



**SOCIAL ENTREPRENEURSHIP
IN TIME OF CRISES**

UNIMED initiatives on Employability

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Co-funded by
the European Union

Priority Areas

**university
governance**

**digital
education**

**intercultural
dialogue**

employability

**refugees
and
migrants**

**sustainable
development**



The youth unemployment rates in the MENA region are among the highest across the world and higher education graduates with at least an undergraduate degree make up nearly 30% of the unemployed. Further, with 45% of the population under the age of 25, the Mediterranean is the youngest region whose potential needs to be fully exploited for achieving social and economic integration in the area.

UNIMED believes that entrepreneurship, knowledge and skills can offer solutions to the many challenges in the Euro-Mediterranean region. This implies a stronger and structured dialogue between higher education, vocational training, governments, business sector and civil society to support long lasting employability solutions, job creation and better policies.

Projects

Related SubNetwork



Employability

Institutional Partnerships



News



NEWS

The role of the Universities in times of crisis, the UNIMED General...



NEWS

START CUP COMPETITION: the 5th Edition's winner is the...



NEWS

Social Entrepreneurship promoted by a young Lebanese entrepreneur:...



NEWS

Social Entrepreneurship in Lebanon: a new project just launched



EVENTS NEWS

Save the date and register for the UNIMED WEEK in Brussels // 16 to 18 April 2024

SDG 4 “Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all”, but also SDG 8.6 “Reduce the proportion of youth not in employment, education or training (NEETs)”.

The rationale behind the SN...

Universities are responsible actors in their societies because they are directly involved in generating new knowledge and because they teach and form young people to become leaders, entrepreneurs, scientists, professionals and responsible citizens.



Launched as part of the **RESUME** project, aims at **promoting cooperation between members on the theme of entrepreneurship and employability.**

Launched in October 2018.

It counts **28 Members**, and is coordinated by the Lebanese University and UNIMED.



Areas of Work:

Skills development and employment,
Role university in employability
Entrepreneurship mindset
Ecopreneuriat and sustainability
Green innovation and employability
Sustainable development and
employability
Development and training for career
centre staff
Vocational training
Microcredentials



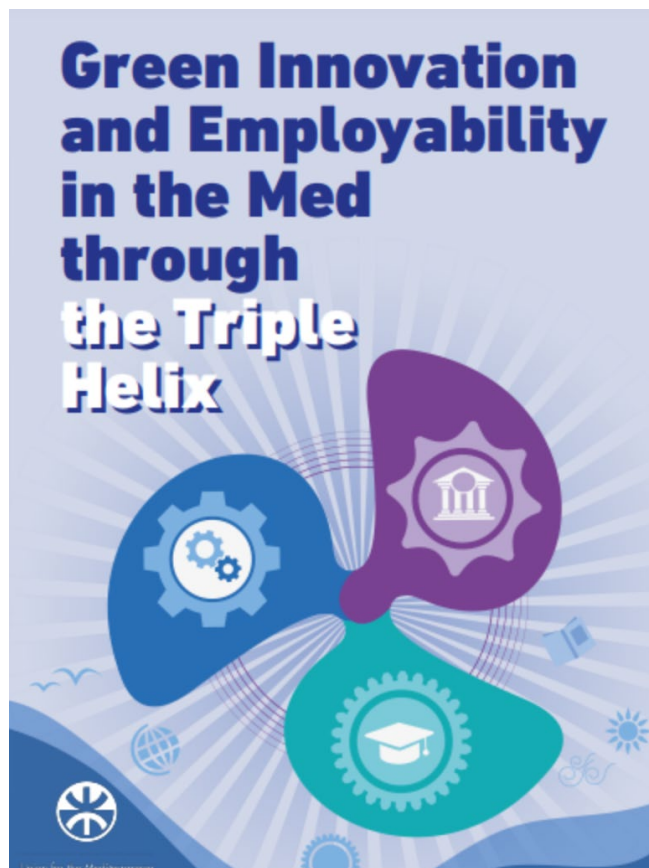
1. A **contest of entrepreneurial ideas** developed by university students enrolled in one of the universities around the Mediterranean. This competition aims to encourage participating teams to present **innovative ideas in the field of entrepreneurship**.
2. The initiative was launched in 2018 in the framework of the project RESUME and is a one of key initiatives of the UNIMED SubNetwork on Employability, in collaboration with the European Training Foundation and the support of the Agence Universitaire de la Francophonie – Moyen Orient

Yearly Start Cup Competition. 2024 on Social Entrepreneurship



Key initiatives on employability





A study commissioned by



Union for the Mediterranean
Union pour la Méditerranée
الاتحاد من أجل المتوسط



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EUROPEAN UNION

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Unione delle Università del Mediterraneo
Mediterranean Universities Union
Union des Universités de la Méditerranée
اتحاد الجامعات المتوسطية

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Reinforcing the
Innovation-
Employability Nexus
in the Mediterranean
– A Handbook for
Academia, Industry
and Policymakers

A paper realised with the support of the DG EAC of the European Commission, explores interrelated EU and national-level initiatives in the fields of innovation, research, and education that all deepen and foster cooperation between universities and business.



University-Business Cooperation:
EU-level initiatives & on-the-ground
implementation

SubNetwork Publications and studies

Reviews done in partnership with UNIMED, ETF and the UNIMED SubNetwork on employability

UNIMED member universities have led on conducting the reviews, in close partnership with ETF.

Some integration of career education and guidance into schools, VET and universities; some training for career guidance practitioners; tools and methodologies for guidance work somehow in place; some use of ICT for CG

Role of CG is different in countries with jobless growth and limited decent work opportunities

Career education and guidance to reduce mismatch **increases** smooth transitions to further learning and work, and research even shows better salaries

Career education and guidance to **prevent** dropouts, increase educational attainment, increase learning motivation

ETF-UNIMED career guidance system reviews in Algeria, Jordan, Lebanon and Tunisia



European Training Foundation



- Increased knowledge of entrepreneurship in target universities
- The enterprises use the services of the University Business Development Center
- Networked Incubators
- The corporate culture is disseminated in the academic world of the target countries
- Relationships between Universities and Enterprises become closer

Identification d'initiatives et sélection des pratiques



Organisation des Conférences de formation et création du «Réseau Méditerranéen pour l'Employabilité»

Implémentation des meilleures pratiques

Projet pilote 1: Développement d'un cours ou d'un module d'entrepreneuriat pour les étudiants

Projet pilote 2: Création/renforcement d'un «centre du développement entreprise et observatoire sur l'emploi»

Projet pilote 3: Dynamisation des incubateurs: «Sous réseau d'Incubateurs Méditerranéens» et modèle de Compétition et de formation pour les entreprises des Incubateurs

PROJECT	RESUME Mediterranean Network for Employability	 Co-funded by the Erasmus+ Programme of the European Union
PROGRAMME	Erasmus+, KA2 – Capacity-building in the Field of Higher Education	
DURATION	15/10/2015 - 14/10/2018	
AIM	Enhancing and reinforcing the role and potential of HEIs in the development of employability in the Mediterranean countries by adopting a transversal entrepreneurial mind-set and by opening and structuring the dialogue among the universities, the enterprises and the policy makers	
LEAD CONTRACTOR		
PARTNERS	UNIME (Italy), AMU (France), UB (Spain), AlmaLaurea (Italy), Ville de Marseille (France), IAV (Morocco), UM5R (Morocco), US (Tunisia), USf (Tunisia), UL (Lebanon), USEK (Lebanon), AFEM (Morocco), MESFCRS (Morocco), MESRS (Tunisia), DGHE (Lebanon)	
ASSOCIATE PARTNER	ASCAME (Spain)	

E+ programme, CBHE - 2016-2019.

Coordinated by the AlmaLaurea Interuniversity Consortium, involving 8 Tunisian Universities as main beneficiaries, counting on the strong support of the Tunisian Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research and 4 EU HEIs.

Improve the match between universities education and the labour market requirements, enhancing the efficiency of the whole higher education system.

Project specific objectives

The project envisages the following specific objectives:

- To build Tunisian capacities by transferring EU best practices on graduates' employability and monitoring of universities' performances
- To enhance the empowerment of Tunisian universities
- To strengthen university/labour market linkages
- To increase the collaboration among Universities at local level
- To support an "open" market for high qualified human capital
- To improve the quality of the education system in Tunisia in accordance with international standards



TUNED PLATFORM FOR STUDENTS AND COMPANIES

<http://www.tuned.rnu.tn/>

POURQUOI?

Pour obtenir et utiliser gratuitement les services de placement en ligne conçus dans le cadre du projet.

Pour avoir un accès facile à l'information sur les opportunités de stage et d'emploi.

Pour faciliter l'orientation et l'insertion professionnelle.

Pour obtenir la certification de son parcours universitaire.

Pour obtenir un CV sous format Europass.

Pour contribuer à l'évaluation et l'amélioration de la formation de son université d'appartenance.



Enhancing Digital Social Entrepreneurship in Palestine

EPISODE is a 2-year Erasmus+ project that aims to enhance digital social entrepreneurship in Palestine by defining future skills, upskilling teachers and mentors, co-creating a blended course, piloting it with youth, and providing an online microlearning unit in English and Arabic.

- ✓ Define future skills for digital social entrepreneurs in Palestine.
- ✓ Upskill teachers and mentors on innovative tools and online teaching techniques.
- ✓ Co-create a blended course on Digital Social Entrepreneurship.
- ✓ Pilot the course with youth and early startups.
- ✓ Provide an online microlearning unit in English and Arabic.

Programme: Erasmus+ VET. **Duration:** 1 Jan 2023 - 30 Jun 2025.

Aim: Empower VET providers to enhance the resilience, digital readiness, and growth of social entrepreneurship, micro-businesses, MSMEs, and early-stage start-ups in Palestine.

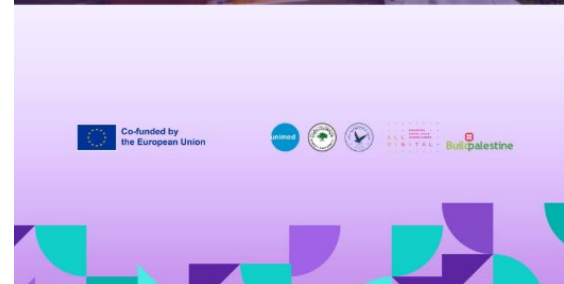
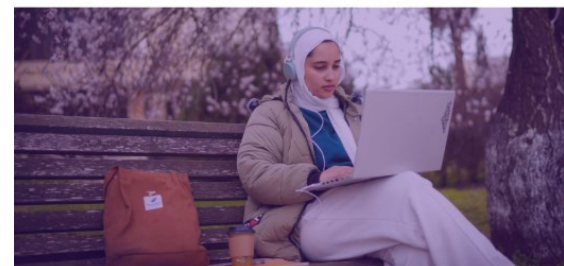
Partners: UNIMED (coordinator); ALL DIGITAL; Birzeit University; An-Najah National University; BuildPalestine

Website: <https://episode-project.eu/>

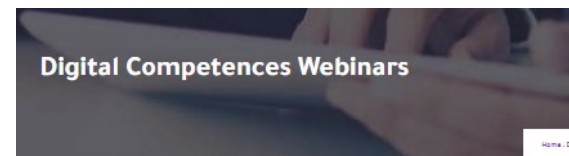


Building the Palestinian Social Enterprise in the Digital Era

A Customised Competence Framework



<https://episode-project.eu/digital-competences-webinars/>



Videos & Webinars

Webinar 1: Leveraging digital advertising to grow your business



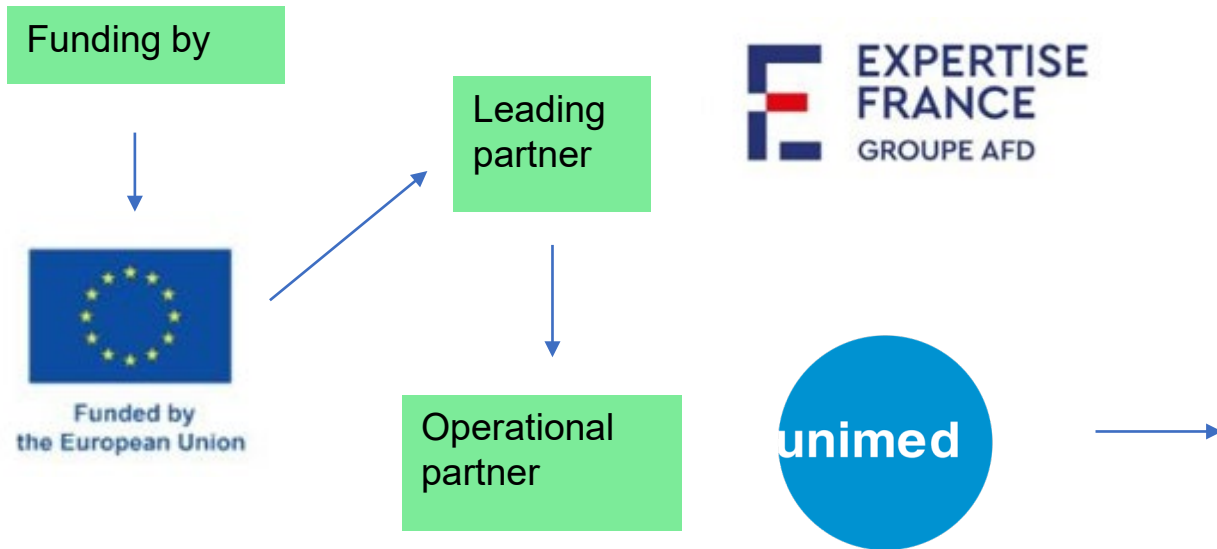
Webinar 2: Digital and Entrepreneurship Competence



Webinar 3: Business Modeling



Comprehensive Employability Diagnosis in Libya. Support skills reinforcement and implementation of employability mechanisms. (2024 – 2027)



- Conduct a comprehensive **employability diagnosis across Libya** to identify and address critical gaps and barriers in the labour market
- Set up a **set of recommendations** for capacity building actions
- Focus **on digital, green and blue sectors**
- **Target:** public authorities, socio-economic sector, HEI & TVET institutions
- Coordinate a **team of EU and Libyan experts**
- Contribute to the CB activity

RISE



Funded by
the European Union

Reinforcing Integration of Skills for Employability and Internationalisation in Kurdistan region of Iraq

KRG/Iraq: Akre University for Applied Sciences; Duhok Polytechnic University; Erbil Polytechnic University; Sulaimani Polytechnic University ; University of Duhok, University of Garmian, University of Zakho

HE pivotal role in the society, for the creation of responsible citizens from local to global levels

Filling the gap between academia and industry improving the employability rate of graduates nationally and internationally

1. Define an integrated and coordinated approach for institutional development, through a synergic roadmap integrating **internationalization and employability**
2. Enhance skills and competences of university staff through **capacity building of educators, administrative staff and students**
3. Increase the **attractiveness and international exposure of HEIs**, through mobility, networking and strengthening internationalization services
4. Improving the **entrepreneurial mindset of students and graduates** and reinforcing the relations between academia and industry for a new generation of young entrepreneurs and glocal citizens

*Università Internazionale di Roma – UNINT (Italy)
University of Murcia (Spain)
UNIMED (Coordinator)*

Thank You!



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