

Euro-Mediterranean Charter for Enterprise

Starting date: 2004

Duration:

According to the ministers of Industry meetings every 2 years of the 9 Med Countries participated in the industrial cooperation agreement with the European Union and an evaluation report is usually presented to the ministers to validate what has been done and the next steps in the following 2 years and to mandate the working party group to implement the industrial cooperation program.

Government coordinating agency:

Since the charter is part of the industrial cooperation program therefore the ministry of Industry is the main body for coordination and other ministries are involved in the SME policies upgrading and developing for example the ministry of Economy and the ministry of Finance and others.

Financing of the program:

The government of Lebanon and the EU through organizing meetings in Europe to deliver information about EU policies for SME's.

Brief About the charter:

The Euro-Mediterranean charter is a set of policy guiding framework which aims at improving the SME environment to increase and start in Lebanon, and the charter is inspired by the European policies laws for SME's specially the SBA (Small Business Act) and it is branched in 11 dimensions each is targeting different policy aspect and can be listed as :

1-Simple procedure for Enterprise.

2-Education and training for Entrepreneurship.

3-Improved skills.

4-Easier access to finance and Investment friendly taxation.

5- Better market access.

6-Innovation companies.

7-Strong business associations.

8-Quality business support schemes and services.

9-Strengthening Euro-Mediterranean networks and partnership.

10- Clear and targeted information.

11-Sustainable Enterprise development.

Beneficiaries:

The Potential beneficiaries from implementing the charter set of Policies are the private sector and the national economy in the sense of **creating more jobs** and facilitate the way to establish a private enterprise.

Outcomes expected:

Harmonization of the business environment in Lebanon to be aligned with the EU legislations towards SME's which will affect the quality of Business and goods and services and leads to more trade exchange which will may lead to a free trade area on bilateral and multilateral level as it is the goal the industrial cooperation program which is part of European neighborhood policy instrument (ENPI).

http://ec.europa.eu/enterprise/policies/international/promoting-neighbourhood/mediterranean/index_en.htm

<http://etf.europa.eu/web.nsf/pages/home>