

## Session 2 on Policies to foster innovation and entrepreneurship

19 October 2022, 15:00-17:00 (CET) / 14:00-16:00 (UTC+1 – Tunisia)

### Introduction

Work stream 6 of the UN-Interagency Task Team (IATT) of the Technology Facilitation Mechanism (TFM) is convening a series of three online interactive training modules to build capacity of policymakers on Science, Technology, and Innovation (STI) for achieving the SDGs in countries of the North Africa region.

This second session focuses on policies to foster innovative entrepreneurship in the context of SDGs. The discussion will characterize different types of innovative entrepreneurship and, illustrate concrete experiences with policies to strengthen entrepreneurial ecosystems in developing country contexts. Innovative entrepreneurship is recognized as a problem-solving activity that helps to address pressing developing challenges while creating business opportunities at different scales: from bottom-up approaches to ensure livelihoods at the individual or community level, to strategies to foster upgrading of productive activities, including through enhanced insertion into value chains, support corporate R&D and new venture creation.

Participants will have opportunities to discuss on how STI policy can foster innovative entrepreneurship; they will be invited to reflect on the implications of introducing SDGs as guiding principles for the design and implementation of policies to support innovative entrepreneurship.

### Format

This 2-hour training session will consist of three segments, two of which are devoted to presentations and open discussion with participants. Finally, a wrap up segment will highlight key messages from the session. More concretely:

1. An introductory section by UNIDO will overview conceptual issues, characterize different types of innovative entrepreneurship, and identify key challenges faced by innovative entrepreneurs. These challenges substantiate the need for policy intervention. This segment addresses concepts and contextual aspects of innovative entrepreneurship, understood as activities that drive productivity, job creation and economic growth. Emphasis will be placed on implications for North Africa.
2. A thematic segment with examples of policy interventions to foster the ecosystem around innovative entrepreneurship in developing regions. This part will comprise two main presentations:
  - Presentation by the Economic and Social Commission for Eastern Asia (ESCA) - Technology Centre will provide some basic insights into policies and strategies to support tech-driven innovation and entrepreneurship in the Arab region.
  - Presentation by UNIDO on approaches and methodologies to support entrepreneurship, including the relevance of these experiences for Tunisia and North Africa.
3. A wrap-up session to highlight the key take-away messages from this session.
4. Closure and transition to next session in this online training.

## Program

Session 2	Description	Duration (min)
Opening 14:00-14:12	Welcome remarks – (Moderator)	2
	Overview and outline of the session	3
	Participants profile (Mentimeter questions)	5
	Moderator - transition to Part 1	2
Conceptual aspects 14:12- 14:44	<b>Part 1. Overview of conceptual issues on innovative entrepreneurship</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Presentation by UNIDO (15')</li> <li>• Open discussion – Moderator</li> </ul>	30
	Moderator - transition to Part 2	2
Case studies 14:44- 15:54	<b>Part 2. Case studies</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• presentation by ESCWA (15')</li> <li>• Open discussion – Moderator</li>   <li>• presentation by UNIDO (15')</li> <li>• Open discussion – Moderator</li> </ul>	60
	Moderator - Final Q&A, key messages, and transition to Part 3	10
Wrap up 15:54- 16:00	<b>Part 3.</b> Closing and next steps – IATT WS6 lead  Transition to session 3	6