



UfM Regional Dialogue with social partners

ENHANCING SKILLS FOR BETTER EMPLOYABILITY

July 8, 2021



Union for the Mediterranean
Union pour la Méditerranée
الاتحاد من أجل المتوسط



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AGENDA

Opening Session

Welcome and Opening remarks

- Mr Nasser Kamel, Secretary General, Union for Mediterranean
- Mr Jordi Curell, Director for Mobility, Directorate General Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion, European Commission
- Ms Barbara Beltrame Giacomello, President, BUSINESSMED, Vice President International Affairs Confindustria (Italy)

09:00 – 9h30

1st Panel: Social dialogue as driver of change

As change has become an essential element in preparing the post-pandemic era, thereby calling for common reflection on past and current initiatives, regional partners will seize this opportunity to discuss how their respective initiatives for social dialogue helped addressing the skills challenge, and what shift at the policy level must be operated.

Moderator: Mr Mohammed El Razzaz - UfM

- Ms Ingrid Schwaiger, Deputy Head of Unit, Directorate General Neighbourhood, EUROPEAN COMMISSION
- Dr Tarek Tawfik, Vice President BUSINESSMED, Vice President FEI (Egypt)
- Mr Patrick ITSCHERT, ETUC (tbc)
- Ms Laura Schmid, Specialist on Skills, Decent Work Team, ILO

9h30 – 10:30

2nd Panel: Social dialogue to overcome the skills mismatch

The skills mismatch has progressively emerged as one of the major challenges to address for the future of the Mediterranean region, and thus saw increasing attention from the various actors of social and economic change. As such, there is a common understanding from social partners, public authorities, and international partners that the issue must be addressed at the regional level. In this context, partners will engage in an open discussion on common actions to undertake from both South and North Mediterranean sides with respect to the issue of qualifications how it can be solve to anticipate and meet current and future needs.

Moderators / opening remarks on skills mismatch:**Abdelaziz Jaouani, Senior Human Capital Development expert, ETF****Sabina Nari, Regional focal point southern and Eastern Mediterranean, ETF**

- Mr Mustapha Tlili, SOLiD II Project Director, Executive Secretary of the Arab Trade Union Confederation (ATUC)
- Ms Anna Kwiatkiewicz-Mory, Adviser, Social Affairs Department, BusinessEurope.
- Mr Dennis van Gessel, Policy Officer, Directorate General Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion, European Commission

10:30 – 11:30**3rd Panel: Social dialogue to facilitate low-skilled workers' transition from informal to formal economy**

The regional economic context and the recent global pandemic had an unprecedented impact on social and economic challenges, particularly on marginalized and most fragile populations, leading more and more people to opt for informal and precarious activities in times of uncertainty when governments, agencies and organizations supporting job seekers faced consequent difficulties in responding to their challenges. This last panel will look into practical examples of collaboration between governments, private sector, social partners and international cooperation agencies that opted for different approaches for skills development.

Moderator: Ms. Emmanuelle Roure, Neighbourhood Team Leader, Directorate General Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion, European Commission

- Ms Siria Taurelli, Senior Human Capital Development Expert, ETF
- Mr Daniel Cork, CTA of the Solifem Project, ILO
- Mr Pierre Lucante, Head of Global Initiative on Innovative Employment Services for Youth, GIZ

11:30 – 12:30

Closing Remarks: Operational conclusions

- Xavier Matheu de Cortada, Head of Knowledge Hub Department, ETF

12:30 – 13:00

**The event will be chaired by Ms. Jihen Boutiba, Secretary General of BUSINESSMED*