

# **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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# Agenda

September 23, 2014

<i>Time</i>	<i>Title</i>	<i>Speakers</i>
09:00 – 09:30	<b>Conclusions of Day -1- And Introduction of Day -2-</b>	
	<b>The VET System in Lebanon: Features, Challenges and Orientation for the Future</b>	
09:30 – 11:00	<b><i>Lebanese Government Priorities and Policy Orientations</i></b>	<b><u>Mr. Ahmed Diab</u></b> - Director General of Technical and Vocational Education, Ministry of Education and Higher Education
	<b><i>The Torino Process Report on Lebanon: Results and Priorities</i></b>	<b><u>Ms. Eva Jimeno Sicilia</u></b> – Head of SEMED Unit, ETF
	<b><i>Youth Challenges and Expectations from the VET System</i></b>	<b><u>Ms. Tressia Hobeika</u></b> – Winner of the European Training Foundation’s Young Mediterranean Leader Award

# Agenda

September 23, 2014

<i>Time</i>	<i>Title</i>	<i>Speakers</i>
<hr/> <b>Skills Matching: Cases from the MENA Region</b> <hr/>		
11:30 – 12:30	<i>Case Studies from Lebanon – IECD</i>	<b><u>Mr. Alexis Béguin</u></b> – Associate General Director, IECD <b><u>Ms. Vanessa Al Badawi</u></b> – Contract And Financial Analyst, Schneider Electric <b><u>Ms. Antoinette Khanfour</u></b> – Head of Project, Directorate General of Technical and Vocational Education
	<i>Case Study from Lebanon – Technica International</i>	<b><u>Mr. Tony Haddad</u></b> – CEO, Technica International
	<i>International Experiences in Vocational Training – Best Practices and Key Success Factors</i>	<b><u>Ms. Alexia Levesque</u></b> – Responsible of International Projects, CODIFOR



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# Agenda

September 23, 2014

<i>Time</i>	<i>Title</i>	<i>Speakers</i>
<b>Entrepreneurship and Enterprise Creation for Employability</b>		
12:30 – 13:30	<i>Entrepreneurship in the Official Lebanese Curriculum</i>	<b><u>Mr. Wael Kazan</u></b> – Representative of the Social and Economic Department, Centre for Education Research and Development
	<i>Mubadara: An Entrepreneurship Curricula for Undergraduate Programs</i>	<b><u>Ms. Rawan Yasmin</u></b> – Enterprise Development Officer, ILO
	<i>Young Entrepreneurship</i>	<b><u>Mr. Samer Sfeir</u></b> – Co-Founder, ShareQ
	<i>Company Program: Entrepreneurship Education in Schools</i>	<b><u>Ms. Fayza Saad</u></b> – Executive Director, Injaz Lebanon
<b>Closing Remarks</b>		
13:30 – 14:30	<b><u>Ms. Eva Jimeno Sicilia</u></b> – Head of SEMED Unit, ETF	
	<b><u>Ms. Virginie Bleitrach</u></b> – Head of the Education, Training and Employment, AFD	

# The VET System in Lebanon: Features, Challenges and Orientation for the Future

## Presentations:

*Lebanese Government's Priorities and Policy Orientations*

**Mr. Ahmad Diab**

*The Torino Process Report on Lebanon: Results and Priorities*

**Ms. Eva Jimeno Sicilia**

*Youth Challenges and Expectations from the VET System*

**Ms. Tressia Hobeika**



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# *Lebanese Government's Priorities and Policy Orientations*

Mr. Ahmad Diab

Director General of Technical and Vocational Education  
Ministry of Education and Higher Education



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# *The Torino Process Report on Lebanon: Results and Priorities*



Ms. Eva Jimeno Sicilia  
Head of SEMED Unit  
European Training Foundation

*Eva Jimeno Sicilia holds a Masters of Science in Business Administration. She joined the ETF in 1995 where she currently holds the position of Head of Unit for the Southern and Eastern Mediterranean region. She started her international career as project manager at the Copenhagen Business School international office in 1991. She then moved to Brussels to pursue her international career working for development co-operation with Central and Eastern Europe in the field of higher education, within the framework of the EU Tempus programme. She combined a thematic specialisation on business administration with country specialisation on the Czech and Slovak Republics. At the ETF she has enlarged her experience, moving into vocational education and training issues (VET) issues. As a VET specialist she has worked on apprenticeship schemes and other forms of on the job training. She has also been involved in several country analysis (Jordan, Lebanon, Palestine, Syria) on VET and its links to the labour market and on a number of thematic reports on skills development for micro-enterprises and labour market issues. She has consolidated her experience on project design and management both of small scale pilot projects and large EU funded projects. Since 2005 she leads the ETF team responsible for operations in the Mediterranean.*



# *Youth Challenges and Expectations from the VET System*



## **Ms. Tressia Hobeika**

Winner of the European Training Foundation's  
Young Mediterranean Leader Award

*Tressia Hobeika is the recipient of the European Training Foundation's Young Mediterranean Leader Award. With professional experience at the European Parliament and the College of Europe, she holds two MAs in International Relations and EU Affairs from the College of Europe in Bruges and the Spanish Diplomatic School in Madrid and a BE in Mechanical Engineering from the American University of Beirut. Tressia has extensively researched and published on the EU development, security and education policies in the MENA region, the Sahel and the Horn of Africa.*





# Questions & Answers



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# Skills Matching: Cases from the MENA Region

## Panel Discussion:

*Case Studies from Lebanon - IECD*

**Mr. Alexis Béguin, Ms. Vanessa Al Badawi, Ms. Antoinette Khanfour**

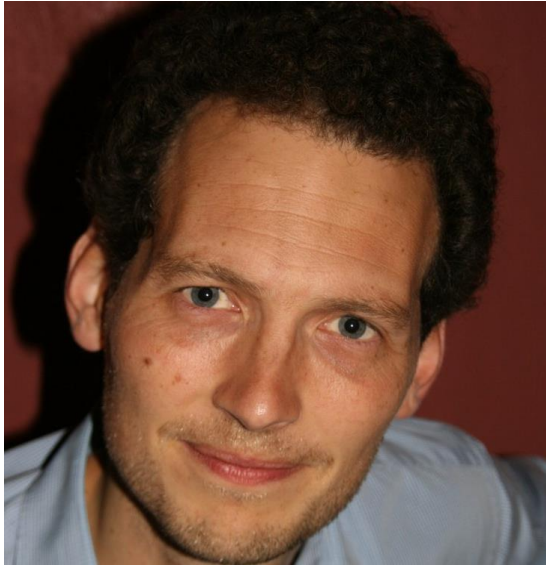
*Case Study from Lebanon – Technica International*

**Mr. Tony Haddad**

*International Experiences in Vocational Training: Best Practices and Key Success Factors*

**Ms. Alexia Levesque**

# Cases from Lebanon



Mr. Alexis Béguin  
Associate Director General  
IECD

*Graduated from HEC Business School in 1999, Alexis Béguin also studied history and geopolitics respectively at the Sorbonne and the Ecole Normale Supérieure in Paris. He started his professional career working for multinationals in Europe and in the Near-East before joining the IECD in 2007. He held the position of Near-East Delegate in Beirut, where he opened a representative office and developed new projects and local partnerships in the region. In 2009, he joined the IECD headquarters in Paris. As Director of Operations, he supervises operations in the Near-East, Africa, Madagascar and South East Asia. Appointed as Deputy Director General in 2013, Alexis Béguin oversees activities and supports IECD in its vision and strategy.*



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# Cases from Lebanon



Ms. Vanessa Al Badawi  
Contract and Financial Analyst  
Schneider Electric

*Vanessa Badawi has been with Schneider Electric since 2010. She is in charge of risk analysis and financial controlling for projects run by the company. Vanessa holds a masters degree in Finance from Saint Joseph University, in Beirut.*

# Cases from Lebanon



**Ms. Antoinette Khanfour**  
Head of Project,  
Directorate General  
of Technical and Vocational Education

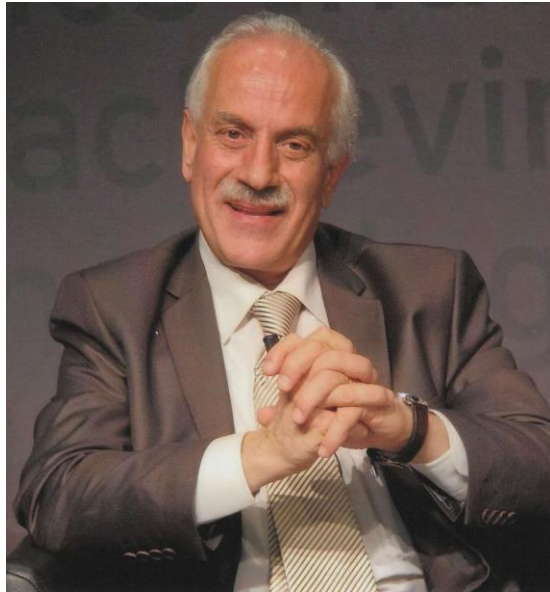
*Antoinette Khanfour is currently the headmistress of the School of Arts and Business and project manager for a commun project between the Directorate General of Technical and Vocational Education and IECD. Between 1996 and 2010, Antoinette managed the theoratical section within the school. She holds a BA Civil Engineering and recently studied School Management at the Lebanese University. She currently sits on the jury for the Lebanese official exams.*



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# Cases from Lebanon: Technica International



Mr. Tony Haddad  
CEO,  
Technica International

*Tony Haddad graduated from AUB in 1975, with a bachelor degree of electrical engineering. He started his career as a maintenance engineer at Unipack - Indevco group, then as a project engineer. In 1982, he pursued an MBA degree at AUB also, and left Indevco group to follow his dream of building conveyors and automation equipment in Lebanon and sell them to the world. For this, he formed Technica International in 1982 as a family owned business and started his journey with a team of 4 engineers and technicians. 32 years later, Technica International staffs 140 engineers and technicians. Technica presently manufactures conveyors and automation equipment for 276 customers in 32 countries and is approved vendor to most multinational companies: Pepsi Cola, Coca Cola, Nestle, Danone, Heineken, Marai, Savola, PG, Unilever, and Mars. Tony Haddad is one of the founders of the Arab Beverages association and is presently the vice chairman since its foundation.*

# *International Experiences in Vocational Training: Best Practices and Key Success Factors*



Ms. Alexia Levesque  
Responsible of International Projects  
CODIFOR

*Alexia has 15 years of experience in coordinating international partnerships for technical assistance in the field of employment, vocational training and social dialogue. As part of her activities, Alexia manages interventions aiming at analyzing policies and training systems for Ministries and Donors, defining governance systems and starting dialogues about training, and supporting the development of enterprises by reinforcing initiatives related to training and social policy. Given her position, Alexia deals with numerous political and institutional actors, private and public institutions implicated in vocational training and enterprises in North and East Africa, Central and East Europe, and Latin America.*

# Questions & Answers



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# Entrepreneurship and Enterprise Creation For Employability

## Panel Discussion:

*Entrepreneurship in the Official Lebanese Curriculum*

**Mr. Wael Kazan**

*Mubadara: An Entrepreneurship Curricula for Undergraduate Programs*

**Ms. Rawan Yasmin**

*Young Entrepreneurship*

**Mr. Samer Sfeir**

*Company Program: Entrepreneurship Education in Schools*

**Ms. Fayza Saad**



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# *Entrepreneurship in the Official Lebanese Curriculum*



Mr. Wael Kazan

Sociology and Economics Department  
Centre for Education Research and Development

*Wael is and economics and sociology teacher in public and private schools since 2001. He works at the Ministry of Education and Higher Education, at the Educational Center for Research and Development, more specifically in the Sociology and Economics Department where he holds the position of national coordinator for the inclusion of concepts such as population education, gender, reproductive health and entrepreneurship in the Lebanese curriculum.*



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# *Mubadara: An Entrepreneurship Curricula for Undergraduate Programs*



**Ms. Rawan Yasmin**  
Enterprise Development Officer  
International Labor Organization

*Rawan Yasmin recently joined the International Labour Organization (ILO) Regional Office for Arab States as Enterprise Development Officer. Rawan holds a Masters of Public Health with an emphasis on research from Columbia University and previously worked with the United Nations Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA) in Lebanon as a project manager. Her current work involves assisting with the implementation and reporting of several entrepreneurial education initiatives in 8 Middle Eastern countries namely Yemen, Syria, Jordan, Oman, Palestine, Lebanon, Iraq, and Saudi Arabia. She also works on the development of educational materials for school curricula and coaching guides to build the capacity of teachers and business development service providers to promote enterprise development and entrepreneurial mind-set among Arab youth.*



# Young Entrepreneurship



Mr. Samer Sfeir  
Co-Founder  
ShareQ

*With an engineering & MBA academic background, Samer volunteered and worked for several NGOs for 9 years, until co-founding shareQ NGO ([shareq.org](http://shareq.org)) and within it Mommy Made social catering ([mommymade.me](http://mommymade.me)). Samer is also founding member in Lebanese society for social entrepreneurship. ([sselebanon.org](http://sselebanon.org)). Since 2013, Samer became the coordinator of nabad social entrepreneurship incubator by arcenciel [nabad-arcenciel.org](http://nabad-arcenciel.org). In 2014, Samer and 2 co-founders will be launching an e-commerce for social good named [awadem.com](http://awadem.com).*



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# Company Program: Entrepreneurship Education in Schools



Ms. Fayza Saad  
Executive Director  
Injaz Lebanon

*Fayza Mehanna is the Executive Director of INJAZ Lebanon since September 2014. Fayza first joined INJAZ back in 2007 when she helped establish the Qatar office and has worked with the organization for the last 7 years. Prior to joining INJAZ, Fayza has worked with several governmental and non-governmental organizations in the area of community and youth development, entrepreneurship and capacity building of NGOs. Fayza worked as a Development Specialist in Lebanon with the Council for Development and Reconstruction on a Cultural Heritage and Socio Economic Development program. Prior to that she also held several positions with Save the Children Federation as a Regional Coordinator for the Middle East Region, on an Entrepreneurship Education program for youth and on a Microfinance program for Women. Fluent in English, Arabic and French, Fayza holds a BA in Political Sciences from the University of London and an MSc in Development Studies from the University of Bath.*



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# Questions & Answers



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# Closing Remarks

**Ms. Eva Jimeno Sicilia**

Head of SEMED Unit

European Training Foundation

**Ms. Virginie Bleitrach**

Head of the Education, Training and Employment,

Agence Française de Développement



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# Thank You!



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