



INTERNATIONAL LABOUR ORGANIZATION

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PRESS RELEASE

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Tunisia, ILO and EU Sign a New Agreement to Promote Job Creation and Professional Reinsertion

TUNISIA/ADDIS ABABA (ILO News) – The Government of Tunisia, the International Labour Organization (ILO) and the European Union (EU) today signed in Tunis a new agreement aimed at promoting employment creation and professional reinsertion in the North African country.

Mr. Jameleddine Gharbi, Tunisian Minister of Regional Development and Planning, Mr. Jürgen Schwettman, ILO Director of PARDEV and Mr. Adrianus Koetsenruijter, Head of Mission of the European Delegation in Tunis signed the official document - in the presence of Ambassadors of EU countries and Switzerland accredited to Tunisia and ILO officials - to implement a € 6.5 million project for the next three years.

This technical cooperation project that will cover several Tunisian hitherto marginalised provinces namely Gafsa, Kasserine, Le Kef, Siliana and Sidi Bouzid is one of the three components of the national program designed to support marginalised regions in Tunisia and funded by the EU for a total of € 20 million.

The joint Project is based on three pillars:

- The component "Labour-Intensive" will reflect the principles and objectives of the labour-intensive poverty alleviation HIMO approach implemented by the ILO in many countries, and also the context and specifics of the regions visited during the various field missions conducted by the ILO in collaboration with the Ministry of Regional Development.
- The component "Labour market reinsertion" will benefit from structures and similar programs already in place in both the Ministries of regional development and of vocational training and employment to enhance their capacities and achieve a better outcome to the needs of target populations in the most deprived areas.
- The component "Local Economic Development" will be based on a territorial approach that takes into account the human, economic, physical and natural environment in the target areas to optimize the location of the project actions.

The Project implementation phase is expected to commence on 1 May 2012.

For more information:

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