



## DISSEMINATION OF THE ETF REPORT 'MIGRANT SUPPORT MEASURES FROM EMPLOYMENT AND SKILLS PERSPECTIVE' (MISMES) IN LEBANON

4 July 2017, Beirut

### SUMMARY

Lebanon has been historically a migration country, being this phenomena part of Lebanese identity itself in which diversity is one of its main characteristics. Movement of people in the country, in and out, has been the norm, either for economic or socio-political reasons. At the same time, the country has received since 1970s many foreign immigrants to work in its low-skilled and low-paid economic sectors, while political turmoil in the region has also caused significant number of refugees to arrive in Lebanon (e.g. Palestinians, Iraqis, Syrians). Despite extensive migration research literature in the country, there has been limited studies in mapping and analysing different interventions to support migrants and refugees, particularly from a skills and employment perspective.

As part of support provided to the European Union, in 2016 - 2017 the ETF has conducted an inventory of 'Migrant Support Measures from Employment and Skills Perspective' (MISMES) in Lebanon. The inventory is one of the 7 inventories carried out in countries surrounding the EU and that have signed or are negotiating a Mobility Partnership with the EU.

The inventory is a review of all existing migrant support measures aimed to increase the labour market integration and reduce the skills underutilisation of migrants and refugees. In particular, the MISMES inventory in Lebanon included policies and measures regarding three specific target groups:

- Lebanese potential emigrants, expatriates and returnees
- Foreign immigrant workers in Lebanon
- Asylum seekers/ refugees in Lebanon

This conference is organized with the support of the EU Delegation in Beirut. It aims at presenting and discussing the preliminary findings of the ETF MISMES report with relevant stakeholders in the country, namely successful policy measures, lessons learnt and good practices targeting emigrants, returnees, foreign immigrants and refugees from an employment and skills prospective.



In particular, it aims at gathering structured feedback and suggestions on the draft report, so to finalise it after the conference. Finally, it also aims at promoting exchange of knowledge and experience on how skills development and employment policies can contribute to the better management of migrants and refugees.

Lebanese national authorities in charge of migrants/refugees policies will have an active role during the conference. Representatives from the EU Member States, donors, relevant international organisations, research institutes and/or national agencies who work on migration and development issues are invited to the conference as well.

The ETF report is the first attempt to map migrant support measures from an employment and skills perspective in the last decade and to analyse their results. The findings suggest that policy measures for improving skills utilization and skills enhancement are often the missing link between migration and development, although they are key instruments to overcoming labour market integration problems and skills mismatches in both countries of origin and destination.





# AGENDA

## DAY 1: Tuesday, 4 July 2017

Sofitel Le Gabriel, Avenue de l'Indépendance, 197

Chairperson: Eva Jimeno Sicilia, ETF

08:30 – 09:00	Registration of participants
09:00 – 09:20	<b>Welcome and introduction</b> <i>Alexis Loeber, EU Delegation</i> <i>Eva Jimeno Sicilia, ETF</i>
09:30 – 09:45	<b>Skills and migration: international and global trends</b> <i>Eva Jimeno Sicilia, ETF</i>
09:45 - 10:45	<b>MISMES report: main findings and preliminary recommendations (including Q&amp;A)</b> <i>Francesca Rosso, ETF</i>
10:45 – 11:15	Coffee break
11:15– 12:30	<b>Panel discussion: reflections on MISMES report in the context of Lebanon</b> <i>Moderated by Ummuhan Bardak, ETF</i> <i>Georges Ayda, Ministry of Labour</i> <i>Ministry of Foreign Affairs, tbc</i> <i>Hanin Al Fakih, BE LEBANON NGO</i> <i>Amal Obeid, UNICEF</i> <i>Agatha Abi-Aad, UNHCR</i>
12:30 – 13:30	<b>Possible operationalisation of MISMES recommendations: what way forward – open discussion</b> <i>Moderated by Simona Rinaldi, ETF</i>
13:30 – 13:45	<b>Conclusions of the day</b> <i>Simona Rinaldi, ETF</i>
13:45 – 15:00	Lunch

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION ABOUT THE  
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