

# Reader's Guide

## The monitoring approach

*Regional Integration in the Union for the Mediterranean: Progress Report* monitors integration in the Euro-Mediterranean region, with the aim to provide evidence-based policy recommendations. The *Progress Report* features the analysis of key quantitative and qualitative indicators of integration in five areas, notably: trade, finance, infrastructure, movement of people, and research and higher education. The selection of indicators for each integration area built on the literature on economic integration and brainstorming on the pertinence of given measures for monitoring integration in the Union for the Mediterranean. Also, a fresh perspective was taken when necessary to ensure the choice of meaningful indicators in the context of the UfM. The final selection of indicators reflects considerations about geographical coverage and data quality, relevance and availability, and relative ease of interpretation of the results.

The five chapters of the *Progress Report* analyse respectively one of the five integration areas in the scope of the monitoring exercise. A table in each chapter introduces the key monitoring indicators that are used for the analysis of the progress of integration in the concerned area, i.e. trade, finance, infrastructure, movement of people, and research and higher education.

**Table. Key monitoring indicators for integration area X**

	Description	Coverage	Frequency
Indicator X (from X1 to Xn)	Main purpose and characteristics of the indicator, and the source(s) of data.	UfM countries covered by the database relevant for the indicator	The frequency of data, e.g. annual, bi-annual, etc.

Future editions of the *Progress Report* will possibly monitor additional dimensions of integration in the Union for the Mediterranean, and will deepen the analysis of economic integration as related to inclusive growth, gender equality and environmental sustainability.

## Main sources and databases

Unless otherwise noted, the report uses data from the OECD and other international data agencies with the mandate, resources, and expertise to collect national data on specific indicators. The main databases are listed in the tables presenting the key monitoring indicators. When international databases do not cover one or more UfM countries but data exist in national databases, these are used as a complement to expand the country coverage, provided that the metadata indicate sufficient consistency with the reference international database.

## Regional groupings

The report uses the following definitions of regions and sub-regions.

UfM countries Euro-Mediterranean region	42 countries: Albania, Algeria, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Egypt, Israel, Jordan, Lebanon, Mauritania, Monaco, Montenegro, Morocco, Palestinian Authority, Tunisia; Turkey; and the 27 member countries of the European Union (as of December 2020); Syria (suspended). Libya (observer).
MENA countries	MENA countries members of the UfM include: Algeria, Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon, Morocco, Palestinian Authority and Tunisia.  The MENA region includes Algeria, Bahrain, Djibouti, Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Libya, Morocco, Palestinian Authority, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Syria, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates and Yemen.
North Africa	Algeria, Egypt, Mauritania, Morocco and Tunisia.
Western Balkans	Western Balkan countries members of the UfM: Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, and Montenegro.
Levant countries	Lebanon, Palestinian Authority and Jordan.
Central, Eastern and South Eastern Europe (CESEE)	CESEE countries members of the UfM: Bulgaria, Croatia, the Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Romania, Slovenia and the Slovak Republic; Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, and Montenegro.

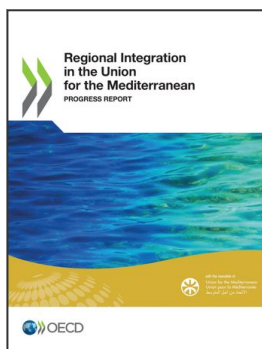
## Country codes

The figures in this publication use ISO codes (ISO3) for country names as listed below.

ALB	Albania	KWT	Kuwait
ARE	United Arab Emirates	LBN	Lebanon
BHR	Bahrain	LBY	Libya
BIH	Bosnia and Herzegovina	MAR	Morocco
BRA	Brazil	MCO	The Principality of Monaco
CAN	Canada	MKD	The Republic of North Macedonia
CHE	Switzerland	MNE	Montenegro
CHN	The Republic of China	MRT	Mauritania
DJI	Djibouti	OMN	Oman
DZA	Algeria	PSE	Palestinian Authority
EGY	Egypt	QAT	Qatar
GBR	United Kingdom	SAU	Saudi Arabia
HKG	Hong Kong	SRB	Serbia
IND	India	SYR	Syria
IRQ	Iraq	TUN	Tunisia
IRS	Israel	TUR	Turkey
JOR	Jordan	USA	United States of America
XXK	Kosovo	YEM	Yemen

## Abbreviations and acronyms

AMU	Arab Maghreb Union
BRI	Belt and Road Initiative
CESEE	Central, Eastern and South Eastern Europe countries
EC	European Commission
EFTA	European Free Trade Association
FDI	foreign direct investment
GATS	General Agreement on Trade in Services
LAS	League of Arab States
MENA	Middle East and North Africa
OIC	Organisation of Islamic Countries
PAFTA	Pan-Arab Free Trade Area
PAM	Pan-Euro-Mediterranean
PCT	Patent Cooperation Treaty
PRIMA	Partnership for Research and Innovation in the Mediterranean Area
RTA	regional trade agreement
SDGs	Sustainable Development Goals (UN)
SMP	Skills Mobility Partnership
TFA	Trade Facilitation Agreement
UfM	Union for the Mediterranean
WTO	World Trade Organization



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