



## Press release

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## ANIMA puts forward 25 operational projects for the Mediterranean

Publication of

« 25 projects for the Mediterranean countries. »  
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*While a dense Euro-Mediterranean week has come to an end in Marseille (launch of European Commission's Invest in Med programme, operated by ANIMA, Euromed summit of Trade ministers, Med Business Days), and as the official launch of the Union of the Mediterranean is about to take place on July 13<sup>th</sup> in Paris, ANIMA presents 25 projects, both concrete and cost efficient, for a shared future in the Mediterranean.*

ANIMA Investment Network publishes in association with the *Diplomatie* magazine a special issue entitled: "25 projects for the Mediterranean countries." It is now available in kiosks in France, as well as occasionally at Euro-Med events. The English version will follow shortly.

Based on a call for ideas released in the spring and advertised through Web sites, the media and partner organisations, it associates both public figures (Philippe de Fontaine Vive Curtaz, Jean-Louis Guigou, Paul Balta, Jean-Michel Debrat) and more anonymous players, living around the Mediterranean or not. They were asked to give their views on what a "Union for the Mediterranean" could be like, through the grassroots projects seen as essential for its realisation.

*"By mobilising civil society, young generations, researchers, women, project holders, partners from the South and public institutions, at a time when the G-Med on the Med Union is about to gather on July 13<sup>th</sup>, in Paris, ANIMA is willing to bring concrete ideas in,"* explains Laïla Sbiti, president of ANIMA Investment Network, stressing that *"although they remain symbolic, the selected 25 projects, are easily feasible at reasonable costs. As such, they express both a potential and a strong will to build together."*

The ANIMA team selected 25 projects on the basis of their expected impact. They were then divided into 4 main areas: "Tourism, exchanges, civil society"; "infrastructures and networks"; "economics and finances"; "environment and sustainable development." The ideas are diverse: tourist revival of the caravans' itineraries, incubation project targeting women, shared management of seaborne security, of water, Euro-Mediterranean investment bank *etc.*

ANIMA, whose aim is to contribute to the positioning of the Mediterranean as a prime economic destination, is delighted by the new and current interest shown in the region. Nevertheless, in order to be successful the revival of the "Barcelona Process, Union for the Mediterranean," while showing a new political will, shall necessarily address the concrete expectations of the Mediterranean peoples. The projects presented in this special issue, while modest, have the potential to make ideas come to life and to participate in the development of larger projects.

**ANIMA Investment Network** is a multi-country platform supporting the economic development of the Mediterranean. The network gathers around 40 governmental agencies and international networks. The objective of ANIMA is to contribute to a better investment/ business climate and to the growth of capital flows into the Mediterranean region. More information on [www.anima.coop](http://www.anima.coop)