



6th UfM Meeting of the UfM Community of Practice on Youth Employment in the Southern Mediterranean

**13-14 December 2023 -
Turin, Italy**

The UfM Secretariat, together with the German Development Cooperation and the European Training Foundation (ETF), organised the 6th Meeting of the UfM Community of Practice on Youth Employment in the Southern Mediterranean at the ETF premises on 13 and 14 December 2023.

Following welcoming remarks by the UfM Secretariat and GIZ, the participants took stock of the key ideas emanating from the Workshop on Platform Economy held the day before through a moderated discussion in groups and presentations of the main takeaways. Ms. Lisa Rustico from ETF delivered a presentation on work-based learning during which she explained the different types and the corresponding monitoring (a component of good governance) and evaluation (to inform policymaking) methodologies and indicators.

She made reference to several anchor documents including the European Framework for Quality and Effective Apprenticeship, the ILO Quality Apprenticeship Recommendations 2023, the European Alliance for Apprenticeship (EafA), as well as the ETF Tool “Monitoring and Evaluation of Work-Based Learning in Vocational Education and Training”.

The afternoon was dedicated to two consecutive field visits in coordination with ETF. The first visit was hosted by the OGR - Officine Grandi Riparazioni, a train maintenance station that has been





converted into a center for contemporary culture, innovation and business acceleration, starting its activities since 2019. The second visit was to the Talent Garden which creates relevant learning and networking opportunities in the digital ecosystem. The participants attended a presentation by a young entrepreneur empowered by the Talent Garden to design “Inspire Ne(x)t” which aims at helping young people find their true vocation and decide early on where they see themselves in the labour landscape.

The second day of the CoP Meeting focused on career guidance and counselling, as well as skills development for new forms of work, with examples on best practices and success stories from the region shared by the participants. In addition, an “Ideathon” was conducted with the aim of identifying initiatives and practices related to green and digital skills to be presented at the Closing Event of the European Year of Skills in May 2024. The participants converged on the need for a sound gap analysis, awareness raising, incentives for change, just transition, focus on local and rural levels, inclusiveness, intrapreneurship, and linking education and community-based activities.

The second day also saw a presentation on the coming steps and the preparations for the coming editions of the CoP Meeting, to take place next year in Barcelona (March 2024) and in Egypt (December 2024). The participants were also informed of the forthcoming UfM Regional Platform on Employment and Labour, to be held in Croatia (April 2024), where 2 representatives of the UfM CoP on Youth Employment will be invited similar to what has been done in the previous Platforms in Nice (March 2023) and Berlin (December 2023).

The participants were duly introduced to the UfM Youth Agenda through Ms. Dimonopoli, who also briefed them on the key outcomes of the 3rd edition of the Mediterranean Youth Academy which was held at the UfM premises in Barcelona on 6-9 November 2023, with the participation of over 100 young stakeholders from 20 UfM countries.