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Lebanon's first public job match site makes it easier to find work

Online job matching service links employers and jobseekers free of charge nationwide

Beirut (ILO News) – The National Employment Office launched an online public job matching service on its revamped website on Friday (25 January), connecting jobseekers and employers from any location with Internet access free-of-charge.

The job matching service – also known as an Electronic Labour Exchange – seeks to reduce the cost of labour market information to both jobseekers and employers and enhance opportunities to link appropriate candidates to relevant jobs.

“The NEO website offers a secure and easy way to search for work. Users can log in 24 hours a day, seven days a week. It makes job search and job posting easier and more efficient,” said Jean Abi Fadel, Director-General of the National Employment Office (NEO).

The NEO website also offers information materials on job search techniques and labour market developments.

The Ambassador of Canada in Lebanon, Her Excellency Mrs Hilary Childs-Adams, noted that this represents “a major policy change and a step forward for Lebanon’s labour market and workforce.”

Electronic labour exchanges act as a cost-effective intermediary between jobseekers and employers. They also help to provide employers with accurate and credible information about the quality of jobseekers.

The Electronic Labour Exchange is the product of a four-year collaboration between the International Labour Organization (ILO) and the National Employment Office, with the support of the Government of Canada through the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA), to strengthen public employment services in Lebanon.

“We face a major challenge in the Arab region to create and sustain decent jobs: those that add value, reflect skills, include social protection and enshrine social dialogue. Lebanon is no exception,” said Nada al-Nashif, ILO Regional Director for the Arab States. “We must strengthen existing labour market programmes, introduce new ones and continue to enhance the capacity of National Employment Office to deliver on its mandate.”

The ILO works with the National Employment Office to enhance its institutional capacity to deliver employment services, to improve the connectivity of municipalities, employers and jobseekers to a general network of employment related information, and to promote self-employment opportunities for women and men.

This includes enhancing its labour market information function, the provision of active labour market programmes, public-private sector partnerships, national occupational classification, and the design of skills and training modules.

The electronic labour exchange can be accessed via the homepage of the NEO's website www.neo.gov.lb in Arabic, French and English.

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