



UNIDO and UNINETTUNO join hands for the benefit of SMEs in the region

The UNIDO project “Enterprise Development and Investment Promotion for the SME sector in Iraq” was launched in the year 2007 with funds made available by the Italian Cooperation for Development to provide capacity building to Iraqi institutions and private sector to promote investment in the country in collaboration with the “Arab Regional Centre for Entrepreneurship and Investment Training (ARCEIT)”.

The first phase of the program has been successfully completed in Iraq providing support to 348 entrepreneurs and training 115 Iraqi experts in enterprise development. Based on the results, the Italian Cooperation Development has provided additional funds of \$2.9 Million to reinforce and expand the programme. In this regard, UNIDO and ARCEIT joined hands with UNINETTUNO, an international telematic university to realize distance education programs on issues related to Enterprise Development and Investment Promotion by means of ICTs.

As a part of on-going activity in designing the distance learning training component, a high level delegation from UNINETTUNO comprising the Director General and the the Manager for the Scientific Team is visiting Bahrain on 19th and 20th of September to interact with ARCEIT experts. During the mission the UNIDO-UNINETTUNO delegation will also have high level meetings with Bahraini Authorities and the Ambassador of the Republic of Italy in Bahrain.

About UNIDO

The United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) is a specialized agency of the United Nations. Its mandate is to promote and accelerate sustainable industrial development in developing countries and economies in transition, and work towards improving living conditions in the world's poorest countries by drawing on its combined global resources and expertise.

About ARCEIT

The Arab Regional Center for Entrepreneurship & Investment Training (ARCEIT) was established under the banner of South-South Cooperation through the joint efforts of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO), the Bahraini Government and the Inter Regional Center the Bahraini Government and the Inter Regional Center for Entrepreneurship & Investment Training (IRC)-Government of India.

The Center functions with an objective of strengthening indigenous capacities of selected countries in the Arab, Asian and region in the areas of promoting domestic investments and facilitating foreign direct investments resulting in job creation, poverty alleviation and economic growth.

About UNINETTUNO

The International Telematic University UNINETTUNO – UTITU, established with the decree of the 15th April 2005 of the Minister of Education, University and Research was born from NETTUNO-Network per l'Università Ovunque, a consortium of 43 Italian and foreign universities, through which, since 1992, thousands of students took a distance university degree by means of television and the Internet, and from the international- level success of the European Med Net'U (Mediterranean Network of Universities) Project in which 31 partners (universities, technological

companies and ministries) of Med Net'U coming from 11 countries of the Euro-Mediterranean Area (Algeria, Egypt, France, Jordan, Greece, Italy, Lebanon , Morocco, Syria, Tunisia and Turkey) jointly realised not only a technological network, but also a network of people, intelligences able to connect and mutually link their knowledge. All teaching and learning processes take place on www.unettunouniversity.net, the first portal of the world where teaching and learning are carried on in 4 languages.