

# COUNTRY STRATEGY PAPER 2020 UPDATE: LIBYA

# A BRIEF SUMMARY OF KEY DEVELOPMENTS IN VET AND SKILLS AND EU AND DONOR COOPERATION DURING 2018–19

Ongoing internal conflicts in Libya are interfering with economic recovery. To return to stability, the causes of the fragile security situation must be addressed. Priorities are reintegrating former combatants into society and ensuring that the younger generation of Libyans have sustainable alternatives to taking up arms.

Two ministries supervise technical and vocational education and training (TVET). The Ministry of Education is concerned with initial training and oversees 488 technical and vocational education institutions, under the National Board for Technical and Vocational Education. The Ministry of Labour is responsible for continuous training. However, the TVET sector is hampered by negative social attitudes and the lack of cooperation, information exchange and joint education programmes between the two ministries and between the ministries and the labour market.

A number of organisations and donors work in VET in Libya.

Expertise France is delivering a four-year EU-funded programme entitled Support to Libya for Economic Integration. The programme aims to develop the micro, small and medium enterprise sector throughout the country and to help create employment. The programme will provide support services for entrepreneurs, particularly women and young people.

The Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ, a German development agency) is working on employment promotion and economic development. The project is in the early stages but will target the most promising sectors for growth and employment at municipal level. GIZ will support technical aspects of the chosen vocational areas, which may include construction, agriculture, the automotive industry and possibly renewable energies. GIZ is also working on a Train the Trainer programme for women in 12 municipalities and aims to establish training centres for traditional areas of demand such as tailoring.

The Youth Employment in the Mediterranean (YEM) project is a three-year EU-funded regional initiative launched by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO) and covers nine southern and eastern Mediterranean countries, including Libya. The project aims to improve skills anticipation systems, promote TVET, strengthen youth employment and encourage entrepreneurship in the Mediterranean region.

Intervention by the European Training Foundation (ETF) in Libya is focused on developing stakeholders' capacity to review the TVET system through the Torino Process.

The ETF also supports the EU delegation in the process of redesigning an EU project and monitoring its implementation. A special Torino Process round was launched in 2018 with the participation of stakeholders representing ministries and VET institutions from the east, south and west of the country.



The resulting report will be produced as a joint publication of the ETF and the National Board for Technical and Vocational Education.

In 2019, Libya has fully participated in the fifth round of the Torino Process. The report is expected in 2020.

The ETF supported the EU Delegation in the redesign of the EU–Libya TVET project implemented by the British Council.

## **AN ASSESSMENT OF MID-TERM PROGRESS TOWARDS THE ETF'S 2020 OBJECTIVES**

Due to deterioration of the security situation and political instability, the ETF has suspended all activities and projects in Libya. Therefore, no mid-term objectives have been set for the country.

### **ACTIONS PLANNED FOR 2020**

ETF interventions in Libya in will focus on two areas: the Torino Process and support for the EU Delegation.

Libya is fully participating in the fifth round of the Torino Process.

The EU–Libya TVET delivery and development project designed by the ETF commenced in January 2012 but was suspended in October 2014 due to widespread civil unrest and extensive security issues. Libya has continued to be troubled by political and social problems. Although the Government of National Accord was supported by the United Nations, it has failed to gain national recognition and governance remains divided. Nevertheless, the EU Delegation is relaunching the project. The available budget for the 30-month project is EUR 4.5 million, with no allocation for TVET equipment or facilities.

The ETF provided support to the EU Delegation during the relaunching phase of this project (e.g. through comments on the inception report, project planning documents and participation in workshops) and during its implementation by providing content and methodological advice (such as commenting on the main deliverables, participating in the steering committee, and advising the EU Delegation on the challenges and opportunities of the project).

The ETF will help the EU Delegation carry out a labour force survey by providing content-related support during the preparation of the Terms of Reference and monitoring the deliverables and results.

