MEDITERRANEAN CAPITALS OF CULTURE‎ & DIALOGUE

**Annex 1**

**Application Form**

**Instructions**

* Applicants must answer all the questions below. In each section (0 to 8), questions can be answered separately or jointly.
* The 9 sections are: Overview; Programme; Euro-Mediterranean vision; Content and objectives of the cooperation between the two Mediterranean Capitals of Culture & Dialogue; Civil Society engagement; Governance and Management; Communication; Environmental impact; and financial capacity.
* Applicants are invited to be clear and concise in their answers.
* The application shall be written in one of the three official languages of the UfM: English, French, and Arabic;
* The application shall not exceed 60 pages in A4 format (12-pitch font, Times New Roman).

1. **Overview (min. 1 - max. 4 pages)**
   1. Why does your city wish to participate in the competition for the Mediterranean Capitals of Culture & Dialogue (MCCD) title?
   2. Does your city plan to involve its surrounding area? If yes, please explain this choice.
   3. Please describe briefly the overall cultural profile of your city.
   4. Please briefly explain the concept of the programme that would be launched if the city is designated as Mediterranean Capital of Culture & Dialogue.
2. **Programme (min. 2 – max. 10 pages, ‎ partial score: 20/100)**
   1. Please describe the overall cultural and artistic vision and strategy of the programme.
   2. Please provide an overview of the programme structure, including the range and diversity of the activities and main events that will mark 2026.
   3. Please explain how the programme will strengthen the capacity of the cultural and creative sectors.
   4. Please explain how you intend to use innovative digital tools and creative methodologies.
   5. Please explain how the programme will promote local tangible and intangible cultural heritage.
3. **Euro-Mediterranean vision (min. 1 - max. 8 pages, partial score: 25/100)**
   1. Please explain how the programme combines local objectives with a Euro-Mediterranean vision.
   2. Please provide detailed information on planned activities promoting cultural diversity, intercultural dialogue, greater mutual understanding, and integration across the Euro-Mediterranean region. Emphasis should be given to activities broadening citizens' understanding and awareness of the richness and diversity of cultures in the Euro-Mediterranean region and the commonalities between these cultures, heritage, and history.
   3. Please explain how the programme will encourage international partnerships to attract the interest of a broad Euro-Mediterranean and international public.
   4. If you have planned or plan to address one or more of the regional challenges identified by UfM members[[1]](#footnote-1), please state these challenges and how you intend to address them in your programme.
4. **Content and objectives of the cooperation between the two Mediterranean Capitals of Culture ‎& Dialogue (min 1 – max 5 pages, partial score: 8/100)**
   1. Please describe what viable and assessable modalities and content you devised to enable potential collaboration with the other city in case you are designated as Mediterranean Capital of Culture & Dialogue.
   2. If you have established or plan to establish a cooperation agreement with another city applying in the framework of the MCCD initiative, please state what the city is and describe the main provisions of the cooperation agreement.
5. **Civil Society engagement ‎(min 1 – max 8 pages, partial score: 15/100)**
   1. Please describe how you have involved, or plan to involve, non-governmental and civil society actors in the conception and implementation phases of the programme.
   2. Please explain how you envisage ensuring activities are accessible to all parts of society, including young people, the elderly, and women.
   3. Please describe how the programme will involve education institutions to promote intercultural learning, the enhancement of intercultural competencies and skills, and the strengthening of intercultural knowledge;
   4. If you have partnered or plan to partner with one or more civil society organisations member of one of the ALF National Network[[2]](#footnote-2) in your country, please state it and describe the main provisions of the partnership.
6. **Governance and Management ‎(min. 1 – max 10 pages[[3]](#footnote-3), partial score: 12/100)‎**
   1. Please provide evidence of full political support and commitment from all local, regional, and national public authorities concerned.
   2. Please describe in detail the governance structure and management to ensure proper delivery and implementation of the programme and to facilitate cooperation with the different partners at the local and international levels.
   3. Please explain how you will ensure an adequate and viable infrastructure to host the title.
   4. Please explain how you will monitor, evaluate, and assess the quality of the implementation of the programme.
7. **Communication (min 1 – max. 5 pages, partial score: 5/100)**
   1. Please describe the central tenets of your communication strategy and provide your plan to ensure wide national and international visibility and dissemination of results.
8. **Environmental impact (min 1 – max. 5 pages, partial score: 3/100)**
   1. Please address the environmental impact of the programme, including a contingency plan with mitigation measures related to environmental risks that connect with the programme's implementation.
9. **Financial Capacity (min 1 – max. 5 pages[[4]](#footnote-4), partial score: 12/100)** 
   * 1. Please provide information about the annual budget for culture in the city over the last 5 years before the submission of the application (fill in the table below)

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Year** | **Annual budget for culture in the city (in Euros or local currency)** | **Annual budget for culture in the city (in % of the total annual budget for the city)** |
| n-4 |  |  |
| n-3 |  |  |
| n-2 |  |  |
| n-1 |  |  |
| Current |  |  |

* + 1. Please provide information about the operating budget (*i.e., funds that are expressly set aside to cover operational expenditure, namely day-to-day spending on services*) you received/plan to receive from the public and the private sectors that will be devoted to the implementation of the MCCD 2026 (please fill in the table below)

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Total income to cover operating expenditure (in Euros or local currency)** | From the public sector (in Euros or local currency) | From the public sector (in %) | From the private sector (in Euros or local currency) | From the private sector (in %) |
|  |  |  |  |  |

* + 1. Please provide information about the capital budget (*i.e., funds that are specifically set aside to cover capital expenditure, namely primary and long-term expenses, e.g., infrastructures*) you received/plan to receive from the public and the private sectors that will be devoted to the implementation of the MCCD 2026 (please fill in the table below)

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Total income to cover capital expenditure (in Euros or local currency)** | From the public sector (in Euros or local currency) | From the public sector (in %) | From the private sector (in Euros or local currency) | From the private sector (in %) |
|  |  |  |  |  |

* + 1. If you have partnered or plan to partner with for-profit stakeholders in the framework of the MCCD 2026, please state it and describe the main provisions of the partnership, including the fundraising strategy if appropriate.

1. See: <https://ufmsecretariat.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/11/Co-Presidency-Statement-V-UfM-Regional-Forum.pdf> [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. A list of ALF member organisations can be found at the following link <https://www.annalindhfoundation.org/networks> [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. excluded potential annexes, e.g: organograms, CVs, etc… [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
4. Tables excluded [↑](#footnote-ref-4)