

FLASH REPORT

Event name

Torino Process Policy Makers Roundtable in Palestine – launch meeting of the Torino Process, Ramallah, 21 February 2019

Main objective/s

- Launch the Torino process 2018-2020
- Present the new features of the Torino process including the National Reporting Framework
- Discuss lessons learnt from 2016 round and identify issues that need to be improved
- Discuss with stakeholders policy relevance of the Torino Process for Palestine
- Agree on the next steps.

Background

Palestine takes part in the Torino Process since 2010, its first edition. During the second edition, country stakeholders decided to move to a self-assessment, with the national report facilitated and drafted by the country. Throughout the four editions, the Torino Process has progressively integrated and has complemented the ongoing reform process, in particular the monitoring and evaluation system put in place as part of the national VET strategy.

The Torino process coordination is ensured by the Ministry of Labour with the contribution and cooperation of the Ministry of Education, the national Statistical Office (PCBS), the Employers' representatives (Chamber of Commerce), other associated Ministries, local NGOs and key donors active in the field (in particular GIZ, Enabel).

SHORT DESCRIPTION OF THE EVENT

The event was organised in close coordination with the National Coordinator of the Torino Process, Mr Nidal Ayesh from the Ministry of Labour. The event was attended by around 30 representatives from the different public authorities and social partners, as well as donors (European Union representation office, GiZ, Enabel, Norway, COOPI, Cooperazione Internazionale).

The event was opened by Dr Samer Salameh, Deputy Minister of Labour, and Cesare Onestini, ETF Director. The key messages from the opening session show, from the side of the Palestinian stakeholders a confirmation of the interest in being part of the Torino process. Dr Samer Salameh mentioned the importance to continue to invest in Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) also in view of the future labour market needs. He mentioned that "in ten years the Palestinian labour market will need more technicians, this is why investing in TVET is a profitable choice".

KEY OUTCOMES/CONCLUSIONS

- There is confirmation from the Palestinian stakeholders to continue to take part in the process also in the fifth round. Specific relevance of the Torino process is linked to the discussions on the future of skills, giving options to young people. In addition, it was stressed that it is clearly not just a process ending with a preparation of a report but a tool that can guide a deeper reflection on specific priority thematic areas of the TVET reform. The Torino Process comes at a good time, says Dr Samer Salameh, when progress on reform should be consolidated but there is still work to do ahead.

- The Torino Process could provide valuable input to the VET strategy and VET law that is now being revised by the Development Centre.
- The Torino process is also as a vehicle for sharing and learning. This has been underlined by the participants, both in the opening introductory session and later in the discussion on the National Reporting framework.
- Key issues emerging from the discussions on lessons learnt from 2016 are:
 - A larger participation should be sought this time, especially from the private sector. Although always keeping in mind that it is for reaching a higher quality. Additional associated participants in the TRP should provide valuable contribution to the reflection.
 - A mapping of what exists in terms of reports and studies should be carried out in order to avoid duplication. Build on
 - This time, a new feature will be that the TRP should include also Gaza and East Jerusalem and ways to do this (not just integrating data related to both) should be discussed and agreed within the TRP working group
 - Work more and value more concrete actions coming from the report, giving it its size and value
 - Seek for a better integration with the current M&E framework that was approved in 2017 and which should serve as a basis for the TRP.
 - More efforts need to be put in the dissemination of the report towards Palestinian institutions and to the donor community.
 - Be more accurate in terms of data collection and include more data through PCBS
 - The participants agreed to look at TVET in a wider context, involving HE, non-formal education, adult education etc.
- Regarding the working groups on the new National reporting framework, the following has been agreed:
 - Overall the approach will be to work with the same working groups per building block, as in previous editions
 - Some more actors/institutions need to be involved in order to have a complete picture in particular in relation to some of the questions (i.e. UNRWA, active NGOs and civil society in general)
 - The target group of the analysis, in particular for the social dimension, should be expanded and include also more broadly accessibility for all
 - A reflection would be crucial on the effectiveness of policies that are put in place and particularly those that fail, it would be important to understand the reasons behind
 - New for this round would be to inclusion of Gaza in the TRP and keep the specific situation in East Jerusalem. In this respect, cross checking of information with the new EU feasibility study on TVET in East Jerusalem is necessary

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