

YOUTH EMPLOYABILITY IN LEBANON: *The Role of Vocational Education and Training and Entrepreneurship*

The Economic and Social Council, Beirut
22-23 September, 2014



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Welcome Notes and Opening Speeches



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Objectives

The seminar will focus on analysing the current features of the labour market, the vocational and technical education system, and facilitate a conversation between key socio-economic players on reform priorities and their role in improving employability, especially amongst youth.



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Agenda

September 22, 2014

<i>Time</i>	<i>Title</i>	<i>Speakers</i>
Labour Market in Lebanon: Key Features and Opportunities		
14:45 – 16:00	<i>The Job Market in Lebanon: Characteristics, Flaws and Opportunities</i>	<u>H.E. Charbel Nahhas</u> – Former Minister of Labor
	<i>Presentation of the Study Results: The Professional Integration of Technical and Vocational Education Graduates</i>	<u>Dr. Kamal Hamdan</u> – Managing Director, CRI Lebanon
Stakeholders' Perspectives and Expectations of the Labour Market		
16:00 – 17:30	<i>Employers' Perspectives and Expectations</i>	<u>Mr. Daniel Abboud</u> – Board Member, The Lebanese Association of Industrialists
	<i>Researchers' Perspectives and Expectations</i>	<u>Dr. Jad Chaaban</u> – Associate Professor of Economics, AUB
	<i>Youth Associations Perspectives and Expectations</i>	<u>Ms. Rania Sabaayon</u> – Executive Director, Masar Association
	<i>Government's Perspectives and Expectations</i>	<u>Mr. Youssef Naouss</u> – Director General of the Ministry of Labour, Ministry of Labor



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Labor Market in Lebanon: Key Features and Opportunities

Presentations:

The Job Market In Lebanon: Characteristics, Flaws And Opportunities,
H.E. Mr. Charbel Nahhas

*Presentation of the Study Results: The Professional Integration of Technical and Vocational
Education Graduates,*
Dr. Kamal Hamdan



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The Job Market In Lebanon: Characteristics, Flaws And Opportunities



H.E. Mr. Charbel Nahhas

Former Minister of Labor

Charbel Nahas studied engineering and planning at Ecole Polytechnique and Ecole Nationale des Ponts et Chaussées in Paris as well as economy and social anthropology. After returning to Lebanon, in 1979, he taught at the Lebanese University for 12 years. He has been in charge of the reconstruction of Beirut Central District (1982-1986). Between 1986 and 1998, he worked in the banking sector and was involved in several project financing namely in telecoms and housing operations and in the pos-war modernization of the Lebanese banking sector. In 1998-1999, he presented a “Financial Correction Program” to the Lebanese Government and since then works as a consultant and economic researcher. Served as Minister of Telecom (2009-2011) and Minister of Labor (2011-2012) in the Lebanese Government. Presently teaching at the Lebanese University and at the American University in Beirut.



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Presentation of the Study Results: The Professional Integration of Technical and Vocational Education Graduates



Dr. Kamal Hamdan

Managing Director
Consultation and Research Institute

During more than 37 years of work in CRI, he has supervised and coordinated a wide range of studies and projects covering social and economic issues, for local and international entities in both private and public sectors. Backed with a highly diversified carrier path, he served as senior consultant to the Prime Minister Office and several Lebanese ministerial committees for economic evaluation and reform purposes, focusing mainly on the production, management, distribution, and financing of main public services. His expertise spanned over several fields, among which the most important are health, education, insurance, wage adjustment policies, poverty alleviation and urban planning. His major areas of interest lie in macroeconomics, employment and labor economics, social insurance schemes, and social development. He has published several books and articles in well-known Lebanese, Arab and international economic reviews and periodicals.



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Questions & Answers



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Stakeholders' Perspectives and Expectations of the Labor Market

Panel Discussion:

Government's Perspectives and Expectations

Mr. Youssef Naouss

Employers' Perspectives and Expectations

Mr. Daniel Abboud

Researchers Perspectives and Expectations

Dr. Jad Chaaban

Youth Associations' Perspectives and Expectations

Ms. Rania Sabaayon



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Government's Perspectives and Expectations

Mr. Youssef Naouss

Director General of the Ministry of Labor



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Employers' Perspectives and Expectations

Mr. Daniel Abboud

General Secretary

The Lebanese Association of Industrialists

General Manager

Carrosserie AbiLamaa



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Researchers' Perspectives and Expectations



Dr. Jad Chaaban
Associate Professor of Economics
American University of Beirut

Dr. Jad Chaaban is an Associate Professor of Economics at the American University of Beirut. He is also currently the Team Leader and Lead Author of the upcoming UNDP's Arab Human Development Report 2015. Dr. Chaaban's research interests are in development economics and industrial organization; and his extended interests include public economics of health, education and labor policies, in addition to environmental economics and population studies. Dr. Chaaban has served as an economic policy advisor to various Lebanese ministries and public agencies. He is also the president and founding member of the Lebanese Economic Association (LEA) since 2007, and regularly contributes to economic policy analyses of various international agencies. Dr. Chaaban holds a BA in Economics from AUB, an MBA from the European School of Management (2000), a master's in Agricultural, Environmental and Natural Resources Economics (2001) and a PhD in Economics (2004) from the Toulouse School of Economics (TSE) in France.



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Youth Associations' Perspectives and Expectations



Ms. Rania Sabaayon
Executive Director
Massar Association

Rania Sabaayon is the Executive Director of Masar association and the Secretary of the “Youth Forum for Youth Policy”, a non- governmental network that is recognized by the Lebanese Government to work on youth policy. She holds a Masters degree in social development, and has worked extensively in the field of youth development at both, the community and policy levels. She has designed numerous youth projects and contributed to the creation of platforms that aim at gathering Lebanese youth from various affiliations and backgrounds to work collectively towards right based issues and causes. She also advocates the rights of Palestinian youth in Lebanon through the establishment of various synergies and partnerships with different governmental and non- governmental stakeholders. Rania Sabaayon has substantially contributed to the national youth policy process in Lebanon, namely in the formulation and validation of its content, along with concerting networking and lobbying efforts, which led eventually to the endorsement of the youth policy in April 2012. She is also a specialized trainer on advocacy& lobbying.



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Questions & Answers



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