

Call for micro-initiatives



BeMed

A COMMITMENT FOR A
PLASTIC-FREE MEDITERRANEAN

Call for Micro-Initiatives (AMI)

2026 REGULATIONS



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

Beyond Plastic Med was launched on 10 March 2015 in Monaco, during the international conference "*Plastics in the Mediterranean: beyond the facts, what solutions*".

To provide the means to reduce plastic pollution in the Mediterranean, the Prince Albert II of Monaco Foundation has joined forces with the Tara Ocean Foundation, Surfrider Foundation Europe, the IUCN and the Mava Foundation to give life to the *Beyond Plastic Med* (BeMed) initiative, which became an association under Monegasque law in 2019.

BeMed aims to support effective and replicable solutions for a plastic-free Mediterranean, in collaboration with the public and private sectors, NGOs and the scientific community. In this objective BeMed launches an annual call for micro-initiatives.

The supported initiatives will be selected for their effectiveness in reducing plastic pollution on the ground, their potential for replicability and their coherence with local socio-economic conditions.

In order to create a regional dynamic, the winning organisations of this call will join the BeMed Community of Practice, a network aimed at supporting the implementation of projects by enabling the development of the skills of member organisations, promoting exchanges and collaborations between peers and facilitating the sharing of tools and good practices.

2 OBJECTIVES OF THE CALL FOR MICRO-INITIATIVES

As BeMed is not able to finance all projects with a favourable impact on plastic pollution in the Mediterranean, it prioritizes projects with a high chance of being replicated in other areas, in other countries or in other sectors.

This eleventh call for micro-initiatives aims to explore actions with **high replicability potential** to fight against plastic pollution. BeMed is looking for effective and adaptable solutions in several Mediterranean contexts to be able to support certain solutions towards a larger test and then deployment on a Mediterranean scale.

Through its support for micro-initiatives, BeMed aims to achieve the following objectives:

- Reducing the use of plastic and/or its toxicity,
- Changing societal attitudes towards the unreasonable use of plastics,
- Strengthening the capacities of local actors and the impact of their actions,
- Disseminating good practices on the reduction of plastic use, the implementation of sustainable alternatives and the management of plastic waste,

- Strengthening of a Mediterranean network of local actors committed to the fight against plastic pollution.

3 TYPES OF INTERVENTIONS SOUGHT

BeMed is particularly looking for projects that reduce the use of plastic or its toxicity. Downstream projects (intervention once plastic is a waste), although necessary, do not effectively combat plastic pollution in the long term.

In line with its other activities and priorities for action, the following types of actions have a strong added value for BeMed:

- Actions involving the private sector (in particular the hotel and restaurant, cosmetics, mass retail, healthcare),
- Actions carried out by or with local authorities,
- Actions related to sport (support for stakeholders, reducing plastic use in sports events, sport as a way for raising awareness, etc.),
- Actions supporting the implementation of a reuse system.

BeMed requires that environmental impact transfers be limited as much as possible. An environmental impact transfer occurs when an action to reduce an ecological impact in one place, shifts the problem to another stage of the life cycle or creates a greater impact on other environmental factors.

BeMed seeks to support projects with a high potential for impact and with a high chance of being replicated in other areas, in other countries or in other sectors. Therefore, projects that meet the following criteria are encouraged:

- Replication or adaptation of successful experiences in other areas or countries.
- Tests whose impact and effectiveness are measured and documented.
- Projects that are targeted and focused on a plastic use, a sector or a type of waste (as opposed to projects with multiple and dispersed targets).
- Actions that are rooted in and adapted to the context in which they are deployed.
- Projects carried out by or with the local authorities concerned.
- Projects with strong and relevant partnerships.

In any case, projects must show coherence between the proposed activities and all activities must meet the overall objective of the project.

4 ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

4.1 Eligible countries

- ☐ All countries around the Mediterranean are eligible.

- ☐ It should be noted, however, that priority will be given to the following countries: Albania, Algeria, Morocco, Tunisia, Turkey, Montenegro, Egypt, Lebanon.

Candidates are invited to inform BeMed in the event of any administrative and/or financial barriers encountered in their country to apply for the call.

4.2 Eligible organisations

Organisations must meet all of the following criteria to be eligible:

- ☐ Have a legal status to receive subsidies.
- ☐ Have its registered office in the country of implementation of the project.
- ☐ To develop activities mainly concerning awareness, nature protection, environmental lobbying, societal change, research and innovation.
- ☐ Organisations that have already been supported for the first time by a BeMed call and whose project **is not completed (final report submitted and analysed)** are not eligible.
- ☐ The same organisation can only be supported by BeMed twice in the context of calls for micro-initiatives.

4.3 Eligible applications

- ☐ The same organization can submit only one application to this call.
- ☐ Projects that have not been selected in previous editions of the AMI and whose applications have not been adjusted to take into account BeMed's feedback will not be eligible.

4.4 Eligibility projects and conditions

The actions presented must comply with one or more of the themes listed below and provide the details indicated in the second column to be eligible.

Themes	Details to be provided for the theme (in 3.6 of the application file)
Eliminating, reducing, reusing and finding sustainable alternatives to plastic Eliminate single-use, reduce the use of plastics, give plastic a second life and develop sustainable alternatives* to limit the production and/or use of plastic. Activities involving the use or promotion of bioplastics (bio-based and/or biodegradable plastics) will not be eligible. Bioplastics present significant risks of environmental impact transfer, disruption of waste management systems and	For a proposal on this theme, projects will have to justify how they will favour removal without replacement and reuse over substitution of materials. In cases where the substitution of materials is envisaged, the following information must appear: justification of the need to keep a single-use alternative, justification of the more favourable impact of the alternative

their composition, which is often poorly understood, does not presume an improvement in their toxicity compared to standard plastic (more information here). <i>*Alternatives with a lower environmental impact than the product they replace. Functional alternatives (e.g. removal of unnecessary products, reuse systems) are given priority over alternatives alternative materials.</i>	considered and consideration of the assessment of the risks of impact transfer.
Raising awareness and communicating Raising awareness among the population, businesses and institutions about the sources and consequences of plastic pollution. Awareness-raising must be a tool to serve broader objectives, falling within one or more other eligible themes. <u>It must not be the only purpose of the project.</u>	For all awareness-raising actions, the following points must necessarily be clarified: - the message, - targets, - objectives, - Formats - and how it will serve the other objectives of the project.
Advocacy Advise and assist in the implementation of new regulations on plastics (at local, regional, national or Mediterranean level), or support the implementation and compliance with existing regulations. The core of the messages and objectives sought by advocacy actions must be aligned with BeMed's priorities: reducing the use of plastic at the source and taking into account the health issues of plastic.	For a proposal on this topic, the following points must be indicated: - messages, - targets, - Objectives - and formats.
Research and data collection Data collection and studies regarding the source of plastics and their impacts and/or socio-economic studies on plastic dependence. Funding for data collection can only be granted <u>if the data is shared on common and open databases</u>. A priority for this type of funding will be given to countries and regions with less data available.	For a proposal on this topic, the need for the collection, the purpose of the data collection, the use that will be made of the data and the data sharing plan (scientific publication, open database, etc.) must be indicated in the application file.

Bringing together and mobilizing stakeholders Activities that create synergies between the various actors (in particular with the private sector) making it possible to implement concrete solutions to fight against plastic pollution.	For a proposal on this theme, it will be necessary to clearly specify the status of relations with the actors, how the actors will be engaged/convinced, the message that will be conveyed to them and what is envisaged for a long-term follow-up of the partnership.
Improvement of plastic waste collection and treatment systems Only support for collection and recycling solutions that are part of the official waste management systems of the country concerned will be eligible. If the implementation of new plastics collection and recycling solutions is envisaged, they will need to be approved by and/or have the support of the relevant public authorities from the time of application to be eligible.	For a proposal on this theme, all aspects of the end-of-life of waste must be well detailed in the application file: - what types of waste are targeted, - who is responsible for collection, - where is the waste treated, - what happens to the waste. The involvement of the relevant public authorities during the project and in the long term should be clearly indicated.

5 TERMS AND CONDITIONS FOR FUNDING INITIATIVES

BeMed's contribution:

- may not exceed **EUR 15,000**, and
- may not exceed **70%** of the total amount of the initiative.

Each initiative must have a maximum overall budget **of 45,000 euros**.

An additional contribution to BeMed's financial contribution is mandatory. This can take the form of in-kind or financial financing from the applicant organisation or co-financing by local or international financial partners.

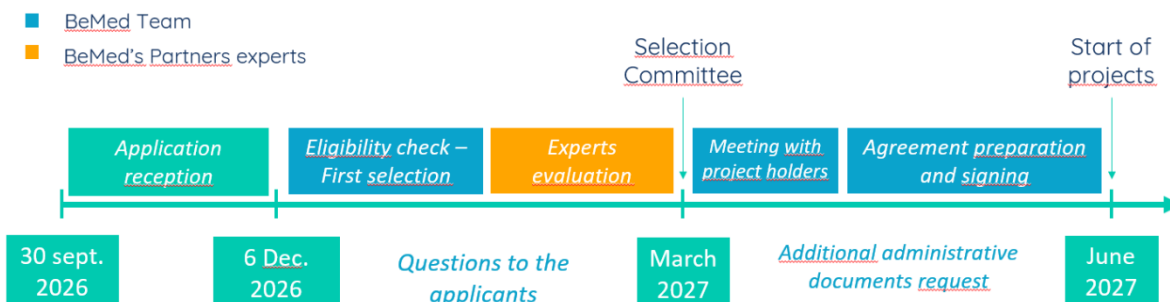
All amounts are expressed in euros and all taxes included.

The duration of the initiatives will be between **a minimum of 12 months and a maximum of 24 months**. In all cases, the initiatives must concern activities implemented from **1st of June 2027** and must be completed by **31st of August 2029 at the latest**.

It is important to note that the process of preparing and signing the financial partnership can take several months after the project has been selected. It is therefore recommended to plan the necessary budget for the start of the project without the support of BeMed or to plan the project start date accordingly.

6 SELECTION PROCEDURE

The selection of initiatives will be carried out as follows:



A pre-selection will be carried out by the BeMed team (according to the eligibility criteria and a first evaluation).

The shortlisted applications will then be evaluated by the selection committee composed of experts from the BeMed network.

During the selection process, additional information may be requested from applicants.

Responses informing about the results of the call for micro-initiatives will be sent at the end of **April 2027**.

7 SCORING SYSTEM

The selection of eligible applications will be made according to the effectiveness and reproducibility of the proposed project to reduce plastic pollution. It will be evaluated on two aspects: the content of the project and its feasibility.

Content :

- Adequation of the project's idea with BeMed's eligible themes and reduction priorities
- Impact and ambition of the project
- Relevance of actions to the local context
- Sustainability of actions and their replicability
- Environmental coherence and limitation of the risk of impact transfer
- Added value of actions in relation to BeMed's priorities

Project feasibility :

- Experience and legitimacy of the organisation and the team
- Clarity and articulation of activities with each other and with the overall objective
- Consistency of the proposed methodology

- Local anchoring: taking into account the specificities/constraints and dynamics of the actors
- Coherence of human and financial resources
- Consistency of the provisional schedule
- Strength and relevance of partnerships
- Risk identification and Mitigation
- Monitoring and impact measurement

Artificial intelligence (AI) has made its way into our daily lives. We receive a lot of applications written with its help. We alert you to the cumbersome nature of applications entirely written by AI, the similarities between the applications, the generic turns of phrase that undermines the meaning of the applications as well as its environmental impacts. We are sensitive to a reasoned use of this tool and we will take it into account in our evaluation.

8 IMPLEMENTATION OF MICRO-INITIATIVES

The BeMed team is responsible for the follow-up of micro-initiatives.

The beneficiaries will sign a financing agreement with the Beyond Plastic Med association.

BeMed may cancel the Financing Agreement for an initiative if the project activities have not started quickly (within a maximum of three months) after the start date specified in the agreement. The project leader will then be required to repay the entire first instalment to BeMed.

All initiatives will be subject to a **systematic interim and final evaluation**. BeMed will provide a template for an interim and final technical, financial and impact indicators report to be completed by project leaders. Field visits may be conducted.

All expenses will have to be justified. Supporting documents for all expenses will be requested in the interim and final reports and the recipient organization guarantees to keep them for a period of 10 years.

The grant per initiative will be paid in **2 installments** : 70% of the funding at the signing of the Agreement and 30% of the balance after the submission and validation by BeMed of the final completion report.

9 PROCEDURE FOR SUBMITTING INITIATIVES

The subsidy application file to be completed can be downloaded from the BeMed website at the following address:

<https://www.beyondplasticmed.org/appel-a-micro-initiatives/>

It consists of two elements available in English and French:

- A file in Word format: "BeMed 2026 application form"
- A file in Excel format: "Application BeMed_Budget Provisional.xls"

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

All the annexes listed in the "BeMed Application File" must be provided as separate documents (pdf or word).

The application must be **sent by e-mail to the following address:**
ami@beyondplasticmed.org

Grant applications submitted in paper format or outside the specified time period will not be reviewed.

Timetable for the call for micro-initiatives:

Opening of applications: 30 September 2026

Possible questions regarding the application file to be asked before 13 November 2026 at
ami@beyondplasticmed.org

Deadline to apply: **6 December 2026 at 23:00 (CET)**