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Ministère de l'Emploi et de la Formation
Professionnelle

Entrepreneurial centres of Vocational training: birth of the national Tunisian network.

7th Forum for the promotion of the Entrepreneurial spirit in the Vocational training system

On-line

10th November 2021

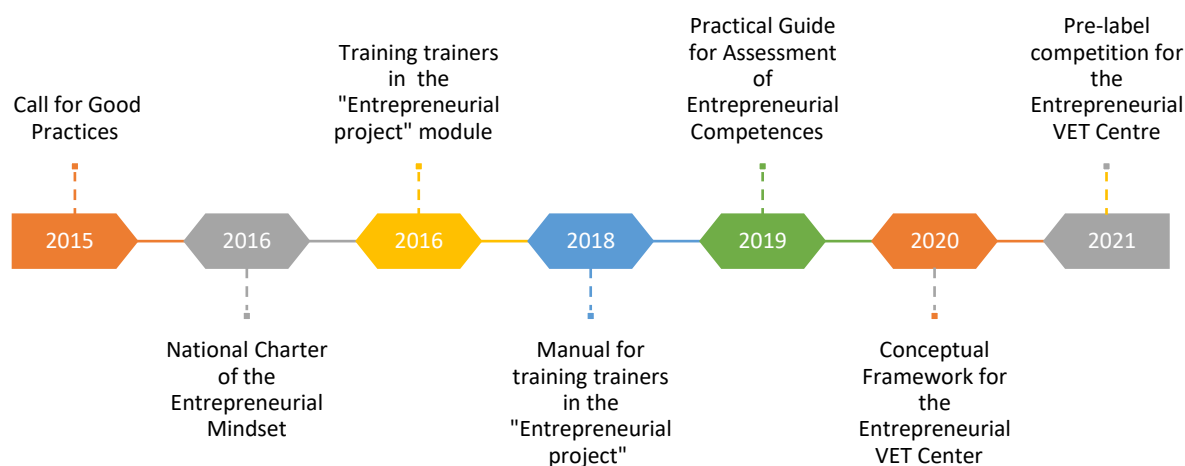
CONCEPT NOTE

Background

Since 2014, the Ministry of Employment and Vocational training (MEFP) has been committed to a reform of vocational training focused on improving the quality of training and strengthening the employability of graduates. It is in this context that the project "Support for the development of the entrepreneurial spirit in the Tunisian system of vocational training" has been implemented by the MEFP, with the support of the ETF – European Training Foundation as part of a long-standing collaboration and building on the results of the evaluation on the implementation of the Small Business Act (SBA)¹. This project aims to develop entrepreneurial skills among learners of the national vocational training system.

Over the past seven years, MEFP and ETF have worked together with VET centers and stakeholders from across the country on a series of actions driving forward entrepreneurial learning at both policy and practice level. These initiatives have significantly increased awareness, understanding and professional capacity for entrepreneurial learning across the VET community.

This flow summarizes the main achievements of this collective effort:



The adopted approach has been shaped on four integrated pillars, including:

- policy development: a Charter of the Entrepreneurial mindset,
- pedagogical development: a new teaching course on the reinforcement of entrepreneurial skills accompanied by a new approach to formative assessment and training of trainers,
- governance: the conceptualisation and promotion of entrepreneurial TVET centers
- fostering networking and partnerships among all stakeholders in the entrepreneurial learning community.

¹ [SME Policy Index: Western Balkans and Turkey 2019 – Assessing the implementation of the Small Business Act for Europe | ETF \(europa.eu\)](https://www.europa.eu/eu-press/press-releases/2019/11/20191114_sme-policy-index-western-balkans-and-turkey-2019)

All outputs of the cooperation are available on the ETF Open Space page “The Tunisian case: Tunisia case | Open Space (europa.eu)

Each year has seen the scope of action and impact open up, from identifying good practices in its first year of implementation, to a process to recognise innovation at center level in 2021. Connecting actors across the community and celebrating progress has been a priority, and the annual Entrepreneurial Forum has been held every November since 2015 during the Global Entrepreneurship Week to bring together policy-makers, vocational training centers and stakeholders (economic and social partners and civil society) to reflect on the progress made towards mainstreaming entrepreneurial learning in the Tunisian VET sector. All work has been inspired and has built on the foundations provided by EntreComp , the European union framework to promote entrepreneurship as a key competence for life-long learning across societies and economies.

Driving entrepreneurial innovation in VET

2021 marks a changing point. Through the development of the Tunisian Framework for the Entrepreneurial VET Centre, there is a clear vision and entrepreneurial development pathway for individual centres. Perhaps more importantly, through the co-creation of this framework undertaken by MEFP, VET stakeholders and VET centres themselves, and ETF there is a common understanding of why and how centres can develop and action their entrepreneurial capacity. The collaboration developed through this work has created more transparency of practice across centres, increasing discussion of actions that work for them and the barriers that work against them. This dialogue being shared is shaping national discourse on the future of the VET sector, proposing and opening up new flexibility for VET centres to think and act entrepreneurially.

*« An entrepreneurial TVET center is, first of all, a center that has a **vision**, **seizes opportunities** in its ecosystem, **innovates** and **generates value for learners**, the **center** and its economic and social environment. It is also a center that puts the learner at the heart of its interests. »*
Ministry of Vocational Training and Employment, 2020

The last year has also seen innovative action to engage more diverse social and economic actors into the development of entrepreneurial VET centres. Working in partnership with VET operators and centres, MEFP and ETF ran a series of workshops to create practical guidance for centres. The workshop series focused firstly on bringing together social actors, including parents, students and community organisations, and secondly economic actors including banks and local enterprise agencies. Each group worked with VET representatives to explore why and how they could be engaged into future work, and the best methods to sustain that engagement and make them feel valued.

Finally, the work of the last five years, towards supporting an entrepreneurial VET sector with a framework to guide this development, has come together into the first national award scheme for entrepreneurial VET centres. At this forum, participants will witness the pre-label awards being announced. Thought to be the first such VET-specific initiative anywhere in the world, 2021 has seen

the launch of the national pre-labelling competition for VET centres to test how they can evidence their entrepreneurial mindset and actions. From 2022, MFPE and the VET sector will transform this into a fully recognised national award scheme and labelling.

Opening up internationally

The last five years in Tunisia have seen VET centres embrace entrepreneurship as a key competence, confirming the importance of the entrepreneurial mindset for students, staff, stakeholders and directors alike. The innovative framework guiding the development of the entrepreneurial VET centre network in Tunisia has now been widely shared, opening up new and emerging opportunities to connect and work internationally.

Tunisia is now represented in ETF's 'European Network of Excellence' [ENE], an innovative network of VET centers from across EU Member States and partner countries working on specific themes related to VET excellence. The framework has been included as an example of excellence to inspire and inform the ENE Working Group on the Entrepreneurial TVET Centre, with the country approach featured in the opening workshop for this new working group. VET sector actors have also been invited into new European collaborations on entrepreneurial learning and are active participants in workshops and conferences through the EntreCompEurope community. At regional level, this network building has led to the creation of bilateral links with VET and higher education representatives from Palestine to exchange practices and discuss the potential for an Arabic-speaking EntreComp Community.

Key Objectives and expected results of the Forum

- The forum will share the commitment of the Tunisian government and stakeholders to the next steps towards strengthening and expanding the network of entrepreneurial VET centres, and connecting them to international networks and opportunities.
- The forum will provide the space to open up an intellectual debate on the development of entrepreneurial VET centres in Tunisia and the value this contributes to national priorities for social and economic innovation and development.
- The forum will present the significant progress made in the framework of cooperation between MEFP and ETF to design and implement an innovative and integrated approach to promote entrepreneurship as a key competence.
- The forum will represent an opportunity to celebrate the Tunisian pre-labelled entrepreneurial TVET centres for 2021.

Working language of the Forum will be French and English with simultaneous interpretation.

The Forum will be live streamed on ETF You Tube channel at the following link:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=o3oBvK_N9To

And on the Facebook page of the MEFP.

AGENDA

Time	Session
10.00 - 10.10	<p>Welcome and objectives of the Forum</p> <p>Moderators of the Forum: <i>Mr. Mohamed BETTAIEB, Assistant Director, Ministry of Employment and Vocational Training, MEFP</i> <i>Mrs. Mariavittoria GARLAPPI, Project Coordinator, ETF</i></p>
10.10 - 10.30	<p>Moving towards the network of entrepreneurial VET centres: a strategic vision for the future</p> <p>Moderator: <i>Aicha ZEMNI, Project Manager in the cabinet of the Ministry of Employment and Vocational Training, MEFP</i></p> <p>Speakers: The directors of the pre-labelled entrepreneurial TVET centres</p>
10.30 - 10.40	<p>What do you think?</p> <p>Moderator: <i>Mariavittoria GARLAPPI, Project Coordinator, ETF</i></p>
10.40 - 11.05	<p>The value of the ecosystem approach to developing the entrepreneurial TVET center</p> <p>Moderator: <i>Elin McCALLUM, ETF expert</i></p> <p>Speakers: <i>Mr. Jose Manuel GALVIN ARRIBAS, Senior Human Capital Development Expert-Coordinator for Vocational Excellence Project, ETF</i> <i>Mr. Mustapha LAKEHAL, Director of the Tunisian Agency for Professional Training (ATFP)</i> <i>Mr. Lassad MEZGHANI, General Director of the University Renovation, Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research</i> <i>Mr. Pavle TVALIASHVILI, Director, LEPL College MODUS, Georgia</i></p>
11.05 - 11.10	<p>Let's get chatting!</p> <p>Moderator: <i>Mr. Mohamed BETTAIEB, Assistant Director, Ministry of Employment and Vocational Training, MEFP</i></p>
11.10 - 11.15	<p>Virtual Coffee break</p>
11.15 - 11.25	<p>The Journey: Growing a national entrepreneurial spirit</p> <p>Moderator: <i>Mrs. Mariavittoria GARLAPPI, Project Coordinator, ETF</i></p> <p>Speakers: <i>Mr. Mohamed BETTAIEB, Assistant Director, Ministry of Employment and Vocational Training, MEFP</i> <i>Mrs. Sabina NARI, Country Liaison for Tunisia, ETF</i></p>
11.25 - 11.50	<p>Celebrating the beginning of the Network of the Entrepreneurial VET Centres</p>

	<p>Moderator: Mr. Mohamed BETTAIEB, Assistant Director, Ministry of Employment and Vocational Training, MEFP</p>
11.50 - 12.00	<p>Conclusions and closure</p> <p>Moderator: Mrs. Aicha ZEMNI, Project Manager in the cabinet of the Ministry of Employment and Vocational Training, MEFP</p> <p>Speakers:</p> <p>Mr. Cesare ONESTINI, General Director, ETF</p> <p>Mr. Nasreddine NSIBI, Minister of Employment and Vocational Training</p>