renew its technical and financial commitment beyond 2021. We look forward to staying engaged with CMI’s team and new Chair in the phase that we are about to launch.
This year, we celebrate the 25th anniversary of the launch of the Barcelona Process and our region’s journey toward a shared vision of a peaceful, secure, prosperous Mediterranean. Few organizations embody this vision as well as CMI, which has fostered a vibrant ecosystem of governments, nongovernmental organizations, and researchers, all dedicated to surmounting the transnational challenges that confront our communities. I would like to extend my sincere congratulations and thanks to the CMI team and its leadership for another year of outstanding achievement, especially in promoting socioeconomic development and resilience in the face of destabilizing change. CMI’s ability to advance these objectives amidst the unprecedented economic and public health emergencies that the COVID-19 pandemic has caused exemplifies the cooperation we can and must pursue to emerge stronger from this crisis.

France is convinced that pursuing a positive, action-oriented agenda of Mediterranean cooperation will lead to better outcomes for the whole region, which is why we welcome CMI’s high-quality programming and the value it creates by forging connections and enabling good ideas. For example, in the context of the Summit of the Two Shores, CMI is providing technical assistance and financial guidance to civil society organizations and facilitating the exchange of best practices. In October, CMI launched an interface that links civil society projects with international financial institutions, which is
exactly the type of enabling action that will lead to concrete projects and make a difference in our region.

France is proud that, for the past 11 years, CMI has found a home in Marseille, a city that embodies the convergence of our Mediterranean heritage and the promise of our future together. In the coming year, using its central role in the region and its growing network of support, CMI will help the Dialogue of the Two Shores expand. I am excited for our future work with CMI and look forward to a continued partnership to advance an integrated, peaceful, prosperous Mediterranean region.
The Kingdom of Morocco is honored to be nominated as President of CMI, for 2021 to 2023. In this regard, I would like to express my heartfelt thanks to the members of CMI for their confidence and for the interest they expressed in Morocco’s candidacy.

Since CMI’s inception, the Kingdom of Morocco, a founding member of this center, has been actively working to promote the values and the outreach of this major regional center.

The Moroccan presidency of CMI will be an opportunity to consolidate CMI’s achievements and will enhance CMI’s capacity to help our region’s decision-makers in their choices regarding current and future challenges that the Mediterranean region, with its rich diversity, faces.

In light of the major challenges and issues that have emerged with the COVID-19 health crisis, new areas of study within CMI will have to be launched to explore innovative solutions and enable our countries to face the economic, social, energy, and environmental requirements, of the post-COVID world.

During its tenure as President of CMI and relying on significant members’ support, the Kingdom of Morocco will endeavor to allow the CMI to have the
necessary means to facilitate its work and conduct its planned studies and projects. Morocco’s expertise in this area and its dense network of partners will be an asset for CMI.
This has been truly an extraordinary year. The global outbreak of COVID-19 has posed an unprecedented health challenge, with serious social and economic consequences that have drastically changed global and national development agendas and required cooperation and partnership. COVID-19 is a global humanitarian challenge, but we continue to be hopeful as we endorse a revamped policy agenda that addresses the new reality.

Egypt has been swiftly advancing with its economic and social reform program, which aims, among other strategic goals, to create more jobs, especially for youth and women; encourage private investment; strengthen infrastructure; and increase coverage of social safety nets and delivery of basic services. We have achieved notable progress, which has created a solid foundation for our response to the effects of COVID-19. The pandemic would have been more difficult for Egypt if not for comprehensive fiscal and monetary reforms, structural sectoral changes, and increased investments in social programs.

To build back better and stronger, the government of Egypt is focusing on addressing immediate economic and social needs while continuing to work toward medium- and long-term goals. Egypt has provided credit to small and medium enterprises, the engine of growth; supported industry, especially export-oriented firms; and accelerated digitalization efforts.
As we continue with our current response and recovery strategy and plans, we are convinced that only through collaboration and partnerships will our goals be fully achieved. In our recently released 2020 Annual Report, *Writing the Future in a Changing Global Dynamic*, we reaffirm Egypt’s commitment to multilateralism and working collectively toward our shared vision for a stronger, greener recovery and a prosperous future.

The Mediterranean region, like the rest of the world, faces unprecedented development challenges on several fronts that require high levels of regional cooperation and international collaboration. We are eager to continue working together through the CMI platform to improve our region and achieve prosperity for all.

Egypt is a founding member of CMI, and we are pleased to see that it has established itself as a knowledge-sharing platform and Mediterranean dialogue forum. We are confident that CMI will continue to play an increasingly important role in the region, addressing high-priority challenges of the Mediterranean. We look forward to continuing our collaboration and partnership.
Among the many challenges that the Mediterranean region faces, I did not know a few years ago that, today, I would be writing about a pandemic causing death, devastation, the worst economic crisis in decades, and tremendous incertitude about the near future.

From Paris to Cairo, through Beirut and Tunis, and across the Saharan desert and the many islands in the Mediterranean, there is no one community in the region that is not suffering the consequences of contagion, lockdowns, and deviation of resources towards emergency solutions.

And yet, if we go back to the raison d’être of the CMI, our premises, our work model, and our aspirations, they all remain valid to respond to this crisis. I would go further to say that the region will not get out of it unless cooperation bridges are built, and collaboration channels are opened wider and solidly strengthened.

Before this crisis, we talked about the type of Mediterranean integration that will bring socioeconomic transformation and resilience to the region. Not having achieved those goals yet, now we are talking about adding one more layer of resilience to Mediterranean societies, so that they can thrive when an external health shock, without precedents, risks to erase any progress previously made.
The crisis has highlighted that health systems were weak, lacking solid investments and failing to serve entire populations. The precarity of jobs for the most vulnerable, many of them women, has shown us how easy it is to fall into the poverty trap. The limited capacity of schools has been subject to additional demands coming from forcibly displaced families as well as new challenges imposed by the lockdowns. And some countries are wondering whether they will be able to afford importing basic food items they are not producing at home.

The answers to these questions must come necessarily from dialogue and collaboration across countries. Exchanging products and services among neighbors may provide more rapid solutions for those who are not digitally connected or find it unaffordable to import from remote locations: is the crisis opening a unique opportunity window for enhancing regional integration?

Since March 2020, a CMI operating in lockdown mode has been contributing to provide responses to these challenges by adding new dimensions to existing programs or reshaping pre-existing lines of work. You will find some of the outputs in our report to respond directly to these queries, starting with the MENA Economic Update led by the CMI, focused on reviving regional trade to stimulate growth in the post-COVID 19 world, the Mediterranean Policy Briefs, and our refugees agenda including new dimensions on early childhood education post-COVID.

During the year in review, the CMI has also moved forward with the Two Shores Dialogue digital platform to support investment projects emanating from civil society, emphasizing the CMI’s function as a connector and project incubator. It is certain that knowledge and investments must come hand in hand if we want the region to be integrated and secure a stable place in global markets.

This is the time of the year to remind us all that everything the CMI has achieved is due to its members and partners who have contributed financially, technically, and professionally, and who have trusted the CMI in delivering its mission. We are very grateful to you.

As we move forward towards a post-pandemic world and the end of our CMI 4.0 cycle in June 2021, we will assess the impact of our work and plan a new cycle 2021-2024. I trust you will stay with us all along the next cycle. Together, we can make a difference.
COVID-19 AND THE STABILITY OF THE MEDITERRANEAN REGION

About CMI
Never before was Mediterranean integration more needed than it is now. The region faces a unique opportunity to fulfill its historical mandate in bringing closer its peoples, cultures, resources, and assets. Enhancing Mediterranean integration, while recovering from COVID-19, would mean going beyond trade and addressing critical regional blockages in areas such as human capital mobility, education, energy, and water. Many actors are involved. Many lives will benefit from such integration. Now is the time to push forward.

Blanca Moreno-Dodson, Manager

THE MEDITERRANEAN CONTEXT AND COLLECTIVE ACTION

Mediterranean integration encourages stability and prosperity for the region and worldwide.

Great potential

Strategically positioned as a crossroads between Europe, Africa, and Asia, eastern and southern Mediterranean countries have a large youth population, abundant renewable energy, and natural resources, while offering promising economic and political transitions.

Unlocking this potential through regional integration along different dimensions, such as trade in goods and services, population mobility, and joint investments across northern and southern Mediterranean countries, would have positive ripple effects, leading to greater stability in the region and beyond.
Conflict, environmental challenges, and external shocks

Conflicts in the Middle East (Palestine, Iraq, Syria, Libya) create instability in the area, discouraging foreign investors and resulting in forced displacements. Climate change affects the region disproportionately, aggravating preexisting challenges such as water scarcity and territorial imbalances. The double shock of low oil prices and the recession that the COVID-19 pandemic has triggered is aggravating existing low growth and income disparities, especially for women and youth.

Policy action must be taken to promote socioeconomic transformation and greater resilience in the face of shocks, including climate change and pandemics.

The COVID-19 crisis is threatening the health systems, economic outcomes, and social stability of all countries in the Mediterranean region. The shortage of hospital beds and basic equipment is overloading the healthcare sector. In terms of the economic impact, this unexpected shock of unprecedented magnitude is threatening current models of production. On the social and human levels, the COVID-19 pandemic is accentuating existing inequalities, causing unemployment to surge, and putting social ties under pressure.

These vulnerabilities are being aggravated in the eastern and southern Mediterranean countries whose preexisting condition have made them less resilient to crises. A large share of the population lives in places where public health services are poor or almost nonexistent and is deprived of access to good-quality healthcare. Forced displacement caused by unresolved conflict and the economic challenges that COVID-19 has generated are putting additional pressure on healthcare systems. Furthermore, shutting down these countries’ economies for long periods of time is triggering disastrous consequences.

In countries where informal employment accounts for about two-thirds of labor income and cannot be performed remotely, the current emergency could transform the various health, social, and economic challenges into a humanitarian crisis, which could lead to (new) political crises and an unprecedented wave of revolutions. Until global and regional solutions are implemented, the cost of the drastic restrictions being imposed could become unbearable for Mediterranean populations.
CMI by the Numbers
September 1, 2019 – September 1, 2020

INTENSE ACTIVITY

17 Seminars
13 Policy briefs
27 Partners involved
7 Regional reports
Capacity-building events
3 Flagship reports
13 Partnerships

CMI AND PARTNERSHIPS
A MULTIPARTNER PLATFORM

The Center for Mediterranean Integration (CMI) is a multipartner knowledge-for-action platform that convenes development agencies, governments, local authorities, and civil society from around the Mediterranean. Through exchanges of ideas, public policy discussions, capacity building, and investment project incubation, CMI influences policy making in the Mediterranean and helps identify regional solutions and regional projects to address regional challenges.

CMI A NEUTRAL SPACE FOR DIALOGUE AND INFLUENCE

- Governance: Members jointly decide on strategic orientations and actions.
- Financing: Financial contributions from members and partners are channeled to deliver CMI’s programs. In addition, numerous partners provide additional in-kind contributions to deliver joint thematic activities.
- Staffing: The CMI team includes staff and consultants from the World Bank and detached from other institutions.
- Knowledge for action: Analytical and advisory products, thematic hubs, communities of practitioners, and youth networks that CMI supports generate common frameworks and peer-to-peer learning opportunities that reinforce the ability of participants to undertake reforms and influence decision making.
- Action for change: By facilitating project incubation and implementation, CMI helps guiding regional investment that can be scaled up and affect Mediterranean populations.

MEMBERS

Partners

AFD
UK Government
giz
IMéRA
Amine Foundation
And many more

CMI has partnerships at its core. It is a unique institution that gathers governments, international development institutions, local authorities, and civil society. Such an alliance is critical for policy reforms and socioeconomic transformation of the Mediterranean region.

ANNUAL REPORT 2020

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CMI by the Numbers
September 1, 2019 – September 1, 2020

WIDESPREAD IMPACT

1. University network
   - 1.5+ million Persons reached through social media
   - 136 Media mentions
   - 100,000+ Website visitors

2. Youth networks
   - Online matchmaking platform—Dialogue of the Two Shores

3. Municipality network

New partnerships

CMI AT THE REGIONAL LEVEL

By acting as a knowledge sharing center that links ideas to policy making and reforms, CMI benefits from technical support from the World Bank, as well as other member countries and institutions. By focusing on regional integration, beyond national borders, under a development perspective, CMI’s agenda complements the country-focused approaches of other institutions. In addition, through its involvement at intergovernmental levels, CMI can influence decision making at the subnational level, including at the regional and municipal levels.

CMI: UNIQUE VALUE

- CMI offers a neutral platform for dialogue using its multipartner model.
- CMI promotes Mediterranean regional integration, fostering convergence of the two shores of the Mediterranean, by encouraging inclusive growth and a reduction of disparities between member countries.
- CMI is the only Mediterranean institution bringing governments, international financial institutions, local authorities, and civil society together.
- CMI fosters synergies between development lenders, policy makers, private entrepreneurs, academic think tanks, and youth.
- CMI leverages technical expertise, financial resources, and networks.
- CMI promotes expansion of successful experiences at the country, regional, and municipal levels.

CMI IN 2018-2021

TECHNICAL DEPTH TO SUPPORT MEDITERRANEAN INTEGRATION

The Vision

For its fourth phase (2018-2021), CMI adopted a new strategy focused on exercising a highly influential role through the expertise and technical rigor it brings to Mediterranean dialogue and capacity-building programs. In this context, CMI builds synergies among Mediterranean stakeholders (governments, funding institutions, private investors, civil society) and facilitates investment project incubation, with the goal of having a transformational effect on the region.

Strategic Themes

Mediterranean integration is CMI’s overarching goal. Given the realities of Mediterranean countries and the dynamics of the region, CMI’s strategy selectively focuses on two pillars. The first one is dedicated to the socioeconomic transformation of the region by promoting co-development and integration, including through trade and investments, as well as human capital development and mobility. The second pillar aims at increasing the resilience of the region to external shocks, including climate change, which aggravates water, energy, and territorial challenges, and conflict, which causes instability and forced displacement. An additional cross-cutting dimension was added in 2020 in response to the COVID-19 crisis, which also requires a regional response.

Youth and gender remain CMI’s main cross-cutting themes, which are embedded in the analytical outputs, as well as its activities, by including young women and men in delivery of its programs.

Five Business Lines

1. Knowledge exchange
2. Technical communities of practice and hubs
3. Analytical and advisory products
4. Targeted capacity building
5. Incubation of projects

CMI: IN 2018-2021

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Five Business Lines

1. Knowledge exchange
2. Technical communities of practice and hubs
3. Analytical and advisory products
4. Targeted capacity building
5. Incubation of projects
1. This report covers September 1, 2019, to September 1, 2020.
SOCIO-ECONOMIC TRANSFORMATION

Co-Development & Integration

Human Capital & Mobility
CO-DEVELOPMENT AND INTEGRATION

Regional context

Before the unexpected, virulent COVID-19 pandemic occurred, studies focusing on regional integration in the Mediterranean region had highlighted the large untapped potential to increase trade flows of goods and services, foreign direct investment, and mobility of people. These three interlinked dimensions of regional integration seem to have fallen short of “turning the Mediterranean basin into an area of dialogue, exchange and cooperation, guaranteeing peace, stability and prosperity,” the ambitious objective that the Barcelona Declaration embraced 25 years ago and that has subsequently been reflected in numerous Mediterranean alliances and initiatives. While advocating the merits of this objective, CMI has recently developed an enhanced strategy for Mediterranean integration in today’s context. This approach views the Mediterranean as being at the crossroads between three continents—Europe, Africa, and Asia—with the additional perspective of European Union–Middle East and North Africa–Sub-Saharan Africa vertical integration. In this context, CMI has delivered a series of knowledge outputs produced by CMI staff internally and in cooperation with partners.

Objectives

The co-development and integration theme is focused on building a new framework for sustained regional integration in the Mediterranean. The main objectives are to rethink economic and social policies under a regional integration approach and to provide a Mediterranean response to COVID-19. The theme emphasizes how trade liberalization should be implemented in the context of a comprehensive policy package that also aims to achieve social and distributive goals.

The program is built around two areas:

- Produce knowledge on socioeconomic and political economy dimensions of regional integration in the region.
- Disseminate knowledge to Mediterranean stakeholders to facilitate transformational impact through regional events and workshops, together with the World Bank and technical partners; an active dissemination campaign on social media; and complementary analysis of critical sectors such as health, the digital economy, and food security.

Lead organization (s)

CMI

Partner organization (s)

World Bank and Euro-Mediterranean Forum of Institutes of Economic Sciences (FEMISE)
This report describes CMI’s approach to Mediterranean integration. Released in December, it discusses progress made and remaining obstacles, ending with specific recommendations to enhance integration, considering current challenges.

First, the report suggests eliminating more tariffs and nontariff barriers to trade of goods and services, with an emphasis on trade of services because of their positive effects on productivity and job creation that spill over into agriculture and industry, including through information and communications technology.

Second, CMI’s approach recommends increasing the mobility of workers and the internationalization of jobs within the Mediterranean region through...
proactive migration policies and other human capital policies, for example, internationalization of education\(^2\) and e-learning.

Third, the report signals the importance of protecting the environment, threatened by climate change, and anchors regional solutions on the nexus water-energy-food.

Finally, the report suggests that promoting investments, private sector businesses, and partnerships involving parties from both shores of the Mediterranean will be critical to socioeconomic transformation of the region. It emphasizes that trade liberalization should be implemented not in isolation from other policies but in the context of a comprehensive policy package designed to achieve social and distributive goals in addition to efficiency.

The overall approach aims at promoting growth through comprehensive trade reforms while also fostering worker mobility and encouraging foreign direct investment and cross-country public-private partnerships. In parallel, provision of regional public goods that benefit the whole region, as well as targeted initiatives aimed at protecting vulnerable income groups (e.g., refugees, unprotected children, unemployed individuals) and less-privileged geographic locations (remote, landlocked) are highlighted as being necessary to reduce and eliminate income disparities, in line with the goals of achieving social inclusion and territorial cohesion.

**Middle East and North Africa Economic Update on Reviving Trade Integration in a Post-COVID Era (by the World Bank and CMI)**

The Middle East and North Africa entered the COVID-19 pandemic already experiencing poor economic performance, not having fully recovered from a series of shocks since 2008. The pandemic and subsequent restrictions have interrupted

\(^2\) Internationalization of education is the process of integrating an international, intercultural, or global dimension into the purpose, functions, or delivery of postsecondary education.
trade, exacerbating the economic downturn at a time when the region still faces ongoing conflict in several countries and struggles with predominantly domestic structural impediments to growth. Comprehensive trade reforms could stimulate growth and create more jobs to meet the demands resulting from the youth bulge, particularly in this time of crisis, yet the Middle East and North Africa’s trade reform requirements are intricately linked to removal of other domestic impediments to growth. With the potential risk that post-COVID protectionist policies pose to growth, a regional trade integration agenda that enables domestic reforms could be a new source of growth, jobs, and stability in the region.

This is the rationale behind the latest Middle East and North Africa Economic Update, which supplements the World Bank’s Bi-annual Middle East and North Africa Quarterly Economic Brief and presents the short-term macroeconomic outlook and economic challenges facing countries in the region. Typically a product of World Bank staff, CMI led its production because of its recognized capacity as a center of excellence on integration in the region. The report, Trading Together: Reviving Middle East and North Africa Regional Integration in the Post-COVID Era, was published in October 2020.

The report finds that:

- The COVID-19 pandemic offers an opportunity for Middle Eastern and North African countries to assess their social and economic policies aimed at strengthening trade integration while reducing oil dependency. To stimulate job creation, make economic growth inclusive, and ensure stability in the Middle East and North Africa, a coordinated trade integration agenda is necessary to facilitate regional value chains and better integration into global value chains.
- The new strategy uses cross-sectoral, horizontal approaches first. Middle Eastern and North African countries should increase their regional digital connectivity with broader markets in Africa and Mediterranean countries to increase productivity; coordinate disaster response; limit negative externalities; and create inclusive, resilient, sustainable jobs in the region.
- The time is right to revise regional mechanisms for strategic cooperation, particularly in the context of existing trade liberalization agreements. The African Continental Free Trade Area provides an opportunity for the Middle East and North Africa and sub-Saharan Africa to integrate. Meanwhile, there are possibilities for vertical cooperation between the European Union, the Middle East and North Africa, and the rest of Africa.
- Middle East and North Africa trade reforms should be done “intelligently,” including not only specific technical matters, but also political economy considerations, to increase regional cooperation and stability. The effectiveness of policies will depend on the role of regional institutions and the involvement of small and medium-sized enterprises and civil society in decision-making processes.
- Overall, leveraging a regional trade integration agenda to enable domestic reforms, as a steppingstone to greater global integration, could become a new source of growth, jobs, and stability in the Middle East and North Africa.
The COVID-19 crisis threatens the health, economies, and societies of all countries, regardless of their level of development. Limited healthcare and economic resources in the southern Mediterranean countries make the fight against the pandemic even more complicated than in other regions. In addition, it takes place in a unique social and geopolitical context. Regional collaboration and EU-Mediterranean cooperation strategies in critical sectors are needed to respond to this unprecedented crisis. CMI and FEMISE, a new CMI partner, decided to join forces and launch this series of policy briefs to present thematic analyses and prescriptions that will be explored throughout the series.

Policy briefs are short notes written by external authors in simple, nontechnical language about topics of interest to the general public and policy makers that contain operational policy recommendations. They are designed to contribute to the policy debate on certain topics based on scientific research and knowledge of subject experts. The COVID-19 Mediterranean Briefs are written for nonspecialized readers such as policy makers of the EU-Mediterranean region, government officials, and donors. They are also intended to be useful for researchers and to be understood by the general public.

A first call was launched in May 2020 to produce policy briefs to address the urgent challenges that COVID-19 has triggered and its effects on the EU-Mediterranean region. More than 25 submissions from Mediterranean experts were received for assessment, covering a wide range of topics, including monetary and financial policies; the role of EU-Mediterranean cooperation and sectoral strategies; managing the effects on households; digital transformation of health, education, and vocational training; and greening the recovery. A second call is being issued to produce more briefs in 2021. As of October 2020, 13 briefs had been published.
**Regional context**

Southern Mediterranean countries are showing promising emerging trends, from the amplified voice of youth to the increased attention paid to sustainable development, but despite significant progress in crucial areas such as education access and enrollment rates catching up with world averages, there is still a persistent challenge with delivering quality education.

This matter is of concern given that today’s globalizing economy requires pools of well-educated and -trained workers who can perform complex tasks and adapt rapidly to the changing environment and the evolving needs of the production system.

Youth, with their dynamism and their demographic weight in the region, are a major asset and a powerful lever for transformative change and socioeconomic stability in the region. By examining and better understanding the region’s structural development constraints, in particular through the lens of human capital development, policy recommendations and initiatives can emerge to help youth play a fundamental role in transforming the region.

Various dimensions of migration intersect in the Mediterranean basin as people move around the region—in all directions—in search of safety, a better life, and greater economic opportunity. High youth unemployment and low returns on education in southern Mediterranean countries are two important reasons for migration of young people in the region.

**Objectives**

The main objective of the program is to analyze how to promote socioeconomic transformation by improving the quality of human capital and fostering mobility of knowledge and people. It is particularly focused on youth as the main asset and vehicle for change in the Mediterranean region, building human capital skills, and promoting the mobility necessary for Mediterranean countries to adapt to the changing nature of work and transform their economies. The objective of the work program is to:

- Increase the quality of tertiary education by enhancing universities’ governance best practices and highlighting internationalization opportunities
- Develop a narrative regarding education, labor mobility, and employability to help youth become an engine of change in the region
- Increase the mobility of people and knowledge

**Lead organization (s)**

World Bank and CMI

**Partner organization (s)**

Agence Française de Développement, Anna Lindh Foundation, British Council, Mediterranean Universities Union, University Aix-Marseille
Moving the migration agenda forward

Jointly convened by CMI and the World Bank, more than 30 internationally recognized experts and economists from across the Mediterranean gathered in Marseille on November 5, 2019, to brainstorm and identify thematic and innovative approaches to the migration agenda in the region.

The ideas generated during this event fed into the joint CMI–World Bank flagship report, *Mobility in the Mediterranean: Migration, Forced Displacement, and Human Capital*, which will be presented at the World Bank 2022 Annual Meetings in Marrakech, Morocco.
Analytical preparatory work for a better-informed regional policy dialogue on migration

Based on the outcomes of the experts meeting organized on November 5, 2019 (see previous section) and on internal CMI–World Bank discussions, a concept note for the joint CMI–World Bank flagship report, *Mobility in the Mediterranean: Migration, Forced Displacement, and Human Capital* (forthcoming), was prepared.

A general agreement was reached during the virtual concept note review meeting (April 6, 2020) on the importance of knowledge production on migration in the region. The World Bank Regional Vice President for Middle East and North Africa, Ferid Belhaj, chaired the meeting, which more than 50 World Bank professionals and board executive directors attended.

The Mediterranean has been, continues to be, and is likely to remain a critical region for migration throughout human history. The report presents some facts on migration flows within, to, from, and through the Mediterranean basin, including economic migration and forced displacement, sometimes aggravated by climate change. It discusses the varied, overlapping determinants of these population movements, such as income gaps, youth unemployment, demographic trends, conflict, and climate change. The report reviews the policies designed to regulate cross-border migration and will conclude with some recommendations on fostering Mediterranean integration to regulate migration throughout the Mediterranean basin and beyond.

CMI is working closely with the World Bank and other partners regarding next steps toward publication and dissemination.
Sharing knowledge on developing young people’s resilience

CMI, an active member of the British Council–led Community of Practice on Preventing Violent Extremism, presented its work on this important topic at the Community of Practice meeting on October 23, 2019. The presentation focused on the findings of its 2018 report, Violent Extremism and Development, and insights into the upcoming 2021 report, *Youth, Actors for Change: Rethinking Mobility*.


Policy paper on Youth, Actors for Change: Rethinking Mobility

The third *Cycle Économique* discussion series hosted by CMI, launched in November 2018 and concluded in June 2020, has gathered intellectuals from both shores of the Mediterranean with the aim of proposing a new approach to mobility as a way to help young people become the engine of change in the region.
A consensus was reached on the need for a narrative that highlights the opportunities that mobility can offer to meet the aspirations of young people in the region, particularly in terms of their participation in economic, political, and social life. To this end, a drafting committee of recognized experts from around the Mediterranean was convened to prepare the CMI’s upcoming policy paper, *Youth, Actors for Change: Rethinking Mobility*.

The policy paper states that, given the regional climate, characterized by many uncertainties but also opportunities, the concept of mobility deserves rethinking. It then argues that the desire for mobility is fully consistent with the new skills that transformation of productive systems requires. The document is being finalized and will be disseminated at several regional events, including in the context of the Dialogue of the Two Shores.3

### Knowledge exchange through University Governance Screening Card network

Middle Eastern and North African universities have had governance reform on their agenda for some time. In an effort to address reform, CMI and the World Bank created the University Governance Screening Card to support governance and accountability reforms in tertiary educational institutions and to bridge the gap between supply of and demand for skills.

The screening card, which addresses university governance, internationalization, and financial sustainability, assesses to what extent tertiary educational institutions follow good governance practices, aligned with their

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3. The Dialogue of the Two Shores is an initiative of the 5+5 Group of countries, launched by the French government in 2019, to increase cooperation between countries in the western Mediterranean by implementing projects that support human, economic, and sustainable development in the region. See Section 3, *Dialogue of the Two Shores of the Mediterranean*, for more information.
in institutional goals, and allows these institutions to monitor their progress over time and compare themselves with other institutions.

Information collected as part of this effort has laid the foundation for future systematic monitoring of university performance. A network focal point virtual meeting was held on May 25, 2020, to discuss and assess how the network can be mobilized to provide insights and encourage good practices that ensure continuity and adaptability of tertiary education during the COVID-19 global pandemic. A decision was made to relaunch the network by organizing a webinar series on challenges that tertiary educational institutions are facing, such as internationalization in the COVID-19 context (see next section for further information).

Regional report on Internationalization of Tertiary Education in the Middle East and North Africa

The Middle East and North Africa could benefit from internationalization of its tertiary educational sector, yet it has not taken full advantage of this opportunity. CMI produced a report, Internationalization of Tertiary Education Institutions in MENA, that was written to demonstrate that internationalization of tertiary education is a critical part of the reforms needed in education and training. The report details the benefits of internationalization, assesses the current state of internationalization of tertiary educational institutions across the Middle East and North Africa, and provides some policy recommendations, including a provisional analysis of internationalization in the COVID-19 context. The report suggests that, despite the challenges that the crisis presents, it may also provide an opportunity for the Middle East and North Africa to accelerate its efforts internationalize tertiary education in the region.
CMI presented the report as part of the World Bank Middle East and North Africa Chief Economist seminar series (June 25, 2020). The report was officially released during a virtual seminar that CMI and partners will hold in January 2021, and its findings were discussed. It is expected that dissemination of the report will stimulate the policy debate on internationalization in the context of the COVID-19 crisis.

**Key outputs**

**Upcoming regional reports**

- 160+ tertiary educational institutions in 8 Middle Eastern and North African countries participating in the University Governance Screening Card
- Participation in Community of Practice meeting, leading to publication of *Building Pathways: What Works on Developing Young People’s Resilience to Violent Extremism*
RESILIENCE

CONFLICT: FORCED DISPLACEMENT

CLIMATE CHANGE
Water
Energy
Territorial Resilience
Regional context

In 2019 (according to UNHCR), approximately 79 million people were forced from their homes worldwide, including 20 million refugees under United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees mandate and 5.6 million Palestinian refugees under United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East mandate. Syria is the main country of origin for refugees, and countries in the eastern Mediterranean region are among the largest recipients of forcibly displaced people worldwide; Palestine and Iraq continue to struggle with displacement; and Jordan, Lebanon, Turkey, and Iraq host almost 6 million Syrians, as well as other nationalities. The increase in protracted displacement situations and the fact that most refugees in the eastern Mediterranean region reside within host communities, rather than in camps, means that host countries and communities need to adopt development approaches to integrate and protect forcibly displaced populations, for example by fostering employment and economic opportunities. The displacement crisis is especially affecting host local governments, which face the strains of providing basic services, mounting risks to social cohesion, and demand for jobs. The need to increase local economic development to guarantee a stable, resilient social environment is strong. In an already fragile context, the global COVID-19 pandemic is adding new challenges to communities hosting refugees. Countries have imposed internal and international restrictions on movement to contain the spread of the virus while the private sector struggles with disruption in global supply chains and lower demand for goods. Much-needed government responses to the pandemic are having important spillover effects on economic activity, adding pressure on central and local authorities in areas that are hosting refugees. By hosting refugees and displaced populations during an international crisis, local authorities in host countries are providing the international community with a global public good and need to be supported in return.

Objectives

The program aims to increase knowledge and the technical capacity of local authorities and decision makers on developing solutions for forced displacement in the eastern Mediterranean using a programmatic multipartner approach.

The program is based on two pillars:
• Increasing local economic capacity and service delivery in host communities through the CMI-managed Host Municipalities Learning Network (HMLN)
• Enabling a socioeconomic environment that encourages inclusion of forcibly displaced peoples in host communities by mobilizing the international, national, and local private sector (including refugee entrepreneurs), with a special focus on youth and women.

Given the unprecedented circumstances related to the international outbreak of COVID-19, the program has used a special lens to look at the new challenges deriving from the global pandemic through its programs.

**Lead organization (s)**

CMI

**Partner organization (s)**

By the end of 2020, 4 years since its creation in 2016, the HMLN had mobilized more than 170 local and central authorities in Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon, Palestine, and Turkey. It has attracted more than 20 new member municipalities from Turkey and Iraq; country-specific subgroups from Jordan, Palestine, and Lebanon are actively collaborating; and a new Turkish chapter is being formed. Core members of the HMLN have been discussing the network charter, which, once the members formally agree upon it, will further specify the network’s objectives, rules, activities, and operating model.

The HMLN has grown and so has its reach in sharing regional good practices. Its peer exchanges and technical trainings on local economic development and
Technical capacities of host local governments increased, in adapting to the pandemic

To respond to HMLN member training demands during the pandemic, CMI and the World Bank, jointly and in collaboration with other partners, organized a technical online training workshop series (Jobs, Entrepreneurship, and Private Sector Engagement in Host Communities: Adapting to the COVID-19 Crisis) that included three online workshops focused on how to support refugees and vulnerable local populations while also sustaining the local economy, such as increasing financial inclusion and job opportunities or engaging more closely with the local private sector. It provided more than 125 representatives of central and local authorities and development partners with an opportunity to learn from current experiences and active collaborations. It fostered local private sector–driven solutions to help the private sector recover in the aftermath of the COVID-19 crisis, created jobs and entrepreneurship opportunities, and provided a better local economic environment in areas managing forced displacement. The contribution of women and displaced populations (refugees, internally displaced persons, returnees) to local business development and the COVID-19 pandemic were cross-cutting themes. The workshops were offered in Turkish, English, and Arabic. Given local authorities’ knowledge of their residents, increasing the technical capacity and knowledge of municipal staff and elected representatives is crucial to enabling their contribution in the aftermath of crises.
Collaboration among municipal networks initiated for additional training

The CMI-managed HMLN initiated a collaboration with the GIZ-managed Connective Cities network of Middle Eastern and North African municipalities. The online dialogue event, *Local Economic Development and Job Creation in MENA: Beyond COVID-19*, established a joint program of the two organizations to support municipalities hosting refugees in developing and implementing an inclusive local economic development strategy. More online and face-to-face activities in collaboration with other CMI partners are planned.

Informing policy makers about specific COVID-19 needs and actions of local governments hosting refugees

Faced with the global COVID-19 pandemic and subsequent economic downturn, CMI leveraged its unique position as a multipartner platform by asking members of its HMLN about the challenges that the pandemic has created in the already fragile context of hosting refugees and their responses to the COVID-19 crisis. In parallel, CMI supported local authorities hosting forcibly displaced persons in addressing the new challenges by assessing their new needs. To be able to do so, CMI underwent a rapid short-, medium-, and long-term needs assessment for concerned local authorities, which is available on the CMI website, and periodic consultations with partners to find new ways
to support local authorities hosting refugees. The three online workshops organized during the spring and summer of 2020 incorporated responses and actions taken to recover from the pandemic and ways to adapt to these new circumstances.

**Host local governments and policy makers lessons learned from 3 years of exchanges and surveys**

CMI collected the results of discussions with and surveys administered to HMLN members over 3 years in a report, *Local Economic Development in Municipalities Hosting Refugees: Challenges, Opportunities and Actions—Views from the Host Municipalities Learning Network*. The report provides an overview of the findings from five workshops and opinion surveys from 2016 to 2019 and describes the challenges, priorities, solutions, and actions of HMLN members. It also makes recommendations that may be relevant in other local contexts of forced displacement. While recognizing the large burden that forced displacement places on local economies, the report also highlights major opportunities for local economic development, including leveraging the economic and skill potential of refugees, ensuring their socioeconomic inclusion; improving the environment to attract private sector investment; and increasing job opportunities for forcibly displaced people and local populations. It also describes the main priorities for local governments, including their need for greater financial and technical capacity.

**Key outputs**

- 180+ knowledge products placed in the Refugees Online Knowledge Base
- 24 new municipalities mobilized
- Technical online webinar held
- 150 municipal representatives and partners mobilized in 3 trilingual online training workshops
- COVID-19 rapid needs assessment conducted
- Report released
Enabling environment for socioeconomic inclusion of forcibly displaced persons

Policy makers better informed on implementation of the Global Compact for Refugees at the local level

CMI contributed to the guidance document, *Local Inclusion of Migrants and Refugees—A Gateway to Existing Ideas, Resources and Capacities for Cities Across the World*, with a chapter on local economic development for local inclusion of refugees. The document was jointly developed with the OECD; United Cities Local Governments; United Nations Human Settlements Program; United Nations Children’s Fund; United Nations Conference for Trade and Development; United Nations Education, Science and Culture Organization; and World Health Organization. Released in October 2020, the document was written to support local authorities in reaching the goals and objectives set out in the Global Compact on
Refugees and the Global Compact for Migration by providing cities with field-tested guidance to shape their local inclusion measures; showcasing the contributions that cities around the world are making to implement the Social Development Goals, Global Compact for Migration, and Global Compact on Refugees; and using existing cutting-edge support for local inclusion. To validate the document, a survey was administered to representatives of cities from around the world to rate the recommendations in each chapter. The survey rated CMI’s recommendations as relevant or very relevant, confirming the importance of local economic development and private sector engagement in host communities.

**Partners mobilized for stronger women’s private sector engagement in host communities**

CMI convened a partners’ meeting with Building Markets, Consultative Group to Assist the Poor, United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, and World Bank to combine their expertise and approaches to fostering economic development for the benefit of refugees and host communities, with specific attention paid to entrepreneurship and women’s employment. The outcomes of the discussion contributed to development of a joint roadmap to combine partners’ efforts in supporting refugee inclusion, notably by increasing capacity and encouraging advocacy on existing national regulations for employment of locals and refugees. Discussions are ongoing, and partners’ expertise will be included in future CMI activities focusing on the private sector and gender.

**Key outputs**

- 4 issues and 4,861 recipients of the Mediterranean Refugees and Migrants Newsletter
- 9 blogs
- Guidance document
- Survey with local authorities on policy recommendation
- Multipartner meeting
Regional context

The Mediterranean region is the most water-scarce region in the world and one of the most vulnerable to climate change and extreme weather events, which fuel regional instability and migration. That said, the region has considerable potential for climate change mitigation and adaptation. Combating water scarcity and facing the climate change challenge in the Mediterranean region could create jobs and encourage entrepreneurship, particularly among Mediterranean youth. This could have clear ripple effects on regional stability, promoting employment and mobility. Targeting youth through capacity building and green entrepreneurship opportunities is critical to leveraging untapped youth potential in the region, with positive socioeconomic and environmental outcomes.

Objectives

The main goals of the upcoming phase of this program are to:

• Enhance water security through better-informed governance and management
• Prevent water scarcity and support adaptation to and mitigation of climate change
• Empower youth and improve conditions for youth employment in the water sector by supporting green entrepreneurship initiatives

In a context of climate change and ongoing regional fragility, the program supports further collaboration on the regional water agenda to increase water security, resilience, and stability while encouraging inclusion of youth and women and supporting youth green entrepreneurship. Throughout the current phase of the program (2019-2022), CMI is positioning itself at the crossroads between knowledge and reforms to develop a holistic, cross-cutting approach to water challenges in the Mediterranean region. This involves high-level collaboration with political and technical water actors in the region and engagement with essential target groups (youth and women).

Lead organization(s)

CMI

Partner organization(s)

Empowering MedYWat

Building Mediterranean youth capacity on water and climate change

CMI launched the fourth edition of the CMI Mediterranean Water Heroes Contest on water and climate change to identify and involve young Mediterranean water professionals in its activities and integrate them into the CMI-managed MedYWat. The CMI-led World Water Day, which took place virtually on March 23, 2020, because of the COVID-19 pandemic, with the participation of more than 80 experts, young water professionals, and MedYWat members, was held after the contest.
MedYWat, with more than 190 members and 60 percent female representation, is the only Mediterranean youth water network involving young water researchers, entrepreneurs, and activists from both rims of the Mediterranean to network, share knowledge, collaborate, build capacity, and influence water policies in their countries of origin and in the region.

Supporting MedYWat’s knowledge production on water and climate change

For the second year in a row, CMI coordinated the production of working papers on water and climate change researched and written by youth mentored by senior researchers (from the World Bank, International Water Management Institute, International Center for Advanced Mediterranean Agronomic Studies, and Agence Française de Développement). The papers were published as joint CMI-MedYWat papers and presented during the World Water Day e-conference. The papers will feed into the work CMI is leading on the water-security nexus. The papers developed cover a range of topics, as their titles demonstrate:

- Water and Climate Change Policies Applied in Coastal Areas (Case Study: Marchica Lagoon)
- Perception, Attitude and Behavior in Relation to Climate Change: A Survey Among Young People of Palestine
- Drought and Water Scarcity Management for Agricultural Sector’s Sustainability: The Best Lessons from Med-MENAT Countries
- Evaluating Agricultural Strategies in Response to Drought: A Case Study in the Mediterranean Region (Morocco, Tunis, Jordan, and Palestine)
- Water and Circular Economy
Stimulating a youth water entrepreneurial space in the Mediterranean

In collaboration with International Centre for Water Management Services and MedYWat, on June 24–26, 2020, CMI organized the first e-hackathon on water and youth entrepreneurship in the Mediterranean region with the participation of more than 45 youth. The goal of the event was to develop innovative entrepreneurial solutions to growing water and climate change challenges in the region. The e-hackathon concluded with the selection of 10 competitive solution-oriented ideas to be supported through a water business development bootcamp in 2021.

Key outputs

- MedYWat research papers on water and climate change supported by CMI and senior experts
- World Water Day participants
- hour e-hackathon on water and entrepreneurship, 45 participants, 10 water entrepreneurial ideas supported
- Water Heroes Contest participants, 25 youth selected to join MedYWat
The water-security nexus study in North Africa: catalyzing regional coordination on climate change, migration, and resilience

Enhancing drought monitoring to support management and resilience-building under current and future climate extremes
The objective of the Water Security Nexus in North Africa study that CMI is implementing in collaboration with its partners (International Water Management Institute, International Center for Advanced Mediterranean Agronomic Studies, International Centre for Water Management Services, MedYWat, World Bank, Agence Française de Développement) and with the support of the UK Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office is to give decision makers insight into the challenges associated with water and food security, climate change, and migration. The focus of the first component was on better understanding future drought conditions by producing fine-scale climate maps for Morocco and knowledge-sharing activities on drought management including other countries in the region.

**Maghreb stakeholder mapping**

As part of the Water Security Nexus in North Africa study, stakeholders for the Maghreb (Algeria, Morocco, Tunisia) were comprehensively mapped to establish a baseline to enable thorough analysis of the relationships between the stakeholders at an organizational or management level. Such an analysis is critical to identifying and engaging stakeholders who can enable the regional cooperation required to address the challenges of the water-security nexus in North Africa. This mapping exercise benefitted from expert input of MedYWat youth researchers based in the countries studied.
One component of the Water Security Nexus in North Africa study is the paper, *Political Economy Analysis for Water Security Nexus in North Africa*, which has been delivered to all workstreams. The *Political Economy Analysis* is a living document that will continue to inform all elements of the Water Security Nexus study. It allows the different workstreams to stay current on the situations in the three countries, including the evolving effects of COVID-19. The *Political Economy Analysis* offers a regularly updated framework regarding critical water challenges and actors and informs the project’s stakeholder analysis, research streams, workshops, and final project outputs about the political-economic dynamics within and between the three countries.

**Key outputs**

- conflict sensitivity analysis
- political economy analysis and 1 regional stakeholder mapping
- high-resolution climate mapping of Morocco
- youth engaged through research papers, World Water Day, and e-hackathon
Regional context

Regional energy market integration helps greatly with decarbonization of the power sector, and nowhere is this truer than in the Mediterranean region. Although the region is one of the most vulnerable to the effects of climate change, it also offers great potential for climate change mitigation, given its abundant solar resources, stock of unused flat land, and proximity to international markets with ambitious emission reduction targets such as those in Europe.

Using large amounts of renewable energy requires flexible power systems. Creation of a Euro-Mediterranean regional electricity market would increase power system flexibility, because it would increase the area over which supply and demand must be balanced in real time, making it more likely that the resource is available when needed.

The COVID-19 pandemic, although seriously damaging the economy and the well-being of populations, is presenting an opportunity for decarbonization by creating the largest-ever annual decrease in carbon dioxide emissions while renewables have increased their contribution to the energy mix. The green stimulus packages being adopted all around the Mediterranean could help prevent a rebound in emissions.

Objectives

The overall objective is to support the transition to low-carbon growth in the Mediterranean by sharing knowledge on policy, raising awareness of the benefits of Mediterranean energy market integration, and contributing to the analytical work necessary to support energy transition in the region, in particular through Mediterranean energy market integration.

To reach this objective, in 2015, CMI launched the Mediterranean Forum on Electricity and Climate Change, a permanent discussion platform for countries, international organizations, regulators, and electric companies. Forum events and publications cover such topics as the role of Mediterranean integration in implementation of the Paris Agreement, the benefits of regional energy market integration for expansion of renewable energy, and regulatory changes required to facilitate energy trade in the Mediterranean region. In 2019/20, the scope of the forum was broadened to cover other forms of energy, such as hydrogen, recognizing the need for energy sector integration.

Lead organization(s)

European Commission, CMI, World Bank

Partner organization(s)

Increased understanding of opportunities and implications of the EU Clean Energy for All Europeans package

In the summer of 2019, together with the European Commission, CMI published a briefing paper, “Clean Energy for All Europeans” Package: Implications and Opportunities for the Mediterranean, to inform southern and eastern Mediterranean countries about the opportunities that the package offers and the implications for their electricity markets. Dissemination of the briefing paper continued throughout the year, with participation and presentations at many high-level energy and climate events.

Ecole Polytechnique, Paris, invited CMI to an international conference, Climate Change and Energy Transition in the Mediterranean, where CMI participated.
in a panel on Supra-Regional Partnerships for Energy Transition in the Mediterranean, highlighting the value of an integrated Euro-Mediterranean electricity market and the collaboration possibilities that the new package opens between the European Union and southern Mediterranean countries.

During the UN Climate Change Conference COP-25 (December 2–13, 2019) in Madrid, CMI was invited to speak at a side event that the UfM and the United Nations Development Program (UNDP) organized: Nationally determined contributions (NDCs) in the southern and eastern Mediterranean. CMI presented the briefing paper, “Clean Energy for All Europeans” Package: Implications and Opportunities for the Mediterranean, emphasizing the benefits of an integrated Euro-Mediterranean electricity market. The presentation was widely quoted in the Spanish media.

Other events at which the report was presented include the Association of Mediterranean Energy Regulators Forum, At the Forefront of a Pro-active and Resilient Energy Regulation, in Brussels; the Franco-German seminar by the Club d’Affaires Franco-Allemand de Provence in Aix-en-Provence; and the UfM Energy Platform meeting in Barcelona.

Monitoring the policy and legislative framework and informing the “Clean Energy for All Europeans” package

When the briefing paper “Clean Energy for All Europeans” Package: Implications and Opportunities for the Mediterranean was published, some elements of the package were still being defined, and there have been developments (e.g., EU Green Deal, COVID Recovery Plans) that will require revisions. CMI has periodically published a bulletin, Insights, to inform members of the CMI Forum on Energy and Climate Change about energy and climate policy developments in the region and their implications for the creation of an integrated Euro-Mediterranean energy market. An addendum to the report will be prepared when the package is revised in early 2021.
UfM organized the annual UfM Energy Platform meeting in Barcelona on January 29–30, 2020, during which CMI presented the European Commission–CMI Briefing Paper, “Clean Energy for All Europeans” Package: Implications and Opportunities for the Mediterranean. The purpose of the meeting was to present the deliverables and implementation status of the work programs of the previous years and the 2020/21 work programs of the three platforms and to initiate preparation of the declaration for the energy ministerial planned for 2021. During the meeting, the UfM co-presidents requested that UfM Energy Platform members provide input for preparation of the declaration. CMI, as a critical UfM partner, was also asked to provide input and proposed an ambitious but pragmatic approach for the declaration to promote Euro-Mediterranean energy market integration as a basis for low-carbon growth and shared prosperity: acknowledge that market integration is a progressive, lengthy process that must happen in stages; avoid fragmentation by consolidating initiatives and leveraging existing instruments; and prioritize “must have” measures such as green certification schemes and fossil fuel subsidy reform. The CMI contribution was circulated to the drafting committee to support their work.
Since the forum was launched, the European Union has adopted the ambitious objective of becoming the first carbon-neutral continent; the European Commission has adopted the European Green Deal to establish a roadmap to achieve this objective; the coronavirus pandemic has hit the region, as well as the rest of the world; Europe has issued its Repair and Prepare strategy, centered around the Green Deal, to ensure a sustainable economic recovery; and green stimulus packages are being adopted everywhere. Moreover, it is increasingly acknowledged that a holistic approach is required to achieve a cost-effective solution to decarbonization while supporting economic recovery. “Sector integration” and “sector coupling” are at the heart of the decarbonization strategies that underlie green stimulus packages. To reflect these global trends and the changing policy and market context, the scope of the forum has been broadened to cover all forms of energy, including hydrogen.

In addition, regional energy interdependencies are growing in complexity, no longer being limited to oil and gas. The Mediterranean links Europe and Africa, as well as the Middle East and North Africa. The West Balkans, which figure prominently in all recent EU documents pertaining to energy and climate policy and recovery programs, are a crucial player in the Mediterranean. The CMI forum has tightened its link to other critical initiatives of the World Bank in the Middle East, North Africa, Eastern Europe, and Central Asia, in particular the Pan-Arab Energy Trade Platform and the World Bank Energy Sector Management Assistance Program hydrogen program. Work programs have been prepared, with a focus on knowledge exchange and capacity building, about the benefits and implementation challenges of regional energy market integration.

A vision for a Mediterranean Green Deal is being prepared, considering global trends and regional characteristics.

### Key outputs

| 7 | presentations |
| 5 | blogs, articles, notes, and information bulletins |
| 1 | work program for Phase 2 of the forum |
| 1 | concept for a Mediterranean Green Deal (in progress) |
Regional context

It is increasingly being recognized that climate change poses a major economic, social, and existential threat to communities around the globe. The Mediterranean region has been classified as one of the most vulnerable regions to climate change in the world. We see this in urban areas facing more flooding, coastal areas experiencing sea level rise and soil erosion, and agricultural lands no longer able to sustain essential food crops. Ongoing climate events such as droughts, heat waves, and changes in rainfall pattern pose threats to food security in the Mediterranean region.

Building territorial resilience has become essential to adapting to stresses and shocks, whether the stresses are climate related, socioeconomic, or pandemic related. Enabling local resilience is a forward-looking, multisectoral approach that recognizes the complexities of and connections between rural and urban territories and the interdependencies of the sectors, including agriculture, energy, water, and transport.

Objectives

The objective of the Territorial Resilience to Climate Change program is to increase the capacity of individuals, communities, institutions, businesses, and systems in the Mediterranean region to survive, adapt, and grow, even in the face of climate or environmental stresses and shocks.

With that goal in mind, the program aims to: a) produce and disseminate knowledge of local solutions to the challenges of climate change through territorial resilience in the Mediterranean region; b) increase the institutional capacity of cities and local authorities to manage climate change risks and develop sustainable climate policies and strategies; and c) empower youth by promoting a new generation of climate leaders to increase the resilience of communities to disruptive risks, shocks, and stresses across the Mediterranean region.

Lead organization(s)

CMI

Partner organization(s)

Climate change and migration

Identification and dissemination of inspiring practices from the Mediterranean region to build territorial resilience

To disseminate inspiring local solutions on how to address the challenges of climate change and its effect on migration in the Mediterranean region, CMI has put together a living document entitled, *Climate Change and Migration: Inspiring Practices from the Mediterranean*. In May and June 2020, in collaboration with its partners, CMI asked for submission of case studies of inspiring practices. Ten were selected from various organizations, including the International Center for Advanced Mediterranean Agronomic Studies,

Covering topics such as food security, coastal management, nature-based solutions, and infrastructure, the case studies illustrate the integral relationship between climate change and migration at different levels (e.g., urban, rural, coastal). The report was designed to act as a “living depository” of inspiring practices, has been posted on the CMI website, and will be updated as new elements emerge.

### Informing youth on the internal climate-migration nexus

During an online workshop in June 2020 designed to promote a new generation of climate leaders, senior climate experts showcased inspiring practices and solutions to challenges related to the climate change–migration nexus. The workshop covered local climate resilience strategies for migrants to address such topics as food security, water system management, land management, and energy. The World Bank report, *Groundswell: Preparing for Climate Migration*, and a follow-on report that will focus on the Middle East and North Africa region were presented. CMI also presented an overview of its living report, *Climate Change and Migration: Inspiring Practices from the Mediterranean*, after which three inspiring practices addressing climate change and migration by the World Bank, UNDP, and GIZ were discussed.

### Key outputs

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<tr>
<th>Publication</th>
<th>Case studies</th>
<th>Contributions from global and regional organizations</th>
<th>Online workshop with approximately 100 international experts and participants from the Mediterranean region</th>
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Enabling Mediterranean cities to take climate action

Engaging in multipartner initiative to promote climate action in eastern and southern Mediterranean cities

CMI and the Agence Française de Développement, in partnership with Agence des Villes et des Territoires Méditerranéens, MedCities, and the UfM, initiated a new work subprogram, Enabling Mediterranean Cities to Climate Action, in coordination with the EU-supported regional initiative Clima-Med. Its main objectives are to:

• Understand the risks and vulnerabilities that climate change poses for urban areas in the Mediterranean region and determine priority actions that will enhance resilience
• Identify available and needed resources, capacity gaps, and existing municipal responses and map needs after capacity has been assessed
• Increase technical municipal capacity to access climate finance
CMI conducted stakeholder mapping to develop a clear understanding of the region’s institutional context regarding climate action. Targeted stakeholders included donor agencies, technical cooperation organizations, regional networks and associations of local authorities, regional nongovernmental organizations, and international organizations. The goal was to identify ongoing activities, learn from previous projects, and identify climate focal points in municipalities, possibly those involved in city networks supporting climate action.

As part of the inception phase for the Enabling Mediterranean Cities to Climate Action initiative, a questionnaire was sent to local authorities in the 100 most-populated cities of the southern Mediterranean to collect information about the cities’ exposure to various shocks and stresses so as to identify hotspots of vulnerability. This first stage helped gain a better understanding of cities’ vulnerabilities to the effects of climate change; generate greater knowledge of climate vision and first actions, if any, on mitigation or adaptation; and gather
information regarding the greatest constraints the administrations face in increasing their resilience.

After the initial data gathering phase, a more detailed questionnaire will be sent to eight of the cities to assess their vulnerabilities to climate change and municipal ambitions. In parallel, an in-depth desk review of their climate action plans will be undertaken, after which a series of online meetings will be held to validate the findings gathered in the previous steps and form a basis for information to be used in the final step: an interactive workshop.

### Key outputs

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<td>cities engaged in Community of Practice for climate action</td>
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<td>4</td>
<td>partner organizations involved</td>
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</table>
Achieving territorial resilience through youth empowerment

Empowerment of youth from the Mediterranean region

The Mediterranean youth Climate Heroes Contest was launched on March 19, 2020. Youth were invited to submit innovative local solutions to climate change. More than 170 applications from the Mediterranean region were received, from which a jury selected four winners who were invited to present their solutions during the workshop. The jury also selected 40 individuals and put them into five groups to work on solutions on five key topics: resilient urban services and infrastructure, tourism, natural resources and environment, inclusive local development and territorial governance, and food security and agriculture.
CMI climate experts assisted the five groups and coach them in building collective solutions and preparing their presentations through virtual meetings over 4 weeks, with more than 30 hours of call conferencing during May and June 2020.

**Creation of an interactive space for youth to share visions, approaches, experiences, and innovative practices for climate action**

An online workshop, Achieving Territorial Resilience through Youth Empowerment, was held on June 18, 2020, to encourage a new generation of climate leaders to increase the resilience of communities and territories to climate change, migration, and pandemics. Climate experts and Mediterranean youth leaders explored local solutions and shared practices.

The workshop featured initiatives of youth leaders (five groups of eight youths each) from the Mediterranean region who presented their suggestions to increase the resilience of communities to climate change and global pandemics. Three jury members from the World Bank, FAO, and CMI and event participants provided comments and suggestions to enhance these proposals. The aim was to create an interactive space for youth to share visions, approaches, experiences, and innovative practices. Through this joint undertaking, the workshop launched a youth territorial resilience and climate change community of practice.

**Key outputs**

- 170 applications received for Climate Heroes Contest
- 40 youth selected to participate in group workshops
- 5 groups of 8 youth participants
- 30+ hours of web conferencing
- 4 winners of Climate Heroes Contest
Regional context

The Summit of the Two Shores of the Western Mediterranean (Marseille, June 23–24, 2019) brought together the countries of the 5+5 Dialogue (Algeria, Libya, Mauritania, Morocco, Tunisia from the south; France, Italy, Malta, Portugal, Spain from the north) plus the European Union, Germany, and multilateral and pan-Mediterranean organizations active in the region, with the aim of enhancing cooperation and integration in the Mediterranean region.

To this end, at the summit, the ministers of foreign affairs of the 5+5 Dialogue states signed the Commitments for a New Ambition in the Mediterranean to implement the projects that civil society organization proposed in order to provide a collective response to common challenges in the Mediterranean.

The commitments are organized in five major thematic clusters based on the conclusions of a wide consultative process conducted through five preparatory fora that addressed the main themes of the new Mediterranean agenda: youth, education, and mobility; economy and competitiveness; renewable energy; environment and sustainable development; and culture, media, and tourism.

In the third Mediterranean of the Future high-level event (Marseille, November 26, 2019), Jean-Yves Le Drian, French Minister of Europe and Foreign Affairs, highlighted the need for a collective digital platform to monitor implementation of all the summit’s initiatives and gave CMI a mandate to create and host such a digital platform.

Objectives

The Summit of the Two Shores, recently renamed Dialogue of the Two Shores to reflect its wider scope, heralds a new era in the western Mediterranean and lays the foundations of a different policy in the region, based on dialogue between political leadership and civil society, paving the way for renewed regional cooperation and, ultimately, a more inclusive Mediterranean. It is expected that this goal can be achieved through concrete projects and solutions favoring sustainable human and economic development in the region.

Ensuring the implementation of the summit’s projects through capacity building and financing, and identifying synergies between the different projects will contribute to achieving the new collaborative and inclusive vision for the Mediterranean.

Lead organization (s)

Ministries of foreign affairs of the 5+5 countries

Partner organization (s)

Agence Française de Developement, European Investment Bank, European Bank for Reconstruction and Development, World Bank, European Commission, OECD, UfM, Anna Lindh Foundation
CMI digital platform for matching projects with donors

CMI, entrusted with establishing a digital platform to facilitate and monitor implementation of the Dialogue of the Two Shores, followed up with project leaders in preparation for an event, held in Paris on February 5, 2020, to match projects with donors.

Using updated project forms, information necessary to monitor the development and assess the needs of each project was gathered. This allowed for a precise update on the of each project and identification of prospective partners and financial and technical needs, and thus helped develop a more tailored set of recommendations and assistance.
After this preparatory phase, CMI organized the February 5, 2020, session in Paris, which brought together eight multilateral institutions (Agence Française de Développement, European Union, European Investment Bank, European Bank for Reconstruction and Development, OECD, UfM, Anna Lindh Foundation, World Bank Group), along with the leaders of the regional projects selected at the summit.

This first event offered project holders the opportunity to meet with representatives of international organizations involved in development projects in the Mediterranean region, to identify possible avenues for technical and financial support, and to connect with other project leaders with whom synergies had been found. Parallel workshops organized according to theme and designed to support the structuring of projects and their economic models were held.

The meeting concluded with an agreement on the need to go with the momentum from the February 5, 2020, event and ensure constant contact and follow-up with the new community of projects holders created on this occasion. The community will be structured through bilateral meetings with international financial institutions and other international organizations and by creating a collaborative digital platform within CMI.

**Dedicated website developed**

In its role as matching platform for projects for the Dialogue of the Two Shores, in consultations with all stakeholders, and responding to their need for a continued dynamic of exchange and collaboration among them, CMI developed a website (www.dialogue-2-rives.fr) dedicated to the initiative. Available in French and English, the goal of the website is to promote projects led by civil society; allow international institutions and investors to obtain information on projects and their financing needs; provide a secure space for exchange between investors and project leaders, and between project leaders themselves; and communicate with the general public.
Key outputs

1. bilingual website

80. participants took part in the deep dive event

20. project holders presented their projects to international financial institutions and international organizations
3 CROSS-CUTTING THEMES

YOUTH AND GENDER

MEDITERRANEAN RESPONSE TO COVID-19
Regional context

Of the many challenges that Mediterranean countries face, youth inclusion is by far the most critical, complex, and longstanding socioeconomic challenge. Although youth make up a large share of the population (more than 30 percent in most southern Mediterranean countries), they are subject to adversity and exclusion in a variety of ways. They feel a sense of social injustice and lack of dignity and find the status quo unacceptable. A shift in the situation could see the Mediterranean region benefit enormously, because youth represent untapped labor power and an unexplored economic strength. Considering the importance of youth in the region, CMI ensures that they are prominently featured and involved in all its programs. The CMI youth-targeted actions were developed to highlight the value of youth inclusion and opted for a participatory approach through which CMI engages with youth directly, giving them the opportunity to share their knowledge and make their voices heard.

In addition, the region’s instability and economic disparities disproportionately affect women. In terms of economic inclusion, women must overcome significant obstacles to build businesses, including limited access to credit, mobility constraints, and security concerns. Women in southern Mediterranean countries are less likely to participate in early-stage entrepreneurial activities than women in other countries, and the region’s female labor force participation rate is the lowest in the world. Given the realities of Mediterranean countries and the dynamics of the region, CMI recognized the importance of the relationship between women’s empowerment and promotion of economic opportunities and inclusiveness in the region, considering that women represent half of the working-age population and are capable of dramatically increasing economic growth if they are fully integrated. CMI has placed gender at the center of its work by adopting it as a cross-cutting theme. Gender is included in all of CMI’s themes, and CMI pays particular attention to gender as part of the human capital, forced displacement, and water programs, among others.

Objectives

The main objective is to foster inclusion of youth and women in the Mediterranean region, by focusing on three areas:

- Raising awareness of the need to promote economic opportunities for youth and women in the region
- Giving youth and women a voice by facilitating dialogue and engagement to be connected at local, national, and regional levels; and building powerful narratives
- Strengthening youth’s and women’s economic inclusion through education and entrepreneurship
Moving the migration agenda forward (see Human Capital and Mobility section)

Analytical preparatory work for a better-informed regional policy dialogue on migration (see Human Capital and Mobility section)

Sharing knowledge on developing young people’s resilience (see Human Capital and Mobility section)

Policy paper on Youth, Actors for Change: Rethinking Mobility (see Human Capital and Mobility section)

Knowledge exchange through University Governance Screening Card network (see Human Capital and Mobility section)

Regional report on Internationalization of Tertiary Education in the Middle East and North Africa (see Human Capital and Mobility section)

Partners mobilized for stronger women’s private sector engagement in host communities (see Resilience to Forced Displacement section)

Empowering the MedYWat network (see Resilience to Climate Change - Water section)

Building Mediterranean youth capacity on water and climate change (see Resilience to Climate Change - Water section)
Supporting MedYWat’s knowledge production on water and climate change (see Resilience to Climate Change - Water section)

Stimulating a youth water entrepreneurial space in the Mediterranean (see Resilience to Climate Change - Water section)

Informing youth on the internal climate-migration nexus (see Resilience to Climate Change - Water section)

Informing youth on internal climate-migration nexus (see Territorial Resilience to Climate Change section)

Empowerment of youth from the Mediterranean region (see Territorial Resilience to Climate Change section)

Creation of an interactive space for youth voices to share visions, approaches, experiences, and innovative practices towards climate action (see Territorial Resilience to Climate Change section)

CMI digital platform for matching projects with donors (see Dialogue of the Two Shores Section)

**Key outputs**

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<tr>
<td><strong>2</strong></td>
<td>flagship reports</td>
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<td><strong>5</strong></td>
<td>MedYWat research papers on water and climate change supported by CMI and senior experts</td>
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<td><strong>80</strong></td>
<td>youth World Water Day participants</td>
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<td><strong>45</strong></td>
<td>youth participants in e-hackathon on water and entrepreneurship, 10 entrepreneurial ideas supported</td>
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<td><strong>150</strong></td>
<td>Water Heroes Contest participants, 25 youth selected to join MedYWat</td>
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<td><strong>130</strong></td>
<td>youth engaged in water-security nexus study in North Africa</td>
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<td><strong>170</strong></td>
<td>applications received for Climate Heroes Contest, 40 youth selected to participate in group projects, 4 winners</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>20</strong></td>
<td>Mediterranean civil society projects with youth components supported via the CMI platform for implementation of the Dialogue of the Two Shores</td>
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Regional context

The COVID-19 crisis is threatening the health, economies, and societies of all countries, regardless of their level of development. In the eastern and southern Mediterranean countries, limited resilience and previous poor growth performance complicate the fight against the pandemic even more than in other regions. Although there are differences from country to country, the region is not prepared to manage such a pandemic. A large share of the population lives in places where public health services are poor or almost nonexistent. Even in the most stable countries, large fractions of the population are traditionally deprived of access to quality healthcare, mainly because they work in the informal sector. In addition, the crisis is occurring in a unique social and geopolitical context. Cooperation and EU-Mediterranean strategies in critical sectors are needed to provide a response to this unprecedented crisis.

Objectives

One objective of the program is to increase existing knowledge, highlight possible solutions, and determine how Mediterranean economies can move forward sustainably after the pandemic ends. Another goal is to reinvigorate EU-Mediterranean cooperation, a critical precursor to regional development in a post-COVID world. In addition, the goal is to move from knowledge to policy action by making concrete recommendations.

The program is structured around producing knowledge on possible strategies and solutions to the COVID crisis, adapting the programs that were developed before the pandemic, and including the COVID-19 dimension in CMI themes and activities.
Enhancing Mediterranean Integration report (see Co-Development and Integration section)

Middle East and North Africa Economic Update on Reviving Trade Integration in a Post-COVID Era (by the World Bank and CMI) (see Co-Development and Integration section)

CMI–FEMISE COVID-19 Policy Brief Series (see Co-Development and Integration section)

Analytical preparatory work for a better-informed regional policy dialogue on migration (see Human Capital and Mobility section)

Policy paper on Youth, Actors for Change: Rethinking Mobility (see Human Capital and Mobility section)

Knowledge exchange through University Governance Screening Card network (see Human Capital and Mobility section)

Regional report on Internationalization of Tertiary Education in the Middle East and North Africa (see Human Capital and Mobility section)

Technical capacities of host local governments increased, in adapting to the pandemic (see Resilience to Forced Displacement section)
Collaboration among municipal networks initiated for additional training (see Resilience to Forced Displacement section)

Informing policy makers about specific COVID-19 needs and actions of local governments hosting refugees (see Resilience to Forced Displacement section)

Stimulating a youth water entrepreneurial space in the Mediterranean (see Resilience to Climate Change – Water section)

Monitoring the policy and legislative framework and informing the “Clean Energy for All Europeans” package (see Resilience to Climate Change – Energy section)

Preparing for the future: building a common vision and stakeholder networks for a carbon-neutral Mediterranean (see Resilience to Climate Change – Energy section)

Empowerment of youth from the Mediterranean region (see Territorial Resilience to Climate Change section)

Creation of an interactive space for youth to share visions, approaches, experiences, and innovative practices on climate action (see Territorial Resilience to Climate Change section)

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**Key outputs**

- flagship reports
- policy briefs
- Technical webinars
- Blogs
- Thematic newsletters
- Mobilization of youth
- Participation in regional events on effects of COVID-19
ANNUAL REPORT 2020
3 PARTNERSHIPS
CMI is the only Mediterranean institution gathering governments, international development institutions, local authorities, and civil society. Its value lies in the strength of its membership and partnerships, which create an efficient alliance for pushing for valuable policy reforms and achieving the development and change needed in the Mediterranean.

CMI’s present membership consists of 10 governments (Egypt, France, Greece, Italy, Jordan, Lebanon, Morocco, Palestinian Authority, Spain, Tunisia), two international financial institutions (World Bank, European Investment Bank), and two local authorities (City of Marseille, Région SUD Provence-Alpes-Côte d’Azur) and includes the European External Action Service as an observer. The CMI partners represent an extended network that includes but is not limited to the Anna Lindh Foundation; Aix-Marseille University; Cities Alliance; GIZ; Euro-Mediterranean Forum of Institutes of Economic Sciences; French Development Agency; Growth Dialogue; International Centre for Advanced Mediterranean Agronomic Studies; Union for the Mediterranean; UK Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office; United Nations Education, Science and Cultural Organization; and Mediterranean Universities Union.

CMI’S 10TH ANNIVERSARY: A DECADE OF PARTNERSHIPS FOR KNOWLEDGE AND ACTION

On its 10th anniversary, and in line with its continuous efforts to expand its membership and plan its next steps strategically, CMI organized a high-level meeting of current and potential new members, program beneficiaries, and CMI’s founders in Marseille on October 8, 2019. The event was designed to...
look back on CMI’s journey, celebrate its achievements, and discuss its current approach and future projects. The event gave guests the opportunity to present their visions for the Mediterranean and identify potential areas of collaboration. It was also an opportunity to sign a bilateral memorandum of understanding with the UK Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office.

A 3-year collaboration plan with the UK Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office was thus sealed, initiating a new partnership on a critical development area in the Mediterranean: the water-security nexus. This engagement is the start of several collaborative projects with them, within the scope of CMI’s active programs in the region, notably the regional knowledge program on water.

**SPAIN: CMI’S NEAREST MEMBER**

On March 9, 2020, CMI and the Spanish Ministry of Foreign Affairs, European Union, and Cooperation signed an addendum to the CMI general memorandum of understanding, establishing the membership of Spain in CMI. This new membership crystallizes a longstanding, successful collaboration between Spain and CMI and will consolidate efforts to promote regional cooperation based on the common objectives of supporting resilience and socioeconomic transformation in the Mediterranean.

By becoming a member of CMI, Spain gains a seat on CMI’s Oversight Committee and therefore becomes an active participant in designing CMI’s strategy and actions. Spain’s membership also opens the door for greater inclusion of Spanish civil society, academia, and governmental institutions in CMI’s activities.

**THE WAY FORWARD**

CMI also signed, in October 2020, a bilateral memorandum of understanding with FEMISE that stipulates that CMI and FEMISE will collaborate in the preparation of knowledge and research projects and will contribute to the policy debate on implications of the COVID-19 crisis and how to address them.

CMI will continue its outreach to potential members and partners in the Mediterranean and beyond and will follow up with prospective new members and partners. New partnerships with the Aix-Marseille University and other institutions are underway.
In 2020, communication became even more central to advancing CMI’s agenda, as the world continues to feel the repercussions of the global COVID-19 pandemic and the extreme measures taken to reduce physical interactions and mobility. Communications enabled CMI to run its activities uninterrupted despite the pandemic.

In 2020, the CMI communications strategy continued to focus on increasing the visibility of CMI activities and accentuating the multiple collaborations CMI has established in an effort to highlight the power of joint actions in advancing the development agenda in the Mediterranean region. Efforts in 2020 focused on showcasing CMI results, creating strategic content to optimize knowledge sharing.

EXPANDING KNOWLEDGE-SHARING OPTIONS

In 2020, opportunities for knowledge dissemination, including peer-learning events, were increased by designing efficient knowledge-sharing instruments and processes:

- Showcasing CMI’s established networks: CMI has put showcasing the work that the multiple networks operating under its management have performed at the heart of its communications strategy. In 2020, communication has been established to highlight the achievements of these networks by:
  • creating several social media campaigns, such as the Municipal Responses to COVID-19: Stories from the Host Municipalities Learning Network, which highlighted the strategy of 14 municipalities from across the Mediterranean region in facing the COVID-19 pandemic
  • developing a new website for MedYWat, which will provide members with an independent space to showcase their work, announce their events, and share their best practices
  • disseminating and cross-promoting the networks’ products, such as the MedYWat working papers on water and climate change, which increases the visibility and reach of these products

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STATISTICS DEMONSTRATE EFFECT
(September 1, 2019 to September 1, 2020)

HIGH ACTIVITY

- 5 Thematic newsletters
- 555 Facebook posts in English, Arabic, and French
- 769 Tweets in English, Arabic, and French
- 10 General newsletters
- Social media live coverage for 29 events
- 2 New dedicated websites
- 8 Videos
- 7 Photo albums
A new digital platform for Dialogue of the Two Shores projects:

After the French Minister of Europe and Foreign Affairs, Jean-Yves Le Drian, selected CMI to build a collective platform to monitor execution of the summit’s initiatives, CMI has been working on realizing this vision through a digital platform that will be used to promote the projects to the general public, allow international investors to obtain more information on projects and their financing needs, and provide a secure exchange space between investors and project leaders and between project leaders.

Weekly Mediterranean policy briefs on responding to COVID-19 challenges in the Mediterranean region: CMI, in collaboration with FEMISE, has released and disseminated seven policy briefs that researchers from across the Mediterranean region have written. This ongoing project is contributing to the policymaking process by addressing the economic, social, and welfare effects of COVID-19 on the Euro-Mediterranean region and how Mediterranean integration can be reinforced to overcome the crisis and trigger further transformation in the region.

Thematic newsletters: CMI has been producing two thematic newsletters: Mediterranean Refugees and Migrants, launched in 2016 and produced eight times per year in English and Arabic, and Territorial and City Development in the Mediterranean, in English, Arabic, and French. Both showcase groundbreaking solutions that actors around the Mediterranean at all levels of society and government are implementing.

Online databases: Mediterranean Refugees and Host Communities and Development and Violent Extremism Prevention offer evidence-based analyses and innovative actions and solutions to help communities develop effective responses to these crises. It is essential to boost actors’ capacities to work toward common welfare. Two hundred thirty reports and studies have been curated and compiled on the website.

GATHERING AND CUSTOMIZING KNOWLEDGE

In 2020, efforts were continued to customize and package knowledge in formats that decision makers, practitioners, civil society, youth, and media can easily use. As often as possible, CMI has made content available in Arabic, French, and English. Priority has been given to multimedia products and data visualization.

Blogs
203 blogs have been produced, most of which were published in Arabic, French, and English. CMI engaged with guest bloggers from civil society, partner organizations, and regional experts to generate content. Subjects have included employment, radicalization, refugees, youth, climate change, the Mediterranean energy market, education, and university governance. Blogs were often cross-promoted on partners’ channels.

Videos
Eight videos were produced in 2020 highlighting the concrete results of CMI’s multilateral collaborations in each of its programs and the effect it has had on the region.
Conference material

CMI focused on capturing the wealth of knowledge and best practices that have been exchanged in the various workshops. More than 1,000 conference documents (e.g., experts’ PowerPoint presentations, workshop summary reports) and more than 40 reports and studies are on the CMI external website and accessible to all.

Live coverage of events on social media

Live tweeting in three languages was provided for CMI’s 29 regional events, as well as 32 regional, national, and local events in which CMI participated. In 2020, Facebook messages reached 965,000 viewers from the region. In addition, working in partnership with other actors in the Mediterranean region allowed CMI to engage in coordinated activities on social media and to produce joint communication campaigns that were disseminated to CMI’s and partners’ audiences. Through partnership as well, CMI gained some heavy-hitting followers, such as the Maltese Minister for Foreign Affairs and Trade Promotion, the Italian Agency for Development Cooperation, and the French Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Reports (see previous thematic sections)

- Close collaboration between the World Bank and CMI has led to the joint production of the October 2020 edition of the Middle East and North Africa economic update, Trading Together: Reviving the Middle East and North Africa Regional Integration in the Post-COVID Era. The report analyzes the critical effect of trade and integration within the Middle East and North Africa and with the rest of the world on lowering poverty, empowering the poor, and igniting economic growth in a post-COVID era.
On the 25th anniversary of the initiation of the Barcelona Process, CMI published a book examining the dimensions of Mediterranean integration in today’s context. *Enhancing Mediterranean Integration*, which CMI Manager Blanca Moreno Dodson authored, makes policy recommendations, examines integration beyond trade agreements, and explores the potential effects of deeper integration on the development of the Mediterranean region.

CMI, in collaboration with the World Bank, has released the first Middle East and North Africa regionwide report on internationalization of tertiary education; *Internationalization of Tertiary Education in the Middle East and North Africa* raises awareness of this topic, examines the status of internationalization in the Middle East and North Africa, and makes recommendations, including addressing the challenges and the opportunities that the COVID-19 crisis presents.

The new living report, *Climate Change and Migration: Inspiring Practices from the Mediterranean*, is a regularly updated document that compiles and analyzes inspiring local solutions to the challenges of climate change and its effects on migration through territorial resilience in the Mediterranean. It focuses on the challenges of internal climate migration and covers topics such as food security, coastal management, nature-based solutions, and infrastructure. The report has featured 10 case studies from Egypt, Lebanon, Morocco, Spain, and Tunisia and contributions from CMI’s partners: International Center for Advanced Mediterranean Agronomic Studies, FAO, GIZ, International Union for Nature Conservation in the Mediterranean, MedCities, UNDP, and World Bank.


The third edition of the Local Economic Development in Municipalities Hosting Refugees compendium describes best practices and successful experiences of host municipalities and local stakeholders responding to the refugee crisis. It focuses on priority sectors such as good governance, social cohesion, labor market integration, and economic development for refugees and hosts (English, Arabic).
5 FINANCIAL FIGURES
Overview of CMI

FUNDING AND EXPENDITURES

THE CMI HAS THREE SOURCES OF FUNDING

- Financing from the World Bank
- Multi-Donor Trust Funds (MDTF), which collects contributions from the French Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Development, the European Investment Bank (EIB), the French Development Agency (AFD), the French Ministry of Economy and Finance, Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ), and the Provence-Alpes-Côte d’Azur Region
- Direct contributions from the partners for specific programs and activities

Since the CMI’s establishment in 2009, total contributions from all three funding sources stand at US$59.9 million. Table 1 provides an overview of contributions for fiscal years 2010-20 (the fiscal year runs from July 1 to June 30). It shows that contributions from the World Bank amounted to US$23.9 million for the period. Over the same period, total MDTF contributions were US$13.5 million. Direct contributions from partners, including monetary and in-kind, is estimated by the partners, amount to US$22.5 million.

Table 2 shows the breakdown of resources allocated to current activities by the World Bank, the MDTF, and partners from CMI inception to June 30, 2020. The table shows: i) the total allocation to CMI themes, by source of funding, and ii) the resources allocated to cross-cutting activities at the Coordination Unit, such as CMI governance, program support, and communications. The latter totaled US$19.7 million, including US$14.6 million from the World Bank, and US$2.5 million from the MDTF. In addition, the City of Marseille Villa and offices are put at the disposal of the CMI, in co-use with other institutions, reflecting a value of US$2.0 million.
## Financial Contributions for Fiscal Years 2010-20, Covering Periods between 1 July and 30 June

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<td>11</td>
<td>11</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Trust Fund Investment Income (Fees)</td>
<td>(181)</td>
<td>(146)</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>(64)</td>
<td>(19)</td>
<td>(74)</td>
<td>(5)</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>54</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>(369)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Partner in-kind Contributions /1

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>TOTAL (USD 1000)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Agence des Villes et Territoires Méditerranéens Durables (AViTeM)</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Agence Française de Développement (AFD)</td>
<td>4,496</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anna Lindh Foundation (ALF)</td>
<td>95</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arab Republic of Egypt</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Caisse des Dépots et Consignations (CDC)</td>
<td>1,180</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CEWAS</td>
<td>45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cities Alliance</td>
<td>270</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>City of Marseille</td>
<td>435</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>City of Marseille/2</td>
<td>2,048</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Council of Europe Development Bank (CEB)</td>
<td>250</td>
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<tr>
<td>European Commission (EU)</td>
<td>135</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>European Investment Bank (EIB)</td>
<td>2,410</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>European Training Foundation (ETF)</td>
<td>152</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Forum Euroméditerranéen des Instituts de Sciences Économiques (FEMISE)</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>French Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs – Délégation interministérielle à la Méditerranée (DiMed)</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Global Environment Facility (GEF)</td>
<td>3,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Global Facility for Disaster Reduction and Recovery (GFDRR)</td>
<td>430</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Global Water Partnership-Mediterranean (GWP-Med)</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>International Center for Advanced Mediterranean Agronomic Studies (CIHEAM)</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN)</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>International Water Management Institute (IWMI)</td>
<td>45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ)</td>
<td>1,571</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Islamic Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (ISESCO)</td>
<td>218</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>International Water Association (IWA)</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>League of Arab States (LAS)</td>
<td>250</td>
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<tr>
<td>French Ministère de l’Ecologie, du Développement durable et de l’Energie (MIEDDE)</td>
<td>102</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MedCities</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Migration Policy Center</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Morocco Governance Transition Fund</td>
<td>730</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nordic Trust Fund (NTF)</td>
<td>375</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
TABLE 2

World Bank, MDTF and Partner Contributions to Current Programs and Activities for Fiscal Years 2010-2020

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Theme</th>
<th>World Bank Contribution</th>
<th>MDTF Contribution</th>
<th>Partner Contribution</th>
<th>SUM (‘ USD 1000)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Human Capital: Education, Employability &amp; Mobility</td>
<td>2,517</td>
<td>1,396</td>
<td>1,567</td>
<td>5,480</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Integrated Territorial Development</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>882</td>
<td>2,634</td>
<td>3,537</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Refugees &amp; Host Communities</td>
<td>1,899</td>
<td>1,376</td>
<td>1,743</td>
<td>5,018</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Climate Change</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Water</td>
<td>867</td>
<td>1,632</td>
<td>2,738</td>
<td>5,237</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Energy</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>252</td>
<td>160</td>
<td>412</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Territorial Resilience</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cross-Cutting Themes</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>1,108</td>
<td>90</td>
<td>1,198</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Completed Programs and Activities from 2010-2019</td>
<td>3,954</td>
<td>3,488</td>
<td>10,968</td>
<td>18,410</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sub-Total</td>
<td>9,258</td>
<td>10,234</td>
<td>20,000</td>
<td>39,492</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coordination</td>
<td>14,637</td>
<td>2,495</td>
<td>2,515</td>
<td>19,647</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trust Fund Balance as of June 30, 2019</td>
<td></td>
<td>808</td>
<td></td>
<td>808</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grand Total</td>
<td>23,895</td>
<td>13,537</td>
<td>22,515</td>
<td>59,947</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

/1 Based on information (includes staff, in-kind and functioning) provided by partners and estimated exchange rates.
/2 City of Marseille and offices put at the disposal of CMI in co-use with other institutions.
Appendix A
MEMBERS OF THE OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE 2020

Members oversee processes in accordance with the Memorandum of Understanding, paying particular attention to strategy, programs, partnerships, and overall orientation. The Oversight Committee vets new programs, reviews program content, and discusses the use of the Multi-Donor Trust Fund.

EGYPT
- Ms. Dina Safwat, Head of UN Cooperation, Ministry of Investment and International Cooperation

FRANCE
- Mr. Karim Amellal, current Ambassador for the Mediterranean, Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs
- Mr. Pierre Duquesne, former Ambassador for the Mediterranean, Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs
- Mr. Denis Douveneau, Deputy Interministerial Delegate for the Mediterranean, Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs
- Ms. Claire Cheremetinski, Assistant Secretary for Bilateral Affairs and International Business Development, Directorate General of the Treasury, Ministry for the Economy and Finance
- Ms. Delphine Falchier, Agence Française de Développement
- Mr. Sébastien Minot, former Advisor for the Mediterranean, Operations Department, Agence Française de Développement

REGION SUD – PROVENCE-ALPES-CÔTE D’AZUR, CONSEIL REGIONAL DE PROVENCE-ALPES-CÔTE D’AZUR
- Mr. Renaud Muselier, President, Région Sud – Provence-Alpes-Côte d’Azur, Conseil régional de Provence-Alpes-Côte d’Azur
- Ms. Agnès Rampal, President of the “Euro-Mediterranean” Commission, Région Sud – Provence-Alpes-Côte d’Azur, Conseil régional de Provence-Alpes-Côte d’Azur
Ms. Raphaele De Giuli Morghen, Deputy Director General, EuroMediterranean Coopération, Région Sud – Provence-Alpes-Côte d’Azur, Conseil régional de Provence-Alpes-Côte d’Azur

Mr. Guillaume Huet, Head of Euro-Mediterranean Cooperation, Région Sud – Provence-Alpes-Côte d’Azur, Conseil régional de Provence-Alpes-Côte d’Azur

CITY OF MARSEILLE

Mr. Frédéric Olivo, former Director of International and European Relations, City of Marseille

Ms. Patricia Mallen, Deputy Director, Marseille Attractiveness & Promotion Deputy Directorate General (DGAAPM), Department of International and European Relations, City of Marseille

GREECE

Ms. Dina Kamitsi, First Counselor, Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Mr. Vassilios Tselios, Expert Minister Counselor, C1 Directorate, Ministry of Foreign Affairs

ITALY

Mr. Enrico Granara, Minister Plenipotentiary, Coordinator for Multilateral Affairs in the Mediterranean and the Middle East, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation

Mr. Carlo Tidu, First Secretary, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation

JORDAN

Mr. Marwan Al Refai, Advisor, EU Programmes’ Administration Office, Ministry of Planning and International Cooperation

LEBANON

Mr. Alain Bifani, General Director, Ministry of Finance

MOROCCO

Mr. Mounssif Aderkaoui, Director of the Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Economy and Finance

Mr. Adil Hidane, Ministry of Economy and Finance

PALESTINIAN AUTHORITY

Ms. Laila Sbahi Eghraib, Acting Director General of International Relations and Projects, Ministry of Finance
SPAIN
- Ms. Eva Martínez Sánchez, Director General, Directorate General for the Maghreb, Mediterranean and the Middle East, State Secretariat for Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, European Union and Cooperation
- Mr. Alfonso Lucini Mateo, Ambassador on Special Mission for Middle East and Mediterranean Affairs, Directorate General for the Maghreb, Mediterranean and the Middle East, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, European Union and Cooperation

TUNISIA
- Ms. Saloua Hsoumi, Director General Euro-Mediterranean Cooperation, Ministry of Development, Investment and International Cooperation
- Mr. Bessem Mbarek, Ministry of Development, Investment and International Cooperation

EUROPEAN EXTERNAL ACTION SERVICE (OBSERVER)
- Mr. Colin Scicluna, former Director/Deputy Managing Director, Middle East and North Africa Gulf
- Mr. Julien Wallerand, Desk Officer

EUROPEAN INVESTMENT BANK
- Mr. Yohann Chaigneau, Senior Strategy and Institutional Affairs advisor
- Ms. Flavia Palanza, Director, EU Neighboring Countries

THE WORLD BANK GROUP
- Mr. Ferid Belhaj, Vice-President, Middle East and North Africa Region and Chair
- Mr. Rabah Arezki, former Chief Economist for the Middle East and North Africa Region
- Mr. Stefan Koeberle, Director for Strategy and Operations, Middle East and North Africa Region

CENTER FOR MEDITERRANEAN INTEGRATION
- Ms. Blanca Moreno-Dodson, Manager
The Center for Mediterranean Integration (CMI) is a space where development agencies, Governments, local authorities and civil society from around the Mediterranean convene to exchange knowledge, discuss public policies, and identify the solutions needed to address key challenges facing the Mediterranean region.