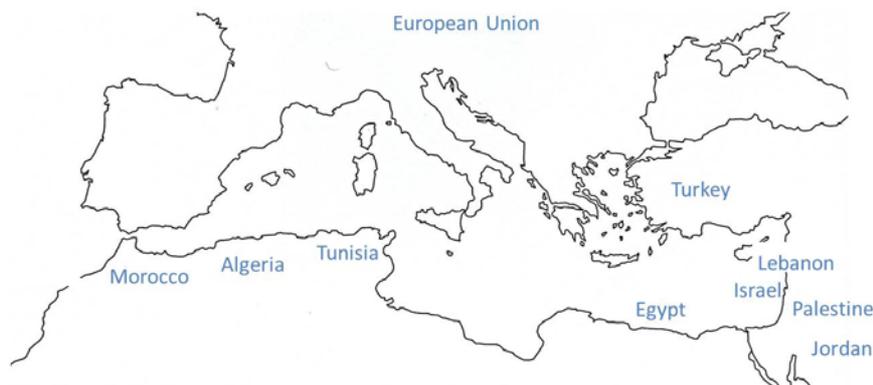


EUROMED TRADE AND INVESTMENT FACILITATION MECHANISM

The **EuroMed Trade and Investment Facilitation Mechanism (TIFM)** is an EU funded project (2014-17) to facilitate closer economic ties between the EU and South Mediterranean countries as well as to improve economic integration between these countries, by providing an online portal of trade related information, covering “TIFM” countries including: Algeria, Egypt, Jordan, Israel, Lebanon, Morocco, Palestine, Tunisia and Turkey.

The project is being implemented by the International Trade Centre (ITC), a joint agency of the United Nations and the World Trade Organization. ITC’s mission is to foster sustainable economic development in developing countries and economies in transition through trade and international business development. It does this by working with the private sector in collaboration with trade support institutions and policy makers.



The project provides an online information portal – the **EuroMed Trade Helpdesk** – as well as coordinates a **network of national institutions**, responsible for responding to enquiries posted to the online portal, so as to facilitate regional economic integration.

The **EuroMed Trade Helpdesk** - euromed.macmap.org, has been modelled on the EU Export Helpdesk and contains information on: trade statistics; applied customs tariffs and preferential arrangements, rules and certificates of origin, VAT and excise taxes; general requirements and product specific market requirements (such as sanitary and phytosanitary regulations, labelling regulations etc.); business contacts (e.g. relevant institutions, chambers of commerce etc.) as well as news and events.

The portal and problem solving network will continue beyond the project duration, hence information will be collected and catalogued in a sustainable manner. ITC remains the coordinator of helpdesk service in collaboration with national technical focal point institutions in TIFM countries via a nominated technical focal point. ITC will also continue to process and upload data to the portal. Particular emphasis will be on market requirements and regulations. For technical sustainability, the portal is hosted with ITC’s Market Analysis Tools, which are free as public goods and provide a database infrastructure well adapted to host TIFM data.

The **TIFM network of trade support institutions** is responsible for promoting trade and investment between TIFM countries and the European Union. The network provides data and responds to enquiries posted to the online portal by economic operators within the region. ITC is the coordinator of this enquiry response service.

For more information about the TIFM project, please visit euromed.macmap.org or contact ITC’s Market Analysis and Research Section at euromed@intracen.org