

Press Release

IDAL Inaugurates a Workshop in Cooperation With Unido Engineer Itani: Towards the Support of SME's

Beirut, August 17, 2017 – As The Investment Development Authority of Lebanon (IDAL) inaugurated a three-day workshop on the training and development of entrepreneurs and the support of SME's in cooperation with UNIDO, in the presence of IDAL's Chairman, Engineer Nabil Itani, the Head of Arab Regional Centre for Entrepreneurship and Investment Training, Dr. Hachem Hussein, along with representatives of competent chambers, ministries and administrations, and UNIDO investment experts.

During his intervention, Engineer Itani highlighted the importance of supporting SME's and start-ups while adopting the best approach to improve the business environment, which actively promotes investment feasibility in Lebanon.

Itani extended his thanks to UNIDO for its belief in Lebanon that could serve as a model for other countries, noting that the ministerial declaration tackled the topics of innovation, entrepreneurship, technology and the promotion of SME's. He stated that "IDAL" is a main partner in the economic development process, like other public administrations and institutions. In this regard, he stressed the need to develop communities in the Lebanese regions and transform them from consumer communities to productive ones, based on the availability of raw materials, skilled manpower and land.

He underlined that this workshop aims at training the necessary competencies that will help identify, select, train, offer advice and support to entrepreneurs in a way to enable them to set up their projects as well as inform participants of the planning and implementation processes of institutional growth.

As for Dr. Hussein, he praised the work of the program in Lebanon, pointing out that the attention is currently focused on youths and on how to materialize their ideas and dreams. He assured that the mechanisms for supporting SME's have considerably developed over the past years along with the concept of start-ups and incubators.

Dr. Hussein paid also tribute to the success of the program in Lebanon which is the first country to implement it through chambers of commerce, highlighting that Lebanon will provide a model for Arab countries to follow. Hussein emphasized the importance of elaborating a plan for youth empowerment and stated that the concept of incubators and the support of microenterprises should be generalized.

About IDAL

The Investment Development Authority of Lebanon (IDAL) is Lebanon's national investment promotion agency. It aims to promote Lebanon as a key investment destination, and attracting, facilitating, and retaining investments in the country. IDAL provides local and foreign investors alike with a range of incentives and business support services across the following sectors; Industry, Agriculture, Agro-Industry, Tourism, Information Technology, Technology, Telecommunication, and Media. In addition to its role as an investment promotion agency, IDAL is entrusted with the active promotion and marketing of Lebanese exports including but not limited to agricultural and agro-industrial products.

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