



FEMISE Policy Seminar on¹
“Unlocking the Potential of the Private Sector in South Med Countries”

American University of Beirut (AUB)
Beirut, Lebanon
December 5, 2016
AGENDA

- 08:45-09:00** **Registration**
- 09:00-09:15** **Welcome Note and Opening Remarks**
Moderator: Ahmed Galal (*FEMISE and ERF*)
Patricia Augier (*FEMISE and IM*)
Simon Neaime (*AUB and FEMISE*)
- 09:15-11:00** **Session 1: Macroeconomic Challenges and the Private Sector in South-Med Countries**
Moderator: Ahmed Galal (*FEMISE and ERF*)
Speakers: Youssef El-Khalil (*Banque de Liban*), *Monetary policy and meeting the challenges facing the private sector in Lebanon*

Simon Neaime (*AUB and FEMISE*), *Sustainability of EU-Med macroeconomic policies and their impact on the private sector: post-financial and debt crises*

Sami Mouley (*Tunis El Manar University and FEMISE*), *The impact of monetary policy and exchange regimes and the IMF program on the private sector in Tunisia*
- Open discussion on:**
How the macro environment impacts the private sector development
- 11:00-11:30** **Coffee Break**
- 11:30-13:00** **Session 2: Private Sector Development: Obstacles and Opportunities**
Moderator: Patricia Augier (*FEMISE and IM*)
Speakers: Patricia Augier (*FEMISE and IM*), *Obstacles facing the private sector in the South Med region: an overview*

Marie-Jo Char (*GIZ/EBESM*), *Best practices for boosting the private sector and SMEs in the South Med countries*

Khater Abi Habib (*Kafalat, Lebanon*), *Overcoming constraints to develop SMEs sector in Lebanon: initiatives of Kafalat*

Khalid Ben Abdallah (*National Committee of Business Environment, Morocco*), *Improving the business environment for the private sector in Morocco: initiatives of the CNEA*
- Open discussion on:**
How to overcome these challenges and what do governments need to do.

¹  This event received financial support from the European Union through the FEMISE project on "Support to Economic Research, studies and dialogues of the Euro-Mediterranean Partnership". Any views expressed in this seminar are the sole responsibility of the speakers.



13:00-14:30

Lunch Break

14:30-16:00

Session 3: The Role for the International Community in Enhancing the Private Sector

Moderator: Samir Makdisi (*AUB and FEMISE*)

Speakers: Malin Elander Oggero (*The European Commission*), *EU approach to promote the private sector in South-MED countries*

Nicola Ehlermann (*OECD*), *Overcoming the challenges to the private sector from a policy perspective and the role of women entrepreneurs*

Marcel Rached (*IFC, the World Bank Group*), *Overcoming the constraints facing SME development in MENA countries and enhancing access to finance*

Emmanuel Noutary (*ANIMA*), *Why international cooperation is still essential to develop an efficient and vibrant private sector in South Med region?*

Open discussion on:

Whether suggested measures are transferable and on which sectors to prioritize

16:00-16:15

Coffee Break

16:15-17:30

Session 4: Roundtable Discussion and Closing: Way Forward for the Private sector in South Med

Moderator: Raed Safadi (*Department of Economic Development, Dubai Government*)

Speakers: Ahmed Galal (*FEMISE and ERF*)
Patricia Augier (*FEMISE and IM*)
Simon Neaime (*AUB*)
Khater Abi Habib (*Kafalat, Lebanon*)
Marie-Jo char (*GIZ/EBESM*)
Malin Elander Oggero (*European Commission*)
Emmanuel Noutary (*ANIMA*)